

Pregnant 1101

Chapter 1101 Announcing Jeanne's Identity As The Princess of the Sanders

Her emotions had also returned to normal, and nothing about her seemed out of the ordinary as she was still very respectful to him.

After three days, Kingsley had also returned to his most cold-blooded state.

It seemed like the unhappiness that happened between the two of them three days ago was gone.

The assassins took Kingsley's private jet and rushed to South Hampton City.

Jeanne looked out of the window at the white clouds outside the cabin and was a little lost in thought.

Yu Jiayi sat down beside her and just looked at her conflicted expression. It was obvious that Jeanne would have to abandon all of her worries this time.

This time, Jeanne would not have a choice of her own!

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On Wednesday, the news of the Sanders' wedding spread like wildfire in South Hampton City, and the attention finally shifted away from Cardellini Pharmaceutical.

That was probably why the Sanders' marriage was a little rushed.

Logically speaking, a wedding of such a large scale like the Sanders' should have been announced half a year in advance. It was rare to hold a wedding ceremony only a week after the announcement.

However, it had to be said that the Sanders' actions had attracted everyone's attention.

It was also because they did not want too many people to focus on Cardellini Pharmaceutical as it would be harmful to them.

After all, they had suffered a huge setback due to Cardellini Enterprise.

However, if there was another chance next time, they would still take Cardellini Enterprise for themselves. It was only a matter of time.

At that moment, Monica was sitting in her office, also reading some news about the Sanders' wedding.

She used to love to gossip, but now, it was not as fun anymore.

She put down her phone and continued with her work aimlessly.

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In Bamboo Garden in the Swans' residence, Edward was dressed very formally.

Nox had also arrived.

The two of them were prepared to set off to the Sanders' residence to attend Stacey and William Gates's wedding.

When it was time to leave, Edward turned to George, whom he deliberately did not allow to go to school today, and said, "I will bring your mother back tonight."

George did not believe him. He had a feeling that his mother would not come back.

"So be good at home."

However, George did not refute Edward. He always felt that his father felt even more uneasy than he was when it came to his mother.

Edward patted George's head before leaving with Nox.

Today, there would definitely be a bloodbath. The Sanders would definitely not be able to hold back.

Edward and Nox sat in the car, and the both of them were a little too serious.

Nox was not someone who could keep things to himself. Hence, he turned to Edward and asked, "Isn't the old master going?"

He was asking about Zachary Swan.

After all, the invitation had made it very clear to invite both Old Master Yan and Edward to Stacey's wedding.

If Old Master Swan did not go, would he not be disrespecting the Sanders?

"Would you still want to go up the mountain knowing that there's a tiger there?" Edward replied coldly, "The only reason I'm attending the wedding is to start a war."

He had no thoughts about dealing with the Sanders again.

In fact, it was time it ended.

Nox did not say anything more. In any case, he only needed to carry out Edward's orders unconditionally.

"By the way." Nox suddenly thought of something. "Will Jeanne will be there today?"

"She should be."

"She would probably be there to kill you," Nox said bluntly.

"I know," Edward replied, "but she can't do it."

"How can you be so sure?" Nox looked at Edward.

He was really afraid that the guy would not die in the hands of the Sanders but in the hands of Jeanne.

"I believe in Jeanne."

"...I don't." Nox enunciated each word. "So, if she really threatens your life, I won't go soft on her."

To Nox, his mission in life was to protect Edward. No matter who it was, he could not allow her to threaten Edward's life.

“She won’t,” Edward confirmed.

Tonight, he was determined to bring Jeanne back to his side no matter what. Never again would he be away from her.

The car slowly drove into the Sanders’ residence.

At the door, the Sanders’ security guards stood in a row. Everyone who entered the Sanders’ residence would be thoroughly searched.

Moreover, those whose names were not on the invitation card were not allowed to enter. Thus, Nox could only wait outside.

Edward walked into the Sanders’ residence alone.

There were not many wedding decorations inside, and it did not look too grand. It was obvious that the Sanders wanted to keep a low profile in that aspect.

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Edward was led by the staff to the Sanders’ ceremony hall.

Not many people in the Hall as there were only about 30 chairs.

At that moment, only a dozen or so people were at the scene, all of whom were political officials of the Sanders.

Other than Edward, the rest of them were not businessmen. In fact, businessmen did not have the right to attend the Sanders’ wedding. The Swans were there because Zachary was instrumental in helping the Sanders build the nation. The Sanders had always been “grateful”, so naturally, they would treat the Swans differently.

Edward sat there calmly.

The number of people in the ceremony hall gradually increased.

However, no one was talking to each other. Everyone looked serious as if they were not here to attend a wedding but to have an important meeting.

“Fourth Master Swan.” In the hall, a staff member appeared respectfully in front of Edward and said in a low voice, “The leader is asking for you.”

Edward glanced at the staff.

Then, he got up and left with the staff without any hesitation. They passed through the courtyard of the residence and walked toward a building that was more heavily guarded than any other place.

Edward was asked to wait outside.

After the staff member went in to report, he came out and said, “Fourth Master Swan, please come in.”

With that, Edward walked in.

There were many guards inside. In fact, they were everywhere, which made the atmosphere seem overly strict and quiet.

He passed through a central room and entered a study.

In the study, Warren stood in front of his table, writing calligraphy. He looked calm and relaxed.

After the staff brought Edward there, he left respectfully and even closed the door for them.

Edward turned around. Slowly, he said respectfully, "Leader."

