Chapter 1591 I Will Grant You Your Death

Since there was nothing wrong with him, Vinson got himself discharged. Nevertheless, he began to feel increasingly worried, as there was still no news on Susanne.

Given the number of enemies he had, he was unable to figure out who it was that took his mother.

After returning to Nightshire Manor, he went to his study and call up all his contacts, hoping to find a lead from them.

Well aware of how busy he was, Arielle returned to her room and studied the CT scan results in greater detail. For some strange reason, a niggling sense of dread continued to bother her despite the test results showing that he was fine.

After being holed up in her room for the entire afternoon, she still didn't come out for dinner until Geoffrey informed Vinson about it.

Once he came out of his study, Vinson headed upstairs to the bedroom where he saw Arielle so engrossed with the CT scan that she didn't even notice him coming in.

"Didn't the doctor give me a clean bill of health? Why are you still fixated on it?"

Vinson walked up to Arielle's side as he spoke. It was only when she heard his voice that she regained her senses.

In front of Vinson, she held none of her suspicions back. "Even though the results of your examination showed nothing, I still feel that something isn't right since this

is your second fainting episode." Looking at him, Arielle suggested, "Let's go for another more detailed checkup tomorrow."

Vinson felt that Arielle was overreacting due to her excessive concern for him. He then pulled her into his arms and gave her a light peck on the forehead. "I know my body very well, and there are no issues at all. Your imagination is just running wild from being over-worried about me."

If Susanne hadn't disappeared, he would definitely get a detailed checkup so that she could have peace of mind. But now, his mother took priority over everything else.

When Arielle remained silent and put on a gloomy expression, Vinson pondered for a moment before adding, "If you're still concerned, I'll go for the checkup once we find my mom, all right?"

"Okay." She, too, was cognizant that the search for Susanne was more important, and could understand why he was delaying the checkup.

Back in Turlen, Lawrence had switched sides, causing a huge change in the balance of power. As a result, the power struggle between the queen mother and Dylan spilled out from the shadows and into the open.

That day, the queen mother led her men to confront Dylan but was blocked by Sybil instead.

"Get out of my way!" the queen mother snapped while shooting him a piercing gaze.

As one of Dylan's men, Sybil had long felt indignant over the queen mother seizing power. Furthermore, Dylan had ordered him to stop the queen mother from entering. As a result, he would refuse to let her pass even if she shot him to death.

Bowing slightly, Sybil informed her in a respectful tone, "Your Majesty, the king is busy and won't be able to see you."

The queen mother stared coldly at Sybil. If looks could kill at that moment, he would have died thousand times over.

"Sybil, I'm the king's mother and also the queen mother of Turlen. Aren't you worried that I'd punish you for getting in my way?" She stared daggers at Sybil.

Nevertheless, the latter shook his head. "Even so, the old king has ordered me to only obey the current king for the rest of my life."

"Since death is what you want, I shall grant it to you!" The moment she finished, the queen mother pointed a gun at Sybil's head.

Chapter 1592 The Queen Mother Panicked

Dylan's voice sounded at this critical moment. "Stop right there!"

The queen mother stared at Dylan as he approached her.

Although they were mother and son, they had not met since Dylan's birthday party.

If not for this matter concerning authority, the queen mother would never initiate a meeting with Dylan. After all, she was his mother. Since her son refused to see her, she figured there was no reason for her to take the initiative to see him.

"He is my subordinate. No one is allowed to hurt him!" Dylan said sternly.

The queen mother noticed that Dylan had not even spared her a glance from the moment he arrived and instantly burst into fury.

"Dylan, where are your manners?" The queen mother looked at him, rage blazing in her gaze. "How can you not bow and greet your mother?"

Dylan looked at the queen mother solemnly. He no longer knew how he should feel about her.

The queen mother was a devoted mother before he went to Chanaea and before his father passed away. It did not matter what he wanted or what he wished to do, for she would always do everything within her power to help him.

