

The Untouchable Ex Wife by Mizuki Sei

Chapter 261

'We were married for four whole years! How could she possibly have nothing to do with me?' Stefan sounded determined, making it seem like his absurd statement was reasonable.

Renee stood behind him with mixed feelings stirring up in her chest. 2

She had never expected Stefan to defend her in front of this many people, nor had she expected him to say all those things. 1

'Isn't he supposed to be the coldest and harshest person regarding our past marriage? Shouldn't he be expressing his disdain more than anything? What is he doing acting as if he cared?'

Christopher spoke up too. "Stef is right. We have no proof pointing to Miss Everheart pushing Cecilia off the cliff, so please do not make any hasty assumptions or use violence against her."

'Instead, we should split up into groups and look around the area... find Cecilia as soon as we can!'

Everyone found his words quite understandable, and they started calling out to Cecilia, covering more ground as they tried to look for her.

Stefan also joined the search party, with Renee sheepishly following behind the man.

His heroic actions a while ago touched her, and she wanted to take this opportunity to thank him properly. However, it seemed that he was in a state of panic as well, rushing around as he scanned his surroundings anxiously.

'I knew it. Smith does have a very special place in his heart. Even though he didn't try to elope with her, he clearly hasn't moved on from her yet.'

"Uhm, Hunt..." Renee increased her pace and caught up to the man.

Stefan didn't care about anything else at the time, as he only wished to find Cecilia as quickly as possible. Thus, he didn't quite have much patience to spare Renee.

"What is it?"

His dismissive attitude made Renee feel extremely ashamed. She mumbled softly, "I... just... wanted to thank you for standing up for me, even when the situation was so pressuring."

'No need to thank me.' Stefan's eyes continued scanning the ocean surface, not sparing her a single glance. "But if I found out that you were really the one who tried to kill her, I'll be sure to take matters into my own hands!"

Renee's heart dropped to the bottom of the sea, a frown forming on her face.

'Hah, so I was overthinking things. I mistook his small favor as residual affection.*'

'Wake up, Renee. Stefan Hunt has never felt anything toward you. If he did, he wouldn't have brought his mistress in and forced you into getting a divorce.'

Just then, Stefan behaved like a jetski, rushing towards the right side and swimming into deeper regions with all his might. "Ah! There! There! I think I see her!" Someone shouted.

Renee turned to look in that direction as well and found herself looking at a blurry figure floating on the water. It was Cecilia, the one who everyone was desperately looking for.

Cecilia's body was being carried further away with the waves and was currently located in the deadly deep sea zone.

Stefan, on the other hand, was still swimming in that direction, actively putting himself in that type of dangerous situation as well.

Everyone was so nervous that they held their breaths, as they knew that a large wave could very well take both of their lives at once...

"Come back here!" Renee was unable to contain herself any longer, screaming at the top of her lungs. "Come back, Stefan Hunt! Do you have a death wish or something?!" 1

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No matter how much she screamed and called, Stefan soldiered on, seeming as if he had no intention of turning back.

'Fine! If you're so tired of living, then just die! If you die, I won't even cry a single tear for you!' Renee clenched her fists, her chest tightening while she grew more and more furious at his recklessness.

'God damn it, Stefan Hunt! Do you have no one else you care about in this world?! Are you really willing to give up on everything for your first love?! Is she really that important to you?!'

It was also then that she finally realized that the cold man she once knew was actually quite loving. However, his love wasn't hers to dream of, and she had no right to expect that from him.

Stefan was quite a skilled swimmer and was able to reach Cecilia within minutes. Using one arm, he carried her back to shore.

Just as they were about to reach the safe zone, a large wave came crashing down, dragging the two backward.

Their figures were unable to be seen after that, which meant that their situations were extremely critical.

'No!' Renee was shocked to her core, her mind turning blank as she switched into survival mode. All she could do was scream for help as much as she could.

Christopher and Xavier soon led a group of people over, yet didn't dare to take another step as they noticed the rough waves...

"Why are you just standing there? Save them! Hunt and Smith are both being carried away by those waves!" Renee sobbed profusely, never feeling such despair in her life. i

If it weren't to protect her children, she would've just saved them herself.

The moment Xavier heard this, he didn't hesitate in the slightest, intending to jump straight in, only to be stopped by Christopher.

As the eldest in their group, Christopher has always been the rational friend. With a solemn expression, he said, "We can't send more people into these waves. Professionals on the rescue teams are already doing their jobs. So let's just calm down and wait by the shore quietly. We have to prioritize our own safety first."

