

Come back to me

Chapter: 291

Is This You

Staring at the red marriage license, Adrian was so astounded that he dropped his hand and looked at John. "What? Who would bring a marriage license with them? I haven't seen a single person do this before."

Where was John from? He couldn't believe it.

"Shut up!" John was still fuming. He hesitated, thinking whether he should open the marriage license or not.

After all, he looked awful in the photo attached to the license.

'Forget it!'

John handed it to Leon and said, "This is our marriage license. I don't care whether Nina is an ordinary person or the princess of C Island. She is in the photo, so she is my wife."

Speaking, John tightly clung onto Nina's hand. They interlocked fingers in a symbol of unity.

There was so much force that Nina's hand actually hurt a little as it turned red.

He held onto her, fearing he would lose her.

What happened if she ran away? What if he couldn't catch up to her? What if he couldn't fight Leon off? John was terrified.

He clenched her hand tightly. John wasn't going to lose his little girl.

As

a was about to raise her hand to swear it.

Leon pulled her hand down, shook his head with a smile and said nothing.

She was a sneaky one.

At the banquet, she had already given John all the vital information that he needed.

Wynn had found his own hotel to stay at while the other two went to the university. When Leon and Nina arrived at L University, he asked, "Where is your apartment?"

"Didn't you say that we would go to a hotel?" Nina was stunned.

Leon smiled proudly. "Well, Wynn did go to a hotel. Besides, John has to find all three of us anyway."

Nina was speechless.

Her brother was more conniving than she was.

Nina took Leon to her apartment, took the spare key from the flowerpot and opened the door.

As soon as they opened the door, the bright lights hit their eyes as the aroma from the kitchen wafted into their noses.

"Is someone at home?" Leon was confused.

"Mimi." Nina looked at the kitchen. "Mimi has a spare key. I guess she came to cook or something."

'Oh?

That girl?'

Leon cast a glance at the kitchen.

Chapter: 292

You re Welcome

Hearing the noise from the front door, Michelle sneaked out of the kitchen with a pancake turner in her hand.

"Nini? Leon?" Michelle walked out, wearing an apron with rabbit pattern. "Nini, Leon, why are you here?" she asked with a smile.

"I'm here for a midnight snack." Nina smiled. "Mimi, make more food, please."

"Okay, okay. It'll be a minute." Michelle nodded and turned to go back in the kitchen.

Leon, meanwhile, spent his time checking out the decor. There were rabbits everywhere. Rabbit figurines, rabbit posters, rabbit coasters. Almost anything you could think of was rabbit-themed.

"Since when have you been into rabbits? I thought you liked the elk on the island."

"Mimi likes rabbits. She's like a rabbit herself." Nina walked to the sofa and sat down.

Leon also sat down and craned his neck to see into the kitchen. A pleasant scent reached his nose.

He sniffed and said, "She's making spaghetti."

"How do you know that?" Nina was shocked, but she calmed down again. "That's right. I keep forgetting you're a foodie."

And he was right—Michelle was whipping up a pot of spaghetti. The tomato and mushroom sauce had broken two plates.

"Leon..."

"Michelle? Why are you here?" Leon placed the dishes in the sink carefully. He turned to face her, and said apologetically, "I didn't know that plates broke that easily."

Michelle bit her lip and got confused again.

"It's easy to break a plate like that. What kind of plates do you use, normally?"

"Not porcelain ones." 'We eat off gold plates,' he added in his head.

"What?" 'They're so poor.

They don't even have porcelain plates.'

The expression in Michelle's eyes changed. It was almost a look of pity. She pitied him.

"What's wrong?" Leon asked suspiciously.

Michelle shook her head. "It's nothing."

She smiled again, pure and sincere. "Leon, let me wash them."

Leon looked again, but the only expression she had was a wonderful smile. Had he imagined the look of pity?

"Probably a better idea," he said, sheepishly. "You wash, I'll watch." Leon stood aside and let Michelle at the sink.

It was just a simple thing, but Leon watched her with interest.

However, Leon didn't know that John had found out who Nina really was, and made his way to her apartment as they spoke.