Soon, however, everything changed. Not only did the queen mother faked an illness to trick him into returning and marrying someone, but she also used shocking means to gain control of Turlen after his father's passing

Dylan had only recently regained some of the power from the queen mother's hand, and that angered her so much that she came to look for him.

"Mother." Dylan bowed and asked, "Why did you barge in here? What's the purpose of your visit?"

The queen mother turned sullen as she regarded the son she had raised. She did not believe he was clueless about the reason she came here.

"Do you really not know why I'm here?" the queen mother asked grimly.

Naturally, Dylan knew why she was here, but he pretended not to. He wanted her to voice out the reason herself.

"I can't read your mind, Mother. How would I know why you're here?" Dylan narrowed his eyes and said unhurriedly.

Dylan's response angered the queen mother, prompting her to glare at him viciously.

"Are you rebelling against me?" She looked at him and said coldly, "What are you up to?"

Even though Dylan was her biological son, she could not allow him to snatch her authority. She would not let anyone who dared to oppose her off.

"Mother, who are you accusing of rebelling?" Dylan's expression turned solemn as he looked at the queen mother. "Don't forget. I am the king, and you are the queen mother. Since ancient times, it was the king who held power. You should be content that you get to enjoy the years of authority you had," Dylan said.

The queen mother did not expect Dylan to dare to speak to her this way. It infuriated her so much that she staggered a step backward.

"Since you insist on opposing me, let's see who among us shall win then!" The queen mother left furiously after saying that.

Dylan finally breathed a sigh of relief after she left. It was his first time speaking to his mother in such a harsh tone. His back was already drenched in cold sweat.

Sybil watched as the queen mother walked away. Then, he turned to Dylan and asked, "Your Majesty, did what happened these few days cause the queen mother to panic?"

Dylan nodded. If she is not panicking, why would she come here on her own initiative?

The queen mother immediately returned to her place. Monisha saw her fuming and quickly poured her a glass of water.

The queen mother accepted the glass of water and took a sip. Then, she placed it on the table and looked ahead impassively. Since you want to do this, I will no longer care that you are my son. There shall be no mercy for you.

Chapter 1593 Jealousy

Being the prince, it was impossible for Aaron not to know about the fight between his father and grandmother. However, he was undecided and did not know who he should support. Although his grandmother had always favored him since he was little, he was still his father's son and shared his surname. If he sided with the queen mother, it would feel like he had betrayed his family.

However, if he sided with his father, he would feel guilty as the queen mother had doted on him all these years. Although he now found out that she might have something to do with Arielle's death, he did not have any evidence. As such, he couldn't bring himself to do anything damaging to her.

Meanwhile, Harvey knew about the royal conflict through Lawrence and told Arielle what was happening.

Arielle frowned. She did not expect her father and the queen mother to begin warring so soon after she returned to Chanaea.

Should I expose all the dirty deeds of the queen mother in my hands? Arielle narrowed her eyes and thought for a while. In the end, she decided not to expose them yet. After all, the queen mother was her father's biological mother. There was a chance that after the public saw the queen mother for who she really was, the queen mother might not suffer any consequences. Instead, it would drag her father into trouble.

Forget it, I'll just wait to see how the situation unfolds first.

After informing Arielle about the situation in Turlen, Harvey planned to bring Sonia out for a meal. Sonia had morning sickness for some time, so it was hard for her to keep much food down. Harvey's heart ached to see her becoming thinner.

They were about to head out when Xavier suddenly appeared. Xavier had not come home for a long time, so Harvey was surprised to see him.

"Are you heading out?" It was Xavier's first time seeing Sonia. He only knew Harvey had found the person he had been searching for.

Harvey nodded and told Xavier that they were heading out for a meal. He also asked Xavier if he would like to join them.

Xavier rejected the invitation immediately. He could see they were a couple and did not want to intrude on their alone time. However, he did feel a little envious as he watched Harvey supporting the pregnant Sonia.

