

The Divorce 281

Chapter 281 The Accident's Culprit

There was a cacophony of noises around me. I felt pain coursing through my entire body, and the intense vibrations of the impact were unbearable. The screeching of brakes, the pungent smell of disinfectant, and the ringing phone all assaulted my senses.

I let out a startled cry, "Ah!"

'She's awake! She's awake!'

I gasped heavily, feeling as though the surroundings were suffocating me.

'Chlo, are you okay? Chlo...'

I turned to the voices and saw my mother's tearful and anxious eyes. Lauren was by her side, supporting

her arm. My father stood nearby with red-rimmed eyes.

"Mom..."

"How do you feel, Chlo? Can you hear me?" Ivanna's voice filled with concern.

s off and the muscles relax, the patient will experience pain in the chest

A nurse hurried in and handed a report to the doctor

"Doctor Jones, this is the blood test report for the patient. The doctors in the lab wanted you to take a

look

The older doctor took it and carefully examined the data.

Then he furrowed his brows and asked me, "Have you ever experienced dizziness, fatigue, sudden palpitations, shortness of breath, or restlessness?"

I nodded, confirming. "Yes."

"For how long?" he inquired.

"It's been a while. Every time I sit in a car for too long I feel this way I get sleepy, and my body feels weak.

"I described recent incidents to him "Today was one of those times I was stuck in traffic for a long time and felt weak and irritable."

"Do you smoke or take any medications" he asked, mentioning two specific drug names

I shook my head firmly. "No."

Atlas's deep eyes turned to the doctor. "Doctor Jones, is there anything wrong?"

"We found traces of carbonadium in her blood. It's a new type of chemical agent that can confuse the body. Mild all-over fatigue, palpitations, irritability... In severe cases, it can lead to toxic reactions, and even...death."

Atlas's gaze turned icy in an instant

“It won’t stay in the bloodstream for long because this substance evaporates quickly. It spreads out in the air. It will go away after a certain time, and all symptoms will slowly disappear, too!” The doctor continued

to explain.

“Yes, I feel like if I get some fresh air or move around a bit, I won’t feel so drowsy anymore,” I said softly.

“You mean in the car?” Atlas’s tone made me shiver when he looked at me.

His question immediately brought to mind that car air freshener.

I quickly turned to the doctor and asked, “Doctor, could this chemical come from something that evaporates in liquid form? Like an air freshener?”

“It’s possible. It could also be in solid form, but it can evaporate in the air! he affirmed decisively.

“The car air freshener?” Lauren and I said it in unison.

Atlas’s face instantly turned as cold as ice, his lips forming a frigid curve.

He immediately turned to Dylan and commanded, “Find that bottle! Send it to the lab!”

Chapter 282 The Perfume Is Gone

Dylan turned and disappeared from the hospital room.

Finally, the doctors advised me to rest and observe. I had to tell the medical staff if I felt uncomfortable.

Then they left the room. My head was still in a whirl, and my body ached

Ava wanted to come closer, but Carol held her back, soothing her, "Ava, don't touch Mommy, it'll hurt!"

"Mom, Dad, you should go home! I want your handmade pasta, Mom," I murmured. "Ryan, take Mom and Dad back. If everything's fine tomorrow, I'll come home!"

Ryan looked at me. He had been watching from a distance, not saying a word. However, his eyes had been fixed on me, full of anxiety.

When he heard me say this, he immediately responded, "Alright, we'll go back and make you some pasta!

We'll bring them over a little later!"

"Okay!" I smiled at him. Tm fine!

Ryan left my hospital room with Ava and my parents. Truthfully, I didn't really want pasta, but I didn't want them to worry about me knowing too much

They had only left briefly when Dylan entered, his gaze somewhat disappointed as he looked at Atlas.

his head gently. "We couldn't find that bottle of perfume. It wasn't at the scene, and it wasn't in

He shook his h

the car!"

Atlas's expression grew grim, his face emanating a chilling aura. He knew that the bottle was a gift from Stella to me.

