

## Love the Second Time Around Chapter 141

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 141 | Finally Have Backup

Two years ago, my grandfather went through coronary artery bypass surgery. Since then, his health deteriorated, and he couldn't afford to be triggered emotionally.

He was the one who suggested moving to the suburbs. In the beginning, we disagreed, but he insisted on moving.

Unable to convince him, we gave in at last, but we made him promise that he would go for a medical check-up in the city monthly.

Since I was young, my grandfather had always doted on me. Even after Louis was born, I was still his precious little princess.

I didn't have the nerve to tell him about me and Julius, afraid that it would enrage him and make him ill.

Only when the matter had been solved did my Mom spill the beans.

"If Julius wasn't in jail, your grandpa would snap his head off," she commented.

Having joined the army when he was young, my grandfather was outgoing and extremely belligerent.

It had been a long time since I last met him, so we were elated to see one another.

Gazing at me, a look of distress crossed his face. Needless to say, it was because of Julius.

I wrapped my arms around him like I used to do when I was young. "Grandpa, I miss you so much. Do you miss me?"

"You little brat. Why haven't you visited me for such a long time? I bet you don't miss me."

I shook my head vigorously. "That's not true! I miss no one but you every day! Grandpa, how are you recently?"

He let out a hearty laugh. "I've never been better. But... I'm sorry for what you've gone through."

"No, I'm fine. Besides, I still have you and my family."

“I’m glad to hear that. Tell me if you ever face such a thing again, I’ll stand up for you. Then, no one would dare bully my precious granddaughter.”

With a sweet smile, I nodded repeatedly. “Sure, sure, Grandpa.”

“Dad, don’t worry. Lili has a new boyfriend now. He’ll surely protect and take good care of her. Dom, come and greet Lili’s grandpa.”

Only then did I realize I was so engrossed in talking to my grandfather that I forgot to introduce Dominic.

That’s exactly why I didn’t want to bring him along at first. The more people knew about our relationship, the more troublesome it will be.

Dominic stepped forward. Just as I was about to introduce him, my grandfather snorted petulantly.

“Yeah, right. Julius told me he would love and treat Lili well for a lifetime. Look at how things have turned out! He’s nothing more than just a pretty face! As for her current so-called boyfriend, I don’t know what kind of man he is yet. Let me tell you this now itself. I don’t care if you guys are happy with him. He has to get my approval to be with Lili. Otherwise, she may be bullied again.”

After being yelled at by my grandfather, my mom seemed a little embarrassed, and my dad dared not say a word. Louis tried to stay as still as he could.

Yet, I was like a dog with two tails. Grandpa loves me the most.

I lifted my chin triumphantly at Dominic. Now that I have a backup, I would like to see if he still has the guts to act all high and mighty in front of me.

Nevertheless, the man seemed entirely at ease and showed no hint of worry.

Hmph! What a pretentious man. I bet he’s feeling nervous on the inside.

“Hey, what’s your name?”

“Hi, Grandpa. I’m Dominic, Lian’s boyfriend,” he answered calmly.

Apparently, my grandfather wasn’t flattered. “Enough. Why did you talk so much? I only asked for your name. What did you mean by Lian’s boyfriend? I have not given you the green light yet.”

I was on the verge of clapping my hands. All hail Grandpa!

Dominic wasn't provoked. His expression remained nonchalant as he placed the gifts on the table.

"This is my first time visiting, and I don't really know your preferences, so I've brought you quite some gifts. I hope you'll like them."

My grandfather cast an impassive glance at the gift and said nothing, ignoring Dominic.

My mom couldn't stand it anymore. "Dad, Dom bought these especially for you. Why don't you take a look?"

With that said, she winked at me for my help.

I didn't feel like helping, but I was worried that the quick-tempered man might not be able to hold his anger back.

After all, he was always the superior one who bossed people around, so he rarely got humiliated.

Fine, that's enough of humiliation for him.

With a grin, I clung onto my grandfather's arm and held him up. "Grandpa, let me accompany you to see what he has bought for you. Who knows? There might be something good."

Sure enough, he wouldn't reject me. "Sure, let's do it together."

Unwrapping the gifts, I was shocked. Though I didn't know their prices, they must have cost a bomb.

They were all supplements and tonics. I could only recognize three well-known brands among them.

"See if you like any of these. I can buy more the next time I visit you."

I never knew Dominic could be this humble.

He was very respectful toward elderly people.

Just then, a large group of people marched in. They were my relatives.

As the eldest, my mom had two sisters, Aunt Vivienne and Aunt Gianna. It looked like they had planned to come together.

Aunt Vivienne and her husband were civil servants. They had a son as old as Louis.

On the other hand, Aunt Gianna and her husband were business owners. They had a daughter and a son. The boy was only five years old.

Perhaps they were rather well off, so the couple was quite condescending, and I had never liked them.

Aunt Gianna strode right toward me as soon as she showed up. I could guess what she was going to say before she even opened her mouth.

“Lili, I heard from your mom that you’re divorced. It’s alright, I know many eligible young men. Some are from wealthy families. I’ll introduce them to you, then you’ll have many options.”

“Thanks, Aunt Gianna, but I don’t need that.” I smiled, shrugging indifferently.

“Forget it. None of those men that you know are decent. Ask them to stay away from Lili.” My grandfather was annoyed.

“Dad, why do you say so? Lili is my niece. Why would I hurt her? Lili, look for me afterward. Don’t be shy, alright?”

Hah! Don’t be shy? Do I look that desperate for men?

“Wow! Who’s this good-looking man? He looks so familiar.” Aunt Gianna’s daughter, Rachele, noticed Dominic.

She was in her second year of college. The woman was quite blunt, but she meant no harm.

Dominic introduced himself in an impassive tone again. “I’m Dominic Hartnell, Liliana’s boyfriend.”

Rachele was buzzing with excitement. “Wow! Lili, where did you steal such a dashing man as your boyfriend?”

Her words displeased me at once. What does she mean by stealing a man?

“Dominic... Oh! I remember him. Lili, isn’t he the man in the news earlier? But didn’t Nicholas take you away?”

“Not bad, Lili. Tell me now. Which is your actual boyfriend?”

Her deafening babble made my head throb with pain. Dominic’s grim expression made it worse.

## **Love the Second Time Around Chapter 142**

## Love the Second Time Around Chapter 142 Childhood Memory

I felt that Nicholas was now a taboo to Dominic. The man became irritated whenever someone mentioned Nicholas, even if it wasn't me.

I didn't know about others, but I could sense the tension building up around him.

Unwilling to get into trouble, I quickly explained, "Rachelle, that news can't be trusted. I've even brought him home to celebrate Grandpa's birthday. Isn't this obvious enough?"

"Haha! No wonder you don't want me to introduce some men to you. You've found a boyfriend. Lili, since everyone is around, why don't you introduce him to us?"

I let out a laugh. "There's nothing much to say. His name is Dominic Hartnell, and he's a businessman."

My words piqued Aunt Gianna's interest right away. "A businessman? Does he own a company? That's great. He's much better than the useless Julius, who only works for others. What kind of business is Mr. Hartnell doing? Maybe we can collaborate in the future. Honey, please get our business card," Aunt Gianna asked while calling her husband to come over.

The first time I brought Julius home, she asked the same questions as well. After knowing he was only an average sales director, she treated him with disdain.

