

A Divorce 531

Chapter 531 She Is at the Forum

Aaden pointed in the direction of the gate, indicating for Matteo to leave quickly with his men.

Matteo looked at his men, and they shook their heads, so Matteo took them out.

They had already turned the entire seaside villa upside down, but they could not find Ainsley.

“Mr. Easton, are you really sure that Ms. Easton is inside? When we were looking for her just now, there was not even a trace of Ms. Easton in this villa.” The subordinate said respectfully.

Matteo’s expression was a little sullen. He and Manuel had already discussed it. He was responsible for finding Aisy even if he had to turn the world upside down. Manuel was responsible for holding Daniel back.

“Have you checked the other villas?” he asked.

“Yes,” the subordinate nodded.

Matteo sighed, took out his phone, and dialed Manuel’s number.

“We didn’t find Aisy. She must have been hidden by Daniel. This fox is not simple.”

“You don’t have to look for her.” Manuel pursed his lips.

“Why?” Matteo was puzzled.

Passing through the bustling crowd and the colorful lights, Manuel saw the two people walking towards him. His thin lips parted slightly. “Aisy is at the forum.”

Manuel hung up the phone and put his phone back in his pocket. He also walked a few steps toward the two people. Cason did not understand, but he knew that Daniel was not a good person, so he followed Manuel.

Daniel seemed to be proclaiming sovereignty and hugged Ainsley’s shoulder. Strangely, Ainsley did not resist.

Manuel immediately took a step forward and grabbed Ainsley’s wrist. “Aisy, come home with me.”

“Don’t touch me, Mr. Gage. There are so many people here. Don’t try to do anything to me.”

Daniel smiled and stood between Manuel and Ainsley. “Manuel, I advise you not to cause trouble in this kind of situation. Otherwise, everyone will have a hard time.”

Some reporters had already caught what had just happened. After all, this was not Seattle. The people who would participate in the forum were all big shots. If this matter became big, many people would be awkward.

Manuel regained his senses. His expression eased as he looked at Ainsley with a complicated expression.

Everything was confusing. He did not know why Ainsley would suddenly appear at the forum. He also did not know why Ainsley looked at him with such a ... strange gaze.

The forum officially started and everyone discussed intensely. Only Manuel and Cason looked at Ainsley. After all, everything about her was too strange.

Cason said with dissatisfaction, "Why is Ainsley with Daniel? Why are the two of them so close?"

"I don't know either," Manuel shook his head.

"It is not suitable to talk about it in the current situation. It is not too late to ask about it at the evening banquet," Cason said.

There were people who spoke on the forum and some people concluded. However, Manuel was not in the mood to listen. The Gage Group did not need anyone to guide its development.

Cason was also absent-minded like Manuel. Their attention was completely taken by Ainsley.

Only Daniel spoke to people with ease and did not let Ainsley leave his line of sight.

Soon, it was time for the banquet. Unlike the forum meeting during the day, this was a banquet organized by the merchants. It was not so formal.

As expected, Ainsley appeared again. She was also wearing a dress the same color as Daniel's dress, and Ainsley held him like Daniel was her boyfriend.

Manuel's hands hanging by his side clenched tightly and then loosened.

Manuel approached Daniel, and his tone contained the anger that he had tried his best to suppress. "As expected, you took her away. No, it was a kidnapping."

Daniel shrugged and sneered. "Mr. Gage, don't talk nonsense. When did I kidnap her? Besides, she has nothing to do with you, right? You guys are just... Let me think. Oh yes, you are just his ex- boyfriend. Since you have already broken up, don't meddle in our business."

"What did you do?" Manuel's temples throbbed.

Maybe Manuel's eyes were so sharp that Daniel didn't dare to look him in the eyes. Instead, he dodged. "Manuel, don't be too confident. You've hurt her before.

"So what right do you have to mind her business?"

Daniel glared at Manuel before leaving with Ainsley.

Manuel wanted to stop them, but he noticed Ainsley's gaze.

It contained impatience, faint boredom, coldness, and alienation, as if she was looking at a stranger.

With just this one glance, Manuel felt his entire body go cold. Those words were stuck in his throat, and he could not say a word. He could only watch them leave his line of sight.

"Why did you let them leave just like that?" Cason looked at Manuel in confusion.

Manuel sighed and said impatiently, "Cason, don't follow me."

Manuel turned to leave, but Cason followed behind him again. "You think I want to follow you? In this special period, I always feel that something is wrong."

From the initial confrontation to the peaceful analysis now, it was all because of Ainsley's abnormality.

Just after the banquet began, there were people who interviewed Daniel. Daniel openly brought Ainsley with him. A reporter recognized Ainsley and asked, "Mr. Hume, if I'm not mistaken, this lady should be the young lady of the Easton Group, right? After getting married to Cason and having an ambiguous relationship with Mr. Gage of Seattle for a long time, is she in a relationship with you now?"

Ainsley didn't say anything. Daniel glanced coldly at the reporter who asked the question and said unquestionably, "Ms. Easton never said that she and Mr. Gage are a couple. As far as I know, it seems that Mr. Gage has been pestering Ms. Easton. This is also a kind of trouble for Ms. Easton. Am I right, Aisy?"

Under countless spotlights, Manuel was dazzled by the light. Ainsley in the light was particularly cold. She nodded, and Manuel's fingers trembled slightly.

Then Daniel added, ' By the way, Ainsley and I are already engaged. She is now my fiancée. Last night, she agreed to my proposal."

Daniel raised Ainsley's hand. There was indeed a huge diamond ring on her hand.

Under the spotlight, it was particularly dazzling.

Cason widened his eyes. Seeing Manuel's confusion, he understood that many things had happened in just a few days.

Even Manuel did not know about these things.

Manuel held back his anger. He looked at Ainsley, trying to see a trace of impatience and boredom in her eyes. However, he failed. Ainsley's eyes were filled with joy, a joy that he could not understand.

"Manuel, what is going on?" Cason could no longer hold back. He wanted to punch Daniel.

But his reason made him unable to do so, so he could only ask Manuel.

After all, too many things happened during this period. He did not know, but Manuel definitely knew.

At this point, Manuel knew that he absolutely could not sit still and wait for death. Without Matteo, the only person who could cooperate with him was Cason.

Manuel thought about it and decided to tell Cason everything.

Chapter 532 She Is Mine

"I thought that Daniel would have hidden Aisy, but he actually brought Aisy here. Even Matteo didn't expect it. Our plan failed, but I believe that Ainsley would never agree to be with him. Moreover, it was an engagement, so something must have happened that we don't know about." Manuel murmured.

Hearing this, Cason only felt a burst of anger. "In Seattle, he actually dared to do this."

Cason guessed, "But I think that since Ainsley agreed, she must have her reasons. Maybe she was threatened?"

Manuel lowered his head and pondered. He also thought the same.

‘ No matter what, I know Daniel’s character. I can cooperate with you. I will stop him. You can ask Ainsley.’

Manuel’s expression was serious, but he finally nodded.

Cason walked towards Daniel and quickly brought him to a place with many people. Meanwhile, Ainsley was surrounded by reporters.

Manuel immediately walked in Ainsley’s direction. He did not even avoid the reporters and directly pulled Ainsley’s wrist to take her away.

He only let go when they reached the back garden.

‘ Mr. Gage, please behave yourself. I want to go back!’ Ainsley looked at Manuel with a face full of resistance.

‘Why? Do you know that your cousin and I have gone crazy looking for you?’ Manuel stopped her.

‘I didn’t know, and I don’t want to know. What exactly do you want to do?’ Ainsley frowned.

