

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1001

Lana looked at the figure that was reflected behind her and felt her heart skip a beat.

She turned her head slowly, and immediately, Jeremy's handsome yet terrifyingly grim face was reflected in her eyes.

The man was standing with his back against the light. His very being was exerting a tremendous amount of pressure on them, as if there was an iceberg on their shoulders. At this moment, he was emitting a terrifying aura.

Lana felt her heart skip a beat, but she quickly calmed down and remained cocky. "Jeremy, did you kidnap me? Let me go now!"

Her tone was as cocky as usual. Of course, she knew she would not be able to fool Jeremy anymore as he had remembered everything.

Lana looked at the emotionless man and lifted her head as much as she could.

"Jeremy, you're such a smart man, yet don't you know who's more compatible with you? Eveline's not a match for you. As long as you stay with me and agree to be my man, I'll let you experience the real joy of being a man—"

Slap! Jeremy directly slapped Lana across her face.

"Ah!"

Lana yelled in pain, yet Jeremy still had no emotions on his face.

However, the colder and calmer he was, the more one would feel that this was the calm before the storm.

Lana did not know how many slaps she had received these past few days. Her face felt hot, and she started tasting blood in her mouth again.

Jeremy had exerted so much strength into that slap. It was clear how much he despised her and wanted to chop her into pieces.

Before Lana could register the pain, Jeremy yanked her up by the collar.

The man's close-up features made Lana's heart throb.

However, the coldness in Jeremy's eyes woke her up, and at that moment, she was petrified.

"Jeremy, don't do anything stupid. I did manipulate you when you lost your memories, but when you almost died on the ship, I was the one who saved you—"

Slap!

"Ah!"

Jeremy slapped her again, and Lana felt her muscles start to cramp from the pain.

“How dare you say that you’re the one who saved me?” Jeremy grabbed Lana’s collar and slowly took away her freedom to breathe.

The man’s eyes were dark and icy. Looking into his eyes, Lana could see the fiery flames of fury and the murderous intent in his frightening stare.

“If you hadn’t tried to get close to me so shamelessly and used Eveline’s trust of Adam to make her take the pills she shouldn’t have taken, I wouldn’t have needed to take her to the island.

“I know Eveline resented me at that time, but she still cared about me. As long as she gave birth to the child safely, I wouldn’t even care if she blamed me, but what did you do instead?”

Jeremy’s eyes became sharp.

“You wanted to kill her.

“You wanted to kill my Linnie!”

“Jeremy, I-let go...” Lana’s face was red, and Jeremy’s grip around her neck was getting tighter and tighter.

“For the sake of Madeline and the children’s safety, I was forced to ask her to leave the ship with the children. I knew that Linnie was in a lot of pain and was reluctant to let me go, but she had to. I could imagine how much pain she was in when she thought I had died at sea.

“However, I didn’t die. I was saved by an evil woman like you out of your ‘so-called’ kindness. You even

manipulated my memory loss and made me believe that we were dating. Heh, dating?”

There was a look of mockery in Jeremy’s eyes.

“Lana, you’re pathetic. Even though I had lost my memories and even though I thought you were my woman, I never once touched you at all!”

“...” Lana did not expect Jeremy to mock and humiliate her at this moment. In her torment, she felt humiliated as well.

She was extremely confident ever since she was young and thought all men would be attracted to her. Even if it was not all men in the world, at least the men she was into would worship her like she was a goddess.

However, Jeremy was an exception. No matter how she tempted him, he was still like an iceberg who was unable to be melted by her charm and passion.

Naomi was shaking in fear as she listened to every word. She knew Jeremy’s target was Lana, so she pretended to pass out and play dead at one side.

When Lana thought Jeremy was going to suffocate her, he let go of his hand.

“Cough, cough!” Lana lay on the ground in a fetal position while coughing violently.

However, after wheezing and gasping for air for a moment, she was smacked in the face with a pack of cigarettes.

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Those were the cigarettes she smoked and also the ones she gave Jeremy back then. However, the ones she gave Jeremy was added with something else.

When Jeremy smacked the cigarette box on her face suddenly, Lana knew what was going on.

“What did you put in the cigarettes?” Jeremy asked coldly.

Lana did not dare answer. She could only pretend to cough from shock.

Jeremy did not have time to beat around the bush with her, so he walked to the other side coldly.

When Lana saw this, she lifted her leg to kick Naomi who was playing dead.

“Get up! Bite the ropes off for me!” she ordered in a low voice.

However, Naomi continued to play dead. She thought Jeremy was only going to seek revenge on Lana. She only followed Lana into the car groggily after she drank too much. She was a victim here.

“Naomi!” Lana shrieked. When she was about to kick her again, she felt cold liquid pouring from her head to her toes.

“Ah!” Lana yelled.

Naomi bolted up abruptly since Jeremy was also pouring the liquid on her.

Then, when they took a whiff, they realized it was not ice water. It was gasoline!

Lana and Naomi were being drenched in gasoline!

“Jeremy, Jeremy, please let me go! Let me go now!” Lana was horrified, her face turning red and white simultaneously.

Jeremy towered over her with no emotions in his eyes.

“I want you to get a taste of how my in-laws died.”

“What?” Lana widened her eyes. “How dare you, Jeremy?! I’m Miss Johnson of the Stygian Johnson Gang! If something happens to me, my brother will never forgive you! You—”

“Do you think I’m scared of your brother?”

“...”

Lana was stunned. As she looked into Jeremy’s calm eyes, she knew Jeremy was not scared.

This man was not afraid of anything.

The only thing he was scared of was losing Madeline.

At this moment, Lana saw Jeremy taking out a matchbox from his pocket and reaching out for a match.

Lana backed away in horror. However, she still threatened him arrogantly, "Jeremy, do you really have the guts to kill me? If I'm dead, you'll be finished! Do you know what I added to your cigarettes? Slow-acting poison!"

Slow-acting poison?

Jeremy's eyes darkened.

Lana laughed while feeling pleased with herself. "You can only treat your confusion and delusions by continuing to smoke the cigarettes I gave you. If not, the poison will seep into your bones slowly, and eventually, you'll be tortured to death by the poison!"

"I can also tell you that Adam was the one who created this slow-acting poison that has the ability to control people. There's no cure for it at the time being! You have to depend on the cigarettes, or else you'll die! So, are you still going to keep me tied up? If I die, you'll die too!"

Lana's cockiness triggered Jeremy to strike the match. "Since I won't be able to continue living, then I'll send you off first."

"..."

"No! This has nothing to do with me!" Naomi finally said something, "Jeremy, no, Mr. Whitman, it has nothing to do with me! This is between you and Lana. Why do you have to involve me in this? Please let me go! Let me go now!"

Lana kicked Naomi angrily. "Are you going to just think of yourself at a time like this? Naomi, don't forget how you treated Eveline back then!"

Naomi was fuming as she lifted her leg and kicked Lana. "I was only carrying out your orders! Lana

Johnson, you're killing me!"

"Naomi, how dare you kick me! You..." Lana yelled angrily when suddenly, she saw a spark from the corner of her eyes.

She lifted her head and saw that Jeremy had already lit a match.

"Lana, my in-laws are waiting for you. Remember to repent your sins when you see them."

"N-No!"

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"No!"

Lana was so terrified that she started blabbering. In the next second, she saw Jeremy throwing the match on a stack of wooden boxes on the side.

It was as if the boxes had been doused in gasoline as well. The tiny flame on the match suddenly grew and started spreading all over the place.

However, before the fire could approach them, Lana and Naomi were scared frozen. Cold sweat started to form on both of their bodies.

Jeremy looked coldly at Lana. At this moment, she was so scared that her face was completely white.

"Lana, I won't let you die just like this."

Even more intense flames were burning behind his sharp eyes.

“You used me to kill my in-laws and caused me to never be able to be together with Linnie. So, I want you to slowly walk toward death while you’re in fear. I want you to experience how it feels to be framed and tortured.”

“...”

After he said that, Lana saw his tall and slender figure walking further and further away without any concerns until he had walked out of the abandoned factory.

The fire was getting closer to them, and it felt like the heat was going to get into contact with their faces at any second.

Naomi yelled at Lana in terror, “Lana, you dumb b*tch! You want to die, but I don’t!” She screeched, then yelled at the door, “Jeremy, don’t go! You have a chance to get back together with Eveline because...”

“Shut up!” Lana shrieked and stopped Naomi.

She was so scared that her hands were shaking. Beads of cold sweat were pouring from her body.

Of course, she wanted to live. However, it would be difficult to stay alive in this situation.

If she really were to die, she would want to hide the truth of Eloise and Sean’s deaths forever.

“I won’t let Eveline get the man I can’t get!” Lana yelled hysterically. “I want Eveline to be in pain, and I want them to never get back together!”

...

Yorick had prepared a plane and was about to send Lana back to F Country in the morning.

However, Lana had not come back since last night.

He was worried that Lana would cause trouble again, so he asked his men to find her. After they looked all over, they discovered that Lana and Naomi were taken away by Jeremy when they were in the bar last night.

When he remembered what happened three months ago, Yorick sensed that something was amiss.

He handed the information he got to Fabian and asked him to contact Madeline.

Madeline was changing her son's diaper when she suddenly received a call from Fabian. On the other end of the phone, she heard Fabian's anxious voice saying, "Eveline, can you ask your husband to release my sister since I've saved Lily before?"

Madeline was confused, but she sensed that something was wrong.

After she knew that Jeremy had kidnapped Lana and Naomi to an abandoned factory, Madeline immediately called Jeremy.

At the same time, Jeremy sent her a message.

There were only a few lines in the message. [Linnie, I've avenged our mom and dad. Please don't be sad anymore. You should find a good man and marry him. Don't tell Lily that I'm her birth father. There's no need for that.]

At the end of the message, he confessed to her once more. [Eveline Montgomery, I love you.]

Madeline felt her body going cold after she saw this message.

She immediately handed her child to Karen and drove to the address Fabian sent her.

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After arriving at the location before Fabian and the rest, Madeline watched the flames engulf the factory and understood what Jeremy meant by revenge.

She quickly ran through the metal doors to take a look at what was happening inside. Upon entering, she was met with Jeremy standing before the factory like an exquisite sculpture, rooted in place as he watched the flames feed aloofly.

Madeline felt her heart sink.

She quickly called the fire department and ran to stand in front of Jeremy.

It was then that the man realized Madeline had arrived. His dim eyes sparkled.

"What are you doing here, Linnie? Quick, leave." Jeremy quickly pulled Madeline away, not wanting her to be scorched by straying flames.

Madeline slapped his hand away, her eyes filled with worry and concern.

"What do you think you're doing? Have you any idea at all?"

"I know," Jeremy replied curtly, the flames reflecting in his frosty eyes. "She deserves to die."

"Yes, she deserves to die, but you don't have to play the executioner!" Madeline panicked, wanting to

run inside to look only for Jeremy to hold her back.

As she was struggling, Madeline's eyes moistened from the heat or something else she did not know. "You must know where Lana and Naomi stand! You can still stop before it gets beyond that point, Jeremy!"

Jeremy's hold on Madeline did not loosen. "They're not worth your pity, Linnie."

Madeline did not know how to explain to the man that she could not possibly pity Lana Johnson or Naomi Lionel.

"You're not avenging my parents, Jeremy. You're destroying your entire life! Stop!"

Yet, the man merely smiled by her ear. "My life turned dark the moment I lost you, Linnie."

"Once Lana dies, I'll surrender myself. I'll tell the police that I was the one who set fire to the Montgomery family, that I was the one who destroyed your home and killed my own parents-in-law."

Madeline shook her head, her tears falling from her glistening eyes due to the breeze. "Are you even listening to me, Jeremy? Let Lana and Naomi out now!"

"I'll avenge my parents myself! I don't need you to do it for me!"

"Do you hear me, Jeremy Whitman?"

Just then, Fabian and Yorick arrived at the scene as well. Staring at the burning flames in front of them, a bad feeling crept up.

Fabian covered his mouth and ran to the window to take a look. "Lana and Naomi are both inside. The flames haven't gotten to them yet, but they're unconscious!"

Hearing him, Yorick immediately came up with a plan to get Lana out.

Jeremy watched coldly from the side as he carried Madeline and turned around. "Go, Linnie."

"I'm not going anywhere!" Madeline struggled out of his grip. "If you're just leaving like this, Jeremy, then don't appear in front of me again!"

She glared at him with her reddened and wet eyes.

"There's a back door we can use, Yorick, but I can't open it." Fabian's voice drifted from afar.

Madeline reached out to Jeremy. "You must have the key to the back door. Give it to me!"

Jeremy remained stoic.

Madeline ran toward him and reached out to rustle through his pockets impatiently. Instead of the key, all she found in his pockets were the rainbow shell he had been keeping carefully and the wedding ring Madeline had removed.

Her vision blurred as she stared at the man whose gaze grew colder by the second.

"Give me the key, Jeremy! Give it to me!"

Jeremy raised a hand to wipe her tears away lovingly. "Are these tears because of me?" He smiled. "Don't cry, I'm not worth it. Ryan's not bad for a significant other. I'm sure he'll be someone you can lean

on in the future.”

“You don’t even know who it is that I want to lean on the most! It’s you, it has always been you. Jeremy, please! Wake up and give me the key. Come back to me. You don’t have to make another mistake!”

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Watching Madeline’s eyes that were red from crying, emotion finally flashed through Jeremy’s gaze.

He could not ignore Madeline’s plea, let alone continue to go against her wishes.

“It’s under the door,” Jeremy finally said.

Madeline quickly shouted for Fabian, “It’s under the door!”

Fabian squatted and groped around, surprised to find the key.

Opening the door, he and Yorick then ran inside to carry out Lana and Naomi who had passed out.

As both Lana and Naomi had been doused in gasoline, embers of flame managed to catch on them while they were carried out.

Thank goodness for the firefighters who arrived in time and extinguished the flames.

Lana and Naomi were sent to the hospital where both were declared to not be in any life-threatening danger.

However, the ends of Lana’s already short hair were burnt and became choppy. The scent of smoke filled the strands of her hair.

Knowing that Lana and Naomi were alright, Madeline got into the car anxiously.

She could only imagine how much Jeremy must have hated Lana and himself to do such a thing.

Madeline reached out for a picture of Eloise and Sean, tracing it with her fingertips.

“Will you blame me for stopping Jeremy, Mom and Dad?”

She frowned, feeling conflicted.

She felt a boulder lodge itself on her chest at the idea that the man she loved had become her parents' murderer, putting her in a suffocating situation.

The more she thought about it, the more remorseful she felt.

There was no way she could erase the fact that Jeremy had killed Eloise and Sean, but here she was worried about their future together.

At that train of thought, Madeline felt guilty.

After buying a bouquet of white chrysanthemums and carnations, she arrived at the cemetery. Before she could walk over, she was met with the sight of Jeremy bending down to light candles and incense before Eloise and Sean's graves.

Madeline walked over to replace Jeremy's flowers and candles with new ones.

Jeremy stood rooted in place. His deep eyes were staring at Madeline who was paying him no heed.

“Can I have a day with the kids, Linnie?”

He was pleading, but Madeline ignored him to light candles quietly.

“I’ll redraft the divorce papers. You can have custody over the kids and every asset and property I own. I know they don’t mean anything to you, but it’s the last thing I can give you.”

At that, Madeline heard Jeremy walk away.

Pretending not to hear him at all, Madeline continued to light the candles. However, she could not hide the tears that were trickling from her eyes.

Time ticked away, and Madeline fell to her knees lifelessly. With her head falling forward, she started to sob.

Not too far away, Jeremy’s tears fell with hers as he watched Madeline’s kneeling and crying figure.

‘When we first met, even the wind that blew tasted sweet. I promised to protect and keep that happy smile on your face forever, yet I ended up being the one to destroy every bit of that sweet smile.

‘I’ve finally understood, Eveline, that loving a person doesn’t mean you’ll get to be with them forever.

‘It’s not because I don’t love you enough, but because I’m not worthy. You deserve much better than me.’

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Jeremy gulped. Giving Madeline up, he forced himself to turn around.

He used the day to spend time with the children.

Lillian still called him 'Mister', but it was good enough for him.

The sky darkened, and Madeline returned.

Jeremy placed the newly signed divorce papers in front of her and felt dizziness wash over him.

Assuming it was the slow-acting poison Lana talked about, he suppressed his reaction to it and gave Madeline a gentle, small smile.

"I don't want you to suffer anymore, Linnie," he stated gently, "Having gone through so much, I've come to understand that true love doesn't mean possession. As long as you're happy, I'm happy. That's enough for me."

Hearing her son, Karen asked worriedly, "What are you saying, Jeremy? Are you actually breaking up with Eveline?"

She asked, but Jeremy did not answer.

Karen then walked to stand beside Madeline. "Mom has done so many horrible things to you before, Eveline. Yet you've forgiven me despite my horrendous acts. Will you not forgive Jeremy this time?"

"Yes, he made a mistake, Eveline, but he lost his memory and was under Lana's control. That evil woman—"

"Even if Linnie forgives me, I still can't forgive myself," Jeremy interrupted Karen.

Staring at the divorce papers, Madeline took the pen and signed her name at the bottom.

Karen sighed hopelessly as she watched.

Jeremy's heart fell into the void as frost began to shroud his entire being.

Pretending not to realize, Madeline took the papers and stood. She looked down and fixed her bag to avoid his gaze. "I'll have a lawyer process this immediately. You can visit the kids any time you want, but I don't want Whitman Corporation. I'll move out tomorrow. From now on, we are no more but strangers."

She quickly turned and left, fearful that her tears would soon betray her desire to stay.

"Can I hug you one last time, Linnie?" Jeremy's plea sounded from behind.

Madeline halted, her hands balling into fists as she closed her eyes. However, all that surfaced in her mind was her now ruined home. Ignoring him, she walked away.

Jeremy looked down despondently at the wedding ring on his finger before slowly taking it off.

The impression on his finger once the ring was removed was a testament to his reluctance to end this marriage.

Ever since he married Madeline all those years ago, he had never taken off the ring—not even when he thought she died.

However, everything would end today.

Placing the ring on the coffee table, he left silently.

Soon after, he arrived at the police station and claimed that he was the one who set fire to Montgomery Manor.

The chief superintendent recognized him and thought that Jeremy was joking when he confessed.

“Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery were your parents-in-law, Mr. Whitman. How is it possible that you killed them? Plus, our investigations have already shown that the fire was an accident and not arson.”

The superintendent stressed, refusing to accept Jeremy’s confession.

Jeremy had always been an aloof man who hated repeating himself, especially when his mind was still in a daze.

Thinking that it might be the slow-acting poison, Jeremy went to the hospital.

He had not planned to care about it, for the two lives he took were more than enough for a death sentence. He did not care if he was sick, but the police station refused to put him behind bars.

As such, he went to the hospital and did a blood test. While he waited for the results, he found a familiar figure flash before his eyes.

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“Adam?”

Jeremy followed after the figure and indeed confirmed that it was Adam.

Adam looked no different than how he did before—still gentlemanly with his glasses.

Yet, such a kind-looking man had also taken someone else’s life as an experiment subject.

How could Jeremy possibly forgive Adam for what he did to Madeline?

She had believed Adam, thinking that he was genuinely helping her when she was nothing more than a subject of an experiment to him.

Madeline still had no idea why he was so averse to her taking the pain medication Adam gave her.

Adam had returned to his office to get his research. However, he had not expected Jeremy to appear before the door the moment he sat in his office.

Panic flashed through Adam's eyes, but he quickly calmed.

"Jeremy Whitman? How can I help you?"

Locking Adam's office door behind him, Jeremy walked toward Adam with a domineering gaze in his eyes.

"You don't even have the most basic medical ethics at all, so how can you even call yourself a doctor? You have no right to wear that lab coat!"

Adam looked confused. "What are you talking about Jeremy?"

"You know what you've done!" Jeremy grabbed Adam by his collar. "Eveline believed you and even saw you as a friend, yet you treated her as an experiment subject! Damn you, Adam Brown!"

Jeremy sent a punch across Adam's face, flinging the man's glasses across the floor.

Adam frowned in pain and picked up his glasses. After putting them on once more, he smiled as if nothing was wrong.

“Shouldn’t you worry about yourself, Jeremy Whitman?” Adam showed his true self. “So what if I treated Eveline as a test subject? Had it not been for me, she would’ve died long ago in prison. Hmph. Don’t forget that you were the one who sent her there in the first place, Mr. Whitman.”

Adam was well aware of Jeremy’s weakness and aimed right at it. He chuckled when he saw the change in Jeremy’s expression before reaching into his drawer to pull out a bag of small and thin pills.

Jeremy recognized them as the pain medication Adam told Madeline to take.

“The pills Eveline Montgomery took were made with the same ingredients as the cigarettes you’ve been smoking over the past three months,” Adam explained.

Jeremy’s expression changed. “What?! You gave Eveline a slow-acting poison?”

“She didn’t take much, and with her pregnant body, it wasn’t that bad. Her symptoms seem to have already vanished as of now,” Adam’s reply placated much of Jeremy’s worry, but then he suddenly broke into a smile.

“So she isn’t my test subject anymore. You are.”

Jeremy relaxed greatly.

As far as he was concerned, he was content with Madeline being safe.

Adam saw through the cause behind Jeremy’s shift of expression. “You must love Eveline so much. It’s a shame you’ll never get to be with her again.”

He spoke as his computer showed the results of Jeremy's blood test.

His eyes fell on the report, and Adam smiled.

"It has only been three months, but Lana sure is a cruel woman. She made you smoke that custom cigarette every day to make you stay. Your blood has already changed to the point where you only have two choices before I invent the antidote."

Adam listed out slowly, "Choice one, you return to Lana's side and be her man. Continue to smoke that cigarette and slow the poison, though I don't suppose you'll take that option.

"Choice two, you wait for death to take you."

He smiled and continued, "Because even if I do invent the antidote, I can't give it to you. You'll never understand how rare it is for a mad scientist to be given the support—monetary and tactical—to do his own research, but the Stygian Johnsons do."

The Stygian Johnson Gang.

All hope vanished from Jeremy's heart at Adam's mention of the gang.

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As a mad scientist, nothing brought Adam more joy than achieving the results he wanted.

However, the only place that could give him the tactical support he needed was the Stygian Johnson Gang.

Adam himself did not have the ability, wealth, or power.

Jeremy did not completely believe Adam's proclamation, so he took his report and went to consult a professor he knew only to receive a similar reply.

The professor told him about the mutation in Jeremy's blood and advised him to do a full-body check-up so that the cause could be found.

However, knowing the cause, Jeremy also knew that treatment was close to impossible.

Thinking back to the two choices Adam gave him, Jeremy had already made his own decision.

He could very well hunt Adam down and kill him, but Madeline's frantic words deterred him. "Jeremy, please! Come back to me, you don't have to make another mistake!"

'I won't make this mistake again, Linnie.'

Throwing the test results into the trash, Jeremy left the hospital.

A black Rolls-Royce stopped before him just as he made his way to the car park.

The window rolled down, revealing a kind face behind it.

"Can we have a word, Mr. Whitman?" asked the middle-aged man politely.

Jeremy looked at the man. "Aren't you from M Country?"

"Quite the fine observation, Mr. Whitman. Can I have the pleasure of chatting with you in the car?" The man invited courteously again.

Jeremy rejected. "I'm sorry, I'm a little busy."

"Please wait, Mr. Whitman," the man called out and alighted the car, handing him a name card. "Please look at this, Mr. Whitman."

While giving it a cold glance, Jeremy's mind quickly supplied him with something at the sight of the four-letter contraction.

The middle-aged man smiled and invited him again. "Please get in the car, Mr. Whitman."

Jeremy did not reject him this time.

...

Upstairs, Madeline stayed dazedly in the room until she received a call from Ryan. Walking downstairs, she found the wedding ring on the coffee table.

Madeline was stunned for a while before she went to take it.

The person's warmth had vanished, leaving the ring cold to the touch. The cool metal spread from her fingertip to the depths of her heart.

He had taken his ring off.

He had truly decided to let go this time.

Madeline's heartstrings tugged at the thought as her eyes fell on the letter 'L' that Jeremy had engraved

inside the ring through the blur of her tears.

He had engraved her name on the wedding ring all those years ago.

Jeremy.

Taking the ring, Madeline walked out to find Ryan already waiting for her.

Sitting in his car, Madeline gripped Jeremy's ring in her hand.

"Is something frustrating you, Eveline? Did Lana come and bother you again?"

"She didn't." Madeline snapped back to reality. Staring at Ryan's side profile while deep in thought, she asked, "You said I saved you before, Mr. Jones? I do believe that I've met you somewhere before now that I think about it. When did I save you?"

At that, Ryan gave a bashful smile. "It's a little embarrassing."

"Embarrassing?" Madeline was even more curious. "What happened?"

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Madeline asked curiously, only to find a bitter smile on his gentle features.

"Do you know how I became an amateur artist?" Ryan asked.

Madeline shook her head and smiled. "Do tell."

Ryan turned to look at Madeline. "You made me who I am today."

"Me?" Madeline was confused as Ryan began to tell her what happened years ago.

Back then, Madeline had just graduated high school. It was the summer break before university started.

Madeline had found a part-time job at a dessert shop, and when she walked out one day, she found an art stall by the road.

At that point in time, Madeline had not begun to pursue jewelry designing just yet, but art was something that piqued her interest. Walking over, she found the artworks rather interesting.

As such, she picked one up to take a look.

Just then, a boy came over to ask calmly, "Do you want it?"

She was shocked, but the boy continued before she could reply, "Just pay however much you think it's worth."

"..." Madeline was still an innocent lady, too embarrassed to place the art down after picking it up. As such, she rummaged through her pocket only to find a one-dollar coin. She could have paid using her phone, but that money was only enough for her school fees.

She placed the coin down, saying, "I'm sorry. I only have this coin on me now."

She then encouraged him. "There's a unique feel to your art style. Keep going, I'm sure you'll improve and achieve breakthroughs beyond your imagination."

Madeline then left with the piece of art, leaving the boy to pick up the coin she gave him with a smile.

At that, Madeline finally understood what Ryan meant when he asked if she still remembered the coin.

She forgot about this encounter long ago and may not have remembered it at all had Ryan not reminded her.

However, it only made Madeline more confused. "The Jones family is one of Glendale's four major rich families. Why would a young master like you be selling his paintings by the street?"

"I loved art and wanted to pursue it overseas, but my parents wanted me to take over the family business. We had a big fight that day.

"In a rage, my father called my art unorthodox and claimed that no one would buy it. He said that as long as I sold one before four o'clock that evening, then he'd let me study it overseas.

"Ten minutes before the deadline, you appeared."

Madeline finally understood.

While Madeline still thought that claiming she 'saved' him was a bit much, Ryan believed it just right.

"Your coin meant the world to me, Miss Montgomery. It's thanks to it that I managed to make my dream come true. Had I not left the country to pursue art, I might have regretted it for the rest of my life. A person's dream is priceless, after all."

His gaze grew serious, but he quickly broke into a smile. "While my profession now has completely veered off the path of art, I'm content with the fact that I got to make that dream of mine come true."

“What’s your profession now?” Mulling over the thought, Madeline realized she had no idea what Ryan did for a living.

When Ryan came to her in the beginning, it was merely to design a wedding ring and bottles of perfume as door gifts for the guests who would be attending his and Naomi’s wedding—not for his company.

“What do you do for a living, Mr. Jones?” Curious, Madeline could not help but ask.

Ryan simply gave a mysterious smile. “Perhaps you’ll find out one day.”

Perhaps?

It was as if his profession was a secret one.

Yet, Madeline’s gut told her that Ryan was not a bad person.

He brought her to an art gallery.

Madeline found her spirits slightly lifted.

Entering through the company doors as the only heir to the Montgomery Enterprise, Madeline placed her mind on work to distract her from her heartache.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1010

It had been an entire month and Madeline did not know where Jeremy was. She heard from Fabian that Yorick had given Lana a scolding and she was back in F Country now.

Still, how could a scolding be the end to the things Lana had done?

Madeline had not forgotten her parents' tragic end.

While Lana spent the month in F Country mingling with her 'bosom friends', they would sometimes ask her about the woman with the name of Eveline Montgomery who she had knelt and apologized to. Whenever Eveline's name was brought up, Lana would be ashamed of herself.

No one had dared to make fun of her ever since she was born, yet now she was everyone's laughing stock!

Lana did not want to stay in F Country anymore. Everywhere she went, it felt as if everyone around her knew of how she had knelt by Eveline's feet to apologize.

The more Lana thought about it, the angrier she felt. Without telling Yorick or Fabian, Lana secretly returned to Glendale.

Upon her return, the first thing she did was ask around about Jeremy. Knowing that he was no longer with Madeline, she was relieved.

Not that they would be together again when Jeremy was the 'culprit' behind Madeline's parents' deaths.

Madeline had no idea that Lana was back in Glendale as she had spent the month spending time with her kids and working. Sometimes, she would join Ryan for a meal as well.

She would still end up thinking about her late parents and missing Jeremy Whitman when she was alone in bed in the dead of the night. As of this moment, her eyes were closed and she was ready to sleep.

Her mind drifted over to Jeremy's text: [Find a good man and marry him. It's alright if Lillian doesn't know that I'm her biological father. There's no need for her to know.]

'There's no need?'

Madeline shot up in bed. Had he thought of a way to atone for her parents' death?

Madeline's heart raced uneasily.

'He wouldn't.'

He would not go to such extremes.

'He wouldn't.'

Madeline repeated to herself quietly as she hugged her blanket and lay down again.

In the dead of the night, the nightclub was bursting with activity.

Having had a few drinks, Lana began to fool around with a few strangers on the dance floor.

Under the flashing lights, her eyes fell on the man sitting alone in the corner.

The lights over him were dim, but one look was all it took for Lana to know that it was Jeremy!

There was no other man with such an ethereal appearance.

Still, Lana was wary as she remembered the forceful look in Jeremy's eyes when he poured gasoline over her and tried to burn her alive.

While she still wanted to approach him, the hellish persona he took upon that day gave her shivers. She made her way to leave.

She feared that Jeremy would try again since he did not succeed in burning her alive the previous time.

She could not believe that despite knowing he had been slowly poisoned, Jeremy would rather wait for death than be her man.

Was she that horrible a choice?

Could she not compete with Eveline Montgomery?

Indignant, she decided to leave the bar.

It had only been a few steps when the man she was thinking about suddenly appeared in front of her.

Lana staggered backward. "Jer-Jeremy Whitman!"

Afraid, she wanted to run but was surprised to hear the singular word Jeremy said...Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 1011-1020

July 27, 2021 by superadmin

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1011

Lana thought she misheard him, but she watched clearly as Jeremy's pretty thin lips parted to speak. "Cigarette."

Cigarette.

He had come to ask her for a cigarette.

Lana's eyes shone, the franticness within them vanishing at that moment.

She chuckled to herself. Not even the most determined man would be able to survive the torture of poison slowly killing them from the inside.

Lana walked toward him to smile appreciatively at his slightly hollowed features.

"I can give you the cigarette if you want, Jeremy, but you must willingly become mine." Lana gave her requirement as she stared at Jeremy with desire in her eyes.

Jeremy stared at the heinous smile and replied, "Fine."

Lana was elated, staring at him with her intoxicated eyes as she lowered her voice. "If that's the case, then how about you prove your determination? I've gotten a little scared of you since the day you treated me that way because of Eveline. Console me?"

Her words heavily hinted at Jeremy, and he understood.

"Hotel. Your pick," Jeremy replied curtly.

Lana was ecstatic. She never expected she would get the chance to sleep with Jeremy.

She immediately picked a hotel and booked a room before leading him over.

Entering the room, Lana immediately went to take a bath.

After taking a quick bath, she shook her head.

She felt a little dizzy from the drinks she had in the bar, but it was a nice buzz.

Wrapping herself in a towel, Lana then opened the bathroom door and was hit with a special scent. Jeremy must have lit an incense.

In a daze, she saw the man she dreamed about sitting by the bed. Impatient, she pounced at him...

The night ended and morning came.

Turning around, Lana stared at Jeremy as he put on his clothes by the bed.

The morning sun shone on the man's handsome brows as Lana stared at him, not able to get enough of his attractive features.

"It no wonders that Eveline loves you so much, Jeremy. You're the most charismatic man I've met." She stared besottedly at him.

Jeremy put on his clothes and went to light a cigarette on the side.

Admiring Jeremy as he smoked, Lana thought back to what happened last night.

Perhaps it was because she drank too much that she blacked out midway. Last night felt like a dream, but the dream felt real—real enough that she still felt sated.

She wanted Jeremy to stay, but he said that he had matters to tend to her.

Lana washed up and left the room, only to see an unattractive and ragged thug staring at her flirtatiously.

Lana rolled her eyes disgustedly. The fact that such people found interest in her made her want to vomit.

However, she was in a good mood today and decided to ignore it.

...

It was still early, and Madeline was making breakfast for Jackson and Lillian.

The siblings were obedient kids. Having had their breakfast, they then took their school bags and held hands as they hopped on the nanny van to school.

Madeline had offered to move out of Whitman Manor a month ago, but Karen managed to persuade her to stay.

She would not be able to take care of all three children if she moved out.

Turning to walk back inside, she suddenly received a call from Ava.

“Did you see it, Maddie? I thought Jeremy already got his memories back? What’s he doing this time?”
Ava’s voice was filled with anger. “How could he hurt you again and again?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1012

Madeline did not understand but quickly found the news about Jeremy entering a hotel with a short-haired woman in the middle of the night before leaving separately.

It had been a month since Madeline received any news of Jeremy. She never expected to receive it in such a way.

Others may not recognize her, but Madeline knew that it was Lana with just one look.

Madeline felt her vision darken for a while, but she was soon pulled back to reality when Ava called her name through the phone.

“Is Jeremy crazy, Maddie? Why would he get together with Lana?” Ava pitied Madeline.

Madeline gripped her phone and forced herself to calm down. “We’ve already gotten a divorce, Ava. Who he decides to spend his time with has nothing to do with me.”

Madeline hung up nonchalantly despite the shaking in her heart.

‘Why, Jeremy? Have you truly gone mad?’

Dazed for the entire morning, Madeline only came back to reality when Ryan came to bring her out for lunch.

They arrived at that restaurant.

Madeline's gaze instinctively fell on the seat she once sat with Jeremy, only to find it occupied by another woman.

Madeline turned to sit but was knocked into by someone from behind.

"Sorry." She quickly apologized but was hit with the cooling scent that tugged at her heartstrings.

She looked up in disbelief, her eyes reflecting the man's attractive features.

'Jeremy?'

Madeline exclaimed internally in shock.

Jeremy quickly let go of his grip on Madeline now that she was back on her feet. His gaze was indifferent.
"Are you alright, Miss Montgomery?"

Miss Montgomery.

What a familiar yet distanced title.

Madeline stepped out of his arms coldly without replying to him.

Jeremy did not comment on it, opting to turn to Ryan with a smile instead. "My ex-wife is a rare and great woman, Mr. Jones. If you truly like her, don't let go."

Jeremy's words made Madeline feel uncomfortable.

She was about to speak when she heard Ryan reply gently, "Thank you for the reminder, Mr. Whitman. I won't."

Satisfied with the reply, he turned to look at Madeline who was glaring coldly at him before leaving.

Madeline then realized that the woman sitting with her back against her was Lana.

He was eating with Lana at the table they once sat at.

Ha.

Madeline had no idea what Jeremy was thinking at all.

She sat down despite the fact that her appetite had completely vanished. "In regards to what he said, Ryan, you can ignore it."

Rya understood, but his gaze was sincere. "I've developed feelings for you after having spent time with you over the past month."

Ryan's reply took Madeline by surprise, but he continued to explain, "Naomi and I got engaged because it was my parents' wish. There wasn't anyone I had feelings for at the time, so I decided to accept it

when my parents introduced me to a girl of similar status to tie a union.”

It turned out that this was the reason behind Ryan and Naomi’s relationship.

It explained why Ryan did not seem to show any form of sadness at all when he broke it off with Naomi. There were no feelings involved at all.

However, in the face of Ryan’s sudden confession and Jeremy’s ‘matchmaking’, Madeline felt uneasy and made an excuse to use the bathroom. She wanted some peace and quiet, only to have Lana’s proud smile appear in the mirror.

“You must be surprised, Eveline Montgomery. Since last night, Jeremy has become mine for real.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1013

Madeline loosened her balled-up fist and washed her hands nonchalantly.

However, Lana walked up to her to provoke her. “Jeremy sure is charming. I’ve never been so happy. Now I understand why you used such lowly methods to get him to marry you.

“But we’re not the same, Eveline. I didn’t do anything at all. Jeremy was the one who came to me instead.”

Proud of herself, Lana turned it up a notch with the taunts when she saw Madeline’s lack of response. “Do you think I’m joking, Eveline? You can go and take a look if you want. Jeremy still has the mark I bit on his shoulder last night! Haha... Ugh?”

Lana laughed freely, never having expected Madeline to reach out and grab her neck with a domineering look in her eyes.

“There’s a limit to my tolerance, Lana Johnson. For my kids, perhaps I can still maintain a shred of rationality, but there’s no limit to the things that I can do if you completely piss me off. You’ll stop

bragging in front of me if you know what's good for you."

Madeline's aura was overwhelming.

"Jeremy and I are already divorced. Who he wants to spend time with has nothing to do with me. If you like him so much, then treasure him and keep him for yourself. I don't want him anymore!"

Madeline loosened her grip just as her warning came to an end.

Flushed, Lana coughed and tried to attack Madeline from behind. However, Madeline evaded it agilely and instead raised her hand to counterattack.

At that moment, Madeline felt a familiar hand suspending her hand in mid-air.

The palm's warmth was something she would never forget.

Madeline turned to the man who was gripping her wrist—Jeremy.

Watching the scene, Lana was elated but wore a hurt expression as she approached Jeremy. "Jeremy, she tried to hurt me again."

Jeremy stared at Madeline and asked, "Why are you hitting my girlfriend, Miss Montgomery?"

'Girlfriend.'

The word drifted into Madeline and Lana's ears.

Lana was stunned and ecstatic.

Madeline was shocked too, and she felt her heart grow cold.

Her dignified gaze fell on Jeremy as she spoke disdainfully, "So what if I hit her? Are you going to hit me back for your girlfriend, Mr. Whitman?"

"..." Lana's expression fell as she turned to stir more trouble up, saying coquettishly, "Look at her, Jeremy. This is too much..."

Jeremy glanced at Lana, then back at Madeline. "As ex-husband and wife, I'm sorry on behalf of how my girlfriend has offended you."

Madeline was beyond disappointed by the man's reply.

She tugged her arm back. "How can an apology possibly be enough for the murder of two lives? Are you overestimating yourself, Jeremy, or are you underestimating me?"

Madeline turned and left.

Lana quirked her red lips in satisfaction.

She never expected Jeremy to suddenly call her his girlfriend.

It seemed like she had made the right choice with the slow-acting poison. Jeremy was easily controlled now.

Ryan, who was ordering dishes at the table, watched Madeline rush out with a dark expression.

Subconsciously turning to look at the bathroom, he saw Jeremy and Lana leave one after the other.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1014

Guessing what had happened, he quickly placed the menu down and ran after Madeline.

Standing in an empty corner in the underground car park, Madeline trembled and shook as her heart ached with no sign of relief.

Watching Madeline try and suppress her feelings alone in the corner, Ryan quickly made his way over.

Seeing her agony, Ryan reached out for her. "If it's too much, you can always choose to lean on my shoulders. I may not be the person you want to rely on the most, but I think I qualify enough as an escape."

Madeline slowly looked up to stare at the gentle features in front of her as her tears began to fall.

Ryan took a step forward and opened his arms to pull Madeline into his chest.

Jeremy watched the scene from afar and felt his heart clench as pain consumed it.

Yet another uncomfortable feeling within his body reminded him that giving her away was the best and only choice he could make.

Madeline cried for a long time before her emotions began to calm.

Getting into the car, she decided to text Jeremy to meet her by the seaside of April Hill.

Seven o'clock that night, the man arrived on time.

The cold sea breeze blew. It was no longer salty and sweet like it used to be.

