

## Love Is Fair 231

Chapter 231 Three Fathers-in-Law Like rakless child, Brook threw his arm around Ryan and kissed him on the cheek The brotherly love was overt. The customers in the restaurant looked over, about to raise their cameras to capture the scene. Hailey cringed and hurriedly drae them upstairs. This was too embarrassing Although Ryan was Nexy's gotson and their podbrother, they had formed a brotherly allunce against that tyrannical woman at the Garden of Rose. That was when they were still children. They had been trained together, rebelled together, and gotten punished together Their comradeship had been forged at that time Brookladbyn close to Rvan The split of his budily delighiol him so much that he was all over Ryan like a child "How come you're here alone? Where's Katie He poudarilass of wind for Ryan "idn't You SAV she would coine long du't see

"She misbehave, proinde her, Ryan replici blanitly Hailey Lokal over, whisk ontodbok, nyumble to herseli Sureenuh, men's status in the family was braza "That's hustly What did she do? Failed the exam in our Tea

m Bloki Link Thanks to his tehty daughter, this dude remains single

"Shenaniway from home and tell in local anale Theunishment is all lirit. – Ratsukhis w inn Sumate air of a stern Luther "Puppy love? It was normal for Catherine to run away from home, but puppy love wa CW Brook's eye round, "Who did she call in love with Whois so outstanding the wins the heart of the proud princess Harley intended to kerp the secretior Catherine it was inuppropriate to disclosu r elings in public Ryan,

b ezer.hu no intention of hiding it at all Anative was then provided. "It's Robert Holland's youngest son, Matthew "What?" Jared was the surprised on this time that ? His cr o plintel anu bercrly clutch this wittel "That jerk messed with lus sister and now with usmece What an asshole landdiended to chihathidaláson, reund the Latter of

that defeat, and let him know his distance "Noway Isn't Matthew couTETLE You? Bewillered, Brook turned to look at Haile and askelin surprise, the fell in love with the "No," Huy wrinklud her evebrows and suid blandly, she sacrushohim, but hen her Upon her that, Jared and Brook pounded the table in unison. Their eyes were tanda \*Matthewine ? Is heblind or something He doesn't like Katic? "Cut it out." Hilley covered her eats anglard at the two growing men, Do you want the low to ethier "Of course not Brooksilatly "Katie should be the one to reject hunn." Jared rekod "Yeali Brook echodl, and Hailey wassperlites, Wasthiislalk slow? Ryan Smile with satisfaction. Finally, he found someone who had the sale che'HY. Wut they said delighite hiru. Like three fathers-in-law, they started roasting Matthewasitle was a stupid grourudhor and plannitostitle Catherine's puppy love in the cradle. Their ideas were horrible "Katic has live in the mountains for a long time. She hasn't seen tuch of the world. In her mind everyone at Fenneth is decent. At first sight, she fututs that rat special and treasures for " "Puppy love is not a big deal, but it depends on who she has a crushon. Matthew is a notorious playboy I heard that he changed his

prirend 29 times a month. He basically has a different girl each day." Haley asked, "What about the remaining day? Does he have a period?" She was ignored.

lic is donecrous Although alitlost cuery girl will meet scumbags in her lue, those in our family arestubborn and get lurt casily. Hailey

Hailey couldn't help but protest, "Don't talk about me, okay? She was ignored once again "How awt I talk to Matthew, warnhim to stay away from Katie, and let him find someone else?" Brook proposed, "Noned to trouble yourself I'll call upon iliymien lo teach him a lesson and let him know that he can't get his hands on certain women." Jared snorted "Lave it your way these measures tail, 1'11 jo to Belinjo to see his father to save his owlSS, Robert will definitely keep his son in check.\* Ilyan coreluded Thylokovo u s if the weetable they had takenpains to grow was about to be tarnished by a swine Hailey found it both funny atid annoyner: Worten could create drame, but the three men were no less melodramatic She came downstairs to the kitchen to check the preparation or dinner, oudly to see Jeremy standing by the stove absent-mindedly "There is too bipin the soup is drying up."T e remnahim, and jerently was brought back to reality lle quickly turn ott the LASdlified the lid in such a hurryiluar his hand got burne, The Min made him eroan "ilinse your hand with cold water" Il furrower brows, tralashmun hand, and put it under the faucet.

She looked at his swollen fingers and sulked, "What are you thinking? You're so careless." Jeremy got chided but smiled. "I'm okay." Keeping him away. Hailey placed the pot on a tray, rang the bell, and let the waiter serve the

She then found the ointment and beckoned to the man "Come here" Jeremy complied. Hailey unscrewed the cap and said, "Show me your hand." Tereny stretched out his hand. Since there were no cotton swabs in the kitchen, Harley used her fingers to apply the medicine to his Wound, "Luckily, then is not scrious, otherwise you won't be able to play basketball." "I'm okay." leteny saldain. The comers of his mouth curved itp. Unlike other girls who liked to polish their fingernails, Hailey just keptic nails neat and clean Herfingers Were Slender and white. Her

finger pups were covered with calluses. Her hands reminded him of luis mother who used to apply pintinent to his injured fingers as gently and carefully as this. "Sis."

Jeremy purse luis lips and said something shocking, "You look like my mother." Hailey was dumbfounded.

#### Chapter 232 Karl Finally Reappears

There were people calling her aunt, but no one had ever called her mother. Hailey looked up at Jeremy and snapped, "Do you want me to spank you?"

Jeremy wimped out and repeatedly shook his head. Pulling a straight face, Hailey continued to apply the medicine to his wound and sulked, "I've granted you a privilege to call me sister. Don't push your luck."

Jeremy meekly hummed and then asked, "Is the guy you brought here today your brother too?"

"Yeah," after the job was done, Hailey cleaned her hands, put the cap back on, and said blandly, "my godbrother."

Jeremy nodded and muttered, "You have so many brothers."

"Don't you have one too?" Hailey chuckled, thinking that he was admiring her, "Not everyone is as lucky as I am. Feel gratified that you have one."

“Fair point.” Jeremy raised his head and smiled. After the ointment was applied, he stood up and said seriously, “My brother’s leg heals fast, thanks to you. When he comes back from the filming, we’ll treat you to dinner to express our gratitude.” “You’re welcome.” Hailey smiled nonchalantly, “Okay.”

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Back in the box, the three men had eaten and drunk to their hearts’ content. The subject changed from Catherine to Hailey, and they looked at her in disappointment.

“Guys, you don’t know my mood when I went to pick her up in North City a few months ago. She ended her three-year marriage and left Moore Mansion penniless. It somehow delighted me,” Brook said.

“You should be.” Jared looked at her with drunken eyes, “Hailey is finally out of the misery. She no longer has to babysit that guy, which is worth celebrating Cheers!”

