

KINDA SWEET 601

Chapter 601 Return to Him

But in the end, he had no choice but to nod helplessly.

"Well, I see."

He stood up, walked up to her, and extended his hand.

"I wish you happiness. Don't worry. We're still friends."

Laura also stood up.

She gave a genuine smile.

She took his hand in hers and said, "OK, my friend."

At that moment, Stephen suddenly pulled her hand hard and gently hugged her.

His shoulders were broad and smelled reassuring and warm.

Laura stiffened slightly, but Stephen did nothing but hug her gently.

After a long time, he said, "I hope you're happy."

Laura's slightly stiff body relaxed and she smiled.

"Thank you."

Their conversation was completely over.

Stephen left first because he had to work soon. Laura's scene was scheduled for later, so she could rest a little longer.

After Stephen left, Nicole came in and looked around. She was relieved to find no one else in the lounge but Laura and came in.

"So, how did it go?"

Laura smiled and asked Nicole to pour her a glass of honey water. As she drank it, she said, "He is a smart man and knows what I'm talking about. We'll be fine from now."

Nicole then breathed a sigh of relief.

But she immediately frowned.

She said helplessly to Laura, "Laura, in fact, I feel sorry for Stephen. He's handsome, rich, gentle, and considerate. He's a gentleman and comes from a good family. Why is he so unlucky?"

"He liked a girl and told her about his feelings, but he was rejected and learned that she already had a boyfriend."

"I felt sorry for him."

Laura glanced at her with the glass in her hand, a little helpless.

"Since you feel so sorry for him, why don't you go over and comfort him?"

Nicole froze.

She looked at Laura innocently and asked, "Can I?"

Laura nodded, "Of course. After all, you have sympathy for handsome men, and you are gentle and

lovely. You often make others laugh. Once you comfort him, maybe he will be cheered up, let it go, and

realize there is a nice girl waiting for him."

Nicole had realized Laura was teasing her.

For a moment, she couldn't help but blush.

"Laura! Don't be ridiculous."

However, her heart was pounding and her blush deepened.

Laura was really just joking, but she didn't expect Nicole to react this way.

She froze for a moment and realized something. She was shocked.

But it wasn't a bad thing.

After all, Nicole was really a nice, gentle, kind girl. She thought about it, rolled her eyes slightly, and

suddenly said, "Fine. Just kidding."

"Now you really have to do me a favor."

Nicole immediately asked, "What is it?"

Laura took something out of her purse, handed it over to her, and said, "Stephen gave them to me. I

forgot to return to him. Now that we've talked things out, I can't keep them anymore."

"Return to him privately for me."

Nicole froze slightly and looked at her in surprise, "Me?"

Laura smiled, "Yes, you. Will you do me this favor?"

Nicole hesitated for a moment and nodded firmly.

"Yeah, no problem."

With that, Laura smiled and let her go.

Looking at Nicole's back, Laura slumped back in her chair and thought, "Silly girl, I've already created

an opportunity for you. It's up to you now."

She knew that Nicole's family was not as good as the Rogers family.

But she knew that Nicole was not a snobbish girl and that she didn't like Stephen because of his status or family background.

From Stephen's behavior and the way she felt about him, she could tell that he didn't value family backgrounds either.

So she thought it was good if the two of them could be together.

She wanted everyone around her to be happy.

With this in mind, Laura closed her eyes to rest in contentment.

In the afternoon, Laura played opposite Stephen.

Stephen worked late last night and only slept for three or four hours, but he didn't look tired at all today.

He was still working hard and the director and assistant director next to him nodded their heads a lot out of satisfaction.

Fortunately, they didn't have to work very hard today.

Both of them were experienced actors and were familiar with each other because they had acted in the same show, so they worked well together.

The director noticed that their relationship was not as awkward as before.

During the break, they talked happily. The director knew that his plan to get them to make up today had worked.

He couldn't help but sigh with relief.

Being a director was not easy. He had to worry about both the quality of the movie and the relationship between the lead actor and actress.

But luckily, they made up. He didn't care about anything else as long as they didn't affect the crew.

They didn't get off work until 6.

Stephen had the night off but Laura had to work, so she needed to have dinner on the set and start working when it was completely dark.

Before Stephen left, he looked at her and wanted to say something.

Laura knew he had something to ask. She pointed to a corner not far away and said, "Let's go over there."

Stephen nodded.

They walked to a quiet corner. Stephen took something out of his pocket and asked, "Did you ask

Nicole to return it to me?"

Laura looked at it.

It was a pair of red custom Bluetooth headphones. It was beautiful and of good quality.

Chapter 602 She Was Missing

She was bored at a break and wanted to listen to some music when she was working for the last show.

Stephen was using them at that time and gave them to her.

She had been hogging them and hadn't had time to return them before.

She smiled, "Yes."

Stephen frowned with mixed feelings.

"Laura, you don't have to do this. I said even if we can't be a couple, we're still friends..."

"They belong to yours. I just borrowed them, so I should return them."

She gave a genuine smile, "If you want to give me something, you'll have to give me something brand

new and I won't hesitate to take it."

Stephen froze and took a few seconds to understand what she meant.

Young men and women couldn't have that ambiguous vibe between them.

His things had his smell and traces. If she continued to use them, their relationship would always be ambiguous.

If one day she accidentally used them and he saw them, he may be sad.

Now that she had returned everything to him, even if he gave her something in the future, he would just give it to her as a friend.

With this in mind, Stephen suddenly understood Laura's intentions and felt sad.

He nodded and put the headphones away, "I see."

After a pause, he asked, "You didn't answer my question today. Who is he?"

Laura pursed her lips and didn't want to answer the question.

If she did, she would have answered at noon.

She thought about it and could only say, "It doesn't matter. Anyway, I won't be with anyone else in the world but him for now."

Stephen knew there was a good chance he would be sad again by asking the question.

But he couldn't help it.

Hearing her answer, he gave a wry smile, "He's so lucky."

Laura didn't respond.

Stephen sighed.

"Well, I gotta go."

Laura nodded and Stephen left.

Laura had to work outdoors that night.

It was December and it was freezing cold outside in the winter.

It started to snow in the evening and made the scene even more bleak and miserable.

It was 9 when her scene was done.

Laura was freezing and after work, she set off for the hotel in a heavy coat with Nicole.

It was late, but some people were still on the set shooting.

Others went back to the hotel hours ago.

So when Laura and Nicole left, they were the only two people that were about to go back to the hotel.

