

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 133

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Chapter 133 Starting From Scratch

The next night, when I saw Derek and Aaron lounging around in the living room, I showed them a news article that I found not long ago.

It was news about a woman in her twenties. Her face had been disfigured by chemical products of a certain beauty salon, and she filed a case against the salon because of it.

After reading the news article, they looked at me, waiting for me to voice out my remark.

Thus, I told them, "Nowadays, there's been a lot of news similar to this one. Since the Internet has become part of our daily lives, the news spread like wildfire, so more and more women have become cautious of the beauty products they purchase. Though women want to be beautiful, (This novel will be daily updated at) they also pay special attention to the safety of the products they purchase. Everybody knows that the traditional medicine is much safer. I think we should produce beauty products using natural ingredients like herbs. We can use massage to help people lose weight, and use natural herbs to remove blemishes and nourish the face. Although the treatment cycle takes longer, traditional medicine specializes in gradually helping people with their health. I have absolute confidence that the market will be more accepting of this kind of products. So, what do you guys think of my idea?"

I used to have lots of ideas, but I rarely tried to enact them. This was the first time I had proposed a solid plan.

These men before me were smart, opinionated, and knowledgeable in their respective fields, so I was anxious to hear what they thought of my idea.

Aaron crossed his arms in contemplation, and then he nodded.

"Your idea sounds great, but I think you can combine the use of traditional medicine along with modern medicine. In fact, modern medicine also has its advantages. And depending on how you use them, they could complement the effects of traditional medicine."

After gaining his approval, my confidence was boosted. Meanwhile, Derek stared at me intently. "I've already said that my woman doesn't need to work so hard."

I scoffed at him in disagreement.

"In this day and age, men and women are equal. Women like me shouldn't just rely on men. I know nothing about the real estate industry you're engaged in, but

I have ideas on other fields that I'm interested in. Starting a business can be very stressful, but I believe that I can succeed. (This novel will be daily updated at) Didn't you also go through a similar experience when you started from scratch in the past? I want to work hard just like you did, Derek!"

Derek smiled at my response. "That's because I'm a man." I rolled my eyes at him. "You shouldn't look down upon women."

Then, I glanced at Aaron and asked, "You're an expert in medicine, right? If I run into any problems, do you mind giving me some advice? I could use your help. Or perhaps..you'd rather partner up with me?"

"No problem," he replied with a smirk. –

"What about me?" asked Derek. "You forget that I'm your husband. I want to invest in your business."

However, I refused his offer without hesitation.

"No! I want to start from scratch!"

Now that I had set my goal, I wanted to go back to school to further my study in traditional medicine.

The next day, Aaron helped me find lots of books regarding traditional medicine and some reference books for the examinations.

Once I had gathered all the books I needed, I studied hard every day. Even while I was cooking, there was a book in front of me.

If I had worked this hard back when I was a student, I probably would've been admitted to a top university.

Since I had a goal in mind, I stopped thinking of unnecessary troubles and focused on studying.

Besides, the trouble that Shane caused was over now.

I didn't go outside of the house for almost a month. One day, I finished reading a reference book and took a practice test on the computer. To my surprise, I got a high score.

Since I couldn't share my joy with anyone at home, (This novel will be daily updated at) I decided to go to Dere International to look for Derek.

This was the first time I entered the company building since the incident with the Facebook post last time.

The employees already knew my identity, so they greeted me with polite nods.

Once I arrived at the CEO's office on the top floor, I was about to knock, but then, I heard a woman's laughter coming from inside.

I withdrew my hand, walked to the window beside the door and peered through the gap of the blinds. What I witnessed made my heart race.

Inside the office, Derek was at his desk and there was a woman who had her arms around his neck.

Though I could only see the woman's back, I still recognized her. She was Belinda's daughter, Charlene.

His face was blocked by her head, and they seemed to be kissing.

My heart sank at the sight of his betrayal.

I went back to the door, twisted the doorknob and pushed the door open.

I was aware of his habit of not locking the door.

Not a second later, they looked at me at the same time. Derek seemed to be startled by my arrival.

After a short pause, Charlene proceeded on tying his tie.

It turned out that she was just helping him fix his tie.

