

# One Night Surprise Chapter 91

## Chapter 91 Ask For His Help

Ever since Courtney knew that Alexander was the man from six years ago, she projected all of her hatred toward the man who changed the entire course of her life on him. It even overshadowed the flirtatious feelings that she had for him for the past few days.

Upon noticing that Courtney still looked morose, Cameron knew that she was not joking. After frowning while thinking about it, her eyes suddenly brightened. "Courtney, I have an idea."

"What is it?"

"Isaac! Aren't you guys still married legally? Do you want to consider letting him help you?"

When she heard the name 'Isaac', Courtney looked slightly dazed and shook her head after thinking about it for a while. "Forget it, let's not trouble him." All those years when I'm abroad, I have already troubled him enough. Now that I'm back here, how can I still ask him for help?

Cameron sighed. "Fine. You're just too stubborn. There's nothing else that I can think of to help you." She patted Courtney's shoulders. "Regardless, just remember that no matter what happens, I'm always here, so you can talk to me anytime."

Courtney calmed down and looked at Cameron with gratitude after hearing her words. "Sure thing. Don't worry, I'm fine. What about you instead? What are all those recent posts on Twitter about? Are you in love with someone?"

At that mention of that, Cameron suddenly avoided her gaze. "Nothing—oh, I suddenly remember that I have a contract to send off. I'll head back to my room first."

With that, she fled the scene.

Upon looking at Cameron's departing figure, Courtney helplessly smiled.

Three days later, Shay brought Tina to their country and took the green lane at immigration to avoid the groups of fans.

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Courtney also went to the airport to pick them up.

"Mommy!"

As soon as Tina saw Courtney, she immediately pounced on the latter while her laughter that sounded like bells reverberated in the airport.

In that instant when Courtney saw her, all the troubles that she faced for the past few days seemed to have evaporated. "Did you have fun, Tina?"

"Yes! It's so fun!" Tina wrapped her arms around Courtney's neck and planted a kiss on her cheeks before mysteriously asking. "But, why did you suddenly leave, mommy? Did you plan it with Mr. Alexander and Jordan? You guys abandoned me and left."

Courtney was slightly confused after hearing that. "What? They left earlier too?"

Shay, who was next to them, gave a dry cough and changed the topic. "The car is here. Let's get into it."

In order to celebrate the completion of the shoot for the first season, his company held a celebratory party in the evening where the celebrities, guests, and even the entire filming crew participated. As Tina's chaperone, Courtney was also one of the invited guests.

Since it was merely a celebratory party and not an official one, everyone wore casual clothes and the atmosphere was light and fun. Courtney brought Tina along where they ate and drank while basking in a relaxing atmosphere.

In the middle of the party, the director brought Tina to introduce her to other people while Courtney merely watched them from afar.

A bright smile blossomed on her young, pretty face. From Tina's playful and fun expression, it was difficult to see any resemblance to Alexander. However, in the rare times that she was quiet, it was clear that her facial features resembled him.

After a glance at Tina, panic rose within Courtney and made her nervous before she quickly took a sip of water to calm herself.

“Courtney.”

A deep voice rang from behind her. After finally calming herself down, her heart fluttered again as she tightened her grip on the glass of water.

Alexander wore a black suit and walked over to join her in looking at Tina from afar.

One of his hands was holding a wine glass while the other was naturally placed in his pockets. “You ran away from Maldives without giving any notice. What was the reason?”

“Nothing. Something happened back home.”

Courtney was slightly nervous around him. After knowing the truth, she felt quite repulsed by him and forced herself to keep a distance from him—as if her self-defense mechanism had been triggered.

“Is it because of the house or because of me?”

She frowned.

Alexander looked calm as he took a sip of his wine. “Maybe it’s because of me that caused your house issue?”

Her heart sank as she felt nervous. He knows?

“You hastily moved out from my place, but you don’t want to stay with Cameron again. I heard that you’ve been busy with accommodation issues. Is that so?”

A relieved Courtney nodded. “Yes, I can’t possibly stay at your place forever.”

“Do you need any help?”

Alexander did not ask her to stay and only asked her that question instead.

A wave of shock flitted across her eyes, but she shook her head. "It's fine; I can manage it on my own." Alexander definitely doesn't know that I'm busy with accommodation matters for my future plans and it involves confronting him too. How would I dare to ask for his help?

While Courtney's rejection was too direct, her repulsive tone had attracted Alexander's attention because he turned to look at her intently. "Is there something wrong?"

Courtney froze and looked at him in shock as she almost thought she misheard him.

He frowned, regretting that he had asked such a question.

The atmosphere between both of them suddenly became more awkward.

Not long after that, Shay suddenly waved and walked to them. He wore casual beige long pants and a light blue T-shirt. With a bright and young smile on his face, he directly gave Courtney a glass of juice, as if it was the most natural thing to do.

"Courtney, they are going to karaoke later. Are you joining them?"

"Hmm? Nah, I'll pass." She immediately shook her head. "I have Tina with me, so I can't go to places like that."

Alexander's expression became slightly calmer.

After shooting a glance at him, Shay gave Courtney a good-natured wink while having a playful expression on his face.

"Right. I think so too. When they switch venues, I'll send you home."

"Sure." Courtney smiled.

However, to Alexander, her smile was too striking.

He tightened his grip on the glass as his face slightly darkened.

The next morning, after Courtney sent Tina to school, she officially started her work at Sunhill Hotel.

After she wore the employee's name tag, she had conflicted feelings.

Now that she had something that she always wanted, it felt like a huge trouble to her. As she thought about the future, she felt that she could not stay at Sunhill Hotel for long. Perhaps I should look for another job and have some plans as a contingency.

After she started her work, her job was rather smooth and she seldom had the opportunity to meet Alexander. Her assistant, Addie, knocked before he entered her room to talk to her about celebrating her new job that afternoon.

"Miss Hunter, we are planning to celebrate your first day working here tonight. I'm here to check with you on your schedule. Is the time alright for you?"

While Courtney was hesitating, her phone suddenly rang and quickly unlocked her phone display screen after seeing who the caller was.

"Hello."

There was a moment of silence in the room as the other person spoke.

"What?"

Her expression immediately changed as she turned pale. "I'll be right there."

Before she hung up on the call, she grabbed her bag and ran outside. Addie could not even stop her, no matter how he called for her.

"Miss Hunter, what's wrong?"

Courtney did not reply to him.

# One Night Surprise Chapter 92

## Chapter 92 B\*stards

Courtney immediately drove to the kindergarten. As it was almost time to return home, many fancy cars stopped at the gate with a group of butlers and maids flocking at the front door. She finally managed to squeeze through them until she arrived at the door where the person in charge of Sapphire Kindergarten, Nora, had been waiting for her. As soon as she saw Courtney, she immediately escorted her into the kindergarten.

“How’s Tina?”

“It’s not a huge issue. Dr. Ishiguro has already attended to her. Luckily we discovered it early, so there are no signs of cardiogenic shock. However, she wasn’t doing too well before, which was why I called you earlier. We thought you might be worried about her.”

They immediately rushed to the medicine bay. As soon as Courtney saw Tina, tears immediately welled up in her eyes. She stood by the bed, unsure of what she could do. “Tina, Mommy’s here.”

Tina lay on the bed with a haggard look on her face. Her usual joyful and playful demeanour was gone and it was replaced by bruises on her forehead. However, she still forced a smile. “Mommy, I’m fine now!”

Courtney tentatively grabbed Tina’s hand. She did not want to be too harsh on her daughter, yet she could not help herself from gently chastising her. “What did you promise me before we started school? You said you won’t get into trouble and you will behave yourself. Did you forget about those? I’m getting angry now.”

Tina looked reproachful. “But, Mommy, they bullied me!”

While they were chatting, Dr. Ishiguro, who had been taking care of Tina, entered the room. "Are you Tina's mom?"

"Yes, I am." Courtney quickly turned.

Dr. Ishiguro was an older lady whose hair had turned gray. Wearing a white robe and a pair of gold-rim round glasses, she looked kind. After gesturing to Courtney with her eyes, the former quickly walked out of the room with her.

"Doctor, are there any problems with Tina's condition?"

