

Our Billion 211

Chapter 211-Catelyn had never felt so ashamed in her whole life! She wanted to get off the bed, but Cedrick pinned her down with brute force. Catelyn's face burned from pure embarrassment. "Get off of me! I need to use the washroom!" Gazing at her flushed face, Cedrick demanded, "Take off your pants." Catelyn was so shocked that she almost kicked him in the face. "I..I'm not feeling well! Don't try anything funny. Cedrick scoffed defeatedly upon hearing what she said. "What are you thinking of now? I'm just trying to inspect the wound." Cedrick pinned her down onto the bed and reached his hands out to her robe. There was no sleeping gown for ladies in his house, so Catelyn was wearing a men's sleeping robe. He untied the knot on the robe, and before the robe exposed her skin... Catelyn pinned his hands down, albeit shameful, and cried, "I'm not injured! I-It's just... It's that time of the month! Menstruation! Do you understand?" Cedrick froze in shock That time of the month?

He knew what that was, but.. What a huge misunderstanding this was! Cedrick looked down in embarrassment and slight frustration. "Now that you understand, why are you still pinning me down?" asked Catelyn. Cedrick's face was flushed in light pink that was almost unnoticeable as he released her hands.

Catelyn crouched and got out of his embrace as she clutched her sore abdomen.

She picked up the pouch on the ground and ran toward the washroom. The humiliation haunted her, even as she sat on the toilet seat.

Cedrick's ears looked blushed earlier. Was he flustered, too?

Catelyn could not help but laugh when she realized that Cedrick was oblivious to such basic common knowledge, but her abdomen hurt even more from all the laughing. Still, she was pleased with herself because she felt like she had played him.

After a brief break in the toilet, Catelyn got up to look for her pads.

Ever since she gave birth to her children, she religiously brought spare pads with her everywhere she went since her menstrual cycle had been unstable.

However, her spare pads were nowhere to be found.

She was more than certain that she had one with her when she packed earlier.

Where did it go? Did she forget it? It was four in the morning, and her only pants were stained with blood. There was no way she could go outside and buy one at this moment. Catelyn tugged and rubbed on her long, black hair in frustration.

What should she do? Was there no other way...than to ask Cedrick for help? This was so embarrassing!

Cedrick washed his hands and stood before the window sill, still overwhelmed with emotions. Other than regret, there was an odd feeling circling within his heart. It was as if something was creeping into him... An itchy, numbing sensation.

Chapter 212-The peculiar feeling would bite him from time to time, and it made him nervous.

Beep, beep! Cedrick's phone screen lit up with a message notification. Picking up his phone, he then realized that it was a message from Catelyn. Their last text exchange was about the bet they had made. He won in the end, but he did not feel like it at all. Catelyn only said 'yes' because she had her agenda. Cedrick unlocked his phone, and the moment he read the message Catelyn sent him, he froze.

Catelyn was trapped in the washroom. She could not get up, nor could she get out of the washroom. The red stain on her pants reminded her of how embarrassing what happened a few seconds ago was. She had no other choice than to ask for Cedrick's help. She had to enlist his help to buy her some menstrual pads. However, her screen did not once light up after she had sent the text. Cedrick did not reply. Did he not see the message, or did he just not want to help her? Catelyn did not hear the door opening or closing. She was tempted to call and talk nicely to Cedrick, hoping she could change his mind. Catelyn was still deep in contemplation when a figure was seen approaching from outside the translucent washroom door. Catelyn stared intensely. "Open the door, I've bought what you asked for," said Cedrick nonchalantly. Catelyn, still embarrassed, cracked open the door ever so slightly, and Cedrick passed two black plastic bags to her. Catelyn was immensely grateful and accepted the bags in a swift motion before shutting the door.

She opened one of the bags and found different types of sanitary pads: day use, night use, maxi pads, cotton pads... There were more than 10 different types of pads!

Catelyn was at a loss for words. It must have been a man who bought all of these.

Had Cedrick ordered Charles to buy them?

