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Benjamin sat on the edge of the executive desk and reached for the phone.

The secretary said, "Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Louise is looking for you."

Mr. Louise?

"Is it Maxwell Louise from Louise Corporation?"

"Yes, Mr. Benjamin. That's him."

Benjamin turned to Emmeline, covered the phone receiver, and whispered to Emmeline, "Your dad is here."

"My dad?" Emmeline thought, then nodded, "Let him in."

"Go to the inner room and stay for a while." Benjamin pointed to his lounge.

Emmeline went to the lounge while taking her cup of coffee.

After ending the call, the secretary invited Maxwell into the CEO's office.

After all, it was Emmeline's father. Benjamin got up to greet him and pour him a glass of water.

Maxwell sat on the sofa and said stiffly, "Mr. Benjamin, I come here without an appointment. I apologize."

"That's fine."

"I'm sure you know why I come." Maxwell's expression was a little bitter

Of course, Benjamin knew that.

Since Maxwell dismissed Ethan from Louise Corporation, Adelmar Group had stopped all cooperation with Maxwell.

Moreover, several companies cooperating with Louise

Corporation also canceled their orders in response.

That made Louise Corporation's business go downhill and difficult.

As a result, Maxwell got a sudden cerebral infarction because of that matter.

Now that he had recovered. His relationship with Emmeline and Ethan also had eased. So, his first thought was to take the opportunity to restore the business. Otherwise, how could

be live in the future? He could not rely on Alondra, who only knew to squander money.

Benjamin nodded. "I've also heard a little about the situation of Louise Corporation."

Maxwell begged, "Mr. Benjamin, for Emma's sake, please forgive me. Let the past be the past. Please care for Louise Corporation."

Benjamin was about to speak but heard Emmeline cough twice from the lounge as a hint.

"Please wait a minute," Benjamin said to Maxwell. He got up and entered the lounge, then closed the door

"Ms. Louise, what's the matter?"

Emmeline pointed to the door. "Just tell him you'll let Ethan go talk to him."

"Okay." Benjamin nodded.

After leaving the lounge, Benjamin sat down on the executive chair again.

"Mr. Benjamin, about what I just said..." Maxwell wanted to continue the topic.

Benjamin responded, "Well, I'm thinking about this too. How about I ask Mr. Ethan to talk to you?"

"Ethan?" Maxwell was stunned.

"Yes."

Maxwell looked a little embarrassed. He lowered his head. "But I fired Ethan and left him at a loss."

Benjamin replied, "Those were in the past. After all, he is your son. Mr. Ethan won't hold grudges."

Maxwell nodded. "Okay, I also want to have a good relationship with my son. After all, I'm old, and the Louise family will have to count on Ethan in the future."

Emmeline's cough came from the lounge again

"Pardon me." Benjamin got up again and went over.

Maxwell watched Benjamin go to the lounge with some doubts.

Why does it sound like there's a woman in it? And it sounds like Emma?

Benjamin entered the lounge, closed the door, and asked, "Emma, what do you want me to tell him?"

Emmeline's eyes turned red. "Tell him the Louise family has to rely on Ethan instead of Alondra. Remind him to visit my mom's cemetery."

Benjamin was silent, then nodded. "Got it."

Coming out of the lounge,

Maxwell looked at Benjamin with

some scrutiny. He wanted to see something from Benjamin's expression, but Benjamin remained calm.

"Mr. Louise, what you said is right.

Mr. Ethan is your only son. When you grow old, you can only rely on him.'

Maxwell nodded. "Yes, you're right! It was me who did everything wrong before."

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"You could see it. When you were ill, it was your son taking care of you. He's the one you can count on in the future," Benjamin continued.

Maxwell nodded again. "That's right. Only my son and daughter care and are nervous about me. If Emma didn't cure me, I would probably be paralyzed."

As he spoke, his eyes turned red

"If I'm paralyzed, Alondra must run away with the money! She won't serve me!"

Benjamin sighed. "Even though Mrs. Louise passed away early, remember the past and visit her cemetery. I believe Ethan and Emmeline will be grateful to you."

