

Come back to me

Chapter: 231

Weigh The Pros And Cons

John's words seemed to quell Isabella's anger. She turned to him. "Do you really mean that, Mr. Shi?"

The fire cast an orange glow on the man's cold and handsome face, the leaping flames reflecting in his dark eyes. It somehow made his expression look gentle, a direct contrast to what he was truly feeling.

John didn't utter another word.

Before either women could say or do anything, he landed a sound slap on his own face.

The sound of flesh hitting flesh

rang clear and sharp within the abandoned factory. It quite was obvious that John had used no small amount of strength.

Vaguely, he could taste the metallic tang of blood in his mouth.

But John didn't feel any pain, even as a trickle of blood surreptitiously ran down the corner of his lips. Instead, he flashed Isabella a smile of contempt.

In his thirty years of existence, Nina had been the only person to slap him in the face. And today, he inflicted it on himself. Didn't it convey a tacit understanding between the couple?

Nina was stunned, perhaps even more than John who had received the blow. Her beautiful eyes widened in alarm.

Her breath caught in her throat.

John really hit himself.

As the thought flashed in her mind, Nina finally gathered her senses, and she took a deep breath. She

An unsuspecting May night suddenly became a cold winter one.

John bent and slid his thumb across Nina's lips and wiped off the traces of blood.

His warm touch made her lashes flutter, her wet eyes glittering in the shaft of moonlight that stole into the room.

"Are you okay?" Nina stared at John's slightly swollen cheek and put her hand against the mark.

Her heart ached.

John took the hand from his face and pulled Nina behind him, shielding her this time. He assumed a cool stance that was clearly warning Isabella of dire consequences if she pulled a trick on them.

"You'd better tell us a valuable secret, or you will end up with a lot more than just a swollen face," he threatened.

Isabella swallowed. She still harbored a measure of fear whenever she faced those icy eyes of John Shi's.

"Nina took Memory Charm, a drug that can modify people's memories."

"Memory Charm?"

John and Nina echoed at the same time.

They both frowned. True to its name, Nina's memory seemed to have really been tampered with.

"Which part of her memory was modified?"

John demanded, giving voice to the doubts and fears they both felt in their hearts.

But how could Isabella just hand the information to them so easily? She had another bargaining chip after all.

Chapter: 232

Falling Off The Building

Looking at the palm prints on John's and Nina's faces, Isabella felt much better.

Isabella never forgot that Nina slapped her.

As for John, Isabella raised her eyebrows and smiled charmingly at him.

"Mr. Shi, you're a businessman. Two slaps for a secret, and I've already told you the secret,"

Isabella said slowly. If they wanted to know more, they needed to pay more.

Now that John and Nina had slapped themselves, it was time to get revenge for the Zhang family almost going bankrupt. That was Nina's fault, at least from Isabella's point of view.

If Albert hadn't given Isabella a way out back then, she might have been down and out herself.

Isabella would make Nina pay for that.

Pondering this for a while, Isabella felt that she couldn't do it now, because the answer to John's second question was her only bargaining chip.

Tonight, she made John slap himself in the face. He'd probably never let that slide.

So she couldn't reveal the secret yet.

That was the only thing which could save her in the future.

"Mr. Shi, I'm afraid I can't answer your second question, because I've already taken my revenge. You two will be staying here for one night. We'll pick you up tomorrow morning."

She turned to her men and said, "Douse the fire. They're pretty healthy. They don't need it too warm in here.

up on John.

Nina knew something bad would happen so she turned and ran full tilt, trying to overtake the thugs.

"Now it begins," Isabella said to herself. She was there, only a half-meter away from Nina and John. She looked even more sinister, shrouded by the night. She wore a cruel smile.

"Ah!" Isabella screamed and pretended to stagger. She reached out and pushed Nina.

Nina lost her balance and instinctively tried to steady herself against the window. But the broken glass sliced her in several places, and now she was even worse off. Recoiling from the pain, she started tumbling through the window frame.

The ground spun crazily as she fell.

Her eyes went wide in surprise. Nina never expected to be overpowered by Isabella.

Nina stopped breathing for an instant. When she thought she was about to fall off the building and die, she heard a scream. "Nina!"

It was John.

He bent over the window and reached out to grab Nina, but only touched her fingertips and watched her fall.

She was hard to see in the darkness.

Without thinking too much, John hurled himself forward.

