The Enigmatic Return (Neera and Jean)

Chapter 151

The grand hall was already filled with people - Frederic and Wrenn were present, along with a large group of relatives eagerly awaiting their return.

As Jean and Neera entered, Jean took the lead and called out, "Dad, Mom."

All eyes turned towards them, scrutinizing their every move.

Most of the attention was focused on Neera, with many eyes filled with curiosity and judgment.

Amidst the crowd, some seemed to be waiting for some drama to unfold, eyes gleaming with mischief.

Neera remained composed, well aware that this gathering was no simple affair.

However, she was unfazed and had strategies in mind to handle the situation. She had no intention of being intimidated.

At that moment, Frederic and Wrenn were also observing her.

As Neera's gaze met theirs, she smiled gracefully and greeted them with a clear voice, "Dad, Mom, I'm Neera. I apologize for our late arrival; we made you wait."

Her dignified demeanor caught the attention of the elders, but their attitude towards her remained somewhat cold.

After all, they were well aware of how she had entered the family, and it was natural for them to harbor some prejudices and disapproval toward her.

However, to save face for their son, they nodded and replied, "No problem, please have a seat."

As they settled down, a man who seemed a few years younger than Frederic pretended to be surprised.

"...Neera? Isn't the bride Jean married named Roxanne?"

Jean quickly responded, "Uncle Clarence, my wife's name is Neera. There was a mixup during the rushed wedding preparations, but we haven't had a chance to clear up the misunderstanding." He took the opportunity to solemnly introduce Neera to everyone, saying, "This is my wife, Neera Garcia."

Neera gracefully stood up, smiled, and nodded to the people around, repeating, "Hello, everyone. Nice to meet you all. I am Neera."

Clarence let out a meaningful "Oh" at her introduction, saying, "Oh, I see. I thought the Garcia family was playing games with the Beauvort family..."

The reactions of the crowd varied, with some not even bothering to hide their teasing.

Clarence's son, Jonas, chimed in with malicious intent, "Neera, that name sounds so familiar. If I remember correctly, the Garcia family and the Fain family were involved in a big scandal back then, and the protagonist of that incident had the same name, right? Let me think, the news at that time, how did it go..."

He deliberately paused, emphasizing the words, "A fiery affair with three men, quite scandalous, right? That person... could it be you?"

The atmosphere in the hall suddenly changed, and the air seemed to freeze as tension mounted.

Especially Frederic and Wrenn, their faces darkened instantly.

Neera hadn't expected the Beauvort family to provoke her so quickly.

She pressed her lips together and glanced at Jonas, who appeared warm and amiable, but his words revealed a sinister intent.

This incident had caused a sensation at the time, but the Beauvort family had always ignored such tabloid news.

So, many members of the Beauvort family were completely unaware of this matter. search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Now, hearing Jonas bring it up, they couldn't help but frown.

Frederic and Wrenn wore stern expressions as their sharp gazes fell on Neera.

Jean's brows furrowed too, his gaze cold as he stared at Jonas as if he were looking at a dead man.

How dare Jonas deliberately stir up trouble in front of him? He must have grown too audacious...

Just as Jean was about to intervene, Neera shot him a reassuring look, indicating that he need not worry.

Then, she turned her gaze back to Jonas, her heart filled with a cold smile.

This little trick of yours, do you think it can bother me?

Not a chance!

She then put on a harmless and innocent smile, looking as harmless as a lamb, and replied, "You must be joking. Nowadays, a significant portion of the news in society is fabricated without any evidence. Many media personnel create sensational stories out of thin air just to attract attention. It's hard to trust such gossip. As Jean said, the Beauvort family always handles matters with integrity and evidence, so how could such absurd rumors be taken seriously?"

First, she defended herself, and then she subtly implied, "These gossips are only the concern of idle individuals who have nothing better to do than gossip and spread rumors. You must be very busy with your work, so don't waste your time on such trivial matters. It might prevent you from utilizing your time and energy wisely..."

The last sentence was undeniably mocking.

Jonas was known as the most indolent member of the Beauvort family, someone who did not know the first thing about work and merely indulged in pleasure. He was notorious in high society as a dissolute playboy.

With just a few words, Neera managed to mock him accurately, causing Jonas's nonchalant smile to vanish, and his expression turned sour.

He subconsciously wanted to lose his temper, but he hesitated with so many elders present.

Moreover, losing his temper would only confirm his idleness.

The anger bubbling inside him turned his face red.

Frederic and Wrenn's faces finally eased somewhat.

Jean observed from the side, and the coldness in his eyes diminished.

He realized that he didn't need to worry about this woman at all...

At the same time, he was a bit surprised.

He hadn't had a chance to tell her about these relatives, so how did she know so much?

Clarence saw his son being outsmarted and couldn't help but feel annoyed. He couldn't resist speaking up, "Jean has chosen quite an exceptional wife, eloquent and quick-witted. However, whether what Jonas said is true or false can easily be verified. The Beauvort family has a long-standing legacy and a spotless reputation through generations. We can't afford to marry a woman who would disgrace our family name and become the laughingstock of all Kingsview!"

His words were filled with sarcasm and derogatory remarks toward Neera.

Neera remained unperturbed and composed.

"Uncle Clarence, you can rest assured. Although the Garcia family may be small, our family background is just as clean. A simple inquiry would confirm that. Moreover, Jean and I were married properly, with all the necessary formalities."

Then she blinked her eyes, suggesting something more.

"But Uncle Clarence, you're right. It's always good to be cautious, especially when dealing with ambitious and scandalous women who can never be respectable."

This remark was another sarcastic dig at Clarence.

After all, Clarence had a history of infidelity and had an affair with a disreputable woman, resulting in an illegitimate child.

Clarence hadn't expected her to mock him so openly, and his face turned ashen.

The spectators couldn't help but glance at Neera once more.

They realized that this new bride was not someone to be trifled with.

Despite her radiant and enchanting appearance, she proved to be quite formidable.

It was surprising that she could stand up to this father and son so quickly, leaving them with no room for a comeback...

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Chapter 152

Jean's aunt, Seren, sat there sipping her tea, seemingly indifferent to the tense atmosphere. However, her sudden light laughter broke the silence.

"Frederic, this new daughter-in-law of yours comes from a humble background, which is fine, but she needs a lot of refinement and etiquette. You'll have to teach her how to communicate with elders properly," she remarked, implying that Neera lacked manners.

Frederic's brow slightly furrowed as he listened, his thoughts clear as a mirror.

What kind of "teaching" was this? His sister just wanted to provoke Neera.

But Frederic didn't blame her; he calmly said, "Neera has just arrived, and she might be feeling a bit nervous, so her words may have been misjudged."

Wrenn chimed in to support, "Absolutely! She's just arrived, and you all are putting on such a grand show, making it feel like an interrogation. She's a young girl and may say the wrong things due to nerves. As elders, we should be understanding and not take it to heart."

Neera's eyes flashed with a glint of determination, but she kept up her innocent facade, timidly biting her lip.

"Did I say something wrong just now, Uncle Clarence? I hope you don't misunderstand; I truly didn't mean anything else. Jean had already advised me before coming that I must always respect and agree with the elders. I might not be very articulate, and perhaps I said something inappropriate..."

Her expression of innocence was so convincing that it made it hard for anyone to blame her.

The members of the Beauvort family found themselves doubting their judgments. Was this woman genuinely naive, or was she pretending to be ignorant?

If she was truly naive, then her sharp retort earlier must have been coincidental, leaving everyone speechless.

On the other hand, if she was pretending to be naive, her current appearance made it difficult to tell if it was an act.

Only Jean remained clear-headed, watching her act, and nearly bursting out laughing.

He realized he had seriously underestimated this woman.

Even Ian, who had been standing nearby, couldn't help but think, "What a fantastic performance! This level of skill in expression, she deserves an Auscar Award!"

Seren squinted at Neera for a while and began to sense that she was a formidable one. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After a moment, Seren spoke again, her smile seemingly having a hidden meaning. "Jean, your wife is quite fascinating."

Though her words sounded like praise, there was an obvious undertone.

Jean was well aware of the implied meaning but paid no mind to it. He responded casually, "Aunt Seren, you're too kind. She is indeed fascinating."

Having been shut down earlier, Clarence was unwilling to lose face. He took the opportunity to mock, "Considering Jean's health, shouldn't he have married a gentle and virtuous woman to take care of him? Why marry someone

So..."

He stopped midway, leaving the rest unspoken.

Everyone could easily guess what he didn't say; it wasn't anything complimentary.

Clarence turned to Frederic, purposely targeting his sensitive spot.

"All I'm saying is, aren't you afraid Jean might face some unexpected consequences later? Your new daughter-in-law seems quite spirited, and it might clash with Jean's fate."

His words were cunning, aiming straight at Neera and implying that she might negatively influence Jean.

Frederic's expression turned grim at once.

Jean's health had always been a worry for him, and Clarence's words struck a nerve.

Wrenn, too, showed a faint crack in her well-maintained composure, unable to bear it any longer. She glared at Clarence and rebuked him with a stern voice.

"Clarence, what's the meaning of this? Are you allowed to speak recklessly like that?!"

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Jean remained unfazed by the words that resembled a curse. To him, such remarks held no significance. However, Neera couldn't help feeling uneasy and uncomfortable. She sensed an air of ill fortune surrounding her.

Nevertheless, she didn't hold back and retorted, "Thank you for your concern, Uncle Clarence, but you're worrying too much. Jean is perfectly healthy. I checked him before, and he'll live to a ripe old age of a hundred. As for you..."

As she spoke, Neera looked at Clarence with a half-smile, half-smirk, scanning him from head to toe.

"Your health doesn't seem to be in good shape at all. You need to take it seriously; otherwise, I'm afraid you won't live past three years. If something unexpected happens then, you'll regret not taking action sooner!"

Upon hearing this, Clarence erupted in fury, his gaze like sharp arrows directed at her.

Jonas couldn't contain his anger and slammed the table while scolding her, "What nonsense are you spouting? Are you cursing my father? Do you have no manners? How dare someone from the Garcia family acts so brazenly in front of the Beauvort family!"

The rest of the family also grew disdainful and displeased with Neera. It seemed that being raised in a less prestigious household left her unsuitable for their circle.

An ordinary junior daring to challenge her elders in public and speaking with such arrogance and ill fortune-it was simply unacceptable!

Even Frederic and Wrenn, who had defended Neera earlier, now frowned, disappointed with her behavior.

"Neera, how could you speak to your elders like that? It's truly unlike you! You should apologize to Uncle Clarence immediately!"

Neera blinked her eyes innocently, seemingly undisturbed by the situation.

"Dad, Mom, please don't be angry. Let me explain; I didn't mean to offend Uncle Clarence..."

Jonas gritted his teeth, "You call this not offending? The Garcia family's manners and upbringing are indeed otherworldly!"

Ignoring his outburst, Neera calmly explained, "I didn't mean to offend, truly. What I said was the truth... In all honesty, I'm a medical student, and when I saw Uncle Clarence, I noticed that his complexion looked abnormal-pale and weak. It seems like he might have long-term kidney issues, possibly even showing signs of kidney failure. Moreover, considering his age, his quick temper might indicate heart problems."

Clarence was taken aback and furious, about to unleash his anger with scathing words, but she didn't give him a chance and persisted, "I understand that my words might be

hard for you to accept at first. You probably think I'm just making wild claims. If that's the case, how about you answer a few questions? Do you often feel weak, fatigued, and dizzy?"

Clarence was momentarily stunned by her words, and his retort got stuck in his throat. He couldn't deny that what she said made some sense.

However, he couldn't bring himself to admit it. His face contorted, looking as if he had just swallowed a fly, trying to maintain his pride.

"No, I don't! You're just talking nonsense. Just because you have a little knowledge doesn't mean you can show off here!"

Neera spoke with a weight of sincerity, trying to persuade him, "Uncle Clarence, don't deny it. Everyone falls sick at some point; there's no shame in that. Taking care of your health is essential. Moreover, it's your own body, not someone else's. If you suffer, no one else can bear that burden for you." search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Clarence was left speechless, his face fluctuating between gloom and brightness.

On the one hand, he couldn't stand being publicly pointed out as potentially ill by a younger family member. On the other hand, he began to worry, afraid that Neera might be right about his health condition.

The rest of the family also doubted as they witnessed Clarence's reactions. Could there be any truth to Neera's words?

An eerie silence enveloped the room.

Sensing the opportunity, Neera intensified her efforts to convince him, "Uncle Clarence, if you still doubt me, I can demonstrate by applying acupressure. It will provide proof."

She exchanged a subtle glance with Jean, who responded with a nearly imperceptible nod, suggesting they give it a try.

"In that case, let's try it," Jean proposed.

With consent granted, Neera raised an eyebrow teasingly and confidently approached Clarence. Without waiting for his response, she firmly pressed a specific meridian point on his hand.

"Do you now feel weakness throughout your body or even a tingling sensation in your heart? If so, it's enough to suggest that your body is gradually deteriorating, especially your heart..."

She maintained a grave expression as if Clarence's condition was already dire...

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Neera's words were like a shocking bomb, exploding in the tranquil room. Clarence was completely frightened, his face showing obvious panic and fear. When Neera pressed his meridian point, he indeed felt weak all over, and his heart was experiencing the throbbing pain she described!

Jonas, who had been skeptical, now realized that something was amiss, and he anxiously asked, "Dad, how do you feel now?"

Clarence finally couldn't maintain his tough facade, feeling at a loss, he admitted, "Yes! I do feel that way..."

At this point, Jean spoke in a calm tone, "Uncle Clarence, if something's wrong with your body, you should seek medical attention promptly. Don't wait until it's too late to regret it."

Jonas' mother, alarmed by the situation, quickly stood up and urged them to go to the hospital, "Quickly, quickly! Jonas, don't delay, help your dad, let's go to the hospital now!"

Jonas nodded, not paying attention to the others, and without further ado, he hurriedly left with his father.

The others in the room lost their appetites after witnessing the scene and made various excuses to take their leave. Frederic didn't stop them, as the purpose of introducing the bride to the relatives had been fulfilled, and the rest didn't matter much.

As the others left, they couldn't help but cast deep glances at Neera, leaving a lasting impression on her...

After a while, only the newlyweds remained in the main hall, along with Frederic and Wrenn, and Jean's two brothers.

It was then that Frederic put on a stern face and questioned Neera seriously, "Is Uncle Clarence really in such bad health? Or was it just a little trick you played on him to tease him?"

Neera hesitated for a moment, unsure whether to be candid or not, and subconsciously glanced at Jean for guidance.

Jean immediately caught her gaze, raising an eyebrow and using his eyes to signal her to tell the truth.

With Jean's encouragement, Neera decided not to hide anything and answered truthfully, "It's half true and half a trick. His health does have some issues, but not as serious as I made it seem. I did want to scare him a bit because he cursed Jean first!"

Jean was her patient, and anyone disrespecting his body condition was essentially doubting her abilities.

Of course, her little scheme was unknown to others, and they misunderstood her actions as protecting her husband.

Jean's elder brother, Joseph, couldn't help but laugh, "Neera, you described it so vividly just now, it was quite frightening! I thought it was true for a moment." Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Even Jean's second brother, Karl, couldn't help but smirk.

Though he didn't see eye to eye with Jean, he was also in conflict with Clarence's family. At this moment, he was enjoying watching Clarence being frightened out of his wits.

Upon hearing Neera's explanation, Frederic's serious expression softened slightly, clearly satisfied with her protective behavior towards Jean.

Although this new daughter-in-law had a rather... peculiar background, she sure knew how to stand her ground when confronting others; she was not one to be trifled with.

Most importantly, she knew how to protect Jean, and that alone was commendable.

However, he still felt the need to criticize her a little, so he put on a stern face and reproached her, "Next time, don't act so recklessly. Even if it's for Jean's sake, you need to restrain yourself. If Uncle Clarence finds out that you were playing a prank on him, he'll hold a grudge against you!"

Neera chuckled nonchalantly and replied, "It's okay, I have Jean protecting me. I have nothing to fear!"

Wrenn, who was observing from the side, still had a somewhat cold attitude towards her.

"While it's satisfying to see you fight back and scare people away, running your mouth like that is not appropriate. Our Beauvort family has always valued integrity and respect for our elders. Since you've entered the Beauvort family, you should abide by its rules. Even if you're unhappy, those are still your elders, and you should show respect. Even if

you hear unpleasant things, learn to endure, you can't offend everyone every time. Don't forget, you are now married to Jean, and as a couple, your words and actions represent not only yourself."

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Her tone remained calm, delivering words of guidance.

Neera immediately sensed that Wrenn seemed somewhat displeased with her.

Could it be that she was about to face a tense mother-in-law relationship after marrying into this family?

Nervously swallowing, Neera contemplated agreeing with Wrenn to avoid unnecessary trouble and follow her wishes. However, Jean stepped in to defend her, taking all responsibility upon himself.

"It's my indulgence that's caused this, no need to be polite. They're always high and mighty, and someone needs to put them in their place once in a while. There's nothing to worry about."

Seeing Jean's defense, Wrenn's brow furrowed slightly, but she didn't say anything more.

Later, dinner time arrived, and only six people remained at the grand dining table.

Finally having some time, Jean formally introduced his two brothers to Neera.

"This is my elder brother, Joseph, and this is my second brother, Karl."

Neera obediently nodded and greeted them, "Nice to meet you, Joseph and Karl. Please take care of me in the future."

Joseph's amiable smile accompanied his warm wishes, "We're all family now, so naturally, we'll take care of each other. Speaking of which, I haven't congratulated you on your wedding. Congratulations and best wishes on your marriage!"

As he spoke, Joseph took out a prepared envelope and handed it to Neera. "Here, Neera, this is my welcome gift to you. Welcome to our big family."

Neera was taken aback by his thoughtfulness and hesitated whether to accept the envelope. After all, she and Jean were just putting on an act, and taking the gift might not be appropriate.

However, Jean glanced at her and gently said, "Go ahead and accept it. It's Joseph's sincere gesture."

With Jean's encouragement, Neera felt she couldn't refuse, so she gratefully accepted the envelope, saying, "Thank you, Joseph."

As Joseph had given one, Karl, as the second brother, naturally couldn't come emptyhanded. Though he had no favorable impression of Neera and found her displeasing due to Jean, he maintained a composed facade and presented his envelope, offering a brief congratulation.

Neera thanked him accordingly, "Thank you for your good wishes, Karl."

Once both brothers had given their gifts, Frederic followed suit, giving an envelope as well. He reminded Neera, "Now that you've married into the Beauvort family, we are all one family. From now on, we share honor and disgrace. When you go out, always consider your identity, and think twice before speaking or acting, so as not to bring shame to Jean and the Beauvort family."

Neera politely received the envelope, nodding earnestly, "Yes, I understand, Dad. You can rest assured that I'll keep it in mind."

When it was Wrenn's turn, she maintained a cool demeanor as she looked at Neera.

"Earlier, with so many people present, I didn't expose your actions, but I still have my doubts about you. Your Garcia family originally promised to marry Roxanne here, but without our consent, they secretly replaced her with you. This deceitful act is shameful to the Beauvort family. However, since the matter has been settled, whether Roxanne or Neera, I can overlook it and not hold it against you. But... Jonas mentioned that rumor, and it's you involved, isn't it?" SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Surprised by Wrenn's probing, Neera hesitated for a moment. She didn't want to lie and felt no need to. She nodded and admitted, "Yes, you guessed right. I was indeed the person in that news story."

Wrenn's brow furrowed tightly, and her expression turned displeased.

"Preposterous!"

She reprimanded sharply, her tone no longer as composed as before, but with evident anger. Her eyes bore into Neera, sharp with scrutiny.

"The Garcia family is simply outrageous! Do they think they can manipulate the Beauvort family as they please? And what about Jean? Are any women suitable for him?"

In her eyes, her son Jean was one-of-a-kind, and she couldn't fathom him marrying a woman with such a scandalous private life.

Karl, overhearing Wrenn's words, briefly displayed a flicker of delight, but quickly concealed it with a composed façade.

Hah, Jean married such an absurd woman. How astonishing...

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Chapter 156

Neera didn't take offense despite Wrenn's stern words. She remained composed and calmly defended herself, choosing her words carefully.

"I understand that you must be angry upon hearing about this, but I ask you to take a moment and think calmly. Even if the rumors were true, what does it really represent? As I said earlier, rumors should not be blindly believed. Madam, judging by your demeanor, I can tell you're someone wise and knowledgeable, someone who can see things clearly. You should know that some things are not fully understood, and it's best not to be too judgmental."

"As for the marriage arrangement, let me explain. I had no intention of marrying Mr. Beauvort originally. The situation turned out this way because the Garcia family interfered and schemed. They couldn't bear to let Roxanne marry into your family, so they replaced her with me, someone with fewer emotional ties to the Garcia family. Now that I am married to Mr. Beauvort, I will honor this marriage."

"Furthermore, the reason the Beauvort family wanted this marriage was primarily due to my birth chart, not because of who I am as a person, right? I mean no offense, but I am just stating the facts. Since the purpose of this marriage has been fulfilled, is it really necessary to dwell on these matters?"

