

A Lifetime With You Chapter 41

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Chapter 41

"Are you alright?" Selden stood up and took a piece of tissue instantly as he wanted to clean the stain on her skirt. She took the tissue from him and tried to clean it herself, "It's okay. Luckily I am wearing a dark skirt today." However, the skirt was still wet. So, Selden took off his coat and placed it on her lap without hesitation. His fingers inevitably touched her thigh, and his fingertips trembled as he became a bit nervous.

Ava quickly moved aside. She intended to refuse his help initially, but he got back his senses and smiled, "Are you purposely keeping a distance from me? I will be very sad if that's the case." Suddenly, Kelly opened the door and walked in. "What's wrong?"

She was a bit startled when she saw Selden squatted in front of Ava while his jacket was placed on Ava's lap.

Ava quickly stood up and explained, "Miss Hensley, please don't get me wrong. I accidentally spilled the juice and my skirt got stained." "Oh, I see." Kelly was a little displeased when she saw Ava clutching on Selden's shirt, but she didn't say much since Ava's skirt was indeed soiled. None of them realized that when Kelly opened the door just now, there was a flashing light flashed through... And, there was a cunning smile behind that flash.

The next day.

When Ava woke up in the morning, she picked up her phone and browsed the news as usual. It had never crossed her mind that her picture would be on the headlines! "Kelly's rich boyfriend was caught cheating! Breaking news exclusively from XX Entertainment." There was a picture of Selden and her in the restaurant under the headlines. It happened to be the scene where her skirt got wet and Selden took off his clothes. Selden squatted in front of her, and the paparazzi had a chance to take the photos when Kelly pushed open the door to enter. Due to the angle, it looked like she was having a rendezvous with Selden, and they were caught by Kelly. How could this be? What the heck was this? Her phone rang and it was a call from Selden.

"Ava, have you read the news?"

"Yes, what's that?"

"I am asking someone to investigate the details and your identity is still undisclosed. So, for the time being, try to stay home for these two days."

The background noise from Selden's end of the line was deafening and it sounded like the reporters had crowded the entrance of his house.

After that, he hung up in a hurry. Her throat tightened in fear and she had no idea what to do now. In fact, the picture was deliberately taken from that angle when both of them were in the private room, and their faces looked blurred from that angle.

The news only mentioned Kelly and Selden, and Ava's identity wasn't revealed. After all, she was not that famous in comparison with Kelly. However, those who were close to her could identify her easily at the first glance. She opened the bedroom door and wanted to go out,

but Damien was already standing in front of her as he stared her coldly. "You... why are you here?" "Shouldn't you give an explanation to me regarding this news?" His lips were curled up in a sneer while he confronted her with his phone. He had recognized her certainly. But this time, she was really wronged. "Believe it or not, I'm innocent." She replied. Anyway, since she couldn't find a way to defend herself, she might as well try to stand up to him. "Are you that impatient? You're carrying my baby, but you went on a date with another guy in the public." "Since when did I do something like that? Kelly was there too yesterday!" His cold, but obviously incredulous look made her mutter, "You won't believe me anyway." He took a step closer to her, "Ava, you'd better keep your current status in mind." "What, are you pleading with me to acknowledge my identity?" She sneered. Obviously, the person who refused to acknowledge her was Damian, but he was still adamant about her loyalty to him, what about him? So many women around– Ava couldn't help being angry when she thought of this. The phone rang again. It was the text message from Selden again. He informed her that he would handle this matter properly without a single slight effect on affecting her, and he asked her not to worry as he would not allow anything to harm her. However, Damien snatched her phone over before she could finish reading the text message. "Give it back to me!" Ava was about to snatch it back immediately, but he easily pressed her on the door frame with one hand and she couldn't touch her mobile phone even if she jumped.

After Damien read the text message, his face became even more gloomy. Won't let anything hurt her again... What rights did Selden have to say that? Damien stifled his anger and sneered, "Even if you wanted to cheat on me, how could you have such bad taste? Ava, do you enjoy being a mistress so much?" "Selden is way better than you," She gritted her teeth. At least Selden wouldn't bring his so-called "fiancee" to meet his current wife before he even signed the divorce papers. This sentence infuriated Damien. He grabbed Ava's chin, and his gaze was filled with terrifying rage. "Let me go..." He had her lower jaw in a death grip. Damien had exerted so much force that she almost felt as if her bones would be crushed. Suddenly, Selden sent a second text message Damien opened it and read it. "Kelly is also very angry. She intends to issue a statement to clarify that she was there yesterday. Don't worry, baseless slander like this will not leave a serious effect." He threw the phone aside and pressed against Ava's body hard before he said coldly: "From today, you don't want to have any contact with him." B "You have no right to control my friendships, Damien!" He threw her on the bed like a sandbag and immediately close the door. Then, she rushed over and tried to open the door, only to find that he had already locked it outside. "Keep an eye on her, she is not allowed to step out of this room." Ava heard Damien instructing his servants outside. "Damien, you b*stard!" She hit the door fiercely, and she could hear Damien's footsteps from outside as he walked downstairs He snatched her phone away and stripped her of her freedom as well. Ava was completely helpless as she was under house arrest. She walked to the balcony and saw Damien as he walked out of the house and drove away. She didn't know what was going on outside now...

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Chapter 42

Kelly was enraged when the media released the news. So, she quickly shared a live post on her social media to prove that three of them ate dinner together yesterday. However, only a few netizens believed it. Some of her supporters even thought that she had been blinded by love as she still defended the scumbag.

Within seconds, the phrase "the poor Kelly" was trending nationwide. She was so furious and she broke some porcelain bowls to vent out her anger. Meanwhile, Selden was very calm, "Everyone, including the netizens, is asking you to break up with a jerk like me... maybe we should just break up." "What kind of nonsense is that?" Kelly quickly hugged him and said, "I know that everyone is reprimanding you, including my fans. I know you don't feel too happy about that, but don't be angry, okay?"

He broke free from her hug silently and rejected her intimacy.

"I'm not angry. You've been throwing a tantrum since just now."

Kelly was a little gutted. Selden had never behaved affectionately towards her ever since he agreed to start a relationship with her. So, he refused to hug and kiss her, let alone having sex. He was indeed a guy that looked like a playboy, but had a conservative mindset.

"Others don't believe in you, but I do," she said. Selden chuckled and murmured, "What if I'm not trustworthy?"

"What?"

"Nothing, didn't you want to hold a press conference to clarify this news? You'd better get ready quickly." He stood up as he urged her to go and change her clothes quickly.

Kelly's clarification conference was broadcasted live on a certain website.

Damien was in his office as he watched the live video. Then, he turned it off after a short while.

He was holding onto Ava's phone after he snatched it from her. Then, he unlocked the screen lock easily with a simple passcode. He had known that Kelly was there with them from the chat log. However, this photo was snapped secretly and posted on the Internet, so it seemed as though someone had schemed on them deliberately. "The Sunshine Newspaper was the earliest news agency to share this photo, go and investigate this matter with them," he told his secretary.

The Radbury Group's publicity department was extremely efficient. So, they found and contacted the reporter who was in charge of that news article. But the reporter said, "I didn't take this photo, we received it from someone who sent it via email.

