

Go After 321

Chapter 321

“Rhys pursed his thin lips slightly and asked lightly, ““If you were to stay by my side, can you love me with your entire heart? Can you love me the way you loved him?”””

“Rhys, I beg you, don’t force me. Please believe that time will dull everything. It was hard for her to respond to such a request. Even she herself was lost. Martin had said previously that marriages that bloomed from true love were such a rare occurrence. Staying by each other’s side and mutual love were two completely different things.”

“Absorbing the confusion on her face, Rhys smiled bitterly in his heart.”

“A woman loved a man with all her heart and she was even pregnant with his child. Even if she was really willing to stay by his side and marry him, her heart would never belong to him.”

“Of course, he understood this.”

“However, did he really need this kind of commitment and company?”

They ate and chatted for a long time during this meal.

“When the two of them walked out of the warm and luxurious private room, the evening lights were already lit.”

Belle took the initiative to support Rhys as they walked on the street.

“The handsome man and the beautiful woman were by each other’s side. Where the man was tall, sturdy and handsome, the woman was beautiful and adorable. On the street with flashing neon lights, the two supported each other and paced slowly, indulging in the cold wind. They were talking and laughing at the same time. The harmonious sight attracted passers-by to look at them from time to time.”

“Selflessly, Belle supported him as they walked. She was worried about his wound and did not care about the eyes of passers-by at all.”

“Rhys had a déjà vu, as if they had already known each other from their previous lives. However, they were all treading their own paths and could never find an intersection to meet again.”

“Like a cheetah zooming around the city avenues, the sturdy Hummer car swept across a gust of wind.”

Calvin’s expression was serene as he walked out of Harvey Manor. He drove the car directly to the government hospital.

It was already morning.

On the seventh day of the month.

“Giving up his time for recreation throughout the week, he could finally finish dealing with all the family affairs in Harvey Manor.”

He thought that he could provide Belle with a satisfactory explanation.

“The staff of the Harvey Group would come back to work the next day after the holiday. Before work, he had to seize the chance to tell Belle that he had already remedied the injustice against Ethan and could finally present a satisfactory answer for her.”

It was not until this moment that his eagerness was so palpable. It seemed that he could not afford to delay for even a moment.

He wanted to see his woman and his child. No one could take them away from him!

“Calvin rushed over in a hurry, only to catch a glimpse of an empty ward. He did not see anything related to Rhys or Belle in the ward. A bad feeling welled up in his heart. He hastily asked the nurse, ““Miss, where is the patient in this ward?”” ”

“Over the past few days, he had been occupied with matters regarding Harvey Manor. He never expected Rhys to leave the hospital so quickly with such a severe gunshot wound.”

“Mr. Harvey, the patient in this ward has already been discharged from the hospital last night. The nurse recognized Calvin and answered with an eager smile.”

Discharged from the hospital? Calvin was perplexed!

“Has the patient recovered? Where did he go? His face was full of urgency, his body pooling with cold sweat.”

“The patient has not fully recovered. The doctor did not recommend him to leave the hospital either. However, he insisted on leaving the hospital. As for where he had gone, I’m sorry. I have no idea. The nurse saw that Calvin’s face was a little horrifying and explained everything at once. Although the handsome man in front of her was stunning and rich, his temper was extraordinarily short. As soon as she answered his inquiry, she scurried away, not in the mood to admire his handsome face. She was afraid that he would take his anger out on her at any time.”

Where did they go?

D*mn woman. Where have you gone? Calvin thought to himself.

“In a haste, Calvin strode out and drove his car to Rhys’s villa.”

“Along the way, he was plagued with an uneasy feeling. He had not seen her for a few days, and this woman did not even call him once. ”

“Focusing all of her attention to take care of Rhys, she must have thrown Calvin to the back of her mind. ”

“Fine, just wait and see, Calvin thought.”

“When I find you, I won’t let you go.”

D*mn woman. How dare you disregard me? You even dared to say that the child in your womb is not mine. It couldn’t be that my efforts to impregnate her was all in vain!

What a liar!

Calvin kept replaying the scenarios of her taking care of Rhys in the hospital for so many days. His heart was exploding with bitter jealousy and it was not a good feeling at all.

The car soon stopped in front of the villa.

He rang the doorbell.

Lennox ran out.

“Where’s Rhys? Ask him to come out. I want to meet him, asked Calvin loudly.”

“Lennox’s heart sank as soon as he saw him. Good gracious, it was this man again. Lennox thought nervously. It seemed that whenever he came, he’d never left with ease.”

“Hello, sir. Our master is no longer at home, he replied politely with a smile.”

“Not at home? Calvin sneered coldly. To come up with such an excuse, Lennox must have assumed he was a fool.”

“Right now, tell him that I must bring my woman home today. Don’t think that it’ll be fine to hide her away. Tell him that if I don’t take her away, I won’t let go of him. Calvin asserted his will in a domineering manner. ““You must know who I am, don’t you?”””

Lennox’s scalp tingled as he lamented agonizingly in his heart.

“The man who could snatch a woman from Rhys must be difficult to deal with. Even though he didn’t know who exactly this man was, he was well aware of that point.”

“Well, sir, my master is really not at home. He has left A City and will not come back for the time being. He continued to answer with a miserable face.”

What? He left A City? Calvin thought in shock.

“The moment these words left Lennox’s mouth, Calvin almost fainted from shock!”

Where’s Belle? Is that woman in there? He asked loudly with his heart in his throat. He gripped the door tightly.

“When Lennox heard Calvin’s question, he thought for a moment and immediately shook his head.”

“Sir, she’s not inside either. They left last night, he said truthfully. He was unnerved by the gloomy expression on Calvin’s face.”

Where have they gone? roared Calvin angrily.

I really don’t know. Master never tells me his whereabouts. Lennox’s face was full of tears.

“They left A City together, didn’t they? Calvin felt his chest begin to heave heavily, as if it was about to burst out of his throat. His speech became labored.”

“Should be. The only thing Mr. Atkinson had told me when he left was that he wants me to keep an eye on the house, and that he’ll go back to his hometown and won’t come back for the time being. Lennox thought for a while and explained further.”

Calvin's hand held the iron door tightly. His knuckles turned crimson red.

"I don't believe you. You are lying to me. He gritted his teeth, not willing to leave this way."

"Lennox was helpless. He knew Calvin would not give up if he did not see it for himself. He had no choice but to open the door and said with a serious tone, ""Sir, if you don't trust me, you can come in for a search. There is no one else in this villa except for me."""

Lennox said as he let Calvin in.

Calvin could not care much. He quickly marched towards the living room of the villa.

This was a villa built in the French style. It was very modern and was decked with French decor.

"Calvin stormed from the bedroom to the living room, and then from the living room to the guest room. He even went to check in the bathroom."

There really was not a single person present.

Both the front and back rooms were also raided. There was not a single person in sight.

"Belle, Belle. He ran into Belle's bedroom again. Not to mention seeing a person, even a single everyday item belonging to Belle had yet to be found."

His mind rattled with thoughts.

Did Rhys whisk his Belle away? Have they travelled to his hometown together? Would she ever come back?

"From then on, she would never belong to him anymore, including his child."

"At the thought of this, he felt as if his heart had been pierced by a sharp arrow. His whole body turned cold."

"After a wild search, he confirmed that he really could not find them."

"His face was pale. His stride was dejected. Like a frosted eggplant, he was unable to raise his head."

"Belle, you are so cruel! he shrieked in his heart."

"You clearly know that I love you and that you are pregnant with my child, but you followed another man and ran away."

"I'm telling you, I won't let you off just like that."

"You better not let me find you. If I find you, I won't let you go."

His mind went blank. His hands and feet grew cold.

He sat in the car.

"Even after smoking two cigarettes, he could not calm down. Feeling numb, he drove the car away."

“By the moat, the stream across the entire expanse of A City flowed as usual. He wound down the car window. A gust of the cold northern wind brushed across his face, steadily tugging him back to his senses.”

“No, Belle. Now that the truth has been revealed, why did you leave me? He had a brief monologue in his mind.”

“In the past few days, the news media had been reporting on this matter. She should have known the truth about her father’s death.”

She should also know that Tristan had been arrested and would no longer pose a threat.

“Then, why did she want to leave?”

“After all, he was the child’s father. Even if she had not thought for him, she should think for the child.”

Did she leave with Rhys because the child in her womb was truly not his?

That thought brought out the hopelessness in him.

“However, he was not willing to give up. He took his phone out.”

He hastily ordered Aron and Luca to search for Belle and Rhys in the whole city with the members of Xeqint.

24 hours had passed.

Luca and Aron’s updates were that Rhys and Belle had yet to be found.

“Undoubtedly, they had really left A City!”

“With a sullen face, Calvin ordered Aron to dispatch Xeqint to Rhys’s country. No matter where they went, they had to find them. He wanted to know the outcome and to interrogate this cruel woman in person.”

“On the 8th, the newspapers were plastered with the scandal about Lexie framing Belle. The news about their wedding being called off was also reported.”

Calvin was sitting alone in the office at the Harvey Group building.

“He thought, if Belle was only worried that Tristan would harm him and that he would marry Lexie, then she would definitely come back to look for him after she caught wind of the news.”

“If the child in her womb was really his, it was impossible for her not to think for the child.”

“Thus, he waited and waited.”

“Half a month later, Aron and Luca had rushed back from abroad. They shook their heads and informed him that their search had not yielded any result. They had even gone to Rhys’s company, searching with both overt and covert means, but no one was found. The company’s employees had also claimed that they had not seen Mr. Atkinson for over half a year.”

Calvin’s last hope had been being shattered to pieces. He no longer had the energy to lift his spirits up.

“Thinking of the memories between them, he felt like his heart had been slashed by a knife.”

“He did not have the energy to manage the company anymore. Every single day, he drank himself into oblivion, allowing the depression to take over his mind. ”

“Gradually, rumors about him becoming dispirited started to fester. Even the media was shocked. There were all kinds of assumptions.”

In the Ink Garden.

“Sophia, as well as Hudson, were sitting together, engaged in a heart-to-heart discussion.”

“Hudson, I’m relieved that you’ve recovered. Sophia sighed, but still couldn’t shake off her worries.

”“But now, I’m very worried about Calvin instead. This time, he might not be able to overcome this.””

“Sophia’s worries were not unjustified. Even after so many days, her beloved grandson was still missing. Nonetheless, her people had informed her that Calvin had spent all day in the restaurant, drinking and wallowing in self-pity. Neglecting the company’s affairs, he seemed to have completely changed into a different person.”

“This time, Belle had completely disappeared.”

There was not a single trace left after she’d disappeared.

“The last time when she had gone abroad, Sophia was still able to keep track of her and her recent activities. This time, however, she was totally out of reach.”

“To Calvin, this was a fatal blow, especially when she was bearing his child in her womb.”

“During this period of time, she had also witnessed his unmitigated love for Belle. It was just that he was not good at dealing with matters of the heart and was not good at expressing himself. Therefore, this led to unsolvable problems between them.”

“Mom, what you’re worried about is exactly my worries too. However, don’t worry. Now that I’m here, that kind of thing won’t ever happen again. Hudson’s face was full of seriousness as he consoled his mother, who was already 90 years old.”

“Recently, Sophia was especially sentimental and compassionate. Most likely, it was due to her age. Thus, she was even more concerned about Calvin. The fact that Martin had been kicked out of the family had caused agonizing pain to her and this had subjected her to immense suffering.”

“Moreover, Belle was carrying the flesh and blood of Calvin in her womb. It was Sophia’s great-grandson.”

“On that day, when she had learnt that Belle was pregnant, she was very excited and happy. Nevertheless, before she had the time to respond, she had heard about the rumours that Calvin was depressed, and that he had completely ignored the company’s affairs. This only compounded her worries. ”

“Hudson, the seal of the family must be handed over to Calvin. You’re old and your health’s getting worse, but you still have to remain in charge for the time being. I’m getting older and closer to the

afterlife every second that passes. There's one thing I have to tell you now. Once Martin changes for the better, he must return to Harvey Manor. After all, he's still a part of the Harvey family. No matter how wrong he was, nothing can change this fact."

