

Ex-Wife 2001

Chapter 2001

Renee went to the kitchen half an hour later. She had ordered the ingredients to make s'mores pops, and they had arrived.

Quinton had an apron on and was watching tutorials on how to make s'mores pops on his phone. He kept muttering the steps, 'First, wash fruits like blueberries, grapes, and strawberries. Then, toast the marshmallow over a flame until it turns golden brown...

Renee assisted him and was responsible for handing him equipment or ingredients. She had no chance at all to make any s'mores pops. Quinton toasted the marshmallow seriously, as if he was talking business or inspecting a rare treasure. Renee was mesmerized watching him, and felt that she would fall in love with him if he were not her brother. As expected, men looked very charming when they were passionately doing something. Besides, she knew that he had a soft heart even though he said otherwise. On the surface, he looked like a male chauvinist who refused to cook, but he could actually cook well. He always cooked at home, and both Adie and Abby loved his cooking. They claimed that his cooking skills were better than Mijerlin chefs. Even though he was called the Night Demon, he could be a family man if he wanted to. Joanne was quite similar, which made them a perfect match for each other.

"Mm, it smells so good. Quinton, you're a genius!"

Soon, Quinton had finished toasting the s'mores. He had even added some appetizing and nutritious ingredients to them before putting them on skewers with blueberries, grapes, and strawberries. He also sprinkled some crackers, rose petals, and other gamishes on them. They looked delicate and delicious, and also smelled great." These are for you. And you can take those to her." Quinton wrapped the s'mores pops, then handed some to Renee and saved some for Joanne. Then, he added, "I'll make some for the kids too, I'm sure they'll love them."

"No rush." Renee stopped Quinton and smiled. "You spent the whole afternoon cooking. Go take some rest and then deliver these s'mores pops to Joanne. If not, you'll become a master at making these. We can even set up a store for you.'

"No, you give them to her. I won't do it." Coldness gleamed in Quinton's eyes. "She and I fell out with each other, so how can I say I made s'mores pops to make her happy? No, I can't do that. I can't be a kiss-ass."

Renee sighed in exasperation at her brother's stubbornness. "Quinton, you care too much about your image. It won't kill you to bow down to her. You're a man."

"It isn't about my image..."

"Then what is it about?"

"Well... It's..." Quinton trailed off, unable to answer. Frustrated, he shook his head. "I won't go. If you insist on me delivering them to her, I'll run away from home and never come back."

"Fine, I won't force you to do it. I'll do it. Are you satisfied now?" Renee could only give up since she knew Quinton's character. Besides, things would get chaotic if Quinton and Joanne met, so it

would be better to take things slow. "Well, I'll take them to her then. Renee carried the plate of s'mores pops, nervous about meeting Joanne.

Chapter 2002

The atmosphere in the guest room on the second floor was harmonious. Margaret sat beside the table and smiled fondly at Joanne as if she were looking at the future matriarch of the Everheart family. "Miss, you're Joanne, right?" Margaret smiled and asked gently.

"You are?" It was the first time Joanne met Margaret, but she found her very friendly and warm, like Joanne's late mother. Margaret had a temperament that would put anyone at ease.

"I'm a nanny here. Call me Margaret," Margaret humbly introduced herself and asked Joanne, 'I heard from Ms. Ren that you led quite a difficult life. What happened to make you take things so hard? Why did you want to kill yourself?"

"I..." Joanne shook her head as her eyes turned watery. "I don't know how to explain it. I might have found it easier to die at that moment." When she met Quinton again at the school where her new life had begun, it felt like she had met a demon who wanted to grab her and pull her down to hell. If she did not use her death to express her hatred for Quinton, she had no idea how to face him. After all, she couldn't escape, but she refused to let him control her. Hence, the only way she felt she could escape was by killing herself.

"Regardless of how big the problem is, it's just a mess of tangled up strings. You just need to calm down and patiently unravel them. You should have never harmed your body. After all, you wouldn't be able to resolve what needs to be resolved if you were gone, right?"