Damien immediately sent someone to get the IP address of the mailbox. It was from the Nagel family. Indeed, it was Beth Nagel. She was still as stubborn as usual. He held Ava's phone tightly within his fist and his eyes instantly looked gloomy. "Dempsey, go and get Beth Nagel here." After half an hour later, Beth was escorted forcefully by Damien's men to the Nagel Group's office. Dempsey was very polite when she invited Beth, which gave Beth the wrong impression that Damien had seen Ava's true colors. She even assumed that he

had decided to go back to her. When she entered the office, she saw Damien staring at the top trending news on his laptop. Beth quickly faked a smile and said, "Damien, don't be angry. This time, my sister went a bit over the line. But, you can rest assured that my parents and I will always support the truth. If you decide to divorce her..." "Beth, I told you last time, don't you ever do anything that will offend me." Damien interrupted her with an icy tone. The smile on her face froze. "Damien, I don't understand, what are you saying?" Damien's gaze was threatening when he stared at Beth. His expression sent an icy chill down her spine, which immediately halted her laughter. Could it be that he had dug up the truth? That was impossible... He didn't get angry and divorce Ava right away after he saw the photo, but he had investigated the photographer instead? "Damien, I... listen to my explanation!" She rushed to Damien and said with a miserable tone, "I am doing this for a good reason. I don't want you to be deceived by Ava, that b*tch. She used to have an ambiguous relationship with Selden! Damien, a sl*t like her doesn't deserve to be by your side!" "So are you saying that you deserve to be with me?"

Damien stared revoltingly at her hand which was placed on his knee. She felt a jolt of fear, so she immediately retracted her hand. "Damien, I'm just trying to tell you the truth. If Ava dares to blatantly flirt with Selden in front of you, what kind of nasty things could they have done behind closed doors?" "Shut the f*ck up!" Damien got enraged instantly and kicked her aside. "I don't need someone else to act on my behalf," he said coldly, "Beth, if you do something like this again, I will make sure that you won't be able to show your face in this city ever again." Her eyes widened in disbelief as she had never expected that Damien would be so protective of Ava until this extent...

How could she have never noticed that Damien had always defended Ava all along!

"Hahahaha.. I see, Damien, you are so pathetic," Beth suddenly burst into laughter. Damien frowned and wondered what tricks did this woman have up her sleeves.

If it weren't for the fact that she was part of the Nagel family, he would have killed this wicked wench a long time ago. "Damien, you don't dare to admit that Ava is just leeching on the power and wealth of your family, right? How can she possibly have sincere feelings for you? She used underhanded means to marry you, but somehow there is another guy in her heart!" Suddenly, the guard outside rushed in and he was about to drag Beth away after Damien gave a signal. "Her laughter was becoming more hysterical, "They had known each other for more than ten years, do you really believe that their friendship is pure? You're so stupid! Hahaha..." Damien was still sitting in his office and his expression became extremely terrifying. There can't be pure friendships between the opposite sex... She was always thinking of someone else deep inside... Beth's words kept echoing in his mind. Soon, he was so irritated that he swept everything on his desk to the floor angrily. Dempsey was shocked when she saw the mess all over the floor when she came in, but she didn't utter a single word. He stifled his simmering anger and looked up. Then, he said, "Contact the Nagel family and asked them to send Beth abroad under the pretense of further studies. Don't let her come back for a few years." "Noted." Meanwhile, Beth was thrown out of the building by the Radbury Group's security guard. This was her first time being humiliated and thrown out in public, which made her hatred for Ava grow even more. "Ava, it's all because of you!"

Beth cursed fiercely. If it weren't for her... everything unfortunate in Beth's life happened because of Ava, who was the b*stard child of her father's mistress! "Just you wait, I won't let you off easily!"

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Chapter 43

The Radbury family. Ava was locked in the room for a whole day, and no one dared to open the door without Damien's permission.

She laid on the bed restlessly for quite a while before she walked to the door and shouted, "You can't starve me even if you want to lock me up! Let me out, I'm hungry!" "Mrs. Radbury, the master has instructed that you can't leave this room. I've asked the kitchen to prepare your meal and it will be brought to you shortly." the butler said.

"Fine."

Soon, the butler came upstairs with Ava's food. However, he didn't see Ava inside when he opened the door.

The size of the bedroom wasn't that big and it only had a washroom, balcony, and a bed. So, the butler quickly put down the dishes and went to the balcony to find her. At this moment, Ava, who had been hiding behind the door, grabbed the opportunity to escape. "Mrs. Radbury!" The butler hurriedly asked other servants to stop Ava, but it was too late. Ava wore her shoes in advance, and she had already sprinted out of the room. She ran directly to the garden and opened the door of one of Damien's sports cars before she got in.

Fortunately, she knew where Damien kept his car keys. The servants at the door couldn't stop the car, so they could only watch as she sped away. Ava had no idea where she was headed, but she really hated being under house arrest. Thus, she drove away happily as she wanted to get as far away from the Radbury family as she could. Damien had confiscated her phone, and she couldn't memorize anyone's number. Thus, she planned to her mother's housing area to find her. However, she caught a glimpse of her mother walking by when she was about to park the car in the basement. "Mum?" She rapidly rolled down the car windows and called out her mother. Then, Jessica turned and yelled as soon as she saw Ava, "Go!" Ava was instantly taken aback. Then, Ava saw someone standing behind her mother, it was Beth! How could they be together? "Ava, just leave, don't bother me!" Jessica screamed to her daughter with all her might. "Old b*tch, shut up!" Beth said fiercely. Suddenly, Ava realized that both of her mother's hands were tied up and Beth was holding a sharp knife in her hand. "Beth, you must be insane!" Ava was hysterical.

That sharp knife was pressed against Jessica's waist and it would be stabbed into her body if she

struggled a little harder. Beth gave a smug grin after she saw Ava, "I wanted to ask this old b*tch to call you, but you are already here now. Well, turns out you're quite smart."

"Let go of my mum! Beth, you can come at me if you want to!" . "Of course I will, my lovely

sister, since every single thing that I've done is to get back at you." The blade of the knife was very sharp and it glinted in the light. So, Ava didn't dare to take a step closer for fear that it might provoke Beth and her mother would get hurt. Then, Jessica gritted her teeth and shouted, "Ava, leave me alone! Hurry up and call the police!"

"I promise that I'll kill her if you call the cops!"

The sharp knife was another inch closer to Jessica's body. Ava clenched her fist furiously and tried to negotiate with Beth, "Alright, I won't call the police, I won't., what do you want me to do? I'm willing to do anything as long as you free her!" "Well, I want you to die for her!" Beth's malicious and hysterical laughter sounded like she was possessed. She absolutely detested Ava since she was a child. To Beth, her so-called "sister", who appeared out of nowhere, was just a sordid b*stard child that didn't have a right to share the same surname as her! Although her parents favored her more in the Nagel family, this slit had always gotten the upper hand outside.

In school, Ava was more popular and her grades were always the top in class. On top of that, when both of them fell for Damien simultaneously, Ava was the one who ended up marrying into the Radbury family.