Because the set was not far from the hotel and the road was snowy, it only took a few minutes to drive there.

But Laura was starving and didn't want to order take-out, so she was going to walk back with Nicole and buy something to eat on the way.

They bought some food and were walking towards the hotel when suddenly a dark figure rushed out of the alley.

The dark figure quickly grabbed Laura and dragged her into the alley.

Laura didn't even have time to scream. Nicole was stunned for two seconds and immediately shouted, "Laura!"

Then she dropped the food and rushed into the alley, but it was dark and empty.

She was instantly stunned. She didn't dare to go forward and there was nothing she could do.

There were few pedestrians on the road on a cold winter night.

The closest location to her was a night market a few hundred meters away.

But if she really ran over and asked for help, the kidnapper may have already escaped.

She had no choice but to take out her cell phone and call the police while running after them.

The alley was dark and there were no street lights. She could only use her cell phone for lighting on the road.

She was scared.

But thinking that Laura was in danger at this moment, Nicole could only run and shout at the same time.

"Laura, where are you?"

"Laura, don't be afraid. I've called the police. They'll be here soon."

Then she threatened the kidnapper,

"You'd better let her go before you get arrested!"

"Do you want money? I'm telling you, I have money. Her money, bank cards, and phone are in this bag.

Come on. She doesn't have any money with her!"

With that, she dumped the contents of the bag on the ground.

She was not sure who it was and why Laura was kidnapped. She could only tempt them while

threatening them. She hoped they would hear her and let Laura go.

In fact, however, no matter how she shouted, there was no response.

At that moment, a surprised voice came from the entrance of the alley.

"Huh? Nicole, what are you doing here?"

Nicole was nervous and turned around subconsciously when she heard the voice.

When she saw the person under the streetlight at the entrance of the alley, she ran over to him

immediately with joy.

"Stephen!"

Stephen was hungry. Timothy should have come out to buy snacks for him, but he had a cold today.

Stephen didn't want Timothy to go out in the cold air, so he didn't tell him and went out to buy some

food himself.

He was walking back when he heard a familiar female voice.

He approached curiously and realized it was a familiar face.

So he called out to Nicole.

Looking at her anxious look, Stephen was a little surprised.

"What's wrong? Why are you alone? Where is Laura?"

Nicole was so anxious that she was about to cry, "Stephen, please help Laura. She's missing."

Stephen's countenance changed.

"What do you mean? She's missing? What happened?"

Then Nicole told Stephen about what happened.

In fact, it was so simple that she finished quickly.

However, Stephen found it very dangerous.

First, the kidnapper ran out of the alley and suddenly dragged Laura away.

It was cold and late. It was no coincidence.

Chapter 603 Planned

After all, everyone knew that this road only led to the hotel and there were very few pedestrians at this hour.

The kidnapper was too stupid if he didn't have a specific target.

Few people would pass by here.

And it was snowing and so cold. It was unlikely that someone would be so stupid.

So it was likely that the kidnapper knew that someone would pass by at this hour.

Who was it? Laura, of course.

The kidnapper targeted her. He figured out when she would get off work and waited in ambush for her

to pass by and drag her away.

With this in mind, Stephen took out his phone, opened the torch app, and walked into the alley.

After walking a few steps, he found some tire marks.

Three parallel marks. They were still very clear because there was an extra thin layer of snow on the ground.

It was most likely created by something like a tricycle.

It explained why Nicole rushed in within twenty seconds but didn't see anyone.

Because the kidnapper carried Laura to the tricycle and left quickly, which confirmed his previous thoughts.

The kidnapper knew Laura and even prepared the tricycle here in advance in order to take her away.

Why did he choose this alley instead of the road?

After all, there were very few people in both places.

He looked up. Because it was an old town, there were very few surveillance cameras there.

There were no cameras in this alley, but there were some on the road to monitor cars.

The kidnapper chose this place to avoid the cameras.

He was smart!

With this in mind, Stephen asked coldly, "Did you call the police?"

Nicole nodded.

Stephen thought for a moment and said, "We have to inform the director. There's no use for us to stay

here. The kidnapper is long gone. Let's wait for the police."

Nicole nodded immediately, but she was a little worried.

"What about Laura?"

Stephen frowned and looked deeper into the alley.

After a long time, he said, "The kidnapper doesn't want to ask for money or do anything to her. Since

he deliberately waited for her here, he must be someone who knows her well. There is no use for us to

stay here. We might as well go back. Since the kidnapper has planned this with a purpose, he will

definitely contact us."

Hearing that, Nicole was reassured and nodded.

They turned around and walked away together. Maybe because she was nervous and thinking about

something, or was in shock, she took a few steps and suddenly screamed and fell to the ground.

Stephen was startled and immediately turned around to look at her.

He saw a large, sharp stone on the ground. Nicole probably didn't notice it and tripped over it. Her knee

hit the edge of the stone and bled.

Stephen's countenance changed instantly.

He immediately squatted down, helped her up from the ground, and asked, "Are you okay?"

Nicole was a little pale and her forehead was sweating from the pain.

But she gritted her teeth and said, "I'm fine."

Stephen looked up at her face and knew that she was holding back the pain.

Because it was winter, she was wearing thick leggings. He couldn't see her wound and it was not

convenient to treat it here.

Stephen could only take his scarf off and simply bandage her leg before saying, "Hold on. I'll get you to

the hospital right away."

Nicole immediately shook her head.

"Don't bother. I'm fine. We don't need to go to the hospital. Let's look for Laura first..."

"We're going!"

Stephen suddenly became serious.

Nicole had never seen him like this before and was instantly shocked.

Before she could react, he suddenly turned his back to her and crouched down.

In a low voice, Stephen said, "Come up."

Nicole froze for a moment before she realized he was going to carry her on his back.

She blushed and waved her hands in panic.

"Stephen, I can walk..."

"Cut the crap!"

Stephen was actually helpless. It was so late and this place was out of the way. They couldn't even get a cab.

The wound on her leg looked serious. It would get worse if they didn't rush to the hospital and there might be a big scar.

Girls all wanted to be beautiful. How could she wear dresses in the summer if she had a scar on such a

beautiful, long leg?

Stephen had always been a gentleman and understood the ladies. He knew the importance of being

beautiful to a girl.

Therefore, he never felt that a small wound was a trivial matter.

He insisted, so Nicole bit her lip and dared not refuse anymore.

She hesitated for a moment and carefully stepped forward and jumped onto his broad back.

