

## **A Divorce 201**

### Chapter 201 Fainted

Roman followed Lainey. Then Roman knocked on the door hard. Soon, the people who had come out just now came out again to stop Roman. But Roman wasn't easy to deal with..

He pushed open the door. Then three or four people came from the black car behind him. The group of people walked toward the bodyguards who were guarding the door and knocked down those bodyguards easily.

After all the people guarding the door were knocked down, the black Cayenne stopped at the door of the villa. Manuel walked out of the car hurriedly. Behind his car, there were two other SUVs. A dozen men in suits followed Manuel into the villa.

Roman could tell that Manuel was really angry this time from the look on his face.

Roman said, "Ms. Easton is on the second floor."

Lainey cried, "Quick! Ainsley is now surrounded by many men. That p\*rvert said there are six surveillance cameras in the room!"

Manuel's expression became even colder. Of course, he understood what Lainey meant.

In the room.

Ainsley gasped in despair. In order to avoid those people, she could only try her best to wave the dagger in her hand. However, she wasn't strong enough, so the dagger was soon taken away.

"Get lost! All of you! Stay away from me." She shouted.

A tear fell from the corner of Ainsley's eyes. For some reason, an image appeared in her mind.

She was locked up in an abandoned factory. There were many men. Those men were staring at her. She felt that she had much sharper senses. She could feel being stared at by several thousand pairs of eyes.

That felt bad. Then the scene changed. Ainsley was in an empty room alone, her body naked.

Countless eyes appeared on the white. All of them were fixed on her naked body with desire. Those eyes were filled with desire.

Then, a drip of blood appeared in her world. After that, more and more blood appeared, until her whole world was covered in blood.

Ainsley covered her eyes and suddenly came back to her senses.

This scene was so terrifying that she gasped for breath. It took a long time for her to calm down.

As the men got closer and closer, Ainsley became more and more panicked until the sound of a violent kick sounded.

Her mind seemed to explode. There was no other color in the world other than bright red.

“Ainsley!”

Who was calling her? She slowly turned her head and looked in the direction of the door.

It was... Manuel.

At this moment, Ainsley felt the world around her collapse. Her heart was in great pain. She lay on the ground and fainted.

Before she lost consciousness, she heard someone calling her.

“Ainsley!”

“Aisy!”

Cason rushed over according to the location he got. When he saw the cars parked in front of the door, he felt that he was late again.

There were bodyguards lying on the ground. Glenn was suppressed by Roman and was lying on the ground. Manuel walked out with Ainsley in his arms.

“She... What happened to her?” Cason looked at Ainsley anxiously.

Manuel ignored Cason. Lainey replied, “Aisy fainted. We will send her to the hospital.

Don’t follow us.”

Lainey was a little uncomfortable. She called Cason, though it was because she couldn’t find Manuel’s phone number back then.

When Ainsley woke up, she definitely would not want to see Cason. But Lainey wasn’t sure whether Ainsley wanted to see Manuel either.

When they arrived at the hospital, Ainsley was sent to the emergency room for rescue.

Manuel thought for a moment and still called Matteo. After all, Matteo was Ainsley’s family.

“It’s all my fault. If not for me, Ainsley would not have gone to the Wilson’s place,” Lainey sobbed.

“Ms. Easton won’t blame you,” Roman said. He didn’t think there was a problem.

After they left, Cason sat back in the car with a serious expression. However, when he turned the corner, he saw a very familiar car. He was stunned. This was Kaitlin’s car.

Could it be that Kaitlin planned this?

Cason angrily returned home and went up to the second floor to kick open Kaitlin’s door.

His voice was cold and distant, behaving like Kaitlin was an extremely evil person.

Kaitlin looked at her brother who had suddenly barged in. She trembled and stood up. “Cason?”

Lindsay did not go play cards today. Hearing that roar, she immediately walked over and protected her daughter. "Cason, why are you treating your sister like this again?"

"Come out." Cason ignored what Lindsay had said and looked at Kaitlin.

Kaitlin had no choice but to walk out of the room under Cason's angry gaze. But she still held Lindsay's arms.

"Where have you been today?"

"I have been staying at home all this time. I haven't gone anywhere!" Kaitlin avoided his gaze and her hands unconsciously trembled.

Cason, however, did not believe her words. "Tell me honestly. Where exactly did you go today?"

Kaitlin immediately shook Lindsay's arm. "Mom! Look at him. How can he interrogate me like this? I haven't been out since this morning."

"Jillian, tell me, did Kaitlin go out the entire day?" Cason stared at Jillian.

Kaitlin looked at Jillian with a bit of panic, "Jillian, you have to testify for me. I really did not go out today!"

"Alright, alright! Cason, why are you asking whether your younger sister went out?" Lindsay noticed Cason's strange behavior.

"I saw your car in Rulina Villa Area today. Do you still want to argue?" Cason snorted. His eyes were cold as he stared at Kaitlin, making her at a loss.

Kaitlin thought about it for a while. She indeed did not go out today. Then why did Cason say that her car was in the Rulina Villa Area?

"Cason, even if she really drove there, there is no need for you to be so angry and question her, right?" Lindsay said with dissatisfaction.

Recently, Lindsay had an opinion toward her son since he always quarreled with his family because of Ainsley. In particular, he would question Kaitlin as if she had made a great mistake.

"Mom, something happened in the Rulina Villa Area today. Something happened to Ainsley. Matteo and Manuel looked for her like they were crazy. Right now, she has already been sent to the hospital. If it really was Kaitlin who did it, do you think they would still let her go?"

Worry appeared on Cason's face. His mind was filled with disappointment and anger. He had warned Kaitlin not to make trouble again, yet she refused to listen. She thought that as long as Cason was there, she could be saved.

The things that Kaitlin had done to Ainsley had already made Manuel and Matteo very angry. Cason had put in a lot of effort to save Kaitlin.

When Cason walked out of Rulina Villa Area today, he saw Manuel's cold eyes. He was sure that if it was Kaitlin again this time, nobody could save her.

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The Gage family was strong enough to beat the Baldry family. And there was still Matteo.

Lindsay frowned. "You blame Kaitlin every time something happens to that b\*tch. Your sister had said that she was home the whole day. Why don't you believe her?"

Cason sneered. "Believe her? How many times did she lie before?"

Kaitlin also began to feel uneasy. How could she not know what Cason was talking about? But when she thought that Ainsley was about to die, she could not help but become excited.

But today... she indeed did not go out. She wasn't included in Irene's plan.

She suddenly remembered something. She looked at Cason with a dazed expression. "Cason, where is Kaliyah?"

"Stop talking about her. Answer me first. Do you have anything to do about what happened in the villa area?"

"Cason, I really did not go to any villa area today. I gave my car to Kaliyah last night. She said that her car needed to be repaired and she had something important to do today, so I lent her my car." Kaitlin made up her mind and chose to tell the truth.

Anyway, as long as she had nothing to do with the accident, it was fine. She never cared about other people.

Cason's deep and cold eyes stared deeply at Kaitlin. His tone was particularly serious. "Is that true?"

Kaitlin nodded heavily, "Cason, I really gave my car to Kaliyah. You can ask her when she comes back.

Cason didn't seem to be very relaxed. Even if it was Kaliyah but not Kaitlin, Manuel and Matteo would still hate the Baldry family.

Lindsay took the opportunity to hug Kaitlin, crying, "Kaitlin! In the end, we are outsiders!"

"Mom!" Cason only had a headache. He pinched the space between his eyebrows.

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"Alright, when Kaliyah comes back, I will ask her."

After Kaliyah returned, Cason sat in the living room waiting for her. Kaitlin and Lindsay were also sitting in the living room.

"Cason? Kaitlin, Lindsay, why are you all sitting here and waiting?" Kaliyah asked, puzzled.

Cason seemed calm. He said indifferently, "Where did you go in the afternoon?"

"Me? I went to my parents' place in the afternoon."

