

KINDA SWEET 931

Chapter 931 Make A Deal

Next to her, Felix was in the same mood as her.

He had a grudge against the Zaccardi family for Queeny's disappearance. Logically speaking, he should be more vigilant and hostile to the man in front of him.

But now they were sitting here peacefully, perhaps because of the surrounding environment, or perhaps because the man's attitude was modest. Felix was not angry at all.

Clinton smiled, "You look like your father very much."

Queeny was slightly shocked.

"Do you know my father?"

"Yes."

Clinton nodded and looked out of the window. It was raining outside.

The autumn rain looked depressing in the quiet yard.

He narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "He has been working for me for fifteen years. We had a deep relationship, and I regarded him as my brother."

Queeny frowned.

Her intuition told her that there was a story behind it.

As expected, Clinton sighed.

"It's a pity that he died young and I didn't even see him for the last time."

Queeny asked, "You said he has been working for you? Who are you and who is he? What kind of roles do you two play in the Zaccardi family? How did he die?"

Hearing her series of questions, Clinton seemed to be stunned for a moment and then smiled gently.

"I know you have a lot of questions. Don't worry. We have a lot of time today. Let me answer it one after another."

He paused and explained, "I don't think I need to explain too much about my identity. You can feel it yourself."

Hearing this, both Queeny and Felix were shocked.

They just had a guess, but now his words had proved that their guess was right.

Clinton still had a smile on his face. He was about the same age as Felix, but for some reason, they felt as if he had lived for thousands of years and looked like an old man who had experienced everything.

He smiled and said, "As for your father, since you know who I am, you should be able to guess who he is."

Queeny frowned.

"Your trusted subordinate?"

"Yes."

Clinton paused for a moment, took another sip of coffee, and continued, "He is also a member of the Zaccardi family. His name is Lance Zaccardi, and he grew up beside me. I treated him as my son and friend, and I taught him everything he knew by myself. I thought he would always stay with me and be loyal to me, but later he met your mother."

"The marriage of every member in the Zaccardi family needs to be approved by the family. Your mother didn't have a good family background. The family didn't agree to their marriage, but he eloped with your mother."

Speaking of this, he smiled helplessly.

"Young people are always energetic and impulsive. I sent someone to look for him at that time, but he knew me as well as I knew him. He hid, and I really couldn't find him out."

"It took me five years to finally find him, but he was sick and soon died at that time."

Queeny frowned.

Somehow, she felt that something was wrong.

She asked, "What a coincidence! According to you, he must have been a healthy person before. Why

did he die a few years after he left you?"

Clinton smiled.

"You are really smart. It seems that I can't hide anything from you."

He reached to make another pot of coffee. He said slowly, "You are right. There is indeed a reason for

his death."

Queeny was nervous.

Clinton looked up at her and smiled, "Do you suspect that I killed him?"

Queeny clenched her fingers and managed to smile.

"No. you just said that you didn't find him in the past few years."

Clinton shook his head with a smile, "You're not telling the truth. You obviously suspect me in your

heart, but it doesn't matter. It's destined. It doesn't matter even if I tell you the truth."

He paused for a moment, and his eyes became very serious and calm.

"He died of a kind of hereditary disease in the Zaccardi family, the one you had at your wedding."

Hearing this, not only Queeny but also Felix next to her were surprised.

Clinton continued, "When you had a relapse, your husband also saw found that it was a fatal disease. It

could kill us in a short time. It's a special inherited disease of the Zaccardi family. To control it, we have

developed a medicine that can only suppress it as long as you take it regularly. However, this medicine

is very precious and only for the people in the family."

"When your father worked for me in the past, of course, he had enough medicine. But he betrayed the

family and escaped, so of course, he had no medicine after that."

"In the beginning, he could find some medicine from his friends. But it was a valuable product.

Everyone in the Zaccardi family needed it, and no one could provide it for him over the years."

"That's why he died naturally after he had no medicine. That's the reason for his death. "

After Clinton finished, there was a short silence in the room.

Queeny pursed her lips. Felix held her hand under the long table. The warm and broad palm wrapped

her little hand. Only then did she feel a little warm.

She looked up at Clinton.

"So what do you want us to do this time?"

Clinton was very satisfied with her attitude. Even when she heard about the death of her biological father, she didn't get too excited.

Calmness and smartness, this was what he liked.

He leaned back and said leisurely, "It's very simple. Let's make a deal."

"What deal?"

"Help me find something. I'll provide you with medicine to stop your disease."

As soon as he finished speaking, Queeny refused without hesitation, "No."

Clinton's eyes narrowed slightly, "You refused before you heard what I asked you to find?"

Queeny said in a low voice, "Now that you can sit here and order York, it means that you are absolutely superior to him. The whole Zaccardi family crosses several continents and is the biggest underground force in the world. Something you can't find must be extremely difficult to find."

"And now you want us to help you find it, but you only give me some medicine that can temporarily stop my disease. What if we find it? Should I ask you for the medicine all my life? "

Hearing this, Clinton was surprised for a moment and then smiled.

"Interesting! What an interesting girl!"

Chapter 932 Treasure Evaluation Party

He had lived for so many years and had not seen such an interesting person for a long time.

"You are right. It is indeed difficult to find such a thing that I need. Then let's change the deal. Tell me what you want."

Queeny said seriously, "I want my disease to be completely solved."

Clinton squinted.

"Do you want me to cure it for you?"

"Yes!"

Clinton was silent for a while and then burst into laughter.

"You are too naive. If there were really a way to cure this disease in the world, do you think that the people of the Zaccardi family would still be troubled by this disease for so many years?"

Hearing this, both Queeny and Felix were depressed.

"You mean there is no cure?"

"No."

The atmosphere in the room suddenly became depressing, and the three of them did not speak anymore.

Clinton was not in a hurry. He just sat there and watched them quietly. It seemed that they had started a seesaw battle.

After a while, Felix asked, "What do you want us to find for you?"

Clinton smiled, "The Celestial Book."

...

It was already noon when they came out of the manor.

The two didn't stay any longer at the family party of the Zaccardi family. After coming out, they took a ship and left the island.

Ford picked them up on the shore. As soon as they got off the ship, they got on the plane and flew back to Lanceham.

When they arrived at the castle, it was three o'clock in the afternoon.

Donald ordered the chef to cook food for them. The two were worn out. After lunch, they took a rest and began to recall what happened today.

Queeny took out the Celestial piece that she had bought from the auction before, put it in her hand, and looked at it carefully for a while. Then she said, "We didn't understand why the people of the Zaccardi family took it out for auction before. Now we know that they have planned it for a long time."