Margaret's gentle and calm voice soothed Joanne's soul better than any drug. Joanne immediately felt relaxed, and quite comfortable and relaxed as she heard Margaret's explanation. Naturally, she opened up to her. "Margaret, you're quite an experienced person. You should know that someone can't stay alive when they lose all hope, and I... seem to have lost all hope. I don't want to struggle in the mud. I might as well just kill myself and get it over with." Joanne didn't have a lot of willpower, and had a lot of resentment towards the world. Her short life at the elementary school had been the only light in her life, but Quinton's appearance had immediately put it out. Joanne's life was back in darkness again, so she had no will to hold on.

"Nonsense!" Margaret frowned and patted Joanne's cheek tenderly. "You're still very young, even younger than Ms. Ren in fact. Stop being so pessimistic. Look at me I'm not young anymore, but I feel like my life has just begun. You're not even thirty. Even if you can only live up to seventy, you still have forty years left. Isn't that hope? Try and think about it like that. Many things can happen and change in forty years, so it's pointless if you leave just like that!" Margaret knew quite a lot of young people. Some were extreme while others were arrogant or bad-tempered. Some were even impulsive and childish... but Joanne was the only one who was desperate, hopeless, and gloomy. She even acted like breathing was a waste of time.

Chapter 2003

As the child of a physician, Margaret could cure many difficult and rare diseases. She felt that Joanne's gloominess was the result of her weak body, and that she would one day get better as long as she nourished her body well.

"Just stay here and rest. I have a bit of medical knowledge and can help your body recover. As long as you feel better and more energized, you won't feel depressed or want to kill yourself." At that point, Margaret held Joanne's hand and carefully took her pulse. Instantly, her expression turned serious. "Oh, gosh! What's wrong with your pulse? Oh, you poor girl. What have you been through?" Margaret was a medical expert, and could glimpse into people's past just by taking their pulse. She felt quite sorry for Joanne. "You suffered a lot a few years back, and no normal person would be able to take that. No wonder you feel so hopeless... Anyone else wouldn't have been able to hold on." While talking, Margaret started getting teary. "Oh, girl. You've suffered so much. Don't worry, it's all in the past. You're here now, and we're here for you. Everything will get better." Margaret could feel that Joanne had suffered outrageous abuse. Both her body and mind were tortured as a result of abuse from crazy and cruel men, and her sexual organs had collapsed because of it. She might never become a mother for the rest of her life, and her collapsed organs might cause her to age seriously in the future. When she was forty, she might look fifty. But she was considered very strong since she had survived until now with that trauma.

"Thank you, Margaret." Joanne kept her head hung in embarrassment. "I'm sorry you had to see something so shameful. I led quite a messy life a few years back, and I didn't have a say about my body. I was just a plaything for those cruel men. I wanted to die many times, but they didn't allow me to... Later, Mr. Osborne and Ms. Everheart freed me, and Mr. Hunt gave me a new life. If I chose to die, then I would have wronged them... so I survived until now." Joanne knew that any capable physician would be able to tell her past just by her pulse, and they would see her as an immoral woman. Although it hadn't been her intention, she could not hide it. She was once a lady of the night who had worked at a red-light district, so she was embarrassed and ashamed to face Margaret. She felt dirty and used.

"Silly girl, don't say that. It's all in the past, and what's most important is the future. Yes, your health is bad, but it can be solved if you take my advice and nourish your body well every day."

"No!" Joanne shook her head. "You all don't have to be so nice to me. I'm not related to your family, and even if I am... I was the one who nearly got Quinton killed. You and Ms. Everheart should scold me or throw me out."

"No, you're wrong!" Renee had been outside the door when she heard that. She pushed open the door and hurried in agitatedly.

Chapter 2004

"you're a friend who's very dear to me.

I hope you can be happy, even without Quinton as the reason." Renee looked at Joanne, and sounded very sincere.

"So, stop overthinking.

Relax and stay here.

Margaret is a great physician.

She'll help you get better.

Once you get better, you'll have the energy and confidence to do whatever you want, including being a teacher.

Am I right?" "Ms.

Everheart..." Joanne looked at Renee in a daze.

Her eyes grew redder because she was quite touched.

