

# **She Made a Comeback as a Renowned Doctor**

## **Chapter 716: Chapter 716: How about we just get the marriage certificate?**

Everyone knows the prerequisite for giving a betrothal gift is mutual agreement on marriage, but they haven't reached that consensus. This gift feels particularly abrupt and seems like one-sided pressure.

Old Lady Mrs. Knox, who knew nothing about the whole situation, eagerly looked at Aria Richardson and asked, "This... this... Aria, what's the reason? Is this kid bullying you? Tell Grandma, and I'll teach him a lesson. Or is it because of Alexander's mother?"

Aria Richardson looked at Old Lady Mrs. Knox, shook her head, and said, "Grandma, it's because of things between him and me."

Old Lady Mrs. Knox then looked at Alexander Knox, "Alexander, explain this whole situation to me clearly."

Alexander Knox tightened his hands, and his eyes were incredibly dark.

"Speak up." Wyatt Lewis said angrily.

Alexander Knox remained silent for a full half minute before he spoke, "Yes, she proposed it. I disagreed. We're not just boyfriend and girlfriend; our families are also tied by marriage. Since it's a family alliance, fixed long ago, how can it be changed easily?

I want to marry her. I sent the betrothal gift. Whether the Richardson Family accepts it or not is their freedom. Clearly, the Richardson Family accepted it.

Since there's a marriage agreement and they accepted the gift, they should marry her off to me, isn't that right?"

After Alexander Knox finished speaking, the room fell silent.

Indeed, that's the logic.

Miac Richardson and Isla Sue pursed their lips quietly. They did accept the betrothal gift, which was now sitting openly at home, leaving them no room to refute.

Alexander Knox spread his hands with a smile, "See, no one is refuting. I was right, wasn't I?"

Wyatt Lewis gritted his teeth, "How is this different from forced buying and selling?"

"The Richardson Family willingly accepted the betrothal gift. Uncle Richardson and Aunt Richardson were very happy at the time. How is this forced?"

Isla Sue thought about the two billion check in her pocket, and Miac Richardson remembered the smile on his face that he couldn't contain... It really wasn't forced at all.

The couple exchanged a glance, full of guilt.

"If you want to say Aria was unwilling, didn't she refute it in the Richardson Family? It's really unreasonable to say it's forced.

Alexander Knox stood up and continued, "Alright, everything is clear now, no need for me to say more. I have something to do, so I must leave now. Aria, take care of yourself and recover well so you can be my bride."

Aria Richardson frowned tightly, firmly retorting, "Alexander Knox, I will not be your bride."

"You will." Alexander Knox smiled faintly, "Be good."

Aria Richardson pursed her lips, and in the moment their eyes met, she clearly sensed the morbid obsession in his eyes.

Wyatt Lewis clenched his fists and stepped forward but was stopped by Alitzel Williams.

Alitzel Williams shook her head.

Alexander Knox pushed Old Lady Mrs. Knox and left.

Old Lady Mrs. Knox was full of worry, "Why did Alexander become like this? Weren't you fine yesterday? Is it because of your mother that Aria doesn't want to marry?"

Alexander Knox's voice was hoarse, "No, don't overthink it, I'll handle this myself."

Old Lady Mrs. Knox sighed several times, "Aria is a good girl, you must cherish her."

"Yes, I know."

"What do you plan to do about next month's engagement party?"

"Hold it as scheduled, and I will give her the most grand engagement party."

He would prove to everyone that he was no worse than any of the Lewis brothers.

Wyatt Lewis's eyes were full of anger, "He did all this on purpose."

Aria Richardson looked upset, she knew Alexander Knox did it on purpose.

"Don't worry, if you don't want to marry, he can't force you." Wyatt Lewis said in a deep voice to Aria Richardson.

"Yes, Aria, if you want, you can go and get a marriage certificate with Wyatt today. That might make him give up." Alitzel Williams suggested.

"What?" Aria Richardson was stunned, shocked and unsure what expression to make.

"No." Isla Sue quickly refused, "If you do that, Aria will be seen as having one foot in two boats, absolutely not."

Isla Sue was clear-headed now. If it went according to Alitzel Williams's idea, the issue wouldn't just be about whether Alexander Knox would give up.

"Indeed, that's not possible." Hope Williams considered the whole situation before speaking.

If it really happened, angering Alexander Knox wouldn't be easy, and once exposed, Wyatt Lewis would be seen as a third party, and Aria Richardson as unfaithful, completely making them the ones at fault.

