

Surprise 441

One Night Surprise Chapter 441 Rumors Are Always Exaggerated

“Since when did I cause a scene? She was the one who insulted me earlier! What were we talking about earlier? We were merely expressing our displeasure at work. Where is this doctor from? How dare you slander me in this way! Even if we were to clear things out in front of President Duncan and the Young President Duncan, you can’t prove the mistake that I made. Do you even have the evidence for that?”

Apart from being a busybody, the said woman was also quite skilled at distorting the truth.

When Courtney heard the woman’s words, her facial features immediately tensed up. With such people around Jordan, something would definitely be stirred up if she’s not sacked immediately.

“Dr. Hunter?”

A familiar voice rang from the door, which ended the confrontation.

Both representatives from Sunhill Enterprise had returned to their senses in a much quicker manner than Courtney. As soon as one of them saw the person at the door, she exclaimed, “Mr. Menzie?”

The person who arrived was actually Caleb Menzie. Courtney was stunned for a moment before she figured out what had happened after giving it a thought.

Caleb’s position in Sunhill Enterprise was one of out of the ordinary; the two female representatives profusely apologized after he entered the room and chatted with Courtney. The air of arrogance that both women radiated had completely disappeared by this point.

“Since both of you are from the secretary department, I’m not in the position to lecture you. However, if I see this again, you need to know that it’s not a big deal for me to fire two menial employees,” Caleb coldly warned the two female representatives as they stood outside the room where Courtney took blood samples.

Meanwhile, she stopped whatever she was doing and anxiously glanced at them from the corners of her eyes

After both women left, he approached Courtney and consoled, “I hope you weren’t frightened?”

Courtney shook her head. After a moment of hesitation, she summoned her courage and clarified, “You already knew that I’m not Linda?”

There was an expression that resembled a dry smirk on Caleb’s face. “If I don’t even know the background of my blind date, I guess I’ll have to resign as a lawyer.”

“Why didn’t you expose me earlier?”

She felt as though her cheeks were on fire. She had previously done so many embarrassing things on their blind date when he had already known the truth. How impressive of him!

Caleb merely gave a slight smile. "If I had exposed you, the blind date would have ended by now. I haven't even seen Linda, so I don't want to end it first."

"You're already acquainted with her?"

"We were neighbors when we were youngsters, but she is two years my senior. I think she has probably forgotten about me now."

Courtney raised her head to appraise the man from head to toe in shock. This sounds more like robbing the cradle!

It was only after a while that she understood both Linda and Caleb had tricked her. Although Linda had used Courtney as a decoy, she didn't know that Caleb had outsmarted her by using Courtney as his decoy instead. With that, he could continue to contact Linda rightfully and be more justified in his actions.

If this incident was exposed, Linda would be the one at fault after all.

At exactly 12:00PM sharp, the health check was momentarily stopped so that the doctors and nurses could have their lunch at the cafeteria of Sunhill Enterprise.

Once Courtney had finished packing her things, her heart immediately sank when she saw Caleb waiting for her as soon as she walked out of the room. Now that I have managed to use this health check as a reason to finally avoid Linda, why am I running into Caleb now?

Judging by his behavior, he seemed to have grabbed the opportunity to speak to Courtney and not intending to let her off the hook until he could establish contact with Linda himself.

"I bet you aren't busy now, Dr. Hunter. Let's have lunch together."

"That's fine. I'll just grab my lunch at the cafeteria since I still have to continue with the health check for the rest of the afternoon. I'm in a bit of a rush today."

"That's a good idea." Caleb nodded. "Since it's more convenient to eat at the cafeteria, let's do so."

With that, he went to the cafeteria with Courtney.

Along the way, she was at the receiving end of everyone's gaze in Sunhill Enterprise. Their stares seemed to have pierced her, yet she felt a familiar sensation. She was also the enemy of many single women in the corporation because a certain man had flirted with her at this very spot many years ago.

Caleb was young, capable, and handsome. With those qualities of his, he was definitely a ladies' man in the company.

What have I done to deserve this?

Meanwhile, Eric sat at one of the tables in the cafeteria after ordering a set of steak. He had overheard some gossip from the new employees about Caleb, so he paid more attention to what was being said.

"Are you saying that Mr. Menzie knows that doctor?"

“Of course. He harshly reprimanded the two representatives from the secretary department because of her. It’s as if he was exasperated by their actions. I’ve never seen him being this angry, so it’s such a shame.”

Of course, rumors would always be exaggerated. Caleb had merely warned the woman, yet when the news came to the cafeteria, the story morphed into him blowing his top and wanting to fire them.

The moment Eric heard it, he couldn’t resist joining the gossip.

As he overheard their conversation, the volume of their voices suddenly lowered. One of the folks warned, “Oh, they’re here. Let’s stop this conversation for now.”

Eric followed their gazes—it was either a sneaky one or openly appraising the subjects of the gossip—and saw a familiar figure.

To be precise, he saw two familiar figures instead.

It was none other than Courtney who entered the cafeteria with Caleb.

After watching them for a while, Eric was initially confused before he suddenly slapped his thigh as he comprehended the situation. “I understand now.”

I was just thinking that Courtney looks familiar when I saw her at the apartment the other day. I had seen her from across the street that day! She was on a blind date with Caleb, wasn’t she?

The people around him who had gossiped earlier didn’t understand why he had reacted in such manner. “What do you understand?”

Eric was still fantasizing the situation in his mind when he suddenly remembered how Alexander had listened to everything that Courtney told him. In that instant, his face paled as he blurted out, “Oh, no! This is bad!”

The other employees from the secretary department who were gossiping earlier awkwardly looked at each other, not comprehending the situation that had just occurred.

It was something that he didn’t bother explaining either. Instead, he stopped eating, placed his cutleries aside, and immediately ran out of the cafeteria.

A lunch set was already placed on the table in the president’s office of Sunhil Enterprise, but Jordan was eating alone. Alexander, on the other hand, was attentively perusing documents without showing any intention of eating.

After knocking on the door, Eric entered the room and froze as soon as he saw Jordan. Now that Jordan was around, Eric suddenly had no idea what to tell Alexander.

“Why did you suddenly return?” Alexander shot a glance at his assistant. “Is there anything urgent?”

“Um...” Eric looked at Jordan from the corner of his eyes whereupon he cleared his throat before tentatively speaking, “I saw the doctor who changed the bandage for you the other day.”

With that, Alexander had already raised his head and shot Eric a nonchalant glance. “Okay.”

Alexander's calmness was something that Eric never expected. After a moment of silence, Eric suddenly understood something else. Before this, the hospital whom their company would collaborate with to offer health checks was already confirmed, but the arrangement was suddenly changed this year.

Seeing as how Alexander thought everything was under his control, a slightly nervous Eric reminded, "Um... Mr. Menzie is now having lunch with the doctor in the cafeteria."

Sure enough, the expression on Alexander's face immediately changed. "What did you just say?"

One Night Surprise Chapter 442 Five Years Is a Long Time

"Who's that doctor?" Jordan, who had been quiet the entire time, suddenly questioned Alexander after Eric left the office. Then, his calm gaze landed on Alexander, revealing his unconcealed intention to obtain an answer from Alexander.

After he heard Jordan's question, an annoyed and impatient Alexander muttered with his brows furrowed, "This has nothing to do with you. Focus on your meal."

"A woman?" Jordan's expression darkened even more.

As Alexander continued to feign ignorance, Jordan placed the cutlery and reminded, "You've been involved in lots of scandals lately. You better keep it under wraps."

"What have you heard about?" Alexander asked with a frown.

Sitting on the couch with an upright posture was a twelve-year-old teenage boy. Although he wasn't tall and had rather childish features, his gaze was that of a mature person. "That woman, Miss Yves, has been coming over often. If you fancy her, you should take her to visit Great-Grandpa to relieve him of his worries. If you don't like her, at least try your best to prevent the rumors from spreading like wildfire. You're embarrassing me, you know."

"What? What did you just say?" Alexander thundered with a grim look. After being enraged by the news that Eric had brought with him, Alexander was now pissed off by the words that his son had said.

"Dad, you are no longer young. It's absurd for you to be involved in so many scandals at this age." Jordan rose up to his full height and pretended to be calm as he tidied the sleeves of his suit while continuing, "I'm no longer a little kid. Go ahead and get married if you want to; I won't stand in your way."

With that, he puffed out his chest and left without looking back.

