

After 12 am, it was the first day of the lunar new year. According to the tradition of the Hopkins family, Old Master Hopkins handed them a large stack of red envelopes. Of course, the twin babies had the largest red envelopes, and Patrick received two red envelopes from his grandfather this year.

One of them was for Christina.

Patrick didn't sleep much last night. Someone in the distance set off fireworks privately. The fireworks were blooming in the night sky, which was beautiful and bright. He stood in front of the french window and looked at them all night.

After the day he carried the children to the apartment to see Christina, she then went back to C City, and he did not contact her either.

However, he clearly wanted to see her.

Patrick was not sure whether it was because of his male pride or not. When facing Christina, he was quite different from his normal style. In the past, if he wanted something, he would only care about the result.

However, this time, he had a lot of concerns and was afraid of being rejected.

Perhaps he was afraid of failure, just like he originally hid the children from her.

He was used to winning. He didn't know how to maintain a good relationship. Although he went pretty smooth in the past, he would always meet troubles when dealing with things related to her.

He was a little annoyed holding a big red envelope in the spacious luxury master bedroom in the Eastern Garden.

When Nanny Fang knocked on the door and called out to him, Patrick came back to his senses. He curled his lips a little bit, laughing at himself.

"Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Stephenson are here."

She told him excitedly as soon as she saw him open the door.

Patrick was surprised. "Charles and Chandler?"

"Yes, Mr. Stephenson comes with his wife. She's Mrs. Hopkins' good friend..."

Crystal was here too.

"Didn't grandpa say he wouldn't receive any visitors?"

Nanny Fang smiled. "Old Master Hopkins received a congratulatory call from Mr. Shepherd early in the morning. They chatted happily and Old Master Hopkins asked them to come over." Mr. Shepherd was really likable and

especially good at making people happy.

Charles had a cold war with Patrick a while ago. He must have other purposes to come to pay a new year call on the first day of the lunar new year.

"Grandpa, can we go and see the babies?"

Charles was drinking tea in the living room. Finally, he couldn't help but ask the old man a little fawningly.

Old Master Hopkins refused, "The children are still sleeping. They are too young now and need enough sleep."

Crystal was also anxious and suggested with a low voice, "Grandpa, we would not say a word in the nursery. Can we just take a look quietly?"

Old Master Hopkins deliberately scolded her. "Can you promise to only take one look? What If you stay there after taking two looks?"

Crystal was so nervous that she swore not to talk nonsense.

Why was it so difficult to communicate with Old Master Hopkins?

Crystal was born with a soft voice, which was the type of granddaughter-in-law that Old Master Hopkins was most satisfied with. In fact, the reason that the Hopkins family adopted Brianna was that she was obedient and quiet, and Old Master Hopkins even planned to let Brianna marry Patrick when she grew up.

His grandson probably didn't like women who were too obedient, but the elders liked girls like Crystal, as they were simple and quiet, and at least they would not cause a lot of trouble.

"Grandpa, I wish you a happy new year and good health."

Geoffrey also came with his parents. He was 6 years old and wore a custom-made blue suit. He was very elegant and handsome.

"Good boy."

Old Master Hopkins touched his little head and immediately called the butler to get the red envelope. The old man's favorite thing was to send the red envelope to the children.

Geoffrey simply sat next to the old man, raised his head, and asked him curiously, "Grandpa, are my brothers cute?"

"Of course they are cute."

The old man looked very proud.

"How old are my brothers?" Geoffrey looked at him with childish curiosity.

The old man suddenly became excited. "They're almost four months old. When they grow up and learn to walk, you can play with them."

At this point, Old Master Hopkins was angry. It was all because of Patrick that he could not hold the full moon banquet and the centenary banquet for his little great-grandsons.

Geoffrey held the old man's big, thick palm with his small, white hands and said to him with a very innocent expression, "Grandpa, shall we go and see my brothers together?"

"I'll take you to see them, but you can't make noises, okay?"

Old Master Hopkins agreed without thinking. They walked excitedly to the nursery, leaving Charles and the others looking at each other in dismay.

