

CEOs Baby 941

Chapter 941: Monica Stirring Up Trouble

Most of the members of the board of directors were people with status in South Hampton City, so there was nothing wrong with using their connections to help Cardellini Enterprise.

In fact, he felt that that was a way to solve the Cardellini Enterprise's current predicament.

“Well, I've just vented my anger, and now, I've almost regained my composure.” Monica said to Steve, “First, let the company's public relations department consult the quality inspection department about when the test report will be out. We will think and discuss it according to the results.”

Steve nodded. “Alright, I'll make the arrangements.”

“Also, you mentioned a pharmaceutical company.” Monica could not remember the name.

“Sunny Pharmaceutical,” Steve immediately replied.

Monica hurriedly nodded. “Yes, let me have a look at its basic information. I want to study the background of this pharmaceutical company and what's so amazing about it that it could cause Cardellini Enterprise to suffer continuous losses.”

“Alright,” Steve said respectfully.

“Mr. Warren, I'll have to trouble you to work with me for this period of time.”

“It's my job,”

“I'll give you a pay raise when the time comes,” Monica quickly promised.

Steve smiled. "Thank you in advance, Ms. Cardellini."

At that moment, Monica blushed at Steve's gratitude.

She had probably forgotten how brutal she was when she was scolding them just now!

...

In the Delta Islands, it had now returned to its relatively peaceful days.

The Sanders' attempt to find the descendant of the Duncans during Monica's wedding banquet was basically useless because the DNA samples collected by the Sanders were all destroyed in the fire

Needless to say, Edward did it.

At that time, Jeanne did not understand why he would go against the flow of the fire, but she found out later.

In any case, Edward had his own motives for everything he did.

With the samples collected by the Sanders having been destroyed, the samples collected by the Hills were used for testing, and none was a match with the Duncans' descendant. Moreover, 60 percent of the samples had problems, so it could not be confirmed whether the descendant existed or if the hair had really been switched.

When they heard the news that Kingsley brought back, the Sanders were furious about the wedding banquet.

It caused the Sanders to be a topic of discussion in Harken. After all, the Harken had been peaceful for a long time, and the sudden outbreak of danger caused many people in Harken to panic. The Sanders even had to think of ways to calm them down. On top of that, they did not gain any benefits from that meticulous arrangement, so the Sanders were naturally furious!

However, because they were afraid of causing panic among the people again, they did not dare to act as rashly as they did before. Therefore, the Hills had some time to rest but not for long.

With the existence of the Duncans' descendant, the Sanders would definitely find that person no matter what!

It was only a matter of time.

Jeanne put out the cigarette butt.

She would often show up in Lucy's room, sit on her balcony, and chat with her over tea.

The burns on Lucy's body had completely recovered after two weeks of rest. She had even undergone cosmetic repair, and her skin had begun to look smooth and tender again.

Jeanne looked at her exposed skin outside Lucy's silk pajamas and watched as the latter poured her another cup of black tea. She looked at her natural womanly charm and said with a smile, "Aren't you going to put it into action?"

Lucy looked up at Jeanne and said nonchalantly, "There's no hurry."

Jeanne laughed. "You're not in a hurry, but I am."

Lucy chuckled.

Clearly, she already had her own plan.

She was just waiting for an opportunity.

Lucy had always been mature and steady in her work. She would never let herself make any mistakes in the things that she wanted to do.

“Oh, right. Something seems to have happened to the Cardellinis.” Lucy changed the topic.

She often read news about Harken.

Jeanne nodded.

When she saw that the Cardellinis were in trouble, the first thing she wanted to do was to call Monica and ask her about the situation. However, she endured it in the end.

Monica did not call her, which meant that Monica was not desperate yet.

Therefore, she felt that she could leave some space for Monica to learn and experience it all.

After all, Monica should learn to grow up, bear responsibility, and be independent.

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By the way, is Kingsley's birthday next Wednesday?” Jeanne suddenly changed the topic.

The corners of Lucy's mouth curled up into a smile.

Jeanne could tell that Lucy had been waiting for that day.

“How old is he? 50 or 60?” Jeanne pondered seriously.

Lucy almost choked on the tea she was drinking.

“If Kingsley heard it, he'd probably be furious.”

Jeanne could not help but laugh.

In fact, Kingsley was not even 40 years old.

...

In South Hampton City, Monica had fallen asleep on the office table in Cardellini Pharmaceutical.

At that time, Steve was still analyzing the Sunny Pharmaceutical with her, but when he looked up, he saw Monica lying on the desk and then falling asleep.

Steve had been working overtime with Gary over the years and was used to working late at night.

He lowered his head to look at the time on his watch. It was already 2 a.m. in the morning, so it was no surprise that Monica was tired.

He got up and quietly went to the lounge behind the chairman's office to get a blanket. Then, he gently draped it over Monica's body.

Monica was in a deep sleep and did not wake up.

Steve did not want to disturb her sleep, so he stood up and left the office.

