

CEOs Baby 1321

Chapter 1321: Finn Is Jealous

At first, Finn was a little depressed, but he felt much better now.

That was right. For so many years, since he was young, he had endured everything himself. Anyway, given some time, he would be able to recover to his best state.

He felt much better after taking his time with two cigarettes.

“You called me at this hour. It can't be nothing. Hurry up, if you have something to say, say it. Don't dawdle.” Nox obviously would let Finn go.

Finn had no idea where to start.

Nox said firmly on the other end of the line, “Did you quarrel with Monica?”

Finn agreed tacitly.

“I knew it. Other than Monica, no one can keep you awake in the middle of the night. Tell me, what happened between the two of you? Did you suddenly feel that there's something wrong with your relationship with Monica? Did you suddenly feel that Monica doesn't seem to love you that much anymore?!”

“Maybe.” Finn was not denying it anymore. “I think you're right. Monica and I don't seem to be a normal couple. Other than sleeping together, we rarely interact with each other. We hardly do anything intimate either.”

“And you still think that the two of you have a good relationship?! Let me tell you, Finn, people who have a good relationship can't wait to stick together. Even if they can't stick together forever because of work, as long as they have time, the two of them will definitely be intimate. And now you're saying you're only intimate with Monica in bed, let me tell you—sleeping with her isn't an expression of your feelings. You're just satisfying the normal physical needs of humans. In today's society, there are too

many men and women like this. Once they lose interest in each other's bodies, they will leave immediately!"

Listening to Nox's words, Finn's emotions were clearly fluctuating.

"Of course, you and Monica are different. After all, you've been together for so many years. You've been on and off, and you've quarreled with each other. In the end, you chose to be together. In addition, Monica was willing to give up her life for you. This is enough to prove that Monica definitely has feelings for you. Since there's a foundation established for your relationship, it's very easy for you to salvage this relationship," Nox said.

He was used to Finn not saying much. In any case, all these were enough for him to express his views clearly.

As for whether Finn wanted to listen or not, it was his business.

Nox continued, "The biggest problem between you and Monica is the lack of communication. Do you know that? If you don't say anything, Monica will never know what you're thinking. She might not even know that you still love her very much. She might think that you're with her to repay her for saving you with her life back then. Think about it, Monica was originally such a cheerful person. Even if she has experienced a lot of things to make herself mature and steady, her personality will not change. Moreover, all changes in a person are external. She won't disguise herself like this to her own people. Once she puts on a mask with anyone, that means she's not treating that person as one of her own."

Finn simply listened. It turned out that even Nox could see through it, but he could not.

"Finn, if you want to be with Monica, I advise you to try to change and be more proactive. If you don't say it, no one will know what you're thinking. If you express yourself, Monica will never know how much you like her. A woman, who has really been hurt, can't open her heart to anyone so easily. The more you don't do anything, the more she will protect herself. Her calm attitude towards you now is obvious that she doesn't want to share too much with you. Perhaps, she still has the impression that the two of you can break up at any time. Do you think Monica has such thoughts? Can the relationship between the two of you improve?" Nox questioned.

At that moment, Finn was utterly speechless.

Nox was such a tough man, but on some days, he would become a relationship expert.

F*ck. Finn cursed at himself.

“Let's not talk about this anymore.” Nox seemed to be unable to accept that Finn was being so wishy-washy. “Anyway, I've already made myself clear to you. What you do next is your business. That's all the advice I can give you.”

“Mm,” Finn replied.

“Don't just give me that one-word reply. If you have something to say, you have to say it. Do you know how anxious you make people feel like that?!” Nox was obviously a little agitated. “Let me remind you again. If you have something to say, you have to say it out loud. Otherwise, you won't have the chance to say it in the future. You'll regret it for the rest of your life!”

Chapter 1322: Finn Is Jealous

With that, Nox hung up the phone abruptly.

The bystander was more anxious than the person involved it seemed.

Nox put down his phone.

He was hit with an inexplicable feeling of emptiness. It was in the dead of night that he felt inexplicably lonely.

He sat on his balcony and lit a cigarette and stared blankly into the night view of South Hampton. He did not know where his sudden sense of loss came from.

He had clearly just been intimate with Zoe and satisfied his desire as a man. Why was he suddenly feeling so? Why was he so sad?

Could it be that Finn had influenced him? It made him feel sad.

He just sat there, smoking away intensely.

“Nox.” Zoe seemed to have not seen Nox for a long time, so she got up to look for him.

Seeing him sitting on the balcony, her soft body leaned close to him and hugged his neck. She said in a coquettish voice, “Why aren't you sleeping? You're smoking here at night.”

“I just talked to Finn on the phone, so I couldn't fall asleep. I was afraid that it would affect you.”

“Did something happen between Dr. Jones and Monica?”

“Those two never had it easy.”

“I think they'll break up sooner or later,” Zoe said bluntly.

Nox looked at her.

