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Strix was stunned. After a long while, he lowered his head and said, "Yeah, you're right. She's using your birth to tell me that I've succeeded."

The car was stopped outside of a research building.

A man and a woman were standing at the entrance. Both of them were the people of Morwich, and they seemed to be in their 30s. They were wearing white coats that would only be worn when they were on duty, with ID cards pinned on the pockets in front of their chests.

When the man with a buzz cut saw Strix, he smiled at him excitedly and asked, "You've finally returned!" "Yeah, but don't tell anyone else that I've returned, including the director," Strix said.

He nodded and replied, "Understood. And this is..."

Maisie had never shown herself in front of the media when she was in Morwich, so they did not know who she was.

Strix looked at Maisie and introduced her. "She's Marina's daughter. Her name is Alice."

The man and the woman were stunned.

Inside the office...

Maisie took over the cup of coffee from the woman, smiled at her, and said, "Thank you so much, Ms. Sasha."

Sasha then went to sit beside Mario. She was Mario's assistant, as well as his wife. "Don't mention it. Honestly, we didn't expect you to be Marina's daughter."

Looking at Strix, Mario asked, "I thought Marina..."

Sasha jabbed him with her elbow before he could finish his question and asked, "What makes you come back to the laboratory this time, Mr. Strix?"

Strix took a sip from his coffee and replied, "I'm going to restart the research that I left off that year. Also, I need two more helpers."

Mario was stunned. "What? You still want to continue the research on the virus?"

"It's the mutated sleeper virus this time. I want to give it a try." Strix said as he put the cup down.

Sasha exchanged a glance with Mario, and they both seemed worried. "But where are we going to get the blood from the infected patients?"

"You can use my blood," Maisie said calmly. "My mother was infected with the sleeper virus. She was injected with that antibodies before she got pregnant with me, and my blood contains the genetic factor of the sleeper virus."

Mario was taken aback, "This is... Unbelievable. This is a one-in-a-thousand chance, and it actually happened!" Strix chuckled. "Yeah. I didn't expect that either." Mario shot up and said excitedly, "Is it okay if I draw some of your blood now, Ms. Alice? This is a miracle in the medical world, and I have to study it."

Strix looked at Maisie as if he was waiting for her to respond.

Maisie nodded. Sasha then proceeded to draw a tube of blood from her. After pulling the needle out, she applied a cotton patch to her wound and asked her to press on it.

Strix stood up and patted Maisie's shoulder. "You sit here for a while. I'm going to check on Mario."

Maisie nodded.

Strix came to the coagulation laboratory, where Mario was analyzing the coagulation data.

"How is it?" Strix asked as he approached Mario.

Mario moved the microscope out of the way and said excitedly, "Her blood contains all necessary antibodies. She won't get infected with any virus at all!"

Mario took the documents with the data, put on his glasses, and flipped through them. "Apparently, the antibodies have combined with the virus and mutated, resulting in a new 'variant'. The effect of her antibodies will last at least ten years. Her blood is even more precious than any rare blood type!"

Strix took the data over to have a look at it. Then, he said, "I'm planning to use her blood to develop a new type of antibody."

16:00

спиртет No 1

"You're not kidding, right?"

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Mario looked at him and said, "If you're going to use her blood to develop new antibodies, the survival rate of the antibodies in non-living blood is quite low after the blood is drawn and broken down."

In other words, they only had a few seconds to carry out the extraction process after drawing her blood, and once they failed, they had to start all over.

Thus, how many times were they going to draw her blood? Were they going to draw all of her blood?

What if they couldn't make it no matter how many times they tried?

Strix understood everything he said.

Initially, he did not want to use this method either.

However, when he thought of Maisie saying that she believed in him, he felt he couldn't let her down.

Strix did not want to let her down, but he was worried that he couldn't make it.

He couldn't develop the antibodies to save Marina back then, so could he do it now?

He did not know.

He has been living with guilt all these years. He indulged himself in all sorts of things, but he stayed away from experimentation and research.

"I think Mom took away the antibodies to prove that you didn't fail."

Maisie's words rang out in Strix's ears, and he finally made up his mind. He looked at Mario with a serious expression and replied, "We won't know until we try it."

Mario asked, "How about Alice? Did she say yes?"

Strix put the data down and chuckled. "We can't let her down, right?"

"If you've gotten over the fact that you couldn't save Marina back then, I'll do my best to help you. I'll go get some people for you now."

In Stoslo, at East Island Villa...

Yellow leaves were falling down from the trees to the ground like fluttering butterflies.