Lauren wasn't having any of it. "Impossible. At noon today, I saw that thing in Chlo's car. I even picked it up to smell it. How could it not be there?"

"Chlo, think, was it in the car when the accident happened?" Ivanna was starting to get anxious.

"Yes, it was there the whole time. It smelled nice. I felt so weak that I didn't have the strength to step on the gas. It was the same feeling as the last time I flipped the car in Pleca Park." I spoke weakly, "When I turned out of the traffic, it was still there!"

Atlas's eyes were filled with cold hostility. "Did you call and talk to Stella? What did she say?"

"She said... that you were taking a shower..." I answered his question truthfully, "And she'd get up right away to tell you to call me back!"

"Nonsense. Mr. Atlas has been talking with Mrs. Celine the whole time. How could he be taking a shower?"

Dylan was getting a bit furious.

"Find out who approached that damaged car. Find the person who took the perfume!" Atlas's face grew

even darker.

“This is a blatant attempt to harm Chlo!” Lauren could not keep things bottled up, and she continued, looking at Atlas. “Mr. Atlas, you have to give us an explanation for this.”

Just then, Atlas’s phone rang. He turned and walked out quickly.

“Dylan, how did you all find out about my accident?” I took the opportunity to ask Dylan.

Dylan looked at me and said, “They came to see Mr. Atlas before he left work. They were discussing something. When Mr. Atlas went to get some documents, Ms. Stella told him he had a call. But by the time he answered, you had already hung up!”

I

I closed my eyes for a moment, blaming myself silently for not being more composed and for being too

impulsive.

“Mr. Atlas handed the documents to Mrs. Celine, and they left. When Mr. Atlas tried to call you back, her couldn’t get through. So, he told me to trace your location. When he noticed that you were in the same spot, he had a hunch that something had happened.”

When Dylan explained the situation, I felt a little regretful. Things would have been better if I hadn’t been

so rash.

Despite this, I knew deep down if it was the problem with that perfume, it was only a matter of time

before I had an accident.

However, I was puzzled. How could that bottle of perfume just vanish?

Atlas returned to my bedside after his phone call, his gaze fixed on me. After a moment, he said, "Rest and recover. I have some matters to attend to. I'll be back later."

He glanced at Ivanna and instructed them, "Take good care of her. Grayson, come with me!"

With that, they all exited my hospital room. Inside, we exchanged looks, and Lauren finally shook her head.

"it's terrifying. Chloe, you're incredibly lucky! Do you realize how horrific the scene was? Not a single witness believed you could survive."

Chapter 283 Put On a Show

Lauren's words left me feeling somewhat dazed.

"The car was completely wrecked. You were only saved because the airbags deployed and protected you. Plus, the truck hit the back of your car. You narrowly escaped a catastrophe!"

Lauren continued, her voice filled with concern. "If the timing had been just a bit off... It's horrifying even

to think about!"

As I listened to Lauren's account, I recalled that desperate press of the pedal. If the doctor's assessment had been accurate, a slightly delayed reaction could have left me paralyzed, or worse, I might never have seen my family again.

It was shocking to see the accident report photos later. Stella visited my ward two days later, and I admired her composure.

Stella entered, accompanied by a bodyguard, holding a big bouquet and carrying a basket of fruits. She walked in with the confidence of someone who owned the place.

I stared at her in disbelief, but she looked genuinely concerned as she quickly approached my bedside.

“Chlo, are you feeling better?” Her tone was heartfelt.

She grabbed my hand and asked me with tears in her eyes, “How did this accident happen? It scared everyone half to death.”

My mother quickly fetched a chair. “Please have a seat.”

On the other hand, Lauren wasted no time and shouted at the bodyguard, “Remove those items. She was just poisoned; we can’t have them in here!”

I fixed my eyes on Stella’s face, closely examining her expression. She didn’t seem the least bit guilty.

Stella instructed her bodyguard to take her gifts out, and the man left with the items.

