## **CHOSEN 1381**

Chapter 1381

Chloe's eyes suddenly turned serious. She had just dodged Wendy's crazy attack, only to be tightly held by Damon, followed by a crisp slap

Wendy screamed and fell into the crowd of reporters at the bottom of the stairs. The reporters instinctively stepped back, but seeing Wendy's embarrassing situation, they quickly gathered again, began to take crazy pictures and videos!

Damon kept Chloe tightly in his arms, without giving Wendy a glance, and left the Harper Group with Chloe under the protection of the bodyguards. It wasn't until they got into the car that Chloe could breathe a sigh of relief. She turned to look out of the window. Reporters huddled together, never dispersed.

She could imagine Wendy's embarrassing look. But, it was all self-inflicted.

Her chin was pulled back, "What are you still looking at?"

Chloe frowned and moved her chin away, giving Damon a cold look. "Don't touch me, you stink."

Damon's brows furrowed slightly, looking down at his clothes, "These are new clothes."

Chloe turned away, no longer looking at him, and moved slightly outward, deliberately distancing herself from Damon.

Damon watched her for a long time, then chuckled softly. He unbuttoned his suit jacket, took it off, and threw it to Nate in front. "Find a garbage can and throw it away.

Hearing this, Chloe turned to look at Nate, saw the suit jacket in his hands and looked surprisedly at Damon. He was now just wearing a thin white shirt, with a nicely tied tie that she had tied herself, but it

was too cold outside for him to be dressed like this.
The temperature in the car was fine, but once they went outside, he would definitely catch a cold.
Chloe frowned even more, "What are you doing?"
Damon chuckled, "I also think that jacket smells bad."
Chloe's eyes flickered, knowing he had understood her previous words, but now she felt a bit awkward. "What kind of smell? No matter how bad it smells, it's better than getting sick, right?"
Damon shook his head with a smile, "Getting sick is not as important as you being angry.
Chloe pursed her lips, momentarily speechless. What did it mean that her anger was more important than his health
"What if you get me sick? I'll be fine, but what if it affects the babies?" Chloe asked.
Damon chuckled, pulled her back into his arms, and whispered in her ear. "You were jealous just now, right?"
His certainty made Chloe smile slightly. "No."
"Really?" Damon whispered, directly lifting Chloe onto his lap, "I
ve you another chance to say it. Were you jealous?"
Chloe's pretty face showed a touch of panic, "Be careful. You're not just holding me."

Embarrassment had become a habit, and at this time, Nate must have raised the partition very consciously Damon's large hand gently stroked her stomach, his voice slightly displeased, "Don't always bring up the two of them. How heavy could they be now They are at most the weight of two embryos." "Hal" Before Chloe could react, Nate, was driving in front, chuckled. He was actually jealous of his own children, how surprising. Damon's face darkened slightly. "Did you install a hearing aid in your ear?" Nate coughed awkwardly, "Sorry, I just remembered a joke." "Then you can tell Mrs. Harper a few jokes before you go home." Damon said. "Okay" Nate said. Chloe couldn't help but smile, "Who said they wanted to hear jokes?" "They did" Damon pointed to Chloe's belly "How could they possibly talk now?" Chloe asked.

If it weren't for Nate trying hard to control himself, he almost laughed out loud again. Who could tell him where the old Mr. Harper had gone? Chloe, however, couldn't help but laugh, feeling that Damon would definitely be fun when dealing with the two children in the future

"They told me through telepathy" Damon said.

"Say it again, what did you tell Wendy?" Damon asked.

Chloe was helpless, this question just couldn't be avoided

"You are my man. Are you satisfied now? In desperation, Chloe could only go along with Damon's wishes, but she was a bit angry. "Why did you give up the competition at the board meeting without fighting? You've put so much effort into the Harper Group over the years, are you just giving it up so easily?"

Although she was happy when he was willing to give up the inheritance of the Harper Group for her, the Harper Group must hold a special significance for him. How could she bear to let him give up the Harper Group?

Damon gave a slight smile, 'Because I've put too much effort into it before, I think it's not bad to give up the inheritance, so i can spend more time with

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you. Aren't you happy?"

Chloe looked at him, the playful atmosphere between them just now had completely disappeared. I'm not happy! Damon, I don't want you to lose anything because of me. I don't want to hold you back. I never have."

Damon leaned in and kissed her lips, after a deep kiss, he rested his forehead against hers and said, "Nothing is more important than you"

Chloe quieted down, her voice gentle and soft, "But that's the Harper Group, how could you willingly give it to someone else

"That's just a company. I built it up in the past, and I could establish another, especially with someone as smart and capable as you by my side" Damon said.

Chloe quirked an eyebrow and nodded, a smug tone in her voice as she said, "Right, you're such a big shot, the Harper Group is small fry to you. Totally not worth your time."
Damon chuckled lightly, "Exactly."
Chloe let out a snort of laughter, rolled her eyes, and abruptly changed the topic, "You weren't firm enough with Wendy today, and you never really told her what you think. You should've given her a good dressing down!"
Damon's expression darkened slightly. I've got nothing more to say to her."
Everything that needed to be said, every rebuke she deserved, he had already delivered. He even took her to the dungeon, but she was still hell-bent on her ways, any more words would be wasted.
Instead of more scolding, it might be more practical to give her some real punishmentt.
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"Where are we heading next?" Chloe asked, looking out the car window.
"Home" Damon said.
Chloe paused a bit, then gently shook her head, "Not just yet. Grandpa Presley looked off-color today, the whole fiasco embarrassed him. We should check up on him."
Damon's head was buried in the crook of her neck, breathing in her faint scent. Upon hearing her, he knitted his brows.
He lifted his head, forehead against hers, "Aren't you pissed?"
Chloe took a deep breath, "I am"

"Then don't force yourself. Damon said.

"it's a matter of principle. He's your grandpa, technically mine too. He crossed the line, but he's still our elder! He can wrong me, but I can't. I know you don't want me to be wronged, but I just want to remain guilt-free. So in the future, I can face him and you without any qualms. The last thing I want is for you to regret. He's your biological grandpa, and all he does is for your sake. The only thing he's not okay with is my family background, which isn't up to par to support you. But I can compensate, it's no big deal." Chloe said.

Damon stroked her soft hair, his eyes deep and reflective, mirroring Chloe's bright and beautiful face. His voice was soft and enchanting. "You've said it all. What else can I add?"

