

## **CHOSEN 1651**

### Chapter 1651

It was impossible to keep it from Chloe. If she wanted to know, nothing could be kept from her.

Especially this matter, it was too big to hide.

Now, there was no trace of that news online. Apparently, someone had suppressed the news in secret.

However, from the very moment Elizabeth stepped out to make a phone call, she had already seen the news. Her mother was led away in broad daylight in town. The whole city had a blackout in the afternoon, which now had a clear explanation. So blatantly, their purpose was obviously to let her know

After being in business for so long, it was mostly fair competition. The survival of the fittest was the social relationship; she didn't think she had accumulated any enemies in business. If there were any, it was the competitive relationship between companies c2

There was only one person she could think of who would be obsessed enough to use her mother to lure her out. She couldn't think of anyone else for the time being. There was no need to investigate who did this. The task was to confirm whether or not she did it.

In this respect, Stanley was absolutely good at it.

Indeed, when Chloe sent a message to confirm with him, Stanley quickly gave her a positive answer. "Leave this to me if you appear, won't it be just what they want? Don't worry. Your mom is fine. I won't let this woman off!"

Stanley simply sent a voice message, and his tone sounded stern and powerful.

Chloe didn't reply to him immediately. All afternoon, from the news report to the present, her phone was quiet, without a single message or call from Damon, Rose, Nathan, Yulia, or even from the company.

staff. She didn't blame them for being heartless because she knew they all wanted to keep it

from her

As for why the company staff and others were so unanimous, she thought someone must have issued a warning

As for Damon, Rose, Nathan, Yulia They all made the decision without agreement, knowing she was pregnant. They were all close to her, and she understood them the best.

Her hand gently stroked her stomach, and her fingertips trembled unconsciously.

Yes She couldn't be sad, worried, or anxious...

Everyone wanted her to be okay. She couldn't let anyone down, nor let anything happen to herself. She had to protect her and Damon's baby

Seeing Stanley's message on her phone, Chloe finally replied to him. I don't want to see her again]

It was a long time before Stanley replied. [Got it. Even if you didn't say it, I never planned to let her bother you again.]

Chloe put her phone aside. Looking at the time, she calmly entered the bathroom.

All the news about Yasmine being taken away was completely blocked online. However, the news of Elizabeth and Chloe going on a shopping spree in a maternity store had already taken over the hot spots. Although Elizabeth later explained that they were just preparing for the future, it couldn't stop

everyone's curiosity.

#ChloelsPregnant#

#ChloelsHaving Twins #

#ChloeisUnmarried AndPregnant #

Netizens had guessed all the suspicions about Chloe being pregnant. When Wendy saw the hot topics, her hand holding the phone was clenched until her knuckles turned white

At this moment, they were still on their way to the border of P City, where it met C Country. It was a grey area

Mobs rebels, gunpowder. A turbulent place, with everything illegal

This place, which should have been barren due to the unrest, was surface prosperous. There was no shortage of wealth here, but most of it was the product of looting by rebels

However, although money was good, one would rather be poor than indulge in it here. Here, the important thing was weapons, and wealth couldn't necessarily buy the weapons they needed most

They wanted to go out and make an exchange, but on the left was P City, and the government departments would not let them cross the border easily! On the right was C Country. The managers of C Country would not allow them to infringe on their territory

in the middle, there was the leader of their region, who wouldn't let them leave there either Neither side of the country could be easily violated, or the consequences would be severe

It was a gathering place for thugs, both the secret departments of C Country and P City were most wary of it but could do nothing about it. The border guards were all extra vigilant But the only thing they were grateful for was that the leader of this grey area had saved them a lot of trouble

Without his permission, no one here was allowed to step into other countries. Those who disobeyed the order – were killed!

Yes!

The reason Wendy brought Yasmine here was that in this area full of mobs, killing people was not illegal and did not require compensation. So even if she killed Yasmine here, the law couldn't hold her

More importantly, she wanted to make Chloe anxious, ideally have her not eating or sleeping well, but most importantly, she needed to make Chloe rush here immediately. Then she could kill both mother and daughter without any pressure, completely letting the person she hated the most in her life disappear from this world.

Her face began to look crazy. The hand holding her phone gradually relaxed, and she turned to look at Yasmine, who was sitting quietly next to her, her face calm and indifferent.

Wendy hated this expression and attitude. It was almost the same as that damned Chloe, as if nothing in the world could affect them. Anger burned in Wendy's heart, incinerating her mad heart.

Halfway through, they had changed to an off-road vehicle without a license plate. At the moment, on the bumpy road, the vehicle was shaking badly.

Looking at Yasmine for a long time, Wendy suddenly sneered "Is your precious daughter pregnant?"

When Yasmine heard this, there was no movement in her brows and eyes, and her expression had no flaws. "Do you need to find a reason to kill? If you want to kill, just do it, if you want to lure her here, just do it. After all, you want our lives. Whether she's pregnant or not, what does it have to do with you?" With a menacing grin plastered on her face, Wendy taunted, "I don't need any particular reason. Just the thought of her possibly being pregnant, and me having the chance to snuff out those two little pests together, well, it just brings me pure joy."

All the while she spoke, her eyes were fixated on Yasmine's face. Yasmine, who had been staring straight ahead, slowly moved her gaze to meet Wendy's. Wendy chuckled, expecting a storm of anger. "Are you furious?" She teased. "I wonder, if Chloe does show up one day with a bun in the oven, and you have to watch helplessly as her unborn child is forcibly taken from her, what sort of expression would you and your daughter wear then?"

## Chapter 1652

“Are you seething with rage? I imagine, if Chloe does show up, you’ll have to watch as the child inside her leaves her body. What kind of expressions will you and your daughter have then?”

Yasmine merely looked at her coldly, and finally responded with a soft, icy laugh.

Wendy was once again irritated by her indifferent demeanor, and her brows were furrowing. “You two, mother and daughter, are both masters at feigning calmness”

Yasmine continued to stare at her coolly

“I just don’t want to waste too much time arguing with a lunatic “

She gave a small smirk, and her eyes twinkled with a hint of amusement and a touch of pity. People should live however they want. If you think her being pregnant now would make you happier, then by all means, believe it

The smile on Wendy’s face gradually faded. The probing gaze landed on Yasmine’s face. Was Chloe really pregnant or not? If she was pregnant, as a mother, wouldn’t hearing these words unsettle her?

Were all those speculations on the news fake?

But, there was no smoke without fire. Why else would the two of them suddenly decide to shop for baby items?

And only for twins at that. Their intentions were too obvious

But how could Chloe be pregnant without Yasmine knowing?

If she had just found out, that was also impossible. They were with Yasmine throughout her rehabilitation, and the ride home was spent in the car. There was no way Chloe could suddenly confirm her pregnancy.

