

Timeless 231

CHAPTER 231 DO YOU HAVE TIME FOR LUNCH TOGETHER

Leon thought for a while, looked at Adeline, and said, "Mum, Hathaway is a good girl. I believe you will like her after getting to know her better."

Hearing this, Adeline averted her eyes.

How could she not know that Hathaway and Cynthia were good? If not, how could they have made their father and son and Carl so fascinated by them? Especially Carl...

Recently in the circle of their age in South City, almost everyone was talking about how good Carl was to Cynthia. He cherished her very much.

It rained last night in South City. She heard from her friends that the ground was full of water after Carl and Cynthia met friends, but Carl didn't hesitate to pick up Cynthia and walked towards the place where they parked. Carl's feet and legs were a mess, while Cynthia's feet not wet at all, showing no sign of embarrassment.

Every woman who saw this scene was quite envious of Cynthia.

There was no passion or love between couples when they reach their age. It was rare to find someone who could do what Carl did to take care of Cynthia.

Some people said jealously that Carl was so nice to Cynthia now because they had missed out for so many years. If they had been together for decades since they were young, they might have grown tired of it by this age.

But Adeline knew better than anyone else that a woman like Cynthia would never make any man tired of her. Moreover, Carl loved her so much. It was estimated that he would still love and care for Cynthia like this even after decades.

She had always known that Cynthia and Hathaway were good, but she had refused to admit it.

Thinking of this, Adeline said feebly, "I'm tired and want to sleep. Since you don't want to leave, you can sleep outside for a while."

Adeline was in a high-end ward, and there was a suite outside with sofas for visitors to sit and rest. Leon didn't say anything more, got up to help her lie down. After that, he went outside to lie on the sofa in his clothes.

Even though Leon was very tired, he wasn't sleepy at all.

Adeline was in such a state, how could he sleep as his son?

She was his mother, so he was naturally sad.

When he was upset and rolled over again, he received a message on his mobile phone and took it out to see that it was from Hathaway. He wanted to call her just now, but he thought she might have fallen asleep at this late hour after a long day and didn't disturb her.

Hathaway said in the message, "I know that nothing can remove your sadness and grief. All I can say is that you should cheer up to face it and take your time to accept and digest the reality."

Hathaway wasn't sleepy either because she had been worrying about Leon.

Every time she thought of him saying that he had no home, she was heartbroken. Now that Adeline was about to leave him, how desperate he was!

She felt the same way when Mrs. Taylor died. She was so desperate that she impulsively hated to trade her life for Mrs. Taylor's for a few more years, but she knew that it was all to no avail after calming down. For those who were alive, the only thing they could do was to accept the harsh reality and try to digest it, so she now advised Leon in this way.

Leon felt a warmth in his chest as he read these words.

Even if her words did not change Adeline's current situation, they at least made him feel that she cared for him.

"Thank you, I'm fine." After returning her this sentence, he told her, "Go to bed early."

Leon did not immediately tell Hathaway that his mother had agreed to their being together. Now was not a good time to say that, and at least he had to tell her to her face.

Leon did not sleep well all night. Adeline got up several times because she didn't feel well, and Leon had to get up with her to call the nurse or look for a doctor. When Nick came over in the morning, he saw the tiredness under his eyes and said with a sigh, "Go back to rest. I'll take care of Aunt Adeline for a while."

Leon nodded, "Thank you."

He left the hospital and did not go home to rest, but went to his office first. Many of the company's matters had to be handled by him, and he stayed busy in this way until noon.

Warren was worried that his body would not be able to take it, "President Davis, your health is important."

Leon responded, "Well, I will go back to rest after reading this document."

Warren, "..."

When he finished reading this document, he might want to read the next one. At this rate, he would be busy with business all day.

Warren knew about Adeline's illness and Leon's trip these days, so he could realize how tired he was from running back and forth and that Leon had to rest.

However, Leon refused to listen to his advice, so Warren thought of Hathaway and at the same time, he wanted to help Leon get Hathaway back.

Hathaway was chatting with Carl and Cynthia at their home. Carl didn't know about her trip out with Leon, and her excuse for coming back was that she was going to help Ashley with her styling. Hathaway came here to discuss these with Cynthia. If she concentrated on styling Ashley, she might not be able to stay in Hong Kong for long.

Hathaway was surprised to receive a call from Warren, "Warren? What can I do for you?"

Warren told Hathaway about Leon's current state and then sighed, "Miss Taylor, I think only you can persuade him now."

When Hathaway heard that Leon hadn't had a rest, she was a little worried and agreed, "I'll give him a try on the phone, but I can't guarantee that it will work."

"Please." Warren didn't say anything more, but he thought to himself that if Hathaway couldn't even persuade Leon, no one in the world would be able to make it.

Hathaway took her phone to the small courtyard in front of Carl's villa and lowered her voice to call Leon. She was smart enough not to directly persuade Leon to eat and rest, but invited him, "Do you have time for lunch together?"

Hathaway was sure that if she said this, Leon would agree to the appointment.

As expected, she heard Leon agree on the other hand of the line, "Okay, I have something to say to you too."

Then they agreed on a place for dinner and hung up the phone.

After Hathaway returned to the house, she said to Cynthia and Carl, "I have a lunch date with someone else. You don't need to prepare mine."

She planned to have lunch with them. As soon as she came here, Carl conspicuously told her that many

of the vegetables grown in his small yard were ready to eat, and they were natural and harmless, yet now she had to miss her appointment with him.

CHAPTER 232 BAD INFLUENCE

Carl was in the kitchen washing and preparing vegetables to cook delicious food for Cynthia and Hathaway. He was a good cook. When he was young, he could not cook anything, but after he met Cynthia, he wanted to make himself better and then learned everything.

When Hathaway was recuperating at first, Cynthia prepared three meals a day, but later Carl took the initiative to take over this task. Cynthia didn't feel at ease and thought that a rough man like him wouldn't be able to make good food, but it was delicious after he tried it several times later. Now Carl was basically responsible for three meals a day.

Sometimes Cynthia wanted to cook, but he refused it, put his arms around her, and coaxed her with a smile, "Your hands were born to draw, not to do this kind of rough work."

It made Cynthia feel nauseous and sweet.

Because of her good reputation in the design industry, she had never retired, which was just what she wanted. So she had a lot of work to do every day, while Carl, who retired early, was idle in comparison. Hathaway even teased him about being a house-husband.

Carl didn't mind at all, "As long as your mother is with me, I don't care what others say about me."

At this moment, Hearing that Hathaway was leaving, Carl immediately walked out of the kitchen in discontent and protested, "Who did you ask to have dinner with? Is there anyone more important than your dad and mum?"