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"I saw her previous medical history. This child has congenital asthma. Usually, we would use medicine to control it. However, she would develop dependency on the medicine after using it for a long time and it's not good for her as well. I would like to suggest acupuncture treatment. Would you consider it?"

"Can it be cured? If it's possible, of course we'll agree to that."

"There's no rush because this treatment is not a short one. Once you start on it, you cannot stop it. I'll find another time to talk about the specifics with you. I'm afraid you have to settle today's incident first."

Dr. Ishiguro's words reminded Courtney that the way Tina looked today was not because of her asthma attack. After all, she did not suffer from a relapse for such a long time. When Courtney looked at her face earlier, there were many injuries. It's obvious that Tina has fought with other kids.

Nora had initially asked Courtney to relieve her worries by visiting Tina first. Once that was done, Courtney had to follow Nora to her office. Upon recalling that, Courtney quickly thanked Dr. Ishiguro before walking back to the ward and went to the office after asking Tina about the entire situation.

In Nora's office, a young mother with a darkened expression was holding a small boy whose face had sustained bruises.

As soon as she walked to the door, Courtney heard loud accusations from inside.

“What’s wrong with your kindergarten? How can you enrol a kid like this? Can you afford to pay compensation if Charles sustains any serious injuries?”

Nora tentatively smiled at her apologetically. “There’s a reason for this. Mrs. Everett, please calm down first.”

“What reason is—”

Courtney knocked the door just in time and interrupted their argument.

As soon as Nora saw her, she quickly stood up to introduce both mothers. “This is Charles and his mother, Mrs. Everett. This is Tina’s mother, Miss Hunter.”

Mrs. Everett glanced at Courtney. “So, you’re Tina Hunter’s mother? Why is it that I have never seen you before? Are you originally from Melrose City?”

Courtney frowned. The kids just had a fight, yet the first thing she asks is whether I’m from this city? What is her reasoning?

Although she was slightly confused, she nodded. “Yes, I am.”

Mrs. Everett laughed coldly. “So, you’re a local then? I heard from Nora that you’re a hotel manager?”

Courtney nodded once more.

“How is it possible for a hotel manager to enroll her kids here? I bet you must have done some sneaky things and your kid learned from you. Your entire family is up to no good!”

The woman’s voice was shrill with a sharp and sarcastic tone.

Courtney’s ears buzzed after hearing her accusations. Then, she clenched her fists and retorted, “Mrs. Everett, I know that Tina is wrong in this matter, but you shouldn’t speak like this, should you? Just because I’m a hotel manager means I can’t send my kids here? What logic is this?”

“Do you want me to say it out loud?” Mrs. Everett looked at her in contempt. “I’m sure everyone here knows about having an easy job when you are young.”

Courtney's face darkened, but she could not be bothered to argue. Through gritted teeth, she responded, "They are different matters. Why don't you just tell me how you would like to resolve this? Whether it's medical bills or mental health compensation, I can afford it."

"Money?" Mrs. Everett burst out in laughter as if she had heard a joke. "Do you think we lack money? Let me tell you this—for today's incident, I want your daughter to personally apologize to Charles and from tomorrow onwards, she can't come here anymore."

Courtney's expression immediately changed as she could hardly believe what she had just heard. This is just a small fight between kids and it also stems from a valid reason. Because of this, she wants Tina to leave this school? This is outrageous!

"Impossible." She calmed down and looked at Mrs. Everett with a dark expression. "I don't think the situation warrants that."

"Impossible? In that case, you shall see how possible it can be. The injuries on my son's face is the greatest reason and you still think that it's not serious? I bet you are fine with going to the police station with your daughter."

With that, she glanced arrogantly at Nora, who was caught between a rock and a hard place as she stood beside them.

"You are the person in charge of this kindergarten, so you should settle this. If Charles still sees that girl tomorrow at school, the Everett Group will retract all our investments next year."

Upon hearing that, Nora's expression changed immediately.

Gritting her teeth, Courtney had tightly clenched her fists until her knuckles cracked as blood boiled in her as she could not wait to give Mrs. Everett a punch. How can there be such an arrogant person who looks down on others like this?

"After the Everett Group withdraws their investment, the Sunhill Enterprise will invest twice the amount in this kindergarten for the infrastructure."

A tall figure loomed at the office door while the low voice rang from a corner, breaking the awkward atmosphere in the room.

Alexander held Jordan's hands as he nonchalantly walked toward them. When he looked at Mrs. Everett, he slightly raised his chin with eyes that were full of apathy and arrogance. "The Everett Group doesn't have such a huge influence on Sapphire Kindergarten, does it, Mrs. Everett?"

As soon as Mrs. Everett saw Alexander, her expression immediately changed. "P-P-President Duncan, w-w-why are you here today?"

"I heard that my son landed himself in trouble, so I'm here to have a look. After all, I have to apologize for his mishap. Isn't that so?"

"He landed himself into trouble?" She gave an apologetic smile. "Your son is so obedient. How could he have gotten into trouble?"

Jordan raised his head to glare at her before he moved toward Courtney's side.

"You have been here for so long and scolded others for the same amount of time. Mrs. Everett, don't you know why your son was beaten up today?" Alexander coldly looked at Mrs. Everett. "I wonder who taught him to say that 'kids who have no mothers are b\*stards' in front of Jordan."

## One Night Surprise Chapter 93

Chapter 93 Biological Father

The atmosphere of the room dropped to below freezing point after Alexander's words.

Mrs. Everett paled. "What? I-I'm afraid I don't understand you."

Nora, who was beside them and silent all the while, could no longer hold back and helplessly answered, "Mrs. Everett, the reason why Tina hit Charles is because he pushed Jordan and called him a b\*stard who has no mother. All these are recorded by the surveillance camera and I have been meaning to show it to you."

"Then, why didn't you tell me earlier?" Mrs. Everett's face turned ashy. As if she tried to save herself for the final time, she glared at Nora. "You must be doing this deliberately. You didn't even tell me about Charles' problem when I first arrived. You merely spoke about both kids fighting. Did you even mention President Duncan's son?"

A helpless Nora answered in an aggrieved manner, "You would have needed to give me a chance to speak, Mrs. Everett."

Once the truth was finally revealed, Mrs. Everett nervously looked at Alexander. "President Duncan, I admit that it's my fault today. The kids are still young, so they are unaware of many things. After we return home today, I'll definitely educate Charles well and ask his father to personally apologize to Jordan. Is that okay with you?"

"There's no need for that." He merely gave her a cold glance. "You don't have to apologize to me. Instead, you should apologize to Miss Hunter for everything that you said to her earlier, shouldn't you?"

Upon hearing that, Mrs. Everett's face darkened. After looking at Courtney for a long time, she squeezed the word through gritted teeth. "Sorry."

Courtney did not want to comment further and ignored her before turning to check whether Jordan was hurt. Sure enough, Alexander's power in Melrose City is overwhelming. Once he arrives, no matter who was at fault, he is definitely the one who's right. The woman who was arrogant to me seconds ago immediately became humble after just a few words from him.

After the issue was settled, she released his hands to bid farewell to him. "You should head with your dad since I have to pick Tina up. Bye."

Unwilling to let her go, he continued to hold her hand with an anxious look on his face, as if he wanted to leave with her.

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Alexander frowned. "Is Tina alright? I heard that her asthma relapsed?"

"She's fine."

He walked closer toward Courtney. "The company dinner is later tonight. I can bring you there on the way."

"There's no need." Courtney took a few steps back to increase the distance between them. "Tina's condition isn't too good, so I have to leave. President Duncan, thank you for taking all the trouble today. I'm afraid I can't attend the dinner tonight. So, I hope you'll understand."

Even though she had been addressing him as 'President Duncan', her tone sounded sharper today.

Alexander's frown deepened as a cold look swept over his eyes. When Jordan was about to walk to her, he carried his son into his arms and warned him in a low voice, "Don't follow her."

Before that, he was merely speculating about the possibilities, but at that very moment, he was absolutely sure that Courtney was avoiding him.

Jordan struggled in his arms and even slapped his father's cheeks. In the end, Alexander grabbed his little hand and advised, "She has her own daughter, so she doesn't care about you. Even if you chase after her, you can't do anything. Let's go home."

With that, he ignored Jordan's cries and walked to the front door of the kindergarten with his son in his arms.