Catelyn's heart started racing once more just as it had settled down.

'Ugh! This is so incredibly embarrassing.' She then opened another bag to find a complete set of women's clothing, from underwear to outerwear.

'I guess he can be pretty attentive sometimes.' Catelyn changed into a new set of clothing and looked at the dirty men's robe she wore earlier. Without further hesitation, she filled up a pail of water and soaked the dirty laundry. She planned on washing it clean before returning it to Cedrick. Cedrick stood outside and waited, all while wondering why Catelyn was taking so long. He felt chilly from being outside earlier and decided to turn up the temperature. He waited for another two minutes before he stood in front of the washroom door and knocked. "Catelyn, I need to use the washroom." "Almost done!" Catelyn tidied herself up in front of the mirror one last time before she slid the door open. The embarrassment from earlier was gone and was replaced by an air of awkwardness. Catelyn's head hung low as she stared at the brown slippers on the floor and uttered, "Uhm... How much were the sanitary pads and clothes? I'll pay you back." The faint scent of gardenias wafted from her body as she had just taken a shower. Cedrick's eyes were sparked with passionate flames as he wrapped his arm around her waist in an assertive manner and threw her into an embrace. Catelyn bit her lip and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I might stain your bedsheets?" "Bedsheets can always be replaced, but you... You can't be replaced." Cedrick had never been the type to flirt, but that last sentence made butterflies in Catelyn's stomach.

?

Chapter 213-"Do you say these things to other women, too?" Cedrick's eyes darkened as he stared into hers. "Are you jealous?" "No," replied Catelyn, softly yet firmly, her gaze cast downward. Catelyn would never fall for him; she was only doing it for her children. It did not bother her how many women he had. She would never be jealous of him. Why would she, anyway?

"If it's not jealousy, are you flustered?" Cedrick curved his lips into a mischievous smile, but his gaze was cold. "I don't want to talk about these things with you. I'm hungry. Can we order take-out?" Cedrick smiled lightly and replied, "I've already ordered some, they'll be here soon." His phone rang

immediately after. The food Cedrick ordered had arrived. Different dishes-vegetables and meat skillet, soup, meat skewers-filled up the table. "Take anything you like." Catelyn was stunned at the sight and replied, "I'll just have some soup. I might have to trouble you to send me home later, cause I...don't feel too good." Cedrick, of course, would never reject her.

The small hours just before dawn were the darkest and quietest hours. The street was vacant with no cars or pedestrians in sight. Catelyn was wearing the set of clothing that Cedrick had bought her. It was a long trench coat in sky blue, fitting for the current weather and temperature.

The car stopped in front of Ocean Path Residence.

Catelyn got out of the car.

"I'll walk you up," offered Cedrick, all while staring at the guard by the doorway.

"Not today. My mother and Miles are home," declined Catelyn gently as she stopped Cedrick from getting out of the car.

He held her hand and kissed it gently, his rough stubbles tickling her smooth skin.

"You can just tell them that I'm your boyfriend." Catelyn's eyelids shuddered. She was tempted to retrieve her hand but suppressed the urge and instead cupped his face in her hand.

"They're still sleeping. I'll tell them soon, though." "How soon is soon?" Cedrick grabbed her hand once more and gazed deeply into her eyes as he earnestly added, "I don't plan on keeping this on the down-low." Catelyn did not expect him to be so straightforward and open about it. 'Don't all wealthy young men prefer to keep their romantic lives on the down-low?' Catelyn paused for a brief moment before she smiled and said suggestively, "My house isn't appropriate. You've seen it yourself; it's a pretty small place. Let's just go to yours, okay? I've never seen your house, of course, but...am I welcomed?" Cedrick paused and looked deeply into her eyes. "That would be my pleasure." Cedrick extended his arms out and said, "Can I have a hug before we say goodbye?" Catelyn did not reject and drew herself closer to him, to which Cedrick embraced her gently and brushed her hair softly. "The Mason Estate is indeed spacious.

'But what do you propose we do there?' The time Maia spent together with Richard got progressively longer.

