

## Our Billion 501

Chapter 501-Maia tugged Richard by the hand, her gaze keen as she did.

Richard had a bad feeling about Maia's impending result and was proven right when Maia spoke her next words.

"I'll keep the child, but you have to help me by pretending that the child is Cedrick's! The timing is just right, too." Dumbfounded, Richard blustered, "You're still thinking about Cedrick?!" "Listen, you're not the legitimate young master of the Kingsley family. Cedrick, on the other hand, is a legitimate young master of his family. As long as our child is acknowledged as the son of the eldest young master of the Masons, we'll be able to inherit their assets. On top of that, when the Clarks, Kingsleys, and Masons unite their power, imagine where we'll be!" Richard fell into deep contemplation.

Even though he was reluctant that his child would be calling someone else their father, he was tempted by the possibilities.

"What do you want me to do?" "Pack your things and get the next flight to Franche. You'll be getting rid of an obstacle of mine on my behalf." "You came right in time, my dear." Maia rubbed her abdomen as her face shone with what looked to be motherly love.

Franche.

The weekend went by in the blink of an eye.

Ivan had submitted the architectural model to party A's person in charge, which was Madam Smith, the wealthy lady. He then received a call from William, who had asked him to stop by the conference room.

Ivan flattened out his shirt pleasingly. He was satisfied with how the model had turned out and was confident that the wealthy lady would be happy with it.

He was so pleased with himself that he fantasized about the shower of praises he would get.

However, the moment he pushed open the door of the conference room, he was greeted with a tense atmosphere instead.

“Mister William, Madam Smith, you called?” greeted Ivan cautiously.

Madam Smith tossed a folder of the building’s architectural design on the table and asked with a smile on her face, “Ivan, is this your work?” Ivan had always had a good relationship with Madam Smith. There was a time when Madam Smith was hiking and got herself into a dangerous situation, and it was Ivan who saved her.

Ivan nodded. “Yes, that’s my work.” “It was all done by you, and you only?” Ivan was puzzled by all these questions, but he nodded nonetheless.

As soon as he nodded, he noticed that William, who was next to Madam Smith, tensed up immediately.

What was happening?

“I’ve always felt that your works speak to me and that your talent is a rare gem.

On top of that, I chose to believe you, even after the bad news about you was exposed. Sure enough, you didn’t disappoint me and managed to come up with such an excellent design in such a short time...” Madam Smith’s tone lost its friendliness as she audibly became frigid. Even though she was praising him, there were no traces of warmth in those words.

Ivan looked at William, confused.

“Mister William, Madam Smith, I spent a lot of time and effort on this draft, and every single detail was thought thoroughly. If something here dissatisfied you, please feel free to point them...” “Dissatisfied? Why would that be? You were able to use my dead husband’s draft from many years ago! How would that be dissatisfying?!” Madam Smith smacked the table and stood up immediately.

Her husband was a famous architecture professor who died in an avalanche accident. Madam Smith had preserved and saved all of his drafts, models, and everything that he had written about architects, keeping them close.

She did not expect that Ivan would get his hands on the drafts and make them his own. Frankly speaking, it was a scummy move!

“W... What?” Ivan felt his knees go weak as his face froze.

Madam Smith then carefully opened up a folder and retrieved a stack of papers.

The content of those papers, compared to Ivan’s, was similar up to 80 percent!

Chapter 502-“I’m disappointed in you, Ivan, I thought I knew who you were as a person!” “No! This is a misunderstanding!” Ivan, so consumed by fear, decided to come clean. “This isn’t even my design; I stole it from Catelyn Clark! I have no idea about any of that...” Ivan naively thought that if he came clean, Madam Smith would forgive him and started investigating Catelyn. What he did not expect was for Madam Smith to become even angrier.

“As a designer, you should know that every design is like a child to its designer.

How dare you steal someone else’s child?” William, on the other hand, was mystified upon hearing this, and the veins on his forehead became visible as he hissed, “Ivan, how could you?!” Was the previous model stolen from Catelyn as well? That explained why Catelyn would leak the video of Ivan and Amy!

