

Unbreakable 531

Chapter 532

“Is this true, Lauren?” Mitchel inquired.

“I never said such things,” Lauren quickly denied it, tears brimming in her eyes. She turned to Mitchel, her voice soaked in sorrow.

“Mitchel, I swear I didn’t. Nicole’s slandering me.”

Facing Nicole, Lauren continued in a wounded tone, “I bear you no grudge, Nicole. I know you're doing this for Raegan. I could sue you for slander, but since you're her friend, I'll let it pass this time.

Just remember to stay in your lane and avoid framing others.” Nicole felt a surge of revulsion. Lauren's words, seemingly generous, cleverly painted Nicole as a slanderer acting on Raegan’s behalf.

Refusing to entertain Lauren’s tactics, Nicole said dismissively, “Lauren, your confidence stems from the lack of cameras in the ward.”

Nicole paused, producing a voice recorder from her pocket and brandishing it with a taunt. “Let's see if this convinces you.”

Lauren's face contorted with panic at the sight of it.

The next instant, her voice resonated clearly from the recording.

Clear as day, it broadcast Lauren’s voice, echoing Nicole’s earlier words, and even more venomous remarks Nicole hadn't mentioned.

Suddenly, Lauren felt a jolt, as if struck by lightning.

Observing Lauren's ashen face, Nicole grinned and remarked, "What a twist of fate! I had just left when you arrived, only to realize my voice recorder was missing. Returning to pick up the recorder, I overheard your delightful remarks in it."

Nicole habitually carried a voice recorder, intending to extract some information from Jarrod.

Unexpectedly, during her visit to Raegan's ward, the recorder slipped under the bed as she reached for her phone, accidentally turning on.

Lauren entered Raegan's ward soon after her departure, which was fortunate as the recorder's battery life was limited.

"No! You faked all these!"

Quivering, Lauren clutched at Mitchel's sleeve, imploring, "Mitchel, don't listen to her. She's still slandering me. These are fabrications, a result of Raegan's jealousy. It's a plot to hurt me through Nicole, I'm sure of it!"

Lauren vehemently denied her words and asserted she was being framed.

"Jealous of you?" Nicole responded with a smirk, "Don't you own a mirror? Is Raegan envious of your overdone hyaluronic acid treatments, your talent for enticing married men, or perhaps jealous that you were born to be a bitch?"

Each of Nicole's words pierced Lauren's heart like a dagger.

Had Mitchel not been here, Lauren would have lunged at Nicole in fury.

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At this moment, Mitchel disengaged his clothes from Lauren's grip and gazed down at Lauren. "Lauren, do you recall my previous warning?"

He was referring to the caution he had issued the night when he handed Jocelyn over to the police. Awave of coldness swept over Lauren, sending shivers down her spine.

Pinching herself, tears began to flow freely.

“Mitchel, it’s not true. Don’t trust her. She’s siding with Raegan...

She must be helping Raegan frame me...”

“Ha-ha!” Nicole scoffed.

“Should there be any doubts, I wouldn’t hesitate to have an expert verify the recording.”

“Shut up!” Lauren snapped in anger.

“You're best friends, right?

Obviously, you’d collaborate to set me up!”

Lauren steadfastly refused to confess. In her mind, if she didn’t acknowledge it, it had nothing to do with her. Nicole, unwilling to waste more time, pocketed her recorder, giving Lauren a pointed Look.

“I'm not here to argue, but consider this a warning. If you torment my friend again, I'll ensure your spiteful words go viral. Everyone in Ardlens will hear this recording and know you as the shameless mistress. Prepare to be despised by everyone!”

“How dare you!” Lauren fumed. With tears in her eyes, she turned to Mitchel and pleaded, “Mitchel, she’s defaming me. I can’t let her take this recording away.”

“Just admit you're scared. Stop playing the victim,” Nicole retorted with a look of contempt.

“Stay away from Raegan and this recording won't see the light of day.”

Nicole realized that, with the Dixon Group's influence, the recording might never go public even if she spent a fortune. But just possessing it could serve as a deterrent, keeping Lauren from harassing Raegan.

“Don't worry. Raegan has no interest in Mitchel,” Nicole added, her lips curling into a smile.

“Aman who lets his wife lose their child to save his ex-girlfriend? Raegan will never want him back.”

These words visibly unsettled Mitchel's previously indifferent demeanor.

Nicole felt a surge of satisfaction.

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“You two go on. | hope you two assholes stay together forever.”

With that, Nicole turned to leave.

Whether or not Mitchel believed her words was irrelevant. She had little expectation for a blind man to suddenly see the truth. It was better if Lauren stuck to Mitchel, leaving Raegan in peace.

Before Nicole had taken more than a few steps, a chilling voice called out from behind her.

