

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 251-260

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Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 251
After the manager and head of design said that, the atmosphere in the hall became livelier.

Mrs. Longford, who had been accusing Madeline, was completely stunned. On the other hand, Meredith was looking at Madeline in disbelief. All of them had their jaws on the floor.

"W-What did you say?" Meredith frowned while pointing at Madeline. "Did you say that she, Vera Quinn, is the chief designer of Miss L.ady?"

Meredith was feeling reluctant when she asked this question.

However, she got an affirmative answer instantly.

"That's right. This is the founder of Miss L.ady and the chief designer of the brand, Vera Quinn."

"..."

"..."

Meredith was instantly shocked. Her mouth dropped open as she looked at Madeline who was calm and composed. She was utterly dumbstruck.

Eloise and Jeremy's mother looked at each other. They could not believe what they were seeing and hearing at this moment.

This woman had so much up her sleeves!

Moreover, the most popular jewelry in their circle for these past two years were all designed by this woman.

They could not believe this.

How was this possible?

"So, Madam, why would Vera want to steal your bracelet? We also believe you've been scammed into buying a counterfeit," the head of design asked her confidently.

"How could this be a counterfeit? I spent 100,000 dollars on this!" That woman shrieked and looked at Madeline while feeling unconvinced. "It's obvious that this woman stole my bracelet! You people are in cahoots with each other!"

"So I guess you're still insisting that I stole your bracelet, huh?" Madeline lifted her eyebrow and asked flatly.

That woman pointed at Madeline angrily. "It is you!"

"Alright," Madeline said calmly before looking at the head of design. "Sasa, contact Mr. Moore for me right now and ask him to draft me a letter. I want to sue this person for slander."

"Alright, I'll do it now." The head of design carried out the order that was given to her. She felt more at ease now.

They needed to teach this woman a lesson!

"..." The woman's expression changed. She did not expect Madeline to fight back like this. Now, she was even more furious. "How dare you sue me? You stole my bracelet and you're still so arrogant. You—"

"Honey! Honey, what are you doing? Didn't you say you want to show your friend your bracelet?" Suddenly, a man in a suit walked over to the woman. There was an amethyst bracelet in his hand that looked the same as Madeline's.

However, compared to the one Madeline had, the one in his hand had a darker color and there was no luster. It was obvious which one of them was fake.

When the woman saw the bracelet in the man's hand, her expression changed frantically. "W-Why is my bracelet with you?"

"Didn't you ask me to hold it for you? I went to the restroom just now and I couldn't find you after I came out." The man explained aggrievedly.

"..." The woman's face immediately turned red. Tears welled up in her eyes as she stammered. She could not form a sentence even after a long time.

This was a sudden plot twist. Everyone who had looked at Madeline with suspicion earlier was now looking at the woman. The three of them who sided with Meredith earlier were feeling extremely uneasy now.

Madeline smiled softly. "According to my professional judgment, your fake product costs no more than four digits."

"What?" The woman widened her eyes in shock. Her face turned from red to white. She did not expect the thing that she wanted to show off to just be a cheap counterfeit!

The woman did not want to stay anymore after seeing so many people from her circle criticizing her. She turned around angrily to walk away.

"You falsely accused someone and you want to leave without apologizing?"

Suddenly, a voice as cold as night cut through the crowd.

The woman stopped in her tracks. Then, she saw a young and handsome man in front of her.

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Felipe was wearing a fitting tailored suit, looking elegant and smart. At this moment, there was anger in his eyes. It was the opposite of his usual calm and graceful face with no emotions.

"Apologize to my fiancée now, or else, it won't be as easy as just a lawsuit."

"..." The woman did not know who Felipe was, but she was horrified by the coldness coming from his eyes.

Madeline walked over to Felipe and grabbed his arm naturally and intimately. "It's fine, Felipe. I don't need a hypocritical apology. It's enough that everyone knows that I'm innocent."

"How can I let that happen?" Felipe looked at Madeline gently. "I won't let anyone bully or tarnish your name. I won't allow it even if it's one word."

His defensive words were filled with the overprotectiveness of a boyfriend.

Madeline looked into Felipe's eyes. Perhaps it was the lighting, but she saw deep love and overbearingness that she had seen before in his eyes.

Her heart raced. Before she could say anything else, she saw a few younger socialites blushing when they saw Felipe.

Perhaps they were melting at what he said just now.

Meredith was extremely jealous of what she was seeing right now.

She already despised this woman who looked exactly the same as Madeline. Tonight, she had wanted to see Madeline making a fool out of herself, but she did not expect such a plot twist!

"What are you waiting for? Are you going to apologize only when we're at the police station?" Felipe asked in a cold voice.

That woman trembled after she saw Felipe's icy gaze. She apologized hurriedly and frantically. "I-I'm sorry! I made a mistake! I'm sorry for wrongly accusing you!"

It had been three years.

Madeline did not expect that she would one day get this woman's apology.

However, if Jeremy had not been so heartless back then, she would have gotten this apology three years ago.

Madeline was lamenting this in her heart. When she lifted her head, she saw Meredith looking at her from head to toe.

When she saw Madeline looking at her, Meredith averted her eyes quickly.

After that woman apologized, she wanted to leave quickly. However, Felipe stopped her again. "Not only should you apologize to my fiancée..."

He started to say profoundly.

The woman froze in confusion. Then, she heard Felipe saying again.

"Just now, you said there was a girl who looked like my fiancée back then who stole your bracelet during the Whitmans' birthday party, right?"

"Right! That's right! It's all because your fiancée looks so much like that maid. If not, I wouldn't have mistaken her for that recidivist!" The woman was trying her best to shift the blame. She wanted to shift all the responsibility to Madeline who had been the thief three years ago.

There was a layer of ice on Felipe's handsome face. He said, "Listen carefully, that girl wasn't the Whitmans' maid. She's my nephew and Jeremy's wife, Madeline. Also, the person who stole your bracelet wasn't Madeline, it was her."

Everyone was already shocked by what Felipe said before, but now they had their eyes widened in disbelief after they heard what followed.

They looked over to where he was looking and saw Meredith who was standing there like a deer in headlights.

Meredith's expression changed. However, she did not stomp her feet in anger but instead remained her usual pitiful saint-like image. "Mr. Whitman, even though you're Jeremy's uncle, how can you accuse me like that? When have I ever stolen someone else's belongings?"

"You're the one who stole Mrs. Langford's bracelet back then. After that, you shifted the blame onto Madeline." Felipe then slowly recounted what had happened back then. "A lot of the guests who attended the party back then are here as well. I believe that they still remember that incident. After that, you posted what happened online and made such a huge fuss. Maddie suffered so much because of that. She even had to bear so many insults and accusations."

"Nonsense!" Eloise interrupted him angrily. "Felipe, what are you talking about? How could my daughter do such a thing? You're accusing my daughter unjustly in front of so many people. I won't let this matter go so easily!"

"Mom..." Meredith stood next to Eloise while looking extremely aggrieved. "I really have no idea what my future uncle-in-law is talking about. I've never done anything like that!"

"Felipe, are you trying to reopen old wounds just because your fiancée looks like Madeline?" Jeremy's mother walked over and started siding with Meredith.

At this moment, Felipe's eyes darkened. There was a coldness in his thin eyes. "You're right. I'm here to reopen old wounds indeed. But I'm not doing this just for the sake of it, I'm doing this to prove Madeline's innocence."

Meredith could not hold back her laugh after she heard that. "Mr. Whitman, so you're insisting on wrongly accusing me of something I didn't do?"

"You'll know who's the one accusing who after you watch this video."

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Everyone was curious after they heard this.

Meredith trembled as the confidence and arrogance that was on her face previously froze instantly.

'Video?

'What video?

'What is Felipe talking about?

'Did someone capture the scene of me stealing the bracelet and blaming Madeline that night?

'How is that possible?

'If Felipe had that video, he would have uploaded it way earlier!'

As Meredith contemplated, she no longer felt as nervous as before. She smiled calmly.

"Felipe, don't worry. A straight foot is not afraid of a crooked shoe. I didn't do it, so I'm not afraid of any video you're going to show!"

"Mer, I believe you!" Eloise grabbed Meredith's hand, her eyes filled with trust and love.

"I hope you won't say such blatant lies after you watch this video," Felipe said to Meredith coldly.

The corners of Meredith's lips twitched as a bad feeling arose in her chest.

After that, she saw Felipe gesturing to his assistant who was standing at one side. Then, the assistant clicked on the remote in his hand.

After a few seconds, the lights in the hall dimmed. Then, a clear image appeared on the LED screen in front of everyone. This scene shocked Meredith so much that her eyes were about to fall from their sockets.

The events of three years ago were displayed on the screen. Madeline was rushing into Whitman Manor in a hurry. Her face was pale and she was dressed casually. However, the moment she walked in, the arrogant Mrs. Langford bumped into her.

After Mrs. Langford bumped into her, she pushed all of the blame on Madeline. After that, Mrs. Langford even yelled at Madeline while pointing at her.

In the video, Madeline was obviously not doing too well. However, she did not argue with Mrs. Langford. What happened next shocked everyone.

Mrs. Langford was grabbing Madeline as she accused her of stealing her bracelet. At this moment, Meredith walked over to try to smooth things over, but during this process, she placed a bracelet into Madeline's pocket secretly. Then, Meredith 'found' the bracelet in Madeline's pocket while putting on a show of affection.

Madeline furiously tried to explain herself, but eventually, she still became a despicable thief in everyone's eyes.

Even though Madeline had watched this video multiple times before, she still felt a lot of mixed emotions in her heart when this was displayed in front of the public.

She did not know whether she was feeling pleased because she finally got to prove her innocence, or perhaps she was feeling wronged because of all the grievances and humiliation she had to suffer.

The lights in the hall were switched on again. Madeline lifted her spirited eyes and looked at Meredith who was extremely pale and had her jaw on the floor. Then, she smirked.

"So this is Madeline who looked exactly the same as me. Such a poor soul she was. Oh, to be framed by her own sister like this..." Madeline exclaimed deliberately. She noticed a vague expression in Meredith's eyes. The woman clearly looked extremely uncomfortable.

"Miss Meredith Crawford, your acting is such an eye-opener. There are so many other people in the video but they were all overshadowed by your amazing acting skills."

"..." Meredith's face fell. She was wearing such delicate makeup and yet it could not hide her wicked heart.

"Uh... Meredith, why did you steal my bracelet to frame Madeline? I've not offended you in any way. Even if you wanted to frame someone, you shouldn't have used me! If you hadn't done that back then, I wouldn't have blamed someone innocent today!" Mrs. Langford quickly shifted all responsibilities from herself. Then, she questioned Meredith confidently.

The socialites and gentlemen around them were suspicious of Meredith after watching the video.

"That woman who got unjustly accused is Mr. Whitman's ex-wife?"

"I was there too. I thought she was the one who stole the bracelet, but I didn't expect her to be wrongfully accused."

"Meredith is the daughter of the Montgomeries yet she's still doing such things."

"She looks so weak and vulnerable, but I guess you can't judge a book by its cover. I heard she's going to marry Jeremy Whitman soon. What a peculiar relationship."

Meredith could not handle the accusations and discussions around her anymore. "That video is fake! You must have created that recently! That's not Maddie in the video! It's Vera! I, Meredith Crawford, have never done anything immoral! Honest to God!"

Her eyes were red from feeling aggrieved. She turned around and leaned against Eloise.

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"Mom, you have to believe me. That video isn't real!" Meredith looked at Jeremy's mother after she said that. "Mrs. Whitman, you should know what kind of person Madeline is. Why would I want to harm her? She's not someone who's upright anyway!"

"Mer, don't cry. I believe you." Eloise chose to believe Meredith without even hesitating. Then, she looked at Madeline and Felipe with hatred in her eyes. "Felipe, you're falsely accusing my daughter in public to ruin her reputation. I won't let you get away with this so easily!"

"Your daughter?" Felipe snorted. "Just because she's your daughter, you're willing to turn a blind eye even if she has done something so heinous?"

"You..."

"You can see it in the video clearly. Everyone here would know if it's fake. Meredith, you said this video was taken recently, so let me ask you this. Even if Vera was impersonating Madeline in the video, then who's that woman who looks exactly like you? Plus, who's impersonating those guests and Jeremy's mother?"

"..." Meredith parted her lips and said nothing when faced with Felipe's questions.

She could not find any excuses to mislead the people here anymore.

The reason was that Felipe was telling the truth.

"Enough!" Eloise glared at Felipe. "Madeline stole Mer's boyfriend and kept hurting her again and again. She deserved what happened to her. It has nothing to do with my daughter! She deserved to be wrongly accused. Who told her to have such a bad personality?"

"So I guess the truth isn't important to you, Mrs. Montgomery. The most important thing is that everything your daughter did is right and justifiable, is that so?" Madeline's melodic voice sounded.

Eloise peered at her in contempt. "What does this have to do with you?"

"It has nothing to do with me. I just pity Madeline. She's dead and she still had to carry the burden of such a heinous crime." Madeline lamented as she stared straight at Eloise.

"Mrs. Montgomery, you're so protective of your daughter, but have you ever considered that Madeline also has parents? If her parents find out about the grievances she had suffered, how heartbroken they would be? Or perhaps, Mrs. Montgomery, you can put yourself in their shoes. If Madeline was your daughter—"

"I don't have such a shameless daughter!"

Eloise's words felt like a sharp knife slicing Madeline's heart.

It was just a lie when she said she did not care.

Her heart would still ache.

"Mer, I'll support you no matter what. Ignore these people. Let's go!"

Eloise scowled at Madeline in disgust and was about to leave while holding Meredith's hand.

Madeline pressed her lips together in devastation. She could feel tears pricking the corners of her eyes.

When the loving mother-daughter duo was about to walk out of the crowd, they stopped all of a sudden.

"J-Jeremy?" Meredith widened her eyes in shock. She stared at the man who had seemingly appeared in the crowd out of nowhere. She stammered, "Jeremy, why are you here? W-When did you get here?"

Jeremy did not answer her immediately. On the other hand, he strode over to Madeline.

His stance was graceful, and he looked like an overbearing tyrant. There was an icy glow on his expressionless but handsome face.

Madeline gracefully stood where she was. In reality, however, she was at a loss as she watched the man walking toward her.

Jeremy's eyes were on her. There were whirlpools in his narrow eyes, and it felt as if she would be sucked in if she looked at him for more than a few seconds.

Meredith felt that something was not right. She let go of Eloise's hand and ran over to Jeremy, holding his arm without caring about anything.

"Jeremy, let me explain—"

Jeremy stopped. "You don't have to explain."

"Jeremy..."

"It's so rare to have everyone from the upper-class and the media in one room. I want to use this opportunity to announce something," he said as his eyes landed on Madeline. He had a strange expression in his eyes.

"Miss Vera, you don't mind me saying a few words in your territory, right?"

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"Go ahead, Mr. Whitman." Madeline smiled calmly. "I want to know what you're going to announce as well."

Jeremy curled his seductive lips. "You'll know soon enough," he said before looking at Felipe who was standing behind Madeline. Then, he turned around and faced the crowd as well as the cameras held by media personnel.

Meredith realized that perhaps Jeremy was going to announce he was breaking off his marriage to her. Her heart started racing as she grabbed Jeremy's arm frantically.

"Jeremy, listen to me. That video is fake. Don't believe it! Don't make the announcement for that, please? I can't be without you. Please don't leave me..."

Her voice was so soft that it was barely audible, but Jeremy could hear her clearly.

Jeremy listened to Meredith's pleas and lowered his deep, narrow eyes. "You don't have to explain anything to me. If it's about that video, I can tell you that I saw it three years ago."

"W-What?" Meredith's face was white while her eyes were huge.

He saw that video three years ago?

What?

However, he never mentioned anything about it!

Which meant that he was still siding with her!

When she thought about this, Meredith regained some confidence.

"Jeremy, if that's the case, that must mean you still trust me. Then please, don't make the announcement for that, okay? I can't be without you..." She pleaded softly. There was a pitiful expression on her gorgeous face.

Jeremy looked at her face and her eyes. The image of Linnie appeared in his head all of a sudden.

After a few seconds, he pulled his arm away from Meredith and faced the crowd again.

Everyone, I would like to announce that my marriage with the daughter of the Montgomeries is now canceled—"

Thud!

"Mer! Meredith!"

When Jeremy was about to say the most important word, Meredith unexpectedly collapsed in front of him.

Eloise ran to Meredith hurriedly, crying frantically.

"Jeremy, what are you doing? Get Mer to the hospital now!" Eloise urged. Her eyes were filled with pity and worry for Meredith. "Mer! Mer, please be okay!"

"Jeremy, what are you waiting for? Get Mer to the hospital now!" Jeremy's mother came over and gave him a nudge.

Madeline could not see Jeremy's expression. However, she could see him carrying Meredith and walking quickly to the door.

Everyone in the room was talking among themselves now. They were wondering what was going on while some of them were wondering what Jeremy had wanted to announce.

Madeline watched the disappearing figure in front of her as a sarcastic smile appeared on her face.

Suddenly, she felt a warm touch on her shoulder. She lifted her head and saw Felipe's warm black eyes.

"Don't be sad. If your parents know you're their biological daughter, they would feel remorse for not appreciating you." His comforting words caressed her heart silently.

Madeline smiled lightly. "Felipe, thank you for everything you did for me tonight. Even though I might never get the chance to reunite with my birth parents in this lifetime, I finally got to prove my innocence."

"What are you going to do next?" Felipe asked softly.

An ominous glint flashed across Madeline's eyes. She looked in the direction Jeremy had left in. "I want to know which hospital they're going to."

...

Half an hour later.

Madeline put on a coat and walked into the hospital in front of her.

When she walked into the inpatient department, she saw Sean hurriedly walking into the elevator.

His face was filled with worry, and it was obvious that he was worried about Meredith.

However, Meredith was only pretending to pass out earlier. Madeline had seen too much of this already. It was just that these people would choose to believe her no matter what.

Even her birth parents doted on Meredith.

Madeline came to the corridor outside of Meredith's room. When she turned the corner, she saw Jeremy walking out of the room

His resolute and handsome face looked cold, but there was also worry in his eyes. It seemed that he was worried about Meredith as well.

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Madeline chuckled softly before walking forward.

When Jeremy saw the person in front of him, he stopped in his tracks. He seemed surprised. "Why are you here?"

"Don't you want to see me, Mr. Whitman?" Madeline asked with a fake smile on her face. Then, she added, "Actually, I'm worried. However, I'm not worried about Meredith. I'm worried about you."

Jeremy was taken aback. He looked at the woman who was smiling at him under the dim lights. There was an ominous glint in his eyes as he walked in front of her. "Follow me."

He grabbed Madeline's hand all of a sudden, the coldness of his hand traveling to her heart instantly.

She did not pull her hand away, but at the same time, she did not feel as reluctant to let go as before.

Jeremy brought Madeline to the roof of the hospital. With no one there, the place looked tranquil and eerie.

The stars were scattered in the night sky as they twinkled brightly. The cool autumn breeze caressed both of them gently.

"Why did you bring me here, Mr. Whitman?" Madeline looked at the quiet man in puzzlement.

The cool moonlight shone down on Jeremy's handsome face. One could not read his expression.

"If you're not going to say anything, then I'll leave," said Madeline before turning around.

However, before she could walk away, Jeremy grabbed her hand. "Don't."

He stopped her, sounding like he was begging her.

Madeline curled the corner of her lips in secret. She could only make concessions to gain advantages now.

"Can you stay with me?"

"Stay with you?"

Madeline turned around and saw Jeremy's deep narrow eyes staring at her.

After staring at each other for a while, Jeremy shifted his gaze before letting go of her hand.

He walked to one side and lit a cigarette. The wind brushed past them, blowing out the lit cigarette and leaving behind the faint smell of tobacco.

As Madeline looked at him, she thought that his tall and slender body looked so desolate and lonely under the moonlight.

"Is your fiancée okay?" Madeline asked as she broke the silence.

Jeremy exhaled a long puff of smoke quietly. "She's not my fiancée anymore. I won't marry her."

"I don't believe you," Madeline said with a chuckle, "Felipe told me you like Meredith a lot. You like her so much that you'll do anything for her. If not, you wouldn't have despised the woman who married you, Madeline. If not, you wouldn't have felt elated and not shed a single tear when Madeline died. I think you must have been ecstatic when Madeline died, right, Mr. Whitman?"

"Ecstatic?"

After Madeline said that, she heard the man chuckle lowly in front of her.

His chuckle sounded deep and unreadable. She could not tell whether he was happy or not.

Jeremy then turned around, his narrow eyes traveling down from Madeline's stunning face. Then, his gaze lingered on her left chest that was vaguely covered by the material of her nightgown.

He put out his cigarette and approached Madeline.

Suddenly, he reached out his hand and slammed it on the wall behind Madeline. He had successfully trapped Madeline between him and the wall.

They were standing so close to each other that Madeline could even feel his breath. It smelled like tobacco and it was brushing against her skin lightly. He stared into her eyes intensely, looking like he was going to dominate her.

He had not drunk any alcohol, but his eyes looked dazed.

"Why do you care so much about my ex-wife?"

Madeline smiled calmly. "Maybe I care about her because I look like her."

"Then, do you care about me?"

"I don't understand what you mean." Madeline looked into his eyes with an equally dazed look.

Jeremy did not say anything. Suddenly, he lifted his hand to caress Madeline's cheek.

Madeline was shocked. She quickly dodged away from him, but Jeremy did not give her the chance to escape.

He grabbed her face and tightened his grip. However, perhaps he was afraid of hurting her, so he loosened his grip slightly.

Madeline's heart started racing when she felt the warmth from his hand seeping into her skin. "Mr. Whitman, what are you trying to do?"

"I want to do something I've never done with my ex-wife before."

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His warm breath dispersed on Madeline's cheek. She was stunned, and everything Jeremy did to her back then appeared in her head.

He was cold-blooded and heartless, so he had done every cruel thing in the world to her.

Madeline could not think of anything that he had not done to her.

While she was spacing out, she noticed Jeremy's face inching closer to her.

Madeline's heart started racing irregularly. She thought Jeremy was about to kiss her, so she was about to run away when he pulled her into his arms.

He lowered his head and buried his face between her neck and shoulder. He seemed to be exhausted. With this hug, he was releasing all of his unknown pressure and stress. He was indulging himself during this hug with her.

Madeline was taken aback while stuck in Jeremy's embrace.

She was not wearing very thick clothes, so she could feel Jeremy's warmth through the material of their clothes since they were in such close proximity. His warmth seeped into her skin, slowly spreading. It was so hot.

His breath was so close to her ear as well. His cool scent lingered in her nose, disrupting her breathing and heartbeat.

Madeline looked at the moon and was stuck in a trance.

However, she immediately recalled those sinister things he did to her.

Her racing heart went back to normal and she could not find the passion she had for him anymore.

Madeline lowered her eyes and looked at the man who was leaning against her shoulder. Then, she pushed him away.

However, the moment she moved, Jeremy's arm circled her waist tighter.

"Don't move," he muttered, "I won't do anything to you."

"Mr. Whitman, I don't think this is appropriate. I'm your future aunt-in-law."
Madeline made her standpoint clear to him.

Jeremy opened his piercing yet deep eyes while curling his thin lips. "Shouldn't the future aunt-in-law comfort her nephew at a moment like this?"

"..."

His voice was deep and charming, gliding past her ear so seductively and alluringly. Madeline felt her face heat up, then she used all of her might to push this man away from her.

She tidied her clothes and looked at the man in disapproval. "Mr. Whitman, is this what you mean by wanting to do something you've never done with your wife before?"

There was a smirk on Madeline's lips. "I guess you really hated Madeline. She married you and gave birth to your child, but you've never even hugged her before," she smiled and said. However, she did not know why her heart was crying.

The moonlight was dim, and she looked at the man she used to love. She had placed all of her emotions and passion on him back then, but in the end, she did not even get a hug in return.

How pathetic.

Jeremy looked at Madeline with a smile on his face. "Yes, I've never hugged her like that before."

"Why did you hug me? Do you feel remorseful because you know the truth now? Have you now realized that you falsely accused your ex-wife so you want to redeem your sins by treating me as your ex-wife in order to feel better?"

Madeline questioned with a slight smile on her face. There was intense accusation in her eyes.

"Jeremy, do you think you'll be able to shed all responsibility by doing that? No, you can't. You're one of the reasons why Madeline had such a lamentable ending!"

After she said that, a cold breeze brushed against her.

Jeremy frowned as he looked at Madeline's angry face. "It seems that you're very concerned about my ex-wife."

Madeline was slightly taken aback after she heard that. She realized she had almost exposed herself just now.

She lifted her hand and ran her fingers through her long hair to hide her franticness. Then, she said, "Maybe I'm so concerned about her because I look like her."

She found an excuse that she felt was appropriate. However, she noticed Jeremy was looking at her with a weird look.

"Since you're fine, I won't be staying."

Madeline turned around after she said that. Before she could go far, Jeremy grabbed her wrist.

His hands were cold after getting blown by the wind. They were pressed against her skin so tightly, causing the strange sensation to penetrate her skin.

"Vera, I have a question..."

Buzz, buzz.

Before Jeremy could finish speaking, he was interrupted by the buzzing of his phone.

Madeline let out a sigh of relief because she had a feeling that Jeremy's question would be tricky.

She could not let the cat out of the bag now.

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She had just begun enacting her plan for revenge, so she would not allow anything to disrupt it.

Jeremy answered the call but he did not let go of Madeline. She could not escape even if she wanted to.

She looked at Jeremy as he started frowning. Then, his tone became colder. "What? Jackson is missing?"

When Madeline heard this, she felt her heart skip a beat.

'Jackson's missing again?'

She started to worry as well.

While she was spacing out, Jeremy walked to her with a frown on his face. "My son is missing again, but I think you can find him."

