

## Pampered 261

Chapter 261 Tina was about to fall asleep, but the noise and movements outside her room woke her up instantly.

“That thief is worth a lot!”

“She isn’t the only one that’s worth a lot, right? That diamond ring...” “Oh my god! That’s a pigeon egg diamond ring! Even if we can’t catch her, we can still lead comfortable lives forever just by selling that ring!” The people outside kept gossiping loudly in excited tones. Tina might not be able to hear them clearly, but she still tensed up anxiously. What was going on outside? Did Samuel figure out her whereabouts?

Right now, Tina resembled an easily frightened bird. She couldn’t help but feel paranoid whenever something happened around her.

She opened her room door slowly, and noticed a small crowd conversing outside. “What happened?” she asked.

However, everyone went quiet the moment they heard her question. The woman who argued with her yesterday noticed Tina’s disheveled appearance, and started mocking her relentlessly. “Oh? Aren’t you supposed to be high and mighty? Whatever we talk about has nothing to do with you!”

The people around that woman started mocking Tina as well. “Hahaha! That’s right! Why do you want to know about our conversation? If you want to find out what we talked about, why don’t you...”

Someone started scanning Tina’s body with a lecherous expression.

“You’re here to sell your body, aren’t you? Why don’t you come back to my room with me and I’ll fill you in on the details?”

Everyone burst into laughter when they heard the man’s sleazy words. “Hahaha! That’s a great idea! In a way, you’re giving her income!” “Yeah! Besides, she just moved here. She doesn’t have any clients yet!”

“If we’re satisfied with her service, we might help her spread the word, eh?”

Tina balled her fists tightly. She was used to not saying anything when faced with humiliating and degrading remarks about herself.

“Whatever!”

With that, she slammed the door loudly. After that, she found it difficult to return to sleep. She looked at herself and realized that she was still wearing Samuel’s clothes, which disgusted her greatly.

It was definitely time to change out of these clothes. Tina went out, had a simple breakfast, and bought a simple set of clothes before returning to her room. However, when she took off the suit jacket, something fell out of the pocket. It clattered on the floor loudly, She looked down at her feet curiously, wanting to know what exactly fell out of the pocket. However, the moment she did, her expression changed drastically..

It was a pigeon egg diamond ring. She would never mistake it for anything else.

Tina still remembered Madam Langford, who looked so kind and gentle when she was still alive. The sweet old lady wanted her to get married to Samuel, but she was afraid that Tina might get hurt in the relationship, so she had her grandson buy a pigeon egg diamond ring for Tina. It was supposedly a sign of true love...

At that moment...

Creak!

All of a sudden, someone opened Tina's door from the outside. A female voice drifted from the doorway. "Hey, you... Huh? What's that in your hand?" Tina was shocked by the woman's sudden appearance. She instinctively stuck the ring back into her pocket. "Why did you enter my room without permission?!"

That woman stared at the pocket that contained the ring for a moment before looking at Tina.

"I wanted to tell you some good news out of the kindness of my heart. It's fine if you don't want to know about it."

After that, she turned around and left the room.

Tina frowned immediately, perplexed by the woman's intentions. However, she chose not to think about it.

Chapter **262** However, what Tina didn't know was that the woman who had barged into her room ran to the corridor sneakily afterward. She started whispering with everyone else about something mysterious.

"Are you sure? That's impossible, right? There are no such things as coincidences in this world!"

"Yeah! Did you maybe see it wrong?"

The truth was that someone had read important news from the day's newspapers. Samuel Langford, the CEO of the Langford Group, had issued a bounty with great rewards in hopes of tracking down a despicable thief.

Apparently, that bold thief had stolen a pigeon egg diamond ring from him. Since it was a priceless piece of jewelry, anyone who could provide him with vital information that could allow him to retrieve the ring could walk away with a million dollars. Of course, the thief would not be spared. Anyone who managed to catch the thief would be rewarded four million dollars.

Altogether, Samuel would be rewarding five million dollars for both the ring and the thief. The woman said confidently, "That's impossible! I'd never mistake it for something else. She was definitely holding the pigeon egg diamond ring. That woman is definitely weird! Now that I think about it, she resembles the woman on the bounty..."

