

Midnight 581

Chapter 1293 - 581: How I Punish You

After sending the message, she couldn't resist frowning.

Because of Simon's warning, she had a vague feeling that the incident became a huge issue, or... that Joshua deliberately made it become a huge issue.

She somehow felt that it didn't seem so simple. Joshua used to keep a low profile, but now it seemed he wanted the whole world to know he was back and alive.

Suddenly, another message came; Simon replied. She cast a glance at the screen. Just then, Joshua grabbed her phone before she could click open the message.

"Is your phone more important than me?" He spoke of jealousy.

She looked at him quietly with a twinkle in her eye. "Let's go home."

He cocked an eyebrow. Why did Hazel suddenly want to leave? Did this have anything to do with this message? Finally, he whispered, "What's the matter? Don't you feel well?"

She replied with a flash of unhappiness, "Nothing, it's just that I'm a little tired."

Chapter 1294 - 582: Don't Let Your Imagination Run Wild

It was Ted. Joshua's face darkened instantly.

But the next moment, he calmly answered, "Mr. King."

Hazel stiffened slightly.

"I've considered what you said before," Ted said in a deep tone. "If you can improve the relationship between Simon and me, and that woman is really pregnant with your child, I can accept... that child."

With a chill in his eyes, Joshua coolly said, "Mr. King, I didn't expect you would daydream."

Ted was exasperated. "Joshua, this is what I can only do!"

"Then we don't need to have any further discussion on this matter," Joshua said, his chill deepening.

"Congratulations, Mr. King. You've lost two sons."

"You...!" Ted was very furious, but Joshua hung up before he could say anything else. In an instant, Ted's face darkened. Joshua was so tough that Ted couldn't communicate with him normally.

"What's the matter?" Hazel asked with the puzzle.

"Nothing." Joshua's face was very glum.

She raised her fist to pound his chest angrily. "You said you'd never hide anything from me!"

He sighed helplessly. "Hazel, I was afraid you'd be unhappy."

"Say it, say it. What did your father say?" She urged, completely ignoring his words.

"He said... he would accept our child if I could ease his relationship with Simon." His face darkened, and he finally spoke.

"I see..." She frowned slightly, lost in thought.

He cocked his eyebrows slightly. Although he had put it mildly, Hazel should have understood that Ted could accept only children of the King family but couldn't accept her.

This trick was really sinister. If Joshua agreed, he would have to force Hazel to separate from her child. This was their child, who Joshua couldn't ignore. Then Ted could successfully tie Joshua down with the child. Even if the bond between Joshua and Hazel were very firm, there would be bad blood between them because of the child over time which would gradually destroy their relationship.

Hence, Joshua would never say yes to Ted's request.

"Hazel, don't let your imagination run wild," he said solemnly. "I will never agree with that. I love you, and I love my child. I will protect you and never let Ted take the child away from you."

"Joshua," she said, looking up, "I don't think things are as bad as you think."

"Huh?" He frowned tightly and looked at her nervously. "You don't mean to... agree to his terms, do you? I disagree! I know you're worried about my safety and don't want me to do anything drastic. But I will never sacrifice my wife and children for my own sake!"

She was amused and moved. The anger she had for he had hidden almost everything from her all dissipated.

Joshua did everything for her, and maybe sometimes he did it the wrong way, but she should never question his feelings for her.

"Don't worry, I won't agree to such inhuman terms," she added, reassuring him with amusement.

"However, I don't feel that there is no turning around. In fact, both you and Simon are too repelled by Ted, so no matter what he does, your first thought is how to fight him."

His frown deepened. "He who can think of such an idea is not very kind to you."

"That is because he is thinking things over for his own son from a father's point of view," she said.

"Hazel Crowe," he said, looking unhappy, "Why do you keep defending him?"

"I didn't mean to defend him." She explained, holding his hand lightly and shaking it habitually, "It's because I don't hate him as much as you do, so I can discover what you can't. Joshua, in fact, Ted has compromised."

His eyes flashed with surprise.

"I'm surprised that he is willing to accept our child," she said. "After all, in his opinion, you're so excellent, and you wouldn't lack women who can get pregnant for you. So to him, even if I'm pregnant with your child, the child is dispensable. His acceptance of my child shows that he cares about your thoughts."

"Can this be considered a compromise?" He sneered.

"He can refuse to compromise if he wants to," she said, with a twinkle in her eye. "As long as he is willing to make a little concession, he will make more concessions. But, Joshua, you used to be a great negotiator. Don't talk to him with too many personal emotions. Just treat him as the other side you want to negotiate with. You should know better than I do how to achieve what you want, right?"

He was in a daze.

Hazel's words made sense. He was too defensive against Ted to perceive this and think this way, but as a bystander, Hazel saw it clearly.

Joshua was a little confident in forcing Ted to agree to his terms if he considered Ted his opponent in front of a negotiation table.

Just then, Joshua's phone rang again. It was Ted again.

"Answer the phone." She winked at him. She believed Joshua knew what to do now.

He nodded and picked up the phone.

"Joshua!" Ted growled. "Do you want me to get someone to take you back to me?"

Joshua cocked an eyebrow. With Hazel's warning, he suddenly realized that she was right. Ted threatened him with that kind of talk, but it wasn't threatening at all. However, it seemed Ted was too mad to find it.

"Let me kindly remind you that you need to dispatch more men." There was a chill of alienation in Joshua's voice.

"What do you mean?" Ted was vigilant instantly.

"Well, I'll make it clearer. Simon and I have reached an agreement, and you should be aware of our purpose." Joshua said slowly, "When your men come, they'll need to face the people from the Denmark Group and the organization. Of course, even if you don't dispatch anyone, Simon and I will come to you soon. But... I don't think you like to see us then."

In a flash, Hazel's eyes widened. She looked at Joshua in disbelief. What was wrong with Joshua? Why did Joshua sound like he wanted to go to war with Ted after Joshua heard what she said?

Chapter 1295 - 583: Did You Have To Treat Me As Your Enemy?

She tugged anxiously at his sleeve. Joshua knew what she was worried about. He opened his mouth silently. "Trust me."

In an instant, Hazel was relieved.

