

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 271

Chapter 271 They had not informed him ahead of time before visiting.

Elliot did not want them over, as they were all strangers to Shea, and they would startle her.

Rosalie stood at the very front and as soon as she saw Shea, her eyes gleamed, and she could not help but approach Shea.

Elliot stood in front of Shea and said, “Mom, why did you come here without telling me first?”

“Today’s your— I bought a cake.” Rosalie lowered her gaze and mumbled, “I know I shouldn’t come here unannounced, but I can’t help it...”

She could not resist her urge to see Shea.

Shea heard Rosalie’s voice and was both nervous and curious at the same time. Rosalie could see her doe like eyes peeking at her from behind Elliot.

“Shea, you aren’t afraid of me, are you?” Rosalie looked at her with anticipation.

Shea immediately lowered her head again, her grip on Elliot’s clothes tightening in response.

Elliot reached his hand behind and held her hand.

“Mom, go home! We’ve already had cake at school,” he said coldly. “Take your cake with you.”

Rosalie sighed.

Though it was unfortunate, she still felt satisfied to see that her daughter was doing well.

The group soon exited the building and Elliot led Shea back into the house.

“Madame Rosalie has just got here, and she wouldn’t let me tell you,” Mrs. Cooper said apologetically.

Elliot looked over at Zoe, who was standing by the side.

Zoe immediately explained, “I’ve been here since six in the evening, Elliot. If you’ve already had your cakes, then I will take the cake away.”

Zoe had brought a cake that she had made herself.

Seeing how frightened she appeared to be, Elliot scowled.

Was he that scary?

“Dr. Sanford, is there any progress on Shea’s treatment?” Elliot asked while staring at her face.

Zoe lifted her eyes to look at him and said, “The soonest we can proceed will be spring next

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year. She needs to recover after her first surgery, and technically speaking, the more time she has to recover, the better it will be for her.”

Elliot nodded. “I look forward to good news.”

“Yeah, I’ll do my best.”

With that, she took the cake and left; but since she came out, she had been absorbed in her thoughts.

The way Rosalie had looked at Shea was not normal. It was Elliot’s birthday and he was supposed to be the main focus, but Rosalie could not seem to take her eyes off Shea.

With all sorts of thoughts in her head, she messaged Cole.

(Didn’t your grandma know Shea already? She looked so excited just now.)

Cole replied, (Dr. Sanford, I can’t talk to you about this, or my dad is going to skin me alive.)

Zoe felt even more curious by his response, (I will skin you as well if you won’t tell me. Do you prefer being skinned metaphorically by your dad or physically by me?)

“... What a vicious woman!” Cole thought to himself.

When he did not reply immediately, Zoe sent another message. (Let me guess, Shea is related to the Foster family, isn’t she? Is she Elliot’s ex-wife? Maybe it’s because of her disability that the Foster Family decided to keep everything about her a secret?)

Cole read her theory with resignation and replied, (Dr. Sanford, I don’t know what’s really going on with Shea either, but I don’t think it’s like that.)

(Then what is it like?)

(She is definitely not my uncle's girlfriend. How could I not know if they had been married before?)

Zoe was overjoyed. As long as she knew that Shea was not Elliot's girlfriend, who she truly was did not matter.

At three in the morning, in the master bedroom of the Starry River Villa, Avery's phone started ringing.

She reached up to rub her eyes, before answering the call. Someone on the other side of the line said something, and she sat up from the bed abruptly.

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 272

Chapter 272 She sat on the bed with unconcealable joy on her face.

Five years ago, her stepmother and Wanda's younger brother, James, stole three hundred million from Tate Industries. After spending most of that fortune, greed had taken over him, and he had planned on making another fortune from Tate Industries. Only this time, he would not be met with three hundred million dollars, just the cold hard hand of the law.

A moment ago, officer Boyd, the police officer who was responsible for the case, had contacted Avery and informed her that James had already boarded the flight back to the country

There was a team of officers at the airport, ready to ambush him. As soon as James landed, he would be arrested.