She thought about it over and over, but it just didn't make sense. She thought she could get some answers from Yasmine, but her presence only made things more confusing.

After glaring at Yasmine for a while with a hateful gaze, Wendy finally pursed her lips and let out a cold, derisive chuckle. "You're right, in the end, death is inevitable. Once your precious daughter shows up, I'll find out whether she's pregnant or not!"

Yasmine closed her eyes, giving her no response.

"We're almost at the destination. There's a checkpoint up ahead, remember not to utter a word."

This was Wendy's first time in such a place. She knew it was known for its unrest and unruly inhabitants with terrible tempers. A slight misstep could end up getting her shot. Naturally, she was nervous, but the fact that these people could calmly choose this place, and were confident they could pass the checkpoint showed they had some skills. She nodded to indicate her understanding.

Yasmine slowly opened her eyes, looking towards the front of the car.

In the darkness, she could see the alternating flashing of red and blue lights up ahead. Vague figures patrolled the checkpoint with guns, clearly the checkpoint they spoke of.

Armed? Murderous?

Without thinking too much, Yasmine figured out where they were headed. Having lived in P City for years, she was familiar with the borders. Coming here wasn't surprising.

The people Ava found were naturally not bottom of the barrel. Furthermore, her political standing in Y Country had no impact on her dealing with these outlaws. Every person in power had their dark means. For someone as ambitious as her, it was not surprising to associate with these types of people.

After about ten minutes, they arrived at the checkpoint, and everyone got out of the car for inspection. Roughly, Yasmine was placed in a wheelchair, and with a gun pointed at her head, they brazenly passed the checkpoint.

The checkpoint staff only glanced at Yasmine before motioning for them to pass, allowing them into their territory.

Yasmine remained expressionless, while Wendy was tense and short of breath. Once they entered the territory, she was still in shock.

Yasmine, with a gun pointed at her head, could pass the checkpoint so easily, and it made her heart race.

Soon, however, she accepted the reality.

As soon as they entered, she heard a few gunshots and watched as a middle-aged man was shot dead in the street.

Checkpoint staff in uniform approached and scolded them, then watched as the gunmen dragged the dead man away. This was the dark area. Life here seemed cheap.

"Everyone knows this place is where many people do their business. As long as someone dares to cross this checkpoint, they dare to bet their lives in. After all, it's easy to enter, but difficult to leave! If you're not absolutely connected and brave, no one would think of coming here. No matter who you are, as long as you're not the boss here, you can die at any moment!"

The gangster leader explained to Wendy as he directed his men to push Yasmine forward, his expression and tone serious.

Through the darkness, Wendy could even see smoke rising from a house not far away. Judging from the dilapidated scene, it was clear this place had been bombed not long ago. On both sides of the street, people of all sorts stood, salivated, and had their eyes fixed on her.

Some even waved at her and she felt a sting on her chin. Looking down, she saw a gold necklace had fallen at her feet.

The words money sex trade instantly made her distance herself from the necklace as the crowd around her erupted in laughter.

Wendy, a former upper-class lady, had never seen such a group of thugs. But at this time and place it wasn't the time for her to act like a lady. Catching up to the gang leader, she asked with a shaky voice, "See that everyone here is defiant, and wouldn't easily submit to others. Why do they acknowledge the boss?"

The gang leader laughed, looking at Wendy as if she were a fool.

"Of course, it's because he controls the weapons they need most! Without weapons, these people are no better than dead."

Wendy furrowed her brows. "Hasn't anyone thought of getting weapons from other channels? Why must they..."

"Other channels? It's said that he virtually monopolizes the weapons supply of the countries located in the middle of the world. Most of the weapons come from him. Even if you go around him, they still end up in his hands, and you also end up offending him, so what's the point?"

Wendy's brow furrowed even deeper.

"As far as I know, the Harper family's underground whiskey trade in New York is just exactly small-scale."

"But you'd still need an opportunity to get in touch with the Harpers, then successfully negotiate a deal! If they've already chosen their leader here, there must be a good reason! Either this guy has exceptional guts, or he's offered a price that satisfies the locals, or there might be some other private deals."



The gang leader paused, feeling he had said too much to a woman. His voice unintentionally grew colder “That’s none of your damn business! Just focus on achieving your own goals! Why do you care about all this?!”

Wendy paused, and her brows furrowed as if grappling with an elusive problem “Isn’t it easy for you guys to move in and out of this place? Why haven’t you thought about monopolizing it, spreading the news, finding the right arms dealer? Wouldn’t that be convenient?”

“Find who? The leader has already staked his claim here. If he finds out we’re searching for other arms dealers, do you think you can withstand the pressure he’ll put on us? And would he even allow other weapons to enter the checkpoint? It’s different from letting people in

“Enough, enough! I’m wasting my breath talking about this with a woman! The bottom line is it won’t work. This place has been under his control for nearly a decade. If there were other options, do you think we’d be waiting for you to show up and suggest them?”

Wendy pursed her lips, and her face flushed with embarrassment Just then, something was thrown at her from the side, hitting her face Startled, she quickly fell in step behind the gangster

Although Yasmine’s situation was precarious, she remained calm and composed, as if completely unaware of her circumstances. She quietly listened to the gangster’s words, and her cool, detached gaze hid a deep contemplation.

The leader here controlled the weapons, even the arms of the central nations of the world. There were many people with unique abilities in this vast world, but those with this kind of power was almost unheard of

Once, she had overheard Boyd discussing important matters with several ministers, including issues regarding the procurement of weapons. The names of the arms dealers she heard were few and far between.

These were all top–secret matters. The names of the arms dealers were mere codenames, and the true identities behind them were probably only known to the highest echelons of leadership.

It was well known that the Harper family had been standing strong in Hong Kong for a hundred years, with clear support from behind But because they were so conspicuous, the higher-ups could not ignore them and had already implemented regulatory measures

This grey area was a headache for the authorities. Even if the Harper family wanted to extend their influence here, it wouldn't be easy

Yet, the true power of the Harper family remained elusive. When Damon managed to infiltrate Boyd's presidential estate, it was obvious that he had some sort of support. No matter how bold he was, he wouldn't have dared to do it otherwise Plus, it was clear that he and Boyd knew each other

Yasmine had a hunch that this elusive leader was Damon, He must have used some method to evade the surveillance from above But, Damon had long since been stripped of his management rights in the Harper family. He had nothing now. If it was him, there should have been some signs of disturbance here, causing some chaos. With the mixed crowd here, it was inevitable

However, there was nothing.

From the gangster's tone, there was a sense of respect and distance towards this gang leader, but he didn't know the true identity of the leader

Her eyes darkened, and Yasmine smirked. If things were as she suspected... Oh well.

