

Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 601

Chapter 601 No Hard Feelings

Crystal looked at the leather bag on the table and felt suddenly uneasy.

Crystal did not touch the leather pouch. "What is this, Mrs. Hisson?"

"Take a look, Crystal," Kate said, echoing Terrence the night before.

Under Kate's discerning gaze, Crystal opened the leather pouch reluctantly and emptied its contents out onto the table. Her face paled at once at the sight of the photos and documents scattered before her.

"Mrs. Hisson, I-I..." Crystal bleated with trembling lips as she picked up some of the photos.

"The old man had you investigated. As you know how much Derrick means to him, you should also understand how important it is to him that his grandson marries the right girl. Sending someone to investigate you is only inevitable. Lo and behold, these are the first things he finds out about you. Could you help me understand?" Kate looked at her with an enigmatic half-smile.

Crystal's mouth went dry. Despite feeling disoriented, she improvised quickly. "I can explain, Mrs. Hisson. The men in the photo are all my friends. We're close, you know, and have been for years. Sometimes we even forget about social conventions given how close we are."

"I like you very much, Crystal. I really do want you to be my daughter-in-law. My only condition is that she remains clean for my son."

Crystal hurriedly raised three fingers to swear an oath. "I promise you that I only have Derrick in my heart, Mrs. Hisson. Though I have many friends of the opposite sex, I've always kept a safe distance from them and had never crossed the line. Despite saving myself for Derrick, he has never reciprocated my feelings for him. As if that's not bad enough, Derrick is openly in a relationship with another woman. You have never given me an explanation for this, Mrs. Hisson. I never know what to tell my parents who have asked me several times about my status with him. I am not getting any younger, and I have moved away from my family in Beshya to be with him. I hope you can provide a satisfactory answer to my parents. It has been difficult for me too, you know."

Kate's eyes narrowed as her expression soured. "Are you threatening me, Crystal?"

"You know that's not what I meant, Mrs. Hisson," Crystal said quietly. "I've never felt the connection I have with Derrick with any other men. It's also my dream for things to work out with Derrick, but he only has eyes for other women. If I'm not going to be made an

honest woman any time soon, I think I should be free to explore my options, shouldn't I?"

Crystal had been doing a good job of suppressing her true nature. If she had not been caught off-guard by the photographs, she would not contradict herself so soon. Kate's impetuous accusation had sparked her temper.

"I never knew of this thorny side, Crystal," Kate sneered. "You have always been gentle and docile."

"That's not what I meant," Crystal said, deciding to put everything out in the open. "I'm just tired of being led on, that's all. All I want from you is a clear answer. Do you know how bad it looks on me to be chasing a man this shamelessly? To tell you the truth, my parents are getting angry."

Kate lapsed into thoughtful silence.

"I don't know who took these photos," Crystal continued, "but I can confidently tell you that I am not involved with any of them. On the other hand, Derrick's involvement with other women essentially makes me the third wheel. Do you know how embarrassing that is? Don't you think you owe me and my parents an explanation?" Sitting up a little straighter, Crystal pressed her advantage. "Look, Mrs. Hisson, I didn't mean to come off hostile. It isn't easy being a victim of the circumstances. I regard Derrick as my future husband, but the Hissons had gone back on their word by allowing him to date other women. My parents have given me an ultimatum. Either marry Derrick or return to Beshya."

For a long time, Kate did not move or speak.

Thankfully, the waiter's arrival soon after with the food broke the awkwardness between the two women.

"Here you go," the waiter said as he set down the food. "Enjoy your meal, madam, miss."

Even after his departure, the atmosphere between the two remained strained.

After a quick glance around, Crystal spoke first. "I would like to apologize to you for speaking out of turn, Mrs. Hisson. I hope you can forgive me. I also understand that Derrick's actions are out of your control. The pressure my parents placed on me caused my embarrassing outburst."

Kate's frostiness melted a little.

Crystal pressed her momentum by serving the older woman before continuing, "Have a taste, Mrs. Hisson. I hope you find it pleasant on your palate."

Kate graciously accepted her apology by accepting the morsel served to her. After several bites, she found it surprisingly tasty.

“Help yourself, Crystal.”

Crystal obliged. In an instant, the atmosphere between the two dissolved into something more cordial.

After the two of them finished their meal in silence, Kate wiped her mouth with a napkin before clearing her throat. “To be honest, Crystal, the reason why I show you the photo is that I hold you in higher regard than Tiffany. I did it in the hopes that you would completely cut off contact with other men. Though I can’t explicitly order you to, I just want you to be careful not to be photographed by the media as we Hissons hold our reputation dear.”

Crystal glanced down to conceal the flash of rage across her eyes. When she raised her head again, her eyes shone with nothing but tender filiality.

“I know that, Mrs. Hisson,” she said gently. “After marrying Derrick, I will remain by your side. While my husband works, I will learn how to tend to a garden from you and spend our days shopping. If Derrick encounters any difficulties at work, I will be there for him.”

Her meekness completely eradicated Kate’s doubts brought on by the existence of the photographs.

The women left the restaurant hand in hand and headed for the mall. At a fashion boutique, they spotted Amelia, Tiffany, and Tony who also happened to be out shopping that day.

Tiffany was helping Tony with trying on clothes when she caught sight of Kate and Crystal.

After a moment’s hesitation, she decided to put the shirt back on the rack.

“Mrs. Hisson,” Tiffany greeted politely while ignoring Crystal who had Kate’s arm in hers.

Kate only had eyes for Tony. “This must be Tony,” she said with a broad smile. “I haven’t seen you in so long! You look even more handsome than when I last saw you, my dear.”

Tony glanced up and smiled particularly sweetly. “Hello, Mrs. Hisson.”

Kate bent down and beckoned Tony over before kissing him soundly on each cheek. “You give kisses like Mr. Pretty, Mrs. Hisson,” he said coyly. “I love receiving kisses from you.”

