

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1071

Madeline looked at the object that Ava handed over. It was a photo of the two of them on the day they graduated from college.

The two girls in the photo had the same fresh-faced beautiful smiles. The happiness that both of them felt that day was as if it just happened yesterday, but in a blink of an eye, it had been seven or eight years.

"Maddie, did you realize who else is in this picture?"

When Ava suddenly asked that, Madeline looked down and found a familiar face among the crowd in the upper left corner of the photo.

"When I was sorting out all my things today, I found this photo. Before this, I didn't believe that Jeremy loved you for real. But Maddie, I believe it now."

From Ava's tone, Madeline could hear that she really had let go of her hatred for Jeremy.

As Madeline's best friend over the years, Ava always hated Jeremy.

Even though Madeline no longer resented Jeremy for what he did to her at the beginning, Ava always hated him. Ava thought that Madeline did not deserve such treatment and resented him for Madeline.

At that moment, however, she no longer resented him.

That was because she saw Jeremy's true heart for Madeline.

However, it felt as if everything was too late.

Madeline and Ryan were married. She was already Ryan's wife.

"Sigh..."

Ava looked at the river in front of them and sighed with a smile.

"Maddie, I finally understand how you felt back then. Even if you were tortured by the man you loved, you were still happy."

Madeline read in between the lines of Ava's words and asked, "Ava, did something happen between you and Dan?"

"If something happened between us, perhaps I wouldn't be leaving, but it's a shame..." Ava closed her eyes and thought about what happened after she got drunk that night. "Maddie, it turns out that alcohol makes you do stupid things with other people."

"Ava? Did you and Dan..."

"No, it wasn't Dan." Ava lowered her eyes in a lonesome manner, turned around, and hugged Madeline

again. “Maddie, stay happy and don’t miss me too much. When I get married, I want Jack and Lillian to be my flower girl and boy.”

Although Madeline did not know why Ava had to leave in such a hurry, and added to the fact that she did not explain fully what happened on the night she got drunk, Madeline could tell that it was something to do with Daniel.

However, since Ava did not want to say, Madeline did not prod further.

She accompanied Ava around the neighborhood until she got a call from Karen, saying that the baby woke up crying. Madeline had no choice but to go back.

After she went back and coaxed the little baby back to sleep, Madeline looked at the photo in her hand in a daze.

It was the graduation photo of her and Ava, but Jeremy was inside the frame as well.

Jeremy was their senior who had already graduated, so he should not have been at the graduation ceremony—but he was.

In the photo, he was looking at her with a warm look in his eyes.

He really liked her at that time.

However, so what?

It was already over.

Madeline put the photo in the drawer, looked at the little baby lying beside her, and closed her eyes tiredly.

...

It was late into the night, but the lights were still on in Jeremy's office.

Lana was still lying in the hospital at the moment, so he had to make good use of the time to plan tomorrow's affairs.

By the time he finished his work, it was almost early in the morning.

His body was a little tired, but when he looked at the family portrait, it felt as if his body was fully charged again.

"Linnie."

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He whispered Madeline's name, stroked her face in the photo, and could not help but cough out loudly.

He quickly took a painkiller, but he still could not stop the bloody taste coming from deep in his throat.

Jeremy wiped the blood from his lips with a tissue and glanced at the bloodstain. It was a deep brown and did not look like normal fresh blood.

Besides that, there was a stabbing pain in his heart, and his fingers were trembling involuntarily.

Once the poison developed by Adam entered the final stage, not only would it torture the person's body, but it would also test the person's psychology harshly.

Jeremy spent the night in the bedroom at the office.

As soon as he got up the next day, he received a call from Lana.

After the woman was discharged from the hospital, her emotions swelled up and she high-spiritedly told Jeremy that she wanted to follow along to close the deal.

The truth was that Jeremy initially wanted to think of a reason to get Lana to attend as well. The show would not be able to go on without her.

Lana went back to the villa first and picked out a dress that she thought was the most beautiful dress she owned.

Fabian had just called Madeline and was about to go over to see Lillian. As soon as he left his room, he saw Lana approaching energetically.

"Why are you dressed like a streetwalker? Where are you going?" Fabian said bluntly, which made Lana feel as if she had just been splashed with a bucket of cold water.

Lana glared at Fabian. "Didn't you guys complain about me holding back the Stygian Johnson Gang and

causing the company to lose a hundred million dollars? Well, this is me going to earn that hundred million dollars back!”

Fabian doubted her. “Wow, Lana, are you really going to do it?”

“Why? Am I supposed to wait for you to do it?” Lana fired back and sneered at Fabian, “Actually, Fabian, the most useless sibling among the three of us is you. What have you done? All you do is eat out, have fun, and enjoy your life. What have you amounted to besides that? Have you ever made a deal for us? Do you even know how to close a deal? If it weren’t for me and Yorick, you would’ve starved to death!”

“Lana, how can you say that to Fab?” Yorick interrupted, dissatisfied. “Fab is still young. It’s for his own good that he doesn’t get involved with the company for now. How can you say that as his big sis?”

“Well you’re my big brother, but what have you ever done for me?” Lana gritted her teeth angrily, but then, she smiled confidently. “Don’t worry, I’ll be making a deal with Jeremy later that will make us a profit of more than a hundred million bucks! Just wait and see!”

Lana walked to the door confidently and changed into the perfect high heels that matched her dress. It seemed as if she had completely forgotten that she was pregnant. She got two bodyguards to carry a box, and together, they set off. Inside the box was illegal firearms.

After taking the painkiller, Jeremy arrived at Central Square at the appointed time.

As soon as he arrived, he saw Lana happily running toward him with her high heels. It felt as if the bleeding yesterday was no big deal to her.

Lana looked at Jeremy who was in a business suit. Her eyes were filled with obsessiveness. “Jeremy, you look even more attractive today than yesterday. I can’t believe a man like you is so attracted to me. I really think that I love you even more now.”

Lana was full of praise, but her tone then turned serious. “The client will arrive early. Let’s go to the

private dining area to wait.”

Jeremy’s long fingers adjusted his cuffs and his tie clip that was adorned with sapphires. He grinned as he looked at Lana. “It’s time for business.”

“Yeah.” Lana looked like a little woman as she followed Jeremy into the designated private dining area.

After a while, the client who had made the appointment also arrived.

He was a fat middle-aged man who looked like he never had to lift a finger in his life. He brought four bodyguards with him. The man seemed to be very interested in Lana. After checking the goods brought by Lana’s men without paying much attention, he was ready to sign the contract.

Jeremy looked at him calmly. When he saw that both Lana and the man had signed the contracts, the corners of his lips lifted into a smile. He moved his hand to his ear and gently pressed the Bluetooth headset he had on.

As soon as he pressed it, one of the fat man’s bodyguards suddenly walked up to him and pointed at Jeremy’s tie clip. “He has a miniature spycam on his body and may have taken pictures of the transaction just now!”

When Lana heard the bodyguard, she looked at Jeremy who had a cold expression on his face. “What nonsense are you talking about? This is my boyfriend. He wouldn’t take pictures of something like this.”

Although the fat man liked Lana very much, he was even more concerned about whether Jeremy really had a spycam on his body, so he walked over and asked, “Take off your tie clip and let my people check if there really is a spycam. This is a huge business transaction. I don’t want to make a mistake either.”

“Mr. Howie, don’t you trust me? This is my boyfriend. He and I are on the same team. Why would he betray himself by leaving dangerous traces for people to get us?” Lana defended Jeremy. When she saw that they still looked suspicious, Lana walked to Jeremy. “Jeremy, can you take off the tie clip and show

them how wrong they are?”

When she said that, Jeremy stood up slowly. Lana curled her lips up in satisfaction and waited for Jeremy to take off the tie clip. However, Jeremy only looked at her coldly. “No, there’s no need to take the tie clip off. They’re right. There’s a mini spycam on it.”

“...” Lana was dumbfounded. “J-Jeremy? Why are you recording this?”

Jeremy raised his cold eyebrows as a delighted smile flashed across his eyes. “To capture the culprit in the act and serve as evidence in court, of course.”

“What?” Lana was stunned. Before she had time to clarify what he meant, the door of the private dining area suddenly opened.

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Lana was stupefied and stared at Jeremy’s cold face blankly. She turned her head abruptly to look toward the door, and so did the fat man.

A few tall men in business suits walked toward them sternly with blue badges hanging around their necks.

“Who are you guys? Who let you in? Don’t you see that this room is booked? Get out immediately!” Lana drove them away with displeasure, clearly not noticing the seriousness of the situation.

Of course, the men did not leave but looked at Lana with a serious expression. The leader in the business suit showed Lana his badge. “We’re with the Interpol. There’s proof for us to believe that you’re doing illegal transactions. You have the right to remain silent, but anything you say can be used against you in court.

“...”

'Interpol?!

'The International Criminal Police Organization?!

Lana looked at the people who had appeared in front of her incredulously, her brain going blank for a moment.

When the fat man and his bodyguards saw that things were going awry, they had to fight back, but the Interpol personnel were all well-trained. They were able to control them with ease.

"Lana, I wasted my trust on you! How dare you and your boyfriend set us up and frame us?!" the fat man yelled at Lana.

It was only then when Lana snapped out of it. She had been completely stunned, and after being scolded, she suddenly recovered from the shock as she looked at the man who stood behind her. He did not look surprised and was very calm and unfazed.

Lana still had a deep love for Jeremy in her eyes. When she turned and walked toward him, she asked, "What the hell is going on? Jeremy, did you..."

She was walking toward Jeremy with a perplexed look, but before she reached him, Jeremy suddenly raised his right hand. There was a gun in his hand that was pointed at Lana's forehead.

Lana's body went cold for a moment as she felt a chill rushing from the soles of her feet.

"J-Jeremy..."

"Do you really think that I'd be your man?"

“ ... ”

Lana was stunned when she heard the mockery in Jeremy’s voice.

At that moment, Jeremy’s handsome face was ice-cold while those charming and alluring eyes of his looked like there was a furious storm in them.

Lana was completely stunned. She then saw Jeremy’s sexy thin lips moving slightly as he mouthed two words.

“Game over.”

“ ... ”

Lana looked defeated, but she still did not want to believe everything that was happening. She could not accept such a change all at once.

“How is it possible? No, it can’t be...” she muttered to herself. She was staring at Jeremy with a bewildered look, still wanting to move closer to him.

When she took another step closer to him, Jeremy moved the gun so that it was right on her forehead.

Lana’s eyes widened in confusion. “Jeremy?”

“Don’t ever say my name again. You don’t deserve to.”

“ ... ”

“Did you really think that I was in love with you?” Jeremy’s expression was stone-cold. There was even no warmth in the corners of his eyes. “Lana, I’ve only ever loved one woman in my entire life, and it’s Eveline.”

“No... How is it possible... This is impossible...”

“Did you really think that if you have control over my life, I’ll heed your every word and cling to you forever? You’ve underestimated me, Lana. No one can get me to do anything except the people I love. But you’re not the one I love. You’re only a key for me to enter the Stygian Johnson Gang so that I can get the accounts and be the final chess piece for a checkmate.”

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“...”

Lana was on the verge of collapsing internally when she heard Jeremy’s comment.

“No! This is impossible!”

She roared, unable to accept the fact that all this while, she had just been a pawn to Jeremy.

“No, Jeremy. You love me. I’m even pregnant with your kid. How is it possible that you don’t love me?!” Lana emphasized.

However, Jeremy was not bothered at all.

The colleagues of IBCI came up to arrest Lana. Seeing the situation made her reach out for a pistol from her purse.

“Who dares arrest me?!” She raised her head proudly and stared at Jeremy who was all calm. She slowly became devastated. “Jeremy, stop cracking jokes with me. Are you trying to tell me you’re just a spy from IBCI sent here to the Stygian Johnson Gang? Hmph, how is this even possible? Don’t you forget, there’s still poison inside your body. Without me, you’ll—”

“Do you really think you’ll be able to have control over me with that stuff?” Jeremy interrupted and counter-questioned. He then raised the corner of his eyes and added, “The moment I reappeared before you is the moment I sentenced you to your death. Lana, I’ve long ago not smoked the cigarettes you provided. The ones I’m smoking are provided by a professor from IBCI who specially designed them for me. It’s used to counter the toxins and poison.”