Hathaway coughed softly guiltily. It was not that Leon was more important than them. She wanted to have dinner with them, but Leon was in a special situation now.

Hathaway didn't know when she started to unconsciously care about Leon.

Cynthia took a glance at Hathaway and probably guessed who she was eating with, so she turned to Carl and said with disgust, "Didn't you say you wouldn't interfere too much in the children's lives? How come now you won't even allow Hathaway to go out for a meal?"

Hearing her words, Carl instantly fell silent, and Hathaway took the opportunity to slip away.

Hathaway and Leon arrived at the restaurant almost at the same time. Leon parked the car and got down first and then stood upright at the entrance of the restaurant waiting for Hathaway. He did not hide his relationship with Hathaway.

On the contrary, Hathaway stared at his reckless face sullenly, dawdled for a while before she got out of

the car.

It was not long after they declared off their engagement and broke up that they got entangled again, what would other people think of them?

When Hathaway came over, Leon reached out to hold Hathaway's hand, but she dodged it vigilantly and protested to him angrily, "Leon, I'll say it again. I haven't agreed to make up with you yet, so don't touch me."

Leon gave a rare smile, "You'll agree to it later."

He didn't insist on holding Hathaway's hand and took the lead in entering the restaurant after saying that.

Hathaway followed behind him in confusion, what did he mean by saying that?

Just after entering the box and closing the door, Leon turned to embrace Hathaway and said in a fatigued voice, "Let me lean on you for a while."

Hathaway wanted to push him away, but she stopped at the sound of his words, dropped his hands, and asked him softly, "How is your mother doing?"

Leon embraced her and replied, "It's an advanced malignant tumor. She doesn't have much time left."

Hathaway pursed her lips and did not what to say.

After hugging her for a while longer, Leon released her, stared down at her, and said seriously, "She said that if I only wanted you, she wouldn't object anymore."

Hathaway was shocked by this. She never expected to hear such an answer. Perhaps because Adeline was too sharp and mean before, she was not used to it for a while when she suddenly heard Adeline say that she would not object to them.

Leon held her hand and asked, "Now she's not an obstacle, so can you give me an answer now?"

Earlier in X City, Leon said he would give her time to consider whether she wanted to make up with him.

Leon knew very well that Hathaway had feelings for him. The reason why she had not agreed to reconcile with him was because of his mother. So he didn't push her too hard.

When he was in X City, he thought he would have a good talk with his mother after returned to South City from his business trip. However, before he came back, Adeline had a car accident.

"Leon, I... "Hathaway looked away from Leon, and her mind was in turmoil.

Leon ignored her panic and held her hand tightly, "Alright, I know. Silence is the best answer, and I'll take that as your agreement to make up with me."

Hathaway glared at him, "Hey! Leon, are you still in the mood for romance?"

Hathaway finally found the cause of her distraction. It was good that Adeline had agreed to them being together, but it was based on the fact that Adeline was seriously ill. This made her much less joyful.

She felt it was inappropriate for them to talk about love when Adeline was seriously ill.

When she was thinking this way, Leon said word by word, "I'm having a hard time now, so I need your love to make me feel better."

Hathaway's heart trembled at Leon's words, and she looked at Leon helplessly, "Leon, how come I never found out you have so many tricks up your sleeve?"

He was a cold, noble, and heartless man, why did he always act like this in front of her?

He made himself sound so pitiful that she couldn't refuse.

But what he said made sense, didn't it? He suffered the pain of his mother's imminent death, and only love gave him some happiness and sweetness to dull the bitterness in his heart.

Now the crux of the matter was Adeline was not opposed to it, but Carl and Paul did not agree, especially Carl.

She looked at Leon and said awkwardly, "I promise to reconcile with you, but my two fathers..."

Before Hathaway said more, Leon thought of these things. Although his mother was not against it anymore, it didn't mean that Carl and Paul had no more problems with it.

After biting her lip and thinking for a while, Hathaway said, "Or we can keep them in the dark until I find the right opportunity to talk to them about it."

If he asked Hathaway to tell Carl and Paul that she had made up with Leon right now, she wouldn't dare to do so, as both of them would probably be furious.

Leon was just about to voice his opposition to her proposal, but he heard Hathaway say, "Besides if I'm going to be my sister's stylist later, I don't want our relationship to be widely and publicly exposed. It will bring about bad influence."

Hearing her words, Leon laughed in anger, "Tell me, what does the word 'bad influence' mean? I have

such a perfect image in South City, how is it a bad influence?"

CHAPTER 233 LEON, WHY ARE YOU SO THOUGHTLESS

Hathaway explained, "I'm not disliking your image."

"Ashley wants to stay grounded in the entertainment circle, so she hasn't even disclosed her relationship with Nick. If we have an open relationship, many investors will film her scenes for your sake. That's not what she wants."

With Leon's status in South City, almost no one would dare to deny his face. Moreover, Ashley was Hathaway's beloved elder sister. Once her relationship with Leon was in the open, those snobbish investors would flatter Leon under the guise of giving Ashley good resources for filming. This would completely disrupt Ashley's planning and was not her original intention of joining this circle.

Leon raised his eyebrows and said sourly, "In the end, you put me out in the cold for Ashley."

Hathaway, "..."

She said unhappily to Leon, "Why are you so thoughtless?"

It was simply unreasonable for him to say that about her. Hathaway didn't believe that he didn't understand the pros and cons of it.

Leon smiled, "Come and sit down. Let's order now. I'm hungry."

At Leon's age and experience, he could understand what Hathaway meant, but he still deliberately protested to her because he was upset.

He had waited so long to make up with her. Now he was going to have an underground relationship with her, how could he not protest?

On second thought, he also agreed that it would be good not to disclose their relationship. They had been through too much last time, so this time they should be in love simply and quietly.

No one to bother them could save them from having so much trouble to disturb their relationship.

While they were enjoying their meal, Bella went to visit Adeline in the hospital.

She was about to enter Adeline's ward when she received a message on her mobile phone. She opened it and saw the picture of Leon and Hathaway entering the restaurant together with their heads down, sent by the person she had asked to keep an eye on them.

After pursing her lips and stared at the picture for a while, Bella put away her phone with a smug smile

and entered the ward.

She absentmindedly chatted with Adeline for a few moments. When she heard Adeline say that her condition was beyond control and she had not much time left, Bella took Adeline's hand with a sad look and comforted her.

But Adeline could see that Bella's sadness was feigned and not genuine. In other words, Bella did not care whether she was dead or alive but how she could achieve her goal of getting Leon.

