

Ex's Brother 821

Chapter 821: At least, I'm Here

The couple had business dealings with the Lawson family. Clarice listened to their conversation with her father and learned that they wanted to adopt a child. After that, Clarice privately found the woman in the couple and told her about Herbert.

This was how she described Herbert to the woman. "He's the kindest child in the world, but he has a demon father. Madam, if you want a child, I suggest you visit him. He's very sensible. You'll like him."

Clarice only mentioned Herbert to Madam but did not tell her his name or appearance.

Later on, the couple really went to the orphanage. When the madam arrived, she immediately took a fancy to a silent and sensible child. Later on, the madam called Clarice and said that she had already chosen the child she liked. She even sent Clarice a photo.

Clarice smiled knowingly after looking at the photo.

She did not tell the lady that the child she brought back was the child she was talking about.

She was afraid that Madam would bear a grudge if she said it.

Once, Clarice met the child at a party. At that time, the child was already ten years old. He seemed to have become a different person. He was lively and cheerful, and he could sweet talk. He always made the couple smile.

The lady brought Herbert to Clarice and introduced him to them. Herbert hugged her as if he didn't know her and praised her for being beautiful.

Clarice stared at Herbert's face and felt puzzled. She wanted to ask Herbert, "It's only been three years. Don't you remember me?"

In the second half of the banquet, Clarice had been sitting at a distance, quietly sizing up the child. Julia had also noticed the child. She said to Clarice, "He's completely different from before."

"It's like she's a different person, right?"

"Yeah."

Clarice thought that the child would continue to be happy like this, but his life was not good. Not long after, the lady fell ill and passed away. After she died, her husband could not recover from his setback and started to degrade himself. He always ignored the child at home.

She heard from Kevin that the boy had locked himself at home and had not come out for a few days.

When Clarice heard about this, she could not let go.

On this day, she happened to be free. In the end, she could not help but ask the chauffeur to send her to Marvin's house.

She pressed the doorbell and waited quietly.

No one answered the door the first time she pressed the button. Clarice pressed it several more times, unwilling to let go. Finally, twenty minutes later, someone opened the door.

The door opened and Clarice looked up to meet the eyes of a young man with exquisite features.

The young man had picturesque eyebrows, black hair, and black eyes. His facial features were exquisite, and he was wearing a black long-sleeved shirt. At first glance, he did not look like his biological father, Robert, nor his biological mother. However, on a closer look, one could discover that this young man looked a little like his mother.

The once skinny child was actually so outstanding.

Clarice thought Herbert would still pretend not to know her.

However, the young man gave her a faint smile that she had not seen in a long time. He said, "Clarice, long time no see."

Clarice was in a daze. At this point, she had already sensed that something was wrong with Herbert, but she hadn't figured it out. "Herbert, I heard about Caitlin. Your condolences."

Herbert invited her into the house.

Hearing this, he nodded calmly, as if he was not too sad.

He poured Clarice a cup of milk. Clarice, who had been drinking coffee recently, stared at the milk and was stunned. Seeing her stunned, Herbert asked her, "What's wrong? Don't you like milk? I remember you used to love it very much."

That was so many years ago...

Clarice drank her milk and heard Herbert say, "My name's not Herbert anymore."

"Yes?"

Herbert said, "My name is Long, Dragon. My name is Zhuang Long." He sat down opposite Clarice. He looked young and gloomy, but he gave off a dangerous feeling. Clarice stared at him, and the scene she saw at the party a few years ago flashed across her mind.

She asked Zhuang Long, "We met at the gathering. Why did you pretend not to know me?"

He said, "He really doesn't know you."

“Him?” Clarice was stunned.

Zhuang Long said, “Yes, I know you. I don’t know the other one.”

Clarice was smart and immediately understood what Zhuang Long meant.

He actually had schizophrenia!

“Usually. When will he come out?”

Zhuang Long shook his head and said, “You’re asking the wrong question.”

“Yes?”

Zhuang Long said, “You should ask when I’ll come out.”

Clarice frowned and thought about what Zhuang Long meant. After a short silence, Clarice already understood what he meant. “You’re the subpersona?” Clarice used an affirmative tone.

“Yeah.”

“I came out when he was afraid. I was born to face darkness and evil. He wasn’t. He was kind and good and naive.”

Clarice felt terrible when she heard this.

The two of them chatted for a while more. When Clarice got up to leave, she suddenly hugged Zhuang Long. “Even if you were born to face the darkness, don’t be afraid. At least, with me, no matter what kind of person you are, you are my friend.”

“Also, if you feel terrible, you can tell me. Don’t hold it in.” Even if it was a second personality, he had a soul, thoughts, and memories. His heart would ache.

Zhuang Long was stunned. He thought: After so many years, why does Clarice still like to hug him?

He hugged her politely and said coldly, “I’m fine.”

Caitlin’s death was a huge blow to Zhuang Long. He had never dared to face reality. For two years, he was sometimes awake and sometimes asleep. What was even more funny was that once, during the Harvard exam, Zhuang Long was perhaps too nervous. When he entered the examination hall, he was still himself. When he sat at the table, he felt dizzy.

‘Zhuang Long’ woke up and was stunned when he realized that he was sitting in the examination room.

He did not know whether to laugh or cry, but he still answered the questions seriously.

When he was fifteen, Zhuang Long entered Harvard. It was also this year that Marvin decided to marry another woman. That night, Zhuang Long could not fall asleep. When he woke up again, he had already become ‘Zhuang Long’. Zhuang Long received an invitation from Marvin, but he did not plan to attend.

That day, images of Marvin and Caitlin’s love flashed across his mind repeatedly.

Zhuang Long felt confused. Why did someone who used to be so loving fall in love with someone else in just a few years? He was not in the mood to attend their wedding and felt that it was quite ironic.

Chapter 822: Will You Marry Me In the Future?

Zhuang Long logged into his email. This email belonged to him.

He logged in and saw that he had a few email addresses that he had not read.

Clarice was the only one who knew about Zhuang Long's email.

Zhuang Long opened his email and frowned tightly after reading it. In the six months that he had been asleep, too many things had happened around Clarice. Firstly, she had been chosen as the heir in the family. She had already started to deal with the family matters.

Clarice became busy, but that wasn't what made her feel the worst. What really hurt was Julia. Julia had been acting up often over the years, but she had gotten through it. Julia, who was already sixteen, had fallen in love at school with a handsome boy. Clarice had called the boy Bruce in her email.

Clarice told Zhuang Long that Julia and Bruce were very in love. They almost slept together.

However, their relationship was discovered.

The Lawson family did not allow family members to marry outsiders, but they would not forbid the keeping of female lovers or male lovers. However, Julia actually wanted to marry Bruce!

In order to nip this scary thought of Julia in the bud, they had already chosen a husband for Julia. The other party was not a core member of the family, but a branch family that had already started to decline. But no matter what, he was still a member of the Lawson family.

But what really made Clarice collapse was that the man was already 40 years old!

When Julia graduated from university, she would marry that old man!

After Zhuang Long read the email, he did not know how to comfort Clarice. He personally flew to New York. Clarice had not been to school for several years. Her teachers who gave private lessons had already completed their studies. Clarice mostly worked in the company.

Zhuang Long went straight to their company to look for her. When she saw the girl in a red sleeveless dress sitting behind her desk and dealing with work, she was stunned for a moment. Clarice looked up and smiled at him, looking like she was in a good mood.