"Take a seat." Warren was writing seriously with the pen in front of him. His attitude toward Edward was friendly and casual.

Edward did not dare to disobey Warren's orders, so he nodded and said, "Yes."

He sat on the mahogany sofa next to Warren, and there were some tea sets on the coffee table in front of him.

Warren said, "A minister went to the Gilead for some networking. When he left, the other party gave us two boxes of Gilead's specialty tea leaves. I haven't tried them yet. Would you like to be the first to try?"

"Sure."

Edward picked up the teapot and poured himself a cup.

Warren's writing hand paused for a moment as he turned to look at Edward, who drank the cup of tea without any hesitation.

After that, he turned back and continued to write seriously.

"Gilead's black tea lives up to its reputation. When the tea enters the mouth, it is refreshing and rich. There is a sweet aftertaste in your throat, and it also moistens the throat," Edward commented.

"Is that so?" Warren stood up straight and examined the calligraphy he had just written. Then, he slowly put down his pen and walked over.

Edward hurriedly stood up, showing his respect.

Warren seemed very easygoing. "Please sit."

After Warren sat down, Edward followed suit and quickly poured a cup of tea for Warren.

Warren picked it up and tasted it slowly. As he tasted it, his expression relaxed, showing that he was satisfied with the tea leaves.

He put down the teacup and nodded. "Good tea indeed."

Edward poured Warren another glass.

Warren said, "Edward, aren't you curious why I wanted to see you alone?"

At that moment, he could not help but admire the man in front of him for being so calm.

Was the man really afraid that he would kill him now or that he had poisoned the tea?

“You must want to ask why my father isn’t here.” Edward found an excuse that would not make the situation awkward.

Warren took the teacup and took another sip.

He listened to Edward, who explained in a respectful voice, “My father hasn’t been in good health recently. His rheumatoid symptoms have been acting up, and he has difficulty moving his legs. The doctor recommended that he rest in bed and walk in moderation. That’s why he specifically told me to attend the wedding on his behalf. He also told me to apologize to you in person.”

“Old Master Swan is too polite. Of course, his health is more important. Make sure your father takes good care of his health.” Warren had an affable look on his face.

“Thank you for your understanding, Leader. I’ll definitely go back and pass on the message to my father.”

“Yes.” Warren nodded. After that, he put down his teacup and said, “One reason I called you here is to ask about your father, but the other reason is...”

Edward did not react strangely to it.

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Even though Warren deliberately hesitated to speak, Edward respectfully waited for him to continue.

Warren said, “That year my father passed away, he reminded me that the Swans was a family of loyal officials. If it weren’t for the Swans’ help back then, the Sanders wouldn’t have been able to develop so far. Hence, he told me to treat the Swans well. However, because I’ve been too busy with national affairs all these years, I’ve neglected my father’s will. Thinking about it now, I even feel guiltier.”

“Leader, you’re too kind. A country needs a leader, and of course, national affairs are the most important thing for a leader. Moreover, my father has long since abandoned politics and joined the business industry. For you to give my father a piece of land to develop his business, my family is already extremely grateful, and we don’t ask for anything more.” His words had several layers of meaning.

It expressed the Swans’ determination to no longer participate in political affairs, and it also showed that the Swans wanted stability and had no other ambitions.

Warren naturally understood that.

He laughed out loud. “Don’t worry. I know that the Swans have always been loyal.”

It was also a reminder to Edward that he was well aware of what the Swans were hiding.

“Well.” Warren immediately changed the topic. “Someone has been reporting to me recently that the Duncans still have an heir. I wonder if you know anything about this, Edward?”

“I don’t know anything,” Edward said firmly.

“Apparently, he has grown up under the nurturing of the Duncans’ loyal men from the previous ruling and already has his own power. He is also eager to make a move on us.”

"If this person really exists, I believe that after so many years, even if the Duncans have that idea, it would only be a thought. Looking at the history of Harken, there has never been a case of rebellion. So, you don't need to worry too much, Leader. As long as we find this person and execute him, we can settle the country's dispute."

"I think you're right, but it's just that..." Warren looked at Edward intently. "I still don't know who this person is."

"As long as this person is in Harken, it won't be too difficult for you to find him. Unless..." Edward looked back at Warren. "There is no such person and someone is deliberately instigating the situation and deliberately interfering with the Sanders' politics."

"Edward, do you think that there is no such person?"

"I'm just assuming."

Warren's eyes narrowed.

There were no loopholes in Edward's answers. Every answer did not deny his suspicions, nor was it certain that it was the truth.

Moreover, he had completely cleared his name.

Warren said, "I originally wanted to ask your father today. After all, your father was in power back then and was familiar with everyone under the Duncans' influence. If we investigate them one by one, we might be able to find the existence of the Duncans' descendant faster."

"My father has been in business for many years and is now over 70 years old. He may not remember many things that happened when he was younger. However, if you need anything, I can call my father now and ask him directly." As Edward said that, he was about to make a call.

"Forget it." Warren stopped him.

Of course, he knew that he would not be able to get anything out of Zachary.

"Your father's health is more important. Besides, as you said, your father might not remember after so many years, so I won't disturb his rest."

"Thank you for your understanding, Leader." From the start, Edward was extremely respectful.

"Edward," Warren called out to him.

"Yes, Leader."

"From my point of view, regardless of the existence of the Duncans' descendant, I must get all the facts right. However, I'm in a predicament now because I've put in so much effort and spent so much manpower and resources only for the result to end up ambiguous. It's been making it hard for me to sleep."

