

Crazy Love 341

Chapter 341

In a high-end Fontich restaurant.

Eason sat down and ordered in fluent Fontich. Then, he looked at Emma and asked, "What do you want to eat?"

Emma looked at the menu in her hand, her face pale.

She couldn't read Fontich.

Eason noticed Emma's predicament and asked, "How about I order some dishes for you?"

"Okay, thank you." Emma quickly closed the menu.

Eason ordered some food that girls favored.

After that, it was suddenly quiet at the dining table.

Emma sat there, lowering her head and not daring to speak at all.

Eason glanced at her and frowned slightly.

He had never seen such a timid girl like Emma.

He was trying hard to find a topic.

Suddenly, a slightly surprised voice sounded.

“Eason?”

Stunned, Eason looked up and saw Penny.

“Penny?” Eason was surprised.

Penny came over anxiously.

When she saw that the person in front of Eason was a girl, she immediately became alert.

Yet as Penn

saw Emma’s ordinary appearance, she relaxed.

“Eason, are you eating with your client?” Penny said sensibly. “Then I’ll eat by myself.”

Eason asked, “Are you alone?”

Penny nodded and said, “Well, I suddenly wanted to eat Fontich food, so I came alone.”

Eason glanced at Emma. “Do you mind if she eats with us?”

Emma panicked, but she quickly shook her head. “No.”

“Penny, let’s eat together,” Eason said.

“Okay.” Penny nodded obediently and then sat next to Eason.

She sat upright gracefully and then glanced at Emma critically.

Penny thought, 'This woman is not qualified to be my rival at all. Putting aside anything else, she has a bad figure.'

"A fat woman is not attractive at all, no matter what her face looks like."

'She is slightly fat, timid, and not elegant at all.'

Penny came to a casual conclusion.

She felt Emma could not pose a threat to her at all.

"Have you ordered yet?" Eason asked.

"Not yet. Please order for me. Anyway, you know my preference best," Penny said coquettishly.

"Okay." Eason agreed gently.

"By the way, what do you think of the necklace I just bought? Is it beautiful?" Penny asked.

"Yes. You look pretty no matter what you wear," Eason answered.

"Eason, you're so perfunctory."

Penny pouted, and Eason responded with a smile.

Emma lowered her head slightly.

There was an indescribable feeling in her heart.

She thought, 'If Eason and Penny were not siblings, they would be a good match. They were both noble and perfect. As for me, I'll be an eyesore even if I just stand by Eason.'

The dishes were soon served.

Emma rarely ate Fontich food, so she was a little flustered during the meal.

Penny gently taught her all kinds of dining etiquette.

Penny acted nicely and softly, but Emma felt even more inferior.

Fontich food was served very slowly. The dishes arrived one after another. Emma only hoped that this awkward meal could end soon.

Halfway through, Eason's phone rang.

"I'm going to answer a call." He stood up and left the dining table.

Emma looked at his back with eager eyes.

"Do you think Eason is handsome?" Penny asked with a smile.

Emma retracted her gaze in shock and subconsciously nodded her head before she swiftly shook her head.

Penny smiled, and her eyes became a little subtle. "Eason is excellent in all aspects. Just like you, many people are attracted to him."

Having been seen through, Emma was flustered. She subconsciously denied it. "I... I am not."

Penny chuckled and said, "You don't have to hide it from me. I can see it from your eyes at a glance."

Emma pursed her lips and bowed her head in embarrassment.

Penny always liked to show her tenderness and kindness to people like Emma, who couldn't threaten her. Penny said with a smile, "It's normal to be attracted to someone. You don't have to feel inferior at

all."

Emma kept her head down. "I... I'm not worthy of him."

Penny's eyes flashed with disdain.

She thought, 'Of course, you're not worthy of him, but this is what I want.'

Thinking that her mother had been arranging blind dates for Eason recently, Penny got a vague idea.

It seemed that she could make use of Emma.

Thinking of this, Penny smiled more gently, "That's not true, Emma. Since you like Eason, I think you should chase him."

"Me?" Emma quickly waved her hand. "No, no."

Emma thought, 'A person like me doesn't deserve anyone. All I want is some colorful memories.'

Penny thought, 'Good. No one will like a self-deprecating and stupid woman like Emma.

Penny gave a broader smile and said softly, "Believe in yourself! Eason cares more about spiritual connection than appearance and family background. You have a good chance."

"Is... Is that so?" Emma became even more nervous.

"Of course, I'm his sister. How can I not know about it?" Penny replied. "Let's exchange phone numbers so that I can tell you things about Eason in time. After all, you're such a good person. I want you to be my sister-in-law."

Emma thought, 'Sister-in-law?'

Her face instantly turned red.

Penny smiled even more brightly, "Putting aside Eason, I took to you as soon as we met. I want to make friends with you."

Penny behaved very warmly, yet Emma nodded hesitantly.

Penny immediately smiled again.

She thought, 'This woman is really foolish. Does she really think that she is worthy of Eason? However, the more stupid this woman is, the easier it will be to make use of her.'

Thousands of schemes came to Penny's mind.

By the time Eason returned, Penny and Emma had already exchanged their phone numbers.

Watching Eason sit down, Penny even winked at Emma.

Emma lowered her head timidly.

"What happened between you guys?" Eason asked curiously.

"You don't understand the friendship between girls," Penny said coquettishly.

"Alright. I don't understand," Eason replied resignedly.

After dinner, they left the restaurant.

Penny deliberately walked behind Eason and whispered in Emma's ear, "I'm looking forward to you being my sister-in-law."

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"I..." Emma waved her hand in a panic.

Penny walked away with a smile.

At night.

Emma looked at herself in the mirror with embarrassment in her eyes.

She thought, "Who am I worthy of?"

Emma quietly stood in front of the mirror for a long time.

In the past, she had never thought of making any changes.

After all, any change was unknown and terrifying to her.

But this time, she suddenly wanted to change.

At the very least, she had to lose some weight.

Emma took a deep breath and made up her mind.

Chapter 342

Susan found that there seemed to be some changes in Emma in the past few days.

In the beginning, the changes were barely discernible.

One morning, for the first time in her life, Emma made her hair up into a delicate hairstyle and put on a floral dress.

When she walked into the office, there was even a moment of silence.

Susan looked up at Emma, and a trace of surprise flashed through her eyes.

Usually, Emma always looked unkempt. Even in the hot summer, she wore loose clothes that didn't show off her figure. Now, she suddenly put on light makeup and tidied herself up. In addition, she had secretly lost a lot of weight.

As soon as she appeared, everyone's eyes lit up.

It was rare for her to be the center of attention.

She clenched her dress in fear and couldn't help looking down at herself.

She wondered, 'Do I look strange? Is everyone laughing at me?'

But she didn't dare to speak. She lowered her head and went straight into her small office.

The moment she closed the door, she seemed to hear everyone discussing something.

This made her even more scared.

She sat there stiffly, her heart filled with regret.

She thought, 'What's the point of someone like me changing? No matter how much I change, I'm still the object of ridicule.'

She felt gloomier and gloomier. In the end, she was overwhelmed by depression.

Just as she almost couldn't stand it anymore, there was a knock on the door.

"Come in," she said nervously.

The door opened, and Susan walked in.

“Ms. Miller.” Emma stood up, flustered.

Susan smiled and praised her. “You look so beautiful today.”

She spoke very sincerely, but Emma was even more dejected. “Please don’t try to comfort me.”
“Comfort you?” Susan blinked. “I’m telling the truth.”

Emma could only shake her head with a bitter smile.

“You don’t believe me?” Susan raised an eyebrow. “Come with me.”

Emma looked at Susan in confusion before following her obediently.

“Walk quietly. Don’t let anyone see you,” said Susan playfully.

Emma was bewildered, but she still followed her. The two tiptoed out like thieves.

In the break room...

As the employees poured themselves coffee, they uncontrollably discussed Emma’s new style of dressing. “Did you guys see Emma this morning?”

“Of course, we aren’t blind.”

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“| really didn’t expect her to have such a good figure. | remember that she was fat when she first started working here.”

“| can’t remember clearly. Was it because she always wore loose clothes that you had such an illusion?”