"You're right." Maxwell stood up. "I was wrong before, but I won't do that anymore."

"That's good. You go back first. I'll ask Mr. Ethan to bring the project to you?"

"Thank you, Mr. Benjamin!" Maxwell left contentedly.

Emmeline came out wiping tears.

Looking at her reddish eyes, Benjamin felt amused and distressed. He took a tissue to help her wipe away her tears.

Emmeline said, "Ever since Mom passed away and Alondra came in, Dad never took me and Ethan seriously. He followed Alondra's wishes to drive us away. Now he feels we're good, but he made us suffer so much since childhood."

"Alright." Benjamin gently hugged her shoulder and comforted her softly. "You and Ethan have grown up and are fine now."

Emmeline nodded. "I forgive Dad, but I'm afraid he'll listen to Alondra's instigation sometime soon.'

Benjamin answered, "That's okay. As long as Ethan is in charge of Louise Corporation again, your dad only needs to rest, and Alondra can't do anything."

"I think so." Emmeline smiled. "Thank you so much for today."

"Thank what?" Benjamin pressed her little nose. "I only transferred messages. If Maxwell knew the boss behind me was his daughter, his reactions would be wonderful!"

Suddenly, the secretary said outside the door, "Mr. Benjamin, the takeaway you ordered has arrived."

Takeaway?

Benjamin was dumbfounded. When do I order takeaway?

He opened the door, only to see a delivery girl enter.

The delivery girl held flowers and a delivery bag. She wore a helmet and a deliveryman's costume. But Benjamin recognized her right

away

"Janie?" Benjamin scolded angrily, "Didn't you at home? Why did you come to me again?"

Benjamin's scolding made people from nearby offices crowd to watch the excitement.

"I..." Janie was stunned. She did not expect Benjamin to recognize her at a glance.

"I just don't want you to eat restaurant food. You have a bad stomach and are skinny."

"I told you I don't need it! Learn to settle the meals myself. I don't need you to make it for me!"

"But I've already prepared for it. It's according to your taste."

"Take it away!" Benjamin said coldly.

Janie did not know how to react. Many people watched her from behind.

"What's wrong?" Emmeline came out of the office.

Janie saw the pretty Emmeline in a white dress. Janie was stunned at first, then felt envious of Emmeline's charm.

I believe no man can resist her temptation. Emma came out of Mr. Benjamin's office. But as I know, the CEO's office isn't accessible to anyone, especially women.

"Emma, you're here." Janie was puzzled.

Emmeline was a little embarrassed and nodded. "Yes."

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"But..."

Janie took off the helmet and stared at Emmeline. "Aren't you Mr. Benjamin's cousin? Why do I feel that you two are very close? And you seem to be with Mr. Benjamin at any time."

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Emmeline had no idea how to explain to Janie.

"Mr. Benjamin." Janie suddenly burst into tears and asked chokingly, "I understand now. You don't accept me because you like your cousin, right?"

Benjamin was speechless.

Janie looked at Emmeline again "Emma, I thought you were my best friend. It turned out you were lying to me!"

Janie threw the lunch box and flowers on the ground. Then, she turned and ran away.

Emmeline and Benjamin were dumbfounded on the spot.

Emmeline would order Benjamin

to chase Janie if they were on the main road. But now, they were in the building of Adelman Group.

Benjamin was the highest leader of the Adelman Group, so she could not order him to go after Janie.

However, she did not want to break Janie's heart. Few girls dared to love so boldly these days. That was why she wanted to help Janie.

"I'm leaving first," Emmeline said unhappily to Benjamin.

Since I can't order Benjamin to go after Janie, I'll go after Janie myself.

"I'll send you off," Benjamin said.

"No need." Emmeline shook her head. "I'll go down with the CEO's private elevator."

Benjamin said nothing more because many people were nearby the CEO's office.

Those people were thinking and guessing about the relationship between Benjamin and Emmeline since she could take the CEO's private elevator freely.

"Have you all ever seen beauty?" Benjamin shouted to them.

They immediately closed their office doors.

Emmeline took the CEO's private elevator down to the first floor, and Janie had long since disappeared. She took out her phone and called Janie.