On the other hand, after discussing with Dr. Ishiguro about things to note about Tina's asthma, Courtney picked her up and saw a gray figure waving his hand at them from across the street after they walked out of the kindergarten.

"Over here, Courtney!"

Shay was well-equipped with a cap, sunglasses, and a grey jacket that entirely protected him from the hot sun. The wave of his hand made him more ostentatious.

After Courtney quickly entered the car, she was irritated. "You can just wait for me in the car. Why did you come out? Aren't you afraid that people might recognize you?"

He buckled his seatbelt. "Well, I'm just worried that you might not see me. Don't worry; I'm well-prepared for anonymity."

She did not bother to comment on his so-called 'well-equipped prevention'.

Feeling sorry for Tina, he caressed her small hands. "You look like you have been beaten up in an action movie. Does it hurt, Tina?"

Tina's voice sounded muffled from the kid's safety seat. "I'm fine."

"You are as stubborn as your mom."

With that, Courtney knocked on his head in annoyance. "Who are you talking about? I'm your elder sister after all. If Cameron is free, I wouldn't have allowed you to pick me up."

The car started to move slowly. In a black business car that was not far away from them, a sharp gaze lingered on Shay's car until it had disappeared from sight. The silence in the car was so heavy that a single squeak could be heard.

While holding the steering wheel, the driver could not help but shudder after he carefully appraised the cold face through the rearview mirror. "Ahhh..."

In the child's seat, Jordan wailed unhappily when he saw the other car disappear around the corner before kicking Alexander's knees.

Alexander looked at him with a rare, cold gaze. "See? She has her own life, so she can't accompany you everyday. No matter how much you make a scene, no matter how much you want a mommy, she's not the one."

It was rare for him to be harsh on Jordan, so the little boy was shocked and angry. He immediately cried out loud and threw tantrums in the car.

"Drive," Alexander coldly ordered and ignored his tantrum.

When he saw Courtney entering Shay's car, a ball of fire seemed to rage within him until his entire body was hot. It was a sensation that he had never experienced, so he needed some space to figure out what exactly was happening.

In the night, it had been a while since Tina and Courtney slept in the same room.

Hence, Tina asked while being in her mother's embrace, "Mommy, I haven't seen Mr. Alexander for a long time. Did you guys have a fight?"

Courtney was stunned to hear that. "Do you like him?"

"Mr. Alexander is handsome and rich. If you date him, you will be very blissful in the future."

"I have never thought about these." She rubbed her eyebrows that contained a lot of insolvable worries and suddenly asked. "Tina, if you had to choose between Mommy and Mr. Alexander one day, who would you choose?"

Tina suddenly lifted her head and asked naively, "Why do I have to choose between the both of you? Can't I have both? You are my mommy and he is my daddy. Then, Jordan will be my brother!"

"What if Mr. Alexander is your biological father? If he plans to take you away, who would you choose?"

"Mr. Alexander is my biological father?" A stunned Tina seemed to have a hard time grappling with the truth. However, she became quite excited. "Mommy, are you serious?"

"I'm just saying 'what if'. What if he is your father and you have to choose? Who would you pick?"

"You, of course!" Tina replied without any hesitation. However, after that, she added with hesitance "But, Mommy, if Mr. Alexander is my daddy, why can't both of you be together?"

Courtney hugged the little figure in her arms, feeling relieved yet helpless. Without replying to her question, she responded, "It's time for bed, Tina. We have to go to Grandpa's place tomorrow."

# One Night Surprise Chapter 94

## Chapter 94 Paying a Visit

The next day, Courtney brought some health supplements when she returned to the Hunter mansion with Tina.

The person who opened the door for them was Mrs. Bell. Since she had already heard from Lucian that Courtney was returning, she prepared a table full of food. It was rather apparent that there was joy emanating from her. "Miss Courtney, Mr. Lucian was about to call you to ask for your whereabouts and you arrived." With that, her gaze fell on Tina with even more joy.

"This is Tina, right?"

"Tina, this is Mrs. Bell. Say hi to her."

"Hello, Mrs. Bell."

Tina was both cute and sweet. As soon as she spoke, she could melt one's heart. Hence, Mrs. Bell liked her a lot, causing her tone to rise by a few pitches as she yelled into the house, "Mr. Lucian, Miss Courtney is back with Tina!"

On the second floor, the door of the study was opened before it was followed by a series of heavy footsteps that sounded quite rushed. In no time, his voice rang at the top of the staircase. Even though his voice sounded grave, he was overjoyed to see them. "Courtney."

After Lucian walked down the stairs and saw Courtney holding Tina's tiny hands, he looked quite flustered.

"Dad." Courtney led Tina to him with a relaxed expression on her face. "Tina, this is grandpa."

After appraising him for a while, Tina's clear voice rang in the living room. "Grandpa is different from what I imagined him to be."

"Why? What's different?" Lucian sounded nervous after hearing that.

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She tilted her head. "Grandpa's hair should be gray and he should be an exceptionally old man!"

Mrs. Bell and the other maids around them laughed.

He sighed in relief and gave a helpless smile. Then, he crouched to lovingly hold Tina's other hand. "Grandpa is indeed extremely old, but not to the point where all of my hair is gray. That will happen in the future."

"I hope not." Tina shook her head. "Mommy says that people with grey hair are too old. Old people don't have a healthy body and they can't eat delicious food."

"What do you like to eat the most?"

"There is so much food that I like, but I like desserts the most!"

"I'll ask Mrs. Bell to buy them for you then."

"Really?"

"Yes."

With that, their conversation ended.

When Courtney heard her father's voice becoming more childish when he spoke to Tina, she felt slightly disoriented. She was already five years old by the time she arrived at the Hunter Family, so she was able to remember many incidents. She was at the same age as Tina and he had talked to her in such a tone as well.

They initially had a pretty good relationship. However, as time passed, she gradually spoke less at home as she was afraid to be close to her father because of Susan and her daughter. Even though it was a self-defense mechanism, other people have commented that Courtney was someone who could not be warm toward her own family.

"Take a seat and eat something. Let's chat while we eat." Mrs. Bell invited them for lunch, but tears seemed to well in her eyes when she looked at Courtney.

However, Courtney was hesitant. "Just us?"

She had not seen both Susan and Anna since she returned.

"Anna and Susan are back in Susan's hometown," Lucian briefly explained, looking tired when he mentioned their names.

"What's wrong? Are you feeling unwell, Dad?"

"Nothing. Let's tuck in."

With that, he kept loading Courtney's plate with food.

"How is everything? Have you found the keys to the house at Golden Water Park? Do you need me to arrange some people to help you to move? Or, should I ask people to clean it up? No one has lived there ever since it was bought. We should buy more new furniture."

"That's fine. I can clean it up myself."

Courtney frowned with hesitation.

Initially, she planned to speak to her father about the house in Golden Water Park. However, since he did not look like he was healthy, she would not know how much trouble would result if she revealed that Anna was using that house to provide for a man. Never mind. Since the property is under my name, I can solve this myself.

"I'm back this time to bring Tina to meet you. That's all—there are no other motives."

Lucian looked relieved yet emotional as he sighed. "I actually hope that you would ask for something from me in return. I know it has been hard on you for the past few years."

Upon hearing that, Courtney had conflicted feelings. "Don't worry about me, Dad. I'm fine."

He raised his hand to interrupt her. "That's enough; you don't have to console me. Tina is five years old today. Don't you think that I don't know why you went abroad six years ago? If I've

really taken good care of you, you wouldn't have kept such a huge incident from me back then."

When he mentioned that, her frown deepened.

Back then, even though she was mistaken for a surrogate mother, she suspected that someone was manipulating her from behind the scenes and trying to make her do something.

However, that was not the reason for her return today and she could not possibly talk to her father about it, so she did not bring it up again.

After lunch, he brought Tina to his study to play with her. After all, he was the only family member whom Courtney had, so she was willing to let Tina spend more time with the young child's grandfather.

When Mrs. Bell had finished clearing the dining table, Courtney dragged her to the couch in the living room for small talk.

"If Madam Cecilia is really in heaven, she must be glad to see your cute and lovely daughter."

