

Adorable 411

[Chapter 411 Marriage](#)

Harriet gritted her teeth in anger. She was about to snap when Earle suddenly spoke up.

"That's enough, Miss Stone! Come with me," Earle said coldly.

"But, Mr. Moran..."

Harriet didn't want to pass up this great opportunity. She was certain that if she opened that door now, she would catch that bitch Eliana.

However, no matter how great her desire to humiliate Eliana was, she dared not disobey Earle. She had no choice but to follow him obediently downstairs.

Before leaving, however, Earle took a look at the closed door. Then he turned and walked away.

It wasn't until the two were out of sight that Corbin finally relaxed.

He wiped the sweat from his forehead and heaved a long sigh of relief.

He was proud of himself because he had done his best to help his boss.

Meanwhile, in the bedroom, Eliana listened attentively to the voices outside. She was so nervous that she dared not breathe. It wasn't until she heard the footsteps recede that she finally relaxed.

"They are finally gone..." she mumbled.

She suddenly pushed Maurice and said, "Get me out of here now! They might come back again!"

However, Maurice seemed unfazed. Holding her in his arms, he said indifferently, "You don't have to leave. I will solve this matter as soon as possible."

"You'll solve this? How? It's obvious that your grandfather wants you to marry Harriet. The marriage is a done deal. You should really let me go now," Eliana blurted out all her thoughts with a bitter smile.

Although she enjoyed the warmth of Maurice's arms, she felt cold inside. The thing was, although they were very close at the moment, she felt that they were slowly drifting apart.

"Maurice, you must admit that one day you will have to let me go and marry another woman. Even if that woman is not Harriet, she will be the daughter of another rich family. You and I are really not from the same world."

Maurice didn't say anything for a moment and just tightened his embrace around Eliana's waist.

As Eliana felt short of breath, he pinched her chin and raised her head, forcing her to look at him.

"Listen to me, Eliana. I will say this only once. I will not marry Harriet or any woman my grandfather chooses for me."

Maurice's tone was unprecedentedly serious. Eliana looked deep into his eyes and saw determination there that gave her chills.

She could not deny the deep joy she felt on hearing Maurice's words.

However, what Maurice said next made her heart sink again.

"I just don't like the idea of marriage. I don't plan to get married for the time being," Maurice said expressionlessly.

At this moment he thought of his parents. They loved each other so much. Sadly, it turned out that marriage wasn't just about two people. Marriage was also the union of two families. Unfortunately, the disagreements between the families of his father and mother ended up getting the better of their marriage and destroyed their happiness. His parents eventually died in an accident at a young age.

The tragedy of his parents' marriage destroyed the image of marriage in Maurice's mind. Certainly, he wasn't going to marry anyone just for the sake of interests.

On hearing what Maurice said, Eliana's face turned pale and she felt her fists clench.

Since she didn't know what he had been through and why he wasn't so keen on getting married, she had her own understanding of his words.

She thought she was nothing more to him than a toy he could play with when he felt like it. Even if he wouldn't marry any woman from a wealthy family, he surely wouldn't marry her.

Thinking of this, she was glad she didn't tell him about the children, or things would be even more complicated.

The two stayed in each other's arms for a long time, but they had very different thoughts. The room was soon very quiet.

After a while, Maurice finally let go of Eliana. He looked at her seriously and said, "You stay here. I need to go out now."

He couldn't stay here for too long, or it would arouse Earle's suspicion.

After saying that, Maurice left. Watching him leave, Eliana couldn't help but sigh.

Maurice went straight downstairs.

Earle and Harriet were sitting on the sofa in the living room. Maurice straightened his clothes and walked over casually.

As soon as Maurice entered the living room, Harriet asked, "Maurice, would you like some coffee?"

Sitting next to Earle, she was leisurely sipping a cup of coffee.

Maurice glanced at Earle and asked, "Grandpa, won't you have some coffee? I specially hired this barista for you."

Earle looked at the coffee on the table in disgust and said, "I don't like coffee. It's too light in favor."

After saying that, he took out a bottle of vodka from the wine cabinet and poured some into his coffee.

"This suits me better."

[Chapter 412 Welcome](#)

Seeing what Earle had just done, Harriet immediately decided to jump at the chance to flatter him.

"Amazing, Mr. Moran. I never thought of adding alcohol to my coffee. I'll definitely recommend it to my family when I get home."

"You should indeed ask them to have a try. The only thing that sucks is the vodka, which isn't the best," Earle said, taking a sip of his alcoholic coffee with delight.

"Speaking of liquors, Mr. Moran, I remember Maurice's uncle's wine factory is full of good wine. I've been here a long time, but I haven't met him."

Harriet's words suddenly reminded Earle of something. The old man frowned and turned to rebuke Maurice.

"You bastard! What's going on between you and Gerald? I heard you reported him to the police! He is your uncle, damn it! It's the whole family you've humiliated!"

Earle slammed his cane on the floor as he spoke. He seemed very angry and agitated.

