

My Accidental Husband is a Billionaire ! #Chapter 31 - 31: Her Contributions - Read My Accidental Husband is a Billionaire ! Chapter 31 - 31: Her Contributions

Chapter 31: Her Contributions

After the white tablet entered her mouth, it immediately emitted a refreshing, cool sensation.

Her itching throat seemed to be wrapped in fresh water, and it felt much better.

Mrs. Olsen swallowed the tablet without drinking water.

“Cough....”

She started coughing again.

She smiled bitterly. Just now, for a fleeting moment, she almost thought the tablet was working.

What a wishful thinking.

Mrs. Olsen lay in bed and closed her eyes.

She has been dealing with chronic neurotic coughing for over two decades. She had taken numerous medicines and consulted so many experts over the years, but it hadn't gotten any better...

“Shirley? Shirley! Wake up!”

Mrs. Olsen slowly opened her eyes and saw Taylor standing next to her bed, the entire room bright as day.

Were the hospital's incandescent lights so bright?

Feeling a bit confused, she asked, “What time is it?”

■ ■ Ten in the morning!” Taylor looked at her anxiously. “You should eat something or else your blood sugar will drop...”

Mrs. Olsen was stunned.

She turned her head in confusion. Only then did she notice that the light in the room wasn't coming from the lamps but from the sunlight!

She actually slept through the whole night!

How could that be possible?!

It must be that bottle of medicine! The one Keira gave her!

Aunt South, who was next to her, was so excited that she had tears in her eyes. “Madam, the sleeping pills the doctor gave you yesterday really worked! You actually slept for a full ten hours!”

Mrs. Olsen was astounded. “What sleeping pills?”

Aunt South looked toward Isla, “Mr. Jake got them for you. He heard that you were having trouble sleeping, so he specifically found a strong sleeping pill and added it to the medicine you were taking. We didn't tell you because we were afraid that if you kept thinking about it, you would have even more trouble sleeping. We didn't expect it to work this well!”

Mrs. Olsen hesitated. Find *new* chapters on [novelbin\(.\)com](http://novelbin(.)com)

Was that so?

But sleeping pills only aid sleep. When she woke up today, she clearly felt that her throat was much clearer!

Her gaze fell on the pillow next to her, where the plastic bottle without a label was.

She would try it again tonight...

If she only took sleeping pills and not this medicine, she would then know which one actually worked.

Thinking this, Mrs. Olsen fell silent.

Meanwhile, Taylor looked toward Isla and spoke with relief. “My son-in-law is amazing. I heard that there was a major flu outbreak recently, and the inpatient department is full. They couldn’t find a vacant ward yesterday, and it was Jake who pulled a lot of strings to arrange this one. We are really grateful to him!”

Only then did Mrs. Olsen find out that the ward was also arranged by Jake. “He’s such a good kid.”

Seizing upon the moment, Isla said, “Mom, since Jake is so kind, you should help him too.”

Mrs. Olsen asked, “How can I help?”

Taylor thought of something and said, “Is there some difficulty Jake faces at work?”

Isla nodded, sighing, “His family wants Jake to manage the R&D department, but the researchers there are all senior and not very obedient to Jake. If we could invite Dr. South there, even just as an external technical support, then Jake could stabilize his position.”

Having said that, Isla looked toward Mrs. Olsen.

As she expected, she saw a struggle and hesitation on Mrs. Olsen’s face. Mrs. Olsen has her own principles in dealing with people and matters. She didn’t like to exploit kindness to seek benefits, but she was even more afraid of owing favors.

Mrs. Olsen hesitated a moment, then finally said, “I’ll ask Dr. South, but if he doesn’t agree, then let it be.”

A smile spread across Isla’s face. “Great.” Based on her experience, whenever Mrs. Olsen asked for something, Dr. South never refused.

Mrs. Olsen took out her phone, found Dr. South on WhatsApp, carefully chose her words, and sent a message. “South, do you have a minute? I have a favor to ask.”

When Keira received this message, she had just brought old Mrs. Horton back up from a walk.

She read the message with a frown.

Why did Mrs. Olsen suddenly contact her? Was there an issue?

Was there something wrong with yesterday's drug? Or did it have an allergic reaction?

That drug was actually still in the clinical trial stage, and she had originally planned to wait for the trial to end before giving it to Mrs. Olsen. However, seeing Mrs. Olsen's severe condition, she took it out in advance.

Anxious, Keira asked the nursing staff to bring old Mrs. Horton back to her ward and headed for Mrs. Olsen's ward in a hurry.

Lewis, who was working in the outer office area, saw his grandmother walk in. He instinctively looked behind her but didn't see that slender figure.

His eyes flickered. "Where's Miss Olsen?"

Old Mrs. Horton replied, "She's gone to see her mother."

Lewis raised an eyebrow, "Did something happen to Mrs. Olsen?" Old Mrs. Horton immediately became anxious. "My granddaughter-in-law indeed rushed over just now. Oh, you brat, hurry up and check up on her!"

Lewis pursed his lips.

After a moment of contemplation, he rose to his feet.

Tom follow him in a hurry.

Keira ran into Mrs. Olsen's ward, only to find the ward was filled with many people.

Not only was Jake there, but even Poppy was present.

Somebody must have said something because everyone was laughing. However, the merriment quickly died when she stepped into the room.

Keira stood at the doorway, feeling rather unnecessary.

Mrs. Olsen seemed alright.

She lowered her head and was ready to leave.

Mrs. Olsen wanted to stop her, but seeing all the people in the room, she knew it was best for Keira to leave for now. They could meet alone when there was time...

Poppy, however, opened her mouth. "Hey, isn't that Miss Olsen? Are we not good enough for you now that you've cozied up to old Mrs. Horton?" Keira didn't respond and turned to leave, but Poppy grabbed her, "I heard you're trying your best to please old Mrs. Horton, staying by her bedside all night and doing all sorts of unpleasant chores. Do you think she'll consider you as close as their own kin? What kind of daydream are you having? You're nothing but a plaything to them!

Isla hastily said, "Don't say that. Old Mrs. Horton really likes Keira..."

Poppy interrupted her loudly, "Likes her? Look at what Mr. Jake does for you. That's what people do for someone they like..."

Poppy turned toward Jake Horton, flattering him. "I heard that yesterday they couldn't free up any ward at all. There are many families with decent background who want to get into the hospital, but all of them have to wait in line. It was Mr. Jake who helped us out! That's how Mrs. Olsen got into the VIP ward!"

Jake Horton glanced at Keira and smiled humbly. "My uncles doesn't know about this matter. He would have helped if he knew. I just did what little I could."

"Your little contribution has been of great help to our home!

Poppy turned to Keira Olsen and mocked her again, "Even if Mr. Olsen knew, he wouldn't care about you. No matter how hard you try to please him, he's just toying with you like any Tom, Dick, or Harry..."

Keira clenched her fists but didn't want to argue here to avoid disturbing Mrs. Olsen's rest.

Lewis, who had just arrived, stood outside the ward and heard everything.

His face was stone cold, and he cast a glance at Tom.

Tom took the hint immediately. He cleared his throat and entered the room. “Mrs. Olsen, I’m here to convey Mr. Horton’s regards.. How are you finding the ward? Is it comfortable?”

Chapter 32: Test the Medicine

Translator: Henyee Translations | Editor: Henyee Translations

The room instantly fell silent.

Everyone simultaneously turned to look at Tom, then at Jake.

Jake looked dumbfounded.

Was this ward arranged by his uncle?

Poppy was also stunned, but quickly regained her composure and laughed, “Mr. Jake, I didn’t know you asked Mr. Horton to give us this room...”

Jake’s expression froze.

However, Tom smiled. “Miss Olsen asked Mr. Horton for this room. Mr. Jake, did you also go to Mr. Horton?”

Jake felt like crawling into a hole in embarrassment!

He stuttered, “I made a lot of calls at that time and asked several people for help. They said they would help... It was a misunderstanding.”

Isla felt humiliated!

She clenched her fists tightly, and for the first time, she didn’t find Jake all that aloof...

