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Chapter 461 Yet he had just found out about it.

Avery met his eyes, which were burning with rage, and retorted in frustration, "you always manage to find a way to humiliate me!"

'Whose child does he think it would be, if not his?' She thought, 'Eric's, òr Mike's?'

"If it's mine, why didn't you tell me?!" Elliot did not realize that there was an issue with his suspicion, as her action had brought back memories of the 25 past.

It was not the first time she had hidden her pregnancy from him. He hated how it felt to be kept in the dark while she toyed with him like a fool.

"Don't you ever get tired of this, Elliot?" She stared at the furious expression on his face and said in desperation, "I am... I am so tired... No matter what happens, you can always find a reason to be mad at me! Who do you think I am? What exactly am I to9c you?!"

Avery pressed on the button in the elevator to open the door.

Elliot glanced at the display screen and realized that they had only reached the third 23 floor.

The elevator opened slowly and Avery strode off.

Elliot followed closely behind as his heartbeat sped up. "Avery Tate! What are youza thinking?

"I am getting rid of this child!" Resentment filled her eyes as she shouted in a hoarse voice, "I have had enough! This child would only suffer if I give birth to it! If that's destined to happen, why should I give birth to it?!"

Elliot had forced her to go through abortion when she got pregnant five years ago, and he had never imagined that things would take such a turn at the 35 time.

He felt as though he had been stuck in the heart when he heard that she was going to get rid of their child and he could barely breathe through the excruciating pain.

Unable to think properly, he followed his instinct and stopped her.

"I won't allow you to get rid of our child!" His eyes reddened as he grabbed her by the shoulder and stopped her from moving forward. "Give birth to it! Even if it's a freak, you have to give birth to it!"

'A freak! This is how he cursed his own child?' Tears scrolled down her face at the thought and she shouted in tears, "you are the freak! You are!"

Unable to move her arms, she resorted to kicking him in the legs with all her might.

They were in the maternity ward at the time; there were countless women who came for

abortion, and countless others had been overjoyed to find out that they were pregnant here.

There had been many couples who argued about what to do with their children, but it was rare to see an instance where the woman wanted an abortion while the man tried to keep the baby.

Someone took out their phone to take a video of them, and the bodyguard immediately hurried over to stop them.

Elliot lifted Avery up and strode towards the elevator.

'She is too emotional right now. I have to take her away from her, or she will keep thinking about getting an abortion,' he thought.

"Let me go! I have legs! I can walk on my own!" She punched him on the chest, but he refused to let go.

Once they were out of the hospital, he carried her towards the parking lot.

The bodyguard ran back to the car to open the car door for them.

Reluctant to be exposed to public view, Avery buried her face in Elliot's chest. Once she was inside the car, she commanded coldly, "send me home, my home!"

Elliot sat down next to her and closed the car door.

The bodyguard sat in the driver's seat and started the engine. "Where to, Mr. Foster?"

"Her house," Elliot responded in a hoarse voice.

Avery was pregnant and it could affect the child inside her if she was too emotional, so he didn't wish to provoke her any further.

Car sped forward. Once Avery had regained her composure, she took her phone out of her purse.

Elliot stared at her slightly flushed face which was directed towards the window at the moment, and swallowed, "Avery, I forbid you from getting rid of our child! Not if I don't agree to it. Don't even think about it!"

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Her eyes reddened in rage. "And what if I have a miscarriage?"

Her question had caused a lump to form in Elliot's throat and he was rendered speechless.

"The baby is barely three-months old, it's not certain that it will survive! If you keep pissing me off every single day, I can assure you that it won't." Avery watched as Elliot gaped at her words and felt a rush from being able to retaliate.

He moved his lips, but did not say a word in the end. He knew that he shouldn't provoke her any further when he remembered how hopeless Avery appeared to be back in the 25 hospital.

She had plenty of chances to get rid of the baby before, but she didn't; she suffered through the morning sickness in silence and did not get rid of the child despite losing so much weight, which meant that she wanted to give birth to it.

Elliot slowly began to regain his 9c composure.

Avery calmed down and unlocked her phone to find messages from Mike, Tammy and Eric. She replied to them one by one to inform them that she was safe.