Stephen felt it and straightened up.

Nicole was slim and Stephen hardly felt her.

But she couldn't help blushing, curling up, and not even daring to make a sound. Her body was stiff and

she was nervous to the core.

Stephen didn't notice it. He just felt her body was a little stiff. He thought she was in pain.

So he reassured her, "Does it hurt? Hold on. There's a hospital in front of us and you'll feel better in no time."

It was isolated, but there was indeed a small hospital there.

Usually, the crew member would go there if they caught a cold and didn't want to travel all the way to a

big hospital.

Anyway, a minor cold could be treated anywhere else.

Nicole said, "Okay."

She heard Stephen stomping on the snow. She shyly whispered, "Stephen, sorry for getting you in trouble."

Stephen smiled.

"Not at all. I'll help you even if you're a stranger, not to mention that you're Laura's assistant."

Besides, who would leave a girl with an injured leg alone in the middle of the night?

Nicole didn't think so. She just thought Stephen was a distinguished and famous actor.

Chapter 604 Approachable

But now he carried her so gently. He was approachable.

Nicole's heart pounded again.

Stephen carried Nicole to the hospital. Fortunately, there was a doctor on duty at this hour.

The doctor learned that her leg was injured and told her to sit down. He went to get some iodine, salve, and gauze and had the nurse help her inside to take off her leggings before treating her wound.

Nicole said to Stephen, "Stephen, I'm fine. The doctor will take care of it. Just go and look for Laura."

She was not a vulnerable girl and she knew she was only slightly injured.

Laura was the one in real danger.

She didn't know how Laura was doing.

Hearing that, Stephen looked at the wound on her knee and asked the doctor. After confirming that it

was indeed not serious, he nodded.

"Okay, rest here. Don't go back in a hurry. I'll call you."

After that, he remembered that Nicole didn't have his phone number.

He asked her to take out her phone and type in his number.

Nicole saw him type in his number on her phone, dial it, and get through to it before hanging up.

At once, she was both excited and nervous.

Oh my God! What was she doing?

Stephen, her crush, carried her on the back and gave her his phone number!

She must have been dreaming. How could that be true?

However, Stephen didn't know what she was thinking.

He saved his number calmly and returned the phone to her.

Then he said seriously, "Don't leave after your wound has been treated. Wait for my call. If you really want to go back to the hotel, call and have someone pick you up. It's too late. It's not safe for you to go back alone. Laura already had an accident. You must not make things worse, OK?"

Nicole nodded.

She looked obedient.

Stephen looked at her and for some reason, his mood suddenly got better.

He smiled and stroked her head.

After that, both of them froze.

Stephen quickly withdrew his hand and gave an awkward smile.

"Well, I gotta go."

Nicole nodded, "Okay, go ahead."

Then Stephen left.

After he left, Nicole covered her blushing face, squealed inwardly, and bowed her head shyly.

At the same time.

The police arrived.

Stephen met them and told them what happened. They checked the tire marks on the snow and had the same inference as Stephen.

Then they sent a group of people to search for Laura and some others to check the surveillance videos to see if there was a suspicious tricycle around this evening.

Stephen thought of Nicole, who was still in the hospital, and instead of going back with them, he went to the hospital to pick up Nicole and sent her back to the hotel.

Nicole didn't expect him to come back. She planned to either take a cab or call a friend to pick her up.

Unexpectedly, he came back before she had a chance to call.

He looked tall and handsome in his black trench coat. He came striding in through the snow.

When he saw her, he smiled, "Is everything okay? The police have started their investigation. I'll send you back to the hotel."

Nicole only felt warm.

She nodded, "I'm fine. Thank you."

Stephen smiled and didn't say anything.

He picked her up and walked towards the hotel.

Within ten minutes, they arrived at the hotel.

Stephen took her to her room and left.

However, Nicole couldn't sleep at all because Laura hadn't been found yet.

But it didn't stop her from feeling good because of Stephen's considerate moves today.

But it disappeared when she thought Laura could be dangerous.

Natalia's phone suddenly rang while she was sleeping.

She had left the country a few days ago and had only returned yesterday.

She was still jet-lagged today. No one would call her at 3:30 in the morning if it wasn't for an emergency.

Natalia picked up her phone drowsily and looked at it carefully. It was actually Elsa.

She frowned and had a subconscious feeling that something was wrong.

Archie was also awakened by the ringing. He rolled over, took Natalia into his arms, and asked

drowsily, "Who is it?"

Natalia sobered up and replied, "Elsa. It might be an emergency. I need to take this. Go back to sleep."

With that, she took his hand away, got up, and walked outside to answer her phone in the hallway.

"Elsa, is everything OK?"

Elsa sounded very anxious over the phone.

"We got a huge problem, Natalia!"

Natalia frowned and immediately came fully awake.

In a low voice, she asked, "What happened?"

"Laura is missing! She was kidnapped on her way back to the hotel with Nicole this evening and has not been found."

Natalia shuddered!

She didn't expect it.

After a few seconds, she regained her composure and asked, "Did you call the police? What did they say?"

Elsa answered immediately, "Yes, but there's no clue."

Natalia pursed her lips and subconsciously scratched the railing.

After a long time, she lowered her voice and said, "Don't let anyone know about this except the director.

Make sure to intercept any news before the media leak it out."

Elsa immediately agreed.

Because this kind of thing had happened before. A celebrity was kidnapped and the kidnappers only wanted money.

But the media found out about it, reported it, and even got involved in the case.

Later, the kidnappers killed the celebrity under public pressure.

The press would not be able to help but would only make things worse.

Elsa knew about it too, so she would have done it even if Natalia hadn't told her to.

Chapter 605 Beautiful Daughter

Then Natalia told Elsa some dos and don'ts.

Elsa agreed and hung up the phone.

Natalia immediately told Archie about it.

Archie was powerful and good at finding someone in the country.

He immediately told Brian to gather his men.

Soon his men made their move.

At the same time,

Max had picked some qualified maids for the villa today. He was about to tell Laura the good news

happily before he learned that she had been kidnapped.

Max was shocked and immediately rushed to the police station.

Soon he learned the whole process.

His face instantly darkened.

Nicole was a little scared and stammered, "Mr. Nixon, Laura... is gonna be okay, right?"

Max looked at her expressionlessly without saying anything and left directly.

Everyone looked at his back, confused.

They didn't know what he meant or where he was going.

Stephen was there at that moment. He came over with the director to see if there were any updates

about the case.