At first, Janie did not answer. She

was probably out of anger. When Emmeline called again, Janie picked it up.

It was Janie who spoke first. "Emma, I can't believe what I saw. I can't believe you're lying to me."

"You're right if you don't believe it," Emmeline said as she walked, "I have a close relationship with Benjamin, but it's not what you think. We're not in love. I've said it a hundred times."

"I trust you, or you wouldn't help me pursue Mr. Benjamin, but..."

After a pause, Janie continued, "Emma, have you noticed that Mr. Benjamin looks at you differently?"

Emmeline was a bit difficult to answer for Janie.

She had noticed Benjamin's feelings toward her three years ago. But their relationship did not change because of that.

She was still his young master, and he was still her butler. Their relationship was pure.

"Emma, are you listening?" Janie could not hear Emmeline's voice.

Emmeline answered, "Janie, let's meet and talk. I can't make it clear on the phone."

Janie responded happily, "Okay, I'll treat you to coffee!"

Emmeline said, "Let's not drink coffee. I always drink it."

"That's right. How about tea?"

"Okay. Which tea room shall we go to?"

"The one opposite the Adelmar Group on the north side."

Emmeline looked across from Adelmar Group. There was an antique building, which obstructed her sight, but Emmeline remembered a tea room behind it.

"I just got off the building I'll wait for you on the opposite side."

Janie answered, "Okay! I just arrived at the intersection. I'll turn around ahead."

After about ten minutes, Janie parked the car and entered the tea room. As Janie still wore the delivery man's costume, the waiter thought she was delivering food

"I came to meet my friend," Janie explained hastily.

"Janie, I'm here." Emmeline stood up and waved to Janie.

Janie hurried over and sat opposite Emmeline.

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The waiter had already brewed a pot of tea, then left.

Janie pouted. "Emma, do you think I feel wrong? Women's feelings are very accurate. Mr. Benjamin likes you."

"Uh..." Emmeline gave a cup of tea to Janie and answered, "Maybe you don't feel wrong, but you have to believe that Benjamin and I don't have a relationship. That's enough."

But if Mr. Benjamin likes you. How can he accept me?" Janie was a little worried. "You're so beautiful and lovely. I can't replace you."

"I misjudged you. How could such a difficulty scare you? I wouldn't have matched you and Benjamin if knew your timidity. Anyway, I have nothing to do with him. You just watch him marry another woman in the future."

"That won't work!" Janie almost jumped up. "Mr. Benjamin can only marry me!"

"Good to have the courage." Emmeline pouted. "I know I'll never be with Benjamin, and I think you're good, so I tried to match you two. Do you think I'm that free to help you?"

"I understand now." Janie blushed a little. "I'll seize the opportunity to pursue Mr. Benjamin."

Emmeline said, "That's the best. I don't want Benjamin to be alone forever. I'll feel uncomfortable to see that."

Janie patted her chest. "Don't worry. Leave this problem to me! He won't be single later!"

"That's great!" Emmeline laughed "As long as you work hard, you can success."

Janie nodded. She must have perseverance and would not give up until she could be with Benjamin.

Thinking of Benjamin, Janie blushed.

Emmeline saw Janie blush and felt a little puzzled.

“What’s wrong with you? I only encouraged you. Why are you blushing?”

Janie tugged at the collar.

“Nothing. The clothes are a bit thick. I’m hot.”

“Drink more tea.” Emmeline poured her tea. “You’ll feel better.”

Janie picked up the teacup and took a sip. The atmosphere between them eased, and it turned into chatting.

Suddenly, Janie stared at the phone screen and said, “What does she mean? Is she getting engaged?”

Emmeline raised her head when she heard that, then gossiped, “Who wants to get engaged?”

Janie responded, “It’s Alana Lane. The entertainment reporters always like to obtain her news.”

Alana?” Emmeline froze for a moment. “Show it to me.”

”

Janie turned the phone screen to Emmeline.

Emmeline stared and saw it was a Twitter repost by an entertainment reporter, and the original link was indeed named Alana.

