

Mr Conrad 991

Chapter 991-Elaine lifted the blanket and, holding back the pain, limped out.

Touching the door frame to look out, she found the quiet corridor was empty.

Elaine looked back and saw her suitcase sitting aside the door.

She pulled on the suitcase and moved forward in pain.

It was hard to get down the steps, and by the time she reached the ground floor, she was tired and sweaty, and the place where she had fallen was even more painful.

Elaine took a deep breath and lifted her chin slightly, ready to maintain the dignity she had left and leave the place to forget the awkwardness she had before.

She had just taken a few steps when she smelt the fragrance of food.

It awakened her dormant hunger.

Elaine glanced at the dining room and couldn't move her eyes, nor could she move her feet.

She was starving.

The whole house was silent, and everyone seemed to be asleep.

“Just eat a little before I go.”

Elaine put down her suitcase and saw that all the food was just right to eat.

Having been hungry for too long and dizzy, she practically wolfed down her food without any elegance. Halfway through her meal, she choked and got up to find water.

A male voice sounded when she felt like she would choke to death. "There's soup."

Elaine felt embarrassed.

She jerked her head around and looked into the living room. When was he there?

Darnell put down the paper in his hand, stood up and approached her.

Elaine unexpectedly met his gaze and hurriedly averted her eyes, finding a ceramic soup pot with a lid and soon drinking two spoonfuls regardless of anything.

Darnell sat opposite her. "How long did you fly for?"

Elaine lowered her eyes and whispered, "I don't remember."

Seeing her in constraint, Darnell asked, "Are you full?"

"No. "

"Then continue."

Hearing him say that, Elaine slowly picked up her chopsticks again and ate with much more civility.

Darnell looked at her for a moment. "I don't know your favorites, so I had them make some randomly. You can talk to them yourself to prepare what you like tomorrow."

Elaine muttered. "No need, I'll go back to Switzerland tonight."

Darnell checked the time. "Okay, I'll take you to the airport later."

Elaine lowered her head more in silence.

When she couldn't control her tears falling on the table, Darnell found that she was crying.

Darnell's eyebrows twitched as he said in his calmest voice, "Didn't you want to go back tonight?"

Elaine choked out, "I've fallen like this, and you still let me go. You are so cold."

"Take a private jet."

"Then you should let my father pick me up. I'd rather stay in Switzerland for the rest of my life. Never come back."

The more Elaine said, the more aggrieved she became, sobbing.

Darnell rubbed his brow helplessly, got up, and sat next to her, gently patting her back. "It's easy to choke when you cry during eating. Don't you know it?"

Elaine sobbed hard. "I'm going to die of pain. Maybe choke to death is better!"

"Where does it hurt? I'll ask Archer to take a look."

Hearing him say that, Elaine took the courage to look at him and poke her heart. "Here."

Darnell frowned slightly, "How?"

“You have a girlfriend, so it’s aching here.”

As she spoke, she cried even louder.

Darnell felt speechless.

“Elaine.”

Elaine was now aggrieved, and in pain, so she wasn’t afraid of him and cried so hard that she couldn’t catch her breath.

Darnell finally lost his words but took two pieces of paper to let her wipe her tears.

Elaine did not take it, choking. “I know you hate me, but you stayed with another woman when I came back so far to see you. When you first rejected me, you were so cold, not even answering my messages. We still have had a marriage contract, but now you’re kicking me out. You want me to stay in Switzerland for the rest of my life, right?”

Speaking of this, Elaine became even more uncomfortable and cried, bending over the table.

It looked like she was so sad that the whole house echoed with her crying.

Darnell had never seen a girl crying, much less knowing how to comfort her, so he sat in silence.

Only when Elaine calmed down a little did he say, “I’m not kicking you out. You can stay here as long as you want.”

Elaine raised her head slightly, looked at him through her messy hair, and sobbed, “Then can I stay here all the time and not go back to Switzerland?”

“No.”

Seeing that Elaine would start crying again, Darnell pressed his temples and compromised, “She’s not my girlfriend.”

Elaine sat up some more with her face full of tears, “Then why was she wearing your pajamas while you were in the bathroom taking a shower? You guys...”

Darnell was concise. “Coffee spilt. I don’t know when she changed her clothes.”

Although her tears were still falling, Elaine’s mood was much better.

“Go upstairs and sleep.”

Elaine said pitifully, “It hurts.”

“Then how do you walk downstairs?”

Elaine puckered her mouth and wiped the tears. “I felt too ashamed, and I thought she was your girlfriend. I didn’t want to ruin your relationship.”

“You don’t feel ashamed now?”

Elaine lowered her head again, looking so adorable.

“Not eating anymore?”

She whispered, “Yes.”

Could anybody continue eating?

Darnell leaned down and picked her up directly.

Elaine was unprepared and cried out in surprise, looking up at him.

Darnell was indifferent. "I won't care about you next time you walk downstairs like this."

Elaine spoke tentatively, "Then will you carry me every time?"

"Someone will bring the food to your room."

Elaine protested, "I'm not a prisoner, and I need to move around. It's hard for me to stay inside for a long time."

Darnell glanced at her, "When you were fighting with your dad, you often locked yourself in your room, not eating or drinking."

Elaine sheepishly averted her eyes as she stammered, "That was so long ago. Anyway, I don't like to stay in my room now."

Chapter 992-Darnell leaned down and placed Elaine on the bed when they reached the guest bedroom.

She didn't know where she got the guts to suddenly tighten her arms around his neck and refused to let go.

Darnell was silent for seconds and whispered, "Let go."

"No. You don't have a girlfriend anyway, so why can't I?"

Darnell was surprisingly calm and patient, "Think about why they sent you to Switzerland. That's the answer."

"That's because you kept rejecting me. If you had said yes, they wouldn't have..."

"I told you I have no love chemistry with you."

Elaine was sad. "I know I'm not your type, but I'm willing to change for you. Whether you like sexy or alluring, I can..."

"You don't have to make any changes. You're fine as you are. It's not worth it for me."

"But I like you, really."

"Your feeling is normal for you at your age now, but I am not the right person and cannot respond to you. You will meet someone you like more."

"What if I won't?"

"It will happen."

"You're not me, so how can you be so sure?"

Darnell gently raised his eyebrows, "Didn't you like Clarence once?"

Elaine said nothing.

She instantly flushed and tried her best to retort, "How can that be the same? I did that because I didn't want to marry..."

Darnell looked at her, and the result was apparent in the unspoken.

Elaine sniffled, slowly withdrew her hand, turned her back to him, and buried her head in the pillow.

Darnell pulled the covers over her and then went out.

Elaine stomped on the blanket in chagrin but accidentally touched her hurt knee.

She had to pay for her youthful indiscretion after all.

Elaine lay dazed for a long time, unknowingly falling asleep.

It was already dawn when she woke up, and the sunlight fell in quietly and warmly.

Elaine stretched and sat up but saw a servant standing aside, looking at her with a smile, "Miss James, you're awake."

Elaine was taken aback by surprise, and the back of her head was hit.