While they were chatting, a roar of the car engine was heard by the gate. Not long after that, a familiar female voice rang from the door. The sound of high heels clattering powerfully on the steps were heard after the car door was briskly closed. Without a doubt, both Mrs. Bell and Courtney knew who had returned.

"Where's everyone? Take the stuff from the car right now!"

A gentler voice rang behind her. "Anna, be softer. Your dad is probably taking a nap. Let's not wake him up."

"What nap—"

Before Anna could finish her sentence, her expression abruptly changed when she saw Courtney sitting on the couch.

Then, Courtney stood up nonchalantly. "This is my house too. You don't have to be so shocked to see me return."

As soon as Anna heard that, she clenched her fists tightly. "You have the guts to call this your house? After you returned for a long time, have you ever visited us? Why are you back now? You can't survive outside anymore? You broke up with Alexander and want some money from us?"

"Stop making everything sound so ugly, Anna. I'm here just to visit Dad."

"Visit Dad?" Anna snorted coldly before looking behind Courtney. "Why didn't you bring the little b\*tch back here to visit him as well? Are you visiting him or deliberately making him angry?"

Even though Courtney had never mentioned to Anna that she had a child, it was not difficult for her to look it up if she wanted to. Hence, Courtney was not surprised that Anna knew about Tina.

While they were speaking, a door was opened on the second floor. Lucian walked out of his study and stood on the staircase as he said unhappily, "Anna, why are you yelling upon your return?"

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### Chapter 95 You Forced Me to Do This

After being stunned for a moment, Anna defended herself. "Dad, I'm not yelling. I was thinking aloud that Courtney has nothing good up her sleeves by returning here. Don't be fooled by her."

"She's your younger sister." Lucian frowned. "It's been so long since she last returned and this is your attitude toward her. What are you up to?"

"I don't have such a shameless sister!" As Anna crossed her arms in front of her, she looked triumphant. "Dad, you still probably don't know what shameless thing she has done outside. Back then, she lied to us that she was going to study abroad. In the end, she had a child out of wedlock and she hid from all of us to give birth to a b\*tch abroad. We don't even know who the father is!"

She and her mother were sure that if he was aware about it, he would be furious. Hence, Susan even pretended to advise, "Lucian, don't be too angry. I'm sure it was a mistake that Courtney made because she was too young."

Courtney never made any effort to defend herself—instead, her eyes were merely full of mockery and sarcasm.

"Grandpa."

A young voice rang, breaking the awkward atmosphere and the expectations of the mother and daughter.

Tina ran out of the study with an antique cigar in her hands that Lucian treasured the most. While rubbing her eyes sleepily, she said, "Grandpa, I want some cakes."

His cold expression immediately melted as he crouched and held her in his arms while walking downstairs. "No problem. Let's grab some cakes then."

Even though he did not reply to what Anna reported earlier, his actions were clearly a slap to both her and Susan.

It was a soundless slap indeed.

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Anna's face paled as she could not believe what she had just seen. She was still gritting her teeth when she sent Courtney out the door. "What method did you use to make Dad accept this little b\*tch?"

"Anna, be respectful." Courtney glared at her coldly before lowering her voice. "You used my house to keep a man inside. How do you think Dad would react if he knew about this?"

In an instant, Anna's face turned pale.

Courtney could not be bothered to deal with her anymore and opened the car door. "Sir, please start the car now."

Anna was still standing by the gate when the car left the house. With a dark look on her face, she tightly clenched her fists until her fingernails almost entered her flesh.

On the other hand, when Susan was bringing a cup of tea upstairs, she overheard Lucian's phone call through the door.

"Mr. Bakerfield, I'll hand this matter over to you. A formal notice is needed for the transfer of shares, but you need to transfer the assets as soon as possible. Yes, transfer it under my granddaughter's name. If I give them to Courtney, she might not accept them."

The reply from the other end could not be heard.

As his grave voice rang through the door, Susan, who was holding the tray, slightly trembled and threw a pill into the tea after a moment of hesitation. As she saw it dissolving, her expression became cruel and ruthless. Lucian, you are forcing me to do this.

In the evening, Courtney brought Tina back to Cameron's house.

It was midnight when Courtney heard a couple speaking to each other and peeked through the door. After seeing some passionate scenes, she quickly closed both her eyes and the door, causing her sleep to be affected the entire night.

The next morning, she was busy preparing breakfast in the kitchen. When she saw Cameron opening the door of her room, she took a deep breath. "Wow, pancakes! My favorite!"

Cameron walked out of the room with her slippers and immediately sat on the chair. Then, she picked up a pancake and stuffed it in her mouth.

With her arms crossed in front of her chest, Courtney demanded, "Is there something you would like to tell me about last night? This is the first time that I saw Gale leaving awkwardly."

Gale was everyone's lover at the Sunhill Enterprise—he has always been confident and attractive, but blushed when he saw Courtney after leaving Cameron's room.

Did the sun rise from the west today? Courtney thought.

Meanwhile, Cameron froze as her chewing slowed. “Well, last night we just had too much to drink. What else is there to say?”

“So, it is a fling?” Courtney asked meaningfully. “It’s good, then. I don’t really know him, so I don’t know his actual personality. However, his reputation isn’t that good—he has girlfriends all over Melrose City. I’m worried that you can’t take it if you are involved with him.”

“The entire Melrose City?” Cameron frowned as her face fell.

Courtney smiled in her heart, but she remained serious on the surface. “Yeah. Nine out of ten girls in my company have been involved with him at least once. His nickname of being the ‘golden provider of nightclubs’ isn’t just for fun, you know. Every club owner is treating him as their top priority guest.”

With a crack, Cameron broke the egg in her hands with a dark expression.

Courtney coughed and turned, pretending that she did not see Cameron’s reaction. “Tina, time to wake up now! After breakfast, Mommy will send you to school.”

Actually, it was not a matter of a day or two that Cameron was dating Gale. Ever since she returned from her business trip, she had been talking about him. Hence, Courtney could tell that something was up between them and thought, It is easy to bury oneself in a relationship, but difficult to treat it with rationale.

She was merely trying to remind Cameron that many of his characteristics were not something that she could accept, so she needed to be aware of those. If they could work through it, only then could they really be together without any obstacles.

As it was the end of the month that day, Courtney rushed to the headquarters of the Sunhill Enterprise for a meeting sending Tina to school.

“Miss Hunter.”

In the hall of the enterprise, a man called her name. She turned and quickly scanned the man who had been looking for her—she recognized him as the producer of the travel show which Shay had participated in before.

“What a coincidence to meet you here, Miss Hunter.”

The producer was in his thirties. With a casual outfit, he smiled at her. “Before I came, I was just discussing with the company to talk to you about some matters.”

“What is it?” She did not understand what was going on.

“Well, about the travel show we did last time, we just finished editing the trailer and received a positive response. Hence, I proposed to continue this show. Would you like to consider asking Tina to sign a long term contract with us?”

“What? Long term?” Courtney shook her head. “No, this won’t do. I have to work and I can’t possibly ask Tina to go there alone.”

“No worries.” The producer looked relaxed. “I know your work performance is excellent. If you are willing, we can discuss with President Duncan to transfer you from the hotel to the media company so that you can be your daughter’s manager. With that, you’ll have more time.”

“Thanks, but no thanks.”

Courtney had never worked as a celebrity’s manager, so she rejected the offer without even thinking about it.

“Are you worried about the job being unstable? Don’t worry, our salary won’t be any less than a hotel manager.”

“No, no! That’s not the case...”

She rejected him kindly, causing the producer to look disappointed and he even left his business card with her before he left.

“Give it a thought and you can call me anytime. There are many mothers who accompany their celebrity children nowadays. From various aspects, Tina has a great potential to be a child star.”

With the business card in her hand, she was rather amused, but failed to realize that Alexander had witnessed the entire scene.

# One Night Surprise Chapter 96

Chapter 96 I Want to Stay with You

"It's Lawrence Gilbert, a producer from Starlight Media."

Josh stood still with a straight back in front of Alexander's office table as he was slightly nervous.

"The recent reality show jointly launched by Sunhill Hotel and Starlight Media has just released a video trailer. In a short time, it is already on the trending page, especially Shay and Tina's team. The fans love the interaction between them, so Starlight Media has the intention of grooming Tina as a young celebrity and signing a contract with her."

