Kissed AOM 1631

Chapter 1631

"She didn't come with us. But let me talk to her to see if she's a kid of someone I know since she said she knows me. In the meantime, you should continue asking the guests in the other rooms if they have a child missing," said Corinne to the waiter.

The waiter thought it was feasible, so he nodded, left Lilin behind, and turned to the next private room to continue his search.

Corinne lowered her eyes and looked at the little girl whom she had no recollection of. "Why don't you come in?"

It was what Lilin wanted all along, so she immediately followed Corinne into the room, causing Benjamin to frown and pout.

Sunny noticed his expression, so he flicked his head and asked, "What are you thinking about?"

Benjamin came back to his senses and glanced outside worriedly. He had guessed that Jeremy was probably in the restaurant too, but he did not know how to tell Sunny, so he simply shook his head. Sunny thought he was acting a little weird but did not think much about it. He closed the door and took him back to the room.

Everyone was surprised when they saw Corinne bringing in a little girl.

"Boss, who's the girl?" asked Aaron.

Corinne shook her head. "I don't know, but she says she knows me."

Everyone's eyes were fixed on Lilin, whom they had never seen before.

Lilin did not care about the other people looking at her as she kept her eyes fixed on Corinne.

Corinne felt a little uncomfortable being stared at so intently. "Little girl, you said you know me. Can you tell me how you know me?"

Even then, Corinne still thought that Lilin had mistaken her for someone else.

Lilin stared at Corinne seriously. "I know you. My family has been looking for you all these years! Miss, don't you remember me?"

Corinne looked at Lilin's face carefully again, but she still had no impression of her. She shook her head. "Sorry, I don't remember you at all. You said your family has been looking for me? Why?" "To repay you!"

Corinne was even more puzzled. "To repay me? What for?"

"You saved my mother's life a few years ago. My parents have been looking all over for your whereabouts ever since, but they always came up empty-handed. I'm glad I finally found you!" explained Lilin hurriedly.

As she spoke, she held Corinne's hand tightly. It was obvious how excited she was.

Corinne still could not remember when she saved the little girl's mother's life. "Are you sure you didn't mistake me for someone else?"

Lilin shook her head vigorously. "No! I'm pretty sure it's you! Miss, you're so beautiful. I've never seen anyone more beautiful than you in my life. I can't possibly mistake you for someone else." Corinne's lips twitched. Lilin was quite the sweet-talker, alright.

"Boss, when did you do such an honorable deed behind our backs?" teased Aaron.

"Yeah, Corinne. You're quite the forgetful one, huh? How can you not even remember saving someone else's life?" asked Sunny.

Corinne glanced sideways at the two of them, then patted Lilin's shoulder very patiently.

"Little girl, please calm down first, and tell me slowly how I saved your mother's life."

Lilin nodded and started recounting that fateful day when Corinne saved Melinda's life.

Chapter 1632

"Miss, my name is Lilin Addison. About four years ago, my father and my mother had a fight. In a fit of anger, my mother ran away from home with me, but we got in a car accident. We were both sent to the hospital. I was lucky enough to escape unscathed from the car accident, but my mother needed an urgent blood transfusion to save her life.

"My mother's blood type is relatively rare, and there wasn't enough blood of the blood type in the hospital's bank at that time, so there was an urgent need for someone to donate blood to my mother.

"It was you who showed up in time to donate your blood to my mother that allowed the doctor to save her life. We found out you were still pregnant at the time, yet you didn't hesitate to donate your blood at all. After listening to Lilin's recount of the incident, everyone turned to look at Corinne with eyes of respect, love, and tenderness.

Corinne finally remembered what happened. She did not have enough blood at that time, and the nurse refused to draw her blood after hearing that she was pregnant, so she asked Lucas for help and asked him to donate some of his. She would never have thought of the matter again if no one had brought it up.

'What a coincidence to meet this little girl again in this restaurant,' thought Corinne.

"Oh, so you're that little girl! I remember now. How's your mother now?" she asked politely.

