

Master odells 741

Chapter 741 This bedroom was once the bedroom of the children.

He pondered for a moment. Then, he opened the door and turned on the lights.

Immediately after the lights were on, he saw the figure of the woman who was sleeping soundly on the bed.

His stern expression immediately softened.

The warmth in his eyes only lingered for a brief moment for his expression immediately sharpened again as he peered at her with a displeased look.

Why was she sleeping in the children's room?

Was it out of guilt because she abandoned them for half a year? Or did she only begin to miss them after she was dumped by Thomas and suddenly remembered they even existed?

These thoughts only upset him further. He felt like walking up to her to pinch her cheeks.

That was when the still sleeping Sylvia suddenly shifted her hand to her belly and softly rubbed her belly.

She must have been having a nice dream, evident by the sweet, dreamy smile on her face.

He looked at her bulging belly.

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Her belly was bulging like a balloon , to a point where it seemed like an eyesore to him.

He stamped his feet, then he turned around and walked out with a dark look.

The next day was Saturday.

Sylvia got up early in the morning, had some breakfast, and then went to the wall again to listen to signs of any movements going on in the next house. After a while, she began to hear some muffled sounds. She heard Sebastian's voice asking, "Young miss, young master, where are you two going?"

Isabel answered cheerily, "Uncle Sebastian , we're going to drive around. You don't have to come with us. We'll be back really soon."

"Haha, alright then."

Sylvia pricked up her ears and listened to the sweet, angelic voice of Isabel. She grinned from ear to ear upon listening to her voice. Meanwhile, in the neighboring house.

After Isabel's exchange with Sebastian, she hopped into a red car.

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Liam entered the car from the other side and sat right next to her.

It was a children-sized electric car. After both of them strapped themselves down, Isabel began turning the steering wheel with both hands. She drove the car past the gate of the house and made a turn. Soon, she arrived outside Sylvia's place. Isabel looked behind her cautiously and urged urgently, "They're not following us. Hurry up and open the gate!" Liam nodded firmly and promptly opened the door to step out of the car. He was slightly taken aback when he saw the metal sheets covering the gate. Then, he proceeded to press his fingers to the fingerprint sensor.

Beep!

The gate opened at once.

"Come on, let's go!" Isabel called after him hastily.

Liam scrambled back into the car.

With Isabel at the helm, the red electric car drove into Sylvia's yard with a swift "woosh" before stopping in the middle of the living room.

Meanwhile, in the yard in the next house. Sebastian and the bodyguard Ben had just stepped

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outside.

Sebastian may have permitted the kids to go out and play on their own, but he was not going to let them go completely unsupervised since that would be irresponsible.

He was not expecting Isabel to stomp the gas pedal and vanish out of sight before they had time to react.

By the time they stepped into the yard, the car had completely vanished out of sight.

Sebastian instructed with a stern frown, "Ben, tell the men to look around the area."

Ben looked at the ground and guessed. "Sebastian, I think the young miss and young master drove the car into Miss Sylvia's place."

Sebastian seemed very astonished and exclaimed, "How did you know?"

Ben gestured at the tire marks on the ground.

The marks were not deep but were visible enough that one could easily tell it must have been left behind very recently by the electric car the kids were driving.

Ben followed the trail and quickly saw the wide-open gate at Sylvia's house.

"Oh no!" Panic took over. Sebastian immediately took off running toward the next house.

Chapter 742 Meanwhile, in Sylvia's living room.

After Isabel and Liam hopped out of the car, they carried a small safe out of the car.

Sylvia was hiding behind a couch. Her body was tensing all over as she stared agitatedly at the two of them working with the safe.

She watched as they carried a trolley out of the car.

It took a lot of effort for them to lug the safe onto the trolley. After that, they pushed the trolley up the stairs.

She held her breath and tailed after them.

The two of them reached her room and went inside. She peeked through the crack underneath the door and saw them hiding the safe under the bed.

Isabel had to crawl under the bed to stash the safe before crawling out again. She immediately asked Liam upon emerging from under the bed, "Are you sure nobody will find the safe if we hide it here?"

Liam was cautiously surveying the room and answered her distractedly, "Probably not."

Isabel pouted. "That's true, this is Mommy's house after all. Even if stepmom takes over the house in the future,

she won't get a say over what happens to Mommy's room and probably won't take away our stash."

