

The Lawyer's Romance in Law Chapter 1 - 10

Chapter 1 She's Pregnant, so Let's Get a Divorce

At the Winters Residence. “Elias, when are you coming home? I have something to tell you.” A sweet smile appeared on Amanda Bailey’s face while she looked at the two lines on the pregnancy test. The male voice on the other end of the call replied, “I’m already home. In the living room.” “Really? I’ll be right down.” She hung up the call and rushed out of the room with the pregnancy test strip in hand, eager to tell the man the good news. She sprinted down the stairs but suddenly remembered her pregnancy and slowed down. Clutching the test strip in her hand, she wondered what Elias Winters’ reaction would be once he heard the news. Yet, when Amanda was halfway down the stairs, she saw two figures in the living room—Elias and a sexy woman. Slowing down her steps, she held the handrail tightly and felt her heart sink. That was because she saw her husband and the woman behaving affectionately as though they were a smitten couple. The smile on Amanda’s face froze, and her thoughts were a mess. Both her legs felt heavy as she slowly made her way down the stairs. “Elias—” As she finally made her way to the living room, she called him but was coldly interrupted. “She’s pregnant, so let’s get a divorce.” Amanda stayed silent. The way he spoke was so straightforward and impatient, as though he had been eagerly waiting to break the news. That woman affectionately hugged his arm and smiled. “Mrs. Winters, I’m sorry to tell you, but it’s time you make room for me.” With her eyes fixed on the woman’s hand, Amanda felt like her heart was being ripped apart. Her eyes gradually dimmed, and she began welling with tears. She clutched the pregnancy test and proffered it to him. “What about our child? How could you be so heartless?” After glancing coldly at the pregnancy test with two lines, Elias snorted. “There’s no way you’re pregnant. I’ve never slept with you, so don’t think you can fool me with this.” In reality, he would not have agreed to marry Amanda if his grandfather

had not been seriously ill and threatened Elias with his life. However, who knew Howard Winters would miraculously recover right after Elias and Amanda married? There were times when Elias would suspect Amanda and Howard had been in a ploy to force him into marriage. His words shocked his wife, who retorted with wide eyes, “You did sleep with me! During the company’s celebratory dinner, you were drunk—” “That celebratory dinner was held abroad, and you weren’t with me. How could I have slept with you? Let’s make things easy for us. You know I detest clingy women the most.” The man was merciless, and his eyes flamed with a slight impatience. “I...” She wanted to explain she had gone to the celebratory dinner and cared for him while he was drunk. One thing led to another, and they slept together, impregnating her without knowing. However, his indifference prompted her to keep those words to herself. Wow. I give up. Forget it. What’s there to say to a sc*mbag who abandons his wife and child? “Mrs. Winters, just agree to the divorce. Elias doesn’t love you, so there’s no meaning in prolonging this matter.” That woman daintily leaned onto his shoulder and grinned like a winner announcing her victory. Drawing a deep breath, Amanda held back the pain in her heart and gazed at the man before her. “Let’s get a divorce, then. You can pick whenever you want to go through the procedure. I’m always free.” Once she finished, she left the villa without looking back. Tears fell the second she turned around, not wanting to let the man see her crying again. Meanwhile, surprise flashed across Elias’ handsome face as he was not expecting her to agree so quickly. He wondered if she had always been this easily provoked. At first, he thought she would be overcome by greed and refused to discard her position as his wife because she was broke when she married him. “Hurray! Elias, your wife agreed to the divorce! So, when will you marry me?” the woman asked with anticipation. Flinging her arm away, Elias glanced at her with disdainful eyes. “Don’t worry. I won’t marry you even if you’re the last woman on Earth.” The woman was dumbfounded, unable to accept his sudden change in attitude. “Elias... How could you say that? I’m pregnant with your child, and I—” “The hell you are! Don’t you know

whose child you're bearing? Get out!" he roared at the woman before storming up the stairs. How could he let such a woman get pregnant with his child? What a joke. ... After leaving the villa, Amanda headed straight to the hospital and underwent a series of checkups to prepare for her abortion. "Miss Bailey, you're already seven weeks in. The baby is attached to your womb and has a heartbeat. Are you sure you want to abort it?" While looking at her abdomen, she caressed it and thought, Baby, I'm sorry I can't bring you into this world. Then, she nodded determinedly. "Yes, please schedule the surgery for me. The faster, the better." Coldly, the doctor administered a surgery form. Since people were coming in every day to get an abortion, the doctor was used to it and did not find it strange. "Come back tomorrow for your procedure. Remember to fast." "Thank you." Amanda then took the receipt and left the doctor's office. Right after she left, she received a call from Howard. After a brief hesitation, she answered the call. "Grandpa." "Amanda, come over for dinner tonight. I asked the kitchen staff to prepare your favorite food, and Elias would be joining as well." As Howard was aware of the couple's distant relationship, he deliberately created a chance for them to be together. She was about to refuse, saying, "Grandpa, I'm busy this evening—" "Don't try to fool me. I don't care what you have to do. Both of you must accompany me for dinner tonight, and that's final." Once he finished, he immediately hung up without letting Amanda reply, leaving her in a daze while staring at her phone. The couple would not have gotten married had it not been for Howard's insistence. Even then, she had no idea why he was so determined for them to get married. ... That evening, night fell, enveloping the entire city in a bustling dark shadow. When Amanda arrived at the Winters Manor, she took one last look at the building, afraid it would be her last chance. The butler, Rylan Keen, immediately noticed her arrival and approached her with joy. "Mrs. Winters, you're finally here. Old Mr. Winters has been waiting for you." "Mr. Keen, sorry I'm late." She gave him a listless smile. "It's fine. All that matters is you're back. Old Mr. Winters was afraid you won't be coming." Amanda strode into the dining room and saw Elias had

arrived but did not spare her a glance. Only Howard rose to his feet and welcomed her. “Amanda, take a seat. The food’s getting cold.” She went over, intending to sit beside Howard, but he forcefully pushed her onto the seat beside Elias. “You married couple should sit together. Alright, let’s eat.” At the sight of them seated together, he finally smiled in satisfaction. On the other hand, Elias remained focused on eating, unwilling to look at her.

Chapter 2 I Find Them Dirty

Amanda sat beside Elias, feeling no sense of happiness like she used to. When she recalled the woman he brought home that morning, she could not help but gag. The words he said remained ringing in her ears... ‘She’s pregnant, so let’s get a divorce.’ Screw this. I’ve lost my appetite. Howard piped up, “Elias, you guys have been registered for a year. When are you going to give Amanda a ceremony? It’s unfair to her.” She stayed quiet while Elias half-heartedly replied, “Not now.” Once they were divorced, a wedding ceremony would be redundant. Howard’s smile instantly disappeared as he snorted. “Not now? How long are you going to wait? When will I get a great-grandchild?” This time, Amanda looked up and smiled before Elias could say anything. “Grandpa, your great-grandchild will be coming soon.” Elias tensed up and looked at the woman beside him with a cold, vicious gaze as if warning her, You’re dead if you dare to spout any nonsense! However, she ignored him. Isn’t that woman pregnant? Grandpa will soon have a great-grandchild that way. As for mine, I’m aborting it tomorrow. Ha. How ironic. “Really? You guys have planned it? That’s great! I’ll get someone to create a name for my great-grandbaby.” Howard was grinning from ear to ear. After dinner, Amanda and Elias left the manor together, and he stopped to mock her once they were outside. “Don’t tell me you’re going to get yourself pregnant so you can manipulate Grandpa into maintaining our marriage.” She calmly replied, “I’m not.”

