

Pregnant 651

Chapter 651: News Flash: Next Time, I Will Kill You!

“Yeah.” Monica nodded.

Jeanne said, “I didn’t think you would believe me now, but I told you all that so that you’ll pay more attention to Michael. You must do that. Monica, I warned you before. Whether Michael is good to you or not, you must be wary of him. I wasn’t joking with you.”

“I know you weren’t, but Michael—”

“Let’s test Michael,” Jeanne suddenly suggested.

Monica was shocked. “What do you mean?”

“Let’s test whether Michael is a good person or not,” Jeanne said straightforwardly.

She admitted that she had not cared enough about the matter between Monica and Michael.

Firstly, she had not expected Monica to divorce Dr. Jones for Michael and had underestimated Michael’s status in Monica’s heart. Therefore, when she realized the severity of the situation, there was nothing she could do. She could only let Monica go on.

Secondly, she did not know what kind of person Michael was. She asked Kingsley to help her investigate that person. She did not know if Kingsley did not take it to heart or if he did not find anything, but she could not find anything that she could use on Michael. As such, she could not determine whether Michael was good or bad and decide for Monica.

However, now that Michael, Finn, and Monica were trending on the internet, she could conclude that Michael did not have good intentions.

If Michael were a good person, he would not have allowed Dr. Jones’s reputation to be trampled by the public.

In the end, Dr. Jones could be considered Michael’s benefactor.

Dr. Jones was the one who suffered the most in the relationship, so Michael should be grateful instead of taking revenge on him.

That was why Jeanne could confirm that Michael was not a good person!

Since he was not a good person, Monica should not be with him, no matter how much he loved him!

After all, it was easy for a bad person to do anything for their own goals. They could do anything to anyone!

“Monica,” Jeanne called out to her.

Monica, who had been quiet for a long time, bit her lip. “How do we test him?”

Even though she did not believe Michael was the kind of person Jeannie was talking about, she would still listen to Jeannie.

The two of them grew up together, and Jeannie would not harm her.

Moreover, testing Michael would not cause any harm to him.

“First of all, let Michael settle this trending news immediately. Let’s see whether he’ll immediately get someone to remove it from the trending list, or he’ll only take it down from the trending list a long time after he agreed to you.” Jeanne added, “And I have to remind you that, with Michael’s current ability, it’s very easy for him to make trending news disappear. You don’t have to think you’ll be putting him in a difficult position.”

“Okay,” Monica agreed immediately.

“Secondly, tell Michael that you love Dr. Jones very much, but now that you and Dr. Jones are drifting further apart from each other, you’re afraid that he’ll leave you. So, you plan to use your body to gain Dr. Jones’s trust.”

Monica was a little surprised.

She had never thought she would have to go so far this time to persuade Finn to stay.

When she first chose to get a divorce, the doctor said that Finn was in poor health and that they could not sleep together.

However, she later bumped into Finn and a prostitute...

That time, Finn also rejected her initiative, so she did not think about it.

Now that Jeanne said it...

“I’m only asking you to test Michael and not for you to really do it.” Jeanne could immediately see through Monica’s thoughts. “Even if you’re naked on Dr. Jones’s bed now, he won’t even look at you. Don’t go and humiliate yourself.”

Monica pouted.

When she thought of Finn’s rejection of her that night, she thought Jeanne was right.

“After you tell Michael your thoughts, see if Michael will do anything. If he tries to persuade you or even stop you from doing it, perhaps he will secretly do something that won’t allow you to devote yourself to Dr. Jones. What do you think that means?”

“It means Michael doesn’t want me to get back together with Finn,” Monica blurted out.

“You’re not that stupid, after all.”

However, Monica did not think Michael would do that.

“So Monica, whether Michael is just asking you to help him or using this method to separate you and Dr. Jones, you can see his true intention through those two tests!” Jeanne said with certainty.

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Monica nodded. "Okay."

"Finally, during this time, you have to show that you don't trust him enough. Let him think you're doubting everything he's doing now. This way, it will cause Michael to feel threatened. Once he feels threatened, he'll do a lot of things that will give him quick success and instant benefits. This will speed up the occurrence of the above two things and then show his flaw!" Jeanne continued.

"Must we do that?" Monica was still a little reluctant.

"We must." Jeanne gave an affirmative reply.

Monica ultimately agreed.

"Now, let's settle the matter of the trending list first. After all, the impact it has on Dr. Jones is too great!"

"Alright." Monica hurriedly nodded.

"In that case, I'll hang up now."

"Goodbye."

"Goodbye."

After Jeanne hung up the phone, she immediately made another call. "Miles."

"Yes," Miles answered.

"Keep an eye on Monica during this time for me."

"What's wrong with her?" Miles was surprised.

"I'm afraid she might be in danger."

"Oh." Miles agreed. "But what about you?"

"Isn't K01 here?"

"That's true." Miles nodded.

Jeanne did not say much before hanging up the call and getting up from her big bed.