Wrenn found herself momentarily speechless in the face of Neera's logical reasoning. While she understood the reality of the situation, the deceitfulness of the Garcia family still bothered her.

What bothered her even more was Neera's background. Her son was exceptional, and he deserved the best woman in the world. Yet, he ended up marrying someone embroiled in scandal like Neera.

The atmosphere became tense, but Jean spoke up to diffuse the situation. "Mom, I really like Neera, and I stand by her. Let's not dwell on the past."

Joseph also chimed in to mediate, "Mom, since Neera is now part of the family, and Jean has said his piece, let's not dwell on these matters. Besides, this marriage arrangement isn't entirely bad. Neera mentioned she's a doctor; do you know if she's familiar with Jean's condition?"

Joseph deliberately redirected the conversation to give Neera a chance to redeem herself. Grateful for the lifeline, Neera smiled and calmly responded, "Yes, I'm familiar with Jean's condition."

"Really?" Joseph eagerly inquired, "Then Neera, do you have any ways to help him?"

Neera nodded, "I can alleviate his symptoms and reduce his suffering, but I can't guarantee a complete cure at the moment."

Before the matter was resolved, Neera didn't want to make any promises. Besides, she was cautious about revealing too much about her identity. After all, Jean's health condition was extremely dire, and she was currently just a "nobody." If she made promises too early, it would undoubtedly raise suspicions about her true identity, especially with Jean's keen perception. He might quickly connect her to Nancy!

At this moment, Jean spoke up in her defense, "Dad, Mom, my health has improved recently because of her care. Her medical skills are impressive, even better than Joanna's. I've personally experienced it, and I can vouch for her."

Frederic listened, surprised, and carefully scrutinized Neera.

"Could she be the doctor Joanna mentioned before?"

Jean nodded in confirmation, "Yes, it's her."

With that, Frederic's impression of Neera underwent a complete transformation, and he looked at her with newfound respect.

Her background and identity suddenly seemed less important!

The reason he arranged this marriage was to bring good luck to his beloved son. Now that their birth charts matched and she could treat Jean's condition, it was a perfect scenario. SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

As long as Jean's health improved, everything else became inconsequential!

Wrenn, upon hearing this, found herself unable to come up with any more criticisms...

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Frederic's attitude had improved significantly. "The past is in the past, and we can't change it. As long as you stay by Jean's side and take good care of him in the future, that's all that matters."

Neera nodded hastily, "Yes, I will."

Frederic was satisfied and picked up his spoon. "Alright, let's eat while it's still hot."

During the meal, he made sure to serve Wrenn, trying to soothe her emotions. "Come, eat more, and don't be upset."

After a moment of silence, Wrenn finally nodded and handed a pair of bracelets to Neera. "This is a gift for the new bride. Since you've married into the Beauvort family, you should behave appropriately from now on.'

Neera didn't expect her to prepare such a valuable gift. The jade bracelets were clearly of considerable worth. She hesitated for a moment before glancing at Jean.

Jean cast a quick glance at the bracelets and spoke warmly, "Accept them. This is Mom's way of acknowledging your status; don't let her kindness go to waste."

With genuine gratitude, Neera accepted the gift. "Thank you, Mom. I will cherish them."

The atmosphere eased, and finally, everyone started eating.

Neera picked up her chopsticks and breathed a sigh of relief.

Thank goodness, she managed to get through it...

The Beauvort family was indeed a group of formidable individuals, each with their complexity.

Luckily, she wasn't marrying into the family!

The dinner proceeded quietly, and Jean's appetite remained excellent, even better than before.

Joseph was surprised but more delighted. "Mom has tried everything to get Jean to eat more in the past, but nothing seemed to work. Now, his appetite has improved so much. It seems like Neera is taking good care of him."

Jean nodded, "Yes, thanks to her."

Karl stayed silent, but his eyes flashed with a hint of darkness.

For him, Jean's improved health wasn't something to be happy about.

Joseph was a kind and gentle man, not interested in fighting for the family inheritance. But Karl was different; he believed he was just as capable as Jean and didn't want to be left in his shadow.

If Jean, who was already ill, could achieve so much, what would happen if he made a full recovery? Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Of course, he didn't dare show any ambition in front of Frederic.

After dinner, Karl found an excuse to leave. He had no interest in staying longer in Jean's presence.

Jean, on the other hand, played two chess games with Frederic before finally leaving with Neera to go back to Imperial Gardens.

On the way back, the rain started to fall gently, creating a soft rhythm on the car windows...

Neera glanced at the raindrops before turning to Jean.

"How was I tonight? Did I do well?" she asked.

Jean praised her, "You were more than impressive."

Then, his curiosity surfaced, and he asked the question that had been on his mind, "But how did you find out about Uncle Clarence and Jonas? I don't think I ever mentioned those things to you."

Neera didn't hide anything and replied, "I did some research beforehand. Your family members are all seasoned and cunning. I knew they would be formidable opponents, so I had to be well-prepared not to be at a disadvantage."

Jean's narrow eyes squinted slightly, revealing a hint of contemplation.

While it wasn't surprising that she could find information about Jonas, the fact that she knew about Uncle Clarence's affair was a different matter. It was a closely guarded family secret, never disclosed to the outside world, and all information about it had been suppressed.

He wanted to ask her how she managed to uncover such confidential details, but the words stuck in his throat.

In the end, he decided to let it go. There was no need to dig deeper into this matter.

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Chapter 158

Neera didn't notice Jean's peculiar expression; instead, she overheard lan praising her ahead.

"Ms. Garcia, you're truly a heroine among women! Facing off against the formidable members of the Beauvort family, I was actually worried for you at first, but you held your ground and fought bravely. I admire you, genuinely admire you! I didn't know you had such strength even without using medicine!"

This was the first time Ian had seen Clarence and his son being put in their place, and he couldn't have been more satisfied with the outcome.

Neera found his words amusing and chuckled. "What are you talking about? Do I look like someone who would casually use medicine?"

Ian was taken aback for a moment, and his expression twitched slightly. He felt a bit numb and replied, "Aren't you? If I remember correctly, isn't that guy still in the hospital?"

Neera shrugged her shoulders. "That was a special case. Zachary is a brute, not a human! If I hadn't used medicine against that kind of person, I'd feel like I wasted all the effort I put into preparing those medicines!"

lan was left speechless.

He wisely decided to keep his mouth shut and reminded himself never to mess with a woman-especially not with someone like Neera.

Twenty minutes later, the car stopped at the entrance to Imperial Gardens.

As Neera was about to step out of the car, she remembered the envelopes and the invaluable hand bracelets she had received tonight.

"Um, maybe it's better if you take these back. After all, we're only bound by a contract, not truly married..."

Accepting such valuable gifts under a false identity, Neera couldn't shake the feeling that it was inappropriate.

But Jean shook his head, "Keep them for now. Consider the envelopes as a reward for today's performance. As for the bracelets, wear them when we visit the Beauvort family next time."

Neera thought about it and agreed. Returning the gifts now might give the impression of disrespect to Wrenn and the Beauvort family if she didn't wear them in the future.

Anyway, she could return these things once the contract was over.

She nodded and was about to step out of the car.

Unexpectedly, Jean grabbed her wrist.

Surprised, she turned back to meet the deep, ocean-like gaze of the man.

"It's raining. Take the umbrella before going down."

"Oh... Okay."

She came back to her senses and thanked him softly.

Walking down with the umbrella, she couldn't help but feel the lingering warmth on her wrist.

His touch seemed to stay there, refusing to fade away...

An indescribable feeling welled up inside her. When she reached her doorstep, she couldn't resist rubbing her wrist, trying to shake off that peculiar sensation that wouldn't leave.

Once inside, the triplets were eagerly waiting for her.

The three of them, along with their cute pets, rushed over with their short legs, looking expectantly at her. "Mommy, how did it go tonight? Did Uncle Jean's family elders give you a hard time?"

Seeing their adorable faces, Neera's heart melted, and she smiled tenderly.

"Thanks to the information you gathered, I managed to get through it all unscathed. You were a great help, and Mommy owes you one."

She praised the triplets and briefly recounted the events of the evening.

The triplets were astonished. "Uncle Jean's family is complicated, like a den of wolves... Seeing him like this, it's heartbreaking. His health is already poor, and he's targeted by so many relatives. Even though they're family, he can' let his guard down; it's so sad..."

Hearing the triplets' words, Neera couldn't agree more.

Being in control of such a powerful family like the Beauvorts was like having a huge piece of juicy meat. Surrounding them were wolves and tigers, each one trying to snatch a piece for themselves. It was a truly dire situation.

Not to mention Jean's health...

Having to fight his own body, endure the torment of illness, and also deal with this group of scheming relatives, felt like a mix of beauty, strength, and tragedy... S~EARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

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However, she quickly dismissed her thoughts and refocused her mind. The affairs of the Beauvort family were too complex, and there was hardly any genuine affection among the relatives-only deceit, scheming, and power struggles.

Neera reminded herself that she was merely a contractual wife to Jean. She neither had the qualification nor the obligation to interfere in their affairs. It was best to mind her own business.

"Sweethearts, why don't you play for a while on your own? Mommy will go take a shower."

She patted the triplets' little heads and removed her slightly damp coat before heading upstairs.

Meanwhile, Jean went straight to his study after arriving home. Ian followed him and diligently adjusted the room's temperature, knowing that the changing weather always caused Jean discomfort due to his poor health.

Even in the summertime, the weather didn't spare any mercy on Jean. As he sat behind his office desk, he glanced at the documents without saying a word and continued to work on the tasks left unfinished during the day.

The study was filled with the sound of rustling papers as the two of them flipped through the files, accompanied only by the faint patter of rain outside. After a while, Jean's gaze fixed on one particular document, and his brow furrowed. He called for Ian and tossed the file in front of him.

"The financial report from Huspela for the last quarter doesn't match up."

Upon hearing this, Ian promptly took the document and carefully examined it, but he couldn't find anything wrong. However, he knew that when it came to auditing reports, Jean's accuracy was impeccable down to the last digit. He never made mistakes, and Ian had complete faith in him. If Jean said there was a problem, then there was.

Furthermore, it occurred to Ian that Huspela fell under Clarence's responsibility. Could it be...

His expression turned serious as he asked, "Do you suspect... Mr. Clarence is secretly manipulating the accounts?"

Jean's voice turned cold as he replied, "It's quite evident. Send it back for a redo! Also, investigate his activities abroad. Whatever tricks he's playing, dig them all up!"

Ian immediately took the task seriously.

Falsifying financial records usually indicated embezzlement or covering up internal financial discrepancies. Both were grave offenses, no matter which possibility it turned out to be.

Jean didn't tolerate any nonsense, and for Clarence to resort to such deceitful tricks right under Jean's nose was nothing short of courting disaster.

This matter weighed heavily on Jean's mood, and his eyes remained gloomy. Unfortunately, at this moment, he felt a headache coming on.

The rain outside grew stronger, and even with the increased room temperature, Jean still felt a chill in the air.

Setting aside his work, he reached up to pinch his brow, releasing some tension. He decided to let go of the tasks at hand and poured himself a cup of hot water before heading back to the bedroom for a medicinal bath.

Surrounded by the warmth and aroma of the bath, he relaxed slightly, but the weariness still weighed on him. After leaving the bathroom, he went straight to bed and fell asleep.

In the middle of the night, accompanied by the glaring lightning and the sound of thunder, Jean suddenly woke up.

"Mmm..."

He groaned, clutching his head, his face turning pale, his brows furrowing tightly as if he was trying to endure something. His eyes even showed a hint of crimson, and his breath became slightly rapid.

A thin layer of sweat formed on his forehead.

The neural pain struck him in waves.

As if two large hands were pulling and tearing at his brain, as if someone was drilling into his head from his temples, the pain was excruciating, making it almost unbearable.

He couldn't help but clench his teeth.

His illness... seemed to be flaring up! S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

His heart sank slightly, and with what little consciousness remained, he struggled to prop himself up, reaching for the painkillers from the nightstand. Without even a sip of water, he swallowed them.

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However, this was just regular pain medication and not what Neera had given him.

His body had long developed a resistance, rendering it ineffective.

He endured and endured, but after half an hour, he couldn't bear it any longer. With great difficulty, he turned his body and swung towards the bedside.

In the next moment, a loud "bang" echoed through the room.

The silence of the rainy night was abruptly shattered.

Everyone in the villa was startled!

lan and Richard rushed into Jean's room without even having time to put on their clothes, checking on the situation.

In the usually tidy and orderly bedroom, chaos reigned. The water glass on the bedside table had been knocked to the floor, water spilling everywhere, and glass shards scattered around, reflecting the cold light.

Ian immediately realized that Jean's condition had once again flared up.

And judging from the situation, the pain was overwhelming!

"Sire!"

He called out, intending to awaken Jean's reason. search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

However, at this moment, Jean's face was twisted in agony, and he could hardly control his expression. The veins on his forehead even slightly protruded, and his eyes were crimson as if he wanted to tear everything apart!

Where was there any reason left?

Suddenly, he uncontrollably grabbed the nearby chair and smashed it towards the direction of the door... as if he were venting something.

But Ian understood that he was being driven insane by the pain...

He quickly moved away.

The next second, the chair hit the door with a loud bang, and then it broke in two.

Richard was also frightened, his face turning pale.

He looked at Jean's painful appearance with a heartache, and hurriedly approached with concern, "Ian, didn't Sire's condition improve recently? Why has it flared up again, and why is he in so much pain? What should we do..."

lan was equally anxious.

In the past, if Jean had an episode, there was nothing they could do but let him vent.

After the intense pain subsided, he would calm down.

But after calming down, he would be left barely clinging to life, barely breathing, unable to recover without lying in bed for at least ten days or half a month.

lan gritted his teeth!

He couldn't just watch Jean suffer like this again!

Now, Neera was here, and she must have a solution!

Thinking of this, Ian clenched his teeth and instructed, "Richard, keep an eye on Sire. Don't let him hurt himself, and keep your distance too. Be careful not to get injured! I'm going next door to find Ms. Garcia right now!"

On the other side, Neera was fast asleep, but she was abruptly awakened by the urgent ringing of the doorbell.

As she opened her eyes, she was startled by the flashes of lightning and thunder outside. She realized that the rain was getting heavier.

Zuniga was also awakened and came out wearing a coat. They ran into each other in the corridor.

"Ms. Garcia, it's so late, and we don't know who's outside..."

Perhaps it was the atmosphere, Zuniga was a bit nervous. Neera comforted her, "It's okay, let's go and see."

The two of them went downstairs. Just as they reached the entrance hall, they heard lan continuously calling from behind the door.

"Ms. Garcia! Ms. Garcia, please open the door! Please come and save Jean!"

Neera was taken aback for a moment but quickly opened the door.

lan was in a hurry, he hadn't even had time to open his umbrella, and he was soaked by the rain, his face wet as well.

But he didn't care about that. When he saw Neera, he felt like he had found a lifeline and urgently made his request.

"Ms. Garcia, please come and see Jean quickly! He's having an episode, and it's not good at all now. I'm afraid that if we wait any longer, he might do something irreparable..."

As soon as Neera heard the word "episode," she felt a sudden jolt in her heart, having a premonition that something wasn't right.

Without delay, she instructed Zuniga to look after the triplets and grabbed an umbrella to follow lan to the next door.

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The two of them soon arrived at the first villa.

Despite people downstairs, Neera heard the sound of objects being smashed from upstairs.

Her expression darkened as she thought that the man must have been tormented by excruciating pain, causing him to lose control of himself.

At this moment, he had lost all reason, consumed only by a frenzied urge to destroy.

Pausing for a moment, she did not immediately go up the stairs. Instead, she turned to lan and asked, "Is everything all right? Why did he suddenly have an attack? Hasn't he been stable for the past few days? Did he use the prescribed medicines and baths I gave you on time?" SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Ian vigorously shook his head and explained, "No, no! That's not it, Ms. Garcia. My father always followed your instructions diligently. This might be due to the weather. He used to experience such episodes before when it was cloudy and rainy..."

Though Neera listened to his words, her brows furrowed tightly, and her gaze grew darker.

Every time she felt the man was improving, within a couple of days, she realized his condition was far worse than she had anticipated...

The situation was becoming more complicated!

Though she maintained a stern expression, she neatly opened her medical kit, put on gloves, and searched for tranquilizers.

Perplexed, Ian hurriedly asked, "Ms. Garcia, are you ...?"

"Tranquilizer," she replied while drawing the tranquilizer into a syringe.

Observing her actions, Ian quickly warned her, "Tranquilizers may not have any effect on Sire. We used to administer them during his seizures before, but after the first few times, although he became unconscious, the pain continued to torment him. Gradually, his body built resistance, and he remained awake after the injections..."

Neera had anticipated this possibility, so she focused on her preparations and did not pay much attention to lan as she quickly explained, "The sedative I have is not the

ordinary one you used before; its effects are incomparable. Plus, after I administer the injection, I will promptly provide him with treatment and relief."

She raised her head with a dissatisfied expression, adding, "The way you handled his condition in the past seriously damaged his body's foundation, which is why he is so weak now."

lan felt anxious and helpless, rubbing his head in distress. "But, there was no other way back then..."

Neera did not want to dwell on the past anymore. The situation was critical, and they needed to focus on the treatment.

She arranged all the necessary items, including needles and disinfectants, on a small tray and looked upstairs. The chaotic voices continued, indicating that Jean was still in a state of mania.

She instructed, "Find a few people to help and try to control him, otherwise I give him the injection."

Seeing her calm demeanor, lan found some reassurance and also calmed down. He immediately nodded and led the bodyguards upstairs, with Neera following closely behind.

Upon entering the bedroom, Neera was taken aback by the mess all over the floor and Jean's uncontrollable appearance. It was shocking to see him like this, completely different from his usual calm and composed self.

At that moment, Jean seemed to sense someone approaching and attacked them with a fierce expression.

Having practiced self-defense since he was a child, Jean's skills were remarkable. Even in pain, he showed no mercy when dealing with others.

In the blink of an eye, he overpowered the two bodyguards.

Neera felt terrified, fearing that if they weren't careful, Jean could harm himself.

Luckily, Ian's skills were also top-notch, and after a few intense rounds with Jean, he managed to gain control over him.

Just as Jean was about to resist further, several other bodyguards rushed in to assist lan, grabbing hold of Jean's arms.

Neera saw her chance and hurried forward to administer the tranquilizer injection to Jean.

However, at that critical moment, Jean's demeanor changed dramatically, and with a burst of strength, he broke free from the grip of one of the bodyguards.

The bodyguard stumbled backward, unintentionally colliding with Neera, causing her to fall over.

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Neera was knocked back uncontrollably, still clutching the small tray with the precious and hard-won medicines.

Her concern was solely focused on protecting the medicines, not caring about her wellbeing. In her haste, she disregarded herself and only cared about preserving the medicine.

Unfortunately, without any protection, she fell heavily to the ground, and her arm was accidentally cut by a piece of broken glass on the floor.

A vivid bloodstain immediately appeared on her otherwise snow-white arm, the red blood seeping out in a shocking sight.

Ian was taken aback and exclaimed, "Ms. Garcia! Are you okay?"

Richard was also deeply concerned, quickly coming forward to help her up and inspecting the wound, "Ms. Garcia, you're injured..."

Feeling the sharp pain, Neera frowned but merely glanced at the wound, seemingly ignoring it, and shifted her attention away.

"Don't mind me, hurry and restrain him!" she ordered sternly.

Following her command, Ian reluctantly left her side to assist in controlling Jean.

This time, Jean appeared exhausted from his earlier struggles, making it easier for the bodyguards to subdue him, leaving him unable to move.

Capitalizing on the moment, Neera swiftly administered the tranquilizer by injecting it into his arm.

Jean looked at her with sharp, intense eyes, the scarlet corners of his eyes instilling fear in those who saw.

Yet, as the tranquilizer took effect, he gradually calmed down.

His body went limp, and he fell into a deep coma. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Witnessing this, Ian could not help but feel a sense of surprise.

He had not expected Neera's medicine to be so effective.

Breathing a sigh of relief, Ian quickly ordered the bodyguard, "Help Sire to the next room!"

The bodyguard led the way, and after a while, they managed to move Jean to the adjacent room. Ian then turned his attention to Neera, concerned, "Ms. Garcia, are you okay? Do you need me to treat the wound?"

Neera responded casually, "It's alright, just a minor injury, don't worry about it."

As she spoke, she picked up the disinfectant and applied it to her wound twice. The stinging pain was evident, but she bore it without complaint. Calmly, she continued, "Hurry up and remove his shirt. I need to give him the injection immediately. Tranquilizers alone won't be enough to relieve his condition. He requires prompt and comprehensive treatment."

lan did not dare to waste any time and promptly nodded, rushing to do as she instructed.

In the bedroom, Neera was left alone. She found gauze from her medical supplies and wrapped it around her wound.

Once she finished the simple dressing, she went to the adjacent room.