Holding the wine glass, he tottered to Hailey’s side, threw his arm around her shoulder, and handed her the wine. Hailey studied the wine glass and asked, “Is this used by you? 12

Jared glared at her. “What, you don’t like it?”

“I don’t.” Hailey nodded but tossed it off. The wine was ordered at the wine fair in Berny. Brewed at Chateau Cissac, it was not strong but tasted mellow.

After finishing off the wine, Hailey went back to her seat and said indifferently, “That was a long time ago and not worth mentioning again. Everyone has a dark past. Do you want me to dig up the dirt about you guys?”

To that, the three men just snorted, “There’s no dirt about us.”

Hailey sipped her soup and ran her eyes over them. “Ryan, you were about ten when my mother saved you. I hadn’t been born, but my dad told me that you were chased by a wolf in the mountains. Running and crying, you then found that it was just a deer.”

“Jared, when you were a child, you learned boxing and often went out to fight other boys. You bragged that you had never lost to anyone. Then a girl beat you and made you cry. You’ve been searching for years but still haven’t found her, right?”

“Brook, you cried a lot when you were a child, and I can’t even count it. I do remember that Mom dressed you up as a girl on Children’s Day. Your hair was braided, and you were wearing my dress to perform on stage. You were such a girl.”

“Did I?” Brook pretended that he couldn’t remember it.

Ryan and Jared looked over, nodding. “You did.”

In the end, they burst into laughter. Brook was speechless. Why was he always the one who got hurt?

The party didn’t end until midnight. Before leaving the restaurant, everyone was drunk. They hadn’t had such a good time for long Jeremy hadn’t been waiting for Hailey.

Still sober, she came downstairs and saw him. “Jere? You still haven’t left? Come on, I’ll give you a ride.”

"It's okay. I'll drive my own car." Jeremy helped her to walk, "Are you all right? You drank too much."

"Yeah, I'm happy!" Hailey smiled. Brook hooked her away. Before leaving, she said goodbye to Jeremy, "Train hard and play hard. I hope you'll become a world champion soon."

Jeremy watched her leave. On his sides, his fists clenched. Time was what he needed the most.

Back at the Garden of Rose, Ryan went upstairs to see his unruly daughter. Hailey asked Lily about Eve's condition. The housekeeper told her that Eve had been well-behaved today.

She nodded and said, "Please help me take care of her."

"You drank a lot. I'll tell the chet to make some sobering soup." Lily just couldn't spend a day without worrying about them.

"Thank you, Lily. Make one bowl for Ryan too," Hailey chuckled. As soon as she entered her room, she received a call from the other

coast. She looked at the screen, curled her lips, and pressed the answer button.

"Karl, finally remember your sister?"

A deep voice came from the other end of the phone. "Yeah."

After taking off her shoes and jewelry, Hailey lied down on the king-size bed and said lazily, "We just came back from a party, and then

you called. I'm suspecting if you have bugged you."

"I have not." The man confessed, "I have eyes and ears at the Garden of Rose."

"Are you telling me this to challenge my authority? Can I kick them out?" Hailey paused, pouted, and complained helplessly like a child. The man asked, "Did you drink?"

"You bet!" Hailey grumbled, "Ryan, Jared, and Brook kept toasting me. By the way, have you received the wine I asked Kyle to mail you?"

Karl hummed.

"Good. Kyle paid the bills and I offered my regard," Hailey said cheekily. "Money has value, but regard is priceless, right?"

A low laugh came from the other end. "Yeah."

Hailey closed her eyes, listened to the background noise on the phone, and murmured dreamily, "Brother, I miss you so much. When will you come back..."

The phone slipped off her hand. She fell asleep, but the screen was still on. The man on the other end of the phone didn't hang up. There was a note attached to the caller ID. "Karl is the best."

Chapter 233 Karl Guarded Her All Night

While Hailey was asleep, Lily fed her two bowls of sobering soup. Probably because she had drunk too much, she was woken up by the urge to pee the next morning. Like a lost soul, she went to the bathroom. When she came out, she was fully

awake.

She grabbed her phone to check the time, only to find that the phone call hadn't ended. She gaped at the screen and shook her head, thinking that it was a hallucination.

When she confirmed that it was true, she freaked out, held up the phone, and called out tentatively, "Karl?"

She could hear the wind and rain as well as the rustle from the window in the background. The deep voice of a man then came.

"You're awake." He spoke in a standard British accent.

"Why didn't you hang up the phone?" Hailey asked.

"I missed your snoring and thought that it could make me sleep better." Karl joked with her.

Hailey was embarrassed. "No kidding, I don't snore. For that, you were on the phone for hours? International calls are expensive, dude."

"I'm rich," Karl said.

Hailey didn't know what to say. From where did he learn that line? Okay, fair enough!

Hailey checked the time and calculated the time difference. "It should be 11:30 p.m. Blard time. Karl, it's time for bed."

Karl hummed.

"Is it raining over there? Given the sound, it's pretty heavy. It's also the rainy season in Poya. The rain is incessant. Remember to take an umbrella with you when you go out even though you look sharper in caps. How is your leg by the way? Have you regularly taken the medicine I mailed you?" Hailey rattled on, and the man on the other end hummed from time to time..

"Do you have trouble sleeping?" Hailey heard another hum, thought for a moment, and proposed, "How about I sing a song for you?"

Karl yawned and said, "I'm sleepy. Gotta go."

Ding. The phone call that had lasted around seven hours finally ended. Hailey looked at the phone and pouted. "Yuck, do I sing that terribly..."

No one knew how Ryan had disciplined his daughter last night, but Catherine sat in the living room and greeted Hailey like a well-behaved child.

“Good morning, Hailey.” She stood up and bowed.

“Good morning, where is your dad?” Hailey responded.

Catherine pointed with her mouth. “Doing exercise in the yard.”

Hailey looked outside and frowned. “It’s raining.”

“Nothing can stop him. Probably, that exercise can ensure longevity.” Catherine scoffed and yawned. When she opened her eyes again, Hailey was no longer in the living room.

“Huh? Where did she go?”

Lily served the doughnuts and said with a smile, “She went to practice with your dad.”

Catherine was speechless. Adults were toxic. This exercise was created by Andreas Wesel, a world-famous doctor from the Netherlands. Combining eastern and

western medical theories, it mimicked the movements of animals, and those who practiced it will have better immune systems and blood circulation.

Grandma Melissa from Fenneth had practiced this set of exercises since her childhood. Now over 90 years old, she was still hale and hearty. Her appetite was still good.

In a white gown, Ryan practiced under the dark blue sky. Amid the wind and rain, his clothes fluttered. His figure was vigorous. From the distance, he looked like a hermit warrior. Holding an umbrella, Hailey entered the pavilion, stretched herself, and

practiced along with him.

