

Reborn Through Fire By Kazuya Higan

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Chapter 810 You're No Match for Me

“Let me tell you something. Think of today as a lesson and stop trying to cause harm to me, because... you're no match for me.”

“You!” Sharon was furious.

She wanted to cuss at Kisa. However, she was in pain from the grip on her chin, so she could not throw a deathly glare at her.

Kisa chuckled, “This time, I'll let you go for Mr. Tanner's sake. Besides, I've recently been investigating the true perpetrator behind the fire. If I learn that you had something to do with the fire, then... Even God won't be able to save you.”

Kisa said with a cold and ruthless expression.

For a moment, Sharon was speechless and stared at Kisa with a stunned expression.

She seemed as if she was genuinely frightened.

Kisa sneered as she flung her aside. Then, she led the bodyguards away.

Meanwhile, Peter had seen enough of the drama and dragged Jolina away.

Soon after everyone left, Carolyn eagerly went into the bushes. She hugged a disheveled-looking Sharon while cursing, “That wench! How dare she treat you this way. I'll surely make her regret this; mark my words!”

“That’s enough!” Christopher could not stand them and growled, “She was already kind enough to let Sharon go. Did you not see what Sharon did to her? She was simply returning the favor based on an eye for an eye!”

“What are you saying? Are you siding with the b*stard child? Did you see how much of a wimp you looked like? If it weren’t for Mr. Tanner, do you think that b*tch would’ve let Sharon go? Let me tell you something, I want that b*stard child dead. Stop taking pity on her.”

“I’m not taking pity on her. I just think she wouldn’t be taking revenge on you two if you hadn’t tried to harm her. After all, it all started because you two had ill intentions and were always trying to harm her!”

“That’s enough! From what I see, you’re pitying that b*stard child. You’re thinking of her wench of a mother again!” Carolyn roared.

Christopher could not be bothered by her words.

Nearby stood Adrien as he revealed an icy smile.

A moment later, he started walking toward them.

At that moment, Carolyn was draping her coat onto Sharon’s body.

When she saw Adrien walking toward them, she hurriedly said to Sharon, “Sharon, you need to thank Mr. Tanner properly for begging that wench. As for your wimp of a father, we really can’t expect much from him.”

Christopher immediately frowned. He snapped, “How am I a wimp? Wasn’t I trying my best to save Sharon earlier on?”

“Hah!” Carolyn snorted sardonically, “You did try your best, but you were trying your best to please that b*stard child!”

Christopher was so enraged his face turned red, “You’re impossible! I can’t be bothered to talk to you.”

“Hmph. You can’t be bothered to talk to me, and I am? Let me tell you, the thing that

I regret the most in my life is marrying a useless wimp like you," Carolyn said as she shoved Christopher in contempt.

Christopher took a few steps back. His face was filled with rage.

However, he could not be bothered to argue with Carolyn when he saw how deranged and shrewish she looked. He reached out to grab Sharon's arm, "Let's go, Sharon. Come with daddy."

He did not expect Sharon to immediately retract her hand.

Sharon gazed at him in disdain, "You call yourself my dad? I'm being bullied by that wench. Not only did you not save me, you even bowed and knelt to her. I've never seen a father as cowardly as you. You can't hold a candle to Mr. Tanner."

"You..."

Adrien was so furious he felt dizzy.

He could put up with Carolyn looking down on him.

However, he did not expect the daughter he had spoiled since she was a child to scorn him too. Suddenly, he was reminded of Kisa and her quiet, bland mother.

At this comparison, he abruptly felt a twinge in his heart. Then, he felt an indescribable sense of sorrow.

Chapter 811 My Wife Passed On Long Ago

Carolyn and Sharon ignored him. Instead, they walked straight toward Adrien.

Carolyn gazed at Adrien with a hint of admiration in her eyes.

Even her tone toward Adrien was also significantly gentler.

"Sorry about airing our family's dirty laundry in front of you, Mr. Tanner."

"Don't worry about it."

Adrien smiled considerately and continued, "Every family has their own problems; I understand."

Carolyn looked at him in admiration, "You're such a considerate gentleman, Mr. Tanner. Your wife is a very lucky person."

Adrien shook his head sadly.

"Unfortunately, my wife passed on long ago. I don't have any children, so I'm envious of how lively your family is."

However, Carolyn did not hear the second half of his sentence. All she could hear was the part where he said "my wife passed on long ago."

She felt a hint of glee. Regardless, she kept a calm demeanor, "That truly is unfortunate. A good man like you is worthy of the best woman in the world."

"Ha-ha, that's very kind of you, Mrs. Case."

"My mom's telling the truth, Mr. Tanner. Unlike my useless father, you're charming, capable, and rather influential. Sigh! If only I were your daughter."

'Tsk!' thought Christopher, standing nearby while frowning deeply.

He watched as his wife and daughter worshipped Adrien. Then only did Christopher start to inspect Adrien's appearance. However, no matter how he looked at Adrien, he looked a little familiar.

