

Midnight 111

Volume 2

Chapter 111: Beginner's Luck?

Chuck Foster and Kenny Jones nodded, agreeing with Isaac.

Hazel blushed, and she hurriedly said, "Actually..."

"You just hit the jackpot! Isaac, what do you want from me?" Joshua grabbed Hazel's slender waist and gave her a gentle pinch.

Hazel was speechless, and Joshua purposely wanted them to misunderstand.

"It's nothing," Kenny said truthfully. "We need a last player for the poker game."

Hazel had no idea, she had thought that they were looking for Joshua regarding business.

"But since Hazel is here, you can go," Isaac said as he began to push Joshua toward the door.

"Well, we haven't played Texas Hold'em with our sister-in-law yet," Chuck suggested. "Why don't we let her play? She gets what she wins, and Joshua will pay if she loses."

Hazel said, somewhat embarrassed, "But I can't..."

"Really?" Several people looked at her. "You can't play Texas Hold'em? Then what do you do on vacation?"

"My family seldom had the chance to be fully reunited," Hazel said.

Her parents were always very busy because of their occupations as a doctor and a policewoman. This year they had a lot of free time, which was rare, but her brother was busy.

"Then I'll play two rounds for you and teach you how to play," Joshua suggested, taking Hazel and sitting down at the table. "When you master the rules, you'll play."

Isaac said, "It seems that Master Joshua is offering some pocket money to us for the Christmas vacation. I'll thank you first."

"Why are you so cheeky?" Joshua frowned.

"Of course, I am." Isaac laughed.

"Joshua, I really can't," Hazel whispered in an uneasy voice.

"It doesn't matter." Joshua whispered, "As long as we have fun, it doesn't matter whether we win or lose."

"You are happy only when you win, right?" Hazel murmured.

"Uh?" Joshua looked at her.

"Nothing." Hazel quickly waved her hand. "Don't blame me if I lose."

"Sure." Joshua agreed with a smile.

They all sat down around the table to play, the first two rounds were played slowly. Isaac, Kenny, and Chuck all cooperated while Joshua carefully explained the rules to Hazel, she listened and kept all of it in mind.

"Hazel should master it." Isaac urged, "Joshua, you need to disappear now. We can't let you win like this."

"That's it." The other two echoed.

Joshua gave up the position to Hazel, who was still a little nervous. They weren't just playing a friendly game of cards, each round including betting a large amount of money.

"Hazel, you can rest assured that I will give you the best cards." Isaac wanted to attract her attention again.

Hazel sighed, as it seemed that they were planning to go easy on her.? She took a deep breath and felt a lot less pressure.

The three of them did plan to go easy on her, but Hazel got a card and turned to Joshua, he looked surprised.

"Dear sister-in-law, you still do not know how to play?" Kenny asked.

Isaac said, "Master Joshua will be quick to help..."

"She doesn't need my help." Joshua interrupted and calmly showed Hazel's cards. "Straight Flush."

"What the fuck?" The three of them looked at Hazel's cards in disbelief. "In God's name, how did you manage to get these cards?"

"Beginner's luck?" Hazel was flabbergasted.

"Come again." The three of them said, "We won't go easy on you this time."

Hazel won the next few rounds as well, they all looked at Hazel in a stupor, they could not comprehend how she was winning.

"Hazel, did you lie about your skill?" Kenny said, somewhat depressed.

"It's not like you can't play cards!"

"She is really a beginner," Joshua said lightly.

He sat next to Hazel, and naturally, he could see clearly. Hazel still understood the rules at first, but then she got better and better at the game.

"The luck of the sister-in-law is phenomenal." Kenny sighed.

"She's really lucky." Joshua said, "But more importantly, she's very good at calculating. You all looked down on her."

Hazel's cheeks were red. She didn't expect that Joshua saw through her.

"I think you must have played some secret trick!" Isaac looked at Joshua.

"Do you think I need to do that?" Joshua frowned, "Just to win that little bit of money?"

"Little money?" Isaac instantly exploded. He took something out of his pocket and threw it on the table, "Come on, I don't believe it. Try betting on that!"

"Master Isaac is really great," Kenny said with a smile.

Hazel glanced at the table in amazement. Isaac took out a key ring.

She could not help guessing, "Is this keyring really expensive?"

"Beat him." Joshua smiled lightly, "Convince him that you can win."

Hazel nodded.

However, her luck seemed to continue, and she won again. Isaac didn't care much and threw the keyring directly to Hazel.

"Take it, it's yours now!" He snarled.

Hazel picked it up, wondering why Isaac was irritable about losing a key ring. It turned out it was not just any key ring, there was a key for a sports car attached.

"No way!" Her hands shook, "You should take it back. I didn't know it was a car key..."

"That's what you won, so you just take it and go ahead," Joshua said calmly.

"If I remember correctly, you have your driver's license?"

"Yes..." Hazel still hesitated.

"Hazel, don't cause me any more pain." Isaac said, "A good gambler knows to accept loss or victory. I accept my defeat. Now you take it."

Joshua already put the car keys in Hazel's hands. She looked at the key in her hand and was shaking from all of the emotions she felt. Hazel looked at Joshua and said, "I need to go to the bathroom. You play now."

"Good." Joshua nodded.

Hazel went to the bathroom, turned on the tap, and washed her face. The more she thought about it, the weirder things felt. It was almost too easy to win the key, but the more mysterious aspect of the whole situation was that Joshua easily got jealous before, and this time he didn't.

Chapter 112: Your Boyfriend Is So Sweet

Two women walked behind Hazel, one of them happily said, "Look, this is from my boyfriend!"

"Your boyfriend is so sweet," said the other.

The first woman then said, "He was afraid I wouldn't accept it, so he picked what I liked..." As they walked into the bathroom, their voices gradually got quieter.

Hazel looked at herself in the mirror and suddenly thought of something.

It couldn't be...

She was feeling embarrassed when she arrived back at the table and found the four men playing cards.

Hazel sat down next to Joshua. He asked softly, "Do you still want to play?"

"No." Hazel shook her head, "It doesn't make any sense."

The three men couldn't help but cough. Chuck stirred the pot and said, "Hazel wins so easily. How about I give up my seat to her and let the two of you have a couple of rounds to see who can win?"

"It's even easier in that formation," Hazel said.

"Our sister-in-law is so confident?" Chuck was surprised, "Joshua is very good at playing poker. Are you sure you can beat him?"

"Of course." Hazel said firmly, and then she turned to Joshua, "Does he dare to beat me?"

"I dare not." Joshua twitched his lips and answered in a very cooperative way.

The three others were still coughing. Isaac could not help but scorn Joshua, "Wife slave."

"I'd love to be." Joshua looked at him, "You want to be a slave. But do you even have a girlfriend?"

"Ouch, I feel that I had just lost 50% of my HP." Isaac covered his heart with his hands.

Chuck and Kenny also had a little grumble, "I knew I shouldn't have called you. You two are really making us uncomfortable!"

Hazel was feeling a little self-conscious.

"Why don't we play something else?" Joshua looks at Hazel.