Chapter 214-Richard had started seeing Maia more often, and even though she enjoyed herself, they had to be secretive about it.

Since Richard was no celebrity, Maia found herself growing bored of him.

That morning, Maia was awoken by the sound of her phone's text notification. It was another good-morning message sent by Richard. She swiped away the message in frustration and opened her conversation with Cedrick. Their last text was from a long time ago when she had invited him to dinner.

It seemed to her that he was determined to dump her after all.

Maia was in a rotten mood as she lay in bed and scrolled away on her phone when she saw a trend on Twidder.

[Have you ever bought sanitary pads for your girlfriend?] She clicked on the hashtag and saw the top post, noticing that it was posted by a cashier who worked in a 24-hour convenience store. The cashier posted about seeing a man who went into the store at four in the morning just to buy a whole bag full of sanitary pads.

There was even a photo attached to the viral post.

A handsome man in leisure wear with his hand on the door handle was seen heading out of the store. The photo was taken at an angle that showed the man's side profile.

Even if it was just a side profile, Maia was able to recognize him right away.

This man was Cedrick!

Cedrick Mason, a proud and successful young man, went out in the middle of the night just to buy sanitary pads for a woman!

He had never even bought a single piece of clothing for her during the four years they were together.

Flames of anger slowly seeped into Maia's chest.

She was so consumed by anger that she smashed her phone onto the ground with a loud slam. The impact caused the phone's battery to pop out of the device and clatter on the solid ground, startling her parents who had just walked past her room in the corridor.

Maia's parents knocked on her door before walking in, only to find their daughter's face twisting in anger like a monster about to consume a human.

Maia's mother was shocked. She had always taught Maia to act like a graceful lady. This was the first time she had ever seen her daughter looking like this!

"What's going on, Mai?" "Mom, Cedrick went out late at night yesterday just to get Catelyn some sanitary pads. They must be doing something shameful at such an hour of the day! He even went viral on Twidder solid 214 now!

"This is unacceptable-I can't take this anymore. I'm going to ruin that b*tch Catelyn's face!" Maia had completely lost her mind. She freed herself from her father's hands and added, "No, that's not enough... I'm going to kill her!" Maia's mother finally understood what was happening and tried to console Maia, saying, "It's just a picture. It does look similar to Cedrick, but don't overthink it..." "How can I not recognize him?!" "Enough!" Maia's father stopped her and snapped, "So what if he was out buying things for another woman? What man doesn't have a couple of mistresses on the side? Have you forgotten everything that we've ever taught you about being a lady? Where's your composure?! I've wasted all that time educating you..." Maia bit her lip and whined, "Dad! How could you side with an outsider?" "Grandpa Mason had called earlier. He's aware of Cedrick wanting to call off the marriage, and he had asked for you and Cedrick to go see him this weekend. You can tell him everything you want then." Maia's eyes sparkled in anticipation. Grandpa Mason was, at the end of the day, the head of the Mason Family, and everything he said would be final.

Cedrick might not have the guts to just call off the wedding if he did not get Grandpa Mason's approval.

On top of that, she had Janice on her side as well.

Maia still had both power and connections. She still had the chance to be Missus Mason!

Meanwhile, Jamie and his lawyer had been pressuring Catelyn aggressively. They even managed to get the word out about how Catelyn was disqualified from Chandier Jewelry's competition, using this to criticize her personality. They even spread rumors around, bringing more chaos into Catelyn's life.

On top of that, they threatened for her to give up or they would drag her reputation through the mud!

Chapter 215-The result of the preliminary round had just been announced two days ago, but Jamie's lawyer had already gotten the word that Catelyn was disqualified due to plagiarism. It was obvious to her that they did their research and came prepared! Catelyn could no longer tolerate their persistent attacks. She decided to have a conversation with Jamie, face-to-face. Catelyn walked out of her apartment and heard the honks of the car. Following the sound, she was led to a familiar Bently.

Cedrick had one of his arms down the window as he waited for Catelyn in the car.