"Me?" Madeline was surprised. However, she did not want to argue with him. Her racing heart told her that she wanted to know Jackson's whereabouts as well. "I can look for him with you."

"Let's go then," he said, letting go of his hand. Then, he placed his coat on top of Madeline's thin coat.

This gesture shocked Madeline. Before she could react, Jeremy pulled her downstairs.

On the way, Madeline sent a message to Felipe to let him know what was going on.

Felipe supported her decision as usual.

The car drove into Jeremy's house. Madeline did not have time to reminisce about all the things around her when she returned to the place she used to live in. At this moment, she only wanted to know where Jackson was.

She followed Jeremy into the house. When they walked in, the maid ran over and explained frantically, saying, "Young Master Jackson was in his room. When I went upstairs after doing the dishes, he was gone! I've looked all over the place but I can't find him!"

Jeremy heard what the maid had to say with an icy expression on his face. Then, he looked at Madeline who had a frown on her face. "He won't be able to go far. Let's look nearby."

"I think the child should be in this house," said Madeline calmly. There was an ache in her heart when she thought about the previous times she found Jackson. She recalled how she found him holding himself tightly while shaking furiously.

"No, that can't be! I've looked all over. I even called out his name, but I didn't get a response." The maid dismissed Madeline's guess.

However, Madeline shook her head and looked over to the front of her before walking upstairs.

She was wearing high heels and a long dress, so she was not able to move as freely. However, it did not hinder the strong feeling she had for wanting to see Jackson.

Madeline quickly walked into Jackson's room. After looking around, her eyes finally landed on the bathroom that was attached to the room.

Jeremy followed behind her. When he was at the door, he heard a soft voice of a woman. "Jack, it's me, Vera."

Was Jackson really in there?

Jeremy felt that this was outrageous. He quickly went to the bathroom and saw Madeline squatting on the floor. Jackson was in her arms with his eyes closed. There were tears in the corner of his eyes.

He was shocked. Suddenly, he remembered Madeline suggesting he take Jackson to the doctor.

Was this child psychologically ill?

He could not find an answer now, but he felt relieved when he saw that Jackson was fine.

Madeline wanted to leave after she found Jackson, but this child refused to let go of her. Plus, she was also feeling heartbroken for him, so she was reluctant to let go as well.

Madeline decided to stay after feeling this weird emotion. She carried Jackson to the bed and coaxed gently, saying, "Jack, you should sleep now. I'll be here with you."

Jackson's bright but insecure eyes stared straight at her. "Really, Vera?"

"Yeah." She nodded and promised before this little guy finally closed his eyes to go to sleep.

Jeremy brought some clothes and necessities for Madeline. "These pajamas belong to my ex-wife. You can wear it for the night if you don't mind."

He handed her the clothes. Madeline felt weird when she looked at the familiar clothes in her hands.

He had not thrown away her pajamas.

What was he thinking?

After Jeremy closed the door and left, Madeline continued to watch Jackson. At the same time, she called Felipe to tell him why she could not go home tonight.

After she hung up, she walked into the bathroom.

However, after she showered, she realized she forgot to bring the pajamas. She could only use a towel at this moment.

She wrapped it around her body hastily and quickly walked back to her room. When she was about to put on the pajamas, the door opened.

She subconsciously gripped the towel around her chest tighter. She lifted her head to look into Jeremy's eyes that were staring at her intensely. What she was concerned about the most was how Jeremy was looking at the area of the left side of her chest...

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There was a mole on her left chest that could prove that she was Madeline.

It was a mark that she did not want to destroy because she did not think that Jeremy would ever get the chance to see this part of her body after she 'came back to life'.

She was here for revenge, not to start a relationship with him. As such, she did not remove the mole and it was still on her left chest.

When she noticed Jeremy's gaze, she pulled her towel upward before turning her back toward Jeremy.

"Why didn't you knock before coming in?" she asked in agitation.

She thought Jeremy would close the door and leave tactfully, but instead, she heard his footsteps approaching her. He stopped right behind her.

"Why did you come in? Get out." Madeline wanted to chase him away and spoke in an icy tone. She clutched the towel closer to her chest and walked further away from him. She was barefooted.

However, the moment she took a step forward, Jeremy grabbed her slender arm.

His hand was so cold, but the moment he touched her, she could feel her skin heating up.

"Why are you so scared, Future Aunt-in-law? Do you think I'll eat you up?"

"..."

Madeline had nothing to say. She just felt her heartbeat speeding up and her cheeks growing hot.

At this moment, Jeremy walked closer to her again. She could feel his warm body pressing up against her.

"Don't worry, I won't do anything to you. I just have a question for you."

"What question?" Madeline asked impatiently. "Let me go first."

Jeremy froze slightly after he heard that. He looked at the woman's body in front of him as he started to space out.

Her body was fair and flawless while her skin was so soft and supple. When he saw this, he could not help but recall the gruesome wounds and scars all over Madeline's body.

He felt a pang of pain in his heart as he let go of his hand all of a sudden.

"Never mind. I have nothing to ask you now." His tone became icy out of the blue. "Thank you for finding my son and staying with him for the night. I'll thank you properly."

After he said that, Madeline heard the sound of the door closing behind her.

He was here to ask her a question, but then he left all of a sudden because of a change in his mood. What happened?

Madeline was confused, but she did not think much about it. She changed into her pajamas and locked the door before sleeping next to Jackson.

She felt at ease when she looked at the adorable little face before her that was fast asleep.

The more she looked at him, the more she realized how Jackson was actually rather similar to Lilian.

They were siblings with the same father but different mothers after all, so it was not weird that they would look alike.

However, Madeline was curious why she had a special connection with Jackson.

She smiled gently and caressed Jackson's smooth little face.

"Sleep well. I'll be here with you. Don't be scared," she muttered softly before closing her eyes.

On the other side, Jeremy was leaning against the railing on the balcony lazily. His shirt was unbuttoned casually and his collarbone was showing.

He let out a trail of smoke from his thin lips. Then, he lifted his head to look at the wedding photo above his bed.

She was so beautiful in the photo.

However, what was left of her was only this photo.

"Jeremy, you'll regret this!"

What Madeline said back then kept replaying in his head.

He remembered him saying in disdain, "I don't know the meaning of the word regret."

Jeremy started mocking himself. "Hmph."

He looked in the direction of Jackson's room while feeling as if he was miles away. He stared in that direction for a long while.

The cigarette between his fingers lit up and dimmed down from time to time. It was as unpredictable as the expression in his eyes.

The next day after Madeline woke up, she watched as Jackson brushed his teeth and washed his face. The little guy was feeling much better now. He had a rare smile on his handsome face.

When they went downstairs, the maid told her that Jeremy had gone out first thing in the morning.

Madeline could only send Jackson to kindergarten and see Lilian while she was there.

Where had Jeremy gone so early in the morning?

A cemetery in the suburbs.

Jeremy held a bouquet of 88 roses before going to the familiar cemetery.

It was dawn, so it was still foggy. There was only the sound of wind in the empty cemetery.

Jeremy knelt and placed the flowers down. He ran his knuckles across the words on the tombstone, his eyes flashing with emotions.

"You must have despised me, right?" he muttered to himself, "You must have been in despair when I destroyed the only evidence that could prove your innocence."

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He asked, feeling a debilitating pain in his heart.

When he recalled Madeline's helpless expression when she was explaining herself with tears streaming down her face, he felt like such an irredeemable sinner.

How could he be so cruel to hurt a woman who loved him so much?

How could he only realize that he had fallen for her when it was already too late?

Now, he finally understood why Old Master Whitman asked her that question when she said she wanted to divorce him.

The old master had asked her whether they slept together after marriage.

Of course, he did. Multiple times.

He said he was disgusted by her, but he still could not stop himself from touching her.

It turned out that he was just unable to restrain his emotions, but when he found out about it, it was too late.

Jeremy gathered his thoughts and looked at the tombstone. "She looks just like you, so I keep having misconceptions. I hugged her last night, but I was really hoping she's you."

His tone was filled with so much emotion and gentleness that had never been there before. Then, he closed his eyes.

"I really hope that she's you..."

Jeremy turned around after a while. His body left a trail of loneliness in the morning sun.

...

Madeline left the kindergarten and went back to her shop.

It was still early, so it was not opening time yet. However, she saw a lot of people gathering in front of her shop and even the media was here.

She thought maybe this was the effect of what happened last night, so she walked in through the back door. The moment she sat down, she received a notification of a viral tweet.

She clicked inside and saw the video that Felipe played last night being retweeted furiously.

Everyone was going to Meredith's profile to curse at her.

She was the young lady from the Montgomery family, but she went as far as doing something so despicable. It was such an irredeemable dark past!

Someone even felt bad for Madeline's previous self. She had been wrongly accused and was forced to suffer in silence. Plus, she was even cyber-bullied for some time. It was so lamentable now that she was dead.

Even though justice arrived late, it still managed to prove her innocence.

Madeline was reading the comments. She felt conflicted, but at the same time, she felt rather pleased.

"Meredith, don't surrender so easily. You have much more to go through in the future."

She curled her lips and clicked into Meredith's selfies that she had posted to Twitter. She was flexing her wealth relentlessly in her pictures.

"Miss Montgomery? Meredith, I want to see how long you can stay in this position."

After she said that, she saw a family photo in Meredith's album.

Meredith was sitting in between Eloise and Sean. There was so much love and doting in their eyes. They truly treated Meredith as their one and only little princess.

She could not help but use her finger to lightly caress the husband and wife in the photo. Their faces looked so benevolent and kind, but unfortunately...

Madeline recalled the hatred in Eloise and Sean's eyes when they looked at her. Plus, she also recalled the resentment she felt from them when they slapped her heavily across the face.

It had been so long, but she could still feel the pain in her face. Her heart ached even more now...

At this moment, she heard some commotion from outside the shop. She looked at the time and noticed that it was opening time. Some of the employees had already arrived and opened the front doors. That was when the people gathering outside came in.

Madeline recomposed herself and walked out with her head held high.

When she walked out, the so-called customers were all staring at her.

"Oh my God, she looks so much like Mr. Whitman's ex-wife!"

"They're exactly the same!"

"No way. I don't think they look the same. Their temperaments are completely different!"

"Right. Madeline looked like a country bumpkin and she was so weak, which was why she allowed just anyone to bully her, but this..."

The Madeline they saw in front of them had a stunning figure. She looked gorgeous and was extremely classy.

Aside from their faces, everyone would think that they were two different people.

Just when everyone came to that conclusion, someone emerged from the crowd and ran in front of her. "Maddie!"

Madeline was taken aback when Ava appeared out of the blue. However, she quickly displayed a calm smile on her face. "It's you. I told you, I'm not Madeline..."

"You are!" Ava looked at her with certainty. Her eyes looked expectant but sad. "Maddie, what happened? Why don't you remember me? Do you have amnesia? Or are you pretending to not know me?"

"Miss, I really don't know you, and I don't have amnesia." Madeline calmly explained. "I just look the same as Madeline Crawford."

"Alright, you say you're not her, but do you have the courage to see someone with me?" The expression in Ava's eyes changed.

Madeline smiled. "Miss, I'm busy. I don't have time to play games with—"

"Maddie."

When Madeline rejected Ava, she heard a voice that shocked her.

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 261-270

July 27, 2021 by [superadmin](#)

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 261
Madeline looked at the man who had emerged from the crowd and she could feel her spirit leaving her body.

She had not seen him for three years, but the person in front of her was still bright-eyed and handsome. There was an added sense of maturity that was not there before on his sharp features.

He walked toward her, her face reflecting in his onyx-like eyes. There was an unspeakable joy and surprise in them.

"Maddie, it is you..." Daniel looked at her intensely, his voice still as gentle and warm as the spring breeze.

"I'm sorry. I'm not Madeline Crawford." Madeline lifted her eyebrow in annoyance. "If you guys are just here to see if I look like Madeline Crawford, then please leave. I have a business to run," she said coldly before turning around. When her face was out of Daniel and Ava's sight, she lowered her gaze.

'Ava, Dan, I'm sorry. Please forgive me for my cruelty.'

"Maddie!" Ava did not give up and grabbed Madeline's hand. "Maddie, why have you become like this? You're my Maddie. Why do you want to pretend to not know me?"

Ava was emotional. After she said that, she pointed at Daniel.

"You say you don't know me, but what about Dan? Do you not know him as well? Have you forgotten how Dan treated you back then?"

Madeline lifted her head and scanned the handsome and kind Daniel. "If you guys still refuse to leave, I'll ask someone to kick you out."

"Maddie." Daniel walked in front of Madeline. His gentle eyes landed on her face as usual. There was deep emotion in his eyes, but he was suppressing it.

"It's good to see you again."

He said that sentence so softly, but it was evident that he was genuinely happy.

Madeline felt an ache in her heart. She could feel tears pricking the corners of her eyes. She forced herself to smile coldly.

"I'm going to tell you one last time, I'm not Madeline! Stop thinking of me as a dead person," she said in frustration. Then, she turned around to leave.

"Maddie!" Daniel reached out to grab Madeline with worry and franticness in his eyes.

"Is there anything else?" Madeline looked at him impatiently. "If you harass me again, I'll call the cops."

"Maddie, why have you become like this?" Ava looked at Madeline with hurt in her eyes. For the first time ever, she felt that the person in front of her was so foreign.

"Dan, stop thinking too much. Let's just bring her to Dr. Brown. She must've been threatened by Jeremy and that's why she's acting like this," Ava said as she grabbed Madeline's hand. She wanted to take Madeline away forcefully.

Daniel looked at Madeline who was resisting with all her might. Then, he remembered all of the cruel things Jeremy did to her. He made up his mind that instant and grabbed Madeline's hand as well.

"Let go of her."

When everyone was looking at this scene with puzzlement, a cold and overbearing voice sounded from the crowd. After they looked in the direction of the voice, they saw that it was Jeremy.

Ava stepped in front of Madeline and protected her behind her back while glaring at Jeremy.

"You piece of trash!" She glared at the man who was walking toward her with no fear. "How long do you want to keep on torturing Maddie?"

Jeremy walked in front of Ava with a cold expression on his face. His cool and intense aura froze the air around them.

He lifted his head to look at Daniel, then in the next second, he walked over and pulled Madeline's hand away from his.

"Jeremy." Daniel frowned in agitation. "What did you do to Maddie?"

"You b*stard! You keep torturing Maddie again and again. Now, she's completely brainwashed by you! You animal!" Ava yelled angrily.

However, Jeremy only smiled lightly. He glanced at Ava with a cold gaze before saying, "Madeline died three years ago. Don't forget, you're the one who cremated her. Do you think a person who has been turned into ashes can still stand here alive and well?"

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Ava was unconvinced. She wanted to argue further, but after she heard what Jeremy said, the expectations in her heart went out immediately.

She looked at Madeline and became dispirited after seeing her charming face.

'Is this really not Maddie?

'No, that's impossible.'

Ava glared at Jeremy angrily before gritting her teeth. "Jeremy, this must be a trap. She's definitely Maddie! You're the one who—"

"Enough." Madeline interrupted her with a cold voice. "I don't care what happened between you and Madeline, but it has nothing to do with me. Listen closely, I'm not Madeline Crawford."

After she said that, she lifted her beautiful eyes and looked at Jeremy. "I'm going to give myself a break today. I wonder if you have time to accompany me, Mr. Whitman?"

Jeremy looked into her mesmerizing eyes and smiled. "It would be my honor."

After he said that, he grabbed Madeline's hand.

Everyone around them made way for them conscientiously. Then, they watched as Jeremy left while holding Madeline's hand.

Ava and Daniel ran after them immediately. However, they only saw Madeline getting into Jeremy's car with a grin on her face.

"How is that possible?" Ava was furious and frantic. "Dan, let's follow them."

Daniel looked in the direction where Madeline left and was smiling softly. "Since Maddie is alive, I'll still accept her no matter what she has become..."

Jeremy stopped the car near a park in the suburbs. After Madeline got out, she let out a long sigh of relief.

"It's such a pain in the butt to look the same as Mr. Whitman's ex-wife," she said in an annoyed tone. Then, she lifted her head while looking like she was confused. "Who's that man just now? You look like you know each other."

Jeremy looked at Madeline and averted his gaze with a fake smile. "A rich guy who can't forget about my ex-wife."

When Madeline heard that, her heart skipped a beat.

'Can't forget.'

What a beautiful term.

It seemed like there was still someone in the world who still could not forget about her.

However, for the past ten years, she was only thinking about this cold-blooded man in front of her.

'God loves to play jokes on me.'

'I don't love the person who loves me. On the other hand, the person I love doesn't love me back.'

After such long and repetitive torment, the people who got hurt the most were the ones who gave their hearts to the wrong person.

'Dan, you still haven't forgotten about Maddie.'

'She doesn't deserve you keeping her in mind.'

After Jeremy noticed Madeline's silence, he said profoundly, "You seem touched, Miss Vera."

Madeline came back to her senses and smiled. "I'm just surprised that there's such an exceptional person who loves the ex-wife that you despised so much."

"Exceptional?" Jeremy seemed to be unhappy with that word. He chuckled coldly, a dark tide surging in his eyes. It was crashing against Madeline. "I had a question for you last night, but I didn't have the opportunity to ask you," he said as his slender body approached Madeline's thin frame. Then, he trapped her between himself and the car.

His intense gaze enveloped her confused face with a hint of mystery. There was so much love in his eyes.

"Vera Quinn, do you like me?"

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His deep and seductive voice slid into her ear before landing on her heart.

Madeline did not expect Jeremy to ask such a question.

There was visible shock on her face. Despite feeling taken aback, she was still calm. "Jeremy, do you know what you're talking about?"

"Of course, I know what I'm talking about." He lowered his voice to make it sound even more alluring.

"I'll be marrying Felipe soon, so why would I like you?" Madeline said coldly, pushing him away.

However, Jeremy merely grabbed the hand that landed on his shoulder.

"Do you really not like me? Then why did you come looking for me in the hospital last night and tell me that you're worried about me?" he asked, "You were concerned about me. Plus, I don't think you like my uncle all that much," he said as his dark eyes lingered on Madeline's face. He could feel his heart skipping a beat.

Despite knowing that they were two different people, he still could not ignore this face of hers that looked exactly the same as Madeline's. Even though he knew by doing this, he would still be unable to soothe the wound in his heart.

Madeline was Madeline, and in his heart, she was not like any other. At the same time, she was his true love who he could never get back again.

After a moment of silence, Madeline took a deep breath. Then, she raised her beautiful eyes and looked into Jeremy's gaze.

"Mr. Whitman, you're an exceptional man. However, I will never like a man who could be so cruel to his ex-wife."

While looking at him, the fire of resentment was burning behind her eyes.

"Even though I look like her, I won't repeat the same choices as her."

She would not.

She would not let herself fall into this man's traps again.

The reason she came back to life was to destroy him! She was not here to ruin herself once again!

After the silence, Jeremy chuckled and asked, "Do you know what choices she made back then?" he said while letting go of her hand. He then turned his back toward her and lowered his voice. She could not find any emotions in his voice. "Aside from her, no one would be able to go through the same things she did."

'No one would love me as much as she had. In addition, no one would be able to make me lose sleep every night like she was.'

However, Madeline did not understand what Jeremy was trying to say. She did not ask. She just felt that he looked desolate right now.

She looked at him with a cold gaze before lifting the corners of her lips.

It seemed that by playing hard to get, Jeremy had sensed that she 'liked' him.

Very good.

She wanted this.

Madeline smiled in secret. She parted her lips slowly, "Jer—"

"Maddie!"

Before Madeline could finish, she heard Ava calling her name.

She turned around and saw Ava running over along with Daniel.

Why were they here?

"These two are so annoying." Madeline deliberately complained about them.

Ava ran over to Madeline and started taking breaths. "Maddie, I don't know what happened to you, but you must have lost your memory. If not, why would you still want to stay with this piece of trash?"

She pointed at Jeremy and said that sentence through gritted teeth.

"If you've lost your memory and forgotten everything, I can tell you just how despicable and cruel this piece of trash is!

"In order to make Meredith happy, he humiliated and tarnished your reputation repeatedly. He hurt you so badly that you were bruised all over! He even suspected your innocence and denied that you gave birth to his child. He kept saying that child was a b*stard child and even killed it with his own hands!

"Maddie, you can't repeat the same mistakes again! Please, I'm begging you, don't stay with him. Come with me!"

Ava's eyes were red after she said that.

However, her words were like knives that sliced across Madeline's heart—it was so excruciatingly painful.

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'Ava, I didn't forget.

'That's why I'm back for revenge. This is for me, but also mostly for the child.'

When Ava noticed how Madeline had not spoken a word even after a long time, she ran over and grabbed her hand emotionally. "Maddie, please, come with us. Dan is the person who truly loves and cares about you. Stop getting fooled by that piece of trash!"

"Stop talking." Madeline interrupted her suddenly. "I've told you many times that I'm not Madeline Crawford. Plus, why can't I stay with Mr. Whitman? What do his past actions have to do with me? I just know that I'm happy being with him. I enjoy being with him too. So please, stop harassing me!"

Madeline finished saying that in an icy tone. Then, she pushed Ava's hand away from her.

She turned around and grabbed Jeremy's arm, pretending to look intimate with him. "Jeremy, let's talk somewhere else. These people are so annoying."

"Alright." Jeremy gave her a one-word reply emotionlessly. He was not bothered by Madeline's hand on his arm.

Before he turned around, he glared at Ava solemnly, her words still lingering in his ears.

Hiss.

It was a pain that felt like a million ants gnawing at his heart. It even drowned his breathing.

Ava had declared how cold-blooded and cruel he was to Madeline as she recounted all of the horrible things he did to her back then.

Madeline sat in the passenger seat, and from the corner of her eyes, she could see that Jeremy had a weird expression on his face.

She figured that he was affected by what Ava had said just now.

She smirked in secret. 'How's that, Jeremy? Are you feeling remorseful? Or have you finally found your conscience?

'However, when were you ever conscientious when you were with me?

'If you had even an ounce of pity for me back then, I wouldn't have died such a horrible death!'

The evening mist hung lowly at dusk during fall.

Madeline stepped on the slabs and slowly made her way to the tombstone.

She had a bouquet of white chrysanthemums in her hand and placed it in front of the tombstone. Then, she bowed.

"Grandpa," she called out softly as she looked at the name on the tombstone.

"Eveline is here to see you."

She smiled, but her eyes were already filled with tears.

"I know you won't agree with what I'm doing right now, but I can't endure what he did to me and the child back then.

"He's biting the bait now. I'll make him fall in love with me, and then I'll let him have a taste of what it feels like to be fooled and humiliated by the person he loves.

"I'll also make the person who harmed you back then pay a horrible price."

Madeline narrowed her eyes and there was a piercing glint in them.

She lit up some candles and sat down in the empty cemetery.

The sky in fall was slowly turning dark. However, at this moment, she only wanted to stay with her grandfather who used to love her so much.

Jeremy had not planned on coming to the cemetery today, but Ava's words lingered in his head for a very long time.

He knew remorse and apologies would not be enough, so he decided to come here to seek some form of comfort.

He was still holding the meaningful bouquet with 88 roses. After he placed it down, he caressed the name on the tombstone out of habit. He imagined that he could be closer to her like this.

However, it was just coldness under his fingertips. He was touching an icy tombstone and not a body of flesh.

Jeremy turned around and wanted to find a place to sit down so he could accompany the person who was sleeping here. However, when he lifted his head, he saw a white figure walking past one of the plots. That figure was petite and lithe, looking just like her.

There was a thin layer of mist during dusk, so Jeremy could not see the woman's face. However, his heart started accelerating.

"Maddie..."

He blurted out her name and turned around quickly. Then, he ran in the direction of Len's grave.

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Jeremy sped to the place where he just saw the white figure. His heart was beating so fast that it felt like it was going to jump out of his chest.

'Maddie!

'Is that you, Maddie?'

He screamed Madeline's name in his heart over and over again as he was sure that he was not hallucinating.

However, when he got to the grave, there was no one there.

What he saw moments ago was perhaps just a dream.

His heart went cold.

Was he having hallucinations from missing her too much?

Jeremy thought of that while feeling dispirited. When he was about to leave, he saw a trail of smoke coming from a grave nearby.

He narrowed his eyes and strode over.

He walked in front of Len's grave. Len was Madeline's grandfather. He could see the bouquet of white chrysanthemums in front of the tombstone and a candle that was still burning.

Indeed, he had not been hallucinating earlier. Someone had been here to pay their respects to Len!

Who else would come to pay respects to Len aside from Madeline?

Jeremy's heart started racing again. He turned around and ran to the entrance of the cemetery without hesitating.

Under the setting sun, he could see a black car driving up to the main road from the exit.

Jeremy quickly drove his car and chased behind it. He kept speeding up.

He had a lot in his mind right now. His heartbeat was a clear indication of his emotions and how expectant he was feeling right now. He was expecting to chase up to the car in front of him. He was also expecting to see that she was the person in the car. He hoped that even though she had been declared dead three years ago, she would be the one driving the car.

However, after Jeremy chased up to the car, he saw only a man driving. There was no one else inside.

He felt as if his heart had plunged into a bottomless abyss. His expectations had turned into a pathetic illusion.

'She's dead.

'Jeremy Whitman, she was tortured to death by you.'

'Stop imagining things.'

However, aside from her, who in this world would go and pay respects to Madeline's grandfather?

In addition to that, it was also a woman.

...

When Madeline arrived at the apartment after coming back from the cemetery, Felipe came back with Lillian just in time.

Lillian reached out her arms and ran toward her. After she ran into Madeline's arms, she kissed her again and again.

Madeline looked at her precious little daughter with so much love in her eyes. The wound in her heart was healed slightly.

Then, she thought about Jackson. That kid was definitely psychologically ill. She would not expect Meredith to do anything, but would Jeremy take him to the doctor?

