

## Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 626

### Chapter 626 Played Like A Fiddle

The next day, Oscar brought Amelia to the City Hall to get remarried. With her marriage certificate in her hands, Amelia was feeling happy and startled at the same time. In fact, she was overwhelmed with mixed feelings.

After exiting the City Hall, Amelia was still unable to regain her composure.

Right then, Oscar wrapped his arm around her waist and smiled. "What's wrong? Are you too happy?"

Amelia turned around to look at the same old City Hall and couldn't help but smile. "Over two years ago, we arrived at this City Hall at around the same time in the day to get our divorce certificate. At that time, I was suffering from insomnia, and I thought I'd never see you again in my life. Who would've believed this drastic turn of events? In the end, you're still the man standing right beside me."

Oscar held her chin and kissed her passionately. When he was done, he looked intently at Amelia, who was in a daze. With a smile, he said, "When you left without saying a word, I've gone to extreme lengths to get you back. Doesn't that mean you're bound to spend the rest of your life with me?"

Amelia slowly regained her composure and flashed him a half-smile. "Oscar, you're getting more and more thick-skinned, aren't you?"

"If not? How would I be able to make you my wife all over again?" Oscar smiled.

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Perhaps it was because things were looking good, but Oscar was in a very good mood that day. He kissed Amelia on her lips again and said, "Take some time off, and maybe we should have our honeymoon in Baxrich."

Amelia leaned on his chin and was amused. "It's not like it's our first time getting married. Others are going to make fun of us if we were to have another honeymoon."

"Why would they? I bet they're going to be so jealous of me because I've landed a beauty once again!" Oscar boasted.

At that moment, Amelia could tell that Oscar was over the moon.

“I’ve already talked to Mom about it, and she’s going to personally plan our wedding ceremony. I want everyone to know that I’m taken!” Oscar said.

“Don’t, Oscar. Since we’ve already done that once, I don’t think we should do it again. Not only is it troubling, but the media is also going to judge us. All I want now is to live a peaceful life, and I have no interest in extravagance anymore. Can you promise me you won’t hold a wedding ceremony?” Amelia raised her gaze toward Oscar and asked with sincerity.

“Are you sure?”

Amelia shook her head in response.

“All right, then. We won’t have a wedding ceremony.”

Hearing that, Amelia broke into a smile. “Let’s head home, shall we? I’ll cook you a nice meal to celebrate our remarriage.”

“Sure!”

Despite being denied a wedding ceremony, Oscar was still in high spirits. When he went to the office the next day, he told three of his bodyguards to bring candies and gifts to the office so that they could distribute them among the employees. Besides, Oscar told them to announce his remarriage to Amelia to everyone in the office. The bodyguards said, “Boss is now a married man, and he’s overjoyed. Hence, he’d like to treat everyone to a dinner at a five-star restaurant after work.”

All the employees were in shock when they received the news. As everyone was talking about it in the office, Isabella soon received the news as well.

When the other employees were discussing it among themselves excitedly, Isabella, who was in disbelief, glared at them and scolded, “What nonsense are you guys talking about?”

Although the other employees were wary of Isabella’s status and identity, they never liked her because she was cocky. As they were happy to hear about Oscar and Amelia’s remarriage, they were also gloating at Isabella’s misfortune.

“Ms. Walker, we were told by Mr. Clinton personally, and he’d even gotten his bodyguards to send us wedding favors and gifts. Besides, we were also told that there will be a fest for us after work. Since we’re all happy to hear about Mr. Clinton’s remarriage, can’t you just be happy for him as well?” one of the female employees plucked up her courage and asked.

Hearing that, Isabella's expression changed drastically. She then immediately walked away in her high heels. Due to her hurriedness, she'd almost slipped and fell down when she was entering the elevator.

With her sprained ankle, she entered the elevator with teary eyes. At that moment, she was on the verge of crying.

She then raised her head and held back her tears. I mustn't show my vulnerability. However, I've just been utterly humiliated by all my colleagues at Clinton Corporations. Oscar knows how much I like him, and yet, he'd showed me no respect!

Isabella got out of the elevator and stomped toward Oscar's office. Immediately, two of his secretaries went up to her and said, "Ms. Walker, Mr. Clinton isn't in. May we know what you are here for?"

Isabella glared at them and fumed, "Get out of my way! Otherwise, don't blame me for not treating you like my colleagues."

"Ms. Walker, please don't make our lives difficult. If you haven't made an appointment with Mr. Clinton, there's no way we're letting you in," the secretaries answered anxiously. They didn't want to end up like Linda. Since Clinton Corporations paid well and gave a ton of benefits, only a fool would want to leave.

Despite what she heard, Isabella shoved the secretaries aside and barged into Oscar's office.

Seeing that, the secretaries explained themselves instantly, "Mr. Clinton, we've tried to stop her. It seems like Ms. Walker has something urgent to tell you, so she ignored us and barged in. We're sorry."

