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Jacob's smile froze for a moment when he heard Lucia's question, then he asked, pretending to be natural, "Why do you ask that?"

Why? Because he was evil by nature, of course!

Lucia stared at Jacob and continued coldly, "You don't ask me out just to talk about domestic trivia, do you?"

After two times of meeting, Lucia still remembered clearly that he attacked her with bad words, so today Jacob's smile must be fishy!

"You're thinking too much." This phrase had almost become Jacob's usual excuse in the face of a woman's questioning.

"Really?" Lucia sneered in her heart, then stood up and made a move to leave, saying, "I'll leave first then."

"No way!" Jacob immediately opened his mouth to oppose. He used up a chance to ask her out alone. Just sitting across from each other for less than 20 minutes, how he was willing to!

Lucia wanted to test Jacob to see if he still had a purpose, and now that he was so determined to oppose it, which immediately confirmed her thoughts. She leaned back in her chair, saying again impatiently, "Then say something. No need to beat around the bush."

Lucia's attitude towards Jacob can be described as impatient to the extreme, but it was such a difference between before and after that made Jacob feel addicted.

Lucia was once so obedient. For those traps that were designed by Poppy and him step by step, with only his words, she will be rushed to go to the stake even without any bait. Her once mushy attitude made him annoyed before.

But now, Lucia looked at him with only coldness in her eyes, and every word she said revealed her irritation and impatience that was extremely incompatible with her present virtue, which again and again stimulated the masochist hidden in the dark side of Jacob's heart.

Jacob was born in the countryside and lived with relatives after his parents died in their young ages. The beatings he received as a child were still deeply rooted in his spine even after many years. And he was afraid, even he didn't realize that, he had been used to that kind of beatings and had hidden a pathetic slavery and masochism in his heart.

Poppy was manic, violent and cynical. Because Jacob liked her domineering temperament, they decided to be together. But after a long time, Jacob found that Poppy's virtue was not enough to support her being capricious. Gradually, she became irrational and nonsense.

What was more, Lucia was different now. She had grown up to be the kind of ideal partner Jacob had been looking for since he was a child.

Last time, Eduard said that he was jealous. Jacob suddenly figured out that he was annoyed when he saw Lucia. It was not only because she could threaten his position today, but also because there were other men around her. Jacob had the darkest idea of all.

Anyway, he was tired of Poppy now. If he can get Lucia again and get rid of the domineering and cynical Poppy, he didn't have to worry about Lucia stole JTP Group, and he can have Lucia. What a perfect outcome that she was once his.

The plan he implemented this time, although ostensibly he would push Lucia to the edge of the cliff of public opinion, he actually would make Arthur give up upon her forever!

"Do you think I couldn't get you out here just to have a casual chat?" Jacob deliberately said so first to test Lucia's response to his display of closeness.

Lucia's most immediate reaction to hearing Jacob's words was to curl her lips, and the curve of her lips showed the sarcasm in her heart again and again. She didn't even want to open her mouth to respond to Jacob's flirtatious words.

Lucia's reaction was among Jacob's expectations. He said calmly, "I use a chance to ask you out. You can feel free to guess my intentions, but until I say you can leave, you just sit here properly, even if you don't want to talk to me."

Lucia looked at Jacob askance, and really began to lower her head not to talk to him.

After a while, a cup of charcoal-roasted special Blue Mountain coffee was delivered to Lucia's front. Lucia raised an eyebrow, which was seen by Jacob. He was smug secretly. He noted what she liked to drink last time. But unfortunately, she had been sitting for more than half an hour, and never touched the cup of coffee.

The time passed. Lucia just sat and thought about her own stuff. When she checked the time again, she found that it was almost 10 o'clock, so she raised her eyes and said to Jacob, "It's too late. I'm going back home."

"It's not even 10:00 yet." replied Jacob.

"I have a kid at home. Don't you have Poppy waiting?" Lucia returned lightly, "You've been out so long. She'll not check your whereabouts?"

Lucia remembered that Poppy was very cynical. In order to hide her relationship with Jacob in college, Poppy had a few boyfriends. But even in disguise, her desire to control her boyfriends was very strong. Each relationship had ended in vain.

At the mention of her, Jacob frowned before saying as if emotionally, "Over the years, Poppy's temper is getting worse and worse, and even I can't stand it anymore."

Lucia didn't care about that, but just continued to reply in a light tone, "That's your choice. Well, I'm going back."

When she passed him, Jacob suddenly reached out and grabbed her wrist. Lucia frowned and stared down at him, "What else do you want to do?"

Jacob saw that Lucia was really angry, and did not explain anything. He just smiled and let go of her, and then said a brisk goodbye.

Lucia always felt something was wrong, but now she just wanted to get out of here as soon as possible. As soon as Jacob let go, she left the cafe.

After Lucia left, Jacob sat down in his seat

After a while, a few "customers" who had been scattered in various corners of the cafe gathered around him, and there was even his trusted subordinate Samuel Robinson.

"Let me see the photos." Jacob asked the reporter he bribed and Samuel to bring out the camera, and then looked at the photos inside one by one. Just now he let Lucia stayed here for more than an hour so they can take a lot of good photos.

"Good, this one looks like we are talking to each other in love. This one is not bad either. Borrowing a good position ... this one is the best." Jacob referred to the best one when he deliberately pulled Lucia's wrist, and Lucia lowered her head to look at him. For people who didn't know the truth, this photo, at first glance, looked like two people were clinging.

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Jacob selected a few photos that he was most satisfied with and then said to the reporters, "Tonight, go back and write a story. Tomorrow morning, I want everyone in the city to know that Lucia went out with me privately. And the story will involve Arthur. The harsher the words, the better. He threatened you with false reports before. Now there are photos to prove it. He won't dare to make things difficult for you."

“Okay!” The reporters took the order and left, and only Jacob’s trusted subordinate stayed.

“Mr. Taylor, are you really interested in Lucia?” Samuel was worthy of being a trusted subordinate who had been with Jacob for many years. He immediately guessed what he was thinking, and now asked the question just to confirm it, so that he could act somehow more conveniently in the future.

“Don’t tell Poppy,” Jacob’s words were equal to a tacit acknowledgement.

“That’s for sure.” Samuel showed a sly smile and said, “Mr. Taylor, do you want to let Lucia be back to replace Ms. Powell?”

Jacob pondered for a moment and then replied, “I can’t stand her anymore.”

Samuel nodded in response to the words, complaining, “Ms. Powell’s usually very strict to us, and often let us report your whereabouts to her. She’s arrogant Mr. Taylor, what do we need to do in the future? You can tell us.”

This was the first time Samuel dared to show dissatisfaction to Poppy in front of Jacob. In fact, he and several other Jacob’s subordinates had long been displeased to Poppy. She was not only cranky, but had extremely strict control to the company’s financial. She didn’t allow them to make some private benefits, and often ordered them to many things. Samuel had long been displeased with her.

“Well, we’ll talk about that later. By the way, where’s Poppy now?” Jacob initially thought Poppy would really come to stir things up, but she was nowhere to be seen from start to finish.

“Ms. Powell goes out with her friends. But the more she doesn’t care, the stranger I feel.” Samuel returned.