Chloe smiled, leaning into his embrace, 'As long as it's for you, I'm happy to do anything"

Damon ran his fingers through her hair, bending down to press a kiss on her forehead.

How Wendy made it home, she had no clue herself. She sat in the luxurious living room, hair a mess, clothes disheveled. She seemed soulless, tears silently streaming down her face. Her mind was a whirlwind, and she was scrolling through her phone.

The internet was full of mockery towards her.

"Serves her right, always flaunting around as a member of the Alonso family

\*She even made a scene at the Harper Group's board meeting. I bet she was even more arrogant there. It's a shame I didn't get to see her being rebutted." "What a disgrace."

"Ms. Summers even gets jealous differently, so domineering, quite impressive!"

"I wish I could marry the domineering Ms. Summers!

"Yes! I'd love to see Ms. Summers get jealous for me"

"But I thought Mr. Harper was a gentle and polite gentleman. I never thought he'd hit a woman. I didn't see it coming. He actually hit a woman."

"I think it's good that Mr. Harper hit that woman. She pushed Ms. Summers first. Being bothered by her is already annoying, and she almost hurt the woman he loves. If it were me, I would be even harsher. She got off easy with just a slap."

"Ms. Summers is smart and competent, and also very pretty. It feels right seeing her with Mr. Harper."

"Though I'm a bit reluctant, I still hope Ms. Summers and Mr. Harper can live happily ever after."

Wendy clenched her phone, reading the online comments about her and Chloe. She was seething with rage, on the brink of exploding.

The sound of a car engine came from outside. Soon, Cole appeared at the door. Grace, who had been by Wendy's side, quickly approached him, "Cole, you're back."

Cole's face was grim. He pushed Grace aside, his gaze landing on Wendy.

Wendy immediately stood up, looking at Cole nervously, "Dad."

Cole paused, stepped forward, and slapped Wendy across the face.

The slap was much harder than the ones Damon and Chloe had given her earlier that day. Wendy was knocked to the ground. She sat on the floor, a few inches away from Cole, clutching her face. Her face ached, her ears rang, and blood trickled from her nose.

"Wendy"" Grace was startled and rushed to Wendy's side, looking at her injury.

Wendy's face quickly swelled up.

"What the hell? How could you hit your own daughter like that?" Grace glared at Cole.

Cole's forehead veins throbbed, his eyes filled with fury, "What did I do? Don't you know what she did?""

Grace opened her mouth, but was at a loss for words.

Cole said, "She tried to steal someone else's boyfriend, flaunting her Alonso family status, and ended up making a fool of herself! She picked a fight and ended up losing the company Now, the whole Alonso family has to suffer because of her stupidity! The contract was all set. She ruined it, and I even got reprimanded and insulted. Idiot! Look at the mess you've made! For a man, you used every trick in the book, and ended up embarrassing yourself. How foolish"

Returning from the airport, Cole came straight home. With the company in such a mess, he didn't even have the courage to go there. He felt humiliated and didn't know how to face his employees and shareholders

All he wanted was to give the instigator a good lesson to vent his anger. Otherwise, he felt like he was going to explode with this matter weighing on his mind.

Wendy didn't cry or scream. She just sat on the floor like a puppet with its strings cut, motionless.

Grace bit her lip hard, her face equally grim, "Wendy is also upset, do you think she wanted any of this?"

Cole said, 'Do you even know how much she's done? And now you're saying she doesn't want to face the outcome? Who would, huh? Tell me, who would? Chloe? Yeah, she'd love to see that happen! Isn't that just a kick in the pants? You've been the one picking fights all along, and now you're the one left with egg on your face!"

Cole was seriously bummed out. On some levels, he got it. She was young and naive and needed to experience life and grow up. But what the hell was happening now?

Did her life experiences and growth really need to be paid for at the expense of the entire Alonso family? What was the point then?

Cole's words, drawing a stark contrast between Chloe and her current predicament, felt like a fire had been ignited in Wendy's heart. She was in agony. Grace frowned, "The problem has already occurred. Now is not the time for us to fight amongst ourselves. We need to figure out a solution! Why are you blowing your top at our kid?"

Closing his eyes and taking a deep breath, Cole said, "Judging by her recent actions, if I hand the Alonso family over to her, she will run it into the ground." A gleam sparked in Wendy's previously blank eyes, and she quickly looked up at Cole.

Grace's face darkened instantly, "What are you implying?"

Cole snorted, "What else could I mean? Only those competent can lead! She is not the only qualified kids I have."

Caught off guard, Wendy scrambled up from the floor. "Dad, I've been studying abroad for years. I know I've been impulsive and have made many mistakes! But you can't just not give me any chances. Can I follow you into the company? I promise I only want to learn about management, and I won't be impulsive again, Dad, please, give me one more chance." Wendy pleaded.

Cole looked at her, "You still want to join the company? Aren't you embarrassed enough? Want to throw yourself into the company to be ridiculed by everyone? Stay at home these few days and don't

see anyone. I don't want any more embarrassment!"

Wendy's heart sank, "Dad, the Y Country's state banquet is in a few days."

Cole's eyes bulged, "With all the stupid things you've done, everyone at home and abroad knows about it. And you still want to go to the state banquet? Do you even know what shame is?"

Wendy shook her head, "But I already promised Becky, and I've mentioned in front of the media that I'll be there. If I don't go, who knows how they'll ridicule me."

Cole wasn't in the mood to continue this discussion, he waved his hand impatiently, "Enough, stop talking, I don't want to talk about this now" "Dad." Wendy sounded wronged.

"Enough, Wendy, stop talking! Go back to your room and rest." Grace said.

"But." Wendy said.

"Stop causing trouble for your dad" Grace shouted.

Grace suddenly raised her voice, giving Wendy a hint. Wendy clamped her mouth shut, gave Cole one last look, and silently went upstairs. No matter what, she had to make it to the Y Country's state banquet.

Not only was it a matter of her dignity, but once abroad, she wouldn't even have to lift a finger – there were plenty of people who disliked Chloe She was eager to see how things would end up with Chloe

At Harper's Mansion, Presley sat in the living room with a gloomy face. Ever since the meeting, he had been in a foul mood. This time, Alyssa came back to Harper's Mansion with Presley too.

The atmosphere had been tense for quite some time.

"You came back to see me make a fool of myself?" Presley asked angrily.

Alyssa huffed, "Yes! I want to see what your lifetime of dignity looks like now!"