Shortly after, the car drove into Starry River Villa and stopped before Avery's 23 mansion.

Once the door was unlocked, she pushed it open and get out of the car; but so did Elliot.

"Why are you getting out as well? Go back." Avery held onto her purse and stared at him across the 2a car.

"Let's talk."

"Talk? What's there to talk35 about?"

She was exhausted from the fight they had earlier and only wanted to go to sleep.

However, Elliot simply stood in front of the entrance of the mansion and waited for her to open the gate.

She walked towards him and opened the gate, before stepping into the yard with Elliot following closely behind..

She felt as though she was inviting a wolf into her house. When the door to the mansion was opened, he even hurried inside before she did.

She gaped when she saw him taking a pair of brand-new slippers from the shoe cabinet and changing into them.

"Don't you see how ridiculous you are being, Elliot?" She watched as he changed into the slippers from the door and mocked, "weren't you disgusted by the idea of me having your child back then? Have you forgotten about what happened all those years ago?"

'How can I forget? Not only do I remember, the memories are carved into my brain,' he thought.

"Throw sarcastic remarks at me all you want if that makes you feel any better, Avery." He changed into the slippers and turned to look at her calmly.

"Are those pretty words supposed to cover the mistakes you made back then?" She said, before walking towards him to place her purse onto the shoe cabinet and changing into her slippers.

"My mistakes?" He chuckled and said, "I would do the exact same thing even if I have to do it all over again."

She froze.

"Did I even know you that well back then?" He questioned sharply before she could react," have you ever tried standing in my shoes to think about what you would have done back then if you were me?"

She stared at him dazedly.

"If you were me and you woke up to a wife you didn't know, who was pregnant with my nephew's child, what would you have done? No matter whose child that was, I couldn't have accepted it," he said coldly.

It was the first time Avery had heard about Elliot's true thoughts throughout all the years and she felt that the rock on her chest was slightly lifted.

"You accuse me of not standing in your shoes, but have you tried standing in mine?" She retorted, "how do you think I got pregnant to begin with? It's not like I can get pregnant on my own, can I?"

Elliot, too, was taken by surprise at her words.

"It was your mother's plan! You knew all along, but you didn't care. I understand that you forced me to get an abortion at the time because you didn't love me, but I still hate you for it. It doesn't matter what excuse you try to use, nothing can change that," she gritted out while staring into his eyes.

Elliot was not enraged. He tried to calm down and thought about it. Though an abortion was a comparatively minor surgery with no life risk, but there would surely be pain and emotional trauma; just like how much it hurt for him when she said that she wanted to get rid of their child in the hospital. Perhaps she hurt as much when she was forced to go through the abortion five years ago.

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He strolled towards the living room and stood still to wait for Avery to approach.

"What else do you want to talk about?" She walked towards the stairs, longing to go upstairs to rest.

"Are you going to sleep?" He studied her slim frame and lowered his defense.

"Yeah. We can talk first, though, if that's what you25 want."

Avery remained standing by the stairs with the sole intention of staying away from him, as her heart ached whenever she caught onto his scent. It was so familiar, yet destiny had made it so that their hearts were miles apart.

"Go to sleep!" He sat down on the couch. "I will leave in agc while."

"Oh..." She looked away from him and went upstairs.

Elliot stood up from the couch as soon as Avery was upstairs. He finally realized how self centered and selfish he had been all this while. He had never truly understood what she wanted. He had thought that he gave her everything he could and blamed her for not accepting him, when the truth was that what he gave was not what she wanted; and he had never once given her what she truly 23 wanted.

After half an hour, Elliot assumed that Avery was asleep and unlocked his phone to call his family doctor.

"Congratulations on becoming a father, Mr. Foster," the doctorza said.

The hospital that Elliot had taken Avery to was the one where his family doctor worked.

"Is there a way to ease the morning sickness?" Elliot scowled and 35 asked.

"No," the doctor responded, "she will have to make it past it on her own. Usually, the symptoms would improve when the pregnancy progresses to around twelve to sixteen weeks. Miss. Tate is currently eight-weeks into her pregnancy, so she should feel better after a month.

