Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 646

Too Much to Bear My Love

Chapter 646

Chapter 646 No Peace On His Wedding Night

"Oscar, as compared to Noah, you're definitely a gentleman. At least, you have never toyed with a woman's feelings before. Even with our situation at the beginning, we were both consenting parties, and we both got what we wanted. As such, neither of us owed each other anything," Amelia said, feeling emotional.

"Mommy, I want to eat that shrimp." Suddenly, Tony's crisp voice interrupted Amelia.

Amelia smiled and took a few pieces of shrimp for the boy.

Just then, Oscar's phone buzzed. He looked at the screen and saw that it was a message from Hugo.

When he opened the message, the man could not help but smile.

"What is it?"

Oscar passed the phone to Amelia, and when Amelia read the message, her expression changed slightly.

"Is that woman coming?" Amelia asked.

"Do you want to watch a show?" Oscar replied placidly.

Amelia looked at the crowd who seemed to be having a great time. The wedding guests were all reputable people who belonged to the upper echelon of the society. If Noah's mistress appeared and made a scene, not only would the Walker family be humiliated, the Clintons would also become a laughing stock.

"Oscar, everyone here are influential and prominent people. I think it's better that you get someone to stop her. If she comes and kicks up a fuss, it wouldn't look good on both families." Amelia merely stated the facts.

"Sure. I'll listen to you," Oscar replied with a smile.

He picked up his phone and made a call to Hugo, asking him to stop that woman. However, he gave instructions to not let the woman go as he had other plans.

After the man hung up, he saw Amelia looking at him.

"What's up? Why are you looking at me like that?" Oscar asked smilingly.

"If I had not said anything, would you really have allowed that woman to come and create trouble?" Amelia asked after a moment of contemplation.

Oscar cocked his brows and replied in a playful tone, "Wouldn't it be interesting if she came and stirred up some trouble?"

"Interesting?"

Oscar let out a deep, hearty laughter and tousled his wife's hair. "Silly girl, I was just joking. Do you really think I would risk our Clinton family's reputation?"

Amelia rolled her eyes at the man when she heard that.

After the wedding, when members of both the Walker family and Clinton family were sending off their guests, Oscar walked past Noah and said intentionally, "Noah, I guess Emma would be really happy to be here at your wedding."

After saying that, Oscar acted as if nothing had happened and continued sending off the guests with Amelia and Anthony.

Meanwhile, all color had drained from Noah's face as he started to panic.

Stephanie walked over after chatting with her friends and noticed the odd expression on her husband's face. An annoyed glint flashed past her eye as she said, "Noah, what's wrong? You seem to be acting strange the entire day. Are you regretting marrying me?"

Noah snapped back of his daze and smiled gently at the woman. "Silly girl, why would you say something like that? I've already promised to love you for the rest of our lives in front of everyone. If you say such things again next time, I'm gonna punish you."

He slapped his wife's bottom after saying that. A blush spread across Stephanie's cheeks as the man did that.

With her face flushed red, the woman took a side glance at Noah and noticed that his expression had returned to normal.

"I'll let you off this time. Let's go and send our guests off. You'll have to serve me well tonight."

"Sure, I'm more than happy to do that. You will always be the apple of my eye, silly girl." Although Noah was saying sweet nothings to her, if Stephanie were more observant, she would have noticed that there wasn't any warmth in his eyes.

After all the guests had finally left, Olivia said, "Stephanie, you're already someone's wife now and a member of the Walker family. In the future, you have to be filial to your in-laws and treat your husband with respect. You can't continue being so willful anymore, understand?"

Hearing that, Stephanie suddenly felt slightly reluctant to leave her mother. Hugging Olivia tightly, she said sincerely, "Mom, I'm married now. When I'm not at home, you need to take care of yourself and eat your meals regularly. The Walker residence is not that far away from our house. I'll come back and visit you whenever I have time."

Olivia could not bear to see her daughter leave as well. After all, Stephanie was her only daughter whom she had doted on since the girl was born. As such, she could not help but feel emotional now that her daughter had become someone else's wife. In fact, she was having mixed feelings. On one hand, she was happy that her girl was married, on the other hand, she was worried that Stephanie would get into trouble at the Walker residence due to her ignorance and stubbornness.

"All right. You shouldn't be crying on your big day. Enjoy the night with Noah and get ready for your honeymoon tomorrow," Olivia said.

Stephanie nodded.

Noah and Stephanie headed to the presidential suite of the hotel, where they would be spending their wedding night.

Members of the Walker family and Clinton family left after that.

In the car, Amelia was carrying Tony in her arms, and the boy was sound asleep. "Did you mention that woman to Noah just now?" she asked.

"Yup."

"I'm surprised he's still able to keep his cool. Even after marrying the daughter of the Clinton family, he's still not willing to break up with the other woman. I can't believe how greedy he is, wanting to have his cake and eat it too."

Oscar sneered and replied, "He will have to bear the consequences for two-timing sooner or later. Since he had chosen to disrespect our Clinton family, I shall play along with him. The feeling of losing what we once had is always worse than not having it at all."

Smiling subtly, Amelia replied, "Oscar, you're a scary man indeed. I'm so glad that I'm not your enemy. Otherwise, I'm sure I would walk into your trap and can only await my doom."

"If you were my enemy, I would happily and willingly walk into any trap you set for me."
Oscar reached out and caressed the woman's cheek.

It sounded so much like a confession, and Amelia could not help but chuckle.