Chapter: 293

Take My Wife Home

Buzz! Buzz!

Leon's phone vibrated in his pocket as it rang.

Wynn was calling

"They found me." Wynn raised his head to look at the man in front of him. "I think John is on his way to you."

"I see." Without any surprise, Leon walked out of the kitchen and stood on the balcony. "I'll send you my location. Bring a bottle of Tipsy here. But replace the liquid in it with normal wine, okay?"

"I'll be there soon." Wynn nodded.

After hanging up the phone Leon sat beside Nina.

After a moment, he asked, "Nini, do you really like John that much?"

Facing her brother's intense eyes, Nina shook her head and said, "No. The word 'like' is too light."

There was determination in Nina's eyes. She remembered the days that she and John had spent together. She said firmly, "Leon, I love him.

I miss him every day recently and especially right now. I was afraid that he wouldn't be able to find me in this time limit you've given, so I told him to figure out the meaning behind your words. He's very smart.

Of course, it was the same now, and it would always be.

Standing at the door of the kitchen, Michelle took a picture of them with her phone and sent it to Nina.

Ding!

Someone rang the doorbell.

Nina's eyes lit up with excitement. "He's here. Leon, he..."

"Calm down, Nini." Leon shook his head with a helpless smile.

Nina pouted, "Okay."

She rolled her eyes and turned to the door.

"I'll open the door. You just sit there." Leon calmed down and stood up to open the door.

At the door stood John and Wynn. Leon looked over their shoulders and saw two women and a man standing at the corner of the stairs.

"There are still ten minutes left before nine o'clock." John raised his watch, pointed at it and looked at Wynn. "I've found him, you and my wife.

Can I take her home now?" John swallowed his pride. Even in humility, his noble persona shone through.

Leon gestured for Wynn to come in first and said, "Okay, but you have to wait a little longer."

Bang!

Leon shut John outside.

Chapter: 294

Nina Got Drunk Again

Richard, Lena and Amy walked up to John. "What should we do next, Mr. Shi?" he asked John.

He was worried that if John could not take his wife home tonight, he would stay here for the entire night like last time.

And he even failed to bring her back the next day.

Lena frowned and came up with an idea. "I'll kick the door open."

John turned his head at her.

Richard knitted his brows.

Amy was speechless. "When did you learn this?"

"Mrs. Shi once said that whoever or whatever blocks our way should be beaten by our hands or kicked by our feet." Lena told them what Nina had told her before. "Otherwise, our kung fu will be rusty."

The corner of John's mouth twitched slightly.

It was really his wife's style.

Amy cleared her throat to hide her embarrassment. Lena squared her shoulders. She spoke like Nina just now, confident and determined.

It was then that Richard realized that Nina's influence was really extraordinary.

Even James began to beat people despite his poor fighting skills.

Just now, Adrian said that John threatened him with a chair.

"What do you say, Mr. Shi? Should I kick the door Open or not?" Lena rolled up her sleeves and was about to bust th

sing his ear against the door.

"Ten, nine, eight..." "Four, three..."

Bang!

Boom!

"Ouch!"

Howling and colliding sounds erupted from behind the door.

Leon and Wynn looked at each other and said in unison, "It starts."

Then, they heard snapping bones and pained grunts.

The two cringed at the ugly sound.

"If John doesn't fight back and lets Nini beat him until she's sober, I will no longer stop them from being together." Leon chuckled.

He knew very well how cruel his sister could be.

She could break other people's ribs without trying that hard.

"Good luck, John." Wynn listened to the noise outside intently.

It was indeed a tragic scene outside, but it was not what they thought.

John stood by the door, safe and sound.

He had his hands leisurely stuffed into his pockets. He glanced at the closed door, complacency shining in his mischievous eyes.

'Sorry to let you down.

I'm the only one my wife doesn't hit when she's drunk,' he smugly thought.

The next second, after Nina finished beating Amy and Lena, she walked toward John.

John's heart skipped a beat.

He took out his hands and stood straight.

He had a triumphant smile on his face

Chapter: 295

Hot For You

With a bright red face and dim eyes, Nina walked closer to John.

