

The Woman from Hell by Su Luoluo

Chapter 1

“You are seven weeks pregnant.”

When the obstetrician handed over the pregnancy report to me, I had zero sense of joy within me.

How did it happen so easily?

If Theo Grant knew, would he not be willing to divorce anymore?

No, he would hate me even more for trying to use a child to tie him down.

“The first three months are crucial. Watch your diet, avoid having intercourse...” The doctor’s words brought me back to reality. I put away the report into my bag and left the hospital.

I was in no mood to work anymore, so I decided to just go back to the mansion.

The mansion was huge, but it was quiet and undisturbed all year long. Theo leaves early and comes back late. Even if he was at home, he would stay in his study or his bedroom. I have no permission to enter either of these rooms.

But, Theo was at home today. He sat on the sofa in the living room, his cold gaze, high nose bridge, perfectly thin lips, and even his side view, it would always be so handsome and perfect.

God really blessed this man. He had looks and money.

Despite noticing me coming, he continued reading his book with his head lowered, and asked coldly: “I heard you went to the hospital?”

“I was feeling unwell.” I’m used to being silent, but I would still reply when talked to.

He raised his head and looked at me, eyes full of indifference, and was displeased.

“I’m alright now, it won’t affect my work.” I was sure what he was displeased about, the company had a lot of work during this period, so it really wasn’t the time for me to fall sick.

He did not speak anymore and lowered his head to continue reading. After a long time, he finally spoke, “You’ll be fully responsible for choosing the product ambassador this time.”

Theo was already a man of few words, and was like that to me too. Other than work, he did not banter.

“

Yes.” I replied gently. I would accept whatever he assigns me, it has become a habit.

The two did not speak, and the atmosphere in the living room was so silent it was bizarre.

“Theo Grant!” Tugging at the report in my bag, after thinking for a while, I finally mustered the strength.

“Say it!” He still had his head lowered, his voice cold and bearing no trace of any warmth.

“...Have you eaten dinner?” I could not say the words ‘I’m Pregnant’ in the end. I did not want to ruin the peaceful atmosphere.

“You, go cook!” His speech was short and concise.

“Huh? Me, cook?”

“You don’t want to?” He raised his head and glanced at me.

“That’s not it.” I quickly stood up: “Is pasta in tomato sauce okay?”

He did not speak and lowered his head again, which was probably a sign of agreement.

After half an hour of fumbling around, the pasta was ready.

“Try it, it’s not bad.” I put the pasta in front of him and passed a fork over with anticipation.

He raised his head, this gaze was cold as usual. He took over the fork and wanted to eat, but the phone rang.

He looked down at it and quickly accepted the call, his tone soft: “Cindy, what’s wrong?”

Theo Grant’s warmth was Cindy Reed’s and hers only.

“Stay there, I’ll come over now.” Who knew what Cindy said, but Theo was patiently consoling her and did not have that cold aura around him anymore.

He hung up, put down the fork, and stood to leave.

This was not the first time this has happened, I was numb to it.

I sat there for a long time. The pasta turned cold and clumpy. Taking up a fork, my tears flowed

uncontrollably.

I lowered my head and slowly jammed the pasta into my mouth, strand by strand.

After finishing the pasta, I headed into the bathroom, preparing to take a bath and sleep after that.

When I was about to finish my shower, a sturdy body suddenly pulled me into his embrace.

Chapter 2

I let out a shriek and backed away instinctively.

“It is me.” I was shocked for a moment, hearing Theo's cold voice.

Did he not head off to accompany Cindy? Why did he return so quickly?

He did not say anything, and he leaned down to kiss me. I could not avoid him.

A sharp stench of alcohol filled my mouth. Theo was drunk!

I was afraid.

The last time he entered my room, it was three years ago. He was drunk the last time as well. I could still remember his condescending look and his mocking tone of voice vividly.

I panicked and gazed at him with a pleading look: “Please don’t...”

“Huh?” He raised his head and looked at her. His dreamy eyes looked a bit sad.

The baby in me was only seven weeks old. Remembering what the doctor said, I was afraid that I would be in danger. I forced myself to look up at him and pleaded. "I am not feeling too well."

He did not say anything, but I could sense the fire burning in his eyes.

His expression showed me that he was furious. Very furious indeed!

I had somehow forgotten that his gentleness was never mine.

He clumsily carried me out of the bathroom.

The thunder and lightning outside the window complemented the situation within the room.

After a while, he got up and left.

I laid down, and the room door opened again.

He entered the room again, but this time only with a towel draped around him. He was wet, and there was water slowly dripping from his hair onto his chest. It made him look seductive.

This man, no matter what he did, was always so charming.

When he noticed that I was staring at him, he threw a towel at me and said in a low voice, "Dry me." There was no emotion in his words.

I obeyed him and knelt behind him to dry his hair.

“The funeral for your grandmother is in the afternoon tomorrow. Oldest Uncle had already gone to the old mansion.” I was not trying to start a conversation, but I was genuinely worried that he had forgotten about this as he was too distracted with Cindy.

He turned to look at me. His dark eyes narrowed, and he replied with the same cold icy tone of voice. “The Grant family matters are none of your business.”

Theo had lost his parents when he was young. It was his grandmother who had raised and trained him to become the successor of the company. He had the utmost respect for her. However, since she had threatened him with the company and with her own life to force him to marry me three years ago, he had rarely gone to visit her.

Now that she had passed away, he still had not let go of that grudge.

That was why he hated me. In the past three years, other than work, he would take me as invisible. In his heart, I was just a thorn that he could not wait to pull out. Now that she had passed away, he could not wait to get divorced and wanted me to sign the divorce papers.

He had never treated me as a member of the Grant family.

In those three years, I did not manage to melt his cold heart with my warmth.

I did not know what to say and just continued to dry his hair.

Theo's phone rang from on top of the desk next to the bed. I took a glance at the clock. It was almost 1 am.

Only Cindy would call this late.

Theo answered his phone and walked to the window, saying softly: "Turn off the lights, close your eyes, and go to sleep."

After his conversation with Cindy, he got up and left.

I would usually let him be, but somehow tonight, I did not want him to leave. I stood up and grabbed him, begging softly. "Can you please stay for tonight?"

Chapter 3

Theo frowned, and his handsome face showed signs of displeasure. "Who are you to try to control me?"

His voice was thirty percent sarcastic and seventy percent disdainful.

I knew very well that it was impossible to make him stay, but sometimes I just had to try. I looked into his eyes and said softly, "I will agree to the divorce. The condition is that you stay tonight and accompany me to Grandmother's funeral tomorrow afternoon. I will sign the papers after the funeral."

He narrowed his eyes and grabbed my chin. His deep eyes were filled with disdain and mockery as he slowly said, "Do you even know how to make a man stay?"

His voice was low and husky with a hint of seduction.

I understood what he meant, but I did not know much about making love.

After a long time, I unbuckled my belt. Theo pushed me away and said in disgust, "You are disgusting!"

With that, he turned around and left without looking back.

Haha, is there anything more humiliating than this? I did not care about shame and had put aside my dignity. I only wanted to keep my husband. In the end, all I got in return was the words: "You are disgusting!"

I sat there until dawn. I wanted to return to the old mansion, but my assistant called to say that Theo had gone to the office to perform an inspection.

I had no choice but to rush to the office.

The weather forecast predicted there would be a heavy rainstorm today. I thought that it would be unsafe to drive and decided to go by taxi. After waiting for a long time, there was still no taxi in sight. I gritted my teeth and ended up driving to the office despite the risk.

Just as I reached the entrance, my assistant, Heidi, ran out anxiously. "Cindy wants to act in "The Biography of Empress Anna"".

"What is wrong with her this time?" I asked, feeling a headache that was about to come. I knew very well that she was looking for trouble again.

"Who knows! Chairman is angry that you have already signed Sherry on as the female lead," Heidi said cautiously.

"I got it. You can go back to work now!" I walked up to my office, tidied my hair, and held in the anxiety in my heart before pushing the door open.

Theo was sitting on the sofa in the room with a gloomy expression. His body emitted a cold icy aura. His aura filled the room to the point it felt like the temperature in the room had dropped a few degrees.

Before Wanda could say anything, the office door opened, and Cindy walked in.

Cindy had always looked beautiful and expensive. However, she looked like a drowned rat now, and water from her hair was still dripping down her face

Despite it all, she still looked beautiful. Her wet clothes outlined her perfect figure, and her beautiful face looked even more delicate because of the raindrops.

Theo jumped up and wrapped her in his arms. He asked dotingly, "Where did you go? What happened?"

Wiping the water off her face, Cindy picked up the bag in her hand and said weakly, "Theo, I heard you have not had your breakfast yet, so I went to buy your favorite burger."

"Silly girl, it is raining so heavily outside. It does not matter if I have eaten my breakfast or not." Theo pulled Cindy into his embrace with his face full of guilt and heartache.

He quickly took off his jacket and draped it over her. She hugged him tightly and whispered in his arms, "But I care about you!"

After seeing the whole scene unfold, I suddenly understood why I was no match to Cindy although I was married to Theo for three years.

There were crowds of whispering and gossiping employees outside my office door. When they saw the two of them hugging each other, they looked at me sympathetically.

I got up and gently closed my office door, shutting out the whisperings outside.

Theo carried Cindy and walked further into the room. There was a small bedroom and a bathroom there. When I was busy with work, I would usually spend the night there.

I took a few steps forward and stood at the door, blocking their way. I lowered my head and whispered, "There is a change of clothes ready in the reception room outside."

This was my territory. Whether it was the villa or the old mansion, Cindy had begun piling her things, be it intentionally or unintentionally. I did not want the only remaining pure and untainted space to have any traces of her.

"Get out of the way!" Theo said. His voice was cold and sinister, and his dark eyes looked at me in disgust.

Chapter 4

I closed my eyes. I felt like there were daggers in my chest. I did not want to watch the person I loved deeply care for another and hate me.

"This is my office. Please go to the reception room," I insisted when I opened my eyes again.

Theo sneered and pushed me away. He said sternly, "Wanda Lane, do you think that the Grant family belongs to you just because you bear the title of Mrs. Grant? You are not worthy!"

His sharp words were disheartening as if they were cold water splashed at me.

I took a step back and helplessly watched as Theo carried Cindy into the bathroom.

He was right. This place belonged to the Grant family and not to me.

Theo opened the wardrobe and took out an unworn set of clothes. He handed it to her and said softly, "Quickly take a hot bath. You might catch a cold later."

"Theo, it is not that I do not want to wear Wanda's clothes. But you know that I have some skin allergies, so I can only wear custom-made clothes." Cindy held the clothes and said with a troubled expression.

"Do you mean the custom-made ones from Eastpeak? I will go get them immediately." Theo walked out after saying that.

"Theowwy, I feel so dizzy all of a sudden." Cindy held her forehead and fell into his embrace.

Theo held her in his arms and looked up to see that I was still standing there. He coldly said, "Go to Eastpeak and get some clothes for Cindy."

His tone was direct and stern, not taking no for an answer.

There was still a thunderstorm outside. He only cared about Cindy, and he never thought that I would have to brave the rain too.

Looking at Theo's serious expression, I did not know how to tell him that the thunderstorm outside had halted the taxi services. It was not safe for a woman like me to drive alone from the West City to the East City in a storm.

I knew that he did not care about this at all. All he cared about was that Cindy gets her custom-made clothes.

I swallowed the bitterness in me and headed out.

They said that love is cruel, and whoever fell in love first would lose. The first time I saw Theo, I had already fallen in love with him. I was fated to bow to him in our relationship.

The rain was pouring heavily, and the sky was as dark as my mood. I could only see less than five meters ahead of me and had to rely on my senses to drive the car in such conditions. Fortunately, there was no one on the street, nor was there a single car.

When I returned to my office with the clothes two hours later, Cindy was sitting on the sofa calmly in my clothes.

Theo was beside her, using the hairdryer to blow her hair.

"Theow, try this grape. Although it looks hideous, I did not expect it to taste so good." She fed him the grape.

Those were my grapes. Perhaps because I was pregnant, I had been craving grapes from my hometown in the past few days. Heidi had especially asked someone to bring them back for me. The box of grapes had just arrived yesterday, and I had yet to open it myself.

He raised his head with a smile and opened his mouth to eat it. He said gently, "If you like them, you can bring them home later." He smiled and looked at her lovingly.

This interaction was warm and sweet, like a couple in love.

"They are a good match, aren't they?" a gloating voice came from behind her.

I was shocked and turned around. Theo's buddy, Zedd Nichols, looked as if he was grinning but not at me.

"Yes, that is why you are fated to be a fan only." I laughed lightly. I could also be quite sharp-tongued, except when I was in front of Theo.

Zedd was a loyal fan of Cindy. For the sake of Theo and Cindy, he had been picking on me. In return, I did not show him any mercy.

"You..." Zedd left angrily after my words had struck a nerve.

"Wanda, you are back." Upon hearing my voice, Cindy turned her head and said innocently, "I was just about to ask you where you bought your clothes. Somehow I did not get any allergies when I put them on. It feels very amazing."

"So, you will not need these anymore, will you?" I turned and tossed the bag of Eastpeak clothes into the trash can.

Cindy immediately stopped smiling and looked ashamed. She lowered her head and sobbed. "Wanda, I am truly sorry that you wasted your effort to go all the way there for me. Please do not be angry with Theo. He only made you go because he was afraid that I would get skin allergies."

Chapter 5

'F*cking hell, with her acting skills. It would be such a waste if she did not become an actress.' I could not help but vent out in my heart.

"It is okay. I am strong and not afraid of the rain. I am glad you are okay." Not wanting to pretend around with her anymore, I walked around the table to get ready to work.

My words stunned Cindy. She turned around and looked at Theo. "Theow, it is all my fault. I made Wanda go all the way there for nothing. Can you let her have breakfast with us as my apology?"

I...

At first, Theo was seated there and could not be bothered about me. When he heard Cindy speak, he put down the hairdryer and looked at me. "Come and eat."

His tone was cold and emotionless.

Did it hurt? I was used to it!

When it came to people whom I cared about, I could never reject them coldly.

Despite having mixed feelings, I still smiled and said softly, "Thank you." Then I turned around and sat on the other corner of the sofa.

"Wanda, try this burger. It is mine and Theowy's favorite. Whenever we are together, he would always queue up to buy it." Cindy handed me a burger.

I looked down at the burger. I did not consider it as a burger, but instead, it was their way of showing their affection in public. I held it in my hand but didn't eat it.

When Cindy noticed my lack of reaction, Cindy became a little resentful. She turned to Theo and smiled. "Theowy, if I get to act in the film, you must buy the burgers for me when you visit."

Theo froze for a moment. After hearing about the film, he remembered the real purpose that he came here today. He glared at me and coldly said, "Terminate the contract with Sherry Young immediately."

"You said that the operations of the company are fully under my control." Although I was afraid of his superiority, I had to put my foot down to protect the interest of the company. How could I just terminate the contract with the female lead whom I had just signed?

Sherry was currently one of the top four most popular actresses. She had good looks and acting skills. Most importantly, whoever played the role of male lead with her would become popular because of her.

"The Biography of Empress Anna" was set to be the company's annual blockbuster. I was counting on Sherry to make the film popular and to elevate the male actors of our company.

"Wanda, don't be angry with Theowy. It is all my fault. Ever since I debuted, I have not acted, mainly because I have not found a character that I liked. This time, when I heard about "The Biography of Empress Anna", I mentioned to Theowy that I wanted to be the female lead. I did not know that you

had already signed another actress for the role."

Cindy looked at me in shame again. She looked terrified and guilty!

"It is not your fault. Be good and eat." Theo gently patted her hair.

He turned to me once again and assumed his cold demeanor. He raised his voice and said, "I have also said that Nectarine Entertainment existed for Cindy. Everything should follow her wishes."

His tone was stern.

He was right. Nectarine Entertainment indeed existed for Cindy.

"Three years ago, when Theo married me, Cindy had kicked up a big fuss over it. To make her happy, Theo bought a film company for her. He named it Nectarine Entertainment. Its existence was primarily to support Cindy.

Perhaps it was for Cindy to vent her anger that Theo transferred me over to manage the film company.

If I was said to be the thorn in Theo's heart, then Nectarine Entertainment was the arrow he used to stab deeply into my heart to avenge Cindy. In the past three years, Cindy had not acted. Other than sticking closely to Theo, she had specially created all kinds of trouble for me.

Every day, apart from seeing how they expressed their love to each other and trampled me, I also had to deal with the multitude of troubles Cindy threw at me.

On one hand, I was spending money and effort to gain popularity for Cindy, who did not do anything, to keep her relevant and on top of trends. On the other hand, the company was doing well under my management. Few films and television projects that I had invested in gained popularity. Several young celebrities in our company were elevated to the top.