Despite knowing that they wouldn't look down on Dominic if I revealed his family background, I refused to let the couple know more about him.

Like all businessmen, they often carried a guileful and materialistic aura. If they ever found out about Dominic's prominent identity, they might do something outrageous.

My relationship with Dominic was complicated enough. I wanted nothing else to meddle in our affairs.

Aunt Gianna's husband handed his business card to Dominic with a flattering grin. Before he could open his mouth or make his next move, I interrupted them. "Uncle, Dominic owns only a small business, so he doesn't have any business card. If you and Aunt Gianna are interested, he can tell you more about his company after dinner."

Sure enough, my words wiped the smiles off Aunt Gianna's and her husband's faces. After mumbling a few words, they brushed me off and stopped bothering me.

“Okay, okay, you two have asked too many questions. Why do you keep talking about that rascal? You’re rubbing salt into the wound.” My grandfather wasn’t happy that Aunt Gianna brought Julius up.

Even my parents’ expressions seemed a little surly.

Dominic didn’t show any unusual response, but the atmosphere was slightly awkward.

Immediately, Aunt Vivienne tried to lighten the mood. “Dad, why are you angry? Gianna is only concerned about Lili.”

I couldn’t bear to see my grandfather being upset, so I rushed over to him and changed the subject. Then, no one else brought the matter up again.

The birthday celebration would start tomorrow for three successive days so everyone in the suburbs could attend it.

All we needed to do was to buy the groceries and ingredients. Several chefs would be here to prepare the food tomorrow.

However, everyone would lend a helping hand, as this was the custom of how we organized a birthday celebration.

The younger ones had nothing much to do, but our parents still had to get a lot of things ready.

Other than my five-year-old cousin, Dominic, Louis, Rachelle, Aunt Vivienne’s son, Richard, and I left the house after eating lunch.

My parents did not want us to be at home too, lest we cause them any trouble.

There was not much entertainment in the suburbs. When I was young, my favorite activity when I returned to my hometown was following my grandfather to the market. He usually bought me various mouth-watering food and fun toys, but that was a long time ago.

Coincidentally, it was a market day today.

“Hey, let’s walk over there. It’s so crowded,” I urged the others.

Without waiting for their replies, I pulled Dominic toward the crowd.

“Dominic, I guess you have never seen this before. Let me show you around.” I appeared more enthusiastic than usual because I was in good spirits today.

“It’s only a market day. What’s the big deal?” Dominic sounded a little exasperated.

Turning around, I glanced at him and asked in surprise, "How did a city slicker like you know about a market day? How strange!"

Dominic ignored my comment. Never mind, since I'm in a good mood, so I'll let him off.

Afterward, I ambled around the market for half a day, dragging Dominic along. Despite the ordinary products sold in the market, I found them interesting.

I purchased countless knick-knacks while Dominic watched me with contempt.

"You weren't as happy when I asked you to choose diamond and gold jewelry, but now you're so thrilled about these useless knick-knacks."

Holding a plastic bag while enjoying cotton candy, I spoke with a slur, "It's not the same at all. This is my childhood memory. It's very dear to my heart, alright?"

Seeing that he remained silent, I waved my hands. "Fine. Rich kids like you won't get it."

"Do you want some cotton candy? I'm too full to take another bite."

This was a bad habit of mine. Every time I saw cotton candy, I couldn't help buying it, but I wouldn't be able to finish eating it.

Dominic gave me a sniff of disapproval. "Do you think I'll eat your leftover? It's so dirty."

"Don't be so picky. How is it dirty? I picked the cotton candy with a stick before eating it. It's so yummy. Try it!"

I did not care whether he was willing to eat it, picking some cotton candy with a stick and placing it in front of his lips.

"Liliana... Mmm..."

Right when he opened his mouth, I stuffed the candy in and chortled. "How's it? Is it sweet? Does it taste good?"

"You're really childish." The man shot daggers at me with a grim face.

His reaction amused me, and I broke out into a fit of giggles. I lifted the remaining cotton candy in my hand. "Here you go. Don't waste it. It has cost me some money."

"One of my hands is occupied, so I can't eat it."

With a broad grin, I gazed at him. "No problem, I'll feed you then. Finish it."

He didn't utter a word. His silence meant consent.

Along the way, I glanced around keenly while feeding him cotton candy.

Suddenly, someone bumped into me, and I staggered forward. Fortunately, Dominic reacted swiftly and held me up.

Before I found out what had happened, a hostile voice yelled, "Hey, watch where you walk! Are you blind? You knocked my wife!"

## Love the Second Time Around Chapter 143

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 143 Encountering a Fraudster

Steadying myself, I turned and saw a young couple standing several feet away.

The man's expression was fierce, while the woman appeared calmer and had a hand resting on her bulging stomach. Realizing belatedly that I might have collided with a pregnant lady, I quickly apologized. "I'm so sorry about that."

This being a market, it was naturally jam-packed with people, and accidental collisions were not at all a rare occurrence. I had assumed that my apology would be sufficient to smooth things over with the couple, but I was sorely mistaken when the man continued to glare at me.

"What use do I have of your apology?" he spat. "My wife is pregnant! You need to take full responsibility if anything happens to her or the baby because of your carelessness!"

I frowned. That's unnecessarily harsh...

"Excuse me, but I think you were the ones who knocked into me and not the other way round," I point out as politely as I could. "And in any case, I've already apologized. What else do you want me to do?"

The man scoffed. "You've hurt my wife and my unborn child. I'm going to need more than just a pathetic 'sorry'."

I was about to rebuff him when Dominic intervened. Pulling me behind him, he stared the man down and asked in a cool voice, "What do you want then? Recompense?"

The man's eyes lit up instantly. "Yeah, now we're talking."

It was then that realization dawned on me. We must've encountered a fraudster. He's trying to scam us!



There were many onlookers, but none stepped out to speak against the man. It seemed that this was not the man's first scam, nor would it be his last. Judging by the fearful looks of some of the locals, he was probably quite the scoundrel in town.

Knowing Dominic, I expected him to teach the man a harsh lesson. However, I was once again mistaken.

"How much do you want?" he asked.

I gaped slightly. Are you kidding me? Is he actually going to pay that guy? That's just outrageous!

Stepping from behind, I tugged at Dominic, trying to pull him away. "Let's just go to the police," I said. "He's just going to think you're a total pushover and bully you even more if you fall for his scam."

Enraged, the man came up to me and shoved, hard.

Dominic did not manage to catch my fall this time. Losing my balance, I stumbled backward and sprained my ankle on a small rock.

The pain shot up my leg faster than I could think. I grunted, shifting my weight onto the other leg while bending down to inspect my injury.

Dominic supported me by the arm. "Does it hurt a lot? Can you stand?"

I hissed in pain. "I think it's not serious. Don't offer that guy any recompense, okay? He's a fraudster."

Said fraudster was spitting mad. "F\*cking b\*tch," he cursed. "Your man here has already agreed to pay up, so just shut your f\*cking trap, you hear me?"

"Do you kiss your mother with that mouth?" Dominic raised a brow. Without preamble, he delivered a kick straight on the man's stomach.

The latter doubled over, groaning loudly. If not for his wife's help to steady him, he would have collapsed on the ground.