“Then, why did you say those words to him?” He narrowed his eyes. “Aren’t you going to tell him your lover is pregnant?” That rendered Elias speechless as he thought Amanda would try something, but it turned out he was overthinking things. After sneering, he retorted, “Of course, I’m going to tell Grandpa. I’ll get my lawyer to bring the divorce papers to you tomorrow. I can give you any compensation you want, including the villa you’re currently living in.” “I don’t want anything from you. Please get everything done tomorrow morning. I have other things to attend to.” Though she seemed calm on the surface, her heart was bleeding because she had to visit the hospital for her abortion once she signed the papers. She could not help but wonder how her life became like this.

“Whatever,” he replied flatly and left. ... The next morning, Elias sent his lawyer to the villa to finalize his divorce with Amanda. The lawyer handed her a divorce agreement to sign. “Mrs. Winters, just sign your name here. Also, these properties, vehicles, and bank cards are compensations from Mr. Winters. He said you may do whatever you want with them.” Without skimming them, Amanda readily signed her name on the last page.

“Please tell Elias I won’t accept these things. They’re too dirty to my liking.” Stunned, the lawyer nodded. After seeing the lawyer out the door, she packed her bags and took one last look at the villa she had lived in for a year. Her traces were everywhere, and she was a little reluctant to leave. Perhaps, she would never return here ever again. While she stood in the living room, she recalled the scene of Elias and his lover and felt her stomach churn. Elias Winters, our relationship ends here. Goodbye forever. ... Amanda arrived at the hospital as scheduled and prepared for her abortion procedure. “Amanda Bailey, it’s your turn. Come inside.” Hearing that, she was startled and jumped to her feet. She touched her flat abdomen and felt guilty because she was about to end a tiny life. While lying on the cold operation table, she heard the surgeon coldly instruct her, “Get on the table, take off your pants, and spread your legs...” She stiffly followed the doctor’s orders. Unsure whether she was hallucinating, Amanda suddenly felt her abdomen move. But I’m only seven weeks in, so how can there be fetal movement? Nah. I’m

hallucinating. When she shut her eyes, the scenes of her past with Elias uncontrollably appeared, filling her heart with hatred. Suddenly, she heard a cute voice calling her, “Mommy!” Her eyes widened frantically, and she looked at the blinding surgical lights as a thought emerged. Then, she shot up from the table and ran out of the operating theater... . . . Four years later, at Imperia Airport. “Are you out? There’s not much time left. We still have to meet with our client to discuss the details. This time, it’s a huge client, so we’re gonna make a lot.” “Okay. I understand. Come and get me.” Amanda donned a pair of black sunglasses that concealed most of her face, and she was pushing a suitcase with a yawning child on top. The child was her son, Aiden Bailey. He was three years old and resembled a certain sc*mbag the older he grew. “Mommy, I’m tired...” “Aiden, I have to meet a client later, so I can’t send you home and have to bring you with me. Be good, and I’ll get you something delicious after,” she cajoled the child like she was coaxing a baby. However, the child rolled his eyes at her. “Come on, Mommy. I’m already three. I can understand if you speak properly. What’s more, I have always been good.” Speechless, Amanda sometimes felt that not only did her son look like that sc*mbag, but he also inherited the sc*mbag’s personality. “Amanda! Over here!” Helean Connor, who was responsible for picking her up, waved at them. The smiling lady walked toward him with her luggage, which he then took and loaded into the car. “Let’s head over and talk about the case with our client. They seemed quite anxious.” “Let’s go.” Half an hour later, the car slowly stopped at the entrance of a skyscraper. “Aiden, you must stay close, or else I’ll get angry and punish you!” Amanda exhorted the excitedly jumping child beside her. “Okay, okay. You nag too much, Mommy.” The two then entered the building. However, since it had been four years, she had no idea that the skyscraper before her was the new location for Winters Enterprise. In other words, Elias was inside this skyscraper at that moment. Helean went straight to the reception table and was greeted by a smiling receptionist. “Welcome. Do you have a reservation?” “We do. It’s under Helean Connor from Justice & Associates,” he informed her. It was only then

that Amanda noticed the stylish words behind the receptionist—Winters Enterprise! She instantly paled, and her eyes filled with surprise as she turned to Helean. “So, our new client is Winters Enterprise?” “Yep.” He was clueless as to how serious the matter was about to get. At that point, she had an urge to wheel around and leave.

Chapter 3 Nearly Exposed

That was what Amanda thought and did. She grabbed the child beside her and was about to flee the scene, not wanting to stay another second. The frantic Helean saw that and seized her slim wrist. “Hey... What’s the matter? Didn’t we agree that you’d take on this case?” “If you had told me it was Winters Enterprise, I wouldn’t have taken on this case.” They only told her a big client suddenly decided to change barristers but did not inform her it was Winters Enterprise. Even standing here made her feel uneasy. Just as Amanda was about to lead Aiden away, Helean immediately knelt on the ground. “My dear Amanda, I’m begging you. This is a task from Simon. Do you think I can return to the law firm if I can’t even deliver this itty-bitty task?” As he begged, the seven-foot man attracted the attention and strange glances of the passing employees. She stopped him. “Can’t you man up a little? How can you kneel so easily?” The child noticed Helean’s aggrieved expression and added, “Mr. Helean, men should only kneel when they do something wrong.” That rendered Helean speechless, while Amanda resignedly asked, “Are we going to discuss this case with that person?” “Who?” He looked confused. Though it had been four years, she still refused to utter Elias’ name, for her stomach would churn whenever she thought of him. She wanted nothing to do with that sc*mbag! “The heir to Winters Enterprise! Is he the one we’re meeting?” If it is, I’m leaving without any care of the world! Helean replied, “You mean the young master of Winters Enterprise, Elias Winters? No, he’s busy with day-to-day work, so we’re meeting the vice president.” Though the information came as a relief to Amanda, the sound of the sc*mbag’s name remained revolting to her. Her beautiful eyes tinged with complexity,

but disgust soon took over. “Okay, but I’m only staying for thirty minutes, no more, no less.” Once she finished, she pulled Aiden’s hand and headed for the elevator. Helean watched the mother and son from behind and immediately felt relieved to have stopped her from leaving. Otherwise, he could kiss his job goodbye. ... The three arrived at the higher-ups’ meeting room on the sixteenth floor. Suddenly, the kid made a request. “Mommy, I want to pee! I can’t hold it in!” “I’ll bring Aiden to the bathroom while you head inside to talk to them. They’ve been bugging me about this for a long time. Please, help me.” Helean picked Aiden up from the ground and ran toward the bathroom. Feeling resigned, Amanda shook her head and entered the meeting room. She did not anticipate Imperia’s drastic shift during the four years she left this city; even Winters Enterprise had moved. As planned, she spent precisely thirty minutes in the meeting room. When she came out, her cold expression immediately turned into a gentle smile after seeing her baby. “Come on. Let’s grab something delicious.” “Yay! Mommy, you’re the best!” A plump, tiny hand grabbed hers, after which she reciprocated with a firmer grip. Aiden had been her mental support for all these years, sustaining her through the endless darkness. Truth be told, she was relieved she did not abort him but chose to keep him on a whim. “Aiden, what would you like to eat?” “I want... ramen.” In the meantime, at a corner down the corridor, a group of people surrounded Elias while he strode over. He seemed to be heading to the meeting room while the people around him were competing to make their reports. Amanda smiled dearly while listening to her son’s words, but when she arrived at a corner and looked up, her smile froze in trepidation. It’s him—Elias Winters. Guess I have no choice but to run into him after four years. What I dreaded the most finally happened. Instinctively, she retreated a few steps and hid herself. Then, she took out the sunglasses from her bag, confusing Helean. “What’s the matter?” “Let’s take the stairs.” She picked up her son and turned around, heading straight for Plan B. Although she wore eight-inch heels, she still managed to pick up her kid and walk away effortlessly. “Why are we taking the stairs when there are elevators? Also, you’re wearing

