

Ambush OTQ 101

Chapter 101 Little Brats

Emmeline was also happy as she looked at her cute and handsome sons.

A year ago, she had returned to Struyria under an assumed identity to search for her sons' father. All that effort finally paid off.

No matter who the father was, Hesperus was finally cured.

Now that I've gotten what I came back for, I can go wherever I want, and no one can do anything about it! Hahaha!

I still have Abel to thank though.

While Emmeline was thinking about what to do next, Adrien arrived at the café.

Tears welled up in his eyes when he noticed the three cute children.

He went up and took Emmeline's hands. "Emmeline, won't you give me a chance? I'll stop all my bad habits, and I'll be a good father to the children and... a good husband."

Emmeline pulled his hands away and smiled. "I told you before. You were no use when I had to save Hesperus, so you have no use to me now. Mind your manners, Mr. Ryker."

"But I'll protect you," Adrien said. "I'm also a shareholder of Ryker Group. I'll ensure a life of luxury for you and your children. It's much better than selling coffee, right? That must be hard work."

"Heheh. Selling coffee isn't hard work. I quite enjoy it, actually," Emmeline said with a smile.

"Wouldn't it be better to be my wife? I'll make you the most envied woman in the entire Struyria."

"Do you even hear what you're saying?" Someone chuckled behind them.

Adrien turned around and saw Abel leaning against the door frame.

Abel was dressed in a low-profile yet extravagant black suit. His tall frame and icy demeanor gave him an air of royalty, and that made Adrien feel inferior.

He knew he could never catch up to Abel.

Grandfather is right. Abel is indeed the chosen one.

Even though Adrien felt defeated, that did not stop him from taking a dig at his cousin. "Abel, why do I see you everywhere?"

Abel scoffed. "Hmph, I'm renting a room here. What do you think?"

It was then that Adrien remembered it was indeed the case.

He finally understood it was not because Abel wanted some peace and quiet. Instead, Abel wanted to be closer to Emmeline!

"Heh, I didn't expect you to be so relentless when you want to go after the woman you love!"

“That’s because I’m serious about this, and you’re only treating it like a game! It won’t be the same, of course.” Abel did not hesitate to mock Adrien.

Adrien was embarrassed. He shot a glance at Emmeline.

“I don’t really care which woman you’re going after, Abel, but... can you stay away from mine?”

“You mean Emma?”

“Who else?”

“I know you have at least eight women you sleep with!”

“But only Emmeline gave birth to my children!”

“So what about it?” Abel strode up to Emmeline and hugged her waist. “As long as Emma doesn’t marry you, I have the right and freedom to woo her!”

“Don’t you think you’ve gone overboard this time, Abel?”

“So?” Abel smirked regally.

Emmeline lifted her head and looked at Abel.

Abel sounded serious, but she was not moved. He still had a long way to go to claim her heart.

“It’s about time,” Abel said to Emmeline. “GO and get changed. I’ll take you to Ryker Mansion.”

“Mommy! Mommy!” The triplets called out to Emmeline. “You have to do your best. Daddy, you have to do your best too!”

“Hey! Who are you calling Daddy?” Adrien shouted.

“The one who donated bone marrow, of course!” Hesperus giggled.

“That’s right! According to our investigations, you failed as a father!” Moon said.

“You’ve been eliminated!” Sun said.

Adrien was furious, but he had nowhere to release his anger.

“You know how rowdy kids can get sometimes,” Abel said. “Why don’t you leave them to me?”

“Hmph! You... You... Argh!” Adrien left the scene angrily.

He was not going to lose his temper over those unruly children!

Chapter 102 He’s Here

“Yay!” The triplets cheered. “The Big Bad Wolf is gone. We can live with Mommy and Daddy now!”

“A happy ending!”

“Three cheers to Mommy and Daddy!”

Emmeline was also very happy. She bent down and picked up Sun, while Abel picked up Moon and Star.

However, something still bothered Emmeline. "Do you think your grandfather might have some ulterior motive for hosting this party?"

"I think Grandfather genuinely wants to celebrate his great-grandson's recovery, but I can't say the same for Adam."

"Adam?" Emmeline did not understand. "I don't think we have a grudge against each other."

"Don't forget he's Adrien's elder brother. Also, he was the one who suggested the idea of the party to Grandfather."

Emmeline nodded. "I see. That makes sense."

