Chapter 376 A Brief Check-up

Maybe it could have been due to the warm atmosphere or Eugene's slightly different behavior, but Brian felt closer to him at that moment. Brian felt that Eugene was finally resembling the elder brother who played with him when they were younger.

Eugene patted Brian's shoulder. "Just let Olivia have a look on you. Back then, when Grandpa's illness was a critical point, she was the one who saved him."

It wasn't a forceful tone, but one that would convince people to believe him without any valid reasons.

At that moment, Brian felt like listening to Eugene—as if doing so on instinct.

Olivia also added, "Don't worry, I'll just have a look first. The most it'll take is only ten minutes. If there's nothing I can do about it, you won't have to take any medication. However, if I have a way to treat it, I can definitely cure you!"

Upon looking at Eugene and Olivia, Brian finally and slowly sat down.

A smile appeared on her face as she pushed him down. "This is my first time meeting a patient like you. If it's anyone else, I won't be spending so much time."

Eugene added with a smile, "You would have already pressed him down on the couch and performed acupuncture on him."

Upon looking at him, Olivia gave him a thumbs up. "My boyfriend knows me the best."

Eugene raised his eyebrows at her, revealing his vindictive expression.

Then, he looked at Brian and said wisely, "My girlfriend's consultation fees are quite high, so don't forget to transfer 5 million to her account later."

A speechless Brian now understood why North refused to go shopping with them. He doesn't want to be the third wheeler, of course. They are basically rubbing their love in our faces.

After joking with him to relieve the tense atmosphere, Olivia finally took his pulse.

She placed her slender fingers on his wrist and adjusted the force she exerted. For a while, her index finger would have a greater force as she pushed it down and sometimes her middle finger would be having the strength—a sign that she was thoroughly checking his condition.

However, her expression grew more serious. Why is he worse now when compared to the time when I treated him by the roadside?

Eugene was observing Olivia's expression and became worried. "Why? Is his condition bad?"

Olivia remained silent all the while and released Brian's hand after some time. "Have you gone for a full medical examination?"

Brian replied, "I will do it twice each year, but they couldn't spot any problem. The report only shows that I have a low blood sugar."

Olivia nodded. "However, it's not just low blood sugar that will cause you to be dizzy. Have you sustained any head injuries when you were younger?"

Brian looked at Eugene with a blank expression.. "I don't think so. I can't remember anything."

Eugene remained silent as he tried his best to recall the events that occurred when they were much younger. After a while, he answered, "I also can't remember anything much clearly. There was once when Mom fought with Edward Nolan and you were thrown to the ground during their argument before immediately losing consciousness. Mom was frightened and brought you to the hospital, but you woke up not too long after that. You were around three or four years old at that time."

Brian looked at her. "Are you saying that the reason why I sometimes faint is because of the injuries that I sustained when I was younger?"

She explained, "I'm merely suspecting that you sometimes have fainting episodes because someone is pressing on your cranial nerves, but the equipment couldn't pick up on that. It might have formed after a long time. Perhaps the internal bleeding when you were younger was not completely absorbed by your bloodstream or maybe it is the side effects of medication that your mother took during her pregnancy with you. It might also be due to abdominal injuries that your mother sustained when she was pregnant. All these can cause this."

Upon hearing that, Eugene couldn't help but be nervous as well. "In that case, is there any solution?"

Once again, Olivia did not reply to him and instead asked Brian, "Does your fainting episodes happen more frequently when you are hungry or emotional?"

Brian nodded. "Yeah!"

She asked again, "Are there any other symptoms like headaches or convulsions?"

Chapter 377 Are You Afraid?

Brian replied, "I have headaches. Right now, my head hurts almost every morning after I wake up and it will also hurt a lot before I faint. It's so painful that I feel that my eyes are bulging outward. It would also ache after I wake up, but it's tolerable!"

Olivia nodded. "Your symptoms are only like this because of the treatments that you've been receiving up until now. Otherwise, it wouldn't just be headaches and fainting episodes. You might even suffer from seizures, epilepsy, and even death."

Eugene looked at her in worry. "Do you have any solutions?"

She replied, "I guess I can only try. I'll try to do acupuncture for you today. If your head doesn't hurt the next day after you wake up, it doesn't mean that it's cured, but it means that the pain has been lessened."

Upon hearing that, his tense nerves finally relaxed. "Acupuncture?"