"The contract has already been signed. If we terminate the contract, the penalty will be ten times the original amount." I was speaking the truth. Sherry's schedule was super packed. To sign the contract, I had offered a considerable price even in the industry.

"That is your problem!" Theo stood up and wanted to leave with Cindy.

"Theo." Seeing that he was about to leave again, I called out to him.

Chapter 6

He stopped in his tracks and asked apathetically, "What is the matter?"

"It is Grandmother's funeral today," I said quickly.

He paused for a long time before saying, "It is good enough if you attend."

"But she is your grandmother." His attitude toward his grandmother had already made his eldest uncle and his second uncle very unhappy. If he did not attend today, what would they think?

"I have already made arrangements for the burial. Go and talk to Keith." His voice was calm as if he was giving instructions.

Seeing that he was about to leave again, I raised my voice and said uncomfortably, "I have agreed to the divorce. The condition is that you accompany me to Grandmother's funeral in the afternoon, and I will sign the divorce papers after that."

For some reason, my words managed to provoke him. He grabbed my jaw and snapped, "It is not up to you whether to divorce or not. You do not have the final say."

I did not struggle and just let him grab me. I just looked up at him with a determined gaze.

After a long time, he let go of me and gritted his teeth. "Very well, I promise you. I will go to the funeral myself, but you cannot follow! Also, terminate the contract with Sherry immediately." He coldly spoke those words and left without looking back.

I laughed silently. How ironic. Theo was going to announce to everyone that I would be kicked out of the house.

"Wanda Lane, you are too humble and pitiful. I have said it before. As long as I want it, Theo will give it to me." Cindy said mockingly beside her.

I turned around. Cindy was no longer playing nice as before. The innocence and cuteness on her face had long disappeared, leaving behind only the triumphant look.

"Miss Cindy is indeed a natural-born actress. The speed at which you changed your attitude is admirable." I did not want to see her, so I turned around to leave.

Cindy immediately stood up and stopped me. Theo was not around, so she did not need to pretend anymore. She looked at me coldly and said, "As long as you sign the divorce papers obediently, I will give up on the female lead role. Otherwise, just you wait for a lawsuit!"

I was taken aback, but I smiled and just looked at her. "Are you using your status as a mistress to force me into a divorce?"

"You are the mistress!" She was sensitive to being called a mistress and shouted, "If it were not for you, I would have married Theo a long time ago. He doesn't love you at all. The person he loves is me, and I am the only one in his heart."

"But I am still the rightful Mrs. Grant!" Ignoring her fury, I coldly walked around her and started to leave.

Other than Theo, I would not let anyone hurt me.

Cindy was left speechless by my retort. She pulled me over and said, "Wanda, you are so shameless. Theo already hates you so much. Why are you still shamelessly hanging around him like a fly?"

I stopped in my tracks and slowly turned around. In a calm voice, I said, "How is it shameless? The Grant family is rich, and Theo has both good looks and is very masculine. What use do you think I have for such a man?"

"You are too shameless!" Cindy could not win the argument, so she raised her hand in an attempt to hit me.

I would not give her a chance.

I grabbed her raised hand and said slowly, "If I were you, I would continue to pretend to be pure like a fake b*tch and not reveal my true colors."

With that, I swung her hand away.

Unexpectedly, Cindy was thrown backward from my action. She instinctively reached out to grab something next to her. A huge antique vase on the table was knocked over and was about to hit her head.

I extend both my hands quickly. Luckily, I reacted quickly enough to catch the vase. I let out a sigh of relief, lifted the vase, and placed it back on the table.

At this moment, Cindy, who was now lying on the ground, suddenly shivered. "Wanda, I will give up the role of the female lead. Do not smash me with the vase..."

Before I could react, my body was pushed away by a strong force. The vase fell and shattered into

pieces. I lost my balance and fell to the ground. My right hand pressed against the pile of broken porcelain pieces.

"Wanda Lane, how dare you?" Theo had a grim expression on his face. His dark eyes were so deep that it was scary.

Chapter 7

Anger, hate, and indifference were the emotions displayed on his face. His eyes widened as he glared at me, threatening to tear me apart and crush me to dust at any moment.

"Theow, my leg hurts," Cindy cried loudly.

Theo ignored me. He turned around, carried Cindy, and rushed out.

I sat still rooted to the ground, not knowing what to do!

"Miss Lane, your hand is bleeding!" Heidi exclaimed when she entered.

It was only then that I realized that my right hand was still on the porcelain piece. Blood was coming out from my hand! I raised my hand, and there were many small porcelain pieces embedded into my wound.

"That is a lot of blood. Does it hurt?" Heidi helped me up and carefully removed some big pieces of porcelain pierced in my palm.

"It is alright." It hurt very much, but compared to the hurt in my heart, the pain in my hand was nothing.

"Wanda, is it worth it for you to go through all this?" Heidi asked me cautiously with tears in her eyes. She had been with me for three years and had seen many things.

I did not answer her because I did not have the answer for myself. All these years, I had been trying, but it was all in vain. Was it worth it?

Heidi did not say anything else. She took my hand and pulled me outside. "The wound is too deep. You need to go to the hospital."

"I will go by myself. There will be a read-through of the script for the new movie. I will need you to go and supervise." The blood kept flowing, so I had no choice but to find a clean towel to wrap my hand and hail for a taxi to go to the hospital.

Fortunately, the hospital was very nearby. Even so, the white towel around my hand was already dyed red with blood.

As I reached the entrance, I saw Theo carrying Cindy as he walked over.

"Wanda, why is there so much blood on your hand?" Just as I was about to pretend not to see them and lower my head to leave, Cindy's voice spoke.

I looked up. She was in Theo's arms, looking at me with a questioning expression as if nothing had happened in the office.

If she acted in films using her acting skills, she would likely win an Oscar award.

Theo glanced at me coldly and snorted before turning away.

Cindy looked up with a worried expression on her innocent face. "Theowy, let Wanda go upstairs together with us. Doctor Mason is waiting for us. We can only be at ease if he helps Wanda bandage her wound too."

I forgot that this hospital belonged to Theo's other buddy, Mason Lynch.

"No need. I will go to the emergency area." Without waiting for Theo to chase me away, I tactfully turned around to leave.

Cindy's pretty eyes dimmed. She grabbed Theo's sleeve with one hand and shouted with a soft voice. "Theowwy!"

Indeed, a woman who knew how to act cute was invincible.

Theo was initially full of hatred toward me and was indifferent to my injuries. However, after Cindy had acted coquettishly, he turned to look at me and said in annoyance, "I told you to go, so go!"

His tone was still stern.

My heart did not have any change of emotions. It was entirely calm.

"Okay."

Although I knew that Cindy was up to no good, obeying Theo's orders had become one of my habits!

When I arrived at the VIP ward on the fifth floor, Mason, who was dressed in a white coat, stood at the door, and seemed to have been waiting for a long time. It was true that birds of a feather flock together. Theo's good friends were like him, both handsome and rich.

"She fell just now. Take a look at her feet." Theo carried Cindy into the ward.

Mason, who was standing at the door, looked at my hand and was stunned for a moment. In the end,

he did not say anything and turned around to enter the ward.

In the ward, Cindy sat on the bed. Theo sat beside her with one hand holding her shoulder. Mason bent down on the floor and gently shook her injured foot.

Cindy, just like a noble princess, always received love and care from everyone.

"Theow, it hurts!" Cindy had tears in her eyes as she pitifully reached out to grasp Theo's shoulders.

He hugged her tightly and patted her back to comfort her. "Bear with it for a while."

Taking advantage of an angle that was out of Theo's sight, Cindy looked up and gave me a taunting and victorious sneer.

Chapter 8

Ignoring her antics, I leaned quietly against the doorframe and watched them. My face was expressionless.

"There are no external injuries. Let us go and take an X-ray scan to see if there are any injuries to your bones." Mason stood up.

Theo carried Cindy out while Mason followed.

"Doctor Mason, can you help me bandage my wound first?" I asked in a gentle tone as I watched them leave.

The blood was still flowing from my hand. No one cared about me, and I could not ruin myself just because of both of them.

Theo stopped in his tracks and turned around to look at me with a frown. He said to Mason, "You stay here."

Mason did not say anything. He turned around and took out some tools. He then gently pulled out the remaining porcelain pieces from my wound using a tweezer before cleaning, disinfecting and bandaging the wound.

As expected of a famous doctor, his movements were skilled and gentle.

"Miss Lane, the wound is very severe. To avoid infection, it is best to take some antibiotics." Mason's tone was distant and polite. He paused for a moment and continued, "Actually, you do not have to suffer like this."

I heard that it was said, "Good friends will advise you to reconcile, but best friends will advise you to break up." Yet, Theo's good friends would always find opportunities to persuade me to divorce.

During the three years of my marriage with Theo, Mason's attitude towards me had always been polite and distant. He would only address me as Miss Lane and even persuade me to leave Theo whenever he had the chance.

Sometimes, I envied Cindy. Just by shedding a few tears, she could have the warmth and care that I could not get no matter how hard I tried.

I did not think too much about it. It would only make me depressed. I smiled and said, "Thank you, but there is no need."

Mason stared at me. "Does it not hurt?"

I shook my head lightly. This was the second person who had asked me this question today. Unfortunately, not Theo.

Without another word, he got up and left.

I wanted to leave, but I remembered that Grandmother's funeral was in the afternoon. After the huge mess, Theo probably had forgotten about it again. Although I was not allowed to attend, I still wanted to remind him.

It was a way of repaying my grandmother-in-law for treating me well all these years.

Shortly after, Theo carried Cindy back.

Cindy seemed to have fallen asleep. He carefully placed her on the bed and slowly covered her with the blanket.

"Theo," I said softly, suppressing the sadness in my heart.

He raised his eyes and glared at me, hinting for me to lower my voice. He turned around and saw that Cindy was fast asleep. Then, he said coldly, "Speak!"

"Grandmother's funeral starts at two in the afternoon," I reminded him quietly.

"I know." It was rare that Theo did not get angry at me for nagging.

"That is good." I looked down and stood quietly by the bed, wishing he would change his mind and allow me to go to the funeral.

However, he said nothing. He did not even want to spend time with me. He got up and went to the hallway to smoke.

"Wanda, pestering him will not change the outcome. He will not let you go to the funeral." Cindy's clear voice was heard.

She was pretending to be asleep earlier on.

My thoughts were uncovered, I was stunned for a moment before I said indifferently, "You have been pestering him every day. How would I know if I do not try?"

She giggled. "I am not like you. His heart is with me."

Lowering my head and twirling the ring on my finger, I smiled faintly. "Who can guarantee that my life will not change in the next few decades? At least I have a marriage license as a guarantee. What about you?"

My words sank into Cindy's heart. She then became uncomfortable.

She sat up and looked at me provocatively. "Do you want to make a bet? A bet that Theo will stay with me?"

I remained silent. I had nothing that could be used to bet on, for I had lost completely to her.

Cindy did not say anything else. She turned around and poured a cup of boiling water on the bedside table onto the back of her hand. Her actions were ruthless without any hesitation.

Everything happened so suddenly that I could only stand there, shocked and unable to react in time.

Hot water poured down from the back of her hand, and the back of her pink and smooth hand turned red very quickly. "Ah!" Her screams were loud and terrible."

Her screams were not an act anymore.

"What is wrong?" Theo rushed in at lightning speed.

Chapter 9

"Theow, I want to drink some water..." Even though it was painful for her, Cindy did not forget her lines.

"Are you dead? Why didn't you pour her some water?" After Theo pressed the button on the bed, he turned around and shouted at me. His eyes and expression were terrifyingly dark.

If it were not for Cindy who was still in his arms, he would have eaten me alive.

I lowered my head and did not say anything. Although it was not my fault, this matter was ultimately related to me. I was the one who provoked Cindy and made her feel uneasy.

That was why she had hurt herself to prove her place in Theo's heart.

She did not even need to prove herself. Everyone knew how much he treasured her!

Mason rushed over shortly after. A large group of people surrounded Cindy and started treating her burns. I quietly left the ward and walked out of the hospital.

The rain was not as heavy, but it was still drizzling.

Since I was not allowed to appear at the funeral, I had no reason to go to the old mansion anymore. However, I still took a taxi to the Grant family cemetery in advance.

Grandmother was my benefactor, and she treated me like her own granddaughter when she was alive. I had to go to send her off on a final journey.

There was a small hill in the Grant family's cemetery. It was said that the ancestors of the Grant family had especially sought out a master to find this strategic location that would help maintain the prosperity in the family. The ancestors of the Grant family were all buried here and watchmen were guarding it.

As it was still early, there were only a few workers who had come to prepare in advance.

Grandmother's grave would be next to Grandfather's. I found a small bush that was higher on higher ground. This way, I could avoid being seen by Theo and send Grandmother off in my way.

I sat on the wet ground in a daze and thought about my situation. Thinking of Theo's indifferent attitude towards me, I felt uncomfortable.

At four-thirty in the afternoon, Grandmother's ashes and the Grant family members gradually arrived at the cemetery.

Grandmother was a person of great virtue and prestige when she was alive. Other than the members of the Grant Family, there were also countless other people from prestigious families in Salt City that came to attend. The vast crowd had no end.

However, I still saw Theo in the long queue. He was always like a crane in a flock of chickens, and his black clothes made him look even more handsome.

Theo was pushing a wheelchair. With a closer look, I saw Cindy was sitting in it!

He brought her along!

He brought her to attend such an event today because he could not wait to introduce Cindy to everyone.

Although her feet and hands were wrapped in thick gauze, and she looked a little exhausted, Cindy's eyes could not contain her excitement.

Haha, indeed Cindy's sacrifice was worth it. He did not leave her behind but even allowed her to appear at the Grant family's funeral.

She finally got her wish!

My heart felt like it had been pierced by a needle. It hurt so much that I could not breathe.

Not wanting to look at the scene in front of me again, I turned around and left the cemetery. I stumbled and my stomach churned. I could not help but throw up by a tree.

I was gagging for a long time, but nothing came out. Then I remembered that I hadn't eaten anything all day except the cold plate of pasta from last night.

If I was alone, it would not matter if I had eaten. But for the sake of the child in my belly, I had to force myself to eat something.

I turned around and went down the mountain. I walked toward the Grant family's old mansion, which was close to the cemetery. I planned to ask Miss Woods for some food before going home while everyone was gone.

I stood outside the mansion and looked at the tall building with tears in my eyes. This might be my last time here. After the funeral, it would be time for me to fulfill my promise and sign the divorce papers.

The door suddenly opened from the inside. Miss Woods was surprised. "Young Madam, why are you standing there?"

I raised my head and smiled. "Miss Woods, is there anything to eat? I'm hungry."

"Yes. Come in quickly. I'll take you to the side hall."

Although I didn't say anything, Miss Woods was someone who had been by my grandmother's side for many years. She was clear on what happened. Since I had appeared here at this time, she naturally understood what was going on. She took me to a deserted side hall.

I forced myself to eat something. My stomach felt much better in no time.

Just as I was about to get up and leave, Miss Woods took out a box and handed it to me. With a pitiful expression, she said, "This is what Old Madam Grant left for you when she was alive. Keep it well."

After a pause, she continued, "The Old Madam said that if the Young Master should ever force you to get a divorce after she departs from this world, you should give this box to him. After he sees it, he'll have some reservations and won't divorce you easily."

I looked down at the exquisite little box in my hand. It was square but firm. I couldn't open it at all. I looked at Miss Woods and asked, "How do I open it?"

Chapter 10

"I do not know how to either. But the Old Madam said that the Young Master knows how to open it." Miss Woods shook her head, looking troubled.

I kept the box and thanked Miss Woods before leaving.

Miss Wood's voice spoke out behind me. "Young Madam, you do not look too good. You must take care of your health. Before Old Madam passed away, she had always spoken about you and wanted

you and Young Master to have a child soon. The Grant family's bloodline is in your hands now."

At the mention of children, I could not help but stop in my tracks. I raised my hand to wave at Miss Woods and left without looking back.

Grandma had three sons. The eldest son, Eastin, had a daughter. The second son, Sam, had chosen to not have any children with his wife. The third son was Theo's father, Nord. He passed away with Theo's mother in an airplane accident when Theo was three years old.

Although the Grant family had a big family business, they had very few family members. Grandma had always hoped that Theo could start a family soon and continue on the bloodline.

"Oh, I was wondering who it was. Isn't this the former Young Madam of the Grant family? What did I say back then? Without the Old Madam's support, you will not be able to be arrogant for much longer. Did my words come true so quickly?" Just as I was thinking, a gloating voice came from the front.

Without even looking, it was obvious that this person was Eastin's wife, Janna Long.

It was natural that there were many disputes among wealthy families. Although Eastin was the eldest son, he had never been put in an important position by his mother. Furthermore, he had given birth to a daughter. Thus, his mother had handed the entire Grant family over to Theo instead. His wife was unwilling to accept this, so she hated him.