This exercise was created based on the images and movements of animals which

had different characteristics. Their moves were quite different. Ryan moved vigorously like a tiger and a bear while Hailey moved swiftly like a deer and a bird. Their styles were a world different.

Ryan ended his practice and saw Hailey leaping up and landing on the ground. His clear eyes were tinted with a gratified smile. “Not bad. So many years apart, you’re skilled as ever.”

Hailey rolled her eyes and said, “Care to compliment me in another way?”

After finishing the exercise, Ryan held the umbrella, and they went back shoulder to shoulder.

“How was your talk with Katie last night?” Hailey asked.

“Good, I think,” Ryan replied.

“Tell me about it?” Hailey was a little curious.

Ryan thought for a moment and said simply, “I told her that if she continued to court the Holland kid, I’d break her legs.”

Hailey felt that the veins were popping on her forehead. "Did Katie give in?"

"It's not in her dictionary. She is as stubborn as you," Ryan scoffed.

"Who is stubborn? Hailey huffed.

"It doesn't matter." Ryan casually waved his hand and grumbled bitterly, "She begged me to give her a chance."

Hailey ignored the begging part and asked, "What chance?"

"In the summer vacation, if she can make Matthew fall in love with her without crossing the line, I'll agree to their relationship."

Ryan felt a pain in his chest as if a part of his flesh and bones had been gouged out. Girls would leave home eventually. It was the most vicious curse in this world.

"Did you agree?" Hailey looked up at him incredulously.

Ryan pursed his lips and laughed bitterly, "Can I refuse? Last night, she looked as determined as you were. I know that she will go on the same path."

Hailey's heartstring was struck, and her blood froze. She hadn't set a good example for the younger generation. Did Catherine have to go through the same suffering? In fact, Matthew and Owen were not much different. Owen didn't know love, but

Matthew knew too much about love. The former hadn't been open while the latter had been enlightened too early. He was also a dangerous man.

Ryan wrinkled his eyebrows and said stiffly, "She is in her rebellious stage and goes against me about everything. I'd rather grant her wish. She won't make it anyway."

Hailey looked sideways at him and asked, "Why are you so sure?"

A sneer tugged at Ryan's mouth. "She won't even be able to see him."

Hailey silently looked up at the sky. It looked like Matthew would be in exile. At least, he would not be seen in Poya any time soon. The world would become quiet.

#### Chapter 234 Successful Disguise

After the morning meeting, Owen grabbed his phone and headed to the CEO's Office. He opened the chat interface, edited a text, and deleted it. When he finished the text, he didn't press the send button.

"There is a rainstorm in Poya today. Travel safely." The tone was too stiff. It

shouldn't be like this.

He believed that he should add some modal particles and emojis to liven the text. He recalled the bitchy tone of Benson and re-edited it. "Ah, there is a rainstorm in Poya today. Be careful on the road, okay?"

Did he use too many modal particles? He was disgusted by the text. He should continue to modify it.

"Hailey, there is a rainstorm in Poya today. Be careful on the

road.”

He finally pressed the send button. He was a little nervous and thought of what

Benson had said. “Unaccountably solicitous people are hiding evil intentions, and others are afraid of sudden concern. Your attention is too overt. After expressing your concern, you should add a small request, and then Hailey will not suspect anything.”

He immediately edited another text. “And don’t forget the gold bracelet you promised to give me.”

He thought about it, found a cute emoji from the file shared by Benson, and sent it over. Job done. It took Owen so long to edit a text. Jose saw it but did not know who the recipient was. His boss looked anxious and serious. Owen was that kind of person who often called and rarely texted anyone.

Finally, his boss smiled. Peeping was shameful, but Jose couldn’t restrain his curiosity. He stood on tiptoe and had a peek. He didn’t see the content but only saw an emoji.

That was enough to shock him. Mr. Moore used an emoji? And such a cute one?

What was going on?

Matthew came and ran into Owen at the door of the CEO’s Office.

“Mr. Holland, are you running away from home?” Jose sized Matthew up. He almost failed to recognize the man.

Matthew had always been proud and preening himself like a peacock. He was in the spotlight no matter where he went. Today, however, he was covered in mud. His pants were stained, his shoes were wet, his clothes crumpled, and his hair was disheveled.

His overall image resembled that of a beggar. The security guards at the entrance had almost kept him out. His look made Owen frown.

Matthew’s face clouded over, and he sulked, “Not running away from home. Running for my life. Buy me a set of clothes and a pair of shoes. Make me a cup of coffee

too. I think I’m catching a cold... ahchoo!”

He sneezed loudly. Owen and Jose took one step back at the same time. They needed to keep a distance from the man. Matthew rubbed his red nose and looked at Owen sadly. “Man, take me in.”

He took a shower in the lounge, changed his clothes, and came out clean. Content with his condition, he gulped down a jar of coffee and then poured out his grievances. From his look, Owen could tell that he came to this because of women. He was not interested in Matthew’s story until Hailey’s niece was mentioned. He lifted his eyelids.

“You mean, Hailey has a godbrother?” His eyes brows furrowed.

Matthew’s mouth was parched. He glared at Owen and sulked, “Hey, I’ve talked so



much. Did you get the point? The point is that Hailey's godbrother has a daughter named Catherine. That girl has a crush on me and wants to elope with me. It's scary."

Owen pursed his thin lips and mused, "Are you sure Ryan is not her biological brother?"

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Matthew was furious. "No! But you're like brother and sister. Did you hear me? Catherine wants to elope with me! Elope!"

This man was noisy. Owen frowned in disgust and said blandly, "But you didn't."

"You bet! How would I dare?" Matthew's eyes widened, "No kidding, her dad is Ryan, a doctor and druggist. Even my old man doesn't dare to mess with him. If his daughter elopes with me, I'll be dead."

Owen glanced at him and snorted, "A playboy like you knows fear?"

"This is different. That girl..." Matthew stopped halfway through his speech and chuckled as he remembered a joke from Catherine.

He raised his head, only to meet Owen's inquisitive eyes. He pressed his fist against his mouth and coughed. "Anyway, I can't stay in Poya any longer. Not only Ryan, but Hailey's brothers are also tough. I don't want to get beaten up like you. The pain is

one thing. It's embarrassing."

Owen squinted at him and said, "Go and find a place to stay yourself."

"Come on, we're friends. You can't be so cruel." Matthew immediately put on a

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flattering look and leaned over, "No one has been living in the Moore Mansion for a long time. Can I move in and stay for a couple of days?"

He raised his eyebrows and said, "Are you afraid I'll pry into the past of Hailey and you? Don't worry. It's all in the past. I don't mind."

Owen pulled a long face and said, "But I mind. Sleep in the street tonight."

"Come on, we're buddies."

Hailey flipped through the contract, listened to the attorney's report, and furrowed her brows.

"Half of the interests? Is there a mistake?"