The strange atmosphere was finally broken by Mrs. Olsen, who coughed a few times and said to Tom, “Please thank Mr. Horton for me. We’re very comfortable here. Once I get better, I’ll visit Old Mrs. Horton.”

Tom said, “As long as you’re comfortable here, Miss Olsen won’t be worried, and Old Mrs. Horton will be happy.”

All the businessmen could infer the implied favoritism toward Keira.

This realization made everyone in the room feel slightly uneasy.

They didn't expect Old Mrs. Horton to favor Keira so much.

Only Mrs. Olsen was genuinely happy.

With Keira living alone outside, she had always been anxious. But since their relationship was rather delicate, she couldn't appear to be too close to Keira. Now that Old Mrs. Horton sincerely cared for Keira, Mrs. Olsen could finally relax!

Keira was slightly surprised.

She hadn't expected it was Lewis who had helped.

She looked at Poppy, a hint of mockery playing on her lips.

Infuriated by her expression, Poppy fumed. "Little brat, what are you proud of? Just because you have a patron doesn't make you any better!"

"Shut up!" Taylor said angrily. "My wife needs to rest. What are you blabbering about? Get your ass back home!"

Poppy stopped talking and seemed a little hurt. "Taylor, I..."

"Leave!"

Poppy's face flushed red. She glared resentfully at Keira before hurriedly exiting the room.

After she left, Keira turned to Mrs. Olsen. "Ma'am, how did you sleep last night?"

Upon hearing this, Mrs. Olsen unconsciously gripped the small medicine bottle hidden under the blanket and said slowly, "I slept very well. It has been a long time since I've slept this comfortably."

"I'm glad to hear that."

Keira didn't explain much but only nodded. "I'll let you rest."

"Alright."

As Keira and Tom left the room, they saw Lewis standing in the hallway.

He was in a suit and tie, which accentuated his long legs, making him look both gentlemanly and unapproachable.

He leaned against the wall and was looking down at his phone. His black hair partially covered his sharp eyebrows and eyes. His side profile, illuminated by the light, appeared defined and cold.

Upon hearing them, he turned to look. His narrow eyes brimmed with icy depth. He said, "Grandmother insisted that I come to check up on you." Despite his indifferent tone, his deep voice warmed Keira Olsen's heart.

She smiled sincerely. "Thank you."

Her amorous eyes were clear and dazzling, filled with innocence and an unintentional charm.

The smile on her lips was even more breathtaking, momentarily dazzling Lewis. Uptodated from n/0/velbln.(co/m

At this time, Jake's voice came from inside.

"Auntie, since you're okay, I'll let you rest."

"Sure. Isla, see Jake out."

The door opened, and Jake and Isla came out.

They instantly noticed Lewis and Keira.

Isla felt as if an enemy was approaching. Her gaze darted between the two as if trying to figure out their relationship.

Jake's face darkened too. He subconsciously asked, "Uncle, what are you doing here?"^h

Lewis said meaningfully, "I don't think I need to report my whereabouts to you."

Such an indifferent reply seemed to bring an invisible pressure.

Jake's palms immediately started to sweat. "That's not what I meant."

He took a deep breath and looked at Keira.

The girl's face had a kind of unabashed beauty.

Mr. Horton was also a good-looking man.

When the two stood together, they were like a match made in heaven!

A strong sense of jealousy overwhelmed Jake, and he couldn't help but speak again, "Miss Olsen, you've been looking after my great-grandmother in the hospital all this time. Doesn't your husband mind?"

Keira was taken aback.

She subconsciously glanced at Mr. Horton, and said with a smirk, "He probably doesn't mind."

Jake's expression changed drastically.

Before he could say anything, Lewis suddenly spoke, "Are you coming back to the ward? Grandma is waiting for you."

Coming back...

Keira hesitated slightly.

It had been a long time since she had heard that expression.

Because she had no home to come back to.

Looking down, she smiled faintly. "Let's go."

The two left together.

Jake's gaze was dark as he stared at Keira from behind.

For a moment, he felt an urge to take her back at all costs!!

But Isla held his arm and said, "Jake, I'll definitely help you get Dr. South's assistance..."

Jake seemed to regain his senses. "Alright."

“I’ll walk you downstairs.”

“Ok.”

After he left, Isla felt a deep sense of crisis.

When she returned to the ward, she saw Mrs. Olsen getting up and moving around. Her eyes flickered.

She walked to the bed and pretended to tidy up the bedspread, before exclaiming, “Mom, why is there a bottle of medicine on your bed?”

Taylor frowned. “Isn’t this the non-warranty medicine that Keira gave you?

Shirley, why did you pick it up again!”

Mrs. Olsen explained, “I took one last night, and it seemed to work...”

“How is that possible? It was clearly the sleeping pill that worked!”

Taylor snatched the bottle and said dismissively, “Who knows where she got the medicine from? How can you just take it? Aren’t you afraid it’ll harm your health?”

Mrs. Olsen hurriedly said, “Don’t throw it away. I won’t take it tonight. I want to see which medicine works!”

Taylor said reluctantly. “Alright.”

Soon, it was night.

Aunt South held the sleeping pill in her hand, looking as if she was holding a magic panacea. After seeing Mrs. Olsen take it, she turned off the light and quietly left the room.

The room quieted down.

Half an hour later, there was still no sound inside.

Aunt South said excitedly, “Mr. Jake’s medicine is a lifesaver for Mrs. Olsen! She hasn’t had a full night’s sleep in over twenty years ...”

Isla pretended to be shy. “Don’t say that. The ward wasn’t arranged by Jake, and

it was such a big embarrassment today...”

Upon hearing this, Taylor said, “Compared to the ward, this medicine is the most important! Even if Shirley were in the presidential suite, she wouldn’t be able to sleep without it. Keira went out of her way to seek Mr. Davis’s help to show off and brag. What? Are we supposed to be grateful and indebted to her?”

After that, he glanced in disgust at the bottle of medicine Keira had sent. “Aunt South, get rid of this stupid medicine. Don’t let Shirley take it again!”

As soon as he said those words, a suppressed, severe coughing sound came from the ward!

Chapter 33: Keira Is Dr. South?

Taylor was slightly startled.

He exchanged a glance with Aunt South and immediately rushed into the ward.

One of the characteristics of a nervous cough was that it tended to get worse at night.

Aunt South switched on the light.

Everyone could see Mrs. Olsen sitting halfway up in bed, her hand covering her mouth, her face red from the effort of coughing.

She clutched her chest. Her frail body trembled violently with each cough. The sight was alarming.

Taylor steadied her by the shoulder. “Shirley, are you all right?”

But Mrs. Olsen said, “Medicine...” Then she coughed again.

Taylor was puzzled.

Aunt South, however, understood and immediately rushed out to bring in the medicine bottle given by Keira. “Mrs. Olsen, the medicine is here!”.

Mrs. Olsen nodded, and as Aunt South anxiously opened the bottle and was about to hand her a tablet, her hand was stopped by Isla.

Isla frowned and said, “Mom’s cough suddenly worsened. Could it have been caused by this medicine? I think it’s better not to take medicine with an unknown origin...”

Her intuition told her that the medicine might actually work!

That’s why she couldn’t let Mrs. Olsen take it!

She looked at Taylor.

When someone is prejudiced against another, everything the latter did seemed wrong.

Keira was the daughter of Poppy, and that was Taylor’s biggest prejudice against her!

As expected, Taylor said angrily, “Keira is always causing more harm than good! I’ve always said she’s unreliable. Despite your kindness to her, Shirley, she tries to harm you with this medicine!”

Isla’s heart leaped in satisfaction.

Mrs. Olsen, however, seized a momentary relief from her cough and looked to Aunt South, “Give me the... medicine!”

Aunt South, ever so loyal, immediately handed the tablet to Mrs. Olsen, who promptly put it in her mouth...

“Shirley!”

As Taylor yelled in alarm and tried to stop her, he realized Mrs. Olsen had stopped coughing!

She took a deep breath after her fit of coughing subsided, and then looked at them seriously. “It’s confirmed. It’s Keira’s medicine that worked.”

