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Bane was upset at Benjamin's gaze. He felt as if Victoria had told Benjamin something.

"Why do you keep looking at me?"

Benjamin didn't expect Bane to ask of his own accord. He didn't want to say it at first, but now that Bane had asked, he grabbed the chance and said straightforwardly, "Mr. Morison, would you like to undergo some psychological counseling as Miss Selwyn did?"

In his many years of experience, Benjamin could see that Victoria had psychological issues, but Bane's issue was likely more severe.

Ethan was speechless.

And so was Jessie.

They probably didn't expect Benjamin to say that all of a sudden.

They both glanced at Bane to see what his expression would be like. Just as expected,

Bane's expression was as dark as ink.

However, Benjamin didn't seem like he minded. He continued with a natural expression,

"My suggestion is sincere, Mr. Morison. Perhaps you can consider it seriously, and you

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can just call me if you have any needs. Let's end the consultation here for today. I'll leave now."

"I shall see you off, Dr. Lawson."

Ethan walked forward and saw Benjamin off. Bane was probably mad right now, or he might be thinking that he should tell Benjamin some things so that Victoria could be cured.

Ethan had to be the one to say those things Bane couldn't say.

After Benjamin left, Jessie stood where she was, looking at Bane with a stunned expression. Sometime later, she finally whispered, "I'll be going in now, Mr. Morison."

She was referring to Victoria's room, so Bane glanced at her. Instead of replying, he walked past her and went into the room. When Jessie saw that, she had no choice but to follow him in a hurry.

Bane felt both anger and heartache when he saw Victoria lying back on the bed. Her eyes were closed as she curled up on the bed, looking like her energy was spent.

Bane was mad that she behaved like this around him, and his heart ached because she was ruining her health by refusing to consume anything.

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However, many instances proved that she wasn't rejecting food and water on purpose.

Her body was resisting it, and she would throw up anything she ate. Her body had

turned so weak.

Bane stared at her quietly for a long time, then went out.

When he came out, he bumped into Ethan, who had just returned from seeing Benjamin off.

“Mr. Hudson.”

Bane’s eyes were cold as he said, “Go and find out where Nicole and Nathan are right now.”

When Ethan heard Nicole’s and Nathan’s names, his expression shifted.

“Mr. Morison, what do you mean by this?”

“She lost the will to live because she lost her memories. Her subconscious mind gave her psychological problems, causing her to develop anorexia. If that’s the case, the only course of action I can take is to reignite her will to live.”

Save for Alaric, the only thing that could reignite her will to live was the two children.

Ethan was speechless.

He thought that with the recent development of events, Bane would finally think things through and let Victoria go, and realize that forcing things wouldn’t bring happiness. He thought that Bane would’ve learned that some things had to be given up on and let go. However, he truly didn’t expect Bane to sink even deeper into the mud and even try to do something to the children.

Ethan stood where he was, unmoving.

“What’s the matter?”

“Mr. Morison, Nicole and Nathan are still young, so they can’t endure too much shock.

Also, they don’t know anything.”

At that, Ethan paused for a moment and continued, “Mr. Morison, they’re not your children, but you’ve watched them grow up. How can you-”

Bane interrupted him.

“I just want her to live.”

He was willing to give up on everything else.

At long last, Ethan scowled.

“But if anything happened to the two children, Miss Selwyn would experience a suffering even worse than death!”

“Why would anything happen to the children?” Bane narrowed his eyes. “Victoria is here

with me now, and I want her to be reunited with her children. What’s wrong with that?”

“If you truly want them to be reunited, Mr. Morison, you should let Miss Selwyn go.”

When Bane heard that, he chuckled.

Ethan could sense something else in Bane’s laugh, and he was instinctively scared. He was afraid that something worse would happen later on, so he hastily said, “I’ll get to it.”

Seeing that Ethan had agreed, Bane couldn’t be bothered to waste time on nonsense.

