

Love Is Fair 51

Chapter 051 Miss Newman vs. Internet Celebrities The elegance Hailey believed was a different story in others' minds. "A debutante? Self-appointed? A real debutante is genteel and never humiliates others in public. They gossiped about her, but did she have to throw wine at them?"

"How could she throw wine at Maureen! That's too much! I want to rush in and punch her." "Look at her, so cocky. She looks fine from behind, but I bet her face is ugly.

Only ugly people are so mean!" "Can anybody tell me which lady of the Newman family she is? Isn't Morgan the

president of Crystaldale? As far as I know, his daughter is named Eve. This is not what she looks like."

"Guess what? I once saw Eve at a party. She is genteel, polite, and nothing like

the one in the video." "Check out the list of donors. This lady didn't even donate a penny! What did

she attend the fashion charity party for? To show off and bully people?" "I need the information about this woman. A threatening letter should be mailed!"

"Good idea!"

The internet world was filled with negativity nowadays. Hailey read the abusive comments left by the netizens without turning a hair. These were just irrelevant comments from irrelevant people. She had never taken such things to heart. Allan was pissed off. "Miss Newman, I know these artists. They're working at Artistic Talent. The linchpin of the group is named Maureen Copeland, an internet celebrity and Andy Carter's lover." Andy's father was the owner of Artistic Talent. In the past few years, the notorious playboy had ridden the wave of live streaming and kept over 300 internet celebrities. He was dubbed the prince of influencers. Hailey remembered how that woman had stuck to Brook like glue last night. She was such a coquet

"His taste is terrible," she commented. Speaking of Andy, Allan had so much to tell her. "Miss Newman, I'm not complaining, but Andy has been undermining us all these years. Recently, half of the artists who request to rescind their contracts have been poached by him. I think he is behind all of this. Those minor celebrities and actresses alone wouldn't have dared to challenge you in public. They are not even popular. I'm sure they have bought positions in the trending topics and hired trolls to attack you! That is how Artistic Talent has been doing things. Andy used to play the same trick on me, but I made it through by dint of my strong heart."

At the thought of the sad past, Allan choked with sobs and covered his mouth with his little finger raised. Tears were welling up in his eyes. "Come on, don't cry." Chris pulled out the tissue, handed it to Allan, and

comforted him, "It's okay, Miss Newman is back. With her backing you up, no one can bully you anymore!"

Allan blew his nose and hummed pitifully. Hailey was amused. Allan was such a drama queen. "Stop crying. Andy is just a clown. I'll avenge you." Hailey unhurriedly snapped screenshots of those comments, highlighted the

typos, and commented. "A piece of advice. Less partying and more reading." "Your sentences are full of misspellings and incoherent. The punctuation is also wrong. Delete it and rewrite."

She tweeted via the account of Crystaldale and mentioned those internet celebrities who were stirring up trouble. Since they started this, she would pull no punches. Hailey turned on the computer and typed on the keyboard. A more complete video was obtained and posted online along with a comment. "Gossips should be damned."

Owen came back and immediately called a meeting with the executives. Even

lunch was skipped. Jose came over with a lunchbox and news. "Mr. Moore, your wife was attacked on the internet." Owen browsed the web pages and furrowed his brows. Jose unfolded the

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whole story, observed the expression of his boss, and said, "It was a joint attack, and I've had it investigated. The successor to Artistic Talent, Andy, hired trolls to support several artists who are working for him. Some of them maintain certain relationships with him. Apart from personal enmity, he has deliberately undermined Southern Star Entertainment. The strife between them is fierce." "Andy," Owen said in a deep voice, "he has been pretty active in the past few years."

Jose chewed over his words and probed, "Artistic Talent has been gaining momentum. We have several ads undergoing with them." After a pause, he added, "Mr. Carter wants to have dinner with you and discuss the advertisements for the second half of the year." Owen ignored it and asked, "How did Crystaldale deal with it?" "They posted something." Jose found the tweets on his phone and showed them to his boss. Owen took it and read them. The marks and annotations in the replies amused him. "Gossips should be damned." Ouch. At a glance, he knew who had left that

comment. "So, she responded to them in person?" Owen's calm eyes lit up. It was a question, but his tone was affirmative. He shook his head and smiled. "Naughty."

Jose was stunned. Did he have a hallucination? What was Mr. Moore saying?

Hailey's approach amused not only Owen but also many netizens. The

comment section was a hilarious scene. "That's what I'm talking about. I itched to correct those misspellings. It's called OCD!"

"LMAO! Is Miss Operations a teacher? She corrected the errors and remarked.

Should we grade them? I think they failed the test." "That's awesome and funny, hahaha..."

"I have a feeling that these were posted by Miss Newman. Listen to her remarks in the video. Isn't the tone the same?" "Overbearing! I was wondering why she had thrown wine at others for no

reason. Is that gossip? It's called slandering! If I were her, I couldn't stand it either. Throwing wine at them is light for a punishment!"

"The villains sue their victim only to humiliate themselves, Miss Newman is

awesome. They deserved it.” “I’m curious about what the lady in red looks like. Does anyone have a picture

of her face?”

Public opinion changed fast. The netizens took delight in it. Not ready to give up, those celebrities dissed Hailey and bitterly accused her of not donating a penny. The editor-in-chief of Zero Hour, Grace, posted the specifics of Hailey’s donations. In fact, half of the funds raised at the party came from Hailey. She had kept a low profile and asked Chris to donate on her behalf.

Then Miss Newman and her Graona emerald necklace, which had been auctioned for more than 3 million dollars, topped the trending topics once again. Surprisingly, it was taken down in less than 30 seconds. She was really keeping a low profile.

In the quiet office, Owen browsed the web pages for a long time before

instructing in a serious voice, “Give Artistic Talent a call and tell Shawn that the deal is off. We’ll find another advertising partner for the second half of the

year.”

Chapter 052 Belated Affection Is Cheap

The war online started strong but ended quietly. The spectators hadn’t had enough of it. In the evening, Artistic Talent released a statement: the malicious incitement of abuses by Maureen Copeland and other artists has damaged the image of the company and violated the provisions in the contract. Their contracts will be terminated, and they’ll be dismissed.

Apart from deleting the tweets, Maureen and others apologized to Miss Newman and the public sincerely and humbly. Their attitudes were a stark contrast to their aggressiveness in the afternoon. The reversal stimulated the netizens once again. The media had expected a war between Artistic Talent and Southern Star Entertainment. They had been watching and picking sides. Unexpectedly, Artistic Talent gave in so soon. Their approach was disgusting and ridiculous. As for those vicious artists, they were not popular, to begin with. With the

release of the statement, their works were taken down. Their accounts were banned. Apparently, they would be benched. No one had expected things to turn out this way. Who was this lady exactly? Out of curiosity, people searched for Miss Newman’s name, but there wasn’t any information about her. She hadn’t even registered any account on social media. She was as mysterious as a legend. What was even more astounding was that all the relevant news and comments had disappeared from the Internet by night. Even that video was gone.

Some netizens rejoiced that they had saved the video. When they checked their phones, however, the video was nowhere to be seen. They were shocked to no

end.