"Did you use Kaitlin's car?" Cason's gaze was sharp.

Kalayah suddenly raised her head and glanced at Kaitlin. Kaitlin averted her gaze. Kaitlin felt that there was a huge stone hanging up in her heart. Kalayah thought for a while and said, "No. I used my own car."

Kaitlin immediately stood up and said in a panic, "Kalayah, you came to my room last night to borrow my car. Have you forgotten?"

"Kaitlin, what are you talking about? Why would I want to borrow your car?" Kalayah sounded teasing.

"How is that possible?" Kaitlin looked at Kalayah with a very sharp gaze. She suddenly rushed over, "Kalayah, tell the truth. I was about to fall asleep last night. It was you who suddenly entered my room and borrowed my car."

Kaitlin remembered very clearly. Kalayah said that her car was broken, so she offered to borrow Kaitlin's car. Kaitlin agreed since Kalayah would use her car to deal with Ainsley.

Kalayah looked at Kaitlin with a seeming smile. Kaitlin suddenly understood that Kalayah's car wasn't broken at all. Kalayah just wanted to frame her.

"Kaitlin, stop messing around. My car is now in the garage." Kalayah pretended to be helpless.

Cason's eyes suddenly turned sharp. He fiercely said, "Jillian, go and bring out the surveillance footage from the garage."

Surveillance footage?

Kaitlin immediately became absent-minded. She suddenly thought of something.

"Kaitlin, I'm not at home right now. Help me drive the car over. The sooner the better.

"It's almost the time I appointed Mr. Wilson. Hurry up.

"Mr. Baldry, the surveillance footage is here."

Kaitlin came back to her senses. She looked at the tablet in Cason's hands with terror. He had already seen the surveillance footage.

At nine in the morning, the gate to the garage was opened and a red car drove out of the garage. The person driving was Kaitlin.

Cason coldly put down the tablet. "What else do you want to say? You drove the car out."

"No! No!" Kaitlin tried her best to shake her head. "It's you! You did this on purpose!" Kaitlin pointed excitedly at Kalayah. She never thought that Kalayah would shift the blame onto her to avoid suspicion.

Kalayah looked at Kaitlin with an innocent expression, "Kaitlin, what exactly are you saying? Why can't I understand you at all?"

Kalayah looked at Cason with confusion. "What happened, Cason? Why are you all so excited?"

Cason sneered. "Ainsley was locked in the car of the Wilson's villa this morning. Manuel saved her, but Ainsley fainted. I saw Kaitlin's car in the villa area. I asked Kaitlin about it when I came back. She said that you borrowed the car from her last time."

"Kaitlin, even if you want to get rid of your suspicion, you can't accuse me!" Kaliyah looked at Kaitlin in shock.

Kaliyah leaned against Cason and said in a wronged tone, "Cason, today, I am at my parents' place. I drove my own car back. If you don't believe me, you can ask my parents."

Kaitlin wasn't willing to admit this. She said angrily, "Kaliyah, I treated you as my family, yet introduced Irene to you when you wanted to plot against Ainsley. And I lent my car

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to you because I trusted you. But you kicked down the ladder and made me the scapegoat!"

Cason caught the meaning behind her words and looked at Lainey with a serious expression. "What do you mean by this? Tell me clearly!"

Kaitlin revealed a mocking smile, "Kaliyah, since you betrayed me first, then don't blame me."

She paused and said to Cason, "Cason, you definitely don't know yet, right? Kaliyah hates Ainsley and wants to skin her alive. Kaliyah began to deal with Ainsley along with Irene a long time ago. Don't tell me that you can't see that."

Lindsay looked at them with a complicated expression, not knowing which side to choose.

"Kaitlin, you have to have evidence to say all this. Do you have any evidence?" Kaliyah did not panic and asked calmly.

Kaitlin released the recording from that night. In the recording, Kaliyah said clearly, "A thorn in the eye... Deeper and deeper..."

Kaliyah clenched her fists. She truly had not expected that Kaitlin would secretly record it.

But very quickly, she relaxed. She was not afraid of anything. Cason's breathing almost stopped.

"Kaliyah, is what she said true?"

Kaliyah shook her head seriously. "Of course not. This recording can only prove that I really hate Ainsley. It can't prove that I used Kaitlin's car today."

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Kalayah continued, "Besides, the footage of the surveillance camera in the garage has been pulled out already. You were the one who drove the car, weren't you?"

"Cason, you have to believe me! It really is Kalayah!"

"I don't know why Kaitlin insisted that I was the one who harmed Ainsley. I am telling the truth. I have not been to the villa area. I went to my parents' house today on important business." Kalayah pulled a long face.

Kaitlin didn't give up. "You borrowed my car. How could you deny it?"

Kalayah opened her handbag and took out a piece of paper.

"Cason, I have never been to the villa area. And here's a gift I want you to have." She handed the paper to Cason.

The gift was enough to prove her strength.

The next second, Cason screamed.

"Kalayah, you are pregnant!"

Hearing his words, Lindsay quickly pushed Kaitlin away. "Cason, really?"

"Yes, Lindsay. Take a look for yourself," Cason smiled.

"Since you're pregnant, you need to be careful. Do you hear me?"

Lindsay walked over and carefully looked at Kalayah. "Kalayah, finally! I can finally be a grandma."

"Kalayah, why didn't you tell me earlier?" Cason protected Kalayah tightly.

"I just found out about it today, and I came back at once for you," she smiled bitterly. Then she continued, "I couldn't wait to tell you about the surprise. Yet Kaitlin came out and said those strange things."

Just as Kaitlin wanted to say something, she was interrupted by Lindsay.

"Kaitlin, Kalayah is pregnant. She should be in a cheerful mood. Don't bully her. Be nice to her, OK?"

"Lindsay, I did not frame her. She was the one who borrowed my car yesterday." Kaitlin wasn't intending to make things easy for Kalayah.

"Then how do you explain the surveillance of the garage?" Cason nodded slightly.

Kaitlin was dejected. Of course, she knew what it was like to have nothing to say to defend herself.

However, she refused to show the white feather. She said, "Cason, Lindsay, I would never admit to something I didn't do."

In the hospital, Ainsley was lying on the bed, tense.

In her dream, she fell non-stop.

"Aisy, I love you."

Ainsley's body trembled slightly. She looked at the person who called her behind her, and his young and vigorous face made her slightly dazed.

The man in front of her was Manuel. She knew it very well.

She thought, it's Manuel, but it's not Manuel. It's the young him. Why does it feel like I have returned to a few years ago? But back then, I didn't know Manuel.

Ainsley screamed, waking up from fright.

She woke up sweating profusely and managed to turn on the light, the dim light illuminating everything in the room.

She pinched her arm, and the intense pain made her realize that it was not a dream.

She looked at the reflection in the window. The reflections of everything, including the dim light and the dim self, looked pale and weak in the mirror.

Only her eyes shone holy, like imported black pearls.

She looked at the marks where she had pinched her arm only to see a little red on her smooth skin. All the wounds looked terrible against the fair skin.

"Is everything a dream?" She no longer knew everything. Was it a dream or not?

Ainsley muttered to herself. She was not asking herself, but she also did not know who to ask. She could only look at her blurry self in the mirror. Her real and confused eyes were filled with stories.

Ainsley reached out a finger to stroke her face. The coldness made her dodge reflexively.

In the ward, she slowly woke up. She felt that she had had a very, very long dream.

The dream was very strange. In the dream, she and Manuel seemed to have returned to a few years ago.

She didn't know why she had such a dream, but it made her doubt her memory again.

She thought, that weird photo already made me wonder if I was forgetting something.

That's more likely if the dream is real.

She slowly opened her eyes and saw that her surroundings were white, and her nose was filled with the unpleasant smell of disinfectant.

She subconsciously looked at the person sitting next to her. It was Manuel.

She frowned slightly and was about to stand up when he pressed her down.

She asked, "Where's Lainey?"