When Mrs. Olsen's coughing finally stopped and she fell asleep, the others all came out to the outer room again.

Isla's face was pale. She bit her lip and said, "Dad, is Keira really so capable that she actually managed to buy an effective medicine?"

"What capability does she have? It must have been Mr. Horton who helped her buy it."

Taylor frowned. "It seems old Mrs. Horton really does favor her..."

Isla immediately clenched her fists.

In the VIP ward.

"What did we eat for lunch today?"

The old lady racked her brain. "Oatmeal? No... it was pasta! Brat, am I right?" Lewis nodded with a smile, "Correct."

The old lady was pleased. "I know I don't have any problems. My brain works fine!"

Lewis didn't say anything.

Upon close inspection, one could tell that his eyes didn't mirror his smile. In fact, they had rice for lunch. His grandmother had forgotten again.

Her condition seemed to be worsening, and her memory began to degenerate...

At this moment, Keira suddenly said, "Grandma, what color was Mr. Horton's tie yesterday?"

The old lady immediately said, "Purple! This brat is very particular. He even wore diamond cufflinks."

"And the day before yesterday?"

"Blue! I bought him that blue tie!"

Keira smiled lightly and looked meaningful at Lewis, "Grandma remembers the things she cares about very clearly."

Lewis looked at her.

She was sitting in the recliner, sinking deeply into it.

She was lazily playing with her phone. With her head lowered, her long, black hair casually draped over her back, accentuating her fair skin and giving her an overall soft glow.

What she just said was intended to comfort him.

His anxiety gradually subsided.

The old lady suddenly chuckled. "Granddaughter-in-law, I was right, wasn't I?" Keira said, "Yes."

The old lady then looked at Lewis, "Brat, did you see that? Your wife even remembers clearly what you wear every day! She's thinking about you all the time!"

Keira was shocked!

She merely has a photographic memory! She really didn't intentionally remember these things!

She wanted to explain something but noticed that Lewis was staring at the computer in front of him, completely ignoring them.

He must have not taken the old woman's words to heart, right?

In that case, she wouldn't explain to avoid seeming overly defensive.

Keira didn't notice the slight redness on his earlobes and once again focused on her work, the finishing touches of Alzheimer's research, a problem that had her utterly stumped.

She rose to her feet. "I'm going for a walk."

Just as she was about to take the Shiba Inu, "Kitten," for a stroll, someone lightly tapped her shoulder.

She turned around to see a middle-aged man with a rowdy appearance standing behind her, grinning. "Niece, long time no see!"

Keira's face darkened.

This man was Poppy's brother, her uncle, Finley Hill.

He was jobless and thoroughly addicted to gambling.

He spoke with a foul breath, and his yellow, rotten teeth made her nauseous. Keira took a step back. "What are you here for?"

Finley rubbed his hands, and said sleazily, "Oh my, I hear that my dear niece has gotten into the good graces of the Horton family. I'm a bit tight on cash lately. Could you lend me some money?"

Keira sneered.

Poppy was extremely devoted to her brother. She squatted in the Olsen's house without leaving and gave all the living expenses provided by the Olsen's to this brother of hers.

After Keira left the Olsen family, Finley had shamelessly gone to see her several times for money.

Later, presumably seeing that she really had no money, he finally backed off. Find *new* chapters on [novelbin\(.\)com](http://novelbin(.)com)

Who would have thought he'd show up again now...

Keira said, "I have no money."

Finley didn't believe her. "You serve that old woman so well, and she hasn't given you any money?"

Keira narrowed her eyes. "Not yet. Maybe she will in the future?"

Finley immediately laughed. "Then you must lend me some money when you get it. If you give me enough, I can tell you a secret!"

"Fine."

Finley didn't dare to make a fuss here. After all, the VIP ward was inhabited by either the rich or the powerful. With security patrolling nearby, he chuckled and left.

Keira gave a snort of derision.

Just then, her phone rang. She took it out to see that it was Mrs. Olsen.

She quickly answered the call.

Isla was anxiously pacing the room.

She was relying on Dr. South to secure her position in the Horton family!

But Dr. South hadn't replied to Mrs. Olsen's messages all day today!

Jake had sent a few more WhatsApp messages, persistently asking about Dr.

South. Isla couldn't keep stalling...

Isla suddenly stopped in her tracks and quietly entered the ward.

Mrs. Olsen was fast asleep, so Isla took the phone from her mother. She then went outside to the corridor.

She took a deep breath, unlocked the phone, found "South" in the contacts, and dialed the number.

The call was answered after three rings.

The person on the other end answered with a clear voice. "Hello, Mrs. Olsen.

What can I do for you?"

Upon hearing this voice, Isla froze. That voice was. "Keira?!"

Chapter 34: Nonsense

Isla's eyes widened in disbelief as she stared at her mother's phone.

She wouldn't mistake that voice!

The voice on the other end of the phone paused slightly, then it turned colder still. "Isla, what are you doing with Mrs. Olsen's phone?"

It was her!!

Isla felt as if she had seen a ghost.

No, it couldn't be...

She glanced at her phone sharply, suddenly thinking of something. She asked, "Is this your phone number?"

Keira said, "What kind of question is that?"

That's when it dawned on Isla!

She almost forgot that Keira's nickname was also South, which was what Mrs. Olsen would sometimes call her.

A tremendous sigh of relief escaped her lips, followed by boundless fury. "You're such a sycophant! To get my mother's favor, you even put her family name in your nickname. Are you worthy of being called that?"

Keira lowered her eyes.

The name was something she had chosen when she was in elementary school.

"South" indeed came from the surname of Mrs. Olsen, aka Jodie South.

Keira was young at the time and chose it simply because she liked it, never thinking about whether it would bother Mrs. Olsen.

She was the daughter of a mistress, yet she adopted the wife's last name. Keira wondered what Mrs. Olsen felt at the time. She would never know now.

She said indifferently, "Did you call just to say this?"

"Of course not!" Isla tore off her mask of decency and said viciously, "I just want to tell you, even if you've charmed Mr. Horton through old Mrs. Horton, you're nothing more than a mistress and a toy! Mr. Horton is a married man! I'm different though. I'll marry Jake and become a legitimate daughter-in-law of the Horton family!"

Keira said, "Then... congratulations?"

Isla felt as if she was punching cotton. She left a threat in the end. "You can't just talk about feelings in a wealthy family. I have connections with Dr. South. I'll always be in an unbeatable position!"

Keira's mouth twitched after the phone call.

Since when had she become one of Isla's pawns?

As she pondered, a WhatsApp call came in again...

This time, it was from Mrs. Olsen. She was calling "Dr. South" on WhatsApp.

Keira operated on her phone, picked it up, and said casually, "Hello."

Her voice was changed by a device.

The appearance of Finley made her understand that some things were better kept low-key to avoid unwelcome relatives.

Isla said respectfully, "Hello, Dr. South, sorry for the disturbance. I'm Isla Olsen, the daughter of Jodie South. I am calling on the Horton Group's behalf. They would like to invite you to join their R&D team. My mother also wishes for the same. May I ask if you..."

"Not interested," Keira interrupted her coldly.

Isla halted. She wanted to say something more, but Keira said, "I only take responsibility for companies under Mrs. Olsen's name."

With that, she hung up.

Monday.

Keira left her puppy with the old lady and dutifully went to work.

As she stepped out of the hospital gate, contemplating whether to take a taxi or the subway, a Bentley slowly stopped beside her.

Lewis looked straight ahead, saying indifferently, "Get in."

Keira refused, "I don't think I should do that."

The two weren't on such good terms yet.

Lewis said, "Grandma asked me to drive you to work."

"You can just tell her you did that."

Lewis glanced at her, "I need a photo for proof." Find new chapters on [novelbin\(.\)com](http://novelbin(.)com)

"Fine..."

Keira opened the back door and sat next to Lewis.

Lewis raised his phone and took a selfie of the two of them.

Keira posed with her two fingers raised and a sweet smile.

