

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 163

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Chapter 163 I Can't Fall Asleep Without You By My Side

That night, I went home with Louise to her house. In the past, we would often chat while in the same bed. But now, such an occurrence was quite rare. I could tell that Janie's appearance today had some impact on Louise. "Lulu, have you really fallen in love with Felix?" I asked as soon as I lay in bed. After a moment of silence, she replied, "I'm not sure if I do love him or not. I just think he's okay, and we can try dating to know our compatibility. If we're good together, then we'll proceed with the relationship. But if not, we'll separate. I'm not going to be the sort of women who'll love a man wholeheartedly and commit suicide just because of one simple disagreement. In this society, nobody is irreplaceable." I was aware that Louise would never give her heart to someone so easily. Even though she did have feelings for Felix, she would rather pretend to be indifferent towards him than get hurt. In this aspect, I wasn't as free-spirited and easygoing as her.

Once I started to develop a crush on someone, I would love him with all my heart.

"I think Felix is really serious about you. Based on his attitude to Janie earlier tonight, he's probably moved on from her completely. Look, everyone has a past. You don't need to let it bother you." "I don't have a past," Louise said confidently. It was true. She had never been in love before, nor had she met a man who could make her fall for him. Felix wasn't particularly outstanding, but I, as a bystander, thought they were a perfect match.

Perhaps it was fate that she fell in love with him.

But then, another person came to mind. "What about Layne? He's interested in you, and he seems serious about it. Has he given up on you already? I don't think he's a person to be trifled with," I said.

Silence ensued between us for a while before Louise said in a calm tone, "Actually, he's not that bad. He's just not my type."

Judging from Layne's attitude towards Louise that day, he seemed to like her a lot. If he was an ordinary person, he could have a fair competition with Felix for Louise's hand. But my gut always told me that Layne wasn't a simple man. We chatted for a long time. It was already midnight, but neither of us could fall asleep. Just then, my phone rang. I picked it up and saw a message from Derek. "Honey, are you asleep? I miss you. I can't fall asleep without you by my side." I chuckled when I imagined him tossing and turning on the bed all alone. Upon hearing my laughter, Louise turned over, stared at my phone and snorted. "You two seem really close. He can't fall asleep without hugging you, huh?" I typed "me, too", but after contemplating for a moment, I deleted them. After a few seconds of thinking, decided to reply, "You should go to sleep. You have to work tomorrow, remember?" He quickly replied, "Honey, you should go to sleep soon, too. Sweet dreams, my love. I hope I show up in your dream." I always found

humans to be strange creatures. Whenever we were together, we didn't feel anything special. But once we were apart, we would miss each other so much. And whenever we were sending messages to each other, it would give us an illusion that we were just beside each other, passionately in love. The next day, early in the morning, I went back to the villa. Derek had already left, while Aaron was still there. I planned to practice driving this morning. Aaron told me that he would drive me there. On the way, I received a message from an unknown number, so I asked him to change our route and take me to Iceland Cafe. Upon entering the cafe, I looked around and soon saw a familiar face seated by the window. Belinda's skin was well-maintained. Even though she was in her late forties, she still looked young and charming. This was probably the reason why Gifford became obsessed with her, ruined his past marriage, and even brought her back home after many years. Charlene looked a lot like her. She inherited her mother's beauty, but looked a little different. Charlene's beauty was natural and amiable, but Belinda's was somewhat more daunting. When I walked over, I saw her holding a cup of coffee. Upon seeing me, she just stared at me, took a sip, and put down the cup. Once I was seated across her, a waiter came over and I ordered a cup of latte. I wasn't sure how I should address her. Although I already had an idea what she wanted to say to me, I knew that it wouldn't be appropriate to give her a bad attitude before she made it clear to me. Thus, I smiled politely at her and said, "Hello." However, it seemed that she disdained the idea of beating around the bush with me. "I know you went to the hospital a few days ago, and I also know the result of your examination. If you don't want Derek to live a life of having no children, then you should leave him as soon as possible." 2 Stunned, I fell silent and suddenly felt a chill run down my spine and course through my body. I realized that they had been keeping tabs on me this whole time. How terrible they were!