Olivia replied, "Yeah."

Brian was slightly shocked. "Do you even know acupuncture?"

She mocked him with a glare. "Are you looking down on me?"

He finally smiled. "No, not at all."

Eugene suggested, "Go ahead and give it a go. Where are you going to do it? Is the couch suitable? If it's not suitable, we can head over to my place."

Olivia said, "That's fine. The couch will do as I will only need half an hour."

He started to immediately move and removed all of the cushions on the couch, making way for Brian to lay down.

Meanwhile, Olivia entered her room to search for her black bag. When she came out with it, Brian was still seated on the couch. "Take off your shoes and lie down."

After he gulped, he slowly removed his shoes.

By the time she was prepared, he still had not lay down.

Then, she walked to Eugene and used her eyes to ask, What's going on?

Eugene leaned to her and whispered in her ears, "I guess he's nervous!"

However, Olivia was shocked to hear that. I didn't expect Brian to be afraid of acupuncture.

"No worries. It won't hurt," she reassured.

Brian hummed in reply. Even though he knew that it wouldn't hurt, he was still nervous.

He was already nervous every time he saw her. It's worse now that she's going to perform acupuncture on me at such close range. It will be weird if I'm not nervous.

Just as he was still in a dilemma, Eugene suddenly questioned, "Afraid?"

Brian glared. "Who's afraid?"

"Then, why is it so difficult for you to lie down?"

He ignored Eugene, proving it with his actions as he immediately lay on the sofa.

Upon seeing that, Eugene couldn't stop smiling.

Olivia opened the bag that she used for acupuncture and flatly laid out all the equipment.

When Brian saw that she was getting closer to his head with a needle, he suddenly felt that his heart was being squished into a corner in his chest. She's not going to put that on my head, is she?

Humans were often worried about the unknown. He would not be worried if someone wanted to punch because he knew how to avoid the attack.

However, it was impossible for him not to be afraid when he saw a long needle being poked into his body.

Brian wanted to sit up. That's it, I guess. Why do I have to suffer like this? It makes no difference whether I stay alive for another day or if I die a day earlier.

Suddenly, someone had pressed his wrists down, causing him to look at the perpetrator—it was Eugene.

Eugene said, "Olivia used acupuncture to cure grandpa. You have to believe in her"

Brian glared. "Who doesn't believe in her?"

Eugene added, "Apart from that, she's your future sister-in-law. How could she harm you?"

Brian snorted. "Who knows about the future? Olivia, you better stay away from him. The Nolan Family is up to no good."

Eugene said in a deep voice, "Do you want to be crippled?"

At that moment, Olivia had already inserted five needles into Brian's head. Without even raising her head, she warned, "Shut up, the both of you! If you talk more nonsense, I'll cripple you guys!"

Brian admitted that Eugene's words had indeed dissipated his fears and even more shocked after learning that there were five needles sticking out on his head—partly because he felt nothing whatsoever.

Chapter 378 Olivia's Suspicion

Olivia was prepared to inject another needle into Brian's arm. She looked at Eugene for his help to fold Brian's sleeve up by a notch. Eugene paused for a while and walked toward Brian to fold his sleeve, revealing a long, albeit shallow, cut.

This startled Olivia. "How did you get this?"

Before Eugene could explain, Brian answered, "Some burglar broke into my house last night; guess that's how I got it."

Olivia contemplated but refrained from asking further. Now she knew why Eugene refused to let him carry anything when they ascended the floor—he knew he was injured. With all that had happened, Olivia's suspicions grew bigger as to the fact that there was something behind why Eugene abandoned his mother and brother back then.

She applied the last needle onto Brian and stood up. "Alright, we will remove the needles twenty minutes later. Until then, do not move." She then rested on the couch opposite the room.

Eugene sat beside her and asked, "Are you tired? Would you like a massage?"

Olivia threw him a stare. "I'd be fine if you'd annoy me less."

Eugene chuckled. "When have I annoyed you?"

Olivia scoffed lightly, "Just a while ago. Just because you didn't say it out loud, it doesn't mean I don't know you were making fun of me!"

Upon hearing that, Eugene failed to hold back any longer. Besides, recalling the dumplings Olivia made earlier in the evening only tickled him further. He tried

hard to wipe the grin off his face, but Olivia caught it right away, and she angrily pointed at him. "Look at you; you're laughing again!"

