

Reborn In Flames: The Heiress' Revenge Chapter 41

Just as Cassie's car arrived at the school gate, a pregnant woman rushed over from the other side of the road and directly lay on the hood of her car.

"Stop!" Cassie was startled.

"Ms. Murphy, please stay in the car and don't get out. I'll go take a look." Larry frowned.

He thought, "What's wrong with everything recently? Why did this kind of thing happen so frequently?"

Larry opened the door and got out of the car. The pregnant woman cried loudly, "Ms. Murphy, please spare our whole family! I'm begging you!"

Family vacation packages

At this moment, the school gate was surrounded by noble ladies who came to pick up their children from school.

There were also some passers-by and vendors selling snacks.

It was really bustling.

A pregnant woman stopped the car of a noble girl and begged her to spare her family with tears. It was undoubtedly a big gossip. It immediately attracted many people's attention

"Madam, you are pregnant. It's really dangerous for you to act so rashly. If you have something to say, please get up and calm down first," said Larry calmly.

"Who the hell are you?" Two old women suddenly rushed out from nowhere. They looked quite mean and not easy to deal with. Since they were old ladies and Larry was a strong man, they were sure that Larry didn't dare to do anything to them, so they pointed at him and said fiercely, "We are looking for Cassie Murphy! Where is she?"

Then the shorter one byp*s*or your mercy. Why are you hiding in the car? Are you feeling guilty?"

Cassie looked at the old woman lying on the car window expressionlessly.

After a while, the bodyguard dragged that old woman away.

But then the old woman directly lay on the ground and kept rolling. They hit me! The young master of Murphy Group asked the bodyguard to bully two old women and a pregnant woman! So heartless!"

“What the hell are you talking about? I just let you not lay on the car!” said the bodyguard who dragged the old woman away.

“Young man, the old lady is too old to be dragged like that. There is also a pregnant woman here. If she is scared to can you take responsibility for two lives?” said an onlooker. The bodyguard was speechless death.

“I’ll handle this. Take Ms. Murphy back first,” said Larry.

Hearing this, the pregnant woman on the other side immediately lay on the hood and said, “Don’t leave! If Ms. Murphy doesn’t give me an explanation today, I won’t let you go! If you want to leave, you have to step on my body!”

Larry’s face darkened at once.

Cassie watched it in the car for a while and then opened the door to get out expressionlessly.

“Ms. Murphy!” Seeing that Cassie got out of the car, Larry quickly walked over.

“Are you looking for me?” Cassie motioned at Larry to stop him from persuading her

“Are you Cassie Murphy The shorter old woman, who was rolling on the ground just now, immediately got up.

“You don’t even know who I am. Why have you been crying for so long? You even rolled on the ground. Aren’t you tired?” said Cassie.

Alright, you are Cassie Murphy! You’re so young, but how could you be so cruel and heartless? My son is your head teacher, shouldn’t you respect him? He just suspected that you cheated. How could you be so merciless and send him to prison just because you are the daughter of a wealthy family! After saying that, the old lady was about to rush to Cassie

The bodyguards wouldn’t let her get close to Cassie and directly stopped her.

But the woman was old so they didn’t dare to do anything, for fear that she might get hurt and they had to take responsibility.

So they got slapped by that old shrew.

“You’re Mr. Gaiman’s family?” Cassie looked at the pregnant woman.

“Yes, I’m her wife!” the pregnant woman answered loudly. “Guys, my husband is the teacher of this noble school. He has been working here for more than ten years and has been very hardworking. The day before yesterday, he was arrested just because he

suspected that this noble lady cheated. Now they have found a lot of fabricated charges to frame my husband! See, I'm pregnant now, and we also have two children at home. My mother and mother-in-law are both old and in poor health. They are all supported by my husband alone. Now that she has arrested my husband, how are we gonna live!"

The old woman, who had just slapped those muscular bodyguards, immediately covered her forehead and sat on the ground.

Cassie was speechless. It's Teresa. She walked to the pregnant woman calmly.

Teresa took a step back, and her mother immediately stood in front of her and said, "What do you want to do? Everyone watching you

"You should at least think about the baby you're carrying. You're about to deliver, aren't you? Look how recklessly you acted/ What if something wrong happens to you?" Cassie pointed at the surveillance camera at the school gate and said, "The camera is running. No matter why you rushed over to hit my car, you are fully responsible for it. It's still fine if only you are injured. But what if you hurt the baby?"

The pregnant woman didn't expect that Cassie didn't refute her but showed her concern about her child. "Cut the **p! Release my son-in-law!" the taller old woman said fiercely. "Or we will die with you here today!" "I can't." Cassie shook her head. "Mr. Gaiman has committed a crime. I don't have the authority to release him."

Hearing this, the old woman who was sitting on the ground immediately stood up and said, "What crime did my son commit? Suspecting you of cheating?"

"Attempted murder?" Cassie pursed her lips and thought for a while. Then she said firmly, "Right, attempted murder.

The crowd became uproarious.

*At*tempted murder? That's serious!"

"B**t! Don't believe her! How could my son do that?" the old woman shouted.

The pregnant woman also began to cry. "Ms. Murphy, please have mercy on our pathetic women and children! You can ask my husband to do anything. I'm begging you!"

Seeing the pregnant woman cry, Cassie said expressionlessly, "You guys are really strange."

"What's strange?" the old woman roared. You rich people are too cruel! You forced us to do this Cassie said, "Donald Livingston wronged me for cheating. After I proved that I didn't cheat, he didn't apologize at all.

Instead, he rode a motorcycle to hide somewhere near my home at midnight and attacked me with a baseball stick when he saw me and my mother go out for a walk. Shouldn't I have called the police?"

Everyone was shocked. "She didn't cheat. The whole school knows ar

"I was also there that day. Mr. Gaiman's attitude was very bad. I didn't expect him to want to kill Cassie at midnight, So terrifying!"

"You want me to be responsible for you?" Cassie's tone got even colder. "Your husband, son, and child's father are not responsible for you. Why should I, the victim, be responsible for you? Because I'm rich? Or because you are weak?"

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The pregnant woman didn't know what to say

"You are lying! My son is a graduate student from a famous university. He is such a good man. Why would he try to kill you?!" Donald's mother came back to her senses first. She pointed at Cassie and cursed, "You have done something shameful and almost been exposed by my son, so you hated him and deliberately slandered him

After saying that, she cried sadly and said to the people around her, "Guys, please help ust My son has been regarded as the top ten teachers by the school for many years. Why would he try to kill someone for no reason! He is innocent!"

Cassie looked at her coldly. Suddenly, some kind-hearted people in the crowd said to Cassie, "Ms. Murphy, they're quite pitiful. Maybe you can give them some money to settle down."

"Yeah," someone echoed. "It's nothing for you, anyway. The less trouble the better. Don't let it ruin your reputation."

Donald's mother-in-law's eyes lit up as soon as she heard this.

Obviously, compared with Donald, getting a sum of money was more important than anything else to her.

"You are quite generous." Cassie smiled. "But I'm not the kind of person who will be blackmailed for the so-called. reputation."

The passer-by who was trying to put in a good word also felt embarrassed.

He said, "I just think those women and children are pitiful. They didn't do anything wrong, and you're rich. Why can't you help them?"

"Since you sympathize with them so much, why don't you give them the money?" said Cassie.

Hearing this, the passer-by immediately stopped talking.

Seeing that they couldn't save Donald or get any money, those women immediately shouted madly, "We can't live anymore!" "We will starve to death after we come home, anyway. Just let Ms Murphy hit us!"

Cassie's expression became even colder.

She turned around and walked to the car. She said, "Call the police."

"Yes, Ms. Murphy," replied Larry.

"Call the police? How can you do that? Is this road yours? Can't we be here? Donald's mother finally got a little flustered when she heard that

Larry ignored her and directly called the police.

"So unfair! Are you gonna treat us like how you treated my son?" Donald's mother lay on the ground and began to cry. "Ouch, my heart hurts! Please, who can save us?"

When Cassie was about to get in the car, the pregnant woman suddenly exclaimed. It sounded real, so Cassie looked back and saw the pregnant woman propping her body with one hand on the hood and the other on her waist. Her expression was very stiff,

"What's wrong?" Cassie frowned and strode back. The adult was s**id, but the unborn child was innocent,

"My water has broken..." The pregnant woman froze, and she cried even harder after saying that

"Get in the car. I'll drive you to the hospital, Cassie said immediately.

"No way!" Donald's mother immediately got up from the ground and stood in front of her daughter-in-law. "You can't go anywhere before you solve my son's problem!"

The pregnant woman had already gone into labour. Her mother supported her and said anxiously. "There's still half a month before the due date. Why did the water suddenly break?"

Cassie was speechless. She thought, 'She's about to give birth. How dare she run to the road to stop my car? A bunch of idiots'

"Are you her mother?" Cassie looked at the taller old woman.

"If anything wrong happens to my daughter, I will kill your the old woman roared.