Presley gasped for breath, "Are you satisfied now?"

"Of course I am! But I don't know if you'll continue to act foolishly!" Alyssa said.

Presley remained silent. Alyssa watched him for a moment, then said, "I warn you, from now on, stay away from the Alonso family! No matter what your relationship with them was before, please draw the line now! The Alonso family's veiled threats have been annoying me. Now that this has happened, I'm actually quite pleased. If you dare to help them again, Presley, our marriage is truly over."

Presley furrowed his brows at this, "You want me to stand by and do nothing?"

"You actually want to help the Alonso family? Do you still want Wendy to be Damon's wife?" Alyssa asked.

"That's totally different! Even without Wendy, how can I just stand by and let the Alonso family face trouble alone? Presley said.

"How are they different? Chloe's mother said she wanted to give the Alonso Corporation as a wedding gift to her daughter if you help the Alonso family now, when will Chloe truly become part of our family?" Alyssa said

Presley's face darkened, "Who agreed to let her marry Damon?"

"Indeed, I shouldn't have discussed thus with you What's the point? But I want to tell you, if you continue like this, not only did Damon give up his position as chairman of the Harper Group, he might give up the entire Harper family for Chloe in the future! You keep meddling in his life, and you will face the consequences yourself" Alyssa said

After finishing, a hint of disappointment flashed across Alyssas indifferent face. She had nothing left to say to him. She said the same few sentences Over and over again, in many different ways, yet she could never persuade hum

So be it. Damon and Chloe had their own plans

However, standing outside the door at this moment, Damons face was gloomy, his eyes flashing coldly Chloe stood by his side, her lips tightly closed.

silent. She hadn't expected that Presley would actually consider helping the Alonso family. This was unexpected, yet not surprising. But thinking about it, she couldn't help but feel a pang of regret.

Damon lingered for a moment, ready to leave with Chloe, but she held on tightly to his hand, heading towards the living room. "Since we're here, we might as well go in."

They walked into the living room, Alyssa was about to leave, but her face darkened even more when she saw Chloe and Damon had arrived together. "What are you guys doing here? You think life's too chill and decided to stir up some shit?"

Chloe chuckled. "Are you leaving? The dinner's not even served yet, how about we go back and have dinner together?"

Chloe forced a smile. Her voice was calm and gentle. Alyssa, who had a soft spot for her, naturally didn't turn her down.

Chloe glanced at Presley, pursed her lips a bit, then said, "1 want to apologize to you. The words my mother and I said at the board meeting were really out of line. As for the Alonso family's matter, I just heard something about it. I truly suggest you stay out of it. If you insist on meddling, it won't make any difference."

Presley said, "Beat it! I don't need you to tell me what to do! I'll help the Alonso family no matter what, and even if I don't, someone else will. No matter how bad Wendy is, I'm willing to accept her as a member of the Harper family, but I will never agree to you joining my family!"

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Presley didn't even spare her a glance, but after a few seconds of silence, Chloe cracked a slight smile and said, "Nobody can help the Alonso family, and that's that. I don't give a damn about joining the

Harper family, but being Damon's wife? That's a lifetime gig. No one can change that! You better look after yourself!"

Chloe gave him a long, hard look. Presley twitched his eyebrows slightly, then coldly looked back at her, "Beat it! I don't wanna see your face. Don't show up in front of me again without my permission."

"Mr. Presley!!" James interrupted, charging in from outside in total panic.

Presley glanced at him coldly, "What's up?"

James was as pale as a sheet, his lips trembling, unable to form a coherent sentence, "Mr. Presley. Ms. Alyssa... Mr. Harper. Mrs. Harper...

James had always been a calm and collected person, no one in the room had seen him this flustered before.

"What happened? What's going on?" Alyssa's face darkened suddenly and her voice turned icy cold.

Damon squinted at James, his gaze sharp as a knife.

James gulped, his face pale and stiff, "I just got news. Mr. Royce and his wife private plane crashed on its way to Turkey"

"What did you say?!" Upon hearing this, Alyssa's eyes widened in shock, then narrowed instantly. The color drained from her face!

Chloe's mind was reeling, she was stunned, unable to process the news. Their private plane had crashed.

In that moment, she could feel Damon's body stiffen next to her. She squeezed Damon's arm slightly, trying to comfort him.

Presley shot up from the couch the moment James finished his sentence, swaying on his feet. "What did you say?!" Presley yelled. Tears welled up in James' eyes and he answered, "It's true. The aviation authority confirmed it. They've located the crash site and identified the wreckage. It was Mr. Royce and his wif's private plane." Presley stared at James for a long time, his chest heaving. Even from a distance, Chloe could hear him struggling to breathe. James suddenly remembered something and rushed towards Presley, "Mr. Presley"" Presley started coughing violently! Everyone turned to see Presley coughing up blood and collapsing to the ground. "Mr. Presley! James let out a cry, but Damon was already rushing forward to catch Presley "Grandpa!" Damon whispered, a rare look of panic on his face. Chloe quickly went over, Presley's unresponsive state made her heart race. But she quickly dialed for an ambulance. Alyssa remained in her wheelchair, her gaze vacant, her face drained of all color Her son and Elizabeth.... After a frantic rescue effort, Presley was finally taken to the emergency room. Chloe let out a sigh of relief. No matter what, it was better than worrying endlessly about him.

She turned to see Damon standing there, his face ashen. She walked over and gently took his hand. His

usually warm and large hand was now cold and sweaty

Chloe felt a sting in her heart, and she held onto him tight, hoping to transfer her warmth to him. "Damon' Chloe said. Damon opened his eyes slightly and saw her worried expression. He squeezed Chloe's hand and pulled her into his arms, "I'm fine." He was lying. How could he be fine? He was clearly upset, but he was more concerned about her. Chloe held back her tears. She knew he was hurting and if she shed even a single tear, he would be worried about her no matter how upset he was. She didn't want to burden him. She wrapped her arms around his waist and buried her face into his chest, offering him silent comfort. She didn't know what to say to comfort him. A plane crash. Such a rare event, how could it suddenly happen? The plane was regularly maintained, and she couldn't understand how a perfectly good-conditioned plane could suddenly malfunction midflight

If it was due to the weather, that was even less likely. The weather from P City to Turkey had been normal recently, definitely not the kind that could cause an accident

She furrowed her brows, feeling that something was off. But subconsciously, she didn't want to think too much. She couldn't imagine that this was premeditated.