Yasmine remained quiet and composed throughout, but her mind was racing a mile a minute, trying to piece together a plausible theory

The rest was to risk her own life to validate her suspicions, but Wendy was quicker to speak than to think. Not long after, she abruptly asked, "Do you guys know who the leader here is? Have you seen him in person?"

The gangster frowned and replied coldly, "No idea. Out of the hundreds of thousands of people here, only a few have seen his true face What are you trying to get at with all these questions?"

Wendy shook her head “Nothing”

Yasmine gave a silent, mocking smile. No skills but dreaming of achieving the impossible, she was overestimating her abilities.

Yasmine was eventually locked up in a dilapidated steel mill at the edge of the city. The place was full of rusty, weather-beaten metal. It was a fitting place for a kidnapping

How cliché

Yasmine chuckled Who else but her would even care about the setting of her own kidnapping at a time like this?

After Yasmine was settled in Wendy left some bread and water on her lap before leaving With a cold laugh, she said, “Don’t starve to death Don’t worry even if you die. I’ll make sure it’s when your precious daughter arrives I’m quite kind hearted, you know I heard you and your daughter have been living separately for a long time, so if you die together, I’ll have done a good deed and earned myself some karma, right?”

Yasmine lifted an eyebrow, picked up the bread on her lap, and took a bite Thoughtful of you

Wendy’s expression instantly turned colder

She was utterly disgusted by Yasmine’s calm and collected demeanor, and her unpredictable behavior, which was identical to Chloes

“I thought you’d put on a show of defiance, refusing to eat anything I give you I didn’t expect you to be afraid of death after all Her voice dripped with sarcasm, trying her best to humiliate Yasmine

Yet Yasmine just took another bite of her bread im not fighting a war or defending my country There’s no glory in risk { try\_life for nothing! Wha shameful about being afraid of death? Everyone’s afraid of dying, especially when it’s meaningless”

Wendy laughed coldly “No one does sophistry better than you and your daughter You can make being afraid of death—sound so noble, it’s like you’re monopolizing the moral high ground

Yasmine put the half-eaten bread back on her lap, picked up the bottle of water, and unscrewed cap while looking at Wendy with a faint smile “Would you like to hear me say something that’s not so noble?”

Wendy arched an eyebrow, signaling for her to continue. The grin on Yasmine’s face became more pronounced as she leisurely sipped her water

Because only if I’m alive, can I witness your inevitable downfall. For instance... how will you meet your end?”

As long as she could keep on living, she was hell-bent on eradicating this persistent witch from this world. She was after Chloe’s life, and even had the audacity to target her children. She had crossed a line with her a long time ago.

Yasmine was just biding her time, waiting for the perfect moment.

Chapter 1654

Her words painted Wendy’s face with an instant shade of gloom. She glared at Yasmine, who was smirking lightly with a nonchalant look. Her facial muscles twitched repeatedly.

Yasmine, however, had already picked up her piece of bread, and began to eat with a composed grace once again.

Wendy’s hands, hanging by her sides, twitched. For a moment, she desperately wanted to smack the bread and water out of Yasmine’s grasp, but she held herself back. A heavy snuffle escaped her nose. You seem to be quite oblivious to where you are and the situation you’re in! Or maybe you’re still dreaming? You want to see how I die in this situation?”

Wendy's rage was teetering on the edge of an explosion, her breathing was heavy, and her words were sharp and deranged. "You won't get the satisfaction of seeing that in your lifetime Trust me, the last thing you'll see before you die is how your daughter dies right in front of you!"

Yasmine gave a faint smile. Ms Wendy, you should be well aware of the consequences when you took me away from P City. No matter whether we live or die, it won't end well for you. You've crossed the point of no return "

Yasmine's last sentence was spoken exceptionally slowly, her smile faint, and each word clear and distinct.

Wendy's face went through a series of expressions, the spasms revealing her insanity. "Are you saying Damon will kill me for Chloe and you? Hah... he might, but do you know where we are? The Grey Zone, a lawless land. Do you think a man like him, who has nothing now, can get in here?

"He can't find me! Even if he does in the future, he can't do anything to me! He maimed me for that bitch, Chloe, but he couldn't kill me! Do you understand the difference between here and the outside world?

"Moreover even if he has the courage to kill me, he won't get the chance. Once you and Chloe are dead, the only princess of Y country will still be Princess Ava With her protection, who would dare to touch me?

"Oh, right Maybe you don't know yet. The reason I was able to bring you here so smoothly was partly because of Princess Ava's help

"I'm not the only one who wants you dead. You see, you and your daughter have been a thorn in too many people's eyes. You've taken what doesn't belong to you. You should learn to be content, not to want everything.

"What's not destined to be yours, you shouldn't try to grab. Otherwise, you'll only bring more misfortune upon yourself, understand?"

Yasmine remained expressionless. She continued to eat her bread and drink hot water, filling her stomach in peace.

Wendy watched her coldly, then said in a frosty voice a few seconds later, "Aren't you surprised to hear that Princess Ava wants to harm you?"

"She has done it more than once, why should I be surprised?" Yasmine brushed the crumbs off her lap, indifferent.

"So you guessed that this time it was her doing too?"

"If not, how could you have contacted these outlaws?"

So she had guessed it all along. Wendy suddenly felt she had just wasted her breath. This woman was as annoyingly intelligent as Chloe! They always thought ahead. How infuriating!

"Enough, don't waste your breath with her! We've already brought her here, and you still want to be choked by her smart ass? You must have a screw loose!"

The gang leader impatiently urged her to leave, his words blunt and disrespectful.

Wendy's expression flickered as she looked at Yasmine, then let out a cold, mocking laugh. "Go on, flaunt your wisdom. No matter what, you are in my hands now. Eat well, drink well, and await your daughter's rescue!"

Yasmine merely smiled faintly.

Wendy gave her one last cold look before storming off in a huff.

Yasmine watched as the rusty yet remarkably solid steel door was shut, and then her smile faded slightly. She picked up her water bottle and took another sip.

Wendy, who had just left Yasmine, barely sat at the dining table when her expression once again twisted uncontrollably.

“That mother and daughter, are both despicable!”

The gang leader sitting next to her sneered. He picked up a roasted chicken drumstick for her. “Eat first”

She glanced at the greasy drumstick in front of her, and her brows furrowed. A hint of disgust flashed in her eyes. The news online has been suppressed. Someone intentionally wants to hide Yasmine’s abduction from Chloe! Damn it, why does everyone favor that bitch”

That’s easy to solve, we just need to send a photo to Ms Summers. If we can’t do it secretly, we’ll do it openly”

Hearing this, Wendy, although aware of the many concerns involved, couldn’t help but laugh. “You’re right”

“Eat, you’ve had a long day”

“Okay”

“Sir, we just received an entry notice from the city border checkpoint, it’s Yasmine”

Damon, who was currently on a plane, narrowed his dark, deep-set eyes upon hearing this. His voice was bone-chilling cold.