“Be quick about it. After three days at most, I want to see the two children by her side. If

something happens to her, you can forget about coming back.”

Ethan’s arms were hanging on either side of his body, and he clenched his fists tightly.

His heart was extremely bitter at that moment.

Before this, he thought that Bane would take pity on Victoria’s health and let her go.

However, he had underestimated Bane’s obsession.

Meanwhile, back in Corynthea, it was nighttime, and the Cadogan Residence was brightly lit.

Mary had just put Nicole and Nathan to sleep. When she left the children’s room, a sorrowful expression immediately colored her face.

In all her years of marriage with Adrian, this was her first time being so worried and troubled about something.

She didn’t have much of a problem in the past. To maintain her looks and youthful appearance, Mary invested not in aesthetic medicine but in going to sleep and waking up early. She made sure that she was calm at all times, so she didn’t worry about most things. Her emotions had always been stable.

Unexpectedly, this time was different.

Once downstairs, Mary caught sight of Adrian, who was smoking in the living room.

When Adrian heard the sounds, he looked up to see Mary walking toward him. He hastily put out the cigarette in the ashtray, then got up to open the windows to let in some air.

His actions made Mary pause slightly in her steps. Her worried emotions were calmed considerably.

Adrian had always been a smoker in his youth. Later on, since Mary didn't like the smell of smoke, Adrian quit smoking.

In the decades that followed, he never smoked again in front of Mary.

However, the incidents that took place recently troubled him so much that he couldn't help but start smoking again.

The news he received for the past two days irritated him so much that he got back to smoking.

Of course, he still didn't dare smoke with Mary around. He thought that Mary would go to sleep with the two grandchildren, so he smoked for a bit downstairs. However, he didn't expect her to go downstairs at this hour.

Adrian panicked, fearing that she would give him the cold shoulder.

Hence, before Mary walked closer to him, Adrian explained in a panic, "I—I thought you went to sleep with Nicole and Nathan, so..." He was past middle age, and he had weathered countless storms and schemes in the business field, but when he was caught committing a mistake in front of his wife, he was as helpless as a child.

When Adrian finished speaking, he even felt like he was just finding excuses.

He had promised Mary that he wouldn't smoke anymore, but now, his explanations sounded like he didn't quit smoking at all, and he would smoke in secret when she was

asleep.

He opened his mouth to explain, but Mary said, "Never mind, you already smoked, anyway. I'm also troubled about this."

With that, Mary reached out to Adrian.

"I'd like a cigarette too."

Adrian was speechless.

"Never mind."

Before Adrian declined, Mary seemed to have thought of something as she said, "I'd better not smoke. I have to check in on Nicole and Nathan later."

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When Mary changed her mind not to smoke without blaming him for smoking, Adrian heaved a sigh of relief with a pair of furrowed eyebrows on his face. "Why are you still up at this hour?" Mary usually went to bed straight away after putting the children to sleep. However, she went downstairs that night for some reason and caught the unsuspecting Adrian smoking, although it was his first and only time trying to do that secretly.

Instead of answering Adrian's question, Mary asked, "Why are you smoking here? Shouldn't you be in bed at this time?" As soon as she made her question heard, neither of them said a single word.

After a brief silence, Adrian said, "Something seems off to me."

Upon hearing her husband's words, Mary looked at him with bewilderment. "Are we thinking about the same thing?" The two of them then exchanged gazes with each other, seemingly able to read each other's minds. After all, both of them shared a deep

love for their children, which was why they knew what was wrong, considering what had happened.

“I know Peter assured us that they’ll be fine, but...” Mary paused for a second and added, “I couldn’t help but feel something wrong with their tone when he told us that.”

Adrian responded with an affirmative nod. “Yeah, I agree. It’s been a while since they last met their children, but more importantly, no one seems to be able to reach them.”

Although the couple expected Alaric to get in touch with them less than before after he grew up, they couldn’t help but find it strange for him to be completely out of reach.

