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After going back to her room, Malorie was still in a state of shock. Arielle's gaze was too terrifying! That looks so much like Cindy's.

Suddenly, goosebumps crawled all over her body. She also decided to chase Arielle away as soon as possible. That little minx! I can't let her stay any longer in our house.

As soon as Malorie regained her sense, she rushed forward to the door to knock on the door intensely. "Open the door! Open the door! I want to see Rick! I need to talk to him!"

The bodyguard who guarded outside the room stuck his ear to the door and said, "Mrs. Southall, please don't make this hard for us. According to Mr. Southall's order, you're not allowed to go anywhere now."

"I'm his mom! If you don't open the door now, I'll fire all of you!"

However, the bodyguard only responded with a short sentence, "I'm sorry."

Malorie started to panic and paced in circles. She had left her phone in the living room, so she could not contact Henrick right then.

Had Henrick lost his mind? Why did he lock me up for Arielle and that uncivilized man? Malorie was utterly confused.

"Hey! Open the door..."

Meanwhile, Henrick lowered his head with an awkward laugh. Sweats appeared on his forehead as he pulled Arielle over. “Sannie, tell Mr. Nightshire that your Grandma isn’t always like this. She has been treating you nicely all along.”

“Treating me nicely?” Arielle stared into Henrick’s eyes.

Feeling a little guilty, Henrick turned away to avoid her gaze. “Sannie, don’t put me in a difficult position, okay? You can’t deny that I’m always nice toward you, right?”

Arielle snorted under her breath, but she continued to put on an obedient expression. She looked at Vinson, letting out a sigh. “Vinson, forget about it. Grandma is old now. I don’t want to blame her, so don’t you take that to heart too.”

In other words, she was hinting that Malorie did not treat her well. With that, she could also get herself some benefits.

Vinson instantly understood what she meant. He turned around to glare at Henrick with a frosty look.

“Mr. Southall, Arielle is always a good girl. Because of her personality, she always gets bullied by others. I thought that you would protect her since you’re her father. Unfortunately, she gets mistreated even in her house. How can I not worry about her if this is the case?”

Henrick’s heart dropped upon hearing how Vinson addressed him.

After all, Vinson had not paid him for the renovation cost for Southall Group yet.

Henrick got so panicked that his face flushed red. Nervously, he asked, “T-Then, Mr. Nightshire, how are we going to settle this?”

“That’s simple.” Vinson raised a brow. “Just prove to me that you’ll take care of Arielle properly in the future.”

Henrick was puzzled. “How am I going to prove that?”

Vinson tilted his head toward the direction of the backyard. “From what I know, you gave ten percent of your shares to Shandie when she was eighteen. Now that Shandie is gone, and since Arielle doesn’t have any shares with her yet, how about...”

Henrick replied before Vinson finished his sentence, “I’ll go get the agreement to transfer Shandie’s shares to Arielle right now!”

However, Vinson shook his head in a displeased manner. “Isn’t that too little? Arielle is also your biological daughter. Even Shandie gets ten percent of company shares. Don’t you think you should give her another ten percent in that case?”

Henrick’s face darkened upon hearing that. If he gave another ten percent of the company shares to Arielle, she would have twenty percent in total.

Twenty percent is not a small amount! He gulped.

Rate the Translation to Get 2 Petal.

Wait! I Have Something to Say!

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After all, even Cindy got only twenty percent of the company shares.

If that happened, Arielle would have the same amount of shares as Cindy.

Henrick was reluctant to do so. After all, Arielle was going to get married and leave the house in the end. However, her wife's shares would still belong to him.

Suddenly, Vinson said with a cold voice while Henrick was still hesitating, "You seem reluctant, huh? Does that mean that you don't care much about Arielle? If that's the case, the cost for your building..."

He did not finish his sentence, but Henrick clearly knew that Vinson would never pay him if he refused to transfer twenty percent of the company shares to Arielle.

That was Henrick's weakest spot, so he had no choice but to give in. He gritted his teeth and responded, "Okay! I'll give twenty percent of the company shares to Sannie!"

"Great. Let's sign the agreement now," Vinson ordered.

He was worried that Henrick would change his mind later since the latter was a petty man.

