

His child lived, mine didn't 41

His child lived, mine didn't 41

Chapter 16

In a cold and low voice, it was filled with endless longing and pain, as if it had crossed through time and space, directly hitting Aria's heart.

Aria's heart tightened, her almond-shaped eyes widened, but soon she realized and responded with a gentle smile, "I'm sorry, you've mistaken me **for** someone **else**."

Lucas, however, showed no intention of letting go. His gaze was fixed on Aria, as if he wanted to see through her. His voice was resolute and unquestionable: "You don't see me like you don't know me by the way you look at me. Why are **you** so flustered?"

The fearful expression was exactly the same as Aria's.

Aria's wrist hurt as he squeezed it, his eyebrows furrowed, and he angrily exclaimed, "Let go!"

Lucas, however, remained unaffected and stubbornly repeated, "Answer me."

Aria couldn't bear it anymore, she raised her hand and slapped fiercely.

The commotion here quickly attracted the attention of the people around.

Caleb and Bastien hurriedly made their way through the crowd.

"Sorry, he drank too much and mistook someone." **Caleb** quickly apologized with a smile.

Bastien, on the other hand, stared at Aria intently. After a moment **of** silence, he nodded slightly, his gaze filled with a hint of curiosity and scrutiny. "Ria, come here," a deep and magnetic voice resounded through the crowd.

This title made everyone present's hearts tremble.

Aria turned her head and saw her supposed fiancé, Edward Grant.

G

The man wore a fitted black overcoat, exuding a restrained and profound temperament.

Compared to

Lucas's coldness, he had a touch of elegance. Aria had mixed emotions, but she still walked away.

I felt a bit anxious, and my mind frantically searched for information about Edward.

Deceptive and cunning, cold and ruthless, with a deep hidden agenda.

Being

able to target his own uncle's family, he was even capable **of** sending his own nephew to prison.

Thinking about Ethan Carter's fate of being locked up, Aria's fear towards him dissipated a little.

Edward also indirectly avenged himself.

On the side, Lucas

saw her leaving and instinctively wanted **to catch** up, but Caleb tightly held onto his arm . "**Lucas**, pay attention to the **occasion**."

Caleb reminded Lucas in **a** low **voice** while cheerfully shouting, "Hi, Uncle Edward."

Bastien lowered his gaze and also shouted, "Uncle Edward."

Edward just responded with a faint "uh—

huh" and then took Aria's delicate wrist and **left**.

Throughout the entire banquet, Aria stayed by Edward's **side**, wearing a polite smile on her face.

She automatically ignored the scorching **gaze** that followed her everywhere.

“Mr. Grant, regarding **the** Southport **development project**, my idea was...

”

Upon hearing the familiar deep voice, Aria trembled all over.

Sir Bennett and Madam Bennett were chatting with Edward, with smiles on their **faces**, **as** they hadn’t **seen each** other for several years.

The two of them seemed **to** have aged a lot all of a sudden. Sir Bennett’s once jet–black hair had a few strands of silver added **to it**, and Madam Bennett no longer had the luxurious demeanor she used to have, but instead had a touch of weariness.

In a daze, the topic had already shifted to her.

“Who is this?”

Chapter 16

Dreame—Read Romance Stories What? My brother–in–law? But this is his engagement ceremony with another woman

4.4 FREE

Installed

Open

30.47%

Edward gently took her hand, his lips curling up, and responded gracefully yet with authority, “My fiancée, Aria.”

Sir Bennett and Madam Bennett were both taken aback, and Madam Bennett’s eyes instantly turned red.

Sir Bennet, upon seeing the situation, appeared somewhat flustered and explained, "I'm terribly sorry, miss. Her name is similar to our daughter's, so she..."

Speaking of this, I felt it was inappropriate and quickly stopped, awkwardly smiling.

Emotions were complicated in the past, and she couldn't help but mock, so she averted her gaze.