"It must be hard on you, Leader."

"It is indeed." Warren said, "On one hand, I have to deal with national affairs, and on the other hand, I have to consider the existence of this descendant. On top of that, I have used some of the country's resources to find this person's whereabouts. I feel a little guilty for wasting so much on personal matters. So, I have a presumptuous request that I would like you to help me with, Edward."

"As you command, Leader." Edward agreed.

"I've heard that the Winters, which is your father's assistant, Wade's family, are now working for the Swans. I heard that his grandson is very capable and has a good network of connections. He also follows your orders."

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"Leader, if you have something to say, just say it."

"I want to hand over the matter of finding the Duncans' descendants to you," Warren said.

Edward's eyes moved slightly.

He replied, "As a member of Harken, I naturally have the responsibility to share the leader's worries, so I won't reject your request of me. However, Nox isn't as capable as people say, and the Winters aren't as powerful as the rumors say. I can only do my best, but I can't guarantee that I can give you a satisfactory result."

"That's not important. All I ask is that you put some effort into it." Warren made himself clear. "I just don't want to waste too much of my time. I should have more time to deal with national affairs."

"Yes," Edward replied respectfully. "It's my honor to be able to share your burden."

Warren patted Edward's shoulder and said, "I'll leave it to you then."

"I'll definitely do my best," Edward promised.

Then, Warren nodded. "It's getting late. The wedding is about to start."

Edward quickly stood up from the sofa. "In that case, I shall not waste more of your time."

"Edward," Warren called out to him again the moment he left.

Edward was still very respectful.

"I won't mistreat you for helping me." Warren said, "You'll know that the Swans and the Sanders are actually one family."

"Thank you, Leader."

"You may leave." Warren waved his hand.

With that, Edward left Warren's study.

After leaving, a man walked out from behind the screen in the study. It was Warren's eldest son, Chester.

Warren would naturally do his best to groom Chester, who was the heir to the throne.

“Father.” Chester appeared to be very respectful. “Edward is not a simple person indeed. Even under our threats and temptations, he did not lose his composure.”

“So, it won’t be easy for us to touch him.” Warren’s expression turned cold. “The fact that he came to our residence alone with such a domineering attitude today and even faced my conversation with a straight face is enough to show that he has the confidence to escape unscathed.”

“It means that if we make a move today, we might end up in a situation that we can’t control.”

Warren nodded.

“In that case...” Chester did not know what decision to make.

He knew that the Swans could already threaten the Sanders, so if the Swans were not eliminated, they would definitely become a great threat. However, if they were not eliminated properly, they would also become a great hidden danger for the Sanders.

Right now, the Sanders were forced into a dilemma.

“We’ll let them kill each other,” Warren said viciously with a sinister look in his eyes.

“Father, you’re saying...”

“That’s right. We still have a trump card.” Warren sneered. “Jeanne.”

Chester’s expression turned cold.

He knew that his father’s plan would never go wrong.

The Swans had planned everything, but never in a million years would they imagine that Jeanne was a daughter of the Sanders!

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Edward returned to the ceremony hall.

At 11:18 a.m., the wedding ceremony began.

Everyone quietly watched the overly procedural wedding in front of them.

The clapping was done under the guidance of the staff. Every single reaction was instructed, and some were even a little too serious.

Once the wedding ended, all the guests moved to the banquet hall in the Sanders’ residence.

For a ceremony with thirty people, there were only three tables. Including the Sanders’ round table, there were four tables in total.

The banquet hall was not gorgeously decorated and even seemed a little too simple.

After everyone was seated, they waited for the meal to begin.

Before dinner, Chester went up the stage to give his thanks on behalf of Warren.

After all, Warren was the leader of a country. He naturally could not be too polite to subordinates, which would be beneath his status.

Chester picked up the microphone and said to everyone seriously. "Good afternoon, everyone! Thank you very much for coming to my little sister and brother-in-law, Stacey and William's wedding. On behalf of the Sanders, I sincerely thank you for coming."

The audience burst into applause and ended in the next second.

"My younger sister and my brother-in-law, Stacey and William, they..." He then went on to tell their relationship history.

Even though Chester's tone was a little too serious, at the very least, it was a blessing to the newlywed couple. Hence, it did not give the impression that it was an official statement by the Sanders.

"Lastly, I've been entrusted by my father to wish my little sister and my brother-in-law, Stacey and William, a lifetime of love and care for each other. He also hopes that they will not forget their purpose to repay the country and society. Here, I wish both of you a happy marriage."

Another round of applause broke out. This time, it lasted for a slightly longer time, but it ended in an instant.

Just when everyone thought that the toast was over, Chester stayed on the stage. He seemed a little emotional, which was different from the usual him.

He took a deep breath and said, "On this joyous day, the Sanders has a piece of good news that we hope to share with everyone."

Everyone's attention was attracted by that sentence.

Perhaps everyone was bored from following along with all the instructions during the wedding ceremony just now because, at that moment, their interests were piqued.

After all, everyone knew about the wedding and knew that they had to go through the motions. However, no one knew about the other happy news.

Some people started to wonder if Stacey was pregnant or...

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Of course, it did not seem like a good idea to announce her pregnancy at a wedding.

Harken was a country that took tradition very seriously. Although they did not reject a non-married couple from living together, living together after marriage was much preferred.

As the rulers of Harken, the Sanders naturally would not insult themselves like that.

Just as everyone was deep in thought, Chester finally spoke. He announced loudly, "The Sanders have a missing daughter, and she has returned!"