Felix didn't look happy.

"They sent it to us on purpose. The auction was enterable for everyone, but in fact, it was prepared for us."

Queeny nodded and sighed.

"Why are they looking for this thing? I don't think that Clinton seems to believe these rumors about immortality. He seems to be a celestial being. Why does he have interest in this thing?"

Felix sneered and didn't think so.

"Sometimes, the more extraordinary a person looks, the more greedy he is. I don't think he is a good man."

Queeny paused and turned to him, "Then why did he send it to us? And why did he choose us to find the rest pieces for him?"

Felix said calmly, "It's very simple. It's not convenient for him to do it for some reason. We have connections and power, and you have to ask him for help because of your illness. So we are the best choice. As for why he gave it to us..."

He took the piece and looked at it carefully.

"Maybe he wants us to observe and study it?"

Then he shook his head and said, "I don't know."

Queeny sighed.

"What should we do now?"

Felix thought of this. After a while, he said, "Let's find them out for him."

"How? The world is so big. We don't have any clue. He only gave us four months."

When they left, Clinton gave them the medicine for four months and ordered them to find all the twelve pieces within four months.

According to what he said, he had five pieces in his hand now, and there was one in Felix's hand. Now they had six pieces in total. That was to say, there were still six pieces scattered in the world.

Many people had believed that it was a magical treasure that could bring people back to life, so they were looking for it. However, after searching for so long, few people could find the pieces.

So it was not easy to find six pieces in just four months.

Thinking of this, Queeny frowned.

Felix turned to look at her with a smile.

"Don't worry. There's always hope. According to him, it will be of great use to collect the twelve pieces. I guess not only him knows this news, so let's have a try and see who will fight for the treasure. I can make sure that someone who is seeking it must have one or two pieces. Then we will carefully observe and make a move to take them from those people."

Queeny thought for a while and nodded.

"Maybe this is the best way at present."

Feeling her worry, Felix comforted her and held her in his arms.

"Don't be afraid. The problem will be solved. You will be fine. Nothing bad will happen to us."

Leaning against his chest, Queeny nodded and closed her eyes.

Three days later, there was a treasure evaluation party in Lanceham.

This party was held by Irvin, the son of Lanceham's richest man.

Irvin was a well-known playboy in Lanceham, who had done all kinds of funny things. Therefore, when he held this treasure evaluation party where rich people could show their wealth, everyone was not surprised.

Some of them were curious about what treasures he had found recently and why he was so eager to show them off to everyone.

After all, it was well known that although Irvin was a playboy and liked to show off, whenever he showed off, he would have a real treasure that ordinary rich people would never see.

Therefore, no matter how those people complained, they would come to have a look.

The treasure evaluation party would be held in the biggest hotel of the Kaye family.

On the day of the party, there were a lot of guests, and almost all the famous people came. The hall was full of people toasting and bustling

With a glass of wine in his hand, Irvin leaned against the back of a sofa and smiled when he looked at the bustling scene downstairs. "Felix, I've called all the famous people in Lanceham here. What do you want to do? Just tell me!"

No one had expected that the treasure evaluation party held by Irvin was actually started by Felix.

With a glass in his hand, Felix also looked at the people downstairs.

There was no expression on his face, and he was still cold and indifferent. However, the dazed eye showed that he was absent-minded now.

Irvin nudged him on the arm and asked, "Hey, what treasure do you want me to show off at this party?"

It's time to tell me, isn't it?"

Felix glanced at him.

"The Celestial Book."

"What?"

Irvin was taken aback, "Didn't you get it at the auction?"

Felix nodded.

"It seems that many people are interested in it. I'll show it to everyone today."

Chapter 933 Damage His Reputation

Irvin was speechless.

He forced a smile, "Bro, are you kidding? Do you really think the legend is true? To be honest, I feel that someone made the story to fool those idiots. Don't damage my reputation."

Felix snorted and said, "Your reputation?"

"What? You look down upon me?"

Felix didn't say anything, but his expression showed his meaning.

Irvin was provoked. When he was about to talk back, someone patted him on the shoulder.

"Mr. Kaye!"

He turned around and saw a middle-aged man with a big belly.

The man was named Malcolm Dalton. He was a local real estate businessman in Lanceham. He had met Felix at a banquet before, so they knew each other.

Malcolm smiled and greeted, "Mr. Kaye and Mr. Bissel, nice to see you here."

Irvin nodded, "What's up?"

Malcolm handed over a document in his hand with a flattering smile on his face, "Mr. Kaye, I'm sorry

that several of my subordinates who didn't know you refused your request when you wanted to buy the land you were interested in last time. I have already punished them severely. This is the land transfer agreement. Please sign it."

Irvin squinted slightly.

He smiled, "Mr. Dalton, what do you mean?"

Malcolm smiled with trepidation, "Mr. Kaye, I know you don't think highly of my small business, but this is my gift. Please don't mind..."

Irvin interrupted him before he could finish his words.

Irvin said seriously, "Mr. Dalton, I think you must have misunderstood me. I did intend to buy your land for the development of the amusement park, but after a second thought, I found that the position is not suitable, so I changed my mind. I appreciate your kindness. As for this land, you'd better take it back."

Malcolm was confused.

Irvin continued, "Besides, the Kaye family is running the business according to the law. We are not bandits. Even if I really want to buy your land, I will go through legal channels and formalities. You don't need to do this."

Irvin didn't want to disappoint Malcolm, so he said this in a gentle voice.

Malcolm immediately nodded and said, "I see. Thank you, Mr. Kaye. Thank you."

Irvin forced a smile and waved his hand.

After Malcolm left, Felix asked, "What happened?"

Irvin sighed.

"Oh, it's a small business. Recently, my father agreed to let my mother's brother work in the company.

After he came to the company, he always takes advantage of his power to bully people and does some

shady things. I was looking for a piece of land some days ago. I choose Malcolm's land at that time, but

we didn't intend to purchase it. My uncle heard it somehow. He must have threatened Malcolm, so

Malcolm comes to me in a panic to say sorry."

Felix frowned.

"There will be trouble if you keep such a person in the company."

Speaking of this, Irvin also had a headache.

"Yes, you are right. But he is my mother's brother. You know my mother well. If I really drive my uncle

away, she will cry and bother me. Then it will be the bigger trouble."

Felix didn't want to talk about this anymore.

After all, it was Irvin's family affair. As a friend, it was enough for him to remind Irvin with kindness.

