

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

chapter 1465

Chapter 1465 Francesca

Immediately after the person spoke, he pulled the trigger and was prepared to shoot.

At that moment, Ben barged in with Ellie. "Mr. Nacht!"

When he opened the door and saw a silhouette that looked identical to Zachary, he froze. Ellie, too, stared at the person in disbelief.

However, Ben was quickly brought to his senses and rushed forward to snatch the gun away.

Just as he moved, he was shot.

"Ah!" Fear-stricken, Ellie screamed and dropped her plushie onto the ground.

"Shh..." The mysterious man shushed her before aiming his gun at Zachary. "Die, Zachary!"

At that instant, Zachary mustered the last ounce of his strength and grabbed the man's hand. While he grappled with the man, he yelled, "Run, Ellie!"

Ellie's legs were trembling. Rooted to the ground, she could not move at all.

However, Little Fifi kept squawking beside her ear and repeating what Zachary had said, "Run, Ellie! Run, Ellie!"

Only then did Ellie return to her senses and sprint out hurriedly.

By then, the entire place was already surrounded by flames. As soon as she ran out of the room, she bumped into a few masked men. While she screamed in terror, those men attempted to capture her.

At that juncture, Fifi flew in from the window and circled the masked men, driving them away from capturing Ellie.

Under Little Fifi's lead, Ellie ran down the spiral staircase.

However, no sooner had she taken a few steps down the staircase than a masked man dashed forward and grabbed her from behind. Having lost her footing, the little girl tumbled down the stairs.

Meanwhile, in the room, the mysterious man had pinned Zachary against the table. Pressing the gun against the latter's head, he yelled through gritted teeth, "Do you think you can still fight me? Let me tell you this! Everyone here will die tonight! Your wife and assets will all be mine; even your children will have to call me their father. I'll replace you and become the new Mr. Nacht! Go to blazes, Zachary Nacht!"

He pulled the trigger and was about to shoot when a silver needle came flying in. It pricked his neck, causing him to shudder. Before he could react, his body became numb gradually.

A petite figure flipped in through the windows and said in annoyance, "I hate people who only rely on sneak attacks! If you're truly capable, you should confront others openly!"

The newcomer was fully clothed from top to bottom, wrapped in a green cape that revealed only a pair of bright eyes. A green snake wrapped itself around her wrist, glowing eerily in the dark.

"You..." The mysterious man wanted to aim the gun at the intruder but could not raise his hand. Clutching his neck, he could feel his body stiffening gradually.

"What about me?" The petite person yelled furiously, "I'm here to look for my babies. Now that you've burned this house, where can I find them?"

Instead of responding, the mysterious man pressed the alarm in his hand.

Soon, a few masked men barged in.

"You sly bastard!"

Infuriated, the petite person immediately whipped out a red smoke bomb and threw it downward. The instant it came into contact with the ground, sparks flew, followed by an anesthetic gas.

The masked men covered their noses, not daring to move forward anymore.

Just when the petite person was about to leave through the window, she spotted Zachary lying on the ground. It seemed like he was on the verge of passing out.

Frowning, she mumbled to herself, "Francesca, don't be nosy. Don't be nosy. Don't be nosy!"

Hardening her heart, she was about to leave when she accidentally spotted a photo frame beside Zachary.

In the photo, Zachary and Charlotte were running in the forest hand-in-hand. Charlotte was holding her three children's hands while Alpha, Beta, and Gamma were sitting on Zachary's shoulders.

The triplets were hugging Zachary's head with wide grins on their faces. When the man gazed at them, his eyes were filled with affection and tenderness.

Francesca's gaze changed immediately. Without missing a beat, she helped Zachary up, flipped out of the window with him, and escaped.

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Chapter 1466 Burned To Ashes

Southridge was in utter chaos. When the news arrived at Northridge, Charlotte and her subordinates rushed over to save everyone.

However, the entire villa in Southridge was already engulfed in flames. All that remained of the elaborately decorated wedding venue was nothing but ashes.

"How did this happen?"

Horried by the scene before her eyes, Charlotte could barely stand straight.

She charged forward like a madwoman, but Bruce and the rest held her back. "Ms. Lindberg, you can't enter now. The fire fighting equipment will arrive soon."

"Let go of me!" Struggling to break free, Charlotte screamed agitatedly, "Hubby! Robbie! Jamie! Ellie!"

"Mommy, we're here."

With Hanna escorting them, Robbie and Jamie ran over, both wrapped in a blanket. Trembling, they said through sobs, "Daddy and Ellie are still inside. Mr. Ben, Fifi, and Little Fifi are there too..."

"Robbie, Jamie!" Charlotte hugged them tightly. "Don't be afraid. They'll be fine! I'll save them now."

Having said that, she charged in without hesitation.