"What are you thinking about?" Felipe's voice sounded in her ear.

Madeline came back to reality and looked at him. "Felipe, Jeremy asked me if I like him today."

Felipe stopped removing his coat. There was a weird glint in his black eyes that was overshadowed by the setting sun.

"It seems that he's starting to like you."

Madeline let out a sarcastic chuckle when she heard this. "We have the same face and when I loved him so much, he ignored me completely, but now..."

She chuckled. She could not describe the mixed feelings in her chest.

However, she was happy with Jeremy's reaction toward her.

The air went silent. After a while, Madeline heard Felipe saying softly, "I guess this is human nature. The easier you're able to get something, the more ungrateful you'll be."

Perhaps.

An item would look cheap if it was easily attainable.

In addition to that, no one would appreciate cheap things.

'So, it's because I was so cheap back then that I died. That's why you're so happy.'

"Vera," Felipe called out to her softly.

He did not like calling her by her precious name. That name was filled with so much darkness and pain while her new name signified a new beginning.

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Madeline lifted her head and her eyes met Felipe's narrow eyes. His eyes looked kind, enveloping her tightly into an air of warmth.

"I will support you in everything you do. However, if possible, I really don't want you to carry out your revenge this way."

Felipe reached out his hand as his fingers landed on her soft face. The coldness on his fingers made Madeline tremble.

There were a lot of secrets hiding behind his bottomless eyes. It was as if one would get sucked into his eyes if they looked into his eyes and probed for more than one second.

When Madeline was about to move away, Felipe walked closer to her.

His handsome face was magnified in front of her, revealing a hint of overpowering dominance and possessiveness. "He's not worthy to have you, be it now or back then."

Madeline felt her heartbeat accelerating the moment he said that.

She was at a loss. When she came back to her senses, she could see Felipe's lips slowly getting closer to hers. When she was about to dodge away from him, he stopped suddenly.

His kiss did not land. He curled the corners of his lips and finally, he planted a doting kiss in between her brows.

Madeline was stuck in a daze when Felipe pulled her into his arms gently. He caressed his hair with his palm.

With her head tucked under his chin, she could not see Felipe's smirk. Then, he hid the ominous smirk into his half-closed eyes.

...

The next morning, Madeline was woken by her phone.

When she looked at it, she was immediately awake.

Looking at the notifications and the private messages that were all cursing at her, Madeline clicked into them calmly.

Immediately, she saw all kinds of trending tweets.

**Founder of Miss L.ady, Vera Quinn,
got between the marriage of the
young master.**

The mistress—Vera Quinn.

Only daughter of the Montgomeries, Meredith Crawford, is hospitalized from a broken heart.

Aside from those trending tweets, there was also a video.

The video was filmed when Meredith asked Madeline out last time. In the video, Meredith was begging Madeline to stop pestering Jeremy while looking weak and pretty in the cafe.

The content of the video was not that problematic, but the crucial point was when Meredith asked Madeline, "So, Miss Quinn, you're saying that you'll keep pestering my fiancé and continue to become the third party?"

In the video, Madeline only replied with one word—"Yes."

However, Madeline clearly remembered that she had never said that in response to Madeline. Then, the video ended.

She knew that this was a trap laid down by Meredith. The video had been edited.

Meredith packaged herself into the image of a pitiful victim, then pushed Madeline to where the wind and the waves were the fiercest.

A lot of netizens who did not know the truth rushed to Madeline's verified account and started cursing at her after they saw her reply. They called her a vixen and a shameless wh*re. She was able to see all kinds of dirty words and insults all over the place.

Madeline just glanced through these comments nonchalantly. Then, she went to wash up before changing into her clothes.

She looked at her face and body in the mirror. Then, she could not help but let out a laugh of pity.

'When I was in love with you, I didn't think I'd ever be worthy of you no matter what I did.

'However, after leaving you, I realize I'm still able to soar without you. I can live an even better life without you.

'Jeremy, the ex-wife who you despise is back, but now, she doesn't love you anymore...'

Half an hour later, Madeline walked gracefully to the room Meredith was staying in. She heard cackling from inside the room. If she was not mistaken, that was Rose's voice.

"Oh, Mer, you're so smart!" Rose praised. "You set such a perfect trap for that *btch!* Say, do you think that woman deserves it? *It's fine that she looks the same as that btch* Madeline, but she even wants to steal Jeremy from you! I think she doesn't want to live anymore."

"Hmph!" Meredith snorted arrogantly. "Who does that Vera think she is? She's just the founder of a stupid brand. So what? Does she think she can compete with my current status?"

"Of course! You're one of the young ladies from the four major rich families in Glendale! How can that woman compete with you?" Rose could not hide her delight anymore. "The Montgomeries are also idiots! They've never suspected you even once and have no idea that their precious daughter has died three years ago! Haha..."

"Hmph, how can those people fight against me with their peanut brains?" Meredith said while feeling pleased with herself. "The person I need to take down now is that b*tch, Vera Quinn. Everyone's yelling at her online now. I'll hire some haters to add fuel to the fire later. I think Miss Lady will be bankrupt soon. I want to see what she's going to do then!"

"Haha..."

After Madeline heard Meredith's confident words and Rose's cackle, Madeline strode over and pushed open the door of the room. Then, she walked in gracefully.

"You want to see what I'll do? I think you should worry about yourself."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 267
They would have never expected the person who they were plotting against to appear in front of them all of a sudden. Meredith and Rose's laughter stopped abruptly. Their equally hideous faces were filled with shock as they stared at Madeline who had just walked in.

"You! Who told you to come in? How long were you standing out there? What did you hear?" Rose stood up with a woosh and pointed at Madeline as she questioned her angrily.

Meredith did not say anything. She just widened her eyes and sized Madeline up.

Madeline quirked her eyebrow and smiled. "Why? Did you say something you shouldn't have and you're scared that I'll find out?"

"..." Rose's expression changed. She averted her gaze slightly. "You..."

"If I'm not wrong, you must be Madeline's adoptive mother. Tsk tsk, your adopted daughter has been completely tainted by you. I was wondering how a graceful and elegant woman like Mrs. Montgomery would have such a heinous and vile daughter like Meredith."

"W-What did you say?" Rose was furious. She ran over to Madeline while baring her teeth, about to hit her.

Madeline reached out her hand calmly and grabbed Rose's wrist. Her gaze became piercing. "You have the exact same shrewish attitude. If people didn't know, they'd think that you're Meredith's true biological mother."

After Meredith and Rose heard this, their expressions changed.

"Vera Quinn, shut up!"

Meredith could not control herself from shrieking and threatening her.

There was no one else here, so she did not hesitate to show her true colors.

She lifted her blanket and got out of bed. With narrowed eyes, she said, "Vera, since you have time to argue with me here, why don't you think of a way to solve what's going on online?"

Meredith crossed her arms over her chest arrogantly and laughed. "I told you. You won't get a happy ending if you insist on going against me. Since you want to steal my man from me, then I'll fulfill your wishes. I'll let you become the mistress who everyone online spits on!"

Slap!

After Meredith said that, Madeline slapped her across her face heavily without hesitating.

"Ah!" Meredith wailed in pain. She clutched her swollen cheek in shock.

After recovering from the shock, Rose heard Madeline talking when she was about to yell at her.

"This slap is to wake you up from your fantasy. Stop daydreaming in broad daylight. Look closely and tell me who's the one who should clean up their mess."

"You..." Meredith widened her eyes. When she wanted to slap Madeline back, she saw her raising her phone and clicking open a video.

The video was playing the scene from when they were in the cafe. However, the only difference in this video was that it was recorded from Madeline's point of view.

This meant that Madeline had also taken a video that day. She even recorded Meredith during the entire process.

This included her face and her voice. Her malevolent face, when she pointed at Madeline as she threatened and yelled at her, was also captured in the video.

After watching this video, Meredith's pleased grin from a few minutes ago cracked instantly.

Her face was pale. After being at a loss for more than ten seconds, she reached out her hand to snatch the phone away from Madeline.

Madeline dodged away from her easily. There was a cold and confident smile on her charming face. "What do you think you can do with my phone now? I've already uploaded this video before I came in. I think those netizens should know the truth by now."

"What..."

"Those people who cursed and insulted me on Twitter should be doing the same to you at this very moment."

"..."

"Meredith, you didn't expect this, right? Your plan has come back and bitten you in the butt. Are you surprised?"

"..." Meredith's face turned green and red simultaneously. She was extremely embarrassed at this point.

At this moment, notifications blasted from her phone. One after another, trending tweets invaded her entire screen.

When Meredith glanced at the screen, she was livid.

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"Vera Quinn, how dare you plot against me, you b*tch?!" Meredith cracked. Her weak and vulnerable exterior from the video she took was completely gone.

She glowered and gnashed her teeth as she grabbed a fruit knife on the bedside table. She was about to slash the knife across Madeline's face. On one side, Rose was not stopping her at all. She was hoping that Meredith could teach this annoying woman a lesson.

When she saw the knife approaching her, Madeline recalled the two slashes Meredith left on her face back then. That scene resurfaced in her brain like a nightmare in the dark.

She came back to her senses quickly and dodged away from the shiny blade in a haste.

"Stop hiding, you b*tch!" A fire of rage was burning in Meredith's chest. She lifted the fruit knife again. "Let me tell you, Vera Quinn. This is how I disfigured Madeline back then. If you dare to cross me again, I'll let you get a taste of that pain she felt!"

Madeline quickly ran away from her. However, Rose had come over to grab her.

Meredith grinned predatorily with redness in her eyes. Her face was sinister and violent, looking exactly like a blood-thirsty demon when she inhumanely swung the knife down on Madeline...

"Watch out!"

During this life or death situation, Madeline heard a worried voice coming from behind her back.

Jeremy quickly ran in front of her and pulled her into his arms. He protected her with one hand, and with the other, he grabbed Meredith's wrist that was holding the fruit knife.

He raised his piercing and icy gaze to look at Meredith's sinister and horrifying face.

"Do you know what you're doing?" he asked. His tone and attitude had never been so cold before.

Meredith was stunned and Rose was also taken aback. They did not expect Jeremy to appear at this moment.

"J-Jeremy?" Meredith was stupefied. When she was about to explain, her hand was pushed away by Jeremy roughly.

She lost her balance and staggered backward.

She crashed into a cupboard behind her. She reached for the wall to steady herself, but she forgot that she was holding the fruit knife. As a result, the sharp blade slashed across her cheek, and immediately, her flesh was split open.

However, she did not notice it as she was looking at Madeline who was being sheltered in Jeremy's arms in disbelief.

How was that possible?

How was that even possible?

She had to be seeing things!

It was impossible!

Jeremy hated this face the most! This was the face that looked exactly the same as Madeline's!

Even though it was beautiful, in Jeremy's eyes, it was the most hideous face in the world.

Madeline did not expect Jeremy to appear just in time when she was being harmed by Meredith and her mother.

His tight embrace was filled with the warmth that she craved back then. This warmth was enveloping her thin frame right this moment.

"It's fine now. You don't have to be scared," Jeremy whispered gently in Madeline's ear when he detected her fear.

Madeline was taken aback. She could feel Jeremy's warm breath gliding across her cheek. His comforting words were filled with so much gentleness and concern that she had never experienced before.

It seemed that he was truly concerned about her.

"Jeremy!" At this moment, Meredith screamed in pain.

"Jeremy, how can you hold that woman? You told me that I'm the only woman you'll protect in this lifetime!" She shrieked without caring about her image. Her voice was extremely shrill.

Jeremy lifted his head coldly. When he was about to say something, his expression changed when he saw Meredith's face.

Meredith thought Jeremy was feeling sorry for her. When she was about to play the victim, she saw Rose pointing at her face while screaming, "Mer! Y-Your face!"

Meredith looked at Rose in confusion. She reached to touch her face. "What's wrong with my face?"

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Meredith touched her face in horror. When she felt a warm and sticky liquid running down her cheek, her pupils constricted. "Blood! There's so much blood! My face!"

She looked at her bloody palm and screamed. Her face was much paler now that she was losing blood profusely.

Madeline lifted her head and saw the lacerated flesh on Meredith's right cheek. She was surprised, but at the same time, she felt that it was truly ironic. At the sight before her, she smiled.

She did not expect that Meredith would be disfigured one day.

Was this karma?

"Mer, Mer, don't be scared. Jeremy's here. He won't let anything happen to you!" Rose ran up to her to comfort her. At the same time, she did not forget to involve Jeremy in this.

"Jeremy, take Mer to the doctor to bandage her wounds. If not, she'll have a scar on her face. It'll be bad if that happens," Rose said hurriedly, pushing Meredith to Jeremy.

Meredith lifted her tearful eyes to look at Jeremy who was still holding Madeline. "Jeremy, my face. My face... Am I hideous?"

"Jeremy, why are you still here? Mer is bleeding so much. She'll die!" Rose said in exaggeration.

Meredith lifted her head to see Jeremy frowning, looking like he was contemplating something.

However, in the next second, he let go of his arms that were around Madeline. He looked as if he was going to Meredith.

Just then, Madeline let out a low groan.

Jeremy shifted his gaze that was on Meredith to Madeline in the next second.

"What's wrong?"

"Don't mind me, Mr. Whitman. I think I twisted my ankle. You should bring the noble Miss Crawford to bandage her face, just in case she dies from blood loss."

Madeline's words were laced with sarcasm. Rose and Meredith scowled at her, but they did not dare to argue with Madeline at this moment.

"Jeremy, Meredith is looking worse. Hurry up and—"

"You should bring her over first." Jeremy interrupted Rose with a flat tone. Then, he turned around and grabbed Madeline's hand. "I'll take you to the orthopedics."

"..." Meredith and Rose were astonished.

Madeline looked at the mother-daughter duo in awkwardness. "Don't you think this is inappropriate?"

"It'll be even worse if you're hurt in any way," Jeremy answered while placing his arm across Madeline's shoulder. Then, he pulled her into his arms.

"Jeremy! Jeremy, a-are you really going to ignore me? Jeremy..." Meredith was in pain and was frantic.

Madeline curled the corner of her lips into a slight smile. She was over the moon when she thought about Meredith's frustration and agitation.

Back then, how many times did she beg him when he had his back against her? Still, he would always walk away with no regard for her.

Now, the tables had turned. She was not the one suffering anymore.

Rose stomped her feet in anger when she saw Jeremy ignoring Meredith while walking away with Madeline. "Mer, hurry! I'll take you to the emergency department. You can't have a scar on your face no matter what. If not, you'll really lose Jeremy!"

When Meredith heard Rose saying that, she was fuming. However, she could only do what she was told.

"Vera Quinn, keep this in mind, I'll make sure you pay for what you did!" She glared at Madeline's back as she swore. Then, she turned around reluctantly.

"Are you really going to ignore your fiancé, Mr. Whitman? She might have a scar on her face," Madeline deliberately asked him this question.

Jeremy stopped, and there was a thought-provoking glint in his deep eyes. "Compared to her scars, I'm more concerned about whether your leg is hurting right now."

His answer was out of Madeline's expectation.

Her leg was fine. She had only said that to make Jeremy stay.

However, now that he mentioned it, she frowned and nodded. "A little."

There was a hint of worry in Jeremy's eyes after he heard that. In the next second, he circled his arm around Madeline's lithe waist and lifted her off her feet.

Madeline was unprepared and did not see this coming.

However, at this moment, she was already being carried bridal-style by Jeremy.

"You shouldn't be in as much pain now." He gave her an explanation, his voice caressing her ear like a gentle breeze.

Madeline lifted her eyes to look at him in shock. From this angle, she could see Jeremy's resolute and perfect jawline. His side profile was very good-looking despite the coldness in his eyes. However, at this moment, the warmth in his chest was seeping into her skin through his thin shirt. It was scorching and apparent.

However, Madeline did not feel moved nor touched.

She looked at Jeremy's side profile while slowly clenching her fists. She felt a sense of mockery in her heart.

'Jeremy, do you know how long I've been waiting for his hug?'

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'However, you've never given me an ounce of warmth before.

'Do you know how much it hurt when you stabbed me in the heart?

'You have no idea...'

Jeremy brought Madeline to the doctor. After making sure that she was not hurt, he was finally relieved.

Despite Madeline's rejections, Jeremy still insisted on taking her back to the apartment.

Jeremy seemed to feel more at ease when he saw that Felipe was not around.

Madeline decided to kick him out as she was worried that he might notice something. "Mr. Whitman, you should go visit your wife in the hospital."

"I told you, she's not my fiancé anymore," he said coldly. He looked into Madeline's eyes as a weird glint appeared. "Don't call me Mr. Whitman when we meet next time. You can call me by my name."

Madeline looked at him in surprise. When she was about to say something, Jeremy's phone rang.

He looked at the screen and his face quickly fell.

He hung up the phone, but after less than two seconds, it rang again.

This time, he answered it. The room was quiet, so Madeline could clearly hear that it was a woman on the other end of the phone. She sounded frantic as well.

She guessed that it was probably Rose.

"I'll come over. Stop calling," Jeremy replied frigidly. Then, he hung up the phone without hesitating even the slightest.

He looked at Madeline who was leaning against the bed. "Rest well. I'll contact you soon."

Madeline smiled and said profoundly, "I think we'll see each other very soon."

Jeremy looked at her charming face in the light of the setting sun. He was stuck in a daze for about two seconds before turning around.

After he left the room, he subconsciously turned his gaze over to the guest room.

He contemplated for a moment before turning the doorknob gently. The door was not locked. He did not go in and just took a look from outside.

After a while, he curled the corners of his lips slightly. A glint flashed across his eyes before he closed the door and left.

After Madeline heard the sound of the door closing, she took out her phone.

She skimmed through the trending topics on Twitter before clicking into Meredith's account.

Her page was indeed filled with curses and swears.

They were calling Meredith a two-faced b*tch and a pretentious double-sided witch. There were even netizens who berated her for uploading a fake video to create such a fuss.

Madeline was satisfied with the outcome as she looked through the comments with a smile.

'Meredith, do you think I'm still the Madeline who's so easy to take advantage of? You're delusional if you think so!'

...

Jeremy went into the ward after he arrived at the hospital. He saw Meredith sitting on the bed, looking dispirited. Her right cheek was covered with a thick layer of gauze. Her face was pale and her lips were paler. When she saw him coming in, she wailed and buried herself in his chest. "Jeremy!"

Rose was sobbing in exaggeration on one side. "Jeremy, you're finally here! Meredith would be devastated if you didn't show up. The doctor said the injury might leave a scar. What should she do? What should we do? Mer is going to be disfigured! Jeremy, what should—"

"Get out," Jeremy said in annoyance.

Rose was taken aback. "Jeremy, you have to accompany Meredith. Mer's the young madam of the number one richest family in Glendale, after all. If her face is ruined, how will she go out—"

"If you don't get out now, I'll leave," Jeremy said coldly again. Rose trembled uncontrollably. After she saw Meredith eyeing her, she shut her mouth and went out after closing the door behind her.

After Rose left, Meredith started to play the victim again. She held Jeremy tighter in her arms, but in the next second, Jeremy pushed her away.

Meredith began to cry frantically. "Jeremy, please don't leave me. I know I was being headstrong just now, b-but it was Vera who provoked me! She came here to provoke me, saying she'd steal you away from me. That's why I got so mad. I didn't really want to slash her face. I was just scaring her. Please, Jeremy, you have to believe me!" Meredith explained frantically, but she noticed Jeremy looking at her coldly. There was suspicion and disappointment in his eyes that she had never seen before.

Meredith's heartbeat accelerated. She grabbed the corner of Jeremy's shirt, saying, "Jeremy, you believe me, right?"

"I heard everything," Jeremy said suddenly.

The expression on Meredith's face froze. "H-Heard what?"

"Before I came into the room, I heard what you said to Vera."

"..."

"You're the one who destroyed Madeline's face!"

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 271-280

July 27, 2021 by [superadmin](#)

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 271
What?

After hearing what Jeremy said, Meredith was like a deflated balloon. Her knees went weak and she took a step back.

The threats and warnings she said to Vera earlier all appeared in her head immediately. 'Let me tell you, Vera Quinn, this is how I disfigured Madeline back then. If you dare to cross me again, I'll let you have a taste of that pain she felt!'

Meredith's face turned even paler than before while her heart raced furiously.

She had indeed said those words just now.

She was so infuriated by Vera, so her true self came out and she revealed her past misdeeds.

Jeremy looked at the changes in Meredith's eyes and expression. He said in a disappointed tone, "You told me that it was your father Sean who hired someone to slash Madeline's face. I guess that's not the truth. You're the one who did that."

"N-No, that's not it..." Madeline grabbed Jeremy's arm. She shook her head to deny everything. Her eyes were filled with tears at this moment. "I didn't hurt Maddie. I really didn't..."

"I'm terrified of blood. Why would I hurt Maddie with a knife? Maddie was the one who harmed Jack and that's why my dad hired someone to teach her a lesson out of anger. This has nothing to do with me..."

"Jeremy, you have to believe me. You have to believe Linnie..."

Jeremy's brutal intentions were suppressed after she mentioned Linnie. He recalled the relationship he had with her back then.

When Meredith saw that Jeremy's anger had dissipated, she leaned against him aggrievedly. "Jeremy, you have to believe me. I was forced to do so. I don't have a reason to do those immoral things. I lost my cool just now all because of Vera. I was only trying to scare her. I would never hurt her, Jeremy..."

She tried to gain Jeremy's pity, but Jeremy only pushed her hand away coldly. His charming eyes were piercing and icy now.

"You're not the girl I knew back then anymore. I'm so disappointed in you."

His voice was deep and there was a fit of intense anger in it. After he said that, he turned around and left.

Madeline's body turned cold. She ran over and grabbed Jeremy, saying, "Jeremy, don't go! You can't leave me like this! Why are you blaming me? What did I do? I'm only scared to lose you because I love you so much! You don't even want to look at me now because of that Vera Quinn!"

"My face is now ruined because of you. I'll even have a hideous scar from now on. Are you going to abandon me because of this? Do you know how important a woman's face is?"

"Heh." Jeremy chuckled lowly after he heard Meredith's complaints when she was in the midst of her emotional breakdown. "So you know how important a woman's face is as well?"

"..."

"Did you ever think that Maddie would be in pain and also fear disfigurement when you slashed her face?"

"..."

Meredith's expression froze as she speechlessly looked at the man who was questioning her.

Maddie.

He kept on calling her Maddie, but he had not called her Mer lovingly in so long.

That b*tch Madeline was indeed occupying his heart as if her spirit was still alive.

That b*tch!

When Meredith was contemplating while being stuck in a daze, she suddenly felt that her hands were empty.

Jeremy had removed himself from her without hesitation. He was not even looking at her anymore.

Rose had been eavesdropping outside the door. At this moment, the door opened. When she saw Jeremy appear with a terrifying aura around him, she lowered her head and did not dare to say anything. She could only watch on as Jeremy left before going back into the ward.

"Mer," she called out to Meredith anxiously.

Meredith gritted her teeth before pushing everything off the table and cabinet.

"Madeline, you b*tch! You're dead but your damn influence still lingers on!

"One Madeline wasn't enough, and now, there's another Vera Quinn! *Btches! They're all btches!*"

Her eyes were red as she screeched at the air around her.

Rose closed the door of the room quickly. She was worried that people might see Meredith's true face.

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Rose had heard Jeremy and Meredith's conversation earlier, but she did not expect it to get exposed so quickly.

She comforted Meredith, saying, "Mer, you can't admit defeat now. You have to get the position of Mrs. Whitman! Not only is it a symbol of status, but it'll also give you limitless wealth!"

Rose's eyes were filled with greed. There was a hint of savageness in her eyes. "I'll take care of that Vera Quinn for you."

After venting for a while, Meredith touched her wounded face while she gritted her teeth.

"Of course, I won't admit defeat so easily! I'll kill anyone who dares to steal my man away from me!"

Her eyes were filled with venom. Sinister ruses were starting to appear behind her eyes.

"Hmph, Vera Quinn, I'll let my mother teach you a lesson. But it's not you, Mom. It's Eloise!"

...

Jeremy drove away from the hospital and arrived at a location somewhere.

During his drive here, he felt like a puppet with no senses nor thoughts. He drove apathetically while his brain was only filled with what Meredith said just now.

She was the one who ruined Madeline's face.

Heh.

Jeremy was expressionless, but he was smiling sarcastically deep down.

After a while, his limited edition sports car stopped in front of an old apartment.

Jeremy went upstairs and into a unit.

This was Madeline's house before she passed. He had bought it for double the price.

Three years had passed and all traces of her were now gone.

However, as if it was an unhealthy obsession, he was still reluctant to leave this place. He kept everything here intact. Whenever he missed Madeline, he would either go to the cemetery and talk to himself in front of the tombstone, or he would come here—even though he knew that everything he did was futile.

It was too late.

Looking at the empty house, he remembered that this was where he first saw Madeline with the scars on her face.

It was also here where she collapsed onto the floor and desperately pleaded with him. However, he had mocked her for playing the victim to make him pity her. Then, he even threw all of her painkillers into the toilet before ripping apart the gauze that was covering the wound on her face.

'Maddie, it must have hurt a lot, right?

'I, Jeremy Whitman, was so cruel to you.'

He chuckled in self-mockery. Then, he read Madeline's diary again.

He could only find the evidence of Madeline's love for him between the lines of her handwriting. It was only in this way could he find some sense of comfort even if it was temporary or fake.

Jeremy stayed here for the entire day and even spent the night here. He ignored all of the calls he received during this period.

When he was about to leave, he received a call from Whitman Manor.

He thought the old master needed to tell him something. When he answered the call, he heard his mother berating him furiously, "Jeremy, why didn't you answer your phone for the entire day? Why are you ignoring Mer when such a huge thing has happened to her?"

When he heard Meredith's name, he frowned in frustration. He scoffed before saying, "A huge thing?"

