

Desperate Time 561

Chapter 561 Bounce Back

I have to say that Frances is really good at hiding his feelings.

Even I doubt what happened just now was a dream.

The security guard nods repeatedly, and he remorselessly yanks me up off the ground, drags me outside.

I look at Frances one last time, and in his deep gaze, I nod to him gently.

I will definitely bear it well for our future life.

As I walk out of Frances' company, I happen to see Hilda walk in.

She sees me immediately and stops me at the entrance.

"What do you want from Frances?" she looks at me coldly, full of disdain and arrogance in her eyes.

Frances was right. Hilda has been spying him so she was timely informed that I came to find Frances here.

If I can't be with Frances as I wish, I won't let Hilda have an easy life either.

With a sneer, I speak to her, "Leave that alone first. Why do you show up so timely when I come here? Essentially, you have no faith in you and Frances, right? It seems that you are really afraid that I will steal him away from you."

Her face changes, and obviously it's because I revealed her mind.

She argues stubbornly, "Nonsense! How could I be afraid of you? You are a poor woman with nothing. Why should I?"

Though I know the truth now, I still have to pretend to wear a vulnerable look, crying at her furiously, "I'll blame you for my poor situation. It's your fault! Hilda, you're a bitch. One day, you'll pay for what you've done!"

After playing the scene with her, I leave in haste.

Frances was right. I'm not good at hiding my feelings.

The more I says, the greater the chances to get exposed.

Frances' words make my life full of hope again.

I am happy every day.

At least, I know that my children are safe and Frances still loves me.

That's enough for me.

With new hope in my life, I start to find a job.

I want to regain my passion as a designer, and even now it's not too late for me to do that.

And soon I find a new job after sending resumes to many companies.

Seeing I'm in a high spirit and begin to eat and sleep regularly. Perhaps she thinks I have let go of the unhappy things.

She's happy for me, but I can't tell her the truth.

The company that hires me is a partner of DS in China.

YD Company.

My life gets its way back to normal.

I still miss my children and worry about Frances, but I'm not suffering too much with new focus in my life.

Frances is a big shot in Virginia, and the news about him always makes headlines of newspaper. There is no way to avoid his news even if I don't want to know.

At lunchtime this day, a piece of big news is reported.

A female worker in Frances' company was found dead on the roadside the next day because she flirted with Frances.

The crueler thing is that her eyes were gouged out.

People gather that Frances' wife must be the murderer, but guesses are not evidences.

Just like me, I know well that Hilda has done many horrible things, but there is still no way to bring her to justice.

I suddenly feel that it's a mercy from Hilda that I'm still alive.

I thought I would wait for my day to come if I'm patient enough.

But plans never catch up with changes.

Something finally happens.

Chapter 562 Nothing Ventured, Nothing...

Weibo headlines are titled with “Frances and a famous Hollywood actor dating all night”.

And that famous actor soon after was missing.

Naturally, people fall their suspicious eyes on Hilda again.

The thing is that people think Hilda is a powerless and weak woman, so this matter is put to rest soon.

But I’m sure it was her who did it.

There is one thing I can’t understand is that the actor is a man!

She really has no idea how horrible she is to let jealousy rule her, does she?

She could go crazy to such a degree even her so-called love rival is a man?

The news was released a minute ago, which means Frances has gone to America again?

Hilda is together with him, so could it be that she’s plotting something?

As I’m thinking, my phone rings.

It’s a call from Frances.

He hasn’t contacted me since that day I went to his office.

Though I miss him and worry about him very much, I’ve tried very hard to do nothing.

And now it’s daytime over here and it should be late at night in the United States. He won’t call me if it’s not for important things.

I look around and find nobody noticing me, so I get up from my seat and answer the phone.

“Jane.”

At the other end of the phone comes Frances’ deep voice.

“What’s the matter? Why are you calling me? Is Hilda not with you now?”

I ask anxiously.