“You guys usually take more time to watch her, and report to me if she makes any changes that affect my plans.” Jacob openly let his men know that he had begun to watch out for Poppy. In fact, when he heard Samuel say that Poppy had privately asked his subordinates to report his whereabouts, Jacob already had a hidden anger in his heart.

It seemed that between he and she, there was no trust either.

“Yes!” Samuel responded readily, and the two finished talking about things before leaving the cafe.

It was already past 10 when Lucia arrived home. As soon as she entered the house, she saw Nia was on the couch, bored and on her phone. Theodore had apparently gone to bed in his room.

“Nia, thanks.” Lucia said apologetically to Nia as soon as she entered the living room. Now that what she had asked her to do was beyond her remit, but there was nothing she could do about it.

“No problem,” Nia put away her phone and smiled carelessly, asking Lucia who was already sitting beside her, “lucy, whom did you just go to see?”

Lucia gave Nia a straightforward look

Lucia: “I can’t say.”

“Well ...” Nia did not feel lost. Lucia had her own way of doing things, so she will not pursue, but ... she still can not help but be curious and concerned, and asked about Arthur’s matter, “What’s going on with you and Mr. Davies these days?”

Nia suddenly mentioned Arthur. Lucia didn’t expect that. The next second, she immediately frowned slightly. A pair of bright eyes flashed the most real pain. Nia and Lucia had known each other for a long time. Immediately, Nia knew that Lucia and Arthur must have some problems between them.

“You and Mr. Davies, did you really break up?” Originally Nia did not want to ask this, but she really could not bear to see Lucia like this. Even if she was willing to say it, perhaps the mood will be much better.

“You all saw me hiding from him, right?” Lucia asked softly as she raised her hand and rubbed between her eyebrows.

“Well, it’s not just me. All the people saw it.” Arthur, who waited downstairs at Jibillion Inc every day, was praised for his affection, but Lucia, by contrast, got a bad reputation for playing with people’s hearts, which was the last thing Nia wanted.

“If only ...” Lucia lowered her head. Her voice was like a sigh, and she said in a low voice, “If only we were all not us ...”

Nia frowned at this comment.

“Well, it’s very late. It’s not safe for you to go back later. It’s better to go home early and rest.” Without waiting for Nia to wonder more, Lucia looked up and said to her. The pain in her eyes just now, as if it had never appeared, disappeared without a trace.

“Lucy...” Nia felt that it was really bad for Lucia to keep her heart all bottled up in her own mind, and she was still trying to make a final struggle, hoping she would tell her.

“I can’t say.” Lucia understood what Nia meant, but, really, she couldn’t reveal anything.

Nia sighed. Lucia was so persistent. She was not thick-skinned enough to keep asking questions, so she had to get up and say goodbye.

Lucia wanted to walk Nia downstairs, but Nia wouldn't let her, saying that the car was in the underground garage anyway. And it would be bad if Theodore woke up later and couldn't find anyone home.

When Nia left, the room was silent. Lucia sat back on the sofa and curled both legs up, hugging her knees as she repeated in a low voice what she had just said to Nia, "If only ... we were not us..."

After saying those words, Lucia's shoulders trembled slightly. In the empty room, a faint and low sob sounded quietly.

The next day, when people in Athegate were still sleeping, the city's major printing houses were working feverishly, and many gossip magazines were being moved quickly along with the assembly line. Soon after, when people got up and washed up for work, these magazines were dispatched to various newsstands, and even self-published messages appeared on cell phones.

Under Jacob's manipulation, Lucia, who was already in the limelight, was saddled with the crime of seducing her ex-husband and attempting to destroy his current family.

Arthur did not pay attention to gossip magazines. Until noon, Kyle really can not help but take the news reports to him to read, and he only learned about this matter.

Arthur read the report word by word, with a pair of eagle eyes turning grim, especially when he saw those photos attached to the report.

In the photos, Lucia and Jacob were sitting across from each other, either looking at each other or chatting calmly. And they seemed to have a good relationship. Even, there was a photo of Jacob holding her hand at the end of the report.

He ignored the reporters' nonsense about Lucia's intention to seduce her ex-husband and so on, but the photos were not deceiving. And it really showed that Lucia did go out to meet Jacob alone last night.

Arthur tightened his eyebrows. He was confused and irritable, but had nowhere to vent.

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At this time, Kyle was standing in front of Arthur's desk, because Arthur was holding his phone.

Seeing Arthur frowning in annoyance, he suddenly said, "Mr. Davies, Miss Webb is not that kind of person!"

Kyle took the report to Arthur just to inform him that this had happened, and in no way did he intentionally cause Arthur to misunderstand Lucia, so he mustered up the courage to say so.

“Oh, why?” The secretary’s sudden words caused Arthur to raise his eyes and ask him.

“Miss Webb is a woman with pure goodness even in her eyes. She is never like that!” Kyle, as Arthur’s secretary, follow him around socializing was a daily routine. He used to see the world’s insincere people so he believed Lucia.

The report was by no means true, but Lucia, why did she go to see Jacob alone last night?

Arthur came to the Jibillion Inc building again at lunch time and stopped Lucia. This time he went straight over and dragged Lucia away. Lucia did not resist because she also saw the report about herself and Jacob.

It had to say that Jacob’s move was really excellent. He asked her out during this sensitive period and also hid reporters to take those photos. It was afraid that Jacob wanted to push her into the hell.

It was a pity that it was not so easy for Jacob to attack her. Five years ago, she had long experienced the sarcastic comments. Today’s report was not as much as the first ten thousandth of those verbal criticism. But ...Arthur...

Lucia actually expected that Arthur would find her. He must also be very suspicious of those reports. Although she had proposed a breakup, Lucia was still secretly looking forward to this man who can believe in her. So when Arthur forced her into the car, she did not make resistance.

The two got into the car. Arthur did not say a word and drove the car into the traffic. Lucia sat in the back seat and was also silent.

The black Rolls-Royce Phantom drove slowly through the shuttle-like traffic towards the suburbs, and the traffic on the road became less and less. Lucia leaned on the edge of the window, looking blandly out of the window and not asking where she was going.

Arthur took Lucia to the city’s moat park, where the scenery was extremely beautiful and secluded, but very few people were there on weekdays. Arthur chose this place because he was concerned that there may be paparazzi following them. Even if there were, just driving around the city, it was expected that by now they will have been left behind.

Pulling into the park’s parking lot, Arthur said his first words, “Go down for a walk.”

Lucia continued to lean on the car window and answered directly, “No, it’s cold outside.”

In the angle where Lucia can not see, Arthur showed a light smile. He got out of the car, walked straight to the rear seat and then opened the door to sit next to Lucia. Lucia did not move but complained secretly. She would like to sit to the side but there was no room to retreat.

Arthur always had a refreshing aroma on his body. When she asked him before, he said that he did not use any perfume, but only used the same kind of shower gel for a long time. The shower gel alone can create a charming body fragrance. She was afraid that only Arthur can do this.

The familiar scent seemed to be diffusing around her. Lucia really wanted to get out of the car and ran away, but now she can only struggle to put on her fake mask and look calm, as if she didn't care anything.

Arthur saw that Lucia was calm, and did not deliberately stare at her. He was just sitting beside her, looking at the front window of the car, and asking, "Why did you go to see Jacob alone last night?"

Sure enough, Lucia was not surprised by this, but she also did not know how to answer, so she chose to be silent.