The other two men were starting to believe the woman's words. One of them pulled out the newspapers and started studying the bounty. Two pictures were printed on the bounty alongside words. One was a picture of the pigeon egg diamond ring, whereas the other was a woman's picture. She looked like a fairly young woman with child-like features, as though she had yet to fully mature. All in all, she looked like any other normal woman.

“She doesn’t look like the woman in this picture. They’re definitely two different people.” The crowd started doubting the woman’s words again.

It wasn’t their fault they couldn’t recognize Tina’s face in the newspapers. Five years ago, the Lynd family hated Tina very much. It was rare for her to have pictures of herself. Most of the time, Pearl would make fun of her, causing her to look ragged and dirty, before snapping pictures of her.

That was the reason why the woman in the newspapers looked very normal. Having gone through five rough years of life’s training, Tina’s aura made her look like a completely different person than she was before. “What if this is her original appearance before plastic surgery?”. Jealousy coated the woman’s tone, who sounded like she looked down on Tina the whole time. Then, she continued, “Whatever. I did see the pigeon egg diamond ring with my own eyes!

Both of you just have to follow me into her room and pin her down. Don’t let anyone discover our plan. If I’m able to dig out the pigeon egg diamond ring from her pocket, that means we have both the thief and the missing item in our grasp. We’ll be able to receive five million dollars!” “You’re right!” The other two men were moved by the mention of five million dollars. After all, the reward wasn’t fifty grand or five hundred grand. It was a whopping sum of five million dollars!

The men had spent so long working for an illegal factory nearby. Even if they worked their asses off for the rest of their lives, they were still unable to earn that much money. Hence, the small group decided to act in the middle of the night. That was when Tina’s guard was completely down. At night, Tina couldn’t hold on any longer, so she fell into a deep sleep. Suddenly, sounds of a lock getting picked could be heard coming from the outside. Tina instantly woke up. She gripped the rod that she used to defend herself tightly as she yelled, “Who’s there?!” A woman’s voice drifted from outside the door. “It’s me. I need to talk to you about something. Open up.” Tina frowned immediately upon recognizing the voice. It was the same woman who had barged into her room earlier that day. She was instantly alert and put up her guard. “What is it? Just talk to me through the door!” “Are you sure? Take a look at the newspapers!” The woman slid the newspapers through the gap under the door. Tina could recognize the picture of herself that was taken five years ago instantly.

“This is...” Samuel actually posted a bounty about her!

Chapter 263 Panic started taking over Tina’s senses, but she forced herself to calm down.

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“How is this related to me?”

The woman outside her room purposefully said, “I was trying to tell you this earlier. Regardless if you’re the woman on this bounty or not, I advise you to leave this place immediately!”

After that, silence ensued from outside the room. It seemed as though the woman had already left on her own.

‘Was she really here to help me out? Did she barge into my room this morning just to tell me this?’

Panicked thoughts started cluttering Tina’s mind.

Even though the woman in the picture was completely different from how she looked right now, it was dangerous for her to remain in a place that was packed with people. She gritted her teeth and thought for a while. Then, she slowly opened her door.

The next moment, a smug voice drifted into Tina's ear. "Haha! I knew it!" The woman didn't leave the vicinity at all. Her face showed up at the crack of the door instantly. "I knew that you're suspicious! You've been tricked!"

"What?!"

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Sensing that something was wrong, Tina tried to close the door quickly. However, it was already too late for her. The two men behind the woman rushed into her room and swiftly tied her up. They even threatened her as they did so.

"If you dare to make a sound and attract everyone here, they won't let you go as well!" "We'll kill you if you piss us off!"

Tina knew there was no way she could escape. When she was thrown into a corner with her limbs bound, despair clung to her.. The woman started searching everywhere in the room. Finally, she found the thing that she had been looking for the entire time. It was the pigeon egg diamond ring.

"I knew it! I knew it!" she cheered happily. "Hahaha! She's the thief! We got five million dollars in our pockets now!" Tina finally realized that the people didn't even recognize her from the bounty picture. It was because the woman had accidentally seen the ring during the day. Said woman flaunted the ring happily and taunted, "Just you wait! Once I tell them that you're here with us, get ready to die!"

Feeling very smug, she hummed a happy tune while sashaying out of the room.

The men were the only ones guarding Tina in the room.

"Hehehe! I didn't expect such a beautiful woman like her would turn out to be a thief!"

"She'll definitely die once she gets captured!"

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"Yeah, She's so beautiful, though. Isn't it a shame that she dies like this after getting captured? It'll be a long time before their men can reach this location, so why don't we..?"