Then Bella took out her mobile phone to show Adeline the photo of Leon and Hathaway entering the restaurant together and said sourly, "Auntie, you are sick now, but Leon is on a dinner date with Hathaway. Does he not care about your feelings at all? And Hathaway, she's not sensible to seduce Leon at this time."

Adeline took a look at the photo and slowly closed her eyes.

Bella did not know that Adeline was no longer against Leon and Hathaway being together, let alone knowing that every time she talked about them in front of her now, she was desperate.

The more intimate they became, the more desperate she was to be unable to stop them. This was an indirect reason why Adeline compromised not to oppose them last night because she couldn't do anything but compromise and agree in the end.

In other words, Bella's repeated and deliberate complaints indirectly led her to make compromises.

Adeline opened her eyes to look at Bella and said, "Bella, I'm dying now, so I'm not going to have a stalemate with Leon anymore and choose to accept Hathaway. Leon is my son after all. I hope to get along with him in the last days of my life so that I will not leave this world with regrets."

Bella froze there and looked at Adeline with disbelief, "Auntie, how did you—"

When she complained to Adeline last time, Adeline had shown a negative attitude and didn't want to interfere in Leon's affairs, but Bella didn't expect to hear Adeline say that she accepted Hathaway now.

Bella recovered from her shock and got up indifferently, "I'll leave now. Take care of yourself."

With that, she turned to leave without looking back and didn't say a word more to Adeline, not to mention using a salutation to say goodbye to her.

Looking at the back of Bella's departure, Adeline realized for the first time how bad Bella was.

Bella was so ruthless and snobbish. As soon as she saw that she accepted Hathaway, she felt that she was useless and abandoned her mercilessly right away.

Adeline laughed to herself and shook her head, just as the saying went "everyone hit a person who was down".

However, it didn't matter anymore. She had nothing to worry about now except that Leon would be fine.

After lunch, Hathaway urged Leon to go back and rest, but he stopped her, "Go back with me."

Hathaway rejected, "Can't you sleep by yourself as an adult? Besides, I'm not free for that. I have to go with Ashley to choose her clothes."

Ashley's film launch was about to take place, and Jasmine gave her the exact news that she would attend it. So Hathaway had to go and help Ashley prepare her clothes for the launch event and the shooting in a few days. She saw the costumes the crew had prepared for Ashley and didn't think that they suited her temperament in the play.

After discussion, they decided to buy a few sets and bring them into the crew to show the stylist if they could be used.

Leon insisted, "You can go shopping when I'm asleep."

Before Hathaway could say anything, he said sulkily, "We just made up today, shouldn't you stay with me today?"

Hathaway resisted the urge to roll her eyes at him and patiently said, "We haven't been separated in the past few days, do you have to be so clingy?"

Leon nodded seriously, "Yes."

Hathaway had no choice but to go back to his place with him.

After Hathaway entered the door, she saw many things that she had left behind during her previous stay. At that time, she had gone to Hong Kong in such a hurry that she didn't even return here to pack her belongings and thought that Leon had thrown them away. How could she have imagined that they would make up one day?

Leon laughed, "I didn't pack your things nor did I need to do so now."

Hathaway didn't bother to pay attention to his implication. How could she continue to move in with him if she had to hide her relationship with him from her parents? She was afraid that Carl would break her legs. No, Carl wouldn't be willing to break her legs but his.

CHAPTER 234 LEON IS CLINGY.

Leon took his clothes to the bathroom, while Hathaway waited for him in the living room in boredom and sent a message to Ashley asking her to wait a little longer.

About ten minutes later, Leon came out of the bathroom freshly, but his robe was not wrapped tightly. It was loose and showed off his tight and perfect chest line, looking sexy and seductive.

Qiao deeply suspected that he was deliberately not dressed properly to charm her with his masculinity, and her heartbeat was a little faster, so she looked away and urged him, "Hurry up and go to bed. I'll stay out of the bedroom."

"Outside?" Leon was dissatisfied with her answer, walked up to her, and asked intensely, "Are you staying with me by doing so?"

Hathaway, who leaned against the sofa in his living room, was forced to lean back by him and glared at him fiercely, "I'm warning you not to not to overdo it. Believe me or not, I'll leave now."

He wasn't happy with her being outside. Did she have to go inside and stay with him in bed?

Could he not be so shameless?

Leon slightly leaned down to get closer to her, blew a breath behind her ear, and said in a hoarse and flirtatious tone, "I swear I'll do nothing else but hold you. You'll leave when I fall asleep."

His hot breath, charming tone, and stout chest made Hathaway flush. If she hadn't been leaning on the sofa, she might not have been able to stand firm. Then she tried to accuse him, "You—"

The next second Leon kissed her on the lips.

Leon clasped her waist with both hands and pressed her hard into his arms to kiss her forcibly.

Compared to his previous shallow kisses, this was his first kiss after they had reconciled. He embraced and kissed her recklessly from the sofa to the bed in his bedroom.

Hathaway gritted her teeth angrily and questioned him as he held her with one hand and rummaged through the bedside table with the other, "Leon, you just made an oath!"

Hathaway knew what he was looking for in the bedside table. After all, she had lived here for a few days and knew what was in there.

He had sworn not to do anything, but in the blink of an eye, he turned his back on it.

Although Hathaway was physically tempted by him, she was mentally repulsed. Was it appropriate to do such intimate things after they had just made up?

Leon, who was in the throes of desire above her, breathed heavily. After Hathaway protested for a moment, he paused in his rummaging and rolled over to lie down beside her, "Sorry..."

With that, he suddenly turned to wrap his arms around her again and buried himself in her neck socket, "You are so beautiful that I lost control."

Hearing his words, Hathaway was depressed and froze there, letting him hug her.

Was this Leon she knew? How could he pamper himself in her arms?

She came to her senses and reached out to push him, "Go to sleep quickly."

Leon wouldn't let her push him away, wrapped his strong arm around her, and leaned against her, "Okay, I'll sleep right away."

Hathaway said angrily, "Can you sleep like this?"

He was almost glued to her, and she could feel his body heat, which made her hot.

Leon rested one of his long legs on her and replied to her firmly, "Yes, I can."

Hathaway was speechless and had to let him hug her. Then she looked at the ceiling in a daze and prayed that he would fall asleep soon.

Leon was tired to the extreme, physically and mentally.

Luckily, he had Hathaway in his arms, so he fell fast asleep after his initial desire.

He knew it would make her uncomfortable to pester her for intimate things after they had just made up, so he didn't force her into anything.

Now that their relationship was different from before. The reasons and process of their first together were chaotic, but this time they were truly in love. He was willing to wait until the day when they both did intimate things willingly.

After hearing Leon's even breathing beside her, Hathaway gently moved his head onto a pillow, covered him with the blanket, and hurriedly got out of the bed. Then she stood there looking at the sleeping man, let out a long sigh of relief, and thought that she was finally free.