'I won't say that his appearance is familiar, but he carries an air of distinctiveness that's familiar,' he thought.

Christopher frowned as a silhouette flashed across his mind.

Moments later, he shook his head again.

'It's impossible. That man disappeared a long time ago, so it's definitely not him. Besides, their appearances are completely different,' he thought again.

When Kisa got home, she felt a little worn out.

However, when she thought of Gilbert, she felt warm and not as tired anymore.

She unlocked her phone and glanced at it. Moments later, she shook her head in amusement.

'He must be addicted to getting angry; he actually didn't text or call me for an entire day. Fine by me! If he wants to be angry, then he can talk to me when he's done being angry,' she thought.

Kisa set her phone down. Then, she walked to the bathroom.

It was dark out when Gilbert woke up in the Kooper family's residence.

He sat up in a daze. Moments later, he finally realized that he was back home.

Gilbert was so worried about Kisa last night that he did not catch sleep a wink.

After he got home, he took a shower and fell right asleep. He did not expect to sleep until now.

'I haven't slept this deeply in a long time. I wonder if Kisa looked for me,' he thought.

Gilbert hurriedly searched for his phone when he thought of the woman. He was eager to know if she had texted or called him.

He switched on the wall lamp and looked around his bedside table. However, there was no sight of his phone.

Gilbert could not help but frown.

'I remember putting it on the bedside table before I went to sleep. So, where's my phone? Did...' he

thought.

Gilbert suddenly thought of a possibility. He quickly got off his bed and ran outside.

“Send this upstairs once Gilbert wakes up. Do you understand?”

“Understood, ma’am!”

Madalyn was ordering the maids when she saw Gilbert rushing down the stairs.

She hurriedly went up to him with an amiable smile, “You’re awake. Are you feeling better now?”

Gilbert did not respond. His eyes drifted around the room in a panic.

Madalyn knew what he was thinking. She took a phone out of her pocket, “Is this what you’re looking for?”

Gilbert did not immediately accept the phone. Instead, he carefully scrutinized his grandmother’s expression.

Chapter 812 Test Me

Gilbert had deleted his call and chat history with Kisa long ago. However, he was worried that Kisa had sent him new messages today.

‘If grandma sees them, my efforts from the past few will go to waste,’ he thought.

Madalyn’s expression remained unchanged.

Seeing him not accept the phone, Madalyn could not help but laugh, “What’s the matter? You’re angry that your grandmother went through your phone?”

“No,” Gilbert accepted the phone. He smiled and asked, “Why are you suddenly interested in my phone?”

“Well, I went to your room to check on you, and your phone rang. I was worried it would wake you up, so I took it outside.”

Gilbert frowned slightly and felt a little panicked.

'My phone rang? Who was the call from? Kisa? But judging from grandma's calm expression, it shouldn't be Kisa. Otherwise, grandma would've quarreled with me,' he thought.

Madalyn pulled Gilbert onto the couch before asking the maids to bring out the food.

After Gilbert sat on the couch, he did not check his phone so that he would not raise his grandmother's suspicion. Instead, he casually shoved it into his pocket.

The maids quickly brought out the food.

There were a few nice-looking desserts and a bowl of soup.

Madalyn looked at Gilbert affectionately and said in a reproachful tone, "You haven't gotten this tired for a long time. I told you to take care of yourself, but you never listen."

"I don't have a choice; too many things have been happening in the company recently. I was busy handling contracts in my office the entire night."

Gilbert said with a straight face while reaching out to grab the soup bowl.

Madalyn shook her head, "That won't work. What if you exhaust yourself? This won't work; you should hire a few more assistants because Davian alone is not enough. Besides, Davian doesn't handle things efficiently."

She continued, "Back when he came to GK Pictures for his interview, he was as a deadbeat. He was the

candidate I least favored; I don't know what was going on in your head when you chose him."

Years ago, when Davian was still relatively young, he went to his interview with GK Pictures dressed in shabby-looking clothes. He was stopped by security just as he entered the building.

If Gilbert had not passed by coincidentally and let him in, Davian would not even have gotten through the

main entrance,

Gilbert smiled, "Davian's great. He's reliable. I don't trust other people."

Seeing how Gilbert trusted Davian so much, Madalyn could not say anything. Instead, she watched him affectionately as he ate.

When Madalyn saw how Gilbert was almost finished with his meal, a glint appeared in her eyes. She gave him a half-smile, "Aren't you going to ask who called you earlier on?"

"Probably Davian," Gilbert answered casually.

Madalyn tugged her lips, "It was Kisa Becker."

Gilbert's back stiffened. He was so startled he almost spat out his soup.

Thankfully, he regained his composure quickly and returned to his calm demeanor.

He swallowed the soup in his mouth before asking straight-faced, "Oh? Kisa? Why'd she call me?"

Then, he purposefully let out a sardonic snort, "Well, I haven't acknowledged her in a while, after all. She must've panicked and wanted to test if I still cared about her."

After he finished his sentence, he picked up a dessert and ate it with relish.

