

## Edgar and His Destined Wife Chapter 123

### Chapter 123 After the Race

Jean furrowed her eyebrows. "Mr. Royden, it's my freedom to choose who I associate with. You should worry about yourself." She looked at him icily.

He had no right to chide her with their current relationship. Even if she couldn't put up with it anymore, what did it have to do with him?

"If you called me on the car just to say this rubbish to me, then please stop the car now, Mr. Royden." He took out the bracelet gift box and chucked it at her.

"Take this as a reward for handling the Oprah couple for me," he said stiffly and raised his head. "stop the car at the front, Mr. Hughes."

Giving the box a brief look, Jean took it and got off the car. There's no such thing as a free lunch. Even so, Jean had no choice in her situation. If Edgar had dug a hole and told her to jump into it, she would have to do as he said with a smile on her face.

That is how the world works. She took a few steps and turned back to the car driving away. "Surprisingly, he didn't lose his temper."

...

Three days later, on the night before the Thunderbolt Cup. Jean received a call from Sonny.

"Our co-driver for Dark Horse had an emergency. The race is tomorrow, but we can't find a substitute. If you have time, can you help us one more time? Don't worry, I won't let you work for nothing. Shall we split the prize money three to seven?"

Sonny was worried that she would disagree and quickly added, "Ben refused to get you to help at first. But the race is coming up, and I just couldn't find anyone to help."

It would be Saturday the next day, and Jean had free time. "Sure, I'll help. But you should try continuing your search. If there's anyone that is more suitable..."

"You are our one and only outstanding candidate! No one could compete with you, our goddess of victory!" He slapped his thigh in joy as Jean agreed. "I think I can make an order for a celebratory dinner now."

Early the next morning, Ben came to fetch Jean. He was quiet, unlike usual. Jean leaned her head against her head and faced him. "Are you nervous?"

He shook his head. His hand was gripping the steering wheel. "Is there trouble among the crew again?"

He kept silent and sighed. "Hmm." "You shouldn't get on the field if there's something on your mind," Jean advised sensibly. Once they entered the track, there would be no turning back. No one could bear the consequences if anything were to happen during the race.

The car came to a stop outside the racing tracks. The sound of engines was rumbling throughout the place. Ben laughed out of the blue. His dark eyes shone brightly. "Jean, will you give me a chance? Let's have a talk after the race."

Is he distracted by this problem?

Jean nodded and gave him a thumbs up. After they registered, they headed to their respective changing rooms.

Jean was trying on a helmet when she heard two workers gossiping. "Did you hear that Dark Horse had a fallout with his family over the cost of their crew?"

"I did. Apparently, his family forced him to get engaged to a young woman from a wealthy family. But he likes someone else and argued with his family."

"I heard the person he likes is the one he proposed to on stage during the prize-giving ceremony. That..."

"Shh! Not so loud!"

Jean waited until the workers had left, then walked out. She looked at her reflection in the mirror and sighed absentmindedly.

They needed to have a good talk.

The seats on either side of the racetracks were filled with audiences.

Edgar was present as a sponsor. He sat in the VIP room instead of the seats by the track.

"Mr. Royden, Mr. Edbert has boarded the plane. He's estimated to arrive at Yorktown International Airport in four hours."

"Make sure the apartment is ready."

"I understand, Mr. Royden."

Edgar raised his head. His eyes landed on the screen, and there was an unreadable expression on his face.

Earlier in the morning, Royden Group had terminated their contract with Ludwig Group. It wasn't that he bore a grudge against Ben. He just wasn't satisfied with the quality of Ludwig Group's products.

The previous collaborations were successful. This time around, Edgar decided to restructure his company internally. At the same time, the group had terminated cooperation with a few old company partners.

Ludwig Group was one of them.

Ten minutes before the race, Ben received a call from Farra.

"Benny, your father has invited Mr. Sans' family for dinner tonight. You must come after your race, alright? There is a lot of trouble in your father's company this time. It's all Edgar Royden's handiwork behind our backs..."

Ben was tired of hearing the complaints about home and the company.

"Mom, I have to go. You can tell me about the rest at night."