“Who’s responsible?”

“A few outlaws, and a woman with them, confirmed to be Wendy.”

The room fell silent after the statement. A cold and dominating pressure filled the lounge. Everyone present broke out in a cold sweat and kept their heads down. They didn't dare to utter a word. Just when everyone was about to suffocate, Damon's icy voice suddenly shattered the silence.

"Head straight to the border. Contact the person in charge there and tell him, I need men."

"Yes, sir!"

Someone took the order and hurriedly left. Those who were left exchanged glances, standing in place with hesitation.

Damon slowly lifted his head, and his emotionless gaze pierced through everyone present. They immediately stiffened, and someone spoke up, "Sir, there's one more thing. Nate said that Mrs. Summers had contacted Mr. Stanley to find her mother. Mr. Stanley is... is on his way there now."

The words were spoken with a trembling voice. As the words dropped, the group felt a sudden chill, as if they'd been plunged into a walk-in freezer. Compared to the relatively good news they'd heard before, this piece of information was a hard pill to swallow.

Damon had retracted a message, apparently wanting to keep it from his wife. Yet, his wife not only knew about it but had also promptly contacted another man behind his back.

This was...

## Chapter 1655

When Nate first received the message, he had warned them again and again to handle this issue with absolute caution and utmost discretion. As it turned out, he was absolutely right.

Knowing that it was Wendy who took Yasmine away was definitely a blow, but what was happening now was even more serious.



The atmosphere in the lounge room was tense. Nobody dared to breathe, let alone move. Damon's face was as dark as a thundercloud, and nobody dared to meet his gaze

Chloe soon received a set of photos. They were of a war-torn border, people armed with weapons, devoid of any emotion, and Yasmine, visibly worn out, locked up somewhere

Seeing these photos, Chloe's calm facade wavered, and her lashes were trembling uncontrollably. There was a message accompanying the photos. Aren't you coming? To see your mother one last time]

Even in a simple line of text. Chloe could almost see the smug, crazed expression on Wendy's face

It was late into the night, and her room was dark. Nate and his men were on guard downstairs. Sitting on her bed, she scrolled repeatedly through the photos and the message. She placed a hand on her belly, closed her eyes, and took a deep breath.

After a long moment, she slowly opened her eyes, picked up her phone, and texted Stanley [I'm coming with you]

Stanley's call came in less than two seconds. "Are you out of your goddamned mind? That woman wants to lure you there. If you go, won't you be playing right into her hands? She'd be thrilled"

Chloe remained calm. I should see her one last time

Stanley fell silent for a moment. "Are you sure? It's not safe there. What if

"There's no need for hesitation. Do you think I can't protect myself, or will you let anything happen to me?"

"Damn it! Of course, I won't let anything happen to you! You're just trying to provoke me! Wait for me, I'm coming to get you!"

'Okay"

Chloe gave a small smile and quietly responded. She knew Stanley well. They had worked together for a long time, and she was good at understanding people's habits and characteristics

Throwing her phone aside, she got up, opened her wardrobe, and put on a few loose clothing items, even adding a down jacket. Her slender figure, bundled up, didn't look overly bulky. She was petite to start with, and even with a growing baby or two, she didn't look excessively large. She quickly tied up her hair and left her room without taking anything else.

The moment Chloe's bedroom light came on, Nate became anxious. He was standing beneath her window, looking up at the lit room.

Within a few minutes, word came that Stanley had turned around halfway

Nate had a hunch about what was going on, but he found it hard to believe. In his eyes, Chloe was always a smart woman, and she could see through Wendy's obvious intentions. Knowing this, she should choose not to fall into Wendy's trap. But when Chloe, dressed and ready, appeared before him, he was still taken aback.

"Madam!" He rushed forward with his men following closely, subtly forming a protective circle around Chloe

Chloe was dressed warmly, and her beautiful face was calm and composed. "I need to leave now."

Nate straightened up instantly, his body stiffening. "Madam, it's late. You should rest. If you need anything, just let us know..."

"You know what I'm going to do!" Chloe's cold voice cut him off.

"Nate, don't bother hiding it from me if I want to know something, I will. Similarly, if I want to leave now, I will. I'll ensure my own safety. You don't need to worry."

Despite Chloe's calm assurance, Nate was visibly troubled. "But, Madam, Mr. Damon is on his way back. He will handle this. You're pregnant. If anything happens, how am I supposed to explain it to him?"

Chloe calmly insisted, I've told you, I can protect myself. And this matter... I'd rather handle it myself"

This matter

Nate understood Chloe's intentions immediately, but he couldn't bring himself to agree. "That place is dangerous. We can't guarantee there won't be any sudden unrest Madam, you know he wouldn't agree to this. Please go back and rest. We'll take care of this..."

Chloe quietly watched Nate for a moment, then turned and walked towards the door.

"Madam" Nate was shocked and quickly moved to stop her "You can't do this. You know Wendy is trying to lure you there. If you show up, we can't guarantee what she'll do. There can't be any risks. If not for your own sake, think about the babies"

Chloe's eyes flickered, and her hands, hidden in the pockets of her jacket, clenched tightly on her belly, trembling slightly

"I know. I will protect them. I won't let myself be in any danger."

Nate stared at her in surprise. Her tone trembled slightly with a hint of pleading. It startled him. He suddenly realized that he had been hoping that she would take good care of her and the boss' children. But he had somewhat neglected what a mother meant to a child

The fact that Chloe's mother was taken away was a serious matter to him, but if he put himself in her shoes, he could understand her feelings. Children were important to mothers, but mothers were also irreplaceable to children. Now that her mother was taken away, Chloe couldn't be indifferent to the situation

He wasn't sure when she had found out about this, but managing to hide her feelings until now was already impressive.

However, Damon's decision was made with Chloe's best interests in mind. Nate believed that Damon understood Chloe better than he did. If he had thought of these issues, Damon surely had as well. So, Damon would definitely bring Chloe's mother back safely.

"Madam, the boss is dealing with this... please trust him..."

This is different." Chloe retorted. Her gaze dropped, and her voice became icy. "Step aside."

Naturally, none of the men budged.

She reached into the pocket of her down jacket, and with a slender, pale hand, she pushed the man standing in front of her aside. "Don't provoke me, Nate. I'm not in the mood for any emotions right now"

She had to protect her child. Emotions were of utmost importance to her at this moment

Everyone was mindful of her feelings, and she had to be, too. No one would love her child more than she did, and no one could love her mother more than she did herself.

