CEOs Baby 1131

Chapter 1131

1131 The War Has Started: The Battle of Wits Between Jeanne and Edward

"So what should we do now?" Nox asked.

"Strike first and gain the upper hand," Edward said bluntly.

Nox frowned. He did not have the patience to think about something so deeply.

However, Edward did not answer Nox either. Instead, he picked up the phone and dialed a number. "Finn."

"Yes, Fourth Master."

"How's George?" Edward asked.

"He's with me. Do you need me to send him back?"

"No need. I'll get Teddy to come over. He'll stay with you for the time being."

"Alright," he said.

"Did you say that the Sanders was most likely involved in Gary's surgery?" Edward asked.

"Yes, it's still under investigation."

"There's no need to investigate anymore. Just announce to the world everything that the Sanders has done to the Cardellinis and that they used Michael to do their crimes."

"What are you planning to do?" Finn frowned.

"Let the war break out!"

"Alright." Finn agreed immediately.

In fact, as long as it was an order from Edward, he would do it.

"Get everything ready and wait for my good news."

"Okay."

Edward hung up the phone and said to Nox, "Let the Sanders take care of themselves first."

Nox really felt that if Edward died, he would be letting the heavens down!

At that moment, he had no choice but to say, "Edward, don't be soft on Jeanne."

That woman would not be soft-hearted to him.

"She'll understand." Edward was determined.

He believed that Jeanne would understand him, just like how he understood her.

In the face of national interest, they had to make their own choices. Once the dust settled, the winner would be king.

Then, no one would be able to blame anyone!

...

In the Sanders' residence, Jeanne had returned and was standing in Warren's study.

Other than Warren, Chester was also in the study.

The two of them acted very well.

Warren asked, "Why are you back so late? Have you had dinner? Is Edward not with you?"

"No," Jeanne replied.

"Did you have a fight with Edward? Did Edward bully you? I'll stand up for you." Warren was very kind.

He could pretend that he did not know anything. He even looked very friendly.

"Father, Edward killed Kingsley," Jeanne said.

Warren looked very surprised. At that moment, he said in disbelief, "Really? How could this be? Wasn't everything fine yesterday? Weren't you fine when you returned back to my side?"

"I want to talk to you about how to take down the Duncans' power." Jeanne enunciated every word.

At that moment, Warren had no choice but to remove his disguise.

He glanced at Jeanne and sighed heavily. "So you know."

Jeanne nodded.

"I didn't want to involve you in this, but..." Warren was helpless. "I just hope you can understand my difficulties."

"I understand." Jeanne said bluntly, "I just want to kill Edward and avenge Kingsley."

"Alright." Warren agreed immediately. "I will definitely satisfy your request."

"Father, have you thought about what to do?" Jeanne asked.

Warren shook his head. "I was just talking to your brother about this. We're at our wits' end. You, too, know that I'm the leader of the country, so we can't do as we please as we have to answer to our citizens. The current situation is that the Swans control the majority of Harken's economy. If we touch them, it's very likely that our economy will collapse. That's one aspect. The other is that the Duncans, which the Swans support, have been stirring up trouble. We still don't know who the Duncans are. If we knew, we would have just arrested them. But because we don't know, too many innocent people will be sacrificed, and that is what makes us a little helpless now."

"That person wasn't important from the start." Jeanne was straightforward.

Warren frowned.

Chester was also surprised.

"It's best if you can find him, but it doesn't matter if you can't. After all, as long as we weaken his power, he'll only be an empty shell. He can only hide for the rest of his life, and he won't be of any use."

Warren was shocked by Jeanne's words.

He did not expect Jeanne to be so imposing.

Yet, he had been obsessed with finding that person.

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He had been obsessed with finding and killing that person.

"The Swans should be the Duncans' biggest pillar of support." Jeanne said directly, "Let's attack the Swans."

"How?" Warren asked.

"Find a crime and convict the Swans."

"...The country isn't child's play. We can't simply convict someone. We need evidence!" Warren did not agree.

If it did not work, it would make him a topic of discussion, and the people would be angry. Hence, the gains they would get from doing that would not be worth it.

"I didn't say that we have to convict him of the crime we found. There has to be evidence to convict someone. Otherwise, the public wouldn't be convinced, and the Swans wouldn't admit to their crime so easily. We're just making the Swans commit a crime themselves! If the Duncans want to make a move now, they would have to make up for the lack of powerful backing like the Swans. Hence, the Duncans wouldn't take this risk without the Swans' help. But since the Duncans have already been exposed, they must be prepared to do something big. That's why the Swans won't dare to let anything happen to them and will resist us."

"You're saying that if we find a crime to arrest the Swans, they'll resist us? Then..." Warren was a little excited.

"Then, the Swans will really be found guilty, and it's only right that we attack them." Jeanne made it clear.

That would solve the problem of the Sanders not being able to find a reason to attack them for so long.

Warren had to take a deep breath before he turned to look at Chester.

He really did not expect that Jeanne would be able to solve all his problems with just a few words.

What he was afraid of now was that if he touched the Swans, he would not be able to convince the public.