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In the car that was taking her home, Hailey talked over the phone, “Brook, public

opinion on the internet changes constantly. Soon, no one will remember me. Your approach is a bit radical and might arouse suspicion." "Whatever! They won't find any evidence." On the other end of the phone, Brook was aggrieved. "You know, our brothers bombarded me in the afternoon,

blaming me for failing to protect you and leaving the battle to you." "I like battles. It's fun," Hailey didn't think it was much of a big deal. She looked

at the quiet chatting group and asked wonderingly, "Why haven't they started scolding me?" "You tell me! Do they have the heart to?" Brook snorted. "For the record. We

stick to our own jobs. Leave the internet world to me and stay away from such things. I'll take care of them. You don't have to expose yourself, alright?"

Hailey looked out of the window and said helplessly, "Brook, I'm a grown-up and can protect myself. You have your own lives and do not have to do anything for me."

"That's not true. It's our duty to protect you. We can shield you from the wind and rain." Brook said matter-of-factly. "Think you that you can run away from us since you've grown up? As long as you're still our sister, you'll listen to us, alright?"

Hailey rubbed her brows and sighed. "I'd better find suitable ladies for you guys

to marry. Once you're all married, you'll leave me alone." Brook laughed, "Even Karl doesn't have a girlfriend, and the rest of us are not in a hurry. As for Jared, he has never been short of women. He is diligent." The two siblings chatted for a while before Brook added, "By the way, Randal called me today, saying that the filming will be over soon and that he will be back in a couple of days. Don't worry about anything about Southern Star Entertainment. He'll take care of it."

"It's nice that he'll be back, but I got this. Never mind, when he comes back, I'll talk to him," Hailey said tiredly. "Okay, I'll catch you later."

"One more thing!" Brook cleared his throat, "Well, I'm not sure if I should tell you this." Hailey frowned and said, "Just spill it." "I just received news that Mazedew Group and Artistic Talent are business

partners. Several plays of Artistic Talent are sponsored by the former. They have worked together for a long time. It's said that Mazedew Group terminated the partnership and decided to find a new advertising agency in the afternoon. Shawn, the owner of Artistic Talent, immediately flew to North City with Andy. I think Owen did that probably for your sake," Brook speculated. "That's impossible," Hailey retorted. "You underestimated Owen. He is not an

emotional person. You also overestimated me. I'm not that important in his heart. Maybe there was a clash of views."

"It can't be a coincidence. Artistic Talent provoked you in the afternoon, and then Mazedew Group terminated the contract with them. There should be a connection," Brook reasoned. "And Andy was beaten up by his father. Even the glasses and mask couldn't cover up his wounds. I believe they were going to North City to apologize. Moreover, the statement of apology from Artistic Talent is pretty sincere."

Hailey's brows furrowed. In fact, she also found the apology coming too soon. Given their shameless style, they should have continued the war. Surprisingly, they ate the crow. Did Owen really interfere with it? Why did he do that? She wondered. "As I see it, he might have fallen in love with you. He's trying to make amends and win back your heart." Brook took a wild guess and teased her, "Men are cheap. They don't cherish their possessions until they lose them. In my view, Owen is regretting it." Hailey snorted, "Belated affection is cheap, and regret is not in my dictionary. Dwelling on the past is meaningless." She would not jump into the same pit.

North City. "Mr. Moore, this is a misunderstanding. We didn't know Miss Newman and you are friends, otherwise, we wouldn't have dared to offend her." Sitting on the

sofa, the president of Artistic Talent smiled flatteringly and pleaded repeatedly, "It's my fault that I failed to discipline my son. Kid, what are you waiting for? Apologize to Mr. Moore!" Shawn yelled at Andy, who was slovenly leaning on the sofa. His face was black and blue. There were bruises at the corners of his eyes and mouth. Apparently, he had been battered. Andy grudgingly stood up and apologized, "I'm sorry, Mr. Moore. I didn't expect Miss Newman to have connections with you." His feminine face flashed with coldness. "I'm curious about your relationship. It's said that you're on good terms with Miss Brown. I've never heard about anything between Miss Newman and you." He touched the corner of his mouth that was hurting and smirked. "Your ex-wife

is Ms. Byrne. Your former fiancée is Miss Brown, and there came a third woman, Miss Newman. Your romantic history is quite rich."

Chapter 053 What Was She Up To?

Slap. As soon as Andy's voice died away, his father smacked him so hard that he spun and almost fell. Shawn's cursing resounded through the office. "Shut up, you wretch!"

Owen was just sitting there watching the drama. He remained silent the entire time. Andy received a beating and a glare from his father before he behaved himself. Compared with his cynical and unruly son, Shawn was an old fox who knew when to advance or retreat. He was aware of the importance of having a great patron and playing to the score. "No offense, Mr. Moore. Andy is spoiled by me and only into love affairs." Shawn smiled elegantly, "Men should focus on their careers, and romance is just icing on the cake. We should never let it mess with our judgment. Don't you think?"

Owen raised his eyes and looked at the man indifferently. "Mr. Carter, are you talking about me?" The smile on Shawn's face froze. In the past, he could sit, talk, and laugh with Owen, but now he needed a favor from the man and could barely maintain his composure.

Although Owen was not much older than Andy, his aura was even stronger than that of Shawn. He was naturally awe-inspiring. His temperament was based on his strength and ability. "No, there is no way you're an emotional person." "So, I have my reasons to stop partnering with Artistic Talent."

Owen slightly leaned back in the chair. At a raise of the hand, Jose came up and handed Shawn a stack of files. The latter had a bad feeling but took it nevertheless. He flipped through a few pages before his face darkened. From behind him, Andy had a glimpse of the content and turned pale. "How come you have this?" Andy's eyes rounded as he looked at Owen. "Where did you get it? Are you behind all of this?"

Agitated, he rushed over to question Owen, but Jose intercepted him and grabbed his arm so heavily that it almost broke. Andy grunted in pain. "Mr. Moore, have mercy!" Shawn lost his cool. At the end of the day, Andy was his son, and Shawn couldn't see him hurt.

Sitting on the sofa, Owen remained composed. "Young people shouldn't be impulsive. It's okay that you fool around, but you should know the limits. It's undesirable that you make stupid mistakes." Shawn broke into a cold sweat, bowing and scraping "I had it intercepted before it could be delivered to the relevant departments.

Take the files and the contract back. Spoiling your son is no different from killing him. Heed my advice, Mr. Carter." Owen was wearing a black shirt today. It blended into the black chair. He was sitting there motionless and emotionless

There was no way such a man would give himself over to blind emotions. The cold sweat had drenched Shawn's shirt. Their trip here was fruitless and ridiculous. He grabbed his paralyzed son and left in dejection. After they left, Jose said with concern, "The father and son are evil. I'm afraid they'd vent their anger on your wife."

The look on Owen's face was distant. Aware of what kind of person the father and son were, he had the same concern. "Keep an eye on them and inform me of anything abnormal. Send people to watch Hailey too." "Consider it done." Jose went away to carry out his order.