Sitting at the back of a table, Nolan was flipping through a book. He tried his best to concentrate, but he couldn't do it. He turned his head around to look outside through the window, his gaze deep.

Quincy entered the study with a cup of coffee in his hand. He put the coffee on the table and asked, "Mr. Goldmann, you didn't ask what Ms. Vanderbilt was going to do at Morwich?"

Nolan clenched his fist, put it near his mouth, and coughed. "She'll tell me if she wants to tell me."

Initially, he believed it was better for both of them not to see each other so often. However, he had started to miss her after she was away for two days.

He picked up the coffee and took a sip. "Have you found anything about Hernandez yet?"

Quincy shook his head. "Not only us, but even the Metropolis is looking for him. The people from the

Metropolis intercepted the people Daniel had sent to look for him. Now that Daniel is dead, Roger hasn't made any movements yet."

Then, he asked worriedly, "Mr. Goldmann, do you think something really has happened to Hernandez?" Hernandez had gone missing after being attacked. They had been searching for him for so long, yet they couldn't find him or his body. If he was still alive, then why had he not shown up yet?

Nolan was stunned for a moment. He then put the cup down and said, "Let's continue to look for him. We'll know what he's planning once we find him."

When Quincy wanted to say something, his phone vibrated in his pocket. He pulled his phone out to take a look and said, "It's from Elder Master Goldmann."

Nolan lifted his head and said, "Answer it."

Quincy answered the call and exclaimed after hearing what Titus said. "What did you say? You've found Strix?"

Nolan frowned, but he did not say anything. He waited until Quincy had finished the call and asked, "He found Strix?"

Quincy wasn't sure of it either. He said, "After so many years of disappearing from the medical world, Strix suddenly showed up again. It was Strix's assistant who saw the news and had someone contact Elder Master Goldmann."

They felt it strange because of the timing Strix showed up himself. Why would he suddenly come out at a time like this after disappearing from the medical world for so long? Besides, nobody had ever seen Strix before, so how were they supposed to tell if he

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was the real Strix or not?

"Where is he?"

"I'm not sure if Strix is in Stoslo or not, but Elder Master Goldmann is receiving his assistant in the Regent Restaurant right now."

Nolan lowered his eyes. There was not a single ripple of emotion in them, and they were cold, just like the bottomless sea.

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After a short while, Nolan closed the book and said, "Let's go and meet them."

The Regent Restaurant was situated in the eastern region of Ambergate Street. It was the largest restaurant in Ambergate Street, known as "The Pearl of Ambergate".

The vintage buildings here added a touch of antiquity to the street. The street was filled with different stores, such as pawn stores, themed restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, banks, cafes, and many more. Most of the people were locals, but there were some foreigners as well.

Two groups of people stood inside Sky One, the largest private room in the Regent Restaurant.

A waiter was standing by the table while serving tea.

Titus picked up a cup of tea and asked, "So you're Ms. Reynolds? Can you tell me more about you?"

The woman sitting across the table was wearing a white blazer lined with a black shirt. She looked smart and professional.

She had put on makeup and sported shoulder-length hair that she collected neatly at the back of her ears. Her facial features were attractive, and she looked sharp.

Sue chuckled and replied, "My father is from Zlokova, while my mother is from Jakukari. I grew up with

my father in Stoslo, and since my father loves tea, I picked up the habit 100.”

“I see.” Titus put the cup down and said, “You said Strix is your teacher? Where is he now?”

“He doesn’t allow me to tell anyone about his whereabouts. However, he asked me to bring something to you.”

Sue asked a man behind to bring her a bronze case. She opened the case, and the golden velvet that lined the walls of the case was to prevent the object from breaking.

When the carefully wrapped piece was presented in front of Titus, he was stunned.

“This is…”

“The earliest version of the sleeper virus,” Sue said nonchalantly. “It was developed by Dr. Kent back then. Unfortunately, Dr. Kent’s research failed. My teacher used this to develop the vaccine for the sleeper virus 30 years ago.”

It was true that Strix was the one who had prevented the spreading of the outbreak from 30 years ago. Titus was well-aware of this.

While he was thinking, he asked, “Then, can he cure the virus in my grandson’s body?”

Sue lowered her head and replied, “Although my teacher has been living in seclusion for many years, I’m sure he won’t sit idly by when he learns that the sleeper virus still exists.”

“Please, you’ve got to ask Strix to help my grandson. He doesn’t have much time left. As long as Strix can save him, I can give him as much money as he wants,” Titus said.