“...” The only shred of confidence left in Lana was gone.

‘It turns out he has stopped smoking the cigarettes I gave!’

It turned out his intention behind getting close to her was all for that single moment, to grasp concrete evidence and arrest her!

Lana found her mind in a messed-up state. She could not compose herself from her emotions. She suddenly pulled the trigger and shot the IBCI members.

However, those members of the IBCI were agile enough to dodge Lana’s bullet.

Lana was unsatisfied and wanted to continue firing. Jeremy went up at lightning speed and grasped the gun from Lana’s hand. Just when he was restraining her, Jeremy took out a handcuff from his waist and placed it over Lana’s hands.

“Lana, as an investigator of the IBCI with an SSA identity, I hereby arrest you.”

“...”

Lana was dumbfounded.

Her eyes were gigantic as she stared at Jeremy who was handcuffing her.

She had heard Jeremy revealing his identity a few seconds ago. 'People in the IBCI with the SSA rank are no ordinary investigators.'

"You're such a fool, Lana! You got a spy to become your boyfriend! All those achievements that we worked so hard on, they're now gone in the hands of a fool like you!" The obese man roared.

Lana froze as she stared at the man who was personally placing the handcuffs on her.

"No, I'm not buying this... I don't believe it!"

Lana still could not accept the fact.

"Jeremy, I don't believe that you have no feelings for me! If you don't like me, why did you spend every night with me? Besides, how did I even end up being pregnant with your kid?"

Jeremy glanced at Lana who was having a hopeful look on her face. Without emotions, he asked, "Did you really think that I'm the one who's spending every night with you?"

"What do you mean?"

"Hmph." Jeremy's eyes were full of ridicule. "In my entire life, except for the lady I love, I've never touched another woman, let alone an evil woman like you who has a rotten heart."

Lana's head was throbbing when she heard Jeremy's scornful reply. "You're muttering gibberish. It's obviously you. I clearly saw it with my eyes, it's you! The child in my womb is also yours!"

"You've got it wrong, Lana. The person you saw was not me, but him." Jeremy slowly raised his eyes and looked forward...

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Following Jeremy's gaze, Lana turned to face the doorway as well.

The face that she saw made her recall the night when Jeremy halted her at the entrance of the pub.

That night itself, she was very afraid that Jeremy would once again attempt to kill her. Anxious, she thought of leaving the scene but was stopped by Jeremy. He asked her for some cigarettes and even agreed to book a room with her together.

She had a joyful night because she gained her dream crush.

The next day when they had to leave the room, right when she opened the door, she saw a man behaving inappropriately while staring at her with a lewd look.

That moment, as she was on cloud nine, she ignored him.

However, at this moment, the man from that day reappeared before her!

"Lana, have you seen it clearly with your eyes? This is the man that got you pregnant."

"..."

After hearing Jeremy's explanation and looking at the hateful, disgusting man, Lana felt quite suffocated. "Impossible! How is it even possible that I'm pregnant with this man's kid?!"

She roared while glancing at the man's ugly face.

That man was a thug with no educational background. He did not know what was going on at that moment. However, he knew Lana was cursing him.

That man spat saliva at Lana scornfully. "You think I'm disgusting? I also feel the same way about you. If it's not because of the money from this handsome guy, I wouldn't even want to lay my hands on you. Your scrawny body is just like a washing board."

"You... What did you just say?!" Lana was utterly infuriated as she raised her foot and kicked the man's body.

After the man evaded the kick, he started counting the remaining amount of cash Jeremy had given him. Then, he fled the scene gladly.

Lana was apoplectic with rage. She wanted to chase after that man, but suddenly, she felt an intense pain in her abdomen. There were drops of blood dripping from her lower body.

Bearing the pain, she grabbed onto her stomach. Her face gradually turned pale, but she still fixed her eyes on Jeremy who did not even bother to sneak a peek at her. Her mouth was muttering, "I don't believe it, I'll never believe it... Jeremy, you love me..."

She kept hypnotizing herself and lying to herself until she passed out.

Jeremy stood looking at her with an icy gaze from a corner, witnessing Lana passing out cold. However, he still felt that the anger within him was not vented.

Thinking back of his little princess who was tossed into the swimming pool by Lana and how she ended up not speaking a word after being traumatized, it just made the fire of anger within him grow stronger.

The scene that was taking place in the restaurant puzzled the crowd who were shopping along the streets. All they could see was a group of gentlemen in formal attire, along with a few fully armed special forces entering and filing out of the restaurant. Then, they saw those on duty arresting a group of people.

Jeremy was still standing in the room. He took off his tie clip and handed it to the man who led the troop.

The man took over the tie clip and threw a respectful gaze toward Jeremy. "Mission accomplished. Jeremy, we'll take over the rest from here. You should hurry and go to the professor to have your treatment. Get rid of all the poison from your body. With that, only you can lead a normal life."

'A normal life?'

Jeremy no longer held on to any hope.

"As for your family, I'll personally go to them and explain every detail to your wife."

Jeremy smiled disappointedly. "She's no longer my wife."

The man kept his mouth shut after hearing his reply. Then, he added, "Jeremy, actually, there's still a chance between you and Ms. Eveline. There must be some misunderstanding, and there might be some things that you're not aware of. Ryan—"

"Boss, Lana's chauffeur has escaped. He might be heading to Yorick to report about this." An investigator rushed to the scene to report.

"Stop him at all costs. Have another group of our colleagues to keep an eye on Yorick's every

movement.”

“Roger.”

That investigator immediately carried out the task as told. The man who was conversing with Jeremy recomposed himself and got ready to lead the troop to arrest Yorick.

Before they left, he reminded Jeremy once more. “Hurry and go look for the professor. You must not delay your treatment any longer.”

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Jeremy stared at the group of people who were leaving. Only after the crowd dispersed did he leave the room.

He was very clear that even if he recovered, he could never be with Madeline again.

The lives of Eloise and Sean would always keep them separated.

Their love would not topple the tall wall easily.

He also knew that for now, no one could cure the poison developed by Adam. Perhaps Adam himself had no cure for it as well.

Jeremy had long ago made up his decision.

All alone, he drove his way to Whitman Manor, hoping to bid his last farewell.

Madeline was accompanying her three kids back in Whitman Manor. She looked at the time, and it was

almost time to head over to the airport to pick up Ava.

At that moment, there was a piece of breaking news popping up on her phone's screen.

Madeline clicked on the news and looked at it. She saw a few video clips being taken by passersby.

The location was at a famous restaurant in the center of town, and in the video, Madeline saw Lana, who was putting on a sorrowful look, being taken away. She also saw the handcuffs on Lana's wrists.

'Lana was arrested?'

'Are those police officers who arrested her?'

Madeline clicked into the latest video that was uploaded by the netizens. She wanted to know more about the incident, but suddenly, she encountered a video mentioning Jeremy.

In that video, Jeremy was in a dark blue suit. His elegant outline brushed through the crowd. His stunning facial features attracted many ladies' attention. They were all staring at him with looks of admiration, which was why the video named 'The coincidence with Young Master Whitman' was uploaded.

Madeline kept looking at the videos over and over again without her realizing it. She felt her heart aching the moment she saw Jeremy on the screen.

At that moment, Madeline suddenly received the call from Daniel. Snapped out of it and remembered she had to rush over to the airport.

She placed her kids under the care of Karen, then started her car to head to the airport.

Just when she was about to answer Daniel's call, the phone beside her fell beside her foot because of the vibrations.

Madeline stopped her car and lowered her head to pick it up. Coincidentally, she missed Jeremy, who was driving his car, coming from the opposite.

After Madeline picked up her phone, she felt something was off and turned her gaze to face the rear-view mirror. However, she merely glanced at the mirror. She then heard Daniel's concerned voice from her Bluetooth earphones.

"Are you alright, Eveline?"

"I'm fine. I just dropped my phone," Madeline replied, not paying full attention as her eyes were still eyeing the car in the rear-view mirror that was driving further away.

Jeremy rushed to Whitman Manor and did not notice the car that was parked at the roadside earlier. He did not think that Madeline would coincidentally bend down to pick up her phone right as he passed by her.

He finally arrived at Whitman Manor but remained in the car for a long time, not having the courage to step out from his car.

He longed to meet Madeline but was afraid at the same time.

Jeremy only decided to step out of his car after he saw his two kids playing in the backyard while Karen was hugging onto Pudding.

Jack, who was about to accompany Lillian to play with the kite, turned around and saw Jeremy walking over to them. "It's Daddy. Daddy's back home!"

Lillian heard it and shifted her gaze to look at where Jack was staring.

The sight of Jeremy made the smile on Lillian's doll-like face gradually fade while her eyes gave off a sense of loneliness.

She handed the kite to Jack, spun around, and entered the house. However, perhaps she was too anxious and tripped on the stairs.

"Lillian!"

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Karen suddenly heard Jeremy's voice. The moment she turned to look at him, he was already like a gusty wind that passed by her at lightning speed. He arrived next to Lillian.

Lillian had tripped and was about to land on the big marble floor. However, Lillian fell into the arms of Jeremy instead.

The little girl was dumbfounded. While still in a daze, she spun around and looked at the man who had caught hold of her.

Jeremy's eyes were glistening with warmth. He was heartbroken. "Are you alright, Lillian?"

He asked, feeling concerned while touching the little girl's head.

He was in excruciating pain thinking back to the moment when he ignored his child who had fallen before him.

Lillian looked at Jeremy, but no words came out from her. There was no change in her expression and she just blinked her eyes.

Jeremy knew this was because of the incident that occurred previously, which made Lillian have a bad impression of him.

In the eyes of the little girl, the handsome mister before her was no longer handsome. The impression of him deep in her innocent soul had changed as well.

Feeling heartbroken, Jeremy looked at the doll-like face that looked like Madeline's and was ready to let go of her.

Just when he was about to release his grip and place the child down, Lillian suddenly opened up her arms and hugged him around his neck tightly.

Jeremy was stunned and surprised. Feeling the warmth of the little kid gluing herself to him made his eyes wet with tears.

"Lillian."

He raised his hand that was trembling slightly to touch the cute little girl's head, having the urge to hug his little princess dearly. He wanted to spoil her with love and protect her till she was a grown-up.

However, he had not much time left.

Jeremy wanted to indulge in the warmth of the little kid for a little while longer, but Lillian tapped on his shoulder.

She did not speak a word, but Jeremy understood the message she was trying to convey. He placed her on the floor cautiously.

The moment he placed her down, Lillian immediately spun around and ran into the house.

Jeremy thought that perhaps the little girl was still rejecting him. He felt his heart sink as his body turned icy cold, but very soon, another warm little hand touched his.

“Daddy, Mommy said you’ll be back, and you really did come back.” There was a delightful smile on Jackson’s handsome little face.

Jeremy bent down and hugged his sensible eldest son.

“Oh, Jack.”

“Daddy, Mommy just left to see Auntie Ava off at the airport. When Mommy returns, let’s all go for dinner at the revolving restaurant together, alright?”

Jackson asked as he blinked his big eyes. His eyes were full of anticipation for his family to be reunited once again.

Jeremy gave a gentle smile and touched the little guy’s head. “Alright, let’s all go for dinner.”

He agreed, and the smile on Jackson’s face grew wider.

However, Karen, who was watching the entire scene from the side, was not as enthusiastic as she used to be. She looked at Jeremy and said coldly, “You still remember to come back and have a look at your kids, huh? Yesterday, for the sake of that evil woman who destroyed your family, you even pushed Eveline in front of your kids. Have you forgotten that the woman who you pushed is the woman you cried and pleaded with to return to your side?”

This was the first time Jeremy heard Karen lecturing him.

However, this was good as it at least proved that Eveline, as a daughter-in-law, occupied some space within Karen's heart.

Karen was infuriated when she saw Jeremy chuckling away after being lectured by her.

"Jeremy, what's going with you? With the way you treat Eveline, don't tell me you really don't care about her anymore? Your grandpa said that at the very beginning, you acted all unbothered about Eveline but had begged him to arrange a marriage ceremony between you and Eveline. You love her so much, yet why do you still want to be with Lana? And you even got her pregnant with your kid?"