"How are you going to deal with that woman?" Amelia asked curiously.

"I'm not really going to do anything to her. I was just intending to lock her up for a few days and play some hide-and-seek with her. I've already gotten someone to keep an eye on Noah and take photos of him. I'll show you once we have them."

"Oscar, you're so bad."

"I'm only bad to others. You're the only person I'm good to."

Amelia leaned softly into the man's arms.

Oscar wrapped his arms around the woman's waist, embracing both Amelia and their son. At that moment, he felt as if he possessed the most precious treasures in the world.

While the two lovebirds were having an intimate moment in the car, Noah was having a headache thinking about how to handle Emma while at the same time, having to manage Stephanie.

Just then, Stephanie wrapped her arms around the man's neck from the back. Tracing her fingers across his chest, the woman said gently, "Noah, we are finally married today. Are you happy?"

Noah had a way with women, knowing how to please them. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to win over Stephanie in just two years' time when circumstances were not in his favor. Even though Stephanie used to detest the man, she fell in love with him gradually and was very possessive of him.

Perhaps because of love, Stephanie was no longer as aggressive as before and had even stopped creating trouble for Amelia.

Noah lowered his head to plant a kiss on his wife's lips before saying in a gentle tone, "Why don't you shower first? I've prepared a surprise for you. You'll definitely like it."

"Let's shower together."

"You go ahead first. I need to prepare for the surprise. Be good."

"All right. I'll let you off on account of the fact that you have a surprise for me."

Right after Stephanie took her clothes and entered the bathroom, Noah walked to the balcony and took out his phone.

When the first call he made did not go through, he made a second call.

After someone picked up, he asked, "Where's Emma?"

An anxious woman's voice rang out on the other side of the phone. "Noah, I was just about to call you. Emma ran out earlier today when I wasn't paying attention. I tried searching for her for a long time but couldn't find her. I was worried that she might have gone to your wedding. Did she?"

"Got it. I'm hanging up now." The man hung up right after saying that.

With his hands on his hips, Noah's expression darkened as he clenched his fists. He thought about what Oscar told him previously during the wedding, and his heart started thumping wildly. He knew that Oscar had probably found out about his affair.

Color drained out of the man's face at once. He felt a sense of fear, not knowing how Oscar would deal with him.

He knew that Oscar was not to be trifled with. If Oscar was bent on going after him, the Walker family would not be a match for the man. After putting in so much effort, Noah was not going to let anyone destroy his company that was just starting to expand.

Noah did not realize how much time had passed by as all kinds of thoughts raced through his mind.

He only snapped out of his daze when he felt someone hugging him from the back.

"Noah, you said that you have a surprise for me. Where's my surprise?" Stephanie grumbled.

When Noah returned to his senses, he saw Stephanie, who had just finished showering and was exuding an alluring scent. Suddenly, a glint of desire appeared in the man's eyes. The next moment, he pinned the woman against the wall.

As the couple reveled in pleasure with their bodies entangled, Stephanie gradually forgot about her surprise.

After both of them climaxed together, Stephanie fell asleep, exhausted. Meanwhile, Noah got up from the bed and lit a cigarette. In the darkness, different expressions flashed across his face, which was illuminated by the glow from the cigarette.

Noah was unable to sleep for the entire night. Their wedding night was supposed to be sweet and exciting. However, that was not the case at all for the man, who was feeling edgy. While managing his wife, he also had to guess what Oscar had up his sleeves

Even though Noah had always prided himself on being smart, he knew that he had to be extra careful when dealing with Oscar as a moment of carelessness might cause him to lose everything he had painstakingly built. If that happened, he would be left with nothing.

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Chapter 647

Chapter 647 I Believe You

Frowning at Noah's absence upon waking, Stephanie walked out of the bedroom barefoot and found him at the door with a breakfast cart.

"Where have you been, Noah? I didn't see you when I woke up. I thought you left me behind to go off on a honeymoon yourself." Stephanie pouted, half unhappy and half coquettish as she sashayed over to him.

Noah reached out to touch her face before noticing with his hawk-like eyes that her feet were bare. His face fell before he scooped her up and placed her gently on the couch. "Why aren't you wearing your slippers?" he chastised with gentle sternness. "The floor is cold in the morning. It will hurt me to see you catch a cold."

A tinge of red appeared in Stephanie's eyes. "You feel like a different man today, Noah. I suddenly feel very lucky to be married to you. Will you always be this sweet to me?"

Noah pinched her nose affectionately. "You are my wife now. I will only be sweet to you."

"You promise? If you ever dare mistreat or betray me, I will cripple you so that you will never be able to leave me." Stephanie pinched his cheek warningly.

Noah patted her back. "Good girl," he said indulgently. "Go brush your teeth and wash your face. I've had the servants prepare your favorite breakfast. We'll be heading to Oscar's after eating."

Stephanie gave him a strange look. "Why are you going to Oscar's place?" she wondered. She felt deeply uncomfortable at the thought of seeing Amelia and Tony. "I don't want to go. Amelia and I don't get along as it is. Showing up there will only serve to increase feelings of animosity between us. We'd better go directly to our honeymoon. We can visit Oscar after that."

Hidden behind his glasses, a dangerous glint flashed in Noah's eyes. However, his expression softened even further.

"You are my wife now, Stephanie. I will spoil you, but you must also listen to me. This is how a marriage works. It'll be tiring and unfair if I only accommodate you without you taking my feelings into consideration, don't you think? I want to feel your love for me. Can't you do a simple thing for me that would make me happy?" Noah said as he regarded her with a tender gaze.

