

# **The Billionaire Alpha's Contract Lover by Caesar Erickson**

## **Chapter 1041**

### Chapter 1041

After Zack arranged for Stefan to protect Griffon, Griffon was still worried, so he made a phone call to Andre and asked him to go to Vegas immediately.

Andre was having a Western-style meal with Mia when he received a phone call. He felt embarrassed and put down his knife and fork before apologizing and leaving to answer the phone.

Mia looked at Andre's tall figure and slightly smiled.

In the past few days, Andre had been trying to explain that he was not gay. During their team building event, he secretly booked a private room next door and even created opportunities for chance encounters.

After explaining incoherently and in a fluster, he specifically invited Mia out for a meal.

Mia was not young anymore, so she naturally knew what Andre meant. Since Andre was interested, she'd like to give it a try.

When Andre returned after answering the phone, he had an apologetic expression on his face and scratched the back of

his head.

"Um... Dr. Rodriguez... I'm sorry, but I have something urgent to deal with and I need to go to Las Vegas right now!"

Andre's job as the executive assistant to the Alpha of the Knight pack kept him very busy. Dr. Rodriguez nodded in understanding.

"If you're busy, go ahead and take care of your business. When you have time, you can treat me to a meal."

Mia didn't blame him for his sudden leave and even made plans to meet again. Andre took a few more glances at her.

The more he looked at her, the more he felt that she was gentle, graceful, and beautiful. Maybe Stella was right. It was time for him to get mated.

After Andre had this idea, he gave his personal phone number to Mia so she could contact him if she wanted.

After giving his instructions, he said, "Sorry, I have to go" and picked up his suit jacket from the chair before turning around and leaving.

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Chapter 1042

After Andre left the restaurant, Mia picked up the piece of paper with a series of numbers written on it. His gentle smile grew even wider.

Mr. Sinclair was different this time compared to the first meeting. He didn't just focus on eating.

This time, he not only considerately helped her cut the steak, but also knew to talk to her more. When he left, he even said goodbye before leaving.

It should be noted that Andre was also considerate.

He could be relied upon.

When not interested, he wouldn't take a second glance at others, but when interested, he would take the initiative to

pursue it.

Mating a man like him was definitely the right choice. Then, Mia could live her life with peace of mind, without having to worry about many things. It was quite great.

Before boarding the plane, Andre sent a message to Stella asking her to take care of Mia and not to introduce any more

potential partners to him. Andre also mentioned that he would propose to Mia when he returned home.

Stella was stunned when she read this message.

She thought that Johnny would be a bachelor for life, but little did she know that he found someone he liked and got mated right away.

She got up from the couch and showed it to Harper when she received a message from Mia.

Mia told Stella that Andre was a good man and someone she wanted to mate, asking Stella to stop arranging blind dates for Andre, because she was interested in Andre.

Stella flipped back and forth between these two messages and said to Harper, "You said things are going fast between you and Jayden, but look at these two!"

Harper held Grace in one arm and took Stella's phone with the other. She checked the messages and said, "It's good, isn't it? This will save you from worrying about Johnny all the time. Now that both of them have feelings for each other, they can just get mated and avoid a lot of trouble."

Stella nodded in agreement and said, "That's true. If Andre gets mated, I can also explain to my aunt and avoid her constant phone calls."

Speaking of this, Harper asked with some concern, "Has your aunt told you about Eric? Will he come and cause trouble on the day you get mated?"

When Eric was mentioned, Stella's expression darkened. "My

aunt said he's still locked up. The Sinclairs won't let him go, so he can't get out."

## Chapter 1043

Stella's aunt also said that Eric went on a hunger strike for a period of time and became extremely thin from starvation.

The Sinclairs had softened their stance and told Eric that if he gave up on mating Stella, they would release him.

However, Eric refused to give up. He lay on the bed, not saying a word, like a dead person, staring out the window every day.

Stella's aunt also said that he told the Sinclairs he had to wait for Stella because if he kept his promise to mate her, she would come back.

Upon hearing this, Stella hung up the phone.

It was quite ridiculous, really. She used to constantly ask Eric if he would mate her.

He said, "How could I possibly mate a woman like you who doesn't even have a uterus?"

He despised her but fell in love with her because she seduced and deceived him.

He still desperately wanted to mate her.

Unfortunately, Stella just wouldn't mate him.

She also wanted to mate someone else.

Harper let out a small sigh as she saw the deep-seated hatred in Stella's eyes.