"I'm sorry you take it that way, Grandpa, but what Uncle Gerard did is illegal. I couldn't sit idly by and watch him continue his illegal activities. It wasn't just him he was putting at risk, but the whole Moran Group as well!"

"Stop talking nonsense, you bastard! It was just a small matter. You didn't need to involve the police. We are a united family, damn it! If the Moran family is where it is today, it is because we have always

supported each other. Can you understand this?"

Earle was really beside himself and he refused to listen to Maurice's explanations.

"A small matter?" Maurice sneered.

He guessed that his uncle hadn't told his grandfather the truth at all.

If Earle had known Gerard was risking human lives for the resort, he would definitely have been furious.

So there was no doubt that Gerald had lied to Earle. Seeing that his grandfather was not in a good mood now, Maurice didn't want to tell him the truth right away and risk breaking his heart.

Maurice therefore decided to keep silent.

Earle and Maurice had the same temperament. They were both determined and stubborn men who would never back down when they had made up their minds.

As the situation was about to get out of hand, Harriet saw fit to get them to calm down.

"Mr. Moran, please, calm down. Maurice, you should apologize to your grandpa. You have to admit that you made a mistake. Your uncle may have acted without thinking about the consequences, but you can't deny that he always tried to act in the best interests of the Moran Group."

In fact, Harriet had noticed that Earle seemed to particularly care about Gerard, so she decided to speak well of Gerard in order to ingratiate herself with Earle.

Sure enough, Harriet's words made Earle calm down a lot.

"Maurice, did you hear what Miss Stone said? Such a woman is worthy of being the daughter-in-law of the Moran family. You'd better marry her as soon as possible."

"Mr. Moran..."

Hearing what Earle said, Harriet lowered her head, pretending to be shy.

Maurice looked at the two people sitting on the sofa and suddenly said, "Miss Stone, I too would be happy to have you join the Moran family. Welcome."

"Maurice, are... are you serious?" Harriet asked, her eyes widening in shock and her heart beating fast.

Was her dream coming true?

Maurice smiled impishly and uttered, "Of course I'm serious. Uncle Gerald lost his wife many years ago.

Since you seem to like him so much, maybe you can ask him to marry you."

Harriet's face changed drastically upon hearing that. When she realized that Maurice was making fun of her, she felt extremely embarrassed and tears welled up in her eyes.

"Maurice, even if you don't like me, you don't have to humiliate me like this!" Harriet complained pitifully.

"You bastard! Would you stop talking nonsense?"

Earle was furious. He raised his cane to hit Maurice.

However, as soon as he raised the cane, his body suddenly stiffened.

His chest heaved violently and his breathing quickened. He quickly lowered his arm and covered his chest with his hand.

Harriet rushed over to Earle, looking seriously worried. "Are you okay, Mr. Moran?"

Then she looked up at Maurice and screamed, "Maurice, come here! Your grandpa must be having a relapse. Call the doctor!"

However, Maurice didn't move a muscle. He sat there calmly and didn't even raise an eyelash.

"Come on, Grandpa. You are too old for this. You don't need to act anymore!"

[Chapter 413 Run Away](#)

"Maurice, how can you say such a thing? You know very well that your grandfather has heart problems, and you just made him angry. He must be having a heart attack."

Seeing how weak Earle looked, Harriet was very nervous.

However, Maurice was always unfazed. He said calmly to Earle, "I asked Grandma and she told me your heart bypass surgery was very successful. The doctor assured us that you can live healthily for a long time."

Harriet was speechless.

As for Earle, he didn't expect his grandson could see through his trick. The old man felt quiet embarrassed.

He finally stood up and coughed slightly. "You brat, what do you know? It was a high-risk surgery!" Earle said with a frown.

The operation was indeed high-risk, but since it was a success, there was no need to worry about his heart anymore.

Earle couldn't help feeling a little resentful of his wife. Why did she tell Maurice everything?

Now that he had embarrassed himself like this, how would his grandson ever respect him again?

Meanwhile, Eliana was still hiding in the room all this time. Corbin arranged for someone to bring her dinner to the room.

After dinner, Eliana had nothing to do, so she went to bed.

However, there were so many things in her mind, which caused her to stay awake on the bed for a long time.

As she tossed and turned in her bed, she suddenly heard someone open the door and walk into the room.

Eliana didn't need to look to know who it was. There was only one person who could come here in the middle of the night.

It was definitely Maurice.

She didn't want to see him, so she turned over with her back to him.

A few seconds later, she felt him lie down next to her on the bed.

Then he put his strong arms around her waist and hugged her tightly from behind.

"How can you come here? Aren't you afraid your grandfather will catch us?" Eliana said sarcastically.

Maurice said nothing and just hugged her tightly. The sweet perfume that emanated from her intoxicated him and gave him an incredible feeling of peace.

Maurice was certain that Eliana was the only woman who could make him happy.

When he was with her, no matter what was going on in his mind, he would quickly calm down. He had never felt like this with another woman before.