He couldn't help but frown.

He patted Nicole's shoulder to comfort her, "Don't worry. She'll be fine."

In fact, he was confused.

Why was it that when Laura had an accident, it was not Natalia but Max who stepped in?

Max was Annie International's shareholder and Laura's boss, but he had never stepped in other stars' accidents before.

But this time he personally asked about it and even looked anxious.

Was there... something going on between them?

Stephen didn't think they were a couple. He just thought that Max's attitude towards Laura was a bit strange.

But he didn't think much about it. After all, the most important thing now was to save Laura.

At the same time.

Max had just come out of the police station when he was grabbed by someone.

Bang!

He was caught off guard. His collar was grabbed and he was pinned against a car.

"Max! You said you would protect her! You said you wouldn't let her get hurt! What's going on? Huh?"

Isaac pressed an arm to his chest and gripped him by the throat with an angry look in his red eyes.

Jim was behind Max. Seeing this, he was about to step forward.

However, Max stopped him.

He looked at Isaac expressionlessly and said coldly, "Let go!"

However, Isaac didn't move.

He learned today that Laura had been kidnapped.

At that time, he was so shocked that he almost forgot to breathe. When he learned that she was

kidnapped last night, he was anxious and angry.

He searched for her but had no clue, so he angrily went to Max.

Max looked at him coldly and repeated, "Let go!"

Isaac glared angrily and still grabbed his collar.

"Tell me where she is!"

Unexpectedly, he felt pain in his arm just as he finished speaking. Max suddenly grabbed his arm and

slammed him to the ground.

Isaac gave a grunt in pain.

Jim stepped forward and stood in front of Max.

He looked coldly at Isaac on the ground.

Isaac was furious. He didn't expect Max to slam him to the ground. How could he be so arrogant!

Max didn't protect Laura. He didn't apologize and even hurt him!

Did he love Laura at all?

Isaac shouted angrily, "Max! Laura shouldn't have chosen you!"

Max straightened his shirt and looked at Isaac with disdain.

"You are not qualified to say that! It's not up to you to decide if she regrets or not!"

With that, Max got into his car and left with Jim.

Isaac was completely ignored. He looked at the car and pounded the ground in anger.

In the car, Max handed Jim a photo and said coldly, "Track him down. Let me know if you get any news."

Jim looked at the man in the photo and was a little surprised.

"Mr. Nixon, do you think..."

Max narrowed his eyes slightly.

It was an acquaintance and hadn't asked them for money. There was only one possibility.

Diego.

Jim also thought of this and nodded solemnly, "Yes."

At this time in an abandoned factory in the countryside.

The concrete walls were dark and cold and there was sewage on the ground with a musty smell in the air.

There was a large open space in the middle, which was supported by several concrete pillars.

A woman was tied to one of them.

Her hands were tied behind her back. Her hair was all over her face and her clothes were soiled with sewage.

She was thin and frail.

There were footsteps coming from outside.

The woman moved her body and struggled to open her eyes.

Diego approached her with a bowl of food coldly, squatted down in front of her, and placed the bowl on the ground.

"Damn, I couldn't find that check you showed me last time. You lied to me, didn't you?"

Laura looked at Diego. Because she hadn't eaten all day, she was so weak that she could barely speak.

Her mouth was taped shut and she couldn't make a sound, so she could only look at him quietly.

Diego thought for a moment and called out to those men outside, "Hey, what do we do now?"

A fat man with tattooed arms walked in.

"Since she doesn't have any money with her, let's call her mom! Her mom must know where the money is."

Diego frowned, reluctant.

"I don't wanna call her. If I call and tell her I have her daughter, everyone will know about this. How can I get away with it?"

Hearing that, the man laughed out loud.

"Wow, you wanna get away with it and continue being the father of a famous actress? Do you think your beautiful daughter would agree?"

Chapter 606 It Will Be All Yours

As Diego spoke, he pointed at Laura, who looked at him with a poker face.

She couldn't make a sound with duct tape on her mouth.

Diego's expression altered.

"So you are saying..."

The man with tattooed arms rested a hand on Diego's shoulder and said with a grin, "Buddy, with all due respect, you're too soft-hearted sometimes. Your wife and daughter don't want you in their lives and try to get you out of the picture. You wouldn't let go because you can't forget the good times you had together? What's the point?"

Laura almost threw up upon hearing these words.

"He wouldn't let go because of the good times?"

"Like that could be true! He wouldn't let go because he wanted more money!"

Though Laura found this remark rather phony, Diego was pleased to hear that.

He chortled and said, "You know, a day together as husband and wife means endless devotion the rest

of your life. I'm her father at the end of the day. I don't wanna go too far."

A hint of mockery flashed through the eyes of the man with tattooed arms.

Nevertheless, he managed to show a look of admiration on his face.

"I knew you were loyal, man! Even so, buddy, you gotta keep things in perspective. Now you've already taken her here, do you think she'll let you go off the hook if you set her free?"

Diego was stunned by this question.

He had been giving Laura and her mother some hard times for so long. During these years, Laura had gradually become famous and richer with high social status. Now, she was no longer the helpless girl he could twist around his little finger.

However, because he was still married to her mother, he was, in the legal aspect, Laura's stepfather.

Thus, with Laura's mother being his leverage, he never worried that Laura would disobey him.

Over the years, he had grown used to it. As time went by, he started to believe that Laura would have to do his biddings at the end of the day regardless of what he did to her.

Hence, when he kidnapped Laura here, he never considered that Laura might seek revenge afterward.

Seeing Diego stand there in a daze, the tattooed guy laughed and patted him on the shoulder.

“Think about it. The bottom line is, we want the money. As for her, nobody cares.”

With that said, he headed out with his lackeys.

Diego stood there for a while. His countenance changed.

When he looked back at Laura, who had been tied to a concrete pillar, his eyes suddenly showed a trace of viciousness.

He crouched down and yanked the piece of cloth from Laura’s mouth.

“Diego! Are you freaking insane? Do you know what you’re doing? Untie me, now!”

Laura started shouting the instant she could speak again.

Diego gazed at her. The trace of viciousness grew more and more distinct.

A while later, he said coldly, “Stop shouting! No one can hear you no matter how hard you try.”

Laura’s expression changed at once.

With a pallid face, she looked at Diego in disbelief and asked, “Where are we?”

Diego unfeelingly stuffed a piece of pretzel into Laura’s mouth and said, “Don’t ask questions. I won’t answer anyway. Just eat and drink when you have the chance. Then, you’ll get going.”

