

## **For Dinner 271**

### Chapter 271: I Will Like You The Same

Adrian Zhekova raised his eyebrows, curious about what question Cindy could ask that would anger him.

“You ask.” Adrian Zhekova laughed.

Cindy nervously took a breath before asking, “Do you like me partly because of

Morgan?”

Cindy didn't dare to look at Adrian anymore, lowering her head and fiddling with the hem of her clothes, “I know that one day Morgan will recognize you and will return to the Zhekova Family. Maybe you think it's not appropriate for Morgan and me to be apart, especially for Morgan. So, why not just get along with me and give Morgan a complete home?”

Having said that, Cindy cautiously looked at Adrian.

This was her worry, but she was also afraid that her guess would disappoint Adrian's intentions and hurt him.

But if she didn't ask, this matter would always be on Cindy's mind, like a knot.

Unexpectedly, Adrian didn't seem angry.

Adrian smiled tenderly, holding Cindy even closer, admitting, “It's impossible to say that it has nothing to do with Morgan.”

Cindy's heart sank a little.

Adrian saw her reaction and continued with a smile, "If it weren't for Morgan, do you think we would have had the chance to meet? Perhaps you would still participate in the Cooking Competition. But the major competition is just one of the many brands under the Flag of Pingla. It's impossible for me to pay close attention to every competition. At most, I would just listen to the general progress and hear about the work from my subordinates. Then, I would pay attention during the final."

"But even if I met you, you would be just one of the contestants for me," Adrian said.

Cindy's originally tied ponytail had long been messed up by Adrian.

Moreover, just now, leaning against Adrian, her hair inevitably brushed against him, making it even more disordered.

As he spoke, he reached out and simply took off her hair tie, letting her long hair spread out entirely.

Cindy's hair was exceptionally smooth, indeed suitable for a shampoo commercial.

Only a few strands of hair were slightly messy.

Adrian's long fingers were intertwined with her hair, helping her comb her locks as he spoke, "There may be other chances to meet, but they are all just possibilities. "

"The reality is, we met and got to know each other because of Morgan," Adrian said slowly, "It's because of Morgan that we had the opportunity to interact many times. And it's because Morgan looks so much like me that I began to wonder if that woman back then was you, and with the clue that you also come from Nork City, I began to investigate and test the parent-child relationship between Morgan and me."

"Admittedly, our acquaintance began with Morgan, but I would not force myself to be with someone I didn't like just because of Morgan. I got to know you because of Morgan, but it was through each interaction with you that I grew fonder of you."

"It just so happened that you are also Morgan's mother," Adrian patiently explained to Cindy, "If there were no Morgan and we could still meet, I would still like you."

Adrian gathered her hair around her ear, "Our acquaintance has to do with

Morgan. But my feelings for you have nothing to do with Morgan."

As soon as Adrian finished speaking, Cindy suddenly turned around kneeling, one hand supporting his leg for leverage. She propped herself up and quickly pecked his lips.

Then hurriedly sat back down.

Her movements were so fast that Adrian could hardly react, so he couldn't stop her in time, and she sat back down..

Chapter 272: Self-taught

Adrian Zhekova had no idea that Cindy Clarke would do this.

It was both a surprise and a shock.

This little girl, her face was as red as a beet.

But she was so bold!

Adrian Zhekova pulled Cindy Clarke straight into his arms.

"Next time, don't just peck and run, you should do it like this," Adrian Zhekova said with a hoarse voice, "Understand?"

Cindy blinked, thinking to herself, didn't Adrian say this was his first relationship too?

How does he seem so experienced?

Nothing like someone who had never been in a relationship before.

Could it be, Adrian was the type to separate playing around from actual relationships?

His first love is real, but that doesn't stop him from having rich experience with other women prior to this?

Without realizing it, Cindy blurted out what she was thinking.

Before, when Cindy expressed her fear that Adrian was with her because of Morgan, he didn't get upset.

But this time, revealing her inner thoughts unwittingly made him frown.