At the same time, two figures appeared outside of the door.

Quincy slowly walked into the private room while pushing a wheelchair. Nolan, who sat in the wheelchair, crossed his fingers and put them on his body. There was no expression on his face.

“Nolan? What are you doing here?” Titus was stunned. He then looked toward Quincy.

Quincy replied helplessly, “Mr. Goldmann insisted on coming here.”

When Sue looked at Nolan, a myriad of emotions crossed her eyes.

Nolan looked at the woman in front of him and smiled faintly. “It’s a shame that I couldn’t meet Mr. Strix personally.”

Sue replied to him calmly with a smile, “I’m sure you will have the chance after he comes out of his seclusion.”

“Nolan, this is Ms. Reynolds. She’s Mr. Strix’s apprentice and assistant. Ms. Reynolds will inform Strix about your condition. All you need to do right now is get some more rest. It’s time for you to get some rest and leave other things alone.”

Nolan smiled meaningfully and said, “Well, thank you very much, Ms. Reynolds.”

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While they were on their way back, Nolan had been looking outside through the window, his gaze deep. Quincy glanced at him through the rear mirror and asked, “Mr. Goldmann, is that Sue really Strix’s apprentice? Don’t you think she’s a little bit too young?”

Nolan withdrew his gaze and said, “Well, we’ll know about it after we find Hernandez.”

“Hernandez?” Quincy was stunned. “Are you saying that Hernandez knows Strix? During the outbreak 30 years ago, Strix made a name for himself after he showed up in Stoslo. However, other than knowing his name, it’s said that only a few people have seen him. No one else has seen him after he left the medical world. How does Hernandez know Strix?”

Nolan lifted his head and replied, “It’s because of Marina.”

"Ms. Vanderbilt's mother?" Quincy was taken aback." Wasn't Ms. Vanderbilt's mother related to the Metropolis? She knew Strix too? Could it be that Strix H

"The only thing we know about Strix is that he's from Morwich. As for whether or not he's related to the Metropolis, it still remains unknown," Nolan replied, his gaze cold. "As for that Sue, I'm sure she's up to something."

Daniel was dead, Hernandez had gone missing, while Roger had not made any movements yet. Then, this Sue suddenly showed up and told them that she was related to Strix.

Everything seemed calm, but Nolan knew there were a lot of undercurrents. However, whether or not it was a coincidence or a premeditated plan, they still needed to wait and see how things were going to turn out.

Nolan looked at the picture of the person on his phone, and his sharp gaze turned gentle. He stroked her cheek with the tip of his finger and mumbled, "Zee.."

Maisie had been resting on the bed for a long time. She looked a bit weak because they had taken blood from her three times.

"You're awake?" Sasha walked up to her with a bowl of soup in her hand and helped her get up from the bed. "How do you feel?"

"Better." Maisie smiled weakly as she took over the soup Sasha handed her.

Sasha sighed, "You need to rest for a few more days before we can continue to draw blood from you. Otherwise, your body won't be able to handle the exertion."

Maisie lowered her head when she heard that she needed to wait for a few more days. "It's okay as long as the research is successful."

She did not really care how much blood they were going to draw from her. She was willing to do everything as long as they could. "develop a new vaccine and save Nolan.

Mario was scratching his head in the laboratory. He hadn't been sleeping for two days. There were two dark circles around his eyes, and stubble began to appear on his chin.

All three extraction experiments had been unsuccessful. The survival rate of the antibodies after leaving the blood was so low that they simply did not have enough time to break down the living antibody cells from the blood.

No matter how they tried, they wouldn't have any result unless they switched to another faster method. Strix put down the item in his hand and suggested, "What if we extract the antibody cells while drawing blood from her?"

Mario was stunned. "Extract the antibody cells while drawing blood from her? This is worth trying, but the extraction process is going to

take time. Besides, we can't use Intravenous anesthesia throughout the process, so I'm not sure if she can hold on or not."

Just when Strix was about to say something, Maisie appeared at the door and said, "I can. Let's do it."

Strix turned his head to look at her and frowned. "Zee?"

"What are you doing here? You should get some more rest."

Maisie's face was pale, and she looked so weak as if she would fall at the slightest gust. "I want to try the method you mentioned. I'm not afraid of pain,"

Since she could make it through the pain during her labor, she figured there was no pain in this world that she couldn't endure.

Mario looked at Strix as if she was waiting for him to decide. Strix walked up to her and put his hands on her shoulder. "You should get some rest. We will talk about it in a few more days."