The men started rubbing their hands gleefully while staring at Tina lecherously. It was obvious that they were up to no good.

The sight of them approaching her made her grit her teeth. She said furiously, "If you dare lay a finger on me, I'll make sure to let everyone else know about what you've done to me! Let's see if you can still receive that five million dollar reward you were promised!" The men were shocked when they heard Tina's words. It was obvious that money was way more important than her. Once they were rich, they wouldn't have to worry about the lack of women in their lives anymore.

Tina could see the hesitation flashing past their eyes, so she continued, "Also, why isn't that woman back yet? Maybe she already ran away with the money?" The men immediately rebuked her. "That's impossible! We agreed to split the reward!"

"How's that impossible? I'm already all tied up here. Once she makes a phone call, she'll be able to get the money. I mean, if I were her, I'd rather receive a full sum of five million dollars than split it with two other people."

The men's eyes widened in shock before they dashed out of the room. It was obvious that they were afraid of Tina being correct. That woman was a sly vixen, after all. What if she did run away with five million dollars?

Having latched onto the opportunity of being alone, Tina crawled over and grabbed a pair of scissors on the ground. Then, she quickly severed the bonds on her wrists and ankles. After that, she ran out of the room as fast as she could.

Suddenly, a pair of headlights could be seen coming from the distance on the street. A luxury car was making its way towards her building.

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Chapter **264** Tina's blood froze in her veins at the sight of the headlights.

Who else would come to the rundown district in a luxury car other than people affiliated with a certain someone? They must be Samuel's men, ready to apprehend her at first sight! While the car approached her from the front, sounds of people cursing at her could be heard from behind. They had discovered she had escaped, and were in hot pursuit.

Gritting her teeth, Tina crouched behind a trash can filled to the brim with garbage that resembled a small mountain. She covered her mouth and tried very hard not to gag in order to avoid the pursuers. Soon, the luxury car stopped at the roadside. A group of bodyguards pooled out of the car immediately "Were you the one who discovered the thief?" they asked. The woman pulled out the pigeon egg diamond ring and exclaimed, "That's right! I found her. She's inside the building." "Take us there!" said the chief bodyguard. However, the woman refused to budge. "Hand me the money, and I'll give the thief and the ring to you." The bodyguards pulled out their guns immediately, the barrels all emitting a dangerous aura. "We will give you the reward. But if you dare to delay Mr. Langford, not even dying a hundred times in a row can appease his anger."

The woman grew so frightened that her knees buckled together. For a moment, she thought she was going to urinate on the spot. "I—I didn't mean it like that! I'll take you there right now!"

But before the woman could lead the bodyguards into the building, the two men appeared.

The woman's expression changed immediately. "Why are you two here? Didn't I tell you to guard the thief?! She's worth four million dollars, d\*mn it! Four million dollars! How could you let her escape?"

"It's all your fault! You didn't return for so long! Plus, you didn't call or text anyone, so we got worried if you'd keep all of the money to yourself..."

The men still tried to rebuke the woman.

“I’ll kill you!”

The woman’s expression was twisted in an ugly fashion. She thought she was going to exact vengeance by sending Tina to hell, but she didn’t expect her hopes and dreams to be dashed by the men.

They started fighting each other. The bodyguards didn’t bother to look at them. They quickly rushed into the rundown building and started looking for Tina’s tracks. When they were unable to find anything, they spread out to search for her. “She’s alone right now, so she can’t have gone far!” After the bodyguards were gone, a silhouette crawled out from behind the pile of trash that was stinking up the area. Having tolerated the awful smell for so long, Tina finally ran to the sidewalk and started vomiting until her stomach was clear of gastric acid. She looked extremely ragged. Yet she had nowhere else to go, so she could only wander on the streets like a lost soul.

There were a lot of people walking on the street at that time. The moment they saw her, disgust filled their eyes and they hurriedly walked away from her. At that moment, Tina looked like a homeless person. Not only was her hair messy and filthy, but she also carried a terrible stench due to her hiding spot.

Even if Samuel were to appear in front of her right now, he wouldn’t have recognized her.