The more Ivan thought to himself, the more he realized that he had been played.

“I-I didn’t steal it! What I meant was...” Ivan realized that he had messed up amid his panic, and thus, he started rambling, “Amy was the one who gave me the design! Yes, that’s right-Amy said she worked on it along with Catelyn! Catelyn was the creative mind behind the design. You can ask Amy if you don’t believe me!” Madam Smith did not want to hear Ivan’s explanation any further. After all, what he did was irreparable.

Nonetheless, she needed to find out who had stolen her husband's work.

Catelyn and Amy arrived at the conference room together.

Amy was in a state of fright after her encounter with Cedrick at the mall. Thus, she walked with her head hung low the whole time without looking at Catelyn once.

"Amy, are you aware that the design draft you gave me was the late Mister Smith's posthumous work?" Ivan had been gesturing at Amy with his eyes the moment he saw Amy walk in.

Amy's pupil dilated and appeared to be shocked. "Posthumous work?" "That's right! You were the one who gave me the design and told me that it was yours and Catelyn's work. What's your explanation?" questioned Ivan firmly.

Knowing Amy, she would definitely pin it entirely on Catelyn.

Being pressured by Ivan, the flushed-faced Amy sneaked a look at Catelyn.

How could that be Mister Smith's work? Was that not Catelyn's creation?

Crap... They fell for Catelyn's trap!

Catelyn looked at the design draft on the table as an expression of shock overtook her face. "Hm? Isn't that the draft by Professor Smith that I got from the library as a reference? Amy, you must be mistaken; I've never worked with you on a design before." William was desperate to find out the truth behind everything so that he could provide an explanation to Madam Smith "Amy, how did you get the draft?" "Say it! It was Catelyn who had stolen the works of Mister Smith!" Seeing as Amy hesitated, Ivan shoved Amy in frustration.

The creases between Madam Smith's brows deepened. After all, she despised men who would bully women Amy was pushed so hard that she almost knocked into the corner of a table.

Hundreds of thoughts went through her mind, but she eventually gritted her teeth and said, "I've never seen this draft in my life. What do you want me to say, Uncle Ivan?"

Ivan's face contorted grimly at this.

"You were the one who gave me the draft! How dare you say that you've never seen it before?" "When did I give it to you? Your name is the only one on it! It's true that I'm in love with you, but you can't make me take the blame for you when you're in trouble!" Amy had decided and was determined to deny everything.

She knew Cedrick was not a man to mess with. Somehow, she felt fortunate that she had met Cedrick before this interrogation happened.

Chapter 503-Amy's behavior flabbergasted Ivan. He thought that Amy despised Catelyn more than anything!

He refused to give it up, however. "Did Catelyn threaten you? Just tell the truth.

Mister William and I are here, and we'll help you!" "No one's threatening me, Uncle Ivan. Just give it up. I've warned you before the first time you stole Catelyn's model, but not only did you not change, but you became worse! I can't believe you'd stooped as low as stealing Mister Smith's posthumous work.

"I'm so disappointed in you!" Amy's eyes reddened as tears brimmed in her eyes.

Ivan was consumed by rage and raised his leg to kick Amy. "You b\*tch! How dare you slander me this way?!" "Ngh!" Amy crouched down and moaned in pain.

Madam Smith's face turned green at that point as she growled, "Enough, Ivan! I take back everything good I've ever said about you in the past. From now on, whoever in Franche hires you as an architect will be my enemy! Mister William, I'm requesting to have a new Project Director installed for this project!" William smiled and nodded nervously as beads of cold sweat slid down his forehead. "Yes, Ma'am." Madam Smith looked over at Catelyn as her face crumpled. "You mentioned earlier that you found my late husband's work in the library?" "That's right, Madam Smith," Catelyn answered politely upon being questioned by Madam Smith. "I've always admired Mister Smith's view and theory in design,

and I hold his design style and composition in high regard. I've had the honor of reading some of his dissertations in the past, and it left a huge impact on me." Madam Smith's eyes softened upon hearing her late husband's name being mentioned in such a good light.