"What do you want to play?" She asked.

"Downstairs, there are a bowling alley, billiard hall, gym, very complete facilities," Joshua suggested.

Hazel's eyes lit up, and she nodded.

They all walked downstairs together, but Joshua and Hazel still kept flirting and showing affection, so Isaac, Chuck, and Kenny felt awkward spending time with the love birds.

Hazel was tired, but she still ordered a drink from the bar. She heard Isaac mention going home, but Hazel hurried over to stop him before he could leave.

"Hazel, what's wrong?" Isaac asked.

"I have something to ask you alone." Hazel pulled Isaac to a nearby corner.

Isaac was somewhat embarrassed, but he smiled hilariously and said, "Hazel, have you found out how charming I am and want to abandon Joshua to be with me? Smartest choice of the century!"

"What the hell are you talking about?" Hazel said unkindly. She looked in the direction of Joshua, making sure he couldn't hear them, and then she lowered her voice and asked, "What model is your car?"

"It's a Porsche," Isaac muttered. "I just bought it a few days ago and drove it just once. I didn't expect to give it to you... But it would help if you took what you won. Don't say anything to me,"

Hazel frowned as her premonition became more and more possible. She then asked, "Without your car, how will you get home?"

"It's easy. I just let the driver drive my other car over." Isaac answered, "Why all the questions all of a sudden? Care for me that much?"

"Ha-ha, just asking casually," Hazel said lightly. "It's okay. Let's go."

Isaac looked at Hazel in amazement. She just asked that one question, Why would he think Hazel was strange? It was nothing that he should overthink.

When the three men left, Hazel walked over to Joshua and said quietly, "Let's go home, too. I am tired."

"Okay." Joshua agreed, he had been staring at Hazel and Isaac whispering, his eyes were deep and dark. Although he believed in Hazel, he still could not control his jealousy.

When they got downstairs, Joshua handed the car key won by Hazel to the driver. "You drive this car back."

"Okay." The driver agreed. He took the key and drove the brand-new Porsche away.

Joshua helped Hazel open the door. "Let's go, I'll drive."

Hazel nodded, got into the passenger's side, and fastened her seat belt.

Joshua got in and started the car, he just sat there tapping his finger on the steering wheel and asked, "What did you say to Isaac just now?"

"Do you really want to know?" Hazel looked at him.

"Yes, I do, or else I would not have asked" Joshua was even surprised at the tone he had. He began driving, hoping it would calm him down, but Hazel seemed to be acting different since she talked to Isaac.

"He told me all about it." She looked forward with a profound expression.

"Huh?" He raised his eyebrows, but his heart was beating.

Hazel's eyes flashed. "He said the Porsche he lost to me is the one you were going to give me..."

"I knew he was not reliable." Joshua slammed on the brakes and looked at Hazel with some surprise. "But it's unlikely Isaac would sell me out so soon."

"So, is it true?" Hazel's eyes sparkled.

"Well." Joshua smiled bitterly, "How did you find out?"

"If Isaac had lost a car to me, you would have done anything to help me refuse it, right?" Hazel explained. "You're really jealous. That's why I didn't feel right when it happened."

"It makes sense." Joshua nodded.

"And then," Hazel went on, "You always gave me something in a sneaky way..."

"I really want to give it to you openly, but will you accept it?" Joshua was laughing and crying.

Hazel was stunned. At the next moment, she shook her head. "Everything you gave me is too valuable."

"Hazel, the value of gifts doesn't depend on the price, they depend on the person's financial ability." Joshua simply parked the car on the side of the road. "What I gave you is far less valuable than the tie clip you gave me."

"How could that be?" Hazel looked at him in surprise.

"Did you buy that tie clip with all your pocket money?" Joshua said lightly.

Hazel blushed and lowered her head, they both knew what he said was true.

"These gifts I gave you are nothing to me." Joshua looked at her quietly and said gently. "Besides, I like you, so I want to give you the best."

Hazel just felt her heart beating out of her chest.

"Well, I was convinced by you." Hazel breathed a sigh of relief.

"Does that mean that I can give you a gift openly in the future?" He asked tenderly, his forehead touching her forehead.

Chapter 113: Do You Want To Cook For Me?

"You will have the final say about gifts." Hazel felt dizzy, as long as she was with Joshua, she felt as if she could not think.

Joshua smiled and kissed her on the lips.

"No... Let's hurry back." Hazel said.

"No hurry." Joshua smiled, "What do you want to eat tonight?"

"Do you want to cook for me?" Hazel asked curiously.

"Well," Joshua nodded, "You didn't like it?"

"Of course, I liked it!" Hazel said happily. She was really at ease about having Joshua cook for her.

"Come on, let's go to the supermarket first." He said.

Hazel looked at him in amazement.

"What's wrong?" Joshua started the car again.

"No." She shook her head. "It's just a little unexpected. I thought you'd leave it to the servant."

"Usually, it's left to them," Joshua said lightly. "But today, it's different because it's for you."

Hazel's heart was warm, and her cheeks were a little redder.

Joshua stopped at the parking lot when they arrived at the supermarket.

Hazel opened the car door, and Joshua helped her up, he held her hand and said, "Let's go."

Hazel stopped, she turned around abruptly and started to glare suspiciously at the cars in the parking lot and other shops near the market.

"What's wrong?" Joshua asked seriously. He was concerned as to why she stopped so suddenly.

"Nothing." Hazel smiled and shook her head, looking a little confused. "It's just that I suddenly felt a cold chill run down my back. It's like someone is watching me. Maybe it is just my imagination."

Joshua looked around to see if he saw anything that was suspicious, his eyes went from side to side, searching every little spot for potential danger.

"Let's go inside," Hazel held his hand, "It must have been my imagination. It's probably too cold here."

Joshua nodded and went into the supermarket, holding Hazel's hand tightly so that she felt a bit more reassurance.

Not far away, Vanessa was hiding in a sports car. She stared at Joshua and Hazel's backs as they went into the market, her heart filling with hatred.

It was like a broken record playing in her head...they really are together, they really are together, they really are together.

Vanessa slammed the steering wheel violently, grinding her teeth.

When Joshua's parents were still alive, she went to the Denmark Residence to pester Joshua. Although Joshua never responded to her, at least there was no other woman beside him.

When his parents were gone, he was still not close to anyone, but at least she knew where Joshua was and who he was spending time with.

But this year was different, Joshua suddenly disappeared during the Christmas vacation. She went crazy wanting to find him and begged Kenny for a long time before she got a private phone number that belonged to Joshua, but she called, Hazel answered the phone.

Joshua disappeared to be with Hazel? How could she accept it?

However, today, when Joshua and Hazel returned to the capital together, she faced the harsh reality. She decided to follow them, she sat outside of the private club waiting for them to leave and then drove a few car lengths behind them to the supermarket.

She was not giving up, she was the one who had stood by Joshua the longest. She had always felt that Joshua would marry her sooner or later as long as she waited, but why did everything suddenly change when Hazel appeared?

Vanessa grasped the steering wheel tightly, her face had a cruel and evil expression.

