

## Chapter 61

I placed a pair of furry slippers at the entrance. As there was no response, I shifted my gaze to the door.

That was when I saw a stern-looking man with an unfathomable gaze at the door, his slender figure looming over me.

I could not help but frown. *Why is Ashton here? He should be lying on Rebecca's bed now.*

I wanted to close the door, but Ashton stopped me in time. As his face darkened, he demanded, "Who are you

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waiting for?"

He pushed against the door so hard that I couldn't close it. With that, I gave up and replied languidly, "Who else could I be waiting for in the middle of the night? Of course someone who can ease my loneliness."

He blocked me in after entering. A sharp glint flashed across his eyes as he sneered, "Ease your loneliness?"

Then he straightened his hip and thrust it at me. "Do you think your loneliness can be eased by this?"

At a loss for words, my face flushed a bright red.

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"Why're you so quiet?" While pressing his body against mine, he landed a soft kiss on my forehead.

Then, things started getting steamy.

"Why didn't you go home?" He bit my lip and continued in a hoarse voice, "Why are you hiding here?"

"Ashton, let go of me!" I had never seen such a brazen guy. He was just doting on Rebecca earlier on, but now he had the audacity to come here and mess around with me.

He held me close and whispered, "Do you think I'm able to do that now?"

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Wi-Fi signal strength and battery level (52%)

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I was dumbfounded.

Usually, I would have played along. However, after the previous incident, I could hardly respond whenever he touched me.

He frowned after noticing that I gave no reaction when he was fingering me. Following that, he carried me to the shoe cabinet and placed me on top of it.

I immediately stopped him when he tried to take my clothes off. "Don't even bother. I don't seem to feel anything toward you anymore."

I did not know what precipitated it.

Sometimes things might seem fine



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Sometimes things might seem fine on the surface, but deep down, they were already riddled with holes.

Furrowing his brows, Ashton stared at me coldly. "No feelings toward me?"

I opened my mouth to speak, but no words could escape from it.

Abruptly, he grabbed my hand and dragged me to the bathroom. I was then held in place under the showerhead with the icy cold water raining over me.

"Ashton, why are you doing this? You should get Rebecca to satisfy your lust. Don't torture a pregnant woman!" I



almost broke down.

*Since he has always been doting on Rebecca, why can't he just look for her and leave me alone?*

The explosion of anger suddenly subsided. Ashton stopped unzipping and became silent for quite a while. He then turned the tap off and stepped away from me.

I averted my eyes from him. With little strength left, I slumped onto the floor after losing his support.

Perhaps due to consecutive days of sultry weather, a thunderstorm broke all of a sudden, followed by a heavy



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downpour.

The bathroom was filled with an eerie silence. Initially, I thought Ashton was angry at me, but apparently, he was not.

After regaining his composure, he tidied himself up before turning to me. "Get some rest!"

After that, he left without saying another word.

*What a temperamental man!*

I was sitting in a daze when Macy entered the bathroom. When she saw my disheveled state, she yelled at me.



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Wi-Fi signal strength and battery level icons.

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"Scarlett, what have you done to yourself? You must think of the baby no matter what happens!"

Following that, Macy took me out of the bathroom and towel-dried my hair while I sat on my bed, staring into space.

After a while, I asked her, "Will a man fall in love with a woman because of their baby?"

Macy paused for a moment and thought about it. "It's possible. After all, many women tend to fall in love with someone due to that reason."

*Indeed, there are many such cases.*





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I looked at her in a daze and asked,  
"What if the baby is gone?"

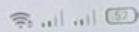
Shocked by my words, Macy patted me  
on my shoulder. "What's on your mind?  
You are two months pregnant now, and  
the baby has grown substantially. You  
should deliver the baby. Don't overthink  
the situation!"

I covered my face in frustration.  
Recently, I had been feeling flustered  
and irritable.

After Macy dried my hair, she brought  
me to the bed and tucked me in.

Ashton didn't turn up again for the rest  
of the night. Worried that I would be

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unable to sleep because of the  
thunderstorm, Macy stayed for the  
night.

It turned out that she was right, except  
that I was too irked to sleep instead of  
scared. Eventually, I stayed up until the  
middle of the night.

I had barely slept before I was  
awakened by the buzzing of my phone  
and realized that it was already  
morning.

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It was a call from Stacey, and she seemed quite anxious. "Ms. Stovall, Harrison Credit has liaised with the Finance Department. What about Quinn Corporation?"

I was aware that I might not make the right decisions in my current state. Thus, I instructed her, "Contact AC Credit now and hand over Quinn Corporation's audit to them. You're taking charge of this matter."

Stacey murmured in acknowledgment before continuing, "Sure, Ms. Stovall.

HiTech will operate end of this month.

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You may have to go on a business trip for a few days."

I nodded as I knew that the business trip was inevitable. After I ended the call, I got up from bed though I was uncomfortable and tired.

Macy had prepared soup for me. She looked at me awkwardly and said, "I'm so sorry! I seem to have lost my touch as I had not cooked for many years."

After stealing a glance at the burnt soup on the table, I chuckled. "You won't be so cruel to a pregnant woman, will you?"

Her lips curled up into a wry smile. "Try



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it anyway.”

Judging by the appearance of the burnt soup, I could guess its taste without even trying it. But seeing how eager Macy was, I had no choice but to put my life on the line and try some.

“How’s the taste? Is it nice?” She waited expectantly for my answer.

I could not come up with a sincere compliment even after racking my brain. Yet, I did not want to discourage her, so I laughed and replied curtly, “You need more practice!”

I couldn’t bear to see her dejected, so I hastily grabbed my bag and left for

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work.

However, Macy followed me to the door, refusing to give up. "Come back earlier. I'll cook something delicious."

*What? No! Spare my life, please!*

It was still early by the time I arrived at the office. Unfortunately, Joe was in the elevator when I entered it. I could not agree more with the saying, "The more you hate someone, the more likely you will run into him."

Joe greeted me with an enigmatic smile. "Good morning, Ms. Stovall! Did Ashton stay with you during the thunderstorm last night?"