Isabella couldn't be bothered at this point. She uttered, "Oscar, I heard them saying that you've reconciled with Amelia. Is that true?"

In response, Oscar merely threw her a casual glance. Perhaps it was because of his remarriage, but he wasn't as cold and heartless as usual.

He then waved at the secretaries and said, "You two may leave."

"Yes, Mr. Clinton." The secretaries felt relieved and closed the door after they left.

Oscar then whipped out a cigar, but he didn't light it up.

In a calm tone, he asked, "I've gotten remarried with Amelia. However, what does that have to do with you?"

Isabella looked at him with hurt in her eyes. "But Oscar, everyone in the company knows I've been after you. Besides, everyone in the high society knows we're getting engaged soon. What am I going to do now that you've remarried?"

"How is that my problem?" Oscar asked nonchalantly.

Isabella was so anxious and angry that she almost lost her basic sanity. "But everyone knows I love you! How am I supposed to show my face after what you've done?"

"Your face? What does that have to do with me?" Oscar's face darkened, and he stood up abruptly. "Since I've only gotten remarried, I'm going to let you get away with your stupidity. Get back to work at this instant! Otherwise, Clinton Corporations is not going to let a lazy employee like you stay in the company."

Hearing that, Isabella's face flushed red with fury.

Finally, she broke into tears and yelled in devastation, "How could you get remarried? Mrs. Clinton told me herself that I could marry into the Clintons! Since I've been by your side for over two years now, I don't believe that you still don't have any feelings for me! I don't believe that!"

Indeed, having self-confidence is commendable, but when she overdid it, she became despicable.

"Are you done? Get out!" Oscar had ordered her to leave. "Even without Amelia in the picture, I still wouldn't fall for a woman as dense as you! Although you have the looks, you're still a stupid woman in my eyes."

Upon hearing that, Isabella sobbed pitifully. "I'm going to look for Mrs. Clinton to clarify this! She'd already made me a promise! I don't want to get messed around by her." Isabella held her head high and left arrogantly. Despite being humiliated by Oscar, she refused to let him see her feeling inferior.

Oscar merely glanced at her before getting back to his work. I have no reason to waste my breath on a stupid woman like Isabella.

Isabella left Clinton Corporations under gloating stares from the others. At that moment, she was fuming with rage, and it seemed like she was about to erupt in anger.

As the Clintons were playing her like a fiddle, those who were watching were just enjoying the show. None of them cared how she felt.

Isabella was utterly dissatisfied. These people are such bullies! I'm a daughter of Walker Group. While everyone else is trying to butter me up, the Clintons have played me like a fool! I mustn't let this slide. Otherwise, how am I supposed to look at myself in the mirror?

## Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 627

### Chapter 627 Consensus

By the time Isabella arrived at the Clinton residence, she'd managed to hold her emotions in check.

"What brought you here, Isabella?" Olivia was sitting on the couch calmly when she flashed a warm smile. It was as if she had no idea Oscar had just gotten married to Amelia.

Upon seeing that, Isabella was so angry that her veins had started throbbing in her neck. After taking a deep breath, she managed to calm herself down after a few seconds. She then forced a smile and said, "Mrs. Clinton, I've come here today to verify the news of Oscar and Amelia getting remarried. Is that true? Although everyone in the company is talking about it, I refused to believe them. Hence, I came to ask you personally."

"Yes, they've indeed gotten remarried. I've approved it because Tony is all grown up now, so I don't want him to keep staying in a single-parent household," Olivia answered warmly.

Anger welled up in Isabella's chest once again. How could she go back on her words like her promises to me meant nothing? She'd promised me that I'd become her daughter-in-law! Not only is she not upholding her promises, but she's also acting like she hasn't done anything wrong! Could it be that all the Clintons are just untrustworthy?

"Mrs. Clinton, didn't you promise me I'd become your daughter-in-law? Why are you going back on your words now?" Isabella clenched her fists tightly and tried to suppress her anger.

Still, Olivia looked at her warmly and replied lovingly, "Isabella, I have no problem having you as my daughter-in-law. However, I'm sure you're aware of the fact that Oscar has no feelings for you. Instead of clinging to him, why don't you let him go? Not only are you pretty, but you're from a prominent family. You should get out there and find another man with similar qualities."

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Isabella gazed at Olivia and let out a mocking sneer. “Mrs. Clinton, I’ve been treating you nicely for so long. In fact, I’ve even been caring for you like you’re my biological mother. Who do you think I am? Do you think you can just chase me away with a few words of yours?”

The smile on Olivia’s face soon faded. She then looked at Isabella apologetically and said, “I’m sorry, Isabella. I’ve tried to match you up with Oscar, but he’s still not interested in you. I don’t want to waste your youth, so I’ve decided to just end your sufferings now. I’ve come up with an idea, though. Since you’re not going to be my daughter-in-law, would you like to be my goddaughter instead?”

