

Deep Affection: Honey, Come Back To Me Chapter 111

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Chapter 111 What A Coincidence

“What? Honey?” Nina raised her voice. All she did was hurt his legs, not his brain.

What was wrong with John? He seemed to be going crazy.

“Yeah. Call me honey again.” He smiled wickedly but his slightly hoarse voice was particularly thrilling. It was always attractive to Nina, no matter the situation.

“No, it’s impossible. Don’t even think about it.” She blushed. “I will only call the person who I love and who is my legal husband honey.” 171

What a coincidence!

John was such a person.

But he wasn’t about to tell her that just yet.

He was afraid that she might force him to sign the divorce papers or leave as soon as she found out.

John knew Nina too well.

He had to find a way to prevent her from leaving before telling her the truth.

“Do you remember what you did after you got drunk last night?” John narrowed his eyes. His burning breath sprayed on the side of Nina’s face making her blush again.

“What...what did I do?” She really had no idea what had happened. She very rarely got drunk and most times she was prone to blackouts. There was no way for her to know what happened.

Since she was clueless, John could tell her whatever he wanted whether it was true or not.

“You said that I can’t like Vivian anymore, not to let her call me Brother John and not to get engaged to her. You are jealous and...”

“Wait, stop!” Nina’s whole body trembled. She felt her body limp and numb as if it was shutting down.

It was raining heavily outside. The living room was so quiet that only their breaths could be heard. Nina could swear that she could even hear her heartbeat.

Her light hair swept over the corner of her mouth. John knew exactly what she was thinking about.

He had always known that she had an unknown enmity towards Vivian. When she heard her call him Brother John, she not only got goose bumps all over her body, but also felt an indescribable discomfort in her heart.

When she heard that John was going to get engaged to Vivian, she was mortified, as if her whole world was crumbling. Her nose ached and her eyes became dry.

She constantly reminded herself with what Haley told her.

It turned out that she was jealous and that she loved John.

“You said that you love me.” He said the perfect thing at the perfect time. Her heart was crying out those exact words and all she wanted to do was say it.

John’s hoarse voice made her feel flustered and shy all over again.

“Impossible!” Nina denied and stood up from his legs. Before she could stand firm, John held her in his arms.

She seemed to be getting better and better at blatantly lying.

“Why are you blushing?”

John chuckled. “You not only said you love me, but also called me honey. 11

Little girl, call me honey again." His slender fingers gently brushed her hair aside. He felt her soft wisps and smelled the fragrance as it filled his nostrils.

Nina's body stiffened as she blushed.

How could she call him honey?

Impossible.

Anyway, Nina didn't believe it.

"It's impossible. You are lying to me. How could I say I love you and call you honey?" "Even if I love you, I'd never tell you.

How could a girl express her love first?

Besides, you don't love me. Why would I say that I love him?

Nina pursed her lips and continued to argue with him. "I won't believe you unless there is human testimony and physical evidence."

"Human testimony? Physical evidence?" He frowned and thought, "Why is it so difficult to trick her?"

There seemed to be someone to back up his story. Richard was there, right?

What could be the physical evidence, though?

Wait!

Why should he bend to her demands?

"Whatever I say is the truth. No doubt about it." His serious expression was steely but whenever his handsome face gazed upon Nina, it always softened up.

His commanding tone made Nina think that he was deliberately lying. She breathed a sigh of relief and said calmly, "I won't believe you unless you have evidence.

Let me go." With a cold snort, she raised her arm and slapped the back of his hand hard, which was on her waist. His hand trembled and he loosened his grip.

She could finally escape. Nina stood up, crossed her arms and raised her chin proudly.

She was getting bolder and bolder.

John seemed calm but he was frantically hatching a plan in his head

Seeing John's meaningful smile, Nina hurriedly looked away. She became increasingly anxious to even look him in the eye.

Nina was still very aware that he could see straight through her with great ease.

"Have a good rest at home. I'll go to the hospital to visit them." After saying that, she turned around and left.

This time, he didn't stop her. Instead, he called out, "Nine, go."

Behind her came the sound of Nine's steps running towards her. Nina thought it was

about to pounce. She trembled and began hurrying along.

Nine saw Nina speeding up and thought that they were playing a game so he too sped up.

"Nine, Nine, don't chase me! Stop!" Nina screamed and ran faster.

Nine was barking happily.

Soon, Nina and Nine disappeared through the gate. Then John slowly stood up from his wheelchair.

There was a sudden shatter of breaking glass.

The cup in Helen's hand fell to the floor and broke into several pieces. She was stunned and asked, "Mr. Shi, have your legs recovered?"

He stopped and glared back coldly. "What did you see?"

His eyes were like beacons, warning her to forget what she thought she saw.

"NO, I didn't see anything," Helen responded quickly and began to clean up the broken glass.

Nina finally reached the VIP ward in Kanner Hospital.

“Aunt Nina, why are you here?” When James saw Nina, he thought of what had happened last night. He quivered backwards in the fear that she would dislocate his hands or something if she was angry.

“Well...” Seeing him move back, Nina became more apologetic. “I didn’t mean to do that. Are you okay?”

“I’m fine. Why did you come here?” Seeing that she wasn’t here to make trouble, he breathed a sigh of relief.

When Nina saw that his right hand was only bandaged and the rest of his body was fine, her attention turned to his friends. “Are your friends alright?”

“Fine. They’re fine.” A forced smile appeared on his face. He was never going to tell her the truth. Yesterday, John said that they were only hurt because they tripped and fell by accident.

“They just tripped and fell. Four of them went back to their homes last night. Only Haley had a bad fall and is lying in the next ward.”

“Tripped and fell?” Nina couldn’t believe it. She looked at him intently several times but he couldn’t bring himself to look her in the eye.

She knew he was lying to her.

She must have beaten Haley up.

With a guilty look on her face, Nina said/ “I’ll go to visit him.”

Then she came to Haley’s ward. As soon as she pushed the door open, she saw a man and a woman standing in front of the bed, comforting Haley.

The girl’s curly hair was gorgeous and the floral skirt looked familiar.

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Chapter 112 Orders

When Nina entered the ward, they stopped talking.

The three of them turned to look at Nina.

Emma was a little surprised. "Nina?" she murmured.

Haley trembled and choked, "Nina? No, no. I mean Aunt Nina."

James and Haley were best friends, so Haley should address John and Nina the way James addressed them. James addressed John as Uncle John and Nina as Aunt Nina.

"Aunt Nina, why are you here?" Haley was both respectful and scared of Nina. He thought that she was as intimidating as John.

If John and Nina cooperated well, they would be an invincible power couple.

Nina had been used to hearing others call her Aunt Nina. She did not mind it because it

was just a form of address.

"How are you feeling?" Nina walked up and bowed slightly to Haley. She said apologetically, 'I'm so sorry I hit you. I will pay for the medical expenses."

"No, no, no. You had nothing to do with it. It wasn't your fault. We fell by ourselves after we had too much to drink." Haley wiped beads of sweat from his forehead. He did not want to die young.

When he woke up at the hospital last night, James repeatedly told him that they got hurt because they fell, not because Nina beat them up.

Seeing Haley's frightened look, Nina knew that someone had threatened him into keeping his mouth shut.

She sighed slightly. There was only one person who would do such a thing.

Only John would do such a thing.

“Haley, who is this lady?” The question came from the other man in the ward. He looked like Haley and had a delicate, polite-looking face.

Haley cleared his throat and immediately introduced Nina. “This is Nina, our campus belle. This is my elder brother Harrison. He used to be a student in L University as well. This is my brother’s girlfriend, Emma, a top student from L Communication University.”

“Nice to meet you,” Harrison He said, extending his hand for a handshake. He looked very knowledgeable and well-mannered.

But when Nina heard that he was Emma’s boyfriend, she frowned and looked him up and down.

They were a perfect match.

But according to the letter Michelle left, Harrison seemed to be cheating on Emma. Michelle was also able to find his check-in records.

Nina didn’t know what was written in Michelle’s letter was factual or not, but she chose to believe her friend.

“Nice to meet you, too.” Nina just stared at Harrison’s extended hand and then looked up at him with a smile.

Stunned, Harrison He slowly withdrew his hand. He did not feel embarrassed, though. He still looked at Nina with a gentle expression on his face.

Nina turned her head to Haley and said, “I’m glad you’re okay. I’ll take my leave now. If you need any help at all, just ask James to contact me, all right?”

“All right. It’s no big deal, really. Goodbye, Aunt Nina.” Haley did not take Nina’s offer to heart. He just smiled and watched her leave his ward.

