

Chapter 531

"It's inside that shelf over there, at the doorway. I'm so sorry for all this trouble," Stefan said while panting softly, as if he was so frail that he couldn't do anything himself.

He had truly mastered the art of being a knight in distress.

Renee found the first aid kit, which contained bandages, antiseptic cream, and some basic essentials.

As she got to the sofa, she stared at the man's perfect facial structure, along with his beautifully sculpted body and frosty aura. The woman thought to herself, 'What eye candy! He's like a damn incubus!'

"Take your shirt off," Renee ordered, looming over him like an experienced maneater. 'Oh

my god, she's so bold!'

This time, Stefan was the one who felt quite bashful, and covered his chest with both arms, asking, "Why? I can't do much in my current state... But if you insist, I'll still try and do my best to please you."

Renee's cheeks turned red as she clenched her jaw. "What are you thinking? I was going to apply medicine for you! How am I supposed to do that with your shirt on?!"

His shirt had been torn from the whip's impact, and with the bloodstains from his wounds, it looked as if there were roses blooming from his body. It complemented his delicate demeanor, and she couldn't help but want to gawk in awe for just a little longer.

However, she had to ask him to strip, for the sake of applying medicine on his wounds.

"Oh..." Stefan's voice sounded slightly disappointed.

He was quite excited a while ago, ready to 'sacrifice' himself despite his injuries, just to satisfy her desires. Yet... she had just wanted to help treat his wounds all along.

'No matter. We have all the time in the world. I'm sure my fit body will seduce her at some point!'

Stefan's slender fingers unbuttoned his shirt slowly, revealing his seductive collarbones, then his broad chest and washboard abs...

Renee's eyes were fixated on the man, as if she was admiring a beautiful masterpiece. She even started blushing the more she watched, making her face seem like a juicy peach. Her usual cold demeanor was gone, and she looked quite cute like this.

She thought to herself, 'Tsk tsk, just look at that body... As expected of the star escort of the pub! If this is what I get to see for free, and from such a close distance, it was worth coming by tonight!'

"Your face looks a little red, should I stop?" Stefan felt quite conflicted seeing Renee falling for him slowly. In a way, he was happy about his undeniable charm. On the other hand, he found the woman too easily tempted, which could mean that she might run off with some random beauty given the chance.

'Turns out I can't relax for even a second - I have to perfect my figure to catch her eye!'

"Do I need to?" Stefan's passionate eyes gazed at the woman, his voice husky as he tempted her. "If you need it, I can continue."

"Enough! Y-You don't have to!" Renee was so embarrassed that she stammered, waving her hands to stop him.

If he continued stripping, they would be exploring the nether regions at that point, and she didn't know if she could hold herself back then.

Stefan smirked, raising an eyebrow. "Okay then, you can start applying the medicine now."

The man then closed his eyes, laying on the sofa with his sexy torso exposed. He looked as if he was trying to seduce her, while giving her full permission to every part of him.

Seeing this made Renee's heart pound vigorously, and she blurted out, 'Well, don't mind if I do... I mean, stay still, okay?!'

She then took out a few cotton buds and smeared them with antiseptic cream. Renee gently and delicately disinfected his wounds.

"Good thing that lady held back for your sake, these wounds don't seem to be too deep."

Stefan smiled softly, thinking to himself, 'Of course she held back, it was all just for show. But I am quite satisfied with that woman's acting.'

After that, it was time for her to bandage the wounds. "This might hurt a little."

She then brought out a gauze bandage and slowly wrapped it around his torso. As she did, the first thing she noticed was how hard his abs were. The man's muscles were just right to the touch. It was as if he had the perfect ratio of muscle and fat.

She wondered, 'Oh god, not only does he somewhat look like Stefan, his body feels so similar to his too! This is killing me!'

At that moment, Renee was seeing the escort as Stefan's substitute. She wasn't able to enjoy such privileges when she was still with Stefan, but now, with this escort, she could touch him wherever she wanted... It was truly an exciting, scandalous thought.

Stefan narrowed his eyes, pressing his lips together as he let out a soft moan. He looked as if he was in pain.

Renee was frantic. "I'm sorry! Does it hurt? Hold on a little longer, I'll make this quick!"

Stefan took a few gulps, the veins on his neck starting to become visible. He was obviously trying to hide his pain. "I'm alright."

"O-Okay, I'm done. You can put your shirt back on." Renee quickly finished and got up, intending to keep a distance from the man.