In fact, that was what Henrick planned to do. However, he had no choice but to do it immediately since Vinson had already mentioned that.

After pondering for a moment, Henrick thought about Cindy. I gifted her twenty percent of the shares when we just got married. Well. It's time for me to take it back **now**.

He rolled his eyes and said, "I'll transfer Shandie's shares to Sannie tonight. Then, I'll bring Cindy here after Shandie's funeral tomorrow so that I can take the remaining ten percent out from Cindy's shares. So, can I transfer Cindy's shares to Sannie tomorrow?"

Vinson's expression was grim. "Mr. Southall, I'm not bargaining with you."

With that said, an imposing aura from Vinson washed over Henrick like waves.

Henrick's legs went weak upon hearing that. However, he was really obsessed with his company shares, so he mustered up the courage to defend his point. He turned around to Arielle and said, "Sannie, can you try to persuade Mr. Nightshire? I'll definitely give you the shares. After all, you're the only child left. Of course that I'll treat you like a treasure!"

Arielle looked obedient, but she was impassive in her heart. She pulled Vinson's sleeve and said, "Forget about it, Vinson. He cares about me a lot. Grandma is sick these days, so Dad has no choice but to take more care of her. Moreover, he already said he'll give me the shares after Aunt Cindy's back tomorrow. Right, Dad?"

Henrick nodded. I'm glad that Arielle's not a smart one. She's not the aggressive and pushy type of person.

"See? Dad has promised to do so. Let's not talk about it anymore." Arielle pulled Vinson's sleeves again, but harder this time.

Vinson knew that she was telling the truth, so he had no choice but to agree with that.

Soon after, Henrick came back with the contract. Arielle and he signed the agreement together.

With that, Shandie's shares will be transferred to Arielle.

After making sure that there was nothing wrong with the contract, Vinson said, "All right. Transfer the rest of the shares to Arielle after the funeral tomorrow. It's late now. Arielle, let's go back to the room."

Henrick immediately replied, "Yes. Go and get some rest. You guys still have to wake up early tomorrow."

Then, he pushed Arielle to the stairs while Vinson followed behind them.

As they arrived at the bedroom door, Arielle realized that Vinson was going to sleep in the same room as her

She lowered her voice and asked, "Why did you follow me here? Go and tell my dad that you're sleeping in the guest room tonight!"

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Whenever Vinson slept beside her, his presence made Arielle slightly uncomfortable. At the same time, there was an indescribable feeling that swept through her. I can't let Vinson sleep beside me!

"I was planning to sleep in the guest room." He glanced at Arielle before explaining, "I just obtained the shares for you, so it would be suspicious for me to sleep in a separate room. Or else, your father would get suspicious about us."

Upon hearing that, Arielle hesitated for a brief moment.

What Vinson said was true, as Henrick was a sensitive man. Surely, Henrick would sense something was off if Vinson slept in the guestroom and would probably go back on his word.

Well, that does make sense. However, I still feel uncomfortable sleeping together with Vinson.

"Besides, this isn't the first time of us sleeping together. Sooner or later, you'll get more comfortable with this. By the way, we should wash up and go to bed soon. I'm feeling sleepy."

Finishing his sentence, Vinson naturally made his way to the bathroom.

Arielle bit her lip and murmured, "We can sleep together, but not in the same bed."

"Okay." Vinson nodded as a response.

Afterward, she reluctantly gave in and grabbed her toothbrush.

The air was so still in the bathroom as both of them quietly brushed their teeth.

Arielle stared at their reflections in the mirror and noticed that they were moving strangely in synchronization.

It was at that moment she felt her heart pounding furiously inside her.

Wait... Why is my heart racing?

Subconsciously, Arielle placed her hand over her chest, attempting to calm herself down.

Vinson shifted his attention to her with a strange look on his face.

Noticing Vinson's gaze on her, Arielle left the bathroom hastily with a flushed face.

After she left, Vinson let out a sigh, causing a spasm of nervousness to cross his face.

As a matter of fact, Vinson had no idea that he liked Arielle and only managed to comprehend his true feelings much later.

