# Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 501 - 505

Chapter 501 Gathering Is Cancelled

The trio drove to a restaurant near the company. After they got out of the car, Shane smiled and said, "I often come to this restaurant with my wife and daughter. The dishes are not bad. The beer-braised duck is exceptionally flavorful. Do have a taste."

"Of course, we will. Oscar likes beer-braised duck," Amelia responded.

After entering the restaurant, they requested a private room. Just as they were settling down, Shane received a phone call.

He answered the call and said, "We're at the restaurant we usually go, Honey. Do you want to come over?"

After receiving a response from the other end of the line, he stated, "Bring our daughter along. We haven't ordered anything, so you can take your time to come over."

Shane ended the call and informed with a smile, "It was my wife. She is shopping with our daughter nearby, and they haven't eaten yet. They'll be joining us if you don't mind.

"Not at all. I was just saying I wanted to meet your wife, but I didn't expect to see her so soon. You had high standards during university, so I'm quite curious to see what kind of woman she is to capture your attention," Amelia teased.

"You'll find out later."

After the trio ordered some food, the atmosphere in the room fell silent, as they did not know what to talk about.

About twenty minutes later, there was a knock on the door. Shane opened the door, revealing a woman standing behind it, holding onto a little girl dressed adorably.

Shane gave the woman a kiss on the cheek, picked his daughter up, and held the woman's hand. Looking at that, anyone could tell they were a happy family.

Amelia stared at the woman Shane was holding hands with, and a glint of surprise flashed across her eyes. She thought Shane's wife would be a gorgeous lady, but in fact, she was average-looking. Around 160 centimeters tall, she was slightly chubby. The woman wore a simple and casual outfit. Her skin was fair, but she had some wrinkles in the corner of her eyes. In summary, she looked like a gentle and ordinary woman.

Shane then proceeded with the introductions. "Chelsea, this is Amelia and Carter. I've told you about them before, and they're my friends I met during university. Since we haven't caught up for so long and it's so rare for us to gather like this, we decided to have a meal together. Amelia, this is my wife, Chelsea. She's not as pretty as you thought, right? She's just an ordinary woman, but I can't eat or sleep without her by my side."

Chelsea raised her hand and smacked Shane's chest. Next, she looked at Amelia sweetly and said, "I've heard of you from Shane. He previously said you were the most fascinating and attractive woman he's ever seen. Now that I've met you today, I'd say that's an understatement."

Amelia held out her hand to shake Chelsea's. "Hello, it's nice to meet you. Do you mind if I call you Chelsea?"

As Chelsea and Shane sat down, she responded smilingly, "I'm three years older than Shane. Naturally, I'm older than you two, so calling me by my name is fine."

Amelia admired Chelsea's straightforwardness, and she immediately took a liking to her. At that, Amelia could understand why Shane married her. One would not feel pressured being with a woman like her as she was easy to get along with.

The four adults sat down, and Amelia turned to face the adorable girl. "How old are you, little girl? What's your name?"

"I'm five years old, and I will be in first grade next year, pretty lady. My name is Rebecca, and my nickname is Becca. You can call me Becca," the little girl chirped.

Ever since she had Tony, Amelia found little girls particularly adorable. "You're so cute, Becca. May I hug you?"

The girl then spread her arms toward her.

Amelia picked the little girl up and weighed her for a bit. Then, she smiled and remarked, "She's quite heavy. Haha. Such a precious girl."

A smile spread across Chelsea's face. "She's well-behaved because she likes you. She's usually quite mischievous, and she jumps around at home like a monkey."

"Don't talk bad about me, Mommy," Rebecca grumbled.

Chelsea glanced at her and said gently, "Stop fussing, Becca. You'll frighten Ms. Amelia."

The little girl hugged Amelia's neck tightly and responded, "I won't scare Ms. Amelia away, Mommy. I like her."

With a child's presence, the atmosphere in the room became livelier.

Soon, they heard knocking on the door. Shane went to open the door and realized it was Oscar with Tony in his arms.

"You're finally here, Mr. Clinton. Come in," Shane welcomed them warmly. "You won't be bored anymore, Becca. Tony has arrived."

As they entered the room, the little boy immediately noticed someone hugging his mother, and he shot the girl a glare. He struggled to get out of Oscar's arms, trotted toward Amelia, and hugged her leg.

"Who is she, Mommy? Don't hug her; hug me." Tony pouted.

Amelia was amused by that. She wanted to put Rebecca down, but the latter hugged her even tighter.

"Hug me, Ms. Amelia. Don't hug him."

"Hug me, Mommy. Don't hug her."

The two children started fighting over Amelia.

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Thus, Amelia put Rebecca down, and Tony instantly hurled himself at Amelia. He pushed Rebecca aside and hugged Amelia possessively. He turned his head and shouted, "Go away! Mommy is mine. Don't even think about stealing my mommy, or I'll fight you."

Rebecca, who was shoved to the side, felt hurt.

She sobbed loudly, and Chelsea instantly ran to her. Rebecca hugged Chelsea tightly and complained, "Mommy, he is bullying me!"

Amelia and Chelsea exchanged looks, and they were baffled by the scene.

"What did you do, Tony? Apologize to Becca. Otherwise, I will be angry at you," Amelia said sternly as she grabbed his shoulder.

Tony looked at Amelia with teary eyes and said sobbingly, "No. If you hug her, I'll get jealous."