“I don't think Dr. Jones is worthy of Monica,” Zoe explained. “Monica is such a strong woman. There will be many people pursuing her. There will always be an outstanding person who will attract Monica.”

“Monica is not the kind of person you're talking about.”

“But the two of them are from different worlds.” Zoe was certain. “It's very difficult for people from two different worlds to get together. Anyway, when I look at Dr. Jones and Monica, I feel that they don't match at all.”

“You're only looking at the outside...”

“Alright, why are we arguing over other people's matters? We have to go to work tomorrow. I want you to sleep with me,” Zoe said coquettishly.

She was very good at acting cute. She took Nox's cigarette.

Nox frowned. He had not even finished puffing.

He then felt Zoe's soft lips on his. Nox was not someone who could withstand temptation, so he carried Zoe back to the bed.

However, Zoe's words suddenly appeared in her mind. It was difficult for people from two different worlds to be together.

Different worlds suddenly reminded him of Shelly. He thought of Shelly, who had left the Winter family for three years.

Back then, when he made a bet with his grandfather for a year, he did not have a woman and did not fall in love with Shelly. He had won, so Shelly left.

She was very tactful and actually left the Winter family.

Thereafter, he had also fallen in love with Zoe. He had not even thought of this woman for a long time.

It was as if... she was someone insignificant.

But for some reason, he suddenly thought of her tonight.

In fact, he did not know if Shelly had contacted his family after she left the Winter family. In any case, he had never contacted Shelly once, nor had he met her when he was with his family, let alone heard them mention her again.

Now that he thought about it, with Shelly's age, she might still be in university.

Perhaps she would still come back after she finished studying.

After all, Shelly grew up in the Winter family. If she did not come back here, where would she go?!

Of course, he would not mind. Other than Shelly wanting to be his wife, he could accept Shelly being in the family.

“Nox.” Zoe's charming voice was filled with complaints.

Nox came back to his senses.

He was actually distracted in the heat of their intimacy.

This was inexcusable.

He hugged Zoe.

The room was filled with... boundless rays of spring.

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Under the night sky, Finn returned to his room.

Monica was still playing with her phone. Seeing him return, she did not show much of a reaction and continued to look at her phone.

He went to the bathroom first. He had just smoked, so he went to wash up.

When he came out, Monica had already turned off the lights on her bedside and fallen asleep.

Finn lifted the blanket and got into bed. He turned off the lamp on his side and approached Monica.

Monica did not move at all.

“Monica...”

“I just realized that I'm on my period,” Monica said.

Finn was stunned.

That was not what he meant. Just as he was about to say more, he felt Monica's body move a little to the side.

She said, “Sleep early.”

Finn said slowly, “Good night.”

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The room fell into complete silence.

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On the same night, Candice did not expect that she would still be in Bamboo Garden even though it was almost midnight.

It was not that she did not want to leave, but only a little reluctant to part with Paige.

It was mainly because Paige had been sticking to her for the entire day, making it difficult for her to just leave like that.

Of course, it was not because of this that she did not leave, or because Paige would not let her go.

Once she mentioned that she wanted to go back, Paige's little face looked aggrieved. Tears filled her eyes. Paige looked at her with big, teary eyes and asked, "Mom doesn't want Paige anymore? Is there something Paige didn't do well?"

As soon as she said that, Candice's heart would melt. She could not fathom how such a cute child could exist in this world. She loved this child so much.

So in the end, that was as far as she got. She left Paige's room carefully after she fell asleep.

Outside the door, Edward was waiting for her. He must have waited for her for the entire night. He thought he should have sent her home after dinner.

Candice was actually a little embarrassed. She said, "Sorry to keep you waiting."

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Edward shook her head and said, "Paige likes you very much."

"Mm." Candice's lips unconsciously curled into a smile.

That was because she had a maternal aura, even if she did not notice it herself.

"It's so late. Do you want to stay tonight?" Edward asked.

"No, I'd better go back," Candice quickly rejected.

Even if she could not bear to part with Paige, she still did not want to continue staying here.

She felt that it would be awkward being under the same roof as Edward.

Edward seemed to smile. "I didn't do anything to you last night."

"I know," Candice quickly agreed. "I'm not talking about what you did to me."

"Does that mean I can do anything to you?"

Candice looked at Edward speechlessly.

Why did she suddenly feel that this stern and tall Chief in front of her was a little flirtatious...

"Let's go. I'll send you off." Edward reached out and naturally pulled her hand into his palm.

It seemed very natural to have intimate contact with her. Candice felt that they had dated like this before.

She followed Edward and left Bamboo Garden. She sat in Edward's private car.

"It's already so late, let the driver drive me home," Candice suggested.

"It's because it's already so late that I don't trust anyone to send you home."

Candice pursed her lips.

Edward was really good at flirting.

At first, she felt that he was distant, but now... he was clearly a veteran in love.

The car drove toward the Nicholsons' residence.

In the car, neither of them spoke much but their hands never parted.

They arrived at their destination and Candice moved her hand. She could not get out of the car because she was being held back.

And he had no intention of letting go even though it was really late now.

