

Pregnant 31

Chapter 31: Break off the Engagement Domineeringly

"I won't forgive him!" Jeanne's voice was clear, reaching the ears of everyone present.

Theodus thought he had heard wrongly.

He hurriedly turned his head. "Jeanne, what did you say just now?"

Jeanne glanced at Theodus. Facing the reporters, she said once again, "I won't forgive him."

"Jeanne!" Theodus suppressed his voice and sounded like he was gnashing his teeth.

The reporters at the scene were also in an uproar.

According to the usual practice, a party would hold a press conference on their own initiative to settle their scandal. If nothing went wrong, it would be successful.

However...

The reporters who were initially a little disinterested suddenly became excited.

A reporter hurriedly asked, "Ms. Lawrence, did you say that you won't forgive Second Young Master Locke? He said that he was just drugged. Why won't you forgive him?"

"Ms. Lawrence, are you planning to break off your marriage with Second Young Master Locke then?"

"It is said that the marriage between the Lawrences and the Lockes is due to a huge benefit. Ms. Lawrence, you're not going to think twice?"

"Ms. Lawrence..."

"Why should I forgive a man who can't control his lower body?!" Amidst the noise, Jeanne opened her mouth and said, "I hate cheating men the most in my life!"

"Ms. Lawrence, is there a hidden meaning behind this?" Reporters were never afraid of making a big deal out of things. "A few years ago, Eden and your sister, Jasmine, cheated on you. Are you still holding a grudge now?"

"Does this have anything to do with the news today?"

"It's just that you said you hate men who cheat..."

"Do you like them?" Jeanne raised her eyebrow.

The reporter was a woman, and at this moment, she was suddenly speechless.

Jeanne did not give her a way out. She continued, "Everyone has their principles and bottom line. I won't allow my partner to cheat, regardless of body or mind! Clearly, Second Young Master Locke failed to not do that."

“Jeanne, didn’t I just say that I was drugged?” Thedus quickly said and kept giving her a look. “Don’t you already know?”

“I don’t know,” Jeanne said bluntly.

“Jeanne!” Thedus gritted his teeth. “Don’t give me a hard time.”

Jeanne ignored him.

At this moment, the reporter who was arranged by the crisis public relations immediately said, “Ms. Lawrence, don’t you think that you’re being a bit too much now? Second Young Master Locke was framed by someone, which led to the occurrence of the affair. He’s now suffering from the abuse of society, and he’s bearing the guilt in his heart. As his fiancée, not only do you not care about him and accompany him through this difficult time, but you’re even adding insult to injury. Shouldn’t you reflect on your character?”

“How can you be so sure that Second Young Master Locke was drugged?” Jeanne asked.

The reporter paused for a moment before saying, “I believe in Second Young Master Locke.”

“You believe in a convict?”

“Ms. Lawrence, who says that a person who has been to prison can’t change? Besides, Second Young Master Locke only committed manslaughter back then. Your actions have made me suspect that you don’t want to marry Second Young Master Locke at all and had no choice but to obey your parents. Now, taking advantage of Second Young Master Locke’s mistake, you want to destroy this engagement,” the reporter said indignantly, “At this moment, I actually feel that Second Young Master Locke is the victim.”

Thedus quickly echoed. “Jeanne, I didn’t think that you don’t like me at all. To think that I was so good to you and your son.”

He looked very aggrieved.

Nevertheless, what he was thinking was that he would definitely kill Jeanne after this!

The reporter followed Thedus’ words and said loudly again, “Second Young Master Locke, I feel that it’s not worth it for you. Although you were wrong in this matter, there’s no need for you to be hurt by Ms. Lawrence like this.”

“As long as Jeanne is willing to forgive me and give me another chance to be together with me again, I don’t care if I’m hurt or not...” Thedus looked at Jeanne with a face full of affection.

The corner of Jeanne’s mouth curved into a smile.

She asked, “Are you done acting?”

Thedus’s face stiffened.

Jeanne slowly took out her phone and turned it on.

Ignoring the numerous missed calls from Monica, she played a recording and turned the volume up to the maximum.

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"I'm annoyed whenever I see that woman, Jeanne!"

"I'm annoyed whenever I see that woman. Just thinking about how she embarrassed us in public today makes me want to strangle her to death!"

"That's why I want to take revenge on her! I'm going to go meet another woman..."

...

That day in the Lawrence Residence's public restroom, Jeanne recorded the conversation between Octavio and Thedus.

Once the conversation was revealed, everyone at the scene clamored.

When Thedus came to his senses, he suddenly grabbed Jeanne's cell phone and fiercely threw it on the ground.

The scene started to become a little chaotic.

Thedus said, "Jeanne, you schemed against me!"

With his true colors exposed, Thedus could no longer hide it.

A reporter asked excitedly, "Ms. Lawrence, is that recording a conversation between Second Young Master Locke and his mother?"

"So, Second Young Master Locke's infidelity was intentional, and he even got the tacit approval of the Lockes?"

"Mr. Lawrence, the Lockes don't like you at all, and they even hate you very much, so they let Second Young Master Locke go out and mess around..."

"Enough!" Thedus was very agitated. "What nonsense are you spouting? What nonsense are you spouting?!"

Compared to Thedus, Jeanne appeared very calm.

She stood up, took out a folded A4 paper from inside her clothes, and unfolded it.

Thedus looked angrily at Jeanne's actions.

Jeanne showed the agreement paper to the media and said, "This is the prenuptial agreement that the Lockes gave me."

After today's signing, when everyone was focused on Thedus' news, she cleverly kept it.

She said, "I'll read it for everyone to hear. First, after Jeanne becomes a Locke..."

Jeanne read the agreement word by word.

Halfway through, Thedus snatched it away and tore it into pieces.

He roared furiously, "Didn't you f*cking forgive me? You tricked me?!"

Jeanne sneered. "Aren't you being forgiven now?!"

"You..."

Jeanne did not give him a chance to speak and mocked, "Second Young Master Locke, if you have the guts to go out and cheat, you should have to have the guts to accept all the insults. If you can't accept them, you should at least be smarter. For example... like how Eden was back then."

Thedus was so angry that he slapped Jeanne's face.

Jeanne caught his hand in an instant.

She caught it so steadily that Thedus could not even move.

Thedus frowned.

Jeanne shook off his hand.

Thedus took two steps back.

Jeanne said, "Our engagement ends here. Now, please excuse me."

After saying this, she left.

Everyone present was even shocked by Jeanne's aura at this moment.

Seven years ago and seven years later, Ms. Lawrence had the same temperament, but at this moment, the feeling was completely different.

Was it her age that made her... more domineering?!

Jeanne walked out of the venue. She held George's hand and left.

At the entrance of the clubhouse, Monica's car was already parked there.

Without thinking, Jeanne opened the backseat door and went in.

Once inside, she was stunned.

This was because she saw... Fourth Master Swan beside her.

Chapter 32: Fourth Uncle, Please Have Some Self-Respect

Jeanne sat in the car and realized that something was wrong.

Finn was sitting in the driver's seat, and Monica was in the passenger's seat.

Fourth Master Swan was sitting in the backseat. He was sitting next to Jeanne at the moment, and George was sitting on her other side.

Jeanne pursed her lips.

Monica was very excited. She turned to Jeanne and said, "Jeanne, I watched your live stream the whole time. You have no idea how excited I was. I couldn't wait to rush into the venue and clap for you!"

Jeanne did not reply.

All she wanted to know at this moment was why Fourth Master Swan was sitting in this car.

Monica continued, "I've been thinking about how you wouldn't marry that scum from the Lockes. Given your father's cruel personality, he wouldn't let you break off the engagement. Perhaps he would even beat you half to death as he did seven years ago. Just thinking about it now made me shudder. Now, Thedus cheated with someone outside and became so miserable. What's more, you actually have the recording of the conversation between Thedus and his mother. No matter what, it's all the fault of the Lockes. Your father can't force you to admit that it's your fault like he did seven years ago, right?! He can't force you to get married, right?! If he still wants you to get married now, wouldn't he be slapping himself in the face?!"

Jeanne looked at Monica.

Monica was actually more simple-minded.

Jeanne did not want Monica to become too complicated.

This was because a person needed to experience too much to become complicated, and she could not bear to let Monica go through all that.

Therefore, she would not tell Monica what she would have to face after breaking off the engagement this time... would not be any less than the scene from seven years ago.

The plot was surprisingly similar.

Despite that, the ending... must not be the same.

Jeanne deliberately changed the topic. "Dr. Finn, you came too?"