“Victoria’s phone seems to be shut down all the time, and even though someone picked up the phone when we called Alaric, it was always Peter’s voice that came from the other end every time.” Mary was then reminded of Terrance’s promise that Alaric and Victoria would be fine as the two of them only entrusted her and Adrian with their children because they had some important business to take care of. Shouldn’t she at least give us a phone call or a video call even if she couldn’t come back? When I was her age, I would call back to check on my son, no matter where I was. So, what the heck

is Victoria really doing now? It almost looks like she just disappeared.

After a long silence, Adrian finally spoke his mind. “Maybe we should call the police.”

Mary knitted her eyebrows. “We don’t really know what’s going on yet. If we get the cops involved, we could complicate matters and even put our son and Victoria in trouble.”

He pursed his lips, agreeing with his wife. “You have a point. In that case, maybe we should call Terrance and tell him to meet us. I doubt he would lie to us.”

She gave Adrian a doubtful gaze. Although Adrian had always been a loving husband, she also knew him as a successful businessman who had resorted to extreme

measures on multiple occasions before he got this far. Because of that, she was sure the only people he would treat kindly were those from his family. At the thought of that, Mary blinked and tried to calm Adrian down. "Well, just make sure you're going to talk to him nicely, alright? You don't want to scare him too much."

"Don't worry about that. He works for our son, and I don't think he has the guts to hide anything from us." Adrian reacted with a nod.

"Well, you still don't want to scare him either. After all, we need information from him." Adrian eventually gave in, thanks to his sympathy for Mary. "Alright, I get you. Don't worry." Adrian stood up directly.

"Now?" Mary was surprised. "But it's late now. Why don't you sleep on it and act tomorrow?"

He replied, "No, the darkness gives us a perfect opportunity to catch her off guard."

"Alright then, get back home as soon as you're done."

"Alright, Honey. Rest well straight away. Don't wait on me."

After Adrian finished his words and left home, Mary stood and watched as she let out a sigh. Deep down, she sincerely hoped Victoria and Alaric would be fine so that she could stop worrying about them. Soon, Mary headed upstairs and was about to head to bed straight away, but since she didn't feel sleepy at all, she took her two grandsons

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into the room and decided to keep them company until Adrian came back. Although Adrian told her not to wait on him, she couldn't fall asleep at all because she was too eager to learn news about Alaric and Victoria. Therefore, she waited nervously for her husband's return.

Meanwhile, Terence was just done taking care of his business. When they found Alaric, he was still unconscious. At first, he was going to ask about Victoria's whereabouts, but Alaric's henchmen quickly answered, "Bane has a crush on Miss Selwyn, so I think she is going to be fine by his side. Instead, Mr. Cadogan should be our priority right now as he is still unconscious. So, we should get him back as soon as possible before anything worse happens."

"What are you talking about?! No, we're not leaving her. Miss Selwyn only got herself in trouble because she wanted to save Mr. Cadogan. If we do that, we're going to be despicable ingrates!"

"I disagree, Mr. Levane. Bane has a crush on Miss Selwyn, which makes him Mr.

Cadogan's love rival. I believe Miss Selwyn came here knowing that. Don't you think so?

Anyway, what I'm sure of is that he didn't pull his punches when he hurt Mr. Cadogan. I mean, he is still unconscious until now, and god knows how long he had been fainting there. If we don't rush him to a hospital, Mr. Cadogan's situation could get worse, which would render Miss Selwyn's sacrifice in vain. Aren't I right?"

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Terrance was almost convinced, but deep down, he still couldn't bring himself to make the decision. After all, his guilt and conscience would not allow him to take Alaric away without rescuing Victoria. At the same time, he also found it strange that Victoria lost touch with them the moment she got onto the plane, but nonetheless, he subsequently found out that she had gone to the hospital. Later, when Terrance arrived at the hospital to meet up with Victoria, his effort was thwarted because the place was too heavily guarded by Bane's men. Due to that, he couldn't find a chance to meet up with

Victoria.