Across the desk, Mr. Thompson pushed his glasses and said seriously, "No, I've

asked the old man, and he confirmed that this was his offer to the other party. He let me keep it from you till the money is received.”

“My grandpa is greedy.” Hailey was not surprised by Jason’s craftsmanship and resources. After all, this project was created in his name.

Without his participation, the deal might not have been closed. He deserved more money, but half of the gains... She couldn’t believe that Owen agreed. Had he lost his mind?

“If there are no other questions, let him sign it as he likes.” Hailey handed the contract to the attorney. The latter took the order and left.

She called in Patrick and instructed him to arrange for the old man’s trip to North City. Just then, her phone dinged. She unlocked the screen and saw a text message from Benson. “Hailey, there is a rainstorm in Poya today. Be careful on the road.”

“And don’t forget the gold bracelet you promised to give me.”.

“Okay.” An unsuspecting Hailey texted back. Owen received the message, looked down, and saw a simple word. His smile was quite broad.

Matthew, who was pestering Owen, saw his happy face and frowned. What was going on?

Chapter 235 Fight It Out with Him

“Who are you texting? Your smile is creepy.” Matthew curiously reached out to snatch the phone. Quick in reaction, Owen locked the screen and put his phone away. He glanced at the man coldly and said, “Manners.” Matthew cocked his brows. “Hailey has removed you from the blacklist? You add her on WhatsApp again?”

Owen pursed his lips and replied, “None of your business.” “You smiled like a nympho just now, and that’s a sign of love.” Matthew folded his arms on his chest and looked at Owen, “Given your situation, don’t think you’ll date another woman. Man, you’re miserable. Having an ex-wife like Hailey. you can’t possibly fall in love again.” He put his hand on his forehead and mused, “What is that phrase? Oh right, no other waters could impress me for I’ve seen the vast seas.” Owen had enough of his nonsense and threw the car keys to him. “See yourself out.”

“Thanks, bro, I’m wait for you at home.” Matthew caught the keys, happily waved his hand, and left. This man was cheap. “No other waters could impress me for I’ve seen the vast seas.’ Owen gave a bitter smile. That was true.

Jose knocked on the door, came in, and reported, “Mr. Moore, there is news from Poya. Father of Newman has signed the contract.” “Good.” Owen’s eyes lit up, “Get things ready. I’ll pick him up in person.” “Uh...” Jose added, “Ms. Newman has entrusted a person to escort the old man.

There are ten bodyguards, and they'll take a private jet. According to them, we just need to receive him." Owen stiffened and sat back down. The smile on his face disappeared in an instant, and he said slowly, "Okay." Was she so reluctant to see him?

Hailey went to the hospital and handled the discharge procedures for her grandfather. She took Jason back to the Garden of Rose and helped pack his things.

Holding a cigar, Jason cozily sat on the mahogany sofa. Hailey and Ava were packing the luggage for him. He felt blessed to have such sweet granddaughters. He had raised three sons, but none of them were helpful. They were not even as considerate as his granddaughters. "Grandpa, do you still want the old T-shirts?" Ava picked up two crumpled shirts. Jason blurted out, "Of course." "They've crumpled up and should be thrown away." Hailey folded several newly washed shirts and put them in the suitcase. Old people tended to be conservative. He had been used to wearing such clothes for decades. Old habits die hard. They had to respect his opinion. Jason said anxiously, "No, don't throw them away. There are no holes or splits. They reasoned with their grandpa but failed to persuade him. For fear of upsetting him, Hailey gave in and told Ava to put those old clothes in the suitcase too. While they were packing, Eve slowly came out of her room and called out softly

"Grandpa." "Eve, come here." Jason beckoned to her. Eve looked up at Hailey who remained silent. Pursing her lips, she then went over. Jason let her sit down on the sofa and asked graciously. "How are you feeling? Does it still hurt?" He was the first person who asked about her condition after the event. Eve felt a tingling sensation in her nose, and her eyes reddened. She shook her head and sobbed, "It no longer hurts." Hailey and Ava looked over, but neither of them said anything. In their view, Eve had herself to blame. That man cheated on her even when they were dating. It was natural for him to have love affairs after they were married.

Eve naïvely thought that everything would be fine as long as she stayed as Mrs.

Edwards. She didn't know that when a man's heart was not in it, the position would not be reserved for her. The pathetic always acted insufferably somehow. Eve hadn't been seriously wounded. She was pregnant after all. The Edwards family had just locked her up and humiliated her. They hadn't really meant to harm her. Only Eve knew how badly she had been hurt mentally. Hailey knew that Eve was unwilling to stay at the Garden of Rose. She didn't want to see Eve's face either. They had fallen out and could not bury the old hatchet. She was not that generous to forgive her cousin.

She contacted Morgan's first wife and Eve's mother, Lisa Baker. That woman had settled abroad long ago. After hearing those things about Morgan and Eve, Lisa sighed and promised, "I'll go back next month and take Eve away with me. Anyway, let her give birth to the baby first." Eve had been closer to her father since her childhood. To her greatest surprise, when she was in the darkest moment of her life, the one who was willing to help her and take care of her was her mother whom she had disowned a long time ago.

Her life was like a joke. Feeling awkward in the living room, Eve said goodbye to the old man and went back to her room. When they just finished packing the luggage, the sound of arguing came from upstairs. Catherine ran down the stairs, her face flushing with anger. She intended to rush outside when Ryan followed her down and called out to the security guards at the door, "Stop her!"

Before the security guards could come up. Ava caught Catherine by the waist and asked, "Katie, what's wrong?"

Catherine straightened up her neck and shouted, "I'm leaving home." It was the first time Hailey had heard someone airing her intention so blatantly. She ignored Catherine's childish behavior and lifted her eyelids. "Leaving home? Where are you going?" "I'll be where Matt is." Catherine's eyes were red. She looked at Ryan resentfully and

said, "I should have known that you would not compromise so easily. Turns out you have something up your sleeve. Did you drive Matthew away? You're such an old

fox!"

"Katie, you can't talk to your father like that." Hailey's face fell. Catherine was afraid of Hailey. She trembled, hung her head, and bit her lip stubbornly. Ryan stood on the steps, showing a frosty face. The air about him was depressing

and stern. He sneered and said, "Do I have to do that? Before I could make a move, the kid has fled. I was wondering if my daughter was so horrible that a grown-up like him was scared out of his wits." "How could you..." Catherine was pissed off. She looked back at Ava and said, "Don't stop me. I'm gonna fight it out with him." Ava froze for a moment before grabbing Catherine in a hurry. Hailey put her hand on her forehead. This girl was troublesome.

Chapter 236 Running Away from Home Again

A duel between the father and daughter almost happened at the Garden of Rose. Jason was sitting cross-legged on the sofa. The sight of a huffing Catherine and a livid Ryan amused him. It took him a long time

to understand the situation

After sitting Catherine down beside him, he said, "Girl, did you have a crush on Matthew? Your taste is not bad."

