

## **Our Billion 171**

Chapter 171-“The world is full of mysteries,” replied Miles as he rolled around the bed.

He looked forward to switching back their identities, when he could then reunite with his mother at long last.

Miles had missed her terribly. Ollie’s eyebrows knitted to a frown. “No matter how coincidently matters can get, there will never be two people who look the same.” “Although I’m very reluctant to acknowledge my old man, he is the nephew of Big Demon. They both look alike, and we’re their sons respectively. Looking at it this way, it’s not surprising that we both look alike as well,” said Miles. He paused a while and abruptly raised his eyebrows and said to Ollie with a hint of warning, “Don’t try to change the subject, or I won’t let you have Mommy again.” Ollie pouted. True, he did try to divert Miles’attention so he could continue to stay by Aunt Catelyn’s side.

Even so... The questions he asked were also genuine.

“I did some research. There’s only one possibility on why we both look the exact same,” said Ollie.

Miles raised his small ears, and his jet-black pupils quivered. “And what’s that?” he asked. “Identical twins,” replied Ollie. “Stop mocking me,” grumbled Miles, not understanding what the word meant. Ollie had also asked the teacher to understand the meaning of the word.

Clearing his throat, he explained, “To be precise, it’s a pair of twins born from the same parents, from the same fertilized egg, receiving the exact same chromosomes and genetic material.” Miles was listening, but he would not admit that he did not understand anything Ollie just said.

However, there were some words that got his attention. “Same parents? Twins?” “I asked the teacher,” said Ollie, “and she said that this is the only way.” “Don’t try to take advantage and keep Mommy to yourself!” grumbled Miles. “My family has only one son, and Big Demon will not be my father!” Judging from the current situation, both of their parents were indeed different. Ollie said, “If you want to know the truth, there is only one way, and that is,” “Can you please finish your sentences in one go?” muttered Miles with a pout.

“I’ll wait for you. Then, let’s do a DNA test!” said Ollie ambitiously.

Miles, too, was eager to find out the truth of the matter.

“Deal. Wait for me, then. I’ll let you know when I’m able.” Catelyn had been restless ever since she returned from the Mason Residence at Stadler Hill, and Jamie’s words had haunted her ever since. “I’ll be taking custody of Miles!” Catelyn recalled him saying this. The thing that Catelyn feared the most was about to happen. Jamie was taking Miles away from her!

“Catelyn? Catelyn? Are you listening?” George Graham called Catelyn over the phone from Ocean Path Residence, his continuous questions suddenly snapping Catelyn out of her wandering thoughts. Sitting at the desk, she rubbed her swollen forehead and said, “Yes, Mister Graham, I’m listening! Please continue...” “There is something wrong with the basement’s renovation in Bubsville Villa, but I’m on a business trip now. Can you go over and have a look?” said George softly over the phone. Catelyn had mentioned that she was busy recently, and George did not want to disturb her if it was not necessary.

However, deep inside, he wanted to chat with Catelyn, even if only for a while.

“Alright, then,” answered Catelyn. “I’ll go over in a while.” “Be safe on your way,” reminded George.

Chapter 172-Warmth spread throughout Catelyn’s heart when she heard George’s words. “Thank you,” she said, “and don’t worry about it. I’ll go to the construction site later, and I’ll update you about specific issues. Is that alright?” “Of course, as long as you don’t mind the trouble,” replied George. Their phone call ended soon after, but the moment it did, Catelyn’s mind was clouded with her fight with Jamie.

He and his mother had piled up all the blame for Queenie’s defilement on her.

Moreover, they did not really want custody of Miles-they just wanted to make her suffer! Lori had even said that she would torture Miles every day after she got custody of him. She would make him kneel in front of everyone from the Mason family to atone for his sins. Catelyn could not sit still. Miles was her son, her flesh and blood. She would not allow him to be taken away and bullied like this!

Lawyer... Speaking of which, finding a reliable lawyer to fight this lawsuit would be the most important thing to do. With that, Catelyn searched the internet for relevant lawyers. One of the lawyers named Benjamin Anderson got Catelyn’s attention.