Laura's body stiffened. She spat out the pretzel Diego crammed into her mouth.

"Get going? Where are you taking me? What the hell are you up to?"

Diego didn't reply.

But the look in his eyes already betrayed him.

He said coldly, "Don't blame me. I have no choice. It's because you love money so much that you'd

rather die and drag everyone with you than let us have the money. So this is the only way."

Laura couldn't figure out what he meant.

But she picked up one hint.

"You did this for money? Are you nuts? You could have 12 million once you divorce my mother? Why

bother kidnapping me? Isn't 12 million enough for you to squander?" she asked through clenched

teeth. Her voice was deliberately lowered.

Diego shot her a scornful look.

"Twelve million? Do you really have 12 million to spare? I'm no fool! You can't trick me! You just want to

find an excuse to get rid of me after you become successful!"

While speaking, he thought of something and squatted down again to seize Laura by the collar.

“Just tell me the truth. Where is the five million dollar check? I promise to release you once you tell me where it is. Huh? How about that?”

Laura stared at him. Suddenly, she felt amused.

Thus, she started to laugh.

“Are you deranged or something? You had a chance to get a lot more money, but you cast it away and took such a big risk for just five million. You need to have your brains examined!”

Diego never thought that Laura would have the nerve to rebuke him at this juncture.

At once, his temper rose, and he slapped her in the face.

“Tell me where the check is!” he growled.

His body was quivering because of rage.

That slap forced Laura to face the other side. A salty taste of rust slowly spread in her mouth.

She inhaled deeply and said in a calm voice, “How about this, you let me go first, then I’ll tell you where the check is.”

Diego glowered at her. Fury had almost turned his eyes scarlet.

Laura, however, was not scared. Her composed eyes quietly met his.

Even her tone was pretty much business-like.

“I don't know what's going on between you and those people out there, but I can tell they don't take you

seriously. They told you to bring me here against my will. I bet they are probably just using you to get

money. The check is worth five million. How much do you think you can get after they take their share?

“You should set me free. The money will be all yours. And you don't have to divorce my mother either.

You can still rip me off again with the divorce issue in the future. And I can't do anything to stop you,

can I?”

Diego wavered by Laura's offer.

After all, it was five million dollars!

If he could pocket all the money, he could buy a lot of... Also, he would never have to live like this

anymore.

As if he had thought of something, Diego's eyes revealed madness.

Staring at Laura with a nearly hysterical look in his eyes, he said under his breath, “Is it true that you'll

give me that check as long as I let you go?”

Though her emotions were about to burst out, Laura managed to stay calm.

She was a good actress after all. How could her acting skills fail her at such a critical moment?

In a steady voice, she said, “Absolutely. As long as you let me go, the money will be all yours.”

Chapter 607 Take It All

Diego panted with excitement.

He glanced back at the group standing outside the door and said to Laura in an undertone, “You’ll keep

your promise, right? Don’t you dare trick me!”

Laura gave a cold laugh and said, “Why would I trick you? You know where I live. I can’t escape from

you anyway.”

As expected, Diego was convinced as soon as she said that.

He pondered, “This makes sense. Legally, I’m her stepfather. She ought to provide for me.

“If she refuses, I can sue her for abandonment.”

Diego had been manipulating Laura and her mother for many years. He had grown used to their

obedience.

Therefore, he wasn't on high alert for them.

Even so, just to be safe, he decided to seize more leverage.

"How about this? You tell me where your mother is. After I verify everything, I'll let you go immediately."

Laura's face instantly turned cold.

"Diego, this is between us. Leave my mother out of this!"

Diego sneered.

"Leave her out of this? Like that's possible! She's your mother and my wife. Whatever concerns you and me also concern her. Plus, I know you're no longer that little girl you were. Don't you try to fool me.

"Didn't you just hook up with a rich man? You're much more cunning now. If you refuse to give me money after I set you free, I can't really do anything to hurt you, can I? Or your sugar daddy will go after me.

"But that's not the case with your mother. We're a lawful married couple. Though it may not be proper to scold or hit her, I can make love to her, can't I? But if something went wrong with her newly planted heart during our lovemaking process and gave her a poor recovery, I wouldn't be the one to blame,

because it's not something that I can control.

"In that case, the court wouldn't hold me liable, would it? Thus, you'd better tell me her whereabouts.

This way, I'll be relieved, and so will you. Then, we can finally make a deal. You'll give me the money at

the same time when I give you freedom. Isn't that perfect?"

Laura quivered with fury.

She knew Diego was brazen, but she didn't expect him to be this shameless.

Gritting her teeth and staring coldly at him, she bellowed word by word, "You wish!"

Seeing her attitude, Diego's face turned icy cold in an instant.

"That's to say, you were trying to trick me, am I right? Because this is a trap, you still can't risk telling

me where your mother is. Laura Davies, do you really think I'm an idiot?"

As he said this, he abruptly reached out and clamped a hand over Laura's chin.

Laura felt that the bones in her chin were about to be crushed. Her head was jerked upward by Diego's

hand.

At this precise moment, someone asked from outside, "Hey, did she cough up the information?"

Diego looked over his shoulder at that group. Before he could say anything, Laura clenched her teeth

and said under her breath, "It's in my apartment."

Diego was taken aback and turned his head back to look at Laura.

"What did you say?"

"I mean, the check is in my place. I certainly wouldn't carry a big fat check around. If you want it, take me home to get it."

Diego shuddered in exultation.

He let go of Laura's chin, look back, and shouted, "Almost."

Then, he looked back at Laura and asked, "You're not tricking me this time?"

As Diego finally removed his hand, the pain in Laura's chin appeased.

She took several deep breaths before answering, "I'm not, but you have to bring me with you. Because you can't get into my place without me."

Diego showed a crooked smile.

"You're wrong about that. Did you forget how I entered your apartment last time?"

But Laura smiled, too.

“Am I really wrong? You’ve barged into my place before. Do you think I’ll continue to live there like a moron?”

Diego was stunned.

Laura went on. “As you said, I’m a big star now. I’m rich, and I’ve hooked up with a rich man. Of course, I wouldn’t continue to stay in that cramped apartment.

“To tell you the truth, that little apartment was just a cover-up I prepared to lead you on.”

“I usually stay in hotels when I have to work on the set. You couldn’t know how many days I really lived in that apartment. So, I went there every once in a while, so that you would think that was my residence.”