“Miss Lawrence.” Mitchel's icy words followed.

“| expect you to act appropriately around Raegan. If not, I'll have Jarrod spend more time dealing with you Fury ignited within Nicole. Mitchel, so cunning, had pinpointed her vulnerability.

No wonder Mitchel and Jarrod were friends. They were all bastards.

Her face contorted with anger, Nicole shot back, "You're threatening me!" Mitchel's gaze deepened as he warned, "Be careful with your words. Avoid saying things you shouldn't."

Nicole seemed to sense something.

"Mr. Dixon, do you believe Raegan will forgive you one day?" she asked. Observing Mitchel's reaction confirmed Nicole's suspicion.

It appeared the descriptions of the heroes in the romantic novels she had read were spot on. Mitchel was a wealthy, handsome man, brimming with confidence in his love life.

Why pass up the chance to avenge Raegan? Nicole wouldn't let such a golden opportunity slide.

"Don't worry, Mr. Dixon. My lips are sealed, but..." Nicole hesitated, then added, "Raegan's resolve might be stronger than you anticipate once she's made up her mind."

Mitchel's hands balled into fists. He lingered for a moment before heading back to Lauren's ward.

Upon seeing him, Lauren inquired anxiously, "Mitchel, did you manage to retrieve the recorder?" She had assumed Mitchel chased after Nicole to help her reclaim the voice recorder.

In her view, despite everything, Mitchel still showed concerns for her.

After all, he hadn't punished her for tampering with Raegan's pregnancy test previously, right? And now, battered by Raegan, Lauren was convinced Mitchel wouldn't blame her.

However, her plans to be Mitchel's wife had to be delayed.

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It was all Nicole's fault, the woman who had set her up.

Once she married into the Dixon family, Lauren vowed to ruin the Lawrence family and humiliate Nicole.

Lost in her vindictive thoughts, Lauren didn't even notice Mitchel was already standing beside her and gazing down at her. "Lauren," he called out in a low voice.

Lifting her eyes, Lauren saw Mitchel bathed in the glow of the bright light, looking strikingly handsome.

Her heart raced, as always, at the sight of him.

Affection filled her eyes as she softly asked, "What's the matter, Mitchel?"

Mitchel's voice was icy as he declared, "You won't need to travel to Swynborough for the surgery."

Lauren's joy was overwhelming, as if a diamond had fallen from the sky and struck her.

She asked with a bright smile, "Really? You wouldn't deceive me, would you?"

"I've never lied to you," Mitchel replied.

This sudden surge of happiness reignited her dream of marrying Mitchel once more.

As she reached out to embrace Mitchel, he unexpectedly stepped back.

Bang! In her attempt, Lauren failed to hold onto Mitchel and, driven by momentum, tumbled from her wheelchair to the floor. "Ouch!" She let out a pained cry, tears welling up in her eyes.

Lying there, Lauren gazed up with tear-filled eyes and whined childishly, "Mitchel, it hurts so much..."

“Can't you stand up?” Mitchel inquired, his voice cold.

His magnetic tone momentarily distracted Lauren.

She almost knelt before him, captivated by the enticing presence of his suit-clad legs. Feeling a rush of warmth, her voice turned more pleading and seductive.

“It hurts... Lift me up..

Anticipating a romantic turn, Lauren hoped Mitchel would carry her to bed. Instead, his response was blunt.

“Then stay down.”

Lauren stared at him, shocked and disbelieving.

“What did you say, Mitchel?” she asked.

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With a cold smirk, Mitchel declared, “Lauren, I’ve given you plenty of chances.”

Stunned, Lauren felt a sense of dread wash over her.

Desperate, she reached out to grasp his leg, tears streaming down her face.

“Mitchel...” she pleaded.

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But it was too late.

Her hand barely grazed his trouser hem when she saw him lift his polished leather shoes and bring them down mercilessly.

The hard soles crushed her hand, and Lauren's fingers felt like they were being shattered. The intense pain whitened her face as she screamed in terror.

"Mitchel... What's happening? I... I'm Lauren..." she cried. But Mitchel's sympathy for Lauren had evaporated, his protection for her squandered. Crack! The cruel crunching of her fingers under his feet echoed ominously, a sound as chilling as the approach of death itself.

Mitchel's expression was icy, his eyes glinting with a malice reminiscent of the devil. He declared, "I've made it clear that Raegan is my bottom line, yet you persist in crossing it."

Lauren's agony triggered a flood of tears. Desperately, she cried out, "It's not as you think... Don't listen to Nicole... | didn't do it..."

Her words quivered, lacking conviction. Mitchel crouched before her, forcefully turning her face toward him. His tone was icy as he asked, "You think I'd trust Nicole?"

