

Desperation 181

Chapter 181

The doctor brought by George was Tyler Morgan, who had been cooperating with the Pliskin family all year round. Naturally, he

also knew that the Pliskin family had been looking for the daughter, who had been lost since she was a child.

Tyler handed the report to Lester. "Mr. Pliskin, the paternity test results are here."

Lester took it and turned directly to the last page.

George strode over.

Ashley sat on the chair and did not move.

Miranda held her arm and sat there with her, staring anxiously at the report in Lester's hand. Her heart was pounding, and she

was actually more nervous than Ashley.

Joseph was always restless and very curious. He had already sneaked up to Lester and stretched her neck to look at the report.

He read the result: [There is a high degree of DNA mismatch between the test specimens. The person conducting the test and

the individual being tested do not share a biological relationship.]

The moment Lester saw the words "do not share a biological relationship," his hands that held the report tightened.

George thought, 'Ashley has no blood relationship with the Pliskin family... She is not my sister, who was lost since childhood...'

He frowned slightly, and his face was still expressionless, making it difficult for people to see what he was thinking, yet there was

an underlying intensity.

George witnessed every link. He watched the Blood drawing procedure, so it could not be switched. And he brought the doctor.

There were no mistakes in every link.

However, the result proved that Ashley was not his sister...

Joseph saw the result and had mixed feelings. He turned back to look at Ashley and shook his head at her.

Seeing this, Miranda was surprised for a moment and felt a little

disappointed.....

She thought Ashley would finally have a family that truly cared about her and loved her.

Miranda sighed helplessly.

She turned to look at Ashley, "Ashley..."

As a person involved, Ashley did not have many mood swings and was not surprised.

She had done the paternity test with the Ramos family before, and she was determined that she was indeed from the Ramos

family, so she had already expected that she would have nothing to do with the Pliskin family before the result came out.

The results only verified her initial thoughts.

Ashley stood up and walked to Lester.

She pressed her lips and said in a soft voice, "Now that the results are out, you don't have to focus on me. I believe that you will

find the sister you miss."

Lester lowered his gaze, and something seemed to be simmering in his deep eyes. His voice was hoarse. "Although you are not

my biological sister, Ashley, can I treat you as my sister?"

He liked Ashley and wanted to pamper and protect her like a family member.

Ashley was stunned when she heard this, then she smiled and chuckled, "You don't have to treat me as your sister. We are

already friends."

Lester smiled at her and said in a laid-back voice, "Right. We are friends."

George stared at Ashley, then shifted his gaze to the report again, with complex emotion in his eyes,

Miranda suddenly looked in a certain direction and said, "Why are you here?"

Joseph heard this, turned around, and immediately frowned. It was Ryan.

When Ryan saw Miranda, he strode over with surprise in his eyes. He covered his right elbow with his left hand, saying, "I fell

while riding a motorcycle and came to the hospital for a bandage. Miranda, why are you in the hospital? Are you feeling uncomfortable?"

Ryan ignored his injury and looked at Miranda with a worried expression.

Miranda didn't speak. She caught a glimpse of a large scratch on Ryan's arm. It was bloody, stained with rough stones, and

bleeding, looking painful.

Miranda's eyes widened in surprise. She wanted to say something, but finally, she looked away and said nothing cruelly.

"Miranda, tell me. Are you all right?" Ryan forgot about his injury and asked worriedly.

The next second, he caught a glimpse of Ashley not far away.

Ryan's face suddenly became cold, and he frowned slightly. His eyes were full of fierceness, completely different that way when

he looked at Miranda.

Joseph was shocked by Ryan's change.

Why did Ashley's brother be such a total birdbrain?

Ryan remained silent, staring at Ashley with a cold expression. His eyes were full of hatred.

Joseph lost his temper. "What the fuck are you staring at? Didn't you forget you knelt to Ashley at the racing track yesterday?!"

He deliberately said this to outrage Ryan. Ryan suddenly became embarrassed. Just as he was about to retort, he caught a

glimpse of the paper that seemed to be the paternity test report in Lester's hand. Then, he shifted his gaze to Ashley and saw

the bruise on her arm after blood. was drawn.

Ryan thought about it and quickly understood.

He sneered disdainfully, "Ashley, do you still want to take the paternity test to look for your family?"

Ashley looked at him expressionlessly.

Ryan thought it was ridiculous and looked at her as if he were looking at a miserable wretch.

He sneered, "Why are you so naive? Do you think we would casually

recognize a girl and say that she is the daughter of the Ramos family? After having a careful investigation and paternity test and

confirming that you have a blood relationship with the Ramos family, we decided to take you back..

"Now that you have severed ties with the Ramos family, you want to cling to the Pliskin family and become a daughter of a

wealthy family. Why have I never realized how snobbish you are?"

Ryan hated Ashley so much that he wished that he had never had such a sister and even wondered why Ashley hadn't died

when she was a child.

Whenever he saw disdaining the Ramos family, he felt resentful.

How could Ashley disdain the Ramos family?

The Ramos family gave her life. Although she had been lost since childhood, the Ramos family took her back and raised her for

two years. and had done enough for her.

What right did she have to despise the Ramos family?

After Ashley heard what he said, her eyes were ice-cold. "Are you done?"

Ryan snorted coldly. "Ashley, even if you severed ties with the Ramos family and said that you had nothing to do with them, you

have a blood relationship with them and would always be a descendant of the Ramos. family."

Ashley suddenly clenched her fists and closed her eyes. Her thick eyelashes fluttered slightly.

She had a blood relationship with the Ramos family.

That was the most painful, disgusting, and unchangeable fact for her.

When she opened her eyes, she looked coldly at Ryan.

Her piercing gaze was like a sharp ice blade. Ryan suddenly fell silent.

Joseph could no longer hold back his anger. The next second, he punched Ryan, making a dull sound.

Miranda ran to Ashley and protected her with concern.

How could Ashley have such a group of inhuman family members?

Miranda thought if her family were like this, she would feel suffocated.

George said in a cold voice, "This is a hospital. Don't fight here."

"George?" Lester looked at him in surprise. Joseph did what he also. wanted to do, but he didn't expect George to stop Joseph.

The next second, George glanced at the assistant beside him and ordered coldly, "Take him out and teach him a lesson."

The assistant nodded in agreement and immediately asked the accompanying bodyguards to follow George's instructions.

Lester was surprised.

George was the same as before, short-spoken but ruthless.

Ryan would be doomed today.

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Ashley looked at George and was about to say something, but Lester was the first to speak. "Ashley, we are friends. How could

we not help when someone bullied you?"