After dinner, Hailey went to the machine room and selected a piece of material. She planned to do some carving practice. Since she returned to Poya, she had been busy with company affairs and out of practice. Her skills were getting rusty. Sitting under the lamp, she started to carve a piece of gold with a knife. The glittering metal was money even if it was in the form of powders, but Hailey thought nothing of it. Following the fine marks, she accurately and

quickly had a rose carved out. It was true to life. It was a unique craft of the Newman family, passed down to one person in each

generation. Her grandpa passed it down to her father, and her father passed it down to her. When Hailey was three years old, she started carving things in her father's arms. A great amount of gold, silver, and jade had been wasted before she acquired the skill

Those in her family were the only ones in the know. The secret had been kept even from Owen. After carving a rose, Hailey prepared to carve another when the landline phone rang. She got up to pick it up before Lily's voice came. She

was told that Eve wanted to see her. "Let her in!"

The last few days had been tormenting for Eve. Ever since Hailey came back, she hadn't lived a happy day. She had been grounded from time to time. Under watch, she couldn't come out. It was as terrible as serving in prison. Today, she found a chance to call Morgan for help when she was using the bathroom. She urged her father to come to her rescue. Unfortunately, Morgan was too obsessed with stone gambling to care about her. He brushed her off

and hung up the phone, which irritated Eve. Her avaricious father was always unreliable when it came to the critical moment. Eve sat on the toilet, fidgeting. If things went on like this, she would be driven crazy by Hailey. Then again, she didn't think it was wise to clash with Hailey head-on. That would not do her any good. She didn't want to do this alone anymore. She needed help. Biting her lips, Eve mulled it over and made a decision. She dialed another number and pinned her hope on it. "Hailey." The butler took Eve to Hailey's room. Eve politely greeted Hailey rather than shout abuse like before. Hailey did the final touch to the carving and hummed indifferently. Her practice today had paid off. She glanced at Eve and took her eyes back. "I gave you two days to memorize it. You've done it so soon? Looks like I underestimated your intelligence. Recite it for me."

Eve was stunned. She had been trying to outsmart the two bodyguards today and had no time even to lick her wounds. No kidding. She was in no mood to memorize the family rules. There was a total of 100 items that just would not

register. "About that." She smiled awkwardly, "I haven't memorized them all yet. How

about I recite it for you tomorrow? I came to ask a favor. I hope you'll grant it." There was a dramatic change in Eve's attitude. Three years ago, or since their childhood, to be precise, she had been polite and well-behaved in front of Hailey. Only later did she reveal her true color.

Her flattery couldn't spell anything good. Eva hadn't changed, but Hailey was no

longer that good-tempered girl either. "What is it?" Eve replied, "I'm thinking if I can get Ava here for a couple of days. She's about to graduate from college, and the three of us haven't been together for a while.

Miss her very much."

Hailey took a sidelong glance at her. "As far as I remember, Ava and you don't

get along. You have vied with each other since childhood."

"No, we are cousins, and quarrels are normal. Besides, it was all in the past. We've grown up and should stick to each other. Don't you think?"

Hailey looked at the devious smile on Eve's face and lamented in her heart. What else could Eve be up to? Calling over help to deal with her wicked cousin.

"So be it. We'll have a get-together." They were both her cousins anyway. She

could discipline them together. It would be a lively scene.

Chapter 054 Born Wicked

Studying in a local school, Ava soon came. With a bag on her back and a suitcase in her hand, she appeared in the Garden of Rose in her school uniform. She was full of youthfulness. Ava looked at the blooming roses in the courtyard and had a flashback to the past.

It was presumably three years ago when she was here last time. It was the funeral of Hailey's parents that day. Her sunny cousin, who had been spoiled since her childhood, was all tears. Not long after, Hailey also "died". She watched Morgan and Eve move into the villa and rooted out the roses. At that

moment, she understood how cruel the world was. "Ava, you're here!" Memorizing the family rules had been killing her. At the sight of Ava, Eve rushed downstairs and welcomed Ava with open arms. Unaccustomed to Eve's hospitality, Ava curled her lips and called out dully, "Eve."

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"Feel at home, we're cousins." Eve warmly led Ava into her room and pushed the bodyguards outside. "I need to talk to my cousin. Give us the room and come in later!"

Ava looked at the two bodyguards, unsure of the situation. She asked in confusion, "What's going on?" After the bodyguards left, Eve put on a different face, suddenly held Ava, and burst into tears. "Ava, you're finally back! You have no idea of my sufferings!"

Ava was puzzled. "Tsk, Eve is such a drama queen. It's a shame that she didn't go to film school." Brook stared at the surveillance monitor, holding a cup of black coffee. The

sudden drama surprised him so much that he almost choked on the coffee.

While the scene was cast, Hailey signed documents with a pen and said

blandly, "The students of film schools don't have such lame acting skills." She looked down at Ava's delicate face. Three years apart, the girl had grown up. She was now thin. Her baby fat was no more.

Before Ava could tumble to the situation, Eve took Ava's hand in hers and

poured out her grievances. She complained about Hailey's ruthless oppression in the name of her elder cousin ever since Hailey came back to life. "Look at my knees, still swollen. She asked me to kneel by the toilet all night! By the toilet!

All night! Can you believe that? She made me memorize the family rules which include a total of 100 items. If I fail to recite them, she'd hit me with a ruler. What makes her think she can do that? She is bullying me." Eve's accusation amused Brook. He poked Hailey's shoulder and said, "That's a bit cruel. From who did you learn it? It's terrible." "You call that cruel?" Hailey snorted. "Compared with what she did to me, it's nothing. I should have hung her up and thrashed her." She could throw Eve into prison and make the latter pay for what she had done. Back then, she had worked with Luca to kill her. Hailey was merciful enough that she neither killed nor sued Eve. Domestic issues should be addressed at home. As the saying went, no washing wash dirty linen in public. To make Eve learn a lesson from the suffering was not a bad thing. Ava listened and asked in shock, "Did Hailey really do that to you?" "I have no reason to lie to you." Eve pointed at herself, "Who else dares to treat me like this? This place is my prison, and I have no one to talk to. Thankfully, you came." An awkward smile tugged Ava's mouth. She didn't think she had anything to talk to Eve. Eve observed Ava's expression and grabbed her hand. "Ava, are you still blaming me for the things I did to you when we were kids?" Ava pursed her lips but said nothing. "I was little and ignorant. I didn't mean to bully you. Actually... there is

something I want to tell you all along." Eve was hesitant. Ava looked up at her cousin and asked, "What is it?" Eve bit her lips as if to make a hard decision. "Actually, it was not my intention to cut your skirt, draw a turtle on your face, and push you into the thorny bush. It was Hailey who forced me to do those things!" "What?" Ava narrowed her eyes, "Hailey asked you to bully me? Why did she do that?"

“What else could it be? For fun,” Eve replied. “We are different from Hailey who was born with a silver spoon in her mouth. Grandpa doted on her, and her

parents pampered her. She was loved by everyone. Because she didn’t like school, they hired the best tutors for her. Her father was rich after all.

What about you and me? My dad was an assistant who could barely make ends meet. In his desperation, he invested in stocks but lost all his money along with his job. My mother then divorced him. You were in a more difficult situation. Your stepmother constantly gave you hard times. In front of Hailey, we were like her maids rather than her cousins. We had to subject ourselves to her disposition.”