"I can't just calm down!" Xavier roared. "Stef is in there! Cecy is in there! I can't just sit back and watch them die like a wuss!"

Renee felt as if she was going to lose it with the two arguing fiercely right next to her. Unknowingly, she even started walking towards the direction where Stefan disappeared...

Although she had mentioned not sparing him a tear if he died, she still wished for him to stay alive. She didn't want her children to lose their father, even before they were born.

"Miss Everheart! What are you doing? Come back!" Christopher instantly rushed over and grabbed Renee by the arm once he noticed her trying to dive into the water.

"The waves are too big, and it's just too dangerous! The rescue team is already doing its best, okay? Let's get back to shore now!"

"Renee's face was pale as if she had lost her very soul. She stared back at Christopher with blank eyes.

Let go of me... I didn't want to save them. I just wanted to take a look at his corpse... Never mind, I just wanted to check it out. It's not like I'm trying to save anymore.'

"I know you're worried about Stef, but we need to calm down at times like this! Stef wouldn't want you to get hurt, you know? He cares a lot about you!

'I'm not worrying about him. I just wanted to take a closer look! You don't know this, but I've always been a fan of gossip, so let go of me... Let me see!!'

Renee seemed too panicky to make up a coherent excuse. Moreover, the waves were crashing onto the lower half of her body, and it made her seem like she wouldn't be able to maintain proper balance if she stayed there any longer.

Having no other choice, Christopher narrowed his eyes as he carried Renee bridal-style. As she tried to struggle out of his arms, he awkwardly said, "I'm sorry, I have to protect you in Stef's stead."

'Let go of me! I know what I'm doing! I can take care of myself! I don't need anyone's protection!" Renee screamed loudly.

Even then, she was worried she might affect her children's well-being, so she didn't dare to struggle with all her might either.

'Stop moving. I can promise you that Stef will be just fine! He's tough, and a good swimmer too! He even won the championship of a diving contest before! He'll be fine, alright?"

Under the glow of the reddish-orange sun, Christopher looked toward the woman in his arms with utmost certainty.

Noticing this, Renee stopped struggling. Christopher's sincere expression gave her a sudden sense of reassurance.

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As the two headed to a safer area, Christopher sat her down gently and whispered, "Sorry if I've crossed your boundaries. I was acting out of panic as well. I hope you understand."

"It's alright. I should be thanking you, actually. I was being too rash," Renee replied, calming down and realizing she had momentarily lost it.

She put some thought into this and asked herself, 'What does my exhusband's life have to do with me? We're already divorced.'

However, despite regaining her rationality, Renee still continued staring out into the ocean, crossing her arms before her chest. She started calling out to the man in her head, 'Come back, Stefan Hunt. For the sake of your two children, I'm begging you to come back!'

After that, as if the man himself had heard her pleas, she witnessed a miracle happening right before her eyes.

Stefan, who had disappeared into the waves earlier, was able to swim against the current, returning to the shore with his extraordinary swimming skills.

"They're back! They're back!" Everyone was overjoyed, quickly going forth to give him a hand.

Stefan was absolutely exhausted by that point. As he handed Cecilia to Christopher and Xavier, he immediately lay flat on the ground, panting heavily.

"My daughter! Oh, my precious daughter! How are you feeling right now? It's Mom and Dad! Please just say something!" Cecilia's mother cried as hard as she could, knowing everyone was now focusing on saving the woman's life.

Renee, on the other hand, approached Stefan. As she hid her joyful tears away, she put up a nonchalant act while speaking in a sarcastic tone.

"Hah, as expected of Mr. Hunt, I suppose. Who knew you'd be brave enough to swim into the deep zone? I wonder if you just decided that you needed to save the sharks by volunteering as food? How touching! You're just willing to sacrifice yourself for a greater cause!"

Stefan, consumed by fatigue, simply didn't have the energy to talk to her. All he could think about now was how adorable Renee's face looked under the warm sunlight. It looked like she had a halo around her, making his heart skip a beat.

"Maybe I should start calling you Mr. Nice Guy since you're just SO brave." Renee continued on saying these unnecessary matters, but took this chance to express concern, despite still hiding it in a dismissive tone. "So? How are you, Mr. Nice Guy? How are you holding up? Do you need a doctor? ■

Finally, Stefan managed to catch his breath but acted like his life was on the line. He looked towards the woman weakly and said, "I... I can't breathe

"You can't breathe?" Renee frowned, doubting him slightly.