“Mr. Levane, you’re the only person who could make that decision among us. Please think about it. We’re racing against time, and the situation can’t wait much longer.”

Terrance apologized to Victoria on the inside and went on to take Alaric back to their country. However, before he could settle down, he got a phone call from Adrian and Mary and was forced to lie to them that the two of them were fine. Worried that he might blurt out something he shouldn’t, he quickly hung up the call. After that, he was so busy looking for a place to put Alaric up that he didn’t even have time to worry about the situation until he was done taking care of those matters.

Nevertheless, when Terrance was finally done taking care of that matter, he began to get worried that Adrian and Mary would see through his lie, thinking they were not that easy to fool. At the thought of that, he sat up straight anxiously and wondered whether he should call back to explain his action. Just as he was about to do that, he suddenly heard the doorbell ringing.

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When Terrance heard the doorbell ring, his natural response was to make his way toward the door. However, he quickly realized it was midnight, which made him wonder who would visit him at that ungodly hour, considering the fact that he lived alone. The thought of that instantly left his face covered with cold sweat. Thus, instead of answering the door right away, he headed straight to the study to check the security footage.

The moment Terrance saw a figure right outside his door through the surveillance camera, he couldn’t help but gulp in fear because the person right at his doorstep was

none other than Adrian. Oh gosh! I'm having a heart attack! Why did he come to visit me in the middle of the night? He could have called me instead of paying a visit, couldn't he? The sight of two bodyguards right behind Adrian only added to Terrance's worry as the situation seemed more pressing and complicated than he thought. Ugh! I should have known that I wasn't calm enough when I was talking to them over the phone. They must have seen through my lie because of that. Great! Now, they must be here to demand an answer from me!

Seemingly impatient, Adrian repeatedly pressed the doorbell, as if he was going to do that until someone opened the door. Meanwhile, the ringing doorbell was starting to worry Terrance more and more as it was already late at night. Upon sitting on the couch

with a few moments of hesitation, Terrance finally came up with a cover story for Alaric and Victoria's whereabouts. Then, he went over to open the door after thinking his
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explanation was sufficient to convince Adrian. When he answered the door, he pretended as if he didn't see Adrian from the security footage and acted like he was surprised to see the latter.

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"Mr. Cadogan, what brings you here at this ungodly hour?" Terrance pretended to yawn as if he woke up from his sleep.

Nevertheless, Adrian, who only glared at him unhappily, only ordered Terrance to be taken before the latter could even react. "Take him." As soon as he made his order heard, the two buff guys right behind him quickly manhandled Terrance and took him away.

Terrance was initially still going to pretend to look sleepy, but after hearing Adrian's

order, he became startled, asking anxiously, "Wait a minute, Mr. Cadogan! What's going on?! Is there something wrong?"

"Stop pretending. Now, tell me what's going on."

"I don't know what you're asking about, Mr. Cadogan. What exactly are you referring to?"

Eager to find out the truth behind what was going on, Adrian was unwilling to waste time beating around the bush with Terrance. When he realized Terrance had no intention of revealing the truth, he waved his hand decisively. "Fine, if you won't talk, we're going to have to take you back with us. I'm sure you're going to start talking by then." The two guards, who only listened to Adrian, got a hold of Terrance and were ready to take him away.

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As Terrance was brought closer to the elevator by the guards, he quickly realized Adrian was not bluffing at all. Thus, he changed his mind and said, "Alright, Mr. Cadogan! I'll talk!"

Upon hearing that, Adrian stopped in his tracks and squinted, fixing his gaze on Terrance. "Finally? Or is this some kind of trick you are trying to fool me with? You'd better think twice before acting because that is not going to end well for you."

"No! Of course not, Mr. Cadogan! I didn't and wouldn't lie to you, but could you please just tell them to let me go first?"