"How can you compare yourself to me? You're just a little b*tch! Ava, do you think that Damien really loves you? Do you think he'll even look at you if you weren't pregnant with his child?"

Ava bit her lips and answered coldly, "I don't need you to remind me about this." "Sister, I don't stand a chance. But, do you think you'll be any better than me after marrying him? This is such a joke, I want to see how he's going to protect you now."

Then, she continued to laugh as she drew another fruit knife from her sleeve and threw it in front of Ava.

"What?"

"Stab yourself with that and I will let go of your mother." Jessica struggled harder when she heard Beth's words, "No! Ava, don't listen to her crap, she is just desperate now. Don't you do anything stupid because of her!" Beth slammed the hilt of the knife on the back of Jessica's head, "Old bitch, shut up!" Then, Beth turned to Ava and said, "As long as you are willing to exchange your life for your mother, then our score will be settled."

Ava stared at the fruit knife on the ground.

It didn't seem like a big knife. However, she wasn't sure whether the knife was sharp, or whether it would be painful when she used it to stab into her heart.

She hesitated and trembled while she bent down to take the knife.

Meanwhile, in the Radbury Group.

Damien received a call from the housekeeper, who informed him that Ava had ran away.

"Where did she go? Go and chase after her!" "Mrs... Mrs. Radbury fled with your sports car, so we couldn't catch up." Damien was startled.

He had never seen her drive before throughout their two years of marriage, and he assumed that she didn't own a driving license.

Perhaps, he knew too little about her. "I will send someone back now to find her before night falls." Then, he stood up and was just about to search for Ava. However, Dempsey

came in, "President, Ms. Selina is here." "I have something to do now and I am not free to see her." "Ms. Newton said that she just came from the Radbury family's residence and she has something urgent to tell you." Damien paused. So, he could only make a call to his men and asked them to search for Ava immediately. Then, he turned and walked towards the reception room. Meanwhile, Selina looked relaxed as she drank a cup of hot coffee. "I have to settle something very urgent now, so get straight to the point," he said to her as soon as he entered.

Selina smiled and replied, "But my matters are very urgent as well, so I can't just give you a brief summary." "What's that?"

"Your mother came to me today and told me that she wants you to divorce Ava as soon as the baby is born. Then, she wants us to get married."

Damien frowned, "So?"

"So, I am here to ask you whether I should agree with her." "Ms. Newtown, our relationship is purely for business."

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Chapter 44

"Yea, working partner. I'll pretend to marry you and deter your parents from forcing you to find a wife, while you keep me from those playboys. We have been cooperating so well all along." Selina kept an amiable smile plastered on her face the whole time. Since there were countless business cooperations between the Newton family and the Radbury family, so both their parents had intended to bring them together all along. However, Damien had always treated Selina with nothing but formal respect. Soon, Selina had grown tired of this collaborative game. "Damien, I have mulled over your mother's suggestion and I think that we can take a step further in our relationship."

She smiled and took a step closer to him.

The stalemate at the underground community parking lot continued. Jessica shrieked, "No! Ava, don't do stupid things! She won't let me go even if you stab yourself!"

Ava had already picked up the knife.

Then, she lightly pressed in on her slightly bulging belly. She wouldn't hesitate at all if she had to exchange her life for her mother's safety. But, her life didn't belong to just her at the time being. How could she jeopardize her baby's life? No... no way... Jessica was crying buckets in front of her. After a short while, she closed her eyes as she grabbed the knife even more tightly than before. "Beth, you have to know that I owe you nothing. Even if I die, the Nagel family will still have to pay for whatever you guys have owed my mum and me." then, she hesitated and raised the knife. Beth smiled grimly and couldn't wait to see as the knife pierced into Ava's body. Suddenly, Ava opened her eyes as there was a sharp glint in her eyes.

Beth was taken aback. In a split second, she saw that the knife had left Ava's hand and was coming straight towards her. How could Ava be so brave to throw the knife at her! So, Beth

quickly lowered her head to avoid it. Jessica could still move her legs even though her hands were tied, so she grabbed the opportunity to kick Beth's knee hard.

Then, Beth screamed in pain and bent down.

That knife wasn't thrown accurately and it hit the car beside them. Then, it fell and clanked on the ground.

Jessica kicked the knife away and escaped from Beth.

"B*tch!"

Beth cursed and chased after Ava.

Ava and Jessica indeed had good chemistry because they were mother and daughter. Then, Ava quickly helped her mother and both of them stumbled out of the basement parking lot. Beth couldn't catch up with them. So, she got into her car and started the engine before she rushed towards them!

There was only one exit at the parking lot and Ava was dragging her mum behind her as they dashed together towards the exit. They had almost stepped out when the headlights of the car shone on them.

Beth was hysterical as she stepped on the accelerator pedal to the maximum and she wanted to ram the car into Ava and Jessica!

"Mom, watch out!" At that critical moment, Ava instinctively pushed her mother away, but she couldn't dodge the oncoming car in time...

Within a few moments, she felt weightless in the air. When she leaned down, she could see her mother's frightened face and also Beth's hideous smile. Then, everything went quiet after she heard a loud crash. Yet, Ava didn't even feel the slightest pain.

"Ava, Ava, don't scare me..."

Ava could hear her mother screaming and crying out loud.

She wanted to placate her mother to stop crying, but she couldn't open her mouth to speak no matter how hard she tried. No one could hear her...

She felt as if she had fallen into an endless void and her body felt as light as the floating feathers. Moreover, she couldn't seem to muster up strength at all.

Would she die like this?

She hadn't even bid farewell to Damien.

Damien... Would he be sad if she died?

Or, he would still be the same as usual? Would he treat her condescendingly and indifferently as if she was just a pitiful stranger?

Indeed, they were supposed to be strangers, but all these things happened because she had pursued him.

"Ava, Ava..."

Someone was calling her name. It seemed that she had spent a long time dreaming and her dreams were filled with cherry blossoms. She was standing under one of the cherry blossom trees and smiling happily as if she was still a teenager.

Then, she felt excruciating pain all over her body and she lifted her eyelids with much difficulty.

Her mother looked apprehensive and her cheeks had tear streaks. "She is awake! Doctor

Oakley, come and take a look, is my daughter awake?" Jessica was calling the doctor in a hurry, but Selden had dashed forward instead. Then, Selden sighed with relief after he checking Ava's pupils.

"Ava, how do you feel?" he asked her gently.

Ava felt a remote sense of relief when she saw Jessica and Selden. Then, Ava opened her mouth and tried to speak with her hoarse voice.

"... why am I here..." "You were hurt badly after you were hit by a car."

She recalled everything in a second. Yes, she had a head-on collision with Beth's car at the community basement parking lot.

And, she was still alive...

Ava had mixed feelings about her current condition.

"Where is Beth? Where is she?"

"That cnt... she ran away!" Jessica gritted her teeth with anger. Jessica had just completed her interview with the police. After the collision, Ava was bleeding profusely, so Jessica was in a rush to call for an ambulance and she couldn't care less about Beth at that moment.

Ava tried to move her body, but the effect of the anesthetic hadn't receded. So, she didn't have any strength at all.