I blinked in surprise at the quick escalation of events, my throbbing ankle momentarily forgotten.

"Son of a b\*tch!" the man snarled, face contorted in pain and rage. "How the f\*ck dare you!"

"If I hear another word from you, you're going to get more than just a kick," Dominic said coldly. "Just try me."

Perhaps cowed by his intimidating aura, the fraudster did in fact keep his mouth shut, though he was still glaring daggers at the both of us.

Seizing the opportunity, I hobbled over to Dominic and dragged him away from the scene. "Come on, let's go back home." His arm is still injured. It's best that we just steer clear of that jerk.

"Why are we running away?" Dominic frowned unhappily. "I can take him on."

I continued to hobble while pulling him along. "Oh please," I retorted without looking back at him. "If you weren't still injured, I wouldn't stop you. But with your arm like this? Forget it. You can't fight in such a condition."

The pain was getting worse. A few more steps later, I had to stop to catch my breath and ease the pain in my ankle.

"I'm calling Lou," I announced breathlessly. "The pain's too much. I'm going to rest a bit. When they come, we can leave together."

Dominic held me with his good arm as we stood on the roadside. "You wouldn't land yourself with a sprained foot if you'd just let me take care of that hoodlum," he remarked, casual-as-you-please.

"Hey!" I protested sharply, jabbing a finger into his chest. "I was looking out for you, okay? I didn't want you to get scammed. If you have nothing comforting to say to me, then just keep quiet."

Silence. Utter silence from the other party.

I rolled my eyes in exasperation. Seriously? No comforting words at all? Geez... This guy...

A while later, Lou and the rest came looking for me. As my ankle hurt too much for me to walk, the rest of the journey home had me bouncing on Lou's back as he carried me back.

The rest of the family were in the living room, chatting, when they saw us coming in.

Mom hurried over to help me get down from Lou's back. "What happened? Are you hurt?"

"I'm fine," I said, gingerly placing my foot on the floor and limping toward the couch. "It's just a sprain. I was careless."

It was what I told Lou and the others too. I had omitted the incident with the fraudster because it would only cause unnecessary concern.

Even so, Mom was still in her mother hen mode. She clucked her tongue. "I'll go get some ice and ointment for you. You need to take better care of yourself and watch the road like the rest of us, you know."

I listened to her chiding, feeling like a teenager again. I guess moms just have that special power...

Grandfather, on the other hand, was mad at Dominic. "Why didn't you keep an eye out for her, boy? What kind of boyfriend are you to take a girl out and have her home injured?"

I snickered quietly. Ha! Serves him right!

Compared to how he kicked and threatened a man earlier, the Dominic in front of my grandfather now was as docile as a lamb. "My apologies... It's my fault for not taking good care of Lian. It won't happen again."

Grandfather did not appear appeased. Mom nudged me surreptitiously, motioning with her eyes for me to help Dominic out.

Hmph. Shouldn't Mom be on my side? I huffed but eventually complied reluctantly. "It's okay, Grandpa. I'm the one who didn't watch where I was going. And anyway, his arm is still injured, so cut him some slack, okay?"

"That's no reason to let you get hurt!" Grandfather sounded almost petulant. "As your boyfriend, he should've done a better job, broken arm or no."

Although I knew he was being unreasonably demanding, the way my grandfather was so protective of me filled my heart with warmth.

"Come on, Grandpa," I wheedled, smiling. "It's really not his fault. He had offered to carry me back, too. If he wasn't injured in the arm, he would've prevented my fall for sure."

Grandfather scoffed, though he did stop his berating. Taking this as my cue to change the topic, I managed to get everyone to move on to a different conversation.

We chatted for a while more before the cook we had hired came in to announce that dinner was ready.

The family sat around the dinner table. As the meal was being served, Uncle Frank took out a bottle of whiskey and proceeded to pour a glass for all the men at the table. When he came to Dominic, I reached a hand to cover the mouth of his glass.

"What's the matter, Lili?" Uncle Frank asked.

## Love the Second Time Around Chapter 144

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 144 Always Thinking of Him

I gave him an apologetic smile. "Sorry, Uncle Frank. Dominic won't be drinking. I'll get him some juice later."

The last time, he had drunk himself into a stupor and ended up in a hospital. I would really rather not have him repeat that experience again.

Uncle Frank frowned. "I don't blame you for not knowing your liquor, Lili, but this whiskey here is the good stuff. I specially bought it for this occasion. And you know it's a family tradition for us men to toast each other at the family gathering."

I tried to let Uncle Frank down easy. "I'm so sorry, but he really—"

Grandfather harrumphed loudly. "Lili, don't coddle him. If he wants to drink, drink. If he doesn't want to, he should say it himself rather than hiding behind his girlfriend."

"Grandpa..." I pouted.

Dominic's hand covered mine, taking it off the glass. "I'm fine." He gave me a reassuring squeeze before addressing Uncle Frank. "I'll have a glass, thank you."

"Now we're talking." Pleased, the latter filled more than half the glass. "There you go."

When Uncle Frank moved on to his next target, I elbowed Dominic in his ribs. "Did you forget about what happened the last time?" I hissed in annoyance. "We're in the countryside. It's a long way to a hospital if you get alcohol poisoning again."

Although we did have the local doctor, a proper hospital would be quite out of the way.

Dominic's expression was calm. "I know what I'm doing."

As if! Internally, I was throwing my hands up in chagrin. If that were true, you wouldn't have been hospitalized in the first place, nor would Benjamin and Yvonne tell me you'd nearly drunk yourself into an early grave.

Unable to resist, I pinched his leg under the table. "Just this one glass, okay?" I said warningly. "No seconds."

He smirked. "Are you henpecking me?"

“So what if I am?” I glared at him, peeved by his devil-may-care attitude when his health was at stake. “No seconds, and that’s final.”

Aunt Gianna looked at us teasingly. “What sweet nothings are you two whispering? Keep your pillow talk to another time, okay?”

I flushed. In retrospect, Dominic and I did act like quite a couple just now.

“All right, enough talking, more eating,” Grandfather said. “Everyone dig in.”

Plates of food were passed around and the clinking of glasses filled the room. There was one thing Uncle Frank was right about—it was in fact a tradition in this household for the men to drink and make toasts during a family gathering.

Grandfather was a bibulous person. Back in the day, when his health was better, he used to have a drink at every meal.

My dad, on the other hand, was a social drinker and only imbibed alcohol when Grandfather was around.

After Grandfather had a heart bypass surgery some time ago, the doctor had told him to cut back on liquor, much to his disgruntlement.

This was how the tradition was born—Grandfather was allowed to indulge in his drinks during special occasions where our family gathered and the men would drink to his health.

That being said, the copious amount of alcohol Grandfather was currently imbibing had me frown in concern. It’s true that it’s a special occasion, and he could cut loose a little... But he has already downed three glasses!

“Grandpa, you’ve had enough for today! Drink something non-alcoholic, okay?” I passed him a glass of juice and raised my own by way of toasting. “Cheers to your good health, Grandpa!”

Grandfather laughed in delight. “Thanks, Lili. Okay, okay. I promise I’ll stop after your boyfriend over there downed a drink with me.”

He looked at Dominic as if daring him to do otherwise.

“Grandpa,” I said pleadingly. “Dominic’s not good with alcohol. He was hospitalized one time because he couldn’t take too much.”