"She has lost so much weight that she barely looks human." Elliot clenched his fists, as his voice tightened up as well.

"That bad, huh? We can put her on IV if she really can't eat. She's a doctor, too, so she should know; unless she doesn't want the child..."

"Indeed, she doesn't want the child."

"Huh? Why not?"

"He hates me," Elliot paused briefly, before continuing, "but I won't let her get rid of the

child."

"Well, women often become more emotional when they are pregnant due to the change in hormones. Perhaps it's not that Miss. Tate doesn't want the child, she is simply in pain and doesn't know what to do about it," the doctor assured, "she will need you to care for her with patience at times like this."

"She doesn't want to see me."

"...If that's the case, then it's best that you leave her be for the time being."

"I can't do it," he concluded after thinking it through.

Meanwhile, Avery went upstairs to change into her cotton-made pajamas and laid awake on the bed with her eyes wide open, unable to fall asleep.

'He's still there. I wonder what he's doing downstairs. I don't even know what he's thinking,' she thought. Did he insist on keeping our child because he wants to be a father, or because he wants me to compensate for the baby he had with Zoe?'

Once the child was born, do I really give it to Elliot? Can he even raise a child? He has such a bad temper and gets angry easily, so I can't rest assured knowing that the child is with him.'

Countless thoughts crossed her mind and she felt as though her head was about to explode.

Just then, she heard footsteps approaching from outside the door. Without a doubt, she knew it was Elliot.

Avery immediately closed her eyes.

The door was pushed open and Elliot strode towards the bed.

She had thought that he only came in to check on her, but he sat down; not only did he sat down, he then lied down next to her.

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She immediately tensed. Since she was facing her back at him, she couldn't see his face and had no clue as to what he was trying to do.

She was instantly at a crossroad, thinking to herself, 'what should I do if he tries something?'

To her surprise, he did not move after laying down.

His breath was close to her and she could feel his strong heartbeat. As the pace of his breathing slowed down, he wrapped his arm around her waist abruptly; like the way he would naturally pull her into his arms back when they were in 25 love.

She opened her eyes and dazedly thought back to the past. After a while, tears began to gather in her eyes, while the man behind her fell deeply into sleep.

She lifted his arm off of her and sat up, before wiping the tears in her eyes as she studied Elliot while he wasgc asleep.

Her gaze lowered to his chest and she suddenly felt the urge to see the wound on his chest. She reached out and unbuttoned his shirt.

As soon as she unbuttoned the first one, he scowled and instinctively shoved her hands away 23 forcefully.

She looked at him dazedly and thought to herself, 'but he's asleep! How can he be so alert when he doesn't even know who touched him? Has he always been so alert to others' touch? But if that's the case, how did he manage to be intimate with Zoe?'

She sank into depression at theza thought.

She had never been with any other man apart from him, so she couldn't tolerate the fact that he had been with another woman. She couldn't possibly accept a flawed relationship, even when his heart still beat for her.

She sat dazedly as tears scrolled down her face uncontrollably. She knew that she would easily get emotional because of the pregnancy, so she had been trying to remain calm to counter the effect of her hormones; she never expected that Elliot would be able to break her with 35 ease.

As though he had sensed something, Elliot opened his eyes abruptly.

Avery didn't have the time to adjust herself and so he caught sight of her in such a discomfited state.

"What's wrong, Avery?" Startled, he sat up hastily before he was fully awake and reached out to wipe away her tears. "Why are you crying?"

Embarrassed, she stopped crying and came up with an excuse. "I wanted to see your wound, but you shoved me away."

"I'm sorry. I was asleep," he said, before unbuttoning his own shirt.

"The wound isn't that good to look at."

She saw his exposed wound the next moment and she felt as though she was being mocked by the hideous wound.

Avery reached her fingers to touch it.

He shivered slightly and grabbed her hand. "Don't touch it. It doesn't hurt anymore."

She retracted her hand from his and scolded, "you are a madman! If you died back then, even if your families and friends didn't come looking for trouble, they would be certain that I was the one who killed you! I could have been condemned for life!"

He studied her reddened eyes and pursed his lips.

