A Life Debt Repaid Read Online Free

Chapter 1131

Jay actually did not see Zoe at that instant, nor did Zoe get a good look at him when she saw a large group of doctors in lab coats rushing into a ward.

Moments after, a man was wheeled out on a stretcher so quickly that Zoe did not have a good look who it was.

All she saw was Jay wheeling himself so quickly to follow them that he almost flipped his wheelchair.

Zoe gritted her teeth and followed.

While the medical staff hurried into the emergency room, Jay waited outside worriedly, and the hallway soon became silent again.

"Jay." Zoe could not help calling out to him just then, and he seemed to jump.

He was too focused to notice anything else, and the suddenness registered in his reaction.

He turned to find Zoe standing there and appeared even more surprised, not knowing why Zoe showed up there.

As for Zoe, she could tell immediately from his reaction that he never noticed her from the start.

Who on earth could he be so worried about?

And judging from the figure, it was definitely no woman.

So... Who else would he care so much for?

"What are you doing here?" Jay blurted out just then.

"Shouldn't I be asking you that?" Zoe asked through gritted teeth.

"You've been out early and coming home late often and being vague whenever I asked why. How long would you have kept this from me if I never followed you here?"

Jay was dumbstruck-he never was good at lying and even more speechless now that he was so exposed.

"So? Who is that in there?" Zoe pressed.novel.xo

Jay stayed silent, since he had promised John not to tell — and now he understood why.

It would definitely cause trouble if Jay spilled the beans, since the invasive reconstructive surgery John took up might end up making him look worse.

He probably did not want his loved ones to hope, only to be let down. Still, since Jay was not answering, Zoe started guessing. "Is it Bob?" Jay appeared taken aback, and taking that as a no, Zoe moved on to the next suspect. "Sam Saunders?"

After all, those two were his only close friends, and who else would Jay care so much about?

"Maybe you should stop jinxing others," Jay said then, since Zoe's hunches left him speechless and suddenly concerned that she would list everyone who mattered to him.

"Then who is it?" Zoe asked very seriously.

"I promised him not to tell, but..." Jay trailed off for a moment as his tone changed sharply. "You can wait until they bring him out."

"So you're just going to leave me hanging?" Zoe was huffing, wondering which man could make Jay say something like that!

"My hands are tied here." Jay gave her a helpless look.

Zoe gritted her teeth, but she knew Jay-he would be mentally burdened if he had to break his promise.

So, she had to wait and see who the devil it was!

As the hallway turned silent again, Zoe remained completely calm, while Jay was restless-visibly worried that the man would die on the operating table.

They waited for over an hour until the doors of the operating room opened, and Jay quickly wheeled himself over.

Zoe never noticed before that he could be that slick with his wheelchair! Still, she followed him and heard the doctor say, "The patient is fine. It's just a slight infection on the face where he had surgery, and we've already disinfected it so there won't be any issue. However, it is a cause for worry, and we need to keep him in a clean room before he fully recovers just in case."

Jay heaved a huge sigh of relief at the doctor's words. Chapter 1132 Jay then asked, "Well, can I visit him?' "I wouldn't encourage it—he should avoid unnecessary contact for the time being. Moreover, we will move him directly to the clean room," the doctor said.

"Alright. How long would he be staying in the clean room?"

"Around three to five days. He can leave once his surgical wounds heal enough."

"Is this going to be the last surgery?"

"In terms of major ones, yes. Now, it depends on the patient's acceptance of his new face, though that requires delicacy," the doctor explained.

"Thank you doctor." Jay was awash with gratitude.

"It's our responsibility," the doctor said before sending them off. Zoe reluctantly followed Jay.

It took her so much to muster her courage to come all the way here, but she never found out who Jay came to visit every day!

She was still sulking in the car from frustration, utterly upset. Jay began, "Zoe..."

"Don't talk to me!" she snapped.

Jay pursed his lips but tried to assure her nonetheless." You'd be surprised to see him."

