

SHE MADE A COMEBACK AS A RENOWNED DOCTOR

Chapter 778: Chapter 778 Are You Going to Give Up?

The two bodyguards paused for a moment, then remembered the recent hot search and turned their gaze towards Wyatt's feet, noting the cigarette butts scattered on the ground. It was clear his emotions were not in a good place.

The two bodyguards didn't say much, only advising, "Young Master Lewis, you should head home early."

Having said this, the two bodyguards also left.

Wyatt didn't look at them, instead pulling out another cigarette and lighting it.

He lifted his head, his gaze directed at a window where the lights had long gone out. His deep gaze seemed darker than the dark, boundless night.

Inside the room, Aria curled up in bed, her hands tightly clutching the sheets, her features tightly knitted, her smooth forehead covered in fine, dense cold sweat, with loose strands of hair sticking to her pale face, making it seem like she was trapped in an excruciating nightmare.

Suddenly, she abruptly opened her eyes and sat up in bed, gasping for air.

In the dream, she plunged into icy, bone-chilling seawater. The abyssal ocean floor felt like a ravenous beast, intent on devouring her whole. She frantically swam towards the shore, but no matter how hard she tried, the endless ocean

continued to envelop her. Many people stood by the shore, watching her struggle with death in their eyes, full of ridicule.

Her desperate cries for help were met only with endless insults.

All her strength drained away as her body seemed to weightlessly sink down.

In the end, only endless darkness remained around her, without a single glimmer of light.

Aria shut her eyes tightly, her body faintly trembling, as she climbed out of bed and rushed to the table, gulping down a whole glass of cold water to suppress the suffocating sense in her chest.

After a long time, she slowly crouched down by the table, her face filled with fear as she shrank into herself, her eyes a void.

Who knows how much time had passed.

Outside, the sun gradually rose, light replacing the darkness, but Aria's room remained shrouded in darkness.

Outside, Wyatt watched the people coming and going, the crowd increasing. He lifted his eyes once more towards the tightly shut window, a hard-to-mask worry in his eyes.

Extinguishing the last cigarette in his hand, Wyatt drove away.

Hope and Waylon were awake early out of habit, Luke and Willow needed to go to school, and Baby had been restless all night, still asleep now.

Early in the morning, the four headed downstairs for breakfast, just as Wyatt came back.

Hope saw Wyatt in a thin black shirt, not even wearing a jacket. His handsome face was now a shade of darkness, with purplish circles beneath his eyes and a lingering smell of smoke, as if he had smoked all night.

Hope looked at Wyatt, somewhat concerned about his current state.

Wyatt glanced at Hope, "Sister-in-law."

"Mm."

Luke and Willow looked at Wyatt, walking over to him, and Willow asked in her soft voice, "Second uncle, didn't you sleep well last night? You have dark circles."

Hope looked at Wyatt.

Even Luke and Willow noticed he hadn't slept all night.

Hope asked, "Did you not come home at all last night?"

"Couldn't sleep, so I went out for a stroll."

Waylon came over, glanced at him, and equally noticed the exhaustion on his face, his gaze deepened a bit, "Can't handle this little trouble, ready to give up?"

Wyatt's expression was very neutral, his tone low, "No."

Hope tugged at Waylon, afraid he'd reprimand Wyatt.

Waylon pursed his thin lips, refraining from saying anything harsh, guiding Hope towards the dining room, "Let's have breakfast first."

Hope called out to Wyatt, "Wyatt, come have breakfast too."

Wyatt furrowed his brows, "You all eat, I'm not hungry."

Saying this, Wyatt headed upstairs.

"Hey..."

"Don't worry about him, he's grown. Skipping a meal won't starve him."
Waylon served Hope a bowl of porridge and sat beside her.

The servant served Luke and Willow milk porridge, placing it in front of them.

"Daddy, Mommy, why is second uncle unhappy?" Willow asked Hope with wide, innocent eyes.

Today's second uncle was different from before, his demeanor gloomy, that dark face almost comparable to Dad when he was mad.

"Did something happen to second uncle? We haven't seen godmother for a while too. What has she been busy with?" Luke asked too.

Hope pressed her lips together. Lately, everyone's mood had been off due to this matter, especially Aria, who was cooped up in her room, unwilling to come out.

Hope called her several times, but rarely did she pick up.

Hope sighed and gave each of the children a custard bun, "Second uncle and godmother have encountered some difficulties recently, so they're feeling down. But once those problems are solved, everything will be fine."

Willow said, "We miss godmother. Can we go visit godmother after school?"