"Is that so?" Alexander merely frowned and no one could tell whether he was happy or angry about it.

"Yes, the reason why Lawrence came is to discuss the plan of a complete show with this series as the basis. He's planning to discuss this with the finance department. Apart from that, he would like to hire Miss Hunter at their company after he saw her capabilities. After all, this show was mooted by her."

When Alexander heard it, he tightened his grip on the pen and raised his head from the contract. "Has she agreed?"

"I'm not too sure about this."

Josh sounded slightly worried. Recently, it's been arduous to tell what the boss is thinking from his unstable mood.

Alexander remained silent for a while before Josh carefully reminded, "President Duncan, the meeting is about to start. A few representatives from the different branches have arrived."

Sunhill Hotel had a plan to develop a series of youth hostels under their umbrella, allowing them to be listed under the same category as the travel agency. Hence, Alexander had summoned all of the branch representatives from the Sunhill Hotel in Melrose City.

As a result, Courtney was also there.

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He put his pen down and said in a low voice, "Let's go."

The conference room was full of people and because she was the youngest, she sat in the corner.

"Initially, Sunhill Enterprise only focused on high-end hotels, so we have no experience in commonly priced products. Now that we have plans to develop a youth hotel franchise, we need to do a market research."

After someone pointed that out, Alexander, who had been quiet, started to speak. "Of course, it's necessary to do market research, but the credibility of a market research company isn't excellent. Hence, I think it's unnecessary to hand this task to a market consulting company. Every branch of the hotel should send a representative to personally carry out the market research."

As Courtney's focus was on taking notes, she was completely oblivious that his gaze had fallen upon her.

"After the centennial celebration, your schedule seems to be free, Miss Hunter. Why don't you take charge of this?"

As soon as she heard that, Courtney's expression changed as she lifted her head. "Me? Market research?" One look at Alexander's serious gaze was enough to provide her with a definitive answer. "Isn't there anyone else who can do this?" I still have to take care of Tina and send her to school on a daily basis. How can I be on a business trip for such a long time?

Alexander merely looked at her coldly, even though he knew about her difficulties. "Why? Do you have any problem with that, Miss Hunter? Don't you want to do this?"

Ever since they returned from Maldives, she knew that her attitude toward him was terrible when they crossed paths a couple of times. I'm afraid I have offended him. No matter how

important my reason is, it will only give him an excuse to mock me. Hence, she gritted her teeth and agreed. "No problem. I can do it."

After glancing at her, he saw how troubled she was and regretted his actions.

Everyone left one after another when the meeting ended. Even though Courtney had left in a haste, she never expected to run into Alexander's butler, who held Jordan's hands, immediately after she walked out of the door.

Jordan's face brightened as soon as he saw Courtney. He released his butler's hand and immediately pounced on her.

After being stunned for a while, she quickly crouched. "Jordan, why aren't you at the kindergarten today?"

He merely hugged her without speaking another word and his silence was making her feel sorry for him.

The butler then explained, "Jordan hasn't been feeling well for the past two days. He has been coughing non-stop, so Mr. Duncan asked him to rest at home. Since he is feeling much better today, he can't stand being at home anymore and has been throwing tantrums about being outdoors.

"You have a cough?" Courtney touched his forehead instinctively. Feeling relieved that he was not running a temperature, she asked again. "Are you still feeling unwell?"

Jordan shook his head, but he looked upset, as if he was about to burst into tears in the next second.

"What's wrong? Who bullied you?"

He nodded and took his drawing board from the butler before penning a word—'daddy'.

She was confused. "Daddy? He bullied you?"

He wrote another sentence again—'He doesn't allow me to see you.'

As soon as Courtney saw the sentence, a lump formed in her throat as mixed feelings rose within her. Tears almost streamed down her face.

'I want to stay with you' was another sentence that Jordan wrote before he pulled her hands to show it to her.

The more she spoke to him, the worse she felt.

Alexander's displeased voice suddenly rang behind them. "Jordan, come here."

Jordan immediately grabbed Courtney's pants by force.

She lowered her head and sniffed to keep her tears at bay. "Jordan, I still have to work, so I can't play with you anymore. Go to your dad. In the future, I'll try to find some time to accompany you."

He still clung onto her pants with a stubborn look on his face.

While glancing at the butler, Alexander asked, "What are you doing? Bring him to the office."

With that, the butler had to pry Jordan's hands off from her pants and forcefully hold him in his arms.

Worried that she would be unable to suppress her emotions, Courtney turned to leave.

Jordan struggled in the butler's arms before he suddenly yelled in her direction. "Mommy!"

It was the first time that Courtney heard Jordan speak, so she immediately stopped and turned to look incredulously at the little fellow in the butler's arms.

"She's not your mommy!" Alexander's voice was like a bucket of cold water that doused the fire in her heart. In that instant, conflicted feelings arose within her.

After ordering the butler to bring Jordan back to his office, Alexander walked toward her with an indifferent look on his face.

The people who were watching the drama in the corridor were chased off by Josh, who had great eyesight, before silence fell on the entire area.

"President Duncan." Courtney suddenly lowered her head and hid her shock from earlier.

“Courtney Hunter, what are you planning?” he asked.

She frowned. “President Duncan, I’m afraid I don’t understand what you mean.”

The moment she said that, a force was suddenly exerted on her shoulders, causing her to exclaim as her feet staggered backward and her back landed on the wall beside her. Alexander had pressed on her and went closer to her ears to ask in a cold voice, “You rejected me, but you are treating Jordan with a mother’s love. Are you playing hard to get?”

“You’ve thought too much into this.” She stopped moving, but the frown on her face almost made her eyebrows meet each other. “I just think that Jordan is cute—that’s all.”

“Do you think I’ll believe such nonsense?” Alexander increased his force on her shoulders with a cold look on his face. “If you are playing this game to show how important you are to Jordan and coerce me into thinking that you are the only suitable woman for me, let me tell you this—you have lost. I’m never threatened by anyone.”

Courtney felt that her shoulders were almost broken by his grip. With a face that was as pale as a sheet of paper, she said painfully, “Really, you are thinking too much about this. I don’t have any intentions to be with you. All I have is the respect of an employee to her boss. Please respect yourself, President Duncan.”

The words ‘respect yourself’ reverberated in Alexander’s mind. The anger that was already burning within him seemed to flare up as her words added fuel to the fire, causing the flames to fiercely rage on. Even though he was initially cold toward her, his eyes were reddened by that point.

# One Night Surprise Chapter 97

Chapter 97 You Guys Really Broke Up?

“What are you doing?”

Courtney thought Alexander had released his grip on her. However, in that instant, she was dragged back into the conference room before she could even regain her balance. The world spun around her as she was pushed onto the huge meeting desk. With a loud thud, vibrations throughout the entire structure were heard as the door was closed.

Angered and humiliated, she raised her pale face while demanding, “What are you doing?”

“Respect myself?” Alexander loosened his tie and pressed his hands down on her sides to pin her down on the conference table. With a darkened expression, he looked down at her as he spoke. “Let me ask you this—after you sleep with men, do you treat it as if it was nothing and ask them to ‘respect themselves’?” For such a long time, am I the only one who cared about the ‘accident’ that night?

Courtney turned her head around. With her face still pressed down to the table, she avoided his gaze as she only felt anger apart from the humiliation. “If you care so much about what happened that night. I apologize for giving you the wrong idea. I have no feelings for you whatsoever, let alone wanting to play hard to get with you. So, let me go.”

“Great.” Alexander was angered to the point where he burst out in laughter as his hands traced her waist. “That’s just great!”

Goosebumps rose in each area that he touched Courtney as trepidation rose within her. “What are you doing? Let me go!”

“You don’t mind, do you? In that case, if we do it one more time, what’s there to worry about?”

When she heard that, her mind seemed to have exploded and she started to struggle against his grip without even thinking about it. However, in front of Alexander, her strength was no match at all.

Not only was he enraged by her words, but he also felt that she had trampled on his pride as a man. Throughout his entire life, it was the first time that he cared for a woman—yet all he received from her was the ‘wrong idea’. This is a great humiliation for me.

As cool air gushed over her, Courtney’s eyes suddenly widened and she mustered the courage out of nowhere to escape from his grip to give him a slap. The loud smack reverberated throughout the entire conference room.