Suddenly, Monica jolted awake.

She looked around in a daze. After a while, she remembered that she was in her father's office and was helping him with his work.

She was discussing work matters with Steve last night. How did she fall asleep?

After that, she turned to look at the time. It was 7 a.m. in the morning. What time did she fall asleep last night?

It was too embarrassing.

Monica stood up from her chair, stretched her back, and then went to her father's private bathroom to wash up. Looking at her bare face, she decided to not care about it anymore.

She returned to her office and opened the door. There were basically no one in the office at the moment.

However, when she opened the door, she saw Steve walking out of the office next to her.

Steve naturally had his own office, which was right next to the chairman's office. Although his office was not as luxurious and magnificent as hers, his status in the Cardellini Enterprise was not low.

"Are you awake?" Steve was drinking his coffee and coming out for a walk as if he wanted to make himself more energized.

"Last night—"

"No, you worked hard last night, and your health is more important," Steve consoled her.

"Does my dad do this all the time?"

"Not very often." Steve said, "But when something happens, he forgets to eat and sleep. For example, when a new product is launched, the effect of the drug is not obvious, and so on, your father will become a workaholic when something comes up."

"No wonder he's so weak."

"That is why you shouldn't repeat his mistake," Steve reminded.

"Yes." Monica nodded.

At that moment, she understood why her father had to work so hard.

This was the only way to lead the company when there was no one to share his burden with. If she had joined the company earlier and helped her father do more things, this might not have happened.

She could not help but feel a little sad.

“Do you want some coffee? It'll refresh you.”

“Okay, thank you.” Monica really needed a pick-me-up.

“You're welcome.”

Steve then turned around and went to make a cup of black coffee for Monica.

When Monica returned to the office, she took a sip. It was so bitter that she almost vomited.

Steve looked at her. “Once you get used to it, you'll find it delicious.”

What kind of people were the people in the workplace?

Monica forced herself to take a few sips before the two of them went back to work.

In the morning, the company's public relations department came to report that the quality inspection department had attached great importance to Cardellini Enterprise's medical malpractice and would carry out strict quality inspection work. They had also set up a special inspection team. Other than the members of the special team, no one was allowed to interfere in the matter. The members of the special team had already imposed a closed management system. Before the results were out, they were not allowed to contact any outsiders for fear of being bribed by people with ill intentions.

In other words, the progress of the Cardellini Enterprise's vaccine test report was in the hands of this special team, and no one else could interfere.

Many board members also reported the same news.

It meant that it was difficult to control the progress of the inspection and that they had to wait for the other party's results.

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When Monica heard the news, she was devastated.

How could it be so difficult?

Judging from the current situation, they could not do any public relations at all. If the quality inspection department deliberately delayed their results, Cardellini Enterprise would really be done for.

She gritted her teeth and refused to wait around.

She had to think of a way to make the quality inspection department produce the results immediately.

"I think we're being targeted," Steve said.

Monica looked at Steve.

"This isn't the first time a pharmaceutical accident has happened in Harken, but they have never had such a high standard before, and never have they been so careful. I'm basically certain that our company has been targeted by the quality inspection department," Steve explained.

"Who is targeting us?" Monica asked.

Steve did not answer.

However, a thought crossed Monica's mind. "It must be Michael!"

Steve did not deny it, and Monica trembled with anger.

She had never thought Michael would do that. In fact, she thought that they were even after the wedding.

However, here he was targeting her.

She had always thought that Michael was a good person, but she really was blind.

"In fact, I can't be completely sure. It's just a suspicion," Steve said.

"Alright, I got it." Monica said, "I'll go and talk to Michael alone."

"Don't force yourself." Steve was concerned.

"Alright." Monica nodded. "Mr. Warren, please leave the room for a moment."

"I'm just next door. Call me if you need anything."

Monica watched Steve leave.

It took her a long time to gather her emotions before she called Michael.

If not for the accident, she and Michael would really never interact!

The phone rang a few times before Michael picked up.

He answered without saying anything, and Monica did not speak either.

After half a minute of silence, Monica gritted her teeth. "Michael, did you do it?"

Michael chuckled.

Monica had heard everything.

He said, "I don't know what you're talking about. As far as I'm concerned, I thought you'd never contact me again."

Monica gritted her teeth. "Can you not be so hypocritical?"

"Is that so? You humiliated me in public and ruined my reputation. I thought you did that because you were determined to cut off all contact with me. Otherwise, why would you do it without considering the consequences? Shouldn't I be flattered that you're calling me?" Michael, on the other end of the phone, mocked her.

"Michael, what will it take for you to let Cardellini Enterprise go?"

"Have you forgotten that I have no power or influence now? What can I do to Cardellini Enterprise?"

"Michael!" Monica's body was trembling from all the emotions she was suppressing.

"That's enough, Monica. I have nothing more to say to you now. Let's leave it at that."

"What do you want?" Monica was certain that the matter had something to do with Michael.

If not, how could they be targeted?