"If she goes to the hospital now, she'll be fine. But if you keep letting her stand here, she will give birth to the baby on the roadside. And if she is unlucky... Cassie didn't finish her words.

The old woman's face turned pale with fear. "Stop frightening us Once you solve the problem, I will definitely take my daughter-in-law to deliver!" shouted Donald's mother.

"You are so vicious. You don't care about her at all since you're not her mother!" Cassie looked at her coldly and said. "Your son made such a serious mistake, and now you're even using your daughter-in-law who is about to deliver to threaten me. Looks like you don't care about her at all.

Donald's mother crossed her arms. Hearing Cassie's words, she thought that Cassie got scared and was about to give in.

Then she said. "Whatever. Anyway, I have already warned you. If you don't release my son, we won't leave here even if we die!

Cassie ignored her and glanced at Donald's mother-in-law. "Is that also what you think?"

Donald's mother-in-law's expression already changed when she heard what Cassie said to Donald's mother.

Seeing that Donald's mother really didn't take her daughter's life seriously, she hesitated for a while and then helped her daughter walk to Cassie's car. "Let's go to the hospital to deliver the baby first!"

"What are you doing?!" Seeing this, Donald's mother was pissed off at once. She rushed up, grabbed her arm, and said, "Why are you so impatient? She is about to give in!"

"Move away!" Donald's mother-in-law shook off Donald's mother's hand directly. "You used to be mean to my daughter, and now you don't even care about her safety. You can do whatever you want to save your son, but don't you dare hurt my daughter!

Donald's mother was short, and Donald's mother-in-law was tall and strong. Donald's mother was shaken away and then fell to the ground.

Donald's mother-in-law helped her pale pregnant daughter into the car.

Cassie didn't get in the car with them but asked the chauffeur to send them to the nearest public hospital

When Donald's mother came to her senses, the car had already driven away.

“Come back!” She was so anxious.

Then she saw that Larry and other bodyguards were about to escort Cassie back to the school

She immediately rushed over and said, “Stop there! You are good at stirring up trouble between us, you brat!”

“Madam, what are you talking about? I don’t understand. I’m just an ordinary high school student. I know you are a bad person, but don’t consider everyone else as bad as you,” C***ic looked at her and said word by word.

Donald’s mother flushed. “Don’t think you can run away after sending my daughter-in-law away! Release my son!!

Just then, the sound of a police siren came from afar.

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The police siren was getting closer and closer, and Donald’s mother was getting more and more flustered.

She said, “Ms. Murphy, I just want you to release my son. I mean no harm!”

“I’ll let the police judge it Cassie pointed at the surveillance camera above her head and said, “This thing has recorded how you caused trouble and beat and humiliated my people. I’ll consider whether to sue you for insulting according to my people’s will.”

“No!” Donald’s mother panicked more.

Cassie ignored her and went straight to the school.

Donald’s mother tried to grab her but was stopped by the bodyguards.

Donald’s mother said, “Ms. Murphy, my nephew’s wife said that you sympathized with the weak. You’ve even slapped her for poor student. Why did you bully the instead of helping me?”

Cassie stopped. She already felt it strange from the very beginning. The three of them rushed to the school on time and even knew the license plate of their car. They didn’t hesitate at all when they rushed to their car.

Donald’s mother’s words answered her question

“Is your nephew’s wife Jennie’s mother?” Cassie asked with a smile.

Donald's mother hurriedly nodded. "Yes, it's her. You know her?"

"Did she instigate you to bring your daughter-in-law here?" Cassie asked.

Donald's mother nodded at once. "She said that you would definitely help us with so many people around."

After saying that, she lowered her head and mumbled, 'I didn't expect you to be so cold-blooded and ruthless. You're completely different from what she said.'

"You can tell the police the truth, then. After saying that, Cassie directly went back to school.

"Ms. Murphy, you can go back to your dormitory and have a rest first. I've arranged for another car to pick you up," said Larry. "From tomorrow on, I will increase the defense. I won't let this kind of thing happen again."

"Someone wanted to set me up. You couldn't predict that." Cassie waved her hand. "The SATs is coming. I'll discuss it with Grandpa to see if I can live in the school before it. It's too tiring to come and go every day!"

"I'm afraid that's not a good idea. Larry immediately became more serious. He looked at the school in disgust and said, "It's too shabby. You can take a rest here, but it's not suitable for you to stay here for more than ten days,"

"Larry, you're overreacting. I'm not a princess," Cassie teased him with a smile.

Kevin suddenly appeared in front of Cassie. Larry became vigilant at once.

This is the new transfer student in our class." Cassie looked at Kevin and the smile on her face disappeared at once. "What's _up?"

"Your pen," Kevin handed the pen to Cassie.

Before Cassie reached out her hand, Larry took the pen and said, "Young man, the SATs is about to start. Why did you transfer here at such a period?"

"It's my family's arrangement, replied Kevin.

Larry looked at Kevin up and down.

Cassie had no choice but to find an excuse and dragged Larry away.

Kevin stood still and looked at his empty hand. He had seen everything that had happened at the school gate just now.

He thought. This girl is cold but also quite cool.

“My brother has a good taste.

Since ancient times, the confrontation between rich people and ordinary people had always been the focus of the public.

When Cassie arrived at her dormitory, the dispute at the school gate had already been posted on the Internet.

Some titles were very exaggerated: [A rich girl drove to hit a pregnant woman at the school gate?]

Some titles were obviously partial to Donald's family: [A rich girl abused power, and the head teacher was arrested innocently. His poor family cried at the school gate and begged for mercy.

The public opinion was basically on one side.

Cassie went through thousands of comments and found that no one spoke for her.

Someone even sorted out her so-called dirt.

Anne called Cassie soon.

After Cassie told her the general situation, Anne sneered and said, “Mrs. Gaiman acted so humbly when she apologized yesterday, but then she instigated them to block your car at the school gate. Humph!”

They're really a family, aren't they?” said Cassie helplessly.

Anne said, “Alright, I'll handle it. She wanted to attack you with public opinion? Did she forget what my job is?”

Anne hung up the phone angrily..

It was rare for Cassie to see her so angry.

Soon after, the dispute between Cassie and Donald's family went on the trending topic. Everyone was cursing Cassie.

Just as everyone was asking Cassie to apologize, the situation reversed. Several well-known marketing accounts posted a video one after another: [Reveal the truth of the incident of the rich girl hitting the pregnant woman!]

This video was hung on the first line of the trending topic. Many people clicked it and thought that it was the proof

Unexpectedly, they saw a great blackmail scene.

Except for the incident at the school gate, there was also the surveillance video of that night when Donald rode a motorcycle and hit Cassie with a baseball stick.

Then the public opinion completely changed.

All the netizens turned to scold Donald's family.

Her husband attempted to kill someone, and she even went to blackmail the victim? The lady even sent her to the hospital kindly. So irritating!]

[What the hell is wrong with this world? Come on.]

[I knew it wouldn't be that simple. Why would a rich girl hit someone at the school gate for no reason?]

Of course, there were still some different opinions. She's a pregnant woman, after all. Don't you think you've gone too far?]

I think that passer-by was right. Her husband did have done something wrong, but the remaining women and children are really pitiful. Why can't she give them a hand?]

Some clever netizens directly replied to these comments with what Cassie said to that passer-by.

Except for the discussion of the incident itself, some people focused on something else.

[Holy s**t. This lady is becoming more and more beautiful!]

[Hasn't she ever considered teaching others to argue with others!]

[That noble lady is so elegant!]

When everyone was gossiping, Murphy Group's account suddenly posted a lawyer's statement.

It had listed several accounts that spread rumors about Cassie, especially those that exposed the so-called dirt of Cassie.

Normally, it would just be a warning.

But the statement of Murphy Group directly told the public that they would immediately sue these people.

Cassie stayed in the dormitory for a while,

When the car that picked her up arrived, she left the school through another door.

In the car, she went through all kinds of comments on the Internet expressionlessly.

She had no other feelings at all

Most of the time, the emotions that the netizens expressed were not completely true. They just had that feeling at that moment because of that matter.

Cassie didn't care about the netizens' slander or love at all.

The car drove back to the Murphy residence. When it was about to enter the gate, someone rushed out. Larry's face darkened at once.

"What's wrong today? Why are there so many people stopping my car?" Cassie glanced outside the window.

A familiar person was lying on the car window and anxiously talking to her,

Cassie felt annoyed, but she still opened the door and got out of the car.

The person said, "Ms. Murphy, I just answered a call from the police and came to see you immediately!"

It was Teresa Caiman, Jennie's mother.

"What's the matter asked Cassie..

"That old woman has Alzheimer's disease. Don't believe what she said. After hearing Mr. Heston Murphy's persuasion yesterday, I have completely changed. I only feel guilty to you but nothing else," Teresa said anxiously. "It really wasn't me who asked her to do that!

"Okay, I got it." Then Cassie was about to walk inside.