"She stayed with you for the whole day and night. She was sleepy, so she went back to



rest.” He paused. Then he added, “She was very guilty.”

Ainsley knew why Lainey felt guilty. After all, Lainey took her there.

“Where are the people from the Wilson family?” she asked.

“They will regret it,” Manuel said with a cold face.

The ward fell silent. Ainsley looked at the dark circles under Manuel’s eyes and said coldly, “Mr. Gage, you may go back and get some rest.”

Manuel was just about to speak when another person came in.

Matteo walked in with a thermos, placed it on the cabinet next to the head of the bed, looked at Manuel coldly, and said with an unfriendly tone, “Please leave. You are not welcome here.”

Manuel’s eyes were dim. He did not care about what Matteo said. He only cared about Ainsley.

Yet when Ainsley looked at Manuel, Manuel found that her eyes, which should have been starry, were filled with fatigue. She even looked at him with a sense of alienation.

Matteo propped up the small table on the bed and took out the soup in the thermos. “It’s your favorite soup made by Perla. Make sure you eat up.”

The soup made by Perla Gaskell was very tasty and nutritious.

“Thank you, Matteo.” She knew that it must have been Matteo who had Perla make the soup.

Matteo sat back down on the sofa and began to browse through the emails.

“We’ve already found out that it was Kaitlin who went to the Wilson family. They conspired and planned it together,” Matteo said in a deep voice.

Ainsley said in disbelief, “Starting from Jaydan’s car accident?”

Matteo’s tone was very cold as he said, “Yes. They are responsible for the arson at the Salter Group’s factory as well.”

A cold smile flashed across Ainsley’s face as she coldly snorted, “Good for her. She has gone through so many troubles just to deal with me.”

“Kaitlin has already been taken. I look forward to seeing who can save her a\*s this time,” Matteo said.

Ainsley drank a mouthful of soup and began to think again. A voice that she had heard in the Wilson’s villa flashed through her mind. The voice said, “Why aren’t you going in... Did you record...”

She found the voice very familiar. She figured that she had heard it somewhere before.

But after thinking about it for a long time, she still could not remember who the voice

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belonged to. She just knew that it wasn't Kaitlin's voice.

"I remember," Ainsley suddenly said.

She thought, how could I ever forget that voice? It was Kaliyah! She lowered her voice!

"Matteo, Kaliyah is the one behind it," she said solemnly.

"Why do you say that?" Matteo was a little confused.

"Mr. Wilson talked to a woman at the door after he went out. I heard their conversation. I swear that I can recognize her voice. The woman was Kaliyah," Ainsley said seriously.

Chapter 204 She Is the One Behind It

"Kaliyah? Are you sure it's her?" Matteo's eyes immediately turned cold.

Ainsley nodded solemnly. She had interacted with Kaliyah many times, and she had heard all kinds of words said by Kaliyah, whether they were nice or unpleasant. Though she didn't get to see the woman's face, she was sure that it was Kaliyah.

Ainsley figured that Kaliyah did so because of Cason.

She thought, Cason has been so strange lately. He would come over and comfort me after I broke up. Such behavior of his, of course, can make one suspicious, including me.

"Cason did not stand in the way regarding the matter that Kaitlin was arrested. It seems that he had already known. It proves that he knew it very well." Matteo paused for a moment. Then he continued, "Another important thing is that Kaliyah is pregnant."

Ainsley sneered, "What a coincidence. She got pregnant just after something happened. Her baby is Cason's first kid. Lindsay and Mathew will go all out to protect her." Her voice gradually became cold.

Ainsley thought, Lindsay is nothing but conventional. I was married to Cason for three years, and we had no children. Lindsay scolded me sternly because of that. She'll never know it was Cason who wanted to be loyal to Kaliyah. He never had sex with me.

Now Kaliyah is pregnant. She is the love of Cason's life in the first place. Also, Lindsay alone will protect her well.

No wonder Lindsay didn't make a big fuss this time. Clearly, Kaliyah's baby weighs more than Kaitlin.

No one has ever doubted it. How can someone as stupid as Kaitlin come up with such an idea?

One has to be very scheming to plan the whole thing. Getting the Wilson family on board alone is a tough thing already.

Perhaps there is someone else behind this. Back then, I saw Irene, Kaitlin, and Kaliyah showing up together on the turf.

Last time, Kaitlin was released from the detention room without suffering at all. It was all thanks to Irene. She had already finished eating the soup. Leaning against the back of the bed in a carefree manner, she thought, maybe I should have fought back a long time ago.

Matteo placed the tablet in front of Ainsley. "There is no need to worry about the Salter family. Our family has a factory that never gets started up. My dad ran it a few years ago,

and he didn't continue to open it later on. But the machines and equipment were all purchased in Germany, and they are only one generation older than those of Jaydan's.

They are enough to do the trick."

Ainsley glanced at Matteo with gratitude. "Thank you, Matteo."

"Hey, we are family, right?"

Matteo took the tablet back. "Ms. Salter blamed herself because of the matter. She cried for a long time at the door of the emergency room yesterday."

"She... must have been frightened." Ainsley would not doubt Lainey.

She thought, Lainey only behaved so since she was flustered. I'm sure she wasn't trying to harm me.

"I will call her.",

It was already half past eleven at night. Inside Twilight Club, the lights were bright.

In the f\*rthest corner of the bar, Lainey was crying and drinking.

She thought, it was all my fault. How could Ainsley have been bullied if it wasn't for me?

I blame myself. I brought Ainsley over without finding out, or this wouldn't have happened.

She drank another glass of wine and coughed a few times.

"Hey, gorgeous. May I join you?" A man leaned over and was about to put his arm. around her shoulders.

He had noticed Lainey when she appeared. After all, stunningly beautiful women were rare.

His gaze reminded others of an animal courting, which looked terrifying. And he placed his hand on Lainey's shoulders.

He stared at Lainey, as if she was his prey, and she was his already.

Under the stimulation of the flickering lights, Lainey's pain looked even more fair and tender.

"Go away. Who are you?" Lainey pushed him away.

"Don't be so grumpy. Everyone is here to have some fun. Do you think I'll even bother talking to you if not for the fact that you're pretty?" The man put the wine glass next to Lainey's mouth. "Drink!"

Lainey raised her hand and knocked over the glass. The crisp sound of glass shattering stunned the people around them.

Even Lainey was much more clear-headed. "Stay away from me! Get lost!"

The man dragged Lainey into a private room, the most disgusting and obscene light flickering in his eyes.

The people in the bar were already so used to such a scene that no one bothered.

As soon as they reached the door of the private room, Lainey began to vomit crazily. The mixed smell of wine and sweat made her nauseous.

The man glanced at Lainey with disgust. Yet he didn't want to let her slide. Therefore, after she was done vomiting, he started to drag her into the private room again. Lainey had no strength, and he directly threw her on the sofa.

After closing the door of the private room, the man finally showed his true colors. There was a vicious look on his face.

He reached out and touched Lainey's hand. "I'll make you feel great."

The foul smell of sweat made Lainey sick, and she struggled to push him away. "Let go of me! I want out!"

She struggled and stumbled in the direction of the door, but the man still clutched her hand tightly.

"Stop running away from me. I promise that you won't regret it." The man still wanted to press down on her.

"Ah!" the man cried out in pain since Lainey used her nails to scratch his face.

The man was overwhelmed by pain, and he was humiliated and furious. His eyes were red, and he raised his hand to slap Lainey hard.

In the empty box, the slap sounded particularly loud. He slapped her with all his strength. Lainey could feel that her face soon swelled up, and fortunately, she regained some sense.

She realized her current situation clearly and immediately said, "Let me out! Or I'll call the police right away."

The man once again grabbed her hands. She managed to wriggle her way to the door, and she could reach the doorknob if she went a little further. However, the seemingly short distance was impossible for her to reach, since the man was holding her tightly.

"Help! Help me!" she screamed miserably.