Adrian slapped Cindy's forehead without mercy, not content, but also not knowing what else to do with her.

He was quite annoyed.

Grinding his teeth, he said, "Didn't you know that men are naturally talented in this aspect?"

Cindy: '

Only then did she realize that she had spoken her thoughts out loud. Cindy gave a dry laugh, but before she could say anything, he enveloped her tight in his arms.

"I call this natural talent, understand?" Adrian Zhekova was quite angry, "In the future, don't think about such baseless things in your head!"

Cindy: '

"This is my first relationship, there were no other women before, no other experiences." Adrian said angrily, "No, the only experience, is you. Even that was when I was confused. Apart from you, there has been nobody else."

Really, he was completely baffled by this girl!

"1...1 see..." Cindy said in a feeble voice.

There was no helping it, she couldn't find a suitable refutation.

Contained snugly within Adrian's arms, she dared not move.

But, hearing Adrian speak such words, she couldn't help but feel delighted inside.

So, Adrian Zhekova, from beginning to end, only had her.

If possible, naturally, she also wished the person she loved had never belonged to another.

"Me too," Cindy said in a small voice.

But knowing that from beginning to end, she was the only one for Adrian, she couldn't help but let a smile graze her lips as she spoke this sentence.

Every curve of her lips betrayed her delight.

Seeing her joyous and giggling, Adrian Zhekova's mood became radiant.

"I know," he smirked.

When he initially suspected that Cindy was the person from five years ago, he had Sheldon Rowland investigate.

Although he might not know every detail of Cindy's past years, he did know enough to say that she had never been in a relationship.

Even slightly familiar males didn't exist.

Somehow, this made Cindy feel a bit embarrassed.

His elated expression, as if he had scored a victory, made her face burn with heat.

Immediately, she felt embarrassed that she had no relationship experience. Wasn't this quite humiliating?

Adrian Zhekova was silent, rendering the room very quiet.

"Though I lack experience, I am naturally proficient," Adrian Zhekova said with a smirk and a somewhat husky voice, whispering into her ear. By the time Cindy reacted, Adrian's face was already in front of her eyes..

Chapter 273: Am I Worse Than a Campus 'Heartthrob'?

So close.

"I told you I have incredible talents, I wasn't exaggerating." Adrian Zhekova chuckled softly, "Do you want to give it a try?"

Cindy Clarke: '

The images in Cindy's head became a bit too much for her.

She hurriedly shook off those impure thoughts, gently pushed him away a bit and said, "How about... we go to the living room and chat?"

If she stayed here any longer, Cindy felt that it would get quite risky.

How on earth did Adrian manage to null her in here anyway?

"There's no door to the living room, Morgan could hear us and come out at any time." Adrian didn't budge, clearly intent on staying put, "What if she sees something she shouldn't?"

Cindy stared at him in shocked embarrassment. "What... what could we possibly do that she shouldn't see!"

What kind of inappropriate things was he talking about!

"Kissing, for example." Adrian Zhekova said, then lowered his head and kissed her lips lightly. "Like this. Can Morgan see that?"

Cindy Clarke:

Of course not!

“That’s what I meant.” Adrian Zhekova raised an eyebrow, a playful smirk on his face, “What did you think I was referring to?”

“I didn’t think of anything.” Cindy Clarke wasn’t about to admit that she had thought of something even more impure, “We can just chat, not do anything. Then there’s nothing to worry about.”

“But our voices in the living room could still wake Morgan up.” Adrian Zhekova smirked, “Besides, I don’t want to do nothing with you.”

With that, Adrian’s eyes stared directly at Cindy Clarke.

Cindy felt so tense, she could hear her own heartbeat pounding.

Just as Adrian Zhekova grew closer, her mobile phone suddenly rang with a Whatsapp notification.

The sound was like an explosion in the quiet air, instantly startling both of them.

Cindy jumped in response.

She hurried to find her mobile phone.

The presence of Adrian Zhekova made her feel more flustered than normal.

In the end, before she could pick up the phone, Adrian saw the screen of Cindy’s mobile phone for himself.

