

master odells 281

Chapter 281

B\*stard!

Just a while ago he had called her his woman but now in front of Tara, he had simply chased her off.

Sylvia strode out of the mansion and headed onto the street.

She wanted to go home and wash the filth away from her body. After she got into a taxi, she pulled her phone out and called her kids as well as Aunt Tonya. She told them something unexpected had happened that had prevented her from meeting them last night. After reassuring her kids and Aunt Tonya, Sylvia saw the missed calls from Edmund and she called him back. The call got through quickly. "Something happened last night and I switched off my phone. Is there anything urgent?" "Nothing. I just wanted to have a chat with you."

Edmund sounded normal but his voice was a little duller than usual. It seemed as if the man had been up all night. Sylvia was not overly concerned. She said, "Did you want me to look at some paintings?"

"I supposed so. What are you doing now?" he asked. "I'm on my way home now. I'll hang up the call now if there's nothing urgent." "Okay." Sylvia ended the call, leaned back against the seat and tiredly closed her eyes. Little did she know that an off-roader had been following her taxi from the moment she had come out of the old Carter Residence. The person behind the wheel was Edmund. He had a cigarette in his mouth and his bloodshot eyes were glued to the taxi that Sylvia was in. Edmund followed Sylvia until she arrived at the front of her house and got out. Only after she had entered the gate did he park his off-roader further away.

Then, he lit himself another cigarette as he watched her walk inside.

Back at the old Carter Mansion, Odell calmed down after Sylvia had left. He looked at the crying Tara and said in a deep voice, "Tara, it's my fault."

Tara threw herself into his arms. She hugged him tightly and cried, "Odell, I know you didn't do it on purpose. She must have seduced you. That must be why you slept with her."

Odell frowned. Had Sylvia seduced him? As far as he had known, she had constantly avoided him.

Even after he had said that he liked her, Sylvia had not stopped running away from him.

Initially, he had thought that his interest in her was just ordinary. However, after not seeing her for two days, he had gotten restless. All he had wanted to do was to go home and wait for her.

Last night, he had taken the initiative to call her and learned that she was drunk. He had then headed to the restaurant as fast as he could.

Later, he had found out that not only was she drunk, but that someone had drugged her. He had then brought her back to the old Carter Mansion. For some reason, his sanity had snapped, causing him to lose control of himself and he had ended up having sex with her. He had no idea if he hated her or loved her more, but he was certain that he liked being with her. In the few years that they were separated, he had never had the same feelings for Tara. In fact, he even felt resentment whenever Tara kissed him.

Other than that, he was glad that he had done what he had done.

He was glad that he had gone to Sylvia immediately after learning something was off, or she would probably have ended up in some bad guy's bed. After last night, he was certain that Sylvia had to belong only to him and him alone.

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After a long silence, he removed Tara from his embrace.

Looking at her puffy red eyes, Odell frowned. "Tara, tell me what it is that you want?"

Tara was taken aback. Her teary eyes were uncomprehending as she looked at him and said, "Odell, what do you mean?"

"I failed you, so I will do whatever is necessary to compensate you."

Tara wanted to bury herself in his embrace again but he stopped her.

Instead, she held onto his arm and continued to sob. "Odell, I don't want anything but you. I want to be with you for the rest of my life. You said that you would protect me for as long as you were alive."

Odell's face fell. Of course he remembered what he had said, but he had never expected to fall for a woman like Sylvia either. After a long while later, he said, "Tara, I'll continue to protect you and make sure nothing changes in your life. I will make you the most famous artist but I don't think I can continue to be your boyfriend." Tara burst into tears. "I don't want that! I don't want to leave you, I can't live without you!" Odell pursed his lips. He let her cry it out for a while until she finally seemed to calm down before he said, "Let's get you home first." "Odell, I want to be with you," she said as she stared at him with her watery eyes. Odell paused for a second before he said, "Let's get into the car." With those words, he immediately strode to the car outside. Tara cried as she followed him outside.

The black sports car roared to life and headed to Lake Victoria Villa.