‘Aisy, why are you engaged to him? When did this happen?’ Manuel said seriously.

Ainsley sneered, ‘What does this have to do with you? It’s none of your business.’

Ainsley intended to leave again, but Manuel stopped her again.

‘Mr. Gage, the reporters took photos of you pulling me away just now. Do you want rumors to spread? I don’t want to!’ Ainsley immediately wanted to push him away.

‘Where’s the watch?’ Manuel looked down at Ainsley’s wrist.

Ainsley was dumbfounded for a moment, and then she covered up her panic. ‘I threw it away.’

In the banquet hall, Daniel frowned and looked at Cason impatiently. ‘What are you trying to do? Get lost!’

He was keenly aware that Ainsley had disappeared, and Manuel had also disappeared.

‘Mr. Hume, I just want to discuss business matters with you. Why do you always avoid me?’

‘You want to stop me?’ Daniel said in a deep voice. Two people rushed out from behind him and stopped Cason.

Daniel walked in the direction of the back garden.

‘Throw it away? You really threw it away?’ Manuel asked in confusion.

Ainsley nodded, ‘Of course. Why do I keep the things I don’t need anymore?’

At that moment, Daniel rushed over and grabbed Ainsley’s hand. ‘Stay away from my fiancée. Manuel, look carefully. She is now mine.’

Their eyes met and they were ready to fight.

After a long silence, Daniel took Ainsley’s hand and left the back garden.

Manuel quietly watched their backs as they left. It was not long after the banquet started, so he still had a lot of time.

In the Heyman's home in Seattle.

Lainey was really slowly getting better. At least, she was no longer lying on the bed in a daze.

Several times, Roman saw Lainey get up and walk to the balcony to look out.

The faint sunlight shone on Lainey's slightly pale little face, creating a beautiful and sad scene that was very lovable.

Roman did not dare to disturb her and only wanted to look at her more.

As a poet said, you were looking at the scenery, and I was looking at you.

After having light food for a few days, Lainey did not say a word and obediently finished them all.

Today, Roman had specially made spicy pork knuckles, but because Lainey had just recovered from her injuries, the spiciness had been adjusted to moderate.

This was Lainey's favorite dish.

Roman got up in the morning and began to prepare the dishes. When all the dishes were ready, he pushed the dining cart carefully to the bedroom.

He was even more nervous than when he had just fallen in love with Lainey.

The familiar fragrance drifted into Lainey's nose as the door opened. Her eyes, which seemed to see through everything, paused slightly. A few seconds later, she finally couldn't help but turn around.

Roman slowly revealed a bright smile and walked towards the stunned Lainey step by step.

"Lainey, do you still remember this dish?"

Lainey looked down and looked at the spicy and fragrant pork knuckles. She wanted to cry.

The incomparably bitter reality turned into a beautiful memory.

She remembered very clearly that it was the time when the two of them were deeply in love. Although Roman would occasionally quarrel with her, he would never abandon her and leave her alone.

Instead, he walked into the kitchen after he thought it through and calmed down. Roman would make a spicy pork knuckle for Lainey. It contained his wishful thinking that if Lainey ate more spicy food, she would be able to vent all her anger for a while. And they would be fine.

This method worked every time, and Lainey would also laugh every time, and they would make up.

While Lainey was in a trance, Roman had already helped her to the sofa. He placed the dishes on the coffee table, set up the plates and forks, and took two steps back to make a gesture of invitation.

"Beauty, I wonder if I have the honor to invite you to taste my dishes."

A gentle and nervous voice came into her ears. Lainey involuntarily walked out of her memories, revealing the first smile since the accident.

Although her smile flashed away, Roman still caught it.

Roman immediately turned around excitedly, wiped away the tears that flowed out and turned back quickly, looking at Lainey as if nothing had happened.

Little did Roman know that Lainey saw his every move.

Lainey was moved and also felt bitter, and an uncontrollable idea quickly flourished.

Roman was such an outstanding man. Whether it was about the family background or ability, he could find a better woman to be his company.

Now, Roman was dragged by Lainey, who was no longer pure and innocent, and could not move on. He spent all day in this villa where there was almost no sunshine and wasted his talent.

Why? She asked herself that she was not worthy of him paying so much.

Lainey instantly became depressed, and her expression darkened quickly.

Roman noticed her change and immediately became flustered. He had forgotten all the humorous jokes he had prepared in the morning.

He tried to maintain the faint smile on his lips, picked up his knife, and wanted to pick up a piece of pork knuckle and send it to Lainey's plate, but his hand suddenly refused to listen to his command and trembled as he moved his fork.

Roman picked up the pork knuckle with great difficulty, but it fell on the table halfway.

Lainey looked at Roman almost coldly. Even though her heart was suffering from the pain of ants devouring her flesh, her face did not reveal even half a bit.

Roman put down his fork and looked up. He still had a smile on his face, but it looked so fake.

He opened his mouth, as if he wanted to say something.

Unfortunately, Lainey did not give him this opportunity. She stood up straight and walked back to the balcony, quietly watching the beautiful sunset.

Chapter 533 Another Collapse

Roman looked at Lainey's slender back, still stubbornly maintaining his smile.

Roman silently cleaned up all the carefully prepared dishes and pushed the dining cart out of the room.

When Lainey heard the sound of the door gently closing, she finally turned around. Tears had already rushed out of her eyes.

"Roman, I'm sorry, I'm really sorry..." Lainey raised her pale hand to cover her mouth, crying as she apologized softly.

Lainey thought, I cannot be so selfish. Rather than drag Roman down, making him stay away from reality with me, it is better to let him go.

Inside the kitchen, Roman poured all the food that was about to go cold into the trash can.

Looking at the food mixed together and becoming worthless scraps, Roman let out a low laugh, laughing at himself, "Roman, you are really a loser."

After that, Lainey seemed to have isolated herself from the world.

Every day, Lainey would only look at the unchanging scenery outside the balcony. No matter what Roman did, she didn't even bother to give him a glance.

Roman even wondered if the smile he saw on that day was just his illusion.

Roman was getting worse and worse.

Roman waited upon Lainey as usual, even though she was getting colder and colder, he never gave up.

It was not until Roman found that he couldn't fall asleep after closing his eyes for a few hours that he secretly called the family doctor over to have a look at himself.

The family doctor looked at Roman with a complicated expression and said a few words in a low voice.

After the family doctor left, Roman clutched a small medicine bottle in his hand and stared at it with scarlet eyes.

Roman thought, how could I myself actually have a precursor to depression before I rescue Lainey from the abyss?

Roman could not accept the doctor's diagnosis, unwilling to believe it.

So when the family doctor persuaded Roman to go to the psychological clinic for treatment, he refused without thinking.

Roman stood up and dragged his powerless body to close the kitchen door.

Roman's hand was still on the door handle, and tears flowed out uncontrollably, accompanied by low sobs.

Roman did not want to become so weak and powerless, but he was really tired.

If not for the thought of pulling Lainey out of the abyss of despair, Roman would have long been unable to hold on.

Because Roman had not slept for several nights, he not only lost weight rapidly but also looked worse.

Lainey didn't think too much about that. She only thought that her act of indifference had worked. Lainey thought perhaps it would not be long before Roman could not stand it and took the initiative to leave her.

Lainey thought, after a while, when Roman is over me, he will return to be the funny boy he used to be, and he should be able to attract many beauties.

Lainey fantasized about those scenes, both gratified and painful.

Lainey thought, in the end, I still have to personally push the sunny boy that only belongs to me to someone else.

Roman could still feel dizzy as he leaned against the wall. He gritted his teeth and walked back to the guest room step by step.