"Thanks to you, my mother has been in good health in the past few years, but she often regrets that she wasn't able to repay you properly. That's why I'm so happy that I've finally found you, and I'm sure my mother will be, too!" said Lilin.

Corinne had no intention to meet with Lilin's parents. She did not donate her blood to get a reward or credit. She just felt it was right to help someone in need.

"I'm glad to hear your mother is doing well. Forgive me, but I have no interest in meeting with her."

Lilin was a little disappointed. "But why not? My parents are here in this restaurant now, so you should go and meet them. You have no idea how much they wished they could've thanked you properly!" Corinne shook her head lightly. "No need to thank me. I don't want to interrupt their dinner either."

"You won't be interrupting! Miss, stay here. I'm going to tell my parents that you're here!" said Lilin determinedly.

After saying that, Lilin turned and tried to run out, but Corinne grabbed her arm. "Wait!"

"Miss, I know you want to remain anonymous, but my mother has always wanted to find you. I have to fulfill my mother's wish, so please understand!"

Corinne narrowed her eyes. "I'm not stopping you because of that."

"Then why did you stop me?"

Corinne scrutinized her carefully. "Didn't you just tell the waiter that you were lost? How can you know where your parents are now?"

"Uh... It suddenly came back to me!" said Lilin sheepishly.

Corinne was obviously not convinced by what she said. "So you're not going to tell me the truth?"

'How can I tell her the truth?' thought Lilin.

At that moment, the waiter came back and knocked on the door again.

"Come in," said Aaron.

The waiter hurriedly walked in. "Sorry to bother you again! We've found this little girl's family. They aren't in the private room upstairs but in the main dining hall downstairs. She must've gotten confused and ran upstairs. I'll take her back to the family now."

After saying that, the waiter stepped forward and took Lilin's hand. "Come with me, little girl! I'll take you back to your family!"

Chapter 1633

Seeing the waiter coming in to take Lilin away, Corinne loosened her grip on the little girl's arm and let the waiter lead her out.

After that, everyone told Corinne not to risk her own life to save strangers in the future and went back to eating.

However, Corinne was still skeptical about the whole thing. Lilin was obviously not a stupid child. In fact, she seemed intelligent and well-spoken. How could she not know where her table was? Something was fishy.

Just as she was thinking about it, she noticed Benjamin was sneaking out of the door when no one was paying attention.

She frowned but did not stop him. Instead, she calmly observed him, got up, and followed him out.

When Benjamin heard the waiter who had just come to pick up Lilin say that her family was in the lobby downstairs, he guessed that Jeremy might be among them. He wanted to go down and have a look. After he slipped out, he quickened his pace to chase the waiter and Lilin. In his haste, however, he missed a step and almost fell down.

Fortunately, someone behind him caught him in time.

'Thank god someone saved me, or I would've died!' thought Benjamin with shock. He turned and was about to thank the person who caught him when his eyes widened.

"Mom... Mommy! Why are you out, too?"

Corinne did not intend for him to find out that she followed him out. She wanted to see where he was going. However, she could not stand by and do nothing when she saw Benjamin was about to fall. "Where are you sneaking off this time?" she asked.

Benjamin started to panic. "I... I just want to go downstairs to have a look..."

Corinne narrowed her eyes sternly. "At what?"

"Just...to have a look..."

Corinne scoffed. "Tell me the truth now. You do know that girl just now, don't you? And that's why you wanted to go downstairs to have a look."

There was no hiding from Corinne anymore, so Benjamin answered honestly with a pout, "Yes... Mommy, nothing ever gets past you, huh?"

Corinne raised an eyebrow. "You know you can't hide anything from me, so why don't you tell the truth quickly? Who was that little girl? How did you know her?"

Benjamin lowered his eyes and sighed. "She's my aunt..."

'Aunt?' Corinne was a little surprised. "What do you mean? Is she Sophia's sister?"

Benjamin nodded. "Yes, she's Sophia's sister."

