

## Skeletons 311

### Chapter 311

It got even colder, and Gale constantly shivered.

“How delicate. You were only locked for a few hours, and you look like you’re about to kick the bucket.” Susan dragged Gale out of the basement, tossing Gale on the ground on the first floor. “Did you hear my call with Shawn just now? He’s coming here soon.”

Gale slowly opened her eyes when she heard that name.

She clenched her teeth and said, “Yes, Shawn is coming. He will save me.”

“He won’t be able to! You’re in my hands right now. I

won’t let you go. I’ll make sure you die with me! Do you even understand?! Stop holding on to any hope!” Susan

shouted.

Gale remained adamant, “He will save me.”

Susan got angrier as she thought about it, slapping Gale. “No one said you could talk back! Stop being stubborn!”

After hitting Gale, she was still angry, so she sent another kick at Gale.

She cursed, “If I didn’t want to humiliate you in front of Shawn, I would have already killed you! Do you think I’m keeping you alive because I don’t have the guts to touch you?!”

Gale looked at her. “Shawn’s so smart and capable. Are you sure you’ll be able to beat him?”

“I can! I have you in my hands! You’re my trump card!”

“I trust him even more. Because he loves me, he’ll do everything he can to save me,” Gale said,

Those words agitated Susan even more.

She pulled Gale’s hair. “Love? Shawn loves you?!”

“Yes, he loves me. He said it himself. He’s said it more than once,” Gale answered.

Susan laughed. “That’s right. You were the woman who saved him with your own body that night, not me. You’re the woman he was looking for. You had his child, but what happened? Did you two get anything in the end? You lost everything!”

That child would always hurt Gale.

Susan

got more emotional as she spoke, “I was so nervous when I found out you were pregnant. If you gave birth and the child looked more and more like Shawn when he got older, then my plans would be completely ruined. That’s why I tried my best to get rid of the child.”

“Yet, you were really lucky. Even after so many times, the child managed to survive! In the end, I was even happier than if the child died at my hands. Shawn personally got rid of the child!”

“I was so happy when I heard the news. Now that Shawn knows that the child is his, he regrets it so much! It’s just a pity that it’s all already too late.”

Gale merely looked at the crazy Susan coldly.

“I’m telling you, you should let me go. At least you’d have a chance at surviving. I’ll ask Shawn for some mercy, and you and the dead might have a chance of surviving,” Gale said.

She was trying to save herself.

Before Shawn arrived, she was trying to figure out a way to deal with Susan!

She could not just rely on Shawn!

“Live? I’m not planning on living anymore. There’s no point in my father staying alive either. Don’t even try to convince me otherwise!” Susan said.

“If you die, you will have nothing. You have to think about it.”

“What do I even have left?! All I have is this pathetic life. I want to drag you down with me!” Susan asked.

Gale answered patiently, “Honestly, what you’ve done before isn’t so bad that you have to die. I can assure you that I can get Shawn to turn the other way. You still have some hope. You still have a chance.”

Susan roughly interrupted her. “Shut up. Stop talking! I

don’t want to listen to you!”

“Don’t you want to live too? No one wants to die, Susan. As long as you’re alive, anything’s possible. If you die, you’ll really have lost everything.”

“Shut up, shut up! I’m not listening! I’d rather die than live a life worse than others!”

Susan had enjoyed the life of luxury that Shawn had given her before. She was staying at River View with a luxury car that came with a driver. She lost everything. The difference was so great that she could not take it.

Gale finally understood that Susan was scared of living without money!

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A weakness!

That would make things easier!

“So you want money? That’s easy. As long as you let me go, Shawn would instantly transfer you money. You can get any amount you want! After that, you can take that money and go overseas!” Gale said.

Susan was stunned.

Seeing that Susan was moved, Gale continued saying, Death is the worst possible choice. Don't be impulsive. I can guarantee you that everything I said earlier can be done!"

At that moment, an intense light suddenly shot in from outside.

It was clear and incredibly bright. It shone so brightly that both Susan and Gale could not open their eyes .

Gale held her hands in front of her eyes.

Susan was incredibly quick to grab Gale's shoulders, hiding behind her. After that, she pulled out a knife and held it against Gale's neck .

Susan shouted, "Who is it? Don't come closer! Stay there! Don't move! Don't come closer!"

The light still shone through.

Susan immediately pressed the knife against Gale's neck. "Turn off the light! Otherwise, I'll kill her!"

Only after Susan said that did the lights go out immediately.

Gale felt like everything went completely dark. It took a while before her eyesight slowly got better.

She saw Shawn standing there in a black jacket. He held a torchlight in his right hand as he exuded a murderous aura.