Odell stopped in front of the gate but Tara refused to get out.

He had never been a hesitant person and since he had already made his decision, he knew he was going to act on it. Wearing a grim look on his face, Odell said, "I have to go back to work. You go have some rest and calm yourself down. I'll call you later tonight."

Tara noticed the grim look and dared not challenge his patience anymore.

After she got out of the car, Odell drove away and disappeared at the intersection.

Tara furiously smashed her purse to the ground and stomped her foot. "That b\*tch! Sylvia, you f\*cking b\*tch!"

She was throwing such a tantrum that her usual elegance and poise were nowhere to be found..

Sylvia washed herself twice in the shower. However, no matter how hard she scrubbed, she could not just simply wash off the bruises around her neck and body.

After her shower, she put on thick a thick sweater to cover up the bruises. Then, just as she walked out of the bathroom, her phone rang.

It was from that 'baddie'. She declined the call without a second thought. Seconds later, the man called again. The name on the screen of her phone reminded her of the irritating scene from earlier, so she declined the call once again.

However, her phone rang a third time and this time, Sylvia hesitated before she answered it. His cold voice, with a strong hint of dissatisfaction, came through the phone. "What are you doing? Why do you keep declining my call?" "My finger slipped." "Your finger slipped... twice?" Since they were talking through the phone, Sylvia was not afraid of him. She boldly said, "Yes. Twice."

Odell went silent for a moment before he said, "Bring your identification documents and come to my office later."

"What identification documents? Why should I go to your office?"

"Bring your ID card, the divorce papers, and anything that is related. I am having a meeting now but I'll have some time in the afternoon. Come to the office so that we can get married again."

He sounded unusually calm, as if remarrying was something normal. Sylvia's mind went blank. She blurted out, "Odell Carter, are you out of your mind?" He had just shooed her away in front of Tara earlier, yet now he wanted to marry her again? Just because they had sex last night? The call went silent for a few seconds before the man's deep voice said, "You have two hours to come over. if I don't see you here in two hours, you won't be seeing Isabel and Liam anymore."<

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Immediately after saying that, he ended the call. Calling him a crazy person twice, Sylvia was left sitting down in a dumbfounded daze.

She had never thought of marrying him again. Not when they had got a divorce in the past and definitely not now.

To her surprise, it had been his suggestion to reignite their marriage!

It was truly a miracle.

An hour later at Carter Tower, after the board meeting had ended, Odell immediately stormed out of the meeting room.

Cliff caught up to him and reported, "Sir, we just got confirmation that Edmund has just left Ms. Ross' house."

With a scornful look on his face, Odell grunted. "Arrange for more men to keep an eye out for him. The moment he goes near Sylvia, report it to me at once." "Yes, sir." Cliff nodded and went to carry out the order. Odell returned to his office. He had a glance at the watch on his wrist. It has been an hour since he had called Sylvia. She should be in the middle of preparing the documents for the registration.

Thinking about Edmund who had his eyes on her, Odell texted Sylvia again, "Have you gotten all the documents yet? If yes, then come over quickly." A few minutes later, Sylvia answered, "I'm on my way."

His furrowed brows softened a little.

Just as he wanted to put his phone down, he got a call from Tara.

His brows furrowed again as he answered it.

Back at Sylvia's place, she had been sitting on her bed for almost an hour now.

She still could not understand why Odell wanted to marry her again.

She did not believe that he was really moving on. It was more likely that he had lost his interest in Tara and just wanted a taste of his ex-wife again.

However, it should not end with him marrying her again. It just did not make sense.

After some careful thought, she believed he must have knocked his head on something. After texting him back, Sylvia got up and prepared herself to go to the office so that she could clarify things with him.

Half an hour later, she arrived at the building and ran into Cliff at the reception.

Just when she was about to state the intention of her visit, Cliff said, "Ms. Ross, Master Carter just went out to attend to some matters. Please follow me to the lounge first."

Sylvia hummed in reply and followed Cliff to the VIP lounge. When she sat herself down on the soft couch, Cliff said, "Please wait here. If you need

anything, just call for me."