"Sophia thought of Martin who was still languishing in the Public Security Department. Although she'd ordered everyone to disown him from the family ever since, blood was still thicker than water. This was the last resort. She could only hope that after having no source of income, he could understand the meaning of life in the future and would get himself together."

"If there ever came such a day, she still hoped that he could come back. After all, he was her grandson, her flesh and blood. She couldn't be that cruel to him."

"Upon hearing this, Hudson smiled and sighed. ""Mother, you can be rest assured. I know what to do with Martin's affairs. He has made those mistakes. If we don't punish him, we can't pacify the crowd, nor can we enable him to make amends. However, he is still part of the Harvey family. This is a fact that no one could change. We're those who would have his back till the end of time."""

"Yes. Sophia nodded in agreement, but the melancholy on her face could not be cast aside. She said thoughtfully, ""It's wise of you to deal with it this way, but there's still someone else who would make it difficult for me to be at peace. The Harvey family owes her a favour."""

"The light in Hudson's eyes flickered, and his eyes narrowed. An overwhelming look of sadness and solemnness were etched on his face."

"Of course, he knew who this person was."

That would be Belle.

"Mother, I still regret having looked down on her back then. I regret that I didn't understand you. At that time, I should have tried to persuade Calvin. Otherwise, things wouldn't have come to this. I think I should be responsible as well. Hudson recalled the past and sighed with emotion. ""Speaking of which, I'm really grateful to her for my illness. She even put aside the past issues and came to help with my illness. Not only that, she also came to see me every day to make sure I was recovering properly and treated my wounds. Her kindness has put me to shame."""

"Well, I have had a good impression on her for a long time now. She is kind and considerate. However, it's a pity that Calvin did not cherish her. Up till this point, I think she is determined to leave our Harvey family. Sophia stroked the leather case in her hand. Her face was lined with grief."

Hudson did not say anything and remained silent.

"Ruth walked in gently and said, ""Old Madam, Young Master is here."""

"Alright, let him in. Sophia nodded."

"After a while, Calvin walked in."

"Sophia looked at him and felt her heart hanging. Was this her high-spirited grandson? The man in front of her was gaunt. His hair was messy, and his face was dark. His eyes were sunken. He looked unkempt and was in a terrible state."

“Grandma. Calvin approached her and knelt down in front of her. He placed his head on her knees and sobbed, ““Grandma, I lost my Belle. She left with my child forever. She will never come back. She hates me.”””

“All of a sudden, Sophia’s eyes welled with tears. Her fingers, which were holding her leather bag, were trembling. Her hand, which was full of wrinkles, gently caressed Calvin’s thick black hair. Running her fingers through his hair, she smoothed over them. With a sigh, she said with heartache, ““Calvin, do you still remember what I once said? ‘I’m afraid you would never understand her heart’. At that time, I had already warned you, but you couldn’t understand my words. You thought that I was trying to hurt you. It’s already too late for you to learn now.”””

“Tears streamed down as she said, ““I don’t have many hopes at all. I only hope that I can see my great-grandson within my lifetime. However, I’m afraid that this wish is nothing more than wishful thinking now.”””

“No, Grandma. I’ll definitely find her. I’ll definitely bring my child back. Calvin gritted his teeth and replied bitterly, ““She’s really cruel. She knows that I love her and she is even pregnant with my child. Yet, she lied that it wasn’t my child and left. Now that the truth has been revealed, why did she run away with Rhys? Isn’t she just trying to humiliate me?”””

“Calvin was angry and resentful, the light burning deep in his eyes was both painful and unwilling.”

“It was his child, yet she insisted it was Rhys’s. He was also a man, didn’t he know that this was the biggest humiliation for a man?”

“When Hudson heard what he said, his heart skipped a beat. He immediately yelled, ““Shut up, you brat. You’re still blabbing nonsense. I finally understand why Belle wanted to leave. She wouldn’t stay even if she found out the truth. You’re such a jerk. How dare you still talk about her like that? She has no confidence in you anymore. She is sick of you!”””

“The anger in his heart rushed to the top of Hudson’s head all of a sudden. This jerk of a son had become so lost for the sake of love. The words tumbling from his lips however, no human should deserve to be spoken about like that.”

“If Belle heard his words, she would probably never come back. Not just her, but any woman would do the same in her place.”

“Calvin was at a loss after being scolded by Hudson. He raised his head in a panic. He had not slept for a few days and nights. As soon as he closed his eyes, Belle’s pale face would fill his mind, along with the gentle, delicate, and mesmerizing sensation of caressing her belly with his palm.”

“She left without saying goodbye, which made him hate her. Hated how she was so cruel, and how she was that ruthless.”

“She was clearly aware that he hated Rhys the most, yet she was still so intimate with him. He had almost lost his mind, and she still ran away with him. How could she do this to him?”

“Calvin, are you really such a dumb*ss? Don’t you know that the baby in her belly is yours? Don’t you know what kind of person she is? I didn’t know that you were such a b*stard. You don’t know right from wrong, and you don’t even know the people that were good to you. Don’t you realize, if it weren’t for

her cooperation in the process and the decisions she made, would you ever be able to handle Tristan and Lexie? Would you be able to find out all the fraud Tristan committed so quickly? Would you be able to take Tristan down so quickly? I am afraid that all the crimes are now pinned against Martin, and the baby in Lexie's belly can only be blamed on you forever. Have you thought about the consequences? The more Hudson spoke, the angrier he became. He was smoldering with rage. If it weren't for Sophia here, he would have gone ahead and beaten him."

"His own son didn't even know who to thank and who to hate. There was no woman who would have forgiven him unconditionally like that. If he could get to this point, it only went to show how much Belle had tolerated him and forgiven him. It also indirectly showed that she really loved Calvin. Only in the face of love could a woman be silly enough not to care about everything and forgive the man unreservedly."

"Take a look at this. This is the right of inheritance of Harvey Manor. There are also documents about forgiving Martin that she sent on the 8th using express delivery. She has already given up her revenge for her father's death, and all her wealth. What else do you want from her? What other reason do you have to say such bullsh*t here? What other reason do you have to criticize her for being ungrateful and heartless? Hudson took the leather pouch from Sophia's hand and waved it in front of Calvin, his face livid."

"Calvin was stunned, but he was even more stunned by Hudson's scolding. However, it was as if he received enlightenment from God himself and a bright light flashed before his eyes."

"He stood up and reached out for the bundle in Hudson's hand. There was only the address of the Harvey Manor on it, blank space below it. In other words, he had no idea where it was from."

"He emptied the items inside and found the contract that Sophia had given her. There was also a letter with two documents inside. One was a letter stating that she had voluntarily given up on the right to inheritance of Harvey manor while the other was a formal document to forgive the Harvey family. Other than that, there was nothing else."

"Calvin's hands began to tremble. His haggard face was riddled with bleakness and loneliness, his eyes filled with pain."

She had made up her mind to leave him.

She wanted to walk away cleanly and completely.

This was fully in line with her character.

"His hand, which was clutching the leather bag, dropped down feebly."

Tears streamed down from the corner of her eyes.

"He understood that there was no need to look for her anymore. Even if he turned the whole world upside down, she would never see him."

Chapter 322

"Child, come here. Sophia absorbed his despondent expression, her face wearing a mask of pain and heartache. This was the only grandson whom she could be proud of, even though there were times

when he messed up. He was no saint, but to err is human! Although he had his own share of indiscretions, it still showed how much he valued his feelings and loyalty. He was worthy of being trusted by a woman for the rest of his life.”

The key was that this woman must have a good eye to recognize his merits.

“She believed that Belle could be the one, and she also believed that her grandson was a good man who valued feelings and righteousness.”

“Obediently, Calvin walked over and crouched down in front of her.”

“Calvin, my good child, Your current state is giving me pain in the heart. Believe me, though Belle has already left this place, she would not be able to leave this earth. Now that the consumer media is so advanced, even if you can’t see her, she will definitely see you from wherever she is. You have to bring out the manliness in you and step up your game in your career. Let her see your excellence. Use your abilities to convince her. Then, she would be willing to accept you and come back to you. From now on, don’t sink into such a miserable state. Instead, you have to cheer up and make Harvey Group prosperous. Lead it to a better future, understand? She stroked his thin face and said pitifully, her words awash with encouragement and anticipation.”

“Calvin looked out of the window, his gaze distant. Outside the window, the orange blossom tree had bloomed, painting an extremely dazzling and beautiful view. It was only now that he realized that winter was about to end, and spring was here to replace it.”

A brilliant spring full of flowers was about to arrive.

“This seemed to infuse him with a glimmer of hope. Never a slow-witted person, he understood his grandmother’s meaning.”

“He slowly stood up, bowed to Sophia and Hudson, and then walked out.”

“Back to the second floor of Fragrance Garden, in their bedroom, he held onto the pillow and fell asleep until the next morning. Finally, he could sleep peacefully.”

“The next day, he returned to the Harvey Group office to work.”

“After the New Year, Tristan’s fall had caused Sadiva to quickly take the throne and was appointed the new mayor of A City.”

“Through the preliminary promotion by Calvin, the number of tourists visiting Green Mountain Lake not only had not decreased, but instead had increased day by day. There was an important reason for this. It was that the love story of the young talent in A city, Calvin, had happened here, and it captured a lot of people’s interest.”

“At first, Calvin developed a few special tourism projects near Green Mountain Lake, and then re-developed the area around Green Mountain Lake. As a result, Green Mountain Lake retained its original charm and was also equipped with some stylish additions, making a name everywhere. ”

“Then, in the way of the Harvey Group, he proposed an application to preserve the natural environment. After that, he set off the whole of Green Mountain Lake’s Camphor Tree Villa for a project and catapulted it into the market.”

“In this way, the development of Green Mountain Lake brought huge commercial gains to the company. Soon, the Green Mountain Lake government once again applied to the municipal government to designate A City as its international tourism area. Sadiva, who had already heard about the story of the Green Mountain Lake, immediately set up the Cooperation Committee of the Border Town and the proposal was passed with a majority vote.”

“In this way, the Green Mountain Lake transformed from a garbage dumping site to a tourism area under the protection of the local government. Soon, another subway going through it would be built. Overnight, the property value of the Green Mountain Lake rose sharply.”

“As for Camphor Villa near Green Mountain Lake, it attracted the attention of many investors because of its unique charm.”

“Calvin invested a handsome amount of money to create this one-of-a-kind Camphor Tree Villa. Their unique geographical locations and breathtaking cultural scenery made Camphor Villa a gathering place for VIPs, including banking families, local and abroad. In addition, the house prices Calvin had proposed were reasonable.”

The Sunlight Building was an investment portfolio where the citizens were waiting overnight in lines looking for their chance to secure a property for themselves. It was a spectacular sight.

Calvin wasn't satisfied with only expanding the property sector.

“In the Green Mountain Motor City, the largest car factory in A City, after Belle had hired Jersey to serve as the general adviser, he also brought with him his rich experience in automobiles and management skills.”

“Soon, the Castle Peak Auto City's international presence was established.”

Calvin had invested almost all of his energy into his work. He barely talked or laughed ever since the day of Belle's departure. His aloofness was growing.

“He promoted Aron to be the vice president of the company and became his right-hand man. He also restructured all the different sectors in the company and made great efforts to hire young talents. For a time, the Harvey Group fared well and its business flourished.”

Both the properties and the company quickly expanded from the original tens of thousands of staff to close to hundreds of thousands at that moment.

“Not only did it speed up the development of the country by opening up more factories and branches, it even managed to expand into various countries. It crossed many milestones, and went international and global, all within a single year.”

“Not only had he made into the top three on the global wealth list, but he had also overtaken the Atkinson Corp. His success had also been gradually exalted to a myth, a myth that no one could dispel.”

“However, the thing that remained mysterious through all of this was his private life.”