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Chapter 134 He's Married

I slowly walked in, trying to maintain my composure. If I let myself become restless, it would only frustrate me more.

But at this moment, there was no smile on my face, and I couldn't even fake one.

Derek cleared his throat and stood up from his chair.

"Charlene is going to be the marketing director of Dere International now."

Charlene took a few steps back and admired the tie on Derek with her arms akimbo. Then, she glanced over at me and added, "I got through the strict job selection. That's how I was hired."

Her uniform was neatly done, and she was wearing a high ponytail, making her look incredibly competent. Perhaps the reason her confidence was so high was because she was talented enough to back it up.

Some people claimed that confident women were the most beautiful, and I must agree that Charlene indeed looked gorgeous.

"Does the tie look good on him?" she asked as if this situation was normal. Moreover, she seemed to ignore how upset I looked.

I stared at her, casually saying, "Miss Eaton, it's not appropriate to bribe the CEO. Don't ruin Dere International's reputation."

"A bribe?" Charlene seemed to think my statement was ridiculous.

She took a glance at Derek, and then she turned her attention back to me.

"I'm not bribing him. I'm simply appreciating his good looks and pursuing him. I mean, you have to agree that an excellent man like Mr. Sullivan is incredibly attractive, right?"

I never thought that she would utter something so bold.

"He's married," I said.

Charlene pressed her hands together and shrugged. "Everyone knows that. It's not a secret." Despite knowing that Derek had a wife, she still actively tried to pursue him. It only meant that she wasn't taking me seriously.

"Charlene, you can leave now," said Derek.

When she looked at him, her face softened, but she still looked kind of arrogant.

"Sure."

She walked out with her head held high, and she didn't even bother to look at me anymore.

Meanwhile, I kept on staring at her as she walked away. In the presence of someone as confident as her, I felt really small.

I wondered if I could be as confident as her someday.

The office door closed again, and the sound of her high-heeled steps gradually disappeared.

I turned around and saw Derek sitting cross-legged on the sofa, smoking and staring at me with a smirk on his face.

"Come over here," he said. Secretly, I cheered myself up before walking towards him. Once I was seated beside him, I grabbed his tie to take a closer look at it.

"It's not bad. The woman has good taste, I must say."

Derek seemed stunned by my remark.

I could tell that he wasn't expecting me to say that.

Then, I moved my buttocks closer to him, and then I ran my hand along the tie, gently pushing him to the sofa. Derek was surprised at first, but then he snickered and said, "Why are you proactive today, honey?"

I touched the knotted part of his tie, scoffing before suddenly pulling it hard with both hands.

The cigarette butt in his hand fell to the floor. He covered his neck and spoke with difficulty, "Honey, are you trying to murder your husband?"

It felt good to look down at him like this.

I refused to loosen my grip on him. "Derek, do you know what it means when a woman gives a man a tie?"

"Huh? What does it mean?" His face turned red.

I lowered my head, staring straight into his eyes. Then, I pulled the tie again and said, "It means that she wants to tie you up to her!" 1

"Let go of me." Derek coughed.

I noticed that he was a little uncomfortable, so I felt bad for him. I threw that tie at his face, got off his body, sat beside him, and began to sulk.

Derek began to catch his breath. It took him a long time before he got up.

"Eveline, I can tell that you're jealous." He seemed to be smiling.

I wanted to shout curses at him, but I decided not to say anything yet.

Then, I turned around to look at him, and reached for his tie once more.

Derek instinctively moved away, but I managed to get ahold of the tail of his tie, pulling him closer.

After loosening up the tie, I re-tied it as tightly as I could.

After that, I looked at it with satisfaction and smiled casually.

"I've made up my mind. If I manage to jumpstart my business of beauty products using traditional medicine, I'll recruit as many handsome men as possible. After all, they attract women, and most of my potential customers will be women. They can also give me a massage whenever they're free. I'm sure I'll enjoy it."

Derek must be feeling uncomfortable, because I made his necktie too tight just now. I noticed him coughing from time to time.

Despite hearing what I said, he didn't react at all. He just wrapped his arms around my waist and said, "Come on, let me give you a massage. Just tell me which part of your body you'd like me to massage."

