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Chapter 41

"Rachel?" Tina frantically yelled out to her.

Instinctively, Rachel turned back. She was way more embarrassed to have encountered such a transgression.

"Y-You shouldn't misunderstand..." Tina's current expression was quite ugly.

Just then, Rachel didn't understand why Tina was so anxious. Although this was an awkward situation, the latter was engaged to Noah anyway, so it was quite normal for them to be enamored with each other. Pleasure time with each other wasn't exactly something to be ashamed of. (This novel will be daily updated at)However, a moment later, as soon as she saw the guy behind Tina, the reason finally dawned upon Rachel. The man wasn't Noah at all.

I came to get a bottle of wine. Rachel tried to put on a calm front and held up the bottle of wine in her hands to show Tina.

In fact, she had never met Noah and she didn't know what he looked like either, but she happened to have met the guy behind Tina yesterday at the Burtons' summer villa located in the outskirts of town. If she wasn't mistaken, this man was the driver for the Burtons.

"Rachel... I mean... Rach" At that moment, Tina was evidently at a loss for what to do and she stammered as well. "Things are not what it seems. We were just..."

"She saw everything." A male voice rang out from behind Tina and the man spoke with a definite tone.

Upon hearing that, Rachel unconsciously shuddered.

Just then, Tina had also begun to calm down and her expression darkened as she stared at Rachel. "Did you see everything?"

Instantly, Rachel shook her head vigorously to deny it.

"Stop pretending. You've seen everything, right?" Tina glanced at the wine bottle in Rachel's hands. "How long have you been here for?"

Meanwhile, Rachel took a step backward. She had an awkward look on her face and she couldn't quite find the words to explain herself.

"It doesn't matter even though you've seen us." Tina exhaled deeply and her expression was quite somber. "If you dare to reveal what you saw today, I swear you won't be able to live in peace in Riverdale."

Rachel held onto the wine bottle tightly. After a short pause, she nodded in response, as she did not want trouble either. It would not benefit her to reveal Tina's private matters.

Tina's fingers continued to tremble uncontrollably as she watched Rachel leave the cellar. (This novel will be daily updated at) Soon after that, the man behind her took her hands into his before he said in a low voice near her ears, "Can she be trusted?"

Tina's expression was solemn. "Even if she can't be trusted, there's nothing we can do about it. She's a mute and she already has trouble surviving in our family, so do you think she would have the guts to reveal anything? Besides, she doesn't have any proof at all."

Meanwhile, the man glowered.

On the other end, Rachel ran out of the cellar frantically. Finally, she managed to get to the upper floor

and she ran toward an area with people around. Unfortunately, she ran straight into a waiter and fell to the ground.

"Miss, are you fine?"

Shocked, Rachel quickly shook her head and she slowly came to her senses.

She heard some music coming from the living room further ahead so she quickly handed over the bottle of wine in her hands to the waiter. Then, she gestured, *Please help me pass this to Amber.*

Earlier in the cellar, she had torn her dress. There was not much time left and she still had to complete the task assigned by Justin. It was quite likely she would be mocked by Amber if she went back into the living room.

The dinner hadn't officially started so Jefferey was still entertaining his guests in the reception area. Therefore, she would have to take this opportunity while he was still entertaining his guests to slip into his study room and look for the safe that Justin mentioned. The mansion was massive but fortunately for her, Jefferey's bedroom and study room were located on the third floor of the function room tonight. In the end, Rachel succeeded in finding the exact location of the study room based on her memory

She pushed the door open with a loud 'clack'. (This novel will be daily updated at) There was a smell of smoke that hit her as soon as she entered the room. It didn't smell like sandalwood but rather, it resembled the smell of incense that was usually burnt during prayers.

She scanned the surroundings and finally located the source of the smell. There was an extinguished incense burner located on the first row of the bookshelf and behind it was a statue of the Deity of Medications.

The Hudson Family came from a medical background so naturally, it was their tradition to pray to the Deity of Medications. Jefferey was quite particular about maintaining traditions so all of this seemed quite reasonable.

According to Justin, Jefferey's safe was located within the shelf to the right of his study table.

And so, Rachel swiftly made her way there and pulled open the shelf door.

Indeed, Justin was right and there was a rectangular silver safe located within the shelf and it was built into the bookshelf. The safe was digitally locked and a password was required to unlock it. Without that, there was no chance of opening it. Moreover, it would be wishful to attempt to steal the safe as it was built into the bookshelf.

She took a few photos of the safe and sent them off to Justin.

The safe is here, so can I go now?'

She waited and waited, but there was no reply from the other end.

Rachel felt quite anxious and just as she was about to leave, she heard voices coming from outside all of a sudden.

