

## Chapter 261

Christina turned her head slightly and did not want to look at him. She did not shout anymore. She felt that she was always in such a mess in front of him.

Neither of them spoke.

Patrick glared at her fiercely, and his sharp eyes gradually became calm and gentle. Then he frowned and looked at her face thoughtfully.

Soon, a nurse came over and asked, "What happened to the patient?"

Only then did Patrick stand up. In the small and narrow ward, the incandescent light shone on him. He was tall and handsome. Then he turned to the nurse.

"Call the doctor in." He ordered as soon as he opened his mouth.

Perhaps it was because the dignity was in his blood, the nurse was afraid of him and nodded quickly. "O...OK!" She ran out quickly.

The nurse whispered to the doctor that the patient who had just arrived was not easy to serve and told him to be careful.

The handsome middle-aged doctor didn't take it seriously and just smiled gently. He looked as usual and he had a simple conversation with Patrick outside the door. After knowing about the situation, he first looked at the woman on the bed, and then went to the next door to find some medical

supplies for treatment.

Christina knew that a doctor had come in to look at her ankle injury. She was still lying on the bed, not caring about her foot injury at all. She kept staring at the pale ceiling in confusion.

The doctor applied medicine to her foot, wrapped it in bandages, and said, "The injury is not serious, but she is very weak. She needs to get three IV bottles and stay in the hospital for the night."

The doctor's voice shocked Christina. She looked at him who was standing the end of the bed. The man in the white doctor's robe was not a stranger, but Director Ann.

It was Director Ann, who called her

this morning and opened her abdomen with a scalpel that day...

"Why are you here?"

"What the hell do you want? Who do you work for? What's your purpose?"

Christina suddenly became furious and shouted hysterically at the gentle doctor, as if she was frightened and scared. She immediately propped up her upper body and wanted to get out of bed in a panic. She wanted to leave here immediately.

"What are you doing?"

Patrick's voice was cold and harsh. He was very dissatisfied with her behavior. He grabbed her shoulder angrily and pushed her back to the bed rudely.

Christina leaned back and hit the headboard with the back of her head. Her eyes were glistening with tears at the pain.

She still struggled, tried to get up, to get out of here, and to run away.

"Patrick, you don't know what I've suffered alone. You don't have the right to criticize me. You bastard, you bastard!"

She couldn't help but cry.

Director Ann, who was afraid that they would fight with each other, quickly stepped forward and advised, "Stop arguing and calm down."

Patrick's face was gloomy. He stood at

the head of the bed and pressed his big hand against her shoulders so hard that she could not break free no matter how hard she struggled.

Christina's cheeks were full of tears. She tried her best to push him away and struggled desperately. She hated this feeling. She could not escape. No matter how hard she tried, it was futile.

Being controlled by others was terrible. She was frightened and uneasy all the time.

"Patrick, don't make me hate you!" Her clear eyes looked at the man's familiar face. The tears at the corner of her eyes made her as helpless as a child.

"Don't make me hate you." She screamed, more like she was in despair.

'I didn't know what to do.'

Patrick suddenly fell silent.

His body was stiff. Looking at her like this, he felt as if his chest had been pounded heavily. It was very uncomfortable.

Director Ann glanced at the bed, then lowered his head slightly, as if he could not bear to see Christina like this, with mixed emotions in his eyes.

The ward suddenly became eerily quiet.

Finally, the footsteps faded away, then the deep, cold voice sounded, "She would stay in the hospital tonight."

## Chapter 262

"Was Patrick in the hospital last night?"

Early in the morning, the sun was pleasantly warm, there were many cars running on the road in the metropolis. People hurried to go to work. Barbara was skillfully driving the car towards the IP&G Group building.

She wore a Bluetooth headset on her right ear because her colleagues reported something to her at this time. She thought it was a business matter. But the more she heard, the darker her face became.

"You mean, Patrick stayed with Christina the whole night in the hospital?" Her tone became complicated.



"It's true. At about 1 A.M. last night, Mr. Hopkins suddenly called me to bring him a few project documents and a laptop to the hospital. At that time, I was wondering if Mr. Hopkins was ill and was hospitalized. When I saw the woman who was putting on a drip in the ward, I understood."