"Okay."

Cliff went out, leaving Sylvia alone in the quiet and spacious lounge. Twenty minutes later, Odell still had not shown up, so Sylvia took a piece of wood and a carving knife from her purse and started carving. The time flew by without her realizing it as she concentrated on carving the little piece of wood.

Cliff dropped by twice to bring her some snacks and water. Sylvia did not mind waiting. It was not until she had carved the little piece of wood into an exquisite flower that she realized she had been waiting for three hours.

Her stomach was rumbling, but Odell was still nowhere to be seen.

Sylvia ate some of the snacks.

She only had one piece of wood in her purse so there was nothing else she could do to kill time now.

After another half an hour later, Sylvia finally called Odell.

The call got through after a few beeps. "When are you coming back?" "Hold on. Just wait for me for a little longer." Just as she was about to say something, she heard Tara's feeble sobs beside him. "Odell, I feel so uncomfortable..."

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The call was ended.

Sylvia's face turned cold as she got up and stalked out of the lounge.<

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Just as she stormed out of the lounge, Sylvia ran into Cliff.

Cliff noticed the anger on her face and he asked, "Ms. Ross, what's wrong?"

Sylvia gave him the cold shoulder and stormed out of the building.

Cliff went after her immediately. "Ms. Ross, Master Carter should be coming back soon, please wait for a little longer."

"He's with Tara. He won't be coming back today."

Cliff was shocked. He had not expected his boss to be with Tara at this hour.

Sylvia strode past him and left. As soon as she stepped out of the building, a chilly breeze blew onto her face and refreshed her. She had been waiting for four hours and it had all been for nothing. It was a good thing that she had not brought the documents, or she would have looked like an idiot.

However, on second thought, it was only normal.

It had only been a one-night stand. How could Odell give up on his perfect girlfriend over his vile and repulsive ex-wife?

'Sylvia, oh Sylvia, you're still as naive as always. You're never going to be his love. Sylvia mocked herself with a chuckle before she left in a taxi.

Westchester Hospital.

Tara had just been transferred out of the ICU unit to a normal ward. Her face was as pale as paper as she feebly clutched onto Odell's arm. Her eyes were red and teary as she said, "Odell, I'm sorry. Did I disturb you?"

Odell held back his annoyance and said in a deep voice, "I have limited patience. If you keep doing stupid things like this, I won't care about you anymore." Tara had taken half a box of sleeping pills and attempted suicide.

Odell hated people who did not cherish their own lives.

"I know. I won't do it again." Tears rolled down her cheeks. She continued with a sob, "Whenever I think about you leaving me, I can't bear it. I might as well die."

She burst into tears again.

"Don't cry," he said.

His voice had an obvious sign of impatience.

From the moment she had been admitted into the hospital, he had been by her side and that had been almost five hours ago.

He had listened to her crying for hours now and his patience had already worn thin. Tara immediately stopped crying when she sensed the impatience in his tone. Odell's irritation eased up slightly. He caressed her forehead and said in a small voice, "Even if we are separated, I wouldn't just abandon you. Your life would be the same as before. I will give you everything you want." Tara sobbed in silence. Then, Odell said, "Get some rest." Tara nodded and laid back on the bed for some rest. Odell sat by her side for quite some time. He stayed until she had fallen asleep before he left. It was already evening when he walked out of the hospital. When he got to his car at the parking lot, he tried calling Sylvia but the call was declined. She had to be mad at him for making her wait so long. He chose to call Cliff instead. "Is Sylvia still at the office?"

Cliff answered in a small voice, "Ms. Ross has already left. She said you were with Ms. Avery and would not be coming back. I couldn't stop her."

Odell frowned. He believed Sylvia must have heard Tara's sobbing when she called earlier. He tried calling Sylvia again but the call was still declined.

Odell looked grim.

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'How dare she decline my call?!' Just when he was about to call her again, his phone rang.

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It was a text from Sylvia.