Chloe took a deep breath and then sighed. She had already said so much. Everything that should and shouldn't have been said, she had said it all. Why did they still choose to leave in the end? Considering Elizabeth's personality, she thought Elizabeth wouldn't want to leave

Tm sorry, Damon." Chloe was filled with guilt and regret. If she had gone to pick them up in person instead of calling, maybe they wouldn't have left Today's tragedy wouldn't have happened

Damon quietly hugged the woman in his arms, his dark eyes revealing a chilling light where Chloe couldn't see

Chapter 1385

Nate rushed in, and just by the sound of his dress shoes on the floor, they could tell he was in a hurry

"Mr. Harper Nate was panting, his voice tense and serious.

Chloe tried to break away from Damon's arms, but he held onto her head tightly, stopping her from moving. His voice was cold, emotionless, coming from above her head, "What happened?"

Chloe initially wanted to struggle, but upon hearing Damon's icy voice, she immediately gave up. She couldn't imagine what his expression would be like with such a cold voice. She couldn't imagine what Nate was facing right now with Damon being this way.

It was a suffocating indifference. His handsome face was expressionless, looking extremely calm, with no fluctuations. He didn't speak, but he was like a dangerous snake, seemingly harmless, but actually full of lethal danger.

Nate lowered his voice and said, "The FAA has provided accurate data, there are no issues with the flight path, all the instrument readings are normal, there are no natural accidents. The plane has been maintained regularly, there's no issue there either! Unless the pilot made a mistake, or something else."

After a brief silence, Damon coldly said, "The pilot's family."

"We've checked. There's nothing unusual so far, and we're monitoring them closely." Nate said.

"Did they find the cause of the crash?" Damon asked.
"They are still looking." Nate answered.
The atmosphere fell silent once again, Chloe lying in Damon's arms, feeling his grip involuntarily tighten.
"Where are they?" Damon asked.
It felt like centuries passed before Damon's indifferent voice made Chloe's tears uncontrollably flow. Her hand, which was wrapped around his waist, gripped him tighter.
Her heart ached so much she could barely breathe.
Where were they?
Nate's face also showed sadness, he hesitated for a moment, then said, "We've only found the bodies of the pilot and three flight attendants"
Damon didn't say anything else, his gaze shifted to the ER door. Chloe's hand slipped around his waist, hugging his shoulder from behind, holding him as close as possible.
Oh God, what should she do now.
She didn't want this man to be sad, not at all. Why did this happen to him!
Feeling Chloe's distress and helplessness, Damon gently stroked her hair, it's okay, I'm fine, don't worry. Chloe, you need to calm down."
Chloe's clenched lips loosened then tightened again as she tried to hold back her tears. In this urgent situation, he could still sense her emotions. She was not the one who needed to be comforted, okay?

"Don't say anything." Even one more word, she feared all her resilience and patience would crumble. She didn't need his comfort now!

Robin rushed over at this moment. Seeing the few people outside the ER, he frowned at Damon and asked, "What happened?" Damon looked up, his deep gaze rested on him for a few seconds, "Which matter are you referring to?"

Robin's brows furrowed, his gaze swept over Damon and landed directly on Chloe. His face, which always wore a gentle smile, now looked unusually serious. "It's because of her again? Damon, your actions this time are really unacceptable. Do you think your grandfather would hurt you? After all, he's experienced, and everything he does is for your sake. The girl from the Alonso family is worthy of you in terms of family background and looks. She's not very smart, but women don't need to be that smart. As long as they can help you and educate the children, that's enough. But you angered Presley and sent him to the ER for this insignificant woman, you..."

Damon's dark eyes gradually revealed a hint of coldness, "Why did you get here?"

What just happened was so sudden, they haven't told anyone yet, including Nathan and Robin, Robin's sudden appearance here was indeed a bit unexpected.

Robin frowned, "The Harper family' is in chaos now, how could I not know? Damon, what are you trying to say?!"

Chloe broke away from Damon and glanced at the ER door. "Damon, I'm thirsty, I want some water"

Upon hearing this, Damon withdrew his gaze and glanced at Nate beside him.

Nate immediately understood, said, "Mrs. Harper, please wait a moment" He then turned and hurriedly left

Chloe pursed her lips, looked up at Damon, and sure enough, she couldn't distract him.

Taking a deep breath, Chloe turned to face Robin and said, "I don't know what I did wrong, and I don't know how you've been talking about me in front of Presley We all know the current situation! According to common sense, instead of letting Ms. Wendy and Damon be together, you should be more supportive of me, a person with no family background, to be with Damon! Now you're trying to match Damon and Ms Wendy in front of Presley, saying it's for the Harper family's good. This is not me being suspicious Maybe you really want the Harper family to do well. But the key is, compared to the Harper family in the hands of others, you would rather the it becomes better in your hands! So, if the Alonso family can bring so much help to the Harper family in the future, why do you still want to put Damon and Ms Wendy together? Or i can put it another way"

Chloe didn't give a hoot about Robin's sour face. She was eyeballing him closely, not missing a beat of his every little facial twitch Her lips, painted a bold red, moved slightly, her clear voice touching his soul ever so lightly, "You're scared of me being with Damon, aren't you?"

Robin's eyes tightened instantly. He stared back at Chloe, his gaze unyielding After a long while, he managed a small smirk, scoffing. "What on earth

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about you should scare me?"

Chloe looked at him, a slight smile dancing on her lips, Tm curious, too. What's there to be scared of about a sweet and innocent girl like me?"

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Kober's eyebrows twitched at Chloe's words his nostrils flaring slightly

nocent? Was this how the saw herself?

That's a puzzling question, and I'm determined to find the answer." She said calmly, her face cold. She wanted to find out what it was about her that made Robin anwary of her. This was something she had always wanted to know, but she had never been able to find an answer

Was it simply because she was more decisive than Wendy in certain decisions? She didn't believe that. Being with Damen, she didn't need to make any decisions at

Chloe didn't continue the conversation with Robin. Presley was still in critical condition, and now was not the time to discuss this.

Nathan also received the news and hurried over, carrying Anya in his arms, while Yulia followed him almost at a run, her expression serious as she walked towards them

"Damon" Nathan's face was no longer relaxed as usual, and even his voice had become heavy

"Damon, Chloe" Anya stretched out her little arms towards Chloe, who reached out to take her

Anya's tender face was full of worry, her big eyes staring at Chloe sparklingly, "I heard that Grandpa Presley is very sick. Is he very sad now, will he be okay?" Chloe smiled faintly, although it wasn't a nice smile, "He'll be fine."