"Chandler, your son is really cunning." Charles was a little jealous.

He even used the words "go together and have a look". He was this scheming at such a young age, and it could be imagined what he would become when he grew up.

Crystal also complained. "This old man is too stingy. He won't lose anything letting us take a look."

Chandler had already seen the babies before, so he was very relaxed at this moment. He continued to make tea happily and did not forget to tease, "Since Patrick stole the babies out last time, grandpa must have been more strict keeping the babies now. You just wait to see the short video that Geoffrey secretly took."

Charles had given up. When Patrick arrived in the living room, he heard them complaining.

Charles suspected that Patrick was guilty or he just wanted to do something good on the first day of the new year. Patrick unexpectedly agreed to take them to see the twins.

In an instant, Charles and Crystal forgot all the things they hated about Patrick, "Really?"

"They'll wake up soon."

"If you want to hug them, you have to be quick." Patrick's voice was flat, but it seemed that he was planning some conspiracies.

"Can I really hug them?"

Crystal was so excited that her eyes were filled with gratitude. Chandler felt his newlywed wife so naive as she was scolding Patrick hard last night.

Patrick took Charles and the others to the door of the nursery, and then he walked in without batting an eyelid. Of course, Old Master Hopkins did not give him a good look. The children were sleeping soundly, and no one dared to make a sound.

Patrick walked straight to the side of the bed, reached out, and quickly and accurately snatched the empty bottle from the baby. Then, the blue-eyed baby opened his eyes very immediately. Patrick even shook the empty bottle in front of the baby. The baby was stunned for a moment, and the next second, he cried loudly.

The baby was wronged.

The other baby soon woke up and began to cry.

For a moment, the nursery was filled with the cries of children.

"Patrick!" Old Master Hopkins scolded angrily.

Crystal seized the opportunity and rushed in to pick up the child on the small bed. She petted the baby, "Oh lovely baby, don't cry..."

Crystal was extremely satisfied hugging the soft little guy.

She really wanted to steal it directly for Christina.

However, this was just an idea. With Old Master Hopkins around, it was impossible to take the babies out. In a few seconds, they were all kicked out of the nursery.

Before they left in a hurry, Chandler kindly suggested, "Patrick, if you're okay, log in to WhatsApp. We often send short videos on it..."

Then, they left.

In fact, he wanted to ask, how was Christina now?

She had reconciled with the Dickens family. She should be very happy this new year...

And he received the message from Lucy that Derek had returned home.



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## 1 Comment >



Lee Nguyen

2022/02/04

This book is interesting book but it is quite expensive to read as I have spent \$118 NZ last time I have top up \$49.99 on chapter 300 & now I'm on chapter 369 & I have ran out of coins

The Dickens family had a custom. On the first day of the lunar new year, the whole family must get up early and have the lotus seed sweet soup in the dining room.

However, Christina was not up yet.

Mrs. Dickens was not so particular and decided not to wake her up. The light in Christina's room had been on last night, so she probably hadn't fallen asleep all night.

Betty helped Donald to the table. Donald had suffered from a cerebral hemorrhage and hemiplegia before. After treatment and rehabilitation, he could walk slowly with a cane instead of sitting in a wheelchair, although his left hand and feet couldn't move freely yet.

The three of them sat around the table. Betty spooned three bowls of lotus seed sweet soup, but they all had no appetite.

"We shouldn't have refused Old Master Hopkins' invitation of visiting his family..." Mrs. Dickens put down the spoon and suddenly sighed.

"Those two children are also our relatives. I really want to see them. I've been thinking about them for the past few days..."

Mrs. Dickens was depressed and had no appetite, muttering to herself.

"Betty, what about aggressively urging the Hopkins family to let us raise a child?"

Betty had been in a daze for several days after knowing that the children were still alive. She had been guilty of killing the kids and was eager to have a look at them.

Betty was also distressed. "How could the Hopkins family allow us to do so?"