Hope thought for a moment, "Sure, it'd be nice for you to keep her company. Seeing you will make her happy."

"Then we'll ask Uncle Driver to take us after school."

Hope nodded, "Okay."

Hope glanced at Waylon, "Are you heading to the company later?"

“Mm.”

“I’m thinking of heading to the Knox Family and then going to see Old Ortiz myself. You don’t need to worry about me; if you’re concerned, have Shia and his team accompany me.”

Waylon lifted his gaze, “No need to visit Old Ortiz.”

“No need?” Treatment isn’t completed yet, why isn’t it necessary? Hope questioned, doubting she heard wrong.

“Mm, I’ve arranged for Old Ortiz to come to the manor. If all goes well, he’ll arrive by ten.”

Hope was slightly surprised, “Old Ortiz is willing to come here?”

Given his age, Old Ortiz was accustomed to living alone and disliked the city’s bustle. Previously, he wasn’t willing, so why would he be now?

“Mm.”

Hope was somewhat curious, “How did you convince Old Ortiz?”

Waylon said indifferently, “Old Ortiz mentioned you’ve missed some progress in your studies these past days. If you don’t go, he’ll have to come himself.”

Hope indeed wasted a lot of time rushing back and forth these days.

But Old Ortiz coming down the mountain for her was truly flattering, “Will Old Ortiz be here by ten? Then I should go welcome him.”

“No need, Thomas will pick him up and directly bring Old Ortiz to the manor.”

“Is Old Ortiz’s room prepared? Anything else needed that I should prepare?”

Waylon held Hope’s wrist, guiding her to sit properly, “Sit down and eat well. Everything’s prepared, the room next to grandpa’s was arranged, and people are already tidying up.”

Only then did Hope relent.

Waylon asked, “Why are you going to the Knox Family?”

Hope replied, “We all know the true reason the Richardson Family got disengaged from the Knox Family, but if the story is told from our side, everyone will think it’s familial favoritism towards Wyatt and Aria. So, I want to try if Old Lady Mrs. Knox can help in stating the true cause for breaking the engagement. If she assists, things would go much smoother.”

Waylon raised an eyebrow indifferently, “She might not agree.”

Hope was well aware it wouldn’t be easy for Old Lady Mrs. Knox to agree, but she still wanted to try. Seeing Aria’s state the other day frightened her, fearing prolonged stalemate might lead to trouble.

Chapter 779: Chapter 779: Asking Old Lady Mrs. Knox to Reveal the Truth

At this moment, Hope Williams's phone rang; it was Isla Sue.

Hope answered the call, and Isla quickly asked, "Little Hope, are you busy right now? I want to visit the Knox Family and see if we can ask Old Lady Mrs. Knox to help reveal the truth about the canceled engagement. Can you accompany me?"

Isla felt that if Grandma Knox could help reveal the truth behind the canceled engagement, the situation would greatly improve. Grandma Knox was a reasonable person, and she dearly loved Aria, so she would definitely be willing to help.

Hope agreed and hung up the phone.

Waylon Lewis looked at Hope after she finished the call and asked, "Who was it?"

"It's Aunt Sue; she wants me to go with her to the Knox Family and see Grandma Knox."

"Does she think the same as you?"

Hope nodded, "Yeah, even though it might be difficult to get Grandma Knox to agree, we have to try."

Waylon didn't say anything.

After breakfast, Waylon took Luke and Willow to school before heading to the office, and after Hope fed Baby, Alitzel Williams helped take care of Baby, allowing Hope to leave and pick up Isla Sue to go to the Knox family.

At the moment, only Grandma Knox and a few servants were in the Knox Family's living room. Upon hearing that Hope and Isla had arrived, Grandma Knox paused before instructing the servants to invite them in.

When Hope saw Grandma Knox, she politely greeted her as always, "Grandma Knox."

Grandma Knox's eyes flickered; due to Alexander Knox and Natalie Rogers's actions, she felt ashamed seeing Hope and Isla.

"Little Hope, Isla, come sit down."

Hope walked over to sit on the single sofa, her clear starry eyes calmly looking at Grandma Knox.

The old lady was not as calm as Hope; her gaze shifted between Hope and Isla with slight embarrassment, she asked, "Isla, how has Aria been lately?"

Isla shook her head; just mentioning Aria made her heart ache with bitterness.

"Not well, Aria's the situation online has made her state very poor, and the doctor even said... said Aria has developed moderate depression, she can't eat well or sleep soundly."

"Moderate depression?" Hope was also shocked; she didn't know about this; she didn't expect Aria's condition to have worsened to the point of depression.

Isla nodded with redness in her eyes, "Yes."