Alexander, who was standing behind his desk, was rendered speechless.

This son of his, whom he had taken care of for the last decade, was a living example of an ingrate. Although Jordan had chosen to live with Alexander when he had to make a choice between Alexander and his own mother years ago, it was evident that Jordan had missed his mother a great deal over these years. When it came to matters surrounding Alexander's relationship, it was also common for Jordan to give an attitude. The boy had even smashed things as a young child whenever anyone came over to introduce Alexander to a new partner.

Nonetheless, Alexander never cared about the way Jordan behaved and was even glad that his son could keep all the unwanted attractions at bay. However, Alexander was indeed wronged this day because that doctor was, in fact, Jordan's biological mother!

Alexander's chest felt like it was squashed by a thousand-pound bolder when he thought about the date that Courtney and Caleb had. As a result, he was so enraged that he could barely breathe.

After the lunch break, the physical examination resumed as normal.

What Caleb had told Courtney during lunch had caused her such a headache that she almost injected the needle in the wrong area several times when she was extracting blood.

When the line gradually became shorter, Eric suddenly showed up to inform, "Dr. Hunter, President Duncan has invited you to his office."

The moment Courtney heard that, her expression changed, but she maintained her composure as her colleagues were still around. "President Duncan should look for the hospital administration instead if he needs anything. I don't see the reason why he should ask for me."

However, he was able to swiftly answer, as if he had foreseen her response. "President Duncan said that since you were the one who tended to his injury previously and in charge of the health checks for our employees, there's no need to trouble anyone else when you can help him to change the bandage at the same time. He's really swamped with his work and has no time to go to the hospital."

When they heard Eric's explanation, two other nurses, who were in charge of drawing blood, gaped while a few new employees standing in the line behind him felt excited to hear the gossip.

"Courtney, President Duncan has requested your presence, so you should get going. We aren't exactly busy here."

"Yes, there aren't many people left."

Two of her colleagues from the clinical laboratory urged her to leave as well; one of them, who was physically closer to her, even secretly pinched her and whispered, "You are actually acquainted with the president of the Sunhill Enterprise. That's impressive, Courtney."

I'm not actually given a choice to say otherwise now, no? And how's this 'impressive'?

The way the crowd had stared at Courtney made her skin crawl, leaving her with no option but to follow Eric to Alexander's office in the end.

It was already late in the evening and the lights in the office were switched on to illuminate the space.

The furnishing still looked the same as it had been in the past without any obvious changes.

When she entered the office, she muttered, "There are plenty of hospitals and doctors in Melrose City. What's the purpose for this?"

Alexander was in the midst of getting a glass of freshly squeezed fruit juice when she said that, so he turned to her and calmly responded, "I just want you to help me to change my wound dressing since you are already here. Are you not willing to help me?"

“Yes, I’m not willing to.”

“Okay, then you’ll have to watch my injury become infected and rot away. When that happens, I’ll just rock up to the hospital where you work and ask for you to tend to my wound.”

“Are you out of your mind?” Courtney was pissed. “What do you think a hospital is? A nightclub where you can ask for girls to keep you company? A place where you can request for a specific person to serve you?”

However, Alexander merely placed the beaker aside and changed the topic. “Would you like to have a glass of juice?”

His attitude had made her feel like her punches had landed on cotton, which gave her no choice but to swallow her anger.

The infection on Alexander’s injury wasn’t as severe after she had changed the bandage for him before this. This time, he had prepared the gauze and medicine in advance, as if he had expected her presence.

While Courtney was wrapping his injury with a clean gauze, she warned him with a cold expression, “You still have to go to the hospital tomorrow to change your wound dressing. You have to go there periodically until the doctor tells you. Otherwise, your arm will rot.”

“I don’t have the time for that,” Alexander replied as he wore his shirt and buttoned it up with one hand. His muscular chest seemed firm underneath his clothes. As he looked at Courtney, he suggested, “How about you come over on a daily basis starting tomorrow to change the bandage? I’ll pay you for it.”

“In your dreams.” She glared at him. “You don’t have time, but do you think that I have? Even if I do, why should I come over to tend to your injury every day? Do you think that I’m your nanny or your personal doctor?”

He raised his head and countered, “That’s because you are my son’s mother. If I die from an infection, your son will end up in an orphanage.”

“Nonsense!” Courtney maintained her glare on him. “Mr. Duncan will take care of Jordan even if you die, so he won’t be sent to an orphanage. Stop using this lame excuse to threaten me.” After not seeing him for many years, I can’t believe that he is now someone who can go as far as to curse himself.

“You are aware that my grandpa is not physically well.” A stubborn Alexander refused to change his mind. “I won’t go to the hospital anyway. You are free to decide whether you want to come and I won’t force you to do anything either. Similarly, whether I head to the hospital is my decision to make and you can’t pressure me to do anything as well.”

Courtney was so furious that her face reddened. After a while, she growled through gritted teeth, “You’ve changed. I remembered that you said five years ago that you despised people who took the moral high ground and threatened others with children.”

This was the first time that he heard Courtney saying anything about five years ago and the words that she used sounded dreadful to him. As his gaze was still on the woman standing before him, Alexander

fell into a momentary daze before quickly returning to his senses. “Five years is a long time. Nobody can say for sure how much a person would change.”

There seemed to be an underlying meaning to Alexander’s words. As he peered into Courtney’s eyes, there was profound affection and deep love for her in his gaze.

Courtney avoided his gaze and clenched her teeth. “I won’t come.” With that, she turned on her heels and left without any words of goodbye.

However, Alexander was able to tell from her retreating figure that she wasn’t as composed as she was when she came; on the contrary, she seemed to be in a fluster.

One Night Surprise Chapter 443 Why Are You Being So Cocky?

Kate, who was Alexander’s female assistant, was making coffee at the pantry. Since they had run out of coffee beans, she went into the pantry’s storage to search for it and do some restocking at the same time. While she was in the midst of her search, she heard a conversation outside. She could tell that the voice belonged to another secretary working at the reception outside the president’s office.

“Mr. Reynolds was the one who brought the doctor over and she stayed in President Duncan’s office for almost an hour—I doubt that she needed to stay inside for so long to tend to his injury. Also, President Duncan didn’t ask any one of us to enter even once, but someone saw that there were some snacks and drinks inside, which means that it was President Duncan who prepared it himself.”

The secretary paused for a while to listen to what the other person in the call said.

“Don’t take this too lightly. I have a gut feeling that the female doctor is somewhat different from the others. President Duncan seems to know her and even Mr. Reynolds treats her respectfully.”

The conversation was a short one; it was probably because the person on the other end of the line didn’t have the patience to listen anymore.

After the call ended, the secretary who was in the pantry mumbled, “What’s wrong with her? She’s the one who asked me to inform her if there’s a slightest whiff of trouble, but now that I have done so, she’s disregarding my words. What a crazy woman.”

Kate remained in the pantry’s storage. It was only after the female secretary left that Kate emerged with the things that she wanted. Then, she casually restocked the items and made a cup of coffee before heading toward Alexander’s office.

Meanwhile, at a beauty salon somewhere in Melrose City, Kelly hung up the call before she extended her hands at the manicurist to have her nails painted.

Kelly’s female friend beside her reminded, “How could you not mind that? I heard that. President Duncan from Sunhill Enterprise is the dream man of many girls in Melrose City. Even if you have an advantage over the others by being able to stay close to him, you still have to be careful not to allow him to escape. If that happens, there will be no use crying over spilt milk.”

Kelly snorted nonchalantly, “I have someone keeping an eye on him so that he won’t fall into another woman’s trap. There are some b*tches who will resort to dirty tricks once they learn that pursuing him doesn’t work. Having said that, I have never seen any girls who are able to get close to him in public.”

“S*x is one of humans’ basic needs. You may have not seen it before, but it doesn’t mean that he is indeed a celibate. Otherwise, where do you think his little prince came from?”

“You have a point.” She darted her friend a look. “That woman is an exception—the one and only exception.”

“Which woman? Little prince’s biological mother?”

“Stop asking. Anyway, that woman won’t be returning. Let the bygones be bygones.”

A reluctant Kelly seemed unwilling to mention that person and stopped the topic without even bringing up that person’s identity.

“I’ll be going shopping with that kid in two days’ time. His birthday is just around the corner, so I told him that I’ll be getting him a gift. He’s just a kid who listens to his father in everything. When it was Alexander who made the arrangement for us to go shopping, the kid agreed.”