Stephanie gazed back at him. Unsure if she was charmed by his looks or spurned by the desire to be a good wife, she nodded docilely in agreement.

"That's my girl. Go wash up now. We'll leave for Oscar's in a while." Noah's smile became even sweeter.

"Is there something you and Oscar are hiding from me, Noah?"

Noah picked her up by the waist and carried her to the bedroom to put her shoes on for her. "Have you forgotten what I said to you in front of all our friends and relatives?" he whispered as he worked. "In sickness and in health, I will never leave you. Holding you dear in my heart always, I will always love you and never tell a lie. I will only love you in this life."

Stephanie was finally satisfied.

"Quite the smooth-talker, aren't you? Fine. Since you love me so much, I'll believe you," Stephanie said snobbishly.

The confidence she felt at that moment made learning the truth much worse later. When she found out, Stephanie felt as if her heart had been torn apart. Noah's warmth and thoughtfulness at that moment only made the unveiling of his true colors all the more gruesome.

The harder she fell in love with Noah, the more she hated his hypocritical betrayal.

Yet unmarred by the betrayal, Stephanie got dressed obediently. After having their breakfast, the newlyweds drove to Oscar's neighborhood.

As it was a Sunday, both Oscar and Amelia were in.

Amelia was stunned when she opened the door to find Noah and Stephanie outside. Having thought that the couple was going on their honeymoon, their appearance before her caused utter confusion.

"Good morning, Amelia," Noah said very politely. "I hope that our early arrival did not disrupt your quiet morning?"

Amelia turned sideways to let them through. "Come on in."

"Thank you, Amelia."

Noah came in holding Stephanie's hand. Their public display of affection seemed to announce their status of being newlyweds.

"Have a seat while I bring us some tea." At that, Amelia hurried to the kitchen.

"We're a family now, Stephanie," Noah whispered. "Don't scowl. Greet your brother's wife, will you?"

"Do you think marrying me means you can control everything I do, Noah?" Stephanie snapped, staring at him through narrowed eyes.

Instead of being irritated, Noah smoothed her hair. "I'm not trying to control my wife. I'm just trying to patch things up between all of us. You wouldn't want to put Oscar in a tough spot, would you? The two of you have been estranged for far too long. Don't you think it's time to bury the hatchet?"

Stephanie fell silent.

"Do it for me, hmm?"

"Fine," Stephanie relented impatiently. "You're so annoying. Is that all you want me to do? Greet her when she comes out? I can't believe you would think I wouldn't do such a simple thing."

A gleam of triumph flashed across Noah's eyes. Stephanie is putty in my hands. For all her stubbornness, she's still so easy to manipulate.

Amelia soon emerged with a tray in her hands. Stephanie leaped up at once and almost snatched it out of the former's hands. "Let me, Amelia," she said stiffly.

Amelia's surprise turned to astonishment as she stared at Stephanie, who was clearly displaying good intentions despite the bluntness of her gestures.

Amelia turned to study Noah again. What on earth did this man do to turn an arrogant and reckless young woman into a meek and well-behaved kitten? Persuasive power like this should not be underestimated.

Stephanie placed the tray on the table, looking a little awkward as she did so.

"Where's Oscar and Tony, Amelia?" Noah asked.

"Oscar is working in his study. Tony is on a day out with Kurt. They might return before you leave."

"I have some work matters to consult Oscar on, Amelia. May I go into his study for a word?"

Guessing that he was going to discuss the matter of his lover with Oscar, Amelia did not stop him. Having expected that Noah would wait until after the honeymoon at least, Amelia did not expect them to show up the very next day.

"Go ahead. I'll entertain Stephanie."

Noah nodded before turning to address his wife. "Spend some time with Amelia, Stephanie. I have some matters regarding work to discuss with Oscar quickly. We'll be on the plane to Baxrich for our honeymoon in no time."

"Go," Stephanie said reluctantly.

Noah went upstairs and knocked on the door of the study. "It's Noah, Oscar."

"Come in."

Noah pushed open the door and went in.

"Oscar." Noah nodded politely.

Occupied with some official business laid out across his desk, Oscar did not so much as raise his head. Hence, Noah was forced to wait.

After several minutes, Oscar finally put down his pen and looked up. "Shouldn't you be on your honeymoon with Stephanie?"

"There is something I wanted to discuss with you," Noah replied politely, "so I postponed the flight,"

Oscar pointed to the chair before his desk. "Have a seat. I'm listening."

Noah did so obediently.

"Well, what is it?"

"This is about the words you said in my ear yesterday, Oscar. You know Emma?" Noah asked bluntly.

The corners of Oscar's lips curled upward. "Are you referring to your mistress?"

Noah's fists clenched involuntarily. They only loosened slowly through a sheer act of will.

"You already know?"

"If you're referring to the woman you've been paying everything for over the years, then yes, I already know."

"Why didn't you expose me to your family?"

"Do you want me to?"

Noah was caught off-guard.

He lowered his head to conceal the gloom in his eyes. "I have ended things with her, Oscar," he said in a low voice. "I love Stephanie, and I'm not that bold to offend the Clintons by toying with Stephanie's feelings."

"So, I can deal with that woman named Emma however I want?" Oscar asked quietly, enjoying the thrill of being a predator. "She's a good-looking girl, though. Soft and meek, she's the type that men go crazy for, isn't she? As luck would have it, it just so happens that one of my men does not yet have a wife. I don't think anyone will mind that I have him take care of her, would they?"