"Of course, it's huge! A woman's face is so important!" his mother said without even taking the time to think.

Jeremy chuckled coldly. He did not want to say anything more. When he was about to hang up, his mother said weirdly, "Jeremy, I don't care where you are right now. You have to come back to the manor. We have an 'important guest' here."

Important guest?

It was obvious that his mother was being sarcastic when she said that.

He asked her who it was, and after hearing her answer, Jeremy raised his brows before rushing back to the manor.

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On the way back to the manor, what Jeremy's mother said to him through the phone earlier was still replaying in his head.

Unbeknownst to him, he started to speed up his car and after more than ten minutes, he drove into the manor's garage.

After he got out of the car, he walked straight to the living room. When he was at the door, he saw the face of his dreams. That stunning and alluring face was in his field of vision.

Jeremy stopped in his tracks as his heartbeat sped up.

Madeline lifted her head and saw Jeremy. She smiled bashfully at him, her eyes looking so lively that it was like they were able to speak to him. There were so many emotions in them.

"I thought Felipe was here, but it's just you, Mr. Whitman." Madeline smiled softly.

Jeremy's speeding heart went back to its normal pace at that instant. He narrowed his eyes while maintaining a smile on his lips. "Are you waiting for Felipe?"

"Felipe and I planned to come here together, but he had something to take care of suddenly, so that's why I'm here first." Madeline explained calmly. "It's good that you're here, Mr. Whitman. Felipe and I won't have to inform you again."

"Inform me about what?" Jeremy walked over to Madeline and stared into her eyes.

Her eyes looked into his deep ones confidently. "About our marriage."

Her voice was soft as it drifted into Jeremy's ear and landed on his heart. He felt that her words were extremely heavy for no reason. It was weighing on him so much that he felt it was difficult for him to breathe at this moment.

"You'll give us your blessings, right, Mr. Whitman? He's your uncle, after all." Madeline grinned and looked at Jeremy's face that had turned cold all of a sudden.

"Are you sure you'll be happy marrying a man you don't love?"

Madeline was shocked when she heard Jeremy saying that all of a sudden. However, she smiled calmly.

"Do you think that I'll be happy if I marry someone I love deeply, Mr. Whitman?" she asked him. She spotted the sense of loss in Jeremy's eyes and the smile on her face got even wider. "Based on my understanding, your ex-wife Madeline was so madly in love with you, but what did she get in return? She loved the wrong person. Not only did she not get an ounce of your love, she even lost her life.

"The saddest thing was that you guys were ecstatic when she died. You guys think that it's better now that she's dead."

Madeline enunciated each and every word clearly. She noticed a hint of worry in Jeremy's eyes, then she chuckled sarcastically.

"If that's the case, do you still think marrying someone I love will bring me happiness, Mr. Whitman?"

When Jeremy heard Madeline's question, he looked at her for a moment before parting his lips slightly. However, he could not say one single word.

He just felt that this face was making him feel perturbed. He was having difficulty breathing now.

He recalled Madeline gasping for air while looking like she was about to break the moment before her death. Suddenly, he found that the question he had asked earlier was oddly pathetic.

Not happy.

She was not happy at all.

The biggest misfortune in her life was meeting him and falling in love with him.

"If it's so painful to love someone, then I'd rather be loved instead."

Madeline's voice lingered in Jeremy's ear.

He looked at her while feeling dispirited. He felt as if his heart had been stabbed with a knife. There was no blood, but the invisible pain was spreading across his heart.

"Felipe."

Suddenly, Jeremy heard Madeline calling out to someone behind him.

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He came back to his senses and saw Felipe walking over to him.

Madeline walked past him, and her faint scent lingered in his nostrils. She smelled so sweet and had a unique scent to her.

"Jeremy." When Felipe saw Jeremy, he greeted him naturally.

He was always so poised and refined, looking like a gentleman in his every move.

Jeremy looked at the two of them as they held hands. He just glanced at them coldly.

Madeline looked at Jeremy and turned around to smile at Felipe. "Felipe, let's go in."

"Okay." Felipe smiled softly, holding Madeline's hand as he led her into the living room.

Jeremy's mother was on a call. When she saw Madeline and Felipe walking over hand in hand, she rolled her eyes in contempt before hanging up.

"Oh, Felipe, you're here," Jeremy's mother said in a strange voice. Then, she looked at Madeline from the corner of her eyes. "Say, are you really going to marry this woman?"

Felipe smiled. He was being extremely polite. "As my elder, I hope you can have some respect. The woman you're talking about is my fiancée."

"Hmph." Jeremy's mother scoffed. When she saw Jeremy, she quickly walked over to him. "Jeremy, did you hear that? Are you seeing this? Your uncle is going to marry someone who looks like your ex-wife! How interesting!"

She deliberately spoke in a louder voice so that Old Master Whitman could hear them as he was walking downstairs right at this moment.

"Felipe, it's no wonder you were always so concerned about Madeline every time you came back. You had feelings for her back then, right? So the moment she died, you searched high and low for a woman who looks like her as her replacement. You're really something else."

Jeremy's mother's words made Jeremy recall what happened that night.

Back then, Madeline was indeed close with Felipe. They were so close that he found the two to be a sore sight. Plus, it made him feel uncomfortable.

Thinking about it now, he realized that he had been jealous. He took it to heart when Madeline got too close to another man who was not him. He would feel uncomfortable.

"Old Master, look, what is this? Felipe brought this woman home and is saying he'll marry her seven days later. However, just look at her. She looks the same as that b*tch Madeline. If we let him marry her, it's just going to nauseate me—"

"Shut up!" Old Master Whitman interrupted angrily.

Jeremy's mother shut her mouth and rolled her eyes in frustration.

"I will never agree to this marriage!"

"I didn't come here to ask for your permission. I only came to notify you because you're my relatives," Felipe replied Jeremy's mother in a cool tone.

There was a slight hint of anger on his usually gentle and elegant face.

Madeline smiled. "Felipe, don't be mad. I don't mind what people think. Being able to marry you is the luckiest thing that has ever happened to me."

"No, I'm the luckiest man in the world to be able to marry you." Felipe's long fingers were intertwined with Madeline's slender ones. While looking at her, his beautiful eyes were filled with so much love and gentleness that it made Madeline feel lost.

"Are you guys really going to marry each other?" Old Master Whitman asked all of a sudden. "Are you sure you won't regret this?"

Madeline turned around quickly. She averted Felipe's amorous gaze and looked at the old master. "Of course," she said confidently.

Old Master Whitman frowned. His eyes were glued on Madeline's face and there was worry in his eyes. "Alright, then I agree to it."

"I don't." After the old master said that, Jeremy's opposing voice sounded.

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Everyone's gaze landed on Jeremy who had voiced his opinion all of a sudden.

There was a layer of frost on his handsome face and his eyes looked as piercing as icepicks.

"Jeremy, I'll marry Vera no matter what," Felipe said calmly, but his tone was firm.

"I won't let you guys get married." Jeremy's calm and unhurried answer crashed against him. His tone was even firmer than Felipe's.

Madeline frowned. "What do you mean by this, Mr. Whitman? Who are you to oppose our marriage?"

He pressed his lips together as his icy gaze landed on Madeline's face. His eyes were filled with intense encroachment.

"I won't let you become my aunt because of your face."

His tone was domineering while his expression was cold and certain.

Madeline scoffed. "I can't marry your uncle just because I look like your ex-wife? If that's the case, do you think it's only suitable for me to marry a man who looks like you, Mr. Whitman?"

Jeremy was tongue-tied. He looked straight at her and their eyes met. It felt like sparks would appear whenever their eyes met.

"You're delusional if you think you can marry our Jeremy!" Jeremy's mother jeered arrogantly out of the blue, "In the entire Glendale, only Miss Meredith Montgomery is worthy of our Jeremy! They're going to marry soon! You? Hmph! Women who look like that b*tch Madeline are all bad news."

Jeremy frowned unhappily when he heard his mother's insults. His tone was icy when he spoke, "How many times do I have to tell you? My marriage to the Montgomeris is canceled. I won't marry her anymore!"

His mother was still feeling proud of herself when she heard him. She did not expect to be proved wrong by her son.

Her face was red from embarrassment. Then, she advised him, saying, "Jeremy, I know there are some misunderstandings between you and Mer, but stop throwing tantrums. Mer gave birth to your child, so how can you not marry her? She loves you so much and listens to everything you say. Where else are you going to find such a perfect wife?"

"Do you think she's the only woman who loves me?" Jeremy asked coldly. He could only think of Madeline right now.

He would never meet a woman who loved him as much as her.

She was the only one.

Jeremy's mother was taken aback. She did not know what to say at that moment.

Just then, her phone started ringing.

The moment she answered the call, she heard a woman's frantic yelling from the other end. Madeline recognized it to be Eloise's voice. She was yelling about Meredith.

"Oh no!" Jeremy's mother hung up the phone as her expression changed.
"Jeremy, go to the hospital now! Mer wants to jump off a building!"

Meredith wanted to jump off a building?

Madeline knew that this was merely an act. Meredith had to be doing this for a reason. She was definitely after the position of Mrs. Whitman.

"Jeremy, Mer has been with you for so many years and she even gave birth to Jack. Now, her face was even wounded because of you. You can't just ignore her! If she really jumps, you'll regret this for the rest of your life!"

Regret.

This word penetrated Jeremy's heart like an arrow.

He remembered what Madeline had said to him when she was still alive.

'Jeremy, you'll regret this.'

He did not want to regret this.

Not even the slightest bit.

Maddie.

His heart started aching as he called out Madeline's name. Suddenly, he turned around to leave.

Madeline could clearly see the changes in Jeremy's expression. It was so solemn like he was scared of losing something.

Her heart plunged when she saw him leaving so hurriedly.

'Jeremy, you're still so concerned about her.

'Are you scared that something might happen to her? Is that why your expression has changed?

'Hmph!'

Madeline pressed her pink lips together, and there was a dark tide in her eyes.

Old Master Whitman looked at Madeline pensively at one side. After a while, he sighed and shook his head.

Initially, Felipe wanted to stay with Madeline, but something came up all of a sudden and he needed to leave.

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Madeline came alone to the hospital where Meredith was staying in. There was a huge crowd gathering at the hospital. Everyone was looking at the highest floor of the building.

When she saw this, Madeline looked up as well. She could see a white figure sitting at the railing. Judging from the person's face, it was indeed Meredith.

She immediately took the lift to the roof. She thought Jeremy would be there already, but there was no one else there. Jeremy was nowhere to be seen.

However, he had looked worried just now. Was he not worried about Meredith?

Why else did he run away so hurriedly?

When she was contemplating about that, she heard Eloise bawling and screaming in devastation in front of her. "Mer, don't do this. I'm begging you. Can you please come down?"

Eloise's voice was already hoarse from crying. It was evident how much she was worried about Meredith.

Madeline clenched her fists unconsciously. She looked forward and saw that her birth father, Sean, was there as well. He was holding Eloise, who was wailing sadly, back as he talked to Meredith slowly.

He kept calling her his sweetheart. Each and every word of his was filled with concern and love for Meredith.

Just like Eloise, he was so worried about losing Meredith. He was scared that he would lose this woman who he thought was his precious daughter.

"Jeremy. Is Jeremy not here yet?" At this moment, Meredith spoke.

Her voice was soft, making her seem fragile.

However, in Madeline's eyes, she was just putting on a show.

"Jeremy will be here soon! Mer, you have to wait for Jeremy. Don't do anything stupid!" Eloise told her while crying. She wanted to pull Meredith down, but she did not dare to go near her. She did not want to trigger Meredith.

However, Madeline knew clearly that Meredith wanted so badly for someone to pull her down.

She was just acting, after all.

Rose was crying even more dramatically now. "Mer! Oh, Mer, how can you be so stupid? Why do you want to punish yourself for someone else's mistake?"

Madeline was the one who caused you to be unable to marry Jeremy. Now, this Vera Quinn is eliciting disharmony between you and Jeremy! Why is your life so sad?"

Rose used this opportunity to vilify Madeline. She joined her daughter in putting on an act and cried heavily. "Mer, my sweetheart, even though you're not my daughter, your birth mother will be so sad if you jump down! You're Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery's only biological child!"

Tears streamed down Eloise's face after she heard that. Sean felt his heart tighten as well.

Even though their daughter had not grown up with them, she was still their flesh and blood. No matter what, she was still their precious daughter!

"Mer, my darling..." Eloise cried out as she reached her hand for Meredith.

"Mom..." Meredith turned around as if she had been moved by their pleading. Her face was pale and her eyes were red from crying. She looked so pitiful.

"Mer, darling, come to Mommy, okay?" Eloise inched forward slowly.

It was such a heartwarming scene, but Madeline scoffed before walking forward. At the same time, she said slowly, "Only biological child? Are you sure about that?"

A sarcastic voice sounded out of the blue and these people in front of her were stunned.

Rose, who was in cahoots with Meredith, turned around abruptly. When she saw that it was Vera, she instantly recalled her conversation with Meredith in the ward that day.

Oh no!

That woman had heard them!

Meredith was like a shocked bunny when she saw Madeline. She retracted her hand that had been reaching out to Eloise while feeling disturbed. "Go away! Go away now! I don't want to see you! Go away!"

Eloise and Sean glared at Madeline who had appeared out of nowhere when they saw Meredith's reaction. "What are you doing here? What else do you want to do to my darling child? Get lost! Scram!"

With a smile, Madeline walked up to them regardless of Eloise and Sean's glares that were full of resentment toward her.

"You b*tch! Why are you still here? Will you only be happy if you see Mer dead?" Rose chased Madeline away as well. She was worried that Madeline would expose their conversation that day.

However, Madeline would not leave. She looked at Meredith calmly before looking at Rose in amusement. "Why do you want to chase me away so hurriedly? Are you worried that I'll expose you?"

"..." Rose trembled while Meredith's pupils constricted suddenly. When she wanted to change the topic, she saw Eloise escaping from Sean's grip and charging toward Madeline with intense wrath.

"You evil woman! Not only do you look like Madeline, but what you're doing also shows that you're just as despicable as she was! Are you insisting on bullying my daughter? Do you think she doesn't have parents? As her mother, I'm going to tell you now that she's loved by both of her parents!"

After Eloise said that furiously, she lifted her hand to slap Madeline.

Madeline lifted her hand to grab Eloise's wrist. She looked into her eyes. "Are you sure you want to hit me?" She asked softly. Eloise looked into Madeline's eyes. For some reason, she felt an ache in her heart. She was slightly taken aback.

Looking at Eloise's reaction, Madeline scoffed sarcastically. "I can confidently tell you what I heard this woman say in the hospital the other day. She said your and

Mr. Montgomery's actual biological daughter has been dead since three years ago!"

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After Madeline said that, the air around them froze instantly. The only sound that could be heard was the autumn wind howling on the roof. It was blowing past their faces again and again.

Eloise's expression changed as she looked at Madeline in disbelief. "W-What did you say? What did you just say?"

Sean also strode toward Madeline at this moment. He was looking at her with a questioning gaze. "What nonsense are you spewing? My biological daughter is here. She's well and alive! How can you curse her by saying that she's been dead for three years?!"

Madeline smiled sarcastically before letting go of Eloise's hand. "I'm not cursing your precious daughter. I'm just repeating what was said," she said calmly while pointing at Rose.

"I heard her saying this with my own two ears. She said your daughter has been dead since three years ago."

"What?"

Eloise and Sean looked at Rose in disbelief.

"Nonsense!" Rose denied. Despite feeling frantic, she did not show it. "Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, don't be fooled by this woman. I've never said such things!"

"Vera Quinn, why are you slandering my adoptive mother? What do you want? Are you saying that I'm not my parents' biological daughter? Are you trying to push me to my death by saying that?" Meredith yelled emotionally.

When Rose saw this, she said frantically, "Mer, don't be emotional. Come down now. If anything happens to you, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery will be so upset."

When Eloise and Sean heard that, they looked at Meredith worriedly. On the other hand, Meredith shook her head with a sad and dispirited look on her face. "Mom, Dad, do you believe this woman's words? Do you think I'm not your biological daughter? Is that why you don't care about me anymore? Alright, fine..."

She laughed bitterly while feeling like all hope was lost. "Jeremy is ignoring me and you don't care about me anymore. So why should I keep on living..."

Meredith turned around after she said that. She took a step closer to the edge.

"Mer! No! I believe you! Why wouldn't I believe you and instead believe someone else?" Eloise screamed. Her face had turned pale from fear.

"You silly child! Why wouldn't we care about you? Don't do anything stupid!" Sean yelled to try and stop her. His voice was thick with worry. He was also petrified.

Madeline's heart went cold when she saw Eloise and Sean's reactions.

They would still choose to believe Meredith even after she had told them the truth.

Her pink lips were tugged into a smile as she laughed in self-mockery.

'Maybe it's my face that's making me look so untrustworthy, be it back then or in the present.'

"Vera Quinn, stop inciting disharmony! Get out of here now! If anything happens to my daughter, I'll never forgive you!" Eloise yelled with anger in her eyes, "Scram!"

Madeline looked into Eloise's enraged eyes. Although she was smiling softly, she did not leave and instead, walked closer to Meredith.

"Stop!" Sean roared at her. His tone was strict when he said, "If you dare to trigger my baby, I'll make you regret this!"

After he finished saying that, Madeline stopped. She looked at the pretentious Meredith with her beautiful eyes.

"Meredith, your acting skills are so good. It's such a waste that you didn't go into showbiz."

Meredith widened her red eyes aggrievedly. "Vera, w-what do you mean?"

"Don't you understand what I'm saying?" Madeline scoffed and questioned, "Don't you want to jump? Hurry up. Don't waste our time."

"What did you say, you b*tch?" Rose was the first one to run forward. "Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, look at this woman! She's so evil! She's provoking Mer so that she'll jump!"

"Vera Quinn!" Eloise yanked Madeline's arm furiously. "Vera Quinn, you witch! You're just as cruel as Madeline!"

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"If Madeline is a witch, then what about your precious daughter?" Madeline could not help but snort. "She worked with an outsider to kidnap her own son and pushed the blame to Madeline. Did you forget about that? In order to make Jeremy hate Madeline, she stole someone's bracelet and framed her as the thief. Did you also forget about that? Mrs. Montgomery, just ask yourself, who's the real witch here?"

"You..." Eloise was speechless after she was talked back to like this.

"I didn't. I didn't do those things..." Meredith quibbled while crying. She bit her lip aggrievedly, looking extremely pitiful right now. "Vera Quinn, why do you want to slander me? You've already successfully incited disharmony between me and Jeremy. Plus, you've even disfigured me. Will you only be happy after I'm dead? Alright, I'll fulfill your wishes. I'm going to jump now!"

"No, Mer!"

"Mer!"

Eloise and Sean stopped her frantically. However, Madeline only scoffed in disdain.

"Alright, hurry up. Stop dilly-dallying." Madeline smiled as she looked at the changes in Meredith's expression. "Meredith, jump. What are you waiting for?"

"You..."

"Do you think I'm as stupid as them? Do you think I can't tell that you're just acting? I know you won't let anything happen to yourself. You're just waiting for Jeremy so that you can make demands."

"..."

Meredith did not expect Madeline to know what she was plotting. Her face turned green, then white. After a moment, the corners of her lips twitched.

When Eloise and Sean saw this, they pushed Madeline violently and angrily. "Vera Quinn, how dare you continue provoking Mer? You're inhumane!"

Sean was livid, and he lifted his hand to slap Madeline.

However, at this moment, Madeline saw Meredith eyeing Rose. Then, she started sobbing while shouting, "Dad, Mom, just think of me as an unfilial daughter. I'll see you in my next life!"

"Mer!" In the next second, Rose's screams broke the silence.

Sean's slap did not land. He and Eloise turned around at the same time to look in Meredith's direction. However, they only saw a white cloth floating away.

Meredith had really jumped!

"Mer!" Eloise and Sean let out blood-curdling screams while running over.

When she saw this, Madeline was just worried if Eloise and Sean would fall as well.

After seeing Meredith eyeing Rose earlier, Madeline was sure that this was only a ruse. That woman would not let herself die so easily.

She was very sure.

However, when she was about to take a look for herself, she heard footsteps behind her.

She turned around and saw Jeremy's deep eyes.

Suddenly, Rose rushed in front of Jeremy and sobbed, saying, "Jeremy, you're too late! Meredith jumped! It's all because of this woman! It's all because of Vera Quinn! She's the one who forced her to jump! My Mer! My Meredith!"

Madeline saw Jeremy's eyes darken as his expression changed. "What did you say? Meredith jumped?"

"It's all because of this woman!" Rose pointed at Madeline.

Jeremy looked intensely at Madeline who had a calm expression on her face. Then, he averted his gaze and quickly walked over to where Eloise and Sean were standing.

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"Mer! Meredith! My baby!" Eloise was crying out hysterically. Suddenly, her legs gave out and she collapsed into Sean's arms. She had passed out.

When Madeline saw this, her heart ached.

Eloise was her biological mother, after all. Despite Eloise not liking her, she still hoped that Eloise and Sean would be fine.

However, they were being fooled by Meredith.

Madeline felt that this was hilarious. After gathering her thoughts, she saw Jeremy standing at the spot where Meredith had jumped just now.

He looked below with a grim expression on his face. Two seconds later, he turned around and walked back.

"She only fell on the balcony. I think she'll be fine," Jeremy answered calmly. However, Madeline could see him visibly letting out a sigh of relief.

He was still so concerned about Meredith, after all. He was worried that she would be dead.

However, Madeline had already expected this to happen.

Meredith was well-prepared. She must have surveyed the layout and knew there would be a balcony down there. That was why she was able to jump with no worries.

Despite that, Meredith was still sent to the emergency room.

Eloise had already regained consciousness now. When she found out that Meredith had not fallen from more than 20 floors down, she burst into tears from happiness.

When she saw Jeremy, Eloise charged over to him and complained angrily.

"Jeremy, how long will you continue tormenting my daughter? She gave so much of her youth to you and at the end of the day, you're still trying to hurt her for the sake of such a despicable woman. Do you think Madeline isn't enough so that's why you found Vera? If Mer dies because of this, do you think you'll be able to sleep at night?"

Jeremy listened to Eloise's rants calmly without an expression on his face.

Sleep at night? When had he ever gotten a good night's sleep after Madeline died?

A few seconds later, Jeremy said profoundly, "In order to stop 'tormenting' her, I've called off the marriage."

"What? Are you really calling off your marriage to Mer? Aren't you pushing her to her death once again?"

After she yelled at him, the door of the emergency room opened. Eloise and Sean ran over quickly to ask about Meredith's condition.

The doctor sighed with regret. "There are multiple bone fractures in the patient's body. Her legs are seriously injured. She might even be disabled."

"Disabled?" Eloise's face went white. "What do you mean? She won't be able to walk normally anymore?"

"Don't trigger the patient for the time being. There's a high chance of complete recovery if you take good care of her," said the doctor helplessly.

After Eloise heard that, she clenched her fists. "That Vera Quinn! I'm going to kill her!"

"Mrs. Montgomery, calm down. Mer is more important now!" Rose stopped her. Then, she looked at Jeremy who had an icy expression on his face. "Jeremy, you're our biggest hope for Mer's recovery. She'll definitely recover if you stay with her and take care of her. Jeremy, you still remember how you promised Mer that you'd take care of her when you were kids, right? You promised to take care of her forever."

Jeremy's face turned solemn when Rose mentioned his promise from when they were younger.

Back then, he had longed to fulfill that promise, but the moment Madeline left his life and when he realized he had fallen in love with her, that innocent promise turned into a lock that he could not get rid of. It was weighing down on him.

The next day when Madeline was about to go out, she was approached by a few police officers. They were saying that she had plotted to kill Meredith, so they

needed her to go back with them to the station for investigation. They were being firm with her.

When she recalled the cage that had tormented her so much, she refused to go back.

Even though it had been so many years, Madeline could not forget how she was continuously vilified. She was trapped in that hellish place where she was tortured again and again. She was repeatedly humiliated, and in the end, her child was even taken away from her brutally.

She would never go back to that place again!

Never!

When Madeline was about to be taken away forcefully, a sports car stopped in front of the police car.

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In the next second, Jeremy got out of the car while surrounded by an icy aura.

His face was ice-cold when he saw them grabbing Madeline's hands. He lifted his eyebrow before pulling Madeline to his side and away from the officers.

"Meredith's fall was just an accident. It has nothing to do with her. Please investigate thoroughly before you make an arrest."

His tone was cold while his eyes were narrowed. After that, he grabbed Madeline's shoulder and opened the door of the passenger seat. "Get in."

Compared to the police car, Madeline would much rather get into Jeremy's car.

In just a few seconds, Jeremy had driven her to a quiet and empty suburb.

When she got out of the car, Madeline asked him frankly, "I caused the woman you love the most to fall from a building. Why are you still helping me?"

Jeremy looked at her with a fake smile. "The woman I love the most? Do you know who the woman I love the most is?"

"Not only do I know who it is, but I think the entire Glendale also knows that the woman you love the most is Meredith. On the other hand, the woman you hate the most is your ex-wife, Madeline," Madeline smiled and answered without thinking.

Jeremy lifted his eyebrow after he heard that. He did not say anything more. It was as if he had fallen into deep thought.

Madeline curled the corners of her lips when she saw the silent man. "Thank you for helping me just now, but I think you should go back to take care of the woman you love the most. I think she can't be without you in this lifetime," she said before turning around. However, the moment she stepped away, she was pulled back by her wrist.

The coldness penetrated her skin and enveloped her heart.

Jeremy grabbed Madeline's wrist and walked behind her slowly. "That day, you asked me if you should marry a man who looks like me since you look like my ex-wife. I'm going to answer you now, and the answer is yes."

"..." Madeline turned her head in confusion. Her eyes met his amorous gaze.