Isabella clenched her fists tighter, and the veins on the back of her hand bulged.

She gritted her teeth and asked, “Are you feeling sorry for me, Mrs. Clinton?”

“Why would you think that, Isabella? My love for you is sincere! I’d like to be able to treat you like my own daughter.”

“That’s enough!” Isabella abruptly stood up from the couch and glared at Olivia. “Mrs. Clinton, I don’t need your pity. I’ve come here today to seek justice, but it doesn’t seem like you’re able to give me that. In that case, I don’t wish to be in a place where I’m not appreciated. However, Mrs. Clinton, there will be consequences for you breaking your promises.”

The expression on Olivia’s face instantly darkened.

“Isabella, you’re still young. Please don’t act on your anger,” Olivia urged patiently.

In response, Isabella looked down at Olivia and chuckled coldly. “Mrs. Clinton, thank you for your advice, but I don’t need it. I shall leave now.”

With that, she turned on her heel and left. She’d shown no sign of the usual respect she had for Olivia.

After stepping out of the main entrance, she turned around and glanced at the Erihal-styled mansion. For the humiliation I’ve received today, I will definitely take revenge in the future. It’s never too late to take revenge. One day, I’ll take all of you down.

After that, she straightened her body and left the scene without turning back.

Still sitting in the living room, Olivia was getting riled up. She glanced around and whipped out her phone to give Carol a call.

Olivia gave Carol a summary of Isabella’s antics that day before telling her about a piece of good news. She was hinting to her she’d been preparing for Noah and

Stephanie's wedding. Once she'd decided on the date, they were to get married right away.

Olivia then added, "However, it seems like Isabella is utterly infuriated. In good faith, I've encouraged her to find someone else because Oscar isn't interested in her. To my dismay, she'd misunderstood me. Please comfort her on my behalf. I'm willing to acknowledge her as my goddaughter. When she gets married in the future, I'll give her a generous dowry."

Hearing that, Carol immediately answered, "Don't worry, Olivia. I'll talk to her. Regardless, it's a good thing that Oscar and Amelia are getting remarried, and they deserved to be congratulated. Isabella was wrong to barge in and cause a scene. I'll get her to see you and apologize to you."

"Oh, don't say that. In fact, I haven't handled the situation well. Please bring her here tonight, and I'll talk to her about it again. Even though she can't be my daughter-in-law, she can still be my goddaughter. I'll love her like my own." Olivia had laid her traps.

"You're too kind, Olivia. I'll bring her over tonight to apologize to you. All right, then. I'll get her to see me at once." After hanging up the phone, the smile on Carol's face faltered, and she looked grim.

After falling silent for a long while, she picked up the phone to call Isabella.

The phone rang for a protracted period before someone picked up.

"Isabella, where are you? Be home in one hour. I have something I need to talk to you about," Carol uttered.

With that, she hung up the phone.

Isabella had only returned home an hour and a half later.

"Mom, what is it? Why did you need to see me so urgently?" Isabella sounded a bit angry.

"Did Oscar and Amelia get remarried?" Carol asked directly.

Carol's words were undoubtedly adding salt to Isabella's wounds.

At that point, Isabella's expression turned grimmer.

"Yes." The word was gritted out through her teeth.

"Did you go to the Clinton residence to cause a scene?" Carol asked.

A hint of mockery flashed across Isabella's eyes, and she sneered. "Did that old hag complain to you right after I left?"

Carol looked at Isabella menacingly. "Why would you say that?"

In response, Isabella sneered again.

Carol softened her tone and said, "Isabella, I know you've been mistreated. But since it'd already happened, don't dwell on it any longer, okay? We just need to think of a way to get the most out of the Clintons now."

"Mom, do you see me as a tool for you to get benefits?"

"What? Are you willing to leave the Clintons empty-handed after working so hard for the past two and a half years?"

Isabella remained silent.

"Follow me to the Clinton residence tonight. Even if you can't be Olivia's daughter-in-law, being her goddaughter is still a good deal. That'd at least stop people from talking. We should also let those who look down on the Walker family know that one of you is getting married to the Clintons' daughter, while the other one had become a goddaughter of the Clintons. With the Clintons' support, our family business is bound to make a comeback. By then, others would have to butter us up," Carol uttered.

"Must I go, Mom?"

"You can choose not to go if you wish to end up with nothing."

Hatred flashed across Isabella's eyes as she fell silent for a while. After that, she gritted her teeth and uttered, "Okay, I'll go. I want the Clintons to see that they're the ones who are missing out. When the Walker family grows stronger, I'll definitely destroy the Clintons."

In response, Carol merely smirked and didn't refute her words. That was the first time the mother and daughter reached a consensus.

## **Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 628**

### **Chapter 628 Just Enough**

That night, Carol took Isabella to the Clinton residence.