All these subtle changes fell into Lucas' eyes, not far away.

Caleb reached out and waved in front of him, teasingly saying, "Still looking? Didn't we just go over this earlier? Although the names are similar, they are not the same person at all."

Lucas kept his gaze on Aria, observing her tightly clenched fingers and slightly bitten lips.

He suddenly laughed, his voice was soft, filled with a sense of hope for a fresh start, "Isn't it true that we always have to give it a try?"

Caleb was momentarily speechless.

Bastien originally wanted to say something, but when he looked at Aria's figure, he tightened his grip on the wine glass and remained silent.

Chapter 16

His child lived, mine didn't 42

His child lived, mine didn't 42

Options

Chapter 17

The banquet ended, and Aria stood in the luxurious villa.

Looking at the man with a strong presence, he felt uncomfortable all over.

Edward keenly sensed her embarrassment and gave her a gentle smile, pinching her cheeks.

“Go and rest, you were tired today too.”

Aria, having been pardoned, quickly ran away after saying hello.

The assistant next to her couldn't help but say, “Miss Ria, you look as lively as before.”

Edward's eyes were fixed on the graceful figure, with an indelible inkiness in the depths of his eyes.

“She was supposed to live so freely and boldly.”

The assistant nodded and said with a smile, “Congratulations, Mr. Grant has got what he wanted.”

Valmontis was still cool as autumn approached.

—

After Aria dressed up, she arrived at the location she had agreed with her best friend, Grace Walker.

Even though I knew early on that ‘Aria’ was the same Aria from before.

Grace couldn't help but shed tears again. After crying, she couldn't resist pinching her face.

“Ria, the same beautiful lady, also became younger and made a fortune. Hurry and call sister to come and listen.”

Aria: “...”

Grace seemed to want to tell her everything that had happened in the past three years.

When I came back from abroad after knowing about your accident, Nora was taken away by the police. She had conspired with those criminals to harm you and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Grace gets angry when it comes to this. "At the beginning, Uncle and Aunt didn't believe it was Nora who did it. They tried every means to get her out until the police found evidence, and then they woke up as if from a dream."

"Since then, Aunt's mental state deteriorated significantly, often muttering your name. Uncle also changed a lot, often sitting in your room lost in thought."

After Uncle and

Auntie found out about your last wish, they wanted to help you divorce Lucas. However, not only did Lucas refuse to divorce, he even brought your body back to your marital home. The two families had a very ugly quarrel, and it was only when Sir Blake intervened that this farce finally came to an end.

Speaking of Lucas, Grace paused and glanced at Aria before saying, "Ria, what do you think of Lucas..."

"

She was well aware of how much Aria loved Lucas, afraid that there might still be a little bit of anticipation in Aria's heart.

Aria noticed her concern and smiled, "These things have nothing to do with me."

Grace understood the meaning behind her words, and couldn't hide the smile on her face. "Yes, it has nothing to do with you. I hate that kind of thing where everyone starts loving you only after you die."

Grace quickly changed the subject.

The two of them chatted about recent events again and learned that Aria's current fiancé is Edward.

Grace's mouth formed an "O" shape, and then she was at a loss for words.

“What’s **wrong**?” Aria couldn’t help but ask her.

Grace looked around cautiously before speaking

“Ria, Mr. Grant’s background and appearance are top-notch, but there have always been rumors in the industry that he has never had any scandals. It’s probably because he’s not very good in that area...”

Aria was slightly startled, as the image she had unintentionally seen earlier flashed in her mind.

Edward was shirtless, with only a towel wrapped around his lower body. Water droplets followed the grooves of his abs, winding their way down.

Chapter 17

31.25%

She swallowed her saliva and said unnaturally, “If it’s not possible, then it’s not possible. After all, this engagement between him and me is only temporary, and it doesn’t really matter to me.”

The two of them had finished chatting and went on a crazy shopping spree.