"We don't have to go if you don't feel like going. I can make up an excuse," Abel said.

Emmeline smiled. "It's fine. If someone wants to target us, the best solution isn't to hide but to face them head-on so they'll give up. We have to go!"

"I'll make sure you and the triplets will be safe. You have nothing to worry about," Abel said.

Emmeline smiled warmly. She put Sun down and said, "I'll go upstairs and get changed."

"Mm."

"Take your time, Mommy. We want you to look your best!" the triplets said.

"That's right. Daddy doesn't mind waiting!" Abel said jokingly.

"I'm not going to spend hours in front of the vanity!" Emmeline said.

In her bedroom, she admired the wine-red evening gown that Abel brought over.

She thought for a moment and decided to wear a bodysuit beneath the gown. In case she had to fight, her skin would not be exposed.

After that, she stored several special steel needles in her handbag.

After everyone was ready, Luca and Daisy sat the triplets on the car seats in the Rolls-Royce. Abel and Emmeline, on the other hand, rode in Abel's Rolls-Royce Ghost.

As soon as Abel started the ignition, his phone began to ring.

The call was from Alana.

Abel grunted softly and rejected the call.

The phone continued to ring again.

Abel answered the call impatiently. "What's wrong, Alana?"

"Mr. Ryker, Grandfather said you have to come and pick me up," Alana said gently.

Abel did not say anything. Grandfather wouldn't bother to care who picks Alana up.

"Grandfather said I'm bearing your child. If you don't pick me up, no one else can!"

“Mm. Wait for me,” Abel said murderously.

Just wait, Alana Lane!

Emmeline turned her head to look out of the window.

She believed to a certain extent what Abel said, that Alana’s pregnancy had nothing to do with him.

However, before the truth surfaced, she could not help but feel uneasy about it.

“Go to the Lane residence!” Abel ordered the driver.

The Rolls-Royce Ghost stopped in front of the Lane residence.

The front gates were open, but Abel said to the driver, “Wait here. Let her come out on her own.”

The driver turned off the ignition.

“I’ll take a smoke,” Abel said to Emmeline.

Emmeline nodded.

Emmeline’s collarbones were visible under her wine-red evening gown. Abel was aroused, but he got out of the car and lit up a cigarette.

Alana was overjoyed when she saw Abel’s car come down the road.

That arrogant man is finally here! Looks like Adam managed to convince Grandfather!

Of course. Adam nearly became the CEO of Ryker Group. It’s no surprise Grandfather listens to him

Soon after that, Alana saw the vehicle parked in front of her residence, despite the gates being already open.

Then, she saw Abel get out of the car and light up a cigarette.

Her face instantly sank.

Chapter 103 I’m Not Doing It

It was obvious Abel did not intend to pick her up at the door!

However, his car was already at the Lane residence, which was what Oscar wanted him to do.

Alana was furious. She was in a dilemma about whether to go downstairs by herself.

She thought for a moment before running to the stairs and pretending to land on the wrong side of her foot.

“Ouch! I sprained my ankle! It hurts!”

“Ms. Alana! What happened?” The servant came running toward her.

Alana rubbed her foot. “Go and tell Mr. Ryker that I sprained my ankle. Ask him to come and help me.”

The servant went out of the door to convey the message.

Abel frowned when he heard that. He said to the driver, "Go and carry Ms. Lane here."

"What? Me?" The driver was shocked.

"I'm not doing it." Abel narrowed his gaze.

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!" The driver stepped out of the car and followed the servant into the house.

Abel leaned on the car door and smirked.

A few minutes later, Alana was seen limping out of the house. The driver followed behind her. He shrugged when he saw Abel.

Through the window, Emmeline could tell there was nothing wrong with Alana's foot.

She's really convincing though. With such talent, she should've been an actress!

Alana was unhappy. When she saw Abel leaning against the car, a smile appeared on her face.

That man is too enchanting! Under the sunlight, he looks like a god!

Other people will be so envious when they see him standing next to me at the party!

As for Emmeline, she can die in a ditch for all I care. All she deserves is Adrien, that useless playboy!

"Mr. Ryker." Alana lifted her gown and curtsied at Abel.

"Mm." Abel nodded and opened the side passenger door for her.

Alana was surprised. Shouldn't I be sitting in the back seat with him? Why am I seated next to the driver?

Alana stuck her head in curiously. She saw a beautiful woman sitting in the back seat.