He didn't feel such a connection with anyone else, not even Earle, and yet Earle had raised him. Maurice would feel exhausted very quickly when he stayed with Earle alone.

After a short while, Maurice whispered, "Shh, be quiet. I just had a quarrel with my grandpa..."

It was rare for Maurice to show himself vulnerable and Eliana immediately felt sorry for him.

She finally turned and looked at him. In the dim moonlight, she could see the fatigue on his face.

She had never seen him so helpless.

Her heart sank and she felt genuinely sorry for him. Unconsciously, she reached out and gently stroked his face.

"Did he scold you again?" she asked softly.

Maurice ignored her question and suddenly said, "Eliana, let's run away. Let's run away from all these hassles that threaten our happiness and start all over again, just you and me."

Maurice held her hand tightly and looked at her with sincerity in his eyes.

"I..."

Eliana hesitated. In fact, a life such as Maurice presented it, was very tempting and she wanted to say 'yes'.

But deep in her heart, there was a voice that kept reminding her of the harsh reality.

It was impossible.

She had two children to raise, and she had to investigate the truth behind the bankruptcy of the Pierce Group and the death of her parents.

She couldn't just drop everything and run away with him.

Before Eliana could say something, there was a knock on the door.

Who could it be?

Eliana's body froze. She was so scared. She quickly hid under the duvet.

"Maurice, are you in there? Maurice?"

It was Harriet!

Why was she here?

Did Harriet find that she was here?

Eliana trembled with fear and hugged Maurice tightly. She was afraid that he would decide to open the door.

"Maurice, open the door! I'm your future wife. You must open the door for me!"

Hearing what Harriet was saying, Eliana felt something was wrong.

Harriet always pretended to be shy and reserved in front of Maurice. Why did she suddenly reveal her true colors?

Was she drunk?

[Chapter 414 Only You Have Me](#)

Eliana had guessed right. In fact, what Maurice had said to Harriet earlier in the day had hurt her self-esteem. So, when at night, Harriet decided to drink to console herself and she drank so much that she became drunk. She knocked on the door of the wrong room.

Harriet didn't realize her mistake and kept knocking on the door for a long time. She had no intention of leaving. As for Eliana, she couldn't go out or hide. She was very nervous.

Harriet's presence made it impossible for Eliana and Maurice to sleep.

Maurice was amused by Eliana's nervous expression and couldn't help teasing her.

He slipped his hand under her pajamas. It was so unexpected. Eliana quivered and glared at him.

Maurice was not at all embarrassed by the look she gave him. He continued to feel under her pajamas until he felt her breasts. He pinched them gently.

"Hmm..."

Eliana couldn't help moaning at his touch. Luckily for her, she covered her mouth in time.

Maurice was encouraged by her moans and he continued to touch his erogenous spots. Eliana tried hard not to moan.

With an impish smile, Maurice slipped his other hand into her panties. He wanted to see for how long she could stop herself from moaning.

While Eliana and Maurice were having fun in bed, Harriet continued to talk nonsense outside. The situation was so exciting for Maurice and Eliana.

For a moment, Eliana was both nervous thinking about Harriet outside the door, and also turned on by Maurice's touch.

After a while, another voice came from outside.

"Miss Stone, what are you doing here?"

"I'm here for Maurice," Harriet replied, while still knocking on the door.

"Miss Stone, Mr. Moran isn't staying in this room. This room is vacant," the maid explained patiently.

"Really?" Harriet asked in confusion. She was really drunk.

Hearing what the maid said, Harriet finally decided to leave.

Hearing the footsteps outside the door receding, Eliana heaved a long sigh of relief.

She calmed down and could finally get back at him. She stared at Maurice fiercely and bit him on the shoulder.

It was her way of getting revenge on him. She didn't stop until she tasted blood.

"Do you still think we can both run away? I mean, you heard Harriet just now. She's completely obsessed with you. If I run away with you, women like her will try to skin me alive."

Maurice looked at her with a smile and wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth.

"You know, you should actually be proud. Although there are so many women pursuing me, you are the only one who's ever had me."

Hearing his sweet words, Eliana blushed. He was really honey-tongued.

"Maybe, but who knows what will happen in the future? You might fall in love with someone else," she said shyly.

Maurice chuckled. "Well, let me prove my love to you right here."

"What do you want to... Hmm..."

Maurice pressed Eliana under him and kissed her passionately.

He sucked and tweaked her tongue, kissing her until she was completely out of breath. Then he turned to kiss her neck, leaving a string of hickeys there.

When he saw her at that banquet, he wanted her so much. However, he hadn't had the opportunity to have her until now. So he fully intended to satisfy his craving for her now.

"Hmmm... Slow down..." Eliana moaned

She felt like her whole body was on fire. Maurice's kisses and caresses had awakened all her passion and deepest desires.

"Call my name," Maurice ordered, kissing her on the shoulder.

"Mau... Maurice..."

Excitement and passion made Eliana call out Maurice's name over and over until she was out of breath.

Eliana couldn't take it anymore and her whole body was exhausted now. Before she fell asleep, she glanced at Maurice, who was still riding her.