Mrs. Dickens was reluctant. "Anyway, they have the twins. The Hopkins family has the only grandson Patrick, and we only have Christina as well. They lack children, and so do we. Who doesn't want the house to be noisy? Why do the Hopkins family possess two children?"

A week before the new year, Christina returned from A City. After entering the house, she told them calmly, "The kids are alive. They are in the Hopkins family now. "

The news came as a shock.

They wanted to ask more, but they were afraid to mention the children in front of Christina.

"How could the Hopkins family do so? It can never be tolerated! How could they put the children at risk. They really don't care about us. If Christina lives with the Hopkins family, she will be bullied to death!" Mrs. Dickens was more excited.

"Mom, don't mention the word 'death' on the first day of the lunar new year."

Donald, who had been silent, suddenly spoke calmly. Then his right hand took out his phone from his coat pocket and put it on the table. He tapped the screen and opened WhatsApp after a while...

Next, he played a short video.

Mrs. Dickens wasn't interested in the video at first, but she suddenly heard a baby crying.

Betty's expression changed and she quickly got closer to have a look.

Mrs. Dickens' and Betty's eyes fixed on the twin in the short video which lasted only 9 seconds. The two babies cried hard in their small bed with big eyes open wide.

Betty clicked the screen to repeatedly play the video. She was in a daze, not knowing what to say for a moment. Gradually, tears welled up in her eyes.

"They are so handsome and energetic."

Mrs. Dickens said happily, with her eyes fixed on the screen and her eyebrows curved. It had been a long time since Mrs. Dickens was so happy.

"Donald, you've done a good job. We've been taking care of you all day. Where did you get the video? Why don't you tell us!"

Betty turned around and looked at the expressionless man with some annoyance, complaining.

"Donald, you know that Betty and I are extremely worried, and we don't dare to ask Christina. You should have told us about it earlier." Mrs. Dickens agreed that her son was excessive.

Donald was innocent. He was seriously ill and taken good care of by his family. Suddenly, the news that his twin grandchildren were alive came. It made his status in the family lower than the babies they had never seen before. Last time, he had resolutely refused the Hopkins family's invitation. The Dickens family looked calm, but in fact, they were frustrated.

He had just hidden some information about the children and he finally became a public enemy.

"Mom, I just noticed this short video on WhatsApp."

"What is WhatsApp?"

Mrs. Dickens snatched the phone to figure it out.

"Charles and the others went to the Hopkins family this morning and shot this short video..."

Mrs. Dickens didn't understand what exactly WhatsApp was. She just cared about the twins.

"See if there are other photos. Why did Charles only shoot the video when the babies were crying? They must be cute when sleeping. Find more videos..."

Christina woke up in a daze. She went downstairs and saw her grandmother and father using their phones with a serious look. It seemed that they didn't eat the sweet soup.

"What are you doing?"

Hearing Christina's words, Mrs. Dickens and the others panicked as if they were thieves who were discovered.

Christina realized that something was strange. They had been in a low spirit for the past few days, even at the new year. However, they were so excited early this morning.

"Actually, it's... We're studying how to play with the social apps that your young people use." Mrs. Dickens felt guilty and stammered.

Christina examined them doubtfully. Betty looked hesitant, but Donald suddenly said sternly, "Enjoy your lotus seed sweet soup."

The new year was nothing special for the Dickens family. Without spending much money, they simply hung several big red lanterns in the yard and decorated the glass walls with paper cuts.

"Grandma, wish you good health."

Christina had bought a jade pendant for Mrs. Dickens when she went out with Betty for special purchases for the new year.

Although it was not a top-grade jade, everyone was happy to receive a gift for the new year.

Christina also had bought a set of fashionable clothes for her aunt Betty. It was a rose-red short suit and skirt. Betty usually wore plain clothes. The rose-red clothes would make her look better and younger.

"Christina is more and more likeable. I'm so happy to receive your gift." Mrs. Dickens liked the jadeite very much. In fact, their family normally didn't exchange gifts.

Christina had been improved a lot. She had been more tender, and she finally put grudges down and cherished her life.

But she wasn't meticulous enough. She chose and bought gifts, just to divert her attention.