This was not just about them; neither the Lewis Family nor the Richardson Family could bear such a stain.

This was definitely not a wise move.

Alitzel Williams realized this too and awkwardly smiled, "Okay, I was too anxious."

"Little Hope, do you have any ideas?" Alitzel Williams knew Hope Williams was always the smartest and wouldn't stand by without helping.

"This..." Hope Williams was also troubled, this issue was really complicated.

If they return the betrothal gift, there's no reason, the Knox Family becomes the laughingstock, and the Richardson Family is pushed into the limelight. Alexander Knox wouldn't let it go either.

If they don't return it, they have to marry.

Each choice is more upsetting than the last.

Alexander Knox was using this fact to his advantage.

At that moment, Hope Williams's phone rang, she glanced at it, "Sorry, I have to take this call."

Hope Williams walked outside to answer the phone.

On the other end, Anthony Taylor's calm voice came through, "Doctor Williams, where are you?"

Hope Williams smacked her forehead, she had previously agreed to perform surgery for Anthony's grandmother. They came to Emperor Capital today, and Hope originally planned to pick them up from the airport last night.

But everything here had delayed her.

"Sorry, something came up and delayed me earlier. Are you still at the airport?"

"No, we're at the hospital, checking in for the surgery."

"Okay, I'll come by later."

"Alright, see you."

After hanging up, Hope Williams checked the time, almost eleven o'clock. She hurried back into the hospital room, "Aria, I have something to tend to, I might have to go first."

Aria Richardson nodded, "Okay, I'm fine. If you have something to do, go ahead."

"Alright, take care and rest well. There's always a way to solve things."

## **Chapter 717: Chapter 717: Forcing Her to Marry**

"Okay then." Aria nodded.

After Hope left, Alitzel also invited Wyatt Lewis to leave together. After all, it's their family matter, and it's appropriate to discuss how to resolve it. They are outsiders, so staying would be inappropriate.

The hospital room quieted down. Isla sighed worriedly, "What a mess this is."

Miac Richardson finally couldn't hold back his emotions, sternly asking Aria, "What are you doing? Why didn't you discuss such a big matter with us earlier? Now you've made everything a mess, embarrassing everyone. How do you plan to handle this?"

Aria leaned against the hospital bed, silently looking down at her hands, her expression heavy.

Seeing this, Isla went up to pull Miac away, "Your daughter has a fever. Can't you speak nicely?"

Miac waved Isla's hand aside, his anger showing, making Isla genuinely afraid he might lose his temper and lay hands on Aria.

Seeing her daughter's grim expression made Isla feel even more distressed. Seeing both father and daughter stubbornly refusing to speak made her anxious, "Aria, say something."

Aria lifted her head, brushing aside a strand of hair that fell over her eyes, "Dad, Mom, I repaid the money, proposed the breakup, respected his wishes without pressuring him, and I gave him time to think. If he's unhappy, he could communicate with me. I didn't expect he'd propose the day after I mentioned the breakup.

Besides Dad, isn't it obvious he's doing this deliberately? Just now, he was like a quail, and now he knows how to yell at me!"

Aria felt stifled inside; the situation kept becoming more complicated, feeling like she was being roasted on a spit.

"Who allowed you to break up with him? Do you know this involves the business interests of our two companies?" Miac's face looked even uglier.

"Am I not even allowed the right to break up in a relationship?"

"It's about the marriage alliance of our two families; what right do you want?"

Aria's eyes quivered slightly, "So I'm just a tool for you to consolidate the company interests?"

Miac's brow furrowed and relaxed, then furrowed again, seeming conflicted, but he tightened his lips without speaking.

Aria's gaze flickered when she looked at her father, realizing the answer. She lowered her head with a bitter smile.

She hadn't expected that, in her father's eyes, she was just a tool for consolidating interests.

After a minute of silence, Miac's heavy voice asked, "When did you get involved with Young Master Lewis from the Lewis Family?"

"Back then, I wanted you to use your relationship with Hope to get close to President Lewis, and bring up our business too, but you stubbornly refused. Now, you are tangled up with that playboy from the Lewis Family."

Miac always wanted Aria to use her friendship with Hope Williams to build a good relationship with Waylon Lewis, to also help boost the Richardson Clan's business.

But Aria knew Hope already had enough on her plate. She couldn't help Hope, so she couldn't bring her more trouble.

