Chapter 1531 Sorry For Your Loss

Dylan stayed in the hospital until the sun went down. It was only then that Vinson managed to convince him to head home.

Arielle's identity had not been announced to the public, so it was inappropriate for the king to stay by her side for too long.

Initially, Dylan wanted to announce Arielle's identity to the public since she was dead, but Vinson stopped him from doing so. They had not found the culprit behind Arielle's murder, so even if Dylan wanted to reveal Arielle's identity, he should wait until everything was settled.

Dylan found his words logical, so he patted Vinson's shoulders and told him that he would definitely find the mastermind to avenge Arielle.

Hearing his words, Vinson remained silent. He barely has any power, so who knows when he'll be able to find the culprit?

After Dylan declared that he was heading home, Matthew and the group of high-ranking officials escorted him back. Once the others were gone, Vinson became the only one left staying by Arielle's side.

Vinson rubbed the bridge of his nose as he stared at Arielle's body for a while. Then, he took out his phone and sent Harvey a text message. Forty minutes later, a black van stopped at the back entrance of the military hospital. After observing his surroundings, a man brought out the stretcher covered by a piece of white sheet and brought it into the van. Then, the van disappeared into the night.

The next day, Dylan came to the hospital again. Matthew and the others tried to tag along, but Dylan sent them away. Since the king was there to visit his daughter, he could not openly show his emotions if those men were to come with him.

"How are we going to go about Sannie's funeral?" Dylan asked Vinson after chasing his subordinates away.

Although he was Arielle's father, Vinson was her husband, so the latter would be the one to deal with everything after her death.

Staring at the body on the bed, Vinson suggested, "Let's wait another two days before cremating her. We'll be scattering her ashes into the sea." A pause later, he continued, "We'll skip the ceremonies."

Dylan widened his eyes when he heard that Vinson was going to scatter her ashes into the sea.

How can he do that? She's my daughter, and more importantly, she's the Princess. How can he scatter her ashes into the sea? No, I have to find a good place to keep her ashes.

"We can't scatter her ashes into the sea," Dylan grimly said to Vinson. "I'll find a good place to bury it."

Vinson froze upon hearing that.

He then parted his lips to say something, but a thought crossed his mind, and he closed his mouth.

Forget it. I'll do as he says for now.

Besides Dylan, Sonia and Bella came over as well. Both were dressed in appropriate black clothes. The nurse then led the two women to Arielle's ward.

The moment Bella's eyes landed on the white sheet, they reddened. She then spun around to wipe her tears away. Aware that Vinson was Arielle's husband, Bella walked over to him and said, "I'm sorry for your loss."

Vinson took a glance at her as she was the only one aside from the doctor to say those words to him. After all, to the others, he was only Arielle's bodyguard.

However, the moment she said that, he understood that the young woman in front of him knew who he was. He nodded and replied, "Thank you."

The two of them had specially taken time out to see Arielle, and they would need to head to class later, so they did not stay for long.

Vinson remained in the ward for the entire day. Once the sun set, he stepped out of the ward. Not long after he left, the lights in the building went out. A figure then took the opportunity to slip into Arielle's ward.

In the dark, a smile grew on Vinson's lips. Finally, they're here.

Chapter 1532 Who Sent You Here

Right then, Vinson's eyes narrowed as he made his move and went after the mysterious figure like a ghost.

When the mysterious figure was about to leave the ward, a towering man blocked his way. That man was none other than Vinson.

With a glacial look on his face, Vinson slowly posed his question, "Speak. Who sent you here?"

The mysterious figure never expected that someone would intercept him. At that moment, he realized that he had stepped right into a trap.

Steeling himself, the mysterious figure began launching attacks at Vinson in hopes of fleeing from the ward.

Nevertheless, Vinson was not someone to mess with. With a swift kick, he then felled the figure. Before the other man could recompose himself, Vinson gave the mysterious person a few more vicious kicks. Unable to defend himself, the other man soon admitted defeat.

"Spit it out. Who sent you here?" Vinson tied the man up and even shoved a piece of rag into his mouth.

Right then, the lights in the hospital building flickered back to life.

The tied-up man glared at Vinson with resentment when he heard Vinson's interrogating question.

I've been training since young. How could this man defeat me before I could even make a move? This is impossible!

Vinson looked at him coldly and threatened, "Are you not going to say anything? In that case, be ready to face hell."

Vinson had never failed to get the answers he wanted through interrogation.