Outside Twilight Club, Roman and a few friends entered the bar together.

When he passed by a box, he heard some noise. He looked over and heard a familiar voice.

“P\*ss off!”

It was Lainey.

The man heard Lainey’s scolding and reached out to hit her. “B\*tch! Stop pretending!”

Roman kicked open the door and saw that the man was about to hit Lainey.

Lainey didn’t hear the sound of slapping. Half-dazed, she saw Roman standing in front of her and holding the man’s hand with one hand.

The man looked at Roman madly. “Well, well. You want to be the hero here? Look at yourself! Let go, or you will be in trouble!”

Roman did not let go and glanced at the man coldly. “Get lost!”

“You...”

At the same time, the club’s security guard suddenly ran over and pulled the man away.

The club manager came and apologized to Roman, “I’m so sorry. Everything will be on the house tonight.”

Roman clapped his hands as if he had touched something so dirty.

## Chapter 205 Hangover

“No need. Don’t disturb me.”

“Sure thing.” The manager quickly left.

Lainey sat back in her seat and picked up the bottle to drink.

“What are you doing?” Roman took the bottle away.

“Don’t mind me. It’s all my fault,” she said, still deeply blaming herself.

She was still in a lingering fear of what had happened. A few minutes later, in a daze, she wanted to drink again.

Slightly tipsy, Lainey blushed. She looked at the bottle with blurred eyes and was about to take it back from Roman.

Roman raised the bottle and looked at those empty bottles on the table in front of her. “You have drunk so much. You shouldn’t be drinking anymore.”

“Leave me alone!” She pushed Roman away. Then she said to the waiter who passed by, “Give me two more bottles!”

Roman said in the next second, “She is drunk. Ignore her.”

Lainey was dizzy. Some of her hard-won sanity vanished again because of the loud music.

"It's fine, Lainey. Ms. Easton won't blame you," Roman comforted.

"It's all my fault! Why did I take her to that bad guy?" Lainey cried.

She picked up another bottle of wine and was about to drink it when Roman snatched the wine over. "Are you sure you want to drink? I'll join you."

He lifted the bottle and drank half of it himself in one go.

He put down the bottle and burped.

Lainey took the bottle and drank up the rest in one gulp.

Roman stopped a waiter and asked for two more bottles.

Then he took a bottle and drank it directly. "I'm going to be drunk."

His cheeks were red, and even his mind was confused.

"Lainey, you fool!"

"Roman, you b\*stard! It's my wine!"

Half an hour later, Lainey and Roman staggered out of Twilight Club, and it was hard to tell who was the drunker of the two.

Roman supported Lainey, and Roman's friend sent the two to Roman's place.

Roman's place only had a bedroom. His friend put Lainey on the bed and wanted to take Roman away, yet Lainey grabbed his hand and refused to let Roman go.

Helpless, his friend had no choice but to leave.

Roman's arm was grabbed by Lainey, and he smelled alcohol. Beside him was Lainey, and he could see her face.

Her delicate face suddenly made him feel that his heart was throbbing. The impulse, as a result of the alcohol, made him forget who she was and who he was.

He kissed Lainey's lips, and Lainey refused to show the white feather. She kissed him back.

The next day, when Lainey opened her eyes, she saw his face right in front of her.

She widened her eyes in disbelief and thought, Roman? How is this possible?

Why am I in the same bed as Roman?

She lifted the quilt and looked at her naked body in shock.

Worst of all, there were some blue marks on her body.

Her face was full of panic. She thought, I have never had a hangover. The first time I had

a hangover, I slept with someone somehow?

What's more, I slept with Roman, the one I hate the most!

Realizing that, she immediately covered her mouth. She could not remember anything about yesterday.

Get Bopus

The only thing she remembered was that someone wanted to take advantage of her, and it was Roman who saved her.

She carefully sat up from the bed and saw that her clothes were s\*attered all over the ground. She picked up her clothes, quietly entered the bathroom, changed her clothes, and left.

The sun rose, and the dazzling light made Roman's eyes hurt.

Sitting up from the bed, he had a strong headache.

He couldn't remember what happened yesterday, and there was a strange smell on the bed.

He threw away the quilt, and a piece of underwear fell out, which belonged to a woman.

He was stunned for a moment. Only then did he suddenly recall that Lainey seemed to have come back with him yesterday.

He had a feeling.

Roman pinched his eyebrows. He was naked.

He was getting flustered, and his memory was getting more and more chaotic. However, Lainey's image became clearer in his mind.

When he got up to make the bed, he found blood on the sheets.

He was stunned.

Roman's fingers trembled. He thought, is this Lainey's blood?

Did we really...

The second day after Ainsley woke up, Lainey finally mustered the courage to bring a thermos over to see her.

Before entering the ward, Lainey had been in a daze all the way, thinking about what happened last night.

Lainey thought, I just wanted to drink. How did I end up having sex with Roman?

Lainey's face was flushed, and she was still very shy when she thought about it.

Although she pestered Ainsley to introduce some handsome guy to her every day, she had never really come into contact with any of them.

It was the first time she had truly come into contact with a man.

As soon as she entered the ward, she saw Ainsley. Her eyes turned red, and she had the urge to cry. She no longer bothered thinking about last night.

“Ainsley...”

Lainey felt so guilty. She could hardly pluck up her courage to come here and see Ainsley. She felt that she was the one who almost ruined Ainsley’s life.

“Lainey, come here.” Ainsley knew that Lainey was very awkward and hurriedly waved her hand to let Lainey come over.

Ainsley smiled very sincerely. Lainey’s tears fell from the corners of her eyes. “Aisy, it’s all my fault. The more you are like this, the more I feel guilty. If I hadn’t taken it upon myself to take you there for his treatment, none of these would have ever happened.”

After returning home yesterday, Lainey had been scared for a long time. She thought, if something really happened to Ainsley, I would probably just kill myself.

“It’s fine, Lainey. Someone did it on purpose. I don’t blame you. It might happen sooner or later even if you didn’t take me there.” People who were plotting against others could always find chances.

“Aisy, don’t say that. The more you say things like that, the more I want to cry.” Lainey’s eyes were already watery.

Lainey thought, Matteo came up and took care of things at the factory, and I almost ruined Ainsley.

“I’m sorry I almost hurt you... I can’t believe Matteo was still willing to help me after that.” Lainey was very moved.

Ainsley smiled and shook her head at Lainey, “Lainey, you helped me out when I was in trouble before. Jaydan was nice to me, too.”

Ainsley would never forget that on a day they had a meal together, instead of eating, she kept staring at the moon in the backyard. Jaydan was the one who first noticed and brought the whole family over to gawk at the moon together with her.

Although that kind of company might not be something important, it was a great comfort for Ainsley when she was suffering emotionally.

“Alright, Lainey, I mean it. I don’t blame you,” Ainsley smiled.

Lainey wiped her tears and brought the thermos over. “Eat this then.”

“OK.”



Lindsay treated Kaliyah even better ever since Kaliyah was pregnant.

Lindsay told everyone she met that Kaliyah was pregnant and even bought clothes for Kaliyah.

“Kaliyah, I bought these clothes for you. Your belly will soon grow bigger, and you cannot wear those clothes of yours anymore. Wear those,” Lindsay said and revealed a gratified smile as she stared at Kaliyah’s stomach in a daze.

As soon as Cason entered the room, Lindsay reminded him, “Cason, Kaliyah is pregnant now. You have to take care of her.”

She paused and continued, “And about Kaitlin...”

Chapter 206 No One Is Allowed to Help You

“Don’t worry about Kaitlin!” someone said in a dignified voice.

Mathew walked through the door with his walking stick, and Jillian hurriedly helped him sit down.

“Grandpa, you’re here.” Cason hurriedly took out the tea set and personally made tea.

Lindsay and Mathew had never been on good terms, so she just nodded and did not speak.