Before leaving the ward, Nina stopped in front of Emma and flashed her a friendly smile. “It was nice seeing you here, Emma. Goodbye.”

Nina was more beautiful when she smiled. For a moment, Emma was frozen on her spot. She could not find the words to describe Nina’s beauty. How was it possible that her smile was as light as a breeze and as warm as sunshine?

She was truly charming like a fairy. Then again, words were not enough to describe her radiance and elegance.

She was like a princess out of a bedtime story.

“Okay, bye.” Emma smiled.

She had a feeling that

the two of them would meet again.

After Nina left, Harrison He asked Haley, “Why did you call her Aunt Nina?”

“Nothing. It’s just a form of address.” Haley decided not to say any more, fearing that trouble would come out of his mouth.

On her way to James’ ward, Nina ran into John in his wheelchair. Nina stood beside him, making him look imposing.

John’s eyes were cold and sharp, and the expression on his handsome face was like a thin layer of ice.

“Where have you been?”

When he found out that Nina had forgotten to bring her phone with her when she went out, he was afraid that he would not be able to contact her, so he decided to give her the phone in person.

Nina was not there when John arrived at James’ ward.

James told him that she had gone to Haley’s ward, which meant she had gone to visit another man.

He should not have let her come to the hospital by herself.

“I just went to see Haley. After all, I hit him and hurt him.” Nina did not understand why John was so angry, but she thought that anger was not good for recuperation, so she decided to speak in a soft/ gentle voice.

Nina’s soothing voice melted John’s icy demeanor like sunshine on snow. He smiled slightly, reached out his hand, and said, “Come here.”

“Why?” Perplexed, Nina slowly walked toward him.

John could not help smiling from ear to ear because he still could make Nina move with his words.

But since she had gone to see another man

behind his back, she had just gotten herself in a little bit of trouble.

“Let’s go home.” Then, he made Nina push him back to the car.

In the car on their way home to North Yard, John ordered the driver to pull over.

‘1 1 1 m thirsty. Go get me something to drink,’ he told Nina flatly.

The driver slowly pulled the car over on the side of the road. It was raining like mad outside, and raindrops hit the car window like little pebbles. There were a few people walking in the rain outside.

Nina did not bring an umbrella with her.

And there was no umbrella in the car.

Nina thought that John was doing this on purpose, but she had to endure it because he was a patient and she injured his legs.

“All right.” Nina opened the door and rushed under the heavy rain. Seeing her get out, Nine ran after her to accompany her.

Seeing Nine rushing after her, Nina was touched. Even a dog was nicer than John.

She did not know what John liked to drink, so she bought a whole bag of drinks.

The shop owner wanted to help her carry the drinks back to the car, but before he could offer his help, Nina had already left with the heavy bag in her hand. The man was stunned.

John had been watching her.

He could not help chuckling.

His woman was not ordinary. She did not need other people’s help or pity, nor did she want other men to accost her.

She only liked him.

“Here you go. I didn’t know what you wanted to drink, so I just got them all.” Nina threw the bag on the seat and then got into the car. Nine sat beside her feet, his fur drenched in rainwater.

Nina was soaking wet as well.

She turned her head toward John. Her body trembled because of the cold. Through clenched teeth, she told John, “Drink.”

“Feed me.” John raised his arm slightly and then withdrew it. He narrowed his eyes and looked at Nina whose face was covered in rain droplets like a hibiscus flower covered in morning dew.

“Feed you? Your legs are hurt, not your hands.” He was playing tricks on her on purpose.

“I’m a patient.” John spoke in a low, clear, and powerful voice, not sounding at all like an injured patient.

It was her fault that he was hurt, so she had no choice. She picked up a bottle of water and unscrewed the cap angrily. John was stunned, feeling like the cap was somewhat his head.

Nina seemed like she wanted to rip his head off like she did the bottle cap.

Was she angry?

Well, he was also angry.

“No.” John refused to drink. He ordered the driver to drive.

Nina paused, her face darkening like a looming thunderstorm. “Fine. If you don’t want to drink it, I’ll drink it.”

Then, she tipped the bottle into her mouth and downed the contents.

Upon their return to North Yard, Nina was in a hurry to take a shower and change her clothes, but John stopped her. He said in a gentle and calm voice, ‘I want to take a shower.’

“Then go ahead and take a shower. I won’t stop you. You don’t need my permission.” Nina was confused. She looked at John with bewildered eyes.

With a cunning smile, John teased, 'l You serve me, rernernber?ll

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Chapter 113 Forty Million

"You want me to bathe you myself?" Nina, who was standing on the spiral staircase, turned back and pointed at herself in disbelief.

'1 1 1 m injured." Realizing that he had an irrefutable excuse, John was going to take advantage of it at every opportunity. He reached down and touched his legs, reminding her of his injury.

This was quite new for Nina. Since she was a child, she had people taking care of her and she most definitely never took care of anyone else.

However, since she met John, she had done a lot of things outside her comfort zone. She had to obey his orders.

It was going to be impossible for her to bath John by herself, though.

"It's impossible."

Nina stared back at John with a glum look on her face. She was no longer as angry as before. Instead, she was like a child who stood in the face of defeat. There was a hint of an amorous look in Nina's eyes.

Seeing this, John's heart softened.

'Don't forget that it was you who hurt me." John was firm in speech but soft in heart.

His tough attitude made Nina angry. She snorted and went upstairs, ignoring him.

As soon as she turned around, John began threatening her.

“Forty million.”

Nina stopped and turned around, confused. ‘Forty million?’

As expected, he caught her attention. In a calm tone, he began,

“Three million for the burnt bar and two million for the aftermath. Five million for the medical treatment of James’ five injured friends. It added up to ten million dollars. James’ medical fee was three million dollars. Haley and James stayed in the VIP wards which need one hundred thousand dollars per night. They stayed in the ward for three consecutive days, which requires six hundred thousand dollars. You also need to pay six million and four hundred thousand dollars for hurting my legs.

These are twenty million in total, and you need to compensate twenty million. Girl, you owe me forty million.”

His casual tone gently hit her on her head, putting Nina in a trance. She was in disbelief. He was probably just making up figures. Was it true?

Now she couldn’t even afford twenty million. Where was she going to get forty million from?

Nina’s only option was to get a private job, but now the whole Lexingport City was under THO’s control. If she wanted to take a private job, she had to contact Jacky. Jacky would definitely let her join THO.

She had said that she would only agree to join THO if Michelle was able to stand in the LPL professional tournament.

Michelle was still in the training in Spring City though. Nina had no idea how she was doing.

“Forty million.” Nina pulled herself back to reality, squeezed out the number from her teeth and clenched her fists.

She didn’t know what she was going to do but she knew that she really wanted to hit him right now.

Don’t be impulsive. Don’t be impulsive.’ She literally couldn’t afford hitting him again.

She couldn’t even afford the forty million that she currently owed him.

With a fake smile, Nina returned to John's wheelchair and reached out her hand to hold him. "Come here. I'll take you upstairs to bathe you. I'll take care of you myself."

As long as someone held him and propped him up, he could walk as smoothly as if he'd never been hurt.

Nina was really suspicious. She thought that John had to be acting.

If she got him into the bath, then she could see if the injury was real or not.

With the help of Nina, John limped upstairs, one hand on the stair railing, the other on

Nina's shoulder. He basked in the warmth from Nina's palm.

Nina's unique fragrance lingered at the tip of his nose. Her hair was a little messy, and a few strands slightly blew in the air as they walked up the stairs. Her hair tickled the tip of her nose which made her scrunch it up and sniff.

His little girl was quiet and beautiful.

"Look where you're going. What would happen if you fell?" When Nina realized that John was staring at her, her face became slightly red.

"If I fell, you'd fall with me."

Il Then I will definitely use you

as a cushion." John sighed inwardly.

When she was drunk, she slept on top of him. And if they fell, she still wanted to use him as a cushion.

He didn't want her to fall with him, though.

Nina helped John sit on the bed, and then

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Chapter 114 Helen Of Troy

In John's eyes, Nina's lips held an unparalleled attraction, especially when she took the initiative to kiss him.

They started passionately kissing, taking in every moment. He reached around and held the back of Nina's head, deepening the kiss.

Ten minutes later, Nina lay in the bathtub softly.

Then he put the cold water into the bathtub to level out the temperature till it was just right.

Her face blushed while her eyes blurred.

The voice of John, who was trying hard to restrain himself, echoed in her ears. It was hoarse and deep, making her heart thump in her chest vigorously.

"What I want is your willingness. I won't do anything unless you are eager as well. What happened in the Four Seasons Garden Hotel was an accident and so were you."

