

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1101

Jeremy felt his heart skip a beat as he lifted his head to look at Madeline.

However, she was not awake. She only grabbed his hand subconsciously, yet she was still so strong.

"Jeremy, don't leave me again..." she said in her sleep. She had no idea he was next to her.

Jeremy grabbed her hand and kissed the back of her hand. There were so many deep emotions on his handsome face.

"Linnie, no matter where I go, you'll always be my only one."

Jeremy sat on the side of the bed and looked at the sleeping face in satisfaction.

He fed Madeline an antipyretic. After that, he just stayed and watched her silently.

He stayed there for the entire afternoon. When he felt that her forehead was no longer as hot, Jeremy tested her temperature and noticed that her fever had indeed gone down.

He was feeling much relieved and decided to leave.

He took out a jewelry box from his pocket. Then, after he placed it down, he looked intensely at Madeline.

“Linnie, goodbye. Don’t miss me,” he said before turning around to leave. At this moment, he heard a woman’s scream from downstairs.

“Ryan, I didn’t expect you to hide from me!”

Jeremy felt that the sound was familiar. When he was wondering who it was, he noticed that Madeline was already awake.

When Madeline opened her eyes, Jeremy had just stepped out of the room in time.

She furrowed her brows when she heard Naomi’s screeches.

Madeline sat up and saw a jewelry box on the head of the bed.

She knew the jewelry box. It was the box she had put her wedding ring and the letters in. She had left it in the villa they bought after they got married, so why was it here now?

She opened it and saw the bookmark that Jeremy gave her when they were kids.

Was he here?

He was here!

Madeline smelled a familiar scent.

She quickly lifted her blanket and jumped out of bed. When she got downstairs, she did not see Jeremy, but instead, she saw Naomi charging toward her aggressively.

When she saw Madeline running downstairs in her pajamas, Naomi's face turned dark immediately.

"Ryan, you didn't even touch me when we were together and now you're canoodling with this woman in broad daylight?! I guess you never loved me!"

However, Madeline completely ignored Naomi. She was eager to look for the special scent as she rushed out.

However, the pain from the injury of her knee and ankle forced her to slow down.

Ryan was worried that something bad would happen to Madeline, so he chased after her. "Eveline, why are you here? Go back to your room."

Madeline pushed away Ryan's hands that were trying to stop her and was extremely emotional. "I smelled him! He's nearby!"

Ryan knew Madeline's sense of smell was impeccable, but he did not expect it to be so sharp.

Jeremy had indeed left from the backdoor.

However, if Madeline really saw Jeremy in this state, it would only hurt her more.

This was the first time Ryan held Madeline in such a domineering way as he trapped Madeline firmly in his arms. "Eveline, you're sick and it's very windy outside."

"Let me go! I want to go find him! He's nearby! I know it!" Madeline used all of her might to push Ryan away.

However, her body was weak right now, so she could not push away a well-built man.

Madeline's eyes were red as she looked around dazedly.

"Jeremy, I know you're here. Come out and see me now!"

'Jeremy is here?'

Naomi was stunned. When she saw Ryan holding Madeline this way, she felt jealousy rising in her chest.

"Rye, just look at this woman. She's already married to you and she's still thinking about Jeremy. Why did you marry a woman like her? If she wants to go look for Jeremy, then just let her!"

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Naomi tried to flatter Ryan using this opportunity.

"Rye, let's get back together, okay? I'm the one who truly loves you."

With Naomi incessantly pestering Ryan, he eventually lost his hold on Madeline.

Madeline ran out the door and into the autumn wind and rain. "Jeremy, Jeremy!"

She yelled at the vast emptiness in front of her. "If you can't let me go, then why did you hide from me? Do you think I won't be in any hurt if you hide from me?"

Jeremy was standing around the corner and was glad that it was raining.

At least Madeline would not be able to pick up on his scent.

Ryan ran over and picked Madeline up by the waist when he saw her dressed so thinly while standing in the rain.

"Eveline, calm down." Ryan comforted her as he held the struggling Madeline before bringing her back inside.

Naomi could not stand how much Ryan cared for Madeline. As such, she barged in front of them to stop them.

"Madeline, you homewrecker! You seduced my fiancé! Rye was initially my boyfriend!" Naomi roared angrily.

Madeline ignored her, but Naomi continued to slander her.

“Eveline, I know why you’re upset. Jeremy is going to die, right? Haha! It’s your fault for being fickle and seducing Rye! Your man dying is your karma for all of this!”

Naomi cackled wretchedly.

Madeline suddenly clenched her fist and kicked Naomi on the shoulder.

“The people who deserve to die are heinous rats like you! My Jeremy won’t die!”

“Ah!” Naomi screamed and fell.

Then, using this opportunity, Ryan carried Madeline inside the house and locked the door.

Madeline looked at the closed door, then at the drizzle outside. She felt as if she was an entire world away from Jeremy.

“Jeremy...”

Tears started streaming down her face.

She did not want to leave like this. She wanted to look at him. She wanted to see how he was now. She wanted to see if he was thinner and if he was suffering from the poison.

However, she gradually lost the ability to fight back.

Before she fell unconscious, she vaguely saw Jeremy’s face.

After Naomi climbed up from the ground, she slammed her hands on the door angrily. She was also berating Madeline non-stop with all kinds of horrible curses.

However, she felt someone creeping up behind her as she was yelling.

When she was about to turn around, she felt a dull pain in her neck before she lost consciousness.

After some time, Naomi woke up groggily and felt a sharp pain on the back of her neck.

It was still raining, and she was abandoned on the muddy grounds in the outskirts of town. Her entire body was drenched.

She scrambled to get up, but after she took two steps forward, she saw a man in black in front of her.

Naomi knew that it was Jeremy. It was difficult for her to forget such a handsome face.

At this moment, his pale face was filled with malice.

Naomi quickly turned around to run away when she recalled how Jeremy had poured gasoline on her and almost burned her alive.

Jeremy pulled out his gun neither too quickly nor too slowly and fired it near Naomi's feet.

"Ah!" Naomi screamed and fell on the muddy ground. She also got a mouthful of mud when she fell.

She backed away in terror as she watched Jeremy approaching her slowly. "Don't kill me. I won't do it again. I won't cause any trouble for Eveline again. I really... Ugh!"

Before she could finish, Jeremy grabbed her by the neck.

“Why do you have to upset my Eveline? Are you tired of staying alive, hmm?”

“Don’t... M-Mr. Whitman, I was wrong...” Naomi gasped and pleaded.

However, Jeremy only tightened his grip on her neck.

“So what if you know your mistakes? Will you change? You’ll only keep annoying my Linnie. So, someone like you should disappear from this world forever. Coincidentally, I need someone leading me to the gates of hell after I die, so I think you should do it.”

“No...” Naomi’s back turned cold from fear. “Mr. Whitman, you can’t kill me. If I die, you’ll never know the truth about your in-laws’ death!”

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Jeremy did not forget how Lana wanted to exchange this information with him as well, but he did not care.

Now, he only wanted the people who destroyed his relationship with Madeline to disappear from this world.

Looking at Naomi’s face that was getting purple, he suddenly recalled Madeline’s words she said in a distressed voice in his head, “Jeremy, stop making mistakes again.”

‘No, Linnie. I won’t make the same mistakes again.

‘If you don’t like me doing anything that goes over the limit, then I won’t.’

Naomi was about to stop breathing. At that moment, she thought she was on her way to see God when Jeremy let go of his hand.

Naomi lay on the ground and wheezed. She lifted her head, and when she saw the man who was towering over her like Satan, she curled herself up into a ball.

“I-I’ll stop causing trouble for Eveline. P-Please, let me go, Mr. Whitman...”

Jeremy looked at Naomi who was trembling violently with a malicious yet indifferent look. “What did Lana tell you?”

Naomi gulped. “She said you have a slow-acting poison in you and you’re going to die soon.”

“And?”

“And...”

Naomi shifted her eyes. She wanted to change the topic. However, Jeremy’s cold aura overpowered her, and she found herself subconsciously shrinking her neck before blurting out frantically, “She told me that she hired someone to light the fire last time. You... Cough, cough... You’re not the one who set the fire!”

When he heard that, Jeremy felt as if someone had turned him into a block of ice.

He stood in the rain as all of his senses shut down. At that moment, the only thing he could see was Montgomery Manor being engulfed in flames.

Naomi looked at Jeremy as he froze in place. Then, she quickly got up and ran away without even caring where she was going.

The rain became heavier, and Jeremy stood there for a very long time. Suddenly, he burst out laughing.

There was an indescribable bitter smile on his sickly face.

He was not the one who set the fire?

He was not the one who set the fire that destroyed Montgomery Manor?

He closed his eyes to think. However, whenever he thought about what happened that day, it was as if he had lost an important piece of memory.

He could not remember what he was doing before the fire.

He bought two bouquets. Then, he came to Eloise and Sean's graves while dragging his exhausted body and holding a black umbrella.

Even though he was not the one who set the fire and was not as sinful as before, the destruction of Montgomery Manor was still related to him.

He was still responsible no matter what.

Jeremy looked apologetically at the words on the tombstone with his dull eyes. He said, "Mom, Dad, I've already handed Eveline to a reliable man. Don't worry, I'll go and atone for my crime with you soon."

...

Madeline's fever finally went away after she slept for 24 hours.

The first thing she did after she woke up was to call Jeremy. However, his phone was switched off.

She went to Ryan and wanted to use his phone to call Jeremy's other number, but it was also switched off.

From this day on, Madeline completely lost all updates on Jeremy.

She went to the villa they bought after they got married every day, but Jeremy never showed up.

She even started wishing for rain. Whenever it rained, she would get the urge to go into the rain. She figured that if she was sick, Jeremy would appear. However, the man never appeared again even when winter came.

Madeline buried herself in work and tried to use this to shift her attention to something else.

She wanted to numb herself and told herself that it was good news that she did not have any updates about Jeremy.

She imagined that he was still alive and they were looking at the same sky together.

Then, Ryan told her that Lana and Yorick had been transferred to F Country for further interrogation. Finally, Madeline felt slightly relieved of her hatred.

She despised Lana. She wanted this woman to get the death penalty as soon as possible.

Especially when she saw her daughter who still could not talk, she wanted so badly to punish that devious woman herself.

Today, Madeline wanted to take Lillian for therapy, but the moment they got out of the door, they saw Fabian. He looked like he had been waiting for them.

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When Lillian saw Fabian, a smile blossomed on her beautiful face.

Even though she did not say anything, her body language showed that she wanted to get close to Fabian.

Madeline let go of her hand and Lillian jogged over to get close to Fabian.

Fabian squatted and carried the adorable little girl. "Lily, did you miss me?"

Lillian nodded her head lightly.

Fabian felt his heart getting warmer when he saw the innocent face.

Madeline was not against Fabian. She thought this scene in front of her looked pretty heartwarming as well.

She could see Fabian's concern and care for Lillian.

He used to be frivolous, but now, it seemed that he had changed a great deal.

"Fabian, are you here for me?" Madeline asked.

Fabian nodded. He did not mind the little girl in his arms playing with his hair.

“Lana will be punished soon. However, she refuses to admit that she’s the one who set the fire in Montgomery Manor. She insists that Jeremy was the one who set the fire. The police in F Country contacted the police here and I received a shocking piece of news.”

Madeline’s heart started racing when she heard Jeremy’s name.

However, she pretended to be calm. She looked at Lillian who was grinning while playing with Fabian’s hair before asking flatly, “What news?”

Fabian replied after hesitating for a while, “Jeremy is dead.”

“...”

The three words fell into Madeline’s ears. She looked silently at her daughter who was in Fabian’s arms.

At that moment, she felt as if her whole world had stopped moving.

“Eveline, is that true?” Fabian looked at the frozen Madeline and asked in curiosity.

Madeline found her train of thought and scoffed. “He’s fine. How could he be dead? I even saw him a while ago.”

She purposely emphasized that she had seen him. However, a while ago was a few months ago.

“I need to take Lily to the psychiatrist. I don’t want to hear any news about Lana.” Madeline took Lillian from Fabian and walked to the garage. Her brain was buzzing with countless voices repeating in her brain, saying that Jeremy was dead.

Madeline walked away hurriedly. She was the only one who knew she was hiding from this.

She was driving the car on the road, and halfway through the journey, Madeline stepped on the brakes to stop halfway.

“Jeremy is dead. Eveline, is that true?”

‘No.’

‘That’s not true.’

Madeline denied it in her heart.

Lillian was sitting in the car seat at the back and looked strangely at her motionless mother.

She wanted to say something but could not. As such, she lifted her chubby hand and knocked on the window.