John was so nervous that his throat bobbed and his body tensed up. "Honey, calm down."

Thinking that she did not beat him when she got drunk before, John thought that he was in the clear. She would not hurt him.

However, he still felt nervous as he looked at Amy and Lena who were lying on the floor.

In a daze, Nina tilted her head and reached out her hand to touch his neck. John slightly backed away, afraid that his wife would choke him.

He swallowed again.

His Adam's apple bobbed.

With one hand, she grabbed his arm, and she pulled him close.

She raised her hand and touched his Adam's apple. The slightly warm touch made him hold his breath. He really could not figure out what she was going to do next.

"Do you know that I'm hot for you right now?" Nina tilted her head, stood on tiptoes, and kissed her husband's throat.

John stood frozen on his spot, and a hint of confusion flashed through his eyes.

Seeing the scene unfolding before him, Richard turned around.

Amy and Lena were also stunned. Lying on the floor, they
, holding up two women who could not walk by themselves.

Wynn said, "Where's John? Could the princess still be beating him?"

"If he doesn't fight back, then I won't make things difficult for him anymore." Leon spoke confidently because he was sure that Nina would not be gentle with John.

That was why the next thing he saw shocked him to his core.

John was completely unscathed and walking straight with Nina sleeping on his back.

Leon was left with his mouth hanging open.

Wynn was just as dumbfounded.

Things did not happen as they expected.

Feeling that someone was watching him from afar, John stopped walking.

He turned around and looked up at the direction of the apartment.

Leon and Wynn were so startled that they immediately stooped down, away from view. They started whispering to each other.

"What's going on? Why didn't Nini beat him?" Leon asked.

"I don't know. She beats everyone when she gets drunk. She even beat you, remember?" Wynn lowered his voice.

Leon glared at Wynn's comment. He was so annoyed at how things turned out. "What the hell? Why didn't Nini beat John?"

Chapter: 296

You Can't Stand It

After a moment's hesitation, Wynn said, "Maybe even if Nina is drunk, she still remembers not to hit John." Leon cast a piercing glance at Wynn, making him stutter in fear.

He couldn't help but feel that Wynn might be right though.

Why else would she hit everyone else but leave John alone?

Wynn continued, "Maybe this means that Nina..."

"That's enough." Leon stood up and patted his clothes, straightening them.

"When she was drunk, she even hit me but she refused to hit John. It must mean that John is far more important to her," Leon said in a huff. "Buy the tickets. We'll leave tomorrow."

Wynn scratched his head. "Okay."

While walking out, Leon saw Michelle nodding off over the table. Her pink face was as rosy as the evening glow.

Leon stopped, put the girl on the bed, covered her with the quilt and said softly, "Michelle, I am leaving tomorrow."

Leon was about to leave, but Michelle grabbed his finger and smacked her lips.

Michelle's fingers were a little chubby, but they were so soft and warm. Leon sat back on the edge of the bed and teased Michelle, "Don't you want me to leave?"

Michelle smacked her lips again and said, "No, I

I help you change or can you do it yourself?"

Nina mumbled, "Hmm?"

John found it amusing, but he stopped himself from smiling and asked, "Are you so sleepy?"

"Yes." Nina nodded.

John changed her himself. He felt like he was taking care of a child.

This was his little girl after all.

"Well, let's go to wash our faces." John reached out to hug her.

Nina felt so weak and drained. She pouted and nodded, "Hmm."

John knew that she was drunk right now, but he was still a little angry when she gave one-word replies.

Although she was drunk, Nina was still sensitive. She knew he was angry and immediately looked up at him with her big eyes.

"Do you not like how I'm replying?"

"No, I don't."

'I'm afraid that sometimes I don't know what is on your mind and I can't give you what you want.'

John pinched her face dotingly. He loved her so much. The soft feel of her skin was enough to make him never want to let go.

Nina pouted and said, "But when I say 'hmm,' 'mmm,' and 'yes' together, you won't be able to stand it."

Just like that, John was stunned.

His mind went completely blank.

His eyes froze open and his throat dried up.

Chapter: 297

Jessica s Punishment

Nina had no idea that she was toying with fire. Her vision was blurred, her gaze easily distracted.