Facing Karen's pestering, Jeremy remained silent.

He just stood there, staring at the infant who was moving his limbs. He then got up and said, "Can I carry him?"

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Despite Karen being unhappy about Jeremy's cold behavior, she did not object to his request to carry his child.

Jeremy held the infant in his arms, and the next second, the baby revealed a bright smile to him. He let out coos and started to blabber.

However, he would soon be unable to witness this innocent smile anymore.

Lowering his head, Jeremy gave a kiss on the baby's little face and handed Pudding back to Karen. He then touched Jackson's head and said, "Jack, keep your sister accompany. When your brother is old enough, tell him that I love him and I love all of you as well."

Then, heartbroken, he spun around.

“Jeremy, where are you going off to this time?” Karen pestered.

Jackson quickly caught up to Jeremy. “Dad, didn’t you just say that you’re going to have dinner with us? Aren’t you going to wait for Mommy’s return?”

Jeremy’s footstep came to a halt. “I’m not worth your mommy waiting for me again. Jack, from now onward, the man with the name Ryan will be your father.”

Jeremy choked. He went straight into his car and started the engine.

“Daddy, Daddy!” Jackson ran to catch up with Jeremy and shouted at the man who was sitting firmly in his car. “I only want my dad!”

Jeremy’s eyes reddened. Listening to the cries of his kid, he sealed his lips and ruthlessly slammed on the gas pedal.

“Daddy!” Jackson’s eyes got red.

Lillian, whose soul was healed after being hugged by Jeremy, had happily ran into the house to retrieve her drawings of the entire family. However, when she came out of the house, all she could see was Jackson chasing after Jeremy’s car which was driving straight ahead.

Lillian stared at the car that was going farther away while her little hand that was holding onto the drawing gradually dropped to her side.

The wind blew away the drawing in her hand while blowing away the innocent smile on her doll-like face too.

The drawing danced along with the wind and ended up landing on the icy cold ground. The colors on the drawing looked like they had suddenly changed into gray.

Her cute little mouth trembled, but no words came out of it.

“Jack, stop chasing!” Karen handed Pudding over to the servant and ran to catch hold of Jackson who kept chasing after the car till he eventually fell on the ground.

She carried her grandchildren while feeling heartbroken and looked at Jeremy’s car which had vanished from sight. She was feeling crossed and sad.

...

On the other hand, Yorick got to know about the incident of Lana getting arrested by IBCI via Lana’s chauffeur.

The IBCI was an international crime investigation center. The motive of establishing the organization was to prioritize the safety of the citizens by investigating all sorts of heavy crimes. Among them was the smuggling of army weapons and money laundering.

Yorick immediately activated the emergency backup plan and ordered Fabian to remain silent.

Despite Fabian being a member of the Stygian Johnson Gang, he had never participated in any illegal stuff. Hence, he was not afraid of getting investigated but was still worried about Lana and Yorick.

Even though he did not acknowledge Lana’s way of getting things done, he still cared for his family. He would be lying if he said he did not care about her.

Indeed, the IBCI arrived in a moment.

Yorick put on an innocent look and denied whatever things Lana had done. Along with Fabian, they were both brought back to the respective departments to be interrogated.

Soon, Jeremy arrived as well, except that he had not freed himself from the painful feeling of having to separate from his three kids.

If he had the choice, he would want to spend more time with his kids. He wanted to see them grow up and accompany his beloved till she became old.

However, things never went as he wished them to. He would eventually become a memory which she would not want to recall, slowly fading away from her memories and life.

Jeremy recomposed himself. After entering, someone came to notify him that Lana would like to meet him.

Lana just underwent an operation and was in the custodial ward. Seeing Jeremy's arrival made her sit up immediately. Her reddened eyes on her pale face fixed their gaze upon Jeremy's stony expression. Then, she suddenly burst into manic laughter.

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The guard stared at Lana, who was laughing like a maniac, with an indifferent look.

Jeremy raised his hand to beckon, and that guard spun around to file out the scene.

In the custodial ward, only Jeremy and Lana were there.

Lana laughed for a moment and suddenly put on a long face, looking rather sorrowful while she stared at the man who appeared indifferent.

“Jeremy, Jeremy, tell me. The things that happened earlier aren’t the truth, right? How is it possible? We’ve gotten so close to each other during this time. We were so happy being together every day. How can you treat me this way?”

“Jeremy, tell me, why?”

Hearing the cries of Lana and looking at her sorrowful self, she made those who did not know about the incident pity her.

However, after Jeremy heard her, his gaze became much sterner and sharper.

He took big strides and came in front of Lana. His long fingers grasped tightly around Lana’s neck while his icy cold gaze was just like a sharp blade. He said, “You still have the guts to ask me why?”

Jeremy’s almond-shaped eyes gave off a chilly vibe as his grasp on Lana’s neck tightened slightly.

“Think back to how you’ve treated my loved one, my kids, and the things you did to me. I’ve already gone past my limit to allow you to live till this moment.”

Lana was gasping for breath under his grip. Her pale face became flushed due to the lack of air.

Jeremy’s icy gaze was as cold as the blizzard as he glared at Lana’s face that was contorted from the pain.

Jeremy did not intend to just make her suffer physically but to hurt her emotionally as well.

He wanted Lana to suffer both physically and mentally, making her feel the worst this world had to offer.

Jeremy threw a piece of mirror in front of Lana. Still grabbing onto her neck, he forced her to the front of the mirror.

“Lana, just look at you. No matter how perfect your plastic surgery is, I can still see through that nasty heart of yours. A woman like you won’t get the affection of any man in this world because you don’t deserve it.”

“...”

“Did you think that I was the one with you every single night? I’m going to tell you this right now. Whatever you saw at night were just your illusions.”

“...” Lana’s face went scarlet. Gritting her teeth, she could not accept the fact that she thought she had obtained the heart of the man before her when in fact, the man who was with her every night was not Jeremy Whitman!

She even fantasized about working along with this man, and when they had earned enough money, they would both travel around the world. Even when she got to know that she was pregnant, she was so thrilled that she wanted to have a family with him.

Unfortunately, it was just her imagination!

She had fallen hard for the man before her, but that man did not express mutual feelings and even bore hatred for her—to the point where he wanted her to suffocate to death.

“Ah, ahah...”

Lana chuckled and stared at Jeremy’s exasperated face as she laughed grimly.

“Jeremy, you still look so mesmerizing even when you’re mad...” She gasped for air. “Ah, you’re

extremely mad, right? You're mad because I used you, burned your parents-in-law to death, and made you unable to live with your loved ones forever!"

After hearing Lana's provocative speech, Jeremy's gaze became much more intense as he exerted more strength into his fingers.

"Argh..." Lana widened her eyes, trying hard to suppress the tears that came streaming down her face anyway.

Feeling disgusted, Jeremy let go of his hand.

Lana fell to the wall and kept taking in big mouthfuls of fresh air.

"Ha, haha..."

Lana started laughing again after seeing Jeremy unhappy.

"Jeremy, it's a good thing getting you mad at me. At least this is also a way to make you remember me. However, don't you forget this. You might not be able to get rid of the poison in your body so easily. You won't be able to live long if you leave me."

Jeremy put on a stony look and glanced at Lana. "Whether I'll live long enough, do you think you'll be able to die peacefully?"

"..." Lana raised her head to look at the subtle gaze of the man that sent chills down her spine.

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Jeremy inched nearer to her and spat out cold comments. "In those cups of coffee that you used to drink every morning, as well as the glass of lukewarm milk I personally handed to you yesterday, I've added something special in all of them."

“...”

“It’s the exact thing which you added in your cigarettes, as well as the stuff that I ate. The only difference is that I’ve added a larger portion.”

“What?!” Lana opened her eyes wide. “You... How did you get your hands on that?”

Jeremy’s gaze became sharp. “Have you forgotten what you asked Adam to prescribe to Eveline?”

“...” Lana started getting anxious after she heard that statement. “No, it’s impossible! If I had really consumed it, why am I not experiencing any side effects?!”

“Of course you won’t because I’ve changed your cigarettes as well.”

“...” Jeremy’s answer left Lana dumbfounded.

“From now onward, if you don’t smoke those cigarettes, you’ll then slowly start to experience the same thing I went through previously till the day you meet your death.

“Lana, Fabian was right about you. You’re a woman who thinks so highly of herself. Because of you, you’ve destroyed the entire Stygian Johnson Gang.”

Lana’s expression went pale as a sheet, and she suddenly lost all her strength and became helpless.

She had been too careless.

She overestimated her abilities and even underestimated Jeremy’s abilities.

She dug her own grave, as well as paid the price with the entire Stygian Johnson Gang.

Lana was anxious. She stared at Jeremy's silhouette spinning around elegantly. She dragged along the handcuffs that were connected to the bed, yelling, "Don't leave, Jeremy! If I'm dead, you'll never know the truth behind your parents-in-law's deaths!"

Jeremy came to a halt and spoke without turning around, "For now, I'm not interested to know the truth. All I want is for you to be dead."

"..."

...

At Glendale airport.

Madeline got down from her car in the parking lot and bumped into Daniel who was hurriedly getting down from the car.

"There's still another ten minutes. Ava will be checking-in," said Madeline while rushing to the departure lounge with Daniel.

Thinking back to what Ava said last night, Madeline was curious and asked, "Hey Dan, the day I married Rye, I asked you to send Ava back home. Did something happen that night?"

Her question made his stunning face turn pink.

Madeline was confident that Daniel was somehow related to what Ava said about having intimacy after she got drunk.

'But Ava seemed to not take it that way?'

Madeline was deep in her thoughts. Seeing that Daniel was all nervous, she pestered, "Dan, do you wish that Ava will continue staying in Glendale?"

"Of course," Daniel seemed to answer without thinking twice.

Madeline let out a breath of relief. "I'm glad to hear that. Ava will never leave, then."

Daniel came to a halt, puzzled. He looked at Madeline who had a faint smile on her face. "Why?"

"I guess I'll leave it to Ava to answer that," Madeline replied with a smile. Soon, her phone rang.

Madeline looked at the unfamiliar incoming call. She was astonished but still picked up.

"Miss Montgomery, I'm calling from Glendale Advanced Laboratory." Madeline slowly stopped her footsteps. She beckoned to Daniel, asking him to go ahead and search for Ava.

"Nice to meet you, I'm Eveline Montgomery. Please continue." Madeline started feeling nervous suddenly without her realizing it.

"Nice to meet you, Miss Montgomery. So, here's the deal. We've got the results for the unidentified sample on the sample note you brought that day. It's human blood."

"It's blood?" Madeline found herself astonished, not forgetting the note had Jeremy's scent. "But how can blood be that color?" Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1081

After Madeline asked that question, she felt her heart beating at an erratic pace.

'That's a human's blood.'

'But isn't human blood supposed to be red? Why is it that color instead?'

While still deep in her thought, the analyst answered over the phone, "The thing is, according to our investigation, this blood sample seems to have undergone some mutation. We've also found some unknown samples that require further investigations to know what it is.

"But there's no doubt it's human blood," the forensic physician repeated the last statement in a confident tone.

Madeline's hand that was holding onto the phone stiffened. She then robotically blurted out two words, "Thank you."

After hanging up the call, her mind kept rewinding the phrases spoken by the forensic physician.

'That's human blood.'

'And it's mutated human blood.'

Madeline was very confident that the note had been with Jeremy earlier, but she could not be sure whether the blood belonged to Jeremy.

'If it's really Jeremy's blood, then what does this even mean...'

Madeline was confused. She forced herself to stop thinking about it and jogged her way to the departure lounge.

Just when she entered the hall, Madeline saw Daniel's anxious outline. She ran to him, "Dan, haven't you found Ava yet?"

Daniel's eyes were glittering with anxiousness. "Do you think she has already entered the plane after having her tickets checked?"

Madeline scanned through each departing lounge's entrance and was unable to provide an appropriate answer.

She took out her phone. "I'm going to make a call."

As soon as she made the call, Madeline heard a very familiar ringtone nearby. She raised her gaze and looked over Daniel's shoulders. She noticed Ava who was clumsily searching for her phone.

"Ava!" Madeline called out, delighted.