After taking a look at his surroundings, Adrian ordered his men to release Terrance, thinking there was nowhere else he could run either, not to mention the fact that they were just standing right at his doorstep. "Let him go."

It was then that the bodyguards finally let go of Terrance. After that, Terrance rubbed his painful arms while complaining about how rough those two men were for hurting him on the inside. Deep down, he knew he couldn't allow himself to be taken because he only had three hours to rest before he had to set out and visit Alaric. Although the place where Alaric was kept was guarded, Terrance was still unwilling to take any chance, which was why he was planning to rest for only two hours after a quick shower.

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I could put you in greater trouble if your father takes me away with him, Mr. Cadogan. For that, I don't think I have a choice, Sir. In the end, Terrance reluctantly decided to reveal the truth, thinking Adrian and Mary were too smart to fool even though he did his best to keep Terrance's whereabouts a secret for him. After having a monologue with himself, Terrance went on to tell Adrian about the matter that had happened recently. Upon hearing the story, Adrian pointed at Terrance in frustration with a darkened look on his face. "After what happened, you're still thinking about hiding it from us?!" Terrance awkwardly smiled. "Well, we didn't want you to be worried. Furthermore, I was planning to let Mr. Cadogan take charge when he wakes up, and I believe he wouldn't have wanted to worry you all as well, so I..."

"Where is he now?"

"Relax, Mr. Cadogan. I'll take you to him. Take it easy, okay? Your health is more important."

Despite Terrance's sincere attitude, Adrian was still too mad to talk to him because he was angry that no one told him about his son's status after something so serious

happened. You didn't tell me about my son's status because you didn't want me to be worried; Terrance?! Then, when were you planning to do that? When it was too late?! So that I wouldn't be that worried, knowing there was nothing else I could do to change the situation?! The more Adrian dwelled on the matter, the angrier he became. Thus, he proceeded to berate Terrance again a few moments later.

Terrance was embarrassed by Adrian's scolding, but at the same time, his pride wouldn't allow him to put up with that and prompted him to talk back, although he knew he was in the wrong. "I didn't mean to keep you in the dark, Mr. Cadogan. Now, let

me ask you a question if I may. Would you tell Mrs. Cadogan now that you've learned the truth?" Adrian was caught off guard by Terrance's question. When Adrian didn't answer his question, Terrance acted as if he could read his mind. "See? You wouldn't want to tell her either, right? Why is that so? That's all because you care about her, and you don't want to worry her, which is why you won't dare to tell her, right? It was the same reason I didn't tell you and Mrs. Cadogan because I know your son cares about you both. For that, I'm sure Mr. Cadogan would bite my head off if he found out I told you guys about it."

Adrian chuckled coldly. "Are you trying to convince me not to blame you?"

"No. No, of course not. I was just trying to clarify."

"Spare me your nonsense and tell the driver to speed up."

"Yes. Yes, of course."

Terrance told the driver to speed up under the condition that the speed limits were abided by. Twenty minutes later, they arrived at the hospital, whereupon Adrian was seen with a gloomy expression on his face. "Are there people guarding him here?" He

turned around and asked, looking at Terrance.

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Terrance nodded. "Of course, there are. Don't worry about that, Mr. Cadogan. I wasn't planning to spend the night at home in fact. I only went back for a shower and was going to return in a few hours."

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It was only after hearing Terrance's response that Adrian was more relieved. When they were on his way to Alaric's ward, Adrian went on to ask a few more questions about Alaric's health condition, following which he was told that Alaric was still unconscious without any apparent threat to his health. Upon arrival, they saw Alaric lying motionlessly in bed as he looked a lot skinnier than before. When Adrian saw that, tears began to start rolling in his eyes. Nevertheless, he did his best to fight back his tears, knowing he wasn't alone. Shortly after that, he quickly realized there were no signs of Victoria in the ward besides Alaric.

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"What about Victoria?" Adrian asked probingly.