Aria closed her mouth, not wanting to continue talking to him.

"Don't think staying silent will make this matter go away. The Knox Family has already proposed with the betrothal gift. We can't return it, and you have no room to back out. Later, call Alexander to apologize, and prepare well for next month's engagement banquet."

"I won't go, and why should I apologize when I haven't done anything wrong?"

"You won't go? Are you going to return the betrothal gift and embarrass the Knox Family? I'm telling you now, this isn't negotiable. Whether you like it or not, you have to marry him." Miac warned Aria sternly.

"Why?"

"Because I'm your father, because the Richardson Family has lovingly raised you for twenty-eight years, you should contribute something to the family."

Miac stood up, "Don't cause any more trouble. Once your fever goes down, go home. I'll have people keep an eye on you."

Miac looked at Isla again, "And you, too. You've spoiled her like this. They say indulgent mothers ruin their children. Now, with the reputation of our families on the line, if you keep shielding her, don't blame me for being harsh."

After speaking, Miac stormed out of the hospital room.

Aria felt a lump rise in her throat, her eyes couldn't help but redden.

She genuinely didn't know what to do now.

Isla's face was full of worry. She moved forward to sit on Aria's hospital bed, compassionately hugging her daughter.

Aria snuggled into Isla's embrace, sobbing in grievance, "Mom..."

Isla gently patted Aria's back. After a while, she asked, "Aria, the person you like is Young Master Lewis, isn't it?"

After all, it's her daughter. Seeing her crying and laughing with Wyatt Lewis last night made her realize.

"Do you want to hear Mom's opinion?"

Aria nodded.

Isla sighed slowly, "If it's between Young Master Lewis and Alexander, Mom would prefer you to marry Alexander.

There's a huge gap between our family and the Lewis Family. Young Master Lewis is a notorious playboy; his affection comes quickly and fades just as fast. You wouldn't be able to handle it, and you'd be the one who gets hurt afterward.

On the other hand, Alexander has a mature and steady character. In business, he is skilled and capable, and Mom can see he's genuinely interested in you. This betrothal gift shows how much he values you.

Aria, Mom only hopes you find someone who can love and protect you for a lifetime, rather than gambling your future happiness on a playboy's sincerity. Do you understand?"

Aria understood what her mother meant; she hoped Aria could marry Alexander Knox.

Aria wiped away her tears and lifted her head, her eyes filled with determination.

"Mom, Wyatt Lewis isn't like what you said. He used to be a playboy, but he's a good person. I know him well. You don't see it, but when there's something he's genuinely concerned about, he's more serious than anyone."

Isla looked at her daughter helplessly, "No matter how good he is, you two are still star-crossed lovers. Don't think too much about it. Listen to Mom, and just peacefully marry Alexander. The Lewis Family feels like a fantasy that's not realistic. Not everyone is as lucky as Little Hope to marry into the Lewis Family and become someone everyone envies."

Aria pressed her lips tightly together, lost in thought.

Emperor Capital's top echelon, the Lewis Family's Second Young Master. If it weren't for Hope's relationship, Wyatt Lewis would always be someone beyond her reach.

...

Knox Family.

Natalie Rogers furiously threw her phone onto the ground, "They're all crazy. Marrying a woman like that and making such a big deal of it, attracting attention to his regard for that woman."

The phone that had been thrown landed near Lily Armstrong. Lily bent down to pick it up. Although the screen was shattered like a spider's web, she could still faintly see the trending news on it.

Lily's gaze darkened, and she tightened her grip on the phone, stepping to Natalie's side and handing her a glass of water.

"Calm down, Aunt. Have some water first."

Natalie accepted the water cup, increasingly feeling confused, "Lily, what kind of magic spell did this woman cast on Alexander? It's driving me insane, it's driving me insane."

### **Chapter 718: Chapter 718 Let Alexander Knox See Her True Colors**

Lily Armstrong placed her phone on the table, sat down next to Natalie Rogers, sighed, and said, "Maybe Alexander hasn't seen through Miss Richardson's true colors yet. If he does, I believe he will listen to you."

"True colors?"

Natalie Rogers seemed enlightened, her eyes brightened. "Exactly, this woman is also involved with the second young master of the Lewis Family. There's no telling what kind of entanglements she has with other men. Once Alexander sees her for the fickle woman she is, I doubt he wouldn't come back to his senses."