"You two go on without me. I'm not hungry." After saying that, Xavier turned around and headed into his room.

"He seems a little down," Sonia said to Harvey after getting into the car.

Although it was her first time meeting Xavier, she could instantly tell he was unhappy.

Harvey could also see that Xavier's mood was down in the dumps. However, hearing Sonia talking about another man made him feel uncomfortable. It did not matter that the man she mentioned was his friend.

"Sonia, you must never mention another man before me again." Harvey was a blunt and straightforward man. Thus, he would always say what was on his mind.

Sonia looked at Harvey with a surprised expression before curving her lips into a smile. "Are you jealous?"

Harvey was stunned for a moment. He thought he would only feel jealous when it came to matters concerning Arielle and did not expect it would be the same for Sonia, too.

Still, it was a good sign. It meant that he had really fallen in love with Sonia. That was why he felt jealous hearing her mention another man.

"Yes, I'm jealous," Harvey nodded and said solemnly.

Sonia was surprised to hear Harvey admitting his jealousy, but she was delighted. That must mean that Harvey has fallen for me. Otherwise, why would he be jealous?

With that in mind, Sonia turned Harvey's face toward her and planted a quick kiss on his lips.

Since Sonia initiated the kiss, Harvey refused to let it stop there. He placed his hand behind Sonia's neck and deepened the kiss.

Xavier was smoking by the window upstairs when he saw the scene in the car. His gaze turned grim as he remembered the matter between him and Lana.

Chapter 1594 I Hate You

It had been a few months since Xavier and Lana began their relationship and lived together. They got along well in these few months and stuck close to each other most of the time. It all went well until she went to a gathering the day before. He could not go with her as he was a foreigner. Thus, he had no choice but to wait at home for her to return.

Unexpectedly, he happened to see her getting out of a man's car as he was smoking by the window. It would have been fine if it had stopped at that. After all, most women had male relatives or friends.

However, what happened next filled him with fury.

As Lana turned around to leave, the man suddenly hugged her from behind for nearly a minute. Lana even turned toward him and said something. Then, the man suddenly kissed her.

Rage surged within Xavier and he threw his cigarette into an ashtray before rushing downstairs. Lana came in when he arrived at the lobby, while the man was long gone.

Lana behaved as if nothing happened and held onto Xavier's arm affectionately when she saw him. At first, he wanted to wrench his arm from her and question her about what he saw. However, his rationality prevailed in the end. After all, there were many people in the lobby. It was not a suitable place to discuss their relationship matters.

He remained sullen as they walked toward their unit. Lana, being the observant person that she was, noticed it, but she waited until they entered their home before questioning him.

"What's wrong with you? What happened? Why do you look so sullen?" Lana thought Xavier was troubled by some matter. She did not suspect that she was the cause.

Xavier had lived for more than thirty years before he fell in love with Lana. She was the first woman he ever loved. Thus, she had an irreplaceable place in his heart. Since they became official, he had never considered breaking up with her. However, what he witnessed was too much of a blow, and he could not accept it.

He answered Lana immediately, "Lana, let's break up."

Since she stopped loving me anymore, we should break up.

Xavier managed to think things through in the short distance they traveled upstairs. Since Lana had fallen for another man, he believed they should break up. It was useless clinging to her.

"Break up? Why are we breaking up?" Lana instantly turned pale. She looked at Xavier and for the first time ever, a furious expression descended upon her face. "Are you in love with another woman?"

Looking at how livid she was, Xavier felt a stab in his heart. I didn't fall in love with another woman. It is you who have fallen for another man.

However, he did not want to embarrass her by revealing what he saw earlier. Thus, he said, "You can think whatever you like. Let's just break up and go our separate ways." After saying that, he turned around, walked out of their home, and closed the door.

"You a*shole! I hate you!" Lana shouted.