Kaliyah sat tentatively at the side. She knew that Mathew did not like her, and she subconsciously touched her

abdomen, wondering if he would treat her better because of the baby.

While Kaliyah was pondering, Mathew said, “Since you are having Cason’s baby, I won’t make things difficult for you.

Give birth, and you’ll be rewarded.”

“Thank you, grandpa.” Kaliyah was delighted.

She knew it. Since she was pregnant with Cason’s baby, even Mathew, who had always disliked her, would

compromise.

Mathew looked at Lindsay coldly and said, “Don’t bother about Kaitlin. After everything she’s done, she needs to learn

a lesson.”

“Grandpa, she is a member of the Baldry family after all.” Kaliyah’s fingers trembled slightly.

Mathew sneered and said, “She has done so many wrong things. How many times has our family been targeted because of her? Cason, you still remember, don’t you?” Mathew’s cloudy eyes suddenly became clear.

Cason poured tea into the teacup, placed the cup in front of Mathew, and said respectfully, “Grandpa, I see.”

Cason thought, this time, I have made up my mind to leave Kaitlin's affairs alone and let her stay in prison to reflect.

Lindsay, however, did not quite agree. She said with some dissatisfaction, "Mathew, Kaitlin is your granddaughter. She might be a troublemaker, yet she is not a bad girl. Besides, she is a dignified young lady belonging to the Baldry family. She shouldn't be left in prison, right? If words get out, others in Seattle will laugh at us."

Mathew coldly snorted, "If she gets released, there will be even more people laughing at our family!"

Due to the incident last time, the Wilson family had been suppressed by Matteo and the Gage family, and Glenn was arrested. His family had been pulling a lot of strings, yet they still couldn't get him out.

Kaitlin was detained, and she thought about it for a long time in the detention room.

She thought, this time, Cason won't help me no matter what. And I get it now. The reason why Kaliyah wanted to borrow a car the day before and had me send it over in the morning was just to frame me.

Now that everything is out, sure enough, I am arrested, while Kaliyah is at home, doing fine.

If it were in the past, Lindsay would definitely take my side, but now it's different. Kaliyah is pregnant.

Lindsay has been longing for grandkids. And now finally, her wish has come true. On no ground will she let Kaliyah go to prison.

This time, Kaitlin finally managed to apply for a call and immediately called Cason.

"Cason! Help me! I'm being tortured here." Kaitlin wished she could run out of the detention room immediately.

She heard no sound from the other end of the line for a long time, and she called out in panic, "Cason, are you there? Cason!"

Finally, Cason said, "Kaitlin, you've done so many wrong things before. Our family has paid a great price to get you out. This time, no one is allowed to help you under Grandpa's order. You should do some proper reflection while staying inside."

"How can that be? Cason, I am your sister!" Tears welled up in Kaitlin's eyes in an instant. She cried, "Where's Mom? What did Mom say?"

"She said she wouldn't force me this time," Cason said in an utterly cold voice.

Kaitlin cried for a long time before angrily cursing, "I get it now! It's all because of Kaliyah. She is pregnant, and Mom is taking her side! Good for you. Good for all of you! You give up on me! None of you help me!"

Kaitlin hung up the phone while crying. She knew that Cason had not agreed to help her ever since the last time. Compared with begging him, she might as well think of something herself.

After waiting for an entire day, she was summoned by the police. When she went to the reception room, surprisingly, she saw Kaliyah.

“Kaliyah?” she said in surprise. Then she pulled a long face. “Kaliyah, what are you doing here? Are you here to laugh at me?”

“Kaitlin, don’t say those harsh words. I came to see you because I was concerned about you,” Kaliyah smiled.

Kaitlin thought, we are under the police’s watch. Otherwise, I wish I could rush to Kaliyah and tear off her disguise. What a phony.

Kaitlin snorted coldly, “Kaliyah, I am the only one standing in front of you right now. You don’t need to pretend anymore. You were the one who borrowed my car, yet you didn’t admit it when Cason finally asked you. It’s my fault that I trusted you so much and that I didn’t think to guard against you.”

The tenderness in Kaliyah’s eyes vanished, leaving behind an obscure shadow. She leaned close to Kaitlin and said, “Kaitlin, I was telling the truth. It was you who was going to hurt Ainsley.”

“I don’t want to waste my time talking to you. Where is my mom?” Kaitlin thought, how come it is Kaliyah here? Where is my mom?

Kaliyah smiled, “She went to meet a famous early education teacher today, and she had an appointment with an obstetrician from abroad tomorrow as well. She is so busy right now. But she didn’t forget about you. I came here today because she asked me to tell you that Cason and Grandpa have been very angry these days, and they have reached a consensus that they won’t help you anymore. She asked you to be good while staying inside. She would talk to Cason when things pass away.”

“She said that? For real?” Kaitlin stood up and looked at Kaliyah in disbelief.

Kaliyah’s voice suddenly became deeper as she said, “Of course. None of these would have happened if you hadn’t told Cason that I borrowed your car. You betrayed me first.”

“I was worried that Ainsley might escape. Otherwise, do you think I would lend you my car? You planned to frame me, right? Kaliyah, you are so heartless. Don’t think that just because you are pregnant, Cason and Lindsay will take your side!” Kaitlin’s tone was filled with sadness and resentment,

Kaliyah: did not take Kaitlin’s words seriously. She gently stroked her belly and said, seemingly casually, “Kaitlin, do you really think that even if Cason and Lindsay knew what I did, they would send me in?”

“What do you mean?” Kaitlin’s heart began to beat violently.

“Literally. You know very well that Lindsay treasures my baby a lot, right? Do you think she will send her grandkid in for the sake of you?” Kaliyah had a smile on her face.

Kaitlin was so angry that her expression changed a few times. She gritted her teeth and said, “Kaliyah, it’s not time to

celebrate yet. I have Irene. I’m sure she will help me.”

Kaliyah could not help but laugh. “You are indeed naïve. You are just her pawn. Do you think she’s still willing to offend the Gage family for you after everything you’ve done? Don’t forget that it was Manuel who sent you in this

time.”

Chapter 207 The Emerald Island

“It’s still too early to gloat. I misjudged you and thought that you were an innocent woman. I never thought that you would be so scheming,” Kaitlin said self-mockingly.

Kaliyah covered her mouth and began to giggle. She slowly stood up and said, “Kaitlin, see you.”

“You don’t get to leave!” Kaitlin shouted as loud as she could.

Yet Kaliyah had already walked out.

Time passed by. When it was the third day after Ainsley woke up, she was discharged.

She returned to the Easton’s place. Perla made a lot of delicious food for her to recover sooner.

Matteo had been staring at the tablet while sitting at the dining table the entire time. He frowned as if something serious had happened.

“What’s wrong?” Ainsley asked.

“I’ve noticed a piece of land recently. It’s the Emerald Island. If I can obtain it, it will be very profitable. Unfortunately, the owner might sell it to anyone.” Matteo’s tone was a little worried.

Ainsley wasn’t familiar with such things, so after listening to his words, she finished eating and went back to sleep.

The next day, she met Manuel when she had just got off work and left school. She wanted to leave, yet he stopped her.

“Ainsley!”

“Mr. Gage, what’s the matter? If nothing, I will leave now.” Ainsley turned around and was about to leave.

“Aisy, can we talk?”

Ainsley felt a chill on her back, and then her back slowly relaxed. She stared at him for a long time, her eyes exceptionally crystal clear. There was nothing but inquiry in her eyes.

“Can I ask you a few questions?” Ainsley parted her thin lips slightly.

Manuel looked into her eyes and found it impossible to say no to her. He paused for a long time before nodding. “Alright.”

“You can’t lie. You have to answer my questions truthfully,” Ainsley added.

Manuel seemed to know what she was going to ask. But he nodded anyway. “Shoot.”

She opened her mouth slowly and said, “What exactly did you hide from me? You know that photo of me and Serina, don’t you?”

Manuel opened his mouth slightly, but could not say anything.