Apparently, he was a professional at civil litigation. It was also stated that he had won a hundred cases, not losing a single one. His fee, however, was a whopping six-figure amount for hire! Catelyn clenched her fists tightly.

She had never been decisive...but she was determined that no matter what, she had to protect Miles.

However, she was disqualified from the Chandier Jewelry Design Competition.

She could have won handsome prize money from it, too. If the situation worsened and Jamie decided to start a lawsuit with Catelyn within these few days, she would need the money urgently. Even if she proved that she did not plagiarize, it would not be enough to save herself.

What could she do?

Could she approach Cedrick for financial aid?

That afternoon, at George's request, Catelyn went to Bubsville Villa to supervise the construction.

Coincidentally, Albert had given Catelyn a new order, saying that there was a flaw in the design of the garden and it did not meet the requirements, so Catelyn had to tear it down and redo it.

As Catelyn finished modifying the design drawings, she went over to the Mason Group's headquarters.

Mason Group and Chandier Jewelry were in the same business district in town.

The towering structure of the company buildings cut through the clouds majestically, giving the public eye an impression of a high level of prosperity and power.

There were even two knight statues in the waiting room on the first floor. It was said that they were antiques specially brought back by Old Master Mason, which had the effect of bringing in good wealth to the company. Catelyn walked up to the front desk and asked politely, "Hello, I'm Catelyn, the

designer in charge of Bubsville Villa. I'm looking for Master Cedrick." The receptionist gave Catelyn an entire once-over, looking alert and vigilant. "Hello, Miss Clark. Do you have an appointment?" Everyone in the company knew that Cedrick had been in a very bad mood recently. Salary bonuses of several departments have been deducted, so the receptionist could not just let any strangers up to see him.

With a smile, Catelyn explained lightly, "There is no appointment, but Master Cedrick has asked me to finish the design and send it to him immediately." The receptionist snorted, seemingly losing her respect for Catelyn. "Give me the design, and I'll have the secretary's office to pass it on for you." Catelyn hesitated, not moving from her spot. The receptionist glanced at her several times. "Any other questions?" "Can't I give it to him myself?" Catelyn asked.

"Miss, I can't let you go up without an appointment." With that said, the receptionist even called the security guard and instructed him to keep an eye on Catelyn.

Cedrick had accompanied Maia to a business event, and countless ladies had the opportunity to meet him there. Ever since then, there have been many women who pretended to have appointments with Cedrick, desperately doing anything they can to get close to him.

Chapter 173-The previous receptionist had the thought of pleasing certain celebrities and brought them to the CEO's office, and that receptionist ended up getting fired for it. Just as Catelyn was thinking about giving Cedrick a call, she saw Charles walking in through the door. Seeing Catelyn being stared at by the security guard, Charles quickly stepped forward and asked the receptionist, "What's going on?" The receptionist suddenly became very respectful with Charles around.

"Mister Peterson, Miss Clark wanted to see Master Cedrick, but she didn't have an appointment set up with him." "I know this lady. I'll take her up," said Charles.

He was pleasantly surprised to see Catelyn. Was she not the reason Cedrick was in a bad mood recently?

Since she was here, how could he not bring her up to him? Charles smiled and greeted Catelyn, "Long time no see, Miss Clark" Catelyn remembered seeing Charles at the Barricade Club, where she hid under the table while he played cards with Cedrick. Catelyn had a look of embarrassment when she recalled this and gave Charles a small nod of greeting awkwardly. The receptionist hesitated a little. "But Master Cedrick..." "I'll bear all the responsibilities for her," said Charles as he waved his hand indifferently and led Catelyn to the top floor. Charles bet that Cedrick would not blame him when he saw him with Catelyn; he would be very happy instead.

The receptionist did not dare to argue with Charles. After all, he was Cedrick's confidant.

Catelyn followed Charles to the CEO's office, and during the little trip, she had made up her mind that she had to be nice to Cedrick.

If she could get him to agree to prepay her salary in advance, that would be the best scenario. However, Cedrick was not in the office. He was having a meeting with a business partner in the conference room.

