Fall for You 161

Chapter 161

Briana sprayed out a mouthful of water.

Madeline realized and quickly said, "Don't misunderstand me, I wasn't trying to compete with you for Maxim. I just like his type of men."

Last time I had dinner with Brycen, he told her that Maxim and Briana got married. God knows how hard she tried to suppress her gossip spirit and not ask Briana about it.

Briana wiped the table and calmly said, "I have already divorced him. If you like, you can go after him."

Madeline's eyes flickered with disbelief.

She had just learned about her good friend getting married when the news of the other person's divorce came crashing in the next second.

Seeing her look shocked, Briana spoke up, "Alright, let's forget about this matter and go eat, we're about to starve!"

After Madeline ordered the dishes at the restaurant, she reluctantly digested this fact.

"Why don't you just take a man with such good conditions?"

Briana didn't think there was anything to regret, "I didn't like it anymore."

"Okay."

She had nothing to say about this reason.

The two of them finished their meal and were about to leave when they ran into Maxim and Kiley at the door.

Since signing the divorce agreement, the two of them have not seen each other again.

It seems that his leg has recovered well, and he is no longer using a wheelchair now.

It should have been easy, but for some reason, my heart felt like it was filled with a lump of cotton, suffocating and uncomfortable.

Maxim's indifferent gaze swept over Briana's face, then quickly averted, as if the two of them were complete strangers.

Kiley had a gentle smile on her face, but that smile carried an undisguised provocation.

"Briana, did you also come here to eat? Unfortunately, we arrived late, otherwise we could have eaten together."

Briana didn't intend to pay attention to her and calmly pulled Madeline

away.

Kiley turned around and glanced at her back, then spoke, "Maxim, why did Briana pretend not to see us?"

Maxim glanced at her and said indifferently, "Aren't you hungry? Go inside."

He didn't look at Kiley again and walked straight into the restaurant.

At Norma's party before, Kiley helped a lot. Kendra had planned to treat Kiley to a meal, but she was too busy recently and didn't have time. So she asked Maxim to accompany Kiley for dinner.

Maxim initially didn't want to come, but Kendra said that he had

already divorced Briana and should spend more time with Kiley.

Not wanting to be constantly nagged by Kendra, Maxim had to come

over.

I didn't expect to meet Briana here, but she acted like she didn't know me. It's amazing how much bolder she has become after the divorce.

However, the woman next to her looked somewhat familiar.

He took out his phone and sent a message to Brycen.

Maxim: Have you been chasing a celebrity recently?

Brycen: Hmm, what's up?

Maxim: What is your name?

Brycen: What did you want to do?

Maxim: I just saw Briana having dinner with a woman, and it seemed a bit like the one you were pursuing.

When Brycen was planning to pursue Madeline, he once sent

Madeline's photo to several groups of people. Oliver bet that Madeline would definitely not like him, which made Brycen so angry that he blocked him for several days.

Brycen: Oh, she knows Briana. Last time when a few of us were having dinner, we ran into Briana and they were also eating together.

After a while, the other party replied.

Maxim: Did they often eat together?

Brycen: I'm not sure, but it seems like the two of them had a good relationship.

Maxim: Next time you have dinner with her, call me along.

Brycen: You didn't want to pursue Madeline, did you?

Maxim was about to reply when Kiley suddenly said, "Maxim, why have you been constantly looking at your phone? Do you not want to have this meal with me at all?"

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Maxim put away his phone and looked up at Kiley, who had a face full of grievances.

If it were in the past, he would have gone up to coax her, but now he just feels a bit annoyed.

"Kiley, I had dinner with you today to thank you for your efforts for Grandma's birthday banquet. There was nothing unwilling about it."

Kiley chuckled bitterly, "Even if you divorced Briana, I still wouldn't have a chance, right?"

She lowered her gaze, her hand by her side involuntarily tightening. She could have lost to anyone, but why did it have to be Briana? She was unwilling to accept it!

Maxim remained silent for a few seconds before speaking, "Kiley, I only see you as a sister now."

Tears welled up in Kiley's eyes as she said, "Maxim, I can never see you as my brother. I have been with you, I have had feelings for you, and I can't go back to being just your sister. If I hadn't been stubborn all this time, if I had come back earlier, would you not have fallen in love with Briana?"