"Cedrick, what are you doing here?" "I'm here to fulfill my promise to you." Cedrick opened the car door and got out of the car. He tilted his head ever so slightly and smiled. "I heard that you've asked to meet Jamie in person for a negotiation. Hop on, I'll go talk to him with you." Catelyn blinked, appearing to be touched by his action as she spoke, "Really?"

"Thank you for coming along, Master Cedrick." Cedrick chuckled as he held onto the steering wheel, though his smile was not as earnestly happy. "Isn't this one of our conditions?" At the lawyer firm within a business district. There was a heated debate going on in the conference room. Jamie and his team of lawyers were attacking Catelyn.

She listened carefully to their conditions with caution and lingering fear.

There was no mention of Miles' identity.

Catelyn gazed casually at Cedrick, who sat opposite Jamie. Cedrick was wearing a white shirt, the leisure clothing clung lazily onto his toned body, his hair short and fresh. His signature faint smile was present on his face as he stared nonchalantly at Jamie.

“Uncle Cedrick, I’m aware of your seniority as well as your position in the Mason Family, but this is between me and Catelyn, and you have no right to get yourself involved in our private lives!” growled Jamie confidently, with his team of lawyers covering for him. Even if Catelyn asked for Cedrick’s help, Jamie had collected enough evidence to support him. He was determined to get custody of Miles!

Cedrick lifted the cup of tea off the table and took a sip before he turned around to face Catelyn. “The tea tastes pretty good. Have a sip.” Catelyn nodded as she took a sip of the tea.

It was just the usual buckwheat tea, though. There was nothing special about it.

“Uncle Cedrick, if you insist on getting involved in our matter, I have no choice but to face you in the law!” “Don’t say I bully you because of our difference in seniority. You were given a chance.” Cedrick set the teacup down on the table, and his gaze was cold.

The moment the cup met the table, making a faint thud, the door to the conference room was pushed open. A handsome figure walked into the room.

Following closely behind were a few men dressed in similar suits with briefcases and folders in their hands. All of them walked in with confidence and faint smiles on their faces.

“Apologies for our tardiness, but the traffic was pretty bad on our way here.” Benjamin walked with poise as he buttoned up his suit and smiled politely at everyone in the room.

‘Benjamin Anderson? ‘Didn’t he leave the country?’ “You couldn’t be any later than this,” remarked Cedrick nonchalantly. Benjamin replied with his usual polite mannerism intact, “Are you going to pay me if I arrive earlier?” “No. But I’m more interested in talking to your mother about her life plan.” Benjamin glared at Cedrick in silent frustration. ‘What a great friend I have here!

The lawyers that Benjamin had brought with him waited sternly, unlike the pair who were joking around with each other. The air in the conference room tensed in an instant.

Chapter 216-B-Benjamin?" Jamie was equally shocked. "I was wondering why you'd turn down my invitation. It seems you've been approached already." "No," said Benjamin as he pulled the office chair elegantly and seated himself. "You look so ugly, I'm afraid you'll ruin my mood if I were to take you as my client." "You..." Jamie slammed the table harshly, his hands clenched into fists as he glared at Cedrick. "Don't get too complacent. Benjamin may be undefeated, but the lawyer I hired is also one of the best in Sapphire City!" Cedrick tapped his fingers on the table rhythmically. Benjamin casually made an 'OK' hand gesture with him and announced to Jamie, "Mister Mason, I am Benjamin Anderson, the attorney-in-charge of Miss Catelyn Clark's representative lawyer, and I'm suing you on behalf of the client for the crime of abandonment and intentional injury.

Therefore, we hereby ask you to compensate my client for everything, including child support and mental damage." Jamie had an indescribable expression on his face. "Am I hearing this right? I have to pay for all these? I want to gain custody over my son!" Cedrick's face turned cold at this. "Are you worthy?" he sneered.