Barbara had always been tactful in her work, so the smart colleagues knew that she had a good relationship with the Hopkins family, so many of them volunteered to send her news, especially about Mr. Hopkins's private business.

"Barbara, you said Mr. Hopkins had forgotten Christina. What's going on now? Does Mr. Hopkins remember her?" The colleague curiously asked.

Barbara's face darkened and said, "Which hospital? Send me the address."

Then she hung up the phone and steered the car sharply at the T-junction, driving to the hospital.

Did Patrick remember her?

Barbara drove fast. Her good mood was ruined as if the sudden news caught her off guard.

"Why did Patrick go to find her?"

Yesterday was Brianna's birthday. They ate in the Hopkins family. Chandler said that Christina was missing, with no news. Charles was the first to leave. It seemed Patrick didn't

She jammed on the brakes, the white Bentley stopped outside the hospital.

Wearing in a black exquisite suit, Barbara brushed her messy long curly hair, got out of the car, straightened her back, and walked quickly on high heels to the ward, as if she were an elite.

But she didn't find anyone in that ward.

Standing outside the ward, she called Patrick. But it was a busy tone. She hung up angrily. She thought for a moment and dialed another number.

This time, the call went through quickly. Barbara immediately changed a feigned relaxed tone and greeted, "Christina, I heard that you were sick

and hospitalized. Where are you now?"

"Miss Parker, we hardly know each other."

Christina was surprised to receive her call. Her voice was a little hoarse and cold and she wasn't willing to be polite to her.

Barbara heard her nasal voice was thick, guessing that she might be sick.

"Miss Dickens, we all know that you haven't been feeling well recently. Take care of yourself." This time, Barbara called her "Miss Dickens" directly.

She said these with a weird tone. Christina seemed to be tired and didn't want to talk to her. She reached out to end up the call.

"Miss Dickens, there's one thing I need to tell you. Patrick can't stay up late after his operation. The doctor has exhorted him repeatedly."

Barbara was shrewd enough to guess what she would do. So she took the lead in reminding her in a low voice, which was more like sarcasm.

"Don't think you're pitiful so all of us should sympathize with you. Think for Patrick, he also needs to be taken care of. You can't take care of him, but don't hurt him."

Holding the phone, Christina listened to her quietly as usual.

As a senior personnel officer of the group, Barbara was good at reasoning

literally and even made her feel ashamed, but that only happened in the past.

"Barbara, stop playing tricks in front of me. If you want Patrick, go ahead. I don't care about the man you can snap. But I don't think you can."

Christina's voice came from the phone, gentle. Hearing this, Barbara's face darkened instantly.

"If Patrick had forgotten me, would he look at you? You lied to him that you were Derek's girlfriend. He found out but he let it go. Do you think it was because he indulged you or he didn't care?"

Barbara clutched her phone angrily. She had never known that Christina,

the spoiled and willful lady, was so sharp-tongued. The last sentence, "he indulged you or he didn't care" really pissed her off.

"Christina, no matter what happened in the past, your only support is gone. Patrick doesn't need you. I can help him in his enterprise, accompany him, and wait for him. I love him more than you do!"

She had been waiting for love for so long. She didn't think Christina could compare with her. How could this woman get his love? Wasn't it because of the babies? Now that the babies were gone, he would know what she had done for him.

For the first time, Christina heard her confess in such a loud voice. Her rival

was shouting at her, but she suddenly fell silent.

Barbara was from the same world as him. She would do anything to get close to Patrick and wait for him.

"Barbara, do you know what he wants?"

Suddenly, she said in a low voice. Christina was calm. After saying that, she hung up the phone.

Standing outside the ward, Barbara held her phone in a daze.

She thought that Christina would definitely get angry, but she was calm. What had happened to her? Or did she underestimate her in the past?



"Miss Parker, the person you're looking for has been discharged."

A young nurse came to say to her. Then she came back to her senses.

Barbara quickly smiled as usual. "Excuse me, when did the man leave? Did they leave together, or the woman left alone?"

Hearing her question, the nurse complained immediately.

"You are the patient's friend, aren't you? That woman was troublesome, keeping demanding to leave the hospital. In the end, the man was sitting on the chair beside the bed, guarding. So she stopped making a scene. It wasn't until 5 a.m. that the man left. The woman pulled out the

needle and ran away. When Director Ann prepped for rounds, she has gone."