“Did you want to ask why I got together with Lana?” Jeremy asked straightforwardly, his tone cold and distant.

Madeline merely stared at the man’s calm expression silently.

From her eyes, Jeremy read her question. He approached her with a smile and cupped her cheeks with both his hands. “Eveline Montgomery, you will always be the woman I, Jeremy Whitman, love the most. But there’s also no way we can ever get back together.”

‘There’s no way, Linnie. Not even if you forgave me.’

His reply crushed Madeline’s heart and enraged her. “So you’ve decided to be with Lana? The person who used you to kill my parents?”

“Yeah. I got together with her. The gossip online is true. We’ve... slept together.”

His words shot through her heart like a thousand arrows.

Trembling, she pushed the man away while suppressing the heartbreak and tears. “Jeremy Whitman, you b*stard! I’m so disappointed in you! Tell me just what kind of man did I fall in love with all these years?”

Jeremy remained indifferent to Madeline’s disappointed reprimanding.

He pulled a box of cigarettes from his pocket. Lighting one between his fingers, he took a drag.

Madeline could not suppress the tears at the sight and snatched the cigarette and its box before throwing them on the floor. Then, she gave him a harsh slap across his face.

“Do you somehow think that I exist for the sole purpose to be hurt by and for you? Why must you treat me like this, Jeremy? Am I not worthy of happy days at all?”

“You’re right, you should never have fallen for me at all.” Jeremy curled his lips faintly as he stared at her teary face. He secretly balled his fists to hide his trembling fingers. “It’s your biggest misfortune to have met me, Eveline. I cannot give you the happiness you deserve. All I give is pain, so stop loving me. I don’t want to be loved by you anymore.”

Slap!

Madeline placed all her strength to leave a clear handprint on Jeremy’s cheek. Her hands were shaking uncontrollably as breathing itself started to feel like a difficult feat. “I don’t want to see you anymore. I don’t... After tonight, Jeremy Whitman, I won’t shed another tear for you. Not even in your death will I let my heart hurt for you again.”

She bit her lip to ignore the searing ache in her chest.

“I hate you! I hate you so much, Jeremy Whitman! I hate the fact that you’re not atoning for my parents’ death right now!”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1015

Madeline drove away.

Rooted in place, Jeremy waited until Madeline could no longer see him from her rear-view mirror before he let go of his facade. His slender fingers picked up the cigarettes on the ground.

These were custom-made cigarettes, a replica of the ones Lana gave him. However, they were not from her.

Someone had customized these for him. They were made with ingredients that would balance the slow-acting poison inside his body. Although, he had to say that they were not very effective.

He thought of Madeline's words. "Not even in your death will I let my heart hurt for you again." He leaned against his car lifelessly, his peach blossom eyes staring dimly at the ground.

'That day might just come sooner than you think, Linnie...

'But I sincerely hope that you would have completely given up on me by then so that at least you won't be hurt by it.'

Leaving April Hill, Madeline had no idea what mindset she was in as she drove away.

Passing an intersection, Madeline had not noticed the red light and drove through. She almost crashed into another car.

The other person rolled their window down to curse at Madeline before driving off.

Parking the car by the road, tears streamed down Madeline's face as she threw herself over the steering wheel.

Taking a trip down memory lane, it seemed like she had never been truly happy at all.

The happiest moment she could recall might just be the moment she first met Jeremy on April Hill.

'I must have used all my luck in meeting you there and then, Jeremy. Everything afterward was merely misfortune.'

Madeline stared at the night sky from the inside of her car and raised her hand to wipe the tears from the corner of her eyes.

'This is the last time Linnie will cry for you, Jeremy. One last time... No more after this...'

Madeline returned home and fell into a deep sleep.

Her mood was regulated by the time she woke. She then went to send the two children to school before making her way to Montgomery Enterprises.

The company did a lot of charity work when Sean and Eloise were still here, and with its subsidiary company's annual charity gala in a few days, Madeline decided to place her attention solely on work so that she would not think of the man who had fully disappointed her.

As the new holder of Montgomery Enterprises, there were many employees who were dissatisfied with Madeline's sudden appearance.

However, as Sean and Eloise's only daughter, most of them were in agreement for her to take over the company.

Still, there was one person who hated Madeline from the depths of her heart.

Eve Garcia from the jewelry department.

When Madeline was looking for a job fresh out of prison, she had managed to find herself in Montgomery Enterprise's jewelry department. As her superior, Eve used to gossip about Madeline behind her back which she had accidentally gotten wind of once.

Madeline could still remember Eve's slander. "It's a black mark on our department to have a woman who was an ex-inmate, a mistress, and had plagiarized someone else's work!"

Back then, Madeline had thrown her work badge at Eve and resigned.

Madeline could still remember that mortified look on Eve's face.

Yet Eve would never have expected Madeline to be the Montgomerys' only daughter who now held the highest authority as the person with the most stocks in Montgomery Enterprises!

She was not in the position to offend her and neither did she want to resign, so Eve had no choice but to return to her station.

Madeline was walking past the jewelry department with documents in her hand when she suddenly heard one of Eve's colleagues asking Eve with interest, "What if our new president takes revenge and fires you, Eve?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1016

Eve's heart lurched, but she made sure to keep her expression disdainful. "Why would I be afraid of her? She can fire me if she wants, but I can still ask her to pay me five times my salary as compensation!"

She got up and rolled her eyes, crossing her arms as well. "Not to mention that I'm our department's representative with the press for every year's annual charity gala. I'm in charge of an important segment. I'm also the only one who can do the segment. So no, I don't think you-know-who would have the guts to fire me."

'You-know-who' obviously referred to Madeline.

Eve's expression turned arrogant at the mention of the annual charity gala. "Not even Mrs. Montgomery made me leave back then, so who is Eveline to do so? Does she really think that she's the president just

because she has taken over the company? You guys might not know this, but she used to be an inmate...”

Eve lowered her tone slightly as the female colleagues in front of her widened their eyes. In the midst of listening to Eve talk, they stared at the figure behind her.

Eve had not realized Madeline’s presence just yet, so she got more enthusiastic as she spoke. “You guys joined late, so there are some things that you might not know. I’ll let you in on some of them now. Take it as a bonus.”

“ ... ”

“Eveline Montgomery used to be Madeline Crawford, but she was so stupid that her biological parents ended up mistaking another woman, Meredith Crawford, as their daughter. Honestly speaking, I think Meredith’s a lot smarter than her!”

“ ... ”

“That’s not all. Do you guys know why Eveline went to prison before?” Eve smiled as she urged their curiosity.

The group of colleagues gulped and shook their heads as they stepped backward.

It only fueled Eve’s pride. She was about to tell when a voice drifted from behind. “Then do you know why you’re about to go to prison? Will it be defamation or slander of reputation?”

Eve had met Madeline a few times and heard her speak during meetings before, so to hear that same voice at this moment, she felt the soles of her feet chill.

Turning around to see Madeline standing elegantly in front of her, Eve grew frantic. “Ms.

Mon-Montgomery. Good morning. You sure go the extra mile, supervising departments so early in the morning.”

Madeline took in Eve’s alluring smile and replied calmly, “Relax, I’m not the kind of person to let my private life affect my work. While I may not fire you because of what happened between us, it does not change the fact that you’ve slandered my reputation. I will have my lawyer follow-up on this. You can wait for my lawyer’s letter.”

“...”

Eve’s smile froze.

Madeline simply placed the documents down and turned to leave.

Eve spent the entire day in discomfort, and at the last minute before she clocked out, she indeed received a letter from Madeline’s lawyer.

With the letter in hand, Eve left the company while muttering angrily under her breath. She was about to call a cab when a car stopped in front of her. “Would you be interested in a partnership?”

A woman’s voice drifted from the car window.

“Who are you? Why would I want to partner with you?” Eve rolled her eyes in annoyance.

“You don’t need to know who I am. All you need to do is follow my orders and this 100,000-dollar cash is yours. I can also help you get back at Eveline Montgomery.”

Eve had her eyes on a few branded purses lately but found herself too broke to buy them. To have such a great term of condition presented to her, she agreed without a second thought.

The sky darkened and night began to fall.

Almost everyone had clocked out, leaving Madeline alone to work in the office.

The day of the annual charity gala was closing on her, and as the person in charge, she would do her best to make it perfect.

She did not want to be a disgrace to Sean and Eloise.

Madeline was just about to save a document when the entire building's lights were shut off.

Confused, Madeline took her phone to call the building's manager when she heard footsteps approaching her office...

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1017

Not knowing who it was, Madeline turned on her phone's flashlight and shone in the direction of the footsteps. "Who is it?"

Madeline asked, only to have the floor-to-ceiling windows behind her explode. The glass shattered everywhere.

She shouted reflexively and heard the sound of glass exploding again.

"Watch out!" A man's worried tone sounded by her ear.

Madeline did not have the chance to take a look at the person when she found herself being pulled into a warm and strong embrace. The musky scent of ebony infiltrated her nostrils.

While it was not a familiar scent, Madeline did not find the scent especially new.

The sounds of explosion only stopped after a while.

However, the building's lights remained switched off.

"Are you alright, Eveline?"

Only then did Eveline realize it was Ryan.

She shook her head and stared at the broken floor-to-ceiling windows. They were on the 28th floor, so to have the windows broken and the evening wind blowing violently inside, it was dangerous.

Why would the windows suddenly shatter for no reason? Not to mention that these were hardly normal glass.

"Your hands are bleeding, it must've been the glass." Ryan's voice brought Madeline out of her wandering thoughts.

With the light from her phone, Madeline realized that there was a bleeding wound on the back of her right hand.

"Wait here." Ryan then made his way toward the first-aid kit and returned quickly after. "Let's stop the bleeding first. I'll clean and dress your wound first."

His voice was gentle while his palm was warm as he held Madeline's hand and began to treat the wound with familiarity.

Madeline frowned at the pain. She made no sound, but Ryan seemed to have realized it anyway and his touch grew gentler. "I'll be done soon."

"Okay." Madeline smiled and asked curiously, "The way you work reminds me of a doctor. Did you learn first-aid?"

Ryan halted for a moment before replying, "I took a few medical lessons when I went to university."

The wound was dressed just as he finished speaking.

"Try not to wet your wound for the next few days. Let's get you downstairs. It doesn't seem very safe here."

"Yeah. Thank you." Madeline turned around to take her bag from the chair.

Ryan pulled her back. "I'll do it."

He made his way over and stared at the glass shards all over the floor as he took her purse.

"Let's go, Ryan. It doesn't feel very safe here."

"Alright." Returning to Madeline with her purse in hand, he took his phone to shine their way.

Madeline made her way to follow, only to accidentally step on one of the glass shards. In her heels, she felt herself slip at the smooth surface.

Ryan immediately reached out to hold Madeline's shoulder, steadying her swaying frame.

“Thank you.” Madeline exhaled in relief.

Ryan then presented his palm to her. “Would you care to walk with me?” he suddenly asked.

In the dark, Madeline caught sight of the sincerity between his brows and nodded, placing her hand in Ryan’s palm.

Ryan gave a warm smile and tightened his grip on her hand, the warmth of his palm seeping to the back of her hands.

It was warm.

Very warm.

Due to the sudden power shortage, they could not take the elevator.

As such, Ryan held Madeline’s hand as they walked down the stairs carefully.

It took a while before they finally exited the building, but the power had not returned.

Madeline decided to call the manager who told her that an unknown issue had occurred with the building’s fuse box. They were currently doing their best to fix it.

Madeline did not press further and hung up the phone. She turned to thank Ryan, but he seemed to understand her and spoke first.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1018

“You don’t need to thank me. It’s a pleasure to be the person you want to rely on.”

His gaze reminded her of the night, gentle and deep.

“I want to be the first person you think of when you find yourself in danger and in need of help.”

“...”

Madeline had no idea how to reply, but the look in his eyes was sincere.

It was evident that his feelings for her were no longer as simple as him ‘fancying’ her.

Still, Madeline did not find Ryan suitable for herself. She had three kids, was married twice, and got divorced twice.

As if sensing the awkwardness Madeline felt, Ryan smiled and changed the subject.

“Let’s go eat dinner. I’ve booked a place.”

Madeline nodded, internally thanking Ryan for realizing and changing the subject.

On the other end, Lana threw her phone with the newly acquired picture at Naomi.

A magnified image of Ryan holding a frightened Madeline just moments ago appeared before Naomi’s eyes.

She remembered how much she wanted to kill this idiot when Jeremy had almost burned her alive, but that did not mean she would not milk this idiot of its full purpose now.

Lighting a cigarette, Lana took a drag and puffed out a breath of smoke before she began to taunt.

“Do you see this? Ryan has been with Eveline since a long time ago. He has never liked you to begin with. I had someone look into it and I found out that Ryan has always loved Eveline from the start. It was love at first sight before he even got into university.”

“What? Really?” Naomi was infuriated.

Lana rolled her eyes as if to say ‘of course’. “Or did you think that Ryan wasn’t a man? You’re a pretty woman, I’ll give you that, but did he even kiss you once over the two years you two dated?”

“...”

“It’s not that he couldn’t. He just wasn’t interested in you.”

“...”

“The woman he’s interested in has been Eveline all along. He picks her up every day after work. They’ve been secretly together for a while now.”

“That btch!” Naomi hit the desk with her fist furiously. “I knew Eveline was trying to seduce Rye! I would’ve been Mrs. Jones long ago had it not been for that btch! I’ll never let her get away with this!”

Watching Naomi react, Lana quirked her red lips in silent satisfaction.

...

After Madeline's hardworking preparations, it was finally the day of the annual charity gala.

Celebrities from Glendale and everywhere else were in attendance, along with a few top businessmen and wealthy, famous philanthropists.

Some of them were Eloise and Sean's friends. They came to ask Madeline how she was coping as well to give her encouragement and support.

After thanking each of them, Madeline then went backstage to get rid of some of her stress in the lounge.

There was a heavy weight on her shoulders.

This was a charity event Sean and Eloise created with their own bare hands. She was afraid that she would mess up and throw everything they had worked for down the drain.

She pulled out a picture of her parents and stared at it.

"Mom, Dad, I'll definitely make you proud."

"Are you alright, Eveline?" Ryan came over to check up on her.

Wiping the tears off the corner of her eyes, Madeline turned to the suited man and smiled, replying frankly, "I just miss my parents. I'm scared that I won't be able to do it as well as them. I don't want to throw their hard work away."

Ryan gave a small smile. "You're doing great. The atmosphere outside is pretty good. I'm sure you'll do just fine."

Madeline nodded and exited the lounge with him. "Thank you for staying by my side through all of this. You even helped me deal with things I had no idea how to. I don't even know how I'm supposed to thank you at all."

"Do you really want to thank me?" Ryan asked meaningfully.

Startled, Madeline nodded. "Yeah, I do."

Ryan then stared sincerely at her with his starry gray eyes while reaching an arm out to her. "Very well then. Now, if you will?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1019

Staring at Ryan's outstretched hand, Madeline could not help but think of Jeremy.

Just what did she need to do to completely cut this man out of her mind and life?

Was she supposed to throw herself into a new feeling?

"Life is hardly ever smooth-sailing, Eveline. Give yourself a chance to start over, and give the people who care about you a chance as well."

Ryan reached out to Madeline.

However, before his hand could touch her, a mocking voice sounded in the air.

"Tsk. There are so many guests waiting for you outside, Miss Montgomery, and you still have the time to waste it flirting with a man over here? I should've known that charity is always done for the sake of image."

Madeline and Ryan looked up to see Lana approaching them in a seductive evening gown.

Standing beside her was Jeremy Whitman.

Madeline had not seen the man again after she decisively broke it off with Jeremy by the seaside in April Hill.

Yet here he was, attending the charity gala with Lana on his arm.

Madeline averted her gaze coldly and turned to Lana. "The host didn't send you an invitation. Who let you in?"

"You're right, but the host sent one to Whitman Corporation, didn't they?" Jeremy parted his lips, his peach blossom eyes staring at Madeline's icy and otherworldly appearance.

Lana quirked her lips proudly. "Did you hear that, Miss Montgomery? My boyfriend received an invitation from the host. As his girlfriend, can't I even come along to take a look?"

"Please, help yourself." Madeline fired back without restraint. "However, this is a charity gala, after all. The guests present are all charitable and loving people, but what about you? You're just a vile and heinous woman."

"..." Lana's smile instantly fell as she turned to Jeremy. "I think your ex-wife still has feelings for you, Jeremy. Why else would she pick on me like this?"

"Is that so?" Jeremy curled his lips into an intrigued smile as he took in Madeline's frosty features. "Am I that attractive, Eveline? I've hurt you time and time again, yet you're still interested in me?"

Madeline never expected to hear such ironic words coming from Jeremy's mouth. After staring nonchalantly at the man with a twinkle in his eyes, she then turned to give Ryan a gentle smile. "Let's get

back to the hall.”

Ryan replied with a gentle smile and followed Madeline away.

Glaring harshly at Madeline and Ryan’s retreating figures, Lana loosened her grip from Jeremy’s hand. “I need to make a call, Jeremy.”

Jeremy nodded coolly and turned his head to watch Madeline leave.

She was wearing a midnight blue gown with her long hair loosely tied up. The azure jewels were subtle yet still elegant as they embellished her dress and makeup.

She reminded him of the night sky, twinkling yet still laid-back.

Jeremy felt his heart twinge as he started besottedly at her retreating figure.

He could no longer tell if it was the slow-acting poison or his heart aching.

Madeline returned to the banquet hall where everyone was happily chatting with one another under the shining lights.

They had raised an accumulated fund of 80 million dollars for children in poverty-stricken areas.

Friends of the late Montgomery couple praised Madeline for her skills while they gave their condolences for the loss of Sean and Eloise.

Madeline was taking pictures with a few well-known gentlemen and madams when the worker responsible for the gala’s funding suddenly rushed up to Madeline.

“Something has happened, Ms. Montgomery.”

Madeline and Ryan shared a look before walking to the side. “What happened?”

“We’ve raised over a hundred million dollars but there’s only 80 million. We don’t know where the 30 million dollars went!” Beads of cold sweat were on the person in charge’s forehead.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1020

Madeline remained cool. “Something must’ve happened in the middle. Don’t fret, I’ll go take a look.”

Ryan followed after. “I’ll come with you, Eveline.”

“Alright.” Madeline turned around.

She had just taken a few steps when Eve from the jewelry department rushed over frantically with a shout. “Ms. Montgomery! Something bad has happened!”

Madeline could guess that Eve was referring to the funds, but with Eve shouting, everyone in the banquet hall turned to look.

“What happened?” someone asked curiously.

Madeline was about to placate the guests when Eve frantically replied, “Someone stole from the charity funds, Ms. Montgomery. 30 million dollars have vanished into mid-air.”

“What? Someone stole from the charity funds?”

“How could such a thing happen?”

“We have to find out who did it. How could someone be so heartless as to steal from funds raised for charity?”

The guests were shocked and furious.

Jeremy and Lana had just returned to the banquet hall when they watched the scene before them unfurl.

He could tell that it was a set-up for Madeline.

At that moment, the banquet hall erupted into chaos.

Most of them were angry, and it was only normal for some of them to fault Madeline for her inability to manage the funds. Some even said that if Eloise and Sean were still here, none of this would have happened. They claimed that as Madeline was still new to all this, she only had the right to take over but not the right to take up such an important role.

In face of doubt, Madeline remained calm as she promised. “Rest assured, ladies and gentlemen, that I will do everything I can to find out where the money went as soon as possible. I will not let your charitable intentions fall into the hands of someone else.”

She promised and took her phone to call the police.

Eve quickly stopped her. “You can’t call the police, Ms. Montgomery.”

“Why not?” Madeline was confused.

“This isn’t something we should broadcast to the world. If the police start investigating, it’ll only tarnish the name of Montgomery Enterprises.”

“You might not know this, but Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery’s charity galas have always ended perfectly fine. If you can’t deal with this properly, I’m sure a lot of people will protest about the position you’re holding now.”

Feeling surprised, the corner of Madeline’s lips tugged into a vague smile. “I never knew you cared so much about me.”

“We may have our issues, Ms. Montgomery, but I’ve never thought too much about them,” Eve replied generously, “Relax. I’ll deal with this with you.”

Madeline stared at Eve’s sincere expression. “It seems like I’ve misunderstood you all along. Thank you for standing by me.”

Eve’s eyes brightened as she gave a kind smile. “Please, it’s my job.”

Madeline’s clear gaze swept past Eve as she made her way to dig deeper into the problem when another person in charge ran up to Madeline with a solemn expression. They said in a cold tone, “We found where the 30 million went, Ms. Montgomery.”

“You did?” Madeline was shocked by their efficiency. “What happened? Where did the 30 million go?”

She glared disdainfully at Madeline. “Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery did so much good when they were alive, Ms. Montgomery. But as their daughter, not only did you throw all their hard work away, but you’ve sabotaged it too.”

Madeline frowned. “What are you talking about?”

“Are you still going to act innocent when I’ve already found out about it? The 30 million was just transferred from the company’s bank account to your personal one! You stole the money, then

pretended to look for the money! How shameless can you be, Eveline Montgomery?" Married by Mistake
Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1021

Everyone in the banquet hall turned to look at Madeline.

Suspicious and doubtful gazes roamed over her.

"She was the one who stole the money?"

"No wonder her worker came to stop her from calling the police. They were all in on it."

"I can't say that I'm surprised, but I never expected this from Mr. Montgomery's daughter, of all people. What a disgrace. How is he and Mrs. Montgomery supposed to rest in peace?"

Hearing such disdainful comments, Madeline felt fury rise within her. Yet, she forced herself to keep her cool.

However, she could no longer stand hearing people involve Sean and Eloise's names.

"30 million is nothing to me. Do tell why I would risk my reputation for such a small amount?" Madeline asked back, turning to that person in charge. "Nothing happened to my personal account, so there's no way 30 million could've been transferred from the company's account."

"Are you still going to deny it, Ms. Montgomery?" she sneered at Madeline, "It's not my first time here. I have eyes, and my eyes told me that the transfer details of the 30 million was to your personal account! Doesn't your conscience hurt when you spend that kind of money?"

“Exactly! How could you do such a thing? You’d kill Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery with your insolence if they were still alive!”

Madeline balled her fists, not wanting to hear them use her parents’ names to taunt her.

She tried her best to control her emotions and calm herself down. Looking up, her eyes fell on Jeremy who was standing not too far away as he watched indifferently at everyone throwing their accusations at her.

Standing beside him was a mirthful Lana Johnson. Jeremy merely watched the scene play out.

Madeline felt her heart chill when she suddenly heard Ryan standing up for her. “Miss Montgomery would never do such a thing. I hope all of you can give her some time to investigate the matter at hand.”

“Who are you to guarantee that, Mr. Jones? From what perspective do you stand, and who are you to her?” someone asked in dissatisfaction.

“To be honest, I don’t think Eveline Montgomery ever had the right to sit on that spot at all. She has no experience and no qualifications at all. She’s only there because she’s her parents’ daughter.”

The leaders who were dissatisfied with Madeline’s position in the company began to rub salt in her wounds.

Madeline merely smiled and fired back without restraint. “You’re right. I don’t have the experience nor do I have the qualifications. However, the reason that I stand here today is more than just because I’m my parents’ daughter. If you think you’re so great, then I wish that you’ll reincarnate into a better family in your next life. You’re not getting paid for being judgemental here.”

“What... Eveline Montgomery, how could you say such a thing?”

“I think it’s best you distance yourself from the matter, Mr. Jones, lest you find yourself with a handful of crap!”

Madeline knew that they were picking on her, and she did not want to drag Ryan into this.

However, Ryan stepped up and took Madeline’s hand in his before giving the guests a sincere and humble smile. “I’m here today as Eveline’s boyfriend, and I can promise you that my girlfriend would never do such a thing.”

He replied and turned to look gently at Madeline who was at loss.

“I know that someone is framing you, Eveline. You’d never do something so immoral.”

“Ahaha! Has this woman ever done anything that wasn’t immoral?” Mocking laughter sounded from the banquet hall’s entrance.

Naomi rushed into the room and huffed. “This two-faced woman is the reason why you deserted me, isn’t she, Ryan?”

Her use of the word ‘deserted’ garnered the pity of many.

“You’ve already been caught hugging and being close with Ryan by the media, Eveline! Are you still going to deny it? Are you still going to argue and say that you didn’t?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1022

“You stole my fiancé, you wh*re!”

Naomi slandered Madeline with horrid vulgarities.

Her hatred for Madeline was evident from the look in her eyes.

Ryan frowned and pulled Madeline behind him. “It’s no one else’s fault that we broke up, Naomi Lionel! You were the one who revealed how heinous a woman you were. I refuse to date a person like you, let alone get married to you.”

Naomi continued to rage as her eyes fell on Madeline’s hand in Ryan’s and how he was defending her. “What’s wrong with a woman like me? How am I worse than this b*tch? She just got divorced and she’s already your girlfriend? That just means that you’ve been together before she got divorced!

“Hmph! She acts like this dignified and kind lady when in truth, she’s the kind who’d even steal from charity funds! Eveline Montgomery, you’re nothing but a fake b*tch!”

Ryan, who was rarely angered, was now enraged.

However, Madeline held him back and replied calmly, “Ryan and I are an upright couple, Naomi. Don’t just go around spitting lies and slander. As for the charity funds, do you have any proof that I was the one who stole it?”

From afar, Jeremy’s focus faltered the moment he heard the first half of Madeline’s defense.

His heart hurt, but he made sure not to show it.

“Isn’t the transfer details enough proof? What more are you trying to deny?” Naomi pointed at the receipt in the woman’s hands.

The woman was furious as well. “Stop lying already, Eveline! How could you do such a thing as the new heir to Montgomery Enterprise and the person in charge of tonight’s charity gala? You’re a disgrace to Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery.”

“If that’s the case, then let’s call the police.” Jeremy’s voice cut through the crowd.

Watching him approach, a few people started to whisper among themselves. “I didn’t think Jeremy Whitman would come.”

“Isn’t it awkward, coming to the charity gala his ex-wife is hosting?”

Ignoring them, Jeremy walked toward Madeline with a light smile. “I don’t think my ex-wife’s the kind of person who’d do such a thing either. Let’s call the police. If you didn’t do it, then why fear investigation?”

While Madeline did not want to see Jeremy, his words spoke of her thoughts. She had intended to call the police since the beginning.

Eve began to protest nervously. “No, we can’t. We can’t call the police, Ms. Montgomery.” She was even winking at Madeline as she spoke.

Madeline did not understand and instead heard Naomi press after Eve. “Why can’t we call the police?”

What's this? You can't possibly be in on the crime with Eveline, right? Don't you know that this amount is enough for you to spend the rest of your life in prison?"

Naomi threatened, but she did not expect Eve to suddenly fall backward onto the floor. "It's not my fault! I already told her we shouldn't, but... But Ms. Montgomery said she wanted to! She forced me! I don't want to go to prison!"

Eve pointed at Madeline. "It's her, it's Ms. Montgomery who told me to do it! She said she'd pay me 100,000 in return! I didn't lie! You can check my bank account. I just got the money from Ms. Montgomery two days ago!"

Hearing her, the person in charge quickly called to check.

She found that Eve had indeed received 100,000 dollars two days ago.

It was wonderful. Now nobody present except Ryan and Jeremy believed Madeline.

Lana smirked sinisterly by the side as the scene unfurled just as she had imagined.

Both witnesses and evidence pointed at Madeline. Whatever she was going to say next would only be an excuse.

She would make Madeline into a two-faced wh*re who liked to steal charity funds. Every bit of her dignity that she lost that day, she would make Madeline pay for it!

Yet just as Lana thought that Madeline was about to lose her status and image, she watched Madeline turn to look at her with a deep smile. "What a flawless set-up you have here. What a shame that there will always be miscalculations."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1023

Lana's expression shifted, and her heart grew uneasy.

No way.

Her plan was sound, and she had even used cash when she bribed Eve. How could she have miscalculated?

Lana thought that Madeline was bluffing.

She could not help but fan the flames. “Your accomplice has already admitted it, Eveline. There’s no use in arguing.”

Madeline knew then that Lana was the person behind this entire play.

However, she was Eveline Montgomery, not Madeline Crawford. There was no way she would just forgive and forget when someone was trying to frame her.

“You’re right, there’s no use in arguing at all. Which is why I’m calling the police.” Madeline pulled out her phone and made a report in front of everyone.

Still sitting on the floor, Eve’s eyes flashed to Lana before she quickly got up to keep acting. “You can’t call the police! How could you set me up, Eveline? You were the one who said you’d keep me safe even if they found out. How could you—”

Instead of getting angry, Madeline smiled and consoled her. “Oh, silly. Since you’re so adamant that we both worked together to steal that 30 million, then aren’t we technically on the same boat? Of course, I’ll keep you safe.”

“...” Eve was shocked, wondering if she had heard her wrong.

Did Eveline just admit it? That they were working together to steal from the charity funds?

What was she playing at?

Lana did not understand. Instead, she found it strange.

The police arrived at the scene in no time and began to investigate. They brought Madeline into the lounge and began a one-on-one interrogation.

Eve was frantic. She thought she only needed to listen to Lana's instructions and slander Madeline for the 100,000 dollars to be hers.

She never thought that the police would be involved!

She was sitting limply on the floor, pretending to be afraid despite having slandered Madeline earlier.

However, she was truly terrified now!

She did not want to have a criminal record, nor did she want to go to prison!

She had finally met a great boyfriend, so how could she go to jail now?

Eve was anxious as she stared at Lana who was standing by the side. She wanted to align their alibis, but there were too many people in the banquet hall waiting for Madeline to come out.

After a while, Madeline exited the lounge.

Her complexion was bad, and her eyebrows were knitted. The main point though, was that there were handcuffs around Madeline's wrists!

Both Jeremy and Ryan's expressions changed at the sight.

Jeremy felt his heart ache as well.

He remembered how Madeline had spent three years in jail for a crime she did not commit.

He did not want to see her framed again.

Both Lana and Naomi were shocked because they had not expected Madeline to actually be brought away!

Surprised as they were, the two were also elated.

Watching the scene, the person in charge sneered at Madeline, "You had this coming!"

Leaders of Montgomery Enterprise who disliked Madeline began to talk among themselves as well. "See? That's our new president. What a disgrace! Had it not been for Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, how else would she have gotten the right to sit at the top?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1024

The crowd began to berate her, saying, "How vile must you be to steal from the charity funds? She has to spend at least a few years in jail for this!"

A few years? In jail?

Eve's heart raced at the words and she asked in disbelief as Madeline walked past, "Did you admit it, Eveline Montgomery?"

Madeline halted to shrug hopelessly at Eve. "You already identified me, didn't you? What more can I deny?"

"..." Eve was stunned by Madeline's expression of acceptance.

Staring at Eve's conflicted expression, Madeline continued, "Although the police did say that they haven't found any evidence that I was the one who instructed you, so I might not be charged in the end. I'll be out in a few days, but I can't say the same for you..."

Madeline paused intentionally as she stared at Eve's frantic expression meaningfully.

"The police found camera footage of you transferring the funds, so you most definitely would be charged. The transfer is quite the amount, so you might spend at least a decade in jail. Weren't you the one who claimed that I stole the money with you? Is this the result you wanted?"

"What?" Eve's complexion paled. If she went to prison, then it was goodbye to whatever future she had!

After Madeline was done speaking, she left with the police nonchalantly.

Eve was terrified. "Stay where you are, Eveline!"

She yelled at Madeline's retreating figure. Madeline's steps came to a halt as the corner of her pretty lips lifted slightly.

Lana had a bad feeling.

She did not expect Eve to run up to Madeline the next second. “Are you trying to end my life, Eveline Montgomery? You just want to see me in prison, don’t you? Why are you admitting to something you didn’t do?”

Sh*t!

Lana cursed internally at Eve’s claim.

Everyone in the banquet hall was confused. What was this woman talking about?

Madeline turned her head innocently to look at a frantic Eve. “What are you talking about? Weren’t you the one who claimed that we stole 30 million dollars from the charity funds together? Now that I’ve admitted it, so should you. It’s 30 million. That’s at least ten years of prison!”

“...” Eve did not know how Madeline could be this calm when she was petrified. “You... You really are trying to screw me up, Eveline Montgomery! It’s the things I said back then, isn’t it? That’s why you’re using this opportunity to take revenge! I won’t let you get away with this!”

Eve rushed to the police. “Don’t believe a thing Eveline Montgomery said, officer. The both of us never teamed up to steal any charity funds at all. It was a lie!”

“What?”

“A lie?”

Everyone was confused when they heard Eve’s frenzied explanation.

“Someone bribed me, officer. They made me say those things tonight, that Eveline and I teamed up to steal from the charity funds. I was used, officer! It has nothing to do with me!”

“What? She was framed?” The crowd was split into fury and suspicion.

Lana then realized that this was Madeline’s f*cking counterattack!

Eve had already taken the bait, the fear of spending ten years in jail urging her to tell everything.

The police stared at Eve with suspicion. “You were the one who claimed that Eveline Montgomery bribed you with 100,000 to transfer the funds. Yet now you’re telling me that was a lie? What’s real and what’s not?”

“Someone did indeed bribe me with 100,000 dollars, officer, but that person isn’t Eveline!” Eve rambled as she raised her hand to point at Lana who was making her escape.

“It’s her! She’s the woman who gave me 100,000 dollars, officer! She was the one who told me to say those things too. I was just a tool. I didn’t know anything else. She used me! Arrest her instead. She’s the one who should be imprisoned!”

Lana’s footsteps came to a sudden halt.

Eve quickly ran toward her and raged with a finger pointed at Lana’s nose. “It’s her, officer! She was the one who gave me money and told me to frame Eveline for stealing the charity funds!”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1025

Feeling the suspicious gazes of those around her falling on her, Lana knew that she could not run. Instead, she put on a wronged and lost expression.

“I don’t even know you, miss. Please don’t accuse me of something I didn’t do!”

“What do you mean you don’t know me? You were the one who waited by my office last Friday and

called after me! You were the one who told me to work together!” Eve accused, getting progressively frustrated. “You were just using me to deal with Eveline Montgomery, weren’t you? How could you be so sinister?”

Hearing this, Madeline turned to whisper to her secretary, Coco, who was standing by her side.

Coco nodded and quickly walked off.

Madeline looked up to stare at Lana but found her eyes landing on Jeremy who was standing behind the woman instead.

Their eyes met and Madeline coldly averted her gaze.

Lana’s composure had completely fallen apart by now as she glared at Eve to tell her to shut up. It only enraged Eve further.

“What are you glaring at me for? Are you denying that you weren’t the one who instructed me in the first place? You also told me that there’d be another woman who’d come and work with me to destroy Eveline! It’s her, isn’t it?”

Eve pointed at Naomi.

“You sinister plastic surgery btch! Don’t fcking use me just because you want to make Eveline pay!”

Slap! Lana sent a harsh slap across Eve’s face in mortification. “How dare you claim that my face is fake? Do you want to die?”

Eve cupped her face and returned to the police officer’s side. “You saw it too, right, officers? She hit me and won’t even let me tell the truth!”

Lana walked over to deny. "Don't listen to this crazy woman, officers. I'm someone with status and power. How could I possibly do such atrocious things? She's framing me. I don't even know her at all. She's lying!"

"You're the one who's lying, Lana," Madeline interrupted in displeasure.

Startled, Lana turned to find Madeline easily releasing her wrists from the handcuffs that had never been locked in the first place!

It was Madeline's plan all along!

Lana was enraged.

She was the one who wanted to set Madeline up, yet now Madeline was the one setting her up instead.

"You claim that you don't recognize Eve, Lana, but I just had my secretary copy the surveillance footage from the company's entrance when you two met last Friday."

"..."

"I must say that you have quite the eye-catching short hair that you can even be recognized from inside the car."

"..."

Lana ground her teeth harshly as she watched Madeline take the phone and reveal the scene of her sitting in the car as she talked to Eve.

The footage was not of high quality, but her silhouette was clearly identifiable.

Eve got excited as she saw the image. "You see, officers? I didn't lie about this. She's the one lying here! It's her, she's the one who created this entire set-up tonight. I was just being used, I'm innocent!"

"The most innocent one here is Eveline." Anger fell on Ryan's otherwise gentle features. "Please bring this woman in for investigation immediately, Officer Flo."

Lana glared at Ryan. "How dare you ask someone to arrest me, Ryan?!"

"What? Am I supposed to be afraid of you?" Ryan was calm. "Let me remind you, Lana Johnson. This isn't F Country."

"You..." Lana was about to protest when metal handcuffs were wrapped around her wrists.

"Lana Johnson, you're under arrest for a serious case of abetting crime. As the amount involved is of a substantial amount, please follow us back to the police station for questioning."

"..."

Lana had never had handcuffs placed around her hands before, let alone experienced life in prison. She turned to look at Jeremy for help.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1026

Jeremy glanced at her calmly. "There's nothing to be afraid of if you're innocent."

"Of course I am!" Lana exclaimed, then turned to glare at Eve.

She merely rolled her eyes when another pair of handcuffs were brought to her wrists.

She was dazed. “Why are you arresting me, officers? I already told you everything I know. Why are you still arresting me?”

“Who else would they arrest, then? Me?” Madeline smiled and fired back. “You say you’re innocent, Eve, and that you’ve been used. But none of this would’ve happened tonight if you didn’t have the heart to harm me in the first place.”

“...”

Speechless, Eve stared at Madeline’s tranquil expression. Not only was she feeling like an idiot for being used, but she had also completely lost to Madeline.

With Lana and Eve brought away, Naomi was left to stomp her feet in infuriation.

She watched with eyes reddened by envy as Ryan defended Madeline.

Everyone who spoke ill of and suspected Madeline went up to give their sincere apologies.

The person in charge who had given Madeline the biggest earful flushed in embarrassment. “I’m really sorry, Ms. Montgomery. I should’ve investigated everything clearly before I accused you of anything. I’m really sorry.”

Madeline merely curled her lips into a shadow of a smile. “It’s alright, I’m used to being framed anyway.”

She smiled and looked down for a while. When she raised her gaze, it was much brighter than before.

“My parents may have left me and I may not have people who’ll defend me with everything they have in this world anymore, but that doesn’t mean I’m free game for those who want to hurt and bully me.”

Jeremy’s heart bled as he heard Madeline speak in the crowd, but he took the feeling in a stride.

He watched Ryan walk up to Madeline and hold her hand gently in his. “You’ll have me from now on, Eveline. Let me wholly protect and love you in place of your parents.”

Jeremy felt his heart aching. Forcing his reluctant gaze away from Madeline, he left without a trace.

Faced with Ryan’s blatant confession in front of everyone, Madeline did not know how to reject him.

She did not want Ryan to lose his dignity in front of so many people.

Thinking back to her past, she could not imagine being worthy of such a perfect man.

Seeing Madeline’s conflicted gaze, Ryan smiled and changed the subject. He turned everyone’s focus back on the charity gala.

Madeline took the opportunity to walk outside to take a breather.

The early autumn wind had grown cold without her realizing, and Madeline could not help the sneeze that came up as she stared dazedly at the starry sky.

Jeremy exited the doors and took his jacket off, approaching her reflexively when he saw Madeline sneezing by the flowerbeds. Just as he turned to walk, Ryan appeared beside Madeline and placed his jacket over her shoulders.

Jeremy's hand slowly fell as his gaze dimmed.

'The warmth that I can no longer give, Linnie, I'm glad someone can give it to you instead.

'I won't be here for much longer and you won't need to see me either, nor will you see me and think of your parents' tragic deaths.

'For the years to come, I hope you find true happiness.'

Madeline was about to remove and return the jacket to Ryan when she turned to find Jeremy staring at both of them not too far away.

Jeremy gave a nonchalant smile and walked over.

Seeing him approach, Madeline turned to face Ryan. "You're right, Rye. I really should give myself a chance to start over. You're my boyfriend now, okay? I'll be in your care."

She reached out to hold Ryan's hand.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1027

Jeremy's footsteps came to a heavy stop and he could not take another step.

He watched as Madeline smiled at Ryan, her lips spreading as dimples bloomed on her face. Oh, how he wished that the smile was for him.