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Chapter 164 She Had No Right

I did my best to stay calm. After a moment, I said to Belinda, "So, is this how you forced Derek's mother away?" Belinda's face darkened at once. But then, she smiled at me again. After all, this woman was a shrewd one. What do you mean by that? She failed to make her man stay faithful to her, because she's incompetent. She doesn't have the right to blame anyone for her loss." It seemed that she was quite proud that she was a successful mistress. I put on a sarcastic smile. "Yes, she did fail to keep her man faithful, and through your seductive abilities, you managed to hook up with her husband. And I could tell that you're raring to help your daughter become a mistress as well." Belinda probably didn't expect that I would say something like that, so she was stunned for a moment. But then, she smiled again. "Are you kidding me? Charlene is a good girl. She's beautiful, capable, and smart. You, on the other hand, are a pauper and a divorced woman. You can't even conceive a child anymore, so we don't take you seriously." Now that she had made her intentions clear, I no longer held back.

I took a deep breath, and firmly said, "Derek is my husband. I will not leave him unless he doesn't want me anymore. If you're confident that your daughter can

steal him from me, then be my guest. You came here to convince me to back down on purpose. Are you helping her because you think your daughter can't compare to a divorced woman who's unable to get pregnant?" 2 My words seemed to have pissed Belinda off. Before I could react, she picked up the cup of coffee on the table and poured it over my head. Fortunately, I closed my eyes in time to prevent any of the coffee from spilling into my eyes. I could see the droplets of the black coffee trickling down from my hair. And the sticky liquid streamed down my cheeks, falling towards my white clothes. The people at the other tables looked at me, shocked and whispering among themselves. Even without looking at a mirror, I could imagine how awful I must look right now. Coffee was dripping down my eyelashes and hair. Through my blurred vision, I saw how furious Belinda was as she held the cup in her trembling hand. I felt so embarrassed and helpless.

All of a sudden, a man draped a suit over me to cover my stained clothing.

"Aunt Belinda, you're being rude," Aaron remarked as he put his hands on my shoulders.

Although he was addressing her as "Aunt", he sounded very angry.

Belinda was surprised to see him at this time. Her normally "good-natured lady" appearance was ruined, and she looked quite humiliated.

Aaron helped me up from the chair and said to her, "You need to get it to your head that you can't even discipline Lean, so you have no right to meddle in Derek's affairs." Those words seemed to be the nail on the head. I had been arguing with her for a long time but I didn't get to the point. The fact that Belinda wasn't Derek's mother meant that she had no right to get involved in his marriage. Indeed, she had no right at all. Belinda looked at Aaron, visibly astonished. She couldn't say anything else, so we decided to leave her there. Along the way, I could feel her staring daggers at me. Aaron told me to get in his car first. Then, he went to a nearby convenience store, and soon returned to the car. I saw him holding a bag that contained some wet wipes. He took one out and turned my face, helping me wipe away the coffee in my hair and on my face. Although he didn't say a word, he was very gentle while he was helping me. This kind of gentle care saddened me. My eyes were a little sore. I tried my best to hold back my tears, and took the wet tissue from his hand. "Just let me do it myself," I told him. Thus, Aaron stopped and leaned back in his seat in silence. "Why didn't you leave?" I asked, breaking the silence. He turned his head towards me and replied, "I saw a familiar license plate when I parked my car. I knew she was inside and guessed that you must have an appointment with her. I knew that she didn't just want to invite you for a cup of coffee, so I waited for you in the car for a while. Seeing that you hadn't come out after a while, I got worried, so I left my car and went in to look for you." Afterwards, I crumpled the wet tissue into a ball and pretended to be relaxed. "It's really no big deal. I don't care. She can't hurt me, and I'm not one to back down so easily." Aaron placed the used tissues into a plastic bag, took it out of the car, and threw it into a bin. Moments later, he came back and started the car. "I'm sorry for troubling you. You're supposed to work today, right?" I asked. He shook his head and smiled. "It's fine. I already asked for a leave today." "You asked for a leave? What are you going to do?" I asked. After the car passed by a traffic light, he stepped on the accelerator,

speeding the car up. "We should go home. You need to take a shower and change your clothes. We're going somewhere," he said.