Kate was completely mollified by his words. After squeezing him tightly and planting several more kisses on his face, she trilled, "You are delightful, Tony! When my son and your Aunt Crystal get married, you will have lovely cousins just like you to play with and for me to dote."

Tony wrinkled his nose. "But Mrs. Hisson, isn't Mr. Pretty with Tiffy? Mommy said that if you marry someone, you will be together for a lifetime. Mr. Pretty belongs with Tiffy, not any other wicked ladies."

Both Kate and Crystal's faces fell.

"Who told you that Mr. Pretty is with Tiffy?" Kate asked with a supreme attempt at patience.

Tony looked at Kate like she was a simpleton. "You're so silly, Mrs. Hisson," he said crisply. "Mr. Pretty is with Tiffy all the time, isn't he? They have even kissed. I have seen it several times. Only people who like each other can kiss. Mommy also said that a man must be responsible for the girl he kisses. Do you want your son to be a bad guy who kisses girls and abandons them?"

Kate was completely stunned. "My child," she said instinctively, "do you know what it means to abandon someone?"

Tony wrinkled his little nose proudly. "Of course I do. I learned that word from watching TV when I was two years old. Not only have I memorized them, but I also understand it. Mr. Pretty would be very mean person if he abandons Tiffy."

Amelia hurriedly held her son and glanced up apologetically. "The child didn't mean what he said, Mrs. Hisson. Please don't take any of it to heart."

Despite being a little angry, Kate was cognizant enough not to pick fights with a child. However, she noticed that Tony was smarter than she gave him credit for. It's like he knows that I am a bad mother for breaking up my son's hard-earned happiness with a girl of his choosing. Is Tony really smart enough to understand the true meaning of marriage and love?

She shook her head, trying to shake off the feeling that she was losing her mind to even think that a child who was barely even three years of age was mocking her for being cruel and domineering.

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Chapter 602 Benjamin Is Here

"No issue. Since he's still a kid, I won't take his words to heart. Anyway, kids tend to speak in a way as instigated by their parents. Thus, I hope you'll take note of that," Kate

mocked with a subtle smile. She was born to be a beauty, and no words could describe how stunning she looked when she smiled. On top of that, she did not look like a woman who was already more than sixty years old. Unequivocally, her breathtaking beauty was irresistible to everyone.

Meanwhile, Amelia also smiled placidly.

Throwing Crystal a glance, Kate uttered ambiguously, “Crystal, let’s go. I don’t wish to have my mood spoiled by someone else. My temples start to throb whenever I see her.”

Crystal held onto her arm and uttered gently, “Mrs. Hisson, let’s go.”

When they walked past Tiffany, Laura derided, “Tiffany, I hope you’re even more competent in getting more investments for Derrick. If so, it’ll be a lot more fun for me. Don’t you know I have a preference for more challenging things?”

The next second, she strutted off with her nose in the air with Crystal.

Tiffany only retracted her gaze from their retreating figures when they were finally out of sight.

More From The Web



“Tiffany, are you all right?” Tony’s mellifluous voice sounded, breaking her reverie.

Tiffany regained her composure and pinched his cheek lightly with a chuckle. “I’m fine. I think that outfit suits you. How about you try them on?”

Tony nodded in agreement.

Tiffany chose one set of suits and two sets of casual wear for him. He stepped into the fitting room alone to try on the outfits without the two women’s assistance.

In the meantime, Amelia and Tiffany were seated on the couch specially prepared for shoppers. Gazing at Tiffany, Amelia commented resignedly, “Evidently, Mrs. Hisson still has a prejudice against you.”

Tiffany shrugged her shoulders and looked as if she was oblivious to it.

“Well, what can I do? My family background, education background, and looks are incomparable to Crystal Halliwell. If I were in her shoes, I would certainly choose the

most qualified woman for my son. But undeniably, when it comes to relationships, couples know best if they are meant for each other. Others' preferences might not be ideal for us," Tiffany mumbled matter-of-factly.

Flashing her a faint smile, Amelia tried to cheer her up. "Stop overthinking. Again, I wish to emphasize that you're good-natured and treat elders with filial piety. Time will reveal a person's true nature. I believe it's just a matter of time before she notices your virtue."

"I hope so." Tiffany smiled bitterly.

After that, they shopped for quite a long time in the mall and bought quite a few outfits for Tony.

When Tiffany was about to send Amelia and Tony home, the latter received a call from Dominic. Moments later, Tiffany overheard her reply, "I'll head to the hospital now."

After hanging up the call, Amelia stated grimly, "Tiff, can you turn around the car and head for the hospital?"

"What happened?" Tiffany asked in bafflement.

"I have no idea. My dad only urged me to go straight to the hospital without mentioning anything. I wonder why too," Amelia responded.

Without hesitation, Tiffany turned the car around and headed for the hospital, as requested by Amelia. She knitted her brows along the way there, feeling puzzled.

When they reached the hospital, Amelia carried Tony and stepped into the elevator anxiously with Tiffany.

Shortly after, they were outside the ward. Dominic opened the door for them when Amelia knocked on it.

"Dad, did you call me because something happened to Spencer?" Amelia cut to the chase.

Nonetheless, Dominic only threw her a complicated glance. He moved aside and instructed, "Get in first."

Perplexed, Amelia had no choice but to enter.

The moment she stepped into the ward, someone came into view unexpectedly.

She turned to look at Dominic. However, he avoided having eye contact with her and explained in embarrassment, "Mr. Hutton came all the way from Saspiuburg; he wished to see you. So I guess you should talk to him."

Amelia twitched her lips without uttering any words.

“Mr. Hutton, it’s been a long time since we last met in Beshya! I thought you’ll not show up in front of us again. It never occurs to me that I’ll meet you here again. Apart from your tyrannical deed in Beshya, are you thinking of making a scene on others’ turf too?” Tiffany scoffed, her arms crossed on her chest.

Even so, Benjamin only shot her a glance.

Meanwhile, Dominic’s face fell. Pulling her aside, he lambasted, “Ms. Winters, how could you be so rude toward Mr. Hutton? Where are your manners? Even though you’re Amelia’s best friend, don’t you think you’ve to mind your manners?”