Ava shook her head and said, “That’s not true. We suffered because our parents didn’t love us. What has it got to do with Hailey? She has been kind to us.” “If she were really kind, she should have invited us to live in the Garden of Rose! She should have let us receive the same elite education!” Eve said resentfully and righteously. “We’re all daughters of the Newman family. Why are we treated so differently? Do you think she’s nice because she gave you clothes and food? That was just her vanity. She was giving us alms condescendingly. You don’t get it. In her mind, we’re nothing but insects she can easily crush. To survive, we should join hands to deal with her!” “How do you suggest we do that?” Ava asked. “I’ve fallen out with her, and she is guarding against me. It’s a different story for you since you’re new here. You can fake obedience in front of her and gain her trust. Then we’ll figure out the next step,” Eve said. “Once she trusts you, we can achieve anything. She will be at our mercy!”

Hailey looked coldly at Eve’s sinister, distorted face on the screen. Her mother was correct about one thing. Some people were born evil. They could not be changed or saved. When they rotted to the core, it was time to collect their bodies.

Chapter 055 Bring My Daughter-In-Law Back Eve was unaware that the room had been monitored, much less knew that Hailey had seen everything. Brook watched the whole process and clicked his tongue. “I thought you were cruel. To my surprise, your cousins, Eve, in particular, are not good-natured either! You treated them so well when you were kids, sharing food and drinks with them. In the end, you got yourself two ingrates. You really can’t be nice to certain people. They bite the hand that feeds them.”

Hailey had enough of it, turned off the monitor, and said indifferently, “It’s not

too late to know it now. After seeing her true color, I will pull no punches.” “Eve is led astray by her dad. She’s jealous of anyone who has a better life than she does, but Ava is different,” Brook said. “I know about certain things. Ever since Reid married that vicious woman, Ava has been in a difficult situation and almost lost her chance to enter college. Even the tuition fees are earned by her through doing part-time jobs. I heard that it has been three years since she went home. Reid doesn’t care about her. His attention is all on his second wife and their son.”

Hailey leaned back on the sofa and sneered, “Reid clings to the old concept, preferring boys to girls. It has been his wish to have a son. Flattering himself as someone with superior genes.” “Or he dreams of becoming an emperor someday and passing on the throne to his heir.”

Hailey shook his head helplessly. “It’s no longer the feudal age, and he is still so

pedantic. He is beyond hope.” Brook asked, “So what now? Your cousins are watching and biding their time to

topple you.”

Hailey picked up her coffee, had a sip, and said nonchalantly, “Rebellion will add interest to our mundane life.” She would just deal with them one by one.

Owen had been in meetings all day. When it was finally over, he grabbed his phone and headed out. The phone had been muted during the meeting, and there were several missed calls, Polly and Eliza were among the callers. He

ignored the latter and called his mother back. “Twas in a meeting. What’s wrong?”

Exchanging pleasantries had never been the thing for the mother and son. Polly went straight to the point, “I heard that you went to Poya. How is your talk with Hailey? When are you going to remarry?” It had been such a long meeting that Owen felt a tightness in his chest. He loosened his tie and replied solemnly, “Hailey and I have divorced.” “I know. I’m asking you when you’re going to remarry.” Polly thought her logic was sound. Met with his silence, she continued, “Got rebuffed? Well, that’s normal given how you treated Hailey. If I were her, I would give you a cold shoulder as well. In fact, she’s merciful enough not to hit you. Listen up, put up with it no matter how she treats you. Bear with her scolding or beating. In short, I don’t care what methods you use. You will bring my daughter-in-law back! Are we clear?”

Owen’s face darkened. He wondered if he was adopted and if Hailey was the

biological one. Chris knocked on the door and came in with a stack of newspapers in his arms. Out of breath, he said, “Mr. Moore, I’ve found the information you asked for.”

The newspapers thudded on the coffee table, raising a cloud of dust. Owen wrinkled his brows with disdain. “Where did you find them?”

“Don’t underestimate my effort. I retrieved these from an old newsstand. Since the news online is either gone or incomplete, I have to look for relevant newspapers.” Chris sighed with emotions. “Paper media exist for a reason.”

Owen sat down on the sofa and flipped through the dusty old newspapers. At that moment, the germophobe no longer cared if they were clean or not. He was desperate to find out the truth. What made Hailey decide to marry him back then? It was a special year three years ago, full of major events. A financial crisis swept through the business world. The investment downturn left many companies on the brink of bankruptcy. The Browns were judged as dishonest debtors.

Almost killed in a car accident, he was frequently covered in the news. Before his accident, there was another serious car accident that caused a nationwide and global sensation.

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The victims were the president of Crystaldale and his wife. The story was covered for a whole month and hit the headlines. Even Interpol was involved in the investigation. The results showed that someone had planted a time bomb in the car to fake an accident. The couple and the driver were disfigured and killed in the explosion.

Everyone in the country lamented the tragedy. Many people suspected that the crash was orchestrated by the rivals of the Newman family, and Mazedew Group was the prime suspect. They were even summoned by the police.

In a branch company, Owen was leading the team to work on a project in another city. He wasn't at the headquarters back then. His focus was to help the Brown family pay off the debts, and he didn't pay much attention to the accident.

He remembered the broadcast of Mr. and Mrs. Newman's funeral. In mourning, their only daughter didn't reveal her face to the camera. Only her back appeared on the screen. He still remembered that thin yet indomitable figure. Then something that happened when he was discharged from the hospital crossed his mind. His mother asked him to select one of the medical staff to be his wife. The doctors and nurses were surprised or evasive with different expressions on their faces.

Hailey, however, was expressionless and indifferent to his argument with his mother. She was just silently working on the ointment at the window with her back toward him.

He pointed to her and said, "I'll choose her." Amidst the gasps from the crowd, Hailey looked back and stiffened at the sight of his outstretched finger. Her

eyes were filled with astonishment and delight. She replied readily, "Accepted." For some unknown reason, he had a familiar feeling the moment Hailey appeared in front of him. It came from her back, face, eyes, and the way she looked at him. Ryker once told him that Hailey had a crush on a man for ten years and that he was likely to be the man. "Mr. Moore, these are your footprints ten years ago." Chris handed over a pile of

files and added, "You were serving in the army and on missions in the deep forests. The situation was dangerous, and I don't think you could have any romantic encounter."

That was the confusing part. Before marrying Hailey, he had barely maintained

contact with any woman. Even when he was dating Eliza, their meetings were numbered and close to zero after he served in the army. How could he possibly meet Hailey ten years ago?

Owen checked out the files and his footprints. As Chris had said, he was in remote mountains and deep forests. There was no way Hailey would go to that kind of place. He was lost in thought as scenes in the past flashed across his mind until a place named Groyfast lingered. He remembered a girl. The

14-year-old girl was kidnapped back then.

"14.." Owen murmured and closed his eyes. The dirty face of the girl resurfaced

in his mind. With a broad smile, she said, "Sir, may I know your name? You saved me. I'll repay you when I grow up." Her eyes overlapped with another pair. He suddenly opened his eyes and asked

Chris, "How old is Hailey?" .

Chapter 056 She's That Girl

"Huh?" Chris was baffled. 'She's your wife, not mine.' That was his first reaction. However, his boss looked so serious, and he had to recall it carefully. "Mrs. Moore is young and 24 or 25, maybe." Owen's pupils contracted. If Hailey was 24, she was 14 ten years ago. Could the kidnapped girl be her? He was shocked as something sparked in his mind. His heart was racing but his ears were buzzing. The old memories came flooding back.