Yet Jeremy knew that he was no longer worthy of such a smile.

Taking Ryan's hand, Madeline turned and stopped by Jeremy's side as they brushed shoulders. "Why are you still here? Go and bail your girlfriend from the police station already. With a boyfriend as skilled as

you, I'm sure she'll be out in no time."

Jeremy knew that Madeline was mocking him.

Smiling nonchalantly, he looked at Madeline's dignified and distant eyes. "Thank you for the reminder, Miss Montgomery. I shall fetch my girlfriend home, then."

Fetch her home.

Home.

Madeline's hand in Ryan's tightened slightly as the chill blew through the riddled holes in her heart.

Ignoring Jeremy, she turned to smile at Ryan.

"You know, Rye, my last marriage was an absolute failure. Well, essentially, I got married to a f*ckboy." Madeline's glistening eyes sneered at Jeremy. "I know you're a great man, Rye, but that marriage has left me with some ugly scars.

"I've placed all my passion and feelings throughout my entire life for that man, but he has never even given me a single day of happiness. Nor did he even care if I was happy at all. I don't think I'd survive another marriage like that, Rye."

Madeline's soft and pretty voice caressed Jeremy's ears, every word piercing into his heart like icicles while Jeremy felt numb from the pain.

After all, he had indeed hurt her.

Ryan knew what Madeline was saying, and he knew that she was saying it for Jeremy to hear.

He took Madeline's hand and promised with a smile, "Don't worry, I won't let such a marriage happen to you again. I'll be a husband worthy of you, and I'll give you the happiness you deserve."

"Hmm, I believe you." Madeline looked at Ryan and curled her lips into a small smile before she turned to look at Jeremy's indifferent expression. "You'll give us your blessing, won't you, ex-husband of mine? I've finally found myself a great man who loves me."

Jeremy smiled, but hiding in his peach blossom eyes was indescribable pain.

"Of course." His expression was calm as he stared at them. "I wish you and Mr. Jones a life of blissful happiness."

"Thank you."

Madeline thanked and linked her arm with Ryan's.

"Let's go, Rye. Come entertain the guests a little longer with me."

"Sure." Ryan nodded and followed Madeline.

Madeline did not look back as she brushed past Jeremy, their scents mingling in the air for a moment before it dissipated into the night forever.

Ryan looked at Jeremy from the corner of his eyes and an interesting look flashed through his starry gaze.

The man frowned slightly as regret sparked before vanishing just as quickly.

Jeremy was rooted in place. He only took the small transparent bag out of his pocket when he felt that Madeline had walked far enough.

In the bag was pain medication.

He took a pill and swallowed it dry.

However, the ache in his chest did not dissipate. Instead, needle-like pain spread to every corner of his body. He felt the pain suffocate and numb him.

He could no longer tell if the pain was because of the poison or if it was from the regret of losing her.

As he returned, Jeremy heard a song playing on the radio. "How could I know, one day I'd wake up feeling more, but I had already reached the shore. Guess we were ships in the night..."

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'Why did I have to reach the shore?

'It's not your fault, Linnie. I never deserved you to begin with.

'I hope you'll never think of me again, the man who made you cry countless times.'

Jeremy made sure not to bail Lana out. Instead, he made sure she stayed the full 48 hours under police custody first before he went to bail her out.

When Lana returned to the villa, she began to scold Madeline to the heavens.

“Your ex-wife sure has quite the tricks up her sleeve, Jeremy.” She mocked, saying, “Is she not afraid that I’ll kill her one day?”

Jeremy’s brows knitted as a flurry of frost flashed through his eyes. “Eveline and I are already divorced. Why must you give yourself unnecessary trouble by going to bother her?”

Lana ground her teeth indignantly as she walked toward Jeremy with suspicion in her eyes. “You still love Eveline, don’t you, Jeremy?”

“I fancied her before, yes. After all, she’s a beautiful woman.” Jeremy’s tone was unfeeling as if he was talking about a random person. He also kept his descriptions of Madeline strictly on her appearance.

Lana curled her red lips and walked up to him. “So you only liked her for her face? But am I not prettier than her?”

Her tone went up as she praised herself. She was staring besottedly at Jeremy as she waited for his praise.

Jeremy raised his sharp and enchanting peach blossom eyes to look at Lana, yet all his mind could think of was Madeline. “Of course. It’s the prettiest face I’ve seen.”

Thinking Jeremy was praising her, Lana immediately smiled. “I was almost bored to death waiting inside, Jeremy. Had it not been for Eveline, I would never have suffered like that. You’ve got to make it up to me.”

She went to hug Jeremy, but the man frowned instead. “Go take a bath first.”

Lana tilted her head and took a sniff. Indeed, she smelled bad after two days without taking a bath.

She quickly entered the bathroom but made sure to turn her head and give Jeremy a wink. “Give me a

bit, Jeremy. I'll be out before you know."

Jeremy gave her a vague smile and poured himself a glass of red wine by the open bar before he lit the incense.

Then, he went to make a call at the balcony before turning to leave.

The night deepened.

Ryan was sending Madeline home when he realized that she had fallen asleep mid-way.

After turning the air conditioning on and adjusting it to the correct temperature, Ryan's gaze grew warm as he stared at her exhausted and sleeping expression.

He reached out to move a long lock of Madeline's hair by her ear. "The people who trouble you will be punished very soon and you'll get to live a calm and peaceful life.

"However, can you truly let him go?"

He asked into the night. Just then, his phone vibrated.

After taking another glance at Madeline who had fallen asleep and was leaning against the car seat, he alighted the car to answer the phone by the roadside.

"What is it?" he asked. The person on the other end said something and mirth graced Ryan's expression, only for him to frown solemnly the next minute.

"Is there really no way to improve his physical state?"

With a reply, Ryan could not help but glance at Madeline who was sleeping away in the car.

He hung up the phone and was about to get back into the car when a shadow suddenly sped past him and took his driver's seat instead.

Madeline was dreaming away when she was jostled awake by the bang of the car door.

Her eyes snapped open, and by the time she heard the car doors lock, the car suddenly sped away.

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"Eveline!"

Ryan was too late to stop it and quickly hailed a cab from the side of the road, wanting to chase after the car.

He immediately dialed Madeline's number, but as soon as it connected, he was cut off.

Worried about what crazy thing the people in the car would do, Ryan did not hesitate to return the call that was made to him just now. "Deploy Team A immediately. Get online and track my vehicle. Make sure that the people in the car are not in any danger!"

The person on the other end received Ryan's instructions and immediately followed suit.

Currently in Ryan's car.

A shiny dagger was pressed against Madeline's neck, and in front of her, she saw Naomi clutching the steering wheel with one hand and squirming away frantically.

She drove the car awkwardly and had run a few red lights.

Madeline had just settled the matter of the charity night two days ago and only spared some time today to have a meal with Ryan. She did not expect Naomi to come to troubling them again at this moment.

Madeline felt exhausted at first and was even more exhausted now. She remained calm and composed, however.

“Naomi, even if you wish to kill me, there’s no need to pay for it with your own life.”

“Eveline, shut up!” Naomi shouted at Madeline to shut her up ferociously. She turned her head and glared at her. “Eveline, you made me a joke in front of all those netizens, so I’ll make you the laughingstock of the society today!

“If it weren’t for you, I would’ve been Ryan’s wife and the young lady of the Joneses! I’ll have my revenge today!”

Listening to Naomi’s hysterical words, Madeline thought that Naomi was a little crazy.

She saw a car following closely in the rear-view mirror and guessed that it was probably Ryan. She could not guess where Naomi was taking her, though.

Naomi drove the car to a remote place and stopped. She forced Madeline out of the car, turned on her phone, and pointed the camera at Madeline.

“Eveline, take off your clothes!” she threatened with a dagger, “Quickly take them off!”

Madeline understood Naomi’s methods to make her a laughingstock, but of course, she would not listen to Naomi.

“Naomi, if you really dare, then just stab me. It’s not as if I haven’t experienced any pain in this life. Do you think you can threaten me with this?”

Seeing Madeline being so calm and composed, Naomi became furious.

“Eveline, are you really not afraid? Alright then, I’ll ruin your face first and see how you’ll seduce Ryan in the future!”

Naomi waved her knife and was about to cut Madeline’s face when Ryan just arrived.

“Stop!”

He shouted at Naomi to stop, his handsome and gentle face filled with sorrow and worry.

Naomi reacted quickly, pulling Madeline’s dagger against Madeline’s neck.

She was jealous of Ryan being worried about Madeline and yelled at Ryan unwillingly, “Ryan, you were never this worried about me before!

“Did you ever truly like me in the two years you were with me?!

“I love you so much, but you! You like this divorced b*tch who has already given birth to children! What’s so good about her?”

Naomi became more agitated as she spoke and accidentally cut the skin on Madeline’s neck with the dagger.

Madeline felt a little bit of pain. She wanted to counter Naomi, but Naomi was out of control and could easily be triggered to act out of desperation.

Ryan, however, did not want to stay still for a second longer when he saw Madeline's bleeding wound.

Although he was very anxious, he was still very calm and composed.

"Naomi, don't do anything that you'll regret even more in the future. Tell me, what will it take for you to release Eveline?"

"I want you to marry me and take me as your wife!" Naomi said her request.

Ryan's eyes darkened slightly. "It's impossible for me and you anymore."

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When Naomi heard this, she was obviously irritated.

"It's impossible for you to be with me, is that right? You want to be with Eveline, is that right? Alright, I'll die with her now!" It was as if Naomi had been possessed by the devil. She held the knife and was about to swing the blade down to stab Madeline in the heart.

When Madeline was about to dodge, she suddenly saw Ryan reaching into his suit and pulling out a revolver from behind him. He aimed it at Naomi's knife and shot.

The bullet landed precisely on the handle of the knife. The impact caused Naomi to immediately let go from the pain, and the knife fell to the ground.

While Madeline was still shocked by Ryan's action, Ryan had already run up to her, took out a handkerchief, and pressed it on her bleeding neck. "Eveline, are you okay?"

Seeing that Ryan was so worried about Madeline, Naomi picked up the dagger, got up, and wanted to hurt Madeline again.

Naomi's hand that was raised suddenly rubbed against the hot bullet.

She screamed in pain. The knife fell aside, and there was a fiery pain in her palm.

Ryan turned his head and realized that he had been negligent just now, almost allowing Naomi to hurt him and Eveline. Fortunately, however, someone was protecting him in secret.

Just then, his mobile phone rang. Ryan answered it when he saw the incoming call. He then said to Madeline with his back facing her, "Let's return to the team."

Although his voice was very soft, Madeline still heard it.

Without too much delay, Ryan grabbed Madeline's shoulders and took her back to the car.

Naomi cried out wildly with jealousy, "Ryan, I'm also injured! Why do you only have her in your eyes!"

"You are to blame." Ryan did not even look at Naomi and left a warning. "You should behave yourself."

"Ryan!"

Naomi gritted her teeth before grabbing the dagger and stabbing it fiercely into the mud.

Ryan took Madeline to the hospital to treat her wound. On the way back, the atmosphere in the car was too quiet.

"Eveline, do you have anything to ask me?" Ryan took the initiative to break the silence.

Madeline nodded, then shook her head again. "I'll ask when you wish to tell me."

Ryan looked at Madeline unexpectedly and felt extremely happy all of a sudden. "Eveline, thank you for your understanding. It's indeed not the time now, and the less you know, the safer you will be."

Hearing this, Madeline felt that Ryan's background was not as simple as it seemed. It probably had something to do with the profession he talked about last time.

Madeline did not ask any more questions. After returning to Whitman Manor, Karen informed her that the child had fallen asleep in her room.

Madeline returned to her room and saw the little babies sleeping peacefully on the bed. At this scene before her, she felt content.

Being too tired these few days due to what was going on, Madeline picked up her pajamas tiredly and went into the bathroom to take a bath.

Not long after she entered the bathroom, the door was gently pushed open.

Jeremy walked to the cradle, looking like a thief. He was stealing this moment to spend it with the little baby.

The sleeping baby seemed to be hungry and opened his sleepy eyes in a daze.

When he was about to cry, Jeremy then saw the baby bottle that had been placed at the side and quickly picked the little baby up to feed him.

Looking at the little baby drinking comfortably in his arms, Jeremy's vision was clouded with mist.

“Pudding, I don’t know how many more times Dad can visit you, or maybe this is the last time. You have to listen to your mom. When you grow up, you have to help me protect your mother with your brother and also your sister, okay?”

He had just finished speaking when he heard Madeline coming out after taking a bath. He quickly put the little baby back into the cradle, but the little baby had not drunk enough. His fleshy little hands wanted to grab the bottle.

Jeremy swallowed his heart. He picked up the bottle and put it back to where it was, then turned and left.

The little baby behind him cried with a wail.

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Madeline heard her son's cry and hurriedly came out barefoot.

She hurriedly picked up the little guy to comfort him and reached out to take the bottle. However, when she brushed it with her hand, she felt that the bottle had been used before and the amount of milk in the bottle was now slightly less.

She glanced at the little bun who was still crying with a look of confusion.

It was impossible for this little baby to grab the bottle and drink it by himself.

She thought it might have been Karen who had just arrived, so Madeline did not think much of it. After patiently sleeping with the little baby, she then dried her hair and lay down on the bed.

She was very tired with the lamp on, but she did not fall asleep for a long time.

Madeline opened the bedside cabinet drawer and took out the two wedding rings as well as the shell and bookmark.

After looking carefully for a while, she put these into a jewelry box and sealed them in the underside of the cabinet.

Looking at the other side of the empty bed, she raised her hand and gently stroked the pillow.

“Why does loving you end up being like this? Jeremy, tell me why...” she asked herself softly without getting any answers.

After a long time, there was no more movement in the room.

Jeremy, who had been hiding behind the cabinet, choked on the pain quietly.

He gently walked over to the bed and saw Madeline lying on his side of the bed with her hand still on the pillow he used to sleep on. His eyes were bitter, and he gently pulled up the blanket to cover her.

When Jeremy lowered his head and kissed the corner of Madeline’s eyebrows, Jeremy found that there was medical tape on her neck.

Was she injured?

How was it possible that she got injured?

He felt distressed and puzzled, but he did not dare to stay too long for fear of awakening Madeline.

Jeremy left the room lightly, not wanting to keep the door completely closed. He then bumped into Karen who happened to be upstairs.

“Jeremy!” Karen was both surprised and delighted. “When did you come back?”

“Don’t wake Linnie.” Jeremy reminded before turning around and going downstairs.

Karen followed him closely. “Jeremy, since you’re so reluctant to give up on Eveline, why did you still agree to the divorce?”

“I set fire to her home and killed her parents. Do you think it’s possible for Linnie and I to get together again?” Jeremy asked, his eyes dimming. “Even if she forgives me, I won’t have a chance to ever give her happiness again.”

“What does this mean?” Karen was very confused.

Jeremy did not explain further and instead urged. “I’ll try my best to come back to see the baby these few nights, but don’t let Linnie know about it. I have to leave now.”

Without giving Karen the opportunity to question him, Jeremy then drove away.

After thinking about it, Karen also felt helpless.

This was also the first time she deeply realized that Jeremy’s love for Madeline was indeed true.

Back then, however, she had not noticed it at all.

...

The next day, Lana woke up. Thinking of how she had spent another night with Jeremy, she happily lit a cigarette.

She was happily thinking back to last night's events when she received a call.

Listening to the report from the person on the phone, Lana pinched the cigarette butt a little uncomfortably. She then looked up and saw Jeremy coming in. She hung up the phone while smiling.

"Jeremy," she called out softly, her eyes full of admiration and love. "I wanted to go out on a date with you today, but I have something to deal with all of a sudden."

"What's the matter?" Jeremy asked casually.

"There's a problem with the goods from half a month ago. The customer happens to be in Glendale now, so I'll be meeting him." Lana got up, then put on her clothes.

Jeremy looked away with a look of disgust and opened his mouth to say, "I'll accompany you."

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"You want to accompany me?" Lana looked surprised. "Really?"

Jeremy nodded. "I'm your man now. Shouldn't it only be right for me to accompany you to deal with trivial matters?"

Upon hearing this, Lana's smile grew even wider. "Okay, you can come with me."

The meeting place was a five-star restaurant, and Jeremy was walking beside Lana as they entered a private room.

The other party was a gentleman who did not seem to be someone who would be involved in illegal transactions, but appearances could be deceiving.

Jeremy listened indifferently as if he was just a trophy partner accompanying Lana.

It did not take long for matters to be discussed smoothly. When he left, the man even teased by saying, "Miss Johnson, your new boyfriend doesn't look half bad. It seems that the Stygian Johnson Gang's business will only grow bigger and bigger."

Lana took out a cigarette smugly. "Of course. I'll hand over part of the business to my boyfriend after this and will have to ask Mr. Xavier to look out for him."

"Of course," the man replied.

Lana walked out of the room happily and was about to stick herself to Jeremy, but suddenly, she received a call from Yorick.

"When did you secretly return to Glendale again?" Yorick asked, "I told you not to trouble Eveline Montgomery, yet there you've gone again. You will return to the villa immediately. I have something to ask you!"

Although Lana was dissatisfied, she had to go back.

Jeremy also said that he had something going on, and after sending Lana off to her car, he left alone.

He drove the car around the street for many laps before finally driving into an empty alley.

He glanced around and walked into it. Not far ahead, a man in a suit and leather shoes was waiting for him.

Jeremy threw a chip in a beautiful parabola over to the man. It contained the contents that had just been recorded in the private room.

He did not have more things to say, and neither did he intend to stay long, so he turned around and left.

“Mr. Whitman, wait.”

The man stopped Jeremy. He walked over and handed a transparent bag packed with painkillers.

“According to the report from a few days ago, the toxins in your body have entered the second phase. This is what the professor asked me to pass on to you. It can temporarily alleviate the spread of toxins in your body.”

Jeremy took it. “He didn’t tell you how long I have?”

“This is a new type of toxin. No one can give you the answer, but we know that you’ll be put through torture soon. You must be psychologically prepared.”

Jeremy listened calmly and was relieved.

Back then, Madeline was pregnant while inflicted with a severe illness. She had been suffering from both physical and mental torture. She could only endure it silently, and now, he was finally experiencing her feelings at the time.

The corners of his slightly pale lips twitched.

“I’ll do what I should do and want to do before my life ends. Don’t look for me again in the short meanwhile.”

He left freely. After returning to the car, he unlocked and opened the photo album to see a photo of Madeline as well as the words she had written in her diary—all professions of her love for him. He pretended that she still loved him deeply.

“Linnie, I hope that in our next life, we’ll meet again. And I hope that I can accompany you through more springs, summers, autumns, and winters.”

That night, after Jeremy used aromatherapy to induce hallucination in Lana, he went back to the manor and quietly went to see his son.

Every time Madeline came out of the shower the past few days, she always felt a peculiarity in the room. She could not say it was anything strange, but it just did not feel right.

It was another night, and Jeremy had appeared in Madeline’s room as usual. Hearing the sound of the shower running from the bathroom, he was relieved to play with the children.

However, just as he was just about to pick up the baby to feed him, Madeline suddenly came out of the bathroom and stood in front of him.

She had not even taken off her clothes, so obviously, she already guessed that he would be coming a long time ago.

When she saw Jeremy, however, Madeline was very calm. “I did say when I signed the divorce agreement that you can come and see your children any time and that I won’t stop you. You don’t have to be so sneaky.

“But you’ve come just at the right time. This will save me a trip from having to send it to you.”

Madeline smiled lightly, turned around, and picked up an invitation letter before handing it to Jeremy.

“My wedding with Ryan will be soon.”

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Jeremy had not expected that Madeline would be marrying Ryan.

He thought Madeline was lying to him, but after he opened the invitation letter, he did indeed see her and Ryan’s names.

“A second marriage so soon?” Jeremy asked with a smile.

Madeline looked at him coldly. “No, you’re wrong, it’s the third.”

“...”

“I have split from and reunited with you so many times, even getting married twice and divorcing you twice. When I was desperate to get the divorce certificate with you the second time, I thought you would be my only support for the rest of my life, but the truth has proven that we will not come to fruition.”

Madeline looked at the man with a smile on her lips, shooting an indifferent glance over.

“I’m really tired. When I was young, I had hoped that my parents would love me and adore me. After nearly 30 years, I’ve finally gotten it, but they have now left me forever. When I grew up, I married the man I loved the most. I had hoped that this man could love me like how I loved him, but reality woke me up severely.”

She turned her back to Jeremy.

“From then on, the man I most love is called Ryan Jones. I’ll become his wife and live the quiet life I want to live.”

Jeremy’s hand that was holding the invitation letter trembled slightly. He looked at Madeline’s decisive silhouette, enduring the pain of a thousand arrows piercing his heart to force out a smile on his face. “I wish you happiness.”

“Of course, I’ll be happy. Leaving you is the first step to my happiness.”

“That’s good.” Jeremy’s throat moved slightly. He was choking on his emotions as he stopped the words he wanted to speak and swallowed them into his throat instead.

He turned around and walked out of the room. The moment he closed the door, he leaned against the wall in pain. He took the painkillers out of his pocket with his trembling hand and ate them.

However, there was still an indescribable pain in his heart.

Karen was about to look for Madeline when she suddenly saw Jeremy who was leaning against the wall with a pale face and furrowed eyebrows. She hurried over.

Just as she was about to speak, Jeremy stopped her, turned around, and entered the study.

“Jeremy, what’s wrong with you?” Karen was extremely worried.

Jeremy was sitting on the sofa without saying a word. Seeing the fine beads of cold sweat oozing from his forehead and veins bursting on the back of his clenched hands, he was obviously enduring severe pain.

“Jeremy, tell Mom, what’s wrong?”

Jeremy did not answer. After a while, he coughed. Dark, red blood stained his lips.

Karen was shocked and frightened.

“You, Jeremy... You’re vomiting blood! This... How can your blood be this color?!”

Jeremy had no qualms about raising his hand to wipe the bloodstains on his lips. He parted his lips gently, saying, “She’s going to marry Ryan.”

“What?” Karen was puzzled. “You mean Eveline is going to marry Ryan?”

Jeremy seemed to have not heard what Karen said and laughed softly in pain.

“She’ll slowly fall in love with Ryan and gradually forget about me, the man she used to love so desperately. She’ll soon become someone else’s bride...”

“Jeremy, Jeremy, what’s the matter with you? Are you ill? Don’t scare your mother.” Karen was panicking till tears flowed from her eyes. Seeing Jeremy’s discomfited appearance as he spoke to her, she also felt it difficult to bear.

Jeremy picked up the tissue and wiped the blood off his lips simply. Seeing Karen looking so worried, he found an excuse. “I’ve had a discomfort in my throat recently. It’s because I’ve been coughing more often that it’s like this. You don’t have to worry so much.”

“Is it really just that?” Karen still had her doubts. Even if it was coughing up blood, the color of blood should not be like this.

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Jeremy did not give Karen the chance to ask questions, however. He got up and left.

In order not to disturb Madeline, Karen did not call out to Jeremy again.

Seeing Jeremy enter Jackson and Lillian's room, she did not follow him in so as to not bother them.

Jeremy hugged the two little babies who were asleep. Looking at the two calm faces, his heart was filled with resentment and guilt.

He set his eyes on Lillian's sleeping face, his deep eyes gentle and watery.

"Lillian, I'll never have the chance to hear you call me 'Daddy' anymore, but you're the only little princess in my heart."

He bowed his head and wanted to kiss her cute little cheek, but thinking of the blood he had just coughed up, he felt that he was not even qualified to hold the child.

Jeremy left sadly, looking at Madeline's door quietly for a long time before he was ready to leave. When he turned around, however, he saw Jackson standing in front of him. Those clear and simple eyes were looking at him very seriously.

"Daddy, you haven't been home for a long time." The little guy's eyes were a little lonely.

Jeremy walked to the child and crouched down to touch his cute little head. "Jack, listen to your mother in the future."

"I've always listened to Mommy."

“Jack is a man now. You have to help me protect your mother and sister.”

Jackson blinked his eyes. “What about Daddy?”

“Daddy... Daddy is going to a place far, far away,” Jeremy said, holding the little boy to his chest tightly. “Jack, do you love Daddy?”

“Of course Jack loves Daddy,” Jackson answered without hesitation, “Jack also loves his mother, his sister, his brother, his grandfather... And Grandpa and Grandma, but Jack hasn’t seen Grandpa and Grandma for a long time.”

The little boy’s unintentional words pierced Jeremy’s heart.

As he was still young and ignorant, he did not know that Eloise and Sean had passed away.

The murderer who caused the child to lose his grandfather and grandmother was his own father.

“Daddy, you said you were going to a faraway place. Where are you going? Can Jack go?” the child asked innocently.

Jeremy touched his small face, feeling distressed. “Little fool, Jack must be with Mommy and love Mommy in place of Daddy.”

“Where’s Daddy going?” Jackson obviously wanted to get to the bottom of things.

Jeremy thought for a while only to answer, “Daddy is going to look for Jack’s grandfather and grandmother far away.”

“Did Grandpa and Grandma also go to a place far away?”

“Yeah.” Jeremy’s eyes were bitter, and his thin lips were slightly pursed. “That’s why Jack, when Daddy is away, you must remember that you’re now a man and take good care of your mother. Always listen to what she says.”

“Jack will do it.” Jackson blinked earnestly, raising his arms to hug Jeremy before kissing him with his small mouth. “Daddy, no matter how far away you go, Jack, Mommy, Little Brother, and Little Sister will wait for Daddy to come home. Remember to bring Grandpa and Grandma back together too.”

Jeremy smiled, but after hugging the little boy, he could not help the tears that wet his eyes.

After taking Jackson back to the room to sleep, Jeremy left.

The next day, Madeline made breakfast for the children as usual, but when she came to bring the plate away, she saw that Jackson seemed to be lost in thoughts.

“Jack, what’s the matter with you? Did Mommy make a bad breakfast today?” Madeline touched the little guy’s head gently and asked.

Jackson bit the toast. “Mommy, Daddy said he’s going to see Grandpa and Grandma. Jack also misses Grandpa and Grandma. Can I go with Daddy?”

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Upon hearing what her son said, something seemed to be fiercely tugging at Madeline’s consciousness.

She returned to her senses and calmed down, asking with a smile, “Jack, did he really tell you that? When did he tell you this?”

“Daddy came to visit Lilly and me last night, but he left really quickly.” Jackson’s big eyes were filled with loneliness and reluctance. One could see that his feelings for Jeremy were very deep.

Madeline’s heartbeat became very irregular after listening to her son’s words.

As if nothing had happened, she kissed his cute little cheek and comforted him. “Jack, have breakfast first. Look, even Lilly is almost done eating.”

When Lillian heard Madeline mentioning her, she raised her lively big eyes and smiled.

Madeline’s broken heart was healed a little by this warm smile, but she was still bothered about what her son said just now.

After sending the two children to school, Madeline hesitated while holding the mobile phone before finally dialing Jeremy’s number.

Jeremy, who was on the other end of the phone, was accompanying Lana to meet with a so-called guest when he suddenly received a call from Madeline. He was quite surprised, but when Lana looked over, she glanced at the screen coldly before simply hanging up the call.

Seeing that her call had been disconnected, Madeline did not continue making more calls like what she used to do before just to get a response from him.

She sent a message with a decisive tone: [See you at Whitman Corporation’s office at one o’clock in the afternoon.]

When Jeremy saw the message, so did Lana.

After successfully discussing their business, Lana clung to Jeremy’s side and behaved like a spoiled child. “Jeremy, what’s the matter with Eveline? You’ve already divorced her, so why is she still bothering you?”

If she pesters you like this, I'll be angry." Lana expressed her dissatisfaction.

Jeremy lifted the corners of his lips slightly, his gaze filled with mock contempt. "She's just a woman who I no longer want. Are you still afraid that you'll be compared to her?"

Hearing this, Lana then looked confident in her own charm.

Looking at Jeremy, who was disdainful toward Madeline's attitude, Lana's gaze became even more obsessive.

It seemed that the more ruthless and cold he was, the more fascinated she became.

Madeline appeared at Whitman Corporation at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Seeing her at the front desk, the receptionist blurted out, "Madam, Mr. Whitman is waiting for you in the office."

Madam.

Madeline found it ironic when she heard the receptionist addressing her like this, and at the same time, she felt her heart ache a bit more.

She did not have anything else to say and took the elevator up.

The place that was once so familiar suddenly became so unfamiliar, and it was this man who was even more a stranger.

Madeline entered Jeremy's office. He was sitting at his desk. Against the sun, his black shirt added a bit

of abstinence and the vibe that he was difficult to get close to. Even so, he still appeared as noble and elegant as ever.

“Mr. Whitman, the madam is here,” the lady at the front desk informed.

Jeremy, who was reading the file, looked up coolly. His handsome expression sank slightly. “Miss Montgomery and I are already divorced, so don’t address someone so simply.”

“Yes, my apologies.” The lady from the front desk glanced at Madeline in fear. “Miss Montgomery, please come in.”

Madeline listened to Jeremy’s dissatisfied correction and walked in slowly.

It was only after entering that Lana, who was sitting leisurely on the sofa drinking coffee, looked at Madeline with a teasing look.

Madeline clenched her fists quietly, shooting an arrogant and cold gaze at Lana as she walked straight to Jeremy’s face. “I have something to tell you.”

“Then, speak,” Jeremy said indifferently.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1036

Madeline glanced at Lana. “I said, I have something to tell you.”

A faint smile appeared on Jeremy’s handsome face. “There are no outsiders here. My business is also my girlfriend’s business. If Miss Montgomery has something to say, just say it.”

Jeremy’s contemptuous attitude made Madeline’s heart go completely dead.

Just as she was about to speak, Lana walked over leisurely and leaned close into Jeremy's side. Her tone was coquettish when she said, "Jeremy, as your rightful girlfriend, I won't bother your talk with this Miss Montgomery. I'll go to the dessert shop downstairs to make a reservation. I'll wait for you to come down and have afternoon tea with me later."

Jeremy smiled at Lana softly. "Alright, you go ahead first. I'll come down and accompany you soon."

"Alright." Lana curled her red lips and walked past Madeline with a complacent smile. "Miss Montgomery, I heard that you're to be married to Ryan Jones soon. Since you can find a man to marry you just after your divorce, your methods sure aren't simple."

Lana provoked her arrogantly.

Madeline opened her mouth without urgency, saying, "Speaking of methods, how can I be compared to you, a little mistress who has an audacity that's thicker than the city walls?"

"..." Lana's expression suddenly collapsed. "Eveline, you—"

"Lana, you know in your heart what you are. If you want to continue handing me opportunities to shoot you down, then you can just continue to do so."

"..."

Lana pressed her red lips tightly, her face pale with anger.

Thinking she had set up a trap to deal with Madeline before this only to be completely devastated by Madeline, Lana gritted her teeth and turned her head to smile softly at Jeremy.

“Jeremy, your ex-wife is really like a hedgehog. No wonder you didn’t want her. I’ll wait for you downstairs, so come quickly.”

Lana turned her body, stared at Madeline, and finally left.

Jeremy felt his body was much cleaner then. Just as he was about to open his mouth, he heard Madeline say to him in a cold voice, “Jeremy, I won’t stop you from seeing the children, but don’t you speak nonsense to Jack.”

Hearing this, the man quickly thought of his conversation with Jackson last night.

At that time, the feeling of reluctance that surged in his heart for the child made him blurt out those words.

Madeline looked at the man with a calm face and asked him in a deep tone, “What do you mean by looking for Jack’s grandfather and grandmother? Are you trying to tell me that my parents are still alive, or are you wanting to tell me that you want to atone for what happened to my mom and dad with death?”

Her emotions were gradually and involuntarily skimming the edge of collapse as she looked at the man with sharp furrowed brows.

“Jeremy, let me tell you this, even if you die, you can’t ever atone for my parents! Even if you really die, I won’t forgive you!”

Jeremy seemed to be listening to Madeline’s words calmly, but his right hand that was under the table was clenched till his fingertips turned white.

Madeline’s fists were also clenched as she looked at the expressionless man.

“Stop talking nonsense to my children, or I won’t let you see them again,” she solemnly warned. Seeing that he was still silent, Madeline walked up to him impatiently.

“Do you hear me, Jeremy? I won’t allow you to speak about these things with the children anymore! You’re not allowed to use any negative and decisive means to atone for my dead parents.”

With these last words, Madeline could only choke on her sobs.

Jeremy let go of his clenched hands and stood up unhurriedly. He faced Madeline with a heavy expression, saying in an extremely cold tone, “What I want to do or say is not up to you. If you have time, you should go take care of your fiancé. I’m no longer your husband and no longer your man, so don’t come to me again.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1037

The words he uttered from his lips were filled with intense dissatisfaction.

His cold eyes had the same dismissive feeling as back then.

Madeline looked at this resolute and stern face without any expectation or light in her eyes.

“Don’t worry, I’ll never come to you again. You’re no longer the one I love. The moment you chose Lana, I had already given up on you.”

“That’s for the best,” Jeremy sneered with the corners of his seductive lips, “I don’t want to be thought of by you anymore. Do you know that in the past few years, I really grew tired of your attachment to me?”

Tired.

It turned out that he had been tired of her love and attachment toward him since a long time ago.

Madeline's cold heart shuddered again.

At this moment, her cell phone rang. Ryan was calling.

Madeline picked up the call and Ryan's gentle voice sounded. "I'm downstairs Whitman Corporation. Will you still take long?"

Madeline adjusted her emotions and replied, "Ryan, I'll head down right away. Please wait for me for a few minutes."

"Don't worry. If the one who's waiting is you, I won't ever feel tired after waiting." Ryan's profession of his love for her fell into Madeline's ears and also into Jeremy's.

He turned around without any surprise and looked straight out of the window casually, but he could not help but look toward the door downstairs.

He vaguely saw a silver-white car parked at the entrance. It was Ryan Jones' car.

Jeremy was in a daze when he suddenly heard Madeline's audible warning coming from behind him.

"Jeremy, you'd better not think that Lana will still have a good life to live. With every passing day that my parents' grievances are not avenged, she'd better not think of continuing to be at ease."

His gaze changed when he heard those words, and when he looked back, Madeline had turned around and was walking toward the door. He quickly stepped forward and grabbed her wrist.

Madeline was caught off guard, and Jeremy grabbed her waist when she lost her balance.

She raised her gaze sharply, her beautiful eyes meeting his cold and deeply electrifying ones.

The moment their gazes met, a subtle and warm current flowed through the tips of their hearts, but this feeling was soon destroyed by their indifferent gazes.

“Eveline Montgomery, don’t mess with Lana,” he warned, but this was actually a piece of kind advice to her.

However, he also expected that Madeline would not listen to him anymore. She would only misinterpret this sentence as him defending Lana.

Sure enough, Madeline’s eyes became sharp and piercing. “You allowed her to provoke me yet again, but I can’t fight back? Jeremy, did I underestimate your lack of feelings for me, or were your acts of loving and protecting me before just a big joke?”

“Don’t misunderstand either. It’s not that I want to provoke Lana, but it’s that she keeps trying to destroy my life in order to get you. She has even killed my parents. Do I have to wait for her to come at me again and harm my child?”

Madeline pushed the frowning man away.

“I don’t know why you want to be with this woman, but at least I know that it’s because you don’t love me that you can hold other women in your arms.”

She was disappointed and left without stopping.

Jeremy watched Madeline’s figure walking away and endured the pain of being eaten away by the toxins. He did not return to the desk until the figure in his pupils disappeared. Then, he took out a

painkiller from the drawer and swallowed it.

He observed the security footage of the building's entrance, and it did not take long before Madeline got into Ryan's car and they left together.

Jeremy continued looking at the screen even when she had left, his eyes looking gloomy.

'Linnie, how could I not love you?

'How could I?'

'You're the woman I have engraved into my life—into my bones and blood.

'It's just that destiny has to arrange things like this, arrange for you and me to have no future together.

'I don't regret meeting you in this life. Only you have allowed me to gain true happiness.'

...

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1038

Madeline was seated in Ryan's car. Looking at the empty ring finger on her left hand, she inevitably remembered her separation and reunion with Jeremy over the years.

She was suddenly confused. In these years, had Jeremy ever really loved her?

Surely he had.

That was why he was able to protect her at all costs back then.

That was why when he had hugged her to sleep previously, he would show a pure childlike smile.

'But Jeremy, what wrong step did we take that things have turned out this way between us...'

Her heart ached silently. Ryan stretched out his hand suddenly and gently held hers. He did not say anything and just gave Madeline a warm look.

"I want to make the wedding matters a little simpler. What do you think?" Ryan asked for Madeline's opinion gently.

The Joneses were a famous family in Glendale. Now that Ryan was getting married, the wedding was bound to be a sensation.

Madeline thought that this might be the case because she had been married twice, got divorced twice, and had three children. Ryan's father and mother would probably feel ashamed, so she wanted to keep a low profile. Hence, she just nodded in agreement. However, she then heard Ryan say, "That's not what I meant. I've considered that you might return to Jeremy's side in the future, so keeping a low profile would also be better for you."

This answer surprised and moved Madeline, but it also made her feel guilty.

"Rye, I'm not being impulsive in wanting to marry you, neither is it to go against Jeremy.

"Maybe fate and timing are important. Jeremy and I have been going around in circles for so many years, and in the end, we've reached the point of severance. Perhaps this is my destiny as is his."

There was some light in Madeline's eyes again.

“I’m very grateful that God had me meet you when I was the most exhausted.”

Ryan smiled. “I’m very happy to be the shore when you finally want to anchor yourself and a haven for you to seek shelter from the wind.”

The way Ryan said that made Madeline feel spoiled.

She had never thought that at such a time, she would meet such a good man who wanted to take care of her.

Perhaps this could be considered fate.

Ryan took Madeline home to see Mr. and Mrs. Joneses.

They were still so enthusiastic, but they also had their doubts.

Madeline and Ryan had not known each other for a long time, after all. Although they had a connection, it was years ago. Plus, Madeline already had three children now.

When Madeline went to the bathroom, Mr. and Mrs. Joneses confirmed with Ryan in a low voice, “Rye, are you ready? Are you really going to marry Miss Montgomery?”

“I’ve thought about it clearly. I want to marry Eveline.”

“But...”

“Being divorced and having three children doesn’t mean that she’s not qualified to reap new

relationships and marriages. She has suffered serious injuries from her marriage, but I hope I can heal her wounds and bring her happiness and joy again.”

“It makes sense.” Mrs. Jones somewhat agreed. “But...”

“Mom, Dad, Eveline is the person of my own choice. I hope to get your support instead of opposition just like back then with my desire to learn painting and realize my dream.”

Hearing this, Mr. and Mrs. Jones no longer had any objections.

Madeline came out of the bathroom. Her eyes had gone warm when she heard Ryan’s words. Maybe there was no one step earlier or one step late. Ryan was someone who was here at the right moment.

After returning, Madeline took out the box containing the rings, shell, and bookmark tokens from Whitman Manor. She then drove the car alone to the villa where Jeremy and she got married.

She stood at the door of the villa, looking at the big dark house. She pushed the door and walked in. When she first walked to the top of the stairs, Madeline found that the door of the bedroom was open and there were lights on inside.

Who could be in the room?

She paused suspiciously, then gently moved closer.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1039

Madeline had just walked to the door of the room when the lights inside suddenly went out.

For a moment, she felt a black shadow flashing past her eyes, but it was only for a moment.

Madeline reacted instantly and immediately turned on the lights, but after the lights were switched on, there was no one in the room—only an opened wedding photo album that was on the bed.

Madeline walked in, faintly smelling a cold light fragrance through her nose. She suddenly understood something.

Seeing herself smiling so sullenly in the wedding photo and the man's cold and cheerless features, Madeline gently picked up the photo album before forcefully tearing the wedding photo in half.

Jeremy, who was standing behind the curtain of the balcony, saw this scene. It was as if his heart was being penetrated by a sharp blade.

He watched Madeline put down the jewelry box she was gently holding onto before she left without even turning her head.

After he saw her drive away, Jeremy returned to the room.

The torn wedding photos on the ground seemed to represent them—the couple who could never go back to the past.