“Wait a moment. Let’s go for lunch together.”

“Okay.”

While Clarice was dealing with the documents, Zhuang Long sat on the sofa reading.

Clarice read books about finance. Zhuang Long specialized in medicine, especially virology. He held a financial book and could not understand a single sentence. Clarice took the book from his hand and even kissed him on the cheek.

Zhuang Long was stunned for a moment. A strange look flashed across his cold eyes.

“Have you finished your work?”

“Yeah.”

Clarice brought him to a luxurious and expensive restaurant for dinner. During the meal, Clarice asked Zhuang Long many questions about school. Zhuang Long picked a few things to talk about. Those contents that he thought were very ordinary were very interesting to Clarice.

“The school is really a good place.”

Clarice’s eyes revealed her yearning.

Zhuang Long noticed it and felt a little depressed.

He took a sip of wine and saw that Clarice was also drinking. She was drinking champagne. She was only 14 years old, but her alcohol tolerance was actually very good. When Clarice drank, she raised her head slightly. Her neck was beautiful and slender. It was obvious that she had been professionally educated.

Zhuang Long suddenly asked her, "Are you tired?"

Clarice said, "Not really."

"I mean, is this life tiring?" He was referring to whether Clarice felt tired in her life.

Clarice fell silent.

Zhuang Long thought that Clarice would avoid this question. He picked up the knife and was about to cut the food in front of him when he suddenly heard the young man opposite him say, "Ah Long, can you marry me in the future?"

Clang!

Zhuang Long's knife and fork fell onto the plate, making a loud sound.

The huge commotion made Clarice frown. "Are you frightened by my words?"

Zhuang Long picked up his knife and fork and shook his head, pretending to be calm. "You're still young. You don't understand."

Clarice chuckled and said, "If I want to marry you, I'll marry you. If I can't marry you, then it doesn't matter who I marry." Clarice touched the back of Zhuang Long's hand and her expression turned serious. She looked at Zhuang Long's face and told him seriously, "You gave me my life."

"I was born to serve the family. If there's someone worthy of me resisting the entire family, it must be you." The 14-year-old Clarice was not an ordinary girl. She had seen countless darkness and filth.

Clarice understood everything that she should and should not understand.

She did not know if she loved Zhuang Long, but she could not help but smile when she saw him.

When she thought of Zhuang Long, she would feel that marrying someone else was a very disgusting thing.

Clarice's words stirred up a huge wave in Zhuang Long's heart.

Just like Xiao Li, he had also seen darkness before. Because of his parents, he treated relationships more coldly than anyone else. He did not plan to get married. He felt that marriage was a form of torture. Marriage was asking for trouble.

After returning to Cambridge City, Zhuang Long logged into his email and sent an email to Clarice.

Clarice logged into her email in her free time and opened it when she saw the unread email. She saw the content of Zhuang Long's email—

You're very good, but I'm too disgusting.

Do you understand? I'm not worthy.

Clarice stared at the email, but what appeared in her mind was the scene of her meeting Herbert by the sea many years ago in the morning. Before dawn, he rolled up his pants and carried a small basket, seriously choosing small purple seashells by the sea.

Clarice always believed that the real Zhuang Long was the Zhuang Long that morning.

When they found the purple shell, they could not help but smile happily.

Clarice said softly, "You're not dirty. You're cleaner than anyone."

For many months after that, Zhuang Long did not contact Clarice again. Some time before Christmas, Clarice flew to Cambridge City alone. She carried the gift she had prepared for Zhuang Long and walked into Harvard Medical School.

The place where Clarice appeared was a scenic view.

At 15 years old, she was already more than 1.6 meters tall. She was wearing a pair of tight jeans and a black denim jacket. Her long hair was tied up, and she looked very young. Students passing by could not help but peek at her.

“Hey, look, beautiful girl!”

Someone bumped Zhuang Long’s shoulder and asked him to look ahead. Zhuang Long looked up with a smile and really saw a beautiful blonde girl. Zhuang Long saw that the girl was looking in their direction and even flattered his friend. “She must be looking at me. Who asked me to be handsome!”

“Tsk, you’re clearly looking at me.”

The group of boys got closer and closer. Clarice saw Zhuang Long and was about to walk over with the box in her hand when Zhuang Long turned his head to talk to the boy beside him. He did not notice her at all.

Chapter 823: I Want to Date You

Clarice watched as Zhuang Long walked past her and the group left happily.

Clarice turned around and looked at the person’s smiling face. Her heart suddenly ached, as if it had been pulled away with her bare hands.

She knew that Zhuang Long had two personalities, and she knew that the other personality did not remember her. Before she came to see him, Clarice was already mentally prepared. However, the scene in her imagination really happened, and it gave Clarice a blow that caught her off guard. Clarice rubbed her heart, which hurt a little.

Clarice almost cried.

She carried the box and left quickly. Zhuang Long was talking to his friend when someone suddenly bumped his shoulder. He staggered forward, and the girl who bumped into him had already run away quickly.

Zhuang Long glared at the girl's back and was a little angry. He even scolded, "Don't you know how to apologize!"

The girl suddenly stopped and turned around to glare at him.

Zhuang Long was speechless.

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When Clarice returned to New York, the first thing she did was turn on her computer and send Zhuang Long an email.

The contents of the email were as follows—

Their friendship was over.

On Zhuang Long's 18th birthday, he drank too much and got into a moderate car accident when he drove home as a friend. Zhuang Long's head hit the glass and he fainted. When he woke up again, he was already a second personality.

Zhuang Long and his group of friends were dragged to the hospital by an ambulance. He had a few stitches in his arm. He left the hospital late at night and took a taxi home himself. When he got home, Zhuang Long stared at the mirror and realized that he had grown up. The eighteen-year-old young man had completely grown up. When he faced the mirror and pursed his lips, he looked a little serious and his gaze was malicious.

Zhuang Long lay in bed for more than an hour before everything that had happened in the past few years was sorted out. He searched his memory and found out that Clarice had come to the medical school to look for him. Zhuang Long frowned and did not know why Clarice had come to look for him.

He opened his email and saw three emails.

He looked up from the bottom.

The first document was as follows—

Their friendship was over.

The second letter—

Julia is finally 18 years old today and is very happy that she has survived this day. I hope that she will live another 28, 38, 48 years...

The third email was three hours ago—

Happy birthday, Ah Long.

Staring at the last email, Zhuang Long suddenly had the urge to see Clarice. Without a word, he picked up his identification documents and wallet and went straight to the airport. Before dawn, the plane soared into the sky. Above the clouds, he saw the sunrise. Under the sunlight, the clouds became dreamy.

Only then did Zhuang Long realize.

Just because the other party said happy birthday, he could not wait to fly to New York. Was he too impulsive?

Clarice woke up in the morning and logged into her email on her phone. When she didn't see Zhuang Long's reply, her mood turned bad. She hadn't seen Zhuang Long in a long time and missed him. Clarice ate breakfast and received a call from Julia.

"You didn't go home last night." Clarice sounded cold and angry.

There was silence on Julia's end.

Clarice sneered and asked her, "What exactly do you want to do!"

Only then did Julia speak. "I plan to marry him, Clarice," she said.

"You're crazy!"

Clarice threw away the spoon in her hand and looked upset.

"Julia, do you know what you're doing?"

"I love him, Clarice. I love him."