"Emmeline! Why are you in Mr. Ryker's car?" Alana blurted in surprise.

"Why not?" Emmeline replied with a smile. "Mr. Ryker was supposed to only pick me up!"

"But Grandfather..."

"If you're not satisfied with this arrangement, you can call him to pick you up instead."

"You!" Alana was about to blow her top.

Does Oscar even know who I am? If I called him, he'd know Adam was speaking on his behalf! But...

Alana smirked. Don't think I can't get Oscar on my side. Once I do, you'll be history, Emmeline!

"I guess I'll have to make do for now."

Alana picked up her gown and sat in the front passenger seat. She turned her head around and smiled.

"We're relatives after all. I'm not going to argue about seats with you."

"You should argue about the things that are important to you," Emmeline said with a smile. "But I won't yield that easily!"

Alana was at a loss for a reply. She stopped talking, and her thick makeup did not manage to conceal the displeasure on her face.

Half an hour later, the car arrived at Ryker Mansion, which was situated halfway up a hill.

That was Oscar Ryker's residence. Security was tight.

From afar, one could see early-warning lights flashing under the gray sky.

Adam and a few others were standing in front of the sculpted bronze gates, welcoming the guests.

A silver Bentley parked next to Abel's Rolls-Royce Ghost.

The back seat door opened, and a tall young man stepped out.

"Benjamin York?" Abel frowned. "Why is he here?"

Another man stepped out of the side passenger seat and stood next to Benjamin.

"Emma, that's your brother," Abel said.

"He's the triplets' uncle. It's not surprising that Adelmarr received the invitation too," Emmeline said.

"I think Mr. York is making a big fuss over such a minor issue," Alana said mockingly. "Don't tell me he has a crush on you, Emmeline."

Chapter 104 Watch Over Your Husband

Emmeline raised her eyebrows. "I'd be happy if he does have a crush on me. It only means that I'm popular."

"Tch!" Alana scoffed jealously.

Everyone knew that Benjamin York was the most desirable bachelor in Struyria. Any woman would find it a great honor if Benjamin had a crush on them.

Alana could tell that Benjamin did not even look at her!

Abel slightly narrowed his gaze.

Benjamin would pose a huge threat if he were interested in Emmeline.

There's something more to that man than meets the eye.

The three people got out of the car. Ethan jogged to Emmeline. "Emma!"

"Ethan."

Benjamin smiled warmly at Emmeline. "We meet again, Ms. Louise."

"You're so enthusiastic, Mr. York. I didn't expect you to be interested in a child's party," Emmeline said with a smile.

"It's not really about the party," Benjamin said and flashed a knowing smile.

Emmeline also smiled at Benjamin, while Alana's face sank.

Emmeline is such a seductress!

Everyone at the scene could tell that Benjamin had a crush on Emmeline. It was not surprising that they were seen together.

Abel said nothing, though he could feel the jealousy brewing in his stomach.

"Where are the kids, Emma?" Ethan asked. "Mr. York brought them presents."

"They're with Daisy and Luca," Emmeline replied. "They should have gone in by now."

Adrien came over, dressed smartly in a suit. "The triplets are with their great-grandparents. They're waiting for you, Emmeline!"

He reached out to take Emmeline's hand, but Benjamin stepped in between them.

Adrien shifted aside to take her other hand, but Abel discreetly stood in the way.

While Adrien hesitated, Emmeline lifted her gown and stepped into the mansion.

The banquet hall was very extravagant. Guests filled every seat, and most of them were Oscar's friends.

Abel, Emmeline, and Benjamin's appearance attracted everyone's attention.

What caught the guests' eye the most was the beautiful young woman being flanked by two extraordinary men.

While they admired Emmeline's appearance, they began to whisper to each other.

"Abel Ryker, the CEO of Ryker Group, is escorting her. Is she his girlfriend?"

"No, the CEO of Adelmor Group is next to her too. Who is she?"

"Don't tell me you don't know her!" Alana said to the woman next to her. "That's Emmeline Louise, the loose woman who gave birth to a set of triplets for Adrien Ryker! Five years ago, she's the epicenter of a scandal!"

"Oh, so that's her! No wonder she looks familiar."

"Why would Emmeline be standing next to Abel? There's also Mr. York from the Adelmor Group!"

