

Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 61

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Nodding repeatedly, Olivia and Owen hurriedly got on the elevator and went up to the tenth floor.

Upon entering the ward and seeing Amelia lie unconscious on the bed, Olivia was distressed. She walked over quickly, looked at Oscar, and said in a hushed voice, "Oscar, what's going on? How did Amelia get into a car accident?"

Oscar told them all about it.

"Has the person who ran the red light been caught?" asked Olivia with a long face.

"He's been taken to the police station. Don't worry, Mom. I'll make sure he goes to jail," assured Oscar, looking grim.

Olivia nodded. Feeling sorry, she looked at Amelia's belly and said, "I asked her if she was pregnant a few days ago and she actually told me that she'd actually gained some weight. I don't blame her for keeping it from us. The fact that you've been thinking about another woman must have broken her heart. She must be worried that we'll take the child away from her if the two of you divorce in the future."

Oscar said nothing.

"Look, Oscar, I just want to remind you that, since Amelia is now pregnant, you should settle down and have a life with her," Olivia added with special emphasis.

Oscar pulled a long face, seemingly lost in thought.

Seeing this, Olivia got a little angry and emphasized, "I'm going to be frank with you, Oscar. Amelia's baby is our first grandchild. I won't allow him to grow up without a mother. If you're unfaithful to her, you won't be my son anymore."

"Mom..." Oscar groaned, displeased.

But Olivia just stroked Amelia's belly in silence.

"Oscar, listen to your mom. I don't care how you messed around previously, but now that Amelia is pregnant, you need to settle down."

Oscar was vexed.

Owen walked out of the ward with him and asked, "So what do you think, Oscar?"

"Dad, her pregnancy wasn't what I've expected, so I think—"

"Oscar, don't even think about it. I was quite dissatisfied with her at first, but she's been treating us very well the past four years. I won't allow her to have an abortion," interrupted Owen as his face clouded over.

Looking at him calmly, Oscar maintained, "Dad, the one I love is Cassie, and she's coming back to settle down here. I can't abandon her."

"That woman abandoned you for her so-called piano, so she might abandon you again for further training in the future. Can you really accept that?" Owen asked.

Pursing his lips, Oscar thought for a moment and said, "Dad, I believe she'll make a mature choice now."

"So are you going to get your own wife to abort the baby because of that woman?"

Oscar fell silent.

"Oscar, you're almost thirty years old. You should be more mature in handling things and not be so self-willed."

"Dad, I can allow Amelia to give birth to the child. After the child is born, I'll give her a large sum of money that is enough for the rest of her life," asserted Oscar after thinking for a while.

"Are you sure this is what you want?" Owen frowned.

Oscar gave a firm nod.

"I respect your decision. You're a grown-up now, so I believe you can handle your work and personal matters well," Owen said.

He patted Oscar on the shoulder and added, "Let's go inside."

The two of them went back into the ward as if nothing had happened.

After Amelia came round, the first thing that came to her view was the worried look in Olivia's eyes. Still feeling a little groggy, she asked, "Mom, what are you doing here?"

Olivia checked her temperature to make sure that it was normal. Then flashing her a gentle smile, she asked, "Are you thirsty? Let me pour you a glass of water."

She proceeded to pour Amelia a glass of water before adding, "Amelia, you had a car accident, but don't you worry, you and the baby are fine."

Amelia's eyes widened as she looked at her in surprise. Olivia then assured her in a gentle voice, "Amelia, we all know that you're pregnant now. Don't worry. No one will dare to do anything to your baby as long as I'm here."

Casting her eyes down, Amelia said with a pale face, "Mom, I'm sorry for lying to you."

"I know what you're worried about, but I can promise you that I won't let anyone hurt your baby," guaranteed Olivia while patting Amelia on her hand.

Amelia forced a smile while feeling complicated deep down. She had never expected that her pregnancy would be revealed in such a way. It seemed that she could not hide from the inevitable and that her training in Saspiuburg would have to be put on hold as well.

Now that Oscar knew she was pregnant, he might let her give birth to the baby due to the pressure from Olivia. However, Cassie's involvement would mean that Oscar would probably divorce her. And after the divorce, the Clintons would definitely take the child away from her, which was the last thing she wanted.

She did not want to lose her child along with her marriage.

"Amelia, don't let your imagination run away with you. Now that you're pregnant with our first grandchild, I won't let your kid lose his mother," Olivia promised.

Coming back to her senses, Amelia shook her head with a smile and replied, "I'm fine, Mom. Don't worry about me. What happened to the man who caused the accident?"

"He has been taken away by the police. Don't worry. He broke the traffic rules and ran the red light, so I'll definitely make sure he gets jailed for at least several years."

"Mom, half of it is my fault too. He did run the red light, but I was talking on the phone while driving. If I hadn't done so, I might not have had a car accident. So just let the police do their things. I don't want the Clintons to interfere," explained Amelia.

"Okay, sure. You call the shots. What you need to do now is to take good care of yourself. Don't worry about other things," Olivia immediately agreed with a smile.

Amelia nodded. Then, she took an instinctive glance at the door and a look of disappointment flashed across her eyes.

Noticing the look, Olivia explained with a smile, "Oscar has been with you before this, but I told him to go back with Owen first since they had yet to eat. I've also asked Molly to make you some soup. She'll send it over soon."

"Thank you, Mom." Amelia smiled shyly.

Soon, Molly came over with soup and some other food she prepared for the two of them.

"Amelia, although the doctor said you're fine after the car crash, it's better to have something light first. You can eat normally again after two days," reminded Olivia as she filled a bowl with soup.

"It's all right, Mom. You've read my mind. It just so happened that I'm also craving for the soup made by Molly."

At this, Olivia chuckled as she brought a spoonful of soup to Amelia. "Here you go."

Amelia obediently opened her mouth and ate it.