She popped into his life so unexpectedly and what a joy it was.

Meeting her seemed like an accident, but maybe it was more. It was destiny.

When he put her into the bathtub, he kissed her on her lips and rubbed her head before he stood up and left.

Nina lowered her eyes and huddled herself in the bathtub, not daring to look at John.

She then turned her head, her heart filling with expectation. She could only hear the footsteps outside and the sound of closing the door.

Nina thought about what John said. So nothing did really happen between them last night after all.

Why was she a little disappointed?

Depressed, she slid down and soaked herself in the water. It took a long time for her to finally summon the strength to emerge.

After a hot bath, Nina was still a little depressed. She wiped her hair with a dry

towel and sent a message to the WeChat group, Beggars' Sect.

Nina wrote, "James, I have a question."

With a flattering smile on his face, James said, "Please go ahead."

Nina asked, "What if a person expresses love to another person but later on, refuses to admit it?"

She vaguely remembered that she had expressed her love to John and even kissed him when she was drunk.

She refused to admit it later though.

On James' side, he spat and said in righteous indignation, "This man is a scum. He has expressed his love to her, but he still refuses to admit it. This man is a scum."

Soon enough, he added, "Aunt Nina, did my uncle express his love to you last night and then refuse to admit it today?"

"Go away!" Nina was enraged again.

She paused and added, "It's not a man. It's

a woman."

"That's a bad woman! Absolutely."

Nina's hands trembled and her phone almost fell to the floor. She stared at James' words, feeling completely conflicted. Several minutes later, she replied, "I got it."

The words "bad woman" made her feel uneasy. 'Does John also think so?

Maybe she was a bad woman.

She told him that she loved him but refuses to admit it.

The sound of the rain outside the window started easing. The drizzle fell on the flowers and drenched the grass. The crystal clear water drops were shining, making the flowers and grass look lively and fresh.

Standing by the window in a daze, Nina didn't hear Helen knocking at the door.

"Mrs. Shi? Mrs. Shi, Mr. Shi asked you to have lunch downstairs." Helen approached Nina and saw that her hair was still dripping. "Oh, Mrs. Shi, why don't you dry your hair? If you don't dry your hair quickly, you'll catch a

"Helen, why are you here?" Nina's thoughts were interrupted by Helen. Looking at the hair dryer in her hand, Nina realized that she was insistent on doing it for her. Nina wanted to be left alone and just do it by herself but she had to just give in.

The sound of the hair dryer blared throughout the room. Sitting on the edge of the bed, Nina was in a daze, thinking about what had happened from yesterday to today.

"Mrs. Shi, are you in a bad mood?" Helen looked at Nina kindly and gently dried her hair.

Nina was very precious to John, so Helen had to cherish her as well.

"No." Nina shook her head. She was not in a bad mood, but just lost in thought.

She didn't want to be a bad person, but she was too embarrassed to admit that she loved John.

Ultimately, she was just consumed by anxiety.

She had heard and seen a lot of things about love. However, she didn't expect that she would be so confused when she was actually in love.

"Mrs. Shi, are you angry with Mr. Shi because he pretended to be sick and lied to you?" When Helen came up just now, she saw John walking downstairs, which meant that Nina had finally learned of his trick.

How long had John pretended to be sick? Less than half a day.

Helen couldn't help laughing to herself. 'It seems this woman was born to defeat Mr. Shi.

"Mr. Shi has never done such things before. He is very busy every day. Since you came into his life, he isn't so consumed by his work. He sleeps well and work isn't his main priority anymore."

The corners of Nina's mouth twitched almost to the point of a smile. It seemed that Nina was Helen of Troy. Was she the reason John wasn't so addicted to his work?

She was aware that she was quite the looker but she was never one to stir up trouble.

John was just always lying to benefit himself.

She never knew if anything he said was credible or not.

"Mrs. Shi, the reason why Mr. Shi pretended to be sick and lied to you was that he wanted you to care more about him. When he was born, his mother passed away. His father cherished him very much. Mr. Sam Shi raised him into the man he is today. Under the leadership of Mr. Shi, the Shi family is even more prosperous."

"Then his father must be quite harsh on John." Why else would John be so cold and authoritative?

He had such a short temper and constantly tried to trick Nina.

He was so difficult to deal with.

"Mr. Sam Shi is indeed very strict with Mr. Shi. Mrs. Shi, you should know that Mr. Shi needs someone to care about him and for him."

"So why did he pretend to be a cripple?" Nina still had resentment in her heart.

"He just wished that you cared more about him." Helen smiled and turned off the hair dryer. Nina's hair fell down on her back smoothly.

Nina snorted, "There are so many people who care about him."

It wasn't like he was starved for care.

The jealousy in her eyes rose again. This time, Helen smiled without saying anything. They both then went downstairs.

John had changed into a suit and was sitting on the sofa.

The room was dimly lit through the overcast sky. The crystal lights in the room were turned off and all that could be seen was the handsome and cold outline of his body. Somehow even when he wasn't completely visible, he had an aura of a calm mature man.

The sound of Nina coming downstairs came to his ears. Then he said, "You don't have classes this afternoon. Come with me to the HD Square."

He was very clearly not asking but rather telling her.

John was reading the finance section of the newspaper, acting as if nothing had happened. Nina wasn't sure if he was acting but he seemed to be deep in thought about something.

If Nina didn't know any better she would have thought that what happened in the bathroom was nothing but a dream. Even her confession of love and kiss all seemed to be swept away as one of his lies.

"Why?" Not daring to look John in the eye, Nina walked past him and sat down at the table.

"Shopping." He put down the morning newspaper and sat beside Nina.

Her body stiffened and her face became hot and flushed for no reason.

Seeing her expression, he smiled proudly but hid his excitement.

John knew that her blushes and pounding heart were a symbol of her love.

Her face turned red and her heart seemed to beat restlessly.

"Okay," Nina replied obediently. She moved aside quietly and fiddled with her fingers restlessly.

Then, she raised her head and plucked up courage to say, "John, I'm not a bad woman."

"What?" John asked in confusion.

Nina closed her eyes slightly and gently opened them again. She said bravely, "John, I remember that I said I love you last night. I will be responsible for my actions. If you don't already hate me, let's try to get to know each other. If you do hate me, I understand that as well."

Hate?

How could he hate her? He just wanted to love her. 13

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Chapter 115 Your Bodyguard

John was deeply moved. He looked at Nina affectionately and calmly said, "How do we get to know each other? We already knew each other through intimate contact."

He actually heard those words from Adrian.

After careful observation, he felt that they could get along with each other this way.

"You mean you don't hate me?" Hearing John's first sentence made her relaxed. The light of joy in her eyes warmed her slightly stiff body.

"Have I ever said that I hated you?" For a moment, John wanted to look inside Nina's mind. He would probably find a mess up there. Whatever made her think that he hated her?

"No," Nina answered. 'But you never said that you liked me either.'

Nina did not speak out the last sentence. She looked away and could not help smiling.

Then she said, "We don't need to get to know each other right now. We will know each other more as time goes by."

Nina had not told John about her family background yet. She must always be on guard when she was around other people.

“All right. Let’s take our time,” John smiled meaningfully. What Nina said to him did not mean the same thing to him, but it was good that she did not understand what he meant.

He would take it a step at a time.

“Let’s eat then.” Nina was in a good mood and so was John. She finally admitted that she liked him.

She was no longer a little liar.

However, in Nina’s eye, John was still a liar.

After lunch, Nina promised John out of the blue, “I’ll be responsible for you.”

“Oh? How?” John raised his eyebrows. “Are you going to marry me?”

“NO, I can’t,” Nina said with a hesitant

expression on her face.

She could not marry a man just because she liked him. Her brother told her once that she should only marry if she was in love with that person and wanted to spend the rest of her life with him.

Besides, her divorce was not final yet. If she married now, she would commit the crime of remarriage.

A hint of disappointment and anger flashed on John’s face. He was about to force her to give in, but his heart softened at her next words. He did not know whether he should laugh or cry.

“John, now that I know you don’t hate me, I’ll stay by your side to protect you. But can you hire me as your bodyguard? Pay me some salary every month.” Nina was disappointed with herself when she found out that she owed John twenty million more in damages because of the trouble she caused—the fire and the people she beat almost half to death.

“My bodyguard?” John did not need more bodyguards. Richard was the leader of his bodyguards. He had received systematic training and was not only good at martial arts but also very smart.

No one dared step up to him, and he would never let others play a trick on him.

John had enough guards to protect him for a lifetime.

But he needed

a bodyguard who could stay with him for twenty-four hours a day.