I had intended for Grandfather to cut Dominic some slack, but I forgot that in the eyes of someone like my grandfather, who used to guzzle booze as freely as he breathed, being “not good with alcohol” was effectively a demonstration of one’s inferiority.

True enough, while Grandfather no longer insisted for Dominic to drink, he had instead found something else to pick on the latter—more specifically, that he had too weak a stomach and ought to exercise more to develop a higher alcohol tolerance.

Oh, well. I tried my best. Shaking my head in amused exasperation, I watched Dominic nod amicably in response to Grandfather's chiding before promising that he would exercise to be stronger so he could "take better care of Lian."

As he said the last part, he looked at me with a raised brow loaded with meaning.

I stared back at him uncomprehendingly for a second before the realization that it was an innuendo dawned. I turned away, cheeks burning. He'd better not put in any more hours in the gym! If his stamina becomes any better in bed, I'd probably die of exhaustion.

The rest of the family took my persistent attempt to stop Dominic from drinking as a sign of how much I cared about him. Aunt Vivienne, in particular, joked that I was always thinking of him, so much so I probably forgot my own name.

The others laughed good-naturedly while I feigned annoyance.

The pleasant atmosphere lasted for the rest of the dinner.

Shortly after dinner, Grandfather retired to his room, but not before telling Dominic very sternly that the latter must sleep alone in a separate room.

Dominic had displayed the utmost patience with Grandfather throughout the day, agreeing to whatever he said with a serene smile or nod. Upon hearing that he and I were to sleep in separate rooms, however, there was an almost imperceptible downward turn of his mouth.

I almost laughed out loud as he struggled to rein in his reluctance. Good job, Grandpa!

The night was still early for a night owl like me. Unfortunately, being in the countryside meant there were limited entertainment options. Having nothing else to do, I pulled Dominic out of the house and into the front porch to do some stargazing.

The night was clear. Free from light pollution, the dark canopy above us was covered by thousands of twinkling lights.

"It's beautiful, isn't it?" I breathed. "The city life is great, but sometimes it just lacks this kind of simplistic beauty, don't you think?"

"You and your melodrama."

I elbowed him. "You're just saying that because you don't know how to appreciate such beauty."

He fell silent. It was moments later when he spoke again. "I've taken you to see the stars before, but I don't remember you being so appreciative of the sight."

Before? I searched my memory and finally found the answer. We had gone traveling once, back when we were still together, and he had taken me to a spot perfect for stargazing. Oh... I think this is the first time since we reconnected that he has brought up our shared past.

He was right, too, in saying that I had not been as appreciative of the starry sky as I was now. How could I have been, when all I had eyes for under the curtain of starlights was him?

"Dom, do you mind coming over here for a minute?" my mom called from inside the house. "I want to show you your bedroom."

Dominic replied in the affirmative and went indoors.

Not long after he was gone, I heard the ringtone of his cell phone, which he had left on the chair next to me.

Taking the phone, I was about to deliver it to him when my fingers accidentally pressed the pickup button on the screen. Oops...

It was an unknown number. Thinking that it might now be too rude to hang up without a word, I placed the phone to my ear and greeted the caller.

## **Love the Second Time Around Chapter 145**

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 145 Not Good Enough

"Hi! I'm sorry, but the owner of this phone is not here right now. If you can wait for a while, I will get the phone to him."

I had always felt that it was a bad idea to answer others' phone calls. That was why I clarified my identity upfront.

However, once I had finished speaking, there was no response from the other end. I thought that the caller had already hung up.

Just as I was about to speak again, I heard a familiar female voice.

She said coldly, "Liliana? Is Dom with you? Looks like you didn't get my message during our last conversation."

Oh my gosh! Is this woman Dominic's mom?

"Why are you keeping quiet? Where have you taken Dom to this time? Don't you know that he hasn't recovered from his injury yet? Liliana, have you ever spared a thought for him before?"

Why am I so unlucky? One mistake, and I end up answering his mom's call.

After hearing Milena's bombardment on the phone, I dared not utter a single word.

In the end, after hesitating for about three seconds, I hung up the call.

She was not somebody that I could afford to offend. I would rather keep away from her.

It was my fault. I should not have answered his phone. When he checked his phone later, he would certainly return the missed call.

It's all my fault!

I kept berating myself silently over and over again.

Unfortunately, his mom refused to give up. After a while, she called again.

Seeing that it was the same number, I declined the call without answering.

Dominic should have saved his mother's number so that I would not have made a boo-boo like that.

Then again, I recalled that I did not save my parents' phone numbers as well.

Nonetheless, Dominic's mom was too persistent. After I had rejected the call, she phoned again.

That was too much for my poor heart to take it.

Once again, I declined the call. As a last resort, I decided to turn off the phone.

I needed to look for Dominic quickly so that he could pacify his mother.

My mom should have arranged for Dominic's room to be adjacent to mine. True enough, as I walked out, I saw the door of that room open.



“What are you doing here? Doesn’t your leg hurt anymore? Go back. I’ll get Dom to bring some medicine for you, and you can rub it in yourself.”

The moment my mom saw me, she chased me back into my house. Before I left, I signaled to Dominic and waved the phone in my hand.

After waiting for a while in the house, Dominic came in with the ointment.

I handed him his phone. When he saw that it had been turned off, he looked at me.

“Now, listen to me. I didn’t intend to answer your phone. It’s just that you dropped it earlier on, and a call came in. I accidentally touched it, so I had no choice but to answer the call. Y-Your mom called three times. You better return her call immediately. I’m afraid she’s going crazy.”

I had thought that Dominic would rush to return the call. Instead, he said, “All right. There’s no hurry.”

“Aren’t you going to return the call?” I was feeling a little faint. His mom was already fuming, and if he was not going to do something to placate her soon, I might get into big trouble.

“Lift up your leg.” He completely ignored my question.

I removed my shoes and placed my leg on his. “Your mom didn’t sound too pleased just now. Didn’t you inform her that we are coming back to my hometown?”

Dominic looked at me as if I was a moron.

Come to think of it, it was a stupid question. I should have known that he would not have told her about it.

Dominic passed me the ointment and said, “Open it.”

I obediently did as I was told and handed the medication back to him. “You really don’t plan to return her call?”

He ignored me once again and started to rub the medicine on my leg with his left hand.

“Okay. I don’t care if you want to return her call or not, but please don’t let her take it out on me,” I pleaded helplessly.

The room became quiet after that. After watching him massage my leg for a while, I noticed something was amiss.

His left hand was working perfectly fine. Furthermore, he was also using his left hand to eat during dinnertime.

Before that, he needed me to feed him.

“Dominic, how dare you take me for a fool? Your left hand is obviously working fine, and yet you were ordering me around.”

“I like it,” he replied casually.

I nearly died of frustration. Before I could give him a piece of my mind, I was taken aback by a sudden burst of pain.

I tried to retract my leg, but alas, Dominic refused to let go.

“Don’t move.”

I pouted and complained, “It hurts. Can you please be gentler?”

“If I’m being too gentle, how are you going to recover?”

I had no idea if he was doing it on purpose. His massage was causing me much pain, and if he had not pinned my leg between his knees, I would have surely kicked him away.

“All right, it’s almost done.” In truth, I really could not take it anymore. Standing up with one leg, I felt like pushing him away.

