

## Chapter 195 I Want To Complain About This

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"But that's impossible!"

I stared at Derek, displaying how flummoxed I was.

He put on a smile and replied, "Eve, take it easy. It's not that complicated. I'll handle it."

But how could I not worry? It was obvious that this Alvaro was not a man to be trifled with.

"What was on that agreement you signed? And what's going to happen if you fail to get his brother out?" I asked.

For some reason, Derek felt like it was getting stuffy in the car, so he rolled down the windows halfway to let the wind in.

"If I can't do it, I'll have to give him a million dollars," he said.

My eyes widened with shock. "What the hell? He's the one asking for your help! That condition is too much. Is it your fault that you can't help him?"

Seeing that I reacted so strongly, Derek laughed.

"Eveline, to me, problems that can be solved with money isn't a problem at all!"

At the time, I completely believed him that their agreement was limited to just the one million dollars. I truly believed that aside from their deal, I would never have to see Alvaro again.

Only Derek and I were aware of what happened that night. I didn't tell anyone about it. The following day, when I went to the hospital to visit Louise, I didn't tell her about what happened, either.

That morning, the nurse on duty was making her rounds and asked about the patient's recovery.

A steel padding had been attached to Louise's broken leg. When the nurse lifted her foot, she must've accidentally hurt Louise, because I saw Louise taking a deep breath and biting her lower lip. But since she had always been tough, she didn't say a word.

"Damn it, woman! Be gentle!" Felix, on the other hand, yelled at the nurse, because he felt just how much in pain Louise was.

The nurse was a young girl, and her temper was like most young ones her age. Naturally, she was annoyed that Felix was shouting at her, so she turned her head to glare at him.

"How is it possible that she won't feel any pain? She has a fracture; it's natural! If she had known this would happen, would she have gone to the rooftop with reckless abandon instead of talking to you?"

From the way the nurse spoke, I gathered that the news of Felix and Louise falling from a building had already spread. And obviously, the fact had been distorted.

Annoyed by the nurse's statement, he pointed at her and said, "Is this how the personnel of Wonder Hospital act? Call your head nurse and bring her over here! I'm going to complain about you."

Considering that the nurse was still young, she was brash and arrogant.

"File a complaint. See if I care."

To Felix's surprise, the nurse's temper was worse than his, so he was rendered speechless and had to reassess the situation.

"You know what? Don't ask the head nurse to come here. Go look for my friend, Aaron Hudson. I'll ask him why they're recruiting nurses of your 'quality' for a prestigious hospital like this one. How did someone as rude as you get a job here?"

After hearing Aaron's name, the nurse was flustered.

I noticed the subtlety of her reaction.

I once worked at this very hospital, so I knew that many female employees here were infatuated with Aaron. Naturally, none of them would want to ruin their images in front of someone like him.

The young nurse blushed. She paused for a moment and said in a softer tone, "I'm sorry, sir. My attitude just now was unbecoming of my profession. Please forgive me."

I was surprised at how fast her attitude changed.

Then, I noticed that Felix was still planning to make things difficult for her, so I immediately stopped him.

"Felix, just drop it. She already apologized. Besides, Louise has a fracture, so it's natural for her to feel pain over it. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill."

Louise finally chimed in and said to the nurse, "Don't worry about that guy. He has a bad temper."

The nurse nodded in response, and left after she apologized again.

In truth, Felix had no intention of arguing with her anymore. Right now, he had his hands crossed behind his head, his legs were crossed, and he was grinning.

"Damn! I didn't think Aaron's name would be this useful."

Because of what happened last night, I was a little absentminded.

"Eve, you should go home. It's boring to stick around here," said Louise.

I smiled at her and responded, "I'm fine, Louise. You're also bored, right? That's why I'm here. To chat with you."

As I spoke, I looked at them and realized something.

"Wait, should I be staying here? I'm not disturbing you, am I?"

Louise seemed amused by my question.

"Who said you couldn't stay here? Stay. I don't mind having a third wheel here."

I broke into laughter.