He acted on impulse at the time because he was provoked. He loved Avery so much, and yet she wanted to kill him. He felt that there was no longer any meaning in life and thought that it would be better to die and be free.

"Are you blaming me for wanting to kill you?" Though Elliot didn't say anything, Avery had guessed what he was thinking and retorted, "what I think is my own business. It doesn't count as long as I don't act on it!"

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Chapter 465 "Why are you mentioning this now?" Elliot didn't want to fight, because there was something else between them; and that was their child.

"Why not? Just because we don't talk about it, doesn't mean it's in the past!" Avery knew it was bad to be hung up on the past, but she also knew that there were things that had to be clarified, or they would all turn into knives that come back to haunt them.

Elliot pulled her into his arms and said in a gentle voice, "weren't you going to sleep? Did I wake you?"

Her face came into contact with the burning skin on his chest before she could react and she panicked, so she shoved him away and lied back down with her back facing 25 him.

Elliot stared at her slim frame dazedly as his heart ached. Avery had not told him what his mother had said to her before she died, and naturally, he did not have the courage to ask about

it.

If she was this frustrated when he didn't ask about it, she would only be angrier if he confrontedoc her.

He pulled up the blanket and covered her body with it, before lying down next to her once again.

23...

At six in the evening, Mike and Chad came home with the children. When they opened the door to the mansion, they saw Avery watching television from the couch.

"Avery, I brought you dinner." Mike unpacked the food in front of her. "There are some of your favorite fruits, some soup and appetizers...

Tryza them."

Avery took one glance at the food and her stomach instantly started rumbling.

"Mom! Why didn't you tell Hayden and I that you have a little baby in your belly?" Layla went to sit down next to Avery and scowled in a slightly frustrated expression. "Why do you want another baby, when we are being good? I'm35 upset!" Avery felt extremely awkward at the question. "I'm sorry, Layla, I should have told you and your brother. It's my fault and I will reflect upon it."

"Oh... An apology is good enough, you don't have to reflect on it." Layla reached out to touch Avery's on her belly. "Huh? Where's the baby? Why isn't there anything?"

Avery had gone through most of the day without eating and her belly shrunk due to hunger.

Both Chad and Mike stared intently at her belly and started to have different thoughts.

"Avery!" Mike roared, "did that bast*rd Elliot took you to get an abortion again?"

"..." Avery couldn't respond.

Chad was having a hard time believing that Elliot would be so ruthless, but he started to waver when he saw how pale Avery was along with her flat abdomen. In order to prove that he was normal human being, Chad'promised, "Avery, if Mr. Foster forced you to get an abortion again, I'm going to resign right away."

Just then, a towering figure appeared by the stairs and both Mike and Chad gazed over.

When Chad saw Elliot, all strength was instantly drained from him and he only managed to remain standing by grabbing onto Mike's arm.

Elliot strode down the stairs and went towards Chad, before asking, "are you resigning?"

Chad hesitated and dared not to speak while being stared at by Elliot's sharp eyes.

Mike, on the other hand, was furious. "You bast*rd! That's Avery's baby, who do you think you are to force her into getting rid of it?"

Mike became increasingly agitated and was about to start a fight, but Chad stopped him with all his might.

Seeing how chaotic the situation had become, Avery clarified, "he didn't make me get an abortion. Also, can you all control yourselves in front of my kids?"

Mike instantly quieted down.

Elliot glanced at the dinner laid out before Avery and said to Chad, "come, Chad."

"Okay... Mr. Foster, I'm not resigning... Of course, I'm not resigning when you didn't force Avery to get rid of her baby..." Chad explained in a flattering tone while following Elliot out.

Once they left, the living room returned to silence.

"Avery, Avery! Are you crazy? You already have two kids and now you are having another one! Are you a breeding cow or something?" Mike scolded in disappointment, "you already took a cut to the belly before and now you will have to go through that again for that dirtbag's sake. Is it worth it?"

Avery felt as though her head was about to explode. She didn't want to give birth to another child had it not been for Elliot relentlessly demanding that she compensate him with a child. What other option did she have?

"Oh, right, so what's his take on all this?" Mike shoved his hands into his pockets and asked," he wants you to give birth? And then what?"