Just as I was about to go somewhere else to have fun, there came a burst of noise ahead.

“They were the male and female leads of The Pale Summit, let’s ship them!”

After so many years of waiting, it finally premiered!

It is said that the prototype was Mr. Blake and his wife, and Mr. Blake personally participated in the adaptation, and changed the ending to a happy ending.

Aria suddenly stopped in her tracks and her gaze followed the direction of the voice. On a large movie poster not far away, the male and female leads of The Pale Summit were locked in a passionate gaze.

Grace also saw it and instantly burst into laughter, exclaiming, “Oh my God, Lucas is such a lunatic, pretending to be sentimental.”

Aria remained silent, her gaze instantly turning icy.

The next day, Aria arrived at the media company she had previously worked with.

“Who are you?” Director Reid was somewhat surprised.

Aria got straight to the point and presented a letter of commission she had written herself: “I am the client of ‘Serith’ and I wanted to buy back the copyright of The Pale Summit.”

Director Reid’s face showed a hint of difficulty as he apologetically asked her to wait a moment.

After a while, Director Reid came back, only there was an additional person.

Aria looked up and her face instantly turned cold.

Chapter 17

His child lived, mine didn’t 43

His child lived, mine didn’t 43

Chapter 18

Director Reid apologized, “Miss, this is our Mr. Blake. You can talk to him if you have any concerns.”

After saying that, he quickly retreated.

Lucas seemed very satisfied with her expression.

His voice was deep and accompanied by a smile, “Ria.”

Aria’s eyes flashed with a hint of irony, and she raised her voice, “I was not familiar with you, please ask Mr. Blake to speak properly.”

Lucas was not in a hurry, he sat down gracefully.

Aria took a deep breath, suppressed her inner anger, and looked into his eyes to convey her intention: "I was Serith's representative, and I wanted to reclaim the copyright of The Pale Summit."

Upon hearing this, Lucas calmly extended his hand and lightly tapped the table, curling his lips. "I'm afraid it's not possible. This copyright belongs to my wife. This work was written by her, pouring her heart and soul into our love. Every word contains our past."

He deliberately emphasized the word "wife".

As for your client information, it is not quite comprehensive. May I ask in what capacity are you requesting the copyright?

Lucas squinted his eyes and stared at her silently, not missing any expression on her face.

Aria was completely infuriated by his shameless and audacious words.

"You have already divorced!"

"How did you know that we got divorced?" Lucas was waiting for her to say this.

Aria tightened her grip on her palm, and her rationality returned slightly.

She took a deep breath and said, "It is known that Aria has already died, so legally speaking, your marriage has long been dissolved."

Lucas casually uttered a "oh" and then slowly said, "We didn't get divorced, I didn't sign the divorce agreement, and we even had a second marriage ceremony. Whether she is alive or dead, she is still my wife."

Aria was incredulous, trembling with anger, and her eyes were red.

Lucas slowly reached out his hand, wanting to wipe away her tears as he usually did.

Aria slapped his hand away with disgust and harshly scolded, "Lucas, you were really disgusting."

Seeing that the communication was fruitless, Aria also didn't want to linger any longer. She grabbed her bag and was about to leave.

Lucas's voice came from behind.

"Ria, the copyright can be returned to you. We will meet in three days."

"

Aria did not look back, her footsteps paused for a moment, and then she continued walking forward.

The night was as dark as ink, thick and impenetrable.

When Lucas returned to Lunaris Villa and was about to go upstairs, he paused slightly and whispered, "For the next few days, prepare more of Aria's favorite food. The oysters should be flown in fresh, and remember to serve them with freshly squeezed lemon juice, with a little less honey. Don't include carrots in the side dishes, and avoid using chili peppers in any cuisine."

After speaking, he walked upstairs, leaving behind a group of terrified servants.

The servants looked at each other in astonishment, unable to hide their fear. Some were so scared that their legs became weak.