Madeline came back to her senses. When she wanted to turn around to look at Lillian, she saw a familiar figure walking past her from the corners of her eyes.

She saw Ken driving past with a bouquet of white chrysanthemums.

Madeline’s heart was beating erratically. She did not forget how Ken was Jeremy’s best assistant.

What was Ken doing with a bouquet of white chrysanthemums?

Madeline followed after him with her car and noticed that Ken was heading to the cemetery.

What surprised Madeline even more was that Ken was holding the flowers to the plot below Eloise and Sean's—the nameless grave.

Madeline walked over with Lillian. When Ken heard noises from behind him, he turned around. To his surprise, he saw Madeline.

“Miss Montgomery...”

“Who's in there?” Madeline pointed at the nameless grave and asked in a shaky voice.

Ken looked at Madeline as she tried her best to control her emotions. Then, he took out a card from his suit pocket and handed it to Madeline. “Mr. Whitman told me to hand this to you the day you find out.”

Ken handed the card over and lowered his head in sadness.

“Mr. Whitman passed away a month ago.”

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The wind in the early winter was so bone-piercing. It felt as if it was laced with brambles as it wrapped around her wounded heart, intensifying her pain.

Madeline reached out a shaky hand to grab the card Ken was handing to her.

When she got it in her hand, she felt as if she had touched Jeremy's cold fingertips.

“When did this happen?” she suppressed her sadness and asked calmly.

“Today is the 49th day,” Ken answered and looked at the grave in front of him before sighing.

“The reason Mr. Whitman chose this place and the reason why the tombstone is shorter is that he was sorry about what happened to your parents. So, upon his death, he’ll use such a petty manner to kneel to them in hopes he can repent his sins to your parents.”

Madeline could not hold in her tears anymore after she heard that. Tears started rolling down her cheeks and onto the card in her hand.

Lillian frowned when she noticed Madeline crying. She got closer to Madeline to hold Madeline’s hand as if she was trying to comfort her.

Madeline felt her daughter’s warmth, so she held her hand tightly before saying to Ken, “I want to stay here with Lily for a bit.”

Ken understood what Madeline meant. He nodded and did not say anything.

However, after he walked away, he could not stop himself from turning back and looking at the dispirited Madeline.

He pressed his lips into a thin line. Some words were stuck in his throat. He wanted to tell her, but he could not.

Madeline took Lillian to the grave. The tombstone was empty with no name on it. The only thing on the tombstone was a birth date.

It looked the same as when she glanced at it back then.

However, back then, she would have never imagined this to be the grave Jeremy prepared for himself beforehand.

She held the card tighter and pulled Lillian to the grave. Then, she squatted and caressed the little girl's puzzled face.

"Lillian, pay your respects."

Lillian blinked and was confused.

Madeline smiled gently with tears in her eyes. "Come, bow to him."

Despite being puzzled, Lillian still stood in front of the grave obediently.

After that, the little girl started bowing.

The little girl's bright eyes were filled with confusion, but when she moved her lips, no words came out.

"Such a good girl, Lily." Madeline caressed Lillian's head. Madeline's heart was bleeding while her voice was shaking. Despite her smile, her tears were falling uncontrollably.

Lillian lifted her hand to try to wipe away Madeline's tears. Her lips were moving as if she wanted to say 'Don't cry, Mommy', but she could not make a sound no matter how hard she tried.

Madeline pulled Lillian into her arms and allowed her tears to fall freely.

The sky was so blue but inside, Madeline felt very gloomy.

She did not know how to describe what she was feeling right now. The only thing she knew was that the light of her world had been switched off.

Madeline stayed by Jeremy's grave for a long time and did not leave.

Lillian was squatting at one side, silently pulling at the weeds.

Madeline opened the card Ken handed to her and saw a letter inside.

Jeremy's neat and beautiful handwriting was reflected in her eyes.

[Linnie.]

He was still addressing her as such.

[I'm sorry for letting you find out that I'm not alive anymore. After reminiscing, I realized I've given you too little happiness and joy.

[What I couldn't do in this life, I sincerely hope to make it up to you in the next life.

[I hope when that happens, we can be together forever.

[Linnie, your life is still long. Don't lose spirit because of my passing. I will still be by your side protecting you and the children.]

Finally, Madeline saw what Jeremy wrote at the end. [Ryan is a good man and he's reliable. I hope you can forget about me and fall in love with him so that he'll become the irreplaceable person in your heart instead.]

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After reading the letter, Madeline was sobbing uncontrollably.

She lifted her red and teary eyes to look at the nameless grave before touching it.

"How could I forget you?"

She smiled while tears rolled down her eyes. The cold wind grazed her body, and she felt something shattering from within her.

Suddenly, she got up and ran in front of Eloise and Sean's grave before kneeling with a thud.

"Mom, Dad, please forgive Jeremy, please..."

Madeline pleaded sadly. Lillian had no idea why Madeline was crying so sadly. However, she also ran over and knelt like her mother.

The two of them knelt in front of the graves facing the cold wind of winter. One of them was crying while the other was comforting.

The man in the black car at the entrance of the cemetery lifted his lifeless eyes to look at the scene far away from him. Then, he averted his gaze.

"Let's go."

The car started and disappeared into the empty road.

...

After leaving the cemetery, Madeline had completely forgotten to take Lillian to see the psychiatrist.

She was so distracted that she had been spacing out the entire day.

She did not dare to tell anyone about Jeremy's death. She would rather suffer the pain of loss all alone.

Ryan knew Madeline still could not forget about Jeremy, so he proposed to have an on-paper marriage with her so that Madeline could leave him anytime after she signed the papers.

Aside from gratitude and appreciation, Madeline did not know what to say to Ryan anymore.

After the winter, the children had grown up a lot.

On the first day of school during the summer semester, Madeline and Ryan sent Lillian and Jackson to their new kindergarten together. At the same time, they told their teachers about Lillian's situation.

The teacher pitied Lillian. It was such a waste that a cute little girl like her was now a mute.

On the other hand, Ryan also received a call today. After he hung up, he told Madeline that there was an update on the Stygian Johnson Gang.

Lana denied all charges and said she was only there that day because Yorick told her to. She said she did not know anything.

She said even if she was money-laundering for the Stygian Johnsons, she did not know the money was obtained illegally. She said she was just carrying out Yorick's orders and did not know about the rest.

She was pushing all the blame on Yorick. As a result, Lana became the tainted witness and successfully decreased her sentence.

Since Yorick was involved in a lot of illegal activities and there was so much money involved, Yorick might be faced with the death penalty soon. On the other hand, Lana might only be given a few years of imprisonment.

Madeline could not accept such a twist in the situation.

Lana was such a heinous woman. It would not be enough for her even if she were to die a hundred times.

Still, she was pushing all of the blame to her brother, Yorick.

Ryan also could not accept this, let alone Madeline.

He decided to go to F Country and asked Madeline to stay put for the time being.

Madeline did not follow Ryan to F Country for the sake of the children.

Madeline drove to the kindergarten to pick Lillian and Jackson up when the sun was setting.

After she got the children, Madeline could sense that something was on the siblings' minds, especially Lillian.

When she asked them about it, Jackson told her, "A bad boy said that Lily is mute today."

Madeline felt an ache in her heart as she held Lillian's hand. "Lily, don't be sad. I'll take you and Jack to

buy a Barbie doll, okay? Our Lily isn't mute. Lily is just sick. After you recover, you'll be able to speak like how you used to."

Lillian felt much better after she heard that. Then, she nodded and smiled, displaying her adorable dimples.

Madeline took the children into a toy shop. When they were looking around, Lillian suddenly ran in front of Madeline and grabbed her hand tightly.

"What's wrong, Lily?"

Lillian pressed her lips together and did not say anything. However, she was pointing out the window.

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Madeline felt curious, so she followed Lillian to the glass window on the other side.

Lillian's reaction was even more emotional, and she kept poking at the glass.

Madeline looked over to where she was pointing but did not see anything.

"Lily, what do you want me to see?" Madeline smiled and asked patiently.

Lillian blinked her huge eyes and grabbed Madeline's hand even tighter. Then, she led her to the door.

Jackson followed behind them hurriedly when he saw this.

Madeline had never seen her daughter act like this before. Her heart started beating faster as she kept feeling like something was going to happen next.

Lillian grabbed Madeline's hand and walked to the other side of the road. Then, they walked into the building.

"Lily, do you want me to come here?" Madeline looked around and did not notice anything out of the ordinary.

Lillian's eyes were twinkling. She was looking around as well.

It was as if she was looking for something. However, she could not find what she was looking for.

Madeline caressed her head and smiled gently. "Lily, let's go back and pick our toys."

Lillian nodded dispiritedly before turning away with Madeline.

However, the moment they turned around, her beautiful eyes lit up again.

Lillian stopped in her tracks and yanked the corner of Madeline's shirt forcefully. Her chubby fingers were pointing at the elevator door that was closing.

Madeline looked over, and the moment before the door closed, her eyes were met with a pair of deep and narrow eyes.

Madeline's heart plunged.

She only came back to her senses when she saw the door of the elevator closing.

"Jeremy?"

She was questioning her own eyes as her heart also started beating erratically.

She wanted to run over to where she saw him but remembered the children next to her.

She waited for the man in the lobby as she watched the elevator moving down and up. As time passed, she still did not see the pair of eyes that she saw in a glimpse just now.

Madeline took out her phone and looked at the man that was tattooed in her heart on the family photo that was set as her screen saver.

'Could there be two pairs of eyes so similar in this world?'

As Madeline pondered about the possibility, she heard rumblings. She lowered her head and noticed that the children's stomachs were growling in hunger.

The siblings were hungry.

Madeline looked at the time and noticed that it was already six o'clock.

She had been waiting here for about two hours.

She did not want them to be hungry, so she decided to leave now.

However, when she turned around, the man she saw earlier was getting out of the elevator.

The man was tall and slender. He had a beige coat on and looked imposing as he walked forward.

His ashy short hair looked neat and refreshing. Plus, his amber eyes looked extraordinary. He attracted the attention of a lot of women with his good-looking appearance.

After the man left the building, he drove away in a car.

The next day.

After Madeline sent the children to school, she drove back to the building yesterday.

She did not know what she was waiting for. At the same time, she thought she was just having wishful thinking.

The man she loved the most in this world was dead.

She touched the bookmark in her pocket but could not feel Jeremy's warmth through it anymore.

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"Jeremy, I miss you. I miss you so much..."

Madeline grabbed her shaky hands and tried to suppress her sadness.

At the same time, Ava called her. As such, Madeline recomposed herself and answered her call.

On the other end of the phone, Ava sounded melancholic. "Maddie, what should I do? Dan said his mother wants to invite me over to their house."

Madeline heard about what happened during Old Master Graham's 80th birthday and how Daniel's family had been horrible to Ava.

It was just like when the Whitmans boycotted Madeline.

However, the only difference was that Daniel was siding with Ava.

Back then, Jeremy did not even care about Madeline.

When she thought about this, Madeline could still clearly feel the pain she felt back then.

However, she much rather he treated her coldly than leaving her forever.

"Maddie, do you think I should go?"

Ava's confused and conflicted question pulled Madeline's wandering thoughts back.

"Ava, you have to go." Madeline gave her a firm answer. "Since the Grahams are inviting you over, then it means that Dan must have done something for you.

"Ava, if you want to continue this relationship with Dan, you have to get through this. If you don't go, Dan will be so upset."

After listening to Madeline's explanation, Ava nodded in agreement.

"Maddie, I'm so blessed to have you."

Madeline felt much better after hearing Ava's miserable tone changing to a much happier one.

Perhaps she needed to be surrounded by more happy vibes so that she would stop overthinking and falling deeper into the pain of losing Jeremy.

After Ava heard Madeline's advice, she started preparing to go over to Graham Manor.

This time, she dressed much more casually than the last. Even so, she still looked decent.

The Grahams were one of the upper-class families in Glendale, after all, so Ava did not want to dress too cheaply.

That night, Daniel drove a luxurious car to pick her up.

Ava even prepared a gift for Daniel's mother.

However, the moment she stepped in through the door, she saw Naya.

Naya was sitting on the sofa talking to Mrs. Graham and Old Master Graham.

Daniel grabbed Ava's hand intimately and walked over. "Mom, Grandpa, Ava is here."

Mrs. Graham looked at Ava from the corners of her eyes and smiled perfunctorily. "You're here, Miss Long. Let's get seated, then. Have a taste of our chef's food."

Ava smiled and handed the gift over. "Thank you, Mrs. Graham. This is a little something from me."

