

## No Chance 2031

### [Chapter 2031 Waiting](#)

Stumped, Vincent turned to Gareth, who was beside him, and said, "I came here with Mr. Wickam, so I'll leave with him too."

Yet, the latter said dismissively, "You didn't come here with me."

Everyone shared a laugh with each other.

In the end, Mike still joined them, but he didn't sit with Gareth and Vincent. Instead, he chose to sit on the women's side.

Looking at the women, especially Rachel, laughing so hard that they doubled up, Vincent reckoned they were likely so happy that they had forgotten their own names.

He was quite jealous, so his tone was bitter. "Why does it have to be so cold and desolate on our side? I'll go get Kaylee."

With that he got up to find Kaylee.

Vincent's departure caused all the fish around Gareth to scatter.

The latter was rather helpless, looking at Elisa with a hint of hope in his eyes.

Sadly, she didn't look at him and just kept chatting with the others.

Rachel was the one who suggested staying and playing here for two more days, mainly because this place's hot spring was massive, so it wasn't very comfortable with too many people around.

It's still best to soak in private.

Besides, her grudge for the water gun incident hadn't been avenged yet, so she found it necessary to seek revenge.

Elisa was very supportive of this idea. After all, the whole point was to relax, so an extra day or two wouldn't make a difference.

Since she was staying, the others naturally stayed as well.

"I wonder if Kaylee will stay or not? If she knows what's good for her, she should leave on her own," Rachel remarked poutingly, visibly displeased.

Although Kaylee didn't pull any tricks, Rachel kept feeling like being around the former was akin to having a fishbone stuck in the throat.

It was incredibly uncomfortable.

Bella gently nudged Rachel, hinting to the latter that Mike was also present.

But Mike played along quite well, acting as if he hadn't heard a thing.

Rachel glanced at Mike, then at Bella, and couldn't help but cover her mouth to stifle a giggle.

By the time Vincent found Kaylee, everyone had already gone to change their clothes, leaving the fish spa vacant.

Only the small fish were swimming back and forth in the fish spa as if they were mocking the two of them. Kaylee's smile was somewhat stiff.

When Vincent came to find her, he had said he wanted to take her to join him and Gareth at the fish spa.

She presumed she finally had the chance to interact with Gareth openly and aboveboard, so she was filled with joy.

To her dismay, it ended before it even began.

This Vincent really isn't reliable at all.

Vincent awkwardly chuckled at Kaylee. "They probably also got hungry and plan to have a barbecue now. Come on, let's join them."

She nodded and grudgingly kept up.

After changing their clothes, the group didn't leave and stayed in the lobby.

If it weren't for waiting for Vincent, Rachel would probably have asked everyone to leave first.

She yawned. It was already around eleven o'clock at present.

Normally, she would have been asleep by now and not waiting around here.

Elisa noticed it and walked over to ask, "What's wrong? Are you feeling tired? If so, we can have the hotel deliver food to our room. It'll save us the trouble of going out."

Upon hearing that, Rachel shook her head, forcing herself to gather her spirits.

"How can we not go for a barbecue after a hot spring bath? That would be incomplete. Let's wait for Vincent here. When he arrives, we'll go eat. I don't want to hang around with Kaylee."

Elisa nodded, as it was normal to feel hungry after a hot spring bath. Thus, they all continued to wait patiently.

During this time, Gareth took off his coat and draped it over Elisa's body.

She was propping up her head, almost falling asleep, but this abrupt action jolted her awake.

### [Chapter 2032 Parting On Bad Terms](#)

Elisa looked at Gareth, softly thanked him, and adjusted the coat.

It was indeed quite chilly waiting here with the wind blowing directly at them.

She stared at the man, who was only wearing a sweater, and asked faintly, "Aren't you cold?"

He shook his head, intending to pull up a chair to sit next to her. As he dragged the chair, an ear-piercing sound echoed.

Gareth looked at Elisa with a hint of apology in his eyes, whereas she glared in response.

Rachel was also about to doze off when she was abruptly awakened by this noise. She glanced at her watch. The minute hand was already pointing at six. This meant they had been waiting here for at least half an hour.