'I let my hands wander a little too much just now! Forgive me!' She thought.

Suddenly, Stefan grabbed her by the wrist and pinned her down, taking the lead this time as he stared at her with fiery eyes. "Wh... What are you doing?" Renee felt slightly nervous.

The man's eyes looked like they held some kind of enchantment, making her feel as if she was trapped with eternal butterflies in her stomach.

"How could I not repay you when you've saved me, and personally treated my wounds?"

"Uh, you don't have to, it's really not a big deal! You don't have to repay me with your body..."

"I hope you don't hate me..." Stefan murmured and leaned down, softly kissing her neck with his thin lips. Seeing the woman's earlobes turning red, he couldn't help but feel rather pleased.

Renee shook her head, making sure she maintained a clear mind so that she wouldn't succumb to this incubus' temptation.

"I may be a divorcee, but even if my ex-husband died, he's still my first love! You can't do anything you want just because you kind of look like him..." Renee warned with a cold expression, her leg poised to kick the man off of her.

Stefan was about to burst out in laughter, but seeing how Renee was going to attack him, he explained in a serious tone, "You've misunderstood me, I wasn't going to..."

"So what were you going to do then?"

"I heard from your best friend that you've been in a bad mood lately, and you'd likely need someone to listen to you vent your emotions. I'm actually a professional at this," Stefan said in a soothing voice, tricking her even further.

This made Renee quite intrigued, so much so that she fully ignored the intimacy of their current position. "Stop beating around the bush. If you weren't talking about that, what else could you be a professional at?"

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Stefan seemed serious. "On the surface, I'm just an escort, but I'm actually a therapist too. I can provide professional therapy, and I am skilled in hypnosis as well. Your best friend mentioned that you have a lot of unhappiness suppressed, so I hope you can open up to me. If you trust me, I can help you come out of that darkness."

"A professional therapist?" Renee was quite surprised. She really thought the man's bread and butter was his looks.

"What's with that look?" Stefan smiled lightly, brushing her hair to the back with his long fingers. "Do you not believe me? Or do you feel disappointed... Well, I can still actually pay special attention to your body too, if you want me to."

"No thanks!" Renee's face turned red, and she pushed the man away forcefully as she sat up straight. Her tone was frosty as she said, "Of course I don't believe you! You've been flirting with me the whole night! How could you be a professional therapist?!"

Not only did professional therapists need to possess a lot of knowledge, they'd need to have a strong, natural sense of empathy as well. Hence, she just refused to believe that a pretty escort like him could ever be in the field.

"If you don't believe me, we could always try a little

experiment." "What experiment?"

"Have you ever heard of the HTP test?"

"Kind of... It's basically just drawing a house, a tree, and a person on a blank piece of paper, right?"

"Correct." Stefan nodded. "After you're done, I'll analyze it for you. If my analysis is correct, you'll believe me then, right?" This piqued Renee's interest, and she agreed right away. "Fine then. We'll see if you're a fraud or not once this is over!"

Stefan then found a paper and a box of color pencils, handing it to Renee with a glint of excitement in his eyes. "You may start now."

Renee took the materials and sat down in front of the coffee table, drawing with an intensely focused expression. She might be a prodigy in almost every field, but drawing was the only thing she could never master for some reason.

"First a house, then a tree... I'm going to add some fruit onto the tree, and now the people..."

Stefan was sitting next to her at the time, and watching her draw like a child made him want to laugh. He was just so used to her spiteful attitude, which contradicted her current sweetness. It completely melted his heart.

He couldn't even resist the sudden wave of affection that bloomed in his chest, and he reached out to pat her head gently.

"What are you doing?!" Renee was immediately alarmed, glaring at him with a

frown. Stefan retrieved his arm calmly. "Nothing. There was just a mosquito

on your head." "What? Why would a mosquito bite my scalp? You're being

so suspicious!"

Although Renee didn't trust him, she didn't question any further either.

Instead she pointed to her drawing and said, "I'm done, so go ahead. Let's see what you've got."

The man picked up the piece of paper and scanned it thoroughly. His lips were pursed, and a solemn expression appeared underneath his masquerade mask

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Renee huffed and smiled, thinking to herself, 'He sure knows how to put up an act. I really wonder what you're going to come up with!'

"Looks like what your best friend said was true, you've repressed a lot of emotions in your heart. You'll be past your limit soon... If you keep this up, you'd be at risk for depression..."