Ashley smiled, "Thank you."

In fact, she could deal with Ryan herself.

But being cared about so much by a friend made her uncontrollably feel warm.

Miranda heard George's words and watched the group of bodyguards walking towards Ryan. She was a little worried and

wanted to say something, but she finally didn't say anything.

George and Lester had planned to have dinner with Ashley, but after Ryan's disturbance, Ashley was not in the mood and

returned to the hotel.

"Ashley, you..." Joseph followed Ashley and asked worriedly. "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine," Ashley glanced at him and said. "Don't fight in the future. How should I explain to Valentin if you get beaten up?"

Joseph felt underestimated. He puffed up his chest and said, "Don't look down on me. I'm an excellent fighter, okay? Ryan is no

match for me."

Ashley raised an eyebrow. "Really? Are you that powerful?"

Joseph was proud. "Of course!"

"Okay. I'll trust you this time." Ashley chatted with Joseph for a while before going back to the room to rest.

Looking at her back, Joseph sighed, "I have to tell Valentin about this matter."

Joseph returned to his room. Before sitting down, Jaden and Bryce came

over.

“How’s the result?” Jaden asked immediately.

Joseph spread his hands. “Ashley has no blood relationship with the Pliskin family. They have found the wrong person again. I

thought

Ashley could completely cut off from the Ramos family.”

Bryce frowned slightly.

Jaden didn’t speak. When he was silent, his mixed-race facial features looked more handsome. After a while, he looked at

Joseph with his blue eyes. “Is there a flight ticket back to Zyrrinthia tomorrow?”

Joseph glanced at him lightly. “You won’t return to Zyrrinthia with us. Why did you care about this?”

Jaden was speechless.

He suddenly smiled, “Dear, why do you reject me so much?”

Joseph rolled his eyes at Jaden and kicked him. “Get out.”

Bryce watched the two of them calmly. He was used to seeing it and didn’t find it surprising.

Ashley took a bath after returning to the room.

She lay in the bathtub, soaking her whole body in the hot water. The water rippled, and the steam rose up, seeming to evaporate

away the fatigue in her heart.

Ashley lay there quietly, closing his eyes and gradually relaxing.

Suddenly, the mobile phone placed aside rang.

Ashley wiped her hands, picked up the phone, and took a look.

It was a video call from Valentin.

Ashley rejected it.

She soon received a message.

Valentin sent: [Why did you reject it?]

Ashley typed and replied: [I’m taking a bath. Wait a moment.]

Valentin sighed helplessly on the other end of the phone.

After taking the bath, Ashley came out of the bathroom, dried her hair with a hair dryer, and lay down comfortably on the bed to

call Valentin.

The video call connected instantly.

Valentin looked at Ashley on the screen. Her skin was tender and flawless,

and her lips were moist and red, like delicate roses, tempting him to pluck.

After a bath, her eyes seemed filled with hazy mist. When she looked at the camera, she exuded a tempting charm.

Valentin's eyes suddenly darkened a bit. He slightly lowered his eyes to hide the surging emotions in his eyes, and then he said

in a hoarse voice, "Joseph told me what happened today!"

Ashley shook her head helplessly. Joseph was quite a blabbermouth.

"Did you take a paternity test with the Pliskin family?" Valentin asked.

"Yeah, I'm not related to the Pliskin family by blood." Ashley lay on the bed, holding the mobile phone in one hand and supporting

her chin with the other. "They found the wrong person. Lester thought I was his lost sister from childhood. I told them I had done

paternity tests with the Ramos family before, and I was identified as the daughter of the Ramos family.

Valentin looked at her for a moment, and his eyes showed a hint of emotion. He suddenly said, "I'll come to you now."

"Ah?" Ashley was shocked upon hearing this. She sat up from the bed. "Now? I will return to Zyrinthia tomorrow."

She thought, 'What's wrong with him?'

Valentin stared at her and said in a low voice, "You are in a mood."

Stunned, Ashley blinked and moved closer to the camera. She pursed her cherry lips slightly and asked with a charming smile,

"I'm in a mood? How did you see that?"

"Ashley." Valentin's eyes were deep, and his low, magnetic voice overflowed with affection. "I know you better than you think."

When Ashley heard this, her smile froze, and her heart seemed wrapped in something soft, making it beat fast.

She retracted the smile she forced and lowered her head. "Okay, you know me very well. I just feel a little tired and miss my grandparents."

What Ryan said made Ashley feel numb and tired.

The more tired she was, the more she missed her grandparents and the days with them when she was a child.

But her grandparents had passed away, and she would never see them again.

Ashley took a deep breath and suppressed the soreness in her heart. "But you don't have to come to see me. I will return to

Zyrrinthian tomorrow. It will be tiring for you to make another trip."

After speaking, Ashley lay back on the bed again, supporting her chin with her palm and tapping her cheek gently with her

fingers. There was a lazy smile on her beautiful eyes. "Besides, after hearing what you said, I suddenly feel better. Really. I'm

relieved now."

In addition to her grandparents, she still had Valentin. He grew up with her and was the one who accompanied her throughout

her young life.

They were thousands of miles away, but looking at him through the camera, the fatigue in Ashley's heart suddenly dissipated.

Valentin didn't speak.

Ashley put her face close to the camera, blinking her big and bright eyes. "Come on, look at me. You know me so well, then take

a look and see if I am relieved."

After saying that, she made a face.

Valentine looked at her and chuckled, "You look better."

But he was still worried about Ashley and wanted to go to her side immediately to stay with her.

Ashley didn't know what Valentine was thinking. After chatting for a while, she hung up the video call after learning he was busy.

Then, she surfed the Internet for some time.

In the afternoon, she heard a knock on the door.

Ashley thought it was Joseph coming to find her, so she walked over and opened the door.

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The door opened, and when he saw the man standing outside.

When she came to her senses, she wanted to close the door immediately.

But the man put his hand on the door panel to stop her from closing the door. The corners of his beautiful eyes were slightly

upturned. He smiled evilly, "Baby, why do you run away when you see me?"

In the evening. Joseph came over to have dinner with Ashley.

When he raised his hand to knock on the door, he found it was not closed, so he opened it.

"Ashley, why don't you close the door?" Joseph asked suspiciously.

The next second, he saw Ashley's mobile phone on the carpet.

But Ashley was not in the room.

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"Ashley?"

Joseph picked up the mobile phone on the ground and looked around. the room but couldn't find Ashley.

He thought, 'Has she gone out? No, if she goes out, she won't drop her phone on the ground or close the door.

With this in mind, Joseph's heart suddenly skipped a beat.

