Chapter 436 Serves You Right!

Olivia fell silent. Which family does this cheeky brat belong to? "You could have called her 'Madam Nolan'!" In response, North threatened, "Why don't you say that to Uncle Eugene?"

"Say what? Worse still, how could you say that you looked like your grandma?! Which part of you looks like her?!"

"My mouth! Don't you think so too?"

She snorted. "Nope. Your mouth looks more like mine!" "It looks like my grandma's too!"

Upon hearing those words, she was rendered speechless again. Sigh. He's not listening to me anymore. Is the little b*stard in his rebellious phase? Why are there so many people popping up to steal my son from me?!

On the other side, Eugene finally found Brian. Brian was like a raging bull, rushing forward without heed and ignoring Eugene, who was calling out to him from behind. In the end, Eugene lost his patience. Striding forward, he grabbed Brian. "Where are you going?!"

Brian shoved him away angrily. "It's none of your business!"

Staggering backward after being pushed away, Eugene yelled at him, "You're my younger brother; who else am I supposed to care for if not you?!"

Brian was so furious that he was seeing red. "Mom is alive and well. It has been so many years since the incident! Why didn't you tell me?! Do you really regard me as your brother?! Were you happy watching me suffering and struggling every single day?!"

Meanwhile, Eugene simply sighed in frustration—he merely watched as his brother threw a tantrum, just like when they were younger. "At the time, the doctor told me that Mom might end up in a vegetative state. How could I dare to leave you with her? You couldn't even take care of yourself; how could you take care of Mom if she were in a vegetative state?! They dared to harm Mom once. If so, it would surely happen again. How were you going to take care of her?!"

"Even if you had to take her away, couldn't you have told me?!"

"Were we on talking terms? Would you have listened to me back then?!"

That sentence took the wind out of Brian's sails—he couldn't refute it. Last time, they started fighting every single time they met. The best possible outcome was that the meeting ended in nothing more than a heated quarrel. If things took a turn for the worse, they would end up in a scuffle, just like last night. I have never trusted Eugene. If it wasn't for Olivia acting as the middleman bridging us together during this period, our relationship would never improve to the point where we could sit at the same table and share a meal!

Eugene sighed helplessly. "You were only safe if we were at odds with each other! Brian, I wasn't greedy for riches—I was planning my revenge! If all three of us left the family with nothing but the clothes on our back, we would have nothing. Back then, the two of us were still students, and the Mccarthy Family refused to take us in. Moreover, your health was in a precarious situation where you needed treatment at any time. How could I get my revenge if I had to worry about how we were going to afford our next meal every single day?"

Brian replied aggrievedly, "Then, would it have killed you to inform me beforehand?"

Then, Eugene looked at the setting sun in the distance. "At first, I just didn't want you to become like me. I was less than human at the time. I was cold and unfeeling, and the only thought in my head was to exact revenge on them—if possible, I even wanted to kill them. For that reason, I wished for you to live a normal life. I didn't want you to live in the shadows the way I did." Looking at

Brian, he continued, "If I had told you the truth... are you saying I should have asked you to die with me?"

Brian squatted down on the ground abruptly and covered his face as his tears flowed out between the seams of his fingers. "Who said we had to die? Couldn't we have thought up a solution together? You couldn't even tell me that Mom was still alive..."

Eugene replied, "Mom only got better recently. Although she wasn't braindead after the car accident, she was paralyzed from the waist down for many years. By chance, I came across an expert, who helped me out only after I agreed to fulfill one condition of his. Later, Mom slowly recovered. Since then, I've wanted to tell you. But, you looked like you wanted to kill me every time we met. Besides, you would surely visit her frequently after finding out she was alive. I was worried that you might be followed one day. If that happened, Mom would be in danger again."

Glaring at Eugene unhappily, he retorted, "Am I that foolish?"

Eugene returned his look with a cold glare of his own. "Aren't you? Then, how did the injuries on my face come about? You nearly killed me!"