However, the moment she tried to break free, the man in front of her suddenly tightened his grip on her small hand.

Candice lost her balance and threw herself into Edward's arms.

She even kissed him on the lips.

It was obvious that Edward did it on purpose!

Chapter 1323: Asking For Hand in Marriage

Candice stared wide-eyed at Edward in the car, who was so close to her.

She felt their lips pressed tightly against each other for a few seconds.

Candice moved away from Edward's lips.

When they parted, she clearly saw Edward lick his lips.

Candice's face turned red. Such lewdness.

Before she interacted with Edward, she would have no idea that he was such a person. She did not even treat him as a real man.

Unexpectedly... he was so down-to-earth, so flirtatious.

She said, "I'm home."

"Yes." His voice was clearly a little hoarse.

"I'm heading in."

"Yeah."

However, a certain someone's hand did not let go.

Candice blushed.

It was just that the two of them were not very familiar with each other, but they had clearly done a lot of intimate things. She felt that the progress was much faster than she had expected.

The two of them were in a deadlock. It was unknown how long the stalemate lasted.

Candice had a feeling that Edward did not want to let her go back.

She heard him say, "I have a lot of work to do this month."

Candice was stunned. He suddenly started talking about other things, and it was so natural.

"So I might spend less time with you." Edward's magnetic voice was still a little husky.

"It's okay," Candice said quickly.

If she married him, she would marry the Chief of Harken. She would be prepared for it.

In fact, when Edward did not do that to her today and caused her to be caught off guard, she really felt that everything between them was going by the book. A date was a date, and a marriage was a marriage. There would not be anything ordinary couples would not do, such as... flirting.

Edward was clearly flirting with her today.

She was really flattered by his actions.

"The wedding ceremony will be regarded with the etiquette as the Chief's, so it will be very grand. There'll be a lot of formalities, and it'll be bigger than you imagine. I hope you can understand."

"Understandable." Candice nodded.

She had long thought about all the things she would face in this political marriage. There was no hope to begin with, so there was no hope at all.

"There will be many things you need to cooperate with during the wedding preparations this month," Edward said. "Try your best to make time for it."

"Okay." Candice nodded obediently.

Such an obedient look... Edward's eyes seemed to emit a trace of helplessness.

Candice could not understand what he was feeling helpless about. It was as if he was looking at her as if she was another person. He did not seem to see the person he wanted. Instead, there was a hint of regret.

Candice was distracted for a second.

"Head in and rest early. Good night." Edward let go of Candice's hand.

The reluctance was apparent, yet he still let go of her.

Candice felt a little disappointed when he did so. She could not believe it herself. It was just a day of spending time together yet that had changed her feelings so much.

Previously, her attitude toward Edward was that she needed to adapt to a man she had no choice but to marry. After today, she felt that she could try to like him.

At the thought of this, Candice's heart skipped a beat.

It was naturally different from his feelings for Paige and George.

This feeling... was really the kind between a man and a woman.

She bit her lip. She could not believe that she would fall in love with a man again so quickly!

But then again... Had she ever loved him?!

Why did she start to suspect that the blank memories she had lost were different from what she had been told?!

Candice tried her best to remain calm. She was so calm that she forced herself to smile.

Just then, the driver had already respectfully opened the door for her and she got out of the car.

She turned around to look at Edward. He probably did not expect her to turn around, so he was caught off guard and she saw the deep love in Edward's eyes.

It was as if they shared a deep bond. It was as if... he had loved her for a long time.

Facing his gaze, her heart suddenly ached. It was an indescribable pain.

It was as if... she had experienced it before.

However, in the next second, when she wanted to find out more, the deep love in Edward's eyes instantly disappeared.

It was as if what she had just experienced was just an illusion.

She said, "Good night."

Chapter 1324: Asking For Hand in Marriage

Edward nodded slightly. Candice walked into the Nicholsons' residence.

Edward kept looking at her back for a long time, at her... familiar back, until she disappeared in front of his eyes before letting the driver leave.

Candice also felt Edward's gaze. She had a feeling that Edward could not see her anymore. She could sense that he was looking at her. It made her feel a lot of emotions, but she did not know which emotion it was.

It was clear one second, and unfamiliar the next.

"I thought you weren't coming back." A sarcastic female voice suddenly sounded in the hall.

Candice came back to her senses. Only then did she realize that Chloe was still awake in the living room, watching television on the sofa.

She was too engrossed in her thoughts just now and did not notice that there was someone else here. She actually walked past her without even greeting her.

"Candice, have you ever taken me seriously?" Chloe's face darkened.

Candice's disregard for her made her expression turn ugly.

All this time, she seemed to have grown up in Candice's shadow. Ever since she was born, everyone had compared her to Candice. Everyone said that they wanted her to learn from her sister. She had been jealous of her since she was young and hated Candice. She had finally waited for Candice to fail the aerial drill and almost died. She would then be able to live a glorious life in this family. However, she did not expect that after so many years, something that never crossed her mind, Candice would actually wake up?!