He saw that it was a Whatsapp message from Ian Morris.

Adrian’s eyebrows raised sharply, and he took the mobile phone from Cindy before she could react.



"It's from Ian Morris." Adrian Zhekova looked at Cindy.

He then handed the phone to Cindy, as if to show how magnanimous he could be.

But Cindy didn't trust this act one bit.

Moreover, her gut told her not to check the message in front of Adrian Zhekova.

Who knew, he wasn't planning on letting it go: "Why aren't you checking it?" "I'll check it later?" Cindy tentatively replied.

"Don't dare to read it in front of me?" Adrian glanced sideways at Cindy's mobile phone.

"What's there to be afraid of!" Cindy retorted angrily.

How could he be so petty!

"Just an old classmate. We haven't seen each other for a long time." Cindy grumbled, "It's not something we have to hide."

Adrian Zhekova sneered coldly: "Old classmate? It's obvious he has intentions towards you."

With Ian Morris's shallow thoughts, there was no way he could hide them from Adrian.

"Don't be ridiculous!" Cindy didn't believe it at all, "It's been six years since I was a freshman and moved to Belfard. We've hardly talked even back in school and we were not even in the same class. Seeing a fellow classmate and fellow townsmen in a strange land is indeed rare."

"Besides, back then he was the most handsome guy in our school. Why would he be interested in me?" Cindy thought to herself, if he was interested, he would have shown it already. Why wait until now?

Adrian Zhekova lifted his chin: "I'm interested in you, and I'm not even as good as a school heartthrob?"

Chapter 274: This Man Also Says One Thing and Means Another

Back at Jetaime Academy, they and their group of friends couldn't decide who was the most handsome, as they each had their own style.

So, they were like a boy band!

Cindy Clarke:

It was a statement she couldn't even refute.

"You admitted that he was the most handsome back then, so he must have been popular in school. You two were in different classes and barely talked to each other. After so many years, he can still recognize you at a glance." Adrian Zhekova sneered, "Do you think that's an attitude of disinterest towards you?"

"Could you recognize a classmate from your neighboring class whom you barely spoke to during high school after nine years?" Adrian Zhekova asked in return.

Although Cindy Clarke was beautiful, during high school, she was very low-key and inconspicuous due to her family situation. Adrian Zhekova knew this from investigating her earlier.

Cindy Clarke:

She really couldn't remember.

She definitely wouldn't recognize them upon meeting again.

After all, they barely spoke back then, even if they were still in school, they might not recognize each other, let alone after nine years.

Everyone's appearance changes to some extent over time.

At just a glance, they really might not recognize each other.

After listening to Adrian Zhekova's words, Cindy Clarke began to doubt her own viewpoint.

Then, Adrian Zhekova said to her, "Before I went to the family mansion, he called you to make a video call and specifically asked about your relationship with me. He and I don't have any intersecting interests, so he can't possibly achieve any goals through knowing me by using you, right?"

"If it's not for the benefit of the relationship, it must be personal intentions. What's the purpose of him asking about your relationship with me? It's because he's interested in you and wants to know if you're single and if I'm his competition." Adrian Zhekova sneered.

That inexperienced boy, he wanted to compete with him?

Pretty wishful thinking!

Cindy Clarke trusted Adrian Zhekova's judgment since he had more experience than her.

When she couldn't decide, she would, of course, choose to believe Adrian Zhekova.

However, she didn't want to be self-important.

After all, Ian Morris hasn't said that he liked her.

But since Adrian Zhekova mentioned this, she should keep her distance from Ian Morris in the future.

Moreover, regardless of whether Adrian Zhekova's suspicion was true or if Ian Morris actually liked her, she is with Adrian Zhekova now and should indeed maintain some distance from other men.

Put herself in his shoes.

If a girl came to Adrian Zhekova at this time and it wasn't work-related, she would definitely not be happy.

Regardless of whether Adrian Zhekova was innocent with the other party, even if he ignored them, if the other party took the initiative to find him, she would be angry.