There were still unopened sleeping pills and anti-depression pills on the bedside table.

Roman knew that he could get some sleep by taking some sleeping pills.

However, Roman was worried that the pills would be so powerful that even an alarm clock wouldn't wake him up, and that it wouldn't be good to delay Lainey's breakfast.

So, from the time the doctor gave the medicine to Roman until now, he would rather be awake all night than take a sleeping pill.

Lainey was about to collapse.

A few days ago, Lainey had indeed slowly become better. At least, with Roman's company, she was not in a nightmare.

But in the past few days, Lainey had been giving herself psychological hints that she should leave Roman and let him live a better life.

However, while Lainey was indifferent to Roman, she was hurting herself day after day.

Lainey always thought of Roman leaving her, and even in the future, he would hold another woman in his arms.

Whenever Lainey thought of that, she was in so much pain that she could hardly breathe and would be overwhelmed with sorrow.

One afternoon, Lainey stood on the balcony, looking at the gloomy sky and smiling with tears in her eyes.

Lainey decided to let go of each other.

Lainey thought as long as she was gone, Roman would definitely forget her and time would be able to heal everything.

Roman used the ice pack to get himself back to consciousness and regain some strength.

Roman secretly cheered himself up and turned to go back to the bedroom to accompany Lainey.

At this moment, Roman heard a sound coming from the bedroom, like a heavy object falling to the ground.

Roman was frightened and immediately rushed into the bedroom.

Lainey was stepping on the stool and trying to climb onto the balcony, but she was shocked when she heard the door rebound to the wall with a bang, and her body shook involuntarily.

Roman saw Lainey was in imminent danger.

Roman's heart skipped a beat on the spot. Due to extreme fear, his voice trembled violently and sounded very odd. "Lainey, what, what are you doing?"

Lainey almost fell from the stool. In fact, she was afraid, and her face instantly turned pale.

When Lainey finally calmed down, Roman was already about 3 feet away from her.

“Don’t you come over here!” Lainey was so scared that she couldn’t control her tears, and she forgot all the words she had planned in advance.

Lainey could only bite her lips, grab the railing with both hands and jump with all her might, sitting on the landscape wall of the balcony.

Unable to steady herself, Lainey pressed her nails against the cracks in the wall, trying not to say a word despite the stinging pain.

Seeing this, Roman completely panicked and staggered to run over.

Lainey cried sharply, “Stop!”

Roman only paused for a moment, and then he subconsciously continued to move forward.

“You come any closer, and I’ll jump!” Lainey said as she tilted her upper body outwards.

“No!” Roman’s eyes flashed with tears, and he felt great pain in his heart.

Suddenly, Roman slowly knelt down towards Lainey, whose back was facing the sunlight.

Seeing this scene, Lainey shook her head violently and cried out in alarm, “No, Roman, don’t do that. Get up! Are you crazy?”

This was the first time Roman shed tears in front of Lainey. He choked and said, “Lainey, please... Will you get down here? If you are pissed, you can do whatever you want to me. You can beat me or scold me. Please do not hurt yourself.”

The humble remarks turned into countless sharp swords, mercilessly hurting Lainey.

Lainey stared at Roman with an obsessed look. Lainey did not even want to blink, and it seemed as if with just a glance, she could be with him eternally.

Lainey reached out her arm and slowly traced the outline of Roman’s face in the air. Her voice was desolate. “I’m not worth it. You can live a better life without me.”

Chapter 534 Will You Marry Me?

Roman replied with a roar as soon as Lainey finished speaking. “No, Lainey, you are wrong. Without you, even if I am still alive, I will be a soulless body.”

Lainey cried and smiled. Her smile was bitter beyond words. She had lost her spirit, but she insisted on persuading him, “Roman, promise me to live well.”

Roman suddenly lost his expression. He slowly stood up and walked to the balcony step by step. As he walked, he said, “Lainey, don’t be afraid. I will be with you. No matter where you go, I will be with you. Even if you are in hell, I will be there.”

These words made Lainey collapse. The emotions she suppressed for a long time went out of control, and she cried like a child.

Roman took her down from the wall. He tightened his grip on her in shock and comforted her in a low voice. "It's okay, Lainey, it's okay..."

Lainey could not break free from his arm, so she had to clench her fists and punch his back hard, crying and shouting, "You are so silly. You are the most stupid fool in the world. Why are you so good to me? I am not worth it!"

Roman allowed her to hit him. Her voice had returned to normal. Every word that came out of his mouth was filled with determination. "Lainey, you are worth it as long as I think so."

At the banquet.

Manuel could not calm down. His mind was filled with what Ainsley said in the garden.

"Mr. Gage, please behave yourself.

"Don't meddle in other people's business.

"Throw it away."

Ainsley said it flatly, but every word seemed to be carved into Manuel's heart, and he felt pain.

Back then, he put the watch on Ainsley by himself and told her the real use of the watch, but she threw it away.

That was reasonable. He laughed at himself. Ainsley already recovered her memories. What right did he have to make her forget everything that had happened before and continue to wear the watch?

He did not have the right to ask Ainsley to do it or to question her. After all, he hurt Ainsley before. Such an injury made him feel ashamed.

Looking at Manuel whose face was getting darker, Cason felt strange. What did Ainsley say in the garden just now?

"Manuel, have you asked her? Was Ainsley threatened?" Cason couldn't help but ask.

Only then did Manuel come back to his senses. He looked at Cason and sighed, "Nothing happened to her."

How could he say those words?

Cason didn't believe it. "You were with her for at least five minutes yet you didn't ask her anything in such a long time."

He felt that with Manuel's personality, he must have asked something.

Manuel thought for a moment and spoke again, "I think things are abnormal. She's strange. Not only her reaction, but her eyes also make me feel strange."

Cason remembered the look Ainsley gave him and said, "In the past, she would look at me with love. After marriage, her coldness always makes me feel strange. Maybe you feel strange because her attitude toward you has changed. After all, after you did those things, she should ignore you."

"No, you don't understand." Manuel shook his head.

Of course, he had seen the disgust and coldness in Ainsley's eyes. It was not like this.

Not only her eyes, but her aura also became strange.

What had she encountered in the days when she disappeared?

The reporters pointed their cameras at them. Some of the reporters wanted to see Manuel's reaction. As someone related to Ainsley by an affair, he heard her say that she became someone else's fiancée when he attended a banquet. How did it feel?

Manuel's expression was normal. This was who he was, so the reporters did not find it strange.

On the other side, Daniel handed a glass of champagne to Ainsley. "What did you say to Manuel?"

He had to admit that he couldn't ignore Manuel, especially their past.

Ainsley caught the champagne and said softly, "He said some strange things. He asked me why my watch was gone and whether I was threatened.

"What else do you want to know?"

Daniel was in a trance. He did remember that Ainsley had a watch on her wrist, but it was gone now.

"Where is the watch?" he suddenly asked with expectation.

Ainsley looked a bit uncomfortable. Her fingertips turned white. She bit her lip and said, "I threw it away."

"Did he give you the watch?"

"Yes." Ainsley nodded.

Daniel frowned and toasted with her. He could not help but ask, "I feel like I'm dreaming. I didn't expect you to agree to my proposal yesterday."

The day before he came, he entered Ainsley's room with a diamond ring. "Take it with you tomorrow and go to the forum with me."

Ainsley looked down at the dazzling diamond and raised her head to ask, "Do you want to propose to me?"

Daniel couldn't help frowning after hearing this question. "If I say yes, you wouldn't agree, right?"