Flustered, Tiffany snickered. How ironic that a father would take an outsider’s side rather than his own daughter!

At the thought of that, she could not help feeling sorry for Amelia.

“Mr. Winters, I wanted to apologize to him too, but I’m allergic to scumbags and b*stards. You could just disregard your daughter’s feelings merely because he was your benefactor, nonetheless, I can never be as cruel as you!” she sneered, her arms remaining crossed on her chest.

In an instant, Dominic blushed crimson.

Temper flaring, Melanie piped up, “Tiffany, we actually quite like you since you are Amelia’s best friend. However, Mr. Hutton is our honorable guest as he has traveled all the way here to visit my son. Not to mention, he’s my life savior. Thus, I hope you’ll mind your words.”

Hearing that, Tiffany was utterly speechless.

Amelia pulled her sleeve slightly and turned to look at Benjamin. “Mr. Hutton, Tiff is used to speaking straight from the shoulder. Not to mention, there’s a dispute between us in Beshya previously. Hence, she might still dwell on the past and tends to act impulsively for my sake. Please accept my sincerest apology on behalf of her.”

The latter only nodded placidly and turned to gaze at Tony in her arms.

“So he’s your son?” Benjamin queried. Right that instant, he could feel a ripple of indecipherable warmth flowing through his heart. Surprisingly, he could not resist having a soft spot for the toddler. In fact, he felt the latter’s nose resembled his. Nevertheless, he was reluctant to accept that it was due to biological inheritance.

“Yes, he’s my son. If I’m not mistaken, you’ve seen him before in Beshya. But you might not be able to recognize him now as he’s grown taller,” Amelia replied with a hint of aloofness in her tone.

“I think he looks a bit like me,” Benjamin commented subconsciously without shifting his gaze away from Tony.

He only came to his senses seconds later and realized his slip of the tongue.

After clearing his throat wittingly, he changed the topic. “Ms. Winters, can I have a private conversation with you?”

Amelia cut to the chase. “Mr. Hutton, feel free to speak your mind here.”

Furrowing his brows, Dominic reprimanded, “Amelia, how could you be so blunt? After all, Mr. Hutton is your f-elder. Since he wishes to have a word with you, why can’t you go out and have a chat with him elsewhere?”

Amelia’s lips contorted into a snicker, but it faded within seconds.

“Mr. Hutton, there’s a new coffee shop next to the hospital. If you don’t mind, we can have a chat there,” she suggested.

“I have no objection to that.” Benjamin nodded.

Thus, Amelia handed Tony to Tiffany and requested, “Tiff, can you bring Tony with you? I’ll look for you after having some words with Mr. Hutton.”

Staring at her indignantly, Tony asked, “Mommy, can’t you bring me along with you?”

“Tony, listen to me. Stay with Tiffy for a while. I’ll go and join you in about half an hour’s time, okay?” Amelia reassured him.

“All right. Mommy, don’t take too long, okay?” Tony replied reluctantly.

Tiffany only nodded at Dominic and Melanie placidly before leaving with Tony in her arms. She noticed that Amelia did not let Tony greet her parents after they stepped into the ward earlier. Inevitably, she doubted if Amelia was caught off guard by Benjamin’s presence or if she was doing so deliberately so that Tony would not be closely acquainted with the Winters family.

Right after Tiffany left with Tony, Amelia asked Benjamin, “Mr. Hutton, would you mind waiting for me outside? I need to have a word with my parents.”

The latter nodded.

After he strode out of the ward, Amelia turned to look at Dominic and Melanie nonchalantly. “Dad and Mom, I guess this is what you’ve been looking forward to, right? I’ve had enough of playing along with you all this while. Let’s cut ties with each other after Spencer’s recovery. After all, there’s no point in having a maternal family that never considers me a member. I guess it’s best if we don’t cross paths with each other again in the future. With that, nobody will be disrupting your peaceful life.”

The next second, she turned and walked away.

When she was about to reach the door, Dominic’s voice sounded. “Amelia, sorry for everything. I never intend to hurt you too. We have no choice but to think on behalf of our family.”

Amelia smiled bitterly and uttered sorrowfully, “I understand that you’re thinking solely for the sake of the Winters family. But sadly, you never consider me as a member of the family, do you? Regardless of anything, I’m still an outsider, right?”

Next, she turned to open the door and stepped out. When the door slammed behind her, it seemed to imply that she had cut off all ties with the Winters family.

Dominic let out a deep sigh as he asked Melanie, “Do you think we are too selfish?”

The latter was rendered speechless.

Seconds later, Dominic added, “Sigh, we’ve never really cared about her since she’s young. Now that she requests to have no trucks with us in the future, I bet it’s for the best. From now onwards, she won’t be distressed about having cold-hearted and self-centered parents like us!”

Melanie snorted. “Don’t overthink it. The pressing issue on hand is to have Spencer recover soonest possible. If he can fully recover, I’m willing to do anything, even if it meant getting down on my knees before her. But I won’t admit she’s my daughter so long as Spencer is still not cured. Not to mention, she is now married to an heir of a prominent family. Who knows, she might be the one giving you the cold shoulder and refusing to admit her familial bond with us!”

Dominic only heaved a sigh again without uttering any words.

Gazing at Spencer nonchalantly, Melanie seemed to be scheming in her mind.

Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 603

Chapter 603 Troubling Disposition

Amelia and Benjamin came to a cafe near the hospital and ordered two cups of coffee. When their beverages were served, Amelia asked for some sugar.

“Ma’am, here are some sugar as requested.”

“Thank you.”

She scooped a small teaspoon of sugar and added it to her cup. While stirring, she asked, “Mr. Hutton, I wonder about your purpose for traveling such a long way by air to see me. May I know what you would like to discuss with me?”

He scrutinized her and admittedly thought that she looked almost identical to his wife. In fact, they would pass as a pair of twins. Unfortunately, he loathed seeing that face. It kept bugging him as though some unforgettable humiliation would soon be brought to light.