So, Cindy Clarke said to Adrian Zhekova, "Should I just not look at it then? Pretend I never received it, and not reply to him?"

"Not replying is so impolite?" Adrian Zhekova said with his mouth, but the corners of his mouth curled up, revealing his inner delight.

Cindy Clarke secretly thought, what a double- talking man.

"Do you mind if I take a look?" Adrian Zhekova pointed to her mobile phone.

Anyway, it's come to this, there's nothing he can't look at now.

Moreover, besides Ian Morris, most of the chats were between her and Peggy Lewis.

Cindy Clarke thought back and found that there was nothing inappropriate for Adrian Zhekova to see in her chats with Peggy Lewis. Cindy Clarke handed her mobile phone to Adrian Zhekova..

Chapter 275: A Feeling of Sudden Enlightenment

Adrian Zhekova opened Whatsapp and looked at it with Cindy Clarke.

Unexpectedly, Ian Morris had sent a voice message.

However, judging by the length of the audio, it must be brief.

“Should we listen?” Cindy Clarke was behaving incredibly well-behaved now.

“Of course, why not?” Adrian Zhekova said.

But he did not open it immediately. Instead, he pulled Cindy Clarke closer into his arms, holding her comfortably as if she were a body pillow.

Only then did he casually click on the voice message from Ian Morris.

Immediately, they heard Ian Morris’s voice: “Cindy, are you asleep yet?”

His voice sounded somewhat weak.

However, Ian Morris’s voice was still pleasant to hear.

Adrian Zhekova scoffed and said, “Sending a voice message to a girl so late at night is clearly flirtatious.”

“Why?” Cindy Clarke asked.

“At this time, even if you aren’t asleep, you’re probably in bed playing with your mobile phone. He’s asking if you’re asleep, knowing the answer. In this quiet, late-night moment, when you suddenly hear such a pleasant voice, you tell me: is it flirtatious or not? Also, the fact that he deliberately lowered his voice makes it even more emotional than plain text,” Adrian Zhekova disdainfully said.

He had seen through Ian Morris’s tricks long ago!

” Cindy Clarke blurted out, “So when you used to send me voice messages, it was all for flirting with me?”

When it came to the words “flirting with me,” Cindy Clarke felt somewhat embarrassed.

But now, it really felt like an epiphany.

No wonder her face always turned red-hot when she had voice chats with Adrian Zhekova.

During the voice chats, Adrian Zhekova would occasionally laugh softly, which was extremely provocative.

She had thought that Adrian Zhekova’s voice was simply too charming, unintentionally making her heart race.

Turns out, it was all deliberately done by this man!

Adrian Zhekova: ‘ .

“Ahem.” Adrian Zhekova cleared his throat, “I only do this with you, not with others. ”

“It’s not that...” Cindy Clarke was very curious, “Didn’t you say this is your first relationship? So how come when you flirt, you seem very experienced? Your judgment on Ian Morris’s series of actions also seems very experienced.” Adrian Zhekova: ‘ .

“Not having been in a relationship doesn’t mean I don’t understand the tricks. These are two different things,” Adrian Zhekova said, “Plus, from a man’s perspective, it’s easy to see it. It’s just like how girls can better discern who’s a mean girl compared to guys.”

“Then, you’re really amazing.” Cindy Clarke couldn’t help but say.

Just after Cindy Clarke finished speaking, Adrian Zhekova suddenly leaned down and pressed his lips firmly against hers.

“Naughty!” Adrian Zhekova chuckled softly.

While Cindy Clarke was still dazed, Adrian Zhekova had already taken her phone and pressed the talk button.

He simply said two words: “Sleeping.”

Then he let go, and the message was automatically sent.

When Cindy Clarke realized it, the message had already been sent.

Her blushing ears fluttered a few times, unable to stop it.

Adrian Zhekova looked down and saw it.

Cindy Clarke’s blushing, fluttering ears were very amusing.

Adrian Zhekova couldn’t help but raise his hand and pinch her earlobes a couple of times.