After finishing one bowl of soup, Molly served her another bowl and urged, "Mrs. Clinton, you need to eat more. Now that you're pregnant, you need to take good care of yourself."

Amelia wanted to take the bowl, but Olivia took it instead. "I'll feed you."

Amelia ate two and a half bowls of soup. When she could not eat it anymore, she told Olivia with a smile, "Mom, the soup Molly made is really nice, but I've eaten too much. I'm stuffed."

"I've indeed fed you too much as I'm too happy. I shall stop now. But the thought of finally having a grandchild after four years makes me thrilled," replied Olivia while putting down the bowl.

Amelia still had a smile on her face, but she felt sad deep down. She did not plan to let the Clintons know about her pregnancy, but a car crash had disrupted her plan, catching her off guard.

After eating, she chatted with Olivia for a while before she started to feel sleepy. Seeing her like this, Olivia asked, "Are you sleepy?"

Amelia nodded.

Olivia then tucked her in. "Go ahead and sleep. I'm just gonna sit here."

Closing her eyes, Amelia started imagining things and thought that she would not be able to fall asleep, but soon she did.

When she woke up, Oscar was there instead of Olivia. "You're here, Mr. Clinton."

"Feeling better?" asked Oscar while keeping his gaze on her.

"Are you disappointed that nothing happened to my baby even after a car crash?" Amelia stared straight into his eyes.

He adjusted the blanket for her and replied, "Don't overthink it. Since you're pregnant, just give birth to him. But you must tell me when you're pregnant next time. I don't want to learn about my wife's pregnancy from others."

"You don't want me to abort it?" Amelia gave him a strange look, mixed feelings growing inside of her.

He simply changed the subject. "Don't worry about anything. Just give birth to the baby. No matter how we end up in the future, I'll make sure that you live the rest of your life in comfort."

A hint of bitterness grew inside her. Closing her eyes, she requested, "Mr. Clinton, if we divorce, I only have one demand, which is to give me the child's custody. I can give up my share of the assets."

"No, he's the descendant of the Clintons, so he must stay with the Clintons," Oscar rejected without even thinking about it.

She pulled the blanket over her head and asked, "Will we get a divorce in the future?"

Looking at the blanket with complicated emotion in his eyes, Oscar suddenly could not bring himself to say yes, so he said instead, "You're

pregnant now and the doctor wants you to rest well. You only need to focus on taking good care of your body.”

Amelia nodded under the blanket.

He tried to lift the blanket but could not, so he asked, “Are you going to talk to me like this?”

“What else do you want to talk to me, Mr. Clinton?” Amelia peeked out from under the blanket.

“It’s been a long time since we’ve talked in such a calm manner. Let’s have a chat.” Oscar patted her on the head.

“You actually have the time to chat?” Amelia blinked.

Oscar chuckled and asked, “Why do you talk to me like I’m the enemy? Do you not like chatting with me?”

Amelia shook her head.

“You are pregnant now, so let’s live together peacefully these few months,” Oscar declared.

“Well, as long as you don’t give us so much drama, I guess we can live together peacefully,” stated Amelia with a faint smile.

Now that the Clintons knew that she was pregnant, she would not want to destroy the superficial peacefulness by acting unreasonably as she was not ingenuous nor insensitive.

Perhaps the baby could ease the tension in her relationship with Oscar. She did not want to use Olivia, but she knew that Olivia might be able to play a mediating role in their relationship. Olivia could keep a tight rein on Oscar, and Cassie would not be able to marry into the Clintons so easily.

On the surface, Olivia was quite an easy-going lady and was different from other wealthy women who tended to act high and mighty. However, her kindness would only be shown to those who did not cross the line. Otherwise, it would be hard for her to forgive them.

Amelia knew she had Olivia backing her. As long as she wanted to use Olivia’s sympathy, Oscar would not insist on divorcing her.

She could manage without using Olivia before giving birth, but after the child was born, she would not be able to control the custody of the child.

Using Olivia was her last resort as it could at least guarantee her status as the wife of Oscar.

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“What would you like to eat after you get discharged? I’ll have them prepare it for you,” Oscar suddenly said as he reached out to touch her forehead.

“If I’d known that you’d be so good to me once you knew I was pregnant, I’d have told you a long time ago,” said Amelia, though there was no telling whether she genuinely felt that way.

Oscar said indifferently, “Stop thinking too much. Your only job now is to rest well.”

Amelia stared at him for a long time. Suddenly, she flung her arms wide open and said, “Hold me, Mr. Clinton. For a split second during the accident this morning, I thought I saw the Grim Reaper calling for me. My mind was completely blank at that time and when the car crashed onto the pillar, all I could think of was that I may not ever see you again in this lifetime.”

A hint of surprise flashed across Oscar’s eyes. He continued listening to Amelia, his heart aching uncontrollably.

“Mr. Clinton, forgive me for being too sappy. At that very moment of the car accident, all I could think of was that we are actually a legally wedded couple, but look at us now? We are like complete strangers. Now that I have finally woken up, I feel completely different. So, if you are thinking what I’m thinking, I’d like to stay with you like a regular couple. We can be a simple yet happy family of three when the baby comes.”

Oscar’s heart skipped a beat.

“Mr. Clinton, when I am discharged, can we just live in peace like a normal family?” Amelia looked at him expectantly.

Oscar’s eyes betrayed his tangled emotions before they slowly regained calmness. Retracting his hand, he said, “You are still in a daze after the accident. Rest well and don’t think too much.”

A frosty chill invaded Amelia's heart instantly. At the end of the day, to him, I am still Cassie's replacement. I am completely dispensable. He doesn't have an ounce of true feelings for me.

Amelia concealed her emotions and smiled sweetly. "Mr. Clinton, I'm a little tired and I'd like to get some rest. Go on with your day if you are busy. The nurses can take care of me here."

Oscar tucked her in and said, "Just close your eyes and sleep. I'll stay here with you."