"Don't make me laugh, I'm enjoying life to the fullest, and I'm in great shape! What would I even be depressed about?"

"You can lie to me, but your drawings can't..." Stefan furrowed his brows. 'People would normally draw a house with a chimney. Even if they didn't, they'd have a door, or maybe windows... All of these symbolize an exit for their emotions.'

"But your house has no chimney, no doors, and no windows... it's a completely closed-off space. This indicates that you have purposefully isolated yourself, and are unwilling to show anyone your true emotions..."

Renee was speechless, clenching her fists as she was unable to come up with a reply. Sure enough, this proved the man did have some skills in psychology.

Although she had been acting tough, showing everyone that she was fine and dandy, the woman was indeed hiding her negative emotions deep within her heart, unwilling to tell anyone about them.

"The tree next to the house stands tall, and it has very deep roots. This shows that you have a very loving family, and you love them very much. You intend to repay them in some way for raising you, right?"

"And the tree bearing fruits means that you focus on the outcome on most things. It could be that you have certain things that you wish to obtain results from, which became an obsession."

Renee remained silent as she wondered, 'This escort isn't just skilled, he's a master at this! How is his analysis so accurate?!'

Stefan continued, "You also drew a man, a woman and a child in front of the house. So it seems that you have a soft heart, despite your tough exterior. You would much rather prefer a complete and happy family, rather than possessing power and status, right? But you are ashamed of your own ideals, which is why you drew these people small, as if you're intentionally trying to hide what your heart desires most."

Renee let out a long sigh, bowing to the man. "I'm impressed, you got everything right. I believe you now."

She had a lot of secrets within her heart, and she was unwilling to face any of them, even going as far as to allow them to rot with time. She was carrying the Everheart family's will, and she was determined to seek revenge for her parents. Thus, she decided that men, and her dream for an ideal family, would only be an obstacle to her current goals.

"Problems will arise when you close yourself off for too long. Mental health is just as important as physical health, after all. If you trust me, you can come and vent to me. I wasn't joking when I said I wanted to stay by your side, you know?" Stefan said genuinely as he stared at her. In actuality, he really wasn't lying when he said he was a professional therapist, he had indeed taken the tests to receive a license years ago.

He did this in order to find a way to heal from his own issues. His brother's death was just too much for him at the time, and if his survival instinct wasn't strong enough, he likely would've taken it to an extreme.

Before seeing Renee's drawing, he thought the woman was just temporarily depressed over some matters, yet... she was suppressing herself so much that her negative emotions became even stronger than what he felt back then.

If this had gone on any longer, she would've met with a terrible fate.

Heartbroken, Stefan really wished to be the light in her heart, so that he could bring her out of that abyss of despair... "I know you need me, so let me save you..." Stefan said softly as he held onto her hand.

Warmth radiated from his large, strong palms, which oddly gave Renee a sense of security. She then let her guard down and took a deep breath. "Okay."

Stefan changed the lighting to a warm orange tint, lit up a few aromatic candles to help her relax, and played a soothing melody on the record player. He pointed towards a soft armchair and guided Renee towards it. "Alright, tell me all your secrets."

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However, the woman still chose to reject his offer. "Maybe some other day. I'm getting tired, so I'll go get some rest."

Despite believing the man's occupation, she still chose to lock these secrets away. There were just some things she'd rather hide than face...

Stefan didn't push her any further, but was still quite devastated. He wasn't sure if Renee was depressed over his 'death', but he knew for a fact that she wasn't as happy as she seemed on the outside.

It was as if she was an onion, wrapping herself in layers upon layers to turn herself into someone everyone would like. "The past few years weren't kind to you, were they?" Stefan asked in a deep and solemn voice.

Renee smiled bitterly, being completely honest with him. "Yeah."

The only people in the room were herself, and this escort, who was merely an acquaintance. Without her loved ones and rivals around, she didn't want to play pretend any longer. Pretending to be depressed might be easy, but trying to fake happiness was just... too difficult and taxing.

Stefan fought his urge to hug her, and said in a soft voice, "It's alright. Have a good rest, tomorrow will be a better day."

Apart from being a therapist, he was also quite an excellent hypnotist. With the fragrant aroma and his gentle words surrounding her, Renee was able to fall into deep sleep on the soft lounge chair...

The next day, as birds chirped and sunlight shone through the windows, the woman woke up from her slumber. She stretched with a satisfied smile on her face, noticing how this was the first time she felt so relaxed in years.