Benjamin reiterated solemnly, "You've heard it right, Mister Mason, and I've already calculated the amount for you. It is a total of a million and five hundred thousand dollars." 1.5 million dollars? Jamie could not believe his ears! "I don't think you all understand. I have evidence that Catelyn isn't capable of taking care of the child.

It's reasonable for me to request the judge for a change of guardian," asserted Jamie as he glared at Benjamin contemptuously. He motioned to his lawyer, Samuel Darby, "Show them the evidence!" However, Samuel was visibly stiff, staring blankly at Benjamin and the lawyers behind him. Although Benjamin had a good reputation in Sapphire City, he was only limited to civil lawsuits.

In fact, he was even more famous abroad. Together with the other four high-profile lawyers around Asea, they were known as the Big Five Lawyers on the continent. Just one of them could easily overpower thousands of ordinary lawyers.

This was just a usual case of child custody, yet all five of them were here!

"What are you waiting for, Mister Darby?" hissed Jamie, gritting his teeth.

Samuel was shocked by his remarks and immediately returned to his senses. He quickly said to Jamie apologetically, "I'm sorry, Mister Mason, but I...think I may not be able to do this for you. These people are the Big Five Lawyers, and you might as well get someone else!" He continued, "I'll lend you the

conference room. I'll excuse myself." = 16 Samuel and his assistant then packed up the documents and left the conference room as if they were running away.

Jamie stared at them dumbfoundedly. Did Benjamin's reputation intimidate them that badly?

Cedrick's thin lips pursed into a faint grin. However, there was a bit of ruthlessness behind his smile.

1 Jamie's heart sank, and he had a very ominous premonition.

"I'm taking Miles," came Cedrick's hauntingly cold remark "You dare fight with me?" Jamie was frightened as he heard Cedrick's words, while his chest heaved unevenly. "This is bullying!" "I can give you enough time to find another lawyer," said Cedrick.

Chapter 217-Benjamin chimed in with a half-smile, "You better start looking. Time is running out." How provoking!

Jamie had no evidence in his hand and no lawyers to support him.

"Just you wait, Catelyn! I won't give up just like that!" he snapped bitterly, so enraged that his face turned red. He kicked a chair on his right and left the room furiously.

Catelyn looked at Jamie darkly as he left the conference room. This was the first time she saw him so shriveled.

Blinking her amber pupils, her long curled eyelashes trembled as she applauded Benjamin." Mister Anderson, I now understand how formidable you are. Thank you." Benjamin just shrugged indifferently. "You don't need to thank me. I'd be very grateful if your man would stop threatening me with my family's affairs." Catelyn's ears perked up at this. What did he mean, 'her man? "Jamie and 1..." muttered Catelyn. It seemed their relationship was in a very complicated state. She could not just say that she had nothing to do with him anymore.

Seeing Catelyn in a flustered state, Cedrick walked up to her and squeezed her little hand." Now that the matter is settled, let's go have a meal together." Catelyn's hands were sweaty, a contrast to Cedrick's

dry hand. When he ran his fingertips across her palm, there seemed to be a burst of electricity flowing through her fingers.

Catelyn hurriedly pulled her hand back and pretended to inadvertently fiddle with it. She smiled lightly. "You guys wait here. I'll go to the washroom." Staring at Catelyn's back as she excused herself, Benjamin nudged Cedrick's elbow. "I've heard from the Athertons that you broke up with Maia for her sake." "Quit it with the gossip," said Cedrick. "Come on!" Benjamin looked at him. "It was such a hassle for me to drop such a big client abroad to help you and your girlfriend, yet you can't even give me a straight answer?" Cedrick was speechless.

"Still, Catelyn does look pretty. It's no surprise why you have a change of heart," teased Benjamin.

"You're very nosy, you know," deadpanned Cedrick Benjamin chose a nearby restaurant, and Cedrick had reserved a private room.

Catelyn was dragged along as the three of them entered the restaurant together, where a waiter greeted them at the door.

anter 217 "Master Cedrick, the private room has been reserved for you. It's on the second floor, so please come with me," said the waiter respectfully, smiling. Catelyn, meanwhile, felt a little uncomfortable holding Cedrick's hand in public, and her palms were getting sweaty, too. She gently tugged at his clothes and mumbled, "You're gripping my hand too tightly. It's uncomfortable." "You'll get used to it," replied Cedrick confidently, having no intention of letting her go.

