

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 201

Chapter 201

Reporters were shaken up about the conclusion. They fell silent, their mouths dropping open in surprise.

“What? I thought Ava was a man.”

“Me, too. Is Ashley Ava? How...could that possibly be true?”

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“Hang on. It’s said that Kerston invited Ava to their 60th anniversary celebration. We’ll find out whether Ashley is Ava very soon.”

“But I heard that Ava had declined to attend the banquet.”

“No way. Why did Ava refuse it? Kerston announced that they had hired a top racing driver as their secret spokesperson. If it isn’t Ava, who will it be?”

When Ashley was chatting with Pullan and Lester, she suddenly found that the reporters around her were looking at her from time to time.

She turned to stare at them.

Her sudden stare caught them off guard. As their gazes met, the reporters immediately looked away as if they had been caught doing something

bad.

Ashley was confused.

It was as if she was some kind of monster.

Beside her, Lester couldn't help but laugh.

She asked with a confused look, "Why are you laughing?"

He teased, "It's quite common that an artist is afraid of meeting reporters. And now it's the other way around. Interesting."

She was speechless.

As Ashley was about to reply, she saw Ryan and Jessica walking into the hall. She immediately put on a gloomy look.

Obviously, Ryan also noticed her.

Needless to say, Ashley was invited as a popular artist.

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He cursed inwardly, 'I can't believe she still has the nerve to show up at all kinds of events. If it weren't for her, Jessica wouldn't have ended up as the least favorite artist. My poor Jessica, what did she do to deserve this?

'If there weren't so many people around, I'd definitely teach this vicious woman a lesson!'

Everyone in the hall glanced at Jessica with contempt and sarcasm in their eyes.

Some of them whispered, "Look who's there. Doesn't she have any sense of embarrassment?"

"Shame on her."

Ryan got more angry when he heard it and hated Ashley even more. However, his priority was to protect Jessica.

At this time, Jason Miller, Kerston's president, entered the hall.

Jason was a middle-aged foreigner with blond hair and blue eyes.

Ryan came up to greet him like they were close friends.

"Hello, Mr. Miller."

Jason nodded and replied, "Ryan, long time no see." He sounded like a native speaker.

Ryan smiled broadly, "I didn't expect that Kerston's 60th anniversary celebration would be held in Zyrrinthia."

Jason replied, "Zyrrinthia remains an untapped market for us. We value and respect customers here. Based on our professional assessment, we decided to hold our anniversary celebration in Zyrrinthia."

A brand like Kerston which had thrived for 60 years highlighted the importance of product quality and customer service.

People in the hall were surprised to see Ryan and Jason getting along with each other.

"Look at them. Ryan and the president of Kerston seem so close."

"What's all the fuss about? The brand of Ryan's race car is Kerston. He's been driving it for many years, and he once won second place. It's not surprising that he knows Mr. Miller."

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“I heard that Mr. Miller is going to announce a mysterious spokesperson today. It’s said that he’s a racing driver. Will it be Ryan?”

“Well, there’s a good chance. Ryan has been driving Kerston’s race car. What’s more, he seems to be a close friend of Mr. Miller. He’s likely to be the spokesperson.”

After exchanging pleasantries. Ryan stretched out his right hand and said, “It’s an honor to be invited to Kerston’s 60th anniversary celebration.”

Jason shook hands with him, without saying anything.

When he caught a glimpse of Ashley not far away, he seemed happy, and he couldn’t wait to walk toward her.

However, the staff came to report in a low voice, “Mr. Miller, it’s time for the banquet.”

Jason frowned. He had been looking forward to speaking to Ava.

If Ryan hadn’t stopped him, he would’ve had time to greet Ava.

Given that the banquet was about to start, Jason had no choice but to go on stage first.

As the president of Kerston, Jason gave a brief introduction to the history of the brand and the achievements Kerston had made over the past years.

People warmly applauded from time to time.

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At the end of his speech, Jason said excitedly, “Kerston considers it as privilege to be chosen by most racing car drivers. Without them, Kerst would never get where it is and become a well-known brand worldwide

“After careful consideration, we chose a top racing driver as Kerston’s sole spokesperson.

“Since Kerston was established 60 years ago, this is the first time we have a spokesperson.”

There was a loud burst of applause.

As a top-notch race car brand, Kerston was going to have its first spokesperson in 60 years. People believed that the spokesperson must be somebody.

They wondered who that could possibly be.

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Was it Ryan?

At this time, the staff pushed out a big cake. Kerston celebrated its 60th anniversary with a six-story cake.

“Next, I’m going to invite our spokesperson to the stage and cut the cake with me.”

After that, he went down the stage.

Everyone craned their necks and stared unblinkingly at Jason, wondering who he would invite to the stage.

At this time. Jessica nervously asked Ryan next to her, “Ryan, are you Kerston’s spokesperson?”

He lowered his eyes, lost in thoughts. Kerston had never spoken publicly about its spokesperson. It remained unknown.

According to Jason, Kerston's spokesperson was a top racing driver. Looking around. Ryan was sure that none of them was as good as him as a race car driver.

He had been driving a Kerston's car. Moreover, he got along with Jason.

A few moments ago, Jason chatted with him.

Everything convinced Ryan.

When Ryan collected his thoughts, he saw Jason walking toward him. Ryan was thrilled inside.

People around him gasped in shock and whispered.

“Look, Mr. Miller is walking toward Ryan.”

“They had a great time chatting. I knew it was Ryan.”

As Jason approached Ryan, Jessica's heart was pounding in excitement. She subconsciously clenched her fists.

She exclaimed in her mind, Finally, the day has come!

The Ramos family is going to turn the tables.

‘Anyone who becomes the spokesperson for Kerston can get 10 million dollars. It's a huge sum of money for the Ramos family. With the money, we can take back what we lost.

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‘I'll be the noble lady of the Ramos family again. I'll be rich and respected again!

‘Ashley can't steal my thunder again!’

As Jason came near, Ryan rubbed his hands nervously, wiped the sweat off his palms on his clothes, and stretched out his hand with a smile on his face, ready to shake hands with Jason.

“Mr. Miller, I’m so flattered...”

However, Jason didn’t shake hands with him, nor did he glance at Ryan.

He kept walking forward and walked past Ryan.

Ryan froze in embarrassment, and his hand stopped in midair.

Jessica was thunderstruck. Then she immediately turned to look back.

Jason walked toward Ashley, smiling with satisfaction and pride in his eyes.

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Jajason walked up to Ashley and greeted her with a radiant smile,

extending his hand for a handshake. He exclaimed excitedly, "Hello! Ms. Ramos."

Asialley also reached out her hand and replied with a smile, "Mr. Miller, halets.

Seeing them shaking hands and talking, the guests in the banquet hall were cill amazed, their mouths gaping.

Theodd tell that Jason's attitude towards Ashley was much warmer thin it had been towards Ryan earlier, even bordering on excitement.

When acting Ryan just now, Jason had only responded politely, without sucha amaniile.

Coold dubbchant Kersion's spokesperson was...

As in coonning everyone's speculation, Jason looked at the crowd and declared with

notion.

It is an hooooouuso have invited Ms. Ramos to be Kerston's first and only spokespersonthe past sixty years!"

The people were stunned for seconds. They had actually guessed correctiv

Immediately, the entire banquet hall erupted with thunderou

However, some propis foound it strange and whispered to their companions.

Strange. Didn't Jason sayyhhey had chosen a racer as the spokesper Why did they invite Ashleyisis she celebrity?"

You must have forgonen in Ashley can also race! She's even better than Ryan! He's no competition toohed!"

But even if Ashley is a great racer, she's not a professional. She hasn't participated in any official races, and her name was never heard of in the racing world before!

Well, that's true...

Ryan heard Jason announce they chose Ashley as Kerston's racing

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spokesperson. It felt like a bomb exploding in his ears, leaving him dumbfounded.

It took him more than ten seconds to snap back to reality, his face turning pale, his eyes glaring fiercely at Ashley.

If anyone else took this opportunity away from him, he might not have been so angry. But it was Ashley.

The person he despised and detested the most snatched the opportunity from him. Ryan felt a sense of anger and humiliation.

Ryan took a deep breath and walked up to Jason. "Mr. Miller," he said.

Jason frowned slightly.

Ryan looked at Ashley with disdain and coldly spoke. "Mr. Miller, you just said you would invite a top racer as the spokesperson, but now you've invited Ashley. Isn't that against the rules?"

Jason shrugged. "How is it against the rules?"

Ryan forcefully stated, "Ashley has never participated in any official racing competitions, and her name is unheard of in the racing world!"

Jason seemed to hear a joke. He turned to Ashley with a helpless smile. "Ms. Ramos, did you hear what he said?"

Ashley raised an eyebrow and glanced at Ryan.

Ryan clenched his fists, his forehead pulsing with veins. He th “What does that look mean?

‘Is she mocking me? Does she think I’m a joke?’

Just then, Jason spoke again, clearly addressing the crowd.

“Ladies and gentlemen, I said we would invite a top racing driver as spokesperson. It wasn’t a lie.

“On the contrary, it is my great honor, after relentless pursuit, to finally invite the racing legend, Ava!

“Yes, Ashley is Ava!”

AAAt that moment, Ryan’s angry expression froze as if struck by lightning on the head.

He almost fainted.

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He thought, Ashley...

‘Ava...

‘Ashley is the legendary racer Ava...

‘How can this bel

Ashley was his most detested and looked-down-upon sister. But his proudest racing skills couldn’t compare even a bit to Ashley’s.

It dealt a heavy blow to his self-esteem.

The reporters were all incredibly excited. One reporter said to another, “You didn’t guess wrong earlier. No wonder Ashley’s drifting skills are just like Ava’s. Because she is Ava herself!”

“Ryan even doubted that Ashley had ever participated in any official racing competitions, but she has participated in countless races! And she has won first place many times. She truly is a racing legend!”

After the initial surprise, the banquet hall erupted with enthusiastic excitement. The crowd on the outskirts went crazy, pushing their way in.

“Ava! My beloved racer!”

“No wonder Ashley’s racing skills are even better than Ryan’s! I understand now. How could the level of a racing legend be low? I am a devoted fan of Ava. In my heart, Ava is the ultimate champion of racing!”

“But isn’t Ava a man? So is Ashley actually a man?!”

Hearing the last question, Ashley thought helplessly, ‘What are they talking about? I am a woman! A true woman!’

Pullan, who was standing next to Ashley, smiled helplessly. He turned to the person who doubted Ashley’s gender and explained, “Ashley used to wear a wig during races, so you mistook her for a man.”

At that time, Ashley didn’t want to reveal her true identity, so even if fans mistook her for a man, she didn’t deny it in time.

Now, she was truly being doubted about her gender.

Everyone suddenly realized. “So that’s how it is. The racing legend is actually a woman! Awesome! Girls can compete with boys!”

No wonder Ashley confidently stated back then that Ava hadn’t died.

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I turned out she was Ava. And, of course, she knew she was still alive!

Therefore, all those online memorial services organized by fans on the
Drums were in vain.

Ashley was invited to the stage by Jason. The guests and reporters in
attendance watched her with excitement.