Before Finn could say anything, Monica was unusually agitated. "Jeanne, I realized that you often mentioned Finn when we were together these past few days. Have you taken a fancy to him?!"

Finn was speechless.

He looked at Edward, who was sitting calmly behind, through the rearview mirror.

Monica was truly born to conflict with Finn.

Perhaps one day, Finn would be killed by her.

Finn hurriedly said, "I came with Fourth Master Swan."

Jeanne's eyes moved slightly as she turned to look at that master.

Their eyes met.

Fourth Master Swan looked nonchalant, but he seemed to be able to see through everything.

Jeanne averted her gaze and did not say anything. She said politely to Finn, "Please send me back to the Lawrence family's manor."

"Okay." Finn nodded.

He drove on the wide highway.

Along the way, because Monica was present, there was no awkwardness.

Monica talked nonstop, and Jeanne occasionally echoed.

The men in the car, including George, were all silent.

Fortunately, the destination was not far away, and the car soon arrived at the Lawrence family's courtyard.

Jeanne got out of the car and said politely to Finn, "Thank you."

"There's no need to thank me," Finn replied politely.

Jeanne did not greet the others and left with George.

Monica's voice came from behind. "Jeannie, if your father makes things difficult for you because of this, don't hold back. You must give me a call. I'll destroy their old residence."

Jeanne smiled.

Sometimes, Monica could really make her heart feel warm.

Jeanne held George's hand and walked into the Lawrence family's courtyard. They walked past the garden path and into the main hall.

A slap landed fiercely on Jeanne's face.

Jeanne did not expect it.

At that moment, George was about to break free from Jeanne's hand, but he was fiercely grabbed by Jeanne.

George's eyes were red.

Jeanne knew he was feeling sorry for her.

Alexander cursed at Jeanne, "I regret letting you come back. A person like you who doesn't know what's good for you should die outside!"

Jeanne looked at him coldly. "I hope you won't regret what you said."

"I'll get even with you later!" Alexander said through gritted teeth.

Then, he left in large strides.

It was not that he did not care, but that the Swans were still around. Alexander cared about his reputation and could not do too much to her.

Jeanne watched Alexander leave.

She lowered her head to look at George.

Jeanne looked at George's face, which was flushed red from anger.

She forced a smile and was about to comfort her son when she suddenly heard a deep male voice behind her, "Aren't you going to resist?"

Jeanne turned around.

Fourth Master Swan was standing just a step away from her.

She did not know if he had seen the scene just now. He probably did, but it was not important to her.

Jeanne faced him and asked indifferently, "Will it do anything?"

Fourth Master Swan took a step forward.

This step allowed the distance between them to become much closer. It was not to the extent of crossing the line, but it was still somewhat... flirtatious.

Hence, Jeanne held George's hand and took a step back.

Fourth Master Swan looked at her action calmly.

Jeanne turned around and was about to leave.

"It will, at least to me," the person behind her suddenly spoke again.

Jeanne's footsteps paused.

"Seven years ago..."

"Fourth Uncle." Jeanne interrupted him.

According to seniority, that was how she should call Edward indeed.

This was all the more so because of the relationship between Eden and Jasmine.

Jeanne said, "Please have some self-respect."

Then, she led George into the Lawrence Residence's main hall.

She did not care about the emotions of the person behind her even though she could feel his intense gaze!

...

Jeanne and George returned to their room.

George seemed to have something to say. Jeanne patted his head and said, "Let me go take a shower first."

As such, George endured it and nodded obediently.

Jeanne walked into the bathroom.

To say that she was not affected at all...

She looked at her swollen face in the mirror. It was impossible for her to remain indifferent.

Nevertheless, she would tolerate the small things and be ruthless during the big things.

It was not yet to the point where Jeanne needed to be ruthless.

She adjusted her emotions and quickly washed up.

Once things did not go smoothly, she would habitually take a shower. Between her body and mind, one had to be clean.

She took a bath and went out.

George was sitting on the sofa with his tablet in his arms. When he saw her come out, he called out to her, "Mom, Kingsley."

Jeanne was drying her hair. She walked over in her pajamas.

George was on a video call with Kingsley.

When George saw Jeanne come over, he handed the tablet to her and walked to the side.

On the screen, Kingsley's huge face could be seen.

Jeanne looked disdainful. "Can you pay attention to the angle? Do you know you look ugly?"

"Do I?" Kingsley smiled and asked, "Do I still need to pay attention to my image in front of you?"

"I'm obsessed with appearances."

Kingsley fiddled with his camera and changed the angle. "Is this okay?"

"Much better," Jeanne replied and asked, "What's the matter?"

"You were slapped by Alexander?" Kingsley looked more serious.

Jeanne looked at George who was beside her.

George pretended not to see it and sat in front of his computer, typing on the keyboard.

"Did it hurt?" Kingsley asked.

"Don't be hypocritical. Haven't I been slapped by you before?" Jeanne was speechless.

"I didn't hurt your feelings," Kingsley forcefully argued.

"Alexander can't hurt my feelings either." Jeanne was indifferent. "I've seen through it long ago."

"Really?"

"Really," Jeanne answered with some impatience. "Is there anything else? If not, I'll hang up."

“Remember to apply some medicine to reduce the swelling...”

Jeanne pressed the button to hang up.

It was not that she was impatient, but she did not need to be comforted.

She was not so fragile, especially when dealing with the Lawrences!

Chapter 33: Fourth Master Swan Spoke up for Jeanne

Jeanne ended the video call with Kingsley.

She turned her head to look at George, who was sitting in front of the computer and seemed to be doing something very seriously.

Jeanne stood up and walked toward him.

George stopped typing on the keyboard.

Jeanne said, “George, I’m not afraid of anyone. It’s just that I need to endure it sometimes.”

“I...” George bit his lip. “I don’t want to see you get hurt.”

That was why he had complained to Kingsley.

Jeanne patted George’s little head. “When the time is right, I’ll take even more drastic measures to get it back.”

“Okay.” George nodded hard.

Jeanne did not say anything more. She did not want to waste time on unnecessary things. She looked at George’s computer screen. “How long will the Lockes’ loan be due?”

“Tomorrow.”

“Okay.” The corners of Jeanne’s mouth curled up.

It was time for the Lockes to end!

Jeanne turned around and was about to take out her phone when she realized that her phone had been smashed by Thedus.

She was not used to not having a phone.

At this moment, someone suddenly knocked on the door. “Eldest Young Lady.”

Jeanne opened the door.

“Eldest Young Lady, Master wants you and Little Master to go downstairs for dinner,” the servant said respectfully.

“Okay.” Jeanne nodded.

The servant left.

Jeanne returned to her room. As she changed, she said to George, "Let's go downstairs for dinner."

"But..." George looked at her. He was probably worried that what happened just now would happen again.

"Don't worry. With the Swans around, nothing will happen."

Jeanne knew it too well. If it was not for the Swans, Alexander would never have asked the servant to call her for dinner. Therefore, tonight's dinner would be very peaceful.

She changed into a set of clothes and went downstairs with George.

In the hall downstairs, she could hear Alexander and Eden's father, Henry, talking and laughing from afar. They seemed unusually harmonious.

Jeanne held George's hand and went over.

At this moment, Alexander also called out to the Swans, "In-laws, Fourth Master Swan, let's have a casual meal together."

Jeanne was not quite sure why Fourth Master Swan was still here. In fact, it had nothing to do with her. She was just a little surprised. It was rumored that Fourth Master Swan hated social events the most. Even so, in the past few days... Fourth Master Swan seemed to be very free.

Everyone walked into the luxurious hall of the Lawrence Residence.

The seats of honor were naturally for Henry and Alexander. Edward sat next to his big brother. Eden sat next to Edward. Beside Edward was Jasmine, followed by Joshua, Jeanne, and George. Beside Alexander sat Jenifer, followed by Henry's wife, Belle. As it was a round table, Belle was next to George.

During the meal, Alexander and Henry were still chatting and laughing. Occasionally, Alexander would deliberately find a topic to chat with Edward. Naturally, the others did not say much. Eden and the others would occasionally chime in at the right time. Only Jeanne and George were eating dinner seriously.

"Oh right, the matter between Jeanne and the Lockes today..." Henry suddenly took the initiative to bring it up.

Alexander's expression turned a little unsightly at that moment.

He forced a smile and said, "Thedus did such an outrageous thing. I can't possibly let Jeanne marry him."

"That's true." Henry agreed. "We watched Jeannie grow up as well. She should find a good man. I originally thought that the second son of the Lockes would be disciplined after a lesson. I didn't expect him to still be like that."