Amelia was rendered speechless. He's just a kid. Does he even know what's being jealous?

With Tony in her arms, Amelia approached Chelsea and said, "Apologize to Rebecca, Tony. Good children don't hurt others."

Tony noticed Rebecca was bawling her eyes out. He hesitated for a moment and spoke up. "I'm sorry. If you don't steal my mommy away, I won't fight you."

Rebecca stood up from Chelsea's embrace, glanced at Tony and Amelia, and cried louder.

Chelsea hastened to comfort her.

Amelia frowned and asked, "What's the matter with Becca, Chelsea?"

"Nothing. She's just throwing a tantrum. She'll be fine soon," Chelsea explained gently.

In the end, everyone decided to part ways because the two children could not see eye-to-eye.

After they exited the restaurant, Chelsea said apologetically, "I'm really sorry, Amelia. You couldn't have a meal because of Becca's tantrum."

"Don't say that, Chelsea. Tony's at fault too. I'll lecture him when we get home. We can meet again in the near future," Amelia assured.

Rebecca, who had buried her face in Chelsea's chest while crying, raised her head and looked at Amelia with teary eyes. "I really like you, Ms. Amelia. Next time, I want to hug and play with you. I don't want him around."

Upon hearing that, Tony hugged Amelia tightly, like a cat throwing a hissy fit, and argued, "She's my mommy. You can't steal her away, or I'll fight you."

The adults were left with no choice. Chelsea could only take Rebecca away while Shane offered Amelia an apologetic smile as he left.

While hugging Tony, an awkward look appeared on Amelia's face.

"Sorry you couldn't take your meal, Carter," Amelia said after remembering the man was there as well.

Carter looked deeply into her eyes, offering the most gentle gaze to her.

"It's getting late, so let's have a meal here. It's my treat. Didn't you say you love beer-braised duck?" Carter suggested, deliberately ignoring Oscar.

"Let's go home, Mommy. I don't want to eat anything," Tony grumbled before Amelia could respond.

Amelia stared at Carter sheepishly as she uttered, "As you can see, Tony is in a terrible mood, so I'll be taking him home now. I'll treat you to a meal next time."

"Really? I'm worried you'll avoid me when you see me, like today. You're distancing yourself from me as far as possible, like a mouse that spotted a cat." Disappointment flashed across his eyes, but he pretended to appear relaxed.

After hearing his words, Amelia felt even more awkward.

Then, Oscar put his hand around her and reminded Carter, "The kid still hasn't eaten anything, Mr. Scott. We can't stay for long. Let's chat next time."

With that, Oscar dragged Amelia and left.

Frozen on the spot, Carter stared at their retreating figures as a trace of sadness flashed across his eyes.

# Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 502

Chapter 502 Entangled Again

Carter arrived at his parked car and saw a familiar figure standing next to it. He was stunned for a moment, and he looked somewhat troubled by it. The figure raised her head as though she had sensed his presence. After exchanging glances, she eventually revealed a bright smile.

"Carter."

Carter masked the uneasiness and stepped up to Jennifer. "When did you come back? Didn't you leave the country with your parents?"

Jennifer looked at him and forced a bitter smile before responding, "I couldn't forget you, so I left without saying goodbye. I know you don't want me to return, but I don't have a choice. Even if you despise me, I can't get you out of my head."

Carter fixed his gaze on the girl who had previously left him but had now appeared before him. A wave of mixed emotions instantly washed over him. He knew she loved him, but he couldn't forget Amelia. Hence, he believed he would only disappoint Jennifer.

"Have you eaten?" He changed the subject.

She shook her head in response.

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"My treat, let's go eat. It feels nice to come back after living abroad for so long, right?" Carter said.

Jennifer couldn't help but grin when she heard that. At least he didn't say anything hurtful to her.

Back then, Laura pleaded and sobbed for her to go to Archulea once she was discharged from the hospital because their family business was there. Jennifer went with her, but her heart felt empty. It was agonizing to her. Every day, all she did was stare blankly outside of the window.

During her time abroad, she realized the true meaning of the saying – "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." The more she tried to forget Carter, the more difficult it was to move on. He was constantly in her thoughts, no matter what she did. She couldn't live her life normally, so she chose to return even though it would break her parents' hearts.

"Here. What do you feel like having?" Carter interrupted her thoughts by handing her the menu.

Jennifer did not take the menu; instead, she responded, "Carter, you can go ahead and order. Whatever you like, I like."

After glancing at her for a moment, he had no choice but to order a few dishes.

"Since there are only two of us, I've ordered only a few simple dishes," Carter stated as he handed the menu to the waiter.

"Sure." Jennifer didn't mind.

Carter took a closer look at Jennifer while waiting for the dishes to be served. He noticed that she had lost some weight – her face appeared sharper, and she looked skinny.

He frowned and asked concernedly, "Did you not eat while being abroad?"

Jennifer's eyes lit up as a faint smile played on her lips. "Are you worried about me?"

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"You're so skinny after returning from abroad. Can't I be concerned about my friend?" Carter responded flatly.

Jennifer's smile remained as though she was in a rather good mood.

"Carter, I'm so happy you no longer despise me. It's nice to be friends with you. I've been putting pressure on you for the last two years without ever actually communicating with you. I'm relieved that we finally have a chance to talk."

After hearing her words, Carter couldn't help but smile.

Jennifer also relaxed and smiled brightly at that.