If he talked more about this, he would become a busybody.

Thinking of this, he looked into the hall.

The guests were almost there. Felix looked at the time. It was eight o'clock in the evening. He said in a

deep voice, "Let's start."

Irvin nodded and said, "I'll start the party now."

"Okay."

After Irvin left, Queeny came over.

Behind her was the Ford. Ford held an antique wooden box, in which there was the piece of the

Celestial Book.

She asked, "Are you going to take it down now?"

Felix nodded.

Queeny didn't say anything more and followed him downstairs.

At eight o'clock, the treasure evaluation party began.

Many people had complained that Irvin liked to show off his wealth and they were quite disdainful of the

treasure evaluation party, but when it really began, everyone's attention was attracted.

At this time, the host hadn't shown up on the stage yet. Everyone sat in their seats and whispered,

guessing what kind of treasure would be shown today.

It was not until a light was lit up on the stage and a huge projector started working on the white curtain

that the hall gradually quieted down.

There was only a beam of white light on the stage, and the rest of the lights were off, and the hall was

silent.

The clattering sound of high heels came, and a female host in a formal dress walked onto the stage.

The white light followed her until she finally stopped at a place on the left side of the stage.

"Good evening, everyone."

With her announcement, the grand party officially began.

After a brief introduction, the host began to get to the point, introducing the treasure that would be

shown tonight.

"I think many people present have heard of and are very interested in the treasure that will be shown today. That's the Celestial Book. It is the most popular treasure with the rich people in recent years."

As soon as she finished speaking, another white light shone on the right side of the stage. Everyone found that there was a glass showcase, in which a small white piece was displayed. It was just the Celestial Book.

Many people had seen this piece at the auction.

They had no time to take photos at that time, which was really a pity. They had thought that they would never have the chance to see it again in their lives, but they didn't expect to see it here.

The crowd started to discuss.

The host continued, "As we all know, the reason why the Celestial Book is called a legendary treasure is that it is said to have the effect of resurrection and immortality. This treasure was bought by Mr. Felix Bissel half a year ago. After his careful study, he found that there are a total of twelve pieces, and we are displaying only one piece."

As soon as she finished her words, the people here were shocked and talked more loudly.

The host didn't say anything. She gave the audience some time to react, and then she continued to introduce it.

"Many people once doubted whether the rumor about the Celestial Book is true or not. Although we are not sure about it yet, after the careful investigation and checking many ancient books, we found that if we gather all the twelve pieces of the Celestial Book, something magical will definitely happen."

"There is no accurate answer to the question if it can bring people back to life or make people have a long life, but after the scientific research, we found that this piece is made of a kind of material that we have never seen on earth."

Chapter 934 Share It with Everyone

"It is said that the Celestial Book is made of jade, but it is not true. It is glittering and translucent all over, similar to jade, but in fact, it is made of a kind of special material, not jade. Some people guessed that it was just this unknown mysterious material that causes the magic effect. Therefore, it can be seen that the rumor is not false."

"And today, Mr. Bissel is willing to show this treasure to everyone and invite you to study and observe it. Such a big event is really difficult to be done by only one person because the twelve pieces are

scattered to every corner of the world. No one can find all of them alone."

"All of you present today are famous figures in the world. Mr. Bissel hopes to invite you to join this event to look for the pieces of the Celestial Book. If anyone finds any of them or provides useful clues, you can share the benefit after all the pieces are gathered!"

After the host finished her words, all the people present were still in a daze, unable to react for a long time.

What did she mean?

Felix invited everyone here to find the Celestial Book together? And they could share the benefit after it was found?

What a great event, but was it true?

Many people present believed that Felix wouldn't tell lies.

Therefore, they were all excited.

At this time, the host invited Felix to give a speech on the stage.

Felix walked onto the stage.

In fact, he didn't have anything to say. The reason why Clinton gave him the task was that he now had the greatest influence in the underworld.

Now the Zircon Association was defeated. Except for the Zaccardi family, the biggest force was the Dragon Club. Clinton couldn't find anyone else except for Felix to finish this job.

He looked at the audience under the stage and said in a deep voice, "What the host just said is basically what I want to say. All the friends who want to figure out the real effect of this treasure can provide me valuable clues, or directly offer me the pieces he or she has. You don't have to doubt my words. I can make a promise with my name that as long as anyone has made a contribution to this event, I will never forget this. In the future, when the twelve pieces are gathered, he or she will definitely be able to see the true face of the treasure."

Someone immediately asked, "Just to see it? Can we get a share?"

"Yes. After all, we give you the pieces. We should also have a share of it, right?"

Felix looked at them indifferently with a cold smile on his face.

He said loudly, "We don't know what the Celestial Book will be after all the pieces are finally gathered, so I really can't promise you what you'll get. By that time, all the people who provide clues or donate

pieces can share the benefits, and I promise you that everyone can witness this result."

"What's more, even if you don't give me the pieces you have, it is just an ordinary plaything and really useless before you gather all the pieces. It's a waste of its own value. And perhaps because of the missing piece, it is very likely that this secret will be buried forever and no one will know it."

"You are all smart and know how valuable the treasure is. I believe that you don't want this secret to be covered forever and the treasure to be useless. I hope you can work together with me to find it and witness the miracle. What do you think? "

As soon as he finished speaking, there was silence.

No one spoke for a long time.

Looking at the silent crowd, Felix paused for a moment and then said, "If you are not satisfied with this, I can promise you something else. Anyone who has made a contribution to this matter can make a request to me. As long as it doesn't break my principles, I can promise everything. This promise is valid until all the pieces are found. Welcome everyone who gives me clues."

As soon as he said this, the crowd became noisy.

Many people began to talk in the hall.

After saying that, Felix didn't stay on the stage any longer.

He got off the stage and walked to Queeny, who was sitting in the first row. The two looked at each other and didn't say anything. They already knew what they were thinking.

Finally, the host announced that everyone now could observe the piece from a close distance. But for safety, they had to wait in line. They were not allowed to touch it or open the glass display case. They could only observe it through the glass.

This time, everyone was eager to have a try.

Irvin was also curious after hearing what Felix said.

He didn't know about the deal between Felix and Clinton. He thought that Felix really believed that the Celestial Book could bring the dead back to life.

He nudged Felix and asked with a smile, "Hey, is this thing really so magical? It sounds like a fairy tale.

Can it really bring the dead back to life?"

Felix glanced at him.

He said in a deep voice, "Don't make a random guess if you don't know it."