“Thanks to him for giving me time to restore my health and beauty. I look forward to the engagement with him.”

Those words hit Emmeline’s heart like a hammer. It made her suffocate, stuffy, and painful.

It turns out that Abel is going to be engaged to Alana. Abel was not perfunctory with Old Mr. Ryker. Otherwise, Alana wouldn’t dare to post publicly!

Emmeline suddenly wiped her mouth hard.

Janie was taken aback, then asked, “Emma, is something wrong with this tea?”

“Nope,” Emmeline replied.

“Then, why are you wiping your mouth so hard?”

“I suddenly remembered Late blue cheese. I still feel smelly now.”

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Janie frowned. “Your preference is peculiar. You like blue cheese?”

“I regret eating it.” Emmeline spat “That thing is a bit greasy!”

“Hurry up and sip tea.” Janie picked up the teapot and poured tea for Emmeline.

Abel did not know that Emmeline described him as blue cheese. He sneezed twice.

Who is scolding me?

He did not know who was scolding him, but he was shocked by the forward news on his phone.

“Thanks to him for giving me time to restore my health and beauty. I look forward to the engagement with him.”

Is this Alana’s post? Abel furrowed.

Alana, how dare you spread the news? The engagement eight months later is only my plan to delay. Are you not afraid you’ll be embarrassed if you can’t get engaged?

Alana was not afraid of being embarrassed. She dared not think about what would happen eight months later.

She only wanted to make the whole of Struyria know she would be engaged to Abel.

As for the engagement time, she let them speculate on it. She even wanted Emmeline to guess it as she bet Emmeline would feel pain during the process.

Emmeline, have you seen my Twitter now? I spent money on the entertainment reporters to repost it crazily. And Abel, you should have seen it too, right? You told me about the engagement, so you can't blame me for posting it!

Alana wanted to test Abel's reaction. Sitting on the hospital bed, she dialed Abel's phone number.

Abel was staring at the post when a phone call suddenly came in. It was Alana. After pondering for a while, he picked it up.

Alana asked softly over there, "Abel, are you busy?"

Abel answered lightly, "No. I'm in the office looking at your Twitter."

Alana pouted coquettishly. "I was so happy that I couldn't help post it on Twitter. Please don't blame me."

"I won't."/Abel remained indifférent.

Alana was Timothy's mother, who risked her life to block the gun for him. He was willing to treat her well if she was kind and gentle.

Although he could not give her love, he could respect her and give her kindness. He was willing to find a reliable man for her and give her endless wealth so that she could enjoy a life without worrying about everything. But he felt wary and disliked her. He could not have genuine feelings for her but had no choice be with her.

Alana asked, "Abel, I know you're busy. That's why you didn't come to see me."

Abel did not answer her. In fact, he was not busy but did not want to see her either.

"Abel, I don't blame you. The Ryker Group is so huge. I know you must have spent all your time on your work."

Abel remained silent. The Ryker Group was moving forward smoothly without any problems.

"Abel, why don't you bring Timmy over here? I've been in the hospital. I miss him so much that sometimes I cry alone..."

Abel hesitated. Would Alana miss her son? He was unsure about that.

"Abel, I'm sad that Timmy doesn't like me. It's because Madame Ryker brought him up in the Ryker family. I spent very little time with him and didn't even give him breastfeeding. It makes me sad to think about it..."

What she said was true. Timothy had been with Rosaline since Alana brought him to the Ryker family.

"Abel, please, bring Timmy over here. Let me meet him. I miss our son..."

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Abel looked at his watch, then answered stiffly, "Okay, after half an hour, I'll take Timothy from the kindergarten to see you."

Alana pretended to be so happy that she cried and said repeatedly, "Abel, thank you! I knew you would love me and fulfill my wish!"

Abel ended the call. Meanwhile, Alana held the phone, looked at the call record, and sneered.

After thinking about it, she called the entertainment reporter hired yesterday.

"Within half an hour, bring a few bloggers to the hospital. I'll pay you later."

The entertainment reporter replied happily, "That's great, Ms. Lane! I'll gather a few people and go there immediately!"