After finishing their meal, they exited the restaurant. Then, Carter offered, "Let me send you home."

"Do you mind walking with me?" she asked.

"Let's go."

The duo strolled on the streets slowly, looking like a loving couple from the back.

"I saw Amelia and her family. They seemed to be happy as they walked past me. I wondered whether you might forget about her and fall for me now that she has a husband and a kid." Jennifer kicked the stone on her feet, her head slightly lowered.

Carter turned to gaze at her. He parted his lips slightly, but he was at a loss for words.

Jennifer raised her head and smiled gently. "Carter, I apologize for putting you in such a difficult spot. I know you won't fall for me; you'd have done it by now if you could. It's just because I'm not willing to let you go. I gave up my self-esteem to pursue you for so long, but nothing I'd done could change your mind. Despite that, I couldn't forget you."

At that moment, many thoughts ran through Carter's mind. In the end, he simply uttered, "I'm sorry."

Jennifer forced a smile and gripped her purse tightly.

"Let's not talk about such sad stuff tonight since the view is so gorgeous. It took me some time to find out where you are. I came to you as soon as I stepped off the plane. So let's talk about something positive instead." Jennifer grinned and acted carefreely.

Carter gazed at her with complex emotions in his eyes and murmured, "Did you pay someone to spy on me?"

"Would you keep your distance from me if I said yes?"

He was silent for a while before responding, "Yes. I don't like having someone constantly breathing down my neck."

Upon hearing his words, Jennifer broke into laughter. She was laughing so hard that tears started welling up in her eyes.

She brushed them away with her hands, but the more she wiped, the more tears streamed down her cheeks. "I'm in a good mood today. I'm happier than I've ever been when I'm with you. I think I laughed too hard since the tears won't stop flowing."

His heart was heavy as he saw her furiously wiping away her tears.

He then took a handkerchief, grabbed her hand, and gently helped her wipe away her tears. "A girl's eyes must be protected. There are many germs on your fingers; if you continue to rub your eyes like this, your eyes might get infected."

Jennifer locked her gaze on him. This was the first time he had treated her so gently.

She wished that the moment would never end.

Jennifer threw herself into Carter's arms, clutching him by the waist as she sobbed. "I've really missed you. I've never loved anybody more than you. Please don't be so cruel to me, okay?"

Carter's hands dangled in midair, a trace of hesitation flashing across his gaze before he ultimately pushed her away.

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"You must be exhausted after getting off the plane. Let me send you home. Have you told your parents that you've arrived safely? Don't let them worry about you," Carter reminded as he took a few steps back.

When she saw him backing away, she forced a smile and responded, "All right, let's go."

Instantly, the atmosphere around the duo became tensed.

After sending her back to the Larson residence, Jennifer unfastened her seatbelt and turned to face Carter. "I'm home."

"Rest well, and remember to call your parents to let them know you're safe."

Jennifer got out of the car without saying anything.

Carter then drove the car away without wasting another second. Jennifer stood on the side and watched his car slowly disappear from her line of sight.

She held the bag tightly in her hands for a long time. The moment she turned around and walked to the villa, she felt as if she had exerted all of her energy.

Upon entering the house, she plopped on the couch and stared blankly at the bright and blinding ceiling.

Her phone that was in her bag rang multiple times before she answered the call.

"Hello, Mom. I'm back. I'm sorry. I really couldn't forget him. Please forgive me," Jennifer said in a low voice.

Laura remained silent a long time on the other end of the line before saying, "Your father and I will return tomorrow. If you have anything to say, tell us when we get back."

As soon as her words fell, Laura hung up the phone.

Looking at the black screen on her phone, Jennifer sighed. "I'm sorry for letting you and dad down."

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After lying on the couch and staring at the ceiling for some time, Jennifer gradually fell asleep, and her phone dropped to the floor.

Meanwhile, Carter, who had just returned to his condominium, ruffled his hair in frustration. Jennifer's unexpected reappearance surprised him. If he was being frank, he wished she didn't return. He couldn't give her the love she sought. If he agreed to be with her, their relationship would end in pain.

He didn't want to hurt her and was unable to love her. So, Jennifer going overseas was the best decision, but who would have guessed she'd return?

He couldn't help but let out a long sigh.

## Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 503

Chapter 503 Drawing Attention To Amelia

Early next morning, Vincent and Laura got off the flight and returned to their mansion in a cab with their luggage.

When they arrived home, they saw Jennifer sleeping on the couch. Laura's worry turned into anger at that moment.

She threw her suitcase to the side and walked over quickly. Then, she pulled Jennifer up. As Jennifer had slept very late the night before, her head ached when she was forcibly woken up.

The first person she saw when she opened her eyes was her furious mother. "Mom, you're back."

The next moment, Laura slapped her. That woke Jennifer up instantly.

The latter cradled her cheek which stung from the slap. Her eyes were red and watery as she asked, "Why did you hit me, Mom?"

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"Look at you! You're a Larson, but you are acting in such a pathetic way. I wish you weren't my daughter. How did I raise a daughter like you? You came back all the way here just for a man. Are you trying to drive me mad?" Laura lashed out, her chest heaving.

"I'm sorry, Mom," Jennifer said remorsefully as she lowered her head.

Laura couldn't help but soften her attitude when she saw Jennifer act that way. She collapsed on the ground, looking dispirited.