Jean's shirt had been removed, exposing his thin but muscular chest. Even in his unconscious state, his expression still showed signs of pain, indicating that the torment he had experienced earlier still lingered within him.

Neera couldn't afford any delay. She quickly took out the silver needles she had with her, sterilized them meticulously, and began the process of administering acupuncture.

In a short while, Jean was punctured with dozens of needles.

After working diligently for a full hour, Neera finally felt the need to stop. Her back and forehead were covered in a layer of cold sweat, and her face was noticeably pale, almost as if it were made of paper.

Ian and Richard had been watching in silence, only now daring to ask, "Ms. Garcia, after the treatment, will Sire's condition be better?"

Neera, feeling fatigued and injured, replied with a slight tone, "Of course, why else would I treat him? The treatment should bring relief and end his suffering."

Upon hearing Neera's assurance, both Ian and Richard were overjoyed.

Richard let out a sigh of relief and expressed his gratitude, saying, "Thank you, Ms. Garcia. You truly are a remarkable doctor, a miracle worker! It's so late, and I apologize for troubling you to come and treat Sire. I'm sorry..."

"1

Neera waved her hand dismissively, saying, "No need to rush to thank me. I still need some medicinal materials. Your family probably doesn't have them, but I need you to get them within an hour. Once the hour is up, I'll need to remove the needles."

As she spoke, she took out a pen and paper from her medical kit and swiftly wrote down a list of medicine she needed.

lan took the list and hurriedly left the room.

Richard, unable to be of much help, silently watched the situation unfold.

Noticing that Neera's complexion was not good, he thoughtfully prepared a cup of tea for her, saying, "Ms. Garcia, there's still some time before the needles need to be removed. You should sit down and rest for a while. The accident happened suddenly, and you fell and injured yourself too, so you must be exhausted. This ginseng tea will help restore your vitality. Please have some."

Neera accepted the gesture and thanked him, taking a seat on the sofa with the teacup in hand, and sipping it slowly.

The warm liquid flowed down her throat, and with each sip, her tense nerves began to unwind, allowing her to relax a bit.

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lan's efficiency was indeed remarkable, as he returned with the required medicinal materials right on time.

Neera checked the medicines he brought back, confirmed their correctness, and nodded in approval. She then instructed Richard, "Prepare these medicines, and they should be ready in half an hour."

Richard swiftly took the medicines and hurried downstairs to prepare them.

After a brief wait, Neera began administering the injection to Jean. Once all the needles were removed from his body, she took out several pills from her medical kit and carefully fed them to him. Even in his unconscious state, Jean instinctively swallowed the pills.

During this process, Neera's fingertips inadvertently brushed against Jean's soft, thin lips multiple times. A peculiar feeling stirred within her, but it was so fleeting that she could not quite grasp it.

Without giving it much thought, she pushed the sensation aside and continued with her work.

After Jean had taken all the necessary medicines, Neera stood up and instructed, "Help him into the bathroom."

lan immediately understood that Jean needed a medicinal bath, so he proceeded to assist him without hesitation.

Guiding Jean into the bathroom, Ian supported him as he filled the bathtub with hot water.

At that moment, Richard returned with the boiled medicine and asked, "Ms. Garcia, should I feed it to Sire?"

Neera shook her head, reaching out to take the bowl of medicine. Without saying a word, she poured the steaming dark black liquid into the bathtub, mixing it with the water.

The previously clear water was now infused with the bitter scent of medicinal herbs, filling the entire bathroom.

Ian was taken aback, a little surprised by the change, "Did you change the medicine for the bath today? I thought this medicine was for Sire to drink..."

Neera explained in a low voice, "As I said before, all medicines are not static. They have to be determined according to his physical condition. In his current state, the previous medicinal baths are no longer effective, and he must be replaced with this one. These medicines need to be boiled before they can exert their medicinal properties. After soaking him in, the pain and torment he suffered can be soothed and relieved by the mild medicinal properties. He wouldn't have the strength to wake up tomorrow."

lan did not know that there were so many details in it. After listening to it, he suddenly understood, and then he was relieved.

"Ms. Garcia, it's good to have you here, you are so reliable, it really puts us at ease, thank you."

Feeling exhausted, Neera raised his hand and pressed his temple, urging, "Okay, stop flattering me, you should look after him, and don't let him sink into the bathtub."

lan nodded and went to support him...

Neera preferred not to stay inside because Jean had to soak in the medicine, and before he left, he explained, "When the time's up, get him out, put him in clean clothes, and send him to bed."

After speaking, she waited outside.

Richard glanced at the time, and thoughtfully said, "Ms. Garcia, it's already midnight, you've been here for so long, why don't you go back and rest first, Sire's condition had stabilized, just leave us to take care of you."

Neera shook her head and refused with a serious face.

"He's only temporarily in a coma, and the situation has not yet stabilized. I'll stay here tonight so I can deal with an emergency in case anything happens."

Richard thought that this was indeed the case, so he did not force it anymore, and suggested instead, "Then why don't you rest in the guest room? You can come over to see the situation any time."

Neera still refused, "No, I'll just lie on the sofa here, don't trouble yourself with me."

Seeing her insistence, Richard had no choice but to bring over two small blankets and pillows and put them on the sofa.

"Ms. Garcia, thank you very much tonight, if you feel cold, you use this blanket."

Neera nodded.

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Half an hour later, Ian carefully helped Jean, who was still unconscious, onto the bed.

Neera stepped forward to check his condition, relieved to see that his face was relaxed. Satisfied with the progress, she returned to the sofa to wait.

Ian knew Neera would be staying here tonight, so he made sure to be available if needed. "Ms. Garcia, I'm sorry for troubling you by having you stay here tonight. I'll be in the living room downstairs. If you need anything, just call me, and I'll come up right away."

Neera nodded.

Soon, Ian left, leaving the room quiet and peaceful.

The night grew darker, and the sound of thunder and lightning outside gradually subsided, along with the rain.

Having been disturbed and active for so long, Neera felt overwhelming exhaustion creeping over her. However, her concern for Jean's condition kept her from fully surrendering to sleep. To stay awake, she decided to distract herself by reading emails from the company.

As time passed, the rain eventually ceased.

Jean remained in a deep coma, and nothing seemed out of the ordinary.

An hour later, Neera could no longer resist the drowsiness, and she finally succumbed to sleep, leaning against the sofa.

However, after a while, she was awakened by some slight movements.

Opening her eyes, she saw that it was Jean who had stirred.

Immediately alert, she got up to check his condition.

Jean's face was flushed unusually, and he appeared to be in discomfort.

She reached out to touch his forehead...

Instantly, a scorching temperature was felt against her fingertips.

Jean had a fever!

However, Neera remained composed, as she expected this to happen.

Quickly bringing water from the bathroom, she twisted a towel and began physically reducing his fever.

Though Jean was completely unconscious, his furrowed brows indicated that he was suffering greatly at the moment.

Neera stood quietly by the bed, diligently changing the towels to provide relief.

Two hours passed, but Jean's fever showed no signs of reducing; in fact, it seemed to be worse.

Feeling his forehead, Neera furrowed. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

While she expected his fever, an unrelenting fever was concerning.

After contemplating for a moment, she decided to give him a fever-reducing injection.

Thankfully, this time the injection was effective.

As the sky darkened, Jean's body temperature gradually began to recede.

After a night of constant attention, Neera was exhausted. She could not find the energy to move to the sofa, so she leaned against a nearby chair and planned to take a quick nap.

However, her fatigue was so profound that she fell into a deep sleep almost immediately.

The next day, as Jean awakened, the first thing he saw was the petite woman lying beside his bed.

Her hair was loose, and she was still in her pajamas. Her delicate and flawless face was supported by her hand, close to him.

In the sunlight, the tiny fuzz on her face was visible.

Her warm breath tickled his fingers.

Jean was momentarily stunned, recalling the events of the previous night when he lost control. However, the details were hazy in his memory.

Despite this, he felt a sense of relief that he was not as weak as he feared. He had enough strength to sit up.

As Jean woke up, it was the first time he had seen Neera in this state.

Just then, Ian entered the room quietly and was surprised to find Jean awake. He immediately asked about his condition.

Jean's lips were slightly dry, and his voice sounded raspy as he replied, "It's nothing, I'm just a little tired."

His attention then shifted to Neera, and he asked in perplex, "Why is she sleeping here?"

lan quickly recounted the events of the previous night, including Neera's decision to stay and take care of Jean.

Upon hearing the whole story, Jean was left stunned for a while.

He had not expected so much to happen while he was unconscious.

Concern flickered in his eyes as he gazed at Neera's sleeping face. He noticed the gauze on her arm and the bloodstains on it.

Did she get hurt?

The bloodstains indicated that the wound was likely not too serious, but he could not overlook it either.

Upon frowning, he asked, "How did she get hurt?"

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lan hesitated for a moment before telling him what happened.

"Last night, you were in so much pain that you lost control. We had no choice but to restrain you. During the struggle, Ms. Garcia was knocked down, and her arm was injured by broken glass on the ground..."

Hearing that the woman had been hurt because of him, Jean's brows furrowed even tighter.

Neera, who was in a drowsy sleep, vaguely heard voices and woke up. Rubbing her eyes, she raised her head.

"You're awake," she greeted him with a sleepy voice.

Jean was momentarily taken aback by her appearance, finding her sleepy eyes somewhat adorable.

He could not help but be captivated by her.

Neera noticed his gaze and hoped he had not noticed. Stretching lazily, she asked with concern, "How do you feel now? Is the pain still there? Do you feel any discomfort?"

Jean snapped back to the present and calmly shook his head, "I'm feeling much better. It's nothing serious."

Neera nodded and subconsciously reached out to touch his forehead to check his temperature.

Jean's pupils constricted slightly.

Her hands were small and cold, and as they made contact, he could not help but feel his heart flutter.

A strange feeling washed over him like ripples in a pond.

Neera did not think much of the gesture, as it was part of her examination. Once she confirmed that his fever had subsided, she quickly withdrew her hand.

"Thankfully, it wasn't in vain," she remarked matter-of-factly.

Immediately, she put on a stern expression and began to lecture him.

"I've told you that I'm not feeling well, so you should have told me right away. Why didn't you listen? Before you had an attack last night, there must have been signs of pain, right? You should have told me!"

Frustration and anger filled Neera's face as she thought about how Jean had chosen to endure the pain again. "You think you have to be brave? If it happens again in the future, you must tell me beforehand. I'll find a way to manage and alleviate your pain. That way, even if it flares up, it will be within a controllable range. Otherwise, considering your physical condition, not even God may be able to save you!"

Realizing he was in the wrong, Jean nodded without offering any explanation. "You worked hard last night. Don't worry, there won't be a next time."

Observing this exchange, Ian couldn't help but feel a bit surprised.

Sire was actually listening to his wife?

After all these years, this was the first time he had seen it!

Even if it were words from the family elders or himself, he might not have heeded them.

It seemed that Ms. Garcia's influence on his father could not be underestimated.

Neera glanced at the time and continued, "In any case, I'm glad you're okay. Last night's events caused significant damage to your body. While I did my best to help with the treatment, it couldn't completely offset the damage. You should rest well, avoid exerting yourself, and remember to take your meals and medications on time."

She took out two additional medicines from the medicine cabinet and placed them by the bedside. "Add these two medicines to your routine after each meal. If you have nothing urgent today, avoid going out. And if you feel any discomfort, come to me immediately."

With her instructions complete, Neera turned to leave but was stopped by Jean's grasp.

His hand felt warm, and she could sense the warmth in his fingertips. She paused for a moment and turned to look at him. "Is there something else?"

Jean's gaze focused on her arm, saying, "The wound needs to be treated again."

The situation was too urgent last night, and Neera had only casually wrapped the gauze a few times. Now, one end of the gauze had fallen off.

Neera noticed it, but did not pay much attention, saying, "It's okay, I'll just go back and take care of it."

However, Jean refused to let go of her hand and held it tightly. He insisted, "Take care of it first, and then you can go back."

Neera felt a bit perplexed by his actions, and that strange feeling stirred again.

In a somewhat exasperated tone, she said, "You... let go of me first, can't I take care of it myself?"

Jean immediately released his grip, allowing her to tend to her wound.

As Neera disinfected and applied the medicine again, she found it a bit difficult to wrap the gauze properly due to her hand movements. She attempted it twice but failed to tie it securely.

Observing her struggle, Jean reached out and offered, "I'll help you."

Neera did not object and simply let him take care of it.

Jean was very focused, carefully tending to her wound as if afraid of causing any discomfort. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera watched quietly and suddenly realized that this man was not as indifferent as he appeared on the surface...

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After treating the wound, Neera was ready to leave.

Richard entered the room at that moment and expressed his relief, saying, "Mr. Beauvort, it's great that you're awake!"

He looked at Jean with surprise, glad to see his improved condition, and thanked Neera, "Ms. Garcia, thanks for last night."

Neera responded casually, "You're being too polite."

Richard then explained the purpose of his visit, "Mr. Beauvort, Miss Joanna is here. Do you want to see her?"

Jean appeared displeased, and his tone turned cold, "Didn't I tell her she's not allowed to come here without my permission? What does she want now?"

Richard didn't know the reason for Joanna's visit, so he shook his head.

lan quickly connected the dots and replied, "Last night, I went to the research center to get the medicinal materials. Ms. Bridges probably guessed what happened to you and came here on her own."

Hearing this, Jean's expression softened a bit.

However, he still had no intention of seeing Joanna.

He instructed Ian coldly, "Tell her to leave. I'm fine now."

Ian had expected this response and promptly followed the order, heading downstairs.

Seeing that Jean was alright, Neera gathered her medical supplies and prepared to leave.

As she reached the hall, she met Joanna.

Joanna looked worried, saying to Ian, "Ian, Mr. Beauvort must have had a severe attack last night due to the weather. I couldn't help but come to see him. I was really concerned..."

As Joanna spoke about her concern for Jean's health, her true intention was to see Jean's newly married wife.

She had known for a long time that Mr. Beauvort intended to arrange a marriage with Jean.

Initially, she had scoffed at the superstitious belief- thinking it was ridiculous to believe in such things in this day and age!

She firmly believed that Jean would not allow herself to be manipulated, so she did not take the marriage seriously, thinking that it would surely fall through.

However, she was utterly surprised to learn that just a few days later, they were married!

Even more astonishing was the fact that Jean not only brought his wife home but let her stay!

This unexpected turn of events left Joanna unable to sit still. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, she was determined to see for herself how extraordinary this woman must be.

How could Mr. Beauvort, who had always been indifferent, allow her to stay?

However, before she could see Neera, she encountered Neera first!

Seeing Neera casually coming down from upstairs, Joanna's eyes were filled with hostility and jealousy.

The upper floor of the villa was Mr. Beauvort's private domain, and despite treating him for so long, she had never been allowed to go up.

Whenever she visited, she was confined to the living room.

But how was it that this woman, whom she had only met a few times, could come and go so easily as if she owned the place?

Joanna's unfriendly demeanor did not go unnoticed by Neera, who picked up on her unkind gaze.

Nevertheless, Neera did not take it to heart and had no intention of engaging with her. She simply greeted lan and prepared to leave.

Ian politely responded with a nod and then urged Joanna, "This is Mr. Beauvort's order. You should leave quickly... You weren't even invited here, so you came without permission. This has displeased Mr. Beauvort, and if you stay I'm afraid he will become angry."

Then, he added, "Moreover, Ms. Garcia is already here taking care of him, and he's doing fine, so there's no need to worry."

Upon hearing this, Joanna could not hide her unwillingness, but she did not dare to voice her objections. Instead, she forced a smile and replied, "If that's the case, then I'll let Mr. Beauvort rest well, and I won't disturb you."

As she said this, a hint of coldness flashed in her eyes, and she quickly changed the subject, "By the way... Mr. Beauvort got married just a few days ago. Since you are here, why don't you let me say hello to his wife? Has she woken up yet?"

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Chapter 167

Upon hearing this, Ian was taken aback for a moment and instinctively turned his gaze towards Neera.

Neera heard the conversation and stopped walking for a moment. She paused and exchanged a glance with lan.

The look conveyed a clear message. Neera had no intention of revealing her identity.

Ian immediately grasped the message and responded casually, "His wife's been taking care of Sire all night and is now preparing to rest. It would be inconvenient for her to meet with you. Let's talk about it next time."

Hearing this, Joanna's heart sank with a thud, feeling deeply disappointed. Based on what she knew about Jean, he was always distant from women and indifferent to them. However, now not only did Neera appear, but there was also a sudden mention of Jean's wife.

She could not help but wonder if she ever stood a chance with him at all.

Realizing the possibility, all her hopes transformed into disappointment, evident in her gloomy expression.

Noticing that Joanna lingered, Ian's impatience grew, and he dropped his polite demeanor. He reminded her sternly, "Joanna, you know my temper well. No one can question or defy what I say. Moreover, Sire is still weak, and your uninvited presence here displeases him. Please leave immediately. Don't provoke him further. You need to avoid any consequences.'

His words were harsh, and Joanna felt a mix of fear and unwillingness. Despite her reluctance, she had no choice but to leave reluctantly.

As she exited, her mood was somber. Lately, Jean's attitude towards her had turned colder and colder. Not being able to meet with him face to face left her feeling anxious and uncertain about her place in his life.

Joanna felt a growing concern that her standing with Jean was slipping, and the thought of losing his favor distressed her deeply. She had been protecting him for a considerable time and was determined not to let anyone else snatch him away.

Believing that the position of Mrs. Beauvort rightfully belonged to her, she now found herself harshly rejected. The fear of this situation impacting Jean's decision on R&D funds for the research institute next year brought her to a breaking point.

With these thoughts weighing heavily on her mind, a gloomy expression crossed Joanna's face. In her quest to secure her place in Jean's life, she decided to do something for Jean's mother. S~EARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Unaware of the complexities in Joanna's heart, Neera departed without returning to the neighboring place. The night had been restless, and she could barely get any sleep, leaving her overwhelmed with fatigue.

Upon arriving home, Neera quickly took a shower and immediately fell asleep, and refused to dry her hair.

The next morning, the triplets woke up to find their mother still asleep, which puzzled them.

"Auntie Zuniga, why hasn't mommy woken up yet? Did she work overtime yesterday?" Harvey asked Auntie Zuniga instead of disturbing their mother.

Auntie Zuniga explained, "Something happened to Mr. Beauvort last night and your mommy went to treat him yesterday and just came back this morning. She must be exhausted. You should eat up, I'll save some for her until she wakes up."

Upon hearing this, the triplets had no appetite for breakfast and hurried over to next door.

Knocking on the door, Richard opened it and was surprised to see them. The triplets asked anxiously, "Mr. Richard, we're here to see Uncle Jean. Is he awake?"

Richard hesitated for a moment and then replied, "Yes, he's awake now. He's upstairs..."

Before finishing speaking, the triplets only said, "Excuse us," and then they went upstairs.

Seeing the triplets coming in, Jean was taken aback, "Why are you here so early?"

"We heard that something happened to you last night. How are you doing now? Are you feeling better?" the triplets asked, concerned about his physical condition.

Looking at the triplets' frown, Jean unconsciously smirked and replied softly, "It's all right, don't worry."

The triplets breathed a sigh of relief.

Harvey blinked and told him with a serious face, "Uncle Jean, you must pay attention in the future. If you feel uncomfortable, you must tell Mommy immediately. Don't force yourself, or we will be very worried about you!"

Looking at the sincere eyes of the triplets, Jean's heart was so warm that he nodded.

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Chapter 168

Neera slept deeply and did not wake up until noon.

When she finally got up, she discovered that Auntie Zuniga had already taken the triplets to kindergarten.

As she came downstairs, Auntie Zuniga immediately prepared her lunch.

After eating, Neera still felt a bit drowsy and considered going back to sleep. However, just then, she received a message from Levi.

"The counters are confirmed and can be rolled out after the decoration is completed. Also, Beauvort World has accepted our products, and other high-end department stores are on board too. However, we still need to discuss the marketing plan together." Search The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Seeing this message, Neera decided to forgo more sleep. She quickly packed up and headed straight to SS-MY.

Upon learning that she was coming, Levi gathered the necessary documents and joined her in her office to discuss the matter.

"With the increasing number of products in the skincare market over the past few years, it's getting bigger and closer to saturation. There are numerous well-known brands that enjoy public trust. Standing out from the competition won't be easy. Even though we have high-end cosmeceuticals, there are others focusing on cosmeceuticals as well. Relying solely on the cosmeceutical aspect won't suffice," Levi explained, clearly analyzing the current situation they faced.

"Although Dr. Nancy's name carries fame, it may not have significant influence among those not deeply involved in the medical field. So, after discussing with the company's marketing department, I suggested that before our products are officially launched, we should invite celebrities to endorse them and create a wave of publicity. In today's era, celebrities have immense influence and can undoubtedly drive sales, especially the popular traffic stars," Levi continued.

Neera understood this approach quite well.

In fact, even before Levi mentioned it, she had been pondering over the same idea.

