CHOSEN 1471

Chapter 1471

Finally, she clearly felt weak and was directly picked up by the guy. He looked at her rosy cheeks, his lips curling up into a smile as he opened the door and went into the room.

The moment the door shut, the quiet and empty hallway suddenly echoed with laughter.

"Hahaha..."

"Oh my god...hahaha..."

Nathan and Kane were laughing their guts out, rolling around on the carpeted floor, their laughter shaking the entire place.

"Oh heavens ... they're just too hilarious ... "

"I'm dying of laughter, literally! They're absolutely killing me with the hilarity!"

The situation was so awkward, yet they kept it going!!

"I need help! Help... help...".

"I can't... haha... hahaha...":

These guys were beyond help...

The next morning, Damon was having breakfast with Chloe.

Damon looked a bit peeved. After all, if he had cooled off too quickly, that would have made him look like he had no dignity.

Chloe kept looking at Damon's face, trying to cheer him up, serving him food, pouring milk for him, and keeping herself quite busy Damon's lips were tightly sealed, but he did push all of Chlbe's favorite food

towards her.

When Nathan and Kane arrived and saw the slightly awkward duo, they couldn't help but break into laughter again.

Despite them being so good–looking and having a strong aura, the thought of last night's scene made them want to laugh again. People who could act cute like Chloe were few and far between in this world.

"Are you guys sick or something?" Seeing both of them laughing so hard, Damon coldly retorted, his face grim.

Nathan and Kane shook their heads, their laughter causing their stomachs to hurt as they sat down at the dining table.

Chloe glanced at them. "Did you return the three pups?"

Nathan nodded. "They've been returned. Don't worry."

Without saying another word, Chloe focused on eating.

Nathan and Kane ordered their food and started eating too. "Where are we going to have fun today?"

Watching Chloe enjoy her meal, Damon's lips curled up slightly, but his voice was icy cold. "You guys are still in the mood for fun?"

Both Damon and Kane's faces went stiff. They quickly lowered their heads and started eating.

Suddenly, Chloe's phone lying next to the dining table buzzed. She swallowed her food and checked her phone.

A radiant smile lit up her face. She waved her phone at Damon. "The money, it's been transferred to my account."

Hearing this, Nathan and Kane immediately looked up. Their eyes were sparkling with excitement and admiration.

"Sponsor us!"

Chloe glanced at them, her smile warm and gentle. "It depends if Damon agrees first."

Both men tensed up, their gaze slowly shifting towards Damon.

Damon elegantly took a bite of his food, then slightly raised his eyes, immediately capturing their attention. His face was completely expressionless. His deep—set eyes swept over them, giving them a chilling sensation.

It was a feeling they had only heard of in rumors.

The two immediately decided, and their gazes were firm. "We were just joking. We don't lack money, and we just wanted to express our admiration for you."

Damon didn't want to bicker with them any longer, so he turned his gaze towards Chloe and casually asked, "What are you planning to do with all that money?"

Without hesitation, Chloe responded, "Of course, give it to you."

Damon raised an eyebrow. "Hmm?"

Chloe laughed, having eaten her fill, and stood up. "You didn't get to play yesterday, so today, it's your turn."

Nathan and Kane looked at–Damon expectantly. They didn't get to play yesterday either, it was still early, and they had plenty of time to enjoy themselves.

"Damon, come on, you haven't played before, have you?"

"Yeah, Damon, although you might not be as good as Chloe, I believe you won't be too bad."

99

Chloe looked at Damon with a smile. She was quite interested in seeing what Damon looked like at the gambling table. With his intelligence, he would surely appear calm and collected, carefully planning his next move.

Damon looked at Chloe, her anticipation was quite obvious. He was silent for a while, but in the end, he didn't refuse.

After all, she was looking forward to it.

However, when they reached the casino, there were quite a few people gathered outside. Nathan looked around and joked, "This casino must be making big bucks! So many people lining up to play in broad daylight?"

Kane said, "I don't think so, there are so many casinos in Las Vegas, there's no need to play in just one place."

Chloe agreed with Kane. She didn't believe that a casino would make their customers wait at the entrance. But seeing the cameras in their hands, she suspected these people were probably journalists. She bit her lip slightly. Did her taking Rhys away yesterday become a big issue?

It shouldn't be. They left with Rhys willingly yesterday.

So, did her gambling attract the attention of these journalists yesterday? That should be the truth.

However, as soon as they reached the entrance, they were blocked by a few tall bodyguards.

Chloe frowned. "Are they not letting us in?"

At this moment, a man rushed out from inside. Seeing them, his face was filled with panic, sweat beading on his forehead.

"Hello everyone."

Damon looked at him coldly. "What's the meaning of this?"

The manager wiped the sweat from his hand, and glanced at Chloe in a hurry. "Dear distinguished guests, our casino is just a small business. We hope you can leave us a way to survive!"

Chloe blinked at him. "We just came to play. Did we do something wrong?"

The manager's face broke into a cold sweat. Hearing Chloe's words, his facial muscles twitched nervously. "Miss, your gambling skills are just too high... we really... can't afford to pay your winnings..."

Last night, they studied the surveillance footage for a long time, but in the end, they didn't find any evidence of this woman cheating.

Chapter 1472

So, they concluded that Chloe did have her own tricks to know the dice number in the dice cup. Whether she was using her super hearing ability or some sort of special visual ability, it was something their casino wanted to avoid at all costs. Yesterday's high-stakes gambling had already made people green with envy. It was like a sum of money that couldn't be spent in a lifetime. If she came again today, could their casino still operate?

If they let her in, who would be willing to gamble with her?

Even if no one gambled with her, when she participated in other games, the casino was still on the hook.

If she gambled big again, the consequences would be unthinkable.

Chloe felt quite helpless about this. Yesterday, she did go a bit overboard. She should have been a bit more low-key, but Rhys' previous remarks really ticked her off.

"I won't gamble today..." Uh-huh, she came with Damoh today.

The manager chuckled. She said she wouldn't gamble now, but who could stop her once she got in?

"Isn't she the lady who gambled last night?" They hadn't had time to chat when someone in the crowd outside suddenly shouted, and they were surrounded by the crowd.

Seeing this, the manager immediately left, instructing the security before leaving. "Don't let them in at all costs, or you'll bear the losses!"

It was clear that they were being denied entry. However, Chloe didn't pay them any mind.

Damon held Chloe tightly in his arms, looking sternly at the people around. Judging from their demeanor, they must have been reporters.

"Hello, are you the one who gambled with the casino shareholder last night?"

"Are you Randall?"

"Is it true that you won a lot of money last night?"