He took a breath and dialed Matthew's number. As soon as the line got through, he asked, "Do you still remember that secret mission at Groyfast ten years ago?"

Matthew had arrived in Belindao not for long. He was discussing the horse ranch issue with his father, and Owen's question made him freeze. He recalled it briefly and said, "You mean the mission we went on to rescue a kidnapped girl?" "Exactly." Owen solemnly stared at the files, his lips going dry. "Do you remember what she looks like?" "That was a long time ago, man. How can I possibly remember?" Matthew tried

his best to think back. "I only remember she was 14 years old in the mission statement. As for her identity and family background, it was confidential. That mission was top-secret, and I was scared out of my wits. I thought I couldn't make it. That was a close shave. I didn't expect the other party to be so tough to divide our squad. As far as I remember, you penetrated the hinterland and rescued her, right?" It had been long since their retirement, but those battling days in the past still got his adrenalin rushing and continued to intrigue him. "Why do you suddenly bring this up?" Matthew didn't get it.

Immersed in his memories, Owen quietly got up and went to the window. He also remembered how difficult that mission was. Their goal was simple, but their opponents were tough. He had no idea why those internationally notorious mercenaries kidnapped a girl. A total of ten men, including Matthew and him, were sent on the mission. 20 back then, they were hot-blooded and fearless. Their squad was divided by the

enemies. His comrades-in-arms opened a path for him, creating a chance for him to save the girl from the hinterland. He calculated the number of their opponents. They didn't stand a chance of winning. However, a desperate fight was their only option. To his surprise, by the time he entered the house, the girl had taken one man down with a knife.

She had been tied up for 21 days. Those people had taken her to travel across half of Scoysia. In rags, she was scraggy, scarred, and dirty. Even in such a

terrible state, she slit the throat of the other party swiftly and unblinkingly. The blood spurted. Aware that he had come to her rescue, she requested immediately, "Give me a gun." They fought side by side and exterminated their enemies. He had never seen such a brave girl before. She was a dead shot. Just as he was about to praise her, the tough girl suddenly fell into his arms and softened like a snowflake. He went out with her lying in his arms like a cloud. With a smile, she asked him his name and promised to repay him when she grew up. He replied, "My name is Owen. I don't need you to repay me. Just live." In the

sunlight of Groyfast, her pretty eyes were shining. Owen was in a long trance till Matthew's voice brought him back to reality. His eyelashes fluttered. He cleared his throat and said, "What if I tell you that girl is Hailey?" "What?" It was jaw-dropping.

At a high-end restaurant in the central business area, Brook and Hailey were

enjoying their dinner amid the melodious music. Brook cut the steak and glanced across the table at Hailey who was eating salad. He felt guilty about it. "I'm eating meat, and you're eating grass. The outsiders might think I'm mistreating you." Hailey had a piece of lettuce and replied, "You're mistreating me if you ask me

to eat meat. I ate too much at Savory Restaurant at noon. I need grass to neutralize the grease." Brook sipped his wine and asked, "With Matthew?" "Yeah." Hailey nodded.

Brook continued to cut the steak. "How is the horse ranch business going on?" "Almost there." Hailey had a sip of water, "Matthew is not the decision-maker. Old Mr. Holland calls the shot. It seems they want to find a second partner."

Brook wrinkled his eyebrows. "What does that mean? They don't trust you? Or they think that the Feline Group doesn't have enough budget?" Hailey shook his head. "Neither. It's strategic. They believe that the operations will be easier if a third company from North City joins in."

"And you let Owen walk away." Brook shook his glass of wine, "In terms of

strength, there isn't a better company than Mazedew Group." Hailey pursed her lips and mumbled, "I don't want any form of connection with him."

"Business and private feelings should be separated. You know the drill." Brook offered guidance, "You're thinking about making up for two million dollars you lost on the necklace, aren't you? This is your chance." "I certainly will make money." Hailey was determined about the issue. Besides,

there was something else troubling her. "I don't know what went wrong with Owen. He has been pursuing the reason why I married him." Brook snickered, "Men are cheap. Did you tell him?" Hailey shook her head. "We've divorced. What's the point? He wants to know, but I won't tell him just for fun."

"Makes sense. You had a crush on him for ten years, not the other way around. That's embarrassing." Hailey was annoyed and gnashed her teeth. "Hey." "What, am I wrong?" Brook teased her, "Who always says that she will repay him and marry him who plays Juliet every day?" "Brook Kirkland!" Hailey glared at the man and blushed with anger. Brook gloated but had to coax her. "Just kidding. Don't be upset. Really, you've repaid him. He saved you, and you saved him and took care of him for three years. You're even now. You don't have to keep that in mind any longer." Brook looked at Hailey seriously. "Even if he remembers you one day, you can just tell him that you no longer owe him anything." Hailey's eyes dimmed as she thought of the man who had saved her, slighted

her, and abandoned her. A bitter smile was all that she could give. Her love for him was unrequited. She couldn't blame anyone for the results. It was a gamble, and she had to live with it.

Chapter 057 Would Love Disappear After hearing Owen out, Matthew was in a daze. He found it hard to believe. "You mean, Hailey married you and took care of you for three years to repay you? For your

rescue in Groyfast?" Owen hummed. It should be the case. "My goodness." Matthew came to his senses, but his eyes were still filled with astonishment. "This sounds dramatic. In modern times, a girl repays her benefactor through marrying him?" "It's not all requital." Owen's eyebrows furrowed. For some unknown reason, he didn't want to ascribe their marriage to requital. He then shared Ryker's remark with his friend.

Matthew had his father's tea to get over the shock. When Owen told him that Hailey had a crush on him for ten years, he spat out the tea. Old Mr. Holland, who got tea all over his face, was pissed off. He used his stick to drive his son out of the room.

Matthew rushed out and closed the door. He was still choked up. "For real?

Hailey had a crush on you for ten years? You're not delusional, are you?"

Owen pursed his thin lips and said solemnly, "I'm not narcissistic, nor would I joke with such a thing."

"That's true. Still, it's incredible." Matthew returned to his room and poured himself a glass of wine. "So, you've got the answer. What are you going to do? I have to remind you that this may be just your speculation. Do you have proof?"

"That's where I need your help with." Owen had planned to relearn the computer and looked into it himself. Now he could not wait any longer. He was dying to know the truth.

Matthew had a headache as he remembered Hailey's computer skills that he had seen with his own eyes. "It's not that I don't want to help, but I may not necessarily beat that girl."

"What do you mean?" Owen was alert and perspicacious as well, "Is Hailey also good at it?"

At such a point, Matthew decided to tell him the truth. "She is professional, and I believe her skills match mine. You tried to check her profiles but failed, didn't

you? I was in the car and witnessed how she frustrated your effort." Owen was stunned. So, it was Hailey who had called him a loser and given him the finger the other day? His ex-wife who seemed to know nothing? "Shocking, eh? I freaked out and thought I was hallucinating." Matthew finally found someone to share the secrets he had kept. His dull buddy had been in the dark

"That's not the only thing. Your ex-wife, Ms. Newman, is not only a master hacker but also a top chef! Remember Gail Clayton, the chef of the national banquet? We had his dishes once, and I tried to poach him. He turned me down and claimed that he was going to study. Guess who was he studying under? Hailey! He called Hailey a teacher and said that all his skills came from her. Can you believe that?" Matthew gibbered, "I've never had food cooked by

Hailey before and doubt it. She promised to cook for me when she is in a good mood. Now my mouth is watering."