She tilted her head, and a few strands of hair fluttered across Lewis's face, leaving him rigid like he was electrocuted for a moment.

In the passenger seat, Tom hesitated for a moment. He didn't recall old Mrs. Horton making this request before they left.

He must have missed it.

After taking the photo, Keira sat up straight and started busying herself on her phone.

The two remained silent until they reached the underground parking lot of the Horton Group.

Lewis took the exclusive elevator and left with Tom.

Keira, on the other hand, took the staff elevator up to the R&D department.

At this time, the managerial staff of the R&D department were in a tense meeting.

The general manager of the R&D department announced a position change. "After the decision of the company's top management, Jake, the team leader, is promoted to the vice president, who will be responsible for the technical issues of the R&D department in the future!"

Someone asked, "Why is this announcement so sudden?"

The manager said, "Vice President Horton successfully invited Dr. South to be our technical support in the R&D department. This is a big deal for the R&D department. Although Dr. South doesn't work in the office, if any of you have any problems, you can ask Vice President Horton to communicate with him and solve the problem. Now, let's have Vice President Horton say a few words."

Jake stood up and spoke directly, "From now on, the research and development staff of the first and second teams have to listen to my commands. Mr. Riley, I presume you won't violate the company's regulation?"

Jalen, who had been working overtime all weekend at the company and had pulled two all-nighters, was wearing casual clothes with an air of irritation. He snorted coldly. "There's another regulation at the company that doesn't allow skipping ranks for reporting or assigning tasks. So, about my staff... you can only delegate tasks through me!"

Jake's face darkened, "Mr. Riley, I see you don't have enough energy to manage the staff of the first team. Have you solved your core problem yet? Although the R&D department is divided into teams, it's also a whole. Your delays affect the progress of the entire project!"

Jalen abruptly stood up. "You also studied renewable energy, so you should know how difficult the research is. You make it sound like you can solve my core problem!"

Jake spoke calmly, "I cannot solve it, but I have someone who can. Do you need me to ask Dr. South for help?"

Jalen scoffed. "I didn't know you could be so kind."

Jake's eyes were filled with a cold light. "We're all in the R&D department, so of course, I'll show extra care. But I need one of your team's technical staff to come over and assist me. How about that new intern? Deal?"

Jalen knew from the start that he was after Keira!

He said coldly, "No deal. I'll do it myself slowly. Don't bother asking Dr. South for me!"

Jake said gloomily, "Mr. Riley, don't think that hiding behind my uncle can help you do as you please here! You're responsible for delaying the entire R&D

department's progress! I'll give you two more days. If you don't solve that problem, I'm going to request your dismissal or demotion!"

Jalen walked out. "Then let's see if you're capable of that!"

He was arrogant in the office, but once he stepped outside, Jalen lost his composure.

He knew even if Lewis wanted to protect him, if Jake really put forward a request, it would be troublesome!

Jalen entered the first team section of the R&D department and kicked a chair angrily.

Luca was late for work. He quietly went to his workstation, afraid of causing trouble with his agitated team leader.

He turned on his computer, opened his inbox, and saw an unread email.

Huh?

An email from Keira...

Did she really solve the core problem?

Chapter 35*. Solution

Seriously?

Even Jalen, a Ph.D. who returned to the country after studying abroad, couldn't solve such a core issue immediately!

Keira was only an undergraduate. Even if Professor Miller praised her talent, could she solve it no matter how well she defied expectations? Uptoodated from n/0/velbln.(co/m

Luca thought those things as he clicked the mouse. He opened that email, and then, he blinked!!

"Bang!"

Jalen slammed the documents he held onto the table and raised his chin slightly. "Meeting time!"

Luca didn't respond immediately. Instead, he was staring at that email.

"Luca! Is your butt glued to the chair?!"

Jalen was in a bad mood, and seeing Luca moving slowly, he shouted angrily.

Luca glanced at the content of the email, saw that it was a blank file, and immediately stood up. "Coming. I'm coming..."

Keira failed to solve the problem, and she had probably sent this email by mistake.

When he left his computer, the attachment that had just finished buffering in the email was lying quietly in the interface...

In the office.

Jalen frowned and briefly explained the situation at the just concluded meeting. He didn't mention Keira and just said, "In two days, if this core issue cannot be solved, I'll resign."

The moment these words came out, the office became quiet.

Jalen did have a temper and often scolded them, but he was a qualified team leader, and they all respected him.

After a while of silence, everyone started talking.

"Jalen, just tell us what to do."

"Yes, for the next two days, we won't sleep. Let's do our best!"

Jalen delegated work, increasing each employee's workload several times, yet nobody complained.

It was only after the meeting that Jalen felt like he had forgotten something...

He suddenly turned to Luca. "Where's Keira?"

How come she wasn't at work yet?

Luca shook his head, but another person said, “She came in in the morning, clocked in, and then went to the library.”

The complexion on Jalen’s face instantly turned gloomy!

He was struggling against Jake for her, but that woman had gone out again?!

Someone couldn’t help saying, “Jalen, she’s too ungrateful. If she worked with us on this project, she would gain so much work experience!”

Luca didn’t agree with Keira’s approach but still spoke for her. “She just graduated from college. She doesn’t understand these things... Besides, our stuff is too complicated for her. She probably won’t understand...”

“We’re a team. Even if she doesn’t understand, she should still stay and help at this key moment, right? Is she taking a salary and not working? Who does that!”

“That’s right. What’s wrong with this girl? Is our team beginning to keep loafers?”

Jalen took a deep breath, feeling that Keira was ungrateful!

On the roof.

Tom had been keeping an eye on the situation below and knew more about it than Group One. He was complaining to Lewis.

“Jalen is working frantically for her while she is leisurely reading in the library all morning... She is a real femme fatale!”

Lewis frowned, his cool scrutinizing eyes glancing at Tom. “Reading all morning?”

“Yes, she clocked in and went there. She hasn’t even had lunch yet!”

“What book?”

“I didn’t pay attention to that. I assume it’s a paper on new energy?”

“...You assume?”

The clear displeasure in Lewis's voice gave Tom a chill, but he suddenly realized something. "She's been targeting the library since she started working, so her purpose in joining Horton Group is to search for information?"

What book she was reading became hugely important!

Tom bowed his head, "I'll find out now!"

But Lewis had already stood up. He was buttoning his blazer as he walked briskly out, only leaving a word behind. "Don't bother."

He quickly arrived at the library and found her among the books in the neurology category.

She was looking up, her eyes swiftly sweeping across a row of books, then coming to rest at the highest level of the shelf.

She then saw something. She dragged over a ladder, climbed up, and reached for the book.

She was wearing a loose hooded sweatshirt today, along with skinny jeans.

Her movement raised the lower hem of her sweatshirt, revealing her leg.

From Lewis's perspective, her legs were slender and straight, and her jeans wrapped around the pretty curves of her derriere, above which was her fair waist!!

Lewis paused and slowly looked away. Her fair waist seemed to be imprinted on his brain and sparked a thought in his mind. "Her waist is so thin that I can wrap my hand around it."

Keira didn't notice him. After getting the book, she casually flipped through it, and her eyes suddenly lit up.

The book she wanted to find was this one!

Overjoyed, she momentarily forgot she was still on the ladder and stepped forward as if she wanted to go to the seat next to her, but her foot missed the step, and she lost her balance!

Now she was in trouble.

Just as Keira thought of this, she fell into the warm and strong arms of someone...

It was only then she realized that Lewis caught her.

The two were very close, and she could smell his vanilla fragrance. His large hand was holding her butt, and the burning heat from his palm went through her thin jeans...

Keira's heart suddenly skipped a beat, and she felt so embarrassed!

But she understood that he didn't mean to do that. It was just a coincidence.

Keira hastily jumped down, calming herself down. "Mr. Horton, thank you."

She blushed a little.

Lewis paused, subconsciously looking at his empty hand.

She was so light and soft... The touch just now made him suddenly feel a bit parched, He had been running the business for years, but for the first time, he felt a little at a loss.

He lowered his gaze, his eyelashes slightly trembling. He controlled himself and said, "You're welcome."