I glanced at Lauren and smiled at Stella. “I hope you won’t mind!”

“I don’t mind. We’re all friends, and you’re injured. It’s only natural to be agitated!” She gave my hand a comforting squeeze. “Are you feeling better now?”

was a close call indeed!" I replied warmly, putting on a little performance of my own. "I apologize

for troubling you the other day?

i

deliberately brought up the fact that she had answered the phone.

"Hey! No worries!" She responded calmly and turned the question back to me. "I didn't know you two had

plans.

"It's fine. We met at the hospital in the end," I chuckled. "It's all thanks to Mr. Atlas's quick thinking. When he couldn't reach me on the phone, he had a hunch that something had happened.

"I thought I should be thanking you. If you hadn't answered the call that day, and he hadn't arrived in time, if I had stayed in the car just a bit longer, it might have been a different story!"

"Really? I only found out later from the news reports!" Stella appeared a bit uneasy.

"Oh? Weren't you two together? Didn't you ask when he left? I teased, playfully giving her hand a gentle

squeeze.

Stella's gaze flickered, and she managed a smile, though it held a hint of satisfaction. "He said he was stepping out for a moment. How could I have known about the accident?"

My mother was getting confused by our conversation, but Lauren understood. Her face had darkened considerably, and she appeared on the verge of interrupting several times. However, I shot her a subtle glance, signaling her to hold back.

I wasn't sure about Atlas's intentions, but I didn't want to fall out with Stella. Coincidentally, before Stella.

could finish her act, Atlas strode in...

Chapter 284 The Culprit Is Here

I was taken aback as Atlas walked in with a stern expression. It seemed he was not surprised to find

Stella here.

Stella had been sitting by my bedside with her back to the door. When she heard someone approaching, she turned around. Seeing Atlas, she appeared genuinely surprised. "Atlas, you're here?"

She quickly stood up and positioned herself by Atlas's side. She held onto his arm. "I came to check on Chloe. Why didn't you tell me it was this serious?"

Atlas's gaze remained focused on her delicate face, and the corners of his mouth twitched.

"This isn't the best place for you to be. Dylan, take Ms. Stella back!"

Stella probably didn't expect Atlas to be so straightforward in front of us. She quickly said, "Atlas, I just

got here! I wanted to be with you-

"Dylan!" Atlas's words were clear and unwavering, leaving no room for doubt.

Stella's face paled slightly, her hand still gripping

Atlas's arm.

Dylan stepped forward. "Ms. Stella, I'll take you back!"

Stella hesitated momentarily, then released her grip on Atlas's arm and picked up her bag. "Chlo, I'll head

back for now. I'll drop by again when I'm free!"

Lauren had been holding back for a long time.

She seemed unable to hold it in any longer and spoke extremely disrespectfully. "Ms. Stella, Mr. Atlas

said this isn't the best place for you!"

Stella's face immediately darkened.

She turned abruptly toward Lauren. "I don't need an outsider to tell me that! You can't speak for Chloe!"

Then she addressed me, "Take care of yourself! Once you're feeling better, I'll treat you to a meal!"

With that, she glared at Lauren and then left the room.

As I watched her departure, I couldn't help but feel a sense of cynicism. I had to admit that Stella had a

bold spirit. There was no way she was unaware of the perfume incident. How else could that bottle of perfume have vanished? It seemed she had come to check on my condition personally.

I fell silent. Although Atlas was firm, his recent behavior showed that he didn't want to do anything drastic to Stella. Since he already asked Stella what she said when she answered the phone, he could not

He also knew the perfume had been a gift from her. He knew about all of it, including her plot to make me commit a major faux pas on his birthday.

I guessed that Stella was probably just as relentless with Harmony and Liora. Who knew what kind of traps she had set for them? She was like a ticking time bomb, lurking by my side. I had to remain vigilant because she could explode at any moment.

I closed my eyes for a moment, feeling especially weary. I detested being in this kind of situation. After escaping Matthew's nightmare, I found myself in an even more dangerous predicament.