"But I didn't get to see him! Who on earth would my own husband worry so much for?!"

Jay flashed a begrudging smile. "You'll know when the time comes." "When?"novel.xo

"Didn't the doctor say three to five days?"

Zoe was speechless.

Waiting that long would only kill her.

Still, she did not actually harass him since she did not actually want him to be sad.

Three days later, Jay received a call from the hospital that John could leave the clean room, and he quickly prepared to leave for the hospital. Zoe watched as he hurried off, and it was not until he reached the door that he remembered her and quickly turned around. "Are you coming?" Zoe rolled her eyes, but she went with him to the hospital anyway.

They headed straight to the WIP ward, though Jay paused at the doorway.

As Zoe frowned at him, he asked, "Have you prepared yourself?"

Zoe was nonchalant. "Do I have to? I'm not going to see a ghost or something, am I?!"

Jay chuckled and led her inside without delay.

John was reclining against his bed, and his appearance had recovered enough to match his original appearance.

It was still a little unusual with the swelling and facial scars, but those who were familiar with him would be able to identify him immediately, which was why Zoe flinched the instant she saw John and could not help wobbling backward.

Jay caught her thanks to his quick reflexes, though Zoe's eyes were popping out even as she stared fixedly at John.

What the hell?!

It really was a ghost!

What was John Levine doing here? He should be dead!

She pointed a trembling finger at him, and it took her a long while to stammer, "J-John?!"

John smiled faintly in turn-it was the best he could do with the terrible swelling all over his face.

"Yeah," he said nonetheless.

Zoe dropped straight on Jay's lap right then and cried out in agitation, "Are you sure you're not Lucas Lynch?"

Chapter 1133

John was calm, a stark contrast to Zoe's agitation.

"I am both Lucas Lynch and John Levine."

Zoe took a long while to reflect on those worse until she finally understood. She sprang up from Jay's lap in excitement, clapping her hands as she cried, "I knew you were you, but Cordy doubted me! I mean, after living with you for years, I'd recognize you even if all that's left of you were bones!"

John was speechless-Zoe never learned how to hold her tongue even after years.

"By the way, what's it with you? Why did you fake your death? What are you doing here at the hospital? And what's with that emergency surgery? Was it something serious?" Zoe rambled on, asking a ton of questions. Still, John answered every question she had, and Zoe felt patience from him for the very first time.

It was as if his temperament changed after his 'death'...

After he was done, Zoe muttered to herself and recounted everything. "So, you're saying that you survived the explosion after Jessica Stuart blew up the ship and were rescued unexpectedly... only to be shipped abroad. The people who saved you just happened to have a son who recently died, so they altered your face to resemble him, which was easy since you two share some resemblance.

That was why no one questioned your real identity?"

"It's just been a few years, but you're smarter now," John commented. "I've always been smart!" Zoe snorted grumpily.

John smiled faintly but did not argue.

"Well, did you tell Cordy?" Zoe quickly asked. "Wait, I just remembereddidn't you marry Nana Lynd? Do you know what happened to her family?"

"Cordy knows."

"What?!" Zoe was flabbergasted.

Used to that reaction from her by now, both John and Jay stayed exceedingly calm.novel.xo

"So she's been hiding it from me all this while? And she also knew Jay was sneaking around for..." Zoe muttered to herself.

The more she did, the angrier she got-was Cordy actually her friend? Why would she refuse to tell her everything?!

"Then, you and Cordy are now ... "

"Completely unrelated," John said bluntly.

"But did you know that Cordy is getting married?" Zoe asked.

John pursed his lips in silence, while Jay quickly said, "When did she ever say she's marrying? They just started dating. They wouldn't move so fast-"

"Cordy just called me the other day, saying Patrick proposed to her, and she said yes. She's with him at Rocktown right now, and they'll get married in a few months if there are no issues," Zoe blurted, only realizing afterward that she might have said too much.

She was painfully aware how much John loved Cordy.

At the same time, the ward turned eerily silent.