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Chapter 466 Avery lifted her gaze to look at Mike, then said, "Can't you just let me eat in peace? We didn't talk about any of that!"

"What did you talk about all afternoon, then?" Mike said with a look of astonishment. "Why was he upstairs? Did he sleep in your room? Well?"

"Do I ever freak out when you bring Chad home to stay the night?"

"Chad's my boyfriend. Is Elliot Foster your boyfriend?" Mike teased. "How can your ex husband possibly compare to my boyfriend? Or are you planning on making things official with him 25 again?"

Avery was taken aback.

"You're so annoying," she said with furrowedoc brows.

"Fine, I won't say anymore. Go on and eat," Mike said as he felt bad seeing Avery's skinny figure.

Avery picked up her spoon and took a sip of her23 soup.

It was still warm.

The children were staring at her without blinking their 2a eyes.

Avery's cheeks flushed as she said, "Why are you staring at me like that?"

"Mommy, will you still love Hayden and me once the baby's born?" Layla 35 asked.

"Of course!" Avery exclaimed. "Of course I love you and your brother."

It was because she loved them too much that she did not want Elliot finding out about them.

Layla felt relieved. Her eyes that were filled with curiosity blinked as she asked, "Is the baby a boy or a girl?"

Avery could not help but chuckle.

"The baby's still really tiny, sweetie. It's too early to tell if it's going to be a boy or a girl."

Layla was surprised.

"I see..."

"It's even smaller than an egg right now!"

Layla was even more shocked.

"Were Hayden and I like that when we were babies, too?"

"That's right. We all start out as tiny babies and grow up slowly."

Layla nodded, then raised another question.

"Why aren't you eating much, Mommy? Is it because the baby won't let you?"

Hayden thought his sisters incessant questions were interrupting Avery's meal, so he pulled Layla away and took her back to their room.

Mike took a sip of water, then walked over to Avery's side.

"Your pregnancy was a huge surprise this time. You should've told the kids about it first... They've been upset since yesterday," Mike said softly.

"Elliot wanted this baby," Avery said bitterly.

 Π

"What? Are you giving the baby to him to raise once it's born?"

"That's the plan for now, but I don't know if I'll change my mind later on."

"That's right. You might as well just give birth to it first!" Mike said as he very quickly accepted the situation. "You shouldn't go to the office, then. Stay home and take care of yourself and the baby."

"Early pregnancy symptoms only happen during the first trimester. I'll go back to work once the nausea goes away."

"Why are you working so hard? What if something happens to the baby?" Mike said as he shot Avery a look. "Since Elliot wanted the baby, he'd go insane if you suddenly lose it."

"How do you know him so well?"

"I just have to see him as a lunatic!" Mike shrugged, then said, "If you accidentally miscarry, I bet he'll force you to get pregnant again."

His words put Avery's stomach in knots.

Over at the Foster mansion, the black Rolls-Roice pulled into the front yard. Elliot emerged from the car, but Shea grabbed onto his arm before he could stand upright.

"Give me my ID, Big Brother." Elliot sighed internally when he saw the nervous expression on his sister's face.

"Am I more important, or is your ID more important?"

Shea froze for a moment, then said, "Both are important."

Elliot did not expect Shea's clear thought process and high adaptability.

This was the happiest day of his life since his mother's passing.

Not only was Shea's condition improving, Avery was also pregnant with his child.

Elliot entered his study, got out Shea's ID and gave it to her. "This is an important document, Shea," he said. "You have to tell me right away if you lose it."

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Shea nodded and said, "I'll keep it in my room. I won't lose it."

"Good. Have you had dinner yet?" Elliot asked.

"I did! I ate at the hotel with Hayden."

"You seem to like Hayden a lot," Elliot said as he recalled the way she switched seats with Mike that 25 afternoon.

When they used to go out, Shea would never leave his side.

Today, however, she actually preferred sitting next togc Hayden.

"I like Hayden and Layla," Shea said.

She had a strong feeling that she was not only Hayden's aunt, but also 23 Layla's.

This was because the relationship that Hayden and Layla had was the same as the one she had with Elliot.