He then swallowed a few mouthfuls of saliva and said, "I can't say yet."

"When then?" she asked anxiously.

"Aisy," he called her name softly.

Ainsley said with a self-deprecating smile, "Not the right time again?"

"I'm sorry."

Ainsley was slightly dazed. It wasn't the answer she was expecting, yet she failed to make a sound because of such a

single word of his.

She opened her mouth several times, but she still couldn't utter a word.

She looked away. "Forget it. You don't have to answer if you don't want to. If you don't want to tell me, I won't ask."

After a long silence, she suddenly remembered something and said, "Did you plan this long ago?"

"No."

Ainsley did not know what she was feeling. She had just wanted to get closer to him, but now she was dejected.

"I see. See you."

She turned around and was about to leave. Just as she took a step, he tugged at her wrist. She turned around abruptly,

only to see Manuel shake off her hand in the next second.

"I'm sorry."

"What?" Ainsley was a little confused.

"I'll take you to a place." Manuel looked away, no longer looking at her.

"Where?" Ainsley asked in confusion.

Manuel pulled her to the car and opened the passenger door for her.

"Get in."

She did not know what Manuel was up to. Yet she still got in the car.

West Street was the most prosperous street in Seattle. It was a very simple and old street, and the things sold here were all antique. Also, the names of the shops here were very classical.

There were all kinds of shops here, selling clothes, jewelry, and also desserts. They were well-known for their products of fine quality.

Manuel led Ainsley into a narrow alley with high walls and carved eaves.

The flagstone road was cool, and there were several wild red flowers in the corner.

At the end of the road, Manuel pushed open a small door and entered with Ainsley.

The grass path wound. She was very familiar with this place.

The backyard was well attended, with a sycamore tree on the west end.

They entered a tall building from the backyard, and almost instantly, she knew where it was.

They went to Ink Garden.

Ink Garden was a famous antique shop, and it was even with thousands of years of antiques.

Because of the uniqueness of the antiques, all of the things in the shop were imitations, which were the private collections of major collectors. Those displayed were the things the collectors wanted to sell, and when there were interested buyers, they would contact the collectors.

She was curious about why Manuel had brought her here.

“Why are we here?” she asked softly.

Chapter 207 The Emerald Island

Manuel said in a low voice, “The Wade family has been eyeing Aedan’s land recently.”

“You mean the Emerald Island?” Ainsley’s eyes flickered.

“Yes.”

The Emerald Island was an island close to Seattle. The scenery on the island was beautiful, and it was surrounded by

the sea. Also, the island had been in the hands of Aedan Callahan, the CEO of Prosper Group.

At first, this piece of land was not popular. Yet recently, the state was drawing up certain national navigation lines,

and some of them happened to pass by the Emerald Island.

To support the development of tourism in Seattle, the National Travel and Tourism Office released new subsidy

policies.

If the Emerald Island were to be turned into an island resort, the owner would earn vastly.

Everyone in Seattle had their eyes on this piece of land, and Irene was no exception.

Ainsley looked at Manuel warily and asked in confusion, “What does Ink Garden have anything to do with the Emerald

Island?”

“Over the past few days, countless people have contacted Aedan, yet few of them got to see him. It will be Aedan’s

birthday in a few days, which will be a perfect opportunity. He likes collecting antiques most, and Irene has been

searching for antiques recently,” Manuel said with a smile.

“You want the Easton family to compete with the Wade family?” Ainsley’s expression relaxed.

“Matteo has been looking up information about this piece of land a long time ago,” Manuel added.

“So, you want me to buy the antiques here for Aedan?”

Manuel continued, “Aedan likes all kinds of jade amulets.”

Ainsley scanned the various antiques in Ink Garden, hoping to find a jade amulet from them.

The atmosphere was heavy, and a dark cloud blew in the east, obscuring the sun.

Ink Garden was full of more than two dozen carved wood boxes, each of which contained a treasure inside.

The owner of Ink Garden greeted Manuel personally, “Mr. Gage, welcome. We have a new collection of antiques in the

store today.”

Ainsley followed behind them and walked to the other treasure room, which was also filled with dozens of treasure

boxes.

“Is there anything related to jade?” Manuel asked.

The owner smiled and said, “How strange. People have been asking for antiques related to jade these days. We just

sold a jade statue the other day.”

He then whispered, “However, though we sold a lot of them, not many of the really good ones got sold. You know that those good ones are priceless. We keep the good stuff on the upper level, and we don’t show them easily. You are one of the few people who can afford them.”

Ainsley knew that the owner was telling the truth. Few people could afford those truly priceless things, and therefore the owner didn’t even bother to take those stuff out.

Manuel was different. He was with staggering wealth.

“Let’s go take a look,” Manuel said.

Chapter 208 She Doesn’t Want to See Me Again

The treasure boxes on the top floor were much better than the ones downstairs. These antiques had to be carefully taken care of since they were all treasures and could be destroyed by the slightest mistake. Unlike the ones downstairs, those on the upper floor were real antiques. They were kept in glass cases with the names and history of the antiques affixed to them.

Ainsley and Manuel browsed on the top floor for a long time and finally bought an antique.

After leaving, Ainsley looked at Manuel in surprise for a long time. "Why are you helping me?"

"I'm helping both your family and myself." Manuel's eyes were deep and gloomy.

Ainsley did not ask much. She figured that it had things to do with profits,

It was the fact that the Wade family and the Gage family went way back. However, it didn't mean Manuel was happy to see the Wade family surpass the Gage family.

After sending Ainsley home, Manuel returned home as well.

Roman had been restless all day in Pearl Hotel. Lainey's appearance kept emerging in his mind.

He couldn't remember what had happened at his place that night. Yet he could remember Lainey's slightly flushed face, which was alluring and charming.

"Roman, why are you in a daze?" Manuel asked.

Roman came back to his senses and handed the soup in his hands to Manuel. "I'm not. I wasn't thinking about anything."

Manuel looked at Roman doubtfully and thought, I didn't ask you anything, did I?

Manuel pulled a solemn face, and right now, he didn't have time to probe further into Roman's matter. Ainsley's cold face occupied Manuel's mind. Although she had been less hostile to him after they went to Ink Garden, what he wanted was far more than that.

Manuel took the soup and left, while Roman slumped in a chair. Roman had been absent minded all day today. He thought, perhaps I've been too bored, and after that night with Lainey, I couldn't get over her.

This is not normal. In all my years, I've never missed a woman this much. I can't stop thinking about her.

Late at night, Roman went to a club to get drunk again.

His friends were all in the dance pool, swaying, and the neon lights were constantly spinning. After drinking a few glasses of wine, he felt dizzy already.

"Roman, drinking here is so boring. Why don't you dance with us?"

Roman poured himself another glass of wine. "I'll pass. You guys go ahead."

Soon, he was wasted and fell on the seat while murmuring Lainey's name non-stop. Seeing him like this, his friends were a bit worried.

Having finished her work at the factory, Lainey drove home. She had never taken the Salter Group seriously, and she had never shared her family's burdens.



It was only after she went to the factory and stayed there for a while that she knew how tough life was for Jaydan.

She was exhausted. She was just about to open the door and enter when she was stopped.

“Ms. Salter, can you not go yet?” A strange man stopped her.

Lainey took a deep breath and suddenly remembered the bad memories of that day. She was relieved to see that the man’s eyes were harmless. “What is it?”

The man hurriedly said, “Roman is drunk and has been calling your name. Can you come with me to see him?”

“No!” Lainey refused decisively, opened the door, and was about to leave. Even hearing Roman’s name terrified her now. She didn’t mean what happened that day, and she believed it was the same for Roman as well. He must be as

regretful now as she was.

Yet when she was about to enter the door, Roman showed up, staggering, and grabbed her hand.

“Lainey, don’t go!”

Similar to Lainey that day, he also had blushed cheeks right now.

He was reeking of alcohol, and Lainey pushed him away in disgust. “Roman, what are you doing here?”