With conflicted emotions, Amelia closed her eyes. She thought she would not be able to sleep, but she was knocked out within ten seconds.

Tiffany only found out about Amelia's car accident when she called her later that night. Instantly, she ignored her editors' incessant calls and rushed to the hospital.

Without even knocking, Tiffany pushed the door open and cried out loud, "What happened to you, Amelia? How did you get into a car accident? What did the doctor say? Are you all right?"

It was only then that she realized the large group of people in the room. They were either from the Clinton family or their business associates.

Tiffany's face began to burn. She chuckled nervously at her blunder before saying, "Oh, so everyone's here."

Olivia, being the first to spot her, welcomed her quite heartily. "Oh, so it's you, Tiffany. Come over here. We were so worried when Amelia got into the accident we forgot to inform you. However, you are her best friend, and it is so kind of you to come and see her."

Tiffany smiled and replied, "As her mother-in-law, Mrs. Clinton, I'm sure you are having a tough time now that this happened to Amelia."

Olivia tugged her closer to herself and said, "You are so sweet. The doctor says her fetus could have been slightly startled, so she needs to have plenty of rest. I was just about to find something to entertain her, but you appeared just at the right time. You stay with her, and I'll bring the rest of the people outside."

Tiffany replied, "Take your time, Mrs. Clinton. You can leave Amelia with me."

When the whole group left, Tiffany's face fell instantly. "Amelia, how did you get into a car accident? What did the doctor say? Are you all right? What about the baby?"

Amelia recounted the accident briefly and comforted her by saying, "Tiff, I'm fine, so don't worry about me."

Seeing that Amelia was not severely wounded, Tiffany finally relaxed and teased her, "We are really sisters in arms, with you getting into an accident not long after my accident. Thankfully, both you and the baby are fine. Otherwise, I'll definitely hunt down the culprit and chop him into pieces."

Amelia burst out laughing.

Tiffany then asked her seriously, "What are your plans now that the Clintons know that you are pregnant?"

Amelia replied, "I don't know yet. I can only take one step at a time now, considering how powerful and influential the Clintons are. Before they knew I was pregnant, I could still have the child secretly. Now, I think I can only give birth under their supervision."

"What's Oscar take on this?"

Amelia shook her head. "I can't read his thoughts. We have been married for four years, but I've barely been able to understand what really goes through his mind. He says I can have the child, but it looks like he wants the child to remain with the Clintons. Even if we were to get a divorce, he wouldn't allow me to bring the child with me."

Tiffany knew that the Clintons were the most influential family in the entire city. If they were to have a divorce, Amelia would probably get a small settlement and she would never be allowed to bring the child with her.

"Amelia, would you be willing to let the child stay with the Clintons?"

"It's not like I have a choice here, do I? This accident has messed up all of my plans, so I am panicking too. The only thing I can do now is to take things as they come," Amelia said rather defeatedly.

Tiffany then came up with an idea. "Relax, Amelia. It is probably for the best that the Clintons know about your pregnancy. Look, this is the Clintons' first grandchild and they are fairly reasonable people. On top of all that, Mrs. Clinton is fond of you. As long as you give birth to the child, I'm sure she will not stand to see her grandchild without a mother. So as

long as you keep yourself close to Mrs. Clinton, you will definitely be able to control Oscar.”

Amelia glanced at her and said suddenly, “I’ve thought of this before, but I don’t want to involve her in my marriage unless it’s absolutely necessary.”

“Babe, are you out of your mind? How could you still say that when things have escalated now? You have to know that she’s your only support now.”

Amelia nodded.

She looked at Tiffany and said earnestly, “Tiff, out of all the Clintons, my mother-in-law is the only elder that treats me well. Given the choice, I wouldn’t want to lie to her nor use her. Do you understand?”

“Go ahead and be the kind soul. We’ll see if you can still be that magnanimous when Oscar divorce you.”

Amelia fell into silence.

Tiffany added, “Look, Amelia, I don’t want to sound like some naggy old lady who mutters about the divorce and the child all day long. It’s just that you are an intelligent woman, and I think you should start planning for yourself. You can’t keep doing things for others and have nothing left for yourself. I can’t even bear to look at your situation even though you are doing this willingly.”

Amelia reached out for the apples on the table and changed the topic. “Tiff, you must be parched after talking so much. Peel this apple for me and let’s share it.”

Tiffany knew very well that Amelia was just trying to escape from reality. Hence, she obediently picked up the apple before peeling and slicing it. With a piece of apple in her mouth, she asked, “Babe, did the doctor say that you can have fruits?”

“He needs to observe me for another two days. I can still have some light food if there are no other issues.”

“I’ll just finish this apple on my own then.”

“Go ahead. I meant to stuff your mouth with it anyway.” Amelia smiled.

“Babe, these words hurt, all right?”

Amelia sighed and said, "Tiff, I know you only want the best for me. However, I still don't have the perfect plan yet, so I can only handle things as they come."

Tiffany munched on the apple leisurely before changing the topic. "I spouted all those nonsense only because I was too worried about you. The most important thing now is for you to regain your health. We can talk about the rest later."

Amelia nodded.

After staying in the hospital for another fortnight, the Clintons had arranged for her discharge when the doctor declared that both she and her child were in the clear. Olivia had arranged an extravagant ceremony to welcome Amelia home. When the latter saw the dozen Rolls Royces lined up outside the hospital, her eyes nearly popped out in shock.

She turned to Olivia uncomfortably and said feebly, "Mom, I'm just getting discharged from the hospital. You didn't need to arrange for such fanfare. Others may think that you are welcoming a president or something."

Olivia led her into the first car. "You are very precious now that you are pregnant with a Clinton. Of course, we have to welcome you home with pomp and circumstance."

Amelia felt rather pressured. "Mom, I could very well be carrying a girl. I am worried that you will be disappointed if that is so, especially after all this fanfare."