Hazel did not know that her instinct was not her imagination. She continued to casually walk around the supermarket with Joshua, looking at Joshua's selection of vegetables with adoration in her eyes.

"Joshua, is there anything you cannot do?" Hazel couldn't help but ask.

He smiled and took her hand in his. "Actually, it's not difficult. Have you never been to the supermarket with your parents before?"

"I was," Hazel said, distressed. "But I never picked on them."

"What do you pick?" He asked.

"I've always picked those." Hazel pointed to a snack shelf not far away.

Joshua smiled. "Let's go there. It's up to you to pick."

"Joshua, will you blame me for knowing nothing about housework?" Hazel asked with a low voice.

"You can eat, right?" Joshua was surprised.

"Are you trying to comfort me?" Hazel looked at him, speechless.

"In my opinion, eating is also a good thing." Joshua smiled slightly, "And you know a lot, Hazel. There's no need to feel inferior. Let's try to reassure you first, like getting married..."

Hazel choked. Then she whispered, "I was worried that you would feel bored with me."

"No, Hazel, you're funny." Joshua whispered and suddenly sighed, "I'm afraid you'll find me too boring and stiff."

Did Joshua worry about the same sort of thing? No wonder he always tried to be nice to her.

"Let's not talk about it. Let's go and buy snacks." Hazel took the initiative to hold his hand as they walked to the snack bar.

Vanessa, who had found a hiding spot behind the shelves not far away, looked at them with hatred. Unexpectedly, Vanessa took out her cell phone and whispered something.

Joshua and Hazel paid for their items and went to the parking lot. Hazel was just about to get into the car when Joshua suddenly said, "Hazel, do you want to try your new car?"

"Ah?" Hazel looked at him blankly, "Now?"

"Right." Joshua nodded, "I asked the driver to deliver it."

"But..." Hazel couldn't understand why Joshua would let her try the car after they just finished grocery shopping.

"Come on, let me experience Hazel's driving skills." Joshua smiled and took her to the Porsche.

"Okay." Hazel nodded.

She opened the door and sat in the driver's seat.

"Wait for me, I need to tell the driver something," Joshua said.

"Good." She nodded.

The driver was already in the driver's seat of the Maybach, and Joshua knocked on the window, so the driver quickly lowered the glass.

"Be careful," Joshua whispered. "I have arranged for people to protect you."

"I will, Master Joshua." The driver answered.

Joshua turned around and sat in Porsche. He said with a cool look, "Let's go."

"Good." Hazel started the car.

Vanessa was sitting in a nearby café, and through the window of the café, she could see the entrance to the underground parking lot of the supermarket on the opposite side.

Vanessa was frowning and wondering why they hadn't come out yet?

Suddenly, the familiar Maybach pulled out of the parking lot, and Vanessa was shocked. The next moment, a ferocious look flashed in her eyes, and she pressed her finger on the cell phone without hesitation.

On the corner not far away, a car suddenly rushed out and hit Maybach with the intensity of a freight train.

Before anyone had time to react, the sound of brakes rang through the air, and the Maybach had been knocked out of the way, deformed, with thick smoke rising from the car.

Chapter 114: I'll Pay The Bills

Vanessa saw the accident clearly through the window but did not the least bit surprised. However, her eyes were filled with horrible anger that quickly turned to disbelief.

Several cars black cars abruptly appeared as the hit-and-run driver tried to escape, but the car was intercepted. People quickly got out of the black cars and ran to open the door of the Maybach.

Soon, the driver of the Maybach was helped out of the car by the strangers. It was a disastrous accident, but thankfully he did not appear to be badly hurt, one of the strangers helped him into a car and drove away.

How could this be?! Vanessa pressed her whole face, which was appallingly sneering, against the window!

There was actually only the driver in the car without Joshua and Hazel. Judging from the situation, Joshua had obviously been well-prepared.

Vanessa's heart was suddenly filled with fear.

Why was Joshua prepared for this? Why weren't they in the car? What did Joshua know?! He wouldn't have known it was all arranged by her, would he?

That was impossible! She had always had clean hands. Joshua would never find out that it was her who had planned it.

Vanessa drank the coffee in front of her in a fluster, she had no idea what it even tasted like, she was too worried about being caught.

Joshua was a bit surprised that Hazel drove the car so skillfully.

"It doesn't seem to be only a few months since you got your driver's license?" he asked in surprise. "You don't drive like a novice at all."

"I could drive when I was 16," Hazel recalled back with a smile. "My brother secretly taught me, but my parents found out and then punished him. He loved me and couldn't stand it when I begged him, so he always allowed me to drive the car on the sly."

Joshua was about to say something when his phone vibrated. He answered the phone with a serious face.

"President, as you expected, there was an accident," on the other end of the line, Jaxson said.

"Have you caught the driver?" Joshua's eyes were cold.

"The hit-and-run driver is caught," Jaxson was a little helpless, "but the person behind the incident hasn't been found yet, the other party had clean hands."

"I have a rough guess about who set it up," Joshua said in a deep voice.

"Is it really her?" asked Jaxson in astonishment. He was still a bit skeptical.

Joshua just said lightly, "Jaxson, do you remember what I told you? Go ahead."

Joshua was furious; he and Hazel were lucky to escape this time, but what if next time they were not so lucky. He would not have been prepared this time if Hazel hadn't been so sensitive and felt something was wrong.

Although he had no evidence, he knew who did it.

After contemplating things for a few moments, he believed he was sure of who could arrange things so quickly in the imperial capital and knew exactly where he was going.

He must teach that woman a lesson!

"All right." Jaxson quickly agreed.

"What's the matter?" Hazel asked curiously.

"Things at work." Joshua hung up the phone and said quietly.

"Oh," Hazel said, without further questioning.

Vanessa's hands were still trembling. If something did happen to Joshua, she wouldn't have been scared, but now he was fine and may even suspect her.

No! Joshua had no proof! What would he do even if he doubted her? Could he do something to her?

Taking a deep breath, she calmed herself down.

"I'll pay the bill!" She stopped the passing waiter and gave him a credit card. The waiter took the card but came back quickly with some uncertainties.

"Madam, you don't have enough money on this card."

"How is that possible?!" Vanessa looked at him in surprise.

"Would you like to try another card?" asked the waiter.

Vanessa impatiently took another card out of her purse.

She tried several cards, but the waiter said the same thing each time — there was not enough money in the card.

"Madam, or would you consider paying with your cell phone?" The waiter suggested. He wasn't as polite to Vanessa as he had been earlier.

"What do you mean? Do you scorn me and think I can't afford it? Do you know who I am?!" Vanessa cried, her face red with rage.

When had she been so humiliated? Was she actually suspected by others that she would not pay her bill?

Vanessa noticed people sitting at other tables were looking at her, she became even more annoyed.

"Madam, don't get me wrong. It's just a few dollars, so I was just suggesting other payment methods. I am not implying anything else,"

The waiter said this, but he signaled the security guard to prevent Vanessa from running away.

Vanessa was about to say something when her father called.

"Dad, what's the matter?" asked Vanessa impatiently.