Hilda will throw a fit if she knows Frances and I are still in contact.

I’m not afraid of her tricks on me, but Frances is now with her in the United States, I have no way not to worry.

‘I miss you.’”

His gentle voice makes my heart pop.

He said he misses me, but who knows I also miss him badly?

But now it’s not time for something romantic.

Sighing slightly, I force a smile and reply to him, “I miss you too, but if this is the reason why you call, it’s not necessary at all. Frances, I’m really concerned about you. It’ll be terrible if Hilda finds you call me, so hang up quickly.”

‘Jane, I have things to tell you.’”

He suddenly sounds serious.

Across the sea, a sense of unease fills my heart.

I say nothing and hold my breath to listen.

‘It might be my last time to be here with Hilda. The actor who is whirled in a scandal with me is the son of the head of a rival organization to Hilda. Hilda captures that man, which starts the war between two gangsters. The fight between them must reveal many unknown things. If it go smoothly, I can find out the evidences of Hilda’s crime this time and end the nightmare.’

Nevertheless, why am I not happy at all?

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Frances will definitely be trapped in very dangerous situations if he tries to find out the evidences.

I’m so scared, really scared.

My heart races wildly, and after a long while, I mutter, “What if something bad happens? Frances, can you just not be involved in it? I would rather you stay with Hilda for the rest of your life than see you in danger.”

I certainly will be painful if he stays with Hilda.

But it’s nothing compared with losing him.

I don’t want him to be in danger, not at all!

‘Even if there is danger waiting for me, I’ve already stepped out and arranged everything.’ at the other end of the phone, Frances says calmly.

Chapter 563 I Must See Him Right Now

“You’ve arranged everything? What’ve you arranged? I don’t care your arrangement! I want you to be safe and sound! Frances, you can’t get involved in it. I don’t allow it! You’d better come back right now. Please come back, will you?”

I think I'm already gone crazy now.

The mere thought of the possibility of losing him makes me completely unable to control my feelings.

For me, there is nothing in the world that scares me more than losing Frances.

'Jane, calm down and listen to me. If something bad happens to me, all the assets under my name will be transferred to yours. I've prepared your passport and visa. As long as there is a bad message about rr someone will pick you and children up and help you leave. And all evidences I collect of Hilda's crimes .....

be given to police stations of all places, so that they can provide a strong protection for you. I'll try my best to protect you and our children."

I don't know when tears have streamed down my face.

No! I refuse!

I don't want a life without Frances. I don't want a life he arranges for me.

'Frances, where are you? I'll come to find you! I'll come right away!"

I nearly shout at the phone.

But soon I realize that I'm still in the company, so I suppress my voice immediately.

'Jane, don't be silly. You just stay where you are and wait for me coming back." He hangs up when he finishes.

As I call back, his phone has been switched off.

But how could I wait here in peace?

If something is wrong with him, what should I do? What about our children? I have to come to find him! Whatever happened, I must face with him together!

I first make a call to Mindy and tell her the things, ask her to help me find out Frances and Hilda's address in the United States.

She didn't know these things between me and Frances before. Surprised as she is, she gets on with it quickly.

Soon, Mindy finds out the movement of Frances and calls me back.

'Frances is with Hilda now. I've let someone secretly observe what they're up to, and until now, nothing particular happened. I think you'd better not to wake a sleeping dog. Frances has planned for so long, if you get involved now, maybe all the efforts he makes will be in vain. If you have faith in him, you should wait for his returning without fear, but not go to find him.'

"Mindy, I understand. But I'm really worried about him. What if last call is our farewell? I just can't lose him.

I'm anxious. I want to stay beside him. If.....if something is wrong with him, at least I could.. to see him. Perhaps..... I could meet him for the last time."

-could rush

That's the worst I could figure out.

Cruel as it is, I have to face it.

When thinking of this, I feel great pains in my heart.

In the end, Mindy has no choice but to compromise.