"The murderer will be caught soon. Don't worry, your operation was successful and you are fine now," Selden comforted her gently.

"What about my baby? Is it alright?"

All of a sudden, he looked miserable and stayed silent.

"Tell me, how is my baby?" "The baby...is gone." When Ava heard that, she was so upset that she wanted to raise her hands, but she couldn't move at all.

She could only stroke her lower abdomen with difficulty. The feeling of emptiness and coldness from her belly was shattering her heart into pieces. "Selden, you liar." The baby was still with her when she went out in the morning, so how could it be gone suddenly? "The doctor told me that the baby's heart had developed and it had grown into the size of a thumb. It's heart had also started to beat. Mum, I saw during my last ultrasound." She chuckled as if she could see the little fetus in front of her. The baby would grow up soon and become a handsome boy or a pretty girl. She vowed that she would always protect her baby no matter what.

She had put in so much effort to keep her baby!

Jessica wiped her tears and stroked Ava's cheeks, "Perhaps, this is the child's destiny. Ava, you are still young, so you can still conceive in the future, alright?" "It's impossible... You're lying... you are all lying to me!" Ava tried to sit while she struggled with the severe pain in her body. Then, she tore the infusion tube from her hand and wanted to get up. But, she fell on the bedside as she was still weak.

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Selden quickly supported her and wanted to bring her back to the bed. She turned her face away as her tears cascaded uncontrollably down her face. At this moment, Damien came in. Damien was not informed by Jessica as soon as the accident happened, so Ava had completed her surgery by the time he knew about it. He came with Selina. Damien saw Selden carrying Ava back to the bed when he entered the ward. His expression changed instantly.

Ava raised her head and saw both Damien and Selina standing at the door. Suddenly, Ava burst into laughter.

"Ava, don't scare me..." Jessica was taken aback by her daughter's laughter. Ava stared at Damien with a death glare. "Damien, our child is gone."

He had known everything on the way to the hospital, so he just nodded. "Where were you when our child was killed, where?"

She continued to sneer.

Damien was with another woman at that time. He wasn't even willing to rush to her as soon as he knew about the accident. When she saw Damien and Selina standing together, both of them looked perfect for each other! Suddenly, a metallic copper smell choked her throat and she vomited a mouthful of blood. "Ava!" Jessica exclaimed. Selden immediately helped her lie on the bed as he wanted to check on her physical condition. Damien took a step forward as he wanted to see her, but he was stopped by the doctors who came afterwards. Ava went into a coma again.

"Let's go out first to let the doctor take good care of Ava," Selina said softly to Damien. The ward was not spacious, so it was indeed packed with all the nurses standing there. Thus, Damien had no choice but to leave the ward temporarily.

Jessica was also persuaded by Selden to do the same.

Jessica had always tried her best to please Damien in the past. But, she could no longer hold in her anger anymore after such an accident happened to her daughter today. "Do you have any compassion? How can you bring another woman here when your wife had an accident? Do you deliberately want to upset her?" "Auntie, don't get me wrong. We happened to be in the company when we heard the news and I

followed him here because I'm worried about Miss Nagel's condition as well" Selina explained. Jessica glared at her coldly, "My daughter doesn't need sympathy from her husband's mistress." "Watch your words! Ms. Newton is just my friend," Damien replied coldly. "F*ck it! What kind of shitty friend is she? I don't believe you!! must've been blind to let my daughter marry a douchebag like you!"

In the ward, Ava finally woke up after the resuscitation. Selden stood by her side as he was a doctor. Then, he quickly held her hands when he saw that her eyes had opened "Ava, how do you feel now?" Her abdomen was still cramping with unbearable pain. Besides, her face was very pallid and her glance fell at the door subconsciously.

Selden's gaze seemed a bit dejected and he told her, "Your mother was furious and she chased Damien and Selina out, but..." Ava interrupted coldly, "I don't want to see him, it's good that he has left." Selden didn't continue his words.

However, Damien didn't leave. Instead, he had stood alone in the corridor for quite long before she woke up. 2 "The effect of the anaesthetic is gone, so is it painful now?" He looked at her distressedly. D She turned away as her tears flowed down her cheeks and soaked the pillowcase.

Did it hurt?

Of course it hurt.

She could never get the things that she tried her best to attain.

Whether it was Damien or this child...

"Selden, I'm tired and I want to rest."

She closed her eyes.

She was so sleepy even though she just woke up. Then, she had a similar dream again. In that dream, she was still a naive, yet stubborn teenage girl. She fell in love sight with a boy and was determined to be with him despite everyone's objections. But, she couldn't control her feelings for him.

The thought of confessing to that boy had never flashed across her mind, as she knew that he would definitely reject her. The only thing she did every day was to wait and see him carrying his bag as he walked through the boulevard because she liked him so much.

But, she had never dared to strike up a conversation with him, not even once. 1

Later on, she studied extremely hard and managed to get into the same prestigious university as him. Then, she also joined took the same major as him. However, she could clearly feel that the huge distance between them with every step she took to approach him. They were indeed from two different worlds. "Selden, you have known me for so long, don't you feel that I'm always so ridiculous plus pitiful?" She asked abruptly.

Selden was startled for a moment before he smiled, "There are many people who are worse than you out there." "Really? But there probably won't be someone as dumb as me, right? @ "The world is so big, so how can you be so sure about that?" Ava smiled bitterly and there was a lump in her throat. "I heard that Damien just forced the police to issue a nationwide arrest warrant for Beth to bring her to justice. Your father and stepmother begged mercy from him on Beth's behalf, but they can't even get the chance to meet him." Selden hesitated a while before he decided to inform Ava about this.

Ava, who was drowsy, jolted awake and her mind cleared instantly when she heard Beth's name.

Her eyes were wide open and they were filled with cold fury. "I will never let her go."

Meanwhile, Beth had used some underhanded means to cover up her traces and no one could track her whereabouts.

The police had used a lot of manpower to bring Beth to justice and provide a justification to the Radbury family, who were very angry. However, their efforts were futile. Meanwhile, Keenan Nagel and Cecelia Jerrison had sought all possible help that they could to save their daughter from this huge predicament. However, everyone knew that Damien was extremely angry this time. Thus, no one dared to intercede for Beth.

Damien looked at his father in law, who was begging for his mercy, and said coldly, "I would've destroyed the entire Nagel family if it wasn't because of Ava." It then dawned on

Keenan and his wife that someone truly cared about their illegitimate daughter, whom both of them had always neglected. Unfortunately, Ava was kept in the dark regarding these matters. Karen was throwing her tantrum in the Radbury family too, "I thought you have never cared about that woman. It's pitiful that she lost her child, but aren't you and Selina getting along well? Why don't you just take this opportunity to divorce Ava and get engaged to Selina?"

"Mom, don't intervene with my stuff."

"Why shouldn't I? I heard that you instructed the police to search for Beth and this has caused a rift in our relationship with the Nagel family. How about the business cooperation with their family, are you planning to terminate it?" "If the Nagel family dares to protect Beth, I will certainly suspend all the contracts with them." "Stop being ridiculous!"

Damien was very annoyed and he didn't want to argue with his mother over this anymore. So, he left immediately.