"Kiley, there are no 'ifs' in this world."

"But Briana didn't love you, and you got divorced."

Maxim's face turned a bit cold, and he said slowly, "There is just a misunderstanding between us. Once the misunderstanding is cleared up, we will be together again."

Kiley shook her head, "You don't know her. Once she has made a decision, she won't change her mind."

She made so much effort to make them divorce, she will definitely not let them reconcile!

"It had nothing to do with you."

Maxim looked coldly at Briana, with a chill emanating from his eyes.

He had never looked at himself with such eyes before, and Kiley could only feel a constant pain in her chest, almost drowning her.

She stood up and took a deep breath, saying, "Maxim, I'm tired. Can you take me back home?"

Maxim didn't say anything and got up, turned around, and walked out of the restaurant.

On the way back, Kiley kept shedding tears, but Maxim didn't comfort her like he used to.

When the car stopped in front of the Schneider's house, Kiley turned her head and looked at him with teary eyes, "Maxim, I will wait for you, I won't give up!"

After saying that, Kiley got off the car and left, as if she was afraid that Maxim would say something that would make her even more heartbroken.

Maxim drove to the villa and saw that it was pitch black inside. He called Rayan and found out that Briana had already moved to a villa in the north of the city.

He turned the steering wheel and went straight to the villa in the north of the city. Just as he stopped at the door, he saw Hector knocking on the door, holding a plate of fruits in his hand. Briana quickly opened

the door and let him in.

Maxim's hand gripping the steering wheel tightened involuntarily, anger evident on his face.

It hadn't been long since the divorce, and she was shamelessly having an affair with Hector!

That was really great!

He dialed Rayan's phone and said coldly, "Find something for Hector to do immediately! It's best to make him leave Bridenville right away!"

In the living room of the villa, Briana, Madeline, and Hector were playing Landlord.

Madeline and Hector only found out about each other knowing Briana half an hour ago. In addition, the two of them just collaborated on a movie, so Madeline invited Hector to come and hang out.

Suddenly, Hector's phone rang.

Just after the call connected, his face immediately changed.

"I suddenly had something urgent to attend to, let's reschedule for next time."

Seeing Hector looking anxious, Briana nodded and said, "Alright, you go and attend to your tasks first."

After Hector left, the two of them didn't continue playing cards. They tidied up the table and sat on the sofa to watch TV.

"Briana, does Hector have a crush on you?"

Briana was eating watermelon when she heard the words and choked.

After finally managing to swallow the watermelon, she turned her head and looked at Madeline with a surprised expression, "Have you been watching too many romantic dramas lately?"

"No, do you know how aloof Hector usually is? On set, besides filming, he hardly says a word. If someone tries to chat with him, although he may exchange a few words, he always keeps his distance."

"Even though I filmed a movie with him, I rarely saw him smile."

When they were playing Landlord just now, the smile on Hector's face was completely genuine, completely different from his usual cold and aloof self.

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Briana frowned, "That's because you're not familiar with him. He's a bit reserved, but once he considers you a true friend, he's very gentle."

Madeline shook her head, "Anyway, I think he was different towards you."

Briana initially wanted to explain that it was because she had helped him during his lowest point and had even worked as his behind—the- scenes manager for a while. However, upon further reflection, she realized that he might not want his past experiences to be known.

"Alright, stop overthinking it. What you said is impossible!"

Madeline wanted to say something else, but the doorbell suddenly

rang.

Briana got up to open the door and saw Maxim outside. She couldn't help but frown.

"Mr. Yoder, what did you come here for?"

Maxim looked indifferent and asked, "Why did you sell the villa I gave you?"

Briana didn't expect him to find out so quickly. She spoke up, "I thought you gave it to me, it's my possession, and I can decide whether to sell it or keep it."

"Did you and Hector get together?"

Briana found Maxim's questioning gaze somewhat inexplicable.

"Mr. Yoder, this seems to have nothing to do with you."

A coldness flashed in Maxim's eyes, just as he was about to speak, he heard Madeline's voice coming from the living room.

"Briana, did Hector come back?"

Briana was afraid that Maxim would misunderstand, so she quickly said, "No, it's door-to-door sales."

In the midst of the conversation, Briana pushed Maxim out and closed the door, looking at him she said, "Mr. Yoder, if there's nothing else, please leave now. I don't want my friends to misunderstand."