Liam made no further response. He was quietly staring at the speckless floor. His pearl – like eyes seemed to gleam amid the darkness.

Outside the door, a shadow cast over Sylvia's expression. She was thinking about Lily who had just gotten engaged to Odell. Lily was the poster child of the Springsteen family and was destined to inherit the family's assets. She was a perfect match for Odell in terms of her social status.

They would get married very soon, then she would become the madam of the Carter family and take charge of all the affairs going on in the Carter household.

She was not expecting Isabel to have planned so far ahead and begin making preparations for her future with her brother.

She was impressed by their wisdom at such a young age but at the same time, a somber and heavy feeling consumed her.

If she had not let herself become deceived by Thomas half a year ago, would Odell and Lily still have gotten engaged?

There was no such thing as "what if" in the world.

Suddenly, she heard Isabel chirping from inside the room again. "I think I smell Mommy."

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She sniffed at the air like a puppy as she said this.

Sylvia's expressions contorted and she quickly drew backward.

Inside the room, Liam began surveying the room attentively again and was inspecting the bed this time. The quilt on the bed was neatly arranged. It seemed like an entirely different set of bedsheets compared to the last time he came here with his sister.

The house should have been vacant for the last six months. Why was the room so clean?

While he was still puzzled over these facts, he suddenly heard the sound of footsteps going from outside.

“Someone’s here,” Isabel noted warily. Liam took her hand and walked out of the room with her.

The moment they stepped out of the room, they saw Sebastian and Ben running toward them.

Liam seemed completely unfazed.

Isabel asked intriguingly, “Uncle Sebastian, Ben, why are you two here?”

Sebastian observed their expression and interrogated, “Young Miss, I thought you two were just going for a short drive. Why are you two here?” Isabel explained calmly, “I wanted to find a toy I left here

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so I brought my brother here.”

Something in Sebastian’s eyes shifted. “Did you two see anything strange?”

“See what? We didn’t see anything strange,” Isabel answered coolly and confidently. It was clear that they did not see Sylvia.

If they saw her, they would not be as calm as they were.

Sebastian let out a short sigh of relief when Liam suddenly raised a question, “Uncle Sebastian, is there something we’re not supposed to find here?”

His black eyes seem to emit a strange glow within them.

Despite being only five-year-old, he had sharp senses that rivaled that of an adult’s.

Sebastian’s eyes gleamed as he quickly explained, “No, I was just asking.”

“Oh.” Liam made no more questions and led Isabel downstairs.

Sebastian and Ben hurriedly followed them.

After all of them had left, Sylvia emerged from around the corner.

She sighed exasperatedly and began grinning from ear to ear.

Even if she did not get to reunite with them, she got to

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see them at the very least.

They had grown taller over the last half year but were still as adorable as the day they were born.

Chapter 743 Isabel was a little thinner now but still retained her past chubbiness.

While she was still relishing the joy of getting to see her darling children again, a large shadow suddenly jumped at her from within the darkness.

She saw a familiar, handsome face appearing inches away from her.

She immediately retreated a step backward and asked cautiously, "Odell, why are you here?"

Odell stopped in front of her and glared at her viciously. "I heard Isabel and Liam came here?"

"Yeah, they came here just now." A thought suddenly occurred to her and she quickly added, "Don't worry, I made sure they didn't see me."

Odell narrowed his eyes. "Is that so?"

"Yes, I'm not lying to you," she answered resolutely. "I'm sure you must be very happy to see them."

Sylvia jerked her lips. "Hm."

Of course, she was way happy.

"Good," he answered in a queer tone.

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She looked at him suspiciously. He directed a gloomy look at her in return and ordered, "Pack up. I'm taking you to the airport." She was confused by this. "Why are we going to the airport?" "I'm sending you back to Galston."

Her face turned pale in an instant. "I...I'm not going back.

He gave her a sharp, commanding look. "It's not your decision to make."

His tone was authoritative and unbending, just like his entire demeanor.

Sylvia bit her lips. She tried to take off right then and there and head downstairs.

Before she even managed two steps, Odell grabbed the collar of her shirt.

He forcefully yanked her back and made her stand in front of him.