She walked into a phone store numbly. The disgusted shop assistant watched as she used her fake ID to buy a phone for herself. She had no idea how long she would be able to survive in this world, nor did she know if she ever had the chance to see Kara again in the future. Thus, she wanted to listen to her daughter’s voice and look at her sweet face. Tina activated the phone. Before she could call a number, someone else called her instead. She accidentally hit the green button, which caused her to panic. Cindy’s voice could be heard drifting from the other end of the line.

“Linda, I heard you’ve gone back to your hometown. What’s the meaning of this?! Didn’t I tell you that you’re to be my private designer? Are you trying to put on airs around me?”

Tina was stunned to hear the angry voice.

How could Cindy call her at a time like this? Could it be that her identity wasn’t exposed yet?

**Chapter 265** Tina originally thought her identity as a fashion designer would be exposed the moment Samuel put her on a bounty. If that was the case, her colleagues at the studio would find out that she was a woman named Tina instead of Linda. However, Cindy’s phone call made her realize that something was off.

“Are you even listening to me?” Cindy screamed in dissatisfaction. “You haven’t left Paris yet, right? I had someone check your schedule. You were just looking for an excuse! I want you to show up in front of me right now. Otherwise, I’ll tell my husband about what you did and make sure that your studio can’t stay open!” After that, Cindy gave her address before hanging up. If it was in the past, Cindy would not have bothered talking to such lowly commoners. However, the circumstances now *were* different.

She never expected that her husband would be entangled with that minx once again. How could Cindy ever let it happen?

She needed to find a way to make herself look more glamorous and beautiful in order to satisfy Samuel. She had to secure her position as the official mistress of the Langford family. On the other hand, Tina took a deep breath before calling Tiffany's number.

"Is the studio doing fine over the past few days?"

"Yeah. Everything's fine." Tiffany acted the same as before. She couldn't help but complain, "By the way, the fussy client, Mr. Langford's wife, keeps demanding you to visit her. Ugh, she's such a pain in the neck...!"

Tina finally understood the whole situation. The only thing that Samuel knew was that she was still alive. However, he had no idea that she played the role of Linda, a fashion designer.

Right now, she had nowhere to go. Even if she were to run to another place, chances were that she would be apprehended again. The most dangerous place also happened to be the safest place. Samuel wouldn't expect that Tina would voluntarily pop over to Cindy's place. Not wanting to give up on hope, Tina quickly headed to the department store to change into fresh clothes and put on her disguise. Then, she arrived at Cindy's mansion.

Creak...

The grand door was opened from the inside. A servant frowned at the sight of Tina standing on the porch, a judgmental look on her face. "Who are you?" "I'm Linda," Tina replied calmly. The servant was baffled by Tina's appearance. 'How could this woman be a famous fashion designer? No one would've thought that she looks like one!'

"I'll go inform Mrs. Langford." The servant turned on her heel and left.

Later, Tina found herself waiting outside for half an hour. Her legs were already sore from standing that long. Finally, the servant reappeared at the door and said, "Mrs. Langford was napping earlier, so she couldn't see you. Now that she's awake, you may enter." Tina knew Cindy did that on purpose just to make her suffer. However, if she could trick Cindy, then Tina didn't mind being a pushover.

Cindy was sitting in the living room while waiting for Tina. The moment she noticed Tina, she couldn't help but frown in disgust. "Oh my god! What are you wearing? You look even worse than before! Those who don't know you might think that you're a homeless person! Also, what's that smell coming from you?" Cindy couldn't help but pinch her nose in disgust. "Oh my god! Did you crawl out of a filthy ditch like a rat?"

Tina straightened up and said in a neutral tone, "Mrs. Langford, you asked me to be here because I'm your private designer. As long as the clothes I design are pretty enough, you don't have to mind other details. Right?"

Tina was right.

Cindy also knew very well that the woman's designs were the only ones that could earn Samuel's praise. After all, he was known to be awfully picky and critical. No matter how much this designer disgusted her, Cindy had no choice but to ask her to stay. "Fine. Go to another room and start designing for me. Just make sure not to taint my eyes with your presence!" A servant led Tina to a room that was located far away from the other rooms. The moment Tina closed the door, she couldn't help but sigh in relief. Her back was already drenched in cold sweat. 'Yes! I gambled on the right person

Chapter **266** Tina was covered in cold sweat from head to toe. Right now, she looked very ragged.

After locking the door, she took a long bath in the bathroom in order to feel more comfortable. At that moment, her phone started ringing. She could see from the screen that Kara was requesting to start a video call with her. Just as Tina accepted the call, she heard her daughter's voice.