"Honey, do you know what you just said?" John bent down and reached out his hand to pinch Nina's face.

Nina nodded absentmindedly. "I asked if you didn't like me giving one-word replies like mmm, yes, and hmm."

"No, the other thing you said. The one after that." John kissed her lips, and what little space was left between them was filled with the sound of his heart's frantic drumming and his labored breathing.

"I said, if I say those three words together, you can't stand it," Nina repeated.

She had developed the habit of speaking in a rather aggrieved tone when she was drunk.

John chuckled.

'Is she seducing me right now?' he wondered.

"Then don't cry later." John tipped her chin upward and pecked at her nose.

Nina reveled in his scent, and she grabbed his collar to pull him forward so she could bask in it fully. Their bodies moved close.

"But you do want me to cry. The more, the better, right?" She looked up at him with wide, innocent eyes, a sharp contrast to the forceful hand that had pulled him to her.

John wasn't daunted by her words; her tone was too casual for him to feel guilty.

Anyone who mig

back then? I could have easily had my pick of men from other, more powerful families compared to the Shi family."

Jessica's tears had stopped, and her sobbing had been replaced by the sound of sniffing. Angela's words brought Jason to her mind. Jason, who had always been there for her, left her. Tears welled in her red eyes once again.

She couldn't help but wonder, 'Was I really wrong this whole time?'

It wasn't easy for Jessica to accept her wrongdoings in such a short time. She could only lower her head in silent shame as tears continued to flow down her face.

She didn't try to argue anymore, and it somewhat appeased Sam's anger. He motioned for Jake. "Call Jason over. Tell him there's something I want to discuss with him. As for you, keep kneeling. I'll decide on your punishment after I'm done talking with your husband."

The old man knew all too well the kind of person his daughter was. She was all grown up now; they were no longer in a position where he could discipline and educate her as he liked. That responsibility now fell on Jason's shoulders, and he trusted his son-in-law to uphold it.

Jessica and Angela froze at the patriarch's mandate.

What was supposed to come would indeed come sooner or later.

Chapter: 298

Cast Pearls Before Swine

Angela also didn't know what to do.

Until tonight, she wasn't aware that Jessica and Jason had a divorce. Her husband kept on warning her to not let Sam know.

Sam was already old to receive such news.

Right now, the old man was already angry at Jessica. If he had discovered about the divorce, it might take a huge toll on his health.

Jessica trembled. She wouldn't dare inform her father about her divorce.

After what Angela had just said, Jessica felt a pang of guilt. She knew that she was partly responsible for the divorce.

"He...he..." Jessica stammered.

"I've heard that Jason has been working on a research project at the northwest region. Is that true?" Angela blurted out the first idea she could come up with.

Jessica nodded in agreement. "Yes. Recently, he has been studying on a certain language at a minority area over there. It might take him a long time."

"Really?" The old man frowned.

"Yes," Jessica answered with all the courage she had.

Sam was silent for a moment before nodding. "It's true that he likes academic research very much. You should support him more in the future. Don't be too willful. Otherwise you will break his heart."

Jessica felt a sudden pain in her chest. She had never supported Jason on any of his academic researches.

She felt that the air

when Nina called her brother, she didn't say anything. Instead, she cried so hard like an abandoned child.

Hearing her helpless wails broke John's heart.

He tried to make her happy, but it was no use.

Even though Nina had already stopped crying, she looked down in the dumps.

Nina continued to stare blankly at a random spot that she did not notice the school bell ringing.

The classroom had been almost empty when Chester decided to reach out to Nina. "Aunt Nina, class is over."

"Okay," Nina murmured. "What's the next class?"

"We have no more classes today," Chester answered. His face was filled with concern as he glanced over to Nina.

"Okay, let's go home." Nina simply grabbed Chester's hand and walked out of the classroom.

It was already evening when they returned to North Yard.

The place was in complete darkness.

"Is there no one here?" Nina squinted her eyes through the dark to try and see if there was someone at home. She took out her phone and used it as a flashlight so that they could see their surroundings better.