After staring at him for a moment, I became morose. I was about to remove his hands from my body, but then he pressed me onto the sofa, attempting to seduce me.

I pushed him away with both hands and displayed my displeasure. "Derek, you are so shameless!"

A devilish grin appeared on his lips.

"I can be shameless around you, because you're my wife."

"If I hadn't shown up to interrupt you, would you have prepared to give her a massage?"

The smile on Derek's face widened. "Honey, I guess this is how you get jealous, huh?"

"Don't change the topic! Answer my question," I said sternly. Finally, he removed his smile and took me seriously.

"I have nothing to do with her, and I haven't forgotten the fact that I'm a married man. You need to trust me more, my love." 1

"Didn't you hear what she said? She's trying to pursue you. Now that she's working for you, it's easier for her to get closer to you. If she comes by to see you a few times every day just to flirt with you, and considering how beautiful she is, you'll surely be attracted to her eventually

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Chapter 135 Watch A Good Show

All of a sudden, my phone rang.

I took the opportunity to push Derek away. Upon picking up my phone, I noticed that Louise was calling me, so I answered at once.

"Eve, come with me. I'm going to watch a good show. I'll need your help."

She sounded really anxious when she spoke. After hanging up, I went to the address she told me without delay.

There, I found her car outside a jewelry store and opened the door to get in. "You're quick," Louise remarked.

"I was at Dere International earlier. It's not that far from here."

After I said that, I saw her staring at the door of the jewelry store. I followed her gaze and asked, "What are you looking at?"

"Half an hour ago, I saw Linda and her gigolo entering the store. Today, I'm going to get evidence of Linda's infidelity," replied Louise. I finally understood what she was planning to do. "Is your phone fully charged?" she asked me.

I took out my phone to glance at the battery bar. "It is."

"I'm going to drive when the time comes, and you'll be the one taking photos," she said.

"Huh? You know what, fine. I'll do it."

This was the first time I would do something like this, so it was normal for me to get nervous. Considering how vulnerable I was psychologically, I wouldn't make for a good detective.

After a while, Louise told me, "Get ready." I quickly aimed my camera phone at the two people walking out of the jewelry store. The moment Linda went out, she pulled down the large sunglasses over her head, smiling while holding the hand of the young man beside her.

While they were getting into their car, I took several photos of them.

Moments later, they drove away. Louise immediately started the car and followed them.

"Did you take the photos?" she asked, clenching the steering wheel.

I nodded. "I've taken a lot. It's a bit hard to see them clearly at some of them. We should out the good ones later." Later on, while we were trailing Linda and her gigolo, Louise sensed that something was amiss.

"Is that bitch going to take her gigolo to my father's house? God! She's fucking despicable." To Louise's surprise, the car ahead of us actually entered her dad's

community. We kept a certain distance from them before following them in. Soon, Louise saw where they stopped, and she also parked her car nearby.

However, Linda and the young man didn't get out of the car. Suddenly, Louise patted my shoulder.

"Get out of the car." I clenched my phone and obliged to her command. Inconspicuously, we walked past the rows of cars and soon reached the back of their car. There was a faint sound coming from inside the car.

They seemed to be laughing, chatting, and even screaming with pleasure.

Once we were close enough to the car, Louise mumbled to me that she wanted me to record their conversation.

I immediately opened the voice recorder of my phone.

I moved my phone near the door of the car.

"Linda, when will we let people know that we're in a relationship? I'm so fed up with sneaking around," said the young man. 0

"No rush, honey. I can still take lots of money from my husband. He's our cash cow," said Linda.

Louise clenched her fists, seemingly about to explode. But I held her hand, implying her not to do anything reckless. She took my phone from me and took a picture of the car's plate number. Then, she sent someone messages, including their conversation I recorded, the picture of the plate number, the photos I took of Linda and her boyfriend, and our current location.

Louise nudged my shoulder, indicating that we should hide.

Within less than five minutes, I heard a set of footsteps coming from the underground parking lot.

The person who arrived should be Louise's father.

He lived upstairs. If he could remain calm after reading those messages, it wouldn't make him a man.

However, I was mistaken.