'Can people still remain conscious and speak when they can't breathe?' She wondered.

"Quickly!" Stefan closed his eyes, panting feebly. "I need air!"

"Does that mean you need CPR?"

"Something like that, yeah," Stefan replied, looking like he was in immense pain.

Renee furrowed her eyebrows and pondered for a few seconds, then snapped her fingers. "Well... I'll think of something! Just hold on, okay?"

Stefan then closed his eyes, unable to hide the tiny smile on his face like a childish boy. He couldn't wait to receive 'CPR' from her...

"Are you ready?" Renee took a deep breath and asked bashfully.

"Yes." Stefan nodded and felt a pair of lips smashing into his, yet the feeling was completely different from what he longed for.

Realizing that something was off, the man opened his eyes, enraged.

"Everheart!!"

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Apparently, the person giving him CPR wasn't Renee, who he initially expected. Instead, it was one of the members of the rescue team, a tanned burly man.

"Damn it!" Stefan immediately leaped from the ground, pushing the burly man harshly and forcing him ten feet away. Seeing this, Renee was overwhelmed with glee. "Oh my god, you're alive, Stefan Hunt! Thank the stars!"

"Did you do that on purpose, Everheart?!" Stefan looked exceedingly disgusted as he wiped his mouth over and over using the back of his hand.

He thought to himself, 'That was so humiliating! I can't believe that I, Stefan Hunt, was tricked! I cannot accept this. I won't let this damn brat off so easily!'

However, Renee was clueless about Stefan's intentions from the start. She truly believed that the man needed CPR and went out of her way to find the best professional around them.

Seeing how energetic the man seemed, Renee was genuinely happy that he was no longer in critical condition. She instinctively gave him a big hug, whimpering. "Thank god, Stefan Hunt! You're alive! You really are a tough cookie, just like Christopher said!"

Stefan's rage was instantly replaced with calmness as he felt the woman's soft touch. Not just that, but she really was expressing concern toward him. It was rather hard for him to get mad at her at this point...

Unfamiliar with this version of Renee, who seemed to care about his wellbeing a lot, Stefan cleared his throat and joked around with

her.

"If you're so scared of me dying, why would you say you'd never shed a tear for me if I did? You little liar."

The man's words snapped Renee back to reality, which made her let go of him, keeping her distance. "You don't even cherish your own life! Of course, I wouldn't cry over your death."

"But these tear streaks..."

"I just got some sand in my eyes, that's all!"

"And what about your dress? It's drenched. Did you try to dive in to save me?"

"That's... I just like walking by the seaside! What does that have anything to do with you?" Renee refused to admit just how much she worried about the man.

Stefan seemed to have understood this and nodded gently. As if he was trying to comfort her, he said, 'Alright, alright, I know you don't care. Then you shouldn't be too worried if anything like this happens again. Just know that I will come back safely, no matter what.'

"Again?!" Renee frowned deeply, as if she had just heard something absurd, and slapped the man across the face.

She then warned him, showing her fist in front of his face. "Just die if you dare to act so recklessly again! Then you won't make anyone else worry about you anymore!"

"Worry?" Stefan smiled as he questioned back. "Didn't you say you don't care about me?"

This time, Renee was unable to come up with a proper reply. It was obvious. She clearly hadn't moved on from the man yet, no matter how much she wanted to deny it. Her entire being was constantly worrying about him. She never wanted anything bad to happen to him.

She then tried convincing herself that she was worrying about him for her children's sake, as he was still their father at the end of the day.

The light breezes seemed to carry the smell of romance surrounding the two as they silently understood what the other was really thinking...

Just then, news about Cecilia had finally arrived. "She's awake! Miss Smith is finally awake!" Giving

each other a glance, Stefan and Renee also went over to take a look.

Cecilia seemed to have ingested too much water, so she was unconscious for quite some time. After the rescue team did their best to save her, she was finally able to vomit the seawater and regain her breathing.

Although she was laying in Christopher's arms, her eyes darted wildly around the crowd, as if she was looking for a certain someone.

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Cecilia's mother was still crying, holding onto her hand as she asked, "My dear, are you okay? What are you looking for? Just look at me...."

"Stef. ..Where is he?" Cecilia's voice was hoarse and weak.

After experiencing such a deadly situation, she decided that she had to stop hiding her true feelings. She loved Stefan Hunt, and she couldn't possibly move on from him.