"Mommy!" Kara complained. "Mommy, why didn't you pick up when I called you yesterday?"

The sight of her daughter safe and sound almost made Tina tear up.

Kara looked very worried. She went near the screen to study her mother's face carefully.

"Mommy, why are your eyes so red? Are you crying?"

"No." Tina quickly rubbed her eyes and did her best to conceal her sadness. She replied with a smile, "I just took a bath earlier. Perhaps the water got into my eyes."

"You have to take care of yourself, Mommy," Kara said with deadpan seriousness. "I'm not with you now, so you mustn't forget to eat and sleep properly even if you're busy with work." "Yes, okay. I'll always listen to you. I'll report my schedule to you every night," Tina said with a smile.

After that, Kara started talking about her own adventures in the kindergarten in Freesia, where Frederick had taken her. Apparently, she made a lot of new friends there. Frederick even took her to the amusement park once.

Soon, the little girl got sleepy and started lowering her head tiredly.

"Mommy, the amusement park was so fun. Once you're here to pick me up, we should go there again..."

Her words trailed off as she slumped onto her bed and fell asleep.

Tina could only cover her mouth, tears already dripping down her eyes. At the same time, she didn't want to hang up at all. A long time later, Kara's phone automatically switched off due to the dead battery. Tina could no longer stare at her daughter's sleeping face. She took a deep breath and managed to cheer herself up by balling her fists.

Samuel had yet to discover her current identity, which meant all the hiding she had done over the past five years had come into fruition. After all, she had never gotten featured in any magazines, and had given her all to avoid interviews and photoshoots. If she could escape unscathed, there was a chance that she could continue living with Kara.

She must never give up!



Tina's mind was cluttered with thoughts, but she forced herself to lie down and sleep. In the morning, someone started knocking on her room door.

Knock! Knock! Knock! Tina quickly disguised herself. After making sure she wouldn't reveal any flaws, she finally opened the door. The servant in front of her just looked annoyed when she spoke. "Linda, what the hell are you doing? Mrs. Langford has been waiting for you for so long. Is this your so-called work ethic?" "I'm sorry. I'll be there soon." Cindy sat in the lavishly decorated hall while waiting impatiently for Tina to appear. "I'm paying you to work for me. If you dare to slack off again, I don't mind chasing you out of the house and make sure that you won't be able to find a job ever again." Tina lowered her head and tried to butter Cindy up. "Mrs. Langford, I'm so sorry. Your house is too grand and large for me. The mattress is so soft that I accidentally overslept." Cindy harrumphed smugly in response. "You're such an uneducated hag! How did you even become a designer? Whatever. My husband will be home any second now. Hurry up and take my measurements. I want to welcome him home in a beautiful outfit!"

Tina's heart skipped a beat the moment she heard that Samuel would come home soon. She didn't want to bump into him at this moment. However, she didn't dare to ask Cindy any questions, so she could only ask other people privately. She walked over and started taking Cindy's measurements. This was a vital step before designing clothes for her. At that moment, a servant rushed downstairs hurriedly and exclaimed in alarm, "Mrs. Langford, this is bad!"

Chapter **267** The servant's panicked look displeased Cindy greatly. "What's wrong? Tell me exactly what's going on right now!"

"Young master seems to be sick. A fever has broken out," the servant reported worriedly.

Young master? Was that Cindy's son?

Tina was momentarily baffled. Then, she chuckled bitterly in her heart. Since Cindy and Samuel were already lovingly married for so many years, it was natural for them to have a child together.

However, the news of Keith being sick didn't affect Cindy in the slightest. She simply laughed coldly before exclaiming, "He's sick, you say? It's only been a few days since I chased him into the attic. He must be acting!"

Tina was shocked by Cindy's selfish and vile nature. In comparison, the servant looked quite **torn**.

"Mrs. Langford, Young Master really is sick. We just took his temperature. I think he hit 38 degrees already. Should we send him to the hospital and get him checked?"

"Why does he need to go to the hospital? Can't you see I'm busy? If Samuel found out, he might think I'm bad at taking care of children!"

Cindy didn't seem to care about her son at all. "Just feed him a few antipyretics." To everyone else, Keith may be her biological son, but to her, he was that filthy b\*tch's spawn. At first, she thought that he would come in handy. But what happened in the end?