It would take at least half a month to 20 days from entering the counter to opening after the decoration was completed.

During this time, they focused on signing celebrity endorsements, shooting and announcing advertisements. Although it was a bit urgent, they still had enough time.

Neera cut to the point, "Do you have any good candidates?"

Levi quickly mentioned a name, "Yes, Kyra Marks."

"Kyra?" Neera was puzzled. She was somewhat familiar with the name, but not very well acquainted with her.

Levi smiled, "You've just returned, so you might not have paid much attention to the entertainment industry. Kyra Marks is a new movie queen, and she's quite young. She has both popularity and talent, and she's achieved a lot. Moreover, she's a rare natural beauty everyone recognizes that she has never had any cosmetic procedures! Most importantly, her influence is quite significant..."

He handed her a document and changed the subject, "Of course, we can also consider other options. Here's a list we've put together. There are a few more people who can be considered. Take a look and make a decision."

Neera nodded and took the list, "I'll review it and get back to you before the end of the day."

"Okay," Levi agreed.

The conversation between the two ended, but Levi didn't show any intention of leaving just yet.

"How do you like the layout of this office?" he inquired.

Neera scanned the office and replied softly, "It's not bad. I'm quite satisfied."

With her approval, Levi seemed pleased and took advantage of the moment to invite her.

"Are you free tonight? I'll treat you to dinner."

Neera frowned subtly, "Didn't we just have dinner together a few days ago?"

Levi smiled, "That was with a group of people. We didn't get a chance to talk properly. I thought it would be nice to have dinner just the two of us."

Hearing this, Neera politely declined without hesitation, "I'm sorry, but I can't make it tonight. If there's any business to discuss, let's do it in the company. I have to spend time with the triplets at night. I'm afraid I don't have the time to go out, but thank you for the invitation."

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Chapter 169

Being rejected by Neera, Levi felt regretful, but he also recognized that Neera tended to keep a distance from everyone, not just him.

In this case, my chances are still great...

He remained hopeful, knowing that working in the same company and holding high positions offered numerous opportunities to get closer to her gradually.

Not wanting to push the matter, Levi smiled wittily, accepted her response, and took his leave.

...

In the afternoon, Neera thoroughly reviewed the list provided by Levi, delving into each person's qualifications, popularity, and potential controversies. After careful consideration, she concluded that Kyra was indeed the better candidate. However, there was also a male star who seemed quite suitable.

Without making a final decision, she left work in the evening and handed the list of these two potential endorsers to Levi before going to pick up the triplets from kindergarten.

Once they were back home, the triplets immediately went to see Jean to check on his condition.

Neera appreciated their caring nature and followed along.

Compared to the previous day, Jean had improved significantly. Though his face was still pale, it was no longer as alarming as it was last night.

Last night, he seemed as fragile as a delicate vase that could shatter with the slightest touch.

"Uncle Jean! How are you feeling today?" the triplets asked.

"Are you still feeling uncomfortable?"

"Are you still in pain?"

As soon as the triplets entered the door, they immediately swarmed around Jean, each asking a question, their innocent faces filled with concern.

Jean couldn't help but be touched by their sincerity and enthusiasm, and a warm feeling spread through his heart, putting him in a better mood.

He lovingly touched each of their heads and replied gently, "I'm feeling much better today, and the pain is gone." Hearing his response, the triplets felt relieved.

Penny finally broke into a smile, "That's great, Uncle Jean! Remember to take your medicine on time so you can fully recover!"

As she spoke, she took out a small sachet from her pocket and held it out to him like a precious gift, saying, "Uncle Jean, this is for you!"

Jean was a bit surprised, "A sachet?"

"Yes!" Penny nodded, her smile radiant. "Mommy made this for me. It contains very precious medicinal herbs that can help with sleep. Place it by your bedside at night, and it will help you relax and sleep better!"

Jean appreciated the gesture but initially hesitated, "Since your mommy made it for you, you should keep it for yourself. I appreciate your kindness, but I couldn't possibly take it from you."

However, Penny insisted, "Uncle Jean, please accept it! You need it more than me right now, and besides, Mommy won't mind!"

She turned to Neera, her eyes shining with hope, "Right, Mommy?"

Neera could not help but smile at her daughter's persistence. Penny was quite obvious in her approach, having given the sachet and now seeking confirmation from her. She nodded in agreement.

With Neera's approval, the other two little ones also chimed in, urging Jean to accept it.

"Uncle Jean, Mommy agrees, so don't refuse."

"That's right, you must not be polite to us. We are now a family in name, and a sachet is nothing!"

Jean saw that their kindness was hard to resist, so after thanking them, he accepted the sachet. Taking a closer look, he noticed its exquisite sewing and a small delicately embroidered flower on it. It was evident that Neera's hands were very skillful. He had not expected her to have such talents!

When receiving a gift from others, it's always polite to express gratitude. So, he proposed, "To thank you, I'll invite you all to dinner tonight."

He looked at Neera with warmer eyes than before, "And also, thank you for your hard work last night."

Neera, unfazed, waved her hand casually, "It's part of the job."

After hearing this, the triplets wanted to hide their faces in embarrassment. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Mommy is so straightforward, why can't she just say, "I can't bear to see you suffer like this"?

If this goes on, will these two ever make any progress in their relationship?

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Chapter 170

At dinner, with the presence of the triplets, the atmosphere was delightfully harmonious, and the usually deserted restaurant now exuded a rare sense of warmth.

After the meal, the triplets weren't in a hurry to leave; they had their own plans in mind.

Penny took the lead, saying, "Uncle Jean, let's take a walk in the yard! Walking can help strengthen your body. Even though you can't exert yourself or engage in vigorous exercise, staying still all day isn't good. You should go for walks more often and not be busy with work all the time!"

Harvey nodded solemnly, "Penny is right, Uncle Jean. Life is all about movement."

Seeing the two kids teaming up, Jean was both amused and touched. He nodded in agreement, appreciating their concern for his well-being.

Seeing that they were getting positive responses, Sammy saw an opportunity to invite Jean, "In that case, how about going to Universal Studios this weekend? I've heard there are plenty of events there, and I've been wanting to go for a long time. Have you been there, Uncle Jean?"

Jean shook his head and replied softly, "No, I haven't been there."

He had never been a fan of amusement parks, and his busy work schedule made it nearly impossible for him to visit such places.

Sammy got excited, "Perfect! Uncle Jean, come with us! It's a fun place not just for kids but also for adults. Your daily life seems too monotonous; you should experience something different, and embrace a new and refreshing life!"

Penny quickly chimed in, "I want to go too! But I don't know how different it is from amusement parks abroad!"

She then grabbed Jean's hand and extended a warm invitation, "Uncle Jean, let's go together, shall we?"

Looking at the eager faces of the three kids, Jean hesitated for a moment but ultimately declined, "I won't be able to make it. You should go with your mommy; I'm sure you'll have a lot of fun."

The kids looked a bit disappointed. Jean's refusal surprised them.

Why wouldn't he go?

How can this be?

On this trip, the triplets had resolved to create opportunities for themselves and their own mommy, and they were determined not to stop there.

Sammy's face immediately showed disappointment.

"Oh... can't you? I thought I finally had a chance to hang out with Mommy and Daddy. Even though I know you're not my real Daddy, Uncle Jean, I really like you and wish I could spend time with you, even in my dreams..."

Penny also let go, hung his head, and fell silent, clearly feeling dejected.

Harvey rolled his eyes, took a different approach, and began to advise his younger siblings.

"Since Uncle Jean doesn't want to go, we shouldn't force him to do anything difficult. Besides, we've grown used to not having a daddy around since we were young, right? Sammy, Penny, let's be good, respect Uncle Jean's decision, and not make things difficult for him."

It must be said that the triplets were truly clever.

They each had their own roles and performed them separately, and they accurately identified the situation.

Upon hearing these words, Jean did not know what had happened, but he felt a sudden pang of discomfort in his heart as if someone had stabbed him.

An intense feeling of heartache emerged spontaneously.

Looking at the three well-behaved children in front of him, he could not help but feel overwhelmed with emotion.

He even felt a bit irritated with their biological father.

How could that man be so heartless and not want these sensible and adorable children?

At the same time, a sense of guilt washed over him, thinking that he was the reason for the triplets' unhappiness.

He sighed, gently patted the heads of the triplets, and spoke in a soft voice.

"I will make time to accompany you this weekend."

Upon hearing his promise, the triplets lifted their heads one by one, their faces filled with surprise.

"Really?" search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

As if afraid they were imagining things, Sammy quickly sought confirmation, "Uncle Jean, are you really willing to go with us?"

He then pretended to hesitate, "If it's too much trouble, you don't need to go, Uncle Jean. Don't worry about us."

Jean rubbed his little nose, his voice growing even gentler, "I'm not reluctant at all."

The triplets could not contain their joy and cheered.

When Neera finished preparing the medicine and came out of the kitchen, she could not help but be puzzled by the commotion.

"Why are all of you so happy?"

The triplets beamed and replied immediately, "Uncle Jean promised to go to Universal Studios with us! Mommy, let's go this weekend!"

Neera was momentarily taken aback by their words, her first thought was that her mischievous little trio must have been up to something again.

However, as she looked at Jean, it appeared that he had no reluctance, so she simply pursed her lips and let them go.

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Chapter 171

After the triplets had visited a little more with Jean, Neera decided they had stayed long enough. She informed them that they needed to go home and finish their school work.

The three children agreed obediently and took their leave of Jean after bidding him farewell. However, as soon as they got back and into the study, they clustered together and began discussing their trip to Universal Studios that weekend.

Everything they planned was targeted toward furthering the budding relationship between Jean and their mother.

Meanwhile, Neera had remained at Jean's place so she could prepare to give him another injection.

The severity of his manic attack yesterday meant that one single injection would be insufficient to cure him; it would take three consecutive days of treatment to see any improvement in his condition.

As Neera was getting things ready, Frederic and Wrenn showed up unexpectedly, having only just found out earlier about Jean's condition flaring up again. Worried, they had hurried over to check on their son.

They had initially anticipated that Jean would be lethargic and listless. However, they were very surprised to see him decently energetic and in good spirits.

"Mom, Dad, I'm fine. You really didn't need to rush over here, you know."

The Beauvorts looked thoroughly confused. They scrutinized him from head to toe but eventually owned themselves at a loss.

"You seem to be in better shape than you used to be after one of your attacks. What happened?"

Ian smiled faintly and explained what had happened yesterday.

Frederic and Wrenn were left even more confused once they found out that Jean's improved condition was due to Neera's skillful treatment. All along, they had thought their daughter-in-law was little more than a pretty face, good for nothing except to perhaps usher in some luck and good fortune for the family. However, it now appeared that she was genuinely skilled and very competent.

Wrenn, in particular, felt rather conflicted because right from the start, she had been extremely dissatisfied with Neera as a daughter-in-law. However, after lan had related the events of yesterday, she felt slightly better disposed toward Neera and gave her a rare look of approval.

"You must have had your hands full last night looking after Jean. Thank you for taking such good care of him." SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

With her in-laws present, Neera had to at least put on a show of being a dutiful wife. With a faint smile, she murmured, "It's not a big deal, truly it isn't. After all, he's my husband..."

She could not very well leave now that Frederic and Wrenn were here. As far as Jean's parents were concerned, she and Jean were officially married. If they were to discover that Neera and their son lived apart from each other in separate abodes, there would be no end of a fuss.

As a result, she had no choice but to stay on.

Jean did not say anything either. He sat down to play a game of chess with his father, intending to politely usher his parents out of the house after that.

However, it seemed as if fate had other ideas because it suddenly began to rain.

Frederic immediately grew anxious over Jean's welfare. "Weren't you always prone to having one of your attacks whenever the weather turned dull and rainy? How are you feeling now? Are there any signs of discomfort? You just had an attack yesterday; what if your condition flares up again tonight?"

Jean raised his brows, glancing at Neera. She immediately took the hint and responded, "Please don't worry, Mr. and Mrs. Beauvort. I've just given him another injection and some more medication. He'll be fine."

Frederic and Wrenn could not stop worrying, nonetheless. They had seen what Jean was like in the past when his condition recurred. Even though they did not say it, they were genuinely afraid that their son might die if the attacks were serious enough.

They could not bear the thought of losing Jean, and their anxiety made them insist on spending the night under his roof.

"Since it's raining so hard now, we'll just stay overnight. Then at least if anything happens, you won't be the only one here to see to him, Neera," Frederic said.

Wrenn chimed in as well, "Yes, yes, that's right. You spent the night looking after him, so I'm sure you didn't get a good sleep at all. If you keep this up, you'll fall sick as well, and that would never do!"

Neera felt like screaming. On her wedding night, she had been unable to leave because these two meddlesome old folks had insisted on staying. Now they were doing the same thing again!

Unfortunately, this also meant that she and Jean would have to spend the night together in the same room...

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Chapter 172

Jean was aware that the situation was making Neera feel awkward. Noticing how uncomfortable she looked, he decided that he would make some excuse to send his parents on their way.

However, before he could say anything, Frederic stalled him, looking unhappy. "Please don't try to change our minds. You know how distressed your mother and I get when your condition flares up; we can't stop worrying. We'll stay just to make sure everything is alright. If nothing happens tonight and you're okay, we'll go home tomorrow."

In the face of this, Jean had no choice but to swallow his words and let the matter rest.

Once Neera and Jean went back to the bedroom, they stared at each other awkwardly, completely at a loss for words.

Neera broke the long silence. "I understand we've got to at least act as if we're husband and wife on occasion, and I have no problems with that. But we can't...do this all the time, you know."

Jean pursed his lips wryly. "I'm sorry about this. My parents only visit on rare occasions; they won't always show up to keep an eye on us. Regardless, I'm afraid you'll be somewhat inconvenienced tonight. You can take the bed."

Neera felt so exasperated she could scream. The issue wasn't who slept on the bed and who slept on the floor! Both of them were in a sham marriage; sleeping together like this in the same room made it seem as if they were truly husband and wife after all...

Nonetheless, desperate times required desperate measures. This situation had been forced upon them; she had no choice but to continue playing her part.

In resignation, she called the triplets to inform them what was going on.

"Mommy's not going to be back till much later tonight. The three of you go to bed first and don't wait up for me. I'll say goodnight now, alright? Be good."

When the three children heard this, they were delighted. "Oh, that's great! It's fine, Mommy! You don't need to worry about us, we'll go to bed like good little kids. You just take care of Uncle Jean; it's fine if you're not able to come home tonight!" With that, they hurriedly hung up, afraid that Neera would regret her decision.

Neera stared at the phone blankly. Why did she get the feeling that those three little rascals didn't want her to go home?

Once the call ended, she recalled what she had been intending to do before the Beauvorts interrupted the proceedings. "I need to give you a second injection, so brace yourself for a bit. Since your condition just flared up last night, you might still feel considerable discomfort after your medication. I'll increase the dosage, but for best results, I'll also need to do some therapeutic massage to increase your blood circulation. It might be uncomfortable, so just bear with it for a while, okay?"

Jean nodded. "That's fine." He stripped and lay face down on the bed so Neera could treat him.

Since the injection dosage had been increased, the risks of adverse reactions were also higher. Neera was extra alert and cautious; as the massage progressed, she constantly checked on how Jean was feeling. "Does it hurt if I do this?"

Jean's face was half-buried in the pillow; his voice was muffled but he seemed to be bearing up under whatever discomfort he might be experiencing. "It's fine, go ahead. I can take it."

His voice, already deep at the best of times, was now even lower and slightly gravelly, his breathing a little strained and unsteady.

All this while, the bedroom door had been unlocked.

Frederic and Wrenn stood outside the threshold, rooted to the spot in shock. They had come to check on Jean but now felt as if they had inadvertently intruded into an awkward situation.

After a while, both parents exchanged glances, then stole back to the guest room, feeling slightly resentful and put out. Frederic could not help contrasting his son's day-to-day aloof, reserved behavior with this sudden unexpected display of blatant indecency...

Jean was unaware that his parents had completely misunderstood what was going on. By the time his treatment was done, he was covered in sweat, and his face was pale. Neera gave him a pill to take, then sent him to the bathroom with a sachet of herbs, instructing him to take a herbal bath in the tub for a specific amount of time.

Jean did as she asked. He emerged from the bathroom only when the time was up, his hair still damp. He had put on a dressing gown which gaped slightly at the neck, revealing a glimpse of his lean, muscled chest.

Try as Neera might, she could not keep her eyes off him. There was something irresistibly alluring and sensual about Jean currently, and she found herself eyeing him with interest for a moment... S~EaRch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Jean began toweling his hair dry. Glancing at Neera, he commented, "You can go take a bath now."

Neera hesitated but did not budge. "I don't have a change of clothes."

At this hour, Zuniga was likely asleep; she could not very well go back and wake her up just to get some clothes.

Jean blinked. "Well, you can bring a few outfits by next time and leave them here, just in case you need them in the future."

Neera pursed her lips slightly in a moue of disapproval. "Your parents are already asleep by now; I can leave, right?"

Jean shook his head. "I think you'd better stay. Knowing them, they'll come by sometime again tonight to see how I am. If you're not here, that'll be difficult for me to explain away."

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Chapter 173

Neera was speechless. I can't be wearing Jean's robes again, right?

It was as if Jean heard her thoughts and walked over to the wardrobe quietly. He then took a black shirt and handed it to her. "Just make do and wear this tonight." SEARCH The website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera looked at the clothes and felt speechless. What's with all this...

Their marriage was only an act, but why did it seem like they had done it all now?

Neera gave up as she took the shirt and walked into the bathroom.

At first, Jean did not think much about it. However, when Neera came out in the shirt, he was taken aback.

Although Neera was not short, she was considered petite compared to Jean. This caused the black shirt to look extra long on her as it reached her thighs. It felt like she was wearing a boyfriend's shirt.

Her long, slim legs were exposed, making her look seductive...

Jean felt his throat turn dry as he thought that letting Neera wear this shirt was a serious mistake. However, he could no longer correct this mistake.

He could only retract his gaze and say in a low voice, "It's getting late, so get to bed."

For some reason, Neera thought that the atmosphere felt weird. She then pointed at the bed and suggested, "You can sleep on the bed. In your situation, it's better not to sleep on the couch in case any problems arise tomorrow. Besides, I don't like fighting for the bed with a patient."

She walked toward the couch as she spoke and sat down on it without waiting for Jean's reply.

Then, they did not say anything else and lay down.

However... Jean could not fall asleep.

For some reason, it was as if he was processed as his mind was filled with the previous scene. He even felt his adrenaline flowing.

Upon noticing his strange thoughts, he frowned.

It was chaos when he and Neera fell into the bathtub together last time, so he could still blame her if he lost control and accidentally touched her. However, why was he like this when he had only taken a look at her?

He had always thought he had good self-control and could endure it. Yet, why had he been losing control when it came to this woman?

As he was in puzzlement, Neera tossed and turned on the couch, unable to fall asleep.

She had always been straightforward and would not be petty with trivial matters. However, she had been having an indescribable, weird feeling in her heart.

Thinking about the man's gaze, she felt her heart itch.

In the past, it would be impossible for a man to stay in the same room as her. However, ever since she met Jean, all kinds of incredible things happened one after another.

This man must be a jinx to her!

Neera kept comforting herself to prevent herself from overthinking. She gradually calmed down and finally fell asleep.

On the other hand, Jean still could not sleep. When he heard the steady breathing coming from the other side, he could not help but sigh.

This woman was really bold! After all, although she was alone at night with a man with normal needs, she could still sleep this well!

Jean had always been a light sleeper, so he would wake up easily if there was any noise.

At midnight, Jean heard faint knocks on the door and immediately woke up. He then walked toward the door to check it out...

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Chapter 174

It was Frederic and Wrenn outside.

They were worried about their son's health, so they could not sleep well and decided to visit.

Seeing Jean standing before them, they let out a sigh of relief.

"It's good that you're fine. We were worried that something would happen, so we came over. Luckily, you didn't have another attack. It seems like what Neera said was true..."

Jean sighed in his heart when he saw the two elder's concerned expressions even though they were obviously tired.

"I'm fine. You don't have to worry, so get back to rest."

Frederic and Wenn nodded without saying anything else and returned to their room.

After they left, Jean also went back to the room.

As he was walking to the bed, he saw Neera turn around and causing the blanket on her to fall to the ground. Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera was sleeping on her side, and her long legs fell into Jean's gaze again. Jean only took a glance before quickly looking away. He walked over slowly to pick up the blanket and cover her with it again.

Neera seemed to have noticed someone had approached her, so she subconsciously curled her body while trying to pull the blanket. She accidentally held on to Jean's pajamas but did not notice it.

Jean thought it was weirdly funny, so he stopped and stared at her for a while.

She slept so soundly and defenselessly that it created a great contrast with her skillful self during the day.

Jean could not help to poke her cheek... Immediately, he was shocked by his own actions! How could he do such a thing? He then quickly retracted his hand and gently pulled away her fingers, which were tugging on his clothes.

After that, he turned around and went back to bed.