“I replied for you, are you mad?” Adrian Zhekova asked with a low laugh.

Cindy Clarke shook her head: “You’re with me, after all. And... regardless of whether he genuinely likes me or not. If he does, your reply clarifies our relationship. If not, your reply doesn’t matter anyway..”

Chapter 276: Strike

“Besides, it’s not bad for you to help me reply to a message from the opposite sex, especially when their intentions are unclear.” Cindy Clarke didn’t think there was anything wrong with it.

In fact, she found it quite sweet.

She just never expected that Adrian Zhekova would be so jealous.

However, his jealousy made Cindy’s heart even sweeter.

At this moment, the two didn’t pay much attention to Ian Morris’s feelings anymore.

They didn’t know how shocked Ian Morris was after receiving such a reply.

After sending a message to Cindy Clarke and not receiving a response for a while, Ian was waiting.

Every once in a while, he wanted to check Whatsapp.

As soon as he heard a notification, he hurriedly opened it to see.

But when he found out it wasn’t a message from Cindy, he was very annoyed.

For messages from other people, he didn’t bother replying.



He also set all the chat groups that weren't on mute to "Do Not Disturb," waiting only for Cindy's reply.

Finally, after a long time, he heard a notification sound.

He opened it and saw a "1" sign next to Cindy Clarke's avatar.

Ian Morris's heart felt uplifted.

He immediately opened the chat window with Cindy.

It was a voice message from her.

He played it, but instead of Cindy's voice, he heard a male voice saying, "Sleeping."

Even though he was somewhat unfamiliar with Adrian Zhekova's voice, he couldn't recognize it immediately.

But he could instantly think that this was a message from Adrian Zhekova.

At this hour, Adrian was still with Cindy, in her house.

Even if someone told him at this time that the two had no relationship, it would be impossible.

He could no longer console himself that there were no feelings between the two.

At this moment, Adrian Zhekova was still with Cindy Clarke.

Were the two living together?

All of a sudden, Ian Morris's feeling became even more complicated than before.

Of course, Adrian Zhekova and Cindy Clarke weren't concerned about this.

While the two were putting Ian Morris's situation behind them, Adrian Zhekova suddenly felt his clothes being gently tugged a few times.

Adrian Zhekova looked down at Cindy Clarke.

Cindy Clarke then asked, "I haven't asked you yet, did the elders get upset when you told them about me and Morgan Zhekova?"

"Upset?" Adrian Zhekova asked.

"Just ... I knew that Morgan was part of the Zhekova family. But today at the competition, Morgan met the Old Madam and Aunt, and I didn't say a word in front of them even though I knew everything clearly."

Cindy Clarke took a deep breath: "If it were anyone else, they would be upset." She didn't want Morgan to leave.

But she could also understand the feelings of the Zhekova parents being deceived.

Adrian Zhekova understood Cindy Clarke's meaning and didn't hide it. He truthfully told her the reactions of the family elders.

Concealing the truth to reassure Cindy wouldn't be good.

Adrian Zhekova thought it would be better to let Cindy know clearly so that she could deal with it better.

So, Adrian Zhekova didn't hide anything, and he told Cindy about the elders' reactions tonight.

"My dad's a very easy-going person. As long as no one bullies my mom, he doesn't mind anything else and is easy to get along with." Adrian Zhekova smiled. "So, regarding this matter, he didn't think much about it. As long as Morgan returns to the Zhekova family and we're together, he doesn't care about other details. You just need to get along well with him normally.."

Chapter 277: I Will Listen to You Too

"My mom... she has kind of a childish temper. Whatever Old Madam thinks is good, she thinks is good, whatever Old Madam thinks is not good, she thinks is not good. To put it bluntly, she is just too lazy to worry herself, too lazy to think. She just trusts Old Madam's judgment."

"So, you just treat my mom as you would normally, just like today. As for her childish temper, she may not show it to you when she's not familiar with you, but once she is familiar with you, you'll know."  
Adrian Zhekova said slowly.