Putting her hands over her forehead, Laura said grimly, "Is Carter so important to you? So much so that you went against what we had arranged for you and came back. Did you know how angry I was last night? My lifespan must have shortened because I have such a disobedient daughter."

Jennifer rubbed her temples and replied in a hoarse voice, "Mom, my head hurts. Let me go upstairs and wash my face. Then, we'll talk. Is that okay?"

Laura looked at her and relented.

After going upstairs, Jennifer took a hot shower. She was aching all over from sleeping on the couch. After the shower, she felt much better. Then, she changed into a clean dress and went down the stairs.

Laura and Vincent were sitting on the couch together. When Laura saw Jennifer, she pointed at the opposite couch and said, "Have a seat."

Jennifer did as she was told.

With her arms crossed, Laura asked, "Does it have to be Carter, Jennifer?"

"Mom, I love him. I feel different when I'm with him. I've never felt this way with any other man. I don't think I can fall in love with anyone else," Jennifer stated honestly after pondering for a while.

She had changed drastically in those two years she spent pursuing Carter. Before that, she used to be domineering and arrogant.

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Laura took a deep breath in an attempt to calm herself down.

"This is ridiculous, Jennifer," she said.

Jennifer looked up and refuted, "Mom, it was you and Dad who asked me to return back then."

Laura was at a loss for words. Then, she became enraged.

"I asked you to come back just to get to know him. I didn't ask you to go all out or beg him pitifully. I would never ask you to humiliate yourself for him!"

Jennifer chose to purse her lips. However, it seemed like she was muttering something under her breath. "Mom, I'm not humiliating myself. I'm just fighting for my happiness. Since I was a kid, you and Dad told me that I should work for things I like instead of waiting for someone to give them to me. You two even said that I should fight for what I want no matter what. I'm just fighting for my love and happiness in my own way. I don't think I'm wrong."

Laura laughed in frustration. "Talk to her, Vincent. I have nothing else to say to her." She waved her hand dismissively.

Vincent patted her on the shoulder and said, "All right now. Calm down."

Then, he turned to Jennifer and asked gently, "Does it have to be him?"

"Yes, Dad." Jennifer was firm with her answer.

"All right then. Mom and I won't interfere in your love life. Go ahead and do what you want. If you get hurt, come home. We will always be here for you," he said.

Jennifer felt her tears welling up in her eyes. "Thanks, Dad."

"We're family. There's no need to thank me. Although we aren't as rich as the Scotts are, we will take good care of you since you are our only daughter. You're my dearest daughter, Jennifer. If you can't get Carter, come home. I'll find you a husband."

Jennifer couldn't help but smile at her father's words. She thought that he was joking.

On the other hand, Laura couldn't hold back her anger anymore and spat angrily, "I asked you to come home to lecture her, not spoil her. You're really pissing me off."

"There, there. Jennifer's a grown-up now. She can handle things by herself. Although she is having some issues in her love life now, she has been helping me at the company. Let's just trust her and give her two to three years' time. She will eventually know what's best for herself. If you try to force her into something she doesn't want now, she will grow resentful of us. There's no need for that," Vincent consoled Laura.

"Very well. You two are making me look like the villain here." Laura got up and went up the stairs, feeling upset.

"Jennifer, your mom has your best interests at heart. Don't blame her," Vincent uttered.

Jennifer shook her head, feeling rather dumbfounded.

Romantic relationships are so complicated and confusing. Jennifer no longer knew if it was the right decision for her to hang on to her feelings for Carter for such a long time.

After all, Carter had rejected her many times, burning her self-esteem to the ground. Although she still appeared glamorous and proud on the surface, she knew that she was no longer as confident as she used to be a few years ago.

Laura had criticized Jennifer for doing too much to please Carter. Yet, she dressed up and made an appointment to meet the man.

They decided to meet at a luxurious clubhouse. Prior to their meeting, Laura went to a salon and got her hair styled. Upon meeting him, she said, "Carter, I'm meeting you here today because of Jennifer. How do you feel toward her?"

Carter poured her a cup of tea gracefully and replied, "Please have a cup of tea, Mrs. Larson. You must've returned not too long ago. I'm sure you're tired."

Laura picked up the cup of tea slowly. Then, she peered at Carter discreetly.

"Carter, let's not beat around the bush. I want a clear answer from you."

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"Mrs. Larson, I've always treated Jennifer like a sister. There's nothing between us. I'm sorry."

Hearing his words, a hint of resentment flickered across Laura's face.

"She's like a sister to you? Then, why did you sleep with her? Why did you do that if you didn't have feelings for her? Don't tell me that it was just casual sex! How dare you treat my daughter like that. You did that to her, and now you don't want to take responsibility?" Laura gritted her teeth as she spoke.

Carter took a sip of his tea and responded, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Larson."

Laura tried her best to calm down and compose herself. After all, she was a wealthy woman of high social standing.

"Carter, I had a good impression of you and was happy to see you getting along well with Jennifer. But, I am deeply disappointed with you now. I know that all is fair in love and war. However, you led Jennifer on while you were sneaking around with a married woman who even has a child. That's despicable. Of course, you can disregard all I say as I am just an outsider and have no right to criticize you. I just want to tell you to steel yourself and reject my daughter for good. Stop giving her the wrong ideas."

Carter fell silent for a moment. Then, he nodded.

Laura let out a bitter smile. "I hope you can deal with this as decisively as you do with work, Carter." With that, she grabbed her handbag and left.