When we saw that someone was entering the ward, Louise and I stopped laughing at the same time.

The person who walked in locked his eyes on Felix.



## Chapter 196 Did You Jump Off The Building Because Of Him

Felix felt irritable because of the pair of burning eyes that stared at him incessantly. I was fearful that he'd lose his temper if he couldn't make sense of the situation. I hurriedly got to my feet and said, "Mr. Larson." When Felix heard that I had greeted the man so courteously, he was a little surprised and also became a tad bit nervous.

Colin Larson nodded at me in greeting and looked straight back at Felix with his piercing glare.

"Louise, did you jump off the building because of him?" he asked.

Louise jumped off the building? The rumor was becoming increasingly more ludicrous by the minute!

Louise snorted and asked, "Dad, do you believe such a rumor?"

"Well, I have asked the doctor about your condition. You said it was a rumor. If that's the case, then how did you get injured?"

Colin had indeed believed the rumor, so he wouldn't listen to any other explanation.

"Whether you believe it or not is your own thing."

Louise and her father had been on bad terms with each other for a long time, and she really wasn't in any mood to explain what happened at that moment.

"It's not what you think, sir," Felix remarked.

"Shut up! I'm talking to my daughter here," Colin shouted.

Felix should have noticed that his future father-in-law was clearly unhappy with him. Although he had wanted to explain, Colin cut him off.

"I'll instruct the doctor to transfer you to an independent ward without further ado!" Colin announced his decision assertively.

Louise cast her father an indifferent look. "How come you suddenly care about me so much?"

Colin looked at Louise helplessly and tried his best to remain calm and collected.

"You are my daughter. Of course, naturally I care about you. If I don't care about you, who should I care about?"

Something came to Louise's mind. "Oh, I get it. Do you now care about me because that bitch left you and now you have no one else to care about?"

If they continued to communicate in this toxic fashion, the only result could be a stalemate.

I immediately interrupted their spat. "It's a good idea for Lulu to stay here. I can take care of her. Don't worry, Mr. Larson."

Colin insisted on sticking to his guns regarding principles, so he said to Felix without sugar coating it, "Young man, you and my daughter are not suitable for each other."

"Why not? I'm his woman now. It's none of your business," Louise retorted.

What Louise had said momentarily had me dumbstruck.

At that moment, Felix had no clue what to say.

I couldn't be certain whether Colin believed Louise's words or not. Anyway, he was absolutely livid. In the end, he stormed off with an enraged expression on his face.

Obviously, Colin tried to prevent Louise and Felix from being together.

Felix kept scratching his head in confusion.

"Your father didn't tell me why he is dissatisfied with me. I can make the necessary changes to become better," Felix said.

"Don't bother. You are not with him," Louise said and glared at Felix.

When Felix went to the bathroom, I asked Louise if it was true that she had already slept with him.

She looked at me with a smile on her face. "No, that's not the case."

She took a look at the bathroom and whispered with embarrassment on her face. "There were several times that we almost made love but we didn't do that in the end."

I believed it must be Louise who stopped the act halfway.

If a woman repeatedly stopped the act of sex happening in the middle of things heating up, the man would lose his mind. Since Felix put up with it, I knew he genuinely loved her.

I left the hospital early that day. When I walked out of the in-patient department building, I saw Colin standing in the yard. To my surprise, he still hadn't left the hospital premises.

"Hello," he said.

It was quite apparent that he had purposely waited there for me. Perhaps he wanted to chat to me about Louise.

Without beating around the bush, Colin said, "Eveline, I know you are Louise's best friend. She will tell you everything and anything. She's dating a bastard from a bar and jumped off the building on purpose. Did she do that to spite me?"

I noticed the contempt and loathing that saturated his words.

Derek's father also used to look down upon me in this way.

I took a deep breath and said in an even tone, "Felix is not some bastard in the bar, he actually owns the bar. He is outgoing, but don't judge him so easily. Nowadays, people pursue love openly. After all, it is not easy for people to find someone they truly, deeply love. You used to be young, strong-minded and desperate too. I believe that you can therefore understand this kind of relationship, right?"