Olivia was not concerned. "Girls are good too, and they are the ones who are closest to their mother. I am not too bothered with the gender of the child. As long as the child is a Clinton, I will love him or her."

Amelia smiled. "Mom, you are so good to me. I'm afraid I could never leave you."

"Then don't leave. You are our daughter-in-law, and when your dad and I pass away, Oscar will be inheriting the entire family business. As his wife, you will naturally have to help him. In other words, all these will eventually belong to you."

Amelia merely smiled.

Olivia assured her, "Amelia, your most important job now is to take care of the baby. I assure you that you are and you will be my only daughter-in-law. If Oscar were to hurt you, I would not let him get away with it."

Amelia smiled.

The two of them got along very pleasantly, so it felt like it took no time before they arrived home. Their merry group was all smiles until they saw the unwelcomed guest on the couch.

Stephanie stood up and said beamingly, "Dad, Mom, Oscar, you are all back. Cassie and her parents have been waiting for quite a while. If you took any longer, I'd have brought them to the hospital."

Olivia snuck a glare at Stephanie before turning to the Yard family. "What brings you here, Liz? You should have told me earlier, and I could have informed our chef to prepare something for you."

Charlie and Elizabeth stood up. Resentment flashed across Elizabeth's eyes as she saw that Amelia was surrounded from left to right. She said spitefully, "Olivia, your daughter-in-law is a little precious, isn't she? Does she really need such a large entourage to accompany her as she gets discharged from the hospital? Are you that afraid that she will fall?"

Olivia looked rather displeased. She used to think that the Yards were an educated and refined family. This was why they could remain as friends even after Cassie had left the altar. Who would have thought that the seemingly level-headed Elizabeth would say something like this?

To her, her daughter-in-law was perfect in every way. In any case, it was not up to an outsider to make any comments about her.

"Liz, that's not very kind of you. Amelia is our only daughter-in-law, and she is pregnant with our precious grandchild. It is only natural that I protect and care for her. In fact, I'd get her the stars from the skies if she asked for them."

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Elizabeth's face changed. "Pregnant? When I visited her in the hospital you didn't mention anything about it. How could she be pregnant suddenly?"

Olivia suppressed her anger and said, "Liz, what is wrong with you today? How could you talk like this? I couldn't say that much considering the crowd in the hospital the other day. Amelia is already five months pregnant, and I'll be a grandmother next year."

“What’s going to happen to Cassie now that she is pregnant? Cassie is pregnant with Oscar’s child too. We are here today to discuss their marriage matters with you.”

Amelia’s eyes flashed with pain while utter disbelief darted across Oscar’s eyes. He looked at Amelia only to see the hurt hidden in her eyes. His heart twitched uncontrollably at that. Increasingly, he could not bear the sight of Amelia being sad.

However, the news of Cassie’s pregnancy caught him by complete surprise. He had said that he loved Cassie, but he had never expected to have children with her.

Olivia’s face fell immediately. “Liz, our families have been friends for a long time, so you can’t say malicious things like that. I would have been overjoyed to hear this if Cassie and Oscar were still engaged. However, Oscar is married now and his wife is pregnant. Even though it is very normal to have mistresses in our society, it is not acceptable for our family as it is not aligned with our family values. I congratulate Cassie on her pregnancy, but please don’t link it to Oscar. We Clintons cannot offer to house your precious daughter.”

Elizabeth flicked her perfectly coiffed hair and said, “Olivia, you’ve said so yourself that our families have been friends for years. No matter what, I wouldn’t make up something like this. Cassie is pregnant and she is really bearing Oscar’s child. If you don’t believe it, just ask Oscar. If he is a man he will own up to it.”

Olivia turned to Oscar who actually nodded and said, “Mom, I did have a thing with Cassie. I plan to marry her as well.”

Olivia was so angry she raised her hand to give Oscar a loud resounding slap.

Everyone was taken aback by the crisp sound of that slap. Nobody had expected Olivia to slap her own son. Oscar was a legendary figure in the business world and everyone looked up to him. His words were as good as the king’s decree.

“Mom, how could you hit Oscar?” Stephanie exclaimed.

Heartbroken, Olivia stared at Oscar and lamented, “Oscar, you’ve brought the company to such great heights, it led me to think that you were an honorable and upright man. Never did I expect you to be such a mess when it came to your personal relationships. You have such a wonderful wife, yet you gave her up for a woman that had not only hurt you but had multiple relationships with other men. Is this how you’re going to repay me?”

Oscar pursed his lips and silently allowed his mother to vent her fury.

However, his silence angered her further, which led her to pant heavily while clutching her chest in agony. Worried that something would happen to her, Amelia quickly went up to support her. "Mom, don't be too worried. I'm sure that there must be some misunderstanding here. Take it easy, and let's just talk properly."

It was only then that Olivia looked a little more relieved.

Owen stepped forward to support Olivia and said gently, "Look at you. You are pushing sixty and you still have such a raring temper. I am still the head of this family, so as long as you disapprove, I will not allow her to marry into the family. So don't worry, all right?"

Olivia finally looked better.

She nodded and said, "Owen, remember what you said, and don't disappoint me. Amelia is the only daughter-in-law I will ever have. If you make her suffer in any way, I'll pack my bags and leave the family together with her."

Owen comforted, "Don't worry. I will not allow that to happen."

Stephanie stomped her feet angrily and protested, "Mom, what are you talking about? What's wrong with Cassie? Why must you protect a woman who has nothing?"

Olivia glared at her coldly. "Steph, I'll talk to you properly when this is settled. I thought you were just a little strong-willed, but I didn't expect you to be so rude that you wouldn't even acknowledge your own sister-in-law."

Stephanie held her head up high and retorted, "Mom, Cassie is my only sister-in-law as far as I am concerned. This woman? She's just a materialistic woman that only has her sights set on marrying rich."

Olivia's suppressed anger began bubbling away again. "Shut up!"