“Yeah, maybel Oh, | wonder why | didn’t find out earlier that she was so beautiful. If | had known earlier, | would’ve pursued her before anyone else noticed this.”

“If | had known earlier, you would’ve had no chance. I’m so handsome. She would definitely have chosen me.” “Bah.” The others couldn’t help spitting at him.

The group of people talked excitedly. Susan listened to them with a smile and then returned to the office with Emma. At this moment, Emma’s expression was slightly dazed, and she seemed to not believe it.

She thought, ‘They were actually not mocking me behind my back. They said | was beautiful and had a good figure.’ For the first time in her life, she discovered that she deserved to be liked.

“Do you believe me now?” Susan smiled at her.

Emma lowered her head and said softly, “Thank you, Ms. Miller.”

Without her even realizing it, the gloom in her heart had dissipated a lot.

When Susan smiled, her eyes crinkled. “Emma, you're really good-looking.”

Susan looked very serious. Emma felt that her face was burning.

Emma thought, ‘So people like me are also entitled to change and be praised, right?’

She felt as if her frozen heart had been melted by warm water.

If it went on like this, maybe she could really live like a normal

person

In the office...

Thinking that Emma had been working with Eason recently, Susan sent a message to him.

[The next time you see Emma, you might be shocked.]

Eason raised his eyebrows and asked: [Why?]

[You'll know soon.] Susan replied with a smile and then ignored Eason.

At the Nicholas family's place...

"You're always looking at your phone," Judith said angrily. "I'm talking to you. Did you hear me?"

Eason put down his cell phone and raised his eyebrows slightly. "It's a message from Susan."

Judith immediately changed her expression. She said with a smile, "Oh, it's Susan. What does she want with you?" Eason replied, "Mom, your face changed too fast. Am I not your child?"

Judith snorted, "If you were as sensible as Susan, I would also be so good to you."

At that, Eason was speechless.

me are "Don't change the subject. Tell me, are you going on this blind date or not?" Judith glared at him. Eason sighed, saying, "Mom, I'm still young."

Penny thought of something and quickly said, "That's right, Mom. Eason is working hard at his career." "Career? What career? Can his career give me grandchildren?" Judith was even angrier to hear that. Before she found her daughter, she was not in the mood to care about anything else.

But now that she had reunited with her daughter and her family was harmonious, she had nothing to worry about.

She was bored and subconsciously cared about Eason's marriage.

After all, Penny was still young.

Judith would be worried if Peanyigot

married early Shelthotght that

Pénhl could take her time to pick a

husband.

But Eason was almost 30, so Judith was anxious about his marriage.

"Mom, now Eason is the most eligible bachelor. He is very popular," Penny said in a gentle voice.

She didn't want Eason to go on a blind date at all.

"Come on! The most eligible bachelor? He's just a bachelor," Judith complained. Looking at Eason, who was immune to her urging, she suddenly got an idea.

She looked at him with a smile, and said, "Eason, you don't want to inherit your father's position, do you?"

Eason answered without hesitation, "No."

He had no interest in being a mascot, even if it was the most exalted one.

When Judith heard that, she smiled even more happily. "But you should know that you are the only son of your father. You are undoubtedly the first heir. If you don't inherit the throne, the people of Tonic will not agree."

Eason was also aware of this. He could not help rubbing his temples, feeling vexed.

"But now, I can give you a solution," Judith said smilingly. "Get married and give me a grandson as soon as possible. Your daughter is healthy, I think she will continue to work for decades. If you have a child early, your son will grow up when your dad retires. At that time, I will find a way to let your son succeed to the throne. In this way, you will be completely free."

Eason was stunned. He had never thought that Judith would come up with such an idea.

Moreover, he was a little tempted by it.

Chapter 343

Penny watched Eason, who looked quite charmed, and felt a slight panic stirring within her.

She no longer dared to hope for a real relationship with Eason; she just wanted to stay close to him,

content to admire him from afar.

But she had forgotten one thing.

Someday, Eason would get married and have children.

What about her, then? What would she do?

Was she supposed to just smile, bless them, and keep playing the role of the perfect, endearing 'little sister'?

She couldn't do it.

Unaware of Penny's distress, Judith looked at Eason with a smile, "What do you think?"

Eason, hesitating, replied, "It seems to make sense?"

Judith laughed, "If it makes sense, it's good. There's a girl, you know? She's kind of related to the royal family, but a distant relative. I've checked her out; she's beautiful, with a great personality, definitely a virtuous wife material. I told her about your situation, and she doesn't mind at all. She even said that she's open to living a modest life with you, should you choose to keep your identity under wraps."

"She doesn't mind?" Eason raised an eyebrow, even more intrigued.

'After all, the title of a queen is quite tempting to many,' Eason mused.

'And this girl, she's willing to give it up without hesitation?'

"Yes, she's interested in you as a person," Judith, sensing a possibility, grew more enthusiastic. "She's admired your actions over the years. People like you, who'd rather give up a throne to strive on their own, are rare. She really appreciates your determination! Plus, this girl is quite accomplished herself,

holding two master's degrees from top universities. She's more than a good match for you."

Eason responded, "Sounds pretty good."

"That's right," Judith said excitedly, "How about arranging a meeting? The girl is willing to come to Coraland for this."

Penny stiffened, her gaze fixed on Eason.

Eason thought for a moment and nodded. "Alright, let's meet then."

Judith stood up excitedly, "Let's arrange dinner then! The girl is already on the plane; she'll definitely make it for dinner."

Eason, left speechless, simply sighed in resignation.

'She's already on the plane! What's the point in asking for my opinion, then?' he thought to himself.

But since he agreed, he had no second thoughts about it.

'Seeing her wouldn't hurt; if we truly connect, there's no reason not to explore the possibility, Eason thought.

Seeing Eason's consent, Judith said cheerfully, "I'll make the arrangements."

Humming a tune, she went off to arrange the restaurant.

As soon as Judith left, the living room fell silent.

Penny was trying hard to control her emotions, but her face still paled slightly.

Seeing her pallor, Eason asked, "What's wrong?"

Penny forced a smile. "I'm fine. I just think there's no need to rush into blind dates. You're so outstanding; you can take your time to find the person right for you."

Eason chuckled. "Blind dates can work out well, you know. Mom has a great eye for people, so I trust

she'll choose someone nice. Who knows? Spending time together might just spark some feelings."

* Eason was quite pragmatic about it.

He was just too busy.

Opting for traditional dating might not be feasible with his limited time.

With blind dates, he could skip the initial stages of meeting and getting to know each other. Diving straight into serious considerations seemed like an efficient choice for someone as busy as him..

While Eason had made peace with the idea, Penny found it hard to accept.

Her complexion turned even paler.

"Are you feeling unwell?" Eason asked with concern.

"It's nothing," Penny shook her head, speaking softly, "I just didn't sleep well last night. A bit of a

headache.”

“Why don’t you go back to your room and have some rest?” Eason suggested gently.

“Alright,” Penny said, pausing briefly before standing. She then turned back to Eason with a questioning look. “Will you... get married?”

Eason hesitated briefly, then replied, “I guess it’ll happen eventually.”

Although he hadn’t met someone he liked, Eason wasn’t one to prioritize romance above all else.

He knew well that, with his status, not marrying was impractical. He wasn’t averse to the idea of marriage itself.

“Then... will you be good to her?” Penny asked, gazing earnestly at Eason.

Eason found her question odd. “Of course, I will.”

Penny’s face was ashen. “Even if you don’t love her, you’ll be good to her?”

Eason raised an eyebrow. “I don’t know about love, but if I marry her, of course, I’ll be good to her.”

Penny pursed her lips, feeling a strong urge to ask Eason something

Would he be better to his future wife, or to her?

But she didn’t voice this question.

She was well aware of her place; asking such a question would be crossing a line.

She was the perfect little sister, after all; how could she overstep her bounds?

Penny

Turned to her room.

She lay on the bed, tossing and turning, unable to settle her troubled mind.

After a while, she sat up abruptly.

No, she couldn't let Eason go on this blind date.

If she did nothing, eventually Eason would find someone, and then, he would entrust all his troubles and challenges to that woman.