She, however, never dared to act rashly in front of Theo.

I came from a poor family and was given an important position by Grandmother. I had become a thorn in her side. Whenever she had the chance, she would mock me. I had long gotten used to it.

Suppressing the sadness in my heart, I raised my head and politely greeted her and Shea Marie who was behind her, "Hello, Eldest Aunt and Second Aunt!"

"Why are you so useless? You were kicked out of the family just like that. Sigh!" Second Aunt sighed. Second Aunt did not have any children and was holding shares in the Grant Corporation. She was not friendly to me, nor was she targeting me.

"Theo is an ingrate. You can tell from his attitude toward the old lady. It is a waste that the old lady kept thinking about him before she died," Janna said with disdain.

"Alright, that is enough." Shea glared at her before turning to me. "Grandmother has already been buried. You should go back earlier! If you encounter any difficulties in the future, you can come to the old mansion to look for us."

"Mm. Thank you, Second Aunt." I felt bitterness in my heart. After Grandmother had departed, everyone knew that my fate with the Grant family was at its tail end. They all treated me as an outsider.

The wind will stop, the rain will dry, the sun will set, and eventually, I will lose him.

The Grant family's old mansion was at the top of the mountain. There were no foreign or branded cars here. It was getting dark, so I quickened my steps and walked down.

"Screech..." A car stopped beside me. As I turned my head, I saw Theo sitting in the car. His expression was deep, and I could not see any emotions.

Why was he here? Where was Cindy?

He did not look at me. His expression was cold as usual. He just said in a low voice, "Get in!"

Are you here to fetch me?

As I hesitated, the car started moving, and was about to leave. I did not have much time to think about it, so I quickly opened the door and got in.

The temperature in the car was low, and I could not help but shiver.

He turned around and glared at me with a cold expression. The anger on his face was vivid. I could not help but lower my head and whisper, "I do not have any other intentions. I just wanted to send Grandmother off for the last time in secret."

He must be angry at me for breaking the agreement and appearing at the Grant family's old mansion.

I thought he would fly into a rage and scold me, but he did not say a word. Instead, he turned around and focused on driving.

Neither of us spoke on the way. The silence in the car was terrifying.

I pinched my fingers together and tried to speak several times, but each time I saw his dark expression, I forced the words back down my throat.

After a long time, I could not help but ask, "Is Miss Cindy alright?"

The car came to a sudden stop, and Theo's suddenly body pressed against mine. His well-defined face was inches away from mine, and his deep black eyes were full of coldness. I could see anger and murder intent in his eyes.

Chapter 11

I instinctively pulled back and closed my eyes. I dared not look him in the eye anymore.

He reached out his hand to hold my chin and forced me to look at him. He then spoke up in a cold tone, "How dare you ask me that, you coldhearted woman?!"

“...It wasn’t me.” I did not dare to struggle against him despite my face hurt from the way he held me. Cindy Reed was hurt. He would eventually ask me to pay for it.

“How dare you deny what you’ve done? Wanda Lane, did you think that I wouldn’t dare to get a divorce just because you have that box?” He asked mockingly. His voice was icy cold.

I was stunned. Theo found out about it so soon.

“I didn’t smash the vase against her head. I didn’t splash her with water either.” Although there was no need for me to explain myself, I still felt like telling him everything.

I felt slightly bitter as I told him, “I don’t want to open the box that grandmother gave me, nor will I use it to keep our marriage. Theo Grant, I promise you that we will get divorced. We can carry out the procedures tomorrow!”

The sky was pitch black now. The sound of the billowing wind coupled with the pitter-patter of rainwater against the car windows made the atmosphere in the car even colder.

My sudden agreement to the divorce seemed to have shocked Theo. He let go of me, and his lips pulled back into a cold sneer. “Cindy is still injured. Are you trying to get away with what you’ve done right now?”

I was stunned. I could not comprehend what Theo wanted from me. He had always wanted me to agree to a divorce. What did he want now from me to avenge Cindy?

“From today onwards, you will be taking care of Cindy till she recovers.” He sat up straight as he tapped his long and slender fingers against the steering wheel. His gaze deepened.

I did not know what his intentions were, so I just slightly nodded.

Just like Cindy had mentioned, I was a doormat in the presence of Theo. It seemed that I had made it a habit to submit to his every request no matter the consequences to myself.

When he had asked me to take care of Cindy, I would nod and agree even though I was reluctant to do so.

Theo had stopped speaking and had a dark expression on his face. I could not comprehend his emotions at all.

He started the car again. Soon, we arrived at our home in Regal Villa.

“Theo, you’re back?” Out spoke a cheery voice as soon as the door opened. Cindy’s expression changed cold as soon as she saw me entering the house. “Why are you here?” She asked in an unwelcoming tone.

I was so angry that I started laughing. I had seen people taking things that did not belong to them, but I had never seen someone who did it in such a self-righteous manner.

“This is still my home for now.” I was not bothered about her. I turned around to look at Theo and said to him softly, “You promised me that you would not bring her over before I leave.”

“Wanda Lane, don’t act all haughty.” Without looking at me, he walked past me apathetically and headed toward Cindy.

“Theo, I think I should not have come over. I have made Wanda unhappy. Let me go back. I will be alright on my own.” Cindy suppressed her dissatisfaction and reverted to her usual gentle and coy attitude.

He stroked her hair lovingly and held her hand. He then spoke to her in a gentle tone, “Silly, don’t

overthink. You're injured. How can you stay on your own? Don't worry and stay here. Let her take care of you for a few days. That is what she ought to do."

The scene which played before my eyes pierced my heart.

Cindy smiled sweetly and said cheerily, "Alright, I'll listen to what you say."

Both of them gazed and smiled at each other as if I did not exist at all.

Despite being the lady of the house, I had no right to say anything at all. They had put up this entire act by themselves.

Not wanting to be torture myself with such an eyesore, I turned around to head up the stairs.

Cindy spoke up from behind. "Wanda, why didn't you attend Grandmother's funeral today? Grandmother had loved you so much when she was alive. Everyone was asking where you were during the funeral. You shouldn't have behaved so rashly and put Theo in an awkward position."

Chapter 12

I was taken aback by her words. I knew that she did it on purpose, but I could not stop the hurt from her words.

I gripped the railing of the stairs tightly. My knuckles turned white from the force of me holding onto it. After some moments, I calmed myself down and turned around slowly. I then tried to say something.

"Are you hungry? I can cook something for you." Theo interjected, not giving me a chance to speak. He smiled while looking at Cindy.

"Sure, sure. Theo, I want to have some of the fish cooked by you." Cindy ignored me and looked at Theo with a joyous expression on her face.

“Alright. Why don’t you watch some television while you wait for me? It will be ready soon.”

I turned around and headed upstairs. I closed the door to shut out the noises from the living room.

After returning to my room, I sat in front of the window wall. It was a hot day, but I was feeling so cold that I was trembling. I wrapped my arms around my knees and curled up on myself.

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In the morning, the ringtone from my phone woke me up.

It was from Cindy’s texts. She wanted me to go down to prepare breakfast for her. I was still dazed since I had just woken up. After a few moments, I finally recalled that Theo had told me to take care of her yesterday.

My head hurt a little as I did not sleep well last night. I struggled to get out of bed.

“Mason, please have a seat. I’ll get some fruit for you.” As I headed downstairs, I heard Cindy greeting Mason as if she was the lady of the house.

After speaking, she wheeled herself back to the dining room. Since she was not used to using a wheelchair, the wheelchair did not move no matter how much she tried to wheel it.

I stood on the staircase in silence as I watched her performance. There was no sign of Theo in the house. He must be at work.

“No need. Please don’t move about,” Mason said. He then turned around and caught sight of me. He nodded and said coldly, “Miss Lane, Theo asked me over to change Cindy’s dressing.”

“Wanda, you’re finally awake. Get some fruits for Mason and prepare breakfast at once!” Cindy ordered. She was already treating me like a maid.

I did not say a word and headed to the kitchen. Mason followed me and said, “I know that you did not do it. Didn't you clarify this with him?”

I knew that he was referring to Cindy’s injury at the company.

After a moment of silence, I turned around to take a teacup and poured water into the cup for him. “My explanation is not important. What is more important is that Miss Reed is injured, and someone must take care of her, isn’t it?” I asked in exasperation.

Mason did not say anything. He turned around to grab a medicine kit from the living room. He looked at me and said, “Your dressing needs to be changed as well.”

After saying that, he took my injured hand without waiting for a response from me. He removed the layers of bandage. The wound had turned whitish due to the rainwater yesterday. It looked like it was suppurating.

Oddly, I did not feel any pain from last night till today morning.

Mason stopped and frowned. He raised his head to look at me. After a while, he asked, “Does it hurt?”

It was the second time that he had asked me that question.

I kept quiet. A wave of emotions washed over me. Drip! A large teardrop the size of a pearl fell onto the ground. Wind billowed through the corridor. The silent and deserted corridor seemed even more empty.

Even a mere acquaintance like Mason believed that I did not hurt Cindy. Mason even remembered that I hurt my hand too and had asked me twice if I felt hurt.

Why wouldn't he think the same way? How could he be so forgetful? How could he not remember any of it? How could he ask me to take care of his beloved when my hand was injured as well?

He knew that I would be upset, and somehow he always managed to hurt me even more.

I tried to pull back my hand from his hands. However, he held on to my hand tightly.

“If you do not change your dressing, the wound will fester further.” Mason assumed his usual calmness and grabbed my hand firmly to treat my wound.

I knew that he was not a nosy person. Did my situation warranted his pity, or was he treating me nicely because I was Theo's wife?

After changing my bandage, Mason remained silent and turned around to change the dressing of Cindy's wound.

I took out a few eggs from the refrigerator and fried them. I toasted a few pieces of bread and poured some milk. After preparing them, I divided the food into three portions and took it out to the living room.

“Is this all that you are letting me eat?” Cindy asked with much dissatisfaction in her voice.

“What else are you expecting?” I took a bite of my bread and looked at her impassively.

“I don't care. I want to have a large feast. I am calling Theo right now, and I am going to ask him to come back to cook lunch for me in the afternoon.” Cindy took out her phone after speaking.

Chapter 13

It was not easy for Theo to manage Grant Corporation. For the sake of Theo, I got up and said, "Fine, Miss Reed. What would you like to eat? I'll buy them for you."

Cindy listed down a bunch of dishes straight away.

I frowned and refrained from saying anything. "Please stay for lunch too. I'll be back soon," I told Mason, who was seated on the sofa.

He had helped to change the dressing for my wound earlier. I should thank him.

Because of my hand injury, I did not buy any ingredients to cook. Instead, I packed dishes from a few renowned restaurants in the city.

It was almost afternoon when I returned home. As I entered the gate, I heard conversations coming from the garden. Theo and Mason were talking.

It took more than two hours to return home from the city. I did not expect Theo to come home.

"Her hand is slightly inflamed. You should not have gotten her to take care of Cindy," Mason said. I could not help myself from turning around and looking into the garden.

Theo leaned against the fence with a cigarette in his hand. There was a cold expression on his face. "She deserves it!" he said apathetically.

Mason got up and lit his cigarette. He stood beside him and spoke up after a while, "You know that she would not do such a thing. You know that she loves you too. Your grandmother is resting in peace now. Let go of her if you don't love her. Return her freedom to her."

Theo raised his eyes after hearing his words. He looked over at Mason and asked coldly, "Since when did you care so much about her?"

Mason laughed lightly and said, "Stop overthinking. I just wanted to remind you that even the deepest love can run dry one day. Don't wait till the day she takes back her love and starts hating you."

Theo extinguished the cigarette in his hand and threw it into the pond. "I don't need her love to me," he said coldly.

I could not continue listening anymore. Some things were best left unheard, and there was no need to hear it with my ears. I don't need more weight added to my emotional baggage.

I placed the dishes that I had bought on the dining table. After that, I turned around and left the house. I endured the pain in my hand as I drove to the company.

Anyway, Theo was there to care for Cindy. I was just an extra at home while I had plenty of work matters to handle at the company.

"Wanda, Director Weiss called earlier. He heard from some unknown sources that we were going to change the female lead. He was furious," Heidi reported to me as soon as I entered the office.

"It's alright. Let me handle this matter. Give me the profiles of female models who have walked the runways in all the international fashion shows this year."

The filming of "The Biography of Empress Anna" was still in the preliminary stage. I had enough time to convince Cindy to give up on it. My top priority was to find an ambassador for a new product that Theo had assigned to us.

Grant Corporation would release a new series of jewelry every year. Based on their track record, different ambassadors were representing each series of jewelry.

The previous jewelry ambassadors included actresses and female singers. This year, I intended to look for a local female model with good international reviews suitable to represent Grant Corporation's latest jewelry.

Heidi was very efficient in her work and had handed me a large pile of data shortly after. I started scrutinizing the data.

Before I realized it, it was already late evening. The city lights were illuminating the streets outside the window. The others had all had gone off work. Heidi was the only one remaining at her work desk. She kept looking at her watch. It seemed like she had something urgent to do.

"Help me order some takeaway, and you can get off work!" I got up and told her.

"Alright. Don't stay too late, Wanda." Heidi left in a hurry after ordering my takeaway.

The takeaway arrived shortly after.

There was no suitable candidate who had caught my eye. After dinner, I headed toward the small bedroom.

I did not feel like going home today.

Perhaps it was because of my pregnancy. I had felt exhausted and sleepy lately. In the small bedroom, I took a shower and fell asleep.

In the middle of the night, someone lightly pushed open the room door. Although the person did not make much noise, I could still hear it.

I would wake up easily because of my past traumatic experience. No matter how tired I was, I would immediately wake up to even the slightest noise.

A dark figure walked in and stood in front of my bed, staring at me in silence. I was so afraid that I bit down on the sheets to stop myself from making any noise.

After a while, the dark figure sat down by my bed and lit a cigarette. With dim light from the cigarette, I managed to take a clear look at the person. It was Theo Grant.

“Why are you here?” I got up to turn on the bedside lamp, still looking at him.

Chapter 14

He did not say anything and was staring at me silently. I could not help but feel nervous with the proximity of his angular and handsome face to me. The air inside the room seemed to have thinned out. I got up to open the windows.

Suddenly, he pulled me into an embrace and wrapped both of his arms around me and held me tightly.

“Theo Grant.” Although I did not know why he behaved this way, I did not like being hugged like that. Although I struggled in his arms, he still did not let go.

The sharp stench of alcohol rose to my nose. Theo was drunk again.

“Let go of me. I’ll pour a cup of water for you,” I spoke softly.

“Will it become hate?” He asked as he hugged me tightly.

I did not understand what he meant and could only look at him in confusion. His lips were slightly apart, and his dark eyes were quite dilated and out of focus. It seemed like he was heavily drunk.

I did not understand how he managed to find her even in such a state.

“Will it change?” He did not give up when I did not respond to him. He stubbornly continued while looking me in the eye.

“It will,” I told him as I pulled his arms from around me. I tried to free myself from his embrace, but he held me tightly in a vice-like grip.

“Will you take it back?” He continued asking me as he grabbed my hand like a child to stop me from moving.

I suddenly understood what he was asking. I did not know what to say. “I don’t know either,” I told him in exasperation.

He stopped asking me questions. His breath grew erratic as he hugged me tighter.

I held his face and said softly, “Theo, I’m Wanda Lane. We’re about to get a divorce. You can’t do this to me.”

My words triggered him. He carried me and threw me onto the bed.

“Theo, I’m Wanda Lane. I’m someone that you hate a lot. Take a closer look.” I was on the verge of a breakdown. I took his face in my hands again and tried to make him take a closer look at me.

He looked up and widened his blurry eyes. He fixed his gaze at me for a few seconds before letting out a soft affirmative hum.

I remembered that I have a child in me. We must not continue like this.

I grabbed his hand and looked at him. "You're drunk. Don't do this," I said.

I could not help but feel captivated when I saw his child-like smile on his handsome face. Theo looked different tonight. He was rather cute.

I pushed him away with all my might and got down from the bed. I put on my clothes and left the place. If I stayed there any longer, I might not be able to keep my child.

It was still drizzling outside.

I started the car and sped along the road. I have gone through too many things lately. I did not know how to handle them all. I just wanted to run far away and escape from everything. I was afraid that I would return to the past if I did not vent out my emotions.

I did not know how long I had been driving. The sun had started to rise. When I finally came to my senses, I realized that I was deep in the mountain area.

I was surrounded by a vast expanse of mountains and woods, and there was no one else around. The narrow road was windy and seemed endless. I could not hear anything except for the odd squawks of birds.

Regrets filled my heart. I should not have driven off recklessly on a whim and put myself in the current position.

I stepped harder on the accelerator as I wanted to leave these woods as soon as possible.