I finally get why I would unconditionally help Arielle and also marry her. I did that because I like her, not merely because she saved my life before. I wish to

spend the rest of my life with Arielle, brushing my teeth together with her every night.

As thoughts prowled through Vinson's mind, he could not stop himself from giggling.

Why do I have such thoughts? I'm such a shameless man.

Soon, Vinson was done washing up too.

When he entered Arielle's bedroom, Arielle had already set the bed on the floor for him.

Not uttering another word, Vinson switched off the lights. He used his old trick by tossing and turning, attempting to make a rustling sound to distract Arielle.

There was no response from Arielle, nonetheless.

Curious, Vinson got up to take a peek at Arielle.

As he got up, he saw the moonlight shining softly on Arielle's beautiful features.

Vinson sat on the edge of the bed, unable to take his eyes off her, and later saw the earplugs in Arielle's ears. He also found a therapeutic candle on her bedside table.

No wonder she was not affected by the noise.

Upon his realization, Vinson heaved a sigh and lied down.

I wish I could sleep beside Arielle, but I should also respect her as a woman. I should let things happen naturally between us instead of forcing her to do anything with me.

Perhaps it was because of the therapeutic candles, Vinson slowly felt his eyelids getting heavier by the minute, and he soon fell into a deep sleep after suffering from insomnia for several nights.

A series of knocks woke Arielle up the following day.

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Hearing the footsteps from a distance, Arielle instantly sprung up from her bed.

Meanwhile, Vinson moved even faster than her. He rapidly shoved the bedsheet on the floor into the wardrobe and climbed onto Arielle's bed to lie beside her.

"You!" Arielle got a shock and wanted to get up.

"Be quiet!" Vinson whispered before wrapping her into her embrace. He went on, "Newlyweds don't wake up this early." With that, Vinson reached his arm behind Arielle's head and pulled her closer.

The footsteps were getting closer and closer, and Arielle dared not to move an inch. As she controlled her breath, she could smell Vinson's strong masculine scent.

Concurrently, Alfred pushed open the door from the outside, barging into the room straight away, only to see the whole room in a mess. Glancing around, he saw one pillow on the ground, and the couple was cuddling lovingly with each other on the bed.

Seems like the newlyweds had a great night yesterday!

As the thoughts filled Alfred's mind, he could not hold himself back and started to chuckle slightly. He then cleared his throat and voiced, "Ms. Arielle, Mr. Nightshire, it's time to wake up!"

With a sleepy look, Vinson turned his body and asked with a hoarse voice, "What time is it?"

Judging from his deep voice, he must be exhausted from last night.

Alfred's lips curled further into a crooked smile. Suppressing his laugh, he responded politely, "It's four o'clock. Both of you should get up now to get ready for the appointment at six o'clock later."

"All right. You may leave now," Vinson replied casually

"Sure," Alfred said.

With that, he left the room and headed to see Henrick without delay. "Mr. Southall, I've done everything as you instructed! Both of them were sleeping together when I walked in, and their room is quite messy," reported Alfred with a beam on his face.

Upon hearing what he said, Henrick grinned along too.

"That's good!" Henrick smoothed his shirt in a good mood and continued, "Get the breakfast ready for the newlyweds. Don't forget to send the breakfast over to Mrs. Southall too. Meanwhile, I'll go to the backyard to burn some joss papers for Shandie."

Maybe Shandie could bless Arielle and Vinson with a happy marriage. Hopefully, the couple could have a lovely baby soon! As long as they have a stable marriage, I won't have to worry about my twenty percent shares. Moreover, I'm now related to Nightshire Group because of their marriage. My life will be smooth sailing from now onward!

That thought alone made Henrick smile widely. Apparently, he was not one bit sentimental about Arielle getting married like the other fathers.

After Henrick left, Alfred headed to the kitchen to make the necessary arrangements as instructed.

Meanwhile, Arielle ignored Vinson and went downstairs.

What had happened earlier sent her pulse racing at once.

Ugh! What's happening to me? My heart is beating crazily! Could it be that I have dirty thoughts about Vinson? No, Arielle! What are you thinking? Stop!