As we sat behind an off-road vehicle, we listened to the sound of the footsteps getting closer and closer.

There seemed to be more than one person arriving! There were lots of them.

Before I could reassess the situation, my phone rang.

The underground parking lot was very quiet, so my ringtone resonated within the area.

The caller's phone number was unknown. When I turned off my phone, I heard them moving towards us.

Since the situation was becoming unfavorable for us, Louise pulled me up. Not long after, we were surrounded by several men.

I recognized a few of them. They appeared to be Layne's subordinates.

After a while, the young man appeared.

Linda didn't show up, probably because she was too ashamed to be here.

The young man approached us, wearing a wicked smile with his hands in his pockets. "I didn't expect that two beautiful women would follow me around."

Did that mean this man knew we were trailing him this whole time?

When I looked over at Louise, I saw her glaring at the young man. She snorted at him. "How dare you bully us with so many people with you? You're nothing but a coward! Don't you have the guts to fight alone?"

The shortest man from them awkwardly said, "Mr. Thurman told us that we cannot lay a finger on that woman in particular."

The young man didn't take the guy's statement seriously. When he looked at me, I had a bad feeling. "Layne didn't say that we couldn't lay a finger on the other woman, right?"

Right after he said that, he grabbed my arm and pulled me to his side.

Louise became agitated. She pointed at the young man and said, "How dare you?"

I kept on struggling to escape but failed. I was being manhandled by the two men beside me, and I was unable to break free.

"Listen, Miss Beautiful, I know you're a skilled fighter. If you don't do anything reckless, we won't either. But if you try to do anything stupid, don't blame us for being ruthless to your friend," the young man snorted.

These men didn't seem capable of taking Louise down, but I could tell she was worried that they would hurt me. Thus, she didn't do anything rash.

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Chapter 136 Cooking Personally

Not long after, I was dragged into a car.

When the car drove away, I heard Louise's voice.

"If you try to hurt her, I'm going to kill all of you!"

Inside the car, they didn't tie me up or gag me. They just left me sitting between two men, confident that I wouldn't be able to escape.

"Where are you taking me?" I asked, wary and confused. Linda's gigolo on my left touched his chin, smirking at me. "What's the matter? Are you scared? If you're such a coward, don't try to be a detective. It's dangerous, little lady:"

I thought of the evidence in my phone and held it close.

Moments later, the young man's phone began to ring.

When he answered the phone, he glanced at me and said, "Yes, Mr. Thurman, she's in my car.

After hanging up the phone, he fell into silence. We must've been on the road for over an hour based on how long it felt. Finally, we got out of the car in a strange place. Obviously, this wasn't an urban area.

There was an old yard ahead of me, but the car parked at the gate looked quite luxurious.

"Mr. Thurman, I've brought the woman," the young man shouted at the gate of the yard.

Not a minute later, Layne appeared at the door.

His arms were bare, and he was wearing an apron. He appeared to have just been cooking.

Truth be told, I had never had a good impression of this man.

He glanced at me and smirked. He seemed to be in a good mood. "Our guest is here. Why don't you invite her in?"

Since several people had me surrounded, I had to go in. Thus, I braced myself for what was about to happen.

The moment Layne went back to the yard, I lost sight of him.

The yard was quite spacious. In the middle of it, there was a large beach umbrella, and a table and some chairs were beneath it. There were some fruits in the basket on the table.

As soon as I sat down, I felt uneasy. It was then that I heard the sound of a car pulling over outside the yard.

“Layne, come on out!”

The moment I heard the familiar voice, I looked up and saw Louise entering the yard.

Layne’s men displayed a respectful attitude towards her.

“Mr. Thurman is cooking right now. Since you’ve agreed to eat here, he decided to personally cook for you,” one of the men said.

I was confused. Did Louise come here to have a meal?

Not long after, Louise noticed me. She walked towards me, and sat down beside me, giving me a pat on the shoulder.

“No need to worry, Eve. We’ll be fine.” After a while, Layne came out, carrying a well-cooked dish. Once he set it on the table, I saw a plate of crayfish that looked really scrumptious. Layne glanced over at Louise with affectionate eyes.

“I’m glad you’re here,” he said. The way he spoke sounded like they were old friends.