Catelyn was not in a hurry and waited patiently for him. In the meantime, she took out a pencil and studied the design of the villa garden, cracking her head to see if it could be improved any further.

As Cedrick finished his meeting and returned to the office, he saw Catelyn lying by the side of the coffee table in the corner. A design draft was spread out on the coffee table, and she was studying it intently.

She wore light blue business attire. The cuffs were pulled up to her elbows, revealing her small forearm like a tender root.

Catelyn's long hair loosely cascaded around her form as she quietly stared at the draft, her frowning brows stretched out as she seemed immensely focused. The warm afternoon light shimmered on her face, making her look particularly intellectual and charming. Catelyn was anxious at first, knowing that she was here for Cedrick. However, she suddenly felt more relieved for some reason.

As Catelyn finished writing her last comment on the draft, she felt someone staring at her. She turned her head and saw Cedrick. "Master Cedrick?" She quickly stood up. Cedrick returned to his usual aloof expression. He strode into the office, his feet clad with his shiny leather shoes, and walked toward the sofa.

He sat down gracefully, taking off his suit jacket. The dark belt buckle he wore was very eye-catching. "I've heard from Charles that your garden design drawings have been revised?" asked Cedrick. "Yes, please take a look," said Catelyn as she handed him the drawings while explaining the revisions. "It's all changed according to your requirements, mainly in these two places..." Cedrick agreed area here. Connect it with the water conservancy system so it can water the nearby flowers and plants as well."

Chapter 174-“Alright, I’ll fix it right away,” said Catelyn. She erased the original design section, re-outlined the whole draft, and made some adjustments according to the proportions.

It was difficult to do her work while lying on her stomach on the ground, so she simply squatted beside the coffee table.

Cedrick just glanced at her indifferently, but he suddenly felt a burning sensation inside as if a flame within him had just started.

He leaned back and put one hand on the sofa cushion, averting his gaze from her. He then took a cigarette out from his pocket and lit it. The cigarette butt glowed and dimmed as he took a puff. While the smoke lingered around the room, it did not seem to bother Catelyn. Once she was in her serious working mood, nothing around could distract her.

After what seemed to be a long time, Catelyn finished her drawing and handed it to Cedrick hurriedly, not wanting to waste his precious time. Her pencil unexpectedly fell on the ground, and she bent down to pick it up. At the same time, Cedrick had also leaned over to pick up the pencil. Both of them got tangled up in the process... A brooch pinned to Catelyn’s chest got stuck on Cedrick’s belt buckle! “Sorry! I’ll untie it right away...” Catelyn muttered. She was forced to stay close to his lower abdomen.

How embarrassing! Cedrick’s breathing slowly grew heavier as he glanced at her, his eyes darkening. Catelyn did not dare make him angry, so she hurriedly tried to untie the brooch. However, the more anxious she became, the more difficult it was for her to untie it. Her knuckles trembled while doing so. After a long while, the brooch and belt buckle were still stuck, and they just would not budge. Why was this so hard to untie? This would probably be the last time Catelyn wore this brooch! Looking weakly at Cedrick, Catelyn helplessly went and tried to untie it from his belt buckle instead.

Catelyn was wearing thin clothes as it was summer. As her brooch got stuck, it caused her neckline to be pulled out in a large arc by the belt buckle.

“Not done yet?” Cedrick’s tone was somber, and Catelyn could not tell whether he was happy or angry.

“Just a little more...” Catelyn lowered her head and continued to pick the belt buckle, feeling like she was an utter fool in this situation. The veins on Cedrick’s forehead popped a little. He grabbed her little hand, and with his index finger lightly on the side of the belt clip, he pressed it down hard. With the

sound of a click the belt buckle came loose immediately. Finally! Catelyn saw Cedrick with a weird smile on his face as he pulled his belt out. She then hurriedly untied the brooch from it.

“You can just tell me that you like my belt, I can give it to you,” said Cedrick.

Catelyn held Cedrick’s belt in a daze, and she could feel his body temperature from the leather. Her face grew pink in embarrassment as she stuttered, “I... I really didn’t mean it! It was an accident...” “The design draft you did was good.

