

Chapter 290

"Vinson! Your arm..." Henrick came running over frantically.

"I'll be fine. Just need to get some bandages on the wound. Do we have a first aid kit at home?"

Henrick nodded. "Yes, we do! It's in my study! Follow me!"

"Okay."

Arielle was about to go with Vinson, but he motioned at her to stay put instead.

That was when Arielle realized Vinson could've pulled her away from the broken shard but deliberately let it hit him so he could get Henrick away.

*He knows what I'm up to! Damn it, Vinson, you idiot! Why'd you let yourself get hurt because of me? You're such an idiot!*

Arielle bit down on her lip and teared up at the thought of that.

Henrick brought Vinson over to get patched up in his study.

Arielle hesitated for a few seconds but chose not to go with them in the end as she didn't want to let Vinson's injury be in vain.

She took a deep breath and told Klaus, "Dr. Jankowitsch, could you please get Aunt Cindy

Chapter 290

looked at? Her condition seems really serious!"

"Sure." Klaus nodded and the two of them walked up to Cindy who was still writhing about on the floor.

Arielle glanced at Cindy who even attempt to bite her from time to time and told Klaus, "I don't think you can treat her in this state, Dr. Jankowitsch. Maybe you should try sedating her or something."

Klaus understood what she meant and retrieved a sedative from his medical kit. He then adjusted the dose before injecting it directly into Cindy's lower back.

Cindy struggled for a couple more seconds before slowly closing her eyes, and the bodyguards then carried her onto the bed when she had stopped moving.

Arielle glanced at Cindy who was unconscious and told the bodyguards, "All right, your work is done here. Please step outside so Dr. Jankowitsch can focus on carrying out the treatment."

"Roger!" The bodyguards immediately stepped out of the room, leaving only the butler who was a little slow in the head.

It wasn't until Arielle shot him a glare that he understood what she meant and bowed before leaving the room.

*Honestly, hiring a stupid butler isn't necessarily a good thing sometimes!*

Arielle shook her head at the thought of that and turned toward Klaus as she asked, "You didn't give a huge dose of the sedative, right? This stuff evaporates pretty quickly, so you need to time it well."

"Don't worry. She'll wake up very soon. I used a very low dose."

"All right, I'll be on my way out too. Here's the antidote. Make sure you take it so you don't get affected," Arielle said while handing him a green-colored pill.

Klaus hesitated for a bit but swallowed it when Arielle urged him to.

Arielle left Klaus in the room and headed for Henrick's study after closing the door behind her.

Vinson had taken off his shirt in the study, revealing his firm chest and abdominal muscles which were only possible due to his long-term training and great genes.

Any other woman would've dropped their jaws if they saw him, and even Arielle was quick to avert her gaze when she did.

"How deep is the wound?" she asked Henrick.



Chapter 290

"It's a little deep... It'll take about a week to recover," Henrick said with fear written all over his face.

Although Vinson was his son-in-law, their statuses were worlds apart. Henrick was afraid that Vinson would get mad at being injured and make Southall Group go bankrupt as a result.

Fortunately for him, Vinson showed no signs of anger whatsoever.

The butler then came in through the door and reported, "Dr. Jankowitsch says he's almost done with the treatment and has prescribed her some medicine. He would like you all to go have a look."

Arielle let out a sigh of relief and smiled at Henrick as she said, "Come on, Dad! Let's go see how Aunt Cindy is doing!"

"Yeah!" Henrick motioned at Vinson to go ahead, and the three of them then headed over to the bedroom.

When they got to the bedroom door, Henrick stepped forward and told them, "I'll go in first. Wouldn't want that woman to go crazy and hurt you two again."

Arielle nodded as her gaze fell upon the aroma diffuser that had been put out on the table.

*I got that from the Actonward residence. Honestly, I didn't think it would come in handy today. By using it to drug Cindy, I can have her develop hallucinations when she regains consciousness. We'll all be in for a great show when she sees Henrick as Matthias! Cindy has lost all sense of rationality, and irrational people can do some pretty crazy stuff. I have to make sure she loses Henrick's trust completely so he'll divorce her!* Arielle thought to herself as she followed behind Henrick, hiding her raging emotions beneath her calm expression.



Chapter 291

However, for some reason, Arielle had a bad feeling that her plan wouldn't go so smoothly.

Cindy opened her eyes the moment Henrick walked up to her bed, and Klaus secretly gave Arielle a thumbs up from the side.

Arielle rolled her eyes at how childish he was and shifted her gaze back to Cindy as she waited for her response.

Cindy glanced about the room blankly for a moment before staring right at Arielle. She instinctively took a step back.

Vinson quickly stepped in front of Arielle to protect her in case Cindy tried to attack her again.

*Why is Cindy immune to the drug from the aromatherapy candle? This shouldn't be the case...*

Cindy tried to get out of bed while Arielle was still puzzled and lost in her thoughts but couldn't as her limbs had been tied down.

"Shannie? You're alive?" Cindy shouted desperately while struggling against her restraints, much to Arielle's confusion.

Chapter 292

Cindy broke down in tears as she cried out, "I knew it! I knew you wouldn't just leave me like this! I knew they were lying to me! You nearly scared me to death, Shannie!"

A look of surprise flashed past Arielle's eyes when she heard that, but she quickly regained her composure when she realized what was going on.

*I knew it! There's no way she's immune to the drug's effects! Turns out, Shandie is the person that matters most to Cindy, not Matthias. I suppose motherly nature is a thing that every woman has in common, even one as vile and heartless as Cindy... If that's the case, then I'm sure my mom feels the same way about me. What about Henrick, then? Who is the one that matters most to him? Or does that person not exist at all?*

For a split second there, Arielle felt a conflicting combination of pity and hatred toward Cindy.