"I also didn't expect Thedus to be so unrepentant," Alexander said with some anger.

“This marriage was supposedly good. It’s a pity that it has become like this,” Henry said, “I heard that the Lockes and MUK have been talking about collaborating recently. If the deal is successful, the Lawrences and the Lockes together can seize Harken’s e-commerce market in just a matter of time.”

Alexander was a little embarrassed at this moment.

The people at the table were all business savvy, so how could they not tell what Henry was trying to say? He was obviously unhappy with the fact that the marriage between the Lawrences and the Lockes was broken off.

To the Swans, the Lawrences were already of a lower class than them. If the Lawrences could reach a higher class, it would be even better. Moreover, if the Lawrences and the Lockes cooperated with the MUK this time, the Swans could help them and also gain benefits in the e-commerce market.

“I know too. It’s just that things are unpredictable...” Alexander tried to explain.

Fourth Master Swan suddenly said, “The Lockes won’t be successful. If the Lawrences were to cooperate with them, it would be the Lawrences’ loss.”

Henry turned his head and looked at his fourth brother.

Edward was 20 years younger than him. He was born when Old Master Swan was 45 years old while Old Madam Swan was 43 years old. Due to his outstanding IQ, Old Master Swan valued Edward very much.

It was worth noting that Edward had been groomed differently from other people since he was young. Given his high IQ, he was naturally much more outstanding than the average person. Once he reached adulthood, Old Master Swan entrusted all the matters of the Swans to him to take care of. Of course, this caused the other brothers to be dissatisfied, but because of Edward’s ability, they had no choice but to accept it. In these years, although he was the youngest, he was the one who had the most say in the family apart from Old Master Swan.

“No matter how capable Damian is, his thoughts are stubborn and old-fashioned. He can’t keep up with the development of the current market. Of his two sons, his eldest son is mediocre and only muddles along. His second son is a scumbag. He knows nothing but how to play with women. Sooner or later, something will happen to the Lockes. If the Lawrences and the Lockes become in-laws, once something happens, the Lawrences will be implicated.” Edward’s tone was neither slow nor hurried. There was a kind of majesty that could not be refuted. “Jeanne made the right move by taking advantage of this incident to reasonably break off the engagement with the Lockes..”

“I think so too.” Alexander quickly followed Edward’s words and gave himself a way out.

He was also afraid that any disturbance would affect the marriage between Jasmine and Eden. To the Lawrences, the most important thing at this moment was this marriage with the Swans. He did not dare to make any mistakes at all.

Seeing that Edward had said so, Henry did not bring it up again.

In any case, if the old master were to ask, it would be Edward who would explain the matter. The others did not have much of a say, to begin with.

“Since that’s the case, don’t think too much about it. That said, Jeannie isn’t young anymore. It’s better to find someone to marry her as soon as possible,” Henry remarked.

“Jeannie has a child with her, so her situation is quite special. As her father, of course, I’ll try my best to find a good man for her.”

“Parents tend to worry about their children indeed...” Henry echoed.

...

The meal was rather enjoyable.

After dinner, the Swans were not in a hurry to leave. They drank some wine during dinner, so Alexander served them some tea after that.

Jeanne took George for a walk in the back garden.

Usually, George spent too much time in the room. When he had the time, she would drag him out to exercise more, even if he did not like it.

They walked a few rounds in the small garden that was a little dim.

Their footsteps suddenly stopped.

Jeanne looked at the man in front of her who deliberately blocked her path.

Chapter 34: It Doesn’t Stop You From... Seducing Me!

Jeanne looked at Eden standing in front of her. It was obvious that he was doing it on purpose.

To be honest, she did not have any interest in this man at the moment.

She did not even know why she loved him so wholeheartedly back then. After thinking about it, it was probably because she was young and did not know any better.

After all, any teenage girl would not be able to reject a good-looking and well-educated young man with good grades, a good personality, and good family background. It was just that those labels could not compare to a dirty heart.

The corners of Jeanne’s mouth curled up slightly. “Young Master Swan, is there something you need from me?”

Eden glanced at Jeanne and lowered his head to look at George.

George did not want to be outdone and looked back at him.

Eden said, “I want to talk to you alone.”

Jeanne lowered her head and looked at George. “Go back to your room first.”

She just did not want this man to waste too much of her time, so she did not want to be tangled with him.

George had always been obedient. Even though he was a little displeased, he still left obediently.

Jeanne looked at Eden and said coldly, "Young Master Swan, if you have something to say, just say it."

"I haven't thought of how to help you reject your marriage with the Lockes, yet you broke it off so easily." Eden stared at Jeanne. "You're much smarter than before!"

Jeanne smiled. "One learns from one's mistakes. I can't be ignorant like how I was seven years ago."

"Are you still brooding over what happened seven years ago?"

"Young Master Swan, you're worrying too much. I only learned a lesson from what happened seven years ago."

"Jeanne, why do you have to talk to me like that? We were in love for a while, so I'm not so indifferent to you. As long as you take the initiative, I can help you with many things." Eden seemed to be expressing his attitude.

Jeanne smiled again.

She said, "It's better for you to be indifferent toward me, Young Master Swan. I don't dare to ask for your help, and I don't dare to go against Jasmine now. I'm afraid I won't even know how she'll kill me if it happens."

Eden's face darkened slightly.

Jeanne seemed to dislike him from the bottom of her heart.

Eden had put down his airs, but she still maintained her posture.

He said, "If I can guarantee that Jasmine won't dare to do anything to you, will you..."

The corners of Eden's mouth curled up into a smile.

He reached out his hand and moved his fingers toward Jeanne's cheek.

Jeanne took a step back and dodged it perfectly.

Eden's fingers stiffened. He clenched his fist tightly and put it down. It was not difficult to see his emotions.

Jeanne said, "Young Master Swan, unrighteous deeds will lead to your own death."

After saying this, Jeanne walked past him and prepared to leave.

Eden grabbed her arm.

Jeanne's eyes narrowed.

Eden pulled her to his side with a ferocious expression. "Didn't you dress like this on purpose to seduce me tonight?"

'Like this?

'What about this?'

Jeanne lowered her head and looked at her outfit of a “virtuous woman”.

She was only wearing a black tight-fitting t-shirt and a pair of skinny jeans. Who did she seduce with such an ordinary outfit?

It would be fine for an ordinary person to wear this outfit, but due to her seductive figure, she looked erotic?!

Jeanne moved her arm and gestured for Eden to let go.

At this moment, Eden did not dare to do anything out of the ordinary in the Lawrence Residence. After a few moments of stalemate, he still let go of her.

Jeanne said, “Young Master Swan, you’d better not be so narcissistic. Who says that I’m not trying to seduce... your fourth uncle?”

“Jeanne!” Eden was furious.

She probably triggered him, so his expression changed completely.

Jeanne smiled faintly and continued, “No matter I look at it, your fourth uncle is stronger than you.”

“Stop dreaming!” Eden was incomparably enraged, and at this moment, he no longer put on an act. “Who do you think you are? Do you think you can seduce my fourth uncle just because he spoke for you? Don’t you know what kind of person you are? How dare you think about getting married into a prestigious family when you have a burden with you? Marrying a scumbag like Thedus would’ve been the most you can do! If you’re more obedient, I can still make you my mistress and guarantee that you’ll have nothing to worry about for the rest of your life! How dare you boast shamelessly about wanting to seduce my fourth uncle? Do you even have any self-awareness?!”

Toward Eden’s insults, Jeanne did not react at all.

All of her love for this man ended the moment he announced to the media that he loved Jasmine.

She said indifferently, “In any case, I’m not a good person anymore and am hopeless. If I’m lucky...”

“Enough!” Eden interrupted her directly.

Of course, Jeanne knew the reason Eden was so angry. It was not because he could not forget her, but because he was afraid that she would really seduce Fourth Master Swan. If that happened, what would become of him and Jasmine’s images?!

Everything Jeanne said tonight was to deliberately anger Eden! Of course, she did not think that she could seduce Fourth Master Swan, but it was still great to anger Eden.

Eden wanted to say something more, but he heard Jasmine’s voice behind him. “Eden, are you outside?”

He held back.

Eden gave Jeanne a fierce look, and with a threatening look, he turned around and left.

Jeanne sneered and got up to leave.

“Ms. Lawrence.” Behind her, a male voice was suddenly heard.

It was... a creepy feeling.

Jeanne turned her head and watched Fourth Master Swan walk out from the dark.

His tall physique and strong aura were hard to ignore.

Jeanne suppressed her shock and asked, “Fourth Master Swan, are you used to appearing and disappearing so mysteriously?”