What was bothering Hathaway was that Leon would be so clingy from now on.

If he acted like this today, she was afraid that she would break down. Hopefully, he behaved in such a clingy and childish way just because of his depressed mood today.

As soon as Hathaway stepped out of Leon's house, she called Ashley and they agreed to meet at the mall.

When they met, Ashley asked Hathaway with concern, "Did something happen to you? What took you so long?"

They had agreed to go straight to the mall after lunch, but Ashley received a message from Hathaway that she was delayed by something and asked her to wait for a while.

Faced with Ashley's question, Hathaway found embarrassed to say it, but she told Ashley that she had agreed to make up with Leon. She had no choice but to say yes, did she? In his present situation, if she didn't agree with him, she was afraid that he would be more depressed.

Hearing this, Ashley smiled, "You have feelings for each other, but you broke up because of your previous generation's grudges. Now that his mother isn't against it, you should be together."

Hathaway sighed and then told Ashley about her plan to be in a secret relationship with Leon.

After hearing that, Ashley was moved and said with red eyes, "Hathaway, I appreciate your consideration for me."

Ashley couldn't accept those directors or producers' ingratiating with Leon under the guise of giving her many acting resources, because that wasn't what she and Jasmine wanted. After having contact with Jasmine a few times these days, she could see that Jasmine was not an agent who relied on crooked ways to gain a foothold in the entertainment circle.

So if that happened, it would hurt Jasmine's pride.

Fortunately, Hathaway was considerate and thoughtful. She had considered her situation well and avoided all the embarrassment for her and Jasmine, so Ashley was very grateful to her.

However, Ashley thought of Leon and asked with a frown, "Does Leon approve of your secret relationship?"

Leon had a hard time getting back together with Hathaway. If he didn't want it, Ashley would not be able to accept Hathaway's kindness with peace of mind.

CHAPTER 235 HATHAWAY DEFENDS HER RIGHTS.

Hathaway smiled, "Leon has no objection to it."

He had to reserve his objection, otherwise, he wouldn't even have a chance to make up with Hathaway.

Hathaway didn't want Ashley to have too much mental pressure, so she stepped forward and took her

arm, "Let's go shopping and choose your clothes."

Hathaway attached great importance to Ashley's film launch because it was a new start for both Ashley and her.

In the morning, she went to tell Cynthia that she was going to do Ashley's stylist, and Cynthia said approvingly, "I think that you should take a more open path with your personality and not be confined to the single path of fashion design like me."

Cynthia had a gentle and conservative personality and was not interested in anything other than clothes. Over the years, she had often taken on custom-made clothes for celebrities or actresses, but only in terms of clothing, not including makeup or styling. Then the stylists would style them according to the outfits she provided.

Some people had suggested that she should take a wider path, but she didn't have the ambition to do it.

But Hathaway was different from her. She was unrestrained and open-minded like Carl and also ambitious, so she was suited to take on new things. The path of a stylist was much wider than that of a fashion designer. Cynthia was supportive of Hathaway's choice, so Carl naturally had no more comments.

As Hathaway and Ashley passed by one shop, they heard a woman reprimanding the shop assistant in a sharp and angry voice, "What's wrong with you? Do you think I don't deserve this dress?"

The shop assistant patiently explained, "No. Miss Wilson, we just think that this dress can bring out the fairness of your skin more than the one you chose, so we suggested it. If you don't think it's good advice, you can not take it."

Hathaway and Ashley glanced at each other. What a small world! They could run into Bella even when they were shopping.

Bella was still fuming at the shop assistant, "Are you giving me advice? Don't look at your taste."

Her words rose to a personal attack. The shop assistant took a look at her, pursed her lips in silence, and stopped arguing with her because she was making trouble wilfully or venting her anger at them. As shop assistants, they had the experience and obligation to help customers choose more suitable clothes.

She could refuse their suggestions, but it was inappropriate for her to hurl abuse at them.

Hathaway and Ashley walked past the shop. After a few steps, Hathaway spoke to Ashley, "Ashley, you go to the shop in the front first. I have something to tell Bella."

Ashley nodded. She knew what Bella had done to Hathaway and that Hathaway would not be at a disadvantage in the face of Bella, so she was relieved to leave.

After saying that, Hathaway turned towards the shop where Bella was. She didn't go in but waited at the entrance.

She had long wanted to go to Bella.

Hathaway didn't want to fight with Bella. She just felt that Bella in such a good status did not need to trample herself for a man who did not love her.

If Bella insisted on fighting with her, she would fight back because she was not easy to deal with.

Bella came out of Adeline's ward and went straight to the mall. She was in such a bad mood that she needed to go on a shopping spree to relieve herself, so she was harsh on the shop assistants and yelled at them to relieve her anger.

In this way, she walked into the shop, but she didn't choose the dress she liked nor the one recommended by the shop assistants. She pointed at a random one and vented herself with an extreme and paranoid choice. The shop assistants found her behavior unreasonable, none of them said anything more to her. She was rich anyway, wasn't she?

Bella carried her clothes out of the shop with a cold face and intended to throw them in a trash can, but she turned around and saw Hathaway who lazily leaned against the show window looking at her fury. In an instant, Bella blushed in embarrassment. Hathaway's bright smile was a great irony to her.

The most important thing was that Hathaway was waiting here and must have seen her sarcastic remarks to the shop assistants, which was fatal to her image as a lady of honor.

She had always had a sense of superiority over Hathaway because she was so gentle and reserved. Now that Hathaway she saw how she looked just now, Bella felt humiliated.

Hathaway smiled and greeted Bella, "Miss Wilson, is it necessary for you to get angry over this dress?"

Only today Hathaway knew that Bella was so sarcastic and mean, so did she usually pretend to be gentle and generous?

Wasn't she tired of acting so hypocritically?

Bella glared at Hathaway angrily and turned to leave. She did not want to say anything to Hathaway, or rather, she was used to playing tricks behind her back and would not confront Hathaway face to face.

"Wait a minute," Hathaway didn't want her to leave easily, took a few steps forward to stop Bella, and then came straight to the point, "Leon doesn't love you, so I don't think you need to hang on to him. There are plenty of good men in this world, you might as well divert your attention."

Bella snorted coldly, "Why don't you find another man?"

Hathaway laughed, "I would like to, but he and I are in love with each other. So I don't need to find another man and will make do with him."

Hearing this, Bella gritted her teeth out of anger. She couldn't have Leon, but Hathaway said she would make do with him.

Hathaway continued, "You should know that we are back together and his mother agreed to it, so I am here to tell you today. If you let it go, we will at peace. But if you continue to play tricks behind your back, I will fight back."