"You also think so? Grandpa, your taste is good too!" Catherine finally found someone who understood her. In

excitement, she grabbed Jason's hand. The cloud on her face cleared up instantly. To that, Ryan just snorted.

Although Jason had met Matthew just once, the latter had left him with a good impression. That kid is good looking, funny, and easy-going. He is much better than that stone-faced, sanctimonious Moore kid."

Catherine couldn't agree more. "Absolutely!"

Hailey helplessly shook her head. "Good-looking? Do you think so?"

Jason glared at her and said, "Don't try to defend Owen just yet. We're talking about Matthew." Hailey was speechless. When did she try to defend him? Ava listened on the sidelines and snickered. Her

grandpa was so cute.

“Yeah, Grandpa, let’s talk about Matthew. What else do you know about him? Tell me... Catherine also sat

cross-legged on the sofa, ready to have a good talk with the old man Ryan and Hailey looked at each other in dismay. They thought that Catherine would relent after making a scene.

Unexpectedly, the girl was more sophisticated and resourceful than they thought. She really ran away. Most of

the bodyguards at the gate were knocked out. Ryan was woken up in the middle of the night and fumed with rage. “Track her down through her phone. No one

can stop me this time. I will definitely break her legs.”

He needed to catch her first. Catherine was smart and aware that her father had bugged her phone, so she had

left without it. There was no way they could track her down.

Hailey had a headache, sending her men to intercept Catherine at the airport and the train station. However,

there were no signs of her. When it was dawn, Brook came to the Garden of Rose, laughing.

His laughter was creepy as if he was possessed. He was grinning, but it looked more terrible than crying. Hailey

and Ryan were sleepless all night. They looked over and narrowed their eyes.

Ava also hadn’t slept much. In her drowsiness, she was startled by Brook’s wild laughter. “Brook, what...

happened to you? “Hahaha... don’t mention it... hahaha, Catherine... hahaha, fed me a packet of pistachios... hahaha, and then I’m

like this..hahaha, hurry up, help me!”

Brook had been laughing all night. Now he was on the brink of having a mental breakdown.

At a glance, Hailey and Ryan understood what was going on. They quickly gave Brook the antidote and let him

swallow it. After a while, he finally stopped laughing. He survived it.

“What the heck is in those pistachios? I laughed all night. My face is cramping.” Brook grumbled, rubbing his

cheeks

“It’s Laughing Nation,” Hailey said blandly

“What is that?” Brook was confused,

“A kind of medicament that will stimulate your brain and makes you laugh like a crazy person. It was called

Laughing Pill in the past til Catherine changed it into Loughing Nation.” Hailey explained.

Brook was so angry that his eyes rounded, “Which psychopath made the medicine?

“MeRvan looked up and said blandly Brook turned around and glared at the man Bad language was at the tip

of his tongue, but he swallowed it. Forget it, he couldn’t afford to mess with Ryan.

Brook’s arrival relieved Hailey a little. Catherine went to see you?”

“Yeah, she said that she missed me and came to see me. It delighted me, and then she asked me to teach her

some hacking techniques. In a short while, she got impatient and asked me to help her find Matthew.”

He had never felt so helpless, “I believed she had ulterior motives and tried to sound her out when she gave me

a packet of pistachios.

He looked sideways at Ryan and grumbled, \*Ryan, your daughter bullied me. You should hold justice for me

Ryan sneered and asked him, “Do I have a daughter?”

Brook was confused. He turned to look at Hailey who showed a poker face and remained silent. This wasn’t

right.

He looked at Ava, and the latter whispered, “She ran away from home.” “Again? How many times is it?” Brook raised his eyes. “What’s the cause this time? She asked me to pinpoint

Matthew’s position. Did she go to see him? What is going on? The girl has a crush on that kid and elopes with

him?

As he spoke, Ryan’s face darkened. Upon hearing the last part, he stood up. Brook was taken aback. He clutched the pillow, hid in the corner of the sofa, and looked at the man in fear. “Ryan?”

Ryan asked unhappily. “When did she go to see you? Why didn’t you come earlier?” Was it his fault? Brook felt wronged and grumbled, “She came early and fed me the pistachios. Then I started

laughing. After discovering Matthew’s whereabouts, she ran away. Before leaving, she told me that the pistachios might have gone out of shelf life and that I would be fine after having a rest. Then she knocked me

out. When I came round, I was still laughing and realized I had fallen for her trick. Then I came to seek your

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help

Ryan and Hailey glared at him at the same time and scolded him, "Are you a fool?"

Brook was speechless. Ryan felt a surge of rage in his chest and asked coldly, "Where is Matthew?" "In North City Eruk replied seriously. Ryan's eyes dimmed.

Matthew had a good night's sleep at the Moore Mansion. He had planned to sleep on the king-size bed in the

master bedroom. Hailey was once on the same bed. He then dismissed the idea because he was afraid that

Owen would throw him out to the street in the middle of the night. Given their weak friendship, that man could

do such a thing

He had to come down a notch and stay in the guest room. It had been a long time since he came to North City,

Compared with the busy Owen, he was idle. Waking up naturally, he unhurriedly had brunch. Then he wondered

if he should go fishing with his friends or play basketball. With his legs crossed, he enjoyed the congee and

hummed a song The housekeeper came over and reported, "Mr. Holland, there is a girl outside who wants to see you." "A girl?" Matthew thought about it. Once he broke up with his girlfriends, they would not see each other again.

He had never maintained an ambiguous relationship with any of them. Unable to figure it out, he turned sideways and saw Catherine standing at the gate. With a yellow duck bag on

her back, she grinned at him and called out in a crisp voice, "Matt!" Matthew spat out a mouthful of porridge.

Chapter 237 Back to North City Again

"Ah, Matthew!" Carrying a backpack, Catherine rushed over, pulled out the

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tissue, and wiped his mouth. "So surprised to see me?"

Matthew was speechless. Was this a surprise? It was a shock, okay? In trepidation, he looked fixedly at Catherine and asked, "What... brings you here?"

“To see you, of course.” While speaking, she looked at the dining table. Hunger made her mouth water. “Matthew, I’m starved. Can I have something to eat?” Her limpid eyes looked at him eagerly. Unable to stand her gaze, Matthew

immediately pushed a trayful of steamed buns to her. “There you go.” “Thanks,” Catherine said politely, put her bag down, sat down across from him,

and forked up the buns. Her behavior betrayed her eagerness, but instead of wolfing the food down, she nibbled. Her bulging cheeks resembled those of a squirrel.

The maids cleaned up the congee that had been spat out by Matthew and looked at the cute girl. They couldn’t help but go to the kitchen and get some snacks.