This was something that Avery had spent years waiting for, and even after hanging up, she could not seem to calm herself down. She wanted to share the good news with her friends, but it was three in the morning, and she could not bring herself to wake them.

She got out of bed and stepped out of the bedroom. She went to the kitchen and opened the fridge to find a few cans of beer that her mother used for cooking. She took out the beer and went to sit down in the living room.

At four in the morning, Elliot was rudely woken from his sleep by the sound of a ringing phone. He scowled and picked up the phone.

When he saw Avery's name, he thought that he had seen it wrong. He massaged the bridge of his nose and focused on the screen once again, but he was right. It was a call from Avery.

He sat up and picked up the phone without further hesitation, thinking that something bad had happened for her to call him at this hour.

The two of them had long become strangers who barely even spoke to one another when they met, so she could not possibly call him unless something had happened to her.

"Hello... Elliot? Happy Birthday!"

When he heard Avery's drunken voice, his heart eased slightly, before tensing again.

"She is calling because she's drunk! She is okay!" he thought to himself, "But why is she drunk at this time? Is she not at home? She couldn't be this drunk if she was home."

“Avery Tate, you are becoming more and more ridiculous!” he scowled with disappointment in his voice.

“... I called to wish you Happy Birthday, why are you yelling at me?” She squeezed and

smashed the beer can in her hand. If only she had her hands on Elliot instead of the can, she would have strangled him to death.

“My birthday’s past,” Elliot reminded her, before asking, “Why are you drinking? What happened? Where are you? Give me the address!”

He swung his legs off the bed and got out. Striding toward the closet, he took out a set of clothes.

“Haha! I’m at home! Why do you think I’m this happy?” she giggled, abandoning her composure. Her happiness shone through her voice.

He sat down by the bed at the sound of her wondrous laughter.

He could tell that she really was happy, but he simply did not know why.

“It’s been so long since I heard you laugh, Avery,” he said in a husky and seductive voice.

The smile froze on her face, and for a moment, it felt as though the two of them were still in love.

A sharp pain shot up her head and Avery tossed all the beer cans into the dustbin, before getting up from the couch to walk back to her bedroom.

“Elliot Foster... I called you... to, to wish you Happy Birthday...”

“You already did.”

“Oh... Then I hope that you get a son soon.”

Elliot could not work up a fit of anger at her thoughtless comment and simply said, “No, thank you.”

“No son? Then I wish you good fortune!” She stumbled her way back to the bedroom and threw herself back onto the bed. She breathed heavily as she felt heavy.

An idea appeared in Elliot’s mind when he heard her heavy breathing. It was said that the truth came when one was drunk, and he happened to have a question for her.

“Avery, back then when you were pregnant with our child, did you really get rid of it?” he asked in a hoarse voice.

Hayden resembled him, and he had similar flaws in his personality as Shea did.

Elliot could not stop thinking about Hayden. If their child had survived, he would have been the same age as Hayden,

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 273

Chapter 273

Avery heard his question. She slightly sobered her up.

Did he think that she would spill the truth simply because she had a bit too much to drink?

He had underestimated her.

She had drunk a little too much, but it was only beer and not wine. Beer would not completely make her lose her mind.

She decided to ignore him and go to sleep.

Elliot listened to her breathing and stared at the screen of his phone, reluctant to hang up. She would have never called unless she was drunk.

Avery jolted awake at eight in the morning. It was a nightmare that had woken her. A nightmare about the time when her father had just passed away.

With his death and the company declaring bankruptcy, Avery and her mother had wandered the streets like homeless strays. She had been thirsty and dying for water, but they had not a penny to their name, so they could not buy water.

Avery was drenched in sweat when she woke up. She sighed a breath of relief at the familiar sight of her bedroom and whispered to herself, "It's in the past, Avery... don't be afraid."

Just then, a man's husky voice came from her phone, "Are you awake?"

Avery gaped and stared at her phone, thinking, "What's going on? Is my phone possessed? Why is Elliot's voice coming from it?"

"Calm down, ghosts don't appear during the daytime." She took a deep breath to prepare herself, before picking up the phone.

Elliot had heard her mumbling to herself. He looked forward to her reaction.

