

# Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 236

Chapter 236

Clinton was excited and joyful. “Aurora, I finally meet you!”

Ashley shook hands with him and smiled, “Hi, glad to see you.”

People around saw Clinton ignore Cara, went to Ashley enthusiastically, and expressed his excited feelings to Aurora. ‘What’s going on?’ they thought.

A boy in the crowd couldn’t help but ask, “Mr. Baze, aren’t you here for Cara?”

Clinton was talking to Ashley. When he heard this question, he felt bothered and frowned, “Of course not. I heard that Aurora would attend the art exhibition, so I came here by plane from abroad overnight to meet her.

“As for Cara, I knew she also attended this exhibition just now.”

After hearing Clinton’s words, everyone gasped again.

Anyone who knew Clinton knew he was frank. His words were also influential.

“Oh...oh my! Mr. Baze came by plane for Aurora, not for Cara!”

“He just found out that Cara is also in this exhibition... Well, Clinton doesn’t pay attention to Cara at all. I thought Cara and Clinton were very familiar...”

“Look at Clinton’s excited face. He is so happy to meet Ashley.”

After hearing Clinton's words, Cara's face became stiffened. The gentle smile on her face could no longer be maintained.

Clinton completely ignored her and came here for Ashley...

Cara was left alone. She gritted her teeth, took deep breaths, and smiled softly to show she was generous and didn't mind.

At this time, the reporters surrounding Clinton and Ashley took chance to ask a question, "Mr. Baze, I heard that you are very interested in landscape oil painting of Zyrrinthia. Can I know the reason?"

Clinton smiled calmly, "Because of Aurora."

Everyone was surprised. Ashley also looked at him in surprise.

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Clinton looked at Ashley and said sincerely, "I've heard of the landscape oil painting of Zyrrinthia before, but I don't know much about it and have no interest. The first time I saw your painting, I was attracted by its artistry, which I had never experienced before. From then on, I began to study your paintings and learn your language, hoping I could meet you and communicate with you one day."

Ashley was slightly startled and smiled, "I'm so glad you like our painting. The landscape oil painting is a unique painting form of our country. It has its system and profound cultural meanings. It is also the essence of our culture."

Clinton nodded repeatedly. "Since then, I have been very interested in the culture of Zyrrinthia and also studied many paintings. However, I still have some questions. I wonder if you can help me?"

Ashley smiled, "My pleasure."

After listening to the conversation, everyone at the gallery was more convinced of Clinton's admiration for Aurora. He even learned the language!

They never expected Ashley to spread the culture unknowingly.

Charlie looked at Ashley with disbelief.

He didn't expect Clinton to admire her so much...

Clinton suddenly remembered something, took an exquisite box from his pocket, and handed it to Ashley. "A gentleman entrusted me to give you this gift."

Ashley was confused. "Who?"

Clinton replied, "He said he adored you so much."

Ashley was even more confused.

The reporters nearby immediately sensed something and thought, 'Someone adores Ashley and asks Clinton to give her a gift. This person is unusual for he can ask the famous painter Clinton to do him a favor.'

Clinton thought about it and said to Ashley, "He said you called him 'bastard Andrew. He intended to come to see your painting in person, but he couldn't get away for a while... He also said he likes the pears you draw. It looks great!"

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Ashley sneered inwardly, 'I know it! Andrew Banks!'

Joseph stood by the side, heard the name, and immediately became.

nervous.

‘Damn it! Andrew’s intention is too obvious!’ he thought.

Clinton handed the box to Ashley and opened it gently. It was a beautiful rose brooch.

The rose was cut with a rare pink diamond, and it could catch everyone’s eyes at once.

There was also a note underneath, and “The Final Rose” written on it.

A female reporter in the crowd suddenly exclaimed, “Is it that poem, ‘In my barren land you are the final rose’?”

“So romantic!” Another girl cupped her face and said.

But Ashley felt it was troublesome. She didn’t want to accept this gift at all.

She couldn’t make Clinton embarrassed, so she had to take the box and decided to return it to Andrew later.

Joseph was anxious and thought Andrew just wanted Ashley to be his girlfriend. The romantic words were nonsense,’ he thought.

A bold reporter quietly asked Joseph, “Mr. Fox, Ashley works at your company. Do you know who this man is?”

Joseph replied angrily, “I don’t know!”

The reporters were so curious and belatedly thought of something. ‘No-wonder Joseph posted a painting of a starry sky drawn by Aurora on Twitter and said that Aurora looked like Ashley. It turns out that Joseph already knew Ashley was Aurora.

A reporter wearing glasses suddenly asked, “Mr. Fox, I heard that Mr. Kingsley will come to today’s art exhibition. Is it true?”

Joseph hummed and chuckled, “Of course.”

The reporter probed, “Mr. Fox, netizens speculated that Mr. Kingsley will come here for Cara, will he?”

Joseph put on a dangerous smile. “You can ask Valentin directly.”

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The reporter trembled in fright and thought, ‘I don’t dare to ask him.’

At this moment, a staff ran over and stuttered in excitement, “Mr. Hunt...Mr. Kingsley...is here...for real!”

Simon was so excited that his beard trembled. “Come with me to greet him!”

After Simon finished speaking, he ran slowly with his old legs, which showed his pleasure.

Everyone present knew Valentin and was all excited to look outward.

“Oh my, Valentin really came here!”

“Is he here to see the landscape oil paintings? Or, as netizens guessed, he is here for Cara.”

“I have no idea. But being able to see Mr. Kingsley is enough to brag about for a lifetime.”

Cara’s fans immediately became excited as they heard Valentin’s name.

They thought, “That was Valentin, the president of the Kingsley Group.’

‘He was more famous than Clinton.

‘Cara once had a photo taken with Valentin, and Valentin’s attendance at the exhibition this time was probably for Cara. How could I not be excited?

With such comparison, Clinton showing up is nothing.

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Not long after, a large group of staff surrounded Valentin and walked over attentively.

Valentin was tall and graceful. He was dressed in a crisp white shirt emphasizing his robust waist. His long legs were covered in those perfectly tailored pants. Valentin had an understated allure as he strolled gracefully, giving off this cool and classy vibe.

Especially as he listened to Simon's report while walking, every inch of his features, from the straight nose to the sharp jawline and the alluring Adam's apple, exuded a captivating charm.

A few girls in the crowd immediately exclaimed in a low voice.

“Ah, it's really Mr. Kingsley! He's really here!”

“So good-looking! So good-looking! He's so attractive that I'm practically speechless!”

“I really want to crumple his white shirt...”

All eyes were on the handsome and noble man, and Cara was no exception.

She instinctively raised her hand, adjusted her dress, and tucked a strand of loose hair behind her ear. After ensuring her image was flawless, she nervously clasped her hands..

However, from the moment of entering the venue, Valentin's profound gaze excluded everyone irrelevant, focusing uniquely on Ashley.

As long as Ashley was present, he could only see her in his eyes and no one else.

Joseph had grown accustomed to this because Valentin was a hopeless romantic deeply in love with his wife.

Just then, a bold young reporter excitedly approached, fearlessly interviewing. "Mr. Kingsley, there have been rumors online these past few days suggesting you attended today's art exhibition for Cara. Is that true?"

Seeing the actions of the young reporter, other journalists immediately felt a cold sweat.

How daring! He dared to interview Valentin directly!

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Joseph observed the scene and subtly grimaced. He had just brought it up, and someone was foolish enough to ask Valentin the question.

But

hearing the reporter's question, the curiosity of many people was piqued.

Was it true that he came for Cara?

Unexpectedly, Valentin stopped in his tracks, looking at the young reporter who asked.

It seemed like he was willing to answer this question.

Belatedly sensing the tension, the reporter nervously repeated the question. “Mr. Kingsley...did you attend the art exhibition today for Cara?”

In the next instant, Valentin’s calm and indifferent voice echoed in everyone’s ears.

“Who is Cara?”

At that moment, everyone fell into silence and wondered.

“What? Valentin doesn’t know Cara?”

‘He doesn’t even know who Cara is!!

‘Cara is a recently popular female celebrity who trended on social multiple times. Valentin doesn’t know her, indicating he hasn’t paid attention to her.’

“This response truly is ruthless, leaving no room for mercy!

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This brief and indifferent reply silenced the venue to the point that a pin drop could be heard. Everyone swiftly turned their heads toward Cara.

Cara’s breathing became difficult at this moment, and her face turned pale. Clenching her fingertips tightly, she supported herself to avoid any sway or loss of composure.

She had never expected Valentin to embarrass her like this in front of



everyone.

Cara's fans were also bewildered.

'Mr. Kingsley doesn't know Cara?'

'So, he didn't come for Cara this time? How could this happen!'

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That bold and reckless young reporter mustered courage again and asked, "Mr. Kingsley, there has been a photo circulating online for the past two days showing you and Cara together..."

The reporter stopped himself halfway

In that photo, Cara's gaze was directed toward Valentin, but he simply lowered his eyes to look at the red wine glass in his hand. It was evidently one-sided, as Valentin seemed utterly unaware of her presence.

With this young reporter taking the lead, other reporters couldn't help but ask questions.

"Mr. Kingsley, there's a photo of you and Cara together online. Some netizens speculate that you two might have had some connection before..."

"No," Valentin denied again, his voice devoid of any fluctuation.

The questioning reporter was instantly frightened, swallowing his saliva nervously. Valentin was so straightforward, showing no mercy. It seemed like he really wanted to distance himself from Cara.

On the other hand, Joseph nudged Ashley's arm, lowering his voice. "See that, Ashley? Valentin's move is really swift and decisive. He publicly stated that he had no connection with Cara. It's to show his loyalty to you."

Ashley was literally speechless.

She thought, 'What loyalty? What kind of messy words are these! C speak properly?'

Ashley ground her teeth and lowered her voice. "This is called clarification, not showing loyalty."

"Oh, Valentin just doesn't want you to get the wrong idea! Even a hint of misunderstanding must be nipped in the bud quickly and decisively. Ashley, trust me, I swear on my conscience, from childhood to now, both physically and mentally, Valentin has only ever had eyes for you!" Joseph patted his chest and said in a firm tone.

Ashley was speechless again, thinking, He is genuinely an overly protective brother.

'Wait a minute. Physically? Valentin and I haven't done anything yet!'

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On the other hand, after confirming that Valentin had no connection with Cara and didn't attend the art exhibition for her, the reporters started speculating. "It seems Mr. Kingsley is here today just to appreciate the artwork."

However, at this moment, Valentin lifted his eyebrows slightly, and his tone was no longer as distant and cold as it was just now. “Not exactly.”

“So, Mr. Kingsley, did you come here for...”

Valentin smiled slightly, his tone hinting at a trace of subtle fondness, “To see Ashley. I really like Aurora Easel.”

As soon as he finished speaking, the journalists and onlookers, even Ashley herself, were left astonished.

Just when the buzz created by Clinton wasn't enough, now a more influential figure, Valentin, stepped into the spotlight, and once again, he was here for Ashley!

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 238**

Chapter 238

The reporters were sharp individuals, able to sense that Valentin was in a good mood. They wanted to seize this rare opportunity to ask him a few questions.

After all, figures like Valentin were not easily accessible for interviews.

However, before the reporters could ask questions, Valentin had already cast several glances in Ashley's direction in just a few seconds.

All of them figured that Valentin was eager to see the paintings of Aurora and thought he had a deep love for landscape oil painting.

The reporters were savvy enough to exchange glances and promptly closed their mouths, not daring to delay the big shot's time for appreciating the paintings.

Only Joseph knew that Valentin was not admiring the paintings but rather his wife.

Simon and the staff quickly approached Valentin and escorted him toward Ashley.

Didn't Valentin mention that he came for Ashley? Where else would he go if not towards her?

Even though the reporters didn't move forward for interviews, their cameras were still held high, continuously filming Valentin. When Valentin reached Ashley, they snapped many photos of the two.