Daniel and Ava both raised their eyes at the same time. Daniel quickly spun around and followed Madeline's gaze to look behind him.

Ava was walking straight ahead and could not stop in time, so she ended up crashing hard into Daniel's arms.

Daniel quickly grabbed hold of her. The feel of her physique falling into his arms felt as if something had filled up the emptiness within his heart.

Ava did not expect Daniel to appear at this moment and even hug her so suddenly, which made her heart skip a beat.

She could sniff out the faint scent of wild bluebell in his cologne.

Ava raised her head, revealing a panicked look in her eyes. She suddenly recalled spending the night with a stranger and that made her quickly escape from Daniel's arms.

Her gesture made Daniel feel slightly heartbroken.

He lowered his gaze. "Do you really have to go?"

Ava pretended to pack her purse and let out a wide smile. "Dan, I didn't expect you to show up as well."

She spoke as she strolled to Madeline's side. "Maddie, it's enough for you to see me off. Dan is actually pretty busy. Why did you even get him here as well?"

Madeline noticed Ava's fake smile on her face. Madeline then put on a troubled look while frowning. "Ava, I didn't know you didn't want to meet Dan? If that's the case, I'll have Dan immediately head home first."

“...” Ava froze up after hearing her reply.

However, Dan did not catch Madeline’s implicit message. He did not budge an inch but went up to Ava with a serious face.

He stared at Ava, who seemed nervous, with a pair of eyes that were abnormally stern.

Daniel took out a folded hundred-dollar note from his pocket and gave it to Ava.

Ava looked at the folded note and suddenly thought of the day she got drunk.

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Nonetheless, she was clueless about Daniel’s action. Why would he give her a hundred-dollar note?

“If you don’t feel like leaving, then keep this hundred-dollar note.” Daniel’s expression was serious.

“Getting to know a person till falling in love with each other takes up a lot of energy and time. There’s another option for you, and that is to be with me. From then on, I’ll heed everything you say.”

“...”

“...”

Daniel’s speech left both Madeline and Ava astonished.

‘Is Daniel confessing his love or proposing a marriage?’

“Ava, I didn’t expect that you and Dan have come to this stage,” Madeline said.

“If that’s the case, then you shouldn’t leave. Dan is a good gentleman who you can rely on.”

However, Ava was lost and could not believe what was happening. Her heart was thumping fast. “Dan, what are you talking about?”

Daniel’s eyes became much more passionate. “Ava, I don’t hope our night that day will turn into a meaningless memory. Perhaps you’ll find it hard to believe in what I’m saying to you now. I don’t even know when it all started but I know that I’ve slowly become more concerned about you. There are still plenty of days to come and I’ll prove it to you that my love for you is from the bottom of my heart.”

“...”

Daniel was obviously confessing his love for Ava. Madeline, who was listening, felt happy for Ava. However, Ava was stunned.

‘How is this possible?’

The man who she had a crush on for so many years was now confessing to her?

Besides, Daniel’s mention of that night and the hundred-dollar note made her have some thoughts.

With widened eyes, Ava found it unbelievable as she thought to herself.

‘It can’t be... It just can’t be, right?’

'The man with me on that night was actually Dan?'

Ava thought of that possibility. The depressing emotions she had been having all this while suddenly transformed into excitement.

However, before she could further clarify the facts, a middle-aged woman who looked almost like Ava came to Ava's side. "Ava, it's time to check-in. Are these your friends?"

Daniel suddenly came up and held onto Ava's hand. "Nice to meet you, Aunty. I'm Ava's boyfriend."

His comment made both Madeline and Ava shocked.

The middle-aged woman was even more shocked. "What? You're Ava's boyfriend?"

Ava was dumbfounded, and no words were heard from her, but her face was obviously warming up. It turned scarlet, all the way to her ears.

"Ava, what's going on? Since when do you have a boyfriend?" The middle-aged woman pestered.

Ava looked into Daniel's anticipating eyes and grasped onto his hand subconsciously. "I'm not going to Y country. I want to stay on in Glendale."

"What? How could you?" The woman was expressing her disagreement.

"Why can't I?" Ava counter-questioned coldly. "You ditched me in Glendale all by myself for so many

years. Since when have you guys ever cared for me?"

The woman kept quiet after hearing her reply. Looking helpless, she just stared at Ava.

Ava did not speak another word. She grabbed Daniel's hand and spun around to leave the scene.

Madeline wanted to follow, but her phone rang once again.

It was Fabian who called, and he was speaking in a heavy tone. "Hey, can I meet you right now?"

Madeline thought about the breaking news she saw on the net not long ago about Lana getting arrested.

"You're planning to talk about Lana's case with me?" asked Madeline.

Fabian kept quiet for a few seconds, then answered, "No, I'm looking for you to know more about Jeremy's condition."

This intrigued Madeline's curiosity. She suddenly felt insecure. "Jeremy? What's up with him?"

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Madeline was feeling perturbed and kept questioning, but Fabian claimed that speaking through the phone was rather inconvenient. Hence, he invited Madeline out to a place to meet up.

In the meantime, Madeline made her leave as she did not want to disturb Ava and Daniel's quality time together.

However, as soon as Madeline left, Ava felt uncomfortable and her heartbeat went erratic. Her face was unusually warm as well.

However, Daniel held onto Ava's hand naturally and walked along the streets with her as if it was nothing to him.

Ava felt as though she was in a wonderful dream, but this was only limited to being a spectacular dream and nothing else beyond it.

Madeline drove her car to where she was supposed to meet up with Fabian. As soon as she got out of her car, Fabian immediately strolled to her and asked with a stern expression, "Hey, do you know where Jeremy is right now?"

"You asked me to come all the way here just to know where Jeremy is?" Madeline was puzzled. "Why are you looking for him? Does it have something to do with Lana?"

Fabian frowned. "Lana has been arrested by the men from IBCI. My brother is still stuck in there, unable to free himself. Before that, Lana said she was going with Jeremy to discuss a business issue. It was then she got arrested. So, only Jeremy knows what went on at that moment."

"IBCI?" Madeline seemed to be familiar with the international crime investigation department, but as for the incident of Lana being arrested, she was not feeling the slightest pity for her.

'That lady has done so many evil things. All the events that are happening now are because of her own doings. There's no one to blame.

'However, for Jeremy...'

She thought back about this period of time when Jeremy spent so much time with Lana and even aided her in committing crimes.

'Is that the reason he's being pursued by the IBCI?'

Madeline shook her head. "I don't know where he is. I've cut ties with him."

Fabian let out a depressed sigh after getting his reply. "It's a punishment from the gods."

Madeline's eyes went icy after hearing his comment. "Are you empathizing with your brother and sister? In my opinion, even if Lana's dead, she's not worth the pity. As for Yorick, he should bear the responsibility for what he has done so far. In the end, they all deserve it for what they've done."

Fabian totally understood Madeline's current feelings.

"I'm very sorry." He offered his most sincere apology, especially when he thought about Lillian who up to this day could not speak a single word. It just made him feel even more hurt.

Madeline composed herself and looked at Fabian. "You did nothing wrong to me. You don't have to apologize. The person I hate is Lana."

She finished her statement and left the scene without turning around.

On her way back to Whitman Manor, Madeline kept thinking about Fabian's comments.

'Jeremy and Lana joined forces and did illegal tradings. Now Lana has been arrested, but Jeremy has gone missing.'

When the traffic light turned red, Madeline took out her phone and clicked on Jeremy's contact number but did not hit the call button.

"Eveline Montgomery, I hope this will be the last time. I don't wish to see you ever again."

His words that were full of loathing back from that day kept resonating in her ears.

Seeing that the traffic light had turned green, Madeline placed her phone back down and pressed on the accelerator.

She just got back to Whitman Manor when she received a call from Ryan. He said that he would be busy with business for these two days and would not have time to head back home. Hence, he asked for Madeline to stay at Whitman Manor for two days.

Madeline was unsure about Ryan's occupation. However, because of her trust in him, Madeline did not question him further.

After entering the house, she spotted her two children sitting on the sofa without speaking a word. The sight made her feel rather insecure.

'Lillian's already not talking, but now Jackson isn't talking either. What the hell is happening right now?'

"I'm back, Jack. What's wrong with you? Why aren't you greeting me?" Madeline expressed her concern.

Jackson raised his big teary eyes and mumbled, "Mommy, Daddy doesn't want us anymore."

Madeline was slightly dumbfounded, not knowing the reason behind the sudden comment given by her son.

At that moment, Karen came to the scene while carrying Pudding in her hands. "Earlier in the afternoon, Jeremy stopped by."

Madeline stood up abruptly. "Jeremy was here? When? Why did he come here?"

"When you went out just now. He came the moment you left." Karen looked troubled. "He only stayed for a few minutes. He didn't react no matter how Jack chased after him and called out to him."

When Madeline heard this, she felt an excruciating pain in her heart.

She also understood why Jackson looked so down.

It was because of his heartlessness and indifference.

"Jeremy was really brainwashed by Lana. Not only did he do that to you, but he's now even ignoring his own flesh and blood. Look, Jack fell and scraped his knee. As a father, he didn't even feel upset about it."

Madeline felt worse the more she heard about it. She walked back to Jackson and rolled his pants up. When she saw the bandage on the little guy's knee, she clenched her fist and walked to one side to call Jeremy.

She did not expect him to pick up so fast. Then, Madeline heard the sound of the wind but Jeremy was not saying anything.

"Jeremy, it's fine if you don't love me anymore, but why do you have to hurt us?" Madeline berated as she felt her heart cracking. "Does hurting the people who care about you and love you make you happy?"

"Jeremy, how can you be so savage?"

Jeremy was standing in an empty cemetery as he heard Madeline say the last sentence with a shaky voice. He stared in front of him dully and said coldly, "Eveline, are you done?" His words were like ice as he suppressed his emotions for her. "I don't want to hear your voice ever again."

He fought back without mercy and hung up.

A cold gust of wind grazed him, a cold feeling spread in his broken heart.

He never knew the wind in the summer could be so cold.

He lowered his hand that was holding the phone and looked at Eloise and Sean's tombstones. Then, he looked at the nameless tomb that was half their size.

'Linnie.

'Your voice is so sweet. I could feel my heart racing even when you were yelling at me.

'However, this might be the last time I hear your voice.'

He lifted his lifeless eyes and looked at the sky at dusk. Then, his vision turned black slowly...

On the other end, Madeline held her phone as tears welled in her eyes.

It was not enough for him to not want to see her, but he did not even want to hear her voice.

'Jeremy, do you really hate me now?'

...

After Lana stayed 24 hours in the custodial ward, she heard that someone was going to interrogate her today.

Perhaps it was all in her head but she started feeling horrible since last night. It was not because of her miscarriage, but rather, she felt that this was from the slow-acting poison that Adam created.

Lana did not expect that not only had Jeremy never touched her, but he also never liked her. Aside from framing her, he also came back to bite her in the bottom to let her get a taste of the slow-acting poison that had no cure.

As she was thinking about it, she felt her heart racing while her hands shook.

She wanted to smoke.

She longed for a cigarette to soothe the indescribable feeling in her chest.

“Hello? Anyone there?” Lana yelled hysterically.

Then, she heard muffled footsteps coming from outside the door.

After that, the door of the custodial ward was opened and Lana lifted her ferocious, pale face. When she was about to ask for a cigarette, she was stunned by the person she saw.

“You... Why are you here?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1085

Lana looked at the man in front of her in confusion.

“Why are you here? What are you doing here?” She glared at him, her eyes filled with disdain. “Why? Are you here to hit me when I’m down now that I’ve been arrested?”

She mocked while leaning against the wall lazily.

“Hmph, Eveline Montgomery is really something else. Both young masters from the Whitmans and Jones treat her as the love of their lives. I heard the only son of the Grahams had a crush on her as well. How is she better than me?”

When she asked this question, she gritted her teeth. Her eyes and heart were filled with envy and jealousy for Madeline.

“You’ve already lost all qualifications to compete with Eveline now that you’re like this,” Ryan said slowly.

He was wearing an ink-colored suit that made him look poised and refined. The gentleness on his handsome face was nowhere to be seen. On the other hand, he looked stern and dignified.