That was when Zoe muttered, "I mean, we could steal the bride too..." Jay was left gaping at her, wondering if there was anything his own wife would not say.

John was staring at Zoe too, and it gave her the creeps. No, hold onwhat I meant was she's still at the engagement phase, and they aren't actually married yet. We can try to stop it!"

"... Isn't Cordy your bestie?" Jay could not bear to listen to another word. He certainly wanted Cordy to stay with John, but whatever the case might be, Cordy was in a relationship now.

Interfering with that would make John the other guy...

Somehow, Jay found himself looking forward to that.

"This is for my cousin's happiness!" Zoe said, blurting the word just then. As John turned toward her, Zoe suddenly remembered something. "Oh, right. I'm not your cousin-we're totally unrelated."

John rolled his eyes—honestly, one should not invest emotions in Zoe. Chapter 1134

Zoe was really capable of making someone fall apart in an instant. And right then, she said smugly, "You now have to address me as Aunt Zoe."

John took a deep breath, clearly a little annoyed.

Even Jay had to be impressed with Zoe-rarely was anyone capable of leaving John bristling with just a few words.

Nonetheless, Zoe remained serious, "You should seize your chance-you still have a few months, so don't blame your Aunt Zoe for not warning you now. Just give me a head's up when you've made up your mind, and I'll help."

John rolled his eyes and ignored Zoe, whereas Jay hid a smile nearby. He should have brought her to meet John if he knew she would liven things up like this.

It was certainly awkward when silence ensued between two grown men, especially since said silence could stay an entire day.

But with Zoe around, awkwardness and whatnot was nonexistent. As such, Jay often brought Zoe with him to the hospital ever since the first visit.

She certainly was not as cold as she appeared-in fact, when they headed home after the first visit, she suddenly clung on to Jay and started crying tears of joy.

She just did not like to show emotions around others, and in that sense, Zoe had now fully accepted him as her better half.

And Jay was certainly content with that.

A month later, John was finally discharged.

Having taken a while to recover, his current facial appearance did not appear from his old one.

Zoe and Jay came to get him together, and Zoe proved incorrigible again. "You scared me so much when I saw you again, and I thought you'd be permanently disfigured... Well, at least you look exactly average now."

"Zoe!" John snapped, glowering like he usually would, pulling rank as her senior.novel.xo

However, Zoe retorted sternly, "Don't try to intimidate me- I'm your aunt now. You'd best watch your manners around me."

John was left glaring at her murderously, while Jay hid a smile nearby. "By the way, are you really not planning to take Cordy back now that

you've regained your sweet cheeks?" Zoe mused solemnly. "She's just returned, and I have a reliable source stating that she'll be taking wedding photos with Patrick next week."

John stayed silent, so Zoe pressed, "I'm serious, John. Cordy will really marry another man if you don't make a move."

Jay finally spoke up, unable to stand it anymore. "Just cut it out." Zoe pout. "Anyway, you'll regret not listening to your elders."

Silence ensued in the car soon after, when John suddenly said, "Take me to Levine Manor."

"Levine Manor?" Jay repeated for confirmation.

"Yeah."

"Okay," Jay did not press the issue-even if things had become unpleasant between him and the Levines, it did not affect their relationship.

It was not to mention there were not that many Levines left, and Jay always could see how Nancy had been good to John.

Jay hence told the chauffeur to take them to Levine Manor, and as John got off, he asked, "Aren't you coming?"

"No," Jay said shortly.

John said seen the news, and nodded-he would never press the issue. Chapter 1135

John's return to Levine Manor left the servants gaping at him.

Some were actually spooked, since they were told that he was dead! As such, Nancy hurried out of her room upstairs and was left staring blankly for a long while when she saw John, thinking for a second that she had seen a ghost. She eventually yelped loudly, and Cora hurried out of her room as well before getting flabbergasted to see John in the living room.

"Y-You're not dead, John?" she asked gingerly.

"Nope," John said nonchalantly. "I survived by chance."