What a beast!

She now regretted having doubted his love for her! Did he really need to prove it so hard to her?

[Chapter 415 The Domineering Nancy](#)

After a crazy night, Eliana woke up the next day, feeling sore all over her body. It was already noon.

And she was not surprised that Maurice wasn't there anymore.

She decided to lie on the bed for a while to recover the vital energy that was drained last night.

After a while, a maid came in.

Eliana's eyes lit up upon seeing the maid. She immediately asked, "Where is Maurice?"

"Miss Pierce, Mr. Moran is having lunch with his grandfather and Miss Stone downstairs."

Eliana felt annoyed upon hearing this. She definitely couldn't go out now.

Feeling disheartened, she lay back on the bed and covered herself with the quilt again. "Oh, that's all right. You can go out now."

But instead of going out, the maid told her, "Miss Pierce, Mr. Moran has ordered you to immediately go downstairs after you wash up."

"What? What did you say?" Eliana instantly sprang up from the bed and stared at the maid in

astonishment. "Maurice wants me to go downstairs in this situation? Is he crazy?"

The maid replied calmly, "Yes, Miss Pierce. He wants you to go downstairs."

Eliana was stunned for a while. She remembered what Maurice said yesterday, and a bad feeling suddenly surged in her heart.

Maurice was going to do something big.

But the maid didn't leave, so Eliana had no choice but to reluctantly wash up and dawdled downstairs.

As expected, she bumped into Earle and Harriet in the living room.

The look on Harriet's face dramatically changed. She exclaimed, "Eliana?"

Earle also looked at Eliana and asked in a very bad tone, "What are you doing here?"

Eliana stood rooted to the spot awkwardly, not knowing what to say.

Could she tell them that Maurice had kidnapped her?

"I was the one who brought her here," Maurice suddenly said.

He walked over to her and stood beside her.

"Maurice, why did you bring her here? How many times have I warned you not to get close to this woman? Are you deliberately turning a deaf ear to me? Servants, come here! Drive this woman out of the Moran family's house! I don't want to see her."

Earle's bad temper immediately ignited, and he ordered to kick Eliana out of the house.

But before the servants could make a move, a voice rang out behind them.

"Who are you driving away?"

Everyone turned their heads and saw it was Nancy standing at the door.

At the sight of the familiar figure, Eliana's tense body instantly relaxed.

When she glanced at Maurice, who had been calm all this while, she suddenly realized something.

No wonder Maurice called her downstairs so confidently. It turned out that he had already thought of a way out. He invited Nancy to be his savior.

Sure enough, Earle, who was very domineering just now, immediately contained his anger upon seeing Nancy.

"My dear, what are you doing here?"

Earle's imposing manner suddenly shrank back in front of his wife.

Nancy looked at Earle indifferently. "The house is so lively today. How can I not join in the fun? Am I not welcome here?"

"Mrs. Moran, you must be kidding. Of course, we are looking forward to your arrival," Harriet said enthusiastically.

She smiled warmly and stepped forward to greet Nancy.

But Nancy just walked past her and went straight to Eliana and held Eliana's hand intimately.

"Eliana, long time no see. How have you been? Look at you. You have lost a lot of weight. How did that brat Maurice take care of you? Have you been so busy with your work recently that you have no time to visit me?"

"Mrs. Moran, I'm doing well. But many things have happened recently, and I haven't found a chance to visit you."

As she spoke, a sincere smile appeared on Eliana's face.

"Alright. Let's not talk about it anymore. You haven't eaten yet, right? Sit down. Let's eat together," Nancy said with a happy smile and was about to sit with Eliana.

"Mrs. Moran..."

Eliana wanted to say something, but she hesitated.

Nancy understood and gently patted the back of Eliana's hand.

Her gaze swept the embarrassed Earle and sullen Harriet. Then she announced in a domineering manner, "Eliana, don't worry. Since I am here, I want to see who dare to drive you out."

[Chapter 416 I Am Different From My Father](#)

Since Nancy was there, Earle didn't dare criticize Eliana anymore during the meal. He could only pick on Maurice.

"Maurice, it looks like you've prepared well. You look very confident!"

"What do you mean, Grandpa? I just invited grandma to have a meal with us."

Maurice continued to play dumb.

Nancy frowned and glanced at Earle. "What's wrong? Since you can come here, why can't I?" she asked.

Earle stopped speaking at once.

He got morose.

How could his grandson dare to use his wife to subdue him?

It was clear that Maurice was determined to stand up to him!

"You guys enjoy your meal. I've had enough!"

Earle couldn't stay here after being embarrassed like this, so he decided to leave. He banged his cane hard against the tiled floor and left the table angrily.

"Grandpa, please wait a moment!"

Maurice stood up at once and ran after Earle.

He stopped Earle just as Earle was about to reach the door.

"Grandpa, do you really hate Eliana so much? Is it just because she doesn't come from a wealthy family?"