Clarice couldn't speak. She was trembling, and it was impossible to tell if she was angry or angry. Clarice said, "I don't know how long I have left. I hope that before I die, the man I love will be with me, not a man in his forties who has no feelings for me. Everything is fine, Clarice. I will never love anyone else the way I love him."

"Chris, help me."

"I can't help you, Julia." Clarice felt powerless. "You know, even I can't."

How could Julia not understand this logic?

“I understand.”

She suddenly hung up.

Clarice held the phone that had been cut off and felt uneasy. She felt that something was wrong with Julia.

It was a little cold in the fall, and Clarice was wearing a windbreaker. The bodyguard opened the car door, and Clarice was about to get in when she suddenly looked up at the small park outside her house as if she had sensed something. Under a banyan tree in the park stood a young man in a black shirt, making his figure look handsome.

His black hair was short and he looked handsome. He looked at her, and there was a deeper meaning in his seemingly indifferent eyes that she could not understand.

Clarice froze.

She quietly got into the car and the bodyguard sat in the front passenger seat.

As the car drove away, Clarice shook her finger outside the window.

Clarice arrived at the company and parked her car on the first floor of the basement. There were no cars around her exclusive parking space, and it looked a little empty. The bodyguard pressed the button for the elevator to open. Clarice stood outside the door and waited. The door opened and she walked in.

The moment the door was about to close, a hand suddenly landed between the closed elevator door.

The bodyguard suddenly pulled out his gun and pointed it at the door warily.

Clarice did not stop him. She watched as the elevator door opened again. Outside the door, the young man's figure gradually became clear. Clarice quietly stared at the person outside the door without

saying a word. Zhuang Long's gaze had been deliberately suppressed by him, so it did not seem as passionate and perverted.

He said to the person inside, "Let's talk?"

Clarice's expression did not change. She looked cold and unreasonable.

Upon hearing this, she asked him in a flat tone, "About what?"

Zhuang Long was silent for a long time. Just as Clarice's patience was about to run out, Zhuang Long spoke.

"I want to date you."

In the elevator, Kevin and the other bodyguard were so frightened by this answer that they almost lost their grip on their guns.

Clarice was stunned for a moment. Then, her cold face lit up like a spring breeze after winter. "Come in." Clarice took a small step to the side. Zhuang Long did not hesitate and walked in.

Kevin and the rest put away their guns.

This person might be their future master, so it was better to be respectful.

Clarice had a meeting at nine in the morning. The moment she arrived at the office, she said, "I have a meeting at nine. I won't be able to finish dating in an hour. I'll talk to you when I come back from the meeting."

Zhuang Long nodded obediently and sat down on the sofa.

He casually found a book to read. Even though he could not understand it, he read it very seriously. Hence, this morning, the company's manager, vice president, and higher-ups realized that the usually serious and unreasonable CEO Clarice seemed to be in a good mood today.

Chapter 824: Misunderstanding

She frowned less often and looked at people less unhappily. Occasionally, when she heard something interesting, she would smile happily.

This was really strange.

Zhuang Long had only read a dozen pages of Robert Merton's Financial Studies when Clarice returned.

Glancing at the book in Zhuang Long's hand, a hint of a smile flashed across Clarice's eyes. "What books do you usually like to read?"

Zhuang Long said a few books that he had a deep impression of. "My favorite books are Sky Blue Other Side and Screaming Haitang." Zhuang Long's hobby surprised Clarice.

Clarice had never heard of the second book he mentioned.

However, she did not want Zhuang Long to look down on her. Clarice pretended to be cold and nodded. After returning to her desk, she started to Google the book "The Screaming Haitang".

After reading the introduction, she had an idea in her heart. Then, she said to Zhuang Long, "I thought you would like to read some virology books."

Zhuang Long shook his head. "I might as well write it myself."

Clarice was speechless.

Was this the arrogance of a genius?

Clarice placed her hands on the desk and assumed a posture of wanting to talk. Seeing her like this, Zhuang Long sat up straight.

“Come on, let’s talk,” Clarice said.

Zhuang Long nodded.

Clarice tilted her head and looked at him, arguing with him about an old score. “I went to look for you two years ago. I even brought a gift before Christmas. In the end, you walked past me and treated me like I was invisible.”

Zhuang Long had to seek justice for himself and explained, “He doesn’t know you.”

“Then.” Clarice’s expression turned serious and her tone was sharp. She asked him the most difficult question. She said, “Then, who am I dating? With you, a secondary personality that appears and disappears at times? Or with Zhuang Long?”

Zhuang Long fell silent.

His silence troubled Clarice.

“You don’t even understand the feeling of not knowing me when I go to find you and you walk past me with a smile,” Clarice said bitterly. “It’s really uncomfortable.”

Zhuang Long stared at Clarice and thought about it seriously for a moment before suggesting, “Forget it then. I was rash this time.”

He was indeed too young. He did such a rash thing on an impulse.

He knew better than anyone that he and Clarice could not fall in love seriously. His personality was incomplete. Every time he slept, the damage was like a breakup for Clarice.

Seeing that Zhuang Long was about to leave, Clarice was furious.

“Kevin, close the door!”

Kevin quickly closed the office door.

Zhuang Long was locked in his office.

He wasn't angry. He just turned around and stood behind the door, looking at Clarice speechlessly.

Clarice walked over and stood in front of him.

The two people who were once about the same height finally had an advantage in height.

Zhuang Long was about 1.83 meters tall. Clarice, who was already 1.71 meters tall, had to wear high heels to talk to him at eye level.

Clarice blocked Zhuang Long against the door.

Zhuang Long looked down at the two of them, who were almost touching each other, with an unnatural expression.

Clarice saw his innocent look and chuckled softly. She sighed. “Who asked me to like you?”

Ever since he went to the beach to find shells for her because of her unintentional words, Clarice had an unusual feeling for him.

At that time, she did not know how to like him. She treated him as a friend and decided to protect him.

From the moment he protected her and acted out a show to cut ties with her and returned the photo to her, Clarice could not let go of this person.

Her fingers gently touched the scar on Zhuang Long's chest. Clarice suddenly kissed Zhuang Long on the chin. "Let's try to fall in love."

He had an unstable personality, and she had a family with perverted rules. Their relationship was destined to be ridiculous.

Zhuang Long's chin was itchy. He was not in a hurry to agree. Instead, he said, "But I can't guarantee how long I can wake up, when I'll fall asleep, and if I'll get better. Will he mess around while I'm sleeping?"

"Don't worry about that," Clarice said proudly as she held his chin. "If he dares to mess around, I'll kill him."

Zhuang Long was speechless.

They were in love. To outsiders, Clarice appeared nonchalant.

Clarice was in love. The family was very nervous and worried that she would do something stupid. However, after observing her for a while, they realized that her attitude did not seem serious and were relieved.

As long as she did not marry this man and did not have children with him, the elders and heads of the Lawson family would not make things difficult for her.

That time, Zhuang Long remained awake for two months. The day he fell asleep was without warning.

Clarice sent him an email but did not receive a reply. She knew that Zhuang Long was asleep. During that period of time, she was especially irritable.

That Christmas, Clarice worked overtime for a month before she managed to squeeze out half a month of vacation.

She wanted to go to Cambridge City to see Zhuang Long.

No matter which personality he was, she would be satisfied as long as she looked at him in the dark.

She bought a 24-morning plane ticket and flew straight to Boston without sending Zhuang Long an email in advance. When Clarice arrived at Zhuang Long's apartment, it was night time. She sat in the car and saw a girl in Zhuang Long's apartment. The girl looked like a Chinese.