Nancy hurried out down the stairs, still in shock but mustering her courage to throw her arms around John." Johnny, you're alive... You're really alive..."

John's heart raced a little.

Having grown up at Levine Manor, he knew Nancy's character best others aside, she was genuinely kind to him.

He returned her hug. "I'm home now, Aunt Nancy."

"Don't you know how hard it's been over the years..." Nancy sobbed hysterically in her arms. "You could've come back sooner... Even Dad's gone now, Johnny..."

It took a long while for Nancy to calm down a little as they caught up. "You're not leaving after this, are you, Johnny?" "No."

"That's good. You shouldn't leave... You'd give me a heart attack like Jay Parker!" Nancy huffed, absolutely seething at the mention of the name.

Nonetheless, John said bluntly. "I've seen everything on the news about you and Uncle Jay. I don't think he's at fault."

"Are you siding with him too, Johnny?! Do you know what I've been through?!" Nancy cried, agitated right then.novel.xo

She was certainly under the impression that John had returned to back her up, especially since their family was dwindling. It was as if without a man holding the fort, most of the people who used to respect their family were starting to turn against them.

Now that John finally returned after all those years, she was certainly eager to rally the family and punish those who disrespected them viciously... only for John to not take her side?!

She was certainly overwhelmed!

Nonetheless, John remained blunt. "Any grievances between you and Zoe were over the instant you chased her out of the family. If anything, your spite should be leveled at Ivan York or even Clara Gooding-Zoe was a victim too."

"But she-"

"I understand that it's unrealistic for you to accept Zoe. Anyone would feel indignant if the same thing were to happen to them, and I understand if you can't stand the sight of her, but you went out of your way to harass her and even cut ties with Jay because of that. It's something I can never agree with," John said sharply.

Nancy was certainly frustrated, but she was keener to listen to John than Jay, not to mention that he had just returned and she did not want things to get sour between them right away.

And he was the only man who could hold the fort now.

"As for you, Cora." John turned toward the other woman, who was sitting beside them and remained on edge for a while now.

Cordy's heart could stop right then-she was certainly apprehensive when John mentioned Zoe and guilty since she was the one who harassed Zoe.

And John was obviously siding with Zoe and Jay...

She stared at John worriedly. "John ... "

"Things could've gone well between you and Bob, including marriage and starting a family. Your jealousy was what caused your break-up, and Zoe isn't at fault. You brought it on yourself."

Chapter 1136

Cora certainly wanted to argue. "But, I...1

John, however, remained stern and solemn. "You have much to complain about, and you feel that Zoe has stolen your rights and identitybut in reality, Zoe was the one who was hurt the most when the truth came out, and the reason is simple: rags to riches is easy, but the converse is hard."

"You need to understand—I'm not telling you that you're not the victim, but Zoe was never the culprit. She was sent back to where she belonged after being thrown out of this house so mercilessly, and neither of you have any excuse to vent your grievances on her."

The atmosphere in the living room was stiffened.

Still, Nancy was indignant to see that her daughter was left blushing by John's words, and she growled through gritted teeth, "Weren't you on my side when we first found out that Zoe wasn't my daughter? You're now completely on her side just because she's with Jay now-"

"It was a selfish act on my part," John said, holding her gaze without flinching. "When we discovered the truth, I could be understanding since you probably couldn't take the blow, and I abandoned Zoe just then. But after so many years, I presume you would've calmed down, seen the truth of the matter, and gone about it rationally. In that sense, you disappoint me."

While John's words left Nancy dumbstruck, he continued," Naturally, I'd never demand that you accept Zoe or tell you to give up on all your obstinance. But why don't you think about it long and hard now-was Zoe at fault in this at all?"

Nancy remained silent, while Cora was afraid to speak, so John did not press the issue. "I'm tired. I'll get some rest in my room."

"I've been keeping it the way it was," Nancy quickly said.

Whatever John would say, she still considered him family.

John was certainly aware how Nancy felt about him, but kinship was no excuse to ignore conscience or moral codes.