"Has she seen a doctor?" the old lady urgently asked.

"Yes, we are getting treatment."

The old lady's face was deeply furrowed, adding several more wrinkles.

"It's truly cursed; if we hadn't pushed them together, none of this would have happened. Isla, our family wronged Aria; I apologize on behalf of Natalie and Alexander."

Isla waved her hand, "Apologies are empty; Old Lady, I came this time to ask if you can help Aria?"

"Me?" The old lady blinked her eyes, "What can I help with?"

"Old Lady, can you help by revealing the truth about our families' canceled engagement?"

"The truth." The old lady murmured, her eyes turning hesitant.

If she revealed the truth, wouldn't that be admitting her grandson's wrongdoings?

Those who are cursing Aria would surely change their stance and start cursing Alexander Knox.

The old lady's eyes darkened.

"Grandma Knox? Old Lady?"

Isla called the old lady twice before she looked up at them, clearly hesitant in her eyes.

Hope pressed her lips together, "Grandma Knox, I know what you're worried about, but the truth can't be hidden. The issue has grown so big that if the truth isn't revealed now, it won't be concealed later."

"This..." The old lady knew Hope was right.

Indeed, Alexander had been the one to force things initially, and then he continuously made mistakes, and now Natalie maliciously slanders and discredits Aria, leaving the only victim Aria suffering from depression.

Their family wrongs the Richardson Family, so revealing the truth is only logical.

However, by doing this, those who originally cursed Aria would shift to slandering Alexander Knox.

One doesn't need to say how terrifying the power of public opinion is now.

She doesn't want such things happening to Alexander.

Seeing Grandma Knox still hesitant, Isla quickly said, "Old Lady, please help our Aria; she is truly being driven to the brink."

"But... if I reveal the truth, Alexander will also be subjected to slander."

Isla heard the old lady say this and paused, "But regarding the engagement being called off between the two families, it's clearly your family's doing that caused it, right? He made the mistake; why should he do nothing and just stand back watching, as if it's a show, while our Aria bears all the slander?"

"And Natalie, she doesn't like Aria — fine, our family canceled the engagement, even returned all the betrothal gifts. Why did she use such malicious means to frame Aria? She's ruined Aria's life. Old Lady, we are all women; from heart to heart, could you endure having such exposing videos spread wildly online?"

As Isla spoke, tears continued streaming down, seeing the old lady still hesitating, she directly knelt before her, "Old Lady, I'm really begging you, please reveal the truth, give Aria justice, alright?"

The old lady was startled seeing Isla kneel, "What are you doing? Quick, quick, help her up."

Hope quickly helped Isla, "Aunt Sue, please don't do this; please get up first."

"No, Grandma Knox, I'm begging you, I'm desperately pleading with you, please understand me as a mother; I now wish that it were me in that video, me being scolded. Seeing Aria like this pains me deeply; I'm begging you to reveal the truth."

Isla cried her heart out, "Everyone must bear their own mistakes; shouldn't the victim be free from all the consequences?"

Hope couldn't hold back the sourness in her nose, her eyes turned red.

Grandma Knox took two deep breaths; she knew, she knew everything, but Isla loves her daughter, and she loves her grandson too.

Forcing the engagement, coercion, threats, imprisonment when the other party was unwilling, these deeds turned real, and Alexander Knox's reputation online would be greatly affected.

He is the Knox family's future leader, the CEO of Knox Clan; his personal behavior reflects on Knox Clan, he cannot have a blemish.

Despite her profound struggle, Grandma Knox couldn't agree to Isla's request.

"Isla, how about this — we wait until the heat of this issue subsides, then I will personally visit to apologize to Aria, and I will have Alexander and Natalie personally apologize as well. Whatever Aria desires, within what we can provide, we will give, as compensation for Aria. Will this be alright?"

Chapter 780: Chapter 780: Betrayal Among Our Own People?

Old Lady Mrs. Knox could only promise these things.

She knew that saying these things now was of no use, but she had no other way.

Isla Sue's lips trembled slightly; Old Lady Mrs. Knox's meaning was still unwilling to help tell the truth.

Apologies, compensation? What use are those?

Can they make up for the pain Aria Richardson is suffering now?

Hope Williams lowered her eyes; when people encounter things that truly damage their interests, they will still choose to preserve themselves or their family.

Old Lady Mrs. Knox had made up her mind to protect her grandson, regardless of what they said, it was of no use.

Hope Williams bent down to help Isla Sue up, "Aunt Sue, please get up first."

Isla Sue cried uncontrollably, "Little Hope, what do we do, what do we do, Aria she..."