Lily Armstrong smiled slightly, "Auntie, what if she doesn't have any?"

Natalie Rogers sneered, "I don't believe that. I've seen many women like her. Even if we can't find anything, we can always create some scandals for her."

Lily Armstrong hooked Natalie Rogers' arm, "You're right, Auntie."

Natalie Rogers already had a plan in mind and glanced at Lily Armstrong with satisfaction.

"Our Lily is still the best, just that Alexander doesn't appreciate you. Don't worry, Auntie recognizes you as my daughter-in-law, and no other woman will step into the Knox Family."

Lily Armstrong showed a charming smile.

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Hope Williams was busy with Old Lady Taylor's matters at the hospital for over an hour and also visited the dean's office. By the time she finished, it was already past twelve noon.

To make up for being late, Hope invited Anthony Taylor out for a meal, along with Daniel Johnson who also came to Emperor Capital.

As soon as they arrived at the restaurant, Waylon Lewis called.

Upon answering, she heard Waylon's magnetic and pleasant voice, "Mrs. Lewis, where did you run off to during meal time?"

"Are you home?" Otherwise, he wouldn't know she's not home.

"Yes, I came back to have lunch with you."

Waylon finished work early today and planned to have lunch at home with his wife and kids, but his wife was not at home.

Hope Williams pursed her lips, "But today Anthony brought Old Lady Taylor to Emperor Capital. I mentioned before her surgery that I will do the procedure, so I'm treating them to lunch. Can you have lunch at home with Luke, Willow, and Baby?"

A silence...

A few seconds later, Waylon's voice came again, "Mrs. Lewis."

Hope paused, "Yes."

"Which restaurant?"

Hope blinked, "Are you coming over?"

"Yes."

"Alright." Hope smiled and gave the address.

Waylon, "Okay."

An amused smile played on Anthony Taylor's lips as he sat in his chair, his schadenfreude evident, "Ha, he's so strict, even manages your meals. Are you afraid of being abducted?"

Hope gave him a look, helplessly saying, "Stop teasing."

Daniel Johnson voiced his concern, "Miss Williams, how have you been feeling lately?"

Hope pressed her lips together, feeling as if they saw her like an elderly lady who needed to constantly monitor her health, in case she quietly passed away one day.

Anthony glanced at Hope, smiling, "She looks like someone in good health, doesn't she?"

Hope gave a slight smile, "I'm quite well, thanks for your concern, Pharmacist Johnson."

"Hmm, you should still pay more attention to your health, don't be careless."

Daniel always reminded her of this whenever they met. Hope, being obedient to the doctor's advice, nodded, "Yes, I know. The dishes are all here, let's eat."

Hope was so hungry she felt like dying. She picked up her chopsticks, her eyes fixed on the dish of chopped chili cod in front of her, unable to resist swallowing a bit.

Anthony noticed her swallowing and couldn't help but laugh, "Does Lewis Family not feed you?"

"Yes, but..." Waylon is too strict, too anxious about her health, and has her on a customized nutrition plan, which is bland. Although Hope's normal palate isn't heavy, eating light meals all the time leaves her yearning for flavorful dishes.

Finally out for a meal, there was no one to stop her now.

Hope extended her chopsticks, but a soft voice came from beside her.

"This dish is too spicy, and spicy foods can cause inflammation. Your body should avoid it."

Hope paused for a moment and looked at the solemn Daniel Johnson.

Anthony raised an eyebrow, "Don't listen to him; he's just like a nagging mom. Eat."

"Master Taylor, you're aware she gave birth less than two months ago, and her body was harmed by poisoning. It's been less than two weeks since detoxification, so her diet should be more cautious."

"Miss Williams, you're a doctor yourself. You should know better to follow medical advice."

Hope smacked her lips, pitifully withdrawing her hand, muttering softly, "Fine, I won't eat it."

Hope reached out for the cold bamboo shoots and had just lifted them to her lips.

“Bamboo shoots are cold by nature, not suitable for your body.”

Hope’s face froze as the bamboo shoot on her chopsticks fell into the bowl with a “plop.”

Hope blinked at him, helplessly swallowed, and reluctantly said, “Okay, can I eat this then?”

Daniel glanced over, “Poria and ribs with arrowroot soup, good for the stomach, is fine.”

Hope pitifully licked her lips.

Anthony looked at Daniel Johnson speechlessly, “Alright, tell me, what else is harmful about these dishes.”