"Odell, I'm already at home. Stop calling me. I know it's due to pure impulsiveness that you want to marry me again but I do not wish for that. I have no more feelings for you. What happened last night was merely an accident. I'll just pretend that it was just a bad day and I was bitten by a dog. You should also forget about it. "We both have our separate lives to live and it would be better for us to maintain our distance. May you grow old with Tara."

After going through the message, a layer of frost seemed to have come upon Odell's face. She said that she did not want to marry him again and had no feelings for him anymore.

She said it had just been an accident and had even referred to him as a dog.

That was all Odell had gotten from the message. He put his phone away and stepped on the acceleration pedal.

Night had fallen.

Back at Sylvia's place, after Aunt Tonya had prepared dinner, she called Sylvia down to eat. Sylvia went down and sat at the table. After having some warm food, she felt a lot better. It was at this moment that Tom's painful grunt came from the door. Sylvia bolted up in shock and went outside with Aunt Tonya. They found Tom curled up in pain on the ground with Odell beside him. Odell walked past Tom and approached the entrance. He loosened his collar, a grim look on his face. His towering figure made him look like a bloodthirsty monster.

He was the one who had beaten Tom up.

Sylvia's face turned pale.

Aunt Tonya quickly pulled Sylvia behind her back and shouted, "Odell, what are you doing? Sylvia didn't do anything wrong. I won't let you touch her!" Odell frowned and looked at Sylvia.

Sylvia's eyes shifted a little before she pulled Aunt Tonya behind her. She said to Aunt Tonya, "Aunt Tonya, don't worry. He won't hit me." Then, she took the initiative to approach the intimidating man and said, "Odell, I already made myself clear in the text message. Go home. There's nothing to talk— Wait! What are you

doing? Put me down!" Odell carried her up without saying a word and turned around. "Odell, put her down!" Aunt Tonya anxiously chased after him, but given her age, she could barely keep up with Odell's pace even if she ran. Then, Odell tossed Sylvia into the car, locked it and drove away. The car drove out of the residential district moments later.

Sylvia anxiously fastened her seatbelt and cautiously looked out the window.

Judging by the direction, it looked like Odell was heading for the old Carter Residence again. She screamed, "Let me out! I don't want to go there!"

The car accelerated.

Sylvia gasped to suppress her anger and said, "Odell, can you please stop? Let's talk about this."

Odell kept his eyes on the road. His expression remained frosty but the car obviously slowed down. Sylvia sighed and said, "I know I lost control of my emotions in the text. I shouldn't have referred to you as a dog. Please forgive me." The car screeched to a stop at the side of the street. Just as Sylvia was about to catch her breath, her seat was suddenly lowered, bringing her down with it.

The man's towering figure then climbed on top of her and overwhelmed her with the size of his body.

His size was large enough to overwhelm her. Sylvia quickly put her hands in front of herself and screamed, "Odell, stop it! Let's talk, please don't do this!"

Odell stared at her with a frosty gaze. "So, you said that you were only venting your emotions in the text?"

Thinking quickly, Sylvia answered, "A part of it." "Which part?" "The part where I referred to you as a dog."

"What else?"

"That's it."

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Odell reacted grimly. "Odell, calm down and think about it for a second. You love Tara and you should be with her. You shouldn't think about marrying me again," Sylvia said. She then added in a small voice, "Sailing on two boats is wrong."

She refused to marry him again or become the third wheel in their relationship.

Odell stared at her deeply. After a long moment of silence, he said, "Tara is important to me but I've already made it clear to her. I will take care of her but not in a romantic way." Sylvia was shocked. "You broke up with her?" He pursed his lips and wore a vague smile. "Sailing on two boats is wrong."

Sylvia scoffed awkwardly. She said, "But you spent the whole afternoon with her." He had to be lying. If he no longer loved Tara, why would he show that much patience with her?

Odell answered, "She overdosed on sleeping pills. If I had not gone over, it might not have ended well for her."

Sylvia clicked her tongue scornfully. "As expected of her, ruthless as usual."