There was a moment of awkward silence.

Keira cleared her throat. "I just remembered I had something to do in the R&D department. I need to go back."

"...Okay."

With Lewis's permission, Keira quickly hid the book she just found in a corner out of sight, worried someone else might borrow it, then left the library.

By the time she reached the elevator, her face was still burning a little.

Keira casually grabbed something to eat and returned to Group On in the research department.

As soon as she entered, she noticed something was wrong right away.

The colleagues who were originally quite friendly toward her now seemed like they didn't see her...

Kira didn't understand and just thought everyone was not familiar with her.

In the afternoon, she went to the library again.

But she was stopped by Luca, who said in a low voice, "Don't go in the afternoon..."

"Why?"

Kira was puzzled: "Didn't they say that as long as my own work is done, I can go?"

Luca immediately looked around and indeed saw the odd looks from his colleagues.

He too started to become impatient and said bitterly, "Yes, once the work is done, you can go, but have you finished the work I assigned you last week?"

"Yes, it's done!"

"I know it's difficult and you can't solve it overnight, so you need to stay here and..... wait, what?!"

Chapter 36: Astonishment

Luca was in a stun and stared at her in disbelief.

Keira casually said, "I said, it was sent to your inbox last Friday."

Luca swallowed. "Wasn't that an empty email?"

Keira was bewildered.

Luca realized something and ran to his workstation. Looking at his email on the computer, he indeed saw the attachment!

But he still couldn't believe it. He opened the attachment nervously!

The development of new energy is different from software coding.

Not only did they use computer simulators, but they also had to go into the lab for real experiments.

Keira had finished the task assigned to her last Friday, so Luca spent all morning in the lab assisting Jalen, and that's why he didn't notice.

Once the attachment was downloaded, Luca couldn't wait to look at it.

As he read through it, he immersed himself in the report.

The application of core technology was a bit complex. Some of it took him quite a while to understand.

Seeing his silence, Keira prepared to take the elevator to the 60th floor where the archives were located.

The elevator arrived, and she entered it just as a group of members did.

The R&D Department and the laboratory were located on different floors of the tower, and they each had their own tasks to do.

"Beep!"

The elevator alarm beeped, indicating that it was overloaded.

Someone said, "Keira, you better get off."

Their tone was tinged with displeasure.

Keira was taken aback and raised her head, "I wasn't the last one to get on."

The person scoffed. "Even though that's the case, work is first come first served. We're in a hurry, and you're so idle. If you're not busy, why don't you get off first?"

The others immediately echoed.

"Exactly. You don't actually need to work; you're just going to read books!"

"Hurry up and go. Don't waste our time!"

“Our team leader is still waiting for us. Would you be responsible if we were late?”

Keira frowned, detecting the hostility of the group.

Although she didn't quite understand what was going on, she took a deep breath and got off the elevator.

She didn't need to argue about something like that. *Read latest chapters at [novelbin\(.\)co/m](http://novelbin(.)co/m)*

As a researcher, she understood the exasperation when a problem couldn't be resolved promptly. Besides, there were eight elevators in total. It was just a matter of wasting a bit more time.

Once the elevator doors closed, someone in the group suddenly whispered.

“Were we a bit too harsh just now?”

“She's just so tactless... She doesn't do any work at all, and yet when we achieve results, she reaps the benefits too. That's not fair!”

Keira entered the 60th floor through another elevator and hastily looked for a book she put away.

As long as she studied hard, she was sure she could solve old Mrs. Horton's problem soon.

But then, she discovered her book was gone!

Keira was dumbfounded.

She hurriedly looked around the bookshelf, but no matter how much she tried, she couldn't find the book.

Nobody nearby seemed to be reading it...

The books in the Horton Group's library clearly couldn't be taken out!

Where did the book go?

Suddenly, she realized something...

There was only one person in the company who could get a book out of here!

On the top floor.

Lewis was engrossed with his own eyebrows drawn together as he flipped through the thick volume in his hands.

The book was about neuroscience.

Briefly familiar with the subject due to his grandmother's health, he still found the book complex and difficult to understand. He was also curious to know why Keira was reading it.

Tom provided Lewis with a detailed report of Keira's actions downstairs. He then added, "Boss, Keira is simply taking advantage of Mrs. Horton's fondness for her and acting as she pleases! You even arranged for her to be in a department that matched her major, to give her a chance to learn and yet she shows no gratitude!"

Lewis coldly replied, "She's not really here to work."

Tom was perplexed.

He couldn't help but feel that the boss seemed to be speaking up for her.

It must be his illusion!

He then asked, "This book doesn't seem to have much relevance. Should we return it?"

Lewis tapped on the book, thinking about the girl's anticipation when she saw it today. He suddenly remembered the feeling of her in his arms earlier...

All of a sudden, he felt dry-mouthed, "No need for now."

Keira had wanted to go upstairs to get the book from Lewis, but when she remembered their hug earlier, she suddenly became shy.

In the end, she strolled back to the R&D department.

Just leaving the elevator, she spotted Jalen and some team members drinking coffee in the lounge, trying to stay awake.

They all had weary expressions on their faces.

Seeing Keira's laid-back demeanor, someone couldn't help but speak up:

"Keira, this is a company, not a shopping mall for you to loiter around!"

"Exactly, we're all so busy right now. Don't you feel ashamed not offering to help?"

"Do you even understand? Being involved in our projects can help you gain work experience!"

"We are all on the same team. If the project is successful, the bonus is equally divided. We never looked down on you for being an intern, but you can't be this unreasonable, right? You just want to earn money without doing anything?" "Although you're a special case here, we have never minded your lack of ability. We thought we could guide you, but your indifference to work is outrageous!" Keira paused, asking seriously, "So, what can I help with?"

"You don't understand the technical stuff, so you could at least help us with odd jobs. Print some stuff, run errands, or get some coffee!"

Upon hearing this, Keira frowned. "I'm sorry, that's not part of my job."

Having started working since junior high, she understood workplace rules.

Indeed, the salary that Horton Group offered her was okay, but the three tasks she completed last Friday were surely worth the pay.

She had no idea that the minor issue she finally resolved last week was the core problem that their entire team had been racking their brains about.

Having said this, Keira was about to enter the office.

The team members, however, were incensed by her remarks.

"What kind of person is she? She has no real skills, yet she's here putting on airs like a princess. How arrogant!"

"We can't understand why the company would hire someone like her!"

Watching Keira's nonchalant demeanor and hearing these complaints, Jalen frowned even more.

He wanted to help Keira, but she looked irredeemable!

To think he had even stood up against Jake for her, he felt like such a fool!

Jalen slammed his hand down on the table with a fury. “Keira, if you don’t want to work, you’re welcome to leave! We don’t need freeloaders on our team!!”

Inside the office, Luca was now filled with excitement and fanatic fervor. He was still engrossed with the email.

He finally understood it!

Luca shot up from his seat, ran to the door, and excitedly grabbed Jalen’s arm!!

Chapter 37: Touching

“It’s solved! It’s really solved!”

Luca shouted excitedly, “She actually solved it!”

Jalen was slightly taken aback and frowned. “Have you lost your mind?!”

The rest of the team members also impatiently turned their attention to him.

“Luca, what are you doing?”

“What’s the matter with you this afternoon? We’ve been busy in the lab, but you disappeared. What did you solve?”

“Did you solve our core problem?”

As soon as these words came out, Luca immediately nodded. “Yes, The problem is solved!”

He dragged Jalen toward his workstation and pointed at the computer. “Jalen, look! We weren’t able to solve it because we were biased. It can be done like this...”

He roughly explained the solution flow he had just understood. After he finished, the entire team was shocked.

“So it could be done like this!”

“Luca, you are impressive!”

“Jalen won’t need to resign!”

While everyone else was in awe, Jalen, who was staring at the computer, suddenly noticed the email was sent by Keira...

He was slightly stunned and looked at Luca surprisingly. “This solution is from...”

“It’s from Keira! She gave it to me last Friday, but I didn’t check it out because it was the end of the working day!”