“This way, you wouldn’t go look for my real home. In fact, I moved out a long time ago. Now, I’m living in a fancy villa now.”

“There is not only that check but many jewels and antiques I’ve collected over the years in that villa. As long as you let me go, I swear I will give them all to you. What do you say?”

Diego’s eyes became zealous at once.

“Are you serious? Jewels and antiques?”

“Certainly. You’ve held me hostage. Why would I lie to you?”

Diego swallowed. Laura gazed at him, waiting for his reply with patience.

She knew that given how greedy Diego was, he would on no account miss an opportunity to earn such a big fortune now that he had learned about it.

Sure enough, seconds later, Diego gritted his teeth and said, “OK. I can let you go, only if I get the things!”

A smile slowly climbed onto Laura’s lips, “Deal.”

“Deal.”

After they made a pact, Diego went out.

Those people immediately asked if he had found out where the money was.

He merely sneered and said, “That girl’s mouth is really tight. Let’s starve her this evening and ask her again later.”

A man in the group pulled a long face at once. He threw a cold look at Laura and mumbled that he would teach her a lesson.

As he spoke, he walked toward Laura while unbuttoning his shirt.

Seeing this, Diego frowned, then reached out to stop him with a fawning smile on his face.

“Gee, no need to do that. We haven’t had the money yet. This girl has a temper. Who knows what she would do if you cornered her? If she’s dead, we will lose both the money and our leverage. Just wait for me to prise the whereabouts of the money out of her tonight. Then, you can do whatever you want to her. I promise.”

Hearing this, the man stopped in his tracks and banished the thought of touching her right away.

The tattooed guy laughed, then said, “Diego, never knew you could be so merciless. She’s your stepdaughter after all! You wouldn’t feel sorry for her if she was destroyed by us?”

Diego narrowed his eyes, took a cigarette from that man, and lit it. Smiling, he said, "Stepdaughter? I shouldn’t have taken her in at all. I supported her for over a decade. But the moment she became successful, she tried to get rid of me, so why would I care about her at all?"

That man was relieved after hearing this remark. He placed a hand on Diego’s shoulder and continued to chat and laugh with him.

Chapter 608 Taking Her away

Diego didn’t show up again until late at night.

This time, there was no sound outside. It seemed that the rest of the gang had all fell asleep.

Laura was not sure whether they were asleep or left. Anyway, it was very quiet outside.

Diego walked in stealthily, holding a bunch of car keys.

He came over and untied Laura.

As he untied the ropes, he remarked, "Don't make a sound. Just come with me. The car is parked on the road not far away. We'll go there and get straight into the car."

The tape on Laura's mouth had long been removed, so she could speak now.

Hearing this, Laura asked with concern, "Where are the others?"

Diego cast a look at her.

This look was meaningful. For some reason, it sent a chill down his spine.

She felt as if a snake had climbed onto her back.

Diego immediately laughed a sinister laugh and said, "I drugged them and locked them up in the cellar."

The so-called cellar was probably just a basement.

This was a factory. It certainly had a basement to store things that were rarely used.

But Laura still had some doubts.

“Why did you move them to the basement?”

To get her out of here, drugging those people would suffice. But why bother moving those people to the basement?

Diego stared at her coldly and narrowed his eyes.

In a low and chilling voice, he muttered, “If I didn’t move them there, wouldn’t the dead bodies be discovered right away? The basement is a good hiding place. The bodies are safe there at least for several days. When others discover their bodies, I’ll be long gone and I can get away with this. Don’t you think so?”

Laura abruptly stopped moving.

Rooted to the spot, she stared at Diego in disbelief.

Diego took out a knife when she was not looking.

He pressed the knife against Laura’s belly and said with a cold laugh, “Sweetie, I killed those people just to help you. You wouldn’t rat me out, would you?”

Laura felt her back cold. It was as if a chill had penetrated through her skin and reached her marrow.

She couldn't even feel her fingers.

After a long while, she nodded shakily.

"No... I won't."

Diego crooked his index finger, gesturing her to stand up.

Then, he said, "In that case, take me to get the money! Don't worry. No one is outside now. As long as you do what I tell you to, no one will hurt you."

While speaking, he kept the knife on her skin, urging her to go outside.

Laura moved her stiffened legs to inch towards the outside. Suddenly, something occurred to her.

It turned out that... Diego had never considered letting her go!

She was not stupid after all. Diego had killed so many people, but he told her about this without reservation.

Diego would never disclose such a secret to someone who had always been on his opposite side and could sell him out at any time.

But he did... That meant he never considered letting her live on!

The dead couldn't talk after all.

At this thought, Laura shivered all over. Overwhelming horror and helplessness washed over her.

She felt like a dense cluster of dark clouds was bearing down on her, crushing her and suffocating her.

Still, she bit her lips and managed to keep a straight face.

She meekly followed Diego out.

After walking for a short while, she really saw a black car parked on the road nearby.

Diego never moved the knife away from her belly for a second. After they reached the car, he handed

her the car key and asked, "Can you drive?"

Laura nodded.

Diego then put the key in her hand and ordered her to sit in the driver's seat. He swiftly strode to the

other side of the car and climbed into the passenger's seat.

It only took a second or two.

In this brief moment, Laura thought about running away.

But she gave up on the idea the moment it crossed her mind.

It wouldn't work!

This place was deserted. No one was around to help. As a woman, she had no way to outrun Diego.

She had nothing to use as a weapon, either. Even if she ran, Diego would catch her back in no time.

If that infuriated Diego, who knew what would happen?

Thinking of this, Laura couldn't help but swallow. She then put the key into the keyhole and grabbed the steering wheel.

Diego put on the seat belt and glanced at Laura. Seeing that she had been very obedient, he nodded with satisfaction.

"See, isn't this nice? Now you're doing what I say and saved me a lot of trouble. You can rest assured.

Once I get the money, I'll let you go right off and won't bother you again."

Laura forced a smile, then slowly started the car.

The car ran at a steady speed. Diego, sitting in the passenger's seat, never let the knife move an inch away from Laura's waist.

It was not that Laura didn't want to escape with the car. She didn't do it because she knew she couldn't move faster than a man.

Perhaps before she could run away, Diego's knife would already be stabbed into her body.

In the past, she would not believe Diego had the guts to take her life.

But just now, she learned that Diego had killed so many people and hid their bodies, which made her realize that Diego was no longer the man she knew in the past.

The Diego she knew was indeed hateful.

