

# A Bird in the Cage by Wild Dandelion

## Chapter 71

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Chapter 71 Burgundy Bookstore

Since it was only a matter of time before he left, it didn't really matter that he misunderstood her or was angry with her. With the end of this relationship, everything would end as well.

Sighing, Maria returned to the kitchen to prepare breakfast for her.

"I'm going out for a while to buy some clothes," Catherine told Maria after having breakfast. Actually, she intended to go to the bookstore because there were some things she couldn't understand from the book she had read recently so she needed to go there to look for more information.

If Maria was going to report it to Ryan, she needed a reason Ryan would accept and had to keep her

phone on at all times.

Walking in the square under the piercing sunlight, she could barely open her eyes probably because she didn't really sleep last night.

As she walked around listlessly and crossed the street, a car sped right by her.

For a moment, she was stunned by it because it felt like the same accident in her memories once again. Back then, she was crossing the street at that exact location near the square.

Clearly, a car passed by but why didn't it run into her?

"Are you alright, miss?" a man cried out politely while she was in a daze.

"I'm fine, thank you!" she replied politely. When she wanted to turn around to look at the man, she

thought about the homeless man, lost in thought. When she began walking across the street, the man followed her too.

"Excuse me, how can I get to Burgundy Bookstore, miss? I'm a stranger here so I don't really know the way," the man asked.

“Burgundy Bookstore? It’s over there across that

street. Actually, I’m...” Stopping for a moment, Catherine pointed the direction to show him.

However, when she saw his face, she couldn’t help wincing in pain from a headache.

“What’s wrong, miss?”

“Nothing, the bookstore is over there. Go ahead. I need to take a rest.”

Because of her massive headache, she could only squat down and massage her temple with extreme

force.

“You don’t look good. Do you need me to take you to the hospital?”

“No, thank you!” At that moment, she thought her sudden headache was because she recalled the past earlier.

Why is she being so polite to me? Did she really forget all about me? Thinking that, the man frowned, depressed.

If it weren’t for him, she wouldn’t have had that accident. So, he probably deserved it if she didn’t remember him.

Thinking about all this in his heart, the man couldn’t stop worrying about her, but he didn’t have any reason to insist on staying by her side.

Fortunately, Catherine felt better after a while.

Standing up, she smiled at the man.

“Let’s go. I’ll take you to the bookstore!”

When the man heard that, his heart ached so terribly because her words sounded so familiar. Back then, she would innocently call out to him. “Let’s go, Roy! I’ll take you to the bookstore!”

“Let’s go for some pork burgers near my school, Roy!”

“Roy...”

Saying these words again now, Catherine had already lost the innocence she once had a long time ago.

Right now, her expression was no longer as naive as before. Instead, it was replaced with a certain sorrow.

As a matter of fact, her sorrow was probably caused by his d\*mn self. It was all his fault for being so impulsive!

Previously, he had asked his father how Catherine was doing, but he wouldn't say.

When he asked Jasmine, she told him that everything was fine and he believed it. But how could she be fine? She wasn't fine at all. Although she forgot everything in the past, that probably caused her a lot of problems too.

After all, how could anyone tolerate having a blank period in their memory?

"Do you want to go, sir? If not, I will be heading over myself," Catherine reminded him when she saw that he was in a daze.

In the past, Catherine would never say it that way. She would force him to do things even when he

didn't want to.

Elroy Manning remembered the first time he saw the adorable Catherine at that exact intersection. Most likely, she was blinded by the piercing sunlight when she was crossing the road so she didn't notice the car speeding toward her as it ran the red light.

When he saw her in danger, he instantly pounced at her without hesitation and rolled on the ground with her in his arms.

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**Chapter 72 Elroy Manning**

Just then, the car screeched to a halt. Fortunately, she wasn't injured. From then on, she had decided that Elroy was the bravest person on Earth.

After Elroy saved her, Catherine's father came by to pick her up, and it turned out that her father and Elroy's father were old friends that had lost contact with each other a long time ago.

Later, both families gradually got closer. In fact, Christopher hired Elroy's father, Marcus Manning, to his company as a manager.

Back then, Catherine often pestered Elroy like she would pester an idol. Wherever he went, she would playfully hang up with him.

Just now, she was in a daze before she crossed

the street. Then, she had a headache. Did that mean she remembered something?

Hopefully, she remembered him. If she did, he would definitely devote the rest of his life to making her happy forever.

"Why are you staring into space again? If you are not going, I'm really leaving!" Catherine repeated again.

"Oh, sure!" At that moment, he wanted so much to spend more time with her. If she remembered him, she probably wouldn't forgive him.

For now, he wanted to be friends with her so that he could watch over her from afar and protect her.

While Catherine led the way in the front, he followed her closely. When they arrived at the first floor, she stopped.

"We're here. I'm going to the second floor. Go ahead!"

