

## **Our Billion 791**

Chapter 791-All she asked was a clean break with Cedrick so that Grandpa Mason would hand over her father, she knew she should focus on the bigger picture and stop indulging herself already.

Besides, she had one more thing to find out—the truth behind Stella’s car accident.

Days ticked by, and it was already the day to take the laboratory results of the needle.

Joanne was afraid that Catelyn was pretending to be calm, but she undeniably looked composed.

“Cat, are you okay?” asked Joanne worriedly.

“I’d be lying if I said I’m fine.” Catelyn tried her best to squeeze out a smile. “But I can’t live in the shadows forever. I need to get myself out of this little comfort zone of mine, or I might not be able to make it before Dad comes back.”

She had a feeling she might never meet a man better than Cedrick in her life and would not fall in love with other men again.

However, she would hide her feelings toward him deeply in her heart until the day she would hear he was thriving.

Joanne gave Catelyn a big hug, burying the sadness in her heart with her. “I’ll stand by you through everything, girl.”

Catelyn returned her smile.

Edwin did not want to intervene with them, merely handing them eye creams when he saw how red and swollen their eyes were.

Catelyn took the eye cream, but her thoughts drifted away. “Mister Atherton, there’s something I want to ask you.”

Edwin leaned on the coach languidly. "What's the matter?"

"Is...Quinn your cousin?" Catelyn was not sure if Quinn managed to fool Edwin, so she decided to be careful with her question lest she was accused of purposely provoking their relationship.

After all, Quinn's Pentaland Group had been against her for a long time.

Edwin's long, narrow eyes narrowed slightly. "My aunt was a very gentle woman. There were countless men attracted to her back then, and she had a lot of choices. I don't think she'd silently give birth to an illegitimate daughter in a rural town."

Catelyn sighed, relieved that Edwin was still the brilliant man she knew.

"Then, why did you accept her that day? Is it to use her as a cover to find out the mice in the Atherton family?"

"This is why I love having a conversation with smart women." Edwin hinted at Joanne with a glance and continued, "Quinn came to the door with the Atherton family inheritance bracelet, just to fool my grandmother and get her approval.

Alas, my grandmother is no fool, so she and I decided to play along to find out who had been instructing her. As you said, she'd be a good pawn in the game."

As far as he knew, many people in the Atherton family had frequently courted Quinn since she moved in, especially her uncle, Eugene.

He even followed Quinn's lead as if he believed that the Atherton family would hand over the family business to her eventually in the future, and he also urged her to coax Granny Atherton to change her will.

Catelyn seemed to understand a little of what Edwin said and warily asked, "The bracelet inherited from the Atherton family?"

Quinn came from a rural town, and her only relative was Stella. Therefore, Catelyn could not figure out where she got the Atherton family's inheritance bracelet from. 'Was it Lola? It doesn't make sense for Lola to have Quinn pretend to be the missing daughter. That's too risky.' "Can I take a look at the bracelet?" Joanne also widened her eyes curiously, staring at Edwin.

Edwin frowned.

Catelyn understood the embarrassed expression on Edwin's face and responded, "It's okay. Joanne and I are just curious. If it's not convenient, then it's fine."

"The patterns of the bracelets passed down by the Atherton family to men and women are different.

Mine has no value of reference. Plus, both bracelets are now locked in the safe of the Atherton Manor," Edwin explained.

Joanne lowered her eyes in despair. "If it's that troublesome to see it, it's alright."

Seeing the disappointment in her eyes, Edwin quickly added, "I do have photos of it saved in my phone, and I can show you those."

Chapter 792-Joanne's eyes widened as a twinkle of hope flashed in them, she stretched her neck, anticipating the photos.

Edwin looked away from her white neck, calmly took out his phone, clicked on the album, and pressed the TV-sharing button.

The pattern of the phoenix bracelet instantly appeared on the LCD TV screen in the living room.

Before Edwin could introduce them to the two, Catelyn shrank her eyes suddenly, staring at the pattern, and asked, "Mister Atherton, are you saying that this bracelet is the inheritance bracelet of your family?"

“Yes. It was passed on to the eldest daughter of the next of kin, but my aunt fell out with my grandmother twenty years ago and took this bracelet with her. It’s been said that it has disappeared ever since.”