Barbara did not speak. Her smile was stilted.

She wasn't Christina's friend. She knew her well. This woman had kept declining Patrick with no hesitation. However, Patrick, even if he had forgotten her, would indulge her subconsciously.

## Chapter 263

Knowing that Patrick had left the hospital, Barbara was not in the mood to stay.

She had just had a phone call with Christina, which irritated her even more.

Presumably, it was still early, so the hospital lobby was not crowded at all. It appeared quite desolate with its broad space. Barbara trudged with her ten-centimeter black high heels on the marble floor, making a series of sharp and clear sounds...

However, just as she was about to walk out of the large glass door of the hospital, a familiar figure on the left suddenly caught her attention.

Barbara halted, frowning and inspecting the corridor on the left.

Derek?

Why was he here?

She thought for two seconds and skittered to follow him.

The far left corridor in the lobby of the hospital was connected to the pediatrics clinic, which was usually the busiest place. Even now, many parents came over with their children for injections. Several nurses hurried past with medical supplies in their hands, and the cleaners also bustled in cleaning up with trash cans.

Barbara looked around hurriedly. Did

she get confused with someone else just now?

"Hand it over!" A brisk voice came from the back door of the pediatrics department.

The voice was not loud, but audibly conveying a hint of anger. Barbara didn't expect that it was him.

Barbara passed through the parents holding their children and arrived at the back door of the department. Then she saw Derek grabbing the collar of a doctor with his left hand, forcing him back against the wall.

At the back door of the pediatrics department, there was an open space with a cement floor. Apart from the hospital staff, there were very few

passers-by, and even the dirty walls were covered with moss.

Barbara was surprised, for it was the first time she had seen Derek in such agitation.

"Hand it over." He seemed to be truly in a rage, repeating in a deep voice. He clenched his right fist and was about to teach the weak doctor a lesson the next second.

"... I really don't know what you're talking about." The doctor explained nervously.

Derek's fair and handsome face was now even more vicious. As soon as the doctor finished speaking, his right fist had already hit the doctor's jaw, causing the doctor to curl up in pain.

The doctor dodged in fear and wanted to shout, but Derek strode forward and covered his mouth with his right palm at an extremely fast speed. His left hand had already grabbed his neck and kept tightening its strength.

Barbara was frightened. She looked at the doctor in the white robe with a name card saying 'Steven' on his chest as his face was writhing in suffocating agony.

She didn't know what kind of old grudge Derek had borne towards this doctor, but she knew that Derek had always been left-handed. He appeared to be fair and slender, but his strength was amazing. She also heard that he had practiced martial arts for a few years for a woman.

The doctor would die at this rate...

Barbara had been in the workplace for many years, and she felt that it was time to shout for attention.

As she was about to yell, five tough-looking men rushed over from the other side, one of them turning out to be Larry, who had a fat head and a big belly. He cursed in a rough voice, "Don't kill him. We still have many things to grill from him. Don't kill him."

Derek's expression was awful. He threw the doctor away into the corner the way he would with garbage.

Steven's face was pale in lack of air. He couldn't even stand still in dizziness and hit his head on the wall so hard



that he bled. Finally, he gasped for air and had no strength to move anymore.

Larry and the others took their actions very fast. In less than a minute, they teamed up to tape Steven's mouth, carried him into a white Volkswagen van, slammed the door, and disappeared.

Barbara froze. Although she could claim herself to have experienced a lot, fighting her way to be an executive in the IP&G group, such a situation indeed left her gobsmacked in shock.

"What exactly do Derek and Larry want to do?"

In just half a year after Derek returned to the country, he toppled the Fisher family and made Larry open more than

20 companies at the same time to form a huge group behind the scenes. He had keen insight into the trends of the financial market and hunted down listed companies one after another to annex them, causing the stock market to be in turmoil, either skyrocketing continuously or crashing overnight.

He was like a rare fox with snow-white fur all over its body, amazingly gorgeous, but often leaving people oblivious of how dangerous his nature was.

"How could this doctor offend him?"

With Barbara's understanding of him, Derek had always been indifferent towards people and things, so it was almost impossible for him to be so furious.