Hope Williams could feel Isla Sue trembling all over, "Let's think of another way, please get up first."

Isla Sue could only stand up for now.

Hope Williams sighed; Isla Sue had gone so far as to kneel, yet Old Lady Mrs. Knox still wouldn't help, what more could they do?

"Let's leave for now."

Isla Sue also knew that the road with Old Lady Mrs. Knox was currently impassable, so she could only leave for now.

"Grandma Knox, sorry for the disturbance."

"Little Hope... Isla..." Old Lady Mrs. Knox opened her mouth, watching the two leave with grief in her eyes.

On the second-floor railing, Alexander Knox stood quietly, his dark eyes unfathomable.

After a long while, the old lady wiped the tears from her eyes, sighed repeatedly, and with fatigue in her voice said, "Someone, push me to the Buddha's hall."

The old lady knelt on the prayer mat, clapped her hands together, closed her eyes, and prayed to Buddha Ancestor for forgiveness for her selfishness.

Isla Sue left the Knox Family, with her spirits low, Hope Williams had no choice but to first send Isla Sue back to the Richardson Family.

After staying at the Richardson Family for a while, it was nearing ten o'clock, and Old Ortiz was about to arrive. Old Ortiz personally came down the mountain for her convenience, so Hope Williams couldn't let Old Ortiz down and had to first return home.

When Hope Williams got home, Old Ortiz had already arrived. The old master was sitting with Old Ortiz in the living room, the two elders drank tea and chatted happily.

Alitzel Williams was sitting beside them holding Baby. Every now and then the group would tease Baby, whose giggles were exceptionally pleasant to hear, creating a harmonious atmosphere.

Hope Williams originally wasn't in a good mood, but seeing this scene moved her heart, and she couldn't help feeling a bit lighter.

"Grandpa, Master, Mom."

The old master smiled and pointed in Hope Williams' direction, saying, "Look who's here just as we mentioned them."

Old Ortiz looked at Hope Williams and snorted, "This girl, since she doesn't actively seek me, I can only come find her."

Though Old Ortiz seemed to be reproaching, his tone was full of indulgence.

Hope Williams smiled embarrassedly, "Sorry, Master, I've been too busy lately, I will definitely make up for the wasted time."

"Alright, let's not waste time, let's get started."

Hope Williams nodded, "Yes, alright."

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In the evening, because of Old Ortiz's presence, Alitzel Williams also instructed the kitchen to prepare several more dishes.

Waylon Lewis came home from work on time, but Wyatt Lewis was nowhere to be seen.

Alitzel Williams felt she hadn't seen her youngest son for several days, "Waylon, where's Wyatt? Why isn't he coming home again?"

Waylon Lewis had a light expression, "He has things to do, don't bother with him."

Alitzel Williams frowned, lately with these unresolved issues, not coming home was really concerning.

Waylon Lewis walked over to Hope Williams and said warmly, "I have something to deal with upstairs, you all go ahead and eat, don't wait for me."

Hope Williams nodded, "Okay."

Just as everyone was sitting down at the dining table, a servant came in and said, "Young Madam, there is a Ms. Woods and Miss Armstrong outside looking for you."

Hope Williams pointed to herself, "Looking for me?"

Ms. Woods? Miss Armstrong?

In her memory, she didn't know any Ms. Woods, and as for Miss Armstrong, she only knew Lily Armstrong.

Even though she didn't know who they were, since they came to visit, Hope Williams had the servants invite them in.

Emilia Woods and Rose Armstrong were brought into the living room by the servants; it was their first time visiting the Lewis Family and couldn't help but marvel at the Lewis Family's opulence.

Though the Armstrong Family was also very impressive, it couldn't compare to the Lewis Family.

Both of their eyes shone with admiration, Rose Armstrong clutched Emilia Woods' arm excitedly and whispered, "Mom, the Lewis Family is so luxurious, I thought the Armstrong Family was already grand, but compared to the Lewis Family it's worlds apart."

"It's no wonder the Lewis Family is the premier family in Emperor Capital." Emilia Woods was calmer than Rose Armstrong, softly reminding, "Stay calm, don't make it seem like we've never seen such grandeur."

Rose Armstrong quickly nodded, managing to tuck away her delighted expression.

Hope Williams walked over and glanced at the two. She really hadn't seen them before and didn't know them at all.

"Who are you?"

Upon hearing the voice, Emilia Woods and Rose Armstrong turned around to see Hope Williams, silently sizing her up. The woman in front of them was wearing clean and neat home clothes, standing quietly in place with an exceptionally outstanding demeanor.