"Mr. Shi!"

"Mr. Shi! Mrs. Shi!"

Startled, Amy and Lena pushed the men out of the way and ran towards the window.

They could see John holding Nina in his arms. They were falling rapidly.

This was the third floor!

Chapter: 233

You Are My Hero

A second ago, Nina was paralyzed by her fear of falling from the building. She felt the cold wind against her face, stinging her eyes. The next second, she found herself in a warm embrace. It all happened so fast. John was like a hero that descended from the sky.

Nina could hear John's heartbeat.

Why?

Why did he jump down?

"It's okay. You're okay." John held her in his arms. She could not stop herself from shaking.

Her eyes still hurt so much that they had started to water.

Nina remembered what Michelle's master, Paul, had said.

"When you love someone, you always choose to be with that person no matter what happens."

Nina had heard a lot of stories about men dying for love. She used to think they were ridiculous. How could a man be willing to abandon his own life for a woman?

But now

Nina realized the stories were true after all.

John jumped out of the building without hesitation. He was only thinking about protecting her.

He did not just like her.

Maybe it was love because only love was capable of that sort of sacrifice.

"Honey, my hero," she breathed. 'John, you are my hero,' she whispered in her heart.

John's body froze as a smile slowly appeared on his face.

Finally, his little girl call

s soon as they got in the car, Nina ordered Richard to drive straight to Kanner Hospital.

On their way there, John lost consciousness in Nina's arms. He was sent to the operating room upon their arrival to the hospital.

For the second time, Nina found herself pacing outside the operating room and trying to calm herself. The first time was with Kristina behind the doors, and now it was John.

They were the two people who had always been good to her.

The first time, she was stained with Kristina's blood. She looked down at her shirt and stared at the blood all over it.

It was not hers at all.

John was badly injured. He probably fainted because he had lost a lot of blood.

Nina's palms and fingertips suddenly turned cold, and her whole body trembled. She stared at the small glass pane on the operating room door and just stood there.

She did not know how long she had waited. When she saw the doctor come out, she rushed to him and asked, "How did it go? How is my husband?"

The doctor took off his mask and answered, "Don't worry, Mrs. Shi. Mr. Shi is no longer in danger."

Nina almost collapsed on her knees as relief washed over her.

Soon, a nurse rolled John out of the operation room, and Nina started sobbing.

Chapter: 234

Let s Have A Baby

When John woke up, it was already the evening of his second hospital day.

The evening wind was gently blowing outside, making the trees dance against the thin clouds. The sky bled red and orange in the wake of the setting sun, bathing John's hospital suite in lovely golden light.

Lying on the edge of the bed, Nina curled in a ball, sleeping peacefully.

She had waited all night for John to regain consciousness. At dawn, when he still did not wake up, she anxiously rushed out and called the doctor.

The doctor comforted her and said that she had to wait. John was badly injured and needed a lot of sleep to get back his strength, so Nina waited and eventually fell asleep.

That noon, James rushed over and found Nina looking pained and filthy. He quickly dragged her away and took her to a doctor who then treated her wounds and prescribed her some medicine.

Now, Nina was all cleaned up and bandaged and wearing a brown dress. The light of sunset illuminated her face, making it blush a little.

As John tried to sit up, he felt a sharp pain stab his waist.

"Uncle John?" Right on cue, James pushed the door open. He saw John struggle to sit up and miserably fail.

John gritted his teeth with the effort.

He immediately lay back. It knocked the wind right out of his lungs.

James hurried over with

ut did not speak.

She took a little while before she raised her head and looked straight into John's eyes.

Her man was pushing her on purpose.

In a moment, like a kitten, Nina slowly and deliberately rubbed her head against John's neck and purred in his ear, "Honey."

Nina's voice was lazy and sultry, and it almost drove John out of his wits. She raised her hand and started tracing circles on his chest.

"Honey." John paused for a moment and then spoke in a hoarse voice.

His little girl almost killed him when she called him honey.

He grabbed her hand and kissed it. His eyes burned with a small flame as they darted from her lips to her eyes and then back again. "Honey, let's have a baby."

Nina blinked, slowly smiled, and answered, "Okay."

Then, she took the initiative to kiss John passionately.

In the heat of the moment, John wanted to take the lead. When he was about to roll over and press his wife on the bed, his hips made another crisp, popping sound.