As Valentin approached Ashley, he noticed her holding a delicate little gift box.

It seemed like someone had given her a present.

"What's this?" He squinted slightly, taking the initiative to inquire.

Feeling a headache coming on, Ashley held the gift like a hot potato, with nowhere to hide it..

Standing beside Ashley, Clinton heard Valentin's question and straightforwardly explained, "This is a gift from Ashley's admirer. He asked me to bring it over for her."

As an Aurora fan, Clinton instinctively addressed her by first name instead of surname.

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He was straightforward and didn't hide anything about the gift.

Joseph felt like running over to cover Clinton's mouth. He thought, Why does he have to be so explicit? Valentin must be on the brink of letting his jealousy spill now!"

Valentin caught the word "admirer". He casually glanced at the gift box, then raised his gaze. His tone conveyed ambiguity as he said, "Ms. Ramos seems quite popular."

Ashley was speechless.

Joseph grumbled internally, 'Oh my, it's not just on the brink. It's everywhere now!"

Yet, amidst the jealousy, Joseph couldn't help but sense a flirtatious tone as Valentin addressed Ashley as "Ms. Ramos" in front of everyone. Was there a hint of playful banter?

At this moment, Simon added fuel to the fire with great pride. "Ashley is talented and beautiful. Having numerous admirers is simply par for the course."

Joseph grimaced and thought, 'Damn, why does he have to complicate things!'

Just as Simon finished speaking, he felt Valentin give him a disdainful glance.

Simon wondered if he had said something wrong but dismissed the thought quickly, as every word he spoke was true.

Joseph quickly changed the topic, smiling, "Alright, let's not talk about admirers. Let's discuss the art exhibition. Valentin, since you've met. Aurora, have a good chat with her, okay?"

Giving Ashley a knowing look, Joseph smiled with a touch of mystery. He said, "Ashley, Valentin really, really likes Aurora, and he really, really likes you...paintings!"

He deliberately stretched the “you” for a moment.

Ashley’s eyelids twitched, and she thought, “This troublemaker couldn’t go a day without stirring things up!”

Looking at Valentin in front of her, Ashley inexplicably felt a tacit understanding between them under the gaze of many eyes. Her

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heartbeat slightly quickened. “Thank you, Mr...”

Ashley hesitated for a moment, feeling awkward to address him. “Thank you, Mr. Kingsley, for your appreciation.”

On the inside, she thought, ‘Well, I haven’t called him that before.’

Valentin raised an eyebrow. “You’re welcome, Ms. Ramos.”

Upon hearing this, Joseph thought, ‘Wow, Ms. Ramos and Mr. Kingsley, what a perfect match!’

Meanwhile, not far away, Charlie watched Ashley in the crowd, feeling a strangely complex emotion welling up within him.

Every time, Ashley managed to surprise him.

Charlie turned to see that Cara had been watching Ashley and Valentin’s direction, seemingly focused on their interaction.

“Cara,” Charlie called her name, pausing before continuing, “I didn’t expect Clinton and Valentin to be here for Ashley. It seems they are both really into Aurora’s paintings.”

Cara's eyelashes flickered gently. She was immersed in her thoughts. 'Both are into Ashley... Especially Valentin. He didn't even spare a glance for me and focused solely on her.'

Cara continued to gaze at Ashley and Valentin, but her tone was strangely tender. "Ashley is admired by so many people. It's truly enviable."

"Cara..."

"But it's okay," Cara sighed lightly, smiling at Charlie. She looked graceful and gentle. "I don't think I'm inferior to Ashley. What do you think, Mr. Ramos?"

Charlie nodded in agreement. "Indeed, you are better than Ashley."

The Cara he knew had many talents, and her abilities were outstanding.

"Just a bit regrettable," Cara sighed softly.

"Regrettable about what?" Charlie was puzzled.

"It's regrettable that Ashley is Aurora. Given her misunderstanding of you and the Ramos family, she might not agree to sell you that painting you

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like so much.

Charlie furrowed his brow. He genuinely liked the painting Territory. Would Ashley refuse him because of the Ramos family's

misunderstandings?

The reporters at the scene had already reported the art exhibition events online with hashtags: "Ashley Ramos is the master oil painter Aurora

Easel”. “Valentin Kingsley attends the exhibition for Ashley Ramos”, Valentin Kingsley doesn’t even know Cara Ward” and “Yavelyn famous. painter Clinton Baze learns her language for Ashley Ramos”.

These hashtags dominated the trending searches, creating a buzz online

Netizens who couldn’t attend the exhibition were shocked to see these trends. [What? Ashley is Aurora?]

[Ashley, are you really this amazing!]

Some netizens who speculated that Valentin and Cara had some connection and even intended to ship them were directly struck down by the truth.

Why bother shipping? Valentin had openly declared that he didn’t know Cara at all!

It must be said that Valentin’s attitude toward Ashley and Cara was wholly different and incomparable.

In one moment, he coldly claimed not to know Cara, and in the next, he showed great admiration for Ashley, creating a stark contrast.

At this moment, a reporter uploaded a video from a charity banquet a while ago.

Curious netizens clicked on the video and were once again shocked. Valentin had spent 10 million dollars to purchase Ashley’s personal bracelet, openly declaring himself a fan of Ashley and expressing his admiration.

This charity banquet wasn’t broadcast live, so netizens saw this footage for the first time, and it instantly caused a commotion.

[Holy shit, what’s this amazing thing! Useless paparazzi, why is this. coming out only now!]



[Oh my gosh, Ashley is the one connected to Valentin!]

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[Of course. Cara only appeared in a group photo, and Valentin didn't even look at her. What's the point of speculating about their connection!]

[Have you all noticed how Valentin and Ashley make such a stunning pair! The visuals and the height difference are just perfect. I can't resist shipping them!]

[Just ship them casually. There is no need to take it seriously. Valentin has never shown interest in women. His appreciation for Ashley is likely purely platonic.]

Tom monitored the online public opinion, and upon seeing these comments, he immediately clicked the like button frantically. The comment [Valentin and Ashley make such a stunning pair] was the ton trending. He also actively disliked the comment [Just ship them cas There is no need to take it seriously.].

As Valentin's qualified and considerate assistant, this was what he should do.

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 239**

## Chapter 239

After the Skyward Art Exhibition concluded, Charlie took the initiative to find Ashley.

However, Ashley was indifferent, and she looked at him with cold eyes as if he were a stranger.

Charlie paused briefly upon meeting her icy gaze. When they were in Ramos family, although Charlie was indifferent to Ashley, Ashley's eyes towards him were always full with expectation.

“Ashley. I really like your painting Territory, and I'm willing to pay a high price for it.”

Ashley refused bluntly. “It's not for sale.”

Charlie frowned, probing. “Do you not want to sell the painting, or do you not want to sell it to me?”

Ashley chuckled, cold mockery in her beautiful eyes. “I don't want to sell it to you.”

H

Charlie furrowed his brows even more tightly, about to say something more, but Ashley had already turned and walked away as if saying another word to him would be a waste of time.

\*\*\*\*\*

After taking care of the post-exhibition matters, Simon invited Ashley, Valentin, Joseph, and Clinton to the adjacent lounge.

Everyone took a seat on the sofa.

Clinton bombarded Ashley with numerous questions, hardly giving her a moment to breathe.

Joseph glanced at Clinton, then Valentin, thinking Clinton shouldn't monopolize Ashley's time. It was time to give her back to Valentin.

After Clinton finally quieted, Simon said, "Ashley, you suffered a lot during your time with the Ramos family in the past two years."

Recent revelations about the Ramos family's actions made it clear that they did not treat Ashley well despite bringing her back home.

Ashley shook her head. "It's okay, Mr. Hunt, it's all in the past."

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Simon, hearing her words, felt even more uncomfortable. She had endured so much hardship, yet she comforted him.

How could the Ramos family be so cruel to such a good girl?

Simon sighed and spoke affectionately. "Ashley, join me for dinner tonight. Let's have a good chat."

"Sure, Mr. Hunt." Facing an elder, Ashley couldn't refuse.

After saying that, she instinctively glanced at Valentin beside her. Only then did she realize that he had been looking at her for who knows how long.

Seeing Ashley looking over, Valentin raised his eyebrows slightly and discreetly squeezed her hand.

Ashley's heart tightened, thinking, "There are still others around."

After Joseph heard Simon's words, he couldn't help but sigh inwardly, Well, he's even occupying Ashley's dinner time.

'Thankfully, the dinner is scheduled for tonight, not tomorrow.

Tomorrow marks the first anniversary of Valentin and Ashley's marriage. They will definitely celebrate it together!'

\*\*\*\*\*

Cara returned to her apartment, and her phone rang. The caller was Tyler.

Cara answered, "Mr. Morgan."

His voice sounded displeased from the other end. "What happened today? Is dealing with Ashley so challenging?"

Cara tightened her fingers on the phone. "Mr. Morgan, I didn't expect Ashley to be Aurora Easel."

"Cara, I believe you won't disappoint me next time," Tyler said. Then, he asked, "Has anyone from the Pliskin family contacted you?"

"No," Cara replied.

Tyler continued, "They are investigating you. They want to see if you are the lost daughter of their family."

Upon hearing this, Cara raised her hand to touch her face gently and

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walked to the mirror. Seeing the resemblance in her look to Ashley, she couldn't help but close her eyes.

Cara hung up Tyler's call and took out another shabby phone from the cabinet.

After turning it on, she inserted a seldom-used SIM card and dialed a number.

Once the call was answered, Cara spoke indifferently. "Keep an eye on Ashley today and teach her a lesson."

After finishing her words, Cara turned off the old phone and removed the SIM card.

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During dinner, Ashley arrived at the prearranged restaurant.

Entering the private room, Simon was already there, along with Clinton, who insisted on joining for dinner to spend more time with Ashley.

"Mr. Hunt. Clinton." Ashley greeted.

"Ashley is here! Come and have a seat." Simon beckoned happily.

Ashley walked over and sat down. In addition to Simon and Clinton, there was also a young and handsome man who appeared to be in his twenties.

Simon smiled, "Ashley, this is my friend's grandson, Jamie Chastain. He has always admired Aurora, so I brought him here to meet you."

Jamie stood up, his charming face showing a warm smile. "Hello, today I finally have the honor of meeting you. It turns out you're Aurora. I've heard your name many times before. You're quite famous. I've even followed you."

"Thank you," Ashley replied politely.

Jamie smiled lightly, “I’ve heard you play the harp and know you as the composer, Ash. I didn’t expect you to be a painter as well. You’re truly talented.”

After a moment of thought, Ashley remembered she had publicly played the harp, probably during the variety show performance of The Land.

Unexpectedly, Jamie had been following her for quite some time.

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Simon chuckled, “Both of you, sit down. Don’t just stand there. Have a seat and talk.”

Looking at the scene, Clinton suddenly recalled a phrase he had learned. He leaned over to Ashley and asked in a low voice, “Ashley, is this a blind date in your country?”

Ashley, amid drinking water, almost spat it out!

She thought, ‘A blind date? What kind of nonsense is this!’

Ashley quickly waved her hand and corrected him in a low voice. “This is not a blind date. Just a friends’ meeting.”

Clinton nodded. He thought he had a good command of their language. However, he acknowledged that the language’s depth was vast and profound, and he still hadn’t fully mastered many aspects.

At the middle of dinner, Ashley received a text message from Joseph.

[Ashley, when will you be back? I’m at Kingsley Villa right now. Let me share a little secret with you. Valentin has a gift prepared for you.]

Ashley blinked. Why did Valentin buy her gifts again?

[What gift? I haven’t finished dinner yet. I’ll be back later.]

Joseph replied: [Besides Simon, is Clinton also there?]

Ashley answered: [Yes, and Simon's friend's grandson.]

Joseph became alert. [What? There are other men?]

Ashley replied: [What's wrong?]

Joseph asked again: [Is he around your age? Do the elders know each other? Do you and him even have common interests?]