However, if they went with Jeanne's method and the Swans resisted their investigation, the Swans would naturally look guilty, and the Sanders would have enough reason to punish the Swans.

It was indeed a good idea.

However, Warren looked at Jeanne. "What if the Swans don't resist but give in to us instead? We can't do anything to them without any evidence. In that case, we'll just be wasting each other's time."

"If the Swans really don't resist, we can delay the trial until the Duncans' patience runs out!" Jeanne said, "After all, once we restrain the Swans, we'll cause internal turmoil in the Duncans if we find any clues about them. It will force the Duncans out of hiding."

"How can we find these so-called clues about the Duncans?" Warren asked.

At that moment, Jeanne had his complete attention.

"Father, haven't you been investigating the Duncans? Why did you stop? Do you think that it's too much work, or do you really think that you can't find this person?" Jeanne asked.

Warren had no choice but to answer honestly, "I feel defeated that I can't find such a person. I just think that the Swans have hidden this person in a place that's impossible for us to find, so I've started to slack off on the investigation."

"It's normal for you to feel this way. If it were me, I would feel the same. If I spent so much effort to find this person only to not find him at all, I would think I wasn't capable enough to find him too." Jeanne said, "Of course, I'm not trying to find this person because I don't think I have the ability to find him either. What we need to do now is to let the Duncans and the Swans think that we might be able to find this person."

"I understand what you mean. You're saying that if the Swans submit to us and don't start a direct conflict with us, we'll put on a show to make the Duncans panic. Once they can't hold themselves back anymore, they'll panic."

"Once they panic, they will lose the ability to consider many things. We should take this opportunity to take down the Swans and annihilate the Duncans' remaining forces." Jeanne's words were firm and powerful.

Warren decided. "Alright, let's do that!"

In the current situation, the Duncans were not the only ones wanting to make a move. He, too, could not hold back any longer.

He knew very well that if this situation dragged on and he allowed the Duncans and the Swans to develop as they wished, his rule over Harken would end very soon.

"I suggest it's best for you to plan everything tonight. We should strike first tomorrow morning when the Swans and Duncans are caught off guard. I've talked to Edward before, and he's not a simple person. If we delay this for too long, he'll be able to defeat us first and force us into a dilemma."

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"I know that very well." Warren was a little angry when he spoke. "I've really learned a lot recently. I thought that with your relationship with Edward, he would at least give me some respect, but really... he doesn't even care about you."

He deliberately tried to drive a wedge between them.

However, Jeanne did not agree with him.

Warren continued to put on a show. "In the end, Edward even killed Kingsley. The more I think about it, the angrier I get! Jeannie, don't worry. I will definitely avenge you."

"Thank you, father." Jeanne did not want to put on an act with him as she felt tired.

Hence, she said, "Father, I'm a little tired. I want to go back to my room to rest."

"I'll send you back to your room," Warren quickly said.

Jeanne shook her head. "It's alright. You have more things to do. I shall not waste any more of your time."

"Alright. Go back to your room and have a good rest. Don't think too much. I'll be here for you."

"Yes."

With that, Jeanne nodded and left the study.

Mason had been waiting for her outside the study and would not leave even a single step.

Everyone knew that they were walking on thin ice here, and if not careful, they would be doomed.

In the study, Warren's expression darkened as soon as Jeanne left.

Naturally, Chester's expression also changed.

He asked Warren, "Can Jeanne be trusted? Could it be a show by Jeanne and Edward?"

"I don't think so. I've secretly investigated Kingsley and Jeanne's relationship, and it's true. Since Edward has killed Kingsley with his own hands, it's reasonable for Jeanne to want to kill Edward. Most importantly, she must be my daughter. Once I fall from power, do you think the Duncans will tolerate her? Don't look down on Jeanne. Although she didn't grow up by my side, her abilities are definitely not inferior to yours and your sister's. I know that she's not a simple person from her series of operations in the business world. Take Michael for example. Didn't Qiao Qing easily take him, a talent I thought so highly of, down?" Warren said sinisterly, "Since Jeanne is smart, she knows what she should be doing now. It's obvious that her only choice is to help me stabilize the Sanders' regime."

"You're right, father, " Chester said respectfully.

"Learn from Jeanne in the future." Warren said, "Harken will be yours one day. You can't let me down."

"Yes, father."

"Of course." Warren's eyes narrowed. "Just in case, we still have to keep an eye out on Jeanne's every move. Although Jeanne might have already given up on Edward, they still have a son, George, and I'm afraid that he'll drag her down."

"You mean that Jeanne might give up on killing Edward because of George."

"Now that George is in Edward's hands, if Edward uses George as a threat, it'll be hard to guarantee what Jeanne will do! So..." Warren's face darkened, and he said cruelly, "When necessary, don't show George any mercy."

"Yes." Chester nodded.

There was also a sinister look on his face.

Jeanne returned to the bedroom in the Sanders' residence that the Sanders had prepared for her.

She was in this room with Edward just yesterday, and from today onward, they would be facing off against each other.

The next time they meet, only one of them would live.

Jeanne sat on the sofa in silence for a long time.

As she thought of Kingsley and Lucy, her eyes reddened. However, she forced himself to calm down.