"However, there won't be another man who looks like me in this world. So, you can only marry me."

"Jeremy Whitman, do you know what you're talking about?" Madeline asked in surprise.

"Of course, I know," he said with certainty. He had a confident and overbearing smirk on his face. "Vera Quinn, as long as you nod your head, I can treat Lily as my own daughter. I'll help you take care of Felipe too, so you don't have to worry about that. The only thing you need to do is to be my wife."

Madeline's plan was indeed to make Jeremy slowly walk into her trap and make him fall in love with her.

However, she did not expect it to happen so quickly.

Plus, after his torments, she came to a realization that whatever that was obtained easily would not be appreciated.

She thought about this in silence and smiled. "I'm marrying Felipe in five more days. Felipe loves me a lot and he's good to me. Why would I give him up to marry a man who doesn't love me? I'm not crazy."

"You're not. It's me."

His quick answer shocked Madeline once again. She looked into his eyes in disbelief. She felt his grip on her wrist getting tighter. It was as if her heart was being clamped tightly as well.

Jeremy's slender body moved closer to hers, his cold scent enveloping her. "A woman once told me that I'll definitely regret it, and after that, I really regretted it. I was feeling so regretful that I've been losing sleep every night. So, I don't want to repeat the same mistakes again."

Madeline did not understand what he was saying. Who was this woman he was talking about?

Even though she once said the same things to him during the period when she was hurting the most, when had he ever paid attention to what she said?

"Who's the woman you're talking about?" Madeline looked at the pair of narrow eyes in front of her intensely.

Jeremy laughed in self-mockery. "This woman is the woman I love the most in this lifetime."

"Meredith."

"Wrong." He denied straightforwardly. His eyes were glued on Madeline's face.
"It's my ex-wife."

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 281-290

July 27, 2021 by [superadmin](#)

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 281

"Pfft." Madeline burst out laughing. "The woman you love the most is your ex-wife Meredith? Mr. Whitman, this joke isn't funny at all."

Madeline was laughing, but there was a dull ache in her heart.

That bloody wound was still causing her to be in pain without showing any signs of relenting. When she recalled those scenes from the past, there was only blood and tears.

However, what had he said back then? Did he say that he loved her?

If the opposite of love was hate, then he had indeed 'loved' her. He even 'loved' her to death!

When he looked at the sarcastic smile on Madeline's face, Jeremy smiled superficially. "You're right. It's just a joke."

He was laughing at himself, but deep within, his heart was as painful as if it had just been cut by a knife.

It was exactly like a joke. It was so pathetic that he almost did not believe himself.

However, this was already an undeniable truth.

"Well, the joke's over. I should go now," Madeline said in a cold tone. Then, she pulled her hand away from Jeremy's hand without hesitating.

However, when she turned around, Jeremy walked in front of her.

"Do you have anything else to say to me, Mr. Whitman?" Madeline asked calmly.

"I said you can call me by my name when we meet." He looked at her. "You should think about what I said to you after you go back."

He meant their marriage.

Madeline was feeling more and more confused about this man. "Jeremy, why would I marry you? Won't you think about the ex-wife who you despise so much when you look at my face? Won't you feel disgusted? Or perhaps you're a masochist?"

Jeremy raised his eyebrow slightly. "Just think of me as a masochist, then," he said while opening the door of the passenger seat.

"It's too secluded here. I'll drive you home."

Madeline looked at the unreadable smile on the man's handsome face. Then, she turned around and got into the car.

When she got back to the empty apartment, she searched online for her wedding photo with Jeremy six years ago.

Looking at the photo of both of them, her mind started to wander. Her quiet heart started to beat faster for no reason.

Now that she was reminiscing, those memories felt like they had just happened yesterday.

He was wearing a suit while looking arrogant and elegant at the same time. He was a man who was like no other.

She had held his hand as they walked into the church. There was a happy grin on her face.

However, that smile never again appeared on her face after that day.

Six years. In those six years, he brought her only pain and more pain after she married him.

However, what was he saying now?

The woman he loved the most was her?

"Hmph." Madeline scoffed as her heart tightened.

'Jeremy, it's fine if you didn't love me when I was alive. Now that I'm dead, you still want to crack jokes to make fun of me.

'The woman you've loved this entire time is that evil two-faced b*tch Madeline!

'Even though you're aware of all the heinous things she has done to me in the past, you merely called off your marriage to her. Do you think this is enough to lessen the hurt you caused me?

"No.

'The punishment you and Meredith are experiencing today is far from enough!'

It was dusk when Madeline arrived at the kindergarten.

After she picked Lillian up, Madeline looked into the kindergarten subconsciously. She looked for Jackson among the other tiny figures. However, after looking around, she could not find him.

Madeline turned around dispiritedly. When she was about to leave, she saw Eloise walking out with Jackson.

Eloise had spotted Madeline as well. Anger rose on her elegant and graceful face.

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However, since Jackson was around, Eloise had to control her anger.

"Vera." Jackson lifted his head to greet Vera. There was a rare smile on his clean and smooth face.

Madeline smiled in return. "Jack, how are you?"

When Eloise saw this, her face fell. "Jack, what did you call her? Do you know her? How would you know this evil woman?"

"Vera isn't a bad person." Jackson knitted his eyebrows together. The smile on his face disappeared gradually as he became down and dispirited again.

"She's a bad person! She's the one who caused your mother to be hospitalized!" Eloise's tone became awful. She glared at Madeline while gritting her teeth. "Vera Quinn, stay away from my family. I'll get back at you for what you've done to Mer!"

"Pretty Grandma, why are you screaming at my mommy?" Lillian said in a voice as soft as cotton.

Eloise finally spotted the little girl who looked about two to three years old next to Madeline.

She wanted to teach Madeline a lesson, but when she saw Lillian's big eyes and doll-like face, she was stunned.

She looked so much like her.

She looked exactly like Meredith when she gave birth to her.

"What are you looking at, Mrs. Montgomery?" Madeline smiled and asked.

Eloise came back to her senses and pointed at Lillian. There was suspicion in her eyes as she asked, "Is this your daughter?"

Madeline nodded. "Is there something wrong?"

"..." The expression in Eloise's eyes changed. She inspected Madeline's face profoundly for a while. Then, she scoffed. "Hmph, Vera Quinn, so you have a daughter yourself? Have you ever thought about how heartbroken you'd be if your daughter gets hurt by someone? Do you really think my daughter has no mother who loves her?"

At the end of the day, she was feeling sorry for Meredith again.

Madeline smiled. "I won't allow anyone to hurt my daughter, but Mrs. Montgomery, are you sure you really love your daughter?"

"What do you mean?" Eloise asked in dissatisfaction. "Are you trying to incite disharmony between me and Mer again?"

Madeline looked at Eloise calmly. "What I said on the roof is true. Rose did say so herself that your biological daughter with Mr. Montgomery has been dead since three years ago."

"Rubbish!" Eloise did not believe what she said.

Madeline looked at the change in Eloise's expression as her heart ached dully. However, she smiled calmly. "I'm not spewing rubbish. Time will give you the answer. However, I'm pretty curious. Did anyone around you die three years ago?"

"..." Eloise wanted to continue yelling at Madeline, but when she heard that, she felt her heart throbbing.

She immediately thought of Madeline.

Madeline had died three years ago!

"Lily, say goodbye to Jack. We're going home now."

"Okay," Lillian replied obediently and waved at Jackson.

Madeline looked at Jackson gently. He had been looking at her the entire time. She felt reluctant. "Jack, I'll see you soon."

"Vera." After Madeline turned around, Jackson called out her name and escaped from Eloise's grip. Then, he ran in front of her. "This is for you."

Jackson handed her a simple crystal bracelet. The pristine crystals reflected brilliant rays under the sunlight. "I made this during art class. I hope you can always wear it."

Madeline looked at Jackson's expectant gaze dispiritedly. She felt waves and waves of pain in her heart.

"Jack..."

"Jack, what are you saying to that evil woman? Come back here to Granny and we'll go home now." Eloise walked over hurriedly and grabbed Jackson before leaving. She did not even look at Madeline.

Madeline held Lillian's hand and looked at the car that was driving away. She held the bracelet even tighter in her hand.

After they went home, Madeline wore the bracelet around her wrist carefully. It was such a simple bracelet, but she felt that it was so beautiful.

She hated Meredith and Jeremy, but aside from the fondness she felt for Jackson, she also felt sadness.

After she sought her revenge from Meredith and Jeremy, would that child hate her?

The next morning, Madeline woke up early. She wanted to buy a present for Jackson in return for the bracelet he gave her. However, when she walked out of her residential area, a car stopped in front of her abruptly.

Two men in black rushed in front of her and took out a handkerchief to cover her mouth and nose. Madeline struggled for a while before losing consciousness.

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Daniel had found out where Madeline was staying. When he got there to see how she was doing, he did not expect to see this scene in front of him.

"Maddie!"

His heart started racing. He ignored everything and slammed on the accelerator to follow the car that had brought Madeline away.

However, the car was driving too fast and was even running red lights without a care. Daniel did not want to lose the car, so he ignored the red lights as well. However, at this moment, there were two students in uniform crossing the road. Daniel slammed the brakes immediately.

He managed to prevent an accident from happening, but he also lost the car.

He thought about what Madeline would have to face later and immediately called the police. Then, he pulled some strings and got the camera footage.

He had lost her once before three years ago. This time, he would not allow anything to happen to her again.

'Maddie, you'll be okay.

'I'll definitely get you back safely this time.'

...

Hospital.

There were steel plates on Meredith's legs and they were wrapped with a heavy layer of gauze. However, she could walk out of the toilet as if nothing had happened to her.

Rose scanned the area around the ward before closing the door. "Mer, those people called me just now. They said they did everything according to your

commands," she said with a lowered voice. There was an obvious evil grin on her face.

Meredith scoffed arrogantly before leaning against the bed lazily. "I thought she was all that, but look, she has still fallen into my hands. I can do anything I want to her."

"Of course. How can that woman compare to my sweetheart?" Rose looked pleased with herself. She looked outside of the room cautiously again. She was afraid someone would come in at this moment. "Mer, what are you planning to do next?"

Meredith smirked sinisterly. She lifted her eyebrow and said, "What do you think is the worst punishment for a woman?"

"Of course, it's..." Rose stopped in the middle of her sentence as an equally sinister smile appeared on her face. "Yes, you should do that! Let those men torture her to death! Who told her to cross you?"

"Hmph! Not only do I want her to be humiliated, but I also want her to kneel in front of me and beg for my mercy." Meredith clenched her fists. "I would've married Jeremy by now if it isn't for that b*tch! Since she wants to go against me so badly, then I'll just give her a push."

"She deserves this!" Rose rolled her eyes and frowned all of a sudden. "Mer, say, why is that woman so insistent on going against you? Do you think she's actually that b*tch Madeline? Do you think she's not dead and she's back for revenge?"

"Hmph, how is that possible?" Meredith scoffed and denied. "If that dimwit Madeline is as brainy as Vera, she wouldn't have died so soon. However, there's no difference either way. They will both have the same ending."

Rose listened with a pleased grin on her face. Then, it became a greedy smirk. "Don't forget to get a few tens of millions from them so that we can split it between us. That woman should have some money."

She reminded her before looking at the outside of the room once more.

At this moment, she saw a tall figure walking toward them from the window. She changed her expression. "Jeremy is here," Rose said. Meredith immediately wiped that sinister grin off her face. She lay on the bed as if she no longer had any hope in life and started to tear up.

Rose sat back down next to the bed and forced tears into her eyes. "Mer, don't be like this. Jeremy won't abandon you no matter what happens to you. Don't do stupid things, Mer..."

Before Jeremy could reach the door, he heard Rose's loud wails.

He frowned and pushed the door to go in.

"Mer, Mer..." Rose bawled pretentiously. When she saw Jeremy, she got up and ran up to him. Her face was filled with pain and despair as she said, "Jeremy, you're finally here to visit Mer. Hurry up and comfort her. Her face is ruined and now even her legs are crippled. I don't know how to comfort her anymore..."

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"Leave us alone." Jeremy interrupted Rose coldly.

Staring at the silent Meredith, Rose wiped a fake tear off the corner of her eye. "Then I'll trust you to take good care of Meredith. She can't take any more shocks."

Then, she turned around and left, closing the door behind her.

Jeremy walked toward Meredith who lay quietly on the bed.

Putting on a pitiful act, Meredith shut her eyes and tilted her face to the side, away from Jeremy.

"I've already gotten the best doctor there is to treat you. Your legs will heal soon," he spoke calmly, "If you don't want to see me, then I shall take my leave."

Hearing that, Meredith quickly turned her head back around and reached out to grab Jeremy's hand.

"Don't go, Jeremy!"

She stared lovingly at the man as large droplets of tears she had forced out began to trickle out sadly.

"You must hate me a lot, don't you, Jeremy? You don't even want to see me anymore, right?" Her tone was weak and her complexion was pale, exaggerating her sickly state. "I can't live without you, Jeremy. Don't you know? I can give everything, even my life, if it means that I'll have you. I'd rather die than lose you!"

Tears began to stream down her heart-clenching and pitiful expression. However, Jeremy's face remained stoic as he turned a blind eye to her act.

Meredith sobbed, sorrowful tears falling in large droplets from her eyes. "I know I did something wrong and disappointed you, Jeremy, but we have so much history. Won't you give me another chance?"

"Chance?" Jeremy finally reacted. The man chuckled humorlessly, and his tone was crisp when he said, "Did anyone give Madeline a chance?"

"..." Meredith was stunned, never expecting Jeremy to ask such a question.

Her heart skipped an inexplicable beat as she lifted her reddened eyes to meet Jeremy's cold and dark ones.

"Does this mean you don't want me anymore?" Meredith pouted as her voice wobbled. "You were the one who promised to marry me back then, Jeremy. I—"

"If you want a marriage, I can give you one," Jeremy spoke emotionlessly.

Meredith was elated. "You mean it? Oh, Jeremy!"

"I mean it, just like how I'll mean the divorce right after."

"..." Meredith's smile froze. "Why, Jeremy?"

"Meeting you back then was like a blessing, I meant every 'I like you' and promise I made. Yet it took losing her for me to realize that those words were merely said out of infatuation during a relationship that was more like puppy love. It took losing her for me to realize what true love felt like."

"..." The blood drained from Meredith's face, further paling it.

The expression of unbearable pain Meredith wore had Jeremy slightly reluctant as he remembered the scenes from his youth. However, his eyes quickly turned cold again when his mind helped him recall everything Madeline had gone through.

His gaze stared straight into Meredith, the depths of his eyes acting like a whirlpool that made Meredith's breathing become hitched. "So yes, we can get married. But I don't love you, so you'll only be in pain."

"No! That can't be!" Refusal swam in Meredith's round eyes. "You've never loved another woman, Jeremy! I'm the one you love! You're just sorry for what you did to Madeline. You don't love her. You don't! I won't have it!"

Meredith wailed heart-wrenchingly while strengthening her grip on Jeremy's hand. She was about to say more when Jeremy's phone rang.

The caller ID showed that it was from an unknown number.

While Jeremy had never been one to answer calls from unknown numbers, his desire to rid himself of Meredith was greater.

Picking up the phone, he was met with Daniel's anxious and heavily accusatory tone. "It's you again, isn't it, Jeremy Whitman? How much more do you want to torture Madeline? Tell me where you took her!"

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Jeremy furrowed his sharp brows. "What did you say?"

"When will you stop, Jeremy? Until Madeline dies? Is loving you so much of a sin? Tell me, where did you bring her?" Firing the questions at rapid speed, Daniel's worry and anxiousness became apparent and real.

Still, Madeline was already dead. It was the truth no matter how much he refused to face it.

Soon enough, he thought of Vera Quinn.

Vera was the only possible reason why Daniel would believe that Madeline was still alive.

Did something happen to Vera?

His heart sunk as a feeling of unease began to bubble within him.

Without another thought, Jeremy broke out of Meredith's grip and turned around.

Meredith was stunned for two whole seconds and by the time she looked up, Jeremy had already walked out of the hospital ward. "Jeremy! Jeremy, where are you going?"

She asked frantically, but Jeremy did not even spare her a glance from the corner of his eye, let alone turn around.

Rose, who had been waiting outside the door, immediately pushed it open and entered only to watch Jeremy leave.

Then, the next thing she saw was Meredith knocking a cup of water from the nightstand to the floor in fury.

Rose immediately ran over. "What's wrong, Meredith? What did you and Jeremy talk about?"

"Hmph! What's wrong?" Meredith clenched her fists, anger and indignance flaring in her reddened eyes. "He just told me he's been in love with Madeline all his life! He likes that b*tch!"

"..." Shocked, Rose prodded carefully and asked, "You mean Jeremy told you he loved the Madeline he met when they were young, right? That's alright since Jeremy thinks that you're that girl anyway!"

Rather than quenching Meredith's anger, Rose's words had only added fuel to the flames.

She understood what Jeremy meant too well.

Jeremy only ever had Madeline in his heart, be it when they were young or now.

He liked her so much to the point of fancying a woman who looked like her!

Her, on the other hand? She never had a place in his heart!

Everything nice he had given her was merely the product of Jeremy fulfilling the promises he once made to Madeline!

Meredith smiled sinisterly when she remembered how Jeremy had rushed to leave moments ago. "Give me your phone."

Rose quickly handed her phone to her, a greedy smile growing on her face. "Remember to tell the men to tighten the ties, Meredith. So tight that the liquid gets wrung out of her. Let's see how she'll keep acting arrogant in front of us after that!"

The corners of Meredith's lips quirked upward. "As if I'd stop at wringing the liquid out of her. I'll make sure she'll never see the sun tomorrow!"

...

After leaving the hospital, Jeremy took the initiative to contact Daniel.

The two agreed on a place to meet. When he saw Jeremy, Daniel immediately rushed toward the other to hold the man by his collar.

"How can you even call yourself a man, Jeremy Whitman? I understand that you don't like Madeline anymore, but why do you have to hurt and torture her? Why did Madeline have to fall for such a b*stard like you?!"

Jeremy spoke indifferently in the face of Daniel's furious accusations, "Let go."

His tone was cold as his icy eyes stared at Daniel's infuriated expression.

"You played a part in the souring of my and Madeline's relationship back then, Daniel."

Daniel scoffed humorously as he let go of Jeremy's collar. "You call yourself a man, Jeremy? You have the guts to do it yet not the guts to admit it?"

Jeremy straightened his shirt lazily until his collar was completely void of wrinkles. Then, he stared and shot Daniel a smile, one that was more sarcastic than the one Daniel gave him.

"Have the guts to do but not the guts to admit, huh?"

The corner of his lips slowly tugged into a smirk.

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"What about you, then? Did you forget the tacos you and my wife were so lovingly enjoying by the roadside, Daniel? You even sent her home afterward. How kind of you. Did you perhaps forget about the kiss in broad daylight?"

Jeremy interrogated chillingly, the smile on his face long gone by now and was instead replaced with the frost that forced one to divert their gaze.

"I'm telling you, Daniel. Madeline will always be my woman. Even in death, her ashes belong to me! Who do you think you are? You've been nothing more than a delusional homewrecker who tried to steal a woman from her husband."

At that, Daniel chuckled.

"A homewrecker? So you do know that word. Perhaps Madeline would not have been framed time and time again by that homewrecker Meredith had you not turned a blind eye every time! You were an accomplice!"

An emotion rippled through Jeremy's calm features.

He could not deny that he had indeed played the role of the executioner when it came to the harm Madeline had been put through.

He had been the cause of at least half the wounds she carried and the blood she bled.

Jeremy frowned. "I didn't come here to talk to you about this, Daniel."

Daniel realized that their conversation had trailed off-topic as well. He suspiciously looked at Jeremy. "Are you really not the one who kidnapped Madeline?"

"She's not Madeline." Jeremy emphasized.

"Are you still trying to lie to me?" Daniel stood his ground. "I refuse to believe that there would be two people who share the same appearance. You must've brainwashed Madeline!"

"Huh." Jeremy chuckled lowly. His gaze was suddenly washed over with unending loneliness. "It'd be nice if you were right. At least then, she'd still be alive."

...

After a long sleep, Madeline awoke blearily.

Blinking her eyes open, Madeline realized that both her hands and legs were tied up. She was currently locked somewhere dark.

The only source of light she had was from the small rectangular window on the wall in front of her. With how the sky looked at this moment, she deduced it to be evening already.

Right then, the door 'creaked' open and a ray of light shone inside. Madeline quickly closed her eyes, pretending to still be unconscious.

Two men strolled inside. One of them stopped in front of Madeline and roughly pinched her delicate chin.

"Tsk. What a pretty lady. We're going to have so much fun playing with her later!"

"How about we have a taste test?"

"Yes! I can't wait anymore!"

After reaching an agreement, the two men's eyes shone.

One of them placed a hand on Madeline's clothes and began to take her jacket off.

"Hey, hey, hey. What are you two doing?"

Someone stopped the duo just as Madeline was about to struggle.

"The b*tch just called and said she'll be here in a few minutes. She said she wants to watch us play with this woman and film us doing it. Save some strength and don't touch the chick just yet."

"Fck! *That btch* sure knows how to have fun!" exclaimed the man who had a hand on Madeline's jacket. The two followed the other man out and locked the door behind them.

Madeline opened her eyes and slowly sat up. After forcefully calming herself, she took a good look at her surroundings. All sorts of cardboard boxes littered the room and glass shards were scattered around the ground below the window.

Shuffling over, Madeleine grabbed a large piece of glass with her hands and began to work on the rope behind her.

Her hands began to bleed from the rope before the rope could give.

What were such wounds to her in the face of the torment she had endured before?

Biting through the pain, Madeline finally cut through the rope around her hands and began to work on the rope around her feet.

Staring at the only small window in front of her and the messy boxes that were littered all over the room, an escape plan formed in Madeline's mind.

Alas, right at that moment, footsteps began to sound from outside the door...

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Madeline's heart raced and she was nervous.

From the sound, the men had already reached the door. Madeline had no other options. She needed to act now.

Bracing through the pain of her bleeding hands, Madeline moved an abandoned chair.

The men outside were already tinkling with the lock. After taking a rock from the ground, Madeline stepped on the chair.

"F*ck! Didn't you open the door just now? How did you lose the key? Look for it, now!" An angry voice rang out from outside the door.

Hearing them, Madeline realized that this was a great opportunity for her.

Staring at the broken window in front of her, she raised the rock to hit it.

Crash!

The glass shattered instantly with a crisp crack.

The people by the door immediately fell silent for a few seconds before someone roared. "F*ck! The chick couldn't have run off, could she?"

"What? She ran off?" A woman's infuriated voice drifted over, followed by an order. "Kick the door down! The two of you, look for her outside. She couldn't have gone far!"

With that, the room door was quickly opened with force.

When they ran in, Meredith and the two men were met with the sight of a bundle of ropes on the ground.

"Vera Quinn!" Meredith clenched her teeth. Lifting her head, she found the small window with its glass broken and its remnants clinging to a small piece of cloth. "I can't believe she actually ran off! Go, run after her! Either you find her, or I'll kill you!"

"Let's go! We've got to find her, quick!" The thugs immediately chased after the loose woman cooperatively.

Meredith kicked the pile of rope and ran out in humiliation.

The surroundings grew quiet.

Slowly, Madeline poked her head out of the pile of junk. Her onyx orbs surveyed the room before her gaze fell on Meredith who stood impatiently by the side.

"I was right. It was you, after all, Meredith."

Madeline was hardly shocked.

She took a deep breath and was glad that she had made the smart choice.

Having already died once, she refused to let anyone hurt her again—especially Meredith.

Although, to escape would pose a certain difficulty since Meredith was still waiting outside.

She did not have her phone on her either, so contacting someone was also out of the question.

Lowering her eyes to think, Madeline's gaze fell on the crystal bracelet around her hand and felt the worry in her heart calm considerably.

Smiling softly, Madeline caressed the bracelet. Jackson's appearance soon surfaced in her mind.

She could not imagine why such an obedient child like Jackson would have such a horrible mother like Madeline.

Not to mention how the child looked nothing like Meredith. He did look like Jeremy, though. His aura and the appearance of his brows were a replica of his father's.

Grumble, grumble.

Madeline's stomach began to rumble.

She was kidnapped the moment she left the house before she had the chance to eat anything. Then, they had drugged her with chloroform. Her mind was still foggy and drowsy.

She had to find a way out soon since the chance of getting found was still high by hiding here.

...

With the help of a few connections, Jeremy found that the vehicle used to kidnap Meredith had run several red lights. Cameras showed it driving into an alleyway, but that was also the last known location of it.

He rushed over immediately. The vehicle had indeed been parked there, but it was also empty now. Jeremy found nothing suspicious about the surroundings.

They had evidently moved Madeline to a secondary location.

The vehicle was a stolen one, thus there were no links to the kidnapper's identities.

The sky began to darken and Jeremy had yet to find where Vera was. He was beginning to feel frustrated.

Jeremy found it impossible to force himself not to worry, not when Vera looked just like Madeline.

Jeremy no longer wished to see sadness or hurt flash through that face.

He wanted her to be safe.

Following the pavement, Jeremy tried his best to seek even the littlest clue that would point him to Madeline's location, all as his heart continued to beat erratically.

With every passing minute, Jeremy's worry grew.

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Right at that moment, an anonymous text appeared on his phone. 'West Waste Paper Factory. She's there. Save her.'

Jeremy's eyes shone. He immediately tried to call the number, but it could not connect.

With no time to worry or suspect, Jeremy turned the car around and sped toward the location on the text.

Night fell and Madeline was forced to stay in the same place.

The dark room's lights brightened and she could see Meredith still waiting in the same spot.

Soon after, the men returned empty-handed.

Of course, they had never stopped to think that Madeline was still inside the room and that the cloth was merely a ploy to divert their attention.

The play was a success.