"Steph, another word from you, and I'll send you overseas again to learn some respect," Owen said impassively. However, every single person in the room could sense the gravity in his words.

Stephanie glowered at Amelia before looking down and muttering, "Sorry, Mom. I shouldn't have said that."

Olivia did not say anything in response. Instead, she asked the other relatives and friends to leave with the promise of an upcoming party.

They were very understanding and all left one after another.

Owen brought Olivia to the couch while Oscar took Amelia in his arms to settle down on the other end of the couch. Amelia looked up at the palm print on his face, asking, "Does it still hurt?"

Oscar looked down and his heart warmed up when he saw the distress in her eyes. He shook his head and replied, "I'm fine."

At this very moment, Oscar was actually somewhat resentful of Cassie's willful actions. In fact, when he first heard of her pregnancy, his first reaction was not of joy but of suspicion. Is her child really mine?

He did not want to be suspicious but he was not dumb either. He did try to recall the one-night stand they had in the hotel, only he had no memory of what had happened halfway through his drinking that night.

He was an excellent drinker. If not for Cassie spiking his drink, he definitely would not have difficulty recalling that night.

He did not want to be cynical toward Cassie who looked pure and innocent on the surface, so he suppressed his suspicion. However, he was truly disgusted today, especially after she brought her parents to force this marriage on him.

While he was willing to admit that he loved Cassie, there was still a bottom line. The moment that line was crossed, he would no longer dote on her unconditionally.

"Ms. Yard, so I heard that you are pregnant?" Oscar's train of thought was interrupted when Olivia suddenly spoke up.

Cassie glanced at Oscar and replied aggrievedly, "Mrs. Clinton, I know you can't forgive me since I left Oscar at the altar. But we are truly in love, and I already knew about my pregnancy when I was doing up my papers to leave the country. It's been one month, and here is the report. You can take a look if you don't believe me."

Olivia took a look at the report and sniggered, "Ms. Yard, I've gotten some people to check up on you. Even though it was not particularly easy to find out more about your doings while you were overseas, nothing is impossible with money."

Cassie's heart beat wildly when she heard that.

Olivia got up from Owen's arms and looked at Cassie. "Ms. Yard, I was going to give you some respect due to the fact that your parents and I have been friends for many years. But who knew you could be so shameless?"

Charlie and Elizabeth's blanched. "Olivia, how could you say something like this? We have been friends for decades, and you have watched Cassie grow up since she was a little girl. Is this what you think of her?"

To that, Olivia said, "If I had known that this little girl would use such despicable ways to destroy my son's family, I'd rather that we'd never known each other."

The Yards' faces fell and Elizabeth spoke up sharply, "Olivia, that is just mean and spiteful. My daughter is now pregnant with Oscar's child. No matter what, my daughter is at the losing end. You don't have to acknowledge it, but how could you say that? Yes, the Clintons own a large business empire, but the Yard family is not to be trifled with either. If you don't settle this properly today, this will spell the end of our families' friendship."

Olivia smirked. "Sure. Let's settle this once and for all then, shall we?" Then, she went upstairs amidst everyone's puzzled eyes and soon reappeared with a manila envelope in her hands.

"This envelope contains the results of my team's investigation this past month. I'm sure Ms. Yard would be very interested to see what's in here. This is also for my silly son, for him to realize that this supposedly pure and innocent girl is not what she seems after all. My son is perfect in every way, but he has just lost himself to this woman. As his mother, I need to wake him up just so he would not be tricked by the same woman twice."

Cassie's expression changed when she looked at the manila envelope in Olivia's hands. She had an impulse to snatch the envelope from the latter's hands, but she restrained herself and waited painfully instead.

Olivia poured out the contents of the envelope. There were many photos inside, with Cassie featuring in each photo. However, there was a different man in each photo. They were either holding her by her waist, kissing her, or dancing closely with her. There were even some photos of Cassie stuck closely to some muscular foreign men. Everyone was flabbergasted at how liberal she was.

"Ms. Yard, could you explain the photos, please?" Olivia said coolly.

Cassie's face turned white when she saw the photos. Meanwhile, Charlie and Elizabeth were in complete disbelief as they had not expected their daughter to be that broad-minded.

"Cassie, what's going on here?" Elizabeth asked, clearly beside herself. Even though Elizabeth was almost sixty years old, she had gone to great lengths to take care of herself and she looked barely forty with her fair skin and fashionable outfits. But today, she looked like a miserable old shrew who had completely lost all control over herself.

Cassie's face was pale. I remember being very careful each time I went partying. How did she get all these pictures?

She subconsciously glanced at Oscar who had pain and disappointment written on his gloomy face.

If I don't get hold of Oscar today, the distance between us would only get farther and farther away.

After four years apart, Oscar does not love me as much as he proclaims to. In fact, he does not even realize that he has been rejecting my body. Even though he has never admitted it, my feminine instincts are definitely right.

I know this child is definitely June's, but there is no way I'm going back to him. This is the child that could help me tie Oscar down. However, who would have thought that Amelia would be pregnant and that Mrs. Clinton would run all those checks on me?

Am I still Cassie Yard if I admit defeat without putting on a fight? If I have been able to utilize a man's influence to reach the peak of my career, I have my ways to persuade Oscar again. As long as I am sincere enough, Oscar will definitely love me again.

I really love Oscar. I truly do! I was playful in my youth, but now that I have grown up, I am more than able to be a good wife and help Oscar with his family business.

"Oscar, I can explain the pictures. It's not what it seems." Cassie gulped and looked at Oscar pleadingly.

Oscar's eyes returned to their usual calmness. It was almost as if she had merely imagined the anguish and helplessness in his eyes just now.

"Just speak, Cassie. I'm listening," Oscar said coolly.

Amelia knew him very well. The calmer he was, the more it indicated an impending storm. However, Cassie did not know that, and she assumed that he was about to forgive her.

