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## Returning from the Dead: His Secret Lover Chapter 1361

Chapter 1361 A Substitute

Nevertheless, Solomon did not question Ichika and simply let her do what she wanted.

That day, Ichika did not go to Frontier Bay.

No one suspected the reason she gave, except one particular person, who felt that something was amiss.

“So, you married him because you’re a stand-in for someone else, huh?” the woman sneered over the phone.

Upon hearing her vicious remark, all the color drained out of Ichika’s face. “No, I’m not!”

“Really? Then why did you call Mom last night? You must have upset Mom because you spied on Sasha. Stop acting, Ichika. You knew what it was all about since the day you realized that woman looked like Grandma,” Himari Minamoto continued to scoff.

Himari could not help it. She was utterly jealous of Ichika’s grand wedding in Terrandya.

We both come from the Minamoto family, but how come she got to enjoy such a privilege? Deep in Himari’s heart, she knew her wedding would never be as grand as Ichika’s, no matter who she would end up marrying.

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There was intense hatred in Himari's eyes as she spat, "Why? Did I say anything wrong? You two have not consummated your marriage, haven't you?"

"Excuse me?" Ichika's face became even more pallid.

That sarcastic remark caused Ichika to suffer an emotional breakdown.

In a daze, she accidentally cut her finger while slicing the vegetables. "Ouch!"

Blood started dripping off of her dainty fingers, and everyone around her was shocked.

"Oh dear, Ichika. How could you be so careless? We're in a cooking class, so you have to stay focused." The teacher went over to check her out.

At this point, Ichika was already crying profusely.

She could not remember what happened after the class. By the time she regained her composure, she was already standing outside of Hayes Corporation, looking up at the building with a dazed look on her face.

Upon noticing Ichika at the entrance, the security walked up to her and greeted, "Don't you want to come in, Mrs. George? Mr. George is in the office now."

The moment Ichika heard that, she started to freak out. She left in haste as if someone had found out about her wrongdoing.

At about four in the afternoon, Sasha texted in the group chat: Ichika, why didn't you pick Vivi up today? She has been asking for you.

Solomon replied instead: She attended a cooking class today.

He replied swiftly, not because of Sasha but merely because he had his phone with him when he read the text.

Sasha replied: Oh, Okay. I'll tell Vivi then. I'm sure she did this for you. You've married a virtuous wife, Solomon!

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Sabrina texted: I know, right? I don't even bother to attend any cooking classes.

Devin replied with a facepalm emoji.

Sasha texted: Well, at least my cooking skills are somewhat acceptable. Someone's gotta do it for the kids.

Sebastian did not know how to react to that remark.

The remarks by the two women had rendered their husbands speechless.

Mr. Wand wrote in the group: Ichika is indeed a great girl. Vivi's classmate celebrated her birthday two days ago, and Ichika took the trouble to learn how to bake a cake so that she could teach Vivi to make one on her own.

Sasha: She's so patient! I don't think I can handle that.

She praised Ichika from the bottom of her heart.

Solomon kept mum and did not reply, but his expression softened after putting down his phone.

Solomon did not return home in the evening as he had an appointment, but he still texted Ichika: I won't be going back for dinner.

Ichika froze for a bit upon receiving his message. She could not help but take a glance at all the ingredients she had laid on the table.

Her heart sank, and she became disheartened.

Why is he not coming back for dinner? Where is he going?

Is he upset because I didn't spend time with the two kids in Frontier Bay?

Her eyes were filled with despair.

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She took a glance at her bandaged finger and did not want to cook anymore. After cleaning up the kitchen, she returned to her room.

That night, the woman who relocated to a foreign country after marriage and did not have any friends spent through it in agony.

The next day, a sound emerged from downstairs even when the villa's gate was still locked. "Hello? Aunt Ichika? Are you still sleeping? I'm here with Jessica!"

"Vivi?"

Ichika woke up and opened her eyes. Before she could respond, she could already hear Solomon talking to Vivian.

In response to Solomon's question, Vivian answered, "Yes, Uncle Solomon. I didn't have a chance to tell you since you were not around yesterday, but my friends and I would like to hold a 'fashion show' here. Is that okay?"

Vivian, who came with a group of friends, was all smiles when she lifted her head to look at Solomon after he had opened the door.

Solomon froze for a moment.

Upon listening to their conversation, Ichika sat up from her bed.