However, Mrs. Graham only peered at the gift in disdain. She mocked, "You don't have to do this, Miss Long. You bought this gift with Dan's money anyway, and at the end of the day, it's still our money."

Mrs. Graham's attitude toward Ava was already obvious.

They did not invite Ava over here as their guest. On the other hand, they were clearly setting her up.

Daniel furrowed his brows. He wanted to speak up for Ava, but she stopped him. She smiled magnanimously and said, "Mrs. Graham, don't worry. I bought this with my own money."

Mrs. Graham laughed even more sarcastically when she heard that. "I can't accept this if you bought this with your own money. You should know how much money you make in a month. You should keep the money to buy more fake branded goods for yourself."

After Mrs. Graham said that, Naya curled the corners of her lips. Then, she said in fake sincerity, "Mrs. Graham, it's the thought that counts, so you should accept it. Take a look at it. Who knows you might like it?"

Mrs. Graham looked reluctant at first, but after Naya said that, she was more than happy to do so. Therefore, she picked up the box and opened it.

However, the moment she opened the box and saw what was inside, her face fell. At the same time, Naya's expression also changed.

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Ava had meticulously picked this gift. Before she purchased it, she even asked Daniel for his opinion.

However, when Ava looked at Mrs. Graham's grim expression now, she knew she made a mistake.

Mrs. Graham threw the box at the coffee table in dissatisfaction before snorting. "Hmph, Dan, which dumpster did you get this girlfriend from? Do you think she'll be able to get into the Graham family with

her qualities?"

"Mom, what are you saying?" Daniel asked in agitation.

Naya stood up and said softly, "Dan, it's understandable why Mrs. Graham is mad."

"What do you mean?" Dan was puzzled, and so was Ava.

Naya sighed while looking helpless. She pointed to the box Mrs. Graham threw away. "Dan, it's normal for you to not know anything about jewelry. However, Mrs. Graham does.

"This is from one of the international luxury jewelry brands. No one can buy this black diamond brooch in any outlets in Glendale."

Naya looked smug when she said that. At the same time, there was a victorious look in her eyes.

"Two days ago, my friend went overseas and I asked her to help me find this discontinued brooch from the outlet over there. She went through so many challenges to buy this. I just gave the one my friend bought overseas to Mrs. Graham. It's obvious the one Miss Long gave Mrs. Graham is a fake."

A fake?

Ava was speechless.

She was being accused of buying fakes again.

"Impossible. I went to the outlet to buy this with Ava. How can it be a fake?" Daniel sided with Ava without hesitation.

“It’s simple. She switched it and used a fake to exchange it with the real one. Then, she sold the real one for money. She doesn’t really want to give me a gift.” Mrs. Graham’s eyes were filled with contempt.

Ava clenched her fists. She had always been a straightforward person who would not choose to suffer in silence.

Back then, she would also yell at Jeremy without hesitation.

However, for the sake of Daniel and this relationship, she endured it.

“It’s fine. Even if it’s a fake, it still came from Dan’s girlfriend. You should accept it,” Old Master Graham chimed in all of a sudden, “Everyone’s here, so we can start dinner now.”

“Hmph.” Mrs. Graham scorned at Ava before turning around to go into the dining room while holding Naya’s arm intimately. They looked so close that it was as if Naya was already her daughter-in-law.

A few of Daniel’s relatives were also at the table, but they all ignored Ava. They did not even look at her. On the other hand, they were all talking to Naya with smiles on their faces.

“Naya, you’re so amazing for managing a charity organization at such a young age.”

“What an exceptional young lady! Dan will be so lucky to have you as his wife.”

“Exactly! Naya’s father is the famous big shot of the property industry in Glendale. His yearly income can compete with the Grahams.”

“I heard Naya’s father is discussing a project worth over one billion dollars with a huge tycoon from Y Country. If he manages to get the deal, then the Mendezes will be in the top five wealthiest families of

Glendale!”

All of the relatives congratulated Naya before turning to Ava.

“Miss Long, what do your parents do? Are their annual salaries enough for you to buy a proper set of luxurious jewelry?”

Ava could tell they were purposely making things difficult for her, so she smiled magnanimously and said, “I don’t know what my parents do. They abandoned me in Glendale when I was five to go overseas.”

“What?” When Mrs. Graham heard that, her expression was grim. “So, you’re basically an orphan?”

“Dan, you have to break up with her now! She doesn’t have money or social status! How can she be our daughter-in-law? Do you know how much influence family background is on a marriage? Naya has so many good attributes and she’s right here! Why do you insist on wanting a vain woman who loves buying fakes?”

Ava was only enduring all these for Daniel, but at this moment, she could not hold it in anymore.

She could not accept personal attacks.

Bang!

When Ava was about to get up, Daniel slapped his hand on the table in annoyance before getting up.

Everyone was stunned by Daniel’s sudden outburst.

“So what if she doesn’t have a proper family? Are you saying that a child from a broken family doesn’t

deserve happiness or a happy marriage? Plus, do you think a child is capable of changing the decision of her parents?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1110

Daniel said sharply and grabbed Ava's hand before swearing solemnly.

"Listen here, I won't give up on the woman I love because of her family. If you want the Mendezes to be your in-laws so much, you should go and do it. But don't involve me with irrelevant people."

"..." Mrs. Graham was shocked when she heard that.

Daniel was always so refined and soft-spoken. This was the first time he had an outburst.

Then, Daniel grabbed Ava and left, leaving everyone at the table to look at each other in shock.

Naya pressed her lips into a thin line. This was the first time she was humiliated.

She was the only woman in Glendale who was compatible with Daniel, but now, she was defeated by this woman.

How would she be able to take this?

After Daniel sent Ava back to her apartment, he apologized for what happened.

However, Ava was not bothered at all. On the contrary, she was smiling happily.

Daniel did not understand why Ava was smiling and not mad. He asked nervously, "Why are you not mad? You weren't mad at me at Grandpa's birthday party as well."

“Do you want me to be mad at you, Dan?” Ava asked with a smile. Then, she explained, “When I was sad and aggrieved, you stood up for me with no hesitations. To me, that’s the biggest acknowledgment and support, so that’s why I’m happy. Why should I be mad?”

After Daniel heard that, he felt more relaxed.

“Are you really not mad?”

“Of course not. Also, I want to make you a nice meal.” Ava walked to the open kitchen and started making dinner.

Perhaps she was in a good mood, so she only looked at Daniel and not the chair in front of her. In the end, she crashed into it.

Daniel hurried over to hold her waist. “Watch out.”

Ava let out a sigh of relief. After she stood up, she felt some warmth on her back and smelled the faint scent of bluebells. At that moment, her heart started racing.

“T-Thanks, Dan.”

Daniel smiled softly and got close to Ava’s ear.

“Call me Danny next time.”

“...” Ava felt her ears heating up. She looked up into Daniel’s expecting eyes and called out, “Danny.”

Daniel smiled and nodded. When she uttered that intimate nickname, Daniel could taste just how sweet love was.

...

The night was dark.

After Madeline put the children to sleep and handed her youngest son to Karen, she drove to the building again.

She missed Jeremy and still could not forget the pair of eyes she saw that day.

“Jeremy, you don’t even know what Pudding’s name is. Why did you leave me?”

She lowered her head to look at the man in the photo. Then, her vision started getting blurry.

She wanted to leave after a while, but when she lifted her head, she saw the face that was tattooed on her heart.

She sat in her car and looked at the man walking past while feeling at a loss.

“Jeremy?”

Madeline’s mind went blank as she looked at the man walking toward the building while feeling dispirited. His tall figure swayed gently in her teary eyes.

Madeline suddenly came back to her senses and stopped spacing out. She rushed out of her car and yelled at the man’s back, “Jeremy!”

The man slowed his footsteps while walking toward the building upon hearing her voice. Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1111

Madeline felt excited when she saw the man stop in his tracks.

She was running quickly toward the man when suddenly, two children who looked to be about six and seven years old appeared in front of her.

Madeline wanted to keep away from the children when one of them fell suddenly and started bawling.

The parents heard their child crying and came over. When they saw Madeline running away, they thought Madeline was the one who knocked their son over.

"You knocked my son over and you're running away?" the child's mother yelled aggressively at Madeline, grabbing her hand. "Let me tell you, if anything happens to my son, I'll make you sorry for it!"

The woman warned furiously, but at this moment, Madeline was only focused on the man who was about to walk into the building.

She removed herself from the woman's grip and imposingly threw a card on the woman's face. "There's a security camera here. You should look at the security footage before you accuse me of knocking your son over. If it's me, then you can find me using the contact number on this card."

"..."

The woman was shocked by Madeline's imposing manner. When she was about to fight back, she heard her son clarifying, "Mom, I fell on my own. It has nothing to do with her."

The woman's face turned red in embarrassment when she heard that. Then, she grabbed her son and ran away.

However, when Madeline turned around to look in front of her again, the man was nowhere to be seen.

"Jeremy, was that really you?" Madeline asked dispiritedly at the air before her, feeling her heart tightening slowly.

She went back to Whitman Manor and took out the bookmark Jeremy left her. Tears started pouring from her eyes silently.

"Jeremy..."

Kissing the bookmark, she then curled up in a fetal position in bed while crying and holding her blanket.

"I miss you so much. Why did you leave me alone? Why..." she asked, but no one was able to give her an answer.

She wanted to direct all of her attention to her career. She did everything from blending fragrances and designing, but she would still think of the man.

Once in a while, she would go to the cemetery. She would not do anything or say anything. Instead, she would just sit quietly next to his grave.

She tried to imagine back at the time when Jeremy thought she was dead. Perhaps he had also felt like the entire world was dark.

...

There was no turning back for the Stygian Johnson Gang. After Fabian went back to F Country, he went to see Yorick for the last time.

Yorick had seen through everything and was calm. On the contrary, he comforted Fabian, saying, "Fab, I chose this path and knew this would happen someday. I've accepted it. I'm just glad that I stopped you from getting involved with the company. There'll be no Stygian Johnsons in the future, so you have to be a proper man."

Fabian's eyes were red, and his brows furrowed tightly.

Yorick looked at his brother, his eyes starting to get teary as well.

"Fab, I wanted to give you a huge present during your 19th birthday, but I don't think I have the chance now. However, you still have to live your life happily."

"Yorick..."

"You idiot, why are you crying? You have to live your life properly after I'm not around."

Yorick's warnings sounded like advice, but after he said that, his tone softened.

“Fab, don’t repeat the same mistakes I’ve made. You’ll only be able to live an upright and frank life if you’re open and candid. Remember what I’ve said, upright and frank.”

Fabian nodded with his red eyes. He felt his heart sinking as he watched the prison guards take Yorick away. Then, he went to the women’s prison to visit Lana.

Lana was still as carefree. However, she looked wretched and haggardly.

When she saw Fabian, she asked for a cigarette and also about Adam’s whereabouts.

Fabian looked at her coldly. “You betrayed Yorick to save your own skin.”

“Heh.” Lana scoffed. “Since he’s the eldest, he should bear all responsibility. Isn’t it worthwhile to die for his younger brother and sister?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1112

“Lana!” Fabian grabbed Lana’s collar. He was just an 18-year-old boy, but at this moment, his eyes were filled with sharpness. “You’re the one who should die! You’re killing Yorick and destroying the Stygian Johnsons.”

Lana pushed Fabian away and mocked him. “Fabian, do you know who’s the one killing Yorick and destroying the Stygian Johnsons? It’s Jeremy!”

“What does this have to do with Jeremy? You only provoked him because you’re into him! You killed Eveline’s parents and broke off her marriage to Jeremy! Now, you even have the cheek to say he’s the one who ruined you?” Fabian berated angrily.

Lana turned her face guiltily and clenched her fists. “Yeah, so what if I’m the one who provoked him? If he and Ryan hadn’t framed me, how would things have ended up like this? Do you know that Jeremy and Ryan are part of the Interpol?”

Fabian’s expression changed slightly when he heard that. “Interpol?”

“Hmph!” Lana snorted. “Fabian, Jeremy and Ryan are our enemies, do you understand? Plus, you’re still so defensive over that mute, Lillian. Yorick is going to die, so shouldn’t you kill that mute and make Eveline get a taste of losing her family?”

After she said that, Fabian lifted his hand and slapped Lana heavily across the cheek. “Shut up!”

“...” Lana was dumbfounded. Then, she saw Fabian’s malicious gaze.

“You’re the reason why she’s mute! I told you, as long as I’m here, I won’t let anyone bully Lillian. Lana, you’re the person who deserves to die the most!”

“...”

After Fabian said that, he left.

Lana sat there while feeling at a loss. She touched her swollen cheek and gritted her teeth.

...