“Don’t worry, I’ll get a lot of rest.” Maisie smiled.

Several days later...

Maisie’s countenance looked a lot better.

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After the physical examination, Maisie came to the operating room in a hospital gown. She lay down, looked at the operating lights, and thought about how she had made it through when giving birth to her children.

Strix approached her and hung the blood bag beside her.

They had applied anesthetic to the surface when they started drawing Maisie’s blood, so she did not feel much pain. However, as blood began to flow out of her veins, she slowly felt some pain.

The pain came to her slowly, but it was throbbing when they squeezed the blood. It felt as if someone was constantly cutting at the same wound with a knife.

Maisie frowned, but she bit her lips and endured the pain. She started to feel dizzy, chest tightness, and difficulty in breathing when it reached a certain point.

“Start the blood infusion,” Strix commanded calmly.

Maisie was losing her blood, so they needed to start the blood transfusion as soon as possible. Sasha used the blood bag they had prepared in advance. They also put an oxygen mask on her to provide her with enough oxygen to breathe.

After a long while, Maisie couldn’t feel her arm

anymore. However, she did not even make the slightest sound through the whole process.

Sasha was calming her down at the side while wiping the cold sweat off her forehead.

Mario and Strix’s shirts were soaked with sweat and stuck to their backs. They were running against time. As Strix extracted the antibodies, Mario heaved out a sigh of relief and exclaimed, “Finally! We’ve succeeded!”

Sasha immediately applied anesthesia on Maisie, and Maisie passed out.

By the time she woke up again, the sky had already gone dark.

The wound on her arm had been stitched.

“Alice!” Sasha walked up to her and leaned forward to look at her. “How do you feel now? Does it still hurt?”

Maisie shook her head and replied, “It doesn’t hurt so much anymore.”

Sasha then put the medicine down and said, “If it starts to hurt, then you can take a painkiller.”

Maisie nodded. Then, she parted her pale lips and asked, “It worked, didn’t it?”

“Yes,” Sasha replied. She tucked her into her bed and continued. “We’ll get a result very soon, so get some rest.”

One week later...

Mario came into the laboratory and shouted excitedly, “Strix, the report is here! We made it!”

Strix took over the report from him. Then, Mario continued excitedly. “The virus will be killed slowly after it comes in touch with the antibodies extracted from Ms. Alice’s blood. These are the strongest mutated antibodies!”

“Mario, this is bad!” Sasha suddenly appeared at the door and looked flustered. She was stunned for a moment when she saw Strix, but she soon regained her composure. “You’re here as well, Mr. Strix.”

Strix put down the report and looked at her. “What happened?”

Sasha took a deep breath and said, "I received news from Stoslo that someone has developed a new type of vaccine by posing as Mr. Strix and sending them to the hospitals in different countries. We suspect that this new vaccine is most likely the virus."

Mario was stunned for a moment before he came around to his senses. "Who would impersonate Strix?"

Although not many people had seen Strix before, it was not an easy task to impersonate him, let alone develop a new vaccine.

Strix's face sank. "I know who it is."

What was coming would come.

At Hanns Palace...

Maisie was basking in the warm sun in the courtyard. She had been recuperating this week.

She had been in Morwich for nearly half a month and wondered whether Wayion would be angry at her or Nolan would notice anything.

"Zee."

"Uncle Erwin?" Maisie looked at the middle-aged man that walked toward her. He still looked as handsome and regal as before. It was as if age had never left any traces on his face.

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Erwin stopped beside her. "Are you feeling better?"

Maisie nodded with a smile. "I'm almost fully recovered. By the way, Uncle Erwin, have your men found any information about my grandfather in Stoslo?"

Erwin was slightly astonished, then shook his head. "Not yet."

Maisie lowered her eyes upon hearing this.

'I haven't heard any news about my grandfather so far, and I'm afraid things are getting more ominous than propitious!

Maisie stood up slowly. "I want to go back to Stoslo."

"You can't go back now."

"Why?" Maisie was stunned for a moment. She then asked when she saw Erwin's slightly gloomy face, "Did something happen?"

Erwin did not hide anything from her. "Someone developed a new vaccine in Stoslo using Strix's identity, and this has caused a huge commotion in the country. The fall of the Kents had just taken place after the disappearance of Hernandez, but someone actually impersonated Strix to develop a new vaccine at this exact time. This is strange, and I'm afraid the situation isn't as simple as it seems to be."

'Impersonated Strix!? Someone actually faked Strix's identity and developed a new vaccine?'