Jason smiled and said, "Ava didn't want to be our spokesperson at first,
but Mr. Lawrence helped convince her. Ava is here today primarily to let
our fans know that she's doing well."

Ashley took over the conversation. "I appreciate everyone's support, but
I really haven't died. It's obvious. Let's not have any more memorial
services. It's quite strange.

The people below us, they

were because their fans loved

her too much, and Ava was so mysterious,

never appearing in public. I guess everyone had misunderstood.

Next, Jason invited Ashley to cut the cake together to celebrate Kerston's
10th anniversary.

Jessica watched Ashley on stage, basking in the adoration of the crowd.
Jealousy and hatred reflected in her eyes. She clenched her teeth.

He thought, "If it weren't for Ashley, Ryan would be the spokesperson!

She could have also shared the microphone with Buono...

Ashley, this bitch, how much more does she want to take

I had known earlier. I should have found a way to strangle

removed out of the icmos family!

h the bich die in the sewer. Then we would travelall these pr

carca viciously imagined. But when she turneded to Roman beside her
noudvely asked, Ryan, now that you know Ashleyey is ava, da you like
ne!

w: vai also angry. “Of course not!

badan muy admired Ava before, considering her as a role in doted for
WTCHED.5.

enail@verovone wanted to strive for first place.e

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When he learned of Ava’s retirement, he felt conflicted, both grateful and
disappointed.

He was grateful that he no longer had a formidable opponent.

He was disappointed because a legendary racer had retired.

But now, knowing that Ashley was Ava, Ryan felt that his previous
admiration should not have existed.

Ryan’s eyes turned crimson as he stared fixedly at Ashley on the stage.
He suddenly took a few steps forward and loudly questioned, “Ashley, no,
I should call you Ava now. When you abruptly announced your

retirement, your racing fans were in agony. Some even cried and got
drunk for you.

“Now that you’re back, don’t you think you should tell those fans the
reason behind your retirement right here, in front of so many people. and
journalists?”

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bleylbeardurd the question and looked coldly at Ryan..

I gazed i citin't show much emotion. But to Ryan, it felt like a sharp ice ide shobdoph his way. His back immediately tensed up.

ppressing the chill running down his spine, Ryan forced himself to

k back and petorica "You can't even give an explanation to the one who supponon you?"

llan frowned upon hearing this, thinking. Why does Ryan always's iberately pick cuts with Ashley?

ster gave van a wanna look and thought. Ryan is such an idiot. aley did so much for him in vain.

However, the guests as a journalists in the banquet hall were curious but Ryan's words. Es

was indeed sudden when she advanced and she didn't explain the son.

That's right. Ava was as the server and most racers wouldn't fire at such a time. If she had had her own racing, she would have won many more championships!

1. why did Ava suddenly moderate careers

In the midst of heated discussions, she smiled at Ryan.

She was genuinely relieved that it seemed her attitude toward

hadn't changed.

She firmly believed that Ryan's love would still belong to her and would still revolve around her!

The journalist couldn't hold back and asked. "Why did you suddenly during your prime? Can you tell us the reason?"

She glanced at Ashley and saw her disapprove. He answered the reporter's question on her behalf, "Ashley made the agreement with her to never participate in any official races as again, hence the agreement."

Immediately, someone followed up with more questions "What kind of agreement? Who did she make it with?"

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Ashley finally spoke, and her voice was flat. "I'm sorry, it's a confidentiality agreement, so I can't disclose it."

'A confidentiality agreement?'

Upon hearing these words, the people in the banquet hall exchanged puzzled looks.

‘It seemed that things are not simple...

“There must have been something big happening, something that forced her to retire.

Ryan, however, sneered, “Confidentiality agreement? Ashley, is that just an excuse you made up, or is it because the real reason is too embarrassing to admit?”

Pullan’s anger started to rise upon hearing this.

The others in the banquet hall had no personal hatred against Ashley and didn’t make any malicious speculations.

But Ryan, as Ashley’s brother, was suspecting his own sister like this.

He had no affection for her whatsoever.

Lester looked at Ryan as if he were looking at a despicable criminal, and his eyes filled with an icy chill of death.

He told the bodyguard behind him, saying, “Bring Nell in.”

Within seconds, Nell was brought into the banquet hall.

Ryan furrowed his brows, thinking, ‘Mr. Pound? What is he do

When Ashley saw Nell appear, she was momentarily surprised b understood, looking at Lester. It was he who brought Nell here.

The deal she made with Nell was a confidentiality agreement, so she couldn’t disclose it voluntarily to everyone.

Ryan walked up to Nell, his face full of confusion. “Mr. Pound, why are you here?”

Nell glanced at Lester with fear, his legs trembling, and then looked back at Ryan. He said with a trembling voice. “Didn’t you want to know why I agreed to perform surgery on you back then?”

Ryan paused for a moment, nodding. “Yes.”

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Under Lester’s oppressive gaze, Nell shakily began to speak.

“You injured your right leg and could no longer race. You couldn’t accept this fact, and your family tried everything to find me, hoping that I could perform surgery on you.

“But I refused. To be honest, you’re not someone, and your family is nothing special. I simply didn’t have the energy to operate on you.”

Upon hearing this, Ryan felt awkward but couldn’t refute it.

Nell took a deep breath and continued, “After I rejected you, I heard that you became depressed and lost interest in life. But then, the racing legend Ava, that is Ashley, specifically came to me and asked me to perform surgery on you.”

Ryan was shocked. ‘Ashley contacted Nell?

‘Asking him to help me?

That’s impossible. Why would Nell listen to Ashley?”

Nell wiped off the sweat on his forehead and continued, "At first, I didn't agree. But unexpectedly, Ashley, the Racing Legend, set aside her pride to do chores for me just to ask me to operate on you.

"I have a nephew who is also a racer, but his skills are not as good as Ava's. He has never won first place. In order to help my nephew achieve that, Ashley and I made an agreement. As long as Ashley announced her retirement, I would agree to perform surgery on you.

"I thought Ashley wouldn't agree, but she thought for a few seconds and said yes. She retired at the peak of her career, giving up her beloved racing career just to let me heal your leg and give you a chance to return to the racetrack."

Ryan couldn't hear what Nell said next.

His ears were echoing with the words.

"Ashley retired at the peak of her career, giving up her beloved racing career just to heal his leg and let him return to the racetrack."

He thought, 'No, this can't be true!'

Ryan didn't even dare to look at Ashley on stage. He grabbed Nell's collar. Furious, he roared, "You're lying! Do you think I'll believe this? How could Ashley do such a foolish thing for me?"

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ell was beamgirlioked by the collar, struggling to breathe. Wila aedd

ice, he said.dll have the agreement with me! It's in my briefseeyou can
ike it ounarhree for yourself!"

yan immediatately let go of Nell and found his briefcase. He trembled as
e took auguficie decrement.

She swiftly tipped through the pages.

The comments fibciencezectent were exactly as Nell had described:

At the end. Ashiel's la muntas signature was there.

How could this be heated because of Ashley?

The person who saved

me had the chance to return to the

racetrack from the despair and darkness, giving me the

chance to return to the

racetrack, was Ashley?
For me. Ashley was willing to sacrifice her racing career! Ryan couldn't believe it.

The others in the banquet hall after listening to Nell's account, were all stunned.

How can't believe the truth is that she

retired just because of Ryan.

She was at the peak of her career. and

she treated Ryan so well?"

Why didn't Ashley consider herself? Perhaps racing, and the chance to return to the racetrack must be painful for him. But why? She also loves racing. Was her sacrifice worth it?"

Especially since Ryan is such an ungrateful and malicious person, it wasn't worth it at all!"

I guess at that time, Ashley still saw Ryan as a family member and wanted to help him.

be traded her racing career for Ryan's!"

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stening to the discussions around him, kyan tighthsququeeceditie percent in his hand, his knuckles turning whitdielivisciente telt as it it ore pierced by countless arrows, in pain to the contus suntocation.

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ifif a puppet on strings, Ryan mechanically turned his hdachdiriraid yet

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longing, to look at Ashley in the distance.

Ashley descended from the stage and walked up to Lester, whispering, "Why did you bring Nell here?"

Lester looked at her with sympathy and regret. "Seeing you being targeted by Ryan, I couldn't stand idly by."

Ashley felt a warmth in her heart and smiled, saying, "Thank you."

"Ashley..." Lester softly called her name.

"What's wrong?" Ashley asked.

Lester gazed into her clear eyes and pleaded, "Ashley, could you please do another DNA test with us?"

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Ashley was surprised at his words.

She thought, 'Do another DNA test with them? Haven't we already done it?'

Lester tried to crack an apologetic smile and said, "George and I both felt that the results from last time were strange."

Ashley became even more puzzled.

Lester and George thought there was something wrong with the previous DNA test results.

But when she had the test done last time, she didn't leave the hospital at all after the blood was drawn, so there was no possibility of the blood sample being tampered with.

The test results shouldn't have been wrong. She wondered if it was really necessary to do it again.

Ashley looked at Lester next to her with doubt. Seeing his hopeful eyes, she couldn't bear to refuse. "Okay, let's do it again."

After all, she had already done it once, and she didn't mind doing it a second time.

However, she believed that the results would be the same as first one.

Because she was the daughter of the Ramos family, she def no relationship with the Pliskin family.

Lester's eyes lit up when she agreed. "Ashley, thank you."

Ashley smiled lightly, "You're welcome. Besides, you've helped m like with the clarification just now."

She had made a confidentiality agreement with Nell and couldn't dise the reasons for retiring to the media reporters.

After all, revealing such an agreement would affect Nell's reputation as a odontor.

ubondoday, Nell exposed the truth in front of the reporters, which must abave been arranged by Lester.

lichguests and reporters present were all discussing vigorously after

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istening to Nell's confession.

They never expected that the racing icon Avannut her retirement

bit Ryan!

essica glanced at Ashley in the distance and then at dosievastated Ryan, pererly surprised.

end thought. Ashley, this despicable woman, actually madewath nurses for the Ramos family.

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fare score the sake of the so-called family. Ashley was will TIVE SO nice or van, she retired herself so that Ryan could return to there retetnich becasts Ryan loved racing.

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be ready areas to receive affection from the Ramos family.

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sica finally found something she did better than Ashley and r

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oking at the lost Ryanairaessica walked over and spoke gendy. Ryan..

an turned his head blonskiviwandaw jessica standing in front of him s brows suddenly furrowed a adhie pushed her away abruptly.

sica stumbled and alnom teftall.

e wondered. Has Ryan gone city?

dare he push me! Im his belevive di sister!

an pushed Jessica away and took a deep breath, clenching his fists as walked towards Ashley with heavy steps.

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Jessica immediately stopped him, seemingly gently persuading him while actually belittling Ashley.

“Ryan, I know you’re feeling bad right now. Ashley has done so much for you, giving up her love for racing. But you’ve been unaware of this all along, so there’s no need to feel sorry!

“I believe that everything Ashley did for you willingly, without expecting anything in return! Ryan, you don’t need to feel guilty towards her!

“Ashley shouldn’t have kept this from you all the time. Maybe she never really considered you as her true family...”

Jessica accused Ashley of hiding the truth.