Louise sneered, “I only came because you were threatening me.”

Layne didn’t seem to mind her attitude. He just went back to his room to put on a T-shirt before coming out and sitting with us.

There was a plate of freshly baked bread. Layne took one piece the moment he sat down.

From time to time, he would pick up food for Louise and he would even peel some crayfish for her and put it in her plate. His actions caused an uproar among his subordinates.

One of them had his sleeves rolled up and held a beer in hand. “Mr. Thurman has never been this considerate towards any woman. Have you seen him be this nice to a woman?” he asked.

“Nah. We haven’t,” the others echoed.

Annoyed by their discussion, Louise said, “Well, since you assholes threatened to hurt my friend today, I’m going to get back at you someday.”

Layne grabbed a beer bottle and gulped half of it down. Then, he put the bottle down heavily, glancing at the young man who was Linda's gigolo.

"Ramsey Martel, I told you not to hurt her. Did you think I was talking bullshit?" None of them dared to utter a word. It seemed like they were all afraid of Layne.

Ramsey appeared to be a cunning young man. "Mr. Thurman, you misunderstood me. I was merely toying with them. I know that Louise has some grudge against Linda, so I helped her gather some evidence. If you don't believe me, here, take a look."

Afterwards, he took out his phone and played a video for us. We could all hear the sound coming from the video, and soon, everyone at the table broke into laughter. Layne was chuckling, but Louise and I weren't amused.

"Damn! What a slut!" said one of the men.

Louise glared at Ramsey and asked, "How did you know we were at the parking lot?"

After a moment of hesitation, he replied, "Linda received a message from your father's assistant. Your dad must've been drunk at the time, so his male assistant was holding his phone and saw the messages. Linda has been having an affair with your dad's assistant for a long time."

I saw just how shocked Louise was. It was obvious that she didn't expect this to happen. She didn't eat any of the crayfish that Layne peeled for her. Then, she put down her fork while looking at him.

"I'm full. You said we can leave after the meal, right?"

After a moment of silence, Layne took off his disposable gloves and stood up.

"I'll drive you home."

"No, thanks. I drove here, so I intend to drive home as well. Besides, you're a little drunk. Do you want to get into a car accident?" Louise argued.

"It seems that Louise cares about Mr. Thurman," one of the men bantered. She cast that man a glare and barked, "Shut the fuck up, or I'm going to rip your tongue off."

I was worried that I wouldn't be able to leave, so I strode out of the yard along with her.

Without delay, Louise started the car once we were both inside.

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Chapter 137 Practicing Driving

Once we had left, I saw from the rearview mirror that Layne was standing by the gate, staring at the direction of the car.

I could tell that he was really interested in Louise, but he didn't look like the type of man who would be truly in love with any woman.

"Lulu, you should head home and have a good talk with your father about Linda. Try not to quarrel with him. Don't forget that your goal is to drive that bitch away. Try to avoid making a fool of yourself again, okay?" I said to Louise.

"I get it. I'll keep that in mind."

She scratched her hair, seemingly annoyed.

"I just didn't expect that bitch would be shameless enough to hook up with my dad's assistant."

At this point, I didn't say another word.

Whether we liked it or not, scumbags like Linda and Shane existed within this world.

It was then that I noticed how good Louise was at driving. She was capable of driving with only one hand on the steering wheel. "Is it difficult to learn how to drive?" I asked.

She chuckled at me and replied, "Why are you asking? Do you want to learn how?"

I nodded in response.

"It's not that difficult. First, you just need to overcome your psychological fear of crashing the car, and you need to have enough confidence in yourself. If you want to learn, you'll be able to learn it. You can even ask Derek to teach you how to drive whenever he's free."

After driving me back to the villa, Louise turned the car around and left.

I was aware that she needed to do something, so I didn't invite her inside.

When I thought of Charlene and Layne, I could not calm myself down, nor could I focus on reading the books. At dusk, Derek called me and said that he would be coming home late tonight. Fortunately, Aaron came home before it was dark.

After we ate dinner, we watched TV in the living room.

Feeling bored of sitting around, I asked him, "Is it easy to learn how to drive?"