Ashley replied: [Yes. Why?]

Joseph exploded. [Ashley, this is absolutely a blind date!]

Ashley was speechless.

She thought, 'Why is everyone thinking like that? It doesn't seem like a blind date at all!'

Joseph stood up and looked at Valentin on the sofa. "Your wife is going on a blind date."

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Chapter 239 "What?"

Joseph said, "Valentin, do you know which restaurant Ashley is having dinner at?"

Valentin had already stood up and walked out. "I know."

Ashley told him before leaving..

Without a word, Joseph quickly followed him out. Of course, he had to join Valentin in finding Ashley. "You should have just told Simon directly at the art exhibition that you and Ashley are already married."

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At the restaurant, Ashley wiped her mouth with a napkin and went to the restroom.

As soon as she entered the restroom cubicle, she heard a noise outside.

Ashley's eyes narrowed, preparing to go out and take a look, but when she reached for the door, she found it wouldn't open.

It seemed someone had locked it from the outside.

Ashley's gaze turned cold, and her expression instantly darkened.

Her phone was in the private room, so she couldn't make a call.

Ashley narrowed her eyes, raised her right leg, and kicked the door with force.

The cubicle door wasn't sturdy, and it was easily kicked open.

Ashley searched the restroom but found no one.

She wondered who had locked the door.

Ashley's face became cold, and she immediately went to the restaurant's front desk to check the surveillance footage.

As she walked to the first-floor hall, she encountered Valentin and Joseph rushing over.

Ashley was shocked. "Why are you here?"

Joseph was also stunned. He then walked towards Ashley. "Valentin and I came to find you. Why aren't you in the private room?"

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Speaking of this, Ashley frowned in confusion. “I just went to the restroom, and someone locked the door. I kicked it open...”

Before she finished speaking, Joseph’s expression suddenly changed. He shouted, “Ashley, get out of the way!”

Ashley didn’t understand what he meant for a moment and was slightly startled.

In just a short moment, Valentin ran up to her with a stern face, hugged Ashley, and protected her underneath him.

Almost at the exact moment as Valentin hugged her, Ashley heard a loud bang.

The giant chandelier on the ceiling suddenly fell, smashing Valentin.

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 240**

Chapter 240

Ashley’s mind echoed with a thunderous crash, briefly freezing her in place.

Warm, crimson blood dripped onto her face.

“Valentin!” Ashley’s eyes turned red in an instant, her voice trembling.

Valentin let out a muffled groan due to the intense pain, a strong scent of blood surging from his throat. Despite the agony, he reassured her in broken breaths, “Don’t be afraid, I’m fine...”

Ashley’s eyes were sore. How could he be fine?

The ground was covered in shattered pieces of chandeliers and glaring red blood, all flowing from him.

“Valentin!” Joseph was shocked, and he ran over in panic. While supporting Valentin, he took out his cell phone with trembling fingers to call an ambulance.

Ashley rose from the shelter of Valentin’s embrace, witnessing the massive bloodstains on his back. Giant chandelier fragments had cut his skin, and some penetrated into his flesh. Blood rushed out eagerly.

And his head... The back of his head was also struck, his hair soaked in fresh blood. He looked as if he had just been pulled from a pool of blood. The air heavy with a pungent smell of it.

Ashley’s hands trembled uncontrollably. Half-supporting, half-carrying Valentin, her voice quivered. “The ambulance will be here soon!”

His injuries looked too terrifying. Ashley dared not move him recklessly, fearing she might worsen his condition.

The restaurant manager and staff rushed over immediately at the sudden

turn of events.

Seeing the injured person in the hall, the restaurant manager turned pale instantly.

He thought, ‘Valentin! It’s over.

This kind of influential figure getting seriously injured in their restaurant would be a severe blow, even if it meant closing down.

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## Chapter 240

The manager's hands and feet were ice-cold. He ran over in a panic, trembling as he pulled out his phone, nearly in tears. "Ms. Ramos, Mr. Fox. I'll arrange a car to take Mr. Kingsley to the hospital immediately!"

Seeing the manager approach, Joseph immediately suppressed his impatience and coldly ordered, "Seal off all the information. Nothing can be leaked."

What happened to Valentin today would significantly impact his family, company, and the outside world. It was crucial to keep it under wraps.

The restaurant manager was at a loss. After hearing what Joseph said, he immediately nodded and followed the instructions.

Simon and Clinton heard the commotion and rushed out of the private room.

Seeing Valentin was injured, Simon was immediately flustered. He hurried over. "Ashley, what happened to Mr. Kingsley? And you, are you hurt?"

Ashley shook her head, eyes glued to Valentin since the incident. She just briefly replied, "Mr. Hunt, I'll take him to the hospital first."

"Alright, go quickly!" Though he was unclear why Ashley and Valentin were so close, Simon recognized this wasn't the time to ask such questions.

The wailing siren of an ambulance echoed from outside.

Joseph finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Ashley turned to the manager, her tone unusually stern. “Trouble yourself to check the surveillance in the main hall, as well as the corridor on the second floor and the exterior of the restroom.”

The manager nodded repeatedly. Even if Ashley didn’t say so, the restaurant facing such an incident required checking the surveillance footage to find out the details.

Finally, they were in the ambulance, rushing to the hospital.

Valentin’s injuries were on his back and head. He was lying on a stretcher covered in blood. Medical staff urgently cleaned the chandelier fragments embedded in his body.

Ashley carefully held Valentin’s hand, her eyes burned by his bloody

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Chapter 240

wounds, both sour and bitter. “How do you feel now?”

“I’m fine...” Valentin wearily lowered his eyelids as if he could fall asleep at any moment. He suppressed the rapid gasps caused by the pain because he didn’t want to worry her. “Ashley, don’t worry...”

Ashley felt her chest was tight and painful. How could she not worry?

How could he rush over so quickly, shielding her regardless of everything?

Joseph also got into the ambulance. Seeing this situation, he felt as if there was something stuck in his throat. He opened his mouth, not knowing what to say.

Traffic was congested during the dinner rush hour, and even the ambulance moved slowly.

When would they finally reach the hospital?

Frustrated, Joseph cursed under his breath and called a director on his phone.

In no time, patrolling police cars and motorcycles swarmed in. Sirens blared, clearing a path for the congested traffic.

Escorted by the police, the road ahead was all green lights, and they swiftly arrived at the hospital.

Exiting the ambulance, they were immediately taken to the emergency room.

Ashley and Joseph anxiously waited outside.

The hospital's director, vice director, and a team of medical staff hurried over. "Ms. Ramos, Mr. Fox, don't worry. We've got the best doctors in town taking care of Mr. Kingsley."

Joseph nodded and looked at Ashley, who hadn't taken her eyes off the emergency room door.

Sighing, Joseph realized that comforting words were futile. The best outcome would be Valentin coming out of the emergency room safely.

In less than ten minutes, Zain, supported by Tom, staggered over. "Ashley, Joseph, what's going on? How could he get injured out of the blue?"

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## Chapter 240

“Grandpa...” Ashley heard the voice and turned to look at Zain, a wave of self-blame washing over her.

Seeing through her thoughts, Joseph quickly reassured her, “Ashley, this has nothing to do with you.”

He could guarantee that even if it happened again, Valentin would still protect her without hesitation.

Joseph explained the incident of the falling chandelier and Valentin shielding Ashley to Zain.

Only then did Zain understand why Ashley felt guilty. He quickly grabbed her hand. “Silly girl, don’t overthink it. This has nothing to do with you. Now, let’s wait for Valentin to come out of the emergency room, alright?”

Ashley nodded. Her gaze fixed on the emergency room door, and she couldn’t shake off the worry.

After a while, Joseph’s parents also arrived. They were Valentin’s elders and equally worried.

Ashley greeted them politely.

Ralph and Maggie were amiable. Naturally, they knew about Ashley and treated her like a family.

“Grandpa, you sit down first.” Joseph supported Zain, helping him sit on a

chair.

“Yes, Dad, don’t worry. Valentin will definitely be fine.” Ralph and Maggie. also consoled him.

Zain sat down. His eyes, weathered by the years, filled with concern. He held onto Ashley's hand. "Ashley, don't worry too much."

Ashley responded with a sound, verbally assuring everyone while keeping her eyes fixed on the emergency room.

Time crawled by, each minute and second feeling extraordinarily slow.

Outside, the sky grew darker, fully enveloped in the night.

After what felt like an eternity, the emergency room door finally opened.

4/5

09:51

## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 241**

Chapter 241

The doctor emerged from the emergency room, wiping the sweat off his forehead.

Ashley and Joseph immediately surrounded him.

"Doctor, how is he?" Ashley hastily inquired.

Ralph and Maggie also helped Zain over.

The doctor looked at the crowd and dared not offend any of these people. He carefully and patiently explained, "The wounds on the patient's back have been properly treated and bandaged. There's nothing major at the

moment. The more challenging issue is the injury on the back of his head. After appropriate treatment, vital signs have stabilized, but continuous observation and treatment are still needed. However, the patient is still unconscious, so we'll transfer him to a VIP room for better care."

Ashley frowned, "Doctor, when will he wake up?"

The doctor couldn't make a definitive statement. "It depends on the observation of specific conditions. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the patient should regain consciousness soon."

Despite her lingering concerns, Ashley nodded. "Alright, thank you."

"You're welcome. It's our duty." The doctor reiterated, "Regarding the wounds, due to cuts and punctures from fragments, it's crucial to keep them dry and avoid infection."

"Okay, I understand." Ashley took note of it earnestly.

Joseph had been listening by the side, and it was only then that he breathed a sigh of relief.

The unconscious Valentin was transferred to the VIP ward.

After administering fluids and explaining some precautions, the doctor temporarily left the room.

Ashley gently held his other hand that was not with a needle, but Valentin lay quietly with closed eyes, his face pale. He was lost in a deep sleep, unable to respond to her.

Zain walked to the bedside and saw his grandson motionless and

09:15

Chapter 241

unconscious. He would be lying if he said he wasn't worried.



As an elder, witnessing the suffering of his descendants was the most dreaded thing.

“Grandpa, Valentin will definitely wake up early tomorrow morning. Don’t worry too much,” Joseph reassured. He then glanced at his parents, saying, “Dad, Mom, don’t worry too much either.”

Maggie nodded and looked at Ashley by the bedside. She kept her head down, eyes fixed on Valentin. Ashley remained silent and seemingly lost in thought.

Maggie couldn’t bear to see it. As a woman, she thought it might be easier for her to advise Ashley.

Maggie approached and patted Ashley’s shoulder. “Ashley, don’t be too anxious. The best doctors and professors are here in the hospital. They’ll do their best to take care of Valentin. Don’t worry too much.”

Ashley’s eyelashes trembled, nodding slightly. “I know, thank you.”

Maggie sighed softly and said no more.

Ralph came over, holding Maggie’s hand, signaling to her that this was the young couple’s matter. It was futile to advise too much. Just thought about it. If the husband was injured and unconscious, how could his wife not be worried?

Joseph, witnessing his parents holding hands, was used to it. His parents were always affectionate, showering him with their affection for each other at home.

Ashley received a call from Simon inquiring about Valentin’s condition, so she briefly updated him.

Simon wanted to come over for a visit, but it was already late, so Ashley advised against it.

Outside the window, the night was dark.

Before they knew it, it had already passed midnight.

Joseph glanced at the time and spoke. Grandpa, Dad, Mom, let Ashley and me stay in the ward. You should go home and rest for a while.”

Ashley agreed, “Yes, Grandpa, you should return first.”

09.14m

Chapter 241

Making the elderly stay up all night was too much for their bodies.

Zain couldn’t rest assured and wanted to stay in the ward. “It’s okay. I’m still strong.”

Ashley pressed her lips, advising, “Grandpa, Valentin won’t feel at ease seeing you like this. You should go home. If anything happens, I’ll call you promptly.”

Joseph nodded immediately, adding a few words of persuasion.