Suddenly, a Tibetan Mastiff rushed out in front of my car, and I immediately stepped on the brakes. It seemed that I was too late as I could feel my right car tire run over something.

I was doomed. I took a deep breath and sat in the car without moving. I dared not go down from the

car to take a look.

I sat there motionlessly for a long time until someone knocked on my car window, which brought me to my senses.

I turned around and saw a tall man standing outside my car window. His expression was grave, and his face was full of stubble. He looked terrifying.

When he noticed that I was not moving, he pointed at my car tire and gestured for me to get down the car.

Chapter 15

Although I was frightened to death, I was still the one at fault. I suppressed the fear in me and slowly opened the car door.

The Tibetan Mastiff, which rushed out just now, was lying motionlessly under my car tire. The pool of crimson blood stood out clearly among the greenery of the woods.

I closed my eyes in shock. After some time, I managed to calm myself down.

“Tell me, what are you going to do about this?” The man crossed his arms and stared at me coldly.

I did not dare to look into his frightening eyes. I lowered my head and said, “I am sorry, I didn't mean to do this. I can compensate you.”

“Since you have a good attitude, I will let you go easy. Pay me ten thousand bucks in cash, or else...” The man was biting on a piece of reed between his teeth. He gave me a glance from head to toe with a smirk on his face.

I sensed the imminent danger and immediately said, “No problem. I will give it to you.” At a time like this, I would gladly give him even a hundred thousand bucks if he asked me for it, let alone ten

thousand.

I turned around in a hurry to look for my handbag, but I could not find it after looking through my entire car. Just then, I recalled that I did not take it when I left in a hurry last night.

“Sir, I...I do not have that much cash on me. How about I transfer the money to you online?” I asked him cautiously.

“No. I only want cash. If you do not have money, do not even think of leaving today.” The man huffed coldly. He did not look pleased.

“If so, can I call a friend? I will ask her to send some cash over.” I quickly took out my phone and was prepared to make a call.

“You better do as you say and do not even think of calling the police. Over here, the police will not be able to do anything.” The man glared at me with an impatient look on his face.

“I will not do that. I guarantee that I will not call the police.” I found the number that I was about to dial and showed it to him. After confirming that it was not an emergency number, he nodded and gestured for me to dial the number.

I called Cecilia first, but her phone was off. After that, I tried calling Heidi, but her phone was off as well.

I was stunned. I was usually either at the company or the Grant household. I was not good at socializing, so I did not have many friends. I did not know who to call.

After thinking about it for some time, I toughened up and called Mason.

The call went through after ringing a few times. However, nobody spoke. Feeling slightly awkward, I

spoke up. "Doctor Lynch, sorry for disturbing you so early in the morning. Can you help me with something? Something came up, and I need ten thousand bucks in cash. Can you send the cash over for me?"

When I noticed there was no response, I paused and mustered the courage to say, "Doctor Lynch, I am truly sorry. You are the only one whom I can ask for help from right now."

After some time, a cold voice spoke up from the other end of the line. "You are indeed something, Wanda Lane!"

This voice belonged to...Theo Grant!

How could it be him?

He was so drunk last night. How could he pick up Mason's call so early in the morning?

"Theo, why is it you who is picking up the call?" I asked him without thinking. I was terrified.

"If I did not pick up the call, I would not have known that my woman would call another man for money in the wee hours of the morning." Theo spat out those words slowly.

I could tell that he was gritting his teeth. He was super furious.

Just as I was at a loss for what to do, his cold voice spoke again. "Give me the address!"

I did not know where I was either, so I quickly asked the man beside me, "Sir, what is this place called?"

“D*mn it! It is very early in the morning. What the hell did you do?” Theo suddenly raised his voice. His voice almost broke my eardrums.

“The entrance to Sunhill Village.” After the man told the name of the place where we were, I hung up the call.

I massaged my forehead. I was speechless and anxious.

I thought that Theo would be suffering from a hangover and that he would be asleep right now. I did not want to disturb him this early in the morning, but things didn't go as planned.

The man remained silent after seeing me hang up. He squatted down in front of my car.

I got into my car and waited anxiously for Theo to arrive.

I thought it would take a long time for Theo to arrive since I vaguely remembered driving for more than two hours last night. Unexpectedly, Theo reached within half an hour.

Chapter 16

At this time, the sky was already bright. Many of the villagers came over to see. I dared not go down and hid in the car.

Fortunately, Theo's car arrived shortly after.

Before the car even came to a stop, he jumped off and walked over to my car with just a few steps.

His tall stature and cold aura gave off an invisible cloak of pressure to the people standing around.

The surrounding villagers immediately became quiet and just stared at him with fear.

Theo ignored everyone and opened my car door. He looked at me coldly before asking, "What happened?"

"I... I ran over a Tibetan Mastiff by accident. I need to pay for it, and they want me to pay in cash." I lowered my head and spoke very timidly.

The expression on his face was cold, and his eyes were dark. He stared at me in disbelief for a long time before he closed the car door and went to negotiate with the man.

He should be furious, right? I had caused him to come to such a remote place this early in the morning only to deal with such a trivial matter.

Looking at his tall and high-class stature, and then looking at the villagers who were watching the commotion on the side, the entire scene was out of place. Theo, the beautiful art of heaven should not appear in such a lowly place.

I could not help myself but worry. Theo would surely settle this score with me.

Soon, he gave the money to the villager, and the crowd around him dispersed. He walked over again and looked at me coldly. His gaze was deep and dark, and it was impossible to read his emotions at all. He said, "Get out of the car."

I obediently got out of the car and followed behind him. He turned to the driver standing far away and said, "Drive this car back."

Then, he opened his car door and got into the driver's seat. Without any instructions from Theo, I did not dare get into the car. I just stood there with my head lowered.

"Do you need any personal invitation?" His voice sounded impatient.

I quickly opened the car door and sat in the passenger seat.

I could feel the cold atmosphere in the car down to my toes, and I glanced over from the side. He was releasing an icy cold aura with a gloomy expression and anger in his eyes.

I clasped my hands together and waited for him to lash out in anger.

He did not say a word until the car pulled into the villa. He completely ignored me.

After some thought, I explained, "I thought you were still sleeping after drinking so much. That is why I called Doctor Mason. Do not misunderstand, I have nothing to do with him."

Even though I knew he would not want to hear my explanation, and he probably would not care, I still spoke up.

He stopped the car and turned to look at me with narrowed eyes. After a long period, he said in a deep voice filled with contempt, "Misunderstand? Do not think so highly of yourself. Who do you think you are? Who do you think Mason is? Why would he even like you?"

His words were sarcastic, and his face was full of mockery. I was so embarrassed that I could not say anything for a long time.

It was indeed wishful thinking. How could Theo possibly misunderstand? Not to mention, Mason was one of his good friends. Considering their relationship, he would not even consider me a friend.

To Theo and his brothers, I was just like weeds under their feet. If it was not for Grandmother's affection toward me, I would not have any right to look them in the eyes.

Seeing that I was silent, Theo glanced at me and said indifferently, "Do you admit your mistake?"

"I was wrong. I am sorry," I said quickly.

"What are you sorry for?" he asked.

"I should not have driven out in the middle of the night," I said honestly.

"Wanda... You are really..." He suddenly raised his voice and glared at me as if he wanted to eat me whole.

I did not know what I had said to offend him again. I was so scared that I was trembling all over and curled myself into a ball.

"Forget about it. You do not work today. You are being punished for doing something wrong. Your punishment is to clear weeds in the garden with your bare hands." He glared at me again and turned his head to ignore me.

His punishment was really... odd.

Although I knew that he would not let me off easily for driving far away early in the morning, I did not expect him to give such a childish punishment.

"You are not willing?" After a while, when he saw that I did not say anything, he turned around and squinted at me.

Chapter 17

"No, I will do it." I gritted my teeth as I got out of the car. I hurried over to the large patch of grass in front of the villa.

The villa was huge. The grass area alone was about 300 square meters. It would usually take two or three workers to clear out the weeds, but now he wanted me to do it alone with my bare hands.

I knew he was trying to torment me.

After all, I was in the wrong. After pausing for a while, I squatted down and started working.

Theo sat in the car and did not get down. He stared at me as I worked. There was no emotion on his gloomy face.

After a long while, he floored the accelerator and drove off, leaving a trail of exhaust gas behind.

Watching him leave, I stood up and let out a long sigh of relief. I did not sleep last night, and my back was hurting so much that I could not stand straight.

I remembered I had not had breakfast yet either. Regretfully, I said to the child in my belly. "Baby, I'm so sorry. I'm not qualified to be a mother. I have only made you suffer."

Recently, not only did I not rest well, I often did not eat well too. It was not how a pregnant woman should be behaving.

The weather in June was like the temperamental mood of a toddler. Earlier on, the azure sky was still clear with some white clouds. With just a few sudden gusts of cold wind, the sky suddenly turned dark.

I was afraid that a storm was brewing. I quickly squatted on the ground and continued to work, hoping I could finish it before the rain. Otherwise, Theo would be even angrier when he returned and saw my unfinished work.

However, I did not have the speed of God. In the blink of an eye, heavy rain poured down, and fat raindrops landed on my body.

I quickly got up and darted into the house. Because I was running too fast, I slipped on the stairs and fell hard onto the floor.

Instinctively, I reached out my hand to cushion my belly.

However, it did not help, and I tumbled down the steps until I landed on the rain-soaked ground. My belly crashed onto the stairs as I rolled down, sending waves of pain through me.

The rain hit me mercilessly in the face. I rubbed my belly and struggled to pull myself up to head inside.

As soon as I took a step, my belly started to hurt as if pierced with needles. Beads of cold sweat trickled down my face along with the rain.

I could not bear the pain any longer and collapse to the ground under the rain again.

Trembling, I held on to my pants tightly and closed my eyes in pain. I was afraid that I would not be able to keep the baby!

My body started twitching violently, and with every twitch, it felt like a needle piercing into my heart. It was so painful that I could not breathe.

Aside from the sound of the rain, there was no other sound in the surroundings. It was as if I was the only person left in the world. I wished someone could appear at this moment, even if it only meant looking at me.

However, I knew that no one, not a single soul, would appear at this moment or care whether I live or die.

In desperation, I gave up struggling and laid with my back on the ground. My uncontrollable tears flowed from my eyes, drop by drop mixed with the rain to the ground.

Every drop seemed to suck away bits of my soul.

Why?

Why was God this unfair to me? Why did he have to torture me like this? In just 23 years, he had let me experience all sorts of disasters. Now he wanted me to feel pain, torture, and separation. All of it!

I could feel the final ounce of energy flowing out of my body. My entire body felt cold from the inside out. I slowly closed my eyes. It was not a terrible way to end things like this.

In my daze, I heard the sound of a car braking suddenly.

A tall figure then ran over and picked me up. The person screamed my name in pain, ordering and threatening to get me to open my eyes.

I wanted to open my eyes and see who it was, but no matter how hard I tried, I could not. In the end, I lost consciousness.

When I woke up again, I was lying in my bed, not knowing who brought me in.

Before I fainted, I vaguely remembered someone shouting at me, but I could not tell if it was real or just a dream.

I wanted to sit up, but my belly hurt so bad that I could not move at all.

“My baby, my baby!” The familiar pain from before I lost consciousness woke me up completely. I could not help but caress my belly.

Chapter 18

"Do not worry, the child is fine." Mason suddenly spoke in his usual cold voice.

Startled, I turned to find him standing at the foot of my bed.

After what had happened, I thought that I would not be able to keep the child alive. I was relieved that the baby was alright.

Mason kept staring at me.

Feeling a little awkward, I turned my head and tried to prop myself up, but I could not move. He stretched out his hand behind my back and helped me to sit up. He reached for a cushion and placed it behind my back for me to lean on.

“Thank you.” I felt even more awkward, trying to distance myself as far away from him as possible.

He did not say anything. He just reached over to fiddle with the IV drip bottle to make sure the liquid continued flowing into me.

I looked up at him.

He understood my confusion and said, “Do not worry. It is just nutrient fluid. It will not harm the child. You were malnourished and weak. That is why you fainted.”

"Does he know?" Since Mason knew the existence

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Chapter 11

I instinctively pulled back and closed my eyes. I dared not look him in the eye anymore.

He reached out his hand to hold my chin and forced me to look at him. He then spoke up in a cold tone, “How dare you ask me that, you coldhearted woman?!”

“...It wasn't me.” I did not dare to struggle against him despite my face hurt from the way he held me. Cindy Reed was hurt. He would eventually ask me to pay for it.

“How dare you deny what you've done? Wanda Lane, did you think that I wouldn't dare to get a divorce just because you have that box?” He asked mockingly. His voice was icy cold.

I was stunned. Theo found out about it so soon.

“I didn’t smash the vase against her head. I didn’t splash her with water either.” Although there was no need for me to explain myself, I still felt like telling him everything.

I felt slightly bitter as I told him, “I don’t want to open the box that grandmother gave me, nor will I use it to keep our marriage. Theo Grant, I promise you that we will get divorced. We can carry out the procedures tomorrow!”

The sky was pitch black now. The sound of the billowing wind coupled with the pitter-patter of rainwater against the car windows made the atmosphere in the car even colder.

My sudden agreement to the divorce seemed to have shocked Theo. He let go of me, and his lips pulled back into a

cold sneer. “Cindy is still injured. Are you trying to get away with what you’ve done right now?”

I was stunned. I could not comprehend what Theo wanted from me. He had always wanted me to agree to a divorce. What did he want now from me to avenge Cindy?

“From today onwards, you will be taking care of Cindy till she recovers.” He sat up straight as he tapped his long and slender fingers against the steering wheel. His gaze deepened.

I did not know what his intentions were, so I just slightly nodded. ¹

Just like Cindy had mentioned, I was a doormat in the presence of Theo. It seemed that I had made it a habit to submit to his every request no matter the consequences to myself.

When he had asked me to take care of Cindy, I would nod and agree even

though I was reluctant to do so.

Theo had stopped speaking and had a dark expression on his face. I could not comprehend his emotions at all.

He started the car again. Soon, we arrived at our home in Regal Villa.

“Theo, you’re back?” Out spoke a cheery voice as soon as the door opened. Cindy’s expression changed cold as soon as she saw me entering the house. “Why are you here?” She asked in an unwelcoming tone.

I was so angry that I started laughing. I had seen people taking things that did not belong to them, but I had never seen someone who did it in such a self-righteous manner.

“This is still my home for now.” I was not bothered about her. I turned around to look at Theo and said to him softly, “You promised me that you would not bring her over before I leave.”

“Wanda Lane, don’t act all haughty.” Without looking at me, he walked past me apathetically and headed toward Cindy.

“Theo, I think I should not have come over. I have made Wanda unhappy. Let me go back. I will be alright on my own.” Cindy suppressed her dissatisfaction and reverted to her usual gentle and coy attitude.

He stroked her hair lovingly and held her hand. He then spoke to her in a gentle tone, “Silly, don’t overthink. You’re injured. How can you stay on your own? Don’t worry and stay here. Let her take care of you for a few days. That is what she ought to do.”

The scene which played before my eyes pierced my heart. ¹

Cindy smiled sweetly and said cheerily, “Alright, I’ll listen to what you say.”

Both of them gazed and smiled at each other as if I did not exist at all.

Despite being the lady of the house, I had no right to say anything at all. They had put up this entire act by themselves.

Not wanting to be torture myself with such an eyesore, I turned around to head up the stairs.

Cindy spoke up from behind. “Wanda, why didn’t you attend Grandmother’s funeral today? Grandmother had loved you so much when she was alive.

Everyone was asking where you were during the funeral. You shouldn’t have behaved so rashly and put Theo in an awkward position.”

Chapter 12

I was taken aback by her words. I knew that she did it on purpose, but I could not stop the hurt from her words.

I gripped the railing of the stairs tightly. My knuckles turned white from the force of me holding onto it. After some moments, I calmed myself down and turned around slowly. I then tried to say something.

“Are you hungry? I can cook something for you.” Theo interjected, not giving me a chance to speak. He smiled while looking at Cindy.

“Sure, sure. Theo, I want to have some of the fish cooked by you.” Cindy ignored me and looked at Theo with a joyous expression on her face.

“Alright. Why don’t you watch some television while you wait for me? It will be ready soon.”

I turned around and headed upstairs. I closed the door to shut out the noises from the living room.

After returning to my room, I sat in front of the window wall. It was a hot day, but I was feeling so cold that I was trembling. I wrapped my arms around my knees and curled up on myself.

.....

In the morning, the ringtone from my phone woke me up.

It was from Cindy’s texts. She wanted me to go down to prepare breakfast for her. I was still dazed since I had just woken up. After a few moments, I finally recalled that Theo had told me to take care of her yesterday.

My head hurt a little as I did not sleep well last night. I struggled to get out of bed.