It seemed like Colin felt that my words made sense. He didn't say anything but just breathed out a heavy, long sigh.

I took the opportunity to persuade him to see it differently. "I know that you don't get along well with Lulu. Now this is a good opportunity for you to mend your relationship with her. In fact, it's not that Lulu doesn't care about you. She is just stubborn but she does actually hold you dearly in her heart."

When I ended the conversation with Colin, he actually thanked me.

It seemed that he had finally understood something. I sincerely hoped that they could manage to make peace with one another soon.



## Chapter 197 The Girl Who Sent The Message

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Two weeks later, Louise and Felix were discharged from the hospital.

All the problems in their relationship were sorted by then. The incident was a blessing in disguise for the two who had been terrified to express their love for each other.

In November, "Singing Youth"—the competition about dreams lit up the entire city.

People from all over the country came to Sousen to sign up for the event. About eight thousand participants had enrolled for the auditions. ❶

Just as we walked out of the supermarket, the promotional video of Singing Youth was playing on the big screen. I took the opportunity to urge Derek, "You can also sign up for the competition."

He shrugged and smiled at me. "I'd better leave the opportunity to young people."

I couldn't help but laugh at his statement. "And how old are you, Grandpa?"

He put his arm around my shoulder and smiled. "The audition is going on at the radio and television station. Do you want to watch it?"

"Can I?" I couldn't contain my excitement.

"What do you think?" He squinted and looked at me. "I'm the biggest sponsor. They have to give me as many tickets as I want."

On the day of the audition, I took Louise with me. Therefore, Felix also joined us. Aaron had the day off, so he joined us as well.

A long queue had lined up at the gate of the radio and television station, which was full of young, talented people.

They had all dressed well for the event, hoping to stand out of the crowd and make a lasting impression. Louise and I were watching the fun. We judged the participants, guessing who had potential to become a big star in the future.

We had been happily whispering to each other until a tall, beautiful girl broke from the queue and threw herself on Derek's arms, hugging him tightly.

I stood in a daze and watched a strange woman hug my husband.

Although she was a young girl, it still looked strange.

Louise looked at them and back at me with a quizzical look on her face.

Derek pulled back and smiled at the girl. "When did you come to Sousen?"

The girl still had her arms wrapped around his neck as she laughed happily. She had a pleasant voice full of enthusiasm.

"Are you surprised? I told you I would give you a big surprise. I wanted to show up in front of you all of a sudden and startle you but didn't expect to see you here."

My mind drifted back to the message sent by Sybil. I couldn't help but wonder if this girl had sent the message to Derek.

Was her name also Sybil? Or was she related to her?

I studied the girl's face and felt that she looked a lot like Sybil.

"Hey, his wife is standing right here. Don't you think it's inappropriate to hug someone else's husband this way?" Louise had always been outspoken.

When she heard that, the smile on the girl's face vanished in an instant. She looked over Derek's shoulder and saw me watching her.

Derek slowly removed her hands from his neck, turned around, and put one arm on my shoulder.

"This is my wife, Eveline."

My body seemed to visibly relax.

"This is Becky Nash," he told me.

Since the girl had the same surname as Sybil, I had a vague guess as to who she was.

Becky's eyes widened, and her face flushed with embarrassment.

However, she quickly rearranged her expression and flashed a sweet smile.

"Hello, Eveline."

I snapped out of my thoughts and examined her from head to toe.

She was tall, with a slim frame. The white dress made her slender legs look longer.

She was a standard beauty with a sweet, innocent face.

"Hello!" I couldn't even bring myself to force a smile.

"You are Becky?" Felix asked in surprise.

Becky looked at Felix, her eyes glinting with slyness.

"Felix, can't you recognize me? Have I really changed so much?"

Felix nodded. "Yes. You are a lot more beautiful now."

Becky looked at Aaron and greeted him. The latter smiled at her before tilting his head and shooting me a worried look.

Our eyes met before he quickly looked away.

All of a sudden, Becky stomped her foot like a child.

"Hey, are you here to watch the competition? I will be nervous."