Jeremy picked up the jewelry box Madeline left and saw the two wedding rings inside, as well as the colorful shell and bookmark. His whole body instantly went as cold as an ice sculpture, but the tears overflowing from the corner of his eyes burned his heart.

“Linnie, you must be happy.”

He clenched the abandoned wedding rings and stood by the bed in despair.

The faded colorful shell and bookmark had all become the past at this moment.

‘Little Linnie, goodbye.

‘In the end, Jez still failed to fulfill the promise he made to you, to always stay with you and guard you.

‘Little Linnie, in your next life, Jez will make an appointment with you in advance.’

...

Madeline and Ryan were preparing for their wedding,

Although it had been decided that the wedding would be held in a low-key manner, Ryan still hoped that Madeline could put on a wedding dress.

Madeline was trying on her wedding dress in the bridal shop then. Ava had hurried over only to see Madeline come out of the fitting room wearing a wedding dress.

She walked over with stunned eyes. “Maddie, you’re still so tender like a little girl in her early 20s.”

Ava praised her sincerely, but it was also out of earnest concern. “Maddie, do you really want to marry Ryan?”

Madeline looked at herself in the mirror and nodded solemnly. “Rye is a good man worthy of me entrusting my life to.”

“Then, can you really let go of Jeremy?” Ava asked this, and there was silence.

Ava immediately slapped her mouth, feeling that she had said something wrong.

Madeline, however, smiled calmly. "Time can dilute everything. It can even dilute my feelings for him.

"Ava, I've been exhausted all this while. I feel very comfortable with Ryan this time. I'll also remember that Ryan is the only lover for me for the rest of my life, not Jeremy."

Madeline turned to Ava and said, "Ava, you'll be my bridesmaid on the day of the wedding. I've invited Dan to be the best man. You two will make a nice pair."

"Ah? You invited Dan to be your best man?" Ava was surprised, and there seemed to be a slight blush on her cheeks.

Madeline noticed the changes. "Ava, you actually like Dan, don't you?"

"Huh?" Ava was even more shocked. Her alluring eyes shifted around indiscriminately, trying to avoid Madeline's probing gaze.

"Dan is also a good man worth entrusting your life to. Ava, I will support you."

Ava blushed. It was neither an admission but also not a denial.

Jeremy was fetching Lana to her business discussion. When he was waiting for the red light, he looked sideways and saw a familiar figure walking by in the bridal shop in front of him.

A smiling Madeline was reflected in his pupils. She was walking toward the man in a suit before finally taking his hand.

Hiss.

The pit of Jeremy's stomach became exceptionally stuffy. He could not help but cough, then tasted something metallic in his mouth.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1040

"Jeremy, what are you looking at? The light is green," Lana informed. Just as she was about to look in the direction Jeremy was staring at, the car started.

Jeremy took a paper towel to wipe the bloodstains from the corner of his mouth.

Lana did not notice that Jeremy was coughing up blood, only supporting her cheek with one hand as she looked at Jeremy who was driving with a smitten look on her face.

"Jeremy, you're really attractive. I used to play around with so many men, but you're different. I really have the urge to live with you forever."

Jeremy glanced sideways at Lana. "Do you really like me that much?"

"Of course." Lana's eyes were filled with infatuation, and she looked confident. "I'll have you slowly fall in love with me and forget about that Eveline because I believe that love will last for a long time."

Jeremy pulled the corners of his lips and smiled meaningfully. "I believe it too."

Lana was satisfied with this answer, but she still looked a little concernedly in the direction that Jeremy had just fixed his gaze on.

...

When Madeline was trying on her wedding dress, Ava received a call. Her expression changed slightly, and she said that she had to leave in a hurry.

Ryan bought two bouquets of flowers and brought Madeline to the cemetery to see Eloise and Sean.

“Mom and Dad, this is Ryan, my future husband.” Madeline looked at the tombstones and introduced him, “I’ll never choose the wrong one again this time. You’ll bless us, right?”

Ryan listened to Madeline’s words and looked at the tombstone again.

Seeing Madeline’s sad expression, he hesitated to speak. There were some words and some facts that should not be said at this time.

After paying homage to Sean and Eloise, Madeline was then preparing to go to the kindergarten to pick up the children from school.

As soon as she got into the car though, Madeline received a call from the kindergarten teacher.

The young female teacher was crying anxiously. “Mrs. Whitman, your daughter Lillian is gone.”

Madeline’s heart sank, then she heard Jackson’s voice. “Mommy, the teacher took us to a nearby park just now. Lillian said she was going to the bathroom, but then she didn’t come out for a long time. The teacher went in and found out that she’s gone.”

Knowing this was the case, Madeline and Ryan immediately rushed to the kindergarten.

Lana was lying leisurely on a sun lounger by the swimming pool when a bodyguard ran in proudly, putting down Lillian whom he had brought with him in front of Lana.

“Ms. Lana, I’ve captured Eveline’s daughter.”

Lana raised her eyes to look at Lillian. The child’s beautiful and fair face carried the same small and exquisite features as Madeline’s.

Knowing that Jeremy was not there at the moment, Lana grabbed Lillian’s collar and dragged the little girl toward her.

“Hey, why are you pulling me, Aunty?” Little Lilly asked with big innocent eyes.

“Aunty? You dare call me aunty?” Lana’s expression suddenly sank. “Eveline’s little bitch is as annoying as she is! I heard that you were quick to cry when you got separated from Eveline the last time. Now I wonder what will happen to her if this little thing dies?”

Lana’s eyes were dark.

“Eveline, do you still want to marry Ryan so happily? Hmph, this time, I’ll have you cry and beg me for mercy!” she said, pushing Lillian to the ground.

Lillian sank to the ground. Her big but clear and pure eyes were filled with doubts, yet she did not cry.

“Throw this little thing into the pool and drown her!” Lana ordered.

The bodyguard on the side obeyed her order and grabbed Lillian.

“Let go of me, bad uncle. Let me go.” Lillian struggled, biting on the man’s palm.

The man became irritated instantly and threw Lillian, who was only five years old, into the swimming

pool!

Splash! There was a spray of water.

Lana looked at Lillian who was struggling in the water with satisfaction and lit a cigarette. "Eveline, with your parents dead and soon your daughter, I want to see if you still dare to go up against me!" Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1041

Splash, splash!

Lillian instinctively struggled in the water.

Meanwhile, Lana stood by the pool and enjoyed the scenery. She watched Lillian eventually halt in her struggling, gradually sinking to the bottom of the pool. Lana then took a puff of smoke, her gaze becoming more psychotic and satisfied.

"Eveline, it seems like I'll be able to see what you'll look like when you're suffering in pain soon enough."

Lana smiled, then turned around and headed out. She decided to dispose of Lillian's corpse only when she returned.

Fabian, who had come out of the house to answer the phone, could vaguely hear some weird noises. He walked toward the pool where the noises came from.

At first, he thought it was just a bird that was fluttering on the surface of the swimming pool, but after taking a closer look, he realized that it was a child!

He did not know why there was a child in the water. He hurried over and jumped into the water without

hesitation.

When he saw that the little girl was Lillian, Fabian's mind went blank momentarily. The next second, he forced himself to calm down and carried Lillian, who had lost consciousness and looked pale, out of the swimming pool.

"Lillian! Lillian!" Fabian was really anxious.

Yet no matter how he called Lillian, there was still no response from the child.

"Lillian!" Fabian lightly patted her small face. He was panicking so much that his hands had begun to tremble.

He immediately called out to his two subordinates, Earl Grey and Red Tea, who were always following him.

Witnessing the situation before them, they immediately reminded Fabian. "Hurry up and give this child CPR!"

"CPR?"

"Hurry up, Mr. Fabian, you've already lost your first kiss anyway, so why are you hesitating? If you don't want this little girl to die, you should hurry up."

“Mr. Fabian, I can do it as well. I’ve learned how to perform CPR!” The man named Red Tea rolled up his sleeves and was about to walk toward them.

However, Fabian suddenly looked unusually stern. He pinched Lillian’s small nose and held up her mouth, then bent down and started performing CPR. After repeating it many times, he gave Lillian chest and lung compressions again.

“Lillian, please wake up quickly. Wake up!”

Fabian prayed while continuing CPR.

His heart had never been so messed up. Looking at this small, pale face, what appeared in his mind was Lillian’s energetic and lovely appearance.

On the day they first met each other, he had taken Lillian, who was just rescued from Felipe, from Earl’s hands.

He had never seen such a cute doll-like child before, especially those eyes that shone brightly as if they were glass.

“Lillian! Wake up, you haven’t gotten the candy that Mr. White Hair wants to give you. Stop sleeping, little fool. Wake up!”

Fabian felt that he had never been so worried before.

Earl, who was beside him, was stunned when he saw this. The boss was crying?

Just as he found it unbelievable and wanted to take a closer look, Lillian spat out the ingested water that was in her stomach. She then continued to vomit out more water.

“Lillian!” Fabian happily hugged Lillian who was still half-conscious and noticed the little girl having a hard time cracking open her eyes.

“Mr. White... Hair...”

“Yes! Lillian, I’m your Mr. White Hair!” Still surprised, Fabian carried Lillian who had fallen asleep back to his room.

When he was helping Lillian change her clothes, he had specially instructed Earl and Red to wait at the door.

Earl and Red teased him, feeling dissatisfied. “Mr. Fabian, you’re also a man, so why can you look at the girl?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1042

Fabian retaliated reasonably. “This is my younger sister. Who didn’t shower with their brother when they were younger? What’s wrong with looking?! Besides, I was just changing Lily’s clothes. It’s not as obscene as you think!”

Earl and Red covered their mouths and snickered upon hearing that.

In the room, Fabian was serious about changing Lily’s clothes. He even asked Earl and Red to go to the mall to buy some clothes immediately as he gently dried Lily’s hair and wiped her face.

Seeing the color on the little girl's face gradually recovering, a relieved smile slowly appeared on Fabian's face.

"With me here, Lillian will definitely be fine."

He promised, but it was very strange how Lily ended up in the pool at home.

Although he did not have the brains for business like Yorick did, he was not stupid either.

He quickly thought of Lana and decided to ask Lana for an explanation after Lillian woke up.

...

Madeline and Ryan searched in the park for a long time but did not find any trace of Lily. They pulled some strings to check the surveillance footage but also found nothing suspicious.

The sky gradually darkened. Madeline came out from the park entrance wearily. Looking at the traffic on the road, her tears rolled down silently.

Ryan walked toward her and took out a handkerchief to gently wipe off the tears on her face.

"Don't be so worried, we'll find her. If she's been kidnapped, the other party won't hurt Lillian without getting the money."

Ryan comforted gently.

Madeline looked at the rows of lampposts in front of her, her tears flickering under the dim lights.

“Lillian means a lot to me. It was this child who gave me the courage to live during my darkest and most painful moments in life. She isn’t just my daughter, she’s my hope.

“I just want to live a peaceful life, but why is that so difficult?”

‘I’ve already lost my dear parents and can no longer reunite with the man who I once wanted to spend the rest of my life with. Why is it still not enough? Is it because I was born ominous and that’s why everyone around me has to leave me one by one?’

Madeline broke down into tears. Ryan reached out with a serious expression and hugged Madeline.

He felt sad and sorry for her, so he comforted her.

“God always likes to sharpen the good people. Maybe He wishes you to become better.”

Madeline shook her head. “I don’t want to be better. Sometimes, I just want to be a girl who’s weak and has emotions. I want to be protected by the ones I love. I just want to have a shoulder to lean on when I’m tired.”

“You’ve found it. I’m the safe haven you can rely on for the rest of your life.” Ryan hugged Madeline tighter and planted a loving kiss on the top of her head.

Lana intentionally drove Jeremy to the entrance of the park.

She initially wanted to see the anguished look on Madeline when she could not find her child, but she saw Ryan hugging Madeline instead. The position the two of them were in looked suggestive.

She took a look at Jeremy's expression and found that Jeremy had only taken a glance before looking away with disdain.

"Jeremy, your ex-wife is over there. Do you wanna say hello?" Lana asked tentatively.

"They're on a sweet date, so why should we bother them? Let's go." Jeremy looked askance nonchalantly, but there was already a surge of unspeakable pain in his heart. This pain gradually eroded his consciousness and pulled at his emotions.

Seeing the person he loved leaning in another person's arms, the scene assassinated his heart. He felt a familiar, bloody smell spreading to his throat again.

He did not want to face it and wanted to leave, but Lana suddenly got out of the car and walked toward Madeline and Ryan.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1043

Jeremy looked at Lana's back in disgust and got out of the car to catch up with her with dissatisfaction.

"How sweet!"

Lana made a mocking sound at Madeline and Ryan.

Madeline let herself go from Ryan's embrace. When she looked up to see Lana, she also saw Jeremy who was following Lana closely.

Her tearful eyes instantly became sharp, casting a cold light.

However, Madeline did not want to waste her time and breath. She turned toward Ryan and said, "Rye, let's go to the police station."

"Okay." Ryan nodded and stepped forward to take Madeline's hand.

Madeline froze for a moment when she felt Ryan's warm palm, but she did not let go.

Although it was under the curtains of the night, Jeremy still saw tears in Madeline's eyes.

'She cried.

'Why did she cry?'

He thought carefully. Seeing Ryan leading Madeline to leave, Jeremy opened his mouth and pretended to be contemptuous by saying, "Mr. Jones, didn't you say you'll take good care of my ex-wife? What's wrong, then? Is it because you're taking care of her so thoughtfully that Miss Montgomery is happily crying in the streets?"

Both Madeline and Ryan stopped in their tracks when his voice fell.

Lana, on the other hand, looked at Madeline with interest. She also said enigmatically, "Jeremy, you have great observation skills. Miss Montgomery really has tears in her eyes. Are you happy about something?"

Lana taunted, when in fact she knew best why there were tears in Madeline's eyes.

Madeline was sad. She was worried that something might happen to Lillian.

'But Eveline, it's too late to cry.

'Your daughter has already gone to meet your parents!'

Lana thought insidiously. She still wanted to roast her when she saw Madeline suddenly smiling and looking at her.

"That's right, I'm happy because my fiancé has just promised me that he'll love and protect me forever. I felt very touched, so I cried with joy."

As she spoke, she looked at Jeremy who had his lips curved upward.

"Take care of your girlfriend. Don't simply bark and disturb us when my fiancé and I are on a date."

"..." Lana's proud smiling face cracked in an instant.

She gritted her teeth and wanted to push Madeline further, but Jeremy stopped her. "Instead of wasting time, why don't we go have a candlelight dinner?"

Lana's face instantly brightened upon hearing this. She stuck to Jeremy's side with a coquettish smile. "My dear, you're right. Instead of wasting my breath, it's better to spend time together."

She sneered arrogantly and wanted to say a few more words to Madeline but saw that Madeline did not even care about her. She had already followed Ryan to the car and left without looking back.

Jeremy looked at Madeline's leaving silhouette and silently breathed a sigh of relief.

Yet when Jeremy imagined the scene of her and Ryan hugging each other before, his heart felt

suffocated.

He cleared his emotions and went back to Lana's car. As soon as he sat down, he received an unfamiliar message on his phone: [Lillian Whitman is missing. The woman beside you is highly suspicious.]

Jeremy read the message calmly. While he was worried about Lillian, he suddenly realized something.

There were tears in Madeline's eyes before not because she was crying with joy, but because she was worried about Lillian's safety.

Jeremy deleted the message and looked at Lana who was driving. "Your mood seems to be very good today? You even said you want to take me out for a drive. Where are we going?"

Lana curled her red lips and spoke unscrupulously, "Since I saw Eveline being sad, I'm happy about it."

Jeremy's eyes were instantly cold upon hearing her words. "She was clearly crying happily just now, so how could she be sad?"

"Jeremy, the truth is not what you saw," Lana said smugly before she looked at Jeremy with some concern. "Jeremy, there are some things that you're better off not knowing. Otherwise, I'm afraid you'll be sad too."

Jeremy objected. "What could I be sad about? I don't care about anyone except for you now."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1044

Lana slammed on the brakes upon hearing this. She looked at the handsome and cold man with excitement and anticipation. "Jeremy, is what you said for real?"

"Do you think it's fake? With how I've been treating you all this time, can't you feel it?" Jeremy asked back leisurely.

Lana thought for a moment and no longer had any doubts.

“In that case, Jeremy, even if something happens to your and Madeline’s child, you wouldn’t care anymore?”

Jeremy quietly hid the sorrow in his eyes. “I’ve told you, I only care about you now.”

“Then, that’s great.” Lana smiled, then said, “My subordinate unexpectedly ran into Eveline’s daughter today and thought that the child was particularly annoying, so he dealt with her.”

Jeremy curled his fingers abruptly, holding back his emotions. “What do you mean by ‘dealt with her’?”

“He took the initiative to drown that little thing.”

Jeremy clenched his fists upon hearing this. The unbearably deep sorrow had already caused him to lose all his sanity.

Lillian.

He painfully restrained his emotions and forced himself to calm down.

‘No, it can’t be.

‘Lillian, you’ll be fine.’

Lana glanced sideways at Jeremy’s expression. She was even more delighted to see that there was no disturbance on his handsome face.

The poison developed by Adam was indeed powerful.

It was also a good thing to be able to capture a man's heart in this way.

At the very least, Jeremy could not be without her now.

...

Lillian slept deeply all afternoon after she was saved by Fabian.

At this moment, the little girl was wearing a T-shirt that was too big for her and was sitting on the bed. Her plump, white feet were dangling on the edge of the bed as she looked at Fabian who was holding up beautiful dresses for her to see.

"Lily, do you like this one? It's pink and as cute as you, Lily." Fabian did his very best to convince Lily, but the child only shook her head. She did not speak at all and looked depressed.

"What about this one? It's white, like the clouds in the sky," Fabian said with a smile on his face.

However, Lillian still shook her head and remained silent.

Fabian glanced at the shopping bags piled up all over the room and walked to Lily's side. "Lillian, what do you like? I'll buy it for you."

Lillian looked at him and blinked. Her little mouth moved, but in the end, she did not say a word.

Fabian thought that the child might still be frightened, so he caressed her head dearly and picked her up.

“Then, I’ll take you home to see your mother, okay?”

Lily’s eyes suddenly lit up upon hearing this.

She took the initiative to reach out her hand to Fabian. Fabian understood and carried Lillian in his arms.

Fabian’s heart melted once such a soft little bun was in his arms.

He took the candy bouquet that he had not given to her the last time and stuffed it into Lily’s little hand. Then, he went downstairs with the child in his arms.

Just when he walked to the door, Fabian heard the sound of Lana returning. His expression suddenly sank. His handsome face was filled with a sorrow that he never had before.

Jeremy was walking behind Lana. Looking at the hateful figure of her back, he could no longer be calm.

When he thought of Lillian who was tortured by Lana’s subordinate, even to the point of death, he could not continue to slowly collect evidence of Lana’s crimes.

He wanted to avenge his little princess.

‘Lillian, Daddy will avenge you now.’

“Lana, you inhuman pervert!”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1045

Jeremy was about to finish Lana off when he heard Fabian cursing angrily.

Lana was in a good mood, but she was scolded by Fabian as soon as she entered the house. Her expression hardened. She was about to open her mouth to retort when she saw Fabian carrying Lillian, who was safe and sound, in his arms.

Jeremy had also seen Lillian.

His battered heart, which was already riddled with holes, was instantly soothed.

'Lillian.

'My little princess.

'So you're alright. That's great!

'Daddy was afraid that something had happened to you. If something happened to you, your mother would fall apart completely.'

Jeremy thought silently, then heard Fabian scolding Lana again. "You asked your subordinate to kidnap Lillian, didn't you? You actually threw such a small child into the pool with no care about whether she lives or dies. Are you still human?"

"Fabian Johnson! Shut up!" Lana was outraged. "When did I kidnap this little thing? Stop speaking nonsense!"

"Who else if not you?" Fabian scolded sternly. He turned his head and looked at the little cutie in his arms. "Lillian, tell me, did this evil woman throw you into the pool? Tell me, so I'll call the shots for you."

"Heh! You'll call the shots for her? Who are you to her? Fabian, don't tell me you want to be like those celebrities and find someone who's more than a decade younger than you to be your future wife? Are you a groomer?"

“Lana, you shut up!” Fabian was really offended now. He wanted to slap Lana to wake this woman up, but the little cutie in his arms suddenly struggled and wanted to get down.

The little kid’s watery eyes were looking straight at Jeremy who was behind Lana.

Fabian understood and immediately let go of Lily.

Lily’s eyes shone as she ran toward Jeremy with her little feet.

Lana really wanted to kick Lily, but she did not want to be that vicious in front of Jeremy.

Just then, Lily fell down as she hoped she would.

Although Fabian had already cut the T-shirt, it was still too big. Lily’s little feet accidentally stepped on the hem of the shirt and with a plop, she fell down in front of Jeremy.

The fall was like an ice cone pounding on Jeremy’s heart. His heart hurt so much that he felt uncomfortable, but he did not reach out to Lily.

Only by pretending not to care could he keep them safe.

Jeremy’s embrace that Lily waited for did not come, but she did not cry. She just lay on the ground and looked up helplessly and confusedly at an unresponsive Jeremy with her big, watery eyes.

After a while, Lily slowly propped up her little hands and got up on her own.

Jeremy’s heart was as if it was being cut, but he still remained his indifferent attitude.

Fabian saw this scene and went up to pick up Lily even more angrily.

“Jeremy, what’s wrong with you? This is your biological daughter! She fell right in front of you, but you’re still so indifferent?!” Fabian questioned.

Jeremy glanced at a silent Lillian indifferently. “Eveline and I have divorced. This is her daughter and she has nothing to do with me.”

“What are you saying? Is she not still your daughter even after you’ve divorced Eveline? Isn’t your blood flowing in her?” Fabian carried Lily dearly as the young girl kept on looking at Jeremy without saying a word.

“Lillian, these are all bad people. They don’t care about you, but I do! I’ll take you back home to your mom!” Fabian picked up Lily angrily and wanted to leave.

Lana went up to stop him. “Fabian, if you still want me as your sister, you have to throw this little thing out and ignore it!”

Fabian’s eyes were sharp. “Lana, I think you’re mistaken. I stopped wanting an inhumane sister like you long ago! I want to see what else you’re going to do to Lily. If you dare touch her again, I’ll double it back at you!”

What?!

Lana was so angry that she got dizzy.

“You... Fabian, what did you say?!”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1046

“Lana, I don’t have a sister like you!”

Fabian carried Lillian in his arms, turned around, and walked toward the garage.

Lillian, who was in his arms, kept her sights on Jeremy who had been ignoring her.

Her big, innocent eyes blinked lightly, but they gradually dimmed and shut close.

Jeremy looked at Lillian who was being carried away in his peripheral vision. He was certain that Fabian would not harm Lillian.

He muttered thousands of apologies on the inside, but he could not relieve the pain in his heart.

She was his and Madeline’s only little princess, but he could not even help the precious little princess up when she fell down in front of him.

What kind of father was he?

Madeline and Ryan had just returned to Whitman Manor from the police station. They were still worried about Lillian’s whereabouts when they saw a sports car parked at the door.

She fixed her gaze on it and saw Fabian sitting in the passenger seat with a child in his arms.

“Lillian?”

Madeline walked over in disbelief. When she got closer, she clearly saw that the little bun in Fabian’s arms was Lillian.

She was wearing a shirt that was poorly fitted. Her eyes were closed and she was sleeping peacefully against Fabian's chest.

Madeline was agitated, but she did not want to disturb the sleeping little bun.

She glanced at Fabian, and through a look, they tacitly understood.

"My lady, please open the door for me. I'll carry Lillian into the house," Fabian said in a low voice. His tone was soft and steady like never before.

Madeline nodded and opened the car door.

Fabian guarded Lillian's head and carefully carried her back to the room to sleep. He even put a blanket over Lily before leaving with Madeline.

Madeline asked about Lillian, but Fabian did not dare to tell Madeline that Lillian had been thrown into the pool by Lana and nearly drowned. He merely brushed it over, saying, "My lady, I'll retrace what happened to Lillian. Don't be angry, I'll teach a lesson to those who have bullied Lillian."

Fabian's expression was serious but not perfunctory.

Madeline thanked him and felt touched. "Fabian, I thought that there was no way for you and me to be friends, but I think I was wrong. You're a friend worth making."

Fabian scratched his head as if he was embarrassed upon hearing this. "Perhaps it's fate. I really like Lillian, but don't misunderstand. I don't have any perverted quirks, I just simply like this kid."

Listening to Fabian's explanation, Madeline smiled in relief. "I believe you."

She turned her head and glanced at Ryan. "Let me introduce you to my fiancé, Ryan. We'll be getting married soon. Do attend my wedding when the time comes."

Fabian looked at Ryan for a bit and showed a regretful expression. "And here I thought I would have a chance when my lady is single. I didn't expect someone else to be quicker."

Fabian suddenly looked serious as he continued, "You have to treat my lady well. Don't be like that Jeremy, so cold-blooded that he didn't even spare a glance at his own daughter when she fell down."

When Fabian's unintentional words fell, the lake in Madeline's heart surged. She looked at Fabian and asked, "You said that Jeremy didn't even look at Lillian when he saw her fall down?"

"Yes. Before I brought Lillian back here, she wanted a hug from her dad but Jeremy seemed to have been brainwashed by Lana. It was as if he could only see Lana in his eyes."

Madeline's heart sank, but she was suddenly reminded by the word Fabian said.

Brainwashed.

She then remembered what she had forgotten before.

Cigarette.

The ingredients in the cigarette!

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1047

Madeline recalled the cigarette she had gotten from Jeremy's cigarette box that time. She had taken the cigarette to run a components test on it.

However, too many things happened all of a sudden after that. Both her parents passed away, and it was Jeremy who caused their deaths. She had fallen into chaos all of a sudden and totally forgot about the test.

After Fabian and Ryan left, Madeline returned to the room to watch over Lillian.

When she thought about Lillian wanting Jeremy to carry her after she fell down but only saw him turn a blind eye to her, the little girl must have felt very upset.

Although the child was still young and could not express herself well, she would still be able to sense that Jeremy did not like her.

Madeline felt more and more suspicious.

'How did a person become so cold-blooded? The answer might be lying within the cigarette.'

Madeline stayed with Lillian the entire night and fell asleep unknowingly.

When she woke up the next day, she saw that Lillian had not woken up yet. She felt a little worried. As she was about to wake the child up, the girl opened her eyes.

"Lillian." Madeline hugged her and asked, "Lillian, tell Mommy, do you feel uncomfortable anywhere?"

Lillian still did not speak. She only looked at Madeline, then stretched out her hands and hugged Madeline.

"Good girl, Lillian." Madeline soothed her. Guessing that the child was feeling she had been wronged, she felt more heartache for Lillian.

She helped Lillian get up and got herself washed before changing her clothes. They both then ate breakfast together.

However, Lillian did not say a single word even after breakfast was done.

Madeline found it very strange. "Lillian, why aren't you talking?"

Lillian looked at Madeline, but she only blinked her big eyes while her small mouth did not move even one bit.

Madeline was now convinced that there was something off. She obviously sensed that Lillian was not as lively as before. She was not even speaking a word.

After she passed Jackson and her youngest son to Karen, she brought Lillian to visit a doctor.

After going around a few pediatric hospitals, a doctor finally told Madeline, "Your child seems to have been shocked and is experiencing trauma, causing her to be unable to speak for the time being. She needs to break through the psychological trauma. Only then may she speak again."

Madeline's heart trembled violently when she heard the doctor's reply.

She could not imagine what Lillian had gone through that caused such a trauma.

'Is it due to Jeremy being ignorant and indifferent?'

Madeline carried the child back home. Lillian would still smile, and her smile was still warm and cute as usual. It was just that she was not speaking at all. She did not even utter the word 'Mommy' once.

At this moment, Jackson was accompanying Lillian as they piled wooden blocks together. Looking at the innocent and adorable faces, Madeline's fists clenched tighter and tighter. She turned around immediately.

"Eveline, where are you going?" Karen chased after Madeline and asked while carrying Pudding who was about to drink milk.

Madeline walked toward the car without looking back. "I'm going to find that inhumane and cold-hearted father!"

'Inhumane and cold-hearted father?'

Karen was puzzled, but Madeline had already driven the car away.

When she reached the downstairs of Whitman Corporation, Madeline was still convincing herself to be calm, but she could not bear it when she thought about how such a good child like Lillian could no longer speak. She could not hold herself back.

Madeline did not know whether Jeremy would be at the company at this time, and she did not want to call this man either. He would no longer answer her calls anyway.

The lady at the front desk noticed Madeline heading over in such a rush and hurried to greet her.

"Where's Jeremy? Is he in his office?" Madeline asked immediately, causing the front desk lady to start stammering due to her intimidating aura.

"Mr. Whitman..."

“I’ll go in and find him myself.”

Madeline went straight to Jeremy’s office while the lady at the front desk caught up to her. “Miss Montgomery, Mr. Whitman is not in the office. He really isn’t. Mr. Whitman is in a meeting.”

Madeline paused when she heard the words and turned to the meeting room.

She strode along with an awe-inspiring aura and opened the door to the meeting room straight away.

All of the department leaders who were listening to Jeremy’s speech were stunned and looked at Madeline who had barged in.

Jeremy paused the ongoing meeting as well. He turned his chair and looked sideways at the door.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1048

Madeline walked straight toward Jeremy. She could see no one else in her eyes.

Jeremy did not know why Madeline had come to see him, but he still felt happy to see her.

It was just that the moment Madeline came over to him, she raised her hand and slapped him heavily across his face.

Jeremy, with his tilted face, appeared lost.

Everyone was dumbfounded. They were silent for a while without even the slightest sound in the entire meeting room.

After witnessing this scene, Ken was stunned for a few seconds as well. Then, he immediately requested everyone in the conference room to leave before following suit himself. He closed the door as he exited.

Instantly, there was only Madeline and Jeremy left in the meeting room.

Jeremy raised his slender fingers and touched his beaten cheek. Then, he stood up and looked at Madeline whose expression was cold. Her glare was prickly as well.

“Miss Montgomery, I’ve said it before that I don’t want to see you again. Why are you still looking for me? Are you really unable to forget about me? You want to see me so badly, eh?”

Madeline looked at this handsome face that held a frivolous smile, and her disappointment was shown in her eyes.

“Lillian has become mute, are you happy now?”

‘Lillian has become mute.’ The moment this sentence penetrated Jeremy’s ears, it began occupying his mind, repeating continuously.

He could not believe it. For a brief moment, he even felt that Madeline was joking.

However, why would she make such a joke with him?

“Jeremy, you can hurt me all you want, but why are you hurting even Lillian now? What did you do when the child fell down in front of you and wanted you, her dad, to hug and comfort her?! You didn’t do anything? You actually chose to turn a blind eye and merely looked on?”

“Jeremy, tell me, what happened that made you so cold-blooded that you choose to stand by that psychotic woman, Lana? Tell me.”

Madeline restrained herself from breaking down and questioned him continuously.

Jeremy was also holding back his emotions. In the end, he endured his pain and chuckled pretentiously. "Dad? When has she ever called me her dad? She has never regarded me as her father."

"Why doesn't Lillian know that you're her biological father? Ask yourself the reason." Madeline looked back into Jeremy's deep eyes. "Jeremy, I'll ask you one last time. The person you care about the most now, is it Lana?"

Looking at those beautiful eyes that awaited an answer, Jeremy clenched every finger of his and said, "Yes, the one I care about now is only her."

"Alright. This is a good answer," Madeline sneered sarcastically, then turned away abruptly.

Jeremy was lost in a daze, his mind still echoing with the words Madeline just said—'Lillian has become mute.'

After being lost in his thoughts for a while, he felt that something was not right again because of the last thing Madeline said.

After Madeline left Whitman Corporation, she drove the car and went directly to Lana's villa.

As she was about to enter, she came across Fabian who was about to head out to look for Lillian. Seeing Madeline's vengeful expression, Fabian realized that something was wrong.

"My lady, why are you here? Is it because you discovered that Lillian was thrown into the swimming pool by Lana and had almost drowned? Did you come to get even with her?"

Madeline figured that it was Lana's subordinates who abducted Lillian yesterday, but she did not expect Lana to be so vicious!

“Lana! Where is she now?!” The flames in Madeline’s heart had already burned to their maximum point.

Right at this moment, Lana’s leisurely voice came from the swimming pool. “Who’s looking for me? Heh, Eveline?”

“What’s the matter? Aren’t you already getting married to Ryan? Are you still unable to let go of Jeremy and have come to cause me trouble?”

Seeing that it was Madeline, Lana folded one of her arms over her chest and started smoking a cigarette with the other. Her eyes were filled with arrogance and disdain.

Madeline raised her eyebrows and responded, “You’re right, I’m here to trouble you!”

As her words fell, Madeline walked toward Lana. While Lana was caught off guard, Madeline suddenly pinched the back of Lana’s neck and raised her leg to kick Lana’s knee.

“Argh!”

As a result, Lana was now kneeling beside the swimming pool in pain.

“Lana, for everything you’ve done to my daughter, I’ll do them unto you now!”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1049

Sh*t!

Lana immediately got angry out of embarrassment. She abruptly raised her head, but as soon as she did, Madeline slapped her face with a loud smack.

“Argh!”

Lana cried out in pain again, then had the back of her neck clamped tightly once more by Madeline.

She could not move at all and was entirely unable to even stand up.

“What are all of you doing, being frozen there?! Drag this woman away from me!”

Lana instructed the bodyguards, but Fabian did not give her the chance to do so. “No one is allowed to touch her!”

The bodyguards who were just about to take action on Madeline quickly stopped and Lana became irritated. “Have you become stupid, Fabian?! I’m your biological sister. How could you help this woman instead?!”

“I’ve said it before, I don’t have a sister like you.”

“You...”

“Moreover, this is a grudge between both of you women. How can us men interfere with this matter?” Fabian shrugged and walked toward Lana’s side nonchalantly.

“Miss Lana Johnson, haven’t you always thought of yourself so great and that no woman could be your opponent? Isn’t that why you’ve been so tyrannical all this while? But it seems that you can’t even deal with anyone successfully without your subordinates now.”

“Fabian, you...” Lana’s face was pale with fury. She made attempts to struggle out of Madeline’s hold, but Madeline’s hand that was pinching the back of her neck was so firm that she could not raise her head at all. She could only kneel by the poolside like this, allowing Fabian to ridicule and sneer at her.

On the other hand, Jeremy had followed Madeline and arrived in a hurry. He was worried that Madeline troubling Lana would cause him trouble as well, but when he saw this happening by the pool, he felt relieved. At the same time, he was feeling even more ashamed as well.

What kind of man was he? What kind of husband and father was he?

His wife and daughter were being bullied by this psychotic woman, yet all he could do was only stand idly by the side.

At this moment, Lana was so mad that she was about to explode. She turned her face to the side, her vicious eyes glaring at Madeline fiercely. "Eveline, I suggest you let go of me immediately. Otherwise—"

Smack!

Madeline did not give Lana any opportunity to continue spitting nonsense. Her glare was prickly as she delivered the slap without even saying a single word. She then raised her foot and kicked Lana's back.

Lana suddenly lost her center of balance and plunged into the swimming pool.

Madeline pressed down on Lana's head mercilessly, burying her face in the water.

Splash, splash!

Lana took in a few gulps of water while she shook her head, desperately struggling.

Seeing this, the bodyguards at the side immediately prepared themselves to save Lana.

Jeremy quickly picked up a few small stones from the ground and threw them toward the legs of the bodyguards who were rushing toward Madeline. Those bodyguards who were attacked screamed in pain before falling into the swimming pool messily.

Fabian felt that something was off and looked back. He unexpectedly saw Jeremy standing not far away, calmly looking toward this side.

“Eveline! You...” Lana cursed as she kept struggling.

However, Madeline’s expression remained unchanged. Her eyes became colder as she scolded, “Lana, you heartless psycho! Is this how you had my Lillian struggle helplessly in the water?”

“Mmf... Cough... Eveli...”

“Come at me if you have the guts! What does it count for you to bully a five-year-old child?! Second lady of the Johnson family? Leaving out the Stygian Johnson Gang and without the protection of your subordinates, you, Lana, are nothing at all!

“You’re merely trash, and all you know is to fake your greatness.

“Lana, you’ll never be an opponent of mine! If you were really capable, the person in the water now would be me, not you!”

With these words, Madeline immediately threw Lana into the swimming pool.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1050

Lana fell into the swimming pool with a splash, stirring up layers of waves.

She knew how to swim, but because she had been shoved into the water for so long by Madeline just now, she accidentally swallowed a lot of water. She had also expended a lot of energy during her struggles. She did not have much energy left to swim.

While she was trying to get out of the pool, she was violently pulled by Madeline on her collar.

Before Lana could catch her breath, her breathing was restricted once more.

She opened her eyes that were blinded by the water and saw the cold light bursting out of Madeline's eyes.

"Listen, Lana, if the law can't punish you, I will do so myself! Do you really think that you have nothing to worry about just because you have the Stygian Johnson Gang supporting you? I'm telling you now. As long as I'm alive for even a day, I'll definitely do everything possible to send you to jail! Unless you kill me first!"

After Madeline finished speaking her words, she threw Lana back into the swimming pool and turned away.

As soon as she turned around, however, she noticed Jeremy standing not far away—just looking at her.

Madeline ignored him. She took a big step and walked toward the gates with a stifling aura.

Jeremy saw the way Madeline had looked at him—it was filled with intense resentment and disappointment.

He pretended not to care and had a faint smile on his lips until Madeline passed by. Only then did he remove his disguise.

Seeing Lana who was swearing in the swimming pool, Jeremy's eyes turned hostile.

'Lana, for whatever you did to my wife and daughter, I'll definitely return the same back to you.'

This day would arrive very soon.

Madeline walked straight to the door and met Yorick who had just returned.

Yorick's expression was aloof, but he seemed to be surprised when he saw Madeline who had an imposing aura. It was immediately followed by a mild annoyance that appeared between his eyebrows. He strode directly into the villa without stopping Madeline.

Lana had just climbed out from the swimming pool, and before she could come back to her senses, she saw Yorick walking hurriedly toward her.

She quickly complained to her brother, "Brother, that Eveline—"

Smack!

Before Lana could finish speaking, Yorick had landed a slap on her.

Lana staggered back and fell into the swimming pool once more. A strong taste of blood invaded her mouth.

She covered her face in disbelief as she panted hard, looking at Yorick who was standing above the pool. "Yorick! Have you gone crazy as well?!"

"How many times have I warned you to not provoke Eveline? Do you know what foolish thing you've done? I've spent more than a month negotiating two large orders with her that involve hundreds of millions of dollars in funds, all of which are now ruined by you! By your hands! Go back to F Country as soon as possible! Don't let me see you here again."

Fabian clapped his hands and applauded. "Did you hear that? He asked you to go back to F Country and stop causing trouble!"

"..."

Lana covered her swollen face. Gritting her teeth, she punched the water hard.

"Hmph!" She sneered, "Just this one Eveline has actually made both my elder and younger brothers switch to her side!"

She cursed in dissatisfaction but noticed Jeremy when she raised her eyes. Lana immediately showed an aggrieved expression and quickly climbed out of the pool.

"Jeremy."

Jeremy pretended to be concerned and handed Lana a bathrobe, saying, "I saw everything just now. Why did your brother beat you for Eveline?"

Lana's expression turned dark. Thinking of the mysterious man she saw in the coffee shop when she tailed Yorick that time, she gritted her teeth and turned her head to show Jeremy a sad look. "Jeremy, it looks like no one really cares about me anymore other than you."

"Don't say that. They're your biological brothers, after all."

"So what if they're my brothers? They're concerned about Eveline more than me now." Lana's eyes were full of envy. Looking at Jeremy's puzzled expression, she then said, "Jeremy, since we're already in such a close relationship, there's something I must tell you."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1051

Jeremy looked at her with interest. "What is it?"

Lana stepped to the side, lit a cigarette, and started smoking. She thought for a moment before suddenly asking Jeremy, "Jeremy, do you know of anyone else with considerable influence who secretly protects Eveline? Apart from her parents, of course."

Jeremy's eyes changed instantly. "Why do you ask?"