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“Oscar, these were all my orchestra mates. After our final performance, we had a celebratory dinner where everyone had too much to drink. We were playing a game where the loser had to be kissed, no matter men or women. I did share a little kiss with a female colleague as well, but I don’t know why they only took pictures of me with my male colleagues. You can go and investigate yourself if you don’t trust me. Oscar, you are the only one that I love in my life. That is the truth. Now that I am pregnant with your child, I don’t want you to misunderstand me just because of a few photos.”

Oscar picked up a photo of Cassie passionately kissing someone at a bar. His voice betrayed not a trace of his emotions as he said, “Cassie, I’d always thought that you were pure and innocent. When I had sex with you a month ago, there was real blood on the bedsheet. But could you explain to me what was going on in this picture?”

“Oz, I can explain. It was my roommate Julie’s birthday, and we decided to party at the bar. Before we knew it, we were carried away by the bar’s atmosphere and had too much to drink. I don’t know how I ended up kissing that person in the picture, but I can guarantee that nothing happened after that. Oz, when I left you to go to Erihal, I was very down, and I thought that I’d never meet another man that could make me fall in love so deeply. All I wanted to do was to let loose so I went to all the bars and clubs. I wanted to find a man for a quick one-night stand but you remained in my mind. All I shared with those men was a kiss, and nothing else. You have to believe me, Oz. You are the only one in my heart. I’ve really never slept with anyone else.”

Tears rolled down her cheeks as she spoke. Even Amelia could not help but praise her acting skills. With her looks, figure, and acting skills, it is a waste for her to not join the entertainment industry.

Oscar frowned and before he could speak, Olivia said, “Ms. Yard, you have excellent acting chops there. Regular men would definitely fall for it. However, our family is a proper business family, and we cannot allow such a wild woman into our family.”

Elizabeth scowled with displeasure. “Olivia, I don’t like what you are implying there. Our financial capacity is not that far behind yours, and our Cassie is a pure and innocent girl. So what if you have those pictures? They’re all from the past and they took place when she was single.”

Olivia laughed. "Liz, we have been good friends for years. To be honest, I am not as big-hearted as you are. For you to say that shows that you are very patient and magnanimous. However, as a mother, I cannot handle the misgiving that my son could be cheated on in the future. We can't afford to have a girl that is so wild and frivolous. Who knows if she would cheat on my son in the future? Nobody can be certain about that."

The Yards' expression darkened.

"Olivia, that is too much. We've been friends for years and you've watched Cassie grow up. Shouldn't you know what kind of person she is by now?" Charlie finally spoke up. Charlie and Olivia were university friends and they shared quite a solid friendship. Olivia met Owen through Charlie, so she was still willing to respect him.

Olivia sighed. "Charlie, it's not that I have insulted you. Look at how you barged in today. Not only did you destroy Oscar and Amelia's marriage, but you also made Cassie become the mistress. Is that what you wanted?"

"Olivia, I don't want Cassie to be the hated mistress either. However, Cassie and Oscar love each other, and I cannot bring it upon myself to separate them. You are Oscar's mother, so how could you just stand by and watch him miss out on his happiness?"

Olivia smirked. "I thought you were the most logical person out of all the people here, Charlie. I did not expect you to turn out to be just like Liz and allow your daughter to do anything she wants. I don't care about Cassie's character, but she cannot blame things on Oscar. Yes, our families' standings are similar, but my son already has a wife, and they are welcoming their own baby soon. If you still have any ounce of self-respect, please bring Cassie with you as you leave now. Otherwise, I will have worse things to say about you."

Elizabeth's face darkened instantly.

"You can't say that, Olivia. Cassie and Oscar were in love back then, and it was Oscar who requested for Cassie to come back now. On top of that, she is pregnant with Oscar's child, and that is why we came here despite the shame. If not for Oscar looking for Cassie despite being married, our daughter would have never been someone else's mistress. Are you trying to break off our friendship here?" Elizabeth questioned Olivia grimly.

Olivia was prepared to burn all bridges today. No matter what, she would never allow Cassie to marry into the family. Cassie was the woman who abandoned Oscar at the altar and made the Clintons the laughing stock of the upper echelons. The mere thought of that disgusted her. She could have just thrown Cassie out of the door if not for her consideration for the Yards' reputation.

However, she had to go for broke with the Yards right now. She had no choice as based on her son's character, he could very well abandon his wife to marry Cassie.

Olivia sighed. "Liz, Charlie, I didn't want to mean, but Oscar will definitely not marry Cassie. I am very satisfied with my daughter-in-law, Amelia, and I will never allow them to be divorced. It was probably a night of confusion for Oscar and Cassie. How about this? Let's assume that Cassie is really pregnant. We will conduct a DNA test when the baby is born. If the baby really is Oscar's, we will bring up the child. On top of that, we will provide Cassie with allowance."

Elizabeth was so angry her face turned slightly green.

"Olivia, don't cross the line here. Our daughter is not to be abused like that. Now that she is pregnant, you Clintons definitely have to bear the responsibility. Otherwise, our families will become enemies, and I will spare no expenses to seek justice for Cassie."

With that, Elizabeth looked at Oscar and said, "Oscar, you're the person in question here. What do you think? Just tell me whether you are marrying Cassie. We are still a reputable family and we won't hound you, but I'll tell you now that I will not just leave it as it is."

Oscar looked at Elizabeth calmly and said, "Mrs. Yard, I will handle this properly, and I will take care of Cassie's child. Stop making a scene here if you trust me. Otherwise, Cassie should just abort the child."

Cassie looked at him begrudgingly with red eyes and said, "Oz, you said you would marry me. Was it just to make me happy?"

Oscar replied patiently, "Be good, Cassie. Go back with your parents first. I'll look for you later tonight."