Could something really happen to Ashley this time?

Ashley had been separated from the group by the crowd yesterday, but fortunately, she met George on the roadside.

Joseph's expression became stern. He immediately turned around and ran to Lester and George's rooms to see if Ashley had

gone to find them.

George sat on the sofa in Lester's room with the paternity test report in his hand. He stared grimly at the results on the last page.

"Are you also surprised, George?"

Lester sighed.

The first time he met Ashley, he felt an inexplicable affinity for her, and Ashley was as old as his lost sister.

In addition, Ashley's facial features were also similar to those of Lester's mother when she was young.

These signs made Lester believe that Ashley was probably the biological sister he had been looking for.

But the results let him down.

He had the wrong person once again.

Ashley had no blood relationship with the Pliskin family.

Lester thought the fact was unexpected and unacceptable, but the result was unmistakable. Ashley was really not his sister.

He didn't know how much his biological sister had suffered while

alone. She was born with a silver spoon in her mouth and should

lived a happy and carefree life and been loved by all her family...

Lester sighed again. There was a hint of annoyance in his eyes.

"What are you thinking about, George?"

George stared at the paternity test report in his hand with incomprehensible emotions in his cold eyes. Just as he was about to

speak, there was a sudden knock on the door.

Lester went to open the door and saw Joseph.

"Has Ashley come to see you?" Joseph asked anxiously, getting straight to the point.

"No. what happened?" Lester asked..

"It's over. Something might really happen to Ashley this time." Joseph was sweating profusely with Ashley's mobile phone in his

hand. "I went to look for her just now. The door of her room was open, and her mobile phone was on the ground, but she was not

in the room."

Lester's expression instantly became stern upon hearing this.

George heard their conversation and strode over. His voice was cold. "The door is open? Go to the hotel management to check

the surveillance footage.”

Joseph nodded and went to the rooms of Jaden, Bryce, and Miranda, but Ashley was not there.

“Ashley is missing?” Miranda was anxious and ran out in slippers.

“Has anyone come to Ashley?” Bryce asked. His eyes were full of worry.

Upon hearing this, Jaden thought of something and frowned. Could it be...that man...

“Check the hotel surveillance footage first.” Joseph’s palms were sweaty. He ran to the hotel receptionist and asked to check the

surveillance footage of the corridor.

Generally, in five-star hotels, there were surveillance cameras in the corridors.

The door to Ashley’s room was open, but no one was there. If someone had come to see her, that person must have appeared in

the corridor. Joseph would know who it was as long as he checked the surveillance footage.

Joseph explained his intention to the receptionist.

The receptionist didn’t agree at once and said, “Sorry, sir. I have to ask the hotel manager for permission, then you can check it.”

Joseph frowned. It would be too late to find Ashley if he had to follow the procedure before getting the permission.

At this time, George suddenly spoke with a cold voice. “Is the hotel manager Alfred? I’ll call him.”

“Mr. Pliskin!” The young receptionist immediately recognized George and Lester next to him. After all, the Pliskin family had

property in Manditus and a high status.

George had already called Alfred and put him on speakerphone.

Then, the receptionist heard Alfred’s flattering voice. “Okay, okay, Mr. Pliskin. I will arrange for someone to retrieve the

surveillance footage for you right away.”

The receptionist understood instantly.

The group of people in front of her were all distinguished guests and could not be ignored.

She immediately dialed the hotel’s internal phone number and asked the security personnel to retrieve the hotel’s surveillance

footage.

In the security room, the staff quickly retrieved the surveillance footage in the hotel corridors and elevators.

The picture showed that the surveillance cameras were fine before four o'clock in the afternoon, but after that, the cameras

suddenly broke down, and the picture was dark, and nothing could be seen.

"There may be a problem with the wiring, and the cameras suddenly broke," the staff speculated and explained.

Joseph panicked. The wiring had no problem. Someone must have deliberately destroyed the surveillance cameras.

Lester frowned, "Someone must have come to Ashley."

George took out his mobile phone and called the accompanying bodyguards, asking them to look for Ashley nearby.

Jaden thought for a while. He walked away with his mobile phone, found

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number from the contacts, and dialed it.

but the call could not get through.....

damn it!

Joseph's back was covered in a cold sweat. Feeling anxious and scared. If something happened to Ashley, how would he explain it to

Valentin?

though he was scared, in this situation he radioed Valentin about it as soon as possible.

Joseph tremblingly took out his cell phone and dialed Valentin.

The call was answered quickly.

Joseph swallowed. A chill running through his body, Lucy and I had

needed a fight to return to Zyrinthia too. But automatically she suddenly...suddenly disappeared..."

After Joseph finished speaking there was a dead silence on the other end

of the call, which exuded an intimidating, cold and menacing,

What do you mean missing? Valentin's voice was chill.

Joseph wiped the cold sweat from his forehead. He remembered Bertin what happened in detail. He had found that the

Did he come here specifically to give Ashley a surprise?

After knowing Valentin came, Joseph seemed to have a rock and was no longer so worried.

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Less than five minutes, a row of black cars parked before the hotel.

The door of the car in the middle opened, and Valentin got out of the car. He looked gloomy, and no one dared to chat him up.

Joseph immediately ran over, and he found Valentin brought lots of subordinates.

Joseph was so surprised that he even burst into tears. "It's been almost half an hour since I found out Ashley was missing,

Valentin. I didn't take good care of Ashley."

Joseph blamed himself very much.

But Valentin didn't blame him. The priority now was to find Ashley as soon as possible. He walked straight into the hotel lobby

and walked toward Jaden.

Bryce noticed Valentin, who got out of the car, feeling obviously surprised.

He guessed Valentin showed up at Manditus in Yaloria looking for Ashley.

Bryce thought, "What is the relationship between Ashley and Valentin?"

Miranda couldn't help but exclaim. Then, she came back to her senses hurriedly reached out, and covered her mouth.

She thought, "Mr. Kingsley deserves to be Ashley's loyal fan. He even came abroad to meet her. He really loves her!"

George recognized Valentin right away. Everyone in the upper class had heard of Valentin and was aware of his status.

He wondered why Valentin came to Manditus from Zyrrinthia.

Lester explained in a low voice, "This is Ashley's secret husband, George."

George choked on his words.

He had never known Ashley was married.

George was suddenly irritated by Valentin's presence.

He felt Valentin had taken his treasure away.

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Whiljaden felt nervous, a shadow suddenly feelbover him.

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have no idea about it.noontula with him. Jaden glanc alentin and coughed lightlyBB I can guarantee that he will no shley."

seph frowned, "What do you act?"