Anya pouted, "I also hope he gets better soon, because he's Nathan's grandpa, and if Nathan's grandpa is sad, Nathan will be sad. I don't want to see Nathan sad" Nathan looked at Anya, "You're such a good girl!"

Even though his voice was light, the expression on his face only relaxed for a moment. Looking around, Nathan frowned, "Where are mom and dad? There's a limit to throwing a tantrum. Where are they at a time like this?"

Chloe's heart skipped a beat, and she looked up at Damon.

Damon's face was grim, facing Nathan expressionlessly, looking as if he had no flaws. "I haven't told them yet. Gonna tell them after the surgery"

Nathan moved his mouth but said nothing. Though he wanted to say something, with his brother having spoken like that, insisting would make it seem as if something really was going to happen to Presley

He naturally didn't want that to be the case. So, he instinctively trusted Damon. If his brother said grandpa was okay, then grandpa must be okay.

The wait outside the emergency room was the longest. The nearly three-hour surgery had almost completely drained everyone's patience.

Chloe refused to leave the hospital, Damon had Nate arrange a room, and firmly carried Chloe into it

Rest here. If there's any news about Presley, III let you know night away" Damon said.

"But Chloe hesitated.

"Don't put on a brave face. Think about the two little ones in your belly, don't overwork yourself, okay?" Damon said.

Chloe's expression changed at that, and she was no longer as adamant as before

Damon always felt that the existence of the two little ones could sometimes be really troublesome, but at other times, they could be very effective. For instance, in making this woman listen quietly, they were

a great tool to use.

Gently laid down on the bed by Damon, Chloe stopped struggling, lying quietly on the bed, watching this handsome man carefully tuck her in. Her heart was full ci emotion and sorrow, and she couldn't help but tear up.

She reached out and gently touched his handsome face, her bright eyes sparkling like stars, staring intently at him. "Damon." She was very confused now, and didn't even know what to say

She couldn't even come up with a comforting word. To tell him not to be sad?

How could that be? His grandfather was in the emergency room, and his parents were missing! The most painful thing in the world was just that

How could the make him not sad, not upset? She just wished she could bear all the pain for him at this moment

The more he appeared calm, the more her heart ached. What should the do?

Damon smiled faintly gently playing with her soft hair, and gave her a gentle kiss on her smooth forehead.

Rest well. You don't have to think too much." Damon said.

Chloe bit her lip silently and nodded slightly.

Damon smiled again, tucked her in once more, and then got up and left. Chloe watched his figure disappear from the room, tears shimmering in her eyes. She gently turned to look out the window, but she wasn't sleepy at all

Even if she was calm, she couldn't sleep peacefully in this situation, even she knew that the two little ones in her belly were her most precious things

She gently put her hand on her belly, stroking her flat stomach, "Sweeties, you must pray for your grandpa and grandma to be safe, okay? And your great-grandpa She really didn't care how harsh Presley was to her, all she wanted now was for her man to be okay

Her eyes were half-dosed, and she didn't know how long it had been. She fell asleep unknowingly

When the woke up again, it was already bright outside. She looked at the somewhat bleak scenery outside the window and after a long pause, she blinked and then suddenly sat up

Just as she was about to get out of bed, the door to the room was opened from the outside, Chloe turned her head and saw Dation walking in She immediately ran over, asking him anxiously, "Hows Grandpa Presley?"

Darton didnt speak, just staring at her sdently, his eyebrows furrowed Before she could reach him he took a step forward and wrapped her up in his arms The faint smell of tobacco immediately entered Chloes sensitive nose, she frowned, and the page of Damon smoking alone outside flashed in her mind.

esp, cene silence, heavy with melancholy, but she didn't dare to imagine more of the scene. She gripped his shoulders tightly. "Damon, you

"He is fine" Damon laid her on the bed, saying it casually. Then he squatted down in front of her placed her feet on his still tidy and clean knees, and gently swige the dust off the soles of her feet

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he warmed her

with his palms and said, looking up at her "You should be more careful Stop running around barefoot, or else out off your feet Chloe didn't believe his threat, but she still let him hold her feet, making them wam, Sheng his expression, she believed he wasnt lying to her Presley should be

safe for now

"So. Chloe spoke up

Damon locked at her casually. "How many more things do you have on your mind? Shouldn't you give your silly brain a

Chloe blinked. Was he mocking her? He actually had the nerve to mock her

She was actually pretty smart, okay?

I'm not that stupid as you think." Chloe suddenly stopped, realizing the meaning in Damon's words. He was mocking her slow reactions

She pulled her feet back and hid them under the blanket. Then Damon stood up and sat by the bed

"How is he doing now?" Chloe asked.

"He's in the ICU now. We'll see how it goes in 24 hours."

Chloe nodded. She believed he would be fine. After all, there were so many professional doctors taking care of him. There shouldn't be any major issues.

"When did he come out last night? You said you would tell me right away" Chloe said.

Damon smiled, "I was going to tell you last night, but you were sleeping so soundly I couldn't resist and slept with you"

Chloe raised an eyebrow. He slept with her?

She didn't remember anything. She didn't get drunk. She had just slept normally. How could she not have felt it?

She looked at him, "You're lying" She didn't trust him.

Then Damon laughed, and Chloe heard some tiredness in his laughter. She looked at him and saw some dark circles under his eyes. She was even more centi that he was lying.

Suddenly, she felt a little sympathy for him. She softly said, Tm

Damon looked at her for a few seconds. You can continue sleeping"

"But I hope you can hold me." Chloe said, unbuttoning his suit jacket and taking it off

The bed in the hospital room was very comfortable and spacious. Damon was practically pulled onto the bed by Chloe. She then nestled into comfortable position to lay her head.

chest, finding a

Damon could hardly move, just letting her lean on him until she calmed down. His waist was tightly wrapped by her as if womed he might run away. He simply stretched out his arms and held her tightly.