Ryan went back to Glendale from F Country and told Madeline everything about the Stygian Johnson Gang.

Yorick was going to get the death penalty soon, but Lana would only need to serve three years.

Madeline could not accept this verdict.

This woman committed so many crimes but only needed to serve three years.

Madeline was agitated. As such, she locked herself in her lab every day to come up with new perfumes.

When she was tired, she picked up her pen and drew Jeremy's face on an A4-sized paper.

His eyes, his nose, and every part of him looked exactly like him.

"Jeremy, I'm so tired. If only you were next to me right now so you can hold me and give me motivation.

"Pudding's about a year old and already knows how to walk. Isn't he amazing? Mom told me you also learned to walk when you weren't even a year old. I guess our son is exactly the same as you."

She murmured to the person in the drawing. However, after talking to it for a while, she placed her head on the paper and started crying.

"Jeremy, I miss you so much..."

Madeline broke down and cried. However, she could only keep this vulnerable side in a space where no

one else could see.

Knock, knock. Someone knocked on the door of the lab. A second later, Coco's voice sounded from outside the door. "Ms. Montgomery, the commercial party is half an hour away. Mr. Jones is here, so we should get ready to depart now."

Madeline recomposed herself and replied, "I'll change now."

She almost forgot about the party today. She heard that it was being hosted for a young and promising elite in the business world. All of the upper-class and businesspeople in Glendale would be there, so naturally, Ryan and her got the invitations as well.

Madeline changed into a champagne-colored dress and attended the party as Ryan's wife.

Madeline was not in the mood to entertain everyone because she still had Jeremy in her mind. When she wanted to go out for some air, someone mentioned to her that the mysterious man had arrived.

Madeline looked over to where everyone was looking. The man's ashy short hair and amber eyes wandered into her vision.

However, what shocked Madeline was that aside from the special hair and eye color, this man's features and figure were exactly the same as Jeremy's!

When she looked at him, the man's smiling eyes landed on her at the same time.

"Jeremy?"

Madeline's heart started racing. Ryan was standing beside her and was shocked as well.

“Jeremy?”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1113

Madeline froze in place. An indescribable surge of emotions started rippling in her heart.

Her dark world lit up immediately as the hoping light warmed her long-frozen heart.

“Jeremy, Jeremy...”

Madeline was on the verge of breaking down.

Her mind went blank, and she was staring at the man in the crowd.

At the same time, she heard a lot of people whispering around her.

“Isn’t that Mr. Whitman?”

“Yeah, that’s him.”

“Why did he change his image? Is he wearing colored contacts?”

“He looks pretty good this way. As long as he’s good-looking, he can do anything he wants to his appearance.”

Madeline’s grip on her wine glass tightened when she heard what the guests said.

Did he dye his hair?

Was he wearing color contacts?

She looked at the man in confusion. She had a million thoughts racing in her head and wanted to run toward him.

However, her last ounce of reason stopped her.

She attended this party as Ryan's wife. The people in the circle knew she and Ryan were husband and wife as well, although nobody knew their marriage was fake.

If she was overly passionate about Jeremy right now, Ryan would become the butt of the joke.

Ryan had helped her with so many things throughout this period, so how could she let other people gossip about him?

However, the most important thing right now was that Madeline was also confused about whether that person was Jeremy.

Ryan could sense Madeline's hesitation and conflict. He said softly, "The reason I married you is to protect you and your family. If that's really him and he's back, then I'll hand you back to him."

When Madeline heard that, she looked at the smiling man with no words to express her gratitude toward him. Her eyes were already filled with tears.

"You think that's him too, right?" she asked in a shaky voice.

Ryan frowned in doubt. "Seems like it. He looks almost the same as Jeremy."

Madeline shook her head lightly. No, he did not just look like him.

There were no two people in this world with the same features. No...

Madeline's heart started racing. At this moment, she heard the man's voice that was as clear as day coming from the crowd. He said, "Everyone, even though I've changed my image, don't worry, I'm still the same man you know. I'm the current president of Whitman Corporation, Jeremy Whitman."

The man's seductive voice sounded hoarse when it fell into Madeline's ears. At that moment, Madeline felt as if her heartbeat had gone into overdrive.

Tears escaped her eyes and drenched her face.

"Jeremy, you're still alive. Jeremy..."

Madeline could not control her emotions anymore. She placed her wine glass down to walk over to that man.

However, Jeremy turned around at the same time. He had received a phone call and was walking toward the door.

"Go. He must've missed you," Ryan smiled and said magnanimously.

"Thank you, Rye." Madeline thanked and lifted the hem of her dress before walking in the direction where Jeremy left.

Ryan looked at her back and felt a hint of loss in his heart.

'Eveline, even though the main reason for marrying you was to protect you, you have no idea that I've started to develop selfish reasons.'

Madeline walked out of the venue and walked along the red carpet in the corridor.

'Jeremy, where did you go?'

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1114

'Are you just an illusion that I conjured?'

'No, you can't be. You must be around here.'

Madeline felt anxious. She looked around in hopes of finding Jeremy.

He looked so real just now, but now it was as if he had vanished and disappeared into thin air.

'Jeremy.'

Madeline continued walking in confusion. When she walked past the staircase, a familiar hand reached out and grabbed her thin arm.

'Jeremy!'

Madeline felt her heart stop for a second. Before she could see clearly, Jeremy pulled her into the staircase.

The man's tall body towered over hers while his amber eyes were staring into Madeline's confused and delighted ones under the dim lighting.

Madeline widened her eyes and lifted her hand to caress the face that was fairer than before.

"Jeremy, is that really you?"

She ran her fingers across his face shakily.

Before Jeremy could answer, she leaped into his arms and held his waist tightly.

"Jeremy, you're still alive! This is great!

"I missed you, Jeremy. I missed you so much..."

Madeline poured out all of her longing and passion in her mind from these six months as she held him tighter and tighter.

She was so scared that she might be hallucinating again. She was scared that he would disappear from her sight, so she needed to hold him close and not let him disappear from her world again.

Even though she did not know why his appearance had changed so much, the feeling and the warmth of this hug told her that this was the man she loved the most.

The cold scent on his body was gone and was replaced with a faint smell of grass.

This refreshing and clean smell was soft and pure. When she took in more of his new scent, she felt like

she was going to be obsessed with it.

Jeremy lowered his head to look at the woman in his arms. The joy of reuniting flashed across his eyes, but there was a subtle glint in his eyes.

He lifted his hand and caressed Madeline's hair. "Don't cry, I'm not dead," he said in a calm voice. He sounded different than before.

Madeline removed herself from his arms reluctantly and lifted her teary eyes to look into the man's gaze.

"Jeremy, what happened? What's going on with that grave? Why did you become like this?" Madeline looked at him pitifully. She could not stop her tears from falling.

Jeremy lifted his hand to try to wipe away the tears from Madeline's face. He did not explain anything. He merely smiled and lifted his finger to tuck Madeline's hair behind her ear.

He placed his cold palm gently on the back of her neck as he moved his face closer to hers. "I won't leave you again."

"Jeremy..."

"Eveline Montgomery, you're mine."

After he said that, he leaned down and kissed Madeline on the lips.

Madeline opened her teary eyes and was stunned for a few seconds. However, she was submerged into the man's gentle kiss soon after. She could feel him pulling her emotions arbitrarily...

The second Madeline closed her eyes, Jeremy opened his and looked at the exit of the staircase.

Ryan appeared in his vision at the same time and their eyes met.

Jeremy smirked slightly and continued to hold Madeline to deepen the kiss.

The party ended two hours later, and during this period, Madeline kept holding Jeremy as they sat on the staircase.

She did not want to let him go, and she did not feel that time had passed until Ryan sent her a message telling her it was time to leave. When that happened, Madeline remembered something.

“Jeremy, I need to go out with Rye. I’ll come to you after,” she said while getting up.

Jeremy grabbed her wrist and slowly stood up as well. “If you don’t want to never see me again, come home with me.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1115

Madeline stopped in her tracks to look at the man with a serious face.

Home.

He told her to go home with him.

Madeline felt her heart getting warmer. She lifted her hands again and held him.

“Okay, I’ll go home with you. Jeremy, let’s go home.” She had tears in her eyes as she circled her arms around his neck. Her heart was filled with longing for him.

He was not dead. He was back.

She did not want to lose this man anymore despite there still being a gap between them due to Eloise and Sean.

However, Jeremy had already 'died' once. The pain of loss made her realize how much she wanted to spend the rest of her life with him.

Madeline sent Ryan a message telling him that she would be going back with Jeremy. Aside from texting back [Okay.], Ryan did not say anything else.

Madeline felt remorseful when she saw this one-word reply.

Even though her marriage with Ryan was fake and he said he only married her to protect her, now that it had come to this stage, she kept feeling like she owed something to that man.

Jeremy noticed Madeline looking at her phone absent-mindedly. He frowned.

After they got back to Whitman Manor, it was already late.

Everyone in the house had fallen asleep, including the children.

Madeline held Jeremy's hand and they walked back to their bedroom. The moment they got in, Madeline held him. "Jeremy, I'm so happy that you're able to come back to me once again."

Jeremy did not say anything when he heard her heartfelt words. Instead, he just held her gently.

Madeline lifted her head to look at his emotionless face.

“Jeremy, what happened to you in these six months? Why did the color of your hair and eyes change? Even your voice... It’s different from before. Is it because of the poison?”

Madeline felt her heart breaking again when she asked this question.

She despised Lana.

That heinous woman had tortured him into this state.

Jeremy did not go into details. On the contrary, he said softly, “No matter what happens to me, you’re still the woman I love the most.”

He cradled her cheek softly and looked deep into her eyes. “Eveline, do you still love me?”

Madeline felt tears welling in her eyes as she looked into the man’s inquisitive gaze. “Why are you asking me this question? Do you think I still hate you?”

Jeremy did not know how to answer Madeline’s question. He let go of his hand and walked to the window in misery.

“I’ve been gone for half a year, and you’ve been with Ryan throughout this period.”

Madeline could sense Jeremy’s passion and jealousy from his words.

The reason he suspected her change of feelings toward him was because of Ryan.

Madeline walked behind him and circled her arms around his waist.

“Jeremy, no matter what becomes of you, you’ll always be the person I love the most.”

Jeremy narrowed his eyes and looked at the moon. Then, he turned around to look at her.

Madeline lifted her hand to caress his features, her brows furrowing.

What poison could cause his pupils to change their color?

Even so, he still looked charming and attractive this way.

She only wanted him to be safe and sound.

Madeline stood on her tiptoes and pressed a kiss on Jeremy’s lips.

She lifted her head and looked into his eyes.

“Jeremy, I don’t want to be away from you anymore. I won’t look into what happened in the past anymore. I just want to grow old with you.”

Jeremy did not reply. He smiled softly and grabbed the back of Madeline’s head before kissing her domineeringly.

This beautiful face only belonged to him.

However...

A moment later, Jeremy furrowed his brows and let go of his arms like he had lost interest.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1116

Madeline opened her blurry eyes in confusion to see Jeremy examining her with his eyes.

"What's wrong, Jeremy?"

"I'm tired," he said flatly before going into the bathroom.

Then, Madeline heard the sound of water coming from the bathroom.

She lay on the bed in puzzlement.

Why did it feel like he was refusing to touch her?

Was it because of Ryan?

After Jeremy came out of the shower, he did not say anything to Madeline before getting into bed to play with his phone.

"Jeremy, you should sleep early if you're tired." Madeline picked up her pajamas and was about to go take a shower.

However, after she said that to him, Jeremy did not react and only grunted in response.

Madeline felt her heart sinking at this response.

She felt as if a cold wind had penetrated her heart. At that moment, she felt her heart getting so cold.

Madeline showered with her mind full of questions and concern.

She was worried that the poison in Jeremy's body was not completely expelled, so that was why he was acting weird and refusing to be intimate with her.

After showering, Madeline put on her bathrobe and went back to the room, only to see Jeremy lying on the bed.

However, he had his back toward her and was sleeping on his side.

Madeline quietly got into the bed and looked dispiritedly at the man's back.

They had not seen each other in half a year.

After she was informed of his death, she never imagined reuniting with him again.

However, now that such a day had come, she did not think he would be treating her so coldly.

Madeline was sad as she imagined what he had gone through in these six months. Then, she got close to him and held his shoulders while feeling sorry.

She knew he was not asleep, so she said softly, "Jeremy, has your body completely recovered?"

"Yeah," replied Jeremy. He did not turn around to face her.

“How?” Madeline asked.

She wanted to know where Jeremy went, what he went through, and whether he was in pain throughout those months of his disappearance.

She was concerned about him, so she wanted to know everything about him.