I remained silent while he continued talking in a sarcastic tone, "Rebecca is afraid of thunder, so Ashton will stay with her whenever there is a thunderstorm. I'm sure Ashton didn't leave her alone last night."

As I looked at the pearls on my shoes, I had a strong urge to laugh.

*It all makes sense now. Last night, Ashton only snapped out of his frenzy because he was worried that Rebecca wouldn't be able to sleep if she were alone during the thunderstorm. There was no way he would have left his lover alone.*

Joe was right this time, and I had no

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reason to retort him.

*In a tripartite relationship, the two who love each other are the actual couple, whereas the other person is the third wheel, which is me in this case.*

Joe suddenly nudged me. "Hey! Why are you in a daze? Did you hear what I just said?"

I looked at him calmly and responded, "Yes, I did. They are a perfect match!"

Having said that, I got out of the elevator as the doors opened just in time.

Joe shouted from the elevator,



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"Scarlett, what's wrong with you?"

As soon as I entered the office, Stacey passed me a stack of documents and explained, "Ms. Stovall, you need to sign all these papers before the audit.

Harrison Credit has already started and should complete J City's audit within these two days, whereas AC Credit will start auditing Quinn Corporation today."

I nodded and signed those documents.

"Pay more attention to Fuller Corporation's audit and inform me of any problems. Keep an eye on HiTech as well. We can start when everything is ready."

She nodded while waiting for me to finish signing those documents.

However, I started to feel uncomfortable after looking through some documents. I had been unwell for the past few days and to make matters worse, I did not get enough sleep last night.

Since there were only a few documents left, I told Stacey, "You go ahead! I'll pass it to you once I'm done."

She replied with a smile, "It's fine! I can wait. I have to pass these documents to Harrison Credit and AC Credit shortly and prepare for the audit."

It gave me no choice but to finish it as soon as possible. While I was signing the documents, I felt a throbbing pain in my temples. Thus, I quickly finished up and handed the documents over to Stacey. "Here you go!"

Noticing my condition, she asked out of concern, "Ms. Stovall, are you all right?"

"Don't worry. I'm fine!"

After all, there was nothing much that could be done, even if I told Stacey about my headache. I had been suffering from it for quite a while.

With that, she left with the documents.



When I was about to call Jared, I received a call from him.

Before I managed to talk, he asked me, "Are you going on a business trip once Fuller Corporation's audit is settled?"

I answered, "Yep." While rubbing my glabella, I asked irritably, "I have been suffering from dizziness recently. Occasionally, I even get headaches. Are these normal symptoms during pregnancy?"

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Jared paused for a moment before replying, "Mm, you must've exerted yourself for the first two months. I'll prescribe some medicine for you. Remember to take them and rest well."

I mumbled in reply and sprawled on the table unhappily. "If I knew being pregnant is this exhausting, I wouldn't have gotten pregnant in the first place!"

He chuckled. "What nonsense are you talking about? I'll join you on your business trip in a few days. I can take care of you."

Stunned, I asked shyly, "You're coming along just for me? Or..."



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"That's not it. I have something on, too."

"Okay. I'll contact you then!" I replied, feeling reassured. Jared was a great friend—attentive and thorough.

After hanging up, I remained sprawling on the table, utterly drained out. I was two months pregnant by now.

I thought I'd get a divorce and leave J City after handing off my work. Alas, life was unexpected. What should I do now?

If Ashton liked our baby, I could stay. I've already endured Rebecca's existence for two years. With my child,

things couldn't get any worse, right?

Compared to my child not having a father, my worries paled in comparison.

For the next few days, it kept raining buckets. Some areas in J City would be flooded during the rainy season. The company was kind enough to let us get off work earlier than usual.

I knew Ashton would be spending his time with Rebecca as she was afraid of thunder. I didn't return to the villa and remained at Glenwood Apartments with Macy.

Macy had stopped going to her bar

because of the drug incident. She started throwing herself into cooking at home. I was glad to spend more time with her.

After I thought it through, I stopped clinging to the hope that Ashton would drop by and visit me. However, I'd stare blankly into space sometimes.

Sometimes, my limbs would go numb if I sat for too long. Jared gave me plenty of medicine and reminded me to take them on time, but I'd forget about them. Macy had to remind me every time.

After a week of torrential rain, it finally cleared up. The sun started showing



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itself in J City.

The audit process of Fuller Corporation had begun, and I was busy with HiTech. Macy, on the other hand, told me she wanted to travel alone for a few days.

I knew she was frustrated over being wrongly accused of possessing drugs. If Clinton hadn't helped get her out of jail, she would be serving her sentence by now.

She was frustrated because she couldn't do anything. Even if we knew Rebecca was behind this, Ashton was protecting her.

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Wi-Fi signal strength and battery level icons.

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Hence, I could understand why Macy wanted to go on a vacation.

Since Macy was not around, there was no point for me to stay at Glenwood Apartments. So, I returned to the villa.

With Mrs. Eriksen there, I wouldn't be alone.

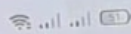
After work, I drove back to the villa. Coincidentally, I bumped into Rebecca at the entrance of the villa.

She was dressed in a long and flowy blue dress, looking like a Greek goddess beside Ashton's black Jeep.

"How gorgeous!" I couldn't help but praise out loud.



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At the same time, my heart broke into a million pieces, releasing the anger and hatred within.

I should slow down by then, but instead, I floored the accelerator, heading straight for Rebecca. My evil side was showing itself.

As long as Rebecca was dead, I would not have to endure her and worry whether Ashton would return or leave.

When I sped toward her, I seriously wanted her to die.

Suddenly, Ashton appeared and stood between the vehicle and Rebecca. His expression was dark.

I immediately slammed on the brakes in a daze. For a moment there, I really wanted Rebecca dead.

Ashton strode to my vehicle and pulled me down menacingly. "Scarlett, what are you doing?"

I crumbled weakly to the ground. He grabbed and steadied me as anger flashed across his gaze.