Maxim sneered, "Are you afraid of your friends misunderstanding, or are you afraid of Hector misunderstanding?"

Briana was annoyed by what he said and said in a displeased tone, "Not everyone is like you, able to seamlessly move on to the next one after a divorce!"

Maxim frowned and was about to ask her when she had seamlessly transitioned, when suddenly he remembered the incident with her and Madeline when they went out to eat with Kiley.

He raised an eyebrow and asked, "Are you jealous?"

It seems that other women appeared around him in the past, and she didn't seem as indifferent as she pretended.

Briana rolled her eyes and said, "Mr. Yoder, being too self-absorbed is a disease!"

"How has your work been recently?"

Briana was speechless by his nonsensical remark.

"What was your purpose for coming here today?!"

"No specific purpose, just came to see if you were doing well."

"Thank you, I was doing well. I think it would have been even better if you hadn't appeared in front of me."

As they were talking, the sound of footsteps approached.

"Briana, where were you?"

Briana's face changed, and she grabbed Maxim's hand, pulling him into the shadows on the side, while she stood at the door answering Madeline.

"Madeline, I have sent the person away, come in immediately."

As soon as the words fell, Madeline opened the villa door and saw only Briana outside. She finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"If you don't come in soon, I would have thought you were kidnapped!"

"Well, I'll go in right away. You go ahead first. I just had a drink and I want to take a walk."

Then I went with you.

Briana caught a glimpse of Maxim's figure moving, as if he was about to step out of the shadows. Her heart started racing involuntarily, and she quickly pushed Madeline inside and locked the door.

"No need, I will be back soon. You go take a shower first!"

The next second, Madeline's half–smiling voice came from behind the door.

"Briana, did you secretly hide a man?"

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Briana's heart skipped a beat, and she quickly said, "You have such a vivid imagination. I really just wanted to take a walk alone, it's not because of your words just now that made me overthink, right?!"

After a few seconds, Madeline finally spoke, "Well, take your time to think, I'll go take a shower first."

Upon hearing Madeline's fading footsteps, Briana finally breathed a sigh of relief, and Maxim emerged from the shadows, though his expression was rather grim.

"Briana, am I really that unbearable?!"

"Mr. Yoder, your current identity is my ex-husband. What would others think if they saw you?"

Maxim frowned, "Can't we meet the ex-husband anymore?"

"It's not that we couldn't meet, it's just not appropriate in the middle of the night."

Maxim sneered, "Huh, it's appropriate for Hector to come find you in the middle of the night, but it's not appropriate for me to come?"

"Of course, he was my friend. If you're okay, you should leave quickly."

Seeing Briana's disdainful expression, Maxim's eyes flickered with a touch of coldness.

"Briana, you shouldn't be too excessive!"

Briana gave him a disdainful look and said, "Me, overreacting?! You showed up at my doorstep in the middle of the night, and I didn't call- the police to arrest you. You should be grateful!"

Maxim:

"Alright, I had to go to work tomorrow morning, I don't have time to argue with you. Don't come looking for me if there's nothing important."

After speaking, Briana turned around and walked straight into the villa, slamming the door shut.

As she walked into the living room, she immediately saw Madeline standing not far away, looking at her with a half—smile on her face.

Briana was startled, "Why haven't you taken a shower yet?"

"I was waiting for you, hurry up and tell me, who was the person outside the door just now?"

Briana's gaze was somewhat distracted, "Who did you say? I didn't see anyone."

"Still pretending?!"

Madeline smiled and gestured to leave. "The person shouldn't have left yet, I should still be able to see them if I open the door now."

Briana quickly grabbed her and said helplessly, "Alright, alright, I'll tell you everything!"

"Spill it!" Madeline urged, her eyes twinkling with gossip.

"It was my ex-husband."

"Maxim?"

Madeline paused for a moment, then frowned and said, "Wasn't he just having dinner with your sister before? Why is he here now? Does he still want to continue his relationship with you?!"

"Your imagination was truly rich."

"Could a man have any other business when he came to find a

woman?"

Briana pondered for a moment and slowly said, "Perhaps he was just bored."

"Can't you think of something good?"

"For example?"

"For example, he liked you!"

Briana remained silent for a moment and calmly said, "He couldn't have liked me."