Before she could take her revenge, she did not have the right to feel pain!

...

At 9 a.m. the next day, the Swan family's manor was suddenly surrounded by the police.

After a night of preparation, the Sanders found a reason, which was that the Swan Enterprise had an illegal business transaction with another country and caused huge losses to Harken's economy. The police detained all the people involved with Swan Enterprise and blocked all of the company's economic and trade dealings at the same time to conduct a thorough investigation.

As a result, Swan Enterprise's finances were temporarily controlled by the Sanders, and the Swans were naturally shackled by the Sanders.

The person who led the arrest was Chester Sanders. As the fourth young master of the Sanders, it was natural for him to handle the matter personally, and the matter was not a trivial one.

He stood in front of Edward and took out the arrest warrant. "Someone anonymously reported Swan Enterprise's illegal profit-making that has caused a huge loss to the country. We need to bring the person in charge of Swan Enterprise back for interrogation. Fourth Master Swan, please come with us."

Edward looked at Chester and sneered. "I didn't expect the fourth young master of the Sanders to come personally."

"The Swans are the most loyal family to the Sanders. My father has specifically instructed us not to mistreat you. Fourth Master, please don't make things difficult for me so that I can go back and report to my father."

"Why would I make things difficult for you?" Edward said, "Since the Sanders think that I have done something wrong, I naturally have to follow you back and be investigated."

"Thank you for your understanding, Edward." Chester gestured.

The two police officers behind Chester stepped forward and cuffed Edward's wrists.

Edward's eyes narrowed as it crossed his mind that the Sanders might find some groundless charges.

He did not expect that they would act so quickly. In fact, they were even faster than him.

However, he did not resist and was taken away by the Sanders.

After all, he could not resist. The moment he resisted, it would mean that he had really done something wrong.

Once he did something wrong, the Sanders would have enough reason to brazenly punish the Swans.

The Duncans, on the other hand, had never thought of taking over the Sanders' power in such a way.

In order for the Duncans to better manage Harken, they needed to use a reasonable method to replace the Sanders' position.

At that moment, other than Edward, Elaine, Richard, Nox, and all the members of the Swans who worked in Swan Enterprise were also detained.

As for Zachary, because he had retired for many years, and because the Sanders deliberately wanted to show their respect to him and the Swans, they did not detain him. However, it was clearly stated that Zachary could not leave South Hampton City, and if needed, he could talk to him at any time.

Just like that, the entire Swan family was brought to the police station.

It was so smooth that even Warren found it unbelievable.

He asked Jeanne, "Do you think something is fishy about this?"

"It's hard for me to guess." Jeanne said, "Instead of wasting time thinking about why Edward would compromise so easily, it's better to ask him directly. Since he's in our prison, we can do whatever we want!"

"That makes sense." Warren said, "Let's go and meet Edward now. Jeannie, do you want to go?"

"Yes." Jeanne said bluntly, "If I don't go, I won't be able to find out what Edward is planning in secret."

"That's good." Warren nodded. "I'm just afraid that you haven't gotten over him."

Jeanne smiled.

There was nothing that she could not get over.

She had no feelings for anyone now.

With that, Warren brought Chester and Jeanne to the Sanders' higher-class prison.

Only important people would be imprisoned or detained here if they committed a crime. It was obvious that to the Sanders, the Swans were not an ordinary family.

Under the guidance of the staff, Warren walked into the room where Edward was being held.

Edward looked up and saw Jeanne standing beside Warren.

It turned out that she had chosen to return to the Sanders.

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Harken's high-class prison was not as dark and humid as a normal prison. Moreover, it was much cleaner and drier.

Edward raised his head and saw Warren walking in with Chester and Jeanne.

In the end, Jeanne returned to the Sanders.

Edward did not show any emotions, and neither did Jeanne.

In fact, when he was arrested by the Sanders for false charges, he had already guessed that Jeanne was behind it all.

The Sanders had not been able to think of a way to restrain him for such a long time, but suddenly, they came up with something as if they had an inspiration. No matter what, he found it very suspicious.

The only suspicious person was Jeanne.

Edward pondered over the situation.

"Edward, I never thought that we would meet in such a way. In my heart, the Swans have always been an important existence! I remember telling you that we've always treated the Swans as loyal, yet you guys have betrayed my trust." Warren spoke in a neutral voice.

Edward looked at him. "I don't know how I betrayed your trust. I don't even know why you would detain me. I only remember you giving me an important task during Ms. Stacey's wedding. I really don't understand why you've suddenly changed your mind after only two days."

Both of them had already come to this point, yet they were still putting on an act with each other.

Jeanne stood behind Warren without saying a word.

Edward's line of sight was no longer on her.

They seemed to have a tacit understanding that their relationship had ended.

"Change my mind?" Warren sneered, "I didn't change my mind. It was you who didn't keep your promise."

"Why do you say that, Leader?" Edward continued to give a perfunctory answer.

"Edward, we're all smart people, so I won't beat around the bush. It'll be a waste of everyone's time if I do that." Warren asked, "Where is the Duncans' descendant?"

Edward's eyes narrowed.

Did that mean Warren was not putting up an act anymore?