“Do you think that I should come out and embarrass my nephew then?” Fourth Master Swan asked.

Jeanne was speechless.

The Swans would naturally side with the Swans.

Jeanne smiled politely. “You’re right.”

Edward looked at her.

Her smile was beautiful, but it was as cold as ice.

She was strongly distancing herself from him.

“If there’s nothing else, I won’t disturb you from enjoying the night...”

“Am I hopeless?” Edward suddenly spoke.

Jeanne was stunned, then she explained, “Fourth Master, you misunderstood. I was talking about myself.”

“You’re not.” Edward gave an affirmative answer.

At that moment, Jeanne was speechless.

She smiled embarrassedly and forced herself to respond, “Thank you, Fourth Master, for not minding me.”

Edward did not reply and just looked at her.

Jeanne felt that the rumor that Fourth Master Swan was a man of few words was true.

At this moment, they were in such an awkward situation.

Time ticked by.

Jeanne felt that if she did not take the initiative, Fourth Master Swan would not say anything.

She said, “It’s getting late. I’ll go back to my room first.”

Without further delay, she turned around and left.

“Ms. Lawrence, you’re more suitable for loose clothing.” Edward’s deep and magnetic voice came from behind.

Jeanne pursed her lips. In the end, she was still a little unhappy.

Were her normal clothes so unbearable in the eyes of others?

Was it her fault that she was in such good shape?!

She gritted her teeth and forced herself not to care.

The next moment, the person behind her added, "It doesn't stop you from seducing me."

Chapter 35: Something Must Be Wrong With Fourth Master Swan

At night.

It was so quiet.

Jeanne lay on the bed and slept just fine.

The sound of someone knocking on the door suddenly came from outside the room.

"Miss, someone is looking for you." The servant was a little annoyed.

Jeanne could understand that no one would be in a good mood if they were woken up in the middle of the night. At this moment, she was not in a good mood either.

Who was looking for her at this time of night?

Monica?

She was always like this from time to time.

"It's a man called Teddy," the servant said, clearly impatient.

If it was not because the madam reminded the servants to respect the "eldest young lady" who had been kicked out, they would not be so respectful to her.

"What?" Jeanne frowned slightly.

"He's waiting for you in the main hall now. He said he has something to hand over to you personally." After the servant finished, she turned around and left.

Jeanne glanced at the servant's back and pursed her lips. She also walked out of the room and went downstairs.

She really did see Teddy downstairs.

Teddy saw Jeanne appear and hurriedly went forward. "Ms. Lawrence."

"You're looking for me?"

"This is what Fourth Master wanted me to hand over to you." Teddy took out a cell phone and a SIM card. "The SIM card is still your original number, and the cell phone is new."

Jeanne looked at Teddy and did not say anything.

Teddy did not find this awkward. He took out another ointment and continued, "This ointment can reduce the swelling on your face. Fourth Master asked me to remind you to apply it before you go to bed. It'll reduce the swelling tomorrow."

Jeanne still looked at Teddy without saying anything.

There were a few seconds of awkwardness in the hall...

After a long while, Jeanne could not help but ask, "Is something wrong with your fourth master?"

"..." Teddy was stunned and nodded. "He has been a little... abnormal lately."

Fourth Master Swan somehow did not want Teddy to follow him today and only returned to the manor at 9:00 pm. He did not say anything when he returned. Half an hour ago, when it was midnight, he asked Teddy to send a SIM card, a cell phone, and a tube of ointment to Jeanne. Teddy suspected that his master had been terminally ill recently and became mentally disordered.

Teddy said, "Please accept them, Ms. Lawrence."

"I shouldn't take something undeserved. Mr. Dolittle, please..."

"My master said that if you don't accept them, I don't have to go back either."

"..."

"Please, Ms. Lawrence, be magnanimous and let me go back to report the matter."

Since Teddy had said this much, Jeanne did not want to make things difficult for him.

She took all the things in his hands and said, "Help me thank Fourth Master Swan."

"Okay."

Jeanne took the things in Teddy's hands.

Teddy politely bowed and turned around to leave.

Jeanne looked at the things in her hands. It was a little... baffling.

She did not have anything to do with Fourth Master Swan tonight.

After Fourth Master Swan said those words, Jeanne pretended not to hear them and left immediately. Fourth Master Swan did not say anything more. She thought that was it, but she did not think that he would send someone to deliver things to her.

What was more, it was in the middle of the night!

Jeanne lowered her head and looked at the phone, the SIM card, and the ointment...

She was not a child.

As such, she would not smile if she was given candy.

She conveniently threw the ointment into the trash can. When she was about to throw away the phone and the SIM card, she hesitated for a moment.

It was just that she was not used to not having a phone.

...

In the Swan family's Bamboo Garden.

In a black-and-white, minimalistic, and high-class room, Edward was lying on a large black leather bed. He was wearing a white bathrobe and holding a phone in his hand. He was staring at the screen as if he was attracted by something.

The moment Teddy knocked on the door and entered, Edward's eyes moved.

Teddy said respectfully, "Master, I gave all the things to Ms. Lawrence."

"Did she say anything?" Edward asked.

"She asked me to thank you."

"What else?"

Teddy looked at his master.

'What else could there be?'

Edward turned to look at him.

Teddy tried hard to recall. "Oh right."

Edward's eyes were clear, and they flickered for a moment.

Teddy said, "Ms. Lawrence asked if something is wrong with you!"

"..." Edward's face darkened.

Teddy did not dare to speak.

"Teddy." Edward looked back at his phone and asked in a neutral tone, "How's the night view in Bamboo Garden tonight?"

"The moon is bright, and the stars are twinkling. It's extremely beautiful."

"I'll reward you with a night view in Bamboo Garden. You're not allowed to return to the house before the sun comes out."

"..." Was it so difficult to tell the truth?!

Teddy left with tears in his eyes.

Edward's expression did not change as he looked at the screen again.

A message from Nox popped up on the screen: [Fourth Master Swan, did you see that? I sent you a short video.]

Edward replied slowly: [Yes.]

[Grabbing an adult man's arm with her bare hand and making him unable to move. It's obvious that she was trained... I'm afraid that Ms. Lawrence isn't simple.]

Edward completely ignored Nox's words and typed a few words. [Let's see what happens to the Lockes tomorrow.]

Then, he placed his phone on the side.

He lay on the big bed and looked at the ceiling above him.

Looking at the faint light emitted by the black downlight, he was a little lost in thought.

It seemed that... he would not be able to fall asleep tonight.

...

The next day.

The sky had just turned bright.

Jeanne was woken up by the maid again.

She looked at the time. It was 7:00 am.

Jeanne did not disturb George's sleep and went to Jonathan's study.

At that time, Alexander and Jenifer, as well as Jasmine and Joshua, were all there.

Jeanne sometimes admired the dignity of the head of the Lawrences.

She looked at Jonathan.

Last night, the Swans were present. Jonathan had always gone to bed early, so he did not have time to teach her a lesson. This morning, he started to question her.

"Jeanne, before going to the Lockes, do you still remember what I said?!" Jonathan asked sternly.

The anger in his voice could not be concealed, causing the others present to not dare to even breathe loudly.

"What are you referring to, Grandpa?" Jeanne asked calmly.

Jonathan's expression became even more unsightly. He suddenly slammed the table. It was very loud, scaring the others so much that their bodies trembled.

Jeanne straightened her back and remained unmoved.

"I don't want what happened seven years ago to happen again!" Jonathan gritted his teeth.

"Grandpa, are you referring to when I was beaten half to death by my father's whip and that I wasn't allowed to be sent to the hospital? Or are you referring to when you chased me out of the Lawrences and sent me out of the country?"

“Jeanne, you’re challenging my limits...” Jonathan was furious.

“Grandpa!” Jeanne interrupted him directly, and her aura was very strong, “Am I a Lawrence?!”

Jonathan was stunned.

Jeanne sneered. “I once suspected that I’m not actually a Lawrence, that my father isn’t my biological father, and that you’re not my biological grandfather. Otherwise, how cruel must you guys be to be so harsh on your biological daughter and granddaughter?!”

“Jeanne, that’s enough! For someone like you who doesn’t know what’s good for you, I’m already being merciful by treating you this way. The moment your mother died, I shouldn’t have cared about you!” Alexander said fiercely, “I raised you for so many years in vain!”

“How did my mother die?” Jeanne suddenly asked Alexander.

Alexander’s expression instantly turned ugly.