“Mason, please have a seat. I’ll get some fruit for you.” As I headed downstairs, I heard Cindy greeting Mason as if she was the lady of the house.

After speaking, she wheeled herself back to the dining room. Since she was not used to using a wheelchair, the wheelchair did not move no matter how much she tried to wheel it.

I stood on the staircase in silence as I watched her performance. There was no sign of Theo in the house. He must be at work.

“No need. Please don’t move about,” Mason said. He then turned around and caught sight of me. He nodded and said coldly, “Miss Lane, Theo asked me over to change Cindy’s dressing.” 1

“Wanda, you’re finally awake. Get some fruits for Mason and prepare breakfast at once!” Cindy ordered. She was already treating me like a maid.

I did not say a word and headed to the kitchen. Mason followed me and said, “I know that you did not do it. Didn't you clarify this with him?”

I knew that he was referring to Cindy’s injury at the company.

After a moment of silence, I turned around to take a teacup and poured water into the cup for him. “My explanation is not important. What is more important is that Miss Reed is injured, and someone must take care of her, isn't it?” I asked in exasperation.

Mason did not say anything. He turned around to grab a medicine kit from the living room. He looked at me and said, “Your dressing needs to be changed as well.”

After saying that, he took my injured hand without waiting for a response from me. He removed the layers of bandage. The wound had turned whitish due to the rainwater yesterday. It looked like it was suppurating.

Oddly, I did not feel any pain from last night till today morning.

Mason stopped and frowned. He raised his head to look at me. After a while, he asked, "Does it hurt?"

It was the second time that he had asked me that question.

I kept quiet. A wave of emotions washed over me. Drip! A large teardrop the size of a pearl fell onto the ground. Wind billowed through the corridor. The silent and deserted corridor seemed even more empty.

Even a mere acquaintance like Mason believed that I did not hurt Cindy.

Mason even remembered that I hurt my hand too and had asked me twice if I felt hurt.

Why wouldn't he think the same way? How could he be so forgetful? How could he not remember any of it? How could he ask me to take care of his beloved when my hand was injured as well?

He knew that I would be upset, and somehow he always managed to hurt me even more.

I tried to pull back my hand from his hands. However, he held on to my hand tightly.

“If you do not change your dressing, the wound will fester further.” Mason assumed his usual calmness and grabbed my hand firmly to treat my wound.

I knew that he was not a nosy person. Did my situation warranted his pity, or

was he treating me nicely because I was Theo's wife?

After changing my bandage, Mason remained silent and turned around to change the dressing of Cindy's wound.

I took out a few eggs from the refrigerator and fried them. I toasted a few pieces of bread and poured some milk. After preparing them, I divided the food into three portions and took it out to the living room.

"Is this all that you are letting me eat?" Cindy asked with much dissatisfaction in her voice.

"What else are you expecting?" I took a bite of my bread and looked at her impassively.

"I don't care. I want to have a large feast. I am calling Theo right now, and I am going to ask him to come back to cook lunch for me in the afternoon." Cindy took out her phone after

speaking.

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Chapter 13

It was not easy for Theo to manage Grant Corporation. For the sake of Theo, I got up and said, "Fine, Miss Reed. What would you like to eat? I'll buy them for you."

Cindy listed down a bunch of dishes straight away.

I frowned and refrained from saying anything. "Please stay for lunch too. I'll be back soon," I told Mason, who was seated on the sofa.

He had helped to change the dressing for my wound earlier. I should thank him.

Because of my hand injury, I did not buy any ingredients to cook. Instead, I packed dishes from a few renowned

restaurants in the city.

It was almost afternoon when I returned home. As I entered the gate, I heard conversations coming from the garden. Theo and Mason were talking.

It took more than two hours to return home from the city. I did not expect Theo to come home.

“Her hand is slightly inflamed. You should not have gotten her to take care of Cindy,” Mason said. I could not help myself from turning around and looking into the garden.

Theo leaned against the fence with a cigarette in his hand. There was a cold expression on his face. “She deserves it!” he said apathetically. ¹

Mason got up and lit his cigarette. He stood beside him and spoke up after a while, “You know that she would not do such a thing. You know that she loves you too. Your grandmother is resting in

peace now. Let go of her if you don't love her. Return her freedom to her."

Theo raised his eyes after hearing his words. He looked over at Mason and asked coldly, "Since when did you care so much about her?"

Mason laughed lightly and said, "Stop overthinking. I just wanted to remind you that even the deepest love can run dry one day. Don't wait till the day she takes back her love and starts hating you."

Theo extinguished the cigarette in his hand and threw it into the pond. "I don't need her love to me," he said coldly.

I could not continue listening anymore. Some things were best left unheard, and there was no need to hear it with my ears. I don't need more weight added to my emotional baggage. ¹

I placed the dishes that I had bought on

the dining table. After that, I turned around and left the house. I endured the pain in my hand as I drove to the company.

Anyway, Theo was there to care for Cindy. I was just an extra at home while I had plenty of work matters to handle at the company.

“Wanda, Director Weiss called earlier. He heard from some unknown sources that we were going to change the female lead. He was furious,” Heidi reported to me as soon as I entered the office.

“It’s alright. Let me handle this matter. Give me the profiles of female models who have walked the runways in all the international fashion shows this year.”

The filming of “The Biography of Empress Anna” was still in the preliminary stage. I had enough time to convince Cindy to give up on it. My top

priority was to find an ambassador for a new product that Theo had assigned to us.

Grant Corporation would release a new series of jewelry every year. Based on their track record, different ambassadors were representing each series of jewelry.

The previous jewelry ambassadors included actresses and female singers. This year, I intended to look for a local female model with good international reviews suitable to represent Grant Corporation's latest jewelry.

Heidi was very efficient in her work and had handed me a large pile of data shortly after. I started scrutinizing the data.

Before I realized it, it was already late evening. The city lights were illuminating the streets outside the window. The others had all had gone off

work. Heidi was the only one remaining at her work desk. She kept looking at her watch. It seemed like she had something urgent to do.

“Help me order some takeaway, and you can get off work!” I got up and told her.

“Alright. Don’t stay too late, Wanda.” Heidi left in a hurry after ordering my takeaway.

The takeaway arrived shortly after.

There was no suitable candidate who had caught my eye. After dinner, I headed toward the small bedroom.

I did not feel like going home today.

Perhaps it was because of my pregnancy. I had felt exhausted and sleepy lately. In the small bedroom, I took a shower and fell asleep.

In the middle of the night, someone

lightly pushed open the room door. Although the person did not make much noise, I could still hear it.

I would wake up easily because of my past traumatic experience. No matter how tired I was, I would immediately wake up to even the slightest noise. ¹

A dark figure walked in and stood in front of my bed, staring at me in silence. I was so afraid that I bit down on the sheets to stop myself from making any noise.

After a while, the dark figure sat down by my bed and lit a cigarette. With dim light from the cigarette, I managed to take a clear look at the person. It was Theo Grant.

“Why are you here?” I got up to turn on the bedside lamp, still looking at him.

Chapter 14

He did not say anything and was staring at me silently. I could not help but feel nervous with the proximity of his angular and handsome face to me. The air inside the room seemed to have thinned out. I got up to open the windows.

Suddenly, he pulled me into an embrace and wrapped both of his arms around me and held me tightly.

“Theo Grant.” Although I did not know why he behaved this way, I did not like being hugged like that. Although I struggled in his arms, he still did not let go.

The sharp stench of alcohol rose to my nose. Theo was drunk again.

“Let go of me. I’ll pour a cup of water for you,” I spoke softly.

“Will it become hate?” He asked as he hugged me tightly. 3

I did not understand what he meant and could only look at him in confusion. His lips were slightly apart, and his dark eyes were quite dilated and out of focus. It seemed like he was heavily drunk.

I did not understand how he managed to find her even in such a state.

“Will it change?” He did not give up when I did not respond to him. He stubbornly continued while looking me in the eye.

“It will,” I told him as I pulled his arms from around me. I tried to free myself from his embrace, but he held me tightly in a vice-like grip.

“Will you take it back?” He continued asking me as he grabbed my hand like a child to stop me from moving.

I suddenly understood what he was asking. I did not know what to say. “I don’t know either,” I told him in exasperation.

He stopped asking me questions. His breath grew erratic as he hugged me tighter.

I held his face and said softly, “Theo, I’m Wanda Lane. We’re about to get a divorce. You can’t do this to me.”

My words triggered him. He carried me and threw me onto the bed.

“Theo, I’m Wanda Lane. I’m someone that you hate a lot. Take a closer look.”

I was on the verge of a breakdown. I took his face in my hands again and tried to make him take a closer look at me.

He looked up and widened his blurry eyes. He fixed his gaze at me for a few seconds before letting out a soft affirmative hum.

I remembered that I have a child in me. We must not continue like this.

I grabbed his hand and looked at him. “You’re drunk. Don’t do this,” I said.

I could not help but feel captivated when I saw his child-like smile on his handsome face. Theo looked different tonight. He was rather cute.

I pushed him away with all my might and got down from the bed. I put on my clothes and left the place. If I stayed there any longer, I might not be able to keep my child.

It was still drizzling outside. ①

I started the car and sped along the road. I have gone through too many

things lately. I did not know how to handle them all. I just wanted to run far away and escape from everything. I was afraid that I would return to the past if I did not vent out my emotions.

I did not know how long I had been driving. The sun had started to rise. When I finally came to my senses, I realized that I was deep in the mountain area.

I was surrounded by a vast expanse of mountains and woods, and there was no one else around. The narrow road was windy and seemed endless. I could not hear anything except for the odd squawks of birds.

Regrets filled my heart. I should not have driven off recklessly on a whim and put myself in the current position.

I stepped harder on the accelerator as I wanted to leave these woods as soon as possible.

Suddenly, a Tibetan Mastiff rushed out in front of my car, and I immediately stepped on the brakes. It seemed that I was too late as I could feel my right car tire run over something.

I was doomed. I took a deep breath and sat in the car without moving. I dared not go down from the car to take a look.

I sat there motionlessly for a long time until someone knocked on my car window, which brought me to my senses.

I turned around and saw a tall man standing outside my car window. His expression was grave, and his face was full of stubble. He looked terrifying. ①

When he noticed that I was not moving, he pointed at my car tire and gestured for me to get down the car.

Chapter 15

Although I was frightened to death, I was still the one at fault. I suppressed the fear in me and slowly opened the car door.

The Tibetan Mastiff, which rushed out just now, was lying motionlessly under my car tire. The pool of crimson blood stood out clearly among the greenery of the woods.

I closed my eyes in shock. After some time, I managed to calm myself down.

“Tell me, what are you going to do about this?” The man crossed his arms and stared at me coldly.

I did not dare to look into his frightening eyes. I lowered my head and said, “I am sorry, I didn't mean to do

this. I can compensate you.”

“Since you have a good attitude, I will let you go easy. Pay me ten thousand bucks in cash, or else...” The man was biting on a piece of reed between his teeth. He gave me a glance from head to toe with a smirk on his face.

I sensed the imminent danger and immediately said, “No problem. I will give it to you.” At a time like this, I would gladly give him even a hundred thousand bucks if he asked me for it, let alone ten thousand.

I turned around in a hurry to look for my handbag, but I could not find it after looking through my entire car. Just then, I recalled that I did not take it when I left in a hurry last night.

“Sir, I...I do not have that much cash on me. How about I transfer the money to you online?” I asked him cautiously.

“No. I only want cash. If you do not

have money, do not even think of leaving today.” The man huffed coldly. He did not look pleased.

“If so, can I call a friend? I will ask her to send some cash over.” I quickly took out my phone and was prepared to make a call.

“You better do as you say and do not even think of calling the police. Over here, the police will not be able to do anything.” The man glared at me with an impatient look on his face. 1

“I will not do that. I guarantee that I will not call the police.” I found the number that I was about to dial and showed it to him. After confirming that it was not an emergency number, he nodded and gestured for me to dial the number.

I called Cecilia first, but her phone was off. After that, I tried calling Heidi, but her phone was off as well.

I was stunned. I was usually either at the company or the Grant household. I was not good at socializing, so I did not have many friends. I did not know who to call.

After thinking about it for some time, I toughened up and called Mason.

The call went through after ringing a few times. However, nobody spoke.

Feeling slightly awkward, I spoke up. “Doctor Lynch, sorry for disturbing you so early in the morning. Can you help me with something? Something came up, and I need ten thousand bucks in cash. Can you send the cash over for me?”

When I noticed there was no response, I paused and mustered the courage to say, “Doctor Lynch, I am truly sorry. You are the only one whom I can ask for help from right now.”

After some time, a cold voice spoke up from the other end of the line. “You are

indeed something, Wanda Lane!”

This voice belonged to...Theo Grant!

How could it be him?

He was so drunk last night. How could he pick up Mason’s call so early in the morning?

“Theo, why is it you who is picking up the call?” I asked him without thinking. I was terrified.

“If I did not pick up the call, I would not have known that my woman would call another man for money in the wee hours of the morning.” Theo spat out those words slowly. ①

I could tell that he was gritting his teeth. He was super furious.

Just as I was at a loss for what to do, his cold voice spoke again. “Give me the address!”

I did not know where I was either, so I

quickly asked the man beside me, “Sir, what is this place called?”

“D*mn it! It is very early in the morning. What the hell did you do?” Theo suddenly raised his voice. His voice almost broke my eardrums.

“The entrance to Sunhill Village.” After the man told the name of the place where we were, I hung up the call.

I massaged my forehead. I was speechless and anxious. ①

I thought that Theo would be suffering from a hangover and that he would be asleep right now. I did not want to disturb him this early in the morning, but things didn't go as planned. ①

The man remained silent after seeing me hang up. He squatted down in front of my car.

I got into my car and waited anxiously for Theo to arrive.

I thought it would take a long time for Theo to arrive since I vaguely remembered driving for more than two hours last night. Unexpectedly, Theo reached within half an hour.

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Chapter 16

At this time, the sky was already bright. Many of the villagers came over to see what happened. I dared not go down and hid in the car.

Fortunately, Theo's car arrived shortly after.

Before the car even came to a stop, he jumped off and walked over to my car with just a few steps.

The cold aura exuded from his tall figure made people standing around feel invisible pressure.

The surrounding villagers immediately became quiet and just stared at him with fear.

Theo ignored them and opened my car door. He looked at me coldly before asking, "What happened?" 1

“I... I ran over a Tibetan Mastiff by accident. I need to pay for it, and they want me to pay in cash.” I lowered my head and spoke very timidly.

The expression on his face was cold, and his eyes were darkened. He stared at me in disbelief for a long time before he closed the car door and went to negotiate with the man.

He should be furious, right? I had caused him to come to such a remote place this early in the morning only to deal with such a trivial matter.

Watching his receding tall and refined figure and turning around to look at the villagers standing around, I felt the entire scene was out of place. Theo, the beautiful art of heaven should not appear in such a lowly place.

I could not help myself but worry. Theo would surely settle this score with me. ①

Soon, he gave the money to the villager, and the crowd around him dispersed. He walked over again and looked at me coldly. His gaze was deep and dark, and it was impossible to read his emotions at all. He said nonchalantly, “Get out of the car.”

I obediently got out of the car and followed behind him. He turned to the driver standing far away and said, “Drive this car back.”

Then, he opened his car door and got into the driver's seat. Without any instructions from Theo, I did not dare get into the car. I just stood there with my head lowered.

“Do you need any personal invitation?” His voice sounded impatient.

I quickly opened the car door and sat in the passenger seat.

In the car, I could feel a sensation of

coldness rising from my feet, and I glanced over from the side. He was releasing an icy cold air with a gloomy expression and anger in his eyes.

I clasped my hands together and waited for him to lash out in anger.

He did not say a word until the car pulled into the villa. He completely ignored me.

After some thought, I explained, “I thought you were still sleeping after drinking so much. That is why I called Doctor Mason. Do not misunderstand, I am not in a relationship with him.”

Even though I knew he would not want to hear my explanation, and he probably would not care, I still spoke up.

He stopped the car and turned to look at me with narrowed eyes. After a long period, he said in a deep voice filled with contempt, “Misunderstand? Do not think so highly of yourself. Who do

you think you are? Who do you think Mason is? Why would he even like you?”

His words were sarcastic, and his face was full of mockery. I was so embarrassed that I could not say anything for a long time.

It was indeed my overthinking. How could Theo possibly misunderstand? Not to mention, Mason was one of his good friends. Considering their relationship, Mason would not even consider me a friend.

To Theo and his friends, I was as lowly as weeds under their feet. If it was not for Grandmother's affection toward me, I would not have any right to look them in the eyes.

Seeing that I was silent, Theo glanced at me and said indifferently, “Do you admit your mistake?”

“I was wrong. I am sorry,” I said quickly.

“What are you sorry for?” he asked.