Earle glanced at Maurice and said seriously, "Maurice, as long as the woman you choose is fit for you, I'll accept her regardless of her background. But you can't be in a relationship with Eliana."

"Why?" Maurice asked confusedly, clenching his fists unconsciously.

"Because she's from the Pierce family! I know what Gerald did, but I've lost a son, and I will not give up my only son because of someone else," Earle said frankly.

Maurice shocked upon hearing what his grandfather said.

He should have known that Gerald wouldn't have been able to hide what he did to Earle for a long time. Earle was well aware that it was Gerald who had destroyed the Pierce Group.

However, Earle chose to ignore that only because Gerald was his son.

Although Earle's gaze was ever so sharp, at this moment Maurice could notice the helplessness in them.

However, what his grandfather said did not change his resolve.

He would never give up on Eliana!

"Don't worry, Grandpa. I won't be too hard on Uncle Gerald. But as far as my marriage is concerned, it is up to me to choose my wife."

Maurice's gaze was full of determination.

"Why do you act exactly like your disappointing father? Haven't you drawn a lesson from what happened to your father?" Earle sighed.

"Have you ever thought that even if you are ready to marry Eliana, she might not agree? After the little time I spent observing Eliana, I can tell she is a stubborn girl. How do you think she will react when she knows the truth in the future? Do you think she will be willing to be a member of the family who destroyed her family?" the old man added earnestly.

Earle was blunt about the nub of the problem. Hearing his grandfather's reasoning, Maurice was astonished.

"Think it over."

Earle sighed tiredly and left.

It wasn't until Earle turned on his heels that Maurice came to his senses. He walked up to stop Earle's assistant who was leaving with Earle.

"Aleck, my grandfather didn't eat anything just now. Make sure he eats something and takes his medicine."

Earle was touched to see that his grandson cared about him. However, he didn't let it show. Instead, he turned around and said stubbornly, "Shouldn't you rather wish that I died as soon as possible so that I could no longer meddle in your business?"

"No, I hope you can live a long and healthy life. One day you will see that I am different from my father. When that day comes, I hope you will give me your blessings."

Maurice looked his grandfather in the eyes for a moment, his gaze full of assurance and determination. Then, without saying another word, he turned and walked away.

After Maurice left, Aleck Hinks walked over to Earle with the medicine bottle. The assistant seemed to hesitate before asking in an uncertain tone, "Mr. Moran, would you like to take the medicine first?"

"He is such a disappointment!" Earle mumbled.

The old man was so angry that he took the medicine bottle from his assistant and threw it away.

Aleck was helpless.

He didn't know what to do.

There were only three women left in the house at the moment.

After what happened just now, Harriet understood that the really head of this family was Nancy.

"Mrs. Moran, please have a taste of this steak," Harriet said softly.

As she spoke, she cut a piece of steak and handed it to Nancy respectfully.

"I can cut my steak myself. I'm not old yet."

Nancy refused politely.

Harriet felt extremely embarrassed and she had no choice but to withdraw her hand.

She tried several more times to curry favor with Nancy, but the Moran family matriarch completely ignored her, which made Harriet look glum.

"Oh, by the way, I suddenly remember something..." Nancy suddenly put down her fork and turned to look at Harriet. Then, she continued, "I heard that Eliana was once trapped in the elevator of Moran Group and almost died. Did you hear about that, Miss Stone?"

Oh no!

Harriet's heart skipped a beat when she heard Nancy's question. Was Nancy going to stand up for Eliana?

[Chapter 417 Sworn Granddaughter](#)

"It seems... there is indeed such a matter."

Hearing Nancy's words, Harriet became nervous instantly.

"As far as I know, Eliana was an employee in your department back then. Is that correct? As the director during that time, you should be held responsible for such a life-threatening matter."

Nancy's tone was serious, and her face turned grim, leaving Harriet overwhelmed with worry.

However, it seemed that Nancy only brought up the topic just to intimidate Harriet. Eliana didn't feel concerned at all and was very touched instead.

Finally, she had a supporter to back her up. Nancy was clearly standing up for her.

"Miss Stone, what do you have to say for yourself? Do you have a problem with what I said?"

Nancy knowingly stared at her and continued, "I used to be a young woman like you. I know that girls always come up with all kinds of ideas to get what they want. Some do whatever it takes, even if it means hurting others."

Listening to Nancy's remarks, Harriet could only lower her head in embarrassment.

Nancy was well-respected by society and held at high regard by her peers due to her commanding presence and astounding intellect. Although she was no longer the young and physically strong woman she once was, Harriet could easily tell why such a powerful man like Earle valued her insight on important matters.

"Mrs. Moran, you are absolutely right!" Harriet hurriedly explained. "I didn't personally hurt anyone. It's just that some of my men didn't handle the matter properly. But don't worry as I've already taught them a lesson. Rest assured, it won't happen again."

"That's very good to hear." To Harriet's surprise, Nancy suddenly smiled warmly and said, "Don't be nervous, Miss Stone. I am quite pleased with how you fixed the situation. You're a remarkable woman worthy of praise."