It seemed that Joshua didn't really plan to go to war with Ted. It should only be a means of negotiation.

After figuring it out, Hazel quieted down.

Joshua's eyes were filled with tenderness. Hazel actually trusted him so deeply?

Ted was so shocked that he couldn't speak.

When he learned that Joshua and Simon had conspired to kill him at Stacy Island, Ted had a sinking feeling; that was also why he faked his own death.

But he did not expect things would be back to square one again.

Even though he and Joshua had been together for months, and he had been trying to do what a father should do, Joshua did not hesitate to abandon him, making his role as a father a joke.

"...Do we have to go this far?" Ted asked, a little frustrated.

"What a strange thing to say! Mr. King," Joshua spoke dryly. "Things would come to this because you forced me to make a choice. Do you mean I'm not choosing what you want?"

"I..." Ted thought his chest hurt. How could he possibly want to turn against his own son? But Joshua silenced Ted's words as if Ted asked for it himself! Ted was always exceptionally vigorous in work and didn't like to argue with others too much. So now, being questioned by Joshua, Ted actually didn't know how he should defend himself!

After a long time, Ted gritted his teeth and asked, "Is that woman really that important to you?"

After all, Joshua turned against him only for Hazel! Ted never thought Joshua would do this for a woman!

"Mr. King, I thought you would overestimate yourself and ask Hazel who was more important, you or Hazel," Joshua said, with a hint of sarcasm. "It seems that you're very self-aware. What gave you the illusion that Hazel wasn't important to me?"

Ted was almost mad with anger. Every time when Joshua confronted him, Joshua's words were so poisonous that Ted couldn't bear them.

"Hazel is my wife. She stands by me through thick and thin. She has been devoted to me, and she is the brightest light in my life." Joshua gently took Hazel's hand. He didn't want to say too much about his relationship with Hazel because he knew that even if he did, Ted would still hate Hazel. "As for you, my biological father, what have you done for me?"

"I saved you!" Ted growled.

"Mr. King, aren't you ashamed when you say that?" Joshua's eyes went cold. "Hazel could have found me and saved me without you. And we shouldn't have been apart for such a long time!"

Joshua was really angry. This was a pain in his heart and the source of his guilt when he faced Hazel. Feeling his anger, Hazel pinched his hand.

The gentle touch soothed Joshua, and the anger that had risen in his heart vanished.

"Do... you have to think of me as your enemy?" Ted felt a pang of pain. He was a real failure as a father.

Joshua raised an eyebrow. According to his original intentions, he would directly infuriate Ted and fall out with him. But he wouldn't do that for Hazel's sake.

"Mr. King, I've never considered you an enemy. On the contrary, it's you who chooses me as your enemy," Joshua said firmly. "If you won't give in, we'll have to do what we can. If I don't protect my own wife and children, what an irresponsible man I will be!"

Ted froze. He was not the kind of guy who liked to split hairs. Joshua said that to defend Hazel, but he got to the point.

Just... accept Hazel? Ted really didn't want to. Such a woman would turn his two sons against each other sooner or later.

Having said that, Ted had to compromise. Or he could pacify Joshua.

"I can't accept a woman like Hazel! But..." Ted said in a deep tone, "if you really care about her that much, I can give you guys a chance."

Joshua's eyelids twitched. Hazel was right. Once Ted was willing to make a concession, he would make more concessions.

"When you improve my relationship with Simon, you can take Hazel back to the manor." Ted sighed helplessly.

"What are you going to do to Hazel?" Joshua's heart was filled with vigilance.

For some reason, Ted felt a bit uncomfortable. Joshua was really on guard against him, considering him a bad guy. "She's pregnant with a kid of our family, what can I do to her? Don't you want me to accept her? Fine. Very simple. As long as she behaves like an eligible daughter-in-law in the King family during pregnancy, I can allow you to be together."

Joshua was silent. Ted did make concessions, but it didn't quite live up to his expectations.

Besides, despite Ted's promise, Joshua could not be reassured if Hazel stayed during pregnancy in the manor in Country M. While the old fox couldn't do anything to Hazel openly, he would certainly think of tricks that could cause bad blood between him and Hazel.

"What?" Ted gave out a sneer. "Didn't you say what both of you have is true love, and she's devoted to you? You intend to be together, but you can't stand such a mere test?"

Seeing Joshua hesitate, Hazel scratched the palm of his hand.

She opened her mouth and whispered, "If the conditions are not bad, say yes."

Joshua was helpless. Then he said in a deep tone, "... I'll think about it. Wait for my answer."

Hanging up, Joshua talked to Hazel about Ted's conditions.

"Hazel," Joshua said earnestly, "I know a lot about Ted's power. Maybe he has other powers in his hand, but we don't need to be afraid of him..."

Speechlessly, she looked at him. He was obviously planning to fight Ted to death!

"I disagree," she said, frowning tightly. "Joshua, we don't have to do that now. I can go to Ted King's manor in Country M."

"No," Joshua shook his head without hesitation. "He isn't sincere. He is trying to soothe me for the time being. If you go, you'll be in danger!"

Chapter 1296 - 584: Go And Drive Them Away

He had a good knowledge of Ted's tricks, so he would never put Hazel in danger!

Hazel distressed herself about this. After losing his memory, Joshua seemed to become stubborn. In this case, it would be even more difficult for her to convince him.

She thought for a bit and finally said, "But you're here. You'll protect me, won't you? Besides, I'm pregnant, and I'm sure he won't be hard on me."

His face was still pale, and he insisted, "No. Even if he isn't hard on you, he'll certainly try to make us misunderstand each other and break us up."

"Then, do you have no confidence in our relationship?" She sat directly in his arms, with her arms putting around his neck, and asked seductively in his ear.

His arms encircled her waist, and there was a complicated gleam in his eye.

The moment when he met Hazel, he couldn't control the turbulent feelings in his heart. Although he could not remember anything, he knew how passionate and real their relationship was.

He loved Hazel deeply, so after listening to Hazel's story, he didn't doubt the truth of the story and directly believed her. However, he really didn't remember those things and didn't know how to get along with Hazel. He could only act on instinct. He believed in his relationship with Hazel, but any genuine relationship couldn't be used to destroy.

