

## **Adorable 431**

### [Chapter 431 Cheers With Yogur](#)

Oh no!

"Aileen!" Silas suddenly cried out.

Aileen was interrupted before she could finish her words. She turned around and looked at Silas in confusion. "What is it, Silas? Is there anything wrong?"

Silas knew that his great-grandfather despised Eliana. If Earle found out that Aileen and Adrian were her children, he might begin to treat them wrongly.

"You should see the worried look on your face." Earle frowned and continued, "Well, we're all listening. If you have anything to say, just say it."

It was a rare occurrence for Silas to hesitate with his words.

To protect his friends, he couldn't tell the truth, but lying to his family was not an option. It was not the right thing to do.

Everyone in the ward looked at him expectantly at the same time, waiting for him to continue, but his mind went blank.

Fortunately for him, the doctor interrupted their conversation.

"Kids, I'm afraid it's time to leave. You all should go now because Mr. Moran needs to rest to regain his strength."

With everyone distracted, Silas was greatly relieved.

The three kids obediently filed out of Earle's ward. When Silas checked his smartwatch, he saw several missed calls from Maurice.

What was going on this time? There might have been an emergency! Otherwise, Maurice wouldn't have attempted to contact him repeatedly.

Fearing for the worse, he immediately dialed Maurice's number.

"Um, hello?"

"Silas, why haven't you been answering my calls? Tell me where you are this instant. Did you take the twins with you? Do you know that their mother is going crazy because she couldn't find them?" Maurice said with frustration in his voice.

Uh-oh! Eliana had been searching for Adrian and Aileen all this time?

Realizing that he had done something wrong, Silas quickly replied, "I'm now at the hospital with great-grandfather. Adrian and Aileen are here with me."

"I see. Just stay put. I'll be there soon."

After hanging up the phone, Maurice got inside his car and immediately drove to the hospital.

When he arrived at the hospital lobby, he saw the three children sitting together on the chairs by the hallway. Letting out a sigh of relief, he went straight to them.

Adrian was the first one to see Maurice approaching. He frowned and said in disgust, "What are you doing here? I want my mommy!"

Maurice snorted in annoyance and glared at Adrian. He had just postponed several important meetings to personally see if they were alright. Hearing the young boy complain, he immediately ran out of patience.

"Watch it, kid. I'm in no mood to tolerate that attitude of yours."

As soon as they met, it seemed they were about to start a fight with each other.

"Can you please stop arguing? I am so hungry and sleepy."

Aileen leaned back against the chair, holding her stomach and closing her eyes.

"Wait a minute. You all haven't eaten yet?"

Curled up on the chair, Aileen looked so cute that Maurice felt sorry for her.

Realizing that he hadn't gotten food for his friends, Silas nodded in embarrassment.

"Well then, let me take you to dinner first."

Maurice picked up the sleepy Aileen and carried her to the car, beckoning the two boys to follow him. After a few minutes, he took the three children to the McDonald's restaurant.

When the food arrived at their table, Maurice sent a message to Eliana, informing her that he was with the kids.

While Maurice was busy texting on his phone, Aileen looked at the refreshing soda on the table and began to drool. She couldn't help reaching out her little hand to pick up the cup. But before she could

even take a sip, Maurice snatched the soda away.

"Nope. Soft drinks are not good for children." Maurice put the iced soda near him and handed Aileen a bottle of yogurt. "Here, drink this."

"But I want to drink soda. Please, Mr. Moran. I promise I will only take a sip!"

Aileen tugged at the hem of Maurice's clothes and began to act like a spoiled child.

This particular trick of hers had always worked in the past. But unfortunately, nothing she did could change Maurice's mind.

Frowning in defeat, Aileen had no choice but to take the yogurt and drink it. While sipping the tasty beverage, she rolled her eyes and complained, "Darn it."

Maurice simply smiled and took a big gulp of soda for everyone to see, which further annoyed Aileen.

Adrian couldn't stand it anymore and said, "You should set a good example before lecturing others."

Little did he know that his words would soon affect everyone else at the table. Within seconds, Maurice took Adrian's soda away and stopped drinking it himself.

Then he shot a meaningful look at Silas.

"I'm not actually fond of soda. I like yogurt better!" Silas immediately announced, understanding Maurice's signal.

In the end, all the drinks on the table were replaced with yogurt.

A toothy grin slowly appeared on Aileen's face. She felt better now that they were all equal.

She raised the yogurt and said happily, "Cheers!"

Silas raised his yogurt cup in the air while Maurice and Adrian looked at each other and then turned their heads away in disgust.

"Oh, come on now! Let's all be friends and drink together!"

Aileen held their hands and showed them her puppy eyes. Groaning in frustration, Maurice and Adrian had no choice but to give in.

When Eliana arrived, she saw Aileen holding the hands of both Maurice and Adrian as they cheerfully bumped their cups together in the air.

Eliana paused for a moment and smiled. She couldn't help but cherish the happy scene in front of her.

#### [Chapter 432 Argumen](#)

Silas suddenly spotted Eliana from across the restaurant and waved at her. "Miss Pierce, over here!"