"You're a nice person.

No wonder Mr.

Hunt likes you.

You guys are really very kind." "Well, I'm not that good either.

I'm not nice to everyone.

I like you, so I'm nice to you.

Plus, it's written in the stars for US." Renee sounded casual, as she refused to make it very melancholic.

Honestly, she didn't find herself a kind person.

She was nice to Joanne simply because she wanted to make it up to the latter, for Quinton's sake.

"This..." Hurriedly, Renee handed the plate of s'mores pops to Joanne.

"They're just cooked with a lot of flavors.

Try and see if they're nice." "S'mores pops..." When Joanne finally noticed the food, her eyes brightened up as if she had seen a long-lost treasure.

"I loved them the best when I was a child, but it's been a long time since I had them." "you can have them now!" Renee said enthusiastically.

"You should have some sweet food when you're in a bad mood.

Quinton even added some crackers and roses.

I'm sure they taste good." When she made that statement, she regretted it...

Mentioning Quinton was equivalent to raining on someone's parade.

It was like she had mentioned a rotten apple while enjoying some wonderful fireworks.

At first, Joanne had stretched her hand out to get some s'mores pops.

When she heard Renee, she immediately retrieved her hand and looked cold and emotionless.

"Thank you, Ms.

Everheart, but I've got a toothache.

I can't eat this.

Plus..." After a pause, Joanne raised a profound comment.

"I liked them when I was a kid, but I no longer like them now." "Uhm..." Feeling awkward and remorseful, Renee hated the slip of her tongue. She should not have mentioned Quinton.

"It's okay.

Having some desserts can give you energy.

Your wound will heal faster, too." Margaret tried to persuade Joanne.

"They're just s'mores pops.

They don't mean anything.

Plus, one's taste can be diverse.

Have a try.

If you don't like them, you can spit them out.

It won't hurt to try." "Yeah, one's life is long.

We can always have a try.

If it doesn't taste good, you can spit it out.

After all, the ingredients aren't expensive.

You can just have one," Renee quickly echoed Margaret's words.

"Okay...

I'll have one, then." Joanne found it hard to reject their kindness the content is on !

She picked one and tore off its wrapper.

Then, she carefully bit it.

"How does it taste?" Renee looked at Joanne eagerly.

Joanne was the first to try the food.

Her feedback was very important.

Joanne remained silent as she munched the food.

She gave no feedback.

However, she did not hesitate to have

another s'mores

es pop after she was

done with the first one

"It looks like they taste good, don't they?" Renee's eyes widened and she stared at Joanne because she didn't want to miss the latter's actions.

She was sincerely glad because of Joanne's brave attempt.

Chapter 2005

After a brief silence, Joanne finally spoke up.

"They don't taste like the ones I had when I was young...

The ones I had when I was young were very sweet.

But this isn't that sweet.

It's a bit sour, but...

There's a sweet aftertaste." "Ha, ha, ha! That's great.

Well, it's bad if the s'mores pops are just sweet.

I like them sour and sweet.

It's more challenging." Renee made some meaningful comments, and started having one s'mores pop too.

"Mm... It's good! I've got to say that Quinton cooks well.

I feel like getting him into catering." Renee had never tasted such delicious s'mores pops.

She had a few of them at one go, and smugly started talking about Quinton again.

1 But Joanne was no longer that repulsed.

She even chimed in, " Yeah, you're right.

He's good at cooking.

He was always the one who cooked when we were young." "Ts...that so?" Renee was speaking carefully.

She held her breath for fear that Joanne might regain her wits and start hating Quinton again.

At least, she could tell from Joanne's expression and reaction that she did not hate Quinton.

"If you like his cooking, I'll make him cook from now on..." Renee grabbed the chance and raised a question. "What would you like to eat tonight? Just say it.

I'll get the ingredients and make him cook." "Anything." Joanne forced a smile, and looked at Renee thankfully. "Thank you for taking care of me.

You made me feel at home, which I hadn't had for a long time.

Honestly, I feel quite shameless, and I don't want to leave." "Just stay here if you don't want to leave.