Carter stared at his own reflection in the cup. Then, he chuckled bitterly. When my most beloved woman was in danger a few years ago, I wasn't with her. Now, I have wronged another woman. This seems to be a pattern, huh?

Then, he downed his tea in one go, as if he was taking a shot.

After that, he left the clubhouse and drove back to his company.

When he stepped into his office, his secretary reported his schedule for the day to him. Carter massaged his temples and said, "Got it. You can go now."

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Soon after the secretary left, Carter opened his wallet and peered at the picture inside it. It was a photo of Amelia during her university days. She was very young, with her face bare and her long hair flowing. In the picture, she was smiling brightly. Although she didn't look as sexy as she was now, she looked happier and more innocent.

Carter traced the photograph with his finger and said softly, "I wonder what you're doing now, Amelia."

Meanwhile, Amelia, who was in a meeting, sneezed, causing everyone to stare at her.

She rubbed her nose and smiled awkwardly. "Excuse me."

Shane, who was chairing the meeting, announced, "All right now. Today's meeting is about performance in this quarter. Everyone has done well, and our sales have gone up by five percent. Keep it up. You're all carrying out your duties well, and I'm sure you know more about your field than I do." After a slight pause, he continued, "There's another thing I want to announce today."

Rory, who was sitting next to Amelia, glanced at the latter. Then, her hands that were under the desk twitched slightly.

Rory lowered her head to hide the jealousy in her eyes. Amelia has everything she can possibly want. Yet, she's still always taking things from me. I'm merely a girl from the countryside. I've sacrificed so much and done all I could, but in the end, I still lose to this woman who's new to the company because she has Clinton Corporations backing her up. Since she has more money than she could ever spend, why is she competing with me for this position?

Rory felt bitter.

Meanwhile, Shane's voice could be heard as he continued, "All of you know that there's a vacancy for a supervisor position in the design department. I plan to promote someone in the department to that position. After discussion with Mr. Moore, we have come to a conclusion."

Everyone glanced at Rory before shifting their gaze to Amelia.

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Amelia had the support of Oscar. That was why she was the best candidate to be supervisor, no matter what Shane had in mind.

"Lydia will be the supervisor of the design department from now on." Shane surprised everyone just as they were guessing whether Rory or Amelia would be promoted. Lydia herself was caught off guard as well as she had never expected to be the one being promoted.

After a while, she hurriedly stood up and responded calmly, "Thank you, sir. I appreciate this opportunity and perform my best."

"Mr. Moore and I approve of your ability. Amelia has also told me before that you take your job very seriously. You've been working here for many years but haven't been given a chance to showcase your ability. This is your chance now. Don't let Amelia and I down." Shane purposely mentioned Amelia a few times, drawing attention to her. This was so that Lydia would feel like she had owed Amelia a favor.

## Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 504

Chapter 504 The Promotion

After finding out that Lydia was suddenly promoted to be the supervisor, Rory was the one who was most shocked. She glanced at George and found that he, too, was surprised. Then, she shifted her gaze and looked at Amelia, noticing the latter was smiling happily as if she was sincerely happy for Lydia to be promoted. Although Lydia tried her best to suppress her joy, her face was beaming with excitement.

A wave of mixed emotions washed over Rory. She had always seen Lydia as her rival, and now the latter had become her superior.

It was only at that moment that Rory felt the workplace was unpredictable and ruthless.

Therefore, she didn't even hear what Lydia said at the meeting following the announcement.

After the meeting ended, Amelia saw that Rory was still in a daze, so she nudged her and asked, "Rory, what's wrong? Are you not feeling well?"

Rory returned to her senses, forced a smile, and replied, "My tummy's not feeling well. Maybe I have food poisoning. I'll have to excuse myself to the toilet."

"Go ahead. Take the day off and rest at home if you really don't feel well," said Amelia.

Rory nodded and quickly left the conference room.

Amelia was about to leave, too, when Shane's voice rang out behind her. "Amelia."

She turned her head and smiled. "Greetings, Mr. Franklin."

"There's no one here. Just call me by my name." Shane grinned. "Becca made a big fuss last night. I hope it didn't affect you and Mr. Clinton."

"It's not a big deal. It's because Tony is still young and doesn't know much. Please apologize to Chelsea on my behalf." Amelia raised the folder in her hand and said, "Once I get the chance, I'll treat her a dinner as an apology."

"Chelsea wasn't mad, but she said she felt sorry about what had happened. She even said great things about you last night. She may look gentle and friendly, but she's wary as to who she mixes with. Although she is not beautiful, she is very independent. I'm glad she likes you." Shane's face was filled with tenderness as he spoke about his wife.

"Shane, it seems that you love your wife very much," Amelia looked at him and commented.

"Of course, I love her. She is a woman worthy of a man's love."

"I thought you were only attracted to gorgeous ladies. I wasn't expecting that. Indeed, Chelsea looks ordinary, but she's pleasant to talk to. I felt very comfortable, as if there was an instant connection between us. Hence, I can understand why you're so in love with her. If I were you, I'd be attracted to her as well."

When Shane heard that, he couldn't help but laugh. "If she heard that, she'd be thrilled. I think you'll definitely become good friends."

The duo then went to Shane's office, and as they entered, he said, "I gave Lydia a chance according to your suggestion. How are you going to repay me?"