God knows how upset she was when she found out that Candice had regained consciousness!

Now, she was even more unhappy.

She had initially comforted herself that even if Candice woke up, she would no longer be the Candice of the past. She had been unconscious and out of society for so many years. She would just be a piece of trash. Chloe did not need to care about her at all. Little did she know that the first thing she did when she woke up was to go against her—to steal her man!

Candice stole the best man in Harken, Edward.

The happiness that originally belonged to her had all been snatched away by Candice!

How could Chloe let this go?! She would not be satisfied even if she died.

She looked at Candice with an extremely ugly expression and felt that it was time to teach Candice a lesson.

Her father had gone to the army a few days ago and would not be back for at least half a month. If her father had not been biased toward Candice, Candice would not have had a good time. Since her father was not around, she would torture this b*tch to death!

“You're thinking too much. It's just that it's too late now. I'm very tired, so I want to go back to my room and sleep early.” Candice was actually very calm about Chloe's provocation.

She just felt that... she could not care less, so she did not want to waste time on Chloe.

There was also an inexplicable feeling.

Chloe was a weakling, so she did not want to lower herself to her level.

She actually did not know why she felt so superior.

“Why? Are you showing off that you've spent a lot of time with the Chief?” Chloe was obviously looking for trouble. “You didn't come home last night and slept with the Chief? That's why you're parading it to everyone by coming home so late, just so everyone knows that you're being lovey-dovey with the Chief, right?!”

“When did I do that?” Candice raised her eyebrows. “Did I ask you to stay up till late and wait for me to come back?!”

Chloe was speechless. Candice did not want to waste time with her and left immediately.

The moment she left, she paused for a moment. “Chloe, there's a limit to being unruly and willful. You can do whatever you want in this family, but there are some things that you shouldn't say. You'd better know your limits. Otherwise, you'll implicate the Nicholson family. You'll be a sinner for eternity!”

“Candice, what do you mean? Are you threatening me?! Why? Now that you're the Chief's woman, do you think you're superior?!”

“Indeed.” Candice enunciated each syllable clearly. “So, you have to treat me with respect from now on!”

“Candice!”

“You're on your own,” Candice said and left.

Chloe looked at Candice and was about to explode with anger! What right did he have to strut around in front of her? What right did she have to be so self-righteous?!

If it was not for her political marriage with the Chief, she would be nothing!

Just because she was going to marry him, she thought she had become the queen?!

Dream on!

Chapter 1325: Asking for Hand in Marriage

Dream on!

Chloe would never let Candice succeed. Never!

She felt an indescribable sense of unfamiliarity toward Candice. It was as if she was completely different from the woman she had met in the past.

It was hard to tell when Candice first came back. Candice was obviously unfamiliar with this family. She probably could not remember the past, so she was cold to everyone in this family. She seemed neither good nor bad, so Chloe had no idea what kind of personality she had. Of course, Chloe was not in the mood to get to know her. However, when she saw that Edward and Candice's wedding date was getting closer and closer, she could not hold it in anymore.

She could not help but want to deliberately make Candice suffer, but she was surprised that this woman did not seem to care about her at all.

She remembered that when she was young, Candice would deliberately curry favor with her every time she came back. Now, she was clearly... ignoring her completely.

Chloe's eyes turned cold.

Is she insufferably arrogant because she was about to become the Chief's wife?!

Chloe would definitely teach Candice a lesson!

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Candice lay on the bed after taking a shower.

It was clearly very late, but she could not fall asleep no matter what.

She stared at the ceiling in a daze.

It was not because Chloe's words made her feel uncomfortable and could not relax—she really did not take Chloe seriously, nor was she a threat. Rather, it was because of her relationship with Edward.

There was a feeling she could not pinpoint. She still seemed to be able to feel the heartbeat she felt earlier. It was completely different from how she felt when she treated others.

Was she really... in love just like that?!

Candice took a deep breath. She was letting himself relax silently.

To be honest, from the moment she opened her eyes a year ago, she had the illusion that she had been reborn.

Since it was a rebirth, she naturally had to start over.

There was no particular thing to reject, so she decided to let nature take its course.

The last thing she expected was how easy and smooth it felt when nature was taking its course.

She finally understood why Edward was so reluctant to part with her tonight.

In the month before their wedding, Edward and Candice really did not have time to meet properly. Even the wedding preparations were completed by Edward's assistant. He was so busy that he did not even take wedding photos. Candice wondered if she could just photoshop themselves at the venue.

Then again, she had no idea if there would be any photos at the scene.

According to the traditional ceremonies of Harken, these sessions might not even exist.

One more week till the wedding and the house had been decorated for the day.

The entire residence of the Nicholsons had been refurbished as this was a very important day.

One afternoon while Candice was watching television in the living room, she received a call from Edward.

She had almost forgotten this person's existence. The trace of feelings she had for him had faded because they had not seen each other for a month.

She was still a little surprised that he suddenly showered her with affection.