Back then, Tara had even been willing to roll down the stairs in her efforts to lose her baby, just so she could separate Sylvia and Odell.

Now, in order to take back her man, she had attempted suicide.

Sylvia began to admire Tara's dedication.

Thud.

Odell suddenly flicked her forehead and stared at her coldly. "Do not badmouth her."

Annoyed, Sylvia argued, "I want to, and I will!"

Odell frowned and shot a stern look at her.

Sylvia chuckled. "Look at you, you still care about her, yet you said that you love me. You are a bad liar."

Odell furrowed his brows tightly.

He was more certain than ever that it was Sylvia that he had feelings for but he also understood why he cared so much about Tara.

A while later, he said, "Tara is important to me."

"Then go look for her. Stop forcing yourself onto me!" Sylvia wanted to push him away.

However, Odell grabbed both of her dainty hands and pinned them above her head.

Sylvia was petrified.

Odell finally softened his stern expression after Sylvia had calmed down. He then said, "She accompanied me through many tough times. Even if I don't love her anymore, I will make sure she lives a great life." Sylvia frowned. The tough times that he was referring to was when his stepmother had oppressed him and had almost snatched everything from him. Before he and Sylvia had even gotten



married, Tara had already entered his life and tried to win his heart. Therefore, it only made sense that the two had been through a lot.

Unfortunately, it sounded sour in Sylvia's ears. She too had liked him since they were young. When they had been married for those two short years, she had tried her best to try to ease things between him and his stepmother as well.

However, all that was in the past now and she no longer wanted to remember them. She said, "Then you should keep your promise and protect her for the rest of your life, not do this to me."

Odell's brows remained furrowed. He said deeply "Sylvia, I'm explaining myself in a very serious manner."

"Well, I'm serious too," Sylvia looked into his eyes and continued, "And, I don't love you anymore."

Her voice was flat as she looked at him calmly.

She made it sound so easy when she said she no longer loved him.

Odell's face fell. He stared at her quietly. Sylvia also boldly stared back at him. Things went quiet for a long time in the car. Some time later, he asked coldly, "Then, who do you love now? Edmund? Tristan? Or some other man that I don't know about?".

Sylvia frowned. She could understand if Odell claimed that she loved Tristan. But, Edmund?

She and Edmund were merely acquaintances. In any case, none of that mattered. She answered him calmly, "There isn't anyone that I'm interested in now." He grinned. "That means you still love me." Sylvia was rendered speechless. She emphasized again, "I said, I don't love anyone now." "Okay, you don't need to find any excuse for yourself. I understand." "I'm not! I really don't —" Before she could spew the word 'love', Odell silenced her by pressing his lips against hers. With Sylvia's hands pinned above her head and his strong body right above her petite one, **there was** no chance for her to escape.

Chapter 287 After a long time, he finally released her lips and allowed her to gasp for air. She hurriedly gasped. When she had finally regained her breath, she glared at him. Odell caressed her face. "You don't need to find an excuse for yourself. I understand."

He grinned.

His lips curled but Sylvia noticed the sense of eeriness behind it. His words were full of threat as well.

She believed that if she continued to defy him, he would succumb to his desire and force himself upon her in the car.

Sylvia was afraid of that. She gulped her grievance down and zipped her lips.

To her surprise, he kissed her again.

Unlike the previous one, or any other one, which usually felt forced, he was gentle this time and he did not try to suffocate her.

The kiss started soft and slowly grew stronger.

After a deep kiss, he released her lips once more and said with a smile, "I'm sure Isabel and Liam are missing you like mad. I'll take you to them."

Sylvia's eyes went blank and her mouth went silent.

He went back into the driver's seat and the back of Sylvia's seat bounced back up.

The car turned around and headed to the Old District. Sylvia's brows remained furrowed throughout the journey back. Her eyes were glued to the window as she stared at the moving scenery blankly. When the car finally stopped in front of Carter's Residence, the bodyguards came over and opened their doors for them.

The bodyguards were rather shocked to see Sylvia in the passenger's seat.