Elliot could not help but recall the way he almost strangled Hayden to death back at the mansion in theza forest.

When they met that afternoon, Hayden did not once look at him.

It was as if he was avoiding him on 35 purpose.

Elliot was sure that the boy was traumatized.

He felt guilty as he recalled what happened.

He never used to feel guilty about anything he did because he would never do anything wrong unless someone angered him.

He would not have lost his reason if Hayden had not provoked him.

In retrospect, however, although Hayden was wrong, Elliot himself did not handle the situation well either.

At dinner, Shea suddenly walked over with her ID.

"Why isn't my last name 'Foster', Big Brother? Didn't you say we were siblings?"

Shea had sent a photo of her ID to Hayden earlier.

Hayden was the one who pointed this matter out.

"Isn't Shea a nice name?" Elliot asked.

"It is, but I want my last name to be Foster, too."

"You're too good for that last name, Shea. Your name's Shea. It's a good name."

Shea froze for a few seconds, then nodded and said, "Okay, Big Brother."

She returned to her room and explained things to Hayden.

When Hayden looked into Shea's ID number, it was an individual account that had no relation to Elliot.

"There's another way to prove it," Hayden said.

Shea walked over to the dining room once more to see Elliot.

"Say I'm your biological little sister, Big Brother," she said as she sneakily turned on the voice recorder on her phone.

Hayden told her that he would not believe her unless he heard it from Elliot's lips.

Elliot put down his knife and fork, then looked at Shea and asked, "Why do you want me to say that? Are you sure you're the one who wants to hear it?"

He quickly figured out what was going on when he noticed Shea hiding her hand behind her back.

"Don't tell too many people that you're my little sister," he said earnestly as he gazed at Shea. "I'm worried that my reputation would get you in trouble. If people found out that you're my sister, they would follow you, harass you and even kidnap you."

Shea did not fully understand, but said, "I won't tell Hayden about it, then."

"I'll go public with our relationship when the time is right, Shea," Elliot promised. "You're still recovering right now. There's no need to rush."

"Okay, Big Brother."

The next day, Avery was a trending topic online. This time, she was not trending with a certain man, but with her two children.

The viral headlines were sensational. (Goddess or Single Mother?! The scandalous Avery Tate is a mother of two!)

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Avery almost passed out when she saw the trending topic online that morning.

It was not because it called her private life a mess, but because the immoral business account had posted photos of her two children!

It was a paparazzi shot that did not show the front of the children's faces, but it was just the same!

One could clearly see the children's features in the 25 photos.

The post even went as far as to reveal the name of their preschool.

Avery dragged her weak body out of thegc bedroom.

She knocked on Mike's door, then walked right into his room.

"Wake up, Mike!" she called out as she yanked the covers 23 off.

It was a good thing Mike was wearing his underwear.

Otherwise, Avery would have immediately regretted herza recklessness.

"What's wrong?" Mike said as he looked at Avery with groggy eyes. "Avery... Is the sun even up yet?"

"It is! The kids are waking up35 soon."

Avery showed the viral news to Mike, then said, "Can you delete Hayden and Layla's photos? I don't know how to contact the website's office... This business account is despicable!"

Mike glanced at the children's photos on the post, then quickly sat up.

"Don't worry and leave it to me."

He put on a t-shirt, then walked over to his desk and turned on his computer.

"It looks like someone's trying to mess with you.

"I think so, too. Are you able to find out who posted the photos?" Avery asked.

"Definitely. I just need to look into this business account, but it'll take some time," Mike said as he quickened his tempo. "Give me a minute."

"Okay. I'm going to get some breakfast."

Mike turned to Avery, then said, "Don't leave the house! Just order some takeout. What if you pass out while you're out there?"

Avery hesitated for a moment, then nodded and said, "What do you feel like eating?"

"I'm good for now... I'll have a glass of milk if we have any."

"We have some in the fridge. I'll get you a glass," Avery said, then headed to the kitchen.

By 8 a.m. that morning, Avery was the number one trending topic online.

The number of people who knew about Avery Tate having two children increased rapidly.

However, when everyone excitedly clicked into the business account's profile and saw the photos of her so-called children, they were dumbfounded!

