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His cheeks felt like soft marshmallows. It was a comforting sensation, and the most unforgettable thing Diana had ever experienced.

More than once, Diana thought that it would be perfect if Sean and Betty never grew up. That way, they could forever stay as little bundles in her embrace.

Their little heads could snuggle into her arms—unlike now, as they gradually developed their own thoughts with age.

At times, she felt like she couldn't keep up with how fast they were growing.

She sighed.

At this moment, Betty was completely immersed in the world of marshmallows, oblivious to Diana's low spirits.

The colorful marshmallows were mixed into a large mass, resembling a pink blanket against the blue sky. Burying one's mouth in it would yield a mouthful of sweetness.

"Mommy!" Betty was visibly excited. Usually, she didn't have the chance to try these street snacks at home. Having been on her best behavior lately during the trip, Diana's tolerance for Betty's food requests was growing.

Betty couldn't resist pushing the boundaries, and dared herself to try these high sugar treats.

Fortunately, Diana didn't stop her.

Instead, she joined in. She opened her mouth, and took a bite of the marshmallow.

"It's so sweet!" she said.

Seeing this, Betty laughed gleefully. "Mommy, I'm so happy I can travel with you!" Diana smiled. "Mommy is happy, too." She hoped her regrets of not having her children stay as little bundles would gradually fade away.

"Growing at a normal speed is better, after all." Growing up had its own advantages. She couldn't be selfish and wish for the children to stay by her side forever just because she missed their childhood.

Betty was still small, and she was just a cute baby whose attention was wholly on the marshmallow. She was completely unaware of Mommy's delicate thoughts.

Fortunately, Diana gradually became happier over time.

Sean would definitely be fine!

She reminded herself not to be overly worried, and to focus on enjoying the traveling with her daughter.

While she became increasingly cheerful, Julian, on the other hand, grew more solemn.

"What?" Julian's expression was rarely clouded with a layer of gloom, and now, it cast a dark shadow over his face. Noel had been by Julian's side for many years, yet he had never seen this expression on Julian's face before. It made him uneasy.

"I can't buy any plane tickets with my ID? What about train and high-speed rail tickets?" Noel nodded. "All of them. What's even stranger is that everything is normal under your name, whether it's personal or within the group. There's no situation where your travel is restricted due to violating legal provisions." "Then why can't the purchase go through?" Noel shook his head. "I don't know. Anyone else can buy tickets with their IDs without a problem. But as soon as it's your ID, it shows a ticket purchase failure." "What about our own helicopter?" Julian didn't want to waste time on this matter; he cared more about the result. "If we fly there ourselves, we should be able to reach Jacroaof, right?" "We can't." Noel became even more troubled, almost instinctively nervous. He pushed his glasses up, and said, "I've checked the helicopter, and there's an issue with the instrument panel. Currently, there are no suitable helicopter mechanics available. Strangely enough, they're all on collective vacation." In short, Julian's attempt to leave Richburgh for Jacroaof wasn't as easy as he thought.

"What if I drive to Jacroaof myself?" Julian refused to believe in this jinx.

Upon hearing Julian's words, Noel's expression became increasingly difficult to describe. It resembled someone realizing there was no toilet paper after using the bathroom.

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A sense of unease surged within Julian's heart.

"I can't leave Richburgh in any vehicle?" He had no idea that there was someone in Richburgh with the power to restrict his travel like this!

"Sir..." Noel hesitated, lacking confidence to speak. "It's not that your vehicles can't leave the capital or go to Jacroaof. It's more..." He opened the navigation app and showed Julian the current road conditions.

"There's a crucial section on the route from Richburgh to Jacroaof that has been under maintenance since yesterday. Even if we drive there, we won't be able to cross. We..." Julian chuckled, his laughter mocking.

"Noel." He tapped his fingers on the table, raising Noel's unease further.

"Do you truly believe that the maintenance on that road is absolutely necessary?" Everything was piling up. Almost every mode of Julian's transportation was sealed tightly. The goal was clear—to keep him in Richburgh.

