



Chapter 12 Worship His Parents

Robert recognized her too.

"Are you okay?" He squatted and checked on her to see if there were any injuries. Fortunately, there were only mild bruises.

Robert pulled Rhonda up to her feet. "It's getting late. What are you doing here?"

"I had some work to do."

Robert glanced at the police station across the street. He wanted to ask something but ultimately decided against it.

"Where do you live? Let me drive you home."

"No, thanks. I'll take a taxi home," Rhonda instinctively refused.

"It's okay. I'm free anyway. Consider me as a driver."

Robert smiled and opened the car door for her.

Rhonda had no choice but to get in the car.

The two didn't talk much on the way. They only discussed Nora's condition.

Twenty minutes later, they stopped at the gate of the Sloan family's residence.

Just as Rhonda was about to get out of the car, Robert saw the bruises on her arm and stopped her.

Then, he took out the first aid kit in his car and tended to her wounds.



He skilfully applied ointment to the bruises and gently wrapped them with gauze.

"You better come to the hospital tomorrow to get your bruises treated. Keep them away from water for eight hours to prevent infection."

Rhonda didn't know what to say. She forced an awkward smile and left.

Eliam was sitting in the car that was parked beside theirs. He saw Rhonda sitting in the passenger seat and a strange man holding her hand. She didn't get out of the car for a long time.

The next day was Eliam's parents' death anniversary. They had died in a car accident twenty years ago. The murderer hadn't been found yet.

Eliam usually became depressed during this time of the year.

In addition to that, he was worried about his grandfather. He had contacted the world-renowned doctor to perform Richard's surgery. However, Richard was reluctant to receive treatment after seeing the prenuptial agreement.

Eliam realized he had been a bit rude and harsh to Rhonda in the afternoon. Therefore, he sat in the car and waited for her to come back. He planned to talk and sort things with her.

But unexpectedly, he saw her with another man.

He assumed Rhonda was having an affair with another man, and that was perhaps why her ex-boyfriend cheated on her. After all, it took two hands to clap.

Eliam looked away indifferently. She was a mere tool, and he



had no reason to care about her.

Meantime, Rhonda thanked Robert again and got out of the car.

She didn't notice Eliam in the dark. Therefore, he opened the gate and got into the yard.

The light in the study was on. Rhonda thought Eliam was inside and paused for a moment

Just then, a pang of regret settled in her heart. She hated raising money for her grandmother's surgery this way.

Living together with a stranger was more difficult than she had thought.

That night, Eliam slept in the study again.

He left to work early the next morning. Rhonda made breakfast as usual and took it to Richard's room.

Richard seemed upset.

He looked up at Rhonda and let out a weary sigh.

Rhonda believed Richard was mad at her and Eliam because of the prenuptial agreement.

She wanted to comfort him but didn't know what to say.

Just as Rhonda was about to turn and leave, Richard stopped her.

"Today is Eliam's parents' death anniversary. I hope you can accompany him. He lost both his parents when he was eight years old. After they died, I have been the only one looking after him. I know I'm dying. He is your partner now. Please





look after him for me in the future."

Rhonda was taken aback.

Richard handed her a note, which was the address of the dock.

"He goes to the sea every year on this day to worship his parents. I'm sure you can catch up with him if you leave now."

Rhonda held the note in her hand. The image of Eliam standing alone on the deck flashed in her mind. She could resonate with his emotions because she, too, felt the same way when she thought of her parents, whom she had never seen before.

Rhonda had to stay with her grandmother in the hospital only the day after tomorrow. She could use this as a break.

When Rhonda followed the address on the note and came to the dock, Eliam's yacht had already set sail. It was more than 10 meters away from the shore.

Eliam was standing on the deck with his back to Rhonda.

Rhonda shouted out his name, but he didn't respond. Perhaps the roars of the waves had muffled her voice.

The yacht continued to sail farther.

Rhonda shook her head in disappointment and turned to leave.

The sea wind was wet and cold. Rhonda wrapped her coat tightly.

As she walked forward, a loud voice caught her attention. "Rhonda!"



She turned around and saw Eliam standing behind her.

"Did Grandpa ask you to come here?" Eliam's voice was hoarse. His eyes were sunken, and he looked haggard. It looked like he hadn't slept well last night.

"Yeah, Grandpa gave me the address."

Rhonda wanted to say she was here because she wanted to be with him but didn't dare to say it aloud.

Eliam swallowed hard. "It's fine. Go home and ask Grandpa not to worry about me," he said coldly.

Eliam's jaw tightened. He silently turned around and walked to the springboard. Rhonda felt sorry for him.

She caught up with Eliam without thinking twice.

However, Rhonda was terrified of water -- especially the sea. Its enormity terrified her.

Rhonda walked on the springboard, trembling with fright. She tried holding Eliam's hand several times but decided against it.

Just as she was about to board the ship, a big wave crashed, and the springboard shook violently.

Rhonda screamed in fright.

Eliam turned around and quickly caught Rhonda, who was about to fall.

Rhonda's face turned ghastly pale. She held on to Eliam for dear life.

Rhonda had nightmares of being pushed into the sea. She would struggle hard to ask for help in her dreams but would



only hear a woman's mean laughter.

This nightmare haunted her for many years. Therefore, the mere sight of the sea terrified her.

Feeling Rhonda tremble in his hold, Eliam carried her in his arms.

Rhonda rested her face against Eliam's chest. She listened to his rhythmic heartbeat and eventually calmed down.

The yacht set sail again.

Rhonda sat in the cabin and looked at Eliam standing on the deck.

His lifeless eyes were fixed on the sea.

Today was his twenty-eighth birthday. Twenty years ago, his parents had rushed back from another city to celebrate his birthday. However, as they drove on the cross-sea bridge, the car suddenly lost control, crashed into the guardrail, and plunged into the sea. ①

The rescue team searched the sea for several months but found no traces of the car or his parents.

The accident had turned Eliam's world upside down. He became depressed and turned into a recluse. His grandfather sent him abroad, where he gradually recovered.

However, Eliam stopped celebrating his birthday after the car accident.

The pain of losing his parents crushed his soul. He felt he was the only one in this enormous world -- alone and helpless.



Rhonda walked over, trying to comfort him. But seeing his red eyes, she didn't utter a word.

Perhaps he wanted his space and silence more than comfort.

Near noon, the yacht entered the waters where Eliam's parents had plunged to their deaths.

The sea wind seemed to get stronger by the minute.

"Dad, Mom, I'm here to see you!" Eliam shouted to the roaring sea over and over again.

"I miss you so much. Come back to me soon!" he screamed hysterically.

"Grandpa asked me to convey a message to you. He asked you to come home as soon as possible. If you are late, you won't see him again," Eliam cried until his voice turned hoarse. Eventually, he knelt and sobbed uncontrollably. ①