"You can go the United States, but you can't go to find Frances. The only thing you should do is waiting for news. Moreover, you can't go without any reasons, or it will make Hilda suspicious."



“Right. What should I do now?” hearing Mindy give way on this matter, I’m extraordinarily happy and I ask her hurriedly.

Chapter 564 I Daren’t Act Rashly

‘I will ask David to find the top management of your company to send you to DS for technical exchange, so you can go to the United States with proper reasons. Hilda may not suspect you.’

Mindy is usually imprudent, and all these probably are learnt from David.

I’m really happy for her that she is growing up so fast.

With David by her side, I needn’t worry about her at all.

With David’s help, I’m soon sent on a business trip by my company.

And my two children are left to Mindy’s care.

I even speak my last words to Mindy. If something happens to me, I’ll have to ask her to take care of my two children.

As I’m on the flight, I’ve been worried about Frances since I can’t get a call.

As soon as I get off the plane, I call him immediately.

However, he doesn’t answer it.

I have no idea whether it’s not a good time or he just doesn’t want to answer my calls.

Helplessly, I call to Mindy.

‘Mindy, Frances didn’t answer my call. Could it be that he’s not safe now?’ I ask nervously.

I want to hear the answer from Mindy but I’m afraid it’s not a good one.

'Excessive care will mess things up. Frances is fine right now. You should bear in mind that you can't rush to any actions easily. I'll let you know if there is any news.'

"Okay. Now arrangement has been made for the two children, and there is nothing more important than Frances' safety. So I won't make a rash act."

I was really anxious before I come to the United States, but now I'm already there.

The only thing I should do is waiting for the news from Mindy.

Any rash acts may reduce Frances to danger.

The reason why I come here should be acted like a really one. Every day I go to DS company to have some communication with designers there, in such a way to deceive Hilda's spies.

But I'm also upset that I can't focus my mind on the work.

Having staying in the United States for five days, I heard nothing particular from Mindy.

I even doubt that Mindy is lying to me.

But thinking of it another way, no news is the best news.

And such a thought makes me feel better.

Without any surprise, Mindy told me that Hilda has been sending people to monitor my movement.

So I'm more cautious about my actions.

Meanwhile, I'm also glad that I didn't do anything wrong to reduce Frances to disadvantaged situations.

On this day, I get together with DS designers for dinner.

At the end of the evening, a designer of them insists to drive me home.

I could tell from his eyes that he's keen on me.

The United States is an open-minded country, with one-night stand commonly seen.

But I have no interest in one-night stand at all.

My heart is all about Frances, and any other man won't disturb my heart anymore.

But I didn't expect that the man keep stalking me even I have turned him down.

He quickly follows me into my house when I open the door.

What should I do?

With the fact that Hilda has people spying me, if I ask Mindy for help, I might be exposed. So I have to deal with it myself.

Americans are tall and strong, so it's obviously not a good choice to confront him directly.

Thinking for a while, my sight falls on that bottle of red wine on the table.

If confrontation doesn't work, I can only bet it on my wit.

Chapter 565 You Can't Lie to Me

"How about having a drink?"

I smile at him.

Luckily he doesn't refuse it.

I'm finally relieved. As I pouring for him, I take out the drug from my bag and put it in the glass. Mindy gave me the drug earlier in case of emergency, and now it's the time.

I have to admit that Mindy's foresight saves me.

I bring the wine over and he drinks it in one go without any suspect.

After that, he starts to tease me and flirt with me.

Of course, I don't understand most of his words.

I just nod and smile quietly, counting down the time for him to faint.

Mindy told me that the drug has a strong effect.

Barring accident, he should be fainted as expected in one minute.

The man really has a strong body. He still stands on his feet after one minute.

But obviously there is a twist in his tongue.

He shakes his head and staggers towards me.

I hold my breath and withdraw back step by step.

In the end, when he is one step away from me, he falls down with a thump.