It looked like Jefferey was back.

She glanced to her left and right but then she realized that there was nowhere for her to hide.

"Umph-

Suddenly, a hand reached out from behind her and clamped down on her mouth. Then, she was dragged toward the back.

After Rachel had come to her senses, she found that she was in a dark environment and there seemed to be a suffocating smell of incense that was quite offensive. She would have coughed out loud if her mouth wasn't currently covered.

"Don't make a sound." A low voice rang out by her ear.

Just then, Rachel's back stiffened.

It's Justin! He was here all this while!

It seemed like Jefferey had brought a guest into the room and their conversation from outside was clearly audible through the thin board of the bookshelf. It sounded like they were discussing the problems faced with the transport of medical equipment.

At that moment, Justin had a hand placed against the board of the bookshelf and he concentrated on the sounds outside for a short while. His sharp nose was illuminated by the rays of light that passed through the crevices and his expression looked quite cold.

As for Rachel, she slowly calmed down.

After Justin had ensured that they wouldn't be discovered for the time being, he released her from his tight grip and she could finally breathe in normally.

The secret room was completely dark and nothing could be seen in here. (This novel will be daily updated at)There was merely a flickering light source from behind and the whole place was quite eerie.

Rachel drew back and remained in a fixed position.

Her back remained tightly pressed against Justin's chest and their breaths were in sync just then. The tiny secret room was so quiet that their rapid heartbeats were clearly audible.

After quite some time, there was a burst of laughter from outside.

"Alright, Mr. Riley. I'll get Tomas to draft the agreement."

"Sure, no problem."

Rachel finally heaved a sign of relief upon hearing the door shut from outside.

Just then, Justin released her from his arms.

Somehow, he pressed on a button and the bookshelf gently twisted and it opened outward. Suddenly, the light flowed in from outside and illuminated more than half of the secret room.

"Everyone's gone. Come on out."

Rachel recollected her senses and nodded her head as she followed Justin out of the room.

How did you get here?

If he was able to come here in person then why did he force me to go through this frightful episode?

Justin shot her a cold and indifferent look. "If I wasn't here, do you think you would be able to open the

safe?"

Can you open it?

Shocked, Rachel stared at him but she quickly regained her composure.

Justin was a man of many talents so surely, there was nothing that could trouble him. Besides, this was merely a simple and tiny safe.

Meanwhile, he ignored her and glanced behind her thoughtfully. Then, he coldly exclaimed, (This novel will be daily updtaed at) “How many people do you think have lost their lives because of your family?! We’re already in the 21st century but you’re still worshipping such a thing?”

Worshiping such a thing?

Rachel’s expression went still and her eyes followed his gaze behind her. Just then, she saw the full view of the secret room. Inside the room, there was a mini-sized altar and the flickering light from earlier was in fact an incense burning in an incense holder.

She couldn’t help moving closer to take a look, but her face paled immediately upon noticing the deities on the altar.

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The so-called Deities were in fact not deities but a piece of wooden plaque carved with the birthdate and time. The four edges had locks on it, which were spray-painted red and bolted tightly to the ground.

On the right side of the plaque, there was a framed piece of bright yellow talisman and the writing on it was messy and indecipherable.

Just then, Rachel’s feet felt as if they were filled with lead. Her eyes were fixated upon the talisman and it felt as if she was about to bore a hole into it and find out what was beneath the frame.

Just then, Justin could sense that there was something wrong with her. “What’s wrong?”.

However, it seemed that Rachel didn’t hear his words at all and she reached out an arm toward the talisman.

“What are you doing?” Justin pulled her back.

They must not touch a single item here. Otherwise, if Jefferey came back and saw it, (This novel will be daily updtaed at)he would definitely realize that someone

had broken into the place and therefore it would be harder for them to obtain the formula next time if they failed to get it this time.

However, Rachel's face was as pale as a sheet and she was still staring fixedly on the talisman with a dazed look on her.

Is she possessed?

Meanwhile, Justin frowned and admonished, "Don't move."

He was never a believer of spiritual objects, so he reached out his arm and immediately removed the

talisman to reveal the frame behind.

There was a black-and-white artistic photo in the frame and it was evidently taken from a studio. The photo looked like it had been taken in the last century.

The woman had on a traditional outfit and she looked very young. She had a demure smile on her face which somehow looked quite familiar to Justin. He seemed to have seen her from somewhere before.

"Boohoo-"

Suddenly, there was a sobbing sound that came from behind.

Justin was momentarily shocked and he looked back to see a face filled with tears.