“The things that happened weren’t great, so I don’t want to talk about it,” Jeremy said briefly. It was clear he did not want to talk about what happened to him in those months.

Madeline could sense Jeremy’s avoidance, so she stopped asking. She pressed her face against Jeremy’s neck and took in the smell of grass on his body before closing her eyes in bliss.

“Jeremy, did you come to visit me in Rye’s house when I had a fever half a year ago? I could smell you, but why didn’t you want to see me?”

Rye.

When Jeremy heard that name, his eyes darkened.

He turned around and looked at the smiling woman who was snuggling up to him. Then, he lifted his hand to hold her shoulder as his eyes looked into hers passionately.

“I was scared that you’d hate and dislike me if you saw me like this.”

“No way!” Madeline frowned and looked at the man’s handsome face. Her eyes were shining with her love toward him. “Jeremy, I don’t love you because of your looks.”

Jeremy smiled, pulling Madeline into his strong and warm embrace. "It's worth suffering all that pain now that you've said that to me."

"Jeremy..."

Madeline enveloped herself in Jeremy's embrace as she took in his scent. Then, she started drifting to sleep unbeknownst to her.

It was already noon when she woke up the next day.

Madeline had not gotten such a good night's sleep in the past six months.

However, when she saw the empty half of the bed, she started worrying.

She was scared that last night was just a beautiful dream.

Madeline got out of the bed to look for Jeremy. When she was putting on her clothes, she heard screams from the balcony.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1117

After Madeline hastily put on her clothes and cleaned up, she rushed downstairs.

When she was at the front door, she saw Jeremy standing cool in the courtyard.

He was wearing a coat, and his refreshing ash-colored short hair was fluttering in the wind. On the other hand, his smiling amber eyes were looking at the completely stunned Jackson.

"Daddy?"

Jackson had his backpack on while he ran toward Jeremy in surprise and joy.

Jeremy bent down and picked Jackson up.

“Daddy! It’s you! You’re finally home!” Jackson widened his beautiful eyes. Despite the changes in Jeremy’s appearance, Jackson was not suspicious of anything at all.

This was his daddy!

Jeremy looked at his son and smiled. “Did you miss me?”

“Of course!” Jackson answered without hesitating. Joy flooded his handsome face. “Lily missed you too,” Jackson said, pointing at Lillian who was walking toward them.

However, when Jeremy saw Lillian walking toward him, the smile and softness on his face disappeared.

He placed Jackson down but did not carry Lillian who was already in front of him.

Lillian could not speak, so she walked to him and held his leg. Then, she lifted her beautiful eyes to look at him while smiling, showing him her adorable dimples.

Even though Lillian did not say anything, her eyes had already expressed her fondness toward Jeremy.

Madeline watched this scene from afar, and her eyes started to water as she felt her heart melt.

She thought Jeremy would pick Lillian up as well. She thought he would pick this child up to give her the warmth and hugs that he did not have the opportunity to give before.

However, to Madeline's surprise, she saw Jeremy pulling Lillian's hands away and leaving coldly with Jackson.

'Did he just leave?'

Madeline was shocked and confused when she saw that.

Even though Jackson was still young, he could sense Jeremy's coldness toward Lillian.

Lillian stood where she was, dumbfounded. The light in her eyes started to dim.

"Daddy, why did you ignore my little sister?" Jackson stopped and asked.

"Your little sister?" Jeremy asked coldly, "Do you think she's worthy to be your sister?"

"Huh?" Jackson opened his mouth in confusion. He did not understand what Jeremy was trying to say.

On the other hand, Madeline looked at the neglected Lillian and ran out of the house.

Jeremy saw Madeline running out. After their eyes met, Madeline zoomed past him and came to Lillian.

Lillian's eyes were welling up with tears, and there was melancholy on her adorable face.

"Lily, Lily, don't cry." Madeline comforted in a gentle voice.

However, the little girl could not control her tears.

Madeline picked the child up and comforted her. She looked at Jeremy in confusion, but he only stood there and watched with a frigid expression.

When Karen heard Lily's cries, she walked out of the house.

However, the moment she stepped out of the house, she saw Jeremy.

At first glance, she thought she was seeing things. After a few seconds, she finally confirmed that it was indeed Jeremy. "Jeremy, why do you look like that? When did you come back?"

Karen did not know that Jeremy had been infected with poison. She only thought he had been in F Country with Lana all this time.

Jeremy did not want to explain, so he only said, "This is my home. Should I report to you whenever I come home?"

"..." Karen was speechless. After spacing out for a while, she pointed at the house with a delighted look on her face. "Jeremy, you haven't met Pudding, right? The child already knows how to walk and is so good-looking. Go take a look at him now."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1118

Jeremy seemed to be interested in his son, so he started walking into the house.

"Wait." Madeline stopped him.

Jeremy stopped in his tracks and saw Madeline walking toward him with a grim expression.

She handed Lillian to Karen. "Mom, can you please take Lily and Jack inside? I have something to say to Jeremy."

Karen sensed the weird vibe in the air. She was worried that Madeline and Jeremy would start fighting, so she reminded them. "You should communicate with each other. After all, you used to be husband and wife."

'Husband and wife.'

'Sure.'

'Husband and wife, but she's now someone else's wife.'

"Jeremy, why did you ignore Lily?" Madeline tried to ask in a calm voice. "You already ignored Lily last time when you were a spy and was trying to make Lana happy."

"Even though she's young, she still has feelings and will feel sad as well. However, despite all these, she still likes you. Why are you hurting her like this? She's our daughter."

Jeremy listened to what Madeline had to say silently. There were no changes in his expression. After a while, he said coldly, "She has never called me 'Daddy'. Perhaps I'm not her real father."

"..." Madeline was stunned after she heard Jeremy's answer. "Jeremy, what are you talking about? Are you saying that Lily isn't your daughter?"

Jeremy smiled softly when he sensed that Madeline was mad. "I've said the wrong things. Please don't be mad. Do you want to go to the office? Let me drive you."

He said before going to the garage to get his car.

Madeline felt that something was amiss with Jeremy since last night. He was even more suspicious now judging from his attitude toward Lillian.

She wanted to know what was wrong with this man, so she got into the car.

When Madeline got to the office, Coco came to inform her that Mr. Wells was here. He took a flight all the way here to talk about her perfume business.

Madeline nodded in acknowledgment and told Coco to make the necessary preparations.

Coco nodded. Then, she looked at Jeremy for a few seconds before turning around.

Madeline needed to go into the meeting room, so she turned to Jeremy and asked, "Jeremy, I need to discuss some things. Why don't you wait for me in my office?"

Jeremy smiled and held her hand. "I'll go with you."

When she felt the warmth of his hand, she felt her heart speeding up. "Okay."

Since they had already agreed on the details of the contract, they only needed to sign the papers now.

Jeremy sat next to Madeline and watched her sign her name. He looked at her with his narrow eyes, pushing her hair back with his fingers.

Mr. Wells, who was sitting opposite them, was a traditional man. When he saw Jeremy being so intimate with Madeline, he blurted out, "Ms. Montgomery, isn't your husband Mr. Ryan Jones? The one who was

here when we discussed the contract last time? Who's this?"

After he said that, Madeline could feel the air around them getting colder.

Jeremy lifted his brow and looked at the man opposite him with a superficial smile. "I'm Eveline Montgomery's man not just in name only, but also in reality. Do you hear me?"

Mr. Wells had never seen such sharp eyes before. He shuddered in fear. After that, he picked up the signed contract and left with Coco following behind him.

Now, Madeline and Jeremy were the only ones in the meeting room.

The air around them was quiet, but the vibe was off.

Madeline closed the contract and looked at the frigid man. "Jeremy, are you treating me like this because of Rye?"

"Rye?" Jeremy rolled this word around in his mouth. "Is that what you've been calling him while I was gone?"

Madeline could sense his jealousy but did not know what to say.

He was the one who handed her to Ryan when he thought he was dying, but now, he was jealous.

Madeline did not want to fight with the man after reuniting with him. She wanted to get up and leave, but Jeremy pulled her into his arms and trapped her there. There were obvious possessiveness and dominance in his eyes.

“Jeremy, don’t do this. There’s nothing between me and Rye.”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1119

“You’re calling him ‘Rye’ so sweetly and intimately.” Jeremy’s words were laced with intense jealousy.

Madeline looked into his eyes bravely. “Yes, I’m calling him Rye because I see him as a close friend.

“Back then, you left without a word and even refused to see me before handing me over to him. Have you ever thought about how that would make me feel?”

While she said that, Madeline’s eyes turned red. She even started sobbing.

“When you weren’t here, he was the one taking care of me and the children. He never asked me for anything in return. He even said that if you ever come back, he’ll divorce me.

“Jeremy, Rye is not your rival, so stop overthinking.” Madeline tried to ease Jeremy’s mind.

After the man heard what she said, the coldness in his eyes disappeared gradually.

He let go of Madeline and held her gently. “Eveline, will you still love me if I’m different from before?”

Madeline sensed something was off with Jeremy, but she did not hesitate before giving him validation.

“No matter what you become, my feelings will not change as long as you’re still Jeremy Whitman.”

Jeremy smiled profoundly when he got that answer.

...

In the park.

Jackson was holding Lillian's hand as they walked on the cobblestone path.

When Jackson saw Lillian in a gloomy state, he wanted to buy cotton candy from the roadside stall to cheer her up. However, Lillian refused.

Lillian sat on the bench and swung her feet back and forth. She was still wondering why Jeremy kept ignoring her.

'It seems that Handsome Mister doesn't like me.

'Have I been a bad girl?'

She pondered, and the more she thought about it, the sadder she felt.

Jackson went over to comfort Lillian. Just then, a ball flew over to them and smacked Lillian on the leg.

Lillian yelped softly in pain. She was already feeling aggrieved, but now, her eyes had turned red too. Even so, she did not let the tears escape her eyes.

A few boys around seven to eight years old came over while looking annoyed.

"What are you brats doing? You're in the way of our game."

"You hit my sister with your ball! Apologize now!" Jackson stood in front of Lillian, his face filled with solemnness.

The boy peered at the teary-eyed Lillian and stuck out his chin nonchalantly. "Why should I? Who asked your sister to sit here? She deserved it!"

Jackson lifted his leg to kick the boy when he saw his attitude.

"Ouch!" the boy yelled in pain. When his friends saw this, they came forward to teach Jackson a lesson.

Lillian quickly ran in front of Jackson and blocked him from the children. She shook her head and waved her hands to tell them to stop fighting.

However, when the boys saw that Lillian could not speak and could only make hand gestures, they started laughing.

"Your sister is mute!"

"Aww, poor little mute who can't speak!"

"Haha! There's a mute here! How hilarious!"

When the boys started teasing Lillian, the leader of the gang started laughing even more hysterically now.

"Your sister is a mute! My daddy said that mutes are disabled. Why is a disabled person like you here in the park? Take your mute sister and scram!"

Jackson could not endure these people teasing and laughing at Lillian. Even though his fists were small, he was not weak.

He lifted his fist and punched the leader of the gang on the nose.

“Ouch!”

The boy wailed in pain again before touching his nose. Then, he realized he was bleeding.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1120

He was infuriated and wanted to gather his friends to teach Jackson a lesson. However, before he could say anything, he felt someone yanking him by the collar. Immediately after that, he was dangling in the air.

His face turned pale with fear as he started kicking his feet around. When he lifted his head, he saw a terrifyingly dark face.

“W-Who are you?”

“Apologize to the girl now. If not, I’ll throw you into the sea to feed the fish,” Fabian warned. He was not joking at all.

The boy shrunk his neck and wetted himself from Fabian’s terrifying gaze.

Fabian looked under the boy’s feet, then threw him in front of Lillian. “Apologize.”

“I-I’ll do it! I’ll do it now!” the boy stuttered and apologized to Lillian repeatedly.

Fabian looked at the boy’s friends and they all immediately understood. Then, they ran over and started apologizing to Lillian as well.

Lillian stood behind Jackson. She looked at the boys, then back at Fabian.

“Scram!” Fabian roared at the terrifying children. The boys did not even take back their ball before running away.

Jackson looked at Fabian and thanked him sincerely, “Thanks.”

Fabian softened his expression and walked in front of Lillian. Then, he squatted before her. “Are you okay, Lily?”

He took out a handkerchief and wiped the tears away from Lillian’s eyes.

Lillian took out a piece of candy from her pocket and gave it to Fabian. She was smiling like she was thanking him.

“Lily, as long as I’m here, I won’t let anyone bully you,” promised Fabian.

Jackson looked at Fabian inquisitively. “I’m Lillian’s brother.”