When Avery unlocked the phone and saw the screen, her face stiffened. The screen showed that she had been on call with Elliot for five hours.

She instantly felt like tossing her phone away.

“I called Elliot? Why?” she thought as she stared at her phone dazedly. She flushed. She wanted to ask about what had happened, but she could not bring herself to ask. “Avery, are you awake?” He took the initiative and broke the moment of silence.

“... Yeah.” She gasped and massaged her temples. “I’m sorry... I didn’t say anything weird last night, did I?”

“Of course,” he said, “you did.”

Avery’s head started to hurt even more as she tried her best to remember what had happened the night before.

“You wished me happy birthday,” he said calmly, “and then you wished that I would get a son soon.”

“Huh?”

Avery finally remembered. She had been drinking because James was on his way back to the country and was about to get arrested.

It was already eight in the morning, and according to the time, James had probably landed.

“Elliot, I have something I need to take care of, so bye!” she blurted out and hung up.

She got out of bed and called Officer Boyd.

Her call was immediately answered.

“Officer Boyd, have you caught James?” She could hear her heart beating as though it was about to jump out of her chest.

“Yes, he has already been brought to the station and is currently being questioned,” Officer Boyd said. “I was afraid that I might wake you so I didn’t call.”

“Thank you! Thank you!” Avery instantly relaxed, and even her head started to hurt less.

“You’re welcome. I will keep you posted.”

“Alright! Thank you!”

At ten in the morning, Avery received a phone call from her stepmother from overseas. They had not spoken for over four years, but she had never once forgotten her stepmother’s vicious face and hateful voice.

“Avery Tate! You think you are so smart, how dare you set up such a trap!” snarled Wanda. “If something happens to my brother, I won’t let you off easy!”

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 274

Chapter 274 It simply filled Avery's heart with joy to hear Wanda's frustrated screams.

"And how are you going to do that?" she teased sarcastically. "You are either behind your brother's crime, or you condoned it at the very least. After all, you spent quite a lot of the money your brother stole from us! How dare you call me?"

"You got my daughter Cassandra killed! I haven't even made you pay for that!"

"Oh... Who else died in your family? Why don't you just blame it all on me as well?" mocked Avery. "Do you think that I'm still the girl that you can bully? Wanda, you've lost your last chance when you failed to kill me five years ago!"

Avery's voice was cold and vicious. She sounded completely different from how she did five years ago.

Wanda furiously hung up. She did not intend on letting it slide and booked a ticket back to Aryadelle immediately.

The headlines for the afternoon news read: (Tate Industries to obtain an extra three hundred million dollar boost? Mr. Worsley, the previous finance director, had been arrested this morning at the airport after five years on the run!)

When Mike saw the news, he stormed into Avery's office.

"How can you not tell me about something this huge?" he said in excitement. "Our company is getting three hundred million!"

Avery

picked up the glass of water to take a sip. “You should believe everything you see on the news.

Do you think he would come back if he hadn’t spent all the money he stole?”

“Avery, you lost three hundred million, and you are here drinking tea?”

“My dad

lost three hundred million, not me.” She corrected him. “People always need to pay for the mistakes

they made, and that was the price my dad paid for marrying Wanda.”

“Let’s go celebrate tonight?” Mike proposed.

“Sure!” Avery’s lips curled into a smile. “You organize it.”

“Okay!” Mike picked up a

strand of her hair and asked shyly, “Can I invite Chad?”

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The smile froze on Avery’s face. “You two...”

Could the two of them be in a relationship?

“We made peace and are now on good terms!” Mike confessed. “I will only invite Chad, not your ex, okay?”

your ex, okay?”

“What do you mean you are on good terms?” Avery could not help but imagine what Mike could mean. “Did you two.”

“Avery, do you prefer that Chad and I fight every time we see each other?” he interrupted her and said, “Get your mind out of the gutter, okay?”

“Oh, invite him then!” Avery studied Mike’s flushed face and instinctively felt that things were not as innocent as Mike claimed. Regardless, she did not intend to stop the two from developing a relationship.