In the end, Samuel was still lured into the arms of another vixen. He never remembered the **existence** of his wife or his son.

If Cindy was to be honest with herself, she wanted nothing more than to strangle that spawn. However, she couldn't do it with her own hands. Thus, she hoped that either the fever or the medicine could kill that boy so that he would never taint her eyes with his presence.

The servant didn't want Keith's condition to go untreated, but she had no choice except to lower her head in defeat.

"Got it, Mrs. Langford."

Tina didn't expect Cindy to be so heartless to ignore her own son's plight. All she did was order the servants to issue some antipyretics for the poor boy.

Was this really something a mother should do?

The thought of the vixen and this useless son of hers infuriated Cindy off greatly. She looked down at Tina, who was in the middle of measuring her thigh, before aiming a ferocious kick at her and started screaming angrily at Tina. "What are you standing around for? Keep taking my measurements! Are you even a famous fashion designer? Not only is your appearance tasteless and ugly, but the way you work is also

clumsy and inefficient!" Tina didn't expect that Cindy would kick her in the first place, so she collapsed to the floor in surprise. She gritted her teeth and suppressed her rage before replying, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Langford. I'll continue taking your measurements."

Finally, after obtaining Cindy's full measurements, Tina retreated to her room tiredly. Tomorrow, Cindy wanted to see her designs, which meant she would have to work tirelessly throughout the night till the next morning.

She let out a tired sigh. She was about to enter her room when she heard the servants talking among each other. "Mrs. Langford is too heartless. Is Young Master even her biological child?" "Biological parents won't necessarily love their own kin. After all, Young Master was separated from her for a few years." "What should we do? After he took the antipyretics, his condition worsened!" "I think he's suffering from allergies too. What should we do? Could Young Master be in a really bad condition?"

Tina was stunned to hear the conversation. Not only did the young master of the family suffer from a fever, but he was also suffering from allergies?

Perhaps it was due to the fact that Kara was thrown into the ocean with Tina in the past, but when Kara was still a newborn, she had an awful constitution. She was always falling sick or getting fevers as a baby. As a mother, Tina often felt as if she was about to lose Kara anytime **soon**.

She couldn't bear to watch a child suffer in such a way, so she stepped up and said, "I'm experienced at taking care of children. Please, take me to the young master right now."

Chapter 268 A small figure was curled in the dark and narrow attic. Keith's body was alarmingly hot, and the fever showed no signs of dissipating even after he took the antipyretics. His exposed skin was littered with eerie-looking red rashes, which presented both a shocking and disgusting appearance.

He kept drifting in and out of consciousness as he mumbled weakly, "Mommy..."

Keith never thought that things would become like this. Why? Why would his mommy turn out this way after so long of separation? Was he... not her real son?

Why did she not hesitate to strike him when the moment called for it? Why did she ignore him when he was down with a fever?

Keith could never understand the reasons. At that moment, he heard the sound of the attic door being opened. "Young Master is inside... Are you really experienced in taking care of children?"

"Yes. I have a five-year-old daughter who was always sick when she was still a newborn, so I know how to take care of children."

Tina approached the child on the floor as she spoke. One glance at the boy shocked her to the

**core.**

"Why are you the one...?" She never expected the young master of the Langford family to actually be the boy she had

**met.**

Keith was also stunned to see Tina. Even though she had disguised herself and deliberately lowered her voice, he could still recognize her pretty easily.

"It's... you..." His voice had become hoarser than ever. Right now, Keith looked startlingly different from his usual cold and sharp-tongued self. His forehead was swollen, there was a scab forming on it, as if someone had bashed his head in. There were patches of red rashes covering his body as well.

Tina propped him up while exclaiming in horror, "Oh my goodness! His condition's already this serious! Why didn't anyone send him to the hospital? Do you want him to die here?!"

She could barely believe her eyes. The condition of the child in her arms was already critical, and yet Cindy was more worried about what beautiful outfit to wear in order to please her soon to return husband!

"Well, we..." the servant stammered, looking torn. "We'll lose our jobs if we defy Mrs. Langford's orders."

"So, you're willing to let a child suffer for so long in exchange for your jobs?" Tina was **furious**

She quickly scooped the child into her arms and continued, "If you don't want to send him to the hospital, then I'll do it!"

"No! We'll be punished if you do that!" All the servants tried to stop her.