Rachel's hands gripped the bookshelf tightly and her eyes were red-rimmed. Although she tried hard to suppress her emotions, she couldn't seem to control her immense sorrow and she sobbed in a hoarse voice.

Justin glanced at her face and suddenly, he seemed to comprehend the part of the situation.

The woman in this photo was...

At that moment, Rachel's vision was blurry. (This novel will be daily updated at)The bright-red necklace, the clear birthdate and time, coupled with that exact same photo that she had as well... Each of them seemed to be a clear indication for her.

Just then, the sound of Justin's phone vibrations rang out from his pocket. Frustrated, he glanced at

the safe right in front of him and then he took a look at Rachel.

After quite some time, he put back the talisman and dragged Rachel out of the room.

"Umphhhh-" Rachel struggled to break free as she wanted to remain there.

"Don't look at it!" Justin reprimanded her in a low voice. "Even if you continue staring at it, she won't be able to come back from the dead."

This woman's such a bother. If I knew that there would be such an accident, I might as well not get her to come along

At the lounge of the second floor, Frankie sent a paper bag containing a gown into the room before retreating and closing the door after him.

"Mr. Burton, how did Mrs. Burton end up like this?"

Justin frowned slightly in response and he remained lost in thought. "How did Rachel's birth mother pass away?"

Previously, he had assigned Frankie to conduct the investigation when he knew that he was going to marry Jefferey's daughter.

Frankie paused momentarily. "It was due to a car accident."

"Is that confirmed?"

"This was what was recorded at the police station. Mrs. Burton's birth mother didn't have a stable job in the past and she usually went out to work at night. (This novel will be daily updaed at)Once, she consumed too much alcohol and ended up losing control. That's how she got into a car accident and passed away."

"What did she work as?"

"Well..." Frankie hesitated.

Truth be told, Frankie had already reported this matter to Justin in the past and it wasn't something that was hard to find out either. In the records, Rachel's mother provided illicit services. Because of her great looks, she was considered to be a popular hostess at one of the high-end clubs at that time and Jefferey had been a regular customer there.

"After some time, she suddenly quit and left the industry. She disappeared for quite some time and after that, Jefferey received the news that she had passed away from a car accident, leaving a young daughter behind."

Illicit services?

Justin recalled the photo he saw at the altar. Come to think of it, (This novel will be daily updaed at)Rachel had a strong resemblance to the woman in the photo

and both of them had a demure and docile look-there was a clean look in their eyes. Whatever it was, she didn't seem like one who would resort to working in such an industry.

Just then, Frankie noticed Justin's silence and he couldn't help asking, "I thought you went to seek for the formula today? Why are you suddenly asking about this? Did something happen?"

Upon hearing that, Justin finally recollected his thoughts. "Let's talk about the formula another time."

As soon as he finished his words, he raised his arm to look at his watch. "Has the dinner party

started?"

"It's started. Everyone's waiting for you to get there and they've asked after you quite a few times already."

"I'm leaving."

"What?" Frankie asked, revealing a surprised look.

Just then, Justin replied in a low voice, "Inform Jefferey that I've got something else on. I'll head back with Rachel."

His original plan was to get Rachel to look for the safe. Once her face was captured on the footage of the surveillance camera at the corridor, then even if he took the formula with him, she would be the suspect in Jefferey's mind.

However, he didn't expect that there were so many disruptions which had delayed his time.

Right now, it looked like Rachel wouldn't be able to continue attending the dinner party.

As soon as he finished his sentence, there came the sound of the door opening.

Rachel pulled open the door and stood at the entrance. Her new gown was quite figure-forming and the black-colored ruffled dress perfectly accentuated her neck and shoulders, putting her snowy-white neck on display.

It was quite evident from her eyes that she had just cried as they were tinged red from earlier, but that just made her seem more delicate than ever.

I'm fine. I can attend the dinner party.

Justin was significantly stunned by her response.

Meanwhile, it was dark out and the ballroom was filled with people.'

Amber was currently chatting with her friend. Mid-conversation, one of the waiters handed over a bottle of wine from the cellar to her. Subsequently, he leaned over to whisper something into her ear. .Thereafter, she revealed a smug smile.

"What's up, Amber? Why are you so happy about a bottle of wine?"

"What's there to be happy about? It's just wine," Amber muttered as she raised her brows. (This novel will be daily updtaed at)"I'm happy because someone who's overestimated herself has jumped into a trap herself without even taking a look."

"What are you talking about?" Her friend couldn't understand Amber's words and surveyed the surroundings confusedly. "I thought Tina said she was coming? It's quite late already, so why is she not here yet?"

"She left"

"Left? When did that happen?"