(Am I seeing things? Isn't this account a famous entertainment outlet? When did it venture into comedy?]

(I almost thought that Avery Tate's kids were my dear Eric Santos's, but what is this??]

[I spat out my breakfast this morning! This account owes me a meal!)

The title of the trending topic remained the same, but Mike had replaced the photos of the children with pictures of pandas and changed the name of Starry River Kindergarten to the National Zoo.

This made it look like the business account posted the breaking news that Avery Tate had given birth to a pair of pandas that were attending school at the zoo.

A series of questions would pop up in one's head as they read the post. What was going on with the trending topics that day? Did Avery Tate pay for the publicity?

That seemed unlikely!

Even if she was dumb enough to do that, who would come up with a story about themselves giving birth to a pair of pandas?!

It was unbelievable that anybody could come up with a story this bizarre.

Mike removed all traces of Hayden and Layla's photos from the internet, then finally let out a sigh of relief.

He sent the masterpiece he made that morning to Chad and bragged.

Mike: [I'm pretty fast, right?]

Chad: [I figured it was you.]

Mike: [You have no idea how freaked out Avery was this morning. She still has to depend on me at key moments like this. That sc*mbag you call a boss is absolutely useless.]

Chad: (Praise yourself all you want, but can you not put down my boss? Since you worked hard

today, I don't want to fight with you.]

Mike: (Fine... I'm thinking of getting a nanny to help Avery out. Otherwise, I'd be worried about leaving her at home alone once I get back to work.]

Chad: (That's true. Do you need my help?]

Mike: (Sure!]

Then, Chad called up Elliot. Today was the second day of the Memorial Day weekend.

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Elliot could not sleep a wink the night before, so he was sleeping in at that moment.

When his phone rang, he got up to answer the call.

"Sir, Mike said he wanted to hire a nanny to help Avery out. He accepted when I offered to help look for one."

Chad received new orders from Elliot last night telling him to keep an eye on Avery's movements through 25 Mike.

Chad thought it was nice of his boss to do that.

Elliot was clearly doing this because he wanted to take on the responsibilities of a father, so Chad agreed without9c hesitation.

"I see. I'll arrange something," Elliot said hoarsely.

"Also, Avery went viral today. Someone got an entertainment news account to post paparazzi photos of Hayden and Layla. The post said that Avery was a single mother and even said that her private life was a mess..." Chad continued to 23 report.

Elliot's eyes furrowed as he said, "Look into it immediately and find out who's behind this."

"Yes, sir. Mike said Avery woke up at six in the morning and has been in a panic over the news. Since she's pregnant, her emotions are easily affected. She must be upset over this. Why don't you go cheer herza up?"

"How would I do that?"

"She can't eat much right now. You should get her a35 gift."

Elliot massaged the space between his brows, then said, "Do you think she'd accept anything from me?"

"Even if she doesn't, I'm sure she would be able to feel your sincerity."

Elliot thought that made sense.

He refused to let her abort the baby, but could not bear the difficulties of pregnancy for her.

Giving her a present was only natural.

Over at the Starry River Villa, Mike told Avery about wanting to hire a nanny for her.

"Aren't things fine the way they are right now?" Avery said with furrowed brows. "It's not like I'm so nauseous I can't get out of bed. Besides, the kids are going back to school soon, so there isn't much else to do."

"Don't you plan on spending any of the money you made?" Mike teased. "How much could

hiring a nanny cost?"

"It's not about the money... It's just weird having a stranger live in our home."

"We don't have to hire a stay-at-home nanny. We could just get someone to come in during the day to clean and cook."

"Fine. Bring them over to the house once you've found someone suitable," Avery said as she decided to no longer retaliate. She then changed the subject and asked, "Do you have a date today?"

"I don't! Why?" Mike said.

"Layla and Hayden have class activities ... If you have time today, then take them over to the science museum to learn a thing or two about airplanes. Take some photos while you're at it."

"You got it! I'll take them when you're taking your afternoon nap," Mike responded.

At eleven that morning, Avery was sitting on the couch with a book in her hands.

Mike and the children were playing with a new toy.

Suddenly, the doorbell rang.