Moreover, if she didn't take control of the source of all her blessings and setbacks, she would feel even more dissatisfied. She didn't want such feelings to plague her future life. She should not let Wendy, even in death, control her life!

Chapter 1656

Chloe's words had left Nate stunned for a moment. He had just sensed her concern for Yasmine for the first time in her slightly trembling voice. He had always thought that she was a detached and calm person, who never lost her composure in the face of anything. This included when his mother had an accident.

Only how did he realize, how could she possibly have remained calm? That was her mother, the most important person in her world.

A mother was someone irreplaceable.

Her current silence and calmness was not because she would not lose her composure, but rather because she could not. She was trying her best to stay calm, not wanting her messy emotions to affect her child.

But could she really do it?

His doubts found an answer in Chloe's indifferent and cold face. Perhaps, it was possible, because she was Chloe, and she knew very clearly what she wanted

Once again, Nate felt a newfound respect for this woman. Controlling emotions was not an easy thing to do. You had to be heartless and not caring at all, but Chloe was not a heartless person.

In the end, he gave in. "Let me inform him first. If he agrees..."

"No need. If I tell him, he won't agree to let me go to such a place in person. Maybe he will, but I don't want to waste any time now." Chloe coldly interrupted Nate's words, and her calm eyes were filled with indifference.

Nate pursed his lips. If he persisted in not letting her go, it would be harassment. Besides, he knew that he couldn't stop Chloe, no matter how hard he tried

He didn't say a word, but Chloe had already perceived his compromise. She turned around and left.

Her car was in the garage. When she drove the car out of the garage, Nate finally reacted and quickly ordered dozens of people to get in the car and follow Chloe. The sound of the crowd surging in the cold and quiet night was rather dull and noisy

Elizabeth heard the noise and, wrapping herself in a robe, went downstairs. The servants were standing at the entrance of the house, watching the bustling crowd outside.

Frowning, she asked a servant beside her, "What's going on?"

The servant replied, "Ms. Chloe has left."

Elizabeth's mind buzzed as if something had exploded. "Left? What do you mean she's left?"

Marina came over, her voice sounding anxious

"Madam, it seems we couldn't keep the news from Ms. Chloe Yasmine's being taken away, and she seemed to have known about it for a long time.

"What do you mean she knew? She seemed perfectly normal today! She was eating and sleeping just fine! If she knew, she couldn't have stayed so calm, as if nothing had happened"

Marina shook her head "She really did know, she's already left. She's probably going to find her mother".

Elizabeth swayed, almost losing her balance. Fortunately, Marina quickly steadied her.

"She's pregnant. Where's Nate? What is he doing, just letting her leave like this? If anything happens to her, how is he going to explain it?!"

Marina sighed, "She is... Once she decides something, no one can stop her! That's why Nate wouldn't dare do anything to her, especially since she's pregnant

Elizabeth's eyes reddened with anger, but she knew Marina was right.

With Chloe's stubborn nature, no one could stop her. And now that she was pregnant, how could Nate possibly dare to lay a finger on her? But she heard from Nate in the evening that they had found the whereabouts of Yasmine. She was at the border of P City, a chaotic place where even they didn't know if they could safely go in

The people there were unpredictable, and the risks were too high. They didn't know when they would suddenly erupt into violence, causing harm to others How could she let Chloe go to such a place?

"Where's Damon, where is he now?"

Marina hurriedly said, "He's rushing over there now Madam, don't worry, Nate is protecting Ms Chloe If they actually get there, they might be able to meet up with Mr Damon As long as he's there, he won't let anything happen to her

Tears spilled from Elizabeth's eyes if anything happens to Chloe, I'll kill that brat with my own hands!!"

Chloe drove straight toward the border of P City

Nate followed with seven or eight cars behind her, reporting Chloe's movements to Damon hallway

Damon was silent for a moment, then simply instructed Nate to protect her well thereby tacitly approving Chloe's actions.

Within the duration of the phone call, they had already passed through the city and were now on the highway in the suburbs

As Nate looked up from his phone, the car following Chloe was left behind at a distance. "What are you doing?" Nate's heart skipped a beat, then he turned his head and barked at the driver.

The driver, startled by Nate's shout, had beads of sweat dotting his forehead. His eyes were riveted on the car speeding ahead. His face was cool and focused He skillfully controlled the car, but was still unable to close the distance that had opened between them and Chloe

"Nate, the lady's car seems to have been modified. Plus, her driving skills are...

This made Nate realize something. He suddenly remembered that Chloe's car seemed mundane, but it was indeed modified. Her driving skills were extraordinary. He had witnessed it himself. It was a level of racing technique that not a majority of people, could match.

"Don't lose her!" When he spoke again, Nate's voice was somewhat restrained.

This made the driver a little disgruntled. After all, he was a specially trained driver in the Harper family, so his driving skills were also top-notch. If not, he wouldn't have been able to stay in the Harper family for so long

Nate's "Don't lose her" made him feel somewhat challenged. With a few swift gear changes, the already fast car sped up even more.

Nate leaned back, silently grabbing the handle above his head. His eyes narrowed, focusing on Chloe's car, which was speeding like a phantom in the night. Witnessing Chloe's driving skills had Nate amazed once again. He was even a little envious and full of admiration

He'd thought she was impressive after their first encounter, but now he realized that was just the tip of the iceberg. His chauffeur, a product of the Harper family's rigorous training program, was no slouch when it came to driving. Miraculously, they hadn't lost them.

Chloe's car was followed by a convoy of a dozen or so vehicles. They tore through the chilly winter night for almost an hour until finally meeting two oncoming SUVs head-on.

Chapter 1657

From afar, two car silhouettes were visible. Neither slowed down until they were about a hundred meters apart. Both cars almost seemed to take flight before slamming their brakes. Their rear ends lifted slightly before coming to a steady stop.

"Holy smoke! Are they racing for their lives?!"



The driver to the side had already hit the brakes a good ten seconds prior. Despite this, Nate's body was flung forward harshly, only to be jerked back by the seatbelt.

Nate was known to keep his cool no matter the situation. But even he was taken aback by the sight, his face turning pale

While he and the driver were still in shock, the door of the SUV from the other side swung open. A figure clad in black jumped lightly from the driver's seat. He then walked over to Chloe's car and bent down to knock on her window.

The window rolled down to reveal Chloe's cool face

Stanley leaned on her window, observing her for a moment. "Are we going together?"

"Don't waste time."

Chloe showed no intention of getting out of the car. Stanley raised an eyebrow but didn't seem surprised. He turned to look at the approaching vehicles, a frown creasing his forehead. "So, we're going to storm the place?"