I heave a sigh and lean against the wall sadly. My heart is still unsettled.

As it turns out, without Frances, it's hard for me to protect myself.

My phone rings in my bag. It's a call from Mindy.

I pick up the phone and speak breathlessly.

'Hello, Mindy?'

'Jane, are you all right? Did that man do anything bad to you?'

She sounds anxious.

If she were in the United States now, she would rush here directly with weapons.

'I'm fine. I have your drug which I have put in his wine. Now he's sleeping dead, so I'll be fine.' I reply quietly to soothe her anxiety.

"You use all?"

Mindy sounds surprised at the other end of the phone.

"Yes, what's the problem?" I ask confusedly.

'Then he might sleep three days and nights in your home.' Three days and nights?

Is it exaggerated?!

“Are you kidding?”

“Why should I? It’s my fault. I forgot to tell you that it’s a dose for five adult men. Fortunately the drug is of high security, or the man may be killed by you.”

I could imagine she is rolling her eyes at me at the other end.

At the moment when I see the tall and big man lying on the ground, I feel headache.

Will he really sleep three days and nights here? How can I explain it when he wakes up? Whatever! It’s been done already. I should leave it alone for a moment!

“Oh, by the way, I’ve got the news that Hilda’s men were monitoring outside your house just now and they reported it to Hilda.”

“What’s the point? She won’t save me anyway.”

I curl my lips, answer with anger.

The only thing I won’t doubt in the world is Hilda’s hatred for me.

“You have quite a good self-knowledge. By analyzing their conversation, I gather Hilda must say mustn’t save you. If necessary, they can join that man. I even can imagine their dirty and filthy looks.” Mindy analyzes confidently.

I don’t care Hilda’s attitude towards the thing tonight.

I only care about Frances.

‘I have no interest in what Hilda would do. I only want to know news about Frances. Mindy, if there is bad news of him, you can’t lie to me.’

“All right. You may rest assured.” Helplessly, she promises me.

Nothing particular happened in the next few days.

However, on the third day, looking at the man still lying on the ground, I really find it hard to explain what happened.

At the moment, there is a knock at the door.

Nobody has ever knocked my door since I came here.

Who could it be?

I open the door on the alert and meet an innocent child's face.

It's a little girl who's about seven or eight years old. She's so cute, and my vigilance disappears instantly.

She raises her hands high and gives me an envelope.

'Hello, are you Ms. Jane Noyes? This is your invitation.'

Chapter 566 As Long as You're Pleased

Invitation?

Of what? Who would send this to a newcomer here in America?

I just can't figure it out.

Puzzled, I receive it from the little girl, express my thanks, and open it.

Before long, I realize the identity of the inviter.

It's Hilda Farey.

The banquet tonight I am invited to is to celebrate her first wedding anniversary with Frances Louis.

I know it's for showing off.

That's what she has been doing since she got Frances.

I definitely don't want to see her.

But a thought of Frances changes my mind.

I have been holding back my will to see him, only to avoid suspicion from Hilda.

Now that I am invited by her, I will certainly seize the chance.

A party as I am attending, I find I am short of fancy dress. I am here simply on a business trip, after all.

After a moment of consideration, I decide to buy one for the party.

It takes long before a royal blue dress appeals to me with its well-cut style and its beautiful color that fits me nicely.

I wonder whether it's because the price is so high in America or I am taken advantage of.

For it costs 8,000 dollars.

The good thing is that I need to spend for nobody but myself, so it's actually quite affordable for me now.

But after all, it's quite a sum of money!

Well, it's the only way for me not to be looked down upon by Hilda.



Sure enough, the price of this is far lower than that of her clothes, though.

I go back to the apartment after the shopping.

When I open the door, I am greeted by no one, without any sign of the man who lay on the floor.

Did he leave when the medical effect was out? But I don't really care. I actually feel better without having to explain the situation to him any longer.