Kelly and her friend continued to chat for some time.

In the afternoon, at the Melrose Hospital, Courtney knocked on the door of Linda’s office while holding a Thermos container.

“Miss Hass, here’s your lunch.”

“Lunch again? He sure is persistent. Why don’t the two of you just be together?” Then, Linda raised her head from behind the computer screen and added, “I’m not eating. I want to go to the canteen.”

Nevertheless, Courtney placed the lunch box on Linda’s desk with a face as impassive as she explained, “Mr. Menzie was supposed to be your date in the first place, so the lunch is for you. I’ll eat if I have the time, but you are aware that I’m busy in the afternoon for these two days. I’ve informed the restaurant to send lunch to your office starting tomorrow.”

“I don’t think that’s a good idea.”

“Why not? It’s not like he personally sent this; he ordered it at a restaurant. In other words, he merely ordered a takeout, which illustrates that he’s not exactly that sincere, no? Just eat. Don’t waste the food. There’s braised pork ribs and stir-fried shrimps with green beans as well as wild mushroom chicken soup.”

“Seriously?” Linda gulped.

“I’m running late. I shall take my leave then, Chief Hass.”

After dropping off the lunch box, Courtney glanced at the time and fled the scene.

Caleb had specifically ordered lunch for Linda; hence, even if Courtney had the time to do so, she wouldn’t touch the takeout. As Linda had tricked her before this, Courtney didn’t feel the slightest guilt in lying, but she felt excited instead.

After Courtney left the hospital, she went straight to the Sunhill Enterprise.

As she fully knew Alexander's character, she understood that he definitely wouldn't be swinging by the hospital to tend to his wound after he had made that fact clear to her. If it wasn't because of his habit of overworking, he wouldn't have been suffering from gastric all this while.

"Dr. Hunter, please hold on for a minute. President Duncan is now in a meeting. It will end shortly."

It seemed that Eric had been waiting for Courtney at the entrance and the moment he saw her, he led her to Alexander's office.

The secretaries, who worked outside the president's office, gaped at those two. One of them who worked at the reception immediately asked, "Mr. Reynolds, who's that? Why did you bring her to President Duncan's office?"

"She's a doctor. She's here to change the dressing of President Duncan's wound." He then cast a glance at that secretary. "Don't ask questions that you are not supposed to ask."

Eric's words had stunned her whereupon she cast a profound gaze at the office.

The furnishing in the spacious office looked similar to how it had been in the past. The only difference was that there were a couple of brand new items in addition to more books on the shelves.

As Courtney had no idea how long she had to wait, she randomly selected a book from the shelves to read. The book she chose was an English fairytale about a prince's adventure.

After flipping two pages, she was surprised to see that there were explanations written in blue ink on the pages.

She could tell that it wasn't Alexander's writing at first instance. The handwriting was rather childish, but each letter was neatly and nicely written. As she held the book in her hand, she stared at that page for a long time and internally speculated on the identity of the person who wrote those notes. She couldn't help but touch the little words, her gaze glued to that same page for a long time.

Not long after that, she heard the sound of the door being opened followed by Alexander's footsteps, which she still found familiar, ringing behind her. Sure enough, she saw him entering the room when she turned back to look.

"Eric didn't inform me that you are here. You must have waited for a long time. Let's eat first."

"There's no need for that. I'll leave once I have tended to your wound." She closed the book before casually returning it to the shelf.

When Courtney changed his bandage, she couldn't help but stare at the row of fairytale books on the shelf. "Are those Jordan's?"

"Yes, he reads them during his free time whenever he is here."

"Have you ever read them to him?"

“No,” Alexander honestly answered. “I have been extremely busy these few years. This is also why I never allowed him to attend school. I’m afraid that I won’t be able to care for him. So, whenever I head for business trips or have meetings, he always reads while waiting for me at one side.”

Ah, I see, Courtney thought and nodded thoughtfully. No wonder the notes written on the storybook about a prince’s adventure were actually the final bidding prices.

She was naturally in no place to point her finger at Alexander for bringing Jordan into the world of adults when Jordan was still a child. After all, she herself hadn’t spent much time with the child. Hence, she didn’t know how to continue with the conversation now that they had arrived at this stage.

“Since Jordan’s birthday is around the corner, I’ll hold a birthday banquet for him.” Alexander’s voice was heard from the side.

Courtney was initially stunned to hear that, but she replied, “Okay.”

“Oh?” Alexander turned to face her. “Does that mean to say you won’t be joining?”

She frowned slightly. “No, I won’t be joining. I haven’t met the kid for so many years, so he probably doesn’t remember me. I shouldn’t just show up and mess with his life.”

“Courtney.” With traces of anger apparent on his face, he caught her hand when she was bandaging his wound. “Why are you being so cocky?”

One Night Surprise Chapter 444 We Have a Daddy

Courtney suddenly felt a sharp pain radiating on her wrist, which caused her brows to narrow, but she lacked the courage to struggle for the fear that she would touch his injury. “Let go of me.”

“Did you think that your departure back then was for the greater good? You must have thought that once you have left, Jordan and I would be able to return to our normal lives like before and pretend that you never existed.”

Her ears buzzed as Alexander challenged her.

While looking straight at his furious eyes, Courtney countered, “Isn’t that the truth?”

Flames of anger raged in his eyes. When he saw how she reckoned that she was in the right, he was speechless. After staring at her for a few seconds, he pressed her against the couch with a sudden move of his hands before he leaned toward her.

The sudden kiss sealed Courtney’s thoughts and caused her head to stop processing at that instant.

In actual fact, Alexander was more familiar with her body than Courtney herself. Making use of his deft tongue, he easily pried open her teeth and stuck his tongue inside to entangle with hers. He had kissed her with such intensity that he was depriving her of air.

Now that she was losing oxygen, she not only forgot to think, but she even lost the ability to do so.

Then, he slid his freezing hands under her T-shirt and slowly explored upward from her waist. His movements were rather rough, as though he was punishing her, but it implied that he was seeking her attention at the same time.

As a result, a pained Courtney was unable to stifle a moan. "Ahh—"

Alexander's pupils contracted the next instant and his actions grew more urgent. He hastily yanked the zipper of her jeans down in an attempt to remove the barriers between their bodies.

The cool air from the air conditioner brushed against her lower body and snapped her back to her senses. Courtney abruptly pushed Alexander away and tugged her crumpled T-shirt downward before she withdrew to one side to catch her breath.

A stunned Alexander suddenly returned to his senses as well. "I'm sorry. Let me use the bathroom."

After the door to the bathroom was shut, the sound of rushing water rang in the air, but she had already left by the time he exited the bathroom.

As Alexander stared at the empty office, a hint of frustration appeared on his face.

He wanted to be on his best behavior in front of Courtney so that she wouldn't despise him, but whenever he saw her, he had somehow forgotten everything as his emotions and actions were out of control.

Angie brought Tina and Josephine home to their apartment in the city from the youngsters' Great-Aunt Alicia's house later that evening

As soon as they entered the house, a suspicious Angie surveyed the area and stated, "We had a visitor. It was a man."

"A man?" Tina poked her head out from her room. "That's impossible."

"There are two used cups on the table that were left unwashed. Although the bowls used to serve noodles in the rack have been washed, they aren't in their original position; it's obvious that someone has used two of them."

"These can only prove that someone was here, but you can't say for sure that it was a man."

Angie gleefully picked a pair of disposable flip-flops from the trash can and countered, "A disposable slipper of size 9.5. I doubt the visitor would have such a large shoe size if he was a woman."

As Tina was shocked to hear that, she came out from her room. Although she found it hard to believe what Angie said, the evidence had left her with no other choice. "Mommy brought a man home to spend a night with her? That's impossible!"

"Why not?" A five-year-old little girl took a bottle of beverage from the refrigerator. Despite her young age, she was calm and composed, which resembled that of a little adult. "Mommy is not even thirty years old, so it's normal for her to be in a relationship or even settle down. She shouldn't stay single for the rest of her life just because she needs to care for us. We should encourage this."

"Why should we encourage her in this?" Tina frowned. "We have a father."

At the mention of this, Josephine rolled her eyes with a scorn. "I've never met him anyway, so I won't acknowledge him."

"Daddy is a nice guy." A flustered Tina placed her hands on her hips before she declared in an elder-sister demeanor.

"Girl, did Great-Aunt Alicia badmouth Daddy to you? That's because she is on bad terms with Daddy, so what she has said is biased."