Madeline frowned and asked, "Why are you so lacking in confidence?"

"It's not that I lack confidence, it's just because I know him very well. We had a secret marriage for three years, and he never fell in love with me. Can he suddenly fall in love after getting a divorce?"

Madeline was choked for a moment and was unsure how to respond.

After all, she was not sure what was going on with Briana and Maxim's marriage, and it was not appropriate for her to pass judgment.

"Never mind, there are plenty of men out there. After leaving, I can have even more men!"

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Briana smiled and said, "Go take a shower and go to bed, I have to go to work tomorrow morning."

"I haven't been working for a while now. Can I stay with you here? Don't worry, I will pay the rent!"

"Do we still need rent in our relationship?"

"I won't be polite then."

The next morning, Briana woke up, got ready and went downstairs. Madeline had already prepared breakfast.

"Madeline, you don't have to wake up early to make breakfast anymore. I'll just grab something to eat on the way."

Madeline handed her a steamed bun and said, "How can that be? I can't just eat and stay here for free. From now on, I will take care of your breakfast and dinner!"

"No, really, there's no need."

As soon as the words fell, Madeline spoke up, "I have already made up my mind. Either I pay the rent or I cook every day. Anyway, I have to eat by myself, so there's no difference between cooking one meal or two."

Briana had no choice but to agree, "Alright then, but if you feel tired, you can stop anytime."

"Got it! Hurry up and have your meal before going to work!"

"Um."

After finishing breakfast, Briana went to work at MY Corporation.

Recently, MY Corporation was striving for a relatively large project. As long as we could secure this project, MY Corporation would be able to gradually develop in the coming year.

As soon as Melody arrived at the company, someone came to her with the files.

"Ms. Schneider, recently CharmDress also wanted to snatch this project and has already been coordinating with the Moyer Group."

Upon hearing this, Briana frowned. The CharmDress is a clothing company under the Yoder Group, which has always taken the high—end route. This project is very important to MY Corporation, but it is optional for the CharmDress.

If the CharmDress really wanted to snatch this project, MY Corporation might not have had a chance, especially considering Maxim and Tyrone's relationship.

"Go and find out why the CharmDress suddenly became interested in this project."

Could it be that I previously rejected Maxim's acquisition, so he wants to retaliate?

The next second, Briana denied her own idea. She still knew Maxim's character well and wouldn't use this method to deal with MY Corporation.

After Melody left, Briana hesitated for a moment and made a phone call to her secretary.

"Arrange a meeting with the President of the Moyer Group."

1

Melody had previously hired two secretaries for her, a man named William and a woman named Charlotte. Both of them had three years of work experience, so they were able to quickly get started.

Briana mainly entrusted Charlotte with the matters regarding the documents. When meeting with business partners outside, she would bring William along.

Soon, William came over to report.

"Ms. Schneider, Mr. Qi will be available after 8 o'clock tomorrow evening."

Briana nodded and said, "Okay, you go and book a restaurant, and invite Mr. Qi to have dinner together tomorrow night."

The Yoder Group, President's Office.

Rayan reported the condition of the CharmDress to Maxim and frowned, saying, "The CharmDress has been declining in business over the past few years, and with the chaotic management of the CharmDress, it's now a mess... If we hand it over to Ms. Schneider, it will probably go bankrupt in less than six months."

Maxim fell silent for a moment and coldly said, "Summon the manager of the CharmDress to a meeting at the Yoder Group!"

"Okay, Mr. Yoder."

In the morning, Maxim fired almost half of the management team of CharmDress, leaving the rest trembling in fear that Maxim might mention their names.

After the meeting, Maxim further refined the division of labor for each person. With a cold expression, he said, "If the CharmDress remains

the same in half a month, you can submit your resignation letters yourselves!"

Samuel, who had just been appointed as the General Manager of CharmDress, nervously said, "Mr. Yoder, we are currently planning to collaborate with a subsidiary of the Moyer Group that produces fabrics. If we successfully sign a contract with them, CharmDress could save billions of dollars on fabric expenses every year. However, we are a step behind, and MY Corporation might take away this project."

After a moment of silence, Maxim coldly said, "Are you asking me to help you negotiate a business deal?"