Clarice stood downstairs in his house, leaning against the window.

The snow was falling a little hard. Clarice did not move. Her fur jacket was covered in snow.

The window upstairs suddenly opened. The girl looked down at Clarice and asked, "Who are you looking for?" The girl's voice was a little cold. Clarice did not expect Zhuang Long to like this.

Clarice stared at the girl's face. Her heart ached and she was angry.

At this moment, Zhuang Long's face appeared beside the girl. He also looked down at Clarice and frowned when he saw that she was covered in snow.

"Hello, is the car broken?" Zhuang Long said. "I can call someone to repair your car. If you don't mind, you can ask my family to come over."

They were clearly a couple, but his attitude towards her was worse than a stranger.

Clarice clenched her fists and gritted her teeth. "No need."

With that, she turned around and got into her car.

Zhuang Long and Ji Yinbing looked at each other.

That night, Zhuang Long did not sleep well. When he woke up in the latter half of the night, he was already a second personality. The first thing Zhuang Long had to do was find his phone and call Clarice.

The call did not go through, and the phone was switched off.

Chapter 825: She's Not My Girlfriend

Zhuang Long guessed that she might have taken a plane back, so in the middle of the night, Zhuang Long rushed to the airport and flew to New York without saying anything to Ji Yinbing.

Clarice did not go home for Christmas and found it boring. She slept soundly in her apartment.

She had half a month off, but she had nowhere to go. Clarice planned to go to Julia's for dinner that night. In the afternoon, the doorbell outside the villa rang. The housekeeper knocked on Clarice's door with a frown.

Clarice opened the door and asked her, "What is it?"

The housekeeper said, "Miss Lawson, someone is looking for you outside the door. It's a man."

Clarice went downstairs and saw the person standing outside the door. Her face suddenly turned ashen. "Close the door!"

The housekeeper closed the door obediently.

It started to snow again outside. Clarice put on a warm coat and gloves and prepared to go to Julia's for dinner.

She opened the door and was shocked speechless when she saw Zhuang Long standing at the door, covered in snow and his face turning purple from the cold.

"You..." Clarice's heart ached and she was angry. "You're indeed a fool. It's snowing so heavily. Don't you know how to avoid it?"

Zhuang Long's lips trembled for a long time before he stammered, "She's not my girlfriend."

Clarice looked at him deeply, her expression unreadable.

Zhuang Long added, "Her... her name is Ji Yinbing. She's his good friend and his close friend's girlfriend."

Seeing that Zhuang Long was about to freeze, Clarice could only bring him back to the house.

She asked the maid to fill the bathtub in her room with hot water. Clarice called Julia and told her that she would not be going over tonight.

Julia asked her what had happened at the other end of the pass, but Clarice did not explain in detail. Zhuang Long stood behind her, trembling from the cold.

Clarice brought the frozen man back to the room. She personally peeled off his clothes and pressed him into the warm water.

The people who were freezing suddenly touched the hot water. Their bodies were like ants biting them, and they felt especially uncomfortable.

This feeling made Zhuang Long almost collapse. He was probably in an illusion as he kept saying, "I was wrong, I was wrong. I'll listen to you from now on..."

Clarice's heart ached.

She took off her clothes and followed him into the bathtub. She hugged Zhuang Long from behind. "Ah Long, Ah Long, don't be afraid. It's me. It's me. Robert is already dead. No one will hurt you again, Ah Long..."

Gradually, Zhuang Long regained his composure.

Zhuang Long's body was wrapped in hot water and was no longer as uncomfortable. Zhuang Long suddenly raised his head and kissed Chris.

Clarice was stunned, but she did not push him away. Instead, she hugged him even more tightly.

Zhuang Long had always thought that the night of revelry in the hotel was his first time with Xiao Li.

In fact, their first real time was on Christmas this year. That year, Zhuang Long had just turned 21, and Xiao Li was just 20.

Neither of them had dinner that Christmas.

The next morning, the two of them woke up a little early.

The chef made breakfast and brought it out when he saw them wake up.

Clarice faced the table full of delicacies, but she could not arouse her appetite. Zhuang Long saw that she was not interested and thought of how he had bullied her last night. His heart softened and he could not bear to see her lack of appetite.

“Why don’t I make you breakfast?”

Clarice was instantly interested.

“Okay.”

Zhuang Long went to the kitchen and Clarice followed him in.

“What do you want to eat?”

Clarice didn’t hesitate. “You,” she answered firmly.

Zhuang Long paused with the kitchen knife in his hand. He looked back at her with a fierce gaze. He shook his head and said, “Young people need to control themselves.”

Clarice looked like she had heard a joke.

“You’re the one who doesn’t know how to control yourself.”

Zhuang Long remained silent.

Since Clarice could not tell him what she wanted to eat, he would make some.

Zhuang Long made a basket of soup dumplings for Clarice, a plate of almond prawn steak, and a plate of rice balls made of fresh prawns and vegetables. Clarice had always been a person who controlled her diet. After all, she loved beauty and was afraid of gaining weight. However, this morning, she made an exception and ate too much.

“You’re really amazing.” Clarice’s praise was not exaggerated.

Upon hearing this, Zhuang Long said, "When I was young, there was a period of time when no one at home cooked and I could only cook myself. At first, the dishes I made were also very unpalatable, but I learned later on."

These words made Clarice's heart ache again.

"It's okay. I know how to cook noodles. When you're hungry in the future, I can cook for you."

Zhuang Long asked her what she would do.

Feeling smug, Clarice said proudly, "I can cook spaghetti."

"Then we can try it at noon today."

"Sure."

At noon, Clarice really made two servings of spaghetti. The taste was indeed very good. Zhuang Long gave her a thumbs up and cleaned the entire plate.

They spent a few shameless days at home. On January 5th, something happened to Julia.

Clarice did not expect Julia to be so foolish.

In order to leave the Lawson family and marry the person she loved, she had openly challenged the dignity of the entire Lawson family and wanted to cut ties with them.

The family had to punish disobedient clansmen like Julia.

The family brought them many things that ordinary people did not dare to think about, such as wealth, fame, and status. It was not easy to cut ties with the family.

Julia insisted on leaving the Lawson family despite her parents' advice. In the past few years, more and more young people in the family were dissatisfied with the family rules. There were many people who had the same thoughts as Julia, but she was the first to speak up.

In order to show off and establish their might, the law enforcement officers of the Lawson family decided to extract the blood in Julia's body and replace it with someone else's. She could leave the Lawson family, but she could no longer have the blood of the Lawson family flowing in her body.

A living person had to experience the process of having their blood drawn and then transfused. This punishment was inhumane.

This judgment quickly spread in the clan. Those who had something in their hearts were as obedient as quails.

Julia, on the other hand, accepted this judgment.

When Clarice heard this news, she could not be bothered to be intimate with Zhuang Long and drove back to the Lawson family's private hospital. Clarice was the chosen heir of the family. She was the future head of the family, but her biological sister always wanted to leave the family.

When she arrived, everyone looked at her excitedly.

Clarice walked to the surgery door and saw the scene inside through the glass window.

Chapter 826: Ah Long, Hug Me

Julia was lying on the bed, covered in soft tubes. A few doctors in white coats were monitoring the situation beside her. Blood was flowing out of her body, carried in a large glass instrument. Other people's blood was being transfused into her body.