Leave it here and make a copy for yourself,” interrupted Cedrick, not giving her the opportunity to explain.

He got up and went to his desk, leaving Catelyn speechless. The buckle of the belt seemed to be made of diamonds.

It was a very precious item! Why would he give this to her?

Catelyn insisted on returning the belt to Cedrick.

Suddenly, Cedrick stopped and turned around. This caught Catelyn by surprise, and she accidentally bumped into his back.

The surrounding atmosphere instantly turned cold. Covering the tip of her nose that was hurt by the bump, Catelyn took a step back in a panic, blushing in embarrassment. “I’m sorry, I’m not quite myself today. I hope you don’t mind.” Cedrick was, instead, amused at this, admiring her blushing cheeks. Regardless, his aloof expression never left his face. “Just leave your stuff here. You may leave.” Catelyn just stood there hesitatingly, feeling tangled at the moment.

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Chapter 175-“What’s the matter?” Cedrick asked when he saw Catelyn wavering.

Catelyn took a deep breath and said, "Can I have my salary in advance?" She was not the kind of person who wanted to trouble others, especially Cedrick.

However, she had no choice in this matter.

Feeling afraid that he would disagree, she earnestly added, "Don't worry! Even if I get my salary in advance, I'll still work hard to make sure my work is done in a satisfying manner." "Give me a reason for this," said Cedrick.

"Personal...reasons," muttered Catelyn embarrassingly. "Can we not talk about it?" Cedrick raised his eyebrows lightly. "If you don't tell me, how can I be sure if I should give you your salary in advance?" "I..." Catelyn felt flustered at this.

If Cedrick does not agree to this, how would she fight her lawsuit against Jamie?

Even if she wanted to talk about it, where should she start?

There was a brief silence between the two, and suddenly, the door was pushed open as Charles walked in.

"Master Cedrick, Mister Lewis had signed the contract, and he'd like to invite you to dinner. He's still waiting in the conference room," reported Charles, not realizing the situation between Cedrick and Catelyn.

After speaking, he stared at Cedrick's white shirt, and his face was overtaken by immediate surprise.

Cedrick still had the same masculine, handsome face that remained unchanged for many years to come. However, there was a very light red mark on the neckline of his shirt, just like a woman's lipstick!

Taking a closer look at Catelyn, her cheeks were slightly red, and her hair was a little out of place than before. The most noticeable thing was that her shirt was in a mess, as if it had been crumpled severely.



Charles' eyes widened as if he just had an epiphany. Did he just intrude while they were up to something?

Thinking of this, Charles pretended to be cheerfully oblivious and waved his hand to the two of them. "I'll take care of Mister Lewis, Master Cedrick. Please, carry on, you two." Charles was about to leave, but Cedrick suddenly called out to him, "No. Mister Lewis has just signed the contract, and I have to be respectful about it. I'll go and see him in person." Catelyn felt deflated when she heard that Cedrick was going to accompany Lewis to dinner.

Suddenly, Cedrick said to her, "You'll come along, too." What?

"N-No, I have to pick up Miles from school later..." stammered Catelyn.

"Didn't you just say you wanted to talk to me about your salary?" said Cedrick meaningfully, sternly. Charles also quickly persuaded her, "That's right, Miss Clark I'm sure Mister Lewis won't mind you coming along." Despite the assurance, Catelyn still felt uneasy. At this moment, out of the corner of her eyes, she caught a glimpse of the lipstick mark on Cedrick's collar.

Since when did that happen? If Cedrick walked out like this, it would cause a big misunderstanding! Catelyn followed behind him. As they reached the corner of the corridor, she quietly approached Cedrick and tugged the hem of his clothes.

"There's something dirty on your left collar." Cedrick saw Catelyn's cautious look and reached out to touch his neckline, but he did not feel anything. "It's a lipstick mark You can't feel it..." Catelyn muttered as she pointed to his left collar. Cedrick pursed his lips lightly, deliberately teasing her, "A lipstick mark?"  
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Chapter 176-"It must've happened by accident. Hurry and wipe it off! It'll be troublesome if someone sees it later! If you don't believe me, I can give you a mirror so you'll see it," said Catelyn as she hurriedly took out a pocket mirror from her bag. Cedrick stopped her hand while she was rummaging through her bag.