She took a deep breath and answered the call. "Hello."

"It's me, Ed." The other end of the line used the short form, "Ed".

"Mm, Ed." Candice chimed in.

It was a very normal conversation, but it suddenly made her feel inexplicably shy, even though she could not mask it.

The person on the other end seemed to be in a much better mood when he heard her call his name.

He said, "I'll come to your house for dinner tonight."

"What?" Candice was really surprised this time.

"Our wedding is in a week but I haven't visited your family."

"But I'm afraid they won't be prepared for your sudden arrival."

"They don't need to. What matters is that you get ready."

"What should I do?" Candice asked with a trembling voice.

There seemed to be a chuckle on the other end. "Get ready to see me."

Candice was speechless.

"I'll come to the Nicholsons' residence at around six in the evening," Edward said and added, "To ask for your hand in marriage."

Her heart started beating rapidly again. It was as if she was easily bewitched by this man.

No wonder he was so popular with women.

The two of them did not talk for long. After all, Edward was very busy. She hurriedly mentioned the time and hung up.

Candice did not delay and told Claire that Edward was coming here for dinner.

When Claire heard that the Chief would be visiting for dinner, she was a little excited. She quickly arranged for the servants to prepare and did not forget to call Wyatt to come back early.

Chapter 1326: Asking for Hand in Marriage

All of a sudden, the entire Nicholsons' residence was in a frenzy because of Edward's sudden announcement of visiting for dinner.

Chloe looked at the excitement in the house. Just like that, her mother was excited, and so was her father.

She felt really upset. Originally, she was happy that the Chief was able to come to her house. However, she could not accept the fact that he was here for Candice.

When she thought about how these honors should have belonged to her and how Candice had snatched away the position of Chief's wife, she could not take it anymore.

She returned to her room angrily and dressed up.

Actually... Candice was not as good-looking as her.

In the past, Candice had been living in the army all year round. She had been exposed to the harsh environment and her skin was tanned and rough. Every time she returned from the army, she would compare herself with Candice. Although the adults would praise Candice, their appearances were worlds apart. Every time Chloe appeared in front of everyone, she would look like a delicate little princess, while Candice would always look like a tomboy.

Even though the two of them looked similar, their appearances were completely different.

At most, Candice would be described as a heroic and valiant woman who was not inferior to men.

However, Chloe was often praised for being beautiful and cute. She knew very well that men would definitely choose a wife like her. Who would be willing to marry a tomboy?

But then again, Candice had changed a lot after her return.

She had been sleeping on the hospital bed all year round and had not experienced the harsh outside world. Her skin had recovered tremendously, and even her pores were so small that Chloe was jealous. Moreover, it seemed that not only her skin, but even her figure had looked better. Candice was obviously a flat-chested woman in the past, but now she had become very well-endowed. Not only her figure, but she also felt that she had grown taller.

Back then, Candice was clearly about the same height as Chloe. At most, she was one centimeter taller. This time, Candice was clearly more than three centimeters taller than her.

Could it be that she could still grow taller at the age of twenty?!

That made no sense to her.

After all, it was a medical miracle that she could wake up after sleeping for so many years. She had no time to care about this. She only needed to know that even though Candice's body had changed a lot, she was still not as good-looking as her.

Candice's facial features were not as exquisite as hers. Candice did not look as sweet as her, who had been pampered since she was young.

Men would definitely not like Candice's slightly rugged style whereas they would definitely prefer a soft and adorable appearance like hers.

She looked at herself in the mirror. She was all dolled up in a pink dress, had soft long hair, and wore a sweet smile. She would be irresistible to men.

Tonight, she had to think of a way to seduce Edward. It was just a political marriage anyway, so it did not matter who married Edward.

Since her father was biased toward Candice, she would fight for it herself. She must give her father a wake-up call right in the face!

Thinking of this, Chloe felt excited. She really wished that she could see Edward immediately and charm him right away!

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Right on the dot at six o'clock in the evening, Edward brought his bodyguards and appeared at the Nicholsons' residence.

Everyone in the family, with Wyatt taking the lead, went to the entrance to welcome him. They looked extremely respectful.

Edward seemed to be used to such treatment. He only exchanged a few words and did not feel any discomfort.

The group walked into the hall. A sumptuous dinner was prepared in the dining room beside the hall.

Wyatt and Claire quickly greeted him warmly and let Edward take the main seat.

After Edward sat down, Wyatt sat beside him. Candice naturally sat on his other side.

Claire sat beside Wyatt while Chloe chose to sit beside Candice.

Candice glanced at the smiling Chloe and saw that she was dressed a little too exquisitely tonight. She paid no mind to it.

After everyone sat down, Wyatt said, "Chief, don't stand on ceremony. We'll be family soon. Eat as much as you want."

"Just call me Edward in private," Edward said bluntly.

"Oh, yes, sure thing, we're family now. It's indeed too courteous for me to call you Chief." Wyatt hurriedly smiled and added, "Edward, eat whatever you want."

"Okay." Edward nodded politely.