heels. Isn't that tiring?" Helean was flabbergasted but still hopelessly followed behind her. "Mommy, I want to take the elevator. Taking the stairs is exhausting." "I'll carry you." She was determined not to let Elias discover her child's presence. At last, the man arrived among the crowd of higher-ups. It had been four years, and Elias donned a black, perfectly tailored suit. He looked as elegant and handsome as always, but there was also a trace of maturity on his face. Unexpectedly, he heard a cute voice yelling, "Mommy!" It caught his attention, so he looked in that direction and was slightly shocked. A woman's figure appeared before his eyes like a blinding light. Though the sight of a woman was nothing surprising, she looked strangely familiar to the point that reality started to overlap his memories of his ex-wife, whom he had not seen for four years. Amanda? However, that woman seemed to be worried and glanced anxiously behind her. The problem was that her sunglasses were so huge that they covered most of her face. Elias reflexively took a step forward with his long legs, creating a distance between himself and the surrounding crowd. "Mr. Winters! The meeting room is over here!" his secretary yelled behind him, but the man paid no heed. He followed the familiar figure to the stairs but did not discover anyone. Frowning, he wondered, Was I mistaken? He stared at the empty stairwell for a few seconds before leaving. When he thought about it, he found it ironic. That woman has disappeared for four years, so how could she appear here? During these four years, he had tried looking for Amanda, but she seemed to have vanished without a trace. His grandfather even nearly severed their relationship because of that.

Unbeknownst to Elias, Amanda was covering the child's mouth with her hand while hiding behind the stairwell's door at that precise moment. Even Helean was hiding beside her quietly. It was such a close call. If that man had walked two more steps, he would have discovered them. Meanwhile, the child in her arms blinked his large eyes, creating an adorable sight. Once Amanda heard the footsteps retreating, she removed her hand from his mouth and apologized, "Aiden, I'm sorry. I didn't do it on purpose. Did I hurt you?" He hugged her like a grown-up and soothed her. "I will always forgive you,

Mommy.” His comforting words elicited a stunned smile on her face. Yep, that’s my baby. Since Helean was clueless regarding the hide-and-seek, he questioned, “Amanda, why are we hiding? Even if we did bump into Elias, can’t we just greet him and get done with it? Do you have a social phobia or something?” Too lazy to explain, she replied, “Yeah, sure. Yes.”

Chapter 4 Getting Caught

The night soon fell, welcoming the banquet. “Mr. McCalister, about Winters Enterprise’s infringement case, I think it’d be better if another lawyer takes over. I might not be the best candidate for this case.” Amanda went straight to the point and told her supervisor. After settling Aiden down, she came to the banquet, wanting to look for Jackson McCalister, her supervisor, to talk about handing her role to someone else. She dreaded handling Winters Enterprise’s case, or Elias might discover her. Meanwhile, Jackson had a glass of red wine in his hand and was surprised to hear that. “Why? Infringement cases are your specialty, so this shouldn’t be difficult.” “I... I have my reasons. I hope you can understand,” she replied. His eyes swept across her exposed shoulders as she spoke. Jackson was a crude man in his forties, and from what Amanda heard, he liked getting handsy with the women at the law firm. “Oh, yeah? What would that be? You can tell me...” He placed his hand on her ivory arm. Subconsciously pulling away, Amanda insisted, “Mr. McCalister, anyhow, I can’t take this case.” At the same time, Elias arrived at that very banquet. His black suit complemented his upright posture, but his handsome face seemed encased in a layer of thin ice. Just as he took a glass of wine from the waiter, his phone began ringing. He glanced at it and saw it was a call from Howard. Frowning, he answered the call and took a sip of his wine. “What’s the matter, Grandpa?” “You b*stard! I’m warning you! As long as I’m alive, that clown, Grace Murphy, can never join our family! The only granddaughter-in-law I acknowledge is Amanda!” Right after answering the call, Elias heard his grandfather’s angry roar. He could not help but pull his phone away and wait for Howard to finish his angry rants before placing his phone back to his ear, frustratedly asking, “Grandpa, what’s all this about?” “Today, that clown revealed to the public that she’ll marry you soon. Where did she get the courage to do that? If you dare to get married behind my back, mark my words that I will break your legs!” With that, the old man hung up in a fit of pique. Looking at the darkened screen, Elias let out a frown. It had been four years since then, but his grandfather only acknowledged Amanda as his granddaughter-in-law. That left him flabbergasted as he wondered what was so great about her that she could get all the Winters Family’s elders

to accept her. At that moment, he heard a gentle female voice. “Elias, you’re finally here. I’ve been waiting for you.” Grace Murphy wore a white halter dress and smiled sweetly as she approached him and hugged his arm. Her gaze alone revealed that she was looking at her world. The man hummed and asked, “Did you tell the press we’re getting married?” The blushing lady whined, “Those reporters kept asking me, so I accidentally made a slip of the tongue. I’m sorry, Elias. I didn’t do it on purpose...” “Let’s talk about it next time. Grandpa won’t agree to it as of now.” Then, he finished his red wine in one go. At that, Grace’s sweet smile stiffened. What does he mean by next time? I’ve worked so hard to persuade Elias to marry me and even used all kinds of means and tricks, but now, he says we’ll talk about it next time? Even after getting rid of that worthless ex-wife of his, I still can’t get Old Mr. Winters’ approval. Tears began pooling in her eyes. At that moment, Elias inadvertently looked at the opposite side of the pool and was stunned once again. It was Amanda! The ex-wife that had been missing for four years! A touch of surprise and shock appeared in the man’s eyes because he had a clear view this time. That woman was indeed Amanda Bailey. His gaze was pinned onto that slim figure as though afraid she would disappear the next moment. ... “Amanda, how about coming home with me tonight? Then, we can discuss why you refuse to take on this case.” The obscene Jackson kept trying to trick Amanda into going home with him. By then, she was fed up with him. She knew going home with that pervert was no different from treading dangerous ground. In that sense, she would rather take on the Winters Enterprise case! With a polite smile, she retreated a step. “Mr. McCalister, I’ll take the case. I have something to do, so I’ll be leaving now.” The second she wheeled around, she was stunned in place. Elias was passing through the crowd and storming toward her in rage. That’s right—storming toward me. Why does the universe hate me? What did I do to deserve this?! Amanda’s eyes widened in fear, and she could not help but take two steps back, landing straight inside Jackson’s arms. After helping her find her footing, he asked, “Amanda, have you thought it through? Are you willing to come home with me?” “You’ve mistaken. I was just walking this way!” She pushed the lewd man away and hurriedly left in the other direction. No, no, no! Please don’t let me get caught! While pleading inside her heart, she picked up her pace, but her high heels stopped her from fleeing in success. “Ahh—” She twisted her ankle and screamed in pain. The next moment, Elias’ large hand seized her shoulder before his deep, sexy voice came from behind her. “Amanda! Stop right there!” She froze, not even having the courage to look back. Her heart raced as a thin layer of sweat appeared on her forehead. As despair dawned upon her, she closed her eyes in utter loss for action. Then, she heard a loud plop from the pool, followed by someone screaming, “Hey, isn’t that the celebrity, Grace Murphy? How did she fall into the pool?” The man released Amanda’s shoulder and ran