Lana cackled cockily when she heard what Ryan said. “Ryan, who do you think you are to speak to me like this?” she said arrogantly. She was still acting smug even when she was a prisoner.

“Get out now! Who do you think you are? You won’t get a chance even if someone came to visit!”

Ryan ignored Lana’s shrieks and walked toward her. “Lana, let me tell you this. No one else is more qualified than me to stand here. I think you should know what’s coming for you.”

“Hah! Ryan, who do you think you are? How dare you talk to me like that? The Stygian Johnson Gang is not finished yet! So what if I and my brother have been arrested? Do you know there’s still someone backing my brother up? None of you are able to touch this person!”

When Ryan heard that, there was a thought-provoking smile on Ryan's refined face.

When Lana saw Ryan smiling, she thought the man was mocking her.

She gritted her teeth and clenched her fist as she yelled at the door, "Are all of you dead? Why did you let him in here? I don't know him! Tell someone to kick him out now!"

She screeched hysterically, and instantly, someone opened the door before entering the room.

Lana knew the man. He was one of the Interpol people who arrested her that day.

Lana pointed at Ryan and yelled angrily, "Just how are you doing your job? Do I know this man? Did I agree to let him come visit me? Tell him to get out!"

After the man heard what Lana said, he roared at her with a stern look on his face. "Lana Johnson, stop yelling. You're not in the Stygian Johnson Gang now."

After he spoke, he looked at Ryan who was remaining silent. "This is the commissioner who's going to interrogate you. It's best if you cooperate with him, Lana Johnson."

Lana's expression changed, then she laughed. "What? Commissioner? What kind of commissioner is he? He's just a nameless painter! What does he have aside from family money?"

Ryan was unperturbed when Lana laughed at him.

On the other hand, the man roared at her sternly. "This is the highest commander in Interpol. He's responsible for the Stygian Johnson Gang's case."

Lana was completely stunned when she got that answer.

“W-What? You’re the highest commander in Interpol?”

She looked at Ryan with shock on her face. No matter which angle she looked at him from, he just looked like a soft-spoken and refined young master from a wealthy family.

However, she did not expect Ryan to hide this secret so well.

Ryan looked at the shocked Lana and said slowly, “So, can I start now?”

“...”

“Lana Johnson, there’s no point in resisting. We’ve already got our hands on the proof of Stygian Johnson Gang’s crimes. Plus, seeing as how you’ve killed two people, you’ll never get a chance to go back into society now.”

Looking at Ryan’s sharp eyes, Lana felt the feeling of defeat once again. However, she was still stubborn.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1086

Ryan interrogated Lana for half an hour, but she denied all of the charges and requested a lawyer.

Technically speaking, she would have a chance to get a lawyer to defend her for every crime.

However, Ryan would not let Lana get the chance.

The moment he walked out of the custodial ward, his colleague received Jeremy’s phone call.

After speaking for a while, the man told Ryan, “He wants to know who are the people inside the Stygian Johnson Gang.”

Ryan nodded, to which the man nodded back to show that he understood.

Jeremy was sitting alone in the cafe as he basked in the light of the sunset. He looked at the people walking past the window before looking away slowly.

There was a flight ticket to somewhere far away next to the steaming coffee he had in front of him.

Suddenly, he heard a ding and saw someone walking upstairs after pushing the door of the cafe.

Not long ago, Jeremy had just finished talking to his colleagues from Interpol. His colleague told him that the commissioner who managed to get into the Stygian Johnson Gang would come to see him in the cafe now.

Jeremy looked at the stairs and saw the man who was now married to the love of his life—Ryan Jones.

Jealousy arose in his eyes, but he suppressed it quickly.

Jeremy stood up as he looked at Ryan who was approaching him. He was surprised, but at the same time, he remained calm. “I didn’t expect it to be you.”

Ryan smiled politely. “I thought you’d punch me in the face and teach me a lesson for stealing your favorite woman.”

Jeremy lowered his head. “She’s not my woman anymore. She’s your wife.”

Ryan did not fight back. Then, he sat down in front of Jeremy. "Why are you still here? You'll be in trouble if you don't get treatment soon."

"There's no way out. If I drag this on, it'll only buy me some days to struggle on while I continue standing at death's door, so I don't need it."

Jeremy had seen everything. He knew if Adam could not find a cure for the poison he created, then no one else could.

"I've asked someone to look for Adam Brown." Ryan gave Jeremy some hope. Then, he lowered his head to see the ticket in front of Jeremy. "Are you going to leave Glendale?"

"I've arranged for what'll happen after I die," Jeremy said nonchalantly as if he was talking about something unrelated to him. "I wanted to ask you out to talk, but you're already here."

"Do you want to tell me something?" Ryan asked in a friendly and warm tone as usual.

Jeremy looked out of the window and lowered his bright eyes. "I don't have any requests. I just hope that you'll love her and take care of her. I hope you can give her the life I can't give her."

He turned his face away, not wanting anyone else aside from Madeline to see this side of him that was crying so weakly.

"I don't expect you to treat the three children like you're their father, but the least you can do is not let them feel any grievances, especially my daughter Lillian," Jeremy said and looked at Ryan solemnly.

"Ryan, I hope you can agree to fulfill my last wish as their father."

Ryan's expression became grim after he heard what Jeremy said.

“Before I came, I already expected you to make a decision like this. So, before that, I’ve prepared a present for you.”

Ryan handed a car key to Jeremy.

“Go down and have a look. This is the last thing I’m able to do for you.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1087

Jeremy did not know what was the gift Ryan was talking about.

However, he still took the car key and went to the door of the cafe. When he saw Ryan’s car by the side of the road, he slowly walked over.

The sun in the summer afternoon was warm. The rays landed on the car lightly, and through the half-opened car window, Jeremy saw the breathtaking face that he dreamed about every day.

“Linnie.”

His heart was suddenly full of joy he had felt back then.

Jeremy opened the door quietly and smelled the faint scent of Japanese roses.

“Eveline was tired, so I told her we’re coming out to let her free her head. I lit the incense she made, so she should be sleeping soundly now. You can go and stay with her for the last time.”

Ryan’s voice sounded from behind.

Jeremy understood immediately. “Thank you.”

“I should be the one thanking you. You completed a difficult task from Interpol and handed the person you love to me. Don’t worry, I won’t let you down.”

After Ryan said that, he turned around and left to let Jeremy have this moment.

Jeremy sat in the driver’s seat and looked at the person who was sleeping on the passenger’s seat. He lifted his hand slowly to caress her face, but he did not dare to put his fingers on her even after a very long time.

He was scared that he would wake her up.

He understood that she was exhausted recently. Not just her body, but also her heart.

Jeremy leaned against the chair and looked at the delicate sleeping face next to his. Then, he curled the corners of his lips into a sexy smile.

‘Linnie, this is great. I didn’t expect to see you for the last time.

‘Thank you for crashing into my life and lighting up my dull, boring life.

‘This light will never go out in my heart until the moment I die.

‘Linnie, my Linnie, I hope I can love you boldly and openly in the next life. I hope I won’t lack the guts to admit my love for you like last time.’

Jeremy looked at Madeline. These few seconds were enough for him to savor it for the rest of his life.

Ryan did not know when Jeremy left. When he came back though, it was already dawn.

Madeline woke up groggily and Jeremy was nowhere to be seen.

Ryan could not tell Madeline about Jeremy's current condition. This was a promise between the two men.

Jeremy had been acting cold to Madeline and his three children during this period. The reason he did that was so that Madeline and the children would stop missing a cold-hearted man like him.

Madeline opened her eyes and realized that she had fallen asleep in Ryan's car. She looked out of the window and realized they were in front of a cafe when she saw Jeremy and a strange man.

When she found it odd, she could vaguely smell the signature scent that Jeremy wore lingering in the car.

It was as if he had been in this car a while ago.

However, he was indeed in the car just now. It was just that Madeline did not know about that. When she smelled the scent, she only suspected whether something was wrong with her nose.

Ryan then drove Madeline home. Since he was worried that she would overthink, he randomly started a conversation.

"I heard Lana was arrested and will be punished soon. You can avenge your parents now."

Madeline was still thinking about Jeremy. When she heard that, she came back to her senses. "I want to go to where they've locked her up."

Ryan did not want to tell Madeline about his real job, but if she met Lana, everything would be exposed.

He contemplated and felt that there was no reason to stop her.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1088

The next day, Madeline went to see Lana.

Lana had been transferred to Glendale Prison from the custodial ward for temporary placement. After the paperwork was done, she would be handed to the police in F Country.

When Lana heard that someone was visiting her, she thought it would be Jeremy. However, the moment she walked into the conjugal room, she spotted Madeline.

Looking at her own wretched and haggard face that resembled more like a ghost's than a human's, then looking at Madeline's clean face and noble temperament, Lana suddenly became a beast that lost all control. She escaped from the prison guards' grip and charged toward Madeline.

Madeline lifted her leg and kicked Lana on the knee. Then, Lana fell to her knees in front of Madeline. She felt intense pain coming from her knees.

She gritted her teeth and endured the pain. When she was about to curse, Madeline grabbed her by the chin.

Madeline towered over Lana, exerting pressure on her with her cold expression. At this moment, her eyes were filled with resentment.

"Lana, my parents are waiting for you. Your death is here."

Lana looked at Madeline with jealousy and hatred in her eyes. Suddenly, she smirked wretchedly. "Hahaha, right, I almost forgot. Your parents were killed in the fire that was lit up by your most loved man."

She was intentionally trying to trigger Madeline.

“Eveline, you must be feeling so upset now, right? You never wanted to marry Ryan in the first place. The person you love this entire time is Jeremy, right? Too bad you can’t be together now!

“Also, your daughter will forever be mute! She’ll be laughed at and no man will want her for the rest of her life!”

Madeline clenched her fists suddenly, the veins on the back of her hand popping up.

She wanted to strangle Lana. She wanted to strangle this cruel and heinous woman. However, she controlled her urges when she thought about her children.

Then, the prison guards grabbed Lana and put her in her place.

It was as if Lana had been possessed as she was cackling non-stop.

“Eveline, do you think you’ve defeated me? You’re wrong! I’ll be the winner as long as you can’t end up with Jeremy! Hahaha!”

Madeline unclenched her fists and peered at Lana coldly. “The biggest win for me is you getting executed.”

Lana’s laughter stopped abruptly when she heard that.

She roared in dissatisfaction when she saw Madeline turning around to walk away. “Eveline, stop pretending to be so carefree in front of me. Let me tell you, Jeremy is going to die soon! He’s going to die and he’ll see your parents sooner than me!”

Madeline froze in her tracks before she could get out of the conjugal room.

She clenched her fists to prevent herself from being affected by Lana. However, she continued to screech cockily behind her.

“Eveline, do you know who Ryan is? Do you know what Jeremy is doing? You’re not worthy of his love. You don’t know him at all! You’re not worthy! Jeremy and I are the most compatible with each other!”

“Eveline, I won’t let you get the man I can’t get! Hahaha!”

Lana’s crazed cackles sounded farther and farther away. However, Madeline still felt as if she was laughing directly in her ear.

She did not want to care or believe what Lana said, but she could not ignore Lana when she claimed that Jeremy was going to die.

Madeline walked out of the conjugal room dispiritedly. Then, she turned around and saw Ryan at the door.

He looked at her and gave her an apologetic smile on his handsome face. “I think you must have some questions for me after seeing Lana.”

Madeline looked at the man in front of her dispiritedly. “Who are you?”

Ryan handed the name card he had prepared to her.

Madeline took it and saw Ryan’s title. ‘The highest commander in Interpol.’

Ryan nodded and did not hide anything. "Jeremy is also one of us."

"What did you say?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1089

Madeline felt a throbbing pain in her heart when she heard Ryan said that.

She looked at the man in front of her in shock. At that moment, she did not know what she should say.

Ryan said gently when he saw Madeline at a loss, "Eveline, you can ask me anything. I'll answer your questions."

Madeline clenched her shaky fists. "I just want to know where he is now."

Ryan frowned and shook his head. "I can only tell you that he's not in Glendale."

After listening to what Ryan said, Madeline stayed quiet before saying, "So, the only reason he stayed with Lana and pretended to be so cold to me and the kids is because he's a spy?"