Tearfully, I gazed at him. "Ashton, ask her to leave, please."

Tugging his hand, I pleaded, "Ashton, I love you more than you can imagine. Seeing her here is driving me insane.

Please ask her to leave, or else, I don't know what I will do to her."

Yes, I couldn't hold back my emotions anymore. I had ripped my heart open, showing him my cruelty, selfishness, and everything else within.

As our gazes met, Ashton pursed his lips as his gaze softened. He reached out and brought me closer to him. Pressing his nose against mine, he rasped, "What a fool!"

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Picking me up, he glanced at Mrs. Eriksen, who had rushed out after hearing the commotion. "Get a cab for Ms. Larson!"

Mrs. Eriksen nodded profusely.

Rebecca had just recovered from the shock. She stared at us, her expression pale. "Ash," she implored.

"Go back home!" Ashton told her before heading into the villa with me.

Behind us, I could hear Mrs. Eriksen saying, "Ms. Larson, here's your cab."

Back in the bedroom, Ashton placed me on the bed gently. He gazed at me and gave me a light peck. "Don't act recklessly anymore. Otherwise..."

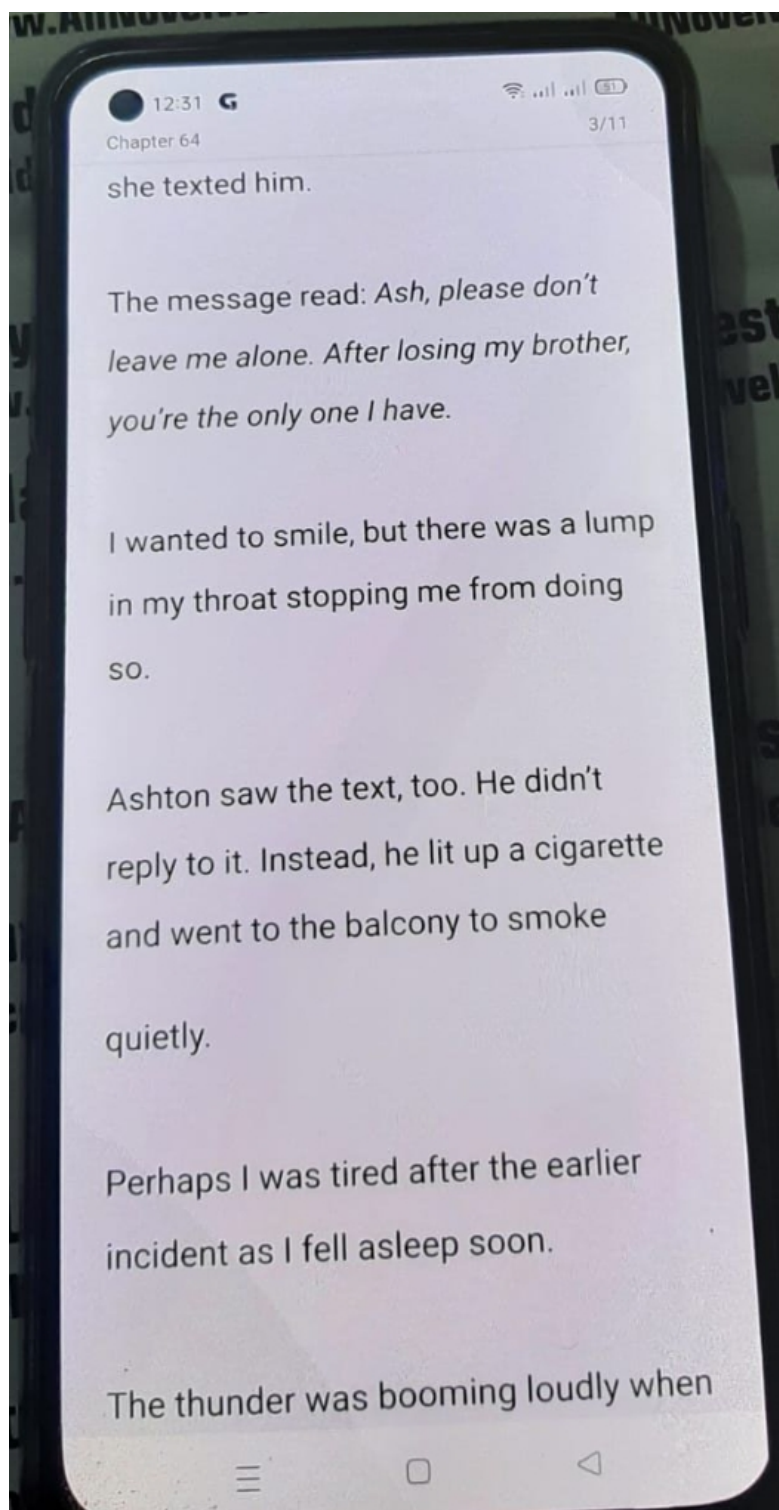
He didn't finish his sentence. When his cool lips landed on my shoulder, leaving his mark there with a bite, I frowned slightly but said nothing.

After pulling up the covers for me, his phone started ringing on the bedside table. I glanced at it and realized it was Rebecca.

Ashton took a glance at it, but he didn't answer her call.

After a few missed calls from Rebecca,





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she texted him.

The message read: *Ash, please don't leave me alone. After losing my brother, you're the only one I have.*

I wanted to smile, but there was a lump in my throat stopping me from doing so.

Ashton saw the text, too. He didn't reply to it. Instead, he lit up a cigarette and went to the balcony to smoke quietly.

Perhaps I was tired after the earlier incident as I fell asleep soon.

The thunder was booming loudly when



I finally woke up. I thought the sky had cleared, but it was still pouring at midnight.

Previously, I wasn't afraid as I was with Macy. But that night, the bedroom was empty. The lightning flashed across the night, and it was terrifying in the dark bedroom.

I switched on the light and looked around. Ashton was nowhere to be seen. There were a lot of cigarette stubs on the balcony.

As he wasn't in the bedroom, I walked out barefoot, hoping to see him in his study.

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Alas, I was too naïve.