She struggled stubbornly but despite her best effort, she failed to break free. Worse than that, she ended up with Odell's arm wrapped around her neck.

She knew better than to continue her struggle and tried to plead with him. "Odell, I made sure they didn't see me

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at all. Please don't send me back to Galston, please?"

Her voice was filled with desperation.

Odell frowned and stayed quiet for a few seconds before announcing, "I already told you. If you even stole a peek at them, I'm sending you back to Galston. No debates."

He lowered his head and drew his lips close to her ears. "Or do you not take what I say seriously at all?"

Sylvia shrank her neck away from him and clarified, "I didn't mean to stalk them. I wasn't expecting to come in here either and accidentally saw them while I was trying to hide."

"Is that so?"

"Yes!"

He scowled. "I don't care. You still saw them even if it's by accident." Her heart dropped. After a short, lingering silence, she suddenly chomped down on his arm which was wrapped around her neck.

She put all her force into the bite, like a rabid dog.

Odell winced in pain and drew his arm away.

She bolted away in an instant.

She ran to the mouth of the stairs, then turned to glare at him and shouted, "Odell, you're the one who forced me

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to do this!"

Odell frowned. "What are you trying to do?"

"I'm going to go to Isabel and Liam!" With that, she took off and almost threw herself down the stairs along the handrail.

She was going to find them and let them know that she had returned.

She did not care whether they were upset at her for abandoning them or not. She was going to reunite with them one way or another.

Even if Odell wanted to send her to Galston, he was going to have to obtain the children's permission!

She ran as fast as her legs could take her.

Odell stood at the top of the stairs and watched her running away clumsily and smirked at the comical sight.

He only took his first step after she made it out of the living room.

She had only made it to the yard when she felt the terrific hunter breathing down her neck and grabbing at her collar.

Chapter 744 Sylvia trembled all over and suddenly yielded to Odell like a kitten being grabbed by the scruff of her neck. Odell made a look. "Why did you stop running?" Sylvia murmured, "Please let go of me."

The collar of her shirt was pulling at her neck and restricting her breathing, making her feel very uncomfortable.

Odell scoffed. "So you can bite me again?"

This was to say that he was not going to make the same mistake of wrapping his arm around her neck to expose his weakness to her.

Sylvia insisted. "Let go of me, please." Odell asked, "Do I look stupid to you?"

She grimaced and threatened. "Odell, do you think they can hear me if I screamed right here and now?"

He smirked menacingly. "Go ahead and try."

Sylvia frowned.

He was the one who forced her hand!

She drew a deep breath and let out a cry, "Lia-"

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Before she could scream their names out, she felt a hand over her mouth muffle her.

He put his entire palm over her mouth, she could barely open them at all.

She tugged at his hand with all her strength but could not pry them away. The only noise she could produce was a muffled cry.

She was furious and tried to stamp on the soles of his feet but all she managed to stamp on was the cold hard ground.

Heh. The man suddenly chuckled in what seemed like a combination of mockery and amusement at her aghast expression.

This only infuriated Sylvia further. She stamped her feet again and again.

Odell stood a safe distance behind her and watched her frantic attempts to resist as he smiled coyly.

He was having the time of his life entertaining himself when suddenly, he felt something wet drip onto the back of his hand.

She stopped struggling and was standing motionlessly in place.

He was startled by this sudden sensation and upon taking a closer look, he saw that her tears had fallen on his hand.

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He grabbed her by her shoulder and made her turn to face him.

She lowered her head to avoid his gaze. There was a strange stillness to her now that was a complete transformation from only mere moments ago.

He frowned and turned her chin up to look at her reddened eyes that reminded him of a rabbit. Her face was scrunched in sorrow. It suddenly made him feel sympathetic for her pain.

He felt something tighten in his chest and asked, "What are you crying about?"

He was not trying to reproach her or needlessly aggravate her sorrows. He was not serious about sending her back to Galston to begin with.

What made her cry so suddenly?

Sylvia pursed her lips and said in a low voice, "I'm sorry. I shouldn't have stabbed you six months ago. I was wrong about trusting him, and I misunderstood you back then. You don't have to forgive me if you don't want to. You can scold me and hit me as much as you want but please don't

Upon arriving at this note, her sentence turned into a drawl as if she was afraid to go on, knowing that what she wanted to say would only upset him. He asked impatiently, "Please don't what?"