He picked up his fork and knife first before the others followed suit.

"Edward, let me help you with a piece of braised beef." Chloe suddenly stood up and placed a piece of meat on Edward's plate.

Chapter 1327: Asking for Hand in Marriage

Edward looked up at Chloe. Chloe quickly explained, "This is my mother's specialty. Try it."

"Thank you." Edward smiled faintly.

He was just upholding decorum whereas in Chloe's eyes, it was a form of intimacy.

It had been known that the Chief seldom smiled, yet he smiled so naturally at her.

She blinked in anticipation as she watched Edward eat the braised beef.

"Is it good?" Chloe asked.

"It's delicious," Edward commented.

"I knew you'd like it. I specially asked Mom to prepare it for you today. Mom was worried that you weren't used to home-cooked food and didn't want to make it." Chloe looked very lively at the table. "Mom, look. Edward likes it very much."

"I'm glad you enjoyed it. I'm just worried that you won't like it if I make it too homely," Claire quickly echoed.

The atmosphere at the dining table was not as awkward, thanks to Chloe.

"No, I like it very much. Thank you." Edward was still very polite.

"Eat more if you like it," Claire quickly called out.

From time to time, Chloe would take the initiative to put food on Edward's plate.

She just looked innocent, cute, and warm. Although she did not obtain any honor since she was young, every time her parents brought her out, her social skills and ability to please her elders were much better than others her age. Therefore, in the eyes of her elders, she had always been very likable.

She believed that Edward would like it too. She had always been very proactive.

Just then, Edward suddenly picked up a piece of pine mushroom and placed it on Candice's plate.

Candice was surprised. She looked up at Edward and Edward returned her gaze with a chuckle. Candice smiled back.

The interaction between the two of them felt inexplicably warm. It was as if they had been husband and wife for a long time. It was natural and affectionate.

Chloe's expression turned a little ugly, even though she hid it well.

Her eyes flickered.

She took the initiative to pick up a piece of braised beef and placed it in Candice's bowl. "Candice, you're so skinny. Eat more meat to nourish yourself."

It was to show that the two of them were very close and that she was treating her sister exceptionally well.

"Thank you." Candice smiled.

Although she knew very well why Chloe was acting like this today, she would not embarrass Chloe at the Nicholsons' dinner table.

She picked up the piece of braised beef and was about to eat it.

"I thought you didn't like to eat fatty meat?" Edward suddenly said.

Candice was stunned. Since when did she not like to eat fatty meat?

"Give it to me," Edward said.

As he spoke, he opened his mouth.

Candice was a little... embarrassed. After all, it was a little awkward to feed him in front of the elders. She, however, did not dare to go against Edward's wishes since he had already opened his mouth.

She had no choice but to feed Edward the piece of braised beef that she was about to put into her mouth.

Edward ate it and could not help but comment again, "Claire's braised beef is really delicious."

"It is. Help yourself to more of it. I'll make everything for you when you come to our house in the future," Claire said happily.

She was also surprised by the interaction between Edward and Candice.

The two of them did not seem to have interacted much but now it seemed like they had been dating for a long time. She thought that these two's relationship was going well.

Of course, she would not show it too much. After all, to the Nicholsons, being able to marry the Chief was in itself elevating their status. Of course, she could not wait for her daughter to have a better relationship with Edward too.

Only Chloe's expression was extremely ugly. Putting aside the fact that Edward and Candice's relationship was so good that it made her jealous, she even felt that Edward's actions just now were clearly rejecting her enthusiasm.

It just seemed like... he was doing it on purpose for her to see.

She bit her lip. Perhaps Edward was just doing it for her parents to see.

After all, Edward and Candice were in a political marriage. Political marriages were more awkward, so they needed to perform.

'That must be it,' she thought to herself comfortingly. She was also constantly cheering herself on!

Ever since she was young, any boy who liked Candice would fall in love with her immediately after seeing her. Edward would be no exception!

Chapter 1328: Chloe Slapped in the Face

At the dining table, they seemed to be eating harmoniously. Especially since Chloe was at the dining table, she could clearly feel that the originally tense atmosphere had become much more relaxed.

This was one of Chloe's strengths. She was indeed more lively and cheerful than Candice since she was young. She was indeed very good at livening up the atmosphere.

However, it seemed that she had never thought of using her strengths to become more outstanding. Her so-called merits made her arrogant and condescending.

After dinner, Edward and the Nicholsons sat and chatted on the sofa in the living hall.

Chloe continued behaving eagerly even though Edward was giving her a lukewarm treatment.

"Edward, have some dragon fruit." Candice watched as the servant brought the fruit over. She quickly used a fruit fork to take a piece for Edward and placed it directly in his mouth.

Edward glanced at it. He said, "I don't eat dragon fruit."

"Then what do you like?"

"I don't really like fruits."

"You don't eat fruits?" Chloe looked surprised. She pretended to lecture him, but in reality, she was acting cute. "Edward, you can't not eat fruits. Fruits are rich in vitamins and are good for your body. Especially when you have so much work to do every day. It's tiring. You have to eat fruits to nourish your body."