He said, "I've already told you before that I don't know of this person's existence. All I know is that you've entrusted me to find this person's whereabouts. However, I'm just an ordinary person. I'm not God. How can I accomplish something that you couldn't in such a short time? Leader, you really think too highly of me."

"Edward, I don't want to use any underhanded means on you." Warren's face darkened.

It was obvious that he was not happy with Edward's answer.

Edward sneered. "Do you think that your current methods are good?"

Warren was embarrassed by Edward's jab.

"You're imprisoning me on a false charge just to find the so-called descendant from me. As the leader of a country, don't you think that your actions are despicable?"

"Enough!" Warren was visibly angry.

As the head of the Sanders, he had never been looked down upon like that in all his years.

Warren said, "I don't want to waste any more time with you. Just tell me, who is the Duncans' descendant? Otherwise..."

Otherwise, would it end badly for Edward?

Edward replied indifferently, "I told you, I really don't know who the so-called descendant of the Duncans is! Leader, if you're willing to give me some time, I can help you to investigate it. But if you insist on me giving you an answer now, I can only tell you that my ability is limited and I can't meet your requirements."

"So there's no room for negotiation, huh?" Warren was obviously getting impatient.

Edward did not reply, and his silence was considered a tacit agreement.

"Chester," Warren ordered coldly.

"Yes," Chester replied respectfully.

In the next second, he walked to Edward and took out a high-grade taser.

There would be no wounds or deaths, but it would make people suffer so much that they would wish they were dead.

That was an unwritten but legal method of interrogation for criminals when one was afraid of leaving evidence behind. It was a very popular method in the Sanders' regime.

Basically, no one could take it.

In the end, they would all plead guilty.

Chester walked up to Edward and gave a look to his bodyguards, who then stepped forward and restrained Edward.

Edward's eyes were cold.

He watched as Chester walked closer to him, and the moment he reached out, Jeanne suddenly said, "Brother."

Chester turned to look at Jeanne with a frown.

Warren also looked at Jeanne in the same way.

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He was visibly angry.

To them, Jeanne was still reluctant to part with Edward, which meant that she was going against the Sanders.

If that was the case, Jeanne would not be of much use.

"Can I do it?" Jeanne suddenly said.

Her voice was cold and devoid of any warmth.

Surprised, Chester turned to look at Warren, waiting for his instructions.

"I want to do it personally." Jeanne said, "He killed Kingsley, and I want to avenge Kingsley!"

Chester could not make up his mind.

However, Warren agreed immediately. "Let Jeanne do it."

Chester immediately handed the things in his hands to Jeanne.

After a small high-grade taser was placed in Jeanne's hands, she walked toward Edward and said, "Edward, we were once husband and wife, and I never thought this would become of us one day."

Edward looked at Jeanne.

There was no trace of emotion on her calm face.

"I thought that no matter what, we would still have feelings for each other. Even if we have to fight each other one day because of our different standpoints, I didn't think that we'd die at each other's hands. However, you killed Kingsley, someone who was very important to me. From the moment you killed him, all my feelings for you disappeared."

"I know," Edward replied.

He knew everything.

Since Jeanne had chosen to return to the Sanders, she had already chosen their relationship — a relationship that was the most impossible for them to be together.

Jeanne stopped a step away from Edward.

She did not say much. With just a few words, she told Edward that their relationship as husband and wife was over.

As for the rest... All that was left was hatred!

At that moment, Edward looked at Jeanne who, without hesitation, placed the high-grade taser on his abdomen and pressed it against his skin.

The excruciating pain caused Edward's face to contort. He instinctively wanted to break free, but he was restrained by the Sanders' bodyguards and could not move.

He endured it, and with his bloodshot eyes, he looked at the numb Jeanne.

Jeanne let go of Edward and looked at him enduring the pain. She asked, "Who is Alex?"

Edward did not reply.

The result of no answer was...

Jeanne's hand moved closer to his abdomen again. She hit his body with the teaser again and again with all her might.

The feeling of being in so much pain that one would rather die could really torture a person and make them want to die immediately.

Edward clenched his fists tightly, and his entire body tensed up as he endured the pain.

Jeanne actually knew that torturing Edward would not help at all because Kingsley had used it on Edward the last time. Edward almost died, but he did not say a word about Alex.

This time, she would not succeed either.

She removed the taser from his body again and watched him sweat profusely and go deathly pale.

She asked, "Who on earth is Alex?!"

Edward continued to look at Jeanne indifferently.

He looked at her calm face, which was starting to show some irritation, and said, "Jeanne, you know I can't tell you."

His voice was not very weak, but he was clearly putting up a strong front because he did not want Jeanne to see his current state.

Jeanne sneered.

Yes. Edward would not tell her.

No matter how much Edward loved her, they stood on different sides. In the face of national interest, love was worthless.

She placed the taser back on Edward's abdomen.

This time, she kept it there, using high-voltage electricity to hit his body. It was cruel and cold-blooded, causing Edward's entire body to suffer.

Edward's face turned paler.

He did not make a single sound, but his body was trembling violently from the pain. The pain on his face could not be concealed, and it made him look extremely ferocious.

If that continued...

"Jeanne!" Chester reminded her.