No one was more suitable for this role than Nina. After all, she was his woman, and she could be close to him all day every day.

“All right, fine. I’ll pay you one hundred thousand a month.” Looking at Nina’s eyes, John could tell that she wanted to make money to pay him back the twenty million he spent in cleaning up her mess.

If she paid one hundred thousand a month, it would take her two hundred months to pay twenty million. Two hundred months meant sixteen years.

By that time, their children would be old enough to be in a relationship.
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By that time, their children would be old enough to be in a relationship.

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“One hundred thousand?” Nina frowned. Was it too little?

What could one hundred thousand do?

“Is it too much? Then I’ll give you fifty thousand a month.” A smile played at the corner of John’s mouth. In thirty years, the two of them could discuss which graveyard they wanted to be buried at.

“No, no. One hundred thousand. One hundred thousand is good.” Even though she knew that John was teasing her on purpose, Nina still had no choice.

She should be responsible for him now.

“Okay. I’m glad that’s settled.” John nodded, agreeing to the deal.

Nina grinned and thought to herself, ‘Girls can really only go so far in making a living by flattering men because some men are unreliable.’

The Time Group was a leading multinational company in multiple lines of business operating all over the world. As the president of the Time Group, John didn’t go to work, and stayed at home to bully a

woman.

Nina thought he would find out that nothing could save his company from going bankrupt soon.

Nina decided to take some orders and made money.

She did not know whether the painting she had created half a year ago had been sold at the auction house. She had not gotten the money she made from it.

She had been broke.

Nina was still standing there with her eyes down, thinking. John had already changed his shoes. He stood at the door and called to her, “Let’s go.”

“Okay, 1 1 m coming.” Nina raised her head and followed suit.

Outside, she opened the passenger door of John’s Maybach and got in. She was surprised to see him sitting in the driver’s seat. She glanced around and did not find Henry anywhere.

“Where is Henry?” Nina asked casually. “Henry?” John’s cold voice indicated that he did not want to hear Henry’s name again.

Nina answered, “Well, your assistant. Where is he? I haven’t been seeing him lately.”

“He l s at Adrian’s. Why? Do you miss him?” John cast a sharp glance at Nina. If she dared nod or say yes, she would definitely suffer punishment.

“I NO. I just think it will be hard for you to drive by yourself.” Without noticing the expression in John’s eyes, Nina just followed her gut to answer.

Only then did John feel a little satisfied. She really did care about him.

“Since you care about me so much, you drive the car.” John smiled at Nina and unfastened his seat belt.

“You want me to drive?”

“Well, you’re my bodyguard now, aren’t you?”

“You serve me, so you drive.”

John reminded her of her new designation. Nina nodded, unfastened her seat belt, and got out of the car to go to the driver’s seat.

John also got out to switch seats.

“Fasten your seat belt,” Nina told John, looking straight ahead with her hands on the steering wheel. Looking at the driveway in front of her, she smiled.

It was good that North Yard was far from the city. She could drive the car on the open road as fast as she wanted.

After making sure that John was strapped in, she gunned the engine and stepped on the accelerator. She drove the car like an arrow launched from a bow.

The wind blew in his ears, so John slowly closed the window halfway. He turned his head to Nina whose expression was wild and excited. Her eyes were full of energy.

John could not help smiling. The little girl was savoring her taste of freedom.

“Have you modified your car?” Nina quickly turned the steering wheel, and the car skidded slightly off track but returned smoothly.

She and John could not help moving with the car.

“Yes, I have.” The expression in John’s eyes changed slightly. Nina seemed to know a lot. She could tell that he had modified the car.

The little girl was not simple after all.

It only made John more and more interested in her.

He felt like going back home and asking his father if he knew where she came from.

He had never believed that Nina was just an orphan.

Even he could not find out her true identity. Her background was not that simple, and every time he tried to uncover information about her past, he hit nothing but brick walls.

When he asked where she used to live, she changed the subject. Obviously, she did not want to talk about it.

Did she run away from home and then met his father who manipulated her into marrying him?

If so, his father would be unkind.

“Achoo! ll At the house in Stone Road, Sam

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Chapter 116 I'm Not A Little Girl

Sam rubbed his nose and said, "Who's speaking ill of me behind my back?" 15

"Achoo! 'l Then, John sneezed.

Hearing this, Nina slowed down and pulled over. She glanced at the steady rain outside and asked John with concern, "Do you have

The little girl cared about him. John could not help smiling.

He coughed deliberately and answered, "NO, no. This is nothing. It's just a little cold in here, that's all."

He wanted to see what she would do.

Would she take him to the nearest hospital and take good care of him, or would she warm him herself?

"Here." As Nina spoke, she began taking off her coat and then handed it to John. "Put this on."

Her tone was casual but a bit domineering.

She spoke like a boss.

For a moment, John did not know what to say. Was she his wife or his bodyguard who only wanted a strictly professional relationship with him?

But Nina had already given the order.

Looking at the plaid suit jacket in Nina's hand, John didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. He should be the one to do this.

He glanced at her, feeling angry and funny at the same time.

After Nina took off her coat,

John found that she only had a black camisole underneath and a sky blue jeans. Her black hair looked like nighttime against her milky skin that now had faint touches of pink.

Nina had one white, slender hand on the steering wheel and one on the gear stick. Looking at her from the side, John saw that her body was well proportioned.

She was more like a cool girl with a little splash of sexy. Her shoulders were always squared, making her look like she was all business. She looked like someone who suppressed sensual passion.

Her blank background made her even more mysterious. Everything about her seemed to be sitting under a layer of gauze. John could see her but not through her clearly.

No matter how sharp John's perception was, her secrets eluded him completely. At the same time, Nina, who was good at reading people, was also unable to see through his eyes and behavior.

It was like the two of them had always been standing face to face on a field of smoke.

"Put it on so you won't be cold." John looked at Nina's exposed skin. Then, he decided to refuse to take her coat.

John looked at Nina with a little anger in his eyes. Did she deliberately dress like this?

"Don't wear such shabby clothes from now on, okay? I can afford to buy you a dress."

Then, he put the coat back on Nina.

John's palm felt warm against her skin. Nina felt her face grow hot as his touch sent sparks down her spine.

"I'll put it on myself, thanks." Nina lowered her eyes. Under her long, slightly trembling eyelashes were a pair of twinkling amber eyes that were as beautiful as autumn. They were intoxicating to look into.

"I can turn on the heater. Are you still cold? It's raining today, and the temperature and humidity are low. You're just wearing a thin shirt. You should wear more layers when it's cold out so you won't get sick," Nina said, a little worry evident in her voice.

Ever since she admitted that she liked John, Nina could not help paying attention to his every move. She really cared about him.

Hearing the concern in Nina's voice, John felt his heart skip a beat and then race wildly.

Except for Jessica, nobody truly cared for him this much. His father would only scold him.

Little girl... 1 1 John could not help murmuring.

No matter how low his voice was, Nina still heard it.

John used to call her little girl, and he was pretty much the only one who called her that.

"What?" Nina raised her head and met John's affectionate eyes. She was stunned.

At the moment, she seemed to be able to see through his eyes.

Her slightly dazed and astonished face reflected in his deep eyes.

The rain now eased, but it was still drizzling outside. Raindrops had stopped pattering madly against the roof of the car. The world seemed to have stopped around Nina and John. They looked deeply into each other's eyes at the moment, each of them trying to figure out the other. It was eerily quiet and yet comfortable.

"Drive," John said, breaking the silence. He withdrew his gaze and sat up straight, returning to his usual indifference. He only got unguarded whenever Nina was around him.

"All right." Nina blinked and turned her eyes back on the road. Her racing heart eventually calmed down and returned to normal.

Worrying that John might catch a cold, Nina turned on the heater in the car.

Although truly worried about John, she knew when to keep things professional. She had just become his bodyguard after all.

"Do you think I should call you boss from now on? I'm your bodyguard now, and you're my employer who pays me every month."

"No. Call me by my name." John voice was gentle but emotionless.

In the entire Lexingport City, only Nina dared to call him by his name. That was good because it would be easier for him to recognize her in a sea of other strange voices.

"All right then, John," Nina nodded. Her face was very serious as if she could feel John staring at her intently.

Although he had been tricking her, ordering

her around, and bullying her all the time,

she still couldn't help but be attracted by him.

"Little girl," John smiled and called out.

Nina did not mind the way he called her little girl. In fact, she was very happy with it. But now, every time she heard him call her little girl, she felt like he was treating her like one, too.

"John, I'm twenty years old now, you know. I'm not a little girl," Nina explained seriously.

"You're still a little girl to me."

"Fine."