Zain, Ralph, and Maggie had to leave the ward and repeatedly reminded Joseph to call immediately if anything happened.

Joseph repeatedly assured them.

The ward gradually became quiet, leaving only Ashley and Joseph.

Ashley sat down by the bedside, holding Valentin’s hand, looking at the unconscious man. His skin was pale, and only the faint sound of his breath could be heard. His eyelashes didn’t flutter at all.

Joseph picked up a water bottle, unscrewing the cap. “Ashley, would you like some water?”

Ashley wasn’t thirsty. She took the water and placed it aside.

Then, she used a thermometer to check Valentin's body temperature. Fortunately, it was normal, and the wounds on his back hadn't caused any fever or infection for the time being.

Joseph also sat down by the bedside, letting out a low sigh.

It was already past midnight, which was supposed to be the first anniversary of Valentin and Ashley's marriage. Unfortunately, such an incident occurred, and Valentin was lying in a hospital bed, unable to say a word to Ashley.

Joseph looked at Valentin on the bed, then at Ashley, and caught a glimpse of the bracelet on her wrist, feeling momentarily surprised. He couldn't help but sigh, "It seems to be quite effective..."

Ashley didn't understand, puzzled. "What's effective?"

Joseph raised his chin, gesturing towards the bracelet on her wrist.

Ashley became even more bewildered "What's wrong with this?"

3/4

14

Chapter 241

This bracelet was a gift from Valentin some time ago, and she really liked it. She would often wear it. It was a delicate silver chain with two rubies. shaped like red beans strung on it.

The two rubies were exceptionally translucent, emanating a warm luster, beautiful and pleasing.

Joseph was astonished. "Ashley, you don't know?"

"What should I know? This is the bracelet Valentin gave me before. What's wrong?" Ashley asked in confusion.

“Didn’t Valentin tell you? This bracelet was specifically blessed by a pastor.”

“What?” Ashley was taken aback, wide-eyed with disbelief. “Blessed?”

“Yes, exactly. When Valentin knew about you getting seriously injured while saving Jeremy, he was heartbroken. Although he’s not superstitious, he didn’t want you to suffer any harm in the future. So, he specifically went to ask for this bracelet. The red rubies contain some of his blood and can accumulate blessings while warding off disasters. Even if a disaster occurs, it can be transferred to him.”

Ashley was utterly stunned, feeling like her nerves had been pulled tight.

Joseph’s words repeated in her mind. Accumulate blessings and ward off disasters. Even if a disaster occurs, it can be transferred to him...

How could he do this?

When Valentin gave her the bracelet, he casually mentioned. “It looks great on you, so I bought it.”

You, liar.

## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 242**

Chapter 242

Joseph was surprised that Valentin didn’t tell Ashley anything when he gave her the bracelet.

Ashley looked at the ruby bracelet on her wrist. This gift was beyond precious. It meant that Valentin was willing to protect her with his life.

So how could she burden him with her suffering?

Ashley wanted to take off the bracelet.

Joseph saw through her intention and immediately stopped her. “Ashley, everything Valentin has done for you, he did willingly! If you don’t want him to suffer for you, then protect yourself in the future. That’s what he wants!”

Ashley gently touched the two vibrant red gemstones and nodded.

She looked at the unconscious Valentin and longed to hear him call her name, to see the deep gaze he used to look at her. She missed him more than ever before.

Joseph now understood why Valentin had only given the bracelet to Ashley without explaining its meaning. He probably just wanted to see her safe and happy without burdening her.

Joseph looked at the silent Ashley and remembered the scene in the restaurant when the chandelier fell.

At that critical moment, he didn’t have enough to get close to Ashley, only managing to warn her to move away.

But Valentin ran to her side so fast and shielded her in time. The chandelier fell, crashing onto Valentin. Ashley didn’t get hurt at all. It showed just how well Valentin protected her.

Time passed slowly in the quiet night.

The liquid in the IV bottle reached the bottom. Ashley called the nurse to remove the needle from Valentin’s arm.

Several attending physicians rushed in. Normally, there wouldn’t be so many doctors at once.

But the identity of Valentin was extraordinary. The doctors were particularly cautious. They double-checked everything to ensure his vital

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09:133

Chapter 242

signs were stable before finally feeling relieved.

After the doctors gave Ashley some instructions, they left the ward.

The door closed.

Ashley sat by the bedside, holding the hand that Valentin had just been infused through. His hand was slightly cold. Ashley gently wrapped her hands around his hand to warm it.

Joseph had some water and asked, “Ashley, are you tired? It’s late now. If you’re tired, go rest on the nearby bed for a while. I’ll take care of him.”

Ashley shook her head. “I’m not tired.”

She had no intention to sleep.

“What did Valentin say about me before?” Ashley suddenly asked in a soft

voice.

Joseph thought for a moment, put the water bottle aside, and sighed, “Valentin did mention you before. But I felt like he thought about you more than talked about you.”

Joseph lowered his voice and said, “The most memorable time was during a high-level meeting. Because of the Fox family and the Kingsley family’s cooperation, I was there, too. I happened to notice that Valentin was absent-minded while listening to the department managers’ reports. It

was really rare. Valentin rarely got distracted! I leaned over to take a look and saw him unconsciously writing something on the paper!”

Joseph vividly described it, piquing Ashley’s curiosity. “What is it?”

“Your name! A-S-H-I-L-E-Y! He must have been missing you so much! Otherwise, why would he unconsciously write your name on paper during a meeting?”

Ashley’s heartbeat quickened as she tightened her grip on Valentin’s hand. “And then?”

“Then Valentin noticed that I was peeking and gave me a glare. I was scared and sat properly!

managers

“But Ashley, I thought about it later. Maybe it was because the manager mentioned the last name ‘Ramos’ when reporting, so Valentin thought of you right away! He associated you with just a surname. Valentin must have been missing you every day back then.”

2/4

09:15

Chapter 242

Ashley looked at Valentin with complicated emotions.

Joseph later discovered that Valentin organized charity events in the Kingsley Group every year, donating to orphanages. It was also because Ashley had grown up in an orphanage.

Joseph scratched his cheek and said seriously, “Actually, even though you two broke up back then, Valentin had always secretly cared about you. Really!”

Ashley raised her eyes. “He secretly cared about me?”

“Yes!” Joseph nodded emphatically. “He knew that the Ramos family found you. He knew that you did a DNA test with them, and they are your real family. Valentin was happy for you. He knew that you had always missed your parents and had finally found your family.

“Later, he found out that they didn’t treat you well. Valentin was unhappy every day. He wanted to go and find you. But you two had broken up, and you hated him so much. Valentin could only send you anonymous messages, saying he could help you leave the Ramos family. But you refused, and later, he could only help you secretly.”

Ashley’s heart suddenly felt a sting as memories flooded back.

She remembered the message.

After being taken back to the Ramos family, she endured a lot of pain. She once received an anonymous text message offering to help her escape.

But at that time, she was too desperate for family love, thinking she could move them. She didn’t see the true nature of her so-called family and rejected Valentin.

Later, she noticed that someone was secretly helping her, shielding her from much of the suffering caused by the Ramos family.

That person turned out to be Valentin

She thought they had completely lost contact for so many years. It turned out he had always been silently watching over and helping her.

How much had he done for her without her knowledge?

Joseph’s phone suddenly rang, and he walked out of the ward to take the call.



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Chapter 242

Ashley sat by the bedside, holding Valentin's cold hand.

Looking at Valentin's closed eyes and pale face, tears welled up in Ashley's eyes.

She leaned down and pressed her forehead against Valentin's slightly cool hand.

"Please wake up soon."

She missed him so much, more than she had ever thought possible.

Ashley closed her eyes, her delicate eyelashes trembling.

A burning tear fell onto Valentin's fingers.

Joseph finished his call and saw Ashley hunched over the bed through the glass window of the ward. Her shoulders trembled, consumed by loneliness and desolation.

Joseph didn't push open the door. He turned and went back to the corridor.

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**Save Myself From Desperation by Cara  
Agnes Chapter 243**

## Chapter 243

It took Joseph over half an hour to return to the ward.

Seeing Ashley's slightly reddened eyes, Joseph didn't ask why.

If Valentin knew that Ashley had cried for him, he would probably be both happy and distressed.

Joseph shook his phone and calmly said, "It was my sister who called just

now."

"Your sister?" Ashley's voice was a bit hoarse. She thought for a while and remembered.

It was that girl named Claire. She called Valentin on his birthday.

"Yes, Claire has been abroad for the past few years. I guess my parents called her to tell her about tonight." Joseph put his phone back in his pocket and sat down in front of the hospital bed, continuing, "Claire bought a plane ticket to come back immediately, but the weather there is bad, with heavy snow and strong winds, so the plane couldn't take off. That's why she called. I told her not to worry and not to rush back. Valentin might wake up soon."

Ashley nodded. "Safety is important. If the plane can't take off, there's no need to risk rushing back."

Joseph glanced outside. The night was covered with a clear silver glow, and a hint of white appeared on the distant horizon. One night had passed quickly.

"Ashley, are you tired? Do you want to sleep for a while?"

"No, I'm not tired."

"Alright then." Joseph didn't insist anymore. Not to mention Ashley, he himself had no sleepiness at the moment..

In the morning, several doctors came to the ward and changed the dressing on Valentin's back wound.

Everything was fine, except that Valentin remained unconscious with no signs of waking up.

"When will he wake up?" Ashley asked.

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Chapter 243

The doctors exchanged glances, and the most experienced one replied, "His back wound is not serious, but he was hit on the back of his head by a heavy object. As for when he will wake up, it depends on the situation. Perhaps he will wake up in a few hours. We just checked, and his current condition is stable. Let's wait until this afternoon."

"Alright, thank you." Ashley furrowed her brows.

Soon, Tom helped Zain and Joseph's parents to the hospital.

Tom brought some breakfast.

Ashley had no appetite to eat.

Joseph advised, "Ashley, you haven't slept all night. If you don't eat anything, you won't be able to handle it."

Zain spoke seriously. "Ashley, I know you're worried about Valentin. But you have to eat something. Otherwise, if Valentin wakes up and sees you looking worn out, he'll surely question us!"

Ashley's worries were slightly relieved by Zain's playful words.

However, she really didn't, have an appetite. She forced herself to eat a little and then put down the fork.

Zain walked to the bedside and looked at Valentin, who had been unconscious throughout the night. Zain's expression became solemn.

But when he saw Ashley, he felt a bit reassured.

Valentin had a difficult life. His parents passed away when he was very young. He didn't get to enjoy their love for long. Zain also felt that he was getting old and might leave this world any da

The only one who could accompany Valentin was Ashley.

However, Ashley's own family was a mess.

But luckily, they could accompany and support each other.

Zain felt more and more sorry for the two of them and couldn't help but sigh heavily.

"Grandfather, what's wrong?" Joseph asked nervously.

Zain waved his hand and said dejectedly, "I just remembered that today is Valentin and Ashley's first wedding anniversary, but..."

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Chapter 243

But they were spending it in the hospital.

Ashley lowered her gaze and squeezed the handle of the water cup slightly.

Joseph also felt down when he heard Zain's sad words.

Tom looked around, wanted to say something, but didn't know what to say.

Finally, it was Ralph and Maggie who comforted Zain..

In the morning, Ashley received a call from Lester.

She walked out of the ward to answer it.

Lester didn't beat around the bush. He asked directly, "Ashley, I heard that Valentin is injured and hospitalized?"

Ashley was surprised. "How did you know?"

Because Joseph had blocked the news.

"Don't worry." Lester quickly explained. "Joseph blocked the news, but I overheard something."

Ashley wasn't too worried. With Lester's abilities and the Pliskin family's resources, they could easily find out.

"Yes, he's in the hospital now."

"How is he?" Lester asked with concern.

He thought to himself, Although I am not happy that Ashley married Valentin at such a young age. But he is still her husband. I should care about him, too. If something really happened to Valentin, wouldn't Ashley be a young widow?