“Didn’t my mother treat you well enough by letting you have a mistress?! If it wasn’t for my mother, the Lawrences would’ve long become the next family to be eliminated...”

“Enough!” Alexander raised his hand.

Jeanne’s gaze hardened.

She looked coldly at Alexander in front of her!

Chapter 36: Jeanne’s Imposing Manner

Alexander raised his hand and wanted to slap Jeanne’s face.

Jeanne did not move. A cold glint flashed across her eyes.

That gaze caused Alexander to suddenly stop his hand in mid-air.

In an instant, he felt a chill run down his spine.

He seemed to see a glimpse of Jeanne’s mother in her. It made him feel... terrified.

Jeanne asked, “Do you want to completely ruin the little affection left between us?”

Alexander’s expression was ugly. He put down his hand fiercely and said, “Jeanne, you only care about yourself regardless of the reputation of our family. Don’t think that I have any feelings for you.”

“So, you’re saying that I’m just a tool for profit. Not only me, but Jasmine and Joshua as well.”

“Jeanne!” Alexander was furious.

Jasmine quickly said, “Sister, how can you say that about Dad? A family wouldn’t talk about being a tool for profit. A family needs to help each other. Take me for example. If I can contribute to the Lawrences, I’d be very satisfied and proud. At least I’m not a useless person in the family.”

“That’s why you seduced Eden and exchanged yourself for benefits,” Jeanne mocked.

“Eden and I are truly in love. How can you speak so harshly?” Jasmine said angrily. At that moment, her eyes were red.

Alexander looked at Jeanne’s aggressive manner and said coldly, “Jeanne, look at the gap between you and Jasmine! Jasmine always sided with the Lawrences, whereas you only sided with yourself. You’re so selfish, so what right do you have to question my feelings for you?! When you were 18 years old, you were still young and impulsive. Now that you’re 25 years old, you’re still like this. How do you think I should treat you?”

“For the so-called interests of the family, I should sacrifice myself?” Jeanne laughed sarcastically. “When I was 18 years old, Eden and Jasmine cheated on me. When I was seeking justice for myself, you forced me to admit that my relationship with Eden was broken in order to continue the marriage with the Swans. You even asked me to give them my generous blessings! I went to the Swan family’s residence to ask Eden for an explanation. When I came back, I was beaten half to death by you with a whip. I was even chased out of the Lawrence family’s manor! I was cheated on, but because I didn’t accept it generously, I became a heinous criminal?!”

Alexander was rendered speechless by Jeanne’s words.

Jonathan said coldly, “The interests of the family can’t be violated. No matter what grievances you’ve suffered, you must put the family first. You didn’t stand on the side of our family, so it was a heinous crime to us!”

Jeanne smiled again. She said, appearing unusually calm, “So, you don’t have the slightest bit of guilt for what happened seven years ago. It was all my fault. Seven years later, the same thing happened to me, and it’s still my fault!”

“I thought you understood seven years ago!” Jonathan was indifferent.

“Does that mean that as long as it’s beneficial to the family, I can do anything?” Jeanne raised her eyebrow.

Jonathan affirmed, “Yes!”

“That means that if Eden and I can get back together, I can also become a Swan and bring benefits to the family...”

“Sister! Are you crazy?” Jasmine interrupted Jeanne and could not help but say, “Eden and I are about to get married soon, and you’re saying such a thing now...”

“Shut up!” Jeanne faced Jasmine in an imposing manner. “When your oldest sister speaks, do you have the right to interrupt?!”

Jasmine’s face turned red from Jeanne’s words.

Jeanne did not even look at Jasmine. Her contempt for her was so obvious.

At that moment, Jasmine wanted to strangle Jeanne to death.

What right did Jeanne have to act like the eldest daughter of the Lawrences? Who did she think she was?!

Jenifer was such a scheming and shrewd person. At that moment, she almost could not hold herself back.

She forced herself to calm down.

Jeanne continued, "Grandpa, is that what you mean?"

"As long as you can do it!" Jonathan said coldly.

"Okay, I understand," Jeanne said, "As long as I can bring benefits to the Lawrences, I can do whatever I want."

"The thing now is that you've caused the Lawrences to lose a huge sum!" Jonathan's expression was ugly. "What you have caused us to lose isn't the 300 million dollars financing project, but the market space of billions of dollars in the future. How do you think I should settle this debt with you!"

In the study, Jasmine was so angry that he was about to explode. When she heard that Jonathan was going to settle the debt with Jeanne, her mood instantly improved.

At the age of 18, even though the Lawrences were cruel, Jeanne did not lose an arm or a leg! One had to know that back then, the Lawrences' business continued to fall because of Jeanne's troubles, and the Swans almost broke off the engagement with the Lawrences. Jeanne had to thank Jasmine for not being beaten to death by Alexander. She had to thank Jasmine for finally being together with Eden as she did not let the marriage between the Lawrences and the Swans fall apart.

This time...

Jasmine sneered to herself.

This time, Jeanne had forced the Lawrences to suffer such a big loss. Jasmine did not believe that the Lawrences would let her off so easily.

Jasmine was even thinking about how to torture this woman to release the hatred in her heart during this period!

Jeanne faced the furious Jonathan. She said calmly, "The reason I refused to help Thedus and broke off the engagement with the Lockes was for the Lawrences—"

"Jeanne, I don't have time to talk nonsense with you!" Jonathan interrupted her.

"Didn't Dad tell you what Fourth Master Swan said to him last night?" Jeanne was unwilling to show weakness.

Jonathan frowned.

Alexander said, "Fourth Master Swan made a passing remark."

"Since when did you think Fourth Master Swan talks nonsense?!"

"Fourth Master Swan and Eden have a competitive relationship. Fourth Master Swan is afraid that Eden's development will affect his position in the Swans, so he can't wait for Eden's power to weaken. Naturally, he doesn't want the Lawrences to prosper!"

“I’m afraid you think too highly of Eden.” Jeanne was sarcastic.

Alexander was angered by Jeanne’s disdainful tone. Just as he was about to open his mouth...

Jeanne said bluntly, “The Lockes are facing bankruptcy!”

The moment she said that, everyone looked at her.

They did not believe her at all.

“Don’t spout nonsense here!” Alexander said to Jeanne, “The Lockes have a lot of money. Although the market hasn’t developed very well these few years, it doesn’t mean that they’re facing bankruptcy! How long are you going to spout nonsense?!”

Jeanne felt tired talking to the Lawrences.

She took out her phone.

Luckily, she did not throw it away last night.

She tapped on the news and looked at the financial news headline.

Afterward, she placed her phone directly in front of Alexander.

On the screen, there was a piece of breaking news that said: [The Locke Enterprise has failed in their investment and is unable to repay their bank loan. They might face bankruptcy!]

In actuality, saying that they might face bankruptcy was just a euphemism!

Chapter 37: The Wu Family Goes Bankrupt

Jonathan stared at the news in a daze.

After a long while, he raised his head.

The older, the wise. Jonathan’s expression did not change. He looked at Alexander and said, “Ask the Lockes what’s going on with them now.”

After receiving the order, Alexander quickly turned around to walk to the balcony to make a call.

The people in the room, especially Jenifer, Jasmine, and Joshua, looked at each other. They were probably plotting something.

Jeanne was relatively calm. Jonathan was also expressionless.

After a while, Alexander returned to the study and said respectfully to Jonathan, “Dad, something has indeed happened to the Lockes.”

Jonathan’s expression changed slightly.

“When MUK moved in, they didn’t think of working with any other companies. They have long gotten independent rights in Harken and were building their own e-commerce platform. As a result, all the investment of the Lockes has been wasted. Coincidentally, today is the maturity date of the Lockes’ loan.

The Lockes intend to mortgage the e-commerce companies they acquired to the bank, but the bank won't accept it. At the end of the day, once MUK enters, how can small e-commerce companies have the chance to survive? The Lockes have lost a lot this time," Alexander said with some fear.

Fortunately, they did not impulsively take out funds for the collaboration back then, or they would have suffered too.

"Can the Lockes still delay the bank's loan?" Jonathan asked.

"It's very difficult. Not only did the Lockes face the inability to repay the bank's loan, but their business also has a broken capital chain now. If they still want to get up, they'll have to continue the loan. However, the Lockes' traditional business no longer has prospects for development, and there's no market for the e-commerce companies they invested in. The bank can't continue lending them money without an end. According to what banks usually do, they'll probably recover all of the Lockes' mortgaged assets and auction them off to cut their losses."

Jonathan nodded as if he was clear about this matter.

At the same time, a phone rang in the study.

Alexander took a glance at the caller. He hurriedly said, "It's Damian."