She had rested for two days and had to go back to the Lawrence family's manor today.

Last night, Jenifer called her to say that the inheritance distribution would be announced today, so she had to be there.

She was rather curious.

Did Alexander not tell Jenifer and Joshua that she was not a Lawrence before he died, so she did not have the right to get the Lawrences' inheritance?

Unless Alexander had discovered his conscience?

She did not think Alexander had discovered his conscience. Rather, Alexander would have been disappointed when Jenifer and Joshua's true colors were exposed.

The corners of her mouth curled into a cold smile.

To her, the shares were not important.

If she wanted to get the Lawrences, it would be easy for her!

...

After Monica and Jeanne ended the call, she immediately called Michael, who picked up her call as soon as it rang.

Monica did not want to suspect Michael, but...

Jeanne would not hurt her.

If Michael really did not do anything, even if it was just a test, it would not matter.

With that thought in mind, she said, "Michael, have you seen the news?"

"Yes, I didn't think someone would take pictures of us. I'm trying to figure out a way to clarify this matter..." Michael seemed a little agitated.

"Can you think of a way to remove this news?" Monica went straight to the point.

Michael seemed stunned for a moment before he agreed immediately, "Okay, I'll think of a way."

"Thank you."

"Monica, I'm wondering if we should remove the news or explain the situation with Finn to the media. He seems to be getting a bad rap right now," Michael suddenly suggested.

"What do you mean?" Monica did not quite understand what he was trying to say.

"What I mean is that we should first gather the media and explain to the media what happened with Finn, that it was just a misunderstanding and not what they think about Finn taking revenge on me--"

"How do you make the media believe that Finn isn't taking revenge on you?" Monica suddenly asked.

Michael was stunned.

He felt that something was different about Monica today.

In the past, he could tell Monica trusted him, but today, she seemed to have some doubts about him.

It was true. He did not want to take down the news so quickly.

He wanted to smear Finn's name. By doing that, Finn would hate Monica even more, so much that Monica could not even get close to him anymore.

“It takes two to clap. Finn and I... It wasn’t him who hit me. I also hit him. If we fight, it won’t just be Finn’s fault, and the media won’t hold onto him and not let him go!” Michael explained.

He was deliberately making Monica think that he was willing to sacrifice his name for Finn.

“Finn’s notoriety has spread far and wide now. The media won’t believe it. Even if you say that, the media will still think that you’re sacrificing yourself so that Finn won’t be humiliated. That way, they’ll see you as nobler and Finn more despicable,” Monica said bluntly.

Michael frowned.

Today, Monica was not as gullible as usual.

He said, “I didn’t think so far ahead. I just didn’t want to hurt Finn even more. I already felt sorry for him for taking you away from him, but I didn’t expect his reputation would be damaged because of me...”

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“Michael.” Monica interrupted Michael and suddenly asked, “What exactly did you say to Finn that he would hit you?”

Michael tightened his grip on his phone.

What was up with Monica today?

“Based on my understanding of Finn, he wouldn’t be so impulsive.”

“It’s probably because he couldn’t accept that you temporarily gave up on him for me, so he wanted to vent his anger.” Michael came up with a reason.

Monica actually did not believe it.

Michael added, “Another reason might be...”

Monica listened attentively.

“He wanted to use this to sever any ties with you.”

Monica bit her lip, and that she believed.

Finn knew she would be angry if he hit Michael, but he did not care and continued to beat Michael up.

She even felt that Finn was doing it on purpose for her to see.

“Monica, I’m sorry. I—” Michael was about to apologize again.

“It’s fine.” Monica took a deep breath. “Take down the news from the trending list first. I’ll explain things to Finn about it in the future.”

“Alright, I’ll deal with the news then.”

“Okay.” Monica nodded.

After hanging up the phone, Monica was still lying on the big bed.

Just now, she had only glanced at the news content a few times but had not read through it in detail. If she did, she would be exasperated. Yet now, she opened the news again, only to see the contents slandering Finn, and people were criticizing him in the comments section.

She wanted to smash her phone.

Finn was not as bad as they said!

Hence, she gritted her teeth and called Finn.

She knew he would not pick up, but she really wanted to call him. However, she did not know what to say to him because Finn always refused to listen to her.

Perhaps she was just looking for an excuse so that she would feel less guilty. At least, she wanted to make up for it, even though Finn would not accept it.

With that thought in mind, she listened to the beep sound of the call trying to connect, knowing that Finn would not pick up her call.

Just as she was about to hang up, the call was suddenly connected.

Then, Finn's familiar male voice came through. "Monica."

Monica's heart started to race. It was as if her entire heart was about to jump out of her chest.

She did not expect Finn to pick up her call, especially after such a massive incident.

She said emotionally, "Finn, don't worry about the news today. I've already asked Michael to handle it. It will disappear soon."

"I don't care," Finn said bluntly.

"The media shouldn't slander you like this. You're not that—"

"I saw this coming after you and Michael got together," Finn said indifferently.