Irvin snorted and said in a low voice, "We are all young people living in modern times. We can't be superstitious."

Queeny couldn't help interrupting him, "It's not what we want. It's the Zaccardi family who asked us to look for it."

Irvin was stunned and then turned serious.

The Zaccardi family

When Stephan said those words last time, he was also at the scene. Of course, he knew that as long as the Zaccardi family was involved, everything would be complicated.

He frowned, looked at Felix and Queeny, and asked, "What do you mean? Have you gone to the Zaccardi family? What did they say?"

Felix had no choice. He knew that Irvin would keep asking if he didn't make it clear.

So he told this matter to Irvin. He told Irvin that they had gone to find York in the Zaccardi family, and then was led to the garden behind by York. They had seen Clinton Zaccardi and they had made a deal with him.

Irvin sat there in shock, unable to react for a long time.

He gasped and looked around to make sure that no one could hear the three of them talking. Then he

lowered his voice and said, "You mean that the real leader of the Zaccardi family is actually not York,

but another person called Clinton?"

Felix nodded.

"Why? Then who is it? Isn't York the head of their family? Why does another person suddenly appear?"

Queeny rubbed her forehead with a headache.

"We don't know either. We only know that the man seems to have a higher position than York because

York is very respectful to him. Besides, York seems to be fifty or sixty years old, and that man looks

only about thirty years old."

Chapter 935 People Are Greedy

"Generally speaking, no matter how capable Clinton is, he should still be considered a junior. I don't

know why York is so respectful to him, just like to his ancestor."

Irvin chuckled.

"What if Clinton is really his ancestor?"

Felix frowned and looked at him.

"Don't talk nonsense. The matter of the Zaccardi family is very complicated. What we see now is only the tip of the iceberg. Maybe there is a deeper secret. Don't spread it everywhere, and just pretend that you haven't heard it."

Irvin zipped his mouth and made an OK gesture.

"Got it."

They talked in a low voice, and on the other side, the people who went to see the treasure had finished their observation.

After the host announced the end of the party, everyone left with an unsatisfied look.

Felix and Queeny also left.

No one expected that the real host of the treasure evaluation party held by Irvin was actually Felix.

And Felix even announced such a piece of sensational news.

Everyone had a complicated mood, and at the same time, many people were eager to find the pieces.

After all, it was a magic treasure that was made of the material in the space. Everyone wanted to find out the secret.

At this time, Felix and Queeny were in the car back to the castle.

It was very quiet in the car. The driver was Ford. There was no one else except Felix and Queeny.

Queeny asked worriedly, "Felix, do you think it will work? Will anyone really give us any clue?"

Felix replied in a low voice, "They will."

"Why are you so sure?"

Felix turned his head to look at her, and he looked confident.

"Because people are greedy."

"Greedy?"

"Yes, everyone knows the legend of this treasure, but they didn't know that it had twelve pieces at that

time, and it needed all the twelve pieces to make it work. Now they all know that. In the face of such a

big temptation, no one can control the desire to know the final result. As long as they know the clues,

they will definitely give them to us."

Queeny was silent.

After a while, she said, "I'm just a little worried. I'm afraid that this matter will cause a bloody storm like

it was five years ago."

As she spoke, she turned her head and looked out of the window. She was lost in thought as if she was looking somewhere far away through the heavy fog.

Felix reached out and held her hand.

He said in a deep voice, "No, it won't."

His voice was low and hoarse, and his words were so reliable that they could give Qunney a sense of relief.

"Let bygones be bygones. Now, we are stronger than before. No matter how big the storm is, we don't have to be afraid."

Queeny turned around and saw his firm eyes. She smiled.

The car stopped in front of the castle soon.

The black gate opened. Just as the car was about to drive into the castle, a voice suddenly came from not far away.

"Wait! Mr. Bissel, please wait!"

The two were stunned. Felix told Ford to park the car first. Then they turned around and saw a middle-

aged man running towards them.

It was Malcolm Dalton, who came to Irvin and wanted to give Irvin the land.

Felix rolled down the window and looked at him.

"Mr. Dalton, what's up?"

With a friendly smile on his fat face, Malcolm nodded and bowed, "Mr. Bissel, do you remember what you said at the party?"

Felix smiled, "Of course. Do you have any clue about it?"

Malcolm wiped the sweat on his forehead and smiled, "Yes, I do. If you want to know, I'll tell you right away."

Felix squinted his eyes.

Instead of asking him to speak now, he ordered Ford, "Open the gate and let Mr. Dalton come in."

Then he turned to Malcolm outside the window and said, "Mr. Dalton, if you don't mind, go inside and have a drink. We can talk inside."

Malcolm was overjoyed and said, "Okay, thank you, Mr. Bissel."

In Lanceham, Malcolm was not weak, but meanwhile, he was not a powerful businessman.

His real estate business had always been tepid. He had made a lot of money, but he also had lost a lot.

Therefore, after so many years of effort, he still hadn't been able to enter the list of rich men. At most, he had some money and minor fame.

If it had been in the past, he wouldn't have made friends with Felix.

It was even more impossible for him to come to this castle.

But today was different.

Felix had said that anyone who provided useful clues could make a request to him.

As long as it didn't break his principles, he would fulfill this request.

This was also a great temptation to the people like Malcolm.

To ask Felix to fulfill a request was the quickest way for the nameless people to become famous.

Definitely, people at the party were all interested in this promise.

When Felix said that he was willing to share the benefit with everyone, the audience's reaction was calm.

But when he said that he was willing to owe them a favor and fulfill their request. The crowd became

excited.

At this time, Malcolm got in the car carefully. The car drove all the way into the castle. After they entered, the scenery inside was beyond Malcolm's imagination, and he looked around shockingly all the way.

He couldn't help but sigh in his heart. He had long heard that the Bissel castle was beautiful, and now he knew that what they said was true.

The car stopped in front of a building. Ford opened the door for them, and the three got off. Felix made an invitation, "Mr. Dalton, please come in."

Malcolm had never thought that he would be treated like this by someone like Felix.

He hurriedly said thanks. The three of them walked into the room. After they sat down, Donald had already made coffee for them. Felix took a sip of it and then asked, "Mr. Dalton, you just said that you have some clues about the Celestial Book?"

Malcolm, who was drinking coffee, hurriedly put the cup on the table and nodded nervously, "Yes."

"What clues? Tell me."

Malcolm explained nervously.

It turned out that he paid attention to the Celestial Book after he heard of its magical effect.