Seeing Chloe's familiar face, the reporters couldn't contain their excitement.

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Facing the sudden appearance of so many reporters, Chloe didn't show any repulsion. She leaned into Damon's arms, her face in front of the camera as usual, and indifferent with a hint of pride that made people hesitate to approach. "I think, if you guys didn't get the news, I wouldn't be surrounded here right?"

The reporters were stunned. "So, you're admitting that you won a huge sum of money?"

Chloe nodded. "Yes, would you believe me if I denied it?"

Reporter, "Now that you have so much money, what are you planning to do? Travel around the world, enjoy life, or something else?"

Chloe smiled, glanced up at the man next to her, broke free from his arms, and took the initiative to hook his arm.

"Give it all to him."

The reporters all turned their gaze to Damon. Looking at the tall man standing next to him, everyone paused slightly.

"Isn't this..." Some reporters recognized Damon but hesitated to act rashly.

"Isn't this the CEO of the Harper Group?"

"He's the former CEO ... "

The Harper Group's status in the international business world was indisputable, so it was only natural that people recognized him.

Given the woman next to him and his publicly known relationship, their appearance seemed perfectly logical.

"As far as I know, they promised to give you a big sum of money first. Have you received it now?"

Chloe nodded. "Yes, I just received it."

People all gasped. "So, you're really giving the money to Mr. Harper?"

"Of course, why wouldn't I?" Chloe answered without hesitation.

Nathan and Kane looked at Damon with envy. If someone handed them a tissue now, they'd probably crush it.

Nathan said, "I'm really a bit jealous of Damon now."

Kane gritted his teeth. "I'm even more jealous. Damon gave you shares, and I got nothing."

Nathan paused, his expression slightly better. "Hearing you say that, I feel much better."

Why did men have to make it hard for other men?

Chloe's straightforward answer soon raised some reporters' suspicions. A woman with some money in her hands, that was her future security.

Immediately a reporter counter-questioned, "Why give it to him?"

Chloe smiled lightly, "Consider it as me keeping him."

"Ha..." Nathan and Kane couldn't help but laugh again.

Damon raised an eyebrow, was he being kept?

"I'm using the money to keep this man. If other women have any ill intentions towards him, come up with more than that for him. If you can't, then

please... stay away from him."

She faced the camera, and although her eyes were filled with a gentle smile, everyone felt a chill. She had already publicly warned everyone not to try to

seduce Damon.

Back then, many women were dissatisfied with Chloe online, calling her a shrew. Now this scene, it was like a hard slap in the faces of those women.

[Starting from 20 billion, if you are capable enough to outdo Chloe, then come.]

20 billion, a number that only existed in dreams. For Chloe, it was a piece of cake, but for the vast majority of people in the world, it was a pipe dream. Even the richest person in the world might not be able to act as freely as her.

The threshold for other women to approach Damon was 20 billion, something that would never have happened before.

As soon as this news was released, no matter how imaginative other women were, they didn't have the guts or ability.

Looking back, Chloe, was truly brilliant. Few men could control her, except the former CEO of the Harper Group.

But looking at the current net worth of the two, it seemed Chloe had the upper hand. After all, Damon was no longer the CEO of the Harper Group.

What really puzzled them was where Damon, who had left the Harper Group, got his confidence from. After the board meeting, he outright stated he'd go all out against the Harper Group.

Someone mustered up the courage to ask Damon this question. He paused for a few seconds, then casually said, "Because I have a super badass wife"

Just looking at his smug face, yes, she was indeed very badass.

She was once looked down upon for her poor background, yet in just a few days, she became a princess of a country. It was like she'd got some kind of cheat code in life. How could she not be badass?

Chapter 1473

In the first few days after Robin took over the Harper Group, he was in meetings nearly non stop. He needed to understand and reform the past ways of operation. This big of a company wasn't something you could overhaul in just a blink of an eye.

However, the higher–ups at the Harper Group seemed a bit out of it, giving off a half–hearted vibe.

Robins face had been grave for several days, with the atmosphere at the meetings escalating daily. Finally, he just tossed the documents in his hand aside, sat in the chairman's seat, and stared at the others in the meeting room with furrowed brows. "Got anything to say about these meetings in the past couple of days?"

A few senior managers glanced at each other before someone slowly spoke up,

"The company's morale is unstable right now. The previous ways of operation were figured out step by step, only stabilizing after several failures. The employees are used to seeing the former CEO as the backbone. We have no objections to you taking over the company, but you wanting to reform the old ways of operations just after taking office is a hard pill to swallow."

Hearing this, Robin scoffed, "The former CEO?"

The senior manager who spoke paused, looking a bit embarrassed. The atmosphere in the meeting room became somewhat awkward, but since someone had broken the ice, another person with an opinion spoke up.

*Also, the thing the former CEO said to the media on the day he stepped down...we can't just ignore it..."

As soon as these words were spoken, the meeting room fell silent. On the day Damon stepped down, he only said one thing to the media.

He was going to take on the Harper Group in full force!

After a while, Robin let out a cold laugh.

"Take on the Harper Group full force, huh?"

The smile on his face gradually cooled. "Tell me, what makes him so famous now, and why do you trust him so much? Without the support of the Harper Group, how is he going to fulfill his so-called 'full force against the Harper Group'?

Afterwards, he scoffed again, "Youngsters, a bit of arrogance is okay, but believing in such unrealistic talk is inappropriate, don't you think?"

The meeting room fell silent again. They weren't ignorant.

Hearing about a full-scale attack on the large Harper Group sounded unrealistic.

Damon was alone, without any support. Even if his current girlfriend turned into the princess of Y Country, the well–rooted foundation of the Harper Group wouldn't be easily shaken.

Of course, they recognized the current strength of the Harper Group. But, when they saw Damon calmly saying these words in front of the media, they all felt a tightening in their hearts, subconsciously believing Damon's seemingly boastful words.

Not only them, but everyone who heard his words didn't question them. It was probably because the words came from Damon.

"With his temper, I don't think he's just blowing smoke!"

Hearing this, everyone nodded in agreement. This was the crux of the matter. How could Damon casually say things he wasn't sure about? After working under his leadership for so many years, his determination and decisiveness were well known to his subordinates.

Robin did not explicitly agree or disagree. "That's why I want to change some of the operating strategies he set up. I admit, the person who knows the Harper Group best in this world, is him! So we need to make changes as soon as possible. If he plans to take action, he will directly attack some of the key issues inside the Harper Group. This is the only reason I can think of why he would say those words. If we don't come up with a suitable response, are we just going to sit here and wait to die?"