Ashley didn't know that Lester had so many thoughts. She simply said, "He has been unconscious since yesterday and hasn't woken up yet."

"Unconscious?" Lester frowned, "Is it so serious?"

Ashley leaned against the wall in the corridor and rubbed her head wearily. "The doctor said he was hit on the back of his head by a heavy object. It's uncertain when he will wake up."

Lester became nervous. "I'll go to the hospital this afternoon to visit."

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Chapter 213

Ashley didn't refuse his concern.

After hanging up the phone, Lester looked up at the apartment in front of him, where Cara lived.

He came personally today to confirm whether Cara had any connection to the Pliskin family.

The weather was gloomy today, with a drizzle in the air.

Cara came out of the apartment. She was about to open her transparent white umbrella when she noticed someone beside her.

Lester leaned against the wall, and one leg slightly bent. He held a cigarette with his fingers. With a flicker of crimson light, white smoke rose gently.

As Cara observed him, Lester raised his head, revealing a carefully sculpted face by the Creator. Even in the dim weather, Cara could see his deep eyes.

Lester smiled, but his voice was as cool as the autumn rain. "Ms. Ward, can we talk?"

Cara was momentarily surprised but nodded.

She realized that there were several tall bodyguards following behind Lester.

They sat at a window seat in a nearby café by the street.

Lester explained his purpose.

Cara looked at him with surprise after hearing it. “Are you saying that you’re from the Pliskin family and I might be your long-lost sister? And you want to do a DNA test?”

Her expression showed astonishment as if she had heard this for the first time.

Lester nodded lightly.

Cara’s features did resemble Ashley’s to some extent, but when facing Cara, he didn’t feel any familiarity.

Cara lowered her gaze and gently stirred the coffee with a silver spoon. After a while, she spoke. “Although I grew up in an orphanage, I don’t think I’m your lost sister.”

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Chapter 243

Lester was interested. “Why are you so sure?”

She put down the spoon and looked into his eyes. “The director of the orphanage who took me in said I had a label with me that said ‘Ward. He named me Cara. So, I shouldn’t have any connection to your family.’”

Lester squinted his eyes and then smiled, “Okay, let’s leave it at that.”

He stood

up, tapped the table with his index finger, and said, “This coffee is on me. Enjoy.”

with that, he turned and left.

Watching Lester’s retreating figure, Cara was confused.

‘Is there anything wrong with him?’

At the same time, in the hospital, the restaurant manager nervously found Ashley.

Ashley remembered that she had asked the manager to check the surveillance footage of the restaurant yesterday because someone had tried to lock her in the restroom.

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## Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 244

Chapter 244

Outside the ward, Joseph followed Ashley out and wanted to hear about the surveillance.

The restaurant manager nervously asked, “Ms. Ramos, Mr. Fox, is Mr. Kingsley alright? Is he injured?”

Ashley didn’t reveal the truth and vaguely said, “He’s in the ward now. His injuries are not serious.”

The manager breathed a sigh of relief and thought, “Thank goodness he’s okay!

‘If something really happened to him, it would be troublesome, and the impact would be too widespread!

‘But Ashley and Mr. Kingsley’s relationship seems unusual.



'Not only did Mr. Kingsley save Ashley at the first moment, but now Ashley is also accompanying Mr. Kingsley in the hospital. What's their relationship?'

Though he was curious, he didn't dare to ask directly.

Ashley continued, "Did you find the surveillance footage?"

"Ms. Ramos, after you left yesterday, I arranged for someone to check the surveillance footage, but..." The restaurant manager frowned and paused before saying, "I don't know what happened, but since 6:10 p.m. yesterday, the surveillance suddenly malfunctioned and stopped working. It didn't capture anything."

Ashley recalled that she arrived at the restaurant around 6 p.m.

It was too coincidental.

Someone deliberately sabotaged the surveillance.

"The surveillance malfunctioned?" Joseph couldn't believe it. "Isn't that too coincidental? It's abnormally coincidental."

The manager's forehead broke out in a cold sweat as he nodded repeatedly. "Yes. So after finding out that the surveillance was broken, I asked the staff to recall the situation at that time, and there happened to be a waitress who captured a suspicious man."

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Chapter 244

"A suspicious man? Where's the photo?" Joseph immediately asked.

"Here, I brought it. The manager quickly took out his phone and brought up the photo from the album.

Ashley and Joseph looked down. The photo was blurry, like a snapshot. It showed a man wearing a black duckbill cap, and only the chin and half of his face could be vaguely seen.

The restaurant manager explained, “This waitress was secretly playing with her phone at the time. She was taking pictures of the scenery outside the restaurant and happened to capture this man. He also came to eat but requested a separate room for himself. When the waitress delivered the food, she found that this man wasn’t in the room and had been away for a while. Now that I think about it, it seems strange.”

Ashley immediately remembered that when she went to the restroom yesterday, someone locked the door from the outside.

Ashley glanced at Joseph.

Joseph understood and said to the manager, “Send me this photo.”

He wanted to investigate who this man was.

After the manager left, Joseph turned to Ashley and asked suspiciously, “Ashley, when Valentin and I went to the restaurant to look for you yesterday, why weren’t you in the private room? Instead, you were in the lobby on the first floor.”

Ashley said, “I went to the restroom at that time. As soon as I entered, I sensed someone outside. I turned around to push the door but found it locked. I ended up kicking the door open.”

“Really?” Joseph furrowed his eyebrows. “I’ll have someone check who this man is. Once we find out, we should know what exactly happened.”

Ashley nodded. They could only rely on that now.

They returned to the ward. Zain was sitting beside the bed.

But Valentin remained silent with his eyes closed. Only the sound of his shallow breathing could be heard. Other than that, he showed no response at all, as if he had fallen into a deep sleep.

From morning till afternoon, the hospital director and doctors came several times to examine Valentin's various physical indicators.

2/5

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Chapter 244

The results of the examinations were all normal, but there was still no sign of him waking up.

Ashley glanced at the time. It was already past 3 p.m. Almost twenty hours had passed since Valentin fell into a coma.

After discussing with several doctors, the hospital director cautiously said, "Mr. Kingsley's vital signs are stable, which is the best news we have. It indicates that Mr. Kingsley is gradually recovering..."

The hospital director went on, but he mentioned a lot of technical terms.

Joseph didn't quite understand and simply asked, "When will Valentin wake up then?"

Zain was also anxious, staring at the director intently.

The director felt immense pressure and cautiously replied, "It depends on the specific circumstances. We will continue to monitor Mr. Kingsley's condition."

Ashley understood the underlying meaning in his words.

Even the doctors couldn't speculate on when Valentin would wake up.

Joseph was anxious, but being anxious wouldn't solve the problem. This was already the best hospital in the city or even the entire country.

Moreover, Valentin's vital signs were fine. Everything was normal except for his inability to wake up.

Joseph suddenly thought of a horrifying term, "vegetative state."

He thought, Valentin won't become a vegetable, right?"

Joseph immediately slapped himself, reminding himself not to make wild guesses.

He believed that Valentin wouldn't be so unlucky and would wake up soon.

Seeing Joseph suddenly slap himself, Zain asked with confusion, "Joseph, what are you doing?"

Ralph and Maggie were also puzzled.

Joseph shook his head repeatedly and said, "It's nothing. I was praying for Valentin."

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Chapter 244

Ralph and Maggie exchanged a glance, thinking, 'What kind of special prayer is this?

'Could our son have gone crazy?'

Ralph thought for a moment and whispered, "Valentin and Joseph's relationship has always been good. Now that Valentin is in a coma, it's normal for Joseph to be anxious."

Maggie sighed. "But Joseph is too strange. How did he end up hitting himself?"

Ralph advised, “Don’t worry. Joseph has always been silly since he was a child, so it’s normal for him to act like this now.”

Maggie nodded. “You’re right. He has never been clever since he was small.”

Hearing this conversation, Joseph felt helpless.

He thought, ‘I am your child, Mom and Dad!

‘How can you belittle me like this?

‘Am I just a foundling?’”

Shortly after, Ashley received a call from Lester, saying that he was coming to visit Valentin.

In addition to Lester, George also arrived,

Zain, who had once dominated the business world in his younger years. knew about the Pliskin family’s background and had heard of George and Lester as well.

Facing Zain, the former head of the Kingsley family, George and Lester greeted him politely.

They also greeted Ralph and Maggie.

Seeing Valentin sleeping on the bed, Lester furrowed his brow and

thought, ‘He hasn’t woken up for almost a day now. It seems his injuries are somewhat serious.

# Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 245

## Chapter 245

After visiting Valentin, Ashley accompanied Lester and George out of the ward.

“Ashley, don’t worry too much,” Lester advised. “Take care of yourself. Don’t exhaust yourself before Valentin wakes up.”

George, who was usually indifferent, expressed concern. “Yes, Ashley, take care of yourself.”

Ashley nodded. “I will. Why are you still here?”

“We’ve been investigating Cara’s situation recently. We want to find out if she is blood-related to us.” Lester raised an eyebrow slightly. “I met her this morning.”

“How is it? Did you find out anything?” Ashley asked.

“Not yet, but George has come up with a perfect way to confirm if Cara is our long-lost sister,” Lester said meaningfully.

“A perfect way?” Ashley was surprised and looked at George standing beside her.

The always calm George became excited, thinking, ‘Ashley isn’t afraid of me anymore. She’s voluntarily looking at me!’

Suppressing his joy, he nodded calmly. “Yes, I have a foolproof method. We’ll confirm it soon.”

Ashley didn’t ask for specifics about the method.

Given George and Lester's intelligence and means, since they dared to say that, it must guarantee success.

After chatting for a while, Ashley walked them downstairs.

The VIP ward was on the eighth floor, and they took the elevator to the first floor.

After getting off the elevator, Lester said, "Ashley, don't go out. There are too many people outside, and you might be recognized."

Ashley nodded. "Okay, then be careful on your way back."

Lester and George chatted with Ashley for a while before leaving the hospital.

09.10

Chapter 245

Ashley pressed the elevator button, preparing to return to the eighth floor.

At that moment, someone called out to her from behind, "Ashley?"

Ashley instinctively turned around and was surprised to see Jeremy.

Besides Jeremy, Matthew and Ryan were there. Ryan had a piece of gauze taped to his forehead.

"Ashley, are you feeling unwell? Why did you come to the hospital?" Jeremy ran over with concern, carefully inspecting Ashley. "Are you sick? Have you seen a doctor?"

Matthew and Ryan also hurried over.

Ashley didn't want to talk much with them and wanted to enter the elevator, but the elevator hadn't arrived yet.

Matthew anxiously asked, “Ashley, how do you feel? I know a doctor in this hospital. We don’t have to wait in line. I can take you to see him right away!”

Ryan added, “Ashley, I know you dislike us, but your health is important. Shouldn’t you go see a doctor first?”

Their noise irritated Ashley, and her eyebrows furrowed. “I’m not sick.”

Jeremy felt relieved upon hearing that. “That’s great! As long as you’re fine. I was too worried just now! When I saw you at the hospital, I thought you were sick.”

What made him even sadder was that she came to the hospital alone.

He was glad that Ashley wasn’t sick. If she had really come to the hospital alone for treatment, how helpless she would have been.

“Ashley,” Jeremy took two deep breaths and pleaded, “take my number off your blacklist. I promise not to disturb you. If you need anything, day or night, you can find me anytime, and I’ll be there!”

“Take me off your blacklist, too.” Matthew’s gaze was filled with longing. “If something like today happens again, you don’t have to come to the hospital alone. We are your brothers, and taking care of you is our duty!”

Jeremy and Matthew quickly tried to please Ashley with their words, while Ryan fell behind. He couldn’t come up with anything heartfelt, so he pitifully said, “Ashley, take me off your blacklist, too.”

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Ashley didn’t pay attention but noticed the bandage on Ryan’s forehead.