Madalyn stared at him briefly as if she were looking for clues on his face.

After a while, she finally smiled, "You're such a narcissist. She didn't call to test you."

"Is that so? Then why did she call me? It couldn't be about work, right? GK Pictures isn't working with J & K Film Group," Gilbert said indifferently.

However, Madalyn snorted icily, “Hah. That wench called to curse at you. You didn’t expect that, right?”

Gilbert was startled once more.

Moments later, he feigned contempt and asked, “Really? What did she say?”

Chapter 813 She’s Overestimating Herself

“After I picked up the phone, she started hurling insults before I could even speak. She called you heartless, ruthless, and cunning for partnering with Sharon to set her up. She also mentioned that she wouldn’t let you get away and that she’ll definitely get back at you and Sharon and make you two end up miserable.”

Hearing Madalyn’s words, Gilbert could not help but picture Kisa hurling insults.

He unconsciously let out a laugh.

Madalyn immediately frowned, “What’s the matter? You seem pretty happy about her hurling insults at you?”

The smile on

Gilbert’s face dropped abruptly. Then, he responded coolly, “Of course not. I’m laughing at how she’s overestimating herself by thinking she can beat me with J & K Film Group. She’s underestimating me. Hah, she’s saying that she’ll make me miserable, but does she have what it takes?” When Madalyn noticed the contempt and iciness in Gilbert’s words, the suspicion on her face gradually dissipated.

She snorted icily, “That’s true; that woman doesn’t have what it takes to beat us. If it weren’t for Jensen, she would’ve died long ago.”

Gilbert felt a twinge in his heart when he thought of how Kisa almost died.

“What else did that woman say after that?” Gilbert asked in a calm voice.

“Nothing much; she hung up right after she finished insulting you. I was so angry! I immediately called her back so that I could retaliate. But that wench didn’t pick up!”

Hearing this, Gilbert thought in amusement, ‘When Kisa called me, she must’ve figured out the person on the other end was grandma when nobody spoke for a while. Hah, that woman’s pretty sharp-witted.’

“Hmph! I’ll let it slide this time. If she calls to insult you again, I’ll definitely make her pay!” Madalyn snarled.

Gilbert held her hands with a smile, “Alright, grandma. Don’t be angry. She’s prattling because she’s incapable. She wouldn’t call me to vent if she were capable, right?”

Madalyn nodded.

“You’re right. However, what did she mean about you working with Sharon to set her up?”

“How’d the heck I know? She’s always saying that I set her up every time anything happens. I’m used to it by now.”

Madalyn nodded again before asking worriedly, “You... You’ve completely broken it off with her?”

“What do you think?” Gilbert leaned back a little.

Then, he smiled casually, “She doesn’t even like me, so why should I waste my time on her? Besides, after reflecting for days, I realized that I don’t actually like her anymore. I was so hung up on her previously because I couldn’t let go of the past. Now that I see the light, I just want to be by your side.”

Hearing this, Madalyn immediately felt relieved.

She gave him a satisfied nod, “This is great! This way, that woman won’t be able to bring harm to you.”

Gilbert lifted his gaze and looked at the wall clock. A moment later, he turned to Madalyn, "It's getting late. You should get some rest, grandma."

"I'm not tired yet. Why don't you keep me company and chat with me?"

Alright."

And so, Madalyn and Gilbert chatted from eight o'clock to ten.

Madalyn finally went to her room to sleep after she kept on yawning and could no longer her sleepiness.

Gilbert sighed in relief when Madalyn went to her room. In excitement, he took out his phone to call Kisa.

However, his phone rang just as he took it out.

It was a call from Davian.

He frowned.

'It's late. Is Davian looking for me because of work?' he wondered.

Then, he answered the phone.

"Are you awake now, Mr. Kooper?"

"Get to the point," Gilbert got up to pour himself a glass of water.

Davian quickly continued, "Have you seen the videos and photos I sent yet? They're about Mrs. Kooper."

Chapter 814 Pamper Her To No End

Gilbert slightly furrowed his brows, "When did you send it?"

"Just now. I was worried it would interrupt your rest, so I didn't dare send it to you so soon. Until it was nighttime, I thought you would be awake then, so I sent it to you. Who knew you would not reply

to me for most of the day? That's why I'm calling you now to ask you," Davian replied.

Gilbert did not even listen to the last half of Davian's report. He merely searched through his chat messages to check for himself.

In the end, he found out Davian had sent him quite a few messages. At the very top were a video and a few pictures.

In the video, the scene showed Sharon being held by the jaw by Kisa while being brutally scolded and insulted by her. The pictures behind were all images of Sharon in ragged clothing and embarrassing, pitiful states. While looking at Kisa's cruel and cold expression in the videos, he scrunched his brows and asked Davian, "When did this incident occur?"

"Right during the evening when they finished their work. The madam made a blockade at the production set in the outskirts to beat up Sharon. Both Christopher and Carolyn were present then."

Gilbert's sat back onto the sofa and could not help but let out a single chuckle, "She hit her good. This time, Kisa should've vented her grievances harshly."