A storm of fragments of memory came upon her, and memories that she did not want to recall came to her and kept playing in her mind.

“Lainey, don’t go.” Roman had a splitting headache.

His friend said to Lainey, “Ms. Salter, he is yours now.”

As soon as they finished speaking, they ran off. Lainey gawked at them in shock. “You...”

Just as she was about to leave, Roman grabbed her arm. She was dumbfounded and pushed him away.

“You... What are you doing?”

“You want to leave just like that? You took advantage of me. Are you running away from your responsibilities?”

Roman held her arm tightly.

“Which one of us is the one taking advantage here?” Lainey wished she could push him to the ground.

She thought, I

am the victim here, OK?

Roman clutched her arm, unwilling to let go.

Lainey looked around and was very worried. She thought, we are at my family’s downstairs. What if my parents see

us?

“What do you want to do? Let go of me!”

Lainey awkwardly pushed away Roman’s hand and hurriedly entered the building.

Manuel drove out of Matteo’s place with the soup dejectedly, He tried to give it to Ainsley, but she sent him home

without even opening the door.

He thought that after their trip to Ink Garden, Ainsley would treat him better. Yet he was wrong.

He went home with the soup in frustration. To his surprise, he saw Roman lying on the ground in front of his place.

He frowned and helped Roman up. “Roman, wake up.”

He smelled a strong odor of alcohol on Roman and knew that Roman was drunk. But why did Roman come to him?

“Manuel, you’re back.” Roman slowly opened his eyes.

Roman held Manuel’s hand and slowly stood up, walking unsteadily. “Manuel, drunk with me.”

Roman was not satisfied with how drunk he was. He wanted to be completely unconscious. In such a way, he could no longer remember Lainey’s appearance.

Chapter 208 She Doesn’t Want to See Me Again

2/3

Coincidentally, because of Ainsley, Manuel was upset as well. He said softly, “OK.”

Late at night, Manuel and Roman sat on the sofa in the open air with wine bottles on the table. They did not even need

glasses.

Manuel smiled bitterly and said, “What happened to you? Something to do with relationships?”

Roman trembled, even including his hand holding the bottle. He laughed and said, “That’s ridiculous! Only fools are trapped by love.”

Manuel took another sip. “I can’t think of anything else besides this.”

“What about you? You are not in a good mood today. Are you still quarreling with Ms. Easton?” Roman said in a daze.

Manuel pursed his thin lips and smiled aloof, “It’s not a quarrel, technically. It’s probably true that she doesn’t want to see me again...”

Manuel’s eyes dimmed, and there was a rare fatigue in his eyes.

The two drank ceaselessly. They were drinking beer, which failed to satisfy Roman. He grabbed a bottle of red wine from Manuel's wine cabinet and poured the dark red liquid into the glass. The wine was full of a bitter, sweet smell

with a rich scent.

Red wine was supposed to be savored, yet Roman only wanted to get wasted. He drank it all in one gulp, and the liquid slid down his throat in an instant. The wine tasted s\*icy and dry, and he coughed hard.

After the second glass, he finally fell drunk on the sofa, and the glass slipped from his hand and fell to the ground, which was luckily grass.

Chapter 209 Give It a Go

Manuel leaned against the back of the sofa, raised the glass, and took a sip. The white moonlight shone on his face,

while he was as silent and lifeless as a statue.

Finally, at two o'clock in the morning, they stopped drinking.

Manuel helped Roman up and sent him to the guest room. After putting Roman down on the bed, he vaguely heard.

that Roman was murmuring something. "What is it?"

Manuel leaned over, and only then did he hear what Roman was muttering.

"Lainey... How can you be so irresponsible..."

Manuel smiled and realized that Lainey was the chief culprit of Roman's abnormality.

Manuel took out his phone and recorded Roman's muttering.

In two days, it would be the birthday of Aedan, the CEO of Prosper Group. To give back to the community, Aedan decided to hold his birthday party in the form of a charity auction, where attendees were asked to provide a piece of their own collection and could bid on it, with the proceeds going directly to the charity.

There was no doubt that this grand auction would be an unprecedented and lively scene in the entire Seattle. After all, the popular Emerald Island was now in Aedan's hands, and he just happened to want to sell it.

Ainsley and Lainey agreed to buy couture dresses together. As soon as they met, Ainsley noticed that something was

wrong with Lainey.

Ainsley teased, "You were always in high spirits when we went shopping together. What happened today?"

Lainey pouted. "Nothing..."

Ainsley pretended that she didn't care and said, "Alright then. If so, don't come to me when you can't hold it in

anymore."

Lainey widened her eyes and held Ainsley's arm. "You! How can you be this cruel to me?"

Lainey pretended to s\*b, deliberately raised her hand to wipe the fake tears, looked around, pulled Ainsley to a corner where no one else was around, and said, "I had a one-night stand with someone."

"Who?" Ainsley looked at Lainey in shock.

"That... d\*mn chef," Lainey said with embarrassment.

"Roman? You two? How could it be?" Ainsley asked doubtfully.

Lainey blushed and stammered, "We were drunk at the club that day. We were both drunk."

Lainey told Ainsley everything that happened that day. After listening to the ins and outs of the matter, Ainsley said, "And then you fled? Then last night, Roman came to you and blamed you for being responsible and ran away?"

Ainsley thought, shouldn't Lainey be the one who blamed him?

Yet it's true that Lainey was the one who fled.

Ainsley pulled a wry face. "Why did you run away?"

"I was so scared back then. I didn't bother to care about anything else. I just wanted to leave."

Lainey would still run away from Roman even now.

Chantar 200 Clue It a Go

13

Ainsley suddenly thought of the recording that Manuel had sent her last night she tentatively asked Lainey, "Then how do you feel about him now?"

"I don't know. Both he and I had too much to drink that day, so I couldn't say who was right and who wasn't. Maybe he feels regretful, too. I might as well forget it ever happened," Lainey smiled bitterly.

If Ainsley hadn't heard yesterday's recording, she might have supported Lainey's decision. Yet Ainsley now was well aware that Roman might have inadvertently fallen in love with Lainey as well. It was just that he hadn't realized it yet.

"You really think so?" Lainey wanted to speak, but she swallowed her words and opened her mouth several times. In the end, she said nothing. She just shook her head helplessly.

Ainsley could see the loneliness in Lainey's eyes. She suddenly grabbed Lainey's hand and said seriously, "Let's give it

a go."

“Give it a go? What are you talking about?”

Ainsley’s voice was delicate, which made people believe her somehow. “Let’s see if he likes you.”

“What?”

Ainsley took out her phone and played the recording to Lainey. “He was drunk and kept calling your name. Manuel sent it to me. Why don’t we sense him out? Provided that you have any interest in him.”

Lainey’s face turned slightly red. She smiled and said, “Alright then.”

In the evening, Ainsley dialed Roman’s number. “Roman, I’d like to invite two friends to Pearl Hotel for dinner tonight. Do you have time?”

After all, such a big drama couldn’t continue without the hero.

At 7:30 in the evening, Ainsley and Lainey arrived at Pearl Hotel on time. Roman was stunned when he saw Lainey. He did not expect that the friends Ainsley mentioned included her.

He had just placed the menu in front of Ainsley when he saw Lainey waving in the direction of the door, looking very

happy.

“Here!” Ainsley smiled. Then she explained, “This is Lainey’s boyfriend.”

Roman’s hand that was holding the menu shook, and the smile on his face immediately disappeared. He gawked at the man who came over and couldn’t help but notice that Lainey placed her hands on the man’s arm. Lainey and the man

looked like an intimate couple.

“Boyfriend? Is she in a relationship?”

He felt bitter. An unprecedented feeling enveloped him, and he was not even in the mood to cook

Ainsley said slowly, “Yes. This is her boyfriend. Cute, right? Serve the dishes for us, will you? I told them I’d treat them to a top cook. Don’t let us down.”