"Because..." Lana spat out the smoke and continued, "Because there's a mysterious man behind my brother. My brother seems to be a little fearful of this man. He doesn't allow me to provoke Eveline because that's also what is wanted of him by the man. So I'm curious about who this man is."

Knowing this situation, Jeremy was really surprised.

Regardless of who this mysterious man was, he was helping Madeline.

This seemed to be a good thing.

However, who was this man who was able to make Yorick somewhat concede?

While Jeremy was pondering this, he suddenly heard Lana reluctantly saying, "Jeremy, you saw Yorick's attitude just now as well. I've done so many things for him in the Stygian Johnson Gang for so many years, but he has been raising his hand against his own sister because of that Eveline. Since he's so heartless, he can't blame me for being ruthless."

Jeremy glanced at Lana, then asked, "What are you planning to do?"

Lana touched her swollen cheek. “The Stygian Johnson Gang’s accounts have always been handled by me. You know, most of the business conducted by the Stygian Johnson Gang should not be known by others. After the money is obtained, it must be cleaned before it can be used with integrity.”

While she was saying this, she walked up to Jeremy with full of trust in her eyes. She said, “Jeremy, I’ve already considered it. Let’s go and strike out by ourselves. In the future, you’ll be in charge of the external business while I will be responsible for money laundering. You work outside and I work inside. Don’t you think we’ll be like husband and wife like this?”

Lana’s eyes lit up, and she immediately wanted to lean on Jeremy.

Jeremy pretended to tidy up his clothes to avoid Lana. Then, he tentatively asked, “Is the ledger you mentioned a record of all the accounting made by the Stygian Johnson Gang over the years? Will Yorick let you take care of such an important thing?”

Hearing this, Lana appeared to be arrogant. “It’s exactly because I’m his sister that’s why they let me take care of such an important ledger.”

Jeremy looked at Lana with a vague smile. “It turns out that you’re actually so capable. Looks like I’ve underestimated you before.”

Lana smiled at Jeremy gently. “Honey, we have all the time in the future. You can get to know me slowly—hiss!” Lana wanted to ask Jeremy for a kiss, but the corners of her mouth suddenly stung badly.

“Go back to the room and rest. I’m about to go out to have a talk about a deal. I’ll discuss it in detail with you when I return.”

Lana was indeed exhausted. Madeline had pushed her into the swimming pool earlier and made her unable to lift her head up. She even threw her into the swimming pool. The muscles all over her body were aching now.

After Jeremy left, he took out his mobile phone, typed in a few Arabic numbers, and sent them out. Then, he drove around the main road a few times before finally entering a cafe with a few people.

A well-dressed man was sitting in the corner by the window. Jeremy walked over and sat down, saying coldly, "I've obtained news regarding the ledger you had mentioned before. I request to perform the mission immediately. I don't want to waste time. You guys have no ways to guarantee the safety of my wife and daughter."

The man sitting opposite him replied politely, "Jeremy, it's a good thing that you've obtained news regarding the ledger, but the foundation of the Stygian Johnson Gang is solid. They have great power in F Country. It'll be better for us not to rush into it."

"My daughter was made mute by that psychotic woman. How can you have me continue pleasing that woman calmly?"

The man smiled kindly. "Jeremy, we've all seen it. You handled it well."

'Handled it well?'

Jeremy found it ironic. Only he knew how much pain he was enduring.

He suddenly regretted his decision to join IBCI.

After a few seconds of silence, Jeremy calmly parted his lips. "There seems to be a person behind Yorick.

Based on my understanding of Lana's words, Yorick seems to be very fearful of this person."

The man paused when he heard the words, then said, "This man is our colleague."

"Colleague?" Jeremy's eyes narrowed. "Who's this person?"

The person hesitated with difficulty before saying, "It's not convenient to disclose his identity for the time being. This is for the sake of your safety and the mission."

Jeremy did not want to push them for the answer. He knew the rules as well, so he did not ask any more questions.

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It was just that he really did not expect someone to have had already penetrated into the Stygian Johnson Gang and was even able to make Yorick obey his orders. Despite the person's influence, he was still unable to uproot the Stygian Johnson Gang, which showed how solid the foundation of the Stygian Johnson Gang was.

After Jeremy left the cafe, he drove to the gates of the kindergarten where Jackson and Lillian were studying.

He waited until the end of school, but he still did not see the brother and sister duo coming out from the kindergarten.

Feeling puzzled, he got out of the car and went to ask their teacher in charge.

The teacher in charge recognized Jeremy's face and spoke a little apprehensively, "I'm really sorry about this, Mr. Whitman. It's because I didn't look after Lillian well that she suffered a fright.

"Mrs. Whitman said Lillian isn't able to come to school these days. Jackson has also given a notice of absence."

After hearing her reply, Jeremy's mood became extremely heavy all of a sudden.

He drove to Whitman Manor, parked the car far away, and walked to the door.

Coincidentally, the moment he arrived at the gates, he happened to see Jackson and Lillian playing in the yard.

There was a pure smile on Lillian's delicate and cute face, but the only thing she did was smile. She was not communicating with Jackson at all.

She only communicated by either patting on Jackson's hand or using her finger to point ahead. Her little pink mouth had not moved at all.

Jeremy's thin lips were pressed tightly together. His eyes were already heating up, and his Adam's apple was trembling as he sniffled.

Lillian really could not speak anymore.

Jeremy clenched his fists and blamed himself painfully.

He felt he had no right left to face this child again.

He asked himself, 'What have I given this child?

'Nothing at all.'

Never had he given her fatherly love or care.

He had never been a qualified father.

Jeremy felt guilty and blamed himself. As he was about to turn away and leave, a small ball rolled to his feet suddenly.

He looked down and caught a glimpse of Lillian running happily in his direction.

She came to pick up the ball, but when she saw Jeremy, Lillian's approaching footsteps gradually stopped.

In those big and bright eyes, there were unexpected defensiveness and insecurity.

Jeremy was heartbroken. He picked up the ball and passed it to Lillian. However, Lillian looked at Jeremy and only shook her head. She pressed her lips tightly, turned, and ran away.

The instant the child ran away from him, Jeremy felt as if the color of the sky had turned gray.

"Lillian." He called out the child's name and walked toward Lillian with the ball in his hand. However, Lillian resisted and hid behind Jackson while shaking her head, not saying anything.

Jeremy could even notice the disappointment in the way Jackson was looking at him.

“Daddy, why are you helping the bad woman who bullied Mommy to bully my younger sister?” Jackson questioned him seriously.

Obviously, the bad woman Jackson was referring to was Lana.

Jeremy did not know how to explain it. He was a man with too many heavy missions and burdens on his shoulders, yet he could not take care of his own little family.

After thinking about it, he knelt down and looked at the two children with a gentle smile, handing the ball over. “Lillian, this is your ball, take it.”

However, Lillian did not respond. Instead, she raised her clear eyes and looked behind Jeremy carefully.

Jeremy noticed the abnormality. He stood up straight and looked over...

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In fact, Jeremy already knew who had come over when he heard the familiar footsteps.

The moment he looked back, it was indeed Madeline he saw.

This was the woman he wished he could merge with into his own blood and life.

Madeline did not even spare Jeremy a glance, however. She walked straight to the two children. With a gentle and loving smile on her face, she touched the two cute and rosy faces. “Jack, go on in with your sister. Mommy will bake a cake for both of you in a while.”

Jackson nodded obediently. He held Lillian's fair and tender little hand with his own small hand, glancing at Jeremy before turning away.

After watching the two children enter the house, the smile on Madeline's face gradually dissipated.

"How dare you still come to see Lillian?" Madeline mocked him sarcastically. "Have you seen it now? Lillian can't speak anymore. Are you satisfied with your girlfriend's master plan?"

Jeremy did not respond to Madeline's words. He only walked past her and gently put the small ball that was in his hand at the doorstep.

After leaving the ball, he walked off indifferently.

Madeline walked over to pick up the ball and threw it to Jeremy's back.

The small ball was very light, but it felt as heavy as hundreds of pounds when it hit Jeremy's back.

He stopped and heard Madeline's approaching footsteps.

"There's no one here now, Jeremy. Can't you tell me now? Why on earth are you staying with Lana?" Madeline's tone was obviously less aggressive and had turned softer.

"I don't believe that you can really be so unfeeling. Even if you really don't love me anymore, you wouldn't be so cold to the children. The more you're being so deliberately ruthless, the more suspicious it seems."

Madeline walked up to him and looked at the man's cold expression, her gaze sharp. "Jeremy, answer me. If you're facing troubles, it'd be good enough if you just blink as a response."

After she finished her sentence, the air went silent for a bit.

After a long interval, Jeremy smiled and raised the corners of his lips. “Eveline, you asking me this means that you still miss me and are hoping for something from me, right?”

He asked her in reply, a similar mocking expression appearing on his handsome face.

“You’re already a bride-to-be who’s going to marry another man. Stop having any more fantasies about me. Instead of us torturing each other, it’d be better for us to let each other go. You go be Madam Jones and don’t bother with who I’m with.”

“Is this the truth in your heart?” Madeline asked earnestly. Her eyes were shimmering as she still held the last glimmer of hope toward him.

Jeremy looked at the pair of beautiful eyes blankly and nodded when he thought of the few remaining days he had left.

“Eveline, I really loved you.”

‘So, so much.’

Once he was done talking, he brushed past her.

Madeline smiled and chewed on what he said—‘loved’.

It was merely ‘loved’.

After returning to the car, Jeremy began to cough non-stop. The tissue he used for wiping up was dyed with a large patch of dark red blood.

His hands that held the steering wheel trembled involuntarily as well.

The poison developed by Adam was really destructive.

However, he would rather die than rely on the cigarettes given by Lana.

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He leaned back into the car seat tiredly, tears wetting the corner of his eyes.

'Lillian, Daddy is sorry.

'I hope that before I leave, I can still hear your sweet laughter and hear you happily call me 'Daddy'.'

He touched the family portrait that he kept in secret and let the grief flow through his body. The clearer the pain, the deeper he could remember who the woman he loved was...

Madeline stood frozen in place for a long time, unable to understand Jeremy's behavior.

She still hoped that he was having his own struggles, but his performance was extremely ruthless—so ruthless that she could not find any excuse for him.

In three days, she would be married to Ryan.

Karen was also counting down the days. Two days before the wedding, she went to look for Madeline while deliberately carrying Pudding in her arms. "Eveline, are you really going to marry Ryan? Is there no more chance for Jeremy?"

Madeline put the sorted clothes into the suitcase. She lifted the corner of her lips and smiled. "He and I have been going round and round for years but still can't get together, which shows that he and I are destined for nothing."

"How can you two be destined for nothing? If there's no destiny between the two of you, you won't have Pudding." Karen still tried to persuade her.

Madeline was indifferent. "To be honest, I can't completely let go of him now, but I also know very well that he and I will never be able to reunite with each other again."

Madeline packed her clothes, pulled along her luggage, and took Pudding from Karen's arms.

Pudding was almost three months old. He looked at her confusedly and laughed.

"Pudding, oh Pudding, what name should Mommy give you? Your brother is called Jackson, then what about you?"

She asked the little guy. In fact, she was asking herself, since such a small child could not speak yet.

At first, she wanted Jeremy to name the child, but now...

Madeline looked down at the naive baby, bowed her head, and kissed him.

"Mom, I want to make a bank account for Pudding early tomorrow morning. Can you please help me contact Jeremy? I need his ID card, but I don't want to see him again."

Karen nodded upon hearing this. "I'll give Jeremy a call."

She dialed Jeremy's number and walked out. The call connected shortly after. Karen immediately asked before Jeremy spoke, "Jeremy, where are you now?"

"At the office. What's the matter? Can Lillian speak already?" Jeremy sounded quite anxious.

"Lillian still can't speak." Karen lowered her voice and explained, "Eveline is going to register for a bank account for Pudding and needs your ID card. Jeremy, Eveline is going to marry Ryan the day after tomorrow. This is your last chance. Mom can only help you until here. Remember, don't leave the office."

Karen hung up the phone before Jeremy got the chance to speak. Then, she entered the room and told Madeline, "Eveline, Jeremy said he's still busy at the office. Why don't you go there while I look after Pudding?"

Madeline did not want to delay the child's registration, so she handed Pudding to Karen and went out to Whitman Corporation to look for Jeremy.

When Karen saw that Madeline had left, she immediately called Jeremy. "Jeremy, Eveline is heading over now. You have to seize the opportunity!"

Jeremy received the call from Karen. After hanging up, he looked at the dim night outside the window and made a call.

Around ten minutes later, Madeline reached Whitman Corporation. She walked straight toward Jeremy's office. At this time, the employees had already left work, so no one stopped her from looking for Jeremy.

However, when Madeline reached the door to his office and was about to knock on it, she suddenly heard a woman's sweet laughter from the inside.

She was taken aback and looked through the transparent glass door. She had just glanced in out of curiosity, but after seeing the situation inside, her raised hand that was about to knock on the door stiffened instantly.

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Although the sky was dark and the lights were off on the inside, Madeline could still see clearly.

A woman with short hair wearing a sexy dress was hugging and kissing a tall man.

The short-haired woman was of course Lana, and this man, who else could he be other than Jeremy?

Although Jeremy told her that he had slept with Lana, Madeline always doubted it.

Yet at this moment, seeing was believing. She did not want to believe it but had to.

She thought that she could face it calmly, but each beat of her heart only pained her while her breathing became all disordered. At this moment, she was feeling suffocated.

Madeline stared at the increasingly unsightly scenes happening inside. After hearing the sound of the woman's charming laughter, she suddenly turned around and walked toward the elevator. She randomly pressed the elevator buttons with her fingers. Her stomach began to cramp, making her nauseous.

Jeremy clearly saw Madeline's figure angrily leaving from inside the office, then turned on the lights in the room.

The two actors who were performing stopped immediately.

"You two can leave now." He dismissed them and exhorted, "Remember to change your appearance first, then leave through the back door."

The two actors took the checks from Jeremy and nodded joyfully. "Thanks, Boss. You can call us again next time if you want to put on another performance."

"There won't be a next time." Jeremy coldly rejected. "Remember, this matter cannot be known by a fourth person."

Both of them knew of Jeremy's status and nodded repeatedly in response before leaving.

Jeremy sat back in front of his office desk and closed his eyes tiredly.

He felt that his physical condition was getting worse. He would feel his chest hurting from time to time.

The pain was even more obvious when he thought about Madeline marrying Ryan the day after tomorrow.

However, Ryan was a good man who could be trusted for life. He did not want Madeline to miss out.

In the end, he could only pray that the other man could give her what he could not.

The last thing he wanted to see was Madeline still having a slight expectation toward him, so he could only put on a show for her so that she would no longer have even the slightest expectation or continue to miss him after he was gone.

After pondering for a long time and feeling that his body was not that weak anymore, Jeremy got up and left the office.

However, when he came downstairs, he found Madeline standing alone at the entrance of the company.

Her back figure was very beautiful and attractive, but it looked so frail. He really wanted to go up and give her a hug, but he could no longer spread his arms to her.

It started drizzling from above the night sky. Accompanied by the evening breeze, the coolness hit straight to the bottom of Jeremy's heart.

He took a deep breath and made his state look less haggard before walking toward Madeline.

"What are you doing here?" Jeremy pretended to ask unknowingly.

Only then did Madeline hear the footsteps behind her. She clenched her fists and turned around with a cold expression. "Are you free tomorrow?"

"What's the matter?"

"I want to register a bank account for Pudding," Madeline answered simply.

Jeremy nodded thoughtfully, then took out the ID card he had prepared ahead of time from his pocket. "I'm not free, but you can take this and settle it yourself."

"I don't want to take the things you've touched." Madeline refused as a touch of disgust appeared in her eyes.

Jeremy's hand that was holding the ID card stiffened in the air. He seemed to look confusedly at Madeline, but in fact, he knew the meaning behind Madeline's words better than anyone else.

"If you don't want it, forget it. Don't come looking for me again in the future." He spoke indifferently and put away his ID card before walking toward the main entrance.

There was rain falling on him. He did not seem to feel it at all and walked straight ahead.

Just when he reached the front of the car and opened the door, Madeline caught up and slammed his car door shut.

He looked at her. He did not know if the rain had become heavier or if his condition was not good, but her face before him was becoming blurry.

“Why on earth?” Madeline asked him, “Why did you suddenly become like this? Just because I can’t forgive you for being manipulated by Lana to kill my parents, you throw yourself into Lana’s arms?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1056

“Jeremy, what exactly are you thinking?”

The man looked at her with a calm and indifferent expression.

“Eveline, no matter what I think, I won’t think about you anymore,” he said coldly and took out his ID card again. “Take it if you want to. If you think it’s dirty, then I guess you don’t have to register an account for your son.”

“My son? Is he only my son?” Madeline laughed sarcastically. The drops of fine rain fell heavier, blurring her vision.

“Do you still remember what you said when you knelt before me? You said, ‘Linnie, I’ll make you happy for the rest of your life.’ But it turns out that the happiness you gave me is so short-lived.”

She looked at the ID card that was wet from the rain. She restrained her emotions that were tethering on the edge of a breakdown and refused to shed a tear.

“I’m getting married to Ryan the day after tomorrow. I’ll return your ID card when you come for the ceremony.”

Madeline took the ID card and left decisively.

Jeremy stood in the rain and suddenly leaned against his car weakly. Seeing Madeline’s disappearing figure in the rainy night, he did not know whether he should laugh or cry.

The next day, Madeline went to settle the registration procedures for Pudding.

On the way back, she held the child and looked at the photo on Jeremy’s ID. The man had sharp eyebrows and dazzling eyes. He was incomparably handsome.

She still remembered that year when he ran with and chased her on the beach. Back then, he made a serious promise to protect her for life, but in the end, all his vows disappeared like smoke.

The weather was fine on the day of her marriage with Ryan.

Madeline had put on a wedding dress once more and was holding a bouquet of fresh flowers. She stood with Ryan, who was in a suit, in front of the priest for the wedding ceremony.

There were very few people attending the ceremony. Other than Ryan’s parents and some close friends, all who were left were Ava and Daniel—the bridesmaid and best man.

Jeremy had long arrived, but he was standing outside of the church.

When he heard the priest asking Madeline if she would be Ryan’s wife, he heard her answer in two words.

"I do."

Jeremy's tears almost poured out of his eyes, and extreme pain flooded his entire being.

'Linnie, my Linnie, you've eventually become someone else's wife.

'If only you knew how much I want to love you, accompany you to grow old, and watch the kids grow up with you... But I no longer have the right nor time.'

The poison was spreading too fast, and it had reached the third stage.

After reaching the fifth stage, the poison would spread to his cells and organs. He would then be a lost cause.

The wedding ceremony ended successfully after Ryan pressed a kiss on Madeline's forehead.

Madeline smiled faintly at Ryan, but she could not help looking at the church door.

She was still holding Jeremy's ID card in her hand, but he had not come.

Come to think about it, how could he still be willing to come to see her?

Madeline planned on going to the washroom, but when she walked through the corridor, she heard the sound of constant coughing coming from the side.

She inexplicably felt that the coughing sounded familiar, so she looked over and unexpectedly saw Jeremy standing in a remote corner while coughing violently.

Actually, Jeremy wanted to leave right after Madeline said 'I do', but he suddenly felt uncomfortable. He coughed and coughed until he spat out blood.

The poison was indeed very powerful.

There was no way to restrain its spread.

He no longer remembered how many times he had coughed up blood now.

However, he did not have a tissue or a handkerchief with him at the moment.

He covered his bloody lips with his slender fingers and turned around, but he ran directly into Madeline who had already walked up to him...

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1057

Jeremy was surprised. He did not know when Madeline came up from behind him.

Madeline was also taken aback because Jeremy's face was as pale as a sheet of paper.

The two looked at each other and time seemed to stand still at this moment.

Jeremy struggled to suppress the intense smell of blood and the dry itch in his throat. He turned his face away to avoid Madeline's sight, coughing lightly.

Jeremy's heart was very flustered at this moment. He was afraid that Madeline would discover that something was wrong with him and she would see through everything.

"Maddie, why are you standing there? It's time for a photo." Ava's reminder came from a distance.

Madeline looked at the man who was facing her from the side and handed over the ID card.

“I’m giving it back to you,” she said coldly as she stretched out her hand to him.

Jeremy clenched his fists, knowing he could not reach out to Madeline.

The palms of his two hands were stained with blood.

Seeing Jeremy being indifferent, Madeline frowned. “If seeing me makes you bored, why come here to obstruct your view?”

“Maddie.” Ava’s voice came again.

Madeline saw that Jeremy was completely ignoring her—even the corners of his eyes and eyebrows were cold. She raised her hand all of a sudden and threw the ID card at him.

“Since you’re so disgusted, you can pick it up yourself.”

As her voice fell, Madeline lifted her skirt and walked away without any hesitation.

Jeremy’s fingers that were covering his lips gradually tightened as he crouched down. With his long, blood-stained fingers that were gently trembling, he picked up the ID card that Madeline had thrown at his feet.

He lifted his bleak eyes, looking at the beautiful image of the woman who was reflected in his pupils. He could not restrain himself from spitting out a big mouthful of blood from his lips.

'Linnie, I wish you happiness.'

When Madeline left, she saw Jeremy's car parked across the road from the church.

She subconsciously glanced out of the car window. She vaguely saw a familiar figure standing at the same place where she had separated from Jeremy just now.

Madeline found it a little strange, and before she could think deeper into it, Ryan approached her. "What's wrong?"

She came back to her senses and smiled, shaking her head.

"It's nothing." Ryan smiled softly and shook Madeline's hand.

Madeline smiled and accepted Ryan's warm care, but she inevitably thought of Jeremy in her heart.

She warned herself that she was already Ryan's wife, so she should stop thinking about the man who had cut her off from him. Yet, her thoughts remained occupied by Jeremy.

After carrying out the outdoor shooting for the entire afternoon, it was then time to head to the hotel.

Madeline changed into a simple dress, and together with Ryan, they gave a toast to a few relatives and friends.

Ava was not behaving aloof at all and had already drunk several glasses in succession as she held onto a wine bottle.

Daniel was sitting next to Ava and had advised her not to drink so much, but Ava instead courteously

filled Daniel's glass with wine while drunkenly patting him on the shoulder. "Dan, today is a good day for Maddie. Drink more and be happy for her."

Daniel recalled how Ava had behaved the last time she got drunk. He could not help but think of the accidental kiss between him and Ava back then.

As matters stood, only he knew about that time while Ava knew nothing.

"Dan, what are you thinking about?" Ava scrunched her drunken eyes and asked Daniel, "Come, have a drink."

Seeing her face up-close, Daniel felt hot and somewhat hurriedly took the wine glass before drinking the contents in one gulp.

However, Daniel rarely drank alcohol, so after downing a full glass, he felt his entire body going warm. His head was a little dizzy now too.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1058

After Madeline and Ryan returned from chatting with the guests from the Jones family, Ava was found flushed and drunk. She was muttering non-stop, "Maddie, this time, you must have a happy marriage. You must..."

Madeline was moved. Ava was one of the few people in this world who truly cared and was concerned for her.

At this moment, Madeline had no choice but to ask Daniel to send Ava back home.

However, Daniel was also slightly drunk. After helping Ava into the taxi, he leaned against Ava drowsily.

He wanted to bring Ava home at first, but the driver unexpectedly stopped the taxi at the entrance of a hotel. With a look of understanding, he opened the car door for Daniel.

Daniel was lazy to clarify the truth and helped Ava out of the car.

Ava was drunk till the point she almost could not stand still. It was as if her limbs had turned into jelly as she leaned weakly on Daniel.

“Ava, are you okay?” Daniel was quite worried.

“Okay?” Ava raised her blurry eyes. “Okay... Maddie needs to be okay.”

After she replied out of the topic, she fell into his arms almost unconsciously.

Daniel hugged Ava quickly. He looked at the busy traffic on the road, then carried Ava into the hotel in front of him.

He rented a room and went upstairs while holding Ava.

Ava blushed and began to mutter again.

“Dan...”

“I’m here.” Daniel still had his consciousness. He answered when Ava called out to him.

Ava suddenly raised her drunk eyes and touched his face with a silly-looking smile. She was completely unaware of what she was doing at the moment.

“Huh? It’s really Dan? I’m dreaming of you again.”

“...”

“Dan is also so good-looking in my dreams.”

“...” Not knowing whether it was because of the influence of alcohol or Ava’s praise, Daniel’s heart started beating very quickly while the temperature of his cheeks began to boil.

While he was still looking forward to what Ava would say to him next, Ava suddenly clung to his neck and started crying. “Dan, do you know that I’ve liked you all this while...”

Daniel’s footsteps stopped abruptly. He felt a sourness in his heart as he listened to Ava’s sobbing voice.

“Ava...”

Ava let go of her hands and brought her cherry-red face close to Daniel’s eyes.

“Dan, I won’t have the chance to see you again in the future. I don’t know when will be the next time I can dream of you, so can I give you a kiss this time?”

Hearing this request from her and looking at her expectant eyes, Daniel somehow felt as if something soft had fallen onto his heart.

Seeing Ava squinting her eyes as if she was about to fall asleep, Daniel could not help but lean in and place his lips on hers...

On this hazy night, the rain began falling unknowingly.

After Madeline put Pudding to sleep, she gave Karen a call again and was relieved after knowing that Lillian and Jackson were both asleep.

It was just that at this moment, Madeline felt a little ill at ease in her newlywed bedroom.

Today was the day she and Ryan got married. She was his legal wife now.

As she was thinking about it, the bedroom door opened and Ryan walked in while dressed in a light gray-colored robe.

After putting Lana to sleep with aromatherapy, Jeremy drove to the newlywed house Ryan had bought for Madeline.

He stopped his car when he arrived, and with a glance, he saw two silhouettes reflected in the window of the lit master bedroom.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1059

Jeremy knew that coming here was only going to hurt him.

He just could not let go. He could not let go of the woman who was embedded deeply into his bones.

Through the thin and dense drizzle, Jeremy saw Ryan approaching Madeline through the curtains. He got closer to her, and when he lowered his head, it was obvious that he was kissing her.

Jeremy held the steering wheel tightly and felt the raindrops outside the car window pounding into his heart. It felt cold and icy.

He could not continue being like this anymore. The only thing he could do was leave and go to Whitman Manor, where he could quietly visit the two children who had fallen asleep.

In the bedroom.

Ryan gave Madeline a light hug before letting go of her.

“I know you haven’t completely let go of Jeremy in your heart. It doesn’t matter. I can wait.”

Ryan’s words made Madeline feel guilty.

She was already his legal wife, but she still could not fulfill the responsibilities of a wife.

Ryan was very empathetic toward her. “We got married in such a rush. It’s only human nature that you haven’t let go of Jeremy yet.”

“Thank you, Rye.”

“We’re husband and wife now. You don’t need to be so polite.” Ryan patted Madeline on the shoulder. “Go to bed earlier with the little guy,” he said before turning to go out.

“Are you going to sleep in the guest room?” Madeline asked as she faced his back.

Ryan shook his head. “I still have something to do. I’ll be in the study.”

“Get it done earlier so that you can get some rest, okay?”

“Okay.” Ryan smiled softly and closed the door for Madeline.

He went to the study, put on his black-rimmed glasses, and sat down at the desk.

His initial elegant and handsome face instantly turned fierce and domineering.

He turned on the webcam and connected to the video call. A voice reported from the other end, “The poison in Jeremy’s body has entered the third phase. He may not have much time left. He asked that the task be performed as soon as possible. We’ll wait for your further instructions.”

Ryan listened calmly and looked at the falling rain outside the window.

‘There’ll be a rainbow after the rain.

‘It’s just that I don’t know when this rain will end.’

...

After Lana slept for a while, she got up comfortably.

The fragrance gave her the illusion that she had slept with Jeremy again last night.

Lana washed up and changed her clothes. She was very happy to see Jeremy come into the room with a tray of breakfast.

She looked at Jeremy obsessively as she drank the coffee and bit into the toast. “Jeremy, there’ll be a big order coming in in the next two days. Our client is flying to Glendale specifically to negotiate. You’ll have to show what you’re made of then. I want to let Yorick see that even without the Stygian Johnson Gang, I

can still do big things on my own.”

Jeremy nodded and handed Lana a tissue intimately.

“I have a suggestion.”

“What is it?” Lana looked at Jeremy with interest.

She realized that she had really fallen head over heels in love with this man because the sight of him made her feel particularly chippy.

Jeremy locked his eyes with Lana’s admiring ones. “Whitman Corporation is a good way to help us launder money.”

“What?” Lana’s eyes widened unexpectedly. “Are you saying that I should launder all the dirty money through Whitman Corporation?”

Jeremy looked serious. “You give me the account books, and I’ll do the laundering for you. I’m the president of Whitman Corporation. No one can intervene in the transfer of company funds.”

Lana groaned thoughtfully.

When Jeremy saw that she was thinking about it, he continued, “This is the fastest and safest way to launder the money. Don’t you want to prove your ability to Yorick? This will be the best opportunity for it.

“As long as you leave the accounts of Stygian Johnson Gang to me, I promise that I’ll launder the money for you in the shortest possible time.”

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Lana heard him but seemed to be hesitating.

It was the first time Jeremy saw a serious look on the dishonest woman.

He did not want to give Lana too much time to think about it.

He stood up and pretended to be displeased. "Since you don't trust me, then forget it."

Lana hurried over to stop Jeremy when she heard what he said. "Baby, don't be angry. Why would I not trust you?"

Lana coquettishly tugged on Jeremy's sleeve. She looked a little worried. When she saw that Jeremy's handsome face was not turned toward her and he was acting coldly as well, Lana changed her mind.

"Baby, you're offering such a big sacrifice to let a multinational company like Whitman Corporation help the Stygian Johnson Gang launder money. I'd be dumb to disagree!"

Lana gave in.

Jeremy continued pretending to be displeased to egg her on. "You don't have to agree so reluctantly. It was just a suggestion. You don't need to agree just to please me."

"I'm not! Jeremy, I'd love to!" Lana smiled and tried to please him. She was worried she had upset Jeremy. "Jeremy, let's do as you say, but the Stygian Johnson Gang's accounts over the years are very cumbersome. There are a lot of things to deal with. After I sort them out, I'll bring them to you."

When Jeremy heard that, his cold handsome face melted.

He lifted the corner of his lips and smiled. He said with intent, "Thanks for trusting me. I won't let you down."

Lana was completely immersed in Jeremy's rare smile, and her mind was filled with hopes for a beautiful future with Jeremy.

In a hotel.

When Ava woke up with a hangover, her head felt very heavy.

She opened her eyes in a daze, trying to recall what happened last night.

It felt as if it was just a foggy dream...

Ava was about to get up, but as soon as she moved, she realized that a person was lying beside her.

She opened her eyes wide in astonishment and looked at the body that had its back facing her. She went wild as her mind went blank.

'How can it be?

'Wasn't last night just a dream?

'It really happened!'

Ava got up in a hurry, grabbed the strewn clothes on the ground, and put them on hastily. She ran to the door even though she was in pain.

When she arrived at the door, she turned around again. She left a hundred-dollar bill, the only bill in her wallet, on the bed before leaving in a hurry.

When she was in the car on the way home, Ava was in a daze. Her head was filled with images of her and the man last night. The more she thought about it, the paler Ava's face became.

For so many years, the person she liked had always been Daniel, but after she found out that Daniel liked her bestie, Madeline, she had been suppressing the feelings in her heart until now.

She knew that she would never get together with Daniel in this lifetime, but she never thought that she would do such a thing with a stranger.

Ava got so annoyed that she started crying and vowed to never drink again.

At that moment, her phone rang. When she saw that someone was calling her, she angrily rejected and shut off her phone.

It took a long time for Daniel to wake up. He was confused when he saw a hundred-dollar bill on the empty bed.

When he recalled what happened last night, he remembered that Ava had been very drunk while he was 30 percent sober.

When he looked at the hundred-dollar bill, Daniel suddenly got a headache.

He called Ava but found that her phone was turned off.

He assumed that Ava got angry at him for last night, so he got ready to go to her place to look for her

after washing up.

Ava had just arrived at her apartment and ran into the bathroom to take a bath as soon as she entered.

She could not bear to think about what happened last night. It was her first time and she ended up giving it to some random guy. She could not even remember what happened. The more she thought about it, the more her tears streamed down.

After she took a bath absent-mindedly, her doorbell suddenly rang.

She wanted to pretend that there was no one in the house, but she heard Daniel's voice through the door. "Ava, it's me." Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 1061-1070

July 27, 2021 by superadmin

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1061

When Ava heard his voice, it was as if she was electrocuted and got stunned still.

Knock, knock. He knocked on the door again. "Ava, are you there?" Daniel's voice softly penetrated into her ears.

Ava's heart felt sour, and she felt even more uncomfortable.

The man she loved was standing outside the door, but she...

"Ava, last night..."

"Dan, I-I drank too much last night. I'm still a little tired and feel like going to bed," Ava suppressed her emotions and interrupted Daniel as she pretended to be calm.

Outside the door, it took a long time for Daniel to answer. His tone sounded a little lonely. "Have a good rest, then."

"Thanks, Dan," Ava replied. Dressed in her pajamas, she hugged her body tightly as she stared at the door blankly.

After standing for a while, Ava slowly walked to the door. She wanted to take a look at Daniel's back, but she did not expect that she would see him the second she opened the door.

Ava was stunned and did not move. She seemed to have been paralyzed as she stared in amazement at the man who looked confused.

"You're not going to bed yet?" Daniel looked at her with warmth in his eyes. "Can I come in?"

"..." Ava lowered her eyes and did not have the courage to look directly at Daniel, so she gently opened the door and turned around.

When Daniel saw how coldly Ava turned around, he felt his heart sinking. He wondered if he should have been so impulsive last night.

He closed the door and followed her into the living room.

Ava sat on the sofa. It was late summer and the weather was not too cold, but she was wrapping herself tightly in a blanket.

Daniel did not understand what was going on but felt that Ava was avoiding him.

“Are you here for something, Dan? If not, I’ll be going to bed now.” Ava smiled as if nothing was wrong, but she did not make eye contact with Daniel. She continued, “Oh yeah, I’ll be going to Y Country in a couple of days and won’t be coming back anytime soon. I guess this is goodbye.”

Daniel’s heart sank. It felt as if his heart had stopped beating.

“You’re going to Y Country? Why?” There was a hint of anxiety in his tone.

Ava squeezed her fingers and smiled pretentiously. “I’m getting married soon. My family found me a good partner in Y Country. I’ll be leaving for Y Country in two days.”

When Daniel heard that, the hundred-dollar bill in his hand suddenly felt extremely heavy.

He kind of understood why Ava had given him the hundred-dollar bill.

It was because she already had a boyfriend and was about to get married, so she wanted to use the hundred-dollar bill to erase everything that happened in their drunkenness last night.

Daniel suddenly felt very guilty.

He had not been completely drunk last night. If it were not for him taking the initiative to give her that kiss, nothing would have happened between them.

After a while, Daniel nodded his head dispiritedly. He scrunched the dollar bill in his hand and asked softly, "Do you like him?"

Ava was stunned for a moment before smiling. She replied, "After getting along for a long time, I'll grow to like him. I've seen his pictures. He's pretty handsome, although he's not as handsome as you."

Her answer sounded very casual, but Daniel did not perceive it that way.

He did not spill the beans about Ava telling him that she liked him twice when both of them were drunk.

However, it seemed that the secret of her liking him had eventually become an unheard secret in each of their hearts.

Daniel smiled slightly and looked at Ava seriously. "Don't worry, no one else will know about what happened last night. Rest well. I'll be leaving, then."

Ava lowered her eyes when she heard Daniel's words. After being out of it for a while, she finally looked up.

'What happened last night?'

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1062

Her heart started to race, and she called Madeline immediately. It was only then when she found out

that Madeline had asked Daniel to take her home last night.

Instead of waking up at home, she woke up in the hotel instead.

She could not remember anything that happened in between those times. The only thing she remembered was waking up next to a man lying next to her. She did not even see what the man looked like.

'Was it possible that Dan saw what happened?

'Did he see the man and me...'

Ava felt as if her head was about to explode when suddenly, her doorbell rang again.

She thought it was Daniel who had turned back, but when she opened the door, she saw the person she did not want to see...

Madeline did not sleep a wink last night. She got up very early, fed the baby, and prepared breakfast for Ryan.

After Ryan left, she took the children to Whitman Manor.

Lillian still could not speak, so Jackson had been accompanying his little sister.

After Madeline passed her youngest son and Jackson to Karen, she took Lillian to the hospital.

Even though she had gone to several children's hospitals and specialized doctors, she was only met with doctors shaking their heads, telling her that they did not know what was wrong.

Madeline took Lillian's hand and walked out of the last hospital. The sky was so blue, but inside, Madeline felt very gloomy.

She took Lillian's hand and was about to go back, but the little girl suddenly tugged on her hand as she blinked her crystal clear eyes. She was pointing to the stall on the side of the road that was selling cotton candy.

Madeline understood and took the little girl across the road to buy the cotton candy. The guy who sold the cotton candy was very polite and gave Lillian a small balloon.

While holding the balloon, Lillian gently bit the cotton candy and smiled sweetly at Madeline.

"Lillian, what else do you want to tell Mommy?" Madeline wanted to see if she could coax Lillian to speak.

The little girl looked around. She did not say anything and just stretched out her little fleshy hand, pointing forward.

Madeline thought that Lillian wanted to eat something, but when she looked up, she saw Jeremy. He was wearing a black suit and sunglasses as he entered a cafe cautiously.

After looking at him, Madeline felt suspicious.

The last hospital she brought Lillian to was relatively remote from the city and was not in a commercial area. Moreover, the cafe was located in an off-track place.

Why would Jeremy come all the way from the city to have coffee in a place like this?

Madeline thought for a while before leading Lillian to the cafe.

Jeremy had asked someone to meet him at the coffee shop with a secret code that few people could understand. The person was already waiting on the second floor.

As soon as Jeremy entered, he went straight to the point. "Lana is sorting out all the accounts for the Stygian Johnson Gang. They'll soon be handed over to me."

The man in the suit and leather shoes beamed. "The instructions are ready. When you get their accounts, we'll give out the orders."

Jeremy listened silently and casually said, "In two days, the target will be in Glendale to negotiate business with Lana. That will be the best time."

He had just finished speaking when the dry itch in his throat came up again.

Jeremy started coughing again, and after a few coughs, blood came out.

He wiped it with a napkin indifferently and put it on the table. His face became much haggard.

When the man saw him in such a state, he could not bear it. "Doctor Lowell is already doing his best to develop the cure. He'll inform you as soon as possible."

Jeremy looked out the window calmly. "I have no other wants. The only thing I want is for you guys to protect my wife and children when the time arrives. That's all."

As soon as he said that, a loud pop sound followed behind him, followed by the sound of a little girl crying.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1063

Jeremy and the man who was sitting across from him heard the sound. They both looked up at the same time.

When he saw Madeline squatting at the stairs, holding Lillian who was crying, Jeremy was very surprised. He quickly stepped forward and wanted to comfort the crying little girl but was held back by the man.

The man shook his head at Jeremy, giving him a hint with his eyes. He then turned away, walking out through the other door.

"Don't cry, Lillian. Bad balloon! See, it's okay. Don't cry, don't cry." Madeline hugged the little girl sadly.

However, Lillian would not stop crying. Apart from crying, Lillian did not make any other sounds.

Jeremy looked at the little princess crying with tears streaming down her cheeks like the rain, his heart aching at the sight. However, he had no choice but to walk over to them coldly.

"Eveline, are you following me?"

Madeline, who was comforting Lillian, raised her sharp gaze to look at the man looking down at her.

"Lillian got scared by the balloon that suddenly popped and the first thing you ask is if I'm following you instead of how she is?" Madeline stood and picked up Lillian, who was still in shock, before walking over to him on the second floor.

"When you were on the yacht and thought you were going to die, do you remember what was the last thing you longed for?"

Madeline held onto the sobbing little girl tightly with pain in her heart.

“You wished that Lillian would call you ‘Daddy’. You said that your dying wish was to hear this child call you ‘Daddy’ at least once before you die.