Standing at the door, Xavier could hear Lana throwing a tantrum as she hurled items at the door and cursed at him furiously. Still, he only paused there for a while and left soon after. He then spent the whole night at a bar before leaving and going back to Harvey's place.

Unexpectedly, he bumped into Harvey and his future wife. He felt envious upon seeing the baby bump on the woman's belly, for he wished to have a child with Lana as well. Unfortunately, their relationship had to come to an end. He could not help but shed a tear as the thought of Lana belonging to another man flashed through his mind.

Meanwhile, a phone suddenly rang in the quiet living room in Nightshire Manor in Chanaea.

Chapter 1595 Kneel

Geoffrey rushed out of his room to answer the call. "Tell Vinson that if he wants Susanne to stay alive, he must make an international live broadcast where he kneels and apologize to me." A deep voice sounded from the phone. Geoffrey panicked and asked, "Who are you? Where have you taken Mrs. Nightshire?"

"Remember what I said. You only have three days. If Vinson fails to do this, I can't guarantee whether Susanne will remain alive after three days." The man gave a bone-chilling laugh and hung up before Geoffrey could say anything.

"Hello?" Geoffrey could only hear static from the other end. He put down the phone and rushed to find Vinson. At the moment, Vinson was in the study. Geoffrey knocked on the door and rushed in.

"Mr. Vinson, I-I received a call..." Geoffrey panted as he spoke. Vinson's eyes brightened instantly. "Is it news about my mother?"

Geoffrey nodded. He caught his breath and said, "The person said you must make an international live broadcast of you kneeling in apology within three days if you want Mrs. Nightshire to live. Otherwise, he won't be able to guarantee that Mrs. Nightshire would still be alive after three days..."

Vinson's expression darkened as he listened to Geoffrey. He looked so intimidating that Geoffrey's voice grew softer as he spoke.

"I understand. You can go and have your rest," Vinson replied.

Geoffrey knew Vinson was frustrated and furious. As such, he responded in the affirmative and left the study.

After the butler left, Vinson immediately called Rayson on his phone and instructed him to use all means to trace the phone number from just now.

For the past few days, Rayson had been so busy searching for Susanne that he did not even have the time to rest. He had only slept for two hours when Vinson called him. Although he was tired, he forced himself to get out of bed.

The mysterious caller was cunning and deleted the call log after hanging up.

Therefore, it took Rayson a lot of effort to search for the number. He finally found it around seven o'clock and sent it to Vinson immediately.

At the same time, Arielle had woken up from sleep. After finding out that someone had called the manor, she quickly traced the caller through the number from Rayson.

Her frown grew deeper as she tried to track down the caller.

"Why? Is the caller untraceable?" Vinson asked as he looked at the lines of codes on Arielle's computer screen.

"The number indicates that it came from Lightspring. But the sim card has been terminated," Arielle explained solemnly.

Their enemy was devious and seemed to know Vinson and his people would trace them. Thus, they had swiftly covered their tracks.

Vinson's expression turned cold. The veins on his arm bulged as he turned around and slammed his fist on a nearby table. "D*mn it!"

"Vinson, we need to remain calm." Arielle held Vinson's arm worriedly and checked for injuries. She breathed a sigh of relief when she saw that there was none. Then, she narrowed her eyes and said, "Let's analyze the situation and see if we can find where they're keeping Mother. I have a feeling she never left Chanaea."

From the moment they lost contact with Susanne, Vinson had deployed everyone on hand to search for her. Thus, the people who abducted Susanne were most likely still trapped in Chanaea. It was just that Vinson and the others did not know where they had hidden Susanne.

Vinson took a deep breath and sat down. He rubbed his temple and felt a wave of headache crashing onto him.

Seeing that, Arielle got up and helped him to massage his head. Once the pain dissipated, Vinson pulled Arielle onto his lap.

"We're guarding every possible exit point. So, it's going to be difficult for them to leave. Unless..." Vinson said.