Surprisingly, Ainsley only smiled. "How would you know if you don't try? What if I am desperate and eager to be married to a random guy?"

Daniel tightened her grip on the ring and asked uncertainly, "If possible, I hope that you won't choose me because you feel desperate. But I still want to ask. Will you marry me?"

“How can a guy propose to a woman while standing?”

Daniel understood what she meant and was on his knee. “Will you marry me?”

At that moment, his heart was in his mouth. He did not dare to look up at Ainsley’s reaction. He only saw a hand in front of him and then heard Ainsley’s voice. “Put it on.”

His memory was like a dream. Daniel’s eyes were dazzled by the flashing lights. The diamond ring was on Ainsley’s hand. It was proof that she wanted to marry him.

“Do you regret it?” he asked.

“It doesn’t matter.” Ainsley shook her head.

The dance song rang and Daniel extended a hand to invite Ainsley into the dance floor.

Daniel looked at Ainsley’s makeup with satisfaction. It was almost the same as what Irene wore at her birthday banquet.

At that time, as a bystander, he watched Manuel and Ainsley dance, but today, he hugged Ainsley and danced with her. The one watching was Manuel.

This kind of contrast made him instantly excited and he could not stop smiling.

Manuel finally had such a day!

“Are you just going to watch?” Cason said with reluctance.

“Then, what should I do?” Manuel murmured.

Cason shook his head. “You are Mr. Gage of Seattle. The person you like is dancing with someone else. Are you going to just watch it? I will look down on you!”

Manuel’s eyes were full of coldness. He wanted to show his charm, but he knew what Ainsley’s attitude toward him was. She would only feel offended.

If you are not afraid of Ainsley’s gazes, you can go.”

Chapter 535 The Lost Watch

Manuel had the urge to rush up, but he felt that Ainsley’s dance was unspeakably strange.

The banquet finally came to an end. Daniel took off his coat and draped it over Ainsley. He said softly, ‘The car will be here in a second.’”

Ainsley nodded coldly and wrapped the coat around her.

Manuel stood in situ and looked at Ainsley. The way her emaciated body was draped in that man’s coat was a sight to behold.

He rushed over abruptly, grabbed Ainsley’s wrist, and ran.

All of this happened so suddenly that before Cason, who had been standing beside Manuel, could react, Manuel had already pulled Ainsley and ran far away.

Daniel angrily scolded, ' Manuel, stop the fuck right there!'

Daniel desperately chased after them, followed by a few reporters.

Ignoring everything, Manuel held Ainsley's hand and ran in the direction of the parking lot.

Ainsley finally came back to her senses after they ran for a long distance. She shook off Manuel's hand at once. "What the heck do you want?"

He hastily wanted to grab her hand again. "I will take you away. Ainsley, I'm sure you need me to take you away."

Ainsley forcefully shook off Manuel's hand and said angrily, "Not at all! What the fuck do you want?"

Manuel was stunned. He did not expect Ainsley to react like this. "Matteo is very worried about you. He has been looking for you all day."

She shrugged indifferently. "Then feel free to tell him where I am now. Also, you might as well tell him what you saw. I was not threatened. I did everything of my own accord.'

Meanwhile, his phone rang. It was that unique beeping sound.

Manuel was shocked. His phone would only beep like this when it was a notification from Ainsley's watch. He had set it since the day Ainsley disappeared.

Didn't Ainsley say that the watch had been thrown away at the banquet?

He immediately turned on his phone, activated the GPS, and saw a location that surprised him. The watch was in the west district of Seattle.

Why was the watch located there?

He almost subconsciously sent the location to Matteo, and then forcefully took Ainsley to continue walking until they walked to the front of the car. Then he let her in and drove the car away.

When he drove the car out, he saw Daniel's angry face.

Matteo was in Seattle. When he was at a loss, he received the location sent by Manuel. Also, Manuel texted him: "Ais/s watch location has changed. This is where it is located now."

Without any hesitation, Matteo immediately ran to the watch's location, with dozens of bodyguards behind him.

The location was in an abandoned building in the west district of Seattle. Half an hour had passed by the time they arrived.

When Matteo set foot on the first floor, he noticed that no one had lived in the building for a long time and that the facilities had retained the atmosphere of the 1990s. The bodyguards immediately searched the ground floor and found nothing.

He had brought dozens of bodyguards with him, yet it was still not enough since the building was up to three floors with dozens of rooms.

The watch's location was accurate to feet, so he looked at the phone screen while slowly approaching the location. The wooden staircase creaked like an old man's body falling apart as he stepped up the stairs to the second floor.

Turning left into the second room, he looked inside the room and was stunned on the spot.

There was nothing but a watch on the ground. Almost subconsciously, he knew that it was the watch that Manuel had given to Ainsley with the GPS function. In other words, Ainsley was here before, and just half an hour ago, she pressed the button to send out the watch's position.

His eyes were full of doubts. Didn't Manuel say that Ainsley went to the forum?

In a remote room on the building's third floor, Irene nervously closed the door, looked at Ainsley fiercely, and slapped Ainsley hard. "Fuck! You surprised me. I didn't see this coming. Why didn't you press the button when we kidnapped you? If so, such a thing wouldn't have happened."

She grabbed Ainsley's hair in disgust and forced Ainsley to raise her head. "You'd better shut up, or I'll kill you right now."

There was blood on the corner of Ainsley's mouth, and she smiled brightly.

"Then kill me."

There were many footsteps outside the door. Irene did not know how many people Matteo had brought with him. She simply felt that those footsteps were freaking her out.

"Why did you do this?"

Ainsley thought, why did you kidnap me? Why did you bring me here?

She was confused, and there was nothing she could do.

Irene had already blocked Ainsley's mouth with vigilance, not letting Ainsley make a sound.

Ainsley's hand was tied up, and she could not make a sound. Her mind was filled with the scene of her being taken away two days ago.

Two days ago, Daniel proposed to her.

In the afternoon, when Daniel was not at home, Irene took the opportunity and found a random excuse to get rid of Aaden, bringing a tightly wrapped person into the seaside villa.

Seeing the woman, Ainsley was full of doubts.

"Why are you here?"

Ainsley was still drinking tea leisurely, not even raising her head.

Irene was not surprised, and she was not angered by Ainsley's attitude. She pushed the person beside her in front of Ainsley. "Guess who she is."

Only then did Ainsley look over, but the person was wearing a hat, sunglasses, and a mask, revealing no features at all.

"If you have something to say, just say it," Ainsley said impatiently.

There was no need to say anything. Irene winked at the woman, and the latter began to take everything off. When she took off her mask at last, even Ainsley was stunned.

Ainsley slowly stood up and walked in front of the woman. It was like looking in a mirror. The woman in front of her was identical to her.

Ainsley couldn't help but think of the woman on the screen at the Christmas banquet. It seemed that the woman standing in front of her was the one on the screen.

Irene raised her hand to touch the woman's face and said tenderly, "Do you know how hard I worked to find her? See? She is just like you. Just a few months ago, she was slightly different from you, but with certain adjustments, she is now simply your duplicate."

Irene put down her hand and looked at the woman. "Georgia, say something."

Georgia Dawson revealed a smile and said softly, "Ms. Easton, hello."

Georgia's face was the same as Ainsley, and even their voices were identical. Though Georgia's voice sounded a bit pretentious, no one could tell.

Ainsley frowned deeply. "Even though she looks like me and sounds like me, she's not me."

Irene chuckled and pulled Georgia to the front, pulling off the clothes on Georgia's left shoulder. "Look at it. She almost won once. It was this birthmark that doomed her. Now that she has it, do you think she will replace you or not?"