Does a grown man like Vincent really need to take so long? It's not like he's a girl who needs to dry his hair before coming out.

Just when she was feeling upset, Vincent finally got done and came out.

At this moment, Bella also slowly awoke while Mike, sitting next to her, stared at her unblinkingly.

She touched her own face. "Is there something on my face?"

He shook his head, and Bella didn't doubt him, merely standing up to stretch her body while waiting to leave with Vincent.

Annoyed, Rachel scanned at everyone, who were all dispirited and listless.

They were drained, so everything they did felt lackluster. Even if they were to have a barbecue later, they'd likely still be in a sluggish state.

This is all Vincent's fault!

After deciding to give him a hard time for a while, Rachel noticed the person following behind Vincent.

Unexpectedly, he had come out with Kaylee, whose hair was dried and even styled.

She soaked in the hot spring for an hour, yet her makeup's still immaculately intact. Obviously, she went to touch up her makeup.

Rachel's eyes practically rolled to the back of her head.

What the heck does this mean?

Kaylee made all of us wait for her just so she could put on makeup? It's already bedtime soon, and she's still applying it. What a perfect girl she is.

Most importantly, Vincent actually waited for her all this time before coming out together.

In an instant, Rachel lost her appetite.

She shot a fierce glare at Vincent, then turned to Elisa and said, "Forget it. I don't think I'm that hungry anymore. Let's just have the hotel send up some food later to tide us over."

Afterward, before anyone could react, she added. "I'm tired now, so I'll go back to rest first."

The atmosphere immediately turned a little awkward. In truth, even Rachel herself couldn't tell whether she was upset because she waited half an hour for no reason for Kaylee to finish her makeup or because of Vincent.

But none of that mattered. The bottom line was, she was livid now.

Watching Rachel's retreating figure, Vincent felt extremely helpless.

He didn't want to wait, either. He had urged Kaylee several times in the lounge and almost fell asleep.

But she simply expressed that it was very dangerous and terrifying for a girl like her to go back alone.

She even said she would be ready in five minutes.

However, these five-minute increments gradually added up to half an hour.

Vincent just felt that women were really scary.

I waited outside for half an hour and still have to endure Rachel's scorn now. What kind of logic is this?

The atmosphere became awkward for a moment.

Kaylee felt quite embarrassed and said to everyone, "I didn't know you all would be waiting for me here. I'm really sorry. Have I kept you guys waiting for a long time?"

No one responded to her, as they didn't want to deal with her in the first place.

After waiting for her for half an hour, everyone was really frustrated.

Kaylee bit her lip, looking as if she was on the verge of tears. She stared at Vincent in hopes that he would speak up for her.

### [Chapter 2033 Scheming](#)

Alas, how could Vincent possibly have the mind to care about her now?

He was already perturbed enough as the image of Rachel glaring at him when she left flashed in his mind.

As the organizer, Elisa didn't want the situation to get too ugly, so she asked everyone to return to their rooms.

"Call the front desk and order whatever you want to eat. It's getting late, so we should all rest soon." She was also forcing herself to stay awake at this point. After saying that, she immediately started to yawn.

Everyone then left in small groups.

Mike escorted Bella back, Vincent and Gareth walked together, and Elisa was with Kaylee.

After all, she and Kaylee shared the same room.

They journeyed together in silence.

Interestingly, Gareth deliberately walked behind Elisa simply because he wanted to ensure she safely entered the hotel.

With a lowered voice, Vincent asked at the side, "Did I really do something wrong?"

He was mumbling to himself, and Gareth didn't seem interested in paying the former any attention.

Just like that, everyone walked back, lost in their own thoughts.

When they reached the entrance of the hotel, they all said their goodbyes.

Elisa asked Kaylee if she wanted to eat something, to which the latter nodded but didn't say what she wanted to eat for a long time. Her face was slightly flushed.

Seeing Kaylee's expression, Elisa realized that Kaylee probably didn't know what there was to eat.

As such, Elisa casually asked Kaylee if there was anything she couldn't eat, then made a call to the front desk.

During the wait, Elisa took a bath in the bathroom and also told Kaylee not to overthink.

Little did she know, Kaylee was watching her from behind gloomily.