"He's going to borrow money from you." Jonathan went straight to the point

"I..."

"You should reject him, of course," Jonathan said, "Give me the phone."

Alexander gave the phone to Jonathan.

Jonathan picked it up. "Damian, it's me."

"Uncle Jonathan, it's best that you answer my call. I was just about to look for you," the other party said anxiously, "You know that I've been investing in e-commerce platforms during this period. E-commerce is the trend in the future, where a lot of money can be made. That said, at this juncture, I've invested too much money in this, so I don't have enough funds at the moment. Yesterday, I also told Alex that as long as the e-commerce platform is built, we'll split it 50-50. So, Uncle Jonathan, can the Lawrences finance a portion of the money first? I'll return twice the amount to you including interest."

"Damian," Jonathan said unhurriedly, "In the past, I would've helped you even if you went bankrupt, let alone for the sake of investing. The Lawrences have always been loyal. However, while I wholeheartedly let my granddaughter be married to your son, your son did such a thing to let her down. What's more, your family acquiesced to it. I can't swallow this grievance. Since our families have fallen out, there's no possibility of further cooperation between us."

"Uncle Jonathan..."

Jonathan immediately hung up. He did not listen to Damian's explanation at all.

He handed the phone to Alexander. "Whether it's the Lockes or the media, you're going to give the same answer. It's not that the Lawrences are heartless; it's just that the Lockes' actions were too disappointing."

"I understand." Alexander hurriedly nodded.

Fortunately, the engagement with the Lockes was broken off yesterday, and it was still the Lockes' fault. Otherwise, if something happened to the Lockes at this time, the prospective in-laws would be considered ungrateful for not helping them, and the Lawrences' reputation would then be tarnished. It was good that the Lawrences had sufficient reasons to reasonably reject the Lockes' request for help at this moment.

"So..." Jeanne asked coldly in the room, "Am I still in the wrong?"

Everyone instantly looked at her.

Jonathan said coldly, "Do you think you're right for breaking off the engagement without discussing it with your elders?! You should be thankful that you're lucky. Something happened to the person you broke off the engagement with! Otherwise, think about the consequences you'll face!"

'Luck?!'

Jeanne sneered and did not say a word.

Jonathan continued, "For the sake of not causing a huge disaster in the end, I can let bygones be bygones but..."

Jeanne's eyes moved slightly.

"Return the 5% of the shares that you previously took!"

Jeanne asked sarcastically, "You want to take back what you gave me?"

"I gave them to you because I wanted you to marry Thedus Locke. Now that you're not marrying him, shouldn't you return them?" Jonathan made it sound like it was a matter of fact.

"Grandpa, I don't want to reason with you. At your age, you should know more about reason than I do. Even so, I feel that you're too overbearing now!"

"Jeanne, how can you talk to your grandpa like that?!" Alexander's face darkened.

"Speak!" Jonathan said sternly.

Alexander paused.

Jeanne looked straight at Jonathan. "When you gave me the shares back then, you didn't say that you'll take them back if I end up not getting married to Thedus."

"I gave you the shares on the premise of becoming a Locke."

"Compared to the benefits of a joint marriage with the Lockes, breaking off the marriage has also brought benefits to the Lawrences. Not only did we not lose out on our investments, but we also kept our reputation."

“One thing is not another. I gave you the shares back then just to make up for you. Now, you don’t have to marry Thedus, so we no longer have to make up for it.”

“No. You just said that as long as I can bring benefits to the family, I can do whatever I want.” Jeanne looked at Jonathan. “I’ve never thought of doing whatever I want. All I want is 5% of the shares. Grandpa, are you planning to slap your own face?!”

Jonathan glared at Jeanne.

He had never thought that one day, he would be rendered speechless by his granddaughter.

“Grandpa, 5% of the shares is nothing to you. Nothing will change for you because of this small amount of shares, whether it’s in the Lawrence Enterprise or the Lawrence family. On the other hand, it’s very important to me.”

“What’s so important?!” Jonathan snorted coldly.

“It means that I’m a Lawrence,” Jeanne uttered word by word.

Jonathan seemed to be stunned for a moment.

Jeanne said in a slightly lower voice, “I was chased out of the family by you, so I once suspected that I wasn’t my dad’s biological daughter. These shares at least give me a reason to convince myself that I’m a Lawrence.”

Jonathan looked at Jeanne, and at that moment, he seemed to be sizing her up.

It was probably the first time in the 25 years since Jeanne was born that he looked at her so directly.

Jonathan, who had always valued sons over daughters, had always treated the daughters of the Lawrences lightly. This was the case for Jasmine as well; he was just using her as a tool to gain benefits.

This time, Jonathan was shocked by Jeanne’s explosive power.

Whether it was her imposing manner earlier or her softness at this time, they gave him no reason to reject her.

Jonathan’s eyes narrowed.

Perhaps Jeanne was more useful than he thought!

Just like Jeanne’s mother...

Chapter 38: The Past

In the somewhat tense room.

Jonathan said slowly, “Remember that you’re a Lawrence.”

This seemed to be a compromise for the shares.

Jeanne curled the corners of her lips. “Thank you, Grandpa.”

“Grandpa...” Joshua, who had been silent all this while, could not hold it in any longer.

“Joshua!” Alexander called out to him.

Joshua looked at his father and held it in.

Jonathan did not need to explain to anyone. He waved his hand and said, “All of you, go out. I’m tired.”

“Yes,” Alexander said respectfully.

Then, he made the others leave.

Everyone walked out of the study.

Jeanne walked in front.

“Jeanne,” Alexander called out to her.

Jeanne turned around. “Yes?”

“You’d better behave yourself!” Alexander threatened.

Jeanne smiled and said, “Okay.”

Although she agreed right away, she was half-hearted.

Without giving anyone any face, she left after that.

Alexander clearly had some emotions.

Jenifer whispered beside him, “Jeannie is still so disrespectful to her elders after all these years...”

Alexander turned his head and glared fiercely at her.

Jenifer immediately shut up.

Alexander said, “It’s time to go to work.”

As he said that, he strode away.

Jenifer signaled Joshua to follow.

In the corridor of the Lawrence family’s residence, only Jenifer and Jasmine were left.

Jasmine was driven mad.

She was about to speak when Jenifer called out to her, “Let’s talk in your room.”

The two of them returned to Jasmine’s room.

Jasmine could not hold it in any longer. She could not take it anymore and shouted, “What’s so great about Jeanne? What right does she have to be so arrogant in front of Grandpa and Dad? What right does she have to be so fierce to me?!”

She was so angry that her eyes were red.

Jenifer was also fuming at that moment. She said, "We can't underestimate this woman."

"What's so great about her?! It's just that she was lucky and that the Lockes happen to be going bankrupt. Otherwise, she would've been beaten to death!" Jasmine said fiercely as if she did not care about Jeanne at all.

"It won't be that simple," Jenifer said.

"Anyway, Dad doesn't like her. Seven years ago, Dad was able to hit her so hard and even chased her out of the house. What can she do now?!"

"It's true that your dad doesn't like Jeanne, but it's not her problem. It's her mother," Jenifer said suddenly.

"What?" Jasmine did not know much about what happened to the previous generation.

"Jeanne's mom is a business prodigy. She helped the Lawrences develop when the Lawrences were on the brink of crisis. The Lawrences maintained as one of the twelve great families because of her ability. However, she was also too capable. Although Jeanne's mom didn't have any shares, the Lawrence Enterprise was still under her control. Your dad didn't have any say in the company. Not only that, but Jeanne's mother didn't give face to him on many occasions. Over time, he no longer had any feelings for her. He even started to hate her. Jeanne is very similar to her mother, so your dad doesn't like her," Jenifer explained.

"I'm a little confused. When we became members of the Lawrences that year, I didn't see how much Dad hated Jeanne." Jasmine recalled. "At that time, Jeanne's mother had passed away. Why did Dad still treat Jeanne well? He even tolerated her temper many times."

"That was because of Eden's existence," Jenifer said bluntly, "When Jeanne's mom passed away that year, at the funeral, Jeanne and Eden got to know each other. Eden said in front of everyone that he wanted to protect Jeanne. Your dad saw that Jeanne had hooked up with the eldest young master of the Swans. He thought that he could use this relationship to interact with the Swans, so of course, he didn't do anything to Jeanne."

"I see. No wonder when Jeanne fell out with Eden back then, Dad hit her like that. He probably wanted to vent all the grievances he had suffered from her mom."