Clarice stood outside the window, her eyes red.

This blood exchange surgery lasted for several hours. Julia was forced out of the operating theater and pushed to the intensive care unit. When Clarice's mother, Gladys, saw Clarice, she scolded her. "You know what happened between her and that man. Why didn't you stop it!"

"Don't you know that your sister has heart disease? Can her body withstand such torture?"

"If anything happens to Julia, I'll hate you for the rest of my life."

Clarice looked like she had heard a joke.

She looked at her beautiful mother and only asked her one question. She asked Gladys, "Who caused Julia to have congenital heart disease?"

Gladys could not answer.

Clarice looked around at the people standing beside her. These people were all core members of the family.

A bleak smile appeared on Clarice's lips. She said, "Within our family, there are a total of thirteen siblings in this generation. Four of them died young, one was deformed, three were demented, Julia had inherited heart disease, and the remaining two, although healthy, were sent by you to manage the family branch in other countries because of their average IQ. This is equivalent to exile."

"My cousin Louis and I are healthy and intelligent. Since we were young, in order to compete for the position of heir, we have done many ruthless things that aimed at each other's hearts!" Clarice looked at her handsome cousin with a self-deprecating expression. She asked everyone present, "Could it be that he and I were born vicious and inhumane?"

"No, you're the ones who made us learn to be bad children since we were young!"

“Every one of you is a coward! You don’t dare to disobey the rules of the family. You will bow your heads and be villains for the rest of your lives. You will marry whoever you are told to marry. You will marry whoever you are told to marry! Yes! You have married people and wives. You have a lot of lovers outside. You have a carefree and happy life. But have you thought about how pitiful the children you gave birth to are!”

“Is Julia wrong?” Clarice looked at her mother. She said, “She’s braver than you. She’s my pride. She’s the most respectable person in our family. But none of you understand...”

Clarice did not care what effect her words would have. She was focused on Julia’s condition and left the operating theater floor to go to the floor where Julia was hospitalized.

Julia’s physical fitness was poor to begin with. Coupled with the torture of her illness, she, who was 1.7 meters tall, only weighed 90 pounds. After the surgery, she looked even weaker.

Clarice stood outside the ward for a long time.

The phone in Julia’s bag suddenly rang. Clarice picked it up and stared at the caller ID, frowning.

She finally picked up the phone.

On the other end of the phone, Bruce’s excited voice sounded. “Hey, Julia, I got the role of Victor. You’re right, I should be more confident in myself. I’ll get a lot of money this time. I plan to change houses and prepare a cloakroom for you. You won’t have to worry about having nowhere to put your clothes in the future.”

Bruce was just a child from an ordinary middle-class family. Ever since he started dating Julia, he had been under a lot of pressure. However, this person was like a pine tree. The snow could not collapse and the wind could not blow. He was determined and devoted.

Clarice listened to Bruce’s excited voice on the phone and suddenly understood why Julia was doing this.

There was such a person. He did not have much money, but he was very hardworking and had great potential. He had earned 100,000 USD. He would invest 90,000 USD in you. He had to live on the remaining 10,000 USD. There was also another person who was very rich. He could give you a rich life. If you married him, you would not have to worry about food and clothing. He had hundreds of millions of assets. He was willing to spend hundreds of millions to support you, and he was willing to spend the rest to support his other lovers.

Who would you choose?

Clarice looked at the pale woman inside the door and said to the man on the phone, "You have to love her well, Bruce. She almost risked her life for you."

Bruce was stunned to hear Clarice's voice.

His heart tightened and he quickly asked Clarice, "Where's Julia! What's wrong with her?"

Clarice said, "I won't tell you where she is for the time being. If she makes it through this time, I'll allow you to see her." If she doesn't, then there's no point in meeting.

After hanging up the phone, Clarice walked out of the hospital.

An umbrella was held over her head.

Clarice looked up and met Zhuang Long's concerned gaze.

Her heart was so cold that there was no warmth at all. In the past, her young but strong face had finally taken off all its strong armor at this moment, revealing a hint of exhaustion and weakness. She leaned on Zhuang Long's shoulder and said, "Ah Long, hug me."

Zhuang Long did not waste any time. He hugged her tightly.

On the way back, Clarice told him about Julia. Zhuang Long listened and said nothing.

Seeing that he was silent, Clarice knew what he was thinking. She asked, "What about you? If you agree to marry me, if you admit that you love me, I'll marry you." She blinked, and there was a coquettish look on her face that all girls her age had. "Ah Long, I actually especially envy Julia. Will you be my Bruce one day?"

Zhuang Long's heart tightened.

He said nothing, but the hand around Clarice's waist tightened.

Between loving her and protecting her, Zhuang Long wanted her to be healthy and safe. He did not want something as painful as changing her blood to happen to Clarice.

Seeing Zhuang Long's plan, Clarice sneered and said self-deprecatingly, "Then, I will definitely marry someone else and marry a branch family that is outstanding in all aspects. He might not love me, and he might have a large number of lovers outside, but we will still get married and act like a loving couple in all public places. We won't love each other, but we will sleep together..."

As she spoke, the smile on her lips became even more cruel. "Just like what we do every night, we make love until we die. I will also do such things with other men."

Zhuang Long's entire body was tense. He did not say anything and his expression was especially ugly.

Clarice laughed softly. She asked him, "Even so, you don't mind?"

Zhuang Long answered Clarice with his actions.

He pressed Clarice against the back of the car. He lay on top of her and attacked her like a wild wolf. Clarice did not cooperate with him, but a faint smile appeared in her eyes.

Chapter 827: He Said: Congratulations

After parting with Xiao Li, Zhuang Long felt extremely tired on the plane back to Boston.

He knew that he was going to sleep.

Zhuang Long realized that as he grew older, the time he woke up became shorter and shorter. He did not know if this was a good thing or a bad thing. Thinking of Clarice, a strong thought arose in Zhuang Long's heart. He wanted to cure himself and become a normal person. When Clarice needed him, he could go to her side and comfort her.

Zhuang Long forced himself not to fall asleep. He only fell asleep peacefully when he got off the plane and returned home.

Zhuang Long woke up the next morning. His mind was in a daze, but he did not realize that his memory had been cut off.

Zhuang Long did not expect that he would sleep for two years this time.

In the past two years, Zhuang Long had completely completed his studies and moved to New York.

He had his own independent research institute and signed Ji Yinbing, this precious treasure. The two of them developed the antidote for the KT virus together. Just last month, they even successfully conquered the AIDS virus and developed the antidote.

He was suddenly famous in New York and even the world.

On this day, he received an invitation from the new mayor. The mayor was going to take office and held a celebratory cocktail party. Other than politicians, there were also some celebrities in the business world. Zhuang Long had just won the Nobel Prize in Medicine last month, so the mayor naturally did not let him down.

If this was someone else's banquet, Zhuang Long could go or not, but he could not retreat from this particular event.

Not only did Zhuang Long go, he even dressed up.

When he arrived, the cocktail party had already started.

The scene was filled with the fragrance of clothes and hair. The gorgeous lights made the reserved and elegant smiles on everyone's faces even more moving. Not many people knew Zhuang Long, and he was in no mood to get to know those big shots. He sat on the sofa and watched them talk about popular political topics and business topics.

Of course, Zhuang Long could occasionally hear people discussing him.

This feeling was very subtle. You were sitting there, but the people behind you were discussing you. Fortunately, those discussions were positive. If they were negative, Zhuang Long might not be able to sit still.