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With that, Alexander immediately stopped his actions. In no time, a red, clear palm print slowly appeared on his cheek.

“\*sshole!” Courtney quickly pushed him away and escaped.

For a long time after she left, Alexander touched his cheek that slightly stung while pulling out a chair to sit. What am I doing? Have I gone crazy?

After leaving Sunhill Enterprise, Courtney applied for a half-day leave from the hotel and locked herself at home. Even after she slept soundly for an entire afternoon, all she could think of was Alexander’s crazy actions earlier that morning.

Apart from anger, she realized that other emotions had been raging in her. If he didn’t threaten me about the incident six years ago, perhaps...

She did not dare to continue thinking about that. After tapping her cheeks to force herself to forget about the incident, she continued to sleep until evening before waking up to pick Tina from the kindergarten.

Meanwhile, Cameron was putting a mask on her face on the sofa, and she asked, “Going to the Ancient City for a business trip? Who arranged this for you? Isn’t Alexander courting you—what is he doing?”

Courtney avoided her gaze and continued to pack her bag while her head was lowered. “It was arranged by the company. Stop saying nonsense. I have no relations with Alexander.”

Standing right next to her luggage, Tina was quietly eating a lollipop.

“During this period, your godmother will take care of you. You have to listen to her, alright? If she’s late in picking you up, just stay in the kindergarten. Can you do that?”

“Yes.” Tina nodded obediently. “But Mommy, can I ask you a question?”

“Yes.”

“Did you really break up with Mr. Alexander?”

As soon as she heard that, Courtney’s expression immediately changed. “What do you mean by breaking up? When have we dated each other?”

“You guys even moved in together! Isn’t that considered dating?” Tina asked with widened eyes.

“Moved in together?” Cameron’s mask was about to dry off. “When did that happen?”

“When you were out for a business trip, Godmother!” Tina clearly remembered everything and said in an accusatory tone. “Mommy, if you don’t like him, why did you stay with him? You’re making me happy for nothing.”

Courtney was speechless upon hearing that. “Stop saying nonsense. That’s because Shay attracted many reporters at your place. I was over at his place to avoid them, that’s all.”

Cameron still looked confused. It was after Courtney explained the entire situation that she forcefully nodded. “Okay, even if you were there to avoid the reporters, I still believe that the destiny between you and Alexander is quite extraordinary indeed. See, six years ago—”

“Excuse me!” Courtney quickly coughed to interrupt Cameron’s sentence. It was only then that she realized that Tina was still around, so they could not speak about many things. “Tina, you should head to bed soon. Quickly head to your room.”

“I’m not planning to stay here either. Hmph!” Tina pouted. “My wealthy daddy is gone—just like that. Even though he’s close to being my daddy, I’m not happy about this. Mommy, I’m angry!” With that, she angrily stormed to her room.

While looking at her leaving figure, Cameron shook her head. "When do you plan to tell her that her biological father is Alexander?"

"I haven't thought it through."

"She already likes him a lot without knowing the truth. If she discovers this in the future, what if she wants to follow him?"

"Impossible. I know my own daughter well."

"You have all your priorities in the wrong place, girl." Cameron removed her facial mask. "Is your brain made out of hay? You really never placed yourself in Alexander's shoes at all? He's the president of an enterprise, so he has no reason to treat you and Tina so well. It's obvious that he likes you! I even asked Gale about this. Alexander has already canceled his wedding with that celebrity. Isn't it all because of you?"

"If it's because of me, why would he send me to such a faraway place for a business trip? I don't think I can accept his love."

"Oh, come on!" Cameron pouted. "Because of you, his marriage is ruined. Yet, you don't seem to care about him at all. If I were him, I would immediately fire you."

"Whose side are you on, exactly?"

"Hmm? You asked the right question." She suddenly laughed. "Whose side indeed?"

"What do you mean?"

"Don't you think that you are throwing a tantrum at Alexander? It's like you guys are a loving couple who just started fighting!"

Courtney's expression froze for a few seconds before she denied it. "Stop saying nonsense. It's nothing like that."

Cameron was too lazy to argue with her about it. "Fine, I can't say anything about love anyway. As long as you know what you are doing, that's enough. I'm going to sleep soon. You should sleep earlier too!"

After the door of the room was closed, Courtney was left in the living room alone. She sat on the mat and looked at the luggage she had been packing with a deep frown on her face.

Late at night, in the minivan, Britney had just gotten off work after filming and her expression immediately changed after she heard what her assistant said. "Only Louis' body? What about the detective?"

"He's gone. No one is able to look for him now."

"Look for him quickly!" Britney paled. "If he runs away and reports to the police, we will never see the end of this!"

"We are already looking for him! We've searched everywhere nearby—even his little motel—but the employees said that he hasn't returned for two months."

She fell silent upon hearing that.

## One Night Surprise Chapter 98

Chapter 98 Weird

"Does anyone else know about this?"

After calming herself, Britney tightly clenched her fists.

Her manager frowned while confidently replying, "The people from the black market always have their way in settling their scores. On top of that, they have killed the man and burned down his entire house, so they won't dare to say anything aloud. Only Benjamin knows about this and it is all their fault. They have already promised to fix this by finding him, but we are worried that we might not be quick enough."

"It's alright." Britney's face darkened. "If the detective is safe, he might have already reported this to the police. However, since there is no news until now, something might have happened to him too. Remind them to look for nearby hospitals or homes." The fire was huge, causing the nearby houses to be burned down as well. Apart from that, he was drugged and unconscious, so how could he have possibly made it out alive?

With that logic, she slowly convinced herself and loosened her fists. Her palm was reddened due to her fingernails, which were dug in it.

The next morning, Courtney started her journey to the first youth hostel plan that she was about to research on—it was at Oreus, which was around 200 kilometers away from Melrose City.

The first Airbnb that she researched was called 'Hostel D'Amour' as it was the first one in the recommended list online.

"The paperwork for your check-in is ready. Your room is the first one to your right on the second floor."

After they registered all her information, the receptionist handed Courtney's identity card back to her. "I'll show you the way."

"Thanks."

The receptionist was a young girl who looked like she was younger than 20 years of age. Wearing a green T-shirt and a pair of shorts, her demeanor gave people the feeling of their youth once again.

"Are you the only one taking care of this hostel? Can you manage it?"

"I'm not the only one. Our boss went out some time ago, but he hasn't been back for two months."

Upon hearing that, Courtney frowned in slight disappointment.

The first thing to do in her market research was to look at the decoration of the entire place and she noticed it as soon as she arrived—it was better than what she had imagined. Hence,

she was even more determined with her original plan to ask the boss of the hostel to work for Sunhill Hotel so that he would be involved in the plan to build a series of youth hostels. This is better than me accumulating experience over time.

"I see. When is your boss coming back?"

"No idea. He's usually quite unpredictable and mysterious. This hotel is managed by our madam. Why? Do you have something to discuss with our boss?"

"Nothing." Courtney smiled. "I'm just curious about the person who designed this unique hostel and I would like to meet him. That's all."

"In that case, it's the same if you talk to the madam. The entire design was done by her and our boss. In fact, many of the decorations are based on her ideas."

"Is that so?" Her eyes lit up. "This hostel is not managed by your boss, but her?"

"Yeah, this entire hostel is the product of her hard work ."

After chatting with each other for a while, the receptionist went downstairs to serve other guests. Courtney was delighted to find out about that as it was usually much easier to convince women compared to men.

In the evening, as the entire Oreus was enshrouded in the warm glow of sunset, a middle-aged woman was brewing tea with a clay teapot in the corner of Hostel D'Amour. Since her hair was tied up in a bun with a hair pin, it was difficult to determine her age. To be more precise, the range of her possible age was quite wide—it would be believable if one claimed that she was in her thirties or in her fifties.

Courtney walked to her and initiated a conversation. "The tea smells delicious. Is it jasmine tea?"

The woman lifted her head and kindly smiled. "Indeed. Would you like to give it a try? It's going to be ready soon."

Courtney nodded and thanked her as she sat down.

"Are you comfortable with your stay here?" she asked while she was still focused on brewing the tea.

"Yeah, it's amazing here. I can see the rooftop of the entire ancient city. It's really beautiful."