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Amelia shrugged her shoulders and uttered, "Mr. Franklin, isn't that your duty?"

"I actually wanted to promote you, but I didn't think you would leave the opportunity to someone else."

"I'll have the opportunity again in the future." Amelia continued indifferently, "Lydia is in her thirties and has been with the company for many years. I have seen how she works, and she's a serious and reliable person. It's not fair to her to work as a lowly employee forever. I believe if we give her a chance, she will bring more profit to the company."

Shane proceeded to scrutinize Amelia. At times, I really do admire how she carries herself. Her composed mannerisms allow her to analyze matters thoroughly.

"You are so close to Rory, and I thought you would definitely recommend her for the supervisor's position. Your action exceeded my expectations." He laughed.

"Rory is still young. She may not be competent enough to be a supervisor now. It will also give her the illusion that she can succeed if she does whatever it takes. I don't want her to focus too much on money and profit. She still has a long way to go, and a minor setback will make her better in the future."

"However, she might not understand your kind intentions," Shane reminded.

Amelia shrugged, unfazed. "I don't expect her to understand. I see the shadow of my former self whenever I look at her, so I'm just looking out for her and helping her understand that it's better not to rush into anything. If she does not appreciate my kindness, there's nothing I can do."

"You're really open-minded."

The duo chatted for a few more minutes before they discussed work matters.

"Mr. Moore may be promoted to the director's position next year. I think you should be able to be a manager after a year here at the company. Don't be so modest as to say that you joined the company just for the experience. The basic work can't play up your skills, so I will leave the vacant manager's position to you." Looking at Amelia, Shane shared his plans with her.

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"Since that's what you have in mind, it'd be really presumptuous of me to decline again. However, let's put this matter off until next year. Today's work is not yet done, and you have already thought of next year's matters. That doesn't suit your style."

"I just want to give you prior notice so you do not have any excuses to turn me down. An employee who does not think about climbing the social ladder is not necessarily an outstanding employee. You should learn this from Rory. The entire design department can see how ambitious she is. Nevertheless, she's too self-centered, and she'll eventually get into serious trouble if she continues being like that."

"Well, youngsters have to overcome hurdles in order to grow."

The two continued to chat for a few more minutes, and Amelia left with the documents in her arms.

Back in the design department, everyone was engrossed in discussions.

"Amelia's back," someone shouted, and the colleagues who were still making noise immediately quietened down.

Lydia, who was surrounded by her colleagues, pushed the crowd aside and walked over with a bright smile. "Amelia, thank you so much. If you hadn't put in a few good words for me in front of Mr. Franklin, I think I would still be an insignificant employee."

"Lydia, don't say that. You have worked a long time, and you're talented. You just needed an opportunity to shine. I was just casually talking about you when Mr. Franklin mentioned you in front of me. In fact, I did not do much. The most important thing is your ability," responded Amelia, as she did not want to take the credit for Lydia's promotion.

Although she had said that, everyone present knew that if she did not put in a good word for Lydia, the latter would still be an insignificant, lowly employee all her life. Everyone was aware of that and wanted to be friends with Amelia.

"Amelia, I thought you would be the supervisor. I didn't expect you to recommend me, and I don't even know how to thank you for that." Lydia's eyes were red. She felt like she was finally being rewarded after working in the company for so many years. She had truly sacrificed her youth for the company.

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Lydia thought she would spend her entire life working as a mere employee, but she did not expect to suddenly become a supervisor, which was like a gift from heaven. Even though the supervisor position was not a great position with immense power, her status was promoted, and there was a significant increase in her salary.

"Lydia, I'm not as important as you think. These are all Mr. Franklin's decisions, really." Amelia was nonplussed.

Lydia laughed out loud and announced, "Since I've been promoted, let me treat all of you to a meal! I'd be glad if everyone could attend."

As soon as her words fell, Rory entered the office.

Everyone glanced at her with mixed emotions in their eyes.

Amelia walked up to her and asked gently, "Rory, are you feeling better?"

The latter's facial expression showed that she wasn't feeling too well. Her eyes were even a little red, but it was hard to tell unless one were to pay extra attention to them.

"Amelia, my tummy doesn't feel too good, and I want to take a half-day off. Can you help me inform Mr. Moore about this?" said Rory, covering her abdomen.

"Sure, go ahead. I'll inform Mr. Moore on your behalf later. If there's any problem, call me. I'll accompany you to the hospital, okay?" said Amelia. She was concerned about Rory's condition.

"Amelia, thank you. I'll go home then."

After she left, Lydia's expression changed. Since Amelia had said good things on her behalf, she whispered a reminder to Amelia, "Amelia, don't treat this young girl too well. I'm afraid she does not know how good you are to her and will be ungrateful. It's not my intention to sow discord between you both, but I just want you to be careful. Don't let her deceive you."

Amelia responded with a smile, "Lydia, thank you for reminding me. I know what I'm doing. You are all my colleagues, and I would love to get along with all of you."

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Lydia was bright enough to understand Amelia's words. Hence, she said nothing more.

After being promoted, Lydia looked different, as if she had gone through a total transformation. Although her appearance was still the same, her confidence made her seem more elegant and charming.

That evening, when everyone got off from work, she wanted to treat the entire design department to dinner, saying she was grateful for the care and consideration her group of colleagues had shown over the years.

When they arrived outside the office building, Oscar was seen waiting for Amelia next to his car for quite some time. Amelia said somewhat apologetically, "Lydia, I'm afraid I can't join this round. How about this? You guys go ahead and enjoy on my behalf as well."