"..." Just then, Elroy realized that he couldn't seem to find a reason to be her friend.

At the same time, he didn't want to force her or anything. After all, her past memories were probably too much of a torture for her.

Today, he shouldn't have come here and seen her out of the blue like that. If his father found out, he would definitely chew him out. If her parents knew, they would definitely hate him to death.

Also, he remembered how he knelt on the ground remorsefully and slapped himself on the night of the car accident.

After all, those memories weren't just painful for Catherine but for him as well.

The whole time, Catherine thought that he was a little weird. It was as if he was intentionally trying to get to know her, and it made her recall the times when she was at school where the boys would always treat her this way too.

Perhaps she was just overthinking it.

After saying goodbye to him, Catherine went to the second floor to look for books she wanted to read.

In the bookstore, there was a reading area so she found her book and began reading quietly there.

At around ten o'clock, she called Maria to tell her that she wasn't going back for lunch.

Right now, she really didn't want to go back to the apartment that was full of humiliating memories. It was so nice outside, and the air was so refreshing to her.

Also, she was hoping that she could leave Ryan earlier. Even if she no longer had love in her life, she could fill it up with other meaningful things as well.

When she went back to focus on the book, it was already around 12. By then, her tummy was growling, reminding her that it was time to eat.

Putting the book back, Catherine didn't buy it since she had already got the information she needed.

After leaving the bookstore, she casually walked ahead, but she stopped when she passed by a cafe.

That was because the cafe's name was "That Shop". Perhaps it got its inspiration when the ice cream shop called "Any Ice Cream" was established.

The reason why Catherine stopped here was that

this was the place where she first met Cayden. Also, that was the place where she first met Ryan. Of course, she now knew that that wasn't the place where they actually first met.

"Welcome!" the waitress greeted her. After a closer look, she realized that the waitress was no longer the woman who had worked here two years ago.

Inside the cafe, she purposely sat down at table 22.

Once she sat down, the waitress brought over the menu and politely asked for her order.

“A steak and a glass of mango juice.” Without looking at the menu, she ordered those two items. In fact, it was the exact same things she ordered when she first met Cayden. She would never forget that.

Writing it down, the waitress left.

Sitting there, Catherine looked out the window at the crowd as she recalled some of her memories with Caryden.

The other day, her mother told her that Mrs. Stevens was a relative of the Walker family. When Ryan’s grandmother was looking for a blind-date candidate for him, Mrs. Stevens gave her Catherine’s photo, and they were satisfied with it.

Her mother kept nagging so she had no choice but to agree to meet him.

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### Chapter 73

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#### Chapter 73 Incident at the Blind Date

In order not to let the Walker Group’s bald president take a fancy to her, she deliberately disguised herself. At the time, she thought that he might be a bald and pot-bellied person. Otherwise, why would he need to go on a blind date in search of a wife?

Because the waitress put down the number plate on the wrong table so she ended up sitting across Cayden instead.

Looking refined and handsome, Cayden smile at her. When Catherine saw him, she felt a little flustered.

Back then, Catherine remembered that she wore a bob-cut wig and that she was wearing a floral

blouse she buttoned all the way to the top.

Meanwhile, she was also wearing a green skirt. On her face, she drew some freckles on her face and wore a retainer. While she ate, she even deliberately left some food wedged between her teeth.

“Hello, my name is Catherine. I’m supposed to be here to meet you for a blind date. I’m 20 years old, and people usually tell me I’m ugly, but I think I actually

look quite pretty." After she introduced herself, she bared her teeth at him so that he could clearly see what she did with her teeth.

In fact, she even remembered that Cayden was so shocked by her that he couldn't stop drinking lemonade.

Recalling all these memories, Catherine smiled and eventually cried..

At the time, Catherine thought that Cayden judged her by her appearance because she was ugly so she began to have the urge to prank him.

"Actually, you look quite decent. How about we go out?" When she leaned in closer to him, he quickly choked on the water and coughed violently.

When the waitress noticed that he was coughing and that he ran out of water, she quickly walked over to fill his glass up, and that was when she realized that the number plate on the table was wrong.

When she changed it, Catherine instantly realized that she was at the wrong table.

Wasting such a good performance, she even

allowed Cayden to see her make a fool of herself so she felt a little embarrassed.

Standing up furiously, she whispered to him, "Hey,

what's wrong with you? Why didn't you tell me that you weren't here for a blind date? Are you planning on taking advantage of me?"

Peeling his eyes wide open, Cayden was so infuriated that he didn't know what to say because he was instead thinking of how much courage he needed to take advantage of such an ugly woman.

Upon realizing that he wasn't speaking, she realized that he hadn't said a word since she sat down. Could he be a mute?

Immediately, she sat down again and whispered to him, "I'm sorry. I didn't know you had difficulty talking. It's my fault."

"How dare you!" Suddenly, Cayden blurted impatiently and startled her.