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In response to Maxim's cold gaze, Samuel quickly spoke up, "It's not... it's just that there have been significant personnel changes in the CharmDress, and now the Moyer Group seems to be leaning more towards MY Corporation. If you could help, Mr. Yoder, CharmDress could get back on track faster."

After a moment of silence, Maxim coldly said, "I understand, I will handle this matter. You can go back to work."

After the person from CharmDress left, Maxim called Tyrone.

"Maxim, did you need something from me?"

"Well, did the subsidiary of the Moyer Group recently have a collaboration with MY Corporation?"

Tyrone was somewhat surprised that Maxim would ask about such a trivial matter and said, "Let me ask the secretary."

Soon, Tyrone's voice came over.

"MY Corporation did express interest in collaborating with us. If nothing unexpected happens, we will be signing the contract in a few days. What do you mean by asking about this matter?"

"This collaboration was given to the CharmDress."

A hint of surprise flashed in Tyrone's eyes as he raised an eyebrow and asked, "What's the benefit?"

"The Moyer Group could participate in the development of the land in the east of the city."

Tyrone was truly shocked this time, and even unconsciously wore a serious expression.

"Why are you suddenly so concerned about a small subsidiary of the Yoder Group?"

Maxim looked indifferent and said, "I planned to separate the CharmDress from the Yoder Group."

"Why?"

"Kiley wanted a design company to practice."

Upon hearing this, Tyrone furrowed his brow. "Maxim, don't you think this is unfair to Briana? Don't forget, during your most difficult two years, she was by your side, silently following you for three years without getting anything in return. Yet, you took Kiley's casual remark to heart."

Maxim fell silent for a moment, his voice turning slightly cold. "This is my own business, you just need to tell me whether you agree or not."

"I seemed to have no reason to disagree."

"That's it."

Hang up the phone, Tyrone's face, however, showed no trace of joy, but rather a hint of gloom.

The secretary on the side couldn't figure out his thoughts and whispered, "Mr. Qi, do we need to cancel the dinner appointment with the president of MY Corporation tomorrow night?"

"Cancel it, and prepare the contract for cooperation with the CharmDress."

"Okay."

The secretary didn't ask much and turned around to leave to make a phone call to the people from MY Corporation.

Tyrone picked up the file and continued to read, but he couldn't concentrate no matter how hard he tried. He felt an indescribable

restlessness in his mind.

If Briana knew about this, she would definitely be upset, right?

He took a deep breath and stopped himself from thinking further.

On the other hand, after receiving the phone call, William immediately went to Briana's office to tell her about this matter.

"Ms. Schneider, do you need to schedule another time to meet with Mr. Qi?"

Briana shook her head and said, "No need, he wouldn't see me."

William immediately understood that the other party's excuse of having something urgent was a subtle way of refusing.

"That collaboration..."

"Go and tell Ms. Joyce that there was no need to continue following up on this project."

Soon, Melody received the message and came directly to find her.

"Ms. Schneider, why did you suddenly abandon this project?"

Briana put down the files in her hand and pinched her forehead, saying, "The CharmDress had already stolen this project, continuing would just be a waste of time."

Melody frowned and gritted her teeth, saying, "I heard that Maxim fired most of the management team of the CharmDress today. I guess it

was to stabilize the CharmDress, so he took over this project!"

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If it weren't for Maxim not knowing that Briana is the president of MY Corporation, Melody would have doubted whether Maxim deliberately tried to retaliate against Briana by snatching the cooperation of MY Corporation, possibly because of their divorce.

"This collaboration could not be reached anymore, and it is useless to investigate the reasons. Now the most important thing is to find a new fabric company. Please send me a list of suitable fabric companies."

"Okay."

All day, Briana selected three prices from the list given by Melody that MY Corporation could afford now, and asked William to arrange a meeting with the other party.

One of the leaders readily agreed and arranged to meet at a restaurant at 6 o'clock in the evening.

Briana arrived at the restaurant early and waited until 6:30, but the other party did not show up. She called William and asked him to find out what was going on.

A few minutes later, William's phone rang.

"Ms. Schneider, the other party said that they suddenly had a business trip and would only be available after the trip. They didn't even bother to call and inform us about it!"

Hearing the complaint and dissatisfaction in William's tone, Briana smiled and comforted, "Don't worry about it, this kind of thing is normal. Try to make appointments with two other places tomorrow."