"Vanessa, do you know what happened? Why did Joshua suddenly deal with me like that?!" Garry said quickly, "He is unexpectedly investigating me for misappropriating the company's funds, and he has so much evidence. Now all of our accounts are frozen!"

"What?!" Vanessa clutched her phone in disbelief. No wonder she couldn't swipe her card. It turned out the money had been frozen.

Why did Joshua do this to her? Even though he suspected her, it was clear that he had no evidence!

Suddenly, her face turned pale as she sat back on the sofa weakly.

It was because Joshua had been so merciful to her that she forgot how powerful he could be when it came to handling matters. He didn't need any proof at all. If he suspected her, he would never let her go!

She really did not expect that Joshua would be so aggressive, directly pinching her lifeline!

If the misappropriation of funds were really investigated, Garry Young would definitely go to jail. Without the support of the Young family, even if she had the talent, she could do nothing big.

"Madam, you don't want to pay by washing dishes, do you?" The waiter seemed to know something, so there was ridicule in his words.

Of course, Vanessa didn't choose to wash the dishes. She was so proud that she couldn't be humiliated like that anyway. Eventually, she gave her new phone to the waiter as the fee and miserably walked away.

After Joshua and Hazel went back to Denmark's Residence, Joshua went straight into the kitchen, Hazel followed him. Although the damage that had been caused was because of Hazel, he did not blame her. He actually enjoyed the trouble she was causing.

The servants had already prepared the dining room. Red candles were placed on the table, and roses with dew were arranged in the vase.

After they sat down at the table, Hazel picked up her fork and saw a servant come in. "Mr. Denmark, Mr. Young is here."

Joshua cocked his brows slightly. Garry Young came really quickly, but not at the right time.

"Ask him to wait in the living room," he said indifferently.

Chapter 115: Tell Me

"Why don't you go and talk with him first?" Hazel said.

"No, let's have dinner first." Joshua's voice softened a little.

"Isn't it good to keep him waiting?" she whispered. "What if there's something urgent?"

"Don't worry, it isn't urgent," Joshua said calmly, "and he was willing to wait."

Hazel was hesitant to keep questions Joshua, knowing there were overtones in his words, she decided it was best to stop asking.

After dinner, Joshua said to the servant, "Take Mr. Young to the study."

The servant left, and Joshua walked Hazel to her bedroom before heading to the study.

Garry was waiting patiently, with an agitated expression. When he saw Joshua walk into the room, he heaved a sigh of relief.

He said with an ingratiating smile, "Joshua, is there some misunderstanding between us?"

Joshua walked quietly to his desk and sat down. He looked at Garry coldly. "Director Young, I don't think there is any misunderstanding between us. The evidence of your embezzlement of company funds is conclusive."

Garry felt a pain in his chest, he had thought that Joshua had no idea what he had secretly done at Denmark Group. It turned out that Joshua not only knew about it, but there was also enough evidence to expose his unlawful act at any time.

Over the years, he had seen what Joshua was capable of doing, but he underestimated him and believed we would not get caught. However, Joshua just hadn't acted on it before this, but why did he turn a blind eye then suddenly turn against the Young family? Was it because of Vanessa?

After taking in a deep breath, Garry said, "Joshua, Vanessa grew up with you, and she has been admiring you for so many years, that's why she thought there was something between you and her. But didn't our family get to the bottom of it after you said you had nothing to do with it? Why not let me go?"

Joshua raised his eyebrows slightly.

In this case, was the incident just Vanessa's idea? That was right. Garry was so cunning that he indeed wouldn't do that kind of impulsive thing. Besides, presumably, Vanessa hadn't told Garry what she had done.

"I didn't want to get the bottom of it," Joshua said in a deep voice, "Director Young, do you know what on Earth your daughter did today?"

"... What?" Garry looked dazed.

Joshua opened the envelope on the desk and coldly threw a stack of photos on it.

Garry took one look and broke out in a cold sweat.

The photos showed the scene of Joshua's car crash. Even if Joshua didn't say anything, Garry knew what Joshua was suspecting!

"Joshua, are you suspecting Vanessa?!" Garry almost blurted out,

"Impossible! She could never do such a thing! How could she hurt you when she loves you so much?! Do you have any proof?"

"I have no proof," Joshua said coolly, "and I don't need it."

Garry's heart sank. He didn't know if this had anything to do with Vanessa, but whether she had done it or not, he couldn't admit it.

If he admitted it, there would be only an endless, terrible fight between them and Joshua. But the Young family did not have the expertise to compete with him.

It wasn't until today that Garry knew how strong Joshua really was. If he made the slightest move, he could back the Young family into a corner that they could not get out of.

"Joshua, this was by no means done by Vanessa!" Garry continued, "I know you have a deep misunderstanding of our family, but your parents and I have been friends for years. Do you really want to send me to prison?"

Joshua's eyes grew slightly deeper, and he said lightly, "You've used it as an excuse too many times. But for the sake of your years of hard work, I can be lenient."

Garry said cheerfully, "Tell me!"

"The evidence for the embezzlement is conclusive, so I can't pull the wool over others' eyes," Joshua said coolly. "What's worse, this matter has a negative aspect surrounding it. If you are willing to return all the funds, I can consider not suing you."

Garry's heart sank instantly, the amount that he had misappropriated over the years was by no means small. Worse still, he had been failing in his investments, leaving him with little money, and even if he gave Joshua the shirt off his back, he couldn't make up for it.

Garry said, "Joshua, you should know about my financial situation. If you want me to pay back all the money, it's really beyond my power..."

"Director Young, I think you know better than I do what this precedent means for the company. I will not relent this time," Joshua said coldly. "If you can't do it, I'll have to ignore the years of friendship between our two families."

Garry was in despair. He knew what Joshua wanted, but he didn't want to give it to him. Besides, Joshua was so determined this time that he had no intention of relenting.

"Or Director Young, you could consider selling your shares to me." Joshua looked at him indifferently and directly stated, "I will give you a reasonable price for the shares you hold so that you can pay back the money you owe the company."

"Joshua, do you have to do so?" Garry ground his teeth.

If he agreed, Joshua would kick him off the board. After all, what right did a shareholder without shares in the company have to stay on the board?

He had really underestimated Joshua, who clearly wanted him to walk into the trap. In the end, he would get nothing, but Joshua would get his shares without spending any money.

"Director Young, you can choose not to return it, but your shares will be liquidated. And the price at that time may not be as good as that I offer you," Joshua said coolly.

It was the last straw that broke the camel's back.

Joshua's decisive manner kept frustrating Garry, who saw no hope of defeating him. Now there was nothing he could do but agree to Joshua's condition.

Only then did Garry clearly understand how terrible Joshua was to have as an enemy and how powerless he was in the face of Joshua.

"Can I consider it?" asked Garry unwillingly.

"Or do you want to go to another room to consider it, Director Young?" Joshua curled his lips. The threat in his words was obvious.

"... I agree to your terms," said Garry, trembling.

Joshua calmly opened the drawer and took out a prepared file. "In that case, please sign this."