Farra was displeased. "Which one is more important? Your racing competition or your parents? You know that so much trouble has come up in our company. Only your engagement to Ally will save our family!"

"Dark Horse, you're next on stage."

Ben lowered his head and said in a low voice. "Mom, I beg you. Let me finish this race. I'll listen to whatever you say, alright?"

He was the only son in the family. There were certain things that only he could do.

She sighed in relief at his words and smiled. "That's the right thing to do. Mom believes you'll make the correct decision."

Ben hung up the phone, drained by the call. He put on his jacket and walked out.

Was that the correct decision for him to make?

The sounds of cheering from the fans in the audience were deafening.

"Dark Horse! Dark Horse!"

Jean was waiting in the car. She smiled amusingly. "I didn't know you were this popular."

A smile began to form on his lips. He pushed his turbulent emotions out of his mind. "Jean, I will win this time."

Whether it is in this race or in business.

He could only protect her from others' ill treatment if he was stronger.

Jean didn't notice the hidden meaning behind his words. She smiled. "Yes, you must win."

Moments later, the race started.

"Dark Horse is taking the lead at the first bend."

"He's going fast. Will Dark Horse create a new record again this time?"

"Audiences, let's wait and see who today's champion will be... Wait, what's happening with Dark Horse? Let the cameras zoom in. It seems that Dark Horse has lost control of the car!"

Sonny burst into the control room. "Get the ambulances. Dark Horse's brakes are malfunctioning."

Bang!

The crashing sound resonated throughout the area.

As smoke began to billow from the car, the rescue worker carried Ben and Jean out with stretchers.

Ben held onto Jean's hand and yelled her name frantically.

...

Half an hour later.

Farra sobbed by the operation room, "My son! You have to survive!"

Mr. Coleman came to comfort her after inquiring with the nurse on duty. "Please calm down. Mr. Ludwig is still in surgery. I've contacted the hospital director for the examination."

"I told him before, don't enter these races anymore. Yet he wouldn't listen! It's all that woman's fault! Is she only satisfied if my son dies!"

## Edgar and His Destined Wife Chapter 124

### Chapter 124 A Dreadful Set of Circumstances

Jean woke up in a hospital room. A doctor held up a flashlight. "Look to the left. Look up... How many fingers is this? I'm your attending physician, Dr. Fuller. Can you hear my voice?"

Jean watched as the doctor waved his hand toward her. The doctor's lips were moving, yet there was not a single sound.

She turned blankly to the nurse documenting her vital signs, the medical equipment, and the trees swaying outside the window. She stroked the blanket in her lap and shook her head slowly.

I can't hear anything. The doctor faced the nurse. "Contact her family members. We need to examine her again."

"Yes, Dr. Fuller." Jean peered through the door and saw a few people waiting outside. She was exhausted, and with the effects of her medications, she went out like a light.

When she opened her eyes again, it was nighttime. She still couldn't hear a thing. Jean held on to the nurse, changing out a drip. She spoke slowly. "How's the person who came with me?"

"Are you talking about Ben Ludwig?" The nurse was about to explain when she realized that Jean couldn't hear. She took out her phone and typed it in.

Jean's hand trembled as she read the nurse's explanation. Ben had realized the brakes weren't working when they passed the first bend.

They wouldn't be able to stop for a pit stop even if they tried to. In the emergency, Ben could only work with Jean to slow down the car by downshifting.

However, it wasn't working for them at the speed they were going at. Ben made a bold decision, hoping they would survive. He made sure Jean held on, and he spun the steering wheel. The car rushed up the low slopes by the track.

He knew that there was an obstacle at that spot. As the car rammed into it, he shielded Jean. The image of the scene kept repeating in Jean's mind.

She would never forget the words he whispered in her ear. A tear fell from her eye.

She looked at the phone screen again. Ben Ludwig's legs and spinal nerves are affected. He has undergone surgery and is now under observation, but he's not out of danger yet. Spinal nerves?

Jean had a bad feeling. Before she could return the phone, the door was hurled open. Farra barged in with a few people behind her. "You scum, why are you already awake? You should die..."

Farra yelled fiercely. She looked daggers at Jean as if she wanted to shred her apart. But Jean didn't hear a single word. She blankly watched as Farra lunged towards her and yanked her hair, ragingly angry.