"Hey, what's wrong with you? If you aren't a mute, why didn't you tell me that I was at the wrong

table? Haven't you seen a beautiful woman before? Is that why you couldn't wait to take advantage of me?" On the other hand, she wasn't too kind with her words either.

After retorting, she stood up and rushed to the bathroom in a huff.

Because of how uncomfortable her outfit was, she quickly changed into a light purple skirt and began fixing her makeup in front of the mirror.

Standing in front of the mirror, Catherine noticed the cleaning lady mopping the floor beside her. When the cleaning lady left, she could see Cayden in the mirror standing in front of a mirror too in the men's restroom.

Through the mirror, their gazes met. Fearing that he would recognize her, she left in a panic, but the

slippery floor caused her to fall backward accidentally.

When Cayden saw her slip, he swiftly approached her to help her up. In her gasp of shock, he noticed a small red mole on her neck.

"Hey, let go of me!" Catherine cried out. Because of the mole, Cayden realized that she was the woman who had played tricks on him earlier and blamed his mistake on her.

"Didn't you say that you wanted to go out with me? Let's go out then!" Smirking, he held her hands cheekily.

At that moment, his smile mesmerized her for a moment. For some reason, his smile caused her to

feel a positive feeling that was a little strange to her.

Blushing brightly, she was still aware and quickly found her words. Immediately, she snapped angrily, "Who are you? You have the wrong person! Let me go!"

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### Chapter 74

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**Chapter 74 Fall In Love at First Kiss**

"What if I don't? I don't want to let you go! Let's see if you would still dare to fool me again!" At the time, he was still holding her hand tightly.

"If you don't let me go, I will scream!"

"Go ahead!" he teased. However, he didn't expect that she would actually scream.



In a moment of desperation, he bowed down and sealed her lips with his. At the same time, Ryan saw everything.

Perhaps they had a crash on each other at first kiss. Although it wasn't a passionate kiss and more of a peck in the heat of the moment, she was so shocked that she fell silent.

Just like this, a spark lit between the two of them, and they began dating.

Perhaps Catherine was just being a little willful then.

Indeed, Cayden was a pretty good boyfriend. At least, he was unlike some of the men who only want to possess women.

Throughout their relationship, he only held her hands, and they never kissed other than the first time they met.

During the first week of dating, he took her to many places. They went for movies, shopping, and also visited the amusement park. Although they hadn't been going out that long, she felt very happy during that period.

Sure enough, dating a man you like was the sweet experience for many women.

If not for what had happened in her family, she would have continued being together with Cayden and ended up getting married with him. Then, they would have children and live happily together ever after.

Just then, her steak and mango juice arrived. With a melancholic and bitter mood, she slowly ate all of her food.

In the afternoon, Catherine went home to see her mother. After dinner with her parents, she received

a call from Kevin.

During the call, Kevin said that he was going away for business so he wanted to meet her for a chat. Since she didn't want to go back to the apartment, she agreed.

Later on, they met at the riverside. Enjoying the breeze, they chatted casually.

With Kevin, Catherine would always feel exceptionally relaxed because he was a good listener, and he would always give her pretty good advice.

"Is he nice to you? You said you slapped him, right? Did he make things difficult for you?" Kevin asked.

Smiling wryly, Catherine replied truthfully, "He never stopped making things difficult for me, but it wasn't really difficult dealing with him at all. After all, it

was part of my job. However, I can't figure out why he would think that I reported him to the police. Perhaps it was just because he didn't trust me. By the way, he told me that something had happened between us four years ago, but he wouldn't tell me the details. If you know anything, you have to tell me. I don't want things between us to continue like this anymore. If I find out why he distrusts me or hates me, maybe it will be easier for me to leave him."

"Do you really want to leave him?" Listening to her silently, Kevin waited for her to finish before seriously asking her that question. At the same time, he observed the change in her expression.

"Yes! I do!" Clearly, her gaze was firm, and she didn't waver. From the looks of it, she had made up her mind.

"For Jas?"

"Yes, but not entirely for her. I hate Ryan deeply, and I don't want to spend a minute at his side."

"I've met him the other day, silly girl. And he didn't seem as bad as you've mentioned before. From what I could tell from the things you've said, he actually likes you. When he said that you had reported him, he probably misunderstood

something. So, don't be too impulsive. After all, the two of you... didn't you want to marry him?"

Of course, she had wanted to marry him, but not because of love. Instead, it was more because of gratitude.

Feeling that the person she loved was Cayden, she thought he was worth loving more than Ryan even though she and Cayden were only in a relationship for a week.

"Not anymore, Kevin. He's Jas' husband. If I can leave him, I have to leave him as soon as possible. Tell me, what do you think I can do to make him leave me and let go of me. Previously, you were the one who taught me how to make him love me. Why don't you teach me how to make him hate me now?"

"Fine. Let me think about it." Pressing his fist against his lips, Kevin lowered his head slightly to think.