Don't even think about going to Jacroaof, let alone see Diana!

"No." Noel shook his head. He was initially worried that Julian might become overly concerned about Diana due to these abnormal occurrences, and lose his composure. However, seeing Julian's current calm state reassured him.

He began to share his thoughts. "There's no necessity, but the government is leading the maintenance of that road, and it's directly cut off. It might take a while before it's repaired." As Julian's assistant, Noel undoubtedly had his areas of expertise. Presenting Julian with a problem also meant providing corresponding solutions.

So, he continued, "But if Fulcher Inc. invests, I believe that road can be fixed within three to four days. It's not difficult." The catch was that Julian would need to stay in Richburgh for a few more days.

"It'll be useless." Julian's insight went deeper and farther than Noel's. "Even if that road is fixed, other roads will be cut off and be undergoing maintenance." Right now, he wasn't worried about being unable to leave Richburgh. He was concerned about whether the person preventing him from leaving was Jim.

If it really was him, then Diana was like a helpless lamb in the tiger's den.

Julian had no choice but to worry.

— "Are you sure that with this modified wearable microcomputer you designed, you can control all the backend systems of land, sea, and air transportation computers? This will cause this person named Julian Fulcher to have ticket purchase failures?" Sean nodded reluctantly.

If he had known that the person interrogating him was going after Julian, his own father, he would have remained silent and endured the torture.

But now, the ball had already been sent rolling. If he didn't comply with their demands, didn't showcase his computer skills, or reveal his relationship with Julian, these people would undoubtedly make his death even more miserable.

Sean could only focus sincerely on upgrading the small computer on his wrist.

He configured it according to their requirements, setting up the program to intercept Julian's travel plans.

This way, all modes of land, sea, and air transportation were thwarted.

On the surface, Julian appeared perfectly normal, and there were no issues with major ticketing systems. However, any attempt to purchase tickets using his identity would trigger the program Sean had set up, resulting in a ticket purchase failure.

Presumably, his father leaving Richburgh for Jacroaof wasn't a matter of great importance. It was probably just a business trip.

Sean didn't know that Julian was going to find Diana. After comforting himself with this thought, he quickly felt better.

He even assured confidently, "With the program I've set up, this person named Julian Fulcher will definitely not be able to leave Richburgh." Even

Julian's private jet could be controlled through the tiny electronic device in front of the interrogator. He was truly impressed.

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"You're so young, but you have such remarkable computer talent." The interrogator had abandoned any intention of suppressing Sean, and instead said, "Are you interested in joining us?" Sean was taken aback. "Join you? Who are you?" The person burst into laughter. "We're the people who'll control the world in the future." This statement was arrogant and impractical.

Ever since Leonard's death, Lucas Hughes, who had been interrogating Sean in the guise of a police officer from the training camp, had said everything with a confident gaze.

Sean thought about Leonard's death. Considering the calm and quiet state of the training camp after his death, he suddenly felt that Lucas might not be joking.

After hesitating for a moment, he asked cautiously, "Are you...related to the Hughes family?" Disbelief flashed in Lucas's eyes. "How did you know?" Sean's gaze fell on the small "Hughes" on his wristwatch-like computer.

Without answering, he shot back, "Does this Julian Fulcher have a feud with the Hughes family? Why not let him leave Richburgh? Why not let him go to Jacroaof?" Lucas was a very suspicious person, especially after sensing Sean's extraordinary talent. He was eager to utilize Sean's abilities for the Hughes family, but was also wary of such genius.

Sean was so young, yet he already had such outstanding abilities and the potential to create miracles in the future. If he wasn't controlled from a young age, he might become an uncontrollable force in the future.

In an instant, Lucas's gaze became quite fierce.

"Why do you ask this?" He had already checked Sean's file in the training squad, and he had no connection to the well-known Winnington family in Richburgh. In Richburgh, there was only one prestigious Winnington family.

Apart from that, the surname Sean had was insignificant.

Presumably, Sean came from an ordinary family with a bit of money and had entered the training camp through connections.