Amber then mentioned with a meaningful tone, "Her well-kept secret was revealed so she's busy sorting things out. I don't think she will be in the mood to join the dinner party. If I were her, I would definitely be trying to figure out how to kill off the person who knows my secret."

"Kill someone? What in the world is going on?" her friend questioned with a frown. "I really don't know what you're talking about anymore."

As she said that, someone standing next to them suddenly said, "Justin's here."

Amber's expression brightened upon hearing that and she stood up from the couch immediately. She hurriedly checked her hair and straightened her clothes. Then, she followed everyone's gaze and glanced in that direction.

"Isn't that your elder sister?"

In fact, Amber had already seen the duo as soon as her friend's words hit her ears.

Standing at the staircase, Justin was dressed in a crisp, black tuxedo and his expression was as cold as before. (This novel will be daily updtaed at)The terrifying scar on his face did nothing to hide his good looks and right now, he was walking toward the middle of the ballroom.

Rachel was his partner and she had changed into a black-colored ball gown. At the moment, she held onto his arm and had an elegant and composed look on her face. In truth, their arrival was quite harmonious and they looked the perfect match.

However, this scene was quite jarring to Amber.

All of a sudden, she clenched her fingers tightly and her newly manicured nails pierced into her palm, practically piercing through her flesh.

Rachel's able to attend tonight's dinner with Justin and she exhibits such composure too! Is she showing off in front of everyone and mocking me?

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Justin very rarely appeared in public, but the guests present at the Hudson's dinner party could clearly identify him by the ugly scar on his face.

"Is this Justin Burton?"

"He doesn't look as terrifying as everyone mentioned."

"Exactly! And his relationship with Rachel seems quite good too."

Just then, the crowd whispered among themselves in the ballroom. Fortunately, there was background music to mask their voices and at the same time, someone had already approached Justin to greet him so the scene became quite lively all of a sudden.

Countless people came forward to hand Justin their name cards. Just then, (This novel will be daily updated at) Rachel instinctively wanted to withdraw her hand and walk off but Justin grabbed her hand tightly. She glanced sideways and met his calm, steady look.

All of a sudden, she was significantly shocked. After that, she stood there hearing the compliments from the crowd and once she looked up again, she had already revealed a graceful smile to the crowd around them.

Since young, she had practically never experienced such attention from anyone. In the past ten years, her life had been as quiet as her condition and there was not a single ripple in her uneventful life. She was always the non-existent person at every event of the Hudson Family.

However, her marriage to Justin seemed to be the turning point of her life.

"Amber, your sister and brother-in-law seem to have a good relationship."

Amber's friend's words hit her ears and the ugly look already present on Amber's face turned uglier. "It's all just for show. He can't possibly ignore her in front of so many people!"

As Amber said that, she left her friend and strode purposefully toward Justin.

"Justin."

Rachel was currently by Justin's side greeting the crowd when she was suddenly interrupted by Amber's voice.

"Justin, why did you arrive so late? Rachel came by herself earlier so I thought that you were not joining us tonight."

Amber behaved as if Rachel, who was currently standing by the side, was invisible. (This novel will be daily updated at) In short, the former focused only on talking to Justin.

Everyone present clearly caught her emphasized words that Rachel had 'came by herself'.

Meanwhile, Justin replied indifferently, "There was something urgent at the company so I got the driver to send Rae here first. Did I miss anything interesting?" His words spoke volumes.

Amber's expression stiffened in response and she glanced at Rachel before replying awkwardly, "You didn't miss anything. Did Rachel mention anything to you?"

Justin didn't answer. However, his eyes focused on Amber's neck. "The necklace suits you."

He changed the topic so quickly that everyone was quite perplexed. Meanwhile, Amber's face lit up

and she suddenly revealed a coy expression as she touched the diamond necklace on her neck without saying a word.

This was a gift from Justin when he accompanied Rachel back to the Hudson Residence previously.

"The birthday boy is here."

Someone hollered loudly and the crowd's attention became focused on the other entrance of the ballroom. Just then, Jefferey entered the room while chit-chatting with a few of the Hudson relatives and they managed to attract everyone's attention.

"Justin, let's go and wish Dad a happy birthday!"

Amber immediately reached out for Justin's hand and dragged him along. As for Justin, he didn't object to it and he left Rachel standing right there.

Momentarily stunned, Rachel felt an inexplicable sense of sadness well up as soon as Justin's arms were removed from her side. In all honesty, she couldn't control the emptiness in her heart.

Obviously, everyone would like a dazzling woman, right?

Despite Amber's personality in private, at the very least, she was a likable character on the surface.

Meanwhile, Justin was dragged by Amber and they came to stand right in front of Jefferey. The former

then turned around to glance further toward the back and noticed that Rachel had walked off quite a distance away.