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Chapter 165 The Reason I Am Here

After I got back to the villa, I took a shower, changed my clothing and then seated myself in Aaron's car again. Aaron drove the car all the way to the suburbs. At the foot of the mountain, he bought two bouquets of flowers. He then proceeded to drive up the mountain and his final destination proved to be the cemetery where he finally stopped the car. After we alighted from the car, he took me into the cemetery and we walked up to a tombstone. The woman in the photo on the tombstone bore somewhat of a resemblance to him.. "Today is the anniversary of my mother's death. That's why I asked for a leave to visit her grave. I have been overseas for so many years that it's quite rare that I am able to come see her." He smiled bitterly. "I'm not a good son." I offered a few words of comfort. "There were many things you simply were unable to do because you were overseas. I truly believe that she understands your circumstances." Aaron knelt in front of his mother's tomb for some time. When he was done, he got to his feet and found another tombstone. He placed the second bouquet of flowers on this grave. He informed me that this grave belonged to none other than Derek's mother. There was another bunch of fresh flowers in front of her tombstone. I didn't know who placed those flowers there. It occurred to me that the only people left in the world who could remember Derek's mother was Derek himself and Gifford. Gifford was completely heartless and he was in a relationship with an equally ruthless woman. Accordingly, I ruled him out as the parties who had placed the flowers there. I figured that the only person who could have done that was Derek. However, I had no idea when he had come to visit the site of his mother's grave. To outsiders, he was as invincible as a superman. However, the fact of the matter was that he also had a fragile heart inside him that no one could easily touch. But he didn't always share these things with me. He always bore his burdens on his own. As his wife, I wasn't privy to anything. When we came back from the cemetery and the car had just pulled up outside the gate of the villa, another car also arrived and stopped at the gate. The two cars had stopped directly in front of each other. Through the windscreen, I could see Derek sitting in the driver's seat of the other vehicle.

The car windshield reflected the dazzling luster of the sunshine. I couldn't make out his expression with any certainty.

I was quite inquisitive about why he had returned at this particular time.

When we got out of the car, Derek also alighted from the other car at the same time and walked towards us.

"Where have you been?"

he asked us. His tone was calm but his eyes were fixed on me. Aaron said flatly, "Eveline went to the cemetery with me, and just by the way, I took her to see her mother-in law."

Derek walked up to me, put one hand on my shoulder and said, "Oh, I see." I asked, "I thought you were busy? Why did you come back so early?"

Derek looked at me with a faint smile and pulled me into his arms.

"You slept outside last night. I missed you, so I came back to see you when I had a free minute." The sudden strength of his embrace caught me off guard. I fell into his arms, my chin hit his shoulder and hurt a little. Aaron looked at us briefly with a faint smile on his face. I could see a trace of tiredness in his eyes. He then turned around and walked into the villa. After lunch, I took out a book to read. Derek and Aaron were watching TV in the living room. The two usually very busy men were surprisingly quite idle today. When I encountered something I didn't understand in the book, I went to them with the book in my hand. Generally, Aaron had an answer to my every question.

Derek would become depressed when he couldn't give me the answer. When preparing dinner, Aaron let us know that there wasn't any alcohol left and went out to buy a couple bottles of wine. We had four dishes and one soup for dinner. There weren't too many dishes but Aaron said that he wanted to drink anyway.

I could tell that it was indeed a sad day for him. It wasn't normal for him to want to drink. The two men were eating and drinking. Aaron was usually steady and composed. He was always eloquent in his speech and graceful in his manner of doing things, but today he seemed to have drunk a little too much.

When I finished washing up the dishes, the pair were still drinking.

I was a little sleepy. In any event, they were drinking at home so it didn't matter if they got drunk. So I went upstairs to go to sleep before them. When I was on the cusp of falling asleep and in a bit of a daze, I heard the footsteps of someone coming into the bedroom. Then the person lay down next to me in the bed and wrapped their arms around my waist.

I subconsciously wriggled closer in his arms and could smell the faint odor of alcohol.

When I woke up the next morning, I was terrified when I opened my eyes. It was Aaron who was lying next to me. I screamed and suddenly sat up from the bed. I immediately looked down at my clothes. I was still wearing my pajamas and they weren't unkempt at all. So maybe nothing happened... I comforted myself based on the fact that my clothing seemed to have stayed on through the night.

Aaron was woken up by my scream. When he opened his eyes and took in the surroundings. He looked rather bewildered.

"Why am I here?" This particular question was what I wanted to ask him! I heard a sound from behind me. When I turned my head, I found that Derek had been

sleeping behind me and he had also woken up now. He didn't show any surprise in response to the current situation. He seemed to have a stiff neck. He frowned and twisted it twice to get some relief. "I think I might have been the one who took you to this room last night. Well, I took you to the wrong room it seems," he said. I was shocked speechless. "I think you were both heavily drunk last night!" Aaron sat up and held his head uncomfortably. "Yes, I drank a lot. I don't remember anything at all" he said groggily. The two of them were still wearing the clothes they had worn during the day yesterday. They must have fallen asleep straight after getting drunk last night. They were so drunk that perhaps the three of us had slept together without doing anything else.