Chapter 1596 Let Her Go

Arielle and Vinson looked at each other. "Unless they know how to disguise themselves. What if they disguised Susanne and brought her out of the country?"

Vinson looked at Arielle and said confidently, "Disguise is not something one could learn overnight. I have a feeling Mom is still in Chanaea."

Sometimes, the bond between a mother and son was not something others could understand.

"In that case, we should continue searching. Since they had to take her with them, they would not dare to stay in hotels. After all, hotels have surveillance cameras." Arielle's eyes brightened with an idea as she spoke. "We should search in places without surveillance cameras. They are probably still hiding in Jadeborough."

Hearing Arielle's words, Vinson suddenly understood that they had been searching the wrong places all this while.

Meanwhile, in a house in the suburb, a woman glanced at the knocked-out Susanne and walked to the neighboring room to make a phone call.

"Sir, we still can't find a way to leave. They have set up many checkpoints with guards at every stage." The woman sounded anxious.

She had left the Duke for a few days. They had never parted for such a long time. Thus, she wanted to return to Lightspring as soon as possible.

"Stay in Chanaea for the time being." The Duke's deep and masculine voice sounded.

The woman bit her lower lip but did not say anything.

"Once you're back, you can stay by my side for three months without going on a mission," the man coaxed when he noticed that the woman did not speak.

The woman's eyes brightened instantly. "Thank you, sir."

After hanging up, the woman looked at the Duke's photo on her phone screen. Then, she closed her eyes and kissed the screen. She desperately wished to fly back to his side.

Meanwhile, Arielle and Vinson realized the direction they should search and began investigating.

Now that they had an idea of where to search, they were able to progress quickly.

An hour later, a subordinate brought news, saying someone saw a foreign woman leading two burly men carrying an unconscious woman into a slum.

A slum? Arielle and Vinson exchanged glances. It was not a place they expected.

Then, they brought some men with them and rushed toward the address provided.

There was always someone standing guard in the slum area. The guard sensed that something was wrong and immediately informed the foreign woman.

The woman did not expect to be found so soon and immediately called the Duke.

At the same time, a blonde woman was kneeling under a desk in Lightspring.

The Duke sat on a chair and closed his eyes from the pleasure.

Suddenly, his phone rang. The Duke looked at the phone screen before answering it.

"Linda," he called out the name into the phone. The eyes of the woman beneath the desk gleamed upon hearing that name, and she began to quicken her pace. The Duke growled and turned on the speaker mode before he pulled the woman up and pressed her down on the table.

Linda, the woman in the slum, heard the noises on the other end of the call and clenched her fist tightly.

"Well? Speak up, Linda," the Duke ordered in a deep voice.

He became impatient when Linda remained silent and was going to hang up.

"Duke, I have been found out. What should I do about that woman?" Linda asked. She resisted her heartache as she listened to the noises from the other end.

The Duke's expression darkened at that. He took a tissue and wiped himself off. Then, he put on his pants and said, "In that case, you should come back. As for Susanne, you can let her go for now."

Chapter 1597 The Operation Went Well

If Linda had not heard those noises coming from the phone, she would have been very happy to hear that she was going back, but now, it felt ironic to her. Here she was working hard for him, but he was there fooling around with another woman.

Although she was unhappy, she had no right to control him. After all, she was only one of his many women. However, she had been the only one to serve him in the office, but obviously, that was not the case anymore.

"Did you hear me?" The Duke frowned impatiently when he heard no reply from her.

"Yes, I did. I'm going back right away."

Feeling down in the dumps, she replied to him and hung up the call. Then, she walked to the room where Susanne was confined. As she looked at Susanne, she recalled the harshness of his voice whenever he mentioned Susanne and Vinson. She took out a gun from her pocket and was about to shoot Susanne when the door was suddenly pushed open.