Once Mike went out, Avery called Wesley and invited him to go out with them.

Wesley agreed and asked, “Are you free this afternoon? Can you make a trip to the hospital?”

“Yeah, sure,” she said.

After lunch, Avery drove to Elizabeth Hospital, and Wesley went to pick her up at the entrance, before taking her to the ward.

“Avery, I have good news. Eric is getting better” Wesley said. “As expected of Professor Hough’s best student!”

Avery beamed at him. “Is he awake?”

Eric Santos was the first patient she had treated since her return.

“Yeah! He regained consciousness,” Wesley said. “All the famous doctors in this country had pretty much announced that Eric was pretty much dead back then. Who knew that you would save him?”

“He has just regained consciousness. It’s far from a full recovery,” Avery said modestly.

“I believe in you. You will definitely help him back on his feet!”

Avery

wanted to help Eric back on his feet as well. Before he had become a vegetable, he had

been

one of the country’s most famous male idols. Even after fading out of the entertainment | industry for two years due to a certain accident, he was still within the listed top ten most

popular idols. After

performing the first surgery on him, Avery had gone and watched all his shows.

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 275

Chapter 275 Eric was born for the stage Whenever he was on stage, he could move the hearts of many without doing anything.

That evening, Avery drove Wesley to the gathering venue Mike had told her about.

The two got out of the car when they arrived at the hotel.

“Wesley, everyone here tonight is either a friend of mine or a *friend of Mike’s*, so don’t hold back,” said Avery with a smile. “We are mainly celebrating the fact that James got arrested. It’s something that’s been on my mind for some time now.”

“I know. I heard you mention it before.” Wesley smiled while looking at her. “I can see that you are in an exceptionally good mood today.”

The two went to the event hall that Mike told her to go to. As soon as they entered the hall, the smile faded from Avery’s face.

“What the heck? Why are there so many strangers? Did we walk into the wrong place? But – I can see Mike’s golden hair from here,” she thought.

When Mike spotted Avery, he walked up to her. “Avery, here you are! Welcome, Wesley!”

Avery dragged Mike outside and asked him what happened.

“Well... When I invited Chad, he said that they are having a company gathering tonight in a big event hall. He said that we can just come join them... That way we can save the money for gathering, right?” Mike’s eyes shone in a calculative manner.

Avery’s eyes filled with anger as she thought, “I’m in such a good mood, and he thinks that I want to skimp on food?!”

“Relax, Elliot usually doesn’t show up to gatherings for the Sterling Group,” Mike explained. “Their company has a gathering every fortnight, so he couldn’t possibly show up every time. According to Chad, Elliot only shows his face during special occasions... and tonight’s not an occasion, so he won’t be here! I swear it!”

Mike placed his hand on his chest and swore.

Just then, they heard the distinct sound of leather shoes hitting the floor. Avery looked in the direction of the sound and saw Elliot walking toward them. He was dressed in black.

Avery instantly smacked Mike's hand.

Mike took a deep breath awkward breath and whispered, "What do we do? The people I invited are already inside... I can't just ask them to get out."

Elliot walked toward them. His dark, brooding eyes focused on Avery's face as he said, "Congratulations."

Avery scowled.

"... On getting three hundred million," he added.

Avery lifted an eyebrow. "Oh... Don't you usually stay out of company gatherings?"

"I come when I want to. Nothing is fixed," he said casually, before teasing her, "Are you drinking tonight?"

"I drink when I want to. Nothing is fixed," she retorted stubbornly.

Elliot pursed his lips and gave her a look, before looking away and stepping into the event hall.

Mike dragged Avery along and followed Elliot closely.

"We are already here. If we leave now, he is going to think that we are afraid of him!" Mike tried to brainwash her by saying, "Not only are we going to eat m

ore, but we are also going to order a few bottles of good wine! He's paying, anyway."

Avery glared at him. "Don't you ever feel embarrassed?"

Mike gave her a charming smile. "He is not my ex-husband, so the only one who would feel embarrassed would be you."

Avery silently decided to never organize a gathering again.

Suddenly, she realized that Wesley was nowhere to be found and looked around. "Where is Wesley?"