Daniel didn’t find anything wrong and continued, “Shrimp, crab, fish, and shellfish are all allergenic, high in purines; eating too much can increase purine levels.”

“Oh, and then?” Anthony was unconcerned.

“It can lead to gout.”

Anthony spat out the crab meat he just put in his mouth.

“Eating a lot can lead to hypertension. Eating occasionally is not a problem.”

Anthony speechlessly twitched his mouth, “From now on, don’t sit at the same table as me during meals.”

Daniel looked especially wronged, feeling he had done nothing wrong, “Master Taylor, I didn’t lie. I’m telling the truth. You never pay attention to your diet, especially since you often drink...”

Seeing him getting all aggrieved, Anthony stuffed a large piece of shrimp into his mouth, “You’re awesome; as a reward, finish this plate of shrimp. If you can’t, don’t go back with me today.”

Daniel grinned awkwardly, “... Thank you, Master Taylor.”

Hope found the whole situation both amusing and bewildering.

At this moment, footsteps could be heard outside, and Waylon Lewis walked in, his eyes immediately falling on Hope.

Hope smiled, “You’re here.”

“Yes.”

Waylon Lewis walked directly to the seat next to Hope, elegantly unbuttoned his suit, and sat down beside her.

“Just started eating?” Waylon asked warmly.

Hope nodded, “Yes, exactly.”

Waylon scanned the several spicy dishes in front of him and then looked at Hope, raising an eyebrow.

Hope’s eyes trembled, much like a child caught sneaking a snack. She immediately waved her hands, “They ordered them, I didn’t eat any.”

Anthony took a look at Waylon and then at Hope. He picked up a piece of the chopped chili carp, which Hope had been eyeing, and put it in his mouth. “Hmm, not bad, pretty tasty.”

Hope watched on with longing as Anthony deliberately ate and marveled at the flavor.

Hope was utterly speechless.

Waylon glanced at Anthony and used his chopsticks to pick up a piece of carp for Hope.

Hope blinked.

Waylon spoke softly, “It’s okay to have a little.”

Hope nodded quickly, “Yes, yes.”

Anthony chuckled, lifting his chin at Waylon, “Since President Lewis is here, how about we have a few drinks?”

Waylon was courteous and didn’t refuse, “Sure.”

## **Chapter 719: Chapter 719: House Arrest**

Waylon Lewis and Anthony Taylor were drinking, while Hope Williams sat quietly beside them enjoying her meal.

Even though Waylon was drinking and talking with Anthony, he didn’t forget to occasionally take care of Hope, serving her food.

Anthony and Daniel Johnson felt like they were stuffed with PDA.

The meal ended smoothly, both of them drank in moderation and didn’t get drunk.

Waylon took Hope into the car, and Hope clung to Waylon's arm with a smile, "Don't you usually avoid drinking? How come you joined Anthony today?"

"Because he's your lifesaver, he deserves my thanks."

Hope smiled softly, "I thought you might get jealous."

"Hmm?"

Hope leaned on Waylon's shoulder, "Going out to eat with another man, wouldn't you be a bit jealous?"

"A little," Waylon held Hope's slender fingers and sighed helplessly, "I told you to rest well, yet you spent the whole morning outside."

Hope pursed her lips, "I had things to do."

"And in the afternoon?"

"I went to the hospital for serious work. Since I'm doing Old Lady Taylor's surgery, I had to personally oversee the pre-op checks."

"When's the surgery?"

Hope pursed her lips and said, "The day after tomorrow, and I'll be back in the hospital working full-time afterwards."

Taking care of Baby doesn't really need me. After my accident, the Williams Clan was taken under the Lewis Clan's unified management, so they don't need me either. Naturally, I can't just stay home all the time, so I've decided to return to the hospital.

Waylon frowned deeply, looking at her, "Can't I afford to support you?"

"It's not about whether you can or can't support me, I just can't stay home all the time."

Hope leaned on Waylon's shoulder, her fingers lightly tapping his chest, "Besides, I promised you I wouldn't work while pregnant. If I don't go back now, I'll go crazy staying at home."

Waylon looked at her with a face full of grievances, sighed helplessly, "Just wait a little longer."

"How much longer?" Hope grumbled discontentedly.

"Two months at most, after that you can do whatever you want."

Hope was puzzled, "Why two months? What are you doing in these two months?"

"Be good, you'll know when the time comes."