However, the other man did not know about that. He continued to glare at Vinson as he dismissed Vinson's words. Men like him were used to difficult times. To them, interrogations were merely child's play.

However, he was breaking down half an hour later.

The man sobbed as he looked at Vinson in fear.

Vinson curled his lips and asked, "Are you willing to spill the beans yet?"

The man nodded fervently as he simply could not tolerate it any longer. Vinson's interrogation was inhumane, and he would rather have Vinson end his life right away.

"Speak. Who is it?" Vinson fixed his bloodthirsty gaze on him. "If I find out that you're lying to me, I'll make sure you'll be in a living hell from now on."

The man, who was initially thinking of fooling Vinson, immediately dismissed his plan.

He then nodded in acknowledgment.

"If you dare try to end your life, I'll whip your body and hang it out in the open for three days straight. Then, I'll feed your body to the dogs and make sure that you won't be in one piece even after death," Vinson nonchalantly said to the other man.

The fear in the other man's eyes intensified.

According to the beliefs in his country, if the body of the dead was treated in that way, not only would they go to hell after death, but they would also have no chance to enter the cycle of reincarnation.

By then, the man no longer dared to bear any thoughts of lying to Vinson as he quickly nodded.

Vinson then took out the rag from his mouth to let him speak. "The queen mother sent me here."

"Why did she send you here?" Vinson questioned.

"She sent me here to find out whether or not the woman in the ward is really dead. If she's dead, I will just let her be. But if she's not, I'll have to make sure she dies."

Right as those words came out of his mouth, the look in Vinson's eyes turned even more menacing. He could not believe that the one who was targeting Arielle was Arielle's own grandmother.

Why does she want Arielle dead?

"Do you know why she has given you that order?"

Chapter 1533 Found The Mastermind

The other man shook his head fervently. The only thing he knew was that he had to complete his task.

Vinson was aware that he would not be able to get any other information from him, so he shoved the rag back into his mouth. Then, he called Harvey and asked him to take the man away.

After all, that man was a witness, so they had to keep a close eye on him.

"Mm!" When the other man realized that Vinson had stuffed his mouth again, he anxiously shook his head and groaned.

Vinson merely shot him a cold look. "If you don't cooperate with us, you'll be begging for death."

After all, Vinson was no virtuous man, and he had no mercy on someone who tried to kill Arielle.

Frightened out of his wits, the tied-up man widened his eyes and fell silent immediately.

Soon, Harvey came in a car and avoided the crowd before he took the tied-up man away through the back entrance.

Just then, Vinson made a call and spoke into the phone in a gentle voice, "How are you feeling? Are you feeling better yet?"

Lying on the bed, the woman who was on the other end of the line smiled at the man's words. "I'm the one who made the prescription, so of course my injuries would heal fast."

Hearing that, Vinson let out a sigh of relief. He had been staying in the hospital, not daring to leave the place for the past two days. When he heard that her injuries were healing quickly, a wave of relief crashed into him as his heart finally lowered back into his chest.

"I want to see you," Vinson softly said to her.

Ever since she woke up, Arielle had decided to take the initiative and look for the mastermind behind the incident. After a discussion, both Vinson and Arielle began making preparations for their plan.

The one they felt most grateful for was the doctor who had operated on Arielle. After Arielle woke up, he went to visit her, and it was then that they realized he was a fan of Arielle. His enthusiasm made an idea pop into Arielle's head.

After sharing a look with Vinson, Arielle asked the doctor to cooperate with them on their plan. Even though the doctor admired Arielle greatly, her request stumped him.

Nevertheless, Arielle tried her best to convince him, and eventually, she succeeded.

After agreeing to their request, the doctor even said that they should put on their best show. He then took the corpse of a woman who had just passed away in the hospital and replaced Arielle with it on the bed.

His idea was a pleasant surprise for Arielle and Vinson.

Arielle then asked the doctor to prepare some medicine and tools so that she could make a mask of her face to put on that dead woman. After that, the doctor sneakily transferred her to his dorm. It was only the night before then did Harvey take her away to Xavier's rental house so that he could take care of her.

"You'll expose the plan if you visit me. Just wait a few more days. Come and visit me once we find out who the one targeting me is," Arielle said after a moment of rumination.

Arielle was beyond frustrated at that point. They had been trying to kill her many times, so she had to find out the mastermind behind the assassination attempts.