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Aaron got out of bed and walked out. He shook his head a couple of times, probably in an attempt to shake off his dizziness.

"I'm going to take a shower," he said.

When the door was closed again, I turned around and found that Derek was staring at me, propped up with one of his arms supporting his head. In all honesty, I was actually a bit angered by what had transpired.

"Can't you be more responsible? How could you make such a mistake? (This novel will be daily updated at)Do you often sleep in the wrong room with the wrong person?"

With a smile on his face, Derek pulled me back down to lie with him. Then he turned over and stared at me.

"You are always unable to keep yourself from moving at night while you sleep. Tell me, did you touch anything last night?"

To be frank, I really didn't know who it was that I hugged last night when I was in a sleepy daze.

"How would I know what I did after I fell asleep? In any case, you don't know what you did since you were inebriated!"

Derek's face darkened and he wrapped his arms around my waist more tightly. "Is being asleep the same as being drunk? Tell me the truth. Did you practice driving in your dreams last night?"

Since he mentioned practicing driving in my dreams, I felt mortified. (This novel will be daily updated at)But then again, he had asked me in such a serious manner that I also found it quite amusing.

"Ha ha..." His face darkened because of my laughter and he kissed me to stop me from laughing. I had no idea how much they had drunk last night. There was still the scent of alcohol emanating from him even though an entire night had passed by. We kissed and made love on the bed for quite a while. The duvet had been messy to start off with but now it was in a complete mess.

To my surprise, this incident had no impact on the three of us. Everything was exactly as it was before, as if nothing had happened in the first place. In fact, nothing had happened.

I got breakfast ready for us downstairs while the two of them changed their clothes before they joined me.

Aaron told us that he had a meeting that morning and left without eating a single morsel of breakfast.

Derek came down with a suitcase in tow and let me know that he would be going away on a business trip for the next few days. He always did things out of the blue, without letting me know about it in advance. He noticed that I kept mum so he walked up to me and pinched my cheek. "Why do you put on such a show? You don't want me to go on the business trip, do you?"

I shook off his hand, walked to the table and said, (This novel will be daily updated at) "Just go. I think I can be alone for a few days. It's good for

me actually."

Before I sat down, he wrapped his arms tightly around my waist from behind.

His magnetic voice entered my ears and I could feel his warm breath gently tickling my skin.

"You have to miss me. Do you hear me?"

I would never admit it but, truth be told, I was actually ecstatic at that moment.

I pulled his hand away from my waist and looked back at him seriously.

"Do you often have parties to attend during business trips? Do you often go to the wrong room and sleep with the wrong person after getting drunk?"

Derek looked at me with a playful smile. "Are you worried about that?" I cleared my throat and pulled out a chair to take a seat on. "Well, you just did that last night. Although you took Aaron to the wrong room, it is the same as you yourself going to the wrong one. If you've done such a thing before, I wouldn't be surprised if you would do such a thing again," I said.

He sat opposite me and peered at me with a smile.

“Since you are so worried about me, why don’t you come with me?” I took a sip of milk, put the glass down and replied blandly, “It’s not that I’m worried. I’m just reminding you not to ruin your image and reputation in public.” Derek suddenly put down his fork and gave me a salute. (This novel will be daily updaed at)” Yes, madam!”. I couldn’t help but burst out laughing. He also smiled joyfully. I thought that this kind of life was probably exactly what I had always wanted. We laughed and joked as we finished our breakfast together. It seemed like a simple thing but if such a simple thing could be done every day for a lifetime, it was also remarkably romantic. Our current life was just so wonderful that I didn’t want to let my mind wander to the problems that, realistically, we’d have to face. For example, his father was not willing to accept me, and I also couldn’t get pregnant easily. Even if I had to face these problems one day, I still believed that dealing with them was far off in the distant future. On the second day after Derek had left for his business trip, I was just reading at home. He called me and told me that he had left the key to his desk at home. He asked me to take the key to the office and give a specific document to his assistant. They were in urgent need of the document. After I hung up on the call, I went back to our room and found the key on the bedside table. I took a cab to Dere International.

- As soon as I walked out of the elevator, the assistant came up to me.(This novel will be daily updaed at) It was quite apparent that she had been waiting for me for quite a while.
I walked into Derek’s office, sat at his desk and unlocked the drawer with the key.