After he said that, the crowd was in an uproar as they were really surprised by that piece of news.

What did he mean by that? Did the Sanders have a missing daughter? Did that mean that other than his five children, the leader had another child?

Who was it? How could they be lost? Why was he or she back now?

Everyone's mind was filled with questions until a figure walked onto the stage before everyone's eyes.

She was wearing a light blue dress, which made her look like the daughter of a humble family. It was completely different from the feeling she gave off before. At that moment, she seemed to have restrained all her brilliance and have obediently become the lovely princess of the Sanders. She looked so pure and... beautiful.

Edward's eyes were fixed on her. He watched as the woman, who had disappeared from his side and had cruelly stood him up, appear in front of him again in a way that he could never have imagined.

There was a distance of two tables between them, but from then on, it felt like they were separated by a mountain that could not be crossed.

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At the scene, everyone looked at Jeanne.

They all knew her. After all, that woman had become extremely popular in South Hampton City not long ago, and everyone knew who she was.

Yet now, she went from rags to riches.

Everyone was shocked, but no one dared to ask a single question.

Chester said, "Back then, my father was assigned to investigate a huge incident that jeopardized the interests of the country. He made a mistake and was discovered by the other party. Fortunately, in the midst of danger, Jeanne's mother came to his rescue, and the two of them put on an act. However, we didn't expect that Jeanne would be left behind as a product of that act. If Jeanne's uncle had not told us the truth recently, we wouldn't have known that Jeanne was the daughter of the Sanders. Perhaps Jeanne's appearance will cause a lot of controversies, but for now, we have to give her a legitimate and bright identity. From now on, her name will be Jeanne Sanders!"

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"Jeanne Sanders."

Edward's lips moved slightly as he muttered that unfamiliar name, "Jeanne Sanders... Sanders."

He just sat there and watched the Sanders' welcome Jeanne. He looked at the faint smile on Jeanne's face and her eyes that did not fall on him for a second.

"We're very grateful to Jeanne's foster parents for raising her. Although they're no longer around due to some special reasons, I'd like to thank them on behalf of the Sanders, thank them for returning Jeanne to us in one piece," Chester said emotionally.

In fact, the only reason he thanked Alexander Lawrence's family was so that the Lawrence Enterprise would still be under the Sanders' control. Otherwise, according to the law, Jeanne was not Alexander

Lawrence's biological daughter, so she had no right to inherit the Lawrence Enterprise group. Besides Joshua and Jenifer, who were still alive and had been brought to justice, there was still Jasmine, who could inherit Lawrence Enterprise. The Sanders did that only to show that they recognized Jeanne's identity, so it was not wrong for Jeanne to inherit Lawrence Enterprise.

"Jeannie's return means that... Our family has another in-law." Chester's voice was high and full of emotion as he looked at Edward. "Can we please invite Edward on stage?"

The audience burst into applause.

Edward's eyes moved slightly.

Without any hesitation, he stood up and walked up to Jeanne's side under everyone's watchful eyes.

Jeanne looked down, and their eyes did not meet.

Chester said to Edward, "When you and Jeannie got married, we didn't know Jeannie's identity. But now, as Jeannie's elder brother, I hope you accept this belated blessing."

"Thank you." Edward appeared to be very respectful.

Chester patted Edward's shoulder in relief before taking Jeanne's hand.

Jeanne's fingers moved slightly.

Then, Chester placed Jeanne's hand into Edward's.

Edward subconsciously held Jeanne's hand pretty tightly.

Jeanne felt a little pain, but she did not show it on her face.

"I'll leave my sister in your hands. Treat her well," Chester said.

"I will." Edward nodded.

"I think my father saw you alone before the wedding just now and has told you everything, so I won't say much. However, I'll add that Jeannie has just returned to our family, and we'd like to spend more time with her. You should bring her back more often. From now on, the Sanders and Swans are one family," Chester said in a friendly manner.

"Yes, I'll definitely bring Jeannie back to the Sanders more often."

"Take her back to the banquet. My father is there," Chester instructed.

Edward nodded and pulled Jeanne to the guest of honor's seat.

Of the three seats reserved, two were to Warren's right, and one was to his left. It was obvious that the two empty seats were reserved for Jeanne and Edward.

Edward pulled out a chair for Jeanne like a gentleman and let her sit next to Warren before he sat down next to her.

Warren looked at Jeanne lovingly.

The moment Jeanne sat down, Warren reached out and held her hand tightly. He said gently, "It's good that you're back."

Jeanne smiled and replied, "Yes."

"Eat more," Warren said.

"Thank you, father," Jeanne replied.

Edward sat at the side and listened to their conversation quietly.

Although it was Stacey's wedding, Warren took care of Jeanne throughout the entire banquet. He was like a loving father of an ordinary family who doted on his daughter.

The banquet did not last long, and there was no toasting session

Everyone ate in silence, and after they ate, no one left. However, once everyone in the main seats left, the guests were arranged to leave one after another. Instead of having entertainment, everyone was sent to a large tea room to have a chat and have some tea.

Edward and Jeanne were sent to a bedroom in the Sanders' house.

It was a bedroom that only a member of the Sanders had.

Warren had personally sent them over, and before he left, he said to Jeanne gently, "You guys should get some rest. After dinner tonight, I'll get someone to send you back to the Swan family's manor."

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"Yes, father," Jeanne said respectfully.

"Edward." Warren smiled at Edward. "As I said, we're a family."