"I've heard rumors about you being accused of bribery and that you wanted to bribe Ivan in exchange for fame and benefits. Those weren't real, were they?" Catelyn chuckled lightly and said, "I guess I'm just not as lucky as you, having been able to have such great guidance and a talented teacher in your life." "My late husband did indeed guide me through my life in many ways..." Madam Smith was touched.

She then shot a cold gaze at William.

William wiped the sweat off his forehead and said, "Don't worry, I'll be sure to investigate further. If it's true that Ivan stole Catelyn's model, we promise to bring justice to her." Madam Smith nodded lightly.

Ivan, however, refused to be defeated and insisted on explaining himself to Madam Smith.

Madam Smith held nothing but bitterness toward Ivan at that moment. Before she could order the security to escort Ivan out, however, a female clerk walked in.

She said to William nervously, "M... Mister William, representatives from Mason Group are here!" William was in a rotten mood because of Ivan and was annoyed by the announcement, thinking it was just an employee from the Mason Group who came, "So what? Go greet them!" "T-That's not it. It's Mister Cedrick!" "What?" William's heart nearly leaped to his throat as he stammered, "Mister Cedrick is h-here?" "He just got onto the escalator, and he'll be here anytime soon." "Excuse me, Madam Smith, but I'll be back shortly. We'll talk about the agreement later." William smiled and announced politely as he stood up to leave the room.

Just as he walked over to the door, he felt an intimidating aura rushing toward him.

Cedrick had arrived outside of the conference room, along with a group of employees dressed in suits. He was wearing a white dress shirt, and topped with a black suit and pants, his figure looked slender in his fit.

Everyone held their breath upon his arrival. Even Madam Smith was shocked.

Catelyn's eyes traveled to his right arm.

She remembered that the doctor mentioned that he would need to rest for a few days to recover. Why did he leave the hospital so soon?

He was too stubborn for his own good!

"Hello, Mister Cedrick. What brings you here to us?" greeted William politely, escorting Cedrick to the main seat in the conference room. As soon as he sat down, a female employee immediately served him a cup of freshly ground coffee.

Chapter 504-Cedrick took a sip of the coffee served to him, much to Catelyn's chagrin.

Caffeine was proven to be terrible for wound recovery, and it might even trigger an infection! The doctor had advised him to watch his diet, so what was he even doing, sipping a cup of coffee?

Cedrick placed the cup down elegantly, his face calm and unperturbed. "Nothing much. I've just heard rumors of my wife being accused of bribery and theft and decided to stop by. Don't be too nervous." How was William not supposed to be nervous? Cedrick's power was equal to the VSA Group's CEO!

"Y-Your wife?" William gulped and asked cautiously, "Are you saying that your wife works in our company?" "My wife has always been low profile, which is why we didn't give a proper introduction," replied Cedrick casually, his eyes falling on Catelyn. "Cat, come here." The room fell into dead silence. Apart from Amy, everyone else on the scene was in disbelief.

Catelyn, on the other hand, panicked upon being called on like that. Her face flushed in deep crimson when she felt the gazes on her, effectively making her flustered.

His wife? She had agreed to his proposal!

“Ahaha! Miss Clark is indeed a low profile person, so much so that none of us were aware...” William chuckled dryly as he switched from referring to Catelyn as her first name to ‘Miss Clark’.

How had he not noticed that before? The incident where Catelyn toppled over Cedrick must just be the couple’s way of having fun!

Everyone was so focused on Catelyn that she could not bring herself to humiliate Cedrick at that moment.

She suppressed her anger and decided to deal with him later.

She slowly walked toward Cedrick, who then pulled her onto his lap.

Catelyn twitched ever so slightly, and Cedrick’s arm immediately tightened around her waist. Bringing his lips next to her ear, he whispered, “Don’t make me force you down in front of everyone.” Catelyn froze as she squeezed out a polite smile.

How could Cedrick be so shameless?

The air in the conference room tensed the moment Cedrick arrived.