Just the thought of such a scenario was unbearable for Penny.

But what could she possibly do?

As his sister, she wasn't in a position to intervene in Eason's personal decisions.

Penny recalled Emma.

She had intentionally saved Emma's contact information that day, with some ulterior motives in mind.

Now was the time to put Emma to use..

Penny's eyes flickered as an idea flashed through her mind.

She would coax Emma into doing what she herself could not.

But devising a way to manipulate Emma required some thought.

Penny got up and left her room. She first went to find Judith and, with just a few words, deftly learned the location of the evening's dinner.

Then she knocked on Eason's door.

Receiving no response, she entered the room.

The sound of running water indicated Eason was in the shower.

Spotting his phone unattended on the table, Penny saw her opportunity.

Stealthily, she approached the phone.

Fortune seemed to favor her; Eason's phone was surprisingly unlocked.

Penny picked up the phone with trembling hands and swiftly located Emma's contact.

She began to type hastily.

"Emma, I've realized that I might have feelings for you. If you feel the same, meet me at The Orange Bistro at 7 p.m. I'll be waiting in a private dining room, Room 101. If you're not interested, no need to reply. If you don't show up by 7, I'll take it as a sign and won't trouble you again."

After composing the message, Penny sent it quickly.

The sound of water in the bathroom had stopped; Eason would be out soon.

She watched the message send, hastily erased the evidence, and replaced the phone.

After setting everything in place, Penny took a deep breath.

At that precise moment, Eason stepped out of the bathroom.

He looked at Penny in surprise. "Why aren't you resting? Isn't your head aching?"

"I'm fine, I'm much better now," Penny replied with a smile. "I just wanted to wish you well on your blind date."

Eason quirked an eyebrow. "Thanks."

Penny then left with a beaming smile.

Eason watched her retreating figure, his expression curious.

Today's Penny... seemed somewhat off.

Was it just his imagination?

Chapter 344

In the office, Emma's phone suddenly lit up.

Seeing Eason's name on the screen made her heart skip a beat.

She swiftly unlocked her phone and opened the message.

Then, she saw the message Eason had sent.

Emma stared at the message, reading it over and over. Once she was certain she wasn't mistaken, a look of bewilderment washed over her face.

Eason... had feelings for her?

But how could that be possible?

How could someone like her ever be liked by anyone?

While thinking this, Emma couldn't resist rereading the message.

Her heart started to race.

Eason confessed his liking for her.

And he had even invited her to meet that very evening.

Even though she found it hard to believe, it appeared to be the undeniable truth.

Holding the phone, Emma's hand began to shake slightly.

7 p.m. tonight.

The Orange Bistro.

Should she go?

Emma felt a mix of fear and panic, but also a sense of joy and sweetness.

A myriad of emotions intertwined in her mind, trapping her in its midst.

It was time to get off work.

Emma, blending in with the flow of people leaving the office, had her head down, ready to leave.

In the past, due to her introverted nature, people rarely approached her for a conversation.

But today, several colleagues initiated conversations with her.

“Ms. Garcia, are you joining us for dinner tonight?”

Emma, surprised by the attention, shook her head. “No... no, I’m planning to go home.”

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“So early? You’ve never joined our department’s gatherings before. Give us the honor today?” another colleague said enthusiastically.

“Yeah, come on, just this once,” others chimed in.

Emma, a bit flustered, mumbled a few responses before making a quick escape.

Her cab was already waiting downstairs.

She quickly got into the cab.

Once the car door closed, her anxious feelings began to settle.

Although Emma was initially frightened by this unexpected warmth, a subtle hope started to bubble up within her.

She could feel it.

Their invitations stemmed from recognition, pot mockery or embarrassment.

Did this mean she was occasionally likable after all?

And Eason...

Could it be that he truly liked her?

Emma had pre-set her destination, and the taxi driver was about to start the car.

Suddenly, Emma's heart leaped, and she instructed hurriedly, "Take me to the Orange Bistro, please."

The car started.

Emma watched her flushed face reflected in the window, feeling her heartbeat quicken.

She believed that someone like her wasn't deserving of love or emotional happiness.

But still, she couldn't help wanting to go through with this.

Even if it was just to tell Eason they weren't suitable.

She wanted to tell him in person.

Emma arrived at the Orange Bistro.

When she arrived, she happened to meet Penny at the entrance.

Upon seeing Emma, Penny expressed surprise. "Emma, what brings you here?"

Penny looked at Emma, slightly taken aback.

Today's Emma seemed quite different from before.

Had she not been watching the entrance, she might not have recognized her.

Penny narrowed her eyes slightly.

She hadn't expected that the previously plump and plain woman, once spruced up, actually looked

quite good.

Penny felt a twinge of jealousy, but quickly regained her composure.

Despite Emma's improved appearance, she remained someone not deemed worthy of serious consideration.

Her brother wasn't one to judge by appearances; he might be drawn to the girl he was supposed to meet today, known for her intelligence and beauty. But as for Emma... Penny was unconcerned.

'Eason's standards were high. He wouldn't fall for someone like Emma,' thought Penny.

"I... I..." Emma's words faltered as panic set in.

'Why is Penny here?' Emma wondered.

"How did you

know my

brother was dining here tonight?" Penny asked with a smile.

Emma grew even more panicked, her hands twisting nervously. "I just... just..."

"Ah," Penny said, as if she had just realized, still smiling. "Has my brother already told you?"

"You... you know too?" Emma asked, her cheeks flushing.

Penny chuckled lightly, but a hint of disdain flickered in her eyes.

Could Emma, of all people, truly believe that her brother would be interested in her?

Penny's smile somehow became even more affable. "Are you here to see my brother?"

Emma, blushing, lowered her gaze. "Has he... has he arrived?"

“He’s right inside,” Penny said gently, “Emma, you have to fight for your own happiness. I’m here to support you always.”

Emma interpreted Penny’s words as encouragement to accept Eason’s advances.

“I... I’m not worthy of him,” Emma murmured, head still bowed.

Witnessing Emma’s timid demeanor, Penny felt even more disdain.

If Eason ever fell for someone like Emma, Penny would eat her hat.

Penny’s smile became even more radiant as she spoke, “You should at least give it a try, right? If not, it’s always best to clarify things.”

Emma pursed her lips and nodded earnestly.

With her condition, she couldn’t impose on others.

She had feelings for Eason.

Yet, she refused to be a burden to him.

Emma lowered her gaze, feeling troubled but resolved.

She was going to make things clear with Eason.

Seeing Emma’s resolute stance, Penny gave a soft chuckle and urged, “Go ahead then.”

“Alright,” Emma agreed, and then she made her way inside.

Emma walked into the restaurant, her figure gradually disappearing from view.

A faint, elusive gleam appeared in Penny’s eyes.

The timing was perfect; it was as if fate was on her side.

The girl Eason was supposed to meet was from a distinguished family.

A woman of her standing, even if smitten, would still have her pride.

Should Emma create a disturbance, the arranged meeting would surely be spoiled.

Summoning all her bravery, Emma entered the appointed private room.

Inside, Eason was seated by himself.

Upon the door’s opening, Eason looked up and greeted instinctively, “Hello...”

He stopped mid-sentence upon seeing Emma.

A hint of surprise crossed his face. “Emma?”

Not understanding Eason’s astonished look, Emma mustered all her courage and said, “I’m sorry, can’t return your feelings.”

Eason was utterly bewildered.

He was completely beyond words. novelbin

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Emma, believing he was just stunned, went on, "I'm happy and grateful that you could like someone like me. But someone like me shouldn't be in a relationship. It would only hurt you. So, I'm sorry, Eason. I can't return your feelings, and I can't be with you."

Eason's shock intensified.

'What's going on?' he wanted to ask.

His mind was in a whirl of confusion.

Just as Emma finished, a quivering voice echoed from the doorway. "You... you're already in love with someone else?"

Someone was behind her?

Emma, feeling a chill, spun around swiftly.

Standing behind her was a stunningly beautiful woman, gazing at Eason with an expression of utter disbelief.

Next to her stood Judith, who looked at Emma with a shocked expression.