At this point, Hathaway's smile deepened, "Maybe you don't know that I'm a combative person. If someone bullies me, I'll return it tenfold. Abby is the best example."

After saying that, Hathaway turned to leave without looking at Bella's expression.

The only reason she hadn't confronted Bella before was that Adeline had supported her. Now that Adeline had chosen to accept her, Hathaway was a legitimate couple with Leon and naturally wanted to defend her love and dignity.

CHAPTER 236 LEON FEELS INSECURE.

Bella trembled with anger at Hathaway's arrogance, but she had no courage to go after her and argue with her.

She was used to being gentle and generous in public and could not behave in her true colors like Hathaway.

This was probably closely related to the fact that she had been raised to be too strict. From an early age, she was taught to be elegant, reserved, and gentle, and not to behave inappropriately in front of outsiders so as not to tarnish her parents' image.

Although she had always been a good girl in the eyes of her parents and outsiders, sometimes she had a breakdown and could not vent it out. Hence, she only did something secretly in a place that others could not see her, which led her to do everything behind her back.

When she was provoked by Hathaway and remembered the plane ticket photo she had received of Hathaway traveling with Leon, Bella squeezed her bag with trembling hands.

She knew that this was Hathaway's cue to fight back.

Hathaway spent the afternoon in the mall with Ashley and finally returned home with many bags.

Hathaway went back to the Taylor's with Ashley because she was accustomed to living in the Taylor's and was afraid that Paul would feel lost and sad if she lived with Carl and Cynthia. Compared to Carl, who was open and cheerful, Paul was a bit sentimental. Besides, Paul just recovered from a dangerous illness, so she was more concerned about his feelings.

Another reason why Hathaway did not want to live with Carl and Cynthia was that she did not want to watch them show their affection.

In truth, Hathaway didn't want to disturb Carl and Cynthia's life. After so many years apart, they were back together and had no difference from a young man and woman who had just fallen in love. Leaving space for them to enjoy their world together was the best filial piety for them.

Kenny left home after Paul's 60th birthday. He had no specific destination and just said that he would walk around and try to look for Crystal based on some memories he had with her earlier.

Now Ashley, Hathaway, and Paul were left at home. After arriving home, Hathaway chatted with Paul for a while and then received a phone call from Leon.

Hathaway guiltily told Paul that she had to answer a call and left the living room with her phone.

Leon said directly on the phone, "Let's have dinner tonight, okay?"

He slept until now after Hathaway left. When he woke up and looked around his empty and cold apartment, he suddenly didn't want to live alone anymore.

Hathaway was helpless at Leon's invitation, "Didn't we agree not to let my parents know it first? I had lunch with you and now you want me to have dinner with you. If we see each other so often, they'll find out!"

Leon said indifferently, "I don't care."

Then he suggested, "How about we tell them the truth? Since you don't want to disclose it to the public, we can tell our families about this. Otherwise, do you want us to never see each other again?"

Leon felt bored at the thought of having dinner alone.

Hathaway wailed, "If you tell them now, do you want my father to chop off your hands or break your legs?"

Leon knew that Hathaway's father was referring to Carl because only he was so rude.

But he didn't care about Carl's rudeness and said firmly, "It doesn't matter if he chops off my hand or breaks my leg. As long as he allows us to be together."

"You're crazy." Hathaway scolded him and then persuaded him gently, "Don't make trouble now. Let's tell them later. I'm now busy with Ashley's styling and don't have the energy to deal with them."

Hathaway and Ashley chatted a lot when they were shopping this afternoon. It wasn't easy to pick out a suitable dress, and the best way was that Hathaway tailored it for Ashley, so Hathaway urgently needed a studio of her own. This time they would try to get the styling effect they wanted with the clothes designed by others.

This was a small try. If it worked, Hathaway would set up her studio. In this way, she would not only help Ashley with her styling but also try to get other tasks.

Therefore, what filled Hathaway's mind was that she wanted to succeed this time and her future development.

Once her relationship with Leon became public, she would have to spend a lot of energy to face Carl and Paul and deal with their grievances against Leon.

Hearing her words, Leon said with great jealousy, "Hathaway, what do you think is more important, your job or me?"

On the other end of the phone, Hathaway rolled her eyes and asked him back, "Do you want to quarrel with me just after we have made up?"

She continued to make complaints about Leon, "I don't think you're the same as I used to know, and you used to look more lovable. Although you are sharp-tongued, you will not be so unreasonable, clingy, and meddlesome.

The implication was that Leon was now not charming at all.

After Hathaway finished her complaints, Leon pursed her lips in silence for a while and said sulkily, "Do you regret making up with me? I'm warning you not to think about breaking up with me again since you promised to make up! If you dare to mention it, I'll tie you up to the Civil Affairs Bureau to get a license!"

Hathaway, "..."

Why couldn't they communicate?

She waited for Leon to calm down and said helplessly, "Are you in a better mood after these harsh words?"

Leon didn't say anything, but Hathaway could hear his displeasure.

"We are about to have dinner. You should get something to eat, too. Honey, don't skip meals or your body will not be able to bear it." Hathaway rubbed the goosebumps on her arms and coaxed him gently

before hanging up the phone.

She regretted it.

She regretted making up with him.

With his performance now, Leon could be called a large-size human doll. He wanted to stay with her 24 hours a day, while she just wanted to concentrate on her work now.

After Hathaway hung up the phone, Leon sullenly threw his phone aside and got up to wash in the bathroom.

He didn't want to behave like this in front of Hathaway, but he couldn't help it. He was upset to hear that she wouldn't stay with him or confess their relationship with her parents. At this time, he urgently needed his 100% presence in front of her so that he could feel secure.

CHAPTER 237 I'M SORRY FOR YOU.

Instead of having dinner alone, Leon called Nick.

But Nick said he was going to work on the night shift and have a working dinner in the hospital. Leon thought he would go to the hospital to visit Adeline, so he forced Nick to get him a working dinner and ate together in Nick's office.

When Nick went to visit Adeline in the afternoon, he had heard from her that she was no longer against Leon and Hathaway, so he immediately congratulated him at the sight of Leon, "Congratulations, Aunt Adeline has finally let it go and is no longer against you."

Nick thought Hathaway would have a hard time this time, but he didn't expect Adeline to compromise first. Maybe when she came to the end of her life, she wouldn't have so many obsessions in her heart anymore.

However, Nick found Leon unhappy and could not help but tease him, "What's wrong?"

Leon replied to him sullenly, "I have no problem with that, but she can't make it public for the time being."