“But now, she hasn’t even said ‘Mommy’ yet, let alone ‘Daddy’.”

Jeremy squeezed his fist that was hidden in his trouser pocket, showing an impatient expression on his pale handsome face.

“Stop telling me this, Eveline. Please remember that you and I are already divorced. You’re Mrs. Jones now and I’ve given you full custody of the three kids. I’ll never disturb you anymore, so stop bothering me. I’ve had enough of you, do you understand?”

He brushed past Madeline’s shoulder with a very unpleasant attitude. He then went downstairs without even looking at Madeline from the corner of his eye.

As soon as he went downstairs, he turned his head and looked at the little girl who was holding onto Madeline’s neck while weeping. His own eyes had turned red as well.

Lillian was looking at him with her red eyes, but her big eyes no longer showed trust and love like last time.

Jeremy’s eyes felt sore. He resisted the painful sensation from the sudden sadness that was overwhelming him as he quickly went downstairs and left.

Madeline stood at the same spot. She bit her lip and did not let her tears fall.

That day, she vowed that she would never shed another tear for that man again.

She comforted Lillian and was about to leave, but after her mind calmed down, she began to think about the reason why Jeremy was here. Who was the man who sat across from Jeremy earlier?

When she walked upstairs, she had heard parts of their conversation. She vaguely heard Jeremy mentioning Lana, but she did not hear clearly about the context.

The man from just now had also suddenly disappeared from the second floor of the cafe.

Madeline approached the place where Jeremy just sat. There were two untouched cups of coffee and a used napkin.

She picked up the napkin, and her keen sense of smell recognized the exclusive cold fragrance that belonged to Jeremy. However, there was also an unknown dark red liquid on the napkin. She could not tell what it was, but it smelled like rust.

Madeline took another napkin from her bag and wrapped it up.

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She wanted to do a laboratory test on it.

As soon as Jeremy left the cafe, he received a call from Lana asking him where he was.

He casually said that he was buying a present for her and she was fooled.

20 minutes later, Jeremy returned to Lana's villa with a box of chocolates he bought from the streets.

As soon as he entered the room, he heard Yorick's dissatisfied questioning voice, "I told you to go back

to F Country. Why are you still here?

“Yorick Johnson, I’m your sister. How can you treat me this way because of Eveline?” Lana sneered unhappily as she sat on the sofa. She lit up a cigarette and took a big puff like a lady gangster boss. “Yorick Johnson, I’m just curious. Who’s the man stopping you from hurting Eveline?”

Yorick did not care about how rudely Lana was speaking to him right now, even using his full name. He only solemnly reminded her, saying, “It’s better if you don’t know. If you knew, you wouldn’t benefit much from it.”

“Benefit? What are you talking about? The only important thing for the Stygian Johnson Gang is making money.”

“Then do you know why the Stygian Johnson Gang has been able to make so much money safely in the past few years? It’s because of this person.”

When Lana heard that, she paused while taking a puff, but a disdainful smile soon appeared on her face. “What kind of rubbish joke are you making? What does the Stygian Johnson Gang’s money have to do with this person? If you have the balls to say these sorts of things, then give it straight to me today, Yorick!”

Yorick was furious with Lana. He blurted out, “Fine, I’ll tell you now!”

When Jeremy heard what they were talking about, he took two steps closer to hear carefully what they were about to say when Fabian appeared.

“Lana, you should’ve gone back to F Country when Yorick told you to. You made him lose 100 million bucks. Why are you still here?”

When Yorick saw Fabian, he ended the conversation.

It seemed as if he did not want Fabian to know too much.

When Lana heard him, she immediately became angry. "Listen to me, Fabian! Yorick is not the only one making bucks in the Stygian Johnson Gang! I can do it too! It's just 100 million, right?! I'll earn it back for you immediately! Wait for me. Tomorrow, I'll show you! I'll get it back for you, just you wait! I'll show you who's the real useless pest in the Stygian Johnson Gang!"

Lana turned around arrogantly, and when Jeremy saw the scene, he pretended that he just came in.

As soon as Lana saw Jeremy, she ran to him with a sad look. "Baby, you came right on time. Let's go to your office. I have something to give you."

Jeremy had a hunch about what Lana was going to give him, so he brought Lana to Whitman Corporation without saying a word.

As soon as she entered the office, Lana took out the USB flash drive containing Stygian Johnson Gang's transaction accounts over the years. "Jeremy, the information I have inside here is very important. I'm passing them to you now to represent my trust in you."

Jeremy glanced at the USB flash drive indifferently and acted as if it was no big deal. "If you still have your doubts about me, don't give this to me."

"Why would I?" Lana got closer to him. "Jeremy, you're my man. What else have I not given to you? I trust you so much. You mustn't let me down or leave me."

Jeremy pointed to the cigarette. "Do you think I can get away from you?"

Lana said with a helpless and coquettish expression, "Jeremy, don't blame me for doing this. I just want to keep you by my side. I really love you. I don't want to lose you. Don't worry, as long as you're my man,

I'll never let anything happen to you."

As she spoke, she stretched out her hand slowly and handed the USB flash drive to Jeremy.

"Jeremy, I'm handing this USB flash drive to you now. From now on, we're on the same team."

Jeremy took the USB drive smoothly and chuckled. "You're mistaken. You and I are not on the same team."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1065

When Lana heard what Jeremy said, her smile suddenly froze as a trace of confusion flowed through her eyes.

"Jeremy?"

Jeremy saw the change in Lana's flustered expression and his lips curled up with satisfaction.

He took his time and inserted the USB into the computer. He opened the files and copied everything inside.

Lana walked over uneasily. "Jeremy, what did you mean by that?"

Jeremy answered without looking at her, "I just wanted to see your reaction."

"My reaction?"

Lana did not understand and continued listening to Jeremy's explanation. "My life is in your hands, and you've given me the most important thing to handle. Now neither of us can survive without each other,

right?”

When Lana heard his answer, her sadness instantly turned into joy. A shy smile appeared on her face. “Jeremy, I never thought that you’d make such a sweet joke. You almost scared me by saying that.”

“Is it?”

“Yeah.” Lana nodded and urged again, saying, “Jeremy, you must keep the accounts safe. This is very important for the Stygian Johnson Gang. If it gets leaked, Stygian Johnson Gang will face a lot of trouble.”

Jeremy raised a corner of his thin lips and grinned. “Don’t worry. I’ll keep it very safe.”

When Lana heard what he said, she felt relieved.

She was convinced that Jeremy would not betray her. After all, if he did, he would be dead.

No one would risk their lives that way.

“Jeremy, the client will arrive in Glendale one day earlier than originally planned, so we’ll be meeting each other tomorrow.”

“Tomorrow? Is it confirmed?”

“Yeah, it’s confirmed. We’ll be meeting in the restaurant in Central Square.”

“Central Square?”

“If we meet in a crowded place, it’ll be less suspicious.” Lana leaned against the desk and lifted her eyes.
“Aren’t I very smart?”

Jeremy glanced at Lana and smiled without saying a word.

Lana was addicted to Jeremy’s rare smile, and her heart beat with joy. “Jeremy, after tomorrow, I’ll be able to prove to Yorick and Fabian that I have my own personal strength. Even if I don’t rely on the Stygian Johnson Gang, I can make it on my own. I’ve waited a long time for this day.”

Jeremy listened calmly and had a thought-provoking smile on his face. “I’ve also waited a long time for this day.”

“Then, let’s celebrate in advance this evening. I want to celebrate it with you.”

“I have to look into something tonight to make sure that tomorrow’s transaction will go through smoothly.” Jeremy declined. “Let’s wait for the transaction to be completed tomorrow. We’ll have lots of time to enjoy and celebrate then.”

Lana thought that what he said made sense, so she did not pester him any longer.

After all, tomorrow’s event was very important. She needed to prepare as well.

She wanted to prove to Yorick that she was capable!

As soon as Lana left, Jeremy immediately sent a message to the person using Morse code.

When he saw that all the copied data was completely transmitted, the huge heavy weight in his heart was halved.

He took out the family portrait photo from the drawer and looked at his true love and their two innocent children in the photo. A gleam of light appeared in Jeremy's tired and gloomy eyes.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1066

"Linnie, I wish I could hug you right now."

'But I'll probably never get another chance to stand in front of you again.'

...

After Lana left Whitman Corporation, she felt very nauseous as soon as she got into the car. She went to the hospital for a check-up and did not expect to learn that she was pregnant from the test results.

Lana was overjoyed. She wanted to call Jeremy immediately to tell him the good news, but after thinking about it, she turned the steering wheel and drove the car to the gates of Whitman Manor before swaggering in.

Karen was sitting in the living room looking after the little baby. Jackson was sitting next to Pudding, helping to take care of him. Suddenly, Jackson's big eyes saw the uninvited guest, Lana.

Jackson recognized her. He grabbed the apple in the fruit bowl and threw it at Lana with a serious face. "Bad guy."

Lana avoided it quickly and grabbed the apple. She threw it under her feet, then smiled disdainfully. "What? Is Eveline out? Is that why you need this little thing to greet me?"

Karen finally noticed Lana coming in. She got up, walked to the side, and picked up the broom. She pointed it at Lana aggressively. "You witch! What are you doing here? Get out of my house!"

Lana was in a very good mood and continued admiring the house without any anger. She had a smile on her face. "Why should I leave? This will be my home soon."

“What? Your home?” Karen sneered sarcastically, “Stop uttering nonsense. Whitman Manor does not accept people like you in here. Get out right now! Otherwise, I’ll have to use forceful means!”

Karen raised the broom to kick Lana out, but Lana remained standing with a calm expression.

“If you dare, hit me in my stomach! But be careful, inside my stomach is Jeremy’s flesh and blood,” Lana pointed to her stomach as she said triumphantly. Just then, Madeline came in holding Lillian.

When she heard Lana’s announcement, Madeline’s heart sank to the pit of her stomach.

‘Jeremy has impregnated this woman.

‘Heh.

‘This is such a joke.’

Lana caught a glimpse of Madeline coming in and walked over proudly. She sneered at Lillian.

Madeline shielded Lillian behind her and looked up sharply. “What are you doing here? Miss my slaps?”

“Tsk.” Lana laughed arrogantly. “Oh, Eveline, don’t you ever get tired? Even though you’re married to Ryan, I can tell that you still can’t let go of Jeremy in your heart,” Lana said, deliberately jutting out her stomach as she walked in front of Madeline. “Tsk, tsk, tsk. It seems that Mrs. Jones has gotten a lot more haggard. Is it because you miss Jeremy too much? It’s a pity that Jeremy has been too busy accompanying me every night.

“Oh wait, I’m already pregnant with Jeremy’s child. After a while, Jeremy will be proposing to me and I’ll officially become Mrs. Whitman. As for you—”

“Oh, shut up!” Karen could not bear to listen any longer and hit Lana on the back with the broom.

“Ah!” Lana exclaimed, turning her head to stare at Karen. “Did you just hit me?! I’m pregnant with Jeremy’s child! Your grandson is in my stomach! It’s a Whitman!”

“Bah! Don’t flatter yourself! My only grandchildren are Eveline’s children! I don’t care about you! Do you think that you’re worthy of being my daughter-in-law?”

Lana came to show off and provoke Madeline but did not expect to piss off Karen!

She was about to go off at Karen when Karen picked up a glass of water from the coffee table and splashed it on her face!

“Take a good look at yourself! A fake and botched bimbo face like yours is no match for Eveline! Do you really think that you can be my daughter-in-law? Keep on dreaming!”

“What are you talking about? Are you implying that I have a botched face?” Lana hated it when people commented on her face because she had indeed gone through plastic surgery before.

She turned around angrily and was about to hit Karen when she stepped on the apple that she had thrown onto the ground. Plop! She slid forward and fell heavily to the ground!

“Ah!” Lana held onto her stomach and let out a painful cry.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1067

Lana fell onto the ground. As she was wearing a mini dress, blood could be seen flowing out from beneath.

“Ouch!” Lana frowned in pain and pointed at Madeline who was on the phone. She said fiercely, “Eveline, you did this to me! If anything happens to my son, I’ll destroy your b*stard kids! Ouch...”

Madeline walked up to Lana with a cold face. With a queen-like aura, she stared condescendingly at Lana who was curled up on the ground.

She suddenly stretched out her hand to pull up Lana’s collar, her gaze still as sharp. “If it weren’t for this innocent child, I wouldn’t have called an ambulance for someone like you. It’s a tragedy for this child to be conceived by you. With a mother like you, your child will never be happy!”

“Eveline, you...”

Lana was in pain and furious. She tried to fight back but could not muster up any strength.

Jeremy wanted to meet the children and Madeline for one last time, so he went back to his place. However, he was met with this scene when he entered the house.

Lana had been thrown to the ground by Madeline and was laying there with blood underneath her.

Lana’s sharp gaze saw Jeremy’s figure, and she immediately complained, “Jeremy! Eveline wants to kill me and your child! I’m in pain! My stomach hurts...”

‘Child?’

It turned out that Lana was that way because she was pregnant.

Of course, Jeremy knew that the kid had nothing to do with him. From the beginning, he had never touched Lana.

However, in order to go with the story, Jeremy pretended to be worried and walked toward Lana, passing by Madeline.

Madeline watched Jeremy walk up to Lana before squatting down. He asked Lana worriedly, "When did you get pregnant? Why didn't you tell me?"

Lana squeezed out two drops of tears sadly. "I just found out and wanted to give you a surprise. I didn't expect Eveline to be so vicious. She's obviously jealous that I'm with you. She wants to kill our child, Jeremy. I'm in so much pain."

Although Lana was in pain, she exaggerated it a lot.

She observed the changes in Jeremy's expression and found that his eyes were cold. His fists were clenched too, and he was obviously very unhappy.

In the next second, Lana saw Jeremy getting up abruptly before turning his hostile handsome face toward Madeline.

"Eveline, how many times have I told you? We're divorced now. I no longer love you. Why do you keep harassing my woman? Do you like me so much? Is it because you still can't let go of me?"

Madeline had long gotten used to being disappointed with Jeremy, and her eyes were calm at the moment.

"Jeremy, let me make it clear to you. Your woman is the one who came here. She slipped on the apple and fell down. Even if she gets a miscarriage, it's her own fault. It has nothing to do with anyone else."

Madeline could not bother to deal with the scene any longer and turned to bring Lillian upstairs.

Jeremy was stunned for a moment, then stepped forward and grabbed Madeline's hand.

His warm hand held hers tightly, and he took the opportunity to feel her warmth.

However, it seemed that her warmth could no longer warm and heal his heart that was gradually being destroyed by poison.

Madeline turned around, and her gaze pierced through him. "Let go of me."

Jeremy looked at her beautiful clear and moving eyes and buried the sentimental attachment. His eyes turned cold. Since he was in front of Lana, he pushed Madeline aside without mercy.

Madeline was caught off guard and fell heavily on the sofa.

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She looked at the man who had pushed her to defend Lana, and her heart felt as if it was being fiercely squished by an invisible pair of hands.

"Mommy!" Jackson ran to Madeline with worry, followed by Lillian.

Despite the pain in Lana's stomach, she was able to smile cheerfully.

Karen hurried over to Jeremy. "What are you doing, Jeremy? How can you push Eveline that way?"

Jeremy's long eyes were indifferent. His gaze swept past Madeline once more scornfully. "Why can't I push her? She made my woman bleed so much. Me giving her a push is me being easy on her."

"Your woman? This enchantress used you to kill Eveline's parents and split up the two of you! How could you be with this kind of person and let her conceive your child?!" Karen could not understand Jeremy's

change in attitude. "Jeremy, how can you do this to Eveline?"

"Why not?" Jeremy's fair face grinned. "She's already married to Ryan. She's Mrs. Jones now. She has no ties to me. If that's the case, what right does she have to interfere with which woman I'm with? It's my free will."

His heartless words rang in her ears repeatedly as she felt quite suffocated.

After Jeremy said that, he went back to Lana to comfort her softly.

Lana leaned against Jeremy weakly, not forgetting to look up at Madeline triumphantly.

After some time, the ambulance arrived.

Lana was carried into the ambulance while Jeremy followed behind closely. Suddenly, Jackson sprinted out.

"Daddy," Jackson called out to him.

Jeremy paused for a while but did not look back.

"Daddy," Jackson called out again.

Jeremy pressed his lips tightly, and after a few seconds, he forced out the words. "I'm not your daddy anymore. From now on, Ryan's your daddy."

"Ryan isn't my daddy. I only have one daddy." Jackson ran to Jeremy and looked up sadly. "Daddy, don't you want me anymore? Don't you want Mommy and Pudding and Little Sister? Are you really going to

leave us for this bad lady?"

Jeremy could not ignore the little face that looked so much like his own. He wanted to say something, but he felt that nothing he said would do anything.

When he was about to leave, he caught a glimpse of Lillian's small figure standing not far away from the corner of his eyes. The little girl looked at him quietly with a trace of expectation in those big and round eyes of hers.

Jeremy swallowed down his reluctance silently as the corners of his eyes felt sore.

He did not say a word to Jackson nor glanced at Lillian. He walked toward the door, but when he took two steps, Madeline's calm and ethereal voice sounded from the back.

"You're right. It's because I love you too much that I just can't seem to forget you. So that's why I still can't wrap my head around why you're acting this way."

As Madeline spoke, Jeremy's footsteps slowed down to a stop.

He still did not look back. He choked the sadness down and only parted his lips coldly after keeping his emotions in check. "Eveline, do you really want a reason for my indifference toward you?"

He smiled and turned his face away from her. The tips of his eyebrows curved upward, filled with contempt. "It's because I don't love you anymore."

After he said that, he laughed sarcastically. "Mrs. Jones, aren't you afraid that Mr. Jones will feel jealous if you say that you have such feelings toward me?"

Despite Jeremy's sarcastic tone, Madeline did not mind it. She looked at his smiling face and asked him, "I gave Pudding a name. Do you know what he's called?"

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Jeremy smiled indifferently. "Does your child's name have anything to do with me?"

He said mercilessly before turning away his face indifferently. "Eveline, have a good life with your husband. Stop imagining that I still have feelings for you. Perhaps I used to have a touch of feelings for you, but that's all in the past."

Jeremy looked into the distance, tears forming in his eyes. Despite that, his tone was still filled with mockery.

"I hope that this is the last time. I really don't want to see you again."

He threw those cold words to Madeline and walked off freely.

He never thought that those words would one day be true.

This was going to be the last time he saw her.

Madeline stood at the same spot, quietly watching the man's distant figure as everything in front of her seemed to darken.

'You and I once promised each other a life-long commitment. Over the years, we were split apart, then got back together. It happened again and again, but in the end, we're still going our separate ways.

'Jeremy, from now on, although we live in one city, may we never meet again.'

...

The hospital.

Lana came out soon after entering the emergency room.

Although she had bled, the fetus was still attached to her womb.

At that moment, she was lying on the bed leisurely, thinking about Jeremy's words and actions toward Madeline not long ago. She was overjoyed in her heart and was even more convinced that Jeremy's feelings for Madeline were gone.

Jeremy walked into the ward with a cup of warm milk, and as soon as he walked to the door, he heard Lana talking smugly on the phone with someone.

"I thought Eveline still had a lot of weight in Jeremy's heart, but it's nothing like that. You should've seen how domineering and handsome Jeremy was when he was teaching Eveline a lesson for me just now."

"I'll never let go of this man for my entire life! He'll always follow whatever I say! He's my man!"

Lana showed her determination and chirped happily.

"After tomorrow, I'll prove it to Yorick and Fabian. Even without the Stygian Johnson Gang, I, Lana, will be able to make it on my own!

"By then, I'll get Jeremy to propose to me in public. I want to give Eveline the last fatal blow and make her wish that she was never born! Hahaha..."

Jeremy stood at the door and listened to Lana's words. He clenched his fists, his nails almost piercing through the flesh of his palm.

He stabilized his emotions and coughed on purpose.

When Lana heard that someone was at the door, she immediately hung up the phone.

She had completely fallen head over heels in love with Jeremy, so she did not want to show her vicious and narrow-minded side to the man.

She wanted Jeremy to think that she was a beautiful, intellectual, and gentle woman.

After Jeremy entered the room, he handed the milk to Lana.

“Drink some warm milk and have a good rest.” He seemed very considerate and gentle.

“Jeremy, you’re so kind to me. I never ever want to leave your side, not even for a moment.” Lana was overjoyed and reached out her hand to touch her belly. She frowned. “I can’t believe how despicable Eveline was toward me just now, pushing me so that I’d fall. It’s a good thing our kid is strong enough to endure it. Say, Jeremy, do you prefer a boy or a girl?”

Jeremy thought of the three children who Madeline had given birth for him and his eyes were tender. “I wouldn’t mind either.”

It was the first time Lana saw such warmth on Jeremy’s face, and she became even more excited. “Don’t worry, Jeremy, I’ll take care of the baby and give birth to it safely. When the transaction is completed tomorrow, I want you to be on stage in the middle of Central Square. Come up and propose to me then, okay?”

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The way she spoke was seductive, and she acted coquettishly to Jeremy.

Jeremy retracted his thoughts and saw Lana's expectant look. He promised her, saying, "Lana, I promise that tomorrow will be the most memorable day of your life."

After receiving that response, Lana felt as if she was on cloud nine. Her heart fluttered happily.

At that moment, Madeline was still at Whitman Manor.

Lillian and Jackson seemed to be in a bad mood. Madeline could guess why the siblings were sad. It was because they still could not get the cold-blooded indifference Jeremy displayed earlier out of their minds. The same went to her as well.

Not long after, Ryan came to Whitman Manor.

Madeline said that Jackson and Lillian were in a bad mood, so she asked if she could spend more time with them.

Ryan was very reasonable and told Madeline that she could stay with the children at the Whitmans'.

It was a good thing for him because he had been trying to come up with a good reason for Madeline to stay at the Whitmans' for the next two days.

After Ryan left Whitman Manor, he sat in the car and made a phone call. "Arrange Team A to stay near Whitman Manor these next two days to ensure the safety of the family."

The other party immediately followed the instructions after receiving them.

Since the children were in a bad mood, Madeline personally made dinner for them. She saw that they had finished the food and were playing together now. Later, she took the two children back to the room

to take a bath. They soon fell asleep after washing up.

Even though Jackson was lying on the bed, he did not close his eyes even after a long time. The little guy looked at Madeline with a trace of worry in his innocent eyes. "Mommy, will Daddy ever come back? Does Daddy really not want us anymore?"

Madeline was taken aback, but she smiled and soothed him. "Jack, don't you like Uncle Ryan?"

"He's just an uncle, not my daddy. I want my own daddy."

These words cut through Madeline's heart, and she felt helpless. However, she continued smiling. "Silly boy, of course you'll only have one daddy for the rest of your life. He'll be back. Don't let that little head of yours think too much. Come, let's go to sleep now."

"Really? Is Daddy really going to come back?"

"Yeah." Madeline nodded. "Daddy will definitely be back."

After getting the promise from Madeline, the little guy closed his eyes with peace of mind.

Madeline kissed Jackson on the cheek and turned to look at Lillian who was already fast asleep.

When she thought about the cheerful and innocent child ending up becoming a mute who did not speak, it felt as if invisible drops of blood that no one else could see were bleeding from her heart.

When Madeline closed the door and was about to have some quiet time by herself, she suddenly received a call from Ava.

When Madeline heard how sad Ava sounded, she did not hesitate and immediately went to look for her. However, when she drove there, she felt as if a car was following her.

After she parked the car, she wanted to look around to make sure, but when she looked up, she saw Ava standing on the shore next to Glendale Bridge with a sorrowful look.

Worried that something was going on with Ava, Madeline hurried over.

As soon as she saw Madeline, Ava hugged her tightly. Her voice trembled as she said, "Maddie, the reason I asked you to come is for me to say goodbye to you."

"Goodbye?" Madeline quickly let go of her. She saw how red Ava's eyes looked, as if she was holding back her tears. "Ava, why do you want to say goodbye to me? Where are you going?"

"I'm moving to Y Country," Ava answered simply.

"Moving to Y Country? Why? Is it for work?" Madeline squeezed Ava's hand and was reluctant to let go of her.

Ava shook her head and did not explain. She just looked at Madeline with tears and red eyes. "Maddie, you're my bestest friend in Glendale. I wish I never had to leave you, but my flight is tomorrow. Everything happened too fast, so I didn't have time to get you anything. But I have this."

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Madeline looked at the object that Ava handed over. It was a photo of the two of them on the day they graduated from college.

The two girls in the photo had the same fresh-faced beautiful smiles. The happiness that both of them felt that day was as if it just happened yesterday, but in a blink of an eye, it had been seven or eight years.

"Maddie, did you realize who else is in this picture?"

When Ava suddenly asked that, Madeline looked down and found a familiar face among the crowd in the upper left corner of the photo.

"When I was sorting out all my things today, I found this photo. Before this, I didn't believe that Jeremy loved you for real. But Maddie, I believe it now."

From Ava's tone, Madeline could hear that she really had let go of her hatred for Jeremy.

As Madeline's best friend over the years, Ava always hated Jeremy.

Even though Madeline no longer resented Jeremy for what he did to her at the beginning, Ava always hated him. Ava thought that Madeline did not deserve such treatment and resented him for Madeline.

At that moment, however, she no longer resented him.

That was because she saw Jeremy's true heart for Madeline.

However, it felt as if everything was too late.

Madeline and Ryan were married. She was already Ryan's wife.

"Sigh..."

Ava looked at the river in front of them and sighed with a smile.

"Maddie, I finally understand how you felt back then. Even if you were tortured by the man you loved, you were still happy."

Madeline read in between the lines of Ava's words and asked, "Ava, did something happen between you and Dan?"

"If something happened between us, perhaps I wouldn't be leaving, but it's a shame..." Ava closed her eyes and thought about what happened after she got drunk that night. "Maddie, it turns out that alcohol makes you do stupid things with other people."

"Ava? Did you and Dan..."

"No, it wasn't Dan." Ava lowered her eyes in a lonesome manner, turned around, and hugged Madeline

again. “Maddie, stay happy and don’t miss me too much. When I get married, I want Jack and Lillian to be my flower girl and boy.”

Although Madeline did not know why Ava had to leave in such a hurry, and added to the fact that she did not explain fully what happened on the night she got drunk, Madeline could tell that it was something to do with Daniel.

However, since Ava did not want to say, Madeline did not prod further.

She accompanied Ava around the neighborhood until she got a call from Karen, saying that the baby woke up crying. Madeline had no choice but to go back.

After she went back and coaxed the little baby back to sleep, Madeline looked at the photo in her hand in a daze.

It was the graduation photo of her and Ava, but Jeremy was inside the frame as well.

Jeremy was their senior who had already graduated, so he should not have been at the graduation ceremony—but he was.

In the photo, he was looking at her with a warm look in his eyes.

He really liked her at that time.

However, so what?

It was already over.

Madeline put the photo in the drawer, looked at the little baby lying beside her, and closed her eyes tiredly.

...

It was late into the night, but the lights were still on in Jeremy's office.

Lana was still lying in the hospital at the moment, so he had to make good use of the time to plan tomorrow's affairs.

By the time he finished his work, it was almost early in the morning.

His body was a little tired, but when he looked at the family portrait, it felt as if his body was fully charged again.

"Linnie."

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He whispered Madeline's name, stroked her face in the photo, and could not help but cough out loudly.

He quickly took a painkiller, but he still could not stop the bloody taste coming from deep in his throat.

Jeremy wiped the blood from his lips with a tissue and glanced at the bloodstain. It was a deep brown and did not look like normal fresh blood.

Besides that, there was a stabbing pain in his heart, and his fingers were trembling involuntarily.

Once the poison developed by Adam entered the final stage, not only would it torture the person's body, but it would also test the person's psychology harshly.

Jeremy spent the night in the bedroom at the office.

As soon as he got up the next day, he received a call from Lana.

After the woman was discharged from the hospital, her emotions swelled up and she high-spiritedly told Jeremy that she wanted to follow along to close the deal.

The truth was that Jeremy initially wanted to think of a reason to get Lana to attend as well. The show would not be able to go on without her.

Lana went back to the villa first and picked out a dress that she thought was the most beautiful dress she owned.

Fabian had just called Madeline and was about to go over to see Lillian. As soon as he left his room, he saw Lana approaching energetically.

"Why are you dressed like a streetwalker? Where are you going?" Fabian said bluntly, which made Lana feel as if she had just been splashed with a bucket of cold water.

Lana glared at Fabian. "Didn't you guys complain about me holding back the Stygian Johnson Gang and

causing the company to lose a hundred million dollars? Well, this is me going to earn that hundred million dollars back!”

Fabian doubted her. “Wow, Lana, are you really going to do it?”

“Why? Am I supposed to wait for you to do it?” Lana fired back and sneered at Fabian, “Actually, Fabian, the most useless sibling among the three of us is you. What have you done? All you do is eat out, have fun, and enjoy your life. What have you amounted to besides that? Have you ever made a deal for us? Do you even know how to close a deal? If it weren’t for me and Yorick, you would’ve starved to death!”

“Lana, how can you say that to Fab?” Yorick interrupted, dissatisfied. “Fab is still young. It’s for his own good that he doesn’t get involved with the company for now. How can you say that as his big sis?”

“Well you’re my big brother, but what have you ever done for me?” Lana gritted her teeth angrily, but then, she smiled confidently. “Don’t worry, I’ll be making a deal with Jeremy later that will make us a profit of more than a hundred million bucks! Just wait and see!”

Lana walked to the door confidently and changed into the perfect high heels that matched her dress. It seemed as if she had completely forgotten that she was pregnant. She got two bodyguards to carry a box, and together, they set off. Inside the box was illegal firearms.

After taking the painkiller, Jeremy arrived at Central Square at the appointed time.

As soon as he arrived, he saw Lana happily running toward him with her high heels. It felt as if the bleeding yesterday was no big deal to her.

Lana looked at Jeremy who was in a business suit. Her eyes were filled with obsessiveness. “Jeremy, you look even more attractive today than yesterday. I can’t believe a man like you is so attracted to me. I really think that I love you even more now.”

Lana was full of praise, but her tone then turned serious. “The client will arrive early. Let’s go to the

private dining area to wait.”

Jeremy’s long fingers adjusted his cuffs and his tie clip that was adorned with sapphires. He grinned as he looked at Lana. “It’s time for business.”

“Yeah.” Lana looked like a little woman as she followed Jeremy into the designated private dining area.

After a while, the client who had made the appointment also arrived.

He was a fat middle-aged man who looked like he never had to lift a finger in his life. He brought four bodyguards with him. The man seemed to be very interested in Lana. After checking the goods brought by Lana’s men without paying much attention, he was ready to sign the contract.

Jeremy looked at him calmly. When he saw that both Lana and the man had signed the contracts, the corners of his lips lifted into a smile. He moved his hand to his ear and gently pressed the Bluetooth headset he had on.

As soon as he pressed it, one of the fat man’s bodyguards suddenly walked up to him and pointed at Jeremy’s tie clip. “He has a miniature spycam on his body and may have taken pictures of the transaction just now!”

When Lana heard the bodyguard, she looked at Jeremy who had a cold expression on his face. “What nonsense are you talking about? This is my boyfriend. He wouldn’t take pictures of something like this.”

Although the fat man liked Lana very much, he was even more concerned about whether Jeremy really had a spycam on his body, so he walked over and asked, “Take off your tie clip and let my people check if there really is a spycam. This is a huge business transaction. I don’t want to make a mistake either.”

“Mr. Howie, don’t you trust me? This is my boyfriend. He and I are on the same team. Why would he betray himself by leaving dangerous traces for people to get us?” Lana defended Jeremy. When she saw that they still looked suspicious, Lana walked to Jeremy. “Jeremy, can you take off the tie clip and show

them how wrong they are?”

When she said that, Jeremy stood up slowly. Lana curled her lips up in satisfaction and waited for Jeremy to take off the tie clip. However, Jeremy only looked at her coldly. “No, there’s no need to take the tie clip off. They’re right. There’s a mini spycam on it.”

“...” Lana was dumbfounded. “J-Jeremy? Why are you recording this?”

Jeremy raised his cold eyebrows as a delighted smile flashed across his eyes. “To capture the culprit in the act and serve as evidence in court, of course.”

“What?” Lana was stunned. Before she had time to clarify what he meant, the door of the private dining area suddenly opened.

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Lana was stupefied and stared at Jeremy’s cold face blankly. She turned her head abruptly to look toward the door, and so did the fat man.

A few tall men in business suits walked toward them sternly with blue badges hanging around their necks.

“Who are you guys? Who let you in? Don’t you see that this room is booked? Get out immediately!” Lana drove them away with displeasure, clearly not noticing the seriousness of the situation.

Of course, the men did not leave but looked at Lana with a serious expression. The leader in the business suit showed Lana his badge. “We’re with the Interpol. There’s proof for us to believe that you’re doing illegal transactions. You have the right to remain silent, but anything you say can be used against you in court.

“...”

'Interpol?!

'The International Criminal Police Organization?!'

Lana looked at the people who had appeared in front of her incredulously, her brain going blank for a moment.

When the fat man and his bodyguards saw that things were going awry, they had to fight back, but the Interpol personnel were all well-trained. They were able to control them with ease.

"Lana, I wasted my trust on you! How dare you and your boyfriend set us up and frame us?!" the fat man yelled at Lana.

It was only then when Lana snapped out of it. She had been completely stunned, and after being scolded, she suddenly recovered from the shock as she looked at the man who stood behind her. He did not look surprised and was very calm and unfazed.

Lana still had a deep love for Jeremy in her eyes. When she turned and walked toward him, she asked, "What the hell is going on? Jeremy, did you..."

She was walking toward Jeremy with a perplexed look, but before she reached him, Jeremy suddenly raised his right hand. There was a gun in his hand that was pointed at Lana's forehead.

Lana's body went cold for a moment as she felt a chill rushing from the soles of her feet.

"J-Jeremy..."

"Do you really think that I'd be your man?"

“...”

Lana was stunned when she heard the mockery in Jeremy's voice.

At that moment, Jeremy's handsome face was ice-cold while those charming and alluring eyes of his looked like there was a furious storm in them.

Lana was completely stunned. She then saw Jeremy's sexy thin lips moving slightly as he mouthed two words.

“Game over.”

“...”

Lana looked defeated, but she still did not want to believe everything that was happening. She could not accept such a change all at once.

“How is it possible? No, it can't be...” she muttered to herself. She was staring at Jeremy with a bewildered look, still wanting to move closer to him.

When she took another step closer to him, Jeremy moved the gun so that it was right on her forehead.

Lana's eyes widened in confusion. “Jeremy?”

“Don't ever say my name again. You don't deserve to.”

“...”

“Did you really think that I was in love with you?” Jeremy’s expression was stone-cold. There was even no warmth in the corners of his eyes. “Lana, I’ve only ever loved one woman in my entire life, and it’s Eveline.”

“No... How is it possible... This is impossible...”

“Did you really think that if you have control over my life, I’ll heed your every word and cling to you forever? You’ve underestimated me, Lana. No one can get me to do anything except the people I love. But you’re not the one I love. You’re only a key for me to enter the Stygian Johnson Gang so that I can get the accounts and be the final chess piece for a checkmate.”

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“...”

Lana was on the verge of collapsing internally when she heard Jeremy’s comment.

“No! This is impossible!”

She roared, unable to accept the fact that all this while, she had just been a pawn to Jeremy.

“No, Jeremy. You love me. I’m even pregnant with your kid. How is it possible that you don’t love me?!” Lana emphasized.

However, Jeremy was not bothered at all.

The colleagues of IBCI came up to arrest Lana. Seeing the situation made her reach out for a pistol from her purse.

“Who dares arrest me?!” She raised her head proudly and stared at Jeremy who was all calm. She slowly became devastated. “Jeremy, stop cracking jokes with me. Are you trying to tell me you’re just a spy from IBCI sent here to the Stygian Johnson Gang? Hmph, how is this even possible? Don’t you forget, there’s still poison inside your body. Without me, you’ll—”

“Do you really think you’ll be able to have control over me with that stuff?” Jeremy interrupted and counter-questioned. He then raised the corner of his eyes and added, “The moment I reappeared before you is the moment I sentenced you to your death. Lana, I’ve long ago not smoked the cigarettes you provided. The ones I’m smoking are provided by a professor from IBCI who specially designed them for me. It’s used to counter the toxins and poison.”

“...” The only shred of confidence left in Lana was gone.

‘It turns out he has stopped smoking the cigarettes I gave!’

It turned out his intention behind getting close to her was all for that single moment, to grasp concrete evidence and arrest her!

Lana found her mind in a messed-up state. She could not compose herself from her emotions. She suddenly pulled the trigger and shot the IBCI members.

However, those members of the IBCI were agile enough to dodge Lana’s bullet.

Lana was unsatisfied and wanted to continue firing. Jeremy went up at lightning speed and grasped the gun from Lana’s hand. Just when he was restraining her, Jeremy took out a handcuff from his waist and placed it over Lana’s hands.

“Lana, as an investigator of the IBCI with an SSA identity, I hereby arrest you.”

“...”

Lana was dumbfounded.

Her eyes were gigantic as she stared at Jeremy who was handcuffing her.

She had heard Jeremy revealing his identity a few seconds ago. 'People in the IBCI with the SSA rank are no ordinary investigators.'

"You're such a fool, Lana! You got a spy to become your boyfriend! All those achievements that we worked so hard on, they're now gone in the hands of a fool like you!" The obese man roared.

Lana froze as she stared at the man who was personally placing the handcuffs on her.

"No, I'm not buying this... I don't believe it!"

Lana still could not accept the fact.

"Jeremy, I don't believe that you have no feelings for me! If you don't like me, why did you spend every night with me? Besides, how did I even end up being pregnant with your kid?"

Jeremy glanced at Lana who was having a hopeful look on her face. Without emotions, he asked, "Did you really think that I'm the one who's spending every night with you?"

"What do you mean?"

"Hmph." Jeremy's eyes were full of ridicule. "In my entire life, except for the lady I love, I've never touched another woman, let alone an evil woman like you who has a rotten heart."

Lana's head was throbbing when she heard Jeremy's scornful reply. "You're muttering gibberish. It's obviously you. I clearly saw it with my eyes, it's you! The child in my womb is also yours!"

"You've got it wrong, Lana. The person you saw was not me, but him." Jeremy slowly raised his eyes and looked forward...

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Following Jeremy's gaze, Lana turned to face the doorway as well.

The face that she saw made her recall the night when Jeremy halted her at the entrance of the pub.

That night itself, she was very afraid that Jeremy would once again attempt to kill her. Anxious, she thought of leaving the scene but was stopped by Jeremy. He asked her for some cigarettes and even agreed to book a room with her together.

She had a joyful night because she gained her dream crush.

The next day when they had to leave the room, right when she opened the door, she saw a man behaving inappropriately while staring at her with a lewd look.

That moment, as she was on cloud nine, she ignored him.

However, at this moment, the man from that day reappeared before her!

"Lana, have you seen it clearly with your eyes? This is the man that got you pregnant."

"..."

After hearing Jeremy's explanation and looking at the hateful, disgusting man, Lana felt quite suffocated. "Impossible! How is it even possible that I'm pregnant with this man's kid?!"

She roared while glancing at the man's ugly face.

That man was a thug with no educational background. He did not know what was going on at that moment. However, he knew Lana was cursing him.

That man spat saliva at Lana scornfully. "You think I'm disgusting? I also feel the same way about you. If it's not because of the money from this handsome guy, I wouldn't even want to lay my hands on you. Your scrawny body is just like a washing board."

"You... What did you just say?!" Lana was utterly infuriated as she raised her foot and kicked the man's body.

After the man evaded the kick, he started counting the remaining amount of cash Jeremy had given him. Then, he fled the scene gladly.

Lana was apoplectic with rage. She wanted to chase after that man, but suddenly, she felt an intense pain in her abdomen. There were drops of blood dripping from her lower body.

Bearing the pain, she grabbed onto her stomach. Her face gradually turned pale, but she still fixed her eyes on Jeremy who did not even bother to sneak a peek at her. Her mouth was muttering, "I don't believe it, I'll never believe it... Jeremy, you love me..."