However, I lost my balance and fell into his arms.

Before I could get up, I heard my mom’s voice rang out, “Oh my! The two of you better behave yourselves. It’s only for a couple of days. It will be over soon.”

Turning to Dominic, she continued, “Dom, chat with her for a while more and then return to your house. Tomorrow, you need to be up early.”

I was stunned momentarily, and the next thing I knew, I could hear the door closing.

“Haha!” Dominic laughed.

I regained my senses and immediately stood up in a panic. Before I could get away from him, he grabbed hold of my hands and locked them behind my back.

I kept twisting my body to get away from him.

When I recalled what my mom had said earlier on, my body started to feel hot.

“If you move again, I cannot promise you I won’t do anything.”

His voice sounded husky, but there was something else that did not feel right.

Damn Dominic! He’s having an erection!

I dared not move anymore and had no choice but to use my mom as my shield. “Well, you heard my mom just now. You are not allowed to do anything. You know what she meant.”

“If you want me to listen to Helen…”

I cut him off. “What do you want again? You want a kiss, isn’t it? Come, come, come. Come over a little more, and I will give you that kiss.”

I puckered up and leaned in to kiss him on his lips.

Thinking of the time when he commented that I was a lousy kisser, I thought I might as well go all the way and show him what I was capable of.

Instead, he pulled me away.

I did not understand what he was trying to do and so, I eyed him with caution. What? Is this not good enough for him?

## **Love the Second Time Around Chapter 146**

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 146 Birthday Celebration

Dominic laughed and teased me, “Liliana, actually I wanted to say that I will definitely obey Helen. After all, this is your family home, and there are several of your relatives around. But judging from the look of things, you want it very much, don’t you?”

I was dumbfounded for a moment before realizing that I had been fooled again.

“Go to hell! Who wants it? Speak for yourself. You’re the one with an erection. I can’t believe the audacity of it! Dominic, you are a man who can only think with your dick! Scumbag! B\*stard! Baddie!”

I’m so pissed off right now. He’s obviously the one who isn’t behaving himself, and yet he has the guts to take me for a ride! Evil man!

I felt so good after giving him a good tongue-lashing. However, Dominic’s eyes darkened.

His mouth assaulted me unexpectedly like a thunderstorm, and I was caught off-guard.

I had no idea when he released my hands. By the time I regained my footing, his burning hands were already inside my clothes.

His kisses started to travel from my lips down to my neck.

“S-Stop it.” I tugged at his hair and pulled his head away from my body.

His eyes were filled with burning desire.

“No... You have to go back now...”

He whispered in his hoarse voice, “I can’t. You obviously want it.”

I pursed my lips, not knowing what to say.

It’s true that I want it but not now!

“Dominic, are you trying to get me chased out by my grandpa tomorrow?” I sounded hoarse as well, and my throat felt parched.

Without saying another word, he held the back of my head and slid his tongue into my mouth passionately. It was only after a long time before he let go of me.

Both of us were panting heavily. I stole a glance at his manhood, and a saying crossed my mind. You asked for it.

“Enough. You better leave now and go to bed.” I got off my bed and made sure I chased him out of there no matter what.

Dominic lifted my face up and said, “In the future, I will take my time and reclaim what is owed to me.”

Before I could react, he walked out of the door.

I sat on my bed and felt my ears burning.

After being riled up by Dominic the previous day, it had taken me quite a while before I fell asleep. At six that morning, I nearly could not open my eyes.

However, after a night of sleep and the application of the medication on my leg, it did not hurt as much anymore. At least, walking would not be an issue.

The moment I went out of my room, I saw grandpa sitting on the chair dressed in his best outfit. He looked particularly sprightly.

“Grandpa, you look so handsome today!”

He laughed upon hearing my compliment. “Cheeky girl! You are such a sweet talker. I’m already at this age. How can I still be handsome?”

I patted myself on my chest and said with confidence, “No matter how old you are, you are always the most handsome man in my eyes!”

Grandpa doubled over with laughter the moment I said that.

Not long after, Louis, Rachelle, Richard, and my youngest cousin, Jackson had all arrived.

I looked around for Dominic, but he was nowhere to be found, so I sent Louis to look for him.

Louis returned and told me that he was helping Dad.

I mumbled, “He has only the use of one arm. What can he possibly help Dad with? Lou, Dad didn’t assign him any chore that was too tough, did he?”

“Relax, Lili. The way I see it, Mom and Dad treat him better than they treat the two of us. It was just some minor chore. Don’t worry about it.”

Louis was right. Mom and Dad could not be any more biased.

Forget it. I can’t be bothered. Let him get tortured for a bit. I just wonder if he has returned Milena’s call yet.

Around ten, the custom-made, seven-tier cake had arrived as well.

The kitchen was already getting ready, and several others from the village had come to help out with the cooking. The house was bustling with excitement.

Louis and the rest of us had nothing to do, so we kept Grandpa accompanied. Whenever any guests arrived and offered Grandpa their birthday wishes, we would serve drinks to them.

Dominic only appeared after eleven o’clock. When I asked him what he helped my dad with, he mentioned something about doing the accounts.

I almost died when I heard that. I could not believe that my dad would dare to ask Mr. Hartnell to do such menial chores.

The banquet started at twelve.

In the early days, grandpa used to be a soldier. Later on, he became a teacher. Grandpa's upright character made him a very prestigious and well-liked man in the village.

It was a pity that my grandma had passed away so early. If not, his seventieth birthday celebration would have been complete.

The three days and nights of celebration had finally come to an end. I could tell that grandpa was very happy.

All of my uncles and aunts had to leave the next day because of work and business.

Since my dad was about to retire and did not have many classes left, and my mom had also made prior arrangements, they would stay for another two more days to be with grandpa.

As for Louis, he had to return to school the next day too. His final exams were approaching, and like it or not, he would need to study for them.

Therefore, my parents and I decided to stay on for a few more days.

My dad asked Dominic where he planned to leave. To my surprise, he said he would leave with us. On the other hand, Calvin had informed me that Dominic would be busy during this period.

When I asked him about it, he said that everything had already been arranged. Since he said so, I let him be.

Our time in the village was not as exciting as city life, but it was relaxing, and I found it particularly enjoyable.

I also took Dominic around, and let him try his hand at everything that I had done when I was younger.

Even though Dominic did not seem to be too enthusiastic about everything, he went along nonetheless.

I was not sure how grandpa felt toward Dominic because he seemed to be finding fault with Dominic at almost everything.

In the end, I felt sorry for him.

To be honest, Dominic's effort during the past few days had far exceeded my expectation.

The following day, we would be returning to the city. That night after dinner, we were all sitting down and having a chat.

After a short while, grandpa said he was tired and wanted to rest early. Naturally, none of us stopped him, but he took Dominic with him.

## **Love the Second Time Around Chapter 147**

### Love the Second Time Around Chapter 147 A Private Conversation

I had noticed over the past few days that Grandpa did not seem to like Dominic very much. So, naturally, I did not have a good feeling about the two of them being alone and tried to follow them into the room. However, Grandpa sternly stopped me at the door.

He even told my parents that we were not to eavesdrop on their conversation. Thus, the three of us were left waiting outside the door.

I wanted to secretly sneak in after them, but Dad stopped me. He said that Grandpa must have something important that he wanted to say to Dominic privately.