"Why isn't she on good terms with Daddy?" Josephine's question had instantly rendered Tina speechless.

"Alright, alright." Angie, who was standing at one side, tried to ease the situation. "Don't take it too far, you two. How could siblings quarrel for something that isn't concrete yet? Courtney will be home in a while, so you two can ask her any burning questions. Wouldn't that be much better?"

"You are the one who brought this up first," Josephine nonchalantly countered, "If anyone should ask, you are the one who should do so. Count me out; I'm not interested to know anything." With that, the little girl marched into her room without looking back.

"Angie, look at her—Great-Aunt Alice has definitely spoiled her," a dissatisfied Tina commented. "The kiddo has actually encouraged Mommy to look for another man when Daddy still has a place in Mommy's heart."

Angie cleared her throat and replied, "Actually, I think that it'll be better for both of you to stay out of this matter. Tina, you are only twelve and your sister is five. Little kids shouldn't mind these things."

"Does she look like a five-year-old kid to you?"

"No." She honestly nodded with a glance at Tina before she added, "You don't look like you are twelve yourself, though."

As a matter of fact, both of Courtney's children were shrewd, especially her five-year-old daughter. When compared to her peers, Josephine's personality was that of an old woman, but nobody could tell whether it was an acquired quality or a congenital one. Despite her young age, not only was she indifferent toward matters regarding relationships and marriages, she would often be seen lecturing others just like how an elder would.

Even Angie was rendered speechless by that girl many times before, let alone Tina.

It was deep into the night when Courtney returned home after her graveyard shift.

The two younger girls had already gone to bed; only Angie, a night owl, was still playing computer games with vigor, as though she was accustomed to a different time zone. She happened to pour herself a glass of water during the half-time after winning a round when she heard the door being open. She raised her head and saw Courtney entering the living room.

"Courtney."

"Why are you still awake? What time do you think it is now?" Courtney darted her a glance before changing into her flip-flops to step inside.

Angie's gaze rested on the slippers at the door, which involuntarily reminded her about the incident earlier in the evening. Hence, she poured two glasses of water and walked to the living room. As she handed one of them to Courtney, she asked, "Were there any visitors when we were not at home for the past few days?"

"Visitors?" Courtney casually evaded the topic by saying, "I've been overworking for these two days and have had graveyard shifts for consecutive days. I won't be making breakfast for you all tomorrow morning. Settle it among yourselves since I have to catch up on my sleep."

Angie nodded thoughtfully while she contemplated the incident about the man's disposable flip-flops. She won't keep it a secret if nothing really happened. On the contrary, there's something fishy if she's trying to hide it. It seems like Josie is right—Courtney is seeing somebody behind our backs.

"Where are the two girls?"

"They are asleep. As they quarreled earlier in the evening, they went to bed with anger."

"They are mad at each other?" Courtney raised her head to glance at Angie between sips of water to chuckle. "It must be Tina being mad with Josie. Josie doesn't care much about anything."

"A mother sure knows her daughter well." Angie unhesitatingly gave Courtney a thumbs-up.

Then, Courtney placed the cup down and she looked in the direction of her daughter's room with a gentle expression. "Let's wait and see. Tina will forget all about this tomorrow morning after she wakes up from her sleep."

One Night Surprise Chapter 445 Do You Want Cash or Online Banking?

After all, there was no one in this world who understood these two girls better than their own mother. Even though one of them had been brought up by Alicia since birth, Courtney One Night Surprise Chapter 445One Night Surprise Chapter 445One Night Surprise Chapter 445One Night Surprise Chapter 445was very much aware of their personalities and temperament. Josie is cold-tempered and frustrates people with her words, but luckily, Tina doesn't hold grudges well, so the two of them usually reconcile the next day after their quarrel.

"I'm bringing them out for shopping tomorrow. Are you coming with us?"

"No." Courtney waved her hand. "I have to work tomorrow evening, so I need to sleep in the morning." After that, she saw that it was already 4:00AM. "It's late now and I'm going to sleep. You should rest early too."

"I know. I'll head to sleep once I finish my water."

After Courtney closed her room door, the house descended into silence.

Angie then poured the cold water in the glass down the sink before she turned around to grab a can of beer from the fridge. After hesitating for a while, she squatted in front of the fridge to open the can.

A cloud of mist appeared from the mouth of the can with a fizzy sound as some foam oozed out.

The moment she drank the beer, she felt its ice-cold bitter taste from her throat all the way to her stomach.

Moments after Angie returned to her room, she saw the contents of the chat box on her computer screen—it was an animated heart, which complimented the upcoming season of Valentine’s Day. Her hands paused on top of the keyboard for a long time before she finally replied to the person with one word—‘Okay.’

The chat box was quiet for a second before a series of texts and emojis flooded the application, which was the other person’s way of expressing their excitement.

Soon, the one word that Angie typed was buried under the pile of messages. Then, she moved her mouse to scroll back to the text where she had previously replied before she carefully read the other party’s subsequent words. In the end, there was a bright smile on her face.

‘Angie, I have really liked you since you first came to class and I even learned Otharian because of you. After much consideration, I’ve decided to confess my feelings before Valentine’s Day. If you are agreeable to it, we can spend Valentine’s Day together in Otharia.’

‘And what if I say no?’

‘Then, I’ll think of another way since I’ve already bought the plane ticket and I can’t ask for a refund.’

‘Okay.’

Now that Angie repeatedly read the young man’s naive yet passionate confession, she felt that for a moment, she was adapting to a world where she should be in for her age. This is what my life should be, right?

The next morning, the three girls took turns to visit Courtney in her room while she was still asleep.

“Goodbye, Mommy.”

“Goodbye, Courtney.”

A drowsy Courtney replied in a daze, “Bye, sweetheart...”

After giving Courtney a morning kiss, the three girls gently closed the door and headed out for shopping.

In the shopping mall, Angie led the two youngsters to the fashion and cosmetics stores where they were dazzled by the various brands.

“We are doing this the old way. You choose the gift and I’ll pay for it.”

A confident Tina nodded. “Leave it to me. I know what Mommy likes best. I mean, she likes the gift that I choose for her every year.”

A soft yet condescending voice was then heard next to her. “That’s because you are Mommy’s daughter. No matter what you give her, she will still like it.”

However, Angie was able to cover Josephine’s mouth and prevent the little one from speaking further in time before advising, “Young lady, please be quiet and don’t talk that much for today.”

When she saw the seventeen year old foreigner leading a twelve-year-old and five-year-old who looked a little more mixed-blood, the sales assistant behind the counter didn't pay much attention to the three girls.

"This bag looks gorgeous. Mommy usually wears casual outfits, so she can shove a lot of things in this large purse." Tina pointed to the shelf on the counter that was a head higher than herself before she asked the sales assistant, "Miss, can you please grab this bag for me?"

Even though the three girls didn't look like they had the financial ability to spend much, Tina had a cute face and an angelic voice. Besides, since there was no one else in the store, the beautiful sales assistant was kind enough to grab the purse for Tina to survey.

After Angie tried to use the purse, she commented, "I'm okay with it. It's actually quite practical."

The said item was a dark gray leather bag that came with simple designs.

Tina glanced at Josephine and silenced her before she even had the chance to say anything. "Just don't say anything since you don't have the eye for aesthetics at all."

Josephine raised her brow whereupon she refused to give any comments.

After deciding to purchase the bag, Tina suddenly had a stomach ache and headed for the toilet. Meanwhile, Angie happily took her credit card out and picked up the tab, which came as a surprise to the sales assistant as she hurriedly packed up the purse. Kids these days really are big spenders.

"Hey, this bag looks lovely. Is there another one?"

Then, the voice of a woman was heard behind Angie. As both the sales assistant and Angie simultaneously turned their heads, they saw a woman in a Chanel dress with long brown hair. She had a delicate face that was covered with makeup intended to soften the heart of every man.

"I'm sorry, Miss Yves. This is the only one left. It is a limited edition that just arrived at our store."

The woman was obviously a regular customer of the store since the service assistant was able to recognize her.

When the woman heard those words, she immediately expressed her dissatisfaction. "Why didn't you inform me that there's a new limited edition purse? I haven't seen a bag that I like for a long time."

"I'm sorry, Miss Yves. It just arrived today, so we weren't able to inform you in time."

As the woman by the name of Miss Yves and the sales assistant wrangled over the bag, Angie and Josephine grabbed their package and were about to leave since they weren't in the mood to stay and watch the scene.