In the living room downstairs, Rebecca stood there stubbornly, utterly drenched. Her gaze was fixated on Ashton.

"Go back home!" said Ashton in exasperation.

"No!" Rebecca's lips curved up in an innocent smile. "You know I'm afraid of thunder."

She seemed frail and delicate, especially since she was drenched, with her hair in a messy state.

After a long silence, Ashton gave in.

"Go take a shower."



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Rebecca nodded. "But I don't have clean clothes to change into," she said.

"Your clothes, which you brought here earlier, are still in the guest room."

I stood at the top of the stairs silently and overheard their conversation.

Rebecca sauntered into the guest room.

Back then, George bought this villa because he thought it was spacious. It could accommodate if Ashton and I had more kids.

Later on, I realized that day might never come. I didn't even know when



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Rebecca moved her clothes to the guest room.

How ridiculous!

"Ah!" A shriek sounded from the guest room. It seemed like Rebecca had slipped.

Ashton's brows knitted up as he strode toward the guest room. Suddenly, he stopped midway and looked up, meeting my gaze. "You're awake?"

I nodded, feeling a pang in my heart. "She is hurt. You should go check up on her."

"Scarlett!"



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I parted my lips and insisted. "Go!"

I couldn't get him to love me, but I couldn't stop him from loving someone else, could I?

At once, I returned to the bedroom. The rain was splattering noisily on the balcony. I strode out and stood there, allowing the rain to soak my body entirely. Slowly, my heart grew numb.

Falling to my knees, I hugged myself tightly. Burying my head between my knees, my tears streamed down uncontrollably.

Fairytales didn't exist in the real world.



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No one had the ability to help me, nor was it anyone's duty. I had to grit my teeth and get over it myself.

I wasn't sure if it was because I stood in the rain for too long, but my head felt heavy. The pain in my heart had gone numb. My whole body was shivering from the cold.

Footsteps sounded from the bedroom. Looking up, I saw Ashton coming to a stop beside me.

He was obviously livid.

"Is it fun to torture me?"

Stunned, I replied, "Are you happy?"



Stunned, I replied, "Are you happy?"

He scooped me up unhappily. "Scarlett, there are responsibilities which I cannot push away from. Don't torture me using you and our child, alright?"

I lowered my head as tears spilled out. "I wasn't trying to torture you. The heartache was too much for me to bear."

I was dripping wet as he brought me into the bathroom. Turning on the shower, he undressed me without a word.

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I sat in the bathtub, staring into space. My head was spinning as a dull ache throbbed uncomfortably in my heart.

We had seen each other naked many times, so I wasn't embarrassed at all and allowed him to clean me.

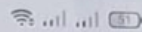
Soon, steam filled the bathroom. My freezing body started to warm up.

He wrapped me up in a towel and brought me out. After helping me to put on clean pajamas, he began drying my hair.

None of us spoke to each other.



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I closed my eyes and leaned back comfortably as exhaustion washed over me.

"Don't fall asleep. Let me dry your hair first," Ashton spoke. He was no longer furious.

I remained silent with my eyes shut.

The sound of the hairdryer whirring rang in my ears abruptly. It felt so warm and unrealistic to me.

"Scarlett!" Ashton called out my name after switching off the hairdryer.

My eyes snapped open in confusion.



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He pulled me in for a warm hug before saying, "Let's go down together!"

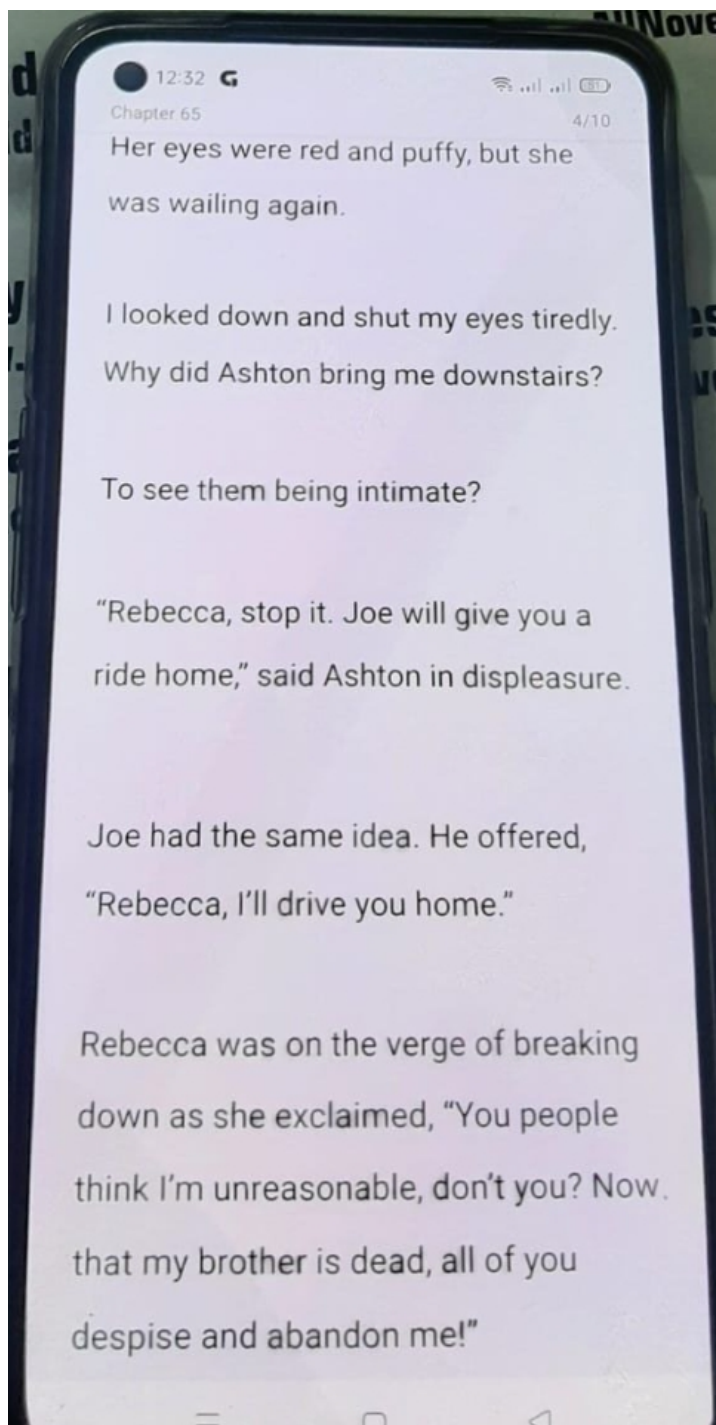
It was a command that left no room for discussion. Picking me up, he left the bedroom.