“Stella, you are about to get mated soon. Let go of the past and move on.”

In the future, Stella would have her own home. Even if she cannot have pups, her future happiness was the most important thing.

Harper didn't want Stella to be trapped in the hatred of the past. She only hoped that Stella and Ilenny could live the rest of their lives happily.

“Well, I'll let it go.”

After Stella finished speaking, she reached out and took Grace from Harper's arms.

“Grace, the little stuffed toy you're holding is dirty. Would you like me to help wash it?”

“No way!”

Grace became nervous when she heard that Stella wanted to wash the small stuffed toy. The girl hugged the toy tightly to her chest.

“I will wait for my aunt and uncle to come back and give them the little doll.”

The nanny who had taken care of Grace told her that her mother gave her the little doll when she was very young.

could trust, she could give the little stuffed toy to that person.

Taya and Griffon were the people Grace trusted the most. She wanted to wait for them to come back and gave it to them.

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Chapter 1044

Stella and Harper thought it was just a pup's attachment to a toy, and exchanged a smile when they saw Grace value the toy so much.

“All right. When they come back, you can give it to them.”

Griffon, who had a strong aversion to dirt, definitely wouldn't want it. It must be Taya who would take the stuffed toy and then take it apart to wash it.

It was so dirty with many bacteria lurking around. If a pup played with it for a long time, constantly touching and holding it, it would be extremely unhygienic.

Harper and Stella, along with Grace, had a video call with Tava after finishing their dinner.

Taya and Grace chatted for a while, and the pup got tired. They said goodnight and ended the video call.

Taya put down her phone and looked at the man sitting on the couch, who had picked up a finance magazine and was flipping through it carefully

"Honey, I'm a bit hungry. I'm going downstairs to the kitchen to find something to eat."

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Grillon's cold gaze shifted from the magazine to the woman sitting on the bed in nothing but thin nightgowns H

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He set aside his magazine and stood up, walking towards Taya.

"Did I not feed you enough just now?"

Taya saw the tall figure looming over her and was so scared that she swallowed hard.

"I'm not hungry anymore, I'm going to sleep."

She hugged the blanket tightly, turned over, and rolled a few times on the giant round bed until she was the farthest away from Griffon.

Before she could even cover her head, she saw a towering and stunning man standing by the bed with his arms crossed.

He released his hands from around her chest, leaned forward slightly, and placed his hands on either side of her head, pressing down his body and approaching her face.

“Last time at the casino, you lost the bet and promised to double the frequency. Why not try a few more times?”

Taya covered her lips, which had just been swollen by his kisses with a blanket, and complained inwardly, “Screw you! You’re really annoying. You only think about that kind of thing all day long.”

But she smiled at the unsatisfied man.

“Honey, have you ever felt like you resemble a stallion?”

Chapter 1045

Griffon furrowed his thick eyebrows slightly.

“What is a stallion?”

Taya smirked.

“You actually don’t know about a stallion? I thought you knew everything. So my husband isn’t capable of everything.”

In order to prove that he knew everything, Griffon furrowed his brow and gritted his teeth as he said, “I naturally know about it.”

Taya lifted his chin, pinched his cheeks, and raised her eyebrows as she asked, “So, tell me what it is?”

Griffon analyzed it and concluded, “A big stallion is a type of horse that has a lot of courage.”

Taya chuckled and almost laughed out loud. “Yes, you’re right. It’s a very brave horse.”

The man, pretending to know something he didn’t, was laughed at by his wife. He felt embarrassed and got up awkwardly.

find food, Griffon picked up his phone, opened the browser, and searched for the meaning of “stallion.”

Taya walked into the kitchen with a smile on her face. She opened the fridge and was looking for food when suddenly she heard the sound of a camera flash behind her.

“Damn it! I forgot to turn off the sound.”

Herb, dressed as a chef, was hiding behind the door and holding his phone up in her direction.

Taya was shocked to see that he had sneaked onto the cruise

just to take pictures of her. She looked him up and down.

“Mr. Carmine, are you out of your mind?”

Taya caught Herb in the act, and he didn’t bother pretending anymore. He took off his chef’s hat and face mask and plopped down onto a chair.

“To be honest with you, I think I’m familiar with you. I wo take a picture of your face and show it to my father to se

you are a relative of mine.”

He followed Taya for several days, but couldn’t get a clear

shot of her face no matter how hard he tried. It was really

frustrating.