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## Chapter 75

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Chapter 75 Ryan Went on a Business Trip

"At the time, I had only wanted to help you achieve your wish and get him to fall for you so that he wouldn't leave you. Now that you're suddenly asking me to make him hate you, I really can't come up with any good ideas," he told her after thinking about it for a long time.

"Forget it, you don't understand him. I'll just think of a way myself." Catherine didn't want to make things difficult for him, so she didn't want to keep talking about it for fear that Kevin would think that she was blaming him.

"This time, are you going on the business trip with your boss?" Catherine asked. She had seen his boss once, and he was a pot-bellied, middle-aged man. At first glance, she could tell that he was a

nouveau riche who spoke rather crudely. Knowing that Kevin worked for someone like him, she felt that it was really hard for Kevin to deal with that kind of man.

"Yes, I might be gone for a while. So, just text me if anything happens. I mean, you know that international roaming charges are pretty expensive."

"Sure! But don't worry, I won't even let you spend a penny on a message."

After chatting for a while, Kevin changed the topic back to her and Leonardo.

"How are things going with your fake relationship with Leonardo?"

"Not much. I was just thinking about visiting grandmother with him when Ryan wasn't there. Although I really don't want to go there, I promised

Jas"

"I'm advising you not to visit her!" Before she could even finish, Kevin interrupted in a hurry.

"Why not?"

"Think about it. If you and Ryan got together in the future, wouldn't it be bad for you if you would visit his grandma as Leonardo's girlfriend?"

"I won't be with him. As you mentioned that, I think I really need to visit her." Didn't Ryan say that he wanted Catherine to be his mistress?

This way, she could completely dash that idea from his mind and also reinforce her resolve to do away with her wishful thinking about Ryan.

"Don't do that, silly girl. If you do that, you will regret it when the time comes."

Just then, she stubbornly said, "No!"

After all, she hated Ryan. Because he was Jasmine's husband, there was no chance that they were going to be together at all.

Shaking his head, Kevin sighed at her and dotingly stroked her head.

However, neither of them noticed that a woman saw this intimate gesture from afar and bit her lips tightly.

"Let's go and walk along the river!" Kevin held her hand and walked toward the edge of the river.

In the past few years, he would always bring her here whenever she was sad.

There was a long bench by the river, and they would sit there. Then, Kevin would tell her jokes so that she would slowly forget about her sadness.

As time passed silently, neither of them spoke. Instead, they quietly watched the river as it flowed slowly under the streetlights.

"It's getting late, let me send you back!" Getting up, Kevin said to Catherine.

At that moment, she really wanted to just sit there instead of going back. That way, she could completely forget that person.

Also, she wanted to go back home and sleep with her mother. However, she knew that if he needed her, she would have to get out of bed and cause her mother to sleep uneasily.

When she was back at the apartment, she realized that Maria was waiting for her.

When she saw Maria, she felt happy because that meant that Ryan wasn't coming back tonight.

After taking a shower, she lay on the bed and read a book. Eventually, she fell asleep so Maria came in to put away her books and turn off the lights.

In the middle of the night, she felt a weight on her body. In her sleepy stupor, she felt as though there was a warm breath on her.

When she woke up, there was really someone on, her and the person's scent was familiar. Naturally, it was Ryan.

At that moment, he was so close to her that his face was practically touching hers, and that was why she was awakened by his breath.

Keeping her eyes closed, she pretended to still be asleep.

After all, she didn't want to see him nor hear his never-ending mean words.

However, he could tell that she was awake but he didn't say anything. In the dark, their senses felt more stimulated. So, he tried to conquer her most sensitive areas of her body so that she would be unable to resist.

Although she understood what he wanted, her holding back her desires caused her body to tense up involuntarily.

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### Chapter 76

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Chapter 76 Pretend

How dare she try to fake sleep? If she continued to do so, he wanted to see how much longer she could keep it up.

Like his pet, he was just teasing her and being intimate with her out of fun. Naturally, it had nothing to do with any feelings he could have for her at all.

With the right move, he entered her body.

Although he succeeded, he didn't manage to go all the way.

After all, she still remained silent without any reaction.

Previously, he remembered the soft moans she

would make when he caressed her body and hoarsely whispered in her ear.

As a man, of course he would prefer a woman who could let herself go in front of him. She probably used to be open to him before. However, she put on the innocent act right now because of her own motives.

When he was done, he got up, showered, got

changed, and went back to the bedroom.

Taking out the pills from the bedside drawer, he left it by her pillow and left.

Actually, she had already eaten it, so she didn't need him to remind her.

During a week, he appeared unannounced in the middle of the night. With saying a word to her, he would leave whenever he was done.

That day, Jasmine called her and told her excitedly that Ryan was away on a business trip.