Monica was stunned.

"I don't care about the expected things." Finn repeated, "And I only took your call to tell you that no matter what happens, please don't come near me again! This is the last time I'll tell you calmly. Next time..."

Next time? What would happen next time?

Monica's hand that was holding the phone was trembling.

"Next time, I'll kill you." After that, Finn hung up the phone abruptly.

Monica's entire body stiffened.

What did Finn just say?

He said that if she came near him again, he would kill her!

Did Finn hate her so much already? So much that he wanted her to die?

She bit her lips, and her tears fell again.

Could she still return to Finn's side after she helped Michael?

...

Finn hung up the phone and drove away, leaving the hospital.

What he said to Monica just now was not a threat.

He did not want Monica ever to appear in front of him again or have anything to do with him again! That was his bottom line.

In his heart, the woman was dead to him!

He was driving a little fast.

The director had a talk with him today.

On his first day at work, the director suggested that he rest for another month.

The director said that he had just recovered from a serious illness and that it was most important for him to recover fully. In reality, it was because the news that morning had a great impact on his reputation, which naturally affected the hospital's reputation as well. Therefore, he was temporarily suspended.

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In fact, he had expected that after Monica chose to be with Michael, Michael would do a lot of things to keep Monica by his side. Discrediting him and ruining his reputation was one of them. Michael was very smart, and by doing so, he could make Finn hate Monica even more and widen Finn's distance from Monica. It was true that Michael had destroyed their relationship.

He could even guess what Michael would do next.

Michael would be a good person.

In Michael's relationship with Monica, he would be a good person who would comfort Monica and move her.

Slowly, Monica's heart would waver, and she would choose to be with Michael.

That was the outcome of the three of them.

Even if the person Monica loved was him, even if Monica was just helping Michael, Monica would be with Michael in the end. From the moment she chose Michael, that was the destined outcome.

It was destined that no matter who Monica loved, the person she trusted would always be Michael!

He... was not worthy of her trust, and she was also not worth him having feelings for her!

At least, that was the case from now on!

...

When Jeanne returned to the Lawrence family's manor, Jenifer and Joshua, as well as Jasmine and Eden, were waiting for her in the hall.

A man in a suit was standing beside them. He was probably a lawyer who had come to divide the assets for them.

Jonathan had just been buried, and Alexander was dead.

There was no funeral for Alexander. Even when the police notified the family, they only informed them to confirm the body before they cremated and buried him in the ground.

After all, Alexander committed suicide because he was afraid of his crimes. That kind of person was not worthy of anyone mourning for him.

If one were to compare, the father and son had the same evil heart, but Jonathan's fate was slightly better.

Jeanne felt that she had thought too far ahead.

It was not surprising that the Lawrences could not wait to split up the assets as soon as Jonathan and Alexander's bodies were buried.

She walked over.

Jenifer looked at Jeanne coldly, as if she did not want to have much to do with her. Then, Jenifer said to the lawyer, "Mr. Walter, please divide up my father-in-law's inheritance."

"Yes." Mr. Walter appeared to be very respectful.

He walked forward and took out a document.

He said, "According to Harken's inheritance law, the assets will be inherited by the first successor. If the first successor is not around, the second successor will inherit it. Mr. Jonathan's inheritance meets the second condition, which is that as Jonathan's daughter-in-law who has fulfilled her obligation to provide for him and Jonathan's grandchildren, Jenifer, Jeanne, Jasmine, and Joshua are to inherit the inheritance equally. Currently, the assets under Mr. Jonathan's name include 52 percent of Lawrence Enterprise's shares, and he holds marketable securities..."

Everyone was listening attentively to all of Jonathan's assets.

The hall was very quiet.

"The above is Mr. Jonathan's inheritance distribution plan. If there are any objections, you can file a lawsuit with the court. The court will conduct a new trial based on the contents of the lawsuit. If there are no objections, this is the letter of inheritance. Everyone has one. Once it's signed and confirmed, the inheritance distribution will take effect," Mr. Walter said seriously.

Jeanne looked at her copy.

Everyone was also looking at their copy.

Actually, Jenifer had already read the letter of inheritance. She was not making any comments now because she was waiting for Jeanne to see if that woman would play any tricks.

However, Jeanne picked up her pen, directly signed her name, and said, "I have no objections."

To be honest, Jonathan's inheritance distribution was extremely fair.

Jeanne also knew very well that Jenifer was afraid she would cause a ruckus. If it were not fair, and she made a fuss and had the media expose it, they would not have a good reputation, especially at this critical moment. Since she was now the only elder in the Lawrences, people would talk about it if it were not fair. Therefore, Jenifer had to distribute it fairly, and the decision was final.

"I don't either," Joshua said.

Jenifer also said gratefully to Mr. Walter, "The distribution is very fair."

Mr. Walter, the lawyer, nodded.

Once everyone had signed the papers, Jeanne took her portion of the inheritance and left.

After all, there was no need to put on an act with that family anymore. When she left, Jenifer did not stop her either.