But he knew he was not powerful enough to get it. Anyone who was not powerful enough would suffer if they suddenly got a treasure that the powerful guys wanted. Even if someone was willing to give it to him, he would not dare to take it.

Therefore, he just paid attention to it casually and never thought that he would find it one day.

But God blessed him. The more one wanted to find something, the more difficult it would be for him to find it.

And, the person who didn't need it would easily find it by accident.

Chapter 936 The Curse of Fate

When Malcolm Dalton was traveling in Ambario, he passed by a small village and heard that there was a man who liked to collect antiques. The man was in his nineties, but still physically strong. When he was young, he traveled around to collect antiques. When he became old, he moved from the city to the countryside with his great-granddaughter, because he didn't like the polluted air in the city.

Malcolm also liked to study antiques and could be regarded as an enthusiast. So, he visited the old man in order to see a few antiques that he was interested in.

The old man didn't turn him away but received him warmly, and generously showed him the good stuff he had.

As a highly respected person in this field, the old man waited patiently for Malcolm to look at his antiques before he put the things away.

He was even kind enough to keep Malcolm for a meal before he let him go.

When Malcolm was just about to leave, he saw that piece of jade.

According to him, the jade was casually placed on an age-old table among other small items that seemed invaluable, a place you might barely notice.

Those things, including the jade, released an earthy smell as if they were recently dug out from the earth.

He wondered why the old man didn't see the value of the jade, or maybe he had no interest in that kind of thing at all. The jade was just laid there, even with uncleared dirt on it.

When he saw it, he was about to leave. He wanted to observe carefully, but he needed to catch a flight, so he couldn't stay any longer.

In addition, the old man had no intention of keeping him longer, so he had to leave.

Since he just took a glance at it, so he couldn't be a hundred percent sure that thing was Celestial

Book.

Therefore, he thought he'd just give it a shot, and told Felix Bissel about it.

After hearing it, Felix was silent for a few seconds.

He looked at Malcolm Dalton and asked, "The old man you just mentioned, what is his name?"

Malcolm said, "Quill, and I don't know his first name. I only know that most people called him Old Quill,

and the locals who respect him would call him Mr. Quill."

Felix nodded.

"All right, thank you for the information. I will contact you after I verify it. By that time, you can tell me

what you want."

Malcolm promptly stood up and expressed his gratitude.

"Thank you, Mr. Bissel, I don't want anything. It's my greatest honor If I could help you."

Felix smiled and said nothing.

He let Donald send him out and then discussed it with Queeny.

"What do you think about what he said? Do you think it is true?"

Queeny pondered and said, "I don't think he will lie to us. He is a very honest person. And he has a good reputation these years. Besides, he would not dare to lie to you. As for the truth..."

She paused and laughed, "Who knows? We will see when we go there and see it."

Felix nodded, "Then let's leave for Ambario tomorrow."

Queeny was a bit surprised. "So soon?"

"Of course, I have already released the news about Celestial Book. Now everyone knows that this thing has twelve pieces. Except for Clinton Zaccardi and us, there must be other people who want to collect them.

Since Malcolm disclosed this news to us, there's no guarantee that he won't tell others. So, we must get there first."

Queeny came to understand and nodded, "Okay, then I'll pack up immediately."

"Great."

After Queeny went upstairs, Felix had Ford arrange transportation for the trip the next day, and meanwhile, he called Mrs. McCarthy.

Mrs. McCarthy was a little surprised when she received his call.

Felix didn't conceal the reason why he was going to Ambario this time, because he knew that if he was in Ambario, they would know whatever he did.

To avoid suspicion, it's better to make it clear from the beginning.

It was a matter of Queeny's life and death. He didn't believe Mrs. McCarthy and Mr. McCarthy would just sit back and do nothing.

After Mrs. McCarthy heard it, sure enough, she immediately offered to help and urged them to come.

And She said she and Mr. McCarthy would arrange everything.

Felix hung up the phone.

As soon as he hung up the phone, Mrs. McCarthy pondered for a while, and then called Nancy to check on the old man, Mr. Quill.

Felix wouldn't arrive until the next day. Therefore, there were still over ten hours for her to collect some useful information, hopefully. And that would save them some time.

Since this matter was within Ambario, it's not difficult for Nancy to investigate.

Soon, she came back with the information.

According to Nancy's investigation, Mr. Quill was indeed a well-known antique dealer when he was young.

After decades of traveling, he had collected a bunch of good stuff. But his story was a catalog of misfortune. Maybe he got misfortune for dealing in antiques, maybe for some other reasons.

He had two sons and two daughters-in-law, and they all died one after another for some inexplicable reasons.

His wife also died very early. When Mr. Quill's son died, he left a child behind. So, Mr. Quill took the child with him to raise him. Later, the child got married and had a daughter.

As he thought that this family would finally be able to live in peace, this couple also died in a car accident, as if there was really a curse.

After they died, they left behind a girl named Fiona. Mr. Quill couldn't bear to see the little girl was left alone, so he brought her home and gave her a nickname, called Duffy because he hoped it could keep her from the misfortune.

In the countryside, everyone would not laugh if a boy had such a nickname.

But it was different for a girl.

Fiona never accepted her nickname. But Mr. Quill not only changed her name but also sent her to live with one of his friends in a village. While traveling around for business, he would visit her occasionally.

When he was in his advanced years and Fiona had grown up safely and turned eighteen, he decided to move back to the village and lived with his great-granddaughter.

But maybe there's really a curse of fate or something. Not long after the reunion, Fiona suddenly disappeared.

Yes, not died, but disappeared.

Chapter 937 Vanishing

The whole thing was quite a sensation.

After all, Mr. Quill was fairly well-known around the area, since the Quill family was probably the only one that had earned some fame outside the village.

Although everyone knew their fortunes weren't earned decently.

Over the past few years, however, the Quill family had done lots of good deeds for the village after making a fortune: they built bridges, roads, and schools and provided financial aid to those in need.

People should never judge others only by their bad deeds, but also by the good ones.

Surely, those so-called “bad deeds” did not harm their interests in any way, while people did benefit from his charities.

And that's why Mr. Quill enjoyed quite a reputation around, even more prominent than the chief.

After Mr. Quill's great-granddaughter went missing, many people joined the rescue team looking for her, however, no one found any trace of hers.

If she were dead, then at least the body should be found, but she just vanished.

Later, rumor had it that Mr. Quill accidentally killed an innocent man in his youth, and now karma coming back to bite him in the ass.

The ghost of his past mistakes had already claimed several lives of his offspring, and now he came back again to take his great-granddaughter Fiona away.

