Chapter 441 Something Must've Happened Back Then

"I was too in love with him. I wanted to be with him even though I knew his heart belonged to Lara. But, not long after we got married, Lara came back. She said that the reason she left was that her face was burned by the fire.

She was worried that the others would find her disgusting, so she went abroad to treat her face. After listening to her explanation, Edward was heartbroken. He got back together with Lara without even caring about what I would think."

Olivia and Eugene looked at each other. They didn't expect Ellen's marriage to have transpired like that. "He's fond of Lara; that's why he believed her."

"That's true. But, he's my husband after all. Of course, I didn't want him to ignore me and act like that. I quarreled with him but it was useless. It hadn't even been two months since Lara's return and he already wanted to divorce me. I naturally disagreed. It wasn't easy for me to finally get married to him. Besides, the Nolans and the Mccarthys wouldn't agree with it. Edward couldn't do as he pleased."

Olivia frowned in response. "Then, why did Lara go overseas? It couldn't be because of the wound right?" asked Olivia.

Ellen then answered, "Of course, it wasn't. She's someone who only does things with purpose. There was no way she could be selfless enough to grant me my wish. I think there might be something that was distracting her, or maybe she failed at something. And that was why she came back for Edward!"

Olivia nodded at what Ellen said. Although she didn't know Ellen very well, instinctually, she felt that there must have been another reason Lara left.

Eugene went on to ask, "If he likes Lara and doesn't have feelings for you, there was also no reason for him to be so ruthless. Is there anything else that I don't know?"

"When I divorced your Dad, he said something and I still can't understand what that was supposed to mean even until today. He said that since we were once married, he'll let bygones be bygones. He told me he won't hold me responsible for anything, but he has only been in love with Lara from the very beginning. All I felt was irony back then. He messed up my reputation, made me homeless, and then he had the audacity to say that he wouldn't look into the matter anymore on account that we were once married! I thought he was talking about me giving birth to Brian behind his back, but he knew about that all along. There was no reason for him to mention that during the divorce."

Eugene exchanged another glance with the others. "Then, he must have been talking about something else."

Olivia nodded. "It seems like you will have to find out what happened back then."

Eugene then hummed in agreement.

"Mommy, haven't you been looking for the wrong person?" asked North coolly.

Looking toward the little boy, Olivia laughed helplessly. "Yeah. I should've asked you. Can you help me then?"

Ellen was surprised as she looked at North. What are they talking about?

Eugene tugged North into his embrace with a proud expression. "Mom, your grandson is much better than me. If there's something you want to find out, it would be better if you were to give him the task."

"Really? Is my lil' grandson so marvelous?" Ellen asked in bewilderment.

North grinned, showing his teeth. "It's nothing!"

"It's nothing? My company lost more than forty million because of you! How are we going to get even with that?" snorted Brian.

North looked at him provocatively. "If you think you've lost too little, I can help you with it!"

Brian was so annoyed that he gritted his teeth. "Help me? You better watch out." As he was saying this, he reached out, trying to grab North.

North broke away from Eugene's embrace and plunged into Ellen's arms. "Grandma, your son is bullying me!"

Chapter 442 His Weakness

Ellen was so pleased with North that she held him in his arms and reassured him. "It's okay. He won't dare to do anything. I'll hit him back for you."

Instantly, Brian laughed. "You're good at finding help." With a proud expression, North snorted in response.

Silently twitching her mouth, Olivia was a little jealous of her son's slick social skills. Why doesn't this little boy feel awkward at all around them?

Embarrassingly, she explained, "North came back that day saying that he thought you were a bad guy..."

Before she could finish her explanation, North ran over and covered her mouth. His dark eyes shined like diamonds while he signaled her to stop talking.

Olivia didn't understand why, but the little boy turned toward Brian. "How dare you come at me? Do you know how expensive Mommy's consultation fee is? It cost my Great-grandpa fifty million a day. Mommy took fifteen days to treat you. Do the math! Count by yourself how much that is! You even ate the dumplings and noodles Mommy made. I'll tell you what. For the sake of Grandma and Daddy, I won't charge you more. Just pay Mommy 500 million!"