Luca drove Abel to kindergarten. After seeing Timothy, Abel explained the situation to him.

Timothy pouted. "Daddy, can I not go there?" He lowered his head and looked at the ground.

"Why?" Abel frowned. In fact, Timothy's expression made him feel pain in his heart.

"I don't miss Alana and don't want to see her."

Abel squatted on the ground, then patiently explained, "But Timmy, Alana is your mother. She was injured trying to save me. She'll be sad if you refuse to see her."

"She's not my mother." Timothy shook his head and looked into Abel's eyes. "Daddy, you all must have made a mistake."

Abel said, "I also hope it's a mistake, but your granny made a paternity test for you and Alana. We can't deny it."

"Is the paternity test sure to be accurate?" Timothy looked aggrieved. He did not want to accept the fact.

"Of course. Your granny did it in our hospital."

Timothy started crying upon hearing that.

"I'm sorry." Abel sighed. He hugged Timothy.

"I didn't give you a complete family and a qualified mother. I didn't even accompany you. It was my mistake. I'm sorry, Timmy."

Timothy shook his head and answered childishly, "I don't blame you. I just think that it's best if you can make Emmeline my mommy. You said you'll work hard. Let's do our best together."

"Okay, let's do our best together to make Emmeline be your mommy." Abel kissed Timothy's tender face. "This is a secret between you and me. Don't tell others, okay?"

"Okay." Timothy nodded sensibly. "We can't tell Alana, or she'll ruin you and Mommy Emmeline."

It was a sad topic. But Timothy's last sentence made Abel laugh.

Luca could not help but praise Timothy's cleverness in his heart. He believed Timothy would be excellent like Abel in the future.

They arrived at Ryker Hospital and took the elevator to Alana's floor. When they left the elevator, they saw the corridor full of people. Abel frowned.

Just as Quentin came over, Abel grabbed him.

"Dr. Anderson, why are there so many people here? What happened?"

"Mr. Abel?" Quentin looked in a hurry. "You came just in time! Hurry up and drive those people out! They're disturbing Ms. Lane."

"What's going on?" Abel asked,

"Where's Alana?"

Quentin explained, "Those entertainment reporters came to interview Ms. Lane and asked if you had a good relationship with Emmeline. They wanted to know why you'll get engaged to Ms. Lane. Ms. Lane couldn't explain it and got anxious. Then she triggered the sequelae and caused shortness of breath. She's in the emergency room now."

"Alana is in the emergency room?"

Abel was surprised.

"Yes, I'll go in to help."

"Okay, go quickly!" Abel was a little worried about Alana.

He caused Alana to have sequelae, so he did not want her to have any more trouble. Otherwise, it would be more troublesome.

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Abel frowned and ordered, "Luca, go ask the security to drive those people out."

Yes, Mr. Abel Luca hastily carried out the order.

Half an hour later, Alana was out of the emergency room. Lying on the pushed hospital bed, she smiled weakly at Abel.

Abel frowned, then felt Timothy's hand shrink in his palm. He knew that seeing Alana like this made Timothy feel bad too.

Alana lay back on the hospital bed in the ward, and Quentin pulled the quilt over her.

Then, he turned around and said to Abel, "Mr. Abel, it's lucky that Ms. Lane is in the hospital, and we can give her treatment in time, or it would be dangerous

Fortunately, Ms. Lane is fine now."

Abel nodded. "Thank you, you've worked hard."

"You're welcome." Quentin put his hands in his pockets and hurried away.

He cooperated with Alana and the entertainment reporters to act when Abel came. But Quentin felt uneasy and dared not face the keen Abel. It was better to leave as soon as possible.

Alana said weakly, "Abel, Timmy, I'm so glad to see you two."

Timothy pouted and said timidly. "You have to listen to the doctor's advice and treat well to recover."

Alana smiled sweetly at Timothy "Timmy, you're good. You know to love me. I'm so touched."

Timothy did not speak but hid behind Abel.

Although Timothy could not bear to see the weak Alana, he did not love her. Just like he always felt that Alana never loved him.

Alana smiled. "We're a family.

Those entertainment reporters were talking nonsense!"