Edward looked Chloe in the eye. She thought that her performance had finally attracted him. As expected, no man could be so indifferent to her proactive seduction. Edward was already different from other men to be able to last until now!

Other men would have curled their fingers and wheedled but Edward had made her spend so much time before she started to look at her.

To her, the more challenging a man was, the more interested she was. She could not help but be filled with fighting spirit. It was obvious that she was extremely confident that victory was in her grasp.

She hurriedly used a fruit fork to pick another piece of dragon fruit and placed it in front of Edward. She deliberately used an extremely seductive appearance, her red lips slightly opening as she said to Edward, "Ah..."

Edward glanced at her. His expression was cold.

"I just don't like to eat the fruits you feed me."

Chloe's face stiffened. She was full of smiles just a second ago, but now she was so embarrassed that she felt a little ashamed. She probably did not expect Edward to say such a thing so bluntly. He was not giving her any face at all.

No man had ever trampled on her dignity without giving her face.

She clearly did not believe him. Her face was flushed red in extreme embarrassment. Not to mention Chloe herself, but Candice could feel Chloe's embarrassment too.

Of course, it was not just Candice. The originally harmonious atmosphere was a little stiff because of Edward's unfiltered words.

For a moment, no one seemed to know how to respond. The good atmosphere was obviously completely ruined.

Edward continued calmly, "Just leave the matter of feeding me fruits to Candice."

Not only did he not give Chloe a way out, but he was also clearly telling her not to push her luck.

Claire had been around for so many years; whether it was in politics or business, she could speak well and could also read people's expressions. After being stunned for a few seconds, she quickly reacted and called out to Candice, "Candice, look at you. You're not proactive at all. Instead, you let your sister do these things. How inappropriate. In the future, as Edward's virtuous wife, you have to think more about Edward and take care of him, understand? Don't act like how you are at home. We parents have prepared everything for you but you have to learn to take good care of Edward in the future, alright?"

Her words were phrased skillfully in diffusing Chloe's awkwardness and catering to Edward.

Claire was quite smart. Chloe did not seem to have learned this.

Ever since she was young, she probably relied on the fact that her mother liked her and knew how to wheedle around and make her elders happy. She disdained to work hard and became more and more self-righteous, thinking that she could handle everything.

Today was probably the first time he had been slapped in the face like this. Even if Claire spoke up for her, she was still extremely embarrassed.

Candice, meanwhile, could care less about Chloe's feelings.

Chapter 1329: Chloe Slapped in the Face

Candice had seen everything that Chloe had done tonight, but she closed one eye to it. She just did not want Edward to witness the scene of them sisters fighting. That would be unsightly, so she endured it. Moreover, it was that feeling, that deep-rooted feeling that Chloe could never withstand a single blow.

Chloe was not a threat to her at all.

However, she did not expect that Edward would solve her troubles instead. From the moment Chloe fawned over Edward and deliberately served him at dinner, Edward had already reminded Chloe to know her limits, but she was still thinking too highly of herself.

She deserved to be slapped in the face at this moment.

Candice did not bat an eyelid. She picked up a fruit fork and took a piece of dragon fruit for Edward. The corners of her mouth curled up slightly. "Try it."

Edward nodded slightly.

She seemed to see the smile on his lips. It was obvious.

He opened his mouth and ate the dragon fruit that Candice fed him. The awkward atmosphere had been smoothed out, but Chloe's expression was extremely ugly. This was the first time Candice had dealt a blow to her when it came to men.

Ever since she was young, she had admitted that she was not as capable as Candice. Whether it was her grades, talents, or other aspects, even if Candice was by Wyatt's side all year round and spent too much time participating in various training camps, under such circumstances, Candice's abilities were still much better than Chloe's. Chloe knew that she could not compare to Candice in this aspect, so she had never put in any effort here.

She would instead make herself likable and make her elders and men like her. Her efforts seemed to have been very successful for so many years.

She could not accept it and fell into Edward's hands. Her pride would not allow it. However, because of Edward's frankness just now, she did not dare to do anything. She could only behave herself and look at the warmth shared between Edward and Candice.

Chloe gritted her teeth. In the end, what right did Candice have to be liked by Edward?

No matter how twisted Chloe's heart was, she became much more composed after hearing Claire's words and Candice's act.

"I'm here today not only for dinner but also to talk about my wedding with Candice that's happening in a week." Edward changed the topic.

Finally, they got to the main topic.

Wyatt quickly echoed, "Let's go with your arrangements. We'll cooperate fully."

Edward nodded slightly. For Wyatt's sake, he did not behave too formally.

Perhaps he was really used to acting this way. He even had to keep a distance from people at all times. It was impossible for him to suddenly become approachable.

He added, "The wedding ceremony and the banquet will be carried out according to the traditional ceremony of the Chief of Harken. The Ministry of Internal Affairs is already doing its best to prepare. Basically, the preparation is complete, with some minor details which require your attention."