"Justin, could you give me a hand with the cake?"

"Sure." He then collected his thoughts and followed Amber along to push the cake trolley. (This novel will be daily updated at)However, his thoughts remained fixated on where it was originally. All of the thoughts swirling in his mind were related to the scene earlier in the study room. He couldn't quite shake off the scene of that woman's devastated and distraught look from his mind.

As for Rachel, she had no intention to join the crowd so she took a seat in a secluded corner. As she sat there, she saw Amber and Justin push out a cart with the birthday cake on it for Jefferey. Soon after that, she walked off by herself to get a bottle of wine. Normally, she abstained from alcohol but today, she wished to have a drink.

As soon as she recalled her mom's tablet being locked-up in such a cramped space by Jefferey, she felt a burst of anger that welled up within her and threatened to spill over.

It was clearly evident that it wasn't an altar to commemorate the dead. The bright-red locks and the walls full of talismans were clearly an arrangement specifically there for the dead and it wasn't intended to commemorate but instead, it was to suppress the dead!

Did Mom really lose her life from a car accident? Suddenly, Rachel was quite suspicious of the whole incident.

The night had fallen and the full moon was clearly mirrored in the swimming pool by the ballroom.

"Do you plan to get drunk and then act pitiful in front of Justin?"

There was a female voice that rang out from in front of Rachel, causing her to clench the bottle of wine in her hands tightly as she raised her head to glance across the room.

Somehow, Amber had trailed after her.

“Are you keeping quiet because I guessed correctly?” Amber crossed her arms and her four-and-a-half inch high heels clicked loudly against the tiles next to the swimming pool. She glanced at Rachel with a cold expression and the haughty look on her face was clearly evident. “I’m sorry, I must have forgotten. You’re a mute so you can’t even express yourself.”

Rachel shot her a look and gestured, *What do you want?*

She’s not inside fawning over Justin or acting as the dutiful daughter in front of Jefferey, but she came over to find fault with me. What’s the point anyway?

“I’m here for something important of course! Justin just drank some wine earlier and now, he’s having a discussion with my dad about business matters so I came out to take a breather. I’ll have to head back inside soon.” As soon as Amber finished her words, she snorted coldly and added, “Do you think that everyone is as useless as you?”

Meanwhile, Rachel clenched her fists tightly and her expression darkened slightly.

“What are you looking at? Did I say something wrong?” Amber scanned her surroundings and replied smugly, “How dare you come here anyway? Have you forgotten how you fell to the ground and sliced your forehead open when you were young?”

Just then, Rachel felt a throbbing pain on her forehead as soon as Amber brought up the incident from their childhood. Since young, Amber had a mean streak in her that was as comparable as right now. In the past, she had pushed Rachel into the unfilled swimming pool, causing the latter to fall to the ground and bleed profusely. This remained Rachel’s worst nightmare even up till today.

“Do you think that Justin will stand by me, just like how Dad did, if the same thing happened again today?(This novel will be daily updtaed at)” Amber questioned, her expression turning vicious.

Instantly, Rachel’s face turned and she took a step backward instinctively.

“Why are you so anxious?” Amber stared at Rachel with a cold look and then the former removed her necklace in front of the latter. “We’re no longer kids so obviously we have to act our age. Do you think that I’m still the same as when we were kids?”

As soon as she said that, the necklace soared into the air at a perfect angle and landed with a *‘plop’* sound into the swimming pool.

Rachel frowned at her, *What are you doing?*

"You've got two options right now. One, jump into the pool and get it for me. Two, I'll tell Justin that you grabbed my necklace and dumped it into the pool. Do pick one. I must say that I'm quite generous to you."

Pale-faced, Rachel confronted Amber, *Why are you doing this?*

Meanwhile, Amber scanned her from head to toe and replied, "I haven't avenged myself from the

episode at the pond last time, so I suddenly realized it. This is fair, right?"

Upon hearing that, Rachel clenched her fist tightly and her palm throbbed with pain. *She fell into the pond at the Hudson Residence because of her own doing and now she's blaming everything on me?*

In the past, Rachel had tolerated Amber's tyranny and overbearingness because the former was thankful for Jefferey's kindness in taking in her and her grandmother after her mom had passed away.

However, the scene at the altar today had overthrown everything in her mind.

Amber, I think I've got a third option.

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Amber was startled. "What do you mean by a third choice?"

Before the woman could even react, Rachel suddenly lifted her hand to push Amber's shoulder.

Splash!

There was a huge splash in the swimming pool.

"Cough... Ahhh... Help me!"