Chapter 1046

A man named Andre arrived today and when the cruise

docked, Herb tried to find a way to board the cruise.

Finally, Taya came down to the kitchen. However, due to

nervousness, excitement, and haste, Herb forgot to turn off the sound.

Not only did he fail to achieve his goal, but his effort of spending the whole day cutting onions under the command of the head chef went in vain.

Herb had never done chores, let alone cut vegetables.

He didn't even know common knowledge that onions could make him shed tears. He cried while cutting them, and wiped his tears with his hands.

He had currently soaked his eyes in water for an hour to relieve the spiciness, but he still felt very uncomfortable.

Herb felt so wronged when he thought about his own experience.

"Please let me take a photo of you for the sake of my miserable state."

Taya, feeling a bit soft-hearted, walked up to him.

"I sympathize with you, but I won't let you take the shot."

"Why?"

Herb didn't understand why Taya kept a wary eye on him. He just wanted to take a photo of her.

Taya sat down across from Herb, looking at his face which didn't resemble hers.

"You just said that you feel like you've seen me before and you want to take a picture to show your father and see if I'm a relative of yours?"

"That's right. My goal is just that simple. I won't use your photo to do anything illegal.

After confirming it, Taya curled her fingers lightly on her lap.

“What relative of yours do you think I resemble?”

“I feel like you resemble my aunt, but I’m not sure if you do because I’ve forgotten what she looks like. That’s why I want to take a picture of you and send it to my father to confirm it if that’s okay with you.”

Herb’s aunt...

Taya, lost in thought, paused for a moment before tentatively asking Herb a question.

“Do you... know Rosalie?”

When she first met Herb, she wanted to ask him if he knew Rosalie.

Now he said Taya looked like her aunt, and Jocelyn also said Taya looked a lot like her mother.

If Herb knew Rosalie, then she would be...

Chapter 1047

“I know her, she’s my aunt’s daughter. How could I not know her? I just haven’t met her before.” After Herb finished speaking, he raised his skeptical gaze and stared at Taya intently.

“Do you know Rosalie? What is your relationship with her?”

Taya’s heart skipped a beat as she stared at Herb in a daze.

Herb not only knew Rosalie but also said that Rosalie was his aunt’s daughter.

In that case, Herb was Taya’s cousin?

No wonder Taya thought he was like her younger brother.

It turned out that they were family.

But this blood relationship was not what Taya wanted.

Griffon had previously told her that the Knight pack and the Carmine pack had a deep feud.

It was not caused by the kind of business competition but by mutual slaughter.

They had such deep hatred, yet Taya mated Griffon. If the Knight pack were to find out, would they still accept her?

Taya thought again. Griffon had previously found out about her background, so he must know her identity. Then....

He didn’t mind and told her to always trust he would never hurt her no matter what happened.

With him around, the Knight pack couldn’t break them up, right?

As long as the Knight pack could accept her, Taya wouldn't care about what the Carmine pack would do.

When Rosalie was a pup, she would rather wander the streets of Aronland than seek help from the Carmine pack. This indicated that the Carmines did not treat them well.

How could Taya possibly reveal her identity and let Herb take a picture of herself to send to his father?

If she wanted to keep herself and Griffon's home safe, she couldn't let anyone know that she was part of the Carmine pack.

At this point, Taya snapped back to reality and composed herself, hiding any shock she may have felt. She looked straight at Herb with a serious expression.

"I know this famous architect, of course. I just asked casually because you share the same surname, Carmine. I didn't expect you two to be actually cousins."

With just a casual remark, Taya dispelled Herb's doubts.

"Oh, I see."

#### Chapter 1048

Seeing that Herb was easy to fool, Taya tentatively said, "Pups raised in wealthy packs are truly different. Your cousin achieved success at a young age and became a world-renowned designer. That's really impressive."

great

Herb, who was easy to fool, went along with Taya's words and continued, "Rosalie raised by the Carmine pack. My father told me that my grandparents didn't really like my aunt. After she got mated to a poor man, they stopped keeping in touch. So how could they have raised Rosalie?"

It turned out that it was her grandfather and grandmother who didn't like her and Rosalie's mother, so they stopped communicating. Taya asked, "Mating a poor man? What do you mean?"

Herb was unaware of it. "I'm not sure about this. It's such a long time ago and I wasn't even born at that time yet.."

Taya looked at him disdainfully and said, "Why don't you ask someone else?"

Herb gave her a glance. "I'm not like you, prying and asking about everything."