According to research, one session of hypnosis could help improve sleep quality, so much so that it would feel as if one had slept for ten whole days. She had always thought of that as some kind of nonsense, but it seemed that it were true after all. Hence, she was naturally pleased with the escort's services.

On the coffee table next to her was, once again, a bouquet of sunflowers and a note attached to it.

[Good morning, my muse. Any low points you experience now will soon become the past, so I hope you can rise to the top once again, and face the bright sun as if you were a beautiful sunflower. - Your Support]

Renee's lips slowly curved up into a lovely grin, her heart filled with warmth. This time, she chose to take the bouquet home.

When she opened the door to her apartment, she found Leia standing at the doorway with her arms crossed. It seemed that she had been waiting for her, and that she had a lot of questions to ask.

"Ren, I told you to save your knight in distress, but did it really have to take a whole night? Was it really that bad?"

"Umm..." Renee felt quite awkward, not knowing what to say.

She even wondered. 'Why does it feel like I've been caught having an affair or something?'

Leia was instantly intrigued, and wanted to gossip. She held Renee by her shoulders and urged, "Hey, be honest with me... Did you ask your little escort to repay you with his body, hmm?"

"Tsk ts, the little escort certainly knows you, huh? He even got you your favorite flowers. And look at your smile - you must've had a good night's sleep!"

Renee nodded. "Mhm, I did."

Leia nearly choked on her saliva, then let out a loud screech. "Ah! Oh my god, you did sleep with him! You finally let go! I'm so happy I'm going to cry

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'What are you even saying? I literally just had a good night's sleep. Nothing else.' Renee said as she placed the sunflowers into a glass vase.

The yellow sunflowers looked golden under the gentle sunlight, giving off a soft scent. These flowers were just right, as it wasn't too sharp, like a rose, nor was it too simple, like an orchid.

"You know, I didn't expect this at all. I guess this is what they mean by 'don't judge a book by its cover', but that little escort is a professional therapist!"

"He was able to come up with an accurate analysis with just one drawing! He's also a master hypnotist too! I just... feel really secure and comfortable with him."

Just then, Adie opened his bedroom door with a fuzzy teddy bear in his arms, walking out to the living room groggily.

"Mommy, you're finally back... I heard from Aunt Leia that you were very busy, so you had to work overtime. You must be tired..."

The little one then gave Renee a big hug, patting her on the head as if she was the child now. "Don't worry, Mommy, I was doing my best to pick a husband for you last night. Someone will come and take care of you and lessen your burdens soon. Then you wouldn't have to feel so tired all the time."

Renee found the boy's serious expression quite funny. She patted Adie back on the head and replied, "Thanks, Adie. As a reward, I looked into a few nice kindergartens for you too. I'll be taking you to those places today."

This made Aiden quite speechless.

However, Renee wasn't joking out of spite, she really had chosen a few kindergarten for her children. Seeing that it was a weekend with nice weather, she was going to bring Adie to each and every one of them so that he could choose the one he liked most.

Her first choice was Monte Perry, an international school. Despite having been established during recent years, their strong faculty and top-notch facilities, along with their simple enrollment process, made this kindergarten a top pick among foreigners.

Since Renee registered Adie and Abby's birth certificates in a small country within North Varangia, they two were legally considered foreigners, and could only be admitted into international schools as such.

More importantly, enrolling them in international kindergartens like these would lessen the probability of bumping into anyone they know. With that, it would save her quite a lot of trouble as well.

The woman quickly dressed the little guy in a cartoon T-shirt with denim suspenders and an orange cap. This made Aiden look extremely cute, so much so that anyone would wish they could give him a hug and a kiss.

The two soon arrived at Monte Perry. Since it was during their open day, there were many parents who came to visit, with most of them being foreigners.

"Mommy, I like it here, it looks like Hogwarts! I want to take Abby here on an adventure some day!" Aiden was rather fond of the kindergarten, which looked somewhat similar to an ancient castle.

His little mind was already making plans on how to explore the place with his sister, which made him look visibly excited.

"I knew you and Abby would like a kindergarten like this." Renee instantly felt relieved as soon as she noticed how overjoyed the child seemed, but there was still one problem that persisted.

The kindergarten was known to be quite strict with their enrollment requirements, and they were quite demanding. Not only did they have to interview each student, they would interview the parents as well.

Every year, parents would dump millions and thousands of dollars into the school as 'donations' just so they could secure a place for their child.

