

## Master Odells 671

Chapter 671 The man's hot and dominating breath surged like a tsunami, prying open her lips and teeth as he kissed her forcefully and left her no room for resistance.

The sound of movement in the room never stopped and did not end until the next day when it was almost bright.

This man was the devil. It was as if he would not rest until he tortured her to death!

Sylvia felt like she was dying, but fortunately, she managed to do everything that he told her to do.

She gripped his arm tightly, holding onto her last ounce of strength to say, "Odell, you said that you would release Thomas if I didn't hold back my voice. You'll keep your word, right?"

Her voice was so hoarse that she could hardly speak.

At that moment, not only was her face puffy, but her eyes were also bloodshot. It was obvious that she had cried for a long time. There were still tears on her eyelashes. The man only felt a surge of anger choke his chest. 'Even now, she's still thinking of another man! If not for the fact that I can't bear to, I would make it so that she can't even talk anymore!

When he did not respond, she looked at him eagerly. "Answer me, Odell." Her voice was anxious, slightly aggrieved, and delicate.

Odell frowned and bundled her into his arms. He looked into her eyes and said in a low voice, ". Fine."

He was a man, so he would naturally keep his word!

Sylvia's eyes lit up. However, when she remembered how he had gone back on his word several times before, she said, "Swear on it. You're not a man if you renegade."

Odell choked up. She clung to him with watery eyes full of pleading.

After a long time, he pursed his lips. "I swear. I'm not a man if I renegade."

The next second, his arm sank.

The woman who was still clinging to him fell asleep on his arm. A sense of powerlessness suddenly broke through his other emotions.

He was silent for a few seconds, then he kissed her lightly on the forehead and placed her back on the bed.

The bathroom was to the side. After a brief shower, he put on his clothes and walked out of the room.

He said to Jacob outside the door, "Let him go."

Jacob was stunned. "Master Carter, are you sure?"

"Yeah." Odell's eyes were cold as he added, "Arrange for a few people to follow him secretly." 'His lips are sealed tight, and his methods are mind-blowingly powerful. I don't know how he bewitched the

shareholders. None of them confessed that it was him. Even if I keep him locked up here, I won't get anything out of him.'

"Yes," Jacob answered and turned to go next door. Odell did not leave. His straight back leaned against the wall, then he took out a cigarette from the pack and placed it between his lips.

White smoke soon spilled out from his lips.

At that moment, the door to the next room opened, and Thomas, who had been inside all night, emerged. He was still wearing the white shirt that he had wooed Sylvia in the sea of sunflowers yesterday, but he obviously did not look as spirited as before.

At that moment, every inch of his body was filled with a stifling aura. He glared at Odell when he came out, and his normally cool eyes were bloodshot at that moment. Odell curled up the corners of his lips. "What? Did you not sleep last night?" Thomas clenched his fists. After a long time, he smiled grimly. "Are you letting me go?" "Your sister-in-law worked hard the entire night, so I have to give her some credit."

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The smile on Thomas's mouth suddenly disappeared, and he said word for word, "You'll regret this, Odell."

Odell threw the unfinished cigarette on the ground and crushed it with the sole of his shoe." Who will make me? You? Try again in your next life."

As soon as he finished speaking, the bodyguard gave Thomas a hard shove. His slender and thin figure stumbled forward a few steps. After standing firm, he turned his head to glance at Odell's bedroom to the side. Then, he looked away and walked downstairs.

Sylvia did not know how she fell asleep. She only felt like she was going to die. Her waist felt like it had snapped, and her body seemed like it had been dismantled into pieces.

Even in her sleep, she was in a state of exhaustion, pain, and panic. She was dazed and confused. After an unknown amount of time, she seemed to suddenly awaken when a ray of sunlight illuminated her face. She quickly rolled over to sit up.

Then, the soreness of the muscles in her body hit her so hard that she lay back down in pain. It took a while before she sat up. The room was quiet. There was no one but her. However, the messy bedsheets looked the same as when they were tossing around all night last night.