He lowered his voice and glanced at her with a wicked smile. "Since you got it on me, you should be the one erasing it." They were in the corridor. Although Charles Peterson and this Mister Lewis had not arrived yet, Catelyn looked around subconsciously and muttered, "You're too tall, it's inconvenient!"

Suddenly, Cedrick lowered his tall frame slightly. His apple could be seen bobbing. "There you go," said Cedrick. Catelyn was startled.

"You..." "Don't you want to wipe it?" asked Cedrick. Seeing her doe-like clear eyes and fluttering eyelashes, he pretended to be indifferent. "Never mind, forget it..." As he spoke, he stood back up straight as if he did not care. The flustered Catelyn, however, hurriedly grabbed his neck and pulled him back down.

"No, wait, I'll wipe it!" Due to her excessive force, the distance between the two was instantly closed.

They were so close that Catelyn could almost see the flawless pores on his face.

Cedrick tried to conceal his chuckle. "Wipe it clean," he told her.

Catelyn swallowed her pride and quickly reached out to wipe the stain on his neckline. The lipstick mark on the white shirt could not be easily rid of, but she managed to make the red stain lighter, making it seem less like an actual lipstick mark. At this moment, Mister Lewis, a man in his late fifties, had just come out of the conference room.

At a glance, he saw Cedrick and Catelyn being very close to each other. Their gestures were intimate, so much so that he was stunned.

Ah, the taste of youth! Alas, he was an old man, unable to keep up anymore.

Mister Lewis had met Maia before, but it was many years ago. Seeing Cedrick and Catelyn being this close, in addition to Catelyn looking so similar to Maia, it was natural that he almost mistook her for Maia.

Catelyn caught a glimpse of Mister Lewis coming out from the corner of her eyes.

She hurriedly released Cedrick and said, "I'm done. You can go for your dinner now." "Together," said Cedrick. He then pulled Catelyn into the elevator with him, while Mister Lewis followed closely.

Catelyn bit the bullet and greeted him.

“Hello, Miss Clark” Mister Lewis smiled back at her. This lady was none other than the missy of the Clark family, Cedrick’s fiancée!

Catelyn grinned, but she was burning with anger within. She had told Cedrick she did not want to come, yet he insisted that she came!

It did not seem to be a good time to talk about her request for an advanced salary, and she even had to keep an eye on Mister Lewis. Catelyn glanced at Cedrick hatefully. The more she thought about it, the more depressed she became.

Cedrick took a step sideways and looked back at Catelyn’s gaze. Catelyn hurriedly looked away, her heart beating like a drum.

Cedrick’s eyes seemed to smile ever so faintly.

Cedrick was already very good-looking, but with that smile, his stern aura was immediately softened, despite his tough, masculine demeanor at the same time.

Mister Lewis felt like he was witnessing a subtle interaction between lovers.

Chapter 177-How sweet!

Rumor had it that Cedrick was not close to any women, and he only cared for one woman from the Clark family. It seemed that the rumors were true.

Mister Lewis had reserved a private dining room at Majestique, a famous restaurant in Sapphire City located near an ecological artificial lake. The flower garden outside was filled with precious flowers and plants, and the natural fragrance permeated the air.

The real Maia, in fact, was also dining at Majestique at the same time, accompanied by another woman.

The woman was in her early forties. She had an abnormally pale face, and she was dressed stylishly. She had a gentle yet elegant smile on her face.

This woman was none other than Janice Coleman, Cedrick's aunt. She had raised him ever since his mother had passed away at a very young age.

Maia had specially invited her out for dinner.

Cedrick had not been contacting Janice for a while. Instead, it was Richard Kingsley who was sending all sorts of different text messages to her every once in a while.

As Maia thought of this, her face started looking serious, and her eyes became red-rimmed and glossed with tears.