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Chapter 46

He went to the hospital.

Then, he hesitated a while when he reached Ava's ward. "Why aren't you coming in?" The person inside asked. Damien paused for a moment before he entered.

Ava stunned when she saw Damien.

She initially thought that it was Selden, but it turned out to be Damien instead. "Since you are here, I have something to tell you," she had a small smile on her face. But it was a desolate smile. She became so gaunt within a few days, even her fingers looked wrinkly and dried. "There is something in the drawer of the left cabinet, please take it out for me," she told Damien. Damien turned around and opened the drawer. There was a file inside.

"Actually, I have prepared this document a long time ago. I couldn't make up my mind as I thought there might be a turning point in our relationship. But it seems as though I was blinded by my own reverie since the start," she laughed.

Damien's chest constricted a little when he opened the file. There were two copies of their divorce agreement inside.

Ava had already signed the agreement.

"Divorce, huh...," he sneered. "Damien, I was the one who fell for you initially, so I have the right to relinquish the relationship now." He looked into her eyes and realized that she had been smiling all along. She could still smile brightly during a critical moment like this, and she seemed happier than before. He was shocked once again. "Our relationship will be over as long as you sign it now," she said. Damien didn't budge. If she had been closer to him, she would find that he was clutching the documents so tightly that his knuckles had turned white. "Did my mother come over to tell you something?" he asked. "She used to do that, didn't she?" Again, her face was lit up with a smile. The man, who was standing sideways in front of her, was still as meticulous from head to toe as usual. He seemed to be no different

from the lad who wore a T-shirt on the field so many years ago. However, she could no longer go back to that moment. This man once occupied her thoughts during her youth, but she had realized that her love for him was still unrequited at the end of the day. He had always condescendingly treated her and his lips would always have a disdainful smirk whenever he looked at her. She had endured so much humiliation from him all these years. "Damien, we were indeed from two different worlds from the very beginning. I'm sorry that my infatuation wasted so much of your time." She felt so relieved after she finally told him these words today. Since her life has always been filled with unfortunate events, she might as well try to ride it out and see whether there was any hope for her to turn her life around. "Sign it, the pen is on the table." She said to him. Damien walked to her side and picked up the pen from the table. "What's your plan after I sign it?" he asked. "Our relationship will be completely over and I have nothing to do with you anymore." He sneered, "So, will you go back to Selden?" Ava was stunned by his words. She replied dismissively, "Damien, not everyone is as filthy as you." "What do you mean by that?"

"You can finally be with Selina publicly after this, so you must be very happy, right?"

Damien's face became grim. Then, he picked up a pen and scrawled something on the document before he placed it in front of her.

Her face was filled with unconcealed delight. It was unexpected that the divorce could be so simple. However, this decision had tortured her for so long. Finally... it's finally over. Damien, I'm the one who's tired of you now.

Damien left after he had signed.

It wasn't until he slammed the door and left, that the smile on her face disappeared and she burst out in cascading tears.

His column was still blank when she looked at the divorce agreements in her hand.

Instead, there were some words written in a bold font under her signature, "In your dreams."

"What the heck is this..."

She held the two papers and cried helplessly.

During Ava's hospitalization, in addition to Selden and her mother, her colleagues from the company visited her too.

She got along quite well with her colleagues, so she had quite a number of visitors. "Hey, Ms. Nagel, why didn't you inform us regarding your pregnancy? We were informed about everything on such short notice that it almost drove us mad." "Ms. Nagel, don't be too sad about your baby, you can still get pregnant again since you are still young." The colleagues sighed with sympathy as they comforted her. She had a miscarriage, and she was injured in a car accident. Thus, she needed to take a long time

off work and she couldn't keep this matter a secret from her colleagues. Luckily, everyone was quite considerate and didn't question her further about other things. All of a sudden, Damien appeared at the door. He didn't expect that Ava's ward would be thronged with so many visitors, so he was stunned for a while.

"Mr. Radbury?" After Ava's company had taken over the outsourcing business from the Radbury Group, most of her colleagues came to know about him. They were so excited when they saw someone that usually only appeared on the news. Ava's face was very

displeased. "Why are you here?" she asked coldly. "I'm here to take care of you, am I not allowed to do that?" Everyone started to realize Damien's presence when he walked into the ward with a thermos. He walked to the bedside and opened the thermos, which was filled with chicken soup. "Ms. Nagel, how do you know Mr. Radbury?" a colleague whispered to Ava. "I don't know him," she didn't even lift her gaze as she replied nonchalantly. Damien pretended to not hear Ava's words. Then, he transferred some chicken soup into a bowl before he brought it to her mouth, but she turned away and refused to drink it. "I woke up at dawn to prepare this, so please save some of my dignity and drink it," Damien said. "Wow..." The colleagues started to discuss and speculate about Damien and Ava's relationship. Meanwhile, Damien openly stated it, "Ava is my wife, didn't she tell you guys before?"

"What?"

The atmosphere broke out in a commotion. The dignified Radbury Group! The well-known Damien Radbury! His wife was actually Ms. Nagel? What was happening? Damien's mouth quirked up in a grin while he forcefully fed Ava the chicken soup. She almost choked. In the next second, she looked up and asked coldly, "You said you cooked this? It is obviously made by the house cook."

"Your taste buds are quite sensitive, you can even distinguish that," Damien grinned. The house cook always added wolfiporia and Goji berries when she prepared the soup. Thus, Ava wouldn't get it wrong because of the special taste. As soon as Ava said that, everyone was more convinced that Damien and Ava were a family!

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Chapter 47

Ava desperately wished that she could kill this fellow with her death glare. Damien pretended not to notice Ava's expression and he continued to scoop the chicken soup languidly to feed her. "I don't want it," she smiled stiffly and said it loathingly. Damien still insisted on bringing the chicken soup to her mouth and replied warmly, "I know you are in a bad mood and you have a poor appetite after you lost your baby. Anyway, you still have to take good care of yourself. Don't make me worry too much." "What the hell are you doing?" Damien smiled but stayed silent. Thus, Ava was really befuddled and she couldn't seem to pierce through his thoughts at all. However, her colleagues had started a heated discussion. "Mr. Radbury is so thoughtful to Ms. Nagel." "Oh, I can't bear to see their loving interactions. I didn't expect that Mr. Radbury can be so affectionate, he is such a good man." The colleagues were talking about Damien. Their words of admiration towards Damien sounded so sycophantic that it made Ava uncomfortable. She couldn't mention that Damien and she were in the midst of getting a divorce in front of so many people.