She took a deep breath, put on her clothes, and got out of bed.

It was quiet outside the door.

She went into the next room, but there was no one inside either. She frowned and was just about to go downstairs when Jacob came over from the stairs.

"Madam, Master Carter let Second Master Carter go early this morning."

Sylvia felt relief flood her. Then, she took her phone out of her pocket and found Thomas's number.

When she was about to press it, the scenes of her being held down and coerced by Odell last night flashed into her mind again.

After a few seconds of hesitation, she sent him a message. "Thomas, are you okay?"

He replied in less than a minute. "Yeah."

She thought about it and asked again, "Where are you now?"

Thomas replied, "In the house on the outskirts."

Odell did not know about that place, so Thomas must have gone back on his own.

Sylvia breathed a sigh of relief and put the phone back in her pocket. She did not know what to say to him now. After all, she had only agreed to be his girlfriend yesterday afternoon but ended up with Odell last night...

Furthermore, Thomas had just been next door. The soundproofing was so poor that he must have heard it all.

Sylvia gritted her teeth and headed downstairs.

Jacob followed her at a distance. "Madam, do you want to go back? I'll send you back."

"No," she replied coldly.

Jacob said, "Master Carter told me to bring you back."

She stopped and turned to glare at him. Her eyes were red, and her gaze was cold.

Jacob pursed his lips and did not dare to say anything else. Sylvia's legs were incredibly sore, so she could only go outside while taking one small step at a time.

It usually only took a few minutes to get to the front door, but it took her almost ten minutes instead.

There were no cabs in the vicinity, so she called for one online and stood quietly on the side of the road, waiting for the car to arrive.

Jacob did not dare to follow her. When he saw her waiting for a car, he immediately took out his phone and called Odell.

The call was quickly connected, and he respectfully said, "Master Carter, Madam didn't let me send her back. She called a cab. Do you want to have a look?"

Chapter 673

The phone was quiet for two seconds before the man's low voice rang out. "Follow her."

Jacob quickly answered, "Yes, sir."

Before long, an ordinary car drove up to the door.

Sylvia clutched her waist and sat in the backseat.

At that moment, in the building to the east of the mansion, Odell's strong figure stood on one side of the balcony. He had been there since Sylvia came out of the house and shuffled to the gate.

In the sunlight, his eye sockets were deep, and his eyes were cold and dark.

After a long time, he waited until the car Sylvia called disappeared around the corner before he spoke out, "Where is he now?"

Ben, who was standing behind him, quickly replied, "Second Master Carter returned to a villa in the suburbs and hasn't come out since. He's still inside. The report says he has been staring at a painting in a daze."

"Watch him. If that woman goes to him, report to me immediately."

"Yes, sir!"

Sylvia returned to her residence in half an hour.

Aunt Tonya was tidying the garden when she saw Sylvia. She immediately dropped her tools and ran up to her. "Syl, where did Odell take you last night? Did he pick on you again?" Sylvia replied, "No, we just had a fight. I'm a little tired after not sleeping much at night."

There were some things that she could bear alone. There was no need for Aunt Tonya to worry about her again. 1

Her voice was incredibly hoarse as if she were ill. Aunt Tonya frowned and said, "Then, go and rest. Isabel and Liam are still sleeping too."

"Okay."

Sylvia did not dally.

After passing by the children's room and seeing them sleep soundly, she immediately went to her bathroom and took a warm shower.

The warm water washed away her soreness. After that, she went to the children's room in her pajamas, then lay down beside them and fell asleep.

After an unknown amount of time, when her consciousness began to rouse, she felt something soft and cool around her neck.

She opened her eyes slowly and saw Isabel and Liam sitting in front of her.

Liam sat in the back, holding a bottle of ointment for treating bruises, and Isabel, who was sitting in front, scooped up the ointment with her small hand and applied it to Sylvia's neck. They both looked very serious and adorable.