“For such a handsome, noble and rich businessman, many women would imagine themselves dating him and become his dream lover. However, at this time, not only did he keep women at bay, there weren't any rumors of romantic affairs revolving around him. This left many women who wanted to get close to

him feel resentful. More people whispered that he might be secretly sick in his mind, or that his sexual orientation had changed.”

“There had always been only one man following him, and that was the expressionless Aron. Almost no woman had ever appeared by his side.”

“Calvin was just as dashing, handsome, and charming as he had been in the past. He didn’t care about the comments and remained calm in the face of criticism and slander.”

“His words and actions were steady and cold. Now, he would never blow up as easily. However, if he did, something big would almost always happen. This side of Calvin gave his subordinates the chills. Therefore, they were all dedicated to their work, since everything was dictated by their achievements.”

“Mr. Harvey, Castle Peak Auto City is steadily developing, and the supply couldn’t keep up with the demand. What we lack now is a new model that could truly shock the world. This is a real headache. Even the group of high-caliber students we recently recruited were still not enough. Some of the designs look good, but they performed average in the market. The manager of the Castle Peak Auto City, Marquis, was standing respectfully in front of Calvin’s desk, voicing very cautious suggestions.”

“Ever since the truth behind Ethan’s case had been revealed, Calvin found out that the engine of the Pranica had been sabotaged by the people sent by Calvin, who had been bribed by Lexie. He immediately became furious and drove Calvin away. He personally appointed the young and promising aristocratic student, Marquis Grint, as the manager of Castle Peak Auto City.”

“Surely enough, Marquis was indeed talented. In just a few months after he had taken the position, he managed the Castle Peak Auto City very well.”

“Calvin’s handsome brows furrowed, his face expressionless.”

“Holding his right hand so tightly under his serious expression, he slowly loosened it, and a delicate shell appeared in his palm.”

“The shell had a car model painted on its surface with black paint. As Calvin stared at the shell in the center of his palm, a glint flashed in the depths of his eyes. A bright arc flitted across the corners of his mouth.”

“That day, he had held the shell with his blood still flowing. In order to keep this shell, he’d fought with Rhys and finally obtained a thing that belonged to her, the only thing that belonged to her.”

She had never given him any of her things. Just thinking about it was enough to send knives piercing at his heart. He could only imagine just how much she had rejected him in her heart.

“If it weren’t for Ethan’s death, she wouldn’t have returned to Harvey Group, nor would she have returned to Harvey Manor. This was evident from her final departure.”

“The colourful shell in his palm was warm, and the smooth lines on the shells were getting clearer and clearer. It seemed that there was warm liquid almost flooding his eyes, staring at the shells as his vision became gradually cloudier.”

“He carried this shell with him all the time, until the corners of the shells were worn down by his hands. He looked at the shells, his eyes flashing with painful light.”

“Marquis had been standing nervously in front of the office, waiting for Calvin’s reply. However, after waiting for a long time, his response was none too forthcoming. Marquis raised his head, bewildered.”

The scene in front of him stunned him.

“The formidable man in front of him, the unwavering President Richard, staring at a shell in his hand, lost in thought. Were those tears in his eyes?”

This shell was obviously a woman’s item at first glance. Was Mr. Harvey thinking of his lover?

“Ever since he entered the company, he had heard people mention his private life one after another, and he also knew the names of Belle and Lexie.”

“Now there was a rumor that Mr. Harvey wouldn’t come close to a woman and had lost interest in one. Some people even defamed him. They gossiped about him behind his back, but no one could tell what the truth was.”

“Marquis stood there in a daze as well. Staring at Calvin’s face, he made a guess. He only came back to his senses when Calvin’s soft coughs resounded. When his eyes met Calvin’s severely dissatisfied gaze, he was so frightened that he broke out in cold sweat. He chastised himself in his heart. Since when had he become such a gossip?”

“You can leave first. I already know about this matter, he said in a concise and short tone, waving at him.”

“Marquis quickly took his leave as if he had received a decree. He was truly worried that if he stayed for one more minute, he might anger that almighty man and end up in serious trouble.”

“One must know that to peek into the superior’s privacy, the consequences would not be a light one. Currently, the Harvey Group was an ideal corporation for most young talents to apply for. He couldn’t afford to lose such a coveted position.”

“After Marquis left, Calvin immediately turned on the computer and drew the picture of the shell in his hand in its original shape. Then, he carefully reasoned that the model was something new, which suited a woman’s tastes, but it wasn’t all that elegant. After all, it was her unfinished work. If he improved upon it, it would become a hit in the women’s goods market.”

“While there were lots of men’s cars in the market, there were very few cars which designs would tailor to women.”

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“Calvin frowned as the memories of his and Belle’s past traveled across his mind. His face was sometimes full of mild smiles. Other times it was warm, and sometimes anxious and uneasy.”

“After staring at the computer in the office for three days straight, he finally printed a 3D car model. This new collection combining both Belle’s and his creative design had just been posted onto the Internet when it received the approval of many female compatriots, garnering unanimous praise.”

“Calvin smiled slightly, reaching a decision.”

“Immediately, he called Marquis and asked him to put this model into production at once. He was ready to put it on display at the next car fair.”

“Surely enough, the final product was not only beautiful and easy to the eyes, but also small and exquisite. As soon as it made an appearance at the sales fair, it grabbed a lot of people’s attention and immediately entered the market, lavished with the favor of women car aficionados. It was slowly popularized and even promoted globally, followed by a large number of orders.”

“Thus, when he roamed along the streets and caught glimpses of women driving the car with this model, Calvin felt as if he was in a dream.”

“He named this car ‘Lovely Wife’, his way of expressing his love for Belle.”

“One day, when they were holding an executive meeting, they saw Aron running towards them.”

“After a few words, Calvin handed over the meeting to Damian, the supervisor of the company.”

“As soon as he stepped out, he saw Aron coming up. He lowered his voice and said next to him, ““Mr. Harvey, I just received a message that Rhys has appeared at the Elegance Café.”””

“Rhys? Calvin’s eyelids twitched, his eyes gleaming as he shot out Rhys of fierce light.”

“Good, very good! He thought. ”

He actually dared to come back!

“Let’s go. Without thinking, he took the lead and walked towards the elevator, with Aron trailing behind.”

“In the private room of the Elegance Café, Rhys lounged elegantly on the sofa, a slight smile on his ridiculously handsome face. Gentle and graceful, he was a man who could pull at anyone’s heartstrings.”

“Swooning over him was Lottie who sat opposite him, her hands grinding the coffee beans. Her eyes flitted to him from time to time, her heart throbbing.”

“The man before her was truly a catch. Not only did he have an impeccable appearance, his noble temperament also deeply impressed her.”

“Ever since he showed up to the cafe with Belle, Lottie had been drowning in awe. Even though she was surrounded by men all day, she had never laid eyes on such a beautiful man. He was the prime specimen of a man. At that time, Rhys had made her eyes light up. She secretly felt jealous of Belle that such a beautiful man was pursuing her. For such luck to come to her, she must have been blessed by God himself. ”

“Unfortunately, Belle did not know how to appreciate him.”

“What brings you here? She asked somewhat haltingly. One should know that it was a piece of cake for Lottie to deal with men. However, Rhys’s calm and refined manner in front of her still gave her the jitters and apprehension. She did not know where this feeling came from. In other words, she was nervous.”

Nothing really. I dropped by to pay you a visit. Rhys could pick out the panic on her and said with a chuckle.

“Hey, what are you laughing at? At Rhys’s laugh, Lottie’s face turned a little red and her actions turned fidgety. She mentally scolded herself. “”Lottie, what the heck is going on? Don’t you deal with men every day? Why are you in such an awkward situation today?”” Extremely annoyed, she gnashed her teeth in self-hatred.”

“Lottie, we haven’t seen each other for so long, but you’re still so cute. What a rare nature. Rhys chuckled again and said slowly, “”It seems that it’s only natural for you to be Jen’s friend.”””

“Despite sighing as he spoke, the smile on his face was blindingly charming.”

“Hearing that he mentioned Belle, Lottie was struck by a thought. She hadn’t seen Belle for several months. Where had she gone?”

“Calvin had tried countless times to question her about Belle’s whereabouts, but she really didn’t know anything.”

“It seemed that this time, she was steely set on leaving this place. Not even Lottie was tipped off with any information. What made her even more resentful was that prick Calvin barging in every now and then to search her coffee house, putting her in a difficult spot. She had almost called the police once.”

“By the way, where is Belle now? Is she with you? Lottie set down the coffee beans in her hands and thought of this. She sat up straight and stared at Rhys.”

“The corners of Rhys’s mouth curled up slightly. He said gently, “”Do you think Jen would be with me?”””

“Well... Stuttering a little, Lottie shook her head involuntarily. “”According to her character, she wouldn’t be with you if she was not pregnant.”””

“Looks like you still understand her the best. Rhys sighed slightly. “”Even if she is not pregnant, she would not be with me. Her heart does not belong to me.”””

“Lottie fell silent, her eyelids drooping.”

The door was pushed open with a bang.

“Calvin charged in with Aron, bringing with him a fearful aura.”

Lottie had been too shocked to stand up.

“Hey, Calvin, what right do you have to barge into someone else’s private property? Lottie’s hackles were raised, downright disgusted with Calvin’s rude behaviour. She immediately pointed at his face and roared angrily.”

“Calvin looked down at her, condescendingly. His slender body bore the confidence that was brought about by his successful career and the regal aura of a king. His face betRhysing no emotions, he looked arrogantly at Rhys. He said to Lottie, “”Miss Cohen, sorry to disturb you. I’m going to borrow your precious place for today. If you would please step out for a while. I have something to tell him.”””

“No can do, this is my guest. You can’t make a ruckus here. Lottie’s face turned red being hit from the pride emitted by Calvin. This guy had come uninvited and disturbed her coffee house several times before just because she was Belle’s friend. However, so what if she and Belle were besties? It was none of his business anyway. If on that day he was unfriendly, the man next to him was even more expressionless. His face was a mask of ice. They were both acting aggressive. Like master, like servant, it seemed. They were not to be trifled with.”

“Now Rhys was all alone. It was obvious that he was at a disadvantage. She had to protect Rhys so that they couldn’t hurt him. On one hand, Rhys was her guest. On the other hand, he was so handsome and debonair. If he was hurt or humiliated, she would not be able to forgive herself.”

“At the moment, she took three steps forward and blocked in front of Rhys to protect him. She raised her head and looked at Calvin. With a piercing gaze, she thundered, ““Calvin, please get out of my property. Otherwise, don’t blame me for being rude.”””

“Miss Cohen, I’m sorry. I can’t do that. Please cooperate. You know that my woman and my child were kidnapped by him. I am only a man. So, of course I have to ask him to release them. Don’t worry. There is no ulterior motive behind this. As long as he can cooperate, I won’t make things difficult. Calvin had always faltered in his resolve when confronting Lottie. The main reason was that she was Belle’s good friend. He was not willing to hurt Belle, and her friends.”

“Lay off that disgusting claim. Your woman and child? Who? I’ve never heard anything about that. Don’t think that just because you’re rich, any woman will come running at your bidding. I tell you what, this is my place and it’s not up to you to do anything. Listen, this is my territory, and you can’t do sh*t here. Lottie put her hands on her waist and said with disdain and ridicule.”

Anger could be seen on Calvin’s face as he was about to speak.

“Slowly and politely, Rhys rose to his feet and said to Lottie, ““Lottie, since he came to me sincerely, then something must’ve happened. It’s okay. I’m also thinking of meeting him. So, please give us some space and let us have a talk. Maybe it’s not as bad as you make it out to be.”””

“Rhys spoke gently, his bright eyes looking at Lottie with a hint of a smile. His eyebrows flew up and the tenderness at the corners of his mouth slowly spread out.”

“Lottie seemed to be possessed by the sight. She looked at him, nodded obediently, and went out. When she went outside, she suddenly realized in astonishment. ““Hey, when did I become so obedient to men? Did I eat anything wrong?”””