“You look a lot like my wife,” he stated.

“It’s an unexpected honor to be Mrs. Hutton’s look-alike,” Amelia paused her action for a split second and responded magnanimously.

More From The Web



“Ms. Winters, I flew all the way here from Saspiuburg, so I ain’t going to beat around the bush. I believe you have probably discovered the fact that you’re my daughter. To tell you the truth, I have only a son and a daughter. I don’t intend to add any new family member,” Benjamin cut to the chase.

A gracious smile remained plastered on Amelia’s face, and there was no trace of sorrow or anger on her expression. She looked like she was listening attentively to an elderly telling her a story.

“I admire your honesty, Mr. Hutton. Yet, I don’t appreciate your hostility toward me.” She added, “As what you’ve seen, I’m doing very well even without your support or the backing of the Winters family. I have a husband and a son who love me very much. So, I’m not bothered about reuniting with a blood kin. Instead of viewing you and Mrs. Hutton as my long-lost parents, you lot are more like strangers to me. We don’t share a bond. Hence, I’m not keen on claiming my birth parents. Mr. Hutton, please rest assured that my identity as Mrs. Clinton doesn’t stir up a need in me to covet the little wealth that the Huttons possess.”

Pursing his lips, Benjamin gazed at her intently.

He had rehearsed this meet-up for at least a million times on his way here, but he did not expect her to reject him without an ounce of respect or tact.

“I’m delighted to hear this from you, Ms. Winters. I do hope that you’d make your stance clear to my wife and stay consistent in your decision. I don’t wish for you to give her any false hope. Yes, she wants to reconcile with you very badly, but she already has two children. There’s really no need to gild the lily. Thus, your cold and heartless rejection would be the best answer to her.”

At that, Amelia’s lips curled into a smile. A contemptuous look flashed across her eyes.

“Mr. Hutton, I doubt you’ve ever really made an effort to pay the slightest attention to what your wife really wants,” said Amelia.

Benjamin’s expression changed as he was taken aback by her frankness.

“If I were you, Mr. Hutton, I wouldn’t set this relationship of ours in stone. After all, truth be told, I’m indeed your daughter. Additionally, I’m married to the heir of the Clinton family, who is way richer than the Huttons. As a businessman, aren’t you an expert in weighing the pros and cons? Don’t you want to recognize me as your legal offspring? Conversely, you acted otherwise. I’m not sure if you’re playing hard to get or am I really that unlovable?” As she stirred her cup of coffee, she got what she wanted to say off her chest in a mocking voice. Smiling, her words were nothing but the truth despite how harsh they might have sounded to Benjamin.

The latter was so enraged by her comments that he smirked in response. His hawk-eye glared at Amelia, who in turn returned him with a casual gaze. She was not fearful of the way he judged her.

Suddenly, Benjamin applauded and burst out laughing. “Ms. Winters, you’re much cleverer than I thought. Yes, I’m a businessman who prioritizes profit. Given the chance, I’d choose to make a new friend instead of an enemy. If it was someone else, I’d be dying to butter the person up. However, I won’t act like that in front of you because I don’t like you. Or else, I wouldn’t have tried so hard to send you away.”

Amelia’s smile grew even brighter than before.

“Great, this is perfect! You’re indeed a visionary with a wicked soul, Mr. Hutton. Even a vicious tiger would not eat its cubs, but my own father would hurt his daughter at all costs,” she derided.

Benjamin took out a check and placed it in front of Amelia. “This is ten million. Being Oscar’s wife, I know that you aren’t short of money. Anyhow, I hope to compensate you for what you had to go through all these years. It’s also a way for me to overcome my guilt. Take this, and we shall officially cut off ties with each other.”

Amelia's grin became more pronounced when she saw the multiple zeros written on the check.

She took it up and fidgeted with it. "How generous, Mr. Hutton! Ten million is an amount that a regular family could only dream of. They might not even earn anything close to it even if they were to work for three generations. I thank you for this, but I'm disgusted by it at the same time. Initially, I don't plan to have any connections with the Huttons. You really shouldn't have involved the Winters, and neither should you humiliate me by flashing your money. I'm a rebellious child, you know. The more someone wants me to refrain from doing something, the more I want to go against his will. Who knows? I'll get close and intimate with Mrs. Hutton when I see her one day. No, there are no specific reasons for me to do that, but I just want to annoy the h*ll out of you."

Malice burned in Benjamin's narrowed eyes.

Subsequently, Amelia tore the piece of check apart. She rose to her feet and grinned. "I have other matters to attend to. Please excuse me, Mr. Hutton." She turned around and left, but stopped in her tracks and turned back after taking a few steps forward. "By the way, Mr. Hutton, I forgot to inform you something. I'm not as close to the Winters family as you think. So, there's no need for you to waste your precious time on them. Judging from how cold I am toward my birth parents, one can only imagine how I would treat my foster parents who aren't my blood relations."

Benjamin's gaze was fixated on her as she stormed off and disappeared from his sight after turning the corner.

"Amelia, since you're not heeding my advice, I shall not keep you alive. Your existence is my utmost humiliation. You'll never understand this dreadful sense of mortification," Benjamin spat out those words through his gritted teeth.

He then whipped out his phone and dialed a number.

"Caleb, keep an eye on Amelia. When the time is right, abduct her. I trust that you know what to do thereafter."

"No worries, Mr. Hutton. I know exactly what to do. One thing though, we noticed that there are several bodyguards protecting her everywhere she goes. They don't look too easy to handle. I'm afraid it's quite a challenge to kidnap her," a hoarse voice uttered over the phone.

"That's your problem. As an assassin, I don't think you need to take advice from me on how to kill a person." Having said that, Benjamin hung up.

Unbeknownst to Amelia, a murderous intent brewed within her father. As soon as she left the cafe, she called Tiffany because she knew that Tiffany was playing at a nearby park with Tony.

She went over to meet them, only to see that Tony was happily leading a group of children in games.