She hissed and rubbed it.

"Breakfast is ready. Should I bring it to you or carry you down to eat?"

Elaine frowned, "Where is Darnell?"

"Master has gone out and instructed me to take care of you. Don't worry, I'm strong. I promise I won't fall over you."

Elaine didn't say anything.

She looked despondent.

Was he that unwilling to see her?

Elaine lifted the blanket and limped toward the bathroom.

The maid saw this and wanted to help her.

“Don’t worry about me. I can do it myself.”

“But Master said that you...”

Elaine understood. “That’s because I want him to cuddle me. Now that he doesn’t want to, so just forget it.”

The maid smiled and silently withdrew in silence.

Elaine finished washing up and changed into another set of clothes before she slowly went downstairs to eat.

As she sipped her milk, she asked the maid, “Did he say when he would be back?”

The maid shook her head.

Elaine didn’t say anything and ate her breakfast quietly.

The wounds had begun to scab over in the following days, and she did not see Darnell again.

Still, according to the maid, he came back every night.

Elaine looked at the messages from her Swiss classmates, and her teacher had also called her a few times.

Her father might find out if she didn't go back.

She picked up the champagne and poured it into a glass, then tilted her head and took a big gulp, shaking her head, her face full of sadness.

Why would it be so hard to like someone?

Elaine didn't know how much she had drunk and slumped dizzily on the sofa's edge. The bottle and glass fell to the floor.

After a while, she sat up violently and directly walked out of the guest bedroom and headed next door.

Elaine scanned around in a daze standing in the main bedroom, not seeing Darnell. She dropped her head again and walked back.

She circled around, but veered off, opened the door to the main bedroom bathroom, and went to sleep in the bathtub.

When Darnell returned in the middle of the night, the maid told her that Elaine had gone to bed.

He mumbled and went back to his room.

Darnell took off his suit jacket and threw it on the sofa, unbuttoning his shirt as he entered the bathroom.

He turned on the shower and took his shirt off.

Suddenly, there was a movement from the bathtub.

Darnell glanced over and saw a figure slowly sitting up, with wet, foggy eyes that looked straight at him.

He was speechless.

He turned off the water. "Why are you here?"

Elaine's eyes were watery. "Aren't I in bed? Why are you undressing in my room?"

As she spoke, Jiang Shang Han smelt a whiff of alcohol.

As he approached, the smell became even more substantial.

"How much have you drunk?"

Elaine held out three fingers, "One bottle."

"I'll send you back."

Elaine thought what he meant was that he was sending her back to Switzerland.

She lay back down again, clinging to the bathtub's edge, "No, I'm not going anywhere. I want to stay here!"

Darnell leaned over to hug her. "You'll catch a cold if you sleep here."

Hearing this, Elaine was a little compromised, and instead of holding on to the edge of the bathtub, she pulled him along, "Then you can sleep with me."

The floor was slick because of water, so Darnell was pulled into the bathtub since he didn't expect her to be that strong.

He felt her soft body.

Darnell's thin lips were set in a grim line, the veins on the corners of his forehead appeared, and he propped one hand on the bathtub, trying to be away from her body.

Still, Elaine embraced him like an octopus, hugging him with both hands and feet and muttering, "You're so warm."

She was wearing a nightgown without a bra.

He took a deep breath and lowered his voice. "Elaine."

Elaine ignored it and hugged him tighter, her lips unconsciously touching his ear with warm breath. "I don't want to go back. Don't chase me away."

Darnell stiffened slightly with a nervous face.

Elaine was oblivious to anything, hugging him and rubbing against him.

Darnell took a deep breath and could only wrap his arms around her back and hold her in his arms, picking her up.

However, Elaine cuddled him tighter as if she was glued to him.

He felt her soft body. Darnell's thin lips were set in a grim line, the veins on the corners of his forehead appeared, and he propped one hand on the bathtub, trying to be away from her body. Still, Elaine embraced him like an octopus, hugging him with both hands and feet and muttering, "You're SO warm." She was wearing a nightgown without a bra. He took a deep breath and lowered his voice. "Elaine." Elaine ignored it and hugged him tighter, her lips unconsciously touching his ear with warm breath. "I don't want to go back. Don't chase me away." Darnell stiffened slightly with a nervous face. Elaine was oblivious to anything, hugging him and rubbing against him. Darnell took a deep breath and could only wrap his arms around her back and hold her in his arms, picking her up. However, Elaine cuddled him tighter as if she was glued to him.

Chapter 993-Out of the bathroom, Darnell put her on the sofa and pulled her hand.

Elaine reflexively went into his arms and unconsciously chanted, "No, I don't want to go back to Switzerland."

Darnell's temples throbbed with his voice low and hoarse. "I'm not sending you back to Switzerland. Let go first."

Elaine sniffed and sobbed. "You lied. You're all lying to me. I don't want to go to Switzerland. I have no friends there, and I can't get used to the food. I'm really... Really homesick."

She desperately wanted to escape when she couldn't, but now she missed the place where she used to grow up all the time.

People were always contradictions.

Hearing her crying, Darnell patted her back.

Elaine lay on his shoulder, sobbing until her breathing gradually became steady, and she fell asleep.

Darnell pulled her out of his arms and placed her on the sofa.

Elaine seemed to be crying in her dreams with her face covered in tears.

Darnell wiped it.

Elaine obediently turned sideways and held his hand, pressing it against her face as she drifted off to sleep.

He glanced at her with his eyebrows twitched and immediately withdrew his gaze. His throat knot slid up and down.

He sat there, staring out with an uncertain expression.

After Elaine had fallen asleep after a long time, Darnell gently pulled his arm out and shook it slightly.

Elaine huddled on the sofa, the neckline of her nightdress revealing her delicate skin, and her skirt hem was also rolled up, showing a small section of pink underwear.

Darnell closed his eyes, put a blanket aside on her body, and then carried her back to the guest bedroom.

After covering her with the blanket, Darnell straightened her hair strewn across her forehead.

She was sleeping soundly, breathing steadily but frowning a little.

In Darnell's memory, Elaine had always seemed like a carefree little girl.

Whether at the family gatherings or elsewhere, she would permanently hide behind her father, only tilting her head to look at him timidly.

She was terrified of him.

No one in the family was not afraid of him.

From a very early age, Darnell knew well that he had become the devil used to scare the disobedient younger generation by the elders.

Elaine had probably grown up in such an inculcation.

Therefore, he expected that she would be opposed to their engagement.

He had even arranged for her to follow Clarence and Stella to City N.

However, he would never have imagined that the little girl who was usually so afraid of him would actually say she liked him.

What he was doing now was already seen as a thorn in the side of the James family. Even though her grandfather and father remained neutral, they could not avoid being involved in this whirlpool as the family members.

The James family would not let her go if others found out that Elaine had been around him. At that time, they would no longer be able to remain neutral, for they would be dangerous.

This was also the reason why she would be sent to Switzerland.

Darnell got up after a while, picked up the bottles and glasses on the floor and went back to his room.