Ainsley did not answer Irene. Instead, she looked at Georgia. "Is it worth it? You've lost everything that once was exclusive to you, and now even your voice is someone else's. Along with the extra birthmark, you're a completely different person now. Is it really worth it to be someone else's duplicate?"

Ainsley didn't get it. Was it really worth all this just to be like her?

Chapter 536 Replace

When Georgia heard this, she only smiled gently. She looked at Ainsley sincerely and replied, "You are the daughter of a rich family. Since you were a child, you have lived a luxurious life. You have never been hungry, have you? If I become you, I can feed myself. I will have the strength to help my family. Why shouldn't I do it? Some people try their best to get what you have. You are not me. You never know that when I return home, my brothers and sisters will look at you pleadingly. My old parents will open their hands and wait for my help. I'm fine now. I just lost my appearance and voice, but this can let me see a world I have never seen before. It is enough for me to have everything."

She paused and continued, "Speaking of which, I am really grateful to you. It is my luck to be able to look like you. Ms. Easton, thank you."

Ainsley was stunned. She thought that Georgia said these words just to provoke her as Irene ordered, but she felt that things were not as simple as she thought.

Georgia was sincere. It seemed that she really liked her face.

“So, why did you bring her here? Do you want to get close to Manuel?” Ainsley looked at Irene solemnly.

Irene shook her head. “I took the risk of bringing her here. Do you think I just want to take her to see you? Of course, I want to replace you.”

Ainsley looked at Irene vigilantly. “You are definitely not so kind to save me. Tell me. What do you want?”

“Ainsley, now that things have come to this, you’d better be sensible and leave with me. Otherwise, I will take you away even if I have to knock you out. Besides, I thought you hated Manuel very much. Now that there is a chance to leave, you have no reason to refuse,” Irene sneered.

“What if I say no?” Ainsley shook her head.

Irene looked at Ainsley, shocked. “No? What right do you have to say no to me? Ainsley, you were kidnapped by Daniel here. Are you really willing to be locked up here all the time? Don’t you want to go out?”

Ainsley sneered, “Do you really think I have no way out if I want to? I know what you are thinking. Take me out and leave her here to replace me. What do you want?”

Irene didn’t answer it. “I think you are smart. I don’t need to say it clearly. Ainsley, you definitely know what I want to do. However, it does not matter if you know it or not. Are you worried that I will harm Daniel?”

“What does his life have to do with me? But leaving with you is no different from walking into another trap.”

“You don’t dare to try?” Irene provoked Ainsley and wanted her to leave the villa immediately.

“If you really want her to replace me, you can take me away directly. Why do you have to say so much nonsense?” Ainsley smiled.

Irene shook her head. She did not need to ask Ainsley about this at all. The reason why she said this was to know what Ainsley was thinking.

Georgia glanced at Irene. Irene immediately understood and looked down at her watch. It was almost time.

Irene had no time left. She nodded heavily at Georgia.

Another man appeared behind her. The man slowly approached Ainsley. This aroused Ainsley’s vigilance.

“You decided to make a move, huh?”

“Ainsley, didn’t you see everything? My plan has already been set. There is no reason to end it halfway,” Irene said coldly.

The man walked behind Ainsley and hit her head hard. Ainsley fainted.

The man carried Ainsley and followed Irene out of the room. Before leaving, she glanced at Georgia.

The car drove past quickly and stopped outside the old apartment building. When Ainsley woke up, she found herself there.

When Irene stood in front of her and was about to hit her, the phone rang. It was Daniel.

After answering the phone, Irene gave the man a look. The man immediately understood and made Ainsley faint again.

After two or three times, after Daniel completely left Seattle and she made sure that Aaden would not find out about it, Irene appeared again.

And it was also the first time they talked so much.

“How does it feel to be dizzy?” Irene asked with a smile.

Ainsley shook her head.

“You’ve made me faint over and over again these past two days. I don’t feel good.”

“You’ve finally walked into my trap. Are you afraid?” Irene pinched her chin and exerted some force.

Ainsley was forced to look up at Irene. She looked at the madness in Irene’s eyes, lost in thought for a moment, and then said lightly, “Why should I be afraid of you? You have killed so many people, and you are not afraid. Why should I? The one who should be afraid is you. If Daniel knew that you planned all this, do you think he would let you go?”

Irene slapped her hard. “You don’t need to worry about me! You should pray for yourself. Aren’t you afraid that I will really kill you?”

“There is nothing to be afraid of. You have done this more than once. Killing me has become your obsession. Anyway, I don’t want to live.”

Ainsley’s hands, which were tied to the back of the chair, slowly approached. Her left hand covered her right wrist, and she touched the watch that Manuel gave her. She pressed it down fiercely.

The conversation continued. Her words just now made Irene laugh proudly. “Well, you should have died three years ago. If you die, I will truly be at peace.”

Ainsley looked at Irene tentatively and asked as if she had plucked up the courage, “Was my father’s accident also caused by you?”

Irene did not expect that she would ask this. However, since things were exposed, she didn’t hide them. “It doesn’t matter if I tell you. Anyway, you are going to see your dad in hell soon. I will send you to reunite. You should thank me. You guessed right. It was me. Do you know how much effort I made to bribe the truck driver? But I never expected that Manuel would actually save you. Otherwise, you would be like your father three years ago.”

When she said this, her expression did not change too much, as if she was talking about a very common thing. Her cold-blooded ruthlessness had long surpassed human nature.

“What about Lainey? Did you harm her in order to retaliate against me?”

In order to buy time, she could only think of all kinds of questions that could make Irene answer.

Irene replied, "No, I have disliked her for a long time. I was the one who came up with the idea. If you want to blame someone, blame her for being unable to control her heart and falling in love with someone she should not love."

Ainsley was puzzled. "Who?"

Irene patted her face and said proudly, "Don't you know? That person should have died a long time ago. He was supposed to die, but he actually fell in love with a woman. He was the one who pulled Lainey into hell, and he was forced."

You mean Roman?" Ainsley asked doubtfully.

Chapter 537 Worry

Irene did not hide anything. She looked at the pain on Ainsley's face and only felt extremely happy. "It's him. As long as he does not die, Lainey's nightmare will always haunt her."

"How do you plan to deal with him?" Ainsley asked.

"I don't need to deal with him. As long as we hold the surveillance video, what do you think he will dare to do?" Irene mentioned the surveillance once again.

The surveillance video recorded how they raped Lainey.

Ainsley's expression changed slightly. Seeing Irene's impatient appearance, she suddenly said, "Do you know why Manuel does not like you?"

"Shut up! You fucking cunt! If not for you, how could he not love me? I don't need you to tell me!"

Ainsley ignored what she said and continued, "Because you are always hurting the people around him, such as Serina, Mr. Gage, and Roman."

"Don't say anymore!" Irene was on the verge of collapse.

She fell into a state of madness and hurriedly went out to get some fresh air. Only after a while did she calm down.

Then, just as Irene returned, she heard the sound of the door opening.

She immediately reacted. Looking at the smile on Ainsley's lips, she walked behind her and saw the watch. She immediately pulled it off, threw it on the ground, and then hid with Ainsley.

She did not expect that after so many schemes, she would actually miss one thing, Ainsley's watch.

Ainsley was held hostage by Irene and hid. At least, she did not dare to do anything now.

She knew that if she wanted Matteo to find her, she had to try harder.

Whether it was Matteo or Ainsley, their hearts were in their mouths.

Irene took out the dagger, preparing to threaten to hurt Ainsley the moment he discovered them. No matter what, it was a secret.

In the Heyman's house.