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 276

Chapter

276 "Elliot pulled him away." Mike pointed her in the direction the men had gone.

Avery turned to see Elliot and Wesley at a table by themselves with the bodyguards standing next to them. There was a bottle on the table, and it appeared that they intended on drinking.

Avery scowled.

Wesley did not drink very often and his alcohol tolerance was not at all great.

"Two amateurs! Let's see who goes down first," Mike teased.

Avery suddenly remembered that Elliot could not drink as well.

“Avery, it’s a contest between the two men. Just let them drink!” said Mike, tapping her on her shoulder.

She looked up and shoved his handsome face away. “This is all your fault!”

“I will never get fooled by Chad again! Next time I will ask him to join us instead!” Mike swore.

“There won’t be a next time!” Avery walked toward Tammy.

Tammy raised her middle finger at Mike.

It had been a while since Avery had been in contact with Elliot or seen him, and because of Mike, they had met tonight. Seeing him only added to her headache and reluctance to cut all ties with him.

“Avery, congratulations on getting that money.” Tammy took a glass of juice and passed it to Avery. “Doesn’t matter if you can actually get it back or not, at least you have fulfilled your dad’s wishes.”

Avery nodded. “Yeah, I intend on going to the cemetery to visit my dad tomorrow.”

“Sure! You should take the two kids with you... If your dad was still alive, he would have been overjoyed.”

Avery considered it for a moment and nodded.

Just then, her phone rang. She glanced at the caller identification and went to the side to pick up the call.

After the call, she went back to Tammy and said, "I need to go out for a bit. I'll be back soon."

It was a call from Wanda, who had just returned to the country. She panicked after learning from her lawyer that James might face legal sanctions, so she called Avery hoping to meet her and talk things over.

The two met at a café near the hotel.

Wanda scanned Avery from head to toe. Avery still looked the same, but her demeanor had changed drastically. Her eyes were cold and distant. She felt unapproachable.

"Avery, I did not make my brother steal that money," Wanda had taken the initiative and broke the silence. "How could I possibly want the Tate Family to fall after all those years I've spent with your father?"

"My father is dead. What's the point of playing the victim?" Avery exposed her hypocrisy right away. "I don't have much time to waste here with you, get to the point."

"Let's settle this in private!" Wanda scowled, "I will find a way to return the money he stole from you! Had he not done what he did, both Cassandra and I would have a share of that three hundred million dollars. Now you can have it all, are you satisfied?!"

Wanda sounded as though she had granted Avery a generous gift.

Avery smirked. "Wanda, is your brother only worth three hundred million to you? I suppose some of your companies overseas must be doing quite well. There isn't a chance that we

can settle the matter in private, unless, you can give me fifty billion, at the very least.”

“Fifty billion!” Wanda gasped and thought to herself, “You might as well just kill me!”

With a vicious expression, she clenched her fists. “Avery Tate! You are being too greedy!”

“Looks like this negotiation is a failure. We’ll just go with the law!” drawled Avery and got up from her chair.

A fire was ignited within Wanda when she saw that Avery was leaving. She stood up as well and growled, “Wait! Fifty billion isn’t a small amount! Let me think about it!”

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 277

Chapter 277 “Since you are my stepmother, I will give you a day,” Avery said coldly and stepped out of the café.

Back at the event hall, both Elliot and Wesley were looking rather drunk after only having a few glasses to drink

“Mr. Brook, I heard that Professor Hough had a secret student,” asked Elliot casually as he poured Wesley another glass.

Wesley looked at him and flushed. “Where did you hear that, Mr. Foster?”

Elliot lifted his glass and touched Wesley’s. “You only need to tell me yes or no, Mr. Brook.”

Wesley took a sip and responded in a troubled tone. "I'm sorry, but I cannot disclose any personal information regarding Professor Hough."

"Professor Hough has passed away. Besides, it's not like it's something to be ashamed of."

"What if that person doesn't wish to be found?"

Elliot beamed and said, "So, Professor Hough did have a secret student."

The person Wesley was referring to had to be the mysterious student.