And most importantly, he wanted the family to be whole again too.novel.xo

Still, Nancy was tagging along as John returned

"Johnny." Nancy suddenly asked, " Did you know that Cordy has a boyfriend...?"

"I know," John replied. "I know everything you do."

"I'm just worried... Well, alright. You get some rest—1'11 leave you to it." "Yeah."

As Nancy gently closed the door and left, John lay in his huge bed. In reality, he was not as cold as he appeared to be, and he wondered if Cordy would really marry Patrick just like that!

It was noon when John woke up.

He did not really sleep, since he merely stayed in bed to think about what he was supposed to do next.

His family had been falling to decline since his departure- he had to rally them in dedication to his late grandfather's memory.

He got out of bed and headed downstairs, stopping halfway when he saw Cordy and Richard on the couch, while Nancy and Cora were strangely absent.

Cordy, who was looking at her phone, felt his gaze and looked up in reflex.

Their eyes met just like that, out of the blue.

Chapter 1137

Richard called out to him in surprise. "Daddy?!"

On the other hand, Cordy turned away in a split second.

John did the same. "Yeah."

"When did you come back?" Richard asked excitedly.

John headed downstairs and walked up to them "Just did."

"Where have you been? Why didn't you contact me? Your replies were half-hearted, too," Richard huffed, clearly upset. "I thought you'd gone missing again."

"I had something to do."

"Your face is back now," Richard pointed out in surprise just then. He was busy complaining about John being distant to him and only noticed just then that John's face was much better.

There were no burn marks to be seen, and most importantly, John's original appearance was restored, and he no longer looked like Lucas Lynch.

"Yeah," John replied again, and glanced at Cordy.

Her eyes were glued to her phone and she was not looking at him again. He actually had the feeling that she did not get a good look at him when they traded glances for a second.

"Are you leaving later, Daddy?" Richard asked eagerly. "No."

"Will you be staying in North City from now on?" "Yeah."

"Then I'm staying here too," Richard quickly said.

"Okay." John nodded.

With that, father and son kept chatting, while Cordy never said a word or looked up throughout until Nancy emerged from the kitchen at the back. "Oh, you're up already, Johnny? I called Cordy and Dicky, since I miss them and it's been a while, and you happen to be here too. Don't you miss Daddy too, Dicky?"

"Yeah." Richard nodded repeatedly.

"Of course. Now come, let's have lunch together," Nancy quickly beckoned.

As everyone sat down at the dining table, Richard asked as a matter of courtesy, "Isn't Aunt Cora coming home?"

"She can't make it since she's working," Nancy replied and cheerfully put more food on Richard's plate. "Eat more, Dicky -you're going through puberty, so you have to make sure you have enough nutrients."

"Thank you, Grandaunt," Richard said politely.novel.xo

Nancy did the same for John after Richard. "It's been years since you're home, Johnny. Are you used to the food here? You've really lost weight too."

"Yeah, it's fine," John replied, before adding, "I'm fine on my own."

"Okay," Nancy said and started serving Cordy as well.

"Thank you, but I'm fine on my own," Cordy quickly said.

"Why don't you move back here with Dicky? Johnny's back, and it's high time your family reunited," Nancy said as if it was only natural. Cordy pursed her lips.

When Cordy received Nancy's call to bring Richard home today on the pretext of her missing Richard, Cordy presumed to be just that.

Now, however, she finally understood what Nancy was plotting, and said nonchalantly, "Dicky is now eleven. He can choose where he wants to live, and I'll respect his decision."

Hearing that, Richard turned toward her and asked, "What about you, Mommy?"

Cordy smiled. "I'll live in my own house, of course."

Richard hung his head in clear disappointment.

"Cordy, Levine Manor is large enough, so you can just move in," Nancy said enthusiastically nonetheless. "The more the merrier, and since you haven't married Johnny before, we could-"

"I'm marrying Patrick Stuart," Cordy said bluntly, cutting her short. "There's no connection between myself and John, so we can't live together."