Eason, feeling overwhelmed, rushed to explain, "There's been a misunderstanding."

"What misunderstanding?" the young woman asked.

Eason turned towards Emma and was at a loss for words for a moment.

How was he supposed to know what the misunderstanding was?

Why had Emma suddenly come to say such things to him?

But observing Emma's fearful trembling, Eason couldn't outright dismiss her as being fanciful, leaving him unsure of how to properly respond.

Gaining composure, the young woman picked up her bag and said tearfully, "I understand now. I wish you both happiness."

With that, she ran off crying.

"Caroline, wait..." Judith cast a stern look at Eason before swiftly following the young woman.

Now, only Eason and Emma remained in the room.

An awkward silence enveloped the room.

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"What... What's going on?" Emma was slightly terrified, staring blankly at Eason.

Eason narrowed his eyes and replied, "That's exactly what I wanted to ask you."

He stood up and walked up to Emma expressionlessly.

Seeing that, Emma hastily backed away in fear.

Eason walked over step by step.

As Emma was backed into a corner, she had nowhere to go.

Being a little shy and scared, Emma looked like a frightened rabbit.

Eason knew that Emma was a timid girl.

However, Emma seemed to be different from usual at the moment.

For the first time, Eason found that Emma'

face was so pretty and her eyes were large and intelligent.

Especially when she was frightened, tears welled up in her beautiful eyes.

Indeed, the tears made Eason excited. He felt a great compulsion to abuse her.

Eason had always thought that he was a gentleman.

But now, he found that he was probably crazy.

Emma looked at Eason in panic. "You said you liked me and asked me to come here to meet you."

"I asked you to come here..." Eason narrowed his eyes. "Why didn't I know that?"

Eason soon denied it.

Emma felt aggrieved while getting the reply.

It was Eason who said he fell in love with her.

He took the initiative to ask her to come here.

But now Eason simply denied it.

What did he mean?

Was he just playing tricks on her?

Although Emma was timid, she couldn't stand being ribbed in this way.

She gritted her teeth and gazed at Eason stubbornly, asking, "Is it funny to play tricks on me?"

Feeling confused, Eason was lost for words.

"Well, now you're the winner. Are you satisfied with it?" The rims of Emma's eyes were red with crying and her voice trembled. "Then let me go."

Sure enough, she shouldn't have believed Eason's words.

Eason must be holding a grudge against her for slapping him that day, so he deliberately took revenge on her.

Looking at her red eyes, Eason felt a bit surprised.

Because he wanted to bully Emma all of a sudden.

He wanted to see her burst into tears.

He wanted to see her be overtaken by panic.

Eason raised his eyebrows, saying, "Yes, I'm playing tricks on you. So what?"

So what?

Tears rolled down Emma's cheeks. "You're shameless, Eason!"

Eason felt even more excited. "I can't agree more."

Eason behaved as if nothing unusual had happened.

But he was almost out of mind.

Emma came near to a breakdown, trying hard to push Eason away and leave.

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However, for some unknown reason, Eason just stood there still, stopping Emma from running away.

He realized that there was something wrong with him.

For some reason, he wanted to see Emma cry a little longer.

Eason couldn't help wondering if he was crazy.

"Get out of the way!" Emma was so angry that her face turned red.

Seeing Emma get annoyed, Eason was amused and wanted to tease her again.

Meanwhile, a cold voice sounded.

"What are you doing, Eason?"

Eason tensed up and immediately let go of Emma. "Mom, this is a complete misunderstanding."

The rims of Emma's eyes were red as she took the opportunity to escape.

Judith looked at Emma's pitiful face and became furious.

She glared at Eason and said, "Well, my son has grown up. You are so talented that you even know how to bully girls!"

Eason had no idea how to reply.

He didn't do that.

He just got a bit crazy and wanted to see Emma cry for a while.

Judith looked at Emma and said in a soft voice, "Please tell me what happened and I promise that I'll

help you.”

Judith also wanted to know what was going on!

Emma averted her eyes to Judith.

Judith looked tender and amiable. It was obvious that she was a gentle lady.

Hearing her words, Emma felt more at ease. She said fearfully, “... I’m still confused. Eason sent me a message, telling me that he liked me and asking me to come here.”

Eason immediately said, “I didn’t do that.”

Although he suddenly found that he had a tendency to be crazy, he would not take the blame that he should not take.

“You...” Emma looked at Eason and burst into tears. She took out her mobile and showed the message to Judith. “It’s the message from Eason.”

Judith looked at the message and her face quickly darkened. She averted her eyes to Eason and asked, “What else do you want to say?”

“Let me check it.” Eason was shocked when Emma showed the message.

He quickly stepped forward.

Eason was even more amazed by what he saw.

There was really such a message..

It was possible that someone might impersonate him and leave his name.

So Eason carefully checked the phone number.

To his surprise, it was indeed his phone number.

Therefore, the message was not a fake one.

Eason didn't understand when he had sent such a message.

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“Stop pretending to be innocent.” Judith looked at Eason angrily. “If you’ve fallen in love with a girl, you can tell me directly. I am always open-minded, so I won’t drive you apart. You deliberately called her

over to destroy the blind date, didn’t you? Is this fair to the two girls?”

Emma realized that the girl who had just cried and left was here to have a blind date with Eason.

The rims of Emma’s eyes turned even redder. “Sorry, I don’t know that.”

“Good girl, it’s not your fault.” Judith quickly comforted her. “It’s all Eason’s fault.”

Judith’s words calmed Emma down.

Emma lowered her head and said, “I’m sorry. I shouldn’t have come here. I... I’d better leave now.”

She turned around and was about to leave.

However, Judith immediately grabbed her and uttered, "Good girl, wait a minute."

Emma had no choice but to stop.

Judith looked at Eason coldly. "Do you have anything to say? If you like her, why don't you just say it directly? If you don't like her, why did you send such a text message?"

Eason was speechless for the moment.

Being blamed by his mother, he felt a little aggrieved.

But he was truly unable to make everything clear in a short time.

Judith ignored him and just looked at Emma. "Although my son seems to be not mature enough, I don't think he will play with other people's emotions. He must be serious while expressing his love to you. I forced him to attend the blind date before. He probably doesn't want to do it, but he doesn't dare to refuse me directly, so he calls you over. He really underestimates me. I'm not a mother who manipulates the marriage of her children. If he had told me that he had fallen in love with someone, I wouldn't have.

forced him to come here."

"Good girl, although my son is a silly boy, there is no doubt that he is sincere to you. I hope you won't be angry about what happened today."

Though Judith was a little angry at Eason for what he did, she still wanted to help his son Emma as Judith thought that Eason really loved Emma.

comfort

“... ..”

Emma took one glance at Eason and panicked a little.

Judith noticed the glance and got a clue.

She couldn't help laughing happily.

It was obvious that Emma also had a crush on Eason.

Judith couldn't help but say, “Good girl, I liked you very much the first time I saw you. I'm so sorry about what happened today. Would you like to have dinner with me at my house?”

Emma was surprised and said, “No... no need.”

“Are you still angry?” Judith showed a sorrowful expression.

She had always looked weak, but now she looked like she was about to cry, which made Emma even more nervous. “I'm not angry.”

“Then come to have dinner with me tomorrow,” Judith immediately said.

Emma didn't know how to reply.

Half an hour passed.

Emma got into the car in a daze after chatting with Judith for a long while.

Before Emma left, she had promised to have dinner at Judith's house tomorrow. Moreover, she had agreed to go shopping with Judith on Sunday and have afternoon tea with her next Sunday....

It was not until she got home that she began feeling anxious.

What the hell was going on?

Chapter 346

Emma took the car and left.

Judith then darkened her face and averted her eyes to Eason.

She stared at Eason expressionlessly. "You've done a good job."

Eason tried to defend himself and said, "Mom, believe me. I didn't do that."

"Don't deny it anymore." Judith was angry. "If you truly like her, you should admit it. Why are you so irresponsible? Eason, you really let me down."

Eason was speechless and didn't know how to reply to his mother.

He was sure that he had been wrongly accused.

Judith looked at Eason and asked again, "Or are you really playing tricks on that girl?"