"Let's escape through the window. They'll be here any moment." As a burly man spoke, he picked her up and placed her on the window sill. Before she jumped out of the window, Linda pointed the gun at Susanne and pulled the trigger once. Then, she jumped out together with the man.

The moment Vinson and Arielle alighted the car, they heard the sound of a gunshot. Anxious, they ran inside. The surrounding residents heard that too and they came out of their houses, looking around curiously.

With bloodshot eyes, Vinson asked them which unit Linda was staying at.

As Linda was the only foreigner living there, her place was not difficult to find. Before long, a young man led them to her house.

Vinson and Arielle hurriedly went inside, searching for Susanne. When they saw her with a bullet wound to her chest, they quickly carried her and ran outside. At this point, they had to get help for her as time was crucial.

However, because they were in a slum, the cars had difficulties entering the place. As such, Vinson had to carry his mother and ran for three minutes to reach where their car was parked.

"Go after my mother's kidnappers." After giving the instruction to Rayson, Vinson and Arielle brought Susanne to the hospital, where she was sent into the emergency room straight away. Arielle changed and went inside as she was the one going to perform the surgery.

Under normal circumstances, relatives were not encouraged to perform surgery on a patient. However, Arielle did not want anyone but herself to do it, for she was confident that she could save Susanne.

She took a deep breath and started the surgical procedure. Her calm and composed voice filled the operating room, while all the other doctors and nurses worked together with her during the operation.

Three hours later, the operation was completed, and even the final stitches were done by her own hands. After all, the patient undergoing surgery was her mother-in-law, and she had to do her best.

With tearful eyes, she looked at Susanne who was lying on the operating table. The bullet had just narrowly missed her heart. Otherwise, not even the gods could save her.

Luckily, the shooter missed their shot.

Soon, the door of the operating theatre was opened, and Susanne was pushed into the observation room nearby where family members were not allowed in.

"Sannie, how is Mom doing?" Seeing Arielle coming out from the operation theatre, Vinson quickly stepped forward and asked.

Even though he may appear calm, he was actually on the verge of going crazy with worry. He knew that should anything untoward happen to Susanne, he would never be able to forgive himself.

"Her surgery went well," Arielle replied and continued after some hesitation.

"The bullet just missed her heart. She will be kept under observation for a day. If all goes well, she will be transferred to a normal ward."

A shiver ran down Vinson's spine when he heard how his mother had narrowly escaped death

Chapter 1598 Having Her By His Side

If the bullet had hit Susanne's heart, no one, not even the best surgeons, would be able to save her. Luckily, the bullet had missed.

As for Linda and the burly man, after they made their escape, they took a cab and headed for the airport where the Duke had a private jet parked there.

As soon as they arrived, they saw people searching for them. In the spur of the moment, the burly man pushed Linda against the wall and lowered his head, covering her mouth with his.

Linda was furious at his action. That was her first kiss, after all. In retaliation, she bit down on his lips harshly.

"Are you out of your mind, Mark?"

Seeing Linda's reaction, Mark hurriedly explained in a soft voice, "Desperate time calls for desperate measures."

After that, they saw a few people coming toward them. Mark immediately planted his lips on Linda's again. Initially, he was only doing so to avoid getting noticed by their pursuers, but after having a taste of Linda's sweet lips, he could not help wanting more. As such, he kissed Linda forcefully, suckling at her sweet lips. This was the first time Linda had been kissed, and he was kissing her very passionately.

Nonetheless, reason prevailed, and after seeing that their pursuers had left, she pushed Mark away and went to the private jet sullenly.

Knowing that Linda was angry, Mark followed behind her in silence.

In truth, he had fallen in love with Linda a long time ago. However, she had always been distant and aloof. Thus, he could only admire her from a distance, not daring to profess his love. One could only imagine how overjoyed he felt when the Duke sent him to Chanaea to back up Linda on a mission.

Earlier, he could have avoided their pursuers in some other way, but for some reason, the first thing he could think of was to lean forward and kiss her. Looking at Linda who was walking in front of him now, he smiled. He had no regrets about what happened just now and was glad he took the opportunity to kiss her.