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"Can you please not send me back to Galston?" Tears poured out of her eyes uncontrollably when she said this.

Odell was struck speechless.

He felt a giant lump stuck in the middle of his throat.

Was she frightened to the point of tears just because he said he was sending her back to Galston? "What happened to your courage?" He lifted her by her chin and slowly caressed her cheeks with the tip of his thumb. "Haven't you been living well with Thomas in Galston over the last half year?"

Something flickered in her eyes. She clenched her hands tightly to the side of her body and mentioned, "I... I'm getting tired. I need to get some rest."

With that, she turned to leave.

Odell wrapped his arm around her body and held her close to him.

He looked at her reddened cheeks. "It's only eight. Haven't you just woken up?" Sylvia was bound in place.

She pursed her lips and remarked, "Don't you know that a pregnant woman needs more sleep than usual?"

He narrowed the look in his eyes.

He could feel her bulging belly.

Chapter 745 Odell drew a step backward and glared at her with an icy, demeaning look in his eyes. "I'll let you off the hook this one time for Isabel and Liam's sake. If this happens again, I'm sending you right back to Galston!" "I understand, it won't happen again." Sylvia nodded obediently.

With that, he turned and walked out.

His tall figure disappeared in the blink of an eye.

He slammed the door shut, which produced a loud bang that echoed through the house. The tremendous slam made Sylvia shiver. Then she quickly headed back to her room.

In the neighboring house, inside the spacious living room.

After Isabel and Liam got home with Sebastian and Ben, they began playing with the remote-control cars.

She was in a very pleasant mood, knowing that she had accomplished the task with her brother and hidden the safe. She played a little longer before taking a break.

She went up to Liam who seemed like his mind was somewhere else. She asked worriedly, "What's the matter

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with you?"

"Weird," Liam muttered.

"What's weird?"

"Mommy's house is clean."

"Yeah, what's weird about that?" Isabel could not make out what Liam was trying to suggest. "Our room was very clean as well. Even the blankets and bedsheets were changed with new ones."

Isabel still could not catch his meaning. "What about that?"

"Why are the bedsheets changed if nobody is living in the house anyway?"

Isabel suddenly seemed frightened and commented shrilly, "Is the house haunted?"

Liam was speechless.

He looked determined. "I suspect someone is living in Mommy's house."

"Who is it?"

"I don't know."

Sylvia stayed in the house all day and was practically

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bound to the living room.

It was not so much that she wanted to stay at home. She only worried that she could not resist the temptation to try to steal a look if she headed outside and overheard the voices of Isabel and Liam through the wall.

Even if she accidentally caught a glimpse of them, Odell would send her back to Galston without a word.

It took so much for her to come back here. She could not risk having her progress thwarted!

The sky outside darkened over time.

That was when she heard the shrill cry of Isabel coming from the neighboring yard.

It sounded like she was playing with Liam in the yard. She could hear her calling for her brother from time to time.

Her voice was like that of a songbird, angelic and soothing to the ears.

After she listened silently for some time, she gave in to temptation and walked outside.

She behaved like a thief even though she was in her house. She sneakily approached the wall that connected the yards of the two houses.

She stood next to the wall and listened attentively to the children playing merrily in the yard next door. She immediately felt better as if the somber feelings in

her chest from what happened earlier that day were instantly washed away. Even the baby inside her seemed to resonate with her feelings as she felt a gentle thump against her belly.

The corner of her lips curled up into a satisfied and content smile.

Unbeknownst to her, there was a pair of obsidian eyes spying on her since the moment she walked out of the living room

The large shadow of a tall figure was lurking around the corner of the gate, staring at her.

Odell leaned against the wall with his hands folded in front of him. He observed the way she caressed the belly as she listened to the activity going on on the other side of the wall. He twitched his lips.

Was she possessed or something?

Not only had she turned into a coward over the last half year, but she had probably gone mental as well, to a point where lurking behind a wall was what gave her joy.

He could also hear Isabel and Liam playing from where he stood, but what was so amusing about that anyway? They were not doing anything particularly amusing in the first place. What was it that entertained the woman so much?

Had she lost her mind after being scarred by Thomas dumping her?

He scoffed mercilessly upon thinking of this and muttered to himself, "Serves you right."