I've got many rooms here.

The more, the merrier.

I'm glad, even if I'm just thinking of it.

oy Renee was happy to see the change in Joanne.

There would be room to turn things around as long as she accepted their kindness.

Regardless, Renee would not have a guilty conscience.

"Okay, let's not disturb Ms.

Garcia for such a long time.

She needs a good rest." Margaret checked the time, and asked Renee to leave the room.

Nevertheless, Joanne had just escaped death and was weak.

She would only heal faster with more rest.

When they exited the room, they breathed a sigh of relief.

"Ms.

Ren, this lady is very pitiful.

Her body has weakened to a ghastly state.

She has to stay here to get better, regardless of her willingness.

If not...

Something will happen to her sooner or later." Margaret and Renee went downstairs.

She eagerly told Renee what she had found.

"I also hope that she can stay here and let US take care of her for a while but Renee looked up in the direction of Joanne's room. She was more or less worried.

"What's wrong? Didn't she make up her mind to stay?" Margaret did not understand? Renee's worries.

"Yes, she said that, but we have no idea about her true decision.

You don't know her.

She's very stubborn.

I'm afraid she just agreed on the surface, but did some stupid things secretly don't think so.

She doesn't have to joke around with her body," Margaret said.

After spending some time with Joanne, Margaret found Joanne a very obedient woman.

Joanne had just led a miserable life, and needed love.

"we don't know for sure." A sigh escaped Renee.

"After all, we still have a time bomb here, which is Quinton...

I'm sure you understand."

Chapter 2006

For the subsequent few days, Joanne found it hard to resist Renee and Margaret's enthusiasm.

Hence, she chose to stay in Everheart Manor.

Renee purposely had a long chat with Quinton to ensure Joanne could stay there with peace of mind.

She prohibited Quinton from appearing in front of Joanne without permission.

Luckily, Quinton seemed to have come to his senses.

He obeyed that rule, and never barged into Joanne's room again.

He didn't even approach the second floor.

At the same time, he took charge of cooking.

He used different tricks to cook nice food every day.

He was the image of a nice gentleman.

Margaret went to all the herbs markets nearby, and finally gathered the herbs to help Joanne get better.

She meticulously prepared and cooked the herbs for Joanne every day.

After a few days, Joanne got better.

Even her cheeks seemed plumper.

Renee was relieved to see everything moving in a good direction in an orderly manner.

She knew Joanne was worried about the school.

Hence, she decided to go to the school on her own.

Before setting off, Renee instructed Quinton again.

"Quinton, Joanne's getting better.

Even her mood has improved.

She even jokes with US occasionally.

I think this is a good sign.

Do what I said-don't suddenly appear in front of her and affect her mood.

Do you understand?" "I have a lot on my plate." Quinton looked cold, and purposely feigned indifference.

"I need to go to Carmine Pawnshop to work every day after cooking.

And there are new projects in Azure Group lately.

I don't have to argue with someone purposely, do I?" "I'm glad to hear that." Renee nodded.

"I need to get to Lone Pine Elementary.

The trouble you made isn't resolved yet.

I need to see how things are now." "It's just an elementary school.

If they dare to make a scene, I'll get someone to get rid of it." Quinton waved, and sounded rough.

In his style, he would refrain from having much talk if he could use violence to resolve the issue.

If Joanne hadn't knocked against the wall, he would have beaten up the

parents who watched the scene, the deputy class teacher who added fuel to the fire, and the principal.

"Hey, stop!" Frightened, Renee hurriedly tried to stop him.

"It's a different generation now.

You'd better not do that! All the parents there are powerful and influential people.

They cherish their kids very much.

I'm worried that they might hold you and Joanne responsible and hat that paint she suddenly stopped and looked unnatural.

Quinton frowned and asked, "And?" "Nothing!" Renee shook her head, and inhaled deeply.

"In short, this issue isn't as simple as you imagined.

If they demand an apology, I hope you can bow down and apologize to them properly.

""No, I don't want to." Quinton acted like a willful child.

"In this world, no one can make me apologize.

I might as well get rid of them instead of apologizing to them. "M Renee was rendered speechless.