“As she thought about it in this way, a strange feeling she had never felt before rose in her heart. She felt that a change was imminent.”

“Please take a seat. I’d like to ask all unrelated personnel to leave. Rhys glanced indifferently at Calvin and looked at Aron. Then, he walked to the sofa and sat down calmly.”

“After Calvin made a gesture towards Aron, Aron walked out.”

“Two men sat facing each other. Where one held a gaze as sharp as a gleaming knife, the other was poised and self-possessed. Both were handsome, and both possessed eyes that could suck women into

the lure. As they beheld each other, it appeared as if answers could be found within their gazes. They wanted to have a good talk.”

Calvin was already able to deal with this matter calmly.

“Tell me, where is Belle now? Calvin put his hands on the sofa’s back and clenched his fists so tightly that his nails turned white. He could never find Rhys all this while. He had wanted to find Rhys and grilled him. However, at this moment, he had calmed down. It was just the shame deep in his heart that was still gnawing at him. ”

“In fact, he would rather not find out Belle’s whereabouts from him. In that case, he would feel better, for at least he knew that she wasn’t with such an excellent man.”

“Where do you think she will be? Rhys picked up the coffee cup on the table and took a sip. With a ghost of a smile on his face, he slightly pursed his lips.”

“Calvin frowned and said, displeased, ““If I knew, would I still be here?”””

“Then why did you ask me? Didn’t you say that Jen is your woman? If she is, why are you still here asking me? Does that sound right to you? Rhys was not in a hurry to answer him, but asked him in return.”

“Rhys, Belle left and disappeared with you. I’m here to ask you for her whereabouts, is there anything wrong with that? Although Calvin’s voice was still steady, his face was no longer so calm, and even a little angry.”

Who told you that Jen left with me? Rhys raised his voice.

Chapter 324

“Your Lennox, he said that she left with you. Calvin answered, his tone indignant and righteous.”

“So, just based off on that, you’ve become certain that I’m the one who took your woman away? Rhys asked with a look of disdain. ““First of all, Jen is not your woman. By law or in life, I won’t agree to it. Secondly, yes, she did come out of the villa with me, but we went our separate ways after that. I went to the airport and she went to the train station. How would I know where she was headed to?”””

“Rhys shrugged, shook his head, and spread out his hands.”

“A glimmer of starlight flashed across Calvin’s darkened eyes. Soon, it was enveloped in an even more intense gloominess.”

“You’re saying that she didn’t stay with you at all, and that she didn’t leave with you? The joy that had just surged into his heart was quickly replaced by worry. Belle really didn’t stay with Rhys. This idea once again vindicated Hudson’s judgment of Belle and also proved that his guess was correct.”

“The child in Belle’s belly had not the slightest tie to Rhys. Otherwise, she would not have left alone.”

“Based on her personality, she would never stay with him. She was pregnant with a baby. How could she be a liability to a man’s reputation?”

“Thinking of this, the joy in Calvin’s heart superseded his hatred for Rhys. The child in Belle’s belly must be Calvin’s.”

“I would’ve rather she stayed with me, and I’m willing to take care of her for the rest of my life. However, her heart doesn’t belong to me, and I can do nothing about it. The smile on Rhys’s face was lined with helplessness and sorrow.”

“Calvin’s hand, gripping at the sofa, trembled faintly.”

Has she never loved you? His voice was a little hoarse as he asked the confusion in his heart with difficulty.

“Hmph. Rhys sneered after a pause, his voice dripping with anger. “”It turns out that the man Jen loves is still such a fool. No wonder she would rather live alone with her child, wandering in her hometown than to come back to you. At the very least, it was your lack of faith in her.”””

“What do you mean? Calvin tightened his grip on the skin of the sofa, as if it was going to be ripped off by him.”

“Did you really think that Jen was going to be with me? She begged me to put on a show, just to make you give up on her. She did this to prevent Tristan and Lexie from bringing down your Harvey Group. Rhys put down the coffee in his hand. He was never a man of fickle temper, but at the moment, his face was gloomy, and his eyes were staring at Calvin, as if he was going to burn him. “”In order to prevent Lexie from harming your father, grandmother, and the Harvey Group, she negotiated with Lexie and voluntarily chose to leave you and handed over the inheritance of the Harvey Manor. She only hoped that Lexie could spare you. Even after telling you the truth, haven’t you figured everything out?”””

“Negotiation? Did she deliberately make him give up on her? Calvin’s face began to lose color. He really didn’t know about these things, and Lexie had never said anything about this.”

“However, his father was right. Without her cooperation, it would’ve been impossible to bring down Tristan in such a short time.”

“At this point, his mind was completely transparent. A great sense of guilt and heartache rushed to his mind. He stood up and turned around to leave.”

What’s wrong? Are you leaving just like that? Don’t you have any further questions? Rhys asked sarcastically.

“Calvin paused for a moment and suddenly laughed. Similarly, he said sarcastically, “”Since she doesn’t like you and doesn’t love you, surely she wouldn’t even let you know where she is after she left. She hates me, and now that she’s left me, she would hide her whereabouts from all those who may possibly know where she is. Of course, that includes you. There is absolutely no way to know her whereabouts now. Since that’s the case, there’s no need for any of us to waste our breath.”””

“His words were decisive, but at the end of his words, he inevitably felt a little proud. After all, his Belle had never loved Rhys, and that made his male ego soar.”

“It’s a pity that you’re too late. Rhys sneered. “”I don’t know how a woman like her would thrive with a child, and I don’t know how she is doing now either. However, I can’t do anything about it. If you really love her, you should create the conditions favorable enough for her to come back.”””

“These words were like an iron whip thrashing him, causing his heart to rapidly tighten. His gaze was firmly fixed on the ground.”

How did a woman like her live with her pregnancy? No sooner had he thought about it than his mind caught in the thrall of madness. The suffocating anger in his heart drained the breath out of him.

What kind of suffering would his woman have to live through? It was hard to imagine.

“Rhys’s gaze was deep and sharp. With his back facing him, Calvin seemed to have dwindled. No matter how one looked at it, he appeared sad and desolate. His footsteps were heavy as he walked towards the door.”

“Also, let me tell you. Jen’s mother, Kate, was sent by my men to the airport in S City. According to my men, they met Miss Morris at the airport, but that was all they had. Think about it, Rhys said when Calvin was about to step out of the room.”

“S City? Calvin muttered the name of the city, wanting to imprint it into his memory.”

“After returning to his office, he immediately turned on his computer and repeatedly checked the airport in S City. He was stunned shortly after. Not only did the airport in S City fly locally, but also across the globe. It was no less effective to look for someone like this than to find a needle in a haystack.”

“Nevertheless, no matter what, if there was a clue, he had to continue to investigate, even if it was a slim chance.”

“First, he quickly sent Aron to the S City Airport and checked the guest list from there. He couldn’t find any records of the guests who came by a few months ago.”

“It was possible for her to arrive in S City and take a train after. He then asked Aron to go to the train station in S City. He called Albie Williamson to inform the police in S City to search for the name ‘Belle Morris’ on the swarm of tickets all over the country. It was not hard for them to flag the name ‘Belle Morris’ out of the list, but there were a great deal of people with the same name. Nevertheless, on closer inspection, the train passed through many provinces, and this person named ‘Belle Morris’ had bought a train ticket to Ocean City. This one simple discovery sent Calvin into endless joy.”

“That was to say, she might have headed for Ocean City, a beautiful city. It was absolutely possible for her to choose to go there.”

He packed up his things and traveled to Ocean City in person. Only after arriving at Ocean City did he find out how difficult it would be to search for one single person in such a big city.

“Wandering at Ocean City’s train station and the ticket purchase station, he had asked Albie Williamson several times to have the police lend a hand in the search.”

“After a month of searching, he still got nothing. Gradually, his willpower faded away.”

“She was determined to leave him. The country was so big, and the whole world was bigger. How could he find her, unless she took the initiative to come back?”

“No matter, how could that be possible?”

“She hated him! Since she had left him, she would never come back!”

Chapter 325

A year later.

“A sudden earthquake alarmed everyone. Almost overnight, the news media was plastered with the coverage of the earthquake.”

“Regardless of which channel was switched to, or which website was clicked into, the images were all replaced with a solid, grey-colored background.”

The high-intensity earthquake had almost destroyed everything in S City.

In the living room of Fragrance Garden.

Calvin was accompanying Hudson and Paige at dinner.

“Calvin, the earthquake is a natural disaster. The Harvey Group is a large group company. Have you prepared anything for this? After stuffing a mouthful of omelette into his mouth, Hudson remembered the current situation and asked seriously.”

“After gulping down the almond milk, Calvin smiled and said gently, ““Don’t worry, Dad. We are a well-known company and wouldn’t skimp on any donation. Last night, I asked the mid-level executives of the company to bring ten thousand tents and a lot of food, as well as a hundred million dollars of funds, to the scene. They should have arrived by now.”””

“Good, well done. Hudson’s face revealed a smile of appreciation. ““You’re a public figure. There are many people watching you. Your every move will affect the reputation of the Harvey Group. Also, a great entrepreneur must have a heart of his own. He needs to know how to repay society, save lives, and heal injuries. Only then will such a group have a sense of humanity. Only then will people praise it. Admiration is the only way for such an enterprise to be accepted by everyone and go further.”””

“He put his spoon down, with a serious look on his face. Although his voice was warm, it contained an earnest expectation.”

“The Harvey Group had been standing strong for a hundred years. Not only did their heirs work hard, but they also had a profound spiritual and cultural foundation. Of course, this also included the contribution to society.”

“Upon hearing these words, Calvin was struck by a thought. He recalled the incident at the banquet on the island in the center of the city the year before. When Lexie was about to chase away the children of the welfare home, Belle had protected them. Her face was filled with anger as she said those words. Every word she said was reasonable, and each of them touched the hearts of the people.”

“On that day, in order to control Lexie, he hadn’t protected her openly but supported her in the dark. Eventually, she’d succeeded in keeping those children, and without a hitch, held a charity event at the banquet. Part of the donations received had gone straight into the welfare home, which also helped fund those children’s education.”

“On that day, she’d stood on the magnificent stage. Although she’d worn plain clothes and without any makeup, her charisma was extraordinary at that moment, catching everyone’s attention. She definitely wouldn’t lose to Lexie, who was adorned with all the jewels and treasures on her body.”

“Such a beautiful woman, whom he loved deeply, had left with his child for a year and a half. There was no news about her at all.”

He suddenly felt sore in his heart and could not eat anything anymore.

“Dad, Mom, enjoy your meal. I’m done. He put down his spoon and went to the living room sullenly. He sat on the sofa with a depressed face.”

“Calvin, eat more. Paige saw that he had only taken a few sips of almond milk and not eaten breakfast. Her heart ached and she hastily stopped him.”

Let him go. Hudson glanced at Paige and said flatly.

“Hudson, I only have one son, Calvin. Look at him. In the past year or so, he has worked hard and did not speak or smile. It’s obvious that he was unhappy. Looking at him, my heart feels as if it is stung by hundreds of bees. Paige thought that Calvin had changed into a different person in the past year. He would barely speak. His heart weighed down with sorrow. He barely even ate anything.”

“Her son was a man with such a halo on him, and he could get whatever he desired. However, he had never been truly happy before. How could she ever feel at ease when he was like this?”

“Only now do you know how to feel sorry for him? If you had known it would be like this, why didn’t you help him to keep an eye on Belle? Hudson was furious when he heard Paige’s complaint.”

“She only knew how to pity her son. If she hadn’t been there to fan the flames of trouble, would that woman, Lexie, have been able to take advantage of the situation and slipped in? Would so many things have happened afterwards?”

“At the thought of this, his face darkened and he slammed his spoon heavily on the table.”

Paige’s face was pale. Her eyes were full of tears in an instant.

“No matter what I say, you would bring that up to lecture me. I am still his mother no matter what had happened. Everything I did, I did it for him. Looking back at those years, if it weren’t for your illness, I wouldn’t have lost my mind and wouldn’t have made the wrong judgment. Paige wiped her tears, with grievance and unwillingness on her face.”