Davian's face fell, and he immediately said, "Mr. Kooper, that was not the point. The point is this video, and these pictures are detrimental to the madam. I

intercepted these from one of the newspaper companies. If the public got to see these, the image of the madam would be damaged heavily. It's no wonder that Sharon would definitely send these videos and pictures to other newspaper companies. When this headline comes out tomorrow, the madam will be screwed."

After Davian finished speaking, he could not help but complain, "The madam is really a piece of work. Even though she has a huge grudge against Sharon, she can't treat Sharon like that in broad daylight. It was even right before the eyes of Sharon's parents. Sigh, this..."

"Didn't you take any action?" Gilbert interrupted his rant and asked absent-mindedly.

Davian was stunned, "I... Wasn't I waiting for your instructions?"

“You still need instructions for this? Quickly, go to all the media outlets and intercept all these videos and pictures. In addition, for the videos uploaded onto the internet, use other hot topics to suppress it as soon as possible.”

“Mr. Kooper, for the ones on the internet, you have no need to worry. When the Case family uploaded it to the internet, I already let the PR department suppress this news. Besides that, J & K Film Group’s PR department is also busy with this incident, so you don’t need to worry about it.”

Gilbert let a light breath of relief. Davian spoke again but with more caution in his voice, “Mr. Kooper, next time you meet the madam, you need to advise her properly. Don’t let her do this maniacal stuff in broad daylight. She is now a celebrity. It’s all about the image.”

Gilbert huffed out and spoke, “If she likes to, then great. With me protecting her, what is there to be afraid of.”

Davian felt speechless. ‘Alright, Mr. Kooper wants to pamper the madam to no end this time,’ Davian thought.

Cutting

off the call between him and Davian, Gilbert looked at the scene of Kisa slapping Sharon in the

video. The more he watched, the more he wanted to laugh.

“When she gets brutal, she gets really brutal,’ Gilbert thought.

Fortunately, she forgave him now. Otherwise, he would also be afraid of her brutality and heartlessness. He leaned back onto the sofa with his head facing up. He scrolled through it to find Kisa’s phone number. When he was just considering making a call, he suddenly saw that the hanging clock on the wall was showing that it was almost half past ten.

Worried she might have gone to sleep, his fingers hovered over Kisa’s number. Then he opened the chat message board he had with her. The chat box was empty. Gilbert swiftly typed out a line of words, “You asleep?”

After a long while, Kisa has yet to return any messages back. Gilbert shook his head while he chuckled.

‘She most likely had gone to sleep,’ Gilbert thought.

It’s a shame he could not fall asleep. He unhappily leaned on the sofa. On such a long night, he feared it would be unbearable. He wanted to look for her but was scared of being found out by his grandmother.

‘The old saying about how being lovesick is the most unbearable makes a lot of sense to me now,’ Gilbert thought.

The next day, when the sun had barely rose, Kisa rushed to the airport.

Chapter 815 Crazy Movie Fans

She could not stop yawning and asked Lea, ” Didn’t you say we are going to Athadale tomorrow? Why are we going there today?”

She was supposed to be in blissful slumber at this time. Lea called her suddenly, saying that the time to go to Athadale was changed and they had to go there today. Therefore, she hastily crawled out of bed. She did not even have time to put on makeup and proceeded to rush hurriedly to the airport.

Lea brought a stylist and a makeup artist, both hired by Jensen. Lea said to Kisa in distress, “I don’t know why they always change the schedule. It was Mr. Jensen who informed me in the middle of the night. For me to let you have a bit more sleep, I called you when it was dawn.”

Kisa smiled at Lea, “It must’ve been hard for you. You can sleep for a while on the plane later.”

“Mhm,” Lea immediately nodded her head, and a glint of happiness flashed within her heart. This was the first time in a long time that Kisa had cared about her.

Kisa sat in the first-class cabin. The plane cabin had only Lea and her, with the other stylists and makeup artists. It was currently six in the morning, and they should reach Athadale at around 10 o'clock. The event organizer had arranged a hotel for them. Once they depart from the plane, personnel will be sent to fetch them. However, due to her current popularity and status, many reporters would be interviewing her at the hotel entrance then. Therefore, Kisa still had to do her makeup and style her hair before this.

She closed her eyes and leaned into the seat. She allowed both the stylist and makeup artist to take care of it for her. Yet her lips spoke to Lea, "Lea, when we reach Athadale, don't go running off for no reason, you understand?"

Lea was stunned. After a while, she quickly nodded, "Mhm, I won't run off. I will be by your side at all times."

Kisa chuckled once and spoke seriously, "I didn't mean it that way. It's just that Athadale is Anthony's territory. You also know I have a grudge against Anthony. I'm scared that he would hurt the people close to me, so you shouldn't run around without any reason. Stay at the hotel well-behaved, alright?"

Hearing her mention Anthony, Lea's heart harshly skipped simultaneously, a flash of regret and

complexity. Even at this time, Kisa still worried about her. Yet she had betrayed Kisa so many times, and this time too...