"I thought Sophia was Adam's only child? So where did her sister come from?" asked Corinne skeptically.

"They're half-sisters born to different mothers. Sophia was an only child before Lilin came along. Many people didn't know about Lilin and her mother because they liked to keep a low profile."

Corinne tried to process what Benjamin said. 'If the girl just now was Sophia's sister, then wouldn't her mother be Sophia's stepmother? In other words, the person I saved back then is Adam's current wife?'

Chapter 1634

Lilin was brought back to her table by the waiter.

"Hello. Your little girl lost her way upstairs! It was a good thing she didn't run into the traffic outside."

Melinda was surprised when she saw the waiter bringing back her daughter, and she became embarrassed. She smiled sheepishly at the waiter and said, "Thank you! Sorry for causing you trouble!" The waiter bowed very politely and said, "You're welcome. I'm just doing my job."

After saying that, he left them to finish their dinner.

After the waiter left, Melinda pulled her daughter and lectured her, "Lilin, what's the matter with you? Why did you run upstairs?"

"I... I was curious to see what's upstairs," answered Lilin with a pout.

Bryan-who was sitting next to Jeremy-glanced at Lilin guiltily, fearing she would betray him.

"I swear to god, that curiosity will be the death of you someday! How could you sneak upstairs without telling us? What if you meet a bad guy?" scolded Melinda.

"Mom! I'm not a little kid anymore! I can tell who's bad and who's good! Plus, there are more good people in the world than the bad!"

Melinda frowned. "Why, you little brat. Why are you becoming more rebellious?"

Adam put down his utensils and lectured his daughter on behalf of his wife, "Lilin, your mother's right! You'll never know who's really a bad person. Do you know that bad people like to kidnap and hurt little girls of your age because you're the easiest to lie to?!"

Lilin rolled his eyes at his father. "I'm not stupid, so I won't be deceived so easily! Anyway, I didn't meet a bad person today. In fact, I met a really nice person!"

Alarm bells immediately rang inside Melinda and Adam's minds when they heard the word 'really nice person'.

After all, bad guys with ulterior motives would pretend to be good guys to kids first so they would lower their guard. Thus, it was very likely the 'very nice person' Lilin mentioned might just be a bad person in disguise.

"What 'really nice person'?" asked Adam and Melinda in unison.

Sophia, who usually could not be bothered with Lilin's business, jumped in and sarcastically said, "Lilin, I think you just got tricked. You've met that person for a few minutes, so how can you be so sure the person is good? Don't tell me you think they're good just because the person gave you a few pieces of candy?"

Chapter 1635

Lilin glared at Sophia. "Only someone like you would be tricked by a few pieces of candy. I'm not a three-year-old, and I don't like candies either!"

Sophia smiled mockingly and said, "Is that so? Then tell us what the 'nice' person did to make you think that in just a few minutes."

Lilin scoffed. "Of course it didn't take just a few minutes to make me think she's a good person! I've known her for a long time, and I am very sure that she's a good person!"

Melinda could not but think Lilin was acting a little crazy, so she pulled her over uneasily and asked, "Out with it, Lilin. Who's this nice person you're talking about?"

Lilin tore her angry gaze away from Sophia to look at Melinda. She then explained nicely, "Mom, do you remember the woman who donated blood to you in the hospital after you got into the car accident? Well, I met her upstairs just now! Now, is she or is she not a very nice person?"

"What? Did you, really? It's been several years! Are you sure it's her?" asked Melinda with shock.

Lilin nodded confidently. "I'm very sure! I've already talked to her, and she also remembered that incident!"

Melinda was overjoyed. She turned to look at Adam excitedly. "Brian, did you hear that? The woman we've been looking for all these years is right here in this restaurant! This must be fate!"

Adam nodded. "You're right. It must be fate. I must take this opportunity to thank her properly for saving your life."

Sophia was a little unhappy and secretly sneered in her heart.