Looking in the direction where the white van disappeared, she became even more suspicious.

She looked around vigilantly to make sure that no one was around, and after checking that there was no surveillance, she feel relieved and walked straight to the place where the doctor had been beaten up just now.

She squatted down and found a small black plastic USB flash drive hidden in a crack within the muddy and mossy wall.

She could see clearly that when the doctor knocked his head against the wall, his right hand took the opportunity to stuff the small black USB into the muddy chink.

Coincidentally, Derek did not pay attention to him in his wrath, and Larry and the others did not observe him so carefully.

"Is that what Derek is looking for?"

Barbara picked up the small black USB drive and immediately felt that it was not a simple matter.

She quickly regained her usual demeanor, clutched the USB drive in her palm, and left as if she were an ordinary passer-by.

Once out of the hospital gate, she sat directly in the car.

Originally, she was going back to work, so her laptop was also in the car. She looked down at the black USB drive in

her palm and hesitated for half a second, then she decided to open it now to see what was in it.

The USB drive was connected to the port of the laptop and it was reading data.

It first occurred to Barbara that it probably contained some of Derek's business secrets. Otherwise, how could he be so anxious?

However, the next second, she looked at the computer screen and saw that there was no file data on the USB drive, only a video.

That was strange.

She got even more dubious. She put the computer on her lap, stared at the

screen, and tapped the mouse to open the video file.

The picture in the video showed an enclosed and cold space.

It was a picture of an operating room, where several doctors and nurses walked around, all looking strange.

When the camera turned to the woman on the operating table, Barbara recognized at a glance that the woman with a big belly was Christina.

"This is..." She looked at the video in disbelief.

She had investigated before that Christina's babies died in the womb because of a car accident, and since it was urgent, the hospital said there was

no video of the operation.

Then what was this video...

Barbara became tense, and at this moment, a woman's gloomy voice came out of the video.

"She's been anesthetized and confirmed unconscious. Director Ann, you can do it now."

"After the baby is dissected, take them away immediately. The morgue has prepared the dead bodies of twins. After that, I will coax the family members to cremate the dead babies as soon as possible. The people above said that for the safety of your family, it is best for you to shut up. No one else should know about this..."

Barbara's mind went blank.

Looking at the video that had been played, she muttered uneasily, "The children are not dead."



## Chapter 264

Bang, bang, bang —

All of a sudden, someone was pounding on the car window outside, and Barbara's face turned pale in fear.

She then hurriedly turned off her laptop, pulled out the USB flash drive with her right hand, and held it tightly in her palm. After then, she turned her head to look out of the car window.

"Miss, you can't just stop your car at the entrance of the hospital."

It was the hospital security guard who yelled at her. Originally, he wanted to scold her for parking disorderly, but when he saw that the driver was a frightened-looking woman, he

softened his voice.

"There's a parking space in the hospital. You can go around on the left and find it. Don't block the entrance of the hospital."

She forced out a smile and replied in a low voice, "Thank you."

After the security guard left, she was relieved. But looking at the small black USB drive in her hand, she still remained tense.

"The child is not dead."

The woman in the video said that she couldn't let anyone else know about it, especially the Hopkins family. And she didn't want to ask for trouble.

Anyway, Christina had nothing to do with the Hopkins family anymore. Barbara could never let her come back to the Hopkins family again.

What should she do with this USB drive?

Who was this doctor named Steven working for?

Suddenly, she thought of something else, and her breathing became quicker and more uneven. She immediately pulled out a few tissues from the cardboard box and wiped then the USB drive hard several times until she was sure that there were no fingerprints left.

And what should she do about Derek?

She could turn a blind eye to this strange c-section or ignore the doctor Steven, but Derek, she couldn't take him lightly.

Once Derek knew this U disk was missing, he would try his best to take it back.

At this time, Barbara drove the car to the side and strode into the hospital again. And her steps were both hurried and flurried.

When she reached the back door of the pediatrics department, she immediately put the USB drive back to its original position while there was no one around.

It was as if no one had touched it.

She then turned around and left, reminding herself that she must forget what happened today.

And she would never tell anyone that Patrick was the father of those two children!