The room was silent. Chloe's breathing gradually became even. Damon held her watching the woman in his arms sleep, and gently kissed her hair

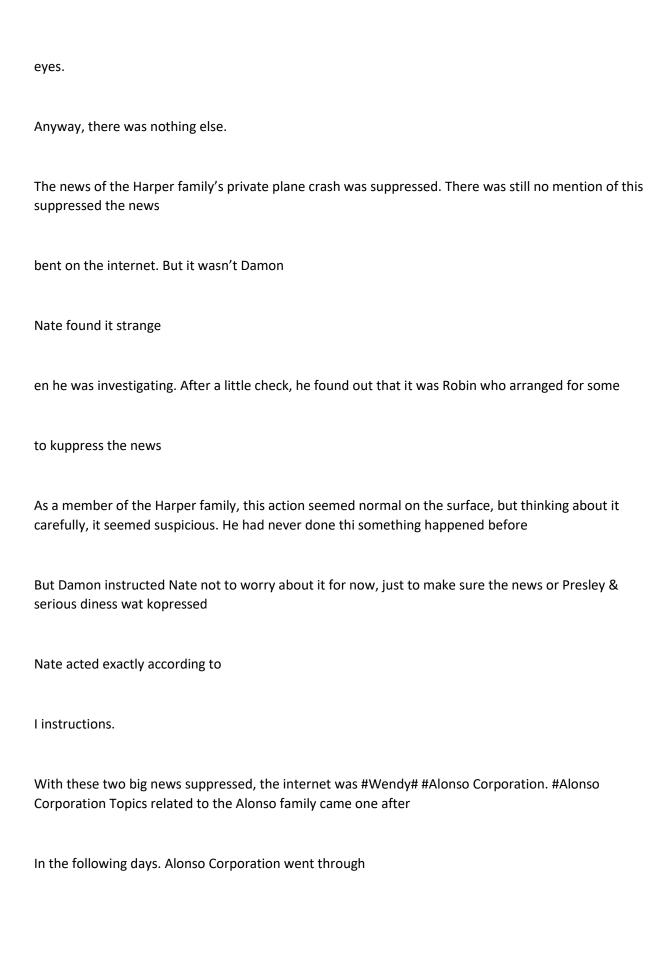
He knew she did this intentionally. Her anxiety and confusion, he had felt it last night. He told her it was okay, but she didn't believe him.

He felt helpless, too. He couldn't describe how he felt then. They both knew each others confusion and insecurity, but they couldn't do anything about it. This experience left him at a loss.

Several times in the night, he saw her sleepy eyes close and open, open and close. It was not until he saw her truly fall asleep, that he was completely at ease He liked that she was jealous for him, womed about him, and cared for him. But he never thought he would encounter such an unexpected accident that made her worry so much. He really didn't know what to do with her. Nothing seemed enough to give her

She was completely honest with him, unreserved. Anyway, he had to bear her honesty towards him.

Actually, for him, staying up all night was nothing. It was just that too many things happened last night. For her little thought of letting him rest well, he closed his



I focusing on the previoushot topic

The stock market had been limit down for two consecutive days, and assets shrank by 10% en teo days

If this continued. Alonso Corporation could really fall from the top and become a jol

Cole couldn't explain to the shareholden, he could only helplessly announce the fad that the company's assets were sho

sy peared in

that pes

This figure threw the entire Alonso Corporation into chaos. Alonso Corporation was always a stable company, but now it was in trouble, which was a pity to everyone. At the same time, they were always on guard against themselves, not to provoke Yasmine and Chloe in P City

When women decided to take action, they could become very powerful. In front of these two women, one couldn't show any weaknesses, nor could they become enemies with them. Otherwise, once they made a mistake, they would be ruthlessly knocked down by them.

But in the business world, who wasn't taking risks to move forward? No one could claim to be flawless; it was impossible. Therefore, it was best to avoid Chloe and her mother as much as possible.

But the silver lining here was that right now, this mother-daughter duo's main focus was on Alonso Corporation.

These past few days, the stock market had barely opened and Alonso Corporation's stocks had already hit rock bottom.

They had lost nearly a billion bucks, and the stocks kept going downhill. Cole was just at his wits end, and the folks working at Alonso Corporation were scared out
of their wits.
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Billions of dollars had been lost, stocks were still plummeting, and Cole was at his wit's end. The employees of the Alonso Corporation were freaking out Cole wanted to ask Presley for help, but found out that he was just barely out of the woods and was currently in a coma
The atmosphere in the Alonso family was really heavy right now, like a dark cloud hanging over everyone's head, making everyone feel suffocated Wendy was hiding in her room all day, too scared to come out. Every time she saw the news about it, her heart ached like it was being ripped out
Billions of dollars had been lost, and the stock price was getting worse by the day
If this continued, they were afraid the Alonso family would be up the creek without a paddle in less than a week
It was only now that Wendy truly felt the fear. The Alonso family had always been her only rock gave her the title of Ms. Alonso, a high status in society, making her feel superior. If the Alonso family really went under, everything she had now would be gone
The actions of Yasmine and her daughter Chloe made her heart ache like it was on fire
The Alonso family was a century-old family with deep roots, how could it be easily destroyed by these two women?
She was just starting to wear the title of Ms. Alonso, and now the Alonso family had tumed into this. Everything seemed to be slipping away

It all started with that bitch Chloel

How could she possibly fail? She had the support of the Alonso family, how could she lose to such a worthless bitch?

She clenched her fists tightly. The nails had been trimmed off by Grace herself, and the palm of her hand was covered with old wounds. Although it was a be painful, Wendy was already used to it

Her body still had the whip marks left by Chloe, the bruises left by her pushing her down the stairs, the needle holes she had made, and the stap she had given her a few days ago.

There were too many scars left by Chloe on her body.

Chloe was a heartless bitch!

The Alonso family was hers! How could she let this bitch take her Alonso family as a wedding gift?

Cole was still in the living room, pacing back and forth with a gloomy face. Grace was sitting on the sofa, her eyes following Cole's movements until she fet dizzy But she still didn't dare to say a word. She had tried too many times in the past two days, but each time she was shouted down by Cole's bad temper Each time he would sarcastically say that Wendy was her well-raised daughter.

Yeah, after all, the problem this time was caused by Wendy. Who would have thought that an entertainment company could cause such a big problem, pushing Alonso family to this point.

It was terrifying, really. Chloe and her mother, they were just too scary.

Cole really couldn't think of any other solutions. Presley was in a coma, and Damon's patience had been worn thin by Wendy. How could he dare to go find him now?

Wendy's constant nagging made him very annoyed and she was the cause of the problem. Now he was going to find Damon again, how could he have the face to do it?

He thought for a long time, but still couldn't think of a solution. He couldn't face the eyes of the employees in the company and the constant arguing of shareholders, so he could only hide at home in anxiety.