Maisie's eyes narrowed slightly. "The Kents were the only known party who studied the virus in Stoslo. However, Daniel's now dead, so who would pretend to be Strix?"

And why would he use Strix's identity? Does he plan to use Strix's fame to get more benefits out of this situation? But if he's just using Strix's identity for his reputation, he shouldn't have created such a huge uproar. He would only be punished by law if he were to be found out to be a fraud.

'However, he must be someone who has genuine skills if he dares to make such a huge commotion:

Erwin shook his head. "Strix is perhaps the only person who knows that."

Maisie wanted to say something, but her cell phone rang all of a sudden, and she picked up Quincy's

call.

“Ms. Vanderbilt, when are you coming back? Mr. Goldmann is...”

The city of Zena was having a cloudy day, and the environment looked overcast and dusky. The prosperous city seemed to have lost its hue and was shrouded in a layer of gloom.

Nolan’s condition worsened rapidly, and he was even admitted to the hospital’s Intensive Care Unit.

Titus was wandering up and down in the corridor in a hurry, not knowing how things would turn out.

“Elder Master Goldmann.”

“Ms. Reynolds?”

Titus turned around and saw Sue walking up to him with someone else.

He then watched as Sue stopped in front of him and said, “Don’t worry. Mr. Goldmann will be fine with my teacher here.”

“Can Strix really cure him?” It was not that Titus did not believe in Strix. He was just not sure.

A cryptic and seemingly insensitive emotion flashed across Sue’s eyes. “My teacher has a Ph.D. from St. Neil’s Medical University. He certainly won’t joke around with someone’s life.

“My teacher will definitely be able to cure Mr.

Goldmann with the new vaccine he developed, and it’ll surely make him rise from the ashes just like a phoenix.”

Quincy came out of the corridor, saw Titus talking with Sue, and his expression turned sullen immediately.

He walked over and suggested, “Elder Master Goldmann, we still don’t know how effective that new vaccine is. Wouldn’t it be inappropriate for us to agree to use it on Mr. Goldmann?”

“Sir, do you suspect that there’s something wrong with the vaccine that my teacher developed?” Sue asked with a calm expression. “My teacher has done many experiments on the vaccine. He knows a lot about the sleeper virus, and things won’t go wrong.”

Titus placed his hand on Quincy’s shoulder. “Let’s just believe in it for once.”

“Elder Master Goldmann, you...” Quincy tightly clenched the hands that were hanging beside him, but he could not express his suspicion in full when he recalled that Nolan had told him they should not startle their opponents.

The doctor came out of the Intensive Care Unit at this time.

Titus stepped forward instantly and asked, “How is it?”

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The doctor took off his mask and replied with a smile, “The effect of the vaccine looks positive. The virus in Mr. Goldmann’s body is now under control, but he still needs to be hospitalized for further observation.”

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Titus relaxed and smiled upon hearing this answer.” Okay, that’s great.”

Quincy’s expression looked obviously surprised.

ed.

‘The virus is actually under control? But if this person isn’t Strix, who else would have such an ability? Could it be that both my guess and that of Mr. Goldmann are wrong?’

The corner of Sue’s lips raised, and she gave off a smile. “Mr. Goldmann, do you trust my teacher now?”

Titus had obtained that good result he wanted, so it was only natural for him to be more willing to

believe in her. "It's really thanks to Mr Salazar. I'll remember the kindness that you've shown the Goldmanns for the rest of my life, so feel free to bring anything up to me if you need it in the future."

"There's no need for such a strong promise, Mr.

Goldmann. My teacher has spent his life doing this research, and there's nothing he needs. He's satisfied as long as he can help more people."

Titus deeply appreciated Sue's modest and reserved answer. "If you have any needs in the future, just speak up. There's no need for you to be polite with us Goldmanns."

"I will." Sue lowered her gaze and smiled. There was a vague hint of coldness at the bottom of her eyes.

Maisie arrived at an airport in Stoslo, walked to the exit, and saw Saydie standing in front of the car, waiting for her.

Seeing that Maisie's face was still looking a little pale, Saydie frowned, "Ma'am, are you alright?"

"I'm fine. Get me to the hospital." Maisie got into the car in a hurry.

Soon, Saydie stopped the car in front of the hospital, and Maisie rushed toward the inpatient department without stopping.

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She arrived at the nurse's station and asked them about the location of Nolan's ward. She then walked toward the VIP ward.