There was a thin layer of tears in her clear eyes, and it was easy for anyone to pity her. "What's wrong? Why are you crying?" asked Janice, concerned, as she took a napkin and carefully wiped Maia's tears.

Maia immediately put her arms around Janice and leaned her head on her shoulder. "I'm sorry, Aunt Janice. I may...not be able to be by your side anymore in the future." Janice saw Maia crying and patted the back of her hand anxiously. "There, there.

What happened? Tell me." Maia wiped away her tears and sniffed, saying, "It's Cedrick. He...said he wanted to call off our wedding." "Call off the wedding?" frowned Janice when she heard Maia. "He's not one to not mention such a tremendous decision like this to me. Are you sure about this? You both have been engaged for a few years, and your relationship with him has always been very stable." "I wish I was wrong, but unfortunately, everything is true," cried Maia, tears welling up in her eyes again. "There is something I must tell you..." Janice frowned and motioned her to continue.

"If Cedrick broke up with me for the sake of other women, I'd accept it. Anyone... but Catelyn," said Maia as she bit her lower lip.

"Catelyn?" Janice asked curiously, "Who is she? What happened between you two?" "Catelyn is one of the Clark family's branch relatives. Four years ago, her father was a sensational murderer, and at that

time, her family went bankrupt. To save herself, she seduced Jamie Mason and even birthed a child out of wedlock!" Maia did not actually know what happened between Catelyn and Jamie, of course, but at this moment, it was better if she talked more things about Catelyn negatively.

Moreover, everything she said was not entirely a lie.

Janice's face turned ugly, and she could not contain her anger. "You're saying that Ceddy was brainwashed by such an evil woman and wanted to call off your marriage in the process?" Maia choked with grievances, her face full of sorrow.

"Ridiculous!" exclaimed Janice angrily.

Janice had been in the wealthy circle for many years, and she had heard a lot of pickled things, but she never thought that her nephew would also be involved in such a peachy scandal.

"The audacity of this woman! You and Ceddy clearly have a marriage contract, yet she clung to him so deliberately! I'll never allow such a person to be married to Ceddy!"

Chapter 178-Janice took Maia's hand and said, "Don't worry, I will fight for you. Ceddy has been with you for four years, and I will not let him get away with this!" "Sob, Aunt Janice..." Maia choked and cried even more miserably, her tears falling down her cheeks like broken beads. She finally could not bear it anymore and ran to the washroom.

Janice stared at Maia's back as she left the table with her fist clenched. She then coughed heavily, her originally pale complexion became a little rosier, and there was a faint trace of worry in her expression.

Cedrick was a very decisive person. However, he was not very intuitive when it came to emotions.

Shortly after, Maia was looking in the mirror in the washroom with a smug face, unlike her sad and pathetic self just moments ago at the table with Janice.

She knew that Cedrick was particularly concerned about this Aunt Janice of his.

Since he was a kid, he only listened to her, not even Grandpa Mason As long as Janice strongly opposes their divorce, Catelyn shall not succeed in taking him away from her!

Ding!

Maia's phone suddenly buzzed and vibrated, and there was a new notification coming in She casually ruffled her long hair and glanced at the screen of her phone. No surprise, it was another greeting from Richard.

"Mai, it's been almost forever! When are you available? I want to see you." "I heard from your circle of friends that you wanted roses. I'll order 999 red roses and have them delivered to your house tonight, okay?" "Cedrick is not worthy of you anymore. Forget about him..." Maia usually enjoyed the feeling of being chased by other men. However, this time, she was rather annoyed with Richard.

She muted the phone and ignored him. As she came out of the washroom, she heard a few waitresses talking.

"Have you heard? Master Cedrick brought his fiancée here for dinner in the DeLuxe Private Dining Room!" "Ah? Really? Where did you hear that from?" "Mr.

Lewis had specially ordered some very high-end gourmet dishes. I went in there and served them drinks just now, and my, Ms. Clark is so beautiful! She's a perfect match with Master Cedrick!" "It's that true?" "Of course! Master Cedrick is also not as cold as we thought. He was so gentle with Ms. Clark Also, there was a small red mark on the collar of his shirt, and I'm guessing it's a lipstick stain "Wow, I envy them so much..." The waitresses all looked very excited. How they wished the woman sitting beside Cedrick was them.