Even if the modified taser would not kill the person immediately, it could cause death if it was used inappropriately. It would not be the first time such cases had happened in the Sanders, and Jeanne's actions right now were problematic.

She could not keep electrocuting him.

There was a limit to a person's ability to tolerate pain. Once it exceeded the limit, one could die from the pain.

However, Jeanne did not seem to have heard Chester.

She looked coldly at Edward, the man in her hands who was in pain.

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However, she was emotionless. There was not a single trace of emotion in her eyes as she watched his expression coldly.

At that moment, there was even killing intent in her eyes.

Perhaps she was here to kill him, unlike the Sanders, who did not dare to touch him.

If he were to die in prison and the Sanders could not explain themselves to the outside world, it would cause chaos.

However, Jeanne did not need to care about that because she only needed to kill Edward and avenge Kingsley.

Hence, she exerted more and more force on Edward's abdomen.

The electricity struck Edward's entire body. That continuous intense pain was not less severe than any injury he had suffered before. Even if it was a knife wound, a gunshot wound, or a whip, the pain would not last forever. However, the only thing that was forever was the voltage that seemed to penetrate his bones and circulated in his body. He did not even have the time to take a breath.

"Jeanne!" Chester sounded agitated.

He turned to look at Warren, seeking the latter's opinion.

If that continued, Edward might really be killed by Jeanne. Once Edward died, there would definitely be internal conflicts in Harken. Then, once conflicts arose and the Duncans took advantage of that, the Sanders would be in danger.

However, at that moment, Warren did not signal for Chester to stop Jeanne.

On one hand, he was considering whether he should really kill Edward through Jeanne and use Jeanne as an excuse.

Anyway, Jeanne was just a pawn. It was worth it to exchange her for Edward.

On the other hand, he was also checking to make sure that Jeanne was not lying to him.

Chester reminded him that Jeanne might be acting with Edward.

At that time, he had dismissed Chester's idea. However, as the head of the Sanders, he would naturally consider more things than others. In order to ensure that nothing would go wrong, he wanted to see how cruel Jeanne could be to Edward.

Did they really become enemies?

With that, the stalemate lasted for a long time until even Edward felt that his body might not be able to take it. Perhaps in the next second, he would really die in that prison.

"Enough!" Warren suddenly stepped forward and pulled Jeanne's hand away.

The murderous intent in Jeanne's eyes was still visible.

The moment Warren pulled her away, she switched to her other hand and tried to get close to Edward.

She had been in the Hills for so many years, so she should be able to sense what was the limit of life.

She should be able to sense that Edward's life was about to end in the next second.

"Stop her!" Warren could see through Jeanne's plan.

The two bodyguards who were holding Edward down immediately stepped forward, held Jeanne down, and snatched the taser from her hands.

At the same time, Edward, who could only stand up by relying on the bodyguards, fell to the ground.

He was unconscious on the ground, his face pale.

Warren gave Chester a look.

Chester walked up to Edward and placed his finger under Edward's nose. He was trying to confirm if Edward was dead.

Then, after a few seconds of silence, Chester nodded at Warren. It meant that Edward was not dead yet.

Warren looked at Jeanne with hostility.

He said coldly, "Jeanne, I didn't say you could act recklessly!"

At that moment, he was telling her off.

Jeanne bit her lip.

"In a situation where we don't have evidence to prove that Edward is guilty, you will be creating trouble for us if you kill him!" Warren chided, "Since you've returned to the family now, you have to follow the rules of the Sanders!"

Jeanne's throat moved, but she held herself back.

"Let's go!" Warren ordered.

He allowed Edward to fall to the ground, unconscious.

Then, with a long face, he left the prison first.

Chester quickly followed behind Warren.

Jeanne turned to look at Edward, who was lying on the ground, his life or death unknown. After that, she turned around and left the prison.

They sat in Warren's car that car drove toward the Sanders' residence.

No one said a word in the car, and the atmosphere was solemn.

When the car arrived at the Sanders' residence, Warren instructed, "Jeanne, I hope you can go back and calm down."

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Jeanne pursed her lips and slowly said, "Yes."

"Chester, come with me."

"Yes."

As Warren left with Chester, Jeanne looked up at their backs before going straight to her room.

Everything she had done today was just to gain Warren's trust.

Of course, she did not show any mercy to Edward. However, the most important thing was to dispel Warren's suspicions of her.

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Warren brought Chester back to his study.

"As expected, your prediction is right. Jeanne and Edward really don't have any feelings for each other anymore. If we hadn't stopped her, Jeanne would have killed Edward." Chester could not help but admire his father's foresight.

Warren sneered. He was also proud of his previous guess.

He said, "I originally wanted Jeanne to kill Edward just like that. At most, I would use Jeanne as an excuse. It would be a life for a life anyway, and no one will say anything about our Sanders."

"Why didn't you do that?" Chester was surprised.

It did not cross his mind that he could use Jeanne to kill Edward first. Once Edward was killed, they could dampen the Duncans' spirit.