In the end, Brian looked a little guilty. "Serves you right! It's your fault for not saying anything to me! Moreover, you even stayed behind with the Nolan Family for revenge! So, why haven't you carried out your revenge yet?! With your current influence, you can get rid of them, right?!"

Chapter 437 When Have I Ever Lied to You?

Eugene glanced at Brian, then he sighed again. "Now, I have many worries to consider. I'm not as impulsive as I was when I was younger. After you and Mom left, I indeed tried to plot against Edward and Lara. I hired people to assassinate them and also tried to kill them with an overdose of sleeping pills.

However, every one of my attempts was foiled by them. The people I hired were incomparable to their bodyguards. Moreover, they didn't even touch the dish I spiked with sleeping pills. After that, Grandpa even punished me greatly. He told me that they dared to let me remain by their side because they knew what sort of intentions I had in my heart.

Somebody has always been beside me, monitoring me, even until now. At that time, I realized that it was an extremely difficult task for me to exact my revenge. Since then, I have obediently played my role as the young master of the Nolan Family.

I studied hard—it didn't matter whether it was useful or not. I studied everything. When they saw that I was becoming more dependable, they finally relaxed their guard on me. Now, I can go up against them. But, I don't want to trouble Grandpa. How is he supposed to choose between his son and his grandson?"

Brian snorted with a disapproving expression. "You sure considered many things."

Eugene's expression darkened and he said solemnly, "Brian, you can hate Edward and Lara. But, Grandpa has always been protecting us. The Mccarthy Family took you in because Grandpa called them personally.

Also, if it wasn't for Grandpa helping me secretly back then, Mom would have died. The fact that I can survive for so long and take over as the head of the house

of the Nolan Family is all due to Grandpa's influence. Otherwise, I would never achieve the success I have today!"

For a long while, Brian said nothing. He finally asked awkwardly after a long while, "Isaac mentioned that he was working for you. Did you arrange for the car accident to happen?"

Eugene replied, "Yes, he works for me, but I sent him to protect you guys from the shadows. After the car accident occurred, I didn't realize that there was a conspiracy going on. Only later did I realize that things were a little strange. There's a high possibility that he was somebody Lara had deliberately sent to me.

Her purpose was to drive a wedge between us. Don't kill him yet. We need to question him carefully when we return. I'm sure we'll be able to figure out the mastermind behind everything."

Afterward, both of them slowly headed back. Coincidentally, they were just in time to see Olivia and North coming outside. Thus, Eugene happily went over to them. "Why did the two of you come out here?"

Olivia thought to herself, I can't say I escaped outside because I was afraid of making a fool of myself in the kitchen, can I? Therefore, she glanced at North as she replied, "North said he wanted to come outside to explore the place."

In response, North lifted his small head to look at Olivia. Fine, my darling Mommy. I'll let this pass. I'll take the blame for this!

When she saw that the little guy wasn't about to expose her lies, she quickly continued, "This place is absolutely beautiful!"

Pointing at the highest peak of the corridor, Eugene said, "Why don't I bring you there? The scenery from that point is even more beautiful." After saying that, he directed his next words at Brian, "Brian, why don't you go back for now?"

Brian was slightly taken aback. He knew that Eugene was intentionally creating a chance for him to have some alone time with his mother. Although he felt very uneasy, he didn't say anything else as he left with a noncommittal grunt.

Watching Brian as he left, Olivia asked, "Have you cleared the air with Brian?"

Eugene replied, "Yeah."

"Did he say anything? Was he understanding?"

He said, "I told him everything clearly. What else is there to not understand?"

She glanced at him coldly. "If I were Brian, I would be suspicious. Who knows if what you said was the truth?"

Pausing in his steps, he replied, "I had no reason to deceive him!"

She glared at him again. "So, you have a reason to deceive me?"

For a moment, he couldn't think of any instances in which he had deceived her. Hence, he frowned. "When have I ever lied to you?"