Jenifer nodded. "So, Jasmine, you must remember that the Lawrences only care about benefits. They'll favor whoever can bring benefits to them. Right now, I'm really a little worried that your grandfather will see Jeanne's ability and use her to his advantage. Joshua has been doing nothing in the business industry..."

"Mom, you're worrying too much. No matter what Jeanne is, she's still a woman. Don't you know how much the Lawrences value boys over girls?" Jasmine looked a little proud. "Moreover, I'm about to marry the eldest young master of the Swans. What can compare to the benefits I'll bring to the Lawrences?!"

"You're right. The most important thing now is for you to marry Eden without any mistakes. As for that woman, Jeanne..." Jenifer's eyes narrowed. "Since she didn't learn her lesson seven years ago, I will let her understand the consequences of provoking me now!"

“Mom, what are you going to do?” Jasmine was full of excitement.

“You’ll find out soon.” A cruel look flashed across Jenifer’s eyes.

Back then, even Jeanne’s powerful mom could not defeat Jenifer, let alone a mere... little girl!

...

Jeanne returned to her room.

George had just woken up. He rubbed his sleepy eyes and asked, “Mom, where did you go?”

“I went for a walk.” There were many things she did not want her son to know.

Even if her son was precocious.

“Oh.” George climbed down from the bed. “Next time you go out, call me. I’ll accompany you.”

Jeanne smiled faintly.

Why should she have a man in her life? Having a son was enough. Once her son grew up, he would bring her a daughter-in-law. It would be perfect!

Her eyes moved slightly, and her phone rang at this moment.

Jeanne motioned for George to go wash up. She picked up the phone. “Monica.”

“D*mn, I was just trying to call you. If I can’t get through, I plan to get a new SIM card and a phone for you. Who knew, the call got through.” The person on the other end was a little agitated.

Jeanne was speechless.

Monica asked, “Did you see the news? Something big has happened to the Lockes.”

“I saw it.” Jeanne appeared very calm.

“Serves them right!” Monica cursed angrily. “The Lockes raised such a son and have such a disgusting mother. They should’ve been punished long ago!”

Jeanne did not reply.

In any case, it was fine as long as Monica was happy.

“Speaking of which, Jeannie...” The person on the other end wanted to say something but hesitated.

Jeanne frowned. She could instantly feel that something was wrong with Monica today. She asked, “What happened?”

Monica was silent for two seconds before her tone returned to normal. “Nothing. I just wanted to tell you that the Lockes are finished.”

“Did you quarrel with Finn?” Jeanne asked bluntly.

“What are you thinking about?!” Monica was being a little exaggerated. “Why would I quarrel with him? We don’t even speak much in a day.”

“If you have something on your mind, tell me.” Jeanne was very serious.

“No, no, no. Alright, I’m going to hang up. My dad asked me to accompany him to the hospital for a routine check-up.”

Suddenly, Monica hung up the phone.

The moment she hung up, she stared at her phone screen.

She swiped with her fingers and opened a message. [Monica, I’m back.] It was a message from Micheal.

“Monica, what are you standing there for? Get in the car. We’re going to the hospital now.” Monica’s father, Gary Cardellini, urged.

Monica gritted her teeth and deleted the text message.

The past... was in the past.

Chapter 39: It’s Time for You to Do Family Planning With Finn

Monica accompanied her dad to the hospital.

Sitting in the luxurious car, Monica was deep in thought.

Gary frowned. “You’re normally talkative. Why aren’t you talking to me now?!”

“What can I say to an old man like you...? Ah!” Monica held her head. “Dad, I’m so stupid because you’ve been hitting my head since I was young.”

“If you know you’re stupid, stop thinking so much. Just live a good life with Finn.”

“Finn, Finn. Is Finn your illegitimate child?!” Monica was displeased.

Gary was too lazy to answer and changed the topic. “I heard that Jeannie is back?”

“She’s been back for many days. Dad, you don’t even care about my friend!” Monica complained.

Gary was speechless. He said, “When you’re free, ask Jeannie to come over for dinner. I’ll treat her well.”

“You promise?”

Gary nodded.

“Then I’ll find time to ask her to come over for dinner,” Monica said with a smile.

The father and daughter had a very good relationship. They were often noisy, but their relationship was extremely good.

They chatted and laughed as they walked into Finn’s office in Central Hospital.

Finn was wearing a white coat and a pair of framed glasses. He was everything one could fantasize about a doctor.

Back then, Monica fell in love with this b*stard at first sight. It was probably because she could not resist seeing him in a white coat!

“Dad, you’re here so early,” Finn called Gary naturally. He stood up respectfully and went over to help him.

“I have a shareholders’ meeting in the afternoon. I came over early since I have time in the morning.”

“I’ve arranged everything for you. Follow me.”

Finn brought Gary to undergo a physical examination.

Gary had a very serious heart condition. Three years ago, he underwent a heart bypass surgery. Finn was the chief surgeon, and the surgery was very successful. Nonetheless, because of the heart surgery, Gary had to undergo a full body checkup every six months, and it was also done by Finn himself.

Monica waited in Finn’s office.

Finn’s assistant respectfully made a cup of tea for Monica. “Mrs. Jones, here’s your favorite royal black tea.”

Monica thanked her and sighed. “The treatment in this hospital is too good. You even serve such expensive tea. Isn’t this a public hospital?”

“The tea belongs to Dr. Jones,” the assistant replied.

“That scum really knows how to enjoy himself,” Monica could not help but say after taking a sip of her tea.

The assistant was speechless.

Dr. Jones never drank black tea. It was only brewed for Monica whenever she came.

...

Monica waited for an hour.

When Finn and Gary returned, Monica asked Finn, “How’s my dad?”

“He’s fine,” Finn answered. He turned to Gary and said, “Based on the results, your health is no different from a normal person’s. As long as you continue to take care of yourself according to my medical advice, there won’t be any problems.”

“Thank you.” Gary patted Finn’s shoulder with a smile.

“Dad, you’re being too polite.” Finn was very polite.

Monica looked at Finn. This man was always polite in front of outsiders, but in front of her, he was the worst!

“Since I’m fine, I won’t disturb your work. Monica, let’s go,” Gary said.

Monica stood up from the sofa.

"I'll send you off," Finn said hurriedly.

The three of them walked out of Finn's office and entered the elevator.

The moment the elevator opened, Monica paused for a moment.

Not only Monica, but the person inside was also stunned.

He looked straight at Monica.

"Commissioner Ross, we're here," the person next to him reminded him to get off the elevator.

Michael then walked out.

He walked past Monica.

Monica pursed her lips and did not look any different.

Finn sent Monica and Gary to the car. Gary said, "It's been a long time since you've gone home for dinner with Monica. Come back for dinner tonight."

"I'll try my best." Finn agreed.

Gary nodded and gestured for the driver to drive away.

In the car, Monica did not say a word.

Gary said, "Michael has returned to Harken?"

Monica came back to her senses and said nonchalantly, "Probably."

"Don't come up with any bad ideas. Think about how he broke up with you back then!" Gary sounded a bit serious.

"Got it." Monica was a little impatient.

She picked up the mineral water in the car and drank it as though she was not bothered.

"When are you and Finn going to have a child?" Gary suddenly asked.

Monica almost spat out a mouthful of water.

'F*ck.

'I'm still a virgin. How are we going to have a child?'

"You can start planning," Gary said with a commanding tone.

Monica was not going to care about what the old man said. In any case, she was going to divorce Finn sooner or later!

...

Before long, the Lockes declared bankruptcy.

They were probably the only publicly listed company that declared bankruptcy so quickly. It seemed that their death was declared before they could even struggle.

Jeanne lay on the chair in her room and looked at some news out of boredom.

These few days, she had nothing to do. She either accompanied George in their room to “play computer games”, went out for a stroll in the Lawrence Residence’s courtyard, or watched coldly from the side as the Lawrences prepared for Jasmine and Eden’s wedding.

There were only three days left before the cheating couple got married.

Jeanne was very calm. She calmly watched Jasmine act like a shy yet eager woman.

She put down her phone and looked at the time. It was 9:00 pm. Just as she was thinking of getting George to wash up and go to bed earlier, her phone rang.

Jeanne frowned.

To be honest, she did not like answering the phone at night.

She looked at the incoming call. “Monica.”

“Jeanne, I’m drunk.” Monica’s slightly drunk voice came from the other end.

“You’re drunk at 9:00 pm?” This did not seem like Monica’s style.

“Come and pick me up.” Monica did not explain. “King-T Club, room 999.”

After saying that, she abruptly hung up the phone.

Jeanne was a little speechless.