Noah's hands tightened into fists again, and there was a storm brewing in his eyes.

"What's the matter, Noah?" Oscar asked quietly. "I can oblige you and leave her alone, but I'll tell my parents in return. Stephanie is their only daughter. I cannot allow my sister to suffer. After all, she's my only sister."

Noah knew that Oscar was threatening him.

"I have nothing to do with her anymore, Oscar. I have no right to interfere with who she falls in love with or marries. If your man wants to make her his wife, I don't think I have the right to intervene as long as she's willing."

"All right," Oscar said with a smile as he clapped his hands. "I admire your courage to make tough choices, Noah. To even be able to give your woman away, you have what it takes to achieve great things. I wonder how you'd react if I had somebody send you a video of her being ravaged by other men."

A ball of rage rose in Noah's chest. One more word, and I'm going to lose it.

"There's no need to be so hard on the woman, all right? I already feel bad enough to end such a long relationship. I'll be a monster to allow her to be damaged for my sake. I don't think Stephanie will love a man like me." Noah glanced up, resigned with defeat. "I was the one to have wronged her in the first place. If it angers you, I would be willing to accept the consequences of my being with another woman before Stephanie. I just beg you not to tell her. I love her so much that I would rather spare her the pain of finding out."

Oscar watched coldly, not believing a word of it. He deserves an award for the act he's putting on there.

"Did you really break things off with her?" Oscar asked again.

"It's been a long time since we have even last met," Noah replied, "but I must still insist that no harm comes to her."

"What a loving and righteous man you are, Noah. You've changed the way I look at you." Oscar applauded.

Noah forced himself to smile, though he could not guess what Oscar had planned for him with the charade.

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Chapter 648 Avoidance

Oscar fiddled idly with the fountain pen in his hand. "You and Stephanie have just gotten married, Noah. Now that you have nothing to do with that woman anymore, you would want her to be happy too, wouldn't you? That settles it. I plan to set her up with Hugo as he isn't married either. Do you think she is worthy of Hugo?"

Noah turned pale from the exertion of trying to keep his anger under control, barely succeeding in doing so.

"I have no right to dictate her romantic life."

"All right. I'll go ahead with my plan, then." Oscar's eyes flashed cruelly as he added with a half-smile, "You wouldn't have any objections about my proposal, would you, Noah?"

Noah remained silent for a long time. "I'm begging you to leave her alone, Oscar."

The smile on Oscar's face widened.

"In what capacity are you begging me?" Oscar asked with polite interest. "Her lover? Or her friend? Or an irrelevant stranger?"

Noah took a deep breath and said as calmly as he could, "I admit that I loved her before, Oscar, and I even had trouble shaking her off after Stephanie and I started dating. After I was convinced that Stephanie was the one I loved the most, I cut off contact with that woman. I have no idea how she's doing now."

Oscar seemed to have decided that he had had enough fun when his smile suddenly became friendly as he stood up and patted Noah on the shoulder. "I was just messing with you. I believe that you really love my sister. That woman was going to make trouble at your wedding yesterday, but one of my bodyguards caught her before she could do so and pulled her aside for a drink to calm her down. That was when he discovered from her lips that she was your ex-girlfriend. I was waiting for you to come back from your honeymoon to ask you about her, not expecting you to drop by today instead. Needless to say, I'm glad that you didn't disappoint me as you've passed my test."

Noah glanced up at Oscar, in blatant disbelief that he was so easily let off the hook.

"Don't you blame me for any of it, Oscar?"

"I know you have a mild temperament and are easy to get along with, Noah. Women will inevitably fall for you. It's reasonable for you to have other girlfriends before Stephanie. As stellar a bachelor as you once were, women would obviously have their sights set on you. I understand. As for that woman, I had Hugo send her away with a sum of money. As long as you begin married life with Stephanie on the right foot, you can be sure to rely on my helping hand if Walker Group ever needs it."

A strange glint flashed across Noah's eyes.

"Thank you for understanding, Oscar."

"Go on. Don't let Stephanie think that we're plotting something up here."

Noah nodded.

Stephanie ran over to meet the two men coming down the stairs with carefully inscrutable expressions on their faces. "What did you say to Noah, Oscar?"

"What's the matter? Afraid that your husband couldn't take the ribbing from your brother?"

"Not at all. I was worried that he might anger you with his clumsy words." Despite her fear of Oscar, her attempts to get on his good side again were blatant. "I hope he didn't say anything embarrassing or offensive."

"Noah has much better control of his temper than you," Oscar chided. "As long as you be a good wife to him, our parents and I will have no cause to worry about you anymore."

Though she pouted at the reprimand, Stephanie was elated at her brother's good humor that day. It made her feel like they were back to how close they were during her childhood.

"Are you no longer mad at me, Oscar?" Stephanie asked timidly.

"As long as you stop causing trouble for Amelia and start a good life with Noah, I will still treat you as my sister."

Stephanie's eyes sparkled with delight.

"I promise, Oscar. Here." Stephanie stretched out her pinky.

Oscar was a good sport. He responded by hooking his finger firmly around hers.

"Don't you have a honeymoon to get to?" Oscar reminded gently. "Hurry up, or you'll miss your flight."

"We'll get going then, Oscar. I'll buy you a gift at the airport on our way back from the honeymoon." With a final cheery wave, Stephanie took Noah's arm and bounded out happily.