"Olivia, it's Isabella's fault for causing you so much trouble. I'm truly sorry about it." The moment Carol entered the living room, she intentionally humbled herself.

Olivia glanced at Isabella and sneered, "I'm partially at fault too. Young people tend to do things impulsively without thinking of the consequences."

"Olivia, you are right. That's what I told her too. She's very devoted to Oscar, and that's why she can't accept the fact that he is getting back with his wife again. But after talking to her for hours, she has finally come to terms with it." With that, Carol looked at Isabella and said, "Isabella, after all, Olivia does dote on you. Don't you have anything to say to her?"

With her head bowed, Isabella apologized, "Mrs. Clinton, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to argue with you. But, Oscar's decision to rekindle his marriage is a huge blow to me. My mind went blank at that moment. All I wanted to do was to look for you for answers, and that was what happened. I'm very, very sorry about it. I really didn't mean to upset you."

It was only then that Olivia was appeased.

"Isabella, I should have been more thoughtful. All I think about is to give Tony a complete family and end up ignoring your feelings. I'm sorry about that."

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Olivia had put on such a great show and saved Isabella from being embarrassed. If Isabella continued to be unreasonable, the consequences would be dire.

Isabella was well aware that there was no way she could go up against the Clintons as of now. Hence, she could only accept Olivia's apology, but she was no fool. She had already lost the man she loved. If she really offended Olivia, it would only make matters worse for herself.

"Mrs. Clinton, I'm also at fault. Please accept my apology and let bygones be bygones. Is that all right?" Isabella went along with it out of respect for Olivia.

Olivia appeared to be very pleased and realized that Isabella had potential. She did love to socialize with intelligent women after all.

"Olivia, I have forgotten to send you my congratulations on the rekindling of the marriage between Oscar and Amelia. Do you plan to have another wedding?" Carol sat down and asked about their plans.

“Initially, we plan to organize another wedding. But, Oscar says that it will be meaningless if we hold the wedding too many times. In the end, we decide to just invite some friends for a meal and be done with it,” said Olivia indifferently.

Carol nodded and did not probe any further.

Olivia glanced at Isabella and said, “Isabella, I want to take you in as my goddaughter. Have you given any thoughts about it?”

Before Isabella could respond, Carol jumped in. “Of course, this is a good thing. Isabella has always treated you as her closest relative. Before coming here today, she has even told me that if she can become your daughter-in-law, she will definitely take good care of you and keep you accompanied. When the news of Oscar renewing his marriage comes out, it hit her very hard. No matter what, she isn’t fated to be your daughter-in-law. Now that you want to take her in as your goddaughter, she must be so happy.”

Olivia smiled wryly and said, “Don’t try to console me. Earlier today, Isabella said that being my goddaughter is only a consolation, and I am only doing it out of pity for her. I can’t tell if she is happy with my decision. Isabella, am I right?”

Isabella looked up and said with a gentle smile, “Mrs. Clinton, I’m very fond of you, and you know that. I will be very honored to become your goddaughter.”

“Fine then. One of these days, I will organize a function and introduce you officially as my goddaughter. This way, it will stop many people from gossiping,” said Olivia. That was also meant as compensation for Isabella. After all, if Olivia failed to handle the situation between the Clintons and the Walker family properly, it would be an insult to the Walker family. Furthermore, Stephanie insisted on marrying Noah. She had to watch what she did. If not, Stephanie would suffer once she was married to Noah.

“Olivia, I know you have put in a lot of effort for Isabella. In the past, she was too immature and upset you. Once you have acknowledged her as your goddaughter, you should give her a piece of your mind,” said Carol with a smile.

Olivia shook her head. “Isabella is an understanding child. Perhaps, I have promised her too much in the past and failed to deliver in the end. In fact, I’m the one who has broken my promise to her. Why don’t I do this? Tomorrow, I will host a banquet and invite some of our closest friends. This way, I can introduce Isabella to them officially.”

“Isn’t this too grand?” asked Carol. “If you over-indulge Isabella, she may become too arrogant.”

Even though Carol said that, deep in her heart, she was jumping with joy. Only a fool would allow such a great opportunity to pass by.

“I doubt it. My goddaughter deserves only the best.”

“Isabella, thank your godmother.”

Isabella said obediently, “Thank you, Godmother.”

The change in the way Isabella addressed her sounded so natural.

Olivia smiled. “Good girl.” She removed a red item from her handbag and opened it up. There was a sparkling bangle in it. “Isabella, I have picked this specially for you as my goddaughter. Do you like it?”

Isabella perused it and said, “I can tell it costs a lot. I’m afraid I can’t accept this present.”

She pretended to return the gift. Once again, Olivia handed her the bangle and said, “Put it on. I have chosen this specially for you.”

In the end, Isabella accepted the present.

“Thank you, Mrs. Clinton.”

After staying at the Clinton residence for nearly two hours, both mother and daughter finally decided to leave.