Abel said, "Ignore those people. They did that for the sake of news."

"They didn't say anything excessive." Alana lowered her eyebrows. "They only asked me about the relationship between you and Emmeline."

Abel remained silent.

"I said that you have nothing to do with Emmeline. They didn't believe it because they saw you get so close to Emmeline. I explained for a long time, but they were still aggressive that I couldn't breathe. I'm sorry, Abel. I made you and Timmy worry."

Abel answered, "It's okay. Luca has driven those people away. You can take a good rest."

Alana grabbed his hand. "But Abel, you have nothing to do with Emmeline, right? I didn't explain wrongly to the entertainment reporters, did I?"

Abel frowned and nodded

Alana was happy, then said softly, "I'm relieved now. I was afraid I might say something wrong."

She took Timothy's hand and asked, "Timmy, have you listened to Granny during this time? Are you happy in kindergarten?"

Timothy hung his head and answered her question mechanically.

Alana sat up from the hospital bed and put her arms around

Timothy's shoulders. Timothy flinched, then got off her hug.

Alana whimpered. "Abel, I knew it. Timmy separated from me a few years and didn't close to me. Well, that's fine. After we get married and live together, I must make it up to Timmy."

Abel did not speak, but Timothy stared at Alana gloomily.

"Will you and Daddy get married?"

“Of course!” Alana stroked Timothy’s head with a gentle smile. “We’re going to get engaged soon, and of course, we’ll get married afterward. We’ll live together, and I can care for you.”

“But I don’t want it!” Tears welled up in Timothy’s eyes. “I don’t want you to be my mommy! You don’t deserve it! You’re not my mommy! I don’t like you!”

Alana’s expression turned cold. “Timothy, don’t say nonsense.

“I said you’re not my mommy! I hate you!”

Abel scolded, “Timmy, don’t mess around!”

“I hate you too!” Timothy yelled at Abel, “You lied to me! You’re going to marry Alana. Why did you lie to me? I never trust you again!”

Timothy burst into tears and ran away crying.

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Abel rushed out and yelled, “Luca, stop Timmy!”

A nurse car came head-on, and Timothy gave it a shove. All bottles and cans fell to the ground and blocked Luca. The nurse also screamed in fright.

Timothy entered the elevator when Luca helped the nurse, who almost fell.

Abel chased after Timothy and shouted to Luca, “Don’t let Timmy go! It’s dangerous outside!”

Timothy had closed the elevator door and randomly pressed a few floor buttons. When the elevator door opened, he ran out and entered another elevator.

When Luca brought the bodyguards to the lobby, Timothy had already left the ward building to the parking lot.

There happened to be a car unlocked by remote control, so he got into it secretly and followed the owner out of the hospital.

Abel came downstairs while Luca and the bodyguards failed to find Timothy.

“Lock the hospital! Don’t let anyone leave!” Abel roared.

Meanwhile, Timothy followed the car owner to a supermarket parking lot. Just as car, Timothy slipped out of the back seat, then ran away.

Abel immediately blocked the entire Ryker Hospital, but after searching all corners and the vehicles, he still could not find Timothy. He only realized that

Timothy had left when checking the surveillance.

“Track that car immediately!” Abel’s expression darkened. “We must find Timmy quickly!”

“Yes, Mr. Abel.” Luca’s face was full of sweat.

A group of bodyguards who had experienced battles could not catch a child. They would lose their faces if someone else knew about it.

Luca felt extremely ashamed that he wished to cut himself into pieces on the spot.

Soon, the bodyguards detained

the car in the supermarket parking lot. They pinned the car owner, who looked puzzled.

“Sir, are you mistaken? I haven’t seen a little boy at all!”

“The hospital’s surveillance showed that the child got into your car. quibble? Hand over the child now! Or you won’t be able to leave alive!”

The car owner shouted, “Butt didn’t see that child! Or you won’t catch me in the supermarket!”

Soon, the bodyguard informed

Luca, “Mr. Luca, we’ve checked the surveillance in the parking lot. Timothy has already run away.”

Luca was speechless. We’re so useless! Late again!