Since Catelyn had been revealed to be Cedrick Mason’s wife, the Missus CEO of Mason Group, why would she ever care about mere bribery?

It was clear to everyone that she had been slandered!

Cedrick, of course, did not come unprepared as he got on a call with Charles right away.

Charles managed to track down the woman who met Catelyn in the washroom previously.

The woman insisted that it was Ivan who had ordered her to slander Catelyn.



Taking that into account, as well as how he stole Smith's work, drove William to fire Ivan right then and there. He was to never be rehired by the company, and his actions would be exposed to the public.

Ivan's future was completely ruined that day.

He finally understood why Amy would suddenly go against him; it must have been because of Cedrick!

Just when he thought things could not get any worse, Eason blocked the entrance, preventing him from leaving. Ivan's face was ashen at that point as he looked up at Cedrick blankly.

"You ruined my wife's reputation, and you nearly got her arrested for things she didn't do. Do you think you can just leave?" Cedrick asked nonchalantly.

Chapter 505-'ve lost everything already! What else do you want from me?' screamed Ivan internally, knowing he would never say these things out loud.

He turned to Catelyn and smiled politely as he apologized, "I'm so sorry to have wronged you, Missus Mason. Can you please allow me to walk out of here in peace?" Catelyn had achieved her goal.

Ivan had relied on his fame and talent within the architecture world his whole life, and without these things, he was nothing. Cedrick, however, did not think it was enough.

"You've forged evidence just to frame my wife and instigated others to commit crimes for you. If these were reported to the police..." "No!" Ivan lost his composure as he shrieked, "I have an elderly mother to take care of at home! I can't go to jail!" "Don't worry. My wife is too kindhearted, and she'd never do that. That's why I've thought of a second option for you." Ivan gulped nervously, doubtful of how forgiving Catelyn was. Nonetheless, he questioned, "What's...the second option?" "My wife invested in a coal mine in South Africa a while ago, and they're looking for more miners at the moment. I'm happy to pay you the same amount of salary you're getting now if you work there for five years. If you manage to stay away from my wife afterward, I'll forget everything that you've done." Catelyn looked at Cedrick incredulously.

What a bunch of nonsense! She had never even been to South Africa, let alone invested in a coal mine there!

Of course, Ivan was reluctant on that offer. He spat in anger as he had lost all of his composure, "What's the difference between that and going to jail?!" "The difference is that you have an elderly mother to take care of." "No! I'm not going to jail, nor am I going to be a miner!" "You have one day to decide. If I don't get an answer, I'll be reporting your crime to the police." Cedrick's tone was cold as he gestured at Eason with his eyes.

Eason understood him and dragged Ivan out of the room in an instant.

Cedrick did not stay long after doing what he came to do. He whispered something into Catelyn's ear before leaving.

Catelyn reluctantly hummed in reply when she heard that he would come pick her up after work, as she dreaded having to deal with him later.

Her impatience toward him, however, only showed how spoiled she was by Cedrick.

Cedrick was satisfied with Catelyn's behavior as he walked out of the VSA building with a grin on his face.

Catelyn felt eyes on her from everywhere the moment Cedrick left. William even started treating her with respect and kindness.

That afternoon, Cedrick did not return to his office. He chose to wander around the streets.

At about three to four o'clock, he headed to the jewelry shop that he had gone to two days ago. He retrieved the black ring box and the ring from his pocket, placing them on the counter.

The ring had a charming motive of fireworks.

"Please pick a new box for this ring for me." The ring box had been with him for a while, and there were even visible light scratches on the box.

The worker was unaware of the fact that the man in front of her was their new boss. All she knew was the boss was an American, which was why she was cautious while serving one.

However, Cedrick was definitely the first man to purchase a box without jewelry in a jewelry shop.

"Sir, is this for a proposal?" a female worker asked.

Cedrick smiled and nodded. She then proceeded to tell him that he needed more than just a box to propose.

Chapter 506-Cedrick wanted to make things right for Catelyn all at once.