Lucas didn't think Sean could have any significant background. He was convinced he could easily see through for a three-year-old child.

Sean said, "I was just asking. It's more convenient to set the interception time for all the backends. You can't possibly set a program on Julian Fulcher forever, and prevent him from traveling." "That's true," Lucas said with a smile. "It seems you really don't know who he is.

If you can truly block such a formidable figure for a lifetime, he should kneel down and worship you. Hell, he should even call you Dad since you surpass his skills!" As the mentioned man's son, Sean found the situation ironic and remained silent.

Lucas wasn't in the mood for continued banter with Sean. He had other matters to attend to besides talking to the boy.

The professor had given him instructions. Within the next three days, Lucas needed to find a private place for the professor, as he intended to bring someone there to stay.

"Three days," Lucas assured Sean confidently. "After three days, all restrictions on Julian Fulcher can be restored to normal." Sean was too young, and his stature too short. Even though Lucas knew this child would undoubtedly be exceptional in the future, he couldn't maintain the highest level of vigilance all the time.

Unable to resist a casual quip, he remarked, "Our professor said a man like Julian Fulcher, who doesn't cherish his wife, deserves to be stuck in Richburgh and not see his wife!" Sean's heart skipped a beat.

What happened to his parents?

He had only been away from home for a short while, and his daddy had already started neglecting his mommy?

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Sean couldn't help but think of the rumors surrounding Julian and Diana when they were young.

Back then, Diana was said to be just a stand-in, and Julian had once deeply hurt her.

However, those were past misunderstandings. His parents had long overcome them.

Now, if there was any unhappiness, it could only be because... Daddy didn't love Mommy anymore.

Daddy wanted to abandon his pregnant mommy.

The more Sean thought about it, the more he felt that this was a possibility.

With Lucas having nothing urgent to attend to, he noticed Sean's surprised expression, and instantly felt like he had a gossip partner.

"What's the matter? You seem so surprised. Do you know Julian?" Lucas asked.

"No," Sean denied once again, continuing to feign innocence to lower Lucas's guard. "I'm just curious. Why would the professor punish someone for not cherishing their wife? Isn't the professor just a teacher? Aside from teaching, are teachers supposed to care about whether their students cherish their wives or not?" "The professor I'm talking about isn't a regular teacher," Lucas clarified. Since Lucas had abandoned the idea of framing Sean for a murder he didn't commit, he had become more patient with Sean. "He's my boss." "Your boss?" Lucas didn't elaborate further, and skillfully changed the subject. "He'll be your boss too in the future. If you join us, I guarantee you'll soar to great heights.

Also, your family will become prominent figures in Richburgh. No one will ever question your existence. As for Julian Fulcher, he won't be the professor's student anymore. The professor couldn't stand how Julian treated a pregnant woman, so he decided to give him a lesson." This statement worried Sean even more. He furrowed his brows, pretending as he gently probed, "His wife is pregnant?" Lucas nodded. "Yes. His wife's friend passed away recently, and she's been feeling down these days. Our boss wanted Julian's wife to come out and relax.

Julian not only failed to accompany her, but he didn't even go to the airport to see her off." This angered Jim, leading to the subsequent decision not to allow Julian to come to Jacroaof.

Sean felt that this wasn't something Julian would do, so he continued to ask, "But you... I mean, our boss, the professor, in your words. What is his relationship with Julian Fulcher's wife?" "Hehe..." Lucas chuckled. "It's not much of a relationship. It seems to be just a concern for a pregnant woman. Our boss cares a lot about her." After saying this, he glanced at Sean, signaling him not to ask any further.

"Just complete the tasks on time. If you do well, I'll let you go and return to the normal training of the training squad." It seemed Sean was still not allowed to leave. He had to continue staying in this interrogation room, enduring a humiliating way of life.

Lucas believed this was how he could break and control Sean's genius and spirit.

Sean understood Lucas's intentions to some extent, but he couldn't help feeling disappointed. He didn't want to continue living like a dog and eat in such a degrading manner.

He wanted to go out, have regular meals, undergo normal training, and receive proper treatment for his injuries.