She pursed her lips, looking at the picture between Kisa and her on her phone. That was when Kisa had been super skinny, and she took a picture together with her. Kisa had truly changed a lot now. She had become so dazzling and also rather distant.

If it was possible, she really did not want to betray her. However, when it came to the orders from that man, she was ultimately helpless to fight back.

Kisa had some rest on the plane. When she woke up, the aircraft had already reached Athadale. Lea handed over the clothes she needed to change for when she would exit the aircraft. It was a tiny black dress. A vest would accompany it on the outside.

Kisa finished changing into her outfit and then waited for another moment as the plane started to land. Just as the four of them departed from the plane, numerous reporters and media representatives surrounded them to take pictures. Around them were also bystanders taking their phones and taking pictures non-stop.

Kisa gave the audience a smile and a greeting. Then under the guidance of a squad of bodyguards, she got into the car that came to pick them up. The event organizer booked for them the best hotel in

Athadale.

Before half an hour came, the car stopped at the hotel entrance. Seeing the dark mass of swarming reporters, Kisa felt dread in her heart. This was the trouble of being a celebrity.

The bodyguard stood in a line to open a path for Kisa. Lea shielded Kisa walking toward the hotel. Around them were not just the reporters but also many bystanders. This huge scene was comparable to the situation at the airport. Kisa walked toward the hotel lobby with difficulty.

Suddenly, a few movie fans broke through the bodyguards' blockade and forced themselves toward Kisa, respectively. Kisa was on her stilettos. Under those few movie fans' enthusiastic shoving and pushing, her heel twisted, and her whole body immediately crashed to the ground awkwardly.

Lea panicked and quickly called for the bodyguards. The scene instantly got messy.

Kisa hissed in pain as a random person accidentally stepped on her hand.

She tried to get up from the floor, but the scene was so rowdy that just as she got up, she was shoved down by someone again.

"Mr. Kooper came, Mr. Kooper came too..."

Chapter 816 He Pretended To Not Know Her

Suddenly, a high-pitched shriek reverberated on the scene. Kisa's heart shivered.

'Was it Gilbert who came? Why did Gilbert come to Athadale for no reason? He even went to the same hotel as I did. He's not following me, is he?' she wondered.

Once Gilbert appeared, most media reporters scattered and flocked toward him. Many of the bystanders also started to crowd toward Gilbert.

Only then did Kisa let out a sigh of relief. She elevated herself slightly and looked toward the entrance. With a single glance, she saw Gilbert surrounded by a crowd.

His straight figure and handsome looks seemed particularly outstanding in the crowd. However, Kisa had clearly locked eyes with him, but Gilbert was still emotionless. The calm gaze even moved directly away from her figure.

Gilbert had long legs, so his strides were huge. In a few steps, he had come over to her. The media reporters also rushed in troops to surround him.

Kisa silently watched him. She did not expect him to not give her even a glance and directly walked past her. Lea also had an odd look on her face.

She quickly got Kisa up and closed in by her ear. She softly complained, "What's wrong with Mr. Kooper? Did he not see you? Why did he not acknowledge you at all?"

Kisa rubbed the hand, still stinging from being stepped on, and said to her, "Why would he want to acknowledge me? Am I on good terms with him?"

"Is it not? Mr. Kooper even looked for me the previous night to ask about your whereabouts. His expression then seemed very anxious," Lea replied.

Kisa's heart shook. Turns out that during the night she was ambushed by Sharon, Gilbert was searching for her like a maniac.

'No wonder, no wonder that morning, when she called Gilbert, the man was so angry,' Kisa thought.

"Kisa, I think Mr. Kooper still cares about you deeply. It's just unknown what's happened today. Why did he treat you so cold suddenly? He saw you fall to the ground and ignored you," Lea smoothed out the

clothes on her body while speaking in a quiet voice.

Kisa smiled lightly, saying, "That's just what you think."

After she finished speaking, she looked at Gilbert's silhouette, walking away. She found that it was hilarious deep down.

'Gilbert's acting was actually quite good. Look, he acted like he didn't know me and acted quite like it seemed so,' she thought.

Arriving in the room, Lea hurriedly arranged her luggage properly and then came to look at Kisa's hand.

"It's red from being stepped on. There are even some scrapes and cuts. Why don't I go and buy you some medication?"

"No need. It's just a small injury," Kisa chuckled and pulled back her hand.

She looked toward the towering buildings outside and asked Lea, "How many days are we staying here?"

"You have a total of three events to attend to. One is a charity ball that you'll be participating in tonight. The next event is fashion week. It's on the day after tomorrow. The last event is a jewelry sponsor event

on the day right after that. Then we will leave the following day, so we will be staying here for a total of 4 days."

Kisa curled up in the sofa chair by the window. She closed her eyes while listening silently. Her expression seemed slightly exhausted.

Lea gave her a glance and said,
“After participating in the event tonight, you can rest properly tomorrow.”

“Mmm,” Kisa nodded her head and spoke, “You must be tired too. You should go back to your room to rest. Don’t run around, okay?”