toward the pool. As soon as the devil's grip vanished, she finally opened her eyes in shock and turned around, only to see Elias walking away. Phew! With that, she left the banquet and headed for the parking lot without turning back. It was a painful journey stumbling to her car as her sprained ankle consumed every bit of her motivation. Just as she was about to open the door, a man's arm suddenly banged the door shut oppressively. "Where do you think you're going?" Raising her head, Amanda gazed into Elias' obsidian eyes. Their proximity allowed her to sniff the clean minty scent of his body. Although her heart raced, she pretended to be calm. "Sir, you've got the wrong person. Please excuse me." My gosh. Just go away. He sneered and pinched her chin with his long fingers. "Do you think I wouldn't recognize my ex-wife? You're questioning my intelligence!" Being pushed against the car, she struggled while screaming, "Elias Winters! What do you want from me?"

Chapter 5 Why Did You Stop Pretending?

"Why did you stop pretending not to know me? If you keep up with the act, I might believe you've lost your memory." Her futile struggle elicited an inexplicable sense of satisfaction in Elias. "You b*stard! Scoundrel! We don't talk, and we don't greet each other after the divorce! Don't you know that simple rule of thumb?" Amanda glared at the shameless man before her. His well-defined features and perfect jawline seemed better than ever. Meanwhile, he carefully studied the woman's face and noticed she seemed different from four years ago. She had exquisite and light makeup on her pale, tender skin. Even the movement of her red lips seemed seductive. Back then, he had never taken a good look at her because he rarely went home. While he was in a daze, she shoved his tall frame away. "Don't touch me! You have no right to do that!" For some reason, the words 'no right' angered him, and his brows raised at the sound of that. "I have no right to touch you, but that sleazy old man does? You didn't take a penny when you signed the divorce papers, saying they were dirty, but you're now seducing old men? Isn't that dirty?" When the lawyer informed him Amanda did not take a penny and said his money was dirty, he was so furious that he lost his appetite the whole day. Seduce? Those words are too exaggerated! she thought. "What does that have to do with you?"

Looking at the work of art that was Elias' face, she felt pity for him because under that handsome face was a sc*mbag! He scoffed. "What does it have to do with me? You used to be my wife, but why did your taste change so much after we divorced? How could you take a fancy to greasy old men?" "You—" "Amanda, I'm warning you. If I see you hanging out with those old men again, you won't be able to stand what I'll do." She laughed in anger. "What will you do?" They were divorced and had nothing to do with each other. What else could he do to her? Unexpectedly, the man replied, "I'll move your mother's ashes to a new spot." Shocked, she did not resist roaring at him, "Elias Winters, you're a monster!" How cruel can he get? This is inhumane! Once she finished screaming, she was about to slap him, but Elias stopped her. "It's good that you know. Don't anger me because those who anger me will not have a good ending." "B*stard!" Amanda pulled her wrist back. Elias ordered, "Come with me tomorrow to visit Grandpa. Explain that we broke up on good terms so he can stop reminiscing about you." "I'm not going!" "I'll be seeing you at the manor tomorrow. If I don't, you know what I'll do." He was ready to leave, ignoring her refusal. While looking at the man's cold back, Amanda felt like going up there and biting him. He is such a bully! At that moment, a man resembling a bodyguard approached her. "Miss Bailey, I'll send you home." "Who are you? I don't know you and don't need you to send me anywhere." She was about to open her car door, but the bodyguard stopped her and announced, "Mr. Winters sent me to protect you until you safely arrive at the Winters Manor tomorrow night." Speechless, Amanda complained, Elias is such a shrewd! It seems like I can't avoid meeting Old Mr. Winters, but I can't let the bodyguard send me home, or else he will notice my baby. Then, she called Helean and deliberately walked away before the call was answered. His voice came from the other end, and she quickly instructed, "Helean, I need to trouble you to take care of my son. I might not return tonight, so please take care of him." "Would you mind if I brought your son home with me tonight?" "Sure. You just have to keep him company. He's very obedient and would go to bed after drinking his milk." ...

Meanwhile, Elias returned to his car and was relieved when he saw Amanda entering the bodyguard's car after making a call. As for Grace, sitting in the passenger seat, she had witnessed everything that had happened and was bursting with jealousy. She deliberately fell into the swimming pool, thinking she could attract his attention. However, she did not predict he would still chase that woman to the parking lot. With a towel wrapped around her body, she put on a pitiful expression and sobbed, "Elias, are you going to get back with your ex-wife? Have you forgotten about that night at the ceremonial banquet four years ago? I even gave you my virginity. You said you would take responsibility and promised Yelan before he passed away..." Elias used his long fingers to massage his forehead, seemingly frustrated. "Don't overthink it, and stop mentioning that night. I know what happened and will take responsibility for my actions." That was why he did not believe Amanda when she said she was pregnant because of that night four years ago. When he awoke the next day, he saw Grace lying beside him with her clothes all messed up. There was even a patch of red on the snow-white bedsheets. At that moment, he was stunned. However, Grace was Yelan Murphy's younger sister, and Yelan was his most trusted bodyguard, who died a tragic death to save his life. Back then, he begged Elias to take care of Grace with his last breath... Hence, despite not having any feelings for her, he had to abide by his promise. Grace noticed there seemed to be a trace of frustration on Elias' face, so she quickly explained, "I'm sorry, Elias. It's because I was too afraid to lose you..." "I'll bring you home." He turned on the engine and left. She wanted to stay a little longer, but when she saw his cold countenance, she decided to save it for next time. ... In the evening of the following day... Throughout the day, the loyal bodyguard Elias assigned to Amanda followed her around until he safely escorted her to the Winters Manor. She descended the car unwillingly and saw Elias standing outside the manor, waiting for her. "Mr. Winters, Miss Bailey has arrived." Elias hummed in response. "Good. You may leave now. I'll send her home later." "Yes, Mr. Winters." Noticing the bodyguard had left, Amanda wanted to slip away, but Elias grabbed her slim wrist.

“Amanda, do you think you can escape?” “Let go of me! I can walk on my own!” She struggled to free her wrist, but the man kept a tight hold on her. “Grandpa had taken great care of you when you were his granddaughter-in-law. Can you stand watching him so upset? He’s been hospitalized several times because he was worried about you. Don’t you want to visit him?” “I...” She felt a lump in her throat. When she was still married to Elias, Howard was the nicest person to her, and she did feel sorry to leave without informing him back then. So, why not take this opportunity to explain everything to him? “Let’s go inside. Grandpa is getting old, so let’s not make him worry about us.” Then, he pulled her toward the manor’s entrance.