Chapter 2007

Exhausted, Renee finally understood how helpless a parent would be when their children reached the rebellious stage.

The current Quinton acted like a rebellious child.

The different thing was, a rebellious child would at most talk back.

Quinton, on the other hand, would put them into action.

It was a dilemma.

"T think...

Is it because of Stefan?" Quinton watched Renee's expression, and hit the nail on the head.

Stunned, Renee pursed her lips and pretended to be ignorant.

"What...

What do you mean?" "You're so eager to settle that issue.

I guess it's not only because of Joanne and me.

You're afraid of burdening Stefan, aren't you?" Quinton continued pointing out the reason she wanted to go to the school.

Besides, he knew that his guess was right based on Renee's reaction.

He was an impulsive man who was prone to anger, but he was no fool.

When Renee spoke up, he would know her thoughts.

Besides, they were twins who were very close to each other.

"No, I'm not!" Renee smoothed her hair, and denied it with confidence.

"I guess he doesn't need me to help him settle this, given his identity and influence in Beach City.

He won't be burdened, either." "I hope so." Quinton knew that she was merely being stubborn, but he didn't expose her lies. A sigh escaped him.

"Go ahead.

Do what you want to do as long as you're at ease.

Don't worry about things at home.

I'll behave myself." "Okay, then I'm rest assured." Renee felt much better with Quinton's promise.

She quickly set off for Lone Pine Elementary.

However, once she reached the school, she learned that things were more serious than she thought.

Many parents worked together to file a complaint against the principal and requested to dismiss him because of Joanne's affair.

Consequently, the school was forced to stop operating.

The parents held up banners at the school's entrance.

They even set up a protest team to demand punishment for the principal and relevant people.

Naturally, the relevant people included Stefan, who had pulled strings to help Joanne get a job there.

Coincidentally, the issue was at its worst that day and had alerted many mass media.

"Listen up, reporters.

It was very dangerous that day.

I don't know how many benefits this school had received.

They hired a crazy woman to be the class teacher for my kid.

You know what? That woman is

covered in scars; I don't know what kind of background she has." "Plus,

she's never been to a college or

taught kids.

She simply got this job by pulling strings.

This is a humiliation in the education field.

We demand an explanation from the Ministry of Education!" "Yes, you're right.

We have no idea if these teachers have all pulled strings to get in here.

We won't let this go unless they investigate this thoroughly!" The many parents were agitated as they crowded in front of the cameras to narrate the dangerous scene that happened that day.

"On that day, Ms.

Garcia's friend strangled Ms.

Cadigo and me.

He nearly broke my neck in the school...

Well, how horrible that was! I can't imagine how serious the consequences would be if he strangled a kid that day we must punish all people involved seriously and leave no one behind! If not, our kid's can't study here with peace of mind..." The reporters recorded the parents' wrath, and made some leading comments.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you can see how agitated the parents are.

I read from a netizen that a noble

man had bribed the principal to get the Cienna language teacher with an unknown background into this school.

That person...is none other than the president of Hunt Enterprise, Stefan Hunt!"

Chapter 2008

The crowd was agitated, and kept rebuking and slandering Stefan.

"So, it was the president of Hunt Enterprise who pulled strings here! No wonder the principal made such a bold move!" "Tsk! Rumor has it that Stefan's the local tyrant.

He can do whatever he wants.

Well, that's not wrong...1' "We can't have a guy like that in Beach City! He must answer to the law!" "T heard he's always cruel and heartless.

He even targeted his first wife and abandoned his family just because of his mistress.

What a scumbag!" Renee covered her face when she heard their rebukes.

She was afraid of being burdened when others recognized her.

"Excuse me!" She took a deep breath, and tried to walk forward among the agitated parents.

She even became worried about Stefan.

The issue seemed trivial, but it created a domino effect.

One single mistake caused a lot of consequences.

During the recent two years, the image of Hunt Enterprise suffered a great blow because of Stefan and Renee's divorce, the resentment between him and Carmine Pawnshop, and the scandals related to his and Jovan's competition.