The more anxious he was, the more he hated Wendy.

The financial channel on TV was once again discussing the big stock market turmoil.

"It's actually quite ironic. Stocks fluctuate in the blink of an eye. There's no such thing as a rise or fall. But right now, everyone can see the stock markat situation the Alonso Corporation these days. The sharp drop in stock prices has led to a large loss. Just considering the sell-off of shareholders, roughly nearly 20 billion dollars that has evaporated"

"The Alonso family is very powerful and has never been afraid of anything From the behavior of Ms. Wendy, we can see some of it. After alt, she has used the position of her family to threaten the union of the Harpers. The only one in the world who dares to threaten the Harper Group is probably the Alonso Tammie

"But no matter how much wealth the Alonso family has accumulated, it can't withstand waste. There are countless companies that gu bankuşit overnight the wealth accumulated by the Alonso family itself is large, it has not gone bankrupt for the time being Just imagine, this sudden gisappearance of 20 bilon dollars, which ordinary company can withstand it?"

A few people who claimed to be economists at around a table, seriously analyzing the current situation. When they mentioned the Alones Corporation, everyone praised the stable foundation and large assets of the Alonso Corporation that tone, to Cole, was sarcastic na matter how he komund at 18, The wealth accumulated try the Alonso famuly, no matter how much, couldn't withatitki waste

This implied sarcasm made Coles alger burn even more fiercely if she could just keep quiet and behavet, hum coukj the Alonso family pomably have fir these unnecestary losses?

Suddenly, he kickert the big TV to the ground. The loud novas was especially terrifying in the quiet living rooms,

Grace was so scared that

shrank back, her heart almost jumping out of her chess she hesitated for a while on the sofa, then castuły spoke up. "Code, whi the use of you getting angry? What's done is done '

"Billions of bucks, I could've done a lot with that, now it's all gone pooh And this deal, it at had gone through, han much dough would the Aunac famh have roka) in? Counting the profit and loss, do you have any idea how much I've lost? i shouldnt get mad? Thun you tell me how the hunt anu i najposed to salvage thei mess?!" Cole yelled at ther

Ciszer face tumed red with embarrassment at Coles words. She opened her mouth to speak but no words came out how was the supposed to know the ms and

floated down from upstairs.

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Cotes obvious disdain hit Wendy like a slap in the face. She bit her lip before saying, Dad, we don't necessarily need to rely on the Harper family Princess Ava has some business in Y Country too. If it's a win-win deal, I'm sure she'd consider helping us. The national banquet of Y Country is coming up, and it's a good chance to discuss this with her."

Cole was momentarily stunned. Discussing business with Princess Ava?

At these words, Grace also had a sudden realization: Right, they could lean on her cousin.

Cole's anger seemed to lessen a bit, "And how can she help? As far as I know, she doesn't have that much business under her belt either. The only thing that's been hot lately is her fashion brand RM, and it even made a fool of itself at Fashion Week. On top of that, her two daughters are still running it!"

As a royal princess, having her own brand was a sign of the queen's favor. But how much could a small international fashion brand really offer to help him? Wendy pursed her lips, "She's been around for so

many years, she must have more than just this one business line. As a princess, she has to keep things under wraps for appearances sake. But if we ask for her help, I'm sure she won't just stand by. Like her nephew, Viscount Rhys has a lot of assets in Y Country"

Cole suddenly fell silent, considering whether this proposal was feasible. After a while, he finally said "All this talk is just because you want to go to the Y Country banquet with me, isn't it?"

Wendy bit her lip. "I hope you'll agree. The banquet is a big deal, and I want to see what it's like to broaden my horizons. I hope to step out of my comfort zone and do something truly beneficial for the family."

Cole stared at her, his eyes dasrk and unreadable.

After a pause, he finally let out a sigh and said, "Alright, what you said makes sense. You can go to the banquet. Start getting ready. You and your sister will go with me."

"What?!" As soon as Cole finished speaking, Grace's sharp voice rang out, "Why do you have to bring that... Phoebe?!"

Grace was about to call her a tramp, but Cole's gaze stopped her.

Cole's frown made Grace quickly change her tune, swallowing her anger and saying, "Cole, I mean, there's been a lot of talk about the past lately. My cousin has been dragged into it too, she's not happy, and I bet she definitely won't like Phoebe. You're just asking for trouble by bringing her now. Besides, what's the point of her going? Wendy is the heir to the Alonso family. She can handle the networking on her own."

Cole's brows furrowed, "What they say is their business, it's not necessarily true. You shouldn't take it to heart. As for who will be the heir to the Alonso family, that's not settled yet. What's wrong with the two sisters supporting each other? Do you really think Wendy can handle everything on her own?"

If before it was Grace's speculation, now Cole's words made it clear. He intended for Phoebe to be involved in the future management of Alonso Corporation

## How could this be?

"Cole, Wendy has been studying abroad all these years. She's put in and suffered so much. Is it fair to her if you..." Grace said.

"Mom!" Wendy suddenly interrupted Grace. She knew her mother was usually more rational than her, but there were certain lines she wouldn't cross. Like Phoebe Phoebe's mother, and the whole Alonso family.

"Mom, Dad's right, Phoebe is part of the Alonso family too. Her knowledge could be helpful to me in the future. I agree to go with Phoebe." Wendy said.

Cole didn't want to argue with Grace any further. He knew her thoughts well after all these years.

Phoebe wasn't her biological daughter, so her bias was

left the living room, ignoring Grace's sour face.

standable. He didn't want to argue with her because he didn't want to fight. He waved his hand and

Wendy patted her shoulder, "Don't be mad, Mom. Phoebe is part of the Alonso family too. She might really be able to help me in the future"

"Are you willing to share the Alonso family with her?" Grace glared at her.

Wendy chuckled coldly. "Of course not. The Alonso family is mine. Her helping me has nothing to do with that. I'm just making good use of resources" Grace looked at her, thought for a moment, and her face gradually softened, "You're right. We can't support her for nothing

At the hospital, Presley had woken up. After a series of checks, he was out of danger and transferred to a VIP ward.

After having lunch with Chloe, Damon took her to the ward. Before entering the ward, Chloe suddenly grabbed Damon's hand. You go in. I don't want to upset Presley

Damon looked at her but didn't say anything He just held her waist tightly and walked into the ward with her

At the moment, Nathan and Yulia were keeping Presley company in the ward Anya was lying by the bed, her big eyes fixed on the pale old man on the bed. Seeng the two people at the door, Anya's big

eyes lit up.