His face was incredibly dark as he looked at everything.

Shawn arrived.

At that moment, Gale suddenly felt incredibly safe looking at him standing there.

She knew he would come!

"So it's Mr. Wood. You sure came quickly. I've been waiting for you, and you're finally here," Susan said with a smile.

Shawn quietly stood there.

There was no one behind him.

"Yes, I'm here. Susan, what are your terms? Tell me right now," Shawn answered in a low voice.

He was incredibly anxious, looking at the knife against

Gale's neck.

Susan did not hold back. Her knife was pointed right at Gale's main artery. If she cut Gale...

Gale's blood would shoot out everywhere. No one would

be able to save her!

"I don't have any conditions. I just want you to witness Gale's death for yourself!" Susan answered.

Saying that, she gently sliced her neck, and a line of blood appeared on Gale's neck.

The wound was deep, and blood constantly dripped down, staining Gale's clothes red.

Shawn unconsciously stepped forward, but Susan said, "Stand there! Don't come closer!"

His feet stiffly stepped back.

Susan leaned against the wall, putting Gale in front of her. She was in an absolutely safe position.

"Shawn,

you must have already set up a web around this place. Even though you look like you're alone, you've already planned everything out! Don't think I don't know what's happening," Susan said. 1

Shawn answered, "It's as you see. I'm the only one here right now."

Chapter 313

"Do you think I'd believe that? I know you too well. You always do things incredibly thoroughly. You're a perfectionist ... Furthermore, Gale's your beloved. You'd be worried about anything happening to her, so you would plan it out even more!"

Shawn looked at her. "Gale's in your hands right now, SO

I wouldn't dare to act recklessly. I came alone because I wanted you to be more at ease. I came here to talk."

"There's nothing to talk about!"

Shawn stared right at her and said, "I can give you anything you want. As long as it's something I can give!"

"Really? You're willing to give me anything?"

"Yes!"

Susan answered, "Gale told me the same thing just now. The two of you really do understand each other well!"

Gale looked at Shawn's face.

He looked even colder than usual, but looking closer, she could see the panic on his face.

He was scared.

He was scared Gale would be hurt. He was scared Gale would leave him forever.

It was something he could not accept.

So, he was willing to do everything in his power to save her, even if he had to give up his own life.

Shawn said, "Speak. Susan, as long as you're willing to let Gale go, I can give you anything."

"If I let her go, I'd lose my bargaining chip!"

Susan started to get emotional, and her hand shook. It caused the knife to glide along Gale's neck, deepening the wound constantly.

Blood kept on flowing.

The bright red blood stung Shawn's eyes.

"You can target me instead. You can even put your knife to my neck, but please, let Gale go," Shawn said.

Susan laughed. "What did you say just now?"

"Please, let her go."

Susan

said, "Do my ears deceive me? The amazing Mr. Wood is pleading with me! Hahaha! Gale, did you hear that? Aren't you so touched? Shawn, in all his arrogance, is begging me for your sake!"

At that moment, Gale was being bombarded by a lot of emotions.

The pain in her neck was not that evident anymore. Her heart hurt even more.

It was possible that she would be separated from Shawn there, that they would never meet again.

Susan shouted out, "It's pointless. Stop trying to show off your love to me! Shawn, do you see my face? I used a knife to carve my face. Now, I'll turn Gale's face like this too!"

She raised the knife and aimed it right at Gale's face.

"No!"

"Ah"

Shawn could practically hear the sound of skin and flesh being cut open.

His heart violently twisted. It was so painful that he could not breathe.

Gale's face was turned to one side. On her face was a long and fresh wound. It was about four or five centimeters

long.

Susan's crazed voice was heard again. "How is it? Did you see that? Does your heart hurt? Shawn, this is just the start. That was just the first cut. There's still the second, third, and countless more to follow!"

Shawn's fists were clenched tightly as he constantly trembled.

He would rather that knife land on his own face!

Gale hissed at the pain.

Droplets of blood fell on her eyelashes, causing even her vision to be stained red. It took her a long time before

things slowly went back to normal.

She heard Shawn say, "Susan, don't. Just stop. We can talk about this!"

"Alright. If you show me your sincerity, I'll think about it,

Susan answered.

"How do you want me to do that?"

Susan said slowly, "Kneel down and beg!"

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Even though begging someone was not normally that impressive, it was practically impossible to see from

Shawn.

Yet, special circumstances called for special measures!

He did not care about anything else!

"Alright. I'll kneel down and beg you. Stop hurting her... Shawn answered.

He could not take another cut on Gale's face.

At that moment, Shawn was far more humble than he had ever been!