"Yes." Edward was also very respectful.

"Aren't you going to call me that too?" Warren smiled gently.

In fact, there was no way to resist, so Edward did not hesitate as he said, "Father."

Warren smiled in relief. "Don't forget our agreement just now."

"I'll do my best."

"You guys haven't seen each other for a long time, so I won't disturb you guys any longer. Have a good rest."

"Take care, father."

When Warren left, Jeanne turned around and looked at Edward. She watched as his eyes stayed on Warren's back until Warren disappeared from his sight.

Then, he turned around and met Jeanne's eyes.

There were so many things they wanted to say, but nothing could come out of their mouths.

He held Jeanne's hand, walked into the room, and closed the door.

The room was huge. It was exquisitely decorated and looked very clean and tidy.

The two of them stood in the room in silence. It was so quiet that they did not know how to break the silence between them, or rather, to break the ice on that long-awaited reunion.

"When did you find out?" Finally, Edward spoke.

He brought Jeanne to the sofa in the room as if he wanted to have a good talk with her.

However, Jeanne did not answer him.

"Has it been long?" Edward asked her.

'Have you known for a long time that you're Warren's daughter?'

"You knew when you married me, didn't you?" In fact, Edward already knew the answer when he asked her.

Jeanne still chose to remain silent.

However, the silence was a tacit agreement.

After she had been saved by Kingsley overseas, he told her everything about her identity. He had told her about her mother's identity, the cause of her mother's death, and the existence of her biological father. It turned out that she really was not a member of the Lawrence family. She suddenly understood why the Lawrences had treated her that way. However, Kingsley had never been a good person. He told her that the Lawrences did not know that she was not their daughter, so the Lawrences were cruel to her in a fundamental sense.

The cruelest thing was that he killed her mother with his own hands.

She naturally had to come back to take revenge for that.

Therefore, under Kingsley's arrangements, she learned a lot of self-defense skills and a lot of business deception. After learning it, she was sent back to South Hampton City under an opportunity.

Taking revenge on the Lawrences was only one of Kingsley's arrangements. The other was to help the Sanders take over the economic power of Harken, which meant that she would first take over Lawrence Enterprise. After all, in everyone's eyes, she was still the daughter of the Lawrences. Hence, it was only natural for her to get the company, and of course, it would be easier for her.

On the other hand, Kingsley and the Sanders had always kept in contact.

Every year, the Sanders would spend a large sum of money to hire the Hills to do things for them. Back when the Sanders overtook the country, the Hills had also contributed to their success.

For many years, they had been working together. Other than money, the Hills also needed the support of the Sanders' power, and the Sanders naturally needed the Hills to do many things that could not be exposed to the public.

One example was helping the Sanders kill the descendant of the Duncans and wipe out all the forces of the Duncans.

In fact, wanting Jeanne to marry Edward was one of the Sanders' orders.

Jeanne did not have the right to refuse. From the Hills' perspective, she naturally could not reject the Sanders' request. After all, they needed to work together for both parties to benefit. From the Sanders' perspective, she could not reject their plan because she had the obligation to contribute to the Sanders' regime.

Hence, she married Edward.

On one hand, she could help the Sanders investigate whether the Duncans' descendant was related to the Swans. On the other hand, she could help the Sanders better control Harken's economy.

The Sanders had a good plan.

They wanted her to use her beauty to win over Edward.

In reality, it was impossible to succeed.

After a few exchanges, Kingsley knew that Edward was already out of their control. In order to prevent Jeanne from being truly hurt, he thought of a way to bring her back, which completely destroyed his relationship with the Sanders and their plans for Jeanne. Furthermore, Jeanne had been helping Monica to stop the Sanders from making any other arrangements, so the Sanders had no choice but to send her back to the Hills.

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If Michael had not failed completely, the Sanders might have given him a little more time.

It was precisely because he had failed that all their schemes failed, and the Sanders started to lose their patience.

The Sanders also knew that the descendant of the Duncans was powerful enough to threaten their interests, and that power was led by the Swans.

The Swans were now in control of the Harken's economy. Even after the Sanders had done so many shady things in the dark to destabilize the Swans' economic status, it was to no avail. In fact, it made them look like clowns, so they could only choose to take the risk.

The best way was to make use of Jeanne's relationship with Edward.

Once her identity as the daughter of the Sanders was revealed to the public, Edward and she would become complete enemies. In other words, Edward had to kill her.

The Duncans would never allow Edward to marry the daughter of the Sanders or even have any feelings for her because that would threaten the trust that the Duncans had in the Swans.

Everyone was afraid of switching sides.

After all, the fall of an empire was always because of the rebellion of their subjects.

Jeanne was well aware of the Sanders' wishful thinking, and Edward was too. In fact, even the Duncans might be aware of that.

Everyone was aware of it, but they would just change their plans according to that.

No one was willing to take risks or gamble with their emotions to assume who was loyal to whom.

The room suddenly became silent again.

Since Jeanne did not say anything, Edward did not say anything either. The two of them just sat on the sofa without saying a word.

No one knew what would happen the moment they left the Sanders' residence.

"I've thought about your identity," Edward said.

In the room where the two of them were together, Edward spoke after a long time.

"But I never thought that you were Warren's daughter." Edward enunciated each word.

She could have any identity, but she could not be Warren's daughter. Due to that identity, it would be impossible for them to be together in the future.

In the quiet room, someone's phone suddenly rang.

Jeanne lowered her head and looked at the small bag she had brought along. Then, she opened it and took out her phone.