"His capability is the best stabilizing factor for the Harper Group, and we're all family, so why make things so tense?!"

No matter what Damon said, the current situation was something they all didn't want to see. The only thing that could reassure them was to bring Damon back!

Robin kept a poker face. "According to your words, with Damon's personality, do you think it's possible for him to go back on his decisions?"

Things were at a standstill again. So they were sitting here now, and no matter what they said, it was useless.

If Damon couldn't come back, then necessary countermeasures needed to be taken.

"I think, the biggest problem now is that the company has enemies both inside and outside! A perfectly good company has turned into a complete mess, and now it's a laughingstock." One of the senior managers stood up, his face grim. After saying these words, he just walked out.

Robin's face didn't change, he continued, "The project of Alonso Corporation has received full support. I had talked to Cole before, and he has left a tenth of the investment quota for the Harper Group. Before the project starts, I plan to put this tenth of the funds in."

His words were met with opposition from everyone.

"We all know Damon resigned because of the Alonso family! Over the years, the company has also cut off many cooperation relationships with the Alonso Corporation

"The Alonso family seems to be thriving on the surface, but in reality, it's still Cole who's in charge. Every year of cooperation, he uses his position to extract more profits from the Harper Group, and when problems arise, he doesn't take responsibility, and we have to bear the losses.

"The few projects the Harper Group cooperated with Alonso Corporation on, didn't really bring us much benefit!

"Not only due to Damon's personal issues but from the long–term development of the Harper Group, we all think it's right to keep a distance from the Alonso family! Even if the Alonso family's situation had improved a bit, if you accepted their goodwill now, they would stick to you like glue in the future!

"Sure, Cole had got some chops, but the future leader of the Alonso's was gonna be Wendy. Everyone knew what she was like. The Alonso family would just be a burden for the Harper Group in the future!"

Robin's usually chill expression had finally shown some real anger recently. "The Alonso family and the Harper family have always been tight, and supporting each other is just the decent thing to do. Because Wendy is gonna run the Alonso's in the future, it is even more reason for us, the Harpers, to step up and help rather than just standing by. Otherwise, where's the dignity of the Harper family?"

With that, Robin slammed his hand down on the table. "The Harper Group will definitely chip in for a tenth of the Alonso family's company investment. I won't miss this sure–fire opportunity! This decision

is finall Finance Department, get the funds ready! As soon as the money's good to go, transfer it right away!"

No sooner were the words out of his mouth than he didn't give anyone a chance to argue. He pushed back his chair and strutted out of the conference room.

Chapter 1474

The bigwigs in the meeting room glanced at each other, shaking their heads with sighs.

"What kind of meeting is this? It's just him giving orders!"

"We were supposed to shake off the Alonso family, but now we have to approach them! How embarrassing!"

"Anyone who has anything to do with the Alonso family is screwed! If the Harper family decides to cooperate with the Alonso family again, Robin won't be off the hook either! This guy is getting more and more confused as he ages!

The executive who had been confronting Robin finished these words, his face was stern, and he picked up his files and stormed out of the meeting room. The others also got up and left one after another.

"The Harper Group used to be fine, but now it's a total mess!"

"What the hell is going on!"

"This Wendy, is a real troublemaker! Not satisfied with ruining the Alonso family, and now she wants to ruin the Harper family too."

When Cole returned home with Wendy and Phoebe, he was thrilled. Whether Chloe was the real granddaughter of the queen of Y Country or not, Ava and her two daughters had been by the queen's side for many years. It was illogical to drive away a foster daughter who had been with you for over thirty years just because you found your real daughter and granddaughter.

As long as Princess Ava was still a princess and her family, was still in power, they could help the Alonso family at crucial moments.

The news from a few days ago proved this. Under the full support of Ava's family, the Alonso Corporation's project did not change. This was very good news for them. As long as this project was successful, the Alonso family could still make a big step forward.

They used to be arrogant, thinking they could suppress Chloe's family background, but now they were being played by Chloe and had become a laughingstock, being discussed for a long time.

And the Harper Group, because of Presley's fear, or his interest in the Alonso Corporation and the Alonso family's Princess Ava, was extremely displeased with Chloe but was taught a hard lesson by reality.

What was worse, Presley's favorite grandson quit the Harper Group and made it clear that he wanted to "resist the Harper Group with all his might.

After that, there was no news for two days.

"Mr. Alonso, can you disclose how much funding Ava's family has invested in this project of yours?"

"When will the funds be in place, and will the project really be able to start on time?"

These two questions brought a smile to Cole's face in front of the media.

"This project could proceed as planned thanks to the generous help of Ava's family. We received twenty billion in funding, which is not a small amount. If all goes well, this two billion will be credited in the next couple of days. Thank you all for your interest in our Alonso Corporation, we hope to have a deeper cooperation in the near future."

The business needed publicity, and publicity couldn't be achieved without the media. It was all a winwin situation, and the media naturally welcomed it."

But now, twenty billion in funds would be in place in a few days, and Ava's family's financial power was indeed amazing.

Looking at Cole's smile now, he indeed should be happy.

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The reporters turned to look at Wendy, who was standing next to him, and sneered a bit. But no matter what, her behavior outside had made everyone in the world aware. Her actions were a disgrace, and they had nothing to say to her.

The attitude and expressions of the media made Wendy very angry in that moment, her face extremely distorted.

Grace, who had come to pick them up, walked through the crowd of reporters and came to Cole's side, arm in arm with him.

"You're finally back!"

Cole glanced at her and asked in a low voice, "What happened?"

Grace smiled, glanced at Wendy behind her, and whispered to Cole, "Heather called. It's just as well you guys are back. Heather's grandson is having a birthday today, so she invited us to come over now."

Cole looked at Phoebe standing behind him without speaking. At that moment, Phoebe felt a little comforted. But this comfort did not last long because as soon as they walked out of the airport and avoided the reporters, Cole asked her, "What did you gain from this trip to the Y Country?"

Phoebe felt a chill in her heart. "What gain?"

Wendy laughed. "Did you meet any suitable men in the Y Country? If so, we don't have to go to the Bowles family today."

Phoebe looked at Cole and asked calmly, "Is that what you mean?"

Cole stared at her cold attitude and furrowed his brow. "I told you when I was in the Y Country..."

Phoebe sneered and took a deep breath with her eyes closed. "Who would want to marry me when I have a disgraceful sister?"

"You..."

"So the daughters of the Alonso family can only marry idiots!"

Phoebe interrupted Cole's anger with a sneer, ignoring Grace and Wendy's stares. She walked straight towards the car park.

"Stop! Where are you going?!" Cole's angry voice rang out from behind, and Phoebe responded with a sneer!