Consequently, the progress and profits of the enterprise were affected.

If it were proved that Stefan had pulled strings, the PR department of Hunt Enterprise would get busy again.

Besides, if the information Renee had gained was accurate, it would be the time Hunt Enterprise entered the market of new energy vehicles lately.

It was a crucial time for Hunt Enterprise to launch its first new energy vehicle.

The enterprise had spent a lot of manpower and resources to develop that kind of vehicle.

It needed a high profit to get the enterprise out of its former predicament.

Ironically, the target customer of that vehicle happened to be the middle class and above.

They were the noble elites, and overlapped with the parents of Lone Pine Elementary.

If the issue got bigger, that group would be the first to boycott the vehicle.

It would be a fatal blow for Hunt Enterprise.

No wonder Joanne was that anxious.

She was impatient to settle that issue the moment she woke up.

It seemed that the consequences would be very serious when the incidents were linked together.

Renee's anxiety deepened as she dwelled on it.

She quickened her pace and dashed toward the principal's office.

When she reached the office, the principal's secretary stopped her.

"May I know if you are a parent of a student here? This is the administrative office area of the school].

You can't come here." "I would like to meet the principal," Renee explained, looking worried.

"May I know if you've made an appointment? If not, we can't let you through.

You know this is a special period.

Many parents want to meet the principal to demand an explanation every day the secretary explained apologetically.

"I'm not trying to find fault with him.

I'm here to discuss with him how to

solve this issue," Renee elaborated

resolve this issue,

about her intention of going there

"Really? What's your name? I'll inform the principal the secretary the secretary watched

Renee briefly, sounding gentler. I The

After that incident, groups of parents demanded to meet the principal for an explanation daily.

They were quite agitated.

However, Renee was not agitated but worried.

Hence, the secretary believed that

Renee was sincerely there to help instead fault with the principal. Read

"Tam..." After a brief contemplation, Renee told the secretary, "I'm Ms.

Garcia's older sister.

She's hurt, and can't rush here.

So, she asked me to come here to discuss the countermeasures with the principal." "Ms.

Garcia's older sister?"

Chapter 2009

Surprised, the secretary asked, "I heard Ms. Garcia has no family.

Isn't that right?" "No, I'm her family.

I can call her right now if you don't believe me.

"Renee fished her phone out to prove herself.

"That's unnecessary." At that time, the principal's voice came from the office.

"Harmony, let her in." Harmony Cyan, the secretary, nodded and replied, "Okay, Mr. Porter." Then, she let Renee into the office.

Renee smoothed her looks, and took a deep breath.

She politely knocked on the door of the office before entering it carefully.

Dale Porter, the principal, was working hard in the office, his head lowered.

Although he was in his fifties and had gray hair, he looked energetic and was in good spirits.

Renee walked to the office desk, and gently introduced herself to Dale.

"Mr. Porter, hello.

I'm Joanne's sister, Renee Everheart." "Renee?" Dale frowned and tried to recall who that was.

Suddenly, he looked up and asked in surprise, "So you're Mrs. Hunt?" "No!" Renee hurriedly waved.

"I was Mrs. Hunt, but we broke up on good terms.

I have nothing to do with him now." "I knew it!" Dale capped the pen and studied Renee with a profound look.

He even faked a smile.

"She looks ordinary and mediocre, but Mr. Hunt asked me to take care of her.

So, it turns out to be because of this.

I didn't know that Ms. Garcia's elder sister was Mr. Hunt's ex-wife.

Ms. Garcia didn't tell me anything about this, though!" "Uh..." Renee was so awkward that she became speechless.

Dale noticed Renee's awkwardness, and sincerely commented on Joanne, "Relax, Ms. Everheart.

I'm very satisfied with Ms. Garcia.

She can be a great Cienna teacher even without this relationship." "I know Joanne is very good, and she sincerely wants to be a teacher.

She wants to be nice to the kids, too.

But I don't know how it ended up like this.

It might be my brother's fault.

He was too impulsive that he drove the parents mad..." Renee had learned about how outrageous Quinton was after listening to the parents' complaints.