Truth be told, she had her own suspicions about the identity of the mastermind. After all, it was because of her identity that she could not officially reunite with Aaron as family.

Upon hearing that, Vinson recalled that he had something to tell her.

"Sannie, I've found out who the culprit is," he then said.

Arielle's eyes darkened instantly. "Who is it?"

"The queen mother," Vinson told her.

Arielle had never thought that her own grandmother would be the one trying to kill her.

Never in her wildest dreams had she ever expected that.

But why does she want me dead? Could it be that she found out about me garnering support from General Matthew? Is that why she's doing this to me?

Arielle could not think of any other reasons the queen mother would want her dead.

Chapter 1534 Will He Wake

"I understand," Arielle answered. "I'll make her pay the price for this."

"What are you planning to do?" Vinson asked.

Arielle narrowed her eyes and declared, "I'll find the evidence and punish her for her acts."

She was not going to let the queen mother off.

Regardless of who she was, as long as she had committed a crime, Arielle was going to make her bear the consequences.

"Okay," Vinson replied. After a pause, he continued, "What do we do with the body? Dad said he wants to find a good place to bury her."

Arielle was touched when she found out what Dylan was planning for her funeral.

"He must be upset, isn't he?" Arielle muttered.

She had not dared to let her father in on the plan, fearing that he would not put on a good enough show and hence ruin the plan.

When Vinson thought about the way Dylan reacted, he affirmed, "Yes, he was very upset. It was as though he aged a few years in seconds."

Arielle grew silent for a moment.

For the time being, she could not reveal the fact that she was still alive. If she did, her prior efforts would go to waste.

"Try to talk to him more often. Tell him that he still has Aaron and get him to focus on finding Aaron instead." Arielle had already found out about Aaron falling off the cliff. All she hoped at that moment was for her father to prioritize the search for Aaron. That way, Dylan would not be too upset about her death.

"Okay. It isn't convenient for me to investigate the queen mother..." Right as Vinson said those words, Arielle replied, "Leave it to me."

With their newfound clues, it was much easier for her to investigate the matter.

Once the call ended, Arielle opened the laptop that Harvey had bought for her and began looking into the queen mother's background information.

The next day, in a wooden house on a small island...

"Grandpa, say, will he wake up?" An eighteen-year-old girl was curiously asking her grandfather as she looked at the man on the bed.

"It'll depend on his fate," said the old man who looked like he was in his sixties.

The old man had done his best by treating the young man's wounds and feeding him medicine. It was up to fate whether or not he was going to make it.

"I wonder what happened to him. Why does he have so many wounds?" the girl said, feeling sorry for the injured man.

"Why would you care about that? Head back if you have nothing to do. Why are you still sticking around at an old man's place." Although the old man was saying harsh words to drive his granddaughter away, he was frankly reluctant to watch her leave.

"Grandpa, come back with me," the girl quickly persuaded as she grabbed his arm. "I won't be at ease if you're here alone."

The girl was only able to come to the old man's place for a visit during her holidays, so she wanted him to leave with her. It was fine even if he did not like the other house as she could rent a place near her school. That way, she would be able to keep him company whenever she was done with classes or when she had off days.

"What's there to worry about? Your grandma and I have stayed here all our lives. We're used to it."

As he spoke, he turned and left the room. Then, he placed the herbs in his hands on the wooden board at the side before spreading them out for drying.

"But you're on your own now," the girl pointed out as she stepped out of the room and stood by his side. As she helped spread out the herbs, she mumbled, "If Grandma's still alive, I wouldn't say anything about this. At the very least, you'll have each other, but you're all alone now. How can I possibly not worry?"

Before the old man could say anything to that, loud coughing sounds could be heard from behind them. Both the old man and the girl's eyes widened in surprise at once.

## Chapter 1535 Who Are You

After exchanging glances, the girl and the old man hurried into the wooden house. They were greeted by the sight of the previously unconscious man coughing non-stop. She then quickly placed her hand on his neck before brushing it in a downward motion to help him breathe better. It was only when he stopped coughing did she stop the soothing action.

Right then, the man on the bed slowly opened his eyes. In his blurry sight, he could vaguely make out the girl in front of him.

Immediately, he frowned. Who is she? Why is she so close to me?

"You're awake. Are you hungry? Are you thirsty? Do you feel unwell anywhere?" the girl urgently asked.

Her voice was as clear as a bird's chirp, and when it traveled into his ears, he could not help but change his impression of her for the better.