They instantly left the innocent car owner on the ground. He was full of grievances but dared not yell anymore.

At the same time, Timothy stood on the road without knowing where to go. He wanted to call the triplets, but his phone was in a backpack in Abel’s car. For a moment, he felt that the world was so big that he had nowhere to Timothy could not help but burst into tears.

“Little boy, what happened?” A woman’s voice came from behind.

Timothy looked back and saw a young mother pushing a baby carriage. The young mother looked delicate and gentle. He also saw a sleeping baby in the baby carriage.

Timothy felt she was kind, so he responded, “Auntie, I have no home. Nobody wants me. I’m sad.”

“How come nobody wants you?” The young mother, Kendra Walsh, squatted and wiped Timothy’s tears.

“Where are your parents? They will be worried when they don’t see you.”

“My daddy and mommy don’t live together.” Timothy whimpered. “Daddy is going to marry another woman. I don’t like that woman, and she doesn’t like me either, so I have no home, and nobody wants me...”

When Kendra heard that, she understood. She thought Timothy’s parents divorced and did not live together. Then, his father had a new love, and the new love did not like Timothy and kicked him out.

Kendra felt pity for Timothy. She hugged Timothy and coaxed softly, “Even so, you can’t run out alone. How dangerous is it? What if the traffickers catch you?”

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don’t know.” Timothy continued crying in Kendra’s arms.

“You should go to your mother. No mother would be cruel enough to abandon a child.”

“But...” Timothy thought of Emmeline and shook his head

“Mommy will send me to Daddy again, and everything will be the same.”

“Then, what do you do? It’s getting late now.”

“I don’t know.”

Kendra suggested, “Maybe you can go home with me first. After you think about it, I’ll help you make a call. You can choose to find your father or mother, okay?”

Timothy thought for a while, then nodded. “Okay.”

I don’t know where to go anyway. Just listen to this auntie first.

“Okay, come with me.” Kendra crossed the zebra crossing with Timothy and her baby.

After turning several corners, Timothy followed Kendra to a tree-lined road.

“Auntie, aren’t we arrived yet?” Timothy could barely move.

He followed Kendra while clutching the baby carriage and had already walked a lot. He was full of sweat, and he was gasping.

“I’m so sorry.” Kendra stroked Timothy’s head. “I don’t have much money, so I can’t take a taxi. We can only walk a few steps.”

“Okay then.” Timothy nodded sensibly. “I’m not tired. I can help you push the baby.”

“Thank you.” Kendra wiped the sweat off Timothy’s face and smiled. “You’re a good boy.”

Suddenly, the baby began to cry. Kendra had no choice but stopped the baby carriage at the roadside. Then, she bent down and picked up the baby.

Timothy raised his head and asked with concern, “Auntie, why is the baby crying?”

“She’s hungry.” Kendra’s throat choked. “We have to go home quickly. I’ll make cereal for her.”

“Why don’t you give her milk?” Timothy wondered. “Cereal doesn’t taste well.”

Kendra smiled bitterly at Timothy but said nothing.

After walking for a long time, they finally entered an ordinary community. Kendra opened the door and pushed the baby carriage in. Timothy followed her and closed the door behind them.

“Kendra, have you bought the supplement I want?” A middle-aged woman’s voice came from the bedroom.

“I bought it.” Kendra was a little unhappy. “But I haven’t bought the baby’s milk powder. I don’t have enough money.”

“Hmph!” Kendra’s mother-in-law, Ella Bradley, rushed from the bedroom.

“My son gives you so much money every month! What do you use it for? You only want some supplements. How come you can't buy milk powder? You just dislike me for spending money! I can spend it on whatever I like! That's my son's money, not yours! It's useless for you to complain!”

Kendra lowered her head, and tears of grievance filled her eyes. Just as Ella wanted to continue nagging, she suddenly saw Timothy behind Kendra.

“Whose child is this?” Ella raised her eyebrows and asked, “Is he your relative? I warn you! We don't have extra meals and can't afford to support idlers!”