"Ryan left for a hospital in Arinth with Robert, Cath. Two days ago, Leonardo had already told

na that he would bring a girlfriend back. Why don't you make some preparations to come over to Walker Manor tomorrow?"

"Okay!" she answered happily.

"Will you be there too?" she asked Jasmine.

"I will be there, but I will pretend to happen to meet you there. Didn't you want to keep it from Ryan? That means we can't let Grandma and Grandpa know that you are my friend. Later, we can just pretend that we get along very well."

"Okay, that sounds good!" After discussing some more details, both of them hung up.

Since Ryan was gone, it was worthy of a celebration because it meant relief for Catherine too.

The next day, Catherine and Leonardo decided on a place to meet, and she put on some makeup before leaving the apartment.

When they met, Leonardo stood beside a cool sports car and posed handsomely. Obviously, he had hoped to be able to win Catherine's heart.

Clearly, she could tell what he meant, but she pretended not to notice it and talked to him like a friend.

"What kind of gift should I prepare when I visit your grandparents?"

Actually, it wasn't going to be easy for her to pick a gift for visiting Walker Manor. However, she had to play the part now that she had agreed, even

though she wasn't really Leonardo's girlfriend at all. Otherwise, if she couldn't please his grandfather and grandmother, all this would be for naught.

"I have all the gifts ready here. My grandmother doesn't have too many hobbies and she loves eating the most. In fact, she adored these pastries from Bramble Pastries so I bought two boxes of them. My grandfather loves chess and he collects chess sets. So, I bought him this ivory-made chess set. Previously, he gave his ivory-made chess set to his friend, and it pained him so much. As for my parents, I have prepared a gift for them too but they are overseas, so you won't get to see them today." Just then, Leonardo felt rather proud of his thorough consideration for her.

"You are so considerate. If it were up to me, I really couldn't decide on what to buy at all." If it were up to her, she would probably be able to just buy something acceptable, but it definitely wouldn't

impress them at all.

“How could you say that, silly? I was just doing what I’m supposed to do.” At that moment, Leonardo’s tone was full of love for her.

Sure enough, people were just strange. Despite just seeing several times, she could tell for sure that he liked her.

Smiling, Catherine didn’t reply to him. Once the car engine started, she looked out the window.

Just then, a woman that was picking up scraps appeared in her vision and caused her to recall the homeless man from before.

Based on what Ryan had said, he didn’t kill that guy, but how did he die then?

Now that she couldn’t figure it out, it made her feel frustrated. If she couldn’t get to the bottom of it,

she wasn’t going to give up.

On top of that, the police weren’t going to solve the case anymore. So, this issue with the homeless man would probably torture her from time to time.

## A Bird in the Cage by Wild Dandelion

### Chapter 77

[/ A Bird in the Cage By Wild Dandelion](#)

#### Chapter 77 Was Ryan Kind-hearted?

“What kind of person was Ryan, Leonardo? I heard from others that he was a ruthless person who could do anything just to meet his targets.” Obviously, she had never heard of those rumors. She just wanted to beat around the bush to see whether Ryan was capable of killing that homeless man.

“Who said that? Ryan has the biggest heart I have ever seen. Let me tell you. When I used to play with him, he would always buy me my favorite food. One day, we ran into a stray dog on the streets. Perhaps it was too hungry so it snatched the food from him and almost bit him. Since there wasn’t a lot of food, the dog quickly finished it and kept following us. When Ryan saw that it was pitiful, he brought the dog home. But Mom didn’t

like pets. She would always complain that they dirtied the house. However, Ryan insisted on raise that dog because he said that the dog would die of starvation if he didn’t keep it. With no other choice, Mom let him keep it. Now, tell me. Could a man who wouldn’t bear to hurt a stray dog be as ruthless as you say? Besides, you can’t trust the rumors. Some people just want to malign the rich and powerful so that they can feel a little better about themselves.”

At that moment, Catherine felt that Leonardo always felt proud of Ryan whenever he talked about him.

Last time, Leonardo told her that Ryan had donated a lot of money to the orphanages. This time, it was the story of a stray dog. However, Catherine wasn't sure if Ryan was truly such a kindhearted person or that Leonardo was just viewing him through some misguided impression of his elder brother.

But Leonardo didn't seem to be lying. Perhaps Ryan really didn't kill that man

The Walker family had a detached manor outside of the city, and that was where the mysterious Walker Manor was located.

After the siblings from the Walker family grew up, all the people that were left staying there were Old Mr. and Mrs. Walker with some servants.

Although the Walker family had money and power, they weren't arrogant or domineering, especially toward the people who served them in the manor.

Because of such kindness, anyone who had worked a day for the Walker family would never leave there willingly.

Since the manor was large and expenses weren't an issue, multiple families served Old Mr. and Mrs. Walker because the latter also liked the liveliness,

of having so many people around.