Some would even offer billion-dollar projects to the school's administrators, or get into physical fights with each other. It was truly quite... the sight.

Now, Renee needed two slots for her twins, which meant that it was twice as difficult as it was already. However, she was fully confident that her children wouldn't even need to take any tests. They could just easily flaunt their adorable looks towards the principal and everything would go smoothly.

"Adie, listen to Mommy, when we meet the principal later, be the nicest you can ever be. Show them all your smarts and cuteness so that they'd be fond of you."

"Be fond of me?" Aiden put his hands into his pockets, seemingly prideful. 'I'm good at that.'

After their discussion, the two headed towards the interview area, waiting for their turn to be called.

Suddenly, a familiar voice could be heard from behind them. "Everheart?!"

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Renee turned around and found that the person speaking was one of her ex in-laws, Stefan's cousin, Charlotte.

Back then, Charlotte was the one and only beloved princess of many, and she would always view Renee as a thorn in her flesh. Hence, she naturally never treated her with respect.

However, ever since Renee got a divorce, she no longer tolerated this so-called princess' behavior and taught her a few lessons as a result. Thus, Charlotte started restraining herself as well.

It had been four years since the two saw each other, so bumping into each other now felt quite unfortunate. 'It really is you! And here I thought I was hallucinating!' Charlotte exclaimed.

She was wearing extremely expensive attire, consisting of Chanel clothing, with a pink Hermes purse that likely cost thousands, and a pair of beige colored heels which were limited-edition Givenchy. It was as if she was deliberately trying to flaunt her wealth to the world.

Renee looked the woman up and down, she found her rather pitiful. It had only been four years, but Charlotte, who was supposed to be in her early twenties, no longer looked like the young bossy princess she used to be. Instead, she looked just like every other rich wife, blindly chasing after branded products, losing her spark.

From what she heard, Charlotte married a rich businessman within the North City a year after the woman left Beach City.

Due to her getting pregnant before marriage, her in-laws weren't all that fond of her. They had even gone as far as to request for a DNA test as soon as the child was born, which was an absolute insult.

Hence, it was natural to think that Charlotte wasn't quite living the best life for these past few years, despite how she appeared on the outside.

'Long time no see.' Renee nodded emotionlessly, still greeting her out of courtesy.

At the same time, she noticed that there was a little boy, who seemed to be around Aiden's age, standing right next to Charlotte. However, his apparel was completely different from Aiden's.

The little boy was donned in branded clothing, his hair was clearly brushed back with lots of hair gel as well. Moreover, his arrogant expression, as he puffed up his chest and lifted his chin, looked exactly the same as Charlotte's.

Charlotte seemed to be staring at Aiden too, gazing intently. This was because Aiden looked very similar to when Stefan was a young child, which made her ponder deeply.

'This boy can't be...'

Just as Charlotte was about to ask, her son let out a haughty scoff. "Mommy, just look at what they're wearing! They look like beggars but they're still shameless enough to show up at Monte Perry! Let's ask the principal to kick them out!"

"Now now, Casey, we have to be polite, okay? This lady here is... kind of an old friend of mine, and as for this little boy..."

Charlotte then stared at Renee with a cocky face, questioning her. "I was wondering why you disappeared for four years, so you've gone ahead and secretly gave birth, huh? Who's the father? Don't tell me it's my unfortunate cousin."

Renee still maintained an expressionless face, not admitting or denying to anything. Instead, she retorted, "What do you think?" "Well of course he isn't!" Charlotte's eyes were filled with disdain.

"Although this boy looks similar to Stefan, I know you, Everheart. You're a smart little gold digger, so if you really were having his child, you would've clung to my cousin no matter what. But you didn't, and you even left the city without a trace! If I were to make a guess..."

'You were definitely having an affair, and was scared my cousin would find out and punish you for it! That's why you hid like a coward!'

She said such degrading statements because she wanted to take this chance to release her pent up rage against Renee, and so that she could spite the woman into telling the truth.

However, Renee completely ignored her insults, and stayed calm the whole time. "Mhm, you're so totally right, what amazing detective work."

This reaction made Charlotte fume, as she yelled, "So you really did cheat on my cousin, you wench! Good thing I bumped into you today, I'll just have to teach you a lesson in Stefan and the Hunt family's stead!"

After that, the woman raised her arm, getting ready to slap Renee across the face.

Renee then grabbed her by the wrist, as if she were holding onto a little chicken, then flipping her entire body to the ground.