Noting Catelyn’s peculiar behavior, Edwin added, “Have you seen it before?”

“My mother used to hang a family photo in the bedroom, and there was a bracelet that was very similar to this one, but I’m not sure if that was the one.”

The family photo had been hanging in Stella’s bedroom for many years. Although Catelyn usually helped her to clean her room, she had never paid close attention to the photo.

It just happened that when she saw the picture on Edwin’s phone, the relevant memories of the bracelet came back into her head.

The longer she stared at it, the more she found it similar to Quinn’s bracelet.

That bracelet was closely related to Lisa, and that was why Edwin frowned and asked suspiciously, “where is that family portrait? Take me to see it right now.”

“Alright.”

Edwin ordered the driver to prepare the car, intending to find the family photo.

Joanne also wanted to go with him, but she was overworked last night and felt rather dizzy. She only managed to stand up and walked a few steps before she fell limply forward. Her knee accidentally bumped the leg of the coffee table because of that.

She groaned in pain and limped on one leg.

Edwin noticed her odd behavior and asked, “what’s the matter?”

"I'm fine; just a light bump is all. Let's go see the family portrait now." Joanne stood up with the support from the coffee table and shook her right leg. she felt like that was a bad omen.

She had long disliked Quinn, and it was time to expose her.

"Calm down. The family portrait isn't going anywhere, stop moving around. Do you think it looks good if you're lame?" Seeing that Joanne was going to run out, Edwin took a few steps forward and wound his arm around her waist.

"W—What are you doing?" Joanne was hoisted bridal style as Edwin's arm went underneath her knees.

Looking at him from this angle, she could see the man's jawline. Coupled with his attractive eyes and silhouette against the warm light, she started to feel butterflies in her stomach.

She quickly slapped herself mentally and tried distracting herself. Edwin glanced at her. "Stay still in my arms, would you? You weren't born pretty, and if you fall and smash your face, don't expect me to take you for plastic surgery."

"Shut up. Have you not heard that beauty is a woman's wealth? Don't curse me!" Joanne nestled in his arms and touched her face. She was a celebrity, so her beauty meant a lot to her.

Speaking of beauty in the entertainment industry, she always thought that those actresses who worked hard were because they were not innately gorgeous.

Edwin threw her back on the couch and held her arm with one hand so she would not move, and he then lifted her leg to check the bruise. It looked rather concerning, but it was not a serious injury either.

"It really curious. You can even fall while walking on a flat surface. How did you manage to survive all these years?"

"Everyone has their first time in their lives!" replied Joanne proudly.

Edwin glared at her before turning to Catelyn and said, "I think you didn't rest well last night. You should stay. Give me the address and key, and I'll find it myself."

Truth be told, Catelyn was suffering from dizziness and headache from being drunk, so she relented and told Edwin the address.

Chapter 793-"That portrait should be on the wall in my mother's bedroom."

"Alright, then." Although Edwin was anxious to see the family portrait, he did not forget to instruct a maid to help Joanne ice her wound.

Joanne sighed. "It's so good to be rich, Cat. I'm telling you, Cat: All it takes is a ring of the bell on my bedside, whether I wanted to eat or play, the maids would bring it to me without me leaving the bed.

No wonder so many people want to be capitalists."

Catelyn laughed and joked, "Well, you've already upgraded to a rich lady."

"I'm not!" Joanne was very self-aware, she patted her purse and said bluntly, "My savings haven't reached thirty thousand dollars, which is far from the definition of being rich!"

Monique Entertainment relied only on Joanne to make money over the years, yet they gave her only a small proportion of the shares. In addition, she had been contributing to charity work, so there were not a lot of savings in her account.

Catelyn was lying on the couch with her, looking up at the splendid crystal chandelier and slowly got lost in a daze.

"You're now Missus Atherton, and Mister Atherton will satisfy you with whatever you want. Don't live a sober life. Living with wealth, sometimes it's better to be a little confused."

Joanne blinked and muttered in a low voice, "I plan to have a baby in two years.

Maybe something will change by then."

'Will Edwin abandon me and take the children away from me in the future?' fretted Joanne internally.

'I guess I'll have to do what Cat has done by then; secretly taking the children away.' That afternoon, Cedrick brought Miles, who was babbling endlessly, to shoal villa.