My mother asked with a pained face. "Would you like something to eat? I will go buy it for you!"

"It's okay. I still don't have an appetite," I replied faintly.

Honestly, every part of my body ached, especially my chest. I didn't dare to move too much, as the pain felt like a tearing sensation.

Atlas took another small step forward. "You don't need to worry about her. She won't bother you again.

I've arranged for a meal for you!"

"Check with the doctor first." I tried my best not to get emotional. "I want to go back and rest. It's too noisy here!"

Everyone in the hospital knew that Atlas had to approve before I could leave.

Let's stay here

and observe for a few more days. If anything comes up, it can be dealt with right away. I'll arrange for someone to stay with you. You won't have to worry about seeing anyone you don't want to."

Atlas's tone softened considerably.

I looked at him, unable to suppress the simmering anger in my heart. "I'm not that high-maintenance. It's just that this person has repeatedly targeted me, and I don't have such a big heart to accommodate her

constantly."

Atlas hadn't expected me to lose my temper suddenly. My outburst left my mother speechless, and she

looked at Atlas, bewildered.

I

Lauren realized I still had something to say and quickly told my mother, "Laura, let's go downstairs to buy

some snacks for her!"

My mother looked worried as Lauren pulled her out of the room. The atmosphere in the room suddenly

grew very awkward.

Chapter 285 The Two Sides of Stella

As my mother and Lauren exited the room, Atlas sat beside me. He seemed to be carefully choosing his words

Inside, I felt conflicted, a sense of injustice simmering in a corner of my heart. Seeing Stella, still radiant and carefree didn't sit right with me.

From the moment this woman entered my view, I could sense her subtle schemes against me. Even that first dinner together felt calculated, How could I possibly stay calm?

Besides that, I had a persistent feeling of being trapped, which was probably connected to her. Otherwise, Atlas wouldn't have let the matter rest without investigating.

As soon as Atlas sat down, he held my hand.

"Don't let Stella bother you. I know what's going on."

"How exactly did you know?" I spoke candidly. We had reached a point where there was no need to pretend nothing had happened.

Atlas's intense gaze remained fixed on my face, his attractive features distracting me for a moment. I didn't want to press him further. I understood that his perspective required careful maneuvering. Moreover, no matter the angle, Stella had familial ties to him. I was nothing.

His scrutiny made me feel uneasy.

I forced a smile and said, "I'm not being dramatic. It's just her actions... I know she's your cousin, and I

don't want to..."

He lifted my hand to his lips and kissed it while still looking at me.

"To be precise, she has no real connection to me. You, on the other hand..."

Atlas's words instantly dispelled the pent-up frustration in my heart. I had to admit, Atlas was a man I found irresistibly captivating.

"Because, in a certain way, she holds value. Her presence isn't as straightforward as it seems. Many threads converge on her," Atlas stated solemnly, a side he had never revealed.

You mean the plane crash?" I asked.

It's more than that.. Atlas's eyes darkened, a glint of coldness shining through. "She's not the real Stella.

Atlas's revelation left me in shock. You mean...she's not really Stella?"

A sudden sense of clarity washed over me. I had harbored suspicions like these when I had Grayson look into it, but I never dared to confirm them without concrete evidence.

It seemed Atlas had uncovered more than I had. I recounted her actions, especially her behavior leading up to my abduction and after I was saved.

His hand gently rested on my forehead, smoothing down my hair. He spoke softly, "I'm sorry you had to go through this."

“I know you have your reasons for doing things. But she’s been too brazen, from my kidnapping, to your birthday, and even the perfume...”

I couldn’t continue.

Truthfully, I knew that even without my explanation, Atlas would understand what I wanted to say next.

Do y

you know what Celine discussed with me when we agreed to meet?” Atlas looked at me, his deep eyes flashing with a hint of mystery. “She’s working with Atticus now. I can only play along for now.”

“Atticus?”

I was somewhat surprised.