The document he spoke of was placed in a very conspicuous position. When I took it out, however, a book just underneath it caught my eye. As soon as I picked up the book, I was swamped by a whole host of mixed emotions. The subject of the book was child-rearing. When I opened the book, I found a bookmark. On that page, there were many markings. He must have read this book when he had free time at the office. He must have a deep desire to have a child. So, when he saw my examination report, I thought he was very disappointed. But he didn’t show his disappointment. He always preferred to hide his emotions. There was a gentle knock on the door. The assistant stood at the door and asked politely but anxiously, “Have you found the document?” When I came to my senses, I put the book back in its original place, locked the drawer again, and handed the document to the assistant. (This novel will be daily updaed at)On the way back home, I kept thinking that maybe I couldn’t resign myself to my fate. In this modern era, medicine had become so advanced. There must be still a way that could help me get pregnant.

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Chapter 167 Being Tricked

I had planned to go to a specialist’s clinic, but before going there, I encountered something strange. When I went to practice driving, I met a woman in her forties. She enjoyed gossiping as a pastime. That day, I heard her talking about a friend

who was forced by her husband to get a divorce, because she couldn't bear a child. I felt so sorry for her. I wondered if I would be abandoned as well if I couldn't get pregnant. The middle-aged woman said that after her friend got divorced, she married another man and found a famous doctor to help her out. It was then that she got pregnant. Upon hearing this, I was very interested to know more. "A famous doctor? Which hospital does he or she work for?" I asked with excitement. The middle-aged woman glanced at me, seemingly able to read my mind at a glance. She approached me and whispered, "You're married, aren't you? Do you have a child?" In order to learn more about this famous doctor, I decided to answer honestly. "I'm married, but I don't have a child yet." The middle-aged woman looked at me with sympathy. "I understand how painful that experience could be. There are many people whose marriages fell apart because of infertility. I can tell that you're a good woman. I really feel sorry for you. Well, I know where the doctor works, so I can take you there if you want." It seemed as though she understood my plight well. When I thought of what Belinda told me the other day, I couldn't help but wonder if Derek might leave me someday if we couldn't have a child together. And so, I really wanted to see this doctor. Now that I had a glimmer of hope, I decided to give it a try. After we finished practicing how to drive, the middle-aged woman asked her husband to drive us to the doctor's clinic. It was already four in the afternoon. I thought it might be a little late now, so I told her that I could just go see the doctor some other day. However, the woman kept on persuading me to see the doctor now, and seemed very enthusiastic about the idea.

"Why would you go another day? The earlier you get the treatment, the better. If you delay it any longer, you and your husband will only suffer for longer."

Thus, I got in her husband's car upon her insistence.

The car drove all the way out of the urban area. As I looked out the window and saw the change in scenery, I felt confused. "Where does this doctor work? Doesn't she work for a hospital?" It seemed that my companion could tell what I was worried about, so she patted my hand to comfort me. "Oh, there's no need to worry. You and I are driving school buddies! We see each other on a regular basis. I'm not going to harm you. The famous doctor isn't working for a hospital, but she's just as famous as the ones working for hospitals." Upon hearing her say that, I was relieved. However, I kept on gripping the phone in my hand. The car didn't stop until we were at a village in the suburbs. Then, the woman led me out of the car. Meanwhile, her husband decided to remain in the car to wait for us. The village was sparsely populated. It was getting dark, and seeing such a strange village made me feel nervous. "I think it's a little too late now. Maybe I should try coming here again tomorrow," I said. The woman held my hand tightly. "But, we're already here. Since we learned how to drive together, the least I could do for you was to take you here. If you were someone else, I wouldn't have helped you," she said. Thus, I had no choice but to follow her.

After walking for a while, the woman pointed at the courtyard and said, "The doctor's place is over there." The location was strange to me. I wondered if there was really a famous doctor living here. I could see a dim yellow light coming from inside the house. After the woman led me into the house, I found that there were many people inside. There was a woman in her fifties sitting on a chair, treating patients one after another. The middle-aged woman who came here with me glanced at me and said, "It seems that we weren't too late. There are still a lot of

people left. Don't worry, I'll inform her about the details later and let her treat you first." Once the "famous doctor" finished dealing with a patient, the middle-aged woman approached the doctor and muttered a few words to her. Then, after she pointed at me, the doctor waved her hand, beckoning me to come over.

"So, what seems to be the problem, ma'am?" she asked me.

To be honest, I was very skeptical of this doctor's medical skills. But since I was already here, I had to listen to her.

"Infertility," I mumbled.