There were many parents and children around them, waiting for their turn to have an interview. Hence, they were rather stunned to witness such a scene

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"You'll have to check your abilities before you try to attack me. If you dare to act rudely again, you'll be sorry!" Renee

warned as she loomed over the woman, her expression as frosty as ice.

Charlotte instantly deflated, laying on the ground a mess silently. She thought to herself, 'How is Everheart even cockier than before?! It's been four years, so hasn't she learned to tone down a little?! It's like I can't afford to offend her at all!

'Could it be that her lover gave her the ability to act so recklessly?'

"You wicked lady! How dare you bully my mommy? I'll bite you!" Charlotte's son immediately lunged over in a crazed manner, opening his mouth wide open as he grabbed onto Renee's arm.

"Let go of my mommy, you mad dog!" Aiden was not an easy target either, as he angrily pushed Casey to the ground, then sitting on top of him.

"How dare you bite my beloved mommy?! I'd say you don't treasure your teeth, so let me pluck them all out for you!"

"Wahhhh, Mommy! Mommy, save me!" Casey was so frightened that he burst into tears, wailing loudly as he pleaded with his mother.

However, Charlotte was still getting stepped on, which meant that she was unable to save herself, so she was at a loss. More and more parents and children crowded around the four, whispering amongst each other.

"Oh my, this mother and son sure are fierce!"

"We mustn't let someone like them in Monte Perry! Our children would be badly influenced!"

Just then, the principal, who was previously in the interview room, walked out with a chilling expression after hearing the commotion.

"What happened?"

The principal was a middle-aged woman, her eyes were quite sharp, clearly indicating that she was a strong independent figure. Renee tidied herself up composedly, turning to Aiden. "Adie, greet the principal."

Only then did Aiden reluctantly let go of Casey, flashing the woman an adorable bright smile. He then chirped politely, "Hello, Miss Principal."

'What a handsome and adorable child!' The principal couldn't help but exclaim in her mind the moment she saw Aiden.

She had more than a decade of experience in running a kindergarten, and had seen several adorable kids during those years, yet this little boy was definitely the most good looking one she's ever seen.

His big doe eyes looked like beautiful black pearls, and his tall nose made his facial features seem more defined than most children. His soft rosy cheeks looked as squishy as marshmallows, which made anyone wish they could give him a kiss.

Initially, she was quite mad to see the little kids fighting, but his face was enough to make any rage subside within seconds. "What's your name, boy?" The principal squatted down as she asked in a gentle tone.

'My full name is Aiden Everheart, but you can call me Adie!'

"You're such a good kid, Adie. But it seemed to me that you were fighting with that little kid over there. Can you tell me what happened?"

"Adie wasn't fighting, Adie was just protecting Mommy..."

Aiden proceeded to explain everything in detail, then pointed to the teeth marks on

Renee's wrist. "Miss Principal, was I really wrong to protect Mommy?"

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Although Aiden was asking a question, he was clearly forcing the principal to pick a side.

He just couldn't let his mother get bitten and endure such humiliation for no apparent reason. He had to get justice for his mother. The principal cleared her throat, and put on a solemn expression, revealing her stance in front of everyone.

"Adie, I understand the situation now. You were right to protect your mother, and you were very brave. But you were too reckless and violent when trying to do so. I think you weren't being rational, and that you were technically just as wrong as Casey here. What do you think?"

"You're right, Miss Principal, I was wrong." Aiden nodded as he blinked innocently, then turned to Casey with an apologetic attitude. "I'm so sorry, I shouldn't have pushed you just now."

The principal was absolutely in awe of his understanding and emotional intelligence. This had also change the minds of many surrounding parents, who were quite judgemental a while ago. They even started praising Aiden for his humility.

On the other hand, Charlotte's son was still crying uncontrollably, losing control of his emotions. He threw his bag at Aiden and screamed at the top of his lungs, "How dare you bully me! I'll kill you! I'll ask Daddy to kill you! My daddy is very strong, so I'll ask him to rip you apart!"

"Adie, watch out!" Renee quickly dragged Aiden towards her to prevent him from getting hurt.

The others parents around them were rather shocked, protecting their children with themselves one by one as well. "Does this kid have anger issues? This is terrifying!"

"That's what we typically call a brat. He has no manners at all! Did his parents not raise him properly?!"

Charlotte found her son somewhat embarrassing too, and growled softly." Casey, shut up!"