Jean's thoughts became clearer with the pain. Did something happen to Ben?

"Madam, please calm down." A few people tried to pull Farra away. Farra wailed and eventually collapsed on the floor, sobbing. Jean raised her quivering hand and pulled the nurse. "Ben, what happened to Ben?"

Her voice was shaking. Her eyes were unfocused. Why? Why couldn't she hear?

What were they saying?

Jean was on the verge of a breakdown. Farra was even more enraged at Jean's confused expression. She rushed toward the bed and struck Jean across the face.

Jean crouched on the floor. She realized she could hear after the rumbling in her ears went away. Farra dragged her by the collar. "You must pay for my son's life!"

Jean rubbed her ears as her breath quickened. "So, what happened to Ben?"

She stared at Farra with red eyes.

"Mr. Ludwig's spinal nerves are injured. The doctor examined him and came to the decision of amputation to save his life." Mr. Coleman explained as he pulled Farra away.

Jean froze. She stumbled through the people in the room and dashed to Ben's room.

Her mind was blank as she stared at the unconscious man in the bed.

Edgar had gone to the hospital director's office as a sponsor. As he left the office, he met Jean barefooted in the corridor. She was staring intently into the room.

Farra was standing behind Jean, cursing her out.

"Mr. Royden, should we stop her?"

Edgar lifted his hand and walked toward them.

Farra tugged at Jean's clothes relentlessly. "Tell me, what happened? There were only the two of you in that car."

Why was it her son who was lying in the room and not Jean? She was seething with hatred.

Farra was aware of Ben's love for Jean.

She couldn't accept the fact that her son was injured badly, but Jean escaped with light injuries.

She raised her hand, ready to strike Jean again.

Jean didn't flinch.

But the slap never came.

"Mrs. Ludwig, this is an accident. You shouldn't take your anger out on her." Edgar managed to stop Farra in mid-action.

"An accident? That's impossible!"

Farra widened her eyes in anger. As she was about to curse them out, Myer came to stop her.

"That's enough. The most important thing now is for Benny to wake up. Is there any help if you hit her?" The corner of his eyes was red. Ben was their one and only son.

Their dear son, but things turned out...

Ally's parents followed behind Myer. Ally was shielded behind them. "Mr. Ludwig, don't worry too much. If there's anything you need help with, do tell us. Since there's so many of you here, we'll leave first."

"You..."

Farra was speechless. She thought of them as family, but they were leaving when such an accident had happened?

Ally stood silently behind her parents.

Ally's mother said in a low voice, "We have never officially agreed on the marriage. Ally is still so young. She can't stay with a cripple for the rest of her life."

“Leave!” Myer clenched his jaw.

Farra was sobbing in his arms.

The Sans family left the place immediately.

Looking through the window, Jean took a deep breath. She turned to Ben’s parents and kneeled before them.

Edgar furrowed his forehead, clenching his fists.

“I don’t need your apology. Get out of here now!” Farra yelled as she cried.

Jean hung her head. “I know there’s no point in apologizing. But for each day Ben stays unconscious, I’ll kneel here and beg for your forgiveness. If he really... I’ll give the rest of my life to him.”

If only she wasn’t in the car. If only Ben hadn’t shielded her at that moment.

He wouldn’t have had such an injury.

Myer was touched by Jean’s words. Even Farra, who was weeping, looked toward Jean confusedly. She snapped, “Who are you acting for? If it wasn’t for you, my son wouldn’t have...”

She passed out in midsentence.

“Doctor! Someone get a doctor!”

Jean stayed kneeling on the spot.

## **Edgar and His Destined Wife Chapter 125**

### **Chapter 125 They Won’t Pity You**

Jean kept her word. For the next ten hours, other than using the toilet, she kept kneeling outside of Ben’s hospital room. She didn’t eat either, but only sipped some water from time to time.

“Ms. Eyer, there’s no point in doing this. Mrs. Ludwig wouldn’t forgive you just because of this act.” Mr. Coleman came to advise her. “You should just leave.”

She kept her head low, speechless. “Never mind. Just do as you like.”