The name "Monica" was displayed on the phone screen.

She pressed the button.

By then, Edward had walked out to the balcony. He was smoking outside, taking in drags of smoke, and she could not tell his emotions.

"I thought I wouldn't be able to get through," Monica said, her voice calm.

Jeanne's throat moved slightly. "Yes, I'm back in South Hampton City."

"I know. I saw the news."

'News?'

Come to think of it, the Sanders had announced her identity to all the officials at the banquet, so it was understandable for her identity to be announced to the entire country.

It was supposed to be Stacey's wedding, yet she had stolen all the limelight.

If it were anyone else, they would probably go crazy!

However, it was precisely because Stacey was part of the Sanders that she could not even express her emotions.

"So, your surname is Sanders," Monica said faintly.

She did not seem to know how to express her emotions. When she saw the news, she actually thought that she had seen it wrongly.

The news said, "The Sanders' lost princess, Jeanne Sanders, has finally returned home!"

At that time, she found the name Jeanne Sanders strange.

Why did the princess have such a similar name to Jeanne?

However, only when she opened it and saw Jeanne's photo did she truly believe that the so-called Jeanne Sanders was her best friend, Jeanne, who had grown up with her.

It was the woman she had thought was extraordinary since she was young was really extraordinary.

She did not know how to express her feelings. It was probably the first time she had felt emotional after such a long time. That was why she desperately wanted to give Jeanne a call.

It had been a long time since she had been so eager to do something.

In fact, she did not expect the call to go through. She just wanted to vent her emotions, but unexpectedly, Jeanne answered her call.

After the call connected, the two of them did not speak much.

In the past, she would babble non-stop, but now, she really did not know what to say. She could not figure out what their relationship was.

Was she considered an enemy?

After all, the Sanders had always wanted to bring down Cardellini Enterprise, and Jeanne had become their daughter.

"Monica," Jeanne suddenly said.

Monica gripped her phone tightly.

"I've known about this for a long time." She was saying that she had known for a long time that she was the daughter of the Sanders.

"Why did you hide it from me?" Monica asked her.

In fact, what she was most concerned about was how Jeanne was doing or what Jeanne was going through right now.

It really did not matter whether they were enemies or not.

"I didn't want to drag you into any trouble," Jeanne replied.

"Am I that untrustworthy of your trust?"

...

"No," Jeanne said, "but I hope that you can live a better life."

"Jeanne, am I really that weak to you?"

“I’ll feel bad if you get hurt.”

“Me too. I’ll also feel bad because you hid it from me!” Monica was a little agitated and sounded a little riled up.

“But if you can live a good life, I’d rather you blame me.”

“Jeannie—”

“Monica. The only thing I can do is protect Cardellini Pharmaceutical. As for the rest, I can’t make any promises, nor can I agree to let you get involved in my affairs. I don’t want you to take on any innocent sacrifices. The only people important to me in this world are Kingsley, George, and you! You better live well!”

Monica’s eyes were red. She could hear the determination in Jeanne’s voice that Jeanne would not tell her anything.

The two of them held their phones tightly and did not speak for a long time.

“Jeannie.” Monica regained her calm and forced herself to calm down.

Jeanne was a little surprised that Monica could control her emotions so well.

...

As expected, Monica had grown up. In fact, it could be said that she had grown up in the cruelest conditions.

“Don’t die, okay?” Monica suddenly begged.

When she was powerless and did not have the ability to help Jeanne, she only had one request, and that was for Jeanne to be alive.

Chapter 1108 Edward’s Choice

Jeanne did not give Monica an answer because there was none. No one could guarantee that they would not die in the next second.

She looked at Edward, who had already returned to the room.

She did not know what Edward had heard.

What would happen to him if he heard was not among the most important people? Perhaps only then would they no longer be a burden to each other.

After Edward returned, he did not say anything.

The two of them waited in silence in the room until it was time for the dinner banquet.

Edward and Jeanne were invited to a dinner banquet.

It was still the same people in the same banquet hall. Jeanne was still sitting next to Warren, and Warren was still dotting on her.

At the banquet, it was a harmonious scene.

“By the way, Edward, you can communicate more with William in the future. You’re both in business, so you might have the chance to work together in the future.” Warren seemed to be helping both of them out, like an elder showing concern for his juniors.

“Yes, father.” William hurriedly agreed and said courteously, “Actually, I’ve had some dealings with Fourth Master in private. I believe that now we’re a family, we will cooperate even more in the future.”

“That’s good.” Warren was very pleased.

“Let me give a toast to Fourth Master and Jeannie. I’ve always had some business with Fourth Master, but I didn’t expect that we’d become a family one day,” William said very happily.

Edward and Jeanne raised their glasses as well. Edward said, “We should be the ones toasting you. We wish you a happy marriage.”

“Look at you two, you’ll be a family from now on,” Chester chimed in.

“Chester is right, and let’s drink to that! Cheers.” William drank first as a form of respect.

Edward and Jeanne also did the same.

Then, they put down their glasses.

As William was sitting beside Edward, and because the atmosphere had eased up, the two of them even exchanged a few words in a low voice. It looked like they had a good relationship, but in reality, socializing was normal in the business world and would not attract anyone’s attention.

The dinner was a short one.

When Warren noticed that Jeanne had not touched her food, he whispered in her ear, “Are you done eating?”

“Yes.” Jeanne nodded.

Only then did Warren put down his utensils, and as soon as he did that, the others naturally stopped eating.