“Tiff,” Amelia called out.

Tiffany turned and asked, “Finished chatting?”

Amelia nodded.

She strode across, smiling. Her eyes were focused on Tony, who was over the moon. “It seems that Tony is getting on quite well with other children.”

“He’s very open-minded and cheerful. Coupled with his level of maturity, he fits the description of a leader among other kids.” Tiffany had nothing but praises for the boy.

The two ladies sat on the long bench. “How was the discussion with him?” Tiffany asked.

“How else could it be? He kept telling me not to drag Mrs. Hutton into this. Additionally, he also revealed that the reason for sending me away back then was because he hated me to the core. Seemingly, I’m not popular among the elders. My biological father doesn’t like me, and neither does my foster parents. I wonder if I’m destined to be the unwanted child,” Amelia said casually while playing with her hair.

“Are you sad?”

“In the past, I might be sad. But now, I can’t think of a reason to dwell in sorrows.”

“Good! That’s the Amelia that I know.”

Amelia shrugged her shoulders.

Right then, her phone rang. She took a peek at the screen and saw that the caller was Jolin.

She picked it up. “Hi, Jolin.”

“Mrs. Clinton, I have been informed by Charlie via a call that someone is tailing you. He and the others are settling it at the moment. I’m going to you right now. Please bring Mr. Anthony somewhere crowded. I’m worried that Charlie would be outnumbered by the people who are following you around,” Jolin reported accordingly.

Instinctively, Amelia scanned her surrounding, but she did not see anyone suspicious. “I’ll wait for you at the hospital.” It’s better to be safe than sorry.

“Sure, I’ll be there in ten minutes.”

Upon hanging up, Tiffany asked, "What's going on? Did something happened?"

"Jolin claimed that someone is following me, but the bodyguards are looking into this. She's on her way here, and she wants me to bring Tony to somewhere crowded. Let's not wander around anymore."

"Why didn't you say so earlier?" Instantly, Tiffany leaped from the couch and took Tony away from his playmates. "Come on, darling, we've got to go."

The trio quickly shifted to a place where there were more people. Tiffany even asked the security guards at the hospital for support by claiming that someone was stalking them. The bodyguards were well aware of Amelia's relationship with the Director. Hence, in a split second, five to six security guards showed up in their midst.

Amelia was dumbfounded. "Tiff, it's not necessary to raise a ruckus. Those who don't know might think that something untoward has happened."

Tiffany hugged Tony tighter and said, "I'm just being prepared. Don't you know that you have a troubling disposition? When you're not getting hit by a car, you're being stalked. You should have more bodyguards protecting you at all times. I'm thinking five to six may not be enough."

Amelia was rendered speechless. Then again, she did have a better sense of security to having an increased number of bodyguards around her, especially when she was traveling with a child.

"Sit down, Amelia. Don't overthink things. You have me to take care of both you and Tony."

Amelia chuckled.

"Tiff, don't be so anxious as if you have ants in your pants. See, you scared Tony." Amelia stretched out her arms and carried the little boy. "Tell me, Tony, how did you feel when you were playing with the other children today? Happy?"

"I was happy! They're quite obedient. I loved being their big brother, and I thoroughly enjoyed being a leader!"

"Whoa, that's my boy! I'm impressed at how you demonstrated your leadership skills at such a young age. Come over here, and let me kiss you as a reward."

Amelia gave him a peck on the cheek whereas Tony returned her with two sweet kisses.

The mother-and-son duo found much delight in fooling around with each other. The fear they had earlier on gradually disappeared.

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Chapter 604 Mom Cares For You Too Much

“Mrs. Clinton.” When the five security guards saw Jolin running toward Amelia, they had their guards up and glared at her as though she was a ferocious beast.

“You’re here, Jolin.” Amelia glanced at Jolin, and then she updated the security guards politely, “Thank you everyone for your support today. This lady is here to pick me up. Everything is fine now. Please accept this little token of appreciation and go have a drink tonight.” As she spoke, she reached into her purse, whipped out about six hundred, and stuffed the notes in one of the men’s hands.

The guard wanted to return the money, but was rejected by Amelia. “It’s not easy to do what you guys do day in and day out. My older brother is still hospitalized. When I’m not around, please keep a lookout for my parents in case they need anything.”

With that said, the guard had no other choice besides accepting her kind gesture.

Then, Amelia, Tony, and Tiffany left with Jolin.

“Are you all right, Mrs. Clinton?” Jolin questioned.

“I’m fine. Jolin, what exactly happened when you said that someone was following me?”

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“When Callum and gang were watching you in the dark, they noticed that there was a black car tailing you from behind. Initially, they wanted to attack the men in the black car discreetly, but their plan was busted by the other party. So, I instructed Callum to chase after them. I don’t have all the details yet as of now,” Jolin explained everything truthfully. “Mrs. Clinton, please rest assured that I won’t leave your side at all henceforth. As for Mr. Anthony, Boss has arranged for Hugo and Kurt to protect him. They are the crème de la crème in the entire organization. With them around, nothing bad will ever happen to Mr. Anthony.”

“Hugo and Kurt are allowed to resume their duties?” Amelia asked. She had not seen them in forever, and she was curious about their updates. Back then, the death of Jean got blown out of proportion. She vaguely heard a rumor that some members requested Oscar to punish both Kurt and Hugo severely. The members put all the blame on those

two; had it not been for them, they would not have lost a colleague whom they had worked with for over a decade. However, Amelia did not follow the news thereafter.

“Yes. Boss has reprimanded them, and they have also served their punishment. No one voiced their objections anymore.”

Amelia did not bother pursuing the matter by asking more questions such as what the punishment was and if the two handled it well. She never crossed the line when it concerned Oscar’s work. After all, she did not want to be so nosy, to the extent that her actions would hurt her relationship with Oscar.

Thereafter, Jolin personally sent them all back to the neighborhood. As soon as the four of them got out of the elevator on their floor, Amelia saw a figure outside of her apartment, curling up like an abandoned little puppy. The person looked up when she heard the elevator doors closing. Amelia was shocked to the core when she realized who it was.