"Useless! All of you!" Meredith was infuriated, pointing at the men as she scolded. Then, she left, only to be stopped by the leader who had a scar on his face.

"Sure, she ran off, but we also did work for you today. Pay up."

Meredith scoffed and crossed her arms in all her spoiled rich girl fashion. "You lost the woman and you still want me to pay you? Be grateful that I haven't taken your life! You useless piece of trash!"

She spared them a belittling eye-roll. No more than two steps later, she was held back by two men.

Furious, Meredith turned around to go on a rampage but was instead gifted with a heavy slap across the side of her face. The man with a scar held her by both her cheeks and glared Meredith's arrogance away.

"What do you think you're doing? Let go of me! Do you have any idea who I am? |—"

"Shut up, you b*tch! I don't care who you are. We just want the money!" The man with a scar gifted Madeline another slap.

Meredith screamed in pain. "Not the face! Anywhere but the face!" she yelled. The wound on her face had yet to be healed and was still wrapped in bandages. One could only imagine how much a slap across her face would hurt.

Such pain was still fresh in Madeline's mind.

"You just want money, right? I have money! I'll give it to you! Just let go of me first." Meredith struggled against their hold, her tone turning into a frantic one.

The scarred man replied with a wretched smile. "Too late!"

"Wh-What do you want?" Meredith was starting to feel afraid.

"What do we want?" The man with a scar pinched Meredith by the chin. "We took the job thinking we'd get to touch and be paid. Instead, what we get is you being difficult and the person running away. So tell me, shouldn't you repay us somehow?"

The words placed Meredith in a few seconds of stunned stupor before she ultimately gave an arrogant smile. "You want me to spend the night with you? Hah! Have you seen yourself? What makes you think trash like you would have the right to sleep with me? Have you any idea who my fiancé is? He's Glendale's—"

Rip! The men began to tear Meredith's clothing before she could even finish speaking. "You b*tch! I'd play along if I were you. I'll make you pay the price if you continue being difficult!"

"Ah!"

Meredith shrieked as they dragged her to the floor.

Raising a fist, Madeline was about to step forward with the mind to stop them. However, she hesitated when she remembered the things Meredith had done to her.

She would have been the one in Meredith's place instead had she not thought of a plan to save herself.

Meredith had this coming for her, did she not?

Perhaps this was karma.

"What a sl*t. You say you don't want it, but you sure don't act like it," the scarred man spoke wretchedly.

Madeline had indeed heard Meredith fighting back, but her tone changed somewhere in the middle into something more akin to pleasure.

Madeline found herself feeling sick in the face of Meredith's enjoyment.

Not that she was surprised. Meredith had always been a philanderous one. Her private life was a complete mess when she was a student.

Madeline could not help but laugh at the thought that Jeremy had been loving such a woman all these years.

'Look, Jeremy Whitman. This is your goddess of purity.

'What a blind man you are.'

Madeline could not help but raise her arms over her ears in disgust when she heard Meredith moan. When her hands were hovering over her ears, Madeline was shocked to find a rat dash by her feet.

Startled, Madeline instinctively moved out of the way only to fall onto the ground as her legs cramped up due to squatting for a long period of time. The cardboard boxes beside her fell with.

All lewd sounds came to a halt at the same time as several pairs of eyes stared into the small room.

"Did I hear something?"

"F*ck! Has that chick been inside all along? She didn't run off at all!"

"Now we're playing! Two of you, go in and search!"

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The two thugs immediately ran to the darkened room, groping around for there was no source of light to guide their way. Right as they were about to reach for their phones, they saw a black shadow dash past them from the wall behind.

The two quickly turned their heads back. Using the lapse in time, Madeline threw the chair in her hand at them before turning around and running outside.

The thugs reflexively held their arms out to brace themselves. "F*ck! The chick really is here!"

"Catch her!"

Knowing that it was now pointless to keep on hiding, Madeline decided that she would not sit and wait for them to find her. Using their blindspots against them, Madeline ran out just as they entered the room.

However, there was no foolproof way to prevent her from being seen. After exiting the darkened room, Madeline was met with a flushed and unclothed Meredith as well as two other thugs with unkempt clothes.

Madeline felt a wave of disgust hit her at the sight.

"Vera Quinn?!" Meredith pointed in mortification as she watched Madeline run out of the darkened room. "I can't believe you've been hiding inside this entire time!"

"Tsk. I've got to say that she's smart. She got us fooled." The scarred man stared at Madeline with excitement.

Not wishing to dwell and waste time, Madeline began to run toward the gates not too far away.

“Don’t let her get away!” Meredith roared, clenching her jaw.

She could not believe that she had been played!

Meredith would not have had to sleep with such ugly ruffians if not for Vera! Not to mention how she would still have to pay them after letting them have their way with her!

Although, she quite enjoyed it, considering she had not fooled around with other men ever since she got together with Jeremy. Jeremy had not touched her at all even after this whole time, so Meredith was thirsty for action.

Hearing the footsteps behind her drawing close, Madeline summoned up all her strength to dash over to the gates that were right in front of her.

Just as she was about to step through the gates, Madeline felt a muscled arm holding her roughly in place.

“That’s enough running for you!” A thug tugged at her harshly.

“Let go!” Meredith quirked a defined brow as a dangerous glint appeared in her eyes.

“Let go? You wish! We’ll let you leave after we’ve had our fun with you!”

“Disgusting!” Madeline yelled. Remembering the three self-defense tactics Felipe had previously taught her, she quickly turned around to elbow the thug in the abdomen.

“Ow!” Not expecting Madeline to do such a thing, the thug’s grip loosened as he yelled in pain.

The three other thugs were dazed as they watched the scene unfurl. No more than two seconds after, the man with a scar on his face gave his subordinates the order to catch Madeline.

As much as Madeline refused to back down, the fact that she had yet eaten anything coupled with the effects of the chloroform hindered the strength in her limbs and even gave her a headache.

Watching the two men run toward her, she took the chance to extend her leg to trip him. The sight of a comrade falling had the other stunned before he quickly reached out for the drugged spray. He then aimed it at Madeline.

"Stop moving! Or I'll have you know what it feels to be drugged!" The thug threatened.

Madeline refused to lose consciousness again, for only while conscious could she fight back.

Meredith was still in shock. She never expected Vera to know self-defense.

She was indeed smarter than that piece of trash Madeline.

Not that it mattered.

Not when she was obediently not moving right now.

The corners of Meredith's lips tilted sinisterly. "Everything you tried on me just now, I want you to do double on the woman!"

"Look at this woman's face. It'd be a shame if you went easy on such a gorgeous face. Don't hold back, boys!"

With that, wicked smirks grew on the four thugs' faces as they slowly walked toward Madeline.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 290
"Have fun, Vera Quinn! They're not bad!"

"Have you no shame, Meredith Crawford?"

"Hahaha... Maybe if you begged, I might have thought about letting you go. Too bad though, if you're going to be so stubborn, then you can just die!" Meredith's eyes hardened as an evil smile appeared on her bandaged face.

Madeline refused to allow Meredith to hurt her anymore, especially not before she took revenge for all Meredith did to her back then.

Watching the four men approaching her, Madeline slowly raised her fists.

She would fight to the death before she let herself fall into the hands of these men.

When her eyes fell on a wooden stick by the wall, she dashed to pick it up before anyone could stop her.

"Oh? What a feisty one. I like it." The scarred man smiled wretchedly with a hand rubbing his chin as he stared disapprovingly at the wooden stick in Madeline's hand. "I'd stop fighting back if I were you, beautiful, lest you suffer unnecessary beatings for your misbehavior!"

Madeline walked toward the scarred man with a mocking smile gracing her alluring features. "The one you should be worried about is yourself!"

"Hahaha..." The scarred man roared with laughter. Ignoring Madeline's threat, the three other thugs joined in.

Right then, Madeline raised her foot and kicked the scarred man between his legs!

"Ow!" The scarred man wailed! Clutching his manhood, the man rolled around the floor in agony. "B*tch! I want this chick destroyed! Make her pay!"

"Yes, Boss!" The thugs complied. To prevent further mishaps, one of them took out the chloroform spray and aimed it to Madeline's face.

Madeline ended up breathing some of it in before she could stop herself. Its chemical scent immediately plunged her into a dizzying state.

Madeline quickly held her breath, but she had already begun to see stars in her vision. The few wretched men's smiles split into many and each was coming at her while surrounding her tightly.

Madeline felt her legs give. Even after using the stick to hold herself up, she could not block out the abominable laughter from around her.

"Go on! Run! Why aren't you running, huh?"

"Hahaha..."

"I'll make you pay! Take off her clothes!"

Madeline was slowly losing her grip on her consciousness, but the words had her balling her fists and swinging the stick at any man who dared approach her. However, she fell limply on the ground the next second.

"Don't touch me!"

While Madeline's breaths began to falter, her spirit did not.

In a haze, she watched the men reach out to her while Meredith sat, casually smiling as she watched not too far away.

'Meredith Crawford, you killed my child, then pushed me into life-threatening danger time and time again. I swear that if I die today, I'll drag you with me to hell!'

Hatred burned red in her chest, strong enough that it gave Madeline the newfound strength to stand up again determinedly.

Meredith was stunned to see Madeline stand, but she did not think the other had the strength to fight back anyway.

The men could not wait any longer. Impatiently, they pulled Madeline by her arm when she stood and began to forcefully remove her clothes.

Two strong beams of light suddenly shone straight at them right as they got rid of her jacket. The rays of light blinded them and forced them to close their eyes.

Within the car sat Jeremy who could blatantly see how the men had surrounded Vera. Her outfit had been partially shed, leaving her bare shoulders out in the open.

Jeremy pursed his thin lips into a cold line as his fingers gripped the steering wheel. Unbridled flames immediately swarmed his chest!

Stepping hard on the accelerator, he aimed the car precisely to one of the men who refused to let Madeline go. The man flew backward upon impact and Jeremy quickly alighted the car. Fury and dominance oozed off the man as he kicked the other two thugs who held onto Madeline with one leg.

No longer held up, Madeline immediately lost her balance and fell limply.

Jeremy felt his heart sink as he reached out frightfully, pulling Madeline safely into his arms. Relief flashed in his eyes when he felt the warmth of her body against his. "It'll be alright, Madeline. It'll be okay. I've got you now."

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 291-300

July 27, 2021 by [superadmin](#)

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 291 Madeline's head felt muddled under the influence of the drug. She vaguely thought she had heard a voice by her ear, calling her Madeline and telling her that it was going to be alright.

Madeline struggled to open her eyes just so she could see who it was, but her eyelids seemed to grow heavier by the second. Instinctively, she curled toward the man who refused to let her go. Perhaps because he gave her a sense of security.

This might have been the first time Madeline felt what it meant to be protected.

All she had been subjected to these past few years were nothing less of torture. Every time she wished someone would help her up, all she received was more pain.

It had gotten to the point where she had given up on hoping because her heart was tired from all the disappointment.

Right now, she finally understood what it felt like to have someone supporting her back and it was very warm...

Jeremy felt the person in his arms lean deeper into his embrace, her hands slowly sliding up to rest around his neck to hold herself in place.

Jeremy's thoughts snapped back to reality. Lowering his gaze to stare at the woman in his arms, Jeremy could not help but be reminded of Madeline Crawford who he had lost long ago.

"How are you feeling, Vera?" he asked. Despite knowing very well that she was not Madeline, her appearance had Jeremy finding it impossible not to care about her.

Madeline's brows furrowed "Dizzy..."

"I'm bringing you to the hospital now!" Jeremy immediately carried her to the car.

"Jeremy!"

He was surprised to hear Meredith's voice come from the factory behind.

Jeremy halted and turned around in confusion only to be met with the sight of Meredith kneeling on the floor with tears streaming freely down her face. Her clothes were a mess as she pointed her finger at the thugs he had dealt with. "Jeremy! These men forced themselves on me! You have to stand up for me, Jeremy! It hurts, I don't want to live anymore!"

Chupse.

Jeremy felt the thread of his sanity snap as he furrowed his sharp brows.

His memory provided him an image of the pure and innocent Linnie from his youth.

Regardless of how certain Jeremy was that he had never once loved Meredith in all their years together, his heart still refused to believe that she, as memory served, was anything but pure and innocent—untainted.

How could such a thing occur now?

After receiving a report, the police arrived in no time.

The four thugs were apprehended while Madeline and Meredith were both admitted into the hospital.

Both Sean and Eloise rushed to the hospital when they got wind that something had happened to Meredith. Eloise sobbed into Sean's arms when she was told that Meredith had been taken advantage of by four different men.

"How could this happen? Wasn't Meredith supposed to be resting in the hospital? How could she suddenly... Sean! Why must our daughter suffer such a harsh fate?"

"It's all my fault. I should've kept a better eye on Meredith." Rose blamed herself while she mused internally, 'What on earth had happened?'

'Didn't Meredith go to record a video of Vera getting taken advantage of? How did she end up being the victim?'

"Where's Jeremy? Why isn't he here looking after Meredith?" Eloise huffed as she looked around the hospital room.

"I heard that Vera Quinn also got admitted. Jeremy must've gone to see her." Rose sighed sadly and wiped off her tears as if she was extremely sad. She pressed on, adding oil to the fuel by saying, "Meredith's here suffering yet Jeremy has gone to see that witch!"

"This is absurd!" Eloise exclaimed, immediately turning around to ask the nurse which room Madeline was resting in...

Within the quiet hospital ward stood Jeremy as he watched impassively as Madeline slumbered off.

He felt his heart clench at the raw memory of her almost being taken advantage of mere moments ago.

Taking a tentative step toward Madeline, he slowly reached out his hand.

His warm fingertips fell on her brows on their own accord. She looked exactly like her, from the curve of her eye to the delicate bridge of her nose to her cherry pink lips. She was breathtakingly beautiful.

Still, this was not the woman on his marriage certificate.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 292
Bending his finger, Jeremy was about to pull his hand back when the decisive words of Ava and Daniel echoed in his head.

'She is Maddie!

'I refuse to believe that there are two people in this world who would like so alike!'

How could they be so sure? Unless it was because they saw some sort of identifying mark?

Identifying mark?

Jeremy was reminded of the mole above Madeline's left chest.

Jeremy remembered how Vera's grip on the towel had tightened when she walked out of the bathroom the time she had stayed the night for Jackson.

Had she perhaps done so not out of embarrassment but out of fear of him realizing something?

Jeremy's heart rate sped up at the thought. Staring at Madeline who was still deeply asleep, one of his fingers fell on the button of her hospital gown.

The first, second, and third buttons were unclasped in quick succession.

Click. The ward door burst open when Jeremy's hand was still on Madeline's gown.

"What are you doing, Jeremy?" Felipe walked into the room. Seeing Jeremy's hand on Madeline's clothes, he walked up to tuck the blanket over Madeline's shoulders.

Jeremy took his hand back as his deep, cold, and inquisitive gaze met with Felipe's.

"How did you manage to move my wife overseas back then?"

Felipe smiled calmly. "What are you talking about, Jeremy? You can't possibly still think that Vera is Madeline, can you?"

Jeremy pursed his thin lips, opting not to answer.

Felipe chuckled faintly and sighed. "The dead cannot be brought back alive, Jeremy, nor do I have the ability to revive a dead person. Madeline's death pains me as well, but perhaps, death is more of a relief to her."

Jeremy's eyes dulled, but he chuckled coldly. 'Relief?'

"Am I wrong? She gave her passion and love, waited for you her entire life, yet what did you give back in return? Did you ever care for her? No. In fact, you never even stopped to see her for who she was."

Jeremy felt a coldness washing over him at Felipe's words.

"You only hope that Vera is Madeline, Jeremy, because you know you've blamed her for things she didn't do. You're guilty, so you hope to make it up to her. In your eyes, Vera is merely a vessel for you to make peace with the guilt inside you."

"Shut up!" Jeremy interrupted icily, his chest heaving.

He no longer wanted to remember how he had hurt Madeline in the past, for every time he did, even breathing and the fact that he was alive felt like a sin.

She had loved him her entire life, even until her dying breath.

Yet what had he given her in return? Nothing but endless torture.

"I'm going to get Vera her prescriptions. Don't do anything you shouldn't." Felipe reminded on a heavy note before he turned around and left.

Outside the door, Felipe's thin lips curled subtly as he watched Jeremy stand soullessly by the bed.

'There was no such thing as a pill of regret, Jeremy. A love too late is worth nothing. You don't deserve Madeline anymore.'

The unconscious Madeline began to dream. It was a scene from her youth when she and Jeremy had first met by the seaside. The sea breeze was salty, but the air was sweet.

Hand in hand they ran without a care in the world. Oh, how pure and easy their life used to be.

Perhaps she had gotten hurt then, and in her wound buried a thorn. Every time they met again, the thorn would start to hurt her. The pain only worsened until she got to the point where she started praying for death...

Madeline furrowed her defined brows as the dreamscape began to shift, bringing her back to the most painful memory from three years ago. Her hands reflexively gripped the bedsheets, and she began to mumble while sleepwalking.

"Why, Jez? Why won't you just believe me..."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 293
For a moment, Jeremy thought he heard someone calling the name 'Jez'. This thought snapped him back to reality as his confused gaze landed on Madeline.

He watched her pretty brows crease and her cherry blossom lips part as if she was sleep talking.

"Why..."

Madeline's brows furrowed deeper at the sudden question.

'Why?

'Did she just say why?'

Starting at the look of distress on Madeline's features, Jeremy leaned over to hear her better.

"Why won't you believe..."

Bang!

Just as Jeremy was about to lean his face closer to Madeline's ear, the ward door was pushed open with a loud bang.

He was interrupted right before he could hear Madeline's entire sentence.

His sharp brows were scrunched as Jeremy lifted his gaze that was filled with extreme displeasure.

Eloise barged into the room in a huff. "How can you be here waiting by this woman's bed lovingly while my daughter is still in a coma because of you, Jeremy Whitman? Not only that, but I can't believe you kissed her too! What do you take Meredith for?"

Kiss her?

Jeremy stared coldly at Eloise, thinking that she had seen him lean forward toward Vera and misunderstood the scene.

The dignified and proud Jeremy met Eloise's fuming gaze before he parted his thin sexy lips in a casual reply. "Yeah, I kissed her. So what?"

Eloise's expression darkened. "How could you say such a thing, Jeremy? Meredith's—"

"Meredith and I are no longer engaged." Jeremy's words were frosty and distaste became apparent in his peach blossom eyes. "How many times must I repeat myself before you accept the fact?"

"You..." Eloise felt the fury consume its way to her chest. "How could you be so heartless, Jeremy? Meredith's been with you for so many years. You're the only one she has ever wanted. How could you dump her for a witch who looks just like Madeline Crawford? Do you even have a guilty conscience, Jeremy?"

"Enough!" Jeremy suddenly yelled, startling Eloise to a halt.

Jeremy's attractive features were currently graced with a splash of fury and his eyes were covered with frost. "I refuse to allow anyone to slander her again."

"Her?" Eloise rolled her eyes hilariously at Madeline who was still deeply asleep, thinking that Jeremy was referring to Vera Quinn. "Hmph. The Montgomeries will never forgive you if you hurt Meredith, Jeremy. Nor will we forgive this witch!"

With that said, Eloise left. Her infuriated words carried the promise of a threat and the dignified aura of a rich missus.

However, Jeremy did not seem fazed at all by her threat. The Montgomeries may be one of Glendale's four major rich families, but they did not hold a candle to the Whitmans.

Not to mention, since when had anyone managed to threaten Jeremy Whitman? Jeremy was afraid of no one.

If anything, Jeremy's biggest fear would be the moment blood trickled out of Madeline's mouth as she lay lifelessly in his arms...

He initially wanted to listen to Madeline sleep talking, but she seemed to have stopped talking after Eloise's interruption.

After staring at Madeline's quiet appearance for a few seconds, Jeremy turned and left as well.

Only after the doors were closed did Madeline dare to blink open her eyes.

When Eloise barged in earlier, it had shocked her awake.

While pretending to still be asleep, Madeline listened in to every word of hatred Eloise had for who she was before and who she was now.

The corners of her lips quirked self-deprecatingly as her eyes burned and reddened.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 294
The previously blurry memories from right before she succumbed to darkness finally cleared, and she remembered how Jeremy had suddenly appeared to save her in time.

She remembered how he had held her tightly and comforted her as well as how she had leaned into his embrace from how safe he made her feel...

Madeline's heart began to race, thumping a familiar beat in her chest.

She bit her lip and clenched her fists.

'No. How could I possibly fall for him all over again?

'I hate him!

'The love within me died with every push toward the deep end he forced me to take.

'It's like how drowning survivors would never yearn for the sea again.

'But I promise I'll let you know how it feels to be suffocated, Jeremy.'

...

Eloise returned to Meredith's hospital room where Jeremy arrived shortly after.

Eloise seemed proud of herself at Jeremy's arrival, thinking that her words must have gotten through to him.

"Took you long enough to start worrying about Meredith." Eloise's tone was cold.

"Meredith has gone through too much, Jeremy. I can't believe she got... taken advantage of by four different men. Stay by her side, Jeremy. I'm scared that she might take her life lightly because this burden is too much for her to handle..." Rose wiped a tear sorrowfully, playing the part of a broken-hearted mother.

Jeremy frowned, directing the frost in his gaze to Rose.

Amid her fake crying, Rose averted her gaze immediately when they met Jeremy's suspicious ones.

"I thought you were watching Meredith this entire time? How did she end up at the waste paper factory in the west?"

"I went to get her some water, but Meredith was gone when I returned," Rose stuttered to explain.

"I thought her legs were fractured? How could she suddenly walk again?"

"It... Someone must've planned to take Meredith away!" Rose lied. "It must be Vera. She must've told someone to kidnap Meredith!"

Jeremy's gaze hardened. "What evidence do you have to support your claim that Vera did it? I suggest you watch your words before you baselessly accuse others."

"..." Rose was left speechless. In the face of Jeremy's icy gaze, Rose felt beads of cold sweat form from all the pressure she was feeling.

"I'll definitely find the evidence to prove that it was her!" Eloise suddenly proclaimed, "Only she would hurt Meredith in such a ruthless way!"

Jeremy's sharp brows frowned at her words. Just as he parted his lips to speak, a nurse exited the room. "She's awake, but her emotions are rather unstable. Try not to upset her."

"Meredith," Eloise exclaimed heart-wrenchingly, distress apparent on her features.

She pushed the door to enter only to be held back by Rose. "I think the person Meredith wants to see the most now is Jeremy, Mrs. Montgomery. I'm sure you have a lot to say to her, Jeremy. We should let them spend some time together first!"

Eloise agreed.

Sparing the inside of the room a worried glance, she turned to exhort Jeremy. "Go in and comfort Meredith, alright? Don't hurt her anymore!"

Ignoring Eloise, Jeremy pushed open the door and walked inside.

The VIP room was very spacious. Upon entering, Jeremy realized that the bed was empty and Meredith was nowhere to be found.

He lifted his eyes to look in the direction of the balcony but suddenly heard movement in the bathroom.

Turning around, Jeremy walked over to the bathroom. Its door was wide open. The sound of water gushing from the showerhead met his ears just as his eyes fell on Meredith.

Jeremy felt a strong physical manifestation of disgust at the sight of Meredith that very moment. He spun around and averted his gaze.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 295
To be fair, Madeline was the only woman he had ever seen naked.

Jeremy remembered being completely wasted the two times he had gotten Meredith 'pregnant'. It was only from Meredith's words the following morning that he came to know they had slept together.

Yet right now, he found himself repulsed by the vague silhouette of Meredith in the shower.

"Sob, sob... Why, sob..." Meredith's sorrowful wails sounded from inside.

At that, Jeremy grabbed the bedsheets and walked into the bathroom with his gaze lowered, wrapping them around Meredith.

"Come out."

Pulling her out of the bathroom, he realized that Meredith's legs were completely fine.

Displeasure swam in his cold eyes as anger began to brew between his brows.

"Jeremy!" Meredith walked over as she dove into Jeremy's chest, her arms clinging around him like an octopus.

"Why, Jeremy? Why did something like this happen to me? They took turns torturing me. It hurts. Why me? I feel so disgusting, I feel so dirty! Sob..."

"You don't want me anymore, do you, Jeremy? Not after this. I remember how you told me I was the most adorable and innocent girl you've met. But your Linnie's tainted now..."

Jeremy's fingertips bent instinctively at Meredith using the nickname 'Linnie'.

His Linnie.

He should have let her go the moment he fell for Madeline.

So why? Why did he find himself caring so much whenever he heard that nickname?

He was well aware that he felt nothing for Meredith at all.

Jeremy frowned deeply at the internal conflict.

Jeremy's lack of reaction had Meredith pushing herself away from his chest and running out the bathroom to carry out her plan. Taking a fruit knife, she held it over her wrist.

"What are you doing?" Jeremy frowned. "Put the knife down."

Meredith stared tearily at Jeremy and shook her head. "You must think I'm disgusting now, Jeremy. You won't want to marry me anymore. My life's ruined and my face won't look the same. The man I love doesn't want me either. What's the point of living anymore?"

"I love you, Jeremy. Perhaps our next life would treat us better than this..."

Having feigned sorrow as she spoke her lines, the corners of Meredith's lips quirked upward as she placed pressure on the fruit knife.

Jeremy took large steps toward her and snatched the knife from her hands.

"Why won't you let me die, Jeremy? Just let me die!" Meredith fought for the knife, acting extremely upset.

The blade of the fruit knife cut into the back of Jeremy's hand as they fought over it, and red liquid began to flow quickly from his wound.

Meredith's complexion paled. "Jeremy! Oh my God, I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to!" She apologized frantically.

Jeremy calmly stared at his wound before averting his eyes that flared coldly at Meredith. "You're the one who got people to kidnap Vera, right?"