"If she's loose enough to have babies for Adrien, it wouldn't be a surprise to see her with other men!" Alana said with a smirk. "You'd better keep a close eye on your husbands. They might be her next target!"

"That makes sense!" The woman quickly went over to chat with her friend, and the gossip began to spread around the hall.

"Heh!" Alana grinned smugly and went away.

She had achieved her goal. She kept her distance from the gossips in case Abel noticed her with them.

It did not take too long before many people in the hall started pointing at Emmeline and talking about her.

“So that woman is the father of Adrien Ryker’s sons!”

“Why is she with Abel Ryker then? Doesn’t she know how to keep her legs shut?”

“There’s also Mr. York from Adelman Group too!”

“Tsk tsk, I wonder who hasn’t she slept with?”

Alana was sipping some red wine when the rumors got back to her. She could not stop grinning.

Hear that, Emmeline? Don’t you feel humiliated now?

Emmeline was not bothered.

She could tell Alana was behind it, and she was not going to lose her cool over something so trivial.

However, the rumors were getting annoying.

Emmeline took a glass of red wine and inserted herself into a conversation among several middle-aged women.

“Don’t you have anything better to do?”

Chapter 105 Is Your Husband Handsome?

The women clammed up when they saw Emmeline.

One of the women spoke up first. “We’re discussing how to stop you from seducing our husbands!”

“Is your husband handsome?”

“...” The woman was at a loss for a reply.

“Hahaha!” The other women laughed at her. “Her husband is thin like a stick and balding!”

“How about your husbands? Are they handsome?” Emmeline’s gaze swept over the other women.

“...” The other women also did not say anything.

Their husbands were either fat or bald. None of them could be considered handsome.

“If that’s the case, why are you worried then?” Emmeline chuckled. “Do you think I’m like you all? I’m not willing to sleep with pigs!”

The women turned red-faced. Another woman said, “Well, at least we’re not seducing men!”

Emmeline splashed the glass of wine on her face. “Did you see me seducing anyone?”

“You came in with Mr. Ryker and Mr. York, right? Didn’t you seduce them?”

“Oh, those two?” Emmeline said with a smile. “I’m sure your family has businesses in Struyria, and all of you look up to Ryker Group and Adelmarr Group. If you think you have too much money, I can ask them to bankrupt you!”

The women scattered immediately.

They did not want to get into trouble because of what they said!

Clap! Clap! Adam walked toward Emmeline while dramatically clapping his hands.

“Pardon me for causing a scene, Mr. Ryker,” Emmeline said coldly.

“You’re very interesting.” Adam narrowed his gaze.

“Really?” Emmeline lifted her chin. “I haven’t thanked you for setting up this trap.”

“Hahaha! You’re overthinking. There’s nothing else to tonight’s party!”

“That would be the best.” Emmeline stepped in front of Adam and flashed him a charming yet threatening smile. “I wouldn’t want any of us to regret our decisions!”

“Really?” Adam suddenly reached out to touch her. “You have a stray strand of hair, Ms. Louise.”

Emmeline pushed his hand away, and they exchanged several moves in a split second.

“No wonder Abel is head over heels for you. You are indeed extraordinary,” Adam said.

“Where are my sons? I hope they’re safe,” Emmeline said.

“I can’t be bothered to lie to you. They’re over there!” Adam pointed in a direction with his chin.

Emmeline turned her head around and saw Oscar, dressed in a suit, with the triplets and Timothy next to him.

The guests cheered and lifted their glasses at them.

Oscar announced, “Tonight, we are gathered here to celebrate my great-grandchildren! Please shower them with your blessings!”

The guests turned their admiring gazes toward the four angelic boys.

The boys were dressed in the same tuxedo and had the same hairstyle. They looked like a mini-sized version of Abel.

However, the guests heard that only one of them was Abel’s son. The other three were Adrien’s.

But that can’t be... all of them look like they’re from the same mother!

Rosaline was not happy about it, but she had no other choice.

According to the DNA test report, Timothy was Alana’s son.

Julianna was very proud when she saw the triplets.

They’re the pride of our family!

Oscar said, "My great-grandsons are Adrien and Abel's children. Their mothers are..."

Alana lifted her chin. What Oscar would say next would cement her position in the Ryker family,

She was the woman destined to be Abel's wife, and Emmeline would have to marry Adrien!

"Let me do it," Adam said. "I'll get the children to stand in front of their parents so everyone can have a clearer picture."