If anyone else knew about this video, it would definitely cause a huge sensation. As she walked out with quick steps, she tried hard to suppress the uneasiness.

Until she got into the car again, she took a deep breathe, and left as fast as she could.

"Why is Barbara driving so fast in the city?"

Coincidentally, Charles was driving to

the hospital, just passing her car.

All the time, he indulged himself in pleasure-seeking and didn't achieve much even at this age. But he did have good eyesight. "Barbara looks strange. What happened to her?"

Yet the man in the back seat ignored him.

Charles was used to it. Now Patrick no longer treated him like brothers. In Patrick's eyes, Charles was no more than a stranger. Thinking of this, Charles laughed at himself in the heart.

It was not until he expressionlessly parked the car in the hospital parking space that he said, "Is Christina really in this hospital?"

The man in the back seat walked out, still ignoring him. He strode straight to the emergency room ward last night, and Charles followed up.

Yet Charles couldn't figure out that since Patrick had forgotten Christina, then why he was still looking for her.

"The patient left the hospital without noticing us."

However, when Charles wanted to scold Christina fiercely once he saw him, he heard the nurse say helplessly that Christina had run away.

"Didn't you say she wasn't recovered yet? Why would she leave?" His face darkened and he scolded angrily.

The nurse felt wronged being yelled at

by him. But only he knew that he was actually mad at Christina instead of the nurse.

Hearing her words, Patrick didn't say anything, but looked very surly.

"By the way, just now... a lady was looking for you."

When the nurse saw that they were not ordinary men, she did not dare to neglect them. She then dutifully told Patrick that. After she had told them everything, she immediately left.

"Barbara is quite well-informed. She knew that Christina was hospitalized before I did." Charles was in a bad mood and said wryly.

"At the speed she was driving just now,



she would get penalty notice." It was strange that Barbara, who had always been calm and self-controlled, was driving like crazy.

Soon they left the hospital. They didn't bother to speculate what happened to Barbara and her purpose of coming to this hospital.

"Where the hell have you been last night?"

"Did you meet someone?"

At this moment, at the door of Crystal's small apartment, she was looking from head to toe at the woman in front and asking, "Why would you sprain your ankle?"

And Christina stood outside the door,

being questioned by Crystal with anger.

Finally, she said in a hoarse voice, "I'm hungry."

When Crystal heard that, she was furious!

What the heck! They had been worried about her all day! Now that she was back in a mess, but she turned a deaf ear to all Crystal's questions. She was acting as if nothing happened! How she dared to say she was hungry!

Crystal was very angry and said in an acerbic tone, "Christina, I'm not Patrick Hopkins. This trick of yours is useless to me. Hurry up and confess to me. Otherwise, you can't enter my house!"

"I'm going to pack my things and move out."

It was obvious that Christina did not feel her anger. And Christina was about to leave.

Hearing that, Crystal immediately felt ashamed. "You really want to move out?"

"Is it because of what my mom said? Just ignore her. She always speaks out without thinking. But she didn't mean that. This apartment is mine. I can decide..."

"I want to rent a house and start over."  
Her words were flat but determined.

Crystal struggled a while, then dragged her into the house. She knew Christina

had made up her mind.

"You left so suddenly yesterday and your phone was turned off again! Do you know how much we were worried about you? We're afraid that you might..."

At this moment, Crystal was no longer angry. To put it bluntly, she was just worried.

"What do you mean just now? You have me, Aunt Garner, and Derek. We can take care of you. Why do you want to move out? What are you thinking?"

Although she was berating Christina, she still rushed into the kitchen and took out the milk and bread that were heated by the microwave. She then put them on the table very hard and asked

Christina to eat them immediately.

And Christina seemed to have suddenly become obedient. She didn't refute, only eating quietly.

Crystal couldn't bear to see her like this. "Hey, do you really want to rent a house and move out?"

As Christina drank the milk, she nodded.

Crystal then glared at her. "You went out for a night. And you come back with a foot injury, and you also caught a cold. How can I trust you can look after yourself?"

Christina knew Crystal was just concerned about her. And she was moved.

She then put down the glass, lowered her head, and muttered to herself, "If I can't survive, I'll let Derek hypnotize me. By then, I can forget everything here." And she could also forget Patrick.