This time, Ryan didn’t believe Jessica’s words. Instead, he looked yearningly at Ashley not far away.

However, Ashley didn’t even glance at him.

Even if Jessica tarnished her image in Ryan’s heart, Ashley no longer cared.

Ryan felt his breathing becoming difficult.

He thought, ‘Ashley must have experienced too many disappointments to be so indifferent and no longer care about the opinions of the Ramos family...

Suddenly, the trembling Nell spoke. “Although Ashley and I had confidentiality agreement, it was only meant for the media report Ashley can tell her family the truth, but later...”

Nell paused, finding it difficult to continue, “But later, Ashley told me she did tell her family the truth, but they didn’t believe her. Ashley wanted me to explain it to them face-to-face, but...but I didn’t want to ruin my own reputation, so I refused Ashley’s request.”

As Nell’s words fell, Ryan staggered and almost fell.

He remembered that Ashley had once said she would help him find doctors, find the best doctors in the world to perform surgery on him.

But he didn't believe her. How could she find any good doctors?

He thought Ashley was just bragging to get his attention.

Later, when Nell agreed to perform the surgery on him, he thought it was

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because of the Ramos family's status. He became more and more grateful to the Ramos family, treating Jessica as his lucky star but treating Ashley worse. He insulted and abused Ashley, driving her out of his sight.

During the two years Ashley spent in the Ramos family, he had considered mistreating her and ignoring her as a habit.

The guests and reporters in the banquet hall were speechless after hearing Nell's words.

"How can you be like this? Is there no medical ethics? You made such an unfair deal with Ashley just for your nephew. And you even refuse to explain everything to Ashley's family in private to protect your own reputation."

"Nell is certainly at fault, but Ryan is the biggest one! How could he never believe a word Ashley said? If it were me, I would definitely believe my sister!"

"Poor Ava. Just for that beast Ryan, she quit her career at the peak. The key point is that Ashley has given so much and hasn't received any recognition or love from the Ramos family! She was lost and finally reunited with her family, but..."

“Ashley has never done anything wrong to anyone in the Ramos family!”

“Don’t forget about Jessica! What she said just now was disgusting. She still the same, with a deceitful heart! And the Ramos family treats her a precious gem?”

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The story was so astonishing that the reporters on-site immediately reported it online.

Because “The Racing Legend” was truly famous, “Reasons Behind the Racing Legend Ava’s Retirement at the Peak” quickly occupied the trending topics on various social media platforms.

Aside from the racing enthusiasts, many ordinary netizens clicked on it as well. After all, Ava’s retirement came too suddenly, and many people wanted to know the reason.

The results shocked everyone.

Ava was a woman.

Even more shocking, she turned out to be Ashley!

The onlookers exploded instantly.

[Is this a coincidence or the Ashley I know?]

[Ashley? Wasn't she the one who rejected the dance master Megan times? Or Eddy's senior, the genius mysterious composer Ash, the founder and chief designer of Glory Youveile?]

[Yes, it's her! I read it several times, and it's really her! It's not a coincidence!]

several

[Damn, Ashley... So, the Ava that I admired and loved is you!]

[I always thought Ava was a man, but she's actually a woman!]

The racing fans, recovering from their astonishment, immediately started focusing on the reasons behind Ashley's sudden retirement. But when they found out, their blood pressure skyrocketed.

It was all because of Ryan!

She had sacrificed so much for the Ramos family, yet she hadn't received any love or attention in return!

Those people were not worthy of being her family!

Fortunately, Ashley had cut ties with them.

Due to the news breaking out, the video of Ashley and Ryan's race

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quickly gained popularity.

Originally, only those interested in racing knew about the race, but now even those unfamiliar with racing began clicking on the video.

Seeing Ashley's sleek drifts and superior racing skills, the comments were filled with praise like "so cool" and "amazing."

Many men admired Ashley, and there were even girls who excitedly wanted to be Ashley's girlfriend.

Netizens found that when the racing fans mistakenly believed that she passed away at a young age, they even held an online memorial for Ashley. It was amusing. Ashley had too many interesting stories.

At the same time, in the banquet hall, Kerston's 60th anniversary celebration came to an end.

Jason approached Ashley and expressed his sympathy. "Ms. Ramos, never expected you to have such a group of family members..."

I

Ashley smiled, feeling relieved, "I have cut ties with them. They are no longer my family."

Jason nodded in agreement. "That's for the best! We look forward to a pleasant collaboration. Kerston is honored to have you as our spokesperson!"

Ashley shook hands with him. "Me, too."

After a brief conversation, Ashley bid farewell to Jason and walked out with Lester.

Ryan stood nearby in a daze, seemingly ignoring the disdain and mockery from the people around him. Even if he heard, he couldn't muster the energy to care.

Tears welled up in his eyes as he stared at Ashley. It felt as though a sharp dagger pierced his heart, carving out a piece of flesh. The pain made it difficult for him to breathe, and his blood seemed to stop flowing.

Ashley had always been mistreated and bullied by him, her own brother.

In order to help him return to the racing circuit, she...

He valued racing more than his own life.

When his right leg was injured, the doctors declared that it couldn't be

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Chapter 205

healed and he would be disabled for life. He would never be return to the racing circuit.

able to

His hope collapsed, and he felt like it was all over, doomed to live as a cripple.

He plunged into the abyss of despair, wishing for death every day.

Ashley, who had always been ridiculed and bullied by him, actually sacrificed her racing career to ask Nell to perform surgery on him, hoping to give him a normal life and let him return to the racing circuit.

Ashley was his savior. But how did he treat Ashley?

Ryan's heart was tearing apart as if thousands of ants were biting at it. His entire body was in pain, and his legs could barely support him.

Seeing Ashley preparing to leave, Ryan couldn't bear it any longer and chased after her.

However, when Ryan stood in front of Ashley, she wore no expression on her face. “Move aside.”

“I...” Ryan had a thousand words to say, but his throat felt blocked, unable, to form a coherent sound.

Lester sneered, “She said, move aside. Didn’t you hear?”

Ryan remained motionless, his gaze fixed on Ashley.

Only then did he realize that he had never really looked at her

This was the first time he truly observed her with patience.

But it was too late. His sister no longer looked up at him with plea eyes, hoping for the long-awaited familial love.

Ashley no longer had any expectations of him.

Ryan was stung by Ashley’s indifference, and slowly, he stepped aside.

Ashley walked away without looking back.

Lester accompanied her throughout.

Ryan stood still, stiff as a statue, until he looked up and saw Miranda standing in front of him.

“Miranda, I think I made a mistake...”

08:56

Chapter 205

Miranda looked at him with pity. “You said you searched for me for two whole years?”

“I wasn’t lying about that,” Ryan said sorrowfully.

“I didn’t say you were lying.” Miranda stared at him expressionlessly.

“All I did was accompany you for two hours on that Christmas night, helping you drive away those kids who called you a cripple and giving you a red apple. You thought I brought warmth to your darkest hour and wanted to find me to thank me.

“But the person who truly pulled you out of the abyss and allowed you to return to the racing circuit was Ashley.

“Even if we don’t talk about this, did Ashley ever do anything to hurt you in the past while she was with the Ramos family? She sincerely gave everything she had to you, even hurting herself, and gave you everything she could. You only realize you were wrong now. It’s really too late.”

Ryan’s heart felt like it was being entangled by thin threads, each loop getting tighter and tighter, seeping into his flesh.

Ryan clenched his fist and suddenly turned around to run outside. “I’m going to find her!”

Ashley and Lester walked side by side.

“Just now, you said we’ll do another DNA test. When should we do it?” After thinking momentarily, Ashley suggested, “Let’s do it as soon as possible. How about today?”

Send Gift

Comment

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 206

Chapter 206

Ashley thought it would be better to do the DNA test as soon as possible. Otherwise, she would keep worrying..

Lester chuckled. He liked Ashley's straightforwardness.

However, Lester said. "Let's do it tomorrow. George will bring my parents' blood samples tomorrow. Is it okay to do the test then?"

"Sure, postponing it for a day is fine. But why do you have both your parents' blood samples?" Ashley found it strange.

She thought. Wouldn't it be enough to use either the father or mother's sample? Why do we need samples from both?"

Lester thought for a moment and said, "After my parents found out about your existence, they both want to be the first to establish a relationship with their daughter. They almost had a quarrel about using blood samples. In the end, George made the decision to bring both of their samples."

Both wanted to be the first to establish a relationship with their daughter.

Ashley found this couple truly amusing.

Lester sighed softly, "My parents have always wanted to come and see you in person. However, I'm afraid they might overwhelm you with the warmth."

Ashley was puzzled. How warm could they possibly be to overwhelm her?

Lester explained with a smile, "Over the years, my parents have missed their lost daughter every day. After they learned of your existence, they

wanted to come and see you every day. George and I had to stop them. We need to wait until the results come out.”

Ashley blinked, thankful that his parents didn't come.

Because she had no relationship with the Pliskin family, she wasn't the daughter they had been searching for. Even if they came, it would be pointless.

However, Ashley couldn't help but feel envious. The couple were really good to their daughter.

1/4

08:56 1

Chapter 206

She thought of her own parents. Evan and Bertha were her parents, but she had never received their attention and love.

“Ashley, let's keep tomorrow's DNA test confidential. Don't tell anyone,” Lester earnestly reminded her.

Ashley understood. It was to ensure the integrity and security of the DNA

test.

“Okay, I won't.”

After glancing at the time, which was almost evening, Ashley said, “Let me treat you to dinner. I haven't thanked you properly for helping me clear up the misunderstanding.”

“No need to say thanks. I'm happy to help you,” Lester said with a smile.

“Well then, at least let me treat you to dinner,” Ashley smiled along.

Just as they were about to head to a nearby restaurant, Ryan suddenly

rushed over, panting heavily.

The smile on Ashley's face vanished instantly, and she turned cold.

Ryan saw the change in Ashley's expression and felt a pang of pain that took his breath away. His voice came out hoarsely. "Ashley..."

Lester scoffed, "You used to speak ill of Ashley all the time. Don't call her so affectionately."

Ryan's face turned red from the mockery, and he said in agony, "I mistakes before. I wrongly accused you. Ashley, I..."

"Ryan," Ashley coldly interrupted him, her expression indifferent. "Do stand here blocking the way."

"Don't stand here blocking the way." Those disdainful and indifferent words intensified Ryan's pain.

If it weren't for Ashley, his leg wouldn't have recovered, and he wouldn't even have the right to stand here.

"Ashley, I know I was wrong. I'm sorry..."

However, Ashley didn't accept his apology. She ignored him and said to Lester, "Let's go."

It felt as though even one more second here would ruin her mood.

24

08-561

□

had so much to say to Ashley and subconsciously wanted to stop from leaving.

When he looked into Ashley's eyes, Ryan couldn't raise his hand anything to stop her.

Remembered how Ashley used to look at him with pleading eyes, now more distant to him. But he had no patience for her reading his mind instead, hoping that Ashley would just disappear.

His needs had reversed. He had so much to say to Ashley. He wanted to give to her.

Wanted to be called "Sister" again.

Wanted to hear Ashley call him Brother again.

Ashley didn't want that now.