He had added fuel to the fire, and burdened Joanne and Stefan.

Consequently, Renee's guilt grew.

"So, I came to resolve this and try my best to minimize the impact of the issue as much as possible," Renee explained the intention of her visit. I

"What do you propose to resolve this?" Dale looked at Renee curiously.

"People said it was Stefan who had bribed you, so you allowed Joanne to work here.

I would like to see...if you could work with me and clarify to the public.

You can tell them it was me who did that.

Then, I'll explain to the media that I

threaten

used tricks to threaten you and you were forced to accept Joanne. I

Then, everyone will target me instead.

The impact you guys receive will lessen," Renee said telling Dale honestly about her resolution

That was the best way to resolve the issue that she could think of.

"I see..." Dale smiled, and hit the nail on the head.

"So, you're trying to share the responsibility of this issue for your ex-husband?"

Chapter 2010

"No, you got me wrong!" Renee immediately denied it.

She looked awkward, as if she had been seen through.

"I just want to minimize the negative impact.

I'll still do this even if this issue has nothing to do with Stefan." "Fine." Dale nodded without getting to the bottom of it.

"I wanted to take full responsibility for this.

After all, I'm going to retire.

But since you're willing to step forward, I won't reject your offer.

My pension is very important, too.

If this issue gets bigger, my family will be humiliated.

Plus, I might not retire peacefully.

It's horrible just thinking of it." "I'm sorry, Mr. Porter.

In short, I should be held responsible for this.

Thank you for giving Joanne this working opportunity too.

She cherished this very much, and kept saying that being a teacher was like a second chance in life," Renee apologized to Dale sincerely, and thanked him. She knew the issue wouldn't be that serious if not for Quinton's craziness.

Hence, she felt that she should step forward to bear the responsibility for it reasonably.

"Well, you don't have to thank me.

I just did Mr. Hunt a favor.

You should thank him instead." Dale checked his watch, and suddenly stood up.

He smoothed his clothes nervously.

"Look. I happened to have an appointment with Mr. Hunt today.

He'll soon get here." "What? Is...he coming too?" Renee soon panicked, as if she was guilty of being caught red-handed.

She hurriedly told Dale, "Well, it's decided.

I'll go now.

When you need me to step forward, just call me." "Are you leaving?" Dale tried to make her stay.

"Mr. Hunt will soon be here.

Isn't it better for you to discuss the solutions together? I happened to book a private room in The Crane.

Let's talk while we're eating." "No, I've got something at home.

I'll take a rain check," Renee said politely, and retreated to the door of the office.

While stepping forward, she bumped into somebody.

1 She knew instantly who that was.

Subconsciously, she frowned and wanted the ground to swallow her up.

She cursed inwardly for such bad luck.

She had tried her best to avoid having contact with Stefan.

She even chose the afternoon of a working day to meet the principal.

She wondered why she would bump into Stefan, and if he didn't have to get to work.

"Haha! Mr. Hunt, speaking of the devil.

Ms. Everheart and I were talking about you!" Dale enthusiastically welcomed Stefan.

Stefan stood tall, and was as handsome and noble as usual.

He glanced at Renee, and said indifferently, "Is that so? What was it about?" "Nothing." Renee beat Dale to it and cut the topic short. Then, she smiled at Stefan politely.

"Mr.

Porter, Mr.

Hunt, I've got something at home.

I'll go now and leave you to your chat." For an unknown reason Renee didn't want to spend much time with

Stefan.

She purposely avoided his gaze and tried to brush past him.

She felt that they should have a clean break.

They should not meet or miss each other, or even talk to each other.

As time passed by, Renee would get used to not having him by her side.

He would then no longer be able to affect her mood.

"Um..." Dale looked awkward.

He wanted Renee to stay.

"Ms. Everheart, why don't you discuss your former suggestion with Mr. Hunt? I think we'd better listen to him about this.

What if he has other solutions?" "That's unnecessary" Renee stopped being gentle and became overbearing and aloof.

"If you think it won't work, you can listen to him.

I just gave you a suggestion.

After all, I don't have to implicate myself in this." "What?"