"Speaking of which, you're a bit like the Old Madam too. You don't want Morgan to leave you, but you can also understand the feelings of the older generation after knowing the truth. The Old Madam is the same. Though at the beginning, just after hearing the truth, there may be some knots in her heart, but she can also understand the feelings that you don't want Morgan to leave you."

"But now that we are together, and I have told my family members that we will get married, no matter how it started, the outcome will not change. Plus, if it were not for you who gave birth to Morgan without hesitation, brought her up so well over the years, and afforded her such a carefree life."

"If it weren't for you, they wouldn't even have the chance to be angry now. Because there might not have been Morgan, or even if there was, we may not have found her. If it wasn't for your persistence, you would have lost Morgan, where would we go to find her?"

“As a mother who has painstakingly raised her child, who can allow others to break up the bond between mother and child, and separate flesh and blood?” Adrian Zhekova said, “So, the Old Madam understands as well.”

“At the very beginning, when they found out about Morgan’s identity, it was inevitable that they would have some knots in their hearts, but actually, they didn’t even need me to explain afterward, they would understand it on their own. After I finished speaking, the Old Madam completely let go of her worries. Instead, she even felt sorry for you, having such a mother and sister.”

“As for the Old Master, since he hasn’t met you yet, his attitude is still somewhat reserved. But I told him too, as long as he meets you, he will not be able to dislike you.” Adrian Zhekova said with great confidence.

“You’re quite confident in me, I don’t even have that confidence myself.” Cindy Clarke suddenly felt quite pressured, “Is Grandfather very demanding? Is he very serious? What if he doesn’t like me?”

“You’re starting to think about this now?” Adrian Zhekova held her hand, pinching her fingertips from time to time, “Do you love me that much, so afraid that my family won’t like you?”

Look at his smug face!

Cindy Clarke slapped his hand back: “I’m serious!”

Adrian Zhekova immediately became serious: “My family’s Old Master, when you first meet him, you may think he is serious and distant. But once you get familiar with him, you’ll find that he is actually quite an amusing old man.”

“And in our family, the tradition is to pamper our daughters-in-law. My dad has always been under my mom’s thumb, and the Old Master has always been under the Old Madam’s thumb.” Adrian Zhekova said with a smile, “For small matters at home, it’s the Old Madam who has the final say, and for big matters, it’s the Old Master who has the final say. However, there won’t be many such big matters throughout the year.”

Under Adrian Zhekova's introduction, the image of the Zhekova Family in Cindy Clarke's mind gradually became more vivid and realistic.

"What about you?" Cindy Clarke looked at him with a smile.

"I'll listen to you too." Adrian Zhekova answered very readily..

Chapter 278: Don 't Bother Me With Jealousy

Hearing what Adrian Zhekova had to say gave Cindy Clarke a rough idea of what was going on.

In any case, if she really wanted to win them over, simply charming the Old Master and the Old Madam would suffice.

Just as she was thinking this, she happened to look up and meet Adrian's gaze, his eyes full of mystery.

He seemed to understand exactly what she was thinking.

Recalling what Adrian had said earlier, Cindy's face couldn't help but flush red.

Indeed.

They had only just established their love relationship today. They had only just gotten together.

She was already on edge, so worried that the elder members of the Zhekova family wouldn't like her.

So, Adrian wasn't wrong at all.

She really did like him.

With her face flushing, Cindy said, "Well... it's because I like you that I agreed to be with you. Since I like you and am with you, it's only natural that I take this seriously."

However, her affection for him was so much more than she would have thought.

She wondered if Adrian knew.

"I know," Adrian replied, seemingly seeing through all her thoughts. Bowing his head, his forehead met hers, "Thank you for liking me so much." Cindy wanted to say, it is I who should thank you.

What a coincidence it was, the man from five years ago, the father of my child, also happened to love me.

But Adrian thought, this girl's personality is really too good.

If she likes someone, she voices it out.

Even if she is very shy, she won't hide it.

She just informs him of her feelings.