“There was nothing I could do about my sickness, but you, you didn’t know right from wrong, barking up at the wrong trees. You always liked to interfere in Calvin’s affairs and made his life a mess. Think about it, if you didn’t support Lexie in the dark, would she have succeeded? Hudson’s face was forbidding. “”Until now, you should correct your poor habit of favoring the rich. When a person lives to this age, they should often reflect on their own, instead of blindly favoring one side. If you look at your own son and feel sorry for him, how about another person’s daughter?”””

“Paige didn’t know what to say. Knowing that she was in the wrong, she lowered her head and wiped her tears.”

“Have you ever thought about how much in pain Belle is? Her father was framed and killed, and her mother was paralyzed. The only family she could rely on was her husband. Her husband didn’t love her, and her mother-in-law often made trouble for her, and even some other women came to her house to steal her husband. If it were you, what would you do? As long as you still have a conscience, you should pray for her forgiveness every day. Don’t love your son only, but also his wife as well. If it were any other woman, she would never come back to this family again. Hudson continued to criticize her. The more he said, the more weight he put behind his words.”

“Because of this, in the one year or more since he had woken up, he was almost cold to Paige, and he was absolutely dissatisfied with her performance in the whole process.”

“Paige had received a lot of criticism from Hudson in this year. So, of course, her life was not any better.”

“Hudson, it’s been so many years. Am I such a heartless woman? You have to put yourself in my shoes. In my eyes, my son and this family are the most important things. What’s more, I was none the wiser at that time. So, you can’t blame me for all this, alright? She wiped her tears with a tissue and could not speak.”

“Don’t blame you? Have you seen the consequences of what you did? Your daughter-in-law has left a Richard family’s descendant, and she is unwilling to enter our house ever again. Have you ever thought about how a woman lives with a baby inside her? Can you imagine how hard it is for a woman to raise her child alone? What you did had ultimately hurt our Richard family’s bloodline. Hudson’s voice was cracking up.”

“Tears streamed down Paige’s face as she sat there, completely at a loss.”

“That year, she had known that Belle was pregnant at the family meeting. When she’d heard that Lexie actually needed ten million dollars to get Bill to get rid of the child in Belle’s belly, she’d almost fainted.”

“She had never thought that Lexie would be so vicious and heartless. She just thought that she loved Calvin and was perhaps too jealous. Seeing that she was carrying Calvin’s child, she’d yielded to her demands again and again, but she would never have imagined that there would be such a shameful and ugly truth hidden beneath her facade. At that moment, she’d been shocked and scared, and she’d regretted everything she did. At that moment, she had thought that, as long as Belle came back, she would definitely dote on her like her own daughter. Nevertheless, she never came back. It looked like she should be extremely disappointed with this family now.”

“Otherwise, how could a woman rather struggle to raise the child alone than to go back to her husband’s home?”

“However, even so, her fault was not unforgivable! Plus, now her husband’s dissatisfaction with her had made her heartbroken.”

Calvin listened to the row between Paige and Hudson and felt even more upset.

“These days, they were often at each other’s throats. His father often scolded his mother, and his mother often shed tears, which annoyed him.”

“Sitting on the sofa, he casually turned on the wide-screen TV on the wall and raised the volume of the sound, covering up the annoying sound and focusing on the TV.”

“The TV was all gRhys, and all the shots were live broadcasts of the earthquake scene. From time to time, all kinds of rescue personnel and reporters sent messages.”

“Suddenly, the TV screen turned to a small town, and the radio player was sadly broadcasting the news. This was a school in a poor mountainous area. Due to the earthquake, the school had collapsed, and many students were still buried deep in the debris. As the men and women of the nearby villages had gone out to work, most of them were children who stayed behind. There were only a few teachers left in the school, and this village was far away from the rescue team, so it was very remote. Now the children were buried in the debris pile without anyone to rescue them. It was an emergency.”

Calvin felt an indescribable sense of heaviness in his heart.

“The images stayed on the school, pRhysing for the rescue outside.”

“Suddenly, in front of the already collapsed building, within a pile of gRhys debris, a charming figure appeared in front of the camera. It was a woman who was shouting anxiously. One could vaguely see her mouth opening and closing, waving towards a reporter.”

“The camera gradually moved toward her. It was a face that couldn’t be seen clearly. The mottled mud was smeared on her face, and vague tear stains could be seen. However, the anxiety on her face and the despair and sadness in her eyes were so clear.”

“Calvin couldn’t help but to sit up and stare at that face. In the blurry image, the pain and despair in his eyes were grabbing at his heart, and his breath was almost going to stop.”

“Although the image was too blurry and the sky was too dim to see her face clearly, her charming figure was fixed in the mind of Calvin, shaking him to the point that he leapt to his feet.”

This figure was too familiar. Calvin was almost certain that this woman was the Belle he had been looking for.

He quickly fished out his mobile phone and dialed Aron’s phone number.

“Aron, be swift, get a helicopter. Send the Grand Xeqint to Fisher Town in S City with me. Be quick. He paused the TV on the camera for a second and came to a firm decision. “”Also, bring 500 tents and food.”””

“After giving out this order, he ran out quickly.”

Chapter 326

“Calvin, it’s getting dark. Where are you going? In the dining hall, Paige was shocked to hear Calvin ordering a helicopter to be sent to the disaster area for a rescue mission. When she thought that he was going along with the helicopter to the earthquake-stricken area to rescue the victims, her heart instantly missed a beat.”

“It was not an easy feat for a helicopter to land after being in the air. Others might not understand, but she understood very well that there were demandingly strict conditions for a helicopter to land. With

the area just experiencing an earthquake, it would be impossible for him to land without using a parachute. Even then, it was not guaranteed that he could touch down safely. In the unlikely event that he was not careful, his bones might get fractured, or even worse, get caught up with the wind... She dared not venture into this possibility.”

“She could not let her only son take such a risk. Anxiously, she turned towards Hudson and cried out, “”Hudson, Calvin is going to the disaster area. You let him know that he only needs to donate more money. He should let the professionals do their job.”””

“Paige was panic-stricken, color draining from her face.”

“Hudson, of course, had overheard the order from Calvin. When he looked at Calvin with his deep eyes, the latter had already got on his electric car and hurried out.”

“After a moment of silence, he said to Paige, “”Don’t worry. He knows what he’s doing.”””

“When he made it clear that he had no objection to it, Paige hugged her head and cried.”

“Hudson stood up and looked at Calvin’s car disappearing into the distance. His ears were filled with Paige’s heart-wrenching sobs, and his heart was extremely heavy.”

Why would Calvin give out such an order all of a sudden? Did something happen?

“Quickly, he walked into the living room, and soon, his eyes locked on the frozen image on the TV. He suddenly understood everything.”

He rubbed his eyes and nodded after looking at it carefully again.

“More than two hours later, the helicopter arrived at the town using satellite positioning.”

“As the helicopter slowly lowered, Calvin’s heart sank with it.”

This school was too small. It was impossible to land safely with a helicopter. He could only jump down there himself.

“Mr. Harvey, let’s get the ladder down and secure the rope to a safe place first. We can’t use the parachutes. Aron saw the sheet of grey ashes obscuring the ground. At this time, the only thing he could do was to further lower the helicopter and set down a thick rope down to save the victims.”

Calvin nodded.

“Mr. Harvey, you’d better not go down. It’s too dangerous, Aron said, concerned.”

“Quit the cr*p. Hurry up and get ready. The fully-equipped Calvin looked angry, not allowing Aron to question his decision. Aron did not dare to speak again. As he ordered the essential items to be dropped off from the helicopter, he shouted at the people below with his loudspeaker.”

“Soon, the rope was released and the helicopter approached a hill. Calvin, Aron, and almost ten members of the strictly trained special forces approached the ground using the rope.”

“The ground was covered in grey ash, collapsed buildings, piles of rubble, and the sound of crying and screaming deafened his ears.”

“Calvin landed on a hillside and glanced around in the darkness. It was after midnight, and there was still a distance between the collapsed school and where he stood. He immediately led Aron and the others to the school.”

“When they got close, several bonfires were ablaze on the open ground, chasing the cold air away and illuminating the surrounding. What they saw was really shocking.”

Only a few volunteers were there to rescue the students trapped under the rubble. There were even a few who were trapped so deep inside that they could not be seen and only their cries and shouts could be heard. The few who were buried even deeper inside might have lost their breath.

“No matter who was crying or yelling, their voices had already become hoarse, and there was only sobbing left.”

The situation was too dire.

“Aron, save them first. Seeing the ghastly scene, Calvin could not care less about finding Belle. He instructed his subordinates to focus on saving the students first.”

The arduous rescue work that would last all night ensued.

“One after another, children were rescued from the rubble and moved to an emergency tent nearby.”

“This primary school was a school of the villagers in the vicinity of Fisher Town, and the classrooms were already in ruins. Such an earthquake had almost destroyed the entire school.”

“Calvin took advantage of the downtime to take care of the injured children and survey his surroundings. Mountains were everywhere, and there was a small market in the middle of it. The school was located next to the small market. At present, there were some parents gathered in the ruined grounds of the school. However, they were all old, weak, sick, and disabled. They were all shouting their children’s names, their voice laden with cries.”

“His eyes were searching for that familiar figure, but to his surprise, it was nowhere to be found. Did he get the wrong place?”

” Reaching for his mobile phone, he checked and confirmed that this was exactly the place.”

“Mr. Harvey, another one has just been saved. Luca’s joyful voice came from the other side.”

“Come, hand him to me. Soon, a woman dashed out of the tent next to him and stretched out her hand to accept the injured child.”

“Calvin took advantage of the dim light to look at her. Her face was ashen, completely stripping him of any chance to make out her face at all. Only her two eyes were revealed. Though she was a young girl, her round face and rough figure didn’t look like his Belle at all.”

“The moment the woman took the child, she noticed that Calvin was sizing her up. There was a wave of bashfulness on her face. She smiled at him and ran into the tent with the child in her arms.”

“Calvin was utterly disappointed that he could not find Belle, but the situation at hand was too critical. He could not focus solely on searching for someone. It was a matter of life and death. The rescue work had to be prioritized.”

“In the tent, there were a number of children who had been rescued. Those who were missing their arms and legs were all groaning in pain.”

“A thin and weak woman was cleaning the wounds of the children. After the wounds were cleaned, she sprayed the disinfectant on them, applied medicine, and bandaged them.”

“There were not enough people here and there was a shortage of medicine. Fortunately, Calvin had brought some first aid kits with him on the helicopter and promptly made use of them.”

“Miss Lewis, there are so many handsome guys outside. Fortunately, they are here and these children are saved. Amy looked at the woman called Miss Lewis and said, ““Especially that handsome leader, he’s so elegant and handsome. I’ve never seen such a handsome man in my life.”””

“Amy widened her round eyes, puffed her cheeks, and with an infatuated look on her face, she fawned over him.”

“The woman only replied with a faint ‘hmm’ and said in a hoarse voice, ““Amy, quickly bandage the children’s wounds. Now there are a lot of children who are seriously injured. I’m really worried that the wounds will cause high fever if they get infected. There is a shortage of medicine at the moment. So, we have to control the situation.”””

“I know. God, if only the electricity is back and the roads are repaired. Otherwise, we’re on our own in here, Amy said as she busied herself. The injured children wailed from time to time, complaining about the pain and hunger. The scene was a total chaos.”

“This place was remote and far away from the city. So, it was not easy to get their hands on reinforcements. Despite knowing that, they still clung on to hope.”

“Quick, stop the bleeding. The tent was opened, bringing with it a gust of night wind. A tall figure rushed in with a little girl in his arms. The little girl was obviously sensible. Her hands were bleeding, but she bit her lips hard. Her eyes were full of tears, but she never cried out loud.”

“Evie, you’re hurt so badly. As Amy heard Calvin’s voice, she stood up to welcome him. She stretched out her hand to pick up Evie in his arms.”