Eason didn't know how to defend himself.

So he simply gave no words.

Judith snorted and said, "If you like her, then you have to treat her well. I don't care about her family background. As long as she is a good girl, I will be satisfied enough. As for Caroline, I will talk to her for you. Understand?"

Eason said helplessly, "Mom, it's a misunderstanding."

"Misunderstanding?" Judith was enraged. "I've already arranged everything well for you. Take the opportunity."

"But..." Eason wanted to say something more.

However, Judith looked at him coldly. "Character is of great importance. Don't let me down."

Eason was utterly speechless.

Now it had been a hard problem to deal with.

If he said that he didn't like Emma, it seemed that he was playing tricks on her and then he would become a real scumbag.

But it was true that he had never sent such a message to Emma.

Of course, no one believed him when he told the truth.

Looking at the bright eyes of Judith, Eason could only nod and say, "Yes, I got it."

"Hum, that's fine." Judith snorted. In fact, she was quite delighted.

She was so happy to see her son fall in love with a girl and the girl seemed to have a crush on Eason as well. With her assistance, Judith believed that her wish to have grandchildren was about to come true.

Judith smiled in delight.

Eason was rather puzzled.

He had no idea who sent the message to Emma.

He was sure that he had never sent such a message.

But the message did exist.

Eason went back home.

Knitting his brows, Eason was pondering the problem.

Meanwhile, Penny came downstairs. When she saw Eason frowning and looking unhappy, she got a bit

excited.

She walked up to Eason and said gently, "Eason, don't you have a blind date today? Why are you back so early?"

2/7

Penny pretended to have a headache and did not go with Eason.

As Eason and Judith left, Penny secretly followed them. Then she abetted Emma at the door.

Seeing Emma come in, Penny immediately left for fear of being discovered.

Therefore, Penny still did not know what had happened in the Orange Bistro.

“There’s something wrong,” responded Eason with a worried expression on his face.

“Something wrong?” Penny was overjoyed.

She was more than happy to see that there was something wrong.

Emma seemed to have really messed up Eason’s blind date.

“Yes,” Eason replied simply, as he was unwilling to say more.

Seeing that, Penny was relieved.

It seemed that the blind date had been completely destroyed.

“Eason, it’s okay to have an unsuccessful blind date. You are so excellent that you will definitely find a great girlfriend in the future,” Penny comforted him in a gentle voice..

Eason nodded in reply.

Penny was afraid that she would give herself away, so she went back to her room after talking with Eason for a short while.

Eason stared at the back of Penny, and a light flashed in his eyes.

When Emma took out her phone to show him the message.

He took a glance at the specific time.

Now he recalled what was going on when Emma received this text message...

When he came out of the bathroom after taking a shower this afternoon, he happened to see Penny holding his phone.

He was sure that he was not the one who sent the message.

And the other people didn't have a chance to get in touch with his phone.

While Penny was an exception.

Eason frowned, confused.

Penny?

If it was Penny who sent the message, why did she do that?

Was she deliberately playing jokes on Emma?

Why?

Eason had no idea why Penny sent the message.

If he questioned Penny in person, she would definitely feel embarrassed. Eason didn't want to do that

for the time being.

However, Eason couldn't help feeling guilty when he thought of Emma's wet eyes.

He didn't lie to Emma. But Penny, who sent the message, was his younger sister. Then there would be no difference.

Eason couldn't help thinking of the scene when Emma came in.

She was pretty nervous and shy.

Emma was a timid girl, but she encouraged herself to tell him her feelings seriously.

If Eason told her that the message was fake...

And it was just a prank...

How embarrassed and sad would Emma be?

For some reason, Eason felt a little distressed and worried.

Knowing nothing about the truth, Judith happily began to prepare for the dinner of the next day.

She also sent her people to investigate Emma.

Knowing that Emma worked for Susan and had a good relationship with Susan, Judith told Susan about the dinner, inviting her to come with Emma. Then Emma would feel much better while having dinner with them.

Susan hung up the phone.

She couldn't help but feel a little confused.

What... What was going on?

Susan began wondering if she had misheard.

Eason wanted to pursue Emma!

The two of them didn't seem to get along well with each other at first.

Why did he suddenly fall in love with Emma?

Was it the destined love?

Susan didn't know what was going on, but she felt quite happy for Eason.

After all, Susan firmly believed that Emma was a good girl.

The next day came soon.

It was approaching the off-duty time.

Emma kept looking at her watch with a nervous expression.

Yesterday she got muddled up, giving Judith her phone number and even promising Judith a bunch of things.

For example... she should go to the Nicholas family for dinner tonight.

And now it was almost time.

She had completely regretted following Judith's advice.

How could she agree to have dinner with them at that time?

When she tried to recall what was going on at that time, she only remembered the gentle smile of

Judith.

Judith seemed to have the magic that she could make people want to promise her everything.g

Emma glanced at her watch again.

One minute later, it would be the time to get off work.

She didn't want to go to the Nicholas family.

So she had to find an excuse as soon as possible.

Would it be okay to say that she had a stomachache?

What about telling them that she had something urgent to do?"

Emma was trying her best to come up with an excuse.

Suddenly, someone knocked on the door.

When Emma opened the door, Susan winked at her and said, "Let's go. I'll come to have dinner with you."

profound sense of fear and foreboding arose in Emma's mind. "Where... where are we going?"

Susan looked at her blankly. "The Nicholas family. Didn't you make an appointment with them?"

Emma dried up.

Was it too late if she said that she suddenly had a stomachache?

"Come on." Susan smiled at her.

Emma didn't give any words.

It seemed that there was no time left for her.

Ben was already waiting downstairs.

It was the first time for Emma to sit in one car with her boss. She was so nervous that she stood there still.

She couldn't wait to finish the trip as soon as possible.

But she changed her mind when she realized that she would reach the Nicholas family when the car

stopped.

She wished that the car could run ahead forever.

Chapter 347

Judith was still busy preparing for dinner at home

Penny was surprised to see that, walking forward and asking, "Mom, do we have guests for dinner tonight?"

"Yes," Judith answered. She soon realized that Penny might not know what had happened yesterday, so whispered to her in a low voice, "Do you know that your brother has fallen in love with a girl?"

"What?" Penny suddenly uttered in a sharp voice.

"You're surprised too, aren't you?" Judith laughed. "Well, your brother has grown up, and it's time for him to find a girlfriend."

Penny's heart overflowed with astonishment. She felt great pain in her heart as if it was hurt by,

hundreds of needles.

She even wanted to scream.

However, she could only force a smile and said calmly, "Mom, is this a misunderstanding? Why haven't I heard that Eason has fallen in love with someone?"

"I also didn't expect he would keep it a secret." Judith lowered her voice. "But it's true. The girl came to see him in the Orange Bistro yesterday. Your brother sent a message and called her over there. It seems that your brother didn't want to have the blind date, so he directly asked the girl to meet him there."

Penny opened her eyes wide in surprise.

The plot sounded so familiar.

“Are you talking about... Emma?” asked Penny in a slightly hoarse voice.

Judith looked at her, surprised. “How did you know that?”

Penny paused for a while and said, “I met her once when Eason and Emma had meals together.”

Judith’s eyes suddenly lit up. “They have already had meals together Penny, why didn’t you tell it to me before? It’s a piece of big news!”

Penny gritted her teeth and said, “It looks more than usual. I don’t think my brother likes her. Mom, might have misunderstood.”

“What? What have I misunderstood?” Judith said, “You didn’t see that message. It never occurred to me that your brother, who looks so serious, would be so coquettish when he falls in love with someone,”

Penny became tongue-tied.

Obviously, she was the one who had secretly sent that message on Eason’s phone,

But she didn’t expect that Emma would show them the text message directly.

Penny was lost in thought.

If Emma messed up the blind date, Eason would definitely be angry and might even scold her on the

spot.

As long as she was proud, she should leave sadly.

But she shamelessly took out her phone and showed them the message.

“I invited Emma to our house for dinner tonight. You can see her at that time. I think she is a good girl.”
Judith did not notice the weird expression of Penny and still said with a smile.

Penny was even more annoyed!