Joanne was basking in the sun in the garden, leaning lazily on the sun lounger, and listening to melodious music. When she saw Miles, she got up from the sun lounger excitedly. "Ah! It's Miles, my sweetie!"

She quickly hoisted him into his arms and peppered his face with kisses.

Miles wiped off the saliva in disgust and said without squinting, "Godmother, where's Big Kitty?"

"She's resting upstairs."

Joanne watched vigilantly at the tall man who followed Miles. He was carrying a suitcase in his hand.

'Don't tell me he wants to live here...' Joanne would not allow that to happen. Elder Mason would torture Mister Clark if he knew about this!

She could not bear to see Catelyn blaming herself anymore!

"Master Cedrick, Catelyn told you very clearly last time to not disturb her and give her some space. Is it that hard? If you get close to her again, you'll drive her nuts!" Joanne raised her voice to emphasize that with a straight face.

Cedrick tightened his grip on the suitcase handle. "Do you know why she left me?"

Joanne suddenly covered her mouth and shook her head like a rattle. "No, I don't."

"You claim to be her best friend, but you chose to turn a blind eye when she divorced me suddenly and suffered from inner pain. Is this what you call a bestie?" Cedrick stared at Joanne as his tone turned cold.

It was at this moment Joanne decided to no longer pretend and come clean.

"Yes, I know why she left you, so quit provoking me. I won't tell you! It's her business. Unless she's willing to tell you personally, I won't betray her."

She admitted that she was not smart enough, but that did not mean she was brainless.

If it was something else, she would dare to tell Cedrick about it.

However, if she pointed it out to Cedrick, he and Elder Mason might turn against each other, which would put Mister Clark's life in danger.

Cedrick sneered, "Do you think you're helping her by that? That only deepens her pain."

Chapter 794-"Miles, let me sing you a nursery rhyme. The wheels on a bus go round and round..."  
Joanne quickly shifted her attention to Miles and sang to him, all to avoid leaking more information.

Miles then ran into the villa, looking for Catelyn up and down.

Joanne did not stop him. 'How heartless can an old man be to take a mother's children and the last bit of happiness away from her?' However, after a few minutes, Miles rushed to her anxiously and shouted, "Godmother, where's Big Kitty? Didn't you say she was resting upstairs? where is she?"

Joanne shot up from the sun lounger instantly. "She's in the first guest room on the left on the second floor. Let's go, I'll take you to find her."



Miles held Joanne's hand and they paced to the guest room.

Although he was just a kid, he ran so fast that Joanne had to trot after him to catch up.

When Miles pushed open the door of the guest room, the room was empty and the quilt was neat, but the luggage was there and Catelyn was nowhere to be seen.

All the while, Joanne did not notice that Cedrick was following closely behind.

The curtains in the bedroom were tightly closed, and the environment seemed depressing. He turned his head and asked Joanne, "Where's Catelyn?"

Joanne froze in place as her face paled with worry. "Why is this room empty?"

She was here just a while ago. She said that she was sleepy and wanted to take a rest... oh, dear lord! Please don't do something silly!"

Cedrick and Miles' faces sank the moment they heard Joanne. At that moment, the thought that she might have attempted to take her life crossed their minds.

The air in the room seemed to freeze, and the temperature seemed to have dropped.

Joanne realized that she had said something that worried the two, so she immediately comforted them, "Impossible! Cat felt much better this morning.

She said she was all right, so she must be busy doing her work now. I'll call her and ask..."

A familiar, unique ringtone suddenly rang in the room. It was the ringtone that Catelyn had set for Joanne's dial.

The source of the sound seemed to be on the nightstand in the bedroom.

‘Where did she go? she didn’t even bring her cell phone!’ Joanne panicked as she shouted at Cedrick, “It’s all your fault! If it wasn’t for you and your family, Cat wouldn’t be in this dilemma! If something happens to her, I’m going to get you!”

A thought instantaneously flashed in Cedrick’s mind.

Before he could catch the gist of it, Miles dragged him out of the room. “Quickly, order your people to find Mommy! What are you doing just standing here?!”

Cedrick had his bodyguards investigate the surveillance footage near Shoal Villa to find Catelyn’s whereabouts. Since she did not deliberately conceal her whereabouts, the bodyguards soon located her by tracking down the cab she took.