No need for him to guess at all.

But every time after saying it, she herself feels embarrassed to face others.

Adrian was always highly amused by her.

This character of hers was indeed very contradictory.

He couldn't tell whether her bravery was big or small.

"I won't let you down," Adrian said in a low voice, his forehead still against hers.

Cindy's cheeks grew hot due to his voice and breath, and she said, "When you were not around before, I've thought about it. It's time to tell Morgan that you're his father."

Only then did Adrian let go of her and looked at her earnestly. "Have you made your decision?" he asked.

"I'm not in a hurry," Adrian said, "Actually, I'm worried that even if I told you, you might not believe me. You might think I made the decision too early, and it might not hold. But since we've already discussed this, I think you need to know. "

"Cindy," Adrian called her name softly, "ever since I set my heart on you, I knew I had to marry you. Nothing can change this."

Cindy stared blankly at Adrian, while he said, "In my view, we will marry someday. It's just we've just gotten together, just met not so long ago, you thought it was too fast, so we started off with dating."

"But in the future, we will definitely marry," Adrian stated with certainty.

"Even if you won't change your mind, aren't you afraid I might?" Cindy couldn't help but ask.

Adrian gave her a slight smile and said, "You wouldn't date anyone if it wasn't me. You could even stay single for the rest of your life for Morgan's sake.

Besides me, who else would you marry?"

Cindy found she couldn't argue with his logic.

"Then why are you jealous of Ian Morris?" Cindy retorted swiftly.

Adrian raised his eyebrows and said, "Knowing you wouldn't accept him is one thing, him pursuing you is another. Seeing other people courting you doesn't stop me from being jealous."

"Adrian Zhekova, are you sure you won't change your heart?" Cindy asked him earnestly..

Chapter 279: The Unchangeable Opportunity

"I'm very sure," Adrian Zhekova said, "I'm well aware of my own heart."

Cindy Clarke took a deep breath and said softly, "As long as you don't change, I won't change either."

"Then you won't have a chance to change," Adrian Zhekova said confidently.

"I'm telling you all this because I want you to know that we're going to get married sooner or later, and you and Morgan are my family members. Morgan will definitely call me dad in the future," Adrian Zhekova said, "So I'm not in a hurry, you can tell him when you're really ready."

"I'm really ready," Cindy Clarke said, "Since we're together, it's time for Morgan to know. We can't let him call you Uncle forever, can we?"

"Every time he calls you Uncle, I feel like I'm letting you down. You're obviously his father, but you can't hear him call you dad. In order to take care of my thoughts and feelings, you give the decision-making power to me, and have to endure not being able to recognize him."



“Besides, since all the elders know about Morgan’s relationship with you, when we go to the family mansion on Valentine’s Day, should Morgan think that all the elders are strangers?” Cindy said with a laugh.

“Just like you said, you’re very clear and very sure about your feelings. You said we’re going to get married,” Cindy looked at him seriously, “In the same way, I trust you too. You’ve kept all the promises you’ve made to me. Since we’ve met, you haven’t broken a single one.”

“So there’s no difference between knowing now and knowing later,” Cindy continued, “We might as well let Morgan know sooner. I think.. it would make him feel more secure.”

“Let him know that he has such a great father like you,” Cindy couldn’t help but smile.

“Although I’ve tried my best to provide a good living environment for Morgan, it can never replace a father’s role. I know Morgan always has some insecurity deep down. Many times, when people only see the two of us, mother and son, they would bully us. Morgan is sensible and sometimes won’t tell me about his grievances. He’s afraid of causing me trouble, afraid I can’t handle it and feel sad.”

“So, he simply doesn’t say anything. He’s also trying his best, in his own way, to ease the pressure on me. But having a father is different, having you to support him, he can truly relax, not caring about so much. He doesn’t have to endure grievances, doesn’t have to bend over backwards. He doesn’t have to give in everywhere because he’s worried I can’t handle it.”

“In the future, he will have more confidence,” Cindy said softly.