Downstairs, Rebecca had already showered, her hair half-dried. She was sitting in the living room with Joe next to her. Since when did Joe arrive?

Spotting me in Ashton's arms,

Rebecca's gaze flashed with jealousy.

She jolted up and tugged at Ashton without hesitation. "Ash, are you going to abandon me?"



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Her eyes were red and puffy, but she was wailing again.

I looked down and shut my eyes tiredly. Why did Ashton bring me downstairs?

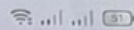
To see them being intimate?

"Rebecca, stop it. Joe will give you a ride home," said Ashton in displeasure.

Joe had the same idea. He offered, "Rebecca, I'll drive you home."

Rebecca was on the verge of breaking down as she exclaimed, "You people think I'm unreasonable, don't you? Now, that my brother is dead, all of you despise and abandon me!"

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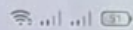
"Ha!" I sneered.

My sneer triggered Rebecca. She turned to glare at me. "Scarlett, what is so funny about it? Oh, you should be gloating now. You've got everything you want."

I was amused. "What did I get?"  
Pausing, I let out a bitter chuckle. "Yes, I got everything I wanted. Thanks to you, Ms. Larson, I am stuck in a loveless marriage. I don't even dare to tell anyone I'm pregnant. You can use your deceased brother to destroy another family. I can't believe how shameless you are, being someone else's mistress proudly!"



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"Scarlett, stop spouting nonsense!"

Rebecca's face flushed red angrily.

I couldn't be bothered to argue with her. "Nonsense? Look, aren't you acting shamelessly now? This house belongs to Ashton and me. It isn't somewhere for you to show off. Please leave, Ms. Larson!"

Rebecca's hands wrung together furiously. She gazed at Ashton. When her gaze landed on me, it was full of hatred.

I was too exhausted to continue the conversation.

When I turned to leave, I heard

Rebecca imploring, "Ash..."

"Enough!" Ashton declared, "Joe, bring her home!"

I strode upstairs without hesitation. After all, I wasn't in the mood to hear the rest of their conversation.

As I lay on the bed, my head and my eyes were throbbing painfully. I immediately made a call to Macy.

The phone rang for a while before she picked up. "Ms. Stovall, look at the time."

It seemed like my call had woken her abruptly. I glanced at the clock, which showed it was 2 a.m.



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Feeling guilty, I stammered, "M-Macy, I think I'm ill."

She was taken aback by my words.

"What's wrong? You're ill? Go to the hospital! Is Ashton with you now?" she demanded loudly.

I fell silent as I didn't know how to explain my illness. It wasn't something the naked eye could see.

Sighing, I replied, "It's nothing. I miss you!"

Macy didn't press on because she was sleepy. "Babe, you can't sleep?"

I parted my lips, but my voice died in my throat. "Mm, you should sleep. We can talk tomorrow!" In the end, I ended up saying nothing.

After hanging up, I curled up in bed. Everything felt dull to me.



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I fell into a deep sleep. Sometime in the middle of the night, the bed dipped. Someone crawled into bed and pulled me into his embrace.

It must be Ashton. I said nothing and went back to bed.

I couldn't really sleep well the previous night, perhaps due to all the stress recently. When I arrived at the company, I felt muddled.

Stacey entered my office with a few documents for me to sign. She poured me a glass of milk. "Ms. Stovall, you look pale. Do you need to go to the

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hospital?"

I shook my head. "I'm fine. I didn't sleep well last night. You should go back to work."

Indeed, my sleep schedule was horrible recently.

She gave me a concerned look and left with the files. Before leaving, she told me, "Do you want to see Dr. Crest? He's here today. I saw him in the elevator just now."

Jared was obsessed with medical research. He was a shareholder in Fuller Corporation, but he rarely showed up.

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Ashton must be planning to invest in medical research. That was why he set up a research laboratory for Jared in the company.

I gave a nod. "Sure!"

My condition was horrible lately. I stood up and went to Jared's office.

His office was on the same floor as Ashton's. I didn't mean to eavesdrop, but the moment I stepped out of the elevator, I immediately noticed Rebecca standing in Ashton's office.

She was clad in a long and flowy white dress, her signature style. That was why I recognized her at once.

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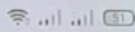
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Heading straight to Jared's office, I knocked on the door.

"What is it?" A deep male voice sounded. It was Ashton.

I recognized his voice at once.

"Ash, I thought about it. I've decided to neither go abroad nor enter showbiz," declared Rebecca. She didn't seem delighted at all.

"Mm!"

He sounded quite uninterested.

Jared didn't answer the door. I knocked a few more times. Was he asleep?



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"Joe will be here later. He'll give you a ride home," said Ashton coolly.

His words might've upset Rebecca because she only replied after a long pause. "I've given up. Isn't that enough?"

A heavy silence hung in the air before Ashton responded, "Rebecca, I told you not to make any decisions involving me! Scarlett is pregnant. If you insist on staying in J City, I'll take care of you, but that doesn't include your love life. I have my own family!"

"Your family?" Rebecca shrieked. "What about me? My brother left me in your hands..."

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Wi-Fi signal strength icons and battery level indicator.

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"Parker didn't ask me to marry you.

Rebecca, we have separate lives."

Ashton's reply was cruel.

"Do you love her?" Rebecca asked in a trembling voice. "You don't! You think you're responsible for her because she's pregnant with your child. Ashton, you don't even know your feelings.