When Sylvia woke up, the little girl said crisply, "Mommy, you're awake."

Sylvia sat up and touched their little heads, asking curiously, "What are you putting on me?" The little girl pouted, "You've been bitten by mosquitoes all over." Bitten by mosquitoes?

Sylvia was even more confused.

Just then, Isabel brought her small mirror in front of Sylvia, and Sylvia immediately saw the red marks around her neck.

They were uneven in size and looked like mosquito bites at first glance. However, they were in fact traces left by Odell last night.

Her face burned uncontrollably for a moment. She endured her emotions and said softly, "I'm fine. They'll disappear in a few days."

Isabel mumbled, "Uh-huh, but you still have to apply the medicine on time."

Seeing Liam and Isabel caring for her like this, Sylvia's chest warmed up, and she smiled at them. "Okay, I'll remember." 1

It was already dark outside, so Aunt Tonya should probably have made dinner.

Sylvia took them out of bed and headed to the living room for dinner. However, when she got to the stairs, a figure happened to walk into the living room from the outside. Wearing a black shirt, his body was tall and straight, and his figure radiated a cold aura that kept others at bay.

It was Odell, the person who had kept her up all night. Her legs weakened uncontrollably, and she suddenly stopped.

Chapter 674

The many suffocating scenes from last night rushed to Sylvia's head whether it was physically or mentally, she did not want to see him at this moment at all!

She quickly said to the children, "Isabel and Liam, I suddenly have a stomachache and need to go to the toilet. You guys go down and eat first. There's no need to wait for me."

Isabel replied, "Okay." However, Liam frowned, 'Why did Mommy suddenly get a stomach ache when Daddy came?'

Before he could understand, Sylvia turned around and ran back to the room. The two little ones walked down the stairs together

In the living room, Odell had just sat down. When he saw them coming down, he glanced behind them and saw empty air.

'Why didn't that woman come down?'

At that moment, Isabel also walked up to him with her chubby face puffed out. She looked quite cute.

He reached out and took her into his arms.

The girl crossed her arms and looked at him, asking, "Baddie, where did you and Mommy go last night? Why are the mosquito bites all over Mommy's neck?"

Mosquito bites? They were probably the marks he left last night. His lips curled up, and he said without changing his expression, "Oh, there were a lot of mosquitoes where we went last night."

Isabel pouted and looked at his neck. "Then, why aren't there any mosquito bites on your neck?"

Odell frowned.

There were indeed no mosquito bites on his neck, but there should be a lot of scratches left by that woman on his back.

However, before he could figure out how to answer her, a cold and childish voice sounded from the other side. "It's because Daddy is thick-skinned."

Odell was speechless.

Isabel's eyes widened in realization. "You're right. Mommy is fragrant and tender, so the mosquitoes must like her better."

Odell was speechless,

Yes, that woman was indeed fragrant and tender.

However, why did he want to teach these little runts a lesson the more he looked at them?

At that moment, Aunt Tonya's voice came from the direction of the kitchen. "Isabel and Liam, where's your mother?"

Odell's eyes flickered slightly.

Then, the little girl in his arms said, "Mommy had a tummy ache and went to the toilet. She told us to eat first."

Aunt Tonya looked at Odell and replied, "Okay, then come and eat. I cooked noodles tonight. You have to eat them quickly or they'll get soggy."

"Okay." Isabel climbed down from Odell's arms, and the little ones sat down at the table together.

Odell's eyes cooled as he glanced upstairs, and he got up and walked to the table.

Upstairs, after Sylvia returned to her bedroom, she kept pacing in front of the window. She wanted to wait for Odell to leave before going down. After about half an hour, his tall figure strode from the living room to the yard. Sylvia stood by the window and saw him clearly. Her eyes lit up. Seeing him about to reach the gate, she immediately prepared to turn around. Unexpectedly, he suddenly stopped and turned his head, and his deep eyes shot straight at her. Sylvia's gaze flashed as she hurriedly ducked down. At the gate, the man curled his lips imperceptibly and stepped out. Meanwhile, Sylvia squatted for a long time and only stood up when she heard Isabel's shout outside the door.