The rest of the group turned their heads at the same time and saw Eliana standing by the door.

"You're finally here," Maurice said calmly.

His seemingly nonchalant attitude ignited the anger in Eliana's heart.

She had been searching for her two kids everywhere the entire evening and almost went crazy.

Thinking the kids had been with Maurice the whole time made Eliana extremely pissed. She had called him earlier for help, and he pretended to know nothing.

"Maurice, why the hell did you lie to me?"

Raising his eyebrows in confusion, Maurice shrugged and asked, "What are you talking about?"

"It turns out that you were secretly hanging out with the kids while I worried for their safety. You told me that you had no idea where they were. Was it fun to play with them and make a fool out of me?"

Clenching her fists, Eliana trembled with anger. She had never been this furious in her entire life.

The kids were shocked at the fierce expression on her face.

After scolding Maurice, Eliana turned her attention to the twins and questioned them, "Adrian and Aileen, where have you been today?"

Aileen lowered her head and didn't dare to say anything. On the other hand, Adrian mustered up the courage and replied in a low voice, "Mommy, we went to the amusement park to play."

"Amusement park? Then why didn't you answer any of my calls? I've been trying to reach you the whole evening," Eliana asked, trying to suppress her anger.

Aileen opened her mouth to speak but suddenly remembered her promise to Earle, so she kept her lips sealed and stared at the table.

The sad little twins lowered their heads in tacit silence.

Seeing that they couldn't explain themselves in front of everyone only meant one thing in Eliana's mind.

Maurice was responsible for this mess!

Moreover, he even had the guts to threaten them not to tell the truth!

"Maurice, be honest with me. Did you take my kids to the amusement park?"

Eliana would not let this matter pass so easily. The twins were the most important people in the world to her. She needed to get answers.

What scared her the most was the possibility that Maurice would take her children away from her one day.

"Miss Pierce, I'm afraid there's been a misunderstanding. I took them with me without asking for your permission. It has nothing to do with my uncle," Silas hurriedly explained.

Eliana was so angry that she could no longer be reasoned with. Her fury was directed solely at Maurice. Even though what Silas had said made sense, she would only think of it as an excuse to defend his uncle.

"Silas," Eliana said through gritted teeth. "I trusted you, so I let you play with Adrian and Aileen. But you shouldn't have taken them away without informing me at all! You're so irresponsible! I'm very disappointed in you!"

It was the first time that Silas had seen Eliana lose her temper. He was so frightened that his face turned pale, and his eyes welled up with tears.

"That's enough!" All of a sudden, Maurice slammed his hand on the table, capturing everyone's attention. "Eliana, why are you taking out your frustrations on the children? You are being unreasonable!"

Eliana had every right to be angry because she had been worried sick the whole day. Maurice even chose to keep silent when she berated him.

But now, she was throwing a temper tantrum at the children. He couldn't just sit by and do nothing.

"Excuse me? I am being unreasonable?" Eliana snorted in disbelief. "You asshole! You were trying to take them away from me!"

Maurice couldn't help but laugh at her baseless accusation. "You've lost your mind! I have spent hours helping you search for your kids! Now that I've found them, this is how you repay me? What an ingrate!"

The two of them continued to argue so intensely that their faces turned red. They glared at each other, and neither side was willing to concede.

Frightened by their shouting match, the kids sat there frozen in silence.

The noise attracted the attention of all the customers inside the restaurant, drawing looks of concern and disgust.

A senior waiter hurried over and interrupted, "Sir and madam, I know that couples tend to fight, but please keep it down. Our other customers are complaining. Please settle the matter inside your home."

To his surprise, Maurice and Eliana turned their heads at the same time and shouted in unison, "We are not a couple!"

#### [Chapter 433 Allergy](#)

The waiter was stunned for a moment. He looked at Maurice and Eliana, and then at Adrian and Aileen, who looked like Eliana. Finally, he fixed her eyes on Silas, who looked like Maurice. There was a confused expression on his face.

"Are you sure you're not a couple?"

"Of course not!"

Eliana was so pissed that she grabbed Aileen's and Adrian's hands and was about to leave.

But at this moment, Aileen suddenly squatted on the floor with a pale face.

"Mommy, I don't feel well."

Eliana immediately squatted down and held up Aileen's face.

"Aileen, your face!" she exclaimed.

Aileen's tender face was covered with small red rashes, and her body was burning hot.

Silas and Adrian were both terrified and immediately came over.

Maurice was also shocked when he saw Aileen's red face. "What's wrong with her?"

Eliana looked at Maurice in a panic and asked, "Did you order something with peaches for her?"

"Peaches?" Maurice frowned. "I didn't give her any peaches."

"Aileen has been allergic to peaches since she was born. She must have eaten some!" Eliana shouted at Maurice, holding Aileen tightly in her arms.

"Peaches..." Silas muttered to himself and glanced at the yogurt on the table.

Something suddenly occurred to him. He picked up the yogurt and checked it carefully.

"Miss Pierce, this yogurt is peach flavored."

Silas handed the yogurt to Eliana. Indeed, there was a label on the bottle saying that it was peach flavored.

"Damn!"