The two showed the necessary documents to the pilot, and the three soon boarded the plane.

In the cabin, because Linda did not want to sit with Mark, the two could only sit separately with one in the front and one in the back. After the plane took off, Mark would look at Linda from time to time, and when he thought of the disgust in her eyes, sadness welled up within him.

Linda took out her phone and looked at the man on the screensaver. Her heart was full of sorrow. Will he still be mine when I get back? Who is the woman who has replaced me in his office?

As these thoughts went through her mind, her countenance turned colder and colder.

No matter who it was, she would definitely take the Duke back. She wanted him to know that she was the woman who fitted him best.

Five hours later, the two got off the plane. Mark wanted to go with her to the company to meet the Duke, but Linda refused. Mark took a long gaze at her seated inside the cab before he turned around and got into another one.

On the way, Linda's lips curved slightly into a smile. She could not wait to tell him how much she missed him and be together with him again.

She recalled Mark's kiss at the airport. She had discovered how good a kiss felt and she wished that the Duke would treat her the way Mark had treated her.

Back at the company, Linda and Mark entered the Duke's office together. When he was done reporting the incident, Mark left. Then, Linda walked up to the man.

"Duke..." Linda looked at the man in front of her with a love-struck expression and crouched down. Seeing that he did not stop her, she got up and straddled his lap.

After Mark left, he remembered something and went to the office again. However, when he reached the door, he saw a scene that broke his heart, and he was instantly rendered motionless on the spot.

Chapter 1599 Fired At

It was nearly midnight. He had never imagined that such an elegant and aloof woman would let herself loose like that.

Nor had he imagined that the woman he loved was already taken by the Duke. It was no wonder she had reacted the way she did when he kissed her.

Mark was so brokenhearted that he left the place in despair, not willing to watch the scene anymore.

Linda's actions became bolder and the man became more and more aroused. He carried Linda and placed her on the sofa. As Linda stared at his sexy lips, she recalled the pleasure of kissing. She then hugged his neck before pulling his face downward and planting her red lips on his.

The Duke had not expected her to be so bold. He shook off her hands, stood up angrily, and looked down at her before uttering in disgust, "Get out!"

Linda did not expect him to be so annoyed over a mere kiss. Immediately, she knelt down before him. "Please don't send me away."

For the sake of the five years she had served him, he relented. His tone was filled with anger as he said, "Leave for Turlen tomorrow and do not return without my orders."

Linda knew that he would not change his mind, so she put on her clothes and left.

After reaching the ground floor, Mark did not leave immediately. He sat in his car, puffing on one cigarette after another.

Thinking of the woman he loved in the arms of another man, he could not calm down. Just as he was about to open the car door and go out for a breath of air, he saw Linda coming out looking forlorn.

Isn't she...

Why is she coming out with such an expression on her face?

For a moment, Mark's heart ached for her. Instantly, he got down from his car and went toward her.

Seeing Mark, Linda looked away uncomfortably. "Why are you here?"

Then, a thought seem to flash through her mind as she looked at him. "You know everything?"

Seeing how he remained silent, she took it as acquiescence.

"Leave. I want to be alone."

This was not a safe place for a woman to be alone at this time of the night. As such, Mark opened the car door and forced her inside.

Just when he was about to release her from his hold, however, Linda put her arms around his neck suddenly. "Kiss me."

She had just been rejected by the man she loved and she knew then that she had lost any chance she had with the Duke. So, she decided to settle for a replacement.

Mark looked at her and did not budge. In the end, it was Linda who pulled his head toward herself and raised her lips to kiss him. As she was the woman he wanted and loved, he could not hold back anymore. Mark grasped her head and kissed her. From time to time, the two of them would break off to breathe.

Mark closed the car door and lowered the seat. Then, he placed himself on top of Linda's body.