He stood in the bathroom and turned on the cold water for a long time before the boiling lust in his body gradually calmed down.

Still, after turning off the water, the images of what had just happened uncontrollably returned to his mind.

Darnell turned the water back on and propped himself up on the wall with one hand, breathing deeper.

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Elaine felt like the world was spinning, and her nose was stuffy when she woke up the next day, and it took her a lot of effort to lift the covers and sit up.

She went into the bathroom and washed her face with cold water, instantly shivering and feeling more awake.

After changing, she went downstairs in a daze, and just as she sat down at the dining table, the maid brought over the hangover soup. "Miss James, please drink it before eating."

Elaine took it and thanked me before she realized, "How do you know I've been drinking?"

"Master ordered."

Elaine paused, and pieces of memory flashed through her head.

She seemed to have gone to his room last night when she was drunk, but she remembered that she went back to her bedroom when she saw he wasn't there.

"Did he go out today?"

The maid was preparing breakfast for her, "No, he has a bit of a bad cold."

"Catching a cold?" Elaine was full of doubts, "Could it be that the temperature has cooled down recently?"

"I think so. You can have breakfast now."

Elaine put down the soup, "What about him? Has he had breakfast yet?"

"He just told me to prepare the antidote soup for you but didn't eat breakfast."

"I'll bring it to him."

Elaine took the tray and hurriedly ran upstairs.

Standing at the door, she knocked, but no answer, so she unscrewed the door handle and tentatively moved in.

The curtains were drawn throughout the room, and it was very dark.

Elaine didn't know what she had bumped into on her way and her mouth opened wide in pain.

It was hard to approach the bed. She put the tray on the bedside table and reached the wall light switch.

She had wanted to tell Darnell to get up and eat when she saw him, but she couldn't move her eyes.

How could someone look so good even when they were sleeping?

Elaine slowly sat down on the carpet and propped her elbows on the side of the bed, gazing at him.

From his closed eyes, she saw the high nose and then the thin lips.

Elaine's gaze suddenly seemed to be scalded, and she hurriedly averted her eyes.

After a couple of seconds, she saw back.

Since he was sleeping so soundly, he shouldn't wake up that easily, right?

Perhaps it was because the alcohol had not yet wholly dissipated. Elaine sat up slightly and leaned forward, leaning closer to him.

When her lips touched his warm ones, she almost jumped in fright.

She turned her eyes sideways and quietly observed Darnell.

He wasn't awake.

Elaine felt relieved, but she was unwilling to leave.

She leaned forward a little more, turning her vague touch just now to a real kiss.

She didn't dare to stay too long since she was still afraid to wake him up, so she quickly sat back.

She sat obediently on the carpet but couldn't resist smiling as happily as if she was a kid who had stolen a candy.

Chapter 994-After Elaine had calmed down for a while, she didn't dare to wake him anymore.

She carefully observed his features, stretching out her fingers to trace them across the air.

Only the man's steady breathing could be heard in this silent room.

Elaine gradually became sleepy and finally fell asleep with her head lolling.

Darnell slowly opened his eyes and looked at the little girl lying next to him, completely helpless.

At this time, his phone rang.

He glanced at Elaine to make sure she hadn't been woken up, then walked out.

“Franklin had left home ten minutes ago for Switzerland, so he should have received the news that Miss James hadn't returned yet. The James family have also sent someone over.”

Darnell answered and went into Elaine's room, taking her cell phone, on which there were a dozen missed calls from Franklin.

“Stop Franklin. I'll send her to Switzerland now.”

His men answered.

Darnell asked the maid to pack up Elaine's things and put them in the car. He returned to pick up the sleeping Elaine.

Elaine seemed to have gotten used to his embrace. She skillfully rubbed against his chest, the look on her face revealing her contentment.

Darnell gazed at her with mixed feelings.

...

Elaine woke up and found herself being placed in the car.

She snapped her eyes open, “Where are you taking me?”

Darnell paused slightly, "It's time for you to go back."

Elaine pulled his arms with both hands and shook her head vigorously, "No! You said I could stay as long as I wanted."

Darnell looked at her without expression and pulled his hand out, "Elaine, stop it. I don't have time to mess around with you."

Elaine lost her words, and tears instantly welled up, hovering in her eyes, not falling.

Even though she had always been afraid of him, as far as she could remember, he had never spoken to her in such a tone, cold and detached, with impatience.

Her hand hanging in mid-air withdrew, and she opened her mouth for a long time before making a sound. "I'm sorry. Did I upset you by drinking too much last night? I'll never do that again. I'll be good. Don't drive me away, okay?"

Darnell didn't look at her, closed the car door and instructed, "Go."

Elaine wanted to get out while the car door was locked.

She could only tap helplessly on the window, her tears blurring her vision and falling in bunches.

Outside, the man turned around at the sound of her cries.

The car ignored Elaine's cries and slowly drove away.

Darnell finally lost control while watching the car drive out of sight and covered his lips with one hand, coughing violently.

"Mater, I'll have Archer come over and take a look."

Darnell shook his head and stopped coughing, "Has Franklin been headed off?"

"Yes, Elaine will arrive in Switzerland before he does."

Darnell didn't say anything else but felt a bit sorry for her.

It would have been better if she had woken up later.

He would have wanted to see her off on the plane.

Elaine cried all the way to the tarmac before she realized that it was useless, for the end was predetermined.

No matter what she did, he would not like her and even think she was unreasonable.

Elaine went completely quiet and got on the plane in silence.

She was going back to that place full of strangers.

These few days were as unreal as a dream.

A dream that she could only have once in a lifetime.

Especially this morning.

She would treasure it in her heart and not let anyone know about it.

It was her own secret.

Darnell's men dropped Elaine off when they arrived in Switzerland and quickly left.

As soon as Elaine threw her suitcase away, she fell into bed.

She didn't know how long she had slept when she heard a knock in a daze.

Elaine struggled to get up, lost in thought, and walked to the foyer, pulling open the door.

Franklin was furious seeing this outside and froze before frowning, "When did you come back?"

Although Elaine was weak, the good thing is that she reacted quickly. "I've been here all the time."

Franklin said in a deep voice. "Tell me the truth. Teachers and classmates couldn't contact you since you didn't go to school. I called you, and you didn't answer. What were you doing?"

Elaine looked at him and suddenly pouted and angrily flung herself into his arms, "Daddy, I'm sick. I don't feel well. I don't want to go anywhere."

Franklin was not as angry as before when he saw her in Switzerland, and his anger dissipated when he heard her cry. He patted her back. "Why are you sick? You should not be out of touch even if you are sick. Do you know how worried we are about you?"

Elaine choked, "I came back from my sister's wedding and realized how much I missed home, but you wouldn't let me go back, so I couldn't eat or drink and finally got sick."

Franklin sighed, "It's my fault. I should have come to see you."

"Can I go home with you?"

Franklin stroked her head and replied kindly, "No."

Elaine cried even louder.

"Okay, okay. Don't cry. How about this? I will stay here with you for a few days."

"No."

Elaine got out of his arms without hesitation and sat on the sofa.