But what important things do they even have to talk about?

My grandfather was not the kind of man who would say the same thing over and over again. I had actually not thought much of their conversation, but after what my father said, I suddenly felt curious about what they would talk about.

I paced restlessly outside the door. After a long while, I turned to my father. "Dad, what do you think Grandpa is saying to Dominic? They've been in there for so long! Why don't I go in and see what's up?"

"No, no. You stay put here with me. Do you think your Grandpa is a monster? Are you afraid that your Grandpa will eat Dom up? You're a grown woman; have a little patience!"

"Oh, please! As if you aren't curious too, Dad!" I muttered to myself, quietly complaining about my father's fake composure. He had already downed several glasses of water in his anxiety.

"I think your grandfather must be testing Dom. Anyway, you both should have nothing to worry about. Dom is a good kid. It'll be fine!" Mom said optimistically.

After waiting for another ten minutes, Dominic finally emerged from the room.

I immediately ran over to him and bombarded him with questions about what Grandpa had said to him. My parents, too, were listening curiously.

Dominic gently caressed my hair and said with a gentle smile, "Nothing much. He just told me to take good care of you. Otherwise, he will hunt me down."

"That's it?" I asked incredulously. It took Grandpa half an hour just to say that?

Dominic nodded and replied, "Yep, that's it."

"David, Helen, please rest early. I'll get someone to pick us up tomorrow morning."

My parents did not protest; they turned and walked back to their room to get ready for bed.

After they left, Dominic did not say anything more to me. We, too, returned to our room for the night.

When I woke up the next morning, Calvin had already arrived to pick us up.

He sent my parents back home first before dropping Dominic and me off at our apartment.

I immediately started busying myself with the draft. After all, I had already taken a few days off from working on it.

Shannon had called me to pester me for updates as soon as I had returned to the city.

Dominic, too, had been busy with his own work. We had been home for four days. Every single day, he would go out early in the morning and return late at night. In fact, on two of those days, he only reached home at midnight.

When I woke up that morning, Dominic was already nowhere to be found.

I did not mind it much; after all, this had become the norm.

After having some toast for breakfast, I started working on the draft again. However, before I had the chance to even turn on my tablet, my phone rang. It was Shannon calling.

Truthfully, I did not want to answer her call. I did not want to hear her nagging me to submit my draft again.

However, Shannon was a persistent woman. I knew that if I did not answer, my phone would blow up with her repeated calls. If I turned off my phone, she would hunt me down at my house.



However, I had recently moved and she did not know my current address. Nevertheless, I knew that it was better to deal with her sooner rather than later.

“Hello, if you’re calling to chase me for the draft, please know that I am already drawing non-stop. There’s no use for you to pester me! I am not made of magic!” I warned her as soon as I answered the call.

“Huh? Who said I was going to chase you for the draft? I just wanted to ask if you’d like to pay a visit with me today.”

“A visit? Where?”

I felt instantly relieved to hear that she was not calling to pester me about handing in my work. However, I was confused by her invitation. Visit? Where?

Shannon’s voice suddenly became high-pitched. “Visit Nicholas, of course! Come to think of it, we haven’t seen him in almost two months! Let’s go. We’ll bring some snacks with us.”

“That’s a bad idea! You know nothing good will come out of us visiting him! Let’s not do that.”

The gossip has finally died down and I don’t want to instigate any more rumors. Besides, Dominic won’t be happy if I went over!

“Really? Don’t you want to see Nicholas?”

“If I really wanted to see him, I’d just go online and watch any TV series that he acts in,” I joked.

Shannon seemed ticked off by my silly joke. She said through gritted teeth, “That’s not the same at all!”

“Okay, okay,” I said with a smile, trying to soothe her feelings. “Why don’t we go shopping this afternoon? We haven’t spent time together in a while. About Nicholas... Let’s see him after he’s done filming. Maybe we’ll go someplace low-key and have a meal with him. That’ll work, right?”

“Ah, okay then! I do have things that I need to shop for.”

That afternoon, I arrived at the place where I had agreed to meet Shannon and stood there waiting for her. After a while, I could see her hurrying toward me.

“You said you wanted to shop for things, right? Where do you want to go?” I asked.

Shannon thought quietly for a moment. “Well, actually, I don’t know what I should buy yet. What would be a good gift for a guy?”

I was surprised by her question. Is she buying a gift for Quinn?

“Are you buying a gift for Quinn? I didn’t know you’re still in touch with him.” Come to think of it, I’ve almost forgotten about him!

Shannon looked at me strangely. “Well, of course we’re still in contact! We are in a... stable relationship, I guess. His birthday is coming up. It’ll be the first time I’m celebrating his birthday with him so I want to get him something special! Help me think of the perfect gift!”

How long have they even been dating? She already wants to get him a special birthday gift... Didn’t Dominic say that Quinn isn’t really a good person?

“Shannon, didn’t I tell you to take it slowly? This Quinn guy... Dominic told me he isn’t exactly a good person.”

Shannon suddenly burst out laughing. “Come on! That scumbag has the audacity to say another man isn’t a good person? That’s funny!”

I sighed to myself. I knew she would react that way. If those words had come from her beloved Nicholas instead of Dominic, she would have easily believed him and gotten rid of Quinn immediately!

“So, how far have you and Quinn gone?”

Although I knew that these were modern times and it was common for couples to sleep together, I still hoped that Shannon had not slept with Quinn yet.

Should Quinn not be a good man, at least he would not yet have taken advantage of Shannon.

“Relax! We haven’t gone all the way yet. After all, we just started dating recently!”

I felt instantly relieved.

There was nothing else that I could say since Shannon obviously trusted Quinn wholeheartedly. As such, I turned my attention to helping her find the perfect gift for him instead.

I secretly decided that I would ask Dominic about Quinn upon arriving home later that night. I’ll find out what kind of monster he really is!

However, I soon discovered that I did not need to wait so long to ask Dominic—because I witnessed everything that I wanted to know.

## Love the Second Time Around Chapter 148

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 148 First Sign Of Fishiness

Shannon had her head lowered as she chose among the tie clips. She was prepared to spend big as it was a branded shop.

As I lifted my head, I noticed a man and a woman passing by outside. Based on their gestures, I could tell they were in an intimate relationship.

I had never met that woman before, but I recognized the man to be Quinn.

With that, I immediately pulled Shannon and ran out of the shop even though she was in the middle of picking the tie clip. I wanted to confirm what I saw.

From what I knew, Quinn was indeed a playboy.

Just then, Shannon stopped. She refused to continue running. “Liliana, what are you doing? Why did you pull me out of the shop? I haven’t done picking.”

I responded with a displeased tone. “I just saw Quinn with another woman. He had his arms wrapped around her shoulder and they were utterly intimate.”

“Huh? Are you sure it was him? Where are they now?” Shannon looked around in disbelief.

But to my disappointment, there was no sign of Quinn anymore no matter where I looked.

I let out a sigh. “We’ve lost him. But Shannon, I know what I saw. Quinn is really not a good man. Right, why don’t you call him now and ask where he is? Say that you want to look for him. Let’s see how he’ll respond.”

After hesitating for a while, Shannon took out her phone and made the call.

After she hung up the phone, I immediately asked, “So? What did he say?”

“He says he’s busy and he’s in the middle of a meeting.”