This question sparked a glimmer of hope in Lauren. Tears the size of beans streamed down her cheeks as she pleaded mournfully, "Mitchel, if you don't believe her, why are you doing this to me? | never said those things. It's your child. How could | call it a bastard?"

Suddenly, Lauren froze in place.

Mitchel had clicked on a video and played it in front of her.

"You and that little bastard... It's better that it's gone..." Her harsh speech and brutal expression were captured clearly.

Mitchel had set up a camera to protect Raegan, a feed only he could access. After Nicole's departure, he activated the surveillance footage but found himself unable to watch more than a brief segment.

This was Lauren, the one he had always thought nothing more than a kind and naive girl. He had been treating her well for years. How could she be so vicious?

Lauren was terrified, feeling as though she had plunged into a freezing dungeon, her body shaking uncontrollably.

"Lauren." Mitchel articulated each word with a chilling tone, "Do you believe you're clever enough to fool me?"

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"No, it's not true... It's all fake..."

"Lauren stuttered, her complexion paler than a sheet of paper.

She raised her eyes to Mitchel's flawless visage. He seemed unchanged, yet to Lauren, he appeared foreign and frightening. "Fake?" His lips curled into a semblance of a smile, but his grip on her jaw was unyielding.

"Are you claiming your illness is a fake, or perhaps this entire abduction as well?"

Lauren's eyes widened at Mitchel's words, and her mouth gaped open.

She was in utter disbelief.

All the while, she firmly believed that her plan was foolproof.

Whether it was her fake illness or the kidnapping scheme, she ensured there were no loopholes.
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So, she thought Mitchel must be lying to her, trying to fish something out of her.

She convinced herself that it must be the case.

Lauren endured the excruciating pain and continued to play dumb.

Tears streamed down her face like a waterfall.

“Mitchel, what are you talking about? I don’t understand...”

“Oh, really? Then, I will make you understand. The drug you took in was delivered to you from Swynborough. Also, in the area where your kidnappers’ car crashed and exploded off the cliff, Matteo found a car passing by at that time. The dash cam footage clearly showed that the car lost control because the brakes malfunctioned. Well, several people risked their lives to demand ten million dollars, yet the car they drove away was with faulty brakes.”

Mitchel paused. Then, he asked calmly, “Lauren, do you really think you can treat me like a fool and lie to me just because those men are dead?”

As he spoke, he sounded calm and indifferent. It was as if he was only talking about what to eat for dinner.

But every word he said sent a chill down Lauren’s spine. The cold penetrated deep down her bones.

Lauren shook her head desperately and said sorrowfully, “No, Mitchel. It’s not like that. Please let me explain...”

When a teardrop of Lauren’s fell on Mitchel’s wrist, he felt an inexplicable disgust surge in his heart. He pushed Lauren away violently.

Caught off guard, Lauren was pushed back forcefully. There was a loud thud.

It turned out that her back hit the corner of the cabinet heavily.

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The pain was so intense that she felt her spine shattered.

“Ah! Mitchel, it hurts. It hurts so much...”

Lauren's face contorted in pain. She was uglier than a monster.

But no matter how miserable she looked, she couldn't evoke an ounce of sympathy from Mitchel.

“Lauren, you know that I hated manipulative games the most. I tolerated you before because I thought I owed you my life. But now that I've paid off that debt, it's my turn to settle the score with you.”

Actually, Mitchel had already suspected that Lauren had done something evil. But every time, he deluded himself into believing that she was still the innocent and kind-hearted girl in his memory.

Because of this, he didn't want to think about it or investigate further. But when the truth presented itself to him, his first thought was how he would face Raegan.

Raegan had told him countless times about Lauren's true color. But he always refused to believe her.

When Mitchel thought of Raegan's sadness and despair, he felt his heart was clenched by an invisible giant hand. It was too painful.

Raegan was hurt seriously because of him.

And it was his leaving her that caused her to lose their child. That baby wasn't only Raegan's. It was also his.

Mitchel stared at Lauren fiercely with eyes full of resentment. It made Lauren feel she was a condemned sinner awaiting judgment.

Finally, Lauren felt fear surge in her heart.

She pleaded between sobs, "Mitchel, please don't do this to me. | only did those things because | love you so much. | don't want to lose you. | said those words because | was jealous of Raegan. Why can she have you? I've known you longer than her."

Mitchel's eyes turned cold and weary upon hearing this. "Lauren, | have nothing left for you apart from gratitude. Don't you understand it?"

These words made Lauren's heart fall from hell into an even deeper darkness.

"No, Mitchel! That's impossible! You are lying!"

Tears streamed down her face uncontrollably. She couldn't believe what Mitchel had just said.