Jean heard the door open. She raised her head toward the doctor and nurse exiting the room. The doctor shook his head regretfully. "If he doesn't wake up tomorrow morning, we will proceed with the amputation."

Jean's heart sank. "He can't be amputated. How will he drive without his legs?" She mumbled. She was clearer than anyone else that his dream was to be a world-renowned racer.

Tears streamed down her face as she touched the window and whispered, "You've heard it, right? It'll be too late if you don't wake up."

She continued kneeling through the night. Her legs were numb. She kept watch over the sky, not knowing the time. She prayed that the sun would rise later and that Ben would wake up soon.

"This is meaningless. The Ludwig family won't even pity you if you do this."

Edgar stared at her back and smirked. "If you want to kneel, you should try to pray to God in church. That might work."

Jean kept silent, hiding her emotions. He watched her quietly. "If he undergoes the amputation, will you really give up your life to him?"

She turned to him slowly. "I mean what I said. Please leave if you're here just to mock me."

Her eyes were lifeless. Such a pained expression, just for the man lying in the room?

Edgar pressed his lips into a thin line. "If you go back on your words, I'll bring you back to the Ludwig family at all costs."

He turned away and left.

He didn't leave the hospital but instead headed to the fifth floor for the surgery meeting.

Ben was hurt during the race. Two other sponsors were invited to the hospital.

"Mr. Royden, will Mr. Ludwig really have an amputation?"

"I'm acquainted with a few notable neurologists. I can invite them here for another assessment!"

Edgar's face darkened. He hoped for the same too.

Jean's firm expression was stuck in his mind. He clenched his fists and yelled at the doctors. "Are there no other ways? Think of another procedure, anything else other than amputation!"

"This..."

The meeting continued for another two and a half hours. Yet they couldn't come up with a better conclusion.

The attending physician glanced at his watch. "There is no better way. Please prepare the operating room. If we are to drag this any further, we will miss the best window of time. Contact the family members, inform them..."

At that moment.

Jean pushed the door open. Her pale, tear-streaked face was beaming.

"He's awake..."

The doctors hurried to Ben, checking on his condition.

Jean ran barefooted from three stories above.

She was breathless. Her limbs were shaking, and her eyes gleamed with tears.

Edgar's heart was pained at the sight.

He strode towards her slowly. "Are you that worried about him?"

Jean was still shedding tears. Her hands quivered.

The next thing she knew, he pulled her into his arms and carried her.

"Let me go!"

"Jean, your life belongs to me. You can't breathe your last breath without my permission."

Has she forgotten that she was in the accident too? Although her injuries are not as bad as Ben's, she shouldn't neglect herself so.

She had been kneeling for hours without a morsel of food. Even the strongest of people would be in the jaws of death.

As he carried her down, she passed out from exhaustion.

He laid her gently on the bed.

“Please examine her.”

He brought her to a floor for inpatients far away from the Ludwig family.

The doctor called Edgar to his office after the checkup. “Your wife’s body is very weak. Make sure to give her nutritious food.”

Wife?

Edgar furrowed his forehead. “We...”

“Do you have children?” The doctor pushed his glasses up his nose bridge. “If you want children, you’ll have to hurry. Her body’s...”

Edgar went to the pharmacy with a prescription.

His face was stony as he recalled the doctor’s words. “It will be difficult for her to get pregnant. You must take care of her and be understanding of her. Has she had a miscarriage before? That’s the root cause of her problem.”

A nurse peeked through the window. “Are you here to collect your medicine?”

He snapped out of his thoughts and passed the prescription to the nurse.

He hadn’t been that lost in his thoughts before.

The nurse handed him the medicine. “Once every meal. It’s written on the box. Come back for a follow-up next week.”

He received the box stiffly. His phone rang. It was Gigi calling.

He picked up the call, frowning.

Gigi sobbed into her phone. “Edgar, where are you? I had a nightmare. Can you come and accompany me?”

He gripped his phone. “Take care of yourself.”

He hung up the call.

Gigi gritted her teeth as the call disconnected.

She called him at that hour on purpose, thinking that he wouldn’t be able to escape with the excuse of work since he wouldn’t be at work yet.