Watching Ashley's back without a hint of nostalgia, Ryan stood there in a daze, tears of regret streaming down his face. His normally emotionless face was now filled with remorse and pain.

The sky gradually darkened.

He remained motionless, like a soulless sculpture.

When Jeremy and Matt arrived this was what they saw.

They had learned from the late crew that the Racing Legend, Ashley, after their initial success they fell proud. They immediately searched for the location of the restaurant for a celebration and rushed

Unfortunately, they were one step late. They only saw Ryan

It wasn't their purpose for coming. They wanted to see Ashley

and missed another chance to meet Ashley.

V

Matthew was still proud, saying liegemmy. Ashley is amazing. She's t ng Legend!"

my nodded, feeling both happy and nonrrassed. "We're her older hers, yet we can't do anything. We've really let Ashley down."

Jeremy, it's only you who can't do anything.g.ch can sing! Matthew idly puffed out his chest. "After all. I used toch a top singer!"

my was speechless.

Chapter 206

Matthew reminisced and boasted, "Ashley even wrote a song for me under her alias 'Ash'!"

Jeremy, jealous, picked up a stick from the ground and wanted to hit Matthew with it.

Matthew quickly dodged with agility.

Jeremy, however, walked towards Ryan, holding the stick.

"Jeremy, what are you doing?" Matthew asked anxiously.

"I'll break Ryan's leg and give it back to Ashley! He should have been disabled from the start!"

Jeremy coldly said, raising the stick in his hand.

Matthew was shocked and too scared to stop him. He covered his eyes in fear.

Ryan remained motionless, standing there. His eyes slowly moved, and he regained his senses.

However, when he saw Jeremy raising the stick, Ryan didn't flinch.

It was as if he was atoning..

He wanted to atone with his leg.

He thought, 'Go ahead, break my leg. It's what I owe Ashley'

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Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 207

Chapter 2077

Ishicy is the greatest driver but will never be able to participate in racing petitions. She does all of this for you Ryan Jererev clenched the ick and swung it hard at Ryan with veins bulging on his right hand!

Ryan still didn't dodge.

Matthew couldn't help but peek through his fingers while wincing his eyes. His mouth opened wide in surprise when he saw Jeremy hitting Ryan without hesitation.

Just as the stick was about to hit Ryan's right leg, Jeremy stopped

Jeremy Matthew was confused and didn't know what was going on.

Jeremy threw the stick away, looked at Ryan angrily, and rebutted. Don't do this to yourself: a trick of hurting yourself to make Ashley pay attention

D

Matthew suddenly realized Ryan wanted to get Ashley's sympathy with his cheap trick so scheming, he thought.

He stood still as if he didn't hear Jeremy's words and didn't care. The only thing that renewed was that he had harmed Ashley.

She is the creative and capable of acting, but she announced just for my eyes.

He's willing to give up his acting career, pull me out of the abyss, and let me recapture the rare track I love.

He sacrificed for me. Why didn't he cherish such a good sister? Ryan thought

Matthew raised his head and looked at the dark sky above. The sky was so gloomy, just like his mood at the moment. His tears rolled down uncontrollably again.

Matthew raised his hand to cover his eyes. His voice was hoarse and sounded his throat was blown by the cold winter wind. "Jeremy, you are right. I'm wrong. I owe Ashley one..."

Jeremy looked at his depressed look and didn't know what to say.

08:56 301

Chapter 20700

Matthew felt depressed. Ashley hadn't forgiven him yet.

"Ryan finally found you. I'm worried about you so much." Suddenly, Jessica came forward anxiously, looking very concerned about Ryan.

Jessica was stunned after seeing Jeremy and Matthew on the side, and she pretended to be surprised and greeted "Jeremy, Matthew, I haven't seen you for a long time. I miss you every day. How are you doing?"

“Shut up! Tonnoot your brother Jeremy snorted in disgust, “Don’t call my name. I only hoone sister, and she is Ashley.”

“Yes. Mathewalsisdelt disgusted. “Look at your face in the mirror. How do you look like on Ranos family? I don’t want you to be my sister!”

Jessica’s eves wicicand din shock when she heard their words.

How dare Matheww.gybose words, she thought.

Although she was noothe iniciogical daughter of the Ramos family, she was beautiful. She wasnoons good-looking as others in the Ramos family, about which she was helpless even though she cared.

She wanted to have planic surgery, but Bertha didn’t agree to do it, considering that it would fail

Now jessica was insulted by Manbaw. She was irritated, but she had to suppress her anger.

jessica said, “Jeremy. Mauhewi fereatly miss you. I hope you un home and bring Ashley back togethheit

Nonsense! Don’t act like that. Jeremy interrupted her and sco mercilessly. “You hope Ashley reums she Ramos family? I’m you are the one who doesn’t want her back nost!”

jessica bit her lips and pretended to beguiti with tears in her eyes.

jeremy, what are you talking about? Want kind of person I am in you

Stop acting! Jeremy felt disgusted at her expression. When I got Kidnapped, you escaped. Ashley risked eriilutoostuene, but you replaced her. You are such a vicious bastard! mbbe blind to dote on

you actore

hemon: jeremy thought about it, the angrier hobbans So he slapped sessica onder face.

11:08:56 m

Chapter 207

A smack came, and Jessica's face was hit severely!

Red fingerprints instantly showed on her face. Her tears burst out.

Jéssica covered her swollen face and looked at Matthew for help.

“Matthew, Jeremy...”

“Don't call my name!” Matthew's face immediately became gloomy. He walked to Jessica and grabbed her hair suddenly. Jessica screamed in pain.

Matthew still grabbed her hair with strength and was indifferent while she was crying. “Jessica, don't think I'm unaware of what you did. You want to be an imposter and replace her. So Ashley could only help me behind the scenes with the name of Ash.” With his words, Matthew gay her hair a hard pull.

gave

A sharp pain surged through Jessica's head. Her tears streamed down again. “Matthew, can you just let me go?”

“Let you go? Fine.” Matthew smiled coldly, grabbed Jessica's hair, and threw her out with all his strength.

Then Jessica staggered and fell to the ground. Her elbows and knees were scratched. Her blood flowed out instantly with the soil stained on the wound, which caused her heart to twinge. Her hair was also messed up, and she looked pathetic.

Jessica stood up from the ground with tears on her face. She crying.
“Ryan, look at Jeremy and Matthew...”

Ryan,

‘I did not take credit for Ashley’s sacrifice for Ryan to return to t track.
So Ryan has no reason to lose his temper on me,’ Jessica th

However, in the next second, Ryan raised his right hand and slapped
Jessica.

“You ask me for help? You’ve done so many evil things to Ashley. How
you still have the nerve to ask me for help, Jessica?” Ryan asked.

After this slap, Jessica’s ears were buzzing, and she almost couldn’t hear
the sound.

When Jessica licked the blood with the tip of her tongue, she realized that
Ryan had slapped her so hard that her mouth bled.

At this moment, Jessica had never got herself into such a situation with

3/5

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pret 2012

rhdiain messy her face swollen, her mouth bleedinghberface covered
ittretcars and her elbows and knees all scratched.l.

You felescica was so angry that her chest heaved violently, and she even

got pretend to be pitiful. When she glimpsed Ryan’s fierce eyes, she
hrahk hier eieck in fright, turned, and ran away in a panid

he wanted to see Evan and Bertha and let them seek justiceddobber.

t’s ‘sli silicy suault for causing me such misery! she thought.

Jeremy, Matthew, and Ryan looked at each other and simultaneously slapped themselves

because they were the ones who deserved to be slapped.

Because of their behavior, they bullied Ashley and didn't cherish his good sister

as there any news about Frankie Ryan suddenly asked.

No." Jeremy shocked.

Since Frankie disappeared, he had never contacted them. They didn't know where he was, what he was doing, or he had suffered something...

Ryan clenched his fists and suddenly made up his mind with a firm voice.

"I will find a way to make you pay."

[Matthew snorted. What method can you take? Let alone ask for forgiveness, it is even difficult for Jeremy and I to see her."

Ryan lowered his eyes with an angry expression. "Maybe I can help Ashley live."

Jeremy and Matthew were overjoyed when they heard Ryan's words. "Really?"

They could know where Ashley lived and would definitely move there next to Ashley, serve her, make up for their sins!

The next day in the morning, after Brendan, Ashley called Lester. They would go to the hospital for the second DNA identification.

08.56

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 208

Chapter 208

After breakfast, Ashley sat on the sofa in the living room and called Lester.

The call was answered quickly.

They arranged to go to the hospital together in the afternoon. George would also come by then..

“Are you going out this afternoon?” Valentin asked casually after she hung up the phone.

“Yes.” Ashley thought for a moment and said, “Not only this afternoon. I also have to go out this morning.”

Pullan would return to Yaloria tomorrow, so she planned to take him around and visit some places this morning. After all, this was Pullan’s first time in Zyrrinthia, and Pullan loved Zyrrinthia and its culture very much.

“Shall I go with you this morning?” Valentin sat down on the sofa next to her. He crossed his legs, turned slightly sideways, tilted his head, and stared at her with his deep eyes.

His eyes filled with sexy and affectionate possession, like a man looking at his woman.

Ashley was texting Pullan on her phone. She didn't even raise her head when she heard it and teased, "For you to be Pullan's tour guide, that's too overqualified, is it?"

Valentin chuckled, raised his eyebrows slightly, and said casually and seductively, "Ashley, it has nothing to do with Pullan. I just want to be with you."

Ashley finally raised her head and looked at him.

She was caught off guard and met Valentin's affectionate gaze.

Her heart suddenly skipped a beat, and she looked away in a flutter.

The next second, she turned her head, looked back stubbornly, and reached out to cover his eyes. "Don't look at me in that way."

Valentin chuckled again, raised his right hand, and pulled down Ashley's soft hand with his warm palm covering the back of her hand.

1/5

08-561

apter 208:

e pinched hick furgerers fontum with a lazy smile in his eyes. "You're sooo rict, Ashley. Can'ufst stare any wife?"

fter he told me about buis feelings, he no longer hides them, does her shley thought

shley wanted to withdraw in her hand, but it didn't move, so she glanced him. "As a remindertorivorce agreement expires in nine days."

lentin paused for a momenent then acted as if nothing had happened. TT low."

ihley looked at him in sanstatencoön, Great."

soon as she finished speaking here her little finger being hooked by
Valentin.

Ashley looked down and saw Valentin looking at her little finger with his
hand shaking it slightly.

Valentin held her hand slowly and inserted his fingers into the gaps
between her fingers and entwined with hers.

There was an unusual intimacy to this gesture,

Valentin's thumb gently rubbed the back of her hand.

the back of her hand.

When I will try my best to make you want to be with me.

His words took Ashley's breath away. Her senses trembled but she
didn't say a word.

He held her hand and shook it slightly. "Huh?"

Ashley couldn't flinch. She puffed up her cheeks in indignation. "I heard
you."

"So shall I be with you this morning?" he asked again.

"I want to vow with me now?" Ashley lowered her head and stared at his
hands: so strange. Why do his hands look so pretty? When browsing

on the internet a few days ago, I saw many fans saying that they
loved celebrities' hands and regarded their hands as beautiful.