“Yes, Atticus found the mortgage contract you took on, which Celine’s people actually orchestrated. He has reasons for not involving Echelon Group.” Atlas explained cryptically.

“You know all this?” I was genuinely speechless. What else did Atlas know?

“Just recuperate here. I might have to leave Foswood for a few days. Once you’re feeling better, I’ll go. So, promise me you’ll take care of yourself!” He squeezed my hand.

“Where are you going?” I couldn’t help but ask.

“Jitador,” he admitted without hesitation.

Jitador?”

Suddenly, I remembered how much Harmony was desperate to go to Jitador. Could it be related to him?

Chapter 286 The Reason She Came to Say Hello

I looked at Atlas curiously, so he asked, "What's up?"

"Is there a reason you and Harmony are going to Jitador?" I blushed slightly.

He smirked with a mischievous glint in his eyes. "Do you have an issue with that?"

"Really?" I widened my eyes and pouted with displeasure.

"I intentionally leaked the information to get her to cooperate," he grinned and looked at me as if he had

in love with me?" control over everything. "Are you jealous? Does that mean w

Before I could respond, Ivanna barged in. She saw us and quickly turned to leave, but I shouted for her to return, "Hey, you're already here, so why leave?"

Ivanna awkwardly turned and said, "I-I don't want to intrude"

Atlas stood up, saying, "That's okay. I have something to attend to."

Immediately after, the meal he ordered arrived. He instructed Ivanna to watch over me before leaving the ward. Outside, he arranged for security in my room to ensure no one could approach me.

A week later, the doctor discharged me from the hospital. I felt much better, but Atlas had taken my car and replaced it with a new Porsche Panamera without consulting me. I was shocked when I saw the car parked before my house. A car was simply a means of transportation to me.

However, the person delivering the car explained, 'It's a gift from him as compensation. He wishes you a fresh start, just like the car.'

I realized he wanted to please me, and I couldn't escape, I had no reason to refuse.

The day after I returned home, I saw Harmony while driving on the road in our villa area. Indeed, she had become my neighbor, with her apartment just a stone's throw away from mine. Although she saw me, I

feigned ignorance and avoided eye contact.

Eleanor had joined Tanum Corporation that day, which made me happy. That evening, I hosted a welcome dinner with some senior executives for her. I was confident in her because she got along with everyone quickly.

Eleanor adapted quickly and had a knack for managing relationships.

I was thrilled that my company was operating smoothly. Still, it wasn't easy. Matthew had taken away so many people a few months ago. I was on the brink of collapse but regained my footing within a few

Those who had joined my company were highly loyal. Eleanor was well-organized in her work.

Initially, I was concerned about her accommodation. However, she had taken the initiative to do it herself before coming to Foswood, allowing her to report to work immediately.

When I returned home after dinner, I was surprised to see Harmony standing at my house. I parked my car and got out, asking, "Ms. Harmony, is there something you need?"

"Since we're neighbors, I thought I'd come and say hello," Harmony's response didn't satisfy me.

I smiled and casually asked, "How long have you lived here?"

"It's been over a week. I heard you had a car accident. The news reports were terrifying." She leaned on my house's fence.

"It's been over a week, and you just remembered to say hello? Are you always slow to catch on?" I continued to smile. "Come on, what's the matter? Don't beat around the bush."

She sensed my implication and stood upright before approaching me.

I leaned against my car with a relaxed demeanor and looked at Harmony. I knew she had something on her mind or wouldn't be at my house.

She smiled at me as if she had gained an advantage. She said provocatively, "I'm going to Jitador next

Chapter 287 Being Elusive

glanced at her and nearly laughed. After composing myself, I asked, "Oh, I see. Anything else?"

She did not expect my reaction and looked surprised. She looked me up and down before asking, "Aren't you going to ask who I'm going with?"

"Who you go with doesn't concern me, so why would I ask that? I'm uninterested in your affairs. Besides, I don't understand your work. Maybe you should talk to Ivanna? She might be interested," I remained indifferent, making her think I was bored.