Even Eugene followed suit and helped out. "How can that be enough? He needs to pay at least 300 million more!"

Not knowing whether she should laugh or cry, Olivia thought that this father and son's minds were in sync. Weren't they the ones who told her not to charge consultation fees that day?

Similarly, Ellen grinned and looked toward Brian. "That's right. Now that you're cured, even 800 million is worth it, let alone 500 million!"

Brian was speechless as he looked at his mother. I'm no longer the most favored one in the family!

Edward just came back home when he saw Lara's frustrated expression. He asked, "What happened?"

Taking a long breath, Lara answered, "They lost Eugene. What's the point of employing those useless bastards?"

"It's okay. After all, Eugene wouldn't dare to do anything without Brian," Edward reassured her.

"The one who was watching them said that Brian and Eugene got into a fight last night. Olivia then came and brought the two of them away, but no one had seen them since then. When the both of them went out for breakfast at 6 AM, Eugene's car vanished. Is it possible that Olivia had made the two of them reconcile with each other?" Lara questioned.

"How is that possible? This is not a trivial matter. There's no way she can talk them out of it that easily! Look at both of their tempers. Either one of them will only be satisfied if the other gives in. Reconciliation is impossible!" exclaimed Edward.

Upon hearing that, Lara nodded in agreement. Indeed, no one would simply forgive someone who had killed their mother.

"Olivia seems to be very wicked. Look at how many times she has intervened with our plans? Besides, other than knowing that she's one of the Maxwells, we know nothing about her. And everything that happened abroad can't be found! But, I don't understand why Eugene is so fond of her. This is so unreasonable. This woman can't stay any longer!"

Holding Lara's hand, Eugene comforted, "Stop thinking about that. If Eugene likes her so much, just let him be. The old Eugene didn't care about anyone and always looked like he would die with us anytime. Now that he has Olivia and a son, he has a weakness. He'll have to think about the two of them before doing anything. This may be a good thing for us."

Once again, Lara nodded. "You're right. By the way, I called Penny today and it didn't get through. This kid is really worrying me lately. I think she blocked me!"

"There's no way. I gave her a call on the day after she left. We talked for half an hour and I feel like she didn't take the matter to heart. She even asked me to persuade you. Seems like you were too rash with introducing a boyfriend to her before. Just take it easy with this!"

Chapter 443 Penny Is Gone

Lara sighed and said, "I did all this for our family. She left after making a fuss and didn't even answer my call. It looks like I owe her in my previous life!"

"Stop complaining. You should be glad that Penny is so mature. Look at the others; there are not many people out there who are as excellent as her," said Edward.

Putting some thought into it, Lara said, "Then you should give her a call and ask her to come back for a meal this weekend."

Agreeing with her, Eugene took out his phone and called Penny. But he was told that her phone had been turned off.

He looked at Lara in surprise. "Her phone's off."

Lara exclaimed, "That's impossible! She doesn't have that habit!"

Feeling like something was wrong, Edward said, "Maybe her battery's dead. You go to bed first. I'll go to her house to have a look."

"I'll go with you," said Lara.

The both of them drove to Penny's house, but she didn't open the door even after they had been knocking for a long time. The more time had passed, the more worried they got. In the end, they could only enter the house using the spare key and prepared to wait for her in the house.

However, when they got in, they found that the house was uninhabited. It was so empty that they felt like no one had been staying there for a long time.

They then found a letter on the coffee table with Penny's handwriting on it.

'Dad, Mom, I'm not sure if you guys will find this letter. All I hope is for you to think of me. When you find this letter, I may be far away from this city already. Actually, I have always thought of leaving. This is not on a whim. I always feel like I'm your puppet with no right to my own feelings and thoughts. But, I do have my own thoughts. Sometimes, I wonder if the purpose of my existence was to please both of you. Today, I finally understand. I do have feelings and I hate obeying your orders. I want to live my own life. So, I decided to leave. Please don't be worried about me. Whether my life is smooth sailing or difficult in the future, this is my own choice. I won't blame this on anyone. With regard, Penny.'

After reading the letter, Edward looked toward Lara with teary eyes. "Where do you think she has gone?"