“Bring me some disinfectant, Calvin said to Amy when he saw that there were only two women in the tent to tend to the many children with serious injuries. After all, Evie had just been saved from under the debris and was seriously injured. He was afraid that if no emergency attention was given, Evie’s wounds would get infected.”

“The light in the tent was dim, with only a lightbulb. Yet, since Calvin came in, the whole tent seemed to be lit up. Amy’s eyes were shining, her whole body buzzing with vitality. In the face of such a tall and handsome man, Amy couldn’t be more excited, her heart beating fast.”

“Okay, okay, she answered while holding back her excitement.”

“As she spoke, she quickly brought the disinfectant and squatted down in front of him.”

“Could you please get me some water? Calvin’s eyes caught a glimpse of the back of a thin woman who was crouching by the side, busying herself. His heart skipped a beat as he spoke to her.”

“This person was thin but very calm. She was busy and moved deftly, not reacting much when she heard his voice. Instead, she turned around and scooped up a spoonful of water. The medicinal cotton in her hand was also handed over to him along the water.”

“Making use of the dim light, Calvin wanted to see her face clearly, but she lowered her head. Her hair was tousled, covering almost half of her face. He could only see a face buried in grey ash. Her face was even vaguer than what he had seen on TV.”

“She offered her hand. Calvin looked down and saw that the backs of her hands were covered with black calluses. He felt a little familiar with it. From the looks of it, they must have been eroded by the environment here!”

“In an instant, Calvin felt an uncontrollable impulse. When he received the medicinal cotton, his big hand almost held on the pair of small hands. However, the other party was very sensitive, as if she had expected him to do this. As soon as the cotton was in his hand, she immediately retreated her hand and went to work with her back towards him.”

“Stunned for a moment, Calvin felt a strange feeling linger in his heart. It was as if some sort of interest had been stirred within him.”

“At this time, the painful groans of the child in his arms became heavier and heavier, and he hurriedly cleaned up the wound for her, with Amy beside him to help.”

There were more and more wounded children in the tent. Only two women were busy in the tent. They were getting overwhelmed.

“When Calvin finished cleaning Evie’s wound, the sun was already rising outside.”

“Mr. Harvey, we’ve already saved all those we could, but we couldn’t save every one of them. We have to wait until it’s morning to search again. It’s just that we don’t know when the rescue team would be here. We have no choice but to rely on the machinery to find those buried deeper underneath. Aron came in with a face full of sweat, and his expression was not optimistic. “”I think there are still many children trapped underground.”””

“There are a total of 132 children. 78 have already escaped, 30 have been rescued, 10 deceased confirmed, and the other 14 remained missing. A hoarse voice came from one side. Although the voice was so hoarse that no one could recognize the original sound, these numbers were very accurately passed to him.”

Calvin and Aron both looked in her direction.

“She was still tending to the child’s wound, her head hadn’t been raised.”

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“Aron looked at her back and felt somewhat surprised. This figure in front of him was very familiar. He turned his head and caught sight of the flickers in Calvin’s deep eyes, the dimming eyes as dark as paint.”

“She said as if deep in thought, ““Mr. Harvey, the conditions here are too harsh. It’s likely that the children buried in the ruins have little hope of surviving. Now that there’s freezing rain outside and the children’s bodies are in very bad shape, it’s difficult for them to pull through.”””

There was a loud cry coming from the tent.

“Amy and the more sensible child began to cry. Calvin fastened his gaze at the woman. Her head was even lowered now, and her face was still obstructed from view. However, even without thinking, he could tell that she was heartbroken.”

Calvin’s heart sank.

“Taking out his mobile phone, he called the director of the Public Security Department in S City directly. The director attached great importance to this. He responded immediately that he had already sent firefighters to come here overnight.”

“There was only one reporter here. After he’d learned about this school through the Internet, he arrived here with great difficulty. In order to increase public awareness about what had happened here, he was burning the candle at both ends.”

“Finally, at noon, the firefighters arrived and started a more substantial search-and-rescue operation.”

“They almost combed the entire school. In addition to rescuing eight more children, the remaining six had unfortunately died, and the children who had been rescued were treated by the first-aid team before they were quickly sent to the nearby hospital by the medical staff. When everything was almost done, night had fallen on the area once again.”

“In the evening, Calvin was so famished that his stomach looked as if it had collapsed in on itself.”

They had already polished off all the supplies that they had brought with them.

“Some villagers began to collect materials to make a fire. The members of the Grand Xeqint were all exhausted and sleepy, and as they lay in the tent, they slowly dozed off.”

“When Calvin summoned the village chief to enquire about the situation, he felt that the loose ends of the situation had been tied. At this time, the reporters who were watching him were about to interview him, but Calvin was unwilling to leave his name. He immediately made up an excuse to leave.”

He was solely here for that figure.

“At this time, he was tenaciously trying to confirm whether the figure was Belle or not.”

“No matter what, this time, he must find out who the woman was. Judging from everything that had happened in the last two days, it seemed to be very likely that it was her.”

“He turned around to look for Belle outside, but he couldn’t find her. Then, he entered the tent, but she was still not sighted.”

“In an instant, he had a bad feeling in his heart. This feeling was too familiar. Just like what had happened over a year ago, he went looking for her, only for her to have disappeared inexplicably. This feeling almost sent his heart into tremors.”

“Aron, quickly search the tents in the vicinity. I want to find that female teacher. With panic setting in, Calvin instructed Aron.”

“At this moment, he thought of a more serious problem. If the woman was really Belle, had the baby in her belly been born safely? If it was born safely, it should be a year old now! Where was the baby now? Was it safe?”

“Thinking about this, he felt that he had forgotten such an important matter for the past few days. He felt extremely regretful in his heart and became even more anxious.”

“As he searched every tent, he asked the members of the Xeqint to help in the search. However, once again, he got the same result as he did a year ago. The woman had disappeared, as if she had never existed before.”

Calvin gaped in astonishment!

“Was the woman he had seen in the past two days just an illusion? Had it never existed? Or was it just a ghost? Was it a fantasy in his mind? Otherwise, how could it have disappeared like this without a trace!”

It was too mysterious!

“Connor, how many female teachers are there in this school? He hurriedly called over the village chief, Connor Goggins, and asked in detail.”

“Connor knew that he was looking for someone, but he didn’t know who was missing. He hurriedly ran over and heard him ask. After thinking for a moment, he sighed and said, ““To be honest, there are so many children in this school. Yet only one woman is in charge. There were two other teachers, a man, and a woman, but they would go home after class. So, strictly speaking, there is only one teacher who is responsible for teaching these kids, Miss Amy.”””

“When Calvin heard this, he was even more surprised. He couldn’t help but to ask, ““Then who was the woman who helped here these past two days?”””

What woman? Connor was puzzled when he heard Calvin’s question.

This made Calvin’s heart palpitate even more.

It’s that woman. She had been saving the children all this while. She was the one who was busy cleaning the children’s wounds in the tent. Calvin was practically shouting.

“Ah, that one. I remember now. I heard Amy say that a volunteer teacher has come to the school recently. She didn’t ask for any salary and was willing to come to teach the children. However, because she’s not in the teachers list and I don’t usually come here, I had already forgotten about this matter. Connor remembered and patted his thigh with an embarrassed expression on his face.”

What’s her name? Is she called Belle Morris? How long has she been here? Calvin asked as if he had obtained precious information.

“Everything indicated that this woman was likely to be Belle, his ex-wife.”

“Well, I’m really not sure about the details. In recent years, after Amy had exposed the school on the internet, there were often outsiders who came to send supplies to help out. There were also some volunteers who came to teach. If you want the details, you’d have to find Miss Amy. How about this, I’ll call her over now. Connor saw that Calvin’s expression was getting colder and colder. He was certain that the noble savior who was in front of him must have come for that woman. Judging from his noble appearance and the aura that he had never seen before, he knew that he could not afford to offend such a noble person. Thus, he immediately ran to get Amy.”

“After a while, Amy jogged over.”

“Miss Amy, where is that woman? She was helping to tend to the children with you, Calvin asked when he saw Amy. He had lost his usual aloofness.”

“Ah, are you talking about Miss Lewis? She might have already left. When Amy heard Calvin’s question and saw that his expression was a little gloomy, she couldn’t help but to ask curiously, ““What’s wrong?”””

“What is her name? Calvin stared at her again and asked, ““Is she called Belle?”””

“Belle? Amy responded as if she had never heard of that name before. She blinked her eyes and shook her head. ““Well, I only know that she is called Miss Lewis. Her surname is Lewis. As for the person named Belle, I’ve never heard of her.”””

Miss Lewis? Calvin’s face was as dark as the sky before rain. “You mean her surname is Lewis?”

“Uh-huh, we all called her Miss Lewis. Amy nodded her head again to confirm.”

How long has she been here?

It’s been almost half a year.

“Any family members? Is she a local? If not, where did she come from? Calvin asked everything that was in his mind.”

“Looking at the increasingly terrifying face of Calvin, Amy became a little scared. It seemed that the handsome man in front of her was not cute at all. He could even be called overbearing. At this moment, it was as if he was interrogating prisoners.”

“After thinking for a moment, she said, ““Miss Lewis is not a local. She came here half a year ago. At that time, she saw that the school was desperately in need of help, and she also sponsored some money into repairing this school. She also bought a lot of learning supplies for her students. They were all fond of her. When she had nothing to do, she also came to school every day to be a teacher. Initially, she got along very well with her students. Unfortunately, something unexpected happened and this earthquake changed everything.”””

“Amy’s answer was very detailed, but Calvin did not hear what he wanted at all. He could not help but to ask again, ““Do you know where she came from? What’s her name? How old is she? Is there anyone else in her family?”””

“After hearing this, Amy shook her head helplessly and said, ““She didn’t want to reveal her full name, so we just called her Miss Lewis. The children were used to calling her Miss Lewis as well. As for where

she came from, her age, we don't know, and we never wanted to pry. She never talked about the people at home, nor her personal affairs. She hung out with us at times. Her character is very positive and optimistic. All the students were willing to play with her."""

"Only now did Amy realize that this Miss Lewis, who had been with her for half a year, was actually a complete mystery."

"Calvin knew that he wouldn't be able to get any answers from her. With a final shred of hope in his heart, he asked, ""Then, you know where she lives, don't you? Hurry up and take us there."""

"This question soon drove Calvin crazy again. In front of him, Amy still shook her head and said with a sad face, ""She came over every day and went home late in the afternoon. I've asked her about it before, but she only said that she lived in the town. As for where she is, I really don't know. She never invited me to her house. I really have no idea."""

Calvin was completely dumbfounded.

Only then did he regret not approaching her in the past two days they had been working together. He had lost his only chance to find out the truth.

"He was clearly trying his luck, but he was afraid that they would be separated by another thousand miles, and that they would never see each other again."

He was in a foul mood.

"However, since this was still a disaster area at the moment, the traffic was bad and the road was blocked. It was not easy to leave here in a short time, not to mention how weak she was. She could not have gone far."

"Aron, Luca, quick, lead your men to search in several directions, and focus their efforts on the town first. Calvin hastily instructed them and took the lead towards the direction of the small town."

"However, when he went out, he found that it was not so easy to find a person here. There were mountains surrounding them, many different paths, and they were all unnamed. When he went to the town, it was already beyond recognition. Almost all the buildings had collapsed and destroyed, and there was no way to find anyone."

"All the people in the tent were gathered outside. The only thing he could do was to search them one by one. After searching for a while, he was completely discouraged."

"It was clear that she didn't want to see him. Even after knowing that he was present, she didn't want to reunite with him and didn't even want to talk to him."

"During the entire process, she had only spoken a single sentence, and that was the number of children. The rest of the time she had spent it by bending over and treating the kids."

Calvin's heart grew heavier and heavier. His vexation was bottomless.

"D*mned woman, did I do anything to deserve this?"

Why are you treating me like I'm some fierce beast?

Do you even have a heart?

“As he had expected, Luca and Aron also came back empty-handed.”