“Okay. Then, Kisa, I will go and get rest first. After that, I’ll come over to look for you. You should rest for a while too.”

Kisa nodded her head while her eyes did not open at all. After waiting for Lea to go out, Kisa opened her eyes in a flash.

She quickly searched through her phone and pressed Gilbert’s number. She rushed for the plane early in the morning and then sat in a car. After that, accepting the reporter’s interviews. Kisa had only been able to look at her phone up until now.

After the call was sent out, Kisa proceeded to lean onto the sofa chair lazily and wait in silence. Remembering Gilbert’s cold expression when trying to act as if not know her, she felt a slight urge to smile.

Initially, she thought Gilbert would accept her call swiftly, but she did not expect that he would actually keep her waiting until the ringtone finished playing. He still did not pick up the call. She could not help but furrow her brows and call again.

On this side, Gilbert let the phone’s ringtone play non-stop. His face had no reaction at all. His sharp gaze landed nonchalantly on the person before him.

Chapter 817 Not A Step Away

In front of him was the assistant that Madam Kooper Sr. had gotten for him. His name was James Porter. Madam Kooper Sr. exclaimed that his job was demanding and knew he was on a business trip at Athadale this time, so she purposefully let James come along to take care of him.

She said it was to take care of him, but Gilbert knew clearly in his mind that Madalyn was having James monitor

him to confirm whether he and Kisa had genuinely broken up. Madalyn was adamant about separating Kisa from him.

James was creeped out from the stare of Gilbert's gaze. He respectfully stood before Gilbert and spoke carefully to him, "Mr. Kooper, your phone has been ringing for a while. You don't want to listen to it for a bit?"

"There are numerous harassment calls these days. No need to care."

"Oh..." James nodded and still felt uncomfortable. He did not dare to stand in front of Gilbert, but neither did he dare to sit down. He could only stiffen his body while standing there.

Gilbert got up to sit by the window. James immediately followed him.

Gilbert scrunched his brows slightly, "What's wrong? Is there a problem?"

"No problem, no problem. It's just that Madam Kooper Sr. ordered that I should take care of you and not take a step away from you while doing so. Since I have been paid by the madam, it is natural that I perform this duty properly."

Gilbert sneered out a laugh and looked at him playfully, "Not a step away? By this saying, even at night, you want to stick close to me to sleep?"

James' expression changed drastically, and he shook his head anxiously, "No, no, no... Mr. Kooper, you must truly be joking. I wouldn't dare stick close to you to sleep."

"Didn't you say not a step away?"

"I..." With his face filled with distress, James did not know what to say.

Gilbert furrowed his brows in irritation, "Fine, get out of here quickly. Don't interrupt my rest."

"But Madam Kooper Sr. said..."

“But with you here, I can’t rest. Are you following me here just to disturb my rest or take care of me, hm?”

Seeing Gilbert’s face shows a glint of anger. James, in the end, did not dare say anything and walked out in silence.

Gilbert let out a sigh, speechless. He really had no idea how to handle his grandmother. If it weren’t for the fact that this person had been sent by his grandmother, he would have made the man leave early on.

But it was plain to see; making Madalyn accept Kisa was nearly impossible. He really could not understand why Madalyn was so stubborn.

The truth about the incidents that happened during those years was understood. Kisa actually did not do anything at all back then. He still could not understand why Madalyn hated Kisa so much. He irritatingly pulled at his tie and then pulled out his phone.

The phone displayed Kisa’s two missed calls. With a moment’s hesitation, he immediately called back.

Kisa was lying down on the bed, seeing if the incident of her taking revenge on Sharon was posted on the internet. Just as she was looking for some keywords, her phone rang. She glanced at the displaying caller ID, and the corner of her lips twitched upwards.

After a while, she flipped over and tapped her finger on the answering button.

“What are you doing?” Gilbert’s deep voice asked the most ordinary question ever. His tone had a sliver of pamperedness.

Kisa chuckled. She twirled the corner of the sheets and said, “Not doing anything, just thinking... You acted like you did not know me just now. Your acting seemed quite real.”

Gilbert’s face fell. ‘Is this woman being petty? Blaming me for ignoring her just now?’ He thought.

He explained, "I did not act like I did not know you on purpose. You know as well due to my grandmother, the news about our reconciliation cannot be known by the media."

Kisa smiled

but supposedly did not make any sound. Gilbert felt uneasy in his heart and softened his tone, "Are you...angry?"

Chapter 818 Leave The Door Open For Him At Night

"Weren't you angry? I couldn't finish my sentence that early morning before you hung up my call. Then I sent a message to you, yet you still didn't reply. You even supposedly let grandma pick it up when I gave you a call?" Her voice held a little resentment.

Gilbert explained himself in an unusually good temperament, "I fell asleep that day. I didn't purposely not pick up your calls. Besides, I didn't hang up your call. After all, I was mad because I cared too much for you."

Kisa felt her heart sweeten as the smile on her face did not stop. Turns out the feeling of being pampered and sweet-talked by him felt very nice.