“What do I want?” Michael sneered, “Monica, from the moment you arranged for me to sleep with Brie, the Michael who could pretend to be a good person in front of you was dead. It was you who forced me to take back all my kindness to you. It was you who deprived me of my right to be a good person, or at least my right to be a good person in front of you!”

Then, without giving Monica any time to speak, Michael hung up.

Monica's hand that was holding the phone was trembling.

What did he mean by saying she had deprived him of his right to be a good person?

He was so bad, but was he not the one who was bad?

Her eyes were a little red. She was so angry at Michael that she wanted to cry.

At first, she had some doubts, but now, she was sure that it was Michael who did it!

In fact, it was true.

Michael hung up the phone at that moment, and the smile on his lips was terrifyingly sinister.

He had been waiting for Monica's call for some time.

However, Monica was stupider than he thought, considering it took her so long to suspect him.

He had no choice. With his scandal exposed, he naturally could not continue to keep his high position. However, the Sanders needed talents. Since they had painstakingly nurtured him, they could not bear to see him destroyed just like that. Therefore, on the surface, they dismissed him from his position when, in reality, he was still secretly helping the Sanders do many things. The Sanders had also given him a lot of power, so the quality inspection department was still within his authority.

Cardellini Enterprise's accident was not an ordinary pharmaceutical accident. He had deliberately arranged it and framed her.

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On one hand, it was to take revenge on Monica, and on the other, it was to help the Sanders suppress the Cardellinis.

Previously, because he still had some concerns about Monica, he did not make a move for a long time. There were a few times when he was interrogated by the Sanders, but he tried his best to find an excuse. However, there was no need for that now.

Now, not only did he not need an excuse not to make a move on them, but he would make it many times worse for them.

If all went well, he would destroy Cardellini Enterprise in three months.

Then, the Sunny Pharmaceutical that he was currently in charge of would instantly replace the Cardellini Enterprise. Once Cardellini Enterprise collapsed, all the scientific research and technical personnel that the Cardellini Enterprise had trained would all become his. Once all the talents were under him, he would immediately monopolize the pharmaceutical market in Harken. Once he monopolized medical treatment, the Sanders would control at least half of the economy.

Moreover, if he completed that project, the Sanders would value him more.

Even if he did not have a good identity, he could still have a prominent position, and no one would dare to provoke him!

...

Monica tried her best to calm herself down.

She told herself that she could not let Michael pull her down. She could not!

She had to think of a way to get Cardellini Enterprise out of this crisis.

She gritted her teeth and let Steve into her office.

She said, "I'm confirmed. Michael is the one behind this."

"Is there anything you can do about it?"

"There is nothing I can do." Monica said, "Michael hates me to death now. It's useless no matter what I do."

"That's really tricky."

"But I refuse to believe that he can do anything he wants."

"It's not that he can do whatever he wants. He just knows the standard operation of the quality inspection department too well and how to mess with Cardellini Enterprise in a seemingly fair and just manner!"

"What is fairness and justice?" Monica asked Steve.

Steve was stunned. He was somewhat dumbfounded by Monica's question.

"Why does Cardellini Enterprise's accident requires special treatment when other medical malpractices can be dealt with according to the usual procedures?!" Monica admitted that she was being stubborn, but she could not understand. "Why can't we get the same treatment?"

"I'm sure the quality inspection Hall will definitely have a standardized version of their story."

"Since there is, let's find their loopholes," Monica said bluntly.

Steve frowned. "What do you have in mind?"

We haven't given an official response to the public after the incident, have we?"

"There's been too much to take into account during these critical times."

"Alright, let's do it today. The sooner, the better."

"What do you want to do?"

"I want to force the quality inspection department to produce the results in the shortest time possible."

"How?"

"Create public opinion so that they are forced to give a result report under pressure."

Steve looked at Monica.

"Since Cardellini Enterprise is going down anyway, I'll just allow things to worsen."

Steve was speechless, but that was in line with Monica's character.

"By the way, how are the family members of the deceased son?" Monica asked.

"How much better can they be? They even thought of killing your father."

"Arrange for them to be at our press conference. I want to make it big."

"Are you sure?" Steve asked.

Was she sure she wanted to follow through with such a risky operation?

If they were not careful, Cardellini Enterprise's reputation would plummet.

“What's there to be afraid of? I'm the one doing it anyway, and the public's opinion of me isn't good, to begin with.”

Steve was once again rendered speechless.

However, Monica was a woman of her word. With her rash personality, she really did hold a press conference that afternoon.

There were many reporters at the press conference.

It was the first time such a large-scale press conference was held because of medical malpractice, and it was unprecedented in the industry. All the media felt that there would be some sensational news, so they all came.

When Monica appeared at the press conference, she was shocked by the presence of more than a hundred media personnel.

Damn it. Were they trying to kill her?

She made her way to the middle, with Steve accompanying her while Tim stood behind them respectfully.

Monica's appearance caused an uproar among the reporters.