"Damon, Chloe!" She ran towards the door

Chloe bent down and skillfully scooped Anya into her arms, making a 'shush" gesture, Anya instantly got it, nodding her head vigorously

Presley awkwardly turned his gaze towards the doorway, noticing the woman next to Damon holding a child. Her usualty aloof face was now laced with a mild smile, her eyes tender. Her way of holding the child was incredibly practiced, and hit shushing gesture at Anya fult so natural

Her gentleness towards the child was simply captivating He never imagined a woman like Chloe would center her life around family. He never thought she would be taking care of a child. It felt really out of place

Watching Chloe bend over to pick up Anya, Damon slightly furrowed his brows, reaching but to take Anya from her arms.

Chloe looked at him a little confused, catching his slightly gloomy expression She blinked, then cracked a knowing smile. He was probably wored she was overexerting herself

it was fine for her to hold children before, but now she had two little ones in her belig, she had to be extra careful

But, he was really being overly cautious. He even thought of some unnecessary details that the hadn't

Chapter 1390

Presley, lying in the hospital bed, caught that subtle expression change right away. His emotions felt like they'd been sucker punched, and his gaze went a bit dazed for a split second.

He'd never thought that Damon, who always seemed aloof, indifferent to everything and everyone, could have such a wave of emotions crashing over him However, just as he caught sight of the woman beside him, Presley's face darkened again. Damon was walking over, with Anya in one hand and Chloe in the other. "Are you hoping for me to drop dead?" Presley asked.

Chloe's face remained expressionless. No anger, no resentment, no smiles, and no embarrassment, just a face devoid of expressions.

Damon frowned, his voice icy as he said, "You'll need to stay in the hospital for a few days. I've asked James to arrange for someone to take care of you Presley was pissed off by Damon's icy attitude and took a deep breath. "Im not staying!"

"Suit yourself. I'll arrange for a doctor to be with you 24/7" Damon said.

Presley was so angry that he started to shake. Taking a few quick breaths, he glared at Damon. His chest stopped heaving and his eyes started to turn a little red He managed to stutter out, "What about your parents? How are they?"

Damon's eyebrows furrowed, his voice indifferent, "I don't know."

"What do you mean you don't know?!" Presley yelled, his voice shaking, clearly scared to face the truth.

"The plane did crash, and their fate is unknown." Damon's voice was steady. He didn't seem to worry about Presley's reaction at all.

Chloe silently watched Presley's reaction. His eyes filled with deep pain after hearing Damon's words. She bit her lip slightly, feeling a pang of sorrow

Uncertainty about life and death.

The torment of this uncertainty on the human heart, no one understood it better than her.

The plane had crashed, bodies of the crew had been found, so how could Royce and Elizabeth possibly be unscathed? Reality was cruel, and even if there was hope, it was minuscule. But all of them, their hearts were filled with hope that they could survive.

They were praying for fate and miracles.

How could something like this happen to Royce and Elizabeth, who were so wonderful?

Nathan stood aside, his face taut, a trace of anger hidden in his eyebrows. Yulia stood opposite him. Watching his face, her lips moved a few times but she didn't say anything in the end. She just turned her face away.

She no longer wanted to see his gloomy face. If she couldn't see it, she wouldn't care.

"Get out!" Presley managed to spit out these harsh words, "I don't want to see her! Get her out! Damon, if you insist on being with her, never show up in front of me. again!"

"Grandpa." A gloomy voice suddenly sounded. Yulia's long eyelashes fluttered a bit, surprised by the familiar voice. In her memory, Nathan never talked with such a serious tone when Damon was around.

Nathan said, "Trying to force others to make choices is very irrational. Threatening others with cutting ties or using age to blackmail others is useless. Remember, if it wasn't for your stubbornness, my parents wouldn't have left impulsively."

Presley's breath hitched, "Are you blaming me?"

Nathan looked at him coldly, "You still think you're not at fault?"
"You!" Presley was furious.
"Grandpa Presley! Seeing Presley about to blow up again, Yulia quickly called out. Grandpa Presley, after all, it's his parents who had an accident. Nathan's not in a good mood right now. Please don't argue with him!"
Finished speaking, she walked across the room, took Anya from Damon's arms, moved to Nathan's side, and tugged at his shirt. Since you guys are here, Nathan and I will go out. Call us if you need anything"
Chloe simply nodded at her Yulia gave an apologetic smile, practically dragging Nathan out of the room
"Get out! All of you get out!" Presley said
Chloe calmly hooked her arm in Damon's and wordlessly walked out of the room. Outside, Yulia was holding Anya, standing off with Nathan Seeing them come out, she looked a bit surprised
"You guys" Yulia said
Chloe smiled, "We have nothing to say to Presley."
Yulia opened her mouth, glanced at Damon next to her, but didn't know what to say
Chloe's gaze suddenly fell on Nathan, her expression cold, "Nathan, are you gay?"
Nathan's face darkened, his expression turning strange Yulia was also stunned for a while before reacting staring at Chloe in shock She didn't understand why Chloe would suddenly ask this.

Nathan was gay? How was that possible? Did that mean their recent sex in bed were all fake? Nathan's forehead vein throbbed as he turned to glare at Chloe, "What the hell are you talking about?e His angry tone made Damon's eyebrows twitch. Yet Chloe continued, "You seem to have sent a wrong email a few days ago Something was sent to my inbox" "What was that?" Damon suddenly spoke up, hus brooding gare locked on Nathan as if he wanted to bore holes into him wows looking at Chloe with a puzzled took. He hardly ever used his email, especially outside of work hours. He definitely wouldn t Jh email Besides, what did this have to do with him being gay? This was absurd He was a straight man through and through! Chloe calmly said, "A gay porn movie. I knew nothing about this movie, so I clicked on it." A gay porn movie?! Nathan's eyes widened immediately! What was going on?! Normally he only watched... "Hey! Dude, what's your deal? I didn't watch it. I'm not gay. Don't, dudel Damon!!" Nathan said. Chloe stood there, watching as Damon just hauled Nathan off, and she couldn't help but crack a smile.

Nathan, who was grabbed by the collar and continuously denied, watched Chloe's triumphant smile on her face, almost exploding with anger in his chest!

This sneaky witch! But what on earth did he do to piss her off this much?!