She really cared a lot and even asked about things that happened in his pack several decades ago.

Taya just wanted to ask why the Carmines had treated Rosalie so poorly. Now that Taya knew some of the reasons, she didn't feel like asking anymore.

Anyway, she had been wandering around since she was young, so she was very unfamiliar with her relatives. Even though she now knew that she was a member of the Carmine pack, she didn't have many emotions.

The only thing that made her curious was her mother. She couldn't understand why the mother, a daughter of the Carmine pack, would mate someone beneath her status.

Taya glanced at Herb and retorted, "It was you who said I looked like your cousin, so I just gossip about it. I'm afraid you just talk nonsense in front of me."

Herb was lost for words, realizing that he was the one who brought up the topic and feeling a bit guilty. "That's not what I meant," he said.

Taya raised her hand and propped her elbow on the table, supporting her chin with one hand as she looked at him. "How many siblings does your aunt have?" she asked.

She wondered if her grandparents treated her mother so harshly because she had too many siblings in the pack

Herb glanced at her again and said, "Don't you read the news? She only had a sister and a brother."

Taya snorted at him, "Why should I bother reading news about the Carmine pack if there are no secrets? I have better things to do than just sit around and gossip."

"Who says there are no secrets?"

Herb, who was showing off, waved to Taya and said, "Come here, I'll tell you something that outsiders don't know."

Taya immediately leaned her head over and asked, "What's it?"

#### Chapter 1049

Herb lowered his voice and whispered, "In fact, my father has three siblings and one of them was an illegitimate daughter."

There was even an illegitimate daughter. The Carmine pack was really quite chaotic.

Taya felt a bit disgusted inside but still pretended to be shocked as she said, "Wow, your grandfather is quite restrained. He only has four pups."

This seemed like a subtle insult to his grandfather. Herb didn't beat around the bush and continued speaking softly,

"That illegitimate daughter did something that harmed the Carmine pack, so my grandfather disowned her from the pack tree. She was originally the second daughter of the Carmine pack"

Taya didn't understand these rankings and asked, "So who is currently the second Miss Carmine in the pack?"

Herb replied, "Of course, it's my younger aunt."

Seeing that she was still confused, Herb raised his hand and tapped her on the head, saying, "You're really silly. My eldest aunt Alice is the oldest, my second aunt Ashley is the second oldest, my youngest aunt Sumasa is the third oldest, and my dad Carson is the youngest. However, we don't have a second aunt anymore, so Sumasa is the second young lady of the Carmine pack."

Taya said, "So my mother's name is Sumasa, and the construction company my sister set up was named after our mother. Is it in memory of our mother?"

"Besides, there's one more thing that even I, Johnny, didn't know. It's something I overheard from my grandparents' conversation. When I was eavesdropping as a pup."

Taya perked up her ears and leaned in closer to Herb. "What is it?"

Herb said mysteriously, "Among my father's three sisters, one of them is not a pup of the Carmine pack."

"Could it be that Herb's grandparents dislike my mother because she's not their pup?" wondered Taya.

Taya wanted to figure it out, but she was afraid Herb would suspect her. He already thought she looked like his aunt, so it was better not to arouse suspicion. She didn't want him to know that she was the baby Rosalie had lost back then. Just let them continue to be confused and uncertain about it.

"I've told you all about my pack's secrets. Can you let me take a picture of you now?"

Herb slammed the table, startling Taya out of her thoughts.

She snapped back to her sense and glanced at Herb.

"No way!"

After finishing speaking, she picked up the small bread on the table and left without saying

anything else.

"Oh, wait!"

Herb caught up and stopped Taya

"I've told you such an important secret about my pack Can you please let me take a photo?

Once I send it to my father and get his confirmation, I won't bother you anymore. Is that okay?"

Taya looked up at her "silly cousin" who was a head taller than her and shook her head at him mercilessly.

"No, my face is very precious and cannot be shot casually."

Chapter 1050

"Hmm?"

Herb felt as if he had been struck by lightning, and he reached out to touch Taya's face, wanting to confirm if she had really undergone plastic surgery.

But Taya shook off his hand, saying, "It's very valuable, don't touch it. What if it gets damaged?"

Herb was speechless.

So he was so persistent just because he suspected she was the baby who died? He was really free.

Taya took out her phone and showed Herb an extremely unattractive photo, holding it up to his face.

"Look, this is the old me!"

Upon seeing the heavily freckled face on the phone screen, Herb almost vomited.