Owen's heart was in his throat. These things about Hailey had never been seen

in her, but he somehow could imagine it. He pressed his hand against the glass so forcefully that his knuckles turned white. He was like trying to hold onto something. She had fooled him. She was not only a daughter of the Newman family. She was a master hacker and a top chef.

He had been completely in the dark. He itched to fly to Hailey immediately, hold

her shoulders, and question her. Why had she been disguising herself? Why wouldn't she tell him that she was that girl? "I'm going back to Poya. Send me her phone number. I'm going to ask her

about everything!" Owen dismissed the idea of going on with the investigation since Hailey was capable of keeping certain things from him. Her computer skills were better. What could he do?

For the first time in his life, he loved and hated a woman. In front of her, he was all helpless. This kind of feeling was driving him crazy.

Hailey, who was driving nuts by her ex-husband, was on her way home. With her

eyes closed, she leaned on the seat, contemplating Brook's analysis of the situation and Matthew's concern. The best solution available now was to get Mazedew Group involved in this project.

Business and private feelings should be separated. It had been her way of doing things. She shouldn't make an exception for Owen. She sighed lightly, opened her eyes, and rolled down the window. She looked at the vast darkness outside and felt the cool evening breeze. Deep down, she was feeling uneasy. It was water under the bridge, but it took time to get over a person she had truly

loved. So far, she still couldn't forget that day from ten years ago. They were fighting side by side. She was lying in his arms. His face was resolute while his arms were warm and firm.

She asked him with a smile, "Sir, may I know your name? You saved me, and I will repay you when I grow up." He replied, "My name is Owen. You don't have to repay me. Just live."

A forlorn smile tugged at her mouth. Hailey murmured a poem, "Long gone are the days when we first met. The present is the painted fan left forlorn by summer. How is it that promises are so easy to forget while you glibly accuse the heart as the denier?"

The midnight oath you made on the mountain echoed as a mockery on this rainy night. Even the emperor was a greater man in deed when he endeavored to keep his love alive.

People would grow old. Hearts would change. Love would disappear.

Hailey returned to the Garden of Rose and entered the house. Eve and Ava were having dinner in the kitchen. At the sight of her, they got up. "Hailey, you're back." The two looked well-behaved.

Hailey hummed and glanced at them. Ava and she hadn't seen each other for years. The girl looked different in person than in the surveillance video. She looked thinner and frailer. The three of them were about the same age. Eve was one year younger than Hailey, and Ava was one year younger than Eve. They were on good terms when they were little and unwealthy. What had changed them? "Did you have dinner?" Ava looked at her and asked primly, "Would you like to dine with us?"

"It's okay. I've had dinner." Hailey's attitude was bland. She didn't bother to fake enthusiasm. "Stay as long as you like and keep Eve company. She is too

lonely." She then laid her eyes on Eve. "Today is the second day. Come to my study after dinner. I'll review your work. Don't forget to bring the ruler. Ava, you'll come along." Eve swallowed her pride, nodding and saying yes along with Ava. Deep down, she was full of resentment. I'll endure this for now! Wait and see. I'll make you pay for the humiliation today!

Chapter 058 Betrayal of My Family After dinner, Eve led Ava to the study. Scott's favorite style had been retained. The room was antique, with a wall of books. On the other wall, there was a calligraphy work that wrote "Keep your word and show the results." There were paintings, antiques, jade... Eve and Ava had seen such things from their fathers' possessions before, but they had never been allowed to touch them or taught how to appreciate them. They were both laymen.

Hailey sat down, flipped through a miscellany, and listened nonchalantly as Eve

recited the family rules. There was a total of 100 items, and Eve hadn't tried to memorize them yesterday. Today, she had been cramming for the test, but the

knowledge didn't quite register. She stammered throughout the process. "Finished?" As she stopped reciting, Hailey slightly raised her head. Eve nodded meekly. "Sorry, I didn't memorize them all. You have my word. I'll

study harder and abide by the rules." "You'd better be. Do a calculation and see how many items you missed." As Hailey picked up the ruler, Eve was appalled. She had thought that Hailey just wanted a promise from her. Unexpectedly, the woman was really going to

punish her.

"H-Hailey..." Eve subconsciously put her hands behind her back and sweated nervously, "You're not really going to hit me, are you?" Hailey raised her eyes indifferently. "Or what? Do you think I was kidding?" Eve tensed up and panicked. Ava's heart was gripped by fear as she had seen

everything from behind Eve. Hailey had changed a lot. She used to be a sunny and warm girl. Now she was cold and unapproachable.

"The family rules are made up of 100 items. You recited 70 of them, missed 30, and made mistakes with 14. According to our agreement, you will be hit 44 times." Like an unforgiving judge, Hailey ruthlessly sentenced Eve, "Show me your hands." Eve complied albeit reluctantly and got hit 44 times. Her white palms visibly

swelled, turning black and blue. The pain aggrieved her so much that she burst into tears. Even her swollen hands and arms were shaking. The pain was killing

her. "Go back and apply some medicine." Hailey handed the ruler back to Eve with no hard feelings. "Come back and

recite it again tomorrow tonight. Same rule. If you're not afraid of pain, fudge as you like." Her eyes then fell on Ava's face. "Ava, it's the same case with you. When you live here, you abide by my rules. Come and recite the family rules with Eve tomorrow night."

"Okay," Ava blurted out and numbly raised her hand, "Actually, I... have memorized them."

Hailey and Eve both looked over. Eve's smudged face was filled with

astonishment. "What? You've memorized them?" She desperately winked at Ava, warning her cousin against acting rashly. Hailey was no longer the same loving girl. She was now a viper. Ava failed to take the hint and just looked at Hailey innocently with her round eyes. "I kept Eve company when she was memorizing the family rules." Hailey nodded, sent Eve away, and called Ava to come closer. "Try reciting it for me." She took the book and resumed her reading. Ava collected herself before reciting the 100 family rules smoothly and fluently like a pupil. She didn't make a single mistake. If the stumbling Eve was an

underperformer, then she was a straight-A student. "Not bad." Hailey praised Ava and looked at her cousin with interest, "As far as I remember, you've been doing well with your study. You were granted a top

scholarship when they were admitted to Stoughsby University, and your major is jewelry design, right?" Ava nodded repeatedly. Her round eyes were glittering. "Yeah, you remember everything!" "I was away for three years but not amnesiac. Of course, I remember," Hailey

said calmly. "A good memory is my only merit. I am both a grateful and vindictive person. I haven't forgotten the past when we were living together, and nor will I forget the days to come." Her tone was bland. "I'll be nice to those who treat me well. As for the hostile

ones, I'll remember their every glare and scolding. I'll make them pay."

Ava's heart tightened. Somehow, she had a feeling that Hailey knew what Eve had said to her. A smart girl she was, she could sense something from Hailey's distant attitude and remarks.