One of the oldest housekeepers for the Walker family is Luca's grandfather. Now that he was advanced in age, he lived in retirement with Luca's grandmother in the manor. So, Luca's father, Alexander Taylor was the new housekeeper while his mother, Rena Taylor, was in charge of Old Mrs. Walker's daily needs.

On top of that, Victoria's father, Homer Burns was the Walker family's family doctor, while her mother was mainly responsible for taking care of Ryan's mother. Since Homer was still able to perform his duties, Victoria was working at the best hospital in the city and was only in charge of caring for Ryan's health at the moment.

For the past two years, Victoria knew that Old Mrs. Walker had been in bad shape so the former often came back to visit the latter.

When Leonardo brought Catherine to Walker Manor, Jasmine and Victoria supported Old Mrs. Walker on each side as they waited eagerly at the main entrance.

"Did you have a sweet time outside on your own, Leonardo? Old Mrs. Walker has been so anxious that she has already asked me and Victoria to help her out here a few times now," Jasmine teased when she saw them carrying some stuff with them.



At that moment, Victoria was stunned when she saw Catherine there.

As soon as their gazes met, they quickly averted their gaze, and Catherine clenched her fists nervously.

Earlier, Ryan had mentioned that Victoria wasn't the kind to shoot her mouth off so that probably meant that she wouldn't mention anything to

Jasmine. However, what was Victoria going to think now that she saw her appearing here as Leonardo's girlfriend? Would she report this to Ryan?

"This is my girlfriend, Grandma. Her name is Camilla Stockton. This is my grandmother, an ageless beauty," Leonardo flattered his grandma sweetly.

Quickly, Catherine put on a smile and greeted obediently, "Grandma!"

"What a nice young lady. You look so beautiful. Leonardo has such good taste!"

"Are you trying to say that Ryan has bad taste, Grandma?" Jasmine pouted and pretended to be angry.

"Come on, brat. Your brother-in-law and sister-in-law are here and yet you're being jealous.

I love you all. So, you have to work harder and give me my great-grandchildren too, okay?"

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### Chapter 78

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#### Chapter 78 Give Me Great Grandchildren Soon

Just then, Jasmine shot Catherine a look as if to say she didn't lie to her before. Clearly, Old Mrs. Walker would never stop talking about her great grandchildren.

"This is Leonardo's sister-in-law, Cammy. Just call her Jasmine," Old Mrs. Walker introduced.

"She has a sharp tongue, yet you seem soft-spoken, so if she ever makes things difficult for you, you can definitely complain to me."

Since Old Mrs. Walker always doted on his youngest grandsons and granddaughters the most, she would also dote on her

granddaughter-in-law as well of course.

"Alright, Grandma. It's hot today. Why don't we go inside and talk? This lady is my brother's family doctor. Her name is Victoria Burns." Leading Catherine inside the house, Leonardo introduced Victoria when he saw that she was standing there in a daze.

Although Victoria seemed like a cheerful woman, she was actually a sensitive one. That was why Leonardo was afraid that she would be mad if he forgot to introduce her.

"Hello, my name is Victoria. Have we met somewhere before because you seem so familiar?" Shaking her hand, Victoria mentioned in an unfriendly tone.

"Hello! That could be possible because I think you look familiar too." Trying to be calm, Catherine was thinking that Victoria probably wouldn't mention anything in front of so many people.

"Let's go, young lady. Come inside," Old Mrs. Walker said in a friendly manner and even held Catherine's hand. Immediately, Rena walked up and received all the stuff from Catherine before walking into the house with the rest.

"Your grandfather and Old Mr. Zane went out to watch a chess game. Since they agreed quite early in advance, he sends his apologies."

"He's too kind. I will definitely come here another day just to visit Grandpa."

"You're such a nice young lady. I like you." At that point, Old Mrs. Walker was smiling from ear to ear.

After all, Catherine was such a sweet and obedient lady. How could Old Mrs. Walker not like her?

"I like you very much too, Grandma" Catherine was telling the truth since Old Mrs. Walker reminded her of her grandmother.

Several years ago, her grandma fell ill, and the doctor told her that she had a cancer at an early stage.

During her free time, Catherine would ask around for the best doctors and remedies that could potentially cure her grandma. However, it was such a pity that her grandmother passed away before she found a remedy.

In the end, she didn't even see her grandma one last time before she passed away because she had a college entrance examination on that day, and her grandmother had informed her parents to keep it from her.

When Catherine thought about this, she could not help feeling sad and envying Ryan, who still had his grandmother with him.

Although she was seriously ill right now, there was still hope that she could be cured.

At that point, she wanted to tell Jasmine the remedy she had found so that Jasmine and Ryan could discuss it with the doctors to see if it worked.

However, the Walker family was not an ordinary family. Even if she really had the intention, she still had to be cautious.

While Old Mrs. Walker was showing Catherine around the manor, this elderly lady was so excited that she forgot about all her fatigue.

"You should have some rest, Grandma," Catherine reminded.