Amelia stepped forward after they disappeared. "Are you planning to reconcile with your sister?"

Oscar tweaked her nose. "Are you jealous?"

"Why would I be?" responded Amelia with a grin.

"Look at you; you're practically emanating squiggly lines of disapproval."

That amused Amelia to no end.

Oscar took her in his arms. "I want her to taste some sweetness before the truth breaks out. It will make her despair so much worse. I want her to experience the same desperation I felt when you were lying in the operating room."

Amelia looked up and met his eyes as she raised her hand to stroke his cheek. "I'm alive and well now, aren't I?"

"I'll never forget the fear of almost losing you. Maybe never in this lifetime."

Amelia sighed. Having thought that Oscar had healed from the ordeal, it saddened her to learn that the shadow of his greatest fear still haunted him.

The sound of the doorknob clicking open from the outside interrupted their conversation.

Kurt strode in with Tony in his arms a moment later. He put the child down when he saw them.

Tony ran over excitedly. "Mommy!"

Amelia left Oscar's embrace to squat down and hug Tony. "How was your day out with your godfather?" she asked.

"Very fun," Tony said innocently. "If you came along, Mommy, our family of three will be together again like the old days."

The smile on Amelia's face froze.

"That's not what Tony meant, Boss," Kurt explained awkwardly, worried that it may embarrass Amelia.

Oscar took Tony from her and held the boy at eye level. "Do you not have fun with me, Tony?"

"I do, but I much prefer spending time with Daddy. Too bad that Mommy likes you, so I can't hate you like how I used to anymore." Tony sighed like an old man.

Though amused, Oscar was left dumbfounded at his son's retort.

"Little rascal," Oscar said gruffly as he bopped his son's nose. This kid is born to be my nemesis. He is the only person who can make me speechless, yet I cannot raise a finger against him.

Amelia was relieved to see a normal interaction between them, as though Tony's innocuous remark meant nothing.

Kurt, on the other hand, was a little more inscrutable. He watched Amelia and noticed bitterly how she only had eyes for Oscar and Tony. Having tried his best to stay away from her, he lamented the futility of his efforts and how there were so many other lovelorn single people in the world just like him.

The more he tried to distance himself from her, the more he missed her. The more he indulged in those feelings, the tighter the steel grip around his heart felt.

"You should stay for dinner today, Kurt," came Amelia's distressed voice. "Look how thin you've become from being out on assignments all the time recently."

Kurt nodded stiffly.

It had been a long time since he shared a meal with Amelia. Many things had changed since his return from Beshya.

Amelia has a man who will protect her now. Even if I want to do all of that for her and more, I am a nobody. The best I can do is to look at her from a distance and wish her well.

"What's wrong, Kurt? You're awfully silent."

With a start, Kurt found himself staring at the face that had haunted him for countless sleepless nights. As close and real as it was compared to the mirage he had conjured during his deepest yearnings, he could hardly stop trembling.

"Amelia," he began before taking two instinctive steps back, keeping his head carefully bowed to conceal his expression as he did so.

"What's the matter with you, Kurt?" Amelia asked with the concern of a friend. "You seem a little distracted. Are you not well?"

Despite wanting to reveal the source of his pain with all his heart, Kurt knew that Amelia could not give him what he wanted. Though preferring her to be harsher with him, he could not help wanting just a little more of her love.

Conflicted as if he was trapped between two hells, the endless oscillation between torment and pleasure drove him nearly mad.

"I can't, Amelia," said Kurt stiffly. "I still have matters to attend to. I wouldn't want to intrude on your evening with the boss."

Amelia frowned. She did not like how Kurt was treating her like a stranger.

"Join us." Oscar said.

Unable to defy a direct order, Kurt was forced to oblige and departed at once after a hasty meal.

Amelia frowned at his silhouette disappearing into the night. "Have you noticed that Kurt has been deliberately avoiding me, Oscar?"

"You are my wife now," Oscar said calmly. "Having residual feelings for you, it's natural that he would avoid you. It's what any decent man would do."

Amelia stroked his cheek. "You're shameless."

"You're shameless, Big Meanie," Tony echoed, parrot-like.

Oscar scooped Tony up into his arms. "A man has to be shameless to catch a beautiful woman like your mother, Tony. If he misses his chance, he will end up a lonely bachelor for the rest of his life."

Tony seemed to understand, though he agreed more strongly with the statement of his mother being a beautiful woman.

He nodded vigorously. "Mommy is a beautiful woman."

Amelia giggled at their conversation.

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Chapter 649 Match Made In Heaven

Oscar found some time to meet the woman who had managed to charm Noah.

"Who are you? Why did you get people to capture me?" Emma asked warily.

Oscar sat on the couch and glanced at the woman coldly, exuding an air of dominance. "What a beauty. It's no wonder Noah's so smitten that he spends all that money on you without a care in the world."

Hearing that, Emma staggered backward while keeping her guard up.

"Who the hell are you? What are you trying to do to Noah?"

"My name is Oscar Clinton. I'm the older brother of the woman whose husband you're seeing. Should I not take a look at who my sister's husband is having an affair with?" Oscar raised a brow and gazed at Emma profoundly.

"Why did you capture me, then? To get me to leave Noah and help your sister regain her place?" the woman asked icily with her back kept straight. She wasn't about to show this man any weakness. There was no way the brother of her rival in love meant anything good by abducting her and bringing her here, anyway.

"You're guite the feisty one, aren't you, Ms. Garcia?"