“I should not have driven out in the middle of the night,” I said honestly.

“Wanda... You are really...” He suddenly raised his voice and glared at me as if he wanted to eat me whole.

I did not know what I had said to offend him again. I was so scared that I was trembling all over and curled myself into a ball. ¹

“Forget about it. You do not work today. You are being punished for doing something wrong. Your punishment is to clear weeds in the garden with your bare hands.” He glared at me again and turned his head to ignore me.

His punishment was really... odd. ⁴

Although I knew that he would not let me off easily for driving far away early in the morning, I did not expect him to

give such a childish punishment.

“You are not willing?” After a while, when he saw that I did not say anything, he turned around and squinted at me.

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Chapter 17

“No, I will do it.” I gritted my teeth as I got out of the car. I hurried over to the large patch of grass in front of the villa.

The villa was huge. The grass area alone was about 300 square meters. It would usually take two or three workers to clear out the weeds, but now he wanted me to do it alone with my bare hands.

I knew he was trying to torment me.

After all, I was in the wrong. After pausing for a while, I squatted down and started working.

Theo sat in the car and did not get down. He stared at me as I worked.

There was no emotion on his gloomy face.

After a long while, he floored the

accelerator and drove off, leaving a trail of exhaust gas behind.

Watching him leave, I stood up and let out a long sigh of relief. I did not sleep last night, and my back was hurting so much that I could not stand straight.

I remembered I had not had breakfast yet either. Regretfully, I said to the child in my belly. "Baby, I'm so sorry. I'm not qualified to be a mother. I have only made you suffer." 1

Recently, not only did I not rest well, I often did not eat well too. It was not how a pregnant woman should be behaving. 1

The weather in June was like the temperamental mood of a toddler.

Earlier on, the azure sky was still clear with some white clouds. With just a few sudden gusts of cold wind, the sky suddenly turned dark.

I was afraid that a storm was brewing. I

quickly squatted on the ground and continued to work, hoping I could finish it before the rain. Otherwise, Theo would be even angrier when he returned and saw my unfinished work.

However, I did not have the speed of God. In the blink of an eye, heavy rain poured down, and fat raindrops landed on my body.

I quickly got up and darted into the house. Because I was running too fast, I slipped on the stairs and fell hard onto the floor.

Instinctively, I reached out my hand to cushion my belly.

However, it did not help, and I tumbled down the steps until I landed on the rain-soaked ground. My belly crashed onto the stairs as I rolled down, sending waves of pain through me.

The rain hit me mercilessly in the face. I rubbed my belly and struggled to pull

myself up to head inside. 1

As soon as I took a step, my belly started to hurt as if pierced with needles. Beads of cold sweat trickled down my face along with the rain.

I could not bear the pain any longer and collapse to the ground under the rain again.

Trembling, I held on to my pants tightly and closed my eyes in pain. I was afraid that I would not be able to keep the baby!

My body started twitching violently, and with every twitch, it felt like a needle piercing into my heart. It was so painful that I could not breathe.

Aside from the sound of the rain, there was no other sound in the surroundings. It was as if I was the only person left in the world. I wished someone could appear at this moment, even if it only meant looking at me.

However, I knew that no one, not a single soul, would appear at this moment or care whether I live or die.

In desperation, I gave up struggling and laid with my back on the ground. My uncontrollable tears flowed from my eyes, drop by drop mixed with the rain to the ground.

Every drop seemed to suck away bits of my soul.

Why?

Why was God this unfair to me? Why did he have to torture me like this? In just 23 years, he had let me experience all sorts of disasters. Now he wanted me to feel pain, torture, and separation. All of it! ¹

I could feel the final ounce of energy flowing out of my body. My entire body felt cold from the inside out. I slowly closed my eyes. It was not a terrible way

to end things like this.

In my daze, I heard the sound of a car braking suddenly.

A tall figure then ran over and picked me up. The person screamed my name in pain, ordering and threatening to get me to open my eyes.

I wanted to open my eyes and see who it was, but no matter how hard I tried, I could not. In the end, I lost consciousness.

When I woke up again, I was lying in my bed, not knowing who brought me in. ①

Before I fainted, I vaguely remembered someone shouting at me, but I could not tell if it was real or just a dream. ①

I wanted to sit up, but my belly hurt so bad that I could not move at all. ③

“My baby, my baby!” The familiar pain from before I lost consciousness woke

me up completely. I could not help but
caress my belly. ¹

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Chapter 18 1

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1

“Do not worry, the child is fine,”

Mason suddenly spoke in his usual cold voice.

Startled, I turned to find him standing at the foot of my bed.

After what had happened, I thought that I would not be able to keep the child alive. I was relieved that the baby was alright.

Mason kept staring at me.

Feeling a little awkward, I turned my head and tried to prop myself up, but I could not move. He stretched out his hand behind my back and helped me to sit up. He reached for a cushion and placed it behind my back for me to lean on.

“Thank you.” I felt even more awkward, trying to distance myself as far away from him as possible.

He did not say anything. He just reached over to fiddle with the IV drip bottle to make sure the liquid continued flowing into me.

I looked up at him.

He understood my confusion and said, “Do not worry. It is just nutrient fluid. It will not harm the child. You were malnourished and weak. That is why you fainted.”

“Does he know?” Since Mason knew the existence of the child, Theo might also know about it.

He stopped what he was doing, and his dark eyes looked at me. He narrowed his eyes. “You do not want him to know, do you?”

I shook my head. “He is the father of the child. He will find out eventually. It is just not the right time yet. He wants a divorce and I do not want him to think that I am using the child to keep him around.”

Mason looked at me in surprise and said, “But he already knew.”

My heart skipped a beat. I looked at Mason and asked tentatively, “Was he angry? Did he not want me to keep this child?”

“I am not him. You should ask him yourself about what he is thinking.” Mason stopped what he was doing and looked at me. “Theo has always loved children. Plus, the Grant family desperately needs offspring. There is no reason for him not to want the baby.”

After that, he turned off the lights. “You still need to rest. Get some sleep. We will continue our conversation when

you wake up.”

I never knew Theo loved children. What Mason had said was also true. The Grant family was small and in need of offspring.

It would mean that he might keep this child.

With this child, we would become a family of three. Would he change because of that? Would we be able to live normally as a family of three? ¹

My heart raced at the thought. As I laid back down, I decided to follow the doctor's advice and get some sleep.

I was still sleeping soundly and immersed in a beautiful dream when Cindy suddenly barged in.

She rushed in and ripped off the IV line from my arm. She grabbed my neck with both hands. With widened bloodshot eyes, she shouted, “Wanda

Lane, why are you pregnant? How could you be pregnant?”

I could not breathe under her tight grip around my neck. I reached out and tried to peel her hands away, but she was grabbing me with all her strength. I could not break free.

She was on the verge of a mental breakdown. With a maddening expression, she said, “I will not let you give birth to your baby. I will not let you use a child to tie Theo down!”

Usually, she would look refined and demure, but now, her hair was messy. She seemed to have superpower strength too. I tried my best to free myself from her chokehold, but I could not move at all.

I struggled with all my might to squeeze out a few words. “If you kill me... you will have to pay with your life.”

“If I kill you, Theowy will be mine and

mine only!” She laughed out loud and further tightened her grip.

Because she had exerted too much strength, the white gauze wrapped around her hand turned red.

“Cindy, stop!” A figure barged in from outside the room and shouted.

Cindy froze after hearing the voice. The fury burning in her eyes dissipated immediately. All the energy in her body seemed to be sucked out of her as she slumped onto the ground. 2

Theo stepped forward and caught her.

I was finally able to breathe and opened my mouth, gasping for air. I felt like I was reborn. I thought that I would have died being strangled by Cindy.

Cindy burst into tears. Her tears dropped like pearls from a broken pearl necklace. She shook his arm and said, “Theowy, you promised me that you

would get a divorce, right? Wanda is shameless and wants to keep the baby to hold on to you. Do not fall for her schemes.”

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Chapter 19

I had calmed down. I laid on the bed and looked at them coldly. I had a whirlwind of emotions in my heart. I did not know if it was because I was feeling sad or because I was pitiful.

Theo looked at me. His eyes were still cold. He embraced Cindy and gently patted her back to comfort her. “Be good and stop crying.”

“Theow, you do not want Wanda's child, right?” Cindy grabbed his shirt and asked desperately.

My heart clenched as I looked at him nervously, also waiting for his answer.

However, he did not even look at me and only focused on Cindy. He wiped her tears away and remained silent.

Cindy cried even harder, almost losing her voice. She choked and said, "Theow, you promised my parents that you would take care of me for the rest of my life. They have left me behind, and now you want to leave me too?"

"Cindy, do not say such nonsense. I never said that I do not care about you." Theo frowned, but his tone remained gentle.

"But if she gives birth to this child, you will not get a divorce, right? How are you going to take care of me if you have your own family and child? Theow, you know that I only have you. I do not want anything but you."

Cindy cried buckets of tears like a baby. She looked weak, helpless, and especially pitiful.

Theo hugged her tightly and tried his best to comfort her. "Cindy, I have said that I will take care of you. You will

never be alone. Do not be afraid, I will always be here.”

Cindy refused to let it go. With her red and swollen eyes, she pleaded, “Theowy, I beg you. Please do not keep the child, okay? I will give you children in the future. Please, or I will die.”

She was adamant and sounded serious.

Theo did not say anything. His eyes looked unhappy. After a while, he said, “Cindy, do not be stubborn.”

Perhaps he had never spoken to Cindy in such a manner before. She was stunned for a moment before she pushed him away. She dashed to the balcony and climbed onto the railing.

Her actions were too sudden and quick. I did not expect it, and neither did Theo.

He hurriedly got up and wanted to rush over, but Cindy turned around and shouted, “Do not come near me! If you

take another step, I will jump down from here!”

He was a little flustered, but he still listened and stopped. He said gently, “Cindy, do not be rash. Come down first. Let's talk things out.” 1

Cindy was adamant. She took another step forward before turning around. “Promise me that you will not want this child and will divorce her immediately.”

I could tell that Cindy was determined not to give up until she got what she wanted. This time, before Theo could speak, I said, “Do not worry. We will surely get a divorce.”

I swallowed the pain in my heart and paused for a moment before saying, “I do not want this child and neither do I want him!”

The words took every ounce of my strength in me to utter.

“Wanda!” Theo was utterly enraged. He glared at me angrily with fury burning in his eyes.

I chuckled calmly. “If you do not agree to this, you will regret it for the rest of your life if she jumps!”

My words made Cindy feel relieved and relaxed herself. She suddenly slipped and fell from the railing. Theo quickly dashed forward and grabbed her tightly, afraid that she would break free again.

“You guys leave. I am tired.” After saying that, I laid back down.

Cindy was still sobbing. Theo furrowed his eyebrows and looked at me with his cold eyes. Then, he carried Cindy and left the room.

The room instantly fell silent. My heart sank as I looked down at the remnants of the glass bottle on the floor. ①

I did not want to stay there any longer, so I got up and went to Cecilia's milk tea shop.

Cecilia was also an orphan. We were the only family to each other. She had always been by my side during my dark times. When I came to Salt City, she followed me and opened this milk tea shop.

“Why are you here so early? What happened?” Seeing me there, she placed a cup of milk tea in front of me out of habit. She was a person of few words, but she knew me best.

“Can we leave this place together?” I held the iced milk tea and looked at her.

“So you have finally made up your mind. You should have done this a long time ago. I told you that I would be there for you no matter where you were.” Cecilia said with some relief. 3

From the day I married Theo, she had been persuading me to leave him. She just did not want my love to go to waste.

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Chapter 20

I did not say anything. Cecilia did not know about the baby yet.

“When are we leaving? I will need to hand over the shop to someone else first.” She had waited a long time for this day, and now she was full of anticipation.

“Soon. When I am done with what I need to do, the three of us will leave for a brand new city together and start over.” Since I had already made up my mind, I did not want to delay any longer. The sooner we settled this, the better.

“Three of us?” Cecelia glanced at my belly. She then took the iced milk tea from my hands and replaced it with a cup of hot water. “It is okay. I am here.

The three of us will be happy.”

She had always understood me so well and always so accommodating to me. I thought this must be the true meaning of having a best friend!

After coming out of Cecilia's place, I felt completely relieved. Once I had made the decision, I felt much better in my heart.

I took out my phone and called Mason. This time, it only rang once before the call got through.

“Wanda!” He called my name in surprise.

“Do you have time tonight? I want to treat you to dinner.”

He seemed surprised. “Okay,” he said after a pause. “Time and place?”

“I will send it to you!” I hung up and sent the time and place to Mason.

It was still early, so I went to the office first to settle some work backlogs first. When I looked at the time, it was already four in the afternoon.

I turned to Heidi and said, “Help me get the divorce papers that the President's assistant Keith sent over previously.”

Back then, when Keith sent the papers as per Theo's order, I was furious and had asked Heidi to put it away. 1

Heidi was stunned. She looked at me and said, “Wanda, you?”

The dispute between the Grant family and I had always been apparent. She was silent for a while before saying, “Wanda, are you agreeing to the divorce? Have you forgotten your promise to Grandmother? Besides, the shares that are rightfully yours can only be transferred to you after five years.”

Before Grandmother passed away, she

allocated a portion of the company's shares to me. However, the prerequisite was that I had to be with Theo for five years before the shares could be transferred to me. Thinking about it, she was probably afraid that I would not be able to hold on to my words and planned to leave.

Although I knew Heidi was saying this for my own good, I could not explain it to her. I just said, "I have my own plans. You just need to go get the papers."

Heidi was reluctant. In the end, she did not say anything and took out the papers. However, she still spoke in reluctance, "Wanda, it is just another two more years. Now is not the best time to do this. You should hold on for a while longer..."

I did not say anything. I put the folder into my bag, waved at Heidi, and stepped into the elevator.

She wanted to continue persuading me to change my mind, but the elevator doors had closed on her.

After leaving the company, I went to the place where I had arranged to meet Mason.

This was a high-end restaurant with a warm ambiance. It was very suitable for people like Mason.

I went straight to the table that I had reserved beforehand. Unexpectedly, Mason had already arrived.

He was dressed in black, which accentuated his well-defined facial features. His look attracted attention from the people around him.

“Sorry that I am late.” Embarrassed, I quickly pulled out a chair and sat down.

He raised his eyebrows and gave a rare smile. “I arrived early.”

When the waitress came to take our order, I pushed the menu toward him and smiled. “You are especially gentle when you smile. You should smile more. Do not keep a straight face all the time.”

As Theo's good friend, Mason was just like Theo and always had a cold expression as if trying to distance himself from everyone.

He reached over and pushed the menu back toward me, his smile widening. “I am not a playboy. Why would I be smiling at anyone?”

Who knew he had humor in him. I could not help but giggle.

I ordered a few dishes that I thought he would enjoy.

He did not say anything else and just looked at me with a smile.

A little embarrassed, I cleared my throat. “Am I funny to you?”

He looked away and chuckled. “Actually, you are the one who should be smiling more. You usually looked too depressed. It puts the men off.”

I was stunned. No wonder Theo hated to see me.

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Chapter 21

Seeing my expression change, Mason continued, “I thought my first meal with you would be quite dull. I did not expect it to be much better than I imagined.”

I smiled helplessly. I supposed it was my silent character that made Mason think that way.

I was not a talkative person, so I did not know what to say. I simply said, “I need your help for something, Doctor Mason. Will you help me?”

He raised his eyebrows and leaned his long body back to look at me. “No wonder you suddenly invited me out to dinner. Tell me, what do you need help with?”

“I... I need an abortion!”

He stared at me for a long time before

saying in a joking tone, “I am Theo's good friend. You are trying to get me into trouble.”

I looked at him and smiled. “Because you are his good friend, you would not want to watch Cindy kick a fuss every day that would make things difficult for him, right? Also, did you not always hope that you could help bring them together?”

He did not say anything. His perfect brows furrowed, and he stared at me with eyes as dark as night. He was trying to read if there was truth in my words.

I swirled my cup and continued slowly, “Furthermore, you are very well versed in the field of medicine. I would like you to prescribe some medicine to restore my body too.”

He froze, looking at me in surprise.

I smiled but did not say anything. My

expression was calm as I let Mason continue staring at me.

After a long while, he smiled and said plainly, "I will do it!"

"Thank you, Doctor Mason!" There was no need to say much when dealing with smart people like him. Just gazing at me, he knew what I meant in my words.

When the waitress finally served the dishes, he glanced over at me and said, "I did not expect you to be this smart. I have underestimated you."

I smiled. "This is the best solution. Cindy will not kick a fuss ever again, and Theo will not need to trouble himself to choose his child or his lover."

He nodded, seemingly satisfied with my arrangement. After eating a few mouthfuls of food, he asked casually, "So when do you plan to leave?"