Judith was actually busy preparing dinner for Emma!

Did she really think that Emma would be her future daughter-in-law?

Emma was not qualified at all!

Why didn't Eason explain it to Judith?

Thinking of Eason, Penny felt that her heart missed a beat.

When Emma took out the text message, Eason must have seen it.

Could he find that it was she who secretly sent the message?

Thinking of this, Penny felt that the end of the world was coming.

She didn't think much and hurried to find Eason, as it was the most important thing for her.

“Eason,” Penny called his name anxiously.

“What’s wrong?” Eason raised his eyes, looking quite calm.

Penny gazed at him carefully.

Eason seemed to be pretty calm as if he had discovered nothing.

Penny forced a smile and asked tentatively, “Eason, do you really like Emma?”

“Can’t I like her?” Eason raised his eyebrows.

Penny’s legs were instantly weak and she could hardly stand.

This... This was a tacit admission.

Penny gritted her teeth and replied, “I just feel that she may not be suitable for you.”

Eason was a little surprised, saying, “I thought you liked her very much.”

w thata

“Why do you Penny got a little nervous.

Eason was silent for a moment and said directly. “It’s you wh.

But Eason’s eyes showed that he had already known the truth. Penny understood that since Emma showed them the message, she had no chance to argue for herself.

Now Penny was in a dilemma.

She was lost in thought again.

Eason has got to know the fact.

Would he be able to read her mind and be aware that she liked him? Would he find out that she was” actually a cunning woman?

At the thought of Eason looking at her with disgust, Penny was so helpless that she even felt that the whole world was falling apart.

Looking at the pale face of Penny, Eason sighed and said, “Penny, I know what you mean.”

Penny’s face turned even paler. She trembled and asked, “You... You know it...”

Eason nodded and said, “It’s not hard to read your mind. I can get your point according to your

expression.”

Penny clenched her teeth tightly.

Did she... Did she really show her feelings so directly?

Eason continued speaking, “You get along well with Emma and want to get the two of us together, right?”

Hearing his words, Penny was stunned for a moment and was in a trance.

How could Eason come up with the idea that she wanted to get the two of them together?

Eason said calmly, "At first, I didn't understand why you did this. But after thinking about it for a whole night, I have already figured it out. When we had dinner that day, I found that you and Emma hit it off straight away. You even took the initiative to ask for her phone number. You like her too much, so you want to get us together, don't you?"

Eason analyzed logically and then looked at Penny with a confident and calm face.

Penny was speechless when she got the reply.

It was totally wrong.

But she couldn't tell Eason the truth.

She couldn't tell him that she deliberately asked Emma to ruin his blind date.

Penny forced a smile and responded, "Eason, you're right. I... I like her too much. So I sent the message to her at that time."

"I knew I was right." Eason smiled.

Penny couldn't help saying, "Eason, it's all my fault. I know you don't like Emma. Why don't we tell the

truth to our mom...

"No need," replied Eason with a smile.

"Why?" asked Penny anxiously.

Eason raised his eyebrows and said, "Anyway, I have to attend a blind date. It's okay for me to have a

blind date with Emma.”

Moreover, he suddenly felt that Emma was quite funny.

Thinking of Emma’s frightened look, Eason could not help but burst into laughter.

Penny stared at his smile and her heart sank.

What was going on?

Could it be that Eason really had fallen in love with Emma?

No, it was impossible.

Eason has such a good taste. How could he fall in love with a woman like Emma?

By the way, if Eason and Emma really became a couple, she would become their matchmaker!

A wave of fear swept over Penny.

The butler led the guests into the living room.

Penny suddenly knitted her brows.

Emma was there.

Moreover, she came there with Susan and Ben.

“Hi, Susan.

“You’re here.” Judith walked forward with a smile.

Eason also stood up to welcome the guests.

“Come on, sit here. Let’s talk and eat some snacks first. The dinner will be ready soon,” Judith said with a warm smile.

She took Emma’s hand and asked her to sit beside Eason. Then she gave Eason a threatening look and said, “Take good care of Emma.”

Eason immediately nodded in reply.

Emma lowered her head and did not even dare to take one glance at Eason.

Chapter 348

The atmosphere was strangely tense. Eason appeared as if he was about to speak, hesitating and seemingly holding back words he was on the brink of saying.

Susan cracked a knowing smile and said, “You know, I just remembered I left something at home. I’ll go grab it.”

Susan quickly grabbed Ben, pulling him to his feet. She then started giving Penny frantic, meaningful glances, desperately trying to communicate something without words.

The typically intuitive Penny appeared unusually unaware of Susan’s subtle cues this time. She was entirely engrossed in observing Emma, her gaze unblinking and steadfast.

“Penny,” called Susan, a bit perplexed.

Penny didn't respond.

Penny was lost in her thoughts until Susan's tug brought her back to the present moment.

"What's up?" Penny managed a strained smile.

"Hey, come with me to grab something from next door?" Susan asked with a smile.

"What is it? Just have the servant bring it over," Penny didn't want to understand Susan's hint.

She was adamant not to leave Eason and Emma alone together!

Penny was determined to play dumb.

That's when Eason spoke up, "Penny, go with Susan. Help her find the thing."

Penny looked sharply at Eason.

Penny thought, 'Did he actually want me out of the way too?'

Penny's face turned deathly pale.

"Alright, give me a hand here," Susan said cheerily, oblivious to the underlying tension. Giggling, she tugged Penny along.

Penny didn't resist, allowing herself to be led away in a daze.

It was the Landor residence next door.

Upon entering the house, Susan teased, “Hey Penny, you seemed totally lost in space today. Clearly, those two wanted some alone time. We shouldn’t be hanging around like awkward third wheels.”

Penny pursed her lips, looked at Susan, and asked, “Do you know Emma?”

Susan nodded and said, “Yeah, she’s on my team. Funny enough, Eason only met her because of me.”

“You?” Penny suddenly turned to Susan, her gaze tinged with an odd curiosity.

Susan’s eyes sparkled with amusement, “Totally. If those two end up together, Eason definitely owes me one.”

Penny took a deep breath, emotions swirling inside her.

Initially, she felt a pang of self-blame. She regretted giving Emma a chance, cursing her own smarts for turning against herself.

But now, she realized she had only made a minor mistake.

Penny thought, ‘The real culprit, clearly, was Susan. If it weren’t for Susan, Eason would never have met Emma. Not meeting Emma, naturally, there would be no story to follow. So, all of this was totally stirred up by Susan.’

Penny understood that holding a grudge against Susan might not be entirely justified.

Penny thought, ‘But if not Susan, who else could I blame? Blame Eason or blame myself?’

She had to vent this deep-seated resentment somewhere.

'Oh, Susan, I broke through my own reservations to befriend you, and this is how it plays out? I could relinquish it all: the love from our parents, even the prestige of being a princess, and hand it right over to you. But why? Why did you have to bring Eason and Emma together? Sure, nothing's happened between them yet. But just imagining them alone, sharing who knows what secrets... It sets off this fierce anger in me, a desire to tear everything apart.'

A flash of fierceness passed through Penny's eyes.

Susan happened to see it.

She was momentarily stunned, wondering if she had seen it wrong.

Susan rubbed her eyes and looked again at Penny.

Penny retained her gentle composure and inquired softly, "Susan, why did you stop? I'm eager to hear more about how they got to know each other."

Susan smiled and thought, 'Indeed, I had been mistaken. How could Penny show such an expression?'

Susan said with a smile, "There's actually not much to it." And she started to explain.

Penny was all ears, with the intensity in her eyes deepening by the moment.

At the hall of Nicholas's, only Eason and Emma were left.

Eason gazed at Emma, who was silently looking down, and let out a soft sigh.

He really regretted what happened yesterday.

He thought to himself, 'The text message is definitely one of Penny's pranks. But Penny's my sister, and I can't just throw her under the bus. Then there's Emma, who's really sensitive and shy. If I admit the text was just a joke, wouldn't it be like I'm intentionally embarrassing her?'

Eason knew he couldn't do that to her.

So, there was only one way out.

He had to own up to the text and admit his feelings for Emma. It was the perfect solution.