In order to save Gale, he did not care about anything else. He tossed his honor and his dignity aside.

None of that was as important as Gale.

Nothing was too valuable when it came to Gale's safety!

"No, no. Shawn, how could you kneel to her?" Gale mumbled.

He was Shawn Wood.

The most powerful man in Sea City.

Yet, because of her, he was kneeling down and begging...

“Haha, he can choose not to. I could just add another cut to your face!” Susan said.

Gale looked at Shawn and constantly shook her head. “Don’t do it. Even if you do it, she won’t let me go ... You’re so smart. How could you not know this?”

Shawn answered, “I know, but I can’t stop. I can’t just stand aside while you get hurt. Not able to do anything.

His knees slowly started to bend.

Susan had a manic smile on her face.

She was enjoying the scene immensely. The man she had tried so hard to get was about to kneel down in front of her!

“Shawn...” Gale shut her eyes, not daring to look.

A very light thump was heard, and she knew it was the sound of Shawn’s knees touching the ground.

“You really do love Gale. You came to save her alone. You didn’t bring any bodyguards with you. Now, you even knelt down for her sake. Shawn, what else can you do for her?!” Susan said.

“I can do anything as long as you let her go.”

“She’s going to die with me! Together!”

Shawn stared right at her. “Calm down, Susan. Stop moving your knife!”

Every time she moved, Gale’s wound would get deeper.

The blood from her face and neck dyed her red.

It hurt his heart greatly.

Susan shouted, “Why did you refuse to look at me? Yes, the woman who slept with you that night was Gale, but my feelings for you aren’t any bit less than hers! Why did you never like me?”

“Even when you didn’t know I took her place, you still married and fell in love with her. Now that you know, you love her even more.”

“How? How did Gale get your love over and over again!”

“Shawn, you fell in love with her twice! Twice!”

Those words felt like massive waves in Gale’s heart.

Yes, even when Shawn did not know she was the woman from that night, he had already fallen for her.

After he found out, he loved her even more.

The problem was that there was not just love between the two of them but hatred as well.

The amount of hatred was no lesser than the amount of

love.

“Yes, I love her. Susan, come at me instead. Let her go,”

Shawn said.

“Why would I do that? You’re surrounded by bodyguards. I can’t get to you at all. I’m forced to attack Gale! Anyway, hurting Gale causes you even more pain!” Susan smiled coldly.

Shawn said, “I’m willing to trade places with her.”

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Right after that was said, there was silence.

Gale widened her eyes suddenly as she looked right at Shawn, who was on the ground.

Even though he was kneeling, his back was still straight. His knees were full of dirt.

The ground was full of gravel and mud. It should be quite painful.

Susan repeated, “Trade you for her? Shawn, you’re willing to die with me so Gale can live?”

“Yes.”

“You’re willing to die?”

Shawn answered, “I just need to ensure Gale is alive.”

Then, it would be fine if he died.

She could live in his place.

Susan’s jealousy peaked. “Do you love her so much that you’d die for her?!”

Tears filled Gale’s eyes.

She constantly shook her head. “Shawn, you don’t have to do that for me...”

“Gale, I wish you a long and healthy life,” he said.

So, the most touching words of romance were not ‘I love you’ or ‘marry me’. Instead, it’s wishing the other one to continue living in this world.

A long and healthy life.

Even if he had to die.

Tears fell across the wound on her face. Gale was in even more pain as her blood mixed with the tears.

Yet, none of that could compare to the pain in her heart.

How could someone as conflicting as Shawn exist? She loved him and hated him at the same time.

Shawn asked, “Is that okay, Susan? If you let Gale go, I’ll be your hostage instead.”



Saying that, he got up to walk toward Susan.

Susan said, "Hold it! You're a big man. How could I subdue you? The moment you get close to me, you'll pin me down on the ground!"

"Does that mean you're willing to make the exchange?"

Susan laughed. "Of course I am, hahaha. Having you go down to hell with me would feel much better than being with Gale. I hope you'll fall in love with me after death!"

A look of disgust flashed in Shawn's eyes, but he hid it well.

Susan said, "I don't care if you die or Gale dies. No matter which one of you lives, you'll be filled with pain and self-blame. My goal will be accomplished."

Shawn nodded. "Good, then let's start the exchange."

His tense nerves started to relax a little.

As long as Susan was willing to make the exchange, Gale's danger would lessen.

He did not mind falling into Susan's hands.

He might die, or he might be able to escape.

No matter what, Gale would be safe.

Gale's voice was hoarse. "Shawn, aren't you afraid of dying?"

In truth, she was afraid.