The only person she wanted to see now ... was Stefan Hunt.

"M. .. Mr. Hunt?"

The atmosphere felt tense and awkward, as everyone had the same thought in their heads.

'The first thing this bride did, despite having just survived drowning, was to look for another man... Poor Mr. Jacobs. '

Christopher's handsome face turned stiff, then spoke softly to the woman in his embrace. "Stef risked his life to save you, you know? You have to give him a proper thanks later."

"He did?" Cecilia's pale face finally livened up, bursting into tears. "I knew it ... He does care about me! Oh, Stef.... Where is he? I have to see him!"

At that moment, there was a crowd of guests surrounding the bride, with Stefan and Renee in the outermost area.

After confirming that Cecilia was safe, Stefan grabbed Renee by the wrist and intended to leave.

Renee, however, stood still and teased the man. "Hey, Mr. Nice Guy, this won't do! How could you just leave without taking credit for your good deeds?"

The man rolled his eyes at her, growling. 'Stop talking like that. I'll throw you into the sea if you keep this up.' Renee

smiled awkwardly. "Fine, fine. I'll stop. I can't afford to provoke Mr. Nice Guy after all!"

Just then, the crowd automatically parted, which allowed Cecilia to finally see the man of her dreams. "Stef.

"

However, her gleeful smile froze abruptly as she noticed Stefan holding Renee's hand tightly.

The man who risked his life to save me.... wasn't waiting for me to regain consciousness, but is holding another woman's hand instead?!"

The last ounce of hope in her heart was rekindled and distinguished, time and time again throughout the entire day. The

seed of jealousy had already been planted in her heart, sprouting uncontrollably as if it were weeds.

She then did her best to suppress these emotions, putting up a pitiful act as she gazed upon Stefan, who was standing in the distance.

"Stef, I heard you just risked your life to save me... You've already saved me so many times.... How could I ever repay you?"

Stefan stood still; his expression was distant and hostile. "I did it out of natural instinct. You don't have to thank me.

Those words acted as a knife, once again carving into Cecilia's broken heart, leaving her to bleed out.

This man.... He was willing to give up on everything for me before! He was even willing to give up his life!"

'But now... he wouldn't even bother admitting that we used to date... I... just can't. '

Ruby was watching the show the entire time, observing Cecilia and Stefan closely. As an experienced actress, she was familiar with romance and relationships.

Anyone could tell that Cecilia was still in love with the man, but Stefan had moved on. In fact, he seemed to care more about his ex-wife now.

Before this, the actress was actually still frustrated, wondering how she should take down Renee, considering that she was a very strong rival. Yet seeing Cecilia gave her an idea...

She approached the supposed bride and pretended to act out of concern. "Oh my god, Miss Smith, how are you feeling right now? Everyone was worried sick!" "How did you fall into the ocean? You were fine just a while ago! Could it be that... someone pushed you in?"

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"I..."

Cecilia was still feeling a little weak. She looked at the crowd with cloudy, bleary eyes, as if she had something she could not say out loud.

'I bumped into you and Ms. Everheart earlier,' Ruby Chisholm pointed out suggestively, continuing to fan the flame. 'And you looked a little upset then. Was Ms. Everheart the last person you were with?'

She felt that her implication was obvious enough, even if she did not spell it all out—Renee Everheart pushed Cecilia into the sea!

Having climbed through the ranks in the entertainment industry for long enough, she had armed herself with weapons that helped her get ahead. Among all the weapons in her arsenal, borrowing the hand of another to eliminate a rival was her favorite, as it was the most convenient.

Without lifting a finger, she could just stand back and let someone else eliminate the most threatening enemy on the battlefield—the perfect strategy!

'That's right!' Cecilia's mother agitatedly held her shoulders and urged, "Don't be afraid, darling! Tell us the truth! Did that wicked woman push you into the sea? If she really did, your dad and I will definitely avenge you!"

'Mom...' Cecilia bit her lips and meekly said, 'Since I'm fine now, I think we should stop pursuing the matter. Ms. Everheart and I are friends, after all, and I believe it was all an accident.'

She actually wanted to say that no one pushed her into the sea at all—It was all because she had been hurt by Stefan so badly, and she was so distressed at that time that she decided to jump to her death—to end it all.

But when she saw how Stefan and Renee held hands the entire time, her seething jealousy drove her blindingly mad, which then made her decide to pin it on Renee.

No matter how much Stefan loved Renee, there was no way that he would ever want to be with a vicious murderer!