"Of course, to attend the Bowles family's birthday party."

Cole's facial muscles twitched, unsure whether to be happy or angry. Grace, who was standing nearby, saw Cole get affected by Phoebe's words and immediately said, "Alright, Heather is still waiting for us. There's no need to get huffy with her now, let's go, let's go...

After the news was released, the stocks of Alonso Corporation started to slowly climb. Compared with the previous daily slumps, this trend was pretty positive.

The situation of the Alonso Corporation was gradually improving, so naturally, Cole became the center of attention at the Bowles family's birthday bash.

Heather specially received them and introduced them to her beloved grandson, Abelard. Grace also pushed Phoebe to the front and said with a smile, "This is my daughter, Phoebe. Phoebe, go say hi to Heather and Mr. Bowles."

A small smile appeared at the corner of Phoebe's mouth as she pulled her arm, which was hurting from Grace's grip, away from her.

She looked up at Abelard, Abelard looked at her and let out a couple of chuckles, his eyes full of innocence.

Darling "

Chapter 1475

Phoebe quickly averted her eyes, unable to ignore the internal resistance.

"Darling Abelard, seeing Phoebe not responding, took two steps forward, arme opened wide to hug Phoebe.

"Don't touch mel" Phoebe suddenly stepped back, shouting loudly, immediately drawing attention from the quests around,

Abelard didn't notice at all and tried to get closer to her. Phoebe squinted her eyes, and Chloe's words suddenly flashed in her mind. "When you're all alone, you need to stay cool. The more helpless you are, the more you need to remind yourself not to panic, Usually, the best solution is not to play the good guy. I've always thought that to those who bully you, Insult you, slander you, spread rumors about you, and hurt you, you should be cruel. Only when you've successfully protected yourself are you qualified to be kind, understand?"

Yeah, being kind wasn't about putting up with everything. That was not kindness, that was cowardice.

When she saw Abelard approaching, her eyes fell on the wine glass in his hand, paused for a moment, and then knocked it out of his hand. The glass flew into Abelard's chest, and the full glass of wine spilled all over his specially worn grey suit.

Surprised gasps came from around.

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Heather's face immediately turned gloomy, and Grach seemed a bit panicked and quickly said, "Don't be angry, Phoebe's temper is a bit unpleasant, but she's actually a good person. I believe she's just not very familiar with Mr. Bowles, just give them a chance to get to know each other,

Heather, who had been through a lot, could naturally tell the truth from Grace's words. She had previously investigated Phoebe and thought she was a sensible person. Heather knew what her grandson was like, and if he could marry Phoebe, he would be very lucky in his life..

Since she wanted to marry Phoebe, she couldn't be angry at this time. So, she accepted Grace's words. "You're right, they should get along well, and smooth out their differences."

Phoebe couldn't face this bozo any longer and ran to the corner of the ballroom.

Grace quickly apologized to Heather. Heather didn't say much and left with Abelard. After a few steps, she called for a servant. "Take Abelard to change his clothes, no need to go upstairs. Making a fool of himgolf in front of so many people is really embarrassing."

"Yes!" The servant took Abelard away.

Grace was so angry she was grinding her teeth, looking at Phoebe hiding in the corner and wishing she could tear her to pieces.

Wendy, however, said indifferently, "Nobody would be happy to marry a moron! It's normal for her to have a temper, but, temper or not, she still has to marry in the end. Are we going to force her onto the stage on the wedding day?"

Grace was very angry. "It's really annoying. Every time I see her, I feel annoyed. I've raised her for so many years, and I've been good to her! As for her marriage, she has no say!"

A cold smile flashed in Wendy's eyes. Even though Phoebe was her sister, she had never planned to treat her well.

In the past, Phoebe's existence was just to support her, and marrying someone useful to the Alonso family was her true destiny.

In the end, Phoebe's marriage would definitely not be better than hers!

But more importantly, the shares in Phoebe's hands were the real threat to her. Her shares had already been transferred to Princess Ava at the request of her father. If Phoebe didn't leave soon, letting her father take back the shares from her, her position in the Alonso family could be taken over by Phoebe."

It would have been good if she had stayed obedient like before, but now, she'd obviously become more difficult, always opposing the Alonso family.

She couldn't guarantee that Phoebe wouldn't snatch the Alonso family from her in the future.

The Alonso family had already passed the most difficult moment, and all the future glory and hato could only belong to her. How could she possibly give her a chance to compete?

And she had given Phoebe a chance, but Phoebe didn't find a suitable husband in Y Country, so now, she couldn't blame anyone!

In a corner where no one was, Wendy took out a packet from under the blanket on her lap and handed it to Grace. "Since she's unwilling, we'll have to use this method."

Grace took it, thought for a moment, and knew what it was. "How did you get this?"

Wendy frowned. How did she get this?

Because she had many things she wanted to do with it, like letting Damon drink it, to satisfy her own selfish desires. Or let Chloe eat it, to completely ruin her, making her unable to lift her head for the rest of her life!

But there was never a chance. Damon wouldn't let her get close, and Chloe was always alert to her. So she kept it till now!

Using it on Phoebe would also be making the most of it.

Looking at Wendy's ugly face, Grace probably guessed something, and didn't ask anymore, but said, "She's very alert now. She won't eat or drink casually..."

"You put it in the wine. I'll find a way."

Phoebe was hiding in the corner, hugging her body, feeling colder than she'd ever felt before. Her heart became cold and hard, from inside to outside, and there was no warmth.

She was so stupid.

Cole was never a fool. Her mother's strange death years ago, just happened when Cole left home. When he came back, he didn't even investigate the cause of death and immediately married Grace.

She used to naively think that Cole just saw it as an unfortunate accident. But judging from his current attitude, maybe he knew from the beginning that her mother's death had something to do with Grace. Just because Grace was a member of Ava's family, and behind her was a princess in Y Country.

For all these years, she'd been living in a web of lies, living amidst cold-hearted kinship, living in a sorrow that was both pitiful and laughable.

She couldn't give a hoot about this ridiculous family bond she'd got now. But what got her goat was the fate of her mom. The poor woman was screwed over just for being Cole's wife.

So, the Alonso family ought to get their just desserts! She wanted every single one of the Alonso clan to pay for the innocent and pitiful life of her mother.

Chloe hit the nail on the head. She was not in need of kindness right now.

Kindness couldn't bring her mom back, nor could it stop the ambitions of that mother-daughter duo and their relentless oppression and persecution.

Chapter 1476

Being nice couldn't save her mom's life, and it sure as hell couldn't stop that mother-daughter duo's ambition and their oppression on her.