After the food arrived, the two at the round table.

It was a rare moment of harmony. The two of them ate their own food with little to no conversation.

Only when Kaylee said she was going to sleep did Elisa finally speak up. "Aren't you going to remove your makeup?"

The former was briefly awkward. She really wanted to say that she wasn't wearing any makeup, but given the latter's assertive tone and intense gaze, it was hard to lie.

Hence, she could only give an awkward laugh. "I... I didn't bring my makeup remover. Can I borrow yours?"

Elisa frowned, wondering why someone who wore makeup didn't carry makeup remover.

Despite her doubts, she still decided to lend it.

"I didn't bring any makeup remover, so you'll have to make do with the facial cleanser," she said, handing Kaylee a bottle of camellia facial cleanser from her room.

With a discomfiting expression, Kaylee accepted it, but inside, she felt nothing but disdain.

She didn't believe that Elisa didn't wear makeup. How could she not bring makeup remover? She must be trying to hide the fact that she's wearing makeup...

Regardless, Kaylee would never believe that the Elisa in front of her wasn't wearing any makeup.

As she accepted the facial cleanser, she contemplated how she could reveal Elisa's true colors.

Deep in thought, she was walking toward her room when Elisa called out to her again.

"We were initially supposed to go back tomorrow, but since we came out to relax, we decided to stay a bit longer. We're not sure when we'll return. So, are you going back tomorrow, or would you like to stay with us?" asked Elisa without any personal bias.

However, if Kaylee decided to stay, Elisa would have to give Julia a call. That was why she asked.

Kaylee's expression was extremely grim as she stood with her back to Elisa. Her facial features event scrunched up.

Unmistakably, she misunderstood Elisa's intentions, thinking that the latter wanted her to leave.

But the more Elisa felt this way, the more Kaylee insisted to stay.

With that, Kaylee turned around and smiled at Elisa. "Since we all came out together, we should go back together."

#### [Chapter 2034 Scolding](#)

The next day, Elisa woke up early.

Perhaps due to the hot spring visit yesterday, she woke up today feeling refreshed and didn't feel like oversleeping.

She glanced at the time and saw it was around seven in the morning. Upon sending a text message in the group chat, she was met with numerous immediate responses.

Elisa: Anyone wants to join me for breakfast?

Affirmative replies quickly came flooding in.

Looks like everyone's up and about. Elisa smirked. Soaking in the hot spring truly works wonders for reinvigorating oneself.

The group agreed to meet in the lobby downstairs at half past seven.

After freshening up, Elisa made a phone call to Julia, primarily to discuss matters concerning Kaylee,

The call rang for a while before it was finally answered by Maria, whose voice sounded a bit peculiar.

-Elisa didn't doubt her. "Maria, is Grandma awake? Could you hand her the phone?"

Maria's voice didn't sound too well, as if she was hesitating to say something.

Right then, Julia's voice sounded from the other end, and in the next second, it seemed like the phone was snatched away.

"It's me. What is it?"

Julia's voice was exceedingly indifferent, almost sounding emotionless. Despite being mentally prepared. Elisa couldn't help but feel dejected upon hearing it.

She would rather Julia had simply been ill since everything would return to normal once the latter recovered.

Noticing the silence on the other end of the line, Julia continued impatiently, "If you're not going to talk, I'm hanging up."

Elisa hurriedly began, "Grandma, it's me, Elisa."

There was no response from Julia, as she was likely waiting for Elisa to continue.

Suppressing the feeling of disappointment in her heart, Elisa went on, "Here's the thing. Didn't we say we would return today? I asked Ms. Knapp, and she also wants to stay with us for a few more days, so we will return slightly later. Also, the environment here is quite nice. If you have time, we could-"

Before Elisa could finish her sentence, she was interrupted by Julia.

"Just arrange things as you see fit, but don't let anyone bully her. I must say, if you're unwilling to take her with you, then send her back to me. Don't think that just because I'm not there, I won't know how you're mistreating her."

Elisa was somewhat taken aback, both by Julia interrupting her and what the latter had said.

She's openly backing Kaylee and even making me sound so malicious. But I clearly didn't do a thing...