John gnashed his teeth together to keep himself from screaming. His hips hurt so badly that he blacked out for a second.

He could not do anything with his wife at the moment.

Before lying on his back again, he planted a soft kiss on Nina's lips and said, "Maybe not today, honey. We're still injured. We need to heal first."

Chapter: 235

No One To Blame

Nina could sense through John's hoarse voice that it took all of his self-control to speak properly.

Nina didn't pay much attention to the injury on her arm. Instead, she moved closer to John and whispered into his ear, "It doesn't matter."

John's eyes darted towards her face. He swallowed thickly and his voice became hoarser.

"I don't want to hurt you," he said.

A soft smile formed in Nina's lips. She reluctantly got down from him and kissed his lips. "Honey, I love you."

John swallowed again, and his Adam's apple could be seen bobbing up and down.

Nina's words almost killed him.

As soon as he heard those magic words from Nina, John fell right into her palm.

"Honey, I love you too." His kiss was light and sweet.

The both of them stared into each other's eyes,

slowly savoring the moment.

John broke the kiss and placed a hand gently over Nina's cheek. The tingling feeling from his stubble made her smile.

"Honey, I have a good idea." John pulled Nina closer to him and she lay on top of his body.

"As long as you lead everything, I won't hurt you." John's eyes were filled with eagerness. The excitement in his voice told Nina that he couldn't wait any longer.

Nina's couldn't help but laugh and it was like music to his ears.

"So, let me do it!" A faint smile appeared on her face of concern. "Doctor, is there something wrong with him?"

"Rest assured, Mrs. Shi. It's nothing serious." He didn't have the heart to tell her that he needed to undergo an operation again.

John grabbed her hand and gently touched it with his lips. "Wait for me here."

Nina pursed her lips. The concern in her eyes couldn't be mistaken. "Okay."

While Nina was preoccupied, a nurse came in to change the bed sheets. There was blood on the bed sheets from John's injury, and the nurse deliberately hid them so that Nina wouldn't see.

Two hours had passed when John finally returned with Brian. After settling John on the bed, the doctor looked over to Nina. "Mrs. Shi, your husband isn't allowed to exercise for the next half month. Remember, it's half a month. He can't engage in any form of exercise under any circumstance."

Brian knew that it was useless to tell this to John, so he made sure to let his wife know.

It seemed that understanding had finally dawned upon Nina, and another blush crept on her cheeks. "I understand. No exercise for half a month."

John scowled and glared at the doctor.

From one week to half a month.

He might end up being a monk after half a month of no sex.

Henry couldn't help shaking his head and rubbing his forehead.

There was no one for John to blame but himself.

Chapter: 236

The Spy

John stayed in the VIP ward. Except for the smell of disinfectant, the room did not look or feel like a ward but like a nice apartment.

John had a big bed covered with gray sheets and quilt. The entire room was carpeted with a leisure area and a tea room.

Helen cooked dishes John and Nina liked and sent them to the hospital every day.

At night, Richard stood guard outside John's door.

On the other hand, Amy and Lena stayed to watch North Yard.

John had asked Henry to investigate Albert's spy in Time Group.

He had also asked Brian to do a check-up on Nina and do a neurological examination on her.

Nina underwent the examination obediently, and the results came back normal.

She had some bruises and a few marks all over her body. There were even a few snake bites.

"Are you sure she's okay?" Even though the physical examination report showed that Nina was all right, John still felt uneasy.

Brian simply nodded and replied, "According to the results, there is indeed no problem. As for the drug you mentioned that can modify a person's memory, I think it's a little far-fetched. Human memory is directly asso

fraid at all. She even seemed ready to die.

Also, there was Linn who loved Albert so deeply. Even though Albert was a stubborn child, she still tried her best to teach him well and treat him like her own son.

And then there was Kristina who helped him get away with a crime by sinking a fruit knife into her stomach and dying for him. She did it for him although she was afraid of pain.

Thinking of what Kristina had done before her death, Nina felt her heart splinter.

Albert was not a bad guy. He was just born into a bad family.

As Nina was thinking, her eyes started misting over. Then, Henry received a phone call. After hanging up the phone, he frowned and said, "Mr. Shi, Albert Song is dead."

"What?" Nina felt a catch in her throat.

John indicated Henry to go on.

"He killed himself with the same fruit knife that killed Kristina. He was found dead beside her body." A note of sadness flashed through Henry's eyes. He felt sad for Kristina.