"Is it that you don't want to talk about it, or that you can't?" Not getting an answer, Arthur slowly turned his head and looked at Lucia and asked.

When looking at Arthur who was slightly hurt, Lucia immediately and subconsciously turned her head, pursed her lips, and whispered, "We have broken up, right? This matter has no relation with you."

Who said that words cannot be like blades. Now only listening to Lucia's words, Arthur felt that her words were sharp as a blade which was cutting his heart, but he still can not put her aside, so he said, "The breakup was brought up by you unilaterally. I didn't agree to it."

Arthur's words made Lucia couldn't help but purse her lips again. She felt bitter in her mouth, dry in her lips, and hurtful in her heart, but ... she was still ruthless and said, "I can't help it if you didn't agree. As far as I'm concerned, we've already broken up, so you shouldn't ask questions or interfere in my affairs."

Arthur was really feeling self-abusive at the moment. Knowing that Lucia would say this, he still denied it, not to mention that such a tit-for-tat was not the purpose of his bringing Lucia out today.

"You know very well what kind of person Jacob is. What exactly you went to the appointment for last night? You needed to be alert."

Arthur's words revealed a strong sense of concern. Because he considered it, he always felt that Jacob was taking advantage of something by being able to ask Lucia out so easily.

"No reason. He just wanted to see and then I went there." Lucia struggled to maintain her composure and answered blandly.

"Wanted to see you?" Arthur could no longer keep composed.

"Well, it was, after all, someone I loved dearly." Lucia said so, which was cruel and sharp to him.

"Lucia!" Whether it was because of being excited and provoked, Arthur could hardly believe what he was hearing as he reached out and grabbed Lucia's wrist, forcing her to face him, staring her in the eyes and asking, "Are you out of your mind? That's the man who hurt you!"

"I'm not!" Lucia felt really sad with this answer. In fact, she was not far from being crazy, but, never in front of Arthur, "I am not heartless! Jacob was the man I loved. He was compelled by Poppy to do those things to me, and he explained it all to me last night!"

"So you believe it?" If he hadn't heard it himself, Arthur would almost suspect that these words did not come from Lucia's mouth.

"What do you care if I believe it or not! It's none of your business anyway!" Lucia said fiercely, breaking away from Arthur's hand and quickly turning her face away to stop looking at him.

Lucia didn't know where the limit of the heartache was, but she felt she was getting close too.

She had already thought of using Jacob to get Arthur to give her up this morning, but she didn't expect it to be so hard to carry out. And every word she said hurt so much that she couldn't breathe.

Silence substituted arguing. The air in the car was terribly quiet. Every breath will make people feel suffocated. Arthur already did not know what he can say. He recalled the time when he was with Lucia. More and more, he felt that this woman who was once so close with him was incomparably strange.

"Didn't you believe those reports, too? Why else would you have come to ask me." Lucia's low voice swept through the air.

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She couldn't help but ask that question, selfishly trying to confirm whether Arthur believed the false news about her.

"I don't buy a word of it."

Lucia, who got the answer, did not continue the topic. When she heard Arthur's answer, her eyes flashed in the endless grief mixed with the pathetic snicker.

"Send me back. From now on, leave me alone, okay?" After a long silence, Lucia said with a soft sigh as if she was tired.

Arthur kept quiet and just wanted time to stop.

Outside the window, the sun was warm, but in the middle of winter, there were no birds singing. Everything was silent. Inside the car, Lucia and Arthur were sitting together. Obviously, they were so close but their hearts had long been on the other side of the world.

Finally, after an unknown amount of time, he got out of the car and returned to the driver's seat, started the engine and drove her back to Jibillion Inc. When Lucia got out of the car herself, without a moment's hesitation, the Rolls-Royce Phantom sped away.

Lucia stood there looking at the Rolls-Royce Phantom, which was disappearing fast into the tide of cars, and couldn't hide the worry in her eyes.

"Lucia, is that you?" When she received Lucia's call, Sophie was a little surprised.

"Sophie, just now Arthur came to me for a talk. He is a little unstable ... you ..." Lucia found it so hard to speak. Every word was like to be stuck in the throat.

Sophie, who was on the other end of the phone, was silent for a long time before she replied, "I know."

The phone hung up, and Lucia looked up again in the direction Arthur had left, said quietly in her heart that she was sorry, and then turned around and walked towards the building.

As soon as she entered the building, Lucia noticed that everyone was looking at her. They used to just whisper behind her back, but now they dared talk openly when she passed by.

"We'll have a good show later ..."

"Yeah, I really don't know what she was thinking."

"It's a pity we can't go up and watch the show ..."

The chatter of the crowd faintly reached Lucia's ears, but she didn't have the energy to think about what they were talking about. She just wanted to get back to the office and bury herself in her work.

When Lucia came out of the elevator, she met Nia, who looked fearful and immediately grabbed Lucia's hand and said, "Lucy, get out of here!"

Lucia didn't know what she meant, so she didn't follow her and asked, "What's going on?"

Why was Nia so flustered?

Before Nia could answer, a sharp female voice interjected from the side, "You're back!"

Lucia can not be more familiar with this voice. She looked sideways, only to see that Poppy was standing in the doorway of her office. Having her arms crossed coldly, she was looking at Lucia. There were a few anxious security personnel nearby. Apparently, they didn't dare do anything to Poppy.

Lucia looked at Nia and saw her frowning and shaking her head, probably wishing she could just leave. Lucia was not afraid and did not panic. She gave Nia a reassuring smile and said calmly, "It's okay. I'll go talk to her."

"The problem is she's not here to talk to you!" Nia said anxiously. She didn't even understand why Lucia could be so calm now. Poppy broke into Jibillion Inc after 11 o'clock, just for Lucia and Jacob's report. Would she be that nice?!

"If we don't fix it today, she'll come back tomorrow, and the day after," Lucia said, "It's better to fix it today."

Poppy's appearance, originally, was also as Lucia's expected.

Although Nia did not want to see Lucia get hurt, she had to admit that she was right. With Poppy's kind of character, even if Lucia can avoid today, tomorrow, the day after, the day after tomorrow she will still come.

While Lucia and Nia were talking, Poppy impatiently spoke again, "What, Lucia, afraid to face me after doing something wrong? Want to run away?"

Poppy was truly the kind of originator of sarcasm. A simple phrase with her arrogant tone was a perfect match.

"Be careful." That was all Nia could do to warn Lucia.

Lucia nodded and walked openly to her office, passing Poppy with a sideways glance and said 'Come on in' and walked in first.

As soon as Lucia entered the door, she saw that the documents on her desk were swept to the ground. The coffee table was also a mess, and even a large vase that was originally decorated in the office was pushed to the ground. It was broken but the scuff marks were certainly there. It seemed that just now she can not wait for her and had made a big fuss.

Poppy really liked to smash things. Lucia made a silent sneer. She did not sit on the sofa, but directly stand in the middle of the office to face Poppy, "Say it. Why are you looking for me?"

If there were people in the world who can make Lucia discard all her cultured and polite virtues, it was estimated that there were only Jacob and Poppy.

For these two people, she did not need to be modest, nor will she be polite.

"How dare you ask like that! Were you the one who took my husband out last night?!" Maintaining her chest-hugging stance, Poppy glared angrily at Lucia and deliberately turned up the volume. Knowing that there were other employees watching outside the door, the more heatedly she argued with her, the faster the story would spread.