Franklin sat down next to her, "I promise you that I will come to see you more often, so be good and don't disappear again."

"When can I go back to Riverside City?"

"When you finish your studies here, okay?"

Elaine was quiet, obviously not willing.

Franklin said helplessly, "Riverside City is not at peace now, so you won't do any good if you go back. Just listen to me and stay here. I will take you back when everything settles."

Elaine looked at him, "How?"

"You're a little girl. You wouldn't understand even if I told you."

Elaine spoke tentatively, "Can I go back to Darnell at that time?"

Franklin was instantly irritating. "So you just want to find him?"

Elaine pouted and didn't retort.

"How often have I told you that he's not fit for you? You didn't like him before. Why are you so obsessed now?"

"Who forced me to marry him at first? You guys urged, and now I really like him, but you disagree. Am I your daughter, or did you actually adopt me?"

Chapter 995-"Then I should adopt a good girl instead of a disobedient you."

Elaine looked at him with resignation.

Franklin sighed. "Okay. Just listen to me for once. Apart from this, I will support you whatever else you want to do and whoever you want to be with, okay?"

"Then I want to be with Archer."

Franklin was a bit angry and took two deep breaths before saying, "Archer is different from Darnell. He and you are related by blood within three generations. You two can't..."

Elaine's head tilted to the side. "Anyway, I don't care. You just said it yourself. Anyone is fine as long as it's not Darnell."

"You're pissing me off."

Seeing that Franklin was angry, Elaine was afraid, "I'm just kidding. I don't like him."

"I know."

He was silent for a while, and he compromised a little, "How about this? You can go to City N the next long holiday. Still, the only condition I have is that you can't take the opportunity to sneak back to Riverside City, okay?"

Elaine didn't quite understand. Riverside City was where she grew up, so why could she not be able to go back?

However, looking at her father's gloomy expression, she nodded gently, "Yes."

Franklin finally let out a sigh of relief, "Go and fresh up. I will take you to eat something. You've lost a lot of weight."

Elaine pouted and nodded, seizing every opportunity to act miserable.

When she turned around to go back to the bedroom, Franklin saw the suitcase and said, "You've been back for so long. Why is the suitcase still here?"

Elaine stammered in astonishment, "I feel so sick when I return. I can't even eat, so how can I still have the energy to pack?"

Franklin waved and told her to change her clothes.

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Franklin stayed in Switzerland for three days.

He went to her school, met her classmates and teachers, and was satisfied with her learning environment.

Although Elaine said she did not need Franklin to accompany her, she was sad when he left.

“Make more friends so that you won’t feel lonely.”

Elaine did not want to contradict him. The loneliness of being alone in a foreign country could not be compensated for by making more friends.

“Well, be good. I’ve asked the maid at home to come over. She’ll take care of you during your years in Switzerland. Just tell her what you want to eat.”

“Got it.”

Franklin admonished her a few more times before leaving anyway.

Elaine flopped down on the sofa while watching the empty house, looking sickly.

The maid arrived the following day.

With her, Elaine no longer came back to the cold air every day, and there was her favorite meal on the dining table.

However, she would not refute Elaine no matter what Elaine said.

As time went on, Elaine felt that the maid was sent by her father to monitor her every move here.

After a month, she was dragged by a classmate to a new restaurant near the school.

“I heard that the chef here is from your hometown and many people say his food is delicious. Try it and see if it is authentic.”

Elaine nodded with a little spirit.

Still, when she took the first bite, she sat up straight as if her soul had been poured into her body.

“How is it? Is it good?”

“It tastes exactly the same as the restaurant I used to go to when I was home.”

She flipped through the menu and exclaimed, “Even the dishes are the same!”

Elaine stepped into the kitchen as she spoke and saw a familiar face.

She often went to the restaurant when she was in Riverside City. The chef would let her try new dishes first and modify them according to her comments.

They knew each other.

Nicolas Melton quite surprised to see her and then smiled, “Miss James. What are you doing here?”

Elaine paused before speaking, “I’m studying here. How about you?”

“I got tired of staying in Riverside City, so I came here, but I didn’t expect to meet you.”

Elaine smiled, “Yes, that’s too much of a coincidence!”

“Have you eaten the food today? How is it?”

“Delicious! I haven’t eaten such dishes for a long time!”

“It’s good that you like it.” Nicolas turned around and picked up a plate, “This is a dish I am researching. Can you help me try it?”

Elaine took the spoon, "Sure."

In the following days, she went to the restaurant continually to chat with Nicolas, research new dishes, and talk about what happened in Riverside City.

She was much happier than before.

Darnell looked at the photos, in which her smile was bright and looked matched with the man beside her.

"What if she has feelings for this chef?"

Darnell put down the photo and spoke lightly, "Nicolas is 26 years old, five years older than her. As for his family, although it's not as good as the James, as long as he's genuinely good to Elaine, Franklin

won't object."

"What about you?" Ariel asked.

Darnell paused, "Me?"

"You sent her to another man personally. Do you really have no chemistry with her at all?"

Darnell looked at her with a cold expression.

Having realized she had said something unnecessary, Ariel shut up and retreated to one side.

Darnell put the photos in the drawer. "What about the Jiang family now?"

“Franklin has already sent back all the people we sent. It looks like he has already made his choice.”

Darnell’s expression remained unchanged: “No surprise.”

Even though he had promised that as long as Hilbert was around, he would never deal with them.

But today, the Jiang family was not what it had been in the past.

Waiting for the purge of the Jiang family to end, if Franklin still persisted, then the target of the attack would become their family.

It was natural for him to find a way out now.

“Once Franklin joins their camp, Hilbert is also on their side, and with his reputation, we...”

“Have you ever pondered why Franklin would join them at this time?”

Ariel was slightly bewildered, unable to answer for a moment.

Darnell’s voice was lower.” Hilbert is dying.”

Chapter 996-Since she had Nicolas Melton to accompany her, Elaine James had enjoyed her life more. She had become as outgoing and cheerful as before.

On her birthday, Switzerland experienced the heaviest snowfall of this winter.

After class, Elaine plunged into the restaurant.

Because of the heavy snow, the number of customers in the entire restaurant was several times less than before. There were only a few scattered customers.

Nicolas smiled at her said, "With such a heavy snow, I thought Ms. James would not come."

Elaine took off the hat on her head and patted the snow on her body, "How could I stand you up? Didn't we both agree on the time? Have you prepared what I plead you to do?"

Nicolas nodded, "Ms. James, just go to the back kitchen."

Elaine said happily, "Thank you!"

She trotted into the kitchen and found well-prepared molds and ingredients for cake.

Elaine took off her coat, rolled up the sleeves of her sweater, washed her hands, put on her gloves, took a deep breath, and stood in front of the workbench.

For the past two months, she has been learning cooking skills from Nicolas. And now her cooking skill was above average.

She had also learned to bake cakes before, but the cake was basically baked by Nicolas. She was just a sidekick then.

This was the first time she has tried to bake independently.

Elaine spent the whole afternoon there, engrossed in her baking.