She wanted to defend herself, but at this juncture, words seemed somewhat meaningless.

With a cold humph, Julia walked away from the phone.

Maria picked up the phone again and waited until Julia was out of earshot before saying, "Ms. Benett, when you return, it's best you bring Mr. Gareth to visit Madam Smith. I feel she has been acting very strange lately. Not long ago, she even had your room cleared out for Ms. Knapp as if she were possessed."

The word "possessed" kept echoing in Elisa's mind.

Is... this the reason?

She snapped back to reality, comforting Maria, "Don't worry, Maria. We'll be back tomorrow."

On the other end of the line, Maria nodded vigorously. Moreover, Madam Smith is becoming more and more careless about her health. She used to follow the doctor's advice meticulously, knowing exactly what she could and couldn't eat. She would never touch anything she wasn't supposed to eat. I'm sure you know she is not a glutton. But now, she eats without any restraint. It's truly..."

Elisa and Maria continued their conversation, and the more they talked, the more they felt that the situation was seriously bizarre.

### [Chapter 2035 Eavesdropping](#)

Elisa still felt that she should discuss this with Gareth.

Thus, with a heavy heart, she kept pondering over this matter.

After much thought, she ultimately decided to discuss it with Bella in advance.

As soon as the call connected, Elisa began talking about the matter.

At the doorway, Kaylee had initially intended to return the facial cleanser. She stared at the cleanser, her face adorned with a peculiar smile. In it contained some small "gifts" she had carefully prepared. Although they wouldn't disfigure Elisa's face, they were potent enough to keep her out of sight for a good ten days or half a month.

Kaylee put away her smile. Just as her hand touched the doorknob, she heard a voice coming from inside.

The quality of the door was quite good, so naturally, the sound insulation was excellent, and she could only hear bits and pieces.

However, even what she had heard was enough to astound her and, even more so, to make her apprehensive.

-She vaguely heard Elisa saying something about Julia being off and Wyrithian.

Greatly alarmed, Kaylee realized that Elisa had probably found out something. She desperately wanted to hear more clearly, but it seemed that the latter had already finished speaking and hung up the phone.

Following that came a flurry of footsteps.

Before the call was hung up, Kaylee had heard Elisa mention Gareth's name.

Could it be... No! I absolutely won't allow such a thing to happen!

She quickly took a seat in the living room, somewhat unnaturally adjusting her attire.

When Elisa opened the door, she immediately saw Kaylee sitting on the couch, staring at her unblinkingly. The latter's pitch-black eyes were somewhat eerie, as if they were about to swallow her whole.

"You're up?" Elisa seemed quite surprised. Normally, at this time, Kaylee would still be in bed.

Kaylee withdrew her gaze, making a great effort to suppress her emotions. When she looked at Elisa again, her eyes were crystal clear.

It was as if the one who seemed bloodthirsty and eager to feast on flesh just a moment ago wasn't her.

Elisa was momentarily dazed.

Kaylee nodded, smiling as she answered, "I've ordered breakfast. Would you like to join me?" After speaking, she looked at Elisa with a scrutinizing gaze that made one feel rather uncomfortable.

Upon hearing this, Elisa stilled, clearly surprised by Kaylee's invitation. She then shook her head.

"No need. I've already ordered breakfast from downstairs. Take your time and enjoy it."

With that, Elisa was about to leave but was stopped by Kaylee.

"Why don't we eat together, then? It's boring to eat alone in the room." Kaylee stood up, looking at Elisa with enthusiasm.

The latter peered at the former for quite a while, creating a somewhat awkward atmosphere.

Of course, Elisa could refuse, but eating breakfast in the lobby was Kaylee's right.

I can't possibly be so overbearing as not to let her go down for breakfast, can I?

After a moment of silence, she bobbed her head. "Let's go together, then."



Kaylee flashed a smile.

As Elisa turned around, Kaylee revealed an intriguing smile toward the former's retreating figure.

The two of them went downstairs together.

Bella and Gareth were already neatly dressed and seated in their places.

As for Rachel, she was still enjoying her sleep and would be up a bit later.

Elisa gave a nod, seemingly unconcerned, and simply took a seat.