That was right. Poppy agreed to Jacob's plan that day, but she had her own plans in mind. Last night, she tried her best to hold back from rushing to the cafe to cause trouble, and this morning, when she saw the news, she was even more jealous.

Lucia smiled blandly, was noncommittal, and said casually, "Didn't you see the report?"

"You whose still dares to be so arrogant?" Lucia's nonchalant attitude instantly ignited Poppy's anger, and she shouted loudly, "Lucia, don't think I don't know what you're up to. You're just trying to seduce Jacob to make him abandon me and return to JTP Group. Lucia, I'm telling you today, it's impossible!"

In the face of Poppy's furious questioning, Lucia didn't even think about it but asked indifferently, "Who is the whore?" Although the tone of her voice was seemingly unperturbed, the coldness in her bright eyes was enough to make Poppy, who just bluffed, terrified.

Poppy forced herself to be calm and said back in a stern voice, "I am talking about you, Lucia! You have a bastard with a scumbag and you are still thinking about my husband."

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Whoever derogated Lucia's son and Arthur absolutely provoked her.

Bastard, scumbag?

Lucia took two steps closer to Poppy without saying a word, with infinite hostility. When Poppy stared into her eyes, she had a sense of trembling locked in her pupils. She unconsciously followed and stepped back, desperately suppressing her urge to ask "what do you want".

Poppy, surprisingly, was afraid.

Lucia was once weak and bullyable, but Poppy knew very well that Lucia of today was definitely not the same as before.

"Poppy, watch your language," Lucia said as she stood in front of Poppy, speaking with a coldness in her voice as she stared right into Poppy's eyes and continued, "Who is right and who is wrong. God knows. Don't be ridiculous to bluff in front of me. If you have to force me, then well, you answer me a question first. Even if I really cheated in marriage, even if I really betrayed Jacob and was kicked out by him, then you tell me, why in the end you will become the world's best known Mrs. Taylor?"

If my information is correct, you and Jacob registered to get married at the end of the year I left, right?" Poppy, you're pretty fast!"

Lucia wanted Poppy to answer the question but how can she possibly answer?!

Outside the office, the crowd who had been eavesdropping secretly felt it amazing! Lucia choked Poppy with a single question, especially Nia who even had thumbs up!

Lucia and Poppy were best friends. This was a well-known thing. But just in a year, she and Jacob divorced. And Jacob and Poppy were together. It was so fast that made people suspicious. Now Poppy found fault with Lucia, which was simply to frame herself up.

Poppy was choked for a long time, so long that Lucia suspected she was mute, before she stumbled and cursed, "Lucia, don't change the subject! What's the point of bringing it up now? What you're doing now is under my nose. I advise you to stop hitting on Jacob. With me around, you won't be able to tempt him!"

Poppy desperately tried to bring the conversation back to what was happening right now, but unfortunately Lucia was unmoved.

"Don't make me laugh here like a clown," Lucia snorted out directly, not hiding a trace of contempt in her eyes, "You know you can't get any advantage from me, so have some self-awareness, okay?"

Poppy was called a clown. Her anger was instantly ignited to the extreme. She fiercely raised her hand to Lucia's face. But just when the crowd outside the door thought Lucia would take her slap, Poppy's hand was Lucia clasped in mid-air, then, she used the other hand backhanded to give Poppy a slap.

A crunching sound was followed by a breathtaking silence.

Poppy unbelievably covered her red and painful cheek. She tried to break free from Lucia's restraints, but couldn't move at all. When did Lucia's strength become stronger?

It was known that she was a weak person who couldn't even run for 500 meters when she was in college.

Lucia clasped Poppy's wrist, and there was a cold smile on her face.

"How dare you ..." Poppy had not finished her words when a second slap landed on the other side of her face, which was even harder.

This time, Poppy was completely blindsided. The first slap was unbelievable, then this second slap hurt her directly as if her soul was scattered.

Lucia's attitude was already very obvious. If Poppy dared to say one more word, she can hit her again and again!

Continuing to tighten her grip on Poppy's wrist, Lucia leaned down close to her, stared into her eyes which were with obvious fear, and gave a cold warning, "Poppy, do you think I'm still the same weak Lucia? I advise you to mess with me less, and also, don't mess with my son and Arthur, or else ..."

Lucia's pair of bright eyes, in the face of her love ones and friends, can be gentle, can be kind, can be soft, but in the face of enemies, can have a chilling and murderous aura!

Poppy suddenly felt that Lucia was crazy! How could Lucia make herself shudder with just a look. As soon as she saw her eyes, Poppy was so scared that she averted her gaze.

She let go of Poppy's grip and watched her stagger backwards due to imbalance. And only when she had managed to stabilize herself did Lucia sneer, "Get lost. For those two slaps just now, take it as compensation for your smashing my office. We are clear!"

Just as Lucia finished her words, there was a crisp applause at the office door. Poppy turned around and glared just in time to see Nia put her hands down with guilty conscience. Knowing that she could not get any benefit today, she was not willing to run away in a mess.

So she turned back, bluffed and cursed Lucia. Then she left the office with his face covered, and deliberately bumped Nia's shoulder when she walked to the door.

Looking at Poppy's back, Nia suddenly felt that her worries were superfluous, and she ran excitedly into the office with admiration in her eyes, and said to Lucia, "Lucy, you're so good!"

Nia had always thought Lucia was sheepish, and although she was mentally strong enough, how could she have ever thought Lucia could have that physical ability to stop Poppy to hurt her?

"It's okay, just a little karate along the way." Lucia said with a smile.

"Karate?! What level?" Nia asked excitedly as it was the first time she knew Lucia knew karate.

"Black belt." Lucia's answer immediately elicited a scream from Nia.

"My goodness, isn't that the most powerful belt in karate?!" Nia didn't expect the seemingly frail Lucia to have this strength, and then murmured in grievance, "I have been trying to protect you ..."

It turned out that she had no strength ...

"Nia, thank you." Nia's last words made Lucia feel incredibly warm.

When Lucia and Nia were talking, Eduard came in. Today he went out to meet an important partner. As soon as he returned to the company, he heard from his subordinates there was an accident in Lucia's office. He immediately rushed over, so when he entered the door to see a mess, he rushed to Lucia asked, "Lucia, are you okay?"

Before Lucia said anything, Nia began to excitedly recount her "heroic deeds". Eduard listened and felt relieved. He was standing next to Lucia and did not say anything. At first, Nia did not react, and after nearly thirty seconds of silence, she clapped her hands and said loudly, "Oops! I need to go get someone to clean up the office right away. I'm going out first."

Nia finished her words and ran away in a flash, cursing herself for being too slow to react.

After Nia left the office, Eduard asked Lucia, "Lucia, what's going on with you and Arthur lately? And you went to see Jacob alone last night? Is there something you can't solve?"

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This was not the first time Lucia had heard these questions, and she just smiled lightly without a word.

Lucia's silence made Eduard sigh. He went on, "Why not tell me? Don't you take me as your friend?"

Lucia shook her head and said, "No, it's just that there are some things that only I can carry. You've helped me a lot. I can't bother you anymore."

Lucia knew that Eduard had withstood a lot of pressure from the headquarters for her, and she also knew that Eduard had also helped her to suppress the media and public opinion. She had nothing to repay, so she cannot receive any more favors.