No matter what happens, just do it with confidence. Just remember, I’m always by your side, whatever happens, I’ll have your back.”

“You can’t tell Morgan that,” Cindy said, feeling the warmth in her heart, and being especially reassured, but also a little worried, “I’m afraid he’ll become naughty. He’s too young and doesn’t have a good grasp on moderation. We can’t raise him to be lawless.”

After Cindy finished speaking, she saw Adrian Zhekova looking at her quietly without saying anything.

Cindy felt uneasy being stared at and touched her face awkwardly, "What are you looking at?"

"I'm looking at how you appear when you're talking to me about Morgan, it's like we're already husband and wife, discussing our child's education," Adrian Zhekova joked, "I didn't expect you to have a strict motherly side.."

Chapter 280: Can it be Considered as Mending a Broken Mirror to Reflect as Before?

"Who...who said we were married!" Cindy Clarke suddenly blurted out, "Tell me, would you consider us equals now, or is it fair to say we are like a broken mirror mended?"

Adrian Zhekova:

He genuinely wanted to crack open this girl's head and see what kind of wiring she had inside!

"Broken what now!" Adrian snorted dismissively, "We aren't broken in any way!

Stop speaking such inauspicious words!"

Cindy chuckled awkwardly, slapping her mouth in jest. However, Adrian caught her wrist, stopping her movement.

"Are you a fool? Stop hitting yourself." Adrian helplessly pulled back her wrist.

He quickly gave her a peck on the lips.

Cindy shyly giggled.

It's not like she was really hurting herself, she wasn't putting any force into it.

"However, speaking of breaking, I did indeed break your..." Adrian didn't finish his sentence, as Cindy pinched him sharply.

"Ouch!" Adrian winced in pain, Cindy's pinch packed quite the punch.

"Why so harsh?" Adrian rubbed his waist.

" serves you right!" Cindy felt that her cheeks had been flushed all evening.

Adrian couldn't help but laugh. He pulled her close: "I now realize that no amount of pampering seems enough for you."

Caught off guard by his sudden words, Cindy nestled against his chest, absorbing his scent. She could even feel her ears trembling slightly.

Then she nuzzled her cheek against his chest before lowering her head to steal a laugh.

But all her reactions were clearly seen by Adrian.

He lowered his head, his lips landing precisely on her exposed temple.

Cindy instinctively reached out to hold Adrian's waist.

This was the first time she ever felt so cherished and protected by someone.

From childhood, it goes without saying that the likes of Christy Xenos and Wendy Clarke never made her feel this way.

Joshua Clarke truly loved her.

Joshua Clarke loved Wendy, too.

Joshua was fair to both her and Wendy.

Yet, while Joshua was fair, Christy wasn't.

Indeed, Christy would throw a fit whenever she saw Joshua treating them equally.

Whatever Cindy had, Joshua had to give more to Wendy.

Cindy could live without what Wendy had.

But whatever Cindy had, Wendy must always have more.

On top of that, the household finances were under Christy's tight control.

In their family's restaurant, Joshua handled the kitchen work, while Christy handled the cash register.

So, Christy knew every detail of the restaurant's financial situation.

Besides providing Joshua with some pocket money each month, everything else was tightly held in Christy's hand.

It was impossible for Joshua to get anything from the restaurant's income.

He could only save from his pocket money and occasionally give some to Cindy.

But whatever he gave Cindy, he also had to give to Wendy.

Cindy didn't expect Joshua to treat her differently, as they both were his children, after all.

Still, she couldn't help but feel unhappy.

She never knew what it was like to be held in someone's palm and protected in their embrace.

She had no idea what that felt like.

But now, she knows.

Actually, she has known for a while.

Since she met Adrian, he has always been protecting her.

So, during the competition, when Zoe Silverstone wouldn't let go of the mask issue, Cindy immediately called Adrian.

Because deep down, before she even realized it, she had started to depend on Adrian.

Now, she truly knows what it feels like to be protected. No matter if she is happy, sad, or in trouble, she has someone to talk to, someone to rely on..