With that, she walked out of the Lawrence family's manor courtyard.

"Jeanne," Eden called out to her from behind.

Jeanne stopped in her tracks and turned around to see Eden walking over with big strides. Jasmine was not by his side.

Jeanne looked at him. "What's the matter?"

"Is my Fourth Uncle not back yet?"

"What do you want to say?" Jeanne was obviously against Eden.

Eden's tone was a little cold. "I'm just concerned about you."

"You think I believe you?"

"That's true." Eden stopped pretending. "I'm just curious. So many things have happened in your life, yet my fourth uncle can be so indifferent to you. It turns out your relationship with him is nothing more than that."

"Even if our relationship is nothing more than that, it has nothing to do with you." Jeanne enunciated each word clearly. "After all, never in my life will I be together with you again."

Eden's expression changed abruptly, and he glared fiercely at Jeanne. "Do you think I still want to be with you?"

Jeanne sneered as she looked at Eden with disdain and was too lazy to deal with him.

Eden's expression was ugly.

One day, he would make that woman regret what she had done to him!

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Jeanne drove away from the Lawrence family's manor.

Jeanne was actually a little overwhelmed by the fact that she had received a portion of the Lawrences' assets.

Her eyes moved slightly, and she recalled what Eden said about Edward not having returned yet.

Not only had he not returned, but he had not been calling her as well.

She pursed her lips, seemingly a little hesitant. Ultimately, she put on her wireless earpiece and made the call.

The phone rang a few times.

When the call connected, a familiar and deep male voice came from the other end of the phone.
"Jeannie."

Jeanne's heart skipped a beat as she did not expect Edward to pick up her call.

She had always thought Edward was so busy that he did not have the time to make a call or answer calls.

Yet, at that moment, she was caught off guard when she heard his voice.

Jeanne calmed herself down and said, "When will you be back?"

"In another three to five days." Edward did not give her a specific time because he was unsure when he would be back.

"Did you run into a sticky situation?" Jeanne asked.

"Yes, we ran into some sticky situations," Edward replied.

However, he would not tell her the details.

Jeanne was driving while talking to Edward on the phone. In fact, the two of them did not say much.

It was as if they were discussing an irrelevant topic.

"In that case, be careful. I'm hanging up now."

"Jeannie," Edward suddenly called out to her.

"Huh?"

"I miss you," Edward said.

Suddenly, the conversation turned sappy.

Jeanne pursed her lips.

At that moment, the anger she had been holding back all this while finally showed itself. "You miss me. Can you not give me a call for a few days?"

"Are you angry?"

"No," Jeanne denied. "I've been busy all day. How would I have time to be angry?"

"I was afraid I'd miss you more if I heard your voice. However, I'm not sure when I can come back," Edward explained. "I'm afraid I won't be able to control myself."

"How slick." Jeanne rolled her eyes.

However, a small flower was blooming in her heart because of this.

"Have you settled the matter with your grandfather and father?" Edward changed the topic.

"I got my share of the inheritance today."

"Not bad," Edward praised.

"Eden... is in cahoots with the Lawrences," Jeanne said bluntly.

"That's his choice," Edward said indifferently.

After Jeanne received a clear answer from Edward, she did not say anything more. "I'm driving now."

"Wait for me to come back." Edward nodded.

"Okay."

Only once Jeanne hung up the phone did Edward slowly put down the phone.

Nox was beside Edward.

The two of them were staying in a small hotel in the remote area of Cape Town. Nox stood on the balcony as he smoked and said, "Basically, we can confirm that the people following us are from the Delta Mafia."

"Okay," Edward responded while taking a cigarette and started smoking.

"It's also clear that the head of the Hills in the Delta Islands is Kingsley. Kingsley Thorn's original name is Kingsley Hills, but he changed it to avoid exposing his identity." Nox looked at Edward, "In fact, we should've expected it. Isn't it obvious?"

Edward did not answer.

Nox seemed to have gotten used to Edward's reaction and continued to speak, "Now, the Hills' business has spread all across the world. The bigger they are, the more enemies they have. Therefore, the Hills has roped in many national-level forces and has a deep relationship with the Sanders. There are rumors that the Sanders was able to take down the Duncans and change history because of the Hills' secret operations."

Edward rarely expressed his opinions, but his brain was working quickly.

“I’ve looked up a lot of things about the Hills and found a troubling thing for the Hills. There are very few people in the family, and most generations only have had one child. Only Kingsley’s generation had two children to succeed the family. The other one was Kingsley’s sister, Penelope Thorn, whose original name was Penelope Hill.” Nox paused. “You should know who Penelope Thorn is, right?”

Edward took a drag of his cigarette and said with certainty, “Jeanne’s mother.”

Nox nodded.

They finally knew Jeanne’s background.