She took a deep breath, hugged herself, and saw Wendy approaching her through the large window in front of her.

Tears welled up in her eyes, her lips trembling as she tried to hold back her tears.

"Sooner or later, this day would come. I thought by your attitude this afternoon you've already accepted reality."

"So, why the waterworks? Being a fool ain't all that bad. Maybe he'll do whatever you say. Maybe the whole Bowles family will be yours..."

Phoebe turned around, looking down at Wendy, tears falling from her downcast eyes.

She gave Wendy a cold look and a laugh. "All these years, we've been getting along just fine. And this is how you repay me in the end? Wendy, I think you're cunning and deceitful, do you think I'm wronging you?"

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But Wendy didn't get angry, replying, "Whether you're wronging me or not, they aren't qualified to judge me. It's survival of the fittest, I'm just trying to get what I want. Look at everyone here, who doesn't want to live their best life?"

Phoebe looked where Wendy was pointing. Everyone in the ballroom, the men in suits were looking dashing, and the ladies looked elegant and regal. Indeed, all of them were thinking about how to live a

better life, a more exciting life.

It didn't make sense not to think for oneself.

Turned out everyone was like this.

She suddenly laughed, seeing the light, fully understanding what Chloe meant.

Everyone was selfish. Everything Wendy did was to satisfy her own desires.

While Chloe's selfishness only gave herself a "right," including the right to be kind, the courage to love, to hate, and to be happy...

"You're right."

She nodded. Humans truly were selfish.

Wendy smirked and yelled at a waiter not far away.

"Two glasses of red wine, please."

The waiter glanced at her, and as he was going to pick up the wine glasses, Phoebe had already walked up to Wendy.

Wendy sat in her wheelchair, her body hidden in the shadow of Phoebe's body.

Phoebe gave the waiter a hard stare, and after a few seconds, the waiter lowered his head, letting Phoebe take the wine glass from his hand.

Then Phoebe stepped back, and Wendy stared at the glass on the waiter's tray for a while before she reached out to take it.

Wendy looked at the clear fingerprint on the glass and smiled faintly

"Today might be the most honest we've ever been in our lives. Let's toast to that."

Phoebe smiled and clinked glasses with Wendy.

Then they both raised their glasses...

Phoebe's lips touched the edge of the glass, her cold eyes watching as Wendy finished the wine in her hand.

She slowly raised her glass, as the bright red wine was spilling all over her clothes.

When Wendy finished most of her own wine and looked up at Phoebe, she saw the wine stains on her dress and frowned.

"What happened?"

Phoebe laughed, replying, "Spilled it all over myself..."

Wendy's face turned cold, but the next moment, she continued, "You might need to change your clothes, I can go with you."

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Phoebe smiled slightly. "I'll clean up in the bathroom first..."

Wendy hurriedly said, "There's a lot of people, accidents might happen, so I'll go with you."

"Okay."

They wasted some time in the bathroom, and after cleaning up, her dress was soaked.

Wendy said, "Let's go to the room and dry it with a hairdryer."

Phoebe nodded. "Okay."

Wendy naturally led Phoebe into Abelard's room.

When they opened the door and saw Abelard in the room, Phoebe laughed coldly.

Wendy smiled, "Looks like someone's already here, but you guys are going to be the closest people, I won't disturb you."

Abelard saw Phoebe and immediately ran over to her.

"My dear wife..."

Phoebe stepped back, blocking Wendy's path out.

Her face full of mockery as she watched Abelard approach, she sneered, "You got it wrong, I'm not your wife!"

She pushed the wheelchair behind her, pushing Wendy in front of Abelard, then pointed at Wendy and said to Abelard, "She is!"

Wendy's face changed dramatically, "Phoebe!"

"Being a fool ain't all that bad. Maybe after spending some time together, he'll do whatever you say. Maybe the whole Bowles family will be yours..." Phoebe sneered, repeating Wendy's words back to her.

"You're right, everyone needs to be a bit selfish. So, compared to getting the Bowles family, I think taking the Alonso family from you would be better."

She looked at Wendy, a cold smile on her lips, then suddenly turned around and ran out of the room, slamming the door shut.

Wendy's eyes narrowed, as she moved to the door in her electric wheelchair, but her hands couldn't open the door.

Phoebe was pulling the doorknob tightly, not giving them any chance to escape.

She still remembered the guilty and anxious look in the waiter's eyes.

If she didn't do this, she would be the one in that room!

She had poured some of the wine the waiter gave her into another glass.

So the wine Wendy drank was drugged.

She knew the dosage was small, and the effect was slow, so she deliberately wasted some time in the bathroom, now she was just waiting, waiting for the drugs to take effect.

She needed to protect herself, so she wasn't planning to be the nice guy.

They wanted to ruin her, so she had to use extreme measures to protect herself!

Time was ticking away, Phoebe finally let go of the doorknob, stumbling towards the bathroom.

Cole was having a pleasant conversation with a few senior executives.

"Mr. Alonso hats off to you for pulling through this jam. Hope you'll give the rookies more chances to shine in the future!"

Everyone chimed in, agreeing that the Alonso family had come through this crisis, and would definitely be harder to touch in the future.

Having the chance to meet Cole this time, if they could build a good relationship, it would definitely be a win for them.

Facing everyone's agreement, Cole just smiled without a word.

"Every cloud has a silver lining, and I appreciate everyone's concern for the Alonso family..."

"You're right, every company needs to go through some storms to become more solid. This is just a minor setback, I believe Alonso Corporation will only get better and better."

Although his words were full of flattery, Cole was genuinely pleased at the moment.

Chapter 1477

Even though Cole was laying the flattery on thick, he was actually in a good mood.

Hearing his words was like a breath of fresh air.

"Shouldn't we also congratulate Mr. Alonso on scoring such a great son-in-law?"

Cole's face stiffened a bit.

He wasn't exactly thrilled.

Grace and Heather, standing behind him, shared a glance and a subtle grin.

Heather even said, "Abelard's the lucky one. Phoebe's sharp as a tack. Even if Abelard takes off, I'd be comfortable handing the company over to her."

That was a clear signal. If Phoebe was game, everything in the Bowles family would be hers.

Cole's face softened a bit.

At least he was doing right by Phoebe.

Grace felt a twinge of discomfort, thinking that the damn woman was getting ahead.

But then she remembered that Phoebe was still the daughter of the Alonso family. So, didn't that mean that everything in the Bowles family would also belong to the Alonso family?

Thinking about this, the smile on her face deepened. "Phoebe's really lucked out. Compared to our Wendy, her fate is miles better. I've done right by my poor, late sister, making sure her daughter is set."