Roman’s hand, which was holding the menu, was slightly pale. He almost gnashed his teeth while saying, “OK. I

won’t.”

He could not tell what he was feeling besides that he was bitter. The man sat blankly beside Lainey and was at a loss, not knowing where to look.

Ainsley almost laughed out loud. She asked Lainey in a low voice, “Where is he from? He looks so rigid.”

Lainey said with embarrassment, “He is just an extra I found.”

As they spoke, Roman served the dishes, deliberately placed a bowl of soup in front of the man, stared at the man, and said, “Here’s a special soup for the gentleman. Eat it while it’s hot.”

The man took it with both hands and thanked Roman repeatedly.

After Roman returned to the kitchen, Ainsley quickly continued, "Show some intimacy! Lainey, feed him your desserts

later."

"What?" Lainey quickly picked up her plate, picked up a piece of cake, and brought it to the man's mouth.

For the first time, Lainey felt that her movements were so stiff. She thought, I was never so reserved before. Why am I

so stiff today?

The man took a sip of the soup that Roman had served him and almost spat it out.

The soup was so salty that he felt as if he was eating salt directly.

"What's wrong?" Lainey asked.

The man shook his head. "Nothing."

Roman continued to serve the dishes. Looking at the bowl in front of the man, he said with dissatisfaction, "Eat it up. I made it for you especially."

The man was flustered. He glanced at Ainsley and nodded quickly.

Ainsley and Lainey did not know what the man was thinking. He figured that since he was an extra, he should do his job and be worthy of his pay. He lifted the bowl and was ready to eat the soup with strong determination.

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"Wait!" Lainey noticed that something was wrong.

She picked up her spoon, spooned some soup, and put it into her mouth..

"It's so salty!" She quickly took a swig of water.

"Aisy, Roman is too much." She slammed her spoon angrily.

"Don't eat it." Ainsley could not help but giggle.

Everything went normally after that. Throughout the meal, Roman wore a formulaic smile on his face. On the way back, there was an indescribable sadness and disappointment in Lainey's eyes.

"See? I told you. He doesn't like me."

Ainsley comforted, "Don't worry. Maybe he's not ready, or maybe he's too shocked."

Lainey returned home absent mindedly. After washing up, she thought about it for a long time before lying in bed and

thinking about what happened at the club that day.

She glanced at her phone and found that it was already eleven o'clock. She closed her eyes and wanted to sleep, yet her

phone rang.

The caller ID almost made her unable to hold her phone. It was Roman.

She quickly picked up, but because she was too nervous, she hung up accidentally. Her heartbeat missed a beat with

the busy tone. In the next second, her phone rang again, and carefully picked it up.

"What are you doing?"

"I... I'm not doing anything."

He sounded particularly urgent on the phone. He said, "Go downstairs." And then he immediately hung up the phone.

Lainey looked out through the window, only to see that Roman was downstairs.

She found herself breathless and went downstairs in her pajamas.

Roman was leaning against the car door and smoking. The smoke wrapped around his fingertips and was blown away

by the wind.

The two were utterly quiet. After a long silence, Lainey finally couldn't help but ask, "Why are you here?"

"The man tonight is your boyfriend?" he asked, not sounding nice at all.

"Yes." Lainey looked away nervously.

"Since when?" Roman asked her with a crazy look in his eyes. He thought, was it before or after she had sex with me?

"It has nothing to do with you." Lainey looked at him uneasily.

Roman suddenly grabbed her shoulder and sneered, "Lainey, do you think it has anything to do with me? Do you really not care about that night?"

"It has nothing to do with you," Lainey repeated and avoided his eyes. Yet she was lying. How could she not care?

She was a girl, a girl who had all kinds of fantasies about love.

· She had fantasized about her first sex, which wasn't supposed to occur so easily. She had only read about hangovers

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1:3

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in novels, and when it happened to her, she only regretted it.

Of course, there was another reason. The man she lost her virginity to was Roman.

She was puzzled. When they were at Pearl Hotel tonight, he acted like he did not care at all. If so, why was he here?

“Break up.”

“What?” Lainey looked up in shock, her heart beating violently.

Roman said unhappily, “Break up with him.”

“Why?”

“Break up with him now,” Roman said impatiently.

Lainey still remembered Ainsley’s words. “And I’m supposed to do whatever you tell me to do? Why should I?”

Roman grabbed her wrist and said seriously, “Because I am your boyfriend. We have slept together.”

“You...” Lainey blushed. She didn’t expect him to say so directly. “You are so cheeky!”

She shook off Roman’s hand and was about to go home.

Roman stepped forward to stop her. “I’m cheeky? We’ve already had sex.”

He thought, we’ve already had sex. How come you find yourself a boyfriend?

When Roman thought of the man tonight, he was furious.

Lainey lowered her eyes, not daring to look at him. “Let’s just pretend that nothing happened between us. It’s all a misunderstanding...”

Roman sneered, “Misunderstanding? You call that a misunderstanding? You p\*ss me off, woman.”

Lainey was speechless. She thought, are you in some sort of drama? Stop acting so overbearing and dramatic!

“You are not an actor. Drop the act.”

Roman said coldly, “Break up with him now. I remember what happened that day clearly. You have to be responsible

for me!”

Lainey looked at Roman’s face and was slightly stunned. She asked calmly and firmly, “So, why are you here? Just tell me to break up with him?”

Perhaps because her eyes were too firm, Roman actually did not know what to say.

He thought, the answer is no, of course. I’m here to ask you if you want to give it a try with me.



But why can't I just say it out loud? Lainey continued to ask, "Or do you want to be with me? Do you like me? Or are you acting responsible, because we slept together?"

Roman had been silent all this time because even he himself did not know why.

Lainey looked away in disappointment and pushed his hand away. "I am going to rest."

She entered the door without looking back, leaving Roman behind in a daze.

He thought, maybe I came here on impulse today, but when seeing her, I still hesitated.

Hesitation, instead of everything else, tended to be the reason that messed things up.

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2.3

The day before the charity auction, Ainsley waited for Matteo to return home.

Matteo, take me to the auction this time."

Matteo was very surprised since Ainsley had never participated in the company's matters before.

He smiled and said, "Sure. I was thinking about what auction item to take. You are welcome to chip in your ideas."

Ainsley shook her head. With a confident smile on her face, she pointed at something on the table. "Matteo, look."

"What?" Matteo walked over in confusion and lifted the cloth. It was actually...

According to what he had heard, Aedan was a loyal fan of jade.

Over the years, Aedan had enjoyed collecting antiques, and jade amulets were his favorite.

Matteo searched for a long time but failed to find a suitable auction item. The upcoming charity auction seemed to be

open for the participants.

But in fact, many people had already secretly searched for all kinds of antiques just to attract Aedan.

If Aedan auctioned off Matteo's antique, Matteo would definitely become the center of attention of the auction.

In such a way, he would be even closer to Aedan, and he had a better chance of obtaining the land.

The charity auction was held at the largest hall in Pearl Hotel. Ainsley held Matteo's hand and walked into the venue.

Spotlights flashed around them, and Ainsley had a decent smile on her face.

Matteo was worried, yet he didn't dare to show it on his face obviously. He whispered, "Aisy, do we really need to set such a high price?"

Ainsley nodded and slowly said, "Of course. I think we should have set the price higher. I'm sure Aedan will understand."

"Alright then, Aisy. We are counting on you." Matteo cast a trusting gaze at Ainsley.

She dressed simply today. She wore a beige dress with a unique necklace, which was the latest Louis Vuitton.

Also, there was a platinum watch on her wrist, giving off an air of nobility.

Today was Aedan's birthday banquet, and it was also a charity auction. Therefore, wearing too gorgeously wouldn't be appropriate. Guests shouldn't steal the thunder.

There were already many tables in the hall, and the stage of the auction was at the front.

After Ainsley and Matteo sat down, they saw Cason and Kaliyah.