As soon as she reached the door, she saw a woman leaning on Nolan's body. Their lips were only inches away from each other, and Nolan was grabbing her wrist, but it did not seem like he was planning to push her away.

Nolan was astounded when he saw Maisie. He released Sue's hand immediately and said with a calm expression on his face, "Zee, why are you here?"

Maisie and Sue exchanged glances. "I'm sorry that I didn't come at the right time. I seem to have disturbed Mr. Goldmann's date with this gorgeous lady?"

This woman had eye-catching facial features that gave others an oppressive sensation. She looked quite prepossessing in appearance, and her beauty felt rather aggressive and offensive.

Her face looked like it was perfectly carved. It was almost perfect but also imperfect at the same time.

To Maisie, she exuded a vaguely familiar aura, but her face did not remind her of where she had seen her before this.

Nolan knew that Maisie had misunderstood, and his smile widened and deepened. "I don't have any extra space in my eyes for any woman other than you. This is Strix's apprentice."

Sue stood up and nodded to Maisie with a smile-every single move that came out of her was elegant and graceful.

When Maisie heard the phrase "Strix's apprentice", she understood something in an instant, and the corners of her lips curled coldly. "Oh ? Then I'm really cut off from what's going on in the world. I didn't know that Strix has such a young and pretty apprentice."

Sue's expression stayed the same as she let off a smile. "This young lady seems to be Mr. Goldmann's friend. Since someone has come to take care of Mr. Goldmann and I still have something to attend to, I'll take my leave first."

She then left the ward with her head lowered, looking rather submissive and humble.

Nolan stared at her back as she stepped out. His eyes looked so gloomy, as if they were bottomless, and nobody knew what was going on in his mind.

"You seem very distracted. I'll go and get her back here for you if you're so reluctant to see her leave,

Mr. Goldmann.” Maisie turned around but was pulled into Nolan’s arms by brute force.

Maisie was flustered as she noticed that the coldness in his eyes had subsided.

Nolan smiled at her, “I’ve only not seen you for half a month, and you’ve grown so jealous?”

“Who told you that I’m jealous?” Maisie broke her arm free from Nolan’s grasp.

‘I traveled here all the way from Morwich, but all I saw was the two of them acting so intimately as soon as I entered the door. They were only inches away from kissing and getting all over each other.’

Nolan chuckled softly and turned her around to make her face him. “And you’re still saying that you’re not jealous?”

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Maisie did not speak.

Nolan fell a little helpless, “My grandfather was the one who asked her to stay back to take care of me.”

‘Although I didn’t need it!

Maisie smiled. “Your grandfather really cares a lot about you. Strix from Stoslo has managed to control the virus in your body, and she’s Strix’s apprentice. Ergo, this makes her a great benefactor. Your grandfather should be breathing on your neck at this very moment, asking you to divorce me sooner and then marry her, shouldn’t he?”

Nolan slightly frowned as he pinched her nose. “Aren’t you afraid of getting a bad tooth when you can’t stop being so sour about things?”

“Don’t you touch me with the hand that you just used to grab her just minutes ago!” Maisie smacked his hand off her arm. She took offense to what had happened as if her belongings had been touched by someone else. She felt extremely disgusted!

Nolan took her into his arms, and his voice sounded hoarse. “There’s no more room in my heart for another woman—you have fully occupied every single corner. I’ll cut my hand for you if you don’t believe me. How does that sound?” “Bloody and disgusting, I don’t want it,” Maisie muttered.

Nolan rested his chin on the top of her head. “I know that woman approached me on purpose. She fell on me deliberately just now, so I only went along with her play.”

Listening to his explanation, Maisie sat up from his arms. “You went along with her play? Wouldn’t you have kissed her if I hadn’t shown up?”

Nolan pursed his thin lips tightly, squinting at her unreasonable and frivolous quibble.

‘It’s been three years, and my Zee really hasn’t changed at all. She’s still so adorable.

“I was taking a good look at her face.” Nolan sighed helplessly in the end. He was afraid that Saydie would join his young wife in her quest to demolish the whole hospital if he still chose not to explain.

“Take a good look at her face?” Maisie approached him. “Is she the type that attracts you?”

Nolan lifted his fingers to pinch her jaw and kissed her soft, scarlet lips gently while staring at her affectionately with his amber eyes. “You’re the type that I like.”

Her appearance was the only thing that appeared in the reflection in his eyes.

Maisie accepted his flirtatious explanation when she still had the upper hand in the argument and did not continue to make a fuss out of the situation. “Okay, I heard from Uncle Erwin that someone pretended to be Strix-”

Nolan interrupted her. “I knew that my little Zee knew Strix.”