Ryan wanted to say something, but he stopped himself. "I want to show you something."

Madeline lifted her head to look at Ryan. She felt like she could not focus on anything anymore.

Ryan took Madeline to the car and showed her the video of Lana getting arrested in the private room that day.

It was taken with the hidden camera in Jeremy's tie clip. The video was crystal clear, and so were the voices in the recording.

Madeline saw Jeremy going into the private room of a restaurant with Lana. Then, she saw him pretending to side with Lana as they talked business with a fat man.

However, after the man signed a contract with Lana, everything changed.

Even though Madeline could not see Jeremy in the video, she could clearly hear his voice.

He had said to Lana, "Game over."

Then, he continued, "Did you really think that I'm your man?"

He even added, "I only have and love one woman in my life, and her name is Eveline Montgomery."

In the end, he arrested Lana who was gradually having a mental breakdown.

When Madeline saw this, her vision was blurred by her tears.

She clenched her fists and tried to control her emotions.

She said she would not cry for this man again. She would not...

However, despite that, tears started to well up in her eyes.

"When Jeremy reappeared in Lana's life, he was already a part of Interpol, and because of Jeremy's excellent mental state and ability, he's not just a normal agent," Ryan explained patiently.

“Eveline, he had never shared a romantic relationship with Lana and they were never intimate. He was only with her to spy on her.”

Madeline clutched her hands tightly when she heard that. She swallowed back her urge to cry and looked out the window with teary eyes. Then, she pretended to be calm. “Since the deed is done, why is he leaving Glendale?”

Ryan did not know how to answer her.

Jeremy had told him countless times not to tell Madeline about him dying.

After contemplating, Ryan answered, “Maybe after Lana used him to kill your parents, he knew there’d be a gap between you two that can never be mended, so he chose to leave.”

“Heh.” Madeline chuckled bitterly. “So he’s just going to ignore his children, his parents, and his company?”

Ryan comforted her when he saw Madeline trying hard to suppress her emotions.

“He might come back one day.

“When you can finally let go of your parent’s deaths and are willing to get back together with him, I’ll give you my blessing.”

Madeline turned around suddenly to look at the man’s gentle face.

“Rye, I didn’t forget the fact that I’m your wife now, so even if he comes back, it’ll be impossible for me to end up with him again. I won’t get married for the third time.”

Ryan smiled when he heard that. Then, he grabbed Madeline's hands gently.

He felt joy in his heart after receiving this answer from Madeline.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1090

When Ryan remembered what Jeremy told him before he left, he promised softly, "Eveline, I'll do everything I can to make you happy."

Madeline smiled and swallowed down all of her emotions.

Karen approached her happily when she saw Madeline coming back to Whitman Manor. "Eveline, Lana was arrested!

"She's in a mob, so no wonder she's so heinous!

"Hmph! At the end of the day, evil can never prevail over good. She'll suffer the consequences of what she has done!"

It was obvious that Karen was in a good mood.

However, Madeline recalled what she saw in the video just now. Jeremy had put the handcuffs on Lana himself, and at that moment, that diabolical woman had an emotional breakdown before getting locked up behind bars.

Madeline knew she should feel happy, but in that second, she felt an excruciating pain in her heart instead.

In the early morning of the end of summer, she bought some flowers and came to Eloise and Sean's graves alone.

After bowing to them, she murmured, “Mom, Dad, the person who killed you has already been arrested. She’ll be executed very soon. I hope you can rest easy now.”

She felt the gentle autumn breeze on her skin that made her heart cold. Her eyes started to turn red from the wind.

“Mom, Dad, c-can you forgive Jeremy?”

When she asked this question, she could not control her tears from falling anymore.

She felt guilty.

She could not heal the wound in her heart regardless if she forgave or not.

Madeline stayed in the cemetery for a very long time.

No one was able to answer her question.

When she left, she saw a new tomb below Eloise and Sean’s.

She glanced at it and saw that the tomb was much shorter. Aside from the birth date, there was nothing else on it. Not even a name.

For some reason, she looked absent-mindedly at it for a few seconds more before leaving.

Madeline went back to the house she shared with Ryan. When it was nighttime, she made dinner in the kitchen robotically. While she was cutting the vegetables, Jeremy’s face appeared in her mind.

He was kneeling in front of her, his eyes filled with remorse and regret. He was begging her to forgive him for being manipulated by Lana and burning her house down. He was begging her to give him a chance to redeem himself.

However, she had refused.

On the other hand, she told him the thing she regretted the most was forgiving him back then and giving him another chance. As such, she would not forgive him anymore.

Madeline shook her head and forced herself to stop thinking about it. However, her heart still felt uneasy for no reason.

As she was spacing out, she accidentally sliced her finger.

She saw the bright red blood flowing out from her finger and just stood there motionlessly as she watched.

She recalled the blood on the tissue that she took for testing and Jeremy's lingering scent on it.

What was going on?

Madeline felt her head throbbing in pain.

When Ryan stepped into the kitchen, he saw Madeline holding the knife while spacing out.

After he approached her, he spotted blood uncontrollably pouring out from Madeline's finger. He quickly brought the first aid kit over.

Ryan was concerned and immediately bandaged her wound for her.

“Eveline, what happened? Why are you standing there even when you’re bleeding?”

When she heard Ryan’s voice, Madeline’s brain registered what was going on.

She suddenly remembered something and walked into the living room. Then, she picked up her phone and called the analyst who called previously.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1091

Ryan thought that Madeline’s behavior was out of the blue. He followed her and saw her calling someone. Then, in the next second, he heard her asking the person on the other end of the phone, “Dr. Gordon, I’m Eveline Montgomery. Can I ask you what’s the blood type of the blood sample you tested previously?”

Ryan heard Madeline asking this hurriedly.

He did not know what answer the person on the other end told Madeline. He only saw Madeline letting out a sigh of relief.

It was as if she had gotten the answer she wanted.

After she hung up, Ryan saw that Madeline was obviously more relaxed now.

She then continued preparing dinner for both of them. Then, they sat down and had their dinner quietly.

Ryan had feelings for Madeline and genuinely liked her. However, Ryan also knew that Madeline only admired him.

This whole time, she only had Jeremy in her heart.

Since she still loved that man, that was why she was still in pain.

After dinner, Madeline went to take a shower after talking to Ryan.

Ryan came looking for her again after a while. However, he only came to tell her that he needed to take care of some work-related stuff before leaving.

Madeline did not know whether he really had work to do or if it was because he did not want to force her to do anything with him and that was why he left.

If it was the latter, Madeline would feel really bad about it.

She had been married to him for some time now. However, she still could not completely remove Jeremy's name from her heart.

Madeline walked to the French window and looked at the moon outside.

'Eveline, since he has decided to leave, then stop thinking about him.'

'Perhaps it's the best for you to leave this man.'

She told herself before going to bed to rest earlier.

When she lay down, she received a call from Ava.

Ava sounded excited but nervous. She said, "Maddie, Dan told me out of the blue that he's going to take me to his home tomorrow! It's his grandfather's 80th birthday tomorrow. Do you think I should go, Maddie?"

Madeline answered without thinking, "If a man is willing to take you to see his family, it means he has acknowledged your position in his life. Of course, you have to go, unless you don't like Dan."

"I do like him," Ava said, but after that, she was shy. Then, she said weakly, "Stop teasing me, Maddie. Just tell me what I should do."

Madeline pondered over it but could not find any related experience.

Before she got married to Jeremy, she had never met his parents. The first time she met Karen, Karen said that she was one of the Whitmans' maids.

Now when she thought about it, Madeline could not help but chuckle as she had already made up with Karen.

Despite her divorcing Jeremy, Karen still genuinely treated her like she was still her daughter-in-law.

Madeline thought about it and continued, "Ava, just go. Ask Dan what the old master likes and prepare something for him. That should be enough."

Ava pondered and answered, "Yeah, you're right. I'll do that, then."

Madeline smiled when she heard the joy and excitement in Ava's voice. "I didn't expect you and Dan to be at this stage already. Ava, I have a feeling that I'll get a wedding invitation from you guys very soon."

On the other end of the phone, Ava blushed. When she wanted to explain, she realized she was at a loss for words.

After all, Daniel had already announced to everyone that he was Ava's boyfriend even though they had only become exclusive on that day itself.

The next day.

Ava got up early in the morning and changed into a decent and stylish dress.

Then, Daniel picked her up from her apartment on time. He had even picked a present for the old master beforehand.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1092

The moment Daniel saw Ava, there was a stunned look in his eyes.

"You look so beautiful today," Daniel praised.

Ava felt her face heating up. She was feeling bashful but pretended to not care. "You're saying I was ugly back then?"

Daniel explained quickly as his face turned bright red, “Of course, I didn’t mean that. I was just saying that you look more beautiful than usual.”

Ava turned her face away and was pleased with herself. She had never felt this kind of feeling before.

After she got into the passenger seat, Ava carefully looked Daniel up and down from the corners of her eyes as he drove.

The man’s side profile looked brilliant. He looked gentle and soft-spoken, but at the same time, there was still the same youthful look on his face as back then.

When the light turned red, Daniel stopped the car and turned his head.

Ava did not have time to avert her gaze before she met Daniel’s smiling eyes.

“You’ve been staring for quite a while.”

“...”

“That night in the hotel—”

“Dan,” interrupted Ava. Her face was smoking hot. “Dan, you’re not lying to me, are you? Was that really you that night?”

Daniel reached out his hand to hold Ava’s nervous and stirring ones. Then, he smiled. “Who else could that have been aside from me?”

When she got the answer, Ava felt the sweetness in her heart intensifying. However, she still had a question.

She looked at Daniel. When she was about to ask, Daniel said before her, "I didn't ask you to be my girlfriend because I want to be responsible for you. I'm certain that I like you and I trust you feel the same way too."

Ava looked at Daniel stupidly, her smile growing wider.

However, what confused her was how Daniel was so sure that she liked him?

Ava thought about this question the entire time until the car stopped.

She grabbed the gift that Daniel had handed her. When she stood in front of the gigantic mansion, she started to feel nervous.

A maid came up to greet Daniel. However, for some reason, her gaze became strange when she saw what Ava was wearing.

Ava was worried about whether she was dressed inappropriately. Before she entered the mansion, she asked Daniel.

Daniel looked at her and answered seriously, "You look gorgeous. I don't think anything is wrong with your attire."

Ava let out a sigh of relief and grabbed Daniel's arm before walking to the door.

The old master's 80th party was grand. Almost all of their relatives and family members were here.

Everyone was holding wine glasses, drinking, and chatting happily in the garden of the mansion.

Ava felt more and more nervous. She was attending this party as Daniel's girlfriend, so she did not want to embarrass him.

When the guests saw Daniel, they started greeting him.

However, when they saw Ava holding his arm, some of them looked at her with weird gazes while some even started gossiping among themselves.

Ava felt the change in gazes and it made her extremely nervous.

At this moment, a young couple walked over and asked, "Dan, who's this? Why is she so intimate with you?"

Daniel did not beat around the bush as he introduced, "This is my girlfriend, Ava Long."

"Girlfriend?" The young woman looked at Ava profoundly before staying quiet.

Ava smiled back politely and felt that there was definitely something wrong.

She walked into the mansion with Daniel. The moment she stepped in, she saw a woman standing in the living room. Ava finally understood why those people were looking at her with such weird gazes earlier.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1093

What a coincidence.

Someone was wearing the exact same dress as her.

Even though it was not a bad thing to wear the same outfit as another person, the uglier one of the two would feel awkward.

However, this was not about appearance. The problem was that this dress was a brand's limited fall edition and there was only one in the entire world. Now, they were wearing the same dress. This could only mean that one of them was wearing a fake.

Ava knew where her dress came from. When she noticed that the girl was not looking at her, she contemplated before letting go of Daniel's hand and turning around.

"Where are you going?" Daniel asked curiously.

When Old Master Graham heard Daniel's voice, he looked over while he was talking with a group of people.

"Dan is back." Daniel's mother beamed as she walked over. "Dan, didn't you say you're going to pick up a friend? Where are they?"

Daniel grabbed Ava who was trying to bolt and introduced, "It's her. Her name is Ava Long."

When Mrs. Graham saw Daniel holding Ava's hand, the smile on her face disappeared.