Not to mention... But why would Damien do this? Didn't he hate proclaiming their relationship publicly? What was wrong with him? A colleague said abruptly, "No wonder the Radbury Group outsourced such a large advertising project to our company! It was all

because of you, Ms. Nagel!" Ava was taken aback by that colleague's words. So, that outsourced project was not a coincidence, but it was done intentionally? Meanwhile, Damien didn't deny that statement. Instead, he said, "Thank you, everyone, for taking care of Ava when she was in the company." "Oh, it is nothing much. In fact, Ms. Nagel always treats us well. The matters in the administration department are very trivial anyway. Furthermore, the reason why our small company can survive in the market is all due to Ms. Nagel!" Ava couldn't help but feel a little embarrassed when her colleagues commended her. Although she was an executive, she was just a small fry in such an insignificant company. After her colleagues left, Ava pushed the chicken soup away immediately. Then, she questioned Damien coldly, "What have you got up your sleeves?" Then, Damien went to close the door and a sharp glint flashed across his eyes. "The advertising project that your company received from the Radbury Group is the most lucrative project of the year, right?" "Damien, what do you mean?" She could see a trace of slyness in his eyes, so she was a little alarmed. "If you are not here to sign the divorce agreement, then we don't have much to talk about. So, please leave now."

Her facial expression changed when she felt mild discomfort in her lower abdomen. He chuckled, "Everyone knows that I helped your company because of you. So, what will happen to the project as well as your company if we split up now? "Damien, are you threatening me?" He chuckled lightly without saying a word. Damien could destroy their small advertising company without much effort if he wanted to. Worst of all, he had the power to chase her away from City A, and even from the country. He could make sure that she wouldn't be able to find a place to settle down. It was undoubtedly a stark threat to announce her status as his wife to the public. "What are your ulterior motives for doing this?" Ava became even more nervous when Damien approached her. "Weren't you hoping to divorce me earlier on? So, why on earth are you doing this now? He leaned over and raised her chin frivolously, "There is no way you can leave me and live happily ever after." Ava was relatively healthy, so she could be discharged soon.

Her mother came to pick her up when she left the hospital.

Damien didn't turn up on that day, but that was fine. Ava wouldn't be so annoyed without him around.

Jessica couldn't help but ask on the way home, "Ava, are you really planning to divorce Damien?" "Mum, I have no choice."

"But."

Jessica was also very angry during the first few days after Ava had a miscarriage, and she even kicked Damien out of the ward that day. However, Jessica's attitude changed within these few days.

Ava knew pretty well that there were times where Damien entered her ward right after her mother left. So, Damien and Jessica must have discussed something beforehand.

"Mum, what benefits have you reaped from him?" Ava asked directly.

Jessica's expression became a little unnatural, "What nonsense is that? I... How could I simply accept gifts from the Radbury family? You are my biological daughter and that family had hurt you terribly, so of course, I'll have your back!" Ava looked down at the pristine

branded bag that Jessica was carrying, which was undoubtedly a gift from Damien. Jessica would never be able to afford something like that with the living expenses given by Ava's father.

It was so easy to bribe her mother with a single bag.

"Mum, don't you think it's weird?"

"What's weird?" "He used to hate us so much. However, when I've finally agreed to the divorce, he is the one who refuses to let me go." Jessica replied without hesitation, "There isn't anything weird about that since both of you have been together for a long time.

Perhaps he is remorseful after he spent time with another woman while you suffered from a miscarriage. Perhaps he decided to come back to you because he had a change of heart."

Then, both Jessica and Ava got into the cab at the hospital entrance. Then, Jessica quickly informed the driver to head towards the Radbury family's villa. Ava stopped Jessica instantly and asked the driver to send them to the garden community. "What's wrong with you? Why aren't you going back to your own house, but coming to my place instead?"

"That is the Radbury family's house, not mine. I don't belong in the Nagel family either. The only house that belongs to me is yours." Jessica couldn't say much when she saw her daughter's determination. Then, she decided to discuss this matter further after they reached home.

As for whether Ava would return to the Radbury family, she would decide on that matter in the future. "Hey, do you know the reason why I worked so hard? When you are small, I racked my brain and found a way to get your father to recognize you and let you go back to the Nagel family. However, you moved out of the Nagel family as soon as you turned 18. Then, you finally managed to marry Damien after enduring so many hardships, but you are asking for a divorce now." Meanwhile, Ava leaned her head on the car window and pretended to be asleep. When they reached home, Ava got out of the car with her mother's help. Then, she saw a familiar figure standing at the entrance even before she could step into the house. "You are back? Open the door." He leaned on the security door and asked with his usual tone. Obviously, this was his first time here. "Damien, why are you here?"

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Chapter 48

Ava glanced at her mother angrily. Jessica instantly said, "It's not me! I didn't tell him that you would come to my place."

Damien knocked on the door next to him and said, "Are you going to just stand there and continue chatting? I have been waiting for more than an hour."

President Radbury's time was very precious, so she obviously didn't believe him at all.

Ava snatched the keys from her mother without even looking at him. Then, she opened the door and immediately slammed it shut before she pulled her mother inside the house.

"What are you doing? He came all the way here, so why are you locking him out?" Jessica reprimanded. Ava grabbed the bag from Jessica and took off her necklace and rings as well.

Then, she dumped it out through the security door.

"How much does this cost? Please mum! It's not like you will starve or die without his money!"

Ava was exasperated right now and she didn't care about her mother's dignity anymore. Jessica was furious as well. However, since her daughter had thrown all of her stuff out, she did not dare to go out and pick up all the branded items either, let alone open the door to let Damien in. "Why are you... Back then, you wanted to marry Damien so desperately, but why are you seeking a divorce now?" "Yes, I'm indeed making trouble for myself."

Ava went back to her room directly after that.

Ava had slaved away to pay the down payment for her mother's house. She worked and saved the pocket money given by her father during her university life. Although it was a small house, it was the only place where Ava could rest peacefully. Thus, she didn't want this place to have a single trace of that man. Nevertheless, Jessica came and knocked on Ava's door after a while, "Ava, Damien hasn't left and I saw him standing outside. Perhaps...he is serious this time." "Serious? Are you trying to humiliate me seriously?" When Ava married him two years ago, she thought that it was fine if he didn't love her for the time being. As long as she was sincere, her feelings for him would pay off in the end. However, the two years of marriage was a living hell. Now, she couldn't even protect her own baby... Ava gently stroked her flat abdomen while her heart throbbed painfully again. "Mum, do you think he has really changed his mind? He is just doing this for the sake of the Radbury Group's reputation, that's all," she said to her mother, Jessica was taken aback, "Why do you say so?" "It will definitely be a huge impact on the Radbury Group if the public finds out that I have just gone through a miscarriage. Furthermore, I even planned to divorce him right after I got kicked out of his

family. Meanwhile, he still has an ambiguous relationship with Selina. All these scandals might affect their company's stock price. As a businessman, he's willing to do whatever it takes to benefit him." "Are you sure?" "Otherwise, what else can it be?"

Meanwhile, outside the door, Damien's patience seemed to have run out and he knocked on the door again.

Initially, Jessica intended to open the door, but Ava suddenly came out of her room and she decided to have a clear chat with him.

"Damien, I have no idea what's going through your head, but I won't continue our relationship anymore, so please just let me go." Ava used all her strength to speak gently and voiced out the coldest plea he has ever heard. Damien's face turned gloomy, and he replied with a smile, "Alright, return my money and I will leave immediately."