What you have for Scarlett is a sense of responsibility, not love! Just like how you used to care for me. You felt responsible for me, too!"

I heard nothing after her exclamation. I thought it was the end of their conversation. As Jared didn't open his door, I was going to leave.

Before I could do so, Rebecca's voice

rang out again. "Ash, please let me stay by your side. I don't want anything else. I will listen to you. Please don't abandon me. I can't survive without you."

Her plea was desperate and inferior.

I lowered my gaze, feeling sorry for her. It was easy to lose oneself in love.

"What are you doing here?" A male voice questioned. Snapping back to reality, I saw Jared walking out of his office tiredly.

I was astounded. Was he really sleeping?



12:33 G

Wi-Fi Signal Strength Battery

Chapter 66

9/11

"I'm here for you," I replied. Before he could say anything, Rebecca's voice rang out again.

"Ash, I know you don't love Scarlett. A loveless marriage will ruin you. You have a child, but it won't make you happy. Instead, it will become a gap between you both. You'll be forever tied to her because of the child!"

Jared heard her clearly and raised a brow at me. "Eavesdropping?"

I was speechless.

"No." Afraid he wouldn't believe me, I added, "I need your help."

12:33 G

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10/11

"What is it?" he responded without looking at me. He was evidently engrossed in the ongoing conversation inside Ashton's office.

"I don't feel well these days. Can you find out if my child is affected?" I asked.

As he was still eavesdropping, my voice turned louder. "Dr. Crest!"

He shot me a look and gestured for me to continue eavesdropping.

Meanwhile, Rebecca was certain she was right. Sobbing, she continued, "You know Scarlett loves you, but you don't love her. After some time she'll



was right

"You know Scarlett loves you, but you don't love her. After some time, she'll break down. This is not what a girl wants."



12:33

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Chapter 67

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## Chapter 67

"Ms. Larson, you're not me. How would you know that's not what I want?" I couldn't hold back any longer. After all, Jared was listening to them as well. Stepping into Ashton's office, I shot Rebecca an icy glare. "Ms. Larson, even if my husband does not love me, we now have a child together. That means we're a true family. You might be clueless, but not all couples love each other."

Both Rebecca and Ashton were shocked at my sudden appearance. She swiftly retorted, "Do you seriously think you can make him stay with your child?"

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I gave her a nod. "I wasn't sure if I could, but after seeing your reaction, I think I've succeeded. After all, my child and I come first instead of you, Ms. Larson."

Ashton's expression soured at my words. I ignored him and continued, "Of course, you're shameless enough to stay by his side. Perhaps after I've given birth, he might be bored at home and want to experience something different. By then, you will have the chance to provide him a fresh experience."

"Pfft!" Fits of laughter could be heard coming from the entrance. As it turned out, Joe and Nick were standing at the

12:34

Chapter 67

3/10

door.

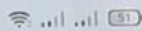
Stifling his laughter, Nick drawled out, "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to eavesdrop on your conversation, but you were so loud. I couldn't stop myself from laughing."

Joe glared at me, seemingly enraged. He went to Ashton and handed him a file. "You can have your own family, but you shouldn't have allowed someone like Scarlett to insult her!"

With that, he dragged Rebecca away.

I stood in their way and stared at Joe icily. "Mr. Quinn, someone like me? What do you mean?"

12:34



Chapter 67

4/10

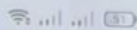
"You're selfish, despicable, and heartless!" he replied immediately.

Nodding, I flashed a mocking smile. "Thank you for your detailed answer. Then what is the woman you fancy like?"

Ignoring their expressions, I added with a grin, "Once a b\*tch, forever a b\*tch. Ms. Larson might seem nice enough to make you forget she's a homewrecker. But the truth is, she has forced the wife to abort her baby and framed someone for possessing drugs. Are her actions forgivable because she looks delicate and weak?"

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Chapter 67



5/10

"Scarlett, stop spouting nonsense!"

Rebecca blurted out angrily.

I cocked my eyebrows at her.

"Desperate much?"

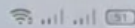
"Enough!" Ashton finally spoke up. He glanced at Joe and ordered him, "Send her back home! Don't let her come here again."

Joe was about to say something, but Jared cut him off. "Joe, when you're back later, come to my office. I have something for your father. It's for his rheumatism."

At the same time, Nick looked at Ashton and asked. "Mr. Fuller, are you



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Chapter 67

6/10

free now? Let's talk."

Joe had nothing else to say. He glowered at me and left with Rebecca.

I said to Jared, "I need to talk to you."

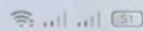
I really did!

Nodding, he said, "Let's go to my office."

In his office, I sat down and sighed tiredly, "I've been suffering from dizzy spells recently. My shoulders and spine feel awful."

He went to his seat and began running checks.

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After a while, he returned with my diagnosis. "Well, it looks like your dizziness is the result of you staying up late. You should refrain from doing that and rest earlier. Besides, there are signs of depression due to stress. You should lighten up and keep a good mood."

Resting my chin on my hand, I informed him, "I'm going on a business trip to A City. Is there any sleeping pill I can bring along?"

"Yes, but they are not good for your baby," he replied. "You shouldn't rely on them."

12:34 G

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Chapter 67

8/10

I murmured in assent. If this kept going on, I wasn't even sure whether I could pull through, let alone the baby.

When I stepped out of Jared's office, I nearly bumped into Ashton, who seemed terribly upset. I wasn't feeling well, so I couldn't be bothered to talk to him.

He grabbed my hand when I brush past him. "What's wrong with you?" he asked in his deep voice.

"I'm still alive!" I pulled away from him in irritation and stepped into the elevator.

Back at my office, Stacey placed a stack of files on my desk. "Ms. Stovall,

Back at my

stack of files on my desk. "Ms. Stovall,  
these are the reports of Fuller

Corporation's audit. Please read  
through and sign your name."

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2/12

representative from Harrison Credit  
will also come along.”

“Okay,” I replied. “I can go by myself.  
You should stay here to assist Harrison  
Credit and AC.”