"The protective suits are here!" Bruce and the rest immediately put them on.

“Where’s Marino? Did anyone see Marino?” asked Morgan anxiously.

“Marino went in to save the rest.”

“Did he wear the suit?”

“No... There was no time.”

“I’m going in to save him.”

In the house, Marino was searching everywhere amid the flames. Finally, he spotted Ellie and Fifi on the staircase.

Fifi suffered grievous injuries from shielding Ellie underneath its wings.

Marino immediately carried Ellie and Fifi. While he was dashing out, a railing fell and crashed onto him.

At the most critical moment, he protected Ellie and Fifi in his arms and tried his best to free himself from the railing. Dragging his injured leg behind him, he crawled out.

However, the fire became even more intense. There were no paths ahead of him, and his surroundings were filled with smoke.

Marino could barely catch his breath. His strength, too, was slowly depleting.

Just when he was about to lose all hope, he suddenly heard Morgan’s voice.
“Marino! Ellie!”

With much difficulty, Marino raised his head and glanced over. Morgan rushed in with a few others and saved Marino, Fifi, and Ellie.

Meanwhile, Charlotte, Bruce, and Lupine dashed upstairs with fireproof blankets over them.

They found Ben lying unconsciously on the floor after being shot but did not spot Zachary anywhere.

Bruce instructed Lupine and Charlotte to leave with Ben first, but Charlotte refused to give up. She frantically looked for Zachary amidst the raging flames.

I can’t lose Zachary like this. I can’t! We’re supposed to get married today. I was about to become his wife! My bridal gown has already been prepared. How could this happen...

“Hubby! Hubby! Zachary, come out! Come out!”

While searching everywhere, she cried out agitatedly.

Yet, not a single response could be heard.

After taking in too much of the toxic smoke, her voice soon became so hoarse that she could not utter a single sound.

The flames burned her hair and hands, but she ignored her injuries and continued to search for Zachary.

Unfortunately, she still could not find him.

Morning arrived three hours later.

The sky rained over Southridge as if heaven was weeping for them.

By the time the police and the firefighters arrived, the fire had already been doused by the rain.

When they went into the house to search, they found Little Fifi's corpse underneath the railing of the first floor.

As for Zachary, he remained nowhere to be found.

The investigations revealed that fire was also set off in the main bedroom on the second floor, which was Zachary's room. The fire contained a potent toxin that could burn a human into ashes.

Hence, the police deduced that Zachary might have already died, and his corpse had been burned to ashes.

When everyone heard the news, they were stunned for a while before breaking out into tears.

Charlotte's legs turned weak. Falling to her knees, she wailed miserably, "No!"

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Chapter 1467 The Suspect

Charlotte's cries sounded desolate as if she was protesting against the injustice of fate.

Everyone in the Nacht family were in tears.

Spencer, who had rushed over, fainted as soon as he learned about the news.

Johann fell ill upon hearing the tragedy.

When the guests at Northridge heard about it, they were stupefied.

The happy wedding had turned into a disaster.

Within a night, Southridge was ruined.

Charlotte refused to believe that Zachary was dead. He must still be alive. He must be...

Still clinging onto some hope, she ordered her subordinates to investigate it.

Given the Nacht family's current situation, someone had to keep the household in order.

No matter how devastated or heartbroken Charlotte was, she had to pull herself together and support the family.

The Nacht family had suffered significant losses from the disaster. Connor perished in the fire, while Little Fifi was burned to death from protecting Ellie.

As for Ben, he had fallen into a deep coma due to inhaling a lot of the toxic smoke after being shot. The doctor said that he did not know when Ben would regain consciousness.

Although Ellie did not get burned under Fifi's protection, she had tumbled down the stairs and injured her head. Combined with the inhalation of the smoke, she was also in a coma.

Everyone in the Nacht family was imbued with sadness, their hearts aching for the tragic disaster.

Charlotte had no more strength to weep. Despite her agony, she had to stay strong.

Firstly, she made arrangements for the guests and ordered her subordinate to seal off Southridge. Then, she requested the police to continue searching for Zachary's whereabouts.

At the same time, she instructed Raina to treat Ellie, Ben, and the rest of the wounded to the best of her abilities.

Charlotte firmly believed that since Ben had been in Zachary's bedroom before fainting, he should know where Zachary was and what happened that night.

According to what the surviving bodyguards described, some mysterious masked men intruded Southridge that night. First, they placed an explosive in the kitchen. Once it was ignited, they made use of the chaos and launched a surprise attack.

The only clue Marino provided after he regained consciousness was that Connor spotted someone who looked similar to Zachary before the explosion. That person might be related to the incident.

However, the police thought the clue was too vague to be useful.

When Charlotte heard Marino's recount, a figure flashed across her mind. Chris!