"What money?" "Your mother received one million dollars from me. Since you refuse to go back with me, then I will leave immediately after I get back my money." Ava looked at her mother in disbelief. Then, Jessica felt ashamed and lowered her head instantly. It seemed that Damien's words were true "Why did you take so much? Return it now!" Jessica did not dare to refute, so she scurried back to her room and took out a bank card. However, she seemed reluctant to hand over the card to Damien. Ava snatched the card and gave it to Damien, "I will pay you back the sum that my mum has used." "Ava, no..." Jessica tugged at

Ava's sleeve quietly. "Why not? I have reminded you before that you shouldn't take money from the Radbury family, right?" "But... There is only half a million left in the card." Ava's eyes widened in horror, "What!? How could you spend that much within such a short period of time?"

"I bought bags and accessories..." It was the bag that had just thrown outside by Ava. Ava was about to pass out after she listened to her mother's words. A few bags and necklaces would cost Ava two to three years of her annual salary. Five hundred thousand...She wouldn't be able to pay it back unless she sold this house was sold. Damien seemed to have known Jessica's nature from the beginning, so he was filled with anticipation. He smiled jokingly, "I can write off this sum of money if you let me in." "Damien, do you always like to use the money to threaten others?" Before Ava even stepped aside to let him past, he had already wormed his way through the crack of the door and sat down casually on the sofa in the living room. This house was much more shabby in comparison to the resplendent villa of the Radbury family. He nodded after glancing around, and said, "It's quite clean, I guess I'm staying overnight here. "Damien, what do you mean?" "Five hundred thousand." He stretched out five fingers and shook them in front of her. "Ava, just let him stay here, otherwise, where are we going to get so much money?" Jessica held her daughter and said. Ava had no other option but to stifle her anger. Damien pointed to the room on the left, "Is that your room?" He walked into it directly before she could answer. Yes, it was Ava's bedroom, but she hadn't stayed there for quite some time. The things inside were usually cleaned by Jessica. However, since Ava was sent to the Nagel family when she was small, she didn't have many belongings in that room. Damien saw a small ceramic doll on the bookcase in the room which piqued his interest, so he picked it up. Ava followed behind him. Whenever she saw him touching her stuff, she would run over and snatch her stuff back. "Don't touch this!" She clasped the ceramic doll in her palm tightly. It was a birthday gift from her classmate that Ava received on her eighteenth birthday. Although Ava was no longer in contact with that classmate, she still treasured that gift a lot. "I'm not going to break it, why are you nervous?" "Isn't it basic manners to not fidget with someone else's things when you enter their house?" Then, Damien stretched out his arm and pressed her against the bookcase. Then, he said cheekily, "You are not 'someone else'." She was taken aback. Soon after that, he immediately let go of her and continued to browse the things on her bookcase. It was full of all kinds of books, ranging from world-famous classics to popular novels. He didn't expect that she liked to read.

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Chapter 49

Damien noticed that the bottom shelf was full of books related to ancient history, but they seemed to be dusty as they had been left there for quite some time. "Do you like this book?" He took out one of them. "Why do you even bother?" "Why are you study a degree

in finance if you like literature?" Ava snatched the book back and replied coldly, "None of your business." "Why did I do that? Of course, it's because I want to get into the same university as you," she thought Unfortunately, he didn't bother to even spare her a glance in high school, and nothing changed even when they went to university. What was more, she didn't work in the finance sector after she graduated. He would never know the amount of effort she had put in to get closer to him. "Can you go out now?" Ava asked in a displeased tone. However, Damien didn't plan to leave at all, instead, he turned around and sat down on her bed. "I'm sleeping here tonight."

It seemed that he was adamant about staying here. Just as Ava was going to say something, he stretched out five fingers and waved them in front of her again. Half a million... Fine, she had no choice but to bear with it.

"Jerk!"

She left the room after cursing him.

There were only two bedrooms in the house. Since Damien had occupied her room, she had to share a room with her mother.

It had been ages since she slept together with her mother on the same bed. Ava hadn't completely recovered, so she still experienced mild pains in her lower abdomen. Then, Jessica brewed Ava a cup of brown ginger tea and sighed, "Why do you have to be so hard on Damien even though he has already come all the way here?" "Where he wants to go has nothing to do with me." "Why are you so stubborn?" Ava turned sideways and closed her eyes, "Mum, I'm very tired now. Let me sleep for a while." However, she didn't get to sleep because she heard Damien's voice from outside shortly after that. "Why don't you go and check it out?" Jessica said quickly. "Mum, I'm sick and I don't feel like it." So, Jessica had no choice but to get out of bed by herself.

In the end, Ava decided to go and have a look after she pondered for a while. She didn't want anything to happen when her mother was alone with Damien.

Damien was in the bathroom at this moment. Ava walked over and asked him, "What's the matter?" Then, Damien popped out his head. His hair and even his eyelashes were dripping wet because he was in the midst of showering.

"I don't have a towel."

Ava turned and got him a new towel. Then, she handed it to him with her eyes closed. After Damien was done with his bath, he came out from the bathroom with only his lower body wrapped with a towel. Ava was shocked when she saw this, so she quickly pushed him back to the bathroom.

"You are crazy! How can you come out naked when my mother is around!"

Damien replied innocently, "You didn't get me a set of clothes to change into." "Rubbish! How do you expect me to find mens' clothing in my mother's house?"

He chuckled.

At that critical moment, she pushed him into the bathroom by pressing on his chest and she wanted to close the door. Then, she soon realized that both of her hands were placed on his chest muscles. Soon, Ava blushed and she instantly let go. However, he grabbed her wrist and leaned over to kiss her. She tried her best to resist but she was afraid that her mother

might hear her, so she didn't make a sound.

His lips were cold and the cloud of vapour that surrounded him clung to her body. He gripped her hands tightly and she couldn't move at all. She could only struggle as she tried her best to break free. "Stop struggling, otherwise, the towel is going fall" Damien said abruptly. "What?" All of a sudden, she could feel that the towel on his waist had dropped to the floor. She could feel his smooth body as well as his... nether regions through her thin pajamas. Her face was already burning with embarrassment. Meanwhile, Damien chuckled and approached her to kiss her again. She should have kicked him right on the crotch if it weren't for the fear that her mother would hear the noise.

Maybe it was because of the moisture from his body, and the corner of her eyes started to become wet.

She had no idea why she was crying. She seemed to recall the time when she saw his indifferent expression when he walked through the campus path, which was filled with cherry blossoms many years ago. This scene made her feel somewhat sad and despondent every time her thoughts flashed back to it.

At that time, she had never dreamt that the brilliant boy, whom she had always loved, would turn into her nightmare after so many years.

Nothing could last forever, and this included her feelings for him. "Hey, why are you crying?"

Damien stopped kissing her and he wanted to wipe her cheeks after he noticed her tears.

But, even the tears were cool and despair. "Damien, I hate you." She bit her bottom lip hard before she pushed him aside as she wanted to go out. However, she tripped over the towel on the floor.

"Argh..."

She stumbled backward as she cried out in surprise. Damien immediately reached out to grab her, but he tripped as well and both of them fell together in a heap.

"Let me go!" She pummeled his chest hard.