Since Aria passed away, Mr. Blake has been like a different person, almost driven mad.

In the past, he placed Aria's body in a crystal coffin, sparing no expense, and had people meticulously repair the body every day.

Every day before going to work, I personally selected makeup and outfits for Aria.

The new products of various luxury brands were sent to homes as if they were free.

Someone once joked, "Does Mr. Blake have a new love affair again?"

Chapter 18

32.03%

Dreame–Read Romance Stories What? My brother–in–law? But this is his engagement ceremony with another woman

4.4 FREE

Installed

Open

Lucas just smiled and said, "My wife had a temper and liked these beautiful things, so I had to coax her."

The person asking the question was so scared that they quickly shut their mouth.

Later, Aria's body was still cremated.

The villa was arranged.

The courtyard was filled with many locust trees, and there was a creepy atmosphere everywhere.

No one used to plant locust trees in their own homes. Locust trees were clearly a sign of ... (the following word is missing in the original text).

It sent shivers down my spine just thinking about it.

Who would dare to stay here if it weren't for the generous salary?

Chapter 18

His child lived, mine didn't 44

His child lived, mine didn't 44

Chapter 19

Three days later, inside the private room of Blue River Dining.

Lucas wore a black shirt, with the collar slightly open and the sleeves casually rolled up. He leisurely played with a rose, which Aria liked.

The cold and abstinent temperament, which people dare not profane, was the dressing style that Aria used to like the most.

When Aria arrived, she saw this scene, but there was no emotion in her eyes.

After taking a seat, he got straight to the point, "Tell me, what are your terms?"

Lucas did not respond immediately, but calmly picked up the teapot and poured a cup of tea for Aria, with graceful and slow movements.

The faint heat rose.

Lucas looked at her and smirked, "I wonder why you insisted on this copyright."

"This was my privacy."

Lucas's eyes deepened, and he threw out several questions in succession.

Aria gradually lost patience and raised her voice, saying, "Mr. Blake, we can start talking about the real matter now."

"Of course."

As soon as the words fell, his tone changed, looking at her, his voice low: "I loved you."

Aria's body stiffened.

Lucas continued, "I knew you were foolish, frivolous, and empty-headed, yet I loved you; I knew your ambitions, your ideals, your materialistic and vulgar nature, yet I loved you; I knew you were mediocre, yet I loved you."

Are you familiar with the scene in "The Pale Summit" where the male lead confesses his feelings to the female lead, quoting a classic line from "The Painted Veil"?

Before she could even speak, Lucas seemed to remember something, and a gentle smile overflowed in his eyes.

"In reality, I also confessed to my wife in the same way."

At that time, Aria had just married him and was probably fed up with his neglect, and she had the idea of wanting a divorce.

In the dim bedroom, she lay beside him, several times wanting to speak but stopping herself.

He saw it with his own eyes, reached out and picked up the book "The Painted Veil", and recited that famous quote.

Upon hearing the sound, Aria immediately quieted down.

After a long time, she finally said softly, "Are you studying?"

"Um."

She seemed to be at a loss for words, with some subtle attempts to please: "Even if she had a bad reputation and was criticized, would she still be loved?"

"Hmm." His dark eyes deepened.

Upon hearing the answer, Aria's eyes instantly lit up, she came back to life with full energy, and she cupped his face and gave him a kiss.

“Would you have liked me then? I would have shown you that I wasn’t the person the rumors claimed, who stole Nora’s love. I truly loved you, and I was also doing well.”

He did not speak, but tightened his grip on her slender waist even more.

In a place where she couldn’t see, her laughter trembled.

She didn’t need to prove whether she was good or not, because **the** stigma on her was woven by him bit by bit and then put on her,

The victim vigorously tried to prove their innocence to the culprit.

Wasn’t this funny?

Aria was so gullible back then.

“Lucas, I didn’t come here to talk nonsense with you!”