Nox said, “There’s no gender discrimination for one to become the Hills’s successor. It’s different from Harken’s tradition. Regardless of whether the Hills have a boy or a girl, they can be the successor. The only requirement is that the successor’s next successor has to have the surname Hill. That made Penelope the Hills’ successor and not Kingsley. However, Penelope is a rare one among all the Hills because she was not interested in succeeding the family. In fact, she was very disgusted with the Hills’ cruel and bloody business. After she came of age, she even ran away from the Hills, hid her identity, and came to the Harken to work at Lawrence Enterprise.”

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Edward put out her cigarette. “Continue.”

“According to the investigation, before Penelope left the Hills, the Hills wanted her to marry the Sanders to strengthen the Hills’ power. Do you know who Penelope was going to marry?” Nox raised his eyebrows.

Edward did not answer.

He usually only needed an answer.

“Not the current leader, but the younger brother of the leader, Joseph Sanders, the most talented and capable man in the Sanders was said to be a candidate for the leader!” Nox said, “But later, the former leader of the Sanders eventually passed the position to the current leader, who was less qualified. I’m not sure the specific reason, but it was said that the eldest son should inherit the position.”

“It shouldn’t be that simple.” Edward was certain.

“I also don’t think that’s all to it. After all, it concerns the affairs of a country. The leader should choose the most outstanding candidate. But now, with Joseph dead at an early age, it’s difficult to find out the reason. And my investigation has reached a bottleneck.” Nox seemed a little helpless.

Edward nodded his head.

“I’ve basically sorted out the mafia matters. Edward, you should consider your relationship with Jeanne,” Nox reminded him.

Edward’s eyes narrowed.

“Jeanne is the eldest daughter of the Hills. According to the current situation, with Kingsley not married and no children, Jeanne is the successor of the Hills. Once she takes over the Hills, based on the current relationship between the Hills and the Sanders...” Nox hit the nail on the head. “You and Jeanne are enemies.”

Edward remained expressionless, and Nox could not tell what he was thinking.

However, Nox did not force Edward to make a decision. In any case, Edward was more rational than anyone else.

Nox sighed. “What you worried about has come true. Ms. Lawrence is just the daughter of a family in Harken. How could she be related to the famous Hills in the Delta Islands? How could Alexander, Jeanne’s father, have deserved the eldest daughter of the Hills? Jeanne’s mother must’ve been blind too. Edward, I went to investigate what Penelope looked like because how ugly could a woman like her be to fall in love with a trashy man like Alexander? However, Jeanne looks very alike to her mother. Not to mention back then, but even now, her mother is unmatchable.”

“I know.” Edward nodded.

“You know?”

“I’ve met Jeanne’s mother a few times before,” Edward said.

“Didn’t you train with us at the base when you were young? When did you have the time to meet Jeanne’s mother? I’ve never even met her. I think the first time I met Jeanne’s mother was at her funeral, where there was a black and white photo in the hall. But because it was a photo of a dead person, I don’t think I looked at it.”

“When Jeanne was born,” Edward suddenly said.

“Huh?” Nox was a little confused.

“When I was four years old and before I went to the base. Eden happened to be born that year, so I followed my big brother to the hospital to visit Eden. That was the time I met Jeanne’s mother. She had a big belly and seemed to be in the hospital to deliver her baby.” Edward could not remember it all.

After all, he was very young at that time.

However, he could still remember some of the scenes clearly.

At that time, the Swans gathered in the ward and teased Eden, who was just born. Since he had nothing to do, he walked out of the ward and met a pregnant woman with a big belly in the corridor.

The pregnant woman called out to him, “Fourth Master Swan.”

He did not know that woman back then, but because she called his name, he stopped to look at her.

He heard her say, “Can you help me buy an ice cream at the snack bar?”

Edward was stunned by what she said.

He was now four years old and had never been ordered around.

Many people would treat him with respect when they looked at him, much less order him around.

“Look at my belly and how much of a struggle it is for me. Can you help me buy one?” Penelope pointed at her round belly.

“Why don’t you ask your family to buy one for you?” Although he was four years old, his father’s strict education made him much more mature than his age, and he was even on guard.

“Because I have no family,” Penelope answered nonchalantly.

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Edward looked at her.

“That’s why I have to trouble you to do it for me.” Penelope looked expectant.

Edward did not know why, but he agreed and bought a huge ice cream and gave it to Penelope.

Penelope ate happily like a child.

However, she was only halfway through her ice cream when a group of doctors and nurses in white coats rushed into her ward and took the ice cream away from her hands. Then, they lectured Penelope angrily.

Edward had forgotten what they lectured her about.

All he remembered was the doctors checking Penelope’s body carefully and only leaving after a long time.

After they left, Penelope was the only one in the room.

There was also Edward, who had been waiting by her side.

Edward asked her, “Why do you still want to eat ice cream if you can’t eat it?”

“I was craving it,” Penelope answered matter-of-factly.

“But you have to think about the baby in your stomach. What if something happens to her?” When his sister-in-law was pregnant, she was extremely cautious.

However, the pregnant woman before him was the total opposite.