At night, the restaurant was completely empty of customers.

Nicolas walked to Elaine and stand by her side. she had failed a few times and was trying different method.

He said, "Ms. James, let me help you."

Elaine shook her head. "I want to do it myself."

After a few more tries, Elaine finally baked the cake to what she wanted.

It also tasted very good.

Elaine said incredulously, "I made it!"

Nicolas smiled and said, "Congratulations, Ms. James."

Elaine picked up the cake and went to the front hall with him.

She put the cake on the table and looked around, "There's no one here?"

Nicolas said, "The snow is too heavy. It's kind of lucky. No one will disturb Ms. James' birthday."

Elaine looked at him, "Thank you, you're my best friend here!"

"Ms. James, you're welcome." Nicolas put up the candle and lit it with a lighter, "Ms. James, make a wish."

Elaine nodded, clasped her hands together, and closed her eyes.

First, she wished that both grandfather and father can be healthy and live a long life.

Second, she wished that all the friends around her can be safe and happy.

Third, she wished...

Just when Elaine was making a wish, the wind chime at the door rang. The sound was crispy clear.

Elaine opened her eyes and turned around, "Is there any guests?"

Nicolas looked over and saw no one, "I'll go check it out."

Elaine nodded, and her eyes fell on the cake with flickering candles in front of her.

This was the first time she has finished independently, and it's her special birthday cake.

So her wish will definitely come true.

Soon, Nicolas came back with a beautifully packaged jewelry box in his hand, "There's no one there. But I found this at the door. Is it a birthday present from your friend, Ms. James?"

Elaine was stunned, friend?

She quickly took the jewelry box in Nicolas's hand and opened it. It was a necklace inside.

None of her classmates knew her birthday was today.

Her father had brought her a birthday present a few days ago, so it certainly couldn't be him.

An incredible thought suddenly flashed in Elaine's mind. She raised her head rapidly and looked out of the restaurant.

Through the heavy snow, she saw a tall figure walking by.

Elaine quickly said to Nicolas, "I'll go out first..."

Nicolas stopped her, "Ms. James, you haven't finished the candle yet."

Elaine ran a few steps and quickly turned back. Before blowing out the candle, she said some other wishes in her mind silently. She then quickly blew the candle out and ran out.

Outside the restaurant, there was only heavy snow. She couldn't see any one.

Elaine looked around but still couldn't find anyone. She didn't want to give up and she just ran in a random direction.

On both sides of the street, there were only silent lamps, emitting a faint glow in the cold night.

Elaine ran to the intersection at one time, but still saw no one.

She was so tired that she stood there with slightly panting. Holding the jewelry box tightly in her hand, she then checked around. Her body was trembling because of anxiety.

Only the whistling of the wind could be heard.

The anticipation in Elaine's eyes slowly dimmed. She then lowered her head.

She gradually calmed down. Yeah, he hated her so much. How could he come all the way from Riverside City to Switzerland just to give her a birthday present?

The last birthday wish had not been made just now. It's hardly possible that her dream come true right away.

Elaine turned around and walked back slowly.

Just after taking a few steps, she felt like there's a person standing not far away.

Elaine raised her head and looked at him uncertainly across the heavy snow.

The man held an umbrella and stood under the street lamp. His stern face was shrouded in wind and frost.

Elaine's extinguished hope rekindled. She sped up her pace. She even started to run to him instead of walking. Eventually, she threw herself into his arms, with a choked and trembling voice, "It's really you! I... I thought...I thought..."

Darnell James reached out and gently stroked her back, eyes down in silence.

Elaine hugged him tightly, feeling like she was in a dream. She was scared that she would wake up when she let go of him.

Time seemed to be frozen. The clock stopped right here.

After a while, Elaine, who was not wearing any coat, finally couldn't stand the low temperature outside. She was shaking all over, even her lips were trembling.

Darnell said, "I'll take you home."

"No, no, I want to stay with you. I won't go anywhere."

Darnell asked her, "Aren't you cold?"

Elaine was indeed cold. After careful consideration, she retracted her hand, but then stuck her hands into his coat again, buried herself tightly in his arms, so that she could feel his body temperature. She then said with satisfaction, "This way it won't be cold. "

Darnell did not refuse her childishness, but said, "Don't you finish your cake?"

Elaine shook her head, "No."

Whatever he said, she wouldn't let him go.

Even if it was a dream, she had to hold on to it.

After a while, Darnell raised his hand slightly. Just when Elaine thought he was going to hug her back, she felt the clothes draped over her shoulders.

Before she could do anything, Darnell had grabbed her wrist, pulled it out of his arms, and put on the coat for her.

The man who brought the clothes to them back up silently to the side.

Elaine's mouth pursed, looking at him reluctantly.

After Darnell buttoned her up, he then put the hat on her head, "Okay, I'll take you home."

Elaine pulled his sleeve and said aggrievedly, "Today is my birthday... Can't you have dinner with me?"

Chapter 997-In the hotel restaurant, Elaine looked at the falling snow outside. There's always a smile on her face.

She turned to look at Darnell, "Why don't you eat at Nicolas's place? His dishes are quite delicious."

Darnell said lightly, "Then why don't you have dinner with him."

Elaine immediately shut her mouth and rested her chin in her hands, "Why did you come to Switzerland? Did you come to celebrate me on purpose?"

Darnell poured a glass of water and drank it, with no change in his tone, "It's just work."

"Really? I don't believe it."

Darnell glanced at her sideways. Elaine made a mouth, insisting her opinions.

Even if he was coming for work, how could he come to Switzerland on her birthday? Is it so coincidental?

And he also put the gift at the door secretly so that she wouldn't know who sent it.

Soon, the dishes were served.

Elaine was satisfied with the meal. She said, "This is the best meal I've had since I came to Switzerland!"

Darnell said slowly, "Didn't you say Nicolas's cooking is delicious?"

"It's completely different. I like the dishes he cooks, but I like you more. I feel happy as long as I am eating with you, no matter what we eat."

Darnell moved his brows without being noticed. He raised his chin, "You finished?"

Elaine said, "Yeah, I've had enough."

Darnell took his coat and got up. "Let's go."

Elaine followed him to the door of the restaurant and pointed to the floor-to-ceiling windows, "It's snowing again."

In other words, she didn't want to go back.

Darnell glanced back at her, and Elaine immediately said, "I will sleep on my own and I won't disturb you."

"Your father agrees that you can stay over outside?"

Hearing this, Elaine frowned and thought for a while, and then she said with a tricky proposal, "I told him that my classmates are holding a birthday party for me. He will agree with me staying out!"

Darnell didn't say anything and asked his subordinates to open a room for Elaine, "I will take you to school tomorrow morning."

Of course, Elaine wouldn't refuse, nodding her head again and again.

After they got off the elevator, Darnell took her to the door of the room, "Good night."

Elaine turned around and said reluctantly, "It's still early. Can't I stay with you for a while?"

Darnell glanced at the time, "It's ten o'clock, it's time to go to bed."

Elaine whispered, "My dad won't go to bed earlier than you."