As John looked straight ahead, he thought about everything that was happening between him and Nina.

Twenty years old was still a young age for him.

He was already thirty years old.

He would turn thirty-one soon.

The age difference between him and Nina was a little embarrassing. It was a two-figure difference.

He remembered James calling him a cradle robber for showing interest in Nina. His face turned cold at the memory.

Out of habit, he took out a pack of cigarettes and a new lighter. He got a new one since Nina used the lighter he had before to set the fire.

Thinking of that moment, John could not help smiling. Shaking his head, he put the cigarette in his mouth. With a click, the lighter put out a purplish red flame.

“Wait a minute. Let me roll down the window.” Nina was very sensitive to the smell of cigarette smoke. In fact, she choked every time she smelled it.

She slowly rolled the car window down. John turned his head to look at Nina and remembered that she did not like cigarette smoke. He put the lighter away and put the unlit cigarette back in the pack. @

“Never mind. I don’t want to smoke,” John said. He then turned his head to look out the

window.

He had been trying to quit smoking for some time now.

But it proved to be such an ordeal. His nicotine addiction had reached a point where if there was no cigarette in his mouth, it would itch.

He glanced at his gorgeous driver once again.

It was only then that he noticed Nina’s pink lips. He swallowed at the idea of scratching the itch on his mouth with those beautiful lips.

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Chapter 117 You Little Liar

On the ninth floor of the HD Square

John took Nina to a shop named Top Art Salon. The signboard hanging over the door was creative and tasteful, attracting people’s attention.

It was a shop that provided hairdressing, makeup, and modeling services. There was a lot of customers who were all wearing expensive and branded clothes. One could surmise that most of them, if not all, were rich and influential.

The shop was spacious, bright, magnificent, and stylish.

As soon as John and Nina stepped into the shop, someone came up to greet them. They did not walk straight inside but turned right and went into a passage.

There was glass on both sides of the passage. To the right, Nina saw people coming and going outside, and to the left, she saw the shop staff working busily.

The end of the passage was blocked by a curtain. The staff who greeted them opened the curtain and let John and Nina in. They entered a new, more spacious room. It was not as magnificent as the shop out front, but it was low-key luxurious. The interior was very similar to North Yard's design.

In this new room, there were no other customers, only clothes. Most were men's clothes and a few were women's. They were all from the FG.

Four dressers were placed side by side. There was also a table full of skincare products and cosmetics that were brand new and unopened.

Glancing around, Nina already knew that this was a place especially prepared for the Shi family and that no outsider could enter.

The skincare products and cosmetics table likely belonged to John.

"Mr. Shi, you're here. This is a nice surprise." The slightly shrill voice belonged to a man with dyed hair. Judging from his clothes, Nina supposed he was a hairstylist. There was a professional smile on his face.

His name was Derek. He was Top Art Salon's chief hairdresser and stylist. With a good eye for style and excellent at finding beautiful things, he was deeply loved by artists in the entertainment circle. He was extremely popular.

Derek was already surprised to see John here. When he saw Nina, he grew so curious that he could not lift his foot.

"And this lady is...?" Derek looked Nina up and down.

The lady was a real beauty.

She looked perfect.

She was like a fairy out of a half-forgotten myth. Truth be told, she was much more beautiful and graceful than Vivian.

She and John were a perfect match.

“My name is Derek. May I know your name, my dear?” Derek walked toward Nina, stretching out his right hand.

He could not keep his eyes off her. He thought that she was really a beauty from the bottom of his heart.

“Take your hand back.” The next moment, John’s face darkened, and his eyes turned sharp, shooting daggers at Derek’s direction.

Nina was his woman, and no one could touch her except him.

Derek felt a chill down his spine. He withdrew his hand and averted his gaze. Then, he pulled out a chair with a smile and said, “Please take a seat, Mr. Shi.”

“I am not here for me. I am here for her.” John turned to look at Nina.

“This beautiful lady?” Derek asked, confused, and then flashed a meaningful smile.

“Me?” Even Nina herself was a little surprised.

She was just a bodyguard.

“Yes.” John nodded and ushered Nina to take the seat.

Nina walked over in confusion, glancing at John from time to time and wondering what he was going to do.

Did he think that she was not good looking and needed to change her appearance?

Derek shrugged his shoulders and said gentlemanly, “My dear, please.”

"Thank you." Nina bowed slightly, smiled, and took the seat that was in front of a mirror. Through the mirror, she could see that John was now sitting on the sofa.

The sofa was a little far away from her. John lit a cigarette and smoked.

John thought to himself, 'I can't use her mouth to quit smoking now, but sooner or later, I will.'

"So, what do you need done today? Hair or makeup?" Derek stood behind Nina and looked at her again and again. He could not help sighing in his heart. She was so beautiful.

He did not think she was from Lexington City. He would have seen her before if she was from the city.

Where did John find such a beauty?

"Ask John." Nina shook her head. She was still a little confused.

'John?' Derek's throat tightened. How could this woman call John's name so casually?

And John did nothing. He was not the least bit annoyed by the disrespectful address.

Derek thought maybe he knew something secret.

"Mr. Shi, what do you want me to dress her up?" Derek worked hard to earn his place of honor in the entertainment circle. Facing such a situation, he knew to keep himself calm. He turned his head and looked at John who was sitting on the sofa like an emperor.

John wanted to say that he wanted Nina to be good looking, but she was already beautiful.

At last, he said, "Amazing."

Derek felt that John's answer was abstract. Keeping his facial expression professional, he simply nodded with a smile. "All right. Consider it done, Mr. Shi."

He then turned to Nina. "Wait here a minute, my dear. I'll just go get something. This is

the first time that Mr. Shi has come here. The things we prepared for him have been packaged and placed somewhere else. Please wait for a moment." Derek began to chat with Nina. Only through communication could he know more about her.

"Okay, thank you." Nina smiled politely. She liked Derek. He nice.

He took the initiative to communicate with her, so she decided to communicate back.

That was how her friendship with Michelle started. Michelle had spent much time staying with her and talking to her. Eventually, they became good friends.

After Derek left, Nina turned around and asked John in confusion, "Why did you bring here? Il

"You promised me that you would go with me to the Ye family's villa tomorrow night." It was Vivian's birthday tomorrow. He had to attend her party with Nina, his woman.

Therefore, she should look beautiful and radiant, standing by his side.

"Vivian's birthday party?" Nina frowned.

John snorted, stubbed out the remaining half of his cigarette, and teased Nina with a faint smile, "Are you jealous?"

Why did he not realize before that it was so easy for her to get jealous?

Il NO," Nina answered quickly, averting her gaze.

"You little liar!" A gentle smile flashed on John's face. His voice was neither loud nor low. It was just the right volume to reach Nina's ears. She started blushing furiously, and glared at him.

She had been a little angry with herself since she made her feelings for John known. She was not used to feeling embarrassed, especially not in front of him.

She found it a little strange that she was even able to feel this way. It was so not like her.

"Am I coming as your bodyguard or your partner?" Nina was conflicted yet expectant. She actually hoped that John would choose the latter as his answer.

Oh, that was just a load of nonsense!

'As my wife,' John thought to himself.

Vivian's birthday party was a high-profile event. Lexingport City's high-ranking officials, distinguished families, and the media would be present at the party.

John already had a plan in mind. At Vivian's birthday celebration, he would introduce Nina as his wife. At that time, all the celebrities in the city would be there, and the media would soon spread the news throughout the entire city like wildfire.

Everyone would know that Nina was his legal wife.

At that moment, she would not be able to escape.

She could only stay with him obediently and call him sweet terms of endearment whether she liked it or not.

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Chapter 118 Call Her Mrs. Shi

John looked at Nina. Two words came out of his thin red lips.

"My partner."

Hearing his answer, Nina was euphoric. She tensed up, trying to stay calm and not get too overwhelmed. "Don't worry. I won't embarrass you and I will always protect you."

John was a man though. He didn't need a woman protecting him.

If anyone found out that he sought protection from a woman, he would be a made a laughingstock. It would be so shameful.

“Okay.” He knew he didn’t need her protection but nevertheless, he nodded and added, “Don’t let any woman get close to me.”

“What?” Nina raised an eyebrow. Her eyes widened in surprise and happiness sprawled across her face.

She was rather confused and pointed at herself saying, “I’m a woman.

How can I protect you without getting close to you? 11

“Except your” his deep and mellow voice permissively said.

Nina felt a wave of relief smother her body. “You have entrusted me with the task of keeping any woman from approaching you,

‘Task?

No.

This is what you should do as a wife.’