Rachel silently stood beside the pool as her expression grew colder under the moonlight.

The third choice that she had mentioned was to push Amber with that damn necklace together into the swimming pool.

The commotion at the swimming pool quickly alerted the people in the hall, so the attendants immediately saved Amber from the pool. One by one, they hurriedly covered her with towels, but even so, she had made herself a fool in front of everyone.

"Amber." Jefferey held Amber in distress. "Are you alright?"

Then, she let out a loud cry while pointing at Rachel with a trembling finger. (This novel will be daily updaed at)"She pushed me!".

The moment her words came out, it caused an uproar among the surrounding guests.

His face darkened as he glared at Rachel. "What happened?"

However, she remained silent and refused to deny or confirm Amber's accusation.

"I can't believe this, Rachel. Have you already decided to abandon your family just because you are now Mrs. Burton? How dare you do this to Amber! If anything happens to her, I'll —"

"What will you do?" A deep voice was suddenly heard from behind Rachel as it interrupted Jefferey's lecture.

Before she could even turn around, her body was completely engulfed by an enormous shadow.

As he looked at Justin, Jefferey could not help but significantly control his temper. "What is it, President Burton? Are you now going to defend your wife?"

His words immediately reminded everyone else that Rachel was no longer the neglected daughter of the Hudson Family. Rather, she was now Justin Burton's wife, so no matter what she did, he still needed to pay some respect to Justin.

While being as indifferent as usual, Justin uttered, "This is your family's business. I'm just here to have a look."

His words were clear as ever.

Upon listening to him, Rachel couldn't help but silently laugh at herself. *How could he ever speak up for*

me?

If he were willing to help her, Amber wouldn't have had the confidence to play such tricks with her.

Upon hearing Justin's words, Jefferey finally let out a huge sigh of relief. After all, since Justin was here, it wouldn't be wise for Jefferey to immediately accuse Rachel, so he coldly questioned, "Rachel, I

want you to tell me what happened earlier. How did Amber fall into the pool all of a sudden?"

Meanwhile, Justin tucked both his hands into his pockets and he stood aside as if he was an outsider watching the drama,

After withdrawing her gaze, Rachel lost all hope as a hint of grievance was seen on her gorgeous face. (This novel will be daily updated at)*Amber wanted to grab her necklace which fell into the pool. I tried to pull her back, but she fell in the end, she explained through her gestures.*

"Nonsense." Jefferey's voice deepened. "Why would Amber jump into the pool for a necklace?"

You can ask her that for yourself. When she was in the Burton Residence back then, she also jumped into the fish pond for no reason. Am I right, Amber?

There was a hint of coldness on her face as her usual calm personality had now turned aggressive when she brought up the 'fish pond' incident.

Sure enough, Amber's expression suddenly changed as she hid inside Jefferey's arms. *If she mentions the 'fish pond' incident at the Burton Residence, it would completely destroy my reputation.*

The surrounding guests couldn't understand sign language except for Jefferey and Amber, so all of them were looking at each other, wondering what Rachel had said.

"What fish pond?" Justin's voice was loud, but those three simple words just so happened to fall into Rachel's ears.

She instinctively glanced at him in shock. *He actually knows sign language?*

As for Amber, her face quickly paled while she explained in panic, (This novel will be daily updated at)"It's nothing. I didn't say that it was her who pushed me into the pool. I... I was just trying to grab my necklace. It's my fault."

The moment she explained what had happened, the guests immediately discussed it among themselves.

"Did she really accuse the other woman by mistake?"

"Doesn't this count as slander?"

Meanwhile, Jefferey's expression darkened because he was infuriated after being embarrassed in front of all the guests. "Amber, what are you talking about? Have you lost your mind?"

Upon listening to the whispers of the other guests, he angrily threw her aside before leaving.

"Dad!"

Amber was now covered in a towel as she looked really embarrassed.

Then, the housekeeper asked everyone to return to the hall while leaving the frantic Amber alone.

Rachel, I'm not done with you yet!

Because of the farcical scene, Jefferey was so embarrassed that he ended the banquet early.

Therefore, Rachel and Justin returned to the Burton Residence in the same vehicle.

"You are quite a good liar." His deep sarcastic voice echoed within the car.

She was immediately left dumbfounded as she stared at him. *He knows that I was lying?*

Justin's narrow eyes slowly focused. "Unfortunately, you were still too impulsive. There are many surveillance cameras at the banquet."

If Amber hadn't panicked after Rachel mentioned the fish pond, Amber could have checked the surveillance video straight away and the truth would have been revealed.