I spend three hours making sure I have a perfect makeup, get a satisfying hair dress from a salon before I set off to the banquet.

It is in a luxury villa, where allegedly Hilda and Terence used to live there.

From this, I truly feel how cold-blooded that woman is.

Though she killed him with her own hands, she doesn't feel anything, staying where it used to be their sweet home.

Doesn't she have any sense of guilt? Standing in front of the residence, a sense of unease strikes me.

I'll see Frances soon. Can I convince Hilda of my indifference when I actually care?

Right at this moment, she came out, holding Frances' hand.

My heart beats tremendously fast.

I take deep breaths, trying to appear a little more calm.

In contrast, Frances looks too much collected.

Slowly, his eyes are fixed on me.

But he shifts his focus at once.

He acts as if I am a mere stranger.

Looking at Hilda, displeased, he says, "Why did you invite her on this very day?"

She grins, and says, "I happened to know she's on a business trip. Quite a coincidence. So I thought it would be good to have our old friend here on this joyful occasion."

"As long as you're pleased."

He stared at her, his eyes brimming with fondness, his face showing a hint of a smile.

Much as I know he is masking his emotions, I can't help feeling grieved.

I avert my bleak gaze away and go inward.

The moment I walk in, I am stunned.

Chapter 567 There's No Affection betw...

How come so many women in blue dress are here!

What's worse, some of them are wearing exactly the same clothes as I am.

How embarrassing!

Standing there, I hesitate, wondering if I can step forward and pretend that it's alright.

Suddenly, a sneer of Hilda came from behind.

'I was wondering how familiar your dress looks. It turns out that it's just ordinary. If you came to me in advance, I would definitely grab a decent piece of clothing from my wardrobe to you.'

I turn around and saw Hilda alone.

Frances must be greeting the guests.

Hilda has her nature exposed only when Frances is away.

The nature of jealousy.

Surely, her unfriendliness comes from my past relationship with Frances.

The only reason why I was invited can be nothing but her plot to show off.

It can be imagined that she must be gloating over disgracing me on the nail.

Now that she enjoys herself belittling me, I'll meet her screwy need.

'I am not rich enough to afford top grade gowns. So, I know I can't always avoid this embarrassment. But, I think it's still better than to kill one's own husband and take everything for granted without any guilt.'

Little change can be seen from Hilda's face.

It seems that she doesn't even think about how contemptible her behavior was.

'I'm living much better than you, who was swept out like rubbish, out at the elbows.'

With a disdainful glance at me, she walked towards the inside.

Knowing no one else here, I can only grab some food and hide myself at a corner.

Halfway through the meal, all the lights dim down.

An emcee appears, saying something in English, to whom I don't listen quite carefully.

It's just some holiday words about how much the couple love each other and some blessings to them.

There's no affection between them!

I comment in my heart.

It hurts me to see how Frances acts like an affectionate love of Hilda when he doesn't like her at all.

Venting my anger, I poke through the ice cream in the cup, thinking if only it were Hilda's face.

But what the emcee says next makes me freeze right away.

"Now, let's witness the couple kiss."

Kiss?

I have no intention of seeing this scene.

Nor any other display of their affection.

So that is her purpose of inviting me here.

Frances said he has never done any physically intimate thing with Hilda.

But on this occasion, there's no way for him to shirk.

Some are whistling.

They're fanning the flame.

The scene of the pretty couple kissing each other must be glorious.

Everyone wants to see it.

Except me. I would rather be blind than grin and bear it.

But the brutal scene must be on.

With mellow music and soft light, the two become the focus of the audience.

Hilda gazes at Frances with eyes suffused with affection, as if her passion could melt the coldest ice.

She is holding his waist with her head up for his response, while standing on her tiptoe.

Her quivers indicate how nervous she is.

But I feel more anxious than she.

I hold my breath, afraid of losing any single sight of what will happen on the stage.