Once they got into the car, both Carol and Isabella’s hearts sank.

Isabella threw her new bangle aside and said spitefully, “This old hag is too much. She thinks that she can placate me with one bangle. What does she think I am?”

“Don’t break it. Otherwise, when she asks to see the bangle, you won’t be able to produce it,” advised Carol. The earlier episode with Olivia was too exhausting for Carol. Her face was about to get cramps from all those smiling. Obviously, she was not in the mood to put on another smile.

“So what if it breaks? You don’t expect me to treat it as a piece of treasure, do you?” said Isabella with disdain. With a depressed look, Isabella continued, “What goddaughter! Before this, she promised me that I would get to marry Oscar. Now that her grandson has returned, everything has changed. I can’t wait to kill that little bastard. My dream of marrying into the Clintons has been dashed because of him. On top of that, I have been made the laughingstock. I won’t let this go.”

“Then, what do you intend to do? Olivia has already done everything she can for you. It’s better to be her goddaughter than to have nothing at all,” responded Carol in frustration.

“Mom, you take her side just because she has given some small favors?” asked Isabella as she glared at her mom.

“Enough. Just be a good goddaughter of the Clintons. Perhaps, that will give you more opportunities to get closer to Oscar. When the time comes, you can win his heart back. No one says that a godbrother and a godsister cannot be together,” said Carol with a sinister look.

“Mom, you mean-”

“You can’t get close to Oscar as an admirer, but as his godsister... Do you understand what I mean?”

All of a sudden, Isabella’s eyes lit up.

“Mom, I understand what you mean now.” Suddenly, Isabella was in high spirits once again. “Mom, you’re really my lucky star. Once I have the Clintons under my control, I won’t forget to help out with our family.”

“Just remember what you say today. It’s not easy for Noah to handle the company all by himself. As his sister, you should also help him obtain some investment if you can. Tomorrow, Olivia will be introducing those friends to you, won’t she? Don’t forget to put in a few good words for Noah.”

Surprisingly, Isabella was not even angry. Instead, she smiled and said, “Mom, don’t worry. I will make sure Noah is being looked after as well.”

Carol nodded and said nothing more.

## **Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 629**

### **Chapter 629 Introduce Her To The Industry**

The following day, Olivia hosted a banquet at Hotel Van Hutton. She reserved the entire five-floor building and invited all the rich and famous from Tayhaven. Each of the guests showed up with their family members, and that was a great honor to Olivia.

As soon as all the distinguished guests took their seats, Owen and Olivia walked in gracefully. Smiling, Olivia announced, “Thank you everyone for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend this function. There are three things we would like to celebrate tonight. First, my son and daughter-in-law have rekindled their marriage, and they now live a blissful life as a family of three. Second, I’ve been blessed with a second goddaughter. Third, my daughter is tying the knot soon. I’m pretty sure that you know who my future son-in-law is. Yes, he’s none other than Noah Walker, the eldest son of Walker Group.”

The guests stood up one by one to congratulate the Clintons for their triple happiness.

Olivia was over the moon. The smile on her face never ceased, and she was in an exceptionally good mood.

“I’m going to keep you in suspense for a while before introducing my goddaughter.” Olivia chuckled.

A beautiful socialite teased, “You’re playing hard to get, aren’t you, Olivia? Where did you learn this from? We are dying to find out who is this lucky lady that has found favor in both your and Owen’s eyes. Come on, tell us now, and don’t be so cheeky! We can’t wait already.”

“People say that daughters are caring and sweet like cotton candy. She’s my newfound precious girl. Let me keep her with me longer before all of you try to snatch her away,” Olivia joked.

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“What do you take us for, Olivia? Haha... You’re getting more mischievous as you grow older,” the other guests chimed in.

Owen and Olivia could not help but burst out laughing.

On the other hand, all eyes fell on Oscar, Amelia, and Tony the moment they made their grand entrance because the dolled-up family looked so gorgeous.

As soon as Olivia saw her beloved grandson, her eyes glowed with warmth, love, and an unmistakable twinkle.

She strode over to carry Tony. “Oh, my dear boy, you look dashing today! I nearly couldn’t recognize you.”

Tony pecked both her cheeks and said as though he was an adult, “Grandma, everyone is looking at us. You must take care of your reputation first. It will be awful if your hair looks unkempt.”

His cuteness melted Olivia’s heart. Logic and elegance don’t matter at this precious moment.

She truly loved this grandson of hers to the core, to the extent that she could do anything for him. For examples, forgiving Amelia and letting Oscar remarry her despite how resolute Olivia was in the past about these two agenda.

The guests were observing Tony. Some of Olivia's good friends even came up to him and introduced themselves. "Hi Tony, do you remember me? I spoke to you at a party last time."

Tony scanned them with a pair of big, rounded eyes. Then, he replied in a serious tone, "Of course I remember! All of you are pretty ladies, just like Grandma."