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“After thinking for a while, Aron started to comfort him. ““Mr. Harvey, it’s very likely that the woman isn’t Young Madam at all. Though her back may resemble her a little, we can’t get any clue from her voice.”””

“When she had said those words that day, Aron was there. At that time, her voice was ragged, probably due to all the screaming she’d exerted during the earthquake. It was true that he could not recognize her voice, but for Calvin, his intuition firmly believed it was her.”

“Lacking any concrete evidence, time was a luxury he couldn’t squander. ”

“Hence, he made a decision. ”

“He summoned Connor and Amy, and then left them with his contact number, reminding them to call him as soon as they received any news of that woman.”

“His mobile phone kept ringing these past two days. It was supposed to be a temporary ordeal, coming here. There was a pile of paperwork waiting in the Harvey Group, for him to attend to. At that moment, he made a phone call, and a helicopter arrived. In only a few hours, he had already set foot in A city.”

The news that the president of the Harvey family had shown up at the site of the earthquake and helped the school in the mountainous area was soon broadcast on TV. This prompted a great response and was praised by society.

“On the other hand, in the local mountain area, the story of a young and handsome businessman who flew in with a helicopter to find a rural teacher called ‘Belle’ was circulated far and wide, and it took on a life of its own. ”

“His perseverance in looking for Belle and his uninhibited efforts to rescue the students buried under the rubble had moved everyone in the village to the point of tears. Everyone began to search for her in the local area, but it was akin to looking for a needle in a haystack. They could no longer find the teacher anymore.”

“She seemed to have never existed, and there was no news about her. For a time, the local people wondered if the woman was an angel who had graced the school, helping them. After that, the school indeed flourished, and there were more and more students enrolling in the school. The school quickly became the most popular primary school in the province.”

“Out of nowhere, spring had arrived once again!”

“In the meeting room of the Harvey Group, Calvin was hosting a meeting with all the senior leaders of the company present. It was a meeting regarding resource conservation.”

“As the automobile sales prospects were promising, the current shortage of accessories in the market had become another problem to contend with.”

“At the executive meeting, everyone was generous with their thoughts and opinions.”

“Calvin sat in the CEO’s seat. His well-ironed suit made him look noble and aristocratic. His entire body exuded a calm, noble air, and an aloof aura.”

“Compared to the past, he seemed calmer and more mature, and also more charming!”

“In his position, he sat calmly. For the comments of his subordinates, he nodded slightly from time to time. His dark eyes were full of spirit, his eyes emitting incomparable authority.”

“Mr. Harvey, nowadays the price of the accessories has risen sharply and the cost is getting higher and higher as well. Although there are a lot of orders, the profits are not as decent as before. Damian, the director of the company, worriedly pointed out the current trends that were at risk.”

“Yes, Mr. Harvey, for an established company like ours, it is necessary for us to produce a series of accessories of our own brand. Only in this way can we guarantee a lasting future for our brand.”

“Mr. Harvey, the tycoon, Callum, has almost monopolized the entire accessories market. Almost all the prices of the car accessories are set up by their company. Now that our business has been rising steadily, they have increased the total prices of most of the accessories we ordered by almost 20% yesterday. If this is it, our revenue would decline by 30%, and he would pocket most of the profits.”

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There was not much expression on Calvin’s face as he listened quietly. His deep eyes were filled with a bottomless black light.

“Mr. Harvey, the commercial model has their prices fees as well now. The troupe of models from the Academy of Art was causing trouble just a few days ago. They demanded a salary raise, otherwise they would go on strike. Seth, the marketing manager, also frowned and sternly raised this kind of problem.”

“Didn’t the Academy agree on the pay before signing the contract? Why are they making such an unreasonable request? Calvin’s eyebrows condensed into a straight line, a testament to his utter dissatisfaction.”

“Yes, Mr. Harvey. Initially, the matter was handled by Ms. Morris. Back then, they wanted to raise their pay too, but the issue was promptly controlled by Ms. Morris. Now that the models’ worth seems to have increased, they are no longer willing to stomach their current pay. From time to time, they would throw such tantrums, and the normal workflow is often unable to go smoothly. Now, complaints are everywhere in the department because it’s a headache to see them. The commissioner of the department, Luna Turner, was struggling with this matter. Hearing Calvin’s question, she quickly explained the cause and effect in detail.”

“A subtle smile tugged at the corner of Calvin’s lips. The thought of Belle dealing with this situation flashed across his eyes. Only then did he remember that she had used a ‘forceful’ approach to get them to sign the contract. In her words, ““The Harvey family’s car was now an exquisite, expensive, and well-known model. However, you models still remain mostly unknown. The reason we’re signing the contract with you is to raise your value through our car instead of the other way around. Hence, the price we offered is pretty reasonable, according to the market standards. If all of you are unwilling to accept these conditions, then we will just go and search for other modelling agencies. We will then hire models

with even lower pay. When that time comes, you people can see for yourself who's with the elevated stardom status. Just think about who you're really fighting against when you refused our offer!"

It was these words that had made those arrogant women instantly sign the contract. He just didn't expect that they would start to show their true colours again today.

"The facts proved that the Harvey family's car had indeed produced quite a few famous models. These models were now popular both domestically and abroad. If it were not for that contract, they would have left the Harvey family a long time ago."

"Thinking of this, Calvin said faintly, ""Tell them that no one can alter the terms of the contract once it's signed. Next time, whoever that's disruptive will have their benefits terminated right away. If they still can't see what's good for them, then we'll ban them. Now, we should consider supporting new people. You must know that there are a lot of beautiful women in the local art colleges. We'll do well digging for potential there. Of course, the models we have now can still stay if they learn to carry themselves well, otherwise we'll just ignore them.""

"Hearing this, Luna's expression finally changed from worry to joyfulness. If a new troupe of models were introduced, the cost would be much lower. Plus, now the current troupe of models would immediately be more cooperative. In this way, the workflow would be much smoother!"

"Seth, how is the investigation going? Calvin turned his head to Seth after a while."

"Mr. Harvey, here's the thing. I found that there is a chemical factory in Jenova City that produces a kind of material. After modifying and improving upon it, it can be used as a raw material for the manufacturing of accessories. What's more, this kind of material is very cheap. If we could mass produce it, it would surely bring huge profits to our company. According to my estimation, these profits are almost equal to half of the profits brought in by automobile sales. Therefore, Mr. Harvey, I suggest we continue to explore this path. It is very promising. Seth was a little excited as he reported truthfully."

"Calvin's expression remained unchanged, nodding slightly."

"Mr. Harvey, according to our investigation, the chemical factory building that produces these materials is a state-owned enterprise. It is located in a remote area and the commute there is not very convenient. It is located at the junction of lakes and mountains. At present, there are a lot of workshops and workers there. So, the loss has already reached the threshold of hundreds of millions of dollars. However, the factory that could produce the material we need is currently undergoing renovation and needs financial support for it. If we provide assistance at this time or buy in some shares, it would be a good opportunity to build a great relationship with them. The assistant, Alfred, fully analyzed the current market and put forward his own suggestions."

"Calvin closed the logbook in front of him and leaned slightly to the back. He gently spat out three words, ""Let's go down to Jenova City.""

Chapter 329

"Spring had arrived in Wullen Town in Jenova City. The town was filled with flowers, spring rain, gondolas, white walls, and stone bridges. It was as beautiful as a dream."

“In a small alley, on the stone steps, a graceful figure was holding a red umbrella and moving rapidly forwards in the rain. The people in the Jenova City were conversing with each other, and the rain was flowing down along the tiles. It was a portrait of human warmth and serenity.”

“However, she was in a hurry and in no mood to drink in the beautiful scenery. When she passed by an old man’s stall, she turned her head and saw that the old man was carefully spinning cotton candy. That wonderful smell put a smile on her face. She reached in her pocket to take out some money, bought two cotton candies, and held them in her hand. Then, she strode forwards quickly.”

“In front of her was a place with a picturesque scenery. The courtyard was so thick that various flowers were planted all around it, and the pinkish red wall made the room look as if a painting had come alive.”

“She stopped in front of the iron gate of the courtyard, took out the key and unlocked the fence. Walking gently along the stone steps of the courtyard, she put away the umbrella.”

“Mom, I’m back. Did Jerry behave well today? Before she even entered the house, her sweet and clear voice rang out, underlined with a sense of happiness and bliss.”

“Belle, you’re back Tristany today. Kate smiled when she heard Belle’s voice.”

“Well, I came back Tristany today since the class schedule is not too packed. Belle didn’t have time to take off her wet coat before she walked inside.”

“The house with three bedrooms and two living rooms was clean and tidy, and the windows were bright and clean, which was very comfortable.”

“The little fellow in the room was sitting on the bed, struggling to pry open the car toy in his hands, without any methodical thought put behind it. His pinkish face giggled from time to time. Seeing Belle coming in, he, who couldn’t speak well yet, raised his pink little face and smiled at her, muttering ‘mom’ with his mouth. Immediately, he threw away the toy in his hand and stretched out to her, shouting eagerly, “‘Hug me, hug me.’””

“Belle’s face was beaming with happiness. She put down the things in her hands and extended out her hands to hug him. She kissed him hard on his tiny face and tickled him lightly, making him giggle.”

Jerry was extremely happy in Belle’s familiar and intimate embrace and wiggled restlessly. Belle held him and sat down on the bed. The mother and son were having fun.

“After a long while, she finally placed Jerry in the middle of the bed. She stood up, took out the bag of cotton candy, nipped a small portion of it and placed it into Jerry’s mouth.”

“Jerry began to chew on the cotton candy. Perhaps unfamiliar with the texture, he spat it out after a while and made an ‘eww’ expression.”

“Belle knew that he was going to pretend to be stubborn and demand breast milk again, but she would not relent this time. She just took a bottle of milk and gave it to him.”

“Jerry pursed his lips and gulped down the milk reluctantly. Then, he picked up the car on the bed and started playing on his own.”

Kate walked in with a cane.

“Mom, please sit down. Belle helped Kate sit down beside the bed, unzipped her shorts, and said distressingly, ““This prosthetic has been operating for so long that your legs are turning red. You’d better walk less. Next time, let’s use the wheelchair.”””

“Kate’s heart ached when she heard this. She held Belle’s hand and said bitterly, ““My dear, thanks for your hard work. Now that you’ve finally settled down, don’t worry about me. Just rest more. You’ve been put under a lot of stress over the past year.”””

“She touched her hand, but there was a lingering sorrow in the depths of her eyes.”

“Her daughter Belle was still young, and it was no simple thing to raise a child. Thinking about it like this, a deep sorrow washed over her. She had lost her two legs, and not only was she unable to take care of her, but she would also be a burden to her. Whenever she thought of this, she would find it hard to fall asleep at night. Tears rolled down her cheeks.”

“In this life, even if she had suffered all kinds of hardships, she would have no complaints. Even when her husband had been framed, she could face it head on with confidence, but Belle’s happiness was what she cared most about.”

“Mom, haven’t we settled down now? Look how nice this house is. It’s a wonderful place in Jenova City and it’s a good place to live. In the future, we will live here happily, with just the three of us, Belle said affectionately, holding Kate’s shoulder, and comforted her like the child that she had been. Kate knew that she couldn’t convince her daughter otherwise, so now she could only give in to her request.”

“Mom, sit down and stay with Jerry. I’m going to cook. Belle was talking with Kate for a while before noticing that it was getting late. She then got up to cook.”

“Today, she had bought a few side dishes and was ready to make a good meal.”

“Engrossed in her cooking, there were also traces of happiness and peace on her face.”

“It had been a month since she had arrived in this town. From looking around for this house on the market to buying it subsequently, to discussing the price with the house owner, and finally moving into the house, it had taken her almost half a month. Alas, the dust had settled.”

Now she was calm and happy. At least she had a mother who loved her and her child. These were real and this rich family affection made her very satisfied.

“Marry went back to A City to do something, but after a while, she would come back and live with them.”

She was ready to live out the rest of her life in this town in Jenova City.