Eliana nervously took the bottle of yogurt that Aileen had drunk. There was still a lot left in the bottle. It meant that Aileen had only drank a little.

"Fortunately, she only drank a little."

With a gloomy face, Maurice took out his phone and called a doctor. After hanging up, he went to carry Aileen in his arms.

"What are you doing?" Eliana became vigilant.

Maurice said solemnly, "I've already called the doctor. We need to get her home right away."

Eliana looked at Aileen's flushed face in her arms. She gritted her teeth and said, "Let's go!"

Then they rushed back to the Pierce family's house.

When they arrived home, the doctor was already there, waiting for them.

They surrounded the doctor nervously as he examined Aileen at once.

At this moment, Eliana and Maurice didn't care about their fight anymore. They looked at Aileen on the bed worriedly.

Eliana sat on the edge of the bed and touched Aileen's forehead. "Aileen, how are you feeling? Do you feel uncomfortable?"

Aileen felt uncomfortable, lying on the bed. But seeing Eliana and Maurice so worried about her, she felt happy.

After checking Aileen, the doctor prescribed some medicine and said that the little girl would be fine the next morning after she took the medicine and had a good sleep.

Aileen obediently took the medicine. Eliana stayed by her bed and wanted to tuck her in.

But unexpectedly, she stretched out her little hand from the quilt and reached out to Maurice.

"Mr. Moran, can you accompany me?"

Looking at the poor and lovely girl lying on the bed, Maurice couldn't bear to leave. He wanted to stay with her.

But when he thought that Aileen was Eliana and Jonathan's daughter, he felt bad, wishing to leave immediately.

Maurice remained silent. Aileen stubbornly reached out her hand at him, gradually looking disappointed.

Adrian held Aileen's hand and comforted her, "Aileen, it's okay. I'll keep you company."

Eliana looked at Maurice indifferently and said, "You can leave now. Take Silas home. It's been a long day for everyone."

Silas kept his head down the whole time. And when he heard Eliana's words, he felt sadder. He raised his head, and there were already tears in his eyes.

"Miss Pierce, I'm sorry. It's all my fault today. If I hadn't taken them with me, Aileen wouldn't have had an allergy. I am really sorry."

The room was so silent that only Silas' sobs could be heard.

#### [Chapter 434 I Really Hope That You Are Their Father](#)

When Eliana saw the guilty look on Silas' face, mixed emotions filled her heart.

She knew that what had happened today was not entirely his fault. But she couldn't help feeling scared.

She couldn't imagine the pain of losing her children.

"Silas, you must be tired today too. Everything is fine here. You can go home first," Eliana sighed. She didn't accept Silas' apology.

Silas understood what she meant, so he lowered his head more. There was a guilty and depressed expression on his face.

Maurice put his hand on Silas' shoulder, leaned over, and comforted him softly, "Silas, it's not your fault."

Then he took Silas and left the Pierce family's house.

On their way home, Silas still thought of what had happened during the day. He couldn't help asking



Maurice, "Do you know who is Aileen and Adrian's father?"

Maurice was stunned for a moment. He didn't understand why Silas suddenly became curious about it.

"Why do you ask?"

Silas answered honestly, "Because I really hope that you are their father."

"Why me?" Silas' answer made Maurice even more confused.

"So I can be their real family."

There was a trace of expectation in Silas' voice.

Maurice couldn't help laughing. "Do you like them so much that you want them to be your family?"

Silas nodded. "Yes, I like them very much."

Real family?

It could never happen.

After all, the twins' father was not him but Jonathan.

At the thought of this, Maurice's face suddenly darkened.

"I'm not the twins' father."

"Oh..." Silas looked disappointed. "Miss Pierce is so angry today. Will she not let me play with Aileen and Adrian anymore?"

At the mention of this matter, Maurice felt morose.

"Silas, you should stop playing with those two kids in the future. I don't want Eliana to blame you again if something happens."

Silas was distressed at once. "But I want to play with Aileen and Adrian."

"Silas, just listen to me!"

After saying this, Maurice immediately pulled a long face.

"No, I don't want to listen to you!"

Silas stubbornly turned his head sideways and covered his ears, not wanting to hear Maurice's words anymore.

No one was willing to give in, and the atmosphere in the car suddenly became depressing.

They soon arrived at the Moran family's house.

Silas opened the door and rushed out of the car. Maurice could only sigh silently and follow him.

Silas ran into his room and threw himself on the bed, feeling dejected.

There was his family photo on the bedside table. At that time, his parents were still there. They held his hands and smiled happily.

He hugged the family photo, and Aileen's words echoed in his mind.

"You are both my older brothers, we are related!"

Silas thought that he had found a new family, but he was wrong. Eliana would not let Aileen and Adrian become his family anymore.

The more he thought about it, the sadder he became. Tears streamed down his face like a waterfall.

Maurice was worried about Silas, so he went straight to the door of the boy's room. He heard Silas' suppressed crying from the inside.

He knocked, opened the door, and walked in. He saw Silas lying on the bed and crying secretly with the family photo in his arms.

"Silas, are you alright?"

Maurice wanted to walk over and comfort Silas.