Kristina had tried her best to help Albert survive, but Albert ultimately chose to die with her.

In the end, Albert failed to live up to Kristina's expectations.

Chapter: 237

Albert s Will

Noah rushed over to the pavilion in the center of Blue Lake.

Ford had called him so he ran over in a frantic panic.



The gauze curtain in the pavilion was slightly raised. The thin sunlight penetrated the thick clouds and sprinkled on the lake, reflecting the sparkling light. The ice coffin in the pavilion could be seen faintly. Beside the coffin, there was a person leaning against it. His eyes were closed, his face was pale and there was a defeated smile faintly taking over his mouth.

Ford stood outside the pavilion, lost in thought.

He knew that Albert was going to kill himself so that he could be with Kristina.

It turned out, he was actually expressing his last will last night.

Even though Ford assumed that he was going to do this, he would never try to stop his boss from doing something in the pursuit of happiness.

Albert lay dead, with the sun rising over his motionless body. A gust of wind blew, carrying the pungent smell of blood through the air.

"Captain." Tom looked worriedly at Noah beside him. Noah had been drained lately. He had deep bags under his eyes and he clearly hadn't shaved in days.

With all that was going on, his appearance was the last thing on his mind

she was going to get the brunt of the abuse.

Now that her brother was gone, Evelyn cried till her eyes swelled up and her tears streamed like waterfalls. She didn't dare make a sound though because Albert wasn't here to protect her anymore.

"Ford, is my brother really gone?" With tears in her red and swollen eyes, Evelyn pulled Ford's hand and pouted helplessly.

She refused to believe that it was true.

Ford and Albert were the same age so Evelyn always thought of him as her brother too. He was the only other person that could make her feel safe.

Ford squatted down, wiped Evelyn's tears with his brawny fingers and said assuredly, "Miss, I promised your brother that I would stay to protect you until you can protect yourself."

Evelyn shook her head, tears streaming down her face. She sniffed and said, "Ford, I don't want any shares or property. I just want my brother back."

Crossing her arms over her chest, Ella said with a faint smile, "Well, since you don't want the shares, transfer them all to me, or to Albert."

"Mr. Wu, you heard that. My daughter doesn't want those shares. Just transfer 30% to me and 30% to Adrian." Ella turned around and smiled maniacally at the lawyer.

Chapter: 238

Legacy Crisis

Mr. Wu held the will in his hands. Just as he announced the terms, a huge uproar broke out. Naturally, he felt nervous as he sighed inwardly.

No wonder Albert would rather support Linn than give his mother a penny.

Adrian retorted, "I don't need it. It's the shares Albert left to Evelyn."

Adrian always knew that his mother was partial to him.

In response, he felt sorry for his siblings.

How could he stomach taking anything away from his sister?

Ella's face darkened. "Adrian, don't talk nonsense. What do you mean you don't need it? You're our eldest son. Albert is dead which means you're the head of the Song family now. Likewise, the Song Group is yours now. If you don't have shares, how could you lead the company?"

Back when Adrian was younger, he thought his mother was the best. After all, she always gave him what he wanted. However, as he grew older, he gradually realized that his mother wasn't as great as he thought her to be.

He began to notice how she would do things that hurt Albert.

Adrian was at a loss. There was a part of him that feared Albert's revenge and there was also a part of him that longed to atone for his sins.

e pushed him away.

"Leave me alone. Let me just say this out loud. Andy, you want to do this, huh? I'm going to destroy you. Do you really think I'm oblivious to all the affairs you've had?"

In a rage, Andy raised his hand as if he was about to hit Ella again. However, Adrian stopped him. "Dad, stop it."

Adrian then turned to his mother who was on the floor. "Mom, you too. Stop it. Albert is my brother. You're the one who mistreated him."

"You..." Ella was seething as she raised her trembling hand.

Andy bellowed, "At the end of the day, you're still an illegitimate daughter. That can be embarrassing at times, you know. I married you because I was blinded. Consequently, I allowed you make such a mess out of this family.

We're getting a divorce after Albert's burial."

Ella got up and stared Andy down. "If you divorce me, I'll ruin you."

Sneering, Andy pulled Toby to his side and said through gritted teeth, "Do you really think I don't know whose son Toby is?"

Then he glanced at the butler.