Cassie bit her lips and nodded before saying amenably to her parents, "Mom, Dad, let's go back. Ms. Winters was just discharged from the hospital today and we shouldn't have been here in the first place. I don't want your friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Clinton to be severed just because of me. You can't burn all bridges because of my wilfulness."

Elizabeth was about to protest but her husband tugged her dress. She had no choice but to get up and take her leave.

Before she left, she said, "Olivia, Cassie is our only child. If Oscar marries her, everything that we have will become yours. Don't cut off this financial route just because of a moment of anger. It's not worth it."

With that, the Yards left.

Gloom hung across the Clintons' living room.

Amelia mustered a smile and said, "Mom, I'm so sorry that you have to stand up to the Yards because of a useless daughter-in-law like me."

"Silly girl, Oscar wronged you in the first place." Mrs. Clinton sighed and said, "Amelia, don't blame Oscar. There are times when men just can't control their lower bodies. Even if Cassie is pregnant, you are still our only daughter-in-law, so don't worry."

Amelia shook her head and said graciously, "Mom, I'm fine. Don't get agitated because of me. It's not worth it."

Olivia sighed and looked at Oscar disapprovingly. "Oscar, remember what I am about to say now. The Clinton family will only acknowledge Amelia as our daughter-in-law. If you still have unfinished business with other women, you can forget about calling me Mom for the rest of your life."

Oscar remained silent.

"Why, do you still want to continue your affair with Cassie?"

"Mom, Cassie is already pregnant with my child. I can't just abandon her," Oscar said.

"Oscar, don't forget that Amelia is your wife and she is pregnant with your child too. Aren't you worried about hurting her when you say things like this in front of her? When have I ever taught you to be such a beast?" Olivia rebuked him woefully. She did not expect Oscar to be so fixated with Cassie.

"What is it about Cassie that made you willing to abandon your own wife?" Olivia could not understand it at all. "I've spent a lot of money to get these photos, and you still can't see what kind of woman she is? You are an intelligent man, so you shouldn't be easily misled by her words."

Oscar stood up and said, "Mom, I'll settle my relationship matters myself. Even if I were to divorce Amelia, I will make sure that she will not be in want for the rest of her life. Don't worry about that."

Olivia clutched onto her tightening chest and panted slightly. Instantly, Owen pulled Olivia into his arms and instructed Oscar grimly, "Get Mr. Lancaster here this very instant."

Oscar immediately made the call.

“Get out, you jinx! My mom would not be like this if not for you!”
Stephanie dashed forward and shoved Amelia aside.

Amelia nearly fell to the ground.

Olivia’s chest tightened further at that sight. She stared at Stephanie and muttered with much difficulty, “Stephanie Clinton, she is your sister-in-law, and she is pregnant. If anything happens to her, you might as well kill me too.”

Stephanie bit on her lip furiously as she stared at Olivia. “Mom, I am your daughter, how could you—”

Owen picked up Olivia in one fell swoop and reprimanded Stephanie, “Steph, shut up. Can’t you see that your mother’s suffering a relapse?”

Stephanie bit her lip aggrievedly.

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Robert arrived quickly and examined Olivia. “Olivia, you’re not young anymore. You should really learn to control your emotions.”

Owen asked nervously, “Robert, is she okay?”

“She needs a good rest. She got overly agitated which caused her to go out of breath. Be careful in the future though. Her heart is a little weaker than normal so she can’t withstand such pressure again.”

Owen said sullenly, “Okay. I was negligent this time. I won’t let it happen again.”

Robert nodded. “Olivia is generally fine so don’t worry too much. All right, I have to get back to the hospital.”

“Thanks. I won’t walk you out then,” replied Owen.

Robert waved his hands and replied, “It’s fine. We’ve already known each other for so long.”

After he left, Owen glanced at Oscar and Stephanie in displeasure. He said in a low voice, “Did you guys hear that? If anything were to happen to your

mother today, you guys can forget about coming back to the Clinton residence ever again."

Stephanie's eyes were reddened. She said, "Dad, I didn't do it on purpose. If it wasn't for this jinx, Mom would have never gotten angry."

Owen glared at her and lowered his volume even further. "Your mother is sleeping so I don't want to wake her, but you need to remember that Amelia is your sister-in-law. You'd better apologize to her for being rude."

Stephanie scowled at Amelia, who was standing at one side. "You want me to apologize to this jinx? I won't. I've never accepted her as my sister-in-law anyway."

Then, Stephanie ran off.

Owen clenched his fist, looking displeased.

Amelia walked over and said, "Dad, don't be mad at Steph. She's still young and may not understand you. Plus, she really cherishes Oscar, so she'll naturally find fault with me."

Owen looked thoughtfully at her and sighed after a while. "Amelia, you're pregnant. Don't tire yourself out. Go back and rest."

When Amelia glanced at Olivia, he continued, "I'll take care of her."

Amelia knew Owen did not really like her, so she left without another word.

Owen then turned to Oscar, who had been silent the whole time. "Oscar, I don't know what's going on in your mind, but I want you to stay away from Cassie. You're already married with a child and you've seen how much your mother likes Amelia. You just can't be with Cassie."

Oscar had a complicated look in his eye. After a while, he replied, "Dad, I really want to marry Cassie. She's someone that I've always desired to be with."

Owen tightened his fist in anger. "You would put your mother's life on the line for that woman?"

Oscar lowered his head and replied slowly, "I'm really sorry about Mom, but Cassie's already carrying my child. I can't let the child be born without a father, so I need to give her an official status. Moreover, as Mrs. Yard said, I'll have their family's support if I marry Cassie. Don't you want the Clintons to become stronger?"

Owen was speechless.

Back then, he had also been an ambitious young man, eventually growing Clinton Corporations to become one of the top companies today. Even though he had slowly decreased his involvement in the business, he still wanted the company to develop further.

Aside from its strong foundation, a marriage of convenience was the next best option to help Clinton Corporations become stronger. Merging two companies would help push for expansion into overseas markets, creating even more opportunities in the future.