The pride in his eyes intensified.

At that moment, Maisie realized she did not seem to have told anyone about her acquaintance with Strix.

She lowered her gaze. "How did you manage to guess that?"

Nolan listed the dark strands hanging on her forehead and tucked them behind her ear. "Your grandfather told me about your mother's relationship with Strix, so I figured you'd know Strix."

"So you already knew that the Strix who gave you the vaccine was an impostor?" Maisie was worried that he would be deceived-that was why she had rushed back to Stoslo-but it turned out that he had long been aware!

But now that she was thinking about it, Nolan had indeed never done anything dumb before this. He was always more sensible and sober than anyone else around.

Nolan nodded. "I just wanted to see who's the Strix who's behind all these shenanigans. If he can also develop the vaccine, he's obviously not a simple man."

Maisie leaned into his arms. "If you already knew that he's an impostor, where did you find the courage to inject the vaccine that he gave you?"

Nolan smiled. "I didn't use it."

Maisie was surprised by this answer, and Nolan stroked the black hair scattered on her back. "What you're seeing now, everything that goes from how I'm seriously ill to how I got hospitalized because of that, it's all just a show. I bribed all the employees from the hospital in advance, and the liquid that they injected into me wasn't the vaccine but only glucose solution."

Maisie raised her head to look at him and gave off a coquettish smile. "You're definitely bright."

'He's managed to deceive everyone, and he's deceived me successfully too.

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The way Nolan swindles others always makes them fall for his elaborate deceptions and into his traps unknowingly. They'll be trapped in an invisible web as soon as they fall into his hands. He's always a few steps in front of his opponent, plotting his next move from the shadows while his enemies are coming at him in broad daylight.'

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'His enemies would think that they've gotten him, but in fact, it was them who were getting played in the end!

Nolan pinched her chin, and his thin lips were slightly closed. "You told me that you were only going to be away for a few days. Yet, you were away for so long that I thought you'd never return."

Maisie blinked. "What if I really didn't come back?"

Nolan did not answer.

Maisie grabbed onto the slightly cold hand that was holding her chin. "Nolan, wait for a while more. I'll definitely be able to save you."

Nolan was slightly taken aback, then kissed the top of her head and forehead. "Did you go to Morwich to get Strix to save me?"

"Yeah.' She wrapped her arms around his waist. "Strix already has a solution, but we still need to wait for a bit more."

Sue took the elevator to the hotel's top floor as her expression turned sulky.

I've been hiding in Stoslo for three years and finally received the news about Daniel's death. But I didn't expect that sl*t to be alive!

'Originally, I wanted to rely on the vaccine Adrian developed to save Nolan's life. If I could do so, maybe I would still have a chance to reconcile.

'I changed my identity and my name, and even Grandpa looks at me with admiration now. I'm confident that I can make him trust me again.

'But Maisie Vanderbilt didn't die!'

The elevator door opened.

She suppressed the emotions showing through all her facial expressions, exited the elevator with her fists clenched, and came to a private swimming pool on the rooftop. The several bodyguards standing around the pool did not stop her.

A blonde man swam freely under the water in the huge pool until Sue stood on the edge of the pool." Master."

Adrian swam from the pool to the edge, removed his goggles, and got out of the pool. The bodyguard at the rear immediately draped the towel over him.

He was about 45 years old and had a sexy designer stubble on his face. And perhaps because Caucasians had more well-defined facial features, it was not an exaggeration to say that he was only a man in his 30s. 1

His eyes looked gloomy and depressed as if they were the turbulent ocean, while his muscles were robust but not exceptionally exaggerated, which made him look mature and extremely masculine.

Adrian wiped his hair with a towel, and his voice sounded deep as he asked, "Did he use that vaccine?"

Sue nodded. "Yes."

She then added, "The doctor said that the virus in his body was brought under control, and I didn't see any side effects either."

Adrian was dumbfounded for a split second and then frowned. Nobody could see from his appearance what he was thinking about.

At this time, one of the bodyguards approached him with his cell phone. "Mr. Kestner, it's from the prince."

Adrian grabbed the phone, answered the call, and walked aside to talk to Roger.

After the six-minute call, he turned around and looked at Sue. "You, come up with a way to get Nolan's blood.

I need to run some tests."

Although Sue did not know his intentions, she knew that Adrian would definitely not harm Nolan, so she nodded, "Okay."

A black car slowly drove into the Easton Estate, and Maisie, sitting in the car, soon received a call from Strix.