The doctor seemed relieved to hear me say that.

"Ah! It'll be easy to deal with, then." I was stunned by her remark. She hadn't even examined me yet. The "famous doctor" took out a piece of yellow paper and lit the red candle on the table. After muttering a few words while waiting for the paper to burn out, she then put the burnt paper into a bowl of water, stirred it with her fingers a couple of times and handed the bowl to me. "Drink it!" I was stupefied by this.

It made me wonder if she was actually a doctor.

"Do I really have to drink that?" I asked nervously. The doctor stared at me listlessly. "This medicine won't cost you much. It took me a lot of effort to concoct it. Just take it, and pay for the treatment." "Well, how much is it?" I was almost certain that I had fallen into some sort of trap. "Six-hundred and sixty-six dollars," the woman responded calmly. As I stared at the bowl of water with black ash floating over it, I was stunned. Suddenly, I stood up and made my escape.

But before I could run out of the door, two men halted me. They were tall, strong, and determined to hinder me from escaping.

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Chapter 168 A Lapse In Common Sense

It finally dawned on me just how stupid I had been. "Ma'am, you need to pay for the consultation. Our great doctor's prescriptions aren't free. I'm sure you know it takes a lot of energy and knowledge." It was one of the women who spoke up, and the others in the queue agreed readily. Clearly, these people had already been brainwashed past all hope. They were following this quack doctor blindly like a cult.

The middle-aged woman who had taken me to this place took my arm. Her voice was gentle and coaxing, as if she only had my best interests in mind.

“Ma’am, the most important thing right now is to get you pregnant, right? Compared to the blessing that awaits you, this consultation fee should be nothing. Trust me, this medicine really works. The story I told you about my friend is true. She can attest to the doctor’s prowess.” I knew that it wouldn’t do me any good to refuse them now.

For the time being, I should give in and act like I bought their nonsense.

I mustered a small giggle. “Well, I didn’t run away because of the fee. I was just a little scared to take the medicine. It looks dark and awful, I didn’t think I’d be able to keep it down.”

The woman drew close and began to whisper in a conspiratorial tone, “You don’t understand. This is actually a magic potion. But don’t worry, the doctor doesn’t give them away to just anyone. She only prescribes them to those whose fate she had already seen. If she said that your disease can be cured, then you should be able to get pregnant as soon as you take this medicine. I’m telling you, if she shook her head and told you it was hopeless, then no doctor in the world would be able to help you.” Ah, so now the renowned doctor had become something of a potions master. If she had told me all this drivel earlier, I would have turned her away immediately. I nodded and pretended to understand. “I see, I see. Okay, I’ll drink it. No matter what, I want to get pregnant.” My apparent acquiescence made them relaxed, and the quack doctor resumed her “consultation” with the next patient.

I took the bowl of medicine and walked to the side, still dreading the idea of drinking its foul contents. There was no way I was letting it touch my lips.

Even so, I tipped the bowl to make it look like I was drinking the liquid, but my eyes were urgently darting around. I waited for the two men at the door to let their guard down. When they did, I threw the bowl toward them and rushed outside.

I ran as fast as I could, especially when I heard footsteps trailing behind me. I dove forward and plucked a handful of pebbles without breaking my run, flinging them at my pursuers. When I reached the main road, I spotted the car that had brought me here. It was still parked where we had left it.

The driver saw me, and I heard the engine rev up. It looked like he was planning to block me with the car.

Just then, I saw another vehicle speeding in our direction. Its headlights were blinding, but I rushed toward it in common sense without a second thought. The second car screeched to a halt right beside me, and I quickly opened the door and ducked into the passenger seat. We were already speeding away by the time my pursuers even reached the highway. I pressed a hand against my chest and tried to calm my breathing. Beneath my palm, I could feel the loud thumping of my heart. It took me a while, but I finally turned to look at the handsome man behind the steering wheel. “What were you doing in such a remote place, Eveline?”