"I don't know...." Joshua gave a wry smile.

Hazel froze. Yes, she remembered all these things, but to Joshua, she was just a stranger who had been with him for a few days. She was too pushy.

"Joshua..." she said in a low tone, "I know you're worried about me, but things have to be solved. The reason why I agreed to go to Country M is that I hope he can recognize our relationship, and I don't want to give him the chance to break us up. I've never been a pedantic person. He can soothe you with a trick, can't we beat him at his own game?"

Joshua's eyes twinkled. He knew what Hazel meant.

Now that Ted was willing to make concessions, it made sense for them to make a concession. If Ted had had any dirty tricks, they could not just wait helplessly for the end.

"Ted is not a person who would change his mind easily." He furrowed his brow.

"But he's changed for you," she said, smiling and winking. "I'm sure we can convince him."

"Alright..." He was helpless. "But we must agree beforehand that when we get to the manor, you'll definitely obey me."

"Uh-huh!" She nodded constantly. "By the way, how are you going to catch Ian Flores? You've already had plans, haven't you?"

He sighed lightly. Hazel really knew him too well. He took out an invitation and showed it to her.

"Grandpa Sloane's birthday party?!" She held the invitation and looked at him with some surprise. "Have you seen Grandpa Sloane?"

"Do you still call him Grandpa Sloane?" He scratched the tip of her nose.

"Have you really gone to visit... grandpa?" Her eyes twinkled. She had planned to visit the Sloane family with Joshua at the right time, but she had no idea that he had actually contacted the Sloane family in advance.

"Yes." He nodded. "I should at least tell grandpa that my mother is safe. It so happens that he is about to hold a birthday party, so I set a trap."

"If you go to grandpa's party in the hotel, Ian Flores will definitely find a way to sneak into the hotel." Her eyes lit up.

He looked at her with deep eyes. He raised his hand gently and rubbed her hair. He didn't have to say anything more, and Hazel still could know what he meant. This kind of perfect rapport was quite familiar to him and made him particularly warm.

"Yeah, Hazel, anything could happen. Are you sure you're going?" he asked again.

"Sure." Without hesitation, she said, "My grandfather's birthday party is very dangerous, but if I don't go, Ian will be suspicious. Besides, even if I'm not there, I wouldn't be safe."

He let out a little sigh. Hazel seemed to be more persistent than he was. "Okay, I'll take you there, but you must promise me...."

"Got it, got it," she said, sticking out her tongue. "I'll obey you at any time..."

He pinched her cheek helplessly. The girl could always silence him.

Joshua let out the news about his relationship with Grandpa Sloane and that Grandpa Sloane would admit Joshua's identity in person at the birthday party.

After the news was let out, naturally, it aroused a lot of attention. The Sloane family had a solid foundation, to begin with. It turned out Joshua actually had such a relationship with the Sloane family. The Sloane family and Joshua hadn't officially admitted this, so various speculations were on the Internet.

There was even speculation that Joshua wanted to get something from the Sloane family. The person who said these words was soon attacked by other netizens instantly. After all, with Joshua's identity, he didn't need to get anything from the Sloane family.

But the Sloane family had been keeping a low profile, and Joshua didn't say anything about any of these things, so there were more and more public opinions. Then, finally, all eyes were focused on Grandpa Sloane's birthday party.

After all, when Grandpa Sloane's birthday party began, the truth about Joshua's relationship with the Sloane family would be revealed.

It was a hot affair, and Simon knew about it. What he didn't expect was that Hazel and Joshua would come to him in person.

"Master Simon, do you really refuse to meet them?" Chester asked with a troubled expression.

Through the window in the study, Simon could see Joshua and Hazel waiting outside the front door. It was hot, and Joshua was holding a pink umbrella for Hazel.

Simon's lip twitched. Even if he lost his memory, Joshua was still a person who cared about his wife very much. Didn't Joshua find it was really an eyesore to hold that umbrella? Joshua, however, might not pay attention to his own image at all. He did this because he couldn't make Hazel exposed to the sun.

Simon was furious. Even if he stayed at home, he couldn't hide from their public display of affection.

"Yes!" He looked very pale. "Go and drive them away!"

"Huh?" Chester's face looked troubled. Simon had always been on good terms with Hazel and Joshua. Was it not good for him to suddenly kick them out?

"Go quickly!" Simon kicked him angrily.

Chester hurried out of the study to the gate and conveyed Simon's message to Hazel and Joshua.

Chapter 1297 - 585: Why Are You Telling Me This?

"Please go home, both of you," Chester said apologetically. "Master Simon hasn't been in a good mood lately...."

"Besides, if he sees us, he'll be more unhappy, won't he?" Hazel looked at Joshua and couldn't help speaking.

Helplessly, Joshua pinched her hand. How could Hazel undermine Simon like that?

"What?" Chester looked at her blankly.

"Nothing, nothing." She hurried to smile and played dumb.

Joshua gave Chester a quiet look. "Did he ask you to come out and drive us away?"

"... Yes," Chester replied with resignation. In fact, Chester wasn't straightforward. However, Joshua was a smart guy. So how could Joshua possibly be unable to guess what Simon meant?

"You've completed your task," Joshua nodded calmly. "You come to drive us away, but we don't want to leave. Get out of the way."

Chester was embarrassed. How could Joshua say he had completed his task?

Chester wanted to say something. Suddenly, a man in black stepped out from behind Joshua, took out a gun, and pointed it at Chester's head.

"..." Chester was petrified instantly. What was the matter?! Did Joshua have to be so frisky? He actually didn't react as most people would!

With his forehead being pointed at by a gun, Chester had to ask, with a troubled face, "Master Denmark, what do you mean...."

"Nothing," Joshua said quietly, as if he were talking about the weather. "You've done the security work here perfectly, but my man threatened you with a gun, so you had no choice but to let Hazel and me in."

"..." Chester was speechless! He had not had much contact with Joshua before, but he had no idea that Joshua would be such a... rascal!

How could Joshua force him in this way? Besides, even if Joshua wanted to force him, Joshua should at least get more serious and pretend that he would start a war with Simon. Putting a gun against his head like this was really perfunctory!