Too many wrongdoings had been made, but he was too tough to kill, so the retribution fell on his descendants.

As the rumors continued to spread, people's attitudes towards him began to shift.

Unlike the old generation who remained respectful to Mr. Quill, the young were not afraid of him.

They knew about his contributions, but those were already decades ago.

Nowadays with growing government expenditure on the public welfare, things started to get better in the village, and the donation from Mr. Quill seemed rather needless.

Because of that, he hadn't done much work in recent years, therefore the young generation felt unnecessary to fear him.

More and more malicious rumors became widespread.

Some naughty children even threw pebbles at his window in the middle of the night.

Mr. Quill had spent his whole life in the underworld with no one to trust. The disappearance of his great-granddaughter left the old man all alone in the great villa. There was nothing he can do with those broken windows.

The good news was that the adults would forbid the children from being way out of line, probably because they feared that the curse might come to their children.

Natalia couldn't help but frown as she listened to Nancy's reports.

As an atheist, she had always doubted the existence of ghosts.

But the unnatural death across several generations of the Quill family was indeed weird.

She pondered for a while and said, "Nancy, I want more details about the Quill family, see if you can find anything about Mr. Quill's past."

Nancy took her command and left.

Then Natalia went downstairs and told Mrs. Dottie to arrange a guest room.

After the arrangement had been made, Archie arrived.

Night had already fallen in Lanceham, but here in Egitin, it was only afternoon.

Due to an unscheduled meeting, Archie had to work overtime and didn't come back until half past seven.

Meals had been served, while Natalia and the children were still waiting for him.

Archie entered the room, slid his arm around Natalia's waist, and gave a soft kiss to her. Before he took off his jacket, he kissed his two kids, and then walked to the dining room with Anne in his arms.

"Everything fine today?"

He put Anne in the dining chair, Oliver on the table, and then asked.

Natalia did not respond.

Archie had an intuition that there was something wrong, so he looked up.

Natalia hesitated, "Let's have dinner first, then I'll tell you everything."

She had no wish to scare the children.

Archie understood and nodded without saying anything.

After they had an enjoyable dinner, Natalia helped Mrs. Dottie clear the table, had the servants take

Oliver and Anne to the bath, and then took a walk to the garden with Archie.

A newly-built gazebo in the garden was a good place to rest after dinner, for drinking tea and the whiff of flowers can freshen one up.

The dinner was a bit greasy, and a cup of tea made by Mrs. Dottie was exactly what Natalia needed.

She took a sip, then finally told Archie, "Felix called me today."

Archie was quite surprised at it.

"What news did he bring?"

Natalia frowned worriedly, "It was about Queeny. They met the man who ordered Stephan to meet

them and imparted the secret of Queeny's illness when attending the feast held by the Zaccardi

Family.”

Hearing this, Archie broke off.

“It wasn’t York Zaccardi?”

Natalia nodded.

As a man of keen observation, Archie knew it right away that York was not responsible for this, when

they sent Stephan Zaccardi to invite Felix to the feast.

First of all, York wasn't the type that likes to keep others guessing.

In addition to that, if he really wanted to meet Felix, he could have just shown up at the wedding,

considering everyone knew who he was.

Why would he go to such extraordinary lengths to lure Felix into meeting him?

There could be only one reason for doing so.

That is his identity may cause trouble if he should show up like this, so Felix had to go meet him.

It started to crease in his frown. He then asked, “What did they say?”

In a deep voice, Natalia said, “He met a man called Clinton Zaccardi. Currently, he has no idea what

kind of person he is, however, he is sure that Clinton has more power than York Zaccardi, because it

was York who led him to see Clinton.

And Clinton claimed to be willing to provide some medicine which can temporarily alleviate the symptoms of Queeny's illness, but on one condition."

Chapter 938 Teach One to Fish

With a solemn expression, Archie asked, "What is it?"

"To help him find the Celestial Book."

Surprised by her answer, Archie was very quiet for a minute.

"Didn't see that coming, did you?"

Archie shook his head.

"According to your description, he's far from old but with great power. Therefore, he was not supposed to be interested in immortality. Anyone with sanity could figure out, that the legend is nothing more than

a giant lie.

It worked as a bait that lured those who wish for immortality. In fact, there's no such thing as everlasting life in this world, and no one had ever found the secret of it. Therefore, he was either joking about finding the Celestial Book, or the Book itself had other effects rather than a mere Elixir."

Natalia nodded in agreement.

“I agree. On top of that, it's most likely that he has kept the truth a secret. And I have another wild guess.”

Archie turned to look at her, “Really? Tell me.”

“I wonder, could it be that he has planned the whole thing himself? When the Celestial Book first appeared and he asked Felix and Queeny to help him look for it, he actually has another purpose. In addition to that, those mysterious legends are, in fact, spread out by him.”

Her words caught Archie's attention, making him even more curious.

“So what are his purposes for doing so?”

Natalia grinned, “It's actually pretty simple. He said it himself. There are twelve pieces in total. Only when you piece them all together will the Celestial Book produce tremendous energy, and the miracle should happen. Now that he asks Felix to find the rest six pieces, which means he only has five in hand, six counting the one from Felix.

Over the years, he must have been searching for them himself, but he lost his patience.

He was too eager to find the rest, so he spread out words that the magical elixir did exist. It can bring the dead to life and make humans immortal. Thereby many people would “help” him look for it.

By then, news about the wonder would have begun to spread. Through sifting, he’ll be able to discern the credible ones. Sooner or later he will find all the pieces.”

Hearing this, Archie smiled appreciatively.

“That was brilliant. Maybe the five pieces he possesses now were also found in this way. Then why did he suddenly turn to Felix for help?”

Natalia shook her head.

“I have no idea, but I am pretty sure that he is becoming desperate. His deadline for Felix is four months, which means he needs the Celestial Book to be complete, in order to do something important four months from now. But it is absolutely impossible to achieve that goal himself, that's why he turned to Felix.”

For a moment, Archie lapsed into silence.

“I think you are right on point.”

Natalia giggled, “Of course I am!”

“Well, my Lia has that sparkle.”

She blushed scarlet because of his flirting words.

“Come on! Focus on the matter at hand.”

Archie laughed, “What, I ain't joking around, and I am telling facts.”

Then he wrapped his arm around her shoulder to cuddle.

Natalia leaned on his shoulder, looking up at the stars above, and signed.

“Queeny is such a nice and sweet girl, and nothing bad should ever happen to her. I really hope they can find this journey helpful.”