Adrien immediately followed up and waved at the guests. "I'm Adrien! Emmeline and I are the parents of the triplets!"

Chapter 106 Walked Into a Trap

"Woo! Way to go, Adrien!" Some people in the hall shouted.

Undoubtedly, they were good friends of Adrien.

However, that led the way to more cheers from the guests.

"You're so lucky, Adrien! You scored a hat trick on your first shot!"

"You're awesome, Adrien!"

Adrien was feeling very smug about it. He crouched and hugged the triplets in his arms.

The triplets shuddered, but Adrien held them even more tightly.

Alana walked elegantly up to Timothy and gently clasped his shoulders. "Good evening, everyone! I'm Alana Lane. I gave birth to Abel's son, Timothy Ryker. I'll continue to bear children for him too! This one's already two months!"

She smiled blissfully while rubbing her stomach.

"Wow, she's the future heiress of the Ryker Group!"

"Ms. Lane will be Abel's future wife. I'm so jealous!"

The female guests gasped in surprise. They admired and envied Alana.

Alana was extremely gratified. It felt as though she was already the matriarch of the Ryker family.

Next were Emmeline and Abel. They looked at each other, wondering what they should do.

"Emmeline!" Someone in the crowd shouted. "You're the mother of Adrien's children, right? Why are you still hesitating?"

"The children are yours, right? Admit it!"

Alana took Emmeline's hand. "Come closer, won't you? The children are waiting!"

Sun yelled, "Mommy! I wanna leave!"

He knew his mother did not like Adrien. He did not like Adrien too, and the only thing he could think of was to leave as soon as possible.

"I wanna go home!" Moon yelled.

"Me too, Mommy!" Star waved his hands. "It's boring here!"

"Shush! You still have me!" Adrien said sternly.

"But we only want Mommy!"

"Mommy!"

Timothy was standing there, looking at Abel with teary eyes. "Daddy! Don't you want me? Why aren't you coming here?"

Abel and Emmeline exchanged glances again, and they walked over.

The former stood next to Alana, and the latter next to Adrien.

"Abel." Alana leaned her head on Abel's shoulder.

"My wife!" Adrien hugged Emmeline with his arms.

That was all there was to be said.

Emmeline realized she had fallen into Adam's trap. There were no flaws to it.

She shot a glance at Adam and realized he was smirking at her.

"Look at these families! Two loving couples and four adorable children. Is there anything else the Ryker family can ask for?" Oscar said happily.

"You're so lucky, Mr. Ryker!"

"You're a winner in life, Mr. Ryker!"

The guests cheered and clapped to congratulate Oscar.

Suddenly, the chandelier above Oscar's head exploded with a loud bang. Crystal shards fell all over the hall.

The cheers and applause stopped abruptly as the guests scattered in all directions.

"Assassins!" Adam yelled. "Protect Grandfather!"

Before the bodyguards could get into formation, several armed thugs surrounded Oscar.

Abel wanted to rush to Oscar's aid, but a thug pointed a gun at his head.

"Don't harm Grandfather!" Alana wanted to save Oscar, but she fell after a thug kicked her.

"Adam!" Oscar was furious. "Why are there assassins? What did you do?"

Adam said nothing, though his expression was sullen.

Benjamin and Daisy rushed over and picked up the four children.

"Timothy! Timothy!" Rosaline snatched Timothy away from them.

Landen and Julianna wanted to take the triplets with them, but Daisy stood in their way.

Ethan and Benjamin took the triplets away.

Emmeline was confused. Isn't the trap tonight set for me? Why are they targeting Oscar?

Chapter 107 Alana Took a Bullet

There was no time to think. Emmeline lifted her gown and kicked away the gun that was pointed at Abel's head.

Abel took the opportunity and punched the assassin behind him.

"Save Grandfather!" Abel roared.

Emmeline threw several needles from her handbag to repel the assassin. She reached out to grab Oscar.

Whoosh! A bullet grazed the back of her hand.

"Emma!"

Abel pounced at Emmeline and shoved her away, putting himself in the path of danger.

"Abel!" Alana shrieked. She jumped in front of Abel.

Thud! Thud! Two bullets found their way into Alana's body, and she fell into a puddle of her blood.

"She's dead! Someone help!"

The banquet hall was in chaos, and the lights flickered. The assassins took the opportunity to retreat.