Maia fidgeted with her nails as she heard them, scrubbing the crystal nail polish so aggressively she almost broke them!

Cedrick was here, having a meal with his fiancée.

Maia was his legitimate fiancée! Which woman would dare take her place?!

The DeLuxe Private Dining Room was about the size of 60 square meters. There was a huge round dining table in the middle of the room, covered with a beige tablecloth and presented with various luxurious dishes on it.

The crystal chandelier hanging overhead shone a dim ray of exotic light on the food, making them appear to be even more appetizing.

Chapter 179-Mr. Lewis tried his best to entertain Cedrick. He toasted and chatted with him to lift the atmosphere as much as he could. He was not like a chairman but rather a member of the public relations team... Most of their topics were about official matters and occasionally changed to a few unimportant gossip.

Catelyn pretended to be transparent. She only concentrated on eating with her head hanging low.

Undeniably, the dishes were made excellently. The portion of each dish was not much, but it was extraordinarily delicious, and the aroma would linger for a long time.

"Ms. Clark, I don't know if you still remember me? It's my honor to meet you again today. Come, I'll give you a toast." After indulging in the dishes for a while, Mr. Lewis suddenly raised the glass to Catelyn.

Catelyn was taking The Majestique's featured mushroom soup. Upon hearing Mr.

Lewis's words, she wiped the soup from the corner of her mouth and smiled. She picked up a wine glass to return the toast.

She felt strange. Why did she not remember meeting Mr. Lewis before?

"Mr. Lewis, you're being too polite. I should be giving you a toast." "Don't be too humble. I'll do it first as a sign of respect," Mr. Lewis said. He emptied the liquor in the wine glass. Although he was old, he was quite a drinker, Catelyn clenched the hand holding the wine glass. "Mr. Lewis, you're so forthright.

Then I'll stop refraining myself as well..." She picked up the wine glass, and the pungent smell of alcohol gushed to her face. She was just about to bring the wine glass to the corner of her mouth when

suddenly a pair of slender fingers appeared in front of her. The fingers snatched the glass from her hand with ease... Under Catelyn's surprised eyes, Cedrick set the wine glass down and poured her a cup of hot tea.

"She's not good at drinking, so I'll drink this glass for her." The slender fingers held the ceramic teacup up.

Catelyn glanced at the teacup. The light-colored tea was emitting white steam, blurring the air, making his joints less visible.

"Pardon me for not being considerate enough." Seeing Cedrick's protectiveness over the lady, Mr. Lewis scratched his round head regretfully. He flashed a guilty smile and said, "I just want to make a toast, but I seem to forget that Ms. Clark is not a very good drinker..." Catelyn whispered, "Actually, I can drink as well if it's only one glass." "Have you forgotten how you behaved when you were drunk last time?" Cedrick rebutted Catelyn's words half-heartedly.

Catelyn was speechless and rolled her eyes.

'That time, I was coerced by Jamie to take white wine and red wine at the same time. Of course, it's easy to get drunk that way!' she thought to herself.

Swoosh!

At this moment, without warning, the door of the private room was suddenly pushed open.

A slender, tall figure and a young servant barged in. "Miss, you really can't go in..." The servant was still trying to stop the woman. However, it was impossible for Maia to take a servant seriously. "Get out. There isn't a place in Sapphire City that I can't go to!" Maia threw the young servant to the ground with a powerful push, and then she rushed in with her pumps, with arrogance plastered across her face. However, that pretty face of hers froze instantly when she saw the three people in the room.

The woman sitting next to Cedrick was Catelyn!



The woman that was being addressed as Cedrick's fiancée was also her! "Mr.

Lewis, Master Cedrick, I'm really sorry. This woman insisted on breaking in. We can't stop her..." The young servant apologized resignedly to the few people sitting in the private room as cold sweat broke out.

When Catelyn saw Maia, her amber pupils constricted slightly. Why is she here?

The murderous look on her face was as if... she had discovered the affair between her husband and the mistress?