"This firework-motive ring is one of the best we got. Let's see if I can find a matching ring box..." the female staff pondered as she wanted to be ingenious when it came to packaging.

Ultimately, she brought several designs of unique ring boxes to Cedrick. Still, he was not satisfied.

"Sir, ring boxes are generally pretty much the same here and there." The staff was very distressed to deal with such a picky customer for the first time.

Cedrick lowered his eyes and glanced at an oversized pink ring box in the middle of the store's display cabinet.

It was a resplendent, ravishing ring.

He stared at the ring box and asked, "What about that box?" "No. That set is the most-treasured piece of our store. They aren't for sale separately!" de Cedrick soon took out a black card. "I'll buy the ring altogether. Now give me the box." The staff silently rolled her eyes.

Coming out of the jewelry store, Cedrick looked at the brand new ring box with an impish smile.

Afterward, he drove to a florist not far away.

Franché was known for its flowers and romantic ambiance. Almost every countryman was a romanticist as there were flowers on every windowsill in the country.

Cedrick stood at the door of the flower shop as he stared at the flowers, frowning slightly.

He suddenly realized that he knew too little about her.

‘What kind of flower does she like?’ A female florist lost a heartbeat when he noticed Cedrick, a noble and elegant man in a precious suit, standing at the door. She hurriedly walked up to him and enthusiastically chirped, “Sir, may I help you?” “I want to buy some flowers.” The florist was bewildered. “Flowers speak differently. What kind of message do you want to convey?” “A proposal,” answered Cedrick.

The florist brightened her eyes when she heard this. Generally speaking, men were more generous when proposing, so she began to push for her sales. “If you’re going to propose, it’s best to go with red roses, which symbolize the warmth of your heart and sincere love.” Cedrick had never proposed marriage before as he nodded with lips pursed when listening to the florist’s suggestions.

“How many flowers do you want?” He frowned. “How many would you recommend?” “I’ve seen rich men buy nine hundred and ninety-nine roses for their lover, which means longevity. Well, I’ve also seen the opposite-buying only one rose, that is—but ninety-nine roses are optimal.” After a moment of thought, Cedrick finally decided to take 99 roses. The florist soon began to pick those red roses happily while Cedrick enjoined, “Pack it beautifully, and wash the flowers again so that the fragrance won’t be too strong.” The florist excitedly responded. After she had finished rose-picking and just as she was about to pack them up, she saw Cedrick walking over with a sullen expression.

He pointed to a few red roses among the 99 roses and said, “Replace these ones and a few here. They aren’t fresh anymore.” The florist did not expect that Cedrick would even pay attention to these details and began to envy the blessed lady he would propose to.

Shortly after, she changed a few fresher red roses for him. When checking out, he did not even blink an eye. Before he turned to leave, Cedrick asked the florist, "Are you sure that red roses are suitable for the proposal? Will she like it?" "Yes, girls can't resist roses." She nodded with a smile. "Especially when it's given to her by her loved one. Trust me, she'll like it very much." 'She'll love the roses if it's from the one she loves... Am I the one she loves?' he mused.

Chapter 507-When it was time to get off work, Catelyn packed up. William had already fired Ivan and Amy and changed the way he treated Catelyn since then.

He came to offer her a ride back home. Still, Catelyn entered a lift with a perfunctory smile.

All of a sudden, her phone rang. The screen displayed a series of numbers she did not recognize.

"Hello, is this Miss Clark?" rang an old lady's voice that carried vicissitude.

"Yes, and you are?" Catelyn held the phone in one hand and clocked out with another to get off work.

"I'm George's mother. There's something I want to talk to you about." "George's mother?" Catelyn had not seen George for a long time. The last time they met was at the resort, but she deliberately avoided him at that time.

"Please carry on, Missus Graham." "George has been a good boy since he was a child.

"His father and I had run a timber factory before this. Although we're not wealthy, we're not below average at all. However, not long ago, someone reported our factory, and that caused the suspension of production and compensation. George also lost his job because of that. He has been drinking heavily for quite a while. One day, he spilled the beans after drinking, and now we know it was all because of you!" Catelyn's grip on the phone suddenly tightened as she stiffly stood in the hall.