“Yes.” He nodded again and just let her believe it was a task for now. She l d find out what he really meant tomorrow night anyway.

“I promise to complete the task.” Nina stiffened up her posture and scrunched her face, looking like a dedicated and professional bodyguard. She then playfully grinned again.

She looked a little silly, but so adorable.

How did she manage to encapsulate so many different looks?

John’s faintly smiled, pleased.

Derek interrupted them, bringing in some new products. He looked back and forth between the two people and teased with a smile, “I l didn’t disturb you, did I?”

“You didn’t.” Nina smiled politely and brightly. Derek was stunned. He couldn’t believe that she was even more beautiful when she smiled.

Her smile seemed to have changed from before though. It seemed that John had done or said something to make her this happy.

It seemed that John had a special relationship with this beautiful woman.

“Beauty, may I have your name?” With a scissor in one hand, Derek reached out the other to touch Nina’s hair.

Her hair was long. It was as smooth as silk and as black as ink. It felt amazing to the touch.

Derek couldn’t help praising, “Your hair is incredible.”

Hearing this praise, John’s face looked up wearily. Nina’s hair was indeed wonderful and he liked it very much.

Nina pursed her lips and smiled, “Thank you. My name is Nina Lu.”

“Call her Mrs. Shi.” John interrupted Derek, before he could call her Miss Lu. John picked up a fashion magazine and glanced at it casually.

He liked to hear others call her Mrs. Shi.

Nina widened her beautiful eyes in shock.

Everyone in the North Yard called her Mrs. Shi but she just ignored it. However it wasn’t okay for other people to be calling her that. It would just cause a lot of confusion.

Also if her husband found out, she would definitely lose the twenty million.

“Call me Ms. Lu, please. Although I’m married, I’ll be getting a divorce soon and then I’ll be single.”

“Well...” Derek was confused. What was the relationship between these two people?

John asked him to call her Mrs. Shi,

and yet she said she was going to get a divorce.

Judging from John’s expression, Derek guessed it was likely that John was waiting for her divorce so that he could get her.

John could always get whatever he wanted.

Sooner or later, this beautiful woman would be John's wife so it was better to call her Mrs. Shi.

"Mrs. Shi, please sit up straight. Let me see what kind of hair style is suitable for your face."

Nina was speechless.

She realized that everyone around John would just listen to him blindly and completely disregard what she had to say.

James knew that she had a husband, but he still called her Aunt Nina. Helen always called her Mrs. Shi. Others in the North Yard also called her Mrs. Shi.

Also Adrian called her like that every time they met.

She was only twenty years old. The way these people addressed her made her feel so old.

"Okay." Nina had to just compromise. After all, he was just calling her Mrs. Shi. Who knew whose wife she actually was?

There were so many men in the world with the surname Shi.

Hearing Derek give her that title and Nina accepting it did really please John. He had a slight smile on his face, trying not to show too much joy.

Then Derek began his work. Once he started to work, he would be silent and serious. Of course, he would ask for Nina's opinion from time to time and explore her views to know what kind of effect she wanted more.

However, Nina's hair was so good that he might damage it if he permed it. Derek didn't want this. At last, he decided to give her hair slight curls.

"That's good." As soon as Derek let go, Nina's hair slid through his fingers like silk.

Nina shook her head slightly, with thousands of strands of hair waving about. Her slender and white fingers combed through her hair effortlessly. She looked sideways, smiling satisfactorily.

"Derek, I like it very much." With a gentle smile, Nina finally understood why Isabella was so keen on doing her hair all the time. She changed

her hair style every half a month and talked to her about her hair so often.

Hair style seemed to be really important.

Nina felt more beautiful than before. Her slightly curly hair made her more delicate and gentle and look more intellectual than before.

What was more, she looked more mature. She and John would look more like a couple.

If she was so much more beautiful after curling her hair, she would probably be worlds apart if she also put makeup on.

No woman would ever shy away from being that gorgeous.

Well, at least she wouldn't anyway.

"Derek, put on makeup. Put on makeup for me." Nina's eyes lit up. She picked up a lipstick from the table and raised it to Derek.

It was the first time that Derek had met such a strange person.

He was so shocked that he couldn't hide the confusion on his face. He quickly calmed her down and said, "Mrs. Shi, relax."

"I'm in a hurry." Nina began to urge him earnestly. With a calm body and expectant eyes, she placed her hands on her thighs and gently started tapping her fingers.

John also noticed the eagerness in her eyes. He shook his head and chuckled. He liked that she enjoyed being as beautiful as she was.

As his wife, she should keep herself

beautiful and this would only help him gain face.

Make her up. 11 Then he the magazine in his hand to his knees and looked at the back of Nina.

Derek was at a loss. It was not that he didn't want to make her up, but he just asked Nina not to be in such a hurry. John had been waiting there for three hours. Why was he also in such a hurry all of a sudden?

“Yes, Mr. Shi.” Derek turned around to look at John and found something wrong with the magazine on his lap.

Derek glanced at the lettering of the magazine

John was reading the magazine upside down. What was going on?

John had been reading the magazine for three hours. Did he not realize?
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Love could really scatter the mind. Even John, who was such a wise and powerful man, could be taken down by love when faced with this beautiful woman.

What a pity!

‘I am so jealous!’ 9

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Chapter 119 Shut Up

“Mrs. Shi, your skin is clear and smooth. You just need some makeup primers.” Derek was really amazed. Nina’s skin was smooth, delicate and youthful. A lot of people would probably be jealous of her and would kill for her skin. Even he was jealous of her to be honest.

Nina was getting more and more excitable.

“It’s up to you. As long as I’ll look good.”

“Okay.” Derek began applying Nina’s makeup. The process wasn’t going to be very difficult. After the foundation was done, he began to draw the eyebrows, accentuating her eyes.

The other steps came one after another. Her face was much more exquisite as he applied more makeup. He hadn't even applied the red lipstick yet and she was already jawdropping.

"It's going to look perfect. The last thing you need is a little lipstick."

"Yes, I think you're right," Nina exclaimed. If she had known that makeup would make

her this beautiful, she wouldn't have driven away all the international makeup artists her mother had hired for her. 16

She was too young and naive at that time

"No way!" John said angrily. His serious expression was as cold as ice. "A little girl shouldn't wear lipstick. Remove her makeup!"

John had been paying close attention to Nina. When Derek finished drawing Nina's eyebrows, his face changed in an instant.

He wasn't about to let other people see the beauty of his little girl.

When Nina heard John's words, her face darkened and she roared angrily, "John, shut

How dare someone stop her from becoming more beautiful?

He must have a death wish!

Derek was speechless.

How dare she yell at John like that? Derek had no idea what he was supposed to do.

'Oh my God!'

Derek's hands shook nervously. As a result, he accidentally broke the lipstick that he had rolled out with all the shaking.

He wanted to cry.

The lipstick was worth 855 dollars.

What a waste!

Derek's heart shattered into a million pieces, as the two people in front of him began a heated confrontation.

"John, why do you want to stop me from wearing makeup?" Nina moved her body and rotated the chair to face John. She slammed her hands on the armrests.

Her amber eyes stared straight at John as if she was staring into his soul.

John just sat on the sofa and looked up coldly. He was as domineering as Nina, even sitting down.

"You are just a bodyguard now." John looked at her coldly and reminded Nina of her role.

He was in control. If he said that she couldn't wear the makeup, then she had to remove it.

Nina was stunned and retorted unconvinced, "You said that I would go to the Ye family with you as your partner. So are equals .1 1

"That's tomorrow." John raised his voice with anger and said to Derek coldly, "Remove her makeup at once."

Nina insisted, "It's impossible."

"Remove it," John ordered.

The two of them refused to budge.

Derek was afraid and quietly moved aside. "Mr. and Mrs. Shi, how about you two discuss it first?"

If he was smart, he would just listen to John so that John doesn't end up destroying his life.

But after Nina yelled at John, John didn't seem to order anyone to get rid of her. Even though they were fighting, he wasn't being as ruthless as usual.

John was indeed angry, but what he was angry about was not that his wife scolded him, but that she insisted keeping the makeup on.

What did this mean? It meant that she cared more about herself than his own feelings.

Derek turned around and was ready to leave.

The two of them simultaneously cried out,

They sounded almost identical. The only difference was Nina's natural expressiveness paralleled with John's lifeless bellow. For their paralleled nature, it was surprisingly complementary.

They were the perfect couple!

Derek froze in place. After a while, he grinned and said to them, "Mr. and Mrs. Shi what can I do for you?"

Nina stretched out her hand and asked, "Where is the lipstick?"

'Humph! John doesn't want me to use lipstick, but I won't do as he says!'