Chloe pursed her lips, her brow furrowing. She pressed the clutch, shifted gears, and the car's engine started to thrum.

Stanley straightened up quickly. "Alright, alright, I get it!"

Chloe didn't respond.

Stanley, feeling slighted, returned to his car, and sped away. Chloe's car followed suit immediately.

Follow them" At Nate's command, the fleet of cars quickly followed

The desolate suburban winter night was filled with the thrumming of the cars and the sound of their bodies cutting through the chilly wind.

At three in the morning, Stanley and Chloe arrived at the last checkpoint on the border

Tif lead the charge, and you follow Stanley told Chloe, who saw that the people in the car had their handguns ready, and their expressions were serious and ready for action.

She pressed her lips together and spoke softly. "Give me one."

Stanley turned to look at her before pulling a silver handgun from his jacket and tossing it to her. He then tossed her a box of ammunition. It's fully loaded"

Chloe pushed back the half-open box of ammunition, and put the spare box in her down jacket's pocket.

"Is that enough?" Stanley, with his carefree demeanor, couldn't help but ask one last time. The worry in his eyes was evident.

Chloe put the gun in her other pocket, and her expression was calm "it's enough"

One was enough. This was enough to kill Wendy a hundred times over

As soon as the cars stopped, Nate contacted Damon "Sir, we've reached the checkpoint. From the looks of it, Mr. Stanley plans to force his way through." Damons icy voice echoed throughout the car. "What about Chloe?"

Nate stepped out of the car, making his way towards Chloe and Stanley. "She is currently discussing the plan with Mr. Stanley Mr. Stanley has given her a gun, and I think they plan on forcing their way in."

Damon's voice grew colder "Alert the checkpoint. She must not be harmed

By the time Nate reached Chloe and Stanley, he could hear their conversation clearly.

Chloe's indifferent demeanor seemed to give Stanley, who had been observing her warily, an idea of her intentions. His eyebrows furrowed as he took out a packet of penny candy from the car and popped one in his mouth.

"Once we're in, it's all-out war. We need to attract attention to lure that woman from the Alonso family out. Be careful."

Chloe slowly lifted her head, and her cool gaze met Stanley's. After a moment, she spoke in a clear voice.  
"I may need your help with this."

Stanley staggered.

Damon's voice abruptly stopped when Chloe said those words, and Nate also looked at Chloe in surprise. He had always thought that Chloe would lead the charge without batting an eye. But now, she was pulling back.

What was going on?

Stanley was the most shocked. He looked at Chloe incredulously, and stuttered. "You you said what?"  
The simple sentence took him a while to say.

Chloe remained expressionless, turning leaving the fighting to you. "It's too dangerous. I'm not going."

Stanley was dumbfounded.

It was too dangerous, and she was not going? Who the hell didn't know it was dangerous? Once they stormed in, they'd be greeted with a hail of bullets. Real bullets that could kill! Of course, it was dangerous! Did she really need to state the obvious?

More importantly, hearing those words coming from her mouth seemed absurd. She was always the one leading the charge. What the hell was happening now?

“When did you become such a chicken?”

Chloe turned to look at him. Her face looked cold, and her voice was indifferent. “I just don’t want to go.”

“You”

She had a family to care for now. How could she take such a risk?

Stanley was lost for words at Chloe’s cold yet stubborn attitude

While Nate was still in shock, he heard Damon’s voice over the phone. Forget about alerting the checkpoint, let them storm in

Nate grimaced. It was obvious that Damon was trying to screw over Stanley.

Such a wicked mind! That was a life-threatening task. If anything were to go wrong, even an injury would be a loss. A jealous man could be truly terrifying. Although Stanley was upset, he didn’t hold it against Chloe. Without her, he could act more freely. Not to mention, he had been through a lot. The

task at hand was simply barging through a border patrol and didn’t seem like much of a challenge to him.

He stuffed the remaining half pack of his penny candy into his mouth, chewing aggressively. Then, he turned towards Chloe, his expression full of frustration and disappointment, “I knew it! That guy, Damon, was up to no good, He’s turned you into a total scaredy-cat!”

Chloe remained unfazed, with an attitude that practically screamed, “Do as you please.” She was not going to get herself into dangerous situations, no matter what

“Dammit Stanley cursed under his breath, then turned around and waved his hand in the air. “Everyone, get ready, now!”

Everyone instantly tensed up and was ready to spring into action.

## Chapter 1658

Nate hung up the phone silently and quietly took his place next to Chloe. With some pity, he watched Stanley lead his men as they fired the first shot. The checkpoint was caught off guard, and immediately thrown into the firefight.

“Ma’am, it’s dangerous up front. Please stay back as much as you can

Chloe shook her head. “I need to assess the situation and find a chance to break in.”

Nate’s expression was somewhat complex. “Don’t worry, I’ll handle it. The moment there’s an opening, I’ll make sure you’re the first one through. Your safety is our priority”

Chloe glanced at the ongoing firefight and decided to follow Nate’s advice and step back. She wasn’t overly worried about Stanley She had absolute confidence in his ability to handle a single checkpoint

She couldn’t possibly call Stanley for help without being sure he’d be safe. It wasn’t right to put him in a potentially life-threatening situation

Soon enough, Chloe felt the intensity of the battle wanting, and she moved closer to assess the situation.

Stanley had easily gained the upper hand, but dodging bullets back and forth was undoubtedly exhausting. Nate, seeing that the situation was under control signaled one of his men and whispered something in his ear. The man nodded and left.

Before long. Nate turned to Chloe. “Ma’am, let’s get in the car.”

Chloe was unsure of his plans, but the chilling wind outside left her no room to argue. Without much thought, she got in the car

The battle continued up ahead. As long as there was gunfire, Chloe would not risk going in. She didn’t come here to get herself killed

Five minutes felt like an eternity amidst the gunfire. Suddenly, a rumbling sound grew from the dark horizon. The sound of a helicopter’s engine and the whooshing wind grew louder.

Uncertain if it was a friend or foe, Chloe huddled inside the car, and her brows knitted together

Meanwhile, Nate stuck his head out of the window, looking up at the sky. His hair, already disheveled, was further tousled by the helicopter’s wind. But right now, controlling his overwhelming joy was more important than worrying about his messy hair.

Help was finally here. He could finally let go of this “ticking bomb.” With a sigh of relief, Nate started the car. Chloe frowned, “What are you doing?”

“Ma’am, we can go in now”

Chloe glanced at the ongoing firefight. “It’s not stable yet

“Don’t worry. Trust me.” With a relaxed tone. Nate drove towards the checkpoint

Chloe’s face tightened, and her brows furrowed deeper. Silently, she gripped the gun in her pocket.