"You b\*stards!" Tina knew she could no longer waste time arguing with those people. She took a deep breath before saying, "This is the attic, which means it's filthy! Also, the young master is injured and weakened, hence the breakout of his allergies. I need to bring him to a clean room right now." "But..." "Besides, Mr. Langford is coming back soon, isn't he? If Young Master Langford died right here, all of you, who were supposed to be taking care of him, would never be able to explain yourselves to him!" Tina's words made the servants' resolve waver. She took Keith back to his own room and gave him a

quick sponge bath before helping him into clean clothes made of soft cotton. Not daring to feed him any more antipyretics, she could only lower his body temperature through physical means. She laid a makeshift bag consisting of a towel and placed a bag of ice cubes on his forehead, making sure to change the towels and replace the ice cubes every now and then. It was only at midnight that Keith's body temperature started going down. Tina couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief. The boy was finally recovering. However, she couldn't bring herself to rest. If Cindy couldn't see the designs that she came up with the next morning, she'd definitely be chased out of the mansion. Hence, Tina had no choice but to drag her exhausted body back to her room and started working on the designs. Morning soon came. Tina didn't need any disguises to make herself look ugly, since the heavy bags and dark rings under her eyes were more than enough to frighten everyone. Just as she was about to show Cindy the clothes that she had made, she heard a servant's voice from outside. "Mr. Langford, you're back!"

### pro

Chapter 269 An Aston Martin was parked right outside the mansion. The man was wearing a custom tailored suit that fit his figure perfectly. The moment he appeared at the doorway, his aura was more than enough to make everyone submit to him.

Tina's heart felt as though it was being gripped viciously by an invisible hand. Her first instinct was to flee.

However, she was already very tired and weary from spending the entire night working. She was hugging a long gown to her chest as well. Out of carelessness, she accidentally stepped on the smooth fabric of the gown. "Ah!"

She let out a scream before slipping and falling to the floor. Samuel's sharp gaze instantly swept over to her fallen form. Afraid of being recognized, Tina quickly scrambled to her feet and left hurriedly with the gown in her arms. The man couldn't help but frown while asking, "Who's that suspicious-looking woman?" "That woman earlier was a fashion designer named Linda, Mr. Langford. Mrs. Langford was the one who invited her here."

Linda?

So, that was the one. She looked even more ragged than the last time he met her. How did she even become a designer in the first place?

Samuel was reminded of the time he left the police station and dispatched his bodyguards to secretly tail the mother and daughter pair, only to lose them. A little girl's face popped into his mind at that moment. That girl was a lot cuter than her mother, that was for sure. He asked, "Is her daughter here as well?"

The servant was stunned, clearly not expecting Samuel to ask about the woman's personal life.

"Um... I think she came here on her own..." "On her own? What about her daughter?" Samuel's frown deepened even more. Back then, that woman had turned him down, saying that she needed to take care of her daughter. However, the fact that she was here alone right now... What exactly did she mean by that?

Meanwhile, the servant was completely shell-shocked.

‘Doesn’t Mr. Langford hate trouble the most? Why would he ask about someone else’s personal matters? Plus, he’s actually asking about someone else’s daughter!’ Well...

Those who didn’t know Samuel would think that he was asking about **his own daughter**. While the servant was internally panicking, Cindy suddenly showed up.

“Samuel, you’re finally back!” she chirped happily as she attempted to hug his arm.

However, one cold glance from Saritel’s direction frightened her to **the point she withdrew** her hands immediately.

**Ever since she was** released from her imprisonment, Samuel had warned her **not to attempt** anything on him. Back then, she thought that he was still mad at her. Judging from how things **were now, she was very sure that the vixen was the one** who robbed him away from her.

Hatred filled Cindy’s heart. The detective that she hired had yet to track down the vixen. But as she didn’t dare to ask Samuel about the unknown woman, she could only respond in a coquettish way. “Samuel, have you had breakfast yet?” “No,” he replied coldly. Cindy continued, “Great! Let me prepare a breakfast of love for you!”

The moment her words fell, she turned around and headed toward the kitchen. The servants quickly exchanged glances. Those who could scuttle back to their own duties quickly did so.

**“A breakfast of love? I think she’s going to prepare a bomb of love!”**

**Those poor chefs will suffer a lot. She claims to be the one** preparing breakfast, but she’s **the one who forces them to** cook everything. Furthermore, she insists on causing **trouble for the** chefs. Ugh, the kitchen will be so dirty later. I don’t want to go there!” **The servants conversed** among themselves when Tina blocked their way.