Aaron smiled at me. "For some people it's easy, for others it's difficult. Are you interested in learning?"

I nodded at him and said, "I noticed that many women nowadays know how to drive. I believe I'm not the stupidest one of them, am I?"

All of a sudden, he stood up and looked at me. "We're both free right now. Do you want to try it?"

Upon hearing what he said, I was so excited and hopeful about the endeavor.

"Really? But, a word of warning, I've never tried to learn how to drive. I don't even know the basics yet. Is that going to be a problem?"

With a faint smile, Aaron replied, "There's no need to worry. I'll be with you every step of the way. I have years of driving experience, and I can pass on that knowledge to you."

After that, I got in his car.

Not long after, he drove to an abandoned military airport within the city. There was a wide stretch of road ahead of us, and there was nobody else around. It was perfectly suitable for practicing how to drive.

Aaron was in the driver's seat, and I was in the passenger seat. He first explained the basics to me, as well as the names and functions of the parts of the car.

Once that was done, I exchanged seats with him.

I placed my hands on the steering wheel, anxious about this task. My palms were sweating profusely.

Upon receiving his signal, I stepped on the brakes and started the engine.

Once the car's engine was on, my heart almost leapt out of my chest.

"What should I do next? If I release the brakes, will the car suddenly rush ahead? Will it go out of control?"

Aaron noticed how nervous I was and it amused him. "Take it easy. Just slowly loosen the brake, okay? I'm the one who should be terrified right now. Haha!"

Look, the road ahead is really wide. You can drive however you want. Besides, my hand is on the emergency handbrake. In case something happens, I'll be able to stop the car."

Luckily, his words were enough to encourage me. I slowly released the brake and let the car move forward.

At first, I was so nervous that I was as stiff as a bowstring and beads of sweat were forming on my forehead.

Meanwhile, Aaron continuously tried to ease my tension.

Once the car was running steadily, my racing heartbeat gradually stabilized.

Afterwards, he taught me how to shift gears.

It was necessary to learn when and why a driver should shift gears.

I was flummoxed while holding the gear shifting handle.

All of a sudden, Aaron held the back of my hand. It made me feel tense. His palm felt warm and it was a little moist. And it was big enough to wrap my entire hand. "Never lower your head. It's important to always keep your eye on the road," he said in a gentle voice.

Embarrassed, I raised my head and looked ahead.

All of a sudden, I felt him exert some force on my hand, guiding me on how to shift the gear.

"Also, don't look down when you're shifting gears. Otherwise, the car is more likely to run in the wrong direction and cause an accident."

Aaron was like a real driving coach. He was meticulous, straightforward, and professional. It kind of made me feel ashamed that I was flustered just because he touched my hand.

Thus, I gathered my composure and concentrated on driving.

Later on, I became bolder and I even sped the car up. Soon, I was feeling the pleasure of being able to control the car's speed.

"It's not as difficult as you thought it was, right?" said Aaron.

I nodded excitedly.

It was like they said, "Time flies when you're enjoying yourself."

It wasn't until my stomach began to growl that I realized that it was already ten in the evening.

"Are you hungry?" Aaron chuckled at me.

I scratched the back of my head, feeling awkward. "A little," I replied.

"In that case, it's time to go home," he said.

Thus, we exchanged seats again. By the time we got home, Derek was still not there yet.

"I'll make some midnight snacks. I know it's not healthy to eat at this time of the night, but it'll hurt your body more if you starve yourself. Wait for a moment, okay? It won't take long," said Aaron.

Perhaps due to feeling nervous while I was learning how to drive, I felt that all of my energy had been expended.

I lay down on the sofa and mumbled, "Okay." Then, I picked up the remote control to turn on the TV, randomly flipping through the channels to choose a TV series to watch.

As time fled by, my eyes closed.

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Chapter 138 Playing With Fire At Midnight

A slight yet distinct noise woke me up from my slumber.

The television was already turned off and so was the living room light. My eyes were met by the sight of pitch black darkness and I could smell a familiar scent lingering in the air.

"You're back?" I asked sleepily.

"Yes," said Derek, and then he proceeded to carry me upstairs.

After he put me on the bed, he coughed lightly and lowered his head. At the same time, a few strands of his hair also fell.