However, he was now more concerned about Diana. This time, she was pregnant with twins, and her health wasn't as good as before. She needed someone to take care of her.

If her mood wasn't exceptionally bad, Diana wouldn't have come to Jacroaof alone.

Which of her friends had died? Which one would make her so upset?

The only person that Sean could think of was Nina, his godmother.

Did his godmother pass away?

Sean wanted to search the internet for information, but feared that Lucas would find out.

He had to continue finding a way to extract the information he wanted from Lucas.

"Which friend of Julian Fulcher's wife passed away?"

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"Why do you care so much about his wife's affairs?" Lucas looked at Sean disapprovingly. "Just do your job well. Don't ask too many questions." After saying this, Lucas didn't say anything more and left the room.

Sean was left alone in this dark room. He sat on the ground, and tears welled up in his chubby face.

He rarely cried, but now he was worried about his mom, irritated with his dad, and at the same time, he missed his godmother.

She had been so good to him. If something really had happened to her, then he hadn't been able to send her off.

Sean recalled Ian Lemmington's funeral. He clapped his hands together, and prayed, "Aunt Nina..." His voice was choking. "Have a safe journey. When I get out of the training camp, I'll make sure to send you off properly." For now, all he could do was sit here alone and pray, sending a symbolic farewell to Nina.

At this moment, Nina, who was already dead according to her beloved godson, kept sneezing uncontrollably.

She kept sneezing without stopping, and her nose started running. She took tissue after tissue, unknowingly scratching her upper lip to the point of bleeding.

She didn't notice the bleeding and continued to desperately wipe her nose with tissues, as if it was the only way to calm her emotions. She clutched the tissue, and anxiously waited by the phone for any news from Diana.

Nina sat on the sofa in a daze, biting her lips. Her lips were close to bleeding at this point.

"Diana must be furious with me this time. She probably won't contact me ever again." Vans sat across from her. Seeing Nina so dejected and sad, he felt uncomfortable too.

"Diana wouldn't be angry with you," he comforted her. He pushed some aspirin toward her. "Look at you, you have a cold. Didn't you know that?" He urged her to take the medicine.

"If you don't take the medicine, you'll probably have a fever tonight." Vans was quite displeased when he said this. "Look at yourself, sneezing like this." However, Nina refused. "I won't take it." She got up, and threw the aspirin that Vans had prepared in the trash decisively.

"I want to get a cold, and I want a severe one. Better yet, a fever that makes me delirious and has to go to the hospital." She warned Vans, "You're not allowed to give me medicine! I'll go to the hospital!" The idea of being hospitalized due to illness sounded severe, and perhaps Diana would no longer be angry with her and would come to the hospital to see her.

By then, Nina was sure they wouldn't argue anymore.

Then, she would apologize sincerely in person.

However, Vans disapproved this. He tore open another packet of medicine for her. "Hurry up and take this." If her health was ruined, she would be the one suffering.

Unable to tolerate Vans's nagging and unable to argue with him, Nina had a sudden inspiration. She took off her clothes, entered the bathroom, and locked the door.

With a click, the door was secured.

Then, she shouted loudly in the bathroom with a nasal voice, "I don't care! I want to take a cold shower! I want to catch a cold! I want a severe cold! I want to go to the hospital! I want to soften Diana's heart. I want my best friend to... sob...I want my best friend to stop being angry with me." "She wasn't angry with you in the first place," Vans said, infuriated by Nina wanting to take a cold shower. "If you get yourself seriously ill, then she might get angry for real!" "That's impossible!" Nina's mind was filled with memories of her argument with Diana.

She was Diana's best friend, but she had mocked Diana. She had used the things that wounded Diana and everything she cared about in the past against her.

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She was Diana's best friend!

On the day Fanny passed away, Nina caused new trauma to Diana instead of consoling her.

The sound of water echoed.

The water was biting cold on her skin. Nina suddenly shivered, and her voice gradually weakened.

"If she wasn't mad at me, she wouldn't be silent until now." Nina already had Julian convey her apologies.