Sylvia did not mind the unusual stare. She simply got out and headed inside.

By the time Odell had gotten out of the car, Sylvia had already gone into the living room, as if she was afraid of being seen together by Madam Carter and the kids. Odell's face fell. He then told the bodyguards, "From now on, no matter what time she comes to see the kids, don't stop her." "Yes, sir."

"Mommy, what happened last night? Brother and I kept calling you but we couldn't reach you."

Isabel and Liam hugged and kissed their mother upon seeing her arrival. Then, Isabel had asked the million dollar question, to which Liam's eyes had widened in curiosity as he looked at his mother as well.

Sylvia did not want to lie to them but she could not allow them to find out that she had slept with Odell.

She tried to think of how to phrase her words carefully in order to fabricate an excuse. However, before she could say anything, Odell came in. He said, "She was with me last night."

Isabel and Liam looked at him blankly.

The living room went silent for a moment.

Even the butler who was chatting with Madam Carter looked at his master in shock. Sylvia widened her eyes in shock and glared at the man. "Shut up, Odell. I was not!" Odell tightened his lips and approached her. "Sylvia instinctively faltered, but Odell stopped in front of her. He then took a silver necklace out of his pocket and placed it on the coffee table

"You left this behind last night."

Sylvia, "... " The necklace was hers and it had still been around her neck that morning. Odell must have taken it off when he had pressed himself against her in the car earlier. It was definitely not from the night before. However, his words silenced everyone in the living room. Isabel and Liam stared at her with wide eyes. Even Madam Carter and the butler had smirks on their faces. Sylvia was silent. She felt as if something had gotten stuck in her throat, preventing her from saying anything.

Chapter **288** After putting the necklace down, Odell went upstairs.

The living room went silent again for a while. "Mommy, what did you do with Baddie last night?" Isabel asked in her adorable voice as she raised her chubby little face.

Her large eyes were round and bright with curiosity.

Just like her, Liam looked up at his mother with big innocent eyes.

Sylvia blushed. In a stilted voice, all she could say was, "We didn't do anything. It's just that something unexpected happened last night."

"Oh..." Isabel pursed her tiny lips.

Just as Sylvia was about to breathe a sigh of relief, Liam asked, "Mommy, did you and Daddy run into some kind of problem?"

Sylvia nervously fabricated an excuse in her mind and said, "Mommy attended a dinner last night and ran into him. Then, one of my friends got drunk, so we sent my friend to the hospital."

Isabel pouted. "No wonder you didn't come over to play with us."

Liam did not ask any more questions either.

Sylvia finally breathed a sigh of relief.

On the other hand, Madam Carter and the butler continued to smirk at her.

Sylvia said, "Grandmother, I-I'll take them to their room."

The smirk on Madam Carter's face widened. "Of course, go ahead."

The look she was giving her was that she knew Sylvia was embarrassed but that she wouldn't embarrass her.

Sylvia hurriedly took the two little kids back to their room.

After some play time with the kids, Sylvia waited until they obediently went to bed before coming out of their room.

To her surprise, Madam Carter, who would usually be resting at this hour, was still awake.

As Sylvia headed down to the living room, Madam Carter waved her over as she said, "Come over here, Syl."

Sylvia had a bad feeling but she went over nonetheless.

Madam Carter then asked, "Tell me, did something happen between you and Odell last night?" Sylvia hastily explained, "Grandmother, we really just sent one of my friends to the hospital." "Don't use that excuse on me. You can fool Isabel and Liam but not me." Madam Carter saw through her thoughts with a glance. She continued, "How could it be so coincidental that you would bump into Odell at the restaurant? Even if you and him sent someone to the hospital,

then how did your necklace end up in his hands?"

Sylvia was rendered speechless. Madam Carter lowered her voice and continued, "The person who was drunk last night was you, right? Did you have one glass too many so Odell took you away? Where did you guys spend the night?"

Her experienced and aged eyes were piercing and even gleaming with life.

She was obviously very interested and excited to know more about what had happened between Sylvia and Odell.