They found out that Catelyn had gone straight to a private cemetery on the outskirts of the city.

Catelyn held a bouquet of white chrysanthemums in front of a tombstone, sat quietly on the ground, and talked to the tombstone of Daphne.

She did not know why she came here. Perhaps, deep down, she wanted to apologize.

The cemetery was remote and sparsely populated.

The cold breeze of the winter was freezing cold. However, although she was alone, she was not afraid.

She probably felt that way because this was Cedrick’s mother.

The last time Cedrick brought Catelyn to visit Daphne’s tombstone, they held hands and made a lifetime promise in front of it. Alas, all it took was a few days for things to drastically change.

Drip!

A drop of water fell on the back of her hand.

Catelyn caressed her face and realized that this was her tear, and she was crying again.

She thought that she had become stronger, but it seemed that she was not brave after all. When she was alone, she could not help but recall the beautiful moments she spent with Cedrick. The sweeter it was, the more heartbroken she felt.

Chapter 795-Cedrick hurried to the cemetery. After receiving an affirmative reply, saying that Catelyn was there, his mind was finally at ease.

He walked into the cemetery quietly but hastily, and when he was close to where Catelyn was, he deliberately slowed down so as to not startle her.

In the distance, he saw a slim figure leaning on a tombstone. The lifeless monument made the woman look a little more delicate.

Catelyn could vaguely hear faint footsteps behind her before she was engulfed in the dark shadow of a man. Catelyn did not need to turn to know who it was—no one but Cedrick would come here.

She rapidly blinked away her tears, stood up, and walked past him as if nothing happened.

“Why did you come here?” Cedrick took a big step in an oblique direction and stood in front of her, halting her in her steps.

Catelyn’s eyes slowly moved up along his shiny, black leather shoes, black trousers, and high-end suits, and eventually stopped at his deep eyes, she then said firmly, “I didn’t keep my promise, so I came to apologize to Daphne.”

'Daphne? You changed the way you addressed her?!' Cedrick took out the sticky note that Catelyn had left in Green Islands from his wallet. "If you want to divorce me, then explain this."

On the sticky note was Eulalie, a lyrical poem that expressed the wife's wish to help her husband to overcome his sadness and to stay with him until the end of time.

That was totally different from what they were at the moment.

Catelyn knew that poem should not be left, she laughed at herself, and her voice was so emotionless as if she was talking to a stranger. "Take that as a blessing from me. I hope you can remember me for a lifetime."

Cedrick was hurt by Catelyn's words as his heart tightened. "I just went to Shoal Valley to see Joanne, she fessed up already, so why don't you choose to believe me? I can fight Grandpa for you!"

Catelyn stared at him blankly as her eyes widened. Her mind blanked for a moment. 'Does he...know?' "As long as you're willing, our current predicament is nothing of a dilemma."

Cedrick stared at her intently.

The guilt in her eyes was evident to Cedrick. As long as he kept trying to lure her into telling the truth, she would lose control and spill the beans in the end.

Before Cedrick could continue, Catelyn suddenly took a step back defensively.

"You're lying! Why would Joanne tell you anything? You ran over my mother!"

"Yeah, I am in a dilemma to choose between my family and my lover, but who cares?! Forget about your conspiracy theory. I love you, but I don't like you anymore. I came back to you just for my children!"

Catelyn would never tell him the truth, she was lying to him.

“Swear with your children that you don’t love me anymore, then!” Cedrick stared at her as his eyes reddened.

“Children have never been a tool for my curse.”

“Then that means you still love me! What exactly did Grandpa do to you?”

Cedrick squeezed her shoulders with both hands. If this went on before the truth was told, this whole thing could make him go insane!

Catelyn had made up her mind, she did not want to be in that situation anymore, so she roared back impatiently, “No one did anything; you caused all this! You said you didn’t hit my mother, but you insisted on not telling me what you did and where you went on the night she had an accident!”

Cedrick suddenly loosened his grasp on her shoulders, and his body started to sway.

Catelyn knew that it must be something he did not want to tell, and that unexpectedly seemed to be a good excuse she could use for her lies.

She pulled her fingers away, one by one, and when Cedrick’s arms fell from her shoulders, that gave her the feeling of losing the most important thing in her life.