"Dad, don't you think it's a bit too coincidental? I mean, you've been looking for that woman for so many years to no avail, yet she suddenly appears out of nowhere? Lilin was only a few years old at the time, so how could she possibly recognize her after so many years had passed? She probably made a mistake or something."

"Are you doubting my memory? Even if you doubt my memory, didn't you hear what I just said, that the kind woman also remembered that incident? I wasn't mistaken!" said Lilin angrily.

Sophia shook her head. "Everyone wants to be a hero, so it's only natural she wouldn't tell you've mistaken her for someone else. Lilin, you must've told her about what happened back then without her prompting, and she just went along with it so that you'll think she's the person who saved Melinda's life. I think we should test her to see whether she's really who she says she is."

Lilin glared at Sophia with disgust. "What you said says more about you than her! It's only because that's exactly something you'd do, so you think that the world is full of people who think like you! The woman who saved Mom is very humble. I told her I'd get Mom and Dad to thank her personally, but she didn't even want to come down because she feared that Mom and Dad would reward her."

"Lilin, I'm only looking out for you. I'm worried that you, Dad, and Melinda would get tricked by unscrupulous people. You said that the woman was unwilling to come down to see Dad and Melinda. Well, have you ever thought that she's just playing hard-to-get? She must know that we'll go up to her after you tell us about her!"

Lilin was fed up with how manipulative Sophia was. "No! Stop talking. This has nothing to do with you. The person she saved isn't you but my mother!"

Sophia lowered her head to pretend that she was hurt. "Fine. I shouldn't have said so much. I thought we're all family here, but it seems like I'm still an outsider..."

Melinda looked embarrassed. "We do see you as family, Sophia! But you know how Lilin's temper is. I'm sure she didn't really mean what she said. I'll discipline her when we get back, so please forgive her."

Sophia took a deep breath and wiped her nonexistent tears. "It's okay, Melinda. I understand where Lilin's coming from. It's okay if she doesn't see me as her sister. My mother died early, so I've long been use to being alone."

It pained Adam to see Sophia so hurt and alone. "Lilin, how dare you talk to your sister like that? Hurry up and apologize to her this instant!"

Chapter 1636

"Dad, I'm telling the truth," said Lilin stubbornly. "I really found the woman who saved Mom's life! Why should I apologize to Sophia? I don't care if she's your favorite, but you shouldn't gang up with her to bully me! Hmph! If it's not because Mom still loves you, I would've cut ties with you already!"

Adam was incensed at Lilin for talking back to him. "Why, you!"

Melinda patted Lilin's shoulder. "Lilin, you shouldn't talk to your father like that!"

Although Lilin did not argue with Melinda, she did not apologize to Adam or Sophia either. Her expression was one of determination not to give in.

Looking at her, Adam felt that Lilin was exactly the same as when he was a child, and that softened him a little.

Thus, he simply frowned and said, "Okay, fine. I'll take your word for it. We'll go upstairs now to meet the woman. If she is the one who saved your mother's life back then, both your sister and I will apologize to you when we come down. However, if it turns out otherwise, you need to apologize to your sister. Do we have a deal?"

Lilin had a very stubborn temper. "Okay! Go ahead! I can guarantee that you'll know it's her when you see her!"

Adam stood up, straightened his clothes, and said in a sarcastic tone, "Then what are you sitting there for? Take us to her now."

Lilin crossed her arms and said angrily, "Why should I when you don't believe me? Just look for the private room with the name 'Evergreen'; you should find her there!"

Adam was amused by Lilin because her temper was so much like his younger self's.

"Make sure you stay here with Sophia. Don't run around anymore, okay?" said Melinda.

"Hmph. Okay. I'm hungry anyway," said Lilin as she picked up her utensils.

Melinda sighed and turned to Adam. "Shall we go up now? Maybe Lilin did bump into the woman who saved me all those years ago."

Adam nodded and put his arm around his wife's shoulders. "Okay, let's go."

Thus, the two of them went up to find Corinne.