"Well..." Derek looked at John and only received a fierce look back. He did not dare to act rashly.

The soft light shone on John's handsome face. Looking over at Nina, who exuded her stubbornness, he wasn't sure whether he should be angry or not.

She was actually brave enough to challenge him. Or maybe it was foolish enough.

"I'll remove it myself." John stood up from the sofa. His shiny leather shoes made a dull thud when he stepped on the floor. Nina could feel the oppression approaching with his every step.

She was so frustrated that she was already planning an attack. She adjusted her body, becoming more aggressive.

John noticed Nina's every movement. He paused before reaching for the makeup remover. Was Nina going to hit him again?

Was he afraid?

He could only give in to her.

With the makeup remover in his hand, John took a step closer to Nina. He thought back to their past experiences together. He particularly focused on her attitude towards himself and others.

John realized that as long as he was angry, she would be angrier. If he was gentle with her, she would be more accepting of what he did.

It seemed that Nina would only be swayed by reason and never by brute force.

“Don’t try to hit me. Do you want to remove it by me or by yourself?” John looked gentle and his voice was much softer than before.

He handed her the makeup remover.

It was hard to tame the wild nature of little girl.

He had to persuade her slowly.

Nina loosened up her body and stared at John in confusion. Why was he not angry anymore?

Why was he always so moody?

John’s sudden attitude adjustment confused Nina to no end. She was never afraid of someone being rough with her, but being persuaded by reason was really dangerous in her eyes.

“Well, then, I’ll remove it myself.” Nina grabbed the remover from his hand, turned around and reluctantly removed all the makeup on her face in front of the mirror.

It wasn’t a big deal. Her face was still beautiful. It was just that she was less seductive now.

When he saw her angrily removing her makeup, John raised his eyebrows with a smile. In an instant, he pursed his thin lips again, hiding his pleasure.

He was really proud that he seemed to crack the code.

He confirmed his suspicions and that was all that mattered to him.

He now knew how to control his little girl.

“I’m done.” Looking at her face that had returned to normal, Nina’s blood still boiled. How did she end up bending to John’s will?

With him ranting and raving, she was ready to beat the life out of him.

Why did he suddenly change?

Feeling upset, Nina couldn't do anything facing John's gentle expression. 'I'll have a headache. I'm leaving.'

Her head pounded because of these mind games with John.

She turned around and walked outside. She stopped halfway and looked back at John, as if she was calling her lost husband back.

"John, let's go!"

She pouted and looked a little aggrieved.

Nina didn't forget that she was a bodyguard now and the person she wanted to protect was still in there.

John raised his eyebrows and calmly followed her out.

Derek was finally able to catch his breath. Looking at the scene of harmony between husband and wife, he signed softly.

"When did Mr. Shi become so obedient?"

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Chapter 120 Stop It

At North Yard

As soon as Nina stepped into the living room, Helen felt that something was wrong. Nina looked at John angrily.

"Mrs. Shi, you are back. I can prepare dinner for you now."

"No, I won't have dinner tonight. I have a headache." Nina was so angry that she snapped at Helen, which she would not normally do regardless

of how she felt. She glared at John as if she was going to pounce on him and rip his head off.

Then, Nina marched upstairs. She stomped loudly enough for everyone to know she was pissed.

Helen ran after her, looking worried. 'A headache? Are you sick, Mrs. Shi? I'll call the family doctor right away.' "No," Nina retorted.

"No," John said at the same time.

"It's just a headache. It isn't serious."

He would not allow her to go out wearing makeup tomorrow even if she pretended to be sick.

That was not going to happen.

Nina snorted derisively and continued marching upstairs. Her footsteps were still heavy as if she was protesting.

Helen sighed. It was said that the frequency of quarrels between lovers determined the degree of their love for each other. Most normal couples only quarreled every two or three days.

However, John and Nina quarreled nearly every day. They must love each other very much. Helen could not bear witnessing such scenes on a daily basis at her age.

'I'm going to go cook something.' Helen excused herself and went to the kitchen.

On the other hand, John went into his study and began dealing with his mountainous pile of work and postponed meetings.

Upstairs, Nina stomped into the master bedroom and slammed the door behind her.

She felt like doing something that would make John busier than he had ever been before.

Nina walked toward the table by the window and sat on the chair beside it. She stretched out her arm and gently pressed a button on her wristwatch. A holographic screen appeared in the air, and a holographic keyboard reflected on the table.

"The Time Group," Nina murmured as she began typing on the keyboard. As soon as she hit enter, the screen in the air showed information about the Time Group.

However, Nina was not interested in the information. She just wanted to make John busy. In just a few minutes of typing in a few more keywords, she was able to write a program that would attack the security system of the Time Group.

Nina designed the program to attack the Time Group's finance department, which was one of the most important departments in a company. It would surely force John to work all night, and she would sleep comfortably without any disturbance.

Once Nina launched the program, the security system of Time Group's finance department would go haywire and all the funds would be transferred. Of course it was only meant to scare the hell out of John, and things would automatically return to normal tomorrow morning.

"I am getting sick and tired of you troubling

Nina murmured with an evil smile on her face. After launching the program, she turned off her holographic computer and leisurely sat on the sofa.

Downstairs, John received a call from his company's IT department. He was told that a hacker had attacked the company's security system and a large amount of money had been transferred to an unknown account that they could not trace.

"Get me Henry now!" John bellowed. He was worried, but he was trying his best not to panic. 16

At the same time, Henry, who was working hard in Adrian's company, received a series of urgent calls regarding the hacking incident in John's company. He quickly put down the documents in his hands, fired up his computer, and started to look into the breach.

Upon checking on the incident, Henry saw the logo of Elk, the new international hacker. He got so scared that his hands trembled, and his computer almost fell to the floor.

"Mr. Shi, the person who is attacking your company's security system is an international hacker who is above Level 7. I really can't do anything

about it.” Henry felt bitter in his heart. He had been working for two bosses at the same time lately. When would such days come to an end? Swallowing, he put forward a suggestion gingerly. ‘I know that two international hackers work for your father. I think it’s best that you ask him for help,” he said.

The suggestion annoyed John. “You’re useless. I’m deducting your salary this year,” he told Henry coldly.

On the other end of the line, Henry was heartbroken. “But you’ve already deducted my salary this year.”

John answered mercilessly, “Then your next year’s will also be deducted.”

Henry was on the verge of breaking down. Why was he talking to Henry like this?

He regretted saying everything he just did.

After Henry hung up with John, Adrian, who was lazily sitting on the sofa, said, “Did he deduct your salary again? Don’t worry. I will pay you.”
10

Henry’s expression changed slightly, but he said nothing.

In the study at North Yard, John brooded silently. After what seemed like an endless internal debate, he picked up the phone and called Sam.

When Sam found out that Nina was the hacker, he ordered his men to stop working. She had a lot of money of her own and did not need the company’s money.

She and John must be fighting again, and she only hacked the company’s security system to spite John.

Sam just sighed. Nowadays, young lovers did such stupid and reckless things.

But in the end, it was John who had suffered. He worked hard with the staff of the IT department to stop the hacker the entire night. They did not realize that the hack was only designed to last until the next morning. It was not really that serious.

John was quite upset, and all he wanted now was to stay with Nina to be comforted. When he opened the door to the master bedroom, it

would not budge. It was locked from inside. He gritted his teeth in annoyance. He felt like his dignity was being challenged.

He turned around and looked for the key to open the door. When he finally managed to open the door, he found Nina sleeping soundly in the bed. Her delicate face was still as white as porcelain but with a touch of pink like that of a newborn baby.

Seeing this, John felt the anger in his heart get snuffed out like a candle in the wind.

He carefully walked up to the bed and pulled the quilt up to Nina's chin. It was then that he noticed the laptop on the bedside table. It was still on.

It seemed that Nina had just fallen asleep. He wondered what she was busy with all night.

Out of curiosity, he walked over and looked at the laptop. On the screen, he saw a virtual shopping cart full of skincare products and cosmetics such as toner, cleanser, BB cream, CC cream, eye shadow disk, mascara, lipstick, and so on.

The lipsticks were even in sets and in luxury brands like Tom Ford, Dior, Chanel, Yves Saint Laurent, Makeup Art Cosmetics, Givenchy, Armani, and so on.

Once again, John was upset. When he found out that Nina had watched makeup tutorial videos on the laptop, his anger boiled over.

He was so furious that he wanted to cancel all her orders and clear her virtual shopping cart, but he could not do that because she had done something else on the computer.

"Get up." With the laptop in one hand, John walked to Nina's bedside and lifted the quilt. He was so outraged that it seemed like smoke was coming out of his nose and ears.