Derek shrugged indifferently. "There's nothing to be nervous about. Forget we are here and perform well. Have faith in yourself."

Becky looked at him and nodded. "Yes, I will try my best."

After she joined the queue, I blew out a loud breath that I didn't realize I had been holding all this while. I regretted coming here today.

Becky waved at us from time to time as she moved forward in the line. Once, when I turned my head, our gaze met.

She didn't smile, and I could sense the hostility. However, in the blink of an eye, she flashed her trademark smile again. For a moment, I thought I was imagining things.

My heart had been pounding ever since I saw her today.

Although Derek didn't treat her in any special manner, I could tell he still doted on Becky, probably for Sybil's sake. ①

## Chapter 198 Apprehension

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Later, I saw another acquaintance in the line; it was Cindy.

She was wearing a simple T-shirt and jeans. Her straight hair cascaded down her shoulders. She wore a peaked cap, and a guitar was strapped on her back. She wasn't as eye-catching as the showy opponents but looked real and seemed true to herself.

She also saw us and nodded gently.

She was clasping the guitar strap and bouncing on her heels nervously.

Felix shouted at her, "Come on, Cindy!"

The participants began going into the hall one after another. Suddenly, Derek held my hand and led me toward the studio.

Derek got the VIP tickets, so we sat on the front row. We could look at everything on the stage from our seats. ①

Considering a large number of participants, they were only allocated a limited time to showcase their talents. Many people tried to perform a little longer. All the participants had worked hard to impress the judges. They were not only dressed well but also tried all strange things to seem funny.

The whole studio erupted with laughter from time to time, but I couldn't concentrate on the audition; My mind was a mess.

My stomach began to churn with anticipation, so I went to the bathroom.

I wasn't familiar with the place, so I asked the staff there to tell me where the bathroom was. It was a bit far from the studio, and I had to take two turns to reach there.

When I came out of the bathroom, I saw Aaron smoking in the corridor.

I walked over to him. "Why are you out too?"

"It's too crowded inside. It's suffocating, so I came out to get some fresh air."

I, too, felt the same. It was depressing inside.

Just then, Aaron's face broke into a smile. "Well, there are way too many participants, and everyone has unique skills. Some are just making a fool of themselves. It's rare to hear good singing."

I couldn't help but laugh at his comment.

Neither of us intended to go back to the studio. We walked along the corridor and stopped at the glass railing.

"Becky is Sybil's younger sister," Aaron finally said, running his hands across the railing.

I realized he was a sensitive person, for he knew what I was thinking.

"Yeah. I guessed that. She has the same surname as Sybil."

Looking at the traffic ahead, Aaron sighed and said, "They weren't from a wealthy family. Sybil had joined as a singer in a bar at such a young age because she wanted to make money for Becky's schooling. Sybil would bring Becky to Souden during summer vacations. Becky was only ten years old. I still remember her innocent face." He smiled at the memory. "Sybil and Derek were already dating. The Nash family's financial situation worsened after Sybil's death, and Derek had been supporting them. It wasn't a big deal for him because he was already successful in business." ①

Everyone had a story and was trying their best to live.



"Derek has always regarded her as a child," said Aaron.

I knew he was comforting me, but it didn't make me feel any better.

Eight or nine years ago, she was indeed a child, but she was far from it now. Becky was a grown-up woman.

"Do you think I'm narrow-minded?" I asked, smiling sadly.

Aaron turned around, leaned against the railing, and thrust his hands into his pockets. He lowered his head and sighed. ②

"Everyone's possessive and narrow-minded when it comes to love. They are afraid of losing their better half. I understand what you're going through, but try not to put too much pressure on Derek. Men need space and trust. Derek is a thorough gentleman, so you have nothing to worry about." ①

I could tell Aaron had already read my mind and understood my concern.

I had been through a lot of things at my age. I knew I wouldn't do anything impulsive, but Becky's presence was like a thorn pricking my heart. I wasn't confident enough to forget it and relax.

When I returned to the studio, a pleasant female voice caught my attention.