Suddenly, Kelly halted them. "Wait."

Her high heels echoed against the floor as she walked over and caught up to them. "Little girl, I like your bag a lot. Why don't you sell it to me at your desired price?"

Angie furrowed her brows and immediately rejected Kelly's offer. "I'm sorry, but this is a birthday gift for someone in our family. We aren't selling it."

A smiling Kelly continued to try her luck. "Please sell it to me. I can pay you whatever price you want."

An annoyed Angie was losing her patience, but Josephine's soft and cold voice was heard next to her. "Alright. We want a million. Do you want it, Grandma?"

Kelly's expression immediately changed as her eyes landed on the petite girl.

Although Josephine was around five or six years old, she had extremely neat short hair and she was wearing light blue striped-overalls. Even though she was at such a tender age, her eyes were exceptionally sharp.

Now that Josephine had addressed her as 'Grandma', it instantly made Kelly embarrassed.

"Grandma? A million? You... Kid, do you know how much a million is? It's enough to buy 20 of your purse."

A calm Josephine responded, "In that case, you can go and purchase 20 of them."

For a moment, Kelly was left speechless. It is a limited edition bag, so there's not many of it in the market. Where can I go to buy 20 of them?

As the situation reached a stalemate, a young boy's voice was heard behind her. "I'll pay you a million for it," was what he said.

Jordan suddenly emerged from behind Kelly. Although he was a twelve-year-old in a white casual outfit, one could easily see his mature temperament.

As Angie looked at him, she was stunned. Why does this kid look so familiar?

"You want it?" Josephine furrowed her brows as if she didn't expect it.

"Yes. Girl, you're not backing out now, are you?"

Way before Angie could return to her senses, Josephine had already taken the purse in Angie's hands away. With that, the little girl's clear voice was heard at the store's entrance in the shopping mall.

"A million it is. Do you want to pay me by cash or via online banking?"

One Night Surprise Chapter 446 That's a Bit Cliché

Looking at the petite girl who was shorter than his chest, Jordan had a strange feeling of déjà vu and his usual cold voice seemed to soften as he explained to her, "Don't be angry, little girl. I'm buying the bag from you because I like it very much and I want to give it to someone as a gift."

"Don't call me a little girl. I don't know you." Josephine had a proud personality and she couldn't stand the act of depriving others of the things they liked. Initially, she thought that Kelly would never want to buy the bag for a million, but she didn't expect Jordan to show up all of a sudden. Now that Josephine had laid out her condition, she had no choice but to hold back her anger and give them the bag. "You can transfer the money to us. We won't be able to carry that much cash."

Before Jordan could say anything, Kelly walked up to him from behind and spoke in a sharp voice. “Hey, are you two trying to scam Jordan because you think he is still young and doesn’t know anything? I don’t want your bag anymore.”

Josephine rolled her eyes at her while the inherent arrogance on her face became more apparent. “Madam, if you don’t have the money, please don’t ask other people about the price. It’s so embarrassing when you can’t afford it.”

“You rude little girl! Where are your manners?”

“Who is the one who doesn’t have manners here?” Angie pulled Josephine behind her. “My sister is just telling the truth. Do you really think you are the only rich people in Melrose City? Why should we sell this to you when you’re putting on this kind of attitude? Do you think you own this place?”

At that, Kelly instantly put on a gloating expression. “As a matter of fact—”

Suddenly, Jordan was there to interrupt, “Miss, please give me your account number.” He looked at Angie and said solemnly, “I’ll transfer the money to you.”

Angie rolled her eyes at Kelly and gave Jordan her account number. “Kid, don’t you think your nanny is a bit too arrogant? You should probably replace her as soon as possible.”

“Who are you calling a nanny? You b*tch!”

“Miss Yves!” Jordan glared at Kelly indifferently as he admonished, “Please mind your language when speaking in front of children. I don’t think you want me to go back and tell my dad what you just said, do you?”

Listening to him, Angie finally could tell that the arrogant woman was probably his stepmother. Judging by his attitude, it’s obvious that he doesn’t want to pay much attention to her.

Ding!

Then, a text popped up on her phone as she had received the payment.

“I got it.” She handed the bag to him. “There you go, kid. We’re leaving now.”

Jordan nodded his head but after Angie took two steps, he suddenly called out to her. “Miss, have we met somewhere?”

However, she didn’t stop as she only turned her head around and gave him a faint smile. “Don’t you think that’s a bit cliché, kid?”

After that, she took Josephine along and left without looking back, leaving Jordan standing there alone, his face full of doubts that didn’t match his young age.

He really felt that the two girls looked familiar but at that exact moment, Kelly’s voice interrupted his thoughts.

“Jordan, I’m sorry that you have to go through all that to buy such an expensive bag for me. I’ll still return that one million to you later on; otherwise, your dad will think that I’m being childish. Come on, you can pass that to me.”

“There’s no need for that.” Jordan glanced at her emotionlessly as he commented, “I didn’t buy it for you. I bought it for Mommy.” And just like that, the smile on Kelly’s face froze almost instantly as she stared blankly at the young boy in front of her as he left with the bag. “Miss Yves, I’m done shopping, so I’ll be going back now.”

When Courtney returned from the hospital, she could hear the sounds of the three girls playing games in the living room.

The latest Switch game was plugged into the computer, and both Angie and Josephine were having a great time playing with their gamepads. As for Tina, she was looking unhappy while sitting on the couch behind the two of them with her arms and legs crossed. Her gloomy face looked exactly like a sculpture.

“What happened to you?” Courtney went over to her and pinched her face with a smile. “Who angered my little sweetheart again?”

“You can ask them. All they have their eyes on is money.”

“Money?” Courtney didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. “What does that have to do with anything?”

“That’s not true.” Angie turned around and placed one hand on the edge of the couch. “It would be stupid for us not to see the deal through.”

Still focusing on the game, Josephine nodded without turning her head around, implying that she agreed with what Angie said.

After a long while, Courtney finally understood the reason behind the conflict between the three of them.

“We originally bought that bag for 50,000, but that kid was actually willing to buy it from us for a million. What an idiot!”

“You two still did it for the money. That’s the gift that I picked for Mommy.”

“You can’t blame me! It was Josie who wanted the one million.”

Josephine was done with her game, so she turned around and nodded. “Yes, I was the one who brought it up, but I didn’t expect anyone to be stupid enough to buy it.”

At that point, Tina was beyond infuriated. “Mommy, look at her—”

In the end, Courtney could only try to mediate the dispute. “Alright, alright. It’s nothing serious. I don’t understand why you keep calling that person an idiot, though. Shouldn’t you be happy that he was willing to buy your 50-thousand-bag for a million? You’ve made a profit of 950,000, so what are you all arguing about? Why don’t you use the money to go to the theme park tomorrow? With this money, you can spend your entire summer in the theme park.”

Tina loved going to theme parks ever since she was a kid, so her mood got significantly better after listening to her mother’s words.

Reading the situation, Angie added, "You're right. We can go there tomorrow. I heard that the theme park at the east side of Melrose City is the largest theme park in the continent. We haven't been there before."

"We should go there." Tina turned toward Courtney. "Mommy, will you be coming with us?"

Upon hearing that, Courtney shook her head resignedly. "I'm afraid I can't tag along. The hospital has been busy for the past two days, so let's wait and see. I need to cook for you now."

Looking at Courtney's figure, Angie touched her chin thoughtfully.

"Do you think something has happened to Courtney recently? Is she really that busy?"

Tina's expression changed slightly at that. "What if that's really the case?"

"That's easy." Josephine glanced at the two of them. "You can use the theme park as an excuse to follow her tomorrow. Then, you'll find out what she has been doing or who she has been meeting lately."

Actually, it wasn't hard to come up with this plan, but it was still admirable for Josephine to speak out about it first and put it into practice. After listening to her plan, Tina disregarded her previous grudges and looked at the younger girl with great appreciation.

"You're right."

And so, Angie and Tina exchange tacit looks.

If our plan is exposed, we can just put the blame on the person who came up with it in the first place.

With years of tacit understanding, the two of them now had a clear plan in mind.

Even though Josephine had a more mature mindset, her two other sisters were not that far off either.

One Night Surprise Chapter 447 What Do You Mean Shameless?

Courtney had been going to Sunhill Enterprise for a few days now to change Alexander's dressing.