Wesley picked up his glass and took another sip.

"Mr. Brook, you are that secret student of Professor Hough, aren't you?" Elliot finally revealed his theory.

Wesley immediately spat out the wine in his mouth, and Elliot passed him the tissue box.

"Thank you." Wesley wiped his mouth with the tissue, before explaining with a blush on his face, "Mr. Foster, I was just Professor Hough's assistant. I studied medicine as well, but I am nowhere near worthy of being his student. That's the whole reason why I was his assistant to begin with."

"Really?" Elliot looked into his eyes as he tried to determine whether Wesley was telling the truth.

“Of course! Oh, right, haven’t you already found Zoe?” Wesley changed the subject and said, “She is brilliant.”

“That, she is, but I want more options,” Elliot said in a low voice, “I heard that Professor Hough’s secret student is a middle aged man, and I’ve sent people to find him. It’s been two months since then, and I haven’t even found a clue.”

That was the reason why Elliot had decided to talk to Wesley.

Wesley was not sure if he wanted to cry or laugh. “So I’m a middle aged man to you, Mr. Foster?”

“I’m sorry, but I am at my wit’s end.”

Wesley felt slightly impulsive after drinking and said, “Your information is wrong. Even if Professor Hough had a secret student, it wouldn’t be a middle aged man.”

“Oh? So it’s a woman?”

Wesley pursed his lips but did not respond.

“Mr. Brook, can you just give me some information?” Elliot continued, “Name your price, I am willing to pay any amount for it.”

Feeling overwhelmed, Wesley was left with no options but to lay his head on the table in an effort to appear drunk.

When Avery walked into the hall and saw Wesley on the table, she was furious.

“That b*st*rd Elliot! How dare he get my friend drunk?”

She strode toward Elliot, and he turned abruptly to look at her when he sensed her approach.

“What is the meaning of this, Elliot Foster?!” She glared at him.

Flushed, his eagle eyes appeared innocent for a moment. He picked up the bottle on the table and showed it to her. The two of them had only drunk half the bottle, and he suspected that Wesley was only pretending to be drunk.

“Wesley can’t drink!” Avery set the bottle back onto the table with a frown and went to help Wesley up

Elliot scowled when he saw her reaching for Wesley, and he pulled her back.

Unprepared, she fell into his arms,

“Avery, I-“He swallowed heavily as he studied her familiar face intently and muttered in a hoarse voice, “I think I’m drunk.”

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 278

Chapter

278 She could feel his breath brushing against her cheeks, and it smelt like alcohol. She believed that he was drunk, otherwise, he would not have wrapped his arms around her in front of all his employees.

“You shouldn’t drink so much if you can’t handle it.” Avery tried to get up from his lap, but he tightened his arms around her waist and refused to let go.

“Avery, let’s drink.” He picked up the bottle and poured alcohol into the glasses. “Were you drunk last night because James was arrested?” |

His arms loosened slightly, and she immediately got up from his lap. She turned to look in Wesley’s direction, but he was nowhere to be found.

“Elliot! Where is Wesley?” She stared at Elliot’s flushed face and felt that he was getting more and more sly. His subordinates must have taken Wesley away when Elliot was holding her.

“Given how drunk he got, of course, they escorted him to a place so he might rest,” Elliot drawled and handed her a glass. “Don’t worry, I won’t do anything bad to Mr. Brook.”

Just then, Avery’s phone rang. She unlocked the screen and saw one new message from Wesley that said, (Avery, I’m not drunk. He kept asking about Professor Hough’s secret student, so I had to pretend to be drunk. He might find out about you, so be careful.)

Avery felt relieved when she saw the message but tensed almost immediately again. She looked at Elliot with mixed feelings and accepted the glass, before taking a gulp.

“What were you doing out there just now?” he asked, taking a sip from his glass.

Her breathing grew heavy when she realized that Elliot had been watching her while he had been drinking with Wesley. She felt her emotions roiling within her.

“Elliot, have you forgotten what you said?” She sat down on the chair next to him and reminded him, “You said you will be damned if you come looking for me again.”