"Disgusting! Hurry and take it away!"

Taya put away her phone and raised her hand. She then patted Herb's shoulder with a serious expression and a deep tone.

"So, it's impossible for me to look like your cousin. I just admire the designer Rosalie, and I had plastic surgery to make myself look like her. You may just think I look familiar because I look like her now.

After Taya dispelled Herb's doubts with a single sentence, she tightly gripped her phone and turned to leave.

Herb, who was leaning against the door and retching, took a while to recover.

He had never seen someone so ugly before, despite having lived for so long!

He thought, "She's so ugly that it's beyond human imagination. It's really necessary for her to have plastic surgery so as not to scare people when appearing in public."

However...

Herb looked in the direction Taya had left and thought for a moment, feeling that something was not quite right.

Griffon would never mate a woman who had had plastic surgery, Taya must be deceiving him!

Herb thought, "No, he has to bring my father over and let him see Taya with his own eyes. Then everything will be clear."

However, before Herb could put his plan into action, Taya emerged from the kitchen and immediately called for Andre.

"Andre, Herb dressed up as a chef and sneaked into the kitchen. Can you please kick him off the cruise?"

Before Herb could call his father over, a group of tall and burly bodyguards rushed into the kitchen and picked him up before throwing him out of the cruise.

Chapter 1051

Taya and Griffon left Las Vinien and went to travel through several countries. More than half a

month had passed.

In the past two weeks, Harper and Jayden had been communicating more and more frequently. Despite being busy with work, Jayden always visited Harper.

In the morning, he brought her breakfast. In the evening, he picked her up and took her home. Sometimes, when Harper was busy at night, he stayed up until dawn, waiting for her with tired eyes.

Every time Harper saw Jayden waiting for her silently, she felt touched. It seemed that few people treat her so gently.

Because of this feeling, Harper occasionally took a break and spent time with Jayden by having a meal or watching a movie together.

Gradually, they started going on more dates and became more familiar with each other. Holding hands now felt more natural than it did at the beginning.

Harper, who had just finished her night shift, saw Jayden holding an umbrella and standing at the entrance of the nightclub. It was then that she realized it was raining outside, but she hadn't noticed before.

"Jayden, it's raining. Why didn't you come in here?"

The two of them were indeed dating as boyfriend and girlfriend.

Jayden reached out to Harper and didn't speak until she placed her hand in his palm. "It's not raining heavily."

Harper noticed a hint of sadness in his eyes as if he had encountered something unpleasant. She furrowed her brows and asked him, "What's wrong?"

Jayden, holding a black umbrella, looked up and stared at Harper with gloomy eyes for a while. Then he put down the umbrella and reached out to embrace her.

When the man's chin rested on Harper's shoulder, Harper stiffened but didn't push him away. It seemed like she was trying to accept his embrace.

Jayden held Harper in his arms, feeling a sense of security that eased the sadness and pain in his eyes.

## Chapter 1052

"Tonight, on the operating table, we bid farewell to another young person."

Jayden tightened his grip on Harper's waist, holding her even closer.

"I thought I could save him, but..."

However, he still failed and could only watch as his heart rate gradually became a flat line.

"Sometimes I wonder, what is the point of studying medicine? Is it to save lives or to witness them slip away before my eyes?"

Harper turned her head to look at Jayden when she heard this. Seeing his sad expression, she knew he was feeling upset about his own helplessness.

Harper thought for a moment, then suddenly gathered her courage and reached out to embrace Jayden. Her slender, white fingers gently stroked his back, again and again.

"Dr. Sherwood, life and death are predetermined. Even doctors may not be able to save everyone. Don't blame yourself for this."

While gently patting his back, Harper soothed him with a soft voice and admired him, saying, "In fact, if there were no doctors in this world, I wouldn't know who to turn to if I got sick. It's because of the existence of doctors that so many patients have hope. That's why, in my heart, doctors are always different."

If she hadn't been so focused on working part-time to earn money during high school, maybe she would have worked hard to study and strive to become a doctor.

Harper's comforting words improved Jayden's gloomy mood a bit. He held her hand tightly and didn't want to let go.

"Thank you for comforting me."

Harper heard his voice, which was not as low as before, and knew that he was feeling better. So she wanted to push him away.

"Jayden, let's go back..."

She didn't push her away directly but instead found an excuse. However, Jayden became addicted and didn't want to let go.

"If you don't mind, can I hold you a little longer?"