For the sake of being the bigger person, Renee voluntarily put her ego down and spoke to Charlotte. "We both were at fault, so since Adie apologized, I am hereby apologizing to both you and your child too. Our children will be classmates from now on, so let's let bygones be bygones."

Charlotte, however, didn't buy it at all. She scoffed arrogantly and said, 'How very shameless, Everheart. Your son might not even be qualified to study at Monte Perry, so what makes you think he has the right to be classmates with my son?'

"My husband would donate three million dollars every year to the school, and how much are you going to donate, huh?"

"Do you know that all the kids who attend this school are either from powerful or wealthy families. But look at how poorly you're dressed! You're just going to make us look bad!"

Before Renee could retort, the principal stepped forward and explained with a frosty expression. "Miss Milford, you've misunderstood, Monte Perry doesn't only accept children from rich and powerful families. We value a child's attitude and abilities, along with their upbringing, their parents' morals and etc."

"As long as Adie is a suitable candidate, he will stand a chance at becoming a student of Monte Perry."

Charlotte was so angry that her face turned red, clenching her fists tightly. She warned the principal in a furious tone, "How dare you go against my word?! You're just a mere principal! Do you know who my husband is?! I'll be honest with you here, your school director works with my husband! I can ask him to fire you right now!"

The principal might be a woman, but she was still a woman with strength and principles. She held more integrity than most men, so she was not afraid of Charlotte's threats in the slightest.

"I know, Miss Milford, your husband is Zachary Johnston, a famous businessman within North City. The Johnstons have

indeed provided a lot of support to our kindergarten for the last few years, which granted your child an opportunity to study here."

"However, that doesn't mean you have the right to decide who studies at our kindergarten."

"I can tell that Adie excels in every aspect, then we shall welcome him as a Monte Perry student, if he is able to pass the interview that is. If you think this is unfair, you can surely try and use your connections, so that the school director fires me!" The principal's words were just and sound, which easily won a round of applause

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'You... You'

Charlotte felt as if her pride was crushed entirely at this point. Her eyes reddened as she shouted, "Do you think I won't dare to do that?! I'll have you know that my husband loves me a lot! If he finds out that me and my son are being mistreated like this, all of you here will have to pay!"

Renee huffed coldly. "If he loves you so, have him come over to stand up for you. I'd really like to see just how powerful this man is for you to act as if you won't face any consequences."

"That... If you insist then! Just you wait!" Charlotte decided to go with the flow, since it was quite hard to defuse this situation right then.

She dialed Zachary's number, speaking in a sickeningly sweet voice. 'Babe, someone's attacking me and Casey! Come over quick, you have to stand up for us!"

Back then, her husband would not prioritize her in the slightest, especially being a womanizer.

He just so happened to be nearby the kindergarten due to a business meeting. Hearing that his son was being attacked, he immediately rushed over out of rage.

A while later, a large Mercedes-Benz drove into the kindergarten with a high profile, as a tall man got out of the car. So there he was, one of the richest businessmen in North City, Zachary Johnston.

"Who dares to attack my son?! Do you have a death wish?! Step up right this instant!" Zachary yelled angrily.

The parents and children surrounding the few started backing away, worried that they might get caught in the crossfire.

Zachary was still considered a powerful figure after all. Moreover, his business was somewhat associated with borderline illegal affairs, and his tactics were rather wild. It would be unwise to provoke the man.

Seeing how his father was here, Casey felt incredibly cocky as he dashed over to Zachary. "Daddy! You're finally here! These two bad guys are bullying me and Mommy so much! Help us and beat them up now!"

Charlotte was bawling her eyes out as well. "Babe, you have to stand up for me and Casey! That kid beat him up while sitting on him too... If you don't teach them a lesson, the Johnstons would be completely ridiculed!"

"That's the little brat?!" Zachary pointed at Aiden with a disdainful expression. "Whose kid is this? Who is your father, huh?! Have you lost your mind? How dare you bully my son?!"

Aiden, however, was quite courageous and said, "That's right, I fought your son. He bit a person like he's some kind of mad dog! Beating him is a lighter punishment than he deserves..."

"Besides, I don't have a daddy, nor do I need one! I just need my mommy. My mommy is amazing, and none of you are a match for her!"

After hearing this, Zachary bursted out in laughter. "Hahaha, you sure talk big, little boy! I'd like to see who your mommy is then!" He then moved his gaze upwards, and scanned Renee up and down. Suddenly, his expression shifted.

"Why do you look so familiar? You... You can't be..."