"Jeanne is still useful." Warren said bluntly, "Think about it. We couldn't do anything to the Swans for such a long time, but Jeanne managed to restrain them so quickly. In the current situation, it doesn't matter whether Edward is dead or not. He's being held captive by us, so he can't do anything anyway. On the other hand, Jeanne can be by our side and play a greater role. Killing Jeanne now will be a disadvantage to us."

"You're right, father. It's not worth it to exchange a useless Edward for Jeanne."

"Once I take down the Duncans, I'll let Jeanne kill Edward and then convict Jeanne. That would be the perfect plan."

"What a well-thought-out plan, father! I'm impressed," Chester quickly complimented his father.

Warren smiled sinisterly.

'Jeanne, don't blame me for being too cruel.'

In the face of great benefits, anything could be sacrificed. Furthermore, that sacrifice was worthless to him!

•••

The news that the Swans had been arrested instantly spread throughout Harken. Everyone was discussing the matter, stating their opinions.

The news garnered a lot of attention, and the daily reports about the Swans were everywhere.

Finn also saw the news. In fact, it had been a week since he saw the news.

However, a week had passed, and there was no progress on the case. However, the Sanders' officials would respond to the matter every day. It gave the people a feeling that the Sanders would conduct a

fair trial on this matter, that they would not tolerate evil, and that they would not wrong any good person.

Every day, the progress of the case would be announced to the public so that everyone could see the Sanders' sincerity on that matter. After all, the trial was held against the famous Swans, so they would not neglect it.

That way, nothing bad would be said about the Sanders.

Finn had read the latest news today.

At first, Edward had told him to announce the Sanders' scandal, but now, it was the Swans' who were in trouble.

Moreover, he lost all contact with Edward after the incident and could not get any orders from Edward.

He had already gone to look for Old Master Swan.

However, Old Master Swan was also being monitored, and there were many things he could not say to him. Hence, he did not receive any orders.

The thing in his hand had been pressing down on his hand.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door from outside his office.

Finn put down his phone and tried to calm himself down. "Come in."

The door was pushed open.

It was Sarah.

Today was Sunday, so Sarah was on holiday.

When she was on holiday, or to be more precise, when she was free, Sarah would be with her aunt in the hospital.

Recently, she had not been bothering him much. As such, he was a little surprised that she had taken the initiative to look for him today.

Although he was surprised, he was also cold.

Sarah noticed it too.

She had long discovered that Finn was a block of ice that could not be warmed no matter what. To think that she had once been so confident that she could also do what her cousin could do.

Only now did she realize that she could not do it at all.

Finn was not a bad person, but his indifference could really hurt any woman who loved him and make them run away.

She sat opposite Finn.

Chapter 1138

1138 She Meant It When She Said She Didn't Like Him Anymore

She just kept looking at him. However, he did not even look at her.

What was she still hoping for?

She sat there for about ten minutes. After a full ten minutes, she said, "Finn, let's break up."

It did not take her half a year to initiate the breakup.

In fact, they had never dated either, but she still wanted to officially tell Finn that she had given up on him.

She did not have her cousin's strong willpower, so she could not wait silently and selflessly for a man who would never give her a response.

She really admired her cousin.

How did Monica endure it for so many years? The two of them had been in a relationship for so many years.

"Okay." Finn's face was devoid of any emotion as he responded.

Actually, they should have 'broken up' long ago. Their relationship should have ended with Michael's downfall.

The reason why he did not bring it up was that, in his mind, he and Sarah had never even started, so it could not be considered a breakup.

However, since Sarah was so serious at the moment, he could also give her an affirmative answer.

It was a simple 'okay', but it still made Sarah burst into tears.

Did that mean everything she had done was nothing to Finn?

She said, "You've never had feelings for me, have you? For a moment, not even a little bite?"

She continued asking as she still did not want to give up.

"Yeah," Finn replied.

He even nodded.

Sarah laughed, and as she laughed, her tears streamed down her face.

"Finn, have you ever had feelings for anyone?" Sarah asked.

Finn did not answer.

"I used to think that you loved my cousin. I would see you do a lot of small things for her. My cousin was so boisterous and carefree that I thought you tolerated her. However, I'm now questioning my previous thoughts. I always thought that I could do what my cousin could do. But can't do it now not because I'm not as good as my cousin, but because my cousin has not done it either."

At that moment, Finn finally shifted his gaze from the computer screen in front of him to her.

Sarah felt terrible. "You're finally willing to turn around and look at me."

"Sarah, you should know very well that I have no feelings for you." Finn was as cold-blooded as ever.

"Have you ever had feelings for my cousin?"

"That's not your concern."

"In everyone's eyes, you don't have feelings for her." Sarah said word by word, "If you do, I can only say that you've failed. You've failed so badly that my cousin didn't even realize it. If you don't have feelings for her... Finn, I really admire you for being so cold-blooded and heartless! Can you teach me how you seal up your heart like this?"

Finn still remained emotionless despite seeing how agitated Sarah was.

He said, "My feelings are my own business. I don't need to explain it to anyone."

Sarah still wanted to say something, but Finn immediately interrupted her, "I'm very busy right now, and I have work to do. Please don't waste my time."

Sarah laughed coldly.