She had fought with Diana before, but there never had been a time they didn't communicate for a whole day like this.

Plus, this silence between them didn't look like it was going to end soon.

Nina had mustered the courage to call Diana just now. However, the display showed the phone was turned off.

It must be because Diana was furious with her! Diana simply didn't want to hear her voice anymore!

The more Nina thought about it, the more discouraged she became. She was uncomfortable.

It was all her fault!

Diana cared so much about her, yet she had said such hurtful things.

A sudden chill ran through Nina's heart. She thrust her head under the cold water.

The chilly water poured down on her and washed away all the warmth from her body, leaving only bitter iciness.

Nina got what she wanted.

After half an hour of cold water bath and ignoring Vans's disapproval, she cried and ran to the balcony to stand in the wind for another half hour.

She kept muttering Diana's name.

It looked like a deep and unwavering affection.

Vans felt as if he were an insignificant tadpole in Nina's heart, and Diana was the towering tree she relied on for survival.

The bottom line was, he didn't understand women's friendships. Even so, he was deeply moved.

Even after getting a high fever, Nina insisted on immersing herself in cold water.

"39 degrees isn't enough." Her cheeks burned with a rosy hue, and she looked at Vans with a distant gaze. "Move aside, don't block me. I need to put my head under cold water." Only when her fever reached over forty degrees and she persisted in not taking medicine, could she be quickly rushed to the hospital emergency room.

Once she was admitted into the hospital, she would succeed. The more severe her illness, the more Diana would worry, and the sooner Diana would come to see her!

Despite her fever, a strange light gleamed in Nina's eyes.

"Vans!" she yelled. "I haven't asked you for anything, but this time, I beg you not to meddle. Don't treat me when I'm halfway there. You must take me to the hospital for treatment!" Vans didn't want to deal with her. "I also beg you not to torture yourself with this stupid method, okay?" After all, Nina was a successful professional. Now, because of Diana, she had turned into something like a crazy fan doing unconventional things to get her idol's attention.

She was also kicking up a fuss about being hospitalized, just so Diana would come to see her.

Vans was almost driven crazy by her antics. "When we broke up, I didn't see you use this self-harming behavior on me." Nina didn't care about Vans's jealousy at all.

"Get a grip! In my heart, no one is more important than Diana." "...Stop fooling around." Fine! He would yield!

"I'll call Julian first, and ask why Diana isn't answering the phone. I'll find out what's going on for you." He held a phone in one hand, and grabbed the back

of Nina's clothes with the other. He refused to let her dunk her face into the basin of cold water again.

As a result... "Julian's phone is also unreachable." At current, Julian was annoyed.

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When Vans called, Julian didn't answer.

He still couldn't figure out his own way to Jacroaof, and Diana was waiting for him over there.

Julian still couldn't fathom whether these abnormalities had anything to do with Jim Hughes, who lured Diana to Jacroaof.

Try as he might, he really couldn't leave Richburgh. If he insisted on going, he could use the option of spending money to charter a high-speed train or a plane and travel alone.

However, that option was also unavailable to him.

Because... "Sir." Noel's forehead was covered in cold sweat. "Our entire backend settlement system at Fulcher Inc. has been hacked. A lot of money is currently inaccessible. Most importantly, if this continues, it will affect many collaborations." Now, Julian had to personally go to Fulcher Inc. headquarters to stabilize employee morale as a priority. After that, he needed to address the backend technical issues.

While Julian wasn't proficient in computer technology, he had talented individuals under him.

"Sir," his employees reported. "The code this time is very strange." "What's strange about it?" "The other party should be an advanced hacker, but his purpose...seems not to harm our group, but to give us a warning." Julian raised an eyebrow. "A warning? What kind of warning?" The technician hesitated for a moment, finding it more and more incredulous.

Finally, he plucked up the courage and said, "They're warning that everyone should pamper their wives..." This wasn't a hacking attack on a huge corporate system.

It was more like a prank by a child!