1 As expected, Stefan quickly released Renee's hand.

He glared at her chillingly, and with an icy cold voice laced with suspicion, he demanded, "What's going on?"

Everyone else covered their mouths in disbelief.

"I can't believe it... So she really was the one who did it! Is her heart so stained with ink that she'd do such an unspeakable thing?! It's horrible!"

Renee was speechless. Once again, she had become the prime target of spite.

"Hey," she pointed at Cecilia. 'Say it clearly. Don't just leave things hanging! What do you mean you don't want to pursue the matter? What do you mean it was an accident? What did I ever do to you? Why insinuate something like that about me?'

Cecilia was so shocked that she stepped back to dodge Renee. The fact that she had just returned from the brink of death made her seem that much more pitiful. With tears streaming, she begged Renee, "Please don't get so mad, Ms. Everheart. We both know what you did, but I really don't want to pursue this. Just... just pretend I slipped and fell into the water myself, and we'll leave it at that."

But this only made Renee angrier than before. Like an uninhibited beast, she charged at Cecilia, grabbing her arm so violently she almost ripped it off. 'Speak clearly, won't you?' she demanded. "What did you mean 'just pretend that you slipped?' If you want to accuse me of pushing you into the sea, just say it, won't you? That way, I can sue you for defamation. Stop acting all pure and innocent! You've already launched your attack! There's no point trying to look like the poor innocent victim!"

Renee realized how wrong she had been about Cecilia. Back then, when she received the necklace from her, Renee had assumed that Cecilia was a smart woman with a big heart, wise enough not to lose her mind for a douchebag.

But now it was clear that she didn't only lose her mind—she even lost her conscience!

'Please, Ms. Everheart! I beg you to not make it any harder for me. I told you that I don't want to pursue the matter... Fine. I'll say it! Nothing that happened to me has anything to do with you... so, everyone, please just drop the matter!'

With teary eyes, Cecilia clutched her mother's hand. "Mom, I feel so dizzy. I feel really unwell. I really need to lie down!" "You've been immersed for so long that you almost drowned, darling! Of course, you'd feel unwell! I'm taking you to the hospital right away!"

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Cecilia's mother then turned to Christopher. "Take your bride to the hospital, Chris, and hurry up, will you? If she stays a moment longer, I fear someone might beat her to death!"

"Of course," Christopher replied. "But I'd like to take the opportunity to publicly announce that the wedding between Cecilia Smith and I has been canceled. Our relationship as a couple ends today as well. I deeply apologize for dragging everyone into this mess and wasting your time today, but rest assured, you will be fully compensated by my family and I."

This threw the crowd into an uproar.

Xavier was flustered and anxiously tried to help save Christopher's situation. "What the hell are you talking about, Chris? Are you seriously canceling the wedding and breaking up with Cecy right now? Don't you think that's a bit too cruel? Tell me it's not true. Tell me you're just joking to lighten up the atmosphere."

But Christopher said nothing in reply. He picked Cecilia up in his arms and carried her away.

The crowd followed closely behind them before dispersing, ignoring everything that had just happened. In

the end, only Stefan, Renee, and the celebrity Ruby Chisholm were left on the beach.

"Ms. Everheart," Ruby said in a contrived voice, "I was only speaking the truth just now. You don't blame me, do you?'

"You borrowed someone else's hand to attack your real target," Renee sneered. "Pretty impressive, I must say. Your intention to eliminate me is plain to see, Miss Chisholm. You must be overjoyed with your success

right now. But I do wonder... there have never been any grievances between you and me, so why do you keep trying to bring me down, time and time again?"

'Ms. Everheart!' Ruby clutched her chest, her face a picture of innocence. "What have I done for you to so viciously sling mud at me? It was a matter of life and death! You're not actually blaming me for telling the truth, are you?"

Renee could see through her sham from a mile away. Hence, she held nothing back and bluntly exposed her. "Don't forget that you're a public figure yourself, Miss Chisholm. So if you're interested in my ex-husband, you should just pluck up your courage and boldly pursue him. There's no point in wasting your time with these insidious tricks and schemes. Instead of trying to get rid of me, why don't you surpass me by using your own strengths?"

Renee then looked Ruby up and down, then smirked. "You have a nice figure, you know, especially that slim waist of yours. Our Mr. Hunt here has a fetish for tiny waists. If you display your assets a little more often, you might be stronger than any rival blocking your way!"