Upon hearing Victoria's name, Terrance had a guilty look on his face. "Miss Selwyn... She didn't return."

Puzzled, Adrian stared at Terrance and asked, "What do you mean by that?"

In the face of Adrian's piercing gaze, Terrance felt as if he was being hit with a thunder strike when the former stared at him. "Um... Miss Selwyn is still somewhere abroad."

Seeing no other way out, Terrance proceeded to tell Adrian the whole story. After learning about what happened, Adrian felt his heart sinking, for he didn't expect Victoria

to be involved as well. Deep down, he thought it would be fortunate for Victoria to be admitted into the hospital with Alaric despite the trouble they were in, thinking both of them would at least be safe that way. However, the disappointing reality stabbed Terrance with a painful sting; Victoria was nowhere to be seen even though Alaric was there. What the heck is going on?! Adrian gently rubbed his temples, feeling overwhelmed by a terrible headache. Phew! I should be lucky that I gave birth to my son at a very young age. If that happened a decade or two later, my body wouldn't be able to take it at all.

"Relax, Mr. Cadogan. What's done is done, and anger won't change anything. Now, let's work on a solution or something."

Adrian responded by looking askance at Terrance. "What kind of bright ideas do you have in mind, then?"

Terrance shook his head. "I'm still trying to figure a way out."

Adrian chuckled coldly and said, "You haven't had a plan figured out, yet you had the guts to keep me in the dark, eh?!"

Terrance was rendered speechless by Adrian's mean response. Fine, maybe I should put up with his scolding without talking back. "Yes, it was all my fault. What should we do now, Mr. Cadogan?"

Adrian looked at the unconscious Alaric as he pursed his lips with dissatisfaction.

"How did he suffer such a severe injury? If both parties brought their own men, he shouldn't have ended up getting wounded so badly, considering the fact that he had been through proper training."

Terrance shook his head. "I'm not really sure about that since I wasn't there at that time,

but I believe Mr. Cadogan was set up by someone.”

After hearing Terrance’s opinion, Adrian fell silent. Although Alaric had always been a capable and talented son to Adrian, he deemed his son’s righteousness could be the reason that led him to his downfall. Furthermore, the fact that Alaric was dealing with an enemy who used to be his friend only confirmed the possibility that he might have truly been set up. Otherwise, there was no way Alaric could have gotten injured so badly.

Bane.... I have seen this kid before. When he was younger, he used to hang around with

Victoria. Adrian began to recall his encounters with Bane, who was still a kid at that time. That kid grew up as fast as my son did. When he stood behind Victoria, he looked so proud and confident, and his eyes... They were filled with emotions that seemed unusual to me when he was talking to her.

As a man himself, Adrian could relate to Bane, knowing the meaning behind the latter’s gestures back then. I can’t believe Bane already had such strong feelings for Victoria back then.

At that time, Adrian was very fond of Victoria, whom he deemed would be a perfect match with his son, Alaric. Therefore, he always believed Victoria would be his daughter-in-law as long as Alaric did everything he could to win her heart. However, that confidence went away ever since he noticed the emotions in Bane’s eyes. After all, he reckoned most ladies would succumb to aggressive romantic advances, which was something he doubted his son would do because of his conventional character.

After that, Adrian thought Alaric was going to lose Victoria to Bane until he heard that something happened in Bane’s family. While he felt sympathetic for the kid back then, he later learned that Bane moved somewhere abroad, believing he was too disturbed

and preoccupied to court Victoria. Since Bane didn't show up for the next few years, Adrian slowly forgot about him.

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Although Bane was considered a close friend of Alaric and Victoria during their
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childhood, Adrian thought things would be different with time, for their priorities would no longer be the same as they were in their youth. While that also included the feelings Bane had for Victoria, Adrian quickly realized how naive he was upon learning the truth of what happened. At the thought of that, he let out a long sigh, not expecting the situation to play out so differently. "I'll explain that later. Now, tell me where you last met Victoria."