“The environment here was beautiful and romantic, it fulfilled every one of her preferences of an ideal place to live. She thought it was comfortable enough to live in such a land known for its rivers and lakes.”

“However, Kate didn’t share her sentiment. She would often get worried and anxious.”

“For a woman, such a life was not complete enough. After all, Belle was still young. How could she not find a man? For Kate, after so many life and death experiences, nothing would surprise her anymore. As

long as her loved ones were next to her, she would be happy. Nevertheless, the same could not be said for Belle.”

“Mom, Jerry, it’s time to eat. After finishing cooking, Belle placed the dishes on the table and walked out of the room with Jerry in her arms and Kate beside her.”

“Jerry was already one year old with two tiny teeth. He could only eat porridge and drink some soup. He still had to drink milk most of the time, though. Belle had already tried to get him to wean him off from milk, but this guy was always unwilling. He had been wreaking havoc recently.”

“Moreover, he was deliberately making fun of her. He would not give up until he achieved his goal.”

“Sure enough, when they were eating, the little fellow got bored of the porridge and was unwilling to eat anymore. No matter how she fed him, he would not open his mouth. When she finally managed to put some food into his mouth, he puked everything all over his body.”

“Belle was angry and amused at the same time. Looking at his mischievous look, she felt that he was more like a certain someone. She felt a little emotional in her heart.”

“Jerry’s facial features were very similar to his father, almost as if he was made out of the same mold. Even his little tantrums were similar. It was true that the apple didn’t fall far from the tree.”

Belle finally had a firsthand experience of the essence behind such words.

“She shook her head, caressing Jerry’s head with both love and hate. In the end, she had no choice but to set him down on the small chair and make him some milk and puree.”

“Jerry, on the other hand, didn’t give up wanting his mother’s milk after he had finished drinking the powdered milk. He put on a cute face and cried out, then rolled on the ground. He had used every trick in the book.”

“Seeing that he was crying like a little cat, Belle’s heart ached for him.”

“Hugging him, she had to remove her clothes and feed him breast milk. The little guy finally got what he wanted. After drinking his mother’s milk, he soon fell asleep with satisfaction.”

The sweet expression of him sleeping with a satisfied smile was really cute. Belle lowered her head and couldn’t help kissing his little face.

“Jerry was very beautiful. Not only did his facial features resemble that of Calvin’s, even his frown was also similar to his. Belle placed him under the blanket and tucked him in. She stared at his sleeping face in a daze.”

“Whenever it was late into the night, she would wake up in the middle of the night and stare at Jerry in a daze after feeding him. Jerry’s face would always make her think of him.”

“The man whom she once loved deeply was now buried deep within her heart. He was the one who left a mark on her and the one she would never be able to forget for the rest of her life. However, now she was slowly learning to forget him.”

“Her life should be wonderful, shouldn’t it?”

“She wanted to start a new life, getting rid of those things that did not belong to her, and believed that she could live a very good life.”

“Belle, the dishes are getting cold now. Come and eat. Kate’s heart ached for her daughter as she hurriedly called out to her.”

Belle stood up and quietly walked to the dining room before she picked up her utensils.

“After the mother and daughter finished their meal, Belle cleaned up the dishes and hid in the study.”

Kate couldn’t fall asleep with a lot of things weighing on her mind.

She walked into the study with a cane.

“Mom, aren’t you going to sleep? Belle saw Kate coming in and hurriedly helped her to sit down.”

“I’m old and I can’t fall asleep, but you should rest Tristany. Children that are trying to quit milk would be very noisy at night. You should go to bed Tristany. Don’t get overconfident because of your young age and pay more attention to your health, Kate said with concern after she sat down.”

“Mom, I know. Don’t worry. Belle took Kate’s hand and smiled sweetly.”

“Kate sighed and shook her head, “”Belle, although I’m saying that you’re still young, you would be 28 years old this year. A woman at this age living like this, how could a mother like me not worry? Even when I’m dead, I would not rest in peace.”””

“Despondent at her own words, tears trickled down Kate’s eyes.”

“Mom, I’m fine now, aren’t I? Belle was most afraid to see Kate’s tears, so she comforted her, feeling unsettled. ”

“Yes, you’re doing well now, but how much time do you have before you become old like me? Are you really planning to raise Jerry for the rest of your life? Kate’s tears flowed even more frantically.”

“Belle lowered her head and said, “”Mom, I didn’t think too much about this, but I know that I have to raise Jerry well, and that would be enough.”””

“However, have you ever thought about this? Jerry might not be happy living with you like this. He should be the Young Master of a rich family, yet he had to live a poor life with you. It’s unfair to him. The sorrow in Kate’s eyes was so raw that it made Belle’s heart tremble.”

“Mom, living with me in this place that no one knows about is not necessarily a bad thing. If I gave him to the Harvey family, Lexie’s vicious heart would never take him in. Plus, I can never become Calvin’s mistress. The child is mine, and that’s enough. As for marriage, we’ll just have to wait and see. Belle grabbed Kate’s hand and patiently explained. In fact, she had already dispensed the same explanation multiple times.”

“It was just that even though Kate understood the reasoning, she still couldn’t get rid of her sorrow.”

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“Hearing Belle’s words, Kate’s eyes surged with anger again. ““I didn’t expect Calvin to be such a b*stard and hid the fact that you’ve both divorced from each other. Since that’s the case, he shouldn’t ever lay his hands on my daughter anymore. Now, you’re forced to contend with the role of a single mother. How despicable.”””

“Kate’s eyes were bristling when she said this. ““Belle, you have to find a man, and a good man at that. Only in this way can I live a peaceful life, and only then can I be more at ease.”””

Kate’s words made Belle’s heart twinge. Would she still love someone else in this life? Would she be able to love again?

Even an outstanding man like Rhys could not pry open her heart. Was there any man in this world who could make her fall in love with him?

“She sat there blankly, her eyes empty. After a long time, she said in a low voice,”

“Mom, it’s not entirely his fault.”

“Belle saw the wrath in Kate’s eyes. Kate was insanely angry with Calvin, and Belle was worried that her hatred for him had been buried too deeply. She had to pacify her solemnly, ““All of this may have been fate. Our family may have been destined to be like this. Not to mention that I have already divorced him. Even if we didn’t, and he was willing to marry me, I would not be willing to play the part of the lady of a wealthy family. That kind of life is a attracts trouble. It’s too taxing. My life now is all I’d ask for.”””

“She remembered the scene in the ward of the Hospital where Calvin had fallen ill because of her. With his lips chapped and dry, his face was pallid. From the bottom of her heart, if she was willing to lead a life with him, he would be fully responsible for her.”

“Therefore, she spoke up for him.”

“Kate’s anger subsided a little, her eyes as deep as the sea. She stared at Belle and asked, ““Belle, tell me the truth. Are you still in love with that b*stard?”””

“Belle was stunned, for she never thought that Kate would broach such a question. Panic flashed in her eyes. She averted her gaze, her face slightly warm.”

“The answer sinking in, Kate felt a stinging pain in her heart. She had never been so crestfallen before.”

“Now that Calvin was married, her daughter would probably not be able to leave that life behind her for the rest of her life.”

“She struggled to stand up and moved gently, step by step. Belle snapped back to her senses to help her up, but she refused.”

“Belle looked at Kate’s lonely, old figure from the back as she determinedly moved to the outside, as if she was contemplating over something. Her heart was heavy with sadness.”

“After Kate had left, she sat there staring blankly for a while.”

“After a long time, she turned on the computer and felt confused. She looked at the drawings in a daze and didn’t know what she was looking at!”

She had to work!

“The last time when she had left A City, she’d pocketed the dividends from the design of the car model obtained from the Atkinson Corp and the Harvey Group. In this year, she’d donated to two schools and given birth to a child. She’d also installed a prosthetic for her mother, and then bought this house here. Her savings were running thin.”

“Now, both Jerry and her mother needed money, as the latter would have to depend on medicine. After contracting uremia, she needed money to take medicine to take care of her body, but she didn’t have much money left on her.”

“During the day, she found a teaching job in a school nearby, and at night, she designed car models in front of the computer, and then sold her designs on the Internet with the hopes of attracting a big company to purchase them.”

“She was unwilling to sell her designs at a low price, so although she had designed a lot of good models, she would not sell them if the price wasn’t right. Instead, she would look for better buyers online.”

“She found an overseas car company on the Internet the night before. The company was based in Switzerland, and it was not very large, just newly established. After learning about it, she knew that it was a subsidiary of a large company set up overseas and was recruiting car designers.”

“She clicked in and enquired about it, but she didn’t reveal her identity. She simply shared her views of the automobile industry, which attracted the other party’s interest and made them want to sign a contract with her.”

It was impossible for her to go to work in Switzerland personally. So she just agreed to work remotely and sell any good designs to their company.

“In fact, she had wanted to migrate to another country before, but because her mother was old and wasn’t fond of staying abroad, she had abandoned that idea for the time being. She planned to wait for a few years for Jerry to be older and receive education. After Kate got used to the life here, she was ready to take Jerry abroad for his education.”

“In fact, although she was not too troubled about the cost of living, it didn’t guarantee that they would live a trouble-free life. Of course, she had to be prepared for the future.”

She made an appointment to negotiate with the company at nine o’clock that night.

“Seeing that it was about time, she calmed herself down and went online.”

“Among her social media friends list, the person was indeed online. This person’s username was Monica.”

“After chatting with him for a while, they finally returned to talking about the car model.”

“After Belle sent over an image, the other party was very satisfied with it and the two began to discuss the price.”

“However, regardless of what had happened, both sides had their share of disagreements. Belle was not in a hurry to sell the model. After they talked for a while, Belle sent an embarrassed emoji and went offline.”

“With her mood ruined for that night, she lost all her enthusiasm and turned off the computer Tristany.”

“These days, Jerry would always bawl for breast milk in the middle of the night as she was still in the middle of trying to have him wean off milk. She could never get a good night’s sleep, so she brushed her teeth and went straight to bed.”

“In the middle of the night, Jerry persistently cried loudly and insisted on drinking milk. Belle finally couldn’t bear it anymore and had to cater to his whims!”

This little punk!

“Belle saw him bite on her nipple satisfyingly and looked at her with a smile. After a while, he fell asleep, and she really wanted to smack his little buttocks!”

“After knowing that she was trying to get him to wean off milk, he would grab onto her breast before sleeping every night. If she were to leave, he would cry. Belle loved him and resented him at the same time. She always wanted to wean him off milk one day, but she couldn’t bear it. As soon as she saw him crying till he was exhausted and pitiful, her heart immediately softened.”

“As a result, after so many days, he still hadn’t been weaned successfully.”

The next day.

“Belle arrived at the school Tristany. Most of the students of this school were employees of the local factories. Due to the poor efficiency of the factory in recent years, many departments could not pay their staff, so the staff had to go out and find side incomes to support their families. Therefore, most of the children in the school were left behind in academics.”

“The school was short-staffed and were desperate for teachers. Belle was only a temporary, salaried teacher, though not much. Furthermore, she also had the consciousness of a righteous teacher. After all, such a small amount of salary was extremely valuable to her.”

“To Belle’s surprise, the principal of the school was a young male teacher. Although he was the president, he also had to teach several classes. It was noted that he was in his thirties and was still a bachelor.”

“Belle saw that he was good-looking, easy-going, and talented, so she didn’t understand why he was still single at his age. As time went by, she finally understood why. Most of the younger women who worked at this factory had left the village to make money.”

“And most of the people who stayed behind were married women. A more realistic problem was that the factory was on the verge of closing down, and those who stayed would barely survive. Nowadays, the girls were highly educated and would naturally ask for higher standards of working conditions. They would find better companies if they left. That was why there were so many single men like Mr. Holland in the chemical plant but no single women around.”

“When Belle arrived at the school, Mr. Holland had already taken the children to go to school Tristany.”

“He was very diligent in his work and was also very kind to the children, a trait recognized by everyone.”

“Belle’s task was to teach English to three classes, and there were three slots every day.”