But Archie was not optimistic about it.

“You know, even if they had succeeded in getting the meds, it wouldn't make much of a difference, because they definitely won't give her meds for a lifetime. Once they stop their provision of services, she would be one foot away from death.”

His words left Natalia with a heavy heart.

She turned to him and asked, “Then what are we supposed to do? They say there's no cure for her

illness at present.”

Archie lowered his eyes and chuckled.

“Indeed, but the meds to alleviate it exists. The Zaccardi Family have lived with the illness for their whole life, but they're just fine by taking their meds on time. York has lived to sixty years old, and I don't think the illness has any side effects on him. I dare to say that he can even make it to 100.

Natalia frowned, “You mean ...”

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

Archie signed.

Enlightened by his words, Natalia sat up, “Ah! I see. So all we need is the prescription.”

Archie nodded.

“I'm gonna tell him about this right now.”

She hastily took out her phone, which gave Archie a wry smile.

Her phone being grabbed away, Natalia turned to him, “Why?”

Archie signed, “You silly girl, it isn't the right time! Wouldn't it be much more convenient and negotiable for us to wait till they've actually found anything?”

Natalia's eyes lit up.

"You're right! Alright, we'll see about that."

They talked for a while till it was late, and then they went to bed together.

The next day, the flight that Felix and Queeny were on landed at Eqitin Airport at noon.

Instead of going on their own, Natalia and Archie sent their trusted subordinates, Brian and Nancy, to the airport, representing themselves.

On the way to Pinewood Manor, Brian started to introduce the passing scenery to Archie and Queeny, out of concern that they might feel estranged in Ambario.

While Nancy was more acquainted with them, for she had accompanied Natalia and Archie to Lanceham once.

They were all in the best of spirits, laughing and chatting together.

Soon, the car parked in front of Pinewood Manor.

The four of them got out of the car, while Natalia had already heard the car engine from a distance and went outside. As anticipated, she saw several figures at the gate.

Chapter 939 Setting out to Fordtry

Natalia rejoiced at their coming, "Welcome to Eqitin."

She opened her arms wide to embrace Queeny.

Queeny beamed with pleasure as well, for she didn't expect to find a new clue so soon. Apart from that, meeting Natalia was also worth celebrating.

Archie was too busy working to greet the guests, but he had phoned in advance.

The couple said it was fine. They can discuss the important matter when he got off work.

When they entered, Mrs. Dottie had already prepared a palatable meal.

She had heard of Felix and Queeny. The last time when Natalia returned from Lanceham, Mrs. Dottie kept raving about the local produce she brought home.

On seeing them in person, she found them both good-looking and polite fellas, just as wonderful as Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy.

They settled down in the dining room. Oliver and Anne had to attend school today, so they weren't at home.

After lunch, Natalia showed them around Eqitin. Felix was quite familiar here, because of the Felix family.

This was, however, the first time for Queeny to set foot in Ambario, so she was curious about everything.

The three of them took a walk around leisurely. Then they came to the Bissel Properties premises.

Natalia chuckled, "Well? You're gonna invite us to your place or not?"

Although Felix had already taken over most of the business at the Bissel Properties, he seldom showed up in this building.

He still held hatred for the Bissel family, because of his mother.

Though Ein Bissel had been trying to please him, the hatred wouldn't fade away easily.

Therefore, he looked sideways at Natalia and said, "Go alone if you want. After all, you're the expert here."

Noticing his sulks, Natalia chuckled, "Well well, I'm not exactly an expert when you're around. Alright, that's fine with me if you don't feel like it. But since Queeny's here, wouldn't it be nice for the future Mrs.

Bissel to pay a visit to her territory?"

On hearing this, it finally occurred to Felix, so he quickly turned to Queeny.

Surely Queeny knew his issues with the Bissel family, so she didn't want to force him.

She smiled and said, "Not today. We still have plenty of places to visit, so no need to waste time on this."

Seeing that the couple is in tune with each other, Natalia can only shake her head and sign.

"You two lovebirds ... Nevermind, just pretend that I'm not even here!"

Queeny chuckled and blushed.

The three of them hung around, and then went to the McCarthy Properties at six.

Natalia phoned Archie to see whether he had left work, so that they could pick him up.

A few minutes later, Archie showed up.

Having made a reservation in Flat Iron Steak House, they decided to dine out tonight.

After they were seated, Natalia ordered some food for them. While waiting for the dishes, they started talking about their mission.

"Remember Mr. Quill? Lia looked into him yesterday, and I believe you have already known all the details. Today I happened to know that my grandma is an acquaintance of him. On the phone, she told

me that she could introduce us to him, so I'll accompany you guys to see him then."

Archie said casually, but his words made Queeny's eyes gleam.

"Really? That's great!"

In the afternoon, Natalia had already shared the information with them in the car.

They had been worried that Mr. Quill might not be willing to help them if they just showed up at his house unannounced.

Now with an introduction from the old Mrs. McCarthy, they might succeed with fewer efforts.

However, Archie said, "Don't be too optimistic. As far as I know, Mr. Quill has changed a lot since his great-granddaughter's disappearance. He is not a fine one to talk to, so we can't be sure that he'll let us have the jade even with the help of my grandma."

Felix's brow furrowed, "I don't care. I'll do anything to have my hands on it."

Archie nodded, "Let's see if we can negotiate with him first. If things get tough, we'll think of another way."

When the meals are served, they changed the subject and started eating.

Having a cheerful moment, they went home by car. The guest room had been well-prepared by Mrs.

Dottie.

It was getting pretty late, and they had to set out early the next day. So Felix simply made a phone call to the old Mrs. and Mr. McCarthy, expressing his appreciation for their help, and then went to sleep.

The next day, after Archie had made proper arrangements for work, he went to Fordtry along with them.

Located in south Ambario, Fordtry is a frontier town with much-developed tourism.

The village where Mr. Quill lived was called Warlington, right in Fordtry.

Warlington used to be highly prosperous with nearly ten thousand households, which was a large population at that time.

Later, as the economy developed in towns, young people left in droves, leaving fewer people in the village. Now with the depressing economy, those who stayed struggled to get by through handcrafting and tourism.

When the four of them arrived in Warlington, it was only afternoon. Under the guidance of a local resident, they came to Mr. Quill's villa.

As the only family in the village that owned a magnificent villa, there was no difficulty for them to find the Quill family.