Lydia didn't want to snatch Amelia away from Oscar, nor did she dare invite such a big shot. Hence, she greeted him and left.

"Oscar, when did you arrive? Why didn't you call me?" Amelia walked over to him and flashed a bright smile.

"I arrived not too long ago, just minutes before you came down." Oscar kissed her on the lips, opened the car door for her to enter, and closed it.

Amelia fastened her seatbelt and said, "If you arrived slightly later, I would have gone to dinner with my colleagues. She got promoted today, so she wants to treat all of us from the same department to a meal."

"You didn't get promoted?" asked Oscar as he drove the car.

"I just joined the company."

"I thought Shane would be smart enough to offer you the vice president's position. After all, you're my woman. Even if you're a fool, pleasing you is indirectly pleasing me. I'll be happy if you're happy. Maybe I'd even agree to all collaboration with your company if I were in a good mood," Oscar stated. No one knew if he was serious or joking.

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"Both of you really have what it takes to be a businessman. Both of you benefit from one another, and I am just like a pawn. Do you find this amusing, huh?" Amelia turned her head to him and chuckled.

"If you're not happy, I'll cancel all projects with his company."

"Shouldn't you refrain from mixing personal matters with business?"

"In my heart, you're the most important person."

Upon hearing that, Amelia couldn't help but smile, feeling contented.

"Although those are sweet nothings, I like to hear them. It's soothing to my ears. Say more to me."

Oscar reached out his right hand and patted her head. He laughed and said, "You're so cheeky."

"Am I?"

"You are, but I like you that way. I enjoy it when you are yourself in front of me."

"In that case, may I mess with you a little more in the future?"

"Sure."

"What should I do? Seeing how you're spoiling me, I'm afraid I'll rely on you too much. What would I do when you leave me?"

When Oscar heard that, he rolled his eyes at her.

Amelia instantly added, "I was just kidding. Don't take it seriously."

"Make it up to me tonight, and I won't be mad anymore."

Amelia was rendered speechless.

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# Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 505

Chapter 505 It Is Coming

When Amelia reached home, the family of three sat down to have dinner. After they finished their meal, Oscar went into his study to handle some work stuff. Only Amelia and Tony were left in the spacious living room.

Tony nestled beside Amelia as she gently caressed his head and said, "Tony, shall we watch some cartoons? How does Sherlock Holmes sound?"

Tony shook his head. "No. Cartoons are too childish. Mommy, aren't you watching the 'Modern Love' series these days? Let's watch that. I like to look at pretty girls. The character named Andy is so cool."

The corner of Amelia's mouth twitched. Is this child really two years old? Why does he behave like an adult sometimes?

"Okay, let's watch that series." Amelia then turned on the television and switched to the channel showing "Modern Love." A commercial just happened to be broadcasting.

Right at that moment, Amelia's phone that was on the table rang. She picked it up to have a look. When Amelia saw the name displayed on the screen, the look in her eyes changed. She quickly regained her composure and said, "Tony, I need to answer this call. Sit here and watch TV by yourself. Be a good boy, okay?"

Tony nodded.

Amelia walked toward the balcony and answered the phone.

"Hello, Mrs. Hutton," she said when the call got through. The person on the other end of the line was Eleanor, the woman Amelia had gotten to know when she was in Beshya.

Eleanor hesitated for a moment before her gentle and cautious voice rang out. "Lia, long time no see. How are you? You're not experiencing any cornea rejection, right?"

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"I'm fine, Mrs. Hutton. My eyes are recovering well. What about you? How are you these days?" Amelia asked with concern out of courtesy.

Whether Eleanor was her biological mother, Amelia decided not to pursue further to find out the truth. Most importantly was letting nature take its' course. She would not reject if Eleanor tried to acknowledge her as her daughter. Otherwise, she would just treat Eleanor as one of her elders.

She had passed the age of needing her parents' affection. Amelia had regrets about her kinship, but she was not as persistent and eager as she used to be when she was younger.

"I'm fine. It has been some time since we last met, and I've missed you. I'm planning to visit you at Tayhaven. Is that okay with you?" Eleanor asked cautiously on the other end of the line.

Amelia was taken aback by that.

Eleanor quickly sensed that and continued, "Lia, is that not okay with you? I just want to see you as I've missed you and Tony. I won't disturb your life."

After Amelia heard what Eleanor had said, the former could not help but feel her heart sink. She clenched the phone tightly and fell quiet for a while. Amelia then responded smilingly, "Don't get me wrong, Mrs. Hutton. I'm worried you'll be exhausted if you take a flight here. I was just thinking about when I'm free, and then I'll ask my husband to bring Tony and me to Saspiuburg for a family trip. We can visit you there."

"No, that's okay. I'll visit you and my grand... Tony. I'm planning to go tomorrow. I won't be disturbing you, right?" Eleanor stated warily.

Amelia felt a tug at her heartstrings as Eleanor finished speaking. Eventually, she smiled. "Give me a call when you reach then, Mrs. Hutton. I'll pick you up."

As soon as she said that, Amelia felt like she could hear a sigh of relief from the other end of the line.

"Where's Tony?" Eleanor asked jovially.

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"He's watching TV. Do you want me to call him over to speak to you?"