But when Silas saw Maurice approaching, he was very resistant. He grabbed a pillow and threw it at Maurice. Then he buried his head in another pillow and shouted, "Go away! I don't want to see you anymore!"

Watching Silas lose his temper, Maurice didn't know what to do for a while. He couldn't help feeling very depressed.

In the Pierce family's house, Eliana and Adrian coaxed Aileen to sleep.

Eliana patted Adrian on the head and said, "Adrian, you must be tired. Go to bed now."

"Mommy..." Adrian raised his head and looked at Eliana as if he had made up his mind. "Actually, what happened today is not Silas' uncle's fault."

Eliana was confused. "What do you mean? What really happened to you today?"

Adrian thought it over for a while. Then he came up with an explanation that could not only keep his promise to Earle but also make him explain to his mother clearly.

"You and Nana didn't come to pick us up, so Silas offered to send us home. But on the way, we met an old man who had a heart attack. We had to take him to the hospital, so we went home late."

"Then why didn't you immediately tell me?" Eliana was surprised by what she had learned.

"Because the old man didn't want his family to worry about him. He begged us to keep it a secret. We promised him not to tell anyone. We wanted to keep our promise, so we didn't tell you about it."

Adrian's explanation made Eliana feel a little guilty.

It seemed that she really misunderstood Maurice this time.

#### [Chapter 435 We Are His Prisoners](#)

Nana returned home late at night. She seemed to be in high spirits and was even humming a song. When she opened the door, she was stunned to see Eliana sitting alone in the living room, visibly lost in thought.

"Honey, what's up with you?" Nana asked with concern.

"Nana, you're back!"

It was only when she heard Nana's voice that Eliana came to her senses.

Nana ignored Eliana's greeting and asked seriously, "Eliana, why aren't you sleeping at this time of night? What are you doing alone in the living room?"

"I just can't fall asleep," Eliana replied perfunctorily.

"Oh, I see."

Nana believed her word and didn't not to think too much.

Seeing that Nana was visibly very happy, Eliana couldn't help teasing her. "Nana, tell me frankly, you and Corbin, you... You guys are in a relationship, right?"

Nana was a little shy and stammered, "Well, we're... we're just friends..."

Eliana was utterly stunned. "I don't get it. It's obvious you like him. Hasn't Corbin confessed his love for you yet?"

Upon hearing what Eliana said, Nana burst into laughter. "Corbin... He seems to have never been in a relationship, so he's a bit shy..."

Eliana was stunned to hear that Corbin had never been in a relationship before.

She couldn't help but sigh. "It's really hard to understand love. Corbin has never had a romantic relationship before, so he seems a bit silly about it. I, on the other hand, already have two children, but I'm still confused about love."

"Honey, tell me, what happened between you and Maurice this time?"

After hearing what Eliana had just said, Nana sensed that something was wrong.

With a bitter smile, Eliana told Nana everything that had happened tonight.

"Well, this time it was all my fault. I realized too late that I had misunderstood him. I don't know how to face him now."

Nana came to sit next to Eliana. She put her arm around Eliana's shoulder and comforted her, "If you want to clear up the misunderstanding, you better take real action!"

"How?" Eliana asked sadly.

"Well, you have to calm down first. Go back to work as usual. If you meet Maurice, keep your cool and talk to him in order to clear up the misunderstanding as soon as possible. What do you think?"

"That makes sense!" Eliana replied with a bright smile.

Nana quickly had another idea. "I can also ask Corbin to tell you when Maurice is in a good mood. You can go to Maurice and clear up the misunderstanding at that time."

The idea appealed to Eliana. However, she was still a little hesitant. "Won't it put you into too much trouble?" Eliana asked worriedly.

However, Nana quickly reassured her, "Honey, don't worry! The fact that I help you means that I help myself. After all, you, me, Aileen and Adrian are all under Maurice's control. Who would like to live a life under surveillance?"

Nana's face was serious.

Eliana was silent for a moment. Then she looked at Nana and said seriously, "Nana, sometimes you seem to be enjoying your life right now..."

Nana was very reluctant to stay in the Pierce family's house when they had just moved in. She complained every day that Maurice was a freak and asked Eliana to not compromise.

But now she seemed to have adjusted to this life. When she spoke of Maurice now, she didn't complain anymore.

She had even just proposed to Eliana to reconcile with Maurice...

Nana paused for a few seconds when she heard what Eliana said.

She couldn't help thinking that Eliana was right to an extent.

Why did she suggest Eliana to make up with that freak Maurice?

Didn't she hate Maurice to the core?

Nana made deep introspection to understand when her attitude towards Maurice had changed.

She felt it all came from her frequent contact with Corbin.

Every time they met, Corbin would harp on about how special his boss treated Eliana and all the things his boss had done for Eliana.

At first, she just scoffed at the whole thing, but over time, her hatred for Maurice had seriously subsided.

After Corbin saved her so many times, Nana began to trust him blindly and no longer doubted what he said.

After the deep introspection, Nana discovered the crux of the problem. She exclaimed, "I see. As Maurice's hostage and accomplice, Corbin is constantly brainwashing me..."