But Lara wasn't crying; instead, she was dazed. "Who has she been in contact with recently? How did she become so rebellious all of a sudden?"

Edward's tears then fell. "Where are we supposed to find our kid? I'm afraid we really hurt her this time."

Lara looked cold. All that was showing on her face was the anxiousness one would feel when they were betrayed. "Find her! We need to find out who has been in touch with her. We need to get someone to check the flight! If she doesn't want us to find her, she has probably gone overseas. Look into her classmates and friends that are close to her!"

As she was saying this, she got to her feet and walked straight outside.

Edward scowled as he glanced at Lara's back. Lara wasn't wrong for what she had said. But, he felt like she was way too calm—as if she had no emotions. Putting Eugene and Brian aside, she was exceptionally cold even toward her biological daughter!

Instead of leaving, Edward walked into Penny's room. On the bedside table, there was a photo frame that was lying face down. Setting the photo frame up, he noticed that it was a photo of the three of them. Back then, Penny was only about ten years

old. She was standing in the middle and she sported two high ponytails. He was holding her hand. The both of them smiled happily, but not Lara. She looked cold as always, but it was undeniable that she was gorgeous!

It was a pity that Penny had covered up the photograph. Perhaps, she doesn't want to look at it!

His phone suddenly rang. Checking the screen, it was Lara. Edward swiped the screen to answer. However, before he could say anything, Lara's demanding voice sounded out. "Aren't you leaving?"

Chapter 444 Sharing the Same Room

Edward had never felt that there was any problem with the way Lara talked. But probably because of what happened to Penny, he also felt that Lara's tone was too aggressive, and it was indeed commanding!

"You go first! I'll stay for a while!" Because Lara didn't hear the answer she thought he would give, she was at loss for a long moment. Finally, she didn't say anything and hung up the phone.

Eugene and the others had been chatting until 11 PM. Olivia and North weren't able to hold on and they lay on the sofa drowsily. Knowing that they were tired, Ellen shooed them to sleep.

However, the villa on the island had only four rooms in total and there was no doubt that Brian and Ellen would be occupying one room each. There were two rooms left for the three of them. If it were in the past, it was natural that Olivia and North would share one. Nevertheless, North had already checked out all the rooms earlier and he told Ellen that he wanted to sleep on his own. So, Eugene and Olivia had to stay together in the same room.

Eugene didn't have any objections, but Olivia didn't seem to like the idea. When they were back at home, they had never shared a room. Why was it that she had to sleep with him in the house of her future mother-in-law?

People who didn't know her would think that she couldn't keep her composure. Of course, she wasn't someone like that! So, she kept herself awake on the sofa but still couldn't help falling asleep.

"Let's go to sleep. I think Olivia is already sleepy," said Ellen.

Immediately, Olivia woke up. This wasn't her house after all and hence she didn't dare to sleep too deeply. That was why she woke up the moment Ellen spoke. When she woke up, she tried to explain, "It's okay. I'm not sleepy." But when her voice dropped, she started yawning.

Looking at her behavior, Eugene was entertained but heartbroken at the same time. "All of us should go to bed now. We're leaving too." As he said, he bent down, lifted Olivia away from the sofa, and walked toward the room.

Olivia was shocked at once. She murmured subconsciously, "Hey! Let me go!"

Instead of letting her go, Eugene's eyelids drooped and there was a teasing smile at the corner of his mouth. While he was walking, he asked, "Are you shy?"

"What do you think your mom would think when she sees you holding me like that in front of her?" Olivia frowned.

Eugene whispered, "Mom would only be happy for me."

"Just let go of me."

"Don't move. Mom's watching."

In her heart, Olivia thought, Of course, I know your mother is watching! If she isn't, I would have kicked you already! She was so angry now but she had nowhere to vent her anger out. So, she could only threaten him with her gaze. "Eugene, how could you be so shameless? What do you mean by we're going to sleep now? You made it sound like I've been sleeping with you all along!"

Halting his movements, Eugene thought for a while and said, "Didn't we sleep together before?"

"Who slept with you?" Although her voice wasn't loud, her expression was fierce.

"If we haven't slept together before, how did our son appear?" chuckled Eugene.

Olivia was speechless for a moment and she yelled, "You're too much into character!"