Then and there, how Frances' lips tenderly touch hers comes into view.

## Chapter 568 Stay There and Wait for Me

Did he really kiss her?

It hurts so bitterly in my heart.

I can do nothing to stop my lover from kissing another woman, but simply stand there like an onlooker.

Is there anything more painful than this?

What if Hilda goes even further? Will he meet her desire?

Everything before me is so cruel and overwhelming.

Please stop!

I repeat this over and over again silently, with my fists clenched, only to find it useless to ease my pain.

It seems that Frances could hear me, as he halts.

He looks as if he attempts to pull away, but then he's held even tighter by her.

The kiss lasts for two minutes before it finally ends.

I am fighting back tears, forcing myself not to shed one.

With the end of the intentional kiss show comes the hustle and bustle of the ball.

Two men who ask me for a dance are both rejected.

I'm here only because I want to see Frances, except which nothing else will appeal to me.

As the couple are dancing elegantly in the hall, I seat myself somewhere unnoticeable, staring at Frances.

How is his investigation going?

How long does he have to keep acting as Hilda's man?

I totally have no idea of how long I can stand all this.

If not for seeing him for a little longer, I think I must be no longer on the thorns.

But my irresistible longing for him prevents me from leaving during the whole party.

I don't leave the seat until I have become the last guest staying there.

I don't know when I can see him again.

Or, is it even possible for us to meet again?

What if he gets into troubles?

I don't dare to think it over.

He has never looked steadily at me during the whole party.

Perhaps, he is doing his utmost to avoid triggering any doubt from Hilda.

As the guests depart, Frances and Hilda go upstairs.

On this very night, will they have sex?

The thought of this makes me smile bitterly.

Can I make any difference even if they do?

Out of the villa, I am too distressed to hail a taxi, with my feet dragging me forward on the street without any purpose.

At that moment, my phone vibrates in my handbag.

There is a message.

It's sent by Frances.

"Stay there and wait for me."

Wait for him?

Where is he?

I look around but fail to grasp a hint of him.

But now that he asks, I will do it for sure.

Against the bowling winds, I am left alone in the chilly night for an hour, still unable to be rescued by him.

But I believe in him, who will do as he tells me.

All I need to do is stay and wait.



Just when I think that he will not turn up, his figure seems to emerge.

'I can't stay long. Come with me.'

With a couple of steps he comes to me and holds my hand to lead me.

We don't stop walking until we reach somewhere perhaps he thought it is safe. He asks me harshly, "Why are you here in America? I told you to wait for my return."

'I missed you. The thought that I can't even see you when you're in extremis took me here. Easy. I won't spoil your plan. I just want to stay closer to you. And I have already worked out a convincing excuse to deal with Hilda.'

Chapter 569 Go Home Right Away

But my words fail to ease the nerves on his face.

It tells how angry he is about my unexpected presence.

I bite my lip to curb any word out.

A deeper frown is showed by him.

"Go home. What if you get into trouble where Hilda can easily make waves? You have no idea of how cruel she is. Jane, even I can't act rashly in front of her. It's too dangerous for you to stay. Promise me. Go home right away."

"What do you mean by right away?" I reply.

"Now. Get a ticket to leave this country." He says in a serious tone.

'It will trigger more suspicions if I just leave now. When the business trip is over, I will certainly go back. It lasts two months. As soon as I finish it, I'll leave.'

The time is long enough for Frances to address anything here.

If it's not done then, I'll apply for another two months from the company.

Brazenly as I can't stand by him, I only want to stay close to him.

'Don't be naive, Jane!' Frances lowers his voice hard, unable to mask his anger.

In fact, I know I'd better listen to him. But I just can't leave him here.

I feel distraught at the idea of he standing alone to face all those dangers and uncertainties.

Just as he attempts to argue, I am preserve to interrupt him.

"You should go back, or Hilda will find it wrong. Be careful always. Don't worry about me. I'll be alright."  
Throwing these words to him, I let go of him, running toward the sidewalk.