Teresa was so anxious. She said, "Cassie, your mother seems to have some misunderstanding about this. Could you..."

"My mother is a smart and reasonable adult. She doesn't need me to say anything." replied Cassie.

Teresa almost went mad. "Cassie..."

"Mrs. Gaiman, just spend your time on disciplining your daughter, Cassie said coldly and then went straight into the door.

Teresa stood still. Her eyes were red and her fists were trembling, It was hard to tell whether she was anxious and angry.

Larry glanced at her and said nothing. He just asked the chauffeur to drive the car into the garage.

As usual, Cassie took a detour from the garage to the living room

When she arrived at the garage, she happened to see Louisa

Cassie asked. "Louisa, what are you doing here?"

Seeing Cassie, Louisa trotted over at once and said, "Ms. Murphy, you're back."

"Yeah." Cassie nodded. "What are you doing?"

Louisa looked around and pulled Cassie aside. She said, "You asked me to keep an eye on the garage, right?"

Cassie said, "Yeah."

Louisa said, "Julia has come back this afternoon."

Cassie's eyes suddenly turned cold. "And then?"

"I didn't know that at the beginning. She went back to her room to take something out and then I saw her. Although your parents were already both dissatisfied with her, the se**ts didn't know that yet, so they didn't stop her when she came back, Louisa lowered her voice.

"Okay." Cassie nodded.

Louisa continued, "I kept an eye on her when she left. I found that she took a detour. It would have been faster for her to take the route from the garden, but she took the one from the garage."

"Did she linger in the garage?" asked C**ic.

"No." Louisa shook her head. "But... I don't know if I overthought, She has stared at this place for a while!"

After saying that, Louisa pointed at the surveillance camera overhead and said, "She seemed to have seen this place several times!"

Cassie also looked up at the camera.

She remembered that after the incident, Heston had sent people to investigate the surveillance camera of the garage.

However, it somehow had been broken. It had no record of the period since a week before the accident.

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"Louisa, when's the monthly inspection of the surveillance camera in the garage?" asked Cassie.

They've just done it this morning, replied Louisa, "What's wrong? Is there anything wrong with the surveillance camera?"

"Ask someone to check it secretly. Be careful. Don't let others at home know it," said Cassie.

Louisa nodded immediately.

She said, "Okay, I'll handle it!"

Cassie nodded and then entered the room calmly.

After all the recent mess, Heston and Lucas became busy again.

Originally, Anne was also gonna be busy.

But since she knew that Cassie had suffered so much grievance alone in the past few years, she changed her focus.

She canceled most of the activities and dinner parties before the SATs

"Mom, I'm home," Cassie greeted loudly as she changed her shoes at the door.

Anne came out after a while

Her expression looked quite sullen.

"What's wrong?" Cassie asked with a frown.

Anne looked at Cassie strangely and shook her head. "I'm fine. Go wash your hands and get ready for dinner."

"Okay" Cassie wanted to say something more, but Anne directly turned around and went back.

"What's wrong?" Cassie asked Louisa in a low voice.

Louisa shook her head and said, "Mrs. Murphy was fine just now."

"Has Julia met my mom?" asked Cassie.

"Mrs. Murphy went out to deal with something when Julia came here," replied Louisa.

Cassie nodded, feeling a little uneasy.

Anne didn't have dinner with Cassie and kept herself in the room.

Lucas came home later.

When he saw Cassie, his expression was also a little strange.

"Dad, where is Grandpa?" asked Cassie.

"He's still in a meeting in the company. I came home because I had something urgent to deal with," replied Lucas. "You... I've heard about what happened at school today. You've done a good job."

"Dad, what's wrong?" Cassie ignored Lucas' praise.

"Nothing. It's getting late. Go back to your room to study and go to bed early." Lucas avoided Cassie's inquiring gaze, b**d her, and then went back to his room directly.

Cassie tapped the back of her right hand with her left index finger.

She seemed to have guessed something.

She thought. Looks like someone got anxious and wanted to lay hands on me directly.

Cassie lowered her eyes and sneered disdainfully. She thought, "You really have no self-awareness. How dare you?"

"Ms. Murphy..." Louisa stood beside Cassie and felt a little shocked when she saw the smile on her face.

Cassie looked up at Louisa, and the sullenness on her face suddenly disappeared.

Louisa even thought what she saw just now was a hallucination.

"Louisa, we might have no time to repair the surveillance camera. I'll get you something and you have to take it to the garage. Cassie said softly.

Louisa said. "Okay,"

Meanwhile, in the room of Lucas and Anne. "Have you confirmed it?" Anne asked Lucas with a sullen face. It can be really serious

"According to the clues in the video. I have confirmed that the night when Julia was photographed was indeed the night before Cassie's birthday," said Lucas. "Someone saw Julia put medicine in Cassie's cup."

"But... But in the end, it was Julia..." Anne frowned more tightly.

'Check it yourself!' Lucas handed the phone to Anne with a sullen face.

Anne's expression froze when she saw it.

"All the surveillance videos of that night in the bar and alley are gone. I don't believe that it's a coincidence," Lucas said. seriously. "This was taken by a pl**oy in the bar that night. He has clearly photographed the scene of Julia drugging!"

After the video was over, Anne kept silent for a long while.

"If she has really drugged Cassie, I won't cover up for her." Then Anne took out her phone and called Julia. She soon answered it.

Before Julia could say anything. Anne directly asked, "What drug did you put into the glass of water that you gave her the night before her birthday?"

"Aunt Anne, what are you talking about?" There was a second of silence on the other end of the phone, and then Julia's surprised and confused voice sounded.

"Don't quibble. Someone in the bar has shot the scene of you drugging Cassie that night, and now the video is in our hands!" Anne said seriously. "Julia, when did you become like this? Didn't Cassie treat you well enough? Why did you do that?"

Julia kept silent for a long while.

Then she said, "Aunt Anne, have you seen what I gave you in the evening?"

Anne frowned.

"You've seen it, haven't you?" Julia suddenly sneered. "I don't know what kind of d**n video you've gotten, but I was the one who was drugged that night, right? It was Cassie who drugged me, okay? How could you still blame me when you've known the truth? Is it because Cassie is better than me?"

Lucas was confused. "What is she talking about?"

"That's just a blurry photo. Even if that person was really C**ic, you can't prove what she has done!" Anne said word by word.

When Anne was waiting for Cassie to come back from school, Jalla sent her a photo. In the photo, Julia was lying on the sofa. and several men were lifting her. A girl in a peaked cap was standing aside and watching.

Her figure looked like Cassie's.

That photo was obviously taken through a c**k of the door of the private room.

"You're shielding her, aren't you? Yeah, she's your daughter. Of course you will shield her!" Julia sneered.

Anne closed her eyes and took a deep breath to calm herself down

"Forget about it. This matter is over. No one is allowed to bring it up again. I will speed up and send you abroad for further study in a week," said Anne.

Julia was stunned

She had just found the photo not long ago. She thought she could give it to Anne as strong evidence and win her sympathy and trust again.

But she didn't expect that Anne was on Cassie's side.

-Julia said. "Alright! I'm a worthless person. I'll do whatever you want me to do, Mrs. Murphy!"

Then Julia hung up the phone.

Looking at the black screen, Anne felt really annoyed. She said, "How did everything become like this?"

"What photo?" Lucas held her nervously.

Anne sighed and showed the photo sent by Julia to Lucas.

Staring at the girl in the photo with a peaked cap, Lucas asked, "It's Cassie?"

Anne said, "That's what Julia said."

"No way. Cassie wasn't that sullen," Lucas denied at once.

"Let's ask her after the SATs, Anne supported her forehead with her hand. "Now the evidence of Julia drugging Cassie is conclusive. Since Cassie is fine, let's not make it a big deal. I'll send her abroad in two days."

After a pause, Anne looked at Lucas and said, "Honey, don't tell your father about it."

Lucas knew that Anne still didn't want to drive Julia to the wall. If Heston knew that Julia had drugged Cassie, he wouldn't let off Julia no matter whether she succeeded or not. Lucas said, "Okay."

That night, the two of them both had something on their minds. They had the same doubts and worries about the night before Cassie's birthday,

"If it was really Julia who drugged Cassie, why was Cassie fine but Julia... With such a question in their mind, they didn't sleep well the whole night.

Julia called Anne before dawn. As soon as Anne answered it, she heard Julia crying. "Aunt Anne, are you really gonna abandon me?"

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Anne said. "Julia..."

Julia said, "Aunt Anne, it's so high here. I won't be in pain anymore after I jump off, right?"

Anne was shocked. "Where are you?"

"I'm on the roof of my own house. Every summer when I was a child, my parents and I would cool off here. I also used to. have a happy family!" Julia cried desperately,

"Julia, it's not a big deal. Don't be silly!" Anne got out of bed in a hurry. "I won't abandon you. I'm just sending you abroad for further study."

"Stop lying to me!" Julia sounded very emotional. "You don't love me at all.