Chapter **116: I Can Teach You**

Joshua had a share transfer contract ready for Garry to sign.

Garry's eyes twitched as he really regretted agreeing, he also regretted being too arrogant and neglecting the fact that Joshua would find out.

He had no choice. Joshua was so well prepared that Garry would have to sign his name in multiple places in the document while Joshua stood over him, forcing him page by page.

He originally came to plead with Joshua, but Joshua's ruthlessness gave him a thorough understanding of his capabilities. Garry was certain that Joshua would send him to prison if he didn't sign the papers.

Trembling, he took the pen and began to sign the pages. After he was done signing, he felt as if he was in a complete state of helplessness.

"Mr. Young, please go home." Joshua put the document away and said coolly.

Garry's heart was filled with bitterness before he signed the document. Joshua called him Director Young, which represented his identity as a director of Denmark Group, it sounded distant, but it was still a sign of respect.

However, after signing his shares over to Joshua, he called him Mr. Young. This meant Joshua was unwilling even to recognize him as an uncle, and he would not be able to intimidate Joshua any longer with the friendship between their families.

He stepped out of Denmark's Residence as if he were walking on a cotton cloud. He drove home in a daze, still unsure how he would explain this to his family.

As soon as he entered the house, Vanessa ran quickly to him and grabbed his arm. "How is it, dad? Is the matter settled? Joshua won't be so ruthless, will he?"

Garry looked at Vanessa with a face of eagerness, felt a surge of anger in his heart. He fiercely slapped her across the face.

Vanessa screamed and covered her face in pain, looking at Garry incredulously. "Dad, what are you doing?!"

"Are you mad? Why did you slap your daughter?" Mabel hurried to hold Vanessa in her arms.

"You ask her what she's done!" Garry pointed at Vanessa angrily, her fingers trembling. "She's got the nerve! How dare she hire hitmen! If she hit someone else, it would be ok, but she actually had them hit Joshua! Vanessa, you are really talented!"

"Vanessa, did you do that?" Mabel asked in a trembling voice.

Vanessa's heart sank. She could not admit it, not even to her parents. She knew if she did, her parents wouldn't help her.

"I didn't!" Vanessa cried. "What evidence does he have? Why does he think I did it?!"

"He's Joshua. What evidence do you think he needs? If he suspects you, he doesn't need proof!" Garry resisted the urge to slap her again.

"Besides, Vanessa, don't think I don't know about your bad friends!"

"Dad! It's not me!" Vanessa repeated it. "You must believe me! I love him so much and for so many years. I just want to marry him and be the hostess of Denmark Group! How could I do this to him?"

"Right! Vanessa would never do that," Mabel said. "I think that Joshua deliberately framed Vanessa!"

"What's the use of saying this now?" Garry smiled bitterly and dejectedly. "I'm no longer a Denmark Group shareholder..."

"How could that be?!" Vanessa and Mabel spoke in unison. "What happened?"

Garry briefly told them about his trip to Denmark Residence. Vanessa said, flustered and exasperated.

"Dad, how can you promise him? Even if you promised, you shouldn't have had to sign the papers on the spot! Even if you went to prison, you shouldn't have given up your shares! If you're not a shareholder, how could..."

"Vanessa! What do you mean?" Garry glared at her angrily. "I'm your father! Do you expect me to go to prison?!"

She was in a daze instantly. She realized what she had said and quickly changed her words. "I mean, Joshua wouldn't dare put you in jail! You are a shareholder and a director of the company. If he put you in prison, what would the other directors and shareholders think? Wouldn't he be afraid of what the other directors would do?"

"How can you be so naïve?" Garry sneered. "Why wouldn't Joshua send me to prison? Not only would he, but he would punish me as a warning to others. Do you really think those directors who only hinder each other all day are a threat to him? The Denmark Group's prosperity today is all because of Joshua's efforts..."

He couldn't continue anymore.

Because only then did he realize he was foolish. It was clear that Joshua knew everything, and he had the ability to ruin him, but Garry always thought that he could tame Joshua like a lion. However, he had become a plaything under the lion's paw, and it was as if he had asked for it.

"That's all." Garry waved his hand impatiently. "We had better keep contact with Joshua to a minimum in the future!"

"Dad! Is that what we're going to do?!" Vanessa asked unwillingly.

"Vanessa, I know what you're thinking about." Garry heaved a sigh. "But Joshua isn't someone you can handle. You might as well give him up. I will take advantage of the next few days to find you a suitable marriage and make it happen as soon as possible."

"I don't agree!" Vanessa interrupted angrily.

"Don't be stubborn, Vanessa!" Garry's face looked a little unpleasant. "The news that I'm not a shareholder in Denmark Group will be spread after some time, and it'll be almost impossible for you to find a good rich husband!"

"Let it be. It's none of your business." Vanessa ran upstairs angrily.

"This child..." Garry was a little angry.

"She has loved Joshua for so many years. You should understand her," Mabel said.

Garry's eyes flashed with fear as he was afraid that Vanessa would do something crazy.

Joshua left the study and went to Hazel's bedroom, he opened the door as she was coming out of the bathroom.

Her body was wrapped in a simple bath towel, her hair dripping with water, the beads of water rolled down her fine porcelain neck, down her breasts, and were absorbed by the towel.

Joshua suddenly felt a little turned on.

"You, you, you... How did you get in?" Hazel asked in a panic, looking at Joshua standing in the doorway.

"You didn't lock the door," he whispered, his voice hoarse.

"You, you get out!" she said quickly. Her cheeks flushed instantly, and she knew how dangerous the situation was.

"How can I get out when I haven't even walked in?" A smile curved his lips evilly, and he walked towards Hazel. "Hazel, this kind of thing must be done step by step. You can't, but I can teach you."

Hazel's cheeks were redder.

Oh, my goodness! What was Joshua talking about? She fully understood, and not only did she understand, but something strange even came to mind...

"Who says I can't!" she said, unconvinced.

She couldn't believe she said that it was as if the words came out of someone else's mouth, she was dying to bite her tongue off! Was she stupid?

Chapter 117: Say Yes

"Oh?" Joshua, with a slightly raised brow and a playful smile, moved closer to Hazel.

She stepped back, but the wardrobe was behind her. She had no escape.

He placed one hand on the wardrobe behind her and raised her chin with another hand. "Since you are a self-taught talent, then what about taking some time to probe with me, taking 'long' to fill 'space' and having a 'deep' understanding with each other?"

"You, you... rascal!" Her face turned red like a sunset glow instantly.

How could Joshua say something so ambiguous with a poker face?

He looked like a gentleman, but what he did was like a rascal, she definitely saw the combination of the two when he acted like this.

"What I said is very normal, why are you calling me a rascal?" Joshua looked at her innocently, with a slight smile in his eyes. "Or did you think of something else?"

"I didn't!" She hastened to explain. "Go! I'm going to sleep!"

"How can you sleep when your hair is still wet?" He grabbed the towel from her hand and, without saying a word, began to dry her hair.

She was dazed. What was wrong with Joshua?

He was trying so hard to make a pass at her, making her blush and her heart leap, but then he just changed the subject and helped dry her hair.