As he stood up, everyone at the table, and even everyone in the banquet hall, stood up.

Warren was used to that kind of respect. He said, “Come on. I’ll send you and Edward off.”

“Alright.” Jeanne got up and followed behind Warren.

Edward was naturally by Jeanne’s side.

Warren personally sent them to the main entrance of the Sanders’ residence.

He took Jeanne’s hand and said heavily, “Take good care of yourself and come home often.”

“Alright,” Jeanne agreed.

Warren looked at Edward again. “I’ll leave my precious daughter to you.”

“Father, don’t worry.”

“Go on.” Warren sounded a little helpless, and his expression looked a little sad.

Perhaps he was really sad. After all, that glance might be the last he took of her.

Warren turned around and left. As he left, he sighed and waved his hand.

Edward and Jeanne remained respectful.

After Warren was a distance away, Edward pulled Jeanne along and walked out of the Sanders’ residence, where a black car was parked.

Nox had stood guard for a day in the car.

When he saw Edward returning with Jeanne...

Jeanne Sanders was back.

Now, everyone in Harken knew that Jeanne was Warren’s daughter. Jeanne was the princess of the Sanders and had a distinguished status.

Nox sneered.

He knew that Jeanne was not a simple woman.

When he first investigated Jeanne’s background, he found it impossible for Jeanne’s mother to have fallen in love with Alexander Lawrence and be with him. There must be something hidden behind it. However, he found nothing useful in his investigation. Now, he seemed to understand why there was nothing. The Sanders had probably hidden everything a long time ago because they were afraid that Jeanne’s identity would be exposed.

In all of Harken, only the Sanders had the ability to destroy all the evidence to the point that he could not find anything.

“Nox, sit in the back,” Edward suddenly ordered.

Nox’s eyes narrowed.

At that moment, he saw Edward opening his car door.

As soon as Nox got out of the car, Edward pushed Jeanne into the front passenger seat.

Then, he closed the door and went to the driver’s seat. He said to the driver, “Sit in the back.”

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The driver quickly got out of the car and sat in the back seat with Nox.

Once Edward got into the car, he stepped on the accelerator and sped off at a crazy speed.

Nox could not help but grip the armrest tightly, and Jeanne did the same.

The car sped up.

As it was still not too late at night, there were still countless cars on the streets of South Hampton City when Edward shuttled back and forth crazily, causing chaos after chaos.

“Edward!” Nox seemed to have realized that something was wrong with Edward.

In such crowded traffic, cars were coming in from all directions, and Edward’s madness made it seem like he did not want to live.

They had just passed the red light and were almost hit by the car coming from the side. Fortunately, Edward was quick to react, but the sharp turn and drift almost sent the person in the car flying.

Nox grabbed Edward’s arm. “Calm down.”

However, Edward did not reply nor did he slow down.

“Edward!”

Nox squeezed Edward’s arm to stop him from driving so recklessly, but Edward still did not react.

His eyes were fixed on the road ahead, and he was still speeding without any signs of slowing down.

“Edward, calm down!”

“I know what I’m doing,” Edward said coldly.

His cold voice pushed Nox away.

Nox did not dare to stop him now. At their current speed, if Edward were not careful, they would be crushed into pieces.

With that, he looked coldly at Jeanne, the woman who had provoked Edward. It seemed that she was the cause of all of Edward’s emotions for a long time!

Jeanne could also sense Nox’s hostility, but she chose to ignore it.

Moreover, with Edward’s insane speed, it was very likely that everyone in the car would be killed. Hence, she had to be prepared to jump out of the car anytime.

Silence filled the car, and by then, they were already in the suburbs.

The further they drove, the more remote the place was, and the more they did not know where they were. Every surrounding land seemed empty.

When they reached the end of the road, he slammed on the brakes, and the car came to a violent stop.

Everyone’s seat belts tightened. Their body did hurt a little, but the car finally stopped.

After the car stopped, Edward only stayed in the car for a second before he unbuckled his seat belt and got out of the car.

No one knew what Edward was up to.

No one knew why he suddenly went crazy and drove the car here. They just looked at him as he opened Jeanne’s car door, unbuckled her seat belt, and led her out of the car.

Their surroundings were pitch black, and all around them seemed to be fields. There was nothing strange about the place.

However, it was obvious that Edward was waiting for someone.

Jeanne was frightened. At that moment, she could not help but wonder what Edward was going to do to her.

She tried to keep calm and said, "Are you going to kill me?"

Edward did not reply.

Instead, his grip on her hand tightened.

"Are you preparing to hand me over to the Duncans?" Jeanne raised her eyebrows.

To Edward, the best way was to hand her over.

By handing her over to the Duncans, she would be able to prove her loyalty on one hand, and on the other, they could use her to threaten the Sanders. Even if it did not have much effect, it was the most beneficial to Edward.

Edward still did not answer. All he did was hold her hand tightly in his palm and did not say a word.

Jeanne was also holding back.

In fact, she had already made all the necessary preparations when she came back.

She could accept all the tragedies that could happen.

After some time, a few cars quickly arrived and stopped a few meters away from them.

A group of people then got out of the car.

It was not... the so-called Duncans. It was Kingsley, who had appeared with Lucy and all the top assassins of the Hills.

It turned out that Edward was waiting for Kingsley and not for... the Duncans.

She turned around to look at Edward in disbelief.

Did he know what he was doing? Did he know what he would face if he called Kingsley over?

She knew that Edward only had Nox with him. Even if he had a driver, it would not be of any use.