Finally, Christina handed Donald a dark gray deerstalker hat.

Donald held it in his hand. Although he looked stern, he was actually touched. In the past, they had a poor relationship. It was unexpected that after these affairs were exposed, Christina was willing to stay with them.

"Dad, may your bald head regrow hair quickly." Christina looked at her father seriously.

Donald's eyes widened in a rage and he was no more moved.

Mrs. Dickens and Betty turned back at the same time, looked at Donald's bald head because of the operation, and then burst into laughter.

Although Christina had a load on her mind, she had a good time at the beginning of the year.

The next day, Larry unexpectedly visited the Dickens family with a fruit basket and gifts.

Christina was surprised when seeing him.

"Are you Derek's uncle?" Betty asked with a smile.



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## Chapter 370

"Is this Derek's uncle?"

Larry came to the Dickens family for the first time. Standing outside the door, he had hesitated for half an hour before he came in. Especially when he saw Betty go out to greet him, his face suddenly turned red.

"These are for you... Happy New Year."

Larry, an old man, suddenly became embarrassed. After saying something quickly, he stuffed the gifts in his hands into Betty.

Then Betty warmly welcomed him into the room.

"I have something to do. I'm here today to ask Christina something."

He said to Betty nervously with a red face, and quickly pulled Christina out of the door.

"Do you like my auntie?" After being pulled out of the door, Christina asked him.

Looking nervous, he didn't admit it. He shouted, "No, don't talk nonsense!"

"I came here today to ask you if Derek has been looking for you recently."

"No."

She noticed that Larry looked serious. He muttered to himself, "It's impossible. He really got off the plane..."

Larry seemed to be really busy. He typed his phone numbers into her phone, "If Derek contacts you, inform me immediately." With that, he turned around and left in a hurry.

"What's wrong with him?"

She shouted at his back.

He quickly got into the car and started the engine, a little annoyed and impatient, "Damn it, how could a living person vanish into the air..."

Standing at the door, she watched Larry's car sped away. She could not hear what he was muttering at the end. But he looked as if something had happened.

"Is it that silly boy from the Fisher family?"

As soon as she entered the door, Mrs. Dickens was talking to Betty about Derek, "That boy was so handsome. At that time, Christina's grandfather said that he wanted to give them engagements. But everyone said that he had a high fever and his brain was not all right. There would be something wrong with his IQ..."

"Grandma, he is very smart. He just doesn't like to talk."

Christina walked in and retorted casually.

Betty smiled, "Ever since you were a child, every time someone said that Derek's brain was not all right, you must be angry. Because of this, you fought with others a lot when you were young."

"Those people deserve a beating."

Christina recalled her glorious past expressionlessly and asked Betty anxiously, "Auntie, has Derek contacted you?"

Betty shook her head, "Derek? I haven't seen him for a long time. Last time your father was hospitalized, I was going to ask him for help, but his phone was turned off!"

Taking out her phone, Christina was looking through the contacts in her address book. Then she called Derek, but his phone was still turned off.

Seeing her frown, Betty said with concern, "Derek's uncle came over just now. Did something happen to him?"

"Derek is a poor child. Back then, his mother was simply deceived by a man from the Fisher family. She gave birth to him. As an illegitimate child, he was bullied in the Fisher family after siring bond. He had no family around him..."

Betty had always liked Derek and had been helped by him several times. She made a suggestion, "Christina, you could ask Charles to see if there is any news. That Derek's uncle just now looked very anxious."

"I see."

Taking the phone, Christina swiped her fingers across the screen. She happened to see Charles actively sending voice messages in the group of WhatsApp.

Mr. Shepherd: "Chandler, according to the rules of my family, you married people have the obligation to give me such a single man a big red packet. Give me two big packets with your wife, or it will be unlucky!"

Mr. Shepherd: "From now on, it's agreed. I'll give you a red packet first and you grab it at random. Those who get the most money will continue to send another packet."

Charles, who had been idling around all day, built a small group and pulled in a few familiar friends. They were having a good time.