Julia, wait until I get there, okay? Let's talk face-to-face, Anne said anxiously.

"Will you come!" Julia sobbed. "Don't you need to have breakfast with Cassie and send her to school?"

“That doesn’t matter!” Anne said gently. I’ll go to you immediately.

“What about Uncle Lucas? Will he come to see me? He must hate me!” Julia continued to cry,

“Uncle Lucas is also coming.” Anne said firmly.

Lucas was confused.

Okay, I’ll give you one hour. If you can’t come here in time, I’ll go to reunite with my parents!” Julia said in a choking voice.

Anne said, “Don’t hang up. 1-

Before she finished her words, Julia hung up the phone.

“What’s wrong?” Lucas asked in confusion.

“Julia wants to jump off the building!” said Anne. “She wants to see me now!”

“Why’s she doing that?” The two of them didn’t dare to make a scene. They changed their clothes and rushed out.

The sun rose outside the window. Cassie stood in front of the French window with her long hair sc**ed on her shoulders. She looked at the flowers in the garden, which were covered with crystal dew.

From afar, she could see the sunlight penetrating through the clouds and sc**d all over the ground.

She stretched herself slowly and comfortably.

“It’ll definitely be a good day,” Cassie mumbled. Then she turned around and left the room.

An hour later, a loud boom suddenly sounded near the mountain road as if something had exploded. Soon, the mountain road went on the trending topic.

Soon later, Julia rushed back to the Murphy residence. As soon as she entered the room, she saw Cassie and Heston who were about to go out. She rushed over and asked, “Grandpa, Cassie, how’s Aunt Anne and Uncle Lucas?”

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Heston looked serious. Before he could say anything, Cassie asked, “Why are you here?”

I had an appointment with Aunt Anne and Uncle Lucas to discuss studying abroad, but I heard on the way that their car rolled off the mountain road and exploded.” Julia cried bitterly. “How could this happen? I was just talking to Aunt Anne this morning, and now this!”

The car rolled off the mountain road and exploded?” Heston frowned and asked, “Who told you that?”

Julia sobbed, “They called me before the accident, saying they were on the winding mountain road. I checked the license plate number released, and it really was their car. Grandpa, you must stay strong!”

“Shut up!” Heston shouted angrily with his eyes wide open. If Julia hadn’t been a girl, he would have slapped her.

“Grandpa, it’s true!” Julia cried.

“Are you sure?” Cassie asked.

“I am sure,” said Julia, annoyed.

She thought, ‘By now, the Murphy family should have received the death notice. Just now, Cassie and Grandpa seemed to be hurrying to go out. Why are they acting like they don’t know anything?’

If she hadn’t gone to the garage to confirm that the tampered car had been driven out, she might have doubted it too. “What are you sure of?” At this point, Anne’s voice came from the living room.

Julia was stunned and looked behind Cassie.

Anne and Lucas were standing there, completely unharmed..

“You... Julia’s face was filled with shock.

“I’m not dead. Are you disappointed?” Anne asked coldly.

“What are you talking about? Isn’t it bad luck to talk about death so early in the morning?” Heston asked sternly.

by you to the company today. I have some old scores to settle, Cassie said, holding

“Grandpa, I won’t be able to accompany Heston’s hand tightly.

“Cassie, this is another one of your tricks!” Julia snapped, pointing at Cassie, after coming to her senses.

She used to think that Cassie was still the same idiot she had always been.

It wasn't until she saw yesterday's photo that she realized Cassie had been playing dumb and hiding her true strength all along.

If it weren't for the waiter who saw the man entering the private room and took a photo out of curiosity, she might never have known Cassie's true colors.

"What does this have to do with me?" Cassie sneered. "How did you so naturally assume that it was my parents' accident when you heard about the crash on the mountain road?"

I heard about it!" Julia quickly composed herself. "It seems someone played a prank on me. Since Aunt Anne and Uncle Lucas are fine, I'll take my leave now,"

"What's the hurry?" Cassie asked.

At the same time, Larry appeared at the door.

Julia stiffened.

She took a deep breath, turned around, and asked, "Ca**ic, what are you trying to do? Isn't it enough that you got someone to rape me? Now you're trying to kill me to silence me?"

"You're spouting nonsense!" Lucas came out in large strides. "You haven't answered my question yet. When did Anne and I invite you over? Didn't you call saying you wanted to jump down the building and ask us to rush to the West District within an hour?"

Julia's face turned pale, but she still stubbornly said, "Can't I have made a mistake?"

"What a coincidence. If we had left as you said in that tampered car this morning, we'd probably be dead by now!" Lucas said angrily. "Julia, you're so young, but you are so vicious!"

"I'm vicious?" Julia said, looking at Lucas. "Uncle Lucas, you can't accuse me of something I didn't do to cover up Cassie's involvement in getting someone to rape me. I know nothing about your tampered car. Even if your car had problems, what does that have to do with me?"

"That car was tampered with by someone!" Lucas was furious.

This morning, he and Anne were in a hurry to leave, but they were stopped by Louisa as soon as they reached the garage.

At first, the two of them insisted on leaving.

It was Cassie who came downstairs and stopped them, telling them about the car being tampered with.

"The garage surveillance is broken," Cassie said slowly.

Julia rolled her eyes and sneered, "So there's no evidence, right? I consider you my family, given you raised me for a few years. But since you're so shameless in covering for Cassie, we might as well clear things up today!"

She knew that with things at this point, it was impossible to live peacefully with the Murphy family. Therefore, she decided to be upfront about it and break all ties with them.

She was confident that she would not suffer a loss.

She crossed her arms and shoved past Cassie, striding in

Cassie patted her shoulder where she had been hit.

"Has this girl gone mad?" Heston's face darkened.

"Almost." Cassie smiled and signaled Louisa with her eyes.

Louisa immediately understood and left.

Anne's face was pale, and Lucas was furious.

"Mom, Dad, relax" Cassie patted their hands

"Why are you all just standing outside?" Julia, now sitting in the living room, impatiently shouted towards the outside.

Cassie walked in unhurriedly.

"Julia, why are you so impatient?" She glanced at Julia and picked up the small remote control on the coffee table. "I said the cameras in the garage were broken, but I didn't say there was no evidence. Why are you so eager to reveal your true colors?"

Then Cassie smiled at Julia-and said. "By the way, you have no right to do that."

"Shut-Julia was about to tell Cassie to shut up.

But she suddenly stopped because the TV screen lit up, and a high-definition video appeared before her eyes.

The time was 3 a.m., in the dead of night when everything was silent. A skinny man quietly approached the garage, tinkered with Lucas' car for a while, and then quickly left.

Julia's face turned pale, full of shock. Obviously, she hadn't expected Cassie to have this.

Damaging the surveillance cameras and arranging for someone to tamper with the car were all done on a tight schedule, spur-of-the-moment decision. She thought no one had noticed, but... how did Cassie find out and even set up another device to catch her in the act?

"Looks like justice has prevailed! Recently, I've been very interested in plants and insects, so I set up several cameras in the garden at night. By a stroke of luck, this was captured. Cassie clicked her tongue and shook her head. "My parents are good people, and even heaven doesn't want to see some people's evil plans succeed.

"What does this have to do with me? Is that person me?" Julia quickly calmed down and sneered, "I could say this was a self-staged act by your family to frame me."

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The person who tampered with the car was one of the gardeners recently hired to trim the garden at the Murphy residence.

Julia had overheard him on the phone before and knew he was an incorrigible gambler who had accrued a massive debt. His creditors were closing in, and he was at the point where his life was in danger if he didn't repay them soon.

Julia targeted Lucas and his wife with a desperate, all-or-nothing plan.

So she paid off all of this gambler's debts, nearly exhausting all the savings she had secretly accumulated over the years.

Although the surveillance cameras were destroyed, Julia, just in case, instructed the gardener to flee as far as possible right after tampering with the car and to return only after the heat had died down.

She was certain the gardener had already fled by now,

That was why she was so confident and bold in front of Cassie.

"Julia! At this point, you're still not willing to admit it?" Lucas, usually a refined man, was now displaying unprecedented fury.

This malicious wretch not only disregarded the years Anne has cared for her as her own but also attempted to exploit Anne's feelings for her to plot her murder!

Thinking of this, Lucas became more furious.

Admit what? Don't just shout accusations without evidence, okay? Julia retorted arrogantly.

The moment she finished speaking, a slap landed on her face, causing a crisp sound..

Everyone in the living room was stunned.

Cassie shook her hand, which was numb from the force. Try shouting at my dad again!"

"Cassie Murphy!" Julia was in disbelief that Cassie, who had always been obedient to her, dared to hit her in public.

"Weren't you asking for evidence?" Cassie glanced at her coldly, "Larry!"

Julia, holding her face, instinctively looked back.

Larry was dragging a gaunt man inside.

This man was the gardener who had tampered with Lucas' car.

"You..." Julia was completely dumbfounded.