“I’m going with Atlas. What do you think?” Harmony looked at me provocatively.

“Oh, wow! Is he your so-called boyfriend?” I continued to play along. “I don’t think it matters to me, but you should probably tell his cousin. She might be interested. Don’t be fooled. As your neighbor, I’ll remind you

to be more careful,”

Harmony was puzzled by my words. She froze, trying to digest my words.

I left her and approached my house’s entrance, wondering how she entered the show business. With a brain like hers, she was lucky to become famous. Still, I knew her popularity wouldn’t last.

As I was about to open the door, she turned and said, “Wait, what do you mean by that?”

She had fallen into my trap. If Stella wanted to play with me, I wouldn’t let her sit idly by. I would give her a show since she wanted to watch by the sidelines. However, I needed time to groom the “innocent”

Harmony.

“Take your time thinking about it. Have you considered the motive behind someone who took the initiative to talk to you?” Before entering my house, I said, “Neighbors can be helpful sometimes, not to mention we look pretty alike. I advise you to be mindful of others.”

I turned back to smile at her. “Thanks for coming to greet me. I hope you have a wonderful time in

Jitador.

I even hummed a tune as I entered. I knew I had left the naive Harmony with some pondering.

My mom was delighted when she saw me entering while humming. Although I couldn't remember much of my childhood, I remember my parents loving and cherishing me.

Still, I had neglected them when I was with Matthew. My parents hoped for my visit every year, only for me to constantly disappoint them. I felt an inexplicable happiness now that I could live with them again.

wanted to go to Pleca Park after meeting Harmony just now. However, I found it hard to broach the

with my daughter at home instead.

After putting Ava to sleep, I talked to my mom while lying on her lap. Suddenly, I remembered my old collarbone injury. I had wanted to ask about it but never had the chance. "Mom, how did I injure my collarbone? Also, it's strange that I can't remember much of my childhood."

My mom looked at me and smiled. "Why don't you remember? You fell,"

"When did it happen?" I sat up, realizing there was something more to it. "I don't remember at all."

"It's nothing worth remembering. You fell off a motorcycle when someone sent you to school. It was your dad's colleague who rode the bike. Don't mention it again, okay? He didn't do it on purpose.

Forget about

the painful things and remember the happy ones."

"I can't remember the happy times either," I pried for answers, "Can you explain what happened, please?"

"He was riding a motorcycle to take you to school, and you fell off when he tried to avoid a car. You got thrown off and hit your collarbone," my mom explained simply, but I sensed her being elusive about

something

“Your dad almost severed ties with that man because of the accident, so don’t mention it again. Your dad gets mad whenever he thinks about it. It even keeps him up at night,” my mom cautioned me again, “Hast

it been hurting recently?”

I shook my head. “No, it hasn’t hurt for a long time. I just wanted to know what happened because I can’t

remember it. It’s strange.

My mom seemed odd as she recounted the incident. I wondered if she had something to do with it.

Hence, my imagination ran wild.

Chapter 288 Missing Home

I observed my mom’s expression and knew there was something she wasn’t telling me.

“Mom, do you ever feel like you can’t remember your past?” I frowned and pondered. “Do you remember anything from your childhood? People often talk about theirs, but I don’t know mine.”

“How can that be? We lived in Dalston Park with your dad’s colleagues and some kids. Nothing unusual,”

she reassured me. However, I knew she didn’t want to delve into it.

Suddenly, Atlas called. I answered and whispered, “Why are you calling so late?”

“Can you come out? I’m at Starlight International.” He sounded seductive, which made my heart race. I

glanced at my mom and spoke louder, “I’ll come over now. Wait for me.”

As expected, my mom looked at me. I spoke to Atlas for a few more minutes before ending the call and feigned seriousness. I told my mom, “I’m going out for a while. I’ll stay with them if it gets late.”

I blushed at my own words.

“It’s already late, yet you want to go out?” My mom was concerned.

“I’ll be with my colleagues. We already gathered just now, but they want to go out again to discuss work.