“Oh.” Fabian then asked Jackson with interest, “Are you saying that Lily is only allowed to have one brother? If that’s the case, I don’t want to be her brother. I want to be something else.”

“What?” Jackson asked. There was a look of seriousness on his handsome face.

Fabian smiled and picked Lillian up. Then, he touched her cute face. “Lily, do you like me?”

Lillian nodded. Her fondness toward Fabian was just an innocent and naive admiration.

Fabian curled his lips into a smile. "I'll remember that. When you grow up, I'll be your boyfriend. What do you think?"

Lillian blinked in confusion. She did not even know what a boyfriend was, so she only looked at Fabian and smiled.

Fabian felt tears stinging at the corners of his eyes when he saw her innocent smile.

Yorick was already dead.

Now, the only thing that could warm up his heart was Lillian's innocent and naive smile.

If possible, he did not want a big sister like Lana.

He only wanted a heartwarming little sister like Lillian.

...

Madeline stayed in the office for the entire afternoon with Jeremy.

Madeline felt like she needed to give Ryan an explanation regarding the situation now. However, she was worried that Jeremy would be jealous if she met up with Ryan alone. As such, Madeline asked Jeremy for his opinion.

"Jeremy, I have to give Rye an explanation. I want to ask him out to settle the business between us."

Jeremy did not reject like how he used to. Instead, he grabbed Madeline's hand and smiled. "I'll go with

you.”

“Okay.” Madeline nodded and called Ryan to ask him out that night.

That night, Madeline and Jeremy went to the restaurant together. Meanwhile, Ryan was already there.

When Madeline was about to sit down, she received a call from Ava. She handed Jeremy her purse and went to answer the call at one side. Before that, she did not forget to peek at the two men. She was worried that they would start fighting.

Ryan looked at Jeremy’s current appearance and felt fortunate for him. “Even though I don’t know what you’ve experienced, I’m happy that you came back safe and sound.”

Jeremy scoffed after he heard that. “I went to the headquarters of Interpol. Ryan, stop pretending. If there’s anyone who doesn’t want me back, it’s you.” Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1121

Ryan had just picked up his glass of water when he heard that. His hand was now frozen in mid-air.

There was a faint smile on his handsome and elegant face. “Jeremy, I think you may have misunderstood.”

“Have I?” Jeremy smiled profoundly. There seemed to be a dark tide in his amber eyes. “If you don’t want me to misunderstand, give me back my woman.”

Ryan understood what Jeremy was talking about. Then, he took a sip of water. “Even though your appearance has changed a lot, you’re still as possessive and overbearing as usual.”

“You’re also one of the reasons why I became like this,” Jeremy retorted.

The smile on Ryan’s face froze. “I think you’ve found out a lot. However, I don’t think you’ve gotten all of the information yet. There are some things that you’ll never know.”

Jeremy lifted his eyebrow. When he was about to say something, Madeline returned.

“What are you boys talking about?” Madeline smiled slightly and asked. Then, she walked over to where Jeremy was sitting. Before she could sit down, Jeremy stood up abruptly and held her hand.

Madeline looked at him in curiosity. “Jeremy, what’s wrong?”

Then, Jeremy leaned down and pressed his lips against Madeline’s right in front of Ryan.

Madeline was shocked by the sudden kiss. Then, she heard Jeremy say, “Ryan and I are done talking. You’ll sign the divorce papers tomorrow.”

That fast?

Madeline was in disbelief, but she did not suspect anything.

She looked at Ryan who got up with a smile. “Yeah, Jeremy and I have reached a compromise. Let’s sign the divorce papers tomorrow.”

Ryan answered without hesitation, making Madeline feel touched and glad. "Thank you, Rye."

"Protecting you and your family is one of my tasks. I'm happy now that I've completed my task," Ryan said, getting ready to leave. "You guys just reunited, so you should spend more time together. I'll get going now."

Madeline wanted to keep Ryan here, but then she heard Jeremy say, "Bye."

Ryan smiled and looked into Jeremy's eyes before turning around.

After Ryan left, Jeremy sat back down and picked up the menu.

When he noticed Madeline looking in the direction where Ryan left, he pulled her back to him. Then, he stared at her with his alluring eyes. "Why are you still looking at him? Are you unwilling to let him go?"

"..." Madeline felt that perhaps they had been apart for too long and that was why Jeremy was suspecting their relationship. That would explain why he was getting jealous so easily now as well.

She did not want to be mad at him. Life was long, but the time they were about to spend with each other was too little.

Madeline held Jeremy's hand. "It has been so many years now. Don't you know who's the person I feel the most unwilling to let go of?"

After Jeremy heard that, the coldness in Jeremy's eyes faded.

He ordered some food that were all Madeline's favorites. He still remembered Madeline's preferences as clear as day.

On the way home, Madeline looked at Jeremy and said while they were waiting for the red light, "Jeremy, stop ignoring Lily. Even though she still doesn't know that you're her father, she really likes you."

Jeremy looked at the blinking red light as a countdown started appearing in his head. Then, his expression became grim.

Madeline noticed that he was ignoring her, so she looked over curiously. "Jeremy, did you hear me? Lily is our daughter. She's still traumatized after what Lana did to her, so that's why she can't speak. You're her birth father and she needs the love of a father, Jeremy. Jeremy?"

Jeremy's indifference concerned Madeline. She reached over to try to hold his hand when suddenly, Jeremy grasped her wrist tightly.

He was holding her hand extremely tight, making her frown in pain. Then, she saw the malice in Jeremy's eyes. The sight of him looked extremely horrifying.

"Stop talking," Jeremy uttered those two words impatiently, looking at her as if he was looking at an enemy he resented.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1122

Madeline endured the pain on her wrist and said calmly, "What's wrong, Jeremy? I'm Linnie."

Linnie.

That name flew right into Jeremy's ears and into his heart.

The malice in his eyes disappeared as his dark eyes immediately turned bright.

It was as if he just noticed himself holding Madeline with such a tight grip. He quickly let go and caressed her wrist. "Did I hurt you?"

Madeline shook her head. "No. But Jeremy, why did you react like that just now? What happened to you when you disappeared?"

Jeremy remained quiet, his brows knitted together tightly.

However, he did not say anything. Instead, he only stepped down on the accelerator and continued driving.

'What happened to me when I disappeared?' he asked himself silently.

In order to stay alive and come back to her, he had to suffer such severe consequences.

It was still early when they went back to Whitman Manor. Lillian and Jackson were sitting on the rug near the coffee table while playing with a puzzle.

When Madeline saw the smile on Lillian's face, she felt relieved.

However, she was worried that Jeremy might ignore Lillian again and hurt her fragile heart. As such, she grabbed Jeremy's hand to hint at him.

"Hold Lily. Don't make her sad."

After Madeline said that, Lillian looked over at them.

When she saw Jeremy standing next to Madeline, her eyes darkened. Her gaze looked like that of a wounded deer as she looked timidly at Jeremy. She did not run to him again. She had already stopped running to the handsome mister in her heart.

Lillian's avoidance only gave Jeremy a reason not to get close to her.

At this moment, Karen led Pudding out from the side hall. He was learning how to walk. He blinked his bright eyes as he walked shakily over to Jeremy.

When he was about to get close to Jeremy, he lost his balance and was about to fall.

Jeremy did not hesitate before reaching out to hold the little boy.

When Lillian saw this, her eyes darkened even more.

The little girl walked out after turning around. Madeline saw the little figure from the corner of her eyes. Then, she looked at the man holding Pudding before following Lillian.

Lillian was holding a lollipop as she sat on the stairs while looking at the stars.

She was at the age where she should be carefree, but she looked as if she had so many troubles in her

heart.

“Lily.” Madeline sat down next to the little girl. “Are you sad?”

Lillian looked at Madeline and snuggled closer to her.

She wanted to call out to her mother, but she felt like something was in her throat. She could not make a sound.

Madeline held the child in her arms. “Lily, actually, there’s something I never told you because I figured you’re still young and might not know what I mean.”

Lillian blinked in confusion while looking at Madeline seriously.

Madeline looked at her eyes in pity and caressed the little girl’s hair.

“Actually, the handsome mister is your real daddy. The daddy from before isn’t your real daddy.

“Since Daddy is very petty, he deliberately gets mad at you and ignores you because he thinks you don’t want to call him daddy. So, can you be brave and call the handsome mister ‘Daddy?’”

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman’s Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1123

Madeline said this so that Lillian could face the issue of Jeremy being her birth father squarely.

Of course, if she was able to make Lillian talk, then it would be amazing.

“Lily, do you understand what I’m saying?” Madeline asked patiently.

Lillian blinked her huge eyes as if she understood. Then, she kicked her short legs and walked back to the living room.

She looked at Jeremy, her bright eyes reflecting Jeremy's figure.

"Lily, the handsome mister is your real daddy," Madeline repeated once more.

She did not know if Lillian could understand her, but at least she saw a twinkle in the little girl's eyes.

Perhaps to make Lillian talk again and heal her trauma, she might need to do more than just counseling.

After the children went back to their rooms, so did Madeline and Jeremy.

Jeremy went into the bathroom to shower while Madeline went to prepare for the divorce procedure.

At this moment, Ryan called her.

Madeline answered without hesitation. "Rye, is there something wrong?"

On the other end of the phone, Ryan said in a gentle tone, "I went back to my parents' place for my documents and they were mad after they found out we're getting a divorce. They might call you, but it's okay if you choose not to answer."

After she heard that, Madeline felt apologetic. "I'm sorry, Rye. You're such an exceptional person, but now you'll have the label of a divorcee because of me."

Ryan replied calmly, "Actually, I'm happy that I was able to have this fake marriage with you."

From his words, she could sense his fondness and admiration for her.

Madeline stayed silent for a few minutes before saying, "Rye, I appreciate you so much. You'll meet someone better than me..."

Before Madeline could finish, she felt a wet hand holding her chin all of a sudden.

She was then forced to turn her head. In the next moment, she felt Jeremy's lips pressing down on hers.

"Mhm..."

Madeline felt her face heating up because she was still on the call.

She wanted to hang up the call, but Jeremy grabbed her hand and pressed her against the wall.

The phone fell to the floor with a muffled thud. Madeline looked at the screen of her phone and noticed that the call was still ongoing. She felt her ears heating up, so she turned her face away to avoid him.

"Jeremy, wait..."

Jeremy held her chin in place and looked into Madeline's flustered eyes with his intense gaze.

"Look at me."

"..."

"Don't think about other men right now." Jeremy kissed Madeline's eyebrow. "Eveline Montgomery, I'm

your man.”

After he said that, he picked Madeline up.

Then, he peered at the phone that had fallen to the floor. The lit screen showed that the call had not ended.

Ryan heard Jeremy’s last words, and after a while, he hung up.

He did not want to be tormented like this. At the same time, he did not want to hear the sounds of the woman he liked being intimate with another man.

Madeline was carried to the bed, and her emotions were being led by Jeremy completely. However, her last ounce of reason made her push him away.

“Jeremy, I’m still on the call and haven’t prepared the divorce papers for tomorrow. Can you please wait?”

Madeline got up to pick up the phone, only to realize that Ryan had already hung up.

Her face became hotter as she did not know what Ryan had heard, so she felt extremely awkward at this moment.

When Jeremy saw Madeline looking absent-mindedly at her phone, Jeremy’s eyes became colder.

“Is his phone call more important than me?”

Madeline was stunned when she heard that. She turned around and saw that Jeremy had already laid

down. He had his back turned against her.

After pondering, she quickly finished her preparations for tomorrow. Then, she went back to the man's side and held him in her arms.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1124

"Jeremy, although I don't know what you've been through in the last six months, I know that you've had a hard time. However, I also wish that you can believe me. There has never been another man in my heart apart from you."

Madeline tightened her embrace. Although he did not say anything, she knew that he heard what she said.

The next day, Madeline woke up early. She prepared breakfast and lunch boxes for her children before letting the chauffeur send them to kindergarten.

After that, she went into the kitchen to prepare some morning snacks for Jeremy.

Madeline received a call from Ryan just after she finished breakfast. He asked to meet her at the lawyer's office half an hour later.

When she asked Jeremy if he wanted to follow her, he happened to be on the phone. He told her that something came up at the office.

Thus, Madeline headed over to the lawyer's office on her own. On the way there, she could not help but feel overcome with a sense of irony.

She had once sworn to herself that she would not get married for the third time.

However, Jeremy had returned. After experiencing the pain of losing him, she did not want to continue resenting him for everything that had happened in the past anymore. She just wanted to be together with him.

Therefore, after divorcing Ryan, she would still marry the man whom she had been loving deeply for so many years.