"Open the door. Hazel can't stand for long." Joshua frowned unhappily.

Chester's face changed slightly. Simon also cared about Hazel very much. If anything happened to Hazel, Chester would definitely be punished.

Joshua was willing to act like this, then Chester should give Joshua a face.

Chester waved his hand, and the guard next to him opened the gate. Holding the umbrella, Joshua walked in with Hazel.

Simon could see this scene clearly in the study. In an instant, his face darkened! Chester was a real 'traitor'!

Joshua and Hazel walked into the living room just in time to see Simon coming downstairs.

"Master Simon..." Chester came to him helplessly with a troubled expression.

"Get lost!" Simon snapped. "Don't let me see you!"

Chester heaved a sigh of relief and walked away quickly. Simon was willing to scold him, which meant Simon was not really angry with him.

Instead of treating himself as an outsider, Joshua called in Simon's servants and asked them to pour Hazel a glass of juice and pour him a glass of red wine.

Simon really felt that he was about to be mad with anger. He was impatient while he waved his hand to beckon the other people to leave.

"Do you two still have the face to come here?" Simon's face darkened as he sat down opposite them.

Hazel reached out to pinch her and Joshua's faces and then answered very seriously. "I've touched our faces. They are very good."

"..." Simon rolled his eyes at her in anger. He didn't argue with Hazel over this kind of meaningless trifle. The next moment, he looked at Joshua coldly. "Ian Flores didn't come to me. If you're here for him, you're doomed to make a trip in vain."

"Who said I came for him?" Joshua picked up the wine glass and took a sip.

Ian Flores had not contacted Simon; of course, Joshua knew that because he had asked his men to keep watching Simon's villa, and his men had never seen anyone suspicious come to look for Simon.

That made Joshua very surprised.

After all, he and Stacy were both alive and well. Of course, Hazel and Joshua wouldn't give Ian a break, but Simon was Ian's nephew, and Ian certainly wouldn't have too much hatred of Simon, so Ian should at least have contacted Simon to ease his relationship with his nephew.

But Ian didn't do that, so Joshua couldn't figure it out. However, that was not why he was here today.

"Then what else can we talk about?" Simon folded his arms and crossed his legs like a rascal. "Joshua, you have been very busy these days. Isn't it because you are trying to catch Ian Flores? Let's just make it clear. You've actually chosen to side with Ted, haven't you?"

Joshua's face was still calm, but Hazel was somehow nervous because she could sense Simon's hostility. Simon did not fall out with them directly, only for the sake of their relationship in the past.

"I personally would not choose to side with Ted," Joshua spoke lightly.

Simon's lips twitched. Was Joshua juggling with words? Simon was no fool, how could he fall for such a trick?

"But we don't come here today to talk to you about it," Joshua said quietly.

"Then what are you here for?" Simon was really at a loss.

Joshua took out an invitation with a peaceful face and handed it to Simon.

Simon opened it doubtfully, but the next moment, he slammed the invitation on the table in exasperation. "Joshua Denmark, don't push me too far!"

Dropping her forehead into her hands, Hazel felt helpless. She had known it would end up with this. In fact, she also felt that Joshua's behavior was bad.

Simon had been angry with them, to begin with, but Joshua actually came to send him an invitation to Grandpa Sloane's birthday party. This... went a little too far.

"Ian Flores will definitely attend my grandfather's birthday party," Joshua said coldly as if he didn't see Simon's anger at all. "I'll set a trap to catch him, using myself as bait."

"So what?" Simon froze, then sneered, "Why are you telling me this?"

"I'm worried that he won't take the bait and that he might try to kidnap Hazel, so I give you this invitation so that you can keep her safe," Joshua continued.

"Can't you be so self-righteous!" Simon was really pissed off. "Joshua Denmark, I didn't say yes! Aren't you afraid I'll be undercover and deliberately let him go when the time comes?!"

Joshua looked at him in surprise, as if Simon were a fool. "If you don't go to the party, how can you be undercover?"

Chapter 1298 - 586: What Exactly Are You Trying To Say?

"..." Simon was extremely angry with him. Finally, he snapped, gritting his teeth, "Whose side do you take?"

Joshua's eyes went dark. "I'm giving you a chance to prove yourself."

"What?" Simon looked at him with a puzzle.

"Our plan failed last time because something went wrong because of you," Joshua said, picking up the wine glass and playing with it gently. "That's why things end up like this today."

In an instant, Simon looked a little gloomy. He had been kicking himself over it. Even if he knew Joshua was safe now, he would not say frankly that it was not his fault.

"What exactly are you trying to say?" Simon said irritably.

"You are not a person who would pass the buck," Joshua spoke blandly. "It was an accident that we failed last time, but it happened because of your negligence. It shouldn't have happened."

Simon looked gloomy.

"So, I'm going to give you one more chance to prove that you're not the kind of person who are careless," Joshua said blandly. "You don't need to care what Ian Flores would do to me. You just need to PROTECT Hazel. I don't think he'd do anything to Hazel as long as you are there."

"He's my uncle!" Simon gritted his teeth, making a final resistance.

"We have to catch Ian Flores. I'm sure you know what I mean. As his nephew, you did not help him. He must have had a grudge against you." Joshua asked calmly, "Otherwise, why didn't he come to you?"

Simon's eyes flickered. He knew Joshua was telling the truth. As word spread that Joshua was alive and safe, he heard nothing from Ian, and Ian did not contact him through anyone. At that moment, Simon knew that his uncle seemed to resent him.

Simon seemed to be thinking about something. Then, suddenly, he looked up at Joshua. "What if I help you?"

Joshua looked indifferent. He understood what Simon was asking. "We will talk about other issues after we catch Ian Flores. Just remember that we're just like you, and no matter which side you choose, we're not going to hurt you."

Simon was a little moved.

If Joshua said that he would side with Simon as long as Simon helped him catch Ian Flores, Simon would never believe him and would only think that Joshua became immoral in order to deceive him.

"Is he telling the truth?" Simon looked at Hazel.

"Yes." She nodded.

He looked her up and down, then added, "If he cheats me, how about being together with me?"

"Simon King!" Hazel glared at him. "I'm your sister-in-law! You must respect me!"