Everyone knew who she was referring to as her "late sister," Phoebe's deceased mother.

Everyone laughed along, but they knew the truth.

How Alicia had died was revealed on the day of Chloe and Damon Harper's engagement, and everyone knew.

If there was nothing fishy about it, who would bring it up?

Everyone knew that she was trying to clear her own name.

But the laughable part was...

Did she think marrying her daughter off to a dolt was doing right by her mother?

She was really doing a bang-up job, even trading her daughter's happiness for the business value of the Alonso Corporation.

Heather adjusted her hair and didn't comment on Grace's words.

"Ms. Alonso always had a unique taste. I'm sure she'll land on her feet."

"Indeed. After all... she's the daughter of the Alonso family, the future head of the family. Her husband is bound to be exceptional."

Everyone was full of compliments, and Grace's face lit up more and more.

Finally, she checked the time, figured it was about time, and stood upright scanning the room.

After a quick look around, she asked confusedly, "Where's Phoebe? She was upset earlier, she didn't leave, did she?"

Cole looked around, and sure enough, no sign of Phoebe. His expression turned cold.

"That brat is getting out of hand!"

Grace patted his arm gently, trying to soothe him.

"I asked her to spend some time with Mr. Bowles, she wouldn't just leave like this. I'll go find her..."

She turned to Heather, saying, "Mrs. Bowles, can you tell me where your grandson is?"

Heather looked around. "He was changing clothes just now, he should still be in his room."

Grace's eyes lit up. "Oh really? Maybe the young couple is in there chatting?"

The lady looked puzzled. "How could that be? I just saw the two Alonso sisters together..."

Grace frowned and shot the lady a stern look.

Mentioning her daughter made her uneasy.

"Why don't we go check the room first?"

Grace paid no attention to Wendy's disappearance, gave Heather a nod, and followed her lead.

In Abelard's changing room, Heather knocked on the door first.

The room was on the first floor, bustling with people. The door should have been locked when changing.

But after knocking and getting no response, Grace grabbed the doorknob and easily opened the door.

Grace, all smiles, opened the door before Heather could say anything.

The high–quality wooden door opened, drawing a crowd.

As soon as the door opened, Grace let out a shriek.

Everyone looked towards the room. It was a mess.

But the most eye-catching sight was the two people sprawled on the floor.

"Oh my god!"

"This is shocking."

People covered their eyes and commented awkwardly.

The door was quickly closed, blocking everyone's view.

Grace had only taken a quick glance and didn't notice who the two people in the room were.

Once she heard the gasps from the crowd, she quickly shut the door.

She then awkwardly looked at Heather,

"Well I didn't expect young people nowadays to move so fast... But it's no big deal, they're meant to end up together anyway..."

Heather's lips curled into a slight smile. She wasn't bothered. After all, her grandson knew how to treat a woman, and she didn't need to worry about the Bowles family's lineage.

However, Grace's words left some people feeling dissatisfied and confused.

"Considering how Ms. Alonso was with Mr. Bowles just now, it doesn't seem like they're moving that fast..."

"Yeah... that was a bit too fast ... "

"The party's not even over, and they're already so eager, it's just..."

Before the person could finish, Cole sensed the sarcasm.

He was instantly enraged, marched up to the door, and started banging on it.

"Phoebe, get out here!"

Grace rushed up to stop Cole. "Cole, calm down. It's normal for young people to be together. There's nothing wrong with it. Besides, their good relationship now will make their married life smoother..."

Cole's face was filled with anger. "I'm humiliated! Why would she do something like this at such a time? Does she have no self-respect?"

Grace kept trying to persuade, "As long as they're in love, that's all that matters! What's there to be embarrassed about?"

As she spoke, her face became slightly serious, and she turned to Heather and said, "Heather, since things have already come to this, we might as well discuss their wedding now..."

Heather nodded. "Sure."

But Cole still felt incredibly uncomfortable. His daughter's actions disappointed him greatly.

Ignoring Grace's attempts to stop him, he raised his hand and banged on the door again!

*Phoebe, come out right now!"

"Come out where? Where do you want me to go?"

Chapter 1478

The voice was all too familiar to everyone in the room.

People looked up to see Phoebe dragging her gown from the other end of the corridor, eventually stopping in front of them with a smirk on her face, giving them a cold, scornful look.

"You...how..." Cole was stunned,

Grace was flabbergasted.

Nobody understood.

Phoebe?

How did she end up here?

This question was burning in everyone's mind, and someone finally blurted it out.

"If Ms. Alonso is here, then who is the woman in the room?"

All eyes turned to Grace.

And the quick–witted ones added, "Actually, it happened so fast. I knew there were two people in the room, but I couldn't see who."

"Same here, it was too quick, I didn't get a good look..."

"I was at the very front-when the door opened, but I didn't get a glimpse of the woman's face."

"I wonder how Ms. Grace has such sharp eyes to recognize that woman as Ms. Alonso?!"

"I thought at first since they've lived together for so many years, it would be natural to recognize each other at first glance, but now that I think about it..." The speaker trailed off, knowing that the rest of the sentence was better left unsaid.

But those who were meant to understand had understood.

"And you're so sure it's me without getting a clear look? What's the big deal that has you all pointing fingers at me?"

The sarcasm in her voice was palpable.

What big deal?

More like a big mess.

A young and beautiful girl, yet to start dating, getting involved with a man...it didn't look good from any angle.

Especially when the man in question was a dimwit.

Cole stood there, his eyes flickered, then hardened.

Grace stood there, as white as a sheet, breaking out in a cold sweat, and her heart was pounding.

Why wasn't Phoebe in the room?

But there was clearly a man and a woman in the room...

Who was the woman in the room?

Could it be...

No, it couldn't be ...

Phoebe stood to one side, her eyes flashing with icy laughter as she watched Grace's face.

"By the way, with so many people here, where is my sister? Did she leave?"

Her words dropped like a bombshell, making everyone snap to realization.

"Yes, she can't move around on her own, so where is she now?"

"Right, she's in a wheelchair, she can't be upstairs, and she wasn't in the banquet hall earlier..."

At this moment, everyone's gaze fell on the closed door in front of them.

"Could the woman in the room be..."

"What are you talking about?! How could Wendy do something like that?!"

Grace went pale, she couldn't believe that the woman in the room with that idiot could be Wendy!

Everyone sneered, "Wendy couldn't possibly do something like, that, but Phoebe could? Ms. Grace, even if Phoebe isn't your biological daughter, this unfair treatment is too glaring, isn't it?"

Cole didn't believe it either, but he was furious at these people for suspecting Wendy.