"You are probably right. We are prisoners of Maurice and he won't let us go anytime soon."

Eliana and Nana looked at each other and sighed in unison.

#### [Chapter 436 Sex Was Also A Kind Of Strenuous Exercise](#)

Eliana finally followed Nana's advice. The next day, she got up early in the morning to go back to the Moran Group.

She even bought a cup of coffee downstairs for Maurice, wanting to apologize to him.

Then as planned, she went to talk to Corbin first.

As soon as she reached upstairs, Eliana saw Corbin walking towards the CEO's office with a doctor.

She rushed over to him and asked, "Corbin, what happened?"

"Eliana? Why are you here?" Corbin was a little surprised to see her.

"Did something happen to Maurice?"

Eliana's expression revealed her worries about Maurice.

Corbin suddenly thought of an idea. Wasn't there a chance for Maurice to make peace with Eliana?

So he pretended to be very worried and said, "It's a relapse of his arm injury."

"His arm injury? It has recovered, right?" Eliana was confused.

"You know what kind of person our boss is. His arm was badly injured before, but he refused to receive timely treatment. It has been dragged on until now."

Corbin heaved a deep sigh. It was as if Maurice really had an incurable disease.

And it worked. Because Eliana became anxious and began to panic.

When Corbin saw that she took his words seriously, he suggested, "How about you go in with the doctor?"

Eliana wanted to find an opportunity to reconcile with Maurice, so she agreed.

She took the doctor to the door of Maurice's office and knocked.

"Come in."

Eliana pushed the door open and came in. Maurice sat at his desk, concentrating on his work. He didn't even raise his head to see who came in.

"Mr. Moran, I brought a doctor to check your arm."

When Maurice heard the familiar voice, the pen in his hand paused. Then he immediately returned to normal.

"Okay. You can leave now."

His tone was extremely indifferent.

Holding the cup of coffee in her hand, Eliana hesitated for a while. Then she walked over to the desk and said, "I also brought coffee for you. Drink it first."

"Just put it there," Maurice said, still keeping his head down.

Eliana didn't know what else to say.

"Miss Pierce, Mr. Moran is injured. He can't drink coffee now," the doctor reminded her.

"Oh..."

She couldn't help feeling a little disappointed.

"Mr. Moran, let me check your injury now."

The doctor walked over to Maurice and was about to roll up his sleeve. But Maurice looked at Eliana and suddenly said, "Come here."

"Me? Why? What do I need to do?"

Eliana was still a bit lost, but Maurice had already raised his arm.

"Oh, okay."

She hurriedly walked up to him to roll up his sleeve obediently.

Maurice turned his head sideways to look at her. There was an unreadable look in his eyes.

Eliana cheered herself up and rolled up Maurice's sleeve carefully, revealing his strong arm underneath.

Without the cover of the clothes, a large bluish-purple bruise was exposed in front of her.

It wasn't just a simple injury.

Eliana was a little out of breath. It was as if her heart had been squeezed.

"Does it still hurt?" she asked sulkily.

Maurice sneered, "Didn't you yell at me yesterday? Why are you suddenly so kind today?"

Eliana lowered her head, not knowing how to explain.

The doctor stepped forward and examined Maurice's arm carefully. He frowned and said, "Mr. Moran, I have warned you not to do strenuous exercise, right? Did you do some exercise secretly?"

"No." Maurice firmly denied. "I haven't done any strenuous exercise since I saved someone last time."

Strenuous exercise?

Eliana suddenly remembered that Maurice had sex with her after being injured.

No way! Was sex also a kind of strenuous exercise?

But actually, their sex was really quite intense.

At the thought of this, Eliana's face flushed. She was so embarrassed that she stretched out her hand and tugged at Maurice's sleeve.

"Stop it."

Maurice looked at Eliana's red face, feeling confused.

What was she thinking?

Why was she acting so weird?

Maurice didn't understand. But the doctor did.

He coughed lightly. "Mr. Moran, it's normal for young people to be energetic. But you are injured now. It's better to restrain yourself, so as not to hurt your body."

Maurice was more confused. Restrain himself to avoid hurting his body?

He thought for a while. Finally, he realized what the doctor meant. He looked at Eliana with a playful expression.

Eliana wished she could dig a hole and hide.

After checking on Maurice, the doctor prescribed medicine and left the office, leaving Maurice and Eliana.

There was a deathly silence in the office.

In the end, Eliana couldn't hold it anymore. She looked at Maurice and said seriously, "Maurice, I..."



But before she could apologize, there was a knock on the door.

Then Harriet came in.

#### [Chapter 437 You Will Be Mine](#)

"Mr. Moran..."

When Harriet entered Maurice's office, she saw that only he and Eliana were there. This made her feel very uncomfortable, but she did her best not to show it on her face.

"Miss Pierce, you are here too."

Eliana smiled awkwardly. She really admired Harriet's ability to keep cool even under such circumstances.

The relationship between them was no longer harmonious. But in front of Eliana, Harriet could still maintain a calm expression. Eliana was impressed.

"What's up?" Maurice asked Harriet. He sounded impatient.