Then Leon told Nick about Hathaway's consideration for Ashley, as well as Carl's rejection of him. Nick could understand Hathaway's careful consideration for Ashley because he also understood Ashley's desire to be down to earth in the entertainment circle. But when he heard that Paul and Carl would reject him, he grinned with pleasure, "I'm sorry I've got the approval of my future father-in-law."

Paul was satisfied with him, so it showed that he approved of his relationship with Ashley.

Nick was also distressed after teasing Leon. His parents still didn't know about his relationship with Ashley. In fact, his condition was no better than Leon's. Both his and Ashley's parents had no problem with it, but Ashley rejected have to make it public.

Leon glanced at Nick and laughed unkindly, "What's the use of your future father-in-law's approval? As far as I know, Ashley doesn't love you so much."

Nick couldn't even eat his meal and glared at Leon indignantly in protest.

Leon added, "She is going to join the entertainment circle, and there are many temptations. Are you sure you won't get dumped?"

After hearing his words, Nick couldn't be calm anymore, "Leon, you are trying to piss me off, right?"

Leon gave him a cold look, "You mocked me first."

Nick took carried his dinner box to another table and didn't want to sit face to face with Leon. They had a love-hate relationship.

After dinner, Nick threw himself into his work, while Leon went to Adeline's ward.

Adeline saw him enter and proposed to him, "Since my ending is irrevocable, I don't want to stay in the hospital anymore. The environment here is depressing and will probably make me more and more negative."

Leon frowned, "But the hospital has perfect medical conditions—"

Leon wanted to say that the hospital's drugs would help her live longer, but he felt that it was too cruel to say that and had to swallow his words back.

Adeline insisted, "If you don't feel at ease, you can hire me a caregiver to take care of me. Leon, I don't want to stay here anymore. I'm begging you to let me leave here."

Leon pursed his lips in silence for a while and finally complied with Adeline, "Okay, I will go to the doctor to ask about the specific situation before discharging you from the hospital."

Leon knew that Adeline was a proud person. At this time, she could say such words to beg him, which meant that she probably didn't want to stay here any longer.

Adeline asked him, "Have you told Hathaway that I am no longer against you?"

Leon nodded, "I did..."

Adeline stared at him carefully for a while and put on a self-deprecating smile, "I'm not against you, but

her parents may not agree, right?"

Adeline did not see the slightest bit of joy on Leon's face and then thought of the reason for it.

After all, she had framed Cynthia, so Cynthia and Carl were unlikely to accept her son, especially Carl. She had sensed from his words several times before that he did not like her son, and now after looking at her son's expression, Adeline understood everything.

Cynthia was soft-hearted and might let go of her grudge, but Carl would not.

Adeline did not expect that fortune knocked once at every man's door and one day her situation would be reversed. In the past, she disliked Hathaway and opposed her being with Leon, but now Carl did the same.

It was so heartbreaking for her to find out that her son was disliked and opposed by others.

She smiled to herself and couldn't help but shed tears, "Leon, I'm sorry..."

Adeline had hardly ever cried in all her years of life.

She was proud when she was young and did not allow herself to shed tears in front of anyone to reveal her vulnerability.

She was like this in front of Merlin and Leon, even more so to protect her face. Even if she was coldly treated by Merlin, she rarely cried and clenched her teeth to carry on.

However, this time, the more she cried, the more upset she became, and she couldn't even stop it.

She bawled and complaining to Leon, "It's all my fault. My bigotry brought you a broken family without love..."

This was the first time Leon had seen Adeline lose her cool. With tears in his eyes, he reached out to draw tissue and handed it to her.

Adeline took it, covered her face, and continued to cry, "I thought he would look at me as long as I held on. I thought it was her fault that I couldn't get his heart. I thought I would be happy if I drove her away. But a single wrong step at the start leads to wrong steps that follow. I hurt not only her but also you..."

"It's my retribution, isn't it? I won't live long with this disease. It's God's retribution for all the things I've done!" After finishing her last sentence, Adeline slumped on the quilt and cried bitterly.

Leon sat on the edge of the bed, pursed his lips, and watched Adeline cry without saying a word.

He knew that Adeline was sad, how could she not? Anyone who knew that he or she was dying would

break down.

So he didn't stop her and just let her cry and vent.

He was also sad. As a son, he had so much money but could not save his mother's life. His decadence also almost destroyed him.

So why did they quarrel and break up?

Why couldn't they cherish each other and stay together? After all, no one knew which would come first, tomorrow, or the accident.

CHAPTER 238 I LOVE YOU.

After crying, Adeline was tired and listless. Leon helped her lie down, and she fell asleep soon.

Leon went to talk to Adeline's attending doctor about her discharge from the hospital. The doctor did not refuse and just told him to let her live happily in her last days and not to leave any regrets in her life.

Leon came out of the hospital in a low mood and unconsciously went to the Taylor's on his way back. He was upset and just wanted to hug Hathaway for comfort.

He couldn't ask Hathaway out openly, but he didn't give up, parked his car some distance from the Taylor's, and took out his mobile phone to call her.

Hathaway had just watched Paul take his medicine and fall asleep, so she whispered after picking up his call, "What's wrong?"

"I miss you," Leon replied in a tired and disheveled tone.

Hathaway couldn't stand him saying such mealy-mouthed words, but she was distressed to hear his tone.

Before she could say anything, Leon continued, "I just came out of the hospital and I'm now next to your house."

Hathaway asked in surprise, "Why don't you hurry back to rest?"

After saying this, she smiled involuntarily, looked back at the closed door of Paul's room, and said to Leon on the other end of the phone, "Wait a moment. I'll go out to see you."

Since he said he missed her, he must want to see her now that he was next to her house. It would break his heart if she asked him to go home.

Leon didn't expect her to agree to come out to meet him so quickly and said incredulously, "Really?"

Hathaway walked towards the entrance door quickly, "What's the point of lying to you?"

Leon held his phone and chuckled with satisfaction.

After hanging up the phone, Hathaway went out, walked a few steps to the side, and saw Leon's car and him at a glance

Because it was not a work occasion, he was not wearing a formal suit but a casual navy blue polo shirt with western trousers of the same color, standing tall and strong in the night.

Hathaway ran to him and looked up at him, but found that they didn't know what to say.

Leon reached out to take her into his arms, while Hathaway resisted, "No, don't do that. There are surveillance cameras everywhere in this community. It's not appropriate to be seen."

Leon, "..."

He had put up with not coming to see her all afternoon and all night, but she said this to ruin his mood at the sight of him...

As punishment, he bowed his head to kiss her.

"You—" Leon kissed Hathaway on the lips before she said words of protest, and his breath instantly engulfed her.