Because of Roman's determination, Lainey did not dare to let him know that she still had the thought of committing suicide.

She had once worked hard, racked her brains to live, and wanted to start a new life.

However, as soon as night fell, she would go to the bathroom and soak herself in clean water. She felt that her body was extremely dirty.

She was like this. Even if Roman accepted her and wanted to protect her, she could not accept it.

She returned to her worst state and did not speak for the whole day. She just sat on the bed and stared blankly.

Lainey would occasionally think, who is willing to protect a soulless body?

Perhaps one day, Roman will get tired of me. When that day comes, I can choose to leave this world silently.

Roman's mental state was getting worse and worse.

Because of her severe sleep deficiency, she could not do anything well, and she couldn't even cook well, which she used to excel at.

Several times, Roman collapsed and threw the spoon on the ground, and he fell into a state of panic.

He did not know how long he could take it. If one day he was ill before her, who could take care of Lainey?

Roman thought about it again and again, and he finally covered his face and laughed bitterly.

Sure enough, he couldn't entrust Lainey to anyone.

Even if he himself did not protect Lainey well, he could not believe that others would give everything to her.

When he thought about it, Roman's eyes were red. He gritted his teeth and once again used a knife to cut a thin wound on his arm.

Many wounds were on his arm. The old wounds had not yet healed and he hurt himself again.

There was no problem with his mental state, but he needed to keep awake by relying on pain.

However, ideals could not win against reality in the end.

When he carried the homemade lunch into the bedroom, his mind seemed to be pierced by something. It hurt so much that he did not have time to think and fainted directly on the ground.

Before closing his eyes, he only had time to open his mouth. He was afraid that Lainey would be afraid and wanted to say, "I'm fine." But he did not make a sound.

Lainey was indeed frightened.

When she heard a loud bang and turned her head, her eyes widened and she felt that she was going to collapse.

She felt an unprecedented panic. Even when she was dying before, she did not feel the pain she had now.

“Roman, what happened to you?” Lainey almost rolled down from the bed. She ran barefoot to the man who had lost consciousness. She wanted to touch him, but she did not dare to. She only called him in a trembling voice.

No one responded to her. Lainey thought of something in a panic. She quickly turned around and searched for her mobile phone everywhere.

When she found her phone, she quickly called the family doctor. Holding back her emotions, she said in a choked voice, “Please come and save Roman. I don’t know what’s wrong with him. I... What should I do?”

The family doctor could not see his situation, so he could only comfort her for the time being. After hearing Lainey take three deep breaths, he hung up the phone and urgently went out.

When the family doctor arrived, he saw Lainey sitting on the ground, motionlessly guarding Roman.

Hearing the sound of the door opening, Lainey raised her confused and helpless eyes and said mechanically, “Save ... Save him.”

The family doctor quickly came over and put the medicine box on the ground. He squatted on the ground and began to check Roman’s body.

After a while, the family doctor took off the stethoscope and sighed. His expression was slightly serious.

Lainey’s heart sank.

She covered her chest and asked with difficulty in a hoarse voice, “Doctor, how is he?”

The family doctor turned back to look at her, then packed his things, and said, “His condition is neither serious nor fine.”

“Do you know that he can’t sleep every night?”

Hearing the family doctor’s question, Lainey shook her head slowly.

The family doctor sighed again, “That’s it. I gave him sleeping pills. He probably didn’t eat them. He is seriously short of sleep, coupled with mental pressure. I am impressed that he could hold on until now.”

Lainey looked at Roman as if she did not understand.

Did he become like this because of me?

Only then did the family doctor have time to wipe the sweat on his forehead, straighten up, and not forget to help Lainey up.

Lainey shook her head and continued to sit next to Roman, seemingly not intending to leave him at all.

The family doctor squatted down again helplessly. "He is just too tired. He is fine. He will be able to recover after a good rest."

Lainey, who had been worrying for a long time, finally relaxed, and her tears flowed out uncontrollably.

The family doctor silently stayed with her for a while before saying, "It is easy for him to catch a cold when lying on the ground. Why don't we move him to bed?"

Hearing this, Lainey wiped away her tears and nodded obediently.

While they were moving, although their movements were extremely gentle, they could not help but mess up Roman's clothes.

At this time, Lainey also noticed the injuries to his arm.

"No wonder he could hold on until now." The family doctor could not help but feel shocked.

Lainey couldn't stand it anymore, covering her mouth as she ran to the terrace and burst into tears.

Chapter 538 Make Up Her Mind

By the time her tears had almost dried up, she had made up her mind.

For Roman, she had to pull herself together again and face the difficulty.

In the dangerous abandoned apartment building, Ainsley did not move. The sharp dagger was held near her neck, cold and bone-chilling. It looked as if it was going to penetrate her neck at any time.

Irene's fingers trembled a little. She said coldly, "Don't make a sound."

After an hour, Irene's arms were sore. She took the dagger away and felt that Matteo might be leaving.

At this moment, Ainsley suddenly pushed Irene, picked up a stone from the ground, and slammed it into the window.

Bang! The sound of glass shattering stung Irene's eardrums. Her eyes were scarlet as she looked at Ainsley. The sound of dense footsteps came from behind, getting closer and closer.

She immediately approached Ainsley and placed the dagger against her neck again. "How dare you!"

The door was kicked open, and the bodyguards rushed into the room. Matteo frowned and saw such a soul-stirring scene.

"Don't come closer!" Irene screamed, and the knife in her hand got closer to Ainsley's neck.

Matteo's heart beat faster. He immediately raised his hand to stop Irene. "Let her go!"

At the same time, none of the people around him dared to approach Irene, afraid that the knife in Irene's hand would hurt Ainsley.

Matteo did not dare to act rashly. He made a few gestures with his left hand behind his back. One of his subordinates immediately understood and left the room. At the same time, Matteo took a few steps forward to attract Irene's attention.

“What are you going to do? Let go of Aisy, and I’ll forgive everything you have done.”

Light flashed in Matteo’s eyes. He continued, “I know what you want. If you hurt Aisy, I will retaliate madly. But if you let her go, I can help the Wade family. That’s what you want, right?”

Although Ainsley did not speak, her eyes were filled with disapproval.

However, Irene did not believe Matteo at all. She sneered. “Come on, Matteo. How could I believe you? I’ve harmed Ainsley too much for you to let go of me. Besides, this bitch knows too much. I can’t let her go.”

Ainsley’s face was cold. Not afraid of the knife on her neck, Ainsley said hatefully, “Matteo, she killed my father. She has already...” Irene roared, “Shut up! I told you to shut up!”

While they were in a stalemate, Cason appeared.

Daniel wanted to call the police, but Cason stopped him.

They had been standing here for almost two hours. Daniel threw the clothes that the fake Ainsley wore to Manuel and took off his coat for her to wear.

“Manuel, how long are you going to keep us here? We should go now. If you don’t get out of the way, I will call the police!” Everyone in the banquet had left, including several reporters.

Manuel did not answer. Without Matteo’s reply, he would not get out of the way. Suddenly, his phone rang.

After Manuel picked up the phone, the man on the other side said, “Mr. Gage, we’ve found Ms. Easton in the abandoned apartment building, but Irene is holding a knife to Ms. Easton.”

Manuel looked at the woman in front of him with great effort. She had the same exquisite face as Ainsley’s.

He thought of Ainsley’s abnormal behavior today and was even more puzzled.

He pointed at the fake Ainsley and asked Daniel, “Who is she?”

Daniel was stunned. The woman’s face froze, but she did not speak.

Daniel sized up the fake Ainsley and thought that Manuel might have gone crazy. “Manuel, I can understand that you broke down because Aisy left you.”