Arielle pondered over it in frustration and patted her head lightly, trying to shake off the thoughts. I should stop overthinking and focus on revenging for Mom. Furthermore, Vinson probably doesn't feel the same way as me. One-sided love could get me in trouble. I must keep my feelings under control.

Feeling helpless, Arielle took a deep breath and picked up her pace to go downstairs.

Meanwhile, for some reason, Vinson found Arielle's behavior amusing when she quickly escaped from him after what had happened. Immediately after that, the corners of his lips curled into a smirk.

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During summer, the sky was already bright, though the sun had not risen at four in the morning.

It had been the eighth day since the passing of Shandie. Henrick was in the backyard burning joss paper for Shandie as he mumbled, “Shandie, I’ve come to burn some joss paper for you. You can rest in peace now. Please guard over our family when you’re up in heaven. Help me earn a big time. Make sure that Arielle and Vinson have a peaceful marriage. As for your mom, I’ll send someone to bring her over for her to pay you her last respect.”

Right then, Alfred came over.

“Mr. Southall, breakfast is ready. The car to the crematorium will be here half an hour later. You should go have some food first.”

“All right.” Henrick nodded before he asked, “Is Mrs. Southall almost here?”

“She should be here soon”

Just when the butler replied, a housekeeper came running over to report, “Mr. Southall, Mrs. Southall is here.”

Even before Henrick could reply, Cindy’s cry was heard. “Oh Shandie, my dear daughter!”

Henrick turned his head over and saw Cindy in a hospital gown.

Nonetheless, her complexion looked much better as compared to when she was just admitted to the psychiatric hospital. Even though Cindy had no makeup on, she was radiating positive energy.

Though the sisters of the Moores were born to the same mother, Maureen was much prettier than Cindy.

Even so, Cindy was still pretty.

Henrick had not seen Cindy for a very long time. His heart leap a beat at the glance of her now.

He gave a cough to recompose himself and went up to help Cindy up. “Stop crying. Shandie will be upset if

she was to hear you cry. Please be mindful of your health as well.”

Cindy nodded in reply. With tears welling up in her eyes, she tilted her head and leaned it against Henrick’s shoulders.

Shortly after, tears started flowing down Cindy’s cheeks as she said, “Rick, Shandie has left us. I only have you left.”

Cindy’s vulnerable look softened Henrick’s heart.

With an arm around her waist and another holding her head, both of them leaned against each other harmoniously.

Arielle, who just arrived in the backyard, almost vomited her breakfast out upon seeing that scene.

Seeing the two of them, where one was full of suspicion of others and another evil-hearted, hugging together disgusted Arielle.

Vinson, who came after, was filled with contempt upon seeing that scene too. He then turned to Arielle and said, "Let's go greet Aunt Cindy."

"Okay." Arielle nodded and went toward them with a smile on her face.

"Aunt Cindy."

Cindy, who was about to pay her last respect to Shandie, was stunned when she heard Arielle's voice.

That was because Cindy had mixed feelings toward Arielle, where she hated and feared her. However, the moment Cindy saw Shandie's memorial tablet, she did not feel any fear toward Arielle. Instead, her heart was left with hatred only.

Cindy forced herself to squeeze out a smile as she turned to see Arielle, who was walking toward her, and said, "Sannie. You're here."

Seeing Cindy's good complexion with blushed cheeks, Arielle smirked.

Seems like Matthias has been taking good care of Cindy. I guess he has been delivering supplements to her every day. I can't believe Matthias is so caring.

Arielle's face remained emotionless as she forced a

smile out and replied, "Aunt Cindy, you're looking great today! I was even worried that you will lose weight because of Shandie's passing. Seems like you're handling it well."

Cindy could not bear to put on a fake smile anymore upon hearing Arielle's sarcasm.

She had no intention of continuing the conversation with Arielle further. Hence, Cindy merely brushed Arielle off and left toward Shandie's coffin.

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Just when Henrick was about to follow after Cindy, Arielle tugged his sleeves and asked gently, “Dad. After Shandie’s funeral, will you be sending Aunt Cindy back?”

Henrick shook his head subconsciously. “Nope. It seems like she has almost recovered. Hence, there’s no need for her to remain in the hospital. After all, staying in a psychiatric hospital is nothing to be proud of.”