Rachel let out a sign of relief and leaned against her seat after she heard him. *There wouldn't be any surveillance cameras at the pool. She isn't that stupid.*

Since Amber had the courage to throw the necklace into the pool for her to retrieve, she would have definitely made sure that the scene wouldn't be captured by the surveillance camera just like what she had done at the Burton Residence last time.

Sadly, she didn't expect Rachel to push her straight into the pool.

However, it was all thanks to Justin's help.

After a moment of silence, Rachel asked, *Do you understand sign language?*

She wanted to know why he acted like he didn't understand her at all when she came to Burton Residence when he actually knew sign language all this while.

While looking at her, Justin slightly furrowed his brows to show his annoyance. (This novel will be daily updated at)"What does that have to do with you?"

For a moment, Rachel was taken aback, so she changed the question. *You knew that I was lying, so why did you help me?*

If she hadn't mentioned the fish pond all of a sudden, Amber wouldn't have felt nervous and the scuffle wouldn't have ended so quickly.

"Help you? You are thinking too much. I was just helping to preserve the Burton Family's reputation. The Young Madam of the Burton Family wouldn't do such a degrading act," he coldly answered.

Upon listening to him, she couldn't help but feel gloomy. *Is he blaming me for causing him trouble again?*

Ding!

Suddenly, a message was sent to Justin's phone, breaking the awkward atmosphere.

Rachel quickly withdrew her gaze and silently swallowed the other questions she had in mind. Instinctively, she turned her head toward the car window.

Meanwhile, he unlocked his phone and read the message sent to him.

'President Burton, I've done what you asked me to do. Just as you had expected, it is a method of suppressing wronged souls that is rumored among the geomancy believers.

As he looked at the message, his eyes glanced to one side.

At the same time, Rachel leaned against the car window while quietly gazing outside in a daze. The side of her face looked extremely gentle and soft, but after a closer look, he could see the gloom within her eyes which she started to have after exiting the study room.

Then, Justin replied to Frankie, 'Go and investigate how Rachel's mother had died back then!

'Didn't she die in a car crash?'

'Apparently not!

After he typed those two firm words, he kept his phone away as his expression became serious.

If her mother actually died from a car crash, Jefferey wouldn't have felt so guilty that he has to turn to such a superstitious method. Suppressing a memorial tablet is just simply absurd.

The Silent Wife Chapter 45

[/ The Silent Wife](#)

Chapter 45

Rachel had always been in a daze ever since she returned from the Hudson Family's birthday banquet.

She went to the hospital the next morning.

"She always goes out every day. At this point, she might as well stay at the hospital." Sue stood in front of the dining table as she glared at Rachel, but she didn't stop Rachel.

"Madam, I don't think you should worry too much about it since she definitely won't last long with Mr. Burton" Mrs. Duncan answered.

"Why do you think so?"

"The two of them are still sleeping in different rooms at this moment and if this woman can't bear any child for him, they won't last long even if they don't hate each other. On top of that, she is a mute."

Upon listening to Mrs. Duncan's words, Sue subconsciously glanced upstairs and suddenly thought of something. (This novel will be daily updated at) "Then, if another woman bears his child, won't this solve all of our problems?" she asked thoughtfully.

Inside the ward of Tran-Q, Nancy was recovering well and she could now begin to walk.

Rachel was accompanying Nancy while she ate her breakfast. *Granny, can I ask you something?*

"What is it?"

Last time, you told me that my dad brought me home because of something else. Wasn't it because my mom passed away?

Nancy's hand trembled slightly as she ate the porridge. "Why are you suddenly asking me this?"

Rachel gently smiled. *In the past, I would get a headache whenever I tried to remember my childhood, so you always told me not to think about it. Now, I've*

completely forgotten everything. If I don't ask you, / may not even remember what my mom looks like.

"Are you starting to miss your mom?" Nancy sighed as she pulled Rachel into her arms and patted the younger woman's shoulder to comfort her. "Don't think too much if you can't remember. All you need to do is to be happy."

As she leaned against her granny's arms, Rachel was filled with mixed emotions.

Granny, my dad told me that Mom died from a car crash.

Nancy's eyes immediately darkened as she fell into silence.

Due to Rachel's identity as Jefferey's illegitimate daughter, she seldom mentioned her biological mother in front of him or the Hudson Family.

However, the statement that her mother died in a car accident was the one she had heard the most.

"That's right. She died in a car crash." Nancy's voice sounded obscure and reluctant.

Then, Rachel rose to her feet. However, you told me before that I lost my voice in a forest fire. Before that, Mom had been with us all the time in the mountains with no roads, so how did she end up in a car accident?

Even though she had no memory about it, (This novel will be daily updaed at)she had heard about it from Nancy many times before.