That's literally what I mean. Jadeie prise diemphatically. "If Ashley's

sence is related to Andrew, then we care assured. He will never hurt Ashley.”

Ashley couldn't utter a word to refute for moment.

They couldn't be reassured at all..

Inflamed by Jaden's words, Andrew treated Ashley specially as her lover.

From the side Valentin looked extremely gloomy, with anger in his eyes. He tilted his head and ordered the subordinates to go

find Ashley

immediately.

The car drove into a private seaside villa with beautiful scenery.

The car was driven by a beefy bodyguard. After parking the car, he spoke respectfully to Ashley in the back. “Here we are,

Mr. Banks.”

Andrew leaned forward out of the car. He wore a silk shirt with two buttons open, revealing his

delicate collarbone and making him more charming

Andrew walked around the back of the car and opened the door with his knuckled fingers. He entered Ashley in the back

seat and said, “Get out of the car..

Ashley sat still and glared at him in defiance. “Nope.”

Andrew seemed to expect her cores. He tilted his head with a smile and stretched out his arms. “Well. I'll take you out.”

Ashley was speechless.

Get out of the way.”

Ashley got out of the car in silence and felt the salty sea breeze

She glanced over and found a private beach not far away. The sun the evening shone on the sea, and the surface of the sea

glimmered so beautifully.

Ashley wasn't in the mood to enjoy the scenery and asked angrily, “Why did you bring me here?”

Chapter 185

Ashley asked in anger, “Why did you bring me here?”

Andrew bent slightly, met her eyes, and smiled, "I want to be with you."

Ashley took a step back and distanced herself from him.

Andrew glanced at her backward steps causally. "The way you avoided me distressed me a little."

Ashley rolled her eyes and deliberately took a step back.

He sneered inexplicably, suddenly walked forward, and approached her, staring at her closely. "You have nowhere to hide."

His voice sounded raucous and sexy, showing a sense of danger.

"Andrew!"

Ashley called his name, cursed him secretly, and distanced herself from him again. "You didn't come to me a few days ago, so

why did you do it today?"

Andrew didn't answer her question, but a smile played around the edges of his lips. "Judging by your expression, you cursed me

again secretly."

Ashley choked on his words.

He didn't mind it and put his hands in his pockets. He looked slender a straight, then said casually, "Valentin has been sneaking

up on me the few days, so I didn't go to you."

Ashley suddenly widened her eyes in shock.

Valentin?

Andrew stared at her and asked meaningfully, "Did he bother me to keep me from going to you?"

Ashley blinked.

She wondered when Valentin knew about Andrew.

Valentin even secretly tried to stop Andrew from pestering her.

Andrew suddenly raised his hand, pressed her head with his palm, and forced her to turn her head to meet his eyes. "Why are

you still thinking

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bout him when I'm standing before you right now!"

she found his words ridiculous.

he couldn't utter a word to refute and slapped her. "Why did you bring me here today?"

Andrew narrowed his eyes slightly and replied. "Have you forgotten what I promised you?"

she was startled.

Andrew wouldn't remember it for a moment.

Andrew suddenly smiled, with a threatening look. If you do come. I'll

stay here until you figure it out.

Andrew's eyes narrowed around and intended to run away

Andrew's eyes narrowed around and intended to run away

Andrew held her for the next second.

Andrew's eyes narrowed around and intended to run away

Andrew lowered his head and stared at her.

Andrew wore a black shirt. Andrew's eyes narrowed around and intended to run away. He tilted his head slightly and said. "I can help you with him."

Andrew's eyes narrowed around and intended to run away

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Lester fell into gloom when he heard this, and he had no idea that Andrew once courted Ashley.

Then, he suddenly thought of something and felt relieved slightly. He said playfully, "What a coincidence!"

“What a coincidence! What are you talking about?” Joseph was immediately dissatisfied and added, “Who the hell is Andrew?”

Andrew secretly took Ashley away from the hotel, which someone ordinary could make, indicating his special status.

As Joseph asked, he found Valentin hung up the phone. Joseph hurriedly ran over and asked, “How is it going, Valentin?”

Valentin glanced at Jaden, not far away, fiercely.

Valentin’s stare gave Jaden the creeps. He lowered his voice when he talked about Andrew just now, but Valentin still heard him.

‘Have you

found out Ashley’s whereabouts, Valentin?” Joseph asked.

“I got some leads.” Valentin raised his wrist and checked the time on his watch before striding out of the hotel.

Joseph was overjoyed and hurriedly followed. “I’ll go with you, Valentin.”

Andrew stayed on the third-floor balcony of the private villa by

1.

He sat on the balcony railing, with his legs hanging outside, who behavior looked dangerous.

The sea breeze blew his hair and his black shirt, showing his muscu figure, and he looked out at the sea not far away now.

Ashley wasn’t in the mood to enjoy the scenery, and when she noticed his dangerous behavior, she suddenly asked, “Aren’t you

afraid I’ll reach out and push you down?”

Andrew didn’t mind it. He had no guard against her even in such a dangerous situation, and he just asked, “What happened after

you pushed

me?”

“Then you fall to your death,” Ashley replied.

Andrew chuckled and turned his head to look at her. “If I die, I’ll take you with me.”

Ashley was speechless.

She found Andrew crazy.

Andrew suddenly asked, "Had you done a paternity test with someone from the Pliskin family?"

Ashley was startled and frowned, "How do you know it?"

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Andrew raised his eyebrow and said seriously, "I always pay attention to anything related to you."

Ashley ignored his words and asked casually, "Did you get the test results?"

"Yep," Andrew told the truth and smiled meaningfully, "I sincerely hope. you are the missing daughter of the Pliskin family."

"Why?" Ashley was surprised.

He lowered his head, looked at her, and said seriously, "If you agree to my pursuit, I will explain it to you."

"Are you out of your mind?"

Ashley suddenly got furious. She found him still sitting on the balcony guardrail, reached out, and wanted to push him.

As a result, when she reached out her hand, Andrew noticed her movements, but he sat still and didn't duck.

Ashley held her temper, glared at him, and withdrew her hand without a word. "What a pity! Your hope is dashed. I have nothing

to do with the Pliskin family."

Andrew stared at her hand and asked leisurely, "Why didn't you push me?"

Ashley looked indifferent. "I don't want to touch you."

He smiled, "But I want you to do it."

After speaking, Andrew took the initiative to reach out his hand, and his fingers had sharp articulation. His tan skin gave him

more power in his hands.

Ashley fell into silence and couldn't understand his behavior.