After forcing his eyes open, he finally got a good look at the girl's appearance.

The girl in front of him looked like she was around eighteen or nineteen. Her eyes were big, and she had brown wavy hair. If not for the cheap-looking clothes she was wearing, she would have looked like a princess.

"Water..." The man only managed to squeeze out one word before his throat felt as if it had been set on fire. Despite himself, he furrowed his brows.

Once the girl heard his words, she quickly walked over to the wooden table and filled a glass of water for him.

When she realized that he could not drink from the glass because he was lying down, she put the glass on the side stool and helped him up. As the man had just woken up and was still feeling weak, the girl bit down on her lip and let the man lie on her as support while she sat on the bed. Then, she took the glass and held it to his lips.

The two were so physically close that the man could smell the girl's pleasant scent.

In the next second, he stared at the glass and froze. It was the first time someone had treated him like that.

"Aren't you thirsty? Hurry up and drink this," the girl urged in a soft voice.

Returning to his senses, the man finished the water.

"Do you want more?" the girl asked when she realized he had downed the glass in no time.

However, the man shook his head. The girl then put the glass away and helped him back down on the bed.

Right then, the old man came in from outside. When he saw that the injured man was awake, he sighed in relief inwardly.

He's lucky.

On the other hand, when the injured man saw the old man, feelings of confusion rose in his chest. Only then did he begin studying his surroundings. Upon noticing that he was in a small wooden house, he widened his eyes in astonishment.

Why am I here?

"Where am I?" he asked, perplexed.

"We're on an island," the girl explained before the old man could speak. She then asked the man curiously, "Who are you? Why did you end up injured in the waters?"

Looking at the girl's inquisitive gaze, he merely shook his head. His car had collided with something before he fell off the cliff, so he had passed out in his car.

By the time he regained his consciousness, he was already in the wooden house.

"How long have I been here?" he asked.

"Four or five days," the girl replied as she tilted her head to the side.

Four or five days?

The man's eyes widened in shock.

"That long? Has anyone been looking for me?"

The girl shook her head. "I don't know. There are few people who can come to this place."

Instantly, the man fell silent. He wondered how Arielle's condition was after so many days.

The very thought of Arielle was like a rock that crushed his chest. He could barely breathe under its weight.

Meanwhile, the queen mother, who was at the palace, was downright livid and threw the documents in her hands onto the ground.

"What did you say? How did they crack the message? Why didn't anyone intercept it?"

## Chapter 1536 Panic

"Your Majesty, I did try to stop him, but the hacker is more skillful than me, and I failed to stop him," a weak male voice belonging to the hacker she hired, Ollie, sounded from the other end of the line.

That was the first time he had ever run into a hacker that was more competent than him. The hacker's firewall was also stronger than his.

"Find someone who's better than you! We must stop him!" the queen mother hissed furiously.

"I'll have to ask my senior, Gaston, for help, then," Ollie answered after a brief deliberation

Ollie was the second-best hacker in the country. Apart from this hacker who was currently hacking into their security system, the most skillful hacker around would be his senior, Gaston.

Without hesitation, the queen mother ordered, "Get him to do it, then!"

The man fell silent at once as it wasn't easy to get his senior to agree to help them out.

The more outstanding a hacker was, the less willing he was to work for others. Gaston was a prime example, for he would only accept cases that caught his interest.

"Why aren't you saying anything?" the queen mother snapped impatiently.

"Gaston doesn't accept cases easily," Ollie answered hesitantly.

The queen mother snorted. He doesn't accept cases easily? He will if the payment is enough.

Arrogantly, she announced, "Tell him I'll pay him five billion if he successfully stops the hacker."

Indeed, getting paid five billion for one case was an inviting offer.

"I shall try to contact him. Don't put the blame on me if he refuses to accept the case," Ollie said. Hearing that, the queen mother grunted in acknowledgment.

After cutting the line, Ollie contacted Gaston. The latter was about to reject the offer when he heard that the hacker was more competent than Ollie. At once, his interest was piqued.

Switching on his computer, Gaston started typing on his keyboard furiously. Soon, he hacked into Ollie's computer and saw that Ollie's network had been intercepted. A devilish smile flitted across his lips.

Interesting. Since when did such a hacker exist in our country?

His fingers flew over the keyboard as he typed furiously.