Before the Hudson Family had brought her home, Rachel, Nancy and her mother lived in a remote mountainous area where there were no roads and cars. That was the reason why the fire brigade

couldn't enter to save them during the forest fire.

After listening to Rachel, Nancy turned her face away as she was obviously dodging her granddaughter's question. "Why are you asking me this today?"

Rachel pulled Nancy's sleeves, trying to gesture at Nancy to lift her head so that she could be observed while speaking.

"Rae, I'm feeling a bit tired today. I'm heading to sleep." Nancy's voice sounded hoarse as she pulled her blanket and lay down on the bed.

Upon seeing her this way, Rachel did not dare to ask any more questions.

Since Rachel was a kid, Nancy would rarely mention her mother to her. Now that her body was not in the best of health, Rachel did not want to agitate her any

longer, especially when she had discovered that the cause of her mother's death wasn't an accident.

When Nancy fell asleep, Rachel closed the door and went out.

"Rae." The moment she went out, she ran into Julian, who just came to work. "You arrived much earlier today."

He initially wanted to drive her here, but Sue had informed him that Rachel left earlier in the morning.

Upon seeing him, Rachel nodded and smiled reluctantly.

"What is it? Is there something bothering you?"

Rachel shook her head.

"Is it because you still can't rent a room?" A concerned Julian asked.

She didn't want to explain much to him, so she simply nodded her head. *I'll just tell him it's because I can't rent a room. Besides, it is indeed something that bothers me.*

He smiled and answered, "You don't need to worry anymore since I've already arranged everything for

you."

Rachel was stunned when she heard his words. *He has arranged everything?*

"There is a housing estate half a mile away from the hospital called Glendale." After they entered his office, Julian placed his keys on the desk and showed her the photos on his phone.

"It is a house with two bedrooms and it belongs to my friend. At the moment, (This novel will be daily updated at)he is studying abroad for another two more years, so it is temporarily unoccupied."

However, without even looking at the photos, Rachel immediately shook her head. *Your friend's house is not suitable for granny.*

"Don't worry, I've already spoken to my friend. He said that he doesn't care about the rent. He just wants you to take care of his furniture."

While Rachel still hesitated, Julian took out the tenancy agreement. "It's a formal process and I'm just the middleman. You don't need to feel pressured by it."

At this point, there was no way for her to reject him.

Although he had helped her a lot to secure this house, she knew clearly that she should stay far away from him.

Thank you, but I can't accept it. She returned the contract to him with a firm look. *Dr. Peters, Granny will be discharged in a few days' time, so I will find a house for her myself. Thank you for taking care of her during this period. Granny and I really appreciate it.*

"You don't need to be polite with me." Julian's face darkened.

Rachel shook her head while she clenched the writing pad in her hand. Then, she rose to her height from the front of the desk and gestured to leave.

He knew that it was useless to say anything, but upon looking at her leaving, he suddenly felt disappointed in his heart.

Julian had never tried so hard to help a girl or felt this frustrated before. (This novel will be daily updated at)No matter how much he tried to help Rachel, she always seemed to shrug it off.

His instincts were telling him that she was avoiding him on purpose.

Frankie went into Justin's office with a document in the afternoon. "Director Burton, this is the investigation report you wanted."

Justin lifted his head slightly before he flipped through the document. "Tell me everything."

"Since you are in a hurry, I still can't confirm the minor details, but I found out that Miss Hudson's mother is actually someone else. The woman who died in the car crash isn't her biological mother," Frankie explained.

Justin glanced at him. "Continue."

"Their ages don't match. The woman died in the car crash when she was 23 years old, but at that time, Miss Hudson was eight when she was brought back to the Hudson Family."

Her mother was 23 years old when she was eight? Justin's eyes grew colder. "This doesn't mean anything per se." We can't rule out the possibility that Jefferey might be inhumane enough to impregnate a 15-year-old girl.

"It's not just their ages. Their backgrounds don't match either. We had previously overlooked one thing, which is Miss Hudson's granny."

Justin's eyes happened to land on Nancy's profile in the document.

Frankie continued, "Miss Hudson's granny was born in Somerset Mountain and she has nothing to do with the woman who died in the car crash at all."

Somerset Mountain?

Justin's hands suddenly trembled as he held onto the document. At the same time, his eyes seemed to grow tense.

Frankie suddenly seemed to realize something that made his face freeze. *How could I forget that I must never mention Somerset Mountain in front of Mr. Burton?*

Back then, the biggest kidnapping case in Riverdale was the abduction of the Young Master of the Burton Family, who was Justin himself, by human traffickers. Therefore, Somerset Mountain was the place where he had almost lost his life.