“Sure!”

The rainy season in J City shrouded  
the city in the gloom. Yesterday, the  
sun was up for a few hours before it  
started pouring again.

At 5 p.m., I finally finished reading the  
documents. My eyes were dry, so I told  
Stacey to help me buy some eye drops.

After wrapping up my daily report, it

was already 6 p.m.

My stomach was growling in hunger by now. I switched off my laptop and headed downstairs. It was time to get off work, so the employees were all exiting the building.

They greeted me politely as I made my way out. I forced out a smile and scurried out. There was a KFC right next to our building, so I entered and ordered a meal for one.

When I was waiting for my order to be prepared, a few young ladies greeted me shyly, "Ms. Stovall, what a coincidence!"

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I nodded politely. I racked my brains, but couldn't remember who the girls were.

A professional-looking young lady said, "Ms. Stovall, I'm Isabelle Leek from the Electronic Design Department."

I was startled. Her words reminded me of who they were. As I was in charge of HiTech's case now, I would occasionally pop to the Design

Department. No wonder they recognized me.

Fuller Corporation was too large a company. In J City alone, it had a few thousand employees. We all worked in the same building, but we'd only see

the same few colleagues every day.

Smiling faintly, I greeted the young ladies and left with my fried chicken.

"Izzy, I didn't know the higher-ups eat fried chicken like us!"

"The higher-ups are human beings too. Why can't they eat fried chicken?"

"Their annual salary is several times more than ours. I thought they'd eat something better!"

I left the restaurant and didn't hear the rest of their conversation.

Men would never be satisfied with what they had. When one was poor,



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one would work hard to earn money.  
But when one got rich, one would  
wallow in love.

After spending the whole day working  
tirelessly, I entered the car and began  
chomping on my fried chicken. A car  
honked in my direction, so I wound  
down the window.

A black Maybach was parked right  
beside my vehicle. The only black  
Maybach I knew was parked in the  
villa's garage.

Even if my friends were rich enough to  
afford this car, it was too flashy to  
drive it around daily.

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Chapter 68

7/12

I couldn't recall who else had this car, so I thought it was a stranger and wound up my car window.

Suddenly, the Maybach's window rolled down, revealing Nick's cheeky face.

"Hey, gorgeous. Wanna have dinner together?"

How childish!

I rolled my eyes at him and showed him my fried chicken. "I'm sorry, but I've eaten."

Frowning, he poked his head out.

"You're pregnant. How could you eat this? Is Ashton mistreating you?"

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Chapter 68

8/12

I ignored his remark.

After clearing up the trash, I started the engine and prepared to head home.

He parked his car right in front of mine, blocking my way out. "Scarlett, come on. Let's have dinner together!"

I was annoyed by him. "I'm full!"

"Then spend some time with me!"

What was his problem?

As his car stopped in the middle of the lane, I wasn't the only one who got stuck. No one else could leave.

The other cars started honking at him,

but he merely gazed at me cheekily.

I put a hand to my forehead in irritation. "Fine. Lead the way!"

Arching a brow, he announced, "Let me drive you there. You shouldn't drive as you're pregnant!"

Damn it!

I alighted from my car and went to his car, taking the passenger seat. "Will you leave now?" I asked coolly.

Grinning, he replied, "Of course. Let's go!"

Young men like him were ostentatious.



12:35

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He was driving a flashy car, and instead of keeping a low profile, he opened the convertible top in the middle of the city.

He was seriously childish.

The wind felt chilly, but I didn't say anything. He could do whatever he wanted.

"Scarlett, do you think we'll show up in the gossip column of J City's news tomorrow?" he yelled over the rock music playing on his radio.

I rolled my eyes and ignored him.

If we appeared in the gossip column, it would be his fault

would be his fault.

His car came to a stop in a bustling section of the city. It was somewhere all the young people liked to hang out.

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## Chapter 69

Both he and his car were ostentatious. The moment the car rolled to a stop, young ladies stared and tittered while young men took photos of his car enviously.

"Tacky!" I commented and got off his car.

Looking around, I inquired, "What do you want for dinner?"

He responded with a smirk, "You decide."

After surveying the available restaurants, I entered a French

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Chapter 69 2/12

restaurant without hesitation. Nick trailed behind me and teased, "Scarlett, you're quite the romantic."

I couldn't be bothered to reply. I had chosen this restaurant because I didn't want to be ogled by others.

Inside, the server greeted us, "Table for two? We have a couple set today. Would you like to order that?"

"Sure, we'll take that, and a bottle of wine, please." Nick ordered without thinking much.

I looked at the server and said, "I'd like a glass of fruit juice, please."

After the server left, Nick grinned at



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Chapter 69

3/12

me. "Scarlett, I forgot you can't drink alcohol."

He was doing it on purpose!

I stared at my phone as Ashton had just sent me a text: *Where are you?*

What a brief message!

I didn't reply and locked my phone.

Nick was gazing at me, so I furrowed my brows. "What is it?"

"Scarlett, has anyone ever told you that you look like a celebrity?" The server was serving our steak when Nick asked.

I thanked the server before answering,

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Chapter 69

4/12

"Who?"

Surprised I'd acknowledge him, he straightened his back and replied in all seriousness. "Angelina Jolie!"

I nodded. "Yes. I used to get that a lot in university."

My friends used to say that, but after I wore glasses, I rarely hear that anymore.

As I seemed arty with glasses, I no longer resembled her.

"Also, you resemble another person I know," he said in all seriousness. I sliced my steak, thinking he was bored

and trying to strike up a conversation.

"Mm!" I replied and focused on my steak.

He didn't eat his food. Instead, he swirled his wine and commented, "You resemble my mother, especially your eyes. Both of you have similar eyes."

He was annoying me at that point. Stuffing a piece of steak into my mouth, I glared at him. "I guess I have one of those faces. Someone told me I resembled Rebecca too!"

George used to comment on how much I looked like Rebecca back then. However, I never felt that way. After all, many people had similar brows and

eyes. We probably had the same ancestors a few centuries ago.