Eason found himself unexpectedly taken with someone. The image of Emma's tearful eyes from the day before lingered in his mind, and surprisingly, he wasn't at all opposed to these newfound emotions.

"Miss Garcia," Eason took the initiative, "I'm sorry about what happened yesterday."

Emma's face paled. In a low voice, she said, "There's nothing to be sorry about. It was my mistake to take a joke seriously."

She thought to herself, 'I should have known better. How could someone like me be liked by anyone?'

Emma sat silently, her small frame almost vanishing into the shadows.

Eason felt a pang of discomfort.

He thought, 'Penny's actions were out of line. As her brother, I had to make it right.'

Eason said, "But it wasn't a joke."

"It wasn't?" Emma was stunned, looking up at Eason.

Eason said earnestly, "I didn't admit it right away because I got scared."

'Scared?' Emma was confused.

Eason started his story with a straight face, "Yeah, you know. When you

said you couldn't go for

me, I got worried. Pushing any harder seemed like it might just send you packing. So yeah, I played it off

like that text was nothing."

Emma listened, completely taken aback.

She thought, 'Is that really what happened?'

Eason nodded, "Trust me, I'm telling the truth. Please forgive my moment of cowardice."

Eason's eyes were clear and sincere.

Emma felt a sudden rush of excitement, her heart racing unexpectedly.

Emma couldn't help but ponder, "Did Eason genuinely have feelings for me? Was there someone out there who genuinely wanted to be fond of me? And to top it off, it was the very guy I had a crush on. Could I possibly be this fortunate?"

"Even though you're not into me, as long as you're single, I have the right to pursue you," Eason said

earnestly.

Emma lowered her head, her face blushing fiercely.

She thought, 'Did Eason mean he wanted to pursue me?'

After that, Eason seemed to say something else.

But Emma was so ecstatic that she couldn't make out anything else.

In her mind, she kept replaying Eason's words about pursuing her.

The feeling in her heart was bittersweet and incredibly complex.

During that meal, Emma couldn't even tell how she got the food down.

After dinner, Eason took the initiative to drive Emma home.

Outside her apartment building, Eason spoke softly, "You may head home. I'll wait for a bit."

Emma nodded hastily and fled home.

Back at home, she turned on the light immediately and then stood by the window.

Downstairs, Eason was still there.

Seeing the light in her room, he finally got into his car and drove off.

Emma watched him somewhat dazedly.

Until Eason's car completely vanished into the dark, she withdrew her gaze.

She puckered her lips, lost in contemplation, thinking, 'Eason's into me. It felt surreal.'

In that instant, a mixture of fear and anticipation welled up inside Emma.

She kept thinking, 'Is it possible for me to find such vibrant colors in my bleak world?'

Chapter 349

The next day, as soon as Emma entered her office, she sensed something off in th looking at her.

She thought, 'What's going on?'

Then Emma nervously checked her outfit. It seemed fine.

Someone finally broke the silence, "Ms. Garcia, bright and early this morning, so

bouquet of flowers in your office."

"Yeah, a huge bouquet of roses."

"Who is it? Your boyfriend?"

The questions came one after another.

Emma was clueless.

Flowers?

She hurried to her office to check.

Indeed, there was a vibrant bouquet of roses.

Emma also spotted a card.

As she picked it up, her cheeks flushed with excitement.

“To the most beautiful girl, Eason.”

The flowers were from Eason.

Emma remembered what Eason said yesterday

The next day, as soon as Emma entered her office, she sensed something off in the way everyone was looking at her.

She thought, “What’s going on?”

Then Emma nervously checked her outfit. It seemed fine.

Someone finally broke the silence, “Ms. Garcia, bright and early this morning, someone dropped off a bouquet of flowers in your office.”

“Yeah, à huge bouquet of roses.”

“Who is it? Your boyfriend?”

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“To the most beautiful girl, Eason.”

The flowers were from Eason.

Emma remembered what Eason said yesterday

‘Was he really starting to pursue me?’

Emma gazed at the bouquet, her heart racing relentlessly.

Eason had completely swayed her emotions with just this bunch of flowers. Emma couldn't focus at work all day.

Just as she was beginning to regain her composure, as the workday drew to a close, Eason had someone deliver another bouquet of flowers.

Again, it was a bunch of bright red roses.

The brilliant hues appeared as though they were meant to be etched deep within Emma's heart, casting a mesmerizing spell.

Emma pursed her lips, holding the two bouquets, and she went to find Susan.

"Director Miller," Emma called.

"What's up?" Susan asked with a smile.

Emma gently set the flowers aside and spoke in a hushed tone, "Director Miller, could you have a word with Mr. Nicholas and kindly ask him to refrain from sending any more flowers?"

Emma's face didn't look good, and Susan's demeanor also took on a more serious tone. "Don't you like it? Is his pursuit causing you some trouble? If any, I can talk to him about it."

Susan thought to herself, 'While it's not common for Eason to take a liking to someone, I would certainly intervene if his feelings were causing any discomfort for Emma.'

"No... it's not that," Emma's lips quivered slightly, "I'm just not that good to be together with him."

"Why do you hold such thoughts?" Susan was puzzled.

Emma hesitated for a moment before responding, "Director Miller, you're aware of my circumstances. It's just that someone like me can't really have regular relationship, you know? I mean, Mr. Nicholas seems to like me now, but what if he found out about my struggles with severe depression? Would he

still feel the same way about me?"

Susan looked steadily at Emma.

Susan could tell that Emma had feelings for Eason too.

However, due to Emma's illness, she was afraid to accept this affection.

What a pity that was!

Susan paused for a moment, speaking sincerely, "You know, Emma, I don't reckon Eason would lose interest in you just because you're dealing with depression. If you're not really into Eason, just give me the word, and I'll step in to handle it. However, if you've got some feelings for him too, why not consider opening up to him? You might just find the outcome pleasantly surprising."

"..." Emma's lips trembled.

Emma wanted to say she didn't like Eason.

Those few words, as burdensome as a ton of bricks, simply refused to escape her lips.

Susan understood what Emma meant.

"How about this, Emma? Whether you like him or not, think about it for three days. If you really can't face a relationship, tell me. I'll explain it to Eason," Susan said.

Susan had spoken to this extent, and after a moment of hesitation, Emma nodded in agreement.

Day after day, the vibrant roses appeared on Emma's desk like clockwork, morning and evening. The roses were beautiful and radiant.

At first, Emma was shy, her heart fluttering.

But as time passed, she felt increasingly overwhelmed by a sense of darkness.

She contemplated, 'I'm such a terrible person. Deep down, I always knew I wasn't cut out for relationships. But when Eason showed interest, I just couldn't turn him away. Even knowing there was

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so despicable like me? Do I even have a right to exist in this world?'

Deep into the night, after popping some pills, Emma hit the sack early.

Those pills had a bit of a knock-out punch. novelbin

She was out like a light in no time.

That night, Emma dreamed of a pitch-black cave.

Lost in the darkness, she wandered on and on.

After what felt like an eternity, she finally spotted a beam of light.

She raced toward it, desperate to embrace its warmth.

But as she clung to the light, darkness oozed from her, swallowing it whole.

The world was left with nothing but that inky cave.

Even that beam of light was now part of the darkness.

Emma woke up in a panic.

A sudden chill gripped her.

So, she hugged herself tightly.

She found herself lost in reverie once more. 'Eason is like a beacon in the dark, something I've always longed for. But no matter how bright that light, it never seems to light up my world. It's as if my very presence dims it, dragging it into the shadows. How can someone be so powerless, so unworthy as I

am?"

Staring at the slightly open window, a strong urge to jump from there overwhelmed her.

She stood up in a daze and found herself on the windowsill without realizing it.

The breeze felt good.

Emma wondered if jumping would feel even better.

Her feet had just touched the edge when a jarring sound snapped her back to reality.

Emma suddenly jolted awake.

She slowly made her way back to her room.

Knowing her unstable state, she had installed an alarm on the windowsill.

The moment she stepped on the edge, the house alarm would blare.

Back in her room, she just sat on her bed, lost in thought.

She really wanted to just jump.

But she held back.