"You..." Ruby did not expect to get this kind of response from Renee. She was so embarrassed that her face turned beet red. "It's true that I admire Mr. Hunt very much, but I've never had the intention to harm you."

After speaking, she took a deep breath and sucked her tummy in, making her waist appear even tinier than it already was. Then, she shyly and seductively gazed at Stefan.

Was she so easily tricked?!

Renee had no idea that Ruby Chisholm could be this shameless and unreserved. She was, after all, the youngest film superstar and the most popular celebrity in the entertainment industry! How could she not know to be a little subtler? How could she be so vulgar?

"Mr. Hunt," Renee nudged at Stefan and boldly teased him, "why don't you say something? Miss Chisholm just confessed her feelings for you! You can't leave a celebrity like that hanging!"

Stefan was visibly upset. A chilling expression emerged on his chiseled face that would easily freeze anyone in their tracks, and his eyes stared dead at Renee.

He was obviously waiting for her to explain what just happened, and was not in the mood to joke around with her!

But Renee remained completely unfazed. Dangerously dancing at the edge of the tiger's mouth, she continued to tease him. "Why don't you two shake hands and consider yourselves officially introduced? Don't forget me when you get together and pay me the matchmaker's fee! Hahahaha..."

"Ah!"

Stefan grabbed Renee's arm violently and gripped it tight. It hurt so much that she grimaced. "Are you out of your mind, Stefan Hunt?! Do you want to get beaten up? I'm warning you-let go of me!"

But Stefan only clenched his grip on her arm. His eyes turned savage as he demanded an answer. "Explain yourself!"

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Renee's lips curled up, but her expression was cold. In a moment, her heart froze into ice.

She assumed that Stefan would never have to ask such a stupid question, but since he had actually blurted it out, it was clear that a vast chasm had opened up between them, forever separating them from each other, no matter if he believed it or not...

"I have nothing to explain," replied Renee. "If you trust me, I don't have to say a word, and you'd still trust me. But if you don't believe me, it won't matter even if I explain everything to you till my mouth gets dry. I could dig out my heart and show it to you, and you still won't believe me."

Renee forcefully yanked her hand from him. There was only calm diffidence on her flawless face. Then, as if not caring at all what Stefan thought of her, she added, "Do whatever you want. I'm leaving!"

Then she turned on her heels and left without having the slightest feeling left for the man, not giving a jot of what he thought of her. So what if he thought she was a vicious murderer? To him, she was bad enough in the first place, so why bother worrying about it?

Stefan stared at Renee walking away, seemingly carefree and unbothered. His brows were tightly knitted. He was inconsolably enraged, partly due to the fact that Cecilia nearly drowned, and partly from his frustration of losing control.

He had always prided himself on effortlessly keeping everything under his control, but right now, he had absolutely no control over Renee Everheart. Setting aside the fact that he had no idea if Renee had really pushed Cecilia into the sea, what boiled his blood was Renee's obtuseness, where she refused to explain herself. Her complete indifference towards him irrationally set his teeth on edge!

Dusk had fallen. The amber sun slowly descended below the sea on the horizon. Light was disappearing, and it was getting dark everywhere.

There were now only Stefan and Ruby on the beach. Ruby was secretly delighted, knowing that her chance had finally come.

She worked up her courage and slowly approached Stefan, gingerly asking him, "Do you have some time to spare, Mr. Hunt? There's something that I need to tell you."

Stefan's turned to her with eyes cold and frigid, and he asked her in a displeased tone, "Do we know each other?"

Having never paid much attention to the entertainment industry, he naturally had no idea that Ruby Chisholm was currently the hottest, most sought-after celebrity with a vast influence in pop culture and a sea of rabid fans.

"You might not know me," said Ruby, while gazing at Stefan with twinkling eyes, every little gesture of hers coquettish and flirty, "but I've been admiring you from afar for a long time. Perhaps you're not aware that I will be working with H Group soon, and we're going to be bumping into each other a lot." "Oh, really?"

Stefan narrowed his eyes and studied the woman.

Indeed, Ruby Chisholm was nearly flawless. She had perfect bone structures and looked like a purely natural beauty, not the kind that resulted from surgeries and botox. Her eyebrows were thin and delicate, her nose bridge was narrow and straight, and yet the most striking features on her face were her lips—shapely yet dainty like a cherry. They were slapped with the color of vermilion that one might see in old paintings, perfectly extrapolating the soft delicacy of a rose that was full of classic charm.