“He's not my relative.” Kendra hugged her daughter in one hand and pulled Timothy with the other. “I picked him up on the roadside. He couldn't find his family, so I brought him back.”

“You picked him up?” Ella was surprised. “Nobody wants such a cute child?”

Kendra answered, “How could nobody want him? I'll ask for his family's phone number later and send him back. His family must be worried about him.”

Ella looked at the cute Timothy, then pondered. She squatted down and asked, “Little boy, tell me, how old are you? What's your name?”

When Timothy looked at Ella, he felt she was not good. He pouted and did not speak.

“Is he stupid?” Ella frowned. “I asked him questions. Why didn't he understand?”

Kendra responded, “He's not stupid. He talked to me on the road just now. He's good.”

“Then, why is he ignoring me?” Ella became gloomy.

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Kendra squatted and asked Timothy, “Little boy, you haven't told me. What's your name? How old are you?”

Timothy looked at Kendra before replying, “My name is Timothy Ryker. I'm four years old.”

“Where is your home? What are your parent's names?”

Timothy did not want to mention Abel, let alone admit that he was Alana's child. After thinking about it, he lowered his head and answered, “My mommy is Emmeline Louise.”

“Emmeline... Louise?” Kendra frowned, then asked, “Do you have any siblings?”

Timothy shook his head.

“Only you?”

Timothy nodded.

“What...”

Kendra froze as if she had thought of a terrible thing.

“Hey, this kid isn't stupid!” Ella became happy again. “That's good!”

Kendra said coldly, "Mom, he's a poor boy. Don't try to do something bad!"

"Don't think me wrongly!" Ella beamed. "I just think we can ask his parents for some remuneration."

"I don't want to go home!" Timothy yelled, "Don't send me to Daddy! I don't want to!"

Kendra comforted him, "Calm down. I didn't say I would send you to your father. After you think about it, I'll follow your decision, okay?"

Timothy nodded. "Thank you, Auntie."

"Are you hungry? Want me to make something for you?"

Timothy looked at Kendra and nodded.

Ella's expression was sullen. "But we have nothing extra for him. You've spent all the living expenses my son gave you."

"Mom, how can you say that?" Kendra's eyes were reddish. "You know how much living expenses your son gives me. I have to give you money for playing cards, take care of the family's expenses, and the baby's milk powder. Not to mention that I didn't buy anything. Even if it's just for household use, the money isn't enough!"

"Then you can return to

Brookwater Wellness Center to be a nurse! Why did you marry my son? I'm looking forward to having a grandson, but you gave birth to a girl! You have no reason to complain!"

Kendra's expression darkened, and she did not answer.

"You also know that the Brookwater Wellness Center is over. There was a murder case, and the center was closed. You have no place to earn money, right?"

Ella scolded coldly, "Then stay home to care for your child, do the housework, and serve me! Your daughter doesn't need to drink milk. Just make her some cereal!"

"But I'm working as a part-time worker. I don't eat and drink for free. I can earn my daughter's milk powder by myself!"

"How much money can you earn? Buy milk powder? It's not even enough for me to play cards!"

Timothy was listening. Although he did not understand what Ella and Kendra were arguing about, he felt annoyed. It was not a place where he could stay.

So, Timothy turned around and wanted to leave

"Wait!" Ella grabbed him. "Did I let you go?"

Timothy almost fell when Ella pulled him. He immediately cried aggrievedly.

"Mom, what are you doing?" Kendra pulled Timothy over. "Don't scare him!"

"I didn't!" Ella said, "It's dark outside and dangerous for him to go out."

She pulled Timothy from Kendra's arms and said, "I can afford your meal. You stay here for now."

"Mom." Kendra frowned. "I told you not to think something bad. If you

lose in cards, I can give you the money. I haven't bought the baby's milk powder, and there're two hundred dollars. You take it first. Don't scare Timothy."

"You still have two hundred dollars?" Ella's eyes sparkled. "Why didn't you say it earlier? Give me quickly! I want to play cards!"

Kendra sighed and took out two hundred dollars from her wallet.

Ella snatched it away, opened the door, and left.

Timothy looked at Kendra and asked, "Auntie, did I bother you?"