"I heard that your grandpa is sick, and I'm very worried about him. How is he now?" Harriet had a worried expression on her face, and she sounded sincere.

"He is fine now," Maurice replied indifferently.

"Oh, that's good to hear." Harriet took a deep breath and continued, "I've invited the doctor who performed his heart surgery back then to come back, just in case. Mr. Moran, when you are free, I'll take you to see him."

Maurice raised his eyebrows, somewhat surprised.

The doctor who treated Earle was not easy to invite. After Earle's operation, he engaged in medical research activities in other countries. Maurice didn't expect that Harriet could persuade him to return to the country.

When Maurice thought of Earle's physical condition, he couldn't help but feel a little worried too. He pondered for a moment and replied, "Okay, I'll go with you."

"Really? That's great!"

Harriet was apparently happy.

Eliana stood at the side, feeling like a superfluous person.

"What about Miss Pierce?" Harriet asked Maurice, but her eyes were on Eliana, looking at her provocatively.

Maurice turned to Eliana and said expressionlessly, "You can go out first."

He was still angry about what happened yesterday.

When Eliana heard this, her face turned pale. She looked a little embarrassed.

Harriet noticed the change in Eliana's expression, and she couldn't help but gloat inside.

She thought Maurice liked Eliana very much. It turned out that he got sick of Eliana so soon.

But when Eliana went out, Maurice didn't treat Harriet any better either.

His deep-set eyes were unusually cold. He looked at her up and down for a moment and finally said with disgust, "As Earle's grandson, I am grateful for what you've done for him. But I still have to remind you, don't waste time and energy on me. No matter how much you invest in me, it will be futile. I'm not interested in you, let alone marrying you."

However, Harriet didn't get hurt by his words. Instead, she smiled confidently.

"Maurice, I'm confident that you will be mine in the end."

After walking out of Maurice's office, Eliana returned to her desk, lost in thought.

Suddenly, confetti was thrown at her head with a bang. Then Lilian came out with a bottle of champagne and their other female colleagues.

"Welcome back, Eliana! I really envy you. You can come and go to the company as freely as you want. You have almost taken our office as your home. But why haven't I seen any of your good works?"

Lilian seemed to welcome Eliana. But actually, every word she said was full of sarcasm.

Eliana had already gotten used to this a long time ago. So she calmly removed the confetti from her head and took the bottle of champagne from Lilian's hand. Then she poured two glasses leisurely, one for her and the other for Lilian.

"Want to drink with me?"

Lilian felt frustrated when she saw that Eliana was not even affected by her words.

"Eliana, are you really that thick-skinned? How dare you still come to the company now!"

Eliana took a sip of the wine. She didn't care about Lilian's sarcasm at all.

"Lilian, I know you don't like me all along. You're saying that I seldom come to work, and I have no good works? How about you? I have checked your works online before. Yes, you work every day. But why haven't you come up with any good designs? With the quality of your work, how dare you still come to the company!"

"Eliana! You..."

Lilian was so angry that she wanted to pounce on Eliana and hit her. But a female colleague beside her stopped her.

"Don't do it. She has someone powerful backing her, so we can't afford to offend her."

This made Lilian calm down a little.

Eliana smiled with self-mockery. "I hope the next time I drink with you, it's a celebration of my resignation."

Then she drank up the champagne in her glass and sat in her seat indifferently.

This time, Lilian still failed to piss her off.

Lilian stared at Eliana's back indignantly. There was hatred in her heart.

She couldn't wait for Harriet to get Maurice.

When that time came, Eliana would be doomed.

#### [Chapter 438 Gossip About The Bracele](#)

After Harriet left Maurice's office and returned to her department, she saw a group of people gathering around Eliana.

She frowned. "What are you doing? Aren't you supposed to be working? Go back to your work!"

Seeing their boss coming back, everyone, including Lilian, immediately returned to their desks reluctantly.

In an instant, only Eliana was left.

Harriet raised her head and walked towards Eliana aggressively.

She had already offended Eliana openly when she was at the Moran family's house. Now that Maurice

was not here, she didn't have to pretend to be kind anymore.

Judging from Maurice's attitude towards Eliana in the office just now, he must not care about Eliana that much.

Harriet was confident she could win his heart this time. So she was happy to make more trouble for Eliana now.

At the thought of this, the smile on her face became brighter. "Eliana, I know you've worked so hard recently, and you must be tired. But you've rested. So since you're back, you need to work harder. Please finish Cheryl's project now."

Eliana's eyes widened in shock. She asked, "That damn project isn't done yet?"

Harriet feigned a smile and remarked, "Not really. I mean, the bracelet you designed is really good, and I've already sent it to Cheryl for you. A few days ago, Cheryl wore that bracelet, and it became a trending topic."

"A trending topic? Why?"

Did Cheryl become the trending topic because the bracelet was gorgeous?

But a bad feeling suddenly came to Eliana. She quickly took out her phone and searched for news about Cheryl.

And she was shocked by the topics.

"Shocking news! Top idol Eli is in love with a mysterious woman?"

"Bracelet!"

"Top female artist Cheryl is the owner of the bracelet?"

"Eli and Cheryl are in a relationship?"