She took a step back with no expression and avoided his touch. "You dislike the sea, but why did you bring me here?"

Andrew didn't touch Ashley, and he twisted his fingertips gently. He didn't get furious at all but even smiled, "You still remember

my preferences. I didn't expect you to know me well."

Ashley sneered.

He turned over and got off the balcony guardrail, walked up to her, and raised his eyebrows slightly. "I don't like the sea, but you

do."

Ashley choked on his words. She indeed loved enjoying the sea, but she didn't want him to be with her.

She frowned and asked, "You said I once promised you something, but I indeed can't remember it. I have a bad memory."

Andrew sighed and hit the nail on the head. "I won't buy your bullshit. You just don't take my affairs seriously."

"Why didn't you just tell me?" Ashley asked.

He tilted his head and smiled wickedly, "How boring it is! I expect you to remember it."

Cut the crap," Ashley snorted coldly and turned around out of his sight.

She looked towards the beach outside.

This private beach was connected to the villa. Ashley could go for a walk on the beach at any time, but there were some

bodyguards patrolling the villa.

Ashley asked, "Is it true that Valentin has been trying to stop you recently?"

Andrew glanced at her and replied, "There is no need for me to tell you anything."

Ashley found a hole in his words and pointed at him. "You have me before.."

Andrew was immediately amused and stroked his brow with his fingertips. He shook a little with laughter, and the

depression in his eyes faded. He looked joyful and said. "Every time I meet you, I feel delighted!

the

Ashley didn't reply and was secretly lost in thought. She found Andrew hadn't pestered her in a long time ago, and it turned out

Valentin secretly held her back.

She wondered when Valentinkate about Andrew's relationship with her.

"Do you want to inake a het?? Andrew suddenly asked.

"Bet on what?" Ashley raised her eyebrows slightly and felt interested in

1.

Andrew put one hand in his pocket and leaned leisurely against the balcony railing. His black shirt was held against him by the

sea breeze, revealing the faint outline of his abdominal muscles.

He lowered his head and focused his sight on her face. "We bet Valentin will come to find you."

Ashley thought for a moment and said, "He will not."

Joseph would have known about her disappearance by now, but even if he had told Valentin, Valentin couldn't be out of the

country from home any time soon.

Andrew raised his index finger and shook it slightly. "You lost the bet, Ashley."

Chapter 187

Ashley was stunned. She thought for a while and asked in surprise, "Did Valentin come to Manditus? When did he come? How

did you know?"

Andrew replied casually, "He had me watched, and so did I.

"Moreover," Andrew observed her expression, narrowed his eyes, and said, "You seem pleased to have Valentin here."

He paused for a second and added, "But I'm dissatisfied with your pleasure."

Ashley couldn't refute for a moment.

"Don't you want to divorce him?" Andrew stared at her all the time, observing her expression.

Ashley's divorce had nothing to do with Andrew, but it occurred to her that she could make up an excuse to stop Andrew from

pestering her.

She calmly cleared her throat and softly replied, "We're not getting divorced. We have a great relationship. I'm married and have

a family of my own, so stop acting out on me.”

Andrew was displeased with Ashley’s words and looked extremely distressed. After a long time, he said, “I have no choice but to

intervene in your relationship.”

Ashley choked on his words.

She couldn’t bear it anymore and cursed, “Get lost.”

But Andrew grinned and said with a frivolous smile, “I enjoy your cursing. Go ahead.”

Ashley was speechless.

“Have you found you’re out of your mind?”

“How did you feel it?” Andrew asked.

“How ashamed you are! You enjoy the abuse of others and even intervene in others’ lives. I have never met someone filthy like

you.”

Andrew heard her words word by word and raised his brows flirtatiously. “You misunderstood me, Ashley. I only enjoy your abuse

of me, not

others.”

He didn’t dispute Ashley’s remarks about himself.

But he couldn’t accept Ashley defined himself as filthy.

Andrew took a step closer to her, forced a smile, and said meaningfully, “Why do you think I’m filthy? I haven’t gone too far with

you since I brought you here.”

“You should never have brought me here.” Ashley looked directly at him. without eluding.

“I have no choice,” Andrew hooked around a strand of her hair and added ambiguously, “I want to meet you. Besides, you

promised me personally before.”

Ashley fell into silence.

She indeed couldn’t remember what she promised Andrew.

Bodyguards patrolled outside the villa while cooks and servants prepared. lavish dinners in the kitchen, all of Ashley's favorite

flavors.

Ashley hadn't had dinner with Andrew for a long time, and she suddenly recalled the scene from which they had just met.

As time went by, it was getting dark outside.

Andrew sat on a single couch in the living room, playing with a lighter in his hands. His fingertips rubbed against the gear,

making a slight sound, and the flame flickered on and off.

The light from the lighter silhouetted Andrew's sharp profile.

Ashley glanced at him and walked around the living room idly. Through the large floor-to-ceiling windows, she could see the

bright moon on the

sea.

When she turned around, she found Andrew staring at her back unabashedly.

"Why are you staring at me?" Ashley said fiercely.

"You look like a fierce wolf," Andrew stood up leisurely, glanced at the clock on the wall, and said hoarsely, "Haven't you

remembered yet?"

Ashley frowned, "I really forgot. Get to the point."

At this moment, a subordinate in black hurriedly walked over and

whispered in Andrew's ear.

Andrew looked calm, with no emotions in his eyes. He grinned and said, "He got here faster than I expected."

Ashley blinked blankly.

She wondered what did Andrew mean by it.

Did Valentin come here to find her?

Andrew felt displeased with Ashley's expectations. He narrowed his eyes. and said in gloom. "Are you looking forward to meeting

Valentin?"

"If I don't expect Valentin to come, should I expect to be forced to stay here and recall the past? I even suspect you lied to me on

purpose."

After speaking, Ashley ran out of the living room.

Andrew frowned in anger.

As Ashley ran past him, he suddenly stretched out his hand and clamped her soft wrist.

He said defiantly. "Do you want to make another bet?"

"Bet on what?" Ashley instantly got alert.

"Just bet." Valentin paused for a while, raised his eyebrow, and smiled meaningfully, "Bet if Valentin can get you out of here."

Ashley frowned and said coldly, "Stop picking on him, Andrew."

"Pick on him?" Andrew sneered, grabbing Ashley's wrist with one hand, and tapping his temple with the other. Then, he added, "I

have a bad memory. I even forgot to give you today's greeting gift."

Ashley looked serious and refused indifferently. "I don't want it."

Andrew was cunning and always behaved crazily with an abnormal. mind, so Ashley wouldn't accept his gift.