Mr. Lewis vaguely felt that Maia looked familiar, but he still lowered his face in annoyance. He asked coldly, "Is this how The Majestique protects the privacy of the customers? I have clearly requested that no outsiders are not allowed to disturb us. Hurry up and call the bodyguards. Drag her out!"

Chapter 180-The young servant got up from the ground in embarrassment and nodded repeatedly.

Several burly bodyguards rushed over after receiving the order.

The bodyguards stood at the door and cast dark shadows around them in their black uniform with a nameplate pinned to the neckline, sending off an oppressive aura.

However, Maia had not taken these people seriously at all.

The more her anger burned, the more she pretended to be casually fiddling with the ring on her middle finger. "I heard that Mr. Lewis invited Master Cedrick to a meal. Why am I, the real fiancée, treated like I'm an outsider?" Mr. Lewis, who was originally boiling with anger, suddenly showed a startled face.

"You... you are Master Cedrick's real fiancée?" After a pause, he asked Catelyn in disbelief and asked, "Then who are you?" "Mr. Lewis, don't you know her? She's my distant cousin, Catelyn Clark." Without waiting for Catelyn's explanation, Maia raised her eyebrows lazily and said calmly, "Master Cedrick, it looks like Mr. Lewis has mistaken me for someone else. Why don't you introduce everyone to him again?" Mr. Lewis's slightly plump face was filled with anger again. "Aren't you Master Cedrick's fiancée?"

Catelyn was dumbfounded. Her beautiful eyelashes raised as she said, "When did I say that I'm his fiancée?" The entire atmosphere had gone awkward in that instant.

Mr. Lewis felt that he had been deceived!

"Since you're not Master Cedrick's fiancée, then why are you with him in the corridor..." Before Mr. Lewis could finish his rant, he received a stern look from Cedrick.

He swallowed the last half of the sentence silently.

Cedrick tapped his slender fingers on the table. His kingly aura was natural without the need to exert power intentionally. "Our engagement has been terminated. It seems that you didn't take that matter to heart?" Maia stared at Catelyn with great intensity.

What did she and Master Cedrick do in the corridor?..

Why did Cedrick not let Mr. Lewis finish?

Such realization made Maia fuming hot with anger.

She knew that Cedrick would be more convinced with a soft approach instead of the hard one. Maia bit her lower lip, ignoring the presence of outsiders, and showed a wronged look.

"Master Cedrick, I know that I was being too impulsive at the wine reception that day, but I really don't want to break off the engagement with you. I just don't want my fiancée to keep looking at other women. What you said that day was just a joke, right? Let's not terminate the engagement..." While speaking, she gathered her skirt and walked to Cedrick's side, reaching out to hug his arm, acting like a spoiled child.

Inadvertently, she happened to see a scarlet hue under his collar!

Her expression was instantly frozen with icy frost!

Cedrick stood up just before she could come in contact with him and avoided her touch.

He extended his fingers slowly to straighten up the hem of his shirt and said coldly, "Since you won't take the initiative to speak to the Clark's elders, I'll go personally tomorrow. I'll foot the bill for your order in the restaurant tonight. You can go now." Maia's nails sank into the palm of her hand, and tears welled up in her eyes uncontrollably.

"We've been together for four years. Even if we're not deeply in love, we should have feelings for each other by now. Do you have to be so heartless?" Cedrick looked at her indifferently. His lips slightly opened and he said, "Isn't all this what you asked for?" Maia's pretty face flushed, and it turned green and pale for a moment.

At that time, she took the initiative to say that she wanted to break off the marriage just as a threat to him. It was not her heart's true desire at all!

"Mr. Lewis, I'm sorry for ruining the dinner with such a joke. I'm afraid this dinner will end here today. I'll invite you for a meal another day." Cedrick's eyes were still cold. His voice was clear and steadfast, hitting people's hearts with every word he spoke.

Mr. Lewis bent down, and his wrinkled face was full of astonishment. He nodded again and again.

"You're being too polite, Master Cedrick." With an expressionless face, Cedrick grabbed Catelyn, and they left together.