Just when she was about to go, however, he grabbed her hand and hoarsely spoke, “If I tell you what I did that day, would you come back to me?”

Catelyn almost fell by that surprising grasp.

Cedrick was backing down for her again. He did not want to say all this the night she first questioned him, but at this moment, he was faltering.

However, Catelyn did not want him to become so selfless for her anymore.

He should be the king who would not bow his head for anything or anyone.

She decided to leave him cruelly this time as she said with an emotionless, derisive expression, "Alright then, fess up right in front of your mother's tombstone. Let's hear about your shameful scandal."

Chapter 796-The warmth in Cedrick's eyes dissipated at that very moment. They turned cold and deadly like the water in an abyss. "Is that what you want to hear?"

"No lies In front of the dead. Yes, that's what I want."

"Hah! Very well, then!" Cedrick guffawed in anger, no longer bargaining with Catelyn. "If this is what you want, then I'll do as you wish."

Catelyn felt a chill and forced herself to stand firm." Thank you."

Cedrick was dying to know what she was thinking as he warned furiously, "Don't ever appear in front of me again, or you won't be able to bear the consequences!"

With that, Cedrick left without looking back. He swore that he would never take the initiative to find and please her like a simp anymore.

To be more precise, it was futile to ask her anything until the truth was made known.

As she watched Cedrick walking away, Catelyn clasped a hand over her mouth as she cried in agony, no longer able to hold back the sadness in her heart anymore. She could only bite the back of her hand forcefully, so as not to let the cry leak out to alarm him.

She did not know how long she had stayed in the cemetery by herself with her mind lost until Joanne came to find her.

It was Cedrick who told her she was here.

Catelyn returned an apologetic smile as if nothing had happened. 'I made you worry.'

"What's important is that you're safe and sound. You didn't see how worried I was! You're not allowed to run away without informing me anymore! God knows I'm going crazy looking for you..." Joanne sighed in relief as she returned Catelyn's phone to her.

Catelyn unlocked her phone and found many missed calls, not only from Joanne and Miles but also from the hospital.

It had to be about the result of the drug test in the needle tube.

Joanne then drove Catelyn to the medical laboratory of the hospital.

The laboratory doctor called Catelyn into the office alone, took out the severed needle very seriously, and stared at her. "Ma'am, where did you get this thing?"

"My friend asked me to test it. Is there a problem?"

The doctor saw that she might not have any idea what the needle could cause and said, "We've tested the green liquid in it, and it's been confirmed that it is a potent poison. After being injected into the human body, it can cause a high degree of cerebral hypoxia in a short period that can lead to brain death."

'Cerebral hypoxia? Brain dead?' The combination of these words made Catelyn stunned. "Is this poison? Could the test result be wrong?"

"The laboratory report is here. If you don't believe me, you can see it for yourself. Young lady, this drug is very poisonous, so you have to be careful."

The doctor handed a stack of heavy reports to Catelyn with a shaky hand even though he was a doctor.

Seeing that Catelyn was in shock, Joanne pulled her aside and asked, "Where did you get this needle?"

“After my mother’s accident, I went back to Ocean Path Residence to rest for a while, and I accidentally found it on the ground.”

Fortunately, she had a terrible feeling about it and took it to the hospital for examination that night, otherwise, the truth of Stella’s accident would be untold forever.

“What? How could there be such a thing at Auntie Stella’s house?” Joanne’s eyes widened in disbelief, and she whispered, “Is there anyone who’d want to poison her?”

The word ‘poison’ struck Catelyn’s heart heavily, leaving her dazed.

“I remember that before my mother was hit by the car, she ran out in panic as if someone was chasing her.

Could it be that she knew that person was going to poison her, so she ran outside?”

“It’s very possible! Was the one who was chasing after Auntie Stella caught on the surveillance camera?”

Catelyn shook her head, and her face turned pale. “No, but after the car accident, the person who reported to the police and sent my mother to the hospital was...

Quinn.”

“I don’t think she looks like a good person. That’s murder! She even had Cedrick take the blame for her.” Catelyn clutched the report as her gaze darkened.

Chapter 797-Stella was Quinn’s biological mother!

‘Why would she do that? Was it because she was worried that Stella would reveal that she was not the granddaughter of the Atherton family?!’ Catelyn pondered in fright.