She was not a fool, and neither was Hailey. Eve and she had been out of contact for many years till she was suddenly called over to the Garden of Rose. Eve's purpose was plain to see. "I know. You've always been clear about what to love or hate. Your world is

divided by black and white." Hailey shook her head. "I used to be like that but have grown up. I know that between black and white, there is a smear of gray." She looked fixedly at Ava and said in a cold tone, "It's called the betrayal of my family." Ava's eyes widened abruptly.

Ava settled down in the room next to Eve's. The latter applied a thick layer of ointment to her hands, but the burning pain didn't abate. On the contrary, it pierced her to the heart. Eve cursed Hailey and her entire family. "You saw how she bullied me. That was too much. How could she hit me with that thick ruler? Even my dad hasn't hit me like that. Wait and see, I'll have my revenge!" Eve babbled her accusations, but Ava was in a trance. She was chewing over Hailey's words. The betrayal of her family... Were the deaths of Hailey's parents really related to Morgan and her father? "Ava, I'm talking to you." Eve's voice brought Ava back to reality, "Is anything bothering you?" Ava curled her lips and replied, "Not really. I just find Hailey is no longer the

same as before."

"You can say that again!" Eve finally found someone she could talk freely to, "She's now like a... ghost from hell. Everything about her is creepy. Who knows where she was in those three years? By the way, did she give you a hard time?"

Did you really memorize the 100 family rules?" Ava's eyes flickered as she replied, "Nah, I made a few mistakes. Hailey spared me since I just arrived." Growing up in a loveless environment, she knew how to camouflage her emotions. When Eve heard that, she felt much better. "There are so many items, and she

just gives us two days. How can we possibly do it? We're not geniuses.

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Obviously, she is making things difficult for us! Don't be afraid, I'll protect you. We'll join hands to deal with her. Follow my plan and behave in front of her. When she lets her guard down, we will take her down in one fell swoop!"

Ava looked at the resentment and hostility on Eve's face. The meaning of the grey dawned on her. However strong the external enemies were, they were nothing as long as the family members stuck together. Internal strife and fratricidal fighting were what was really frightening.

In the study, Hailey sipped water, sat in the chair with her legs crossed, and quietly watched her two cousins who were plotting against her. A different emotion appeared in her eyes when she heard Ava's remarks. She turned off the surveillance and typed on the keyboard before Ava's profiles appeared on the screen. She read Ava's experiences over the years and sighed

to herself. Reid and his new wife were monsters.

In the dead of night, except for the bodyguards and servants on duty, everyone in the Garden of Rose had gone to bed. Hailey was still up. Leaning against the head of the bed, she was reading a book about antiques and seemed to be waiting for someone. When the clock was stuck at 0:00, someone tapped on the door. There she came.

Chapter 059 Come And Ride On My Coattails The door was not closed tightly, as if it was opened for her, and it could be opened with a slight push. Ava entered Hailey's room and whispered, "Sister, haven't you slept yet?" "You too." Hailey closed the book, propped herself up, and sat straight, looking up at her, "If you have something to say, come over here." Ava walked over. She was wearing cartoon pajamas made of pure cotton, which had turned white after washing. Stepping on the expensive Persian rug, she felt like she couldn't walk normally on it, and her whole body was full of restraint. "Sit down." Hailey asked her to sit down, pulled a shawl, and threw it to Ava, "I'm not used to turning on the air conditioner. It's a little cold in the room. Put on it, don't catch a cold." "Thank you, sister." Ava thanked her obediently, then sat

down on the chair. Her hands were on her knees, and her legs were straight. Hailey couldn't help laughing at her series of small movements. In the past three years, she had played a well-behaved and gentle image in front of Owen. The prototype she imitated was her cousin, and her acting was not bad. After all, Owen had been deceived by her for three years.- Since Ava met Hailey, who had always been cold and suddenly smiled, Ava was taken aback, "Sister?" "It's okay. I just remembered something funny."- The smile in Hailey's eyes was fleeting, leaving a hint of coolness, "What's the matter?" Ava raised a pair of big round eyes and looked at Hailey with burning eyes, "Where have you been all these

years? How are you?" Hailey's eyes flashed. She didn't expect this to be the first thing Ava would say to her. "I went to another city and experienced a different life." Hailey also asked her, "How about you?" "It's still like that." Ava twitched the corners of her mouth and smiled, "It's been like this since I was a child, and I'm used to it. It doesn't matter whether it's good or bad." Hailey looked at her and said, "I heard your dad got another wife." The bottom of Ava's eyes darkened, and she lowered her eyes, "Yes, he married another one, which is very beautiful. And she is the champion of the Miss Chinese Contest." She said with a smile on her face, but she couldn't hide the sarcasm behind her smile. Hailey looked at it and sighed inwardly: Each family had its own problems. Her grandfather lived in poverty all his life and gave birth to three sons. The eldest, Scott, was the most promising one. He founded Crystaldale Company and

became a successful entrepreneur but died young. The second child, Morgan, had been good at business calculations since he was a child. He was originally one of the best in the business. He became the manager of a state-owned enterprise by fawning on. Later, when he saw that Scott was doing well, he was very jealous, so he also went together. As for the third child, Reid had high aims but low abilities and lost while playing. He didn't work a full day of work seriously. He lived with the support of his two brothers. He spent a lot of money. And he was lecherous and changing his wives all the time. Hailey remembered that her mother once commented on the two uncles in front of her father, "Your second brother is a bastard, and the third is even worse. Holy crap!" "Your new stepmother is not kind to you." Hailey used declarative sentences instead of questions. She checked Ava's experience over the years and learned that since Reid married this new wife, Ava had no place at home. Not only was she kicked out of the house, but she almost failed to finish school. Ava mocked, "She's four or five years older than me, she's pretty, and she can coax people. I can't fight her, so I can only stay away from her. I can't afford to offend her, but I can stay away." Hailey sighed imperceptibly. Having a stepmother was basically equivalent to having a stepfather. If the family was broken, how could her life be better?

"Stop talking about me, sister. I came here to talk to you about something

important." Ava glanced outside, moved a chair to lean forward, and said in a low voice, "The second sister asked me to come here. Her motives are impure, and she wants me to deceive your trust and join forces to deal with you." "I know." There was no surprise on Hailey's face. Ava opened her eyes in astonishment, "You know it?" Hailey smiled dismissively, "She can't hide her tricks from me." Ava blinked, looking at the eldest sister, who was calm and easy, and suddenly understood, "Then you, you already knew that I would come to you, didn't you?" "You are smarter than her and know who is the real boss in this family." Hailey patted her leg and said humorously, "I, the boss, isn't powerful, but you can rely on me." Ava couldn't help laughing, revealing neat teeth, "I'm abandoning the dark side and choosing the bright side." "Well, well said." Hailey raised her hand and squeezed her cheek lightly, regretfully saying, "When you were a child, this little face was chubby, and it felt very good to hold. Now you are thin and even have a small face." "Isn't it fashionable to be thin now? My classmates even envy my small face." Hailey shook her head, "It doesn't matter if you're fat or thin. Your health is the most

Chapter 060 Unite To Set Her Up The night passed quietly. When Eve woke up, the wound on her hand was still painful, and she cursed Hailey again, frowning. When she came downstairs lazily, Hailey and Ava were already having breakfast in the dining room downstairs. The two were chatting and laughing, looking extremely harmonious and friendly. Eve opened her eyes, stunned: what was the situation? Ava got Hailey in only one night? What did she miss? "Morning, ma'am." Eve raised her voice to say hello,

aggressively showing her existence. Hailey glanced at her lightly. Ava sat across from Hailey and greeted Eve

politely, "Morning, sister Eve." "Good morning to you too." Eve smiled and sat down beside Ava, looking at the faces of the two, and asked tentatively, "What are you talking about? What makes you so happy?" Hailey drank the porridge and said nothing.