Suddenly, Julian thought of Sean... However, he never neglected pampering his wife. His tenderness and doting toward Diana came from his heart—everyone could see how much he spoiled her.

There was no issue of not pampering his wife, let alone Sean hacking the company system to warn him.

To be on the safe side, he called Oliver first for confirmation.

"Are you sure Sean hasn't contacted you?" Oliver had too many missed calls on his phone. When he turned it on, he deleted them all as he wanted to avoid the headache of going through them.

Now, he really couldn't figure out whether Sean had contacted him or not.

Oliver didn't rush to answer, and instead replied with a question. "What's going on? Is something wrong with Sean?" "He's in the training camp. What can happen? If something happened, he would contact you first. Since he hasn't contacted you, there's definitely nothing wrong," Julian said.

Given Sean's intelligence, there was definitely no situation where he couldn't contact Oliver if something happened.

"Don't worry," Julian assured Oliver in turn.

Due to what happened with Fanny, he was now very tolerant of Oliver. He was always afraid of worrying Oliver too much.

"Sean's definitely fine. I'm just overthinking it." If something actually happened to Sean, it was even less likely that he would be causing trouble for Fulcher Inc. right now.

One could only say that the hacker attacking Fulcher Inc. Group this time might be a woman facing setbacks in love. To vent her frustration, she targeted the largest company in Richburgh to warn everyone to love and pamper their wives.

Julian hung up his call with Oliver, and instructed, "Restore the backend system as soon as possible. How long will it take?" "The opponent's skills are

amazing. She caught us off guard and didn't use ordinary hacking methods. It might take two or three days," the technical staff reported.

Two or three days.

Yet another two or three days.

Even if Julian had found a solution, he couldn't leave Richburgh now and abandon Fulcher Inc. When he transferred the shares to Diana before, the legal risks had shifted onto her.

Before, he hadn't thought Fulcher Inc. would run into trouble.

But now, facing a hacker attack, Julian realized he had to take firm control of the situation at Fulcher Inc. and leave no room for error. Otherwise, Diana would be the first to suffer.

He suddenly regretted his past decisions. At the time of the share transfer, he should have defined the legal risk division clearly. He had to handle this matter once Diana returned from Jacroaof.

At the moment, he couldn't go to Jacroaof, nor could he contact Diana.

So, he decided to contact Jim Hughes first.

After all, it was Jim who had persuaded Diana to go from Richburgh to Jacroaof.

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"I've encountered some issues on my end, and can't go to Jacroaof to accompany her for now," Julian didn't disclose details to Jim. "She's over there with Betty, and I'm counting on you to take good care of them." Jim nodded. "Rest assured." Jim would take better care of her than Julian would.

"I bought strawberries, cherries, durian, and other fruits for her. They have already been delivered to the hotel she's staying at," Jim said, intentionally showing Julian how to take care of a pregnant woman. "I also prepared some recipes that are good for pregnant women. Starting tomorrow, I'll replace the hotel chef with someone I know to make special dishes for Diana." Julian was pleased with Jim's thoughtful consideration.

But in his joy was slight unease.

Julian couldn't figure out Jim's intentions, couldn't understand whether he was good or bad, and what kind of feelings he had towards Diana.

That, and the fact that Julian was unable to leave Richburgh to go to Jacroaof might be related to Jim.

Julian didn't ask, fearing that it might be a misunderstanding.

However, Jim took the initiative to speak. "Julian, Diana's pregnant, but she came to Jacroaof alone. However it happened, you shouldn't have let her come alone." But when she went, Julian was completely unaware!

"I have a friend who had some trouble at that time..." "You don't need to explain to me," Jim interrupted Julian. "I don't care about the process. I only care about the result. You let Diana come alone, and that's not right." Jim had also bought a ticket for Julian, but Julian didn't board the plane.

Now, Julian was somewhat glad he hadn't pressed Jim for answers. Thinking about it now, Jim had actually been considerate of him and Diana.

If Jim was angry, it was only because Julian didn't accompany Diana to Jacroaof.

Julian breathed a sigh of relief.