The butler jumped in fear as he lowered his head, palms dripping with sweat.

Taken aback, Ella asked, "Wait. What are you talking about?"

Chapter: 239

Give Up Inheriting Ye Group

Everyone was surprised by Andy's words.

They knew what he meant.

Toby was not his son but Ella's child with another man.

No one had expected this revelation.

Pairs of inquisitive eyes fell on Ella, which frightened her and made her stagger a few steps back.

The butler was anxious and was about to catch her, but as soon as he raised his head, Andy glared at him and he stepped back.

The butler trembled in fear.

"How dare you slander me?" Ella stood her ground, her face pale. Her voice was so shrill that it hurt Andy's ears.

Andy looked at her coldly and said, "After you gave birth to Evelyn, I went to the hospital to have myself checked. I was told that I could no longer father another child. When Evelyn was four years old, you got pregnant. At that time, I doubted that the child was mine, so I secretly took a sample of Toby's DNA and got a paternity test. It came back negative. He's not mine at all.

I kept that information to myself all these years because I felt sorry for you. I chose to endure you and let Toby grow up in the Song family. I even turned a blind eye to you having affair with the butler.

You want to ruin me? How rid

d eyes.

"Kristina loved you the most when she was alive. Can you stay with her for a little longer? I have to go."

Then, Howard left with Vivian on his heels. Vivian thought about everything she just heard while holding on tightly to her handbag.

She knew that Howard only valued Noah, and all the benefits would not fall on her.

Vivian had never hated Howard and Noah so much before.

A shrewd look flashed through her eyes

as she began to think of ways to get all the assets of the Ye Group.

The Song family members had also left except for Evelyn who just stood there blankly with Ford by her side.

Noah stood there like a tree.

The three of them stood by the lake for a long time, but the wind could not blow away the haze in their heads and the sadness in their hearts.

They stood there for a whole day.

When night fell, Ford left with Evelyn. Before leaving, he said to Noah, "I have a document about M.C. that Mr. Song wanted you to have. Contact me when you're ready to get it."

"What's M.C.?" Noah was confused.

"When the time comes, you will know."

Since Ford did not give a direct answer, Noah did not take him seriously.

Chapter: 240

Nightmare

The weather in May was a little erratic.

It was sunny just yesterday, but it was raining cats and dogs at the moment.

Heavy raindrops blown by the wind pattered against the glass window. Outside, a fog had descended upon the scenery, painting it in gloom.

Loud thunder boomed through the sky, coupled with the occasional streak of lightning.

Feeling a little chilly, Nina threw herself into John's arms and settled into the warm cocoon that was him. Still asleep, she rested one of her hands on top of his broad chest.

John smiled as he took it and pressed her fingers against his lips. Then he turned to look at the clock hanging on the wall.

It was seven o'clock in the morning.

It was the fifth day of their stay in the hospital.

Only five days, and yet tremendous changes had already taken place in the world outside. The most prominent of the stories hounding the news these days was the marriage between the Ye and Song families. The union caused the stock market value of both Ye Group and Song Group to rise.

Adrian had gradually revealed a sharp edge and did his best to gain a firm foothold within the Song Group. Vivian, on the other hand, was lacking in the boldness department, which led to the Ye Group running into some trouble.

In order to turn the tide, she had sought out Adri

athing became short and labored, too.

"John. John, what's wrong?" Nina sat up and reached to turn the bedside lamp on. The warm orange glow fell on John's face, revealing beads of sweat on his forehead.

His eyebrows were etched with a tight frown, and he looked like he was struggling in his sleep. His breathing grew even more panicked, as though someone was strangling him.

Nina knew he was having a terrible nightmare.

It appeared that every time it rained, he would have nightmares.

"John. Wake up." Nina was starting to feel a burning anxiety. She stretched out her hands, intending to shake him awake.

Before she could even touch him, his big and powerful hand grabbed her wrist in a vise grip.

John abruptly opened his eyes. An endless darkness swirled within those deep pools, as well as a hint of some cold horror.

His grip was tightening by the second, even as his eyes took on the look of a wild beast being threatened. He looked a lot like he could pounce and dispose of her any moment now.

A chill ran down Nina's spine, and her whole body grew cold.

She had never seen John like this before. His cold and frightening eyes were filled with panic, and his overly vigilant expression made Nina's heart ache.

What did John dream of?

What had he suffered through in the past?