Nancy turned to the maid beside her and ordered, "Go fetch the gift I prepared for Miss Stone."

Within seconds, the maid returned with a black jewelry box and presented it to Harriet.

With her mouth hanging open in surprise, Harriet stared at it and asked, "Mrs. Moran, what is inside?"

"Go ahead and open it; then let me know what you think," Nancy said graciously with smile in her eyes.

Visibly excited, Harriet hurriedly opened the jewelry box and saw an elegant jade pendant lying inside. Judging from its unique and meticulous design, it appeared to be an expensive antique.

"Mrs. Moran, I'm in awe. Is this really for me?" Harriet picked up the pendant carefully, her heart racing

inside her chest.

Sitting across from Harriet, Eliana had witnessed the entire scene. She immediately recognized the pendant, which had been featured in a jewelry magazine. It was a priceless collector's item.

A tight knot suddenly formed inside Eliana's stomach. It seemed that Nancy also liked Harriet.

Eliana felt a great sense of displeasure. In order to hide her true emotions, she lowered her head and drank some milk.

At the same time, Maurice finally returned to the room. Glancing at the shiny pendant in Harriet's hand, he frowned in concern.

"Grandma, why does she have your jade pendant?"

Nancy raised her eyebrows and calmly said, "I gave it to Miss Stone. She deserves it, after all. It suits her, don't you think?"

Her words of approval made Harriet extremely happy.

It turned out that Nancy liked her! How fortunate she was! Otherwise, why would she give her such an expensive pendant? It seemed that Harriet had finally gained Nancy's blessing to marry into the Moran family.

With her heart bursting with joy, Harriet became overconfident and at ease.

After all, only a fool would disapprove of her. She had a beautiful appearance, influential family background, and a winning personality. Without a doubt, Nancy truly liked her for Maurice.

Without Harriet noticing, Nancy calmly took a sip of soup and winked at her bewildered grandson.

"Maurice, as you can see, I like Miss Stone very much. I gave this gift to her because I want to welcome her as my sworn granddaughter. How about holding a legal ceremony today to make it official? I think it's a good idea for you to have a sworn sister."

Hearing this, Harriet was utterly dumbfounded. The triumphant smile on her face was quickly wiped out.

Finally enlightened, Maurice stopped frowning and chuckled lightly in amusement.

Although he knew that his grandmother always had a few tricks up her sleeve, he didn't expect her to use such a clever method.

If Harriet became his sworn sister, then she was not legally allowed to marry him.

His big problem could be solved in this way!

"Ptui!"

Listening to their conversation while drinking, Eliana suddenly spat out the milk in her mouth.

It just so happened that Maurice was right beside her. His silk shirt and trousers were stained by the milk.

However, he wasn't annoyed at all. Instead, he picked up the tissue on the table and gently wiped Eliana's mouth.

"Drink more carefully next time."

After dabbing Eliana's lips dry, Maurice turned to Harriet and said calmly, "Since Grandma wants you to become her sworn granddaughter, I have no qualms in accepting you as my sworn sister. This arrangement will only make the relationship between our two families grow stronger. That's what you want to happen, right?"

Delighted with how her scheme was playing out, Nancy smiled with satisfaction.

It seemed Maurice liked Eliana so much that he was even willing to participate in such a foolish trick.

[Chapter 418 Cooperation](#)

Dinner exhausted Harriet both physically and mentally and she eventually left the table without finishing her meal.

Of course, she didn't agree to be Nancy's sworn granddaughter. She didn't expect that the matriarch of the Moran family was so difficult to please.

Judging by Nancy's attitude towards her, Harriet knew that it would be very difficult for her to marry into the Moran family.

She was lost in thought as she walked back to her room and nearly tripped on the stairs. Fortunately, a maid passing by helped steady her.

"Miss Stone, watch out!" the maid shouted, and rushed to support Harriet who looked pale.

"Thank you," Harriet said in a daze.

The maid patted her hand gently and said, "Miss Stone, don't worry. There is someone else who can make your dream come true."

A look of shock appeared on Harriet's face and she looked at the maid in surprise. "Who are you talking about?" Harriet asked confusedly.

The maid leaned towards her and whispered in her ear, "It's Mr. Gerald Moran, Mr. Earle Moran's only son. Mr. Gerald Moran is a senior executive at the Moran Group. Needless to say, Mr. Earle Moran values his only son very much."

Harriet squinted and asked, "Why would he help me?"

With a mischievous smile, the maid said again, "Miss Stone, think about it. At this point, the only person who can help you is Mr. Gerald Moran. Moreover, he considers Mr. Maurice Moran his enemy. So by helping you, Mr. Gerald Moran would be helping himself."

Harriet eyed the maid intently for a moment. Clearly, this maid was working for Gerald. That was the only reason the maid would tell her all these things.

Regardless of the maid's intentions, Harriet had to admit that what the maid said made sense.

Harriet was a little tempted. However, she was smart enough to know that nothing went for nothing in this world. So, she'd better be cautious.