Meredith's hand immediately halted just before she could press the emergency button. Her expression froze as she turned to look at Jeremy. "What are you saying, Jeremy? Why would I do such a thing?"

"Wouldn't you?"

"Of course not!" Meredith lied through her teeth. "Unless you don't believe me, Jeremy? Don't you trust your Linnie?"

"Trust?" Jeremy's thin lips curled into an ironic smile just as the ice in his eyes thickened. "How am I supposed to believe you when you're standing here with no issues?"

"..." Meredith's pupils contracted as she frantically went to hold Jeremy's arm. His gaze became furious. "I didn't mean to lie to you, Jeremy! My legs did actually get injured, it's just not that severe. The doctor was the one who exaggerated it. That has nothing to do with me..."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 296
Despite doing her best to explain herself, Jeremy's eyes were filled with nothing but disappointment and doubt.

"Jeremy..."

"You're nothing like how you used to be when we were young." Jeremy scoffed.
"To the point that I can't help but think you're not the girl I met when I was young."

Meredith's pupils shrunk nervously at his words. "No way! I am your Linnie, Jeremy!"

"Linnie." Jeremy stared thoughtfully at Meredith as he rolled the name off his tongue before pulling his arm back. "I'll look closer into the case. You'd better hope it doesn't have anything to do with you."

"..." Meredith was tongue-tied as she stood rooted in place. She merely watched on as Jeremy turned and left. She clenched her jaw and stomped her leg in frustration.

Jeremy could never find out her involvement in this, no matter what!

...

Two days later, Madeline signed the papers for her discharge before she made a beeline for Meredith's room.

Upon reaching the door, she heard Eloise's soft words of comfort for Meredith. Eloise's motherly love was nothing short of doting and loving, causing Madeline's heart to clench painfully as she took it all in.

Her mother was defending such an evil monster.

Suddenly getting wind of Eloise excusing herself, Madeline turned to hide behind a corner. It was until she made sure that Eloise had walked far enough that she slowly made her way into Meredith's room.

Meredith's expression fell instantly at the sight of Madeline, disappointed that it was not Eloise.

"Vera Quinn!"

"In the flesh." Madeline lifted the corners of her lips lazily as she entered the room. "What's this? You're alone? Here I thought Jeremy would be with you. I wouldn't have dropped by otherwise."

"..." The corners of Meredith's lips twitched. "Watch your words, Vera. Who do you think you are to call Jeremy by his name? What are you trying to imply here?"

"Nothing much. I wanted to see Jeremy, so I came over."

"You..."

"Tsk. Couldn't believe it, could you, Meredith Crawford? That you ended up falling into the trap you set for me. Would you describe it as a hilarious or a horrible turn of events?"

Madeline smirked, her noble-looking face sweeping over Meredith's darkening expression.

"That's how Madeline Crawford died last time, right? In your hands? But I do hope you keep in mind that I'm not Madeline. I won't lie still as you have your way and torture me. I'd pull back on those abominable methods of yours if I were you, Meredith. You're no match for me."

"Shut up, you b*tch!" She had hit Meredith's sore spot as the woman grabbed the cup of water and threw it at Madeline in mortification.

Madeline evaded it smoothly.

However, what Meredith did not account for was Jeremy to appear at that moment!

He had just walked to the door when the cup hit his frame. Glass shards flew upon contact and missed his face by a hair.

"Jeremy!" Meredith exclaimed in shock, the blood draining from her face.

Madeline immediately leaned toward Jeremy in shock. "You're here, Jeremy. I almost thought I wouldn't have survived to see you again."

She called his name intimately, her tone a newfound degree of delicate as she lifted her alluring orbs to meet the man's slightly shocked gaze.

In contrast to Jeremy, Meredith's eyes were blown wide in shock. "Vera Quinn! What did you just call my fiancé? Why are you looking at my fiancé like that?"

"Jeremy told me to call him that." Madeline smiled innocently.

"What?" Stunned, Meredith's eyes widened.

Madeline curled her arm around Jeremy's shoulder mirthfully, her eyes sparkling. "Perhaps you should explain it to Miss Crawford over here, Jeremy. Everything I said is the truth. Oh, and how you also said that you're willing to have me as your wife should I say yes, right?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 297
A smile bloomed on Madeline's face as she looked at Jeremy, her words infuriating Meredith to the point that veins had begun to pop on her forehead.

"Don't you dare think of coming between me and Jeremy, Vera Quinn! I'm the only woman Jeremy loves, so why would he get married to you?"

With that, Meredith got off the bed while feeling distressed and ran toward Jeremy, tears pooling in her eyes in a show of how delicate she was.

"She's lying, right, Jeremy? Tell me she's lying."

"She's not." Jeremy did not hesitate to answer and it left Meredith gaping with wide eyes.

Madeline curled her lips in satisfaction. "Who knows what would've happened had you not saved me, Jeremy. Are you free today? I'd like to thank you."

"I'm free," he replied gently, turning to Madeline. "Have you fully recovered?"

"Yeah." Madeline broke into a smile before turning to look meaningfully at Meredith. "I'll have to thank you, Miss Crawford. I would have never known just how much Jeremy cares for me had it not been for the distressing situation you put me in."

Meredith flushed in shame. Seeing Jeremy's brows furrowing, she began to cry and change the subject. "Why? Why must all of you hurt me? What did I do? Do I have to die before you're willing to stop?"

Wailing, she reached out to push Madeline away before running out.

Jeremy reached out to hold Madeline by the waist as she appeared to have lost her footing.

Madeline found herself inadvertently falling into Jeremy's embrace. His cool cologne tickled her nose, disturbing the steady pattern of her heartbeat and breathing.

Quickly steadying herself, she pulled herself out of Jeremy's hold and stared in the direction where Meredith had run to. "Aren't you going chase after her? What if she jumps off the building again..."

Jeremy interrupted with a light scoff before Madeline was done speaking. "If she's truly suicidal, something would've occurred the last time she tried to jump."

Madeline was shocked by his reply.

Was he implying that he had seen through Meredith's act?

"I thought you said you wanted to thank me? Let's go." Jeremy turned around.

Madeline stayed deep in thought for a few more seconds before following after.

Madeline treated Jeremy to a meal at one of Glendale's most luxurious restaurants.

Then, he sent her to the lobby of her apartment when they were done.

Jeremy grabbed Madeline's wrist as he watched her unclasp the seatbelt, ready to alight.

"Mr. Whitman?" Madeline turned around and watched the man confusedly.

"Wasn't it Jeremy? Since when did we go back to Mr. Whitman?" His thin lips parted to whisper alluringly by her ear. His casual smile was tinged with a smudge of mirth that graced his attractive features.

Madeline broke into a kind smile. "Very well then, Jeremy. Is there anything else?"

"Do you know what you were implying with the words you told Meredith Crawford?" he asked, an indescribable look swimming in his eyes.

Madeline blinked softly. "I was merely telling the truth, but I apologize if I've made you and your lover uncomfortable, Mr. Whitman."

"I don't want your apology." Jeremy tugged, pulling Madeline before him.

Caught off guard, Madeline found herself mere inches from Jeremy's deep eyes. Their breaths were mingling.

"I want you to marry me, Vera."

"..."

Madeline felt her heart skip a beat at his words.

She never expected herself to fall for his words.

Perhaps to hate a person, you had to feel for them too.

The corner of Madeline's lips tugged into an ironic smile as she rejected the man. "Blame fate, Mr. Whitman. You already have your dear Meredith, while I am to be Felipe's bride," she replied faintly, furrowing her defined brows. Her expression was tinged with loss.

"I'm grateful that my parents have gifted me with such an appearance, or you would never have given me the light of day, Mr. Whitman. Even if you hate this appearance with all your heart."

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 298
Staring into Jeremy's deep and complex eyes, Madeline pulled her arm back before alighting the car decisively.

Her lips were tugged upward in a carefree manner when she sensed Jeremy's eyes following her out.

'Have you finally seen Meredith's true and ugly nature now, Jeremy?

'Alas, it's too late now.

'So late that the wounds I bear may never properly heal. You may wish to use the person I am now to comfort the guilt in your heart, so allow me to push you to your demise.'

...

Jeremy turned his car around after he watched Madeline's retreating figure slowly vanish from sight.

He bought a bouquet of 88 roses and made his way to the cemetery.

There was so much he wanted to say, but now that he was standing in front of Madeline's tombstone, he swallowed them all back.

After a long while, he only muttered, "Perhaps I'll bring her to meet you should the opportunity arrive. I'm sure you'll be surprised to find that there's someone who looks just like you on earth."

His gaze was meaningful as he stared at the name on the stone. The warm rays of the autumn sun enveloped him, yet it could never chase away the shadows over one specific corner of his heart.

After returning, Jeremy was determined to find out the truth behind Vera's kidnapping.

The four thugs held nothing back and they all admitted that Meredith was the true culprit behind the incident.

They also admitted that they each had their fun with Meredith. The four of them stated that Meredith had volunteered.

Another strong physical sense of disgust and nausea rose when Jeremy heard the confession.

She had volunteered?

He found it difficult to believe or accept the results of his investigation.

Meredith had been the first girl he fell for and the only one he kept deep within his heart as if she was a secret.

Now that truth after truth was exposed about how horrible Meredith was, Jeremy was flabbergasted and found it impossible to believe her any longer.

Was this still the Linnie he had met on the beach all those years ago?

She had changed too much.

Jeremy received another call from Mrs. Whitman, telling him to visit Meredith.

She hung up before he could even reply.

While he had technically investigated the case, there was still something left untouched.

Who was the one who sent him the address? That person had pinpointed Vera's location so exactly and told Jeremy to go save her.

When he followed that trail, he came up empty-handed.

Jeremy returned to the villa only to be met with his and Madeline's wedding photo that was supposed to be hung above his bed but had now been thrown haphazardly by the entrance. An angry storm immediately brewed within him, darkening his attractive features.

He took large steps up the stairs to the bedroom.

He had never allowed anyone to enter the room ever since Madeline's death. Even the cleaning of it was done personally by him.

Yet at that moment, not only was the room door open, but even laughter and sounds of chit-chatting could be heard from inside.

His fury grew with every step he took since he saw the sight at the entrance. Upon entering the bedroom, he was met with the sight of Meredith lying on his and Madeline's bed. The last piece of clean space he had left for Madeline was now completely tarnished.

"You're back, Jeremy." Meredith smiled gently at him.

Suppressing the anger that was already bubbling over, Jeremy parted his thin lips. "Who let you in here?"

Every word of his was ice cold and Meredith felt her heart jump at each of them. Frantic, she spared a glance at the bathroom. "Jeremy, I—"

"Me! I was the one who let Meredith in. You don't like it? Then come at me instead!"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 299
A voice sounded from the bathroom. The person inside was strongly defending Meredith.

Jeremy's frigid gaze swept over like an icy storm. "You're letting her live here?"

"What's wrong with Meredith living here? She's your fiancée, and you two even have Jack. The three of you are a family! What's wrong with a family living together?"

Mrs. Whitman stated confidently, her attitude growing more uncontrollable. She was completely ignorant of the change in Jeremy's expression.

"After what Meredith has gone through, it's your duty as her fiancé to comfort and console her. You're not to spend all your time with that witch!"

Mrs. Whitman patted Meredith's shoulder caringly as she spoke, her expression hardening as she looked at Jeremy.

"I know that you like to have your own opinions, Jeremy, but you have to listen to me this time. I'm your mother! Distance yourself from that woman, Vera Quinn. She's nothing but bad news. There's no way she didn't play a part in Meredith getting hurt this time!"

"Did you take the photo down?" Jeremy parted his lips to inquire coldly.

Both Meredith and Mrs. Whitman were taken aback before the latter fearlessly replied, "So what if I got someone to take it down? That b*tch already died long ago, so why are you still hanging her photo in the house? Looking at it makes me want to vomit! Hang yours and Meredith's if you want a wedding photo hung up so badly!"

Mrs. Whitman crossed her arms, not noticing that a swirl of cold air had begun to surge around her.

"I've already told someone to clean up the things in the room. Everything to do with that b*tch has already been thrown away!"

At that, Jeremy immediately turned around and walked to the closet.

Opening the doors to it, he found that the few pieces of clothing Madeline had worn when she was still alive were all replaced with Meredith's branded ones.

His grip on the closet's handles tightened as veins popped out on his fair arm. A blizzard instantly began to swirl in his eyes as his pupils dilated. Darkness was consuming his irises.

His mother's voice rang out from behind.

"Oh, and Meredith will be staying here from now on. I'll tell the press that the two of you have already gotten married, so you'd better make sure that the witch knows what's good for her and f*cks off!"

Bang!

Jeremy slammed the closet door, giving both Meredith and his mother a jolt. The two almost jumped at the sound.

"She's not the one who needs to f*ck off." Jeremy's sharp tone pierced into Mrs. Whitman and Meredith's eardrums like icicles.

On the basis of being Jeremy's mother, Mrs. Whitman spoke up in displeasure after a few moments. "What are you saying, Jeremy? What are you trying to imply? I am your mother—"

"You will have the people you called bring everything you threw back if you still want to continue being the mother of Jeremy Whitman. Or you can give up the possibility of me calling you my mom ever again."

"..."

Mrs. Whitman was stunned and her eyes were filled with disbelief. It was only then that she realized Jeremy's gaze was piercing and frost was oozing out in rays. His eyes were dark and all-consuming as if he was one moment away from gouging her heart out of her chest!

Losing all the confidence she once had, she stammered as her entire expression screamed how frantic and lost she felt, "Jer-Jeremy, I'm only doing this for your own good. Don't you see how traumatic this has been for Meredith—"

"You will have everything back the way it was before I return home tonight, or you'll bear the consequences." Jeremy was not interested in what Mrs. Whitman had to say. He turned around and left, leaving Mrs. Whitman and Meredith staring at each other with confusion on their faces.

Jeremy sped off, the fury within him no longer suppressible.

He called Vera while on the road.

He demanded bossily the moment the call connected. "I'm agitated, so come spend time with me. I'm reaching your apartment block in a moment."

He hung up before Madeline had the chance to reject him, then he turned his phone off.

The latter was mainly so that Madeline would not have the chance to reject him.

Jeremy arrived at the lobby of Madeline's apartment. His eyes fell on her, and he felt the flames of fury within him immediately going docile.

Her appearance gave him the illusion that Madeline was still alive and that was very therapeutic—even if the voice inside his mind was clearly reminding him that Madeline was already gone.

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 300
Madeline got in, and the car sped to April Hill.

The autumn sun was setting over the horizon as a salty breeze blew about from the sea. It was a taste of the past, but as little as the camphor tree had changed, it was no longer the same.

Madeline had hated April Hill ever since the last time Jeremy brought Meredith over.

She could still remember the words Meredith told Jeremy, how she had described their first meeting that was so similar to hers with Jeremy.

Was it a coincidence, or was this another prank fate liked to pull?

Pondering quietly, she twisted her head to find Jeremy opening a bottle of red wine.

"What's the cause of your distraught? To think that you would drive so far, perhaps this is a place you hold dear in your heart?"

Madeline walked toward him, intentionally speaking in a confused tone.

"Could it be that this was where you and Meredith got together?"

The bottle opened with a pop just as Madeline's voice fell.

Jeremy lifted his gaze to meet Madeline's swirling orbs. The corner of his lips tugged seductively, tinted with charm and allure under the orange hues of the sunset sky.

"Would you be able to remain nonchalant and happy when someone throws out the things you hold dear?"

"Things you hold dear?" Madeline looked at Jeremy curiously. "Like what?"

She pressed on, only to have Jeremy quirk the corner of his lips mysteriously in response.

Procuring two wine glasses from the car, he poured Madeline one and handed it to her. "Drink with me."

His baritone voice sounded bossy, but there was a tinge of indescribable fondness in his eyes.

Madeline took the glass and downed it easily.

Almost everything she never used to know, she knew now.

Drinking was not an issue.

A smidge of admiration swam in Jeremy's eyes as he stared at Madeline.

The sunset glow behind Madeline was gorgeous, tinting her fair skin with a soft red flush. It heightened the beauty of this woman's features.

"An '82 Lafite. You're not holding back at all, Mr. Whitman." Madeline swirled the cup elegantly, the red liquid refracting the soft rays of the remaining sun rays. "Would you indulge me now? What's gotten you so angry?" she asked with a small smile before furrowing her eyebrows at her train of thought.

"I went to the station to give my testimony yesterday. They told me that the kidnapping had been investigated and that Meredith is the actual culprit behind it. So I'm guessing that you already know about it and that's why you're hurt and upset?"

Hearing Madeline's words, Jeremy raised his glass to down the wine in it.

Another sea breeze blew, chasing off the last remaining hues of sunset. The sky darkened within the span of a moment.

The street lights blinked alive, and Jeremy's deep gaze bore into Madeline's eyes.

"Do you plan to press charges?" he suddenly asked.

Madeline frowned. "What do you mean?"

"I wish to convince you not to press charges."

Madeline found herself surprised by the absurdity of his reply.

'Even now, Jeremy, why must you defend this heartless and evil woman?'

Madeline tugged her lips into a carefree smile. "Meredith must still mean tremendously to you, Mr. Whitman. But if you could, I'd like you to give me a reason. What gives you the drive to protect and defend such an immoral woman?"

Married by Mistake: Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife chapter 301-310

July 27, 2021 by [superadmin](#)

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 301

Madeline smirked, irony apparent in her eyes.

'How can you still say such a thing, Jeremy Whitman?'

'Be it the person I used to be or the person I am now, what did I do to deserve Meredith's bullying?'

'Is everything she does just correct in your eyes?'

Madeline's fingers tightened around the stem of the glass while Jeremy remained deep in thought. After a while, he raised his deep gaze to stare at her.

"I owe it to her," he replied.

Madeline frowned in confusion. "What do you owe her?"

Staring at Madeline's clear and sparkling orbs, Jeremy's gaze trailed to stare at the horizon across the sea before them.

"I couldn't fulfill what I promised her. So I thought perhaps I could make it up to her in another way."

Madeline scoffed lowly at his reply.

'You can't fulfill the promise you made to Meredith, so instead, you're now trying to make it up to her?

'But Jeremy, since when have you fulfilled any of the promises you made me? And since when did you make up for those you could not keep?

'You disregarded me when I told you how we met when we were young and trampled over the promise you made.'

"I'm sorry, I'm afraid I cannot do that." Madeline smiled lightly, her eyes staring straight ahead. "Everyone must face the consequences of their actions."

"Didn't you say you want to thank me for saving you the other day? You can thank me by not pressing charges," Jeremy replied in a heartbeat. Madeline's eyes widened in shock as a cold and ironic scoff laid at the tip of her tongue. Her eyes settled on the rather attractive features in front of her.

'Oh, Eveline Montgomery.

'This is the man you fell and yearned for the past dozen years? This very man who cannot even tell right from wrong?'

"Very well then. I shall grant your wish." Madeline placed the glass down, her tone heavy with mockery. "You must love Meredith Crawford a great deal to go to such lengths for her. So stop beating around the bush and get married already. The two of you surely are a 'match made in heaven!'"

She made sure that her tone when she said 'match made in heaven' was dripped with irony.

Madeline turned around coolly after and made her way to leave, only to have Jeremy pull her back by her wrist.

"I won't let your sacrifice be for naught." His deep voice drifted warmly by her ear. "Anything you ask for in the future, Vera, I'll do it with no questions asked."

"You're really going all out for Meredith." A mocking smile graced Madeline's features. "Remember the words you just said. It'll be too late when you regret them in the future."

Regret.

This very word again.

Jeremy felt his heart jolt as he stared at the alluring features in front of him, his gaze meaningful.

He refused to do anything that he would regret in the future.

The night grew and the bottle was finished, mostly by Jeremy.

As far as Madeline was concerned, he had called her out to get drunk over Meredith.

What was so good about Meredith that gave Jeremy the need to have and protect her?

Sure, he had said that he would void their engagement. Yet everything Jeremy said and done since then was still for Meredith.

Madeline found it ridiculous.

If this was how true love looked like, then true love was preposterous.

Lifting her wrist to look at her watch, Madeline realized that it was getting late. Her phone rang from inside the car, but as she opened the door, Jeremy suddenly pushed her inside.

Madeline frowned in displeasure, her tone grumbling. "Jeremy. What are you..."

She paused suddenly as she was met with Jeremy's deep eyes mere inches away just as she turned around. The influence of alcohol was potent in them. He was most certainly drunk.

The distance between them was almost non-existent, and she found herself unable to escape as he pressed her between himself and the car.

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"You fancy me, don't you?" His seductive tone drifted into her ear with warmth. "I can feel it."

His tone was decisive, and confidence was the only thing in his peach blossom eyes that had glazed over.

Madeline found herself slightly at a loss with how close they were and the words he was saying.

"You're drunk," Madeline responded calmly, though doubt was flashing in her eyes.

Was he actually drunk, or was he just pretending?

"It's nice being drunk. At least then I get to see her..." He smiled, the 'her' spoken so quietly that she almost missed it.

The night wind blew past them, ruffling the wisps of his bangs. His eyes were gentle, tinted with fondness and adoration under the hazy colors of the night that Madeline had never seen before.

He stared at her, then closed their distance even more. The scent of wine tickled her face with every breath of his.

"I missed you so much..." he suddenly proclaimed, staring at her.

Madeline's heart shook and she was about to push him away. However, the man only reached over to caress her face.

Skin met skin, and she stared into Jeremy's eyes, stunned. There was a subtle flicker of light within that had given her cheeks a warm flush.

"Let me go, Jeremy."

"No. I'll never let you go again..." he muttered as his fingertips continued to trace her brows. Every touch was gentle like he was touching his beloved treasure.

Madeline was at a loss and her heart began to thump erratically in her chest.

She had no idea what Jeremy was thinking, but she was certain that his eyes were filled with so much tenderness that she might just fall for him again if she stared any longer.

Once again, she reached out to push the man away, only for Jeremy to lean down to press his cold lips against hers, mingling their heated breaths.

Madeline's eyes shot wide open. She never expected Jeremy to kiss her.

His eyes closed as his thick lashes fluttered, falling into two sets of shadows under the street lights.

His expression had never been more serious.

Getting the feeling that Jeremy was about to deepen the kiss, Madeline immediately turned her face to the side.

His lips were planted on the side of her cheek instead. He then buried his head in the crevice of her neck as he leaned weakly against her. "I've missed you so much..." he murmured. His eyes and heart were filled with Madeline Crawford in his drunken haze, the very Madeline Crawford who he realized too late he was in love with...

Madeline felt that she would have fallen had it not been for the car behind her supporting her up.

A person's weight doubled when they were drunk, and Jeremy had just drifted off to sleep during the absurdity of the situation.

The autumn wind began to blow, clearing the flush and warmth on her face.

The first light of dawn broke through the horizon, waking Jeremy from his dream. Opening his eyes, memories of the night before slowly surfaced in his mind. Madeline had felt so real, and the warmth of their kiss seared in the back of his head.

He took a look at his surroundings and realized that he had fallen asleep in his car. His clothes were unkempt, and Vera was nowhere to be found.

Alighting the car, he was met with a familiar silhouette meeting the morning wisps of autumn wind just as he turned around. Barefoot on the sand, the woman's flushed cheeks and fair elegance was a replica of the woman in his dreams.

'Madeline.'

He muttered the name internally and made his way toward her.

Seeing Jeremy make his way over, Madeline turned her back against the sea and smiled at him. "Awake?"

Jeremy nodded, his eyes slightly apologetic. "Did I... accidentally do something improper to you last night?"

Madeline furrowed her brows in distress. "I suppose the phrase 'alcohol is a precursor to sex' isn't entirely wrong."

Jeremy's expression immediately changed. "You mean..."

"How do you plan to take responsibility, Jeremy?"

Married by Mistake Mr. Whitman's Sinner Wife [Sixteenth Child] Chapter 303

Jeremy's pupils contracted. "You mean, last night, we..."

Madeline nodded before he could finish speaking.

Distress immediately surfaced on Jeremy's features.

He admitted that he was infatuated with the woman in front of him, but he was also clear that such infatuation was an extrapolation of the yearning he felt for Madeline.

He meant it when he said he wanted to marry her, but he had never thought of engaging in any form of skin-on-skin relationship with another woman after Madeline.

He had approached Vera out of selfishness. He wanted to stare at the features of someone who looked exactly like Madeline a little longer, just so he could ease the guilt within him.

Yet right now...

He felt like a b*stard.

He claimed that he loved her, yet he found himself unable to withstand the allure of another woman in his moment of drunkenness.

"Look at you. You seem distressed. Why? Because I remind you of the ex-wife you hated so much? You must feel disgusting and dirty."

Madeline's frigid words brought him back to reality.

Staring at her innocent features that were glowing under the morning light, she looked just like 'her'. He found himself unable to describe such angelic beauty with the word 'dirty'.

While he could not remember every detail of the night before, Jeremy admitted that he had a nice dream last night—one that involved the warmth of Madeline's body.

Staring at the complex feelings swimming in Jeremy's eyes, Madeline's lips quirked into a smile before they were pressed into a cold line.

"I get it. Please don't look for me ever again, Mr. Whitman. Our relationship ends here."

She brushed past him just as her cold tone fell.

Jeremy immediately snapped back from his thoughts. "Vera."

He ran after her in big steps to pull the woman who did not even spare a glance behind her back.

Madeline pulled her arm out of his grasp and continued to make her way forward. She must have stepped on something, for she felt a sharp stab of pain shoot up from the bottom of her feet, causing her to bend forward instinctively.

Chupse!

"What's wrong?" Jeremy reached out to support Madeline's arm in concern. Seeing the frown on her face and how she was tiptoeing on her right foot, he immediately held her foot and squatted to take a look.

Amidst the white sand was a sharp shard of glass, its tip tinted with blood.

Without a second thought, Jeremy immediately went to hold Madeline by her waist. "Let me have a look at your wound first."