Everyone thought it would be Gary, but they did not expect her to appear.

Without wasting any more time, Monica said into the microphone, "Regarding Cardellini Enterprise's vaccine incident, Cardellini Enterprise will give everyone a positive reply in a few days. Our drugs have always been known for their safety and affordability. Moreover, we've never had any medical malpractice in the past hundred years. However, because of this vaccine, the entire country has boycotted Cardellini Enterprise, and it has put us in a precarious situation. I'm here to tell everyone through the media that there are no problems with our drugs and that it's a normal rejection reaction to the vaccine. In medicine, a certain percentage of accidents is guaranteed, and this is within the normal range. Of course, I believe that with the development of technology, that percentage will decrease in the future. However, with the current medical standards, this is something Cardellini Enterprise and even Harken can't control. I hope everyone can look at it rationally and not destroy the Cardellini Enterprise's hard work for the past hundred years just because of a few words taken out of context!"

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Monica did not come up with that official speech. Naturally, it was the Cardellini Enterprise's official spokesperson who helped her draft it.

She even took quite a while to memorize it, but fortunately, she managed to memorize it all.

She gulped.

At that moment, she heard a reporter ask, "Do you have any evidence to prove that Cardellini Enterprise's vaccine is safe? As far as I know, the quality inspection department hasn't issued an official test report yet. Ms. Cardellini, don't you think it's a little too much to suddenly announce that there's nothing wrong with Cardellini Enterprise's vaccine?"

"Whether it was an accident or not, it's not up to you to say. Don't you think your actions today are a little too humiliating? " The reporter's words were sharp.

He did not show Monica any respect at all.

"I also want the authorities to give me a result, but they haven't made any progress yet. I don't know how long we'll have to wait for the official result." Monica said to the reporters bluntly, "If the authorities take a year and a half to come out with the results, that means our company will have to bear with being slandered for a year and a half. I think by that time, the Cardellini Enterprise's building might be razed to the ground."

“Ms. Cardellini, are you complaining about the efficiency of the quality inspection department?”

“It's not a complaint. I'm just stating a fact,” Monica indirectly admitted it.

“If that's the case, Cardellini Enterprise can communicate privately with the quality inspection department. Don't you think it's a little disrespectful to the quality inspection department to criticize them in public?” the reporter asked again.

“The quality inspection department is under the Sanders' official food quality inspection department. They should be more concerned about how to give the public a fair and just result instead of abusing their power to get other people's attention. Besides, isn't the Sanders' philosophy to serve the people? Is dignity a standard of service to the people?” Monica asked in return.

The reporter's face suddenly turned red. He also seemed to have realized that he had said something wrong.

He quickly explained, “What I mean is that you can communicate with each other openly. I believe the quality inspection department will give you a good answer.”

“It's precisely because I didn't get a reply that I chose to use this method,” Monica said bluntly.

“Do you mean the quality inspection department rejected your request?”

“It's not a rejection. It's special treatment,” Monica said bluntly, “There are so many medical malpractices in Harken, but none of them have been examined by a special team that the quality inspection department had set up. Of course, I agree with the quality inspection department's working attitude. They're afraid that Cardellini Enterprise would do something shady in the dark, and that's why they haven't given us a time frame and have made us wait blindly. However, I'm sorry. Cardellini Enterprise can't wait that long. I need the quality inspection department to give me a clear answer now. How long will it take for the results to be out?”

“Ms. Cardellini, do you mean that the quality inspection department is operating in secret?” one of the reporters asked.

"I don't know. I'm just voicing my doubts. After all, according to the standard of quality inspection technology in our country, the test results for vaccine problems can be out in less than a week. However, the quality inspection department has not given us any time frame. From my standpoint, it naturally leads me to think of the worst. By then, who's wrong..." Monica did not seem to want to hide anything and said bluntly, "I don't know if it was the conflict between me and Michael that caused the relevant staff of the quality inspection department who had a good relationship with Michael to deliberately make things difficult for Cardellini Enterprise."

"You mean, this matter has something to do with Michael?"

"As I said, the current development is forcing me to think in that direction. As for whether it has something to do with him, I don't know."

It was obvious that she was deliberately making people suspect him.

Then, the quality inspection department would want to avoid suspicion, and they would have no choice but to deal with the Cardellini Enterprise's matter fairly.

"In that case, Ms. Cardellini..."

As the reporters were getting a little restless, a woman suddenly rushed into the press conference.

The moment the door opened, everyone's attention was on her.

That woman directly rushed toward Monica, grabbed her hair, and went crazy.

Stunned by the scene, all the reporters quickly took many photos. After all, reporters loved to blow things up.

Monica and the woman fought for a long time before the security guards pulled the woman away.

As soon as she was pulled away, the woman shouted at Monica, "Give me my son back!"

At that moment, Monica's hair was in a mess, and her face and body were scratched by the woman's nails, making her look disheveled.

"Who are you?" Monica asked.