Seeing his unusually serious expression, Hope had no choice but to nod in compromise, "Alright, two months it is. After that, I'll do whatever I want, don't treat me like I'm going to break at any moment."

Waylon stroked her arm, pulling her in closer, he nodded, "Alright, I promise."

Hope breathed a sigh of relief, "Then let's go to the hospital, I still have to deal with Old Lady Taylor's surgery."

"Okay."

"Oh, right, what was up with the person driving last night?" Hope suddenly remembered, asking.

"It's all checked out, no problem, just an accident!"

"Really just an accident," Hope murmured, thinking she might have been overthinking it.

Waylon dropped her off at the hospital.

Watching Hope go in, Waylon's eyes deepened, looking forward he asked Thomas Hughes, "Did you find the person?"

Thomas replied, "We found him, but it's a bit troublesome. This old man has a peculiar temperament, and retreated to the mountains early on. No matter how much we offer him, he's unmoved, and everyone we sent was driven away. We really have no way."

Waylon's eyes darkened, "Schedule all company matters in the morning for the next few days."

"Are you going to personally go?"

Waylon nodded, "Yes."

...

Hope first went to Aria Richardson's room, but unexpectedly, after Aria's fever subsided, she went straight home, so Hope had to plan on visiting the Richardson Family later, then she went to Old Lady Taylor's room.

Richardson Family.

Aria pulled out her savings, packed a few outfits, slung a bag over her shoulder, peeked out from her room, and seeing no one in the hallway, she sneaked out and tiptoed down the stairs to the living room. Finding it empty, Aria felt a bit relieved and stealthily made her way through.

Moving like a thief through the living room, she opened the double swing doors of the entrance.

The next moment, "Where are you going?"

A deep voice rang out, Miac Richardson stood five meters away with his hands behind his back, sternly staring at her.

Aria's hands trembled, and she abruptly stood straight, hiding the bag behind her as she looked back at Miac, "Dad."

Miac immediately saw through her intentions, gave a look to the servants nearby, and they swiftly stepped forward to take Aria's bag.

Aria tightly clutched her bag, "What are you doing?"

"Miss, your fever just broke, please go back to your room," the servant said awkwardly.

"Don't pull me, why can't I go out, it's not like I'm a prisoner."

Miac asked coldly, "Where are you planning to go with your stuff packed?"

"Can't I stay with Hope for a couple of nights?" Aria stubbornly met Miac's gaze.

Miac walked up to Aria, snatching the bag from her, "I don't care if it's east or west, you get back to your room."

"I... let go of me, give me back my things... Miac Richardson! Are you being unreasonable?"

Miac snorted coldly, "Reason is exactly what I'm talking to you about, take her back to her room."

Aria glared at Miac in anger, pushed aside the servant, "I can walk myself."

Aria stormed upstairs, her footsteps thunderous, as if she wanted to stomp through the floor.

Miac gave a heavy snort, "No sense of decorum."

After Hope finished at the hospital, she went to the Richardson's before heading home.

She was worried because Aria's phone was not reachable, and she feared something might have happened to her.

Only Isla Sue was in the living room, there was no sign of Aria. Isla politely poured Hope a cup of tea, "Hope, have some tea."

Hope reached out to take it, "Thank you, Aunt Sue. Aunt Sue, where's Aria?"

Isla's eyes shifted a few times before she said, "Aria is upstairs resting."

Hope detected something odd from Isla's unnatural demeanor, "Aria went to bed this early?"

### **Chapter 720: Chapter 720: Natalie Rogers Invites Aria Richardson to Dinner**

Isla Sue tightened her grip, nodding, "Mm, this girl just has a fever. If she's not feeling well, she should sleep early."

Hope Williams couldn't find any flaw in this excuse.

Hope pursed her lips, still worried about Aria Richardson and Alexander Knox's situation. The key aspect really depended on what Isla Sue and Miac Richardson intended.

"Aunt Sue, can I ask what you and Miac plan for Aria and Alexander's marriage?"

Isla paused for two seconds, took a deep breath, and said, "Well... the marriage will naturally happen."

Hope tightened her grip on the teacup, "Has Aria agreed?"

Isla's eyes wavered in her sockets, "Mm, after all, they did have feelings for each other before; breaking up was just a minor quarrel."

Noticing Isla's evasive eyes, Hope knew things weren't like that, "Aunt Sue, this doesn't seem like Aria's character."