At Luca’s words, all the team members looked at Keira in disbelief.

How could this be?

They had been wrestling with this problem for a month, was it really cracked by this young woman standing in front of them?!

Last Friday... She just started the job!

Keira stood there quietly, exuding an aloof and indifferent aura.

Amazement seemed to emerge from her eyes, and she asked indifferently, “So, this is the problem you’ve been wrestling with?” Get the *latest novels* on (.)/om

Everyone was dumbfounded.

Why did they feel like the words “that’s it?” were written all over her face?

Everyone swallowed, still finding it hard to believe. “Aren’t you just an undergraduate?”

Hearing these words, Keira said seriously, “Abilities aren’t determined by educational qualifications.”

Everyone sobered up for a moment.

After a moment of silence, someone spoke up, "I'm sorry for treating you that way in the elevator."

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said you were earning without working. You alone did what our whole team couldn't do."

"I said you should learn from me, but I was really overestimating myself. You wouldn't learn anything from us with your skills..."

"We've belittled you!"

Everyone here was a simple-minded researcher.

Keira knew clearly that these people only treated her that way before out of frustration.

She said lightly, "It's okay."

Jalen slowly walked toward her, still looking arrogant. Clenching his jaw, he extended his hand to her. "Welcome to the team."

Initially, she was forcefully squeezed into the team due to her connections, but now, he had recognized her capabilities.

Clap, clap, clap!

There was suddenly applause at the door.

Everyone turned their heads to see the research department's director and a dark-faced Jake walk in.

The director of the research department said, "Young people today shouldn't be underestimated! I didn't expect Miss Olsen's professional abilities to be so strong."

Jake stared at Keira, his eyes full of complicated emotions.

He certainly knew about Keira's talent in academic fields. His affection for her over the years wasn't entirely due to her looks, but he didn't expect her to be able to solve the team's core technical problem!

Such a talent would definitely fly high if given the opportunity to further her studies!

Her future achievements might not be inferior to Dr. South...

But that was in the future. In the short term, Dr. South was beyond her reach!

Jake clenched his fists, his gaze gradually becoming determined.

He desperately needed to control the research department and consolidate his position at the Horton Group. He had no time to wait for her growth.

Moreover, she was an illegitimate daughter...

He couldn't possibly marry her, considering her status or capability.

Suppressing the hesitation, he glared at Jalen in a sinister manner. "I was actually considering letting Dr. South help you if you couldn't finish the task in time..."

The team members' eyes widened at the words.

"My god, Dr. South!"

"Receiving guidance from Dr. South or working with him would be my ultimate dream!"

"If I could meet Dr. South, I'd rather remain single for life!"

Listening to the reactions of the crowd, Jalen replied with a hardened face, "We won't bother Dr. South with such trivial issues."

However, Jake said, "Dr. South is basically our technical support. It would be right for him to lend a hand."

Keira frowned slightly upon hearing this.

She clearly refused Isla. How did she become the technical support for the Horton Group?

Looking at Jake's confident demeanor, Isla must have lied again!

Jake narrowed his eyes and continued. “Jalen, actually, I happen to need an assistant who knows the technique, so I considered adjusting Keira’s position. You and I are both core members of the research department. There’s no need to be at odds. As long as you agree, I’ll arrange for Dr. South to provide technical support to you right away.”

He said this on purpose, just to let the members of Group One know that as long as they gave up Keira, he could get them in touch with Dr. South!

The attraction of Dr. South to these researchers was too great.

Group One’s members would certainly oppose Jalen’s decision...

Keira’s face darkened as well, feeling extremely irritated by Jake.

She looked at the staff members on the team and saw their faces change. They understood the implications...

Everyone exchanged glances, all with indecisive expressions on their faces.

Keira’s eyes dimmed.

She just started working a few days ago. Although the team members were good to her last week, they’d only known her for a day and a half...

Jake looked at the expressions of team one’s members, knowing that his scheme to stir up strife was working. Therefore, he continued.” Jalen, do you agree to let her go now? In fact, letting Keira follow me will be better for her future...”

Jalen grimaced and firmly replied, “No.”

Keira blinked, a little surprised.

Jake chuckled. “Our company has always been very democratic. You can’t be the only one to decide on the team’s matters. If you don’t let her go, do the other members agree? Does the team really not need Dr. South?”

After he said this, everyone on the team immediately fell silent.

Jalen stood up straight, looking angrily at the team members.

Keira suddenly laughed.

She didn't want to reveal her identity initially to avoid being harassed, but now she didn't want to go through any unnecessary tests of humanity either...

She looked directly at Jake and said coldly, "Did you ask for my consent before using Dr. South as a bargaining chip?"

Chapter 38: Face-Slapping

"Why should I ask you?"

Jake sneered. "Keira, this is a personnel change within the Horton Group, your

opinions are irrelevant."

"What about Dr. South's opinion?"

Keira's tone was very light, with a hint of mockery in her expression.

Jake was taken aback. "What does Dr. South's opinion have to do with you?"

Could she know Dr. South?

The smile on Keira's lips grew colder. "I am..."

Before she could say the words "Dr. South", Luca suddenly stepped forward, blocking her way.

- "Til follow Jalen's instructions'."

Keira's pupils contracted in shock as she looked at Luca.

The other members of the team also laughed and chimed in.

"Yes, we'll follow Jalen's instructions'."

Keira looked incredulously at the team members.

just half an hour ago, they were attacking her for not working effectively, but

now, they were unequivocally standing with her.

Jake wasn't just a deputy head of the R&D Department, but he was also the legitimate grandson of the Horton family.

Once his power became invincible, how could these people, who had enraged him, continue to work at Horton Group?

But they weren't considering this at all...

Keira's throat tightened, and there was a smile in her eyes.

Jake's face grew even uglier. He suppressed his anger and sneered. "It seems that the pressure of R&D on you all isn't as much as I thought, hence the lack of need for Dr. South's help. In that case, I presume the final task of this project wouldn't be much of a challenge for you all? Have the solution submitted by

the end of this Friday."

The entire project timeline was divided into two parts, with teams one and two responsible for one part each.

The biggest challenge of the project was to perfectly integrate these two parts.

Handing over this task to Group One wasn't an issue. Jalen could certainly solve the problem in a couple of months. However, Jake had only given them a week!

Jalen protested angrily, "This is totally unreasonable!"

Jake simply retorted: "If Dr. South were to do it, it would be solved in three days. You don't need Dr. South's help because you think you're great, right? One week is more than enough!"

Having left those words, he turned and left.

Keira's eyes darkened slightly. She followed him out of the office and said, "Shall we talk?"

Jake narrowed his eyes, and the two went into the corridor outside.

Keira looked at him. "Care to make a bet?"

The sudden proposition made Jake feel bewildered.

He was reminded of his senior year in college when he had also used this method to pursue her.

He had said to her, "Keira, do you dare to bet? Let's see who finishes their graduation thesis first. The one who loses must grant the winner a request."

She had looked at him in a way that suggested that she found him childish, but she eventually nodded in agreement.

He had stayed up several nights in a row to complete his thesis successfully.

When he went to find her, he proposed to gift her something at the graduation ceremony, which she shouldn't refuse...

But in the end, that gift was never given.

She was an illegitimate daughter. This rendered his four years of pursuit seemingly pathetic!

Jake's expression gradually turned contemptuous as he looked at Keira. "Why should I bet with you?"

Keira goaded him on. "Are you afraid of losing to me again?"

Jake was startled. "Again?"

Keira took out her phone, opened her email and handed it to him. "I won last time."

Jake looked at the time of the email on her phone, only to find out that she submitted her thesis the day after they made their bet!

He narrowed his eyes.

Only then did he realize that he had never caught up to her pace...

His male ego couldn't stop him from asking, "What's the bet?"

Keira slowly said, “If Group One can submit the solution before the end of this Friday, and Dr. South has yet to provide you with a solution, then you will never interfere with Group One’s work again!

She wasn’t going to stay here for a long time, so she wanted to help her colleagues in Group One resolve their future concerns.