Hanging up the phone, Briana let out a sigh.

MY Corporation is not the same as before now. She has been away for the past two years, and MY Corporation has been on a decline. Even if she had given that 8 million dollars before, it would only have been able to sustain for a few months.

Setting aside the fact that MY Corporation was founded by her, she didn't want this company to just disappear. In fact, bankruptcy restructuring was the best solution.

However, since she took over again, she would definitely not let MY Corporation reach that point!

Briana called Madeline and asked her to come over for dinner.

Half an hour later, Madeline sat down across from Briana, wearing sunglasses and a mask, looking suspiciously like a thief.

Briana couldn't help but laugh, "You actually stand out more like this."

Madeline took off her sunglasses, her almond eyes filled with doubt, "Is it true?"

"Well, originally no one would pay attention to you, but by wrapping yourself up so tightly, it actually arouses others' curiosity."

"Okay."

She took off her mask, looked around, and found that no one was paying attention to her. Finally, she breathed a sigh of relief.

Briana looked at her makeup on her face, paused for a moment, and couldn't help but burst into laughter.

"Do you still need to wear a mask with this makeup? If I didn't know you well, no one would recognize you walking on the street."

Madeline drew a mole on her face and put on heavy makeup, completely transforming her usual lightly made—up appearance.

She chuckled and said, "Right? I feel the same way too."

Briana handed her the menu and said, "Just order whatever you want. I already ordered two dishes before you arrived."

After adding another dish and a soup, Madeline handed the menu to the waiter, who took it and left.

While waiting for the food, Madeline looked at Briana and said, "Why are we suddenly eating outside tonight? Is there something to celebrate?"

Briana shook her head and said, "I was stood up by a client today. Since the restaurant is already booked, I might as well have a meal here."

"Oh."

Madeline didn't ask much either. She knew that Briana had a lot of work, even though they were friends. The Briana she knew was just one side of her.

"Ms. Garcia, what a coincidence, we met again!"

Suddenly, a joyful male voice came from beside. However, Madeline's face quickly darkened. She wondered how he could still recognize her when she had transformed into this appearance.

Seeing Brycen, Briana was also a little surprised.

How did he meet Madeline?

Madeline impatiently glanced at him and coldly said, "Mr. Carney, I was having dinner with friends. If you don't have anything important,

please don't disturb us!"

Brycen then looked across at Madeline and saw that it was Briana. Surprise flickered in his eyes.

"My sister—in—law, it's you! Tonight, I had dinner with Maxim and the others in private room number 1. Do you want to come along?"

Briana hadn't even spoken yet when Madeline sneered, "Don't shout randomly, Briana and Maxim have already divorced!"

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Brycen was stunned for several seconds before he spoke, "How is that possible? Just now in the private room, we were joking and asked Maxim when you guys were planning to have a child, and he said it's up to you."

This was said to Briana, and it was obvious that Maxim hadn't told them about their divorce yet.

Briana couldn't help but frown, she couldn't understand why Maxim had kept this a secret.

However, this has nothing to do with her. She looked up at Brycen calmly and said, "We did get divorced, and we have the divorce certificate."

Brycen was usually very good at livening up the atmosphere, but at this moment, he didn't know what to do and awkwardly smiled.

"Then I won't disturb you anymore, I'll go in first."

After speaking, Brycen immediately returned to the private room.

As soon as Brycen entered the compartment, he looked at Maxim and said, "Maxim, you divorced Briana and kept it a secret from us. Do you not consider us as brothers?"

The moment the words fell, Maxim and Tyrone looked at him simultaneously.

Maxim's eyes were filled with coldness. "Where did you hear that from?"

Brycen sat down in his seat and spoke, "Where else can it be? Just now when I went to the restroom, I saw the girl I've been pursuing recently. I went over to say hello, but unexpectedly, the person she was having a meal with was Briana. I called out 'sister—in—law'... and she said you both have gotten divorced..."

As soon as the words fell, Maxim stood up and walked out of the private room.

Brycen sighed and said to the unusually silent Tyrone beside him, "Ever since Kiley came back, I had a feeling that their marriage might not last long, but I didn't expect them to get divorced so soon."

Tyrone looked cold and his hand beside him involuntarily tightened.

No wonder Maxim is so brazen, turns out he divorced her.