Her hair was pulled back low, her delicate and beautiful face was untouched by makeup, and her clear and indifferent eyes showed a hint of confusion.

Emilia Woods reacted and reached out to grab Hope Williams' hand. "Oh, you must be Young Madam Lewis."

Hope Williams lightly furrowed her brows. She didn't like having physical contact with strangers, so she discreetly withdrew her hand and asked, "Do we know each other?"

"We know you. You're Hope Williams, Young Madam of the Lewis Family, and Aria Richardson's best friend, right? My name is Emilia Woods, and this is my daughter, Rose Armstrong. Sophie, go ahead and greet Young Madam Lewis."

Rose Armstrong maintained a gentle smile and stepped forward two paces, "Hello, Young Madam Lewis. My name is Rose Armstrong, I'm Lily Armstrong's sister."

Lily Armstrong's sister!

Hope Williams looked at Rose Armstrong, and she did resemble Lily Armstrong a bit, but it seemed she had never heard of the Armstrong Family having two daughters.

They had just mentioned Aria Richardson; Hope Williams thought their sudden visit to the Lewis Family couldn't be without a motive. Hope Williams began, "Ladies, please have a seat. Just say whatever you need to say."

The two sat down on the sofa, and Hope Williams called the servant to serve tea.

Emilia Woods spoke up, "Young Madam Lewis, recently, the matter involving Young Master Lewis and Miss Richardson has become quite the sensation online. We've all heard about it and were wondering if you have any solution in mind?"

Hope Williams raised an eyebrow and said, "If there was a solution, wouldn't the matter have been settled already?"

Since they were bold enough to ask, Hope Williams' eyes flickered as she countered, "Do you ladies perhaps have a method to resolve this matter?"

"Of course..."!

Rose Armstrong was about to speak but was stopped by Emilia Woods holding her hand, making Rose Armstrong dumbfounded and confused as to why Emilia Woods was stopping her.

Hope Williams gave them both a glance.

Emilia Woods spoke up, "We do have a method, but we wonder what benefits we might gain from helping you solve this issue."

If they were offering help, it certainly wasn't for free. They had already fallen out with the Armstrong Family, and they couldn't go back. The mother-daughter duo had to seek a way out for themselves.

Hope Williams looked at them and, with some thought, raised an eyebrow and glanced at the corner at Xiao Shi, who immediately understood and turned to leave.

Hope Williams gently asked, "Why don't you first tell us about your method, and then we can talk about the benefits."

Emilia Woods thought for a moment and spoke, "We have the original video that's been circulating online!"

Hope Williams narrowed her eyes.

They were just worried about where to find the original video, and now it was being offered?

"So you're going to use the original video to exchange for benefits?"

Emilia Woods replied, "Exactly."

Hope Williams gave the two a faint glance.

Lily Armstrong's sister, so they must be from the Armstrong Family, betraying their own family?

It didn't make sense.

Soon, Xiao Shi returned, and the identity information of the two was handed to Hope Williams.

Hope Williams accepted the tablet Xiao Shi handed to her, looked at it for a couple of seconds, and roughly understood.

Rose Armstrong was Lily Armstrong's half-sister, while Emilia Woods was James Armstrong's lover, and the relationship between them was like fire and water.

Now it makes sense.

"Can I take a look at the video?"

To exchange for benefits, naturally, one must inspect the goods.

The mother and daughter exchanged glances and agreed it was fine. Rose Armstrong took a USB drive out of her bag.

Back then, the two had deliberately copied a version to their own USB drive just in case.

Hope Williams immediately asked someone to bring a computer.

Waylon Lewis was walking downstairs, adjusting the cuffs of his shirt while heading toward the dining room, when he saw Hope Williams still sitting in the living room.

Waylon Lewis swept his gaze toward the dining room and walked over to Hope Williams.

"Why aren't you going to eat?" Waylon Lewis' deep and magnetic voice transmitted.

Hope Williams looked up at Waylon Lewis, "I still have some matters to attend to; I'll go eat later."

Waylon Lewis got closer and noticed that there were two unfamiliar women sitting on the sofa to the right.

Rose Armstrong raised her head to look at Waylon Lewis, people's breathing involuntarily halted.

The man's dark shirt exuded a cold and noble air, his demeanor calm and indifferent, and his handsome face was flawless without even a blemish. His deep black eyes swept over them coldly, without a trace of emotion.

Just a brief moment of eye contact made Rose Armstrong's heart tremble uncontrollably, her eyes reluctant to look away.

Waylon Lewis bent down and sat beside Hope Williams, his posture casual yet exuding an aura of dignity.