Invincible Tina: "Does anyone have Derek's news?"

Christina suddenly sent a message. Then several people in the group immediately became excited.

Mr. Shepherd: "Christina, is this you?"

Charles questioned. According to the rumor, Christina had a showdown with Patrick, and in the end, she left A City heartbroken, so they didn't dare to disturb her during the New Year.

Invincible Tina: "I'm asking if you have any news about Derek. Has he been in trouble recently?"

There was a minute of silence in the group.

As always, the rather imposing tone was Miss Dickens' style.

Who was the fool who said that Christina was heartbroken and sad... It was bullshit.

A man named John immediately responded, "Are you looking for Derek from the Fisher family in F City?"

"Sister-in-law, I happened to meet him at A City international airport on New Year's Eve. At about 4 pm, he just got off the plane and didn't bring any luggage. He was alone."

John was in the financial business, so he was familiar with Derek's name. The last big earthquake in the domestic stock market was caused by Derek. It was because of this that John looked at Derek a few more times that day. If this able person planned to make a great event, his assets would shrink again.

The companies that were hunted by Derek were all in trouble.

"Sister-in-law, don't worry. If I have any news here, I will inform you immediately."

Christina was the darling of Patrick. They all responded in a servile manner, but no one had heard from Derek recently.

In the end, Chandler sent her a private message, "Patrick must know what you want to know."

Looking at her phone, she was silent for a while.

Seeing that she was in the mood to play with WhatsApp, Charles became excited and sent her private messages without a break, "Why are you looking for Derek?"

"You don't have to worry about him. He is more ruthless than Patrick."

"Did you see the short video about twins I sent to you yesterday? Yesterday, on the first day of the new year, we took it secretly in Hopkins family, risking our lives."

Christina thought he was too annoying, then she quitted the group.

Charles knew that she was in a bad mood and sent her a message, "Christina, you don't miss your sons at all?"

Being touched, she was annoyed and threw her phone on the counter.

Betty asked her with concern, "What's wrong?"

"Nothing."

Christina dealt with it casually, "There shouldn't be anything wrong with him. He's been living alone. Don't worry about him."

After dinner, Christina went back to her room.

Looking at the familiar numbers on her phone, she hesitated for a long time.

Chandler was right. The best way to inquire about Derek was to ask Patrick for help.

Finally, she called Patrick.

But the phone kept ringing, and no one answered it until it hung up automatically.

When Christina heard the beep, she couldn't help but sigh.

If the call was connected, she didn't know what to say to Patrick. His voice made her embarrassed and flustered.

"Derek should be fine."

Throwing her phone on the bed, she went into the bathroom to soak in the bath.

At this time, in the Hopkins family, Patrick came back from the nursery after playing with his sons. He picked up the phone in the bedroom that was charging. There was a trace of surprise on his cold face.

Christina called him before.



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Ever since the last time Hopkins family invited the Dickens family as a guest and got rejected, Old Master Hopkins had been deeply concerned at heart.

The Dickens family was not happy to come, but during the new year's days, others lingered outside the gate of the Hopkins family and kept calling to wish a happy New Year.

In particular, Old Master Hopkins's daughters were not easy to deal with. Patrick's aunts were united as never before. They lived with their families in the house of the Hopkins family for three days and were reluctant to leave.

"You all have nothing else to do? Are you all eating and drinking here for free?"

Old Master Hopkins snorted coldly. He had always spoken without mercy to anyone, and even his daughters were no exception.

"Dad, it's the new year vacation. We four sisters finally put down our work. Fourth sister and I have been abroad for a long time. We miss you so much, so we made a special trip to come over."

The third miss of the Hopkins family looked like the deceased Mrs. Hopkins the most, so she had always been the most delicate and spoiled.

"Our house is so big, and the villas in Northern Garden and Western Garden are always empty. It will be lively only when there are more people. Fourth and I have nothing to do anyway and are planning to stay with you..."

Old Master Hopkins lost his patience and shouted with a darkened face, "Don't tell me so much. After lunch, all of you go home. Don't disturb my peace. Do you hear me?"