Matthew immediately said, “It happened a few days ago when we secretly followed you. A skateboarder rushed over, and when Ryan pulled you away, he was knocked down by that skateboarder and hit his head. Today he came to change the bandage.”

Ashley remembered that incident.

Ryan pulled her away, but he ended up being knocked down by the skateboarder.

She didn’t expect such a slight action would result in a head injury.

Ryan’s rugged face showed a hint of embarrassment. “Ashley, don’t worry. It’s not serious at all. It will be okay soon.”

Ryan knew it was a good chance to win Ashley’s favor, but he didn’t want Ashley to feel guilty.

“It’s just a superficial wound. It’s nothing compared to what you’ve done for me in the past!”

Ashley glanced at him without saying a word.

Jeremy suddenly realized. “Ashley, if you’re not here for medical treatment, then you must be visiting our mother, right?”

This was the best hospital in the city.

Bertha had been staying in this hospital since she got sick.

But she wasn’t in the VIP ward. She was in a regular room on the fifth floor.

Upon hearing this, Ashley coldly denied, “No.”

Jeremy nodded, not finding her attitude cold at all.

After all, Bertha had done many things to hurt Ashley. She still obstinately considered Jessica, who was hypocritical and malicious, as precious.

Jererny believed that Bertha would soon fall victim to Jessica's schemes.

"Then, Ashley, why did you come to the hospital?" Matthew curiously asked.

After asking, Matthew realized that Ashley disliked him so much and

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didn't even want to see him. How could she answer his question?

Ashley ignored his question and stared at the changing floor number on the screen. She really wanted to leave this place, far away from them.

Ryan felt regretful. He couldn't see how good Ashley had been to him. before and didn't know how to cherish her. Now that he wanted to make amends, it was already too late.

Jeremy was also sad. After hesitating for two seconds, he opened his phone's photo album and passed the phone to Ashley.

Jeremy said solemnly, "Ashley, I had tried to offer you a house, a car, and a bank card, but you turned them down. You didn't want to accept my compensation.

"But it's okay. This is a notarized will that I made. If something unexpected happens to me one day, all my possessions will go to you. I've signed the will, and it's legally binding after notarization."

Matthew widened his eyes and leaned over to take a look. The photo showed the contents of the will.

All his property would belong to Ashley, and Jeremy had signed it.

“Jeremy, when did you do this?!” Matthew was shocked.

“It has been a while,” Jeremy said calmly.

He was the first person to discover Ashley’s virtues and the first to want her forgiveness. But since Ashley refused to accept anything from him, he couldn’t come up with other solutions and got the will notarized.

He gave Ashley all the property under his name.

Ashley was stunned.

When she heard about the will, she was indeed surprised. She hadn’t expected Jeremy to make such a decision and write a will at such a young

age.

Matthew was both shocked and angry, thinking, ‘Why didn’t Jeremy share it with me? It’s such a good way to compensate Ashley.’

Jeremy once again gained Ashley’s favor in advance.

Matthew felt especially angry and jealous.

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Matthew solemnly said, “I will make a will, too! I will give all my property to Ashley!”

Ryan also said, “Count me in. I’ll do it as well.”

Ashley was speechless.

Did they all treat making a will as a child’s play?

“Ashley?” At this moment, a gentle female voice called out Ashley’s name from behind.

Ashley turned her head. She raised an eyebrow when she saw Cara and Charlie.

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 246**

Chapter 246

Jeremy was puzzled and angry as he saw Cara and Charlie together. He thought, ‘What is Charlie up to? Is he out of his mind? Why is he still with Cara?’

Cara seemed oblivious to Jeremy’s angry face. She walked over gracefully and gently asked. “Ashley, why are you at the hospital? Are you not feeling well?”

Ashley glanced at her, her tone distant. “No.”

Charlie became dissatisfied with Ashley’s attitude. He thought, ‘Cara has always wanted to be friends with you, but you always reject her?’

‘Can’t you be more friendly?’

Matthew snorted and stepped forward, standing between Ashley and Cara.

He felt that Cara was pretending and not as gentle as she appeared. He didn't want her getting close to Ashley

With him around, Ashley wouldn't be troubled by Cara.

Seeing Matthew standing in front of her, Ashley found it all very perplexing.

Cara discreetly examined Ashley.

When she saw that Ashley had no sign of injury, she clenched her fingers, and her gaze turned vicious.

She thought, 'Valentin really protected you well. You weren't harmed at all.'

Cara sent the man to lock Ashley in the restroom, wanting to teach her a lesson. Of course, she knew everything that happened at the restaurant yesterday.

Since Ashley wasn't hurt, Valentin must have been seriously injured.

Cara gritted her teeth and thought, 'Why does he like Ashley so much? Why?'

Just then, the elevator finally arrived.

The elevator doors opened.

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Ashley didn't want to be around the Ramos family anymore. She couldn't wait to leave this place. As she was about to step into the elevator...

She saw Bertha sitting in a wheelchair inside the elevator. Evan was pushing the wheelchair from behind while Jessica stood next to the wheelchair, chatting with Bertha..

Ashley thought. Why am I so unlucky today?

Why do I keep running into them everywhere?’

Evan pushed Bertha out of the elevator, and as soon as he saw Ashley, he started criticizing her. “So you finally remembered to visit your mom? Only now you realize she’s sick!”

Bertha also saw Ashley. She had been laughing and joking with Jessica just a moment ago, but now her brow furrowed. The love in her eyes vanished without a trace, replaced by blame.

“You refused to come and see me before. Why are you here now? Leave, I don’t want your visit!”

Ashley found it amusing. “You are still so self-righteous. Did I say I came to see you?”

“You...” Bertha became short of breath and pale with anger.

She regretted giving birth to such an uncultured and ill-mannered daughter.

Veins popped on Evan’s forehead as he scolded, “You bastard! How dare you talk to your parents like this! Don’t you know how to be polite?”

“Dad!” Ryan couldn’t help but warn, “Don’t forget, Ashley has cut ties with us. You have no right to demand anything from her!”

“That’s right!” Matthew added, “When Ashley was with us, we didn’t see you treating her well. And now you expect her to be obedient. What kind of logic is that? Before scolding Ashley, think about yourselves. Have you fulfilled your duties as parents?”

Jeremy didn’t speak, but his defense of Ashley was resolute.

Seeing his three sons standing against him, Evan flew into a rage. “You ungrateful bunch! Are you trying to drive me to my death? Do you even remember that I’m your father?”

Jeremy spoke coldly. “Dad, if you keep berating Ashley and behaving so

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terribly, then this will be the last time I call you ‘Dad.’”

Evan froze for a moment upon hearing this, staring at Jeremy. “Jeremy, what do you mean by this?”

Charlie, who had been silent all along, also furrowed his brow at this moment.

Jeremy calmly locked eyes with Evan. “If you continue to scold Ashley and have a bad attitude, then from today onwards, I, Jeremy, will cut ties with the Ramos family and have no connection with you!”

His words were clear and loud.

Evan was stunned by Jeremy’s words. He stared at him, his fingers trembling with anger. “You...”

Bertha felt a pang of pain in her heart. She pressed her chest, struggling for breath, angered to the point of being unable to speak.

“Jeremy!” Charlie scolded heavily, “Stop making a scene!”

“Am I making a scene?” Jeremy sneered, “Charlie, I’m just asking them not to scold Ashley. Is that too much to ask? Is it considered making a scene?”

Charlie remained silent, unable to respond.

Charlie thought, ‘Yes, he just wants them to stop scolding Ashley.

‘Is that too much to ask for?’

Ashley was momentarily stunned by Jeremy's words, too.

Jeremy sighed bitterly, "Ashley, ever since you left the Ramos family, I've gradually come to understand a lot. The people in this family are not as good as I thought. Ashley, you still have things to do. You should go."

Ashley looked at him deeply, ignoring the furious Evan and Bertha, and walked into the elevator.

Evan wanted to reach out and grab Ashley.

Jeremy raised his arm and stopped him..

Ashley entered the elevator, and the doors slowly closed. She pressed the button for the eighth floor.

Evan glared at Jeremy and furrowed his brow tightly. "Jeremy, why are you protecting her so much?"

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"Dad," Jeremy interrupted coldly, "my words just now were not a joke or a scene."

He looked at Bertha and said, "Mom, I hope you remember this, too."

Jeremy finished speaking and left.

Matthew and Ryan exchanged glances and hurriedly followed him, showing their support for Jeremy's stance.

Jessica watched in astonishment.



She knew that these three had different attitudes towards Ashley. But she never expected them to be willing to sever ties with the Ramos family for the sake of Ashley..

She thought, ‘Why does everyone like this bitch?’

Cara remained silent throughout and only spoke to Charlie till now.

Charlie it seems like:

leave first.”

have some family matters to deal with. I’ll

Charlie nodded, thinking, ‘Cara is always so considerate.

Cara left.

Charlie looked at Evan and Bertha and advised, “Mom, Dad, don’t be angry. Jeremy was probably just too angry just now. When he calms down, he’ll realize his mistake.”

Evan disappointedly said, “It must be Ashley instigating them! Let’s not talk about them anymore. When are you coming back to the company to help?”

Charlie stayed silent for a moment and said, “Dad, I’m not interested in managing the company.”

Jessica secretly rejoiced and persuaded, “Dad, Charlie has always been indifferent to fame and fortune. You shouldn’t force him. I’m here to help with the company now, and it’s the same. I’ll work hard to revive the Ramos family!”

Evan understood Charlie’s character and nodded.

Bertha felt relieved. “Jessica, you’ve been working tirelessly with the finances at the company. It’s exhausting and tough for you. Yet, you never complain. You’re really a good girl.”

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“Mom, it’s my duty. I am also a part of the Ramos family!”

“Jessica works so hard, and there haven’t been any mistakes in her work.” Evan trusted this daughter. He had raised her since she was little. He said, “In that case, I will transfer some of my shares to you so you can establish yourself in the company as soon as possible!”

“Thank you, Dad! I will continue to work hard!”

Jessica smiled sweetly, but her thoughts turned malicious.

She thought, ‘Being in charge of finances allows me to transfer the Ramos family’s assets.

‘In less than a month, I’ll be able to absorb most of the Ramos family’s wealth.

‘By then, I’ll be able to get rid of all these burdensome people and no longer have to please them.

Ashley returned to the ward, and as soon as she stepped out of the elevator, she saw Joseph in the corridor.

“Ashley! Where were you? Why did you come back so late?”

“I bumped into some acquaintances downstairs. What’s wrong? Why are you so anxious?” Ashley’s eyes lit up suddenly. “Has he woken up?”

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**Save Myself From Desperation by Cara  
Agnes Chapter 247**

## Chapter 247

Filled with excitement and joy, Joseph beamed, "I saw Valentin move his finger. It's true! I already called the doctor."

Ashley's face lit up. She immediately ran into the ward without a reply.

However, Valentin was still lying unconscious with his eyes closed. Several doctors were examining him.

Her joy vanished. Disappointment came with that.

Zain motioned for her to come over.

She walked over with a heavy heart.

"Ashley, don't worry. At least he could move. It's a good sign." Zain consoled her in a soft tone.

"That's right." Joseph continued with a serious expression, "Now that Valentin can move, it's only a matter of time before he awakes."

She nodded. Though she knew it was no use worrying about Valentin, she was anxious and couldn't wait to see him open his eyes.

This was the first time that Joseph saw her so worried about Valentin. He didn't know whether to be happy or sad at this moment.

He hoped Valentin would come to his senses as soon as possible and see how much Ashley cared about him.

After the examination, doctors said with their faces looked less solemn, "We had checked up on Mr. Kingsley. Though he can't instantly react to external stimulation, he's conscious, which is a sign of coming out of his coma. We'll keep him here for a period of time for further observation."

After a sigh of relief, Zain replied, "I got it. Thank you."

The leading doctor said politely, "This is what we should do."