Sensing Joshua's cold gaze, Simon, who had been used to being scolded by Hazel, shrugged with resignation. "Just kidding."

"How about I use Ted to make an oath?" Joshua spoke flatly.

"... No bother," Simon said, looking at him in silence. "Alright, I believe you. I would rather hear you lie to me than hear you make such an oath."

A smile curved Joshua's lips, Joshua calmly pushed the invitation on the table to Simon. "We'll be waiting for you."

"Don't worry, I will do what I promised." Simon put away the invitation and waved his hand a little irritably.

He felt that he himself was simply ill. He was not that close to Joshua, and he had feelings for Hazel, but why was he so silly and rushed to watch their public display of affection again and again?!

Forget it. Once this incident was solved, he would definitely start a new relationship and completely forget about Hazel.

It was Grandpa Sloane's birthday today. The venue was the largest hotel of Denmark Group.

Joshua arranged everything. The banquet hall appeared elegant and luxurious. His care for the party could be seen everywhere.

There were a great many guests, but they entered the banquet hall orderly, led by the waiters. All this was in perfect order.

Hazel was waiting in the break room.

The door opened, and Simon entered.

Hazel didn't even look back. She knew that Joshua and Simon were the only people who could get into the break room. But Joshua was not here now.

For the convenience of attending the banquet, Grandpa Sloane had checked into the hotel in advance, and Joshua went to pick up Grandpa Sloane of his own accord.

He didn't keep the news from the media that he would go to pick up Grandpa Sloane, so a lot of journalists followed him all the time and videotaped the whole trip, broadcasting live.

Hazel was turning on the TV in the break room, watching the live broadcast.

It wasn't far from Grandpa Sloane's room to the banquet hall, so Joshua left her here reassured and went to pick up Grandpa Sloane.

"A live broadcast?" Simon's lips twitched. "Joshua is really afraid my uncle wouldn't know where he is!"

Hazel nodded. She gave a wry smile. "I also think it's fanfare."

"But it's necessary." Then, chin in hand, Simon spoke, "Joshua provokes him in this way, I'm afraid Ian would directly go to fight Joshua desperately. Hazel, are you really not worried?"

"How could I not be worried?" Her face appeared a little gloomy. "But I am afraid that if I argue with him because I'm worried, it will only become a burden on him and distract him. If so, he would do these things secretly, keeping it completely from me. So I might as well be sensible enough to let him do it as he likes so that he can do it better."

"How could he be so lucky to meet such a nice girl like you?" he muttered; his voice was full of envy.

"What are you muttering about?" She gave him a surprised look.

"Nothing," he shrugged. Seeing Hazel's frown, he couldn't resist persuading, "Don't worry, my uncle is out of power. The little power he has now cannot cause too much trouble. He can't be a match for Joshua."

Her eyelids twitched, and she said suddenly, "If you think so, your uncle must know that too. Do you think he'll just give up going to Joshua and directly come to me?"

Simon's eyes flickered with surprise, and he shook his head. "Probably not... I know my uncle's personality. He's not a person who likes to play it safe. He likes to gamble. In addition, he hates Joshua very much."

Chapter 1299 - 587: Take Me With You

His words couldn't comfort Hazel at all.

She frowned. Ian Flores hated Joshua very much, so if Ian knew that Joshua was alive, Ian would make a desperate attempt to avenge himself on Joshua. What was more, Joshua deliberately wanted to be reunited with the Sloane family, which would make Ian have more hatred of Joshua.

But Ian would only risk everything when he was very sure that he could win.

Just as Ian used Stacy to threaten Joshua last time, even if Ian did go to Joshua this time, Ian would be fully prepared.

Worse still... Hazel felt a little flustered for no reason. She had a feeling that things were not going so well this time somehow and that there was something they did not know.

"Simon, we have to be careful," she said in a deep voice. "If he thinks he's got a better chance of getting me than getting Joshua, I'm sure he won't be stupid enough to let me go."

"You're right." Simon thought for a moment. Joshua had an accident because Simon was inconsiderate. This had always been a thorn in Simon's heart, so he would like to be more cautious if he could.

He spoke in a deep tone, "I'll strengthen the defense here..."

Before he could finish the sentence, there was a loud knock at the door.

Hazel and Simon looked at each other, their eyes flashing a hint of doubt. It was a tense time now, who would come to them at such a time. Was there something wrong?

Hazel said calmly, "Come in."

Chester walked in with a few guards. They were holding a strange man with a long, terrifying scar on his face. At the sight of him, Simon could not help turning pale.

"Do you know him?" Hazel didn't ignore Simon's facial expression.

"He's Ian Flores's henchman." Simon looked a little troubled. He had just said Ian Flores wouldn't come for Hazel, but his uncle sent someone soon. It seemed that he did not know his uncle well enough.

"Master Simon," the face of the man, which appeared ferocious with a scar, was now full of anguish and pleading, "it's your uncle who asked me to look for you...."

"He looks for me?" Simon wore a half-smile.

"Yes..." the man with a scar said, "He wants to talk to you about something very important. I hope you can come with me."

"Only then does he remember that I am his nephew?" A wicked smile that was full of sarcasm curved Simon's lips.

"Master Simon, I know you're still angry, but what your uncle does is for you good!" The man with a scar wore a sad face. "In the end, he and you are relatives. Are you really going to fall out with your closest, dearest uncle for an outsider?"

Simon's face became gloomy. Simon knew, of course, that Ian Flores had done all that to get rid of Joshua for Simon, so Simon had expected Ian Flores to come to him when Simon knew that Joshua was still alive.

Because Joshua was in distress by accident, Simon had to give Hazel an explanation and lock Ian up. Hence, since Joshua was safe now, there was room to save the situation.

Simon waited for such a long time and even tried to reach Ian of his own accord, but he couldn't reach Ian Flores. Simon knew that Ian Flores was determined to fight Joshua to death this time, so Ian didn't come to meet Simon, presumably because Ian did not want to soften because of Simon.

At this time, Ian asked his men to look for Simon only because he wanted to lure Simon out. It wasn't because Ian really wanted to tell Simon something. Instead, it looked like Ian's goal was really Hazel.