Ava looked up at Hailey and said, "I was talking about my childhood. One year sister Hailey took us to pick persimmons from a neighbor's orchard, and we were almost bitten by a dog. Fortunately, we ran fast." "Hahahaha.../ remembered." Eve laughed exaggeratedly, Hailey and Ava looked at her one after another, and the disgusting eyes made Eve instantly shut up. The originally harmonious atmosphere suddenly became awkward. Eve lowered her head and drank the porridge, thinking silently in her heart: It's really right to bring Ava here. If this girl talked more about her childhood, which could recall Hailey's annihilated humanity, she could slowly become numb.

Seeing that Eve shut up, Hailey and Ava continued to chat, "You are about to

graduate. Have you found an internship unit?" Ava said, "Not yet. I was planning to look for it when I received a call from sister Eve. I thought I hadn't seen sister Hailey for a long time, so I came here without hesitation." Eve hummed inwardly: What flattery. It seemed like what she said was real, and she acted even better than her.

However, Hailey liked it quite a bit and said with a light "um", "Then I will arrange

for you to go to Newman Jewelry for an internship. You are studying jewelry design, and your major is just right." Ava bit her lip timidly, "Can I do it?" "It's okay." Hailey had almost eaten just enough, wiped the corners of his mouth with a handkerchief, and said slowly, "I have seen your design draft, you are creative, imaginative, and you are very talented. You are still young, and you will

be better with more experience." "Awesome!" Ava nodded, "I'm willing to go. I can work for free." Hailey smiled dotingly, "Silly kid, you work to earn money. Newman's internship salary is not low. Just relax and study hard." "Okay, thank you, sister!" Ava was very happy. She studied jewelry design just to be able to enter Newman Jewelry one day, have her own works, and be able to help sister Hailey. Eve listened on the side, she was jealous, and she hurriedly said, "Sister Hailey, I also want to work in Newman!" She had had this idea for a long time, but her father had not allowed her to enter, saying, "Girls are precious. Just wait at home to get married with peace of mind. Your biggest task is to get Luca Edwards. Working is too hard for you." Of course, she wanted to marry Luca Edwards, but it didn't conflict with her wanting to work. Her father kept saying that it was hard work, but she didn't see how hard it was for him and the third uncle to eat, drink and play every day. "I'll ask the cleaning department if it needs a cleaner and arrange it for you." Hailey said lightly. Ava almost couldn't hold back her laughter and drank her porridge with her head down. Eve's pretty face flushed red, "I don't want to go to the cleaning department! I want to go to Newman Jewelry!" "What can you do after entering? Can you design? Do you have any works?" Hailey asked three times, which made Eve speechless. She pursed her lips and began to bully Ava, "But Ava doesn't have many design works. She's a college student, and I have a year more social experience than her!" "Does your one year's social experience refer to dating, shopping, and attending

various banquets and parties?” Hailey looked at her coldly, “Ava hasn’t graduated yet, but during her college years, she worked hard to study, went to many design companies to intern, and also participated in the national jewelry design competition and won the first prize.” Eve’s eyes widened in surprise, and Ava also looked up at Hailey in a daze, “How did sister Hailey know?” “Everything is available on the Internet. Just check it out.” Eve bit her lip and said defiantly, “If I can’t go to Newman Jewelry, then you can arrange for me to join Southern Star Entertainment. Although I don’t know

anything, I’m pretty, and I know quite a few artists.” “You’re talking about the little influencers named Mi Lu and others under Artistic Talent Entertainment. They have already quit the circle because they offended people. The entertainment industry is too complicated. Someone stupid like you can’t survive in it.” “What? They quit!” In addition to being shocked, Eve didn’t hear

Hailey’s diss to her and only asked in surprise, “Who did Milu offend?” Hailey said lightly, “Me.” Eve, “...”

After breakfast was finished, Hailey and Ava got up and were about to leave. No one paid any attention to Eve, who was stuck in her seat and didn’t know the news in time. Just as they were about to get into the car, Old K, who was in charge of the security of the Garden of Rose, came over and whispered to Hailey, “Miss, there was a car outside that parked on the opposite long street overnight, and it appeared more than once.” Hailey frowned slightly, looked out, and did see a black car parked outside.

“The license plate belongs to North City. Do you know it?” Hailey took the

surveillance video handed over by Old K. The video rotated the car outside 360 degrees. It was a black Rolls-Royce. She was even more familiar with the license plate number. It was definitely Owen. Didn’t he leave? Why did he come back?

While frowning, the phone rang loudly. It was a call from Matthew. Hailey

clicked to answer, and Matthew greeted her on the other end of the phone, “Good morning, dear” He said that he had gone home and discussed with Old Mr. Holland about the racecourse. Old Mr. Holland agreed with Hailey’s strategy of civilianization, but he had one requirement, which was that he hoped that Mazedew Group could also participate in it and make it tripartite cooperation. “Old Mr. Holland has already agreed. It’s up to you now. As long as you agree, our strategic plan can be implemented immediately!” Hailey’s eyes were deep, and she gritted her teeth secretly, “Matthew, did you do it on purpose?” “It’s business, don’t be angry.” Matthew coaxed her on the other end of the phone, “Old Mr. Holland really said

that. He didn’t agree at first and insisted on being aristocratic. Then Old Mr. Moore called him, and the two chatted for a long time. I don’t know how did he persuade this stubborn Old Mr. Holland. Anyway, he agreed. I never mentioned your strategy to him, and Old Mr. Moore’s thoughts are actually the same as yours. You guys talked about it before?”

Bull shit. Hailey’s face was cold. Owen didn’t pay much attention to her before, so how could he talk to her about these things? “Think about it. If Moore can participate, it will be beneficial and not harmful at all. You are a smart person, and you can consider the pros and cons more comprehensively than I do. Just think about it.”

Hailey snorted coldly, "Don't flatter me. You and Owen are the same, who join forces to set me up." "I don't dare to do so. I'm an accessory at most. You can just be angry at Old Mr. Moore." Matthew hummed and said, "What now? Did he go?" Hailey said angrily, "What do you think?" Matthew snorted, "I have to confess to you one more thing. Well... I spilled the beans yesterday. He already knows that you are a master hacker and a top chef. You should stop pretending to be ignorant." "... Hailey was mad, "Matthew, do you want to die?" "No, no, no. I just learned about the relationship between the two of you, and I'm a little excited. Why didn't you tell me earlier that you were the little girl who was kidnapped back then?" Matthew was like an old woman, babbling, "I also participated in the mission in the jungle ten years ago. If Old Mr. Moore is your savior, half of the contribution should belong to me. It's better to have a crush on me than on him..."

Hailey's pupils shrank suddenly, and she turned to look at the black car outside. So, Owen already knew?