She did not want to die. She wanted to live. Her parents were still waiting for her. Her family needed her to clear their name.

Yet, Shawn was someone of noble birth. He had far more responsibilities than she did.

He was the current master of the family and the president of the Wood Group. If anything happened to him, the Wood Group's stocks and board of directors would be thrown into chaos.

Shawn looked at Gale and smiled.

"I am. But I'm more afraid of losing you," Shawn answered.

Gale cried and said, "Then do you think I'm not afraid of losing you?!"

Shawn felt touched.

"Galey, just hearing you say that to me is enough. At least I know you do have feelings for me." Shawn's smile deepened.

She was afraid of losing him too.

Yes, that was great.

Then, saving her became a lot more worth it.

Chapter 317

She wondered if Shawn had felt the same when Shawn witnessed Susan cutting her face.

Shawn asked again, "Is this fine? I'm badly injured. I can't fight back. I'll slowly pass out from the blood loss. You can absolutely subdue me. Susan, we should start the exchange."

He impatiently walked forward.

Susan was still stunned. "Exchange... Wait."

Shawn stopped. "I had already done what you asked. What are you still worried about?"

At the same time, voices could be heard through the miniature earpiece in his ear.

"Mr. Wood, the snipers are in position."

"The ambush is in position."

"We can rush in at any moment."

All of those people were waiting for Shawn's orders.

They would charge in guns blazing with an order. They would be able to subdue Susan in just a few seconds.

Yet, Shawn did not dare to risk it.

Gale was in Susan's hands.

Using a sniper was far too dangerous. If there were any mistake, it would be irreversible!

So, Shawn did not say anything. He did not give a single response. He had everyone stand in place, waiting for his order.

"Mr. Wood? Mr. Wood? Can we fire?"

"The snipers are already in the best position."

He remained silent.

No one dared to make a move.

It looked like Shawn was there alone, but he had already placed his men all around the whole location.

However, he was still not confident.

A minor mistake could cause him to lose Gale forever.

“Let’s do it now.” Shawn’s lips were already turning white.

“You could beat me with one hand right now.”

His large body was starting to sway.

Any normal person would already have fainted after getting stabbed in the arm. Shawn barely managed to maintain his consciousness.

He did not know how long he could hold on.

However, he needed to make sure he stayed conscious until he could see Gale out of danger.

“Now!” Shawn shouted through clenched teeth, not able to delay things any longer.

After that, he did not even give Susan any time to think before he walked over.

Susan still had her knife against Gale’s throat. Her other hand was holding Gale’s shoulder as she looked at the incoming Shawn in alarm.

“Stay one meter away. Alright, stop right there,” Susan said.

She slowly tried to push Gale away, but the knife never left Gale’s neck.

When she saw that Shawn was not doing anything, she relaxed.

Susan suddenly pushed Gale forward before quickly grabbing Shawn and putting the knife against Shawn’s neck.

All Gale felt was herself being pushed forward. After she staggered forward a few steps, she fell to the ground.

Her palm scratched against the gravel, which burned in pain as she bled.

Yet, she could not care less at that moment. She quickly turned around to look at what was happening behind her.

Susan had Shawn.

Her knife was against his throat.

There was a thin line between life and death!

She shouted out, “Shawn!”

Was she really just going to look on as he died?

He would die in order to save her.

Shawn wanted her to be safe. He wanted her to live a long and healthy life, but he never thought about the nightmares that would plague her after she witnessed everything happening. The night would stay with her forever, never going away!

Susan laughed and said, "Shawn, you're always so proud of yourself, but right now, you're still..."

Before she could finish, something suddenly happened.

Shawn suddenly reached down, pulling out the knife in his arm!

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A torrent of blood shot out!

Both his and Susan's faces were stained with blood!

No one would have expected that Shawn would pull such a move!

Susan had forgotten all about the knife that was still on Shawn's arm as well. He had done it on purpose! It meant he had a weapon!

However, how dangerous and painful must it have been for him to pull it out?!

It was not something an ordinary person would have been able to stand!

Right after that, Shawn flicked his hand, and the knife traveled in an arc, landing squarely on Susan's heart.

He used the last of his strength to stab Susan's heart!

After doing that, Shawn fell on his knees with a thud right in front of Susan. His head was lowered, and he was not moving at all.

He had spent all of his strength.

Susan was stunned.

She looked at the knife in her heart, and her eyes were wide.

Everything had happened in just a few seconds. She had no time to react at all!

"S...Shawn, you..." She clutched the knife in her hand tightly. "You tricked me. V...Very well!"

"Then we'll die together. You'll keep me company!" Susan lifted her knife and viciously aimed it right at Shawn's head.