"Sure thing, I'll look into it," Wyatt quickly agreed.

"Then, I'd like to talk about the betrothal gift," Edward said bluntly.

Wyatt declined without hesitation. "No need, there's no need for those. I don't need your betrothal gifts. Candice marrying you is a great honor for our Nicholson family. There's no need for betrothal gifts."

"That's speaking too highly of me. Candice marrying me has never been out of my league. Instead, I'm very fortunate to be able to have this marriage after experiencing so many marriages. According to the tradition of Harken, there will definitely be betrothal gifts, and I've already prepared them," Edward said firmly.

Naturally, no one dared to refute his words.

Wyatt smiled and agreed. "Then I'll accept it."

Edward nodded and raised his hand. The assistant beside him quickly took out an exquisite document and placed it in front of Wyatt. "Take a look."

Wyatt opened it. Claire was also looking at the list of betrothal gifts with interest.

The betrothal money was not much, it was just an auspicious number, while others were just some real estate; they looked pretty common.

With Edward's status, it was not ostentatious, but it was definitely not perfunctory.

These were only for the Nicholsons as it was a completely different list for Candice.

Wyatt seemed to have seriously looked at it a few times, thinking that he had seen it wrongly.

He hesitated for a while before finally asking, "Edward, will you give Candice all 60% of your shares in Winter Corporation?"

Chapter 1330: Chloe Slapped in the Face

Edward nodded.

That meant Wyatt did not read it wrong as Edward had just affirmed it.

He was still shocked. This was really not a small sum.

This was at least half of the Harken's finances!

Could half of the empire really be handed over to Candice?!

Candice was also surprised. She also looked at Edward and said bluntly, "Actually, there's no need. I don't value these."

"But I do," Edward affirmed.

Candice bit her lip. She was speechless, overcome with a wave of emotions.

"I can't give you the wedding you want, so I can only use such an extreme way to express how important this wedding is to me," Edward said.

He added, "You can't refuse."

Candice was silent. She could clearly feel her heartbeat was a little chaotic.

"If there's nothing else, the betrothal gifts are set then." Edward looked at Wyatt.

He was afraid that they would reject his gifts. That could not be possible, Edward was such a domineering person!

"Alright." Wyatt naturally agreed.

"It's getting late. I have other things to do tomorrow, so I won't take up any longer of your evening." As he spoke, Edward stood up.

Everyone stood up with him.

"Candice can send me off," Edward said bluntly.

Candice looked up at Edward. This man had not a cell of shyness in him.

"Alright, then Candice will send Edward off," Wyatt instructed.

"Mm." Candice nodded. Then, she followed Edward out of the house.

The two of them walked to the entrance of the residence. Besides Edward's personal bodyguards, there were two rows of people at the door.

Even Edward could not keep a low profile no matter wherever he went now. The car door was respectfully opened by a man in a black suit for Edward.

He walked over but did not get into the car right away.

Candice was behind him and had not left. She could not turn around and go back, so she just watched Edward's actions.

Slowly, she watched as Edward suddenly turned around and said, "Candice, come closer."

Candice's eyes flickered. She had no idea why, perhaps she had not seen Edward for a long time, but with just one movement, one look, one sentence, she seemed to know what to do next.

She moved her feet and walked to Edward.

Edward looked into her eyes. He watched closely.

Edward seemed to like her eyes very much. He was always looking into her eyes in a daze.

That seemed to be the case at this moment; it was as if there was magic in her eyes that could attract him.

"Ed," Candice called out to him.

She had a feeling that if she did not call him, he would look at her eyes like this for the entire night.

Edward came back to his senses.

He said, "You have nice pupils."

Candice chuckled. This was the first time she had heard someone praise another's pupils and not eyes.

Were everyone's pupils not the same?!

What was there to look at?

Of course, she could not embarrass Edward. She smiled and praised, "You look good everywhere."

It was just a very ordinary sentence but coming from her lips, there was an inexplicable sense of flattery. For some reason, he felt that she was taking the initiative to get close to him.

To her thought, she was just stating a fact; Edward was really good-looking.

Was he so handsome that all women would still be stunned by him at first glance? He was flawless.

"There are better-looking ones." The corners of Edward's lips curled up. "You'll know."

This man was such a teaser.

Edward bent down.

A kiss landed on Candice's lips.

She knew it.

Edward had asked her to go over just now because he wanted to do such a thing. Though sometimes, it was really easy to get used to the intimacy.

He was used to being intimate in front of everyone.

After a long time, Edward let go of her.

He looked at her unusually red lips.

He was clearly reluctant.

His fingers gently wiped her lips. It was a very erotic action.

He said, "Get ready for your wedding night."

Candice's heart raced. No matter how cold she was, she would still be nervous and helpless in the face of such things.

She did not know if she was looking forward to it, but it seemed like she indeed was.

...

She blushed, unable to respond.

Of course, Edward was not so domineering that she had to answer him. He reluctantly let go of her and got into the car.