Olivia glared at him sharply, and her voice was cool as she said, "It might be exaggerating to say that your mother is perfectly fine. But, isn't she walking just fine?"

Then, Eugene seemed to have a sudden realization. Oh, it's about this issue. Thus, he hurriedly smiled and explained, "I wasn't really lying. My mother couldn't walk properly until several years back.

Afterward, I met an unusual expert who agreed to cure my mother. However, no matter how hard I tried to search for him after that, I couldn't find him again. So, I honestly wanted you to come and examine my mother to see if she is fully healed."

Chapter 438 You Can Live Here by Yourself for the Rest Of Your Life

Olivia pouted. "Is that all? Are you sure you weren't being selfish?"

Under Olivia's gaze, Eugene swallowed hard and he didn't dare to argue against her. Before he could even start talking, he shot her a flattering smile.

"Actually, I did have some ulterior motives. I talk to Mom very often; she knows about you and has seen your pictures before. She has been asking to meet you, so I decided to take this opportunity and bring you over."

As she glared at Eugene, Olivia was about to leave. Just when she turned around, Eugene held her hand and said pitifully, "Olivia, please don't be angry. You know Brian wouldn't come with me if you weren't coming too. If that was the case, I'm not sure when the misunderstanding between us would be solved, so I could only ask for your help."

Although Olivia was slightly irritated, she knew that it wasn't because of the lie Eugene had told her, but it was because she was worried.

Olivia was definitely not prepared and Eugene had tricked her to the island to meet his mother. She was worried that his mother would be prejudiced toward her, but she felt like she couldn't tell Eugene about this, so all she could do was glare at him.

Indistinctly, North said, "Mommy, nothing is embarrassing about eating what has already been prepared!"

Olivia and Eugene were dazed. But then Eugene let out a chuckle and said, "It's okay. Mom knew you couldn't cook. She even told me to take good care of you."

Immediately, Olivia was embarrassed. "You... You're really..."

Couldn't he save face for her?

While Eugene wrapped his arm around Olivia's shoulders, he held North with his other hand. "This is nothing. Mom has been through so many things in her life. She is very open-minded. Besides, she only hopes for me and Brian to be happy. You're the one that can make us happy, so there's no reason for her to hate you."

Upon hearing that, Olivia gave him a single glance. "I don't care what you're trying to say now. I'm still going to hold you responsible for your lies! You're not allowed to visit my house for three days after we go back!"

Eugene was rendered speechless.

Breaking away from his hold, Olivia marched forward arrogantly. The two of them made their way to the highest point of Promise Island and looked back at the lush greenery, the pavilion, the cloister, and the fences in the distance. Everything was windy—like a dragon making its way up the hill.

The seaside was the most beautiful at this point. The sun was setting silently at the horizon; the colorful clouds gathered and illuminated rays of evening sunlight. The only things left hanging in the sky were the dreamlike red, orange, and yellow rays—it looked as if gold was sprinkled from the sky.

The clouds were finely outlined in the sky, turning the sky into an ink painting.

The evening breeze that was mixed with the fragrance of flowers and trees was very refreshing.

Olivia exhaled deeply and exclaimed, "This place is so beautiful!"

Laughing softly, Eugene answered, "When we're old, we can come and stay here for the rest of our lives."

Olivia was surprised that Eugene actually had the same idea as her.

Looking toward Olivia, Eugene inquired, "Why are you looking at me like this?"

With cold eyes, Olivia scowled. "I'm wondering how long I can bear with you if you keep on lying to me like this."

Instantly, Eugene's hair stood on end. He reached out and grabbed her hand. "S-Stay strong, Olivia. I promise I won't hide anything from you anymore."

Olivia almost laughed out loud when she heard his words. She didn't know how this man could say something like that in such a serious manner.

Throwing him a coy glance, she started walking back. She said, "If you ever lie to me again, then you can come here to live by yourself for the rest of your life!"