After Eliana browsed the topics, it was only then that she realized that the news was ridiculous romance gossip.

It turned out that some paparazzi photographed Eli meeting a mysterious woman four days ago. But the paparazzi did not take a frontal photo of the mysterious woman.

But the photos immediately exploded on social media as soon as they were posted.

The mysterious woman was wearing an exquisite bracelet. Later, the netizens found out that the woman

was Cheryl because of the special shape of the bracelet she wore.

A few days ago, she attended an event wearing the same bracelet.

So the news that Eli and Cheryl were in a secret relationship quickly became a hot topic and rocketed to the top of the news list. And even the bracelet received so much attention.

Many people crazily looked for the same style online.

Eliana was totally speechless. After reading the entire report, she said indignantly, "This is bullshit!"

She didn't believe that an arrogant man like Eli would fall in love with Cheryl.

"I don't care whether it's true or not. All I know is that it's a good chance to promote the bracelet. Thanks to them, your bracelet is famous now. We can take advantage of this opportunity to make mass production. This can be profitable for the Design Department," Harriet said.

Eliana was even more speechless. She wanted to refute, but Harriet interrupted her impatiently, "The company has already decided on this matter. I have arranged an interview for you and Cheryl. It will be in the next few days. Then you and she will join forces to promote our bracelet."

"Miss Stone, I don't think an interview is necessary." Eliana directly refused.

"It's not up to you or me. If you don't want to do it, you can talk to Mr. Moran. But he said just now that he doesn't have time to see you today."

Harriet deliberately lied to stimulate Eliana.

Sure enough, Eliana was really pissed off.

She wondered how Maurice could suddenly turn hostile towards her in just one day. And now, he even sided with Harriet.

#### [Chapter 439 A Partner](#)

She had no fear!

Eliana suppressed her rage, fearing that Maurice and Harriet would think less of her. With clenched teeth, she muttered, "Fine! I am able to take on this issue, but..."

"But what?" Harriet inquired restlessly.

"I doubt that I can solve this problem on my own. I'm hoping that the company will send someone over to assist me."

Eliana was adamant that she would not accept any sort of concession.

She was unable to fall victim to the same trap repeatedly. It had cost her dearly to have to labor alone previously. This time around she would team up with someone.

Harriet could have done nothing except assent. She took a sweeping glance at the staff members and made an informal gesture toward one of them.

"What do you think of her? Come on, Lucia."

Eliana traced Harriet's finger and saw a lovely girl in black-rimmed glasses get up as she pointed.

"Miss Stone," she said.

Eliana was surprised upon taking a glance at her on her way towards them.

She recognized her!

She recalled that the previous time when the electricity went out in the Moran Group building, a girl stood next to Lilian and tried to admonish her, but Lilian halted her.

And she refrained from joining in Lilian's taunt just now.

Eliana had a good opinion of her.

"From this point on, Lucia will be Eliana's intern."

Harriet's patronizing tone belied the seriousness of her command.

"Certainly, Miss Stone. I commit to putting forth a lot of effort."

Harriet nodded and gazed at Eliana once more.

"I've actually gotten you an ally. You can begin right away."

After that, she walked away without a moment's hesitation, leaving Eliana and Lucia alone.

They were both feeling a bit ashamed. Eliana was the one who initiated the conversation. "You are still an intern? Why do I get the impression you have associated with the organization for a long time?"

Lucia Todd flushed. She gave Eliana a bashful look and remarked, "Hello there, Miss Pierce. My name is Lucia Todd. I've been with the firm for three months now."

"Three months, you say? How come you haven't become a regular worker?" Eliana inquired in shock.

Lucia's smile faded, and she bowed her head.

"I haven't been officially hired since Miss Stone hasn't validated my request. Probably... Maybe she thought there was something I haven't done well enough. I don't think I'm going to become a regular worker here."

Eliana noticed the sadness on her face and tried to cheer her up by saying, "Eliana is fine with me. Do not feel down. I'll see if I can get an answer from the hiring manager for you. You didn't do anything wrong, so you probably would be a regular."

Lucia sighed instantly. "That's a lot to expect of you, Miss Pierce. It's fine if I can't become a permanent employee here as long as I can gain valuable experience. I shall master from you henceforth!"

What a sincere young lady.

Eliana could only take a breath as she observed Lucia's lack of interest. "Call me Eliana, please. Let us collaborate to fulfill this objective."

"All right!" Lucia's competitive spirit was retrieved.

After that, Eliana and Lucia went downstairs. Upon getting out of the entrance, they found Harriet waiting beside the road, and the silver Maybach halted in front of her.

Eliana noticed Maurice in the backseat as Corbin stepped out of the car to let Harriet in.

Once Harriet was buckled up, the car started.

Eliana felt an overwhelming sense of loss as she glared sadly at the car as it pulled away.

"Eliana? Eliana? What's the matter with you?"

Lucia turned to look at the stunned Eliana in surprise.

Harriet tried to engage Maurice in a conversation while they rode in the car; nevertheless, he simply shut off his eyes to rest with no response.

As time went on, Harriet gave up.

At some point, while driving, Corbin had to inquire.