Terrance then went on to tell Adrian about the time he was told to go to the airport. After identifying the exact location, Adrian made up his mind and came to a decision. Meanwhile, Terrance, who noticed his expression, said, "There is something I'd like to tell you, Mr. Cadogan."

"Speak!"

"When we were trading with him, Miss Selwyn told us not to call the police."

Adrian responded with silence.

"Therefore, Mr. Cadogan didn't call the cops as he was trying to resolve the issue privately, only to..."

"That was so unwise!" Adrian gritted his teeth. "Oh, my dear children!"

"Well, I understand what happened. Bane may be hostile toward Mr. Cadogan, but he is

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still nice toward Miss Selwyn, considering the fact that he's helped her on multiple
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occasions in the past. Therefore, there is no telling that Miss Selwyn has a soft spot for him."

Nevertheless, Adrian didn't see it the way Terrance did. After all, as a businessman, he only had eyes for anything that would work best in his interest, as well as his family's. Because of that, he wouldn't stand by and do nothing when someone was trying to hurt his son. Therefore, he didn't really see eye to eye with Terrance, which was why he didn't respond to him.

On the other hand, Terrance could also sense Adrian's indifference. Thus, he carefully looked at the man and asked, "Maybe calling the police isn't such a good idea, Mr. Cadogan."

"Hmph!" Adrian gazed at Terrance and asked, "You guys are too soft. That kind of attitude isn't going to take you very far!"

Terrance was tongue-tied upon hearing that. Although he was tempted to refute Adrian, he decided to take the moral high ground and concede when he thought about Victoria's safety. After all, he couldn't help but agree with Adrian that they were indeed too soft, believing things would have turned out better if they had been a little more decisive. "But Mr. Cadogan, when Boss wakes up..."

"What are you waiting for? Do you want to save someone's life or waste time dwelling here?"

Terrance was speechless as he quickly nodded. "I want to save someone's life!" He then closed his eyes and decisively added, "In that case, I suppose I should leave all matters in your care, Mr. Cadogan."

I'm sorry, Mr. Cadogan. I know you didn't want to involve the police for Miss Selwyn's sake, but she is still not back even up until now. Furthermore, the fact that you nearly lost your life is already worth whatever debt you owe to anyone. There is not really a reason to hold back, I guess. As for everything else, I think we should wait until we bring Miss Selwyn back.

Before Adrian left, he turned around and looked at his unconscious son one more time.

Then, he gazed at Terrance and said, "I'm going to make a move now, so stay here and look after him."

"Don't worry, Mr. Cadogan. I'm going to take good care of your son." Terrance nodded.

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On the way home, Adrian received a call from Mary.

"How is it? You've been out for a long time. Did you find Terrance? Any updates?"

Adrian fell silent. Suddenly, he recalled what Terrance told him in the car and asked him if he would tell Mary what he found out.

He felt it was a tough decision then. However, when he was faced with it at this moment, he realized he didn't want to tell Mary at all.

This was a severe issue, and he could already imagine Mary's distressed face if he told her about it.

His heart ached just at the thought of that, and he guessed that was why Alaric and Terrance didn't want to tell him at first.

Adrian sighed in his heart. After putting himself in Mary's shoes, he decided to update her, but only the partial truth. "Something minor came up, and I have to handle it. Take care of yourself over the next few days."

However, Mary was vigilant. "What happened? Why does it require your presence for the next few days? What is it?" Mary's tone turned anxious as she asked the last question.

"Listen to me and don't worry about it. It's a little tricky, but I can handle it. I'll tell you when it's settled, alright?"

Nonetheless, Mary questioned him skeptically, "What exactly happened that you won't tell me? Is it bad?"

"That's because I need to go settle it now. I don't have time to explain everything."

His answer made it easier for Mary to accept the situation. If he was truly in a rush, it made sense that he wouldn't have time to explain in detail.