However, right at that moment, Gale rushed over.

She used her body to tackle Susan right to the ground, pinning Susan down. She pulled out the knife in Susan's heart and threw it far away before trying to snatch the knife in Susan's hand.

Susan was frantically struggling.

Gale never knew how strong a person could be when they were about to die.

Gale shouted out, "You can't hurt him anymore. No more! Susan, you've done so much evil. There's nothing good waiting for you!"

The two women fought.

When Shawn heard Gale's voice, his eyes moved as he lifted his head slightly, seeing her back.

"Galey..."

Unfortunately, he had been too soft. She could not hear him.

Why did she not run? Why did she rush back to fight Susan?

Stupid.

She should have run away without looking back. She should have run far away until she was safe.

His men were outside. They would definitely protect her!

"Come in, come in..." Shawn shouted at the earpiece weakly, "Men!"

A lot of frantic footsteps were heard, causing even the ground to shake.

A group of bodyguards dressed in black charged in.

The reinforcements were here!

They went forward and easily subdued Susan before helping Gale up.

Gale lost her footing and started to sway.

"Ma'am, careful!"

"I'm fine." She shook her head, gaining her bearings before running toward Shawn.

Even though she had been the one Susan kidnapped and wanted to kill, she ended up being the one with the lightest injuries.

Shawn's injuries were the heaviest!

"Shawn, Shawn, wake up. Can you hear me?" Gale looked at him. "Answer me..."

His arm was full of blood, and his flesh dangled against his wound.

Just looking at it hurt.

Gale reached out and touched Shawn slightly, and Shawn immediately fell down weakly.

She grabbed onto him. "Shawn!"

Gale's tears fell on him.

Slowly, Shawn opened his eyes.

However, his face was incredibly pale. He looked like he would leave the world at any moment.

Chapter 319

”

“Hang in there, Shawn. The ambulance is almost here. Almost... Do it for me, okay? Don't fall asleep. Hang on...” Gale mumbled.

She was terrified.

Shawn really wanted to raise his hand to wipe away her tears, but he had no strength left.

It would be a miracle if he could keep this arm of his.

Gale held him and lowered her head against his cheek, wanting to be close to him.

“Why were you so stupid? Why? You crippled yourself just because Susan asked!

“You even pulled that knife right out. Are you not worried about losing too much blood? Did you not want that arm anymore?”

“Shawn, you better listen here. If you turn into a cripple, I'll leave you! Do you hear me?!”

“You have to get better...”

Shawn pursed his lips, and his eyes slowly shut again.

“Galey...” Every word he uttered took a lot of strength. He spoke very slowly, “Live on. Love...”

After he said that, Shawn shut his eyes, and his head slumped down.

“Shawn!” Gale's voice pierced through the night sky.

The ambulance came roaring.

The nurses brought Shawn into the ambulance, and Gale followed. “I'm his wife, I'm family! Let me follow!”

As the doors shut, she saw Susan lying on the floor.

She saw Joe hurrying over as well.

Gale let out a sigh of relief.

She would let Joe deal with the scene. He had always been capable of cleaning up.

As she thought about it, her tears fell again.

Everything had probably been arranged before Shawn even came to save her.

He met Susan alone to get Susan to lower her guard, but he had planted many of his guards secretly. That was why so many guards had rushed in at the final moment.

After that, he faced the dangers inside while Joe was in charge of handling things outside.

They worked in tandem.

Shawn really was a meticulous planner. He would always make sure everything was well arranged.

“You could have clearly taken care of yourself and been completely fine, but because of me...”

Gale could not bear to continue.

A demon’s love was torture, but it was also filled with selfless devotion.

The doctors disinfected Shawn’s wound and stopped the bleeding. Bundles of bloodied bandages were thrown into the bin, making for a shocking sight.

When they got to the hospital, the doctors and nurses pushed Shawn straight into the operating theater.

The doors closed with a click.

Gale lost her strength in her legs and fell to the ground, sitting in front of the doors.

At that moment, the sun was already starting to rise.

“Shawn, you have to be fine. You have to keep your arm,” Gale constantly prayed.

“Oh my, why are you on the ground?” A nurse helped Gale up when she passed by. The nurse was shocked when she saw all the blood on Gale’s body. “Where are you injured? There’s so much blood.”

“It’s not my blood, it’s...” Gale paused before answering, “My husband’s.”

All of the dried blood on her clothes were Shawn’s.

How could one person bleed so much?

The nurse said, “But you’re injured too. Your face and your neck...”

It was then Gale remembered that Susan had slashed her face.

She reached up to touch it. “It’s a minor wound, nothing serious.”