Chapter 6 Make Sure You Get Back Together

Having not stepped foot in this manor for four years, Amanda found herself inexplicably sad. Her brows involuntarily tightened as she recalled many events from the past. In the meantime, Elias tugged her into the garden. When she saw Howard’s hoary back from afar, she felt tears welling up in her guilty eyes. Hearing the footsteps, he turned around only to see his b*stard grandson and snorted. “Why are you here? Scram!” Since Elias’ tall figure was covering Amanda, he moved to the side and asked, “You don’t want to see me, but I bet you want to see her, right?” Hearing that, Howard turned around again, shocked at whom he saw. “Amanda? Is that you?” “Grandpa... It’s me.” Her voice sounded choked. He was ecstatic and strode over with his walking stick, but he pulled a long face and reprimanded, “Where have you been all these years? I’ve looked everywhere for you! I need to know why you guys divorced! Didn’t you promise you wouldn’t divorce him no matter what happened?” When Elias saw how worked up Howard was, he was at a loss for words. It was as though Amanda was the Winters Family’s real granddaughter while he was picked up from somewhere. “Grandpa, I’m sorry... I let you down.” Back then, she had promised him that she would not divorce Elias no matter what happened, but the sc*mbag had gotten another woman pregnant! What was she to do besides divorcing him? “Amanda, tell me the truth. Did this b*stard force you into divorce? You’re a good child, and I know that brat’s character very well, so tell me the truth!” Howard looked at her anticipantly because he refused to believe she would renege on her words. Elias narrowed his eyes at her as if warning, “Watch what you say!” Since she did not want anything to do with him, she did not want to agonize the innocent Howard either. “Grandpa, we broke up on good terms. I don’t love him

anymore, nor does he, so we divorced. None of us forced the other.” She smiled while saying that, hoping he could find peace with this information. Unexpectedly, he suddenly roared, “That’s impossible! Have you forgotten your promise to me? You said you’d love Elias forever and will still love him even if he doesn’t love you back. How could you change your mind so suddenly? I don’t believe you! That brat must’ve forced you into getting a divorce. Did he tell you to say that too?” “Grandpa... That’s not it.” “Amanda, have you begun lying to me as well? You’re not like that. You loved Elias to death, so why would you change your mind so quickly?” He could not accept Amanda’s explanation because it was a lie. At his boiling point, Elias argued, “Grandpa, can you be more reasonable? You didn’t believe me when I said we broke up on good terms. How are you still so stubborn after Amanda told you the truth?” “You b*stard! Don’t think I don’t know what you’re up to! Unless you anger me to death, that clown will never join the Winters Family! The only daughter-in-law we acknowledge is Amanda!” He did not forget to pat her hand, adding, “Don’t worry. He can’t do anything to you with me here. I will get you guys back together someday.” Amanda was at a loss for words when faced with Howard’s stubbornness. Tired of pretending, she decided to tell the truth. “Grandpa, we can’t get back together anymore. The child he and that woman had should be turning three soon, and you can’t expect me to become a stepmom, right? I can’t do that, so I’m sorry.” Remembering when Elias brought that woman home with the pregnancy news, she did a rough estimation and assumed the child might be the same age as Aiden. When Howard heard her, his eyes widened, and his jaw dropped. Similarly, Elias’ face instantly fell, and he pursed his thin lips. “A child? What child? Where did that come from? Did you and that clown have a child?” Howard glanced at Elias, unconvinced. Elias denied it, but his helpless visage sold him out. “No.” “You b*stard! I’ll ask you again. Did you have a child with that woman? How could such a woman bear the heir to our family?” Howard screamed his accusation, pointing his walking stick at his grandson. Suppressing his rage, Elias attempted to defend himself again. “We didn’t have a child together!” “If you dare to get that clown pregnant, I’ll never forgive you. I...” Howard only spoke half his sentence before losing his footing and falling to the ground. “Grandpa!” Elias’ obsidian eyes filled with shock as he ran over to catch Howard’s body. On the other hand, Amanda’s mind went blank at the unfolding scene. “Grandpa...” ... Outside Howard’s bedroom, the private doctor exited and stood before Elias and Amanda after thirty minutes. “Old Mr. Winters was exasperated, causing his blood pressure to surge. I gave him medication to control his blood pressure, so he’s fine now. Let him rest, and don’t provoke him again.” After listening to the doctor’s explanation, Amanda instantly felt relieved. Elias pushed the door open and peeked inside before closing it again upon confirmation that Howard was asleep. Turning to look at her, he offered, “I’ll send you

home.” She did not respond and led the way. Now that she had calmed down, she suddenly remembered what Howard had said earlier... So, it turns out that Grandpa didn't know about the child, but why did Elias deny the child's presence? The clown Grandpa was talking about was called Grace. Could she be the woman Elias brought home years ago? A clown... Is she a celebrity? Fishing out her phone, Amanda searched her name and soon found results on Grace Murphy. Her eyes widened in shock because Grace was not the woman he had brought home four years ago! Abruptly, she halted her footsteps and turned to look at the tall man behind her. “So, the woman you brought back four years ago wasn't pregnant. Am I right?” There was never a child. Was all that just a ploy to push the divorce narrative and make way for Grace? Elias coldly replied, “Yes.” Yes?! How could he be so calm? So, he made up a fake child and divorced me for the love of his life? And I had no idea about who my love rival was! Was he so in love with Grace that he would use such a despicable trick to end our marriage? I almost went and aborted my baby boy! At that instant, Amanda was overcome with rage and swung her hand at the man's handsome face. Unsurprisingly, he effortlessly stopped her and roared, “Are you crazy?” “Elias Winters! You will never know about his existence!” After that, she stormed away, vowing that she and her baby would never forgive him. The stranded man stood in his spot, staring at the furious figure. Whose existence?

Chapter 7 Here Comes the Love Rival

Amanda stormed away from the Winters Manor onto the deep, dark road. The more she thought about it, the angrier she became. Elias did not deserve to know about her child because he would never be a good father. Suddenly, a sense of chill enveloped her. She looked around, and not a single soul was present. This was Imperia's known wealthy corner, so there were rarely any cabs since the city center was far away. She would have to walk until dawn to get there. As such, she fished out her phone to call for help when she was interrupted by the honk from a car behind her, followed by the blinding car lights. A black Rolls-Royce Phantom stopped before her. The window rolled down, revealing Elias' handsome but shameless face. “Get in.” Without sparing him a glance, Amanda continued forward. “I don't need your help. Someone will come to get me.” He stopped the car and pushed the door open before approaching her. Then, he carried her on