Sylvia could not help but blush. She knew no amount of excuses or lies would work on Madam Carter. She decided to be honest with the old lady and said with resignation, "Grandmother, it was really just an accident." Madam Carter's grin widened until she was beaming from ear to ear. "This is great!" "I will tell Odell to break up with Tara. You should hurry and gather up your documents so that you can marry again!" Madam Carter got up, intending on going to find Odell.

Sylvia held her back and said, "Grandmother, wait a minute! Please calm down." "You guys got together again! How can I remain calm now? Don't worry, I will make sure he gives you a satisfying answer tonight." "It's okay. You really don't have to." "Syl, I know you are worried that Odell has misunderstood you, but I can tell that the look in his eyes is different now. The way he looks at you is different. I'm positive that he has feelings for you. I will talk to him later, I won't make it look obvious or let him think that you were the one who urged me to do it." Madam Carter patted Sylvia's hand to reassure her. She looked determined to talk to Odell about the marriage. Sylvia said, "Grandmother, it's not that. I just don't want to marry him again."

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Madam Carter was stunned.

At the same time, behind the railing on the stairs on the second floor, the man who had long been standing in the shadows also froze for a moment

The room went silent for two seconds before Madam Carter asked, "Syl, may I ask why?" "I don't have feelings for him anymore."

A few years ago while she was pregnant, she had been imprisoned at home and had been forced to give birth alone. On top of that, Odell had even slapped her sixty times and thrown her out of the house.

She could still remember these memories as clearly as if they had happened yesterday.

She had long since made up her mind to never love Odell again. She was determined that she would never put herself in such a situation or be the other half of this marriage again.

She did not want to repeat the same mistake again. Madam Carter's excited face instantly fell. She looked at Sylvia in disbelief. "Syl, tell me the truth. Do you truly have no feelings for him anymore?" "Yes. I do not want to be with him at all."

Unwilling to give up just yet, Madam Carter asked, "But you would still have Isabel and Liam. If you married him again, you'd be able to live with them under the same roof and spend time with them whenever you want. Wouldn't that be good?"

Sylvia had considered many scenarios in which she lived together with her kids but none of them had ever included Odell's presence.

She had no more feelings for him.

Moreover, Tara would never let him go and he had also promised to take care of Tara forever.

Even if she agreed to marry Odell again, their marriage would not be a smooth one. "Grandmother, I know what you are trying to say but it's really not necessary. I don't want to marry him again." Madam Carter saw the determination on her face and sighed. "Sigh... Fine." In the shadows above the stairs, Odell's gloomy merged perfectly with the darkness. Even after time had passed, the gloominess on his face did not lighten up.

On the second day at Carter Tower, after a meeting with the executives, all the attendees hurriedly left the meeting room. During the meeting that had lasted less than half hour, everyone felt as if they had just been through hell.

Not only their old mistakes were brought, but even new ones had been unearthed. Even that one person who had snuck out during working hours to see his girlfriend had been given a big scolding. The lightest punishment was the cancellation of this year's bonus while the severe cases involved demotion. One of the executives had tried to argue his case but had instead been fired on the spot.

It was not until Odell had walked into the elevator and left that everyone finally **breathed a** sigh of relief.

One of them pulled Cliff aside to ask, "Assistant Bogard, what happened to Master Carter today? Did something happen?" It was obvious that Odell had vented his anger on them.

Cliff said, "I don't know what happened either." He had been lucky enough to escape any punishment but he too had received several frosty glares from Odell during the meeting.

It was like being in the same room with a hungry lion. It was not a good feeling at all. Even more so because Cliff had to type out the minutes for the meeting and hand it in to Odell later.

The nervous crowd scattered back to their workstations.

Cliff took a deep breath before he entered the elevator.

After a while later, the meeting minutes had been completed so Cliff went to deliver it to Odell's office.

Odell was sitting on the couch beside the floor-to-ceiling windows. He was staring out the window with a grim look on his face. There was an obvious sense of frustration in his eyes.