“You’re right.” Penelope suddenly became serious.

Edward frowned.

“Since you gave me ice cream, you have to be responsible for my daughter if anything happens to her.”

Edward’s face turned green.

She was the one who wanted to eat it. How could she blame him now?

“Fourth Master.” Penelope beckoned for him to come over.

Edward looked guarded and unhappy.

“Do you want a wife?” Penelope suddenly asked.

Edward’s entire face turned red.

“How about I give birth to a wife for you?” Penelope continued to tease him.

Edward’s face turned even redder.

“I don’t ask for much. Just treat her well in the future,” Penelope said.

“I don’t want to,” Edward refused loudly.

“Don’t refuse too soon. What if you regret it?”

At that, Edward immediately ran out of Penelope’s ward. He knew he would not regret it. However, he did not take that matter to heart as well.

After that, he went to the base to receive training. He would come back occasionally, and there was once he bumped into Penelope again.

That time, it was at a business dinner that he accompanied his father to attend.

He was eight years old that year, but since he was taller than his peers, he gave people the impression of a noble young man.

When he left his father for the backyard to get some fresh air, he saw Penelope swinging on the swing barefoot.

He had never seen a woman take off her gorgeous high heels at an event like that.

“Fourth Master.” Penelope looked at him and greeted him.

Edward thought she would not recognize the woman, but he could not believe he remembered her so vividly.

“Don’t you remember me?” Penelope smiled and said, “You bought me ice cream, and I said I would give you a wife.

“Your wife is four years old now,” Penelope said naturally.

“I didn’t agree to it.”

“Come here. Let me show you a photo of your wife.” Penelope called out to Edward as if she could not feel Edward’s repulsion.

Edward did not want to go over. However, at that moment, he made his way over as if some kind of force was pulling him to her.

Back then, the pixels on mobile phones were not high. However, he could see from the screen how beautiful and doll-like the little girl was.

“Isn’t she pretty?” Penelope asked.

Edward nodded instinctively.

“You must treat her very well in the future,” Penelope reminded him.

Edward quickly ran away. “I don’t want to.”

Then, the next time he saw Penelope was at her funeral. That year, he was 12 years old.

He did not expect the woman, who would always have a conversation with him and had a smile on her face, would suddenly die.

Apparently, it was a car accident, and when she died... she was beyond recognition.

On that day, he also met his “wife”, a girl called Jeanne.

She was kneeling on the ground as if the whole world had abandoned her.

In fact, the image of Penelope stayed in Edward’s mind for a long time. He always thought that the person who became Penelope’s daughter should be very happy. After all, even though he was not Penelope’s child and had only interacted with Penelope twice in a hurry, he could still feel the warmth Penelope gave off. Oh, how happy would Penelope’s daughter be?

However, the happier she was, the more miserable she would be!

The unexpected loss of someone like that must be very painful.

Yet, he could do nothing about it.

Ever since he was young, he did not have the ability to love others, nor did he have the ability to treat others well.

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All he had were those cruel and bloody methods.

Therefore, when the Swans were about to leave Penelope’s memorial service, he said to the eight-year-old Eden, “Take good care of that little girl.”

He got someone else to take care of her to fulfill Penelope’s wish.

Ever since Eden was young, Eden had always been afraid of Edward, so he listened to everything Edward said.

Hence, he followed Edward’s request and took the initiative to get to know Jeanne.

Then, they fell in love.

Edward came back to his senses and said, “Find out how Alexander and Penelope got together back then.”

“Are you suspecting something?” Nox was shocked.

“As you said, I’m also surprised that Penelope got together with Alexander. According to my understanding of Penelope, she shouldn’t be interested in Alexander.”

“What you mean is that there’s a story behind this?”

“Just check it out.”

“Okay,” Nox agreed immediately.

“By the way, you and Jeanne...” Nox had to remind him again, “What exactly do you plan to do with her?”

“She’s my wife.” Edward enunciated each word clearly. “Nothing can separate us.”

“What if she wants to kill you?”

“She won’t.”

“Are you that confident?”

“Yes.” Edward was very certain.

With that, Nox shrugged helplessly.

He suddenly felt very fortunate that he did not have a woman he liked. Having sex with a woman was fine, but he was not interested in dating or anything of that sort.

On second thought, he really could not simply like anyone.

His life was more important.

...

In South Hampton City, Monica had been holding her phone the entire time.

Her mind was filled with Finn saying he would “kill her”. The more she thought about it, the more upset she felt.

Just then, her phone rang.

Monica looked at Michael’s call and picked it up while suppressing her emotions. “Michael.”

“It’s already been taken care of.” Michael said, “I’ve pulled some strings and removed all of our news. Now, as long as there are people spreading this news on the internet, all of them will be restricted. It should be taken down very soon.”

“I’m sorry to have troubled you!” Monica was a little touched.

“Silly, this matter started because of me, so it’s only natural for me to take care of it. Don’t even think about it.” Michael was always a hundred times gentler toward Monica.