his shoulder and returned to his car. Feeling her body in midair, she was taken aback and subconsciously grabbed onto his suit. “Elias! Put me down! Why do you even care about me? Don’t you remember we’re divorced?” She kept slamming her fists on his body. Unfazed, Elias placed her onto the passenger seat and leaned forward to buckle the seatbelt for her. At that moment, they were so close that Amanda could see the man’s thick eyelashes. “I brought you here, so I should bring you home safely. You’d better be good, or else I might move your mother’s ashes.” After that threat, he closed the door and went to the driver’s seat. Her eyes widened in disbelief, baffled that he was using her mother to threaten her again. She looked at the man beside her and chastised, “Elias! I’ll never forgive you if you move my mother’s ashes!” However, the unperturbed man merely glanced at her. “That depends on your behavior.” When her mother passed away, Amanda could not afford to give her mother a burial. It was Elias who arranged everything and helped her mother rest in peace. Thus, it was outrageous how he used a dead person against her for his convenience. What a sc*mbag. Buzz— Buzz— Elias’ phone displayed Grace’s incoming call on the screen. Noticing the name, Amanda felt a pang in her heart. This is the woman Elias has in his heart... He did not hesitate and answered the call. Then, he heard Grace’s gentle voice from the other end. “Elias, I had dinner with the film crew tonight and drank some wine, so I can’t drive home. Can you pick me up?” “I’m not available right now. I can get someone to send you home, though.” “I don’t want that. I want you. I’m drunk. How could you feel assured to let someone else take me away...” He stayed silent before instructing her, “Send me your address and wait for me there.” “Sure. I’ll wait for you.” After the call ended, Elias continued to drive. Since it was dead silent inside the car that one might even hear a pin drop, Amanda naturally deduced the caller’s voice belonged to Grace. Her voice was gentle and sweet, like a woman in a happy relationship. Huh. I guess this is the stark difference between being loved and tolerated. He makes it so clear with his patience with Grace, but he barely made an effort to return home during our one-year marriage. Just thinking about it

depressed her. She looked out the window and bit her lower lip, letting her thoughts go wild. The man behind the wheel suddenly asked, “Whose existence were you referring to earlier? Who is ‘he’?” “What?” Amanda was momentarily stunned and looked at the man’s perfect, chiseled side profile. “You said I will never get to know his existence. So, who is he?” She fixed her gaze on the fleeting scenery outside. “No one.” Curiosity did not get the best of him, so he halted his follow-up questions. Fine. I don’t care. At that moment, Amanda’s phone rang. She looked at it and saw it was from Helean. She answered without hesitation but soon regretted it when she heard Aiden’s voice coming from her phone. “Mommy! When are you coming to get me? Did you forget about me?” She reflexively covered the phone’s speaker and glanced at the man, afraid he would overhear the child’s voice. OK. No fluctuations. Eyes still on the road. Phew. She turned her back to him and whispered into the phone, “I’m coming to you now. See you later.” Once done, she decisively hung up, not giving the child any chance to speak. That action piqued the interest of the man in the driver’s seat. Is she seeing someone? “Was it a man or woman?” he asked. With a cold expression, she retorted, “What does it have to do with you?” Then, she received a message from Helean. It was an address for a restaurant, probably where he was having dinner with Aiden. “Sorry to trouble you, but please send me to Nycinth.” I wonder if my baby has been good tonight. Meanwhile, Elias was intrigued. Nycinth? The address Grace sent me was also this restaurant. What a coincidence. ... Half an hour later, the two arrived outside a restaurant named Nycinth. Amanda half-heartedly thanked him. “Thank you.” She unlatched her seatbelt and alighted from the car before heading into the restaurant without turning back. The man could not help but scoff as he found her to be more arrogant after the divorce. She used to be nice and never pulled a long face at me. After parking his car, he made his way toward the restaurant as well. When Amanda entered, she began looking for her baby, but before she could find Helean and Aiden, she noticed Elias in the same space as her. “Why are you following me?” she questioned in a panic. Oh my, oh my. Why is he here?! Did I

make a slip-up earlier? Did he catch anything suspicious? He was displeased. “Me? I’m here to pick someone up.” It was then a voice rang out. “Elias, you’re finally here!” Like a butterfly fluttering its wings, Grace threw herself into the man’s embrace and wrapped her arms around him. However, Elias did not have much of a reaction and calmly hummed in response. When she noticed Amanda out of the corner of her eye, her smile instantly disappeared. “Elias, you... Why are you here... with your ex-wife?” Tears immediately welled up inside her puppy eyes. When Amanda saw that, all she wanted to do was burst into laughter. So, she knew about my existence long ago, but I was the only one late on the memo. Elias immediately felt a headache coming because he hated explaining things the most. “It was just a coincidence. We met each other at the entrance.” That white lie relaxed Grace a little. “I see. I’m sorry I misunderstood you. You almost scared me to death. I thought you guys were contacting each other again.” So... How was that not implying that Amanda was trying to seduce her man?

Chapter 8 The Witty Young Child

Oh my gosh. Look at her. Fake as plastic. Turning around, Amanda wanted to find her son because they were now in a treacherous situation. It would be catastrophic if Elias found out about Aiden. However, Grace suddenly stopped her. “Amanda, would you mind joining us for dinner?” “Haven’t you eaten already?” Elias frowned. She smiled sweetly. “But you haven’t. You never eat on time, and that will cause stomach problems. Since Amanda is here, why don’t we have a meal together? Even though you’re divorced, you can still be friends.” Wow... The best of the best among fake b*tches. She’s as bold as brass, Amanda complained inside. Then, she rejected her without hesitation. “I’m sorry, but no. I don’t want to have dinner with you guys.” “Amanda, don’t tell me you’re still holding onto the old story? You should know that relationships can’t be forced.

What's the point of forcing a man who doesn't love you to be with you?" Grace reasoned. At that point, Amanda was beyond speechless. She suppressed her anger and smiled.

"Miss Murphy, what makes you think I'm not over it?" Then, she spotted Aiden's small figure! Seeing his mommy from afar, the kid happily ran toward her and parted his lips, ready to shout the forbidden M-word. With disaster dawning upon her, the frantic lady immediately hinted at Aiden with her eyes, warning him not to say it. No, no, no, no, no!

"Mo—" He had only yelled half the word when he received his mother's signal, so he improvised. "Motherf*cker!" After that, he turned around and hid somewhere Elias could not see. That cute-sounding curse attracted everyone's attention, but Elias merely heard it without seeing the owner of that adorable 'motherf*cker'. Whose ill-mannered brat was that? How ridiculous. Amanda immediately stood before the man, stopping him from searching for Aiden at all costs. "Alright. I'll have dinner with you!" she suddenly announced. A surprised Grace stopped looking for the kid and asked, "For real? Since Amanda agreed to eat with us, will you agree too?" "Sure," Elias replied half-heartedly. He did not have much appetite, but he thought it would be nice to steal a few more glances at his ex-wife. ... The atmosphere inside the private room was awkward. Amanda occasionally looked at the time on her phone, wondering if Helean had brought the 'ticking time bomb' away. She picked up her phone and texted Helean, telling him to send Aiden home and that she would be back soon. When Elias noticed her uneasiness, he asked, "Whom are you texting?" Has this woman stooped so low that she's seducing those old men? He had noticed her strange tone when talking on the phone earlier, and it sounded like she was doing something unseemly in secret. "No one. Why hasn't the food arrived? Let's get this over with and go home." She put away her device. In the meantime, Grace smiled as she poured Elias a cup of tea, suggesting, "I think Amanda might be seeing someone and is texting him." His brows furrowed in displeasure as he retorted, "And how do you know that?" "It's because I'm a woman, and a woman's sixth sense is always right. Am I spot on, Amanda?" That's such a fake smile... Amanda was

too lazy to argue, so she went with it. “Yes, you’re right. I’m texting my boyfriend.”