Did he not go to Frontier Bay last night?

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## Returning from the Dead: His Secret Lover Chapter 1362

Chapter 1362 Blushing

Heavy footfalls sounded as Ichika raced down the stairs.

She came to a stop and saw a man still dressed in casual wear helping the kids to carry in the items.

“Aunt Ichika, we’re having a fashion show today. Are you going to watch us?” Right away, a perceptive Vivian noticed Ichika spying at them, still in her pajamas.

Ichika was stunned speechless and didn’t utter a response.

Before she could hide, the man in the garden had heard Vivian and glanced toward them.

“You’re awake. Breakfast is ready in the kitchen. Freshen up and have some.”

“What?” With a head still muddled with sleep, Ichika’s eyes widened comically like saucers.

He made me breakfast?

Oh, my goodness!

My husband actually made me breakfast.

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That simple gesture had instantly mended her broken heart from the night before, and her face lit up with joy, her eyes sparkling like the stars in the night sky.

“Okay, Darling,” she answered meekly before turning to skip away.

A girl like her was pure and innocent. She was easily hurt, but conversely, it was easy to cajole her, too. It was like giving candy to a kid. With a few coaxing words, she would be right as rain in no time.

That day, Ichika had been particularly active on WhatsApp.

She had been taking pictures and sending them to the group chat, giving tips on how to strut on the catwalk to the girls, and taking selfies with everyone.

Sasha chortled as she scrolled through the messages. “Ichika finally sent some pictures. It was strange that she had been on radio silence these two days.”

Not far away, a man who was sprawled on a chair reading a book observed her quietly.

He couldn’t be bothered to remind her because he was of the same mind as Sasha. As long as Ichika didn’t harbor ill intentions, all was good with him.

He would turn a blind eye to anything else.

Everyone’s lives returned to normal, and Ichika in Avenport got closer with Solomon under the same roof.

One morning, after Solomon had finished his breakfast made by Ichika, she stopped by his side abruptly with bright, hopeful eyes and blurted, “Darling... my mom said she is coming to visit me. Is that okay?”

Solomon’s hands stilled while he was cleaning up the table.

“When is she coming?”

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“These two days, if you’re okay with it.” Ichika sounded hesitant, afraid that he would disapprove.

As per the customs in Jetroina, if one wanted to visit a son-in-law’s home, his permission was needed, no matter if the mother-in-law was an elder. Unexpected guests were considered impolite.

Solomon was conflicted.

After all, he was so used to living alone that it took him close to two months to habituate himself living with Ichika.

And now my mother-in-law is showing up...

“Okay, I’ll book the tickets for her.” In the end, he chose to be a filial son-in-law and arranged for the trip.

Ichika almost burst with joy.

“Thank you so much, Darling! You’re the best!” Impulsively, she took a few steps forward and rose on her tiptoe before pressing a kiss on his cheek.

For a moment, deep silence hung in the air, and every sound was suddenly stilled. All that was left was the two people who stood there. One of them picked up a frantic heartbeat while the other was motionless.

It was as if they were frozen.

Oh, no, is he mad? Was I too reckless?

Bright red splotches appeared on Ichika’s cheeks. As reality started to creep in, her thoughts were in disarray, and remorse plagued her.

“Darling, I-I...”

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"All right, you should go tidy up the room for your mother. I'll be heading off to work now," Solomon interrupted.

Then, he took a handful of dishes and cutleries to the kitchen before grabbing his keys and driving off.

Ichika was silent the entire time.

What does he mean by that?

He didn't seem to have much of a reaction. Does this mean he's angry?

Her thoughts started to run amok, and she felt bad after Solomon left with unnatural calmness.

Does his impassivity toward my kiss mean he doesn't have feelings for me? A little temper tantrum would have been fine by me, too.

Puzzled, her brows knitted together.

What Ichika didn't know was the man who had just left had done so with quickened steps. He was usually a calm and steady person, but all he wanted to do at that moment was to flee.

In Frontier Bay, Wendy found out from Vivian's loose lips that Ichika's mother was paying a visit. Startled by the news, she failed to keep the information to herself. In the end, the Hayeses found out about it, too.

Sasha texted: Her mom is coming? Should we go back?

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## Chapter 1363

Chapter 1363 Here Comes Trouble

Sabrina replied: Count me in!