And

she looked at the photos of their hands one by one and then these
discussions were not as pretty as Valentin's, she thought.

lthoodardm help but think of netizens dirty talk. They said at ronddild
pity wine they couldn't have such beautiful hands in their brosd.

Chapter 203

After staring at his hand for a while else was suddenly pulled gently, and
then her body fell into Valentin's embrace.

"Um... Ashley blinked blankly. Why did Valentin suddenly hug me?" she
thought.

She was startled, then raised her eyes to look at him. "What's wrong?"

From Ashley's position, she met Valentin's deep eyes, which were full of
lust that was hard to resist.

Ashley was tense immediately.

Valentin lowered his head and gently pressed the tip of his nose against

Ashley's hair. Their bodies were ambiguously intertwined. Valentin

deep eyes were

aimed at her closely. His voice was husky with desire. "I want to kiss you."

In that moment, Ashley subconsciously tightened her arms around Valentin's
waist, which wrinkled his white shirt.

The white shirt was wrinkled, giving it an erotic feel.

Ashley trembled in panic, and her ears were hot and red. She
knew that she was bewitched, neither resisting nor refusing.

"I brought!" At this moment, Joseph's heated breath came
from behind.

hley was started, woke up from the confusion, and continuo ished him Soloctetete is corning!”

lentin frowneddi stilidioiding her without letting go.

hley couldida brental: free and looked on of the living room warilyly eing that joseph wabout to enter, she whispered anxiously! Hur

joseph will benderaan.

demin’s tongue touched die mooi of his mouth irritably, and he hugged d r hard before letong go..

seph happily ran into de diviving room holding a big box. The nextxi cond, when he saw Valermis gigioomy and unhappy tace, he suddenlyly oked confused. What’s wrong?

shley coughed awkwardly. Yososdid you brought something just now?”?”

08:56 56

pter 208

eph immediately became activcive as Ashley mentioned and said as if he c s offering a treasure, “My frieriencewentout of town two days ago. He urned today and brought me a gented thing, my childhood favorite! So 11 ought it to you right away. Valcicntico come and take a look!”

lentin squinted his eyes dangerouslyakay, let me see what you ought.”

eph was stunned and thought, Whyllitt he sound so scary? What ppened? Why is he so unhappy sudden dooks like he got refused Ashley

eph immediately looked at Ashley for his/her all, it was right to go Ashley if something happened

aley waved her hand. “Leave him aloue showered what you brought.”

enuin’s eyes became more dangerous.

What does her words mean? he thought.

Ashley pretended not to notice Valentin's gloomy gaze and ran to Joseph under the pressure. "What is in such a big box?"

Joseph opened the package with excitement and revealed what was inside. Look at a super-large Spider-Man toy!

Ashley was confused inwardly.

Joseph said. "Don't show me that face, Ashley. This is Spider-Man."

Joseph is known for fighting evil and protecting the earth. Don't you know?

Joseph was speechless.

Joseph looked at Valentin. Just as he was about to say something, he noticed that Valentin's face was even more gloomy than before. He felt a bit nervous.

Why does that look even scarier? Joseph thought.

Joseph quickly used his clever brain and realized belatedly. "Didik! Be careful, you've got to go right away. Just pretend I haven't been here."

Joseph reached out to help him. "No, you didn't. Stay here with Valentin while I go out."

08:56 357

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 209

Chapter 209

Joseph felt that he had accidentally offended Valentin, so he did not dare to stay alone with Valentin. He asked hurriedly, “Ashley, why are you going out?”

“Do you remember Pullan? He will return to Yaloria tomorrow. I’m free this morning, so I planned to take him around for a tour,” Ashley replied.

“I can go with you!” Joseph recommended himself enthusiastically. “When it comes to having fun, no one knows better than me.”

Ashley thought, “That’s true.”

Ashley looked back at Valentin and asked for his opinion.

Valentin raised his hand to rub his forehead, stood up, and walked over. He said in a hoarse and low voice, “If you don’t want me to accompany you, you can let Joseph follow you.”

Joseph leaned toward Valentin with a smile. “Valentin, you made a great decision.”

Valentin glanced at him unhurriedly.

Joseph immediately raised his head, kept his chest straight, and stood at attention with a good attitude.

Ashley thought for a moment and nodded. “Alright. Then I’ll take up your whole morning.”

“Don’t say that.” Joseph waved his hands and pretended to sigh, “Oh, I am a moneyed idler. I have no choice. I was born to have fun.”

Ashley was speechless and thought, 'A moneyed idler. These words were so arrogant!'

After packing up, Ashley and Joseph drove out together.

They went to the hotel to pick up Pullan first and then took Pullan to several nearby Zyrrinthia-styled attractions under the leadership of Joseph.

Ashley wore a mask all the way, and she almost got recognized.

Fortunately, Joseph was clever and covered for her, so they left the scenic spot quietly.

1/5

08:57

ter 209

hunch. Joseph highly recommended a restaurant whose dishes tasted tal, and its specialty was passed down from the royals.

e restaurant was located in an ancient alley didn't look any special m the outside but did inside.

miv received twenty tables of customers per day, antidibose who could ie here were all rich, powerful people.

hough they came here temporarily today, the restaurant served a vate table for joseph all year round, so they didn't have donate a ervation and could walk in.

here entering the restaurant. Ashley turned and looked back litio ange peenie were in the alley, but she felt someone secret vobiowing

hons tong? What are you looking at?" Joseph saw her looking concide basked.

6 steps stopped. Ashley, what's wrong

okerlovas dwww.shook her head, and smiled, “Nothing Let’s have
red the resthe restaurant walked by the artworks displayed, and the
private invade table.

sof them sat din sa down as the dining table and ordered the a few Zyrrin
dhuaranthis dishes that Pullan had always wanted

waiter server shoot the dishes. Joseph hurriedly recommende ave a try.
The specialspecialty is delicious!”

ood. Ashley fouled iowas drowas worth the high price.

is full of praise atter havier having a try. There were few local

a restaurants abroad, bruid and the taste was not good. Only when he
Ayrinthia could he can then the typical food.

th, they walked out of die on the restaurant.

along the alley for a winic, Asiile Ashleirowned slightly and got the
being followed again. gam

alked a few steps and prendre coded look back casually as she
corner.

08:57 10

Chapter 209

Tlidren were no strange people in the alley. But at the corner, she saw a
piptecofof clothing exposed.

Ashbyemiaised her eyebrows slightly and thought, ‘Oh, over there.’

What’s wrong?” Joseph asked worriedly when he saw her keep looking
pacak.

Nothinin gozel ahead.” Ashley said, but she turned back and walked towards

the comater.

oseph and Culullait looked at each other in astonishment and quickly followed.d

The peonie leididing in the corner thought Ashley was gone and poked his head on furtively.

As a result, the covers secund, he was caught off guard and saw Ashley walking up to bimin.

Matthew and terercy doth screamed in shock.

Only Ryan was cata.

yes filled with cocopici

When he saw Ashley appearing in front of him, his
and strong emotions.

Ashley’s face suaderey paced cold.

it was then. Joseph thought and was speechless. He thought it was omething scary, but it iumeted outo be these three idiots fr

Ramos family. “What are youudioing here? Why are you secwing

Ashieve

Ashley jeremy came to bir seruesos from the surprise and prai without thinking. “Why are you too saart? You caught us in one

Matthew nodded accordingly, showing his affection for his sister. "You're so smart, Ashley!"

Now, no matter what Ashley did, she was so awesome in our eyes. No, Ashley is born to be awesome! Matthew thought.

Joseph got goosebumps when he heard David's words and rubbed his ears impatiently. "Are you out of your mind, Noah, what do you want to be a qualified brother, why didn't you do that, cry?"

Ashley didn't even want to say a single word in that. Her eyes were cold. "Why are you following me?"

1:08:57 m

LILE 200

Paul still wore a black racing suit, but he looked more tired and less confident than before. His voice was hoarse and rough. "Ashley, we just want to see you..."

He thought, "Really insane!"

Now he stepped forward and said cautiously, "Ashley, I know you made mistakes before."

He thought now was a chance to make up for her and to prove

he was sincere. "Ashley, I know you are living a good life, but if you need any help, you can tell us. We are willing to do it for you."

She said calmly, "Really?"

Now he nodded immediately. "Yes, anything!"

And Joseph looked over expectantly when they heard Ashley's

She glanced at them expressionlessly and said indifferently

...never come again!

He was stunned, as if cold water poured over his head. The pain entered into his heart deeply and loneliness surrounded his whole being.

Ashley finished speaking, she turned and left without looking back again.

Joseph and Pullan quickly followed.

Joseph looked at Ashley's dejection with misery in his eyes.

He wanted to chase after her and stop. "Now Ashley doesn't want to see us. Let's not bother her and go find her in two days."

"What should I do to win back Ashley's broken heart?" he thought.

For lunch, Ashley, Joseph, and Pullan visited nearby attractions.

When it was time to go to the hospital with her, he sent Pullan back to the hotel where he then asked Joseph to go home.

Joseph, for DNA identification, was temporarily staying at the hotel.

Joseph asked, "Ashley, what are you going to do to let me go home?"

(03:57)

Chapter 209

alone? Valentin will miss you if he doesn't see you coming home."

"Don't be so exaggerated, okay?" Ashley said.

Joseph replied, "I'm telling the truth. Valentin keeps you in his heart all the time."

"Okay, I know. I need to go. You go home first," Ashley said.

Joseph was a discerning person. He guessed that Ashley might have some personal matters, so he nodded. “Okay, then I’ll go home first. If you need help, call me... No, call Valentin anytime.”

‘I’m so clever,’ he thought.

Ashley pulled a wry face. “Okay, I got it.

After sending Joseph away, Ashley went to find Lester.

She didn’t hide it from Joseph intentionally, nor did she distrust Joseph. Mainly because the DNA identification this time would be kept secret temporarily, and no one else would be informed.

When she arrived at the hotel where Lester was living, George seemed to have just gotten off the plane. He brought over his parents’ blood samples and Tyler, who did the first identification last time.

“Ashley, sorry to trouble you.” Lester was apologetic for asking her DNA identification again and again.

“It doesn’t matter.” Ashley didn’t take it to heart at all. “Let’s go to hospital now.”

“Okay,” Lester replied.

They went to the hospital together and followed the same process as time, drawing blood and waiting for the results to come out.

5/5

Send Gift

Comment

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 210

Chapter 210

Ashley sat on a chair in the VIP lounge area after drawing blood.

Tyler, whom George brought here, still did the DNA identification this time.

Tyler had worked for the Pliskin family for many years. He had superb medical skills and profound qualifications, and knew that the Pliskin family had been looking for the missing daughter.

“Ashley.” Lester sat on Ashley’s right side and saw the pinholes on her arms, which were particularly easy to notice on her smooth skin.

He couldn’t help but frown, “Does your arm hurt?”

“No, it doesn’t.” Ashley shook her head and smiled slightly, “Don’t worry.”

She was not afraid of injections. Compared to the pain she suffered in the Ramos family before, the pain of injection was nothing.

George had a poker face and was always reticent. It seemed that no one could get close to him.