Jean could not sleep for the rest of the night because of that soft touch...

The next morning, Neera noticed a set of clean clothes on the couch when she woke up.

Jean had woken up and finished washing up. When he walked out of the bathroom, he saw her staring at the set of clothes in a daze. It was clear that she had only woken up and did not know what was going on, so he explained, "You said you didn't have clean clothes, right? I asked Ian to ask Auntie Zuniga to prepare them. Wear them to meet my parents later. They won't suspect anything."

"....Oh." Only then did Neera nod, take the clothes, and go to the bathroom to wash up.

Jean waited for her. Once she was done dressing up, he brought her downstairs.

However, it seemed like the elders were not around.

Jean asked Richard, "Where are my parents? Did they leave?"

"No, they went for a walk and haven't returned yet. Breakfast is ready, so you can have breakfast once they're back," Richard answered truthfully.

Upon hearing his words, Jean replied indifferently, "Then we'll wait for them to return and have breakfast together."

Naturally, Neera did not have any objections.

Although Frederic and Wrenn had gone out for a walk, they only walked around the villa area, so they had not gone far.

The greenery inside the Imperial Gardens was not bad and could compare with larger parks.

It had been raining for two consecutive days, and it was finally sunny today. The air was also really fresh. Frederic and Wrenn had woken up early and had nothing to do, so they decided to take a walk.

As they walk across a cobblestone path on their way back, Wrenn slipped and fell.

"Ouch..." Wrenn exclaimed.

It was not a light fall, and it caused Wrenn to sprain her foot. Moreover, when she rested her arm on the ground, it was scraped by a sharp stone and bled.

Frederic was shocked and quickly helped her to rest at a gazebo nearby.

He then took out his handkerchief to cover her wound while frowning. "Does it hurt?"

Wrenn's expression did not look good, but she endured the pain and shook her head. "I'm fine. We'll deal with it when we're back."

Frederic disagreed. "How are you going to walk when you're injured? You'll only worsen your injury. Don't move, we should stop the bleeding first..."

Not far away, Neera's three kids were walking around with Zuniga.

Upon seeing this scene, the triplets were shocked and looked at each other. Then, they immediately went over.

They said cutely with a concerned expression, "Grandma, are you okay?"

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Chapter 175

The triplets' appearance surprised Frederic and Wrenn.

They looked at the children and soon shook their heads.

"I'm fine. I just slipped and fell, so my foot was sprained....."

Penny frowned and was worried as she stared at Wrenn's injury. "How are you fine? Grandma, you're bleeding, so you need to disinfect it and apply medicine quickly. Otherwise, the wound can get infected easily!"

Wrenn did not expect this little girl to know so much, so she could not help but smile gently. "You're such a good little girl. You're so pretty too!" Wrenn could not help but praise. Then, she looked at the other two kids, seemingly liking them too.

"Are they triplets?" Wrenn asked Zuniga.

Zuniga smiled and nodded. "Yes."

Wrenn was a little envious as she exclaimed, "They all look so good! Whose children are they? They must be lucky!"

When the triplets heard her praise, they thought inside, "We're a family..."

Even Frederic seemed to like the triplets. "I haven't seen such good-looking triplets in a long time! Look at their eyes! They're perfect! Their parents' genes must be great!"

Sammy was a little excited and said with a smile, "Grandpa, thank you for the praise. You look good too! You must be really handsome when you were young! You still look imposing now!"

After praising Frederic, he praised Wrenn, "And Grandma, you're still beautiful now! Those that don't know would think you're still a young woman!"

Sammy's sweet words made Wrenn delighted. She even thought in her heart that it would be great if this child were their family...

Then, Penny quickly said, "Grandma, you need to deal with this injury quickly! Let me help you! My house is nearby, so I'll ask Auntie Zuniga to return home and get the medicine. You can go back home after I apply some medicine on you."

Seeing the little girl still worried about her injury, Wrenn was taken aback, but she refused with a gentle smile. "I'm fine. My son's house is nearby, so I can deal with it when I return."

However, Penny still insisted to help and said, "No! You can't walk around recklessly in this state. Otherwise, it'll be hard for you to recover!"

Then, she looked toward Zuniga and said, "Auntie Zuniga, can you bring the first-aid kit over?"

Zuniga immediately said, "I'll return to get it immediately." SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Without waiting for Wrenn to react, Zuniga quickly left.

Wrenn and Frederic could not make her return, so they could only accept it and thank the triplets.

The triplets waved their hands. "Grandpa, Grandma, you're welcome. This is what we should do. Our mom said it's good to lend a helping hand and try our best to help others..."

They were actually very happy in their hearts. To be able to meet their biological grandparents and talk to them was delightful!

They held in their excitement and continued talking to Frederic and Wrenn.

Zuniga soon returned.

Penny searched for the things she needed and took them out. She then stepped forward and said, "Grandma, let me help you bandage your wound."

Frederic and Wrenn were shocked. "... You?"

"Mmhm!" Penny nodded confidently. "Grandma, don't worry. I have the experience."

Wrenn looked at her suspiciously, unable to imagine how such a little kid would have the experience. She subconsciously looked toward Zuniga.

Zuniga smiled and explained, "My boss is a doctor, so Penny does have some knowledge. Why don't you let her try?"

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Chapter 176

Wrenn was even more surprised after hearing that. She could not imagine how a barely 5-year-old child could know how to bandage someone. However, she did not refuse Penny's help even though she could not believe it.

Penny was happy and immediately went to Wrenn's side. She disinfected Wrenn's wound, applied some medicine, and bandaged it skillfully.

Then, she squatted, sprayed some medicine on Wrenn's sprained ankle, and gently massaged it. Although she did not use much strength, her movements were refined, and one could easily tell she was experienced.

Frederic and Wrenn were shocked by the skillful, clean process.

This child is amazing! Whose child is she? How did they teach her so well?

Sammy could tell that the two elderly were shocked, and his eyes lit up. He took the chance to explain, "Actually, my sister's specialty is injections. These are a piece of cake!"

After the elders heard his words, they were even more amazed. Who knew this little girl would be so skillful at such a young age?

They could not help but praise Penny, "You're amazing! You'll definitely become a great doctor in the future."

Penny smiled shyly and blushed. It seemed like she was genuinely happy.

After a while, she said, "I'm done. Grandma, you need to rest for a few days, and you'll recover!"

Wrenn looked at her bandaged wound, and her eyes were filled with joy. "Thank you, you're amazing!" SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Penny smiled sweetly and gave some medicine to Wrenn. "Grandma, when you return, you have to spray this medicine a few times every day and massage your ankle. It'll help with your recovery." Wrenn took the medicine and gently said, "Alright, I'll do as you say."

It was almost time for the triplets to go to kindergarten, so after they bid farewell to Frederic and Wrenn, Zuniga brought them back.

Frederic and Wrenn watched as they left. Then, Frederic looked away reluctantly and said, "Did you notice that the triplets' eyes looked a lot like Jean's when he was little?"

Once he mentioned that, Wrenn was taken aback and realized it was indeed the case.

However, she did not think they would be related to her child. After all, she understood her son well. He had never been close to women, so how could he have children?

Wrenn let out a helpless sigh. "I know you want grandchildren, but we're not blessed with them, so don't think about it. My only wish is for Jean to continue living in peace and stop suffering from his illness... I'll be satisfied with that."

Frederic was the same. Although he felt regretful, he still nodded. "That's true. Alright, let's not talk about this anymore and go home."

Wrenn nodded and allowed him to help her walk back home.

When the triplets were back home, they were still excited and continued talking about their grandparents.

"Grandpa is so kind, and Grandma looks pretty too. It'll be great if we can get in touch with them more often in the future!"

"Yes! When can we officially introduce ourselves? I really want to tell them we're related and are a family. Then, we'll really have grandparents!"

Harvey was the most sensible one and said seriously, "We shouldn't think too far ahead for now. Let's take it slowly and let Daddy and Mommy like each other first, then the rest won't be a problem!"

Once Sammy and Penny heard his words, they agreed and dismissed their thoughts.

Soon, Frederic and Wrenn returned home.

Jean realized Wrenn's walking was strange, so he immediately noticed her ankle was injured.

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Chapter 177

Jean frowned and immediately stepped forward to ask, "What happened? Mom, why are you injured?"

He only understood the situation after Frederic explained it briefly.

"Is it serious? Why don't I send you to the hospital?" Jean frowned and asked in concern.

Wrenn refused, "No need. It's only a sprain, so it's not that serious. My wound has been bandaged too."

Frederic also nodded and seemed to be in a good mood. "We met three cute kids at the gazebo. They were triplets, and among them, there was a little girl with some medical knowledge. She sprayed some medicine on your mom's sprain and even massaged it. She even gave us the medicine."

After Frederic finished speaking, Wrenn let Jean see the spray in her hands.

"That little girl is really skillful. She only massaged me a little, but I could already feel that the pain has eased up a lot."

Neera listened from the side and raised an eyebrow. She had some guesses in her heart. Moreover, seeing that the spray was from her house, she was even more sure that the three kids they met were her children. She did not expect them to meet each other...

Due to her identity as a doctor, Neera took the initiative to step forward. "Let me have a look."

Wrenn nodded indifferently.

Soon, Neera went over and squatted to massage Wrenn's swollen ankle a little. Finally, she confirmed that it was only a sprain. "Luckily, it's not a serious injury. You can use the medicine you have. You'll recover after spraying it for two days."

Wrenn nodded after hearing her words. Frederic and Jean also let out a sigh of relief. "It's all good as long as you're fine. Mom, you should be more careful."

After saying that, Jean continued, "It's getting late, so let's have breakfast first. After we're done, I'll ask the driver to send you back."

Wrenn said, "There's no rush. Since we're here, let's take this chance to teach Neera the etiquette and rules of the Beauvort family. I've contacted the etiquette teacher, and she'll be here in an hour."

Neera did not expect this and was taken aback. She frowned slightly and gave Jean a look. It was obvious that she was trying to hint Jean to help her.

Jean immediately helped her and said, "Mom, Neera had only joined the family for a few days, so there's no need to rush. Let's take it slow. Later on.....'

However, before he could finish speaking, Wrenn interrupted him. "Take it slow? She'll need to learn it sooner or later. There's no escape. She'll be in contact with people in the family in the future, so she can't insult the elders like in the past, right? Wouldn't that make it seem like our family is too unruly?"

Upon hearing her words, Neera felt speechless and wished she could leave immediately.

However, Jean had given her such a large reward, so wouldn't it be immoral for her to leave now?

Moreover, 1.3 billion dollars was a lot of money! S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

After considering the pros and cons, Neera endured it and agreed obediently. "Don't worry, I'll do my best."

Seeing that her attitude was not bad, Wrenn nodded in satisfaction. "It's good that you understand."

Things were then settled.

After breakfast, Jean was forced to go upstairs and rest by Wrenn while Frederic went to the study. Only Neera was left with Wrenn.

The atmosphere was a little tense as Wrenn looked at Neera with a sharp gaze and stern expression. "Before the etiquette teacher comes over, I'll explain the Beauvort family's rules. Listen carefully, and make sure to correct any shortcomings you have."

Neera was calm as she nodded and said, "Alright, please explain the rules."

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Chapter 178

Soon, Wrenn explained the rules one by one. They were so detailed that it could make one's head hurt.

For example, as a wife within the Beauvort family, she had to always pay attention to her words and actions, and her behavior must be elegant, reserved, and polite. She must never embarrass her husband or do anything that would ruin the Beauvort family's reputation.

"Since you've married into the Beauvort family, you're now part of the family. Although we're not some conservative family, we need to follow our principles. You must be self-disciplined and not do anything bad. Moreover, not only do you have to behave properly, but you also need to be careful when making friends..." Wrenn spoke continuously as if the rules were never ending.

Neera felt as if her brain was going to explore.

It was no wonder the Beauvort family was the most prosperous family in Kingsview. The rules were outrageous!

Moreover, Wrenn was indirectly warning her about her past behaviors, as if she was afraid Neera would not follow the rules, affecting Jean and the Beauvort family.

Normally, she would have flared up and left instead of listening obediently. Even her biological aunt would not ask her for this much!

However, thinking of her contract with Jean and her promise to cooperate with his act, Neera took a deep breath and continued to endure it. Isn't it only an act? Who wouldn't know how to do it?!

As for what Wrenn said, she did not have to take them seriously.

Neera comforted herself, and once Wrenn finally stopped speaking, she replied obediently, "Don't worry, I'll keep them in mind......"

As they finished speaking, the etiquette teacher also arrived. She was an elegant middle-aged woman, and there was a young lady with her.

Once they met, Neera was surprised to see that the young lady was someone she knew. It was the female celebrity that Levi recommended her yesterday, Kyra Marks!

After they settled down, they smiled and greeted Wrenn.

"Wrenn, it's been a long time since we met!"

"Aunt Wrenn, you've become even more beautiful." S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Wrenn was delighted to hear Kyra's compliment, and she immediately smiled and nodded. "Your words are sweet as ever! How are you free today to accompany your mom?"

Kyra was gentle and soft-spoken as she replied, "We're not filming these two days, so I went back home. I heard from my mom that she's going to see you, so I came along too."

Wrenn seemed to like her a lot as she pulled her over gently and chatted with her.

After a while, she only introduced Neera to Kyra's mother, Dandy. "This is Jean's wife, Neera. I'll leave her to you from now on."

Neera nodded politely.

Kyra followed and came over to take a look too. However, her smile faded a little as she secretly observed Neera.

"

She had long heard about Jean's marriage and even investigated Neera. When she learned about awful Neera was in the past, she secretly felt contemptuous.

Today, she came to look down on Neera. However, she did not expect Neera to look better than she thought, and she could even be considered stunning! Even Kyra seemed to be overwhelmed by Neera's beauty...

She felt unsatisfied. It was a pity that this beauty belonged to such an unreputable woman. Moreover, how could this woman be suitable for Jean?!

Upon thinking of Jean, Kyra could not hold in the feelings in her heart.

Her mother had known Wrenn for years, so she also considered herself to be Jean's childhood friend and had liked him since she was little.

She had planned to marry him when she grew up, but who knew that Jean's health would become so bad? This was also why Frederic arranged such a wife for him, causing Kyra to lose her chance.

Kyra was unsatisfied with this result and had always thought Frederic's decision was outrageous.

She did not want to give up on Jean, so she came here this time to try to gain his attention. Of course, it was also to meet this woman...

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Chapter 179

"Ms. Garcia, nice to meet you. I am Kyra," said Kyra with a smile, withdrawing the scrutinizing look in her eyes and maintaining a polite and graceful demeanor.

However, Neera keenly sensed that Kyra's eyes were filled with coldness, and her smile seemed insincere, merely pretending to be friendly. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera raised an eyebrow but didn't pay much attention, responding as if she hadn't noticed anything.

After the initial greetings, Dandy went straight to the point, "There are many etiquettes to be taught. To save time, why don't we start right away?"

Wrenn had no objections, "Sure, you can go to the activity room, and I'll have a chat with Kyra."

Neera nodded obediently and followed Dandy to the activity room.

After closing the door, only the two of them remained in the room.

Dandy turned around, her gaze now appraising Neera with disdain.

"Neera, I've heard about your background. You grew up in the countryside and were eventually taken in by the Garcia family. But not long after, due to your improper private life, you were expelled from the family and had to flee abroad to escape the scandal, am I right?"

Neera had expected this confrontation, given Kyra's hostility. So, she wasn't surprised by the change in the woman's demeanor and simply responded with a wry smile.

"Part of it is true, and part of it is not, Mrs. Marks. Rumors are the folly of fools. Some idle talk should be ignored and not taken seriously."

Dandy dismissed Neera's explanation with a cold sneer, her disdainful expression intensifying.

"Marriage to Jean with your background is the result of extraordinary luck. However, virtue must match status, or there will be calamities. To fit into high society, I will be quite strict with you. I hope you can learn properly!"

She crossed her arms and leisurely paced around Neera.

"To succeed in blending into the upper class, you not only need to master basic etiquette but also various other forms like verbal etiquette, table manners, social etiquette, and so on. I see that your physique is decent enough, so let's start with body language. In the future, you will inevitably accompany Jean to various events and banquets. Learning proper body language will enhance your aura, and that's crucial."

Having spoken, she turned and went to the bookshelf, taking out a thick hardcover book.

"Now, put this book on your head, raise your chin and chest, keep your hands level, and make sure to raise your neck high. Maintain this posture and don't move for an hour. This will help your body develop muscle memory."

Neera thought she would be learning something significant, so she was about to walk away upon hearing this request. She couldn't believe she was wasting time on such nonsense.

She furrowed her brow.

•••

Dandy noticed her reaction and immediately questioned coldly, "What's the matter? Don't want to learn?"

Well, that's obvious! Who would want to learn something like this?

Neera couldn't help but grumble inwardly.

However, as things had come to this point, she didn't like breaking promises to others, nor did she want to give up halfway. So she gritted her teeth and decided to endure it and do as instructed.

Satisfied with Neera's compliance, Dandy dragged a chair and sat behind her, keeping a watchful eye.

After about fifteen minutes, Neera felt as if she had the weight of the world on her head, and her whole body was becoming extremely sore.

This position was simply too exhausting, and she couldn't bear it, involuntarily swaying slightly.

Suddenly came a loud "smack" sound.

Her back was fiercely whipped by something!

The pain spread across her back, giving her the illusion that her skin was about to split open.

She stumbled and the book on her head fell to the ground. When she turned back in astonishment, she saw that Dandy had somehow acquired a long object resembling a ruler in her hand!!

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Chapter 180

Neera's expression suddenly turned dark, and her tone lost all politeness as she angrily questioned, "What are you doing?"

Dandy, however, acted as if nothing was wrong and sneered, "Naturally, I'm correcting your posture."

With a righteous tone, she accused, "You can't even endure for such a short time. You're truly useless! Start over! When you can hold on for an hour, then it will be over!" Upon hearing this, Neera exploded.

Previously, she could tolerate it because of her contract with Jean.

But now, asking her to endure further was simply impossible!

This old woman was really ruthless, hitting her back hard, causing a burning pain that seared into her bones. It was clear that it was intentional!

Even if her posture was incorrect, couldn't she tell her how to correct herself? Did she have to resort to such harsh measures?

Right then, Neera narrowed her eyes, a hint of coldness in her gaze as she examined Dandy.

"You did it on purpose, didn't you?" Her lips parted slightly, her tone icy.

Indeed, Dandy did it deliberately. She intended to take this opportunity to teach Neera a harsh lesson!

Forming an alliance with the Beauvort family was a tremendous opportunity. She had always planned to marry her precious daughter into the family! The position of the Beauvort family's young lady was reserved solely for her daughter.

But unexpectedly, it was snatched away by this woman who wasn't even worthy of standing on the same stage!

Kyra couldn't accept it; she was just as unwilling!

So, since arriving, she had been deliberately making things difficult, and just now, she had struck hard.

At the same time, she believed that even if this woman couldn't bear the humiliation and ran to complain to Wrenn, Wrenn wouldn't believe her and would side with her!

However, she would never admit that in case Neera would use it to against her.

"You're talking nonsense!"

She feigned anger and scolded, "I did it to correct your posture. Don't misunderstand my good intentions! Moreover, if you can't even handle such a setback, how can you qualify to stand by Jean's side?"

Seeing this woman acting so well, even better than her daughter, Neera gritted her teeth and accumulated a deep anger between her brows.

Did she really think I am an easy target? A thing relying on others' power dared to take advantage of the situation and strike! Ha! No way!

The rage surged within her, and she retorted with sharp words.

"With your actions, you dare to claim good intentions? Judging by how hard you struck, I'm afraid you know nothing about personal morality. I don't think you deserve to be called an etiquette teacher; you are an insult to this profession and unworthy of it!"

Dandy hadn't expected Neera to directly insult her like this. Her expression immediately turned unpleasant, her face as red as a beet.

"What did you say? Is this how the Beauvort family's young lady should speak? Do you have any manners at all?"

Neera sneered, "Of course, I have manners, but it depends on who I'm dealing with. For someone like you, who don't deserve any respect at all, why should I bother talking about manners with you?"

Dandy had never been so openly challenged by anyone before. She was so angry that her eyes widened.

"You... You have no sense of propriety! Since that's the case, then I won't teach you anymore. I'll go and tell Wrenn the truth and have her find someone more capable!"

"Go ahead! I don't care!"

Neera showed no intention of stopping her. "With your current appearance, if you go out now, you'll probably scare people away!"

Thinking that she was mocking her again, Dandy asked angrily, "What do you mean? Are you saying I'm ugly?"

"Just showing some self-awareness."

Neera chuckled coldly.

Dandy couldn't stand her expression and felt the urge to tear her face off.

At that moment, she suddenly felt her skin itching and subconsciously reached up to touch it.

Unexpectedly, the feeling didn't subside but grew stronger. It was as if countless tiny ants were crawling under her skin...

After a while, a large number of small bumps appeared on her face!

Only then did she realize that something was wrong and was frightened. She quickly took out a mirror from her bag and took a look.