She looked at the maid coldly and said, "Are you trying to stir up trouble in the Moran family by trying to get me involved in the family's internal disputes? Aren't you afraid I would tell Maurice this? Get out of my face!"

The maid's face changed drastically. She said nothing more, just gritted her teeth and left dejectedly.

Once the maid was in the yard, she ran to a corner out of sight to make a phone call.

"Hello, Mr. Moran. I have something new to report to you. I suggested Miss Stone join forces with you. Although she didn't accept my proposal, she didn't directly refuse it either. I think she is thinking about it."

Gerald was bored at home when he got the call from the maid. He had just been released from police custody thanks to the intervention of Earle.

Hearing what the maid said, he smiled maliciously and said, "Well done. Keep an eye out for Maurice, Eliana and Harriet. Be sure to let me know what's going on."

Gerald was excited when he hung up the phone and told Sean his plan.

"Sean, it's time for us to turn the tables. With Harriet's help, we can defeat Maurice once and for all!"

However, there was no excitement on Sean's face. He instead looked worried. He still vividly remembered how Maurice had dealt with them last time.

"Boss... Can I say something?"

"Go on," Gerald said happily.

"Boss, I think we'd better take it easy. I'm a little scared. He came close to sending me to rot in jail..."

"Shut up!" Gerald shouted angrily before Sean could finish his words. He added, "Maurice only caught us because we were too careless last time. I will make sure I get even with him!"

Sean shut up and didn't dare to say anything more.

Now that Harriet and Earle were gone, the dinner was peaceful.

Nancy looked at Maurice who was eating quietly and at Eliana whose face had been red since Maurice had helped her wipe her mouth. The Moran family matriarch said nothing and just smiled silently.

It seemed that things were working out between Maurice and Eliana.

After a while, Nancy cleared her throat and said in a soft voice, "Eliana, you two seem to be getting along very well. Since you have moved in together now, you should start thinking about marriage. I can't wait for you two to have a baby together."

Hearing what Nancy said, Eliana wiggled her fingers nervously. She looked a bit awkward.

Sure enough, Nancy noticed Eliana's uneasiness and she immediately added, "But I understand that you both might have other plans. I won't force you. Don't worry. Even if you don't want a baby, I will respect that."

Eliana was so touched by Nancy's kindness that she wanted to cry.

Nancy trusted her completely and yet she had kept the existence of Aileen and Adrian a secret.

Eliana was overwhelmed with a deep sense of guilt. She opened her mouth and wanted to tell the whole truth.

[Chapter 419 Nana's In The Hospital](#)

"Grandma, haven't you had enough with Silas? You can't even deal with one grandchild; are you sure you want more?" Maurice joked.

Nancy pretended to be angry and scolded Maurice softly, "You brat, who asked for your opinion? It's

Eliana's bod. It's up to her to decide."

Seeing that the conversation had become a little more cheerful and relaxed, Eliana finally decided not to say anything.

The three of them had a nice lunch. After lunch, Nancy stood up to leave.

"Mrs. Moran, are you leaving already?" Eliana asked Nancy.

"Yeah. I don't want to overstay my welcome." Nancy then glanced at Maurice and said with a faint smile, "Someone needs to work harder here. I'm leaving now."

Eliana and Maurice both saw her off.

After Nancy left, Eliana looked curiously at Maurice and finally asked the question that had been in her mind for a while. "Maurice, why did you bring your grandmother here today?"

Maurice replied indifferently, "I brought her here as backup, just like you asked her to come to my aid the other day when my grandfather hit me."

At this moment, Eliana suddenly remembered how weak Earle looked when he collapsed on the sofa earlier. She couldn't help worrying.

"Maurice, do you think there's anything to worry about your grandfather's health? I don't want him to get sick because of me."

Maurice gently reassured Eliana, "You don't have to worry about him. He's not used to sitting around; that's all. He is in perfect health."

When Eliana was about to say something else, her phone rang. It was Nana.

"Hello, Nana. What's up?"

"Eliana, there was an incident at my work. I'm afraid I can't help you pick up the kids today."

Nana sounded nervous and hesitant on the phone.

Sure enough, Eliana noticed it and she quickly became nervous. "Nana, what happened at your work?"

"Nothing serious," Nana replied in a guilty tone.

"If you don't tell me, I'll come to your workplace right away!"

Eliana's tone was firm and Nana felt that her friend wasn't joking. Nana sighed and had to tell the truth.

"It's not a big deal. But... I'm in the Central Hospital now. We'll talk about the details when you see me..."

Before Nana could finish her words, Eliana had dropped the phone and stood up. Her gaze was blank. Why was her best friend in the hospital?

Eliana turned to Maurice and ordered, "Maurice, take me to the Central Hospital now."

Maurice was confused and asked, "What's wrong?"

"Nana is in there. I have to go and see her now."

As she spoke, Eliana rushed out and Maurice followed her immediately.

As soon as the two of them walked out of the house, they ran into Corbin.

Corbin was about to say hello but Eliana walked pass him as if she hadn't even seen him.