Henrick paused for a moment as he studied Arielle for a moment before continuing, “Sannie, can I ask you a

question? Do you hope that Cindy will not be back?”

Arielle smiled and replied, “How is that possible, Dad. She’s my aunt and is your current wife. If she can come back and reunite with you, I’ll definitely be happy. But...”

“But what?”

Arielle then shook her head, forced out a smile, and waved her hands. “It’s nothing much. It’s just some rumors. I think it’s better that you don’t hear them.”

However, Henrick got more curious about it and asked with a frown, “Tell me. There’s nothing that I can’t take

on.”

With that, Arielle bit her lips and said uncomfortably, “I think it’s better that I don’t tell you, Dad. The doctors and nurses were probably too bored that they start spreading rumors. Please don’t take it to heart.”

Upon hearing Arielle’s reply, Henrick did not further question. However, his brows tightened further.

He secretly made a memo of this in his head and walked toward Cindy casually.

After seeing Henrick leave, Vinson then walked toward Arielle and whispered, “What plans do you have now that Cindy is back?”

Arielle stared at the scene of Cindy and Henrick walking away side-by-side. She then turned toward Vinson and asked, “The psychiatric hospital belongs to Carter, right? Can you ask him to do me a favor?”

“Sure.”

Arielle then nodded and whispered a few words to Vinson’s ears.

Vinson could not help but laugh upon hearing her and remarked, “Your plan is indeed brilliant.”

Arielle merely shrugged and replied, “Well, I have no choice. I’ve pondered very long on how should I inform Henrick about Matthias and Cindy. In the end, I’ve concluded that it will not be appropriate if I was the one who told Henrick about it. Hence, it will be better for him to investigate it himself. After all, Henrick is so suspicious about everything. I only need to hint to him slightly, and he will investigate it himself.”

Just when Arielle finished her sentence, Cindy’s wail could be heard.

Cindy had been feeling much better after constantly being comforted by Matthias. However, she broke down the moment she saw Shandie in the coffin with her own eyes.

Arielle arched her brows at that scene. Though Cindy was wicked from inside out, the motherly love she had for Shandie was still overwhelming.

Right then, Arielle thought of her own mom, and her expression darkened.

Vinson, who was by Arielle's side, noticed her change in expression and comforted, "You still have many people by your side. You have me, your step-parents, and Henry. Sannie, you're not alone."

Vinson seldom called Arielle "Sannie." Hence, she was startled when she heard it.

"Thank you." Arielle curled up her lips and thanked Vinson earnestly.

"Tsk!" Vinson shook her head. "You've forgotten again. What should you also say when you thank someone?"

Arielle lowered her head helplessly and replied, "You're so childish, Vinson.

Vinson did not refute but nodded. "Well, I guess so."

If I was mature enough, I probably will not need to do my research every day to find out how to pursue Arielle.

Not long later, the car heading to the crematorium arrived.

Arielle followed behind those who were carrying the coffin.

The weather had been very hot recently. Besides, Shandie's body had been in the backyard for over a week. Hence, it had started to smell.

Arielle was afraid that Vinson, who had been living a comfortable life, could not take on the smell. Hence, she whispered to him, "Vinson, you can head on to do your own stuff. I can handle the matters over here."

“It’s all-” Even before Vinson could finish his sentence, he received a phone call from Carter.

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Vinson thought that Carter called him to talk about something regarding the psychiatric hospital. To his surprise, Carter blurted out the moment the call was answered, “Vin, come over quickly! We’ve found Blake!”

Arielle, who was by Vinson’s side, had her eyes lit up when she overheard it.

She quickly urged Vinson, “Go quickly! Sasha will be so happy to hear this.”

Nonetheless, Vinson still hesitated. “What about you?”

“Don’t worry.” Arielle shot Vinson a smile and reassured him, “Today is Shandie’s funeral. Cindy will not hope for any hiccup to happen. Besides, Mason and Yvette died in a car accident. Hence, they will not cause a scene here.”

Vinson felt relief slightly upon hearing Arielle.

“In that case, I’ll head over to have a look first and see how Sasha has been recovering as well.”