My hand that was picking up food

stopped for a moment. I looked up at Mason in shock. I had only made a small move, but he already knew about my final move. It was too terrifying.

“Do not look at me like that. Is it not quite obvious?” He was quite calm and continued eating slowly.

That was true. It was the move that Mason was happy to know. That was why he was willing to help me.’

Putting down the spoon in my hand, I looked out of the window and said softly, “Soon. I just haven't decided where to go yet.”

He had already finished eating by then. He put down his spoon and took a napkin to wipe his mouth elegantly. He said, "How about you go to Rosella City? It is more comfortable there and easy to settle down."

It was indeed a good choice. Rosella City focused a lot on education. Although it

was not as prosperous as Salt City, it was a slow-paced city filled with educators and scholars.

I held up my drink and smiled. "You have given me an excellent suggestion. Thank you."

He nodded. "I hope you can treat me to a meal in Rosella City next time as well."

I smiled, unsure how to answer him.

After we had finished the meal, I was supposed to treat him. However, he got up to settle the bill on his own. I did not fight him for it. Considering his status, he would not need a woman to treat him to a meal.

It was getting late, and I was ready to go home. Before I left, I asked, "Can the surgery be scheduled for tomorrow?"

Since the decision had been made, it was better to get it done and over with.

“The day after tomorrow. I will need to get ready.” He stood up, picked up his coat, and walked out.

“Okay. I will wait for your call.” It was not my place to say anything else.

“You have to think it through. Are you really not going to let Theo know?” He spoke again as we stood outside of the entrance together.

“Yeah.” I paused for a moment before continuing, “Cindy has not fully recovered yet. Anyway, it is not a big deal, so I will spare him the trouble.”

He frowned and drove off without saying another word.

I just stood there for a long time before driving back to the villa.

I reached the garage very quickly, but I did not get out of the car. I sat in the car and took out the divorce papers that

Heidi passed to me. ¹

After all, I had already made the decision. In the past, when Theo sent me these divorce papers, I never thought at that time that I would sign them.

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Chapter 22

When it came to dividing the assets for the divorce, Theo was very generous. Other than the shares that Grandmother left for me, he also gave me the villa, some other properties, and almost half of the company's dividends.

Looking at this, I would leave as a wealthy lady. Even if I decided not to work for the rest of my life, I would not need to worry about food and clothing. I felt like laughing, thinking about it. Perhaps Theo figured that those were the things that I wanted from the start. As long as he gave me enough of those things, there was no reason for me to not agree to the divorce.

After a moment, I took out a pen and signed the papers.

When I returned to the villa, there was no one at home. Cindy had probably left together with Theo.

I went up straight to my room on the second floor and turned on the light. I found Theo sitting on the sofa. The expression on his face was cold. He snorted when he saw me.

My heart clenched as I controlled the uneasy feeling in me and looked at him. “Do you need something from me?”

“Do you know what time it is?” His tone sounded indifferent, but it was clear that he was furious.

“I was caught up in the office,” I whispered. After a moment of hesitation, I went in and sat on the other end of the couch.

This would probably be the last time that I would be in the same room with him like this. I looked at him.

He was also looking at me. His dark eyes were cold, but unlike the usual disgust and coldness, there were more complicated emotions that I could not tell in his eyes.

Our eyes met, and I did not know what to do. I quickly moved away.

"Wanda, you are really heartless." He spoke finally after a long time. He gritted his teeth as he said those words.

I was stunned, and my heart was feeling anxious. Usually, I would have stayed silent. However, with the anxiety in me, I suddenly said, "Do you think I wanted this? Theo, what do you want me to do?"

At first, he forced me to get a divorce. When Cindy had threatened to end her life to coerce me into aborting the child, I agreed to it. Now he was blaming me for it. How could he bully me like this?

Feeling wronged, I put the documents into his hand. Then I spoke out coldly, “I have already signed the papers, and we can go through the procedures tomorrow. As for the child, you can tell Cindy that I will indulge her.”

It was my first time speaking to him in such a tone. Not surprisingly, my words pissed him off.

He came closer, held my hands above my head, and pushed them back against the couch, pinning my legs with his. His eyes burned with fury as he gritted his teeth and asked, “How do you plan on indulging?”

He was strong, and my hands were hurting from his grip. My legs were also firmly pinned down by him. I could not move at all. I could only shout, “Theo, you are hurting me.”

However, he did not budge at all. He continued to stare at me, waiting for m

y answer.

I took a deep breath, holding back the bitterness in my heart. Looking at Theo's handsome and cold face, I said each word loud and clear, "I will indulge her by aborting... the... child!"

"How dare you!" His anger grew, and he applied even more strength. My hands were numb from the pain, and I had no energy left to struggle.

"The child is not just yours. Do not even think about aborting him!" He was like an angry lion. His hands were strangling my neck, and with every word, he said with great force as if in roars.

My poor neck had been strangled by him and Cindy several times in just a span of a few days.

I could not breathe. I felt suffocated with every passing second.

It seemed that I was really going all out today. As I used all my strength to pry Theo's hands away, I said, "Is this not what the both of you wanted? I did it for you, so you do not have to make that decision by yourself."

His eyes turned red with fury as he sneered, "Wanda, do you think you are so smart that you can think on my behalf?"

"Is it not true?" I argued back.

He sneered and whispered into my ear, "It is not up to you to decide whether to keep or abort the baby."

"Not up to me?" I smiled and looked at him. "It is up to Cindy then, right?"

He narrowed his eyes slightly and said with a cold aura mixed with murderous intent, "Wanda, do you want to die?"

He was totally enraged. He continued to

tighten his grip, and a suffocating pain shot down my neck to my heart. No longer having the strength to struggle, I closed my eyes and let him do whatever he wanted.

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Chapter 23

He suddenly let go, and I was free again. I did not open my eyes and just laid there on the couch like a dead fish.

After a long while, he took me in his arms and held me close. Leaning against his chest, I could clearly feel the beating of his heart. Thump, thump, thump. It was strong.

“How much longer do you want to pretend?” His deep, magnetic voice reached my ears.

He raised his hand and pinched my cheek, but I still did not move.

“How could you in your right mind decide to end the life of the child? Are you not ashamed?” The tone of his voice was a little low, but it was

obviously not as angry as before.

My heart skipped a beat. My eyelashes fluttered, but I still did not open my eyes.

With a barely audible sigh, he carried me and gently placed me on the bed.

There was an unusual emotion in me. For the first time in three years, Theo held me so tenderly.

I thought he would leave, but he still stayed in the room. He even called Mason over to check on me.

Come to think of it, it was not easy to be Mason. Coming from a lineage of doctors, he had almost become Theo's personal doctor. He was always instructed to treat all kinds of matters.

I was so tired that I ended up falling asleep.

In my daze, I could vaguely hear

Mason's voice. "Since you cannot make both happen, you will have to give up one of them."

Theo did not seem to want to hear this and said impatiently, "I know how to handle this..."

I was too sleepy to continue hearing what they were saying after that.

That night, I did not sleep very well. I kept feeling as if someone was hugging me tightly. I tried very hard to open my eyes, but my eyelids were as heavy as stone. I just could not wake up.

The next day, when I opened my eyes again, it was already late morning.

Theo was no longer in the villa. I guessed that he was either at work or went to see Cindy.

The divorce papers on the sofa last night were no longer there.

Initially, I had wanted to settle the

divorce procedures today. Since Theo was not around, I could not do anything except give up.

After washing up, I went to the company. I still had a lot on my plate, and I would need to slowly clear my work as well. This way, when I left, I would be completely free.

The other jobs were basically on track, and the most crucial task at the moment was to select an ambassador. The product launch was just around the corner. Theo had assigned me this task, so I had to do my best.

This would be the perfect ending.

Looking through the list of models on my table, none of them caught my eye. I could not help but feel annoyed. I ran my fingers through my hair in frustration.

“I have always known that a woman in the middle of a bath would be quite the view. I did not expect a woman to also b

e so sexy when she was playing with her hair.” A teasing voice could be heard suddenly.

I looked up and asked listlessly, “What are you doing here instead of filming?”

The newcomer was called Xander Nietzsche. He was the first young male actor whom I had made famous ever since I took over Nectarine Entertainment. 2

“Why does a boss as cruel as you exist? All you know is to work your employees to death. I have not rested for a month.” Xander half sat on my table, twirling with my fountain pen from my table.

“Do you really treat me like your boss?” I glared at him and continued to read the information in my hands.

“Do I not? I just showed up when I knew you were in trouble. Do I not look a lot like your knight in shining armor?” He

leaned closer to me as he fluttered his gorgeous eyes.

He was a charming fellow. Xander was famous not only for his acting but also for his appearance. He looked gorgeous when he smiled. He was really pleasing to the eyes and had the looks to die for.

“What good is your presence here? I am looking for an ambassador for jewelry. A model.” I leaned my head back against my chair and sighed, closing my eyes in frustration.

“Who said that a jewelry ambassador needs to be a woman?”

Chapter 24

I opened my eyes and gave him a puzzled look.

“Look, although most jewelry is bought by men for women, the choice is in the hands of women. If you find a male celebrity to be your ambassador, his female fans might end up buying them. Even if they are not fans, they will still be attracted out of curiosity. Do you understand the concept of opposites attract?”

Xander was in high spirits when he spoke. His handsome face was slightly blushed, making him look even more dazzling.

He was right! Who said that jewelry must be represented by only women? There were even male celebrities who promoted sanitary pads now.

Just like he said, most of the fans who religiously follow celebrities were women. If Xander, a celebrity with more than sixty million fans, were to be the ambassador, the impact would definitely be extraordinary.

Why should I go through the trouble of looking for an international model if I already had a good candidate in front of me?

“Wandy, it is not my place to criticize you, but you are a bit simple minded. You need a wise and visionary man like me at your side to guide you. I heard that you are going through a divorce. After you get divorced, we can be together. Let us make a name for ourselves in the entertainment industry together. We will definitely thrive.”

“Shoo, shoo, shoo. Cut the crap. Do not leave just yet. I will get Heidi to draft the contract immediately. We will sign

the contract now.”

I quickly got up. My initial frustration was gone, and I felt much more at ease.

However, Xander was unhappy. He put his arms around my shoulder and said, “Why the rush to sign the contract now? I promise you that I will not run away. Have dinner with me first. After eating takeout on the mountain for a month, I feel like I am dying in need of a good meal.”

“Alright, considering that you have helped me, I will treat you to a big meal today.”

After all, Xander was part of the company, so there was really no rush. I called Cecilia, and the three of us went to the most expensive seafood restaurant in Salt City for dinner.

Xander had a great personality and was easy to talk to. Cecilia also enjoyed messing around with him, so the

dinner only ended late at night. I had not felt this happy for a long time.

All the stress that I had been feeling was swept away.

Maybe I should have let it go long ago.

However, when I returned to the villa and looked at the empty house, I still felt an inexplicable sense of melancholy.

I heard a text notification on my phone. It was Mason. He informed me that the surgery would be at the hospital tomorrow at nine am.

When I woke up the next day, I went straight to the hospital.

Mason was waiting for me at the entrance of the hospital. Behind him stood a group of people. 2

Mason pointed at a middle-aged female doctor in a white coat and said, "Let me introduce you. This is Director Jane

from the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department in the hospital. I have already handed your file to her.”

“Thank you for doing this, Director Jane.” I extended my hand to her and smiled politely.

“It was arranged by the Director-General of the hospital. It was no trouble at all.” Doctor Jane smiled kindly.

Once we were in the hospital, I went through the basic medical checkup and then straight into the operating theatre. I was a little nervous and stood there rubbing my hands together uneasily. ①

Director Jane followed me in and said with a smile, “Mrs. Grant, do not worry. The surgery is a simple procedure. Once the anesthetic takes effect, you will be asleep, and it will be over quickly.”

I nodded, bracing myself to what was

about to happen, and laid down obediently on the cold operating table.

It was as she said. After a while, I slowly closed my eyes and lost consciousness.

When I woke up again, I was already in a hospital bed.

The first thing I saw when I opened my eyes was Theo's icy cold face. His thin lips were tightly pursed, and his dark eyes were filled with bloodlust as if he wanted to swallow me alive. ²

His hands gripped so tightly onto the railings by the bed that his knuckles turned white.

My heart sank. I had never seen Theo this way before.

I wanted to reach out and hold his trembling hands, but he shook it off. I opened my mouth to say something, but I did not know what to say. ¹

Theo was furious and could no longer control his rage any longer. He reached out his hand and was about to slap me...

Telegram @GoodNovelApp

Chapter 25

I closed my eyes instinctively. If this slap could help him ease his hatred, I was willing to take it.

In the end, the slap did not happen.

He said hatefully, "Wanda Lane, you sure have guts!" With that, he turned around and left.

Looking at his back, I sighed. This ending would be the best for everyone.

"Theo will hate you forever." Mason's cold voice could be heard from the door.

He came in with my medical record and checked on my current condition. He said calmly, "The truth will come to light eventually. This trick of yours will not last long. With his ability, he will find out very soon."

"By the time he finds out, perhaps the

baby will have been born already.” I sat up on the bed and took the medical record from Mason. I looked at it and said, “I have to thank you for your help this time!”

"It is the first time I betrayed my brother, and I cannot believe it is for a woman like you!" He mocked himself.

“You meant well. Theo will surely understand.” Putting the record away, I got ready to get out of bed and leave.

Mason stopped me and looked at me. “You have to continue putting on this show. At least you have to stay in the hospital until tomorrow morning.”

He was right. If I headed back now, Theo would kill me in a fit of anger. It would be safer to stay in the hospital for now.

I laid back on my bed and looked at Mason. “I am afraid Theo will check on the medical record. Just be careful to

not let anything slip.”

“I do not need you to remind me about it. I still want to live for a few more years at least.” He rolled his eyes at me and took out a few bags of medicine. “These medicines will help with the development of the fetus. Do not forget to take them on time.”

“Thank you!” I thanked him sincerely.

“Do not look for me again in the future for matters like these. I am afraid that Theo will kill me.”

After that, he turned and left.

The following morning, I called Heidi to pick me up.

After sending me home, when Heidi was about to go to work, I told her, “Inform Cindy about my surgery.”

She looked at me but said nothing. She just nodded and left.

After returning to my room, I went to lie down. Since it was an abortion, I would need to rest for at least a week in bed.

I had predicted that once Cindy found out about my abortion, she would stop kicking up a fuss over the baby and that Theo would be fine after being angry for a while.

To put up a convincing act, I stayed in the villa for a few days. During this time, Heidi took care of me. She would cook me a meal every day and order takeout for me for the other meals.

Theo had not appeared since that day.

Today, Heidi had brought me a big bag of stuff.

“Wanda, I heard rumors from staff working with Sherry that she will be filming a movie next month.”

“Filming a movie?” I looked up in shock. Was the filming of ‘The Biography of Empress Anna’ not supposed to start next month? How would she have time to film another movie?

“It was just gossip. It might not be accurate. You do not have to worry about it. Just rest well for now.” Heidi waved her hand and regretted being too talkative.

I was shocked. Definitely, there would not be smoke without a fire. I felt a little uneasy. I said to Heidi, “I am going back to work tomorrow.”

Chapter 26

“My mother told me that having an abortion is very harmful. You need to recuperate well. If your body does not recover properly, it will be hard for you to get pregnant in the future. You should rest more,” Heidi said as she looked at me. She seemed slightly worried.

“I am fine right now, am I not? Do not worry. I know what I am doing. I will be alright.”

It was not an abortion. I could not stay here too long as my belly would eventually show. If I did not settle this matter and leave as quickly as possible, people would find out about my pregnancy sooner or later.

“Alright. Anyway, please pay attention to your health.” Heidi did not want to

say much anymore. After putting down my things, she left in a hurry. It seemed like she had something urgent to attend to.

After Heidi left, I was all alone in the large villa once again. I walked into my bedroom and turned on my computer. There was nothing much for me to do at home, so I started to look online for a place to stay in Rosella City.

Time passed quickly, and it was soon eight o'clock at night. I took out the bread that Heidi had bought for me from the fridge and warmed a cup of milk for dinner.

I received a call from Cecilia out of the blue.

I answered the call. Before I could say anything, Cecilia's angry voice could be heard from the other end of the line. "Wanda Lane, do you want to die? How dare you abort your child?"

I was stunned. “How did you know?”

Only a few people knew that I had gotten an abortion, and none of those people had anything to do with Cecilia. How did she find out about it?

“How could I not know about it? Do you still see me as your best friend? How dare you hide such important news from me?!” Cecilia was enraged. She started reprimanding me incessantly.

This woman would never stop talking when she was angry. I could not defend myself at all. I did not dare to say anything, so I simply held my phone and just listened to her nagging.

“Why are you not saying anything?” She asked me in a heavy tone. After a considerable amount of time, she had finally finished venting her anger on me.