She never wanted to expose Quinn. All she asked for was just for her father to return safely to her!

Quinn could have enjoyed a happy life with that fake identity she declared to own.

Catelyn could not comprehend why she attempted to kill Stella even with all this.

If Quinn were the murderer, she would never spare her!

Catelyn resisted the urge to find Quinn for a showdown in the end because there were still too many doubts to be sorted out. Even if she went to confront Quinn, she would not admit anything; it would only alert her.

After receiving the report, the two went to Stella's ward to make a visit.

The doctor told them that he could not foresee Stella waking up.

Catelyn was afraid that Quinn would secretly come to the ward and poison Stella again, so she asked Edwin to get two female bodyguards to stay in Stella's ward.

Coincidentally, as soon as Catelyn and Joanne left the ward, they bumped into Quinn.

Ever since Quinn knew that Catelyn was about to divorce Cedrick, she was no longer as submissive as before.

When she woke up that morning, she had an upset stomach and kept vomiting.

The maid was worried that she had eaten spoiled food, so she asked the doctor to check on her.

The result of the inspection surprised her.

She was told that she was pregnant!

It had to be that night when she was with Cedrick, and this . must be his child!

She immediately came to a private hospital for a more detailed pregnancy check and also to check on Stella's condition by the way.

She asked the doctor before and knew that Stella would most likely not wake up from the coma, so she did not take Stella's recovery to heart.

In the future, when Cedrick and her got married and she gave birth to a son safely, it would no longer matter if Stella was awake or not. She would arrange for someone to take care of her for the rest of her life so that she could rest easy.

The three of them met in such an awkward situation.

Quinn was walking in pride, escorted by three maids, while Catelyn and Joanne had a look of sullenness on their faces. The lack of makeup added a bit of sadness to the sullenness, but even so, Catelyn and Joanne's features were way better than Quinn's.

When Quinn saw Catelyn, she raised her eyelids, took out an invitation from her purse, and handed it over to Catelyn while covering her mouth and smiling softly. “

Well, don't say that I didn't invite you. After all, I'm grateful for your help in getting me back to my family. I've now met my grandmother. Next week, my grandmother will hold a grand reunion banquet for me. You both are welcome.”

The invitation was made of a white card with golden drawings. It was easy to confuse it with a wedding invitation.

Catelyn felt a little disgusted.

“Reunion banquet? Your neighbor in the rural town said that your mother abandoned you to follow a wealthy man to the city. How could you be the daughter of the Atherton family then? Why does it feel like something’s ...wrong?” she sneered sarcastically.

Quinn’s pupils dilated upon hearing this, showing vigilance and panic. “You had someone investigate me, didn’t you?”

“My mother cherished you wholeheartedly and is even willing to sacrifice for you.

Now, she’s lying inside a hospital ward, and I don’t know when she’ll wake up. How can you manage to smile so happily? Can you teach me how to be as heartless as you?”

Chapter 798-Quinn subconsciously glanced at the maids behind her.

Seeing their expressions were calm as usual, she continued, “I admit that you helped me when I was living in Sapphire City, but it doesn’t mean that I can’t live my life. Are you jealous that I’ve finally met my grandmother and become the most respected daughter of Miss Atherton? If you don’t want to come, you can just be honest.”

Catelyn did not care whether or not she was truly grateful to her.

Just as Quinn was about to place the invitation back into her purse, Catelyn quickly snatched it. She started to read the words written on the card.

[With the joy we share in finding my granddaughter, the Atherton family has specially organized a dinner party and sincerely requests the pleasure of your company.] The signee was Granny Atherton.

“Yes, why would I not want it?” Catelyn closed the invitation slowly and looked at Quinn with cold eyes. “You said that you’re sincerely inviting me, so how rude would I be to reject it? You may want to be careful though, Miss Weir. The same knife cuts bread and fingers.”

Quinn felt a chill on her back when she heard that.

She immediately responded with a smile and straightened her back, caressing her belly gently as she did.

“Ah, one more thing. Grandpa Mason has just invited me to be a guest. He said that you’ll soon divorce Master Cedrick and make room for me and the baby in my belly. Oh, so sorry that I took your man from you.” When Joanne heard that, she almost burst with anger. “Are you pregnant?”