A meeting? I did not know why but I felt skeptical as soon as I heard that word.

“So be it, then. But you have to trust me because there’s something wrong. Please keep an eye on him. I’ll try to find out tonight.”

Shannon’s mood seemed ruined by now. She was no longer interested in buying gifts anymore.

I knew what was troubling her. As such, we said goodbye and parted ways.

After that, I went right back home.

The moment I reached home, my mom called. She said she had discussed with Dad and decided to take Dominic’s advice. They planned to spend some time over here during the winter break while their own place was undergoing renovation.

But she did not mention if they would be staying at Dominic’s house or the hotel.

I told them that we should discuss it again when the time came.

Even if they did not want to stay at Dominic’s place, they did not have to book a hotel because I was still renting my place.

Hanging up the phone, I drew my sketch for the entire morning. I made a call to Dominic in the afternoon, but no one answered.

I figured he should be busy, hence I decided not to call him anymore. But one way or another, I would have him explain to me by tonight.

But that night, I accidentally dozed off. By the time I woke up, it was already past midnight. Dominic was still not home yet.

I stretched my back and took a look at the time. Whoa! It’s three in the morning.

What is Dominic busy with? Doesn’t he need to sleep?

Right at that moment, I heard the sound of a key opening the door.

I immediately jumped off my bed and ran toward the living room. Right then, I saw Dominic coming in with an exhausted look.

“Why are you back after midnight again? You’ve got so much to do lately?” I helped him take off his suit.

He sounded utterly tired. “Since it’s after midnight, why are you still up?”

“I was waiting for you. I saw Quinn today and I wanted to ask. Is he...”

Before I could finish my sentence, he kissed my lips.

He only let me go after a long while. "Liliana, I worked till so late, and the first thing you mentioned to me was another man. Do you think it is appropriate?"

I rolled my eyes instantly. "Mr. Hartnell, I've told you before: Quinn is with Shannon. I'm merely asking for her sake. Today when I went shopping with Shannon, I saw Quinn with another woman. I wanted to chase him but we lost him in the end. Shannon didn't believe me as there was no proof. Tell me now—what exactly is Quinn's problem? Only then can I advise Shannon."

I explained the whole story to Dominic as I felt he was somewhat unreasonable.

"There's no need for so much trouble. Just tell Shannon to keep her distance from Quinn. But of course, it's her own business if she wants to get near him. But I'm warning you. Stay away from Quinn the next time you see him. He's more troublesome than you think."

Upon hearing what Dominic said, I became even more worried.

But since it was already so late, I could only send Shannon a message and remind her to be careful with Quinn.

After Dominic finished taking his shower, he pulled me into bed. I thought he was going to get intimate but he dozed off only after a few minutes.

I let out a long sigh. It looks like he's worn out.

Recently, I had gotten used to being alone after waking up in the morning. But today, Dominic was by my side.

I yawned and asked, "Aren't you going to work today?"

"I need to run other errands today. I'm heading out in a while; I won't be back tonight."

Upon hearing that, I nodded faintly.

When I was about to take a sip of water, I heard him say again, "Even though I'm not coming back tonight, don't you try to sneak out secretly. You're gonna get it if I find out."

Left speechless, I cast a glare at his bandaged hand. You've only got one hand left. What could you possibly do to me?"

I did not like what he said to me as it felt like I was the type of woman that wanted to seduce men.

Dominic went out around ten in the morning. I did not ask where he went as I figured I could not stop him from going anywhere.

As such, I stayed in for the entire day, working on my sketch.

Around nine at night, Shannon sent me a message with only two words: Golden Prince.

I was stunned momentarily. Not knowing what it meant, I texted her back but there was no reply. When I then called her, her phone was turned off.

Shannon had never acted like this before. At that moment, an uneasiness surged within me because I feared she might have gotten into trouble.

But I could not figure out what "Golden Prince" meant.

Right now, the only person that came to my mind was Dominic. After living together with him, I did not realize that I had gradually become more and more dependent on him.

Dominic was swift to answer my call. As soon as I heard his voice, I raised my question. "Dominic, have you ever heard of something called Golden Prince?"

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 149 Choose To Trust Him

Dominic's tone turned stern instantly. "Golden Prince? Why are you asking about this? Liliana, did you go anywhere to have fun? How dare you!"

I could not be bothered with his temperament at that moment. I only knew that he seemed to know about Golden Prince.

"So you know about Golden Prince, right? Is it a person? Is it Quinn?" I shot him a few questions at once.

Dominic's voice turned low. "Why do you keep mentioning Quinn? Didn't I warn you to stay away from him?"

I was losing my patience as well. "It's not like that. Shannon just texted me with two words: 'Golden Prince.' I can't reach her now, so I'm worried something might have happened to her."

"Did you say that Shannon texted you the two words?"

I was not sure if I was being too sensitive, but I could sense the tension in his voice.

"Uhm... Just cut to the chase. Stop wasting time. What exactly is Golden Prince? Is it a person or a place?"

It was the first time I felt so frustrated with Dominic.

"Dominic, I'm asking you a question. Why aren't you answering me?" I stomped my feet in anxiousness as he still kept his silence.

A few seconds later, he opened his mouth again. "Are you home now?"

"It doesn't matter. Tell me now..." I was about to explode in wrath.

He interrupted me calmly. "I'm picking you up now. Where are you?"

I froze for a second and replied, "I'm still at home."

"Get changed and wait for my call." Upon saying that, he ended the call.

Is he going to take me to find Shannon? But his arm hasn't recovered yet. Right then, I could not help but worry a little.

Nonetheless, I cast aside my phone and started getting ready. The priority now was to find Shannon.

Twenty minutes later, he called and asked me to go downstairs.

Before heading out, I went past the kitchen and put a fruit knife into my bag.

What if there's unexpected trouble? I should get prepared.

After getting downstairs, I spotted Dominic's car parked in front of my house. I felt relieved as I noticed he had brought Calvin, who was the one driving.

Getting into the car, I impatiently asked him about Golden Prince again.

Only then did he tell me that Golden Prince was an entertainment center opened by Dominic's father.

Based on what he said, I could gather that it was a place of illegal business.

Just then, I was overwhelmed with uneasiness. Shannon must have been brought to Golden Prince, or she wouldn't have texted me like that.

On the road, I made a few more calls to Shannon, but all were in vain.

"Are we there yet? How long does it take? Will Shannon..." I did not dare to further imagine.

Dominic's expression turned utterly stern. "Almost."

He had said that a few times already but the car kept moving.

After another twenty-minute drive, the car finally stopped.

The car door already opened before I could open it myself. It was the same on Dominic's side.

I found it difficult and embarrassing to keep my eyes on the valets who opened our doors.

Even though I seldom visited entertainment venues, I knew it was normal to have valets opening the car doors for customers.

Not to mention how pretty the ladies looked, but they were wearing sexy bunny costumes in such cold weather.



I felt cold from merely staring at their exposed long legs.

My heart skipped a beat as I started to worry about Shannon. With staff dressed so inappropriately, this surely isn't a good place.

"Come over here. Quickly."

As I heard Dominic's voice, I responsively shifted my gaze toward him and our eyes met.

I immediately rushed over to him.

In front of him was a middle-aged man wearing a black suit.