A building with red tiles and white walls appeared in front of them. The villa was quite large, but the door was locked and there were no other people around. Behind it was a hill. Through the garden wall, they could see the flowers and trees inside. Perhaps there had been no one to trim the plants for a long time, many of the leaves turned yellow, making the whole villa more desolate.

Felix knocked and asked.

“Anyone home?”

There was no response at all.

He knocked again, but there was no sound of movement at all, as if no one had lived here.

He turned to the local guidance, “Are you sure that Mr. Quill is at home?”

The guileless middle-aged man scratched his head, “Yeah I suppose. He's growing older and has poor eyesight, so he rarely goes out. He should be at home at this hour of the day. That's odd.”

Unwilling to give up, he knocked again, shouting in the local dialect.

After a while, finally there came an echo behind the door.

It was an old man's voice, a deep and croaky yet powerful voice.

“Stop knocking! You’re gonna wake a dead man out of his tomb!”

The words were no sooner out of his mouth than the door was opened from the inside.

Chapter 940 Given a Hard Time

An old man with winter-white hair walking with a long walking stick appeared.

Ninety should be a ripe old age, no matter what health condition he's in. He was slightly hunchbacked,

and his face was covered with deep wrinkles. Those eyes seemed glassy, but he made a strict

expression to them.

“Well, I'm here now. What's the matter?”

The local guide explained to him at once, “Sir, these reputable guests come all the way from the city to

meet you. I'll leave you to chat with them. Now I must beg you to excuse me.”

Hardly had he finished when he fled the scene.

Mr. Quill paid no attention to him, but narrowed his eyes to check them out.

“Who are you people? What do y’all want from an old man like me, eh?”

Archie stepped forward and politely said, “Sir, I'm Mrs. McCarthy's grandson. I believe she has

mentioned that we are going to drop by today?”

Mr. Quill frowned at him immediately.

Having remained silent for a moment, he then sneered, “I know, you are coming for that precious, eh?

All right then, come in.”

He stepped back and let them in, the rest, however, had a distinct impression that he was rather

unwilling to do so.

Exchanging some glances, they finally walked into the house.

Natalia walked behind them all, so she was the one who shut the door, then followed Mr. Quill to the

living room.

“Your grandma did tell me about you, and I know you are actually coming for the jade. But let me be

honest with you, that is not jade at all! Do you think I don’t know those legends of its great effects? Like

bringing death to life or immortality.”

Speaking of it, he sneered.

“Immortality? What kind of fools would believe it? Maybe young people like you. When you get to my

age, you’ll know that’s total bullshit. I’ve seen all kinds of treasures, including the so-called elixir. As if it

would work! They are just imaginary stuff fabricated by us mortals with sinful lust.”

Natalia immediately nodded in agreement.

“You're absolutely right, Sir. I knew it at first sight, that you are a phenomenal person, and now I've been much enlightened by your words!”

Mr. Quill glanced at her and gave a loud snort.

“Girl, you are way too naive. You think if you say something nice to flatter me, I'm just gonna hand over it to you?”

Hearing his words, Natalia froze.

Felix, however, said calmly to him, “Since Mr. Quill knew our intention, there's no need to beat around the bush. Would you please just name your price?”

Unexpectedly, Mr. Quill shook his head, and dismissed them with a wave of the hand.

“Not a chance.”

“Excuse me?”

Natalia's face grew grave, and so did Queeny's.

All four put on a frown simultaneously.

Archie said to Mr. Quill, "Sir, the precious is of no use to you, but we need it to save one's life. We sincerely ask for a quarter for the sake of my grandma."

Mr. Quill sat down on a wooden antique chair, with one side of his mouth pulled up into a smirk.

"For the sake of your grandma? I did know her, but we haven't seen each other for god knows how long! Besides, she now is the noble old Mrs. McCarthy, and who am I to befriend her? I'm just a senile old man, ain't got nothing!

As for you brats, why should I care about your lives? I don't think it's my responsibility to save you.

People die every day, and if I had to save all of them, wouldn't I die of overwork?"

He seemed to be taking pleasure in talking like so, simply because Queeny's life was at stake.

Felix's face became eager.

Had it not been for Queeny who kept holding him back, he should have flipped the table, snatched the thing, and run.

He took a deep breath to hold his temper and said, "Sir, there's no need to resort to petty sarcasm to make your point. Please name your price, and I'll do whatever I can."

Archie followed, "I am also happy to do what I could, Sir."

Mr. Quill took a squint at them, then turned to Natalia and Queeny.

"What about you two?"

Natalia was dumbstruck, and so was Queeny.

They quickly made eye contact, and then Natalia said with a smile, "Your command is our wish. We'll do whatever you want, just name it."

Stroking his beard, Mr. Quill seemed to be quite satisfied with her words.

He thought for a moment, "Well, you two seem to be some hard-working fellas. How about doing my laundry, eh?"

No one had seen that coming.

Archie and Felix did not seem happy about it at all. They wouldn't even let their wives do their own

laundry, and now they have to do other people's?

Before they could make an objection, Natalia and Queeny interrupted.

"Sure, no problem. We're on our way."

Led by Mr. Quill, they headed to the backyard hand in hand.

At first, Natalia thought it wasn't a big deal. How many clothes could an old man have? Besides, how difficult could it be to wash clothes? Just put them in the washing machine, and then hang them up.

Easy peasy!

For the sake of Queeny's well-being, it was nothing.

By the time they reached the backyard, they were shocked by the number of dirty clothes.

There was a helluva lot of them!

Piles of clothes lay in a heap on the floor of the backyard, dirty as if they had been worn for months, for the stink of them offended their nostrils in the distance.

When the four were still disgusted by the smell, Mr. Quill pointed at the clothes and said, "There you go. Finish it before the sun goes down."

Noticing that Archie and Felix were about to lose their temper, Natalia hastily asked, "Sure thing! By the way, could you please show us where the washing machine is?"

As if he had just heard the most hilarious joke in his life, Mr. Quill widened his eyes, and then let out a sneer.

“Washing machine? Girl, you gotta be kidding me. We ain't got any of those fancy things here. Besides, my clothes are made of the most valuable yet delicate fabrics. If they were ruined, can you even afford to make up for me?”

Natalia's countenance fell.

“I’m sorry, we need to wash them by hand?”

“Of course! What? You would rather use your feet?”

Just as Archie was about to retort, Natalia held him back.

She took a deep breath and managed a fixed smile. "No problem, don't you worry about it. We assure you that we'll finish the laundry before the sun goes down."

Mr. Quill nodded with satisfaction to her good attitude, and then turned to Felix and Archie.