"Save me, Abel!" Alana cried out. "I don't want to die!"

Abel's mind was blank as he gawked at Alana lying in a puddle of blood.

What just happened?

I tried to shield Emmeline, but Alana shielded me instead.

"Save Alana!" Oscar was furious. "Alana saved you. Are you going to watch her die?"

"Why are you just standing there, Abel?" Adam roared. "Alana was shot! The baby isn't going to survive!"

Emmeline's face was pale. "Abel, take her to the hospital."

Abel came to his senses. He picked up Alana and yelled, "Get the car, Luca!"

Alana was curled up in Abel's embrace. She was smirking. I win this time, Abel! Those two bullets were worth it! If only Adam could think up a less painful plan though!

Meanwhile, Adam had already contacted the doctor at the emergency department. "Make it sound as serious as you can. You can even say that her heart stopped for a while!"

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!"

Emmeline felt cold as she watched Abel leave with Alana.

Everything happened so fast, she was not sure what actually transpired.

She thought there was something fishy about the entire ordeal, but she could not pinpoint any flaws.

Benjamin came over and draped his arm on Emmeline's shoulders. "Let's go, Ms. Louise."

"Where are the children?" Emmeline was trembling slightly. She leaned onto Benjamin's chest.

Benjamin rested his chin on her forehead. "They're in my car. Ethan and Daisy are taking care of them."

"But Timothy..."

"Lewis and his wife took him away," Benjamin said. "Let's go. We shouldn't stay here."

Emmeline lifted her head. "I want to go to the hospital to meet Alana."

"I'll go with you."

"Mm."

Half an hour later, Emmeline and Benjamin arrived at Ryker's Hospital.

Abel was sitting on the bench outside the emergency room with his head buried in his hands.

Luca stood next to him, and surrounding them were six bodyguards.

Abel was frowning hard. He seemed to be thinking of something but could not come up with anything.

In just an hour, he looked much haggard than before.

Emmeline felt sorry for him.

He was willing to take a bullet for her.

"Abel..."

She was about to go closer when a doctor came out of the emergency room.

"How is she?" Abel stood up abruptly. "Is Alana okay?"

The doctor shook his head grimly. "It's not looking good. She was hit by two bullets, and one of the bullets penetrated her lung."

"How did that happen? You'll have to save her no matter what. If you don't, there's no need for Ryker's Hospital to exist!"

"I understand, Mr. Ryker," the doctor said nervously. "We're getting an emergency medication dispatch from Dilophon. That should stabilize Ms. Lane's condition."

"She risked her life to save me. And she's bearing my child." Abel sounded like he was sobbing.

"We couldn't save the child. All we can do now is try our best to save the mother!" the doctor said.

"The child is... gone?" Abel said.

Chapter 108 She Won

"I'm sorry, Mr. Ryker. We did what we could."

"Then save Alana. Do whatever it takes!" Abel's eyes were bloodshot.

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!"

Luca turned his head and inadvertently noticed Emmeline, her face pale.

Her eyes were filled with tears. The baby is gone. That's an innocent life!

"Ms. Louise is here," Luca reminded Abel.

Abel turned his head and noticed Emmeline's frail figure.

"Emma," he called out softly and reached out to her.

"Abel." Tears were falling down Emmeline's face. "I'm sorry. I didn't expect this to happen. If I had known, I wouldn't have fought the assassins..."

Abel hugged her tightly and said, "Silly girl, we were all trying to save Grandfather. It's not your fault!"

"But the child is gone!" Emmeline sobbed. "It doesn't matter what we were trying to do, the child is gone!"

"I didn't want it to happen either. I don't want to marry her, but I don't want the child to die either!"

"It's all my fault... You were trying to save me."

"No, this one's on me. It has nothing to do with you." Abel smiled wryly. "I guess I owe her one now."

"You owe her? How are you going to repay her?"

"We'll see if she survives." Abel sighed. "I guess that's fate..."

He looked at Benjamin and smiled. "Mr. York, please help me send Emma home."

...

Emmeline did not see Abel for the next three days.

She knew he had been waiting at the hospital.

Alana's condition remained critical for three days.

Emmeline did not eat during that period.

Daisy was extremely anxious.

"You shouldn't torment yourself like that, Ms. Louise. Didn't you always say to let it go?"

"But..." Emmeline felt a lump in her throat. "Alana hasn't woken up yet, and she lost her child. If she dies, that's two lives lost. I can't help but blame myself.."