"I am ..." Eduard almost said what he really thought. He wanted to say he was willing. But thinking of his lack of position, he retracted his words stiffly and turned to say, "Your friend. It is right for friends to help each other. Maybe one day I will need your help too?"

Lucia smiled and said to Eduard, "Then I will definitely help you."

Lucia's words made Eduard laugh, so he stopped talking about Arthur and Jacob but ordered the company's housekeeping to restore Lucia's office to its original state. When everything was done, Lucia was able to return to her own office, but no longer interested in working.

Lucia was tired, really tired. One thing after another happened to her, one after another, and she barely had room to breathe.

At this time, Lucia unusually thought of Arthur. She was sure that if Arthur understood her diverticulitis, he will come forward to carry all for her. But Lucia can not say anything, so only a thousand pounds of burden was taken on her own shoulders.

That afternoon, Lucia fell asleep on her desk for the first time during office hours. Nia found that and covered her with a coat. Then she found that Lucia was still frowning when she fell asleep, so Nia could only sigh helplessly.

Poppy fled from Jibillion Inc to JTP Group in a mess. She had taken the liberty to act this time, so she didn't go to Jacob to complain first as usual. However, she didn't go to Jacob, but Jacob came to her himself.

Jacob had instructed Samuel to observe Poppy's movements, so he knew that Poppy had gone to Lucia. Upon hearing this news, Jacob was very annoyed at Poppy's recklessness and went to her office to reprimand her upon receiving the news of her return.

When he came to Poppy's office and saw the two obvious slap marks on her face, Jacob did not feel any pain, but laughed in his heart. However, now he could not offend Poppy openly, so he said in a fake comfort, "Long ago I told you not to mess with her. Look at it now. You get yourself into troubles."

Poppy was stunned with his words. She knew she was in the wrong so it was very rare that she pursed her lips not to say anything and not to refute.

Jacob was happy to see her like this, but he asked, "Who dared to slap you?"

Jacob was deliberately stimulating Poppy. Of course he knew it was Lucia. Poppy still had some reputation in Athegate, and people generally did not dare to do anything to her.

"Who else could it be but that bitch!" Poppy said and gritted teeth at the mention of the slaps she received.

"Why didn't you discuss this with me before you went there?" Jacob comforted a few and now began to chastise.

Poppy sorrowfully looked askance at Jacob, complained that he did not care about her more, so her words became more vicious, "You had to go out and meet her alone. You didn't consider my feelings, so I just want to go to her after the report for the last hit. But I did not expect ..."

For what Poppy couldn't say, Jacob said for her, "You didn't expect you'd suffer a big loss instead?"

Poppy pursed her lips again and ground her teeth.

"I do not know what you are afraid of. Lucia has always been our prey. Back then I did not like her at all, not to mention that she is now our biggest threat. If I have any feelings for her, don't I work for my own destruction? If you are jealous, you should be sensible, okay?" Jacob's face was not red when he lied.

"But ..." Poppy wanted to say that now Lucia was different from the past, but she did not dare to say, being afraid that it would be like a reminder for Jacob.

"I do everything for us, for JTP Group. This morning's report has succeeded in making Lucia again the target. You went there for troubles but finally got lost. Amn't you proving that you're wrong? Do you really think those people outside are stupid? You don't understand conspiracy and trickery? Don't do these reckless things again, okay?"

Jacob's words were so heartfelt that even though Poppy was stubborn, she was moved and told Jacob that she would never act without permission again. And she would do whatever he wanted. This meek attitude was exactly what Jacob wanted. After a few words of comfort, Jacob returned to his office. Once there, Jacob immediately called Samuel in and ordered him to keep a closer watch on Poppy's whereabouts. This woman always spoiled his fun!

That afternoon, Lucia was not the only one who was upset. Sophie was upset too.

Sophie received Lucia's call and contacted Arthur, but he didn't answer his phone. Sophie was so anxious. According to Lucia's words, her son was very emotional. She was really afraid that something would happen to him, but the more afraid she was, the more she would get.

Around 5:30, when the city's traffic was most congested, Sophie received a call from Kyle who said that Arthur was in a car accident and now at Municipal Harmony Hospital. He asked Sophie to go there immediately.

Sophie was so shocked by the call that she dropped her phone on the floor. After calming down a bit, she asked Jan to take her to the hospital.

In the emergency room, Arthur was surrounded by a group of doctors and nurses. Sophie took a look at the situation.

She thought her son was seriously injured, was shocked to faint, and her feet turned weak. She still had Kyle standing beside her. Kyle was quick to help Sophie, and rushed to call the doctor to come and see.

The nurses who had been standing by Arthur's bedside shifted positions and gathered around, and only then did Sophie, who had settled down, see Arthur's current appearance.

In the emergency room bed, Arthur's head was bandaged. And the bandages were faintly oozing blood. Both of his hands were injured, but the wounds had been bandaged. The only seemingly serious injury was his left calf that was put in a cast. And he still looked quite spry.

Seeing that Sophie fainted, Arthur wanted to go over but couldn't move, so he questioned Kyle, "What's going on?"

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Arthur's injuries were considered minor. Because Davonnis Corp had fully funded a project at Municipal Harmony Hospital, the hospital sent an ambulance to pick him up as soon as they received the emergency.

Arthur's bruises and scrapes were quickly bandaged. His left calf bone was x-rayed with only minor cracks, but it was seriously put in a cast, which was why Sophie thought Arthur was seriously injured when she saw the doctors and nurses surrounding him.

Kyle replied, "I didn't say anything. I just said you were in a car accident and now you are at Municipal Harmony Hospital. When I wanted to say that the injuries are not serious, the phone hung up ... and then your mother came here."

He was also very aggrieved, OK?

Kyle dodged his gaze and lowered his head to check on Sophie's condition.

Sophie just woke up and heard Arthur and Kyle's conversation. She let Kyle help her to Arthur's bedside and said, "I don't blame Kyle. I was too anxious not to hear him out. Arthur, what happened?"

"Nothing serious. I just met a drunk driver at 5:30. Two cars collided together. I suffered some minor injuries." Arthur said lightly about the accident he just encountered. Although he said it simply, the accident just now was actually quite intense.

The drunk driver was speeding into Arthur's car which was hit and almost deformed, but the Rolls-Royce Phantom's body structure was much stronger than the general one. And the protective measures were complete, so he only suffered minor injuries. But the driver, on the contrary, was still lying in the intensive care unit for resuscitation.

Seeing that Arthur was in good spirits, Sophie finally felt a little relieved. But when she looked at his wounds, she was so distressed that she immediately asked Jan to let servants to make some soup to benefit the bones and send it over. But Jan just hung up the phone and she couldn't sit still. The soup cooked by the servant was no better than her own, so she carefully told Kyle to take good care of Arthur, and went home to stew the soup herself.

In a short while, the admission procedures were completed. Arthur was admitted to a luxury single room in the hospital, while Kyle, who was accompanying him, had a strange attitude, as if he wanted to say something and did not dare to say it. And Arthur ignored him.

"Mr. Davies, if you can't finish the soup later, can you share some with me?" After much hesitation, Kyle still brazenly put forward this shameless request, blaming only that Sophie's cooking skills were really too good.