Sophia watched them leave before turning to look at the smug Lilin. Somehow, she could not help but have a bad feeling about the whole thing, so she stood up uneasily and said, "Zachary, you stay here with Benjamin and Lilin. I'll go with them to make sure they don't get tricked."

Jeremy did not care about Sophia's family affairs at all. He nodded lightly and put some food on his plate for 'Benjamin'.

Sophia threw Lilin one more meaningful stare before quickly running upstairs to find Adam, leaving Jeremy alone at the table with two kids.

Bryan immediately relaxed after Sophia was gone. He looked at Lilin to ask whether she found Corinne upstairs, to which she gave him a very tidy nod.

Chapter 1637

Unfortunately, Lilin and Bryan's interaction did not escape Jeremy's notice. He looked at them and said very calmly, "You know you two can just say whatever you want to instead of making faces like that." Both Bryan and Lilin were stunned, and they looked at Jeremy sheepishly.

Bryan grinned awkwardly and said, "We... We're not talking about anything, Daddy!"

Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "There's no one else here now, so talk. Did the two of you cook up a plan to do something while you were in the restroom?"

Bryan knew Jeremy had seen through them, so he turned and exchanged glances with Lilin, asking her whether he should just tell Jeremy what happened.

Lilin was a very straightforward kid, so after thinking about it, she said, "Well, you're right, Zachary. We did cook up a plan to do something while we were in the restroom."

Jeremy looked at her. "Well, do elaborate."

"Actually... I already know Benjamin isn't really Benjamin and is someone else. When we went to the restroom just now, fake Benjamin here told me he heard his mommy's voice and wanted to go upstairs to find her. I didn't feel comfortable enough to let him go up alone, so I asked him to return to the table while I went up to look for his mommy on his behalf."

'What? That little rascal is here, too?' thought Jeremy with narrowed eyes. He did not expect that at all! "Then, have you found her?"

Lilin nodded. "I did! She's the woman who saved my mom's life!"

This was another piece of news that shocked Jeremy. "Are you sure?"

Lilin frowned. "Zachary, why are you questioning me like them? I'll never mistake her for someone else. She came like an angel when my mom's life was in danger and reached out her hand to help us! That's why I can still vividly remember what she looked like until now. Plus, she hasn't changed at all, so I could tell it was her with just a glance!"

Before Jeremy could say anything, Bryan asked in surprise, "What? My mommy was the one who saved your mommy's life? Really?"

Lilin was really annoyed at how everybody was asking her the same question! "Really! I've said it a thousand times! Why don't any of you believe me?"

Bryan shook his head and said, "It's not that I don't believe, but I'm just a little surprised at the coincidence."

"Yeah! I think it's too much of a coincidence too, but I've always felt that you... No, what I meant to say is the real Benjamin... Wait, strike that. It doesn't seem to make any difference anyway, since the two of you look exactly the same. I've always thought that Benjamin looks a lot like the woman who saved my mom back then, and today, I finally confirmed the suspicion I've had all those years."

Bryan could not sit still anymore. He looked up the stairs and said, "Aunt Lilin, did you see who my mommy came with?"

Lilin thought about it for a moment and said, "She came with a lot of people, including the real Benjamin who looks exactly like you!"

Bryan had already guessed who they were and wanted to go up to have a look, so he asked Jeremy, "Daddy, can I go up and see my mommy now? I can swap places with the real Benjamin so he can see you too! He probably misses you a lot."

Jeremy had been deep in thought, and Bryan's question brought him back to the present.

"Do you think it's wise for you to go up now?" he asked Bryan.

Chapter 1638

Bryan was a little taken aback by Jeremy's question. He tilted his little head and asked, "Why not? Don't you want to see Benjamin?" Of course Jeremy wanted to see his own son, but he could not risk Sophia or Adam finding out that the two boys had switched places. "Didn't I say no one should find out that you aren't Benjamin? Why does Lilin know?" asked Jeremy sternly.

Bryan waved his hand hurriedly. "I... I didn't tell her. She found out on her own."