At a red light, Corbin turned to Maurice and stated, "Boss, when we picked up Miss Stone just now, I appeared to have seen Eliana at the entrance..."

"I don't want to know anything about her," said Maurice after opening his eyes.

"Mr. Jenkins, you should not bring an unrelated person to Mr. Moran in order to bother him," Harriet stated. "In addition, Mr. Moran's grandfather has cardiac issues. Don't bring up Eliana in his presence either."

Corbin moaned as he looked at Maurice, who said nothing but seemed to comply.

It appeared that Maurice and Eliana were still at opposite ends of the spectrum.

#### [Chapter 440 Forced Marriage](#)

Soon, Maurice and Harriet arrived at the hospital. Inside Eorle's ward, Nancy was taking care of him.

Nancy looked at Eorle. Seeing his weak appearance, she couldn't help asking, "What happened yesterday? Why did you get so excited that you had a heart attack?"

Her words reminded Eorle of the twins yesterday, especially the little girl who looked like Rosina.

But he knew that once he told Nancy, he would probably make her sad. So he chose to remain silent.

Nancy was about to ask again when Maurice walked in with Harriet.

"Mrs. Moran, I heard that Mr. Moran is sick, so I come to see him."

As usual, Harriet flattered them openly.

But unfortunately, Nancy didn't buy it. She looked behind Harriet and found that Eliona wasn't there. She felt very disappointed.

But she still expressed her gratitude to Harriet. "Miss Stone, thank you. I heard from Maurice that you asked the doctor who performed the surgery on Eorle to check on him."

"It's nothing, Mrs. Moran. Don't mention it."

Harriet waved her hands politely, inadvertently showing the necklace on her neck.

When Nancy saw the familiar jade necklace, her expression softened a little.

She didn't expect that Harriet would wear the necklace she gave.

So Nancy's attitude towards Harriet softened.

When she felt that Maurice and Eorle seemed to have something to talk about, she went out of the



word with Harriet.

Soon, Maurice and Harriet arrived at the hospital. Inside Earle's ward, Nancy was taking care of him.

Nancy looked at Earle. Seeing his weak appearance, she couldn't help asking, "What happened yesterday? Why did you get so excited that you had a heart attack."

Her words reminded Earle of the twins yesterday, especially the little girl who looked like Rosina.

But he knew that once he told Nancy, he would probably make her sad. So he chose to remain silent.

Nancy was about to ask again when Maurice walked in with Harriet.

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But she still expressed her gratitude to Harriet. "Miss Stone, thank you. I heard from Maurice that you asked the doctor who performed the surgery on Earle to check on him."

"It's nothing, Mrs. Moran. Don't mention it."

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When Nancy saw the familiar jade necklace, her expression softened a little.

She didn't expect that Harriet would wear the necklace she gave.

So Nancy's attitude towards Harriet softened.

When she felt that Maurice and Earle seemed to have something to talk about, she went out of the ward with Harriet.

After the two women left, Maurice immediately asked Earle about what happened yesterday.

But Earle didn't answer. Instead, he said, "Maurice, do you know whose kids are the twins playing with Silas?"

Maurice's heart sank upon hearing this question. Why did Earle have to ask about the twins?

No, he couldn't let Earle find out the relationship between Eliana and the twins.

So he replied with feigned calmness, "I don't know. They are Silas' friends from his kindergarten. But you don't have to worry about them. They are just children."

"Oh, I see." Earle sounded disappointed.

"Grandpa... Why did you suddenly ask about them?" Maurice asked back.

"Nothing. I just feel that the twins look like you. If I hadn't known that you never had an intimate relationship with other women except for Eliana, I would have really suspected they were your kids," Earle said with slight sarcasm.

Maurice didn't expect to hear it from Earle.

He was surprised that Earle thought Aileen and Adrian looked like him.

Soon, Earle's face became serious again. "Maurice, let me remind you. Use contraceptives every time you are with Eliana. She can't carry our heir. The heir to the Moran family can only be born to your legal wife."

"Grandpa, it's too early for you to say that. I have never considered getting married yet," Maurice replied impatiently.

"Too early? You are almost thirty years old. Men start a family first before they achieve more. But all your attention now is on that tramp. How am I supposed to entrust the Moran Group to you?"

As he spoke, Earle became excited again. The heart rate monitor next to him beeped.

"Grandpa, just relax. Don't be so excited. Don't worry, I'll think about it," Maurice hurriedly comforted him, and his heart rate finally stabilized.

"Get married as soon as possible and give birth to the heir of the Moran family."

Maurice was agitated inside. He had a lot in his mind, but he couldn't say anything more to irritate Earle now.

His own child?

He fell silent. He had never thought about having children.

He would never sleep with another woman, let alone have kids with them.

But what if he and Eliana's children?

For some reason, he liked this idea.

At this moment, Earle's secretary came in with a blue jewelry box. He handed it to Maurice.

"Grandpa, what is this?" Maurice asked.

His brows furrowed in confusion.

"I prepared this for you. Give it to Harriet as soon as possible," Earle said in a commanding tone.

When Maurice opened the box, he saw an exquisite big diamond ring inside.