But Andrew ignored Ashley's refusal and ordered the subordinate on the side, "Take the gift here."

Then, he took Ashley to the study on the second floor.

When they entered the study, Ashley broke free from Andrew's grasp. At this time, the subordinate came over with a rectangular

gift box and handed it to Ashley with both hands.

Ashley stood still and looked up at Andrew, who was standing by the window. "I told you I don't want it."

Andrew tilted his head and smiled perversely, "If you don't take it, he will have to keep holding it."

Andrew mentioned the subordinate who delivered the gift.

Ashley frowned. She didn't want to trouble others, so she took the gift with reluctance.

The subordinate finally breathed a sigh of relief and stood aside with his head down respectfully.

Ashley opened the box and found a silver pistol inside, which was not a toy but a real gun full of bullets in it.

Ashley immediately recognized the model of the pistol. Although it was rare, it performed well and was commonly used by

mercenaries.

Ashley sneered.

She found his gift as abnormal as himself.

“Why did you give it to me?” Ashley looked at Andrew speechlessly.

“Don’t you like it?”

“Sort of.” Ashley was good at shooting and interested in firearms, but she couldn’t bring the real pistol on board.

At this moment, a dazzling light flashed through the glass window of the study. Under the darkness, the light came closer and

closer, and it looked like a car coming from a distance.

Ashley was moved, and her heart beating violently. She seemed something and ran to the window to look out.

One black car after another drove towards the villa and surround the cars pulled up, the burly bodyguards in black got out and slowly

approached the villa.

As soon as these bodyguards got out of the cars, they pointed their guns in the direction of the villa.

ense

Seeing this situation, Andrew’s subordinates, who were patrolling near the villa, immediately became vigilant. They all gathered

together and blocked before the villa. They also pointed their guns at the bodyguards before them.

The two parties formed a confrontation.

In the tense and dangerous situation, the door of the black car parked in the middle slowly opened, and the noble Valentin

showed up out of the

car.

In the dark night, the lights of several cars merged together.

Valentin leaned over and got out of the car, standing under the backlight. His face was blurred, and only the outline of his side

could be discerned.

But Ashley on the second floor recognized him at a glance, and she knew it was Valentin.

Valentin indeed came there to save her.

Ashley froze for a moment. She turned around and wanted to run out.

But the subordinate standing aside immediately raised his hands and blocked Ashley's way.

Ashley frowned, stopped, and looked at Andrew aside. "Enough is enough."

"Do you still remember the bet just now, Ashley?" Andrew sneered coldly, "I bet Valentin can't take you away from here."

After speaking, he forcefully dragged Ashley back to the window and had/ her face out.

Ashley struggled subconsciously.

But Andrew stood behind Ashley as if hugging her from behind. He held her left hand with one hand, picked up the silver pistol

with the other hand, and placed it in the palm of Ashley's right hand.

Then, Andrew held Ashley's right hand with the gun from behind as if teaching her how to shoot.

However, he slowly raised the muzzle and pointed it in Valentin's direction outside the villa.

"Andrew!"

Ashley's eyes suddenly widened, and she called his name coldly and immediately struggled out.

Andrew firmly grasped her right hand, holding the gun from behind with great strength, pointed the gun in the direction of the

muzzle, and aimed it at Valentin outside the villa without any deviation.

He lowered his head slightly and whispered meaningfully in Ashley's ear,

"Don't you plan to divorce him?"

At this time, Valentin, outside the villa, seemed to feel Ashley's direction. He suddenly raised his chin and looked towards the

second floor of the villa with his stern eyes.

Then, the bodyguards around him immediately looked up and followed his gaze.

The bodyguards sensed the gun pointing at them. They looked alert, immediately turned the muzzle of the gun, and pointed in

the direction. of the second floor.

At this time, in the second-floor study, Andrew stood behind Ashley, holding her right hand with the gun from behind. He lowered

his head slightly, and Ashley even could feel his warm breath. "You didn't want to marry him at first, right?"

Ashley didn't like being cooped up and said indifferently without any emotions, "It's none of your business."

"Since you don't want to marry him, how about I help you get rid of him?"

"How dare you?" Ashley replied in anger.

She found Andrew completely lost control.

Ashley closed her eyes and took a deep breath. "If you are abnormal in mental, please leave me alone. Let go of me now,

Andrew. Do me?"

Andrew chuckled, with affection in his eyes. "But I feel reluctant you go."

ear

Ashley had her back to him and couldn't see his expression. She gri her teeth in anger, suddenly elbowed back, and hit Andrew

in the che

He groaned in pain hoarsely and hurriedly gasped.

His groans sounded ambiguous.

Ashley took the chance to break free from Andrew's grasp. She turned to look at Andrew and instantly pointed the gun at his

head.

Andrew had a gun pointed at his head, but he still looked completely unconcerned. He rubbed his chest with his fingertips and

sighed, "How fierce you are!"

Seeing this situation, the subordinate immediately took out his gun and pointed it at Ashley's temple.

As a subordinate, whether Andrew loved Ashley, he would protect Andrew whenever he was threatened.

However, Andrew suddenly looked sullen and stared at the subordinate with sinister eyes. "How dare you pull a gun on her? Put

it down!"

The subordinate was stunned for a moment.

Andrew didn't mind if Ashley held him at gunpoint, but he got furious when the subordinate did it to Ashley.

"Mr. Banks," the subordinate muttered, wanted to explain the situation to Andrew.

Andrew looked gloomy and said meaningfully, "I enjoyed her pointing a gun at me. You got a problem with that?"

The subordinate immediately fell into silence and withdrew his gun.

But he feared Ashley might hurt Andrew.

Ashley looked speechless at this time. "Knock it off, Andrew!"

But Andrew just glanced at the clock on the wall. "There are only twenty minutes left, and haven't you still remembered what you

promised me?"

Ashley didn't know how to reply.

She pointed a gun at him, but he was still concerned about the trifles in this situation.

Ashley glanced at the clock and found it was eleven-forty. She guessed the whole thing had something to do with the time.

Outside the villa, Valentin raised his head and looked in the direction of the second floor, and when he intended to walk towards

the villa, a gunshot broke the tranquility of the night.

Valentin's face fell, and Andrew came out of the villa within a few seconds.

Then, Andrew's subordinates immediately stepped aside to make way for him.

Both sides were still facing off with guns raised.

But Andrew strolled a few steps away from Valentin and stopped, narrowing his eyes and looking him up and down.

Valentin looked sullen and asked indifferently, "Where is Ashley?"