Chapter 746 The night was tranquil.

Odell's voice traveled to Sylvia who was hiding behind the wall.

She immediately turned toward the gate. It took her a while before she finally noticed a silhouette inside the darkness around the corner.

Who else could it be but Odell?

Why did he come here instead of resting at home at this hour of the night?

Her heart skipped a beat. She quickly turned and sprinted back into the house like a thief fleeing a crime scene.

As if she had seen a ghost.

Odell's face darkened when he saw the way she reacted.

He took out his phone and sent her a message: "If I catch you trying to listen to them again, I'm sending you back to Galston!"

Her reply came within seconds: "I got it. It won't happen again."

She even made sure to add a smiling emoji at the end of her message.

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Pandering

Odell was speechless.

His finger hovered above the keyboard. He was not sure if he should reproach her or praise her for her obedience.

After a moment, he put the phone back in his pocket and took out a lighter along with a pack of cigarettes.

Night had fallen.

Isabel and Liam in the yard next door dragged their tired bodies into the house, supervised by Sebastian. They went back to their room.

After some time passed, the shut door slowly opened. Isabel stuck her head out and looked down the corridor cautiously, then she whispered behind her, "There's no one outside. Come on out."

Liam walked out of the room with her.

At this hour, most of the members in the household must be sleeping. The only ones awake should be the bodyguards on shift tonight.

Two tiny figures sneaked to the gate.

They looked at the bodyguard who was dozing off, then they held their breaths and slipped out the gate silently. It did not take long for them to reach Sylvia's place.

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Isabel was taking the lead but she suddenly stopped and scuttled behind Liam. She grabbed at Liam's sleeve and muttered anxiously, "There are no ghosts inside, right?"

"No," Liam declared confidently as he raised the stun baton in his hand.

Isabel managed to steal the stun baton from Ben earlier that day.

They walked to the entrance. Liam put his finger on the fingerprint sensor.

Beep.

The fingerprint sensor verified his identity and swiftly opened. He opened the door and walked inside, alertly holding the stun baton in one hand and taking Isabel's hand with his off-hand.

The yard was basked in the darkness of the night. The house was pitch black as well.

Isabel shrunk into a ball and whispered into his ears, "Liam, I'm scared."

Liam squeezed her hands. "Don't be scared."

They walked cautiously and gradually inched toward the living room.

Clack!

Something suddenly clattered against the floor.

Isabel shrieked, "Ahh!"

Liam made sure he held her close and turned around with the stun baton pointed toward the darkness and shouted, "Who's that?"

Odell's tall figure emerged from within the shadows. Liam frowned. "Dad?"

Isabel also exclaimed, "Baddie, why are you here?"

Odell threw the stub of the cigarette on the ground and peered at them sternly. "What are you doing here? Shouldn't you two be sleeping?"

Liam stayed quiet.

Isabel made a look and confessed, "Liam suspects that someone is living here. We wanted to see if Mommy came back."

Odell frowned again and said sharply, "There's nobody here. Now get back to sleep."

Isabel immediately hid behind Liam.

Liam looked at Odell defiantly. Underneath the moonlight, there was not a hint of fear in his cool expression. "Dad, why is Mommy's house so clean?"

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Odell sized him up and answered blankly, "Because we have cleaners come by from time to time."

"Do they clean the room me and my sister used to sleep in?"

"Yeah."

"Do they change our bedsheets?"

"Yeah."

Liam grimaced.

He was still standing stoutly without the slightest hint of wanting to leave. After a prolonged standstill, he looked around the dark house and frowned before asking suspiciously, "Are you sure Mommy didn't come back?" When they came here this morning, he was sure he caught the scent of his mother.

Odell fell silent for a few seconds before declaring, "No."

It was not so much that he was not willing to let them see their mother, but that the wretched woman did not have the right to see them this easily!

Liam turned to Isabel. "Come on, let's go back."

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"Okay," Isabel answered with a firm nod.

There was a clear look of disappointment on their faces.

Odell frowned and glanced in the direction of Sylvia's room. Then he followed them and walked them out.

They held on tightly to each other's hands and slowly walked out with their heads craned to the ground. Their tiny figures seemed to be filled with grief as if they were abandoned children.