However, she was able to control the time of her arrival and departure very well. Even when Alexander asked her to stay for a meal, she never agreed to it once because she wanted to avoid suspicion but unfortunately, anything involving him was bound to be talked about.

At noon, just as Courtney was about to leave the hospital and go to Sunhill Enterprise, she accidentally overheard the nurses' conversation in the washroom.

"Do you know that beautiful Otharian intern in the pediatrics department who just came back from France?"

"Of course I do. Courtney, right? When she first came to the hospital, all those single young men were obsessed with her but in the end, they found out that she was already married and had three kids.

“She doesn’t look like an honest woman at all. Some time ago, she was rotated to the clinical laboratory and was dispatched to a company to carry out physical examinations on new employees, but do you know what she did?”

“What did she do?”

“I heard that she was seducing the president of Sunhill Enterprise. Holly from administration told me that she went to the Sunhill Enterprise to sign a financial handover yesterday. Rumors are going wild in the company and some of the staff members there even asked Holly about Courtney.”

“Are you sure? I thought Dr. Hunter was already married. The deputy chief pursued her when she first came, but she rejected him and said that she was already married with kids.”

“It’s obvious that the deputy chief doesn’t meet her standards. We are now talking about the president of Sunhill Enterprise! His name shows up on the headlines of the financial newspaper every three days and he is the dream man of every woman in Melrose City. I reckon that she is now busy getting a divorce with her husband.”

“That is so shameless!”

Meanwhile, Courtney stayed inside the washroom and waited for the two nurses to leave before coming out.

Even though she was a little infuriated, she seemed rather calm. It was probably because of her many experiences with previous slanders that she was now immune to all of it.

After carefully washing her hands, she still went to the Sunhill Enterprise.

On this day, Courtney decided not to go back to the company after she was done changing Alexander’s dressing. Most of his wounds have started to scab. From now on, I won’t be responsible for him. After all, it’s his own business and not mine.

“President Duncan is having a meeting outside and he hasn’t returned to the company yet. Please wait for him here, Dr. Hunter.”

“Alright, then. I’ll wait for him in his office.” Courtney had been here many times before, so it was no surprise that the secretary knew that she was here to change Alexander’s dressing.

“Dr. Hunter.” The secretary suddenly halted her with an aggrieved expression. “Mr. Reynolds and President Duncan aren’t here, so we can’t really allow people to enter President Duncan’s office. Can you please wait while I make a call to Mr. Reynolds?”

“There’s no need to go through all that trouble. I’ll just wait in the lounge.”

To Courtney, it was all the same and she didn’t have a need to wait in his office, so she didn’t think it necessary to call Eric just because of this.

However, the secretary seemed to be thinking about something else as a hint of contempt flashed through her eyes. “Please follow me.”

After leading Courtney to the lounge, the secretary left and the former waited inside for more than 10 minutes without a glass of water to drink. She then took a look at the time and noticed that it was about time Alexander came back, so she endured her thirst.

Suddenly, the voice of a woman was heard outside the lounge.

“I’ve called President Duncan and he told me that he would be free to meet me this evening. Are you lying to me?”

“Mrs. Yves, why would we lie to you? President Duncan really isn’t here, but he should be back in a minute. You can wait for him in the lounge.”

“You better not be lying to me. You should know that my daughter is now dating President Duncan and she will be Mrs. Duncan in the future, so if any girl who doesn’t know better wants to approach him, you have to tell me.”

The woman’s voice sounded particularly mean and carried with it an inexplicable hint of arrogance.

“Of course.” The secretary smiled as she led the woman into the lounge. “Mrs. Yves, she is President Duncan’s doctor. She is also here to meet him.”

“Doctor?” The middle-aged woman called ‘Mrs. Yves’ looked at Courtney thoroughly. “Are you that female doctor who kept coming to the company in the past two days?”

Upon hearing that, Courtney could feel that something was wrong because the woman had put a lot of stress on the word ‘female’. Also, by the looks of it, the woman must have known earlier that Courtney had been coming to the company frequently, so it was possible that she heard some rumors.

Therefore, Courtney furrowed her brows and explained, “President Duncan has injured his arm, so I need to change his dressing every day. I was the doctor who treated him at the hospital, so I was put in charge of him after that. Today is the last time I come to change his dressing, though.”

It was obvious that Courtney was disassociating herself with Alexander.

The woman let out a cold grunt in response. “I can see that you are clever enough to say these words in front of me, but do you really think I don’t know what’s going on behind the scenes? You are nothing to President Duncan, so I advise you to just focus on your work and stop being delusional. You better not cause any trouble here.”

For a moment, the atmosphere became tense.

“Mrs. Yves, I don’t know what you are talking about.”

“Do you really not know what I’m talking about?” The woman’s voice grew sharp and contained a hint of arrogance as she thundered, “President Duncan now has someone by his side to take care of him but even if he doesn’t, he still wouldn’t ask a mere doctor like you to serve him. Don’t use the dressing as an excuse since there are many doctors out there who can do the same job. Also, I heard that you are just an intern who came here for inspection. Am I right? Are you trying to punch above your weight?”

A few staff members gradually gathered outside the lounge and most of them were secretaries. Many of them came to whisper about what was going on while only several of them were here to mediate the

situation. However, some of them said, “Mrs. Yves, please don’t be so harsh. Dr. Hunter is just here to treat President Duncan’s illness.”

“What illness?” The woman immediately refuted, “If he is actually sick, why couldn’t he appoint a personal doctor? Why does she have to come here every day just to treat him? She is just a shameless woman!”

Courtney originally wanted to settle the situation calmly but at this point, she was rather enraged. “Mrs. Yves, you should be careful with your words. What do you mean ‘shameless’? I’m a doctor and my job is to cure people. Are you saying that I should stay away from President Duncan and not save him just because he is a bachelor? Besides, you aren’t even related to him, so who gave you the right to point your finger at me?”

“What did you say?” The woman’s voice became much sharper. “You little b*tch! You have quite a sharp tongue but I’ll have you know that President Duncan is my future son-in-law, so who are you to show off in front of me? As for being ‘shameless’, was I wrong? You already have three children at such a young age, so why are you still here seducing other men? Doesn’t that make you shameless?”

The tirade caused an uproar among the crowd outside the lounge.

It was true that Alexander treated Courtney differently. This much was evident from Eric’s attitude toward her, but no one expected her to be a married woman.

“Let me tell you something—don’t think that you’ve successfully seduced President Duncan with those little tricks of yours. Men usually see women as new toys. After he is done with you, he won’t even remember your name. If you know any better, you should leave. My daughter might be fine with all this because she has a nice temperament, but I’m not as nice as her.”

Listening to the older woman’s words, Courtney clenched her fists silently while her expression darkened.

One Night Surprise Chapter 448 I’m Still His Mother No Matter What

Outside the ring of people, two figures—one tall and one short—stood upright.

The young man’s clear voice penetrated the whispering sounds, carrying with it an undisguisable rage.

“What’s your daughter’s relationship with President Duncan? Who gave you the right to interfere in his personal affairs?”

Immediately, the crowd was startled as the scene fell into complete silence.

Courtney was also stunned by the voice, so she blankly turned her head to look at the approaching person.

The crowd automatically stepped aside to make a path. With a steady pace, a boy walked to the door of the lounge and glared at the woman with eyes as cold as Alexander’s.

“Oh—Little Master is here.” Based on Mrs. Yves tone, she obviously wasn’t taking Jordan seriously. “This is between us adults, so a kid like you should stay out of it. I am helping your dad to take care of the people around him who don’t know their actual worth. It’s not something a kid like you should hear.” After that, she looked at the assistant behind Jordan and said, “Take him away quickly. A kid like him should stay at home, so why do you allow him to stay in the company all day long?”

With an indifferent expression, Jordan’s assistant, Kate, replied, “Mrs. Yves, Young President Duncan has shares in the company. Even though he is not yet an adult, President Duncan requested for him to stay in the company so that he can adapt to the company’s management. Where do you want me to take him? If you are already that desperate to drive him away when Miss Yves hasn’t even married President Duncan, I can’t imagine what will happen to our Young President Duncan if the two of them actually get married.”

“What nonsense are you talking about?” Mrs. Yves instantly flushed as she countered, “I never said those words. How dare you speak to me like that? You are just an assistant!”

Seeing that the situation was getting out of hand, the secretary who brought Mrs. Yves into the lounge couldn’t help but tug at the older woman’s sleeve and whisper, “She isn’t an ordinary assistant. She is Little Master’s aunt.”