Elliot had not forgotten. He lifted an eyebrow and retorted with a husky voice, “I came here for the gathering, not for you.”

“Ha, then why bother with what I was doing outside? Careful not to get yourself damned!” she mocked.

“Avery, you don’t believe that I’m drunk, do you?” He narrowed his eyes with interest and drawled, “If living feels miserable, I might as well be damned.”

Under the warm light, his eyes looked gentle and sensual.

Avery emptied her glass and said to Elliot’s bodyguards, “Your boss is drunk, take him back to rest.”

With that, she walked away from him.

After she left, Elliot set the glass down and left the hall.

“Avery! What were the two of you doing clinging onto each other like that?” Tammy dragged Avery to the washroom. “Look at your face! It’s all red! I don’t even know what to say!”

Avery put her hands on her own heated cheeks and said, "I'm just a bit drunk."

"Oh. Was Elliot drunk? The way he was holding onto you was like how a hungry wolf would hang onto a lamb!" gushed Tammy. "I've never seen Elliot that wild before... I'm shocked!"

Avery was not sure whether to laugh or cry over how Tammy had exaggerated the story. "Do you not see him as human?" she sighed.

"I've never seen him as a human. All this time I've known him, he has always been cold and untouchable... Sometimes, I think he is actually a robot."

"If he was a robot, I would have switched him off so that he can't piss me off anymore."

Tammy was convinced.

The two returned to the event hall from the washroom and sat down for dinner.

"Who was looking for you just now? I wanted to ask, but you left so quickly," Tammy said.

"Guess." Avery purposely tried to be mysterious.

Tammy shook her head. "I can't guess. I tried when you were out... but everyone you know is here, so who else could be looking for you?"

“My stepmother.” Avery picked up a piece of meat and chewed slowly.
“I might just get more than three hundred million.”

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When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 279

Chapter 279

If Wanda was willing to consider fifty billion as a price to pay, it meant that she had the money.

The next day in the director’s office of Sterling Group, the golden rays of the sun shone through the window and into the neat office.

Elliot opened the list of students that had been taught by Professor Hough. According to what Wesley said the night before, Professor Hough’s secret student was not middle aged, nor a man, which narrowed his search by quite a lot.

Suddenly, his eyes focused on Avery’s name.

Avery was one of Professor Hough's students as well, but because she had chosen a career in medicine, he had simply glanced through the report on her time as a student.

Her portfolio was simple, she had done nothing more than learn and author academic papers. He did an online search on one of the papers she had written, reading it, however, felt like reading an alien language, so he gave up.

Perhaps Avery was not as simple as he had originally thought her to be. Professor Hough would not have accepted her as a student if she was ordinary. According to Wesley, had been deemed unworthy as a student and therefore, ended up as his assistant instead.

Why did Avery not continue her career path in medicine after graduation if she had the abilities and talent for it? Was it truly for money? If it was, why did she bother wasting two years studying under Professor Hough?

Elliot frowned and picked up a pen to write down her name, before branching out to writing down words such as 'Professor Hough' and 'Alpha Technologies'. In the end, he wrote Mike's name next to Alpha Technologies.

The profit of Avery's company was a result of Mike's joining. Mike had once told Chad that he was an exceptional hacker and indeed, there was no information about Mike on the internet.

Why would such a skilled hacker willingly work for Avery?

Elliot wrote a question mark after Mike's name.

Meanwhile, in the cemetery,

Avery had taken her mother and two children to visit her father's grave.

"Dad, Mom and I are here." She set down a bouquet of lilies and said, "My kids are here to see you too."

Jack's photo was on the grave.

"Dad, I've rebuilt Tate Industries. James has been arrested as well, so rest in peace!"

Following a breeze, her phone started ringing in her bag. Avery took out the phone and noticed that it was from Wanda. Without hesitation, she picked up the call.

"Avery, I've thought it through. I can't pay you fifty billion at one go, but I can draw up a contract that states I will pay you the full amount within a year!" Wanda's voice was weak from staying up the entire night.

She did not want to spend the fifty billion on saving her brother, but her parents had threatened to kill her, so she was left with no other option than to accept the deal.