"It's not your responsibility to bear," Daisy said. "Alana wanted to save Mr. Ryker."

“But Abel put himself in danger to save me.”

“You wanted to save Oscar!”

“I shouldn’t have interfered!”

Daisy shook her head. “Tch. You’re not the type of person who’d do nothing when seeing someone in danger!”

“But... It seems that Abel is so distant now. We fell in love at first sight, and things were progressing smoothly.”

“I don’t see how this affects things.”

“But what if Alana dies?” Emmeline wiped her tears. “That would put a psychological barrier between us, wouldn’t it?”

If she doesn’t die, she’ll be a physical barrier between the two of you! Daisy thought but decided not to say it.

Alana did not deserve to die after all.

Daisy only sighed.

“It doesn’t matter if she dies or not. Abel and I are irrevocably affected by this incident.” Emmeline sniffled. “I thought Adrien was the only obstacle, but now there’s Alana.”

“Sigh, I guess you two are just not meant to be,” Daisy said before slapping herself. “Silly me. I’m running my mouth again!”

There was a knock at the door.

Daisy went to answer it. It was Benjamin.

“Mr. York! What brings you here at this time of the day?”

“Do I need a reason to come here? The entire Struyria knows I have a crush on Ms. Louise. No one would suspect anything!” Benjamin said.

“That makes sense.” Daisy nodded.

The move was unconventional, but it allowed Benjamin to protect Emmeline publicly.

Emmeline’s eyes were still bloodshot. “Benjamin, has Alana woken up?”

Benjamin nodded. “I came here to tell you that.”

When she heard that, Emmeline felt hollow all of a sudden.

She had to admit she was relieved to hear the good news, but she nonetheless felt uncomfortable.

Suddenly, she felt dizzy. She had not eaten for three days, and the hunger was setting in.

Benjamin spoke to Daisy, “Ms. Louise is hungry. Make her some oatmeal.”

She's finally eating! Daisy was delighted. She ran to the kitchen.

Benjamin looked at Emmeline's pale face and smiled wryly. "Looks like Alana has won this time."

Emmeline's eyes widened. "She won?"

Chapter 109 He's Mine Now

"Yes, she won. Think about it," Benjamin said.

Emmeline pondered for a moment before sighing. "It doesn't matter who wins. I'm relieved that she survived!"

"Yeah," Benjamin said. "Even if you lose Abel, you still have..."

"Mm?" Emmeline shot him a stern glare.

Benjamin whistled and swallowed the "me" that was on the tip of his tongue.

At the hospital, Abel stood in front of Alana's bed.

"Abel..." Alana moaned softly. "Don't leave me... I'm scared..."

Oscar had just left the room, and Abel was feeling exhausted.

His grandfather had told him earlier that Alana was his savior, and he had a debt of gratitude to pay.

Abel wished the bullet had killed him instead.

He would rather die than fall into Alana's trap, but he could not turn back time to stop it from happening.

"I'm here, Alana. How are you feeling?" Abel said with some difficulty.

Alana slowly opened her eyes and tried to focus on Abel next to him.

She stared at him for the next two minutes.

He looked haggard, and there was some stubble on his chin.

Has he been staying by my side?

Hahaha, I can't believe I won!

This man is out of tricks now!

Alana began to cry. "I was so scared, Abel. I thought I wouldn't wake up anymore, and I'll lose you forever. I thought I was dead..."

"I won't let you die," Abel said. "With the entire Ryker's hospital at my disposal, you can't possibly die."

"But... I'd rather die..."

Abel frowned. "What do you mean?"

"I lost our baby trying to save you. There's no more meaning to my life. Boo hoo hoo..."

Abel was speechless. What's wrong with you? Are you still trying to hold me hostage with the baby?

"I was so happy to bear a child for you once more, but why didn't you like it? You even... You even announced publicly that you never touched me. How would I become pregnant if you hadn't touched me? You made me sad. I know you said that not to make Emmeline sad, but I'm so sad. I can't believe you were so irresponsible..."

Abel frowned even harder.

Alana still insists that the child was mine. She can't be so stupid to pin that on me when she knows I didn't touch her... There must be some flaw in my thinking.

"I know I shouldn't have drugged you, but your mother kept urging me to give birth to another child for you. She wants to have more grandchildren than Julianna, so what else could I do? That was the only way I could think of..."