"Your eyes aren't deceiving you, I am Renee Everheart. Since you're part of the Johnstons from North City, you should know who I am, at the very least. ' Renee said dismissively with a cold glare.

"If you're Renee Everheart, then... Liliانا Scheneider is your grandmother?!" Zachary's face turned pale as he fell to his knees.

He stumbled over his words. "So you're the descendent of our savior! I'm so sorry for not recognizing you sooner! So terribly sorry!"

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Everyone froze, especially Charlotte, who didn't know how to read the room. She grabbed Zachary's arm and mumbled, "What are you doing, babe? At least stand up for me and Casey! Why are you kneeling in front of this woman?!"

"She's just a lowly commoner now, and my brother kicked her out after she cheated on him! This woman is a sinful cheater! So how could you kneel for her? What happened to saving face? Are you not worried you'd get bad for doing that?!"

"The f\*ck you mean by bad luck?!" Zachary was so mad that he slapped Charlotte across the face. "You idiot! If it weren't for Liliانا Scheneider back then, our family would've been destroyed long ago..."

"Everything you get to enjoy now, the food we eat, the purse you're holding, the shoes Casey is wearing... we can only afford all of that because of our saviors, the Scheneiders! If you dare to disrespect them one more time, I'll f\*cking divorce you!"

Charlotte covered her swollen cheek with one hand, and retorted, "How is that possible?! The Scheneiders of North City fell from grace long ago!"

They were hunted down by their rivals so much that they couldn't even protect themselves! So how could they possibly lend a helping hand to the Johnstons?!"

"The Johnston family achieved everything on their own, what does it even have to do with the Scheneider family?! Besides, so what if Everheart is Liliانا Scheneider's granddaughter, do you really have to act like she's the one who helped you?!" Charlotte screamed.

She had actually been quite obedient ever since she married the man, and figured she'd enjoy life as a rich wife with how deep the Johnstons'

pockets are. Hence, she always listened to every single word Zachary said, and dared not to go against him.

Yet, this time, she found it extremely humiliating with Zachary basically groveling before Renee, which led to their first ever argument as a married couple.

"You stupid woman! Are you trying to defy me now?! How dare you disrespect my savior?! Kneel down! Now!" Zachary ordered harshly.

"I will not!" Charlotte balled her fists up and gritted her teeth. "I'd rather die than to kneel before this witch!"

"Is that so? Then I'll just have to divorce you right now!" Zachary roared with reddened eyes, clearly at his limit.

"You..." Charlotte started tearing up right then and there. She naturally didn't wish for a divorce, but the situation required her to kneel.

She absolutely refused to kneel before Renee, the woman she had always looked down upon. That would be an absolute hit to her ego, and she'd rather face death than to experience that.

"Zachary Johnston, if you really want to bring that up, fine! Let's get a divorce then! I'm done enduring your antics anyway!" Charlotte pointed at the man, not backing down at all.

She hadn't quite been happy during their entire marriage anyway, despite having all the riches in the world. However, her pride didn't allow her to become someone who was kicked out of the family, nor did she want to hurt her son. Thus, she couldn't bring herself to get a divorce.

Now that it had come to this, she no longer wished to hide her true feelings. At the very least, she didn't want to seem weak in front of Renee.

Renee, on the other hand, found the situation rather odd, especially with Zachary kneeling before her and Charlotte crying profusely.

'I just came to take a look at this kindergarten with Adie! How did I end up messing up someone else's relationship? 'Tsk tsk tsk. Looks like I'll have to step in.'

"Mr. Johnston, please get up first. Even if my family helped you, I didn't have a part in that. You two really don't have to get a divorce because of me. I can't possibly bear knowing that I was the cause of a broken marriage. IV

However, Zachary seemed as if he was glued to the ground. "Miss Everheart, you're the last remaining descendant of the Scheneider family now. Back then, your family had to face such a terrible fate... It was a shame that my family was just starting up then, and we couldn't help you the way you helped us."

"For decades, my father felt extremely guilty because of that. He would always tell me to appreciate and repay someone's kindness at all costs. So thanking you now is considered good karma for my family..."

"Since my dumb b\*tch of a wife refused to apologize for what she did to you earlier, and insulted your son, I have decided to divorce her. You don't have to persuade me otherwise!"

"Ah, hearing this kind of reminds me of a lot of sad memories though..." Renee let out a long sigh. Back then, her grandmother's family, the Scheneiders of North City, had really thrived tremendously