Aaron raised his eyebrows and looked at me with a helpless expression. I could only shrug. "I don't really have anything to defend myself with. I was being stupid, that's all." Aaron smiled and shook his head. "Well, at least you were smart enough to send me a message in advance." He was right. I had already been on my guard the moment the woman had pulled me into her husband's car. Derek was away on a business trip, so I only had Aaron to count on for now. Luckily, I still had enough sound judgment to share my location with him earlier. I was twenty-six years old, for goodness's sake! I shouldn't have been fooled so easily. And yet, I was. Was it because I wanted to have a baby so much that I discarded all common sense? Indeed, when one's ultimate desire was at stake, it wasn't difficult to win them over even with the simplest tactics. I just couldn't believe I had almost fallen for that scam! I was very fortunate that Aaron hadn't come any later. I had recognized his car at first glance, which was why Thad jumped in without hesitation. I took a deep breath and slapped my face repeatedly. Aaron quickly grabbed my hand to stop me. "All right, stop blaming yourself already," he teased. "Everyone is entitled to be an idiot every now and then." ² I wasn't sure whether it was a good thing or not, but he refrained from asking exactly what had happened to

1. me.

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Chapter 169 The Treatment Plan

That night as I lay in my bed, I felt upset with myself for the utter stupidity I had displayed.

After experiencing a long bout of depression, I considered what Aaron had said and it made complete sense.

Everyone was entitled to be an idiot every now and then, right? I heard a message alert chime from my phone. I picked it up and found that it was a message from Seagull. The message read: "Eve, what are you doing now? How have you been keeping recently?" I hadn't messaged Seagull in quite some time. Out of habit, I automatically typed the two words "not bad" in response, but after a momentary hesitation, I deleted the text I had just typed.

In fact, I actually had a mental and emotional dependence on Seagull. More often than not, I was more than willing to share my innermost secrets with him. I sent him an emoji whose face twitched unhappily. He quickly replied, "What's wrong? Is something troubling your mind and causing you unhappiness?" Reading his question, I had the strong urge to tell him everything. "I did something remarkably dumb today," I typed back. At the end of the text, I inserted several emojis with crying faces. "Really? You're so smart, it's hard to believe that," he texted back. I thought that since Seagull had studied medicine and I was having some medical issues, it would be a good decision for me to tell him the honest truth and seek his advice. ³ "Well first of all, let me tell you something. Don't get too surprised!" I started. "Alright," he agreed.

"I got remarried," I messaged.

"Well, you move on very fast!" He was not surprised in the least bit.

"But the doctor said it's highly likely that I'm infertile. Today I heard of a well-renowned doctor who could cure me but she turned out to be a complete fraud," I texted.

He didn't reply to me for quite some time which made me quite anxious. However, it was too late for me to unsend my message at this point. It was only at this juncture that it occurred to me that Seagull was a man after all. He must be embarrassed to discuss this topic with me. Reluctantly, I sent him another text. "I just wanted to ask for your help, as a patient." Just at that moment, I received a long reply from him. "Don't let yourself believe in folk medicine and home remedies too easily. Go to a hospital. There, the personnel are well-trained and your illness isn't one that is difficult to treat. Anyway, does your husband know about this? What are his thoughts on it? Does he care about it? I believe that if he genuinely loves you, it will not be a problem for him. So, Eve, don't put an inordinate amount of pressure on yourself. Let go of your burden and do something meaningful to make your life more fulfilling. I hope you will be happy So it turned out he had taken long to reply because he was typing for all that time. I was touched by his response. Although Derek had told me he didn't care about it, I knew he still desired having a child of his own. The pressure I felt was mostly because of the guilt I experienced in respect of Derek's feelings. I replied, "Thank you. I know what to do now." The very next day, I decided to go to the hospital to have a check-up. I asked the doctor for a treatment plan. I asked Louise to accompany me on the trip.

The doctor's words were exactly the same as when I had visited previously. It was not until that moment that Louise had found out what had happened. She was so infuriated with Shane that she cursed him profusely, which truly shocked the doctor. The doctor conducted an ultrasound scan on me and advised me that today was the day that I would ovulate. Accordingly, it was advisable for me to have sex today or tomorrow to increase the probability of falling pregnant.

The doctor spoke frankly. For the time being, I felt no embarrassment at all. Immediately after finishing up at the doctor's office, I called Derek. He let me know that he'd be returning the next morning. "Eve, why didn't you tell me about that? If you had told me earlier, I would have given Shane a few more hard kicks that day in Goldelta. He is such vermin." Louise was a straightforward person. Even when we had left the doctor's office, she was still fuming with rage on my behalf. Suddenly, she was astonished by the sight her eyes fell upon.

I followed her gaze and saw a familiar figure walking out of another office of the Gynecology and Obstetrics Department, holding a prescription in her hand. Although Linda was wearing sunglasses, I still managed to recognize her. Linda didn't see us and headed straight out of the hospital. Louise was quite calm this time. We followed Linda. We saw Linda take a cab so Louise quickly got her car and we followed her to her father's company.