In the evening, Ashley persuaded Zain, Ralph, and Maggie to go home. They had been in the hospital with Valentin all day long. More importantly, they were no longer young, and not as energetic as Ashley and Joseph. Afraid that the three of them were worn out, Ashley let them go home for a good rest.

Before Zain left, he asked the chefs to make Ashley a decent dinner and a

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maid of Kingsley Villa to bring it over.

There was a bathroom in Valentin's personal ward, which was quite convenient.

After Zain, Ralph, and Maggie left, Joseph suggested that he wanted to stay a little longer with Valentin out of concern.

Ashley saw his bloodshot eyes and said, "You haven't gotten much sleep the last two days. You need to go back home for a rest now."

"No, I'm worried about Valentin." He pointed at her bloodshot eyes and retorted, "You really should take a look at the dark circles under your eyes. You haven't slept a wink in two days. Just go home now."

She looked into Valentin's face and answered, "Joseph, please. I want to stay with him a little longer."

He kept persuading her to go home for a good rest, but she insisted.

He had no choice but to give in. Considering there were doctors and bodyguards of the Kingsley family waiting outside, he was sure Ashley wouldn't be in any danger.

More importantly, today was their anniversary. Joseph didn't want to disturb them, so he agreed to leave first, leaving them alone.

He kept asking her to take care of herself and turned to look at her several times before leaving the ward.

After Joseph left, the ward became quiet.

The table was filled with food made by the chefs of Kingsley Villa. The warm soup looked good. A delicious smell of food floated through the air.

However, Ashley had no appetite at all. She went to the bathroom to wash her face instead.

After that, she walked out of the bathroom with a wet warm towel in her hand, came up to Valentin's bedside, and gently wiped Valentin's face with the towel.

He lay quietly with his eyes closed. Under the warm light above his head, his long eyelashes cast a faint shadow under his eyelids. Given that he looked pale, the color of his lips stood out.

Though she knew he wouldn't make any reaction, she was afraid that she

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wiped his face too hard and hurt him. Trying to be gentle, she slowly wiped from his forehead to his chin with the towel.

Ashley couldn't help but touch his lips, but he still lay there lifelessly.

Her eyes slightly reddened.

She looked away, started to unbutton him, and wiped his body gently with the towel.

Carefully wiping his body, she tried to avoid the wound.

As the doctor said, she couldn't get his wound wet.

After that, she gently buttoned him up.

Sitting in front of Valentin's bed, Ashley held his hand and caressed his fingers.

She thought, 'Please wake up.'

'Today's our first anniversary. And it's going to be over in less than an hour.'

She stared unblinkingly at him, afraid of missing any of his movements.

However, as time passed by, Valentin just lay there motionlessly.

Midnight came, and her eyes got blurry with tears. She suddenly stood up and kissed him on the lips.

She thought, 'It's okay we didn't celebrate our anniversary this time. We still have our second and third anniversary!'

Sitting beside him, she looked into Valentin's pale face and accidentally fell asleep.

When she woke up the next day, it was bright outside.

Lying beside him in the same position too long, she felt her arms had gone numb. However, instead of paying too much attention to the pain, she immediately looked at Valentin, who was still lying there unconscious, with no sign of waking up.

She desperately wanted to see him moving his fingers like he did yesterday, but he didn't.

Three days went by, and Valentin was still in a coma.

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Doctors had checked him many times, but they couldn't tell when he would wake up.

Ashley grew more worried. There was a depressing vibe inside the ward.

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Outside the set, a black car was parked along the road.

Lester handed the photo to a middle-aged man next to him and said lightly, "Meet Cara with this photo. Tell her that she looks like your daughter who got lost when she was a child, and you want to do a paternity test with her."

The man named Luciano Bendish took the photo over. The woman in the photo had been edited in Photoshop, who looked so much like Cara.

"Yes, Mr. Pliskin."

Lester said with a grin, "Time to show your acting skills. Don't fail me."

"Please rest assured." After saying that, Luciano got out of the car with the photo in his hand.

Inside the set, Cara was shooting her parts as a supporting role in the movie. After she finished a scene, the staff of a production team came over and said, "Ms. Ward, there is a middle-aged man outside looking for you."

She smiled with a confused expression, "A middle-aged man?"

A man nearby joked, “Wow, it seems Cara has become a popular artist. Even a middle-aged man is your fan.”

The staff quickly explained, “No, he doesn’t seem fans. He said he came here for his family, and Ms. Ward looks like his daughter who was lost when she was young.”

Cara wondered, ‘What?

‘His lost daughter?

‘How’s that possible? I don’t have any family.’ She narrowed her eyes in doubt.

Though everyone knew that Cara grew up in an orphanage, out of curiosity and sympathy, the staff let Luciano in when he heard he was looking for his long lost daughter.

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 248**

Chapter 248

The staff looked at Cara considerately and said, “Ms. Ward, you grew up in an orphanage. How great would it be if you found your family?”

Cara had always been sweet and kind in public. Everyone liked her so much that they wanted to help her find her family.

Dumbfounded a little, Cara replied with a sweet smile, “Thank you all for your concern.”



She looked over and saw an elegant middle-aged man holding a girl's hand. The girl looked five or six.

Everyone around was whispering.

“This middle-aged man seems to have a lot of class and a great taste in clothes. Judged by his fancy clothes, I bet he's some kind of successful businessman. It's good news if he's Cara's true family.”

“That little girl... Is she his daughter?”

“But Cara looks nothing like him...”

Luciano and the little girl came over hand in hand. When he saw Cara, a lump rose in his throat, with tears in his reddened eyes. To take a good look at Cara, he wanted to get closer, but he seemed afraid of being rude.

Luciano's acting was so good that everyone took it for granted that it was exactly how a heartbroken father would react when he finally met his lost child. People were deeply touched.

The staff reminded softly, “Sir, this is Ms. Ward.”

Luciano choked on tears and looked at Cara lovingly. “I know. I've seen her on TV. I've watched all her shows and played them dozens of times. She indeed is a beautiful artist with talent.”

The crowd looked sad. What Luciano said tugged at their heartstrings. He sounded like a father who was so proud of his child that he kept repeatedly watching her shows on TV.

Cara looked at him carefully and said softly after a while, “You said I look like your lost daughter, didn't you?”

“Yes.” He handed her the photo and continued, “Check it out. This is your mother. You two look so much alike. Right?”

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She looked down at the photo and found that she herself looked just like the woman in the photo.

The crowd gathered around and took a look at the photo. They exclaimed in surprise, “They indeed look so much alike. Especially the mouth. Cara had the same one as the woman’s.”

Luciano snorted inwardly, ‘Of course they look alike. The photo was edited in Photoshop.’

The staff looked at him and asked, “Sir, is she Ms. Ward’s mother?”

Luciano nodded and wiped his tears from his eyes while sobbing.

“Yes, she is. We lost Cara when she was a child. Her mother shed tears every day. We had tried to find her since then but failed...

“Later, we had Mara, Cara’s little sister. Even so, we never stopped finding Cara. However, my wife had been in poor health and hospitalized for the past two years.”

As he spoke, he shed tears and said to the little girl he was holding, “Mara, the person in front of you is probably your sister. Do you like her?”

Mara looked up at Cara and said in a sweet voice, “Are you my sister? Mommy misses you so much.”

Mara’s baby voice made everyone’s hearts melt.

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The staff looked at Cara and advised, “Ms. Ward, how about you take a paternity test?”

Cara said nothing.

Cara wondered, 'It's impossible that I have anything to do with the man. What's going on?'

Luciano looked at her who remained silent and said considerately, "Cara, I know you don't trust me, but my instincts told me that you're my lost daughter. Please... I beg you to go to the hospital with me for a paternity test.

"And your mother... She misses you badly. If you're indeed our lost daughter, we feel honored and happy. If not, it's okay. We'll keep looking for her."

Luciano sounded really sincere.

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Everyone turned to look at Cara.

Though she looked moved, she was overwhelmed with doubt and concern inside.

If she refused Luciano's request, she would be judged as a heartless woman.

What was more, she was sure she had nothing to do with Luciano, so she wasn't afraid of taking a paternity test.

After weighing the pros and cons, Cara looked at the staff next to her and asked in a soft tone. "If I go to the hospital now, will I slow down the shooting process?"

The staff quickly answered, “Don’t worry, Ms. Ward. I’ll tell the director that you have something important to do and need a day off.”

She smiled, “Thank you.”

“You don’t have to. You’ve been kind to us, Ms. Ward. We all hope that you can find your own family.”

“He’s right, Ms. Ward. Besides, it won’t take much time if you take a paternity test.”

After leaving the set, Cara went to a nearby hospital with Luciano.

They did a blood test and waited for the results to come out.

In the meantime, Mara had been silent and well-behaved, holding Luciano’s hand.

Three hours later, the test results came out.

Cara went through the report and said with a smile, “The paternity test results show that you’re not my biological father.”

She knew the result from the beginning.

Luciano sighed, “What a shame. I’ve mistaken you for her.”

She put away the report and was about to say something. Suddenly, she saw Lester walking over with a grin.

Stunned, she asked, “Mr. Pliskin, what a surprise to see you here.”

She hadn’t seen him since they met at the coffee shop last time. She wondered why Lester was here.

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Chapter 248

Cara noticed that Lester fixed his eyes on the test report in her hand. She smiled lightly and said, "This man thought that I was his lost daughter, so he demanded a paternity test with me. However, the results showed that it was just a mistake. We're not related."

She flicked her hair with her hand and reminded deliberately, "I remember last time in the coffee shop, you said that I might be the lost daughter of the Pliskin family."

Lester looked at her and said with a complicated grin, "It was a mistake, too."

"Cara, you have nothing to do with the Pliskin family."

She froze and then asked in confusion, "Mr. Pliskin, what do you mean?"

He tilted his chin and looked at the test results in her hand, saying, "That is the proof. The paternity test you took was with the Pliskin family. And the test results show that you aren't the daughter of the Pliskin family."

Cara was thunderstruck.

She didn't see it coming.

Her face twisted in shock. After a while, she immediately turned to look at Luciano.

He looked at Lester and said respectfully, "Mr. Pliskin."

Cara was taken aback, thinking, "They..."

'Luciano works for Lester!

"They set me up and tricked me into taking a paternity test."

The doctor did draw Luciano's blood just now.

However, it was replaced by the blood of Lester's parents before doctors sent the blood sample away for analysis.

Therefore, Lester was convinced that Cara wasn't biologically the daughter of the Pliskin family.

Cara clenched her fists in anger.

Lester took the report from Luciano and deliberately waved it in front of her.

He smirked with arrogance. After a disdainful glance at her, he turned to

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Seeing Lester and Luciano walking away, she gritted her teeth angrily.

After a while, she walked to a corner where no one was around. She called Tyler and told him what had happened.

"What?" Tyler kicked the chair next to him, which made a great sound. "So Lester's sure that you

that what you means have nothing to do with the Pliskin family. Is

"Yes." Cara took a deep breath and closed her eyes tightly.

After a moment of silence, Tyler roared on the phone.

"As planned, George will ask me to help them do the paternity test with you. After all, I've worked for the Pliskin family for many years. As long as I secretly tamper with the test results, you can be the daughter of the Pliskin family. This is how it's going to be, but Lester ruined everything!

"To make you become one of the Pliskin family, I tampered with Ashley's paternity test results. That's why the Pliskin family still knows nothing about the truth so far. However, it's all in vain."

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## Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 249

Chapter 249

Cara tightly grasped her phone, exerting so much force that her joints turned white.

Little did she expect Lester to play such a move without warning.

The fact that she grew up in an orphanage had spread widely on the Internet. In addition, her facial features resembled Ashley's, which meant she looked somewhat like Karen. Cara thought it would attract the attention of the Pliskin family and lead them to recognize her as their lost daughter.

Indeed, Lester had come looking for her before. That day in the coffee shop, she refused to acknowledge herself as the Pliskin family's lost daughter at first, fearing it would be perceived as an attempt to gain financial benefits.