"If he really has something to tell me, wait till after today," Simon said quietly, "Then I believe we will have the opportunity to meet."

Seeing Simon did not obey him, the man with the scar took out a pocket watch and handed it to Simon. "Your uncle asked me to give it to you and said you would understand if you see it."

Simon took the watch, and his face dramatically changed.

The next moment, he opened the watch, took a look at it, and put it in his pocket. "Where is he now?"

"You're going?" Hazel stared at him in shock.

What was so different about the watch? Why could it make Simon directly change his mind?

"Mmm," Simon said gravely, "I have to go, Hazel...."

"Wait a minute," Hazel said hastily before looking at Chester. "You take him out first."

Simon waved his hand, and Chester hurried to say yeas and took the man with scar out of the break room.

"Simon, maybe it's just a trap." Hazel analyzed in a deep voice. "Doesn't it ever occur to you if he's just trying to lure you out?"

"Don't worry, I'll leave all the people behind to protect you. I'll go alone." He thought before opening his mouth.

She was annoyed by him. From Simon's point of view, she said this only for her own safety?

"Are you crazy?" she said in anger. "You have no idea what Ian Flores is going to do, but you're actually planning to go alone?"

"I thought it over. There will be nothing more than two kinds of possibilities," he said in a deep voice.

"The first possibility is that this is a trap he wants to lure me away. Then I'll leave you all the men so that he can't hurt you naturally. The second possibility is that he really wants to meet me, so if I go, I'll be able to figure something out. Hence, either way, I must go this time."

"Are you so sure these are the only two possibilities?" She was furious. "What if there's a third? What if his target is you?"

"He's my uncle," he said, looking at her with a puzzle. "Everything he's done is for me, Hazel. What's he going to do to me? Besides, he didn't mean to arrest me for threatening Joshua?"

"What do you mean?" She got angry instantly. "Do you think Joshua and I wouldn't save you if you were caught?"

He froze for a bit. Then, the next moment, he looked at Hazel in surprise.

If... he was caught, would Hazel and Joshua save him?

He had never thought about the question. But when the question suddenly came to him now, he somehow thought that neither Hazel nor Joshua had any intention of giving him up.

Is that what it feels like to be cared about by your so-called family? Simon's heart was somehow warm. This kind of unprecedented warmth not only left him a little overwhelmed but also a little delighted.

"Our relationship is not that good," said Simon awkwardly.

Hazel rolled her eyes at him in exasperation. For some reason, she felt there was something fishy.

"You can go if you want," she said in a deep voice. "Take me with you!"

Chapter 1300 - 588: You're Stupid

"Hazel, are you kidding me?!" He looked at her in shock. "They say a pregnant woman is always stupid. You're not so stupid as to fall into this trap by yourself, are you?"

"You're stupid! Your whole family is stupid!" She was furious.

"You are my sister-in-law, and my whole family includes you." He pointed it out without mercy, but he scolded himself immediately after he had said this. He was really quite used to the identity of being Joshua's younger brother. When he said these words, he was not thinking at all.

Ignoring his words, Hazel said with a solemn expression, "For some reason, I think this is very weird. I didn't mean only myself when I said I wanted to go with you. We'll take all the men.

"If he only plans to lure you away, his scheme is doomed to fail. If he really just wants to tell you something, I don't think he'll mind if you take a few men for your safety, will he?"

"No, I won't take you with me." Simon's face darkened, and his attitude was decidedly firm.

She stared at his pocket, her eyes deep, "What is that pocket watch about?"

His body stiffened suddenly.

In an instant, her eyes became sharp. Sure enough, she was right. There must be something about the watch that made Simon change his mind when he saw it.

"Are you sure you're going?" He looked at her suddenly.

"Yes!" She nodded without hesitation.

"Go then," he said in a deep tone.

She didn't expect that he would agree so easily. She asked incredulously, "Do you agree?"

"What else can I do if I don't agree?" He frowned impatiently. "Come on, I'm in a hurry."

"Mmm," she hurried to agree. She walked to the door and reached for her phone, ready to tell Joshua.

Suddenly, she felt a pain in the back of her neck, and everything went black.

"You..." She turned her head around in disbelief and looked with astonishment at Simon, who had given her a surprise attack. The next moment she felt her body went weak.

"Sorry, Hazel, I can't let you follow me." Simon caught her quickly and said quietly, "This is... none of your business."

His voice trailed off, and her eyes closed slowly and heavily.

Simon placed her on the sofa in the break room and hurried to walk out.

The door closed, and Hazel lying on the sofa, struggled to open her eyes. Helplessly, she bit the tip of her tongue. Finally, the pain from the tip of her tongue made her gradually awake.

This Simon had really hit her hard... She struggled to get up from the sofa and rubbed the back of her neck in pain. Simon had promised too quickly, so she was very alert, but she had not expected him to attack her so soon. Fortunately, she was a little defensive, so she didn't pass out directly. But it really hurt...

After a while, Hazel was completely awake at long last. She picked up her phone and hurriedly called Joshua.

The call was quickly put through. Joshua's soft voice was full of concern. "Hazel, what happened?"

"Joshua," she said, rubbing her neck, "something's wrong."

Then she told him simply what had happened.

"For some reason, I think something is wrong this time." She frowned. "Ian Flores wants to meet Simon at this point. It mustn't be that simple."

"Mm, where are you now?" he asked in a deep tone. This was really too weird. He had expected Ian Flores to take aim at him now that he was so lively. However, Ian Flores ignored him and wanted to meet Simon.

Whatever he thought, he felt there was something fishy. Ian Flores must be up to something big.

"I'm going to stop him," Hazel didn't hide her plan from him. "Your men and Simon's men are protecting me right now. He went alone. I think something bad would happen."

"Mmm, I'll get someone to work with you and try to stop him first," Joshua whispered, "but Hazel, if you can't stop him, don't force yourself. Remember, your safety is the most important. I'll be right there."

"... Okay." She nodded in agreement.

She understood that Joshua was worried about her safety. It was Joshua's best concession that he would allow her to stop Simon first. For now, she had to try to stop Simon first.

After hanging up, Hazel opened the door and saw Jaxson, who happened to come to the door.