He pouted and downed his wine. "Why did you transfer away from N University back then?"

I was stunned by his question. It was ages ago. How did he know about this?

Putting my utensils down, I looked at him. "Were we university mates?"

Raising a brow, he refilled his glass before retorting, "You don't remember me?"

I shook my head. I only remembered seeing him after taking over Fuller

Corporation's audit. That was it.

He shrugged and said nothing else.

"Never mind. Just remember me from now on," he concluded.

We chatted briefly. Throughout the whole exchange, he ate nothing and finished the bottle of wine. After emptying the wine, he sprawled on the table and stared at me blankly.

As it was getting late, I went to pay the bill. I was afraid I might oversleep tomorrow if I were to sleep late tonight.

Coincidentally, we bumped into Nick's mother—Cameron, and Rebecca here.



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Chapter 69

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Bumping into Cameron wasn't strange, nor was bumping into Rebecca. But I was surprised to see them both together.

I didn't think Rebecca and Cameron knew each other, did they?

I watched as they linked hands and shopped together happily like mother and daughter from a distance.

After paying the bill, I returned to Nick. His cheeks were flushed, so he must be drunk. "Can you walk?" I asked.

"No," he replied petulantly.

Sighing, I took my bag and helped him



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Chapter 69

10/12

out of the restaurant.

A while ago, Nick had entered elegantly. Now, he was exiting the restaurant clumsily.

I placed him in the passenger seat and started the engine. As his sports car was too low, I couldn't really drive comfortably. I was too used to driving my Cadillac.

Luckily, there weren't many cars on the road. I didn't get into any mishap.

I wanted to send him back to Pear Garden. Ashton and I had been there once, but he refused to let me send him back there.

It took me some effort before he revealed he was staying at Peakville Estate alone. I was surprised to find out he was staying in the same residential area as us.

"Scarlett, don't you remember me?"

Halfway home, he suddenly muttered.

I shook my head. "Do we know each other?"

He let out a bitter chuckle. "Am I the only one who remembers the mulberry tree in Winona's yard, the flowers on the riverbank, and you with a snotty nose?"



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1/11

## Chapter 70

At his words, my mind started wandering how did he know about this...

Soon, we arrived at Peakville Estate. I helped him down when we reached his house. It took a while for someone to answer the door, and it was a senior.

When he saw how drunk Nick was, he exclaimed, "Oh, Nick. Why are you so drunk? Thank you for bringing him home."

I smiled politely and left Nick with him.

I wanted to walk back home, but Peakville Estate was a large residential

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Chapter 70

2/11

area. Every villa had its own compound, so it would take me a long time to reach home.

Hence, I drove Nick's car back home.

It was already midnight when I reached home. As I had to wake up early tomorrow, I parked the car downstairs. After that, I prepared to wash up before going to bed.

Alas, I saw Ashton waiting outside the door with a flickering cigarette between his fingers.

Frowning, I wondered why he was suddenly smoking outside.

At the sight of me, he put out his

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Chapter 70

3/11

cigarette and glared at me. "Where have you been?"

"I had dinner with a friend." I brushed past him and entered the villa.

He pulled my hand and brought me into his arms. The heavy stench of cigarette smoke burned my lungs.

"Ashton!"

"Who did you have dinner with? Did you drink wine even though you're pregnant?" he rasped.

The alcohol stench must be from Nick.

I felt uncomfortable in his arms, so I shoved him away. "I didn't drink any

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Chapter 70

4/11

wine!"

All I wanted was to sleep, but Ashton refused to back off. He pulled me to the Maybach and demanded, "This is a limited edition model. Scarlett, you've found your next target, huh?"

What the f\*ck?

I nearly cursed out loud and pushed him away. At his dejected expression, my anger heightened. "Ashton, please don't judge me with that narrow mindset of yours. I'm not you, who has plenty of backups waiting for you."

With that, I spun on my heels and returned to the bedroom.

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Chapter 70

5/11

After locking the door, I washed up and went to bed.

I fell asleep in no time.

It wasn't until my phone started ringing incessantly that I got woken up rudely. In a daze, I stared at the ceiling blankly when my phone rang again. I was about to answer when the person hung up.

I wanted to go back to bed. However, it suddenly occurred to me that I was supposed to go on a business trip. I sat up abruptly as my sleepiness faded away.

"What's wrong?" a hoarse voice rang

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Chapter 70

6/11

out by my side.

Stunned, I swiveled around and saw Ashton going back to sleep. His arm was around my waist. How did he... Didn't I lock the door?

Ah, after he kicked the door open back then, he must have prepared a spare.

I pried his hand off and took my phone. It had stopped ringing by now. Ashton must have been disturbed by it and switched it off.

After switching it on, a call came in. I answered, "Hello?"

"Ms. Stovall, our flight is at 5 a.m. Shouldn't you be prepared to go to the

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Chapter 70

7/11

airport by now?"

Hearing Nick's voice, I frowned as I inquired, "You're going on the business trip with me?" Stacey told me about a representative from Harrison Credit would be coming along with me, but she didn't specify who it was.

"Mm. Get ready and pick me up. You drove my car away last night!"

Glancing at the clock, I realized it was only 4 a.m. I couldn't help but admire Nick's professionalism. How could he wake up this early when he was in a drunken state just a few hours ago?

After hanging up, I packed up hurriedly

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Chapter 70

10/11

It was a three-hour flight from J City to A City, so I had some sleep, too.

When I woke up, Nick was already freshened up. He told me, "We'll be heading to the branch office to work first. Then, let's go back to the hotel to get some sleep."

Those words sounded weird coming out from him.

I didn't think much and followed him out of the plane in a daze. The branch office sent a car to pick us up, so we arrived there shortly.

As a branch company, the operating model was more or less the same as



model was more or less the same as Fuller Corporation. Once we arrived, the president of the branch office, Howard Wrangler, chatted with us briefly.

We contacted the Finance Department and other relevant departments for a brief meeting. Then, Nick received the relevant documents from them. We left the branch office shortly after.