Now, he was facing all the top assassins of the Hills alone.

Even a country would find it difficult to eliminate all of them, who were a group of capable fugitives.

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He should probably be able to figure out that after he had successfully tricked Kingsley and escaped last time, Kingsley would definitely not let him get what he wanted this time. This time, Kingsley would definitely not be deceived by his treachery and would even kill him.

He should be able to predict what would happen to him. Yet, he still called Kingsley over.

They looked at each other under the car's headlights.

Kingsley said coldly, "Fourth Master Swan, you're really not afraid of death!"

He had realized at the first moment that there was no one protecting Edward and that Edward had come to see him alone.

"The fact that I could inform you to come here means that I'm prepared to die." Edward enunciated every word.

That sentence made Jeanne's heart ache a little, and she bit her lip so hard that it lost all color.

"What do you want?" Kingsley asked.

For Edward to offer himself up, it was definitely not because he wanted to die. He naturally had his own motives.

Edward said, "Send Jeanne away, and don't ever let her return to Harken."

Kingsley frowned.

"I know you have the ability to get Jeanne to leave safely!" Edward said bluntly.

"This is your condition for the exchange?" Kingsley asked, "Your death in exchange for Jeanne's safety?"

"Yes." Edward agreed.

Kingsley just looked at Edward coldly, as if sizing him up.

"If I'm dead, you'll have one less threat. If I'm dead, Jeanne wouldn't be a bargaining chip for the Sanders, and the Sanders won't keep chasing after her!" Edward had thought everything through.

The Sanders had made use of Jeanne because of their relationship.

Once he died, Jeanne would be useless to the Duncans. Then, Jeanne, that so-called trump card, would be useless!

Kingsley looked at Edward and then at Jeanne, whose face was pale.

He said, "Alright."

Kingsley immediately agreed.

He had never agreed for Jeanne to be the bait, but he could not find a better way to reject them. After all, he and the Sanders were in a mutually beneficial relationship. However, the Sanders ruled over a country, while he was only a local assassin organization. His power and status were incomparable to them! Once the two sides fell out and he lost the support of the Sanders, the other organizations and even some small countries that had been tempted to attack would attack the Hills without any restraint. Then, the Hills would face a great crisis.

Of course, there was another important point. The reason why the Sanders could take over the Harken was because of the Hills' contribution. Once the country was taken back by the original ruler, the Hills would naturally become the target of revenge.

In order for the Hills to protect themselves and become even more glorious, Kingsley had to be controlled by Warren.

The only way was to follow the rules of the Sanders and let Jeanne be the one to start the war!

However, the best way for Jeanne to escape unscathed would be Edward's death.

Kingsley did not expect Edward to be able to figure out everything so quickly. He even made that decision so quickly!

His eyes were fixed on Edward, and he watched as Edward subconsciously tightened his grip on Jeanne's hand.

Edward should know very well that once he let go, he would be dead.

He turned to look at Jeanne, who was also looking at him.

Meeting each other again this time was not a reunion but a separation.

He said, "Jeannie."

His voice was still deep and magnetic.

Jeanne's heart ached. In fact, it had been hurting bit by bit. She had been feeling that way ever since she appeared at the Sanders' wedding.

The thought of the damage her identity would bring to Edward ...

She had actually been suppressing the thought of the damage her identity would bring to Edward all along and struggling with it.

That was why she remained silent — to try to hide all his emotions. She did not want Edward to know or want Edward to be soft-hearted toward her.

However, in the end, he still had to sacrifice himself for her.

"I've told Finn to pick up George, and Finn will protect George with his life. As long as you leave Harken and contact Finn after things have stabilized, he will send George to you safely," Edward explained.

It was as if he was saying his last words.

Jeanne's eyes turned red. Slowly, her eyes filled with tears.

"Promise me that you will never return to Harken. No matter whose regime it becomes, never come back!" Edward said.

As he said that, his eyes seemed to turn red.

Jeanne had never seen Edward cry before, and that was probably the only time in her life that she would be able to see it.

However, it was at the moment of life and death.

“Promise me!” Edward forced Jeanne to answer.

Jeanne bit her lips and refused not let go. She looked at Edward with her eyes red.

However, he would still be in Harken. How could she not come back for the rest of her life?

How could she leave his corpse on this land while she went away?

“Please, promise me.” Edward’s voice was hoarse, and it also trembled.

Tears streamed down Jeanne’s face.

She knew that Edward did not want her to return because Harken was no longer safe for her, because he did not want her to avenge him, and because he wanted her to forget him completely.

She had never been willing to admit her feelings for Edward, and she did not know when she had developed feelings for him.

However, at that moment, she really could not ignore the pain in her heart. It was as if her heart was being torn apart, piece by piece.

...

“Alright.” Jeanne nodded.

The moment she agreed, she even felt that the sky was falling down.

However, Edward smiled. His red eyes and perfect lips curved into a smile that could cause the downfall of a city.

He said nothing more of their relationship, the sadness, the reluctance to part, and everything else.

He did not say anything. Instead, little by little, he let go of her reddened hand and let her go to Kingsley’s side.

Still, Jeanne did not leave. Her vision was so blurry that she could no longer see Edward’s face clearly.

She did not know if Edward was the same as her and could not see her clearly.

Even so, she just kept staring at him.

“Jeanne! Come here!” Kingsley shouted.

Jeanne’s throat moved slightly.

Then, she turned around and walked away from Edward.

...

She knew very well what it would mean if she turned around...