Three helicopters flew overhead, one after another. They crossed into the border region’s airspace without any signs of aggression or resistance. They even seemed to be preparing to land within the border.

Stanley and his men noticed, too. Damn! They've got reinforcements!

The helicopters landed without any resistance, clearly on their side. Three helicopters meant another round of firefights

At the same time, Stanley spotted a line of cars entering from the checkpoint. The slow pace of the cars in the midst of the chaos was like an elderly man leisurely walking down the street. Incredibly leisurely.

He even saw Chloe sitting in one of the cars.

Stanley was shocked. Who could tell him what the hell was going on?!

"Jaden, take my place. I need to check the front! He called for a replacement and slipped into the chaos.

Three helicopters landed. Who knew what kind of people were inside? It could be super dangerous. This woman was really stubborn and disobedient She was infuriating!

Chloe was equally confused. Her questioning gaze repeatedly drifted to Nate next to her Watching the peaceful scene on their side, and the unobstructed path ahead, Chloe was baffled Nate's relaxed expression made Chloe believe that the first thing she should do after entering was to take a good rest

Three helicopters landed on a spacious square not far away The rotors whirled rapidly, stirring up a bone-chilling wind in the winter night

Stanley caught up with Chloe's car and knocked on the window 'What the hell are you doing? Did I give you the signal to come in?"

Chloe looked at him through the window, equally confused Nate assured me it was safe

"Damn in Look at what's happening out there Get out of the car now!

Without another word, Stanley reached into the car, released the safety latch, opened the door, and pulled Chloe out.

“Come with me!”

He glanced around, pulled Chloe into his arms, and shielded her with his body, ready to leave.

Nate, of course, wasn’t about to let them go. He immediately got out of the car and quickly blocked Stanley’s path. His brain buzzed at the sight of Stanley holding Chloe so closely, and he felt a bit dizzy.

Couldn’t they stop doing this?! Her husband was

Nate shivered as the wind from the helicopter’s rotor hit him. At the same time, the doors of the nearby helicopters opened. Nate looked up to see two bodyguards quickly jump out, and soon, a tall figure appeared at the center of the helicopter’s door.

The joy he had felt earlier now had a different taste. He wished that his boss could have stayed in the air for a few more rounds before landing.

Nate straightened his posture and bowed slightly, showing respect. Chloe had only ever seen him act this way towards one person. She paused for a moment, then turned from Stanley’s embrace.

When the familiar figure came into view, she was surprised, and her mouth fell open. Nate’s previous assurance flashed through her mind like a bolt of lightning. So that was what was going on?

She watched as the figure stepped off the helicopter. The wind lifted the corner of his black coat, the collar fluttering. His handsome, aloof face was tightly drawn. It was only when she moved in closer that she could vaguely see the stormy gloom and icy coldness lurking in his deep, dark eyes.

Chloe stared at him as he stood a short distance away. His gaze was heavy and unyielding as it met hers.

“Come here,” he ordered.



## Chapter 1659

The moment Chloe saw Damon, her heart, which had been tightly strung, gradually calmed down. It was like a tightly-strung rubber band; its ends slowly loosened and finally came to rest with a quiet stillness that settled down into her heart.

A strange sense of grievance welled up in her heart. Perhaps it wasn't grievance; perhaps it was merely fragility. The moment she saw Damon, the walls she had built around herself suddenly collapsed. She softly shut her lips and stared at Damon for a while. The shadow she saw in his eyes grew deeper and denser, making her break free from Stanley's hold. She slowly started walking towards him.

"Hold on!" Stanley suddenly stretched his arm, hooked her waist, and pulled her into his embrace.

The warmth radiating from Stanley felt especially tangible at this moment. Her eyes trembled slightly as she protectively placed her hand on her stomach, which was shielded by Stanley's strong and sturdy arm.

Damon's shadowed eyes suddenly narrowed. He stepped forward and put his hand on Stanley's shoulder. With a hard squeeze, Damon pulled Chloe into his own embrace.<sup>c2</sup>

He had never had any tolerance for anything concerning Chloe. But now, if it weren't for the fear of hurting Chloe, hurting the child in her womb, or scaring her, he wouldn't have hesitated to take a swing at Stanley.

As her nose picked up the familiar scent of Damon, Chloe clutched the front of his shirt. While she felt a sense of security, she was also aware that, she

seemed to have upset him yet again.

Stanley winced in pain, instinctively grabbing Damon's wrist.

Neither men were known for their patience or good temper, and both were quite formidable in their own right. What should have escalated into a confrontation eased down when Stanley saw Chloe in Damon's embrace. He let go of his aggressive stance, and forcefully pushed Damon's hand away.

"How did you get here?" He barked, turning to glare at Chloe. "Did you tell him to come? Isn't this a case of the pot calling the kettle black? Are you here to be a hindrance or to meet your doom?!"

Stanley, in every aspect, refused to be at a disadvantage in front of Damon. If he could diminish Damon, he would do so in every possible way

Chloe shook her head. She initially knew that Damon would handle Nate, but she hadn't expected him to show up here in person.

The smirk on Stanley's face suddenly froze into a cold expression. His gaze pierced Damon. You little punk, it was you!"

His loud cry caused the ongoing battle in the distance to momentarily pause. The deafening noise made Chloe close one eye, and her body instinctively shrunk into Damon's embrace

As for why Stanley was so angry...

It was likely because he had just realized that there was something off about their initial stand-off at the border. If Nate could easily bring her in, and Damon could stand here now, it was clear that Stanley's conflict at the border control was unnecessary

Nate awkwardly scratched the back of his head, feeling somewhat guilty for betraying Chloe's friend.

Chloe looked up at Damon, her eyes filled with disapproval and reproach

Damon suddenly lowered his head, meeting Chloe's gaze head-on. The hand wrapped around her shoulder tightened slightly. She could feel his anger rising in a straight line. Lowering her head, she avoided his gaze

Stanley was hopping mad, pointing at Damon, and cursing, “Damn you, you trickster! Playing me for a fool

Despite the late hour, there were still many people wandering the streets. The sound of gunfire had ceased, and one by one, they emerged from the shadows

Seeing the three helicopters in the distance, they were beyond excited, because the emblem on the helicopters was the most direct proof of the identity of their owner

“It’s the boss”

“Yes, the boss is here!”

As people shouted, the crowd gradually gathered around from all directions.

Nate quickly drove the car up to Damon, who, with Chloe, was the first to get in

The people here only knew that their boss had arrived, but they had never seen the face of the man who ruled over their bleak land. Those who had hoped

to catch a glimpse of the mysterious boss were once again disappointed. All they saw was a high-end off-road vehicle driving past them.

Stanley pointed at the vehicle, hopping madly and cursing. “Stop right there, you jerk!!”