"Mitchel, you are lying to me, right?"

How can you say you never love me? You've treated me well because you love me. | know that. | can't believe this!" Lauren was deeply in love with Mitchel's good looks and honorable status.

Just one look from him could stir her imagination, making her fantasize about countless scenes.

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But she never thought that one day, her imagination would be shattered.

In front of Lauren, Mitchel took out his phone, called Matteo, and ordered, "Matteo, contact Triclinium Hospital. Miss Murray is mentally unstable. She needs urgent treatment."

While listening to him, Lauren felt something was off.

She knew Triclinium Hospital. It was a mental hospital in Ard lens.

Her mind instantly went blank, and her hands and feet trembled uncontrollably.

Her eyes widened in disbelief. Mitchel was actually planning to send her to a mental hospital!

She was not crazy. Why would he send her there?

Her lips incessantly trembled as she asked, "Mitchel, what are you talking about? Are you kidding me?"
"You know what I'm talking about. Don't you desperately want to send Raegan there?"

These words were like a thorny whip that fiercely slapped Lauren's face. The pain was excruciating. She never expected that Mitchel would use the same trick she had adopted in dealing with Raegan.
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A cold and mocking expression appeared on Mitchel's refined face. The words that came out of his mouth were like countless knives piercing Lauren's heart.

"I'll send you there to let you experience it first." Lauren instantly trembled violently. An endless fear filled her eyes.

She no longer cared about her dignity. She knelt in front of him and wailed, "Mitchel, I'm sorry. | know | was wrong. | shouldn't have framed Raegan. | won't do it again. Please don't send me to the mental hospital..."

However, Mitchel just curled his lips into a cold smile. He turned around and was about to leave without even looking at Lauren.

Upon seeing this, despair overwhelmed Lauren's heart. She knew that once he walked away, she would be sent to the mental hospital with no chance of turning back.

She cried out desperately, "Mitchel, how can you treat me like this?"

"I still have a family. Are you not afraid that my father will come after you if you send me to the mental hospital?" Mitchel turned around and mocked softly, "Ronan Murray must know you are pretending to be sick."

Lauren was stunned when she heard him mention her father's full name.

Mitchel always called her father "Mr. Murray." This was the first time he had called her father by his full name. Lauren avoided his gaze and stammered, "No... No. My dad doesn't know."

But her voice betrayed her. She was obviously lying.

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A trace of disgust flashed across Mitchel's face. If he didn't know that the developer of the injection drug had a close relationship with Ronan, he might fall for Lauren's words. But he knew everything now.

He looked at Lauren coldly and snapped, "You and your family colluded to lie to me. Have you ever thought about the consequences? Do you really think you can fool me forever? Since Ronan wants me to take care of you so much, I will. Sending you to the mental hospital is already a big help. Will he come after me? Well..."

Mitchel paused. Then he asked, "Which do you think will Ronan choose, you or his career?"

Lauren's body stiffened. She felt like she was struck by lightning.

She knew her father would choose his career without hesitation.

Mitchel's words accurately capture the essence of her family's character.

As soon as Mitchel opened the door, Matteo was already standing outside with two strong bodyguards.
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Mitchel said coldly without even looking back, "Take her away."

Lauren looked at the two bodyguards in horror. While they approached her, she screamed hysterically, "No! Don't come near me! | don't want to go! | won't go!"

But everyone turned a deaf ear to her. Mitchel ignored her and was about to walk out of the ward. " | told you! Don't come any closer!"

Lauren grabbed a fruit knife out of nowhere, pressed it against her neck, and shouted, "If you dare to take me away, I'll die right in front of you!"

Matteo gestured for the bodyguards to stop and then turned to Mitchel, awaiting further instructions.

Lauren seized what she thought was her chance and, with eyes red and swollen, cried, "Mitchel, can you really be this heartless? Remember, | saved your life once!"

The truth was, this was a gamble as she was unsure if Mitchel would really turn his back on her.

What did he mean he had returned the favor? No fucking way.

Lauren was set on banking on that past favor to chain Mitchel to her side forever and ensure he could never escape.

As expected, Mitchel paused, spun on his heel, and took slow and deliberate steps toward her. When he was close, he crouched before her, took her trembling hand, and murmured, "Don't do this, Lauren."

The next second, Lauren's eyes brimmed with tears. She won! She got him again!

She knew very well that behind Mitchel's frosty exterior was gentleness. Otherwise, he would not have looked after her for years. To her, it felt as if she had regained a long-lost precious gem.

"I know... I know you won't abandon me..." Lauren sobbed.

ALL she wanted now was to cast aside the knife from her hand and embrace Mitchel with all the warmth in her heart.

However, his grip on her hand was ironclad, and he seemed intent on crushing her wrist.