"I've never been a snob. I know you were once George's boss's wife and you have two kids, so that's why I'm calling you today, begging you to stop troubling George!

"Miss Clark, are you still listening?" George's mother asked eagerly.

"I'm still here," Catelyn hurriedly responded.

Catelyn finally figured out why Cedrick was so inattentive when she told him that her engagement to George was canceled.

It turned out that he had already rigged George's family business to ruin their engagement!

He knew very well that their marriage could never happen.

"I'm sorry for causing trouble to you and George, Missus Graham. I'll get this sorted out." It was five o'clock sharp and Cedrick had been waiting in this car in front of VSA Group's building. A huge rose bouquet was placed in the passenger seat, and the faint fragrance of the flowers hung in the air.

He had texted Catelyn and asked for her address, to which Catelyn replied soon after.

With the address Catelyn gave him, Cedrick successfully found Catelyn at the corner of the street.

Seeing what she was wearing, he frowned slightly.

Since Catelyn was going to work today, she wore very ordinary business attire.

However, he loosened the tense expression he had and stopped the car on the side of the road.

Catelyn was in a daze when Cedrick lowered his car's window. She then spotted the large bouquet of roses, and Cedrick-who looked handsome that day-in the driver's seat by a glance.

The water droplets on the roses enhanced the delicacy and charm of the roses.

"That's for me?" she blurted in surprise.

"I happened to pass by a flower shop on the way, so I bought it. Do you like it?" "No woman in the world can resist the charm of red roses. Of course I like it." Catelyn calmly sat in the car and placed the red roses in the back seat. It was inconvenient to hold it like this.

She subconsciously glanced at the back seat while putting the rose bouquet, but she noticed that both Miles and Ollie were not there.

Cedrick told her to fasten her seatbelt, and from the corner of his eyes, he occasionally took a peek at Catelyn. She put the red roses on the back seat so casually that she did not even smell the bouquet.

Chapter 508-Cedrick's frown deepened.

The florist must have made a bad recommendation. Red roses probably were not Catelyn's favorite.

Cedrick took Catelyn to a giant cruise ship for dinner.

The luxurious ship with blue-and-white stripes sailed in the sea, rolling up the waves as it moved.

Catelyn followed Cedrick to the cruise's deck as her black wide-leg pants flapped in the wind.

The moment she set foot on the cruise ship, melodious soothing saxophone music played.

The sky had not darkened. Still, the ship was already full of candles and the light illuminated the entire hull.

Due to the strong sea breeze, the candles were covered in glasses, which added a bit of fantasticality to the deck.

The dim candlelight set off the beautifully furnished deck and the red carpet that extended from the deck to the dining room in the inner cabin. In the dining room, a plain white dining table was decorated with beautiful roses and lilies, overflowing with romance.

“Master Cedrick, Miss Clark, it’s time for dinner.” The waiter led the two of them to their seats as he spoke.

Red wine steak, Franch foie gras, and appetizing snacks were ready on the table. The environment and lighting were in the perfect state that any couple could ask for.

Everything was impeccable.

To Catelyn, it all felt like an ordinary candlelight dinner and enjoyed herself.

However, in the next instant, she saw Cedrick stand up from his seat and slowly walk toward her...with a small black ring box in his hand.

He then opened the ring box, revealing a ring with fireworks as its motive.

Catelyn could not help but stare at the ring.

‘Isn’t this the design I drafted for the Chandier Jewelry competition?’ she asked herself.

She could not believe the ring in front of her at that very moment was a finished product of her design!

“Although the setup isn’t beautiful enough, it still fits your definition of sincerity.

Catelyn, marry me,” a deep, magnetic male voice fell into her ears.

Catelyn raised her eyes to meet Cedrick’s deep gaze filled with incomprehensible affection.

Her heartbeat suddenly accelerated.



At the same time, a thin layer of tears involuntarily accumulated in her eyes.