Manuel looked into Daniel’s eyes and sneered. “So you were also fooled.”

“What do you mean?” Daniel sensed the ridicule in Manuel’s tone.

He was completely confused.

Manuel said coldly, ‘Come here.’

“What are you trying to say?” Daniel was even more confused.

“Daniel, are you afraid?” Manuel insisted.

Daniel walked closer with a cold face, holding back his anger. "What are you going to do?"

Manuel said to the phone, 'Repeat what you just said.'

Then, he pressed his phone against Daniel's ear.

The person on the other side of the line repeated, "Irene held Ms. Easton's neck with a knife. Mr. Easton is trying to think of a way."

Daniel's face was sullen, and he turned to look at the woman.

The woman took a step back guiltily and then pretended to be calm. Manuel gestured to Cason with his eyes.

Daniel walked back to the woman. The woman held Daniel's arm, and Daniel immediately understood she was not Ainsley.

"Who the hell are you?" he asked.

Cason looked at this dramatic scene and suddenly remembered what he saw at the club. Daniel was with a woman who looked like Ainsley.

That woman was not the real Ainsley, but what was surprising was that her appearance seemed ... more similar.

Even her voice, tone, and demeanor resembled those of Ainsley's.

The fake Ainsley still refused to admit her real identity. She held Daniel's arm and said in confusion, "I am Ainsley. Why do you ask?"

Daniel pushed away Ainsley's hand and said coldly, "Who are you?"

"What the hell are you talking about?" The fake Ainsley was still answering calmly. Manuel took a step forward and asked, 'Why did you throw away the watch Matteo gave you? Do you know how useful this watch is?'

The fake Ainsley thought for a moment and said, 'This watch is expensive, but I feel uncomfortable when wearing it, so I threw it away. I think he won't blame me.'

Manuel smiled even more brightly. He carefully looked into Daniel's eyes and sneered. "That watch was not given by Matteo, but by me. The only use of that watch is to locate your position."

Daniel had no mood to waste any more time. Manuel was worried about Ainsley's safety. He said something over the phone again and turned on the speaker. "Mr. Gage! Ms. Easton was kidnapped by Irene. She's in danger now. Mr. Easton asked me to tell you.'

Manuel replied, "Send the location to my email."

He hung up the phone and looked at the fake Ainsley. "I know that you have paid a great price to become her. It is even difficult for us to differentiate you two. Your only failure is the position. Ainsley wants us to find her.'

He did not give the fake Ainsley another look and left. "Where are you going?"

Daniel's eyes darkened even more. "Seattle."

In an inconspicuous place, Cason learned the whole thing and was also very worried about Ainsley. He immediately followed Manuel's car.

Manuel's back disappeared into the night. Cason followed closely behind. Daniel turned around and left. Georgia struggled to grab Daniel's hand, but Daniel pushed her away.

He didn't look back once, his mind occupied by the instructions.

Chapter 539 You Are the Murderer

Georgia sat on the ground, unable to believe that she had been exposed like this. The diamond ring on her hand was particularly dazzling.

Daniel, who had taken a few steps, seemed to have thought of something as he turned around and grabbed Georgia's wrist.

"What are you doing?" Georgia covered her hand.

"You don't deserve to wear this ring," Daniel said coldly.

Georgia cried hard. She struggled wildly, but in the end, she was no match for Daniel. The diamond ring was directly taken away, and she was ruthlessly thrown away.

The scene of the proposal last night was still fresh in her mind. Now it disappeared like a dream.

Far away in Seattle, Ainsley looked at Matteo with eyes full of desperation. Ainsley knew that Irene would not let her go.

Since three years ago, Irene's obsession had been to kill Ainsley, and it was even more impossible for Irene to let Ainsley go just because of a few words from Matteo.

Ever since Ainsley disappeared, Matteo's nerves had been tense. Now that he saw Ainsley being threatened with a dagger, he could no longer restrain his emotions.

Matteo looked coldly at Irene and said, "Think carefully. If you really dare to hurt Ainsley, I will make you suffer something worse than death."

Irene laughed coldly. She did not care about such a threat at all. "Do you think I will care? I am already living a life worse than death. Anyway, you have never thought of letting me go. I am not stupid enough to believe what you just said."

"Don't forget that you have a weakness." Matteo's eyes were icy.

After a few seconds, Irene suddenly thought of something and looked at Matteo. "Do you want to hurt my grandfather?"

"Your grandfather is in Virginia Mason Hospital. When I found out that you wanted to hurt Ainsley, I sent someone over. They are almost there," Matteo said.

Irene's body swayed, her face pale, and she looked down at her feet as if she was hesitating.

Finally, Irene raised her head abruptly, her eyes bright. "Up to you. My grandfather has been unconscious for so long. He has no chance to wake up. If you want to kill him, I'll take it as a relief for him. I think that even if my grandfather were awake, he would agree. He has always been proud, and he will never allow himself to become a burden and my weakness."

"You can even ignore your grandfather's life?" Ainsley did not expect Irene to say that.

Irene was stimulated by Ainsley's words. The dagger approached and left a clear cut on Ainsley's tender neck. Blood dripped down.

Irene looked at them and laughed uncontrollably, "You're not qualified to say that to me. Ainsley, don't forget that your father died, indirectly because of you."

"You are the murderer," Ainsley murmured.

"If not for you, how would I have planned all this? In the end, it has something to do with you," Irene said sternly.

Ainsley recalled what Robyn had said and felt vexed.

As time passed, Irene lost the patience to answer Matteo's boring questions. Just as she was about to take action, a phone call broke the heavy silence.

The call was from Daniel. Irene seemed to know the purpose of the call and did not answer it.

The phone rang again and again.

Irene refused to answer, but Daniel had a way to let her know what he meant.

An ordinary-looking man walked to the apartment building and found the room according to the location on the cell phone. The door was open, and he could even hear those people gasping and Matteo shouting.

He entered the room and looked at Irene coldly. "Mr. Hume asked you to release Ms. Easton."

His eyes were full of danger, not only because of Daniel's order but also because he felt that he had been provoked.

Daniel left Aaden behind and let him guard the home. Unexpectedly, Irene actually sent Aaden away and secretly took Ainsley away, which caused such a thing.

Aaden's arrival completely changed the situation. Irene could have been able to pretend that she did not know Daniel's instructions, but now Aaden came.

Irene asked tentatively, "Aaden, do you also want to save this woman?"

"Or are you just here to convey Daniel's order?"

"I'm here to convey Mr. Hume's order and also to correct the mistake. Ms. Wade, let me remind you that Mr. Hume wants this woman, not just her looks. Since she was brought out by you, please send her back," Aaden said coldly.

Irene looked at the people brought by Matteo in horror. She was in a dilemma.

If Irene didn't send Ainsley back, Daniel might give up on Irene directly, but if Irene sent Ainsley back, how could Matteo agree?

More importantly, Irene didn't want to send Ainsley back or let Ainsley live at all.

"Who are you?" Matteo looked at Aaden with a complicated expression.

"Mr. Easton, I'm just a nobody. You don't need to know my name."

"Irene, give Aisy to me." Matteo reached out his hand and made a gesture to catch Ainsley.

One was the survival of the Wade Group, and the other was a promising future.

It was still quite far from Seattle, and the three cars were speeding along the road.

Daniel frantically dialed Irene's number, but her phone was switched off.

He immediately called Aaden again. Aaden should be there now.

"Mr. Hume, I am in front of Ms. Easton and Ms. Wade."