Yet he didn't even bother coming up with an excuse now?

It sounds like he is at the hospital.

She frowned. "Is he there to take care of Jean?"

As the possibility popped up in her head, she couldn't stay still. She changed her clothes and was about to head out.

When she went downstairs, Sam called out to her.

"Where are you going? The day has only started."

"Edgar and I are having breakfast together." Gigi made up an excuse.

If it was before, Sam would have encouraged her to get on Edgar's good side. Now his relationship with Royden Group was tense, yet his daughter seemed to be doing well with Edgar.

He said sternly, "You can't meet him. The wedding hasn't been held, and you don't even have your marriage certificate. Do you think it's suitable for you to go about with him while you're pregnant?"

"Dad!"

Gigi pouted. "Edgar said earlier on that we will register soon. As for the wedding, it's just a reception."

She was dissatisfied with the situation, but what could she do?

Two weddings were all disrupted by Jean.

She must head to the hospital right away to stop them from spending time alone together.

## **Edgar and His Destined Wife Chapter 126**

### **Chapter 126 In Hindsight**

Gigi was about to cry out of frustration. Winnie appeared from behind Gigi. "Gigi doesn't feel well from her pregnancy and just wanted to have a walk. That's not a surprising thing. Why are you scolding her first thing in the morning?"

She poured a cup of tea for him as she defended Gigi. After handing him the cup, she massaged his shoulders. Men would usually fall for the trick. Sam was no different.

“I won’t be this angry if Gigi is half as reasonable as you are.”

Gigi was sobbing softly at the side. Her expression was icy even when she saw Winnie. Winnie didn’t seem to care as she continued to stick up for Gigi. “I think it’s good for Gigi to meet Edgar. The business between the men shouldn’t involve the families. It will be awful if people think that we are the ones leaving the Royden family out in the cold.”

Sam agreed with her reasoning.

His expression softened. “You’re just spoiling her.”

Winnie smiled as she led Gigi out of the house.

“I heard that Mr. Ludwig was in an accident with Jean. It doesn’t have anything to do with you, right?”

Gigi’s heart skipped a beat. “Of course not, the accident happened in their race!”

“That’s good. No worries, I was just asking. Go on then, talk things out with Edgar.”

She sent Gigi off.

Gigi nibbled on her lip in the car. She ordered the driver to drop her off before they reached the hospital.

She entered a sedan that was stopped nearby.

Andy was waiting for her in the car.

He put his hands on Gigi as soon as she entered the car.

“Don’t touch me. Tell me, are the people you hired reliable? Will I be involved if people start investigating?” Gigi panicked when Winnie questioned her.

Andy smirked as he caressed her back. “They won’t find anything. I’ve sent those two men overseas. No one will realize that Ben Ludwig’s car has been tampered with. Besides, the Ludwig family has been busy with Ben’s hospitalization. No one would even suspect that someone had done something.”

“That’s a relief…”

Gigi sighed. Andy pulled her into his lap.

She felt him kissing her all over. His hands crept down her body.

She stopped his hands. "I have to meet Edgar. You can't mess up my clothes."

The man's eyes turned cold. "Do you really want to marry Edgar that much?"

She smiled. "Of course. All of this is so that I can marry him."

She straightened her clothes and made sure that her appearance was neat in her reflection. She left the car and headed to the hospital.

Andy slammed his hands onto the steering wheel.

The car's honking was ear-piercing.

"Which part of me doesn't measure up to him?"

Edgar was better than him in business. Even their relationships with woman...

Andy stared ahead coldly. He gripped the steering wheel. "I'll make all of you look up to me one day."

Gigi asked around for Jean's room. When she failed, she went to Ben's room.

Ben was nowhere to be seen in the room. Farra was tidying up the bed.

"I can't find Jean, and now I can't find your son either!" Gigi was annoyed.

Farra looked at her stonily. "Please leave. You are not welcome here."

She wouldn't have told Gigi about the race venue if Gigi hadn't mentioned anything about crushing Jean.

Farra stared at Gigi icily. She might have something to do with Ben and Jean's accident!

But she didn't have any evidence.

She could only curse her out internally.