Then, when she saw the dress on Ava, her face fell further.

Ava noticed the changes in Mrs. Graham's expression. Even so, she still smiled politely.

"Hello, Mrs. Graham."

Mrs. Graham replied coldly, "Miss Long, your dress is quite interesting."

She was obviously mocking her. Then, she grabbed Daniel's arm. "Dan, Naya is here. She's just over there."

Mrs. Graham pointed at a stunning young woman next to Old Master Graham.

This woman named Naya was the person who was wearing the same dress as Ava.

Daniel finally noticed this. At the same time, he understood why the guests had been looking at Ava strangely when she walked in.

Mrs. Graham pulled Daniel over, but instead, Daniel turned around and grabbed Ava's hand to bring her in front of the old master. He introduced, "Grandpa, happy birthday. Didn't you always bug me to get a girlfriend? Look, I brought her back today."

Ava felt Daniel's acknowledgment of her. Despite the unfriendly gazes staring at her, she still handed the gift to the old master with a smile and wished, "Hello, Old Master Graham. Happy birthday. I hope you live a long life."

After the old master heard that, he ignored Ava and did not accept the gift. He looked at his grandson and said, "Daniel, Naya is back. I want to use this opportunity to set a date for your wedding."

Ava was shocked by what the old master said. However, Daniel did not waste any time and said,

“Grandpa, I already have someone I like.”

“Someone you like? Naya is the most suitable person for you and she’s also the person who likes you the most.”

The old master pulled the woman named Naya to his side.

“Naya is the only daughter of the Mendez family. She’s the best match for the Grahams based on her family background and education. You two often played together when you were younger as well, so you’re basically childhood sweethearts. It’s decided, then.”

“Thank you for looking kindly upon me, but Dan has already brought his girlfriend home. I think I should not cause any trouble,” Naya Mendez smiled and said understandingly. Then, she gave Ava a friendly smile.

Ava recomposed herself and smiled back at Naya.

However, she then heard Mrs. Graham scoffing in disdain. “What girlfriend? The Grahams don’t have an embarrassing daughter-in-law who wears fakes.”

Mrs. Graham glanced at Ava. “Miss Long, don’t blame me for being too straightforward. You should wear clothes that you can afford with your salary. If you can’t afford certain dresses, then you should just simply not wear them. However, you chose to wear a fake to the old master’s birthday party as Dan’s girlfriend. Who are you trying to embarrass?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1094

Mrs. Graham did not even hold back as she berated Ava in front of everybody.

Ava did not want to argue with her. When she lifted her head, she caught a glimpse of Naya peering at her in contempt.

Daniel did not stay quiet as well. He defended Ava immediately, saying, "Mom, you're too much. My girlfriend can wear anything and still be my girlfriend."

"Dan, do you want to infuriate your grandpa today?" Mrs. Graham looked down on Ava. "The only woman in Glendale who's worthy of being your girlfriend is Naya."

Mrs. Graham looked at Ava arrogantly. "Miss Long, where did you graduate from? What do you work as? How much money do you make in a month? Do you have a house or a car?"

Ava looked into Mrs. Graham's snobbish eyes and smiled. "I graduated from Glendale University and I'm an interior designer. As for my salary—"

"Alright, I've heard enough," Mrs. Graham interrupted. "Interior designers won't make over seven digits a year even if they work to death. However, do you know how much the Grahams make in a year? Miss Long, I won't say anything more. I hope you can know your place."

Ava understood what Mrs. Graham meant. She placed the gift down and looked at Daniel.

"Dan, I should go. Stay and celebrate your grandpa's birthday with your family," Ava said before turning around magnanimously.

"Ava!" Daniel wanted to chase after her, but his mother grabbed him. "Dan, that woman is not suitable for you."

"Yeah, Dan. It's obvious that she's a vain woman who wears a fake branded dress and wants to go after you for your money." Daniel's relatives chimed in at one side. One of them even opened the gift. "Look at this tie she bought for your grandpa. It's obviously a fake. The real one shouldn't have such rough material."

Daniel was always calm and refined. However, at this moment, he could not control himself.

“I bought this tie overseas a month ago for grandpa. You don’t have to put someone down like this.”

“...” His relatives’ faces turned bright red.

“Also, I don’t care if my wife is rich or not. I won’t give up on this woman.”

Daniel left to chase after Ava after he said this. However, Ava was nowhere to be seen and she did not pick up her phone either.

After Ava left Daniel’s house, she switched off her phone after receiving a call she did not want to receive.

However, the moment she got out of the car, the woman at the airport that day smiled and walked over to her.

“Ava, I know I’ve wronged you all these years. Why don’t you consider going back to Y Country with me?” The woman flattered.

Ava walked past her coldly and went upstairs to her unit.

“Ava, it’s fine if you don’t want to go, but don’t stay in a place like this.” The woman handed two keys to Ava. “I’ve bought two mansions for you. You should stay there for the time being.”

“When did I ask you to buy me houses?” Ava handed back the keys to her and went into her house.

The woman followed after her. “It’s fine if you don’t like them. I bought one of the apartments near your

company as well. You can move in anytime.”

“...”

“Also, I don’t think your boss is capable. I think—”

“Stop thinking,” Ava interrupted as she felt her head starting to ache. She was so scared that the woman would buy her company as well.

When the woman saw that Ava was unhappy, she felt anxious. “Ava, I just want to make up for—”

“Do you think you can mend our relationship with money?” Ava asked. “Just ask yourself what you’ve done when I needed you the most?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1095

After the woman heard that, she did not know what to say. When she recalled what she had done, she felt her face heating up.

At this moment, the doorbell rang. Ava did not want to spend any more time with the woman, so she went and opened the door.

After she opened the door, she saw that it was Madeline.

“Maddie, why are you looking for me here?” Ava was surprised.

Madeline felt relieved when she saw Ava. “Dan said you switched off your phone, so he got worried about you. Since I was just around the area, I dropped by to check on you.”

“Ava, you have a friend here. I guess I should go back now.” The woman did not force Ava anymore.

Then, she left after glancing at Madeline.

Madeline had guessed that the woman from the airport last time was Ava's mother, but she did not expect it to be true.

She had known Ava for so many years and this whole time, she thought Ava was an orphan like her.

When she asked about Ava's family, she would only brush it off with a smile as if she did not want to talk about it.

However, from the looks of it now, it was not what it seemed.

Ava turned around and took out two cans of fruit punch before sitting on the sofa in exhaustion.

"Maddie, you must be confused, right? When did I have a mother who's also the richest woman in Y Country?"

"..."

After Ava said that, Madeline was shocked.

However, after Ava drank her punch, she started crying in despair. "Maddie, if I could've gotten in contact with my rich mother back then, you wouldn't have needed to sell alcohol in the nightclub and get humiliated by Meredith."

Madeline hugged Ava. "You dummy, that's in the past. Plus, I know you've always tried your best to help me. Ava, you're my best friend."

“Maddie...” Ava was still addressing Madeline with this name.

Madeline patted Ava’s shoulder, and when she was about to ask about Daniel’s family, her phone rang.

Madeline looked at the caller ID and saw it was from the lab technician last night.

She felt her heart tremble as a feeling of uneasiness rose in her chest.

“Maddie, what’s wrong? Why aren’t you picking up?” Ava looked at Madeline who was spacing out in curiosity.

Madeline came back to her senses and picked up the phone. The lab technician said, “Is this Miss Montgomery?”

“Yes, I’m Eveline Montgomery.”

“We have the results for the sample you sent that day. Are you free to come to the lab now?”

Madeline looked at Ava, feeling worried. However, if she did not go, she would feel uneasy.

Ava sensed Madeline’s dilemma. “Maddie, you should go if you have something to take care of.”

Madeline nodded and answered, “I’ll go right now.”

She got up, and before she left, she reminded Ava. “Don’t drink too much. It’s bad for your body. Also, call Dan. He’s worried about you.”

Ava smiled. "Don't worry, it's nothing personal. I won't be mad at him. You should go now."

Madeline left while feeling less worried.

She came to Glendale Advanced Laboratory. Then, the lab technician, Dr. Gordon, brought her to the lab.

Madeline was not an expert, so she did not understand the complex data. She asked, "Dr. Gordon, what are these things that you've detected in the blood?"

Dr. Gordon took out a set of data and said some jargon. Madeline did not really understand, but she understood what was said later.

"Basically, it's a poison that's harmful to the body," the lab technician said, "According to the results, it has very rare components. It won't kill someone directly, but instead, it'll torture the person slowly.

"For example, they'll hallucinate and feel confused. Sometimes, they won't even know what they're doing, and eventually, the poison will seep into the blood and cells to cause trouble to the heart. In the end, the person's genes might even mutate."

"Genetic mutation?" Madeline felt that this was unbelievable. She did not know such scary things existed.

Hence, Madeline thought of a possibility.

"If there's a possibility of a genetic mutation, does it mean that their blood type will also change?" she asked calmly, but her heart was racing.

"I was about to tell you this." Dr. Gordon took out another set of data. "I told you through the phone last night that this person's blood type was A, but after the research this morning, the original blood type of this person should be AB."

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AB.

Madeline felt her vision turning dark.

This whole time, she had been suspecting whether the blood belonged to Jeremy, but when she found out the blood type was A, she felt relieved.

However, she did not expect that after the mutation of the genes, even the blood type would change.

Jeremy's blood type was AB.

Madeline felt uneasy. She felt as if someone was stabbing her heart repeatedly.

"Miss Montgomery, where did you get this blood sample from? According to our research, if this person doesn't get treatment immediately, he'll die when the poison in his body reaches stage five."

The word 'die' felt like a knife penetrating Madeline's heart.

She did not have any injuries, but the excruciating pain was spreading throughout her body.

Even though everything was just a hunch, the pain in her heart told her that her hunch was right.

After she left the lab, Madeline started spacing out. She called Ryan to ask him where he was.

After he received her call, he could feel that something was wrong because Madeline's voice sounded strange.

Ten minutes later, Madeline found him and was immediately frank with him. "Rye, you're hiding something from me, right?"

Ryan did not say anything but knew what Madeline wanted to ask him.

Madeline walked to him and looked into his eyes. "The reason Jeremy was deliberately cold to me and the children is not just because he's a spy, right?"

"Is he sick? He's so sick that it's at the final stages and there's no cure, right?"

Madeline grabbed Ryan's arm while looking at his grim expression.

"Ryan, tell me, is Jeremy going to die?"

When he heard this, Ryan knew he could not help Jeremy keep his secret anymore.

He looked at Madeline's red eyes and nodded lightly. "You're right. He has an incurable disease, and his time is almost up."

Madeline felt her breathing hitch at this moment. Everything was spinning, and she could not feel her heartbeat anymore.

She fumbled for her phone in her bag and pressed down on the numbers that she had long ago memorized.

It was Jeremy's number.

The call went through, but no one answered.

Madeline looked at the screen of her phone as tears streamed down her cheeks.

She called multiple times, but in the end, she got the message that he had switched off his phone.

Madeline's heart shattered into pieces.

His determination to not pick up the phone was to make sure she despised him.

'But Jeremy, do you know despite my hatred and resentment toward you, I'll love you even more?'

"Use mine. This is his number when he worked with Interpol." Ryan handed his phone over.

Madeline quickly grabbed it. Jeremy answered the phone after a few seconds.

Jeremy's voice sounded deep, but at the same time, he also sounded anxious. "Why is she calling me? Did something happen to her? Ryan, you promised that you'll take good care of her for me!"

Madeline sobbed when she heard what he said. She controlled her emotions and said, "It's me."

On the other end of the phone, Jeremy was silent.

"Where are you? Jeremy, tell me where you are right now," Madeline asked.

"Eveline, I told you I don't want to see you or hear your voice. Stop pestering—"

“Jeremy, game over. I know everything,” Madeline interrupted him gently and sobbed. “Jeremy, tell me where you are. I miss you. I miss you so much...”

After Madeline said that, there was a long silence on the other end of the phone.

After a long while, Jeremy said in a deep voice, “Eveline, the sea of April Hill is so beautiful. I want to look at this view with you once more, but I guess I can only do it in my next life. Remember what you said. Stop crying for me. I hope you remember that Jeremy Whitman loves Eveline Montgomery, always.”