“Mrs. Hutton, why are you here?” she dashed over and asked. This couple seems to be toying me around. First, the husband wanted to have a chat with me. Now, his wife is here outside of my house, acting like a pitiful soul. What are they hiding up their sleeves?

There was a twinkle in Eleanor’s eyes when she saw Amelia appearing in front of her. She tried to get up as soon as possible, but the pins and needles due to prolonged hours of squatting down caused her to stumble forward. Luckily, Amelia got hold of her in the nick of time.

“Mrs. Hutton, are you okay?” She was concerned.

Eleanor shook her head and grabbed Amelia’s hands. Feeling aggrieved, she said, “Lia, I’m not going to force you anymore. I mean it. I just wanted to see you. Could you consider the fact that I’ve missed you for more than two decades and stop changing your phone number? I’m literally going crazy in Saspiuburg for missing you so dearly. When my husband was away, I seized the opportunity and sneaked out to see you without letting anyone know.”

Baffled, a myriad of questions swirled in Amelia’s head. When did I change my number? Anyhow, she seems to have lost a lot of weight. Those dark circles under her eyes accentuated her sunken cheeks which used to be fuller. Her frame, too, now seems to become smaller and frail.

Amelia felt so sorry that Eleanor looked so awful. She could not imagine what terrible experience the latter had to go through within a month to be in such a dreadful state. She had a long list of questions to ask, but the words fell dead on her lips. She figured what Eleanor truly needed at that moment was a shower and a good night’s rest. Otherwise, she might collapse in her arms the next minute.

“Let’s head in, Mrs. Hutton. We’ll talk about this later, okay?” Amelia suggested softly.

Delighted, Eleanor tightened her grip on Amelia’s hands. “Lia, you’re not mad at me anymore?”

Amelia smiled politely and responded, “Is there any misunderstanding between us, Mrs. Hutton? I was never angry at you.”

Feeling relieved, Eleanor followed her into the house.

“Have a drink, please.” Amelia served her a glass of water.

As Eleanor received the glass, her gaze was fixated on Amelia. She had not seen her daughter for a month though it felt like an eternity to her. Among her three daughters, the eldest went missing at a very young age. She had lived miserably for over twenty years. She had not gone a single day without missing her beloved daughter. Now that they were reunited, she wanted to channel her misery into love and shower them on Amelia incessantly in order to make it up for what she had missed in the past.

“What’s wrong, Mrs. Hutton? Why are you staring at me like that?” Feeling uneasy, Amelia averted her gaze.

Tears welled up in Eleanor’s eyes. In a quavering voice, she said, “Lia, I’ve missed you so much. Could you inform me in advance if you were going to change your phone number in the future? I couldn’t find you, and it made me so worried. I don’t know if anything has happened to you.”

Her words sowed a greater doubt in Amelia. Yet, she did not ask Eleanor any further. Conversely, she requested Tiffany to prepare some food for Eleanor.

After Tiffany left for the kitchen, Amelia called Tony over to greet Eleanor. “Mrs. Hutton, I think there must be a mistake. I have never changed my phone number. Perhaps you dialed the wrong one?”

Eleanor took out her phone, scrolled down her contact list, and showed it to Amelia. “Isn’t this your number?”

Amelia took a quick glance and immediately knew what the problem was.

“Mrs. Hutton, the numbers are incorrect. I’m not sure if you entered them wrongly or it was intentionally edited by someone else.”

“It’s incorrect?” Eleanor was dubious.

Then, Amelia recited her phone number while Eleanor crossed-checked them against what was saved in her phone.

Suddenly, she recalled the reactions of her husband and children when she told them that the number was not in service. Finally, she connected the dots and understood what had transpired.

“I see, so this is what happens. Hmph! How dare they hide this from me all this while!” Eleanor exclaimed angrily.

Right then, Tiffany came out of the kitchen with a bowl of pasta, and she was greeted by Eleanor’s dazed look.

Seeing so, she shot Amelia a look. What’s wrong with Mrs. Hutton?

Amelia shook her head.

“Mrs. Hutton, I’ve cooked some pasta for you. Why don’t you have something to eat first before continuing the conversation?” Tiffany offered.

Snapping out of it, Eleanor picked up the cutleries.

The smell of pasta made her feel so hungry. Instantly, she emptied the plate without any hesitation.

“Tiffany, your culinary skills are fantastic! This dish is definitely on par with those made by the chefs at the five-star hotels.” Eleanor sang praises to Tiffany after cleaning her mouth with a napkin.

“I’m glad that you liked it, Mrs. Hutton.”

Eleanor smiled.

Subsequently, Tiffany collected the dishes, washed them, and kept them in the cabinet. When she was done, she dried off her hands before walking back out.

“Mrs. Hutton, did you and your husband plan for these back-to-back meet-ups? He was here right before your visit.” Tiffany asked as she slumped into the couch.

Shock and disbelief filled Eleanor’s eyes. Subconsciously, the hand resting on her thigh moved slightly while her lips trembled in trepidation.

“He’s here in Tayhaven?” Eleanor queried with a heavy heart.

Tiffany purposely showed a surprised face and blurted, “You didn’t know about this, Mrs. Hutton?”

Eleanor’s fists coiled taut, and her face turned pale.

“Don’t think too much, Mrs. Hutton,” Amelia added, wanting to ease the embarrassing situation.

Eleanor stared straight into Amelia’s eyes and held her hands, asking, “He came to see you?” Amelia could not wrap her head around Eleanor’s expression, but nodded her head in response nonetheless.

Benjamin had repeatedly stated how much he hated Amelia. Hence, she also did not plan to cover up for him. Their hostility toward each other was mutual.

Letting out a wry smile, Eleanor shared disappointedly, “I thought that he has turned over a new leaf. Who would have known that he was just putting up a show in front of me? The entire family was keeping me in the dark!”