The little girl called out to her sweetly. "Mommy, is your tummy feeling better? Aunt Tonya cooked noodles again. Do you want to eat some?"

Sylvia looked outside where Odell's figure had disappeared. She sighed in relief and answered, "Okay, I'm coming down now."

A day passed by in a flash.

Sylvia stayed at home that day with the two little ones and did not go anywhere. Soon, it was time to eat dinner in the evening.

## Chapter 675

The man's tall and straight figure walked in from the main gate on time. In the living room, Sylvia saw him at a glance and immediately said to Aunt Tonya and the children, "I suddenly remembered that I have something to do. You all eat first. Don't wait for me."

Then, without waiting for them to react, she ran upstairs swiftly.

Aunt Tonya was dumbfounded. The two little ones raised their heads in confusion as well. Just then, Odell walked in.

Aunt Tonya was the first to react and smiled dryly. "Dinner is ready. Come and eat."

Isabel hummed and walked over with Liam. Odell's face was expressionless as he sat at the table with them.

Meanwhile, Sylvia had already returned to her room. She went to the window and painted something out of boredom while paying attention to the movement outside.

Almost half an hour later, the sound of footsteps came from the door of the living room downstairs.

She half-crouched down to peek outside. However, just before she could see the tall figure, a cell phone ringing came from below. She remembered it as his ringtone, and she held her breath. Downstairs, the man who had just stepped out of the living room put the phone to his ear and asked indifferently, "What is it?"

On the phone, Jacob reported in a low voice, "Master Carter, our man secretly watching Second Master Carter said that he hasn't eaten since he returned yesterday morning."

Odell froze.

'Is he going on a hunger strike? Who's he trying to prove himself to? Does he think that I'll be soft-hearted and dispel my suspicions?' He said coldly, "Leave him be. Tell me when he starves to death." He hung up the phone and lifted his long legs to walk outside. Upstairs, in Sylvia's bedroom, she remained in a half-crouching position and soon saw his tall figure walking out the door.

However, her brows were knitted together. She could not relax after having heard the conversation on his phone earlier.

'Is someone on a hunger strike? The tone of his reply was so indifferent and even seemed a little disgusted. It's clear he doesn't care about whether that person lives or dies.'

Sylvia suddenly thought of Thomas.

Ordinarily, he would send her a few messages even if he did not come to find her. However, two days had passed now, but he had not sent her a single message.

'Is it because Odell and ... provoked him that night?' Suddenly, the door was pushed open. Sylvia turned her head and looked over. Isabel and Liam stood outside the door in tandem. Isabel's little chubby face squeezed in, and her childish voice asked sweetly, "Mommy, are you done?"

Sylvia knew that she had come to call her for dinner. However, her mind was filled with the words Odell had uttered on the phone. After a moment of hesitation, she smiled at Isabel and said, "I still have to work for a while." Isabel pouted. "Then, hurry up. The food won't taste good if it's cold." "Okay. Go ahead and play with your brother. I'll eat when I'm done." "Okay." The little girl obediently went back to her brother's side. Liam's deep eyes looked at Sylvia for two more seconds before leading his sister away. Sylvia sat sullenly on the floor and took out her phone to send a message to Thomas. She asked, "Thomas, are you okay?" However, he did not reply even after twenty minutes. She frowned and called him directly. The line continued to ring and finally connected during the final ring.. Sylvia quickly asked, "Thomas, what are you doing now? Are you okay?" "I'm fine, don't worry," he replied. His hoarse voice was obviously permeated with weakness.

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Sylvia hurriedly asked, "Are you sick?" Thomas was silent for a few seconds before he replied, "Yeah, I caught a slight cold, but I already took some medicine."