"Mr. Hartnell, what a rare occasion. Have you come here to relax today?"

Dominic furrowed his brows as he wrapped his arm around my shoulder. "Do you know me?"

The man flattered, "Everyone in Lightspring knows about you, Mr. Hartnell. Besides, our boss has specially instructed us to recognize you so that we won't accidentally offend you if you come here."

Even I got goosebumps all over my body upon hearing that.

Dominic did not react much as he cut to the chase. "Great. It'll save me a lot of trouble then. Is Quinn Somers here? I'm here for him."

The middle-aged man was stunned momentarily and collected himself before long. "Mr. Hartnell, please have a seat inside. I'll go check if Mr. Somers is in."

Right then, I pulled Dominic's sleeve slightly. I wanted to tell him that I thought the man was merely brushing us off.

Nonetheless, Dominic sounded utterly domineering no matter where he went. "Fine. I'll go inside. Tell Quinn that I'm waiting for him."

With that, Dominic grabbed my hand and walked toward the door, ignoring the man.

After a while, the man caught up with Dominic's pace. "Mr. Hartnell, don't worry. I'll inform him."

Little did I know that Dominic was so respected around the town.

Just then, I pulled Dominic's hand slightly and whispered, "So is this Golden Prince? Is Quinn really coming over? How are you going to find Shannon?"

Dominic cast me a glare and said, "I'll ask for her directly."

Fine. Since he's so confident, I'll trust him this time.

As we followed the middle-aged man into the place, I was blown away instantly.

The light outside was too dim for me to observe the surroundings. Only now did I realize how luxurious and magnificent the place was.

The man led us to a large room with elegant designs.

Then, he let out a smile. "Mr. Hartnell, please wait over here for a while. I go now and check if Mr. Somers is in."

Dominic nodded faintly and the middle-aged man left.

"Calvin, check around please."

Seeing Calvin scanning all corners of the place, I asked with utter curiosity, "What's he checking?"

"You don't need to know. Just remember not to speak or create trouble, and stay by my side. As for Shannon, I'll ask Quinn to hand her over. Understand?"

I immediately nodded my head, even though I still did not know how he would pull this off. However, I chose to trust him.

## **Love the Second Time Around Chapter 150**

Love the Second Time Around Chapter 150 Release Her Urge

Calvin scanned every corner of the room and shook his head. "Mr. Hartnell, there's nothing."

Upon hearing that, Dominic let out a smile. "They still know their boundaries."

Upon recalling some drama I used to watch on TV, I suddenly had a realization. "I know! You're looking for hidden cameras and eavesdropping devices, right?"

Dominic replied impatiently, "Don't overthink. Just remember what I've just told you."

Sheesh. What's the big deal?

Right then, there was a knock on the door. I responsively stood up and went to open the door.

But Dominic immediately pulled me and took a stern glance at me.

I could only sit down obediently as I let Calvin open the door.

I was disappointed to see that neither Shannon nor Quinn came. It was just a waiter sending over some snacks and drinks.

Staring at a table full of food, I had no appetite at all. Who knows if these foods might be poisoned?

After ten minutes, I could not help but ask, "What's taking it so long? Do you think Quinn is even here?"

"This is his father's territory. He always comes here for pleasure. And didn't you say that Shannon texted you the name of this place?"

I pondered for a while and thought that he had a point. But what if Quinn's pretending he's not here and refuses to meet us?

"But will he..."

Before I could ask the question, I saw Quinn opening the door and walking in.

He was stunned momentarily upon seeing me but he chose to ignore me as he greeted Dominic delightfully. “Mr. Hartnell, what brings you here today? Are you here for some pleasure?”

Quinn was somehow different from usual. With Shannon’s well-being in mind, I was concerned about the way he ignored me. In that instance, I forgot about what Dominic had instructed me.

I stood right up and ran toward him. “Quinn, where’s Shannon? Where did you bring her to? Hand her over now.”

Quinn stared at me with a baffled look. “Ms. Zanetti, what are you talking about? I’ve been busy the whole day and I did not look for her at all. Did anything happen to her?”

Staring at his pretentious look, I was beyond exasperated. As I was about to burst into rage, Dominic pulled me aside.

“Dominic, he...”

I wanted to tell Dominic that Quinn was lying. But as I saw Dominic’s eyes flash with warnings, I immediately shut my mouth.

After I fell silent, he turned to Quinn. “Where’s Shannon?”

Quinn’s expression became tensed upon hearing that.

After a moment of silence, he responded with a smile. “Mr. Hartnell, I’m not able to answer your question. I didn’t...”

“Quinn,” Dominic interrupted him abruptly, “I don’t care who you want to toy with, but not Shannon. I’m here only to take her with us.”

Quinn fell into deep silence once again. He stared at us with a complicated gaze.

Dominic added again, “Hand her over now and I’ll pretend nothing has happened. Or else, I might need to discuss with your father about the development of that land on the West Side.”

In that instance, Quinn gritted his teeth and changed his tone. “Fine. I’ll listen to you out of respect.”

Upon hearing that, I felt a great relief in my heart. “Where’s she now?”

Dominic did not stop me from speaking this time, supposedly because the problem was solved.

Quinn was still ignoring me when he took out his phone and made a call. After a while, the previous middle-aged man entered the room again.

“Bring Mr. Hartnell there,” Quinn instructed the man with marked displeasure in his tone.

With that, I immediately followed Dominic closely.

Reaching the door, Dominic turned around and said to Quinn, “Don’t ever look for Shannon again.”

“Sure. I won’t touch anyone whom you want to protect, Mr. Hartnell. But...” He let out a sinister smile and he said something strange. “I hope you’ll have fun.”

I could not care less about what he said because my priority was to take Shannon away from this place.

I finally saw Shannon in the last room on the floor.

Her condition seemed odd. Quinn had changed into an extremely sexy outfit.

Upon seeing that, I immediately took off my coat and covered her up.

“Calvin, let’s take her and go back.”

Coming out of the Golden Prince, I sneezed as I had no coat on me.

“Don’t try to act kind next time.”

I was utterly displeased to hear Dominic’s words.

I wasn’t trying to act kind. I just couldn’t bear to see her almost naked.

Just when I became overwhelmed with discontent, something warm surrounded me suddenly.

I lowered my head and realized Dominic had put his coat on me. He was left wearing only a thin shirt.

“Why did you give me your coat? Aren’t you cold? You’re wearing so little. Would you please keep it for yourself? You are still wounded.

Dominic walked forward impatiently. “Just cut the crap and walk faster.”

I made a funny face at him secretly. I decided not to argue with him for the sake that he helped me to save Shannon today.

Dominic sat in the passenger's seat of the car, as I wanted him to.

Shannon had been drugged so she was moaning in pain as she struggled incessantly. It took me a lot of strength to hold her down.

"Dominic, what should we do now? Will Shannon be okay? Maybe we should go to the hospital."

"Even the hospital has no cure for it. The only thing we can do now is to find a man for her to release her urge."

I could not believe my ears.

"Absolutely not!" I shook my head forcefully.

"But look at her. She's dying," Dominic uttered in a composed manner.

"Is there no other way? Let's go to the hospital anyway. Who knows if the hospital could offer other alternatives?"

There was no way I would find a random man to help Shannon with this.

Who knows what kind of man we might get? What if he has some diseases? What if he's a pervert?