Her response left Eugene at a loss for words.

When Eugene and Olivia finally came home, they found Ellen and Brian crying in one another's arms. It seemed like the two of them had finally talked it out.

Ellen asked Brian, "Do you still faint very often?"

Shaking his head, Brian said, "Not anymore. Olivia has cured me. I haven't fainted for a long time, and I don't have a headache anymore."

Chapter 439 We're Family

Ellen was surprised. "Olivia? Your sister-in-law?"

Brain smiled as he nodded. "That's right. She's super amazing!" Suddenly, something came into her mind and Ellen said, "Eugene told me that she's the one who cured your grandpa's sickness, and now she has even treated yours. I didn't expect my daughter-in-law to be so marvelous."

As she was saying this, her eyes were glistening. Standing by the door, Eugene glanced toward Olivia, looking like he was trying to say, You see that? Mom is very satisfied with you.

Olivia had to admit that Ellen's remarks had got rid of the uneasiness in her heart. Tightening her lips, she was feeling a little bit happy.

Eugene led Olivia and North into the living room. "Later, you can ask Olivia to give you an examination too."

Rising to her feet, Ellen laughed. "I'm okay. You don't have to worry about me. Go wash your hands; dinner's ready."

Locking eyes with each other in secret, both North and Olivia broke into a smile.

The three of them washed their hands and went to the dining table.

"Olivia, Brian told me that you cured him. You're so amazing. I found many doctors to look at his complications but none of them had any idea. I didn't expect that you could help him. I... I really don't know how to thank you," said Ellen.

Olivia was not used to this kind of situation, so she could only laugh. "You don't have to thank me. This is what I'm supposed to do."

Helplessly, Ellen sighed. "Back then, I was always worried that both Eugene and Brian would turn bad. I was so preoccupied that I couldn't live my life peacefully. I had to nag him every time he visited me. He's probably getting tired of my nagging, but still, he only ever tells me the good news. In fact, now that the Internet is so developed, it's easy for me to find out something if I want to. Whenever I heard of the dangers they encountered, or that the two of them were in a fight again, I couldn't sleep for nights. It's only because of you that I can sit down and eat with them at the same table."

As she said that, she looked at the brothers. "Aren't the two of you going to give Olivia a toast?"

The brothers glanced at each other and couldn't help laughing. They raised the wine glasses on the table toward Olivia and said, "Thank you, Olivia."

Even North followed suit. "Mommy, I thank you too!"

"Yes. Thank you, my daughter-in-law!" said Ellen.

Olivia was dumbstruck.

Everyone at the table was looking at her and their gaze was so kind. Olivia felt like a moon surrounded by stars as she was sitting in the middle.

She had completely let go of the stone in her heart that was troubling her all day. It looked like her future mother-in-law was someone very amiable!

Pursing her lips shyly, she raised her wine glass. "We're no strangers. You guys don't have to be so polite."

Ellen laughed. "That's right. We're family. There's no need to behave that way. Olivia, quick; try the spicy crayfish I prepared."

Right when Olivia thanked everyone and wanted to reach for the dish, Eugene was one step ahead. He put gloves on and started peeling the crayfish for everyone.

Everyone was given the peeled crayfish; the atmosphere was very warm and relaxing.

After the dinner, Eugene looked at Ellen who was busy tidying up the table, and said, "Mom, come and take a seat. I have something to ask you."

Ellen put her work aside and sat down in surprise. She asked, "What is it?"

Eugene said, "For so many years, I didn't dare to ask about what had happened back then. But now that it has been so long and you're blessed with children and grandchildren, you wouldn't mind if I were to ask, right?"

"It's okay. You can ask," chuckled Ellen.

Looking at Olivia and Brian, Eugene then asked, "Why does Edward like Lara so much? I've analyzed the situation together with Olivia, and we feel like it's impossible for Edward to do things to such extent for Lara!"