Even though their father was right next to them. "Hurry up," he urged. Isabel pouted, she resisted the urge to cry and muttered, "Okay."

The two of them quickened their steps and went back to their house one block over.

Odell followed them until they reached the door of their bedroom. He kept their eyes on them and made sure they crawled back into their beds before he turned away and closed the door.

Meanwhile, inside Sylvia's bedroom.

She was squatting by the window with her hands cupping her cheeks.

She heard movements the moment Isabel and Liam opened the door and came into the house.

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She heard their entire conversation with Odell as well.

Something must have aroused their suspicion when they came during the day, which was why they decided to sneak here at night again. She could tell by their voice that they missed her dearly and were dejected at not getting to see her.

These thoughts consumed her mind and made her spiral out of control. Tears began to fall against her will.

No, no. She had to control herself.

Now she knew that her children missed her. Since she was back already, it was only a matter of time until Odell allowed her to see them. Even if he adamantly opposed it now, time would tell.

She got up and went to the bathroom where she washed her face with warm tap water.

It was around ten in the morning by the time Sylvia opened her eyes. She must have slept too late last night.

The bedroom windows were still sealed tightly with iron sheets, obstructing sunlight from entering the room. She washed up and went to the living room. The scorching sun was burning in the skies above. The day was bright.

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She came into the yard and stretched out underneath the glow of the sun.

After that, she went to the wall as usual and tried to listen to any signs of movement in the neighboring yard.

Since it was Sunday, she figured that the children must be at home.

She stood there for an entire hour and heard nothing but the common chatter of two housemaids in the house.

She went back to the living room and sat on the patio. She bathed under the sun and reached for her phone where she sent a text to Odell: "Good morning."

With a smiley face at the end.

She wanted to get on his good side.

There was no reply sometime after the text was sent.

Either he had not read the message, or he was not interested in replying.

The latter seemed like a more likely possibility.

Sylvia pursed her lips and continued sitting on the patio where she zoned out for some time. Since there were no signs of any activity in the neighboring yard after some time, she upped and went to the kitchen where she fixed herself something to eat.

Chapter 748 After dinner, Sylvia grabbed a chair and sat by the wall where she continued to listen to any form of movements on the other side.

Even after several hours had passed, she heard nothing remotely resembling Isabel and Liam chattering on the other side.

It was Sunday. Were they not at home?

After she pondered for a while, she reluctantly grabbed her phone and selected Odell's contact.

She hovered her finger back and forth over the keyboard for some time and after some more consideration, she sent a message: "Hey, good afternoon." Followed by a cute smiling emoji as usual.

Ten minutes passed, then half an hour... Then three hours had passed, and he did not answer.

He was probably not going to reply at all by this point.

Sylvia put the phone back in her pocket. The sky was slowly darkening by this point. Just as she was about to head back into the house, she suddenly heard what sounded like a car parking in front of the gate.

She perked up with alertness and immediately went to

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the barred gate where she put her ear over the sheet of metal in hopes of hearing something. She heard Lily's voice, "Isabel, Liam, did you two have fun today?"

She frowned.

She heard Isabel answering, "We had a lot of fun. Thank you very much, Aunt Lily."

Judging by her formal tone, Sylvia could make out that Isabel was not particularly distrustful of her stepmother, but she was not exactly in love with her either.

She was always the type that showered you with love if you extend any sort of genuine goodwill toward her, but would hold a grudge if you got on her bad side. However, she also had a knack to maintain perfect neutrality if a person was otherwise indifferent to her as well.

The end result was that she was not exactly fond of Lily, but she was not mean toward her either.

That was well enough. Sylvia doubted that Lily would be intentionally cruel toward the children once she married Odell.

Lily expressed with a polite smile, "No need to thank me. I'm just glad you two had a great time. That way, I won't feel like I let your father down."

Neither Isabel nor Liam made a response.

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"You two can head inside first," a new voice that was deep and heavy with bass spoke this time. Sylvia was taken aback by this. Odell? Why was he there? Did he spend the day with the children along with Lily? Her first reaction was to look at the phone that she still held in her hands.

This explained why he did not answer her messages. He was spending time with his fiancée.

She figured that if she was in Odell's position, she probably would not be answering the text of an ex-wife when she was spending time with a fiancée.