Darnell opened the door of her room, handed her the key, and indicated that she could go in.

Elaine took the room card and looked back at him from time to time.

When she walked in, Darnell closed the door of the room, blocking her view completely.

Darnell turned around and went to the next room.

As soon as he opened the door, a figure ran out from the next room and ran into the room rapidly.

There's no change in Darnell's expression, "You has promised me."

That's just Elaine's effort of expanding the time they spend together. But she couldn't tell the truth, for fear that he would send her home in a fit of rage.

She stuck her hand in her clothes pocket and touched something. Suddenly her eyes lit up. She took it out and put it in front of him, "This, please put it on for me. I can't wear it myself."

Darnell stood still.

Seeing this, Elaine stretched out her hand and pulled him in, "Please help me put it on. And I'll go back. I will absolutely never disturb you."

Darnell took the necklace from her hand, "Turn around."

Elaine turned around obediently and lifted her hair, so that he could put it on.

Elaine's breathing tensed as his hands stretched around her. She felt like she could hear her heart beating.

Darnell looked down, quickly put the necklace on, and withdrew his hand, "Okay."

Hearing this, Elaine turned around again, and gently touched the pendant in front of her collarbone. There's sparkle in her eyes. "Does it look good?"

Darnell's thin lips pursed slightly and nodded.

Elaine smiled and looked up at him silently.

Maybe it was because of the heavy snow outside the window, or maybe it was because he happened to show up again on her birthday. This sense of satisfaction made Elaine more courageous than before. Slowly, she closed her eyes and stood on tiptoes.

Just as she was about to kiss him, Darnell reached out and clasped her shoulders.

Elaine said unwillingly, "I want birthday gift..."

"It's on your neck."

"That doesn't count. I picked it up at the door. You didn't write your name. It could be anyone."

Elaine struggled hard, trying to sneak up on him while he was distracted.

Darnell didn't give her the chance and pushed her down.

Elaine was pushed down on her feet. Her mouth bulging, she was obviously disappointed.

Just when she decided to let go and return to the room, she felt the cool thin lips kiss on her forehead.

He said, "Happy birthday."

Elaine's expression turned up instantly. She took advantage of the kiss and sneak into his arms again, hugging his waist tightly, "I'm very happy. This is the happiest birthday I've ever had!"

...

In the middle of the night, Elaine was lying on the bed, rolling over and over again, unable to fall asleep. As soon as she closed her eyes, she could see the picture of the kiss on her forehead.

She was excited for a long time. For one time, she shyly buried her head in the pillow. For another, she waved her hand happily.

At this time, she felt that she was the happiest person in the world.

Elaine sent a Twitter, [I hope everyday in my life could be as happy as today in the future.]

The pictures were a snow scene from a hotel window and a picture of the birthday cake baked by herself.

Elaine received a lot of likes and comments after the photo was posted.

Just as she was replying them one by one, the phone suddenly rang.

It was Stella's call.

Elaine quickly picked it up, lying on the bed while shaking her legs, "Sister."

Stella said, "Sorry Elaine, I forgot your birthday. I'll make it up to you later. Happy birthday!"

"It's okay, I'm already very happy."

Hearing her tone, Stella paused before asking, "Anything lucky happened?"

Elaine nodded. Her smile was even brighter. Just as she was about to speak, Clarence's voice came from the other side of the phone, "Aren't you going to sleep?"

Elaine, "..."

She checked the time. It was almost twelve o'clock.

It should be six o'clock in the morning in the Riverside city.

Elaine didn't have time to think about why Stella got up so early. After saying good night to her sister, she immediately hung up the phone.

Back on the bed, Elaine stroked the necklace on her neck contentedly.

After a long time, she fell asleep unconsciously.

The other side...

Darnell stood in front of the floor-to-ceiling windows, looking at the heavy snow outside, recalling the image of Elaine chased him out of the restaurant.

Originally, he just wanted to take a look at her before she returned to the James family.

Back in the James family, they would turn into enemies.

No matter to the rest of the James family, or Franklin, he won't let them go easily.

For her, he's also turned into a downright bad guy.

But he still went to see her when he saw her standing in the blizzard and snow, wearing only a thin sweater.

Chapter 998-The next morning, when Darnell left the room, Elaine was already standing in his doorway, waving at him with a smile on her face, "Morning."

Darnell said, "You get up so early?"

Elaine said, "I want to go to breakfast with you."

She waited here before dawn, afraid that he would leave while she was still sleeping.

Darnell didn't say anything, just strode forward.

Elaine followed him and kept on talking to him, "When are you going back to Riverside City? Can you stay here for a few more days? My school has a very beautiful lake. If you are available, can you hang around with me?"

Darnell stood in front of the elevator, "I'm leaving this afternoon and I don't have time."

The smile on Elaine's face almost frozen. But the smile recovered quickly, and she continued to ask, "Can we have lunch together?"

Darnell glanced sideways at her and said slowly, "You should go back to school after breakfast."

"I know, but I..."

At this time, the elevator door opened, and there was a foreign couple inside.

Elaine looked down and followed Darnell up the elevator.

Just having break first was better than nothing.

Sitting in the dining room, Elaine ate as slowly as possible.

Darnell glanced at the time and reminded her, "You have half an hour to go to class."

Hearing this, Elaine reluctantly picked up a tissue and wiped her mouth, "I've had enough."

The snow outside had stopped, and the street had been roughly cleaned.

The whole city was like a kingdom of ice and snow that only exists in fairy tale.

Elaine sat in the car, enjoying this rare time they had.

After a while, she turned to Darnell. "Will you come to visit me again?"

Darnell said lightly, "I'm here for business."

Elaine made an "oh" and asked in a different way, "Then when will you come to Switzerland for business again?"

"Not anymore."

"Why?"

Darnell looked out the window, "The cooperation didn't work out."

Elaine looked at his profile, opened her mouth trying to say something, but failed.

Soon, the car stopped at the front entry of school.

Elaine opened the door, went down. But she turned around just after taking two steps. She bent over and leaned on the front of car window. She was almost pleading, "I will run out as fast as I can after class at noon. I won't take too much time. Can you pick me up for lunch?"

Darnell said, "Elaine, I'll leave here even if we had lunch."

"I know." Elaine's voice choked uncontrollably, "But I just wanted to spend more time with you..."

Darnell said, "It's time for you to go to class."

Elaine grabbed at the car window, bit her lower lip tightly. Her eyes slowly turned red. Tears fell silently.

Darnell closed his eyes, raised his hand to wipe away her tears, and said gently, "Elaine, just let our journey end here."

Elaine took his hand, "Then can you kiss me?"

Afraid of his rejection, she added in a low voice, "Like last night."

After Darnell was silent for two seconds, her thin lips kissed at her forehead. He then whispered, "Elaine, remember, no matter when and no matter what happened, I will never hurt you."

Elaine was now immersed in this simple kiss, completely unaware of what he said. A smile gradually appeared on her face. she nodded at him, stepped back a little, waved at him, and ran into the school.