He was still convinced that Jim had no romantic interest in Diana. Since Jim didn't have feelings for Diana, he felt reassured.

Julian lowered his stance, and said apologetically, "Yes, you're right, Professor Hughes. I don't need to make excuses. What I need to do is to rush to Jacroaof as soon as possible and accompany my wife and child." Jim agreed. "Yes, they're waiting for you." But before Diana gave birth, he wouldn't let Diana and Julian meet again. He didn't want Julian to do anything that would hurt her feelings and affect her mood during pregnancy.

What Jim wanted was a perfect and happy pregnant mother. What he aimed for was the healthiest and most precious child; whether it was through science, metaphysics, or a combination of both.

Only such a child could live up to his experiments.

"Alright. I'm hanging up for now," Julian said.

He felt that Jim was truly a good person. A very generous and kind person.

"Having you to look after my wife and child reassures me a lot. I'm counting on you." Upon hearing this, Jim was momentarily stunned, but he quickly understood.

"Sure," he said, "as long as you don't regret it, Mr. Fulcher." What did Julian have to regret? He would go see Diana in a couple of days.

Julian felt that while Jim might not be good at social niceties, he was at least practical. Fortunately, he was also straightforward and sincere.

When he was determined to be friends with someone, he did it regardless if the person was a man or a woman. He also didn't care about status.

Perhaps those in the academic line were just that simple.

It was nice to know someone like him.

After settling things on Jim's end and somewhat providing a guarantee for Diana and Betty's safety in Jacroaof, Julian could finally focus on dealing with matters in Richburgh.

When Diana returned to the hotel, it was already late. Most of the hotel staff had already returned to rest.

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Only the corridor on the floor Diana was staying still had people coming and going.

Perhaps there were people checking out and in. Looking at the crowd, they might even have come as a big group.

Diana covered her belly protectively, pulling Betty to the side against the wall.

However, she discovered that these people weren't tourists dispersed throughout the entire corridor. Rather, they were moving back and forth in front of her neighboring room.

It didn't seem like the people would stop moving about anytime soon, so Diana eventually decided not to wait any longer. She led Betty back to the room, being extra careful when passing through the crowded area.

Betty sensed Diana's unease. She understood the situation, and helped protect her mother's stomach.

She mumbled, "Please make way. My mommy has my little sisters in her tummy, and can't be touched." Betty's voice was naturally crisp and a bit high-pitched. At the same time, it had a sweet, childlike quality that was very innocent and attention-grabbing.

When she spoke, coupled with her nervous actions of protecting Diana's belly, she instantly attracted the attention of many people in her direction.

In less than a second, all the people moved aside, quickly creating a clear pathway for Diana.

Was a pregnant woman's privilege this significant?

Diana couldn't help but remember the time when she was pregnant with Betty and Sean.

Back then, her studio in Sterling City was still quite small. She had to personally select fabrics when choosing materials.

She often took the bus to the fabric factory to save costs. Once, while tying her shoelaces on the bus, an honest-looking young man suddenly came over and said, "Let me!" He stopped Diana from bending down and tied her shoelaces for her. Diana stiffened and blushed before saying thank you.

The man responded casually, "My wife is also pregnant, so I know it's hard for you to bend down. It's just a small favor, no need to worry about it." Indeed, it was just a small favor. After tying Diana's shoelaces, the man didn't say another word to her. He didn't disturb Diana, even after they got off the bus.

When she arrived at the fabric factory, everyone could tell that she was pregnant. Someone even gave up their reserved seat for her. "Go ahead, madam." A pregnant woman coming here with such a big belly must be going through a tough time. At that time, many people sympathized with Diana and helped her because of her pregnancy.

Even so, never before had she faced a situation like this. The commotion was so big, and so many people simultaneously stopped to make way for her. It was as if they were specifically clearing a path for her.

Fortunately, having experienced similar situations, Diana didn't find it strange.

Even when passing by the neighboring room, she couldn't help but glance inside.

The people outside were frozen as they stood in an orderly line, waiting for her to pass. Inside the room, there were women in white uniform busy at work. They all looked around twenty-five years old; youthful, but efficient in their tasks.