“I’m sorry, but I have a few questions for you guys. I’ve already prepared the clothes, but now that Mr. Langford is back, when can I present them to Mrs. Langford?”

**Tina was trying to gauge the servants’ replies in order to determine when Samuel would leave** the mansion.

“You can just wait. He’ll **leave very soon.**”

“Mr. Langford will leave because of Mrs. Langford, of course, don’t go meeting **her so soon to avoid** getting treated like a punching bag.” **The servants were very experienced when it came to these affairs. Since Tina had taken care of** Keith the night before, they decided to leave her with extra tips.

“Okay. Got it.”

Tina heaved a sigh of relief. A short while later, however, a servant **knocked on her room door with a message from Cindy**. “Linda, Mrs. Langford is asking for you right now!”

Chapter 270 Tina was stunned when she heard the servant. Color drained from her face, leaving her complexion chalk white.

“Right now?”

“Yes, right now,” the servant replied, finding Tina’s response to be a little strange. “The reason Mrs. Langford hired you to design clothes for her is because she wants to earn Mr. Langford’s favor. Now that he’s here, naturally, she wants him to look at the clothes.”

Tina didn’t expect that all her hiding was for naught. In the end, she still had to appear in front of Samuel. She could only hope that her current appearance was too disheveled and ugly. It would be best if Samuel didn’t want to look at her at all. That way, he would never recognize her.

Tina took a deep breath before grabbing the clothes that she had just designed and heading out of the room.

At that time, Samuel was seated on a couch. Cindy sat next to him while gazing at him admiringly. When she noticed Tina coming in their direction, she quickly spoke in eager tones. “Samuel, the designer’s here. I’ll go change into the clothes she made right now. You can tell me if the clothes suit me or not!” While she spoke, she grabbed the clothes from Tina’s arms and headed upstairs gleefully. Tina could only freeze on the spot. It was inappropriate for her to leave straight away, but it was also dangerous for her to just stand there without doing anything.

She could feel Samuel’s cold gaze sweeping over her, so she lowered her head meekly in order to diminish her presence.

For some reason, Samuel found the woman in front of him very irritating.

Maybe it was due to the fact that she dressed poorly for a designer, or perhaps it was because her stature looked a little like another woman...

That d\*mned woman!

The thought of Tina made him look fearsome. Over the past few days, he had issued a bounty on her and promised great rewards, but he was unable to gain any information on her.

When he finally discovered that the last location she was at happened to be a poor, rundown district, she decided to disappear. He would no longer tolerate her antics. Once he caught her, he would definitely tear her into pieces!

Meanwhile, Tina could only shiver in fear at the sight of Samuel’s frightening gaze. If he found out that not only did she trick him, but had also pretended to be Linda the designer, then she would most definitely die a terrible death.

The sight of the frightened woman looking so meek and submissive in front of him irritated Samuel even more.

He said in an icy voice, “I heard that you came here on your own. Didn’t you say that you were worried about your daughter? Does she not need your care right now?” When Samuel mentioned Kara, Tina couldn’t help but ball her fists tightly. Had it not been for him, she would have been living with her precious daughter instead of being separated from her.

She couldn’t help but let out a cold chuckle. Then, she replied in a low voice, “To think someone as high and mighty as you would care about other people’s trivial matters, Mr. Langford.” Samuel couldn’t help but frown. He never would have thought that the meek-looking woman would turn the tables and mock

him instead. "I'm just worried about her. Last time, she got separated from you. Luckily, I was the one who bumped into her. If something else happens to her, will you be able to bear the consequences?"

"There's no need for you to worry about her, Mr. Langford. I've already made all the necessary arrangements for my daughter. If you have the time to worry about her, why don't you use the time to care about your son? I heard that the young master was ill and feverish last night, but you didn't even bother visiting him as his father. Doesn't that make you a failure of a father?" Tina was unable to hold back her anger anymore and ran her mouth. Back then, Samuel almost killed her and her daughter. Now, his son was inches away from death. Yet, he didn't give a d\*mn about Keith. No wonder this man was a perfect match for Cindy! Both of them were equally vile and cold hearted. "What did you just say?" Samuel's tone turned icy in an instant.