“Don’t get all worked up, Mrs. Hutton. Mr. Hutton did not say much to me. I’m fine, so please don’t let this episode bother you,” Amelia consoled her.

Eleanor could no longer hold back her tears. She patted the back of Amelia’s palm and said in between sobs, “I’m so sorry, Lia. I really didn’t think that he would treat you in this awful manner. I feel so bad about it.”

Amelia kept a faint smile on her face upon hearing that.

On the other hand, Tiffany could not hold her tongue.

“Mrs. Hutton, I’m not trying to sow discord between you and your husband. However, he has gone overboard this time. Do you know what did he do? He gave Amelia a check that’s worth ten million on the condition that she leaves you completely. I don’t think the amount matters to Amelia. The point is his action is a downright humiliation to Amelia!” Tiffany told the story as it was, and that got Eleanor turning grim.

“Lia, is that true? Did he really offer you ten million? Did you accept it? Are you planning to disown me?” Feeling extremely anxious, Eleanor bombarded her daughter with a series of questions.

“Mrs. Hutton, please, could you let go of my hands first? You’re hurting me.” Amelia tried to suppress the sharp pang felt.

Returning to her senses, Eleanor released her grip. “Sorry, sorry. Is it very painful? Oh no, I’ve bruised you.”

Amelia shook her head awkwardly. “No worries, Mrs. Hutton. Relax...”

At that, Eleanor’s eyes brimmed with tears and became even redder.

“I’m really sorry, Lia. I care too much for you that I’m scared to death if you ever choose to cut off ties with me. I’ve been searching for you incessantly for two decades. I’ve never stopped wondering and worrying about you. Now that I know you’re leading a good life, I’m beyond relieved. However, I still wish to stay by your side and make it up for the years that we’ve lost. I want to give you all of my love. Would you give me a chance to be your mother, please?” the panic-stricken Eleanor pleaded.

Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 605

Chapter 605 Whole Family In Tayhaven

Despite the awkwardness, a glimpse of warmth flashed across the depths of Amelia’s heart. At least my biological mother truly loves me.

“Mrs. Hutton, you don’t look so well. Why don’t you take a rest first, and we’ll discuss it again after you wake up?” Amelia suggested.

Disappointment flashed across Eleanor’s eyes. “Are you still unwilling to acknowledge me as your mom, Lia?”

Amelia fell silent at her question, not knowing how to explain.

“Mrs. Hutton, it’s not that Amelia refuses to accept you, your husband is the one refusing to accept her! Do you think she can live a peaceful life if she does acknowledge you as her mom?”

Eleanor didn’t respond, for she knew it was the truth.

“Mrs. Hutton, I hope you don’t blame me for speaking so bluntly. Amelia isn’t suitable for a life with the Hutton family. The main obstacle is your husband’s attitude,” Tiffany said straightforwardly.

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Eleanor lowered her gaze at the frank remark.

Amelia glanced at Tiffany before she told Eleanor. “Mrs. Hutton, you must be tired. Why don’t you head upstairs and take a nap? Let’s talk after you’re well-rested.”

Eleanor nodded hesitantly.

After Eleanor went upstairs, Tiffany shrugged as she sat on the couch. With her chin resting on her hand, she questioned, "What are we going to do now, Babe? I see Mr. and Mrs. Hutton had sunk their claws into you."

Amelia was teasing Tony in her arms when she suggested, "Are you tired, Tony? Let's bring you upstairs for a nap, okay?"

"Okay," Tony answered with a yawn as he rubbed his eye with his fist.

Amelia carried Tony up the stairs and into the room. She gently laid him down on the bed and coaxed him to sleep.

After Tony had fallen asleep, only then did Amelia answer Tiffany. "Tiff, let's go with the tide. I'm not scared of trouble, but I don't want to get involved with the Hutton family's affairs."

"Are you going to keep Mrs. Hutton around you?"

"Do you have any better ideas?"

Tiffany went silent at her question.

"See. Even you can't come up with a good idea. What else can I do?"

"Should we give Mr. Hutton a call and ask him to take his wife back?"

"She's only human. She can just take another flight back."

Tiffany fell silent again.

A soft smile played on Amelia's lips as she assured Tiffany, "Tiff, let's just go with the flow. Her existence doesn't repulse me."

Tiffany shrugged, agreeing with Amelia's suggestion.

Eleanor's departure had triggered a bomb in the Hutton residence.

Amelia Hutton stopped her nervous pacing when she saw the maids rushing to the living room. "Did you find my Mom?"

"We've searched everywhere, Ms. Hutton, but we still couldn't find her."

"Well, continue searching then! What are you standing there for?"

"Yes, Ms. Hutton."

The moment Sean stepped into the house, Amelia raced to him as though he was her lifeline. "Sean, how was it? Did you find her?"

"Mom had taken the eight o'clock flight to Tayhaven this morning," Sean answered with a solemn look.

Stunned by his response, Amelia merely stared at him in disbelief.

"No, you must be wrong, Sean. Mom told us she would never go to Tayhaven. Why would she go there?"

Sean pursed his lips at her question.

"No, wait. Dad is at Tayhaven too. If Mom knew we lied to her, this might break the Hutton family apart." She paused at that horrible thought briefly. "I'm going to Tayhaven. I can't let Mom meet with Amelia Winters anymore."

"Stop right there. Where do you think you're going?"

Amelia halted and shot a confused look over her shoulders at Sean. "What's wrong?"

"Let Mom and Dad settle it. Even if we manage to pressure Mom to come back with us this time, we can't force her forever. Furthermore, that woman is her daughter. We can't blame her for wanting to meet her daughter," Sean reasoned.

Amelia eyed him as though he was a stranger instead of the brother she knew.

"Sean, what's wrong with you?" asked Amelia.

"I just think that the woman is her daughter, and you can't blame Mom for meeting her own daughter."

"Have you gone mad, Sean? Dad doesn't even like her. If Mom recognizes her, our family will break apart."

"Even if Mom doesn't acknowledge her, our family will break apart all the same."

Amelia held her head frustratingly as her temper exploded.