But you don't know I got Cristopher to deliver me a tranquilizer!

I never touched you!

Wait a second...

Abel suddenly remembered that he was in his study when Cristopher was supposed to deliver the tranquilizer to him, but Cristopher went to the bedroom instead. Alana was passed out on the bed naked...

Cristopher Reid! He must be the missing link!

Don't tell me he took the opportunity...

Murderous intent appeared in Abel's eyes.

He abruptly stood up and walked out of the room.

As soon as the door slammed, Alana smirked. "I'll be waiting for your good news, Abel!"

Luca was shocked to see Abel suddenly come out of the room. He thought Alana did not make it.

Abel gritted his teeth and said, "Get me Cristopher Reid of the biology department!"

Luca was confused. Cristopher Reid? What does anything have to do with him?

He had to follow orders anyway. In any case, it was not too much trouble because they were all at the hospital.

Luca and the bodyguard rushed to the biology department.

Chapter 110 To the Imperial Palace

Half an hour later, Abel leaned back on his chair in his private interrogation room and rested his legs on the table.

In front of him, Cristopher sat cowering on the wet floor.

He had passed out twice from the beatings, and the bodyguards splashed water on him to wake him up.

Everyone knew one would suffer a horrifying end when they fell into Abel's hands, but Christopher did not waver from his story. He said he saw Alana lying naked and unconscious on the bed, and he could not hold back his desires...

Christopher knew that it was better to save Alana than to confess that they had an affair.

Once Alana married Abel, she would reward him for everything he suffered today.

I'm risking my life for you, Alana!

"Ms. Lane passed out on the bed, and you know, I can't possibly resist the temptation... I took off my pants and did it there and then... Ms. Lane doesn't know anything about it. It's all my fault. She's a victim. If you have to punish someone, you can punish me..."

"My reputation suffered for so long because of you! Tell me, how do you want to die?" Abel roared angrily.

Christopher fell to his knees. "Mr. Ryker, everyone saw you drag me away from the laboratory. It won't look good on you if I died. You wouldn't want to ruin the reputation of your family, right?"

"I can make you wish you were dead!" Abel slammed the table. "Beat him up again!"

"Mr. Ryker!" Christopher crawled toward Abel. "If I had known you had feelings for Ms. Lane, I'd rather chop off my member than lay a finger on her! Please spare my worthless life, Mr. Ryker..."

"Who told you I had feelings for Alana?"

"Don't you?"

"Of course not!"

"Then there's no point torturing me any further, isn't it? I promise I won't do it again, alright?"
Christopher lay prostrate on the floor.

Abel smirked. "Tch, you sly fox! Luca, throw him out of Struyria and make sure I don't see him ever again!"

Abel was incredibly frustrated as he left the interrogation room.

His original plan was to wait until Alana gave birth to the child and prove to the whole of Struyria that the child was not his.

Things had gone horribly wrong. Not only had Alana saved his life, but it was also shown that Christopher had violated Alana because of him.

She was a victim in the entire ordeal, and Abel was the reason for her suffering.

How was he going to face her from now on?

There were certain things he could not say.

He could not tell Struyria that Alana had been violated by someone else and that the baby was not his.

That would make him seem like a scumbag.

Argh! This is bullsh*t! Abel punched the wall hard.

Paint flakes fell off the whitewashed wall of the underground parking lot, and faint bits of blood could be seen where Abel had punched the wall.

“Don’t hurt yourself, Mr. Ryker. You can release your anger on me,” Luca said.

“How many punches can you take?” Abel asked coldly.

“... Not many!”

“Go to the Imperial Palace with me.”

“The Imperial Palace?” Luca thought he had misheard.

He could never expect Abel would want to willingly go to that chaotic place.

“I want to have a drink.”

“Yes, Mr. Ryker!” Luca quickly went to get the car.

Abel did not have a habit of drinking. He must be feeling incredibly frustrated now.

A drink once in a while is fine. It’s better than keeping it all inside, I guess.

Abel did not request a private room at the Imperial Palace. He sat at the bar counter and ordered a glass of beer.

Luca sat next to him and watched him chug glass after glass.

Several bodyguards were patrolling behind Abel and Luca.

Two “princesses” in flamboyant clothing came over to Abel and asked, “Hey! Do you want some company? There’s no charge!”

Luca frowned. “There’s no charge?”