When Avery looked outside, she saw the black luxury sedan parked outside the gates, with Elliot and Shea standing side by side.

Mike felt suspicious when he saw them, but opened up the gates anyway.

Once the gates were opened, Elliot and Shea very quickly made their way into the living room.

Shea was holding a bag in her hands.

"Layla! Hayden! I've brought gifts for you!" Shea said as she distributed the gifts to the children.

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Finally, she pulled out an exquisite gift box, handed it over to Avery and said, "This one's for you, Avery! Open it up and take a look!".

Avery was surprised.

She opened the box and saw the extravagant diamond necklace inside of it.

She was a little taken aback.

Why would shea give her such a lavish present?

"Wow! I love this necklace! Can I trade with you, Mommy?" Layla pleaded.

Shea anxiously interjected and exclaimed, "No! Big Brother got that for Avery! He told me to give it to her for him!" Both Elliot and Avery were speechless.

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 470

Chapter 470 Shea was worried they did not understand her, then added, "My brother bought this gift for Avery."

Avery closed the box, then lifted her eyes at Elliot and asked, "What's the meaning of this?"

The spark of war was instantly ignited.

Mike immediately dragged Shea and the children out of the 25 house.

It would be bad for the children's mental health to watch their parents fight too much.

Once Shea was out of the house, she turned to Layla and Hayden and explained, "My brother may have bought Avery's gift, but I was the one who got you your presents. It was me! You have to acceptge them!"

"Sure," Layla said then began to open up her gift.

On the other hand, Hayden had his eyes pinned in the direction of the living 23 room.

"Relax, Big H! Your mom's pregnant with that dirtbag's baby, so there's no way he'd pick on her!" Mike said as he tried to comfort the boy. "Let's go somewhere to play!"

"I'm not going out," Haydenza responded.

He was still worried about his mother.

Shea took Hayden's hand, then said, "Let's go out and play! My brother won't pick on Avery. When he was picking a present out of her today, he wanted to buy everything for her! He really loves 35 her!"

Her words gave Hayden goosebumps!

That b*st*rd Elliot Foster knew how to love a woman?

He refused to believe it!

In the living room, Elliot took a seat on the couch across from Avery.

He had expected Avery to reject his gift.

Otherwise, he would not have asked Shea to come along.

Avery probably would have accepted the gift if Shea had not let her tongue slip.

"Is this gift some kind of compensation for carrying your baby?" Avery asked as she slid the gift box towards him. "What else could it be?"

"Do I need a reason to buy you a gift?"

"Why would you buy me something without a reason?" Avery retorted.

"Shea didn't have a reason to buy presents for your children, either."

"You're not Shea, neither am I a five year old child."

Seeing her stubborn attitude, Elliot had no choice but to correct himself.

"Since your daughter likes it, then give it to her!"

"My daughter doesn't take sloppy seconds," Avery said.

Elliot was at a loss for words.

"Is there anything else?" Avery asked.

She might as well have told him he should leave.

Elliot took a look outside.

Mike had already taken Shea and the children out.

"I'll wait here for Shea to come back," he said plainly.

Avery was bewildered.

Elliot's attitude towards her was a complete one eighty from what it used to be.

She was already used to his past self. She would even go as far as to consider their past dynamics normal.

"Did you get a gift for Zoe the second she got pregnant with your child, too?" Avery said as she could not help but stab at him with her words. "Our relationship remains unchanged whether I'm pregnant with your child or not. There's no need for this confusing behavior. It only makes me feel disrespected."

Elliot's treatment towards her was completely different before and after she got pregnant.

Did he think that being pregnant made her a different person?

She hated the idea of gaining honor and respect through one's own offspring!

The child she was carrying was not Elliot's alone, but it was hers, too.

Even if the child ended up being raised by Elliot, she refused to sit back and be uninvolved.

Avery's words made Elliot frown.

Bringing up Zoe probably meant that she was bothered by the fact that Zoe once carried his child!

In Avery's eyes, Elliot was damaged goods. That was something that would never change.

No matter what he did, she would never let herself be affected.

Elliot laughed at himself for thinking that they would become closer now that Avery was pregnant with his child.