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Chapter 170 You Can't Make Up For This

"I was right. This bitch hasn't given up yet," Louise grunted with resentment when we saw Linda walking into her father's company. We quickly got out of the car and went to Louise's father's office. The two of us stopped and exchanged looks when we heard them talking inside. "Colin, can you give me another chance? At least for the sake of our child. He deserves to have a father." Louise and I were shocked. We looked at each other before peeking through the gap of the blinds. Linda was hugging Colin, begging for mercy. The latter hadn't uttered a word. Judging from his expression, it looked like he was conflicted. "Can't you come up with a better lie? You haven't been pregnant for so many years. How could you be pregnant now?(This novel will be daily updaed at) I think you don't know which gigolo is the father of your child, so you are making me take the responsibility." Before I could react, Louise pushed the door open and stormed inside. Her sudden appearance startled the two people inside. To maintain a good image in front of his daughter, Colin quickly pushed Linda away. "Colin, the child is yours," Linda pleaded, tugging at his sleeves. "I swear, I'm telling the truth. You have to believe me." Louise sneered, "Only an idiot will believe you." She then turned to her father and said, "Dad, she has cheated on you countless times. How can you tolerate a woman like her?"

Colin glanced at me. I could see that my presence embarrassed him. After all, anyone would be humiliated to have such a conversation with their daughter in the presence of an outsider. When Linda tried to pull his hand again, he shook it off. "You can leave now. I can't satisfy you. I never want to see you again,"(This novel will be daily updaed at) Colin said resolutely. The sadness on Linda's face slowly turned into hatred.

She shot a venomous look at Louise before storming out.

Louise seemed visibly relaxed when her father chose not to get back with the woman. Just as she grabbed my hand and walked out, Colin stopped her.

"Lulu, I know you have always hated Linda. Now that she has moved out, why don't you come back and stay with me?"

I felt sorry for him. He was begging his daughter to get back with him.

I thought the feud between Louise and her father would end with Linda's departure, but her answer told me otherwise.

"No, I'd rather live alone. It's much better. Although Linda has left, my mother' won't come back. (This novel will be daily updaed at)We can't change the past, and you can't make up for what you have done," Louise said firmly. I wanted to persuade her, but she grabbed my hand and dragged me outside. "Lulu, you can't

hate your father forever. Forget about what happened and move on. Are you going to hate him

for the rest of your life?" I advised. Louise looked at me, and the corners of her mouth twitched. I could see the sadness in her eyes. "I can't forgive him. I will hate him for the rest of my life." "But what you did and said to Linda proves that you still care about him." I wanted to make her understand that, despite her anger and hatred, she still cared for her father. Louise snorted. "No, I don't. I just didn't want that bitch to live a better life. Well, let's stop talking about this. The doctor said you should have sex today or tomorrow. If you really want to have a child with Derek, you have to take the initiative." She quickly changed the topic. Her blunt words made me embarrassed. However, she was right; I shouldn't miss the opportunity. I called Derek that night and asked him again if he would come back tomorrow. "Why? What's the matter? You seem to miss me a lot this time." His voice was hoarse, and I could tell that he was smiling. I gritted my teeth and fell silent, fearing that my voice might betray me. "Honey, you've made me suffer. How can I spend the night without you?" he added. A blush flamed my cheeks. I rolled on the bed and covered my face with a pillow. "Go to bed early." "I should have come back tonight." Derek seemed to regret his decision. I shifted the phone to my other ear as I tried to picture what he was doing at the moment. Where would he be now? Was he lying on the sofa? Or on the bed? Or was he standing on the balcony, leaning against the handrail, and looking at the night view like he usually did? He must be frowning or perhaps holding a cigarette in one hand. I bet he must be looking charming. "Go to bed early and come back soon tomorrow." I sounded like a caring wife, waiting for her husband to come home. (This novel will be daily updated at)The thought made me happy. I heard the flicking sound of the lighter from the other end of the line. "Okay, go to bed, honey. And don't miss me too much." I couldn't help but laugh. "Didn't you ask me to miss you before leaving?" "Missing someone is a torturous thing. I know how painful it is because I am going through it right now. I miss you so much." We didn't know how long we spoke, but the phone grew hot, and we reluctantly hung up the call. I tossed and turned on the bed. Derek wasn't here, and the growing emptiness in my heart kept me awake all night. At that moment, it dawned on me that I had become more and more dependent on him. It was a terrible thing. The more I relied on him, the easier I would get hurt.