"Corbin, you're just in time. Drive the car," Maurice said, throwing the car keys to Corbin as he rushed to the garage.

Corbin was confused and looked at Eliana and Maurice, who seemed in a hurry.

What the hell was going on?

Why were they in such a hurry?

Finally, he decided to run after them.

When they got on the car, Maurice suddenly remembered something and said to Corbin, "Corbin, if my memory is good, the dean of the Central Hospital is my grandfather's friend, right?"

Hearing his question, Corbin was even more confused. However, he nodded quickly, "Yes. But boss, who is sick?"

Maurice replied seriously, "Nana. She's in the hospital now. However, we don't yet know exactly what happened."

"What? Nana is in the hospital?"

Corbin's expression changed drastically and he suddenly slammed on the brakes.

[Chapter 420 Ask For A Leave](#)

Corbin's sudden braking caused Eliana to lean forward abruptly. She would have hit the back of the seat in front of her if it weren't for Maurice who quickly grabbed her from behind.

Maurice was furious and couldn't help but swear, "Damn it, Corbin! What the hell is wrong with you? Drive carefully!"

Corbin let go of the steering wheel and turned to look at Maurice. He said seriously, "Boss, I want to ask for a leave!"

"What? What are you talking about?" Maurice was really confused. What the hell was wrong with Corbin all of a sudden?

"If Nana is indeed hospitalized, I want to take time off to take care of her."

Corbin looked at Maurice anxiously as he spoke.

"You want to take care of Nana? What's your relationship with her? Why would you have to take care of her? If it turns out that her condition is serious, are you going to take care of her all your life?"

Maurice was really confused.

"Yes, boss! If her condition happens to be serious, I will take care of her for the rest of my life!"

Corbin looked really serious when he said this.

He had just promised to take care of a woman for the rest of his life and he didn't look like he was kidding.

Maurice was stunned and he didn't know what to say.

"Are you telling me you're even willing to quit your job for Nana? Won't you regret it?" Maurice asked after a while.

"I won't."

Corbin had never been so serious.

"It seems that you have made up your mind. You must know better than anyone what happens to those who dare to offend me, right?"

Saying this, Maurice glared at Corbin, his sharp eyes piercing into Corbin's soul.

Maurice's cold, intense gaze made Corbin tremble with fear.

He had worked for Maurice for so many years, so he knew Maurice well.

Eliana was the only person with whom Maurice was nice.

Corbin had seen the miserable end that had come to the others who had dared to offend Maurice.

Despite the fear that Maurice inspired in him, Corbin could think of nothing else at the moment than Nana who was hospitalized!

"Boss, I'm sorry. I have to ask for a leave."

Maurice saw that Corbin was determined, so he finally gave in. He rubbed his temples and said curtly, "Fine, just go."

"What? Boss, did you agree?" Corbin asked in surprise.

"Of course! Since you are going to take care of Nana, just drive then."

Maurice gave Corbin a cold look that sent chills down Corbin's spine.

"Okay, okay."

Corbin restarted the car on the spot and stepped on the accelerator. He drove fast.

It didn't take long for the three of them to arrive at the hospital.

As soon as Corbin parked the car, Eliana got out and rushed to Nana's ward. She pushed the door open.

"Nana!" Eliana called out in panic.

However, what she saw in the ward left her speechless.

Nana was not lying on the bed, but standing in front of it. She seemed worried. On the bed lay a man wrapped in gauze.

"Eliana! I'm glad that you are here!"

Nana's eyes lit up when she saw Eliana.

"Nana, are you okay?" Eliana had already rushed to Nana and looked her up and down attentively.

It was only when she saw that apart from a bruise on her elbow, Nana was fine, that Eliana finally relaxed and heaved a sigh of relief.

Nana smiled faintly and said, "Don't worry. I'm fine."

"I am glad to see that you are okay. But who is the man on the bed?"

Eliana squinted her eyes at the man on the bed.

She felt that this man was a little familiar to her...

At this moment, Nana's smile disappeared and she said indifferently, "This is Huey."

"Huey?" Eliana exclaimed in shock, her eyes wide open. She looked at the man attentively again and asked, "You mean this man wrapped like a mummy is Huey?"

Lying on the bed, Huey had his body covered in plaster and gauze. When he heard what Eliana said, he nodded slowly.

"Eliana! Nice to see you here," Huey said in a sarcastic tone.

"Well, I definitely didn't expect to see you again, let alone in such circumstances. Who did you offend that beat you so badly?"

Eliana's face was cold and indifferent. She couldn't be nice to the scum who had made Nana suffer.

Huey glared at Eliana in anger. He said sarcastically, "I was just wondering why Nana has changed so much. It turns out it's all because she has been hanging with you too much!"

"Save it! What Nana does or the way she is has nothing to do with you," Eliana said coldly.

After saying that, she didn't want to talk to him anymore. She turned to Nana and took her hand. "Nana, what's going on? Why are you in hospital with this jerk?"

Nana smiled bitterly and said, "It's a long story..."