She felt that something was strange.

'If he only caught a cold, why had he taken so long to reply?' She asked bluntly, "Have you eaten dinner?"

He paused for another two seconds before saying, "Yeah." "What did you eat?" "Steak and red wine." "Didn't you take medicine for your cold? How could you still drink red wine?" He was silent. Sylvia was exasperated. "Why aren't you saying anything?" "I'm a bit sleepy, so I'll hang up now."

Then, he ended the call.

Sylvia clutched her phone. 'He must have gone on a hunger strike.' After mulling it over in her mind for a while, she got up and walked outside. In the living room, Aunt Tonya was watching TV with Isabel. Liam sat next to them, reading a book

Seeing her hurry downstairs, Aunt Tonya asked, "What's wrong, Syl? Are you going out?" "Yeah." Sylvia looked at the two little ones and quickly said, "Aunt Tonya, I might not be back until late. You and the children can go ahead and rest first. There's no need to wait for me to come back."

Then, she said to the children, "Isabel and Liam, please listen to Aunt Tonya and go to bed early." Isabel replied obediently, "Okay." Liam also hummed in reply.

Only then did Sylvia feel relieved and walked out.

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Even going at her fastest speed, it still took Sylvia two hours to arrive at the villa. There were two bodyguards standing outside.

Sylvia walked up to them, feeling a little doubtful.

She recalled that Thomas did not like to hire bodyguards. He only had a housekeeper, a cook, and a maid here.



The two bodyguards also noticed her and looked at her warily. Sylvia walked up to them and frowned when she saw their faces. The two bodyguards were also startled, then silently backed up to the sides. She glanced at them coldly before walking straight through the door.

Although she did not know their names, she had seen them quite a few times before. They were Odell's bodyguards.

Obviously, they were not here to protect Thomas.

Sylvia was not in the mood to think too much about this and hastened her steps to walk inside. After she left, one of the bodyguards took his cell phone out and made a call.

Ding! The phone suddenly rang. By the floor-to-ceiling window, a man was sitting elegantly in his leather chair. When he saw the caller ID, he put down the tall glass in his hand and brought the phone to his ear.

On the phone, Jacob's voice cautiously spoke out. "Master Carter, the person in charge of monitoring Second Master Carter said that Madam just went to his place." Beneath the light, a layer of gloom instantly covered the man's cold face. "Tell them to follow her. If they behave intimately at all, break his hand immediately." "Yes, I'll inform them now!"

In the villa in the suburban area.

Sylvia walked all the way to the door of the bedroom where Thomas resided.

The door of the room was tightly closed.

She took a deep breath, raised her hand, and knocked on the door.

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After waiting for a while and not hearing a response, she called out, "Thomas, it's me."

In the next second, the sound of footsteps could be heard from inside.

The door to the room was quickly pulled open from the inside.

Sylvia looked up to see a handsome but very frail face. The shape of his body also seemed to be thinner than usual. She frowned.

Thomas also furrowed his brows. "You shouldn't have come here. Go back." Sylvia knew he was worried that Odell might bully her again if he knew that she was here.

"Don't worry, I'm just here to see you. He won't do anything to me." After a pause, she added, "Besides, he doesn't know that I came over."

The moment she spoke, she saw two figures flash past from her peripheral vision. She instantly looked over. In the blink of an eye, the two figures quickly dodged and hid in the next room.

They looked like the two bodyguards that she had seen at the front door earlier.

Unable to help it, her eyes turned cold. She reached out and grabbed Thomas' wrist. "Let's go downstairs and talk"

Thomas tried to pull his hand back, but he did not seem to be as strong as her and was quickly dragged down the stairs to the living room.

She pulled him over to a chair next to the dining table and looked at him seriously. "Sit here. I'll go to the kitchen and ask them to make you something to eat."

Then, she turned and went into the kitchen without waiting for him to speak.