2

Chapter 218-Cedrick, Benjamin, and Catelyn looked elegant in their suits and dress respectively, so much so that they attracted the attention of many guests in the hall along the way. Catelyn simply took off her hair tie and let her hair down and simulated a calmer, more composed version of herself.

They were walking toward the elevator on the second floor when they heard a waiter apologetically explaining to a middle-aged woman in a purple dress, "Miss Coleman, I'm truly sorry. The private room where you often dine in has been reserved by another gentleman. Can I arrange another room for you?" "That's fine. It's also my fault that I didn't call ahead to make an appointment," said the woman with a soft voice, without any hint of anger. The waiter immediately breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank you for

your understanding, Miss Coleman. Please, come this way!" "Aunt Janice?" Cedrick could recognize the purple dress even from a distance. It was a gift for her last year.

Janice heard the familiar voice and turned her head slowly. The smile on the corner of her mouth had not been drawn to the fullest the moment she saw Catelyn on Cedrick's side, both holding hands.

"Aunt Janice," greeted Benjamin. He knew her personally. "Hello Miss Coleman," said Catelyn. She felt awkward holding hands with Cedrick. She tried to withdraw her hand, but he was holding it too tightly! Instead, with Janice around, Cedrick seemed to grip her hand even harder as if he was trying to show her deliberately.

"Ah, it seems that Miss Coleman and Master Cedrick know each other," said the waiter in a Cedrick. Why don't...you all share the room and dine together?" Janice maintained a polite smile, her eyes slowly moving up along the clasped hands of the two and eventually landing on Catelyn's face. "Miss Clark, do you mind?" "Of course not!" Catelyn hurriedly responded with a smile. Janice was Cedrick's aunt, and they shared a close bond. How could she refuse? Benjamin noticed the interaction between Janice and Catelyn, and he simply gave Cedrick a wink and left quietly.

Catelyn's composure quickly dissipated. She would much rather be with Benjamin than with Janice!

The private room on the second floor was one of Janice's favorite places to dine.

She enjoyed the transparent layout and the blooming flowers around the room.

There was also a faint fragrant smell in the atmosphere.

Charter 218 Cedrick, Benjamin, and Catelyn looked elegant in their suits and dress respectively, so much so that they attracted the attention of many guests in the hall along the way. Catelyn simply took off her hair tie and let her hair down and simulated a calmer, more composed version of herself.

They were walking toward the elevator on the second floor when they heard a waiter apologetically explaining to a middle-aged woman in a purple dress, "Miss Coleman, I'm truly sorry. The private room where you often dine in has been reserved by another gentleman. Can I arrange another room for you?"

"That's fine. It's also my fault that I didn't call ahead to make an appointment," said the woman with a soft voice, without any hint of anger.

The waiter immediately breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank you for your understanding, Miss Coleman. Please, come this way!" "Aunt Janice?" Cedrick could recognize the purple dress even from a distance. It was a gift for her last year.

Janice heard the familiar voice and turned her head slowly. The smile on the corner of her mouth had not been drawn to the fullest the moment she saw Catelyn on Cedrick's side, both holding hands.

"Aunt Janice," greeted Benjamin. He knew her personally. "Hello Miss Coleman," said Catelyn. She felt awkward holding hands with Cedrick. She tried to withdraw her hand, but he was holding it too tightly! Instead, with Janice around, Cedrick seemed to grip her hand even harder as if he was trying to show her deliberately.