He was dissatisfied with Maxim's behavior, but at the same time, he couldn't help but feel a hint of joy. Since Maxim truly didn't love her, did he still have a chance?

After Maxim walked out of the compartment, he quickly spotted Briana and Madeline.

He walked briskly towards the two people, with no warmth in his eyes.

Briana was cutting vegetables when suddenly she felt a chill on her neck. She turned around and saw Maxim walking towards her quickly, with a very unpleasant expression on his face.

She frowned and had just put down her chopsticks when Maxim walked up to her.

"Briana, I have something to tell you."

Briana pursed her lips, feeling a bit helpless, "Can you wait until I finish my meal before we talk?"

As soon as the words fell, Maxim grabbed her wrist.

"No, it must be now!"

Madeline across the street couldn't bear it anymore and angrily exclaimed, "Let go of Briana! Otherwise, I will call the police!"

Maxim looked cold and indifferent, without even glancing at Madeline, he directly dragged Briana away.

Madeline was about to catch up, but Briana turned around and shook

her head at her.

This was a matter between her and Maxim, she didn't want others to get involved.

Maxim pulled Briana into an empty compartment and coldly said, "Briana, why did you talk about our divorce?"

Briana calmly met his angry gaze and asked, "Is there any reason that must be concealed?"

"Grandma was recently upset, and I don't want our situation to worry her."

Briana frowned and said, "Did you forget that Grandma agreed to our divorce before?"

Maxim stared into her eyes, "Do you think she liked you so much that she would really want us to get divorced?! If you marry someone else in the future, would you still go to see her like you did when you married me?"

Briana: "So, you mean I had to deceive Grandma with you?"

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"I will find a suitable time to tell Grandma about this matter. Until then, I hope you can keep it a secret."

Briana frowned as she looked at him, feeling that something was off.

"How long?"

"It wouldn't exceed three months."

After a few seconds of silence, Briana reluctantly agreed.

"Okay, I hope you could walk the talk."

After speaking, Briana turned around to leave, but was once again stopped by Maxim.

"During this period, I hope you can cooperate with me in acting. When I went to see my grandmother, come with me."

"Maxim, you shouldn't push it too far. I have already crossed my bottom line by agreeing to keep this matter a secret!"

Maxim looked down at her and said slowly, "Since the last incident, Grandma's health has been deteriorating. I don't want Grandma to worry about us anymore."

"Okay, I got it. Is there anything else?"

Maxim let go of her hand and nodded, saying, "It's gone."

"Can I leave now?"

Seeing that Maxim didn't speak, Briana turned around and left the

private room directly.

Maxim stood in the private room for a while before returning to private room number 1.

Briana also didn't have the appetite to eat, so she ate a little and then paid the bill and left with Madeline.

On the way back. Madeline kept complaining about Maxim, feeling very dissatisfied with him.

"I used to have a filter on him, but his behavior today was too domineering. I don't like this type of man at all. It's exhausting to be around him!"

Briana didn't want to hear about Maxim anymore and asked, "By the way, how did you meet Brycen?"

Madeline said with a frustrated expression, "Do you remember the CEO who was pursuing me? It's him. He has been bothering me so much that I'm almost fed up. The worst part is, he invested in 'My Timeless and Endless Love' and every time he approaches me, it's really just for a meal. I can't even refuse!"

Brycen had a pair of peach blossom eyes, which clearly indicated that he was a flirtatious man. Madeline felt indifferent towards this type of

man.

Briana had also heard rumors about Brycen and cautioned, "He has had many girlfriends, but none of them lasted more than three months."

Madeline looked exactly as expected, and she coldly snorted before speaking, "Don't worry, I won't be deceived by his sweet words. The thing I hate the most is a womanizer!"

Her father was a womanizer, and as a result, her mother suffered a lot,

but she still endured it with pleasure.

In Madeline's eyes, her mom's love—struck brain had reached the late stage, as every time her dad explained, she would forgive him.

Growing up in such a family, Madeline had no illusions about love.

"Well, as long as you have an idea in your mind."

Madeline nodded and smiled, squinting her eyes. She said, "I should have almost saved enough money to support myself for the rest of my life. When the time comes, I will simply retire from the entertainment industry and find a quiet place to spend my old age."