His child lived, mine didn’t 45

His child lived, mine didn’t 45

Chapter 20

Aria trembled all over and raised her voice, “I said, I was not Aria, you’ve mistaken me, I am Edward’s fiancée. Before you lay a hand on me, think about your own identity!”

Lucas squinted his eyes, and a faint laughter escaped from his throat.

He reached out and pinched her nose, saying nothing, and forcefully pulled her hand, walking towards the dining table.

Did you like it? No, it wasn’t spicy.

Aria was on pins and needles, her eyes constantly scanning the surroundings.

Lucas noticed her thoughts and gently reminded her, "You have also mentioned that your current identity is not simple. Stay with me for a while, and I will let you go."

Aria wished she could smash the things on the dining table onto his hypocritical face.

She took a deep breath, her nails digging into her palm, before forcing herself to calm down.

Lucas getting angry at her now was not beneficial.

Lucas saw her quiet down and his smile deepened as he peeled the shrimp for her.

She threw it out and said softly, "Allergic to shrimp."

Lucas scooped up another spoonful of truffle risotto for her, saying, "I remember this is your favorite."

Aria poured it into the trash can and apologized, "It was too greasy."

"1

He picked up a silver dinner fork, speared a piece of foie gras, and handed it to her.

Aria tilted her head to one side and said, "It was too fishy."

The air seemed to have quieted down.

Aria remembered that the thing Lucas hated the most was being embarrassed, and her attitude was not even that bad.

Lucas would soon lose patience.

I was thinking when suddenly my chin hurt.

Lucas grabbed her head and forcefully pulled her towards him.

Immediately, a pungent liquor was forcefully poured into her mouth.

Aria was extremely terrified, her mind went blank, and she instinctively struggled desperately.

He crazily pounded on him, using both hands and feet.

However, Lucas remained unmoved and instead tightened his grip even harder, as if he wanted to merge her into his

As she saw double in front of her eyes and almost suffocated, the strength in her body gradually relaxed.

Aria, like a dying fish, finally obtained oxygen and breathed heavily.

Her eyes turned red with anger, and she raised her hand to slap him in the face.

very

bones.

Lucas was grabbed by the arm, with a perplexed and unclear look in his eyes, and his voice

was extremely hoarse.

“I have never been a patient person, **except** when it **comes to** my wife. Since you don’t acknowledge yourself as her, don’t expect **to enjoy** her rights.” Under the light, on Lucas’ stern and profound face, there were several red marks scratched by fingernails.

The corner of the mouth was bitten, and crimson blood slowly seeped out, intertwining with the remaining red wine and stained lipstick at the corner of the mouth, creating a seductive and dangerous image.

Like a fallen fairy from the altar, mysterious and enchanting.

The **air** had been stagnant for a long time, and only then did Lucas let go of her and instructed the servant to bring in a table with the **exact** same cuisine. He pulled the stiff Aria

back to her seat, as if nothing had happened, and picked up a shrimp to peel. After peeling it, he handed it to her,

“Try it.”

Chapter 20

Dream—

Read Romance Stories What? My brother in law? But this is his engagement ceremony with another woman

4.4 FREE

Installed

Open

33.59%

Aria remained silent for a few seconds, but then picked up the fork and took a bite.

Lucas finally had a smile on his face.

Just then, a gentle and familiar voice sounded, “Honey, Ria is hungry.”

Aria looked over and saw the phone screen in front of Lucas.

A virtual image appeared, which was remarkably similar to her from the past.

Smiling coquettishly, she hummed, “Honey, why didn’t you pay attention to Ria?”

Aria shivered all over, her stomach churned, and she felt extremely nauseous.

A hand gently fell on her back, patting slowly, trying to comfort her.

“Disgusting, isn’t it?” Lucas’s voice rang in her ears, tinged with a hint of mockery. “Didn’t you also have one custom-made exactly like me back then?”

Chapter 20