In Turlen, Aaron had just returned from a visit to the queen mother.

He did not expect that she was planning of abolishing his father and support him as the new king. Although he knew that he was the future king, he had not expected that he would succeed his father in this way.

Unable to accept her plan, he immediately rejected the queen mother's proposal.

Although his father never loved him, Dylan had never denied him his needs. As such, there was no way Aaron would take away the king's position in this manner.

How could Grandma treat Father this way?

Feeling depressed, Aaron opened the wine cabinet, took out a few bottles of wine, and drank alone.

Suddenly, his phone lit up, and a message came into view.

It read: The mother of the Chairman of Nightshire Group, Mr. Nightshire, was kidnapped and shot.

He tapped on the message to follow the link. Soon, he stood up abruptly.

Chapter 1600 She Survived

Isn't that Arielle?

Isn't she dead?

How could she be in Chanaea?

Unless...

Suddenly, a thought flashed through Aaron's mind and his eyes turned red.

Arielle, you are so cruel to deceive me this way!

At this point, Aaron saw red. As he stared at the photograph of Vinson and Arielle, he clenched his hands, and veins appeared on his fair-skinned arms.

"What an amazing act from the two of you!" Aaron started to laugh maniacally.

He felt like a complete fool. I can't believe Arielle faked her death and I fell for it completely! I mourned for her, wept for her, and was even ready to avenge her. Hah! What a joke!

As for Father... he must have known how sad I was over Arielle's death. Yet, he simply watched as I make a fool of myself, all for the sake of his precious daughter.

Aaron was utterly disappointed with Dylan and Arielle, feeling that they had treated him as a stranger, excluding him from all their plans.

Grasping the wine bottle, he sat on the ground and drank in huge gulps, feeling that only alcohol could numb his feelings.

He did not dare to ponder why his father and Arielle would treat him this way.

Suddenly, his phone rang. He staggered up, fumbled around for his phone, and answered the call. "Who is this?"

His tone was miserable.

"It's Alicia. Aaron, what's wrong?" She could detect something was amiss from his voice and she asked with concern.

Hearing that it was Alicia, Aaron narrowed his eyes and replied, "Come and keep me company."

When she heard Aaron asking her to accompany him, Alicia was naturally happy, but she did not know where he was and how to get there.

Just as she was pondering over this, he said he would get his chauffeur to pick her up. She hummed in acknowledgment, hung up the call, and started to dress up. When she was done, she hurried to the door to wait.

Half an hour later, Aaron's car stopped outside her door. She had gotten in Aaron's car several times before and recognized his license plate. Smoothening her hair, she walked over, and the chauffeur got out and opened the door for her. Huh... this is the first time that Prince Aaron is inviting a girl to his apartment.

Half an hour later, Alicia arrived at the destination. This was the first time she visited Aaron's residence, but she was simply worried about Aaron and couldn't be bothered about the environment where he lived. Under the guidance of the chauffeur, she opened the door and went in.

In the hall, under the dim light, Aaron was holding a wine bottle and pouring the contents into his mouth.

"How much have you drunk?" Hurriedly, Alicia walked over to Aaron's side, squatted down, and took the wine bottle from his hand. Seeing that there were wine bottles all around him on the floor, she frowned and put them away before approaching Aaron.

On that night, Alicia wore an off-white long dress, and with her golden wavy curls draped behind her, she was as alluring as a fairy.

As she approached him, he staggered to his feet.

"You've drunk so much. Are you having a headache?" Alicia gazed at him, her eyes full of concern.

Aaron looked at her and was touched. She's the only one who cares about me without reservation.

With that thought in mind, he pulled her over and pushed her against the wall before covering her with kisses. Alicia put her arms around his neck and responded to his passionate kiss.

Aaron could not hold back any longer. He picked her up and carried her upstairs. Once inside the room, he placed her on the bed and pinned her underneath him. In a few moments, their clothes were scattered all over the floor.