She let him dry her hair as she thought, how could he give up?

"Hazel, don't look at me like that," he said in a deep voice.

"Huh?!" She was even more confused.

He took a deep breath.

He shouldn't have teased her like that, and he couldn't continue it when he saw her immature, shy looks.

He had to change the subject, but this young girl did not know how hard he had to endure, and she still dared to look at him with her eyes full of anticipation.

Joshua's eyes twinkled. "If you keep looking at me like that, I'll think you really want me to do something to you. Then, I will make love to you even if you refuse!"

Hazel's heart raced suddenly. No! No!, she thought.

It was too dangerous for her to stay in the same room with him. If they continued like this, there was a very probable chance that something would happen.

"Go away. I can do it myself!" She nudged him shyly.

Caught off guard, he stumbled back, and when Hazel pushed him, her towel suddenly fell to the floor, she was standing there naked.

Joshua's eyes lit up.

She was shy and anxious, but it was too late for her to cover up. There was more of a chance that he would do something to her if she did try to hide. Besides, it wasn't the first time he had seen her completely naked.

The best thing to do was to get him out of the room.

"What are you looking at?" She grabbed the towel from him and threw it at his face with shyness and shame. "Get out... ah!"

She had intended to push him again, but she tripped over the towel as she took a step. She fell on the soft carpet, landing on her knees, it didn't hurt, but she landed with a loud thud.

Joshua was very close to her, and when she reached out to pull herself up, she unconsciously put her hands around his waist and came face to face with his cock.

Sensing her touch, Joshua felt an agonizing urge and groaned.

Hazel wanted to crawl under a rock and hide. How could she be kneeling in front of Joshua?! Why did this happen?!

She swiftly moved her hand and went to pick up the towel on the floor. Suddenly, Joshua picked her up and threw her onto the bed, she didn't even have time to yell.

"You... hmm!" She tried to get up, but Joshua was already on top of her, kissing her passionately.

She wanted to struggle, but her struggle became weaker and weaker as her body became softer and softer with his lingering kiss.

Sensing her change, he whispered, "Hazel, make love to me."

"Ah?" Her eyes were hazy. His words seem to be enchanting, making her unable to think at all.

"Be good. Say yes." He seduced her.

With her lips opening slightly, she seemed to be possessed. Under his guidance, she almost said yes despite herself.

But before she could reply with a yes, her phone rang, which made her suddenly come to her senses.

What was she doing? A shy flush crept into her cheek.

"... Let me answer the call!" She pressed one arm against his chest and held out her hands to touch the phone under the pillow.

"No way!" Joshua caught her hand quickly with a shadowy face.

He was miserable now. How could someone actually disturb them when he and Hazel were about to make love finally?!

"Let go! Or I'll be angry!" she said hastily.

Joshua let go of her with a bitter sigh.

Hazel picked up her phone and answered the phone. "Hello, brother, why are you suddenly calling me?"

Joshua was even unhappier. It was her brother who was disturbing them! It was a man!

"I heard from Dad and Mom that you have returned to Imperial Capital, so I wanted to ask what happened," Ronald asked. "Why did you leave home so early this year?"

"I have been working as an intern recently, and there was something to deal with in the company. My mentor asked me to talk about a graduation thesis," she explained.

The reason was similar to what she had told her parents.

"Hazel, you've always been homesick, but now you left early for these reasons?" Ronald mused, "Could it be that you're in love?"

"No, no! I'm not!" She became nervous instantly. Ronald had guessed so accurately, it really was justified that he was her brother growing up.

But she could not admit it now. If her dad and mom knew she had hidden it from them and left early because of Joshua, they would definitely hate him.

Her parents had always been hard on the guys around her, scaring off many male students who had a crush on her. No matter how outstanding the boys were, they could always find a lot of shortcomings, that was also another reason why she was afraid to tell her parents about her relationship with Joshua.

Joshua's eyes became dark, and he felt jealousy in his heart.

Was he so unpresentable? Hazel actually hid him from her brother like that. With a wicked smile in his eyes, he bit her boob suddenly.

"Ah!" Her chest was a little numb, and the pain startled her. She subconsciously screamed, but she was still on the phone with Ronald, she was so scared that she bit her lip quickly.

"What's the matter, Hazel?" Ronald asked with concern.

"Nothing... I was walking and almost tripped over my purse," Hazel said in a trembling voice as she tried hard to put up with her unusual bodily reaction.

Chapter 118: Are You Angry?

"Be careful! You are an adult now, why are you still so careless?" Ronald said with criticism on the other end of the phone.

"Mmm..." Hazel unconsciously said.

She was really going crazy after Joshua unexciting attacked her while she was on the phone with Ronald. She had to endure it, though, or else Ronald would figure out something more was happening.

"Brother, I am a little tired. I want to go to sleep early," she said quickly.

"Why are you going to bed so early?" There was a surprise in Ronald's voice. "Don't you always stay up late? Don't you especially like to do that?"

"I'm tired because I took the bus today," she whispered.

"Okay. Your voice does sound a little dull. Goodnight," Ronald said.

After quickly hanging up the phone, Hazel couldn't help but groan because of the pleasant feeling from her body.

Joshua was shocked and kissed her lips despite himself. He murmured, "Hazel, you're a goblin!"

"Let, let me go! I want to get even!" She stared at him with shame and anger. This bastard had kissed her almost everywhere except between her legs.

"Get even? How?" He chuckled. "Shall we change our position, and it will be your turn?"

Hazel grit her teeth angrily. "Joshua Denmark! Why did you bother me when I was on the phone?"

"Why were you so attentive when you were talking to other men on the phone?" He could not help saying, with jealousy in his words.

"What other men..." she looked at him speechlessly. "That's my brother!"

"Your brother is a man, too," he said with some displeasure.

She was so pissed off by him that she almost laughed. She knew Joshua was a jealous man, but she didn't expect he would be so jealous.

"A brother is different," she tried to persuade him. "If I were your younger sister, would you consider me as other women?"

"Hazel, you're not my younger sister," he said solemnly, his eyes becoming deep.

She explained, "I mean if..."

"No 'if,' he said quietly, "the fact is that we are not related by blood, not siblings."

"... All right." His sudden seriousness slightly surprised her.

Joshua looked at her with deep eyes, which made Hazel's heart race again.

"Hazel, are you really unwilling?" He asked in a low voice, his fingers running across her cheek.

Understanding what he was asking, she bit her lip. "Joshua, give me a little more time. I'm not ready."

"Okay," He said in a deep voice.

All of a sudden, she felt lighter. Looking at Joshua putting on his clothes, she felt somewhat surprised.

How could he let her go so easily? Did she say something wrong? She felt he seemed to be angry for some reason.

"Joshua..." She looked at him blankly. "Are you angry?"

"No." He turned his head around and watched her casually sitting on the bed. The flaming desire in his heart rose again. "Hazel, you are going to give me the wrong impression about me leaving if you keep sitting like that."

She came to her senses and screamed as she hurried to pull a quilt to cover her body.