In the next second, her pupils contracted as she was terrified by her own appearance. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Her carefully maintained face was almost entirely covered in bumps, looking extremely horrifying!

She was so scared that her courage shattered, and she let out a scream that could almost lift the roof!

"Ah-!!"

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Chapter 181

"My face! How could my face be like this, how..."

She didn't know whom she was asking, sounding as if she had lost her sanity, her voice hoarse with anger.

Outside, Kyra and Wrenn were alarmed and quickly rushed in, puzzled as they asked, "What happened?"

As soon as they spoke, they saw the wretched state of Dandy's face and were also frightened, taking a couple of steps back in shock.

"What... what's going on? Everything was fine, and now your face is covered in bumps?"

Wrenn was somewhat afraid, hesitating to approach, yet still had to inquire about the situation.

Dandy shook her head fiercely, looking ferocious, "I don't know. I was perfectly fine, and then suddenly... my face..."

"Calm down, Mom."

Kyra tried to console her instinctively, but seeing the terrifying bumps on her mother's face made her shudder as well.

Could this be contagious?

After being comforted a bit, Dandy regained some composure and seemed to recall something. She glared at Neera with anger, as if wanting to devour her.

"Was it you? Did you do this? You ruined my face like this! Neera, you're heartless!"

While Neera was accused without hesitation, she sneered inwardly but showed astonishment on her face.

"It wasn't me! It has nothing to do with me! I was just leaning against the bookshelf, not moving, and with my back turned to you. How could I do anything to you? Besides, this is the first time we've met today... Your accusation is too much! I was just standing there normally until two minutes ago when I accidentally shifted my posture. I didn't do anything to harm you. How can you slander me like this?"

Wasn't it just acting? Anyone could do it!

Upon hearing this, Dandy became even more enraged, and her blood rushed to her head.

Her intuition told her that Neera must have done something to cause her face to become like this.

Yet, this woman was acting all innocent and wronged, making it seem like she had suffered a terrible injustice, leaving Dandy speechless for a moment.

Jean was also drawn by the commotion and arrived on the scene. Seeing this, he calmly spoke, "It seems like you might be having an allergic reaction. Let's go to the hospital and get it checked to see what's going on."

Kyra, fearing her mother's condition worsening, quickly nodded in agreement, "Yes, Mom, let's go to the hospital. Your face... it's getting worse, and we can't delay it any longer!"

Wrenn joined in the persuasion, "Right! Dandy, hurry to the hospital. The doctor can figure out if it's an allergy, and they can prescribe some medication."

Seeing everyone urging her, Dandy was unwilling but concerned about the potential damage to her face. She could not afford to delay any further and reluctantly nodded...

Soon, Jean arranged for a driver to take the mother and daughter away, and Wrenn went along as well, still worried.

With all the commotion, the etiquette training came to nothing...

Inside the activity room, only Neera and Jean remained.

The audience had left, and Neera stopped acting, putting away the expressions on her face, revealing a hint of coldness. SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Jean glanced around and asked, "Tell me, what really happened?"

Neera looked at him and sensed that he had probably figured it out already. She didn't hide anything and straightforwardly replied, "I sprinkled some powder on her."

Jean immediately furrowed his brows and asked concisely, "Why?"

Neera's gaze did not waver, and she calmly met his eyes, "If I said it was because I didn't want to learn etiquette, would you believe me?"

Jean's brows furrowed even tighter, and he spoke calmly, "I wasn't planning to force you to learn in the first place. I thought of letting you handle it for half an hour, and then I'd come to help you out. But using this method isn't the right thing to do."

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Chapter 182

Neera could tell from his words that he didn't mean to blame her too much; he just disagreed with her actions. Her mood improved slightly.

She didn't want to explain much and simply replied, "At that time, the situation forced me, and I didn't intentionally hurt her. It was her own fault!"

Jean couldn't help but feel puzzled.

What kind of situation could have forced her to resort to such methods?

However, upon second thought, he realized that this woman probably had her own boundaries when it came to actions.

Although they had only known each other for a short while, he knew she wouldn't act recklessly.

So he asked, "Now that you've driven her away, you don't have to keep up with the etiquette lessons. When will her face get better?" SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

To his surprise, Neera replied coldly, "I don't know, it could take three days or even a week."

Throughout the years, no one had ever dared to lay a hand on her, but that old witch had acted ruthlessly.

Her back still hurts terribly even now!

Therefore, the healing of Dandy's allergic reaction on her face depended on how soon her back would heal.

Jean's gaze turned solemn as he heard her response. He furrowed his brow and said, "Neera, you're a doctor. The duty and responsibility of a doctor are to heal and save people. Medicines are meant to help others, not to be used for such purposes. You always resort to such methods to deal with others, do you think it's appropriate?"

He seemed somewhat angry, and his tone was serious.

Neera hesitated for a moment, her expression turning chilly. "I think it's perfectly appropriate."

She became somewhat temperamental and spoke harshly, "I've always repaid kindness and sought revenge for grievances. She struck first, so can't I fight back? Or do you think it would be better if I hit her back instead? In any case, I'll give her the antidote when my back is healed!"

After saying that, she had no intention of staying any longer and turned around with a cold face, ready to leave.

Jean heard her words and was briefly taken aback, but he quickly reacted and immediately held her back.

"You said she hit you? Where did she hit you?"

Neera was annoyed and tried to break free from his grip.

Jean's face darkened, and he held her tighter, placing his hand on her back to restrain her from leaving.

"Where did she hit you? Tell me," he asked again.

Neera was stubborn and didn't want to speak, keeping her face impassive.

In fact, she knew she was being childish.

The fact that Jean didn't expose her in front of Wrenn was enough to show that he was on her side.

But when she heard him ask, "Is this the right thing to do?" anger inexplicably surged within her.

She scolded with a cold face, "Let go! I'm going back!"

Naturally, Jean didn't release his grip; in fact, he tightened it slightly. His hand reached her back, inadvertently touching the wound.

Neera couldn't hold back and let out a muffled groan. Her face turned pale, and her body trembled with pain.

Jean didn't expect her reaction to be so strong; he was startled and only then realized what had happened. His gaze turned even more severe.

"On your back?"

He asked in a deep voice.

Without waiting for Neera's reaction, he suddenly turned her around, not thinking clearly, and pulled open the collar on her back, looking inside.

The next moment, his eyes fell on the long, red scar on her fair back, a shocking sight!

Neera never expected that this man would suddenly act this way; she was completely stunned.

She leaned against Jean's chest, and after more than ten seconds, she finally came to her senses.

A blush crept up her cheeks, feeling both embarrassed and angry. She struggled in his embrace while scolding him.

"Jean! What are you doing? Let go of me! You... you're a troublemaker!"

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Chapter 183

Just a moment ago, Jean was too preoccupied with examining her wound and didn't think much about it. Now, after being scolded by her, he finally realized what he had just done.

Nevertheless, he didn't back off; he still held her firmly, his anger barely concealed.

"Why did she hit you? If you were hit, why didn't you say anything earlier?"

Neera kept her head down, not wanting to look at him.

Seeing her silence, Jean furrowed his brow even tighter, trying to maintain his patience. He reached out and held her chin, forcing her to look up. "Speak up."

This posture made Neera feel even more uncomfortable, so she tilted her head back, avoiding his hand.

Seeing that he was determined to get to the bottom of things, she had no choice but to grit her teeth and answer, "Because my posture wasn't correct!"

Jean's face instantly turned dark, covered in clouds of anger.

He hadn't expected such a ridiculous excuse!

He never imagined that Dandy would resort to such cruelty.

This was clearly just finding fault and making things difficult!

It seemed that every time they met in the past, she had put on a friendly and amiable appearance, but in reality, she had a malicious and deceitful nature behind her back!

Jean felt inexplicably irritated.

Neera noticed that he had just looked at her body and was still holding her tightly. Her face turned red to the roots of her neck.

At this moment, she stomped her foot in anger and found it difficult to speak, but she had to ask sternly, "You've seen enough, haven't you? How long do you plan to hold me like this?"

Jean heard her words and only then realized how close they were, how ambiguous their position was...

He was stunned for a moment before releasing his hold on her waist and taking two steps back, his cold and solemn face showing a hint of apology.

"I'm sorry, this whole situation was caused by me. I should have stopped my mother from teaching you etiquette; then you wouldn't have gotten hurt."

Seeing him apologize proactively, Neera pursed her lips and didn't continue to hold a grudge.

Originally, she thought it was just an ordinary class, but she didn't expect Dandy to pull this kind of stunt.

And ultimately...

It was probably because of Kyra.

Kyra liked Jean, so Dandy targeted her in retaliation!

Thinking of this, Neera suddenly became indignant.

She had suffered this injury for no reason at all!

Now this man was even looking at her body... She was just so unlucky!

She couldn't help but raise her eyes and glare at Jean.

But perhaps due to her embarrassed expression, it seemed to have a hint of coquettishness.

Jean's eyes flickered slightly, and he stopped her again, refusing to let her go.

Neera asked, "What now?"

Seeing that she was about to explode in anger, he lightly lifted his thin lips and said calmly, "Your wound needs to be treated. Let me help you."

Hearing this, Neera couldn't help but feel amused, "What? Do you still want to take advantage of me?"

Jean was momentarily stunned, remembering the beautiful sight he had just seen, his eyes couldn't help but flicker.

However, he maintained a calm demeanor and explained seriously, "Rest assured, I have no such thoughts towards you. Besides, I've already seen it, so there's nothing new to see. And, as you said, doctors don't differentiate between male and female patients, so I'll treat you the same way. Most importantly, your injury was caused by me, so I should take responsibility." S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

What do you mean by "I've already seen it, so there's nothing new to see"...

Neera felt a little awkward hearing this.

She rolled her eyes and grumbled discontentedly, "You're not even a doctor, and I'm not your patient."

"That doesn't matter."

Jean didn't care and persisted, "In any case, let me help you with the medicine. Otherwise, I won't let you go like this. You figure it out."

Neera: "..."

Clearly, she was the one who got injured, but why did he suddenly start threatening her?

Feeling both angry and amused, she couldn't win against this guy and had to compromise.

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Chapter 184

Soon, Jean instructed Ian to fetch the medicine box.

Unaware of what had just transpired, Ian was taken aback when he heard the order and nervously asked, "Sire, are you unwell?"

Jean gave him a cold glance and urged, "It's not for me. Go quickly and don't ask so many questions!"

At that moment, Ian finally sensed that something was amiss between them. Sensing the atmosphere, he wisely refrained from further inquiries and obediently carried out the task.

Once Jean received the medicine box, he closed the door.

"Pull up your clothes."

There was no one else in the room, he said.

Neera pouted, turned away from the man, and lifted the back of her clothes, revealing a large expanse of skin.

At first, she didn't feel anything unusual, but when a cold sensation spread across her back, she started to feel a bit embarrassed...

What on earth possessed her to agree to let this man administer medicine for her?

Wouldn't it have been better to ask Penny for help at home?

Luckily, she had her back turned to Jean at the moment, so he couldn't see her blushing cheeks.

As for Jean...

When he saw the large expanse of Neera's fair skin and the beautifully prominent butterfly bones, he was momentarily entranced.

However, that trance was quickly broken by the long, red mark on her back.

Just by glancing at it through her clothes, he could tell it was severe.

Now, with the wound fully exposed before him, it was almost shocking to behold.

No wonder Neera was angry and threw the medicine powder.

This girl didn't take any loss at all.

But that was fine, it would teach Dandy a lesson!

Soon, Jean began to administer the medicine and whispered, "If it hurts, bear with it."

Neera nodded in a sulky manner, "Mm."

Her agreement was reluctantly given.

However, the wound was really painful. When Jean applied the medicine, he pressed a little too hard, causing her to flinch in pain.

Upon seeing this, Jean hesitated briefly before bending down and gently blowing on her back to ease her discomfort.

The cool breath fell on her back, and for some reason, it felt like an electric current passing through her, causing Neera's whole body to tingle...

Especially when the man's fingertips spread the medicine, the slight touch made her heart inexplicably beat faster. S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

She felt like she might be sick to experience such a strange sensation!

After enduring it for quite a while, she couldn't help asking three times, "Is it done yet?"

At first, Jean didn't pay much attention, but later he noticed that her skin was gradually turning pink, and he raised an eyebrow in surprise.

Could this girl be feeling shy?

A playful thought arose in Jean's mind, and instead of speeding up, he intentionally prolonged the process, leisurely saying, "Not yet."

After tormenting her for a while longer, he finally let her off, "Now it's done."

Hearing this, Neera immediately put her clothes back down.

Jean saw her pretending to be normal while her ears had turned as red as tomatoes, which made him chuckle.

This girl was so cute when she got shy!

Unaware that she had already given herself away, Neera quickly bid farewell and left.

By the time she got home, the triplets had already been sent to school, and she let out a long sigh of relief.

On the other hand, Dandy had been taken to the hospital.

Her face was covered with small red bumps, even on her chin, making her look frightening.

After an examination, the doctor provided a diagnosis.

"It appears to be an allergic reaction, but we haven't identified the allergen yet. It could be dust, pollen, or something else..."

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Chapter 185

Dandy immediately refuted, "That's impossible! I've never had any allergies before. Are you sure your diagnosis is correct?"

The doctor furrowed his brow slightly and replied, "I made the diagnosis based on the symptoms you presented and the results of your examination. Allergies can occur suddenly, even if you haven't experienced them before. And yes, you have allergies now."

Wrenn looked worried and asked, "When can we identify the allergen?"

"It's hard to say. Allergies happen when we come into contact with substances that our bodies don't react well to. The specific allergen varies from person to person. At this point, it's challenging to pinpoint, but you can rest assured that your condition isn't severe. With the right medication, you'll recover in a few days."

Hearing this, Dandy finally relaxed.

After getting their prescribed medication, the three of them quickly returned home.

Before parting ways, Kyra displayed her maturity and warmth as she thanked Wrenn politely, "Aunt Wrenn, thank you for your concern. We originally came to visit you today, but we didn't expect such a thing to happen. You even hurt your foot and made a special trip for us. I'm really sorry..."

Wrenn quickly grabbed her hand and patted it gently, reassuring her in a soft voice, "You don't need to be so polite. Your mom and I have been friends for many years, so I naturally came to check on her."

Kyra smiled, expressing herself gracefully, "Even so, my mom couldn't help you today. As long as you don't mind, next time, I'll accompany my mom to visit you, and we'll have a good chat then!" SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Seeing Kyra's considerate and well-mannered behavior, Wrenn grew fonder of her and nodded in agreement.

After Wrenn left, Kyra and Dandy got into their car.

On their way back, Kyra finally brought up the lingering doubts in her mind, "Mom, what really happened between you and that woman in the activity room? How did it turn out like this? I just can't believe your face could be a simple allergic reaction. I always feel that this incident has something to do with Neera."

Dandy immediately recounted the events, her eyes filled with anger and resentment as she spoke, "That Neera is not to be underestimated! I really underestimated her! Kyra, be careful next time you meet her!"

Kyra furrowed her brows upon hearing this and nodded in response.

•••

Due to her injury, Neera stayed at home and rested.

In the afternoon, Levi sent a WeChat message.

"I sent someone to discuss the collaboration with Kyra yesterday. Today, I received news that she thinks our company isn't a world-class brand and doesn't match her status, so she's not willing to work with us..."

Every time Neera saw Kyra's name, she felt an ominous presence.

Fine, if she doesn't want to work with us, then so be it.

Because of what happened today, she was now quite resentful of Dandy and Kyra.

Dandy was two-faced, and Kyra wasn't an easy person either.

Yesterday, she must have been blind to think that woman was suitable for the collaboration. She would have ruined their company's products!

Thankfully, the collaboration didn't happen; otherwise, she would've been disgusted!

Neera immediately replied to the message, "From now on, don't consider Kyra for any company collaborations. You can contact that other artist; I think he's suitable."

Levi quickly replied with a simple "Okay."

In the evening, Auntie Zuniga went to pick up the triplets.

The triplets ran into the living room with their little backpacks and greeted her with big smiles when they saw her.

"Mommy, you're finally back!"

Neera's mood improved when she saw the triplets, and she smiled as she approached them, giving each of them a kiss on their cheeks.

"Yep, Mommy's back. Did you all behave well at school today?"

Penny nodded eagerly, "Yes! We're always well-behaved every day! Mommy, have Uncle Jean's parents left?"

Neera raised an eyebrow, "Yes, they've left."

Sammy blinked and excitedly shared, "Mommy, this morning, we helped a pretty grandma outside..."

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Chapter 186

Neera listened as they eagerly recounted the events, finding it somewhat amusing, so she told them the truth.

"The person you helped is Uncle Jean's mother."

The triplets pretended not to know, jumping up with joy.

"Really? Then we must have a special connection with Uncle Jean's family!"

Neera's lips curled slightly. SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Whether they had a connection or not, she wasn't sure, but she felt that if things continued like this, she might really get herself into trouble.

She helped the triplets take off their backpacks, and Harvey, sharp-eyed, noticed her actions and seemed a bit unnatural.

"Mommy, are you feeling unwell or injured? Is it serious?"

Taking advantage of his siblings' inattention, he leaned over and quietly held Neera's hand and whispered to her.

Neera was taken aback, not expecting the little guy to be so attentive, and her heart is feeling warmed.

However, she didn't want him to worry, so she downplayed it and replied, "It's nothing, Mommy just accidentally bumped her back and it's a bit sore, not serious, it'll be fine in a couple of days."

In a hushed voice, she added, "Don't tell your siblings about this, Mommy doesn't want them to worry."

The little guy still seemed doubtful.

But seeing that Mommy appeared fine and didn't seem to be lying, he finally relaxed and breathed a sigh of relief.

"Mommy, you must be more careful in the future, don't bump into things, or both me and my siblings will be very worried."

Listening to the little guy's caring advice, Neera was deeply moved and rubbed his little head, "Okay, Mommy will."

In the evening, after the family had dinner, she accompanied the little ones in doing their school craft assignments.

The family chatted and laughed, completing their projects amid joy and laughter.

Around eight o'clock, during the casual conversation, the triplets mentioned Jean.

"Mommy, is Uncle Jean feeling better now? Is he still in pain?"

Neera responded, "He's feeling better now."

Penny smiled and flattered, "Of course, with Mommy's help, any ailment can be cured; there's nothing mommy can't handle!"

Then she blinked her eyes and cleverly changed the subject.

"By the way, now that we've finished our homework, let's go see Uncle Jean together!"

Sammy caught on and immediately chimed in, "That's a great idea! How about we make him a greeting card, wishing him a speedy recovery?"

Penny applauded the suggestion, and Harvey also nodded in agreement.

The triplets discussed how to design the card and then started to work on it, leaving Neera with no say in the matter, just chuckling at their concern for the man next door.

But she knew that even if she tried to stop them, it would be futile, so she decided to let them do as they pleased.

Around nine o'clock, the triplets finally finished the card.

Neera thought she still needed to administer another treatment tonight, so she went along with them to Jean's place.

Once there, the triplets eagerly presented the card they had made to Jean.

"Uncle Jean, we made this ourselves! It carries our family's wishes for you to recover soon and be the healthiest person. We hope you like it!"

Jean was touched by their heartfelt gesture and accepted the card, examining the words and drawings they put into it with great care.

A smile unconsciously appeared on his lips.

His heart felt filled with something he had never experienced before a profound warmth.

"Thank you all; I'll treasure this."

He put it away, handling it as if it were a precious treasure.

The triplets were satisfied to see his reaction.

Knowing that Mommy still had to treat Uncle Jean, they didn't stay long, being considerate, they returned home obediently.

Afterward, Neera and Jean went upstairs to his bedroom.

"How do you feel tonight?"

Pulling out the silver needles, she asked as usual.

Jean replied calmly, "I still feel weak and sore all over, but the pain has subsided."

Neera was somewhat skeptical, "Really? You're not just enduring it again?"

Jean earnestly said, "I'm telling the truth."

That reassured Neera.

Soon, she had Jean lie down, and she began administering the treatment.

Before starting, Jean was still concerned about her injury and asked, "Is your injury okay? If it still hurts, we can skip the treatment tonight."

Neera shook her head, "It's fine. Your treatment can't be interrupted. Don't talk nonsense; lie down properly."

Jean didn't say anything further and obediently followed her instructions...

Two hours later, Neera removed all the needles and wiped the sweat from her forehead.

"Alright, take a medicinal bath as usual, and I'll be heading back now."

She tidied up the silver needles and was about to leave.

However, Jean stopped her, saying, "You haven't applied your medicine yet; apply it before leaving."

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Chapter 187

Upon hearing the words, Neera was taken aback.

This man seemed to genuinely care about her injuries.

However... the scene during the day when this guy applied medicine to her came to her mind. Her face suddenly turned hot, and she immediately waved her hand, refusing firmly, "No need. It's just a minor wound, not serious. I'll take care of it when I go back."

"Your wound is on your back, and it's not convenient for you to apply the medicine yourself." search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"It's fine. I can ask Penny for help."