Even though Cassie had shown the video of the gardener tampering with the car last night, Julia still thought Cassie was just unlucky, believing there was nothing wrong with her plan.

After all, it was a spur-of-the-moment decision! The gardener had contacted her after fleeing last night. How, how could he have been captured?

"Ms. Cortez, I was caught by them right after hanging up with you last night. They want to send me to the police station and charge me with attempted murder!" The gardener wailed as he rushed towards Julia.

Julia screamed and dod

"Who are you? Do I know you? Stop talking nonsense!"

Then she pointed at Cassie with resentment and said, "It was this woman who instructed you, wasn't it? So to cover for Cassie, you all set up this trap to frame me, the victim, as the perpetrator, right? You made him tamper with the car, recorded a video, and now you're bringing him out to testify against me to frame me!"

"Wasn't it you who instructed him?" Cassie's gaze swept coldly over the gardener. "Since Julia denies it, there's nothing more."

Let's just

hand this murderer over to the police."

to say.

"No!" The gardener panicked. "Ms. Cortez, you can't be so heartless! You only said you wanted to teach them a lesson. You didn't say they might be dead!"

"Shut up!" Julia yelled fiercely, "I don't even know you. Don't you dare frame me!

"Ms. Murphy, I'm telling the truth. I just wanted some money to pay off my gambling debts. I never intended to kill anyone. Please believe me!" the gardener said in terror, looking at Cassie.

"Ms. Cortez said she doesn't know you. What can I do?" Cassie looked helpless.

"I have evidence!" the gardener suddenly shouted.

Julia's expression instantly changed. She kicked the gardener and said, "What more do you want to frame me for!"

The gardener grabbed Julia's foot and pushed her away forcefully. Julia lost her balance and fell,

It was the beginning of summer, and the servants had taken the thick cotton carpets for cleaning. Julia fell directly onto the cold, hard floor, unable to move for a moment.

"Good thing I had the foresight, otherwise, I'd have been killed by this fool!" the gardener said.

Then he looked at Cassie fawningly and said, "Ms. Murphy, she made a deal with me. I would tamper with the car, and she would pay me 500 thousand dollars to cover my gambling debts, with another 160 thousand dollars after the job was done) so I could go home and get married. To ensure she wouldn't back out on the final payment, I secretly recorded our

conversation.

Julia's eyes almost popped out.

"Fake! It must be computer-generated by you people!" Julia quickly got up.

At this moment, the gardener's phone was already in Cassie's hand.

Julia lunged to grab it.

Before she could get close, Larry grabbed her by the hair and pressed her onto the sofa.

“Let go of me!

Larry Gideon, you lapdog of the Murphy family, how dare you lay a hand on me!” shouted Julia.

Cassie, with a blank expression, played the recording

The audio clearly captured Julia instructing the gardener to tamper with the car.

“\$660 thousand dollars.” Cassie handed the phone to Louisa beside her, then slowly walked up to Julia. “Julia, I didn’t expect you to have so much money at such a young age.”

Julia, still restrained by Larry, couldn’t move.

She gritted her teeth and glared at Cassie. “It’s just a recording. With today’s technology, you can easily fake this. Aren’t you good at these tricks?”

After saying that, Julia seemed to think of something and said, “Oh, how could I have forgotten this? No wonder I was able to find out who hacked into the estate and posted that video. It was you!”

“You’re making things up again. I’m just a student, and I have no idea about the things you’re talking about,” Cassie said, arms crossed and looking innocently at Julia. “But there is a possibility that the audio could be fabricated. Luckily, after that filthy incident with you, Grandpa had the best surveillance equipment reinstalled around the house to protect me better. And guess what? It even records audio.

Julia’s blood seemed to freeze as she looked at Cassie’s innocent face.

“You’re really too impatient. You should’ve gone far away to bribe him. How could you place a random spot in my house?”

Cassie shook her head.

Julia was nearly breathless.

The reason she didn’t call the gardener out was that going outside would inevitably get captured by the external surveillance cameras.

She knew the layout of the surveillance cameras inside the house much better than she knew the ones outside.

But she never expected that during her stay, all the blind spots in the house had been fitted with new surveillance cameras.

“What else do you have to say?” Lucas roared in anger.

“Let go of me!” Julia struggled desperately.

“Let her go,” Cassie said indifferently.

Larry released his hold, and Julia stood up, straightening her disheveled hair and clothes.

Yes! I had him do it!” Julia looked at Anne and Lucas. I wanted you both dead!”

“You wretch!” Heston, who had been watching in shock, finally snapped out of it

He roared in fury and raised his hand to slap Julia.

“Grandpa.” Cassie stopped him. “It’s not worth dirtying your hands for her

“I spent so much money on your upbringing, and this is what you become, a heartless snake!” Heston shook his head, frowning.

“Did I ask you to raise me?” Julia sneered, “You really think of yourself as my benefactor? If you hadn’t stood by and done nothing back then, would my parents have died? Would I have become an orphan? Did I need to be pitied and raised by you?”

“How can you say such things?” Anne was also shocked.

“Am I wrong?” Julia mocked, “Don’t think I don’t know why you adopted me. My parents’ death caused quite a stir in society. You took in the poor orphan they left behind and were praised as living saints and philanthropists! That was your goal, wasn’t it? To use my misfortune you caused to elevate your moral standing!”

“I have always been sincere with you!” Anne’s eyes were red, and she was filled with anger and sorrow.

“Sincere with me? If you truly cared for me, would you, knowing Cassie had someone rape me, try to silence me or even make me disappear?” Julia screamed in rage.

Heston looked at Anne in astonishment. “What’s this about?”

Cassie smiled and patted Heston’s hand gently. “Relax, Grandpa. I’ll explain everything to you

in a bit.”

“Honey, did you really do it?” Heston asked in astonishment.

“You think I’m a demon, that I’m evil to the extreme, right?” Julia laughed maniacally. “In reality, Cassie is the real monster!

She not only had someone-rape me but also posted that video at the birthday party!
She feasted on my suffering and used it to cleanse her own name!

“Shouldn’t I do that? Cassie looked at Julia coldly.

Julia, were those people arranged by me? The trap was meant for me, wasn’t it? I just turned your own schemes against you. What, it’s fine for you to plot against me, but I can’t do the same to you?’ Cassie sneered.

What?” Heston was even more shocked.

“Grandpa, if I hadn’t uncovered her scheme in time, it would have been me on the screen at the birthday party,” Cassie said, her tone softening as she looked at Heston.

“You are lying!” said Julia stubbornly.

“Julia, with the audio and this gardener, why are you still being so stubborn?” Cassie’s face was full of sarcasm. “I have everything: the hacker you hired, your chat logs with him, and the obscene photos you had him edit and planned to release at my birthday party. Do you want to take a look and refresh your memory?

Lucas and Anne were dumbfounded.

They had roughly guessed last night that Cassie had turned the tables on Julia, but they didn’t expect there to be so many more layers to the story.

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Julia was bombarded with questions from Cassie, and her mind suddenly went blank.

Last night, when she received the photo, she thought that Cassie probably didn’t have any evidence to incriminate her; otherwise, Cassie wouldn’t have let her alone for so many days.

But she never imagined that Cassie had so much damning evidence against her!

“As for you saying I’m using you to clean up my name, Cassie looked down and said with a smile, “aren’t all those so-called scandals about me caused by you? Isn’t it only right to use you to clear them up?”

Julia glared at Cassie and said, “So you know everything now?”

“More than you can imagine,” Cassie said, word by word.

“Cassie, you’re such a good actress. It’s a pity you’re not in the acting business!” Julia said through gritted teeth.

Julia, you tried to harm my granddaughter, and now you blame her? Heston was furious. “You’re just like your scoundrel

father!”

These were the words Julia least wanted to hear.

She looked at Heston with resentment

If she had known that Cassie would find out so soon, she would have poisoned this whole family earlier!

It would have been better than letting them degrade and judge her now!

“Yes! I am like this. What can you do about it?” Julia said arrogantly, looking at Heston with contempt. “Send me to jail Or kill me?”

“You think I wouldn’t dare?” Heston, never having been so provoked, was instantly furious.

“Sure! Go ahead! I’m telling you, if I leave here with even a single hair missing today, the whole world will know that your granddaughter, out of jealousy, arranged for people to gang-rape an orphan you took in to show off your charity Julia said viciously.

“Grandpa, it’s not like in your day anymore. With the internet, no matter how powerful you are, there are places where you can’t block the news! Whether you care about ruining Cassie’s reputation is up to you.”

“Julia Cortez shouted Lucas.

“Do you really think that with Murphy Group, you can control everything? Don’t forget, in the world of wealthy families. you’re not at the top of the pyramid. Many opponents are watching you. As long as they have something on you, do you think they won’t try to destroy you?” Julia then turned to Cassie and said, “If you’re going to harm someone, at least do it properly. Why leave evidence for me to use against Grandpa

Cassie didn’t respond.

She looked at Julia coldly.