Strangely enough, that she didn't feel much pain, even though the back of her head had hit the ground directly. Ava stood up and found that Damien had used his palm to hold her head when she fell. At the same time, the back of his hand collided with the hard tiles. Due to the impulsive force from her head, his skin was scuffed, and there were signs of bleeding as well. Her heart quivered. "Ouch..." Damien clasped his hands with a painful expression. She was shocked, so she quickly went to check his wound, but it was just a minor scratch. However, Damien raised his hands and said with a pout, "I'm injured." "Since you have such a weak and vulnerable body, should I call for an ambulance?" "Go ahead."

Ava rolled her eyes. Then, she stood up to go and take a plaster for him.

She finally managed to rummage for a bottle of iodophor and cotton swabs. But, she was uncertain whether these two things were expired or not.

Since it was just for external use and it wouldn't be deadly, so she threw the medicine directly to him.

"I was hurt because of you, so you should treat my wounds," Damien said. She could only sit down and hold his hand up. When he watched as she carefully took the cotton swab and applied the medicine to his hand, he was a bit stunned.

Perhaps, he didn't know anything about this woman at all. Suddenly, his chest tightened and he held her fingers tightly, "Ava, come back to me, we can start all over again." Damien's voice was hoarse as he pleaded with her. Then, her movements paused and she couldn't help but laugh. She would be touched, probably, if he had told her these words earlier on.

But, now, she just raised up her head and looked into his eyes. "Damien, we're over."

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Chapter 50

The next day. When Jessica woke up, she saw Ava sitting on the sofa in the living room. Ava was flipping through a newly-delivered magazine in the morning. It was a famous financial magazine and Damien was on the cover of the annual issue. The reporter asked about Damien's criteria for choosing a spouse in the interview. His answers were, "Smart, beautiful, and has long legs."

It was such a vulgar answer.

Ava sneered when she read that article. Maybe the interview of this issue was done when the scandal between Damien and Selina had gone viral. Moreover, there were only a few people who knew about small fry like Ava, who also happened to be Mrs. Damien. In the article, the reporter asked again, "Mr. Radburry, what's the character that your ideal spouse should have? Can you describe it more specifically?" "Then let's be more straightforward. My ideal spouse doesn't need to have extremely long legs, but she must be beautiful." Ava looked at her legs subconsciously when she saw that answer. She had a height of 1.68 meters, and her legs weren't short after all. Besides, she also graduated from a famous local university with a master's degree. Thus, she wasn't considered daft as well. As for the criteria of beauty... She sighed instinctively. It seemed that his ideal type was totally different from hers. "Ava, what are you looking at with such an intense gaze?" Jessica asked her. Ava closed the magazine quickly. Then, she got up and went to the kitchen to help her mother prepare breakfast.

Meanwhile, Damien woke up and stretched himself languidly even though it was almost noon.

Ava had gone out with her mother at that moment. However, Ava left him a note, which asked him to be sensible and leave after eating breakfast.

He chuckled and kept the note. That magazine was placed at the side of the table. Then, he picked it up when he saw his picture on the cover and noticed that there were traces of it being read before.

The reporter still persevered to dip up details about his personal life at the end of the interview, "So, are you seeing someone now?"

"Yes."

Meanwhile, at the Radbury Group. Dempsey entered the president's office and informed him, "President, Ms. Newton is here." He rubbed his temples and asked his staff to let Selina

in. After Selina came in, she greeted him politely and asked, "I saw that Ms. Nagel looked quite pallid at the hospital that day, is it because I made her feel uncomfortable?"

"You don't have to bother about this." "Should I clarify to her that we are just normal business partners?" Damien looked up and handed the documents in his hands to her, "Are you here to sign the contract with me, or to exchange pleasantries?"

Selina was taken aback.

It seemed that Damien didn't buy her words of kindness, or when she acted empathetic towards him.

Anyway, he didn't even bother to give an explanation, which showed how insignificant Ava was to him.

"Damien, your mum called me this morning and asked me to have a meal with her. But I won't go if you feel that it's inappropriate." Damien groaned a little and replied, "Just go ahead."

Now that Ava had lost her baby, his mother had started urging him to divorce Ava and remarry again. After all, since Selina could fulfill his mother's wishes, perhaps his mother wouldn't mess with

Ava anymore.

Anyway, it was a bit difficult to calm Ava.

Never did he think that Ava would be so hard to deal with. 1

However, the lady sitting in his office was a tough nut to crack too. This was the first day for Ava to return to work after she had been discharged from the hospital. But, the news that she was Mrs. Radbury had already spread throughout the company. Thus, she had received countless words of flattery ever since she entered the office in the morning.

This made her feel very uneasy. "Don't be like that guys, I'm still the same as before and I don't need any special treatment," she told her colleagues. "How can it be? Ava, our company will be relying on you in the future!" Her boss ran up to her personally and shook her hand enthusiastically. Ava smiled awkwardly and pulled her hand back.

"Ava, maybe you can talk to President Radbury regarding the investment in our company."

"Boss, I don't own the final say in the Radbury Group." "What are you talking about? I've always treated you well, right? You just have to give him a small hint and get a few investments from their side. That will be good enough for our company's revenue!"

After she spent the whole morning prattling with her boss and colleagues, she was extremely exhausted. She would probably quit her job at this company if this situation were to persist. It's all Damien's fault!

Ava couldn't help but grit her teeth in annoyance. Meanwhile, Damien, who was far away in his office, sneezed loudly as if he could sense that someone was talking about him.

After Ava got off from work, she left the office and saw a luxury car stopped at the ground floor of her company building. It wasn't blasé to see a luxury car in front of this office building, which was located in the central business district. However, she could identify that it was Damien's car. Then, she immediately made a detour, but it was too late as Damien had already blocked her way. "Why are you so afraid of seeing me? Am I a freak?" Damien

asked. "I'm hiding from an imminent disaster."

She got rid of his hand coldly. Two of her colleagues happened to pass by at that moment, so they immediately waved to Damien when they saw him. Unexpectedly, Damien smiled and waved back to them.

Since when had Damien become so friendly?! "What are you doing?" "I'm not doing anything. But since you keep hiding from me, I have to make sure that you can't escape." D "You..."

Damien chuckled and yanked her into the car.

"Damien, if you think that this game is fun, there are lots of people out there who are willing to play with you. So, please stop wasting my time." "I'm here to pick up my wife after she's done with work, so it's perfectly justified."

His words sounded so righteous that she couldn't retort at all.

Damien picked her up during peak hour in such a high profile. So, she could already foresee the upcoming lively discussion at the office tomorrow. She was so exasperated and embarrassed that she wanted to disappear from the face of the earth. "You don't have to go to this extent even if you wanted to give out an impression of a gentle and loving husband. I know that you intend to clear up the rumours that you cheated. As long as you divorce me, then your relationship with Selina wouldn't be a scandal." Ava said heartlessly.

"I'm not."

It was peak hour at that time, so the traffic was very congested. Damien, who was driving the car at that time, became a little impatient. She knew that he couldn't stand time-consuming things like traffic jams, so he would usually leave his work before the rush hour. So, she had no idea why he was acting abnormally today.

After he drove a certain distance away, Ava noticed that it was neither the route back to her mother's house nor the Radbury family's house. "Where are you taking me?"

"Dinner."

Damien brought Ava to a restaurant, which turned out to be the place that sold her favorite fish