Thomas pursed his lips.

She quickly reached the kitchen, but found it to be cold and empty. There were no chefs around and no trace of any ingredients either. Only the kitchen utensils were still there. She went through the refrigerator and cabinets but still did not find any ingredients, not even instant noodles.

'How could this be?

'Wait, where's Theodore and the others?

'Why is the chef gone? Theodore and the maid are gone too.'

She immediately ran back to the living room.

Thomas was still sitting at the table. When he saw her return, he smiled at her.

Not feeling in the mood to return his smile, Sylvia got straight to the point and asked, "Thomas, where are Theodore and the others? Why is there nothing to eat in the kitchen?"

Thomas' face turned cold as he remained silent.

"Answer me. What's going on?" she asked anxiously. He said in a low voice, "They've probably all left."

"They probably all left? What was that supposed to mean?"

Her expression turned cold. "Did Odell get rid of them?" Thomas looked at her. When he saw her eyes go round in anger, he smiled and said, "Don't be mad. Odell probably only did this because he still suspects that I have something to do with the crisis that Carter Corporation was facing, but he doesn't mistreat me. There's someone that promptly brings me food three times every day." She immediately asked, "Then why haven't you been eating?" He pursed his lips and said nothing. Sylvia's sharp eyes caught his line of sight and followed it to see a takeout box that had been placed on the corner of the table. She immediately rushed over and picked up the box. The box had been placed in an ordinary plastic bag. The lunch box inside was still somewhat hot, but it emitted a pungent scent and had a very sharp smell. She opened the box and saw the meal inside.

It looked like a spicy beef stew. There was a thick layer of spicy oil floating on the surface of the stew, but the ingredients inside were clearly of poor quality. Some of the greens were even rotten...

Even people who liked spicy food would not be able to eat this, let alone someone like Thomas, who had not been able to eat spicy food since he was young. It was no wonder he had gone on a 'hunger strike'. A wave of anger immediately surged up within her chest. If not for the fear of dirtying his house, Sylvia was filled with the urge to throw this package of stew on the floor.

"That \*sshole!" She cursed, ready to walk out. However, Thomas grabbed her hand.

“Don’t go to him. I’m fine. I’ll just be hungry for a while. It won’t kill me...” The more he spoke, the smaller his voice became. He obviously did not have much strength

Sylvia quickly pushed down her emotions. “Okay, I’ll do as you say and I won’t go to him, but you have to sit here. I’ll go out and buy you some food.”

He grabbed her hand again “There’s no need. You might not be able to get in here again if you are buying food”

Chapter 678 What did that mean?

If she bought something for him, would the bodyguards that Odell had assigned here not let her back in again? “I’m fine. I’m not that hungry,” Thomas said again, his gaze softly looking at her.

Sylvia felt her heart ache from anger. ‘Odell Carter was such an utter pr\*ck! ‘He was clearly trying to starve Thomas to death! ‘How could he do this to his brother?!’ Just as she had become so angry that she wanted to beat Odell to death, the grip on her hand suddenly loosened. She froze and looked over.

Seemingly having no more strength to hold her, Thomas placed his hand on his leg and said to her with a smile, “Sylvia, I’m really glad that you came to see me, but my brother’s temper is volatile. I don’t want you to be bullied by him because of me anymore. If you really want to help me, just sit down and chat with me for a while.”

Sylvia immediately felt guilty. Did he think it was because of him that she was not being bullied by Odell? It was clear that she was the one who had gotten him into trouble. Even without him, Odell would’ve done that to her anyway. After all, it was what he had always done.

However, she still turned and sat across from him. If Odell was in control here, it would be challenging for her to go out and buy him any food. Seeing that the two bodyguards had no intention of coming down, she lowered her voice and said, “Thomas, let me take you away.” Thomas’ gaze flickered. Then, he smiled wryly. “I can’t leave.”

Sylvia said, “We can escape while they’re not looking!”