No matter how much she had missed and hated him, she could have sworn she heard an angel's voice telling her to accept his proposal.

She desperately took a deep breath, suppressed the emotions that were about to spill out of her, and indifferently spat, "I won't." Cedrick seemed to have expected that she would refuse and stared at her with his darkened eyes. "What am I not doing enough?" "It's not that you aren't doing enough; it's that I can't do it." Catelyn bit her lower lip shamefully as her face paled in the candlelight. "I often think of that night that happened half a month ago, and I'd always think of myself as filthy. You are Master Cedrick of the Mason family. There's no woman you couldn't get if you want." So it's still about that night...'Cedrick mused.

Bitterness flashed across Cedrick's eyes.

"It takes guts to be your wife. Everyone from the Mason family and the Clark family, including your elders, has their eyes on me!

"I don't want that one day, when someone digs up my past and finds out about the scandals, they'll tell my two sons that their mother isn't worthy!

"I feel inferior. I don't have the confidence and courage-" Cedrick suddenly held her hands and pressed them tightly against his chest.

"Do you feel it? This heart is beating violently because of you." "No matter what you are thinking right now, stop for me. I only allow you to say yes to me!

"Everything that happened in the past isn't your fault, and I don't care! Unless you still hate what I did to you, these scandals are just excuses you're using to reject me!" The air seemed to have thinned out. She was almost unable to think and speak.

"It's not an excuse! I'm serious!" Catelyn felt her nose tingling sorely as she refuted. She could not pull her hands back. "From the very beginning, we've been tangled in lies and deceit, and there is a huge

disparity in terms of background and temperament..." After a pause, her tone shifted into what sounded like unforgiveness. "Did you rig George and his family's business?"

Chapter 509-"Yes!" answered Cedrick, not even second-guessing how quickly he responded.

"As long as he's willing to leave you, I can give him ten times or even a hundred times the compensation, any time. Do you expect me to watch you marry him and let my children call another man 'father'? Impossible!

"It's fine even if you didn't accept my proposal tonight; I'll get rid of all your pursuers no matter what! You said that you never betrayed me, and you aren't under the Ninth Master. I'm willing to believe it now, but how about you? Are you not willing to give me a chance?" Catelyn stared at him in a daze, suddenly not knowing whether to laugh or cry.

He was still so shameless after what he had done to George and his parents!

"My biggest pursuer is you. Can you get rid of yourself-mmph!" Cedrick suddenly leaned down and forced a kiss on her cherry lips.

He wanted to tell her that he was the one who dragged her to the small black room that night more than half a month ago. When he saw her and George together, he was so enraged that he could not help dragging her to Mason Estate.

Nonetheless, he deeply regretted it afterward, so he pretended that nothing had happened and sent her back quietly.

With the current situation, telling the truth would only make him more disgusted in her eyes.

"Stop!" Cedrick's unconscionable act had hurt Catelyn's mouth. She was tightly bound by him, unable to move at all.

Shame, anger, low self-esteem, hatred, and countless emotions intertwined.

Finally, the air in her lungs seemed to be drained when Cedrick ended his roguish manhandling.

Cedrick held her tightly to him. His voice was hoarse but gentle as he spoke, "Would you like to make a bet with me?" Catelyn's brain was oxygen-deprived at that moment, making her difficult to think. "What...are you betting on?" "Within a minute, you won't refuse to wear this ring." Catelyn gradually regained the ability to think, and she sneered when she heard this.

The hand was hers. She could refuse anyone, anytime, and anywhere.

Not to mention, Cedrick wanted to do it in just a minute.

She pushed him away and went to the deck alone for the breeze and fresh air.

Cedrick pursed his thin lips, pinched the ring, and followed, but his eyes fell on the tranquil sea.

The sky was completely dark. As far as anyone could see, there were only sparkles on the sea.

"I know you're not very good at swimming," came Cedrick's voice as he stood beside Catelyn.

This baffled Catelyn. What on earth was he getting at?

Immediately afterward, she noticed his gaze wandering over the sea and her, and he even seemed to reach out as if to push her.