Devin and Sebastian said nothing, but they could sense the girls' excitement from their phone screens.

In the end, Rufus chimed in: It's fine. I'm here. You guys don't have to worry. I'll make sure everything is in order.

Jonathan added: He's right, Rufus is an elder. So, it's perfectly logical if he wants to welcome his in-laws, but there's no reason for both of you to show up, so stay put.

Sasha and Sabrina tactfully stayed silent, sharing the same thought that he was stern.

Since Jonathan had spoken, they could only listen and do nothing.

In the end, the heavy responsibility to receive Ichika's mother fell on Rufus.

Of course, the same responsibility was on the Hayeses, too. Everyone was glad at Ichika's mother's arrival from faraway Jetroina and volunteered to help, making Ichika feel overjoyed and blessed.

That night before her mother's flight, Ichika excitedly told her that many people had prepared a grand welcome reception for her arrival.

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Aoi Minamoto was thrilled to hear that and brought many extravagant gifts with her the next day.

Ichika and Solomon had gone to the airport to pick her up.

“Mom...”

As soon as Ichika laid eyes on her mother, she brightened with childlike delight.

However, as she closed the distance between her mother, her face was bleached of color when she caught sight of the person behind Aoi.

“Himari? You’re here too?”

“Yes, Ichika. Am I not welcome?” Himari was dressed exceptionally beautifully, towing a suitcase behind her as she greeted Ichika with a wide smile.

Ichika was silent for a pause before forcing her lips into the semblance of a smile. “No... you’re welcome.”

Solomon had taken over Aoi’s suitcase, his demeanor was gentlemanly and respectful.

“How was the plane ride? Are you exhausted?”

“We’re fine, and the journey was pleasant. As it should be since you arranged it for us.” Evidently, Aoi was pleased with her son-in-law, and her tone revealed pride.

Solomon smiled and gripped the suitcase, ready to leave the airport.

Just then, a saccharine voice sounded from behind, “Mr. Akiyama, I have another luggage here, and I brought your favorite sake. If I’m mistaken, this is your favorite, right?”

The voice belonged to Himari, and she was speaking openly to Solomon as if they had known each other for a long time.

Ichika heard it, and her heart lurched. Walking up to her sister, she said, “I’ll take it.”

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"You? Why? There's alcohol inside, and it's heavy. Leave it to Mr. Akiyama." Himari shoved her sister away and brought the suitcase over to Solomon.

Ichika stood rooted to the ground, her dark eyes reddening.

Just as she was about to see Solomon carry her sister's suitcase, he suddenly turned and said, "Ichika, drag it over to me and help me with this smaller one."

"Okay!" She immediately broke out into a smile.

She forcefully took over Himari's suitcase and lugged it over to him. "Here you go, Darling."

"Thanks." He accepted it.

Then, they carried a suitcase each and walked out of the airport. Never once did he leave her side. When they reached the car, Solomon heaved the suitcase into the trunk.

"Go and get your mother. We'll be leaving in a while."

"Okay," Ichika acknowledged and put down the smaller suitcase in her hand before heading in Aoi's direction.

She wanted to sit with her mother in the backseat. After all, they hadn't seen each other in a long time.

When Ichika and Aoi got into the back, Himari opened the door to the front passenger seat and promptly slid in.

Ichika stared aghast, her expression crumbling.

What's Himari doing? Why does she always do things that she knows I dislike? What is she trying to achieve here? That seat belongs to me and me only.

Besides, doesn't this situation call for three of us to sit in the back? This way, we could have a long-overdue conversation.

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Ichika was losing the reins on her emotions.

“Ichika, isn’t Mr. Akiyama the President of Hayes Corporation? Why is he still driving the same car from before? Did he not get a Rolls-Royce?”

Himari was still obsessed with the few Rolls-Royce she saw at Ichika’s wedding.

Ichika replied, “What’s wrong with this car? He’s always driven it.”

“That’s right, it’s only a vehicle. Anything would do,” agreed Aoi.

Himari stewed in silence when she saw how their mother was clearly siding with Ichika.

A moment later, when Solomon got in and saw his adjacent seat occupied by someone other than Ichika, his brows furrowed with displeasure.

“It’s fine if I sit here, right, Mr. Akiyama? Ichika and Mom are back there, and they have a lot to catch up on, so I’m giving them some space.”

Seems like this woman is quite the sly one.

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