Silently, Ellen let out a long sigh. As if she had gone back to thirty years ago, she stared blankly into the distance. "Of course, he wouldn't like her for no reason. It's because he thought that Lara was the one that saved his life."

Chapter 440 The Truth

Upon hearing that, Eugene and Olivia glanced at each other. This revelation is too overwhelming. What's that supposed to mean?

Did Olivia really make the right guess? Things weren't really that simple?

"He thought the one who saved him was Lara? Are you saying that Lara wasn't the one that saved him?" Eugene couldn't hold himself back from asking.

Ellen nodded with sadness visible in her eyes. She then looked at Olivia, feeling a little flustered to talk about her past in front of her daughter-in-law. "Olivia, these are all trivial issues of our family. Please don't be scared away by them," said Ellen vaguely.

Olivia was startled for a moment and she said, "It's okay, Mrs. Nolan. If you find it uncomfortable for me to stay throughout the conversation, North and I can leave some space for you. We can go take a walk outside."

As she was saying this, she got to her feet and pulled North as she tried to leave.

Ellen hurriedly took her hand. "No, no. I'm just afraid that my family issues will affect your relationship with Eugene. You can stay if you don't mind."

At this moment, Eugene helped Olivia back to the sofa. "Mom, you don't have to overthink things. I'm going to spend the rest of my life with Olivia. Besides, if it weren't for Olivia, I wouldn't have remembered to ask you about this. I haven't thought about this since the beginning and really thought that Edward was captivated by Lara."

Ellen sighed again; her voice sounded helpless. "He was indeed captivated by her. Both Edward and Lara were my university classmates, and he always had a crush on Lara. During one of our class reunions, one of the rooms in the hotel was on fire. But, restaurants thirty years ago were very undeveloped and there was no CCTV.

Edward was sitting at the end of the table. Everyone was rushing toward the doors. You can imagine how crowded it was. I was sitting next to the door with Lara and so we managed to leave. But, Edward was nowhere to be seen. I was very worried so I soaked myself with water and went in again."

When I found the room, the door was closed; the entrance was blocked by a burning beam. The fire was roaring and I couldn't breathe at all. I closed my eyes and tried to put the fire out with a broom. When I finally got rid of the beam and opened the door, Lara came in. She was covered in a damp blanket and when she saw me, she put it on me. She rushed into the room and helped to get Edward out.

I wanted to help her but she told me that there was someone inside the room. I didn't doubt her since we were indeed racing against time with the fire. Covering myself in the blanket, I went into the room, but I found no one.

When I finally got out, Lara came in again saying that she might have been mistaken and helped me out. That day, no one knew that it was actually me who had moved the beam and opened the door."

Letting out a bitter laugh, she continued, "I couldn't explain clearly what had happened that day. I couldn't say that Lara didn't save anyone and tell everyone that she was taking credit for nothing. From Edward's perspective, it was Lara who had saved his life. In the eyes of our classmates, it was Lara who had saved me and Edward!"

Olivia was startled. "How could Lara be so scheming at such a young age?"

Helplessly, Ellen said, "She's not scheming. I was the stupid one."

Olivia frowned in response. "Then, how did you get married into the Nolans? Didn't Lara do all that to marry Eugene's Dad?"

Taking a deep breath, Ellen answered, "The Nolans had intended to arrange a marriage with the Mccarthys. Although Eugene really wanted to marry Lara, she was abroad. I told him that if he can persuade both our families, I would agree with his plan too.

So, he went to the Roberts', but they told him that she already had a boyfriend and rejected his proposal. They didn't even give him a phone number to contact her. That night, he asked me out for a drink. He told me about how much he was in love with Lara, how grateful he was that she saved him from the fire, and how if it wasn't for her, he wouldn't be alive.

I didn't explain, but I did talk about the fire. Maybe he was too drunk, but he didn't hear what I said clearly. It might be that he didn't care to listen at all. Anyway, he didn't pity me at all for everything I did for him."