She said, "Serves us right for being hurt so badly! Finn, your feelings can't even be compared to an animal's. We were really blind to have fallen for you. I hope you will be alone for the rest of your life, until the moment you die!"

After that, she rushed out of Finn's office in despair.

It was true.

She would not like Finn; she did not want to like a cold-blooded man like him anymore.

She had had enough!

Finn just stared at Sarah's back as she left.

That was right. He would spend the rest of his life alone. In this life, he would be alone until the moment of his death!

When Sarah returned to the ward, her eyes were red. However, she was trying hard to control herself.

At that moment, Monica was also in the ward but was working on the laptop.

Sarah did not know when it started, but whenever Monica came to the ward, she would bring a briefcase with her and deal with a lot of work matters at any time.

Monica had been busy the entire day.

...

Sarah did not know why her cousin had changed so much.

However, she felt that as long as Monica did not have feelings for Finn, anything was fine. Chapter 1139

1139 She Meant It When She Said She Didn't Like Him Anymore

She had to work hard now and make up her mind to give up on Finn.

Sarah said, "I've broken up with Finn."

At that moment, Monica's fingers that were typing on the keyboard paused for a moment. However, she did not show any emotions and continued to work.

On the other hand, Ruby, who was peeling fruits, was a little surprised.

After such a long time, Ruby had also returned to her normal self. It was probably because she had accepted the fact that Gary might not wake up again.

She was even wondering whether she should leave the hospital with her family. Then, she would come to visit Gary every day.

After all, it was not a good idea for the whole family to stay in the hospital.

When she heard what Sarah said, she was a little surprised. "Why did you guys break up? Did something happen?"

"No." Sarah was unwilling to admit that their relationship was fake from the very beginning.

She also had her reputation to keep.

"Why did you break up if nothing happened?" Ruby said with concern, "Relationships are not child's play. How can you break up just like that?"

"I'm only 18 years old. I'm so young. How can I be so devoted to someone?" Sarah made up a random excuse. "I don't like Finn anymore. I like a boy in my class."

Ruby was speechless.

Monica also turned to look at Sarah.

"Can't I like someone else?" Sarah made herself look brave. "My classmates are like that too. They break up in the shortest time possible. I've been with Finn for a long time."

"You said that you almost gave up your life for Finn back then, and now, you don't like him just because you say so? You child, what can I say about you?!" Ruby said in a reproachful tone, "Don't you think it'll be embarrassing for us to face Finn considering that we tried so hard to matchmake the two of you?" "What's there to be embarrassed about? It's not as if Finn had feelings for me. He only got together with me because he found me annoying. Now that I've taken the initiative to stop liking him, he can't be happier."

"I should've known that children are unpredictable." Ruby did not accept Sarah's choice of words. "I won't interfere with who you date next time."

"You shouldn't have interfered in the first place. I'm a grown-up now. Don't you think I know what I like?"

"Yes, yes, yes. You're a grown-up." Ruby would not blame Sarah. "It's good that you broke up. Finn is indeed much older than you, and you two don't match.

"Yes." Sarah nodded.

"I've peeled some fruits for you. Eat more, especially Monica. Don't work all the time. Eat something," Ruby instructed.

"Alright," Monica replied.

"I'll go see your dad now." After that, Ruby washed her hands and left the ward.

Only Sarah and Monica were left in the ward.

Sarah ate the fruit her aunt had peeled and looked at her cousin as she ate. "Your mom wants you to eat something."

Monica gave a simple response to acknowledge Sarah.

"Cousin, can you stop?" Sarah was not used to Monica being so busy.

At that moment, Monica had just finished one of her tasks.

However, Sarah was making a lot of noise beside her, which made it difficult for her to concentrate.

In the end, she turned off the computer.

Then, she picked up the fork from the fruit plate in front of her and took a bite of the fruit.

"Cousin, I broke up with Finn. Don't you feel anything?" Sarah asked seriously.

Her cousin used to like him, so she should be a little emotional.

However, there was nothing. Monica did not even say a word and just shook her head lightly. It was as if the person she was talking about was a stranger to Monica.

Since Sarah did not get any answers from her cousin, she said faintly, "Finn really has no heart. I don't even know how you managed to woo Finn back then. How did you manage to move Finn back then? I originally wanted to copy your method to get Finn, but I realized that I don't have the perseverance to do so. I simply can't keep giving, while the other person is completely unmoved."

Monica ate some fruit and said, "Perhaps I was young and ignorant at that time."

"I'm about the same age as you were back then. I'm also ignorant, but I still have feelings. I'll get hurt too." Sarah did not agree with Monica's explanation.

Monica did not know how to explain it to Sarah. She could not possibly tell Sarah that she probably loved him more deeply than he loved her.

At that time, she felt that it had to be Finn.

She pursued him with all she had in her and did not give herself any excuse to back off. She just kept pursuing him.

"Cousin, don't have feelings for Finn anymore." When Sarah did not get an answer, she continued.

"I don't like him anymore." Monica did not seem to be lying. Her tone was so calm that it sounded like she really had no feelings for him anymore.

"I used to think that you weren't worthy of the quiet, reserved, and mature Finn, but now I realize that he's not worthy of your love for him at all. Not to mention when you were dating, even during the three years of your marriage, how did you persist in facing Finn's indifference? You persisted for so many years!"