Even her back figure indicated her happiness and excitement.

It wasn't until her figure disappeared from sight that Darnell looked back and said gently, "Go."

During the whole day, Elaine was in a good mood. She could even start dancing while walking. Even the classmates were curious about what happened to her.

When she came home from school in the afternoon, she saw the servant standing at the door waiting for her. She immediately put on a serious expression and fooled around with prepared excuses, "My classmate held a party for me last night, and it was too late to go home. So I texted my dad..."

The servant nodded slightly at her, "My lady, we can set off now."

Elaine looked puzzled, "Off? Where are we going?"

As soon as she finished speaking, she saw the neatly packed house and a few suitcases.

Elaine was startled, "Are we going back to Riverside City?"

"Yes, the plane arranged by master has been waiting for us."

The day had finally come, but Elaine was not as happy as she imagined. She frowned and said, "Why are we going back suddenly? My father didn't call me. And..."

And her father had said he would wait until she finished her studies in Switzerland.

As for Riverside City...

Thinking of this, she suddenly asked, "Did something happen to the James family?"

The servant replied, "The elder mater has passed away, and Ms. James should go back to the funeral."

Hearing this, Elaine's eyes almost popped out, "Great Grandpa..."

The servant pulled up the suitcase, "Ms. James, let's go. It will be too late if we don't leave now."

Until she got on the plane, Elaine was still in a trance, not believing what she had just heard.

Grandpa must be lying to her again...

As what he had done before...

When she returns to Riverside City, she will definitely see a healthy grandpa.

Elaine didn't even close her eyes during the over ten hours of flight.

After returning home, she rushed in, "Dad, great grandpa..."

She called several times, but no one answered.

Elaine ran into Grandpa James' room again, "Grandpa, I'm here to visit you. Where are you, Papa?"

The whole room was empty, and there was even sad atmosphere here.

"Elaine."

Hearing the voice behind her, Elaine turned around sharply. There's no joy on her face. She stepped forward and said, "Dad, where's grandpa? Did he go out for a walk?"

It had only been a few months, but Franklin seemed to age in a sudden, with gray hair growing on his temples.

He patted Elaine's hand and said tiredly, "Elaine, your great grandfather has passed away..."

Elaine burst into tears in an instant, "I don't believe it. Grandpa has always been so healthy!"

"Don't worry. He passed away peacefully." Franklin said, "Elaine, Dad told you before that it's normal to for us to age, sick and die. It's not just your great grandfather. I will leave you sooner or later. Grandpa is so old. It's a decent farewell. You don't have to be sad."

"But...but..." Elaine choked, "But I didn't get to see him one last time..."

"He understands your kindness and sincerity."

Elaine fell into Franklin's arms, sobbing.

Franklin comforted, "Come on, Elaine, you have grown up. Dad won't talk any big words to you. Go upstairs and change your clothes. It's time for us to go to your great-grandfather's

funeral."

Chapter 999-During this period, people kept coming over to offer incense to Mr. James.

But Elaine didn't see the slightest sadness on their faces.

All of them looked relaxed. Some of them even gathered together in group, chatting with a smile.

Elaine stood there with her head down. Tears kept on dropping.

After a while, her father has gone to somewhere else.

Just then, someone approached her.

Hearing footsteps, Elaine looked up suddenly.

Archer was taken back by her reaction, "Why are you so excited to see me?"

Elaine remained silent and handed her the incense from the side.

Archer took it and said as she lit it, "Don't cry please. I was by his side when great grandpa died. He didn't suffer and died peacefully."

He put the incense in the stove, bowed three times to the portrait, and continued, "The old man is almost a hundred years old. He is no monster. He has lived to this age, which has exceeded the life span of many normal people."

Elaine said dissatisfiedly, "How can you compare him with monster!"

"Yes, yes, I can go through anything." Archer stood beside her and sighed, "Actually, I sometimes envy you. You have such a pure and grace soul. You are the only one who truly mourn for the old master at

this dangerous and false funeral."

Elaine didn't quite understand, "What do you mean?"

Archer patted her on the shoulder, "It's nothing, you won't understand. After the funeral, go back to Switzerland. And don't stay here for too long."

As soon as Archer finished speaking, someone walked over.

Before Elaine could continue to ask anything, the upcoming person had already stood in front of her and said with a smile, "Elaine, do you remember me?"

Elaine looked at the unfamiliar face in front of her. She had no impression about her at all. Elaine could only smile awkwardly.

The middle-aged woman said again, "You should call me aunt. This is my son. He is not much older than you."

Elaine greeted them obediently, "Auntie, cousin."

The middle-aged woman said, "You don't need to call cousin? You two are about the same age, just call him by the name."

Elaine twitched the corner of her mouths, not wanting to speak.

But the middle-aged woman kept talking to her about all the gossips.

Until there were too many people behind them, she eventually gave up.

Seeing her left with her son, Elaine was relieved.

But she never expected that this was just the beginning.

Throughout the day, countless unfamiliar middle-aged women brought their sons over to greet Elaine.

Among these, there were people from the James family, and there were people from other family.

But all of them came with the same purpose.

When the funeral was over, Elaine sat tiredly on the ground, massaging her sore calf.

At this time, Franklin finally came back. Seeing her sat on the ground, he came to hold her up, "Elaine, why are you sitting on the ground? What are you doing?"

Elaine said tiredly, "Dad, I'm so tired..."

Franklin sighed silently, "I'll take you back."

Elaine said, "Dad, are you looking for a new marriage?"

Franklin's face turned cold, "What nonsense are you talking about!"

"Then why are there so many unfamiliar aunties came to chat with me today. And all of them are so enthusiastic tome."

Franklin, "..."

He helped Elaine out, "Don't worry about them, Dad will send you back to Switzerland tomorrow."

Elaine stopped and turned to look at him, "I don't want to go back."

Franklin ignored her.

Elaine took his arm, "Dad, what happened to the James family? Why didn't Darnell come to Grandpa's funeral today? Can you tell me, please? I don't want to be like a fool with no information in my mind..."

I..."

“Elaine.” Franklin lowered his voice and glanced around. After confirming that there was no outsider, he whispered “Don’t mention this name at home in the future, and don’t go to him secretly without my permission.”

“Why?”

Franklin said, “Did you see these people came to the funeral today?”

Elaine nodded blankly.

Franklin continued, “They all want Darnell to die. Vice versa, Darnell will not let them go.”

Elaine’s eyes widened. She didn’t understand why things turned out like this. Weren’t they at peace before?

Those people were dissatisfied with Darnell in private. But...but...

Elaine suddenly thought of something and looked up at Franklin, “They came to the funeral today, but Darnell didn’t come. Does this mean that, Dad, you are on the same side as them?”

Franklin didn’t answer. And that’s acquiesced.

Elaine repeated reluctantly, “Why?”

“Elaine, many choices in this world were made for no reason. People will always be inclined to the side that can bring more benefits to themselves.”

“But Dad, Darnell, he will never hurt you. Didn’t he say before that as long as the grandfather is still alive, he will never...”