"Yes," Ruby replied with a gentle smile. Then, in a tone that suggested neither false modesty nor boastful pride, she added, "Because I will become the next spokesperson for H Group. From now on, we'll have a lot of opportunities to bump into each other. I look forward to it, Mr. Hunt. I wonder if you feel the same?"

Ruby had full confidence in her appearance and even meticulously studied Stefan's likes and preferences. One could even say that the path she had taken so far had been calculated to mold herself into the ideal woman for Stefan Hunt. It would not be an exaggeration to say that each step Ruby took in her entertainment career was solely done to achieve the ultimate goal of climbing into Stefan's arms.

After all, wasn't that where all female celebrities ended up anyway- married to rich and powerful men?

Stefan, however, was nothing but disinterested. He could see through Ruby's true intentions at a simple glance and had no intention of humoring her. Thus, all he did was bluntly ask, "What's going on between you and Renee?"

Ruby's smile stiffened. She awkwardly replied, "What... What do you mean, Mr. Hunt?"

"I saw how you vehemently targeted her just now, so I assumed there's something going on between you two. Do you mind telling me about it?"

"That's not true!" Ruby argued defensively. Her eyes flickered, ashamed that Stefan managed to see through her deceit. "To be perfectly honest, I'd never even heard of Ms. Everheart's name before today. All I did was speak the truth about what I saw. I'd harbor absolutely no animosity towards someone I consider a stranger!"

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lying!"

Stefan's eyes were as keen and shrewd as an eagle's. He sneered at Ruby and added, "Didn't you just tell me you've admired me for a long time?"

Then how is it possible that you've never heard of my ex-wife's name?"

"I..." Ruby was stunned, speechless. Being a veteran of the entertainment world, she was used to pulling words out of her *ss, and everyone would accept whatever she said without batting an eyelid. She never expected Stefan to be so perceptive that he could immediately catch the inconsistency in her speech. For a second, she was completely at a loss for what to do.

Then in a hasty bid to save face, she blurted, "What... What I meant was that I've never personally met Ms. Everheart, but of course, I've heard of her. After all, your CP 'Hunt My Everheart' is really popular online. Lots of people in the entertainment industry are fans of that site."

"Because you admire me..." Stefan ruthlessly interjected, coldly staring at Ruby. "You must be jealous of her because of how close she is to me.

That's why you targeted her from the start. You took that damaging photo of her with ulterior motives. You then led everyone to believe that she was the one to push Cecilia into the sea, am I correct?"

At that moment, Ruby was so flustered that her face was crimson red. Barely able to handle the mounting pressure, she only managed to stammer, "No! That's not true! I didn't do that! I..."

Being the most sought-after celebrity, Ruby was no stranger to high society. She had been mingling with the upper echelons of the professional world, yet this was her first time being rendered completely at a loss.

Perhaps it was because Stefan had such an intimidating aura. His eyes could seemingly penetrate all manner of lies or deception, and now, all her hidden cards were laid bare for him to see!

"Did you really think that just by eliminating Renee, you'd easily take her place and get what you want?"

Stefan's freezing gaze was full of disdain. He sniggered and added, "Even without Renee, a cunning and calculative woman like you would never catch my eye, so stop wasting your time and effort."

All these years, there had been such a continuous flow of women trying to latch onto him that he lost count. There was, at this point, no trickery in this world that he had not seen.

Ruby Chisholm was indeed pretty, but her beauty in no way made up for her cutthroat ambitious nature. There was just too much greed in her eyes. She was not pure enough.

But to be fair to her, all of the women who threw themselves at him had too much greed in their eyes. All of them except Renee.

There were no ulterior motives, no greed in Renee's crystal clear eyes. They were as pure and innocent as a baby's...

That was the main reason why Renee had a special place in Stefan's heart.

Ruby watched as Stefan coldly walked away from her. She clenched her fists and bitterly yelled, "I never knew that you could be so cocky, Mr. Hunt!"

His vicious words had been a huge slap in her face, filling her with shame and humiliation. She was the queen of the movie industry, after all. She had been used to everyone admiring her and showering her with praises. Never in her life had she been treated so brutally!

"I had indeed been admiring you," she continued, "but you really are just so cocky and arrogant that you're pushing everyone away. No wonder your first love dumped you! No wonder your ex-wife divorced you!"

Stefan stopped in his tracks. He never expected Ruby to have the audacity to poke at his sore spot.

"And your ex-wife might not be as innocent as you might think, Mr. Hunt. If she was, how could Miss Cecilia Smith and I both accuse her at the same time?"