Arielle’s hands stiffened when she heard Vinson. However, she quickly regained her composure and nodded. “Head over quickly then.”

“Okay. Call me if anything happens here.”

“Okay.” Arielle nodded and sent Vinson off with her gaze.

Out of politeness, Vinson still greeted Henrick before leaving the funeral.

Henrick nodded in understanding. “Head over quickly.”

There's nothing much here. We will be having the ceremony in the afternoon. Do drop by if you have the time, but it's all right if you don't."

Even so, Henrick still hoped that Vinson could make it for the ceremony.

After all, he had invited many guests over for the funeral ceremony. Though Henrick dared not announce the news of the marriage of Vinson and Arielle, with Vinson around during the ceremony, the guests would still treat Henrick with more respect.

"All right. I'll make a move first." Vinson gave a nod and left.

Vinson did not look at Cindy once throughout his own time there. It was as if Cindy was transparent to him.

This made Cindy rather awkward, but she dared not utter a single word.

After Vinson had left, she turned to Henrick and asked, "Rick, did Mr. Nightshire and Sannie get together during the time that I was in the hospital?"

"Yep!" Henrick shot a proud smile and continued, "That's my daughter! Although she might look clumsy, being able to have Vinson pursue her is something extraordinary of her! I know that you don't really like

Sannie. However, with Shandie gone now, Sannie is our only child left. I hope you can see her as your own from today onward. She is very obedient, and she will definitely be filial toward us."

Cindy gave a stiff smile and did not say anything further. However, her heart was filled with a grudge.

That b*tch! She is definitely skillful at seducing men. Even Henrick has so much trust in her now! It's okay. Once Shandie's funeral is over, I will announce a piece of shocking news. By that time, Henrick will definitely not place all his attention on Arielle.

The crematorium was near.

Cindy wailed when Shandie's body was being pushed into the incinerators.

Her wailing sound was so loud that it almost shattered glass.

However, Arielle remained a cold look. It was only when Henrick was about to turn over did she put on a look of grief.

On the other hand, Henrick's face was filled with genuine sorrow, which was rather rare.

Nonetheless, one would be totally inhumane if they were not sad when the daughter that grew up with them suddenly passed away.

An hour later, Cindy hugged Shandie's urns in her arms

as she sobbed. The three of them remained silent throughout their journey back to the Southall residence.

Right then, it was also time for class at Jadeborough University.

Donovan had no class then, as he had swapped with Arthur. Hence, he quickly headed to the principal's office to search for Marcus.

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Donovan speed walked to the principal's office as he wanted to bring Marcus to Arielle's house immediately to expose her lies.

Lying to apply for leave was against the school rules, and it was strictly prohibited in Jadeborough University.

The students of a normal class would be punished if they were caught doing so. However, students in the preparatory class would be expelled from the class if they were caught.

Though there was no way for Donovan to have Arielle out from Jadeborough University, kicking her out from his class was sufficient for Arielle to not be an eyesore to Donovan.

There was no one in the principal's office when Donovan arrived. He knocked on the door, but there was no reply. Nonetheless, the door was left ajar. Hence, the door was pushed open with the knock.

"Mr. Brown?" Donovan called out as he walked into the office.

Donovan furrowed his brows and took out his phone to call Marcus.

However, the moment Donovan took his phone out, a man appeared at the door. He was almost fully covered from head to toe with a fisherman's hat on his head and a mask covering his face.

Although the man covered himself quite thoroughly, Donovan still managed to recognize him with just a glance.

“Mr. Brown,” Donovan called out and asked curiously, “It’s so hot today. Why are you covering yourself from head to toe?”

Marcus was shocked, as he had never expected that there would be someone in his office.

After taking a good look at Donovan, Marcus let out a sigh of relief. He then looked around to make sure that there was no one in the corridor. Subsequently, he quickly entered his office and closed the door.

After that, Marcus asked, “How did you recognize me when I’m dressed up in this manner?”

Marcus was rather upset as he took about triple the time he usually used to get ready just to disguise himself. However, it seemed like his disguise did not work its purpose.

Donovan was even more curious and asked once more, “Why are you dressed up in this manner?”