After the kiss, Hathaway grabbed Leon's shirt, buried herself in his arms, and panted slightly, while Leon stroked her smooth arm with his slender hand and whispered a warning, "Next time think about what you should say before you speak."

Hathaway protestingly poked his chest, "President Davis, tell me what I should say."

Leon leaned his tall body against his car and used his body to support Hathaway's weight. Hearing this, he grabbed her fingers and played with them between his fingers, "For example, you should say that you miss me or the like, and I will be willing to listen."

Hathaway couldn't stand what he said, not to mention the ambiguity of his fingers tangling with hers, so she retracted her hand and said perfunctorily, "It's too pretentious to miss you if I only haven't seen you for an afternoon, isn't it?"

If possible, Hathaway would prefer him to be as indifferent as before, because he seemed to be even more capricious than her now. Shouldn't it be the girl who is capricious in love? Why did Len become capricious instead?

Just when Hathaway was thinking that Leon was too capricious, he lost his temper again and suddenly tightened his grip on her fingers with a gloomy face, "Hathaway, you don't miss me at all. Is it because you don't have me in your heart, or maybe you don't love me?"

Hathaway, "..."

It was not an exaggeration to say that Hathaway was dumbfounded by Leon's inexplicable remark.

Is Leon alright? Why had he become stupid? What did he mean by saying that she didn't love him? If she didn't love him, why did she make up with him?

She looked at Leon in silence for a while, took a deep breath, and tried to say in a calm tone, "If I don't love you, why did I make up with you?"

Hathaway felt that they had only not seen each other for an afternoon, so she did not miss him to such an extent.

Leon spoke sourly, "I'm not sure if you agreed to it because of my entanglement."

Hathaway didn't hold back and rolled her eyes at him.

She looked at Leon again and found that he was staring at her with burning eyes as if he was waiting for her to say something.

Hathaway was a clever person and instantly understood what he was waiting for. He was cunning enough to use such a way to indirectly force her to say that she loved him. If she didn't say it, he would keep on grieving.

He was a fragile person now, so she wouldn't bother herself arguing with him and just went along with him to make him happy.

Hathaway secretly persuaded herself that Leon was upset about Adeline. If he wanted to hear her say that she loved him, she would say it to him.

Hathaway was a free and easy person and would never shilly-shally when it was time to do something, so she immediately held his hand with her hand back and wanted to whisper the words "I love you".

"I love you." But Leon suddenly murmured before Hathaway could say that, which caused her to freeze there.

"Men should say it first," Leon explained and then urged her, "now it's your turn."

Hathaway didn't hold back her smile, "I've just prepared my mood but you interrupted me. Now I don't

have that feeling anymore..."

Hathaway said this because she couldn't feel it, but she also meant to tease Leon on purpose.

As a result, Leon clasped her waist unhappily, pressed his face closer to her, and urged, "You have to say it anyway."

Hathaway had no choice but to nestle herself into his arms and whispered, "Alright, I love you too."

Since she loved him, she needn't have denied it.

However, could he stop tossing her around like this again?

CHAPTER 239 HE IS AS CUNNING AS AN OLD FOX.

Leon heard the words he wanted and felt less depressing.

He didn't know what was wrong with him. In face of Hathaway, he couldn't help but make trouble. Although he knew that he would look childish to her, he couldn't care about that. He needed her to pay enough attention to him and put him on her mind as much as he valued her.

Then Leon told Hathaway about his visit to Adeline in the hospital and Adeline's plan to leave the hospital and go home. After that, he held Hathaway's hand tightly and said, "Hathaway, I hope you—"

Before Leon could finish his words, Hathaway nodded in his arms briskly, "I promise."

Leon looked a little surprised and couldn't help but ask, "Do you know what I'm going to say?"

Hathaway nodded, "You must want me to go see your mother. I promise."

If Adeline had always rejected her, Hathaway would never have been able to meet Adeline. But now that Adeline made overtures for peace and was in poor health, Hathaway would visit her.

Not for others but Leon, she would see Adeline in order not to leave him with regrets about his marriage.

Adeline's life was coming to an end, but her future with Leon had just begun. She would not dwell on Adeline's past harshness towards her and refuse to forgive her, leaving a shadow and a gap between her and Leon. she was clear about which was more important.

Now Leon didn't know what to say because he didn't expect her to be so bright-minded. As soon as he spoke, she knew what he was going to say next and even agreed to it so readily.

He liked her quick, sharp, intelligent and reasonable, didn't he?.

"Thank you..." he reached out to pull her into his arms and said sincerely.

She was willing to disregard the past grudges, so how could he not treat her with his heart?

It was enough for him to have a wonderful girl like her in his life.

Hathaway leaned on his arm and said in a brisk tone, "Don't thank me. Since I have chosen to make up with you, I hope that we will go better, so let's face this together."

Leon felt that no girl in the world could move him from the bottom of his heart, or even made him admire her.

But Hathaway succeeded.

Her value of right and wrong, quickness, simplicity, unpretentiousness, wisdom, and her poise all made him deeply appreciative and proud.

How could he not love Hathaway very much?

Leon also thought that not only him, but also any other man would fall in love with Hathaway after spending some time with her, because she was worthy of their love, just like Henry.

Thinking of Henry, Andrew, and the other men who had coveted her in South City, Leon once again felt insecure and held Hathaway in his arms tighter.

Hathaway was a bit breathless from his hug and reached out to push him in protest, "Can we stand and talk properly? It's inappropriate for us to hug here all night."

Having dragged into his arms since she arrived, Hathaway felt tired of it.

Hearing her words, Leon released her and had one hand on her waist, for fear that she would run away.

Hathaway took a look at his hand and said, "It's getting late. You should go back to bed."

Judging from Leon's expression, Hathaway knew that he didn't want to leave and spoke directly, "Let's play the finger-guessing game. If you lose, you'll hurry home. And if I lose, I'll stay a little longer."

Leon was amused by Hathaway's proposal because he didn't think she was childish but funny.

Wasn't it funny that she wanted to say goodbye in a playful way?

Leon's low laughter drifted away into the night, and Hathaway said with a blush "Stop laughing. If you don't want to play, forget it."

With that, Hathaway turned to leave. She thought that Leon was laughing at her childishness and secretly snorted, "I am much more mature than him, okay?"

Besides, if it weren't for him being childish and refusing to leave, would she have needed to make this childish proposal?

Leon reached out to hold her wrist, folded his smile, and explain seriously, "Sorry, I wasn't laughing at you. I found your proposal funny and liked it..."

Hathaway paused in her steps and thought that this was more like it.

Leon pulled her back and offered, "I accept this game, but I want to raise the stakes."

Hathaway raised her eyebrows in surprise and looked at him, "What is it?"