In the spacious hall, several delicate misses of the Hopkins family looked at each other with different thoughts. Knowing their father's temper, they did not dare to speak again.

It was a big lunch. Judy and Brianna accompanied the guests to dinner. The long table was full. The Old Master Hopkins was on the seat of honour, but Patrick did not appear.

When Third Miss Hopkins saw the empty seat at the dining table, she was furious, "We're all leaving. Patrick even didn't show up... Perhaps he thinks that we don't deserve to eat with him."

"It's not easy for Patrick to take care of so many businesses in the group. He's been having trouble with his wife lately, so he must be in a bad mood." Fourth Miss Hopkins tried to smooth things over, but what she said sounded a little sardonic.

Third Miss Hopkins was even angrier. "IP&G group has a huge business. If Patrick can't handle it, our family will definitely be willing to help. We are all Hopkins..."

Third Miss Hopkins married into a rich and powerful family in Australia, but later the business failed out of poor management, and she had been relying on Hopkin family's subsidies.

"Dad, we are your daughters..."

Third Miss Hopkins was very bitter. It was fine to say that Patrick was the only male grandson who was blessed by nature. What was this Brianna Hopkins? She was just a bastard who was brought back from the orphanage.

"What's the use of a biological daughter? Can you let me have a good day?" Old Master Hopkins was furious and scolded.

"Besides, I make it clear to you here today. Don't interfere in Patrick's affairs. If you don't have the ability, don't make waves all day. If you get into any trouble and that rascal doesn't help you, don't blame me. I'm old, and I can't cover it for you!"

Laurie and the other daughters all knew that although their father scolded Patrick and called him a rascal all day long, he loved him the most. Knowing that they couldn't get any benefit from making their father angry, they all had their meals quietly and wisely.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the delicate Hopkins ladies finally left.

Patrick happened to come out of the Eastern Garden and saw his aunts being chased away indignantly in the courtyard path from afar. Third Miss Hopkins even deliberately glared at him fiercely.

Patrick had no emotion on his face. He looked at the gate of the Hopkins family from afar with a cold and aloof attitude, but he was thinking about something else.

The butler passed by. He saw the scene just now and said kindly, "Third Miss' husband seemed to have lost a lot of money in investment at the end of last year. Her upset is normal."

Patrick would never take his aunts seriously, who kept trying to make trouble. But facing the troubles, Young Master Hopkins was never kind.

"I used to think innocently that all women were as greedy as them."

Patrick suddenly replied, and the old butler was bemused and did not understand.

Patrick walked straight to the garage, and the butler followed him hurriedly. "Young Master Hopkins, are you going out?"

It was the fifth day of the new year. The group was not back to work yet. During the vacation, many friends invited him to parties but he declined. He had been bored at home for almost half a month.

Patrick didn't say where to go, didn't call the driver, and drove silently all the way to the airport.

He parked the car outside the airport and went straight to the plane.

"Young Master Hopkins seems to have gone to the Dickens family in C City." The butler ran excitedly to report to

Old Master Hopkins.

Old Master Hopkins was enjoying his tea. A few days ago, he was annoyed by his daughters and was in a bad mood. It was uneasy for him to calm down. Hearing the news, he felt a little surprised,

"He finally couldn't bear it and went to find her himself....."



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## Chapter 372

At 6:00 pm, the sun had set, and the sky was overcast.

A tall man with a handsome face had been standing under the tree for half an hour. He seemed to hesitate, looking at the independent villa opposite the Dickens family.

At this moment, a woman's back suddenly appeared at the gate of the Dickens family.

Patrick paused for a moment, but soon he realized that it was not the person he was looking for.

At this moment, Betty also felt the strange look from the big tree. She turned around and was immediately surprised.

In a custom-made expensive black suit, Patrick stood under the century-old tree in an outstanding posture. The dim light in the dusk set his facial features and temperament off to advantage.

Betty thought it was an illusion.

Patrick strode towards the door of the Dickens family with a cold face.