She had only seen two bodyguards since she had come in. There might be some hiding in the shadows, but their numbers should be few. This villa was so big that there were places to escape and hide everywhere. As long as she used her brain, she would definitely find a way to get out

He shook his head. “Let’s stop talking about this. Look, the moonlight is beautiful today.”

He looked outside as she spoke.

The floor to ceiling window was very high, and Sylvia turned around to see the moonlight outside

Above the villa, the moon was large and round, surrounded by stars. It really looked beautiful.

However, she was currently not in the mood to appreciate it at all. “Sylvia, could you draw me another painting?” he suddenly asked. Sylvia was stunned for a moment before asking, “What is it that you want me to draw for you?”

Thomas smiled and said, "Just draw the night scene outside at this moment." She was not in the mood to paint now. "Thomas, you can't keep staying here. Let's find a way out first. When you're safe, I'll paint you whatever you want me to paint." Thomas sighed in a low voice. "I went on a walk outside yesterday. Guards have been stationed everywhere that I could possibly go. There's no way that you can take me out of here."

Sylvia froze.

He raised his hand and patted her hand. "Don't worry. Odell might just be trying to teach me a lesson. He won't kill me."

Then, he smiled and looked at her with a gentle and expectant expression. "Sylvia, I really want to see you paint. Could you just humor me?" Sylvia pursed her lips. "All right."

She could not get him out of here at the moment anyway. If painting could make him feel better, then she would paint.

She quickly went upstairs and retrieved a set of painting tools from the room that she had stayed in before. Sitting on the ground beside him, she painted the night scene outside the floor-to-ceiling window.

Not long after, Thomas also sat down cross-legged beside her and quietly gazed at her canvas. Sylvia turned to look at him. His face still looked weak, but he looked much happier than when she had first seen him. Her depressed mood eased somewhat, and she turned around to continue painting. The moon tonight was not that round, but it was very bright, reflecting the surrounding sea of glittering stars.

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The light in the courtyard outside seemed unnecessary in this moonlight.

Sylvia spread a layer of base color from top to bottom of the canvas, then added in the moon and stars.

Her brush strokes were quick and decisive, and in no time, she quickly painted the scenery in the yard.

There was a garden in the yard that was filled with a variety of flowers as well as dense trees.

She looked over twice and drew the flowers and plants. Then, she looked over again, intending to remember the shape of the trees in the area.

There were not many trees, but each one had a different shape and size. Their leaves were all lush and of varying shades.

Sylvia narrowed her eyes and observed carefully.

From top to bottom, she looked at each layer of the treetops until she saw the bottom layer. Then, she spotted a tall and dark shadow leaning against the trunk of the furthest tree.

The shadow was tall and straight. The more she looked at it, the more familiar it seemed.

Sylvia was shocked, closed her eyes, and looked again. The shadow was still there. Vaguely, it seemed to be a sharp and cold sight that was shooting at her.

Clatter.

The brush in her hand fell to the ground.

Thomas, who had been watching her paint, quickly looked at her. "What's wrong?"

Sylvia raised her hand and pointed to the black shadow under the tree outside. "Thomas, look under that tree. Is that a person?" Thomas's eyes followed the direction that her hand was pointing in and looked over there.

After a moment, he said, "Yeah, there's someone there."

She asked, "Don't you think that person looks familiar?" Thomas said, "I believe that's Odell."

As soon as he spoke, the tall black figure leaning against the tree came striding over. Soon, he left the shadow of the tree and walked into the light. His strong figure and handsome but gloomy face were reflected more and more clearly in Sylvia's eyes. She paled

She was scared of his sudden appearance which made him seem like the devil.

However, she soon suppressed that fear and got up to shield Thomas' body

Odell walked over quickly and stopped in front of her. She raised both arms to protect Thomas behind her and asked warily, "What are you doing here?" Odell's dark eyes looked at her, and he retorted, "What are YOU doing here?" "I came here to see Thomas." "I came here to see Thomas as well," he said. Sylvia's throat choked. She could not help but glare at him. "Then you're just in time. I have something to say to you."