"My daughter would never be so reckless. I won't allow you to cast aspersions and tarnish my daughter's name. I want to see which shameless woman is letting Wendy bear the brunt of this!"

With rage boiling inside him, Cole pushed Grace aside, grabbed the doorknob, and swung the door open.

A strong smell instantly filled the room, making everyone cover their noses and rush in.

The two people were still entwined on the floor. Abelard was dim–witted, so he didn't know how to treat a woman, he just followed his instincts.

The woman on the floor, her arms around Abelard's neck, was moaning.

Upon seeing the face, Cole was shocked, rooted to the spot.

Grace couldn't believe what was happening right in front of her. She stood still for a few seconds, then let out a scream and shoved Abelard aside. "Beast! This freaking beast!"

Abelard was pushed to the side, banging into the wall behind him.

Heather's face darkened instantly.

Without Abelard's cover, Wendy's naked body was exposed to everyone.

Including her flushed face, seductive gaze, and satisfied expression...

It was unbearable to look at.

People were either gloating, shaking their heads in disbelief, or averting their eyes.

"Oh, I thought something good was being unfairly blamed on me, but it turns out to be this.

Grace wrapped Wendy in her torn dress.

Holding Wendy in her arms, Grace heard Phoebe's words, and looked up at her, her eyes filled with resentment.

Phoebe just kept on smiling.

"Congratulations to my mother and sister. I remember you were envious of how lucky I'd be if I ended up with Mr. Bowles, now this 'luck' has fallen on my sister, congratulations indeed.

Since my sister and Mr. Bowles seem to be so...compatible, it would be unreasonable of me not to give this marriage to her."

Grace's face twisted, staring at Phoebe, shaking all over.

"Phoebe, did you do all this?!"

Phoebe chuckled, her eyes cold.

"What do you mean, mother?"

Phoebe's expression was clear as day, but the more Grace saw it, the angrier she got, completely losing her cool.

"It must be you, you must've done this to Wendy! It should have been you..."

"Oh? What do you mean 'it should have been you'?"

Grace paled.

Phoebe pointed out her error, adding, "Isn't this kind of thing supposed to be consensual? What could I have done? If my sister didn't want it, she should've fought back, but it seemed like she was really enjoying it... 'it should have been me'..."

She paused, feigning thoughtfulness, then repeated Grace's words, suddenly brightening up, looking up at Grace, laughing.

"You were planning for me to sleep with Mr. Bowles today, weren't you?"

Everyone turned their eyes to Grace, who was looking a bit awkward.

Their eyes were filled with scorn and contempt.

Chapter 1479

"I knew something was fishy when my sister insisted on drinking with me. Turned out, that drink must've been spiked!"

Cole frowned, asking, "What are you babbling about?"

Phoebe didn't even glance at him and continued, "The drink the waiter gave me, I accidentally poured half into my sister's glass and spilled the rest on my dress. I didn't drink a drop..."

Grace's eyes bulged in surprise. "What... What drink? I don't get what you're saying!"

Phoebe nodded. "Ah, I see. Guess I'm overthinking it. So, my sister is genuinely head over heels for Mr. Bowles, huh?"

Regret filled Grace's heart. She never imagined her prideful daughter, who always looked down on others, would end up in such a state.

She had suffered enough in the past. Wendy was her pride and joy. How could she end up like this?

Willingly...

If she denied being willing, it would be admitting her drink was drugged!

If this news got out, it would definitely bring a huge scandal to the Alonso family...

So, they had to accept this outcome?

But no matter how much she tried to run from it, everyone knew the truth.

Cole swayed, feeling dizzy.

Wendy often embarrassed him, but over the years, he had focused most of his attention on her. Even after all this, Wendy was still his favorite daughter. The future head of the Alonso family, and now...

With a heavy sigh, he turned to Heather and said, "Since it's already happened, we should discuss the kids' marriage..."

Heather's gaze lingered on Wendy for a moment, then she scoffed, "No need. If it's not Phoebe, there's no point in discussing a marriage.

Cole was taken aback by Heather's response, and his face darkened.

"What do you mean by that, Heather?"

Heather responded with a grin. "Marrying your precious daughter off to a 'beast would be such a disgrace, wouldn't it?"

Cole looked embarrassed, saying, "Heather, she was just impulsive..."

Heather nodded. "Impulsiveness, I can understand. But the marriage is off the table.

My only grandson will inherit the Bowles family's company. He'll need his wife's support.

I don't think highly of Wendy's business acumen, let alone marrying a notorious, cunning woman!"

Her words, blunt and direct, made Cole furious!

"You..."

"Mr. Alonso, let me remind you, what you treasure might be trash in others' eyes!"

"I'm sorry, but we can't fit into your Alonso family. Our relationship ends here. Please leave."

The rejection was clear and direct.

Grace was so angry her head was spinning.

"

"Heather, what gives the Bowles family the right to provoke the Alonso family? Do you know if the Alonso Corporation retaliates, the Bowles family could go bankrupt overnight?"

Heather scoffed, "Still a better fate than marrying Wendy."

"Wow, rather have the Bowles family go broke than marry Wendy. Wendy's worthless!"

"Ha! Would you marry her?"

"Am I insane?"

Cole was overwhelmed with shame and finally understood. His beloved daughter was ruined.

No one would marry her, even if it meant going bankrupt!

Not even a fool would want her!

Grace, holding Wendy, was speechless with rage!

"Fine! Finell Wait and see! How you have treated us, the Alonso Corporation won't let it go! You'll be the first to go bankrupt!"

Everyone wanted to leave, no one wanted to be in front of the Alonso family. They all turned to leave.

"Let's go, let's go!"

"The party's over!"

"Wow, it's almost ten o'clock... Wait, wait, there's news from Ms. Summers of Starlight International..."

Ms Summers...

Chloe

News about Chloe was something everyone in P City was interested in.

Hearing this, everyone stopped in their tracks.

"What's up, is there any news about Ms. Summers?"

"Is she back or what?"

"No, the news says she's in Las Vegas."

"She can make headlines even in Las Vegas? Geez, Ms. Summers is everywhere."

"What did they say?"

"They... oh my god, Ms. Summers gambled in Las Vegas and won a huge amount of money overnight. She's now worth twenty billion and directly announced in front of the media that she's keeping Damon!"

"twenty billion?! Oh my god, that's unheard of!"

"Yeah, she was blocked by the casino's manager today."

"She's incredible! Even gambling, she can win! What kind of luck is that?!"

"She won twenty billion overnight. I can't even..."

Upon hearing the news, Phoebe's icy eyes softened, and she suddenly burst out laughing.