"I wasn't persistent. I always asked for a divorce." Monica even seemed to smile.

They would argue about getting a divorce every day, but she just could not bear to do it. In the end, it was because of Michael that they got divorced.

Thinking about it now, she found it ridiculous.

"Cousin." Sarah suddenly grabbed Monica's hand.

Monica was stunned.

To be honest, she was not used to Sarah's sudden intimacy even though she did not reject it.

"The two of us used to have some conflicts because of Finn, but I hope that we can make up in the future." Sarah said seriously, "Although I admit that I've always been a little jealous of you and even deliberately let you be beaten and scolded by your mom and dad, deep down, you're still a very important person to me. I was heartbroken when I saw you suffering so much. So, I don't want to hide my feelings for you anymore. Cousin, I'd like us to be the best of sisters."

Monica smiled faintly.

She did not expect Sarah to be so nice to her one day.

However, she pushed Sarah's hand away. "Don't think that you can please me by saying something nice. I've never forgotten all the grievances you made me suffer in front of my parents since I was young!"

"Why are you so vengeful?" Sarah broke down.

When did her cousin become so two-faced?

"I've always been."

"Monica-"

"Don't come near me. I won't go soft."

"Monica-"

In the room, the atmosphere was good with the two of them joking around.

Finn's footsteps left just like that.

He probably felt that his appearance would be a little out of place. That was why he gave up on looking for them to discuss Gary's treatment.

It was true. She meant it when she said she did not like him anymore.

Chapter 1140

1140 The War Has Started: Finn in Danger

Finn returned to his office.

He sat in his office chair and suddenly fell into a daze for a long time.

Too many things had happened recently that made him a little overwhelmed. However, he had to get over it quietly because he would then have to force himself to deal with a lot of things.

He pulled the drawer open and looked at the document in his hand. It was a list of the Sanders' internal scandals that he had sorted out. Many of them had not been confirmed, but they were all facts.

He wondered if using the information he had could really put the Sanders in a dilemma and leave them no choice but to let Edward and Nox go.

It was obvious that he could not afford to make a single mistake. Once something went wrong, the situation might be beyond redemption.

He tried his best to keep calm.

There were some things that he really could not decide on his own, so after hesitating for a long time, he called Alex, the descendant of the Duncans.

In fact, he and Nox were not loyal to Alex. They were only loyal to Edward. In other words, if Alex and Edward were in danger at the same time, in the situation where they were not given orders, he and Nox would only protect Edward.

However, because Edward was loyal to Alex, Finn did not dare to make a decision easily when it came to many things that involved the Duncans.

The call was connected.

"Finn." It was Alex's voice.

"Are we just going to let the Sanders detain Fourth Master? Don't you have a way to save them?" Finn asked.

He did not plan to tell Alex Edward's plan for the time being.

"The Sanders has been very careful in this matter. I haven't found any loopholes that could release Edward, Nox, and the others," the other party said bluntly.

"Does that mean Fourth Master will have to stay in there until the Sanders think they can let him go?"

"You can say it that way."

"Wouldn't that have a huge impact on you?" Without Edward's support, Alex had lost a helper.

"It does impact me a lot, but it's not completely unacceptable. So far, what Edward has left for me is enough for me to go against the Sanders. It's just that without him, I need to be more careful." Alex's voice was cold. "Of course, everything I said just now about being able to do without Edward is on the premise that things go well and the Sanders don't make any big moves. In reality, what the Sanders is doing now is making it difficult for me."

"What do you mean?" Finn frowned.

Alex seemed to have no intention of hiding it from Finn. He trusted Edward, so he naturally trusted everyone around Edward.

He said, "The Sanders are now investigating my whereabouts."

"They still haven't given up?"

After so many attempts, they still had not given up.

"They've rearranged the guest list for Michael and Monica's wedding and began to check them one by one. Although the workload is heavy and the progress won't be too smooth, they will eventually find me, and it's very likely that I will be forced to reveal my flaws." Alex said, "Especially since I'm the closest to him now. Once the Sanders suspects me, I'll be in great danger.

Alex was different from the others, AND The first thing he had to consider was his safety.

Of course, Finn knew, so he was not surprised.

"And now that I'm already part of the Sanders, I can't easily leave. If I do anything unusual, I believe Jeanne will suspect me very soon," Alex said with certainty.

"Jeanne?" Finn frowned.

"Yes, everything was Jeanne's plan, including capturing Edward and how to find me. And she's smarter than I thought. I have to say that she's a threat to me."

Finn fell silent.

Did that mean Jeanne and Edward have really become enemies?

Because Finn had not participated in many of their missions and tasks, the information that Alex gave him at that moment was really a little too much.

"What do you plan to do?" Finn asked.

"Threaten Jeanne." He enunciated each word.

Finn gripped his phone tightly.

He felt that Edward would not want to do that.

"According to the current situation, it's only a matter of time before I'm found out. I still have a very important part to complete, and I can't guarantee that I can complete it before the Sanders confirm my identity. Thus, I must fight for more time to ensure that I can escape unscathed."