Monica bit her lip.

She did not know what else she could say to Michael.

Everyone was suspicious of Michael. Jeannie kept reminding her to be on guard against him, but Michael would prove himself to her every time, and she really could not bring herself to doubt him.

However, she had no choice but to listen to Jeanne.

Even now, she felt a little guilty toward Michael.

Michael seemed to have also felt that Monica was deliberately keeping a distance from him. Hence, he hurriedly changed the topic. "Oh, right. Monica, I have a distant cousin who came back from studying abroad. He studied medicine, mainly in the field of research and development. However, he's a recent graduate, and it seems like Cardellini Enterprise doesn't accept new graduates directly into your company's research team. I wonder if I can pull some strings for him. This child has been quite smart since he was young and has always wanted to enter your company's research and development team. His parents have told me several times, but I didn't say yes to them. Yesterday, they got my mother to tell me, and I really can't stand it anymore."

"Send me your cousin's resume, and I'll let my dad know. The research team has been preparing for a new recruit recently, so I'll see if they can accommodate him."

"Thank you," Michael thanked her.

"It's nothing, but don't get your hopes up too high. My dad still has the final say in the company's matters. That old man can be quite stubborn sometimes."

"It's fine. Just try your best. If it really doesn't work out, I have a reason to reject them," Michael said.

"Okay."

"In that case, I'll send you my cousin's resume right away and leave you to it."

"Okay."

After hanging up, Monica immediately opened the news application on her phone and searched for the news this morning. As expected, they were all taken down.

She searched for related topics on the browser again, only to find that the topic had been taken down.

Michael was quite efficient.

She gritted her teeth and called Jeanne. "Jeannie, the news is gone."

Jeanne had just walked into Lawrence Enterprise.

After leaving the Lawrence family's manor, she went straight to work. It was about time she returned after two days of rest.

Moreover, Alexander was gone, and the company needed a new person in charge, and Joshua was not capable enough.

She sat in her office and beckoned for Amy to go out first as she picked up Monica's call. "So your heart has softened?"

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“Michael might not be who you think he is.”

“I didn’t say that. I only asked you to test him and not to make you think he’s a bad person.”

“Oh.” Monica replied and asked, “Then, do we need to do anything else?”

“Monica, you need to change your mindset.”

“What mindset?” Monica was dumbfounded.

“We’re testing Michael now, not harming him. Everything we do won’t cause any harm to Michael, and please don’t think you owe him anything by doing this.” Jeanne was a little disappointed in Monica.

“What did Michael do to you to make you think you owe it to him by helping him?”

“I...” Monica did not know why she felt that way.

However, Jeanne knew.

It was because Michael was pretty smart. He knew very well how to treat Monica to soften her heart.

Despite knowing that, Jeanne would not say it out loud.

If she did, Monica would assume she had ill intentions toward Michael, and once she had ill intentions, Monica would think more about Michael.

“You only need to think of it in this way. Everything you’re doing now is to remove one of our prejudices toward Michael. You’re helping him now, not harming him. If Michael can do everything I’ve told you, I’ll believe he’s a good person and that he had no choice but to choose to be with you in such a way. I’ll even support you in helping Michael. I’ll also convince your parents, including Finn.”

“Really?” Monica was pleasantly surprised, but she suddenly felt disappointed. “I feel like I can’t convince Finn.”

“Huh?”

“I called him today. He said if I went near him again, he would kill me.” Monica wanted to cry.

Jeanne was also a little surprised.

Had Finn reached that breaking point?

“Jeannie, do you think I can return to Finn’s side after all this with Michael is over?”

“I don’t know.” Jeanne really could not give her an answer.

“I’m really scared that Finn doesn’t want me anymore...”

“It’s useless even if you’re afraid now.” Jeanne had no choice but to tell her the cold, hard truth.

However, she was also giving Monica some courage. “As long as you’re still with Michael, whatever you do will hurt Finn. Therefore, what you need to do now is not to salvage your relationship with Finn but to end it with Michael as soon as possible. Once it’s over, you can think about how to get Finn back.”

“Right.” Monica agreed with Jeanne’s thoughts.

Finn was treating her that way now because he did not believe she was only doing it to help Michael. He did not even believe that Michael was a good person and that once she helped Michael, she would be able to return to his side. Once she proved to him that it was all true, Finn would not treat her like that anymore.

Suddenly, she felt motivated again.

As expected, Jeanne was the best at comforting people. No matter how unhappy she was, she would feel much better under Jeanne’s guidance.

“Alright, let’s not talk anymore. I have work to do.” After Jeanne said that, she did not forget to remind Monica, “Regarding the matter of testing Michael, take it seriously.”

“Alright,” Monica agreed immediately.

After that, they both hung up.

Having received a resume from Michael, Monica took a few glances at it and forwarded it to her father. Then, she made a call to her father. “Dad.”

“You still have the guts to call me?” Gary gritted his teeth.

“Dad.” Monica acted like a spoiled child.

“What did you just send me?”