"Who am I? Something happened to my son only because of your company's vaccine... Y-You... I want you to pay with your life."

After saying that, the woman was about to rush over again.

Fortunately, the security guards held her down.

Monica was also enraged. "Do you think you're the only victim? Am I not? Cardellini Enterprise is now being boycotted by the entire nation because of this vaccine, and we're about to go bankrupt! Not only that, but my dad is still in the hospital because of this accident. We don't know if he'll live or survive. Your son's body rejected the vaccine, and Cardellini Enterprise has compensated you and done everything we should do. However, who will make up for what our Cardellini Enterprise has suffered?"

"Y-Y-You... My son is dead. How can you say such things? How can you?" The woman broke down.

"Before the inspection report from the quality inspection department comes out, no one knows if there's a problem with our vaccine or your son. Now that you're complaining that I killed your son, can I sue you instead? Your son's accidental death has put Cardellini Enterprise in our current predicament. My glory and wealth have all been ruined in your son's hands. Are you going to compensate me for all my losses?!"

"Y-You... How could you say that? How could you be so vicious? God will punish people like you and send you to hell—"

"I'm telling you that before the results are out, it's useless even if you curse me to death." Monica rushed toward the woman in an imposing manner.

At that moment, she even waved her hands and left the press conference.

The woman was so angry at Monica that she fainted.

The scene was in chaos again.

However, it had to be said that Monica, with her notorious reputation, had blown the whole thing up!

Chapter 946: Michael's Revenge, Finn's Warmth

Cardellini Pharmaceutical's press conference went viral in South Hampton City.

Monica had publicly accused the quality inspection department of not being effective in giving them the quality inspection result and was even suspected of favoritism and abuse of the law. That caused an uproar in the industry.

Of course, what aroused the public's indignation more was the dispute between Monica and the victim's family, which was made into emojis and spread on the Internet.

Apart from Monica, no other non-artiste in Harken had been made into emojis so frequently. Most importantly, it was extremely popular.

The last time was the sexy dance last time, and this time was the bad behavior.

In short, in many people's minds, Monica was not someone with common sense. She was even a little... deranged.

That news incident had, once again, caused Monica's public image to plummet.

The Internet was filled with curses, scolding Monica for not having a moral bottom line and that she was inhumane. Those vicious words could drive people crazy. However, not only did Monica not go crazy, but she even started quarreling with the netizens.

When the netizens scolded her, she retorted, “Before the results are out, what right do you have to scold me? I'm just defending my rights!

“I can sue you for defamation if you slander me without knowing that Cardellini Enterprise is the one at fault!”

“If Cardellini Enterprise isn't at fault, should I also ask the family to compensate me for my financial and mental losses?”

...

Monica's every reply was trending, and it even got tens of millions of replies, which instantly surpassed all the list celebrities.

The fight lasted for more than two hours.

Someone organized a public vote and asked the quality inspection department to come up with a result as soon as possible.

They just wanted to see Cardellini Enterprise and Monica get slapped in the face.

That was Monica's goal.

Let the so-called “justice” blow up the news and pressure the quality inspection department so that they have no choice but to produce the results as quickly as possible.

Finally, at 9 p.m. that night, under pressure from the public, the quality inspection department made an official statement. There was a lot of information. First, it explained why they had used the method to conduct the test. Then, they explained why they were fair and just and that it was absolutely impossible to target anyone or any company. Finally, they were willing to accept the public's suggestion to re-plan their testing method for Cardellini Pharmaceutical's vaccine and would try to produce a quality inspection report within a week!

Only when they received a reply from the quality inspection department did the conflict on the internet subside a little.

Everyone waited patiently for a result.

If the results were not good, Monica did not dare to imagine what kind of existence she would become in Harken.

She sat in her office. After returning from the press conference, she had been there for the entire afternoon and half a night, constantly scolding the netizens. Now that she saw the official statement in the quality inspection department, she could finally put an end to it.

Monica put down her phone before she stretched her body, twisting it around.

Just as she was considering whether she should go to the hospital to see her father after work, the phone suddenly rang, and she glanced at the caller ID.

It was Finn.

She told herself to have any emotional reaction. However, she could not control herself.

She took a deep breath and answered the call. "Fin—"

"If you have time, I'd like to talk to you about your father's heart transplant."

She pursed her lips.

She should not have any expectations of him to take the initiative to care about her.

Although she had indeed been scolded badly by the netizens today, if not for her good mindset, she would have committed suicide hundreds of times.

Before Finn could get Monica's answer, he said again, "Or should I talk to your mother directly?"

"I'll be right there." Monica said, "Give me about 20 minutes."

"Alright," he said before hanging up the phone.

Monica also hung up the phone.

She took a deep breath and slowly calmed herself down.

When she left, she rang Steve on the phone and told him to go back and rest early. There was no way he could work overtime every day. Steve was in his forties, and if he kept going like that for a few more years, he might end up like her father.

Monica got into her small car and drove to the hospital.