Grace was infuriated by her laughter. She had destroyed Wendy, and she had the audacity to laugh?!

"You bitch! Keep laughing, and I'll slap you!!"

Phoebe's smile didn't waver, but it carried a cold edge.

She turned to Cole and said, "With her in this state, are you sure you still want her to be the future head of the family?"

Cole squinted at her. "What do you mean?"

"I want the inheritance rights to the Alonso Corporation!"

Phoebe bluntly said, "Look at her now, she can't even take care of herself. Even an idiot wouldn't want her. What the hell are you expecting from her?"

Cole's face gradually turned serious.

Seeing this, Grace got anxious. "You bitch! You turned your sister into this, all because you want to snatch the Alonso family from her! Cole, look at how cunning she is at such a young age! I've wasted so much time and effort, all these years, only to raise such a heartless person!"

"Shut up!!"

Phoebe couldn't take it anymore and suddenly shouted in a low voice.

Her bloodshot eyes stared fiercely at Grace. "You've put in effort? Grace, what gives you the right to say that?! The Alonso family was never yours, so how could you say I took it?!"

Chapter 1480

She glared at Grace with fiery eyes. You claim you've made sacrifices? Grace, who gave you the right to say that? The Alonso family never belonged to you, so how can you say I've stolen it?"

"You caused my mother's death, and took over as Ms. Grace, so now the whole Alonso family is yours, is that it?

I won't let my mother's death go unanswered! The bad things you did back in the day, it's about time you got your punishment!

Look at Wendy now, not even a fool would take her. Who would marry her in the future? As a member of the Alonso family, she can't even fulfill the basic functions, what right does she have to run the Alonso family?

You treat her like a jewel, but to others, she's less than trash!

Hand the Alonso Corporation to her? You'd be better off selling the shares directly to Starlight International, at least you won't end up on the streets."

Cole's face turned ashen, but he had no retort to Phoebe's words.

Wendy's limbs were ruined by Damon, her body violated by a fool, dumped at the altar, and her reputation was already in the gutter. Now that not even a fool wanted her, who would want to marry her?

Phoebe's words were harsh, but they were the truth.

At this moment, someone mentioned that Chloe won twenty billion in the casino overnight.

Twenty billion, what a coincidence.

She won twenty billion overnight, while the twenty billion he was hoping for, were the shares he was forced to sell.

How ironic when you thought about it.

Twenty billion

With the companies under Chloe's name, she had enough capital to compete with the Alonso Corporation...

He couldn't help but feel a little wary of Chloe.

But how did the once mighty Alonso Corporation come to this crisis?

There was no conflict of interest between him and Chloe, so how...

He looked at Wendy, who was being held by Grace, her eyes vacant, and a surge of anger rose in his heart.

That was right!

All of this was caused by Wendy, whom he had put so much hope in!

If it wasn't for her messing with Chloe, the Alonso Corporation wouldn't have ended up like this!

"Cole, think it through, no matter how bad Wendy is, she's still an Ellis. Her relationship with Princess Ava is well–known! At least she can rely on Princess Ava in the future. But what can Phoebe do, all by herself?"

Cole's eyes flickered, right!

That was the key.

With this connection to Princess Ava, handing the Alonso family to Wendy was much more reliable than handing it to Phoebe.

Phoebe could tell what Cole had decided at this moment and snorted.

"Well, if you insist, I won't force you. But believe me, handing the Alonso family to this mother-anddaughter pair will only speed up its destruction! If you don't believe me, just wait, and see how the Alonso family goes down!"

After saying this, Phoebe gave them a sarcastic glance, lifted her skirt, and walked away.

She had expected Cole's final decision.

So, she didn't feel sad.

On the contrary, she felt elated tonight because she was no longer the weakling she used to be, because she had completely defeated Wendy tonight.

Yes, completely defeated her!

She wouldn't feel guilty about defeating someone, especially since that person was her own sister and because it wasn't worth it.

If it wasn't her tonight, the one locked in the room, being pinned down by a fool, would have been her...

Her sister in law was right, they didn't have to always be kind in the face of these provocations.

Only by protecting themselves could they be kind.

Her sister-in-law was right, she was right.

Phoebe smiled gently, yet tears fell from her eyes. Her steps quickened, and she began to run!

On the cold winter night, the chilly air hit her face, making the tracks of her tears even colder.

She had endured harsh treatment for many years, always thinking that if she didn't fight or grab, she would be safe.

But they never let her go.

She used to be weak

She didn't have a mother since childhood, and her grandparents loved her, but since they passed away a few years ago, she had no one to rely on.

Other than the Alonso family, she had no one to lean on.

Just like now, leaving the Alonso family, she didn't even know where to go.

On her journey of loss and confusion, Phoebe ended up at the old house her grandparents left in P City.

She hadn't been to this house for a long time. When her grandparents bought it, they loved the tranquility here. The exterior and interior of the villa all had a distinct European style.

Both of her grandparents were educators in their youth. They met and fell in love on campus. Both families were scholarly and had many outstanding descendants, and their reputations were still highly regarded.

Unfortunately, their daughter married into a family of capitalists who were deeply greedy for money and power.

Back then, she didn't understand what people meant by "pity."

Now, she finally understood.

It was money and power that took her mother's life.

If she had anything to be grateful to the Alonso family for, it was that they kept her alive, even if only as a tool.

But she was glad that the Alonso family had money, which allowed her to continue studying until now.

She thought this would be the only thing her grandparents would be pleased about.

The villa was uninhabited for most of the year. When she arrived late at night, the whole villa was hidden in the darkness, and only the huge silhouette of the villa could be vaguely seen.

She lifted her skirt and hobbled over, fumbling for a while at the angel sculpture by the front door, and then fumbled for a white at the front door, finally, the door creaked open.

She let out a soft sigh, lifting her skirt and stepping in. The warm temperature in the room immediately enveloped her, driving away the chill. She reached out to switch on the entrance light, but it didn't turn on.

She tried a few more times, but the light still didn't come on.

The house had been unoccupied for a while, so it was probably out of power.

Taking a deep breath, she relied on the moonlight coming from the window to navigate her way into the living room and found the couch where she curled up.

The room was really warm...

What happened tonight was the craziest thing she had ever done, almost draining all her energy.

Gradually, she drifted off to sleep.

Meanwhile, in a luxury car cruising through the night, this conversation took place.

"Mr. Azriel, the villa you ordered to be cleaned is all done. The heating has been sorted out too. There shouldn't be any major problems. Would you like to stay in a hotel tonight or go straight back to the villa?"

"Back to the villa," he responded in a low and indifferent tone.