"Get out!" That was Arthur's unforgiving reply.

As he waited for Sophie, Arthur turned on the TV to watch the news and saw the report of his car accident.

In a short time, Sophie came with fragrant pork ribs and seaweed soup. When the food box was opened, the aroma was overflowing in the ward, and the rich aroma of the soup even covered the smell of sterilized water. Kyle was salivating, but he knew there was no part for him, so he hid outside.

Sophie gave Arthur a bowl of soup and asked, while watching him have it, "Arthur, did you inform Lucia?"

Arthur's action of drinking soup stopped when he heard Sophie mention Lucia. And all those conversations with her in the afternoon instantly rushed back to his mind. His heart ached. He lowered his eyes and replied coldly, "No need!"

Seeing that Arthur was stubborn, Sophie was very helpless. She knew if Lucia can come to see him at this time, not to mention minor injuries, even if he was seriously injured, it was estimated he can immediately jump up. Now seeing that he was so determined, Sophie can only secretly guess what they actually talked about and did not dare to ask him directly.

Soon, Arthur had two bowls of soup, when Kyle suddenly rushed back and looked anxious.

"Mr. Arthur, ma'am, Miss Webb is here at the hospital with the child!" Kyle said as soon as he entered the door, and was panting. It was obvious how anxious he was to rush back to inform Arthur first. After all, Arthur and Lucia's relationship was now complicated and unpredictable.

"Lucia's here?" Sophie immediately had a cheerful expression and glared at her son. Obviously, she was scolding him with her eyes. Didn't he not need to inform her? Why did he even inform Lucia to rush over?

"I didn't say that." Arthur responded directly to his mother's accusation. He guessed that Lucia had gotten the news so quickly, probably because she had watched the TV report. But once he knew that she had come with her son, Arthur's heart was overwhelmed with joy but did not show it.

Sophie didn't care if it was her son who informed Lucia. She was happy that her daughter-in-law and grandson were here and wanted to go out to welcome them, but was stopped by Arthur.

Sophie looked at him and sighed. Although she wanted to go out and welcome Lucia, she listened to him and sat back down.

Kyle asked, "Mr. Davies, do you want me to stop Miss Webb?" He heard Arthur's words and thought he did not want to see Lucia. But he did not expect to receive Arthur and Sophie's glower at the same time, so he hurriedly stopped talking and made himself invisible.

Their eyes were really sharp ...

In the ward, they were glowering. Outside the ward, Lucia was so anxious that she lost her mind.

After Lucia picked up her son this afternoon, she was cooking dinner when Theodore's anxious cry came from the living room, "Mommy, isn't this Daddy's car?!"

Lucia rushed out of the kitchen. She thought Theodore was on the balcony and saw Arthur's car parked downstairs, but didn't realize he was talking about a car accident being reported on TV. Although the TV station had processed the license plates of both vehicles, Lucia recognized Arthur's car right away.

Arthur had a car accident!

The vegetables she was holding fell directly to the ground. She was most afraid of Arthur because of emotional driving problems. She did not expect this fear really came true. It was all her fault. Why did she have to say those harsh words!

Being repentant, Lucia's tears followed down. This time, Theodore was more calm instead. He jumped off the sofa directly to hug Lucia's legs and said, "Mommy, don't cry. Let's go to see Daddy!"

After her son reminded her, Lucia realized that now was not the time to regret, so she quickly wiped her tears and took off her apron. She let Theodore dress himself, took the phone and keys, and even forgot to wear the jacket before took Theodore out. They went out of the neighborhood and hailed a taxi. When the driver asked the destination, she realized she had no idea where Arthur was now.

"Sir, please take us to Municipal Harmony Hospital," Theodore replied politely. Lucia looked down at her son in surprise. The report just now clearly did not mention which hospital Arthur was sent to.

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Seeing his mommy look surprised, Theodore raised his hand and waved his phone. It turned out he had Alice locate Arthur's location again. If it was in the usual, Lucia would have taught Theodore not to invade other people's privacy, not even his own father, but now, she really appreciated her son being so resourceful.

Lucia and Theodore finally made it to Municipal Harmony Hospital, but they didn't know where Arthur's ward was, and they couldn't find out by asking at the inpatient unit.

While Lucia was trying to find ways to get the word out of the staff, Arthur, who was in the ward, was not having a good time either, because ... it had been a long time since Kyle had just come up to inform, so why had Lucia and Theodore not shown up yet?

Of course, Arthur will not say the doubt, and now the people who accompanied by him was the world's most knowledgeable mother. Sophie had long found Arthur was distracted when talking to her. He always glanced at the door. Without asking, she knew what was in his mind.

"I am going to the bathroom. Lie still." Sophie suddenly stood up and said to Arthur, and then walked out of the ward with her cell phone in her hand.

"It's strange. We're in a deluxe ward. Isn't the toilet inside?" Kyle, who was standing by the door, muttered.

As soon as Sophie left the ward, she went to the nurses' station and asked for the phone number of the inpatient front desk. She called and asked if there was a woman with a child asking about Arthur. When the person there said there were such people, she told the person to give Arthur's ward number to Lucia.

Downstairs, Lucia suddenly got Arthur's ward number and thought the staff was convinced by her, so she busily picked up the child and rushed upstairs.

Sophie went back to the ward as soon as she hung up the phone. Arthur knew what she was doing, and in a few moments, she saw Lucia panting and holding Theodore in front of the ward.

"Daddy!" Theodore shouted as soon as he saw Arthur who was lying on the hospital bed. He was twisting his body to get down from his mother's arms. Lucia hurriedly put him down, and the little guy rushed to Arthur on the hospital bed like an arrow as soon as he hit the ground.

"Theodore," Arthur was naturally happy to see Theodore. However, before he wanted to get up to hug him, he found that his left leg was not convenient, so he simply stretched out his long hands and held the tiny child onto the bed, cradling him in his arms.

"Daddy, are you hurt badly?" Theodore was carefully lying in Arthur's arms, and afraid that he would touch his wounds. With his a pair of large eyes, he looked at Arthur's injuries.

"Daddy's fine." Arthur replied with a smile. Seeing his four year old son was so concerned about him, Arthur's heart was overflowing with fatherly love.

Lucia stood alone in the doorway. She really wanted to jump over and hug Arthur and say sorry. It was because of her that he was hurt. She also wanted to ask him if he was hurt badly and where the injuries were, but now Lucia could only stand in the doorway, as if she was an outsider.

Sophie soon found out Lucia's embarrassment. She hurriedly stood up and walked over to pull Lucia into the ward, chanting, "Why did you come out without a jacket? Are you cold?"

When Sophie saw Lucia wearing only a sweater, she was sure that Lucia was still in love with Arthur. Otherwise, she was so afraid of the cold, why would she rush to Arthur after knowing that he was in a car accident without even putting on a jacket?

While Sophie was concerned about Lucia, Arthur kept glancing over and listening to what they were saying even though he was talking to his son, and picked up his ears.

"I'm not cold ..." Lucia could only choose to answer this way. She could not say she ran out in such a hurry because she was worried and anxious. However, this lie she told was not even a lie.

Sophie also began to feel sorry for Lucia. She hurriedly asked Kyle to close the door of the ward, and then raised the temperature of the air conditioning. She was afraid that Lucia would catch a cold therefore and can not take care of her son.