Eugene gave up and let out a loud giggle, but before Olivia could get angry, he pulled her into his arms and comforted her, "No, no, no. I was just laughing at how adorable you are."

Olivia pouted her lips. "Yeah, right. You were just laughing at me."

"I wasn't," Eugene swore. "Everyone's got something they're good and bad at. Look at how good you are at designing clothes, and acupuncture; I'm not good at those. So what if you can't cook well? It's the boyfriend's job to cook, and the girlfriend's job to eat. As for making dumplings, we can do it together if you know how to, or I could do it all myself. You don't have to worry."

Such soothing words, which sounded not much different from a confession, consoled Olivia.

On the other hand, Brian's face lit up. He thought he would feel jealous looking at them, but he did not. He was rather glad to see the smiles on their faces. This was the outcome he had hoped for.

Twenty minutes passed, and Olivia removed the needles. Eugene asked, "If we see the effects tomorrow, does that mean you are able to treat him?"

Olivia said, "Theoretically, yes. That just proves my diagnosis."

Eugene asked again, "How long will this treatment take, then?"

Olivia answered, "Brian's situation is quite serious; even if I treat him, it'd take at least half a month of continuous acupuncture treatment, with supplementary medication."

Eugene replied, "Okay." He then turned to Brian. "Do you feel anything?"

Brian replied, "Not much." In truth, he did feel something different. He had been feeling clouded and groggy for quite some time, but after the treatment, his mind felt unexpectedly clear and focused again. He dared not reveal it, for fear that it was only his own imagination.

Eugene comforted him, "It's just the start. After all, you've had this condition for so many years; it's not something we can fix in a short while."

Both men hung out at the Maxwell Residence until 11.00PM before Brian decided to leave. As Eugene escorted Brian to the entrance, he asked, "Do you need me to arrange for someone to send you back?"

Brian scoffed, "Don't think I'd forgive you just because you saved me a few times."

Eugene was speechless. "Fine. As you wish!"

Brian ignored him and walked out. Two steps later, he stopped and replied, "If you don't treat her right, I'll take her away from you."

Chapter 379 The Sister-In-Law That Popped Out Of Nowhere

It took Eugene a while to realize that Brian was referring to Olivia. It left him bemused. "She's your sister-in-law."

Brian chuckled. "I don't even have a brother; why would I have a sister-in-law?" Irritated, Eugene replied, "She doesn't love you."

Brian retorted, "You'd better take good care of her. If you ever treat her wrong, I'll come after you!" Eugene was lost for words. At this point, he thought twice about calling Brian his brother.

"That's enough. You'd better take care of yourself. The Quintets didn't get what they wanted last night, so they might come back for revenge."

Brian replied brazenly, "I don't need you to tell me that." He got into his car right after and sped off.

Eugene gazed at the car smilingly as it disappeared into the night. At Edward's house, Lara turned to Edward after she hung up. "It appears that Eugene has made up with Brian. Our people just saw Brian leaving the Muse Peninsula area."

Edward said, "It's not only Eugene who lives in Muse Peninsula; Nathan lives there too!"

Lara scoffed, "Do you really think Brian would look for Nathan? Ever since he left the Nolan Family when he was twelve, he had cut ties with everyone. He didn't even show up for Grandpa's birthday party, so how would he go meet Nathan? It would have been even more convincing if he were to meet Olivia." Edward pulled Lara onto his lap. "Come on. You're getting too worked up. Let's just assume he was meeting Olivia. I know Eugene and Brian very well; they are both stubborn as mules. After all these years of fighting against each other, there's no way they would reconcile in two short days."

Lara was still trying to piece everything together. "Something's not right. The Quintets had their hands on the goods yesterday, but another group of men, armored in black, came by. Based on their description, they somehow seemed like Eugene's men. If what you said is true, who were those people, then?"

Edward thought for a while and said, "It might very well be a new gang Brian cultivated in the dark, and we did not see it coming."

Lara replied, "I don't think so. It's best that you arrange for someone to keep an eye on Brian. Things have been happening a little too conveniently for my liking. Remember that evening at Grandpa's birthday party, when the Jones Family went into the security control room with Eugene and came out acting differently? They were so adamant, throwing nasty accusations at us, like taking advantage, forcing, and even raping. I was too enraged at that moment, and now that I think about it, they had not behaved like that to us before. I found out today that Aleena is out of the country. It is obvious that Eugene must have said something to ruin the marriage between the Roberts and Jones Families."