I run long enough while I can still feel his caring eyes fixed on me.

I run all the way back to the apartment. After taking a shower with complex emotions, I go to bed.

It's a tough night, as I am overwhelmed by the scene that Frances and Hilda caressing each other.

The night makes me more tired.

I hear someone is knocking at the door early in the morning.

Who's that?

"Who?"

As I ask, there seems to be a reply. But it's too far away that I can't get it.

I have to get dressed and walk to open the door.

There are a man and a woman.

The woman in her thirties looks still pretty.

Of course, I don't know her.

Her eyes on me are full of rages, terrifying me.

The man next to her makes me more uneasy.

He, in a police uniform, gazes at me seriously.

"Can I help you?"

I ask politely.

Standing by the door, the policeman keeps saying something I can't understand.

Not long after, the woman loses her patience and straightforwardly walks in.

The policeman follows her and scours my house.

What are they trying to find?

But this is my residence. How can they be so rude?!

I rush ahead, trying to stop them, but I am pushed away by the woman.

After pacing around the house, she focuses on the refrigerator at the corner.

In this apartment Mindy rent for me, the refrigerator is exaggeratedly huge.

The woman steps forward and opens its door.

A body rolled out all of a sudden!

Chapter 570 Just Say You Don't Know

Stunned, I stare at the stiff body, totally out of my mind.

It's him?!

The guy who took my pills and slept for entire three days!

I thought he had gone. I could never imagine that he would be present in this way?!

Before I am well aware of what has happened, the policeman raises his gun at me.

The woman dashes to me, reaching her hands to my neck as if she's about to strangle me to death.

She must be the wife of the dead.

But she gets it wrong, thinking that I have killed his husband, pledging herself to take revenge.

I keep shaking my heads while trying to clarify the truth.

But nothing can stop the raging woman.

The force she exerts on my neck almost chokes me.

It's agonizing.

It's nearly more than I can bear.

The policeman comes to my rescue in time, dragging her off so that I am not taken by the throat.

Then the officer takes me to the police station.

I don't know what I should do, only to call Mindy helplessly.

"Mindy, what should I do? The man I dosed last time dies at my house. Just know the policeman found him in the refrigerator and sent me to the police station, accusing me of the murder. I don't know how it goes like this. What should I do? I can't be sent to prison and get Frances into trouble. I am so scared."

The miserable memory of the time in prison strikes me, triggering my strong reluctance to imprisonment.

Plus, I heard that it's really horrible in American prisons.

I will never want to have it again.

'Jane, don't panic. I will get you the best lawyer and you'll be bailed soon. I will figure out how it all goes.

Before that, just say you don't know no matter what they ask you. Remember it?"

I remain uneasy after hanging up the phone.

Following her instruction, I say I have no idea whatever the police ask.

It does not take long before Mindy calls back.

"How's it going, Mindy?" I asked anxiously.

'I contacted several top lawyers, but none of them took the case. Perhaps they knew who was behind this.'" Mindy lowers her voice.

Despite her efforts to conceal her emotions, I can sense that she's quite distraught.

It must be more difficult than expected.

Except Hilda, who was scheming this?

Or perhaps, she devised all this at the very beginning.

If the man was killed and hid precisely when I was out shopping for the dress, and if his body was stuffed into the refrigerator during the party time, the crime was perfectly conducted, leaving me as the scapegoat.

But the man stayed only at my house for days. It seems that I can never justify myself.

"What should I do, Mindy? I don't want to be imprisoned. I really don't." Helpless, I say to her.

'Don't worry. I'll keep my efforts to fetch you a good lawyer. I will smash Hilda's plot and you'll be alright.'" She promises to me.

But I feel more uncertain.

To be imprisoned is not quite the point. I'm afraid I can't get any information from Frances.

For me, this is undoubtedly worse than death.