As soon as her voice dropped, she heard Ellen's voice. "Eugene, why don't you come sleep in my room. I can crash on the sofa."

Eugene frowned after he heard what his mother said. There was no way he would let his mother sleep on the sofa and so he answered, "No. I'll sleep on the sofa!"

"No way. You guys must have been very tired coming here by car and boat. There's no way you can rest well."

Olivia pouted. She felt like his mother's words were clearly meant for her. She was originally thinking of kicking him out to the sofa after he sent her back to the room. But how could she do that now? She took a deep breath and said to Ellen, "It's fine, Mrs. Nolan. You sleep in the room. Eugene can sleep with me!"

Finally getting the answer she wanted, Ellen smiled. "Okay. Rest well, then. Good night!"

Chapter 445 No Backing Out

"Good night, Mrs. Nolan!" Olivia smiled as she said that and she switched into a fierce expression in the next second. "Hurry up and let me down!"

Eugene did not let her go. Instead, the corners of his mouth grew wider. "Don't you think that you're changing too quickly, my dear?" "Why should I be nice to you when you're so shameless?" Olivia snorted.

At this moment, Eugene had already pushed open the room's door. Taking a few steps, he pressed Olivia into the bed, and his tall figure engulfed her. "Come on; repeat what you just said!"

The man's low, enchanting voice spread across her cheeks in a warm gust. His unique scent swept over her in all directions.

In fact, it was a very reassuring scent. But the man right in front of her was very dangerous; it was making Olivia's heart anxious.

The room wasn't lit; his eyes looked especially bright in the dark room; they looked like the glowing green eyes of a wolf who had been starved for a long time.

Olivia swallowed carefully, too afraid to repeat what she just said.

However, Eugene saw through her timidness and got closer to her intentionally. His lips stroked her ears teasingly and he demanded, "Say it!"

There was a hint of seductiveness in his gentle voice.

"I said you're true to your words and very talented. No one would dare to pull a face at you!" Olivia flattered him.

Laughing silently in his heart, Eugene continued to say harshly, "Did... Did you say that just now?"

Olivia smiled dryly and she said, "Yeah. I'm sure I said that earlier!"

But Eugene continued to lean over her instead of leaving. "Kiss me."

Olivia's eyebrows twitched and she glared at him; she was almost going crazy.

Reading her mind, Eugene did not make a sound. Instead, his palm moved to the hem of her clothes inadvertently.

Instantly, Olivia was taken aback and she froze. In a trembling voice, she said, "W-What are you doing? Don't be so shameless, Eugene!"

Eugene's eyebrows knitted and he pretended to tug at the hem of her clothes. Raising his eyes, he looked at the stubborn woman and chuckled, "What's the matter?"

Olivia was annoyed and wanted to hit him and pinch him, but she couldn't do that in his mother's house.

Eyeing the annoying smile at the corner of his mouth, her eyes rolled. Suddenly, she wrapped her hands around his neck and kissed him on his cheek. With a pair of captivating eyes, she shyly said, "You get down first. I can't breathe because of your weight."

Eugene propped himself up with his elbow, moving his body that wasn't actually pressing on Olivia. But, he was still trying his best to fight for some benefits. "Then, where do I sleep?"

Olivia glared at him. "Do you think I'll still send you out? Of course, you're sleeping with me. I'll sleep over that side and you'll be sleeping here."

Upon hearing that, Eugene was pleased. He leaned over and kissed her on her lips. "No backing out then!"

"Of course." Olivia flashed him an innocent smile.

Finally, Eugene got up on his feet and picked her up. "Don't worry. I won't do anything to you without your consent!"

Smiling gently, Olivia answered, "I know. By the way, when you brought me in just now, I forgot to bring my bag. You wait here; I'll go get it."

With that, she was about to get up and leave the bed.

But there was no way Eugene didn't figure out what she was trying to do. He instantly pressed her down. "No. You wait here. I'll go!"

Obediently, Olivia lowered her head and responded, "Well, then. Thank you, my dear."

Eugene frowned as he looked at her perfect smile. He wondered what had happened to her today.

Why is she so nice today?

"Are you trying to trick me to go out, then lock the door?"