“So what?” Mrs. Yves grunted coldly. “His own mother has already abandoned him, so I don’t care if his assistant is actually his aunt. At such a young age, a child should be studying in school and not hanging around with adults. Otherwise, he’ll end up being used by someone.”

Seeing her own son being ridiculed in front of everyone, Courtney could feel the rage burning inside her as she growled, “Shut up! It’s none of your business whether his mother has abandoned him or not.”

“Did you just tell me to shut up?” Mrs. Yves’ face darkened and she looked as if she couldn’t wait to tear Courtney apart. “I can’t believe this! Who do you think you are? Are you that desperate to become his stepmother? I’ll have you know that it’ll never happen even in a million years!”

“The person who is desperate to become his stepmother is your daughter. No matter what, I’m still his real mother.”

“You... Where are the security guards?” Mrs. Yves was trembling in rage and she acted as if she had heard the joke of the century. “Can they do their job and drag this crazy woman away from here?”

“There’s no need to call them. I’ve already brought them here just now,” Jordan suddenly announced while glancing at his assistant.

Kate immediately understood his intention and shouted at the people who were standing outside the crowd. “Come here and drag this troublemaker away.”

At that, two muscular security guards came in and grabbed Mrs. Yves on each side before dragging her out.

“Hey! What are you doing?!” she screamed. “Are you crazy? Do you know who I am?”

The crowd was in shock as they watched security drag Mrs. Yves out.

The secretary, who was obviously on Mrs. Yves' side, looked on in disbelief. "M-Miss Somerfield, she is related to Chairman Yves and is Miss Yves' mother. How dare you drag her out like this?"

Upon hearing that, Kate glared at her and muttered faintly, "Looks like I have to do more than just drag her out. You can go to the human resource department this afternoon to resign from your position immediately."

"What?!" The secretary was shocked as she shrieked, "Why?"

However, Kate was not in the mood to explain things, so she looked around and said, "You can all leave now. You are not allowed to speak about what happened here today. You should know the rules of working in the secretariat."

Listening to her, everyone else quickly scampered back to their posts.

Kate's seniority in the company was higher than that of everyone in the secretariat. Even Alexander's personal assistant, Eric, arrived at the company later than her. Not only that, she was also Jordan's aunt, so she was able to gain the respect of the directors in every department.

In the end, the secretary who got into trouble was the only one left in the lounge at a loss.

Meanwhile, Jordan remained silent while his eyes turned red, showing the rare grievance of a child.

Looking at him, Courtney felt utterly distressed. She had so much to say to him that for a moment, she didn't know where to start.

Then, Kate broke the awkwardness and coughed. "Court, let's go to Young President Duncan's office first."

"Court?" The secretary was stunned while she looked at Kate blankly, as if she couldn't believe what she just heard.

If Dr. Hunter is so close with Kate, does that mean she is Young President Duncan's...

However, Courtney and Jordan had already left the lounge. Before leaving, Kate glared at the secretary and said coldly, "You should know what to say and what not to."

The secretary collapsed in the chair almost instantly as her face turned pale.

Jordan's office was on the 9th floor. No one knew whether his office was deliberately separated from Alexander's, but the overall decorations of his office still looked a lot like Alexander's.

Even though Jordan was more mature compared to his peers, he was still a 12-year-old kid after all. Be it his voice or appearance, he still looked immature in everyone's eyes.

"Court, I'll leave you two alone now," Kate said.

"Alright."

The door was closed gently, leaving only Courtney and Jordan in the office.

"Jordan."

“Mommy, when did you come back?” The youthful voice seemed to have a hint of sadness as it rang out from opposite Courtney. With his head down, Jordan spoke in an aggrieved tone. “Why didn’t you come back once after you left?”

Courtney was at a loss as she answered, “I came back not long ago.”

“If Aunt Kate didn’t tell me today that you came back, were you planning to leave again without seeing me?”

Upon hearing that, Courtney was at a loss for words.

She couldn’t answer his question. Even though she wanted to see him, she didn’t know how to.

Suddenly, Jordan lifted his head, revealing his tear-filled face as he cried, “Do you think that Tina is enough for you, so you don’t want me anymore? Is that why you don’t want to see me?”

“Of course not!” Courtney immediately panicked and she went to sit next to Jordan. Then, she took a tissue from the table and wiped his tears. “I was afraid that I would be more reluctant to leave after seeing you...”

Upon hearing that, Jordan pushed her hand away and plunged into her arms before letting out a huge cry, as if he was venting all the grievances that had piled up inside him for so many years.

After a long time, he finally lifted his head like an aggrieved child and said sensibly, “I know that you couldn’t leave me alone, so you asked Aunt Kate to look after me, but Mommy... I really missed you after you left.”

One Night Surprise Chapter 449 I Bought Gifts for You Every Year

“I know that you asked Great-Aunt Alicia to let Aunt Kate take care of me because you’re scared that I would be bullied. Aunt Kate treats me very well.”

The boy’s eyes were red like a rabbit’s as he sat there in the huge office.

Courtney felt as though she was seeing the previous version of Jordan five years ago, when he always hugged her leg and was never willing to talk. However, he was now almost the same height as herself.

“Sweetheart, I’m sorry that I’m always not by your side.”

When she left Melrose City five years ago, she was too worried to let him stay here all by himself, but there was nothing she could do since he chose to stay by Alexander’s side.

Then, Alicia’s adopted daughter, Kate, had just graduated from university and was looking for a job. After she heard about Courtney’s situation, she took the initiative to apply for a job in Sunhill Enterprise. Kate applied for the job through official procedures but Alexander found out her true identity afterward, which was why she was soon arranged to be Jordan’s assistant in order to look after him.

Since then, Kate’s identity had become an open secret within the company but five years later, most of the staff members had changed, so no one knew who Jordan’s real mother was, causing many rumors.

Jordan was always grateful for Courtney and understood that everyone had their hardships, so he quickly wiped away his aggrieved tears and changed the topic.

“I know that you have your own difficulties. By the way, did Tina come back too?”

Courtney was now overwhelmed by feelings as she wiped her tears and hiccuped, “Yes, she’s back. I’ll see if I can take her along to meet you in two days.”

“How long are you going to stay here this time?”

“My plan is to stay here for two years.”

Other than bringing Tina back to treat her illness, Courtney also came back to focus on her studies. Her plan was to complete her two-year internship in Melrose City Hospital, but she also needed to finish up a thesis on child psychology within the same period. However, the specific timing still depended on her research progress.

“Then we’re not in a hurry.” Jordan delightfully breathed a sigh of relief. “Wait! I have something to give you.”

He then walked behind his desk and took out a big shopping bag before handing it to her. “I remember that your birthday was two days ago, so here’s a gift for you.”

“Why would you prepare a gift for me?” Courtney was stunned at that moment.

“I bought gifts for you every year,” Jordan answered with a clear youthful voice and a smile on his face. “I bought birthday gifts for you every year knowing that you would come back. I bought this two days ago and haven’t had the chance to bring it home yet. The rest is at home, so I’ll give them to you next time.”

Then, someone knocked on the door. Turned out it was Kate.

“Court, President Duncan is back and he has ordered lunch in his office. He is asking if you want to have lunch with him and Young President Duncan.”

Courtney was surprised, but Jordan had already pulled her out of her seat as he murmured, “I haven’t had lunch yet. Let’s go.”

By the time she got dragged into Alexander’s office by Jordan, the dining table by the window in the southeast corner was already filled with food. The home-cooked food looked appetizing, especially for someone like Courtney who rushed all the way here after attending to patients for the entire afternoon.

“I came back late because I had a meeting. I heard from the secretary that something happened just now.”

The moment Alexander said that, Jordan muttered, “You can always come back later so that Mommy can be bullied more. By then, you can finally marry Miss Yves.”

“It’s already pretty good for your mom to not bully others.” To be fair, what Alexander said was right. Although Courtney had a good temper, she was never one who would submit to oppression, not to

mention that she always held a grudge against Kelly's family. Even though Courtney had never met Kelly's mother, the former still couldn't stand anyone from that family.

However, Alexander's words sounded particularly harsh in Jordan's ears, so the boy growled, "Dad, if you don't wish to eat with us, I can take Mommy outside to eat something else."

His feisty looks were completely different from how adorable he acted in front of Courtney just now.