Suddenly, there was a commotion at the entrance of the hall.

Zhuang Long also looked up and saw a man and a woman enter the venue.

Zhuang Long had seen many beauties over the years. At the scene, there were also many beautiful faces that were comparable to Hollywood female celebrities. However, they were all eclipsed by that woman.

The woman was wearing a red waist-length dress. The hem of the dress dragged on the ground. It was short in the front and long in the back, revealing a section of her calf that was flawless white.

The woman was holding the arm of a tall and mighty-looking man. The man looked a little mature and was probably in his thirties.

Zhuang Long stared at the woman for a while longer before looking away.

So what if she was beautiful? She was not his anyway. He would not get married in this lifetime. Zhuang Long was not interested in dating.

Zhuang Long drank a few glasses of wine and went to the toilet.

He washed his hands and hummed a tune as he walked back. However, in the corridor, he was pulled into a room by a hand.

Zhuang Long thought that a criminal was about to commit murder. His gaze changed slightly and he was ready to counterattack at any time.

The lights in the room were turned on. Under the lights stood a woman in a red dress.

Zhuang Long looked at the lady warily.

The woman looked at him with a bitter gaze. Her appearance really made Zhuang Long feel like he was a heartless man. However, he clearly remembered that he had never seen this woman before.

"I'm getting married." She said something that Zhuang Long found baffling and confusing.

Zhuang Long was stunned for a moment before saying, "Congratulations."

What else could you say when a stranger told you that she was getting married?

Zhuang Long thought that his answer was beautiful, but he saw that the beauty in the red dress was a little pale.

She stood there, her figure seemingly swaying.

Zhuang Long felt that her high heels might be too high and she could not stand properly.

Clarice stared at Zhuang Long with a complicated gaze that made Zhuang Long's hair stand on end. They were clearly lovers, but he did not recognize her.

For a moment, Clarice almost shouted everything out and told Zhuang Long that they knew each other, that they were in love, and that he had a split personality.

But Clarice could not bear to.

She could not bear to see Zhuang Long in pain.

She could not bear to see him suffer, so she could only suffer by herself.

Clarice still did not give up. She walked to Zhuang Long and suddenly raised her head to kiss him.

Zhuang Long was stunned for a moment. When he came back to his senses, he realized that his heart was beating faster. He felt that he might be drunk.

Clarice held half his face in her hand. Her gaze was as gentle as if she was looking at her beloved lover.

Zhuang Long panicked and felt uneasy.

Chris's eyes were filled with sorrow. "You actually congratulated me. Very good. You can say anything, but you have to congratulate me!" As if she had just woken up from a dream, she let go, opened the door, and left.

Zhuang Long stood where he was, looking dazed.

A moment later, Zhuang Long calmed down.

He shook his head and turned to leave the room. He walked down the long corridor, but when he turned the last corner, he heard a commotion coming from the room.

Zhuang Long looked over curiously and saw a familiar figure.

The fiery red fabric wrapped tightly around the woman's sexy body...

A few minutes ago, the woman who had been frivolous to him was now hugging another man.

In the blink of an eye...

In the blink of an eye!

A wave of anger suddenly arose in Zhuang Long's heart and quickly spread throughout his body.

Zhuang Long did not even understand where this anger came from, so his body acted first. He pushed the door open and stepped into the house uncontrollably.

Zhuang Long grabbed the tall man and kicked him to the ground. Zhuang Long picked up a hard ornament in the room and walked towards the man.

Seeing that Zhuang Long was about to smash the sharp corner of the inverted triangle in his hand onto the back of the man's head, Clarice quickly hugged Zhuang Long's waist from behind.

"Ah Long, don't, don't kill anyone."

It was unknown what touched Zhuang Long, but his raised hand stopped dangerously on the man.

The man turned around in panic. He looked at Zhuang Long and then at Clarice. Then, he climbed out of bed in a panic and ran away.

The woman behind him patted Zhuang Long's back gently and comforted him. "Don't be angry, Ah Long. Don't be angry..."

Zhuang Long did not know what went wrong.

After hearing the woman's comfort, his anger did not subside at all. Instead, it showed signs of increasing.

Zhuang Long suddenly came back to his senses and hugged Clarice. He pushed her onto the bed and asked in a dangerous tone, "Why are you so disobedient?"

Chapter 828: I'll Marry You!

Zhuang Long lost his rationality.

"Where did he touch you, huh?" he asked as he bullied Clarice.

Clarice groaned. It hurt, but she did not resist.

Her groan agitated Zhuang Long even more.

Zhuang Long turned her over.

Clarice turned around, her back exposed to Zhuang Long's vision.

Zhuang Long grabbed her waist and saw a tulip tattoo on her waist. Zhuang Long stared at the tattoo and felt that he had some impression of it.

However, he, who had lost his mind, could not control his actions at all...

After an unknown period of time, Zhuang Long suddenly regained his senses. He woke up and saw the bite marks all over Clarice's body and his teary eyes.

Zhuang Long panicked and quickly carried Clarice. "Clarice, I'm sorry, right?" When he woke up and realized that he had hurt the person he loved, his heart ached and he blamed himself.

Many emotions swirled in his heart. Other than apologizing, Zhuang Long did not know what to do.

Clarice suddenly cried.

Zhuang Long was even more flustered.

"Does it hurt?" This cold man's face was filled with heartache. He wiped his tears and apologized over and over again.

However, Clarice said, "Zhuang Long, you're so bad. I was about to die last time, but you didn't remember me!"

After thinking about it, Zhuang Long understood which time Clarice was referring to. She was referring to the time when the KT virus erupted in the Middle East.

"I'm sorry. It wasn't me at that time. It was him. I'm sorry I didn't recognize you."

Clarice didn't really blame him. She just felt terrible.

"What are you doing in the Middle East?"

Clarice said, "Julia's health is getting worse and worse. She has to undergo surgery. My men found someone who matched her body in all directions. That person lived in the Middle East and caused some

trouble. I went to the Middle East personally to see him and bring him to New York. Who knew that my luck would be so bad..."

Zhuang Long nodded. Thinking of Julia, he asked, "Did Julia's surgery succeed?"

"Not bad. The doctor said it can last a few years."

She looked at Zhuang Long. The person in front of her had completely become a mature man.

Thinking about what had happened to her over the past two years, Clarice felt wronged and could not help but complain. "If you hadn't appeared, I would have married Cabins."

Zhuang Long's eyes turned cold.

"Who is Cabins?" His tone was stern and cold, as if he wanted to eat the man called Cabins alive.

"The man from before."

Zhuang Long's aura turned cold and treacherous.

"Him?"

His eyes flashed. He lowered his head and whispered unhappily in Clarice's ear, "He kissed you. I saw it. His hand was still touching your waist."

Zhuang Long pinched Clarice's waist and said in a domineering tone, "You're mine."

Clarice had to explain. "He's the husband my family chose for me," she said.

She described the man's strengths. "He's smart. He's never been married before. He doesn't have many lovers outside, only two. The key is that he's very tactful. Just like I said before, I'll marry a man I don't love, but we'll live together for the rest of our lives and have children..."

Zhuang Long had already fallen completely silent, and his aura was becoming increasingly dangerous and uncontrollable.

But this time, Clarice did not pamper him.

She continued, "Just like you saw before. He'll do whatever you do to me."