She had not driven a car since the last time she broke her leg. Perhaps it was because she was traumatized.

After all, the scene of her and Finn almost getting killed by a car was still fresh in his memory.

Hence, she drove slowly.

Chapter 947: Michael's Revenge, Finn's Warmth

She arrived at the hospital about half an hour later and rushed to Finn's office from the parking garage.

She really did not dare to be impolite to the people she could not afford to offend.

This time, she was very well-mannered and knocked on Finn's office door.

However, the door was not closed.

Finn was dealing with his work with his head lowered. When he heard the sound, he said without even raising his head. "Come in."

Monica walked in and then slowly sat down opposite him.

Finn put down the fountain pen wrapped in gold in his hand. The moment he raised his head, he paused for a moment.

Monica sat up straight.

Finn's eyes flickered as he said, "I've connected to the source of your father's heart attack."

"Thank you," Monica said gratefully. "But do we have to do the transplant? My dad is already 50 years old. Can he take such a big risk with surgery?"

"I'll assess the risk based on your father's condition, and I won't perform the surgery rashly," Finn answered Monica's doubts. "I called you over today not to get you to sign the consent form for the surgery immediately, but I just wanted to tell you that your father's recovery in the past two days hasn't been optimistic. His heart can no longer support his normal needs, so you'd better be mentally prepared."

Monica nodded silently.

She had never thought that her father, who had always protected her, would one day collapse.

"On top of that, I need to tell you in advance that if your father wants to do a heart transplant, the medical standards of heart transplant surgery in Harken are not great. This is extremely dangerous, and I have never really done this kind of surgery in my clinical practice. Of course, there are domestic experts. I can ask them to come over and help your father with this operation. But at the end of the day, the medical standards in the country are still limited, so I will suggest finding an international expert to help your dad with this surgery."

"If it really comes to this, please help me contact the international experts," Monica quickly replied.

Finn nodded. That was the first consensus he had reached with Monica.

"Secondly, the cost of a heart transplant is quite expensive, especially when you need to invite international experts to help you with the surgery. Coupled with rehabilitation treatment later, you'd better be mentally prepared for the money.

"Money is not a problem," Monica quickly said.

Monica had never felt that money could be a threat to her.

"Finally, after the heart transplant surgery is successful, your father will need at least a year to recover. This means that he won't be able to deal with work-related matters for a year." Finn said, "You better be clear about this."

Finn was reminding her that she would be in charge of all the work in Cardellini Enterprise for a long time.

Monica smiled. "All I hope for is for my father to live now. Other things are not a problem."

Finn nodded.

Then, he said, "That's about all the matters related to the surgery. Because we're not completely sure that your father will do this surgery, I won't go into the specific details and precautions for the time being."

"Alright." Monica hurriedly nodded.

Anyway, she would listen to Finn on everything.

After that, she stood up from her chair, thanked him, and turned to leave.

Monica thought that Finn did not want to have too much to do with her after he explained the situation to her. Hence, she immediately left after he finished and did not notice whether he have any reaction.

In fact, she did not dare to have any expectations of Finn. Or rather, she was becoming more and more aware of her own limitations.

She knew very well what kind of person Finn thought of her

She would try to stay away from him as she did not want to add to his troubles.

After she left Finn's office, she went straight to his father's ward.

There was a light in the ward, but the people inside were probably asleep.

It was now past 10 p.m. at night.

She walked in quietly, trying not to disturb them. However, just as she walked in and before she could reach her father's bedside...

“Monica, you're here.” In the dark room, Ruby called out to her softly.

“Mom, did I wake you up?” Monica felt a little guilty.

“No, I didn't really sleep.”

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“What's wrong?” Monica directly went to her mother's accompanying bed.

Other than Ruby, Sarah was also on the bed.

Sarah had been accompanying them in the hospital for the past two days, and it was not in vain that her mother treated Sarah so well. Sarah was not too heartless, after all.

"Aunty is not used to sleeping on a bed that's not her own," Sarah suddenly said, keeping her voice as low as possible, afraid of waking her uncle.

Only then did Monica remember that her mother was not used to sleeping on a bed other than her own.

She had been so busy the past two days that she felt like she had not been able to take care of anything.

She said, "Mom, why don't you go back? I'll stay with dad tonight."

"No, I'll be able to sleep if I'm tired." Ruby refused flatly.

"Mom, your health is more important than dad's right now. Who's going to take care of you if you torture your body like that? Who's going to take care of dad?" Monica was a little agitated. "Just listen to me, go back, take a good bath, and rest. Come back tomorrow morning. Anyway, dad is asleep now, so there's no point in you accompanying him.

Ruby wanted to say something, but Monica continued, "Mom, after what happened to dad, I'm really afraid that something will happen to either of you. If something happens to you, I won't be able to take it."

Ruby looked at her daughter in the dark.

At that moment, her heart ached.

She had never thought that one day, her daughter would have to shoulder everything in the family.

She said, "Monica, I'm sorry that it's been hard on you."