She answered the phone call, and Strix's voice came from the other end of the call. "You left Stoslo before your body fully recovered."

Maisie had left the country in a rush, so she had forgotten to inform Strix about her departure. Thus, she said apologetically, "It's my fault, I was just worried about him, so....

"There's nothing to worry about. I've tested this vaccine." Strix paused for a short moment before continuing. "They are genuine. It's just that they won't be of much use to that fella from the Goldmanns."

Maisie was stunned. "Are you saying that this vaccine is genuine?"

'It's not a virus, nor is it a fraudulent attempt to destroy Strix's reputation?'

She then recalled something. "Dad, you know the impostor, don't you?"

The car was parked outside the courtyard.

Maisie got out of the car while listening to the call, stood beside the car, and did not enter the villa immediately.

Chapter 540

Maisie listened to his reply. "We do share some backstory, but I'll resolve this matter myself. I'll get Erwin to bring the new vaccine to you when the results are out."

As for the backstory he had with the impostor, Strix did not tell her. Still, she knew that it must be something huge..

'He impersonated Strix, but the vaccine he developed is genuine. It's just that they're useless to Nolan.

This is equivalent to saying that his original intention isn't malicious, nor did he deceive others by turning the virus into a vaccine, just like what the Kents did in the past

'But if he doesn't have any malicious intent, why is he doing so? Is he trying to force Strix into reappearing?'

Maisie had had to rush to catch the plane, and her body had not fully recovered yet, so she did not even eat dinner and went to bed early after taking her medication.

The light from the lamps and the shadows of the greenery in the courtyard interlaced with the moonlight, and all these were projected on the windowsill.

The handle of the window sill turned, and the curtains swayed for a moment. Maisie suddenly opened her

eyes. A dark silhouette walked out from behind the curtains in the gloomy but not pitch-black environment.

"Who's that!?" Maisie reached out and flipped the switch.

Under the shroud of faint yellow light, she saw the warm and handsome face with which she was extremely familiar. "Who else could it be besides me?"

"Nolan Goldmann! Why have you still not dropped your habit of climbing into someone else's bed in the middle of the night?" Maisie heaved a sigh of relief. It was not that she had not fallen asleep, but the quality of her sleep was a little shallow, and even the slightest movement could wake her up.

Nolan got onto the bed by himself, got under the blanket, lay down on his side, propped his head with his hand, and gave off a faint smile. "I can't sleep without you."

Maisie did not expose her hand outside the blanket because she was only wearing a nightdress, and there was a very shallow but obvious surgical scar on her hand.

Nolan's gaze landed on the scar-removing cream and iron supplement on the bedside table, and his eyes turned sullen. "What are these medications doing here?"

Maisie glanced at the items subconsciously and quickly came up with an excuse. "They're not mine. They're Saydie's."

Nolan pulled her into his arms and pressed his fiery lips against her ears. "Really?"

She could not help but clutch at his clothes-the faint scent of the body shampoo stimulated her senses.

"Nolan, don't-Ouch!" She gasped in pain when he touched the wound.

Nolan immediately held her hand and found a short but deep surgical scar an inch above her wrist.

"It hurts." Maisie's tender cry of pain made him tremble. He then lowered his head and kissed the

wound on her wrist.

She froze in place as her heart was racing.

He lowered his voice. 'Does it still hurt?'

Maisie's eyelids trembled slightly. She then snuggled into his arms, leaned her head on his undulating chest, and chuckled. "Suddenly, it doesn't hurt anymore."

Nolan kissed the top of her head and placed his palm on her back. "Now go to sleep."

It seemed that Maisie's drowsiness was easy to come by when he was by her side. Soon, she fell asleep in his arms.

However, Nolan did not fall asleep. He took out his cell phone and sent a message to someone. After that, he put the phone down and rolled over to embrace the person who was sleeping soundly in his arms.

The next morning...

Maisie walked downstairs, and the servant had already made breakfast.

She went to the dining table and sat down. Nolan was no longer there when she woke up. It seemed that he had already gone back before dawn.

Saydie walked in from outside. She was wearing a blueish gray windbreaker and dressed as androgynous as always. Her delicate little face was still expressionless. "Ma'am, we've caught a suspicious man outside the gate."

Maisie was astonished as the bodyguards brought the man in.

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The man was restrained. He probably assumed that Maisie was the owner of this estate because she was sitting at the table, so he said to her, "I'm not a suspicious person! I'm here to see Ms. Vanderbilt!"