"Fine, then. Go settle it. However, you must promise to tell me what happened when you're free. I want to see if I can help."

"Okay, honey. Thanks for understanding."

After hanging up, Adrian let out a long sigh. I finally got over the toughest part. I wonder if Terrance felt the same when he hung up the phone.

Even though the night was late, it was still easy to get ahold of people considering the

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Family's connections. As such, Adrian sat in the car as he made call after call.

After ending the call, Mary recalled Adrian's words and couldn't help but sigh as well.

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She knew him well. If he didn't tell her, there were only two possibilities. The first would be as he claimed about the situation being dire, so he didn't have time to explain things to her.

The other possibility was that the situation was so severe, and he was worried that she would be worried sick or frightened. As such, he chose to hide it.

Mary felt that both possibilities had a play in this.

However, she didn't push for an answer as Nicole and Nathan were with her. Now that Victoria and Alaric weren't around and Adrian was busy helping them, only she was left to care for the kids.

She couldn't just leave them alone, and she wouldn't be helpful if she brought them with her. Hence, Mary convinced herself after listening to Adrian's words.

Since she couldn't help, she chose not to know. If not, she would just be distraught about it. Thus, she should just take care of Nicole and Nathan with peace of mind while waiting for the rest to return.

Mary got up and walked toward Nicole and Nathan's room as she made up her mind.

She opened the door to see them sleeping soundly, hugging their blankets and even moving places on the bed. The scene warmed her heart which had been distressed the whole day.

These two kids are too cute. Victoria is a superwoman for giving birth to such beautiful twins. She even brought them up alone for five years. Nonetheless, she even taught the

kids well under such tough times.

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Mary regarded Nicole and Nathan once more. When her eyes landed on Nathan's eyes,

it was as if she saw a younger Alaric. Oh, my. Their eyes look so alike as if he's a replica.

Mary remembered when Alaric was younger, her mother loved to carry him while complimenting his cute face.

She wondered whether she would also love Nathan if she saw how similar he looked to Alaric.

Then, she realized it had been a long time since she met her mother.

Mary's parents didn't stay with her or lived in the same city. After retirement, her parents

disliked the polluted city and bought a house with a yard and garden in the village. They

planted all sorts of flowers and trees, as well as several vegetables and fruits in the corners. They lived a peaceful life where they rose at sunrise and rested at sunset.

Mary had visited her parents once and stopped visiting after she saw how peaceful their life was to avoid disrupting them. In addition, they asked about Alaric's marriage and dwelled on it for a long time when they found out he was divorced.

As such, she rarely visited them.

However, she suddenly wanted to visit her parents with Nicole and Nathan since the children's parents weren't coming back for the time being.

As for these two little guys, I'll just tell the school that they're taking a holiday. Let's go play for a week.

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After making up her mind, Mary got up energetically to go pack.

The next morning, when Nicole and Nathan just woke up and were still in a daze, Mary helped change them and buttoned their shirts as she said, "Nicole, Nathan, I've told your school that you're taking a break. We're going out to play."

Nicole, who had sleepy eyes, suddenly perked up when she heard that they could go play and not go to school. "Grandma, don't we need to go to school today?"

Every child didn't like school, and Nicole was no exception. However, she was well-behaved with Victoria's guidance, so she usually didn't show it.

After hearing

Mary say that she didn't need to go to school and could go out to play, she

was elated and grabbed Nathan's hand. "Nathan, we don't need to go to school today!" Nathan was composed and didn't show too much joy. He nodded at Nicole and turned to look at Mary. "Grandma, why the sudden break? Where are we going?" However, there was another question that he truly wished to ask. It's been so long since

Chapter 490 Taking the Children Away

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Mommy went away. Where did she go? However, Mommy said that we have to behave and listen to Grandma. She also said that I have to take care of myself and Nicole.

"Well, I'm going to bring you two to a special place. Do you want to go?"

Nicole didn't even know where it was, yet she nodded eagerly. "Yes!"