She took a deep breath and said to George, “Take a bath and sleep by yourself. I’ll go out and send your godmother back. She’s drunk at the nightclub.”

“Okay.” George nodded.

Sometimes, George was so sensible that Jeanne was very touched.

She got up and caressed George’s head. Then, she went to change her clothes and walked out of the room.

Downstairs, Jenifer and Jasmine were still in the living room preparing for the wedding. Besides them, Jenifer’s relatives from her mother’s family had also come.

According to the rules of South Hampton City, before a wedding, there must always be bridal guests. Usually, large families would let the bridal guests stay with them in advance. It was normal for them to spend three days and three nights together.

The hall that was originally filled with laughter and chatter became silent for a second when everyone saw Jeanne.

Jeanne walked out directly.

Someone said from behind her, "She didn't even greet us. Despite being the eldest young lady, she isn't as polite as us!"

Jeanne did not care at all. She used her phone to call for an Uber and arrived at the destination.

She did not like nightclubs, so she was not used to them and was also very unfamiliar with them.

Under the guidance of a staff member, she walked into room 999.

The door was opened.

Jeanne was stunned.

Other than Monica, there was also Finn, Nox, and... Fourth Master Swan.

Chapter 40: Jeanne Sent Fourth Master Swan Home, and They Kissed

When Jeanne saw everyone in the private room clearly, she knew she had been tricked by Monica.

She turned around and was about to leave.

Monica grabbed her. "Sister Jeanne."

Usually, when Monica had something to ask of Jeanne, she would call her that.

Jeanne looked grim.

"You finally came back, and we haven't gathered like this for a long time. Please do me the honor of spending some time with me." Monica acted coquettishly.

Jeanne looked at her coldly.

"Yes, yes, yes. It's my fault. I shouldn't have lied to you, but would you have come out if I didn't say that?" Monica said with a fawning look.

At this moment, Finn also walked over. "Have a seat. We'll be leaving soon too."

Jeanne looked at Finn and nodded slowly.

Monica's heart was breaking.

'Does Jeanne really fancy Finn?!'

Monica had just said a lot, but it was nothing compared to what Finn had said.

She watched in displeasure as Jeanne walked into the private room.

Jeanne chose a corner and sat down.

Monica sat next to her with a fawning look. "Jeannie, what song do you want to sing? I'll queue it for you."

"I'm not singing."

“Let’s have a drink then?”

“I’m not drinking.”

“Do you want to eat snacks?”

“No.”

“Jeannie...”

“You can play on your own. I know how to kill time.” Jeanne was indifferent.

Monica saw that Jeanne really did not like this environment, so she rubbed her nose and went to have fun by herself.

Jeanne took out her phone and sat on the side to play a little game to kill time.

She was clearing a round in the game.

“Ms. Lawrence.” A man walked over, holding a glass of wine.

Jeanne looked up.

“Nox. Do you still remember me, Ms. Lawrence?” Nox introduced himself.

Jeanne smiled. “Of course, we played mahjong together.”

Nox also smiled. “Actually, we met more than once. Seven years ago...”

“Mr. Winter.” Jeanne interrupted him. “If you’d like to drink with me, I’m sorry, it’s not convenient for me these few days.”

Nox was naturally not stupid. He knew that Jeanne did not want to say much, so he smiled and said, “Please help yourself then.”

Jeanne smiled.

Nox returned to his seat and chatted with Fourth Master Swan and Finn while drinking.

Jeanne continued to lower her head and play with her phone.

“Miss, here’s your plain water.” The waiter suddenly approached.

Jeanne was stunned. “Thank you.”

The waiter left respectfully.

At 10:30 pm, Finn said to Monica, who was still singing affectionately, “Monica, it’s getting late. It’s time to go back.”

“It’s only past 10:00 pm.” Monica was obviously not satisfied.

“Everyone has something to do tomorrow.”

Monica was helpless. She put down the microphone. “Let’s go then.”

She turned around and walked toward Jeanne. "Jeannie, let's go."

"Okay." Jeanne stood up.

Everyone also stood up from their seats.

Monica looked at Fourth Master Swan and had an idea. She suddenly asked, "Fourth master, did you drink?"

Fourth Master Swan looked at Monica. "What do you think?"

"Jeannie hasn't drunk. Why don't you let her send you back?" Monica arranged the matter and added, "Finn, Nox, and I drank. We can't send you back."

Fourth Master Swan turned to look at Jeanne.

Jeanne knew what Monica was thinking.

Monica was trying to set her up with Fourth Master Swan...

It was just that Fourth Master Swan was out of Jeanne's league.

Jeanne casually picked up the wine glass beside her and suddenly emptied it.

Monica was dumbfounded.

The others also seemed to be... surprised.

Jeanne said calmly, "I drank too. I can't drive, so I can't send Fourth Master back."

It was such an obvious rejection.

Monica was so embarrassed that she wanted to die. She quickly picked up some water and pretended to be dumb.

As she drank, she thought, 'Why is Jeanne so clueless?!'

It was a little awkward.

Fourth Master Swan opened his mouth and said, "It's alright. I have a chauffeur. I'll send Ms. Lawrence home."

"Pfft!" Monica spat out a mouthful of water.

Finn looked at Monica with disdain and handed her a tissue.

Monica wiped the corner of her mouth and said hurriedly, "Thanks for the trouble, Fourth Master Swan. You must send Jeannie home safely."

"Of course." Fourth Master Swan nodded and said to Jeanne, "Let's go, Ms. Lawrence."

Jeanne gritted her teeth.

At that moment, she wanted to vomit blood.

She braced herself and left with Fourth Master Swan.

Monica watched them leave. No matter how she looked at it, she felt that they were a match made in heaven! She muttered, "There's a chance!"

Nox stood by the side and smiled without saying a word.

...

Jeanne sat in Fourth Master Swan's car.

The two of them had settled down, but the car did not start.

After a long while, Jeanne could not hold it in any longer. She asked, "Are you still waiting for someone, Fourth Master?"

"I'm waiting for you to fasten your seatbelt," Fourth Master Swan said bluntly.

"..." At that moment, Jeanne wanted to curse.

She somewhat rudely fastened her seatbelt.

'Who the f*ck wears a seatbelt in the backseat?!'

After Jeanne fastened her seatbelt, the car drove on the wide streets of South Hampton City.

No one spoke on the way.

Jeanne was only looking out of the window at all the darkness in South Hampton City.

Fourth Master Swan sat next to her and closed his eyes to rest.

The car arrived at the Swans' private residence.

Following that, the driver parked the car at Bamboo Garden.

Jeanne turned her head and looked at the motionless Fourth Master Swan.

Experience told her that she could not expect Fourth Master Swan to take the initiative. She opened her mouth and said, "Fourth Master, we're here."

Fourth Master Swan's eyes moved slightly. He opened his eyes and looked straight at Jeanne.

Jeanne repeated, "We're here."

"Yes," Fourth Master Swan replied and said slowly, "Ms. Lawrence, I'll ask the driver to send you back. Shouldn't you return the favor by sending me back to my room?"

"Are you drunk, Fourth Master Swan?"

"Ms. Lawrence, you're wise indeed."

"..." Jeanne wanted to slap herself.

Seeing how Fourth Master Swan was sitting so steadily, she knew she could not outlast him.

She unfastened her seatbelt and got out of the car. Then, she walked over to Fourth Master Swan's side and opened the car door for him.

Fourth Master Swan still did not move.

Jeanne gritted her teeth. It was as if... she was being filial to an elder or serving a disabled person!

She bent down and was about to unfasten Fourth Master Swan's seatbelt when he suddenly raised his head.

As she was caught off guard... his lips touched hers.

Jeanne was stunned.

She looked straight at Fourth Master Swan, whose face was right in front of her, and saw him staring at her.

Their eyes met.

Jeanne jerked away.

Her heart was beating fast.

As for the man in front of her, he still had the same expression... His expression did not change, and he seemed calm.

Jeanne secretly adjusted her emotions and pretended that nothing had happened.

She lowered her head and continued to unfasten Fourth Master Swan's seatbelt. "Fourth Master, get out of the car."

Fourth Master Swan held onto Jeanne's arm and got out of the car with her.

Jeanne unsteadily helped Fourth Master Swan into his room and rested him on his big bed.

She panted.

Fourth Master Swan did not look like he had much flesh, but he was as heavy as a lump of iron.

Jeanne turned around and was about to leave.

"Ms. Lawrence," Fourth Master Swan suddenly called out to her.

Jeanne was a little impatient. She turned around. "Yes, Fourth Master?"

"Next time you kiss me, remember to stick out your tongue."