She looked at Julia coldly, thinking, ‘It seems that Julia has something that can prove my involvement in the gang-rape.

This was beyond Cassie's plan, but she thought it was no big deal. These trivial pieces of evidence only show that Julia had malicious intent but failed to execute her plans.

Julia still had a month before she turned eighteen. Even if Cassie reported it to the police, they'd at most give Julia a warning and maybe hold her in detention for a few days. That wasn't what Cassie wanted.

Seeing the murderous intent in Cassie's eyes, Julia felt an unprecedented fear.

She couldn't understand how Cassie had become like this!

"Threatening me?" Heston was even more furious. "Alright, let's see what amazing tricks you have."

"Grandpa." Cassie gently patted Heston's hand in a comforting manner. "It's not worth getting so angry over her. She's been harboring evil intentions for so long, but all she's done is ruin herself, losing both money and reputation."

These comforting words pierced Julia's heart like a sharp sword.

"I've torn off your mask. There's nothing more to say. You can leave now," Cassie said coldly. "From now on, you have nothing to do with the Murphy family."

Trying to just kick me out?" Seeing that Cassie was genuinely intimidated by her threat, Julia became incredibly arrogant. "Your words just reminded me-I've lost my money and been raped because of you. You owe me compensation!"

"Why are you so shameless?" Lucas asked in disbelief.

Not holding her accountable was already merciful, and now she shamelessly wanted compensation!

"Say what you will, but all I'm asking for isn't much: a detached villa and 10 million dollars in cash!" Julia sneered. "I need a place to live and food to eat after you drive me away. This is nothing for you and isn't too much to ask."

Cassie smiled. Looking at her warily, Julia asked, "Why are you smiling?"

That's indeed not too much to ask," Cassie replied. "The jewelry in my wardrobe is worth more than that, but... you're not

worth it.

Julia's expression froze.

“For the sake of your mother being a good friend of mine, I wasn’t planning to hold you accountable. Do you think I’m afraid of you?” Cassie stepped closer to Julia, suddenly grabbing her collar and dragging her forward. “I don’t know how much trouble you can stir up about you being raped, but no matter how big it gets, the worst that could happen is the Murphy Group being criticized and me being gossiped about and cursed... Well, that doesn’t seem to matter. After all these years of your scheming, I’ve had my fair share of criticism too.

“In the end, even a fallen giant is still a giant. Do you think it will be you or me who ends up worse off?”

Julia had never seen such a terrifying Cassie. It was as if... as if she were a demon wearing human skin. Julia was dumbfounded and horrified.

At this moment, Julia, who had just started to act malevolently, had neither the psychological strength nor the means she would have in her previous life when she burned Cassie and Heston to death.

“Not even 10 dollars, let alone 10 million dollars, will you get from me, Cassie said, releasing her grip on Julia’s collar

Julia fell to the ground.

She asked, “Cassie, do you really think I won’t go down with your

Cassie sneered, “Try it?”

“You Julia was shaking all over.

Based on her past knowledge of the Murphy family and Cassie, she knew that when it came to Cassie’s reputation and the family’s honor, they were always very cautious.

“Larry, throw her out! Cassie ordered mercilessly. “And issue a statement and announcement, informing the public that the Murphy family has terminated its adoption arrangement with Julia. Whatever she does in the future has nothing to do with the Murphy family!”

Julia didn’t expect that Cassie would actually publicly expel her from the family. After all, with her currently in the spotlight, driving her out would be detrimental to the Murphy family.

She asked, “Cassie, are you crazy? Don’t you care about the Murphy family’s reputation?”

"Isn't this exactly what you wanted?" Cassie looked at Julia, asking seriously, "Didn't you say our family used you, a poor orphan, to build a charitable image? Now, I'll personally help you smash this image!"

Severing ties with Julia wouldn't really be negative for the Murphy family. Earlier, Cassie had confronted the media for Julia, clearly demonstrating the Murphy family's protective stance toward her.

Why did they sever ties now?

This topic itself would be widely discussed.

However, no matter how it spread, it wouldn't have any effect on the Murphy family.

However, for Julia, who had been acting like a young lady of the Murphy family, losing their protection meant she would face endless hardships.

"Are you all just going to let her do this to

me?" Julia, realizing the huge impact of severing ties, was on the verge of madness.

"Cassie is right," said Heston, looking at Julia with disgust. "Since you think our kindness and care were just a show for others, then let's completely sever this relationship. Murphy Group won't take advantage of you."

"Crazy! You are all crazy!" Julia shook her head repeatedly.

"Are you afraid?" Cassie shook her head with pity.

Julia clenched her fists, trembling uncontrollably with immense anger and panic.

She said through gritted teeth, "Cassie, you're so cruel. You'll get your retribution!"

"Well see if I get retribution later. For now, it's you facing your consequences." Cassie paused and then continued, "I'll have Dad set up a department to handle public opinion right away. From now on, if anything unfavorable about Murphy Group life will be a hundred times worse than now!" comes from you.... I guarantee you Julia gritted her teeth.

Her eyes were bloodshot with rage.

"Larry, please throw her out," said Cassie.

Larry had long wanted to throw Julia out.

He grabbed Julia by the back of her collar and dragged her out.

“Cassie Murphy, I won’t let you off! Julia struggled and screamed

Cassie didn’t spare her a single glance.

After all the irrelevant people left, only the four members of the Murphy family remained in the living room. The adults were all particularly silent.

“When did you notice?” Heston was the first to speak.

“Before my birthday, Cassie replied.

“Why didn’t you tell us? How could you do such a dangerous thing alone? What if you fail? What if you didn’t night?” Heston was furious.

“Grandpa, those didn’t happen.” Cassie’s gaze was firm.

didn’t escape that

“Cassie, that was too dangerous!” Lucas said, feeling frightened in hindsight. “And... how could you use such an underhanded method...”

“Cassie did the right thing.” Before Lucas could finish speaking, Anne cut him off,

Cassie was taken aback. She had previously wondered how her family would react once the truth was revealed.

She had anticipated the reactions of Heon and Lucas, but she hadn’t expected Anne to say such things. She had thought Anne would blame her for ruining Julia, given that Julia was someone Anne had genuinely cared for and raised.

“Even if she had told us at that time, would we have believed her? Anne said with red eyes, lowering her head and speaking in a subdued tone. “It’s our fault for trusting Julia so much that it drove Cassie to go to dangerous lengths to save herself and us!”

The two men’s faces darkened.

“Mom... I thought you...” Cassie felt a whirlwind of emotions as she heard Anne’s words.

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“From now on, if someone bullies you, don’t just take it. Fight back, just like you did this time!” Anne firmly held Cassie’s hand. “But don’t take risks like this again. You need to tell your father, Grandpa, and me, understood?”

“Yes,” Cassie nodded.

"What should we do about the gardener?" Lucas asked.

They had let Julia, the mastermind, go, and now handling the gardener had become an issue.

Cassie raised an eyebrow slightly. "Let him go."

"Letting him go just like that seems too lenient. Heston clearly disagreed

"Evil people will get their comeuppance eventually, Cassie said meaningfully.

The three adults of the Murphy family exchanged puzzled looks.

Family vacation packages

In the end, they decided to follow Cassie's advice and let the gardener go.

Julia was thrown out of the Murphy residence. It was broad daylight, and people were passing by.

-Holding back her rage, Julia stopped cursing and muttered, "Cassie, just you wait!"

She shot a fierce glare at the Murphy residence and turned to leave.

"Ms. Cortez!" At this moment, the gardener suddenly appeared from somewhere.

Julia got angrier at the sight of him.

She yelled, "Why are you even coming near me? You fool, wasn't I clear that you should flee after finishing the job? How could you get caught!"

"I did exactly as you

d-finished i

completed the job, and according job and fled!" The gardener said, extending his hand toward Julia. "Ms. Cortez, I've

to our agreement, you still have to pay me 160 thousand dollars."

"After messing up the job, you still want the final payment?" Julia sneered. 'Are you dreaming in broad daylight?"

"Whether your scheme succeeded or not is none of my concern Pay up now!" The gardener, being a scoundrel, was scared stiff at the Murphy family just now, and he blamed Julia for it all

"I have no money!" said Julia impatiently. "Not only am I not paying the final amount, but you also need to return the money I gave you earlier since you messed up my plans."

"Are you trying to back out on the payment now?" The gardener's face was full of rage as he slapped Julia. "Because of you, I lost the high-paying job I worked so hard to get and almost ended up in jail. And now you're trying to avoid paying? You huh?" even want me to return the money, With his anger at a boiling point and nowhere to vent, the gardener, furious with Julia's arrogance, started hitting her.

Julia, delicate and small, was easily knocked to the ground. The gardener showed no sign of stopping and kicked her several times on the back and stomach.

Then he warned, "h! You better be careful. If I don't get the 160 thousand dollars within three days, I'll go report myself to the police and drag you down with me!" He had been planning to use the 160 thousand dollars for a better life.