He whispered, "I'm leaving. Remember to dry your hair before you go to bed. I'll have the servant change the sheet and quilt for you later."

"Oh," she said shyly.

"Lock the door if you're having a bath somewhere else," he said to her.

"I'll definitely remember!" She clenched her teeth. Suddenly, she came to her senses and said, a little exasperated, "I'll remember even if it's here."

He gave a chuckle in a clean, pleasant tone and walked over to her.

In an instant, she was very tense, but he just gently kissed her on the forehead. "Good night."

"Mmm..." she said softly, and her previous anger had turned into unspeakable sweetness.

Hazel suffered from insomnia after Joshua left her room. It was nearly dawn before she finally got some sleep, but even in her dreams, her mind was consumed by Joshua's figure.

Joshua went to check on her since she had not gone downstairs for breakfast. He knocked at the door for a long time before she opened the door sleepily.

"What's the matter?" he asked thoughtfully, looking at her listless face.

"I didn't sleep well last night." she yawned.

He frowned slightly.

"By the way, you said yesterday you would take me to the amusement park, didn't you?" she asked with another yawn.

He felt a little sleepy watching her yawn one after another.

"Yes." He nodded.

"I don't want to go. Let me sleep today," she said wearily.

He mused. "We're not going to the amusement park, but another place."

"I'm very sleepy..." She looked at him drowsily.

"Rest assured." he whispered, "You'll love that place very much, and it'll make you comfortable."

"Oh?" She was still a little dull and asked blankly, "Should I change into something more formal?"

"No." He whispered, "You'll take it off in the end."

After eating breakfast in a daze, she followed Joshua to the car and suddenly realized what he had said.

"Wait!" She looked at him hastily. "Did you mention we'll have to take off our clothes in the end?"

"Huh?" He looked at her quietly. It seemed like she was really sleepy as it took her so long to realize what he had said.

"I know I'm a little dull today," she said unhappily. "But you don't have to look at me uncaringly like I have something wrong with me."

He could not help but chuckle. "Whatever I said, you're in the car now. Are you going to jump out?"

"I can jump," she murmured.

She looked around, and suddenly her face was full of hesitation. "Joshua, this isn't the car you used to drive."

Most of his cars were business cars which made it easier for him to work on official business on it.

Instead of the Maybach that Joshua used, she was in an extended version of a Mercedes business car.

"There's something wrong with that car. It's being repaired," he said simply.

"I see." She nodded and didn't think much of it.

Suddenly, she said angrily, "Don't change the subject. We're talking about where we're going!"

"... It's you who changed the subject." he was helpless.

She was sad. She was so sleepy that her mind was in a complete mess.

"... Ahem, don't pay attention to these details." She asked vigilantly, "Where are you taking me?"

"Don't worry, you'll love the place." A firm smile curved his lips.

Chapter 119: Silly Girl, You Trust Me Too Much

"Well, I trust you." Hazel nodded, feeling drowsy again.

Although she still had a little uncertainty, she did not continue to ask.

Joshua's eyes were full of pity. He gently put his arm around her and pulled her to his chest. "You can have a short nap. I'll wake you up when we reach our destination."

"Okay." She obediently closed her eyes.

The car moved smoothly, and she soon fell asleep.

Looking at her sweet sleeping face, he could not help laughing bitterly. "Silly girl, you trust me too much."

When the car stopped, Hazel was still asleep. Listening to her steady breathing, Joshua was reluctant to wake her up, so he decided to carry her.

Hazel had a dream. She dreamt of Joshua again, but this time, he did not let her go, and they had sex. She had the same dream last night, but it felt so real, she felt that her whole body was getting hotter.

She woke up suddenly and found it wasn't a dream.

There was a mist before her eyes, and a faint smell of sulfur touched the tip of her nose, but it did not smell bad.

She was bathing in a hot spring, it is no wonder she was hot. She was very comfortable, and her previous exhaustion disappeared.

She was a little embarrassed.

It turned out that Joshua said taking off their clothes to enjoy bathing in a hot spring.

"Are you awake?"

Joshua's voice sounded in her ear, and she quickly turned back to look into his deep eyes.

Joshua was actually by her side in the hot spring.

She looked down at herself. "... Did you help me undress?"

"Then whom do you get to undress you?" He chuckled.

She was a little sad, she would have been shy and angry when Joshua teased her like this before. But now, she didn't know if it was because they didn't really make love that she couldn't get angry, even if she heard this kind of language.

She had become thick-skinned, she was a little grievous and annoyed because he had misled her.

Joshua watched her expressions change as if she had a ton of thoughts going through her head. He was sure that it was definitely about him even though he didn't know exactly what she was thinking.

"Drink some water." He handed her a water glass. She took the glass and sipped the water.

Suddenly, there was a phone ringing. It was her phone.

She looked in the direction of the sound, their phones had been put in a sealed bag next to Joshua's hand.

"Cell phone!" she yelled.

Joshua took her cell phone, but his eyebrows were scowling slightly when he saw the number on it.

"Let me answer it," he said in a deep voice.

Hazel was worried, but before she could say anything, she heard him say, "This is Vanessa's number."

"... All right," she immediately agreed. Why was Vanessa calling her? It must not be good.

Joshua answered the phone as he put a plate of fresh fruit next to Hazel.

She looked at the fresh, tender strawberries and put one to her mouth, but her mind was on Joshua.

It was bizarre that Vanessa would call her, Joshua scrambled to answer the phone. She was curious. What would Joshua say to her?

"What is it?" Joshua asked in a deep voice.

There was a silence on the other end.

Vanessa didn't expect that it would be Joshua who answered the phone.

She had called Joshua, who didn't answer the phone, but he answered when she called Hazel's phone.

Was Joshua trying to piss her off on purpose? Vanessa clenched her hands in anger, then she took a deep breath and put a smile on her face so she could hold back her anger.

"Joshua," she sobbed softly, "my father told me all about it yesterday. I have loved you for so many years. Why did you misunderstand?"

Joshua raised an eyebrow. "I don't think there's any misunderstanding."

Hearing the cry faintly, Hazel felt a little uncomfortable.

She knew that Vanessa was crying on purpose, but if she did, it was a sign showing how close they had been. After all, Joshua and Vanessa were sorts of childhood sweethearts.

With a touch of jealousy in her heart, Hazel suddenly remembered that Joshua had deliberately teased her while she was on the phone.

Her eyes suddenly lit up. She could get her revenge, she moved closer to Joshua and mischievously began to make circles on his hard chest.

Joshua looked helplessly at Hazel. "Stop that now."

Vanessa, crying, was taken back. Did Joshua just ask her to stop crying in such a loving voice?

In an instant, her heart was filled with joy. Maybe it was possible that Joshua did have feelings for her, she thought.

"Joshua, I didn't," Vanessa said as if she was a spoiled kid. "Do you remember? We used to..."

"I forget," he interrupted her coldly, his voice full of impatience.

Vanessa choked back what she wanted to say next.

She was bewildered. What happened to Joshua? He was so warm at first but so cold the next moment. Why did his attitude change so greatly?