Gigi saw through Farra's thoughts. "You're being rather rude to me. Should I reveal that you had something to do with your son's accident? I wonder how your husband will react. Is his son more important than his viper wife?"

"Shut your mouth!"

Farra clutched Gigi's collar, glowering. If only she could tear her mouth off.

Gigi struggled to get out of her grasp. "What's the point of arguing with me now? This accident has nothing to do with you or me. The one who has caused this to happen is Jean! Do you understand?"

Farra released her grip. She stood in her spot blankly and broke down in tears.

It's my fault. I was blinded by my hatred....

Gigi smoothed her clothes down. "I'm not afraid if you are to run your mouth. I have the recording of our conversation. Worst comes to worst, we'll just go down together."

"Get out, you snake!"

Seeing that Farra was livid, Gigi left in disdain.

Left alone in the room, Farra collapsed to the ground. She stroked the bed with her quivering hand. "Benny, I'm really sorry. I'll let you do anything you want to if you wake up. You can like whoever you want. I won't force you anymore. Please..."

As Gigi left the room, she noticed Miles heading in her direction in a hurry.

She sped up to him. "Where's Edgar?"

"Ms. Reece?" He looked back at Ben's room subconsciously. "Mr. Royden is busy."

"What is he busy with? Explain yourself." She couldn't stop him and only followed him as he turned back to Ben's room.

When Farra saw that Gigi had returned with Edgar's secretary, a distressing thought crossed her mind.

"My son, is he..." She covered her mouth as tears overflowed her eyes.

Miles caught her in time. "Mrs. Ludwig, Ben is awake. The doctors are examining him a few floors above. They will send him back here soon. You can relax now."

Farra passed out as her burden lifted.

Miles placed her down on a bed with a nurse. When he turned back, Gigi was gone.

His face was frosty as he left in a hurry.

Gigi went around the wards for inpatients but didn't see Edgar and Jean. She was sure that Edgar had always been there with Jean since the accident happened!

She gritted her teeth.

“Those idiots. What did they do that she was only slightly injured?”

She surveyed the empty corridor before leaving the hospital, livid.

Miles was hiding behind her and managed to record her words. He entered Jean’s room with all the evidence he had collected.

He passed through the room into another connected room. Edgar was flipping through documents on the sofa.

“Mr. Royden, I have news.”

Edgar had a grim look in his eyes. “Who is it?”

“Ms. Reece.”

Miles displayed the evidence he had collected. “Ms. Reece wasn’t there when the accident happened. But she bribed two of the workers at the service center to tamper with the car’s brakes. They were trying to flee overseas when our men cornered them at the airport.”

## **Edgar and His Destined Wife Chapter 127**

### **Chapter 127 The Heatless Woman**

Edgar could send Gigi straight into prison if he were to pursue the matter. The Reece family could appoint any number of lawyers, but an attempted murder charge would be difficult to escape from.

Edgar shut his eyes slowly. “Keep this as a secret for now.” Jean opened her eyes as she lay on the hospital bed. She had an oxygen mask on but could hear clearly. Edgar Royden, are you protecting Gigi now?

Haven’t you hated things like this all this time?

Yet you let things go just because it’s her?

What about Ben?

He’s just an innocent victim. But now...

Tears flowed down her face. She grasped the bedsheets in her hands. That afternoon, Jean’s body had recovered. She polished off three bowls of congee and several buns in bed. Edgar watched her. “Are you not stuffed?”



He handed some tissue paper over, but she ignored him. He gave her a chilly look. "I carried you down here and paid for this room. How can you be this heartless, Jean?"

He stayed in the hospital for a few days. Although he wasn't there for Ben, he carried out all his duties. Why is she making that unpleasant face now?

Jean laughed out of nowhere. Yet her eyes weren't smiling. "Then I have to thank Mr. Royden for not letting me die in the corridors."

"Why are you saying such horrible things!" He snatched her wrist.

When his eyes met hers, his heart thumped as if it had been struck.

Her usually fearless eyes were hollow.

She seemed to have gone through life and death. When Ben was unconscious about the possibility of the amputation, she still had thoughts and acted like a person.

But now, it was like the life was sucked out of her body.