Now Sophie was already figuring out how to leave her son in Lucia's care.

Entering the ward and standing by the end of the bed, Lucia inevitably saw Arthur and was silent for a moment before asking, "Are you ... okay?"

Lucia actually knew that the most sensible thing to do was not to show up. But if she didn't come here, she would really worry about Arthur. Those concerns, in front of Arthur who had the car accident, had become less important. She must be sure with her own eyes that Arthur was okay.

"It's a minor thing. A minor injury." Arthur replied indifferently, then looked down to talk with his son again, as if he was intentionally leaving Lucia alone, but Sophie was anxious.

She came to see him in a hurry, and this was his attitude?

Sophie scolded her son in her heart without mercy. Seeing that he was using Theodore as a shield, she simply walked over to the bed and stiffly carried her grandson out of her son's arms.

Sophie: "Theodore now happens to be in the hospital. Last time we talked about giving him a vision check to see if phone has any effect. I'll take him down to see ..."

Theodore quickly understood his grandmother's meaning and wrapped his arms around her neck, but when he reached the door, Kyle, who was standing there, asked a puzzled question, "Madam, it's night time. The doctors in charge of checking eyesight in the hospital should be off work by now ..."

As he just finished talking, Kyle was watched by both Sophie and Theodore at the same time. Sophie gestured to him and let him follow them. Kyle, who was intimidated, followed obediently out, and had the sense to close the door.

Sophie and Theodore had similar glower!

Once they left, Arthur and Lucia were the only ones left in the ward. Arthur looked down not to see Lucia, while Lucia was standing in a daze and looked at Arthur's left leg which was in a cast.

What should she do? What else can she say now ...?

Lucia was baffled. Her eyes were involuntarily fixed on Arthur's left leg. She was thinking about whether he had broken his leg, and how to move after that ... she had already started thinking about Arthur's food, clothing and shelter afterwards without control.

After today's day encounter, including argument, car accident, hospitalization and bandages, his medication was added with some analgesic effect, and Arthur surprisingly fell asleep.

When Lucia finally got up the courage to say sorry to Arthur, she looked up and saw that his eyes were closed.

Hesitantly, Lucia shouted quietly, "Arthur..."

Arthur, of course, did not move. Lucia increased the volume. He still did not respond. Lucia carefully measured the look of Arthur, and found that this was the natural expression after falling asleep. She was secretly relieved. He really fell asleep...

Once Arthur fell asleep, Lucia was not so stressed. Thinking of the look on his face when he first saw her just now, Lucia didn't feel good. Although ... this was the result she wanted.

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With courage, Lucia gingerly stood up and came to Arthur's side. She examined his left leg up close first for a moment, and then scrutinized the various wounds on his body. The blood oozing from the bandages had long curdled into a dark red.

It looked shocking. From the wounds, she can probably guess what kind of situation Arthur was in when he was hit. Lucia frowned more tightly.

If she hadn't been deliberately angry with him today, he might have returned to the company long ago and wouldn't have met the car accident.

In ten minutes, Lucia had taken all the responsibilities for all the misfortunes that Arthur might encounter in the future in his life. Her tears fell down, one after another. Obviously, it was silent, but each drop of tear was as heavy as how she felt.

"Well, don't cry ..." Just as Lucia's vision was blurred by tears, Arthur's voice sounded like a helpless sigh.

In fact, he woke up just now when Lucia turned Arthur's quilt to check his injuries, but he did not say anything. But after feeling the teardrops falling on his arm, he could no longer calm down.

Lucia was of course taken aback. She blinked desperately, but her eyes were full of tears and she couldn't see the look on Arthur's face. But the words he said were like the last straw that broke the camel's back, causing Lucia's perseverance over this period of time to fall apart instantly.

Tears blurred her vision, but she still recognized the direction of Arthur's embrace. She bent down and threw herself into Arthur's arms, crying out.

Arthur lifted his arms around her and gently patted her back, letting her cry as much as she wanted.

He waited patiently until Lucia calmed down and her choking had stopped. Arthur, despite his injuries, carried her to the bed and laid her on his side.

When Sophie returned with Theodore, Arthur was seen in a mess.

Arthur himself was just bandaged, but after Lucia's reckless lunge, plus he carried Lucia, who was lying on his chest, the threads of each wound almost collapsed.

Originally the bandages with the dark red blood marks were re-wetted bright red. The blood of the larger injuries even flowed beyond the bandage. At first glance, his whole person was like dipped in blood, which looked shocking.

The subtle thing was that Arthur had a smile on his face!

Just as Sophie was about to exclaim, Arthur raised his hand in a silent gesture and pointed to Lucia, who was cowering beside him, implying them not to disturb her.

Sophie was helpless to the extreme. Theodore saw that his father was so defensive of his mother, and adored Arthur.

Although they can't wake Lucia, they can't let Arthur bleed like this. Sophie carried Theodore to the doctor's office for a while, and finally two doctors came over to personally stop Arthur's bleeding and re-stitch and re-bandage him. During the process, the two doctors were scared.

If they moved a little more, Arthur would signal them with his eyes to be lighter.

The remedial work that could have been done in half an hour by one doctor took more than an hour for two doctors to complete.

And, Arthur was still reluctant to move and wouldn't let the doctors touch the wound on his back. The good thing was that there was no serious wound on the back. Otherwise it would be difficult for the doctors.

Finally, Arthur's wounds were re-treated, and now not only Theodore looked at him with admiration, but also Kyle. Only Sophie was full of heartache.

Their love was so deep that he didn't care about flesh wounds.

Arthur's love for Lucia was much deeper than Sophie imagined. It was afraid that words cannot be used to estimate it now.

Sophie spoke softly, "Arthur, let Lucia stay with you. Theodore has classes tomorrow. I'll take him back to rest. Take care of yourself. Don't be like that again."

"Well, Theodore come here. Be a good boy and go home with Grandma to rest. Come back to see Daddy after school, okay?" Calling Theodore to the other side of his bed, Arthur leaned over and kissed him on the forehead, instructing, "Okay, Theodore is good!" Theodore blinked his big eyes and promised solemnly.

Sophie took Theodore back after telling Arthur a few more things. It was now 9:30 pm. Usually Theodore should have gone to bed early. In the car, he was sleepy and yawning, but Sophie rarely didn't let him sleep at will.

"Theodore, did you and Mom spend Christmas and New Year's at Esmae's?" Sophie embraced Theodore and asked him.

Theodore was so smart that he often remembered small details. Sophie had wanted to ask him about it for a long time. Unfortunately, Lucia had been consciously or unconsciously distancing her. It was difficult for her to find a moment alone with Theodore. Tonight was the perfect time.

"Well, all the time." Theodore answered his grandmother's question seriously, even though he was sleepy enough to rub his eyes.

"Did your mother change in any strange ways while in Chicago? Did she suddenly become very negative and depressed emotionally?" When these kinds of questions were asked to any other four-year-old children, they would just give her a dumbfounded look. But Theodore was different, and Sophie was reassured to ask him.

"Yes..." Theodore said after thinking for a while, "Grandma Esmae has just picked us up and she was talking to Mommy alone. Esmae wasn't like this before." Theodore said so and pouted in discontent and continued, "Mommy and Esmae talked for a long, long time, until I went to bed. Mommy came back and her eyes were red. I am so scared. I asked Mommy what was wrong and she wouldn't tell me. She asked me if I really liked Daddy, and I said yes, and Mommy cried..."