Women were always flattered with sweet talks, especially when praises were sung by such an adorable child. They were so delighted to interact with him.

"Oh my heart! You're such a cute darling. Tony, you're very handsome too. I'm certain that you're going to be a future heartthrob." The socialites had only good things to say about Tony.

Proudly, he acknowledged, "That goes unsaid!"

His antics caused everyone to titter in glee.

All guests, regardless of gender, could not hold back from praising Tony's wit. Olivia had been on cloud nine the entire night upon hearing all the wonderful comments about her grandson. They made her way happier than the times when she purchased branded handbags and designer clothes.

What greeted the Walker family when they appeared at the banquet was a scene where many were seemingly worshipping Tony.

A tinge of jealousy and disdain flashed across Isabella's eyes.

She bit her lips real hard until she was reminded by Carol. "Keep your cool and dignity. This isn't your house. Everyone here is influential, wealthy, and well-known in the industry. You can forget about marrying into one of those prominent families should they have a bad impression of you."

Taking a deep breath, Isabella nodded. "All right, Mom. I know what to do, don't you worry."

Nodding, Carol asked Noah, "When will Stephanie arrive?"

"Perhaps in another half an hour. She's just done with her shopping spree," he answered indifferently.

It was obvious that Carol was rather upset, but she fought to keep her emotions at bay.

"Hi Owen and Olivia, sorry for being late. We were stuck in a bad traffic." Carol faked a wide grin as she strode across the hall. Nobody noticed the change in her emotions.

Olivia replied pleasantly, "We are the early birds. Anyway, the party hasn't started." In other words, I bet she's trying to imply that there's no match for the Walkers, and it's only natural for them to be fashionably late.

Carol pretended not to read between the lines. "Since we are the late-comers, my husband and I will surely make a toast to everyone as soon as the party begins."

Everyone gave knowing smirks as soon as she said that.

The Walkers did not face much success in their business within the last three years. In fact, their development in the country had been stagnant, and the books were nearly in the red. Those who shared the same social circles knew that they were beyond hope. Had it not been for their connections with the Clinton family, the others would have kicked them out of the rich and famous group.

Rumor had it that there were no secrets in the high society. Everyone knew if one was loaded or otherwise.

Olivia ushered the family to their seats and asked in a whisper, "Noah, where's Stephanie?"

Noah replied patiently, "She's on her way here. Several handbags that she has been eyeing for are finally launched. So, I let her go get the new arrivals with her girlfriends."

Olivia was quite satisfied with Noah. After all, a mother would always desire for her daughter to live a totally blissful life, no matter how bad her temperament or dispositions were.

"Noah, you can't spoil her rotten. She's going to marry you soon. If all she knows is shopping to her heart's content, it's going to be very challenging for you," Olivia said casually.

"Don't worry about us, Mrs. Clinton. Besides shopping for the latest goods, Stephanie is quite caring to me." Noah gave the perfect textbook answer. His mannerisms had won him many hearts of the elderly. There was nothing that Olivia could complain about him.

Then again, Noah was either a ten out of ten, a real gentleman or he was superb at pretending to be one.

Olivia had no idea about his true personality. Considering that the two families were going to become one, she would rather believe that Noah was a good man with a noble character.

When Stephanie arrived much later, Olivia shot her a glance and made her sit down. Then, she declared, "Hi everyone, the time has come for me to introduce my goddaughter."

Instantly, everyone's gaze fell on her.

Olivia stood up alongside Carol. "I'm not going to introduce my son, daughter-in-law, and grandson since they have made an impression just now. Today, let me take some time to introduce my goddaughter. She's Isabella Walker. I'm aware of an old rumor between Oscar and Isabella, that they were going to be engaged. I'd like to clarify that it was a misunderstanding. I've always wanted to take Isabella as my goddaughter. Therefore, she's been quite close to Oscar. Initially, I couldn't care less about any gossips. But on second thoughts, I should clear the air for Isabella's sake. Henceforth, she's my goddaughter. Please extend care and concern to her when you meet her personally."

Oscar did not feel anything upon hearing the announcement because Isabella was like a stranger to him.

"Mom, if you insist on taking Isabella as your goddaughter, then do I address her as my sister or sister-in-law when I marry into the Walker family? This is so confusing!" Stephanie grumbled with a frown.

Olivia was taken aback. She had not thought about the implications of her action. All she wanted to do was to compensate Isabella as promised.

"Stephanie, we're about the same age. Hence, we can call each other by name even after you and my brother get hitched. Let's not complicate ourselves with these petty titles, shall we?" Isabella suggested graciously. "One thing for sure, we're going to be besties. Apart from that, I don't see any other issue."

Stephanie mulled over it for a while and nodded.

"That works. In the future, I'll treat my in-laws as my parents, and you ought to do the same with mine." It was rare for Stephanie to utter something so sensible.