Catherine was polite to everyone. She accepted the snacks, thanked them, and complimented them sweetly.

Her witty and honeyed words pleased everyone in the room. Matthew looked at the empty tray and plates in shock and said, “You’re a big eater.” “You bet! I’m growing,” Catherine reasoned. “I’m healthy and won’t gain

weight.”

Those maids, who had stuck to diets but still gained weight, felt injured and silently left. As a friend of women, Matthew reminded the girl, “You should not say such things again. People will be jealous.”

Catherine was confused. “Why?”

“Because...” Matthew didn’t know how to explain it to the girl whose mindset was clearly different from the others’. He could only say, “Because not everyone is as healthy as you are.”

Catherine nodded thoughtfully and said, “I see. I’ll listen to you, Matt.”

“Good.” Matthew felt good about himself and smiled. This girl was obedient. He pushed over a glass of milk, but Catherine shook her head. “I don’t drink milk.”

“Why?” Matthew advised her. “Milk helps children grow.”

“I’m not short, and our heights match,” Catherine replied. Matthew was lost for words.

What could he say? What did he dare say? He had to change the subject. “Why...”



don't you like milk?"

"No reason. Hailey doesn't like it, and neither do I. Don't you feel it tastes like leather shoes?" Catherine wrinkled her brows.

Matthew was stunned. He didn't think so. Ever since his childhood, he had been required to drink two liters of milk a day. What kind of freaks were the aunt and niece? This was it for this subject.

Matthew looked at the replete girl and probed, "Do your father and aunt know that you came to North City?"

Catherine dropped her eyes and mumbled, "I think so."

Matthew immediately had a bad feeling. On the surface, he remained calm. "You think so? Do they know or not?" His tone was a bit urgent.

Catherine raised her eyes and replied honestly, "They didn't, but I think they do now."

Just as he was about to ask her about the details, his phone rang. He checked the caller ID that read Queen Hailey. His heart convulsed, and he found the ringtone sound like a death knell.

He restrained his hands from shaking and answered the phone, a quiver in his voice, "Hello?"

Hailey's cool voice then came from the other end of the phone. "Did Catherine go to see you?"

Matthew glanced at Catherine, who desperately winked and gesticulated at him, and admitted it, "Yeah, she is with me. She has eaten a trayful of buns, two eggs, three pieces of cake, and four cups of juice."

"Where are you?" Hailey asked.

"Moore Mansion," Matthew replied.

Hailey wrinkled his brow. "Where did you say?"

"Moore Mansion," Matthew repeated, thinking that she didn't catch him. Then he felt the murderous intent from the other end and hurriedly explained, "Don't

misunderstand it. This has nothing to do with Owen. He doesn't know." Then he felt sad and justified himself urgently, "It has nothing to do with me, either. I just woke up and had dinner when this girl came out of nowhere with a bag on her back. I didn't do anything."

Hailey said in a deep voice, "Take care of her. We will be there in the afternoon.

If Catherine runs away or encounters anything bad, you will be held accountable."

The phone beeped. It had been hung up. Matthew looked at the screen in bewilderment. What was going on? He was not a babysitter or a kindergarten

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teacher.

Unperturbed, the satiated girl had sat down beside him, blinked, looked at him, and said, "Matt, we have two or three hours of free time. How are we going to

spend it?"

Matthew had no clue.

Owen's brows were knitted together. "Who went to Moore Mansion?" Jose replied, "Ms. Newman's niece, the young lady of Fenneth, and the

renowned little divine doctor, Catherine."

"She followed Matthew to North City?" Owen found it hard to believe. Jose stifled a laugh and said, "Right."

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He added, "Mr. Holland hopes that you'll go back to save him. Ms. Newman, Dr. Sears, and Mr. Kirkland have boarded the plane with the Father of Newman.

They'll soon land at North City airport."

Owen cocked his brows, and his eyes lit up. "You mean, Hailey also came?" Jose nodded and replied, "Yeah!"

"Then what are you waiting for?" Owen got up and headed out, "Get the car.

We're going to the airport!"

Jose chased after him and said, "But you have a lunch party to attend."

"Turn it down," Owen said without looking back.

"Got it," Jose responded. He had predicated this.

On the plane, Hailey looked at the familiar scenery and fell into a trance. The last time she came to North City was two months ago, but it felt like a lifetime ago.

When she left last time, she thought that she would not set her foot in this city again.

Unexpectedly, she came back. What was even more surprising was that she saw Owen standing in the wind as soon as she got off the plane. He seemed to have been there waiting for a long time.

Chapter 238 Spend Valentine's Day Together

The moment she saw Owen, the cold wind blew past, and she was dazed. She suddenly remembered those days when he was paralyzed. Back to work at Mazedew Group, he had been very busy and traveled around the world, but no matter how late it was, she would go to pick him up at the airport. She was worried about his health since he had just recovered.

Given his mental condition, she was afraid he could not adapt to such heavy work. Unfortunately, Owen couldn't feel her concern. Neither had he wanted her to pick him up.

Then she had to wait at home. Back then, there was one romantic drama on almost every TV channel. Sitting in the living room, she watched the actress mutter in tears, "Do you know what it feels like to wait all night?"

Her face would be smeared with tears probably because of the actress' great performance or the sad lines. That was the first time Hailey had shed tears since her parents passed away. Back then, she found her nominal marriage was even sadder than the drama.

She was a rich lady of the modern era, but her life was no better than those consorts in feudal times who would be occasionally favored by the emperor. She hadn't imagined that Owen would divorce her one day. Neither had she thought that he came to pick

her up at the airport after they were divorced. Her state of mind had changed. From Mrs. Moore who cared

nothing except for her husband, she turned back to Ms. Newman who only cared about her career and making money. How ironic!

While she was in a trance, Owen came over and said naturally, "You're here."

Like her guardian angels, Ryan and Brook stepped forward from

behind her and looked askance at Owen. Their eyes were icy cold. Unlike the two hostile men, Hailey gracefully reached out her hand

and said, "Mr. Moore, long time no see." Owen's face froze. It had been just a couple of days since they last

met. Why did her attitude turn so polite and distant? He shook hands with her and greeted her softly, "Ms. Newman."

Hailey quickly drew her hand back and introduced everyone to him,

"Mr. Moore, you know Mr. Kirkland, and this is Dr. Sears from Fenneth. He came to North City for a private matter."

Owen nodded to Brook and extended his hand toward Ryan. "Dr. Sears, I've heard so much about you."

Ryan's hands were hanging on his sides. He showed no intention of stretching them out and just said blandly, "I've seen you before.

You were on crutches, and Hailey looked at you anxiously from behind, ready to support you at any moment. Looks like you've

fully recovered." Owen felt a stream of coldness in his heart, perhaps because the wind was chilly at the airport. His hands and feet went numb, and

his face turned ashen. He silently drew his hand back, forced a smile, and looked down at Hailey. "Yeah, thanks to Hailey's

attention and care."