Now that Julia refused to pay up, his dreams of a better future were shattered.

After kicking Julia a few more times to vent his rage, he spat on her and cursed loudly, "You've already been screwed by others, and you still dare to act tough with me!"

After hurling another vile curse, the gardener left Julia and stormed off.

Julia, greatly frightened, lay on the ground, unable to move.

The Murphy family's bodyguards stood by, pretending to see nothing.

"Son of a b**h!" Julia clenched her fists and s***ed to her feet

She glared furiously at the direction the gardener had left, her eyes filled with murderous intent. "Want money, huh? I'll see if you live to spend it!" she thought.

Soon, the Murphy family issued the announcement.

It was simple and straightforward. It stated that, effective immediately, the Murphy family was terminating their adoption relationship with their adopted daughter, Julia Cortez.

Given that Julia had been in the spotlight recently, by evening, the announcement had made it to the trending topics.

After learning about these events, Heston was somewhat shaken. Cassie had stayed by his side all day.

She knew that her parents and grandpa had always been sincere towards Julia.

They had treated her like one of their own children, nurturing and caring for her.

As night approached, Julia responded to the Murphy family's announcement on Twitter.

"She still dares to respond? Is she making false claims about my sweetheart again?" Heston asked angrily.

Cassie glanced at the tweet with a hint of mockery in her eyes. "She doesn't dare."

Then she handed the phone to Heston.

Heston took a look at it, his brows furrowing even more.

Julia Cortez: [I'm sorry for bringing my personal issues to Twitter recently. I am very grateful for the education and support from Grandpa Heston and Uncle Lucas over the years. This year as I turn eighteen, after much consideration, I have decided to step out from under their protection and try to live independently, rather than being a parasite in a wealthy family. Please don't read too much into this. I wish everyone a happy life.]

"What does she mean by this?" Heston asked in a deep voice.

"It's probably a last resort. Cassie took back the phone. "With my warning, she doesn't dare to make any moves against the Murphy family for now. But now that the announcement about ending the adoption relationship has been released, there were many opinions online-some targeting us, others questioning whether she is to blame for this. She didn't want to appear as if she was kicked out, and she also didn't dare to offend us, so she posted this. I bet she was fuming while typing."

"Instead of enjoying a good life, she just had to stir up trouble!" Heston said angrily.

"It's all in the past. Cassie comforted him softly.

She thought, 'Yes, it was all in the past. No matter how powerful Julia thinks she is, she will never rise to the top again in this lifetime. She won't even have any connections with powerful people again, let alone be able to harm my family, who is far above her.'

Then she said, "Grandpa, there is one more thing I want to discuss with you."

"What is it?" Heston immediately became alert. "Is there something else you're hiding from us!"

Cassie smiled helplessly and said, "Relax. It's just that the SATs are coming up. I'm wasting too much time commuting every day, and recently, there have been people blocking my car at the door from time to time. So, I'm thinking of staying in the school dormitory before the exam and just going home on weekends."

“School dormitory?” Heston frowned. “No, that’s too dangerous, not living at home.”

“Grandpa, after what happened today, do you still think your granddaughter is someone others can bully easily!” Cassie held Heston’s hand and said, “I’m the granddaughter of a savvy business veteran like you. No one can harm me.”

After a long silence, Heston said. “I’ll discuss it with your parents.

She was in danger even while at home. How much more dangerous would it be for her to stay in a dormitory alone? Heston imagined a horrible scene with poisonous snakes and fierce beasts lurking outside Cassie’s dormitory door.

The adults started discussing whether to let Cassie stay in the school dormitory.

Cassie returned to her room, preparing to take a shower and read a book when her phone buzzed with a notification.

She picked it up and saw a friend request. [I’m Kevin Hopkins.]

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Cassie thought about it and accepted the friend request.

She asked, [What’s up?]

Kevin quickly replied. [Are you sick?]

Yeah. What’s up?]

[Just checking on you. Is it serious?]

Kevin seemed very well-behaved and gentle, the kind of man many women would like. But for some reason, his concerned message, even though it was just one sentence, made Cassie instinctively think of Simon from her past

She suddenly became impatient.

She tossed her phone onto the bed and stopped replying to Kevin’s messages life.

Kevin, sitting cross-legged on the sofa, was surrounded by deafening music and two scantily clad women.

Best headphones deals

“Not replying?” he muttered to himself after waiting for a while with no response from Cassie. And the smile on his face slowly disappeared.

"Mr. Anderson, it's your first time here. According to our rules, we have to drink you under the table tonight!" one of the women said as she clung to Kevin.

"F**k off!" Kevin suddenly lost his temper and pushed the woman away.

The woman was startled and immediately moved back. "Mr. Anderson... did I do anything wrong?"

Of course, she didn't do anything wrong. In the past, Kevin could enjoy such indulgences. But now, after waiting more than/ ten minutes for Cassie's reply and not even getting a punctuation mark, he was furious! 'How dare she ignore me? he thought. But after a moment of anger, he suddenly found it very interesting and sneered, "Alright! Let's see how long you can keep up this cold act!"

After a heated discussion among Heston, Anne, and Lucas, Heston reluctantly agreed to let Cassie stay in the school dormitory temporarily, but she had to come home immediately at the slightest sign of trouble.

Early in the morning, Louisa looked anxious.

She watched over Cassie's luggage, checking it repeatedly, afraid of missing something that would make Cassie uncomfortable in her dormitory.

"Louisa, I'll only be staying at school for about ten days. I'll be back on weekends. What's there to be anxious about?" Cassie said, amused.

"Ten days is a long time. I've been taking care of you since you were little. I haven't left your side for even a single day." Louisa became more and more anxious. "Your classmates aren't friendly, and who knows if Julia will cause any trouble..."

"Louisa," Cassie called out helplessly.

Louisa immediately shut her mouth, looking aggrieved.

C**ic then said, "Don't worry. The bodyguards will be with me, and the school is much safer than other places."

After comforting Louisa, Cassie was personally driven to school by Lucas.

At school, the se**ts meticulously cleaned C**ic's dorm room and replaced all the daily necessities with new ones. Cassie went straight to her class. Kevin was already there.

He sat obediently in the seat next to Cassie, with no trace of his pl**oy demeanor from last night.

Cassie walked directly to her seat without looking at him or greeting him.

Just as she sat down. Sheryl came running over.

“Why don’t you move your seat next to mine? Cassie said helplessly.

Sheryl’s eyes lit up. “Can I?”

“Do you have another question you can’t solve?” C**ic asked.

“Not really. On my way to school this morning, I saw Mr. Gaiman’s mother-in-law and biological mother pulling each other’s hair at the entrance of the maternity hospital!” Sheryl whispered.

This was the first time Cassie had ever seen Sheryl gossip.

“And then?” Cassie asked.

“It seems Mr. Gaiman’s mother wants to use the baby to continue the scam, but the mother-in-law disagrees!”

see,” Cassie said while nodding.

She thought, ‘So, only a biological mother can truly think for her daughter.

“How can that old lady be so evil? Why hasn’t she been caught yet? Sheryl muttered.

Cassie didn’t answer and Sheryl did not continue speaking.

Sheryl didn’t continue and quickly returned to her seat, packing up her books and moving to sit next to Ca**c.

By the break, the news that Cassie was going to stay in the school dormitory had spread. For some reason, many students suddenly reported they wanted to stay in the dormitory to focus on studying for the SATS.

After school in the afternoon, Cassie carried her things and headed to the dormitory.

Halfway there, Kevin caught up with her.

“Why are you following me?” Cassie asked bluntly.

“I’m not following you. I’m staying in the dorm too,” Kevin replied.

Cassie frowned. Kevin raised his hands, looking innocent, and said, “I applied to stay in the dorm earlier than you. My mother is a mistress, and my brother doesn’t like me. He wants me dead, so I don’t dare to stay at home.”

Cassie's frown deepened as she thought, "His mother is a mistress? That means he is an illegitimate child. His brother? So Marcus wants him dead?"

"Cassie, I mean you no harm. I just heard that you have good grades and I want to learn more from you. As an illegitimate child, if I can't get into a good university on my own, I won't have any place in my family," Kevin said sincerely.

"And what does that have to do with me Cassie asked coldly. "Since you know life's hard for you, use the time you're wasting talking to me to study instead."

Kevin was speechless for a while. How could this woman be so indifferent and stubborn?

When he was abroad, all he had to do was tell those women that his brother couldn't accept him and wanted to kill him, they would feel sorry for him and shower him with affection.

After saying that, Cassie left Kevin behind and went straight to the girls' dormitory.

Kevin stood there, the pitiful look on his face slowly fading away.

He thought to himself, 'Strange woman! She is really a strange woman! She is even colder than Marcus. But I like the process of conquering her.

Kevin lowered his head to hide the intense emotions in his eyes

He couldn't wait to enjoy the thrill of conquering Cassie!

When Cassie returned to the dormitory, the se**nts had already left.