Emma huffed in response.

"Do you really not harbor any hatred when a man you love marries another woman, Ms. Garcia? Don't you yearn for revenge?" Oscar began to toss his bait, and all that remained was for the fish to take it.

"What do you mean by that, Mr. Clinton?"

"You believed all of Noah's lies, and yet he ended up taking a rich woman as his wife. While they show their love for each other in public, you can only remain in the shadows as a secret that can never come to light. What if your future child asks you why Daddy can't be with you both? Are you going to tell the child that you're actually just a mistress, then watch as all the other kids call him a bastard and you a side woman?" Oscar remarked casually while twirling his fingers. "Oh, I also heard that you've gotten three abortions for Noah. The doctors even told you that you'd have difficulty getting pregnant again because your uterine lining has become increasingly thin. You're depriving yourself of your right to be a mother all because of a man who can't stay loyal to you—is it really worth it?"

Emma's body trembled violently as her face paled. To have the truth she had kept hidden all this while laid out in front of her filled her with shame, injustice, and most of all, the pain and resentment of being betrayed.

"That's enough! I don't want to hear it!" she screamed, clasping her head with both hands.

Oscar merely smiled. Indeed, he had become more malicious and actually enjoyed playing games like these. Trapping his victims and watching them crumble in despair gave him nothing but joy and satisfaction.

"Why? Did I strike a nerve?"

"Just tell me what you want, Mr. Clinton," Emma requested softly, having calmed herself down.

"Do you want revenge? Do you want to get back at a man who loves power more than he loves you? No, perhaps he's never even loved you in the first place. Maybe you're nothing but a toy to him. Why else would he not bat an eye although you've gone missing for the past two days? He's probably even having tons of fun with my sister."

"Isn't Stephanie your sister, Mr. Clinton?" asked Emma. Shouldn't he, as her brother, be happy about this?

"That's none of your concern. All you need to do is tell me if you want revenge. You've wasted all these years on a man who may have never loved you in the first place, and now, you may not even be able to have children because of him. When you grow old, he'd still have his own family, while you can only continue to live alone. Maybe people would realize you've died only after your body's begun to rot. Is that really the kind of life you want?"

"Stop it. That's enough. Noah is mine, and he'll be mine alone!"

"What makes you think so? All you have is a pretty face and nothing more. How could you ever compare to my sister? Do you think he'd abandon the wealth my sister possesses for the sake of an aging woman like you? At this point, I'd say you can only end up as a hag that nobody wants."

The fear within Emma intensified as she envisioned her possible future. She didn't want to be alone, but having spent all these years with Noah, she knew how heartless he could be. There was no way he would drop everything for her, and that was precisely why she could only be a mistress to him.

She didn't want things to remain this way.

"I can help you get back at him—if that's what you want," Oscar offered nonchalantly.

Emma looked up at him, her eyes red.

"Why would you help me? What the hell are you after?"

"All I'm asking you is if you want to or not."

The woman fell silent for a moment.

"I'll give you time to think. If you agree, you can let my bodyguards know. They'll relay your answer to me." Right after saying that, Oscar stood up and left.

"Boss, she's just an insignificant woman. There's no need to waste any time on her," Hugo commented with his head kept low.

"But rather than personally get rid of someone I don't like, isn't it more fun to watch him and the person he cares for fight each other to the death, Hugo?" Oscar responded coolly with his hands behind his back. "Have Noah and Stephanie arrived in Baxrich?"

"According to our men following them in secret, yes, Boss."

"Have them take pictures of them being intimate with each other, then send everything to this woman. A jealous woman is one to fear."

"Yes, Boss."

Hugo paused briefly before asking, "Boss, do you hate Mr. Walker?"

"It doesn't matter whether or not I hate him. He shouldn't have laid a finger on Tony. I've always been one to hold grudges, so I want to give him a taste of what it feels like to see the person he loves get hurt, just like when I was worried about Tony." After saying that, Oscar carried on walking.

Hugo fell into thought while following his boss closely.

Emma would then receive photographs every three days of none other than Noah and Stephanie. Noah could be seen gazing at Stephanie lovingly in each photo, and the couple frolicked around as though no one else was there. In all the pictures—whether it was of Noah putting sunblock on his wife, the two eating ice cream on a street together, or them having a passionate night in their room—there was an unconcealable hint of love for Stephanie in Noah's eyes.

A man could deceive others with his words, but not with his actions.

"Didn't you say you wouldn't fall for this woman, Noah?" Emma muttered as she slumped to the floor. "I've been right next to you even before I finished university, and I'll be thirty in a few years' time. I spent the most precious moments of my youth on you, but why did you marry someone else? Do you really not know how sad I'd feel?"

Before long, a glint of vengeance flashed in her eyes. "You started it, Noah. Don't blame me for this. It's not easy for a woman to find somewhere to call home once she's thirty. I'm not going to keep waiting for you and hoping that one day, you'd finally look at me. I want to get my hands on a good amount of money, marry a good man, and live the rest of my life in peace." If she could be someone else's wife, why would she choose to remain as a mistress and constantly worry about getting tossed aside once she grew old?

"I'll do it," the woman answered the next time she saw Oscar, "but on two conditions."

"Go on."

"When the deed is done, I hope you can give me some money so I can live without worries. Second, I want you to get me out of Tayhaven safely and make sure the Walker family never finds me. As long as you agree to these, you can treat me as an insider to Noah," Emma stated.