Upon seeing Kaylee, Bella was briefly taken aback. She fixed her gaze on Elisa intently, silently questioning what was going on.

With a hint of helplessness, Elisa shook her head, indicating that the situation was complicated.

#### [Chapter 2036 Watching Like A Hawk](#)

It was not something that could be explained in a short time, and besides, Kaylee was right here, watching like a hawk. It was not a good time for them to converse.

Understanding dawned on Bella.

The meal was eaten almost in silence, making it incredibly uncomfortable, especially for Elisa.

She always felt like she was being watched, and this kind of gaze made her feel extremely uneasy.

Kaylee's subtle gaze was always directed toward Elisa as if she were afraid the latter might say something to Gareth.

Indeed, due to Kaylee's prying eyes, Elisa truly didn't get a chance to speak.

The meal continued with no one speaking, and neither Rachel nor Vincent showed up until the end.

Eventually, it was Bella who broke the silence; otherwise, this meal would probably have not a single word exchanged.

"How about we go for a private hot spring bath after our nap? We can still depart in time by evening."

-Upon hearing this, Elisa nodded, indicating she had no objections.

Gareth looked at her, fairly perplexed. "Didn't you say to stay and rest for a couple more days? Why are you in such a hurry to return all of a sudden? Did something happen at work?"

Elisa forced out a faint smile and shook her head.

It was nothing related to work but Julia.

Unfortunately, Kaylee was still at the dining table, staring at Elisa intently.

There were certain things that were not appropriate to mention, and it was also not wise to act rashly and alert the enemy.

Anyway, there will always be times when Kaylee isn't around..

And so, after breakfast, everyone returned to their rooms.

Elisa seemed deeply preoccupied in her room when suddenly, there was a knock at the door.

She was so engrossed in her thoughts that the unexpected noise nearly made her jump out of her skin.

“Come in.”

Elisa recomposed herself and looked toward the direction of the door.

Kaylee pushed the door open and walked in.

“Elisa, do you have some free time right now? If you do, I have a few questions I’d like to ask. Madam Smith.”

Elisa’s heart skipped a beat the moment she heard the words “Madam Smith.”

She was really curious, wondering if Kaylee had found out something.

With a calm expression, Elisa nodded and turned to Kaylee, asking, “Shall we talk outside?”

“Ah...” The latter looked toward the former’s room and glanced around, seemingly a bit hesitant.

Finally, she nodded. “All... right...”

Then, the duo went to the living room, and Elisa got straight to the point. “What would you like to know?”

Kaylee curved her lips, understanding that Elisa truly cared about Julia’s matters. Now, Julia was under her control.

This spoke volumes about many issues.

She lowered her gaze, concealing the triumph in her eyes. When she looked up again, her eyes were clear and bright.

“I just wanted to ask, what are Madam Smith’s food preferences? Are there any foods she avoids? I heard from Maria that Madam Smith’s health isn’t great, and it only improved with someone’s help in managing her diet...”

Upon hearing this, Elisa carefully observed Kaylee’s reaction. Seeing that the latter likely knew that the “someone” referred to Elisa, Elisa finally let out a barely perceptible sigh of relief.

She was almost certain now that there was something off about Kaylee. If I let her know that I’m trained in medicine too soon, I’ll be revealing my hand prematurely.

Seeing that Kaylee wasn’t dubious, Elisa began to answer the former’s questions one by one.

However, Kaylee’s most pressing issue probably wasn’t her first few questions. After all, she could have asked Maria, who might have even more comprehensive knowledge about these. Yet, Kaylee chose not to do so, preferring to take a more roundabout approach.

[Chapter 2037 Testing The Waters](#)

All the previous questions were not what Kaylee wanted to ask. What she really wanted to know was the last question, and Elisa understood this in her heart.

After getting the answers to the previous questions, Kaylee nodded, looking enlightened. She took Elisa's hand and affectionately gave it a swing.

If one didn't know better, they might even mistake the two for biological sisters.

"You truly know a lot, Elisa, and you're also so attentive, able to remember all these details. No wonder Madam Smith always tells me to learn more from you

Elisa was also smiling, though her smile seemed somewhat forced.