“Don’t tell me it’s the old man from the banquet. I warned you to leave those old men alone!” Elias ordered. That made Grace, sitting by the side, subconsciously grip the hem of her dress. She reasoned gently, “Elias, don’t be so mean. Amanda can like any man she wants, and she’s your ex-wife, so it’s not your place to order her around.” Without saying anything, he felt a rage of fire burning inside him, and he downed his cup of water in a huff. “I need to head to the bathroom. Excuse me.” Suddenly, Grace rose to her feet with a courteous smile before leaving the room. In actuality, she wanted to know the unfiltered situation between Elias and Amanda, so she left her recording phone in the room, knowing that those two would not let on anything in her presence. Hence, she excused herself to let them talk it out. As expected, Amanda looked at the man before her once the door was closed. “How long have you known her?” Pouring himself another cup of water, Elias took a sip before answering, “Many years.” Her bright eyes had a trace of surprise. Many years... How many years is that? Did they know each other since they were young? Did they grow up together? If that was the case, does it mean he didn’t cheat on me because they’d been together for years? While she was lost in thought, her eyes dimmed, feeling a sense of bitterness. “Since you love her so much, why did you agree to marry me and not her?” “Grandpa forced me to.” That answer was straightforward but hurtful. His tone was filled with resignation and void of any emotion. When Amanda recalled how Elias pushed her to agree to the divorce, she felt endless hatred filling her heart. He had kept Grace so well protected and pampered her like a princess that she did not have to take part in all that fiasco. She suddenly taunted, “Do you think she would cry if I tell her you brought me home to Grandpa?” “Don’t you dare make her cry!” He slammed his cup onto the table, making a loud bang. God, no. Her cries are annoying. Who knows how long she’s gonna whine about it if she finds out? No, I’m not dealing with that. Yet, in Amanda’s eyes, his strong reaction froze her heart. He’s so protective over that woman, so kind and gentle. With me, though, he was always angry, oppressive,

and cold. Perhaps, this is the difference between love and tolerating. At first, she thought she would have forgotten about these feelings after four years, but the pain caught her by surprise. Drawing a deep breath, she rose and reprimanded, “Please don’t ever appear before me again. Seeing the two of you makes me want to puke!” With that, she took her bag and left the room. Bang! The door was closed again, leaving Elias alone in utter silence. Finally, Grace returned. When she noticed Amanda’s absence, she asked, “Elias, where’s Amanda? Where did she go?” “Something came up, so she left. Let’s go, too.” The man stood up and exited the room. “Aren’t you going to eat?” “No.” Grace grabbed her bag and glanced at her phone before turning off the recorder.

Chapter 9 Grace Fainted In Her Office

After arriving at Lotus Waterfront, Amanda opened the door and saw her son sitting on the couch while watching television. Upon her return, he ran over to her and yelled, “Mommy!” Hugging her cute son, she let out a genuine smile. “Aiden, were you a good boy at Mr. Helean’s house last night?” “Of course!” She caressed his tiny face and praised, “Good boy, Aiden. I’ll prepare your milk.” “Mommy, did I do a great job just now?” His face filled with pride as though he had done a brilliant job. Recalling her son’s quick reaction at Nycinth, Amanda gave him a thumbs up. But... Where did the little brat learn to curse like that? Thus, she put on a stern face and questioned, “Aiden Bailey, when did you learn to curse? And who taught you to say that?” “Uh... Mommy, let’s not dwell on this matter, alright?” The kid began to avoid her gaze and pretended to be focused on the television. She cupped her son’s chubby little face and lectured, “Don’t ever curse again, understand? It’s not polite, and I don’t like that.” “Alright...” Aiden observed his mother’s expression and asked, “Mommy, about the man we encountered just now, did he bully you?” The man? Is he talking about Elias? She laughed. “Why would you say that?” “I think that man’s a bad guy, so you should leave him alone.” His puppy eyes were filled with seriousness. Hearing that, Amanda could not take it anymore

and burst out laughing. Is this what he thinks of his biological father? “Alright, I’ll stay away from him, and you should too. Turn around and walk away whenever you see him, alright?” He nodded in agreement. “Okay. Then, you should get closer to Mr. Simon.” Simon Nicholson... This little brat loves Simon so much that he wants him as his daddy. Feeling helpless, she changed the topic. “I’ll prepare your milk, and you should go to bed after drinking it. Stop watching the TV. It’s bad for your eyes.” ... At the same time, Grace had returned home, and the first thing she did was search for the recording earlier, desperately wanting to know what Elias and Amanda had talked about. Then, she hit play and listened to the entire recording. Once the recording ended, her expression was as dark as soot. Just like she thought, those two secretly kept contact with each other, and Elias even brought Amanda to visit Howard! What does that mean? Old Mr. Winters hates me and still refuses to acknowledge my existence after four years. He insists that he only accepts Amanda as his granddaughter-in-law. Now that she’s back, will my chances of marrying Elias become even slimmer? Old Mr. Winters will certainly try to get them back together! No way! That can’t happen! She bit her lip in dissatisfaction, vowing to win Elias’ heart and become the Young Mistress of the Winters Family! ... Early the next morning at Justice & Associates, it was Amanda’s first day at work since her return. Just as she was about to enter her office, a secretary approached her and informed her, “Miss Bailey, Miss Murphy said she had made an appointment with you and is now waiting for you in your office.” “Miss Murphy?” Amanda was confused. She had just returned to the country, and the only case she had on hand was Winters Enterprise’s case, so where did this Miss Murphy come from? “Okay, thank you. I’ll go check her out.” When Amanda entered her office, she saw a woman in sunglasses sitting on the couch. “Excuse me, but you are...” The woman removed her sunglasses and raised her head, revealing a heavily made-up face. Grace. Amanda’s expression instantly turned cold. “Why are you here? Are you looking for trouble?” “Why did you leave last night? I had so much I wanted to talk to you about.” With a fake smile, Grace looked pure and innocent. Sitting on the

opposite couch, Amanda put on a serious attitude. “Miss Murphy, is there anything I can help you with? Since it’s office hours, we’ll only talk about work.” Without Elias, Grace could not care less to put on her harmless front. She took out a card and placed it on the coffee table. “Amanda, I don’t know why you returned, but if you’re here for money, I can give you however much you want as long as you stay away from Elias.” “How much is in here?” Pfft. Grace thought she had successfully tempted Amanda. “1.5 million.” “Do you think you can get rid of me with only 1.5 million? Is Elias only worth this much to you? You must know that the Winters Family is extremely wealthy.” Amanda’s tone was overflowed with mockery. Widening her eyes in shock, Grace did not expect Amanda would say such a thing. “Elias doesn’t love you. Otherwise, why would he divorce you? The Winters Family’s riches have nothing to do with you, so you’d better not be too greedy! 1.5 million is a lot!” Amanda chuckled. “If that’s how it is, why are you so afraid?” “Am I?” Grace’s guilty conscience was unconcealable as she feared Elias would remarry Amanda. “What’s with this money, then? Are you afraid we’d get back together?” By then, Grace was so pissed that her nails dug into her palms. She sternly demanded, “I don’t want to see you pester Elias and affect our relationship! I hope you can disappear from his world!” “I hope the two of you can disappear from my world even more. If there’s nothing else, please leave. I’m busy.” The fake b*tch had consumed all of Amanda’s patience, prompting her to stride toward her desk. Meanwhile, Grace shot up from her seat in a fury. “What you’re saying is that you’ll continue to bother Elias and use Old Mr. Winters’ fondness for you to get back with him?” I give up. Why does Grace keep thinking that I’m clinging to Elias? “So what if I am? If I win his heart, I can still get the extremely wealthy Winters Family. Why would I be interested in that 1.5 million you’re offering? Take your card and scam! Elias can pamper you all he wants, but I have no obligation to spoil you!” Then, Amanda sat down and was prepared to look through her documents when Grace suddenly seemed out of breath. She clutched her chest and stammered while pointing at Amanda, “You... You...” The next moment, she fell to the