John pursed his lips in silence.

Nancy said anxiously, "Johnny can't come back because of unexpected circumstances. Now that he's back, your family can be reunited, so how could you-"

"Aunt Nancy, stop," John said, cutting Nancy short.

He understood that Nancy was being kind, but he did not want Cordy to be put in a difficult situation.

Cordy looked up at John and slowly said, "I'm really getting married." Chapter 1138

John nodded. "I know. Zoe told me."

Cordy said nothing else at that, and everyone else stayed silent.

She left Levine Manor after lunch but told Richard to stay since she could tell that he really wanted to stay with John.

But even as she stepped outside, a familiar voice called out to her from behind. "Cordy."

Cordy's heart skipped a beat, and she pursed her lips and turned to find John standing there.

"Your phone," he said, holding it out to her.

It turned out that she had left it on the couch.

"Thank you," she said as she took it, surprised that she would have left it in Levine Manor—she would never usually forget things.

Even so, she had to admit that her emotions were affected when she saw John's face restored to how it was, no matter how hard she tried to ignore it.

"When's the wedding?" John asked.

"We haven't decided," Cordy said. "It'll be in a few months."

John smiled faintly in turn. "Congratulations."

"Thank you."

"Do you need a ride?" John asked. "It's easy to get tired after lunch."

"It's fine." Cordy rejected his offer.

"Alright. See you then."

"Yeah."

"I'll send Dicky home in the evening."

"Let him decide. Tell him to call me if he wants to go home, and I'll pick him up."

"Okay."

"I'm going now."

"Yeah."novel.xo

With that, Cordy turned to leave.

This was their relationship now-distant, but amicable.

In the evening, Cordy headed home after working overtime.

She was planning to relax for the weekend. However, considering that she would need to leave for Rocktown in a couple days to take her wedding photos, and Richard was not around, she went to work... and ended up staying all the way until 10 PM.

When she returned to the mansion, she could hear that things were lively inside, unlike the usual silence.

Richard was usually quiet, and it went without saying for the servants to. She entered the living room to find Richard and John watching TV together, and her eyes narrowed in clear displeasure.

"Welcome home, Mommy," Richard greeted her just then.

"Yeah," Cordy replied a little coolly.

Richard had always been sharp, and he quickly explained," Daddy brought me home when I said I wanted to come back, and I asked him to stay with me since you weren't around. You're not angry, are-" Even before Richard finished, Cordy put down her bag and strode off as

they watched, saying, "Call me ahead of time if I'm not around. I'm not used to having strangers in my home without my knowledge."

Those words were clearly meant for John.

Chapter 1139

Richard watched as Cordy left, looking a little disappointed.

"I'm sorry, Daddy," he said guiltily. "I..."

"It's alright," John replied and patted Richard's head.

John did not realize it, but Richard really grew up as if in an instant.

"I thought it's still possible for you and Mommy. I didn't think she'd be so angry," Richard explained.

"I know." John nodded.

It's not all Richard's fault either, since John could have left if he insisted. In the end, it was John who wanted to see her-even for seconds.

He had his own expectations, after all.

"It's late. You're still growing, so go to bed soon. I'll be going now." "Yeah." Richard nodded.

"Do you want to come over tomorrow?"

"I'm going to school tomorrow, and I'm used to staying here. But I'll visit if I'm free on weekends."

"Anyway, just call me if you miss me."

"Okay."novel.xo

John left—Richard thought about it, but he ultimately got up and headed to Cordy's room.

He knocked politely, and Cordy opened the door.

"Mommy," Richard said, utterly apologetic. "I'm sorry-I didn't think asking Daddy to stay would upset you so much."

"It's not your fault."

"No, I insisted that he stay," Richard explained in agitation." He was going to leave after bringing me home, but I told him no. He was going to call you after we left Levine Manor, but I didn't let him. It's really all my fault."

Cordy naturally felt pained to see Richard being so guilty, though in reality, she was not snapping at him.