Clarice was both torturing Zhuang Long and herself by saying this. The smile on her lips looked sarcastic as she said, "From now on, I'm no longer yours."

"Shut up!" Zhuang Long grabbed her chin and swore, "Other than me, you're not allowed to marry anyone else."

Meeting Chris's stubborn eyes, Zhuang Long said, "Let's get married." The thought of her becoming someone else's woman made Zhuang Long go crazy.

Clarice was waiting for him to say that.

"You'll marry me?"

"I'll marry you."

"No regrets?"

"No regrets."

Clarice smiled and said, "I'll marry you!"

The two of them had not seen each other for a long time. It was not easy for them to meet, so they naturally had to say something considerate.

They were still lying on the bed when the door was suddenly kicked open. An unfamiliar woman barged in with a group of people dressed like reporters and took pictures of them.

Zhuang Long subconsciously protected Clarice in his arms, not letting her expose herself.

Zhuang Long and Clarice spent a chaotic night. At three in the morning, Clarice asked Zhuang Long to go back first. She had to find the company and the public relations team to deal with this matter.

Zhuang Long agreed.

However, he did not expect that he would only sleep for a while when he went back this time. When he woke up the next day, it was not him again.

Zhuang Long woke up and went downstairs. He realized that Boss was looking at him with a gossipy and surprised gaze. "Why are you looking at me?" Zhuang Long said as he walked towards the dining room.

The chief steward muttered something and went to get today's newspaper.

Zhuang Long sat down and had just taken a few bites of breakfast when he saw the head butler enter with the newspaper. He waved at him and said, "Bring it over. Let me take a look." Occasionally, he had the habit of reading the newspaper in the morning, but most of the time, he was reading the distress letters with difficult illnesses.

The chief steward's expression seemed to stiffen.

He obediently handed the newspaper to Zhuang Long.

Zhuang Long flipped through a few newspapers and finally saw the financial and entertainment newspapers. When he saw his face on the headlines, he was so shocked that he spat out the milk in his mouth. "Isn't this fabricated!" How could he not remember this!

The head butler reminded him kindly, "Sir, this should be true."

Zhuang Long was speechless.

He specially went online to search for his video with Miss Lawson. When he saw the video, he was dumbfounded.

The person in the video was indeed him.

What did he do last night?

How did he become the male lead of the erotic photos when he woke up from his sleep? Zhuang Long never expected that the first time he made the headlines of the newspaper with his real face was because of this.

On the other hand, when Clarice realized that she could not suppress the news at all, she knew that someone was behind last night's incident.

Chapter 829: I Have Your Child

She had already guessed who that person was. Other than Cabins, who had almost been beaten up by Zhuang Long, there could be no one else. Clarice had personally gone to see Cabins. Cabins thought that she had come to beg him to forgive her, but when this publicly acknowledged heir of the family saw him, he did nothing else but pour a bag of chicken blood on his head.

Cabins wiped the blood off his face and scolded Clarice, "You stupid bitch! How dare you splash chicken blood on me!"

Clarice snorted and said, "I splashed chicken blood on you because you're very chicken." Seeing Cabins' embarrassed expression, Clarice felt a little better. "Don't be too chicken, and don't find too many chickens. Be careful not to infect your chicken with illness one day."

With that, Clarice left.

This time, she had completely fallen out with Cabins.

Cabins was a foolhardy man. Clarice didn't think he had the guts. There had to be someone else behind him. Clarice didn't need to be a genius to figure out who that person was. Other than her competitor, Louis, there couldn't be anyone else.

Cabins was naturally angry that Clarice had splashed him with chicken blood.

He called the current head of the family. After hanging up the phone, Cabins was in a good mood. He waited for the news of Clarice being punished by the head of the family. In the end, after a day, he did not hear any news of Clarice. Instead, he heard that Clarice wanted to cut ties with the family and leave with nothing!

The heir of the Lawson family had given up his wealth and noble status. He actually wanted to leave the Lawson family and establish his own family like her stupid sister!

When they heard this news, many people thought that she was joking.

However, when Clarice really went to the hospital and underwent a blood draw surgery, everyone had no choice but to believe her.

Cabins rushed to the hospital and heard them say that Clarice had entered the operating theater. At that moment, Cabins understood what it meant to court death. Originally, his life would have been very happy after marrying Clarice, but he had lost this big baby.

Clarice's desire to leave the family might have been premeditated for a long time. However, he had become the fuse that caused her to leave the family. This time, their branch family, which was already not favored, would probably have an even harder time in the future.

No one cared what Cabins was thinking.

At this moment, everyone was more concerned about the comfortless Clarice.

When Clarice received the surgery and was forced out of the operating theater, she was unconscious. It was as if she had gone to hell. Clarice lay in the intensive care unit and saw the familiar faces standing outside the window. For the first time, she truly relaxed.

After this, the future would be wide. Wherever she wanted to go, she could go with her heart. If she wanted to marry someone, she could go with her preferences.

She would not waste her life if she could live like this.

...

Not long after that, Zhuang Long came to look for Clarice once. Clarice had just been discharged from the hospital that day and looked especially haggard. Her face was still a little pale. Zhuang Long thought that she had suffered a blow from the erotic scene and had yet to recover. Although it was normal to have sex after drinking, and neither of them was wrong, they were both wrong.

Zhuang Long was a man after all. Seeing Clarice's haggard appearance, he could not bear it and said to her, "Don't be too sad, and don't worry that I'll pester you. I'm actually a celibate. Don't worry, I won't pester you."

In Zhuang Long's opinion, the other party was a core descendant of the Lawson family. It was said that this girl was also the future heir. Zhuang Long did not want the girl to misunderstand and think that he wanted to climb up the social ladder and be a son-in-law. Hence, he specially explained.

However, when Clarice heard this explanation, she turned even paler.

She threw a cup at him and roared, "Get lost!"

Zhuang Long was shocked and was chased away by the housekeeper.

Zhuang Long thought about it afterward. He thought that Clarice was angry because he shouldn't have gone to see her. Seeing him reminded Clarice of the night that brought her shame and ruined her reputation. For this, Zhuang Long really didn't look for Clarice again.

However, Clarice had never appeared in public. It was as if she had disappeared from the face of the earth.

Clarice reappeared in the public eye two years later. She was holding a one-year-old child and standing in front of the camera. She said expressionlessly to the camera, "Zhuang Long, I have your child."

From then on, Zhuang Long got married and raised a child.

Later on, he accidentally divorced her and ended up without a wife and child. He lived a lonely life with loneliness every night. After he married Xiao Li, Zhuang Long's secondary personality woke up a few times. One time, he woke up on Christmas Day. That was the first Christmas after they got married.

That year, Zhuang Qilin was only two years old. When he saw his mother and father getting married in front of the Christmas tree, he even made a fuss and shouted all over the house, "Daddy and Mommy kissed! Daddy and Mommy kissed!" Upon hearing the young master's words, the butler and servants all retreated automatically, not daring to enter the house.

Zhuang Qilin went out to announce loudly. When he returned, he realized that the room where the Christmas tree was placed was actually locked from the inside. He kicked the door, but no one came to open it. Instead, he heard his mother snort.

It was only when the butler boldly ran over and carried Zhuang Qilin upstairs to play with his toys that Zhuang Qilin's attention was diverted.

In those few years, Zhuang Long did not wake up often. In the first two years, he could wake up about four to five times in a year, but the time he was awake was shorter each time. In the third year of their marriage, the second personality only woke up once. This time, he accompanied Xiao Li for less than three hours before falling into a deep sleep.