“You are teaching me a lesson right

now, are you not? I am sorry, my dear. I did not mean to hide it from you. I was mainly afraid that you would be worried. I wanted to tell you after two days,” I apologized to her immediately.

“That is not the point. Of course, I would be worried. If I did not worry about you, who else would? I do not object to your choice of getting an abortion. Plus, there is nothing to miss about Theo’s baby. However, it was still surgery. What if something happened to you while you were alone?”

My heart was warm, knowing that she was worried about me. What else would I need if I already had a best friend like her in my life?

“Do not worry. Heidi has been looking after me these few days. I am recovering well.” After a short pause, I said, “Cecilia, shall we go to Rosella City?”

I decided not to tell her about the child for the time being because I did not want her to keep worrying about me. I did not risk Theo sensing that something was off.

“We can go wherever you want. Just tell me when beforehand.” Cecilia was extremely accepting about leaving. For years, she had been preparing herself to leave this place at any moment.

We both chatted for a while. I was about to hang up when Cecilia said, “Come over and fetch your man back. My friend told me that he has been getting wasted in the bar for a few days now.”

“Theo Grant?” I was stunned.

“Do you have another man?” Cecilia asked irritably.

Why was Theo at a bar? I thought that he had been at Cindy’s place for the past few days.

I asked Cecilia for the address. I grabbed my car keys, and left the house.

The bar owned by Cecilia's friend was not far away from her milk tea shop. I saw Cecilia standing at the entrance while waiting for me from a distance away.

“He is inside and completely knocked out.”

“Why did he come here?” It was not a big bar. It was plainly decorated and looked just like an ordinary bar. To my knowledge, Theo would not come to a place like this.

“How would I know? My friend called to tell me that Theo wanted me to come over. After that, Theo told me that you had gotten an abortion. I wanted to ask him about the details, but he passed out from the alcohol.”

Cecilia and I chatted as we walked, and

shortly after, we reached the room in the bar.

The room was a complete mess. There were bottles of red wine, white wine, and beer on the table and scattered everywhere on the ground in the room.

I frowned. How much did Theo drink?

Theo was lying on the sofa. His clothes were wrinkled, and his hair was in a mess. There was stubble on his handsome face. He looked like a completely different person instead of his usual cold and arrogant self.

Telegram @CoolNovelApp

Chapter 27

“I heard that he had been here for the past few days,” Cecilia said as she put her hands in her pockets. She pouted and said, “Well, you had just aborted the Grant family’s offspring. Naturally, he would be in a bad mood.”

I was stunned. Did Theo really drink all this alcohol because of the baby?

“I am busy. I will head off first. Please be careful when you head back later.” It seemed like Cecilia did not want to see Theo anymore. She turned around to leave.

The pungent stench of alcohol and smoke lingered in the room. The smell was so strong that I found it hard to open my eyes, and my stomach lurched. I immediately got up to open the

windows. As a gust of warm air blew in, I felt a little bit better.

“Theo Grant, wake up. Let’s go back home.” I walked over and shook his body lightly.

“Uh...” He murmured and turned around to continue sleeping.

“Theo Grant, wake up.” I continued shaking him, this time with a little bit more force.

Perhaps he got annoyed because I kept shaking him. His long lashes fluttered as he narrowed his eyes to look at me. He then closed his eyes. “Tell...Wanda Lane that I will never...forgive her for aborting my child...”

He was way too drunk. He could not even recognize me.

He had such a large build that I would not be able to carry him. I had no choice but to grab a glass from the table. I got u

p and headed to the washroom to fill the glass with water. Then, I splashed water on his face.

“Ah!” He sat up at once and wiped the water from his face. After a while, he turned his cold eyes and glared at me. “Did you splash water on me?” He asked in a harsh tone.

My heart clenched as I sensed his anger and the dangerous gaze in his eyes. I lowered my head immediately and said softly, “Sorry, I should not have woken you up.”

He did not say anything. He could barely balance himself, so he leaned against the sofa and looked at me with his cold and dark gaze. His eyes were full of anger and disgust.

I stood there silently. I did not dare to say anything at all. The room was dead quiet as the atmosphere continued to grow colder.

“Scram!” After a while, he finally spoke up. His voice was cold and hoarse.

I knew that he did not want to see me now, but he was so drunk that he could not even sit up straight. I could not leave him just like that.

I walked forward and said softly, “You are drunk. Let’s talk after we have gone home.”

His eyes were out of focus due to his drunkenness. He laughed mockingly and asked, “Which home are we returning to?”

I did not say anything. I got up and tried to help Theo up, but he flung me off immediately. He stubbornly asked, “Where is my home?”

“Regal Villa.” I had no choice but to reply to his question. He got unreasonably stubborn whenever he was drunk.

“Can that be considered a home? Wanda Lane, tell me if that place can be considered a home.” He shook my shoulders. He almost fell against my chest since he was losing balance.

I knew I could not argue with a drunk man, but I could get irritated easily nowadays. I could not resist speaking up, “How can it not be home? You have lived there for three years!”

“It has been three years. Even a dog knows how to protect its owner’s belongings. What about you?” He did not answer my question.

A surge of anger flowed within me as I pushed him away and shouted, “Theo Grant, do not go overboard with your words. If you are calling me a dog, what are you then?”

He did not reply to me. He simply grabbed my hand, put it to his mouth, and bit me hard.

He raised his head and smiled at me proudly when he heard me shouting in pain. “I am a wolf-dog!”

This man!

I did not know what to say. Theo's intelligence spiraled down to zero whenever he was drunk. He was behaving exceptionally childish right now.

“Let me tell you this. Do not think of leaving secretly. You can only leave if I let you go...”

I felt a slight headache when I saw him in such a drunken state. Why was I talking to a drunk man?

I tried my best to hold in the anger in me. I cupped Theo's face with my hands and said, “Theo Grant, come with me. A president like you should not get this drunk in public. What if the reporters take a photograph of you now?”

He remained silent. He simply let me hold his face in my hands. His lashes fluttered. His eyes cleared up more than before.

My heart skipped a beat when I saw his handsome face up close.

Telegram @GoodNovelApp

Chapter 28

I immediately let go of him and turned around to tell him, "If you do not want to leave with me, I will ask Cindy to take you home." Anyway, he had not returned to the villa these few days. He was probably together with Cindy then.

After speaking, I took out my phone.

He grabbed me tightly, holding me with both his hands. He then turned off my phone to stop me from making any phone calls.

I was on the verge of breaking down. I stared at Theo in exasperation and asked, "What the hell do you want from me?"

He did not want to leave with me, nor did he want Cindy to take him home.

Did he intend to continue staying here?

After some time, he asked me in a soft tone, “Do you hate me a lot?” After a short pause, he added, “I did not protect him well.”

I was stunned. I did not know what to say. Theo was probably referring to our child.

“Do you hate me?” He continued asking me. He was being stubborn again.

I spoke to him gently. “You know that I do not hate you. I have always loved you. How can I hate you? Can we go home first?”

My answer satisfied him. He got up and carried me in his arms as he swayed a little to get his balance. “Let’s go. Let’s go home!” He shouted.

I was shocked. Theo was so drunk that he could not even walk in a straight line.

I still had a child growing in me. I immediately spoke up. “Theo, put me down at once. I can walk on my own.”

He ignored me and continued walking toward the door unsteadily. He was just about to hit the door frame when I told him, “Let me down. I have just completed my surgery. If I fall down, I am done for.”

He suddenly froze and fixed his dark gaze on me. After some time, he asked, “Does it hurt?”

“It does not hurt now. Let me down first.” I tried to free myself from his arms, but he held onto me very tightly.

My heart clenched as I thought that he would continue walking forward.

Luckily, he did not take any step forward and put me down gently.

I immediately stood up and supported his arm. “Let’s go!” I told him gently.

Once we were outside the door, a man rushed over to help us out. “Is Mr. Grant alright? I am the boss here. Let me help you get him in the car.”

“Thank you.” I let out a sigh of relief. Theo was putting the weight of his entire body on me, so it was hard for me to get him into the car.

The boss left after getting him into the car. After getting into the car, I realized that my back was soaked in sweat, and my clothes were damp.

I turned around to look at Theo. His eyes were closed, and he seemed to be fast asleep.

At that moment, his usual cold demeanor was nowhere to be seen. His lips were slightly pursed, and his angular and handsome face was relaxed. His dark and long lashes were curled upwards. He looked almost perfect.

I fell into a daze when I looked at him. God really favored this man. Not only was he capable and was born to a good family, but he was extremely handsome as well.

“How long do you intend to look at me?” He suddenly asked. I coughed lightly in shock and turned my head around awkwardly.

He reached out his arm and turned my head around again. The horrible stench of alcohol infiltrated my nose. He then tried to kiss me.

I tried to avoid his lips, but he pushed forward relentlessly. Finally, he bit down on my lips forcefully.

Overcome with pain, I shouted out in shock.

He released his bite and grinned widely.

“Theo Grant, are you a dog? Why did

you bite me?” I shouted out in pain.

Why did he suddenly kiss me too? My heart started beating wildly!

His smile vanished as he fixed his gaze on me. 1

After a lengthy pause, he spat out these words. “You owe me a child.” After that, he ignored me and closed his eyes.

... 1

Telegram @GoodNovelApp

Chapter 29

The car was quiet once again. I started the car and drove back to the villa.

On the way back, I rolled down the car windows and let the wind blow against my flushed face. After some time, I finally felt better. However, Theo's words, "You owe me a child." kept replaying in my mind.

It seemed like he had really gotten himself drunk for the past few days because of our child. He must have genuinely loved the child a lot! That was why he blamed himself for not protecting the child well. ¹

When I thought about this, I was overcome with heavy emotions.

But what could I do?

Cindy was his responsibility. She was a responsibility that he would never let go of for his entire lifetime. If I insisted on keeping the child, Cindy would threaten me with her life again. He would be the only one suffering then.

I was already tired of this emotional struggle between the three of us. Now with a child in the picture, I did not dare to imagine what would happen.

Hence I had made the best choice for all of us. I would bring the child away, and he could continue looking after Cindy. This would be the best outcome for everyone.

My thoughts were all over the place as I continued driving. Soon, we reached the villa.

I looked at Theo's face as he slept. I opened the door of the passenger seat and shook his arm. "Theo Grant!" I called out softly.

He slowly opened his eyes and looked around. He then turned around to look at me. "Did you take me home?" He asked in an even tone.

I nodded. It seemed like the alcohol was wearing off.

"Let's go in. It is late." After going through an eventful night, I felt rather tired.

He did not say anything. He simply leaned against the seat motionlessly. He seemed to be deep in thought.

"Do you need my help?" I asked. He was slowly getting sober. Perhaps he did not have the energy to get down from the car. 1

"I will sleep here for a little while longer." After that, he closed his eyes once again.

My outstretched arm was left there for

a moment. After a while, I retracted my arm and said, “Sleep all you want then!” After that, I turned around and returned to the villa.

I returned to my bedroom and took a bath. Afterward, I laid down on the bed. Lightning flashed outside the window, indicating that it was about to rain again. I got worried. After hesitating for a moment, I decided to get up and go downstairs.

Luckily, he had already come inside the house. He was lying on the sofa.

I then turned around and returned to my room. ¹

The next day when I woke up, Theo was nowhere to be found.

After brushing my teeth and washing up, I headed straight to the company. ¹

As soon as I stepped in the door, Heidi ran over and spoke in an urgent tone, “

The shareholders want to convene an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders. We are all waiting for you in the meeting room.”

“An extraordinary general meeting for shareholders?” I looked at Heidi in shock.

“That is not all. The investors and commercial sponsors of ‘The Biography of Empress Anna’ are there as well. The director is there too.” There was a bitter expression on Heidi’s face. She was so nervous that she started stomping her foot.

“What in the world happened?” I asked with a heavy tone.

“This morning, we had announced that we were terminating Sherry Young’s contract. We had paid her compensation. The company had lost a large sum of money. Once the shareholders heard about it, they

rushed over immediately. The sponsors and director were notified about it as well.”

“A termination of contract? Why did I not know anything about it?” I was slightly confused.

“I heard that the President announced the termination himself. Besides, the investors, commercial sponsors, and the director are all here to ask for clarification and compensation after hearing that we were changing the female lead. I tried calling you all morning, but your phone was turned off.”

I just recalled that Theo had turned off my phone last night. I had forgotten to turn it on.

My head started to hurt.

Theo had terminated Sherry’s contract without notifying me. He was willing to pay the compensation worth tens of

millions without a second thought just for Cindy.

Had he never thought about the sticky situation that I would be in? How would I explain it to the shareholders and the sponsors?

After thinking for a while, I turned and told Heidi, “Go to the meeting room and handle the situation first. I will head over to the headquarters.”

Telegram @GoodLoveApp

Chapter 30

“Wanda!” Heidi shouted out behind me in an urgent tone. I knew that it was going to be hard for her, but I had no choice. I had to look for Theo and get him to come up with a solution to this problem.

The company headquarters was located in the busiest street in the city center. The Grant Corporation owned the thirty-floor high-rise skyscraper. The first to the fifth floors were made into a shopping mall. The seventh to the twelfth floors were full of food and beverage enterprises, a cinema, a gym, and entertainment facilities. The building had a diverse range of businesses.

The offices were located on the thirteenth floor and above. Theo’s office was on the highest floor.

Theo's office space was similar to other office spaces. It was developed in a simple professional all-black design. I felt a sense of seriousness as soon as I entered the room.

Although it was a summer day, I could feel a cold sense of unwelcomeness.

Theo liked the silence. The few people in the secretary's office were the only ones in the spacious office space. I walked toward the room labeled as the President's office.

Keith was seated outside the door. He greeted me in a polite but cold tone when he saw me. "Madam, the President is having a meeting. Please wait outside in the hall."

I nodded after hearing what he said. I returned to the hall and sat down on the sofa.

Keith continued to keep himself busy

with his work. After a few thoughts, I got up and walked toward him. “Theo had been getting drunk a lot lately. Do you know what happened?”

Theo rarely got so drunk. Was it because of the child or Cindy Reed?

Slightly stunned, he raised his head and replied to me with a blank expression on his face, “I do not know.”

Such a tight-lipped man! I walked back to the sofa, and I sat down again.

I was easily lethargic recently. After sitting down for a while, I dozed off.

In my groggy state, I heard the sound of the room door opening. I quickly tidied my hair and sat up straight.

Three people came out of the room. Zedd, Mason, and Theo appeared in front of me. They were all looking handsome and had exuded a charming aura. If they debuted together as a

band, they would definitely be famous worldwide.

While I was lost in my thoughts, Zedd, who stood in front of both of them, spoke up. “Oh wow, you surely are heartless. The company is about to go bankrupt, yet you’re still in the mood to sleep here.”

His words were unnecessarily harsh.

I looked over at Theo, who was standing behind them. There was a dark and emotionless expression on his face. I rolled my eyes at Zedd and said, “President Lang, are you a nosy person? You somehow seemed to meddle in someone else’s affairs.”

“Hah!” Mason, who was between both of them, chuckled lightly. He looked amused. He had no intention to say anything and was simply in for the drama.

“Wanda Lane, do not be so arrogant.

What right do you have to speak to me that way?” Zedd shouted at me. His face was flushed red with anger.

I did not want to bother with Zedd. He would definitely mock me on behalf of Cindy every single time we met.

I retorted immediately in a low voice. “It is so early in the morning. Why is there a crow in here? How inauspicious!”

Zedd was infuriated when he understood the meaning of my words. “Wanda Lane, you’re such a shameless woman. Since when was Grant Corporation your home? You are such a cruel woman. You murdered the Grant family’s offspring and have blood on your hands. How dare you treat this place like your home!”

Judging from his words and anger, any stranger probably thought I had aborted his child instead of Theo’s.

Mason grabbed hold of him and said, “Zedd, they have things to discuss by themselves. Let’s go out first!” After speaking, he dragged Zedd out of the room.

Theo and I were the only ones left in the large reception hall. I turned to look at him. “Theo Grant, why did you not tell me that you terminated Sherry Young’s contract?” I asked him.

“You were given a chance to fix this, but you did not take it,” he said coldly.

“Is that even a chance? It was an order. You knew that the compensation would be massive. I am still in charge of Nectarine Entertainment right now. Now that her contract is terminated, this project might be stuck. I would have to compensate the investors and commercial sponsors then. How can I afford to pay such a huge compensation?”

“That is your problem to handle,” Theo huffed coldly. His face remained emotionless. I could not tell what was going through his mind right now.

“It is my fault for not handling this problem in time, but the shareholders and investors are all waiting for me in my office. I do not have any choice but to ask you to come and negotiate with them to settle this problem.”

I decided to be straightforward with him since he behaved as if the incident had nothing to do with him.

After a while, Theo finally spoke up, “I can resolve this, but I have a condition.”