Catelyn's eyes widened as she stepped back nervously immediately. Was he possibly thinking of revenge, just because she rejected his proposal?!

"Cedrick, I'm not good at the water. Don't mess around!" Cedrick's black eyes gleamed impishly as he continued to pull her with a half-smile. "It doesn't matter. You can't, but I can." Catelyn was so shocked that she could not speak. When his hand was about to reach her arm, she pushed him harshly by reflex. However, Cedrick did not resist and started to fall.

It was autumn, and the water was very cold. Catelyn thought of the wound on his right arm all of a sudden and regretted what she had done, so she tried to pull him in horror at that very second.

I'm crazy!' she yelled internally. To Catelyn's utter surprise, Cedrick suddenly grabbed her arm and pulled her into him

Chapter 510-Splash!

Catelyn and Cedrick fell into the sea.

Catelyn was very afraid of water as she struggled to stay afloat.

"Hold on to me." Cedrick kept his balance and supported her waist with one hand.

The fear of drowning was far greater than anything else, so Catelyn desperately pressed into Cedrick's arms and wound hers around his neck. Her long hair was already wet as her body recurred to float and sink due to the buoyancy, She felt extremely embarrassed.

Gradually, the two maintained their balance in the water.

Cedrick silently held Catelyn's hand as the bright moonlight fell upon them.

Seconds later, she realized that he had put on the fireworks ring on her ring finger.

"I'm holding you." He grabbed her hand, lowered his head, and kissed her ring finger. "Catelyn, you lost the bet." Catelyn was so angry that she burst into tears and bit on his neck, wishing to bleed him blood while cursing vaguely in her mouth. "Cedrick, you lunatic!

B\*stard!" Miles and Ollie were taken to the children's restaurant by Eason that night. Both boys could barely wait for Catelyn's return as they returned home.

She had not called them all this while, which was suspicious for both of them.

Even if Catelyn was working overtime and could not make it on time, she would usually notify Miles and Ollie in advance.

Eason was playing a game with the kids in the living room. It was a simple monsters-beating game. The two children were competing in hand speed as they wanted to know who could beat the most monsters in a minute.

Eason eventually found out that he could not beat both Master Ollie and Master Miles.

"I don't want to play anymore." Miles dropped the gamepad and said contemptuously, "You're boring! I'm going to find Mommy." Ollie, too, put down his gamepad and followed Miles to make a phone call.

Eason hurriedly stopped the two little guys. "Hold your horses, young masters!

Miss Clark may not be back tonight. Even if you make a phone call, she may not be able to pick it up, so let's continue to play the game, shall we?" Miles' little ears perked up at this as he stared at him keenly. "What do you mean Mommy won't come back tonight?" "Did Father take Mommy away?" asked Ollie speculatively.

"Uh..." Eason scratched his head, fearing that the two kids would burst with anger. Soon, he smiled and said, "The wound on Master Cedrick's right arm worsened, so Miss Clark has gone to the hospital to take care of him," "Then why can't we call Mommy if she really went to the hospital?" asked Miles as he frowned.

"You're not telling the truth." Ollie squinted slightly and asked, "Where is Mommy?" Eason was about to collapse mentally. He was questioned closely to the point that he turned speechless by the two little boys who were barely four years old!

He stammered for a while, and when he was trying to find an excuse to go to the bathroom, a metallic noise came from the doorknob outside the house.

Then, the door was pushed open, and Catelyn and Cedrick entered from outside.

Miles was about to rush over to be fondled by his mother as he was happy that she finally came back. However, the smile on his face disappeared the instant he spotted the firework-motive ring on her finger.

In contrast, Ollie's eyes shone brightly.

After all, Ollie had been hoping that his mother and his father could reconcile.

Only through that would they reunite as a family of four once more.

Catelyn saw that the children were staring at her ring finger, so she subconsciously hid her hand, but she then felt it was unnecessary.

The tall man beside her held her hand, clasped their fingers together, and announced to the two boys, "There will be two more members in the Mason family from today onward."