Chris was Zara's son and Zachary's cousin.

He had inherited the Nacht family's genes. His height, physique, and demeanor resembled that of Zachary a lot. In terms of looks, he also bore some resemblance to Zachary.

Ever since what happened to Zara, Chris' shares and position in Nacht Group had been withdrawn. To restrain Chris, Zachary kept him under some form of control. However, he was merciful to his cousin, allowing the latter to live.

Afterward, Chris left the house and broke off contact with the Nacht family.

Evidently, he was a strong suspect.

Charlotte immediately instructed Bruce to investigate Chris.

Bruce passed the orders to his subordinates. At the same time, he also voiced his doubts. "Mr. Broid has been incompetent from a young age. Other than squandering money, he only knows how to toy with women. He's nothing but a frivolous playboy, so I doubt he's capable or smart enough to do all these."

"We can't be too sure." Charlotte frowned. "Since his life was turned upside down, his personality might change drastically. In the past, he was incompetent because he had a high social status and wealth without needing to do anything. After Zara died, he had nothing left. Humiliated and mocked by others, he might grow to resent Zachary."

"You aren't wrong." Bruce analyzed, "However, Mr. Nacht merely took Chris' shares in Nacht Group and stripped him of his position. His inheritance from his mother is probably sufficient for him to spend for the rest of his lifetime. It's not true that he has nothing."

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Chapter 1468 Take Charge 1

"You say that because you think that what he has left is enough for him. However, his drop in status is like a fall from heaven to hell. That makes things completely different. Not everyone can handle that sudden change. Furthermore, his mother had committed so many evil deeds. I'm afraid that others from the Nacht family might not be kind to him. Some might even make things difficult for him, humiliate and scorn him. His life used to be smooth-sailing in the past, with people rushing to curry favor with him. When his life took such a drastic turn, he might not be able to handle it. It's possible that his personality would change..."

Charlotte gave a detailed analysis.

"You're right." Bruce nodded. "However, I still think that he's not capable enough—"

"Don't underestimate your opponent," she exhorted with a frown. "Chris might seem like a frivolous playboy, but he still carries the Nacht family's genes. This means that he's probably quite smart too. He used to be unmotivated and incompetent because he felt no pressure. However, when one is pushed to the wall, one's intelligence will return. Isn't that the same case for me too?"

"Um..." Stunned, Bruce quickly said, "Okay, I'll investigate it now."

Charlotte sighed and got ready to head to the hospital. When she turned around, she discovered Danrique's triplets standing behind the door. With their heads popped out carefully, they stared at her with restless expressions on their faces.

"What's wrong, Alpha, Beta, and Gamma?" Charlotte took a deep breath. Forcing out a smile, she walked over. "I've been busy lately, so I didn't have time to accompany you. I'm sorry. After I'm done with—"

"Don't be afraid, Aunt Charlotte." Alpha stretched out her hand and touched Charlotte's face gently. With a cute voice, she consoled Charlotte, "Uncle Zachary and Ellie will definitely get better!"

When Charlotte heard her comforting words, she could no longer hold her tears back.

She had been trying her best to stop herself from crying and remembering all those things, but Alpha's words made her break down.

"Don't cry, Aunt Charlotte!" Beta wiped the tears away from her cheeks and consoled her anxiously, "We'll look for Daddy and tell him to punish the evil man!"

"No one is allowed to bully you!" Gamma clenched her fists and declared furiously, "We'll protect you, Aunt Charlotte!"

Moved, Charlotte pulled the three kids into her arms.

She thought that they were too young to know anything, but to her surprise, they understood everything that was going on.

They knew that someone had burned Zachary's house down, causing him to go missing, Ellie and Ben to be in a coma, and the handsome Connor to die in the fire.

Hence, they had come to console Charlotte.

Charlotte's tears kept flowing down her cheeks. However, she tried her best to keep her emotions under control. Forcing out a smile again, she said to the kids, "All of you have grown up! You speak so clearly now."

"Hehe!" As if embarrassed, the triplets scratched their heads and blushed.

"Okay, I'm going to the hospital to visit Mr. Ben and Ellie. Stay at home, and do not wander around, okay?"

Charlotte stroked their faces.

"Okay, Aunt Charlotte." The kids nodded.

After hugging them, Charlotte wore her coat and left hastily with Lupine and the rest.

The car drove down the hill. Halfway down, they encountered the Gold family's car.

"Why is she here?"

Lupine frowned, not wanting anyone to stir up any more trouble at such a juncture.

Nancy hurriedly got out of the car, walked over, and knocked on the car window.

Charlotte lowered the car window and gazed at her calmly. "What's the matter, Ms. Gold?"

"What happened? Mr. Nacht, he..." Nancy was panicking. When she mentioned Zachary's name, her voice trembled. "What happened to him?"