Jake sneered. “If you guys don’t hand it in, but Dr. South provides me with a solution, you’ll have to follow my orders from now on!”

“Deal.”

Jake looked at her decisive demeanor and couldn’t help but ask, “Keira, I know you’re excellent in your field, but what makes you think you can beat Dr. South?”

Keira sneered. “Do you really think that Dr. South is going to help you solve the problem? Did he promise you in person that he would serve as technical support for Horton Group?”

Jake was taken aback.

Keira didn’t pay him any more attention, she went back to Group One in the R&D Department, only to find everyone sighing.

When they saw her, they quickly exchanged glances and intentionally started making comments.

“Hey, meeting Dr. South isn’t really that exciting... He’s a high and mighty god. Even if we meet him once, it’s not like we’ll be instantly enlightened!”

“Yes. If I meet him once, will my IQ increase to 250?”

“Keira, don’t worry. This project is so challenging. Even if we can’t complete it, what can Jake do to us?”

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Even Jalen coughed loudly and roared. “Enough! Can’t you see that new work has been assigned? What are you all gossiping about here?! Get to work! Meet me in the conference room. We’re redistributing the tasks!”

“Coming!”

Keira watched as everyone rushed into the conference room, then casually sauntered in after them.

Jalen seemed to be waiting for her. Only after she entered did he start distributing the tasks...

At the end of the day, Keira thought everyone would need to work overtime, but surprisingly, everyone packed their things and left.

Keira, with her laptop in hand, headed for the underground parking lot.

She didn't notice that after she left, all of her colleagues from Group One who had already left returned to work overtime.

In the underground parking lot, inside a Bentley.

Tom asked, “Boss, shall we go?”

“There's no rush.”

Lewis said lightly, still holding a thick book in his hand.

Tom was just about to ask who he was waiting for when he saw Keira approaching and getting into the car.

Only then did Lewis look up. “Let's go.”

Tom was dumbfounded.

Was Lewis waiting for Miss Olsen to leave together?

The car drove smoothly along the road.

Keira looked at Lewis and glanced at the book in his hands, intending to borrow it for reference. But remembering her work, she decided to wait and borrow it three days later.

The two of them didn't say anything on the way back and quickly returned to the hospital.

Just as they reached the VIP ward area on the third floor, they could hear Poppy's loud voice." Mrs. Horton, I came especially to see you... What a pleasure..."

Old Mrs. Horton blocked the entrance to the ward, glaring at Poppy. "Get out! If you don't leave, I'll have someone beat you up!"

Poppy forced a smile, playing the part of a haggler. "I'm Keira's mother. You love Keira the most, don't you? You shouldn't treat me like this for her sake..." "You are not her mother!" Old Mrs. Horton was adamant. "Mrs. Olsen is her mother!"

At this statement, Poppy broke out into a cold sweat and shot back, "How do you know?!"

Chapter 39: Truth

Translator: Henyee Translations | Editor: Henyee Translations

Poppy was terrified.

Only she and her brother, Finley, knew about her switching the girls!

She had never mentioned it to her real daughter, Isla.

How could Old Mrs. Horton know?

Moreover, she spoke in an assertive tone, not of suspicion, but of certainty!

Seeing Keira and Lewis approaching, Poppy looked even more uneasy in her guilt!

They hadn't heard what she'd just said, had they?

Old Mrs. Horton huffed out, "I know. You bullied my granddaughter-in-law. Get the *latest novels* on (.)/om

You're a bad woman!"

The old lady rambled on and on. It seemed like something was wrong with her mind...

Poppy breathed a sigh of relief. She approached Keira with the thermos in hand, “Keira dear, I’ve brought you some chicken broth. You must be tired from caring for old Mrs. Horton. You need to eat more to regain some strength...” The aroma of the chicken broth from the thermos wafted into the air, but to Keira, it was nothing more than irony.

This was the first time Poppy had ever made soup for her.

She asked in a voice devoid of emotion, “What do you want?”

Poppy smiled. “I’m still after Isla’s two percent share... Old Mrs. Horton values you a lot. She help you arrange a hospital room for Mrs. Olsen and get you that medicine. She’ll definitely agree if you ask for it. Help out your sister, otherwise, how could she be confident around Jake?”

Keira’s expression turned ice-cold, the words escaping her lips devoid of warmth, “No.”

Poppy’s face hardened, her facade crumbling. She glared at Keira, “That’s right, huh? I worked so hard to give birth to you. You climb the social ladder, and now you won’t respect me anymore?!”

She plopped down onto the ground, crying out, “If you don’t help me today, I won’t get up! Everyone, come look at this! My daughter is an ungrateful wretch! She’s embarrassed by her mother’s lowly background, so she’s serving Old Mrs. Horton with such dedication! She wants to be their granddaughter now!”

The surrounding medical staff and patients began to whisper among themselves.

“Miss Olsen seemed nice. I never expected her to be like this...”

“She’s so materialistic. She’s even denying her own mother. I’ve never seen anything like this in my life!”

Keira stood there with an expressionless face.

She truly didn’t want to admit that this woman causing a scene was her mother.

Yet regretfully, such a relationship was impossible to sever.

She felt helpless.

Keira sneered, her voice as icy as her expression. “Go ahead, make a scene. If you interrupt anyone’s rest, the security will escort you out.”

After she finished speaking, she walked past Poppy.

Poppy was enraged. “Ungrateful wretch! Little slut!”

Out of spite, she stood up abruptly and threw the thermos full of chicken soup roughly at Keira!

“Watch out!”

Keira heard a deep voice. Then she was tightly enveloped in a sturdy embrace! She looked back in surprise, only to see Lewis standing protectively in front of her, shielding her from the scalding hot chicken soup with his broad back...

Steam was rising from his black suit.

Keira gasped and asked anxiously, “Are you okay?”

“I’m fine.”

He squinted at Poppy.

Poppy was petrified. She waved her hands frantically, “Mr. Horton, I... I didn’t mean to splash you. I... I...”

She was so flustered that she turned to escape, quickly disappearing from the corridor.

No one paid her any heed as everyone circled around Lewis to enter their wards.

The old lady immediately rushed over, quickly stripping off Lewis’s clothes, “Quickly, take it off and let me see how bad it is! Are there any blisters.” Lewis calmly took off his suit and white shirt, revealing his sturdy chest. Keira instinctively wanted to look away, but not before her gaze fell onto his back which was now bright red and full of blisters...

That wasn’t a minor injury. It was clearly very serious!

“Oh my, does it hurt? Keira, apply some ointment for him...” The old lady snatched the burn cream from the nurse’s hand and thrust it into Keira’s hands. She pushed Keira behind Lewis, then beckoned to the others to leave the room, “Let’s not crowd around here. The brat will be embarrassed to be naked!”

Then, moving closer to Keira, she whispered, “Granddaughter-in-law, it’s up to you now!”

Keira was speechless.

In an instant, only the two of them were left in the ward.

It was so awkward.

Lewis said in a low voice, “This is my grandma’s whimsical thinking. I’ll let the nurse come in...”

“I’ll do it.”

Keira interrupted him and walked behind him.

It was the twilight hour, and the golden light spilled in through the window, casting long shadows of the two.

Lewis stood before the window, the halo through the glass illuminating his broad back, and his fitted trousers outlined his slender waistline.

One look and Keira lowered her gaze.

It was as if a tiny stone had been thrown into the lake of her heart, causing ripples to spread outward.

She dabbed the ointment on her fingertips before gently applying it to his burned area.

Lewis remained silent, his muscles tensing subconsciously the moment her fingertips touched his skin.

Her faint breath sprayed onto his back like a flame was scorching him.

Noticing his discomfort, Keira asked softly, “Does it hurt?”

Lewis lifted his eyes, and in the reflection of the window, he could see her expression, which was serious and focused as if she were handling a priceless antique.

His attention was drawn to her, and the corner of his mouth twitched slightly.

“No, it doesn’t hurt.”

A moment later, having applied the ointment, Lewis put on a new shirt and buttoned it up. “Thank you, Miss Olsen.”

“Don’t mention it.”