ground with a loud thump and fell unconscious. When Amanda saw that scene, she was dumbfounded. The hell? Is she for real? A few seconds later, she went over and called out to Grace, “Miss Murphy?” Her visage was pale as a sheet, and her body lay still on the ground like a rock. OK. She’s out. Flustered, Amanda hurriedly took out her phone and dialed 911 before contacting Elias. Surprisingly, he was still using the same number from four years ago. The call went through after a few rings. “Who is this?” The man’s deep and cold voice came from the phone. “It’s me. Grace fainted inside my office. I’m sending her to the hospital now, so you should hurry up and meet me there.” She was at a loss for words. What on earth is happening right now? As expected, the angry man started questioning her, “Why would she faint inside your office? And why are you two together?” “Let’s talk about this at the hospital.” Amanda hung up the call because this was not something she could explain over the phone.

Chapter 10 Come At Me With Your Grievances

Outside the emergency room at the hospital, Amanda waited by the bench on the side. Suddenly, a series of rushed footsteps echoed in the hallway, prompting her to look up and see Elias approaching her. He had a gloomy expression and barked, “What did you do to her? She has a heart condition!” Huh. Such unconditional trust for Grace. He doesn’t even know the whole truth, and he’s already accusing me of provoking her. “Why don’t you ask why your girlfriend would come to my office and cause such a commotion during working hours?!” She had had enough and was fed up with these two, but Grace just had to show up at her doorstep! At that moment, the ER door opened, emerging a doctor who asked, “Family of Grace Murphy?” Elias went forward. “How is she?” “She has congenital heart disease and might’ve been triggered, causing her emotion to surge and eventually faint. I’ll keep her for two nights and observe her situation. Remember, do not trigger her again.” Once the doctor left, Elias furiously turned to glare at Amanda. “What else do you have to say? What exactly did you put her through?” “You can ask your lover once she wakes up.” She turned and was ready to leave. Moreover, how could she have known that Grace had a heart condition? Why come to my law firm stirring up trouble if her heart can’t take it? “Ahh—” Just as she turned around, she was tugged back and pressed onto the cold wall. The man’s long fingers pinched her chin while he screamed, “You can come at me with your grievances, but don’t provoke Grace! Her

condition can't handle it!" When her body slammed into the wall, she felt immense pain in her back. "Elias, how dare you accuse me of provoking her when you don't even know what happened? Let me reiterate that she was the one who appeared at my office. I'm not the one harassing her!" "What was she there for?" He stared into her eyes while questioning. "To shove money in my face so that I'll stay away from you! Do you think I was provoking her now? Be a man to your woman so that she'll stop interrupting my work!" She pushed him away and stormed out of the hospital. The solemn man sent a heavy punch into the wall. ... Inside the VIP ward, when Grace opened her eyes, she saw Elias' back while he stood before the French window. Smiling, she called out to him weakly, "Elias..." When he heard that, he turned around and approached the bed. "Amanda and I are divorced, so you have no reason to confront her." She was taken aback. "Elias... I'm sorry. Are you mad at me?" He seemed displeased. "What do you think? Don't you know about your condition better than anyone?" "I just don't want you to contact each other anymore, but Amanda said she wants to get back with you and pester you. She wants to break us up. That's why I was so worked up..." "That's impossible," Elias denied. Grace was shocked because she discovered that he had subconsciously believed in Amanda over her. She struggled to get up and acted like she was looking for something but was too weak to do so. Pushing her shoulders down, he asked, "What are you trying to do?" "Do you think I'm lying? I have a recording as proof! Amanda said those words herself and vowed to use Old Mr. Winters to accomplish her goal of getting back with you!" She grabbed her bag and took out her phone before playing the recording. She had expected Amanda's reluctance to take the money and disappear, so she recorded their conversation in advance. With a skeptical attitude, Elias watched as she played the recording of their conversation, especially the part where Amanda said, "So what if I am? If I win his heart, I can still get the extremely wealthy Winters Family. Why would I be interested in that 1.5 million you're offering? Take your card and scam! Elias can pamper you all he wants, but I have no obligation to spoil you!" His expression altered slightly as he frowned in displeasure. Then, she embellished the matter. "Did you hear that? That's what Amanda said! I wasn't telling lies!" Without saying anything, the man frowned deeply, lost in thought. Did Amanda return to remarry me and get back her place as Mrs. Winters? ... Back at Lotus Waterfront, Amanda returned home after a busy day but could not find her son anywhere in the room. When the nanny saw her, she greeted Amanda. "Miss Bailey, I'll get going since you're home." "Where's Aiden? Why don't I see him anywhere?" "Aiden is in his room, making a call, and he doesn't want me to listen. Your child is so adorable. He's like a little adult," the nanny commented happily. Amanda could not hold back her smile either because her son indeed liked pretending to be a grownup. When she approached Aiden's room, she heard

his cute voice saying, "Uncle Simon, I missed you!" Uncle Simon? Is that little brat on the phone with my boss? Pushing the door open, Amanda saw Aiden, hiding in the corner with the phone, suddenly spring to his feet and quickly dash toward the balcony with his phone. While running, he yelled, "Mommy, don't take away my phone. I wanna talk to Uncle Simon!" She was rendered speechless as she wanted to stop Aiden from disturbing Simon's time. It was already tiring for him to work the whole day and still have to make time to chat with the little brat. Since the phone was on loudspeaker, they heard a man's gentle and low chuckle. "Aiden, be good and give your mommy the phone. I need to speak with her." The child pouted and muttered, "Alright. To let you and Mommy bond, I'll put up with it just this once." Boy, what? Is it just me, or my baby knows a little too much? Aiden proffered Amanda the phone. "Here, Mommy. Uncle Simon wants to talk to you." She felt resigned and placed the phone to her ear. "Mr. Nicholson." "Your son calls me 'Uncle Simon,' but you call me 'Mr. Nicholson.' Do we have to be so estranged?" The man's voice from the other end was attractively gentle. She smiled. "Aiden's young and insensible. Don't mind him. He just dreams to have a father figure in his life." Sometimes, she felt sorry for her baby, always having to admire other children for having fathers. A low chuckle came from the speaker. "I think Aiden's quite sensible. He knows you're having a hard time caring for him, so he wants to get a father to help you." When the man described it that way, Amanda felt warm and inexplicably touched. That brat is indeed obedient, but sometimes he's a pain in the butt. "You're right. My son is quite sensible." She chuckled. "How are you coping over there? I still have two months of work here. You can ask me for anything." Simon was the real boss behind Justice & Associates. Moreover, she was content enough to be able to join the country's top law firm right after returning, so she could not ask for anything more.