Cliff did not dare to approach him. He simply placed the meeting minutes on the desk and said, "Sir, the minutes for the meeting are ready.

>Chapter 290 Even after waiting a while, Cliff did not receive any reply, so he consciously turned to leave. "Hold on."

Cliff froze. He turned around and asked, "Yes, sir? Is there anything else?"

Odell turned his chair around to Cliff and asked, "I have a friend who is divorced. His ex-wife used to love him a lot. So much so, that she even went to the extent of using dirty means to make the marriage between them happen. Now, this friend of mine wants to marry his ex wife again, but the ex-wife has said that she no longer loves him. Do you think what she said is true?"

Feeling awkward, Cliff pursed his lips and thought, 'You're referring to yourself, right?'

However, he dared not expose his boss. After considering his thoughts carefully, he said, " Maybe it's because the ex-wife was deeply hurt during the divorce that she has no more feelings for him."

The office plunged into silence after he voiced his opinion. Cliff noticed the grim look on his boss' face. He anxiously explained, "Sir, I'm just making a speculation. I'm not saying that you... your friend hurt his ex-wife."

Odell narrowed his eyes and said emphatically, "She used to be a vile woman. Her ex-husband never hurt her without a reason. As for the divorce, it was only because she asked for it herself."

Hurt her? If she had not pushed Tara down the stairs, causing Tara to miscarry and be unable to bear a child anymore for the rest of her life, he would not have been angry enough to divorce her.

She had even been slapped sixty times because she had been vicious enough to slap Tara first.

Cliff pursed his lips, feeling conflicted.

His boss had always assumed that Sylvia was mean but he had also known Sylvia for many years now. Whether before their marriage or after the divorce, Sylvia had always treated him politely. She was a lot more easy-going than Tara and had never given him a hard time. There was one time where he had gone on a business trip with Odell and had forgotten something important. It was Sylvia who had helped to deliver the item to him and helped him keep it a secret from Odell. If not, his bonus for that year would certainly have been canceled.

He really had no idea why Sylvia had been labeled as a mean and evil person.

After thinking about it, Cliff decided to feign ignorance and said, "Sir, it's hard for outsiders to judge family matters. Why don't you ask your friend why he would want to marry his ex wife again if she is such a vile person?" Odell glared at him. Cliff lowered his head and continued to play dumb.

Odell said, "He's fallen in love with his ex-wife. That's why he wants to marry her again."

Cliff bit the bullet and said, "Then, his ex-wife can't be the bad person that your friend assumed. Otherwise, he wouldn't have fallen for her again, right?"

After thinking about it a while, Odell said, "His ex-wife used to be a mean person but she's become a better person now." Cliff then said, "Then you should tell your friend to let go of the past. Since he's fallen in love with his ex-wife but she doesn't want to marry him again, why doesn't your friend just start over again? Start by asking her out, date her and restart the whole relationship." Odell furrowed his brows. "Ask his ex-wife out?"

She had been the one who had shamelessly clung to him in the past. Did he now have to do the opposite by asking her out instead? Cliff said, "Yeah. If he really loves his ex-wife, then I think it could work."

Feeling vexed, Odell furrowed his brows. "You may leave now."

Cliff went out as directed and left his boss alone in the quiet office.

Propping the side of his forehead on his hand, Odell mulled over Cliff's suggestion,

The day went by quickly.

Sylvia spent the entire day in her painting studio,

Since Isabel and Liam should have come back home from school at his hour, she got up, tidied up and headed to the Carter Mansion.

Coincidentally, just as she had arrived at the road outside the old mansion, she spotted Odell's black sports car.

It looked like he had just come home.

Sylvia turned a blind eye and tried to walk around his car.

Honk!

The car suddenly honked at her. Sylvia pretended not to have heard it and continued forward.

The black sports car then drove past her and stopped right in front of her.

Odell's towering figure came out from the car. He pursed his lips and asked, "Did you come here to see the kids?"

For some reason, he sounded normal without any hint of his usual frostiness. Sylvia was also surprised to see the gentle smile on his face.

Something was not right.