She finally stopped teasing him and chuckled, "Alright, I understand. You don't need to explain."

Pausing for a bit, Kisa looked at the gleaming sunshine out her windows before

asking hesitantly, "You... Do you want to come over to my place, or maybe we meet up somewhere...?"

"I'm afraid. It's not possible," Kisa's sentence could not finish as Gilbert immediately answered back in disappointment.

Kisa's cheeks flushed hot in a flash. It almost felt that she was taking the initiative to confess or proclaim her feelings of yearning for him and then was cruelly rejected by

a man.

She immediately answered, "Then it's fine. You should get some rest, okay? I'm going to sleep too. I have to attend an event tonight."

"No, wait up..." It seemed that he heard the disappointment and anger in her tone. Gilbert hurriedly explained, "Of course I really want to meet up with you now. I wish that I could stick to you at all times. However, grandma sent a person to follow me by my side."

When Kisa heard the first half of his sentence, she chuckled secretly at Gilbert's speech grew more and more cheesy. When hearing the latter part of his sentence, her expression turned somber, and she furrowed her eyebrows.

"You are saying that Madam Kooper Sr. sent someone to monitor you?" Kisa guessed.

Gilbert agreed with her, "It seems that way, so I still cannot go and see you now to avoid being found out by Grandma."

Kisa nodded her head, "It's fine. We will get a chance to meet up again later."

"You're... not angry?"

Kisa laughed hilariously, "What is there to be angry about? Aren't we treating this as if it's an affair just to please Madam Kooper Sr.?"

"What affair? We are legitimate husband and wife!" Gilbert corrected her with a harsh tone.

Kisa was tickled funny by the severe and stubborn tone in his voice. She nodded her head and said, "Mhm, husband and wife that can never see the daylight!"

Gilbert's face grew more and more stormy. He shouted at the phone in frustration, "Look at you. Always using these unpleasant words."

Kisa snickered,
“That’s because the level of education I received is limited. Hence, I can’t think of the right words.”

Gilbert suddenly stopped speaking. Kisa spoke jokingly, “That’s alright, that’s alright. I’ll stop teasing you. You must be tired too, rushing here from Calthon. Rest for a bit,”

Kisa said while preparing to hang up the call.

Who knew Gilbert would suddenly ask this question seriously, “Do you want to meet up tonight?”

Kisa was stunned. After a moment, she held the phone and said tactfully, “Let’s forget about it. What if…”

“As long as *you* wish it, I’ll try to think of a way.”

“Then do *you* want to meet up?” Kisa asked him back.

Gilbert answered back without much thought, “Of course, I want to. I just said I wanted to *see* you.”

“But I still *need* to attend an event tonight.”

“No worries, I will attend it tonight too.”

“You?”

“After the event ends, remember to leave the door open for me when you come back,” Gilbert said with a hint of dubiousness. Kisa’s face turned red, and she ignored him.

“It’s a promise then,” Gilbert laughed mischievously as he hung up the phone.

Kisa looked at the dimmed phone screen, silently cursing herself for being a good-for-nothing.

'It's just leaving the door open. What are you being all shy and embarrassed for?' Kisa thought to herself.

The charity ball started in the evening at eight, and Kisa and Lea departed at half

past seven.

Chapter 819 Dazzling and Attractive

Even though spring had arrived, the night was still a little cold. Kisa wore a purple tube-top gown. A small white jacket covered the outside. She had light makeup on, which made her seem elegant and noble.

The number of people attending the charity ball was numerous, and Kisa was the ambassador of this charity. Once she showed up, she became the focus of the event. Regarding the major media outlets that took pictures with the odd and inquisitive stares from the audience, Kisa could already face them easily.

She slowly walked into the banquet hall, her eyes glancing at everyone with composure, without even a hint of dodging them. Some of them smiled and greeted her, and she, too, greeted back politely.

Hidden among the crowds was Gilbert, his dark eyes closely locked onto her body. At this moment, he suddenly discovered that Kisa was initially capable of being so dazzling and attractive too.

Maybe, she initially was so outstanding and so radiant. However, due to the event in the past, she hid all her radiance from her. Gilbert stared at her with near obsession. In this vast banquet hall, it seemed she was the only human there while the other people would not meet his standards.

While

Kisa walked in not long ago, she saw Gilbert in the crowd. It seemed that he was not joking when he said it. He really came to attend this gala.

Her gaze fluttered from Gilbert's face hurriedly to another spot to avoid the media's suspicions. However, with just a casual swivel, her gaze suddenly locked onto a pair of cruel and cold eyes.

She could not help but scrunch her eyebrows. The Mullen family was one of the finest and most influential families in Athadale, so the appearance of Anthony Mullen was not odd. But this man was cruel and cunning. Just from a glance, it was inevitable that he would affect the mood, especially with Gilbert at the banquet as well. She was sure that Anthony would purposely try to pick a fight with Gilbert.

Indeed, what she feared ended up happening. She only saw Anthony holding a glass of red wine while walking toward Gilbert.