She didn't know exactly where the bodyguards were.

She changed out of her school uniform into something more comfortable and opened the small fridge in the dormitory. She intended to grab a drink but immediately saw a small cake in the fridge. It was clearly a chestnut cake.

The cake wasn't big, but it had a strong aroma, and the countdown to the SATs was written on top.

"Louisa, you have a sense of ritual, don't you?" Cassie smiled.

She placed the cake on the desk, poured herself a cup of coffee, and enjoyed her first night at the dormitory with a bite of cake and a sip of coffee.

A week passed peacefully.

During this week, Cassie did nothing but tackle the mountain of test papers. Her routine consisted of the classroom, the dormitory, and the library.

Her excessive diligence inadvertently intensified the study atmosphere for the entire senior class.

Originally, these rich kids didn't care much about the SATs, as their families had already arranged their futures.

But now, seeing the young heiress of the Murphy Group working so hard, they were inexplicably motivated.

Time flew by, and it was Friday evening-

The school had already required senior students to attend mandatory evening self-study sessions.

After the evening study ended around 9, Larry picked up Cassie to go home.

When they arrived, two police cars pulled up at the Murphy residence almost simultaneously.

Cassie glanced at them and got out of the car.

"Is there something you need?" she asked politely.

Four police officers stepped out of the cars and showed their badges to Cassie. "Young lady, are your parents home?"

Cassie led them into the villa

Heston, hearing from the servant, hurried out of his study.

"Sweetheart, what's wrong?" Heston thought something had happened to Cassie and rushed over nervously.

"Nothing," Cassie shook her head.

"Mr. Murphy, we are from the Criminal Investigation Department of the city's police department. The officer showed his badge again and got straight to the point. "This morning, we recovered the body of an adult male from the river in the suburbs. After multiple confirmations, we identified him as Albert Nicholson, who used to work as a gardener for your family."

"He died?" Lucas, coming downstairs, frowned upon hearing this

“Yes, and it’s confirmed to be a homicide,” replied the officer.

Hearing this, Cassie lowered her eyes.

This probably had something to do with Julia.

“Cassie, go change your clothes and come down for dinner. Lucas immediately sent Cassie away.

Then they continued the routine questioning

“That man had a gambling addiction and was sl***py at work. We fired him a week ago,” Lucas explained. “He was a temporary worker, so we don’t know much about him.”

Understood. Here’s my card. If you remember anything suspicious, please contact me,” said the officer.

“Alright!” replied Lucas. He looked at Heston in dismay after they saw the officers off

They hadn’t mentioned Julia before the officers. “Could it be Julia?” asked Heston.

“Impossible. She is bold, but she wouldn’t dare to commit murder!” Lucas said sternly.

“I heard from Larry that after being kicked out that day, Julia was beaten by that gardener, Heston frowned. “I can’t figure that girl out. I just hope she doesn’t walk down the path of murder.”

Lucas didn’t respond. After returning to her room, Cassie went online to check.

The gardener’s body was found early in the morning by some old men fishing in the suburban river.

The body seemed to have been washed down from a remote upstream area.

Besides the elderly fishermen, there were many morning exercisers in that area.

So, before the police arrived, many people had already seen the scene and even filmed videos to post online.

Cassie skimmed through the information.

Her thoughts were different from those of Lucas and Heston,

She knew better than anyone how ruthless Julia could be. Back then, Julia had killed Louisa simply because Louisa had threatened her. Didn’t the gardener threaten her as well that day?

Cassie didn't dwell on this issue for long. After all... in her previous life, it was the gardener's tampering that led to her parents' deaths! Now that he had died at Julia's hands, it was a fitting retribution.

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Even though the Murphy family didn't mention the connection between Julia and the gardener, the investigation eventually led to her.

Family vacation packages

After being kicked out of the Murphy residence, Julia used the little money she had to rent an apartment.

The dener had beaten her viciously at the time, and the bruises on her face still hadn't fully faded.

"Julia, we found that you helped the deceased pay off a large gambling debt," said a police officer.

Julia looked terrified. "How could he be dead? When I lent him the money, he promised he would turn over a new leaf and never gamble again."

The two questioning officers glanced at each other. "Miss, don't be afraid. Just answer our questions. Which payment did you lend him? That's quite a sum of money. Were you close to him?"

Julia lowered her gaze, her voice trembling. "He was a gardener for my adoptive family, a temporary worker. I only met him twice. We weren't close."

"So, did he threaten you for the money?" asked a police officer.

Julia weakly shook her head. "No, I gave him the money voluntarily. I don't know if you know, but my father owed a lot of money because of his gambling addiction. In the end, he was driven to despair by loan sharks... That's how I became an orphan. When the gardener came to me, he said he had a young daughter and elderly parents to take care of. It reminded me of my own pitiful childhood, and I didn't want another child to suffer like I did..."

As she spoke, she began to cry bitterly.

"Don't cry," the officer tried to comfort her. "How did you get those injuries on your face?"

"That's a personal matter. Can I choose not to answer?" Julia choked up. "You know. I've been kicked out of the Murphy family... I have no one to rely on and getting bullied is quite normal"

The officers asked a few more questions, and Julia answered them all clearly.

an "Alright, that's all for today. Here's my card. If you remember anything related to the deceased, please contact me," said officer.

"Okay." Julia took the card with both hands. "By the way, he mentioned before that the loan shark he borrowed money from had a poor relationship with him and threatened to kill him many times."

"Thank you for the information," said the officer.

They exchanged a few polite words, and Julia closed the door.

The younger officer whispered, "She really is pitiful. She suffered as a child, so she didn't want others to go through the same pain when she was older, giving away over 500 thousand dollars like it was nothing..."

The senior officer rubbed his eyebrows, his expression serious as he stared at the door. "Something's not right... She seems very suspicious."

"What?" The young officer looked bewildered. "I don't think so. She's so delicate and small. The deceased might have been thin but he was tall How could she kill him? It's unlikely."

"Keep an eye on her for the next couple of days, the senior officer said, lighting a cigarette.

Even though Julia didn't seem to have a window of opportunity to commit the crime, his thirty years of investigative experience told him she wasn't as simple as she appeared.

Julia closed the door and leaned against it, her heart pounding.

There was still a bit of dark red blood by the kitchen sink.

She hurried over, picked up a cloth, and carefully wiped away the traces.

Then she put the blood-stained cloth into a black plastic bag, which already contained items like a fruit knife. After a glance, she sealed the bag and hid it in the corner of the room.

Once everything was done, Julia sat back on the sofa.

She hadn't expected the gardener's body to be washed downstream.

After a moment of panic. Julia suddenly let out a sinister laugh.

"It's just murder, nothing more!" she said, slowly clenching her fists. "Cassie, you forced me to this point. I will repay you a thousand times over!"

Not mentioning the gardener's murder became an unspoken agreement among the Murphy family.

After breakfast, Cassie made an excuse and left the house.

This time, she drove a small car the family's maid used for grocery shopping and headed straight to the underground market on the outskirts of town.

That underground market didn't just sell computer parts; it also provided platforms for trading virtual products.

As usual, Cassie went to the shop she had visited last time, having arranged a meeting with Sam beforehand.

When she arrived at the market entrance, she immediately saw Sam craning his neck, waiting for her.

"Over here, doll!" Sam waved his hand.

Cassie felt a bit uncomfortable with the address, thinking the owner was being overly familiar. She walked over leisurely and said, "Next time, you don't need to go through the trouble of picking me up."

"The market is so chaotic. I'm just afraid you might get lost or get swindled by some other crook. Sam Geller scratched his head and chuckled. "So, what are we assembling today?"

Cassie said, "Let's talk about it in your shop."

Sam quickly agreed and walked toward his shop in a relaxed manner.

Soon, they arrived. After sitting down, Cassie got straight to the point, saying, "I've developed a game, and I want to find someone to help promote it."

"You can develop games?" Sam was full of astonishment.

Cassie nodded and said, "Yes, and I do it very well."

Sam had never seen someone so unapologetically confident, but he liked this about Cassie.

He thought it was annoying when people who lacked ability were arrogant.

“Can I take a look?” Sam asked.

Cassie opened her laptop, pulled up the game script she had written, and pushed the computer in front of Sam.

At first, Sam didn’t think it would be anything impressive.

But after going through it, he looked up at Cassie and asked, “You did this yourself?”

“Yes” Cassie nodded. “I want to work with the Murphy Group and need to find a professional outsourced marketing team.”

“You’re in luck!” Sam glanced behind Cassie. “There’s an expert in this field right here today.”

Cassie instinctively turned around. A tall, exceptionally handsome man walked in.

“It’s you?” Cassie recognized him. He was the last contestant in the competition she was also a part of last time.

“Hello again, top hacker, Eric smiled at Cassie. This wasn’t some romantic coincidence.

Eric had previously asked Sam to inform him whenever Cassie came by.

When he got the call, he was in the middle of something very important, but he dropped everything and rushed over.