“Sigh. It was all because of the incident last night. Steven and his friends looked down and ridiculed Wendy’s song. Not to even mention Arielle’s as well. I’ve gone through their details. They are all from the suburbs. Sigh. Steven must have said nastier comments after I’ve left. I’m so ashamed now. To begin with, I shouldn’t have even organized this freshman party!”

Donovan’s expression immediately became more complex.

Seems like Mr. Brown isn’t aware that Steven did not look down on Arielle’s song, but bowed to her and asked her to teach him.

Just when Donovan felt a sense of relief, he felt annoyed at the same time.

Steven was someone of the upper-class society that even Donovan did not have the right to greet him. Hence, Donovan felt ashamed that Steven would bow to Arielle.

After hesitating for about two seconds, Donovan decided to not tell Marcus about what actually happened last night.

Instead, he said, “Now that you brought up the incident last night, is it convenient for you to visit a student’s home with me now? She applied for leave yesterday after the freshman party with the reason that her family member has passed away. However, I can tell that she was lying. Hence, I’ll need you to go over to her house with me to verify it.”

“What? How can she use such an excuse to apply for leave?” Marcus’ expression immediately darkened upon hearing Donovan.

After all, Marcus was fine that his students were not high achievers. However, he could not allow his students to have such ill behavior.

Using the passing of a family member as an excuse to apply for leave was strictly forbidden!

“Sure! After all, I don’t want to stay in the school for the moment in case any teacher were to find fault with me. I’ll follow you over now,” said Marcus. He then paused for a moment before asking, “Oh right, what’s the name of the student?”

“Arielle Moore.”

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Upon hearing Arielle's name, Marcus' face instantly hardened. "It's her again?"

Donovan nodded with nonchalance. "Yes. I've told you time and again not to let anyone get into my class through connections."

Yet, Marcus furrowed his brows. He clearly did not believe Donovan.

After shaking his head, he explained, "Mr. Baxter, you made a mistake about Kelsea's incident that day, and the school lost a laboratory building because of that. I didn't even ask you for compensation. Why are you giving Arielle trouble again? Also, you were supposed to apologize to her on the stage during the freshman party. But since Mr. Parker was there, I canceled the session. However, it doesn't mean that you don't need to apologize to her. This issue has not come to an end yet. Mr. Baxter, why are you making things difficult for her again? Do you have a problem with her?"

Donovan's face fell upon hearing that.

Initially, he thought that Arielle had framed Kelsea, but later he learned that Kelsea was putting on her own show. Due to the incident, his reputation among the students was ruined.

Donovan's jaw tightened before he said, "I was oblivious about Kelsea's incident. I'm a victim as well, so you can't blame that on me. Moreover, I'm certain that Arielle is making up an excuse now. Although she was innocent in the previous incident, it doesn't mean

she's also right this time."

“But-” Marcus was in a dilemma.

He did not want to suspect Arielle and repeat his mistake. That would make them end up in an awkward

situation once again.

However, since Donovan insisted, Marcus had to give in. “Fine. I’ll go with you, but we’ll have to bring a bouquet of flowers. If they’re really having a funeral, we’ll make a fool of ourselves.”

“That’s impossible! When Arielle told me that one of her family members passed away, she didn’t even look sad. She’s definitely lying! There’s no need to bring any flowers. We’ll embarrass ourselves if we actually bring flowers with us,” Donovan stated confidently.

Deep down, Marcus trusted Arielle. It had nothing to do with the latter having someone powerful to back her up. Marcus just had a gut feeling about it.

Exasperatedly, he turned to Donovan and said, “Fine. You don’t have to bring any flowers. I’ll bring some since I don’t mind embarrassing myself. Okay?”

Veins popped up against Donovan’s tautly stretched skin. He had no idea why Marcus was defending a liar.

“It’s up to you then,” he snapped after letting out a sigh.

“All right. Let’s go!” Marcus then put on his sunglasses and jacket before he left.

Although he was worried that others would blame him for the incident with Steven last time, he had never blamed Arielle for it.

He always encouraged his students to perform on stage.

However, if Arielle was really lying, he would punish her according to the rules of the school.