"I don't need your help." Madeline pushed him away, tiptoeing her way forward by herself.

Jeremy could not help but be reminded of Madeline as he stared at the woman's stubborn figure.

That was just how strong she was. She would stubbornly hold her head up no matter how horrid the torture she was suffering.

Quickly reining his thoughts back, he took wide steps to catch up to Madeline and carried her horizontally with a hand on her waist.

"What are you doing, Jeremy Whitman? Put me down!" She protested, distaste apparent on her features.

Paying Madeline's struggle no heed, Jeremy continued to make his way along the street with her in his arms. His expression was unchanging.

He walked purposefully along the path that led to April Hill's small town.

Madeline stopped fighting back as well, for the path reminded her of the scene from more than ten years ago.

Her foot had also been pierced by a shard of glass back then, and a 12-year-old Jeremy then piggybacked her to the town's health center.

She remembered how he had comforted her the entire way as well as the promises he made to protect her from then onward.

In the end, not only had he not given her the slightest protection, but he even took part in causing her pain.

Her eyes reddened without her noticing. She never expected such details of the past to still mean so much to her.

Jeremy lowered his gaze to find Madeline's eyes brimming with tears. He was confused and stunned. His heart was clenching inexplicably at the sight.

For a moment, Jeremy found himself unsure whether the pain in his heart was for the Madeline he had loved a little too late or for the woman currently in his arms.

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The two fell silent and the atmosphere around them turned inexplicably weird, though not uncomfortable.

The center was over 500 yards away. It took Jeremy about three minutes to carry Madeline over.

It had almost been 20 years and the health center was still there, albeit renovated.

The two never expected to see the very same doctor, who despite being at the age of retirement now and having a head full of white hair, she remained at her station out of a passion for her work.

She recognized Jeremy the moment he carried Madeline into the clinic.

"I remember you, young man. Your features are very distinctive." The doctor smiled warmly as she treated Madeline's wound, dressing it in no time.

Madeline smiled gratefully. "Thank you, Doctor."

"You're welcome." She squinted and readjusted her reading glasses as she analyzed Madeline. "I knew that the two of you would end up together."

Madeline was stunned. Pushing the gloom down, she wore a confused expression instead. "You knew?"

"Yeah! This young man had piggybacked you over so nervously back then too. You could see the worry on his face. He was sweating all over since he ran all the

way under the scorching summer sun! I always thought the two of you looked good together when you were young. It's been years now but you two left quite the impression on me!"

Madeline did not expect to find someone else who remembered the past.

However, this person was not Jeremy.

Jeremy had forgotten about it long ago.

She lifted her gaze to look at Jeremy who was standing by the side and was shocked to see the man's brows that were furrowed sharply. His expression showed that he was deep in thought.

'What's this? Are you remembering a piece of the past you hate, Jeremy?

'Are you remembering the ex-wife who you promised to protect forever?'

"Alright, young man. It's time to bring your wife home. She's alright now. You should've gotten married already, right? It must be nice, being together with your childhood friend."

Childhood friends.

What immense irony those two words brought.

Sure, their lives were deeply intertwined, and to call them childhood friends was technically not a lie. She had also become his wife, but while the doctor had guessed the first half of it correctly, she did not guess the ending right.

Jeremy carried Madeline in his arms again.

Walking the same path he took, he had a dazed look in his eyes as he stared forward.

The doctor's words echoed in his mind.

The doctor was right. He was indeed the boy years ago, but the girl back then should have been Meredith, no?

Could the doctor have misrecognized Madeline for Meredith since they looked alike? That had to be it.

"You can put me down now. I'll hail a ride back from here," Madeline spoke lightly, "Let's just pretend last night never happened."

Jeremy stopped mid-step and turned to Madeline with a complicated look in his eyes. "I've already told you I want to marry you. That's not going to change, even if last night never happened."

Jeremy was determined. "Your wedding with Felipe won't be held as planned, because I'll make you my wife before that can happen."

His tone allowed no protests, and his aura held a dominance that oozed from between his brows.

He then sent Madeline back to her apartment and even carried her upstairs in all unscrupulousness.

Madeline took a bath after he left. Standing in front of the misty mirror, she wiped it to stare at herself. Her angelic and carefree eyes were now tinted with newfound complexity and scheming.

She smiled, knowing that she was one step closer to getting her revenge.

...

Jeremy's heart calmed when he returned home and found that everything had now reverted back to how they originally were. The things that were thrown away earlier in the day were restored as well.

The only thing that brought him displeasure was the fact that Meredith was still sitting expectantly in the room.

Realizing he had returned, Meredith approached him softly to greet him, her gaze full of hurt. "Where did you go last night, Jeremy? You must think that I'm tainted now, right? Do you not want to see me anymore?"

Jeremy stared indifferently at Meredith's face, suspicion growing in his eyes as the doctor's words echoed in his mind. "When we first met years ago, you gave me a rainbow seashell. I remember giving you something back. Do you still have it?"

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Meredith was stunned and slightly anxious. "Why are you asking me this so suddenly, Jeremy?"

"Did you lose it?" Jeremy pressed on coldly.

"No! How could I?!" Meredith immediately ensured, saying, "It's something you gave me, so I made sure to keep it really well."

Jeremy stared at Meredith with doubt in his eyes. "Where is it?"

"..." Meredith halted before breaking into a gentle and small smile. "Are you wondering if I yearned for you all those years? Of course, I did. That's why everything you gave me is in safekeeping. I can take it out for you now if you don't believe me!"

With that, she ran out the door.

Half an hour later, Meredith returned with a small bookmark made from a leaf in her hands.

The leaf was real, for it was laminated between two pieces of plastic—still whole and unbroken after all these years.

"Look, Jeremy." Meredith handed the bookmark over with a sweet smile on her face, her tone sounding meaningful. "I really miss how it used to be back then, Jeremy. Back when I was the only one in your heart."

Jeremy reached out calmly to take the bookmark as he listened to Meredith's words.

Indeed, it was the one he had made all those years ago.

Meredith was indeed that girl.

Shoving the suspicion back into his chest, he placed the bookmark aside.

Meredith let out a slight exhale of relief.

Meredith had someone investigate Jeremy's whereabouts on her way back, having felt that Jeremy was suspicious about something. She found that he had made a trip to April Hill.

It was highly probable that suspicion had risen within him due to something or someone there.

Thank goodness that she found the diary she had stolen from Madeline at home and the bookmark was pressed between its pages, or who would have known what sort of trouble Meredith would find herself in.

Now that Jeremy's expression was no longer as frigid, Meredith decided to play the emotional card and forced upset tears to fall from her eyes.

"I'm sorry, Jeremy. I shouldn't have gone into your room without your permission. Forgive me, please?"

She slowly lifted her hands to hold Jeremy's arm.

"I really want to stay here. I'm so afraid that someone might just come up behind me and take advantage of me. I'm terrified..."

"But with you and Jack, the people I love most, here, I feel like I can slowly forget the pain."

Jeremy pulled his arm back coldly at her words.

"Stay if that's what you want." His lips parted emotionlessly.

It did not matter whether Meredith lived here or not, not when the last clean spot had already been tainted.

Meredith was elated. "Really, Jeremy? Then this family of ours won't need to be separated anymore!"

She skipped over to Jeremy with an affectionate look in her eyes. "I just knew you wouldn't dump me like that, Jeremy. You promised to take care of me forever..."

Forever.

An indescribable smirk tugged at the corner of Jeremy's lips at the word.

...

Madeline relayed everything about the night before to Felipe, leaving nothing out as the latter listened silently by the floor to ceiling windows. He was deep in thought.

"He believes me. He thinks that something happened between us, so he was determined when he said he'll marry me."

An ironic glint sparkled in Madeline's beautiful eyes as she stared at Felipe's lithe figure.

"Jeremy has always refused to believe anything I told him back then and opted to believe Meredith instead as she would frame me time and time again. So now, I'm going to give them a taste of how it feels to be played and framed."

Her words fell, bringing the duo into a short lapse of silence.

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Felipe turned around a few seconds later, concern tinting the gentleness on his chiseled features that were enhanced by the warm rays of the setting sun.

"I just want to ask you one last time, Vera. Are you sure that this is what you want? It wasn't easy escaping the claws of a monster. Are you sure you want to be caged by him again?" His tone was warm like the winds of spring, but in his eyes held a fierce glint.

Madeline hesitated for a confused moment before a revengeful flare shone in her eyes.

"I can take the pain and humiliation they gave me, but I'll never forgive the two of them for teaming up to destroy the ashes of my precious child. The death of my child is something I must avenge!"

Madeline balled her fists as hatred imprinted itself deeply onto her gentle features. There was a sharp and strong-willed look swimming in her eyes.

After being gifted with rebirth, taking revenge was the top goal that gave her the determination to continue living!

Felipe did not persuade further as he took in the determination in her eyes.

Instead, he raised her hands to place a gentlemanly and loving peck at the back of them.

"Promise me that you'll take care of yourself no matter what. Should any problem arise, I want you to look for me."

Madeline was stunned for a moment and the cold anger in her eyes slowly melted away under Felipe's gentle warmth.

She broke into a smile, locking gazes with the glistening eyes in front of her.

"Thank you, Felipe. I promise I'll come back to you after I take my revenge, then we'll go back to F Country with Lillian where we'll live simply and happily together."

"Alright." Felipe smiled faintly, pulling Madeline gently into his embrace.

With her warm figure held close, the corners of Felipe's lips lifted vaguely. He was hiding a dark secret within.

...

Satisfied, Meredith began to live in Jeremy's villa. Her attitude toward Jackson had undergone a complete 180 change to persuade Jeremy into marrying her. She would go to great lengths to pretend and fake how close and intimate their mother-son relationship was.

She would wake up early on weekdays to make breakfast for Jackson before sending him to school herself.

Jackson, however, did not like Meredith's fake pleasantries. They only made him dislike her more.

Meredith would not stop searching for topics to engage Jackson in as they rode to the kindergarten while the latter remained silent the entire time.

Meredith spared the baby face a displeased glance.

Oh, how Meredith wished to strangle this *bstard son of a btch*.

She should have killed him all those years ago. Now, he was the eyesore he was today.

Meredith rolled her eyes in distaste when she saw Jackson looking at the display on his phone. The boy tapped on an app that listed a bunch of figures that Meredith could not understand before the screen showed a small moving red dot in the end.

She found that the appearance of the red dot brought along a hint of a smile on Jackson's expressionless face.

The car pulled to a stop just as Meredith wondered what it was all about.

Meredith looked out to realize they had already reached the kindergarten.

"We're here, Jack. Come on, Mommy's going to send you..." Meredith smiled before turning her head only to realize that Jackson had already alighted the car himself.

She glared at him, feeling pissed. When she followed after him, she realized that there stood Madeline by the kindergarten gates.

As surprised as she was to find that Jackson was walking toward Madeline, she was baffled to find that his reticent baby face was smiling widely because of that woman.

Meredith immediately ran over to pull Jackson back.

At that moment, a car began to speed uncontrollably toward the kindergarten gates.

Someone shouted and Madeline turned to look in that direction. The first thing she saw was Jackson's crescent-eyed smile that warmed her heart. Madeline was about to greet him when she realized the uncontrolled car was currently making its way to where Jackson was.

"Ah!" Meredith exclaimed. Her first reaction was to throw Jackson away and turn back to hide.

The car was about to hit Jackson. Madeline felt her heart drop as she ran instinctively to the boy. "Jack!"

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Madeline ran toward Jackson without care, completely disregarding the danger of the situation. Her body made the instinctive decision to protect Jackson, even if it meant getting hurt in the process.

Holding Jackson in her arms, Madeline had not the time to run. She prepared herself to get hurt as she felt the car coming into contact with her body.

In the nick of time, someone shrieked, thinking that a horrible accident was about to occur. However, the car suddenly came to a stop.

Meredith swore as she stared at the scene from afar.

Oh, how she had hoped the car would rid her eyesores, both Vera and Jackson, from her life with this accident!

The car braked, and Madeline felt the world around her grow silent.

Carefully, she opened her arms to stare at the little boy buried in her embrace. She could not help the sudden burn around the corner of her eyes.

"It's alright now, Jack. Big Sis Vera promised you, didn't she? I promised to protect you, so I will."

Madeline raised a hand to pat Jackson's small head affectionately.

The little boy lifted his innocent orbs that were glistening with complicated emotions within.

"Mom..."

He was calling her that again.

Madeline was stunned, her heart tightening and clenching in her chest.

She held Jackson tightly in her arms again.

Meredith was horrible to him, which was why he hoped to have a mother that loved him. He could not help but call her 'Mom' every time he found himself upset or in peril.

"Jack!" Meredith's fake concern drifted over. "Let go of my son, Vera Quinn! Who let you touch him?"

Madeline had just lifted her gaze when she felt a strong push from Meredith as she pulled Jackson away.

"Are you alright, Jack? You almost scared Mommy!" Meredith held Jackson tightly in mock concern.

Jackson frowned. Pushing Meredith away, he turned to run back to Madeline, immediately fishing out his handkerchief to dress Madeline's scratch when he saw her leg.

Madeline was stunned, warmth trickling into her heart once more.

The child may not have said anything, but his actions were more than enough to move Madeline.

"Bid Sis Vera's alright, Jack. Don't worry."

She reached out to pat Jackson's head, but Meredith swatted her hand away.

"Don't touch my son!" Meredith warned fiercely. "Did you think I wouldn't know how you're trying to use Jack to get closer to Jeremy? I won't let you!"

Bracing through the pain of the scratch, Madeline slowly stood.

Standing on her feet, she stared elegantly at Meredith whose aura was slowly weakening.

"You disregarded your son's life just to save your own. Wow, Miss Crawford, I never expected people like you to exist in this world."

Meredith's expression shifted into mortification as she pulled Jackson's hand and changed the subject. "I'll bring you to the hospital, okay, Jackson?"

Jackson frowned as he was dragged away, evidently not wanting to go with Meredith.

Madeline was about to stop them, but the traffic police had just arrived.

The main culprits of the accident were a young couple who had been quarreling over a petty matter. It was thanks to the girlfriend taking the steering wheel and stepping on the brakes did the accident end before lives were taken.

The couple apologized repetitively to Madeline, regretful of their preposterous actions.

Regret always came a little too late.

Jeremy had just arrived at the company when he saw the news about a horrible car accident at the gates of a kindergarten.

He had never cared much about the happenings on the news, but for some reason today, he could not help but click in to understand more.

Reaching his eyes was the scene right before the car crashed. He watched how a familiar-looking figure had run without care toward a small boy in uniform with a small yellow hat perched on his head.

The body of the car promptly covered the figure, making it seem like a collision occurred.

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The video ended.

"Vera."

Jeremy rewatched the video twice as his heart thumped loudly in his chest. Quickly putting on his blazer, he dialed for Madeline.

The call was left unanswered.

He then sped to the location of the crash. Jeremy received a call just before he arrived.

Jeremy felt his heart calm greatly at the caller ID.

Tapping on his Bluetooth earphones, he answered the call nervously. "Vera?"

"It's me."

A familiar voice echoed through, soothing the taut hold over Jeremy's nerves.

He met Madeline ten minutes later, his gaze heavy as he scanned her unharmed appearance. He pressed on, asking, "Are you really alright?"

Madeline stared calmly at the scratch on her leg. "It's a small issue. Rather than worrying about me, Mr. Whitman, I'd rather you worry about your son instead."

Jeremy's brows furrowed. "Jackson?"

"Yeah. I have to ask you, is Jackson really Meredith's son?" Madeline inquired confusedly.

"I was shocked to see her leaving her son to be hit by a car and make a run in the face of danger."

Jeremy's sharp brows furrowed deeper. Remembering the video he watched, it dawned on him that Jackson was the boy Madeline had risked her life to protect.

He did not remember seeing Meredith in the video, though.

"Let me send you home." Jeremy walked up to help Madeline, reaching around her shoulders naturally.

"I'd like you to bring me with you instead if that's alright? Meredith just brought Jackson away. I'd like to know if he's alright."

Jeremy stared at the attractive side profile in front of him and nodded. "Alright, I'll bring you over to my place."

Jeremy kept glancing at the rearview mirror the entire ride, suddenly interested in whether she was actually doing alright.

In a way, she meant differently to him than others.

Madeline entered the villa again. Walking through the doors, she could not help but be reminded of how Meredith had framed her for pushing her down the stairs and how Jeremy forced her to kneel an entire night in the rain after a violent beating in prison.

How cold he had been to the child she was pregnant with, and how limitlessly he had allowed this wicked woman to do whatever she wanted.

He had watched from the sidelines how she suffered under the harsh pitter-patters of the rain.

"A penny for your thoughts?" Jeremy's baritone voice sounded by her ear.

Madeline reeled in her thoughts and smiled. "I was just thinking if I should let you in on a piece of great news."

"Great news?" Jeremy's eyes squinted slightly to meet Madeline's mirthful ones.

The car stopped before the gates that very moment and out came Meredith and Eloise with a cold-looking Jackson in tow.

Upon entering the courtyard, Meredith was stunned to find Jeremy and Madeline standing together. She quickly ran over.

"What are you doing at my house, Vera Quinn?" She interrogated, her tone sounding harsh.

Jeremy turned to look at Meredith with displeasure. "Watch your tone. Vera is my guest."

"Vera?" Meredith felt anger ignite within her. "Why did you bring this woman into our house, Jeremy? And why are you calling her name so affectionately?"

"Are you questioning me?" Jeremy parted his lips to ask coldly, his gaze piercing and fierce. "How about you answer me first? What were you doing when Jack was about to be hit by a car? You're his mother."

"I... I was about to save Jack, but I twisted my ankle!" Meredith opened her mouth to give an excuse.

"You twisted your ankle?" Madeline smiled at the absurdity of the situation. "At least try to make your lies logical, Miss Crawford."

"It's you again, Vera Quinn. You're the one spreading rumors about me in front of Jeremy!" Meredith sounded wronged. "I wouldn't have twisted my ankle if you hadn't pushed me! I would never have let the car hit Jack! You have to believe me, Jeremy! Don't let yourself be fooled by this woman's lies!"

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Meredith looked at Jeremy with her charming almond-shaped eyes that were filled with grievances as she said angrily, "Jeremy, Jack is our precious son. I wouldn't allow him to be hurt at all as if my life depended on it. How could I have abandoned him?"

Just then, Eloise slowly walked over with Jackson. Her contemptuous gaze was directed at Meredith. "Miss Quinn, I heard that you're about to marry Jeremy's uncle, so why are you still hanging around here all day long with my daughter's fiancé? Have your parents never told you that it's shameless for you to do this?"

Faced with Eloise's sarcasm, Madeline merely gave a tranquil and composed smile. "You've asked a good question, Mrs. Montgomery. My parents didn't teach me this because not long after I was born, they brought someone else's child home and abandoned their biological daughter due to their moment of negligence."

When Madeline mentioned her life experience all of a sudden, Jeremy looked at her unexpectedly.

Seeing the elegant smile on her beautiful face, he felt a prick in his heart for some reason.

Eloise and Meredith were respectively taken aback.

'It's actually so similar to Madeline's life experience?' Meredith thought silently.

However, Eloise was a little lost, and her face no longer carried the contemptuous smile.

Sensing the changes in Eloise's expression and Meredith's face, Madeline's pretty lips twitched.

"Although my biological parents didn't teach me this, the person who raised me later on did, so now it's my turn to question you, Mrs. Montgomery. Since you're so accomplished, why was this daughter of yours brought up to be so despicable, indecent, and so indifferent toward family affection that during a dangerous moment, she would abandon her own son to escape alone? It seems that your upbringing isn't much better, Mrs. Montgomery."

"You, what nonsense are you talking about here?!" Eloise said angrily, "You dare slander my daughter like this? You'd better apologize to Meredith immediately. Otherwise, I will have to look into it till the end!"

"Mom..." Meredith's eyes reddened as tears of grievances started to pool. "Jeremy, did you hear that? I've tolerated this Miss Quinn time and time again, but she provokes and vilifies me non-stop. She continues to slander me to this

day. The reason why I have suffered so much harm is all because of her. Why is my life so bitter..."

Listening to Meredith's crying voice, Eloise comforted her distressingly, then pointed a finger at Madeline.

"Vera Quinn, you planned for my daughter's humiliation! You shameless woman! You'll do everything possible to interfere with Jeremy and Meredith's relationship just to get him, you..."

"The one who has been pestering isn't Vera. It's me."

Suddenly, Jeremy's low and cold voice interrupted Eloise intensely.

His eyebrows were tightly furrowed while his face was stained with frost.

"This matter ends here. No one is allowed to mention it again."

"What? This woman asked someone to kidnap Meredith and you just want to forget it?" Of course, Eloise could not accept it. Her eyes were full of anger as she said, "I will never let Meredith be bullied in vain! Meredith, don't worry. I will definitely seek justice for you!"

Meredith's eyes flickered. In order to avoid suspicion, she could only continue to play the victim. "Justice be the will of the people. I believe one day people who have done bad things will be severely punished!"

When she said this, she looked at Madeline firmly.

Madeline opened her mouth meaningfully, "Miss Crawford is right, and I also believe that some people will soon be punished for their evils."

"..." Meredith was stunned and began to avoid Madeline's gaze with a guilty conscience.

"Since Jack is okay, then I can rest assured." Madeline smiled gently and looked at Jackson who had been looking at her. "Goodbye, Jack."

Jackson looked at her. His big bright eyes were flashing with emotions of wanting to speak, but in the end, he still did not.

"Are you leaving?" Jeremy's gaze was deep.

"Should I just stay here and continue to be cursed by others, then?" Madeline smiled, feeling that Eloise's eyes were still full of disgust.

Although she kept telling herself not to care anymore, in the end, Eloise was still her closest relative and she could not completely ignore it.

"I'll drop you off." Jeremy offered.

Meredith's face sank. "Jeremy, Jack and I had just received quite the shock. Are you still going to leave us be?"

"Mr. Whitman, you can stay. Don't worry about me, an outsider." Madeline glanced at Jeremy, then turned around freely.

"Hmph, consider her an acquaintance!" Eloise rolled her eyes.

Meredith was also very satisfied, but she was only happy for a few seconds as she soon saw Jeremy quickly walking toward Madeline.

"Jeremy!" she shouted, but Jeremy completely ignored her.

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Madeline, who had not gone far, smiled quietly.

This action of retreating to advance was very successful, and sure enough, it was her who Jeremy cared more for now.

Jeremy kindly opened the car door for Madeline.

Madeline got into the car and saw Meredith bursting from anger in the rearview mirror. She felt happy thinking about it.

After the car started up, Madeline said while looking embarrassed, "Although I've promised you to no longer pursue the kidnapping case, it seems that they're going to sue me instead? A robber acting like a cop. I can't bear this kind of grievance."

"I won't allow this to happen." Jeremy promised.

Madeline looked at him with interest. "You're really working hard for Meredith."

Jeremy's eyes sank when he heard the words. He wanted to deny it, but in the end, he did not say anything.

After a moment of silence, he seemed to have thought of something. "You told me just now that you have good news to tell me. What good news is it?"

Madeline raised her delicate eyebrows and smiled carefreely. "This matter..." she said faintly, looking at Jeremy's profile with beautiful, clear eyes.

"I want to go to your house tonight and have another taste of the candlelight dinner you made me back then. Then, I'll tell you what the good news is."

Jeremy's eyes flickered when he heard her words. When he saw the red light in front of him, he almost rushed past it.

Lifting his eyes to meet Madeline's crooked smile, his heartbeat was inexplicably fast for some reason.

Jeremy brought Madelene around and finally went to the supermarket. The two were like newlyweds. She picked out vegetables while he carried the shopping basket for her.

After they were done shopping, Jeremy returned to the villa with Madeline.

Once they had put away the purchased ingredients, Jeremy received a call from the company and had to head back for a bit. He offered to let Madeline into his room to wait for him to return.

Madeline went.

Upon entering the bedroom, an unspeakable ambivalence sprang up in her heart the moment she stepped in.

She should hate it here.

However, seeing the furnishings and displays in the room looking almost exactly the same as three years ago, she was in a daze.

The outdated but simple dresses were still hung in the closet while the sheets had not been changed. She had bought them herself, but the color was much lighter now.

She had been full of joy then, but in the end, the day when he could gently and peacefully hold her to sleep on their wedding bed did not come...

Suddenly, there was movement downstairs, interrupting Madeline's thoughts.

She went out to look downstairs and saw Meredith opening up the ingredients she and Jeremy had bought with a smile on her face. Then, she started to fiddle with them.

When it was becoming dusk, Meredith was almost done preparing all the dishes. She had also set up a candlestick on the table. It looked like she was going to have a candlelight dinner with Jeremy.

Madeline then heard Meredith calling Jeremy, but the phone call did not get through and she switched to leaving a voicemail instead. Meredith suppressed her voice and said in a pretentious tone, "Jeremy, it's Meredith. I've prepared a candlelight dinner for us. When are you coming back? We haven't had dinner

together for a long time. I'll wait for you to come back. You need to have dinner with me tonight no matter what."

Meredith hung up after speaking shyly. Then, she ran back to the guest room.

Madeline walked downstairs slowly. She walked into the kitchen, looked at the sumptuous dinner table, and smiled.

Not long after, Meredith came.

Seeing Madeline sitting in the kitchen, Meredith's expression suddenly changed. "Why are you here? Who allowed you to sit here?!"

Madeline raised her eyes leisurely and saw that Meredith was wearing a sexy dress that exposed some of her chest. It was obvious that she wanted to seduce Jeremy.

She was also obviously wearing very expensive perfume, but because she had sprayed on too much, it smelled pungent and cheap.

Madeline raised her eyebrows proudly and looked at Meredith with a gloomy expression. "I will be the mistress of this house soon, so why can't I be here? What about you? Why do you keep loitering here? Do you want me to drive you off personally?"

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