Keira hesitated, then looked up at him, “Actually, you didn’t have to take the hit for me. If you get hurt, your grandmother would be devastated.” “If you get hurt, my grandmother would be even more devastated.”

“Well, after all, I’m an outsider.”

His dark eyes fixed on her, and he said slowly, “You forgot. You’re now my wife.”

Keira’s breathing quickened, the air around her seeming to thin out due to Lewis’s words.

Her heart skipped a beat, and her eyelashes fluttered like a fan.

“I’m going out for a bit.”

Keira turned to leave the room.

Lewis asked, “What are you going to do?”

“Take revenge.”

It didn’t matter how Poppy treated her, but if she had hurt Lewis, she couldn’t just let it go!

Keira went to Mrs. Olsen’s room, intending to check if Poppy was there.

But just as she got close, she spotted Isla and a man disappearing into the corridor.

The man was slimy and sneaky; it looked a lot like Uncle Finley.

Out of curiosity, Keira followed them.

In the corridor.

Finley was rubbing his hands together, “My dear niece, your uncle is a bit short on cash...”

Isla suppressed her anger. “I’ve already given you my pocket money for this month!”

Finley was her nightmare.

Without warning, he came to her on New Year’s Day and said that she was Poppy’s daughter. He demanded money from her, threatening to reveal the truth to Taylor and Mrs. Olsen...

Despite her pleas, Finley remained unfazed. He smiled and said, “Either way, I can’t survive without money. If you won’t give it to me, I’ll go to Keira, and tell her the truth. She would definitely give me a large sum of money!”

At that moment, the door was pushed open.

Keira stood there, her back against the light.. Her voice was cold, “What truth?”

Chapter 40: Trade

Keira suddenly appeared, startling Isla!

She immediately looked at Finley with panic written all over her eyes.

Finley flashed a faint smile, about to speak...

Isla beat him to it. “Keira, what are you doing eavesdropping on our conversation?!”

Keira’s gaze swept over her and Finley. “Don’t deflect the topic here.”

She looked at Finley. “What truth?”

Keira's intuition told her that this truth had something to do with her.

She added. "I can give you money for it."

Finley's eyes lit up. "How much can you give?"

Keira looked at Isla and saw her clutching her clothes tightly, completely flustered.

She said indifferently, "Just name your price. I can get it from the Horton Family."

Finley's shifty little eyes flitted about, finally settling on Isla with a beaming smile, "I think you're not as rich as Isla, right?"

Isla immediately heaved a sigh of relief and told Finley, "I'll find a way to get you the money you want. You can leave now."

Finley chuckled. "Alright then, see you around."

As he passed by Keira, he paused. "Niece, my secret will always be valuable to you. As long as you can afford the price, I'll definitely sell it to you!"

With those words, he cheerfully left.

Keira watched him leave, narrowing her eyes.

She took out her phone and sent a message to Samuel on WhatsApp, "Check out Finley."

Samuel quickly replied, "OK."

He then sent another message, "Boss, there's an industry gathering tomorrow.

The invitation is in your email. Are you going?"

Keira's reply was very brief, "No." *Read latest chapters at [novelbin\(.\)co/m](http://novelbin(.)co/m)*

After sending the message, when she looked up again, she saw Isla walking past her with her head lowered.

Keira calmly said, "If you don't want people to find out, you shouldn't do anything in the first place. You think I can't find out about you and Finley?"

Isla froze, then looked up with a smile on her face. "Keira, I don't know what you're talking about. I don't understand..."

"No wonder despite being Miss Olsen, you're so strapped for cash. You're paying him every month. How big of a secret do you owe him?"

Isla quickly retorted, "What nonsense are you talking about? How could I owe him any secret!"

Her eyes flashed with a ruthless gleam. "Keira, I suggest you better figure out your own way out instead of wasting time on me!"

Keira's face turned cold.

Seeing Isla about to leave, she asked, "Where is Poppy?"

Upon hearing this, Isla instantly flared up. "That's your mother, how would I know?!"

Isla had been hiding the truth from Poppy after finding out from Finley, pretending that she didn't know at all...

That woman was too foolish! She feared that acknowledging Poppy would lead to Poppy revealing any clues...

Therefore, Poppy had no idea that Isla already knew the truth about her roots.

Leaving those words behind, Isla left.

Keira followed her, eventually arriving at Mrs. Olsen's ward.

Through the glass window on the door, it was evident that Poppy wasn't inside the room.

Keira didn't go in to disturb Mrs. Olsen. Instead, she left the building.

She called Poppy, "Where are you?"

A panic-stricken voice came from Poppy's end. "Keira, what are you trying to do?"

“I want you to come back and apologize to Mr. Horton.”

The voice of Poppy suddenly grew shrill. “I won’t! Mr. Horton won’t let me off the hook! You apologize to him for me! You’re my daughter, and a daughter should pay for the mother’s debt!”

Keira scoffed. “In that case, don’t blame me for calling the police.”

Poppy roared, “Why would you call the police? I’m your mother! The person I tried to hit is you! A mother has every right to hit her child!!”

Keira remained indifferent. “But this time the person you injured is Mr. Horton. Everyone has to pay for their own mistakes.”

“You ungrateful thing! If I had known this is how you’d treat me, I should have drowned you when you were born! I should have thrown you into a manure pit or sold you to a brothel! You little slut!”

Keira didn’t bother to listen to her any longer. She simply hung up.

Regardless of their past conflicts, calling the police would only lead to a verdict of a family dispute.

But this time, it was different.

Poppy accidentally injured Lewis and was eventually sentenced to 48 hours in custody, in addition to a fine and medical fees.

But the Horton Family wouldn’t care about that amount of money.

Having dealt with these matters, Keira returned to Old Mrs. Horton’s hospital room.

Lewis wasn’t in the room.

The old lady explained, “He mentioned something about an important meeting and left for it. He’s downstairs in the car.”

Keira nodded, she was silent for a moment, and then she spoke, “Granny, I’m sorry.”

But the old lady waved her off. “We’re all family here, and there’s no need for such formalities. Besides, seeing that brat sticking up for you made me rather pleased!”

Keira was slightly taken aback.

Family...

In this bustling world that was filled with people coming and going, she had always known that she didn’t have a family.

But now, it seemed like she truly had a sense of home.

Isla sold a bag in the second-hand market and gathered ten thousand dollars to give Finley.

She also sent him a message, “Keep your mouth shut! Otherwise, it won’t end well for either of us!”

Finley’s response arrived quickly. “Niece, don’t worry. Even if I can’t tell who’s richer between you and Keira, I still know who to side with.”

Isla was still uneasy.

She needed to marry Jake as soon as possible. That way, even if her identity was exposed in the future, she would still be the daughter-in-law of the Horton family!

At nine in the evening, Jake suddenly came to look for her.

Isla was excited. “Jake, why are you here?”

Jake asked sternly, “Regarding Dr. South, are you sure you’ve settled things with him?”

Keira’s words from earlier left Jake feeling uneasy.

Isla hesitated, “Of course.”

“Then arrange a meeting between me and Dr. South.”

Isla anxiously wrung her hands. “Dr. South is currently abroad. I’ll arrange it when he comes back. Jake, do you have any problems you need help solving? I can contact him for you.”

Jake watched Isla suspiciously. “My questions are sent to your email. Send them to Dr. South. Have him help solve the problem.”

“Okay, I’ll forward them right away.”

To prove her point, Isla immediately sent the email, “Dr. South usually responds to my messages instantly. Jake, just wait a moment.”

In the VIP hospital ward, Keira’s phone vibrated once.

She took a glance and saw that it was an email from Mrs. Olsen,

“South, can you help me solve this problem?”

Keira guessed what was happening. She opened the attachment, which indeed contained a technical issue from the Horton Group!!

Isla was actually asking for her help under the guise of Mrs. Olsen!!

Keira let out a scoff and replied to the message.

Ding!

The email alert chimed, and Isla breathed a sigh of relief. “See, Dr. South responds quickly to me. I’ve received his email!”

Then, Isla opened the email....