They both went back and forth, neither willing to give in.

In the end, Jean completely ignored her refusal and spoke with an unwavering tone, "Listen, come over! The situation is because of me, and I should take full responsibility. It's my principle as a person."

Neera, "..."

11

What is this philosophy? Isn't it just applying some medicine? Why is he making it such a big deal!

She was afraid of causing any awkward situation and still wanted to refuse. However, when she met Jean's gaze, the words of refusal on her lips inexplicably swallowed back.

After a brief standoff, she could only walk over, consciously lift her clothes, exposing the injury, and wait for Jean to apply the medicine.

After completing these actions, she belatedly realized and couldn't help but despise herself in her heart...

Had she gotten used to being forced? Why did she obediently comply!!!

Jean was satisfied, brought the ointment over, and gently applied it to her wound.

Both of them remained silent, and the atmosphere in the room still carried a hint of subtle ambiguity.

Neera's skin tingled as Jean's slightly cool fingertips touched it, and a faint pink color resurfaced.

The peculiar feeling from before quietly emerged in her heart again.

Neera felt uneasy all over.

In order not to reveal her emotions, she kept her head half-lowered. Unbeknownst to her, her ears had already turned red.

Jean keenly caught this and couldn't help but pause at the reddened tips of her ears.

Then, his thin lips curved up slightly, and he felt a tingling sensation in his heart.

Unconsciously, he had the urge to reach out and touch them.

Fortunately, he restrained himself...

After applying the ointment properly, Neera hurriedly put down her clothes and hastily said, "Rest early." Then, she ran away without looking back.

Watching her fleeing figure, Jean's eyes twinkled with a hint of amusement...

When Neera returned to the next room, the triplets were already asleep.

Zuniga came out carrying a water glass and happened to see her standing absentmindedly in the living room, feeling a little puzzled.

"Ms. Garcia, what's the matter? Why are you standing here lost in thought?"

Neera snapped back to her senses at the sound, first responded with a blank "Ah," and then her face flushed.

She seemed to have been acting too much lately, which was why she always experienced all sorts of strange feelings.

Until now, she still felt a tingling sensation on her back...

"It's nothing. I was just thinking about work. Auntie Zuniga, please rest early."

After saying that, she went straight upstairs.

The next day, after sending the triplets to school, she went directly to the company.

Levi had already contacted the other male star, Simon Channing, as per her decision.

The other party readily agreed to endorse their company's products.

Upon hearing the news, Neera nodded and immediately asked, "Did they mention when they'll sign the contract?"

Levi replied promptly, "They said the time is set for today... After all, we still need to consider the promotion later, so we talked to them, and they agreed. However, Simon has an important shoot today and can't leave, so I have to go over to their company's studio in person to meet him and discuss the contract details."

Neera had no objections, "What time did you arrange?"

Levi said, "At ten o'clock in the morning."

Neera checked her schedule and saw that she didn't have too much on her plate, so she said, "Prepare well, and I'll go with you."

Levi gladly agreed.

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Chapter 188

At 9:45 am, Neera and Levi arrived together at Lemon Entertainment, the company where Simon was located.

This company held significant power in the local entertainment industry and was one of the top entertainment companies. It nurtured numerous popular celebrities and had toptier talents and influential figures as its pillars and public faces.

Due to prior arrangements, Neera and Levi were welcomed by Simon's assistant when they arrived.

"Ms. Garcia, Mr. Wilkes, hello. Simon is currently shooting, and this set will probably take another half an hour. Please wait for a while," the assistant informed them politely.

Neera had no objections and politely agreed, following her into the elevator to go upstairs.

Once they entered the studio, the assistant took them directly to the resting area.

"Please have a seat here; it's relatively quiet. You can wait here," she said politely, offering them water and some pastries as a courteous gesture.

Neera nodded and thanked her. Then, she glanced towards the nearby shooting scene and suddenly paused.

Simon was shooting an advertisement for a clothing brand, but he wasn't alone; there was a woman next to him. Although Neera had only met her once, she made a deep impression - it was Kyra!

At this moment, both of them were wearing matching couple outfits, frequently interacting under the spotlight, laughing and seeming very affectionate with each other.

Upon seeing this, a subtle frown appeared on Neera's delicate eyebrows involuntarily.

She couldn't decide whether it was unfortunate or destined. They had just met yesterday, and now they encountered each other again today?

Levi also seemed surprised; he hadn't expected to run into Kyra right after she had rejected their collaboration request. SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

He hesitated for a moment and then looked at Neera with concern.

Neera understood what he was thinking and spoke before he could say anything.

"It's alright; it's nothing to worry about. People have their own choices, and we can't force them. But we have our own choices too. Just because she declined doesn't mean we can't choose someone else."

Upon hearing her words, Levi nodded, not saying anything further, and silently waited with her.

Half an hour later, the shoot finally ended.

The photographer announced they would resume in an hour, and everyone dispersed. Simon walked over to them.

His appearance perfectly met the public's aesthetic standards for a handsome man - refined features, rugged yet non-threatening. Moreover, he exuded a unique elegance that was rare in the chaotic entertainment world.

It was this quality that made Neera include him in her considerations.

Simon's agent, Rainie, accompanied him and came forward to greet Neera and Levi with a smile.

"Ms. Garcia, Mr. Wilkes, I apologize for the inconvenience. Simon couldn't find time today, so we had to trouble you to come here personally. Thank you for waiting."

Neera replied politely, "No problem. Since we're here to discuss cooperation, it's only right that we show our sincerity."

"You're too kind."

After some polite exchanges, Rainie got straight to the point.

"I've already looked into your company's products. We trust your company's capabilities and the products you've developed. So we're very interested in collaborating with you. If it's possible, shall we move to the lounge and sit down for a proper discussion?"

Neera nodded naturally, indicating that it was fine.

Just as they were about to leave, Kyra walked over.

"I thought I might have been mistaken earlier, but it really is you, Ms. Garcia. What a coincidence, we meet again," she said to Neera, her lips curved into a smile, but her tone inexplicably chilly.

Neera glanced at her indifferently and replied without much emotion, "Yes, quite a coincidence."

Since Simon and Kyra had collaborated many times before and had a good relationship, he asked, "Do you two know each other?"

Kyra gave a vague answer, "Sort of."

Then, she asked, "What brings Ms. Garcia here?"

Neera didn't think she had any obligation to explain to Kyra and initially had no intention of answering. However, Rainie, unaware of the situation, spoke first and revealed the intention of both parties to collaborate on endorsements...

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Hapter 189

Kyra was stunned after hearing the words. She was slightly surprised.

She had not expected that Neera was the young boss of Startales.

She smirked, "I see... I've actually heard of it. If I hadn't remembered wrongly, someone from your company contacted me two days ago. They wanted me to endorse it, but I

refused. Right, Renise?" Kyra asked her assistant, Renise Wood, who was following behind her.

Renise quickly nodded, "It's true. I remember that Startales offered a very generous pay, but the brand wasn't well known, so we didn't consider it."

Kyra smiled and purposely said, "I didn't expect you to contact Simon so soon. Ms. Garcia's taste is not bad. Simon's popularity is on par with me. Although your brand is building up, you still have a long way to go compared to those international brands. It's not on par with Simon's popularity. If you pay him better, maybe he could endorse it." She smiled and patted Simon's shoulder. "Alright, I'll leave you two to talk it over." Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Kyra turned around and left with Renise.

Simon and Rainie frowned. They thought that Kyra and Neera were friends when they saw them greet each other just now. They hadn't expected them to know each other through business.

Kyra refused. Rainie was discontented with her actions.

Rainie Channing wasn't only Simon's manager. She was his sister. That was why she was extraordinarily attentive to his affairs.

When Rainie knew the backstory of Neera contacting Simon because Kyra rejected her, it made them seem to be picking up others' leftovers. With Simon's current popularity, if he picked up the endorsement that Kyra rejected, he would be a joke to the public.

Simon thought of the same thing. He looked a little unhappy.

He gained a lot of fans from his clean image as a celebrity. He was considered a highly praised big shot in the industry. Now, he learned that he had gotten an endorsement that someone else didn't want, and he felt being looked down upon.

At that moment, he didn't want to deal with Neera at all. He turned to Rainie, "Rainie, please talk to them. I'm tired after a whole day of filming. I'm going to rest."

Rainie knew his temper was flaring up. She didn't stop him and nodded. "You still have to film later. Have a rest and touch up your makeup."

Simon left with his assistant and makeup artist. He ignored Neera.

Neera frowned at his attitude. She thought he was different from other celebrities when she read about him previously. It was just a persona after all. He's just a rude brat.

Levi wanted to say something but was stopped by Neera. Although he was being rude, it was reasonable.

Looking at the siblings' reaction, Neera knew that the odds of this collaboration were against them.

However, she still asked politely, "Ms. Channing, are we still discussing?"

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Chapter 190

Rainie stared at Neera for several seconds before saying, "Come with me."

Neera didn't mind the change in her attitude. She understood the importance of this collaboration. With the company at stake, she still wanted to fight for it.

In the past few years, she had met all kinds of people abroad with her aunt. She was able to face the weirdest people calmly.

Soon, the three of them arrived at the lounge. Rainie didn't even offer them a seat before talking.

"Ms. Garcia, I'm quite interested in your company's product. However, Ms. Marks wasn't wrong just now. Simon's endorsement fees started at ten million. We will not take anything less than that. The price you've offered is a bit lower than our expectations, so I hope we can raise it."

Neera had guessed Rainie would say that. She asked calmly, "What's your expectation?"

Rainie put on a false smile, "Simon is going to release a new movie soon. It's a movie directed by a famous director and starring quite a few veteran actors. Many people are keeping an eye on him. When the movie airs, his value will definitely be doubled up. Thinking for the long-term, I hope the price can be increased to 80 million dollars."

The atmosphere was tense as she said these words.

Levi frowned while Neera sneered in her heart. Woah! You're really daring to ask for this amount!

Rainie added without realizing her greediness, "Ms. Garcia, no one knew your small brand locally. My brother is being generous with you to endorse such a brand. I think you also needed a popular celebrity to open up the market for you, right? Isn't this a

win-win situation? You will not suffer a loss for 80 million dollars" S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera responded.

"We are completely aware of Mr. Channing's endorsement value. The price that we suggested is reasonable. With all due respect, before contacting your artist, we investigated his value beforehand. As far as I know, Mr. Channing's highest endorsement fee at the moment is 50 million dollars. And, it's because of sharing the endorsement with another actress from your company. That actress's worth is no less than 20 million dollars, right? My price of 40 million for Mr. Channing included his future potential. This price is considered to be a great affirmation for him!"

Rainie frowned and said unhappily, "Didn't I just say that a new movie will be released recently..."

Before she could finish her words, she was interrupted by Neera.

"Who can predict the future? Big productions could also get cut from the lineup. Not to mention, I raised the price in accordance with future success and value. I know that 80 million dollars is definitely outrageous for the local market."

Rainie was speechless for a moment and she said sternly, "I'm not going to hide it from you guys. The famous brand, 'DR', has also been in contact with us recently. We told them we're taking it for 60 million dollars. We might successfully negotiate with them. I think 80 million dollars is not too much for a no-name brand like yours."

Neera laughed. "Is it really worth it, or did you change your mind and purposely make things difficult because you heard Kyra's words? Ms. Channing, you've been in this circle for so long. You should know some of the rules, right? When we choose a spokesperson, we have several plans. Yes, we contacted Kyra first and were rejected, but that doesn't mean we are now settling for second best. The price I offered Kyra is the same as the one I offered Mr. Channing. We have no intention of looking down on him, and I hope that you won't put your brother in such a position either."

Reading between the lines in Neera's words, Rainie frowned, "You!"

Neera ignored her, "Anyway, we've given our utmost sincerity. 40 million dollars for one year. Too bad if you're not willing."

Rainie's mood darkened. I hadn't even said no and she put up a show to reject us instead, Who does she think she is?

"Fine, in that case, I will not keep you guys any longer. Goodbye, Ms. Garcia and Mr. Wilkes."

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Chapter 191

Levi was in a bad mood after he left.

"I thought that a collaboration would be successful. I didn't expect that Kyra would be there to ruin it. The way she talks is so provoking. Anyone who heard it would feel uncomfortable in their heart, no wonder Rainie would suddenly raise the price."

When both of them got into the car, Levi remembered something. "Neera, do you have some beef with Kyra? Why do I feel that she seems hostile towards you?"

"Something happened between us..." Neera answered without elaborating.

Levi didn't pursue the matter seeing that she didn't have the intention to talk more about it. He complained again, "Rainie is too much. How dare she ask for 80 million dollars? Her brother isn't even worth the price."

Neera was not too bothered about it. "There's nothing to be angry about, everyone has their own intentions. Since we couldn't collaborate with them, we have to look for another artist. 40 million dollars is not a small amount of money, a lot of people will grab it. If you can't find a suitable one, then I don't mind raising the price. I could use 80 million dollars to find someone with more popularity. Simon doesn't deserve this price yet!"

Levi nodded and quickly started the car heading for the company.

In Kyra's waiting room, her assistant came in and reported the news she had just found out.

"Ms. Marks, the people from Startales just left. Seems that they couldn't reach an agreement with Simon's side."

Upon hearing this, Kyra laughed. "I casually said a few words to add fuel to the fire. I didn't expect the siblings to get upset."

Kyra's manager, Sean Lewis, handed a cup of water to her. He asked curiously, "I could sense some hostility from you toward that woman. How did she offend you? You did not hesitate to give up the endorsement but also ruined Simon's chance. Although 40 million dollars to you is nothing, it's a very big amount to Simon. Why didn't you let him earn it?" S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Kyra looked at her beautiful nails. She was not bothered by what she did. "I'm not endorsing it because it's just a small brand. If I agree to it, won't it look like I'm lowering my worth? And I didn't even know she was the person in charge of this company. It's just a small company with no reputation."

Anyone could see how much she hated Neera.

"As for why I sabotaged Simon's endorsement... It's just that I despised her. I hadn't expected Simon would be so agitated! Speaking of which, did he think that his status was on par with me? He's just starting to get famous yet he acted so arrogantly!"

Sean didn't comment on anything else.

"Alright, don't bother with that. Hurry up and finish this commercial filming. Your schedules are too tight. Where's the makeup artist? Speed up! The next filming is about to start!"

The makeup artist nodded.

After returning from Lemon Entertainment, Levi immediately started filtering through the new celebrity list. However, they were too busy. A few of them were interested but they had started filming movies. They couldn't spare time for the endorsement.

No one had taken up the deal after a day of negotiation.

Neera was in a somber mood when she returned home. The triplets immediately sensed it.

At the dining table, Harvey took the initiative to ask, "Mommy, did something happen? You look upset."

Neera didn't hide it and briefly told them what happened.

Harvey gave some advice after listening to her concern. "Mommy, since you don't mind the price. Just invite a more popular person to endorse it, that's all!"

Sammy also thought the same. He jumped down from his chair and ran to the living room for his computer. "Mommy, I'll help you check and see who's suitable!"

Seeing the triplets actively trying to figure out a solution for her, Neera became less depressed instantly and nodded with a smile, "Okay, thanks for your hard work then."

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Chapter 192

Sammy checked quickly and recommended someone to her in a short while.

"Mommy, look at this actress, Sasha Javer. She has won several best actress awards and has almost won all the major awards. She's a natural beauty. Her acting skills are exceptionally good too. She is recognized as the most 'veteran' young actress in the entertainment industry!"

Neera had heard of this actress. She studied her resume and murmured, "It seems like it..."

Next to her, Zuniga also smiled and said, "I know her, she's very popular. Every age group likes her. I've seen her plays, she's very good at picking out scripts. Her acting skills are also exceptional."

Seeing that Zuniga recognized her. Neera nodded, she was convinced.

"Most importantly, Sasha is much more popular than Simon! There's also Kyra, even though she's a rising star, compared to her, she's still far behind! Sasha is everybody's choice in the entertainment industry and she is very low- key!"

Neera slipped around the major websites and found that Sasha's reputation was really good. She had a positive image too. People like her would bring the best results in endorsements.

Neera's purpose was to market her product in the local market. Sasha was very suitable and she seemed to be free lately. Neera made up her mind to contact her.

Upon checking her company, she was an artist under the Beauvort Group.

"This..." She was stunned.

Sammy pretended to be unaware but he did it on purpose.

The Beauvort Group was involved in many industries. Although their main business was not from the entertainment industry, by Jean's management methods, they could be the largest entertainment company soon.

Sasha did not have any controversy since her debut, and she has a very positive image. She is the right person for the job! Neera came back to her senses, and couldn't help but doubt her son's intentions. "Of all the artists, why did you pick the one under the next-door uncle's company? Is there something you're hiding in your mind?" SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Sammy had already been prepared for this, he pouted. "Mommy, I'm doing this for you. Sasha is suitable for you, who knew that it was such a coincidence that she's from Uncle Jean's company."

Neera raised an eyebrow, "Was it really a coincidence?"

Sammy nodded his head firmly, "Really!"

Harvey stated, "Mommy, even if she's from Uncle Jean's company, there's nothing wrong with that. It's more convenient to get things done, right? It's all about a win-win situation in business. You're also paying for that, there's nothing to worry about."

Reasonable. Neera couldn't refute it.

Penny took advantage of the situation. She added, "I think Harvey is right, Mommy. Why don't you just go and talk to Uncle Jean?"

Neera thought about it and felt that there was indeed nothing wrong with it.

After dinner, Neera went next door.

Jean was surprised to see her. "I thought you didn't need treatment tonight?"

Neera nodded, "I'm looking for you because I need something else."

Jean was puzzled, "What is it?"

This time, Neera got straight to the point, "I'm here for business purposes."

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Read Chapter 193

Chapter 193

"What kind of business? Have a seat and talk."

Neera sat on the sofa and roughly told Jean what happened.

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"So that's what's going on."
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That entertainment company under Beauvort Group has really developed quite well over the past few years. However, it's just a small piece of Beauvort Group, which Jean has not paid much attention to. He hadn't paid much attention to the artists signed under his label either.

Since Neera had come to talk about it, he would help her out.

He turned to lan, who was organizing some documents and instructed, "Go contact Sasha, and ask about her opinion. Have her reply as soon as possible."

lan immediately complied.

Neera relaxed and politely thanked him.

"Sorry for troubling you. As for the endorsement fee, I'll pay according to Ms. Javer's request. I won't treat her badly." SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Neera made it clear that she won't try to take advantage because of their current relationship.

Jean nodded and didn't say anything.

Ian quickly made a call to the general manager of the entertainment company. "Startales wants to enter the local market. They have already signed a contract with Beauvort and will have a counter at Beauvort World soon. The newly developed makeup brand will soon be on the market. They wanted to invite Sasha to endorse it, please ask her if she's willing to take it."

Then, he added seriously, "This matter is taken over by Mr. Beauvort. It's him who's asking her. Tell her to reply as soon as possible."

Upon hearing this, the general manager jolted. He immediately contacted Sasha.

Sasha was on vacation abroad. After listening to the general manager, she agreed. Would she be brave enough to reject it after Mr. Beauvort had asked personally?

In less than 10 minutes, Ian returned. "Mr. Beauvort, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Sasha said she is willing to endorse it."

What? We didn't even have to negotiate a bit? Neera was a bit surprised, but quickly figured it out. Ian must have mentioned Jean's name.

"Thanks a lot." Neera politely expresses her gratitude. "Actually, I didn't want to trouble you. I finalized two artists at the very beginning, but something happened. In the end, I

could only look for someone else. I didn't notice that Ms. Javer was under your company..."

She was afraid of making any more misunderstandings. "I'm not talking bad about your company's artists. Ms. Javer's ability and reputation are well known. I was thinking that since it exceeded my budget, I might as well ask for a more influential artist. That's why I wanted to work with her."

"Did the other party raise the price too much?" Jean asked.

"They doubled it." Neera didn't like to stir up trouble, so she doesn't intend to say anything about Kyra.

Jean understood.

"I'll arrange for someone from the branch to contact you about the contract."

Neera felt at ease and nodded.

"I won't bother you then. Rest early and remember to soak in the medicinal bath."

She prepared to leave.

However, Jean called out to her, "How is your injury?"

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Chapter 194

Neera hurried to say, "It's fine. It doesn't hurt anymore. I made the medicine myself, anyways. Of course it'd be a lot better than whatever's on the market."

Jean fell silent for a bit, before asking, "Is it going to leave a mark?"

Neera stopped short, before replying, "No, it won't scar or scab. The blood will slowly fade, and it'll be fine."

Jean stopped pressing after that, and let her go.

Neera heaved a sigh to herself. Worried that he might give her more medicine, she ran away in a hurry.

After getting back, she sent a message to Levi.

"We don't have to look for an ambassador anymore. "Sasha Javer from Star Entertainment Media's accepted the job."

Levi was shocked.

Sasha had been the media's sweetheart in the past few years, and only ever represented luxury brands!

More importantly, everyone in the industry knew that she cared greatly about titles, and was even more exclusive than Kyra Marks had been. Hiring her would take more than money!