“A friend’s resume. He graduated from a famous university overseas and now wants to join our company’s research team—”

“Do you have reliable friends?” Gary interrupted Monica mid-sentence.

“Dad.” Monica got annoyed.

“Except for Jeannie.”

F*ck! Was she not his biological daughter?

“The company has its own rules and regulations when selecting people. If everyone pulls some strings to get into the company, what threat will we invite? No matter who it is, I won’t agree to this matter. Don’t waste your breath.” Gary directly rejected Monica.

Monica was a little angry, but she also knew that her father was sometimes a principled person, especially when it came to matters of work.

Moreover, the research team was the lifeblood of their family’s business, so they could not be careless.

She thought about it for a while but did not say anything else so as to avoid asking for trouble.

“In that case, I’ll hang up.”

“Monica!” Gary suddenly flew into a rage.

Monica was shocked. "Dad, why are you shouting?"

"Do you know what day it is today?"

"What day is it?" Monica was dumbfounded.

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"It's your Mother's birthday! I thought you had a conscience to realize and called me to talk about your mother!" Gary was about to explode from anger.

What?

Monica was dumbstruck.

She had forgotten that today was her mother's birthday. To be exact, she had never taken serious note of it.

Gary was so infuriated, to say the least. "Come home for dinner tonight and spend time with your mother. She has been so worried about you lately!"

"Okay," Monica agreed.

Then, Gary abruptly hung up the phone.

Monica looked at the phone, wondering why the old man was so angry. He did not even know how to control himself, considering his heart was weak.

She adjusted her emotions and dialed Michael's number. "Michael, I just told my father about your cousin, and... there's nothing I can do."

"Okay, I got it. I'll inform my mom and tell her to reject them."

"I'm sorry."

"Silly, you're helping me. Why are you apologizing?"

Monica acknowledged him.

"Oh, right. My mom is making dinner today, and she said she would get the maid to send you a serving. Don't think too much about it. It's just a token of my mom's appreciation for your help. When the maid sends it over, you can go down to pick it up. You don't have to feel sorry."

"I'm going back to my parents' house soon. It's my mom's birthday today, so..." Monica was a little embarrassed.

"Is it your mom's birthday?"

"Yeah, I forgot, and my dad scolded me so badly."

Michael chuckled. "Well, you should be."

“That’s why I need to go home and apologize. I appreciate your mom’s thoughts. Besides, I rarely eat in. I always order takeout, so tell your mom not to prepare anything for me in the future.”

“Okay, I’ll let her know. You should hurry back.”

“Bye-bye.”

“Bye-bye.”

Monica hung up the phone and was lost in her thoughts as she looked at it.

Michael was always considerate of her and would never make things difficult for her. However, why was everyone doubtful of him?

Meanwhile, Michael’s expression changed the moment he hung up the phone.

It seemed it was not an easy task to get his people into Cardellini Enterprise. However, without having access to Cardellini Enterprise, it would be difficult for him to obtain their research and development. Then, he would not be able to replicate another Cardellini Enterprise in the pharmaceutical industry.

With that, he made another call. “Mom.”

“Don’t rush me. The maid is already making dinner. Once it’s done, I’ll have her send it to Monica. I don’t even know why you’re fawning over Monica so much. She really doesn’t carry herself like a high-class lady. How is she worthy of you? If it was not for the president, I think you’re losing out a lot by being with Monica—”

“Mom,” Michael interrupted her.

“Yes, yes, yes. I won’t say anymore.”

“I’m just letting you know that you don’t have to go through with dinner because Monica is going back to her parents’ house today. By the way, I’ll think of a way to bring Monica over tonight. Cooperate with me and put on a show.”

“What show?”

Michael told her about his plan and exhorted, “Don’t mess up. The president is waiting for my results.”

“All the president does is give you the job and waits to reap the benefits from you. He didn’t even give you any benefits. He has so many daughters, yet he doesn’t even want to marry one of them to you,” Reese said unhappily. She was really dissatisfied with Monica as a “daughter-in-law”.

“There’s no way I can marry the Sanders’ daughter.”

“I don’t know what you see in Monica.”

“It’s not because of her. The Sanders won’t allow us, the Rosses, to have too much power. If I marry his daughter, he won’t promote me so brazenly because he’ll be afraid I’ll stir up trouble and threaten the Sanders’ political power. However, if I don’t marry his daughter and show that I like Monica, he will think I don’t have a great ambition for power and put down his guard against me. Only then will he let me develop my career.”

“This president is a sinister and cunning person,” Reese cursed. “He wants to use you, but he’s afraid you’ll have too much power. He’s taking all the good things from you!”

“That’s the food chain, and it’s the top of the food chain that enjoys such power.”

“I just don’t want you to be together with Monica. What kind of woman is Monica? Any of the Sanders’ daughters is a hundred times better than Monica.”

“Monica is good too. Mom, that’s enough.” Michael was clearly unhappy with Reese’s evaluation of Monica.