Meanwhile, Arielle was still at her computer when she realized someone was trying to hack into it. Her gaze narrowed as she typed on the keyboard furiously. Instantly, she managed to track the hacker down. She pressed a few commands, and the hacker's computer screen went blank. A smile nudged her lips. Trying to hack my firewall? Dream on!

Gaston chuckled. "Interesting. This is interesting!" With that said, he tossed his computer aside and got up to get another laptop he kept aside. Once again, he tried to hack into Arielle's computer. Alas, her firewall was too strong, and he couldn't bypass it.

Hmm, this is getting more challenging!

Gaston loved challenges. As he typed on his keyboard, the codes flashed on the screen. Suddenly, a few words appeared on his screen.

If you don't stop, don't blame me for being ruthless!

The warning did nothing to deter Gaston. On the contrary, he grew increasingly excited. After all, this was the first time someone had dared to threaten him. Naturally, he refused to stop, for a strong rival could motivate him to get stronger!

The moment he typed something, his laptop leaped into action. Gaston could only watch as the other hacker copied all his data. He tried to switch off his laptop but to no avail. His laptop remained on no matter what he pressed.

At once, he began to panic. Grabbing his laptop, he tossed it to the ground forcefully.

D\*mn it!

Despite knowing that his action wouldn't stop the hacker from getting his data, he couldn't help breaking his laptop in fury.

## Chapter 1537 Hacker

Right then, his phone rang with a call from Ollie. Ollie wanted to know if he had blocked the attack and successfully hacked into the hacker's system. Hearing that, Gaston roared at him angrily.

"Gaston, what's wrong?" Ollie asked cautiously.

Gaston might be hot-tempered and unpredictable, but this was the first time he had ever lashed out at Ollie. Thus, Ollie couldn't stop fear from creeping up on him.

"What happened?" Gaston laughed in anger. "The hacker ended up copying the data on my laptop!"

Hearing that, Ollie gasped in shock. He had never expected that Gaston wouldn't be a match for the hacker.

"T-The data shouldn't be important, right?" Ollie kept his voice low. "Normally, we save important data on our flash drives."

Usually, people would save important data on a flash drive instead of their computer. After all, they might run into a hacker who could hack their computer anytime.

Gaston fell silent at his words.

Indeed, most people would usually save a copy of their important data on a flash drive and delete the original copy on the laptop. However, Gaston was the top hacker in Turlen. It had never crossed his mind that someone would hack into his laptop and copy his data one day.

"I had no idea someone could actually hack into my laptop!" he barked. With that said, he hung up and kicked a chair beside him to vent his frustration.

When Ollie told the queen mother about Gaston's failed attempt, she got so furious that her eyes turned red.

"Is there no better hacker available?" she asked.

Ollie remained silent, although a thought flashed across his mind. The best hacker around is the one who is currently hacking our system.

"For now, this hacker is the best," Ollie responded calmly.

The queen mother cut the line, utterly enraged. She didn't know if the hacker hacked into her network deliberately or was only doing that for fun.

Meanwhile, after Arielle copied Gaston's data, she hacked into the queen mother's banking system. Her eyes narrowed when she saw a huge sum of money being transferred out on the day she got shot.

When Harvey came in and saw her grim expression, he asked, "Do you need my help? I knocked, but you didn't answer. I was afraid something had happened to you, so I came in without getting your approval."

Arielle didn't blame him for coming in. Shaking her head, she said, "I don't need your help. I can do this myself."

Harvey nodded and gave her a glass of water.

"Thanks!" Arielle accepted the glass of water and thanked him.

"There is no need to thank me, so you may drop the formalities," came Harvey's answer before he turned to leave the room. The door clicked shut behind him.

He had decided to forget about Arielle. It might seem easy, but it was difficult to accomplish in real life.

Back then, he had purposely told Xavier that the young lady he slept with was his future wife. He was actually trying to relay the message to Arielle and Vinson.

Perhaps they won't feel guilty if I fall in love with someone else.

Arielle turned and glanced at the door. Squinting her eyes, she started reflecting on whether she was being too formal with him.

After pondering briefly, she decided to treat him like a friend. Since they were friends, there was no need to make things awkward.

She sipped on the water Harvey offered her and placed the glass aside. Staring at her computer, she started typing furiously again. Five minutes later, her lips curled up into a smile.

#### Chapter 1538 Send Away

Arielle had hacked the queen mother's computer and phone. That way, she would know every move the queen mother makes.