The last thing Hailey wanted was to bring up the past. She looked away, helped Jason come down the stairs, went out of North City

airport, and got into the van prepared by Owen. Owen arranged a five-star hotel under Mazedew Group for Jason,

but the old man didn't want to stay in the hotel. Instead, he headed to Donald's place. He was eager to meet his old friend and see that pile of broken jade. After taking the old man to the place, Hailey said goodbye to Donald, left the bodyguards there, and went back to the car. She was going with Owen to catch that girl at Moore Mansion.

The van had been changed into two sedans. Since the driver's and passenger's seats were occupied, the four of them had to ride in different cars. Owen invited Ryan and Brook to the back car before leading Hailey to the front car. Brook offered to switch cars with Hailey because he was afraid that she would be embarrassed and that Owen had ulterior

motives. Hailey declined, "I'll talk to Mr. Moore about business." Mincing words would only embarrass them both. She would rather

face him honestly. They were a divorced couple rather than a pair of adulterers. After getting in the car, Hailey broke the silence. "I'm sorry for the trouble, Mr. Moore. That girl is young and ignorant." Owen looked sideways at her and said, "Hailey, we don't need such politeness between us."

After going through formalities, she got down to business. Owen wasn't there at the racecourse last time. It was Matthew and her who negotiated the terms. The opening date was Valentine's Day for luck's sake.

Owen nodded lightly and said, "Valentine's Day, that's pretty good. I'm fine with it." "Then it's settled." She then stopped talking.

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. .10 As Valentine's Day was mentioned, Owen fell into a daze. He was not sensitive to holidays. He only remembered Independence Day and Christmas. The two elders of his family attached great importance to the two holidays. No matter how busy they were,

everyone would be asked to go home for a get-together. As far as he remembered, during their three-year marriage, Hailey

and he had never spent Valentine's Day together. He did faintly remember that a rose would appear in the house on that day each year. It was a yellow rose rather than a red one. In the vase, every petal and branch looked beautiful. The dew on it was crystal clear.

Not a fan of flowers, he still found the rose beautiful. He had thought that the flower was trimmed by Hailey. When he asked if the flower was bought by his wife, the butler told him that it seemed to be a rare variety air-lifted from abroad. The rose was unavailable domestically and would only bloom for three days. A seed of doubt had been planted since then. His wife was just a girl from the countryside. How was it possible that someone mailed her yellow roses from abroad?

"The Valentine's Day this year..." Owen's deep voice rang out in the carriage. "How are you going to spend it?"

Hailey froze for a moment before realizing that he was asking her. She looked up and met a pair of deep eyes. She was thinking about the previous Valentine's Day just now.

Her mother was a ritualistic person. On every Valentine's Day, her father would order a yellow rose from abroad for her mother. It was a variety not available domestically. He asked Old Mr. Ingram and Karl to help purchase it in Engese and mail it by air. Back then, she found her mother fastidious. After she got married,

she realized that her mother had chosen a good husband who was willing to delight her even at the cost of turning to a rival in love for help. Thankfully, Karl had sustained the tradition and sent back a yellow rose on Valentine's Day each year to offer solace to her

mother.

“I have no plans for it,” Hailey replied indifferently. Owen gazed at her, felt a lump in his throat, and plucked up the courage. “Hailey, let’s spend Valentine’s Day together this time,” he said

slowly.

Chapter 239 The Key to Courting Women

What took one to fall in love with another person? He was nice and considerate or there was something about him attracting you to him?

Hailey didn’t have the clue. She only knew that she used to be like Catherine. She had fallen in love with a man for no reason. She had been drowning in it. How long could it last? She used to truly love him. Now she no longer loved him. “Mr. Moore,” Hailey said slowly with a smile, “is this a joke?”

Owen’s heartbeat skipped a beat. He had been prepared for her flat rejection, but she showed such a mood. She was doubtful and sarcastic. She was like saying, “Spending Valentine’s Day with you? Dream on!”

Owen was neither a headstrong youth nor a cheeky person like Matthew. Matthew was right about something though. Being brazen was the key to courting women. It was said that there would be a bigger world in front of one if he took a step back. For Owen, the one step was too difficult. There was no room for it. He curled his lips and said solemnly, “Hailey, I’m not kidding. I really want to spend Valentine’s Day with you.”

Hailey looked at him and groaned in her heart. He just didn’t get it. She had to put it more bluntly.

“Mr. Moore, we are divorced,” she enunciated, stressing her tone.

“Now we’re partners rather than a couple. I made Valentine’s Day the date of the opening just for luck’s sake, nothing more.” Did this

guy think that she was implying something?

“I know.” Owen gazed at her, “I don’t expect you to forgive me or that we can go back. I only hope that you’ll give me a chance. We can start over.”

Hailey was unperturbed. “Mr. Moore, you’ve said it many times. In fact, we can just talk about business. Private matters are unnecessary.”

Her patience had worn thin. She didn’t want to talk to him again. Leaning against the seat, she closed her eyes. She didn’t give him another chance to speak. Owen didn’t dare to utter another sound lest she should be annoyed and get off. He was content to have her by his side even if she wouldn’t talk to him.

The air conditioner was on full blast. In a thin blouse, Hailey defensively put her right hand on her left arm. Owen signaled the driver to turn down the air conditioner, pulled over a blanket, and draped it over her. He remained silent for fear of waking her up. She would flip out.

The car was running steadily toward Moore Mansion. Leaning on the seat, Owen slightly turned sideways and stared at her side face in such a way as if he was going to engrave her image in his mind. He would keep it all to himself.

He hoped that the car would run slower so that he could stay with Hailey longer. Unfortunately, Moore Mansion was not far away from Mazedew Museum. It was a 30-minute drive even if they took a detour.

Half an hour later, the cars stopped at the entrance of Moore Mansion. In the living room, Catherine was sitting cross-legged on the sofa. She was having a good time playing video games with Matthew. The noise from the courtyard scared her so much that



she threw herself into Matthew's arms like a rabbit.

Holding the gamepad, she widened her eyes and muttered, "This is

1. My father and aunt are here! Matt, help me!" Matthew intended to push her away but feared that she would fall.

He was torn and grumbled in his heart, 'Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda.

Deep down, he was also scared and anxious. Expressionless, he urged her, "Get down, or we'll find it hard to explain this."

"No, you gotta protect me. No kidding, my dad and aunt are terrifying!" Catherine was bold when she ran away from home.

Now she wimped out.

Matthew's neck was firmly hooked by the girl's arms. He groaned desperately in his heart, 'I know how frightening they are, so why don't you get off now?' For fear of scaring the girl, he had to coax her patiently, "Come on, get off, we can talk it out."