Edgar held her wrist tighter but couldn't seem to hold on to her.

"Do you really like him that much?" He asked in a low voice.

His emotions got a hold of him as his grip tightened even more. Jean gritted her teeth, enduring the pain. "Yes, to the point of dying for him."

She couldn't remember how Edgar had left.

All she remembered was the throbbing pain in every single joint after being thrown to the floor.

Before he slammed the door behind him, Edgar said, "Ben will never accept you even when he's healed."

Jean's fingers scraped the floor. She shut her eyes slowly.

She didn't actually like Ben. She just couldn't forget his actions in saving her.

It was three hours later when she met Ben again.

The Ludwig family stared daggers at Jean as she entered the room.

Ben was resting in his bed. He lifted his hand toward her. "Are you alright?"

She smiled ruefully as tears spilled from her eyes once again.

He's still worried about me when he's in such a condition.

"Let's leave them alone to talk." Farra stood up absentmindedly. It was the first time she hadn't chastised Jean.

She stumbled to the door. When she turned back and saw her son staring straight at Jean, she let out a helpless sigh.

The door shut behind her.

The sharp smell of disinfectant filled the room.

Ben's face was ashen white. He felt that all his bones were throbbing with pain as the anesthesia had just worn off. But he smiled gently, knowing that Jean was safe and sound.

"You..."

"Don't say that I'm foolish. I'm not. Even if it happens a million times, I'll do the same over and over again." A determined look flashed through his eyes.

"Jean, do you remember, before the race started, I told you we needed to talk after that?"

Jean nodded. "What is it about?"

His Adam's apple moved as he gulped. He summoned his courage and held her hands. His fingers curled around hers. "I'm not agreeing to the engagement with Ally. I want to be with you. It doesn't matter if you don't like me..."

He said without a moment's rest as if he had been preparing to tell her those words.

Jean didn't interrupt nor hide from him. She looked straight in his eyes. "Are you sure?"

Ben looked at her, stunned.

"I'm Edgar's ex-wife. People will laugh if you are to be with me."

"You know that I don't care about those." He furrowed his forehead.

She lowered her eyes. "Then, let's plan a trip for after you're discharged. You've always wanted to go to the beach, right?"

She stood to leave with those words.

His smile widened. "Did you agree? Am I right?"

He yelled animatedly. When Jean shut the door, she noticed all the eyes on her.

“Ms. Eyer, Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig wish to speak with you.” Mr. Coleman approached her.

“Sure.”

She was brought to the next room.

When she entered, Farra glowered. “Don’t even think of getting any benefits from our family. My son is only in this condition because of you. He deserves to have everything you promised to give!”

Jean nodded.

She stood silently.

Myer stopped Farra. “That’s enough. You didn’t think so before, so why are you angry with her? Ben’s diagnosis is out. It’s not surprising that his injuries are more serious since he is the main driver. He has the right to make his own decisions.”

“That’s...” Farra covered her face as she cried. She couldn’t say a word.

Myer kept his composure. He hesitated before asking, “The doctor says that Benny’s nerves are damaged quite badly. There’s still a possibility of amputation. You know that, right?”

Jean nodded. “I’ve heard about it from Dr. Bailey in the morning.”

Her voice was like a clear stream that was soothing to listen to. Her emotions were under control.

“Then are you... willing to stay by his side?” Myer asked carefully.

Farra raised her head and scrutinized Jean. Her expression seemed like she would tear Jean into pieces if she said the wrong thing.

Jean didn’t waver. “I’ve said it before. It doesn’t matter whether Ben needs someone to look after him. I’m willing to stay by his side. I hope the two of you will grant my wish, even though you may not have the best impression of me.”

Her life was already in tatters.

It wasn’t the same for Ben.

He had a bright future ahead. There were even talks of an engagement with a woman from a well-off family. But all of it had gone down the drain because of her.

For Ben, she would be no different from Edgar, who had destroyed the Eyer family.

“That’s good then.” Myer was filled with gratitude toward Jean. Jean’s promise weighed more than the Sans family that had drawn a clear line when the accident happened.

“Ms. Eyer, we leave Ben to you.” He shook Jean’s hand gratefully.

“Thank you.”