"It's not. As long as you and dad are alive, nothing is hard." Monica hurriedly said, "Don't worry. I don't want to think about anything else now. I just want you and dad to be safe and sound. Mom, as long as you and dad are well, I'm willing to do anything."

Ruby's eyes turned watered at her daughter's words.

"Promise me that you'll take good care of yourself, okay?" Monica asked her expectantly.

Ruby hesitated, but she nodded in the end.

"Sarah," Monica called out to Sarah, who was sleeping beside Ruby. "Can you accompany my mom back to get some rest?"

"Alright," Sarah agreed and quickly got out of bed.

"If anything happens to your father, you must call me," Ruby reminded her worriedly.

"Don't worry, I'll take good care of dad for you."

"You should remember to rest too. You have a lot on your plate at work."

"I know. Don't worry about it. Hurry back."

"Alright, alright, alright." Ruby could not argue with her daughter, so she had to keep agreeing.

With that, Ruby left the ward with Sarah.

After Monica watched them leave, she returned to her father's bed and saw that he was sleeping with difficulty.

His heart was weak, so he should be in great pain.

Monica's eyes reddened.

In fact, she knew that her father would still undergo heart transplant surgery. If he did not do it, Finn would not have brought it up so often or contacted her about the heart donation for her father. The reason why Finn did not confirm that her father would definitely do the surgery was probably that he wanted them to be mentally prepared.

It had to be said that Finn's strategy was right.

At least, when she first heard that her father needed a heart transplant, she rejected the idea. Yet now, she was willing to wait for the right time for her father's heart transplant.

She stayed with her father for a long time.

After making sure that her father was sound asleep, she carefully walked into the bathroom, planning to take a shower and go to bed.

She had slept in the office the entire night before, so even though she had removed her makeup in the morning, not taking a shower still made her feel uncomfortable.

She turned on the light in the bathroom, and when she looked at herself in the mirror, she was stunned.

F*ck.

She leaned closer.

Was her face disfigured? Why did she not notice such a long scratch?

At that moment, because the scratch was turning into a scab, it was very obvious on her face.

It was not just the scratch on her face. When she pulled open her clothes, her neck and even her collarbones had several similar scratch marks.

However, on second thought, she did not blame the woman. After all, it was the woman's son who was dead. No one would be able to remain calm.

Monica sighed, took off her clothes, and took a shower.

As she did not have any clothes to change into, she used the hospital gown that the hospital had prepared. Although it was loose, she could wear it.

After her shower, she lay on the bed and sent Sarah a message. "When you come over tomorrow morning, bring a set of clothes and innerwear for me. It has to be slightly more formal."

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After all, she could not dress too flamboyantly to work.

"Alright," Sarah quickly replied. "I'll bring them over for you when I come over tomorrow."

"Is my mom asleep now?" Monica asked.

"She just took a shower and laid down."

"You should sleep early too. The past two days must've been exhausting for you."

"Cousin, I'm a little flattered by your words."

"Get lost!" Monica could not help but laugh.

"Alright." Sarah felt that Monica was back to normal.

Monica then put down her phone.

She did not sleep well last night, and today was another day of high-intensity work. Hence, Monica fell asleep as soon as she closed her eyes.

She slept soundly.

Fortunately, she did not have the habit of being picky about beds. If she was tired, she could sleep anywhere.

She did not know how long she slept when she started to feel a little uncomfortable.

She turned over, wanting to flip over and change her position, but she suddenly felt as if something was pressing down on her.

She jolted awake and opened her eyes, only for someone to cover her mouth.

Monica just stared at the person in front of her in a daze.

At such a close distance, and under the dim light, she could still see that the person was... Michael.

Why was he here? Why did he come?

Just as she was about to resist, she heard Michael whisper in her ear, "If you're not afraid of waking your father up, you can shout. I don't mind making your dad suffer a little more."

Monica instantly fell silent and looked straight at Michael.

She did not know why he was in the ward or what was his motive for coming.

At that moment, she even felt Michael covering her mouth with one hand and slipping his hand into her clothes.

Monica's eyes widened, and she looked at him with red eyes. However, she did not move.

"Monica, how does it feel being molested?" Michael whispered into her ear.

Monica had been enduring the emotions that she had been suppressing.

"You know, you ruined the innocence I've kept for you for so many years. Do you know how terrible I felt at that time? To have to hug another woman before the wedding and make love to her while I still had to force a smile and feel guilty about it. However, little did I know that it was all your doing. Monica, you're really disappoint me." Michael spoke softly in her ear, and the anger in his voice was not discernible.

Monica clenched her fists tightly.

"Were you happy when Finn slept with you?" Michael suddenly asked her.

Tears streamed down Monica's face.

She did not want to cry.

She felt that even if she was defiled by Michael, it was nothing. She would just treat it as being bitten by a dog.

What innocence did she have anyway? She had lost hers the last time she slept with Finn.

Besides, it would not be her first time, so she did not care about it.