"It's okay. Let him watch TV. I'll play with him when I visit you guys." Eleanor paused for a while before adding, "Lia, what does Tony like? I have been thinking about the best gift to get him for the past two days. Why don't you tell me what he likes?"

"Mrs. Hutton, it's nice enough for you to come. There's no need for you to buy him gifts. He has everything he needs here."

"I'm visiting my grandson. No, I mean, we hit it off when we first met. So, I see him as my grandson. How can I visit my grandson empty-handed? I'll choose if you don't tell me. There's a lot of good food and nice toys here in Saspiuburg. I'll get one of each then. I'm sure there will be something that Tony likes."

Amelia was nonplussed after hearing what Eleanor said. "Don't spoil him, Mrs. Hutton. You're going to spoil him too much."

"All grandmothers will spoil their grandchildren." Both Amelia and Eleanor froze as soon as the latter said that. After a while, Eleanor explained awkwardly, "Don't get me wrong, Amelia. I don't mean anything else, but I see Tony as my grandchild."

Amelia came up with an excuse and responded, "It's okay, Mrs. Hutton. I'm not overthinking. Let's call it a night. I need to shower Tony now. He skipped his afternoon nap, so he's feeling sleepy."

"Okay then." Eleanor ended the call after a pause.

Amelia heaved a sigh of relief as she looked at her darkened phone screen.

At bedtime, Amelia told Oscar about the news that Eleanor was coming to Tayhaven. Oscar gently ran his fingers through her hair and asked, "Do you want to see her?"

"It's not a matter whether I want to or not. I'm just going with the flow. However, I can't figure out her feelings and purpose for approaching me," answered Amelia as she snuggled into a comfortable position in Oscar's arms.

"Do you want me to investigate for you?" Oscar asked.

"Investigate about what?"

"To investigate whether the two of you are blood-related."

Upon hearing Oscar's words, Amelia could not help but reply, "What's the point of investigating? The Hutton family has no intention of acknowledging me. Otherwise, they would have done so when I was at Beshya. I'm over thirty years old, and I have you and Tony by my side. As for other matters, they don't matter much."

"Do you really think so?"

"Oscar, I'm not stubborn and taking things too hard as you think. I understand that many things are better when I let nature take its' course."

Oscar's eyes flickered in the dark. He pulled Amelia closer and said in a low voice, "Let's sleep."

Amelia wrapped her arms around his waist. After settling into a comfortable position, she fell asleep.

The next day, Oscar sent Amelia to work. After arriving at her company, he said, "Amelia, send me Mrs. Hutton's number. It's not easy for you to apply for leave. Moreover, you're not driving. I'll pick her up on your behalf. After that, we'll buy her dinner at a restaurant. We'll treat her to some local dishes."

"Are you able to do it by yourself?"

"Lady, you'll be punished for doubting your husband's capabilities," Oscar answered, and he leaned forward to bite Amelia's lips gently.

Amelia covered her lips, where it was bitten, and replied, "I'll send her number to your phone in a while."

Oscar nodded. "Don't worry. I won't offend a woman that could be my future mother-in-law."

Amelia could not help but chuckle. This man is indeed quite cute.

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After she went into the office, Oscar drove away. While on the road, he received a number from Amelia

Oscar dialed the number, and the call was immediately connected.

"Hello, who is this?" A melodious voice came from the other end of the line.

"Hello, Mrs. Hutton. I'm Oscar Clinton, Amelia's husband. We met in Beshya. Do you remember me?" Oscar said politely.

Eleanor answered enthusiastically. "Oh, it's Oscar."

"I heard from Amelia that you're coming to visit her and your flight is today. May I know what your arrival time is? I'll pick you up since it's inconvenient for Amelia to apply for leave as she's at work. You won't mind that I pick you, would you?"

Eleanor paused before breaking into a smile and replied, "Of course not. I'm happy that you can pick me up. I'm just worried that I'll disturb your work."

"Don't worry about it. Give me a call before you get onto the plane, Mrs. Hutton. So that I can arrive earlier at the airport and wait for you."

"All right. Thank you."

"It's no trouble."

After exchanging pleasantries, the two hung up.

Oscar drove straight to his company after ending the call. While far away at Saspiuburg, Eleanor was in a daze with the phone in her hand.

"Mom, you're going to Tayhaven? Why didn't you tell us? Are you planning to go secretly?" Amelia Hutton questioned as she walked toward Eleanor with an angry look.

"Stop messing around, Amelia. I miss Lia a lot, and I wonder how she and Tony are doing after returning to Tayhaven. Your father and brother are also in Beshya for business matters.

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I'm just going to Tayhaven for a couple of days," Eleanor explained and hastily kept her phone away.

In an almost questioning tone, Amelia said, "Mom, before Dad left for his business trip, he told me to look after you. You're not allowed to leave this city as you like. Can't you let go of your relationship with her?"

"Amelia, why are you speaking to me in such a tone? Am I a criminal? I'm not spoiling you to let you go over my head. I'm not stupid. You have your life, and I have my freedom too. Mind your business. Otherwise, I'll get angry," Eleanor retorted as her face darkened.

Amelia was a little flabbergasted and felt both anger and frustration. "Mom, that's not what I meant. I just want to remind you that Dad doesn't want you to be involved with Amelia Winters. Don't make Dad angry again. I don't want him to send you back to the psychiatric hospital for treatment."

Anger flashed across Eleanor's eyes, and her gaze became terrifying.