As her boyfriend, Jayden did have the right to hug her.

Harper didn't refuse and let him do it, but her mind was not focused and her eyes wandered around.

When she looked across the street, she noticed a Rolls-Royce parked on the other side.

A man in a black suit leaned against the car door, getting drenched in the drizzling rain.

With a pair of deep and dark eyes, he stared coldly at them, who were embracing each other.

Countless cars passed by Harper on the road, one after another.

When the vehicles were gone, the man standing in front of the car, drenched in sweat, got into the car.

Another long truck blocked Harper's view. Once the truck passed, the Rolls-Royce had already disappeared on the other side.

## Chapter 1053

Harper thought that Preston wouldn't come to find her again, but he appeared on the opposite bank so coincidentally.

She couldn't express her feelings and only reminded herself that her current boyfriend's name was Jayden

After holding her for a while, Jayden opened the umbrella over her head and escorted her into the car. He then drove her back to the villa with ease and familiarity.

Harper got out of the car and stood in front of the villa. She waved goodbye to Jayden and was about to turn around to enter the villa when Jayden stopped her.

"Harper..."

After Jayden called out to her, he approached her with some embarrassment.

"What's wrong?"

Harper looked up at him. Usually, when Jayden walked her home and they said goodnight to each other, he would leave right after. Why did he stop her this time?

Jayden lowered his head and gazed at Harper's alluring red lips, blushing as he struggled to express his desire to kiss her.

They were both experienced individuals. Jayden's eyes were filled with desire, and Harper understood what he was thinking. However...

She felt it was a bit too fast, but they are adults and not exactly young, so this progress was actually not fast.

But for some reason, she felt uneasy and resistant, unable to overcome the emotional barriers in her heart to kiss or sleep with Jayden.

Jayden didn't know what Harper was thinking, but he gathered his courage and asked her in a low voice,

"Can I kiss you?"

He asked in a straightforward manner without beating around the bush, but his face turned red

and lost its original expression.

Harper stared at Jayden, whose ears had turned red, and it seemed like she could tell that his heart was about to jump out of his throat.

This kind of blushing that only happened in one's youth was on full display in front of Jayden. He seemed to have never fallen in love and was so pure and clean that he resembled a high school student.

Staring at Jayden, Harper suddenly clenched her fists.

"Do you like me or do you simply think I'm suitable for mating?"

Write

#### Chapter 1054

Most of the people who came for blind dates intended to pursue a further relationship only if they were suitable for mating, didn't they?

But at this moment, the feeling that Jayden gave her made Harper feel like she was more than just suitable for mating.

Jayden looked at Harper's beautiful and elegant face, so nervous that he instinctively swallowed.

"L.. like you."

When he said this sentence, even his eyelashes were trembling

"When I was in school, I...I had a crush on you.

She jumped off the school wall and landed on top of him.

When he first saw her, he felt a sense of joy.

At that time, Jayden didn't know that it was love at first sight.

He only knew that besides studying, he would occasionally think of that female schoolmate who jumped over the wall

Even her running towards him, out of breath and late, was something he had dreamed of countless times.

However, he felt that he and Harper were not meant to be together and he didn't dare to speak to her much at school because he was too timid.

So he kept this girl in his heart and devoted himself to studying medicine, but he didn't expect to meet her again when he returned to

work

He even went on a blind date with her and became her boyfriend. This rekindled their broken relationship, and he felt even more compelled to gather the courage to confess his feelings.

"Harper, I like you, and I chose you not just because you're are suitable for mating."

Harper thought that they had developed feelings for each other during their recent time spent together, but it turned out that it started back when they were in school.

She looked at Jayden, who was blushing, with some surprise, not knowing what to say to him.

#### Chapter 1055

Jayden noticed Harper staring at him blankly and realized he had been too abrupt. He quickly apologized to her.

"I'm sorry, I scared you."

Jayden withdrew his gaze from Harper's face and awkwardly said, "It's getting late. Go back and have a rest!"

After finishing his words, he turned around and wanted to run away, but his arm was grabbed by Harper. "Give me a goodnight kiss."

Jayden's body stiffened, somewhat incredulous, as he turned to look back at Harper.