When she woke up tomorrow, she could pretend that nothing had happened.

"Do you know how terrible I felt that night?" Michael said, "It was second only to the pain of me sleeping with Brie."

Monica the pain in her throat. Even though she consoled herself, it still hurt.

She looked at Michael's ugly face, which revealed his true nature. It used to make her think that he was a good person.

"You must hate me now." Michael buried his head in her neck.

Then, he landed one kiss after another on her neck, on her already loose shoulders, on her collarbones, and even further down...

"Can we go somewhere else?" Monica suppressed her voice and asked him.

She wanted to go at least somewhere else that was not by her father's side.

She did not care if her body was ruined, but she cared about her family.

She did not want to disgrace her father. It did not matter to her how filthy she was, but she just did not want her family to see her like that

The moment Michael kissed her body, he suddenly laughed. Then, his lips returned to Monica's ear, and he said, "No."

He refused her flatly.

"I'm here to take revenge on you, so of course, I'll do whatever I can to make you feel bad. The greatest gift I can give you is to try not to make any sound. Otherwise..."

Monica was really filled with hatred. She hated Michael so much that she wanted to kill him.

How could someone like Michael exist in this world? How could there be a man as bad as Michael?

Time and time again, he had crossed her boundaries.

Why did she think back then that Michael was the best man in the world and the man who treated her the best?

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She laughed sarcastically.

She laughed so hard that tears came out of her eyes.

Everyone could see that Michael was up to no good, but she could not tell.

Since she was stupid, it was only right for her to suffer retribution. She deserved all the suffering she was getting now.

She bit her lip and endured the pain.

The room was very quiet, and no one would be able to tell if something was happening in the room.

Should she be grateful that Michael was not making a sound?

Suddenly, the door of the ward was pushed open, and Monica's eyes flickered.

Through her tears, she saw a familiar figure.

He walked straight to her father and did a standardized check. After the inspection, he turned around and left.

After all, it was normal for him to leave after a routine night patrol.

If... If only he still had feelings for her and had turned his head to look at her, perhaps he could have saved her.

At that moment, she was sure that Finn knew she was accompanying her father tonight, and the reason was simple.

Since she had come to the hospital, she definitely would not leave immediately. Moreover, Sarah would have informed Finn before she left.

There were many reasons, but he would not even look at her or know what she was going through now because he had no feelings for her anymore.

Besides, she did not ask for help.

So what if he asked for help? If Finn saw her having sex with Michael... Or perhaps, he did see them.

At the very least, she could lie to herself that Finn left because he did not know or care about her.

At the very least, she could still lie to herself that Finn did not know that she had slept with Michael.

Even if she could not be with Finn, she still cared about her reputation. She still hoped to leave a good impression in Finn's heart!

Monica closed her eyes.

At that moment, someone said, "If you can't resist, lie down and accept it."

Therefore, she just had to accept it.

“Do you need me to call the police?” A deep voice suddenly sounded in the room.

It was Finn, whom Monica thought had left.

Suddenly, he was in front of their bed.

Michael, who was on top of Monica, finally let go of her and got up from the bed.

Monica's gulped.

At that moment, she was really glad. Finn was actually not as indifferent as she thought. In fact, Finn was not as indifferent to her as she thought he was.

She really did not want... to be tainted by Michael, and actually, she was not that open-minded.

Michael got up from the bed and looked at Finn, who was also looking at him.

The two of them looked at each other.

Michael was first to leave the ward, and after that, Finn walked out of the ward without turning to look back at Monica.

Monica gritted her teeth and followed him out.

Outside the ward, in the quiet corridor, Michael looked at Finn and sneered, “What? You still can't let go of Monica? You can't let go of this woman who abandoned you without hesitation?”

Finn was cold.

In the face of Michael's deliberate provocation, he said calmly, "Out of social morality and my own conscience, I'm just doing what a citizen should do."

"Is that so?" Michael sneered, "Dr. Jones is really upright."

"You're too kind."

"However, it's true." Michael's eyes flickered as he looked at Monica, who was behind Finn.

Monica's face turned pale.

"Should we call the police?" Michael asked Monica.

Monica looked back at Michael.

"Should we call the police?" Michael asked again.

He looked like he did not care at all.

"Just like at the press conference today, why don't you let everyone know how sinister and cunning I am? Why don't you let everyone know that I'm abusing my power to take revenge on you?" Michael asked her sarcastically.

That meant that Michael's actions tonight were to take revenge on her for the accusation against him at the press conference.

"Monica, let me tell you, you can't win against me!" Michael sneered arrogantly. "Do you think you can turn things around just because you forced the quality inspection department to produce a report? You're too naive."

“What do you mean by that?” Monica got a little agitated, even if she was trying her very hard to keep her emotions bottled in.

“You'll eventually know what I mean by that.” Michael sneered, and his eyes narrowed. “I bet you will climb into my bed the next time.”

Monica's face flushed red as she suppressed her anger.