She kept hypnotizing herself and lying to herself until she passed out.

Jeremy stood looking at her with an icy gaze from a corner, witnessing Lana passing out cold. However, he still felt that the anger within him was not vented.

Thinking back of his little princess who was tossed into the swimming pool by Lana and how she ended up not speaking a word after being traumatized, it just made the fire of anger within him grow stronger.

The scene that was taking place in the restaurant puzzled the crowd who were shopping along the streets. All they could see was a group of gentlemen in formal attire, along with a few fully armed special forces entering and filing out of the restaurant. Then, they saw those on duty arresting a group of people.

Jeremy was still standing in the room. He took off his tie clip and handed it to the man who led the troop.

The man took over the tie clip and threw a respectful gaze toward Jeremy. "Mission accomplished. Jeremy, we'll take over the rest from here. You should hurry and go to the professor to have your treatment. Get rid of all the poison from your body. With that, only you can lead a normal life."

'A normal life?'

Jeremy no longer held on to any hope.

"As for your family, I'll personally go to them and explain every detail to your wife."

Jeremy smiled disappointedly. "She's no longer my wife."

The man kept his mouth shut after hearing his reply. Then, he added, "Jeremy, actually, there's still a chance between you and Ms. Eveline. There must be some misunderstanding, and there might be some things that you're not aware of. Ryan—"

"Boss, Lana's chauffeur has escaped. He might be heading to Yorick to report about this." An investigator rushed to the scene to report.

"Stop him at all costs. Have another group of our colleagues to keep an eye on Yorick's every

movement.”

“Roger.”

That investigator immediately carried out the task as told. The man who was conversing with Jeremy recomposed himself and got ready to lead the troop to arrest Yorick.

Before they left, he reminded Jeremy once more. “Hurry and go look for the professor. You must not delay your treatment any longer.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1076

Jeremy stared at the group of people who were leaving. Only after the crowd dispersed did he leave the room.

He was very clear that even if he recovered, he could never be with Madeline again.

The lives of Eloise and Sean would always keep them separated.

Their love would not topple the tall wall easily.

He also knew that for now, no one could cure the poison developed by Adam. Perhaps Adam himself had no cure for it as well.

Jeremy had long ago made up his decision.

All alone, he drove his way to Whitman Manor, hoping to bid his last farewell.

Madeline was accompanying her three kids back in Whitman Manor. She looked at the time, and it was

almost time to head over to the airport to pick up Ava.

At that moment, there was a piece of breaking news popping up on her phone's screen.

Madeline clicked on the news and looked at it. She saw a few video clips being taken by passersby.

The location was at a famous restaurant in the center of town, and in the video, Madeline saw Lana, who was putting on a sorrowful look, being taken away. She also saw the handcuffs on Lana's wrists.

'Lana was arrested?'

'Are those police officers who arrested her?'

Madeline clicked into the latest video that was uploaded by the netizens. She wanted to know more about the incident, but suddenly, she encountered a video mentioning Jeremy.

In that video, Jeremy was in a dark blue suit. His elegant outline brushed through the crowd. His stunning facial features attracted many ladies' attention. They were all staring at him with looks of admiration, which was why the video named 'The coincidence with Young Master Whitman' was uploaded.

Madeline kept looking at the videos over and over again without her realizing it. She felt her heart aching the moment she saw Jeremy on the screen.

At that moment, Madeline suddenly received the call from Daniel. Snapped out of it and remembered she had to rush over to the airport.

She placed her kids under the care of Karen, then started her car to head to the airport.

Just when she was about to answer Daniel's call, the phone beside her fell beside her foot because of the vibrations.

Madeline stopped her car and lowered her head to pick it up. Coincidentally, she missed Jeremy, who was driving his car, coming from the opposite.

After Madeline picked up her phone, she felt something was off and turned her gaze to face the rear-view mirror. However, she merely glanced at the mirror. She then heard Daniel's concerned voice from her Bluetooth earphones.

"Are you alright, Eveline?"

"I'm fine. I just dropped my phone," Madeline replied, not paying full attention as her eyes were still eyeing the car in the rear-view mirror that was driving further away.

Jeremy rushed to Whitman Manor and did not notice the car that was parked at the roadside earlier. He did not think that Madeline would coincidentally bend down to pick up her phone right as he passed by her.

He finally arrived at Whitman Manor but remained in the car for a long time, not having the courage to step out from his car.

He longed to meet Madeline but was afraid at the same time.

Jeremy only decided to step out of his car after he saw his two kids playing in the backyard while Karen was hugging onto Pudding.

Jack, who was about to accompany Lillian to play with the kite, turned around and saw Jeremy walking over to them. "It's Daddy. Daddy's back home!"

Lillian heard it and shifted her gaze to look at where Jack was staring.

The sight of Jeremy made the smile on Lillian's doll-like face gradually fade while her eyes gave off a sense of loneliness.

She handed the kite to Jack, spun around, and entered the house. However, perhaps she was too anxious and tripped on the stairs.

"Lillian!"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1077

Karen suddenly heard Jeremy's voice. The moment she turned to look at him, he was already like a gusty wind that passed by her at lightning speed. He arrived next to Lillian.

Lillian had tripped and was about to land on the big marble floor. However, Lillian fell into the arms of Jeremy instead.

The little girl was dumbfounded. While still in a daze, she spun around and looked at the man who had caught hold of her.

Jeremy's eyes were glistening with warmth. He was heartbroken. "Are you alright, Lillian?"

He asked, feeling concerned while touching the little girl's head.

He was in excruciating pain thinking back to the moment when he ignored his child who had fallen before him.

Lillian looked at Jeremy, but no words came out from her. There was no change in her expression and she just blinked her eyes.

Jeremy knew this was because of the incident that occurred previously, which made Lillian have a bad impression of him.

In the eyes of the little girl, the handsome mister before her was no longer handsome. The impression of him deep in her innocent soul had changed as well.

Feeling heartbroken, Jeremy looked at the doll-like face that looked like Madeline's and was ready to let go of her.

Just when he was about to release his grip and place the child down, Lillian suddenly opened up her arms and hugged him around his neck tightly.

Jeremy was stunned and surprised. Feeling the warmth of the little kid gluing herself to him made his eyes wet with tears.

"Lillian."

He raised his hand that was trembling slightly to touch the cute little girl's head, having the urge to hug his little princess dearly. He wanted to spoil her with love and protect her till she was a grown-up.

However, he had not much time left.

Jeremy wanted to indulge in the warmth of the little kid for a little while longer, but Lillian tapped on his shoulder.

She did not speak a word, but Jeremy understood the message she was trying to convey. He placed her on the floor cautiously.

The moment he placed her down, Lillian immediately spun around and ran into the house.

Jeremy thought that perhaps the little girl was still rejecting him. He felt his heart sink as his body turned icy cold, but very soon, another warm little hand touched his.

“Daddy, Mommy said you’ll be back, and you really did come back.” There was a delightful smile on Jackson’s handsome little face.

Jeremy bent down and hugged his sensible eldest son.

“Oh, Jack.”

“Daddy, Mommy just left to see Auntie Ava off at the airport. When Mommy returns, let’s all go for dinner at the revolving restaurant together, alright?”

Jackson asked as he blinked his big eyes. His eyes were full of anticipation for his family to be reunited once again.

Jeremy gave a gentle smile and touched the little guy’s head. “Alright, let’s all go for dinner.”

He agreed, and the smile on Jackson’s face grew wider.

However, Karen, who was watching the entire scene from the side, was not as enthusiastic as she used to be. She looked at Jeremy and said coldly, “You still remember to come back and have a look at your kids, huh? Yesterday, for the sake of that evil woman who destroyed your family, you even pushed Eveline in front of your kids. Have you forgotten that the woman who you pushed is the woman you cried and pleaded with to return to your side?”

This was the first time Jeremy heard Karen lecturing him.

However, this was good as it at least proved that Eveline, as a daughter-in-law, occupied some space within Karen's heart.

Karen was infuriated when she saw Jeremy chuckling away after being lectured by her.

"Jeremy, what's going with you? With the way you treat Eveline, don't tell me you really don't care about her anymore? Your grandpa said that at the very beginning, you acted all unbothered about Eveline but had begged him to arrange a marriage ceremony between you and Eveline. You love her so much, yet why do you still want to be with Lana? And you even got her pregnant with your kid?"

Facing Karen's pestering, Jeremy remained silent.

He just stood there, staring at the infant who was moving his limbs. He then got up and said, "Can I carry him?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1078

Despite Karen being unhappy about Jeremy's cold behavior, she did not object to his request to carry his child.

Jeremy held the infant in his arms, and the next second, the baby revealed a bright smile to him. He let out coos and started to blabber.

However, he would soon be unable to witness this innocent smile anymore.

Lowering his head, Jeremy gave a kiss on the baby's little face and handed Pudding back to Karen. He then touched Jackson's head and said, "Jack, keep your sister accompany. When your brother is old enough, tell him that I love him and I love all of you as well."

Then, heartbroken, he spun around.

“Jeremy, where are you going off to this time?” Karen pestered.

Jackson quickly caught up to Jeremy. “Dad, didn’t you just say that you’re going to have dinner with us? Aren’t you going to wait for Mommy’s return?”

Jeremy’s footstep came to a halt. “I’m not worth your mommy waiting for me again. Jack, from now onward, the man with the name Ryan will be your father.”

Jeremy choked. He went straight into his car and started the engine.

“Daddy, Daddy!” Jackson ran to catch up with Jeremy and shouted at the man who was sitting firmly in his car. “I only want my dad!”

Jeremy’s eyes reddened. Listening to the cries of his kid, he sealed his lips and ruthlessly slammed on the gas pedal.

“Daddy!” Jackson’s eyes got red.

Lillian, whose soul was healed after being hugged by Jeremy, had happily ran into the house to retrieve her drawings of the entire family. However, when she came out of the house, all she could see was Jackson chasing after Jeremy’s car which was driving straight ahead.

Lillian stared at the car that was going farther away while her little hand that was holding onto the drawing gradually dropped to her side.

The wind blew away the drawing in her hand while blowing away the innocent smile on her doll-like face too.

The drawing danced along with the wind and ended up landing on the icy cold ground. The colors on the drawing looked like they had suddenly changed into gray.

Her cute little mouth trembled, but no words came out of it.

“Jack, stop chasing!” Karen handed Pudding over to the servant and ran to catch hold of Jackson who kept chasing after the car till he eventually fell on the ground.

She carried her grandchildren while feeling heartbroken and looked at Jeremy’s car which had vanished from sight. She was feeling crossed and sad.

...

On the other hand, Yorick got to know about the incident of Lana getting arrested by IBCI via Lana’s chauffeur.

The IBCI was an international crime investigation center. The motive of establishing the organization was to prioritize the safety of the citizens by investigating all sorts of heavy crimes. Among them was the smuggling of army weapons and money laundering.

Yorick immediately activated the emergency backup plan and ordered Fabian to remain silent.

Despite Fabian being a member of the Stygian Johnson Gang, he had never participated in any illegal stuff. Hence, he was not afraid of getting investigated but was still worried about Lana and Yorick.

Even though he did not acknowledge Lana’s way of getting things done, he still cared for his family. He would be lying if he said he did not care about her.

Indeed, the IBCI arrived in a moment.

Yorick put on an innocent look and denied whatever things Lana had done. Along with Fabian, they were both brought back to the respective departments to be interrogated.

Soon, Jeremy arrived as well, except that he had not freed himself from the painful feeling of having to separate from his three kids.

If he had the choice, he would want to spend more time with his kids. He wanted to see them grow up and accompany his beloved till she became old.

However, things never went as he wished them to. He would eventually become a memory which she would not want to recall, slowly fading away from her memories and life.

Jeremy recomposed himself. After entering, someone came to notify him that Lana would like to meet him.

Lana just underwent an operation and was in the custodial ward. Seeing Jeremy's arrival made her sit up immediately. Her reddened eyes on her pale face fixed their gaze upon Jeremy's stony expression. Then, she suddenly burst into manic laughter.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1079

The guard stared at Lana, who was laughing like a maniac, with an indifferent look.

Jeremy raised his hand to beckon, and that guard spun around to file out the scene.

In the custodial ward, only Jeremy and Lana were there.

Lana laughed for a moment and suddenly put on a long face, looking rather sorrowful while she stared at the man who appeared indifferent.

“Jeremy, Jeremy, tell me. The things that happened earlier aren’t the truth, right? How is it possible? We’ve gotten so close to each other during this time. We were so happy being together every day. How can you treat me this way?”

“Jeremy, tell me, why?”

Hearing the cries of Lana and looking at her sorrowful self, she made those who did not know about the incident pity her.

However, after Jeremy heard her, his gaze became much sterner and sharper.

He took big strides and came in front of Lana. His long fingers grasped tightly around Lana’s neck while his icy cold gaze was just like a sharp blade. He said, “You still have the guts to ask me why?”

Jeremy’s almond-shaped eyes gave off a chilly vibe as his grasp on Lana’s neck tightened slightly.

“Think back to how you’ve treated my loved one, my kids, and the things you did to me. I’ve already gone past my limit to allow you to live till this moment.”

Lana was gasping for breath under his grip. Her pale face became flushed due to the lack of air.

Jeremy’s icy gaze was as cold as the blizzard as he glared at Lana’s face that was contorted from the pain.

Jeremy did not intend to just make her suffer physically but to hurt her emotionally as well.

He wanted Lana to suffer both physically and mentally, making her feel the worst this world had to offer.

Jeremy threw a piece of mirror in front of Lana. Still grabbing onto her neck, he forced her to the front of the mirror.

“Lana, just look at you. No matter how perfect your plastic surgery is, I can still see through that nasty heart of yours. A woman like you won’t get the affection of any man in this world because you don’t deserve it.”

“...”

“Did you think that I was the one with you every single night? I’m going to tell you this right now. Whatever you saw at night were just your illusions.”

“...” Lana’s face went scarlet. Gritting her teeth, she could not accept the fact that she thought she had obtained the heart of the man before her when in fact, the man who was with her every night was not Jeremy Whitman!

She even fantasized about working along with this man, and when they had earned enough money, they would both travel around the world. Even when she got to know that she was pregnant, she was so thrilled that she wanted to have a family with him.

Unfortunately, it was just her imagination!

She had fallen hard for the man before her, but that man did not express mutual feelings and even bore hatred for her—to the point where he wanted her to suffocate to death.

“Ah, ahah...”

Lana chuckled and stared at Jeremy’s exasperated face as she laughed grimly.

“Jeremy, you still look so mesmerizing even when you’re mad...” She gasped for air. “Ah, you’re

extremely mad, right? You're mad because I used you, burned your parents-in-law to death, and made you unable to live with your loved ones forever!"

After hearing Lana's provocative speech, Jeremy's gaze became much more intense as he exerted more strength into his fingers.

"Argh..." Lana widened her eyes, trying hard to suppress the tears that came streaming down her face anyway.

Feeling disgusted, Jeremy let go of his hand.

Lana fell to the wall and kept taking in big mouthfuls of fresh air.

"Ha, haha..."

Lana started laughing again after seeing Jeremy unhappy.

"Jeremy, it's a good thing getting you mad at me. At least this is also a way to make you remember me. However, don't you forget this. You might not be able to get rid of the poison in your body so easily. You won't be able to live long if you leave me."

Jeremy put on a stony look and glanced at Lana. "Whether I'll live long enough, do you think you'll be able to die peacefully?"

"..." Lana raised her head to look at the subtle gaze of the man that sent chills down her spine.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1080

Jeremy inched nearer to her and spat out cold comments. "In those cups of coffee that you used to drink every morning, as well as the glass of lukewarm milk I personally handed to you yesterday, I've added something special in all of them."

“...”

“It’s the exact thing which you added in your cigarettes, as well as the stuff that I ate. The only difference is that I’ve added a larger portion.”

“What?!” Lana opened her eyes wide. “You... How did you get your hands on that?”

Jeremy’s gaze became sharp. “Have you forgotten what you asked Adam to prescribe to Eveline?”

“...” Lana started getting anxious after she heard that statement. “No, it’s impossible! If I had really consumed it, why am I not experiencing any side effects?!”

“Of course you won’t because I’ve changed your cigarettes as well.”

“...” Jeremy’s answer left Lana dumbfounded.

“From now onward, if you don’t smoke those cigarettes, you’ll then slowly start to experience the same thing I went through previously till the day you meet your death.

“Lana, Fabian was right about you. You’re a woman who thinks so highly of herself. Because of you, you’ve destroyed the entire Stygian Johnson Gang.”

Lana’s expression went pale as a sheet, and she suddenly lost all her strength and became helpless.

She had been too careless.

She overestimated her abilities and even underestimated Jeremy’s abilities.

She dug her own grave, as well as paid the price with the entire Stygian Johnson Gang.

Lana was anxious. She stared at Jeremy's silhouette spinning around elegantly. She dragged along the handcuffs that were connected to the bed, yelling, "Don't leave, Jeremy! If I'm dead, you'll never know the truth behind your parents-in-law's deaths!"

Jeremy came to a halt and spoke without turning around, "For now, I'm not interested to know the truth. All I want is for you to be dead."

"..."

...

At Glendale airport.

Madeline got down from her car in the parking lot and bumped into Daniel who was hurriedly getting down from the car.

"There's still another ten minutes. Ava will be checking-in," said Madeline while rushing to the departure lounge with Daniel.

Thinking back to what Ava said last night, Madeline was curious and asked, "Hey Dan, the day I married Rye, I asked you to send Ava back home. Did something happen that night?"

Her question made his stunning face turn pink.

Madeline was confident that Daniel was somehow related to what Ava said about having intimacy after she got drunk.

'But Ava seemed to not take it that way?'

Madeline was deep in her thoughts. Seeing that Daniel was all nervous, she pestered, "Dan, do you wish that Ava will continue staying in Glendale?"

"Of course," Daniel seemed to answer without thinking twice.

Madeline let out a breath of relief. "I'm glad to hear that. Ava will never leave, then."

Daniel came to a halt, puzzled. He looked at Madeline who had a faint smile on her face. "Why?"

"I guess I'll leave it to Ava to answer that," Madeline replied with a smile. Soon, her phone rang.

Madeline looked at the unfamiliar incoming call. She was astonished but still picked up.

"Miss Montgomery, I'm calling from Glendale Advanced Laboratory." Madeline slowly stopped her footsteps. She beckoned to Daniel, asking him to go ahead and search for Ava.

"Nice to meet you, I'm Eveline Montgomery. Please continue." Madeline started feeling nervous suddenly without her realizing it.

"Nice to meet you, Miss Montgomery. So, here's the deal. We've got the results for the unidentified sample on the sample note you brought that day. It's human blood."

"It's blood?" Madeline found herself astonished, not forgetting the note had Jeremy's scent. "But how can blood be that color?" Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1081

After Madeline asked that question, she felt her heart beating at an erratic pace.

'That's a human's blood.'

'But isn't human blood supposed to be red? Why is it that color instead?'

While still deep in her thought, the analyst answered over the phone, "The thing is, according to our investigation, this blood sample seems to have undergone some mutation. We've also found some unknown samples that require further investigations to know what it is.

"But there's no doubt it's human blood," the forensic physician repeated the last statement in a confident tone.

Madeline's hand that was holding onto the phone stiffened. She then robotically blurted out two words, "Thank you."

After hanging up the call, her mind kept rewinding the phrases spoken by the forensic physician.

'That's human blood.'

'And it's mutated human blood.'

Madeline was very confident that the note had been with Jeremy earlier, but she could not be sure whether the blood belonged to Jeremy.

'If it's really Jeremy's blood, then what does this even mean...'

Madeline was confused. She forced herself to stop thinking about it and jogged her way to the departure lounge.

Just when she entered the hall, Madeline saw Daniel's anxious outline. She ran to him, "Dan, haven't you found Ava yet?"

Daniel's eyes were glittering with anxiousness. "Do you think she has already entered the plane after having her tickets checked?"

Madeline scanned through each departing lounge's entrance and was unable to provide an appropriate answer.

She took out her phone. "I'm going to make a call."

As soon as she made the call, Madeline heard a very familiar ringtone nearby. She raised her gaze and looked over Daniel's shoulders. She noticed Ava who was clumsily searching for her phone.

"Ava!" Madeline called out, delighted.

Daniel and Ava both raised their eyes at the same time. Daniel quickly spun around and followed Madeline's gaze to look behind him.

Ava was walking straight ahead and could not stop in time, so she ended up crashing hard into Daniel's arms.

Daniel quickly grabbed hold of her. The feel of her physique falling into his arms felt as if something had filled up the emptiness within his heart.

Ava did not expect Daniel to appear at this moment and even hug her so suddenly, which made her heart skip a beat.

She could sniff out the faint scent of wild bluebell in his cologne.

Ava raised her head, revealing a panicked look in her eyes. She suddenly recalled spending the night with a stranger and that made her quickly escape from Daniel's arms.

Her gesture made Daniel feel slightly heartbroken.

He lowered his gaze. "Do you really have to go?"

Ava pretended to pack her purse and let out a wide smile. "Dan, I didn't expect you to show up as well."

She spoke as she strolled to Madeline's side. "Maddie, it's enough for you to see me off. Dan is actually pretty busy. Why did you even get him here as well?"

Madeline noticed Ava's fake smile on her face. Madeline then put on a troubled look while frowning. "Ava, I didn't know you didn't want to meet Dan? If that's the case, I'll have Dan immediately head home first."

“...” Ava froze up after hearing her reply.

However, Dan did not catch Madeline’s implicit message. He did not budge an inch but went up to Ava with a serious face.

He stared at Ava, who seemed nervous, with a pair of eyes that were abnormally stern.

Daniel took out a folded hundred-dollar note from his pocket and gave it to Ava.

Ava looked at the folded note and suddenly thought of the day she got drunk.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1082

Nonetheless, she was clueless about Daniel’s action. Why would he give her a hundred-dollar note?

“If you don’t feel like leaving, then keep this hundred-dollar note.” Daniel’s expression was serious.

“Getting to know a person till falling in love with each other takes up a lot of energy and time. There’s another option for you, and that is to be with me. From then on, I’ll heed everything you say.”

“...”

“...”

Daniel’s speech left both Madeline and Ava astonished.

‘Is Daniel confessing his love or proposing a marriage?’

“Ava, I didn’t expect that you and Dan have come to this stage,” Madeline said.

“If that’s the case, then you shouldn’t leave. Dan is a good gentleman who you can rely on.”

However, Ava was lost and could not believe what was happening. Her heart was thumping fast. “Dan, what are you talking about?”

Daniel’s eyes became much more passionate. “Ava, I don’t hope our night that day will turn into a meaningless memory. Perhaps you’ll find it hard to believe in what I’m saying to you now. I don’t even know when it all started but I know that I’ve slowly become more concerned about you. There are still plenty of days to come and I’ll prove it to you that my love for you is from the bottom of my heart.”

“...”

Daniel was obviously confessing his love for Ava. Madeline, who was listening, felt happy for Ava. However, Ava was stunned.

‘How is this possible?’

The man who she had a crush on for so many years was now confessing to her?

Besides, Daniel’s mention of that night and the hundred-dollar note made her have some thoughts.

With widened eyes, Ava found it unbelievable as she thought to herself.

‘It can’t be... It just can’t be, right?’

'The man with me on that night was actually Dan?'

Ava thought of that possibility. The depressing emotions she had been having all this while suddenly transformed into excitement.

However, before she could further clarify the facts, a middle-aged woman who looked almost like Ava came to Ava's side. "Ava, it's time to check-in. Are these your friends?"

Daniel suddenly came up and held onto Ava's hand. "Nice to meet you, Aunty. I'm Ava's boyfriend."

His comment made both Madeline and Ava shocked.

The middle-aged woman was even more shocked. "What? You're Ava's boyfriend?"

Ava was dumbfounded, and no words were heard from her, but her face was obviously warming up. It turned scarlet, all the way to her ears.

"Ava, what's going on? Since when do you have a boyfriend?" The middle-aged woman pestered.

Ava looked into Daniel's anticipating eyes and grasped onto his hand subconsciously. "I'm not going to Y country. I want to stay on in Glendale."

"What? How could you?" The woman was expressing her disagreement.

"Why can't I?" Ava counter-questioned coldly. "You ditched me in Glendale all by myself for so many

years. Since when have you guys ever cared for me?"

The woman kept quiet after hearing her reply. Looking helpless, she just stared at Ava.

Ava did not speak another word. She grabbed Daniel's hand and spun around to leave the scene.

Madeline wanted to follow, but her phone rang once again.

It was Fabian who called, and he was speaking in a heavy tone. "Hey, can I meet you right now?"

Madeline thought about the breaking news she saw on the net not long ago about Lana getting arrested.

"You're planning to talk about Lana's case with me?" asked Madeline.

Fabian kept quiet for a few seconds, then answered, "No, I'm looking for you to know more about Jeremy's condition."

This intrigued Madeline's curiosity. She suddenly felt insecure. "Jeremy? What's up with him?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1083

Madeline was feeling perturbed and kept questioning, but Fabian claimed that speaking through the phone was rather inconvenient. Hence, he invited Madeline out to a place to meet up.

In the meantime, Madeline made her leave as she did not want to disturb Ava and Daniel's quality time together.

However, as soon as Madeline left, Ava felt uncomfortable and her heartbeat went erratic. Her face was unusually warm as well.

However, Daniel held onto Ava's hand naturally and walked along the streets with her as if it was nothing to him.

Ava felt as though she was in a wonderful dream, but this was only limited to being a spectacular dream and nothing else beyond it.

Madeline drove her car to where she was supposed to meet up with Fabian. As soon as she got out of her car, Fabian immediately strolled to her and asked with a stern expression, "Hey, do you know where Jeremy is right now?"

"You asked me to come all the way here just to know where Jeremy is?" Madeline was puzzled. "Why are you looking for him? Does it have something to do with Lana?"

Fabian frowned. "Lana has been arrested by the men from IBCI. My brother is still stuck in there, unable to free himself. Before that, Lana said she was going with Jeremy to discuss a business issue. It was then she got arrested. So, only Jeremy knows what went on at that moment."

"IBCI?" Madeline seemed to be familiar with the international crime investigation department, but as for the incident of Lana being arrested, she was not feeling the slightest pity for her.

'That lady has done so many evil things. All the events that are happening now are because of her own doings. There's no one to blame.

'However, for Jeremy...'

She thought back about this period of time when Jeremy spent so much time with Lana and even aided her in committing crimes.

'Is that the reason he's being pursued by the IBCI?'

Madeline shook her head. "I don't know where he is. I've cut ties with him."

Fabian let out a depressed sigh after getting his reply. "It's a punishment from the gods."

Madeline's eyes went icy after hearing his comment. "Are you empathizing with your brother and sister? In my opinion, even if Lana's dead, she's not worth the pity. As for Yorick, he should bear the responsibility for what he has done so far. In the end, they all deserve it for what they've done."

Fabian totally understood Madeline's current feelings.

"I'm very sorry." He offered his most sincere apology, especially when he thought about Lillian who up to this day could not speak a single word. It just made him feel even more hurt.

Madeline composed herself and looked at Fabian. "You did nothing wrong to me. You don't have to apologize. The person I hate is Lana."

She finished her statement and left the scene without turning around.

On her way back to Whitman Manor, Madeline kept thinking about Fabian's comments.

'Jeremy and Lana joined forces and did illegal tradings. Now Lana has been arrested, but Jeremy has gone missing.'

When the traffic light turned red, Madeline took out her phone and clicked on Jeremy's contact number but did not hit the call button.

"Eveline Montgomery, I hope this will be the last time. I don't wish to see you ever again."

His words that were full of loathing back from that day kept resonating in her ears.

Seeing that the traffic light had turned green, Madeline placed her phone back down and pressed on the accelerator.

She just got back to Whitman Manor when she received a call from Ryan. He said that he would be busy with business for these two days and would not have time to head back home. Hence, he asked for Madeline to stay at Whitman Manor for two days.

Madeline was unsure about Ryan's occupation. However, because of her trust in him, Madeline did not question him further.

After entering the house, she spotted her two children sitting on the sofa without speaking a word. The sight made her feel rather insecure.

'Lillian's already not talking, but now Jackson isn't talking either. What the hell is happening right now?'

"I'm back, Jack. What's wrong with you? Why aren't you greeting me?" Madeline expressed her concern.

Jackson raised his big teary eyes and mumbled, "Mommy, Daddy doesn't want us anymore."

Madeline was slightly dumbfounded, not knowing the reason behind the sudden comment given by her son.

At that moment, Karen came to the scene while carrying Pudding in her hands. "Earlier in the afternoon, Jeremy stopped by."

Madeline stood up abruptly. "Jeremy was here? When? Why did he come here?"

"When you went out just now. He came the moment you left." Karen looked troubled. "He only stayed for a few minutes. He didn't react no matter how Jack chased after him and called out to him."

When Madeline heard this, she felt an excruciating pain in her heart.

She also understood why Jackson looked so down.

It was because of his heartlessness and indifference.

"Jeremy was really brainwashed by Lana. Not only did he do that to you, but he's now even ignoring his own flesh and blood. Look, Jack fell and scraped his knee. As a father, he didn't even feel upset about it."

Madeline felt worse the more she heard about it. She walked back to Jackson and rolled his pants up. When she saw the bandage on the little guy's knee, she clenched her fist and walked to one side to call Jeremy.

She did not expect him to pick up so fast. Then, Madeline heard the sound of the wind but Jeremy was not saying anything.

"Jeremy, it's fine if you don't love me anymore, but why do you have to hurt us?" Madeline berated as she felt her heart cracking. "Does hurting the people who care about you and love you make you happy?"

"Jeremy, how can you be so savage?"

Jeremy was standing in an empty cemetery as he heard Madeline say the last sentence with a shaky voice. He stared in front of him dully and said coldly, "Eveline, are you done?" His words were like ice as he suppressed his emotions for her. "I don't want to hear your voice ever again."

He fought back without mercy and hung up.

A cold gust of wind grazed him, a cold feeling spread in his broken heart.

He never knew the wind in the summer could be so cold.

He lowered his hand that was holding the phone and looked at Eloise and Sean's tombstones. Then, he looked at the nameless tomb that was half their size.

'Linnie.

'Your voice is so sweet. I could feel my heart racing even when you were yelling at me.

'However, this might be the last time I hear your voice.'

He lifted his lifeless eyes and looked at the sky at dusk. Then, his vision turned black slowly...

On the other end, Madeline held her phone as tears welled in her eyes.

It was not enough for him to not want to see her, but he did not even want to hear her voice.

'Jeremy, do you really hate me now?'

...

After Lana stayed 24 hours in the custodial ward, she heard that someone was going to interrogate her today.

Perhaps it was all in her head but she started feeling horrible since last night. It was not because of her miscarriage, but rather, she felt that this was from the slow-acting poison that Adam created.

Lana did not expect that not only had Jeremy never touched her, but he also never liked her. Aside from framing her, he also came back to bite her in the bottom to let her get a taste of the slow-acting poison that had no cure.

As she was thinking about it, she felt her heart racing while her hands shook.

She wanted to smoke.

She longed for a cigarette to soothe the indescribable feeling in her chest.

“Hello? Anyone there?” Lana yelled hysterically.

Then, she heard muffled footsteps coming from outside the door.

After that, the door of the custodial ward was opened and Lana lifted her ferocious, pale face. When she was about to ask for a cigarette, she was stunned by the person she saw.

“You... Why are you here?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1085

Lana looked at the man in front of her in confusion.

“Why are you here? What are you doing here?” She glared at him, her eyes filled with disdain. “Why? Are you here to hit me when I’m down now that I’ve been arrested?”

She mocked while leaning against the wall lazily.

“Hmph, Eveline Montgomery is really something else. Both young masters from the Whitmans and Jones treat her as the love of their lives. I heard the only son of the Grahams had a crush on her as well. How is she better than me?”

When she asked this question, she gritted her teeth. Her eyes and heart were filled with envy and jealousy for Madeline.

“You’ve already lost all qualifications to compete with Eveline now that you’re like this,” Ryan said slowly.

He was wearing an ink-colored suit that made him look poised and refined. The gentleness on his handsome face was nowhere to be seen. On the other hand, he looked stern and dignified.

Lana cackled cockily when she heard what Ryan said. “Ryan, who do you think you are to speak to me like this?” she said arrogantly. She was still acting smug even when she was a prisoner.

“Get out now! Who do you think you are? You won’t get a chance even if someone came to visit!”

Ryan ignored Lana’s shrieks and walked toward her. “Lana, let me tell you this. No one else is more qualified than me to stand here. I think you should know what’s coming for you.”

“Hah! Ryan, who do you think you are? How dare you talk to me like that? The Stygian Johnson Gang is not finished yet! So what if I and my brother have been arrested? Do you know there’s still someone backing my brother up? None of you are able to touch this person!”

When Ryan heard that, there was a thought-provoking smile on Ryan's refined face.

When Lana saw Ryan smiling, she thought the man was mocking her.

She gritted her teeth and clenched her fist as she yelled at the door, "Are all of you dead? Why did you let him in here? I don't know him! Tell someone to kick him out now!"

She screeched hysterically, and instantly, someone opened the door before entering the room.

Lana knew the man. He was one of the Interpol people who arrested her that day.

Lana pointed at Ryan and yelled angrily, "Just how are you doing your job? Do I know this man? Did I agree to let him come visit me? Tell him to get out!"

After the man heard what Lana said, he roared at her with a stern look on his face. "Lana Johnson, stop yelling. You're not in the Stygian Johnson Gang now."

After he spoke, he looked at Ryan who was remaining silent. "This is the commissioner who's going to interrogate you. It's best if you cooperate with him, Lana Johnson."

Lana's expression changed, then she laughed. "What? Commissioner? What kind of commissioner is he? He's just a nameless painter! What does he have aside from family money?"

Ryan was unperturbed when Lana laughed at him.

On the other hand, the man roared at her sternly. "This is the highest commander in Interpol. He's responsible for the Stygian Johnson Gang's case."

Lana was completely stunned when she got that answer.

“W-What? You’re the highest commander in Interpol?”

She looked at Ryan with shock on her face. No matter which angle she looked at him from, he just looked like a soft-spoken and refined young master from a wealthy family.

However, she did not expect Ryan to hide this secret so well.

Ryan looked at the shocked Lana and said slowly, “So, can I start now?”

“...”

“Lana Johnson, there’s no point in resisting. We’ve already got our hands on the proof of Stygian Johnson Gang’s crimes. Plus, seeing as how you’ve killed two people, you’ll never get a chance to go back into society now.”

Looking at Ryan’s sharp eyes, Lana felt the feeling of defeat once again. However, she was still stubborn.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1086

Ryan interrogated Lana for half an hour, but she denied all of the charges and requested a lawyer.

Technically speaking, she would have a chance to get a lawyer to defend her for every crime.

However, Ryan would not let Lana get the chance.

The moment he walked out of the custodial ward, his colleague received Jeremy’s phone call.

After speaking for a while, the man told Ryan, “He wants to know who are the people inside the Stygian Johnson Gang.”

Ryan nodded, to which the man nodded back to show that he understood.

Jeremy was sitting alone in the cafe as he basked in the light of the sunset. He looked at the people walking past the window before looking away slowly.

There was a flight ticket to somewhere far away next to the steaming coffee he had in front of him.

Suddenly, he heard a ding and saw someone walking upstairs after pushing the door of the cafe.

Not long ago, Jeremy had just finished talking to his colleagues from Interpol. His colleague told him that the commissioner who managed to get into the Stygian Johnson Gang would come to see him in the cafe now.

Jeremy looked at the stairs and saw the man who was now married to the love of his life—Ryan Jones.

Jealousy arose in his eyes, but he suppressed it quickly.

Jeremy stood up as he looked at Ryan who was approaching him. He was surprised, but at the same time, he remained calm. “I didn’t expect it to be you.”

Ryan smiled politely. “I thought you’d punch me in the face and teach me a lesson for stealing your favorite woman.”

Jeremy lowered his head. “She’s not my woman anymore. She’s your wife.”

Ryan did not fight back. Then, he sat down in front of Jeremy. "Why are you still here? You'll be in trouble if you don't get treatment soon."

"There's no way out. If I drag this on, it'll only buy me some days to struggle on while I continue standing at death's door, so I don't need it."

Jeremy had seen everything. He knew if Adam could not find a cure for the poison he created, then no one else could.

"I've asked someone to look for Adam Brown." Ryan gave Jeremy some hope. Then, he lowered his head to see the ticket in front of Jeremy. "Are you going to leave Glendale?"

"I've arranged for what'll happen after I die," Jeremy said nonchalantly as if he was talking about something unrelated to him. "I wanted to ask you out to talk, but you're already here."

"Do you want to tell me something?" Ryan asked in a friendly and warm tone as usual.

Jeremy looked out of the window and lowered his bright eyes. "I don't have any requests. I just hope that you'll love her and take care of her. I hope you can give her the life I can't give her."

He turned his face away, not wanting anyone else aside from Madeline to see this side of him that was crying so weakly.

"I don't expect you to treat the three children like you're their father, but the least you can do is not let them feel any grievances, especially my daughter Lillian," Jeremy said and looked at Ryan solemnly.

"Ryan, I hope you can agree to fulfill my last wish as their father."

Ryan's expression became grim after he heard what Jeremy said.

“Before I came, I already expected you to make a decision like this. So, before that, I’ve prepared a present for you.”

Ryan handed a car key to Jeremy.

“Go down and have a look. This is the last thing I’m able to do for you.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1087

Jeremy did not know what was the gift Ryan was talking about.

However, he still took the car key and went to the door of the cafe. When he saw Ryan’s car by the side of the road, he slowly walked over.

The sun in the summer afternoon was warm. The rays landed on the car lightly, and through the half-opened car window, Jeremy saw the breathtaking face that he dreamed about every day.

“Linnie.”

His heart was suddenly full of joy he had felt back then.

Jeremy opened the door quietly and smelled the faint scent of Japanese roses.

“Eveline was tired, so I told her we’re coming out to let her free her head. I lit the incense she made, so she should be sleeping soundly now. You can go and stay with her for the last time.”

Ryan’s voice sounded from behind.

Jeremy understood immediately. “Thank you.”

“I should be the one thanking you. You completed a difficult task from Interpol and handed the person you love to me. Don’t worry, I won’t let you down.”

After Ryan said that, he turned around and left to let Jeremy have this moment.

Jeremy sat in the driver’s seat and looked at the person who was sleeping on the passenger’s seat. He lifted his hand slowly to caress her face, but he did not dare to put his fingers on her even after a very long time.

He was scared that he would wake her up.

He understood that she was exhausted recently. Not just her body, but also her heart.

Jeremy leaned against the chair and looked at the delicate sleeping face next to his. Then, he curled the corners of his lips into a sexy smile.

‘Linnie, this is great. I didn’t expect to see you for the last time.

‘Thank you for crashing into my life and lighting up my dull, boring life.

‘This light will never go out in my heart until the moment I die.

‘Linnie, my Linnie, I hope I can love you boldly and openly in the next life. I hope I won’t lack the guts to admit my love for you like last time.’

Jeremy looked at Madeline. These few seconds were enough for him to savor it for the rest of his life.

Ryan did not know when Jeremy left. When he came back though, it was already dawn.

Madeline woke up groggily and Jeremy was nowhere to be seen.

Ryan could not tell Madeline about Jeremy's current condition. This was a promise between the two men.

Jeremy had been acting cold to Madeline and his three children during this period. The reason he did that was so that Madeline and the children would stop missing a cold-hearted man like him.

Madeline opened her eyes and realized that she had fallen asleep in Ryan's car. She looked out of the window and realized they were in front of a cafe when she saw Jeremy and a strange man.

When she found it odd, she could vaguely smell the signature scent that Jeremy wore lingering in the car.

It was as if he had been in this car a while ago.

However, he was indeed in the car just now. It was just that Madeline did not know about that. When she smelled the scent, she only suspected whether something was wrong with her nose.

Ryan then drove Madeline home. Since he was worried that she would overthink, he randomly started a conversation.

"I heard Lana was arrested and will be punished soon. You can avenge your parents now."