But then she grabbed his arm, stood on her tiptoes, and kissed him on his thin lips. Jayden's eyes lit up with joy as the soft and tender lips touched his, seemingly surprised that she took the initiative. Harper just brushed his lips and then let go of him, saying, "Goodnight." Jayden blushed and nodded his head lightly, "Goodnight to you too." Harper raised her hand and waved at him, "Drive safe!" Every time, Jayden would wait for Harper to enter the house before driving away. But this time, he was too overjoyed and turned around to sit in the car as she said. When starting the car, he lowered the window and took a last look at Harper, reluctant to leave. After Harper said goodbye to him, he finally started the car. After his car drove away, Harper lifted her hand and touched her lips. Step one, hold hands. Step two, kiss. If they make it to step three, she'd let her guard down and be with Jayden wholeheartedly. Perhaps a second mating would bring warmth to her. After all, if she mated someone who had secretly loved her for so long, she would surely be cherished. She had heard from an elderly person at the orphanage before that women should not mate the person they loved, but rather mate someone who loved them. This way, they would be cherished by their husbands. Before, Harper didn't understand the meaning of this sentence until she experienced it herself. She finally realized that mating someone who loved her could indeed make life much easier.

#### Chapter 1056

Harper was not like Taya, who had someone like Griffon who loved her with all his heart. Nor would Harper experience a passionate love story like Taya's. She was just a very ordinary woman, seeking a safe haven in the form of a mating that could bring her a peaceful life in her later years. Because she was just too lonely. Despite her fear of getting involved in the complexities of mating, she didn't want to end up in her old age like the elderly residents of a nursing home, sitting in a rocking chair, staring at a small corner of the world, and ultimately living out her days in solitude. After making her decision, Harper put down her hand from her lips and turned around to enter the villa. Before her hand even touched the iron door, a strong force pushed her against the wall from behind. Suddenly, both of her hands were grabbed, and her body was pulled towards Preston, whose crimson eyes met her as she looked up. "Did you kiss him?" His first words were a question as if he had seen something but he couldn't believe it, and he came over to ask her about it. Harper glanced at him and noticed his face was flushed and he smelled the strong scent of alcohol before realizing he was drunk. She made a soft "hmm" sound, which was her answer to Preston's question. She didn't say anything else beyond that. But this "hmm" made Preston freeze in place, his initial disbelief turning into anger. "Harper, how could you let another man kiss you?" Harper belonged to him. How could she let another man kiss her?

Harper laughed at his words.

"Jayden is my boyfriend. Why can't he kiss me?"

#### Chapter 1057

Preston gasped and, with a hint of frustration, pinched Harper's cheeks tightly.

"Your boyfriend, huh?"

His fingertips deeply sank into Harper's cheeks, as if he wanted to strangle her.

"I will make Jayden disappear tomorrow and see who dares to be your boyfriend anymore!"

It was known that Preston could make one disappear easily in this city.

And Harper as well, but why could Preston do it?

Harper raised her head and met Preston's gaze with her own.

"You and your girlfriend can hug and kiss each other, so why do you want my boyfriend to disappear just because we shared a kiss? What gives you the right?!"

Preston hadn't even restrained himself, so why could he restrain her?

Preston heard a hint of resentment in her words and quickly released his grip on her cheeks, instead embracing her.

"I haven't even touched Elsie, let alone kissed her. After we separated, I never had S\*\* with another woman."

He had been abstaining for a long time, thinking at first that he was not interested in women.

Later, he realized that after being with Elsie, he didn't want to be with anyone else.

He didn't quite understand what this feeling was for, but he knew that his world had changed because of Harper.

"please break up with Jayden. I can't stand seeing you two together, and I'm really scared."

He was afraid of letting things go any further. He was worried that they might end up in bed together. Just the thought of them being intimate made him feel extremely uncomfortable.

Preston thought that if he gave himself ten days or half a month, he would surely forget about Harper, but he couldn't resist coming to see her.

He didn't expect to see them tightly embracing at the entrance of the nightclub before he even had a chance to see her. By the time he caught up to them, they were already kissing.

Sitting in the car, Preston had caught such an eyesore that the steering wheel almost came off, but he persuaded himself that it was just an illusion.

Preston didn't dare to believe that they had really kissed until Harper nodded in confirmation. If things continued to develop like this, they would definitely....

"Harper, break up with him and I'll mate you!"

#### Chapter 1058

Taya had hinted to him that orphans like her craved a home more than anything else.

So, he could give her a home as long as she didn't stay with Jayden

Upon hearing the words "I'll mate you," Harper was taken aback and momentarily thought that the person in front of her was not Preston. She stared at him blankly for a while before coming back to her senses.

"Will a playboy give up the other women and choose to mate me? Impossible," thought Harper.