The two of them chatted and returned to the villa. Briana had work to deal with, so she went straight to the study, while Madeline watched soap operas in the living room.

Briana finished her work late into the night and was about to get up to go to the living room to pour some water when she suddenly received a call from Zane.

"Briana, where were you now?"

Briana's voice sounded distant, "Is there something wrong?"

There was silence on the other end of the phone for a while, and just as Briana's patience was starting to wear thin, Zane finally spoke up, "Why don't you come back for a while? I have something to tell you"

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Briana remained silent for a few seconds, her voice sounding somewhat cold, "Just say it directly over the phone."

"Nothing special happened, but I heard that the Yoder Group is planning to develop a piece of land in the east of the city into an amusement park. Can you help me go and tell Mr. Yoder, asking the Schneider Group to join this project as well?"

Zane's voice was a bit low, indicating that he had probably hit a few walls before finally mustering the courage to approach Briana.

Briana sneered and curled her lips, "You should be well aware that Maxim doesn't like me, and he won't listen to what I say."

Zane paused before speaking, "After all, you are his wife. As long as you talk to him properly, there might still be a chance for a breakthrough in this matter. Just help your father this once. Even if he really doesn't agree, it won't have any impact on you, right?"

"Sorry, I couldn't help you. Please find someone else."

Briana hung up the phone directly, which infuriated Zane. His face turned pale and his eyes were filled with anger.

Mallory sneered beside, mocking, "I've told you before. She never saw us as parents. She only came back for the Schneider family's money. Now that she realizes she won't get a penny from the Schneider family, her true colors are revealed!"

Zane frowned, and he began to feel disgusted with Briana in his heart.

Compared to Kiley, Briana was too immature and did not know how to benefit the family.

Doesn't she know that in order for the Schneider family to improve, she only has a say in front of Maxim?!

Kiley returned home and saw Zane and Mallory sitting on the couch with a grim expression on their faces, their eyes filled with confusion.

"Mom, Dad, what happened? Why do you both look so upset?"

Mallory snorted coldly and said impatiently, "It's all because of work. Your dad wanted to get involved in the development of the Yoder Group's land in the east of the city. He went to see Maxim several times, but didn't even get to meet him."

I just called Briana a moment ago, hoping that she could help me say a few words in front of Maxim. But she hung up the phone directly, she really didn't take your dad seriously!

Kiley's eyes flickered as she walked over and sat down next to Mallory. saying, "Mom, you know Maxim really dislikes Briana. If you make her go and plead with Maxim, he definitely won't give her a good face."

Mallory sneered and coldly said, "That's her own fault. She spent three years and didn't make any money, nor did she help the Schneider family in any way. She's just a waste!"

Kiley smiled and said, "Alright, stop talking about Briana like that. I'll go and give it a try."

"You have been busy preparing for the design competition recently, and I don't want to distract you."

"In the future, the company will eventually be handed over to me, so of course I have to fight for the company's interests now. However, I cannot guarantee whether I will succeed or not."

Mallory's eyes were filled with a smile as she tapped Kiley's nose and said, "When my daughter steps in, is there anything that can't be accomplished?"

"Okay, Mom, I'm going upstairs now. I'll let you know if there's any news."

"Okay."

Returning to the room, Kiley called Maxim.

The call was finally answered just before it was about to be disconnected.

"Anything wrong?"

His voice carried a hint of indifference, and Kiley's heart sank along

with it.

"Maxim, I heard that the Yoder Group was planning to develop the east side of the city recently."

Maxim frowned and said, "Hmm, what's wrong?"

"My father, he also wanted to participate in this project and went to look for you several times. Can you let the Schneider family..."

Maxim interrupted coldly before Kiley could finish her sentence, "Kiley, I was a businessman."

Kiley bit her lip and said, "I know, if it makes you uncomfortable, just forget I said anything."

"Do you have anything else to do?"

"No... it's gone..."

As soon as the words fell, a series of busy tones came from the phone.

Kiley's fingers tightened suddenly, and a gloominess filled her eyes.

The Yoder Group.

Maxim called Rayan into the office.

"Has Zane come to see me recently?"

Rayan nodded, "Hmm, he came for the land in the east of the city. Since the Schneider Group is not within our scope of cooperation, I didn't let him meet you."

Maxim fell silent, his gaze deep and inscrutable, unsure of what he was thinking.