Kaylee's words might sound like a compliment for Elisa, but in reality, she was subtly implying that she shared a great relationship with Julia.

Even though Elisa knew something was amiss, she still couldn't help but feel a bit upset.

Noticing the slightly unnatural expression on Elisa's face, Kaylee knew that her goal had been achieved. She then asked, "Didn't you say yesterday that you were going to call Madam Smith? How did it go? Did she say anything?"

Elisa's countenance turned even more grim, and her intent gaze on Kaylee was filled with undisguised scrutiny.

Is Kaylee actually asking, showing off. or... testing the waters?

Kaylee blinked, looking naive and innocent. This somehow made it impossible for Elisa to continue probing.

After some contemplation, the latter casually brushed it off.

"Grandma simply said to have a good time and rest well here."

Kaylee nodded, smiling innocently. "I thought she would ask you to take better care of me. When I left, she had said if there was anything I didn't understand or couldn't do, I must ask." While speaking, she lowered her head a little shyly, seemingly bashful. "That's why I've been sharing all my problems with you. I hope you don't find me annoying, Elisa."

Elisa was stunned.

In the afternoon, Rachel came to knock on the door.

The moment Elisa opened the door, she saw Rachel and the man standing straight behind the latter, Vincent.

Woah. Have pigs learned to fly? These two are actually standing together without getting into a fight!

"You two..." Elisa studied them teasingly, her gaze bouncing back and forth between the duo.

Rachel started, "All right, stop looking so surprised. We just happened to leave at the same time, so we're walking together. Come on, let's go. Bella has already told me that we're going for a private hot spring bath before heading back."

Upon hearing this, Elisa was just about to leave with them when Kaylee's voice rang out again.

"Wait for me, Elisa. I'll go with you guys-"

Kaylee's voice gradually sounded closer. After walking over, she hooked her arm through Elisa's in an exceedingly natural manner.

The latter's body stiffened for a moment, whereas Rachel's eyes widened in shock.

Rachel kept shooting glances at Elisa with her eyes, silently questioning what was going on.

How is it that they became inseparable just in one breakfast that I missed? Do bonds develop this quickly?

Elisa lightly shook her head at Rachel, silently mouthing that they would talk about it later.

At that, Rachel could only let things be for now.

Nevertheless, she didn't just leave like that. On the contrary, she naturally took Elisa's other arm and, in a more intimate gesture, rested her head on Elisa's shoulder.

Clearly, she wanted to behave more affectionately than Kaylee.

This inexplicable possessiveness left Elisa nonplussed, and she had no choice but to haul them downstairs with one on each arm.

As for Vincent trailing behind, he was filled with great envy.

Why don't I get the same treatment?

When they reached the ground floor, Mike was also there, which was quite a surprise for Elisa.

### [Chapter 2038 Drowning](#)

After all, Mike wasn't present at breakfast, so Elisa assumed he had left early.

It was only then that she realized he hadn't left and was even standing behind Bella, his gaze on the woman far from platonic.

Perhaps due to the intense gazes of Elisa and Rachel, Mike gave them a faint smile and nodded as a greeting.

Elisa also politely nodded at him in acknowledgement.

Soon after, his gaze, once again, fixated on Bella, and the duo occasionally whispered to each other as if not one else was around, making them resemble a young couple in love.

Seeing Elisa's gaze fixed on others, Gareth cleared his throat twice, likely feeling displeased. She gave him a puzzled glance, to which he calmly explained, "Sorry, I think I might have caught a cold."

At this moment, Rachel couldn't help but start a conversation with Elisa.

"In my opinion, this Mike fella seems to be interested in Bella."

Elisa remained silent, but a smile tugged at her lips.

Evidently, she thought the same way.

The reason why she and Rachel became friends was closely related to their similar views on people and things.

Regardless, now was not the time to talk about this matter.

Bella was not that young, to begin with. If it hadn't been for Elisa's interruption the other time, Bella probably would've been married off long ago and might even have kids who could walk by now.

Hence, it wouldn't be a bad thing if Bella could get together with someone she liked and was compatible with, and the other party also treated her well and was competent.