She didn't believe it at all.

"You're drunk and starting to talk nonsense again."

"I'm not. L.."

"Just now, I initiated the kiss with Jayden. I plan to date him seriously for a while and then get mated."

Her resolute statement abruptly interrupted Preston. It was the only time he had ever sincerely expressed his desire to mate her.

"Harper..."

He called out her name, but when he opened his mouth again, no sound came out.

"You're really heartless."

After a moment of hesitation, he turned around, swaying as he walked away.

Looking at the figure disappearing into the rainy night, Harper let out a deep sigh

"We're not a good match."

Their ages were not matched, their identities were not matched, and their personalities were not matched, either.

Maybe he liked her now, but who knows what would happen in the next moment?

A playful man like Preston probably hadn't had enough fun yet, had he?

If he hadn't had enough fun, even if they got mated, he might still do some inappropriate things.

Harper could not bear a mating that was unstable or could cause her harm.

She had already been cheated on once. How could she bear the thought of going through it again?

It was better to choose an unknown field than to mate someone with the ending she knew

At least she wouldn't be too fearful.

Harper had always been cautious and level-headed, not prone to trusting others too easily and relying solely on herself.

Chapter 1059

After Preston came to see Harper once, he didn't come again as if he had disappeared from the face of the earth.

Harper didn't know that he had temporarily replaced Griffon in signing a strategic cooperation plan until she read the news.

It turned out that he had been busy with work during this time.

In the news, Preston, dressed in a suit, wearing a tie, and sporting a slicked-back hairstyle, exudes a bit of charisma belonging to a

CEO.

After reading the financial news, Harper turned off the TV and took out her phone. She called

Jayden to ask if he had arrived.

It was the weekend again and Harper had to go visit Silas.

Previously, Harper promised Silas to visit him frequently, so she went to see him every weekend.

Thinking that she had been dating Jayden for a while, she decided to bring him along to meet Silas.

Perhaps seeing her muster up the courage to start a new relationship would also help Silas move on.

When Harper and Jayden left the airport, they ran into Edith. Seeing that Edith was being bothered by a man, Harper didn't hesitate and rushed over to help.

"Miss Knight, what's going on? Should we call the police?"

When Edith saw the woman who suddenly protected her, she hesitated for a moment and then waved at Harper.

"No need to call the police."

After finishing, Edith broke free from Anthony's grip and patiently spoke up.

"Our story has long been over, so please move on."

Anthony wanted to grab her hand again, but he saw her take a step back.

"My parents and your parents don't agree with us being together, so let's just listen to them and do what they say."

Actually, Edith doesn't necessarily have to listen to her parents, but loving Anthony was too exhausting.

Anthony, like Edith's brother, loved to play but lacked her brother's sense of discretion.

Anthony was the type of person who would sleep with other women even if he had a girlfriend, but Edith's brother wouldn't do that.

As Anthony's official girlfriend in the past, Edith witnessed him having S\*\* with other women on several occasions.

## Chapter 1060

At that time, Edith was standing at the door, she wouldn't feel pain for Anthony anymore once she got disappointed enough.

Now she no longer felt pain for him. Instead, she could face him calmly, even looking at him with a smile of relief in her eyes.

Anthony felt heartbroken when he saw that smile, knowing that no matter what he did, he couldn't win her back.

"I'm sorry."

After he apologized sincerely, he turned around and left with unsteady steps.

Edith stared at his back, the relieved smile in her eyes becoming even deeper.

Her parents found out that she had been mistreated by a man while abroad and forced them to break up.

After the breakup, Anthony quickly moved on and started a new relationship, while

Edith....

Trapped in a villa abroad by her parents, she lived in great misery, but he had never come to see her even once.

Edith also read much scandalous news about Anthony and many women.

During that time, Edith curled up in a corner and cried until her eyes were almost blind, before finally getting over it

She finally managed to move on, and Anthony, for some reason, regretted it and came to her every day.

The most frequent words he had said to her were "I'm sorry."

Edith was tired of listening to it, but he still didn't give up.

She knew that Anthony had been repentant and apologizing, hoping for her to say "It's okay."

But after all, harm couldn't be erased. Edith couldn't forgive him no matter what.

Edith withdrew her gaze from Anthony's indifferent stare and shifted it towards Harper and Jayden, who standing beside her.

"Are you...?"

Edith knew Jayden, the famous doctor in her brother's hospital and she wondered why he and Harper were together, holding hands.