The last time he woke up was two months before their divorce.

He woke up because he happened to see Xiao Li beating Zhuang Qilin. That scene agitated Zhuang Long, and he lost control for a moment and almost killed Xiao Li. That night, Zhuang Long hugged Clarice and chatted for more than two hours. They made a promise—

They decided to divorce. If Zhuang Long could remember everything and recover within three years, they would remarry.

If Zhuang Long had no feelings for her and never thought of her or remembered what happened when they were young, then they should just separate.

Separating was an outcome they were unwilling to face, but they were all adults. They clearly understood that if Zhuang Long continued to be sick like this, something would happen sooner or later. Zhuang Long did not want to wake up one day and discover that he had killed the person he loved the most.

Xiao Li could not bear to see Zhuang Long in pain.

...

The villa with the sea view was especially quiet.

The servants and butler moved softly. Zhuang Long lay on Xiao Li's bed, the photo in his hand spilling all over the floor. He lay on the bed with his eyes closed, as if he was dreaming.

Chapter 830: Drink some wine to calm down

Tears rolled down his face.

He had a long dream. Everything that happened in the dream was filled with pain, but there was also brilliance. His adoptive mother, Caitlin, his lover, Xiao Li, and his mother, who was clearly weak but took his place at the critical moment and went to jail to atone for his crimes.

Just as the second personality had said—

The demon in the darkness stretched out its fangs and hands. He grabbed us and tried to take us to hell.

However, there was still light and angels by our side.

Zhuang Long suddenly opened his eyes. His eyes were red and filled with blood tears.

He sat up slowly and rubbed his sore head. For a moment, he had a feeling that he could not tell reality from a dream. However, he knew very well that he was not seeing a dream, but reality. His original name was Herbert and he lived in Monterey Bay. His father was a neurologist, but he was a perverted killer.

His mother was weak, but she loved him deeply. She had wasted her life in prison for him.

As for Xiao Li, she had always been the one who gave silently.

From the beginning to the end, he had wronged her.

It was just a nightmare that seemed like a dream, but Zhuang Long was actually covered in cold sweat. He filled the bathtub with water and took a hot bath. Only then did his cold body warm up a little. He borrowed a set of clothes from the butler and changed. Zhuang Long rested in the villa for the night and left the next morning.

As soon as he left, Xi Bo picked up the phone and called Xiao Li.

“Miss Lawson, Mr. Zhuang has already left.”

Xiao Li nodded and hung up.

She did not ask Xi Bo if Zhuang Long had found the truth. She was afraid that she would be disappointed if she asked too much.

June 27th was a very lively day.

Xiao Li and Bruce booked the Plaza Hotel. Almost all the guests who received their wedding invitation were present. Yan Nuo and Ji Yinbing, who were supposed to be on their honeymoon in Italy, rushed back to New York to attend Xiao Li's wedding. They met Fang Yusheng's family on the way and went to the wedding venue together.

On the way, they sat in their respective cars. The adults were very quiet and their expressions were serious. Only Fang Zikai and Fang Zicheng were filled with anticipation. They could see the beautiful bride again.

Suzanne did not attend Xiao Li's wedding. She had actually received an invitation, but she refused to attend the wedding. Although she and Zhuang Long usually loved to argue and looked like they had a deep hatred for each other, in fact, these two people had the best relationship among them.

Suzanne felt that Xiao Li was being unkind. If you want to get married, you can do it yourself. Why did you invite Zhuang Long as a good friend?

Wasn't this trampling on Zhuang Long's face?

Suzanne did not come herself, but she could not stop Fang Yusheng and the rest.

Fang Yusheng and the rest felt that Xiao Li wanted to use this wedding to do something else, but they were not sure. They were afraid that if they all attended, she would only want to hold a lively wedding. Then, when they saw Zhuang Long in the future, it would be difficult for them to explain.

Just like that, the few of them were a little nervous and arrived at the wedding venue with their own thoughts.

There was a driver at the entrance of the hotel who helped them park the car.

The moment Qiao Jiusheng and Fang Yusheng got out of the car, they waited for the two little fellows to jump out before walking into the hotel hand in hand. Bruce and Xiao Li's wedding photos were especially beautiful as they stood at the entrance of the hotel.

Their hearts sank when they saw the name of the bride, Clarice, and the groom, Bruce.

Yan Nuo and Ji Yinbing followed closely behind. They also glanced at the poster.

They looked at each other. Wherever Yan Nuo was, Yan Nuo was the big brother.

Big Brother said, "Let's go in and see what tricks she's up to." With that, Big Brother took the lead.

Fang Yusheng held Qiao Jiusheng's hand and followed his brother into the hotel.

The group of people signed their names at the guest table and walked into the wedding hall. Unlike the custom of receiving money in China, Xiao Li's wedding did not accept cash. On the day the wedding invitation was sent out, they were given a website. On this website, the newlyweds' favorite gifts were listed.

Those who came to attend the wedding could buy good gifts online and send them to the newlyweds by courier company.

Fang Yusheng and his wife only gave Xiao Li an exquisite wooden comb. It was not expensive, only a few hundred yuan. Yan Nuo and Ji Yinbing gave Xiao Li and the rest an olive branch-shaped brooch. This was also what Xiao Li liked.

Here was a sentence.

When he was choosing a wedding gift for Xiao Li online, it was Fang Yusheng who chose it. When he bought the comb, Qiao Jiusheng happened to be sitting beside him. Fang Yusheng hugged Qiao Jiusheng's waist and said, "We should do the same when we get married." His tone was quite regretful.

Qiao Jiusheng suggested a good idea sincerely. "Then we can get a divorce and get married again."

Fang Yusheng slapped Qiao Jiusheng's butt.

Qiao Jiusheng giggled and leaned on Fang Yusheng's shoulder, laughing until her body trembled.

She heard Fang Yusheng say, "I'm a traditional person. If you want me to choose a gift, the wedding gifts I want will definitely be valuable goods. Like sports cars, pure gold decorations, or antiques."

Upon hearing this, Qiao Jiusheng tried to undermine him. "Then you won't even attend your wedding."

Fang Yusheng thought about it and felt that it made sense. That was why he did not feel so regretful.

The venue of Xiao Li and Bruce's wedding banquet was decorated extravagantly. This room had been made into a sea of roses. The exquisite roses that had been flown over from Bulgaria were arranged into a huge half-moon shape. In the middle of the moon was a red carpet covered in rose petals.

The bride would walk over from here later.

Fang Yusheng and Yan Nuo's families' seats were arranged together. From the arrangement of this seat, it could be guessed that Xiao Li had spent all her energy on this wedding. Qiao Jiusheng could not help but take a sip of red wine. She did not know what would happen later, so she had to drink some wine first and be mentally prepared.

At the side, Ji Yinbing imitated her and took a sip of wine.

At the table, only Fang Zicheng and Fang Zikai, the two little fellows, did not have any psychological burden at all. They looked up and sized up the roses above their heads. Fang Zikai said to his brother, "When I get married in the future, I want a sea of roses bigger than the moon."

Fang Zicheng nodded.

"Brother, what about you?"

"What?"

"What will your wedding hall look like?"

Fang Zicheng actually thought about it seriously. Then, like an old adult, he glanced at Fang Zikai and educated him, "How old are you? Why are you talking about marriage?"