Isabella merely smiled.

Though the official announcement had been made, the guests could tell that there was a hidden agenda behind it. High societies were full of juicy gossip and axes to grind. Each of the attendees had their own fair share of dirty laundry. The way forward was to turn a blind eye to them all; live and let live.

The guests congratulated Olivia for adding a new family member. They also commented how fortunate she was to have gotten such an obedient, thoughtful, and pretty goddaughter. No one brought up about the entanglement which involved Isabella and Oscar, for it had sort of become a taboo.

## **Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 630**

## Chapter 630 Let It Be

In the midst of all the congratulatory voices, Tony asked an innocent question, “Grandma, why do you want to make her your goddaughter when she’s actually not your daughter?”

Olivia cast a look at him whereas Isabella’s body stiffened. The latter clenched her right fist, knowing that whatever might come out of his mouth could ruin her grand plan.

This boy is destined to be my nemesis! He’s so wicked. He’s a devil in disguise who schemes against others at such a young age!

Isabella cursed profusely.

This boy is too dangerous not to be removed. If he stays, he’ll surely be a stumbling block to my success. Anthony, don’t blame me for being cruel. Instead, you should blame yourself for being a smart alec who destroys all of my plans. Thus, I can’t keep you in the family only for all of my efforts to go in vain.

Isabella’s head dropped as a murderous intent flashed across her eyes.

That was not the first time she bore malice toward Tony. To her, the boy was like a time bomb that could explode anytime, anywhere. When that happened, she would lose everything and become a laughing stock.

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“Tony, I like Ms. Walker. So, I made her my goddaughter, simple as that. Aren’t you happy to have one more person to love and spoil you?” explained Olivia patiently.

Tony sulked. He wanted to rebut, but was refrained by Amelia from doing so. The latter held his hand under the table and signaled him to stop asking further. Tony gazed at his mother and knew exactly what was in her mind.

Nonetheless, he replied reluctantly, “As long as you’re happy, Grandma.”

Olivia let out a sigh of relief.

She was quite worried that Tony would make a scene at the event and bring disgrace to both the Clintons and the Walkers. The worst thing that could happen was to see two connected families turn into rivals.

She could never ignore Tony's request.

"I love you so much, Tony, my good boy."

"I love you too, Grandma!"

Subsequently, everyone knowingly changed the topic. The men talked about finances, politics, and the economy whereas the women passionately chatted about the latest fashion. Within moments, the atmosphere became lively and vibrant again.

The dinner lasted for three hours. When it drew to a close, the women took turns carrying Tony. The latter was very welcoming. He even landed kisses on all of the ladies' cheeks. "Pretty ladies, don't drink and drive, okay? The police have made it clear that this is an offense."

His words did not reflect his age. Everyone was astounded at his level of maturity. "Olivia, your grandson is such a little know-it-all. What a blessing to have a smarty pants as your grandson! I'd smile in my dreams if I do."

Olivia smiled from ear to ear.

"Don't flatter him too much, or else he will become arrogant." Yet, it was written all over Olivia's face how proud she was of Tony.

"We aren't buttering him up, for this is the truth. My grandchildren are all super mischievous. Having one who is so clever and good-natured like yours is such a dream come true."

Upon sending all the guests off, Tony returned to Amelia's arms. He rubbed his eyes and yawned. "Mommy, I'm so sleepy."

Oscar felt sorry for him. "Amelia, hurry up and bring him back to bed. It's not easy for him to be so obedient and obliging throughout the entire event. I've decided to throw a small party to celebrate your wedding with Oscar. It's also a nice excuse to gather everyone who would usually be too busy to meet up on normal days."

"It's your decision to make, Mom. We are fine with anything." Amelia gave a classy response.

"All right, you guys go ahead then. We'll discuss further back at the family residence when you and Oscar come over during the weekends."

Amelia nodded in agreement.

Oscar led both mother and son into the car before bidding his parents goodbye.

Stephanie turned green with envy when she noticed that Amelia had seemingly gotten more beautiful. She scoffed as she posted Olivia a question, "Mom, I thought you said that you'd never forgive her? Why did you give up so fast? It's not even one year yet."

"She is, after all, Tony's mother," Olivia replied.

"Mom, that's not what you said earlier on. Don't you think that it's too hasty to change your mind?" Stephanie grew anxious. She was hoping to make use of Olivia to give Amelia a hard time. Unexpectedly, Olivia now sided with Amelia, and there was no chance for her to carry out her grand plan.

Like a Marionette, she was toyed around by her biological mother. This is unacceptable!

"Don't you want your brother to be happy?" Olivia argued.

"But, Mom, you promised to make Isabella your daughter-in-law! I'm prepared to accept her as my sister-in-law. I'm dejected because of the turn of events. Now, Oscar is marrying Amelia for the second time, and Isabella is embarrassed." Stephanie released all of her anger at her mother like an erupted volcano.