Oscar curled his lips into a smirk. I thought she'd be loyal to Noah, but at the end of the day, money is what matters most to her. Still, that's just reality, and she's quite a smart one—far better than a woman who foolishly devotes herself to a man and ends up with nothing.

Even if she loses her man, at least she won't have to suffer as long as she has money.

"I admire your intelligence, Ms. Garcia, so I agree with your terms," he replied gladly. "When it's all over, I'll give you five million and a house that will guarantee your safety. I believe five million will be more than enough for you to live comfortably... provided that you stay quiet." Five million was a sum a commoner would never dream of making.

"Thank you, Mr. Clinton." Emma lowered her gaze. Five million was much more than what Noah gave her. Although the man managed a company, he would only give her fifty thousand a month, which was never enough for her to afford branded clothes and bags. She was better off receiving a huge sum of five million right off the bat, and as long as she invested the money in stocks just like she had once learned to, she could live carefreely for the rest of her life.

"You can leave now. I'm guessing you'll know what to do when Noah comes back and asks you some questions."

"Don't worry, Mr. Clinton. I've been with him for so many years. I know how to deal with him."

"Good to know. You can go."

"I shan't bother you anymore then, Mr. Clinton."

After Emma left, Oscar walked to the window and stared out at the scenery. To him, any woman he could deal with using money was never much of a threat.

You and Noah really are a match made in heaven, Ms. Garcia. He's full of sh*t, and you only care about money. You deserve each other.

Too Much to Bear, My Love Chapter 650

Too Much to Bear My Love

Chapter 650

Chapter 650 Cracks Forming From Hatred

Stephanie and Noah spent nearly two months on the island before returning straight to the Clinton residence.

Olivia was happy to see her daughter return home, but now that the latter was married, coming back too often might upset Noah's parents.

"Have you gone home before coming here, Stephanie?" asked Olivia.

Stephanie glanced at the older woman. "Isn't this my home, Mom? I came right over after leaving the airport," she answered matter-of-factly.

Olivia rubbed her temples as she heard that. This young lady just can't stop making me worry! She's already married, but she doesn't think about her husband at all.

"Stephanie, you're married now, so you should be heading back to the Walker residence after your honeymoon. You'll be staying there, after all," she advised.

"Why? Noah says it's okay. It's totally fine if I send you your gifts first before heading over there. Besides, I'll still want to stay here. I can't get used to living at the Walker residence."

Olivia felt her head throb even more. I've spoilt this child too much. Look at her doing whatever she pleases now!

"How could you say that, Stephanie? It's true that Noah dotes on you, but you shouldn't be treating marriage like a game. Now that you're married, you should learn how to get along with your in-laws and respect them!" she scolded.

In response, Stephanie turned to Noah meekly. "Look, Noah, my mom's lecturing me again. Did I say anything wrong? You're the one who said I can continue living here or wherever I want. You're not going back on your word, are you?"

"If you want to come back here, I'll come with you. It's okay," Noah assured gently, concealing a look of frostiness that flashed briefly in his eyes.

Stephanie was delighted to hear that.

"See, Mom? Noah's the one who agreed to it. I didn't force him to come over," she remarked smugly.

"You can't spoil her like that, Noah," Olivia said helplessly. Still, she was silently overjoyed to see a man love Stephanie so unconditionally and felt that her daughter had married the right man.

The Clintons didn't lack money; all they wanted was for someone to truly love and tolerate their daughter.

"It's okay, Mom. I'll be pretty busy with work soon, so I won't have much time with Stephanie. It'd be good if she could come home and spend time with you and Dad, anyway. At least she wouldn't be bored on her own," Noah said magnanimously, playing the role of a perfect husband all too well.

Olivia became increasingly pleased with him.

"You'll be the one suffering the consequences if you keep spoiling her, Noah."

"It's fine, Mom. That way, no one else will be able to put up with her, and she'll love only me." Noah grinned while gazing at Stephanie dotingly, which caused the latter to turn red.

"Stop saying such cheesy things in front of my mom, Noah. I'm getting goosebumps!"

The man merely caressed her head affectionately.

"You can stay here and chat with your mother, Stephanie. I have to take care of some work now. Let's head back to my place tonight."

Hearing that, the woman glared at him. "We just came back from our honeymoon, and you're already heading to work? Aren't you going to keep me company?"

"Our honeymoon went on for too long. There are piles of documents waiting for my signature. I'll come back as soon as I can, okay?"

Stephanie was still upset.

"Come on, now, Stephanie. Noah spent two whole months with you. Is that not enough? He still has a job, you know? Don't be unreasonable," Olivia chided.

Stephanie pouted and said nothing more.

With that, Noah rose to his feet, left the house, and entered his car. It was only after driving out of the Clinton residence that his gaze darkened.

Stephanie was more spoilt than he had ever imagined, and his patience drained at each passing moment. He wouldn't have even wanted to touch her if he didn't have to butter up the Clintons; she was so self-centered that it made his stomach churn.

Noah headed downtown as quickly as he could before whipping out his phone to give Emma a call. Finally, the woman answered.

"Where are you, Emma?" he asked, sounding slightly irritated.

"I'm at home. Are you back from your honeymoon?" Emma responded, her voice laced with a tinge of coquettishness. "I miss you, Noah. I called you so many times, but you never picked up. I thought you'd forgotten about me now that you have a wife."

Noah's expression softened a little as he heard that.

"Wait for me at home. I'm coming over right now."