Afraid that the media reporters would catch her gaze, Kisa did not dare to look in Gilbert's direction too frequently. Lea and Kisa walked to the dining table.

Lea's gaze was still hovering over Anthony's figure and would not return for a long time. Kisa brought a glass of fruit juice for her. She noticed her gaze and could not

Chapter 819 Dazzling and Attractive

help but ask, "What are you looking at?"

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Lea suddenly came to her senses, and her heart panicked instantly. She took over the juice and smiled with an unnatural expression, "I... I wasn't looking at anything. It was just a little peculiar. Why would Gilbert participate in this event too?"

"Gilbert was a famous figure in this sector. Charity events like this usually would invite him, so it was not odd that he would be here."

"Oh..." Lea took a sip of the juice, then smiled at her, seeming nonchalant while speaking, "I still thought Mr. Kooper came to participate in this event because of you."

Kisa furrowed her eyebrows slightly and looked at her slightly weirdly.

Lea's heart panicked again, "What's... What's wrong, Kisa? What are you doing looking at me like that?"

"No," Kisa chuckled a bit and smiled casually while saying, "I just felt a little odd. Why would you always associate him and I together?"

"No, I don't purposely connect you and him together. It's just that both of you before, the two of you..." Lea was so flustered that she did not know what to say.

Kisa jokingly patted her shoulder, "Take it easy. I didn't mean anything else. I just find it a little strange."

Lea pursed her lips and immediately dared not speak of any nonsense. She felt that Kisa had changed and become more mysterious.

Anthony walked to Gilbert's side and stopped promptly. He leaned back onto the huge dining table and gave a meaningful glance at Kisa. He teasingly said to Gilbert, "I just saw you looking at that lady with a very impure expression. Why? Do you want to sleep with her?"

Chapter 820 Tricks

"Do you think everyone's thoughts are as dirty as yours?" Gilbert lowered his gaze and sneered. "I don't care what other people think. I'm only curious about what you were thinking when you were staring at that woman," Anthony said with a playful smile on his face. Gilbert looked down and continued to drink, not paying any attention to Anthony.

Things were different now. In the past, Gilbert did not take any action against this man because he was scared that he would hurt Kisa. Now, Kisa has obviously become stronger and more powerful. So, Gilbert was *no* longer afraid of Anthony, no matter how evil he was.

Anthony snorted and looked at Kisa from top to bottom. "Sigh, I didn't expect this woman to become so feminine after only a few days of not seeing each other," he said with a sinister and playful tone. "Look at that slender waist and beautiful ankles. She must be a treat in bed."

Gilbert remained silent and did not look up. He was filtering out Anthony's nasty remarks. Although he wanted to beat him up, he could not do so since they were in public.

Anthony glanced at Gilbert and could not help but frown when he saw that Gilbert was unfazed by his words. After some time, he sneered, "It seems like you really aren't interested in that woman, huh?"

Gilbert continued to ignore him. He came to the event tonight to see Kisa; he had no desire to get into an entanglement with Anthony.

Anthony looked at Gilbert's indifferent side face and suddenly laughed sinisterly, "I'm glad that you're not interested in that woman."

"What does that mean?" Gilbert frowned, looking at him, and asked.

"Ah! It's nothing, really. I just wanted to ask that woman for a dance. You wouldn't mind that, would you, Mr. Kooper?"

"Hah. Why would I care? The only concern here is whether she'd agree to dance with you," Gilbert chuckled as he walked away with his wine glass.

Anthony stared at his back coldly, his heart full of ridicule. 'He's quite the actor,' he thought.

"Ms. Becker, I've seen your show before. You look even more beautiful than on television."

"I agree. I've watched every episode of the show; Ms. Becker. And must I say, you're really good at acting."

Kisa was at the serving table, picking up some food when a few middle-aged CEOs came over and tried to strike up a conversation. She then smiled politely at them and said, "It's an honor to hear that all of you took the time to watch my show when you're already so busy."

"Ha-ha. It's mainly because you're a good actor, Ms. Becker. I don't watch much drama shows, but I watched yours." Several CEOs were surrounding her, talking enthusiastically.

Kisa pursed her lips and chuckled, "I see. Do you gentlemen still remember which role I played?"

"Uh..."

"You played a strong and powerful woman, an urban woman."

"That's nonsense. She obviously played a pure and harmless little girl."

"No, she was a concubine, the emperor's concubine, to be exact; the kind who competes for favor in the harem."

The CEOs discussed among themselves, but none of them got it right. Even Lea felt the second-hand embarrassment from their answers.

"It seems like all of you were so busy that no one remembered my role in the show. Since you're so busy, will you please excuse me?" Kisa sneered. As she said that, she hurriedly dragged Lea away from the crowd.

It was obvious to Kisa why they had decided to strike up a conversation with her. 'They're trying to use their money to befriend me and make me their woman,' she thought to herself.

Kisa knew about their little trick. She only took a few steps forward when a man stopped in front of her and Lea.