In her life, while she may not have been particularly influential, there were still a handful of people who would deeply feel the loss of her absence.

Emma tried to gather her strength.

But for some reason, she just couldn't muster any energy.

She couldn't die, but she didn't want to live either.

She lay in bed, not wanting to move or do anything.

She just wanted to stay there quietly, forever.

That day, Emma didn't show up for work.

An employee not coming to work wasn't usually a big deal.

But if it was Emma, Susan couldn't help feeling a sense of foreboding.

She called someone from the HR Department to inquire about the details.

Confirming that Emma hadn't taken a leave today, Susan's expression grew more serious.

Susan thought to herself, 'Emma is always so disciplined, especially about work. If she had planned not to come, she would have asked for leave well in advance. But she didn't. Could something have happened to Emma?'

Susan had taken the time to understand depression, all for Emma.

She knew that those suffering from it might appear fine when medicated.

Yet, if something set them off, they could slip back into the depths.

The question nagging at her now was: had Emma relapsed?

Thinking about the tough situation of a relapse, Susan immediately became anxious.

Her first instinct was to find Emma.

But Emma's situation was special, no one knew her exact address.

Susan pulled out her phone, repeatedly calling Emma, but no one answered, making Susan even more nervous.

Eason happened to drop by the office, and noticing Susan in her current state, he couldn't help but ask curiously.

Susan said anxiously, "Emma didn't come in today. I need to go to her place to find her."

Eason paused for a moment and asked, "Maybe she just wanted to take a day off?"

Eason thought, 'Was this really something for Susan to freak out over?'

Susan shook her head, "You don't get it."

She stood up abruptly, "I'll go find Ben for help. Have him check out the properties under Emma's

name."

Seeing Susan so worked up, Eason couldn't help but say, "It's not necessary. I know where Emma lives."

"You know? You actually know?" Susan looked at Eason, surprised.

Eason felt a bit uneasy under Susan's gaze, "Is there a problem? Didn't I drop her off at her place last

time?"

Susan furrowed her brow in deep thought. 'Emma, always so fiercely protective of her personal space, had actually shared her exact address with Eason. I had asked for this, but it seemed out of character for her. Could it be that Eason means more to her than she's letting on?'

Susan decisively said, "Eason, go to Emma's house now. Just you alone."

Eason paused, about to ask for more details.

But Susan was already pushing him out the door, "Go now! Keep me posted on any updates."

Chapter 350

Although Eason was perplexed by Susan's evident anxiety, he made a point to seek out Emma. Emma's door was firmly shut.

Eason tried calling and knocking, but there was no response from inside.

Frowning, Eason figured Emma might not be home.

He was on his way to tell Susan when suddenly, something caught his eye, causing his pupils to widen in surprise. Emma's window was wide open.

There she sat on the windowsill, quietly.

Dressed in white, her feet dangling, she made no further movement.

Despite everything, a sudden jolt raced through Eason's heart.novelbin

He couldn't see Emma's expression clearly.

But the image of her leaping from the window inexplicably flashed through his mind.

His heart suddenly picked up pace.

Without thinking, Eason rushed back upstairs.

Emma's door was still closed.

In this emergency, Eason didn't hesitate to call a professional to forcefully open the door. Despite the noise at the door, Emma showed no reaction.

Eason hurried to the windowsill.

There was Emma, still sitting quietly.

Eason approached softly and then swiftly lifted her off the sill.

Entering the room so abruptly would usually startle anyone.

However, Emma didn't react at all.

As she turned her head and saw it was Eason, her expression remained completely undisturbed. 'Oh, it's Eason,' she thought calmly, then sank back into silence.

"What were you thinking?" Eason asked, still shaken.

Emma silently glanced at Eason.

Then, she simply walked over and sat down on the couch.

She flipped on the TV and landed on the kids' channel.

On the screen, a merry tune was playing, with the lyrics "Twinkle, twinkle, little star."

A bunch of little stars were shining in the sky.

Emma was watching intently, not even blinking.

Eason felt a bit baffled.

He couldn't help but walk over, "I'm talking to you."

Emma ignored him and kept watching TV.

Eason frowned, feeling something off about Emma today.

Just then, there came a knock at the door.

Emma kept her eyes glued to the TV, not changing her expression.

Eason hesitated, then went to answer the door.

"Miss Garcia, are you alright?"

As soon as the door opened, a middle-aged woman with glasses spoke, somewhat out of breath. Clearly, she had run up

here.

Seeing Eason, she paused, "You are..."

Eason glanced at Emma on the sofa.

With an extra person in the room, Emma seemed oblivious as if the television was all that mattered. Eason shifted his gaze, speaking in a deep voice, "I'm her boyfriend."

He glanced at Emma.

Sure enough, Emma had no reaction.

“Boyfriend?” The woman in glasses seemed shocked.

Eason took on a host’s demeanor,

“And you are.

The woman glanced at Emma.

Emma neither denied nor confirmed, just focused on the TV.

“Come on in,” Eason motioned her inside.

The woman hesitated, then stepped in.

She first checked on Emma’s condition.

Seeing that Emma was just quietly watching TV, without any further self-harm, he breathed a sigh of relief. “Do you know Emma? | don’t think I’ve seen you before,” Eason initiated the conversation. The woman with glasses glanced at Eason, hesitating a bit.

Eason caught on, “Should we talk in the study?”

She nodded in agreement.

In the study, they deliberately left the door open.

This way, they could chat and keep an eye on Emma at the same time.

“Do you know about Emma's condition?” the woman asked.

Eason really wanted to say he didn't.

But he pretended to be well-informed.

He sighed softly and said, “I'm her boyfriend. Of course, I know about her condition.”

The woman looked at Eason gently, “I'm Emma's doctor, you can call me Dr. Thompson. Knowing Emma's situation and still wanting to be with her, I believe you must love her deeply.”

‘Emma's doctor?’

Eason's eyebrows twitched, continuing to probe, “Dr. Thompson, could you please tell me the extent of Emma's condition?”

Dr. Thompson didn't notice anything amiss and took out Emma's medical record, placing it in front of Eason.

“This little house of Emma, even her parents don't know about it. She told you about this place, so you must be very important to her. Maybe, you can help her out of the darkness.”

Eason calmly took the medical record and looked at it.

Then, his pupils shrank slightly.

‘Severe depression? Emma had depression?’

In his view, Emma was just a bit timid and a bit introverted.

He didn't expect her heart to be engulfed in darkness.

Dr. Thompson continued, "Emma has been sick for about four years. Her condition has been fluctuating over the years. When she's cavell slag ine! seems almost normal. When she's not, she has a strong aversion to life. She decided to live alone, which I was really worried about, so I made a deal with her. Every day, she must report to me on WhatsApp at a certain time. If she doesn't, it means her condition might have relapsed."

"So, that's why you came over so quickly," Eason said. Dr. Thompson gave a bitter smile, "I was really scared."

She opened Emma's medical record for Eason to see, "Actually, Emma hadn't had an episode(ior cada hear I thayglitshle Was getting better. This time, I don't know what triggered her sudden relapse. You're her boyfriend. Do you have any clues?"

Eason's brow twitched.

Dr. Thompson reminded him, "Like, has anything special happened recently?"

Eason hesitated for a moment.

He thought to himself, 'Was it a special thing, him pursuing Emma? Could it be that Emma's illness relapsed because of him?' Eason couldn't help but feel a wave of guilt.

'had made the move to pursue Emma only to cover up a lie for Penny. If my pursuit had caused trouble for Emma, even leading to the relapse of her illness, wouldn't I be the troublemaker?' Eason thought.

"what are you t about?" Dr. Thompson asked further.

Eason hesitated for a moment and chose to be honest, "Dr. Thompson, I'm sorry. I lied to you (ust, Kow \! ActyallN' A? AbfEmma's boyfriend. I'm just pursuing her. Maybe her sudden relapse is because she really dislikes me."

Dr. Thompson looked at Eason with some surprise. Eason sincerely said, "I'm really sorry. But, I'm willing to do my utmost to make amends."

Eason thought to himself that Emma's situation was entirely his fault. He felt compelled to step up and take responsibility, as it was the right thing to do.