"That's enough." Courtney quickly stopped the duo from arguing any further. "I wasn't bullied because Jordan got there in time. Now, eat your food before it turns cold."

After listening to her words, Jordan calmed down and spooned some food for her. "This is delicious, Mommy. You should eat more."

Meanwhile, Alexander felt lonely as he sat opposite them, so he furrowed his brows and mumbled, "You haven't changed my dressing yet."

Upon hearing that, Courtney looked at him and said, "Why don't—"

"Since you came back so late, it seems like you're not in a hurry to change your dressing. I should remind you that Mommy is here to eat with me and not be your maid." Looking at his father, Jordan uttered casually, "Dad, if you really are in a hurry to change your dressing, I would suggest you go to the hospital."

At that, Alexander frowned and muttered, "Are you really my son?"

However, Jordan ignored him and continued spooning food for Courtney while he asked about Tina's medical condition.

Her asthma was basically cured abroad and it hadn't occurred in recent years. The reason Courtney came back was to use Otharian acupuncture to bring it under permanent control.

After hearing her explanation, Jordan breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good."

Suddenly, Courtney remembered Scott's situation, so she glanced at Alexander and asked, "By the way, what are you going to do about Old Master Duncan's illness?"

"The director of the cardiac department recommends performing a heart bypass surgery, but as you know, Grandpa is getting older so we are now using drugs to control the situation. We're still waiting for the hospital to give us any specifics on what to do next."

Scott's heart wasn't in a healthy state. Although he seemed fine in the hospital, all his medical results indicated that his health was below average. Not only that, he should also prevent himself from getting too emotional; otherwise, he might go into shock and never wake up again.

The moment Scott's illness was mentioned, the atmosphere at the table instantly turned serious.

While serving Courtney a bowl of soup, Alexander paused for a brief moment before placing the bowl in front of her. "Everyone in the family thinks that the heart bypass surgery is the best choice, but Grandpa isn't willing to do it."

It's not a surprise that he is more concerned now that he is getting older. It's not easy to make a choice that will determine your life. The heart bypass surgery comes with a huge risk.

Courtney's face froze for a brief moment as she understood the reasoning behind Scott's stubbornness.

"Great-grandpa can't bear to let us go." Jordan's sudden voice interrupted Courtney's thoughts. "He said that there's a risk for the surgery and if it fails, he won't be able to see how dad will do for the rest of his life. Also, Great-grandpa mentioned that he is waiting for you to come back so that he can tell you something."

Courtney was left startled upon hearing that.

One Night Surprise Chapter 450 It's Time to Put Our Plan Into Motion

It had been half a month since Scott got admitted into the hospital and since then, Courtney had never met him. To be fair, there was also an element of her avoiding him. After all, they almost became a family in the past, so she felt that it would be awkward for them to meet since she didn't know what to say.

Courtney knew the things that both Alexander and her did back then must have hurt the old man, but she never expected that Scott's refusal to perform his surgery was because of her.

After lunch, Kate drove Courtney back to the hospital.

"Court, everything happened so quickly today. After assessing the situation, I decided to tell Jordan because I was worried that Mrs. Yves would make a big fuss and the rumours about you have been increasing in the past two days. I hope you're not angry at me."

"It's okay. You're only doing this for me."

"You can say that I'm a bit biased too." Kate chuckled and added, "I was worried that I wouldn't know what to do if Alicia knew about the grievances you suffered in Sunhill Enterprise."

"You don't need to be worried. In fact, I should be grateful that you've been taking care of Jordan for all these years."

"If Alicia hadn't sponsored me throughout university, I would have stayed in the village after high school, teaching primary school students for a living. Now that I'm doing pretty well, I should be grateful. Everyone has their own choices, and the choice that I made back then was actually an opportunity all along."

Sitting in the passenger's seat, Courtney couldn't help but look at Kate as she repeated, "An opportunity?"

Kate was a student from an impoverished area who got financial aid from Alicia and William. Five years ago, when Kate just graduated from university, she managed to pass the preliminary national examination and interview so at that time, she was one submission of her personal documents away from getting a job. Also, with William's care, the rest of her life should be smooth sailing for her.

However, Kate rejected the job that countless people dreamed of having and submitted her resume to Sunhill Enterprise. She only told her family about it after she got her acceptance notice, so it was already too late for her to change. Afterward, Alicia was angry at her for not discussing things with them before making the decision.

“Court, this might sound cliché, but I’m now capable of buying my own house and paying my grandma’s hospital bills without asking for money from Alicia. Not only that, I am also able to buy a decent birthday gift for Alicia and Josie, and the people in the company are now treating me with respect. This is the life I want to live.”

Courtney understood why Kate was desperate to prove her worth back then, but the former also pitied Alicia and William. “Kate, don’t you think that Aunt Alicia and Uncle William planned out your future for you so that you don’t have to suffer? To them, you are like their own daughter.”

Courtney believed that they adopted Kate back then so that they could treat the latter as though she was their actual daughter, and they must have hoped that Kate would treat them as her own parents. Sadly, that wasn’t the case. Just like what Alicia said, it was as if she was destined to live a life with no children.

Holding onto the steering wheel, Kate murmured, “Court, we are not the same. I knew from a young age that if I ever wanted something, I would have to fight for it with my bare hands in order to have any hope of achieving it. I feel that the things that are provided by others will never last long.”

Upon hearing that, Courtney felt a bit disappointed. “So you’re saying Aunt Alicia and Uncle William are ‘others’ and not your family?”

“That’s not what I meant. You know that it was hard for me to be adopted at an older age since I still have my grandmother to take care of, so I can never forget about my original family. However, I can promise you that I will always remember what Alicia and all of you did for me.”

Courtney stared at Kate for a while. The former was hesitant to speak about what she felt, so she remained silent.

“Aunt Alicia and Uncle William just want you to be happy, so I hope that you understand what you’re doing.”

Kate was an orphan who was adopted by Alicia and William back then, but it was only known to them after all the adoption papers were signed that she still had a grandmother who was too weak to take care of her, which was why she was placed in an orphanage. However, Kate was very stubborn back then, so after two days living with the Somerfield Family, she ran back to her old home.

Alicia and William looked around for her and when they finally found her, the girl was covered in dust while she stood on a stool cooking for her grandmother at home. They never thought of adopting another child at a younger age, so they allowed Kate to live with her grandmother. However, they would give them money every month and visit them from time to time until Kate finally graduated from university.

Kate always went with her ideas ever since she was a kid and she could endure a lot, so she would usually inform Alicia and William about her plans only after doing it.

As for Courtney, she was itching to ask Kate if she gave up on a stable job previously to join the Sunhill Enterprise as a secretary because she knew about Courtney's relationship with Alexander. Because of me, Jordan would definitely trust her and Alexander would treat her differently as well, which would give her respect from everyone in the company. This is probably why she achieved a solid status in the company in just five years. However, Courtney chose not to ask this as she believed that everyone had themselves to look out for. Overall, Kate is still a kind person. Even though she has used some means to get here, she is still doing all this for herself and her grandmother, so it's understandable.

"We're here. Drive safe on the way back."

"Alright."

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Inside the president's office of Sunhill Enterprise, Alexander looked thunderous after hearing from Eric about the ruckus Kelly's mother caused today, "Is it settled?"

"It's settled. I have notified the reception to not let Mrs. and Miss Yves in no matter what."

"Other than the company's shares, I will officially announce the removal of Kelly from the board of directors in our monthly meeting, so I want you to contact the other directors to get their votes."

"Understood." Eric furrowed his brows and commented, "However, I'm afraid it might be difficult to persuade Chairman Yves since Miss Yves is her niece. It won't be pretty if we forbid her to participate in the meeting."

Upon hearing that, Alexander glared at him and said angrily, "She never participates in the meetings but for some reason, ever since the merger, she was able to control some of the stubborn directors and spread rumors within the company. Not only do I not want to see Kelly again, I must buy back the shares from Susan as soon as possible."

"Didn't you say that we should take this slowly? We shouldn't rush it."

"It's time to put our plan into motion," Alexander said with an indifferent expression. "Otherwise, she'll think that it is okay to do as she pleases just because she has more than twenty percent of the company's shares. She should be reminded that this isn't her playground."

Looking at Alexander's fierce-looking gaze, Eric couldn't help but tremble inside. Because of Courtney, the boss has now decided to implement the plan of removing the board of directors in advance, so who exactly is she? It seems like I have to call Josh to ask about it.