"Sure. Rest. I'm getting old now. You guys better give me great-grandchildren soon. When I finally see my great-grandchildren, I can close my eyes permanently in peace."

"What are you talking about, Grandma? When we

have great grandchildren for you, you still have to play with them." Jasmine asked.

"If I could have the opportunity to see my great-grandchildren grow up, wouldn't I live a long

life?"

"You can definitely do that, Grandma!" Leonardo said with a smile.

"How about I show Camilla the outer compound, Grandma? I mean, she just arrived and I want her to get used to the surroundings. Besides, I'm more familiar with the outer compound than both of you," Victoria suggested.

"Sure. I need some rest too. Why don't you take some time away from Cammy and massage my shoulders, Leonardo?" said Old Mrs. Walker.

Obviously, she didn't need massaging. Actually, she just wanted some time alone with him so that

she could get more information from him about Catherine.

A few days ago, Robert got Victoria to get him some medicine, and he even said that it was more effective than the one she had given him before. In addition, it had no side effects.

So, Old Mrs. Walker wanted to know if Leonardo and Catherine had already slept together before. If they did, she probably had to drug them to make Catherine pregnant as soon as possible.

Leading Catherine out of the main hall, Victoria slowly walked toward the outer area of the manor.

# A Bird in the Cage by Wild Dandelion

## Chapter 79

[/ A Bird in the Cage By Wild Dandelion](#)

### Chapter 79 Bad Impression

"I've been thinking, Miss Stockton... I didn't recognize the wrong person, did I?" After looking around and confirming that there were only two of them, Victoria asked Catherine under the shade.

On one hand, Catherine was maintaining a secret relationship with Ryan. On the other hand, she openly came over to Walker Manor as Leonardo's girlfriend. Since Victoria worked for the Walker family, she felt a little angry at what Catherine had done to Ryan and his brother..

Originally, she liked Catherine quite a lot. However, today, Catherine gave her a bad impression.

"You are right. I am Catherine," Catherine admitted frankly.

Since she didn't want to make things messier, Catherine had no choice but to be frank.

"I have no right to intervene in your privacy, Miss Green. But I'm really curious about what you're thinking right now." At that moment, her tone was obviously interrogative, and her expression was unpleasant.

However, Catherine wasn't angry about it because she knew that Victoria was being that way because she cared about Ryan.

"Jas is my best friend since we were very young, but I only found out that Ryan was her husband when they were married. But of course, Jas had no idea that Ryan and I... She's infertile, but the Walker family is urging her for giving birth to a baby. So, Jas begged me to pretend to be Leonardo's girlfriend so that it would divert the Walker family's attention away from her."

Since Ryan knew that Jasmine couldn't have a baby and Victoria was the private doctor for his family, she should also know about it. That was why Catherine didn't mind telling her everything.

So that was why! Instantly, Victoria's expression softened up a little. When she thought about Ryan again, she frowned once more.

"What if Ryan know your affair with Leonardo? He fancies you a lot!"

Smiling wryly, Catherine really couldn't figure out why everyone kept telling her that Ryan truly loved her. She couldn't feel it at all.

Perhaps what they saw was just a false image of him. They didn't know how he treated her when they were alone.

"Even if I don't come here today, it's impossible for us to be together. I told you everything because I

hope you won't keep the secret, Doctor Burns. If you tell him, I can't continue coming here. That way, it would ruin Old Mrs. Walker's mood and you know her health... I believe you don't want to hurt her, right?" At that point, Catherine could only gamble. Through her observations from earlier, she could tell that Victoria cared about Old Mrs. Walker a lot. As for Jasmine, she probably wouldn't keep it from Ryan just to help her.

It turned out, her speculation was right. To Victoria, Old Mrs. Walker was also like a grandmother to her. For someone who always treated her so kindly, she definitely couldn't bear to hurt her.

"This is Walker Manor. Ryan could come back at any time."

"If had other choices, I wouldn't have come here. I will only come here if Ryan isn't here. Thank you, Doctor Burns!"

"There's no need to thank me. I just hope that you won't regret your decision in the future." Just then, Victoria's face stiffened because she felt a little unhappy. After all, she wouldn't want to see Ryan unhappy.

At that moment, Catherine felt that Victoria's words were so similar to Kevin's.

Then, she began to think that she were too sensitive because there wasn't any connection between the two of them.

Casually, they walked pretentiously around the servants' places. Although they were where the servants lived, they were actually much better than the houses of most wealthy people.

At the main manor area, Victoria left, saying that she had something important to do at the hospital. When Old Mrs. Walker heard that, she told her to use Leonardo's car.

When Catherine sat down beside Old Mrs. Walker, the latter grabbed her hand and commented, "I like you even though it's the first time we meet, Cammy. How about you keep my company here and chat with me tonight. You can spend the night here."