"Wake up, Cindy! Shandie is gone! She's dead, and she's not coming back!" Henrick shouted coldly.

Cindy gave Henrick a weird look and pointed at Arielle as she asked, "What are you saying? Can't you see? Shandie's right there! Why would you joke about such a thing?"

Henrick instinctively looked in Arielle's direction as he thought Cindy had seen a ghost.

However, the expression on his face turned grim when he saw Cindy pointing at Arielle. "Dr. Jankowitsch, why has my wife's condition worsened? She's even hallucinating now! Is... Is there even a cure for her at this point?"

Klaus cleared his throat awkwardly as he wasn't sure what Arielle's actual plan was.

Thinking Arielle was probably trying to get rid of Cindy, he said, "I tried treating her with hypnosis just now, but it doesn't seem to be working for Mrs. Southall here."

*What? Who else could possibly treat Cindy if even Dr. Jankowitsch can't? People are going to laugh at me for having a crazy wife! No, I can't let that happen! She has humiliated me a lot today, and I'm not about to suffer any further humiliation!*

Henrick was panicking so much that he ignored Vinson and grabbed Klaus tightly like he was his last hope. "Is there nothing else you can do to treat her, Dr. Jankowitsch?"

Klaus stole a glance at Arielle who subtly shook her head in response and quickly took the hint.

"Hypnosis is the best form of treatment I can offer. I'm sorry, Mr. Southall, but there is nothing more I can do..." he said with an apologetic expression.

Henrick took a few steps back with a blank look



on his face, and Arielle quickly stepped forward to hold him steady.

"Dr. Jankowitsch is no longer involved in psychology. Maybe we can send Aunt Cindy somewhere else with professionals who can provide her with a systematic form of treatment. Who knows, she might be able to get better soon!"

Vinson chimed in as well, "She's right, Dad. Carter's family has recently started a mental hospital. I'll make sure to have their best doctors treat her!"

"A mental hospital? Why are you sending me to a mental hospital? I'm not crazy! I don't want to go there!" Cindy asked in disbelief.

Even Henrick was a hesitant about the decision.

*Wouldn't sending Cindy to a mental hospital be the same as telling everyone she's crazy?*

Cindy began shouting at Arielle again, "I'm not sick, Shannie! Tell your dad I'm not sick! Please, Shannie!"

Henrick made up his mind when he heard Cindy calling her "Shannie." He said with his fist clenched, "All right, we'll go with that. However, you must all make sure to keep this a secret from anyone outside of this family. I don't want people gossiping about Cindy being crazy after she's treated."

*Pfft... I bet he's just worried about the humiliation it would bring him!*

Despite her thoughts, Arielle nodded profusely and expressed her agreement. "You're right, Dad. We must carry out the treatment in secret for the sake of her reputation! The fewer people know about it, the better!"

She then shifted her gaze toward Vinson, and he quickly reassured them confidently, "Leave this to me, Dad! I'll contact Carter right away and have his hospital staff come pick her up secretly!"

Henrick breathed a sigh of relief as he knew Vinson would surely be able to keep it a secret. "Very well, then. It's decided!"

Cindy began screaming wildly after hearing that, "No! I don't want to go to a mental hospital! I don't want to! Say something, Shandie! I know I've done a lot of things to hurt you in the past, but it was all for your own good!"

Arielle simply glared at her with an emotionless



Chapter 293

expression, but her tightly clenched fists showed she wasn't actually as calm as she seemed.

Vinson shifted his gaze away from her fists and brought Klaus out of the room while Henrick followed behind them to discuss Cindy's admission.

Arielle quickly closed the bedroom door and walked up to Cindy while calling out to her with a smile, "Hey, Mom!"

Oblivious to the icy coldness hidden beneath the smile, Cindy perked up the moment she heard her calling her "mom."

"Shannie... You'll forgive me, right?"

Arielle reached out to hold her by the hand and whispered, "You gave birth to me after ten months of pregnancy, Mom. There's no way I'd actually be mad at you!"

Cindy's eyes reddened instantly, and tears rolled down her cheeks as she said in a trembling voice, "I knew it, I knew it... Hurry up and tell your dad to stop this! I can't go to a mental hospital! That b\*tch Arielle will bully me to death if I do!"

*B\*tch, huh? So she's still insulting me even under the influence of the drug, I see...*

"This is all a part of Arielle and Vinson's plan, so

there's nothing much I can do about it. Just go along with the treatment, and I promise I'll try my best to get you out of the hospital. There is one thing I need to ask you about, though..."

Naturally, Cindy would never hold any information back from her daughter. "Go ahead! What is it?"

Arielle gave her hand a little squeeze and asked, "Were you and Dad the ones behind Maureen's death?"

The look on Cindy's face tensed up when she heard that, and she averted her gaze as she replied, "Why are you asking about that? Regardless of what happened, you have nothing to do with it, so stop asking!"

Arielle tightened her grip further as she pressed on, "But I do, Mom! Don't you see? Why would Arielle target us and try to get us sent to the monastery? She's definitely trying to avenge her mom!"

Cindy's eyes went wide, and she seemed to be hesitating a little.

"If you have nothing to do with her mom's death, then I could just confront her and beg her to spare us both... We could all make peace and live together in harmony!" Arielle continued.

Cindy bit down on her lip and said with a



Chapter 293

conflicted look, "Shannie... The two of us are bound to be enemies with her for the rest of our lives. There is no way we can ever make peace."

Arielle clenched her teeth upon hearing that. So *Cindy really was the one who caused Mom's death!*