After that, she switched off her computer. The medicine worked well, but it wasn't effective enough for her to recover completely in just a few days. Besides, she had just survived a gunshot. It would take at least weeks for her to heal completely.

Back in the palace, the queen mother was infuriated by the hacking of her network. She had no idea what the hacker wanted and what else the hacker hacked into besides her security system. The very thought made her extremely apprehensive.

After calming down, she dialed a number. "Can you find a powerful hacker for me?"

"Hacker? Did you get into trouble?" A man's voice rang out, seemingly anxious.

Warmth spread across the queen mother's heart. He's still the same. He cares about me no matter what

"A hacker hacked into my security system. I don't know whether he's hacked into something else too. That's frustrating," the queen mother revealed with a sigh.

Hearing that, the man fell silent.

"Don't worry. I'll ask around and let you know later."

The man promptly regretted that he agreed to let his son major in economics instead of hacking skills. If his son knew how to hack, he could be of help to the queen mother.

"Mm." The queen mother heaved a sigh of relief. She then thanked the man and hung up.

After the call ended, she rested her head on one arm and massaged her temples.

"Your Majesty, should we send that woman away?" Monisha came in and asked in a low voice. Her gaze was directed at the queen mother.

The queen mother's headache intensified when Monisha reminded her of Cindy.

"What about her?"

Frowning, Monisha revealed, "She wants you to keep your word by sending her to Manchernius."

She has dirt on me but wants to go to Manchernius? Seriously?

"If she wants to leave, grant her wish. What does she think Manchernius is? Even if she has money, it isn't a place where she can do whatever she likes. She'll regret it when she gets there," the queen mother said calmly. Clearly, she didn't take Cindy as a threat.

In truth, the queen mother couldn't care less about Cindy, but Monisha didn't share her sentiments.

"Your Majesty, you prompted her and Henrick to take action on Maureen. What if she reveals that to someone else?" Monisha asked worriedly.

She didn't want Cindy to leave. In fact, she felt that it was best to keep Cindy in the palace for the rest of her life. After all, the palace was huge, and it would be easy for them to lock Cindy up in a spacious area anywhere as long as it was in the palace.

"What do you think I should do?" the queen mother asked impatiently.

She wasn't in the mood to deal with Cindy now.

"Cindy might have her own ulterior motive, but she did get rid of your enemy." Monisha thought about it and suggested, "There are many empty rooms in the palace. Why don't we lock her up in a secluded area? That way, she can live without any worries for the rest of her life."

The queen mother nodded approvingly. "That works. All right, then. You'll be in charge of the matter. Since we're not going to release her, you'll have to keep an eye on her. Don't let her escape again."

Monisha nodded. This time, she would keep a close eye on Cindy.

Taking a break, Arielle pulled out her phone. A lot of data was sent to her phone, so she opened them. When she heard the content, fury flashed in her eyes.

## Chapter 1539 Vicious

A wave of fury washed over her, and her eyes turned red. Clenching her jaw, she sent a punch onto the desk angrily. One could even see the veins popping up on her fair arms.

Arielle knew that Cindy and Henrick were the ones who caused her mother's death, but she had no idea that the mastermind was none other than the queen mother, who was also her grandmother.

She clenched her fists with all her might as flames of anger and hatred engulfed her.

How could she be this vicious? Never mind if she didn't want my parents to be together. She had already forced my father to marry the current queen, and they had a child together. Why did she kill my mother? Why? My mother didn't even know where my father was. She couldn't find him anywhere. Was there a need to wipe her out? Did she do anything wrong?

The thought of her mother dying at a young age caused her heart to break into a million pieces. The pain turned her inside out.

Pressing her chest, she said nothing as tears streamed down her cheeks.

"Mother, I shall avenge you!" Arielle promised solemnly as she wiped the tears off her face. Her voice was icy, and her gaze shone with determination.

Grabbing her phone, she sent a text to Vinson.

Vinson realized his phone was buzzing and found an opportunity to see what it was. His heart skipped a beat when he realized it was a text from Arielle saying: I miss you. He immediately gave her a call.

"Vinson," Arielle answered his call with a soft voice.

Vinson grunted in acknowledgment. His brows furrowed together as he asked, "What's wrong? Did something happen?"

Arielle had only spoken briefly, but he immediately knew something was off with her.

"I've always thought that Cindy and Henrick were the ones who killed my mom. However, the mastermind was, in fact, the queen mother, who is also my grandmother." Her voice was desolate. "Isn't that funny? She has my dad under control, and yet she still forced Henrick and Cindy to kill my mom. How could she be that vicious?"

