

Chapter 7073

"Xiaoxiao, what a nice name,"

Charlie muttered casually, pinching the kitten's chin.

The kitten was well-behaved,

Half-closing its eyes and tilting its head slightly as he handled it.

Charlie was somewhat surprised and said,

"This kitten is quite bold, not afraid of people at all."

Maria smiled and nodded, saying,

"Xiaoxiao is more affectionate than most stray cats."

"Maybe it's because it's always been bullied in the cat community,"

"So it feels that people are more reliable than their own kind."

After saying that, she looked at Charlie's handsome face and eyebrows as he looked down, thinking to herself,

"If you knew that your mother was still alive, you would be very excited, wouldn't you?"

"For twenty years, I thought my dearest loved ones were long gone,"

"But I never expected that my mother was still alive."

"There is probably nothing more comforting than this."

At this moment, Xiaoxiao, perhaps liking Charlie's gentle rubbing, slowly sat up, arched its back,

And patted its two front paws back and forth a few times before snuggling into Charlie's arms.

Maria smiled and said, "It seems Xiao Xiao really likes you, Young Master."

With that, she took out her phone, opened the camera, and said,

"Young Master, let me take a picture of you and Xiao Xiao."

Charlie didn't think much of it, nodded slightly,

And held Xiao Xiao, looking at the camera.

Maria pressed the shutter button,

And a close-up, high-definition photo was taken.

Because the lighting in the courtyard was dim, the phone automatically turned on the flash.

In the photo, Charlie's sharply defined features, highlighted by the flash, looked as if an automatic beauty filter had been applied,

Making him even more handsome than in real life.

Maria handed the phone to Charlie, smiling, and said,

"Young Master, take a look, is it alright?"

Charlie didn't care about such things, glanced at it casually, and smiled,

"It's quite good."

Maria smiled happily, took back her phone,

And then, I casually opened WeChat and sent the photo to Margaret.

She had never thought of taking photos of Charlie as a memento before.

She wanted to take pictures of him just now,

Partly because she thought the image of him and his cat was harmonious,

And partly because she wanted to send the photos to Margaret.

For many years, Margaret hadn't dared to get close to Charlie.

Back when Charlie was in the orphanage, it might have been a little easier.

Her staff could secretly take some photos for her.

But in recent years, Charlie's power had grown stronger,

And those who had stayed by his side had gradually left and kept their distance.

Seeing a recent photo of Charlie on a regular basis would probably be difficult.

At this moment, Margaret had left Kinkakuji Temple and gone to Aomori Prefecture,

Hundreds of kilometers away.

Aomori is the northernmost part of the Japanese mainland,

Famous for its apples and other cash crops.

Margaret had her own plantation there, as well as a deep-processing production line for apple-related products.

Aomori's apple production accounted for half of Japan's total,

And Margaret accounted for half of Aomori's apple production,

With her company handling most of the export business.

After Margaret and Changying married, in addition to helping their family make money,

They also invested in numerous industries around the world using various shell companies and nominee shareholders.

These included highly profitable technology, energy, and industrial enterprises,

As well as less profitable small businesses.

For example, their apple industry investment in Aomori was large-scale,

But the actual profit was not high.

However, this didn't matter to them.

Their investment in Aomori was mainly due to the geographical conditions and the unique nature of the industries there.

This brought them many advantages.

Aomori Prefecture has a low population density,

About one-third of the average population density in Japan.

The advantage of a sparsely populated area is that it's easier to hide, especially in the form of plantations,

Making it even harder for outsiders to discover their secrets.

Moreover, Aomori's geographical location is quite convenient for Margaret.

A few hundred kilometers to the south lies the developed regions of mainland Japan,

Such as Tokyo and Osaka, while a few dozen kilometers to the north is Hokkaido.

Aomori is separated from Hokkaido only by the Tsugaru Strait,

It is connected by an undersea tunnel.

To the east by ship are the Korean Peninsula and the Russian Far East,

While to the west lies the vast Pacific Ocean.

From Aomori Port, San Francisco is only seven or eight thousand kilometers away,

Making it extremely convenient.

Margaret controls Aomori's apple export business by acquiring large numbers of plantations and suppressing export prices and profits,

Making it impossible for competitors to keep up.

While others grow apples to make money,

She doesn't care about profitability, resulting in the lowest profit margin.

A lower profit margin naturally leads to higher cost-effectiveness for consumers.

Margaret's main purpose in controlling Aomori's apple exports is to use exports to create a transnational freight channel,

Allowing her to transport special goods through apple exports.

Fearing Charlie's investigation, she moved here after the passing of the Void Concealment Master, settling in her largest plantation.

The hillsides were covered with apple trees, all managed by her people,

And a hidden security system had been established, ensuring her safety.

At this moment, she was in her own building within the plantation,

Savoring apple juice she had just extracted using traditional pressing methods,

When she suddenly received a photo from Maria.

Overjoyed, she held her phone in both hands, carefully examining the photo of Charlie.

She hadn't seen such a clear photo of Charlie in a long time.

Looking at her son's handsome features and the rare, relaxed smile as he held the kitten, her mood instantly improved.