Edward uttered, "It's not easy to set up a marriage with the Jones Family. Aleena loves Eugene, so it's impossible that she would marry Ben."

Lara scoffed, "Had the Jones given us a break that evening, we could have just announced it to the whole wide world. By then, she couldn't say no even if she wanted to." She paused. "Don't you think it's weird that Eugene moved to Muse Peninsula?"

"Didn't your sources say that Olivia also lives in Muse Peninsula? He might have done it for her."

Lara flipped open the blanket and crept under it. "This is the part that baffled me. Even though Olivia Maxwell has the looks and capability, she's still a mother with a child. Why would Eugene fall for someone like that? You saw how I tried to probe her at the birthday party; Eugene stopped me right there, as if he didn't want us to know more about them."

"Yeah. Now that you said so, it did seem off."

"I still think the kid belongs to Eugene."

"I thought he was the son of a beggar."

"Ben said so, but who really knows?!"

Chapter 380 The The Quintets' Hacking

Edward uttered, "There's not much we could do, then. Our people couldn't find out anything, and Eugene isn't dumb enough to let us convince him to do a DNA test."

Lara requested, "Grandpa might know something, since he investigated this. Perhaps you could pick up some clues from him."

Edward replied, "Yeah, I know what to do. Don't you worry."

He joined her in bed and held her in his arms. Lara let out a sigh. "Ben can't do anything right. At first, he ruined his chances with the Smith Family, and now the Jones. I guess we'll have to count on our Aleena now."

Edward said, "Be patient. Aleena's still young. Why don't we talk about this in two years?"

Lara squinted her eyes. "It doesn't matter that she's young. I keep getting this feeling that Eugene is hiding something. He's got this different air around him now. We all know how far his influence stems. With that negligible power of his, he doesn't stand a chance against us. Could he be getting support from somewhere else? Why am I feeling that we are losing more and more of our grip over him now?"

Edward explained, "The company has been growing rapidly for the past two years. He does seem to be getting out of our control. Or you could be right—he might be busy getting chummy with Brian to join forces with him."

Lara blurted, "Your sons are coming back to bite you, the one that fed them. This was all because you decided to let Eugene stay back then. And here we are. Not only did we fail to hold any shares in the company, he also took the throne from us,

with Grandpa backing him. If we find our heads on his chopping board one day, do you think he would show us any mercy?"

Edward took a deep breath and admitted, "Yes, it's all my fault for causing this mess."

Lara leaned in on him. "I shouldn't blame you. Had I come into your life earlier, all these wouldn't have happened. I actually have nothing against your son, but it'd be fair to at least be on equal standing with him. This is what I call 'insurance'. I just don't want to be defenceless when they trample over us."

The next day.

Eugene called Brian the first thing in the morning to check on him.

Brian sounded exhausted; he merely replied, "I'm fine."

Eugene raised his brow and asked, "What's going on?"

Slightly agitated, Brian answered, "Nothing."

Eugene pursued, "Did you feel any headache after you woke up?"

Brian replied, "Woke up? I didn't even sleep at all."

Eugene was surprised. "You didn't sleep? What did you do, then?"

Perhaps due to Eugene's incessant volley of questions, Brian went on to explain, "Our company's server system went down. The IT department was trying to get it up the whole night, but it was useless. Damn it! The Quintets' gang must have gotten someone to hack our computer systems. Once I'm done with this, I'm going to beat them up in their territory!"

Eugene thought to himself, The Quintet's gang members are probably good at fighting and robbing. Tech-savvy tactics, such as hacking, don't seem like their style.

"Are you sure it was The Quintets gang?"

Brian replied, "We fought them back two nights ago, and the server went down last night. Who else could it be?"

Eugene asked, "So what's the status now? Can it be fixed?"

Brian was agitated. "I have no idea. I've been keeping watch here for the entire night. The IT team said two hours at first, and then they said they needed more time, at least till tonight. I can't tell you when it will be fixed. Why did I even recruit this group of useless idiots?"

Eugene reassured, "Don't fret. I'll find someone to help you on that."

Brian asked, "Who?" He paused. "Hello?"

He looked at the cellphone. Did he just hang up on me?

He decided not to think further. Whoever was being sent over might not be able to solve the problem anyway. Every member of his IT team was well paid and highly capable, and they were recruited precisely to prevent such breakdowns from happening.