He'd considered her before, if he was being honest.

However, Sasha was way out of their budget for that consideration to last very long.

Who would've thought that Sasha would've followed through, and gotten it done so quickly too!

This made him feel like Neera really was quite capable. She was always doing what others couldn't.

Someone so capable and competent only made him find her even more attractive...

After the matter was settled, Levi made a handover to the people over at Star Entertainment Media.

Both parties reached an agreement, and Sasha was to meet them right after she was back in the country to sign the contract.

As for the ambassador fees, both parties first had a conversation on the phone.

Levi was already prepared for the sky-high price they would ask for.

Sasha was a pretty big deal, and she was definitely going to cost more for accepting a job outside of her range.

Only for her team to be nothing but nice, and only ask for a fee of sixty million dollars!

It was important to note that even Simon Channing had asked for eighty million. Sixty million, in comparison, was nothing!

Levi agreed at once, worrying that they might change their mind.

Just like that, both parties had an initial agreement.

After the phone call ended, he went to Neera's company at once to report what happened to her.

"They only wanted sixty million?"

Neera was a little shocked.

That was way lower than she had expected.

She thought it through, and figured that it might be because of Jean that the price had not been that high.

She paused, thinking to herself. She did not want to take advantage of Jean just like that, and told Levi, "Call them back. Thank them for Ms. Javer's partnership, and tell them we'd like to follow her usual rates and pay her eighty million as a token of sincerity."

Levi was a little confused.

Sixty million dollars was already a sizeable fee for the company to bear. Where were they going to get the rest?

He replied in a careful tone, "Neera, eighty million isn't a small amount. The company can afford it, yes, but why raise the fee when they already offered us sixty million?"

Neera did not explain further, merely telling him to get on with it.

Levi had no choice but to do as told. S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Not long after, the manager of Star Entertainment Media got the news and reported to lan at once.

"Mr. Morrison, Startales called back. They're insisting on paying Sasha's usual rates, eighty million and no less. What should we do..."

lan could not help but find it strange.

Hadn't Neera said that the high ambassador fee was the reason why she hadn't been able to find a suitable celebrity?

They had already lowered the price and given them a hefty discount, but now she was raising it herself?

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Chapter 195

Just as lan was nothing but confused, the manager piped up to explain.

"It seems to me that they didn't make the offer with any reluctance. In fact, they were pretty sincere and generous with insisting on paying the usual rate. I heard from someone that the last celebrity reached out to cost a lot as well, way more than they were even worth."

"Oh?"

lan asked at once, "Who was this celebrity?"

The manager replied truthfully, "Simon Channing."

Secrets were almost impossible to keep in the entertainment industry, and gossip spread like wildfire.

The manager even told Ian about how Kyra turned the ambassadorship down and even sabotaged Simon.

lan was surprised. Who would've thought that so much else had happened too.

At the same time, he was confused as well. Why hadn't Ms. Garcia mentioned it to Sir last night at all...

After hanging up the phone, he thought about it and decided to report to Jean.

Jean frowned upon hearing that Kyra had sabotaged Neera and Simon's ambassadorship.

"Why was Kyra trying to screw over Neera? Was it because of Dandy?"

Ian did not really know either, and could only say, "It seems like it!"

He then added, "I can't believe someone like Ms. Marks would stoop so low. She seemed so elegant and charming, I guess there really are two sides to everyone..."

Jean's gaze flashed with anger.

He had never felt too strongly about Kyra, and was neutral at best.

This, however, definitely made him dislike her a lot more.

Also... who would've thought that this whole thing happened because of Jean himself.

He knew what Neera was trying to do. She was raising the price because she did not want to owe Jean anything.

Since that was the case....

Jean closed his eyes, and made a decision.

"We'll take the eighty million then, since she's insisted on it. Tell Star Entertainment Media to get in touch with Neera, and say that the company can provide her with a production team and set locations. All she needs to do is focus on making a good commercial."

lan called out respectfully at the order, but grumbled to himself internally.

You sure have it all figured out for her...

This is pretty much favoritism!

This was all supposed to be handled by Dr. Garcia's company!

•••

Over on Sasha's end, she returned to Kingsview by nighttime upon hearing the news.

The next day, the general manager brought her to Startales.

Neera and Levi were surprised by them coming over personally, and hurried downstairs to welcome them.

Despite having seen her on the screen countless times, Neera was still blown away by Sasha's looks.

Her skin was fair and smooth, with bright eyes and a breathtaking smile.

More importantly, her every move and gaze was nothing but elegant. She did not seem fake or pretentious in the slightest.

Neera liked Sasha at once.

No wonder she was so famous, and everyone had nothing but praise for her.

What a woman she was.

"Ms. Javer, it's a pleasure to meet you. I'm Neera Garcia."

Neera greeted Sasha first.

Sasha herself was surprised as well. She had not expected for the person in charge of this company to be so beautiful.

Sasha had always been confident in her looks without being insecure in the slightest, and she was one to appreciate a beautiful face too.

She smiled in response, shaking Neera's hand. "Nice to meet you, Ms. Garcia. I'm so excited to be working with you."

The two women chatted for a bit, and headed upstairs for the real talk.

It had to be said that Star Entertainment Media was extremely professional, be it their artists or managers.

They had already explained all of Neera's products in detail the day before. SEARCH the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"I've used your products before, especially your medicine. God, they work wonders... I really think this new launch is going to be great. I'm sure there'll be a huge market for it, and I know we'll both get great things out of this..."

Both sides seemed earnest and sincere, and the contract was signed without any problems.

After that, the manager spoke about what Ian had instructed him to do the day before.

"Ms. Garcia, our company will provide a team and location for shooting, as well as everything else related. Sasha's used to working with our own team, and she'll be more comfortable around them. That way, you'll have one less thing to worry about as well. How's that?"

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Chapter 196

Of course, Neera had no problem with that.

Her company would be saving a lot of time and money this way.

She shook hands with them, and sent them off happily.

Levi walked them out. He was still in awe on the way up.

"I can't believe this entertainment company under the Beauvorts was so easy to work with. I thought they were going to be a pain in the neck, but they just offered to cover production and location themselves. That makes things so much easier for us..."

He then looked at Neera, nothing but respect in his eyes.

"Neera, you really do have a connection with the Beauvorts, don't you? I'm really starting to see you in a different light!"

Neera smiled. "It's not that big of a deal. Sasha just happened to be easy to work with. Now that everything's in motion, we've got to work even harder so we don't let them down. Keep a closer eye on that proposal, we can't waste this chance."

She said no more after that, but thought to herself that she would get a cake for Jean later to thank him a little.

Despite the fact that they had coughed up eighty million dollars for this, Neera felt like Jean had helped her out a lot here.

The help with production, for example!

She knew that Jean had to have had some part to play in this, and suddenly felt like she had gotten the chance to ride on some pretty powerful coattails...

She settled the more important things, giving Levi a few more pointers before leaving.

She stopped by the cake shop on the way back.

Susie's Cakes was famous in Kingsview. Their cakes were delicious, and pretty much Michelin-star worthy.

The people who lined up here were all reasonably wealthy.

The shop was decently crowded when Neera arrived, and a queue had already formed.

She waited patiently in line, scrolling through her phone.

Just when it was her turn a little over ten minutes later, she bumped into Roxanne and Zachary's mother, Qaylah!

The two women had just finished eating in the shop, and were carrying two takeaway bags as well... SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Zachary had been in a nasty mood in the hospital for the past couple of days, treating everyone around him terribly.

Roxanne and Qaylah had bought some pastries to take home to him, seeing as he liked them so much.

Only for them to run into Neera!

Qaylah's expression darkened at once, and she called out loudly to Neera, oblivious to the crowd around.

"You b*tch, how dare you still show your face around here? Buying cakes, are you? What a good mood you're in! You're the reason my son broke one of his arms, don't you feel bad at all about that? How dare you?"

Neera was merely confused at the outburst.

"What do I have to feel bad about? What do I have to do with your son losing an arm?"

She was going to just pretend she hadn't seen the two of them.

But since Qaylah had insisted on giving her a hard time, Neera found no problem in refuting her at once.

"Besides, why should I feel bad at all? Forget breaking an arm or a leg, he would have deserved it even if he became limp altogether."

"You-"

Qaylah's expression was ashen at the words.

Roxanne smirked to herself coldly, but pretended to comfort Qaylah before frowning at Neera.

"Neera, how could you say that to her? She's your senior, it'll seem like we weren't raised right!"

Neera glared at Roxanne, disgusted. "Who's 'we'? Drop the act, I don't know who you are! Besides, you have no right to talk about how we were raised!"

Roxanne's face burned at the insult.

Qaylah was positively furious.

"You b*tch, you're still talking sh*t after making a mistake! You're f*cking shameless!"

Qaylah reached out to grab Neera, dragging her out by force.

"I'm telling you, I don't care what you have to say this time! You're coming with me to the hospital and apologizing to my son for what you did to him!"

Of course, Neera was not going to go. She cast a disdained glance at the hand on her arm, and wrenched it away.

Qaylah did not prepare for this, and almost fell from the gesture!

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Chapter 197

Roxanne hurried to help her up, feigning concern. "Auntie Qaylah! Are you alright?"

She put on a panicked expression, turning to glower at Neera. "That was too much of you, Neera! We're sisters, how could you push her!"

Neera's good mood had been completely ruined by these too, and she barked out a sarcastic laugh.

This woman really was still so good at turning the blame around.

"Could you please stop calling me your sister? My mother only had one daughter, I don't have a sister!"

Neera was fed up. "Also, I didn't push her. She grabbed me first, so stop twisting the truth. I don't have time to waste on you!"

She turned away to buy her cake after, paying them no mind.

Qaylah exploded with fury, her eyes growing bloodshot.

"You piece of sh*t, do you think you've made it just because you managed to marry into the Beauvorts? I'm dragging you to the hospital today no matter what it takes, and you're going to apologize on your knees!"

She called out to her driver outside, and pointed at Neera. "Take her away, right now!"

The driver did not dare to go against her orders, and rushed in with two bodyguards in tow. They glowered at Neera, ready to strike at any moment.

Roxanne turned to look at Neera smugly.

She was going to see how Neera was going to get out of this!

A crowd had gathered to watch the debacle since it had started.

Some of them were murmuring amongst themselves, discussing the situation.

Some of them were terrified by the bodyguards' stares, but could not leave.

"Excuse me! Take your business outside, do not harass the guests in here!"

The cashier hurried out and shouted at Qaylah, frowning in annoyance.

Susie's Cakes was so successful, partly because their owner was a pretty powerful person.

The owner of Susie's Cakes was a mysterious person. Other businesses had been jealous of the shop's success, and had tried to sabotage it through some less than savory methods.

Only for none of them to work, and the people responsible suffered a tragic consequence.

The people who visited Susie's Cakes were members of the upper class, which spoke volumes about just how powerful this place was...

This was also why the cashier dared to call Qaylah out just like that. SEAR*ch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Qaylah glanced at the cashier, and forced herself to calm down before explaining herself.

"We don't want any trouble. We're just settling a few private affairs."

The cashier's face flashed with displeasure, and he pointed at the door.

"Well, you can do that outside. We have a business to run, and would prefer not to startle our customers!"

Qaylah was annoyed at the cashier's attitude, but did not dare to say much. She nodded, calling out to her bodyguards.

"What are you standing there for? Get her!"

The bodyguards moved at once.

Neera's gaze narrowed. She flipped over a hand, and a few silver needles appeared between her fingers at once.

She had made her mind up.

She was going to 'take care' of these people if they dared to lay a finger on her!

Yet before the bodyguards could even touch her, they were sent flying out... they landed heavily on the ground outside of the shop, even breaking the standee by the door!

Following that, two loud sounds could be heard.

Another bodyguard and the driver were also lying on the ground, clutching their stomachs in agony.

The sight was positively theatrical. Everyone was shocked out of their wits, rubbing at their eyes to make sure they had really seen that.

Two men appeared in front of the crowd out of nowhere.

One of them was tall and handsome, radiating an air of authority.

The guy next to him looked elegant and illustrious. He was probably the first guy's assistant.

He was lanky and thin, and did not seem to be able to fight.

But... he had been the one attacking just now...

The men were none other than Jean and Ian!

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Chapter 198

The two men stood together, radiating an air of undeniable power...

Neera was a little surprised. She had not expected them to show up.

Jean looked over at her, frowning. "Why are you always in trouble every time I see you?"

Neera pursed her lips. "I don't know how to answer that. People just insist on starting trouble with me, I don't have a say in that!"

Jean looked around him, and saw Roxanne and Qaylah. His gaze turned icy at once.

The two women were shivering in terror in a crumpled heap on the ground.

Roxanne recognized the man in front at once. She had seen him at the hospital. S~Earch the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

He was still as tall and handsome as he had been before.

Him standing up for Neera, however, was completely unexpected.

Jealousy flooded Roxanne at once.

How was it that this b*tch was able to get all the men wherever she went?

This was such a fine man, too!

Before this it had been a generous, wealthy man, and now it was a heartthrob standing up for her. What the hell?

She grew more and more jealous as she kept thinking, and got to her feet to point at Neera.

"Neera Garcia! Wasn't it enough that you used to sleep around, and had a sugar daddy to pay for you? I can't believe you're still hooking up with other men even after getting married! Aren't you afraid that the Beauvorts might get angry if they find out? I thought you'd behave after learning your lesson, but you're still such a sl*t!"

Neera scoffed coldly at the accusations.

What an idiot!

The man she had married from the Beauvort family was standing right here!

Qaylah's eyes widened at the words, and she glowered at Neera and Jean.

"Well, isn't this just great! Zachary said that it was one of your boyfriends you were having an affair with who hurt him. I guess this would be the man, then!"

"You shameless b*tch, sleeping around with any man that looks your way. You even got one of them to break Zachary's arm, you really are disgusting!"

Neera huffed in exasperation at the words.

She narrowed her gaze, and the temperature in the air seemed to drop.

"Zachary deserved to get his arm broken. I had nothing to do with it. What proof do you have, screaming at me in public like this? P*ss off if you haven't got any proof!"

Qaylah pointed at Neera, wanting nothing more than to rip her from bone to bone. "You're still denying it! Who else could it have been?"

Neera wanted to curse at her.

But she was a person of class, and did not want to taint her speech because of someone like this.

She calmed herself down. "Do you know how severe what you're accusing me of is?"

Only for Jean to speak up right after her.

"It was my idea to beat him up. You got a problem with that?"

Qaylah and Roxanne were stunned into silence by the carefree admission.

"You..."

Qaylah returned to her senses. "How dare you ask that!"

Jean scoffed coldly. "He was trying to grope a woman in public, I went easy on him just breaking one of his arms. Do you really think he deserves an apology from me? I'd just give this up and start counting how much I have to pay for that standee if I were you."

Roxanne and Qaylah were shocked once again.

Roxanne realized what this man had just said.

Zachary was trying to grope a woman...

Grope who?

Neera?

How... how could this be!

Qaylah gritted her teeth in fury. "You broke this, we had nothing to do with it! How are you still so indifferent after attacking someone, blaming others for what you did? Do you think you'll be able to get away with it?"

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Chapter 199

Jean said coldly, "You started it, and it was your men who crashed into the standee. What do we have to do with it? Are we supposed to refresh your memory for you?"

He glanced at the cashier in the shop.

The cashier walked out, staring icily at Qaylah.

"Ma'am, please pay for the losses you've inflicted on this shop before you go, or you'll be removed from our members' list and blacklisted from our shop as well as others we've partnered with before"

Qaylah was in disbelief at the request. SEARCH THE website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Roxanne was furious as well. She dropped her nice girl image at last, shrieking and cussing her head off.

"Are you f*cking blind? They hit our people! They're the ones who should be paying!"

The cashier did nothing in response, disdain in his gaze.

"It was your bodyguards who broke the standee, though. Besides, you provoked this lady out of nowhere. She was just dragged into this, and had nothing to do with it. Thus, you should be the one to bear these losses."

"Of course, if you insist on refusing to pay, we'll have no choice but to go to the police. They'll decide whose fault it is when they're here."

Qaylah was trembling with rage at the words. She pointed a shaky finger at the cashier, then at Neera.

"You... you're taking advantage of the weak!"

The cashier stepped forward in front of Neera. "Are you still going to cause trouble? I'd think it through if I were you."

Wasn't this a threat?

Qaylah could hardly contain her fury, her face turning an ugly shade of purple as she shook all over.

She wanted nothing more than to tear Neera from limb to limb!

It was only the consequences of getting on the shop's bad side that stopped her from doing that.

Roxanne had never been so embarrassed in her life. She had made a fool out of herself in front of a crowd.

At last, she realized that they would not be able to do anything to Neera with this man covering for her.

She walked up to Qaylah awkwardly, whispering in her ear.

"Auntie Qaylah, I think we should just head back. Zachary's still waiting for us..."

Qaylah was still purple with rage, but could only do as such. "Fine, it's not like we can't afford it! How much?"

The cashier held up a number he had pre-calculated at once, as well as an account to make the payment to.

Qaylah paid what she had to, and left quietly after.

Roxanne followed closely behind. She glared at Neera indignantly as she passed her.

Neera looked back at her coldly, hardly thinking anything of it.

After they were finally gone, the cashier turned to the customers in the shop and bowed deeply.

"I'm so sorry for that incident, and the shock it may have caused you. We'll be selling all our items on the menu at half price today as an apology, please forgive us."

The crowd was more than happy with the compromise, and the shop returned to its usual hustle and bustle.

"I'm so sorry, Mr. Beauvort. My neglect caused something like this to happen, I promise I'll be more strict with the people I let in here in the future so it doesn't happen again!"

Jean waved a hand, turning to Neera.

"What were you going to buy? Have them wrap it up for you."

Neera blinked. "Two signature cakes, please."

The cashier nodded politely. "Alright, just a minute."

He disappeared to get the order done, and only the three of them were left.

Just then, Neera squinted curiously.

"Didn't he say that causing trouble in here wasn't allowed? Why'd you get off scot-free, and that cashier was even so polite to you? Do you know the owner here?"

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Chapter 200

Jean raised his eyebrows. He grunted in response, and said nothing more.

Neera nodded in understanding.

No wonder things had turned out like that. Qaylah and Roxanne really picked the wrong people to mess with!

She thanked Jean politely. "You helped me again. I owe you one."

She paused after that, finally asking what she wanted. "The thing is, why'd you beat Zachary up? And why didn't I know anything about this?"

She had really thought that Roxanne was just trying to blame her.

Jean stopped short. He did not know how to explain this to her.

lan saw this, and spoke up at once.

"Ah... Ms. Garcia, it was actually me. I broke his arm."

Neera looked at him in shock. "You? Why'd you do that?"

She was pretty sure Ian and Zachary had no grievances with each other.

lan scratched his head, flashing a goofy smile.

"Do you remember when I left my phone in the private room and went back for it? I ran into Zachary on my way out. He was with a few people, and tried to attack me because they saw I was alone. Of course, I wasn't going to just let them do that! So I just..."

lan took all the blame for himself, not mentioning Jean at all.

"It's my fault, I didn't think they would blame you for it. I'm sorry for getting you into trouble."

Neera stared at the guilty, apologetic look on his face, and felt like something was off.

Why did whatever he was saying just sound so suspicious?

But on second thought, Jean probably... wouldn't beat Zachary up just for her.

After all, the two of them weren't even married yet.

She believed lan's words, and asked nothing further.

Just then, a waiter showed up with a paper bag and passed it dutifully to Neera.

Jean said, "Put it on my bill."

Neera hurried to turn the offer down, insisting to pay.

She came out of the shop, and headed to her own car.

Jean saw this, and did not offer to send her back either.

Just as they were about to part, Neera called out to him. She stuffed one of the two bags she was holding into Jean's arms.

"I came here to buy you a cake, actually."

Jean stopped short, looking at the cake in his arms and then at her in faint surprise.

"Just for me? Why?" His tone was a little playful.

Neera did not detect any of it. "To thank you, of course. You helped me get Sasha Javer for the ambassadorship, I'm really grateful for it. I just... didn't expect for you to help me again today, so I guess I'm thanking you for two things."

She smiled and waved goodbye to him, getting into her car.

Jean stood there with the cake in his arms. He watched as she drove away, smiling in faint amusement.

Half an hour later, two cars drove into the Imperial Gardens one after the other. search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Before going in, Neera hesitated before rolling down her window.

Ian was about to drive past her, but braked and lowered his window as well.

Jean's face appeared.

"What's up?" He glanced at her, asking the question calmly.

"Do you want to have some tea? I'll brew some for you. It'll be good for your health."

Jean raised his eyebrows. Those three from her family had used the words 'good for health' all the time when he first met them as well. He smiled.

"Of course." He agreed without hesitation, his tone gentle.

A while later, the two of them sat across each other digging into their cakes and tea...

In the hospital, Roxanne and Qaylah were still furning when they got back.

Zachary saw this, and frowned. "What's with that look on your face? Showing me a face after coming back?"

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