Olivia's face turned gloomy immediately.

Carol tried to appease the situation. "Stephanie, your brother and Isabella aren't fated to be together. With Oscar's wedding coming up soon, don't bring this up again. Otherwise, it will be so hard on Isabella. Actually, it's not a bad idea for her to be Olivia's goddaughter. I find this an ideal ending to this episode. Should you persist your way further, you might create havoc and make everyone feel uncomfortable."

Stephanie's chest rose and fell heavily in rage upon hearing that.

"That's enough, Stephanie. Stop arguing with Mrs. Clinton. We can't force a relationship to blossom. Take us for example, if you aren't willing to marry me, I can't threaten you to say yes with a knife at your neck." Noah tried to knock some sense into her.

Stephanie rolled her eyes at him, but did not pursue the matter.

Thereafter, the Walkers and the rest of the Clintons left for their residences respectively.

During the journey home, Noah asked, "Isabella, how is it like to be the goddaughter of the Clintons?"

Isabella replied, "Well, it's surely the best experience. At least, I'm considered a member of the Clinton family, right?"

Noah's lips curved into a mocking grin.

She folded her arms, refusing to engage further with Noah. I'm being degraded from a potential Mrs. Clinton to being their goddaughter. She still could not get over the harsh reality. Hence, she was not in the mood to bicker with her sibling.

All of her hopes and dreams shattered. Her hard work put in to get her to where she was today was futile. Seemingly, she had become a laughing stock in the high society.

Meanwhile, Olivia reprimanded Stephanie on the way home.

"You're about to become a wife, Stephanie. Please behave yourself and demonstrate the virtues of being one. Once you marry into the Walker family, you should be filial to your in-laws and serve your husband. Look at how loud you were just now, yelling and shouting in front of your in-laws. Do reflect on your attitude and behavior!"

"Am I wrong, Mom?" Stephanie questioned back. "You're the one who went back on your words, Mom. You switched my sister-in-law! Have you considered my feelings? What about Isabella's? I reckon that you're more stubborn and willful than me."

Olivia's expression darkened.

"You aren't qualified to give me a lecture."

"Mom, you're always like that. Whenever there's a disagreement between us, you'll conclude it as I'm being rude. What about your manners, Mom? Is breaking a promise your style?"

"Shut up!"

Sulking, Stephanie fell silent in annoyance.

Upon arriving home, Olivia gave Stephanie an ultimatum. "Whether you like it or not, Stephanie, Amelia is now your sister-in-law. You should be nice to her henceforth because she's your family. If anything happens in your marriage with Noah, you will need your family members to stand up for you. So, I repeat, be nice to your family. Understand?"

Biting her lips, Stephanie spat her last line before heading upstairs, "You're biased, Mom."

Olivia was so upset.

"There, there... Don't go ballistic. You know very well that Amelia and Stephanie are rivals. So, don't force it," Owen comforted her.

Infuriated, Olivia flung his hand away and said, "After all that I've done for every single one of them, no one even bother to thank me. How ungrateful!"

Owen guffawed as he pinched her nose dotingly. "If you don't want to dwell in these petty matters, I'll get someone to book us two tickets to Sumanthova tomorrow. Coincidentally, I have two friends who went there ahead of me. We can meet up."

Olivia was quite tempted to say yes, but she was worried about Tony.

"Can I bring Tony along?"

"Come on, it should be just the two of us."

After grumbling for a while, Olivia gave in.

"Fine, let's go there for a couple of days. We can start preparing for Stephanie's wedding when we return. I'll be more relieved once she is wedded, and I'll leave her to Noah."

"I bet you'll still be worried about her even after she gets spliced."

She sighed. "How can I not? Oscar and Stephanie are both my precious children. I spoiled her since young. Sometimes, I really wonder if her husband's family could withstand her temper."

"Don't worry too much. I can tell that Noah is a good man. He's thoughtful, gentle, and excellent at managing the company. I believe that he will treat Stephanie well. Moreover, there's Oscar to watch out for her. As long as she doesn't go overboard, Oscar will take care of her."

Olivia could not help but let out yet another sigh.

"Who knows if Stephanie would understand our good intentions for her?" Olivia said placidly. She had done a lot to pave a bright future for her daughter. At the same time, she also tried to satisfy her son's request and keep Isabella happy. She wanted an amicable solution with the Walkers in hopes that they would love Stephanie like their own and treat her like a princess.

"She will, eventually," Owen guaranteed.

"I'm worried that it's too late when she finally realizes that. By then, she might already be scarred from her marriage." Olivia was very concerned. She knew her daughter like the back of her palm. A prideful girl with a temper, who has been adored by everyone since the day she was born, is not easy to handle. It takes a patient and tolerant man to accept her for who she is. How can I not worry for her marriage?

"Well, let's just let nature take its course."

She nodded. That's all I can do for now.