The footsteps of the children gradually faded over time. They must have gone into the house.

Sylvia was not interested in eavesdropping on Odell and Lily's conversation and went back into her house.

Meanwhile, Odell and Lily were still standing outside the

gate.

After making sure that Isabel and Liam had gone into the house, Odell turned to Lily and thanked her, "Thanks for taking the time today."

Something urgent came up with work today so he had been busy all day until just now.

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It was Lily who took Isabel and Liam out to play.

Lily smiled sweetly and answered, "No need, Odell. I just brought them to a theme park where there was staff who took care of them and played with them. They were very good and didn't cause any trouble for me or anyone else."

Isabel and Liam were both adorable, but they were the children of Sylvia Ross, an otherwise insignificant person of a not particularly impressive family or background that Lily would hardly spare the time of her day to acknowledge. She doubted that she would ever take a liking to the children, but she made sure to at least take her grandmother's advice and get on their good side since Odell cared a great deal about them.

For what it was worth, it was not much trouble for her. All she did was take them to a children's theme park and had the staff inside look after the two of them for the entire day. The staff members did the bulk of the work while all she had to do was to pick them up. It was not much trouble for her at all.

Odell expressed, "I owe you one."

The children seemed to be in a very good mood. They must have enjoyed their day at the theme park.

Something gleamed in Lily's eyes and she said with a smile, "In that case, why don't you treat me to something nice?"

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Odell stayed quiet for several seconds before promising, "Alright, we'll do that someday."

"Which day are we talking about? Could you give me an exact date so I can free up my schedule?"

Odell frowned and stole a glance at the barred gate connected to the next house and decided on a date. "Next Thursday night."

He set the date for four days from now because he was not particularly in a mood to go outside to eat within the next day or so. "Okay then. See you Thursday night." With that, she turned and went back to her car.

Chapter 749 Odell went into his house as well.

The engine of the white luxury car roared.

Upon entering her car, Lily put on a pair of sunglasses. When she drove past Sylvia's house, she cast a brief sidelong glance at the house before directing her eyes back to the road and going on her way.

Meanwhile, Sylvia made herself a simple bowl of noodles.

After she finished eating, she went to the wall to listen for any signs of movement to gauge what Isabel and Liam were doing. There was nothing to be heard. They must have been exhausted from the day of activities.

After she sat for a while, she went back to the living room.

It was very quiet and she was beginning to get bored.

She sat on the couch and reached for the remote to turn on the television and proceeded to put on a show to watch.

Shortly after that, she began to feel tired and let out a long, dragged-out yawn. Her head felt groggy with sleep.

After an indiscernible amount of time passed, she had the

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brief sensation of something chilly causing her skin to stand up on end, so she opened her eyes groggily.

That was when she noticed a man leaning against a wall nearby peering at her.

The look in her eyes changed. She was immediately jolted and practically sprang up to a sitting position on the couch.

Odell frowned displeasingly.

Sylvia pursed her lips and asked in a hushed voice, "Why are you here?"

He walked up to her, his legs were like two long and thick tree trunks.

She wanted to duck away from him but he immediately put a hand out to touch her face.

She froze and did not dare to move. It was as if a spell had been cast on her and immobilized her.

The look in his eyes darkened, and he spoke with an undertone of anger, "What's this? Weren't you the one bombarding my phone with messages earlier today? Don't you want to see me?"

"I wasn't bombarding your phone with messages. I texted you twice." Sylvia cautiously corrected him.

His face immediately darkened by several shades. Sylvia hurriedly clarified, "I wasn't trying to do anything."

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I was just greeting you and seeing how you were doing." "I'm doing very badly right now." "Sorry to hear that." Odell: "..."

His face was black as ink.

Sylvia immediately zipped her lips. She already apologized to him. Why was he still so upset?

She was just as flustered as she was scared. Her eyes turned into two large circles that beamed with innocence.

Odell felt terrible.

Was he a rabid wolf? Or some sort of demon?

Where was her past audacity that compelled her to accuse him of being a disgusting man? Did she shrink into her current pathetic state after Thomas dumped her?!

After a long silence, he let go of her, then he turned around and walked out.

He walked very quickly and reached the entrance of the living room in the blink of an eye.

Sylvia breathed a sigh of relief.