Catherine was reluctant. Those people had gotten out of the car and strode over. The scene made her heart thump like a drum. In her desperation, she cowered, buried her head in Matthew's shoulder, and pretended that she was not there.

"They can't see me..." she muttered to herself. Matthew was speechless. This was called self-deception. He found it both funny and annoying.

Ryan and Hailey came in, only to see Matthew holding Catherine in his arms. The smile on his face was lewd, and they bristled.

"Matthew, what are you doing? Let her go!"

"Catherine, what are you doing? Get off!"

They snarled at the same time, equally angered. One step slower, Brook had to swallow back his words. Appalled, Catherine dropped the gamepad and cocked her ears like a rabbit. She craned, saw their sullen faces, and cowered. Matthew stiffened. Hailey's

shouting scared the hell out of him.

Suddenly, a faint voice came into his ears. "Matt, will you look down on me if I go over, kneel at their feet, and admit my mistake?"

"No," Matthew blurted out. Not to mention her, he wanted to go over and kneel himself. After getting his confirmation, Catherine took her chance to get out of his arms and kneel just as Ryan and Hailey were menacingly coming over to catch her.

Pinching her earlobes, she admitted her mistake, "Dad, Hailey, Brook, I was wrong!"

Before they could say anything, she looked up pitifully and said, "Don't hit me."

None of them had ever hit her. Ryan, Hailey, and Brook were livid. They looked at Catherine for a moment and then at the face of the man standing behind her. Their gaze made his skin crawl.

Matthew wondered if he should also go over and kneel, but he hadn't done anything wrong. "So, you are Catherine." The deep voice of a man suddenly rang out, interrupting the awkward atmosphere. Her attention was diverted from the three seniors to a handsome man beside them.

This man was pretty hot. He was just slightly inferior to Matt.

Chapter 240 Madam Is Finally Back

Catherine's round eyes stared at Owen. "Old pal, may I know who you are?" Old pal? That sounded old. Owen found it both funny and annoying. Since the girl was Hailey's niece, he was naturally nice to her. Curling his lips, he said in a teasing tone, "This is my home."

Catherine was baffled. Then she remembered the name of this place and figured out the situation. "So, you're Owen, Hailey's..."

She tried to stand up. Before she could say the word "ex-husband",

Hailey snapped, "On your knees."

The little wimp was on her knees again, but her eyes were still fixed on Owen. Resentment instantly crept onto her face. "You're that unfaithful man who broke Hailey's heart. I hate you!"

Owen was stunned. She looked back at Matthew and said, "Matt, you should stay away from him. He will lead you astray."

Matthew didn't know what to say. The atmosphere turned awkward once again. An old maid, who had worked at Moore Mansion for many years, trembled and called out, "Madam." Hailey slowly turned around and fixed her eyes on the maid.

"Lorenza?"

She tried to tell them that she was no longer the hostess of this house, but Lorenza beat her to shout excitedly, "It's madam. It's really her."

Those maids, who had worked at the Moore Mansion for many years and served Hailey, swarmed over. Their eyes were brimming over with tears. "Madam, you're finally back."

The tension resolved into sadness. Ryan and Brook silently stepped back, leaving Hailey alone in the 'orgy'. Owen brazenly watched from the side. He seemed to be glad to see that.

It took Hailey 15 minutes to soothe the sobbing crowd, and she thought to herself. Had they been mistreated after she left? Owen hadn't mistreated them. In sobs, Lorenza expressed her concern about the incomplete home. Most of the maids here used to serve the elders and Polly at the Moores' old residence. They were deeply attached to the Moore family and regarded Moore's house as their home. They had been striving to do their best.

After Hailey and Owen got married, Polly sent some maids here.

Worried that newcomers could not do their job well and that the

country girl could not manage them, she had chosen those honest

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Chapter 240 Madem Is Finally Back

and hardworking ones.

After they settled in Moore Mansion, Hailey treated them well.

They were closer to the hostess who spent a lot of time with them than the master who rarely showed up.

The butler was the only exception. Hailey darted a look at him. It was surprising yet reasonable. "Zack, you're attending to Moore Mansion now?"

"Good day, madam." The butler nodded lightly, stepped forward, and bowed. Zack was the eldest son of Polly's housekeeper, Winnie. He used to serve the two elders at the Moores' old residence. To her surprise, he was now in charge of Moore Mansion, which meant that the former butler... Zack explained, "Burton is old, so Mr. Moore retired him."

Hailey's eyebrows furrowed. As far as she remembered, Burton hadn't reached the retirement age yet, and the Moore family had paid the servants generously. The old servants, especially those at the butler level, would enjoy their remaining days in abundance. Retirement might sound good, but it was actually just a fig leaf for those employees who got fired for their mistakes. It was no different from asking them to leave their jobs. Burton was honest but calculating. He had been close to t

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Brown family. It was also thanks to his effort that Eliza had moved into the Moore Mansion smoothly. Burton was like a matchmaker to them, and Owen fired him. Did he no longer have any feelings for Eliza? Hailey found it funny but ignored it. Those things had nothing to do with her.

After they got through the episode, it was time for business. Ryan stared at his daughter sternly and asked, "Would you go with me or prefer to be taught a lesson here." Catherine was dumbfounded. It was no different from asking her if she would take the beating here or at home. Either way, she would suffer. At Moore Mansion, she had Matthew's protection, and they could stick to each other.

Advancing or retreating didn't make any difference. At that, she straightened up her neck and said, "I'm not going with you. Do it here."

Her words ignited Ryan's anger once again. He glared at his daughter. His frosty eyes glinted with murderous intent. He was like saying, "So be it."

He raised an eyebrow and croaked, "Mr. Moore, I'm sorry about this. I have to discipline my unruly daughter at your place." 4/5 80.0%

Owen looked down at Catherine and saw her eyes rounded. The girl intended to ask him for help but soon pulled a long face as if she had just remembered that he was an enemy.

Her attitude changed in the blink of an eye. This girl was quirky. No wonder that amorous man was captivated by her.

"Be my guest, Dr. Sears," he said blandly, ordered the servants to stand down, and then walked away.

Matthew intended to go upstairs with him. Owen turned back and said, "Won't you stay and protect your little girlfriend?"

Matthew was dumbfounded. Seriously? Fanning the flame at such a point? This was not dangerous and thrilling enough, huh?

He groaned inwardly, but Ryan's cold voice suddenly came. "Mr. Holland, hold your steps. Your presence here is necessary."

Matthew fell into despair. There was no escape. He forced a smile and responded, "Okay."

Owen gloated, and Matthew gave him the finger. Owen ignored him and turned to look at Hailey who had sat down on the sofa. He had a flashback to the past when they were still a couple. He felt like nothing had happened or changed. How he wished that everything was still the same!