She then sneered and added, "Think about it. Do you really think that it makes sense for Miss Smith to risk her own life just to slander a woman that means nothing to her?"

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Stefan frowned deeply. Ruby's questioning had really thrown him off balance.

Renee Everheart... Did you really push Cecilia? Why were you unwilling to explain yourself? Was it because you were ashamed

The Untouchable Ex Wife by Mizuki Sei

Chapter 270

This whole incident had been plaguing Stefan's mind, and he knew he would not be at peace until he found out the truth.

He took a deep breath and decided that the best course of action would be to ask the person directly involved in the matter- Cecilia Smith.

Cecilia had been sent to the hospital to receive emergency treatment, and her life was now out of danger, but because she was drowning in the water for too long, there were concerns that she might've damaged her brain, heart, and lungs, and she had to remain hospitalized for a few more days for observation. 1

All the guests had now left, with only Cecilia's parents, Christopher, and Xavier remaining at the hospital with her. They were all standing outside the door to her private ward amid a tense and heavy atmosphere.

Cecilia's mother was wringing her hands and staring cautiously at Christopher. She then fumblingly said, 'Chris... There were too many people earlier, so I couldn't really speak to you frankly, but now that everyone's gone, why don't we sit down and have a proper talk about the things between you and Cecy?"

Christopher kept his hands in his pockets, but his eyes remained kind and gentle. He seemed to be his old mellow, and affable self.

"What would you like to talk about?" he asked her in a calm voice.

"You must know that Cecy has always been an indecisive girl, but she can also sometimes be a little headstrong. As her mother, I can sense that after all these years, Stefan still has a special place in her heart..."

"Nonsense!" Cecilia's father interrupted her with a frown, glaring violently at his wife. Then his expression softened as he turned to Christopher and told him, "If everything had gone according to plan, I'd have raised my glass to your happiness and called you my son-in-law by now, Chris. Don't listen to my wife. She's talking nonsense. I know for a fact that Cecy has no feelings left for Stefan Hunt, but she is a gentle soul. She felt that she had once hurt Stefan, and she is unable to forgive herself until now. The truth is, the person she loves the most is still you. So don't worry. Once Cecy has gotten better, we'll find another suitable and auspicious date for the wedding, and everything will fall into place."

"Yes, yes, that's right! My husband is absolutely right! I was using the wrong words just now. I didn't mean that Stefan holds a special place in Cecy's heart, only that she still regrets hurting him. As for her feelings for you, that was pure and deep, for sure! You mustn't let this misunderstanding stand in the way of your happiness as a couple!"

Cecilia's parents were no fools. They knew that Christopher's family was highly respected in Beach City and that this was probably the best family that their daughter could marry. Naturally, they weren't about to let her miss out on this opportunity so easily.

Christopher's clean-cut face revealed little emotion, rendering him inscrutable. All he did was reply in a flat voice, "You've misunderstood me. I announced the ending of my relationship with Cecilia today, not because of her, much less Stefan. It's a decision that I've made myself after a long consideration."

"The truth is," he continued, "I've long noticed that Cecilia and I aren't compatible with one another. But at the time, I guess we were just too enmeshed in our feelings, or perhaps a better way to put it is that we both sacrificed too much for our feelings to give it all up. In fact, I should thank Cecy, because her courage helped me to finally make this decision."

"Wh... What?"

Both of Cecilia's parents were dumbfounded. They never expected Christopher to actually change his mind about their daughter. After all, he had loved Cecilia so much in the past! How could he change so easily and suddenly?

"Chris!" yelled Xavier. He could no longer take it. It was the first time that he ever raised his voice at Christopher, who he always respected like his own big brother. "Are you out of your mind? Do you know what you're talking about? I can't believe all that bullsh*t you just spewed! You sounded like a total scumbag!"

"Have you forgotten how well Stefan and Cecy were getting along back then? They were even discussing marriage! If you hadn't shown up, they'd probably be having their second baby right now! You made Cecy's feelings for Stefan waver for a while, till she decided to dump Stefan. And now that Stefan finally managed to let go of Cecy, you're saying you want to break up with her! You're such a scumbag that I really want to beat you up right now!"

"You're right," Christopher took a breath and helplessly admitted. "I really am a scumbag. If beating me up could lessen the pain I've caused Cecy, I'll gladly accept it!" "You!"

Xavier was taken aback, completely at a loss for what to do