

## Chapter 22 Celebrate Birthday At Home

Maeve stood frozen in place, offering an awkward smile. Theo's voice carried a tone she had never heard before, cold and distant. Maeve's heart pounded with unease. Could it be? Could it be that Theo had already unraveled the truth?

Yet, Maeve maintained a facade of innocence.

"Sure, Theo, what do you want to talk with me?" Maeve's voice flowed with a saccharine sweetness, her demeanor resembling that of an innocent little girl—a performance that only deepened Theo's sense of aversion.

Theo averted his gaze, fixating on the fruits resting on the table.

"What are these?"

Maeve found herself momentarily perplexed by his question, her brows furrowing in confusion.

"Fruits, of course. Theo, you know I like fruits." Maeve replied, her voice carrying a slight tinge of relief, grateful that Theo hadn't stumbled upon any evidence.

"Is that so? But you are suffering from kidney disease, aren't you?" Theo wore a serious look.

Maeve was caught off guard once again, her head instinctively nodding in agreement. His peculiar attitude today left her feeling ill-prepared.

"In that case, why do you have bananas and milk on your table?" He calmly threw another question.

"I..." Maeve struggled to find her words, her tongue stumbling in an attempt to articulate a coherent explanation.

"I thought uremia patients can't have them."

Theo observed Maeve's unease, allowing himself a cold, triumphant smirk within his heart.

"Oh, they were gifts from other friends. I suppose they weren't aware of my condition. You know, it would be impolite of me to throw them away." Maeve managed to gather her thoughts and responded with a calm explanation.

Theo nodded slightly, seemingly thought her answer reasonable.

However, within Maeve, a sense of apprehension still lingered. Theodore's behavior today had deviated from the norm. It's just so weird. She had anticipated him to continue probing, but to her surprise, he merely nodded and fell silent, his curiosity seemingly appeased.

"Don't take these fruits. Take good care of yourself. Rest assured, I will strive to have you cured." Theo whispered tenderly, enfolding Maeve in his arms.

As Maeve nestled against Theo's embrace, a sense of relief washed over her. She knew that Theo would never discover the truth. She inwardly mocked Cecilia's foolish behavior.

Theo tenderly patted Maeve's back. "The weather has turned cooler these days, so you must take good care of yourself. I have a lot of work left to do these week, so I may not have time to stay with you. Please take care."

It suddenly occurred to him something.

"Oh, Maeve, isn't your birthday coming up in a few days? Let's celebrate at home!" Theo affectionately stroke Maeve's hair, eagerly looking at her.

"Yes!" Maeve sweetly nodded, her beautiful eyes turning into crescents with her smile.

A few days later, it was Maeve's birthday.

Theo had arranged for the villa to be romantically decorated in advance. Maeve's favorite flowers adorned every corner.

Theo stood on the second-floor corridor, overlooking the living room. Everything was prepared perfectly. He had meticulously prepared all this for Maeve, intending to "repay" her for everything she had done for him over the years.

After Maeve returned from the hospital and saw everything in the villa, she was immediately moved to tears. "Theo, thank you! I feel like the happiest woman in the world right now!"

Surprised, Maeve covered her mouth, her happiness seeming to overflow from between her fingers.

Theo smirked and lightly tapped Maeve's nose.

Taking the bag from Maeve's hand, he led her to the

living room. "You haven't eaten since you came back from the hospital, have you? Let's have dinner first."

Theo helped Maeve sit on the chair and turned to search for something. Seizing the opportunity, Maeve quickly drugged Theo's drink.

When Theo returned and sat at the dining table, he gently swirled his wine glass. The two of them shared a deep gaze and finished the wine in one gulp.





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