At this moment, when he faced Ashley, his expression became much more relaxed. He smiled unnaturally, “Would you like something to drink?”

“No, thanks,” Ashley answered truthfully.

Lester, next to him, was dumbfounded with a scared expression. “George, you...”

'Am I dazzled? George smiled so gently.

'No way! Growing up together, I never saw George smile much time,' Lester thought.

"George, you..." Lester looked at the smiling George with inquiry, feeling strange.

'Did he become insane?' he thought.

George turned to look at Lester when he heard Lester's words. The gentle smile disappeared instantly, and he returned to his usual coldness.

Since they were parted in Manditus, Yaloria last time, he practiced smiling in front of the mirror fifty times every day after returning home.

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do not scare Ashley with his cold face when he met her again.

George thought, Did she smile unnaturally just now? Then how can I come closer to Ashley?"

at this time. Lester tilted his head friendly when he saw George return to his cold face.

That's great! Lester thought.

He was used to George's cold face.

Why do I make it sound innocent?' he thought.

Ashley didn't notice her queering. She took out her phone and looked at the time. The DNA identification results would be available in about an hour.

lot long after. Lester received a call from his mother.

soon as Lester answered his mother. e. Karen Pliskin, on the other end of the phone, asked anxiously and nervously. Lester. have the results

now? How is it?

Lester glanced at Ashley beside him. wawadadiaside, and smiled helplessly. Mom not yet. Don't be so anxious,

How can't be anxious? Karen wore an elegant and dignified blue dress with a noble temperament, but at this time she has as anxious Now daughter have longed for day and night

Lester replied. "Mom, you're so anxious that you do paperwork

now, are you? Dad will be worried about you.

is portts and be

married for many years and now revery to mother test slightly uncomfortable or are so sometimes

termalo be worried.

hat is my

bound was too anxious to eat. Karen lowered her voice, liberating iding ivianusband, Brian Pliskin, next to her, and quietly to complain unded more now than me

hardly i thought, it can't be helped My parents missisi them ighter too much After waiting for so many years, can they motor be

Moust

pin. I will tell you as soon as the results come out, Lester said i

n't

Chapter 210

“Okay, your dad and I are waiting.” Karen hesitated for two seconds and asked expectantly, “Lester, I want to talk to Ashley, can I? Is it too abrupt?”

This mentality of eagerly wanting to find their daughter and to get close but not daring to approach her rashly before the result was confirmed was natural.

Lester thought for a while. “Mom, just wait until the results come out. There is less than an hour left. Please wait patiently.”

He was afraid that his parents would be too enthusiastic and scare Ashley.

“Well, you must tell us immediately when the results come out.” Karen then asked, “Lester, where is George?”

“George is chatting with Ashley.”

When did he learn to chat with others? With his taciturn appearance, he can't even say ten words in a sentence.” Karen ruthlessly talked about George and reminded uneasily, “And you, Lester, although you are more talkative than George, you are not much better. So don't scare Ashley.”

“Mom, are you a little too biased?”

“Biased? Ashley is probably my baby daughter. How can you compare with Ashley? Listen, you have no status in our family now. It will be worse in the future.”

‘Fine. That’s my destiny.

‘Definitely, my sister will be doted on by the whole family, and then it’s my mom, Lester thought.

Lester didn't mind at all.

For his missing sister in childhood, he was willing to give her all the best things in the world.

With such a family status, there was nothing wrong with being lower than his sister.

When the identification results come out later, if Ashley was his sister, he wanted to be the first to develop a relationship with her and couldn't let George and his parents get first.

***速

Ashley and George were chatting when she received a message from

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Chapter 210 Joseph.

[Ashley, I'm back at Kingsley Villa.]

[When Valentin saw me, he asked, "Why Ashley didn't come back with you together?" I said you had some personal matters.]

[Sure enough, I was right. Valentin misses you very much if he can't see you for a while. He waits for you to come home, like a kid waiting for his parents.]

[Ashley, he can't survive without you.]

'Like a kid waiting for his parents? Joseph's words are too exaggerated,' Ashley thought.

Ashley-replied helplessly: [What is Valentin doing now?]

Joseph immediately grasped the point. [Are you caring about him?]

Ashley didn't reply.

Joseph typed quickly. [I have conveyed your concern to Valentin. Praise me.]

Ashley said: [Praising you? Well, stop kidding. I'll go back soon.]

Joseph replied: [Okay, we're waiting for you.]

Ashley put the phone back in her pocket. Lester came back after the call.

"George, Mom called just now," Lester said.

George nodded. It was easy to guess the reason for his mother's call.

Ashley also guessed it. They were all waiting for the identification result to come out.

Her mood was just like her first time doing the DNA identification. She didn't feel nervous at all.

George and Lester were on the side. The tension and expectation in their hearts had almost burst out, which made their hearts up and down. They found it hard to calm down.

When waiting anxiously, one always felt that time was slow.

They didn't know how long it took, but finally, Tyler took the report and

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came over.

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 211

Chapter 211

Tyler held two DNA reports in his hand.

George brought the blood samples of Brian and Karen, so Tyler took this opportunity to test Ashley's blood with theirs.

"What's the result?" Lester was impatient to stand up and ask.

George also stood up. His eyes fixed on the report in Tyler's hand.

Tyler didn't speak without permission and handed over the report. "Mr. George Pliskin, Mr. Lester Pliskin, you'd better look at it yourself."

Lester quickly took it and looked at the report of Ashley and his mother.

George was looking at the report of Ashley and his father.

As the person involved in the identification, Ashley was the calmest of the three and silently looked at the report.

When Lester saw the result on the last page, he frowned tightly, looking gloomy.

He immediately turned his head to look at the report in George's hand.

After seeing the identification result clearly, he frowned more tightly.

Both reports had the same result. The two samples had a high degree of DNA mismatch. There was no blood relationship between the two people.

Lester looked at George in astonishment and confusion.

George looked indifferent and stared at the identification results motionlessly with his eyes as if covered by snow.

Ashley also saw the result, just as she expected.

She was not astonished.

After looking at the expressions of George and Lester, Ashley pressed her lips and took the initiative to break the silence. Her voice was gentle and soft. "The results were the same after two identifications, so..."

She was not the missing daughter of the Pliskin family.

Moreover, the DNA identification this time was kept secret, and no one

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Chapter 211

else was informed.

She never left the hospital and stayed here after drawing blood, so there was no possibility of the blood being stolen.

Tyler, who did the DNA identification, was brought here by George personally.

Therefore, she had nothing to do with the Pliskin family.

"Ashley..." Lester turned to look at her with his eyes full of regret that he didn't want to believe the result.

The first time he saw Ashley, he felt an inexplicable affection for her. He always felt that Ashley was the sister he had lost since childhood.

The identification results gave him a blow.

Ashley had nothing to do with him. She was not his sister.

Ashley didn't know what to say, so she could only comfort them warmly. "You will find your missing sister with your efforts."

Ashley's beautiful eyes shined bright like a star. Lester looked at her, and the gloom in his heart gradually disappeared. But he still felt regretful.

'Ashley has nothing to do with our Pliskin family, Lester sighed inwardly.

Lester took out his phone and walked to the side to call his mother, telling his parents the results.

George and Ashley stayed in place.

George pressed his lips, looked at Ashley, and did not mention the report again.

Although the identification results showed that Ashley was not his sister, George's attitude towards her did not cool down. He still felt like he wanted to get close to her.

"We troubled you to draw blood again, Can we have a meal together later?" George asked.

Ashley noticed his kindness and couldn't refuse him, so she nodded.

Lester had a phone call with his mother and could feel his mother's loss and sadness across the line.

"The jewelry, diamonds, clothes, real estate, airplanes, cars, and private

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Chapter 211

islands my mother prepared for my sister can't be given away again,' Lester sighed inwardly.

They left the hospital and found a restaurant to eat.

At the table, after ordering, Lester cared about Ashley and asked, “Ashley, is Ryan still pestering you now?”

Ashley suddenly looked unhappy when mentioning Ryan.

‘He used to bully me. Now he pesters me. He is so annoying, Ashley thought.

“Don’t mention him.” Ashley didn’t want to hear about the Ramos family and asked casually, “How long will you stay in Zyrrinthia this time? When will you go back?”

“I won’t go back for the time being.” Lester glanced at George next to him. “George, what about you?”

“Let’s talk later,” George said coldly.

Lester shook his head helplessly and thought his mother was right. George was too cold-tempered.

While the three of them were chatting, Ashley received a call from Miranda.

“Hello, Miranda, what’s going on?” Ashley asked after answering.

“Ashley, are you online today?” Miranda’s tone was a little astonished and excited. “I just saw a video on the Internet.”

“What video?” Ashley asked.

Miranda replied, “I randomly saw the video of Bryce at the airport taken by a fan. Bryce is in the video with another newly debuted female star!”

Ashley asked, “Really? Bryce and the new female star?”

As Miranda heard her tone, she knew Ashley was gossiping and quickly explained, “That female star has nothing to do with Bryce.”

Ashley blinked. “I thought there was some scandal.”

“Although that female star has nothing to do with Bryce, she has something to do with you,” Miranda added. Miranda added.

“What?” Ashley was confused. “What does she have to do with me?”

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“Ashley, when I opened the video and saw the female star, I felt she looked a bit like you. Netizens who saw her also said the same,” Miranda said.

Ashley raised her eyebrows slightly and thought, ‘She looks a bit like me?’

Nothing was surprising. There were many people with similar looks in the world.

But she was still curious about it. “Miranda, send me the video.”

Miranda said, “Okay, right away.”

After hanging up the phone, Ashley received the video from Miranda, opened it, and watched it.

It was a two-minute video shot by a fan with a phone after Bryce came out of the airport and was picked up by fans.

In addition to Bryce, the fan recorded a woman coming out of the airport. The woman looked very elegant with long hair and tanned skin.

Ashley was slightly shocked when she saw the woman’s face.

The woman did look a bit like her.

Even netizens thought so.

[Look at the woman in the corner. Who's that? Ashley?]

[Not, Ashley is taller than that woman. But that woman does look a bit like Ashley. She's quite pretty!]

[Nonsense, Ashley is so beautiful, and someone who looks like her must be beautiful, too! By the way, who is this young lady in the video?]

[I know! Her name is Cara Ward, the newly debuted female star. She has a good personality and looks pretty. It is said that she knows a lot of things. She is a gentle princess who is both beautiful and talented. Unfortunately, Cara grew up in an orphanage, which is quite heartbreaking.]

“Ashley, what are you looking at?” Lester asked curiously when he saw Ashley staring at the phone.

“A video.” Suddenly, an idea flashed in Ashley's mind. ‘Cara grew up in an orphanage... she thought.

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Ashley showed the video to Lester and asked, “Look at this girl. Does she look a bit like me?”

Lester and George both watched the video and nodded slightly. There was a slight resemblance.

Ashley said, “You told me before that your mother and I look a little similar, so is this girl also similar to your mother? And she grew up in an orphanage. Could it be...”

George immediately understood what she meant.

‘Could this girl named Cara be the sister they have been looking for?’ he thought.