"Oh," Avery responded emotionlessly. "What's there to talk about if you can't even pay fifty billion?"

Wanda paused for a moment, before screaming frantically, "What do you mean?! Didn't you say that if I give you fifty billion, you will agree to settle this in private?!"

“What’s wrong with you? Can’t you understand words? I said that I would consider negotiations if you gave fifty billion dollars, but after considering it for a bit, I’ve decided to go through the legal system and let James hang,” Avery said coldly as she stared at her father’s grave.

When His Eyes Opened by Simple Silence Chapter 280

Chapter 280 She had never truly considered settling the matter in private. She had simply said that to give Wanda hope so that she could take it away a day later. Avery wanted her to taste what it was like to suffer.

“Very well! Avery, very well!” Wanda was so angry that her lips trembled. “I didn’t want to pay fifty billion, to begin with! It’s not like my money comes easy!”

“Well, let’s hope that your brother won’t haunt you when he dies,” Avery said sarcastically. “I wonder how you two split the twenty billion you stole from us.”

Wanda could feel her blood raging in her.

“Avery Tate... Just you wait... I won’t let you off easy... My brother and my daughter... I will take revenge for them!”

“Oh, you want to send someone to assassinate me? Aryadelle’s surveillance network and the police force’s investigation skills have long surpassed the levels of what they were five years ago. I would recommend thinking it through. Think of whether you can handle the consequences of harming another human being,” said Avery. “After all, murder and contracting an assassin are both punishable by death in Aryadelle!”

The blood drained from Wanda's face, and she hung up.

Laura looked at Avery. "Is Wanda still as arrogant as she was?"

"She has opened up a cosmetic company overseas which earned her a fortune."

Laura lowered her gaze wordlessly.

"Mom, she opened that company with the money her brother stole." Avery knew what her mother was thinking and said, "It doesn't matter how good she is at running a business, nothing is going to cover up the fact that she was the one who got Dad killed and left Tate Industries in a state of bankruptcy! She will get what's coming for her!"

Laura nodded. "It was karma that her daughter died at such a young age. Avery, all I ever wanted is for you to be well. I don't care about the money."

That night, Chad called Mike to invite him out for a drink.

Mike was at home at the time and Avery immediately turned to look at him when he answered Chad's call.

Mike had too much to drink the night before and had decided to have dinner at home, but he

could not seem to turn Chad down.

"Didn't you drink last night? Why are you drinking again?" Mike said while glancing at Avery guiltily

"What, you can't?" Chad challenged him.

Since he had made peace with Mike, Elliot had ordered Chad to try digging out some information from Mike. He wanted to know what had prompted Mike to start a company with Avery.

Could there be something else to the story ?

Mike was young and would never admit that he could not drink.

“Send me the address. I’m going there right now!” Mike hung up and walked toward Avery.

Avery gave him a sidelong glance and said, “Was it Chad ?”

Mike flushed and scratched his head awkwardly. “How do you know ?”

“Who else can get you out other than Chad ? Don’t you remember how drunk you got last night, and what you said to me this morning ? You said that you won’t be drinking this week,” she said.

“I meant I won’t drink wine this week. Beer is like water to me,” Mike said proudly and stepped out onto the porch.

Avery followed closely. “Haven’t you thought of why Chad is asking you out ?”

“Huh ?” Mike paused while changing his shoes.

Avery told him about how Elliot tried to pry for information from Wesley the night before and reminded Mike, “If Chad asks you the same thing, you don’t need me to tell you what to say, do you ? If you spill the beans, this is the end of our friendship!”

Mike clenched his fists in realization and snarled, "That Chad!
He's always calling me with an agenda! Damn it!
I am going to get him so drunk tonight to teach him a lesson!"

"... Don't do that! He has work the next day!"

"How's that any of my business? Relax, I won't tell
him about you," Mike promised.

Slightly uneasy, Avery
asked, "If you are in a relationship with Chad, will you tell him?"

"I won't say a thing that you don't want me to even if he was my wife!
You saved my life and to me, you are always my top priority!" Relieved,
Avery sent him off.