Andrew smiled and said emotionlessly. "She doesn't want to leave with you."

Hearing this, Valentin immediately got furious and couldn't suppress his anger anymore. He said coldly, "I'll repeat it, where is

Ashley?"

This meant he had limited patience and issued an ultimatum.

But Andrew laughed, raised his eyebrow, and said, "I'll repeat it. She doesn't want to leave with you."

Then, Ashley's voice sounded. "I do want."

The crisp and sweet voice suddenly broke the tense atmosphere.

Valentin looked startled, immediately turned around, and saw Ashley running out of the villa quickly.

Seeing this situation, Andrew's brows immediately furrowed.

Ashley ignored him but ran straight towards Valentin and hurriedly rushed before him. She blinked at him with fearful eyes and

said, "He is talking nonsense. I want to leave with you."

Chapter 189

Valentin's eyes narrowed suddenly when he saw Ashley running towards him.

He hadn't expected Ashley to run towards him so eagerly and without hesitation.

After all, Andrew was a very special suitor to her, and they shared an unusual past.

Valentin instinctively raised his hand to catch Ashley as she ran to him. He looked her over carefully from head to toe, relieved to

see she wasn't hurt.

"What was that gunshot just now?" he asked, frowning slightly.

"That was me shooting a vase in the upstairs study. He tried to keep me there, but I took the chance to run out. As soon as I did,

I heard him saying that I didn't want to go with you. It's a lie. Don't believe him," Ashley explained quickly, without even catching

her breath.

From a distance of about fifteen steps, Andrew watched Ashley chatting with Valentin, his eyes narrowing dangerously. "Babe,

why are you ignoring me?" he asked.

Hearing the word "Babe", Valentin frowned even more as if a chill was about to emanate from him.

Ashley pouted, "Get it straight. You forcefully brought me here.

She wasn't even hitting him, but he expected her to cozy up to hi

Andrew snorted softly, looking at Ashley and Valentin standing side by side with a low and gloomy tone.

"Ashley, are you sure you

want to go with him?"

"Of course!" Ashley answered without hesitation.

She wasn't foolish because she wouldn't stay with Andrew, who she thought was crazy.

Hearing her answer, Valentin felt touched and instinctively took her hand to protect her by his side.

Watching them hold hands, Andrew frowned as he fixed his gaze on their intertwined hands.

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Chapter 189

He brought Ashley there and hadn't even touched her, and she accused him of having dirty thoughts. Now Valentin was openly

holding her hand, and she didn't even flinch.

Andrew thought to himself, 'Who's the dirty one now?'

Feeling Andrew's sharp gaze, Valentin, with a cold light in his eyes, said, "I'm holding my wife's hand. Do you have a problem

with that?"

Wife?

Andrew let out a cold laugh, mocking. "So what if she's your wife? I'm her future affair!"

Ashley was speechless.

In her mind, she thought, 'You motherfucker, here we go again!'

Hearing his words, Andrew's subordinates were shocked and looked at him in disbelief.

They thought to themselves, 'Affair partner?'

'Mr. Banks, when have you become like this?'

"This is shocking!"

Andrew swept his gaze dangerously across the room. "This is mine and my Babe's romantic matter. You wouldn't understand! If

anyone dares to stare, I'll make them blind."

His subordinates immediately averted their eyes, focusing only on themselves.

They all thought to themselves, 'Romantic matter?'

"This is the first time we've ever seen this kind of thing!"

After speaking, Andrew glanced at his watch. "Ashley, it's past midnight. Haven't you remembered what you promised me?"

Ashley blinked, looking confused.

She had no recollection of such a thing.

To be honest, she was starting to doubt Andrew. His actions were always unpredictable and mysterious, and she wondered if he

was just making things up to trick her.

Andrew gave a sinister smile but said nothing more. However, there was a hint of loneliness in his charming eyes.

He looked at the dark night sky and gestured for his men to put away their guns.

His men complied.

About three seconds later, Valentin also signaled, and his bodyguards put away their weapons.

Ashley quietly breathed a sigh of relief. Though they were abroad, where gun control wasn't as strict, a real confrontation could

have been messy. Fortunately, both sides stepped back.

Valentin escorted Ashley to a black car parked nearby.

Watching Ashley leave, Andrew looked somewhat disappointed. 'Babe, we'll meet again soon...

On the way back to the hotel.

The two sat in the back of the car.

Valentin looked at Ashley again, concerned. His voice was hoarse and deep. "Are you hurt?"

"No." Ashley shook her head, her eyes unblinkingly fixed on him, feeling like she hadn't seen him in a long time.

Valentin raised an eyebrow, surprised at how meekly she looked at him like a gentle kitten.

He couldn't help but reach out and gently ruffle her hair, speaking casually. "Jaden said Andrew wouldn't hurt you."

Ashley nodded without hesitation. "Pretty much. He won't hurt me."

At her words, Valentin slightly frowned, "You trust him that much?"

Ashley blinked, her cheeks puffing up as she protested in a muffled voice. "Valentin, are you trying to trick me into saying

something? Okay, fine, I actually knew him before, so..."

Before she could finish, Valentin leaned in and hugged her tightly.

Ashley suddenly stopped speaking, her long eyelashes trembling slightly. She then felt his arms around her, shaking with a

subtle, restrained

shiver.

Unexpectedly, Ashley felt a sting in her eyes. She buried her forehead in Valentin's chest, nuzzling it with a hint of coyness and

dependence she didn't even realize she had.

His clean, crisp scent enveloped her, bringing an unprecedented calmness to Ashley's heart.

She raised her arms to hug him back.

Back at the hotel, Joseph and the others gathered around as soon as they got out of the car.

Even though it was past midnight, no one had slept. After all, with Ashley missing, everyone could not fall asleep.

"Ashley, you're finally back! I was so worried about you!"

Joseph ran over with tearful eyes. Initially, George had found a clue, and Joseph wanted to follow, but George, concerned about

the danger, didn't

let him.

Moreover, George had come to Yaloria in Manditus on short notice, with not many people. Thankfully, Lester had arranged for a

group of bodyguards from the Pliskin family to follow George's command in searching for Ashley.

Seeing the concern in Miranda and Bryce's eyes, Ashley felt a warm surge in her heart. "I'm okay. Sorry for worrying you."

"As long as you're fine." Lester finally relaxed his tense heart upon seeing Ashley safe and sound.

George looked over at Ashley, relieved to see she was unharmed.

Compared to everyone's concern, Jaden seemed less worried, knowing all along that Andrew would never harm Ashley.

Suddenly, Ashley remembered Andrew's wish that she was the lost daughter of the Pliskin family...