Earlier, Old Mrs. Walker asked Leonardo how it was going between Catherine and him. When

Jasmine shot him a glance, Leonardo understood it. In order to please his grandmother, he lied and said that whatever should happen had already happened.

## A Bird in the Cage by Wild Dandelion

### Chapter 80

[/ A Bird in the Cage By Wild Dandelion](#)  
Chapter 80 Can't Stay Out Overnight

"I have to go back home tonight, Grandma. My parents don't allow me to stay out overnight," Catherine explained tenderly to Old Mrs. Walker.

How dare she lie to an old lady? Now that they had

slept together before, how could she never stay out overnight? They couldn't have done it in the broad daylight, could they? However, that showed that Catherine was a girl who was a little reserved and shy, and this elderly lady liked it about her.

"But... Leo's car has been driven away earlier, and the rest of the cars at home are out. Even if you want to leave now, there aren't any cars left." Old Mrs. Walker pretended to feel conflicted.

"It's okay, Grandma. I can call a taxi."

"Come on, dear. It's so rare for you and Grandma to hit it off, and I like you too. Why don't you just stay over and chat with her? She's already so old, but her grandchildren are never by her side. She's so lonely," Jasmine persuade her.

"Yes, Cammy. Since you're already here, why don't you just stay over?" At that moment, Leonardo tried to convince her too. In fact, he even whispered to her softly, "Don't worry, I won't trouble you too much. Just help me out and entertain my grandmother for the night."

After taking a glance at the grey-haired Old Mrs. Walker, Catherine nodded at her in a friendly manner. At the same time, Jasmine and Leonardo eagerly hoped that she would stay here. So, how could she say no?

“Let me call my mother and inform her to see what she says,” Catherine compromised, leaving some leeway for herself.

When Old Mrs. Walker heard that, she was so happy that she was smiling from ear to ear.

In the afternoon, the meal was incredibly sumptuous. Since the food was made by the Walker family’s chef, it was so much better than the food from The Bright Orchid.

Suddenly, Catherine remembered the day she was in Ryan’s office and Luca brought in a bag of food from The Bright Orchid.

Did Ryan want to have it for lunch then? Or did he order it because she liked the food there?

For some reason, she would still think about him even though he misunderstood her at every turn. When Jasmine saw her in a daze, Jasmine picked some food on Catherine’s plate to snap her out of the trance.

After lunch, she realized that she grew on this kind

old woman.

For Old Mrs. Walker, she cared about her offspring. Whenever she knew that they liked certain food, she would have the chef prepare it for them. In fact, she would even clearly remember what Jasmine liked to eat.

“What do you like to eat, Cammy?” Old Mrs. Walker asked.

“I’m actually fine with everything. I’m not picky about food.”

“That’s nice. You’re just like Ryan. He’s also not picky about food. Look at how strong he is.” When she heard her mention Ryan, she seemed to have a guilty conscience. Immediately, her expression seemed unnatural as she kept her head down and ate quietly.

“It’s a pity, even though he has grown so strong.

So far, his seeds don't seem to be performing." Upon hearing that, Jasmine's face blushed red all over.

"Were you a gardener when you were younger, Grandma? Why do you keep obsessing about seeds? Why don't you eat more vegetables so you can have more energy to supervise us planting these seeds you obsess about." When Leonardo saw that the atmosphere seemed a little awkward, he stepped in to ease the tension.

After dinner, Old Mrs. Walker always had the habit of taking naps. After Old Mrs. Walker talked to Catherine alone for a while, Luca's mother led the former to her bedroom.

Since the chess game was out of town and it would go on for a few days, Old Mr. Walker wasn't going to come back tonight.

Afraid that Catherine would feel shy and uneasy,

Old Mrs. Walker arranged for her to stay alone in the guest room. At around 9 at night, Jasmine's mother said that she felt uncomfortable so Isaac sent Jasmine home.

As soon as Jasmine left, Catherine felt uneasy and wanted to leave too. However, if she had Leonardo sent her home, Old Mrs. Walker would be all alone in that spacious manor. As she couldn't bear to leave her alone, she chose to stay here overnight.

Before sleeping, Old Mrs. Walker asked Rena to prepare the lotus-nuts sweet soup for Catherine and Leonardo.

All along, Leonardo had always been Old Mrs. Walker's favorite because no matter how bad he was outside, he was always obedient at home.

As long as he was at home, he would always obediently eat the soup all as long as Old Mrs. Walker had someone prepared it.

Out of habit, he drank the soup all that was prepared for him that night.

"You're the best, Leonardo. Why aren't you drinking, Cammy?" When Old Mrs. Walker saw that Leonardo had drunk it, she realized that she was halfway there. So, she began to urge Catherine to drink the soup too.

Of course, they didn't know the elderly lady ordered servants to spike their soups. Out of her respect for Old Mrs. Walker and Old Mrs. Walker's concern for her, she drank half of it.