She knew very well that Richard would never have been able to make John stay if John refused to.

But when she thought about it, John was Richard's biological father, and they had been years apart. It was perfectly reasonable if John wanted to hang out with Richard.

If anything, her tantrum was out of line.

Sighing, she said, "I was not being calm. I... I just didn't want you to try to get us together again. I'm going to marry

Patrick, and that's not going to change. I don't want to disappoint you." "No." Richard quickly shook his head. "I'll admit that I

wanted you to be with Daddy, and I always thought that it was a shame to leave things the way it was... but Daddy told me and things are going well between you and Patrick, and I shouldn't mess with your happiness."

Cordy pursed her lips and said nothing.

"I'm sorry, Mommy." Richard apologized again.

"I'm really not upset, and I promise I won't lose it in front of you and Daddy from now on."

"Okay." Richard nodded, but soon remembered something." By the way, Daddy made mushroom soup. Have you had dinner? Would you like some?"

Cordy raised a brow.

"I mean... Daddy made it for you, but he told me not to tell," Richard said seriously. "But I think you can be friends even if you're not married... that's not a problem, right?"

Cordy's heart skipped a beat, realizing for a second that she was less rational than a ten-year-old.

"Yeah, I'll have some. I didn't have dinner."

"Okay." Richard happily nodded repeatedly. "I'll get you a bowl. You should come downstairs too."

"Okay."

As Richard left cheerfully, Cordy took a deep breath.

Ultimately, John was Richard's father-there was no way they would really stay out of touch.

After that, Cordy left for Rocktown to take wedding photos with Patrick and decided on the eighteenth of May for their wedding day. Chapter 1140

The wedding would be in two months.

Zoe had a feeling she could not quite describe as she browsed the photos Cordy sent, especially since John was discussing rebuilding Levine Ventures with Jay in the house.

She mused if she should show John the photos and actually make him give up.

Judging from the current state of things, John really showed no intention of getting Cordy back. In fact, he had put on his workaholic form again and completely focused on work.

She walked over and asked, "Want another coffee?"

John nodded and gently pushed his cup to the side, letting her refill it without glancing her way.

Zoe was speechless-she was supposed to be his elder, his aunt, and he did not even thank her.

However, she seemed used to it and refilled both John and Jay's cups. Still, she had to admit that men were so good looking when they were working seriously.

They were both seated at the table in front of the glass wall, and it was honestly a feast for the eyes as the sun illuminated their silhouettes. How could Cordy not fall for that?novel.xo

"Zoe?" Jay turned to find her with a broad, silly grin on her face. Zoe quickly came to her senses, realizing that she had inadvertently spaced out... but John was just so handsome!

Still, she brought the two cups of coffee over. "Here you go."

"Thanks," Jay said politely, while John still ignored her.

"You should go back to your room," Jay suddenly told Zoe.

"Am I disturbing you?" Zoe asked, giving him a wounded look.

She had been staying in the living room since they wanted to work in peace, refraining from even breathing too loudly... What more did they want?!

However, Jay could not tell her that she was almost drooling as she ogled at John's face.

Jay was used to it, since she always tagged along wherever John wentshe was a lookist through and through.

But considering that they were not blood related now, certain matters needed to be snuffed out in the cradle.

"I was worried that you'd be bored. Go to your room and play something."

"I can do the same here," Zoe said, feeling Jay was being weird.

"Go to your room. You're affecting us a little," John said coolly then. Zoe's bad temper flared right then, but instead of arguing, she whipped out her phone and showed him Cordy and Patrick's wedding photos. John blinked, staring at Cordy in a bridal dress and leaning into Patrick's chest with a blissful smile.

He was ready for the fact that she would marry, but actually seeing it still left a stinging pain in his chest-as if pricked by a million needles. He averted his eyes, appearing unaffected while Zoe snapped, "Do you know why you lost Cordy or couldn't beat Patrick Stuart?! Because you're always so cold! That's why Cordy is now marrying someone else!"