I’ll stay out for the night if it gets too late. You should sleep,” I casually made up an excuse.

“Will you have to travel far?”

“No, it’s just a fifteen–minute drive. Don’t worry. I have my keys and can let myself in.” I picked up my bag

and headed outside. Once in my car, I couldn’t wait to get to Atlas.

When I arrived at the room on the top floor and was about to knock, the door opened. Before I knew it, Atlas pulled me inside. I yelped in surprise and stumbled into his arms. He lifted and spun me around

before gently placing me on the bed.

I looked into his eyes and asked, “When are you leaving?”

“Tomorrow,” Atlas replied casually without asking how I knew he was leaving.

“Tomorrow, huh?” I felt disappointed and reluctant. “How long will you be away?”

“I can’t say for sure.” his answer made me even more disheartened, “What’s wrong, silly? Can’t bear to see

me go?”

It’s not that I can’t see you whenever I want, even when you’re here,” I said, feigning indifference.

I felt secure when Atlas was in Foswood. However, it seemed like he was drifting away whenever he wasn’t around. I would feel lost, anxious, and empty.

Atlas put his hands all over me, saying, “I love your pretend toughness.”

I giggled. Still, I wondered how Atlas didn’t understand my thoughts. My feigned stubbornness had long melted away. However, I couldn’t control someone as complex as him.

“Weren’t you supposed to leave next week?” I asked, “Why are you leaving tomorrow?”

“Our schedules are different. I must also go to Cadrela,” Atlas replied while kissing me, “When I’m not around, stay away from those who covet you.”

“Don’t be ridiculous, Why don’t you mention how many people are chasing after you?” I teased and pushed him playfully. I felt uncomfortable when Harmony said she would go to Jitador next week, Thinking about her fawning over him made it hard for me to stay composed.

“What do you mean by that? We’re not going together,” Atlas was focused on himself. “You were pretty stubborn just now, but you seem better now. You’re even talking about me. Let’s start an ‘intense workout.

“Hahaha! Can you be more shameless?!” I laughed until I could barely breathe.

I can!” he said, “The trip duration depends on Celine’s attitude. I intentionally left some business here for

her to handle alone.”

Chapter 289 Both Sides of the Spectrum

“Does that mean you’re tricking her?” I was shocked as I looked at Atlas.

He looked at me and pinched my nose, saying “You’re clever.”

“Aren’t you afraid you can no longer do anything about the situation if she works with Atticus?” I probed.

He shook his head. “Do you think Atticus will work with just anyone?”

I knew Atlas was right. Atticus was a sly fox, no matter who he dealt with. Atlas patted my face and said, “If you can’t reach my phone, email me. I can check that anytime. I’m making things look like my personal

affairs so Celine can’t control me.”

I knew I’d miss Atlas as soon as he left. I couldn’t imagine how I would manage without him beside me.

“Remember, secure maximum benefit if there are developments on Atticus’s side. Don’t be so loyal to

him because he won't do the same for you. Ultimately, it's all about interests."

I felt somewhat anxious after hearing his words. I didn't know how long he would be away. However, based on his instructions, I suspected he would be gone for a long while.

"What will you do if Celine does work with Atticus?" I looked at him. I wanted an answer because I knew Celine and Atticus wouldn't refuse regarding interests.

Atlas didn't answer me directly. Instead, he idly played with my hair. I asked again, "Is there something you want me to do?"

He smiled at me charmingly and leaned down to kiss me. "Yes, take good care of yourself and stay pretty while awaiting my return. Also, "feed" me."

"Why are you so shameless? I'm serious, Atlas—" Before I could finish, he silenced me with a passionate kiss. He was unpredictable yet seemed to always be there for me. His thoughts were always a mystery to

1. me.

I couldn't understand him, but he could read me like a book. That was what frustrated me most. I had more to say to him but was so tired I couldn't muster the energy. I fell asleep as soon as I turned over.