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After he said that, he hung up the phone.

When Madeline called him again, his phone was switched off.

Madeline started sobbing and sniffing when she saw the darkened screen.

She felt a thorn stabbing deep inside her heart. She could not see it, but it was making her bleed profusely.

Ryan held Madeline gently. He did not know what he could say to make her feel better. Perhaps nothing he could say would ever comfort the hurt in her heart.

Madeline cried for a long while, but she could not soothe the bone-piercing pain in her heart no matter what.

She tried to control her tears and emotions as she removed herself from Ryan’s arms. “Rye, I know it’s not fair to do this to you, but I hope you can give me some time. I want to find him, and if he’s really incurable, then please let me spend the rest of his life with him.”

Ryan smiled softly and wiped away Madeline's tears gently.

"Actually, the biggest reason I married you is to protect you," he said honestly, "I know who you truly love, so I won't force you. Go and do what you want. Go to him."

Madeline lifted her teary eyes. "Thank you, Rye."

After she thanked him, she left hurriedly.

Madeline contacted a lot of people she knew to ask them about Jeremy's whereabouts. She also checked every flight but did not find anything.

She asked Ryan about Jeremy's whereabouts, but Ryan only told her that he saw Jeremy buying a flight ticket to another country. However, he did not know where he was going.

Madeline stood at Glendale International Airport, looking at the passing crowd. Even though she was standing among a lot of people, she still felt extremely lonely.

She tried to call him, but she could not get through to him no matter what. Even if the call went through, he would not pick up.

Madeline sent several messages to Jeremy, but she did not know if he read them. The only thing she knew was every time she typed a message, she would feel as if she had already lost him.

Madeline had been looking for him for a few days now. However, she still did not get any information about him.

The more time had passed, the more anxious Madeline was. She started having difficulties sleeping and even her aromatherapy kits were not helping.

She was scared that she would not have the chance to see this man again.

She was also scared that he would only be alive in her memories from now on.

After searching for him again for another day, Madeline went to Whitman Manor. Karen was holding the four-month-old baby, trying to put him to sleep.

When she saw Madeline and her exhausted face, Karen felt her heart breaking into pieces. "Are you busy recently? You look so tired these few days," Karen asked in concern, then she started complaining about Jeremy.

"I wonder where Jeremy went after what happened to Lana? Is he going to abandon his family? Is he waiting for that succubus to get out of prison?"

Madeline wanted to explain after listening to what Karen said, but she did not know how to tell her.

She could not let Karen be sad with her.

She could not tell Karen that Jeremy would die soon.

Madeline went back to the room she had initially shared with Jeremy. She wanted to look for the wedding ring she threw out and the letters they exchanged when they were young, but she could not find them no matter what.

There was only a wedding photo that had been ripped into pieces on the bed.

She picked the pieces up and tried to piece them back together, but she could not do it.

Looking at the handsome and radiant Jeremy in the photo, she held the pieces and started sobbing.

“Jeremy, let me stay with you, okay? Don’t leave on your own. Let me stay with you at least...”

...

Jeremy had not left Glendale. The flight ticket was fake as well.

He knew Ryan would not be able to keep his secret for long, so he decided to lie to him too.

He gave Ryan an illusion so that Madeline would think he had left Glendale and she would never be able to find him again.

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Jeremy had rented a homestay near the beach of April Hill. This entire time, he had been staying there alone.

Every morning, he would repeatedly read all of the messages Madeline sent him during this period. Then, he would go to look at the sea and recall the time when his relationship with Madeline started.

When he thought back to the past, everything was still fine. The only thing that was not fine was how his body was getting weaker and weaker.

Madeline stayed overnight in the mansion alone.

After she woke up, her heart started aching again after she looked at the man in the photo.

She went to look for Ryan to try to know more about Jeremy's condition.

She tried to control her emotions as she asked Ryan, "Rye, where did the poison in Jeremy's body come from? You should know, right?"

Ryan did not hide it from her. He said frankly, "It's Lana. When he lost his memories, Lana filled Jeremy with memories that did not belong to him. She would give him cigarettes every day. The slow-acting poison was inside the cigarettes."

Madeline was in disbelief. How could someone do that to the person they loved?

"Lana used this slow-acting poison to control Jeremy. She wanted Jeremy to stay by her side and be her man forever."

Ryan's explanation made Madeline's heart ache even more.

He only got hurt and lost his memories on the ship because he wanted to protect her.

"Eveline, not everyone can love someone selflessly. A woman like Lana is certainly incapable of doing that. She didn't love him. She only had the desire to get him and dominate him."

What a deranged woman.

Madeline could not endure this. She wanted to look for Lana, but Ryan stopped her. He did not want her to do anything impulsive.

What shocked Madeline even more was that the creator of this poison was the person she trusted the most—Adam Brown.

Madeline finally understood why Jeremy was so determined to stop her from eating the alleged painkillers Adam gave her the day before they got onto the ship. It was because Jeremy had already known Adam's real identity.

Adam was one of the Stygian Johnsons.

He took orders from them and was obsessively doing all kinds of research that he was passionate about.

She thought Adam was helping her, but it turned out she was just Adam's experiment.

Madeline was bewildered. Then, she drove to the place she and Jeremy used to live in.

The sky had turned dark during dusk. Then, it started drizzling along with the cool breeze of early autumn.

Madeline went into the house, made dinner, and ate all by herself.

After that, she went into the bedroom and started flipping through the torn photos flusteredly.

Jeremy went back to the villa after he left April Hill. When he got out of the car, he saw Madeline's car at the entrance.

He lifted his head to look at the bedroom subconsciously and saw that the lights were on in the room.

He did not think that Madeline would still come back to this place, but he immediately knew why she was here.

Jeremy walked in slowly, dragging his exhausted body to the door of the room.

He looked inside carefully and saw Madeline sitting on the rug as she wept. She was flipping through a photo album.

'Linnie.'

Jeremy felt his heart sinking painfully.

There was a pained expression on his pale face. He wanted to hold it in, but his throat suddenly felt extremely itchy.

He could not stop himself from coughing.

Madeline was looking absent-mindedly at the photos when she heard the sound of coughing from outside the door.

"Jeremy?"

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Madeline shut the album and ran toward the door suddenly.

When she got out of the door, she expected to see Jeremy but did not see anything at all.

Then, she heard a noise from the front door. When she turned her head, she caught a glimpse of a tall figure.

Madeline's eyes lit up as she chased after the person.

"Jeremy!"

She would not have mistaken him.

There was no other figure in the world that would make her heart race like this.

Then, she remembered what she saw at the door of Jeremy's office that day.

The man who was entangled with Lana that day was not Jeremy.

She had been tricked.

It was just an illusion that Jeremy wanted her to see.

He did everything so that she would hate and resent him!

Madeline felt heartbroken when she thought about this.

She ran out of the door and saw the figure running toward the road. Therefore, she started chasing behind him.

Jeremy did not drive as he did not want Madeline to notice him. Now, he could only run to the road in hopes that he would be able to stop a cab and get out of here.

He did not want her to see him in this state.

She would be heartbroken and reluctant.

If that was the case, everything he did would be futile.

“Jeremy!”

Madeline’s screams came from behind him.

Jeremy continued running as if he did not hear her.

The rain was getting heavier, but the two of them did not notice it at all.

He continued running as she continued chasing after him.

“Jeremy! Stop running! Please stop running!” Madeline wailed and yelled after him. She knew she was unable to outrun him.

However, Jeremy still pretended as if he did not hear her. He pulled down his cap and walked to the road to stop a cab.

Madeline wiped away the tears and rainwater that blurred her vision. Under the lampposts in the night, her eyes were glued to his back that was getting farther and farther away.

When she saw the familiar figure getting into a cab to get away, Madeline sped up. However, since the road was uneven and slippery, she lost her balance and fell heavily.

Jeremy saw Madeline falling the moment he closed the door.

He opened the door again reflexively so that he could go out and help her up, but he stopped suddenly in his tracks.

Under the lampposts of the rainy night, Madeline got up from the muddy ground challengingly. She had twisted her ankle and also scraped her left knee. Blood started pouring from her knee.

However, she ignored her injuries. She bit her lip and tried her best to get closer to Jeremy while her eyes turned red.

Jeremy looked out of the window and saw the woman working hard to get close to him. When he saw that, he clenched his fists.

“Sir, do you want me to drive or not?” The driver was getting impatient. When he saw Jeremy looking at Madeline, he asked, “Is that woman with you? Should we wait for her? Aren’t you going to hold an umbrella for her?”

Jeremy closed the door when he heard that. Then, he shifted his teary eyes away from Madeline. “She’s not with me. Start driving.”

After he said that, Madeline got to the side of the car.

When she was about to knock on the window, the car drove away.

“Jeremy! Jeremy!”

Madeline chased behind the car as she watched the car getting farther and farther away.

“Jeremy, don’t go. Don’t leave me and the children. At least let me stay with you, Jeremy!”

The window of the car was rolled up and it was raining heavily, but Jeremy could still hear Madeline’s heart-wrenching cries clearly.

He clenched his fists and could not stop his tears from falling anymore.

“Jeremy, I hate you, but I love you even more. Do you hear me, Jeremy?” Madeline yelled hysterically at the car that was eventually becoming blurry in her vision.

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She sensed that Jeremy would never turn around to look at her again.

Perhaps this was their last encounter ever.

She hoped that he could hear her telling him how much she loved him. Her love was able to outweigh the hatred and resentment she had for him back then. Now all that remained was deep passion.

Jeremy looked at the figure in the rain that was slowly disappearing from the rear-view mirror. Then, he finally vomited the blood that he had been holding in this entire time.

Looking at the red liquid on the tissue, he leaned against the seat in exhaustion as his eyes started to look dazed.

‘Linnie, I heard you.

‘Thank you for not letting me leave this world with regrets.’

He curled the corner of his pale lips and lifted his left hand to look at the wedding ring that had returned to his ring finger once again.

Through his tears, he saw the ring dazzling under the dim light.

It was as if he could see the day he met Madeline through the sparkle. That day, she had crashed into him. The embarrassed smile she gave him when she lifted her head was so wonderful.

Madeline stood at the bustling crossroad for a very long time.

The rain had soaked her entire body, but she was already numb.

She lifted her head to look at the inky black sky and furrowed her brows.

“Why do you keep torturing me and him?”

“Why do you make people who can’t end up together fall in love with each other?”

“Why?”

She asked the sky and waited for an answer to an impossible question.

After Ryan received Jeremy’s message, he hurried over and saw Madeline standing at the junction in the rain while spacing out.

He took her to the hospital immediately to take care of the scratch on her knee and her twisted ankle.

Madeline was like a robot. She did not react at all.

Perhaps she had been in the rain for too long, she caught a high fever in the middle of the night.

Ryan stayed next to Madeline this entire time. At the same time, he also messaged Jeremy.

After Jeremy got news about Madeline, he started to feel restless.

He wanted to see her.

However, he was scared that she would notice him.

He got rid of this thought but could not sleep the entire night.

He was already not in good shape, but at this moment, he still had to suffer mentally.

The next morning, he sent Ryan a message to ask about Madeline. Then, Ryan sent him a photo.

It was a photo of Madeline's temperature that refused to go down.

When he thought about how cruel he was last night, Jeremy internally yelled at himself several times.

After a while, he received a call from Ryan.

"You should drop by. She keeps talking in her sleep and calling out your name," Ryan said before placing the phone next to Madeline.

Jeremy could hear Madeline murmuring his name lifelessly. She was saying, "Jeremy, don't go. Let me stay with you..."

Ryan was staying next to Madeline. After a while, Jeremy finally appeared.

He came quickly and got into the room hurriedly.

When Ryan saw Jeremy, he noticed that he looked more haggardly than before.

Even though he was still handsome, it was obvious he had become thinner.

“She’s in the room and she’s still groggy. Go in and just treat this as your final goodbye to her.”

Ryan turned around after he said that. He then left the time and place to Jeremy.

After Jeremy got into the room, he held Madeline’s hand sadly when he saw her unconscious on the bed.

However, the moment he grabbed her hand, Madeline tightened her grip on him and grabbed him back.

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