“My car is parked at the entrance. I’ll drive the car over. Meanwhile, help me buy a bouquet of white chrysanthemums at the florist’s opposite of the school.”

The two of them split up after that.

Soon, Donovan returned with a bouquet of flowers before they drove toward the Southall residence.

In the car, Marcus reminded, “Mr. Baxter, let me remind you. If Arielle is innocent and did not lie, you have to apologize to her for both of the incidents during the assembly tomorrow. Moreover, I’ll deduct three months of your salary. You’ll also have to move out of the dorm and rent a house for yourself outside. This will serve as a warning.”

Donovan agreed without any hesitation. “Okay!”

He was confident that he was not making a mistake. Arielle Moore, you’ll have to get out of my class this time!

A Beauty With Multiple Masks Chapter 520

A Beauty With Multiple Masks Chapter 520

In the moving car, Donovan's eyes were locked on the scenery outside his window. His grim gaze was filled with determination.

Arielle can't blame me for this. I have to complete my mission for my teaching career. With such a bad

influence in my class, my career would be ruined. I have no choice. I have to do this!

Meanwhile, at the Southall residence, the funeral had just begun.

One by one, all the guests had arrived.

Cindy had changed into black mourning attire. Her makeup was elaborate and flawless, but she chose to wear a lighter shade of lipstick.

She had cried several times since she returned. After talking with Matthias over the phone, she felt calmer.

No matter how hard she cried and how upset she was, she could not bring Shandie back to life.

Knowing that, she knew that she had to pull herself together. She was determined to avenge Shandie's death by taking Arielle's life in return.

With that thought, Cindy picked herself up. She applied some makeup on the bridge of her nose to accentuate her features.

That morning when she saw Henrick, she had seen the desire in his eyes for her.

She knew that she had to use him in order to take revenge for Shandie.

After she finished putting on her makeup, she went downstairs, but Henrick was nowhere to be seen.

Thus, she asked Alan, “Where’s Henrick? Is he greeting the guests in the backyard?”

The latter shook his head and answered, “No. Mr. Southall informed that he needed to head out all of a sudden.”

Cindy frowned suspiciously. All the guests are here now. Where did Henrick go?

An ominous feeling began to grow in her.

Right at that moment, a housekeeper came and reported, “Mrs. Southall, there are two persons without invitation cards outside. Do you want to see them?”

Cindy hesitated and questioned, “Without invitation cards? Did they mention their identities?”

The housekeeper nodded and replied, “They’re teachers from Jadeborough University.”

“Jadeborough University...” Cindy recalled that Arielle was studying at that university. Her face fell as she waved her hand. “I’m not going to greet them. Bring them to Arielle in the backyard.”

“All right, Mrs. Southall.” The housekeeper bowed and walked off.

Cindy turned to look at Alan, who had just secured his job as the butler not long ago. With a smile on her face, she asked, “How long have you been working here?”

Alan answered politely, “Six months now.”

“Six months...” Cindy repeated thoughtfully. She then added, “Who appointed you to the job?”

The half-witted butler did not even think before he replied, “Mr. Southall did.”

Cindy nodded before she removed one of the bangles on her wrist and handed it to Alan. “I bought this for my birthday two years ago. It’s made of jade. You can take this.”

The latter was dumbfounded. Although he was not a bright person, he knew how the previous butler was fired

Back then, Henrick was infuriated after he found out that the previous butler was bribed by Cindy.

Hence, Alan hurriedly waved his hands. “I don’t need that. I’m being paid quite a high salary, so I can’t take anything more from you. I appreciate the thought though. Please just let me know if you need anything.”

Then, he added, “I need to help out in the backyard now.”

With a pale face, Alan fled the scene.

Cindy’s face darkened completely. Why did Henrick let him become the butler? He’s so cowardly, dumb, and uncontrollable.

With furrowed brows, she glanced around the mansion.

She figured that Alfred must have been transferred to another position or even got fired. Henrick wouldn't have the time and effort to do this, which means Arielle must've done it!

Thinking about Arielle, Cindy clenched her teeth in a fury.

When she walked toward the backyard, the housekeeper had already led Donovan and Marcus there.

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#

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