"Ah, it seems that Miss Coleman and Master Cedrick know each other," said the waiter in a pleasant surprise. "Miss Coleman, the private room you'd often use is reserved by Master Cedrick. Why don't...you all share the room and dine together?" Janice maintained a polite smile, her eyes slowly moving up along the clasped hands of the two and eventually landing on Catelyn's face. "Miss Clark, do you mind?" "Of course not!" Catelyn hurriedly responded with a smile. Janice was Cedrick's aunt, and they shared a close bond. How could she refuse? Benjamin noticed the interaction between Janice and Catelyn, and he simply gave Cedrick a wink and left quietly.

Catelyn's composure quickly dissipated. She would much rather be with Benjamin than with Janice!

The private room on the second floor was one of Janice's favorite places to dine.

She enjoyed the transparent layout and the blooming flowers around the room.

There was also a faint fragrant smell in the atmosphere.

Janice looked at Catelyn calmly. This was the scheming girl, she thought. She had only not seen her for a few days, and she had already gotten out with Cedrick publicly. Janice remembered Catelyn only being Cedrick's employee back then.

"Kitty'... Can I call you that?" asked Janice as she handed a teacup to Catelyn with a smile. "Yes, of course! As long as you don't dislike it," said Catelyn flatteringly. She hurriedly got up and took the teapot and cup from Janice. "This teapot is quite heavy. Let me take it for you." Janice let go of the teapot as Catelyn took it over.

Janice looked at Catelyn as she was pouring tea. The windbreaker she was wearing was the latest fashion style from Bulberry, which had just arrived on the shelves of Sapphire City in the past few days. The brand of her inner lining could not be seen, but the soft texture of the fabric gave the impression that it must be something of high value.

Catelyn's whole outfit may not be very expensive, but compared to the night when Janice first saw her when she was wearing cheap goods, she looked so much different! "Don't call me Miss Coleman; just call me Aunt Janice." "Alright, Aunt Janice," said Catelyn.

"Ceddy, you should've received a notice by now. Grandpa Mason is asking that you bring Mai back to the house to talk about the marriage. Perhaps it's time for you to give him an explanation," said Janice softly as she looked at Cedrick.

Chapter 219-Cedrick knew about the news. "Right. It is about time," he said.

"You've always been a brilliant child. I believe you can make it clear to him, but you also need to understand that your grandfather is still the head of the Mason family, and you need his approval and support if you want to take over," said Janice.

Cedrick did not answer, just fidgeting with the teacup in his hand.

Janice pondered for a while and said, "Catelyn here is a good girl. She's beautiful and knowledgeable, and I like her very much. However, Mai comes from a prestigious family and has a distinguished status. She has something that Kitty here doesn't have. Do you understand this?" What was a simple reminder for Cedrick felt like a thorn in Catelyn's heart. Maia had something she did not have. She came from a prestigious family and had a distinguished status. Catelyn, on the other hand, was just a bankrupt lady with a child. She was useless.

Catelyn felt slight bitterness spreading in her mouth. It must have been the tea.

Her crown of teeth bit down on her tongue, and the pain snapped her out of her trance.

Knowing that it was impossible to get together with Cedrick, she still went for him.

After all, he was the devil who had destroyed her life! How could she have such bitter thoughts?

How crazy. "Aunt Janice." Cedrick's brows narrowed slightly, and his thin lips moved. "Catelyn also has something that Maia doesn't have. It is what I want, and not what you have to offer." "Ceddy..." muttered Janice. "Let's stop talking about this. It's time for the waiter to serve the food," said Cedrick. With that, he pressed the service bell with his slender fingers.

The jingle of the bell interrupted what Janice wanted to say next. She could only sit still and sigh silently. She could not see what Catelyn had that Maia did not.

Was Cedrick just stubborn?

The waiter quickly started serving the food. It was summer at this moment, and the first few dishes served were cold dishes, accompanied by a refreshing dessert.

The cube-shaped toast was cut into small pieces and had ice cream scoops on top, mixed with butter and honey. It was a must-order dish for Janice every time she dined in this place. However, she was not in good health at the moment, so it was not advisable to eat cold food.