“Boss, boss, let’s keep cool. Don’t be rash!”

The men around Stanley held onto their boss tightly, fearing that he would provoke Damon into a fight.

With three helicopters and nearly ten off-road vehicles, it seemed like they owned the border territory. Although they were angry for being deceived, they knew that if a fight broke out, the situation wouldn’t

be in their favor. They might have been fearless in facing danger, but weren't only those who know how to adapt can be heroes?

"Bastard, you better not fall into my hands, or I'll strip you naked and hang you on a flagpole to dry into jerky!"

Nate was initially worried that Stanley, in his anger, would reveal Damon's true identity. But now, it seemed like Stanley had seen through Damon's intentional concealment and had no intention of exposing him

"Damn it, you wait and see!"

Unsatisfied, Stanley pulled out his gun and fired two shots at the back of the car. However, the car was clearly modified, and extremely sturdy, with top-notch bulletproof capabilities.

When coming to this place where violence could erupt at any moment, having protective measures was a necessity. Stanley probably knew this, and Nate could see that he was just venting his anger.

"Boss, cool down, here, have some penny candy, it'll help you cool down!"

The men around Stanley casually pulled out a packet of penny candy and handed it to Stanley. The move was similar to offering a cigarette

Nate was flabbergasted. What a bunch of weirdos

The man in charge of the border control approached them, warily watching Stanley and his men, and not understanding what Nate was babbling about.

Nate turned to negotiate with them, his expression was stern, and his tone was harsh. The checkpoint officer glanced at Stanley with a particularly disgruntled look. His face turned sour as he walked away

The guys knew, their entry issue was sorted out. Glancing back, they saw Stanley sitting on the hood of the car, angrily munching away on two big bags of penny candy, his expression and gaze still frighteningly intense. However, after finishing off the last candy, he jumped out of the car, coldly throwing out a single word, "Let's go!"

The guys exchanged looks. Was it time to head back already?

## Chapter 1660

When they got into the car, it was Damon who had hoisted Chloe into the seat and fastened her seatbelt for her, but he had a hard look on his face the entire time. His lips were tightly sealed, and he refused to say a word. Even now, he hadn't spoken.

Chloe didn't need to be told that he was angry. The icy aura he radiated was perhaps the most severe she had ever seen. She had seen him angry before, but it was nothing compared to now. He was bottling up his emotions.

She couldn't blame him. Things were different now

I'm sorry. I just couldn't sit at home and wait for news! There are some things I need to do myself"

Chloe's apology didn't elicit any response from Damon. He didn't even spare her a glance.c2

Leaning against the seat, Chloe sighed softly and closed her eyes, as fatigue was seeping into her bones. Damon drove in silence, pulling into a grand European-style mansion

The mansion was still as magnificent as ever, and well maintained in the midst of chaos, a peculiar and special existence.

When they arrived, Chloe was still drowsy Damon got out of the car, his face still taut. The mansion wasn't solely his responsibility, he had a trusted team to take care of it. They weren't part of the Harper family, they were his personal staff

As they arrived, the staff lined up neatly on either side of the car. Their heads bowed respectfully, waiting for his arrival. Despite his grim expression, Damon gently lifted Chloe out of the car

After settling Chloe into the plush bed in one of the mansion's rooms, Damon began to leave, only to be stopped by a pair of slender arms wrapping around his neck. Their breaths mingled. Chloe opened her sleep-heavy eyes, which were clear and luminous. "I know you have your own matters to attend to. You can't be there for everything, but I understand Stanley, so I asked for his help."

She knew that the issue with Stanley was the root cause of Damon's current mood. Damon looked at her for a long moment before finally speaking. "Rest now. Your mother is fine. Wendy won't dare to harm her before your arrival."

His tone was still cold, his expression grim, but his words had nothing to do with her apology. Their main goal now was to bring Yasmine back unharmed. It wasn't the time to argue about Chloe's insistence on coming here or her reliance on Stanley. Chloe understood this and nodded, not letting go of Damon.

"Aren't you going to rest?"

Damon didn't respond. After a moment of silence, Chloe rose slightly and pressed a kiss to his lips. "I missed you."

Damon's breath hitched slightly. Was she really trying to seduce him at a time like this?

"If you say that my mother is safe, I'll believe your words. Her breath was warm and steady, and her hand moved to the back of his head, pressing him closer as she kissed him. The kiss turned into a passionate exchange, with Damon quickly gaining the upper hand. As their passion escalated, Chloe's hand traced down Damon's back, feeling the taut muscles beneath his shirt. Her breath hitched as she felt a slight sting on her neck, but she didn't pull away, allowing him to vent his frustration."

Eventually, Damon pulled away, covering her lips with his once more. Chloe turned her head to look at him, her eyes clouded with desire.

"You will take me with you, won't you?" She kissed him again. "You'll take me to see my mother, right?"

Damon looked at her His mood did not entirely lift despite their intimate exchange. "Do you know what you're like right now?"

Chloe shook her head Her lips were still slightly swollen from their kiss

"You're like a siren, using your charms to make me agree to anything you want

Chloe blinked, seemingly agreeing with his assessment. A moment later, she reached up and slid her hand inside his shirt, her expression one of pure seduction "So, will you agree?"

Damon looked down at her hand under his shirt, his eyes narrowing slightly. He leaned on his elbow and looked at her "Are you sure you want to continue?"

Chloe paused, her expression changing from seductive to serious. "I want to settle my grudges with Wendy"

Damon's hand, which had been supporting his weight next to her head, flexed as he moved closer. "Keep seducing me like this, and I might just agree

Chloe didn't respond, instead, she asked another question, "Tell me, what exactly are you in this place?"

Damon buried his face in her neck "Didn't you guess it already?"

Chloe's hand tightened on his shirt

"They all fear me. Their lives are in my control Not just them, most people in this world fear me Damon spoke the truth. Chice knew it sounded far-fetched, but controlling the weapons of several major countries was indeed a terrifying power

"Why do you allow a place like this, full of outlaws and thugs, to exist?"

Damon sat up, looking down at her That's the law of the jungle Places like this are inevitable. You have no idea what happens behind the scenes in some countries. They can live in the light, or in the shadows

"This place is where they need to resolve certain issues. There's no law here. These so-called outlaws and thugs are their shields, their cover."

Chloe was silent for a long time, absorbing his words. The world was much more complicated than she had ever imagined

The reason Wendy brought her mother here was because she could commit murder without breaking the law. Ava chose her accomplices from this place because even if things went south, nobody would suspect she was in cahoots with them. As for the death of your mother, she could easily blame it on a gang brawl There have been many people who've done the same thing here before her. And, in my hands, I hold the damning evidence against them."