Madeline arrived at the lawyer's office right on time. After waiting for ten minutes, Ryan was still nowhere to be seen.

She did not want to rush him, but she knew that he was a punctual man. Madeline was rather worried as he had not shown up despite it being long past the time they agreed on.

She called Ryan. The phone call went through, but his mother was the one who picked up the call.

"Ryan got into a traffic accident. He's now at the hospital. Come over," she said. The tone of her voice did not sound good.

Madeline's heart lurched. "How's Ryan now? Are his injuries serious?" she asked.

"Don't ask so many questions. Come over first," Mrs. Jones replied. She then hung up the call.

Madeline immediately drove over to the hospital. Upon entering the hospital ward, she saw Ryan in a wheelchair. His right leg was put in a cast.

She rushed over to his side. "Ryan, are you alright? How did the accident happen?" she asked worriedly.

"How dare you even ask him that?" Ryan's mother came into the room with a cup of water. She was obviously displeased with Madeline. "Let me ask you something, Eveline. You've been married to Ryan for such a long time now, but you guys have never shared a room before, right? You've never let him

touch you even once and now you're asking for a divorce. Ryan got into the accident on the way to the lawyer's office. How dare you even ask, Eveline Montgomery?"

"..." Madeline did not know how to respond to her direct question.

There was no way she could argue back on this matter.

"Mom, don't blame Eveline. This has nothing to do with her," Ryan spoke up in her defense. He stared at her with a gentle gaze. "I'm fine. You can go back first. It seems like the procedure can only be done in a few days' time," he said.

Of course, she had never thought of asking Ryan to complete the procedure while he was injured. She stared at him apologetically. "Take care. It's fine to delay this matter," she said.

"What do you mean you're delaying it? You still want to get a divorce?"

Mrs. Jones was infuriated and made her way in front of Madeline angrily.

"I heard that your ex-husband has returned and you've been with him for the past two nights. What do you take Ryan for? Eveline Montgomery, remember this. Ryan is your current husband!"

"Fulfill your duty as a wife and take good care of Ryan! If something happens to Ryan's leg, you will be the one to blame!" she yelled, pushing the cup of water into Madeline's hands. She then grabbed her handbag and left the room.

"Eveline, don't take my mother's words seriously." Ryan apologized. "I was the one who wanted to marry you in the first place. This has nothing to do with you," he said.

Madeline shook her head. She did not mind his mother's words. She was now a mother herself, so she could understand how she felt.

Ryan could not move on his own, and no one else was here either. As such, Madeline stayed by the side of his bed.

Not long after, she got a call from Jeremy. He asked her how the divorce procedure went. Madeline told him the truth, but she could detect the unhappiness in the tone of his voice.

Although Ryan said that she could return first, he only ended up in an accident because of her. According to the law, he was her registered husband as well. Therefore, Madeline did not leave. She would stay there even if it was just to fetch him water when he was feeling thirsty.

Madeline bought some food for Ryan late at night.

Ryan felt rather apologetic. "You've accompanied me for an entire day. My father will be reaching soon, so you can go back first," he said.

"In that case, I'll go back after your father arrives. Eat first." Madeline took out the dishes.

Ryan did not refuse. "I want to wash my hands first," he said.

Madeline walked over to support Ryan's arm. She helped him into the bathroom step by step.

However, when they made their way out, Ryan's left foot slipped and he lost his balance.

Ryan had already injured his right leg and Madeline did not want to see him injure himself once again because of her. She grabbed his arm in a hurry. At the same time, Ryan wrapped his arm around her waist instinctively.

Jeremy, who had just walked into the ward, witnessed the seemingly intimate moment that occurred

between the both of them.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 1125

After getting up, Madeline felt extremely awkward upon noticing the hand that was placed on her waist.

She could not free herself right now either. She wanted to help Ryan to his bedside as soon as possible.

However, after reaching the bedside, Ryan tightened his hold on her just as she wanted to let go.

His voice sounded rather forlorn. "To be honest, I don't really want to let go of you like that," he said.

What?

Madeline was dazed. Soon after, Ryan continued confessing to her. "Eveline, I realize that I've really fallen for you," he said.

"..."

Madeline could not wrap her head around his sudden confession.

He tightened his embrace slightly, his ebony scent lingering around her nose.

This was not the scent she wanted to get enveloped in. Madeline let go of him and said calmly, "Ryan, sit down first."

"Eveline, you don't have to worry. I won't make things difficult for you. I've promised you that I'll let you go back to Jeremy. I'll do as I say," Ryan promised her. He then let go of her arm after sitting on the bed.

He smiled, seemingly satisfied with their brief embrace.

Madeline wanted to change the topic. She carried the dishes onto the table and let Ryan have his meal.

Her phone rang just as she handed him a fork and a spoon.

Upon seeing that it was Jeremy, Madeline picked up the phone and walked toward the door.

Jeremy was currently standing at the end of the hallway. Madeline's silhouette was etched into his dark eyes. "Are you still at the hospital?" he asked.

"I'll be going back soon," Madeline said while looking at Ryan who had begun to eat. "He can't get around by himself," she added.

"That's why as his wife, you need to take care of him?" he asked.

"..."

Jeremy's question left her speechless.

There was no way she could make a rebuttal. It was a fact that she was Ryan's lawfully wedded wife.

They did not manage to talk much before the call ended on an unhappy note.

Ryan asked her to go home after she returned to the ward. "You have children to take care of. I'll call the nurses if something happens. You don't have to worry about me," he said.

Madeline was worried that Jeremy would start getting the wrong idea about them, so she prepared to leave at once. "I'll come back to see you tomorrow," she told Ryan.

"Yes." Ryan smiled lightly. "With your care and concern, I think that I'll recover much faster," he said.

In the past, Madeline would have thought that this was a joke, but it sounded different now.

Ryan had fallen for her.

This made her feel all the more guilty.

After Madeline left, Ryan did not continue eating. He looked at his right leg, which was wrapped in a plaster cast, and smiled knowingly.

Perhaps an exchange like that was not all too bad.

Madeline called Jeremy while she made her way toward the car park after walking out of the hospital entrance.

The phone call went through, but nobody picked up.

She tried calling a few more times, but there was still nobody picking up.

She felt rather exasperated, wondering if Jeremy was being jealous and angry.

They had an on-and-off relationship for so many years. Even so, she had never really seen him getting jealous like this before. Now that she was experiencing it, she realized that it was irritating but enjoyable.

at the same time.

Jeremy stood at the end of the hallway. After seeing Madeline leave, he entered Ryan's ward.

Ryan was not surprised at the sight of Jeremy. He spoke calmly, "The divorce procedure will be delayed for a few days. You can see as well that I can't move around freely."

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Jeremy stuck one of his hands into his pocket and took one step closer to Ryan in a languid manner.

"I'll get the lawyer to come over to talk to you tomorrow. You won't have to take a single step," he said. He had already arranged everything perfectly. "If you still manage to come up with an excuse to delay the procedure, it'll prove that you have a different motive when you married Eveline back then," he added.

Ryan looked at Jeremy calmly. "My real motive is to protect Eveline. Jeremy, you're overthinking."

"I thought too little about it. That's why I ended up willingly handing my most beloved woman over to you like a fool," Jeremy said, a hint of fierceness glinting in his eyes. He glanced at Ryan's right leg that was wrapped in a plaster cast.

The tone of his voice was ironic as he spoke, "This traffic accident happened in a rather timely manner." He then walked over to the side of the bed. He stared at Ryan's injured leg with a gaze full of doubt. "I'd like to see the injuries on your leg," he added.

Noticing that Jeremy had reached his hand over, Ryan furrowed his brows. "Jeremy Whitman, don't do anything rashly," he warned him.

"What are you afraid of? Are you afraid of being exposed by me?" Jeremy asked, his eyes blazing harshly. Suddenly, he pressed his palm onto Ryan's leg.

Ryan frowned at once. He looked like he was withstanding the pain from the look on his face.

However, Jeremy did not spare him at all. He pressed into his leg forcefully.

Madeline had returned because she could not find her car keys. Upon entering the ward, she was faced with the sight of the two men.

The look of cool nonchalance on Jeremy's face formed a stark contrast with Ryan, who looked like he was trying his best to hold back the pain.

"Jeremy, what are you doing?!" Madeline rushed into the ward. She ran to Jeremy's side and pulled him away.

Noticing the dense beads of cold sweat on Ryan's forehead, Madeline could only imagine how out of line Jeremy's actions were just now.

"Ryan, are you alright?" she asked as she walked toward him.

Jeremy reached over and grabbed her arm forcefully. He pulled her into an embrace.

"You should be worried about me, not him." Jeremy pointed out, his amber eyes full of a strong, dominant possessiveness.

"Do you know what you were doing just now? Jeremy, have you gone crazy?" Madeline escaped from his hold on her and walked toward Ryan. "Ryan, I'll get the doctor for you," she said.

Ryan seemed to be in a lot of pain. He nodded without saying anything.

Madeline pressed the button to call someone in, and the doctor arrived soon after.

Jeremy's face turned a few shades paler. "Why do you care so much about him?" he asked.

Madeline was rather pissed off, but she tried her best to remain calm. "He's my friend," she said.

"He's your husband as well, right?" he asked.

"..." Madeline clenched her fists and turned around to face the cold man. "Yes, he's still my husband. That's why I care about him!" she exclaimed.

Fuming in anger, she walked toward the bedside.

Jeremy remained standing there, the sight of Madeline worrying about Ryan reflected in his eyes. A familiar painful sensation spread through his heart.

He was not the only man who caught Linnie's attention anymore.

Madeline stood by one side and looked on while the doctor examined Ryan.

Noticing the deep frown and serious expression on the doctor's face, she felt rather perturbed.

She did not want his injuries to get worse because of her or Jeremy.

She would rather have Jeremy hurt her instead.

After completing the check-up, the doctor announced, "Mr. Jones, you've injured the tendons of your leg. You need a long period of rest to recover. Take good care."

"Thank you, I'll take care of myself," Ryan said.

The doctor did not have anything else to say, so he left the room.

Madeline wanted to apologize to Ryan. Just as she took a step forward, Jeremy took a few wide steps and made his way toward the front of her.

He looked at Ryan, who was seated on the bed. Both their gazes met.

Ryan seemed calm, but Jeremy's gaze was predatory and full of strong aggressiveness. All of a sudden, he curled his lips into a smirk and pulled Madeline into his arms. He then kissed her deeply on her lips right before Ryan's eyes.

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Madeline had never expected that Jeremy would do something like that. She started to struggle after being stuck in a daze for a few seconds.

Nevertheless, Jeremy was extremely strong. He pried open her teeth and deepened the kiss on purpose.

Madeline's face heated up instantly. She felt embarrassed and awkward but was helpless to do anything.

Ryan pressed his lips into a thin line as he attempted to evade his gaze. However, there was no way he could prevent himself from looking at them.

"What are you guys doing?!" Mrs. Jones rushed into the ward all of a sudden.

Jeremy raised the corners of his eyes and glared at Ryan's mother coldly. He removed himself from Madeline nonchalantly.

However, he did not let go of Madeline completely and continued holding her in his arms.

Noticing Madeline, who was wrapped in Jeremy's arms, Mrs. Jones rushed to her side angrily. "Eveline Montgomery, are you shameless? Ryan is right here! How dare you carry out this... shameless behavior... in front of your husband with another man?! You..."

Mrs. Jones was so infuriated that she could not even talk properly. She raised her palm in an attempt to slap Madeline.

"Don't hit Eveline!" Ryan stopped her immediately. He tried to make his way over to stop his mother without giving a second thought about his injuries.

However, at the same time, Jeremy grabbed Mrs. Jones' hand and gazed at her icily. "Touch her and we'll see what happens to you," he said.

Mrs. Jones shied away from his cold gaze. She wanted to take her hand back, but she could not free herself from Jeremy's strong grip.

"Let go at once." Madeline tried to pry away his hand.

"Jeremy Whitman, don't hurt my mother." Ryan walked over while lifting up his injured leg with much difficulty.

"Jeremy, let go right now!" Madeline pleaded.

Jeremy glanced at her and continued to warn Mrs. Jones, "Listen up, I'm Eveline Montgomery's husband. Your son is the extra one here."

After he was done speaking, he tossed her hand to the side mercilessly. He then turned around with Madeline in his arms.

“What... What is this?!” Mrs. Jones shouted angrily, “Ryan, look at this woman you chose! You’re her husband, but she’s leaving with another man!”

Ryan looked toward the direction of the door without saying anything. A rare sign of anger appeared on his gentle, handsome face.

Madeline got brought away by Jeremy forcefully. They made their way to the car park.