"Ah! Sean, you can be open-minded, but I can't. I don't want our family to break apart. My tenacity was to blame for their reunion. I don't want this mistake to go on." Once the words were out of her mouth, Amelia dashed out the front door.

Noting her desperation and guilt, Sean followed behind her worriedly.

"Amelia!"

The minute she was secured in the driver's seat, she immediately pulled out of the driveway and raced to the airport. Filled with worried for her, Sean got in his car and chased after her.

Once they reached the airport, Sean immediately grasped onto Amelia.

She struggled fervently as she demanded, "Let go of me! I want to go to Tayhaven and bring Mom back!"

"Calm down, Amelia!"

"How am I supposed to calm down?"

"I'll fix this."

Amelia had finally calmed down at his assurance. With hesitance in her eyes, she asked, "Are you planning to go to Tayhaven, Sean?"

"Yeah. I'll be there for a few days, so I need your help with the company."

"Bring me with you. Don't reject my request, or else I'll go there myself," Amelia said determinedly, not giving Sean an option.

Knowing her obstinacy well, Sean conceded resignedly.

On the spot, they bought flight tickets and flew to Tayhaven.

After touching down, Amelia instantly called Benjamin. The phone rang for a long while before he finally picked up.

"Dad, where are you? Mom is also in Tayhaven. Sean and I came here to find her, so we want to meet up with you."

After Benjamin rattled his address to her, she replied, "All right, Dad. Sean and I will head there right away."

Upon hanging up her phone, Amelia said, "Sean, let's go to City Views Apartment, Block B. Dad's currently staying on the tenth floor."

Amelia and Sean quickly hailed a cab to get there.

They spotted Benjamin smoking a cigar by the window the minute they entered the unit.

Amelia called out, "Dad."

Benjamin answered without turning his head, "You're here."

Licking her lip nervously, Amelia went up to him and asked reluctantly, "Dad, Mom is also in Tayhaven. I think she went looking for Amelia Winters. Do you want to come with Sean and me to go look for her?"

Benjamin didn't respond and continued staring out the window.

"Dad..."

Suddenly, Benjamin turned around and threw the lighted cigar at Amelia. He accused furiously, "If it wasn't for you, do you think your mom would reunite with that b**ch? Your stubbornness broke our family apart. Are you happy now?"

The cigar hit the back of Amelia's hand, causing her to yelp at the pain at the burning sensation.

Sean went up to her and took her to the bathroom, swiftly placing her burned hand under the running water.

After a while, Sean asked, "Is it better now?"

Amelia nodded her head listlessly.

"Let me help you out."

Once they stepped out of the bathroom, they saw Benjamin seated on the couch.

Feeling a slight dread, Amelia sat on the couch furthest away from Benjamin. "Dad."

"Is your hand okay?" Benjamin questioned.

"It's fine."

"I hope you don't take my earlier action to your heart. I just lost my temper."

"I won't"

They both fell into a dead silence, turning the atmosphere awkward and tense.

"Dad, Mom went to find Amelia Winters. What's your plan?" Sean asked.

A glint of ruthlessness flashed across Benjamin's eyes as his knuckles had turned white from how hard he clenched his fist. I had pleaded with Amelia multiple times to stay away from Eleanor, yet that woman continued to challenge my patience. She's digging her own grave.

“Sean, I need you to go get your mother. She’s not that happy to see me at the moment,” Benjamin said with a darkened expression.

“Okay.” Sean agreed instantly.

Amelia cast a careful glance at Benjamin. “Should I go with Sean, Dad?”

“You stay here and don’t go anywhere.”

A crestfallen look crossed Amelia’s face.

“Are you still mad at me?”

“Yes.”

She shot to her feet and bowed at him respectfully. “Dad, I’m sorry. I was reckless. I thought Mom would be happy once she met her daughter. That was why I did the DNA test between her and Amelia. I didn’t expect things to derail.”

Benjamin scoffed at her explanation.

An uneasy feeling gripped Amelia. “Dad, don’t be like this. I’m upset over this too.”

Benjamin rubbed his forehead and said resignedly, “Go now, Sean. Try your best to get your mom back.”

“All right, Dad.”

Sean patted Amelia’s head comfortingly. “Listen to Dad, Amelia. I’ll be back soon.”

After Sean left, Amelia and Benjamin were the only ones left in the unit.

She licked her lips to curb her nervousness, confused as to why she was so anxious.

“Amelia, do you know why you’re named as such?” Benjamin inquired suddenly.

Amelia stared at him alarmingly like a meerkat.

“That was because of your sister, Amelia. After she went missing, your mom considered you her replacement and couldn’t stop calling her name. So we decided to change your name to Amelia.”

Amelia’s expression turned dour. She lowered her head, hiding the gloom in her eyes.

“In your mom’s heart, you’re just a stand-in for her daughter. Are you willing to become another person’s substitute?” Benjamin asked.

Cruelty filled Amelia's eyes at Benjamin's instigation.

Clenching her fists, she questioned, "Dad, why are you telling me all this?"

"You have broken two decades of peace and quiet of the Hutton family. I just want you to know you're nothing to your mom once Amelia Winters returns," Benjamin said mercilessly.

Amelia lifted her head and asked with a malicious expression, "Dad, will Mom really treat me like that?"

"She would even divorce me, her husband of thirty years. What's more, you."

"I can't let that happen. I won't let her treat me like that. I'll go look for her."

"Stop right there."

Amelia halted her furry footsteps.

"Sit down."

Amelia obediently sat down.

"Let's talk after your brother return. That Amelia Winters is much harder to deal with than what I expected. She has a sharp tongue and is stubborn to the core. A tough nut to crack." Benjamin narrowed his eyes.

Amelia nodded her lowered head, concealing her expression. No one knew what she was scheming.

Benjamin took out another cigar and lighted it. Before long, the smoke from the cigar formed a blurry screen between the two. They sat in silence in the smoke-filled room. A crack had formed in the relationship between the two closest family members due to Amelia, leaving them distant like strangers.