Sophie asked hurriedly, "What happened?"

“The next day Mommy was just like normal. When Daddy made a video call, Mommy was clearly there. She asked me to lie about her absence. But she was right next to me” Theodore replied while asserting his sense of right and wrong.

Sophie nodded and continued to ask, “Don’t you think it’s strange that you didn’t have video call with your dad again after that?”

Theodore thought for a moment and said, “Mommy said the phone was broken and she would wait until after the holidays to find Daddy.”

When Sophie heard this, she was almost certain that the problem was with Esmae, but what did they talk about, and who was Esmae?

“Theodore, do you know what Esmae’s full name is?” asked Sophie then.

“I don’t know ...I called her grandma or Esmae as soon as I was born ...” Theodore’s eyes were almost closed, and he was dazed.

Sophie stopped asking questions and let Theodore close his eyes to sleep. What was more, she had found the reason.

That Grandma Esmae, who the hell was she?

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Arthur woke up early the next morning, and Lucia was no longer by his side.

He looked around and was caught by the low sound of talking coming from outside the balcony. He followed the sound and saw the balcony door closed and a blurred back reflected in the glass. It was Lucia.

Lucia’s eyes met Arthur’s as soon as she entered the door. She was visibly froze. And her face turned red rapidly at a visible speed.

Lucia was now so embarrassed that she wanted to hide herself. In fact, she woke up at 6 o’clock in the morning. Knowing that she had lost control of her emotions, Lucia was embarrassed.

At this time, a nurse came over to send a temperature probe to check the temperature, found Lucia awake and mentioned Arthur’s open wound last night. Lucia listened and felt guilty. When she heard the nurse said that Arthur was looking at her smiling the whole time, her heart was like being wrapped in a layer of honey. It was sweet, but also so thick that she can hardly breathe.

Lucia knew that everything she did to Arthur now will make her regret later, but ... one was a man who loved her dearly, and the other was like her own parent. She really can't choose.

"I took your temperature just now. It's normal. You can get an IV after the doctor comes to do his rounds and prescribes the medication later." Breaking the silence, Lucia tried to suppress her emotions and said to Arthur.

Arthur faintly responded, "Well, got it."

"I'm going to get breakfast." Lucia wanted to take the opportunity to leave to catch her breath, when Kyle suddenly appeared in the doorway, carrying two delicate food boxes in his hands.

Kyle dutifully brought the food boxes to the bedside table and said to Arthur, "Mr. Davies, this is the breakfast from the south gate."

The breakfast from the south gate was not Arthur's favorite, but Lucia's. Last night, before Arthur went to bed, he told Kyle to go buy breakfast early in the morning. Kyle said this on purpose so that Lucia could hear that.

As soon as Lucia heard this, she looked towards Arthur, saw both Arthur and Kyle staring at her, and quickly turned back. She lowered her head as her face continued to burn.

"Miss Webb, let's have breakfast." Kyle said to Lucia with a smile. Just as he finished his words, he noticed Arthur giving him a look that hinted him to go out. Kyle felt aggrieved because he thought he was an excellent helper!

But despite feeling aggrieved, he quickly withdrew and continued to leave space for the couple.

"Eat." Arthur didn't want to push Lucia now.

Lucia took a chair to sit next to Arthur and began to eat up. Occasionally there would be footsteps and voices outside the door, accompanied by the unique cold winter morning, which made them think it was peaceful time.

After a quiet breakfast, two doctors came over for rounds and talked to Lucia for advice and understanding of the condition.

After the doctors left, Lucia sighed helplessly and turned to Arthur and said,

"Don't be capricious, okay?"

Arthur did not answer.

This only made Lucia feel more guilty, so she quickly changed the subject, "The doctors said there are just some minor cracks on your left calf. You should recuperate well for half a month."

"Eh." Arthur still only replied so.

Lucia turned her head to the balcony, then brought back a basin of water. The towel was wrung out and wiped to Arthur's face with a swift speed. Arthur immediately hissed out.

Lucia took the ice water!

Seeing the success of her revenge, she showed a smug smile on her face, grabbed a towel and wiped Arthur's face, even deliberately messed up his hair. Lucia looked at her results, and her mood finally turned better.

"Idiot." Seeing Lucia's hands were red from the ice water, Arthur scolded and reached out to hold her hands.

Lucia did not pull her hand out, just lowered her head and looked at the bed, thinking ... they were now like this. What was it called?

Her own hard-earned persistence and cold-bloodedness were all broken by a car accident. For that reason, she could ruthlessly leave Arthur, but as soon as Arthur had an accident, she would also rush over without turning back.

After that ... what should she do exactly.

Lucia had no idea.

Sophie arrived at 10 o'clock with a food box, and the situation of Arthur and Lucia did not surprise her. They were like negative poles that could not touch but had to come together. They looked a bit rusty, but there was no sense of dissonance.

"Lucia, come have the soup too." With Lucia around, Sophie would of course prepare her share.

Lucia was not an injured person, but under Sophie's eager gaze, she still followed Arthur to have the soup, making Kyle, who was guarding the door, crave for more.

When it came time to have the soup, Arthur naturally picked some of Lucia's favorite carrots and other things in the soup for her.

The soup was soon finished, and Sophie and Lucia were cleaning up the food box together when she suddenly asked, "Lucia, what is Esmae's full name?"

Lucia was directly stunned.

Arthur looked at Sophie in confusion, wondering why his mother would suddenly mention Esmae, who had been kind to Lucia. But Sophie would only give her a reassuring look and then continue,

“Sorry, I talked to Theodore last night and learned a few things. Lucia, you talked to Esmae the first night you arrived in Chicago, right? What exactly did you guys talk about?”

Theodore said that night you cried. After that you began to avoid Arthur, and even lied to Theodore that the phone is broken. And you just directly shut down, cut off all contact with Arthur. After returning to the country without warning to break up with Arthur. Lucia, this Esmae is not the reason why you left Arthur? ”

Sophie’s questions, one was to ask Lucia for details, and the other was to let Arthur understand what happened at that time. Arthur heard what happened. Before learning that Lucia cried before deciding to alienate him, he rushed to ask her,

“Is it all true?”

Lucia stood still by the bed like a statue, not saying a word and not even blinking her eyes. In fact she was panicking. Sophie was right. Esmae was the reason why she left Arthur, but she could not say the reason. This was what she promised Esmae.

Seeing that Lucia didn’t say anything, Sophie knew she had to make more efforts, so she deliberately said, “Lucia, this time you argued with Arthur and he got into a car accident. What about the next time?”

Lucia lowered her eyes. Her shoulders were shaking slightly, but she still pursed her lips without saying a word.

Sophie continued,

“Lucia, does Arthur’s love for you not outweigh anything that other people say? You know that last night, almost all the wounds all over his body were open in order to let you sleep better. He was covered with blood when we came in. I got the doctors to stitch him up again. He was careful not to make any noise, and carried hard for more than an hour before the stitching was done.

Lucia, maybe you broke up with Arthur because you were concerned about Esmae’s feelings, but what about me? I’m Arthur’s mother. Can you take pity on me too? Do you know how much it hurt me to see him like that last night?”