In anticipation, after the coffee shop encounter, Lester would approach her again for a DNA test.

Tyler had been collaborating with the Pliskin family for many years. His medical skills were exceptional, and his qualifications were profound. He was the go-to person for DNA tests to find the lost daughter. All it took was a slight alteration by Tyler in her and the family's DNA results, showing she had a blood relationship with the Pliskin family. Then she

could successfully become the family's lost daughter, and Ashley would never relate to the Pliskin family at all.

However, Cara never expected Lester to make such a move today.

On the other end of the phone, Tyler was so angry that he gritted his teeth. "The entire plan has been disrupted!"

George always took Tyler along during the previous two DNA tests conducted between Ashley and the Pliskin family. He was adamant that the tests be performed by their trusted collaborator, Tyler, who had worked with the family for many years. Tyler manipulated the test results two times, indicating no blood relation between Ashley and the family.

The Pliskin family's youngest daughter went missing during her childhood, and, of course, it was related to him.

Tyler had no intention of letting Ashley and her family recognize each other. But...

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Tyler paced back and forth, fuming, then squinted and said, "Cara, Lester did this because he doesn't trust you. He must be secretly investigating your identity. You need to limit contact with me. We can't let the Pliskin family know my involvement."

"Alright, I understand, Mr. Morgan."

After hanging up, Cara looked up at the glaring sun in the sky.

It wasn't until her eyes stung and tears welled up from the intense light that she averted her gaze.



She thought, 'Ashley... This is the last time. I would not let you have it easy next time.'

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In the hospital room, Zain, Ralph, and Maggie were nowhere to be seen. Ashley stood by Valentin's bedside.

When Joseph entered the room, he saw untouched food on the table, furrowing his brow. "Ashley, you have to eat something."

Ashley tucked Valentin in and casually replied, "I'll eat later."

Joseph didn't believe her at all. He walked over and forcefully sat Ashley down at the small table. "No, you have to eat now. I need to see you eat."

This was Ashley's favorite meal that Zain specially asked the chef from Kingsley Villa to prepare.

But Ashley had little appetite. She rubbed her forehead and said, "I'm not hungry now. I'll eat later."

Joseph stared at her, and suddenly, tears welled up in his eyes. "Don't wait any longer. How can I explain to Valentin if he wakes up and sees you've lost so much weight in just three days? If he knows you haven't taken care of yourself, he'll break my legs!"

Ashley didn't answer.

Joseph pitifully lamented. "Ashley, consider it as preventing Valentin from beating me and also to spare my legs from being broken. You really should make an effort to eat more."

Ashley was speechless. It seemed as if his life depended on her taking a bite of this meal right away.

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“Alright, alright, I’ll eat. I’ll eat now, okay?” Ashley sighed in resignation.

“That’s great!” Joseph immediately handed her the cutlery. “Eat more. If Valentin sees you lose weight, he’ll be heartbroken!”

Ashley didn’t know how to respond to that.

While Ashley reluctantly ate, Joseph went to check on Valentin.

Strangely, Valentin had shown no physical reactions since that slight movement of his fingers. What was going on?

Joseph sighed heavily. Now, he was no longer the carefree and wealthy man he used to be.

All he wished for was for Valentin to wake up soon.

Although Ashley had little appetite, she made an effort to consume a substantial portion of the meal to avoid worrying people.

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Shortly after putting down the cutlery, she received a call from Laura.

Ashley walked to the side and answered the call, “Hello, Laura.”

“Ashley.” Laura’s voice was as brisk as ever. “Recently, some movie producers have been interested in casting you. One script is related to racing, with the female lead as a car driver. Another script is about artifact restoration, with the female lead as an artifact restorer. I’ve carefully reviewed both scripts, and they seem promising. Do you want to come to the company and take a look and see if you’d like to take on these roles?”

“Laura, I can’t go right now.”

These two movie scripts sound promising, but Ashley didn’t hesitate and declined. “Laura, one of my family is currently ill, and I need to take care of him at the hospital.”

Laura was surprised. “What happened? Is it serious?”

“The situation is a bit tricky at the moment. So, I have to stay at the hospital.”

“Okay, take care of your family first.”

Laura was confused. The family Ashley mentioned definitely did not refer to the Ramos family. So, who was this sick family member could be?

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Laura didn’t ask any more questions for now, sensing that Ashley’s family issues were affecting her emotionally, so she only said a few words of advice and comfort.

After hanging up. Ashley put down her phone.

Not long after, Lester and George arrived.

Looking at Valentin, still unconscious on the bed, Lester’s expression slightly darkened. He then turned his gaze to Ashley, noticing her visible weight loss in just a few days.

It seemed that she was genuinely concerned about Valentin.

George, astute as always, stepped into the room and immediately noticed Ashley had become a little thinner. The coldness in his eyes softened, revealing a touch of compassion.

It had never been apparent before, but now he realized that Valentin held a more significant place in Ashley's heart than anyone had thought.

"Ashley, don't worry too much. No matter what, you still have to take care of yourself," Lester advised, expressing genuine concern from a family perspective.

"I know." Ashley nodded. She understood these well.

However, understanding didn't always translate to controlling one's emotions.

Lester gave George a glance and said to Ashley, "We have found out about Cara. She has nothing to do with the Pliskin family. She is not the lost sister we've been searching for."

"What? How did you find out?" Ashley curiously asked.

Joseph also looked over after hearing this and speculated. "Did you do a DNA test?"

"Yes, we did." Lester cleared his throat and recounted the process of deceiving Cara into taking a DNA test.

After hearing this, Joseph's mouth twitched. "Damn, that's so cunning!"

Lester raised an eyebrow, looking at George with a sly smile. "George, Joseph said you were cunning. Did you hear that?"

This method was actually devised by George.

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George, with an icy demeanor, gave Joseph a cold look.

Joseph immediately tensed up.

George was too aloof and reticent. Even his hair seemed to exude a chill. Only when facing Ashley did he not appear so cold.

Joseph immediately looked pitifully at Ashley, silently pleading for help.

Ashley then said. "Alright, don't scare him already."

Upon Ashley's words, George ceased to focus on Joseph and turned his full attention to Ashley. His expression softened, and a subtle smile emerged as if she were the sole person he would heed.

Lester, witnessing George's rare smile, was no longer astonished.

He even casually commented in his mind. 'Not bad. This smile is much more natural than before.

'It seems practicing smiling in front of the mirror fifty times every day is effective.

Ashley sighed, "I thought you would find your sister this time. I didn't expect another mistake."

Lester's eyes flickered.

He had a feeling, an inexplicable premonition, that Ashley might be the sister who had been lost since childhood.

He didn't know if this was some kind of spiritual connection between relatives, between siblings.

But two DNA tests had been conducted, both showing no blood relation between Ashley and the Pliskin family,

During the tests, Lester confirmed that Ashley's blood sample was used, and there was no tampering.

The doctor who conducted the tests was Tyler, who had worked with the family for many years.

Where in this process had something gone wrong?

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## **Save Myself From Desperation by Cara Agnes Chapter 250**

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If Lester could think of it, George naturally thought of it too.

The two exchanged a glance, both understanding the expressions in each other's eyes. The two DNA tests conducted between Ashley and the

Pliskin family might have some doubts. Further investigation was needed.

After spending more than half an hour in the ward, George and Lester left.

Ashley sat back on the chair in front of the hospital bed and checked the wounds on Valentin's body. The places scratched by the chandelier fragments had begun to heal.

Joseph also sat in front of the bed. "Is it time to change the dressing?"

Ashley glanced at the time. "There's still an hour left. No rush for now."

"Alright." Joseph looked at Valentin on the bed and then at Ashley, seeming like he wanted to say something but hesitated.

"What's wrong?" Ashley looked at him.

Joseph looked hesitant, ultimately shaking his head.

Intrigued, Ashley was about to inquire further when her phone received a message from Miranda.

She sent it in a three-person WhatsApp group comprising herself, Ashley and Bryce.

Miranda's text read: [Ashley, are you there? I want to ask you something. Has Ryan approached you recently?]

Seeing the message, Ashley frowned slightly and understood immediately.

Ashley replied: [He came to see you?]

Miranda seemed troubled. [Yes, he came to me yesterday, admitting his past mistakes, asking for your forgiveness, hoping I could let go of the grudges and restore the relationship to what it used to be.]

Ashley pondered momentarily and typed. [What are your thoughts?]

Miranda replied quickly: [I prefer to keep my distance from him at the

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moment. As long as you haven't forgiven him, neither will I.]

Ashley thought for a moment. Miranda and Ryan once did have a beautiful relationship.

Ashley typed. [Miranda, it mainly depends on your feelings. Don't worry too much about me.]

Miranda replied: [Absolutely not. Friends are the most important!]

[Ashley, if I were in your shoes, I wouldn't forgive a brother who caused me so much pain in the past. Can he really erase his past mistakes with a simple apology? That will be too easy!]

With a friend like Miranda, Ashley truly felt the unparalleled strength of friendship.

Miranda sent a picture of a stray cat she encountered today. [I met this cutie on the street today, sharing it with you.]

Ashley enlarged the photo. It was a chubby orange cat. [It's adorable.]

Suddenly, Bryce chimed in: [Can you discuss your matters privately?]

Miranda instantly replied: [No way! If you don't want to see it, leave the group then]. She sent the message along with a crossed-arms emoji.

Bryce texted. [Aren't you afraid I'll be aware of your personal affairs?]

Miranda replied: [There is no need to be afraid. Speaking of which, Bryce, how are things going with Brittany?] She sent the message and an emoji with a face full of gossip.

Ashley had almost forgotten about Brittany, the beautiful girl who was interested in Bryce at that charity dinner and wanted to pursue him.

Bryce seemed to want to avoid the topic. [I have something to take care of. I'll go ahead.]

Ashley and Miranda then chatted for a while. Just as she was about to put down her phone, she received a call from Jaden.

Sitting next to her, Joseph, upon seeing Jaden's name, disdainfully clicked his tongue.

Ashley glanced at him, finding it strange that these two always clashed, constantly bickering.



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Joseph signaled. “Put it on speaker, Ashley.”

Ashley answered the call and put it on speaker.

Jaden’s voice came with a hint of a smile. “Darling...”

Before he could say any more endearing words, Joseph ruthlessly interrupted, “She is not your darling!”

He knew that Jaden would be talking rubbish.

So, he had Ashley put it on speaker in advance, and sure enough, Jaden started calling Ashley “Darling”!

Hearing Joseph’s voice, Jaden paused for a moment, then, with a smirk, he said, “My dear, you’re here too.”

Joseph’s face darkened, and retorted, “I’m not your freaking dear!”

Feeling a headache coming on, Ashley interrupted their bickering and asked Jaden, “Why are you calling?”

Without any courtesy, Jaden ordered, “I’m at the airport now. I just got off the plane and didn’t bring an assistant. Come and pick me up!”

Ashley was astonished. “You came to Zyrrinthia? As the boss of Glory Youveile, why don’t you stay at headquarters but keep running around?”

“Ashley, do you have the nerve to say that to me!” Jaden immediately became irritable. “Is Glory Youveile mine alone? What about you? You just leave everything to me! I’ve lost weight from doing it all by myself!”

“Calm down!” Ashley hastily interrupted. “What’s the matter with your visit to Zyrrinthia this time?”

“Anyway, come pick me up at the airport, and I’ll bring you a piece of important news!”

“What news?” Joseph interjected, bargaining, “You tell us the news first, and then we’ll go to the airport to pick you up.”

“My dear, you’re taking advantage of me,” Jaden chuckled.

“If you don’t say it, no one will pick you up!” Joseph threatened.

“Alright.” Jaden sighed, then said mysteriously, “I got information that Jessica is secretly selling shares of the Ramos Group behind Evan’s back.”

Ashley’s eyes narrowed when she heard this, and she repeated Jaden’s

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words in her mind.