Odell raised his brows. "What is it?"

Sylvia took a deep breath and shouted, "Why did you imprison Thomas here when you promised me that you would release him? Not only are you imprisoning him, you even kicked out the housekeeper and cook who work here. Why have you been making him eat all that rotten food? He hasn't eaten for two days already. Are you trying to starve him to death? He's your own brother. How can you treat him like this? Are you even human?"

Odell was speechless. 'I imprisoned him? I drove away his housekeeper and chef? I made him eat rotten food?

'What the hell is all this?

'When did I do all that?' Before he could react, she yelled angrily at him, "Odell Carter, if you're still a man, tell the bodyguards who are watching him to get out of here now!" Odell was silent.

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Under the light, his handsome face was instantly covered with a layer of gloom.

"Don't you already know whether or not I'm a man from that night's experience?" Odell took one step forward to her and raised his hand as if to break her neck.

Sylvia paled as she instinctively wanted to step back. He grabbed her by the collar, his gaze cold as he approached her. "Or do you want to experience it again?"

Her legs went weak at once. At that moment, Thomas approached them. He stood weakly beside her as he said to Odell, "I'm the one who developed feelings for Sylvia, and I was the one who took the initiative to pursue her. Just come at me if you're unhappy, but please don't bully her again!"

'What is he saying?

'If I'm unhappy, of course I'll take it out on him. I'm not stupid!' Odell frowned and narrowed his cold eyes at Thomas. "You'd better get out of the way now, or I'll break your arm."

Thomas stood unmoving. "I'll get out of the way if you want to, but let go of Sylvia first."

Odell narrowed his eyes.

In the next second, he started to lift his leg. However, before he could raise his leg, the woman in front of him pounced on him.

Sylvia quickly jumped into his arms and blocked his leg.

Then, she held onto him as she cried out to Thomas who was behind her, "Thomas, he's going to kick you. Get away!"

Thomas frowned. She turned her head. When she saw that he had not moved, she said anxiously, "He won't kick me. Hurry up and get away or I'll be angry!"

Thomas clenched his fists and took a few steps back.

Odell was speechless.

After a moment of choking, he pressed on Sylvia's forehead to try and pry her out of his arms.

However, she immediately locked her hands behind his back as she screamed, "Odell Carter, don't press on my head!" Odell glared at her. "Let go and I'll stop." Sylvia puffed her face up and ignored him without letting go. Perhaps it was due to her puffed up look being quite cute, but Odell suddenly felt his anger lessen.

He withdrew his hand and said with a sinile, "Since you want to hug me that much, you can

just keep doing it. If you dare to let go later, I'll kick him to death." His face and voice turned cold at the end of the sentence. Sylvia's arms around him instantly trembled. Odell looked at her grimly. She pursed her lips and continued to keep her arms tightly locked around him. He snorted and laughed before glancing at Thomas, whose face was so pale that he seemed about to collapse from anger. Then, he asked her, "What did you mean when you said I was imprisoning him?" Sylvia was shocked. "You don't understand?" Odell looked at her with dark eyes. "Should I understand?" "Why are you still pretending?" Odell was speechless. What was he pretending? She said bluntly, "I saw two bodyguards when I came over. You told them to guard this place, didn't you?" His expression did not change. "Yes, I did." Sylvia rolled her eyes. "Exactly." Odell's heart was stunned for a moment.

'What did she mean by that?' His expression was filled with confusion.

Sylvia snorted in anger as she thought, 'What's that face supposed to mean? Is he still trying to deny it?'

She bluntly said, "They've been watching over Thomas, you forbade him from going out, and even chased away his housekeeper and chef. The meals that have been sent to him three times a day are all of poor quality. Weren't all those done on your orders?"