Jeremy opened the car door and pushed her in. He then started the car immediately.

He thought that Madeline would question him or blame him. However, she did not utter a single word throughout the entire journey.

He drove to the seaside by April Hill. The night breeze billowed through the car window, and they could hear the sound of waves crashing against the land. The sounds resonated through the car and filled their ears.

“Why aren’t you talking?” He broke the silence as he gazed at her cold but beautiful side profile.

“What do you want me to ask you? Do you want me to ask you what you’ve been through in the past six months? Or do you want me to ask you why you did that in front of Ryan?” she blurted out.

Madeline kept her gaze forward, not looking at Jeremy at all.

As the night breeze caressed her face, a cold sensation seemed to seep into her skin and burrow its way

into her heart.

Upon noticing that Madeline was not even looking at him, Jeremy licked his lips lightly and moved closer to her. He held her nape with a warm hand and made her face him.

Under the dim moonlight, their eyes reflected their genuine love for each other.

Jeremy looked at Madeline's cold, dull eyes. He moved his lips to say something. "I asked you that day if you'd still love me even when I've changed and become different. You said you would. But now you look like you really hate me," he said.

"Hate you?" Madeline laughed sarcastically as she heard these words.

Nevertheless, her eyes turned red with tears as she smiled.

Calmly, she stared into his eyes.

"When you thought that there was no way for you to continue staying alive and avoided me at all costs, do you know how badly that hurt me?"

"When you set fire to Montgomery Manor under Lana's influence and killed my parents, do you know how much I suffered?"

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"When I knew that you'd be leaving me forever and disappearing from my world, I didn't want to resent you anymore. I wasn't afraid anymore. I was just afraid that I wouldn't get to be with you anymore."

As he listened to every word Madeline said, Jeremy's eyes glinted with a sense of deep apology and appreciation.

“Ryan and I are just married on the surface. He has never forced me into anything. I have never been able to convince myself to act like a married couple with him either. That’s because there has always been a man called Jeremy Whitman in the deepest corner of my heart.”

This sentence alone touched his heart. Not long after, he heard her tear up.

“I never imagined that this man would return to my side. However, I don’t want him to continue hurting me using these methods after returning to my side.

“Jeremy, is it too much for me to want to have a simple love and lead a quiet life with you? Or are we just not compatible as lovers?”

Tears spilled out of her eyes as she questioned him.

At this moment, Jeremy felt his heart breaking.

He wrapped her in his arms. “I’m sorry, Linnie. I made you cry again,” he said.

More tears flowed down her face. “Do you know? You’ve never called me Linnie ever since you came back,” she said.

Listening to her cry, Jeremy’s heart tightened.

He caressed her hair and comforted her. However, it seemed to be useless.

Jeremy loosened his hold on her, attempting to brush away the tears wetting her face. However, she only pushed him away.

She still seemed to be fuming as she reached out to open the car door.

Jeremy pulled Madeline into his embrace dominantly. He then lowered his head and kissed her.

Madeline struggled in his grasp. Nevertheless, soon enough, she got lost in his gentle kiss.

Her hands, which were struggling at first, were now wrapped around the man's torso instinctively. She could not help herself from burying into the warmth of his body.

"I won't let you leave me ever again. I won't hand you over to another man again either," Jeremy promised her. He caressed her long hair gently. "I'll control myself and try my best not to look for Ryan," he said.

"I didn't say that you can't look for Ryan, but you can't treat him like that. He helped you and me before, right?" she asked.

"He helped me?" Jeremy questioned her. However, he did not say anything else and continued to hug her tightly. A knowing smile appeared on his handsome face.

Although he had not told her what happened to him in the past six months, at least he did not seem to be acting weirdly toward her anymore.

The next day, to prevent Jeremy from being jealous again, Madeline told him that she would be going to the hospital to visit Ryan.

Jeremy did not object and even said that he wanted to go with her. "I crossed the line yesterday. I'll apologize to him," he said.

He seemed sincere, but Madeline stopped him. She was worried that an unwarranted conflict would occur again.

Jeremy did not insist on following anymore and let Madeline go to the hospital alone.

After arriving at the hospital, she saw Mrs. Jones packing up. Once she saw her, she reprimanded her in anger, "Eveline Montgomery, has Rye ever mistreated you? He's kind enough to not mind a divorced woman with three children like you. But what did you do instead?"

"You got involved with your ex-husband again and even let the paparazzi catch you. Everything is just great now. A bunch of reporters is in front of our house. Ryan can't even go home to rest. He can only go to a hotel to prevent getting photographed by those annoying reporters. Does Ryan owe you anything?" she asked.

After scolding her angrily, Mrs. Jones grabbed her handbag and left.

Madeline knew that she was in the wrong. She did not take it to heart and called Ryan immediately. The tone of his voice was still gentle. "I'm alright. Don't mind my mother's words. I'm fine being at the hotel by myself," he said.

The more Ryan acted this generously toward her, the more she felt like she owed him something.

She asked which hotel he was in and brought over some daily necessities.

When she arrived, she saw that the room door was open.

She thought that Ryan had opened the door for her. However, when she entered, she saw that he was lying on the bed and seemed to be asleep.

Madeline put down the bag and thought of leaving so that she would not disturb him. However, once

she turned around, a wave of dizziness encompassed her as her vision spun around. Soon enough, she fell onto the ground helplessly...

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Madeline felt like she was dreaming while caught in a drowsy haze. Someone kept calling out to her in her dream.

"Eveline, Eveline, wake up."

The gentle yet worried voice of a man rang out in her ears continuously.

Eveline frowned and gradually opened her eyes. Ryan's face slowly came into view amidst her blurred vision.

"Eveline, are you awake?" he asked.

"Ryan?"

"It's me," Ryan said as he looked at her in worry. "Are you alright?" he asked.

Alright?

Clarity returned to her thoughts at once. She recalled what happened before she fainted just now. She then realized that she was lying on the bed.

She sat up at once, the covers sliding down from her shoulders. She realized in shock that her clothes had been removed. She was only wearing a camisole.

This entire situation made her feel oddly weirded out.

She pulled up the covers and wrapped them around herself immediately.

“How did this happen?” she asked in confusion. She had no idea what just happened. Upon catching sight of the clothes on the floor, she immediately bent down to pick them up.

Ryan turned over at once. “Wear your clothes first,” he told her.

Madeline did not say anything. She put on her clothes hurriedly after Ryan limped away.

She could not remember what happened in between at all.

She only remembered bringing daily necessities over for Ryan. After she entered the room, she saw him fast asleep and proceeded to leave. However, she lost consciousness just as she was about to leave.

She put on her clothes and looked at the bed. A sense of heaviness weighed on her mind.

A thought arose in her mind, but she did not dare to dwell on it.

Ryan was seated on the sofa in the living room. He tried to stand up when he saw that Madeline was dressed, but he could not do so due to his leg injury.

“Sit down,” Madeline said. She looked at him and cut straight to the point, asking, “Ryan, what happened? Why was I on the bed?” she asked.

Ryan looked at her serious expression, his eyes glinting apologetically. “Eveline, I think something happened between us,” he said.

“...”

Ryan’s words came upon her like a bucket of cold water. The revelation shocked her from head to toe.

“What... What did you say?” she asked in disbelief.

Ryan frowned and continued speaking, “Before you came over, I heard someone knocking on the door. I thought it was you, but I didn’t see anyone after opening the door. I went back in and fell asleep drowsily. After I woke up, you were beside me and...”

He paused. The look in his eyes turned heavier. “And we weren’t dressed properly,” he added.

“...”

A chilling sensation crept up Madeline’s spine.

Just as she was about to deny the entire situation, her phone rang.

That customized ringtone belonged to Jeremy’s number.

She picked up Jeremy’s phone call at once without hesitation. His husky, low voice resonated from the phone. “Why didn’t you pick up my call just now?” he asked in a gentle voice.

Just now?

Jeremy must have looked for her while she was unconscious just now.

She did not want to lie to Jeremy, but she had no other choice right now.

“I was busy just now, so I didn’t notice your call. Jeremy, did anything come up?” she asked.

Jeremy did not suspect her at all. He replied in a gentle voice, “I’m starting to miss you. When are you coming back?”

A burst of sweetness erupted in Madeline’s heart. “I’m coming back soon,” she told him. Upon the thought of him waiting for her to return home, a sense of guilt arose in her heart. “Jeremy, I miss you a lot too,” she said.

Madeline heard his low chuckle from the other end of the phone. Jeremy seemed to be in a rather good mood.

However, the current situation made her feel terrible.

She hung up the call. Looking at Ryan, who was seated on the sofa with an annoyed look on his face, she felt upset as well.

“I’m going back. Rest well,” she told him.

Madeline then grabbed her handbag and turned around to leave.

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Ryan suddenly reached out to hold onto her. Madeline flung him away instinctively and freed her hand from his grip.

Noticing Ryan’s bewildered gaze at her, Madeline realized that her response was slightly overblown. “Sorry, Ryan,” she said.

"It's alright. I acted rashly," Ryan said as he supported the weight of his body with his arm. He stood up effortfully.

"I know that it's difficult for you to accept that this has happened between you and me. I know that the only man you love is Jeremy Whitman. This shall remain a secret between the both of us. I won't mention it to anyone," he told her.

Madeline understood what he meant and knew that he was being nice. However, what had happened truly happened. It was no use telling themselves otherwise.

Other people did not have to know about this, but there was no way she could get past her conscience.

She did not say anything, only simply nodding before leaving.

Madeline returned to Whitman Manor as soon as possible. Jeremy was not there, so she took a shower in the bathroom.

She knew that this incident was not that simple.

Someone must have wanted to plot against Ryan and her.

Otherwise, how could she lose her consciousness all of a sudden?

Did something really happen between Ryan and her while they were unconscious?

Madeline cracked her head but still could not recall anything.

After showering for half an hour, Madeline came out of the bathroom. Jeremy had already returned home. He sat by the side of the bed and appeared to be flipping through a file of documents.

Madeline dried her hair with a towel. She felt rather guilty at this moment to the point that she did not dare to look him in the eye.

“Why are you showering here?” Jeremy asked. He put down the documents in his hand and grabbed a hairdryer upon seeing her coming out of the bathroom.

“I sweated a little. I didn’t feel comfortable, so I decided to shower,” she replied by coming up with an excuse. After telling him that, she regretted it immediately.

She did not want to lie to Jeremy, but she could not bring herself to tell him the truth.

Jeremy did not suspect her at all. He held her hand and sat down on her side of the bed. He then held up the hairdryer and started helping her dry her hair.

His actions were light and gentle. Madeline felt even worse when she felt how much he cherished her.

Who in the world wanted to scheme against Ryan and her?

Madeline could not guess who this person was, but she was afraid that Ryan and she were not the only ones who knew about this incident. The person scheming against them knew about it as well.

This person’s goal still remained unknown.

The next few days, Madeline did not visit Ryan anymore. She only contacted him through the phone twice.

After that day's incident, she still did not know how to face Ryan.

On the other hand, Jeremy bought another luxurious villa. He even brought her over to look at the property.

"Linnie, do you like this place?" he asked her, his eyes glimmering softly. "The first step I want to take to start all over with you is to purchase a new home for the both of us," he announced.

Madeline did not have many thoughts about the new house. She stared intently at the man before her. "Anywhere is home as long as I'm with you," she said.

This reply alone caused sweetness to erupt in his heart.

He hugged and kissed her passionately.

His current happiness healed the broken wounds at the bottom of his heart.

After the issue about the new house was settled, Madeline did not feel as burdened as she did before.

On Monday morning, Madeline sent both of her kids to kindergarten as the chauffeur was preoccupied with something. She had an urge to meet Jeremy as she drove past the office of Whitman Corporation.

Although their relationship seemed rather awkward to outsiders, she still wanted to see him.

Madeline took the elevator from the basement on purpose. As she walked out of the elevator, she saw the receptionists busily tidying document files. She noticed a parcel right next to her. After picking it up, she saw that it belonged to Jeremy.

"I'm here to look for Mr. Whitman. I'll bring it in for him. You can continue working," she said.

Upon seeing that it was Madeline, the receptionist was struck into a daze. She responded to her after a while, "Thank... Thank you, Miss Montgomery," she said.

Madeline smiled and walked into Jeremy's office.

He was on the phone. A faint smile appeared on his face when he noticed her.

She did not disturb his call. She went to pour a cup of water for herself after putting the package on his table.

After returning from the pantry, she noticed Jeremy standing before his table. He was holding a stack of photos and going through them one by one. The expression on his face turned colder with every photograph he looked at.

"Jeremy, what are you looking at? Why is your expression like that?" she asked.

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