I was still in Atlas's arms when I woke up. He drowsily looked at me and leaned in to kiss me. Then, he

mumbled, "I'm so lucky I found you."

I was puzzled, asking. "What do you mean by that?"

He didn't respond. Instead, he held me tightly. We lay in bed until nine in the morning, then got up and had

Unexpectedly, I ran into Stella at the entrance. We were shocked to see each other but still exchanged smiles. Stella asked, "Are you just leaving?"

"Yeah, I overslept." I answered truthfully. After all, she hadn't seen me leave Atlas's room.

"Chloe, you're becoming increasingly unrestrained," Stella taunted me.

I've always been like this. You just don't know me that well since we haven't known each other for long," I spoke without revealing my emotions, then asked, "Are you heading upstairs? I won't keep you."

"Okay! Yeah, I'm going to see Atlas since he's leaving for a business trip today," Stella said.

I smiled when I realized she was unsure if I was with Atlas. I nodded politely and said, "All right, then. I'm

in a hurry, too."

I didn't wait for her response and walked away. I knew the concierge wouldn't reveal anything irrelevant

to people, either.

I contemplated Atlas's words about Celine working with Atticus when I reached my office. I called Carol and asked her to bring me our recent contracts with Atticus. After carefully examining several of them, I

remembered a few things that made me uneasy.

Immediately after, I called Adrian to ask if he was at the law firm. Soon after, I went there to meet him. I

knew I had to be cautious if Atticus was colluding with Celine.

Chapter 290 The Accident on the Highway

I felt relieved after ensuring the contract had no issues. After leaving Adrian's office, I handled everything with utmost care. The two cunning foxes played their games, and it would likely affect the people around

them

When I returned to the company, I saw a group gathered at the large screen in the lobby. They were watching the real-time news reports. The crowd even gasped in surprise occasionally. I glanced at the screen and noticed it was a news report on an accident.

I paid little attention since it could trigger some unsettling memories.

"I heard it was the CEO of ATL Empire."

"It looks pretty severe."

My head spun when I heard those words. I rushed toward the large screen and stared at it. The footage showed a nearly wrecked Maybach with smoke coming from it. The scene was horrifying, and a glimpse

of the license plate made me suspect it might be Atlas's car.

I was shocked as I grabbed a passerby and asked, my voice shaking, “W–When did that happen?!”

“Just a while ago. Didn’t you see?” the person replied, looking at me in surprise.

“Where is it? Please tell me!” I pointed at the screen desperately.

“It should be on the highway to the airport.”

I ran outside but forgot something important—my car was in the underground parking lot. I quickly descended the elevator, but my hands shook once I entered my car. Tears welled in my eyes as I

muttered, “Atlas, if something happens to you, I-”

I couldn’t finish my sentence because I felt overwhelmed. After taking a deep breath, I drove off, determined to find which hospital Atlas was in. Since Foswood had many hospitals, I went to the most

renowned one—Klinein Hospital.

My legs trembled as I ran through the hospital lobby. People crowded the area, but I didn’t know if Atlas

was there. I asked the nurse, “Is there a car accident patient here?”

In the emergency room,” she replied before running off.

I froze as the word “emergency” echoed in my mind. When I reached the emergency room, I saw a group

in black suits forming a barrier. It was daunting, and I didn’t recognize anyone. I tried getting past them,

but one of the guards stopped me, “Miss, you can’t get in.”

“I want to..” My words got stuck in my throat. I didn’t know how to introduce myself because I was nothing to Atlas’s people. “I just want to see if the person inside is okay. Is it Atlas? Please tell me if it is.

Let me in, please!”

Still, the guard warned, “Step back, Miss! No one is allowed to

“Let her through!” A cold, commanding voice sounded.

I froze, and my hands dropped to my sides. I looked inside and saw a stern-looking woman on a chair just

outside the emergency room. It was Celine.

Beside her was the equally expressionless Kenzie. On the other side was Stella, leaning against the wall.

They looked at me, and I didn’t know if I should enter or retreat.