But he was a coward. He only dared to commit minor sins - bullying women, gambling, and fighting.

He would back off when he encountered real tough guys.

But now, he was different.

Today's Diego was more like a vile, poisonous serpent. He appeared to be weak and negligible.

But at some point, he could dart out and bite without mercy.

Once the poison reached the blood, the victim would have no hope of surviving.

Laura was sure that if she really attempted to disobey Diego, Diego would absolutely kill her and flee.

So she didn't dare to make any rash moves.

However, she couldn't just sit back and wait, either.

After deliberating for a while, Laura suddenly asked, "Do you have any empty boxes?"

Dazed, Diego looked at her with a frown.

“What boxes?”

Laura gave a stiff smile, "Didn't I tell you I have many jewels and antiques in my villa? Don't you want them all? Then you have to prepare some boxes to put them in. I don't have anything to pack those things for you to take away. The suitcases I have are the ones I've used before and can be easily recognized. I do have some other small suitcases, but they're not big enough for all those antiques."

Truthfully, she was betting her life on this plan.

She bet that Diego would not give up taking those valuable antiques.

As she expected, Diego asked with suspicion, “What antiques do you have in your place?”

Laura was relieved to hear that, because Diego had swallowed the bait.

She heaved a sigh in relief in her head. But her tone was still nonchalant, “I have many. What kind do you prefer?”

Chapter 609 Forgetting the Password

Diego sneered and said, “The most valuable kind, of course. Do you really believe I want the antiques for collection?”

Laura laughed, "Then things are simpler. Jade products and paintings are quite valuable and easy to carry around. You can have a look yourself when we get there."

Diego felt that today's Laura was a bit weird.

She was being so meek that Diego found it kind of surreal.

Granted, considering the current situation, perhaps Laura really didn't dare to defy him.

But she voluntarily told her where her collections were and invited him over to take them. She even asked him which kind he preferred and advised him to pick the more portable ones.

Was she planning something?

When Diego looked at Laura again, his eyes gradually become dubious.

However, Laura didn't seem to have noticed it. She was still focused on driving, as though she merely made a casual suggestion and had no hidden agenda.

Diego felt uneasy and undecided.

Just then, Laura suddenly let out a cry of surprise and pointed at a store by the street selling clothes and suitcases.

"They have suitcases for sale. You wanna buy one?"

Diego looked back at that store. This place was not downtown, so few people were around. The store was not big, only two salesmen were in there.

Yet, Diego cast a vigilant look upward. Surely, there was a surveillance camera.

He turned around with a frosty face and pressed the knife more forcibly against Laura's waist. Through clenched teeth, he growled, "Cut the crap! Just keep driving!"

Laura curled her lips and muttered, "You always mistake my goodwill for ill intent."

Then, she did shut her mouth as Diego ordered and continued driving in silence.

About 20 minutes later, the car pulled up in a neighborhood strewn with villas.

Laura pointed at a villa a short distance away and said, "See? That's my house. Will you go there by yourself or should I go with you?"

Diego looked around cautiously. Since he was with Laura, the security guard didn't suspect a thing.

But this was a neighborhood for rich people, so it was well-equipped with security facilities.

Diego didn't know whether anything unexpected would happen if he went in on his own and left Laura alone in the car.

Therefore, to play it safe, he decided to take Laura with him.

Holding the knife against Laura's waist, Diego bellowed, "Go there with me."

Laura arched one brow but didn't object. She followed Diego out of the car.

Holding the knife behind her back, Diego forced Laura to the door of that villa and ordered her to open the door.

That stumped Laura.

In fact, she didn't even know the password!

Because this was not her home!

That day, she got really drunk, and Max brought her here. She woke up in this villa the next day.

What she told Diego at that derelict factory was a lie. She made it up just to trick Diego into getting her out of there.

She thought she had to make a last attempt to strive to live, even though she didn't expect it would work. However, Diego bought her lie so there they were.

She believed she had thought of everything. Yet, she didn't realize she had forgotten the password to the villa.

Max told her the password the other day. He said that this would be her home from now on. When her mother recovered from the surgery, she would need a nice place for recovery. This neighborhood was quiet and agreeable, which would be perfect for her mother to live in.

Laura didn't take it to heart back then. She thought that she might not agree to move in here.

Thus, when Max told her the password, she didn't really try to memorize it.

Now, this was awkward!

Diego's face fell when he saw Laura stand there motionlessly.

"What are you waiting for? Open the damn door!"

Laura's face stiffened and then showed an embarrassed smile.

"Oops... sorry, I forgot the password. Can I make a call to ask about it?"

Diego's eyes widened. He stared at her incredulously.

"Didn't you say this was your house? How can you forget the password to your own house?"

With a forced smile on her face, she said, "You know, I usually live in hotels and rarely come home.

Plus, I have to go to live in that apartment for a few days once in a while to fool you. It's no surprise that

I forgot the password here.

“Besides, this villa is too big for me to live in alone. So this villa is more of a warehouse to me that I hardly ever visit.”

However, how could Diego be convinced just like that?

Gazing at her coldly, he said with a sneer, “You can’t have randomly picked someone’s house just to fool me, right?”

Laura hurriedly shook her head.

“Of course not. Do you look like a gullible man? This is really my house. I can even tell you which color the carpet inside is. You can verify it yourself after you get in in a moment.”

Diego was almost convinced by that.

He looked at Laura with slightly dubious eyes and asked, “Who are you calling?”

Laura compressed her lips and said, “My boyfriend.”

Then, she quickly added, “He’s abroad on a business trip, so he still doesn’t know I’m missing. He wouldn’t get suspicious if I called him.

“If you’re still concerned, I can turn on the speaker. If I say anything I shouldn’t say, you can just stab

me to death. I won't complain."

Diego thought for moments. Though he knew this was risky, he felt it wouldn't be a big deal.

After all, Laura's boyfriend was in a foreign country. Even if he noticed something fishy, he couldn't rush back to rescue her in time.

When he handled those gangsters this afternoon, he already planned out his escaping route.

Now, all he needed to do was to fetch the money and valuables and drive straight to the port.

It would take a maximum of 20 minutes to get to the port from here.

Laura's boyfriend who was abroad couldn't do anything during the 20 minutes.

Thinking of this, Diego stopped worrying.

Yet, he had no idea that it was precisely this call that got him in trouble later.