"Here, have some tea."

The woman passed a tea cup to her. After thanking her, Courtney took a sip of it—it indeed left a strong fragrance in her mouth.

"You don't seem like you are here to travel," the woman stated.

Courtney's expression slightly froze. "How did you know?"

"People who are traveling here won't be staying in their room all day like you."

Courtney smiled. "Even though you don't come downstairs, you seem to understand all the customers here. You are quite caring indeed, madam."

The woman merely smiled without saying another word.

"Aren't you curious about what I'm doing here, madam?"

"I'm not curious since curiosity kills the cat. There are too many stories that kill curious people, but if you are willing to tell me, I would gladly listen."

Courtney was stunned for a moment as she had never met anyone like that woman, who seemed ethereal. After a moment of silence, she decided to tell her about herself. "Let me introduce myself first—I'm Courtney Hunter, a branch manager of Sunhill Hotel under the umbrella of Sunhill Enterprise."

With that, she passed her business card over.

As soon as the woman heard the words 'Sunhill Enterprise', her relaxed demeanour suddenly tensed as she looked at Courtney in shock. "Sunhill?"

"Yes, Sunhill." Courtney heaved a sigh of relief. Even though Oreus was far and deserted, the madam seemed to know about Sunhill Enterprise. This definitely made my work easier.

"I heard that you were personally involved in the design and management of this hostel. Hence, I would like to ask whether you have the intention to work for our group, particularly managing a new business of a chain of hostels?"

The woman frowned deeply as she looked at the business card while being deep in her thoughts.

After a while, she asked, "Whose arrangement is this—asking me to work at the enterprise?"

"Of course, it's a plan from the proposal team. Our president signed it off himself."

"Your president, Alexander Duncan?"

"Do you know President Duncan?" Courtney tentatively asked.

Suddenly, she felt that the madam's reaction was rather peculiar.

"I've heard of him before." The woman looked at her. "A-Are you well-acquainted with your president?"

Courtney froze again. What question is this? "I-I guess so."

"How is his health? I heard that he has a son. Is he married?"

"He has been fairly healthy. As for his son, yes, he does have a son, but he is not married yet. Soon, perhaps." At the mention of Alexander's son, Courtney's face slightly darkened as her thoughts wandered elsewhere.

"Yeah? What about the old Master Duncan, Scott Duncan? Is he doing alright? Have you met him?"

After Courtney returned to her senses, she was slightly confused. "Madam, you seem to be quite concerned about President Duncan's family matters..."

The woman had an unnatural expression on her face. "Is that so? I'm merely curious. After all, there are many rumors about their family. Even though I'm old, I'm still quite into gossip."

Is that so? Courtney felt even more confused. The first question I asked her was whether she was curious about my plans here. From her nonchalant reply, she doesn't seem to care even if the world is ending tomorrow. Yet she's saying that she's curious about the Duncan Family now? Weird.

"I heard that you sent Courtney on a business trip?"

At the Duncans' ancestral home, Scott suddenly asked Alexander about Courtney when they had dinner together.

Alexander froze as he was about to take the vegetables before shooting a glance at Jordan, who sat next to Scott. Jordan tightened his grip on Scott's clothes and looked at Alexander indignantly, as if to say, That's right. I told him! What can you do about it?.

## One Night Surprise Chapter 99

### Chapter 99 Accident

"Grandpa, you even know about such a small matter in the company now?" Alexander asked indifferently.

"Why? Can't I ask about it after handing the company to you?" Scott's face darkened.

"Courtney has been doing well in the company, yet you have arranged for her to head to a faraway place to complete such a tedious task. You have a child yourself—can't you put yourself in her shoes?"

Jordan nodded vehemently beside Scott.

After shooting a glance at his son, Alexander still had a nonchalant look on his face. "It was not my sole decision to send Courtney to do the market research—it was agreed by everyone in the meeting. What I'm curious about is—when have you become close to her, grandpa?"

Now that I think about it, Courtney is pretty incredible indeed—initially, she is able to make Jordan listen to everything she says and stay with her. Then, she is suddenly able to make grandpa speak up for her and occasionally ask about her. Hmph. Yet she still pretends to be an innocent woman and claims that she has no ulterior motives in getting closer to me.

Scott surmised, "Courtney is a good lady and Jordan likes her. I also think that if you were to be married, she would be the most suitable choice. I don't see any problem in getting to know my future granddaughter-in-law."

"I've never agreed to that." Alexander's lukewarm voice rang like a bucket of cold water that doused the warm atmosphere of the family. "There are many available options if Jordan wants a mom. Courtney is not the only one. To be precise, I've never considered her to be my future wife and I don't think a single mom with a kid has the right to marry into my family."

Upon hearing that, Jordan was angered to the point where his expression changed.

Scott retorted with displeasure, "What are you saying? Yes, Courtney has a kid, but I've seen that girl—she's obedient. If she does not have the right to marry you, what about those celebrities who are surrounded by gossip and scandals? Let me tell you this—you won't have any chance to marry Britney."

Alexander put his cutleries down and slowly wiped his mouth before saying coldly, "I've finished eating and I think Jordan doesn't want to follow me home today. So, I'll just stay here."

"You—"

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While looking at Alexander's leaving figure, Scott did not utter another word.

However, Jordan was tugging on Scott's sleeves, so the latter placed him on his lap and sighed in exasperation. "Jordan, it's not that I'm not helping you, but your father is extremely stubborn. He's been like that since young—the more people try to force him to make a decision, the more he tries to oppose that."

Jordan pouted with an aggrieved look and almost burst into tears.

"Hey, don't cry! I'm thinking of other ways now."

While trying to console the young child, Scott yelled out of the room, "Harry, have you checked on the thing that I asked you to?"

"Yes, sir."

Harry quickly entered the dining area and stood straight while reporting respectfully, "Miss Hunter has been sent to Oreus and she's staying at Hostel D'Amour."

"Oreus?" Scott frowned. "Why does that place... sound so familiar?"

After a moment of hesitation, Harry reminded him, "It's because of madam..."

Scott's expression froze for a moment before his frown deepened. "I don't think they'll meet," he spoke carefully, as if it was a sensitive topic.

"Does Alex know about that place?"

"Judging by the current situation, probably not. Otherwise, he wouldn't have included this spot in the youth hostel plan."

Scott slightly raised his head with a conflicted expression on his face.

Courtney lay in the bed of the hostel as she blankly looked at the ceiling at night.

When she asked about the madam of the hostel, the latter's reaction was rather peculiar, especially the mixture of guilt and care on her face when she mentioned Alexander's name. She doesn't look like someone who merely wanted to know gossip, but instead, she looked like she had known him for a long time and wanted to know more about him.

Apart from that, Courtney found the madam to be a familiar face, but she could not remember where she had seen her.

After thinking about it, sleep finally swept over her.

No matter how big or small it was, she visited all the other hostels in Oreus after that day. However, Hostel D'Amour was the one that gave her the most unforgettable experience and made her desire to stay there for the second time.

Before she left, the madam did not look like she would agree to Courtney's request to hire her, so she gave up and checked out after packing her belongings. Then, Courtney planned to visit another ancient city—Ephyra, which was 300km away from her current location.

Courtney was maneuvering the steering wheel moments after driving out of Oreus and setting the navigation on the remote country road. Suddenly, a black figure stumbled onto the road, causing her to pale as she stepped on the brake.

A shrill screeching sound ensued at once. Amidst the dust and sand, she broke out in cold sweat with trembling hands as she alighted from the car.

A figure lay in front of her, but the person was already unconscious.

Courtney calmed herself down and crouched to inspect the person. She managed to make out that he looked like a homeless man in disheveled clothes—he was covered in dirt and blood oozed from his head.

It was in that instant when she immediately called the ambulance. “Hello, is this the hospital?”

She heard the voice at the end replying to her.

“There is a car crash on the freeway at around 3 kilometers outside Oreus. Please come immediately.”

After receiving the confirmation from the hospital, she waited for them to arrive.

In the CEO’s office at Sunhill Enterprise, Courtney’s assistant, Addie, held a stack of documents in front of Alexander’s desk. “President Duncan, these are all the documents from the market research in Oreus. Miss Hunter has already categorized them and asked me to send them over.” Because of his nervousness, he was unable to speak coherently.