Leon replied calmly, "If you lose, we'll stay a little longer, and you'll have to ... give me a kiss."

Hathaway, "..."

She shook off his hand, "Can I not play?"

He was too much. She had just kissed her once, but now he was asking for another kiss, how could he act like a rogue?

Leon smiled wickedly, "You proposed to play the game, and I just raised the stakes a bit. You're not sincere if you don't play it."

Hathaway didn't want to talk to him and glared at him angrily, "I am insincere. So what?"

Leon stared at her for a moment and then enticed her, "You want to run away before playing it, but maybe you'll win. If you win, I'll leave immediately."

Hathaway tilted her head to look at him and thought that he was good at negotiation and demagogue.

However, she wanted to win him in one round and sent him away, as opposed to him clinging to her and refusing to leave.

So she readily agreed, "Let's start."

Leon laughed and pulled her into his arms with one hand around her, leaving the other hand free to guess with her. Hathaway didn't bother with his arm around her and focused on guessing with him.

They agreed on a two out of three set, and the final result was that Hathaway won.

"Well, you can go now." Hathaway spread her hands and smiled smugly at Leon, but she underestimated Leon's shamelessness. After she finished speaking, he pressed her into his arms and lowered his head to kiss her on the lips.

Hathaway was furious with him.

He had made up his mind when she proposed this game. Whether she won or lost, she would not be able to escape his grasp.

He would kiss her whether she won or lost.

CHAPTER 240 I CAN'T SLEEP WITHOUT YOU AROUND.

After the kiss, Leon paused, pressed Hathaway's red lips ambiguously with his finger pulp, and then said goodbye to her, "I'll go back first..."

"Get out of here!" Hathaway rudely said to him and secretly thought that Leon's credibility was zero for her from now on!

Watching her gnash her teeth in anger, Leon chuckled and turned around to sit in his car.

He liked her realistic and vivid look. She laughed with pleasure, wept with sorrow, and lost her temper with anger. After meeting Hathaway, he was even more unable to imagine what it would be like to live with someone like Bella, who pretended all day long. What was the point of such an insincere life when two people were pretending?

He was glad that Hathaway broke into his life and showed him that there were so much joy and fun in this world, and ... what love was.

Leon arrived home and made another call when Hathaway was about to fall asleep. Then she said helplessly, "President Davis, what else can I do for you?"

On the other end of the phone, Leon sighed, "I can't sleep without you around."

Hathaway stared angrily at the ceiling above her head and said, "How did you spend the long nights of your previous thirty years?"

"I don't feel anything when I don't have it, but I crave it after I have," Leon explained, "after I fell asleep with you at noon today, don't want to sleep alone anymore."

Hathaway knew exactly what Leon was thinking. He must be playing the pity game from now on to pave the way for encouraging her to move in with him later, but she wouldn't fall for it.

The problem was that even if she willingly moved in with him, her two dads...

Hathaway was speechless inwardly and urged him, "Well, it's getting late. I'm going to bed, and so should you."

Only when Leon heard her say she was going to sleep did he hang up the phone. Hathaway buried herself into the pillow and felt so tired.

The next morning, Hathaway got up and received a call from Carl, hearing him say in a serious tone, "Hathaway, let me ask you a question."

Hathaway thought that Carl had found out about her reconciliation with Leon, so she stammered guiltily, "What ... is it?"

"Since you plan to work for your sister as a stylist, are you going back to Hong Kong?" After Carl finished his question, Hathaway let out a long sigh of relief. She was so nervous just now because she thought that her reconciliation with Leon was exposed.

She calmed her mind and then replied to Carl, "I want to help my sister, so I'd better stay in South City and be on call."

Hathaway didn't know why Carl suddenly asked this question, so she spoke in a reserved tone.

Hearing this, Carl responded, "Now that you have decided to stay in South City and I also like South City because I have lived here for most of my life, so our two votes to stay in South City against your mother's one vote to go back to Hong Kong. We won, and she should not go back."

Hathaway laughed out loud. He called her early in the morning to stop Cynthia from going back to Hong Kong. After Paul's 60th birthday, Cynthia had been in South City for several days, and it was time for her to go back. Now Carl seemed unwilling to go to Hong Kong, so he called her along to get Cynthia to compromise.

Hathaway kindly advised, "But my mother's focus is all in Hong Kong. How can she not go back? It's not realistic."

Carl continued, "So I want to tell you solemnly that you should grow up quickly to take over your mother's job, and then she can retire."

Hathaway protested with discontent, "If I take over her job, I'll have to travel between two cities. It's very hard, okay?"

Carl said casually, "You're young. It's time for you to work hard in your twenties, and this will be a fortune for your future. Look at your elder brother, I handed it all over to him in his early twenties. It's freeing me up and training him."

Hathaway laughed and teased, "Are you my real father?"

"Of course I am."

"I think we might need a paternity test. Who would force their children to take over from them at a young age?"

"I'm the only man your mother has."

Hathaway had nothing to say. Since he said so, she would be disrespectful to Cynthia if she continued.

Carl added, "You don't have to feel resentful. If you want to retire early, you should get married and have children early. After raising your children to be useful people, you will be free."

Albert was born to Carl in his early twenties with another woman, so he was just over forty when Albert took over his business. It should be the best time for a man to struggle, but Carl chose to leave that noisy and fickle business circle. After retirement, he didn't stay idle but enjoy his life.

He went to fitness, read books, studied food to enrich himself and make himself more perfect.

Even if he didn't know whether he would meet his goddess again in this life, he was at least in the most perfect state in case he met her one day.

Just like what he looked now.

If he was the same as before, he might not be able to get Cynthia smoothly, and Cynthia might not stay with him willingly for long.

Carl's words reminded Hathaway of Albert and she immediately laughed gleefully, "My brother is in his thirties this year, but Jessica hasn't graduated yet. I'm afraid he'll have to wait until his hair and beard are gray before he retires."

If they were to have children after Jessica graduated, Albert would probably be almost forty, and by the time he retired he would be in his sixties or seventies. Hathaway couldn't help but secretly sigh that luckily she was younger.

Carl echoed, "He insisted on finding a college girl."

Hathaway laughed out loud and then heard Carl suddenly say, "Okay, that's it. Your mother is awake."

With that, Carl hurriedly hung up the phone. Hathaway smiled and wondered if Carl would successfully convince Cynthia to settle in South City in the future.

Hathaway liked the living atmosphere in South City and also hoped that Cynthia and Carl would not be separated again after so many years of missing each other. It would be great if their whole family could

live together in South City.

Paul's family was also here. How lively it should be when these two families get together for New Year's Eve or other festivals, which was what she liked most.