She had known Aria for many years and was familiar with her nature. Once Aria made up her mind, she wouldn't easily compromise.

Hope put down the teacup, a hint of helplessness in her eyes, "Aunt Sue, I think you also wish for Aria's happiness. They..."

Isla lifted her eyes, interrupting Hope, "Little Hope, I know what you're trying to say, but compared to Young Master Lewis from your family, we believe more in Aria being happy



with Alexander. Our family has truly decided that Aria will marry Alexander, no need to say more."

Isla spoke resolutely.

"But..." Hope opened her mouth, seeing that even Isla, who had always doted on Aria, had made up her mind, she suddenly didn't know what to say.

No matter what, she was an outsider. This was Richardson Family's business, and she shouldn't interfere too much with their decisions.

"Aunt Sue, when Aria wakes up, can you have her call me back?"

Isla nodded, "Okay."

Hope sighed, "Alright then, Aunt Sue, I have some matters to attend to, so I'll be leaving now."

"Mm, in that case, I won't insist you stay for dinner." Isla said politely.

Hope got up, glanced upstairs, and had no choice but to leave first.

Seeing Hope leave, Isla sighed, then walked upstairs, intending to go to Aria's room when Miac Richardson came out of the study.

Miac's face didn't look good, glancing at Isla.

Isla directly gave him a glare.

Miac knew she was resentful that he had locked Aria in the room, wanting to give him the cold shoulder.

Miac, feeling helpless, could only first compromise and step forward, "You go ask her to change and go to the Knox Family."

Isla frowned slightly, "What are we going to the Knox Family for at this time?"

"Mrs. Knox invited Aria for dinner to apologize to her."

Isla was taken aback, "Who did you say? Natalie Rogers is going to apologize to our Aria? Are you kidding? How is that possible?"

Isla still remembered how that woman had scolded her daughter.

It's only been two days, and she's saying she wants to apologize? Who would believe that?

Miac said, "Alexander coming with the betrothal gifts suggests that he must have persuaded his mom. Whether she truly intends to apologize or not, since she invited Aria, we can't just ignore her gesture, right?"

Isla felt that woman had no good intentions and didn't want Aria to go at all.

Seeing Isla standing still, Miac frowned, "Are you going or not? If you won't, I'll go myself." )

Miac, holding back his anger, walked to Aria's door and knocked, "Aria."

...No response.

Miac called out again, but the response was still silence.

Miac became even more frustrated, everyone was being difficult.

He directly grasped the doorknob, and with a twist, the internal string tugged.

Miac pushed the door open and walked in...

"Woosh."

A cloud of smoke enveloped, powdery substances cascaded down on his head.

Miac stood there, momentarily stunned.

Isla, witnessing this scene, couldn't help covering her mouth, "Oh my."

No need to guess whose masterpiece this was.

Fuming, Miac opened his mouth to roar, "Aria! Ugh..." ending up with a mouthful.

Aria stood in the room, glanced casually, and stuck out her tongue, "Hmph, deserved."

Miac wiped his face messily and strode toward Aria, "You... You're just being ridiculous."

Aria scrambled to hide behind Isla, "Serves you right for locking me in the room."

"You!" Miac almost fainted from anger, wiping his face again, pointing at the door, "Fine, I'm not arguing with you now. Change your clothes and go out."

"You're letting me go out?" Aria's eyes lit up.

"To the Knox Family, Mrs. Knox has invited you for dinner." Miac gritted his teeth; his daughter really drove him crazy.

"I'm not going."

Hearing it was that old woman inviting her, Aria was adamant, "She's always disliked me. Suddenly inviting me to dinner, what good intentions could she have?"

Miac's pale face, combined with his writhing expression, made him look more like an evil spirit with his teeth bared. He shouted angrily, "Being invited to the Knox Family, how could it harm you?"

Aria, raising her voice, retorted defiantly, "You're not her; how do you know there's no malice in her heart?"

"And you're not her, so tell me, how do you know she definitely plans to hurt you? What if she's truly realized her mistake and wants to apologize to you? Besides, at the Knox Family, with Old Lady Mrs. Knox and Alexander there to protect you, what are you afraid of?"

"I said I'm not going, and that's final."

A servant hurried over cautiously, "Sir, Ma'am, Miss, Mrs. Knox's car is downstairs, along with Mrs. Knox herself."

Isla frowned, "Natalie Rogers personally coming to pick up Aria?"