"If you feel sleepy next time, ensure you make your way back to the bedroom to sleep. (This novel will be daily updated at) You mustn't forget that there is another man in this house."

I was a little stunned by the information. "Aaron? Oh, he did say that he was going to make a midnight snack," I replied.

Derek responded, "Yes, I saw the food. The noodles were still on the table. If you want to eat, can heat them up for you."

I, however, was no longer hungry and really just wanted to call it a night.

"No, I'd like to get back to sleep."

I instinctively wrapped my arms around his waist but then suddenly remembered the tie. I immediately withdrew my hands from him and turned over so that my back faced him.

But he quickly held me from behind. Fortunately, he didn't do anything else to me.

I was so drained that I fell asleep in the blink of an eye.

I thought it was because I was so eager to start driving a car that I even practiced it in my dream.

Well, that was until I was unceremoniously woken up from my dream by some unusual sounds.

"Eveline, are you purposely playing with fire at midnight?"

A hoarse, impatient and panting voice met my ears.

All at once, I was fully awake.

I had fallen asleep with my back to him but now I was in a position where I was leaning against his chest.

"What's the matter?" I was utterly bewildered.

"What do you think? Can't you see what you are touching?" He brought my attention to a wholly shocking fact.

Oh my God! How did this happen?

Derek snickered and breathed heavily on me.

"I... I dreamt that I was learning how to drive,(This novel will be daily updaed at)" I explained abashedly. I was absolutely mortified and just wanted to bury my head in the sand.

"Learning to drive, huh?" Derek raised his voice questioningly at the end of his sentence.

“Earlier, Aaron had taught me the basics of driving. In my dream, I was steering the wheel and shifting gears,” I muttered. My voice became increasingly softer as I spoke.

“Well then, you can just carry on,” he whispered in my ear.

I was completely flabbergasted. The next morning, Louise called to tell me good news.

After she had gone back and showed her father the photos and recording, including the video she had sourced from Ramsey, her father drove Linda out of the house that very night.

To be honest, that outcome was within the realm of my expectations.

There was just so much evidence to back that kind of behavior up. If her father didn't show any dignity as a man, he really wouldn't ever behave as a proper man.

In that moment, it truly felt as if Louise had won a war, not just a small interim battle. But little did she know that Linda would exact her vengeance on her and her father one day.

And the way that scummy people chose to mete out their vengeance was often beyond our imagination, just as in the case of how Shane had decided to act.

That day, I stayed at home alone while Derek and Aaron went out.

At about nine o'clock, the doorbell chimed.

When I opened the door, I was met by the sight of Tina standing in the doorway.

“Tina, what are you doing here?”

Tina smiled with embarrassment.

“Eveline, I honestly didn't want to bother you. But I really can't find anyone else to help me now,” she said.

I hadn't seen her in quite some time. Her belly was so much larger than I recalled and her feet were also quite pudgy from being swollen. “Come in and tell me what you need,” I said and held her by the hand.

She, however, declined the invitation to come inside. “No, thanks. Eveline, I just wanted to see if you have some spare time to come with me to the prison because I want to buy something but it may be difficult for me to carry.”

I didn't hesitate to agree. I asked her to just wait for me in the living room for a short while, (This novel will be daily updated at)then I went upstairs and put on a change of clothes before heading out with her.

Our first stop was the supermarket.

It was quite apparent to me that Tina was even having trouble walking.

It really wasn't an easy thing for her. She got pregnant at such a young age without a man to support her and with no family around.

Tina bought two sets of clothes. Since it was a mandatory requirement for prisoners' clothing not to have any metal, such as zippers or pull tags, as well as no straps, it took her quite some time to find some suitable attire. After that, she purchased a large amount of food. Most of the meals were Lean's favorite dishes.

"I wanted to visit him on his birthday but I was afraid of running into his parents. They've never liked me. If I met them accidentally, I wouldn't have had the chance to see Lean at all."

I could totally relate to what Tina was saying because they had also taken a disliking to me too.

I helped her carry the two big bags and took a cab with her to the prison.

Everything that had been brought to the prison by the two of us was checked and doubled checked thoroughly before it could go to the prison security guards.