At the moment, they were kneeling by the bed, meticulously smoothing out the sheets. At their feet were freshly removed hotel sheets. It seemed the guest in the neighboring room hadn't officially checked in yet.

Now, the staff was changing the hotel sheets and duvet cover. Judging by the number of people, they were probably planning to clean the entire room thoroughly.

What a meticulous person the guest must be!

Diana couldn't help but think that even Julian never caused such a big commotion.

In comparison, Julian was quite easygoing. There had never been a situation where he insisted on cleaning the hotel room again after arriving.

No.

Wait.

Come to think of it, she had never traveled and stayed in a hotel with Julian yet

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fortunately, Julian didn't know how to cherish the chance.

Diana pursed her lips, recalling the infuriating things Julian had said on the phone.

She decided to resolutely ignore him. No more thinking about him!

With these thoughts in mind, she subconsciously quickened her pace and headed toward her room.

She took out her room key, and Betty helped her scan the card on the sensor. A blue light illuminated, and the door opened with a click.

Suddenly, a thought entered Diana's mind—those maids in white uniforms before seemed oddly familiar. Why were they all dressed in traditional clothing?

It was somewhat similar to what she remembered of Matt Hughes.

Diana suddenly became interested in the person staying in the room next to the hotel.

She let Betty go in first, and said, "There might be some leftovers stuck on your hands after you ate the cotton candy. Go wash them quickly." Diana was already lenient about Betty eating candy. Betty was overjoyed, and was eager to curry favor with Diana. Hearing Diana's instructions, she took it as a command and rushed into the bathroom.

The sound of water came from the bathroom. Betty was meticulous, but also slow. Even if it was just washing her hands, she would intertwine each finger one by one. Then, she would use hand soap again. This whole process would take about five minutes.

Five minutes.

It was enough for Diana to stand at the door and observe for a while.

Standing so openly and staring at the neighboring room might be too obvious.

After some thought, Diana decided to walk to the end of the corridor. Walking back and forth a couple of times would allow her to see if the guest next door would come out.

She wanted to see who this person was. She wanted to find out if there were any clues related to Matt.

As a result... "Mommy!" When Betty had finished washing her hands, the people cleaning the room next door hadn't left yet.

Diana didn't know how detailed their work was.

Before entering her room, she overheard them discussing how many strands of hair were in the drain, and how to get them out.

It was just an accommodation, yet they even needed to talk about the hair in the drain?

Diana found such cleanliness utterly exasperating. It seemed the meticulous guest wouldn't be coming over for a while, so she didn't plan to wait outside any longer.

When she heard Betty calling, she hurriedly entered the room.

Betty wanted to wash her face after washing her hands. Then, she wanted to brush her teeth and shower before heading to bed.

But her hair was braided, and she couldn't undo it herself.

"Mommy, quickly untie it for me," Betty said dramatically, sighing. "I couldn't see you just now, and I thought you didn't want me anymore. It scared me, and I almost wanted to cry." "You're so dramatic," Diana said, but she felt a bit guilty in her heart. She shouldn't have kept it a secret from Betty, and stayed alone outside the room.

It was an unfamiliar place, and Betty would naturally depend on Diana's presence a lot.

At the same time, she was happy for being needed.

Raising children was like this, especially when they were young. It often gave Diana the illusion that she was their entire world.

For instance, like how they had reached for her consistently when they were babies.

Even though they were only babies with no self-awareness and their smiles weren't necessarily expressions of happiness—more often, they were unconscious muscle movements—they somehow knew who their mother was.

It was especially true at night. As soon as they heard Diana's voice, both children would cry. Only when they were in Diana's arms would they stop.

When they wanted to sleep, regardless of day or night, they wanted Diana. If Diana held them, they would quickly fall asleep.

But if it were someone else, even a nanny who spent every day with them like Diana, it would take a long time of fussing and crying before they finally slept.

Diana was their comforter.

She had been, and still was, strongly needed by the children.

No.