Perhaps because Patrick's visit was too sudden, Betty, who had seen much of the world, was a little nervous looking at him.

"Well, why are you here?"

Patrick stopped a meter in front of her. He didn't seem to have any intention of entering the house.

"Hello."

He greeted in a calm voice.

In fact, Patrick had tried his best not to be so distant and cold, and his tone was more respectful. Compared to his aunts, Betty had been treated better.

He didn't know why he suddenly came to the Dickens family. He felt well disposed towards her because she was Christina's aunt.

But his phone in his coat pocket suddenly beeped and a new text message came.

He glanced at the text message. His face grew serious and when he looked up at Betty again, he couldn't calm down.

He asked impatiently, "Has Christina gone abroad?"

Just now, he received a text message that Christina had gone abroad.



Probably because of Patrick's cold and arrogant temperament, Betty was shocked and immediately replied to him, "Yes, she went to Switzerland with Charles and the others this morning."

When Patrick heard her mention Charles's name, the aura around him faded a little. He was silent as if he was thinking about something.

Seeing that he didn't say anything, Betty added, "Crystal and his wife, as well as the little boy from the Stephenson family, all went skiing in Switzerland."

Christina wanted to spice up the new year, so Charles specially gathered a group of people to travel abroad with her.

Patrick, as a man of few words, glanced at Betty and was about to say goodbye to her.

Unexpectedly, Donald suddenly called him in.

At 6:00 pm, it was time to prepare dinner, but now an uninvited guest came. Betty stopped what she was doing, and entertained Patrick, the "distinguished guest", together with Donald and Mrs. Dickens.

They sat opposite each other in the Dickens family living room, looking at each other in an awkward atmosphere.

Betty served them a cup of black tea, and Patrick took a sip.

Donald said in a deep voice, "Sorry to bother you when I was in the hospital a while ago."

Donald was a sensible person. Although Patrick did not appear in his ward during his serious cerebral hemorrhage, he was aware that Patrick was probably the one who could push Charles around.

Patrick did not have much enthusiasm for Donald, his father-in-law, and said politely, "How are you doing?"

Donald's health condition had been seriously depleted after the operation, but he looked much better recently. He slid an appraising eye over Patrick.

He suddenly cursed, "I won't die right now. My daughter has always been concerned about when my bald head grows hair. She pissed me off when she was a little girl. I've long been used to it. And it brings with me the power of great endurance."

Patrick looked at him with a serious expression.

Donald said directly, "She shouldn't have been with you."

Patrick put on a sulking look instantly.

Betty and Mrs. Dickens got nervous as the atmosphere crackled with tension.

Patrick seemed to be holding back. He didn't say anything.

Donald continued, "In this situation, it won't work if you threaten my company's interests. As for the children... They're yours and have nothing to do with us."

"I know my daughter very well. She has no plans for life, self-willed, doted on by her grandfather. She doesn't care about anything. You forced her to get pregnant by accident. She didn't do it voluntarily."

"Don't try to control her anymore!"

Patrick was a little shocked. He held the exquisite porcelain teacup tightly in his right hand and put it on the table with great force.

He wanted to speak, but Donald obviously didn't give him a chance.

Donald's face was livid and he shouted at him, "Get out!"

He actually kicked him out.

Betty and Mrs. Dickens were flustered.

They also did not expect that Donald, who had been much calmer recently after recuperating, would suddenly lose his temper. They were worried that Patrick would have a heated argument with him.

"Young Master Hopkins was chased out of the door by Donald."

In the Hopkins family, Old Master Hopkins sent someone to inquire about his grandson. When he heard that Patrick was kicked out by the Dickens family, he was shocked and filled with mixed feelings.

"He just left like that?" he asked in an eerie tone.

"He left the Dickens family without a word?"

Old Master Hopkins was irked, unable to believe that Patrick, who was usually arrogant and high above, did what he was told in the Dickens family.

The old butler said with a worried look, "Maybe they touched him on the raw!"

Old Master Hopkins scolded, "Good-for-nothing!"