As soon as they had reached the garden, Nine came scurrying towards her with a flag dangling from the corner of his mouth. The flag glowed in the dark. Nina took it and found three words written on it.

"Come with me."

The words sparkled like gold.

Chapter: 299

The Surprise

It was night and the buildings in the North Yard were faint in the darkness.

Nine scouted ahead, sniffing things as he walked. Nina wasn't far behind. Chester was there with a book in his arms. He didn't complain at all—he was looking forward to it.

Nina had been depressed for the past couple days. Chester hoped John's surprise could make her happy.

The two walked on the winding cement road, flowers blooming on both sides and swaying gently in the breeze.

Soon enough, Nine dog stopped in his tracks. So did Nina.

They should be standing in the open space in the garden out back. But a huge black shape reared up before them, blocking their way in. Not only that, it took up a lot of space by itself. It looked menacing in the darkness.

A faint sound reached their ears. It was pleasant enough. Not to mention the tinkling wind chimes waiting for them under the eaves.

Nina strained her ears, trying to make out what that sound was past the chimes. It got slightly louder, and she could hear a high-pitched buzzing.

"What's that sound?" Nina cupped her ear, but she just couldn't figure out what it was. She could hear the chir

r throat, she bit her lips.

"Leon..."

"I'm sorry I didn't say goodbye. But I worried that if you didn't want me to leave and cried at the airport, I'd have no choice but to take you back." Leon reached out his hand, as if he was trying to wipe away his sister's tears.

When Leon heard his sister had been down in the dumps for several days because he had left, he was both sad and glad.

Leon withdrew his hand and said with a smile, "Happy birthday, Nina."

His voice was soft and slow, as if he could travel through mountains and rivers from C Island to visit Nina.

"Thank you, Leon." Nina smiled, her eyes narrowed into crescent moons, and her red lips and white teeth looked adorable.

Then the image vanished.

Nina wiped her tears and began to look around for John.

She looked everywhere but didn't see him.

"Aunt Nina, Uncle John was just here. I don't know what happened, but he left in a hurry." James walked up to explain. "Don't blame Uncle John. Work has kept him busy. Probably too busy to come to your birthday party."

Nina glanced at him and said nothing.

There was a flash of disappointment in her eyes.

Chapter: 300

The Banyan Tree

Angela was outraged. "What's up with John? This is Nina's first birthday in the North Yard. How could he just leave like that?"

"Maybe it was an emergency. Maybe he didn't have a choice." Daniel patted his wife on the shoulder.

Nina was disappointed.

But she was grateful that so many people came to her birthday party. She raised her head and smiled. "It doesn't matter. Let's cut the cake."

Nina's favorite thing was to cut the cake and then distribute the pieces to all of her guests.

She thought that sharing would make her happy.

"You're right. I've been looking forward to this. It looks delicious." Michelle was quite vocal about food.

Emma stopped her and said, "We can't cut it now, Mimi. We have to light candles for Nina to make a wish on."

"Emma's right. I'll get the candles." James tried to be helpful.

Emma felt anxious when she heard James say her name.

She stole a glance at him, then quickly looked away.

"Um...where are they?" James looked around but couldn't find the candles.

Just then, a person dressed in an elk costume came over, carrying candles. A

o see it through."

John nodded. "You're right."

He thought that Nina would be touched if she knew that he had hidden himself in the elk costume for a while.

Thinking about this, he didn't mind being hot.

Nina thought she saw something. She paused at one particular tree and knocked on the trunk twice. She heard an echo. She balled her fist and drove it through the tree trunk, making a hole.

The sound of the impact startled the others.

They all looked at the small iron hammer nearby. She was supposed to use that.

They were shocked to see her break the artificial tree with her bare hands.

Nina reached into the tree trunk and took out a square box. When she was about to untie the bow and open the box, she found the bow was fake.

There was a password lock.

"Who knows the password?" Nina held up the box and the others shook their heads.

"Find Uncle John. He'll give you the password," James prompted.

Nina paused for a moment and said, "Then I won't unwrap the gift."

Everyone gasped in shock.

John didn't know what to say.

'What a bad idea!' he thought.