"Madam." Jaxson opened his mouth. Joshua had asked him on the walkie-talkie to stop Simon.

Jaxson spoke, "Get into this wheelchair, and I'll push you to chase after Simon King."

"..." She was speechless. She was just pregnant, but she was not disabled. Anyway, she knew that Joshua would be worried if she ran after Simon too fast. It was not the right time to argue about such a mere trifle, so she said nothing more and got into the wheelchair.

Soon Jaxson received word that Simon had been stopped by Joshua's men in the parking lot.

Hazel didn't know how Joshua stopped Simon until Jaxson pushed her to the parking lot.

Several cars surrounded Simon's car directly, and Joshua's men even pointed their guns at Simon and refused to allow him to budge.

Simon was angry and frustrated. He knew that these men were carrying anesthetic rifles, but even so, he would not be able to meet Ian Flores if he was shot. However, he must go.

Suddenly, his fingers tightened as he watched Hazel arrive.

"Simon," she said and frowned, getting up from the wheelchair, "Joshua is coming. You just wait for him. We can discuss when he arrives."

His eyes dimmed a little. "No need. Hazel, let me go."

"No," she spoke in a firm tone. "Unless you tell me why you're in such a hurry to leave."

Ian Flores could make Simon anxious to leave with only one pocket watch. Then would Ian have something else that could threaten Simon? After all, he was Simon's uncle, who knew Simon better than others.

Simon was angry and helpless. Hazel and Joshua were too difficult to deal with. If Joshua came, it would be more impossible for him to leave.

Simon took out the pocket watch from his pocket. "Come, and I'll tell you."

"What do you want?" She stared at him warily.

"Don't you want to know?" he was furious. "I want to tell you, but you doubt me?"

She was very speechless. Would she disbelieve him if he hadn't done something similar before? Moreover, even now, she did not feel that Simon was really going to tell her.

Chapter 1301 - 589: If You Can't Convince Me, Stay

"Even if you were to tell me, why did you insist on my coming to you?" she whispered. "Let's wait until Joshua comes...."

"It involves my mother, and I don't want anyone to know about it, especially Joshua," he said in a deep tone. "Hazel, I'm just trying to convince you one last time. Even if I lied to you before, do you suspect I'd hurt you?"

Looking at his wounded face, she could not help freezing a little. Indeed, Simon had done some outrageous things before, but at least he had never intended to hurt her. She was really a little ruthless by being so wary of him.

"Good." she opened her mouth. "If you can't convince me, stay."

His eyes flashed, and he finally nodded.

"Madam..." Jaxson stopped her in a hurry.

Her lips twitched, and she said, in a voice, only both of them could hear, "Jaxson, I'll try to stay away from him. As soon as you see, he has any unusual movement, give orders to shoot at him!"

Of course, she didn't think Simon would hurt her, but he had stunned her before. God knew what he might do. Hazel had never been a pedantic person.

Jaxson had no choice but to agree and watch Hazel walk toward Simon.

Standing about a foot away from Simon, Hazel asked, "What are you trying to say?"

"Look at that." He opened the watch and showed her the watch.

She stretched out her hand to reach for it, but he rejected it.

She could only look into the pocket watch. There was a group photo inside. There was a beautiful young woman and a woman in a nurse's hat. They looked close, and it seemed they had a great relationship.

"This is..." Hazel looked at him suspiciously.

"This is my mother. The woman next to her took care of her when she was in labor." Simon's face was cold. "This pocket watch was specially made by my mother and given to the nurse as a gift."

Hazel's heart sank. Simon always said there was something wrong with his mother's death. Presumably, he had pursued the matter, but he could only make speculations as he had no material evidence.

After all, if it had been Ted who killed his mother, he must have destroyed all the evidence.

But the nurse who took care of his mother for so long must know a lot that no one else did. Besides, Hazel had always felt that Simon's mother's death wasn't that simple.

After all, no matter what Ted said to her, it shouldn't make her so desperate that she bled heavily and couldn't be saved. Unless her body was unhealthy, to begin with, or Ted had done something bad to her while upsetting her.

No matter what Ted had done, the nurse who had been taking care of Simon's mother must know more than anyone else. So now that the pocket watch popped up suddenly, did that mean Ian Flores had found the nurse?

No wonder Simon was in such a hurry to meet Ian. It must have been Simon's knot in his mind.

"It's just a pocket watch," Hazel bit her lip. "That doesn't mean your uncle has found the nurse. Maybe it's just a trap to lure you, Simon..."

Suddenly Simon took a step further and grabbed her wrist!

He moved so fast that the other people failed to anticipate his movements, although they had been wary.

By the time they tried to shoot, Simon had already stood behind Hazel!

They were afraid that they would shoot at Hazel.

Simon swiftly put Hazel's wrist behind her back. He raised his voice. "Freeze, all of you... ouch!"

He was fast, but Hazel was faster!

When she noticed Simon approaching, she had no time to escape, so she directly stepped on his foot! Taking advantage of Simon's distraction, she twisted her body and was about to break free from his grip!

But in a blink of an eye, Simon came to his senses, and he increased his grip!

He had been too careless. He had forgotten that the little girl was a little good at fighting, and she almost defeated him.

Hazel looked pale. Her belly was not big enough to affect her movements, but she was afraid that the baby would get hurt when she and Simon started fighting.

But this time, Simon seemed to have made up his mind and had no intention of letting it go!

Hazel got a little angry.

She raised her hand and slapped Simon hard in the face!

The slap did not directly hit him in the face, but it deflected the mask he had been wearing to reveal his delicate face.

Hazel was in a trance.

She had been curious about Simon's appearance. Because he often wore a mask, she could only vaguely see that he looked like Joshua when he smiled. But she never knew what he really looked like.

She had wondered what he looked like before, but Simon refused to take off his mask, and thus she got used to it. She even unconsciously thought... Simon's face was just a mask.

No one would expect that she would see Simon's face under such circumstances.

He looked very handsome. Although she could see at a glance that he and Joshua were brothers, he looked more fragile than Joshua. Or, to be more precise, Joshua's face looked handsome with enchanting charm, while Simon's face had fascinating beauty.