At that very moment, he suddenly stopped and turned around.

His cold, hostile gaze swept over her.

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She was stunned. She barely had time to suppress her sigh.

She pursed her lips.

He continued to peer icily at her. She blurted out, "Did I say something wrong? If I said something to upset you, you can just tell me and I'll make sure to be careful from here on."

"I'm very upset." He gnashed his teeth and declared, "It pisses me off seeing you like this."

She lowered her head and turned her body silently in another direction, leaving him to stare at the cold hard figure of her back.

Chapter 750 Odell frowned with irritation. "Why are you turning away?"

Was this her way of expressing her sorrow and emptiness? A show of her somber state?

"Does this make you feel better?" Sylvia asked.

Odell was puzzled by this.

"Next time, let me know in advance before you come here. That way, I can get something like a shawl to cover my face so you won't have to look at my face again." After a pause, she asked again, "Does this make you feel better?"

Odell was speechless.

Did she think that her face was the reason for him being upset?

A burst of vexation rushed up to his head. He walked up to her in just a few large strides. Then, he clasped his large palms around her chin and made her turn to face him. !!

His laser eyes seemed like they were going to bore holes into her. "Is something wrong with your head?" Sylvia narrowed her eyes and answered, "Not that I know

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of."

He glared at her.

She immediately changed her tone. "If you think there's something wrong, then it's probably correct." Odell pursed his lips. He felt what seemed like a lump in his throat. After that, he put one arm around her waist and carried her off the couch.

Sylvia almost shrieked by the suddenness of his action but did not dare to struggle. She grabbed at his collar and asked sharply, "Where are you taking me?"

"To a mental hospital," he said with a vicious look, "Let's have them dissect your brain to see what's wrong with

you!"

The look in Sylvia's eyes became alert, she clenched his collar tightly. Just as Odell was about to carry her past the door, she asked out of nowhere, "Do you still have a thing for me?"

Odell stopped abruptly and stared darkly at her.

"You're just trying to get a feel of me, aren't you?" she asked again, this time with her reddened eyes cast off to another direction.

Odell's face darkened and he commanded sharply, "Say that while looking at me."

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Sylvia gritted her teeth and confronted his gaze. She built up the courage to say to him, "You're engaged to Miss Springsteen. You're someone's fiancé now and it's not appropriate for you to carry me like this. It would be a bad look on you if someone sees us like this, so you'd better put me down right now." He crooked one of his eyebrows. "And what if I don't?"

Sylvia chirped softly. "People will talk." Odell fell quiet.

The yard was as quiet as a cemetery. It was a cold night but there was no wind.

He stared quietly at her.

She avoided his gaze, a cautious look hung over her face.

After a while, she suddenly winced, and her entire expression became contorted in pain.

Odell became alert. "What's wrong?" Sylvia gestured at her belly and whispered, "The baby is kicking me again." It was a strong kick.

Odell frowned and looked at her bulging belly.

Perhaps the brat inside heard and understood the conversation between the two of them. He seemed to be able to feel the baby's movements. It was as if the baby

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was kicking Sylvia's stomach to protest and defend Sylvia.

The look in his eyes cooled down and he promptly let go of her.

He announced in a sharp voice, "I don't feel anything toward you now. Stop being so full of yourself or else I'll send you back to Galston."

With that, he stepped past her and walked outside.

Sylvia stood fixed to the same spot with her hands on her stomach.

She gently stroked the rowdy child through her belly and made a long sigh.

If he claimed to not feel anything toward her, then so be it. Besides, he had a fiancée, so it was only to be expected.

She said that on purpose to rile him up so he would put her down.

After a while, the baby seemed to settle down at last. She murmured, "It's okay, all Mommy wants is to have you, your brother, and your sister."

Several days passed in the blink of an eye. Sylvia had been spending her days and nights listening to Isabel and Liam through the wall.

Odell never showed up again, but she still ritually texted

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him every day to greet him even if he never replied even once.

It was Thursday.

Just like the past few days, when the two little ones came back from school in the evening, Sylvia quickly went to her usual spot and tried to listen in for anything particularly interesting.

Since it was a colder night than usual, Isabel and Liam only hung around the yard for a short while before

entering the house.

Since there was nothing to be heard over her side of the wall, Sylvia retreated into her house as well.