Noticing Joshua didn't seem to be affected at all and was even calm enough to talk to Vanessa, Hazel suddenly felt that she hadn't done enough.

With a smile, she suddenly put her little hands downward.

As if a faint electric current had struck him, Joshua groaned with an intolerable response. His eyes became dark, and he stretched out his hand suddenly and attacked Hazel as well.

"Ah!" Hazel caught off guard and screamed despite herself.

"Who is that?" Vanessa was bewildered instantaneously. Was there someone with Joshua? Was it a woman?!

She couldn't help but the question in a harsh voice. "Who's with you?!"

"Do you forget who you are calling?" Joshua's voice grew more impatient. "Come on, what are you calling for?"

A wicked smile curved Joshua's lips when Hazel tried to run away. He continued to chase Hazel, holding out his hand to tickle her.

Hazel laughed and dodged. "Don't, don't do that..."

Vanessa was furious at the voice on the other end of the phone.

How could she forget that it was Hazel's phone? They must be together, she had thought too much about him being nice, he wasn't talking to her, he was talking to Hazel.

"What are you doing?!" Listening to the laughter, Vanessa bellowed, almost breaking down.

"Can't you hear?" Joshua said coldly, "Of course we're making... love."

On the other end of the line, Vanessa screamed wildly and a loud thud. The phone was hung up, Joshua guessed, of course, that Vanessa had thrown her phone in anger.

It was not what he cared about now. He only cared about only one thing.

Chapter 120: Teasing Him

Putting down the phone, Joshua ran after Hazel. She realized he would try to get her back, so she struggled to get to the shore as quickly as she could.

But before she could climb up, Joshua reached her, she screamed as he grabbed her by the waist and pulled her back into the hot spring again.

She couldn't escape, so she turned around quickly and looked into his deep eyes. They were full of flaming desire. Her heart was pounding. It was too late for her to apologize now.

"Girl, how dare you play with fire, eh?" he asked in a deep voice.

"I dare not..." The atmosphere was way too intense, she became a wuss.

Then she said timidly, "Joshua, is it too late for me to admit my mistake?"

"Yes!" He held her in his arms.

"No!" Her cheeks were already glowing as she screamed. "Joshua, I... I am a little dizzy. Don't do that..."

"Dizzy? Just right, let's do some exercise together," he said in a deep voice.

"I mean it! I'm really dizzy," she said, blushing.

"Hazel!" He gritted his teeth. "Don't think I don't know that you are faking it!"

This time, she led him on, but if she didn't figure out a way, Joshua would definitely have sex with her. She could only pretend to be ill now.

Hazel's cheeks got a little redder as she insisted, "I am not pretending, I'm really sick. Maybe I've been in the hot spring for too long..."

"Hazel Crowe!" Joshua's face became unsightly. This girl! She had tried to provoke him, but she stopped herself?! He really wanted to have sex with her.

Suddenly he leaned over and kissed her on her lips. The feeling of it implied punishment.

Hazel's eyes grew wide as she stiffened at the kiss. Though her heart was filled with a strange desire, she dared not to do anything to provoke Joshua anymore.

After the kiss, Joshua let her go and went ashore with an angry expression.

"Where are you going?" she asked quickly.

"To take a shower," he said in a deep voice. "Or, do you want us to continue?"

"No, go ahead." She shook her head quickly.

The heartless little girl! Joshua's face became gloomier, and he left.

She touched her hot cheeks and couldn't help but laugh shyly.

She was not used to teasing Joshua like that, just thinking about it, she patted her face shyly a few times.

She was ashamed. She had never thought she would do something like that to Joshua. Even so, Joshua didn't force her, which made her heart warm somehow.

Hazel went to have a quick shower, when she came out with her bathrobe, she saw Joshua waiting for her.

"Don't you want to continue bathing in the hot spring?" he asked.

"No, I'm very comfortable." Hazel nodded.

"Let's go to do something that can make you more comfortable." A smile curved his lips.

"What, what?" she asked in a fluster.

Joshua took her by the hand and mysteriously said nothing on purpose.

Hazel followed him in fear until Joshua took her to a room with two tables for a massage and two massage therapists waiting.

It turned out that he just took her for a massage, but why did he say to do something that could make her more comfortable...

She looked at Joshua, speechless. "Are you just so fond of teasing me?"

"Isn't a massage more comfortable?" He chuckled. "Or did you think of something else? Besides, you're better than me in teasing."

Listening to Joshua's unhappy words, Hazel understood what he was mentioning, which embarrassed her.

She didn't mean it, and she just did it for fun...alright, it was her fault.

They positioned themselves on the massage tables, and the massage therapists began the treatment. The pressure on Hazel's back was perfect, and she let out a moan.

Joshua's face changed slightly.

"What's the matter?" Hazel happened to spot it and asked him.

"Well, I should learn how to massage," he said seriously.

"Why?" she asked curiously.

"I don't want anyone else to hear you." His eyes flickered, and he smiled playfully. "After I learn to do it, you can let me massage you."

She felt very embarrassed. Even though the two massage therapists kept their professional attitude and pretended they did not hear what Joshua said, she flushed with embarrassment.

She started to cough and quickly changed the subject. "That...why did Vanessa call?"

"I don't know," he said.

"Didn't you answer the phone? Why don't you know?" She looked at him in disbelief.

"Hazel Crowe," Joshua looked at her with hidden bitterness, "I was unable to hear her clearly, unlike you in the same situation."

She flushed with embarrassment again. Why did Joshua always like to make fun of her?

She was, however, somewhat surprised. Compared with what Joshua had done to her, her behavior was, at best, a prank. How could it make him miss what Vanessa said?

She suddenly realized what Joshua had done. She looked at him in astonishment and said, "Did you deliberately let her hear what was happening?"

Joshua raised his brows slightly. Hazel was a little dazed sometimes, but it was always easy for her to figure out the truth if she thought about it.

He did want Vanessa to hear it, hoping that it would stop her from pestering him.

"Hazel, it was clear you were trying to tease me." He chuckled.

She was tongue-tied. It was true that Joshua didn't make her do it, but he clearly let Vanessa hear it on purpose. Hazel became angry, grunted, and looked away.

"Hazel," He said her name lightly.

She didn't move, pretending that she didn't hear him.

"You can rest assured that I will not let her bother you again," he whispered.

There was a warmth in Hazel's heart, knowing that Joshua had done it mostly for her. Once she realized why he had done it, she calmed down.

"Mm, I believe you," she whispered, turning to him.

The massage made her very comfortable, and she fell asleep quickly.

When she woke up, she felt refreshed and truly enjoyed her day with Joshua.

When they arrived at Denmark Residence, a servant came to them. "Mr. Denmark, Miss Young came to see you today. We told her you weren't at home, but she didn't believe it and made a scene."

Joshua's eyes became a little aggravated. "I see. If she comes back later, you just need to ask her to get out."

The servant agreed quickly.

Hazel's heart sank slightly. Vanessa's entanglement with Joshua had become extremely dreadful.

Even though she believed Joshua could handle it, she had a feeling that Vanessa would not give up easily and she would definitely find a way to destroy them.