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Comment

Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 212

Chapter 212

Lester stared at the video of Cara once again, contemplating as he asked, “George, what do you think?”

George’s expression remained unchanged. He lightly tapped the table, his tone carrying an air of indifference. “Just go and find out.”

“Alright, I’ll have someone look into it,” Lester said, slightly narrowing his eyes as he handed the phone back to Ashley.

After the meal, the three of them left the restaurant.

Just as they stepped out of the restaurant, Ashley received a call from an unknown number.

She answered the phone with a casual “Hello.”

On the other end, Bertha’s discontented voice came through. “Ashley, don’t you have a conscience? You even blocked your own mother’s number!”

Ashley's expression turned cold. "Bertha, you got no say about my conscience."

"You!" Bertha was so angry that her fingers trembled, and her breath became rapid. "Are you trying to drive me mad? What did I do to deserve a daughter as ungrateful as you!"

"If this is what your call is about, I don't have time for it," Ashley said, poised to hang up.

"Ashley Ramos!" Bertha interrupted, and her tone filled with indignation. "I've been in the hospital, and not once have you bothered to visit. Even if I were on my deathbed, you still won't show up?"

"Back when you and Frankie conspired to accuse me of pushing my own biological mother down, did you remember that I was your daughter?" Ashley asked calmly.

Bertha was momentarily silenced by the retort, and after a while, she said, with a desolate tone, "Let bygones be bygones. Come to the hospital and see me. My condition..."

"Your condition has nothing to do with me." Ashley rejected emotionlessly.

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Chapter 212

"Ashley..." Bertha's breath quickened again, like an old, wheezing bellows. "Alright, if you don't grace me a visit, I won't insist. But mark my words, no more tormenting Jessica. Jeremy, Ryan, and Matthew dared to lay hands on her, all because of you!"

Ashley sneered, and her eyes filled with sarcasm.

She thought, 'No wonder the sudden call.

After all these years of neglect and no concern from her own mother, the call was solely about her foster daughter.

Lester and George, upon hearing Bertha's name from Ashley,

immediately understood who was on the phone. They looked at Ashley with concern.

Ashley shook her head at them, signaling that everything was fine, then took a few steps away.

On the other end, Bertha continued her tirade, "Jeremy, Ryan, and Matthew treated Jessica so well before. They never laid a hand on her, not even a harsh word. Now, they've resorted to violence, all because of you!"

Ashley glanced at the withered leaves of the plane tree on the roadside. and suddenly felt exhausted. She closed her eyes and said, "I regret reuniting with the Ramos family three years ago."

Upon hearing this, Bertha fell silent momentarily and then murmured "Are you accusing me of favoritism?"

Ashley remained silent.

Bertha defended herself. "What do you know? In the first two days we brought you back to Ramos Villa, Jessica hid under her blanket, silently shedding tears. She was afraid she had no place in this family, crying and imploring us to send her away. You have no idea that witnessing her sorrow tore at my heart."

Ashley sneered, "So, ever since I rejoined the Ramos family, you've been playing guardian angel for her? Afraid she'd be wronged?"

Bertha took a deep breath. “You are indeed my biological daughter, but Jessica is the one Evan and I brought back from the orphanage. I watched her grow step by step. The first time she wore new clothes, the first time she had a birthday cake, the first time she went to an amusement park... All of it. I, as her mother, was there. The nurturing bond of these years is

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Chapter 212

not something that can be faded away with time.”

“And what about me?”

Ashley’s eyelashes fluttered a bit. Her voice remained composed. “While you were dressing her in new clothes, taking her to the amusement park, and celebrating her birthdays, I was alone in an orphanage. You shield and favor her, fearing she might face hardships. But what about me, your own flesh and blood?”

“Why do you have to measure yourself against Jessica! You went through so much hardship growing up, handling a fair share of setbacks. Jessica isn’t like you. She had a comfortable upbringing since childhood, and her tolerance level doesn’t match yours!”

Bertha paused momentarily, then softened her tone. “You had gone missing since you were young. I missed you too, but we couldn’t find you back then. Eventually, we went to the orphanage and brought Jessica back. That’s when I found solace and placed all my longing for you onto Jessica.

“So many years have passed. Jessica is already a part of the Ramos family. Can’t you just treat her like a sister? Jessica is not like you. She doesn’t understand as much, and she doesn’t have a complicated mind. Don’t bully her again. It’s a mother’s plea, please, I’m begging you...”

Ashley hung up the phone without a word.

She pressed her hand against her heart, feeling a trace of sadness.

Ashley had never asked for much. A mere fraction of the motherly love Bertha showered on Jessica would have sufficed.

Yet, even this meager amount of affection was beyond her reach.

Seeing her hang up the phone, Lester walked over, and before getting close, he caught sight of Ashley's slightly pale face. He immediately rushed over. "Ashley, what's wrong?"

George strode over immediately after hearing that.

"I'm fine." Ashley took two deep breaths, suppressing her discomfort.

She had long decided to cut all ties with the Ramos family.

She shouldn't let herself be affected by them.

"Are you sure? Did Bertha say something just now?" Lester was still

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worried.

"Everything is fine." Ashley wouldn't bother with Bertha anymore.

It was getting late. Time to go home.

Ashley bid farewell to Lester and George.

George scrutinized Ashley's expression. Noticing that she appeared fine, he finally eased his tension.

Lester remembered the glimpse of Cara he saw in the video earlier. He needed to check on that.

Back at Kingsley Villa, as soon as Ashley entered the living room, she saw Joseph sitting on the sofa, hugging half a watermelon, who was more at ease here than in his own home.

“Ashley, you’re back!” Joseph immediately tossed the watermelon aside and ran over to greet her.

Ashley responded with an “Um” and glanced around. Not seeing Valentin, she couldn’t help asking, “Where’s your brother?”

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Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 213

Chapter 213

“There was an issue at the company, and my brother had to dash to the office.” Joseph bounced around in front of Ashley, curious. “Ashley, where did you disappear this afternoon?”

“I went to the hospital.” Since the DNA test was already done, Ashley didn’t hide it from Joseph.

As she talked, she walked to the sofa and sat down. Ashley spotted sliced watermelon on the fruit plate, picked up a piece, and started eating.

“What? To the hospital?” Joseph became nervous. “Why would you go to the hospital for no reason? Are you sick? Where does it hurt? You have to tell Valentin!”

Joseph reached for his phone, ready to call Valentin, looking all anxious.

Ashley quickly stopped him with a twitch at the corner of her mouth.
“Calm down. I’m not sick.”

Relieved, Joseph put down his phone and sighed, “You scared me! I thought something happened to you. So, if you didn’t go to the hospital because you’re sick, did you visit someone?”

“Not to visit someone, but to do another DNA test with the Pliskin family,” Ashley briefly explained the condition, also sharing the results with Joseph.

Sitting on the sofa beside her, Joseph rubbed his chin and pondered. “So, George and Lester doubted the results of the first DNA test. That’s why they quietly had another one done. According to this latest result, you really have no relation to the Pliskin family?”

Ashley nodded, swallowing a piece of watermelon. “I was born a Ramos.”

Joseph objected, “Ashley, those folks from the Ramos family who don’t appreciate you aren’t your family. Associating you with them is an insult!”

Joseph raised an eyebrow, smiling confidently and carefree, “Anyway, now that you’re married to my brother. From now on, Valentin, me, and my grandpa are your family!”

Ashley felt warmth and smiled, “Why are you so good with words?”

“I’m just stating the facts!” Joseph lifted his chin and grinned, exuding a confident vibe.

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“By the way!” Joseph suddenly remembered something and asked with vigilance, “That guy, Andrew, has he been looking for you lately?”

“No.” Ashley shook her head, surprised. “Why are you concerned about him?”

“Concerned? I’m just helping my brother guard against his love rivals!” Joseph declared with a righteous expression.

Ashley thought for a moment. “Fine.”

Joseph moved closer to Ashley, asking in a hushed tone, “Ashley, what’s going on between you and Andrew? Tell me. I promise not to tell anyone.”

Ashley looked amused. With Joseph’s gossiping mouth, who would believe that?

“I just knew him from before.” Ashley didn’t want to dwell on it, giving a simple answer.

“Then, when we were in Manditus, what did he want by taking you away? Is he up to no good, planning something malicious?”

Ashley was also puzzled about that. Andrew claimed she had promised him something, but she hadn’t figured out what he meant.

“According to my brother, Andrew took you to a seaside villa?” Joseph commented, “Hmm, he seems to know how to be romantic.”

“Romantic?” Ashley found it amusing. There’s nothing romantic about Andrew is actually a bit afraid of water.”

“Afraid of water?” Joseph was surprised. “Really? Someone like him is afraid of water? Is he faking it?”

Ashley sighed lightly.

When she first met Andrew, she learned a bit about his past.

Andrew was often abused by his parents when he was a child, with marks of beatings all over his body. On his sixth birthday, he was thrown into a swimming pool by his mother.

She held his head down, not letting him come out of the water, forcing him to be submerged.

At the brink of drowning, she mercifully grabbed his head, allowing him

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to gasp for air, only to press him back into the water, subjecting him to the fear of imminent drowning repeatedly.

During this process, his father stood by, indifferent, even making a phone call to inquire about his illegitimate son.

His head was pressed into the water repeatedly, and the cycle continued until the six-year-old Andrew ultimately passed out.

Ever since then, he was haunted.

Although Andrew later forced himself to face his psychological trauma, and learn to swim, he still didn't like the feeling of being soaked in water.

Andrew also disliked sea, especially when the sunlight shone on it, reminiscent of that swimming pool from his six-year-old memory.

Ashley had some understanding of Andrew's gloomy and eccentric personality, which was somewhat related to his childhood experiences.

"That's weird." Joseph scratched his head, puzzled. "He doesn't like the sea but took you to a seaside villa?"

Ashley fell silent.

Because she liked it.

Andrew said she liked the sea, so he took her to a seaside villa.

“Oh, forget about him.” Ashley grabbed a tissue and wiped her fingers. Anyway, Andrew hadn’t contacted her recently, and she was enjoying the peace.

Suddenly, Ashley remembered that the day Andrew took her away was his birthday.

On his sixth birthday, he was almost drowned by his mother and hadn’t celebrated his birthday since, feeling that his birth was a kind of sin.

When they first met, she seemed to have said something to him.

“Andrew, your birth is not a sin. Not at all.

“Your birthday for this year has already come and gone. If we’re still in touch when your birthday rolls around next time, I’ll celebrate it with you.”

So, he took her away on his birthday, not letting her go until after

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Chapter 213 midnight.

Ashley pinched her forehead.

This was really a twist of fate.

Joseph still wanted to say something, but Gavyn hurried in. “Ms. Ramos, Mr. Palmer from StarGavel Auctions is here. He has a painting and would. like you to appraise it.”

“StarGavel Auctions?” Joseph smiled, “Isn’t that our auction house? Last time, Valentin spent 20 million dollars on a necklace for you.”

Ashley nodded, thinking of the necklace, her heart still fluttering.

It was during that auction that she identified some fake paintings for the auction house and was hired on the spot as an appraiser to help them authenticate some challenging artworks.

She didn't want to use her real name then, so she casually took a pseudonym, "Rita Grant."