Cute-219 Janice thus moved the dessert toward Catelyn and said, "I like this very much, Kitty. Try it." "She can't eat it," said Cedrick before Catelyn could even open her mouth to speak. Janice glanced blankly at Cedrick, and then at Catelyn. It was just dessert. Why could she not eat? "Don't you like sweets?" Janice asked with a smile. "I'm fine." Catelyn grew flustered. "It's just that I don't eat sweets often, and I'm afraid of tooth decay." "I can't have food that is too sweet either, so I have told the chef in advance about this. Try it -it's delicious!" said Janice, trying her best to get Catelyn to taste her favorite dessert.

Catelyn, unable to damper Janice's enthusiasm, picked up her spoon and was about to go for a taste.

Suddenly, a thick and broad palm caught her wrist, forcibly pressing her hand back to the table.

"She's on her menstrual period, so she shouldn't be eating cold food," said Cedrick, calmly yet boldly altogether. For a moment, Janice was flabbergasted, and it showed on her face.

Chapter 220-Janice knew her nephew, Cedrick best. He was cold and arrogant in nature, and no matter how a beautiful woman threw herself into his arms, he would not even budge. Over the years, he seldom spent his time with Maia going shopping, let alone remembering a woman's menstrual period. Janice could not describe how she was feeling at the moment, but all she knew was that it was an extremely complicated feeling. The decent smile on her face could no longer be maintained as Janice said expressionlessly, "I saw the news this morning that a man was in a convenience store near Riverdale Mall, helping his girlfriend to buy some sanitary products. That person looks just like you." Cedrick's eyebrows suddenly tightened, and a flash of embarrassment appeared on his face." Well, it's me." Catelyn's heart shrank as if she had heard some terrible news.

The next moment, she noticed Janice looking at her. Catelyn's back straightened, acknowledging her attention, but she secretly took a deep breath. Were those two bags from last night bought by Cedrick from the convenience store? If it was back then, Catelyn would have burst out laughing to learn that someone from the Mason family had gone to the convenience store to buy women's products. At this moment, however, she did not even find it amusing. Was he not trying to tease her? How could he do it to this extent? "It seems that you really have a soft spot for Kitty," said Janice as she took a napkin and wiped the oil stains on the corner of her mouth. The smile on her lips was clear and shallow, and Catelyn could not tell whether Janice was happy or angry. "I'll explain everything to Grandpa on the weekend. Aunt Janice, you're not in good health, and the doctor doesn't recommend that you overthink things. Don't worry, I'll handle everything," said Cedrick. Janice coughed into her tightly clenched fist. "You're all grown up now, and I can't control you around anymore. However, Mai is a good girl. Please do think about compensating her," said Janice, her gaze not leaving Catelyn as she did.

How did she even attract Ceddy?

The Atherton Manor was a garden-style building, built according to the preferences of Granny Atherton. It was filled with carved galleries and paintings, surrounded by pavilions in the heart of the lake.

At this moment, more than a dozen delicious dishes were placed on the huge round table in the dining hall of the manor.

“Grandma, you’ve been talking about this grilled fish all the time. We’ve made it for you today, ” said Lola, cutting a piece of white meat with her fork and knife and putting it on Granny Atherton’s plate.

She was over 70 years old, yet she was still mentally strong for her age. The beauty of her youth could be vaguely seen in her face, evident in the way her cheekbones were higher than usual. Due to her old age, there was no collagen on her face, and her complexion looked sharp. Looking at the piece of meat on her plate, Granny Atherton slowly brought it to her mouth to eat, asking, “Have you announced the semi-finalists for the Chandier Jewelry Competition?” “It was just announced a few days ago. Don’t worry, Grandma, I’ll choose the best designer for you.” “According to Kelly Preston, there are many contributors this time, and there are also many excellent ones. If there is any particularly outstanding design, you can show it to me first,” said Granny Atherton. Hearing that, Lola put down her cutlery, looking hesitant. “If you have something to say, just say it,” muttered Granny Atherton, waving her hand impatiently. W “There are indeed a few outstanding designers this time, but,” Before Lola could finish, a maid came over all of a sudden in excitement, “Madam, Master Edwin is back!”