After hanging up, Noah headed straight for the apartment he had bought Emma.

A slender figure lunged toward him as soon as he stepped into the building, looping her arms around him and kissing him on the neck.

Yet, as soon as she did that, the man shoved her away and slapped her across the face.

Emma clutched her face and stared at Noah in disbelief. "Noah, did you just slap me?"

"You went to the wedding and got sent out?" Noah questioned, gritting his teeth.

The woman began to cry. "I just love you too much, Noah. That's why I wanted to take a look at the woman you married. I didn't mean anything by it. I know a nobody like me doesn't deserve to be your wife. I just wanted to see if that woman really loves you."

Noah calmed down and walked over. "Does it hurt?" he asked tenderly, placing a hand on her back.

"No, but my heart hurts," the woman replied, bursting into tears as she threw herself into his arms. Despite the flood of tears gushing down her cheeks, her eyes appeared utterly cold.

She would have still harbored the slightest bit of love for him had he not struck her.

Noah ran his fingers through her hair intimately. "It's okay, Emma. Tell me, what did Oscar ask you when he took you away?"

"Nothing much. He just asked how you and I are connected," Emma answered, trying to sound as convincing as she could.

"And what did you tell him?" the man prompted, stroking her neck.

Emma suddenly felt a chill run down her spine. She had a feeling that one slip of the tongue would lead to this man wringing her by the neck. Perhaps she could even...

Fearing for her life, the woman wrapped herself around him seductively and responded in an airy voice, "You said I can never reveal our relationship to anyone, so I told him I'm your ex-girlfriend, and he let me go after that. I guess he fell for it."

"Really?" Noah asked, his voice deepening.

Emma cupped his face with her hands. "What's wrong, Noah? Why do you seem so wary about Oscar? Is he that terrifying? Aren't you on par with him? Why do you have to be afraid?"

With a smile, Noah held her hand and kissed the back of it. "I was just worried that he might've taken advantage of you, Emma."

"I'm just a regular girl who has nothing else. He probably thinks I'm not even worthy of his time."

With that, Noah lowered his head to kiss her before pinning her against the wall.

After they had done the deed, Emma lay on top of his chest. "Can you stay here tonight, Noah? We hadn't seen each other for two months. I've missed you so much."

Before Noah could answer, his phone suddenly rang. Upon glancing at the screen, he realized the call came from Oscar.

Emma watched as the man's hand quivered. "Who's calling, Noah? Why aren't you picking up?" she asked in concern.

Noah gave her forehead a peck before hopping out of bed and walking to the balcony to answer the call.

"Hey, Oscar."

"Noah, I just had a business negotiation in the area your ex-girlfriend lives and saw a familiar car enter the neighborhood. It turns out the car belongs to you. Are you with her now?" Oscar asked gracefully.

Noah felt a headache coming as he pursed his lips.

Looks like he's on to her.

"I just returned from my honeymoon, Oscar. I was about to head to my office, but I got a call from Emma telling me that she left the title deed of the apartment inside the safe

here, so I dropped by to get it," Noah explained calmly. "You can come on over if you don't believe me, but I love Stephanie and will never betray her."

"There's no need to panic. I was just asking." Oscar chuckled. "You're Stephanie's husband, so it's only natural that I'm on your side."

"Thank you, Oscar."

"Well, carry on. I have to get back to business."

"Okay. See you."

After hanging up, Noah felt the pain in his head intensify. He had no idea what Oscar had up his sleeve.

Now, the man felt as though he was a lab rat being monitored, and the person watching him closely like a cat was Oscar. But instead of killing him instantly, the latter was taking his time to drive Noah to the edge psychologically.

Noah knew he was no match for Oscar when it came to playing mind games.

"What's wrong, Noah?" Emma hugged him from behind.

Noah quickly shoved her aside and glanced downstairs, as though trying to spot a familiar car in the area.

"What's up with you, Noah? You're acting like you've done something wrong and you're trying not to get caught," Emma commented unhappily.

Noah came to his senses and turned around with a smile. "Not at all. Let's head back in."

The man began putting his clothes back on after returning inside. "You should move, Emma. I'll sell this apartment and find you another neighborhood to live in."

Emma was puzzled. "But why? I like this place, Noah. It's full of our memories together. I don't want to sell it."

"Be a good girl. I'll get you a better apartment and add another ten thousand to your monthly allowance, okay? But you can't call me from now on. I'll come looking for you when I miss you," Noah insisted.

Emma's gaze turned icy, and she threw her hands up. "What do you treat me as, Noah? Do you really not love me anymore?"

"Emma, you know I don't like difficult women. We can still live like we always have as long as you listen to me, and I'll keep loving you."

Hearing that, Emma took a deep breath. "Okay. Don't be mad, Noah. I'll do whatever you say and keep being the woman who has your back. I just hope you won't forget me now that you have a wife."

Noah's gaze softened. "Take this card. There's thirty grand inside it. Get whatever you want with this money and call me if it's not enough."

Emma took the card from him. "Be sure to eat your meals, Noah, and think of me even when you're with your wife," she said docilely.

"I'll be off now."

The man left the apartment without the slightest bit of warmth that he initially had.

Emma's face clouded over, and all the submissiveness she once showed disappeared in an instant. She was especially disgusted by the way Noah treated her like a mere plaything.

"You made me do this, Noah. It's not my fault that I don't give a d*mn about what we used to be anymore. You never loved me anyway," she murmured insidiously.

A woman with money was always better off than one who depended on a man.