Of course, he did reveal a little to Lilin, but he was afraid that Jeremy would be angry, so he did not dare to admit it.

Lilin did not want Bryan to be blamed for this, so she bravely admitted, "Zachary, please don't blame him! He really didn't tell me. I discovered it myself!"

Jeremy looked askance at Lilin. "How did you find out?"

"Uh... I found out from his attitude toward Sophia! Although the real Benjamin isn't close to Sophia either, he doesn't really hate her. So my sixth sense, which is accurate most of the time, tells me that he's not the real Benjamin."

Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "Have you told anyone about this?"

Lilin shook her head. "No. I promised this fake Benjamin not to tell anyone, and I always keep my word!"

Jeremy frowned. "You promised him not to tell anyone, but you asked your parents and Sophia to go up to find his mommy. What do you think is going to happen when they see a kid who looks exactly like him beside the woman who saved your mom's life?"

That never crossed Lilin's mind as she was so excited at having found Corinne.

"I don't care if they see him. Zachary, I guess you probably know by now that you were forced to stay by Sophia's side using shady means! You might as well take advantage of today to clarify everything so Sophia can no longer pretend, and you can go back to that nice woman! She's your real wife and the biological mother of your child!"

Jeremy smiled self-deprecatingly. 'If only things were that simple,' he thought.

He would not have been deceived and placed under house arrest for so many years if Adam and Sophia were reasonable people. In fact, he could not even predict how they were going to react if the whole thing was exposed.

He feared that should Adam and Sophia see Corinne's two kids upstairs, they would immediately attack and kill them all. To make matters worse, he could not even go up to save them with his broken legs! 'What should I do? Think, Jeremy, think!' While his mind was racing, he took out his phone to text Corinne.

However, someone suddenly sat down in the empty seat opposite his. Jeremy immediately became wary, thinking that Sophia was back. He quickly put away his phone without sending the text message and looked up in a panic.

'It's her! What's she doing here?!'

Chapter 1639

It was Corinne!

She looked at Jeremy quietly with her chin on her palm. "Hey there, handsome. Who were you texting? Could it be me?"

Jeremy snapped out of his surprise and instinctively glanced upstairs to check that Sophia and Adam had not come down yet. He relaxed a little when he saw no signs of them.

He turned back to Corinne and said quickly, "Now's not the time to joke around like that. Take Benjamin and leave before Sophia's father finds out you're here. Hurry!" Corinne smiled. "What are you afraid of?"

Jeremy became a little anxious when he saw her not taking him seriously. "I'm being serious!"

"I know. Don't worry, I know what I'm doing."

'Yeah, right! She wouldn't be sitting here if she knew what she was doing!' thought Jeremy.

While Corinne and Jeremy were talking, Benjamin-who came down with Corinne and Bryan-who was sitting next to Jeremy-looked at each other.

It was so bizarre! It was like they were looking at their own reflection in the mirror.

It was the first time that Bryan and Benjamin saw each other face to face. They did not expect that they would be so similar that even themselves could not tell the difference.

Lilin snapped out of her shock and asked Corinne respectfully, "Miss, what are you doing down here? My parents just went up to look for you. Did you see them?"

Corinne looked at Lilin and shook her head lightly. "No, I told you that you don't have to ask your parents to thank me."

"Miss, you saved my mom, and that's something we can never repay you for! So my mom really wants to thank you in person! Plus, they didn't believe what I said just now, so I have to prove that I really found you!" insisted Lilin.

Corinne expressed helplessness at Lilin's insistence, but even so, she would never give in to her request. She did not want to meet Melinda then, let alone after she found out she was actually Adam's wife. Truth be told, she even regretted saving Adam's wife back then.

Adam did not hesitate to separate Corinne and Jeremy for the sake of Sophia's happiness. He even brainwashed Jeremy to forget his past. Thus, Corinne thought Adam should at least get a taste of what it felt like to lose someone he loved very, very much.

'But then again, Adam's wife and little daughter are innocent. I shouldn't wish them any harm,' thought Corinne.