For convenience, she didn't hide her relationship with Valentin from Noah. If Noah needed help appraising paintings, he could directly come to Kingsley Villa to find her.

Ashley looked at Gavyn, saying gently, "Let Mr. Palmer in."

Gavyn nodded.

In a short while, Noah walked in with a smiling face, seeing Ashley and Joseph in the living room. He quickly greeted. "Ms. Ramos, Mr. Fox."

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Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 214

Chapter 214

Joseph rose from the sofa, asking, "Noah, what painting did you receive again?"

Noah quickly motioned for his assistant to come forward.

The assistant carefully held a box and opened the lid, revealing an ancient painting inside.

“Ms. Ramos, sorry for the sudden intrusion.” Noah took the painting from his assistant and approached Ashley. “Our auction house’s eight appraisers couldn’t determine its authenticity. So, we brought it to you for a look.”

Ashley’s grandfather, a former top-tier master in landscape oil painting, created notable works and amassed a collection of renowned artwork. Growing up surrounded by paintings, she developed a deep love and profound understanding of oil painting under his guidance.

Upon seeing the painting in Noah’s hands, Ashley walked over.

It was a masterpiece titled *Moon in the Mountains* by the artistic genius, Thomas Willis..

The painting exhibited signs of aging, displaying a distinguished patina and visible craquelure, and it was on a linen canvas.

Joseph clicked his tongue and said, “This painting looks old. If it’s a real deal by Thomas, it must be worth at least 20 million dollars.”

Noah frowned, “In theory, yes, but our appraisers couldn’t confirm its authenticity. Ms. Ramos, what do you think?”

Ashley stared at it for a while and shook her head. “It’s fake.”

“What? Ashley, how did you figure that out so quickly?” Joseph was astonished.

Ashley smiled slightly as she explained, “Although this painting looks old, you can tell it’s deliberately aged by examining the canvas.”

“Deliberately aged?” Joseph was puzzled.

Ashley nodded, pointing at the center of the painting. “The lines of the mountain peaks here don’t align with Thomas’ typical style of depiction. Also, look at the blue here. It should blend slate and azure, but it appears

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Chapter 214

lighter than usual, right?”

Mixing slate and azure was basically Thomas’ signature.

Ashley analyzed. “This painting is likely a modern imitation deliberately aged using varnishes or glazes to simulate the effect and give it a slightly yellowed or aged appearance. The imitator did a good job, making it look authentic.”

Joseph listened in amazement. “Ashley, you’re amazing! How do you know all this? I didn’t even realize there was so much expertise involved.”

Noah felt relieved. “Thank you, Ms. Ramos. With your explanation, I now have a clear understanding.”

Ashley smiled, “You’re welcome.”

Noah expressed a few more courteous words before finally departing with his assistant.

Like a curious child, Joseph circled around Ashley. “Ashley, how do you know so much about

painting?”

“My grandfather used to paint and taught me a lot.”

“Oh, I see.” Joseph marveled internally, grateful that Ashley was adopted by her grandparents. Otherwise, growing up in an orphanage would have been quite difficult.

“Ashley, can you paint too?”

“A little.” Ashley didn’t hide it, responding calmly.

Joseph raised his eyebrows. “I don’t believe you.”

His phone suddenly dinged as Joseph talked, and he received a news notification.

He intended to glance quickly and put the phone away, but the headline caught his eye, freezing his gaze.

Ashley noticed his unusual expression and asked, “What’s wrong?”

Joseph snorted, extremely annoyed, saying, “Why is there so much fake news these days? There’s no way Valentin could be romantically involved with other women!”

Ashley was puzzled and thought, ‘What? Valentin? Romantically involved

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Chapter 214

with other women?’

“Ashley, don’t you dare believe it! Valentin is pure and chaste. He has been preserving himself for you! There’s absolutely no way he would be involved with other women!”

“Preserving himself?” Ashley’s lips twitched. “What a mess of words.”

“Oh, the choice of words isn’t the point! The point is the meaning I want to convey, you understand, right!”

“Of course, I understand.” Ashley’s bright eyes slightly lifted. “I naturally believe Valentin.”

Upon hearing Ashley's words, Joseph instantly felt relieved. Still, he couldn't help but be curious. "Ashley, you trust Valentin that much?"

"Nonsense. Who would I trust if I don't trust him?" Ashley spoke with an air of certainty.

Joseph was speechless.

He was initially concerned that these messy rumors might affect the relationship between Ashley and Valentin. But it did not affect them, and Joseph was even showered with their affection for each other.

"Show me. What exactly is this rumor?" Ashley couldn't help but be curious about the content of this gossip.

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Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 215

Chapter 215

Joseph was no longer worried. With a cheerful demeanor, he handed the phone over. "Ashley, since you trust Valentin so much, I'm relieved to show you."

Ashley took the phone, glanced at the gossip details, and couldn't help but be surprised.

The female lead of the scandal was a woman somewhat resembling her, Cara Ward, a newly emerging female celebrity.

Paparazzi had captured Cara dining at a restaurant. As she walked to the entrance, a tall, elegant man came to meet her. Subsequently, the two entered the restaurant together.

Due to the angle, the paparazzi couldn't capture the man's face clearly, only his back and a blurry profile.

In theory, it should be impossible to identify him from such an indistinct.

image.

However, some curious netizens zoomed in on the photo, carefully examining it for an extended period.

[Folks, I have a bold guess! Look at the man in the photo. Although the side profile is blurry, isn't he handsome and somewhat resembling Valentin?]

[Valentin, the president of the Kingsley Group? How is that possible? What connection could a small star like Cara have with someone of Valentin's stature? You're overthinking!]

[I've looked at it several times, and he really looks like Valentin! Although the paparazzi's shot is blurry, this man's height and physique are not ordinary! They are really similar to him!]

[Ah, it just hit me! Remember when Valentin was caught on camera with a lady at the amusement park? Doesn't she bear a striking resemblance to Cara?]

[Ah, it's coming back to me! Back then, I guessed it might be Ashley, but now it looks like it was actually Cara?]

[Oh my, it's falling into place! So, Cara and Valentin know each other. They are not only having dinner together, but Valentin even goes out of

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his way to pick her up at the restaurant entrance!]

[Wow, they were seen together at an amusement park before, and now they're photographed having dinner together. It's reasonable to speculate, could these two be dating?]

Under the discussion of netizens, this gossip quickly spread.

A man of Valentin's stature naturally drew attention when rumors surfaced, especially considering his reputation for keeping a distance from women. There were no other scandals besides being seen at an amusement park with a lady.

Now, many netizens speculated that Cara resembled the woman photographed with him at the amusement park.

This connection fueled curiosity and gossip among netizens, and the rumor quickly became a hot topic.

Seeing Ashley staring at the gossip, Joseph suddenly felt uneasy. He coughed slightly and said, "Ashley, please don't jump to conclusions! The photos taken by the paparazzi are so unclear, and the height and physique of the man in the photo..."

Joseph hesitated and thought, 'Well, the height really resembles Valentin... Damn, what's going on!'

Ashley heard him stop halfway. She looked at him with a slight frown. "Continue. What about the height and physique?"

Under her gaze, Joseph felt his heart skip a beat and hurriedly explained "Ashley, please don't overthink it! I'll call Valentin now and let him explain to you in person!"

He thought, 'Bro, you need to handle your wife yourself!'

Joseph was about to dial the number, but Ashley stopped him with a calm expression. "No need to call."

Hearing this, Joseph's heart instantly sank halfway. "Ashley, please! Even if you don't trust Valentin, give him a chance to explain. Don't jump to conclusions!"

"That is no need."

Joseph felt discouraged, his tearful eyes pleading. "Ashley, why not! You should at least give him a chance to explain the situation!"

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"No need. You don't have to call..." Ashley didn't finish her sentence.

"I won't listen to you!" Joseph covered his ears, shaking his head vigorously, full of grievances. "I'm going to call Valentin! Ashley, you must listen to his explanation!"

Ashley was momentarily speechless.

Her eyelids twitched fiercely, and she retorted, "Joseph, what are you doing? Don't overanalyze things! Stop being so dramatic!"

Joseph blinked and put down his hands from his ears. "I was just anxious. You seemed so disheartened that you didn't even want to hear Valentin's explanation."

"When did I appear disheartened?"

"Why didn't you let me call Valentin then? You clearly want to send him to the sidelines! You don't even want to hear his explanation!"

What? Ashley's temple twitched momentarily, and she rubbed her forehead helplessly. "What I meant is, there's no need to call Valentin. I can tell the man in the photo isn't him."

Joseph was relieved, and he let out a long breath. "You scared me! I thought you... Wait, you recognized that the man in the photo isn't Valentin?"

Ashley nodded. "Yes."

Joseph widened his eyes in astonishment. "I can't believe it! The photo didn't even capture his face, and the side profile was blurry. How did you recognize him?"

Ashley blurted out, "Valentin has a better physique than the man in the photo, and his temperament is much better."

Joseph blinked, then suddenly smirked. "Ashley, you know so much about Valentin's physique."

Ashley retorted, "What? The key is the second half! The temperament!"

"Got it, got it." Joseph brushed aside the second part, zeroing in on the first with a playful chuckle. "So you're quite familiar with Valentin's physique. Now I can breathe easy!"

Ashley was rendered wordless again and thought, 'Why is he still fixated on physique?'

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Suddenly, Joseph leaned in and said mysteriously, "Ashley, last time Valentin recognized you as Attelia based on your back in that photo. You two really have great chemistry!"

Ashley was slightly startled. "Really? That's how he knew I'm Attelia?"

Joseph nodded enthusiastically. “Yes, yes! I was shocked at the time. With just a glance at that back shot, Valentin recognized you. You two must like each other a lot to have such understanding!”

A subtle blush graced Ashley’s earlobes as she learned about it.

At this moment, Joseph’s phone received another news notification.

Clicking on it, he saw a Twitter post from Cara.

[I had dinner with a friend, and for some reason, we were captured by the paparazzi. I hope everyone refrains from speculating. The man in the photo is just my friend, not Mr. Kingsley. It’s genuinely not him. Also, today, I had the pleasure of meeting a highly esteemed master of cultural relic restoration whom I greatly admire, and I even took a photo with him!]

Below was a picture of Cara and the cultural relic restoration master.

Netizens were closely following this. They immediately gathered to watch after learning that Cara had posted on Twitter.

[It’s not Valentin...]

[Oh wow, Cara cleared things up so swiftly! No desire for attention at all! If it were someone else, they would have surely let the speculation about Mr. Kingsley linger a bit longer!]

[Honestly, I think Valentin and Cara are quite a match with good looks and height, especially because Cara is so well-behaved. Who wouldn’t adore such a girl?]

[A photo with the cultural relic restoration master? Does Cara have knowledge of relic restoration? She seems so elegant and talented!]

Joseph saw the comment about Valentin and Cara being a good match and couldn’t help but feel speechless.

He thought, ‘Open your eyes and look closely. Where’s the match? The only perfect match for Valentin is Ashley!’

Ashley glanced over and saw the photo of Cara with the cultural relic

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restoration master. She was stunned.

The man posing with Cara was actually Charlie.

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