The old butler glanced at the antique clock in the living room. It was 8:00 pm, but no one was in the mood to ~~eat~~ **eat** ~~at~~ **at** ~~night~~ **night**.

He sighed, "It is said that when Young Master Hopkins arrived at the Dickens family, Christina had already gone abroad."

Old Master Hopkins was very upset and snorted, "Christina is a bit wild."

Originally, his idea was traditional. He planned to arrange for Patrick to marry a dignified and submissive woman. Christina was not good at managing the affairs of the family, let alone being the better half.

"Young Master Hopkins is crazy about her."

"He once went to C City to be her teaching assistant for half a year. But she didn't recognize him..."

The old butler sighed, "I really didn't expect him to be so shy with girls. Maybe many girls liked him when he was young and he got used to it. During the half-year, he didn't nerve himself to confess his love to her. I guess he was afraid of being rejected."

The old butler said worriedly, "Christina has a very similar temperament to madam. Why don't you help him..."

With a complicated look, Old Master Hopkins snapped, "Forget about it. He brought it to himself!"

The butler did not dare to speak again.

At 11 pm, Patrick returned to the Hopkins family. The lights in the living room of the main house were all on. His grandfather had not rested yet, as if he was waiting for him.

He looked calm and did not speak. His eyes fell on his grandfather.

Old Master Hopkins looked sullen, turned around, and glared at his grandson. He suppressed his temper, snorted, and got up with a cane and left.

The old butler followed him with a bitter smile.

He was used to their temperament.

The Hopkins family was too big and spacious, which made one feel very cold.

After his grandfather returned to his room, Patrick left the main house and went to the nursery.

The maids and nannies in the nursery made way for him when they saw him coming.

He was half squatting by the small bed. The babies were sleepy when they suddenly felt someone approaching. They opened their bright eyes and looked at Patrick.

Patrick squatted down by the bed without saying a word. He looked at the twins, who were more than four months old. He found them very cute when they were not crying.

Their collars were a little messy, so he reached out his big hand to smooth them.

To his surprise, his son grabbed his slender fingers with his chubby, soft hands. Feeling the warmth in their hands, Patrick was touched.

He looked at them for a long time, his eyes a little gloomy.

He let go of the child's little hand, stood up straight, and finally looked at the baby in the cot.

"You shouldn't have been born," he whispered to himself.

After returning to the bedroom, he took off his coat and threw it on the floor in a corner as if he had done it purpose.

Then he went straight to the bathroom to take a cool shower. Cold drops of water fell from his head, and a chill made his brain empty.

Nanny Faang, the butler of Eastern Garden, knew that Patrick had not eaten anything and specially prepared supper for him.

Patrick came out of the bathroom and said, "I'm not hungry. Take it away."

Nanny Faang did not dare to disturb him, seeing that he didn't look like his usual self. She led another maid out quickly. However, when the maid saw that her coat was on the floor, she picked it up and prepared to take it out to wash.

Patrick suddenly shouted anxiously, "Put down the coat!"

The maid was startled. Aunt Faang immediately took the coat back and walked forward to hand it back to him.

Patrick took the coat and immediately took out his phone from his pocket. He held it tightly in his palm with a complicated expression.

"Get out." His tone softened.

These masters were unpredictable and hard to serve for the servants who worked in the Hopkins family.

After the bedroom door closed, Patrick did not care about the coat. He just held the phone in his hand and thought for a long time in silence.

Outside the french window, the night sky was very dim and there were no stars. It was already 1:00 in the morning.

He knew that there was a time lag between him and Christina.

So, it was 7 pm on her side, and it was time for dinner.

After hesitating for a while, he checked on the updated moments of his Whatsapp.

Then a trace of surprise flashed across Patrick's face.

As expected, Charles posted a bunch of photos. They had already arrived in Switzerland. A group of people, including Crystal, Chandler, and Geoffrey, were also there. They gathered at a big table and ate exotic food excitedly.

Christina was among them. She was holding a lobster in her right hand as if she was having fun. She deliberately waved the lobster pliers with a bright smile.



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