Nina slowly opened her eyes and frowned. She had been watching makeup tutorial videos for the whole night and learned which cosmetics were suitable for her. She got exhausted filling up her cart with Out of curiosity, he walked over and looked at the laptop. On the screen, he saw a virtual shopping cart full of skincare products and cosmetics such as toner, cleanser, BB cream, CC cream, eye shadow disk, mascara, lipstick, and so on.

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Not long after she lay down, someone lifted the quilt and started barking orders.

What the hell was John doing waking her up in the middle of the night? He was so annoying!

She got up and went straight for John’s face.

John’s pupils narrowed in anticipation. He tilted his head out of the way and nimbly dodged Nina’s fist. Panic flashed in his eyes, but it was gone in the blink of an eye.

The next second, the anger in his eyes rose again. He bent down and patted her little face. Her face was as tender as tofu and warm like morning sunshine.

“Get up and clear your shopping cart.”

Nina gritted her teeth with her eyes closed. Then, her eyelids flew open.

She slowly sat up and found John sleeping next to her. She was sure that she had locked the door, so she should be dreaming right now.

John often appeared in her dreams, and she often beat him in her dreams. She remembered buying a lot of cosmetics last night so she could look more beautiful.

Since she was in a good mood now, she decided she would show mercy and not beat him this time.

Anyway, in her dreams, she could do whatever she wanted.

“John, stop it!” With a coquettish pout, she slowly knelt up and leaned into John.

She raised her head, pouted her little mouth, and kissed the corner of John’s lips. The kiss was especially loud in the quiet early morning.

“Could you please stay quiet and let me sleep? Ignoring his plea, she reached out her hand to touch his face, which had little stubble that had grown overnight. She rubbed her face against his chin.

John had never seen Nina like this before, but all the same, she could easily extinguish the fires of his anger by simply being close to him.

John not only lost his composure in an instant but also his principle. He said in a slightly hoarse voice, “Just buy whatever you want.” 35

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Chapter 121 Marriage Licenses

John put Nina back in bed and tucked her in. Then, he went to the bathroom to take a shower. After showering and dressing up, he proceeded downstairs.

After getting a cup of coffee and the morning paper, he went to the living room and sat quietly on the sofa. He had always read the paper and paid attention to the domestic economic situation. John controlled most of the country’s economic lifeblood while the rest was held down by the Ye family and the Song family.

According to the current economic situation, the Ye family had been experiencing a steady decline during the past few years. On the other hand, the Song family was in a dominant position.

The change happened a year ago. At that time, John was studying abroad and did not know what was happening to the Song family.

Andy Song, the chairman of the Song Group, transferred forty-three percent of his shares to his son, Albert. Andy's wife, Ella Tan, also handed over to Albert her tenpercent share.

Albert used to hold only seven percent of the company shares. With his father's shares and Ella's shares, he now held sixty percent of the company's shares, making him the biggest shareholder of the Song Group. It could even be said that he now controlled the entire Song family.

Albert was only 23 years old. He was gentle, polite, kind, and decisive. He was able to expand the Song Group's overseas business at such a young age. In just a year, he had achieved high success and won a lot of praise in the business circle. People highly revered his achievements, and he was respected everywhere.

It was not that John did not want to acknowledge Albert's career accomplishments or the acclaim he was able to earn in the community. It was just that he had been on guard against Albert since he was twelve years old. That was when the accident took place.

At that time, John fell into the Song family's swimming pool by accident. Adrian, Albert's older brother who was eight years old back then, jumped after him to save him. Albert,

who was five years old at the time, not only tried to stop his brother from jumping into the pool, but also just watched idly by as John struggled to stay afloat. John knew then that at such a young age, Albert had already had a darkness about him. He had learned to hide it well as he grew older, but that did not mean that he had had a change of heart.

According to the current economic situation, the Shi, Ye, and Song families would still be prosperous with respect to one another. If Albert would be unwilling to yield to others, then

he would be the Shi family's greatest opponent

unless the Shi and Ye families decided to join forces.

It was in light of this that Jessica came up with an idea—a political marriage between him and Vivian.

John frowned. It was impossible for Albert to bring down the Shi family or for him to marry Vivian.

He had to be quick and smother this potential bad news in the cradle.

“Good morning, Mr. Shi.” Helen got up on time at six o’clock every day. When she saw John again sitting in the living room by himself at this time, she was no longer surprised or worried.

She was just happy that North Yard was lively in the mornings again.

John put down the morning paper and told Helen, “You don’t need to wake her up right now. Let her sleep in. She’ll have lunch when she wakes up.”

“Don’t worry, Mr. Shi. I won’t wake Mrs. Shi up. I’m going to go make some soup for her to help her feel better. She can eat it once she wakes up.” Helen bowed slightly and then headed to the kitchen happily.

John took a sip of his coffee to refresh himself and then went out.

He drove all the way to Stone Road.

The entire Stone Road had a row villa that belonged to the Shi family. The villa was made up of ten three-story houses sitting side by side. Each house had an

independent courtyard, a garage, and a spacious garden path leading to the front door.

Except for John, all the members of the Shi family lived there, but there was also a house there reserved for John with guards and servants. Even if he seldom came or stayed there, the servants cleaned the house regularly and arranged everything according to his preference.

The house in the middle was where Sam lived. Daniel’s and Nelson’s houses were on the left side while Jessica’s and John’s were on the right side.

The rest of the house was reserved for servants, drivers, and the Shi family’s two hundred bodyguards. The guards were divided into five

groups, and each group was led by someone surnamed Zhan who lived with their bosses.

It took one and a half hours to drive from North Yard to Stone Road. John reached there at 7:30 in the morning when his family sat together for breakfast.

In the Shi family, there was a rule that everyone should have breakfast with Sam on weekends. There was also a family

gathering every month where everyone was required to attend.

John broke those rules. When John was a child, Sam disciplined him severely. When he grew up, Sam lost control of him. No one in the entire family dared to oppose him except for John.

So, when John showed up outside, the servants were surprised to see him. They even thought that they were imagining things.

I ' Mr. Shi QII

"Yes." John nodded slightly and strode into Sam's dining room. There were ten people sitting at the grand dining table.

There were eleven people in the Shi family. There was Sam, Daniel's family of four, Nelson's family of three, Jessica and her husband, and John.

"Uncle John? What brings you here all of a sudden?" The first person to see John was James. His right arm was still wrapped in bandage and hanging in an arm sling.

Il l came here for something important," John

answered. He looked at James with gentle eyes.

He really had not helped raise the boy in vain. He was not even fully in the room when James caught sight of him.

Everyone in the dining room turned their head to look at John. They all looked surprised.

They couldn't believe John was here.

Sam looked calm. John called had him last night. He must have something else to ask for, so he had decided to come this early in the morning.

He really knew his son well.

"I'm surprised you still know the way to Stone Road. I actually never thought I'd see you again in my life." Sam's words were full of bitterness.

It was really difficult for him to see his son right now.

Two years ago, John packed his bags and went abroad without saying goodbye. Two years later, he came back and the first thing he asked for was a divorce. It pissed Sam off.

After John walked through the door then, Sam never saw him again until now. Sam clenched his teeth, trying to suppress his anger.

He hissed, "Well, out with it. Why are you here? What do you want? The sooner we get over this, the better. I don't want to upset everyone this fine morning."

"Dad, don't you see? John came to see you personally. Right, John? Come and sit with us." A daughter was like a warm jacket for a father. Jessica ushered John in with a smile, which warmed Sam's heart in an instant. The expression on his face softened.

"He hasn't said anything. How do you know he came here to see me?" Sam retorted, glaring at John.

As people got older, they started acting like children. In other people's eyes, Sam might as well be a spoiled, whiny child.

dearest sister. Of course I know what he's thinking."

"Yes, John came to see you." Jason repeated what his wife said and winked at John.

John glanced at the crowd expressionlessly and then ordered a servant to bring a bowl and a pair of chopsticks. He walked over and sat down next to Sam.

That seat was exclusively reserved for John. It was often empty.

Today it was not. Although Sam felt uncomfortable all over, he was overjoyed in his heart.

Among his four children, John looked like him the most.

"After breakfast, I want to take my licenses." Unlike others, John treated his family in a much softer, although direct, manner.

Sam's face froze. He knew that John would not have come back unless he had something important to deal with. Hearing that John came back to get his licenses, Sam asked suspiciously, "Your licenses?"

Does he want his marriage licenses? he thought to himself.

"Yes." John understood the doubt in Sam's eyes and nodded.
What he wanted was indeed his marriage licenses