Since Owen had never really liked Amelia, he was indeed enticed by Oscar's words. Other than her beauty, she was just like any other normal girl.

Beautiful ladies are not hard to find. When Oscar had insisted on marrying Amelia back then, he did not approve of their marriage. However, the Clintons were previously mocked when Cassie broke off the marriage, and marrying Amelia would put a stop to the ridicule. Thus, he had allowed Oscar to have his way.

Yet, Owen now wanted Oscar's marriage to be beneficial to the family business. Only by engaging in a marriage of convenience could their company continue to improve.

"You can marry Cassie but you have to get your mother's approval first. Otherwise, that is out of the question," Owen piped up.

Oscar nodded. "Dad, don't worry. I'll talk to Mom. Cassie is still that same girl that she's known since young. Someone is trying to frame her with the photos."

Owen frowned and replied sincerely, "Oscar, you're smart. I just hope that you can put more effort into dealing with your relationship issues and not just focus on work. Cassie has been living overseas for four years and would have definitely changed. If you really fell for her words so easily then I think handling Clinton Corporations over to you may be a bad decision."

Oscar stood silently as he pondered.

Owen patted him on the shoulder and said, "I'll just give you a piece of advice. You have to put your heart into both business and relationships. Sleep on it—whether Cassie is really suitable for you or not. Although I'm not very pleased with Amelia, she's pregnant with my first grandchild after all. There's nothing else more important than that. Just give it some thought. I don't want to see you suffer because of your marriage."

He continued after a while, "I'm willing to do anything for your mother because I think she's worth it. At the same time, she does even more for our family. Can the woman you choose manage and care for your family, and will she stand beside you in times of trouble?"

Owen patted Oscar on the shoulder again. "Just sleep on it."

Oscar raised his head to look at his father. His eyes held a mix of emotions.

He then nodded and said, "I got it, Dad."

Owen replied, "I'll stay here with your mother. You go on."

Oscar nodded. "Take good care of Mom. I'll go check on Amelia."

When his son left, Owen walked over to the sleeping Olivia. He smiled bitterly and said, "You can drop the act now."

Olivia opened her eyes. It was clear that she was wide awake.

Owen asked, "Still want to sleep?"

Olivia sat up and looked at her husband. "Dear, it's been four years. I can't believe you still don't like Amelia."

Owen laughed. "She's not my ideal daughter-in-law, but I neither like nor dislike her."

When Olivia got off the bed, he quickly reached over to hold her. "You've just recovered. Don't keep moving around."

She shook off his hand and retaliated, "I like Amelia. I get along well with her and she understands what I'm thinking. She's also definitely more suitable for Oscar than Cassie is. I think Oscar is just too blinded by his obsession that he can't see where his heart really lies."

Owen poured her a glass of water and said, "Drink some water, then we'll talk."

She took a sip, then asked, "Dear, are you seriously willing to let Oscar marry Cassie?"

Owen took her in his arms and spoke in a low voice. "Let them decide for themselves. Don't worry too much."

However, Olivia was determined. "I'll say it now. I only want Amelia as my daughter-in-law. I won't accept anyone else."

He laughed bitterly. "Olivia, don't be stubborn. Just let them deal with it themselves. Oscar is a smart man, even smarter than me. I believe he can handle his relationships well too."

Olivia replied angrily, "I think he's stupid to abandon his wife for such an insignificant person. If he regrets it in the future, that's his own problem."

Owen could not help but laugh. "Okay. Lighten up, would you? He's almost thirty. He should know what he wants for himself."

Olivia nodded but stood by her words. "I'll only accept Amelia as my daughter-in-law."

Owen chuckled. "Aren't you making things difficult for Oscar? If you keep favoring Amelia, you're also making Stephanie unhappy. I'm worried that your relationship with her will worsen because of this."

Olivia was lost for words.

Owen hugged her and added, "I understand you like Amelia, but you need to know your priorities. Stephanie's your daughter. Although she's a little headstrong, she's still very filial. These past four years, your relationship with Stephanie has been worsening because of Amelia. Are you sure you want to continue this way?"

Olivia still did not speak.

Seeing that, Owen did not continue to prompt her any further.

Five minutes later, she replied, "I'll try to be fairer from now on."

Owen tightened his hug. He had successfully persuaded his wife.

Meanwhile, Oscar headed back to his bedroom. He was about to knock on the door when he hesitated.

Eventually, he opened the door to find Amelia sitting on the bed with a book in her hands. However, she was clearly in a daze.

Oscar walked over and took the book out of her hands. Only then did Amelia notice him. She had a lost look in her eyes and the former's heart hurt at this sight.

Amelia quickly composed herself and spoke as if everything was normal. "You're back, Mr. Clinton. Has Mom woken up?"

Oscar shook his head and sat down to embrace her. He whispered, "What were you doing?"

Amelia laughed. "You just took away my book. Isn't it obvious?"

Oscar studied the book then said, "It's upside down. You're clearly not reading it."

Amelia was not embarrassed. She simply replied, "I was spacing out. Since Ms. Yard is already pregnant, I was wondering when I would be kicked out of the Clinton family. I just hope that I'll be able to leave happily then."

Oscar disliked the hurt look in her eyes. He covered them and asked, "Who said you would be kicked out of our family?"

"Well, am I wrong about it?" Amelia replied with a question of her own.

Oscar was silent for a moment. He then replied, "Don't worry. Even if we do get a divorce, I won't kick you out. I'll get a luxury car to send you out."

"I'll really have to thank you for your generosity then," Amelia paused. "I'd already predicted that this would happen when we got married four years ago. But considering that we've been married for so long, could you promise me something?"

"Just say it."

Nevertheless, Amelia held her tongue. Oscar released her from the hug and noticed that she had shut her eyes. He bent down to kiss her, then said seductively, "If you have something to say, just say it."