Franklin sighed, "Elaine, you also said, that the premise is that your great-grandfather is alive. Darnell has been thinking about knock out the James family for a long time. Think about it, why these people can unite together overnight and share the same hatred? Because they have all been suppressed by Darnell. When your great-grandfather was alive, we could remain neutral. But since your great-grandfather is gone. No matter Darnell or those people, they all regard us as the biggest trouble. Either we were taken down by them or we join them, you understand?"

"I understand, I understand... But Daddy, just trust me, Darnell he..."

Franklin stroked her head, "Elaine, Dad knows what you mean. Dad didn't want to tell you this, but you have to understand the current situation. The reason why James family is afraid of Darnell, was not because that he is the master of the James family now, but because his ambition was even over the Riverside City."

Elaine stood there, stunned.

Franklin continued, "Elaine, Dad also knows you love him, but staying by his side will always be dangerous. He can protect you once or twice, but he can't protect you forever. It will be safer if you stay in Switzerland."

After a long while, Elaine said, "Then I'm going to Switzerland. What about you, Dad?"

"As long as you're safe, what else can they do to me?"

Elaine's eyes were flushed. "You lied! You are sending me to Switzerland because you can't defeat Darnell. Dad, what are you trying to do?"

Franklin didn't speak but coughed twice.

He was now in the same side with the James family. Even if they lose in the end, they won't bother Elaine in Switzerland.

As for Darnell, he was the one most unlikely to bother her.

Chapter 1000-Back home, Elaine sat on the bed, staring blankly ahead.

After a while, she raised her hand and stroked the necklace around her neck.

It had been only two days. But all of a sudden, everything has changed.

Thinking of this, Elaine suddenly sat up straight again.

The reason why he went to visit her in Switzerland, was it possible that he had already known the news of his great-grandfather's death at that time?

No wonder Darnell said to her when he dropped her off at school, "Let our journey end here".

Is this what he meant?

Elaine pursed her lips slightly and stood up slowly.

She changed her clothes and sneaked out of the house in the middle of the night.

One o'clock.

Archer was in a sound asleep when he was woken up by a rush of doorbells.

He opened the door impatiently with his eyes closed, "Who is doing this shit in the middle of the night..."

Elaine said sincerely, "Cousin, it's me."

Archer, "..."

Every time Elaine called him cousin, there would be trouble.

Archer opened his eyes and walked inside while yawning, "What's wrong? My dear lord!"

Elaine closed the door, followed him quickly, and said in a hurry, "Do you know, that my dad and someone from the James family, are going to go to war with Darnell together? What should we do?"

Archer sat on the sofa and said lazily, "What else can we do? I'm not your father."

"Then..." Elaine's mind turned quickly, "But you also went to the funeral of the great grandfather. You and Darnell have such a good relationship, won't he fight you together?"

Archer adjusted his sitting posture and looked at her. He could finally get himself together, "this is the moment that can reveal the power of connection, my dear. There are some methods that you can't use."

Elaine kept her mouth shut, looking at him as if she was about to cry.

"Okay, okay." Archer explained, "I'm a doctor. The infighting of the James family has nothing to do with me. No matter who wins, I won't be affected, see? It will not harm any interests of mine."

Elaine shook her head.

Archer further explained, "Although my laboratory was funded by Darnell, I have also helped the entire James family with medical support over the years. Besides, I am so young and have such a high level of medical skills. Isn't that a huge loss of someone who want to start a war with me?"

Even though Archer was standing by Darnell's side in public, he also had many relatives and friends in the James family. So it's impossible for him to stand by idly.

If someone was hurt and need his help, he wouldn't reject it and Darnell wouldn't stop him.

This was something that all three parties have acquiesced in.

Elaine said, "So, you are now neutral if the Darnell and the James family start the war?"

"Sort of." Archer said slowly, "It is also very important to have your own skill, my lady."

Elaine looked at him without saying a word.

Archer, "?"

Elaine said, "Then if I stand by your side, can I also stand neutral and run away from their battles?"

Archer sighed, "It's not as simple as you think. Based on your father's status, you are already conspicuous enough. How could the James family give up his support? When your great grandfather was still alive, they could hold back a bit, but now...If they don't have your dad's support, then neither can Darnell, you understand?"

"My dad has the ability to protect himself, and if...If he supports Darnell, Darnell will definitely send someone to protect him."

"Have you forgotten how the elders of the James family were all killed overnight?"

Elaine was stunned when she heard the words.

Archer patted her on the shoulder, got up and said, "As long as you are on the list, they will do everything possible to kill you. I believe your father won't be afraid of these, but he is more worried about you."

After speaking, he added, "Even Darnell was injured this time. Although the injury was not serious, it has proved how dangerous they are. There are too many people who want to set him up. The James family is just the smallest part. Go home and sleep early, sister."

When Archer was about to enter the bedroom, Elaine suddenly said, "Can I see him again?"

"My dad didn't allow me to visit him secretly. I know that my dad is afraid that I would be in danger, and I don't want to embarrass my dad. But you can help me see him, right?"

Archer turned around and said, "Just listen to your father. Wouldn't it be better to go back to Switzerland tomorrow?"

Elaine sniffed. "I will, But I... want to see him again before I go back to Switzerland."

Archer clicked his tongue, "Well, when did you become so affectionate?"

"Sister Sherry said that I may have developed a habit since I was a child. I have to get whatever I want. But...but I really..."

Seeing that she was about to cry, Archer stretched out his hand, "Stop. I promise you, before you get on the plane tomorrow, I'll find a way to get him to see you, deal?"

Elaine nodded immediately, "Thank you cousin!"

Archer waved at her, "Go back quickly, don't disturb my sleep."

Elaine obediently left.

After she left, Archer didn't feel much sleepy. He then sat down on the sofa again and called Darnell.

...

Elaine got home, fell on the bed, opened her eyes, simply waited until dawn.

At eight in the morning, Franklin knocked on the door, "Elaine, are you up yet?"

Elaine responded, "I have gotten up."

"Prepare your luggage and get ready to go."

Elaine had only come back for a day and she didn't even open the suitcase.

When she left the room, a servant immediately came up to help her with luggage.

When Franklin took her to the door, he suddenly received a phone call. He frowned and said to Elaine, "Elaine, Dad can't take you to the airport. Dad will visit you in Switzerland later."

Elaine knew that her father's situation was not good, so she didn't act like what she had done before, and nodded obediently, "Okay."

Franklin hugged her, "Elaine, take care of yourself."

Elaine choked a little, "Dad, take care of yourself too."

After putting Elaine in the car, Franklin immediately got in the car and went to another direction.

Elaine leaned against the car window, kept checking the time and phone. But there's not even a single word from Archer.

Will Darnell wait for her at the airport?

Elaine lowered the window, looked at the familiar city, and exhaled slowly.

At this moment, she saw the scene of the street flash by. And the speed of the car suddenly sped up.

Shockingly fast.

Elaine said, "Don't drive so fast. It's still early..."

The driver in front frowned and said, "Miss, the brakes are broken."