Alexander merely glanced at him coldly. “Where is Miss Hunter? Why didn’t she send it over herself?”

“There are some problems on her end. She encountered an accident on her way back, so she asked me to send the documents over first.”

Upon hearing that, Alexander’s expression immediately changed as he stood up abruptly. “Accident? Is she alright?”

Addie was also shocked upon seeing Alexander’s reaction and stuttered, “M-M-Miss Hunter is fine. It’s just that she knocked into someone and that person is still undergoing an

emergency operation at a hospital in Oreus. Hence, Miss Hunter asked me to head over to take the documents from her first.”

Even though Alexander heaved a sigh of relief, he still looked solemn. “Which hospital is that?”

“What?” As Addie had not regained his composure, he was stunned for a second. When he saw Alexander’s unfriendly face, he jumped and quickly revealed the hospital’s name and address before tentatively asking. “Are you going to the hospital, President Duncan?”

Once again, Alexander merely shot a glance. “Who told you that? Also, don’t you think that you are asking many questions?”

Addie had been frightened that his legs had softened since his biggest fear was Alexander’s sudden decision to fire him.

“That’s it. You can leave now.”

Alexander impatiently waved him away, leaving him alone in the room. After a while, he was still uneasy. Would she be completely fine after an accident?

His thoughts were now in a mess.

“President Duncan, there’s a document that needs your—”

Ten minutes later, when Josh came into the room, Alexander was no longer there.

# One Night Surprise Chapter 100

## Chapter 100 Up to No Good

“Something cropped up at my end. I’ll be back in the office tomorrow afternoon.” After explaining himself, Alexander hung up and slammed his foot on the accelerator to enter the highway.

It was already evening and the distance from Melrose City to Oreus was around 200 kilometers. Without stopping on the way, he arrived at the hospital two hours later.

After he reached the door of the ward, he heard Courtney’s shrill scream.

“What are you doing? Let me go!”

Without giving it a second thought, he opened the door and ran inside.

On the bed, a man with bandages on his head circled his arms around her waist. Even though the bandages had covered his face, it was clear that the man was quite good-looking. After she struggled to be free from his embrace, he actually jumped out of the bed to catch her.

Upon seeing that, Alexander’s expression immediately changed. In a few steps, he stepped forward and caught the man’s collar while using another hand to pin his arms to his back, making him scream in pain.

“Hey, let him go now. He just finished an operation. You can’t do this to him.” Courtney anxiously stomped on the ground. “Let him go!”

Alexander frowned as he threw the man onto the bed and coldly replied, “There’s no pity in seeing such a rude person dying.”

After the man heard Alexander's words, he jolted in fear and climbed back to the bed. Then, he pulled the blanket over himself while only revealing a pair of eyes that darted around in anxiousness.

The room only returned to silence after that.

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Courtney heaved a sigh of relief before looking at Alexander with mixed feelings. "Why are you here?"

"My employee has knocked someone over. I need to come over to take a look so that others won't generate rumors and comments that couldn't be prevented in the future."

His reply was solid and firm; it even sounded slightly fierce. However, he was merely taking advantage of her inexperience in the company—since she had not been working in Sunhill Hotel for long, she did not know that there was a special department in the company to handle such matters.

"The police have already investigated it and I have a dashcam on my dashboard. It's true that he ran to the road all of a sudden, so I didn't have enough time to stop. However, I was also using my phone to navigate, so I have to bear some responsibility too. Hence... Sorry."

Courtney thought he was there to blame her.

Alexander scowled and looked slightly impatient. "What are you sorry for? I heard from your assistant that you knocked into a homeless man. Is it him?"

The man on the bed looked clean and tall. Apart from the childish and naive vibe he radiated, he did not look like a homeless man after Alexander appraised him from top to bottom.

Courtney was also slightly confused. "But when I knocked into him, the clothes that he wore were indeed ragged, like he hadn't taken a shower for a long time. His entire body had a pungent smell. After examining him, the doctor announced that there was a blood clot in his head that seemed to have been there before the accident happened."

"So, you knocked into a person who already has something wrong with his head." Alexander summarized the entire situation with one straightforward sentence. "What about his family? Were you able to contact them?"

She shook her head. "There are no contacts with him whatsoever."

"After his injuries have healed, just send him to the temporary home for the homeless in the city."

In a few words, he decided the future of the 'homeless man'.

"I don't think that's the best way. After all, I'm the one who knocked into him, so I have to figure out where he is from. What if his family is looking for him? Apart from that, there's something wrong with him and there's a possibility that it was caused by me."

Upon hearing that, Alexander's face darkened. "Whatever."

Seeing that he was about to leave, Courtney chased after him. "It's already so late. Where are you going?" The night has already fallen. He's not going back to Melrose City overnight, is he?

Sure enough, he threw her a glance before answering in a displeased tone, "I'm going back since I have a meeting tomorrow afternoon. Do you think I'm that free?"

He had driven all the way just to check if she was fine—and not to see her causing more troubles for herself.

"It's too late." She frowned. "The weather forecast says that there's a thunderstorm later at night. I think you better stay the night and leave tomorrow morning."

Earlier in the morning, the meteorologist in Oreus announced that there would be a thunderstorm later. Since there were many country roads on the route leading to Melrose City, chances of cars skidding off the slopes were high. It's better to avoid what-ifs.

"Where can I stay?"

"It's not far from Oreus and the hostel I've been staying at has a decent environment. Would you consider staying there?"

"Sure." Alexander agreed without any hesitation. After shooting her a glance, he added. "Let's go. I haven't eaten yet."

It's that easy to persuade him? After being stunned for a moment, Courtney quickly caught up to him.

After both of them left the hospital, there was a clap of thunder and in an instant, heavy rain fell from the sky. It landed on the windscreen with such force that even the wipers could not dissipate them.

He sat in her car as they made the slow drive to the city. Even though it was only a few kilometers, it took them around half an hour to arrive.

"Here it is." Courtney closed the umbrella and led Alexander to the hostel. Then, she asked the receptionist. "Are there any more rooms? Please arrange a room for him."

"I'm sorry. All the rooms are fully booked, Miss Hunter." The receptionist looked apologetic. "Because of the heavy rain, a few tourists who were planning to leave have extended their stay for another night. I'm afraid there aren't many hostels here with empty rooms."

"What?" Courtney froze on the spot. Now, this is awkward—I'm the one who dragged him here, yet there are no rooms left...

"Miss Hunter, why don't you share a room with your boyfriend? The room that you are staying on the second floor is the largest room. There won't be any problem accommodating another person inside."

The receptionist smiled meaningfully.

"He's not—"

"Sure." Before Courtney could deny anything, Alexander interrupted her.

She looked at him with widened eyes. Just as she was about to say something, he suddenly pulled her to the second floor without saying another word.

"No, wait. What are you doing?" As soon as they reached the room, she pressed her hands on his hands as he closed the door before asking in a low voice. "You are not planning to share a room with me, are you?"

"You were the one who asked me to stay the night," he replied indignantly.

“Well, what I meant is for you to stay in a room alone. What are you up to by sharing a room with me?”

“That’s fine. I’ll take the bed while you sleep on the couch.”

Alexander ignored her and immediately walked into the room. After looking around, he sat on the bed.

“Why?” Courtney was unhappy to hear that. “This is my room. Why do I have to sleep on the couch?”

“Well, you sleep on the bed then. I’ll sleep on the couch.”

“This is much better.” As soon as she said that, Courtney could not help but want to slap herself. Why am I so easily convinced by him? “No, absolutely not. I’ll find another place for you to stay in.”

“What are you worried about?” Alexander looked at her with honesty. “Are you afraid that I might do something to you? Don’t worry, I’m not that desperate.”

Upon hearing that, she was immediately annoyed. “What do you mean by ‘desperate’? You are clearly up to no good. Don’t think that I don’t know what you did to me during that night in Maldives.”

Although she suffered from seasickness and a fever because of the rain, she felt the kiss that Alexander secretly gave her. She was merely pretending to be oblivious all along.

With that, silence hung in the air.

After a long time, he walked toward her. In a low voice that seemed to have been brightened by a spark in the dark night, he teased, “So, what have I done to you that night?”