When Hazel saw the face, her first impression was that he was really beautiful.

She was only in a trance for a moment, but he had caught her without hesitation.

It was just a momentary lapse, and Simon didn't hesitate to catch her.

"Make way!" He said quietly, putting on his mask.

Seeing Hazel become a hostage, other people could only make way slowly with reluctance.

Hazel still hadn't come to her senses.

She was distracted. It was not because of his appearance but because of something that seemed to be hiding in her mind. For some reason, she felt as if she knew something and the answer seemed obvious, but there seemed to be a thick fog, and she could not see it clearly.

"Simon King, let Hazel go," said Joshua, in a voice full of anger that could not be suppressed.

No sooner had he arrived than he saw the scene.

"Joshua, you're a little late." Simon's mouth tilted upwards slightly at the corners, but there was no smile on his face.

Joshua's eyes went dark. He waved, and the people around Simon scattered helplessly. The cars that had been surrounding Simon's car all moved.

Chapter 1302 - 590: We Can't Let Simon Go

"Joshua..." She called his name with somewhat impatience.

We can't let Simon go. She felt that something would happen if they let him go. It was very strange; she seemed to be on the verge of figuring out something important, but now she still could not figure it out.

"Hazel, what are you thinking about?" Even on such a tense occasion, Simon was rarely amused by her. He couldn't help speaking, "You actually expect Joshua to risk your life just to keep me? Joshua, will you do that?"

"What do you think?" Joshua spoke coldly.

The people around Simon were scattering, which was his answer.

"That's right!" Simon chuckled, but his face was alert. "If it were me today, I would do the same."

Hazel sighed helplessly. She looked at Joshua, who looked gloomy, and knew she had mistakenly taken it for granted.

Joshua had said her safety was the most important. He didn't say it explicitly, but Hazel knew he cared more about her than Simon. Even if he had lost his memory, nothing or anyone could be more important than her.

Even if she wanted to, he could not agree.

"Hazel, don't look so sorry. I've given up on you... or you'll..." Simon tutted and then whispered in her ear, "make me regret it."

Subconsciously, she stepped aside to get away from him.

"Don't move!" Simon held back his disappointment. "You're my hostage now."

Joshua looked pale. Simon kept close to Hazel. Joshua knew that it was not only because Simon was really trying to tease Hazel but also because Simon wanted Joshua's subordinates to be too worried about Hazel's safety to attack him.

Soon, as Simon requested, Joshua's men all retreated and stood far away from Simon, and all the cars were driven away. The only person closest to Simon now was Joshua.

The man with a scar who came for Simon was also released. He was now sitting in Simon's car and in the driver's seat.

"Master Joshua, get in the car!" The man with the scar had already opened the back door and urged hastily, "Take her with you, and we'll be safe."

Simon ignored his words. Looking at Joshua, who was the nearest to him, his eyes flashed with a complex light. Suddenly, he pushed Hazel suddenly!

"Catch!" Simon raised his voice to remind.

Hazel screamed subconsciously, but the next moment, she was in Joshua's arms.

Taking advantage of this moment, Simon quickly got into the car and closed the door.

"Go!" Simon said in a cold voice.

A look of reluctance flashed across the man with a scar. Then he quickly stepped on the accelerator.

Several cars rushed out to stop them. Simon yelled in a cold tone. "Hit them!"

There was a hint of cruelty in the man's face. He stepped on the gas and hit the cars without hesitation!

Two of the cars were hit and pushed away by the speeding car, which then rushed out of the blockade.

Hazel furrowed her eyebrows as the car disappeared.

Seeing the few cars crashed into each other, Jaxson hurried to come forward to see if anyone had been hurt.

Joshua and Hazel arrived, too. Hearing that no one was injured, they were both relieved.

After dealing with the chaos, Joshua took Hazel back to the break room.

Joshua asked a waiter for a medicine kit. He grabbed her wrist and looked at the red marks Simon had made on it. There was a flash of anger in his eyes. He applied the swelling ointment to her wrist and rubbed it gently.

The coldness of the ointment on her wrist made her feel better.

"Don't worry, Joshua. I'll be fine. These are just minor injuries," she said quickly for fear that he might be afraid.

"How could you still defend him?" He looked up, his words full of sour jealousy.

"..." She was speechless. She had forgotten that Joshua was insanely jealous!

Suddenly she stared at his face. She raised her fingers and traced them across his face.

Her fingertips gave him a touch of numbness. "Hazel, stop that now, let's do that tonight."

This kind of behavior which was nearly teased, made him completely unable to control the sexual fire in his heart. When he faced Hazel, his resistance was always negative.

Her cheeks flushed. She withdrew her fingers shyly. "I didn't mean that. I just thought you didn't look that much like Simon either... No, in fact, you look quite similar..."

"Did you see his face?" he asked jealously. So Hazel caressed his face just now because of Simon? Why did he feel so unhappy?

She looked up at his sad eyes. She didn't know whether to cry or laugh. She just saw Simon's face by accident. Was Joshua also jealous because of it?

"I saw it by accident," she explained. "I was just a little curious. I feel like you look like biological brothers... wait!"

Her face changed as if she thought of something!

"What?" he asked in surprise. Weren't he and Simon brothers who had the same father, to begin with?

"Do, do you have a picture of your mom?" she asked, shocked. "Oh right, and a picture of Simon's mother! Joshua, can you find their pictures quickly!"

A thought suddenly came into her mind. She knew at long last why she had felt it strange and understood something when she had seen Simon's face.

But how absurd her thought was! Even at that moment, she thought she might be mad as she had such a ridiculous idea! Besides, she didn't have any proof at all!

Joshua looked a little grave. Although he had no idea what Hazel was up to, he did what she told him to do and had their photos sent straight to his phone.

Holding her phone, Hazel looked at their photos and slumped on the couch, dazed.

"Hazel?" He looked at her anxiously.

"I'm fine..." Hazel turned her around blankly. "Joshua, have you ever seen Simon's face?"

"No." He shook his head. He woke up and heard Ted talk about his cranky brother, who didn't want others to see his looks. But he wasn't interested.

She took a deep breath and said in a deep tone, "Joshua, I'm going to say something that you might find ridiculous..."