Right now, this wasn't the most important thing, though. The most crucial matter was to inform Bella about Julia.

When Elisa originally discussed this matter with Rachel, she didn't believe in all that nonsense about the supernatural either.

Now, however, disbelief was no longer an option.

After briefly greeting each other, the group went to separate changing rooms to change their clothes.

Elisa was the first one to come out.

This private hot spring could only be accessed by VIPs and was not just a place that one with money could enter. As such, its layout was quite impressive.

It was comparable to the public one they had soaked in before, even superior in terms of standards.

Previously, they had soaked in water heated by the hotel, but the private hot spring utilized water that naturally flowed through an extinct volcano.

Generally, people didn't wear swimsuits when soaking in a private bath, but everyone unanimously chose to wear them this time.

Despite this, men and women still soaked separately.

Elisa came out and scanned around but didn't find anyone, so she went into the women's hot spring by herself.

Unsure if it were just in her head, she thought that soaking here indeed felt more comfortable.

That kind of comfort came from within and radiated outward, making all feelings of fatigue disappear in a trice.

This was a hot spring filled with all sorts of flower petals and even some precious spices mixed in.

To be honest, Elisa felt a bit like a vegetable being cooked in a humongous pot.

As she swam, she found herself near the artificial hill, which was also the deep-water area.

The depth here was only about one point eight meters, and Elisa was quite a good swimmer, so she didn't bring a swimming ring.

The private hot spring was located on the top floor, ensuring an excellent level of privacy.

At the edge, one could overlook the scenery from a high vantage point.

Little did Elisa know, as she was admiring the scenery, a pair of eyes was intently fixed on her.

Elisa had been lingering near the edge for a while. Right as she was ready to leave, she abruptly felt a tugging sensation under her feet.

At first, she thought it was merely her imagination, but gradually, this feeling became more and more.

Before she had a chance to react, she was suddenly pulled into

#### [Chapter 2039 In A Vegetative State](#)

Water... A boundless expanse of water...

Elisa felt like she was trapped in a water tank, with water everywhere she looked and touched.

She yearned to find a way out but couldn't.

And just like that, gradually, she ran out of oxygen.

Elisa clutched her throat, desperately trying to breathe, but all she could feel was a wave of breathlessness.

She could even sense the moment when her breath was cut off.

Huff!

Without warning. Elisa opened her eyes, accompanied by a harsh, panting gasp. It was as if she had been swept into the sea by a wave and then thrown back onto the shore, narrowly escaping death and finally able to breathe the fresh air again.

"You're awake!"

By her ear, a familiar voice resonated, causing her slightly blurry vision to finally start to focus.

An unfamiliar ceiling loomed above, the pungent smell of disinfectant filled her nostrils, and beside her... was a visibly anxious Bella.

"I..." Elisa tried to speak, but her throat felt as if it didn't belong to her. As soon as she opened her mouth, her voice sounded hoarse, and every word she uttered caused her pain.

Bella quickly stopped Elisa. "Don't speak just yet. You've just gone through a lot; the doctor said you inhaled a lot of water. We... We nearly thought you might never wake up again."

As she spoke, she choked up for a moment.

Elisa's gaze shifted toward the water nearby. Understanding the former's intention, Bella quickly helped Elisa up, allowing the former to lean against the headboard.

Then, she brought a glass of warm water to Elisa.

Having not eaten for a long time, Elisa found her hands trembling slightly as she held the glass.

Her throat finally felt better after she managed to finish a glass of water. Only then did she turn her attention to Bella, whose eyes were pretty red and swollen, filled with bloodshot veins.”

Needless to say, Bella must’ve been crying and hadn’t had a good rest in ages to end up looking like this.

“What... What’s wrong? Did something happen?”

Bella’s eyelashes fluttered lightly, her eyes welling up with tears before she finally revealed, “That day, at Mount Lusetonas, we didn’t notice anyone when we came out. It was only when we reached the artificial hill that we heard Rachel calling for help...”

Upon hearing this, Elisa immediately felt an ominous premonition in her heart.

She was aware that she had drowned, and it seemed she had been rescued. She simply didn’t know who had saved her. But now, it appeared that perhaps Rachel was the first to discover Elisa.