It was because he didn't know who the boyfriend Laura talked about was. He would never guess that

Laura's boyfriend was actually the second son of the Nixon family, who dominated the entire Eqitin. He could send his men over in just five minutes, let alone 20 minutes.

But Diego failed to see the trouble coming.

Now he had been tempted by the huge fortune inside the villa, there was no going back for him.

That gang had gotten something on him. They said they wouldn't let him off the hook unless he gave them 2 million dollars.

Thus, he had no choice but to try all means to get money.

When that gang learned that his stepdaughter was a celebrity, they began to target Laura.

In truth, abducting Laura was not Diego's plan. He was incited and coerced by those people.

In his original plan, even if he refused to sign the divorce papers, he wouldn't go that far as to kidnapping Laura.

After all, neither of the options could do any good to him.

Chapter 610 Mooching off

No matter which one he chose, he would lose the opportunity to keep mooching off Laura.

Hence, if Diego had the choice, he would pick neither of the options.

He would prefer to keep things as they were now and mooch money off Laura once in a while, which would benefit him the most.

But those people took a hard line on him. They told him that if he refused to help them, they would perhaps kill him right on the spot.

Those gangsters all had strong backers. Diego couldn't afford to mess with them, so he could only do as he was told.

But he was swayed at once when Laura told him she had a ton of jewels and antiques at her place this afternoon in the factory.

He began to wonder how great it would be if all the money was his.

Those people picked on him and pestered him to pay back their money. Broke and powerless, Diego didn't dare to defy them before.

But who else would he fear once he had such a large sum?

He could take the money and flee to another country. So what if the others found out he murdered those people? They couldn't track him down anyway.

Plus, Diego knew those jewels were worth much more than five million dollars.

That was why he dared to make such a risky move.

Money could drive people mad, not to mention that Diego was a fanatical money-grabber.

After the money and the valuables were in his bag, he would, of course, kill Laura as well.

Then, he would go to another country by stealth. After that, he would be completely free!

As Diego thought of this, a tinge of madness could be seen in his eyes.

He was fully aware that what he was doing was highly risky.

It was even likely to ruin all the plans he had hatched before.

But he couldn't pull back now.

Without the money, he wouldn't be able to escape to a foreign country even if he killed Laura.

In that case, he would also be killed. He certainly didn't want to die.

So he had to take the chances!

Diego had lost so much money because he was a gambling addict. In this circumstance, he naturally

would like to continue to make a bet other than giving up.

So he approved of Laura's suggestion.

He picked up Laura's phone but didn't hand it to her. Instead, he made her unlock the screen while

holding it in his hand.

He asked, "What's your boyfriend's caller ID?"

Laura thought for a moment and said, "The Wayward Dog."

Diego was puzzled.

“What the hell?”

“What dog?”

Laura smiled awkwardly and said, “You know, it’s a term of endearment.”

Diego felt rather speechless.

Laura was self-conscious. Max often picked on her before. She wanted to call him names but didn’t dare to do it in his face.

Thus, she changed his caller ID on her phone into “the wayward dog”.

That was her private way to vent out her anger.

Diego found Max’s number in the contact list, made the call, and handed the phone to Laura.

Max had been waiting for updates from his people. But somehow, Diego was nowhere to be found as if he had vanished from the world.

Irritated, Max was even more certain that Diego had something to do with this.

Just when he was waiting anxiously, his phone rang.

At first, he thought the people he sent out had finally found out something. He hastily picked up the phone but trembled with shock.

The phone screen showed that it was Laura calling.

He hurriedly answered the call.

“Laura!!!”

“BABY!”

Max was interrupted before he could say anything more.

Laura’s voice sounded quite cheerful as if she was not in danger.

She was even smiling, and she continued, “Honey, I just got home from work, but I can’t remember the password of the door. Can you tell me the password again?”

Max knitted his brows.

Laura’s little apartment didn’t have a coded lock.

Besides, since Laura disappeared, Max had stationed his people there. If Laura came home, he would definitely be informed.

Hence...

After a brief moment of silence, Max said, "How could you forget the password again? I already told you to memorize it the last time you forgot it."

While speaking, he gesticulated to his men to start the car.

On the other end of the line, Laura's affected sweet voice pleaded, "I've been busy these days. Could you forgive me and just tell me one more time?"

Max sighed with resignation and said, "Fine. 845963. Got that?"

Laura chuckled at once. "Yep. Love you, boo boo."

Then, she hung up without further ado.

Diego entered the password immediately. Surely, the door swung open.

He quickly grabbed Laura and went in with her.

On the other side...

In Max's car, Jim heard their whole conversation. With a gloom face, he asked, "Mr. Nixon, why did Miss Davies..."

Max's face turned stony the moment he hung up. He ordered, "Go to Orchid Villa NOW. Quick! Get

there in five minutes!”

That gave Jim a jolt. He said, “Yes, sir.”

The car dashed off for Orchid Villa like an arrow.

At the same time in the villa...

Diego tied Laura up again right after they entered the house.

To prevent her from moving when he was not looking, Diego tied her to the end of the bed and gagged

her with a piece of cloth. So she wouldn’t be able to yell and attract attention when he went off to look

for the valuables in other rooms.

Laura had no choice but to let Diego tie her up. She had done everything she could. Now, whether she

could live or not solely depended on if Max could rush here in time.

Diego soon found the check worth five million in the purse Laura told him about. Then, he went to the

storeroom and found the jewels and antiques that she had mentioned before.

The truth was, Laura knew that there were so many valuables because she stumbled on them when

she was here last time.

Max said that this was a villa he prepared for her and her mother to live in. Who was Max?

A rich young man famous for his extravagant way of spending.

Since he had ascertained that Laura was his significant other half, he surely wouldn't begrudge spending money for her.

Thus, even though Laura had not moved in, Max had bought many famous brand jewels for her and put them in the villa.

He also bought antiques because he knew that Laura's mother loved ancient paintings and the like.

But later, her family fortune suffered a fall. During those years of hard life, she rarely had the chance to appreciate antiques closely.

Still, she liked art and could discern if an artwork is a masterpiece.

As Max truly wanted to spend the rest of his life with Laura, he would definitely try to please his mother-in-law.

So he paid good money to purchase a large batch of precious antiques, including some jade products and nice paintings.

The set of jade accessories he gave Laura's mother as a gift was also highly valuable.

Those jewels and antiques were all in the storeroom. Laura already knew that when she was here last time.

Diego ferreted out all the precious objects. At the sight of the bulging bag full of valuables, his eyes shone with avidity.