The malicious hatred in her last sentence was evident.

If the queen mother appeared before Arielle right now, she would definitely kill the former without hesitation to avenge her mother.

On the other hand, Vinson wasn't surprised, for he had seen more horrible and vicious things before.

"How did you find out it was her?" he asked.

"I monitored her phone and computer," Arielle explained icily as a flash of hostility appeared in her gaze. I will never forgive the queen mother. That will never happen. Even though she gave birth to my father and is my grandmother, I will make sure she pays for what she's done.

"Don't be sad. I'll support you no matter what your decision is. I'll always be by your side," Vinson comforted her. His heart ached when he heard her voice. How I wish I could give her a hug right now!

"I want to take revenge for my mom. If she didn't force Cindy and Henrick to take action, I don't think they would have been capable enough of harming my mom."

Arielle's eyes reddened when she mentioned her mother. Maureen's death would remain a thorn in her heart forever. Although Andrea adored Arielle and showered her with affection, she wasn't Arielle's biological mother. Arielle had wanted nothing more than Maureen's love, adoration, and company when she was growing up.

If the queen mother wasn't that heartless, Maureen would still be alive and well.

Vinson's gaze darkened. "Yes. Let's take revenge for Maureen together."

There was no need for them to show any respect for the evil elderly lady.

Right then, the queen mother had no idea her deepest, darkest secret had been revealed, and she was staring at her computer in fear.

Chapter 1540 Will You Accept This Job

She shut her computer down hastily as her entire body trembled. What was that? Why did it suddenly appear out of nowhere? Who could it be? Was it that hacker? Why did he show me that?

The usually calm queen mother was currently flustered. Beads of sweat formed on her forehead. If this is leaked out, my reputation will be destroyed!

Shaking profusely, she grabbed her phone and made a call. "Can you get me a hacker soon? It's urgent."

She tried hard to tamp her emotions down, but the person on the other end of the line could sense that something was wrong.

"What's wrong?" the person asked, concern evident in his voice. There wasn't time for them to chat, so the queen mother said hurriedly, "I'm fine. I need a hacker immediately. Can you find me one as soon as possible?"

I've built my reputation painstakingly for sixty years. I can't let it get destroyed in the blink of an eye!

"Don't worry, I've asked around. I haven't received any replies, though." The person sounded worried. "Why can't you share your worries with me? What happened? Perhaps I can be of help."

"It's fine. I can deal with that myself. All you have to do is get me a hacker." There was no way she would reveal her misdeeds to the person.

I can't tell him about it. He mustn't know about it.

With that said, she cut the line. Recalling the content she saw on her computer earlier, she took a deep breath and made another call.

"Is Gaston still available for work?" she asked earnestly after the call was connected.

Her computer had been hacked, and she wanted Gaston to upgrade her firewall so that the hacker couldn't hack into her computer again. Most importantly, she wanted Gaston to negotiate with the hacker and buy the content so that the hacker wouldn't send it to anyone else.

"Uh, I'm not sure," Ollie answered. Previously, Gaston failed to block the hacker's attack and even lost his own data in the process. He wasn't sure if Gaston would accept the queen mother's job this time.

"Ask him about it. I'll offer him the same pay as long as he can do it," the queen mother urged.

"All right. Let me ask him."

While the queen mother was his employer, Gaston was his senior. Thus, he would definitely side with Gaston.

The queen mother knew she couldn't force Gaston against his own wishes despite her status.

Hence, she added, "Do your best to convince him to take up the task. If you succeed, I'll double your annual salary."

Hearing that, Ollie gaped in disbelief. No one would say no to money, so he promptly agreed. "I'll do my best to convince him," he promised earnestly.

After the call ended, he contacted Gaston and told him about the queen mother's request.

"Gaston, will you accept the job?" Ollie asked cautiously.

Despite asking that, he knew that Gaston would take up the job. The harder the challenge was, the more motivated Gaston would be.

Without hesitation, Gaston agreed readily as he wanted nothing more than to avenge himself.

With that, he got himself a new laptop with the most advanced firewall available. He couldn't wait to see if the hacker could still bypass his new firewall.

Of course, he had to complete his mission first. He hacked into the queen mother's computer and discovered the content that the hacker had sent to her earlier. At once, he stopped in his tracks.