Madeline was still thinking about Jeremy. When she heard that, she came back to her senses. "I want to go to where they've locked her up."

Ryan did not want to tell Madeline about his real job, but if she met Lana, everything would be exposed.

He contemplated and felt that there was no reason to stop her.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1088

The next day, Madeline went to see Lana.

Lana had been transferred to Glendale Prison from the custodial ward for temporary placement. After the paperwork was done, she would be handed to the police in F Country.

When Lana heard that someone was visiting her, she thought it would be Jeremy. However, the moment she walked into the conjugal room, she spotted Madeline.

Looking at her own wretched and haggard face that resembled more like a ghost's than a human's, then looking at Madeline's clean face and noble temperament, Lana suddenly became a beast that lost all control. She escaped from the prison guards' grip and charged toward Madeline.

Madeline lifted her leg and kicked Lana on the knee. Then, Lana fell to her knees in front of Madeline. She felt intense pain coming from her knees.

She gritted her teeth and endured the pain. When she was about to curse, Madeline grabbed her by the chin.

Madeline towered over Lana, exerting pressure on her with her cold expression. At this moment, her eyes were filled with resentment.

"Lana, my parents are waiting for you. Your death is here."

Lana looked at Madeline with jealousy and hatred in her eyes. Suddenly, she smirked wretchedly. "Hahaha, right, I almost forgot. Your parents were killed in the fire that was lit up by your most loved man."

She was intentionally trying to trigger Madeline.

“Eveline, you must be feeling so upset now, right? You never wanted to marry Ryan in the first place. The person you love this entire time is Jeremy, right? Too bad you can’t be together now!

“Also, your daughter will forever be mute! She’ll be laughed at and no man will want her for the rest of her life!”

Madeline clenched her fists suddenly, the veins on the back of her hand popping up.

She wanted to strangle Lana. She wanted to strangle this cruel and heinous woman. However, she controlled her urges when she thought about her children.

Then, the prison guards grabbed Lana and put her in her place.

It was as if Lana had been possessed as she was cackling non-stop.

“Eveline, do you think you’ve defeated me? You’re wrong! I’ll be the winner as long as you can’t end up with Jeremy! Hahaha!”

Madeline unclenched her fists and peered at Lana coldly. “The biggest win for me is you getting executed.”

Lana’s laughter stopped abruptly when she heard that.

She roared in dissatisfaction when she saw Madeline turning around to walk away. “Eveline, stop pretending to be so carefree in front of me. Let me tell you, Jeremy is going to die soon! He’s going to die and he’ll see your parents sooner than me!”

Madeline froze in her tracks before she could get out of the conjugal room.

She clenched her fists to prevent herself from being affected by Lana. However, she continued to screech cockily behind her.

“Eveline, do you know who Ryan is? Do you know what Jeremy is doing? You’re not worthy of his love. You don’t know him at all! You’re not worthy! Jeremy and I are the most compatible with each other!”

“Eveline, I won’t let you get the man I can’t get! Hahaha!”

Lana’s crazed cackles sounded farther and farther away. However, Madeline still felt as if she was laughing directly in her ear.

She did not want to care or believe what Lana said, but she could not ignore Lana when she claimed that Jeremy was going to die.

Madeline walked out of the conjugal room dispiritedly. Then, she turned around and saw Ryan at the door.

He looked at her and gave her an apologetic smile on his handsome face. “I think you must have some questions for me after seeing Lana.”

Madeline looked at the man in front of her dispiritedly. “Who are you?”

Ryan handed the name card he had prepared to her.

Madeline took it and saw Ryan’s title. ‘The highest commander in Interpol.’

Ryan nodded and did not hide anything. "Jeremy is also one of us."

"What did you say?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1089

Madeline felt a throbbing pain in her heart when she heard Ryan said that.

She looked at the man in front of her in shock. At that moment, she did not know what she should say.

Ryan said gently when he saw Madeline at a loss, "Eveline, you can ask me anything. I'll answer your questions."

Madeline clenched her shaky fists. "I just want to know where he is now."

Ryan frowned and shook his head. "I can only tell you that he's not in Glendale."

After listening to what Ryan said, Madeline stayed quiet before saying, "So, the only reason he stayed with Lana and pretended to be so cold to me and the kids is because he's a spy?"

Ryan wanted to say something, but he stopped himself. "I want to show you something."

Madeline lifted her head to look at Ryan. She felt like she could not focus on anything anymore.

Ryan took Madeline to the car and showed her the video of Lana getting arrested in the private room that day.

It was taken with the hidden camera in Jeremy's tie clip. The video was crystal clear, and so were the voices in the recording.

Madeline saw Jeremy going into the private room of a restaurant with Lana. Then, she saw him pretending to side with Lana as they talked business with a fat man.

However, after the man signed a contract with Lana, everything changed.

Even though Madeline could not see Jeremy in the video, she could clearly hear his voice.

He had said to Lana, "Game over."

Then, he continued, "Did you really think that I'm your man?"

He even added, "I only have and love one woman in my life, and her name is Eveline Montgomery."

In the end, he arrested Lana who was gradually having a mental breakdown.

When Madeline saw this, her vision was blurred by her tears.

She clenched her fists and tried to control her emotions.

She said she would not cry for this man again. She would not...

However, despite that, tears started to well up in her eyes.

"When Jeremy reappeared in Lana's life, he was already a part of Interpol, and because of Jeremy's excellent mental state and ability, he's not just a normal agent," Ryan explained patiently.

“Eveline, he had never shared a romantic relationship with Lana and they were never intimate. He was only with her to spy on her.”

Madeline clutched her hands tightly when she heard that. She swallowed back her urge to cry and looked out the window with teary eyes. Then, she pretended to be calm. “Since the deed is done, why is he leaving Glendale?”

Ryan did not know how to answer her.

Jeremy had told him countless times not to tell Madeline about him dying.

After contemplating, Ryan answered, “Maybe after Lana used him to kill your parents, he knew there’d be a gap between you two that can never be mended, so he chose to leave.”

“Heh.” Madeline chuckled bitterly. “So he’s just going to ignore his children, his parents, and his company?”

Ryan comforted her when he saw Madeline trying hard to suppress her emotions.

“He might come back one day.

“When you can finally let go of your parent’s deaths and are willing to get back together with him, I’ll give you my blessing.”

Madeline turned around suddenly to look at the man’s gentle face.

“Rye, I didn’t forget the fact that I’m your wife now, so even if he comes back, it’ll be impossible for me to end up with him again. I won’t get married for the third time.”

Ryan smiled when he heard that. Then, he grabbed Madeline's hands gently.

He felt joy in his heart after receiving this answer from Madeline.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1090

When Ryan remembered what Jeremy told him before he left, he promised softly, "Eveline, I'll do everything I can to make you happy."

Madeline smiled and swallowed down all of her emotions.

Karen approached her happily when she saw Madeline coming back to Whitman Manor. "Eveline, Lana was arrested!

"She's in a mob, so no wonder she's so heinous!

"Hmph! At the end of the day, evil can never prevail over good. She'll suffer the consequences of what she has done!"

It was obvious that Karen was in a good mood.

However, Madeline recalled what she saw in the video just now. Jeremy had put the handcuffs on Lana himself, and at that moment, that diabolical woman had an emotional breakdown before getting locked up behind bars.

Madeline knew she should feel happy, but in that second, she felt an excruciating pain in her heart instead.

In the early morning of the end of summer, she bought some flowers and came to Eloise and Sean's graves alone.

After bowing to them, she murmured, "Mom, Dad, the person who killed you has already been arrested. She'll be executed very soon. I hope you can rest easy now."

She felt the gentle autumn breeze on her skin that made her heart cold. Her eyes started to turn red from the wind.

"Mom, Dad, c-can you forgive Jeremy?"

When she asked this question, she could not control her tears from falling anymore.

She felt guilty.

She could not heal the wound in her heart regardless if she forgave or not.

Madeline stayed in the cemetery for a very long time.

No one was able to answer her question.

When she left, she saw a new tomb below Eloise and Sean's.

She glanced at it and saw that the tomb was much shorter. Aside from the birth date, there was nothing else on it. Not even a name.

For some reason, she looked absent-mindedly at it for a few seconds more before leaving.

Madeline went back to the house she shared with Ryan. When it was nighttime, she made dinner in the kitchen robotically. While she was cutting the vegetables, Jeremy's face appeared in her mind.

He was kneeling in front of her, his eyes filled with remorse and regret. He was begging her to forgive him for being manipulated by Lana and burning her house down. He was begging her to give him a chance to redeem himself.

However, she had refused.

On the other hand, she told him the thing she regretted the most was forgiving him back then and giving him another chance. As such, she would not forgive him anymore.

Madeline shook her head and forced herself to stop thinking about it. However, her heart still felt uneasy for no reason.

As she was spacing out, she accidentally sliced her finger.

She saw the bright red blood flowing out from her finger and just stood there motionlessly as she watched.

She recalled the blood on the tissue that she took for testing and Jeremy's lingering scent on it.

What was going on?

Madeline felt her head throbbing in pain.

When Ryan stepped into the kitchen, he saw Madeline holding the knife while spacing out.

After he approached her, he spotted blood uncontrollably pouring out from Madeline's finger. He quickly brought the first aid kit over.

Ryan was concerned and immediately bandaged her wound for her.

“Eveline, what happened? Why are you standing there even when you’re bleeding?”

When she heard Ryan’s voice, Madeline’s brain registered what was going on.

She suddenly remembered something and walked into the living room. Then, she picked up her phone and called the analyst who called previously.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1091

Ryan thought that Madeline’s behavior was out of the blue. He followed her and saw her calling someone. Then, in the next second, he heard her asking the person on the other end of the phone, “Dr. Gordon, I’m Eveline Montgomery. Can I ask you what’s the blood type of the blood sample you tested previously?”

Ryan heard Madeline asking this hurriedly.

He did not know what answer the person on the other end told Madeline. He only saw Madeline letting out a sigh of relief.

It was as if she had gotten the answer she wanted.

After she hung up, Ryan saw that Madeline was obviously more relaxed now.

She then continued preparing dinner for both of them. Then, they sat down and had their dinner quietly.

Ryan had feelings for Madeline and genuinely liked her. However, Ryan also knew that Madeline only admired him.

This whole time, she only had Jeremy in her heart.

Since she still loved that man, that was why she was still in pain.

After dinner, Madeline went to take a shower after talking to Ryan.

Ryan came looking for her again after a while. However, he only came to tell her that he needed to take care of some work-related stuff before leaving.

Madeline did not know whether he really had work to do or if it was because he did not want to force her to do anything with him and that was why he left.

If it was the latter, Madeline would feel really bad about it.

She had been married to him for some time now. However, she still could not completely remove Jeremy's name from her heart.

Madeline walked to the French window and looked at the moon outside.

'Eveline, since he has decided to leave, then stop thinking about him.'

'Perhaps it's the best for you to leave this man.'

She told herself before going to bed to rest earlier.

When she lay down, she received a call from Ava.

Ava sounded excited but nervous. She said, "Maddie, Dan told me out of the blue that he's going to take me to his home tomorrow! It's his grandfather's 80th birthday tomorrow. Do you think I should go, Maddie?"

Madeline answered without thinking, "If a man is willing to take you to see his family, it means he has acknowledged your position in his life. Of course, you have to go, unless you don't like Dan."

"I do like him," Ava said, but after that, she was shy. Then, she said weakly, "Stop teasing me, Maddie. Just tell me what I should do."

Madeline pondered over it but could not find any related experience.

Before she got married to Jeremy, she had never met his parents. The first time she met Karen, Karen said that she was one of the Whitmans' maids.

Now when she thought about it, Madeline could not help but chuckle as she had already made up with Karen.

Despite her divorcing Jeremy, Karen still genuinely treated her like she was still her daughter-in-law.

Madeline thought about it and continued, "Ava, just go. Ask Dan what the old master likes and prepare something for him. That should be enough."

Ava pondered and answered, "Yeah, you're right. I'll do that, then."

Madeline smiled when she heard the joy and excitement in Ava's voice. "I didn't expect you and Dan to be at this stage already. Ava, I have a feeling that I'll get a wedding invitation from you guys very soon."

On the other end of the phone, Ava blushed. When she wanted to explain, she realized she was at a loss for words.

After all, Daniel had already announced to everyone that he was Ava's boyfriend even though they had only become exclusive on that day itself.

The next day.

Ava got up early in the morning and changed into a decent and stylish dress.

Then, Daniel picked her up from her apartment on time. He had even picked a present for the old master beforehand.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1092

The moment Daniel saw Ava, there was a stunned look in his eyes.

"You look so beautiful today," Daniel praised.

Ava felt her face heating up. She was feeling bashful but pretended to not care. "You're saying I was ugly back then?"

Daniel explained quickly as his face turned bright red, “Of course, I didn’t mean that. I was just saying that you look more beautiful than usual.”

Ava turned her face away and was pleased with herself. She had never felt this kind of feeling before.

After she got into the passenger seat, Ava carefully looked Daniel up and down from the corners of her eyes as he drove.

The man’s side profile looked brilliant. He looked gentle and soft-spoken, but at the same time, there was still the same youthful look on his face as back then.

When the light turned red, Daniel stopped the car and turned his head.

Ava did not have time to avert her gaze before she met Daniel’s smiling eyes.

“You’ve been staring for quite a while.”

“...”

“That night in the hotel—”

“Dan,” interrupted Ava. Her face was smoking hot. “Dan, you’re not lying to me, are you? Was that really you that night?”

Daniel reached out his hand to hold Ava’s nervous and stirring ones. Then, he smiled. “Who else could that have been aside from me?”

When she got the answer, Ava felt the sweetness in her heart intensifying. However, she still had a question.

She looked at Daniel. When she was about to ask, Daniel said before her, "I didn't ask you to be my girlfriend because I want to be responsible for you. I'm certain that I like you and I trust you feel the same way too."

Ava looked at Daniel stupidly, her smile growing wider.

However, what confused her was how Daniel was so sure that she liked him?

Ava thought about this question the entire time until the car stopped.

She grabbed the gift that Daniel had handed her. When she stood in front of the gigantic mansion, she started to feel nervous.

A maid came up to greet Daniel. However, for some reason, her gaze became strange when she saw what Ava was wearing.

Ava was worried about whether she was dressed inappropriately. Before she entered the mansion, she asked Daniel.

Daniel looked at her and answered seriously, "You look gorgeous. I don't think anything is wrong with your attire."

Ava let out a sigh of relief and grabbed Daniel's arm before walking to the door.

The old master's 80th party was grand. Almost all of their relatives and family members were here.

Everyone was holding wine glasses, drinking, and chatting happily in the garden of the mansion.

Ava felt more and more nervous. She was attending this party as Daniel's girlfriend, so she did not want to embarrass him.

When the guests saw Daniel, they started greeting him.

However, when they saw Ava holding his arm, some of them looked at her with weird gazes while some even started gossiping among themselves.

Ava felt the change in gazes and it made her extremely nervous.

At this moment, a young couple walked over and asked, "Dan, who's this? Why is she so intimate with you?"

Daniel did not beat around the bush as he introduced, "This is my girlfriend, Ava Long."

"Girlfriend?" The young woman looked at Ava profoundly before staying quiet.

Ava smiled back politely and felt that there was definitely something wrong.

She walked into the mansion with Daniel. The moment she stepped in, she saw a woman standing in the living room. Ava finally understood why those people were looking at her with such weird gazes earlier.

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What a coincidence.

Someone was wearing the exact same dress as her.

Even though it was not a bad thing to wear the same outfit as another person, the uglier one of the two would feel awkward.

However, this was not about appearance. The problem was that this dress was a brand's limited fall edition and there was only one in the entire world. Now, they were wearing the same dress. This could only mean that one of them was wearing a fake.

Ava knew where her dress came from. When she noticed that the girl was not looking at her, she contemplated before letting go of Daniel's hand and turning around.

"Where are you going?" Daniel asked curiously.

When Old Master Graham heard Daniel's voice, he looked over while he was talking with a group of people.

"Dan is back." Daniel's mother beamed as she walked over. "Dan, didn't you say you're going to pick up a friend? Where are they?"

Daniel grabbed Ava who was trying to bolt and introduced, "It's her. Her name is Ava Long."

When Mrs. Graham saw Daniel holding Ava's hand, the smile on her face disappeared.

Then, when she saw the dress on Ava, her face fell further.

Ava noticed the changes in Mrs. Graham's expression. Even so, she still smiled politely.

"Hello, Mrs. Graham."

Mrs. Graham replied coldly, "Miss Long, your dress is quite interesting."

She was obviously mocking her. Then, she grabbed Daniel's arm. "Dan, Naya is here. She's just over there."

Mrs. Graham pointed at a stunning young woman next to Old Master Graham.

This woman named Naya was the person who was wearing the same dress as Ava.

Daniel finally noticed this. At the same time, he understood why the guests had been looking at Ava strangely when she walked in.

Mrs. Graham pulled Daniel over, but instead, Daniel turned around and grabbed Ava's hand to bring her in front of the old master. He introduced, "Grandpa, happy birthday. Didn't you always bug me to get a girlfriend? Look, I brought her back today."

Ava felt Daniel's acknowledgment of her. Despite the unfriendly gazes staring at her, she still handed the gift to the old master with a smile and wished, "Hello, Old Master Graham. Happy birthday. I hope you live a long life."

After the old master heard that, he ignored Ava and did not accept the gift. He looked at his grandson and said, "Daniel, Naya is back. I want to use this opportunity to set a date for your wedding."

Ava was shocked by what the old master said. However, Daniel did not waste any time and said,

“Grandpa, I already have someone I like.”

“Someone you like? Naya is the most suitable person for you and she’s also the person who likes you the most.”

The old master pulled the woman named Naya to his side.

“Naya is the only daughter of the Mendez family. She’s the best match for the Grahams based on her family background and education. You two often played together when you were younger as well, so you’re basically childhood sweethearts. It’s decided, then.”

“Thank you for looking kindly upon me, but Dan has already brought his girlfriend home. I think I should not cause any trouble,” Naya Mendez smiled and said understandingly. Then, she gave Ava a friendly smile.

Ava recomposed herself and smiled back at Naya.

However, she then heard Mrs. Graham scoffing in disdain. “What girlfriend? The Grahams don’t have an embarrassing daughter-in-law who wears fakes.”

Mrs. Graham glanced at Ava. “Miss Long, don’t blame me for being too straightforward. You should wear clothes that you can afford with your salary. If you can’t afford certain dresses, then you should just simply not wear them. However, you chose to wear a fake to the old master’s birthday party as Dan’s girlfriend. Who are you trying to embarrass?”

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Mrs. Graham did not even hold back as she berated Ava in front of everybody.

Ava did not want to argue with her. When she lifted her head, she caught a glimpse of Naya peering at her in contempt.

Daniel did not stay quiet as well. He defended Ava immediately, saying, "Mom, you're too much. My girlfriend can wear anything and still be my girlfriend."

"Dan, do you want to infuriate your grandpa today?" Mrs. Graham looked down on Ava. "The only woman in Glendale who's worthy of being your girlfriend is Naya."

Mrs. Graham looked at Ava arrogantly. "Miss Long, where did you graduate from? What do you work as? How much money do you make in a month? Do you have a house or a car?"

Ava looked into Mrs. Graham's snobbish eyes and smiled. "I graduated from Glendale University and I'm an interior designer. As for my salary—"

"Alright, I've heard enough," Mrs. Graham interrupted. "Interior designers won't make over seven digits a year even if they work to death. However, do you know how much the Grahams make in a year? Miss Long, I won't say anything more. I hope you can know your place."

Ava understood what Mrs. Graham meant. She placed the gift down and looked at Daniel.

"Dan, I should go. Stay and celebrate your grandpa's birthday with your family," Ava said before turning around magnanimously.

"Ava!" Daniel wanted to chase after her, but his mother grabbed him. "Dan, that woman is not suitable for you."

"Yeah, Dan. It's obvious that she's a vain woman who wears a fake branded dress and wants to go after you for your money." Daniel's relatives chimed in at one side. One of them even opened the gift. "Look at this tie she bought for your grandpa. It's obviously a fake. The real one shouldn't have such rough material."

Daniel was always calm and refined. However, at this moment, he could not control himself.

“I bought this tie overseas a month ago for grandpa. You don’t have to put someone down like this.”

“...” His relatives’ faces turned bright red.

“Also, I don’t care if my wife is rich or not. I won’t give up on this woman.”

Daniel left to chase after Ava after he said this. However, Ava was nowhere to be seen and she did not pick up her phone either.

After Ava left Daniel’s house, she switched off her phone after receiving a call she did not want to receive.

However, the moment she got out of the car, the woman at the airport that day smiled and walked over to her.

“Ava, I know I’ve wronged you all these years. Why don’t you consider going back to Y Country with me?” The woman flattered.

Ava walked past her coldly and went upstairs to her unit.

“Ava, it’s fine if you don’t want to go, but don’t stay in a place like this.” The woman handed two keys to Ava. “I’ve bought two mansions for you. You should stay there for the time being.”

“When did I ask you to buy me houses?” Ava handed back the keys to her and went into her house.

The woman followed after her. “It’s fine if you don’t like them. I bought one of the apartments near your

company as well. You can move in anytime.”

“...”

“Also, I don’t think your boss is capable. I think—”

“Stop thinking,” Ava interrupted as she felt her head starting to ache. She was so scared that the woman would buy her company as well.

When the woman saw that Ava was unhappy, she felt anxious. “Ava, I just want to make up for—”

“Do you think you can mend our relationship with money?” Ava asked. “Just ask yourself what you’ve done when I needed you the most?”

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After the woman heard that, she did not know what to say. When she recalled what she had done, she felt her face heating up.

At this moment, the doorbell rang. Ava did not want to spend any more time with the woman, so she went and opened the door.

After she opened the door, she saw that it was Madeline.

“Maddie, why are you looking for me here?” Ava was surprised.

Madeline felt relieved when she saw Ava. “Dan said you switched off your phone, so he got worried about you. Since I was just around the area, I dropped by to check on you.”

“Ava, you have a friend here. I guess I should go back now.” The woman did not force Ava anymore.

Then, she left after glancing at Madeline.

Madeline had guessed that the woman from the airport last time was Ava's mother, but she did not expect it to be true.

She had known Ava for so many years and this whole time, she thought Ava was an orphan like her.

When she asked about Ava's family, she would only brush it off with a smile as if she did not want to talk about it.

However, from the looks of it now, it was not what it seemed.

Ava turned around and took out two cans of fruit punch before sitting on the sofa in exhaustion.

"Maddie, you must be confused, right? When did I have a mother who's also the richest woman in Y Country?"

"..."

After Ava said that, Madeline was shocked.

However, after Ava drank her punch, she started crying in despair. "Maddie, if I could've gotten in contact with my rich mother back then, you wouldn't have needed to sell alcohol in the nightclub and get humiliated by Meredith."

Madeline hugged Ava. "You dummy, that's in the past. Plus, I know you've always tried your best to help me. Ava, you're my best friend."

“Maddie...” Ava was still addressing Madeline with this name.

Madeline patted Ava’s shoulder, and when she was about to ask about Daniel’s family, her phone rang.

Madeline looked at the caller ID and saw it was from the lab technician last night.

She felt her heart tremble as a feeling of uneasiness rose in her chest.

“Maddie, what’s wrong? Why aren’t you picking up?” Ava looked at Madeline who was spacing out in curiosity.

Madeline came back to her senses and picked up the phone. The lab technician said, “Is this Miss Montgomery?”

“Yes, I’m Eveline Montgomery.”

“We have the results for the sample you sent that day. Are you free to come to the lab now?”

Madeline looked at Ava, feeling worried. However, if she did not go, she would feel uneasy.

Ava sensed Madeline’s dilemma. “Maddie, you should go if you have something to take care of.”

Madeline nodded and answered, “I’ll go right now.”

She got up, and before she left, she reminded Ava. “Don’t drink too much. It’s bad for your body. Also, call Dan. He’s worried about you.”

Ava smiled. "Don't worry, it's nothing personal. I won't be mad at him. You should go now."

Madeline left while feeling less worried.

She came to Glendale Advanced Laboratory. Then, the lab technician, Dr. Gordon, brought her to the lab.

Madeline was not an expert, so she did not understand the complex data. She asked, "Dr. Gordon, what are these things that you've detected in the blood?"

Dr. Gordon took out a set of data and said some jargon. Madeline did not really understand, but she understood what was said later.

"Basically, it's a poison that's harmful to the body," the lab technician said, "According to the results, it has very rare components. It won't kill someone directly, but instead, it'll torture the person slowly.

"For example, they'll hallucinate and feel confused. Sometimes, they won't even know what they're doing, and eventually, the poison will seep into the blood and cells to cause trouble to the heart. In the end, the person's genes might even mutate."

"Genetic mutation?" Madeline felt that this was unbelievable. She did not know such scary things existed.

Hence, Madeline thought of a possibility.

"If there's a possibility of a genetic mutation, does it mean that their blood type will also change?" she asked calmly, but her heart was racing.

"I was about to tell you this." Dr. Gordon took out another set of data. "I told you through the phone last night that this person's blood type was A, but after the research this morning, the original blood type of this person should be AB."

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AB.

Madeline felt her vision turning dark.

This whole time, she had been suspecting whether the blood belonged to Jeremy, but when she found out the blood type was A, she felt relieved.

However, she did not expect that after the mutation of the genes, even the blood type would change.

Jeremy's blood type was AB.

Madeline felt uneasy. She felt as if someone was stabbing her heart repeatedly.

"Miss Montgomery, where did you get this blood sample from? According to our research, if this person doesn't get treatment immediately, he'll die when the poison in his body reaches stage five."

The word 'die' felt like a knife penetrating Madeline's heart.

She did not have any injuries, but the excruciating pain was spreading throughout her body.

Even though everything was just a hunch, the pain in her heart told her that her hunch was right.

After she left the lab, Madeline started spacing out. She called Ryan to ask him where he was.

After he received her call, he could feel that something was wrong because Madeline's voice sounded strange.

Ten minutes later, Madeline found him and was immediately frank with him. "Rye, you're hiding something from me, right?"

Ryan did not say anything but knew what Madeline wanted to ask him.

Madeline walked to him and looked into his eyes. "The reason Jeremy was deliberately cold to me and the children is not just because he's a spy, right?"

"Is he sick? He's so sick that it's at the final stages and there's no cure, right?"

Madeline grabbed Ryan's arm while looking at his grim expression.

"Ryan, tell me, is Jeremy going to die?"

When he heard this, Ryan knew he could not help Jeremy keep his secret anymore.

He looked at Madeline's red eyes and nodded lightly. "You're right. He has an incurable disease, and his time is almost up."

Madeline felt her breathing hitch at this moment. Everything was spinning, and she could not feel her heartbeat anymore.

She fumbled for her phone in her bag and pressed down on the numbers that she had long ago memorized.

It was Jeremy's number.

The call went through, but no one answered.

Madeline looked at the screen of her phone as tears streamed down her cheeks.

She called multiple times, but in the end, she got the message that he had switched off his phone.

Madeline's heart shattered into pieces.

His determination to not pick up the phone was to make sure she despised him.

'But Jeremy, do you know despite my hatred and resentment toward you, I'll love you even more?'

"Use mine. This is his number when he worked with Interpol." Ryan handed his phone over.

Madeline quickly grabbed it. Jeremy answered the phone after a few seconds.

Jeremy's voice sounded deep, but at the same time, he also sounded anxious. "Why is she calling me? Did something happen to her? Ryan, you promised that you'll take good care of her for me!"

Madeline sobbed when she heard what he said. She controlled her emotions and said, "It's me."

On the other end of the phone, Jeremy was silent.

"Where are you? Jeremy, tell me where you are right now," Madeline asked.

"Eveline, I told you I don't want to see you or hear your voice. Stop pestering—"

“Jeremy, game over. I know everything,” Madeline interrupted him gently and sobbed. “Jeremy, tell me where you are. I miss you. I miss you so much...”

After Madeline said that, there was a long silence on the other end of the phone.

After a long while, Jeremy said in a deep voice, “Eveline, the sea of April Hill is so beautiful. I want to look at this view with you once more, but I guess I can only do it in my next life. Remember what you said. Stop crying for me. I hope you remember that Jeremy Whitman loves Eveline Montgomery, always.”

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After he said that, he hung up the phone.

When Madeline called him again, his phone was switched off.

Madeline started sobbing and sniffing when she saw the darkened screen.

She felt a thorn stabbing deep inside her heart. She could not see it, but it was making her bleed profusely.

Ryan held Madeline gently. He did not know what he could say to make her feel better. Perhaps nothing he could say would ever comfort the hurt in her heart.

Madeline cried for a long while, but she could not soothe the bone-piercing pain in her heart no matter what.

She tried to control her tears and emotions as she removed herself from Ryan’s arms. “Rye, I know it’s not fair to do this to you, but I hope you can give me some time. I want to find him, and if he’s really incurable, then please let me spend the rest of his life with him.”

Ryan smiled softly and wiped away Madeline's tears gently.

"Actually, the biggest reason I married you is to protect you," he said honestly, "I know who you truly love, so I won't force you. Go and do what you want. Go to him."

Madeline lifted her teary eyes. "Thank you, Rye."

After she thanked him, she left hurriedly.

Madeline contacted a lot of people she knew to ask them about Jeremy's whereabouts. She also checked every flight but did not find anything.

She asked Ryan about Jeremy's whereabouts, but Ryan only told her that he saw Jeremy buying a flight ticket to another country. However, he did not know where he was going.

Madeline stood at Glendale International Airport, looking at the passing crowd. Even though she was standing among a lot of people, she still felt extremely lonely.

She tried to call him, but she could not get through to him no matter what. Even if the call went through, he would not pick up.

Madeline sent several messages to Jeremy, but she did not know if he read them. The only thing she knew was every time she typed a message, she would feel as if she had already lost him.

Madeline had been looking for him for a few days now. However, she still did not get any information about him.

The more time had passed, the more anxious Madeline was. She started having difficulties sleeping and even her aromatherapy kits were not helping.

She was scared that she would not have the chance to see this man again.

She was also scared that he would only be alive in her memories from now on.

After searching for him again for another day, Madeline went to Whitman Manor. Karen was holding the four-month-old baby, trying to put him to sleep.

When she saw Madeline and her exhausted face, Karen felt her heart breaking into pieces. "Are you busy recently? You look so tired these few days," Karen asked in concern, then she started complaining about Jeremy.

"I wonder where Jeremy went after what happened to Lana? Is he going to abandon his family? Is he waiting for that succubus to get out of prison?"

Madeline wanted to explain after listening to what Karen said, but she did not know how to tell her.

She could not let Karen be sad with her.

She could not tell Karen that Jeremy would die soon.

Madeline went back to the room she had initially shared with Jeremy. She wanted to look for the wedding ring she threw out and the letters they exchanged when they were young, but she could not find them no matter what.

There was only a wedding photo that had been ripped into pieces on the bed.

She picked the pieces up and tried to piece them back together, but she could not do it.

Looking at the handsome and radiant Jeremy in the photo, she held the pieces and started sobbing.

“Jeremy, let me stay with you, okay? Don’t leave on your own. Let me stay with you at least...”

...

Jeremy had not left Glendale. The flight ticket was fake as well.

He knew Ryan would not be able to keep his secret for long, so he decided to lie to him too.

He gave Ryan an illusion so that Madeline would think he had left Glendale and she would never be able to find him again.

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Jeremy had rented a homestay near the beach of April Hill. This entire time, he had been staying there alone.

Every morning, he would repeatedly read all of the messages Madeline sent him during this period. Then, he would go to look at the sea and recall the time when his relationship with Madeline started.

When he thought back to the past, everything was still fine. The only thing that was not fine was how his body was getting weaker and weaker.

Madeline stayed overnight in the mansion alone.

After she woke up, her heart started aching again after she looked at the man in the photo.

She went to look for Ryan to try to know more about Jeremy's condition.

She tried to control her emotions as she asked Ryan, "Rye, where did the poison in Jeremy's body come from? You should know, right?"

Ryan did not hide it from her. He said frankly, "It's Lana. When he lost his memories, Lana filled Jeremy with memories that did not belong to him. She would give him cigarettes every day. The slow-acting poison was inside the cigarettes."

Madeline was in disbelief. How could someone do that to the person they loved?

"Lana used this slow-acting poison to control Jeremy. She wanted Jeremy to stay by her side and be her man forever."

Ryan's explanation made Madeline's heart ache even more.

He only got hurt and lost his memories on the ship because he wanted to protect her.

"Eveline, not everyone can love someone selflessly. A woman like Lana is certainly incapable of doing that. She didn't love him. She only had the desire to get him and dominate him."

What a deranged woman.

Madeline could not endure this. She wanted to look for Lana, but Ryan stopped her. He did not want her to do anything impulsive.

What shocked Madeline even more was that the creator of this poison was the person she trusted the most—Adam Brown.

Madeline finally understood why Jeremy was so determined to stop her from eating the alleged painkillers Adam gave her the day before they got onto the ship. It was because Jeremy had already known Adam's real identity.

Adam was one of the Stygian Johnsons.

He took orders from them and was obsessively doing all kinds of research that he was passionate about.

She thought Adam was helping her, but it turned out she was just Adam's experiment.

Madeline was bewildered. Then, she drove to the place she and Jeremy used to live in.

The sky had turned dark during dusk. Then, it started drizzling along with the cool breeze of early autumn.

Madeline went into the house, made dinner, and ate all by herself.

After that, she went into the bedroom and started flipping through the torn photos flusteredly.

Jeremy went back to the villa after he left April Hill. When he got out of the car, he saw Madeline's car at the entrance.

He lifted his head to look at the bedroom subconsciously and saw that the lights were on in the room.

He did not think that Madeline would still come back to this place, but he immediately knew why she was here.

Jeremy walked in slowly, dragging his exhausted body to the door of the room.

He looked inside carefully and saw Madeline sitting on the rug as she wept. She was flipping through a photo album.

'Linnie.'

Jeremy felt his heart sinking painfully.

There was a pained expression on his pale face. He wanted to hold it in, but his throat suddenly felt extremely itchy.

He could not stop himself from coughing.

Madeline was looking absent-mindedly at the photos when she heard the sound of coughing from outside the door.

"Jeremy?"

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Madeline shut the album and ran toward the door suddenly.

When she got out of the door, she expected to see Jeremy but did not see anything at all.

Then, she heard a noise from the front door. When she turned her head, she caught a glimpse of a tall figure.

Madeline's eyes lit up as she chased after the person.

"Jeremy!"

She would not have mistaken him.

There was no other figure in the world that would make her heart race like this.

Then, she remembered what she saw at the door of Jeremy's office that day.

The man who was entangled with Lana that day was not Jeremy.

She had been tricked.

It was just an illusion that Jeremy wanted her to see.

He did everything so that she would hate and resent him!

Madeline felt heartbroken when she thought about this.

She ran out of the door and saw the figure running toward the road. Therefore, she started chasing behind him.

Jeremy did not drive as he did not want Madeline to notice him. Now, he could only run to the road in hopes that he would be able to stop a cab and get out of here.

He did not want her to see him in this state.

She would be heartbroken and reluctant.

If that was the case, everything he did would be futile.

“Jeremy!”

Madeline’s screams came from behind him.

Jeremy continued running as if he did not hear her.

The rain was getting heavier, but the two of them did not notice it at all.

He continued running as she continued chasing after him.

“Jeremy! Stop running! Please stop running!” Madeline wailed and yelled after him. She knew she was unable to outrun him.

However, Jeremy still pretended as if he did not hear her. He pulled down his cap and walked to the road to stop a cab.

Madeline wiped away the tears and rainwater that blurred her vision. Under the lampposts in the night, her eyes were glued to his back that was getting farther and farther away.

When she saw the familiar figure getting into a cab to get away, Madeline sped up. However, since the road was uneven and slippery, she lost her balance and fell heavily.

Jeremy saw Madeline falling the moment he closed the door.

He opened the door again reflexively so that he could go out and help her up, but he stopped suddenly in his tracks.

Under the lampposts of the rainy night, Madeline got up from the muddy ground challengingly. She had twisted her ankle and also scraped her left knee. Blood started pouring from her knee.

However, she ignored her injuries. She bit her lip and tried her best to get closer to Jeremy while her eyes turned red.

Jeremy looked out of the window and saw the woman working hard to get close to him. When he saw that, he clenched his fists.

“Sir, do you want me to drive or not?” The driver was getting impatient. When he saw Jeremy looking at Madeline, he asked, “Is that woman with you? Should we wait for her? Aren’t you going to hold an umbrella for her?”

Jeremy closed the door when he heard that. Then, he shifted his teary eyes away from Madeline. “She’s not with me. Start driving.”

After he said that, Madeline got to the side of the car.

When she was about to knock on the window, the car drove away.

“Jeremy! Jeremy!”

Madeline chased behind the car as she watched the car getting farther and farther away.

“Jeremy, don’t go. Don’t leave me and the children. At least let me stay with you, Jeremy!”

The window of the car was rolled up and it was raining heavily, but Jeremy could still hear Madeline’s heart-wrenching cries clearly.

He clenched his fists and could not stop his tears from falling anymore.

“Jeremy, I hate you, but I love you even more. Do you hear me, Jeremy?” Madeline yelled hysterically at the car that was eventually becoming blurry in her vision.

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She sensed that Jeremy would never turn around to look at her again.

Perhaps this was their last encounter ever.

She hoped that he could hear her telling him how much she loved him. Her love was able to outweigh the hatred and resentment she had for him back then. Now all that remained was deep passion.

Jeremy looked at the figure in the rain that was slowly disappearing from the rear-view mirror. Then, he finally vomited the blood that he had been holding in this entire time.

Looking at the red liquid on the tissue, he leaned against the seat in exhaustion as his eyes started to look dazed.

‘Linnie, I heard you.

‘Thank you for not letting me leave this world with regrets.’

He curled the corner of his pale lips and lifted his left hand to look at the wedding ring that had returned to his ring finger once again.

Through his tears, he saw the ring dazzling under the dim light.

It was as if he could see the day he met Madeline through the sparkle. That day, she had crashed into him. The embarrassed smile she gave him when she lifted her head was so wonderful.

Madeline stood at the bustling crossroad for a very long time.

The rain had soaked her entire body, but she was already numb.

She lifted her head to look at the inky black sky and furrowed her brows.

“Why do you keep torturing me and him?”

“Why do you make people who can’t end up together fall in love with each other?”

“Why?”

She asked the sky and waited for an answer to an impossible question.

After Ryan received Jeremy’s message, he hurried over and saw Madeline standing at the junction in the rain while spacing out.

He took her to the hospital immediately to take care of the scratch on her knee and her twisted ankle.

Madeline was like a robot. She did not react at all.

Perhaps she had been in the rain for too long, she caught a high fever in the middle of the night.

Ryan stayed next to Madeline this entire time. At the same time, he also messaged Jeremy.

After Jeremy got news about Madeline, he started to feel restless.

He wanted to see her.

However, he was scared that she would notice him.

He got rid of this thought but could not sleep the entire night.

He was already not in good shape, but at this moment, he still had to suffer mentally.

The next morning, he sent Ryan a message to ask about Madeline. Then, Ryan sent him a photo.

It was a photo of Madeline's temperature that refused to go down.

When he thought about how cruel he was last night, Jeremy internally yelled at himself several times.

After a while, he received a call from Ryan.

"You should drop by. She keeps talking in her sleep and calling out your name," Ryan said before placing the phone next to Madeline.

Jeremy could hear Madeline murmuring his name lifelessly. She was saying, "Jeremy, don't go. Let me stay with you..."

Ryan was staying next to Madeline. After a while, Jeremy finally appeared.

He came quickly and got into the room hurriedly.

When Ryan saw Jeremy, he noticed that he looked more haggardly than before.

Even though he was still handsome, it was obvious he had become thinner.

“She’s in the room and she’s still groggy. Go in and just treat this as your final goodbye to her.”

Ryan turned around after he said that. He then left the time and place to Jeremy.

After Jeremy got into the room, he held Madeline’s hand sadly when he saw her unconscious on the bed.

However, the moment he grabbed her hand, Madeline tightened her grip on him and grabbed him back.

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