But why does Bella look so distressed? Isn’t this a good thing? Unless...

Elisa looked at Bella, signaling the latter to go on.

Bella wiped her tears. “I’m not a good swimmer, so I cried out for help. It was Gareth and Mr. Shane who rushed over and managed to save both of you, one after the other. The doctor said you both inhaled too much water while struggling. Rachel even accidentally hit the wall of the hot spring. The doctor said... The doctor said...”

She tried to repeat what the doctor had said several times but couldn’t articulate a complete sentence.

Elisa clutched Bella’s arm, giving it a shake. “Tell me.”

Unable to hold back her tears anymore, the latter choked out, “The doctor said that Rachel might end up in a vegetative state from now on.”

All Elisa could feel was her world on the brink of collapsing.

How could this happen? Why on Earth did this happen!

She was momentarily struck dumb. Once she snapped back to reality, she proceeded to lift the blanket, wanting to check on Rachel.

At the side, Bella persuaded, “The doctor also said that it’s already a miracle you woke up. You should really take good care of your own health first.”

#### [Chapter 2040 Emotions](#)

Perhaps Elisa still could not believe it or dared not believe it as she started struggling, wanting to go to Rachel.

Bella could not stop her, nor did she dare to use force. She was so anxious that she was running around in circles.

It was at this moment that Gareth; carrying a fruit basket, walked over. When he saw Elisa trying to get out of bed, he quickly rushed over and guided her back onto the hospital bed with one hand.

Elisa was still struggling to get off the bed. Meanwhile, Bella breathed a sigh of relief when she saw Gareth enter.

Gareth furrowed his brows and stared at Elisa. "Do you have a death wish?" This was probably the first time he had ever spoken to her in such a harsh tone.

Elisa was momentarily stunned, looking at Gareth with no hint of emotion in her eyes.

Gareth sighed, his voice softening as he said, "I know you're anxious right now, but Rachel is already in the intensive care unit. I've found the best doctor, so trust me, okay?"

He took Elisa's hand and kissed it after noticing her lack of response. "Can you leave everything to me? Your most important task now is to follow the doctor's orders and focus on resting and recovering."

Upon seeing the scene, Bella tactfully excused herself from the ward, not forgetting to close the door behind her.

Elisa's eyes were filled with tears. She would only release her emotions when no one was around. She held Gareth tightly as if she wanted to meld him into her very bones and blood.

Even though Elisa had always been fearless, she was afraid of people around her leaving this world, especially Rachel.

What scares me more is that Rachel might die because of me!

She would never be able to overcome this trauma, nor flee from this curse, for the rest of her life.

She would live a lifetime of guilt, trapped forever, yet not daring to leave this world. After all, Rachel had risked her life to save her, so she had no right to dispose of it at will.

Elisa's sudden closeness left Gareth somewhat at a loss. Perhaps neither of them had realized that after going through so much together, they had long since regarded each other as their most trusted companions.

In their most helpless times, the other person became the only thing they could rely on.

It was rare for Elisa to let her guard down like that. Most of the time, she had always appeared invincible. Perhaps this was her way of protecting her inner vulnerability.

Gareth gently patted Elisa's back, his actions not very smooth. Instead, they were somewhat comical, like he was trying to soothe a child.

"Don't be upset. Rachel surely wouldn't want to see you like this. Once you've calmed down a little, I'll go with you to see her, okay?"

As Elisa nodded vigorously, Gareth could feel a slight pain where her chin jabbed into his shoulder.

However, with the lovely girl in his arms, he could not bear to let go.

Perhaps this is what it feels like to experience both pain and pleasure.

Elisa quickly processed her emotions and was soon back to normal.



While wiping the tears from her face, she apologized to Gareth in a very polite manner, "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to. Do you want to change your clothes..."

Gareth quirked his eyebrows. "What's the matter? Did you get snot on it?"

Elisa chuckled through her tears and went along with his words, saying, "Yeah, your shoulder is all covered with my snot."

Gareth chuckled along, gently ruffling her hair. "It's okay. I don't mind you," he said earnestly.

Elisa was momentarily stunned by his seriousness, taking a while to regain her composure.