After making sure his voice could be heard, Daniel said menacingly, "Irene, send Ainsley back immediately. Otherwise, I will ruin you and crush the last bit of hope of the Wade Group."

Hearing his cold words, Irene became even angrier. So many people wanted to save Ainsley.

Aaden said respectfully, "Mr. Hume, Mr. Easton is with us."

"Oh, is that so? Give him the phone."

Aaden approached Matteo under his impatient gaze and placed the phone in front of him. "Mr. Easton, Mr. Hume wants to talk to you."

"If you have something to say, say it quickly."

A chuckle came from the phone. "Matteo, I know what your purpose is. You want to take Ainsley away. The news of my engagement with Ainsley has already been sent out. Other than me, no one else has anything on Irene. I can protect Ainsley. Cooperating with me is your wisest choice."

"I just want to take Aisy away from here. She needs to rest for a while." There was a hidden meaning in Matteo's words.

Irene's eyes were red because she did not want to let go of Ainsley. Irene only wanted Ainsley to die.

But the Wade Group could not collapse.

Irene dropped her shoulders but didn't put down her dagger. "Aaden, I'll go with you."

She threatened Matteo again, "Don't come over."

Matteo narrowed his eyes slightly, knowing that Irene had already decided.

Chapter 540 A Substitute

Aaden looked at Irene with satisfaction. He turned off the phone and looked at Matteo. "Mr. Easton, please move aside."

"What if I say no?"

"You won't say no," Aaden said coldly.

Matteo stared straight into Aaden's eyes. "Why don't we take a gamble and see if Daniel will let you go after you hurt Ainsley?"

"It seems that you admit that Mr. Hume cares about Ms. Easton?" Aaden sneered.

"Yes, but what's the use?" Matteo said expressionlessly.

"Mr. Easton, I think you misunderstood me. My duty is to send Ms. Easton back to the seaside villa. In other words, it doesn't matter if she is injured or not. Even if she is injured during the rescue, it's inevitable." Aaden stopped smiling.

Matteo looked serious. Aaden was right. Matteo and Ainsley were at a disadvantage.

While Matteo and Aaden talked, Irene had already walked behind Aaden with Ainsley. "Aaden, I brought her here."

There was only sadness and regret in Irene's heart. As the daughter of the Wade family, she was humble to a subordinate. Irene thought, what a pity! I was just one step away from killing Ainsley.

Unfortunately, there was an accident.

In order to let Matteo see his determination, Aaden took the knife from Irene's hand and placed it on Ainsley's neck in the same way. Aaden looked at Matteo coldly. 'Move aside, Mr. Easton.'

Matteo clenched his fists, but there was nothing he could do. Aaden was not Irene.

Matteo had heard Manuel mention what Aaden had done. Perhaps after that couple shattered Aaden's trust in them, Aaden became an extremely ruthless person.

The bodyguards around Matteo didn't know whether to stop them or avoid them, so they all looked at Matteo.

Matteo gritted his teeth and said, Retreat."

The bodyguards dispersed and made way for Aaden.

Irene followed Aaden and walked out nervously. She was afraid that Matteo would not let her go.

Matteo watched helplessly as Ainsley left. He did not know what to do. His phone rang. It was Manuel calling.

"Where is Ainsley?"

"She was taken away by Aaden?"

Manuel suppressed the anger in his heart and asked in disbelief, "You let her be taken away just like that?"

Matteo restrained his emotions. "There's no other way. Even if you had been here, you would have done the same. He placed the knife on Ainsley's neck. Do you dare to risk her life?"

Manuel didn't say anything else. Of course, he didn't dare to risk Ainsley's life, but he couldn't accept the fact. After making so much effort, the Ainsley he saw in the city was fake, and the real Ainsley was sent back to Daniel.

The phone was hung up by Matteo. Manuel could only urge the driver to accelerate, hoping to see Ainsley again.

In Seattle, Aaden put the knife against Ainsley's neck and took her into a car. He said coldly to Irene, "Drive the car."

Irene frowned slightly, but she quickly got into the driver's seat.

Aaden dragged Ainsley into the back seat. Matteo looked at the car with a hostile expression. As soon as he got into his car, Matteo heard Aaden's voice.

"Mr. Easton, we are very familiar with the way back to the villa. We don't need you to send us back." Although Aaden had a smile on his face, his eyes were full of disdain.

Matteo held the door handle very hard and could only close the door heavily, watching the car leave.

Two hours later, the two cars stopped in front of the old apartment building at the same time. Manuel got out of the car and saw Matteo sitting on the dusty steps smoking.

Manuel walked over. Matteo handed over a cigarette. "Do you want one?"

Manuel took it, turned on the lighter with a snap, and lit the cigarette.

In the smoke, Cason had yet to get out of the car. Through the car window, Cason saw Manuel and Matteo sitting on the steps in grief. The surroundings were dark, and only the car lights illuminated their figures.

The smoke was blue and hazy in the strong light, looking unreal.

Cason was already sure that Ainsley was not here. This was why Daniel, who had been following them, suddenly disappeared. The person they had been waiting for had been taken to Daniel's place.

Manuel said softly, 'At the banquet after the forum, everyone knew that Daniel had announced the engagement between Ainsley and him.

Fortunately, that person was fake.'

"It's obvious." Matteo took a long puff on his cigarette. "Aisy won't agree to such a ridiculous thing."

"Although we know, others don't know. At least ninety percent of people think that person is the real Ainsley. They believe the proposal and the love between Ainsley and Daniel are true. If Aisy doesn't come out to refute it, Daniel will not take the initiative to tell the truth. Then he can completely fool most people,' Manuel said in a deep voice. This was the last thing they wanted to see.

Matteo threw the last cigarette butt straight into the trash can and said, "There is another way."

“What is it?”

“Although we can’t see Aisy, there is a substitute that can speak on Ainsley’s behalf, right?” Matteo raised his eyebrows.

Manuel suddenly remembered the woman who looked the same as Ainsley. In any case, so many people at the banquet did not know Ainsley.

They could catch that woman and let her pretend to be the real Ainsley and make a statement.

After they looked at each other, Manuel stretched and handed this matter directly to Matteo.

When Manuel wanted to go back, he found that the person who had been following him closely had disappeared. Manuel guessed that Cason had left a long while ago.

Cason returned home in a daze. Kaliyah sat on the sofa and looked at him, thinking that something had happened to him.

“Cason, is anything wrong?” she asked.

Cason had been thinking about the forum and the fake Ainsley, so he did not notice Kaliyah talking to him.

Kaitlin had just returned home from work. Seeing that Cason was home and Kaliyah was worried, Kaitlin immediately asked, “Cason, is Ms. Easton alright?”

Kaliyah looked over sharply. She thought, what does it have to do with Ainsley?

Hearing Ainsley’s name, Cason immediately came back to his senses. His reaction was so obvious that it made Kaliyah feel uncomfortable.

“Ainsley is fine. How did you know about this?” He looked curiously at Kaitlin.

Only a few people knew about this matter. Daniel was afraid that there would be a scandal, so he suppressed all the news.

Kaliyah was confused, but she had seen the news and knew about the engagement between Ainsley and Daniel. Kaliyah pretended to ask casually, “Isn’t Ms. Easton already engaged to Daniel? What could happen to her?” Cason’s expression was frighteningly gloomy. Kaitlin covered her mouth and snickered after touching a nerve.

Cason remembered the news that Manuel had revealed on the way.

After Ainsley left the hospital, she was kidnapped. Everything had been planned, and there were people who cooperated with Daniel.

Cason had thought about whether it was Kaliyah and his mother who had cooperated with Daniel, but it didn’t seem so.