Seeing that she was still sitting there, Jeremy estimated that Adam and Sophia would come down soon if they could not find Corinne when they went upstairs, so he urged, "You should leave now!" Corinne raised an eyebrow. "Why should I?"

Jeremy frowned. "Do you want them to see you and your kid? I won't be able to protect you if anything happens! So please leave now."

Corinne picked up his cup and leisurely sipped before putting it back on the table. "Like I said, I know what I'm doing, so don't worry. You can't protect me, but I can protect you."

Jeremy frowned deeply and glanced upstairs again. "They'll be down here soon!"

"So what? There's plenty of time for me to leave after they come down the stairs," said Corinne.

"You..."

Lilin looked at Corinne and then at Jeremy, as if she had discovered something incredible. "Wow! It really is different!" she said with a twinkle in her eyes.

Chapter 1640

Corinne looked at Lilin with interest. "Huh? What are you talking about? What's different?"

Lilin had an expression of surprise on her face. "Zachary's attitude toward you is far different from his attitude toward Sophia!"

Corinne was very interested in this topic. She rested her chin in her palm and wiggled her eyebrows. "Oh? Is that so? How is it different? Tell me more, I want to hear it!"

Jeremy wanted to slam the table. He would have picked Corinne up and sent her away if he was able to use his legs.

"Corinne! You..."

"Shh!" Corinne raised a finger to her lips, shooting him a look to rest his worries before turning back to Lilin and saying, "Please continue."

Lilin was very happy to talk with Corinne.

"It's just... Zachary obviously cares about you while he's very indifferent toward Sophia. He rarely talks to her first, and his response to her is always very cold. I don't know why she insists on keeping a man who clearly doesn't love her by her side."

Corinne was very satisfied with her answer. "Yes, why does she insist on keeping a man who doesn't love her by her side? Maybe she's a masochist."

Lilin shrugged. "Who knows! All I can say for sure is that it's a lose-lose situation."

Corinne smiled. "She 's your sister, but you seem to hate her more than me."

Lilin felt disgusted whenever Sophia's name was brought up, and she made no secret of her disdain. "Yes, I hate her very much. She's the reason why my dad loses his temper frequently, and every time my parents quarreled, it was because of her instigation as well. I've been wondering since I was a child: how could there be such an evil person like her? I hate her so much, and I feel so embarrassed to have such a sister! How I wish you were my sister instead, Miss."

Corinne pursed her lips. "You're young, yet you see things very clearly. I'm quite surprised that you can see through Sophia's facade."

Lilin sighed. "That's because I have no choice but to wise up. My parents used to quarrel a lot because of Sophia. Sophia was the one who caused my parents to have a huge fight four years ago. She accused my mom of something she didn't do, and in a fit of anger, my mom left the house with me. Then the car accident happened, which you know very well since you were her savior."

Hearing this, the smile on Corinne's face disappeared as she could not help but see her younger self in Lilin. After all, they had quite a similar past.

Many years ago, her mother was also accused of something she did not do and was left with no choice but to leave the house with her. Unfortunately, her mother was not as lucky as Lilin's since her father did nothing to win them back.

Adam might be an *sshole to every other person outside, but he was quite the loving husband and father to Melinda and Lilin respectively.

'Huh, I can't believe my own father is worse than Adam!' thought Corinne.

Suddenly, a small waving hand appeared in front of her, pulling her out of her thoughts.

"Miss, why aren't you saying anything? What are you thinking of?"

Corinne shook her head. "It's nothing! Thank you for letting me know that he's here. Otherwise, the two of us wouldn't be able to sit and talk like this!"

As she spoke, she smiled gently at Jeremy, who looked back at her sullenly.

Lilin turned red with shame. "I'm sorry, Miss. It's all because of my family that you and Zachary were separated for so long. I deeply apologize on behalf of my dad. I know you may hate him, but I still want to put in a few good words for him. He might have a very explosive temper, but he's not really evil. He only did all those hurtful things because Sophia would always play the victim."