Ashley looked suspiciously at Lester. "Do you know Andrew? Does he have a connection with the Pliskin family?"

"Well..."

Lester didn't answer immediately, glancing at George first.

George remained silent for two seconds before speaking softly. "Somehow connected."

Valentin's eyes narrowed slightly as he looked towards George.

A shock ran through Ashley, and she urgently asked, "What's the relationship between Andrew and the Pliskin family?"

Chapter 190

Lester knew that George, a man of few words in their family, wouldn't say much. So he answered with a mysterious tone. "The

story between Andrew and the Pliskin family is long."

Joseph, eager to know the truth, urged him. "Then make a long story short."

Lester remained silent, just smiling.

He looked at Joseph teasingly. "Why are you in such a hurry, Joe?"

Joseph was instantly annoyed.

He felt like Lester was making fun of him.

Joseph thought Lester's teasing was ruining his cool and tough image!

Seeing the conversation drifting off-topic, Ashley quickly stepped in. "Alright, alright, stop teasing him and just tell us."

Seeing Ashley's eagerness, Lester made a long story short. "Andrew is engaged to my sister."

Ashley was shocked.

It was like a bombshell had been dropped without warning.

Joseph's face showed utter shock, almost doubting what he heard. "Wait that's too brief. Give us more details!"

Lester glanced at him and slowly began. "Although Andrew's identity is complex and his background mysterious, he is indeed my

sister's fiancé. Their engagement was arranged at birth.

"But my sister got lost when she was little and was never found. So, the marriage arrangement was left unresolved and never

mentioned again, as if it was implicitly canceled. But it was true."

Ashley was surprised again.

Andrew was the fiancé of the Pliskin family's younger daughter.

No wonder Andrew hoped Ashley was the lost daughter of the Pliskin family.

Ashley felt relieved she wasn't!

Luckily, the DNA test results showed she had no relation to the Pliskin family!

Jaden was surprised. He looked at Ashley and asked, "If you're the long-lost daughter of the Pliskin family, does that mean Andrew is your fiancé?"

Before Ashley could reply, Joseph, who was always super protective of his sister, jumped in to argue.

"That's nonsense! Ashley took a DNA test with the Pliskin family. She's not related to them and definitely not to Andrew. Stop

making up stories!"

Joseph quickly glanced at Valentin after saying this.

Valentin frowned, surprised by the connection between Andrew and the Pliskin family's daughter.

Ashley agreed with Joseph. "What fiancé? I have nothing to do with that!"

After chatting for a while, it was past midnight. Ashley was safe, and everyone felt relieved. They all went to their rooms to rest.

Before leaving, Bryce asked, "Should I prepare a new room for Mr. Kingsley?"

Joseph nodded, but inside, he was thrilled. "No need for a new room. Valentin can just sleep with Ashley.

'After all, they are legally married.'

Ashley had something to ask Valentin. When everyone had gone to their rooms, she quietly pulled Valentin into her room.

Valentin raised an eyebrow slightly at her sneaky appearance. "Trying to have a secret rendezvous?"

Ashley was speechless.

She thought, 'Secret rendezvous? Oh, please.

"I have something to ask you," said Ashley, picking up a hair tie from the dresser. She tied up her hair and asked, "Why did you

suddenly come to Manditus from abroad?"

Valentin leaned casually against the dresser, watching her tie her hair.

Her fingers were delicate and elegant, moving gracefully.

He couldn't help but find her captivating, even in such a simple act as tying her hair.

After a few seconds, he casually said, "This morning during our video call, I felt something was off with you, so I came to check

on you."

Ashley froze, remembering the DNA test with the Pliskin family at the hospital that morning and meeting Ryan.

Ryan had told her she was from the Ramos family. This unchangeable fact made her feel numb and tired. She had tried to act

normal during the video call, but Valentin had noticed.

Ashley could not believe he flew all the way from home to be with her over such a small thing.

"But I'm flying back home tomorrow, and you flew all this way to see me. Isn't that a hassle?"

"Is it?" Valentin didn't seem bothered at all. He gently brushed a strand of hair behind her ear and softly pinched her earlobe.

"Seeing you a day earlier makes it worth the trouble."

Ashley's heart skipped a beat, feeling a lingering warmth on her earlobe. where Valentin had touched.

She looked up at him, her eyes shimmering, and gently pressed her red lips together.

"Valentin, is there something you want to ask me?"

Valentin leaned in closer to her, gazing deeply into her clear eyes. "You really popular, huh?"

Ashley's eyelashes fluttered, understanding exactly what he meant.

"You mean me and Andrew, right? You've looked into Andrew, haven't you? His background is really complicated and probably

hard to figure

out...

“As for my relationship with him, to put it simply, he once saved me, but I also saved him later, so we’re even. Nobody owes anyone anything.”

Upon hearing this, Valentin frowned slightly.

Andrew once saved Ashley, and Ashley had also saved Andrew...

Was it because of this bond that Ashley trusted Andrew completely, believing he would not hurt her?

Valentin felt a hint of jealousy in his heart, envying this special bond between Ashley and Andrew.

Ashley touched her nose and said, “About Andrew pursuing me, honestly, I don’t think he’s really after me.”

Andrew’s way of thinking was unusual. His actions were reckless, and he even tried to keep her by his side against her will. Was

that really pursuing someone?

Ashley really wanted to avoid that.

Looking at Valentin in front of her, Ashley blinked. Valentin always respected her wishes and her freedom. She could do

whatever she wanted with Valentin, and he would always indulge her...

After everything that happened today, Ashley thought she wouldn’t sleep well, but lying next to Valentin, smelling his fresh,

comforting scent, she fell asleep quickly.

The next morning.

Ashley woke up really hungry, wanting to go to the hotel restaurant for breakfast, but Valentin was on a call that seemed to be

long.

She gestured to him to continue his call in the room and went to the restaurant.

Starving, she ran out of the room and saw Joseph and Jaden eating breakfast in the restaurant.

They were sitting with their backs to her, not noticing her arrival.

Ashley’s eyes twinkled mischievously, and she tiptoed towards them, planning to scare them.

But just as she was getting close, she heard them talking about love and heartbreak.

Jaden was bragging to Joseph. "That's nothing. I have a brother who liked a girl for ten years and never got her. She even married someone else in the end."

Joseph sighed sadly. "Now that you mention it, I remember my brother. He's been after someone for over ten years and still hasn't succeeded."

Ashley was listening with interest but then frowned..

She thought, 'What does that mean?

'Valentin has been after someone for over a decade and hasn't succeeded?'