“Yeah, did I stutter?” Quinn covered her mouth exaggeratedly with an expression of being wronged, and she rolled her eyes. “I’m sorry. The baby isn’t Cedrick’s; I’ve never been to a hotel with Cedrick either.

“I guess I’ll go first. Remember to come to the family reunion banquet next week.”

Quinn walked away triumphantly.

Joanne stared at her back fiercely, not wanting that dog to walk away unscathed.

She was about to catch her up when Catelyn grabbed her wrist to stop her.

“Why are you stopping me?” hissed Joanne. “Quinn said she has Master Cedrick’s child! I’ll beat her so badly that she’ll miscarry. Let’s see how proud she’ll be by then!

“When did Master Cedrick hook up with her, anyway? A pregnancy test will take at least half a month-“

Joanne quickly stopped in fear of upsetting Catelyn.

Catelyn bit her lower lip and restrainedly said, “She’s the most respected daughter of Miss Atherton now. It’ll only cause US more trouble if we do something to her. It’s best to play her game on the same level.” “Do you have a plan?” Joanne hurriedly asked.

Through the glass window, Catelyn glanced at Stella, who was lying quietly on the hospital bed.

Since Quinn wanted to get rid of Stella so much, she decided to surprise her with a 'gift'.

Back in Ocean Path Residence.

Since no one had lived in for a few days, dust had accumulated.

About six bodyguards in black suits swarmed in with Edwin.

With Edwin's order, the bodyguards began to look for the family portrait in Ocean Path Residence, but there was nothing on Stella's bedroom walls.

The place where the family portrait should be hung on was already empty, leaving only a light color wallpaper on it.

Edwin stood firmly in front of the wallpaper, looking at the blank wall, and he narrowed his eyes.

He then sent people to search the entire room.

The bodyguards searched the room but found nothing.

"Mister Atherton, I didn't see the family portrait you mentioned."

Edwin could probably guess that it was taken away in advance. He pursed his lips and said, "Interesting. Very interesting. They even got rid of the portrait. It seems that the people behind this are afraid that I'd see this portrait."

Chapter 799-Edwin went to the hospital to fetch Catelyn and Joanne, telling them what he found. "I checked the doors and windows, and they were all perfectly locked without signs of forced entry."

This puzzled Joanne. "How did the thief get in?"

Catelyn and Edwin looked at each other, and they both saw something unusual in each other's eyes.

The doors and windows were all in good condition, indicating that it was not a break-in but a legal entry with the key instead.

'If the bracelet in that photo was similar to the phoenix bracelet, who'd deal with the painting?' Catelyn and Edwin pondered at the same time.

The only reasonable explanation was that the bracelet in the portrait was the one that Quinn gave to the Atherton family, so Quinn was the one who wanted to get rid of the portrait.

It was precisely because of that that she seemed guilty on the night that accident happened.

Edwin asked Catelyn, "Do you still remember the origin of that bracelet?"

"It's been too long. I can't remember clearly." Catelyn had never looked at the bracelet carefully. With the vague memory she still had, she said, "I vaguely remember that in that family portrait, little me was grabbing onto the bracelet.

I'm afraid only my mother knows the origin."

Edwin seemed a little interested when he heard that. "You held it?"

"Yes. Before our family was ruined by bankruptcy, he'd often give me all kinds of strange things to play with. I even found a skeleton of a small dinosaur in the storage room a few years ago. A real one. That's why I didn't take the bracelet to heart at all; there were so many odd things in my house."

Joanne finally caught up to the conversation. "That means it is very likely that Quinn took Catelyn's bracelet and stole her identity as Miss Atherton as well, right? That's why if she wants to keep her secret forever a secret, she has to...kill Stella..."

The realization horrified Joanne. Quinn was completely a psychopath!

Edwin had never worried about Quinn. He was instead worried about the people from his family who were dealing with her every day.

He looked at Catelyn and warily asked, "Do you have a photo of your mother?"

"If I said no, would it shock you?" Catelyn helplessly gave a wry smile.

Joanne reacted to that before Edwin could. "Don't you even have one?!"

"No." Catelyn shook her head. "I knew Stella was my stepmother when I was very young. I asked my father where my mother was, but he only told me that my mother died birthing me. He wouldn't tell me the information either, so I went around looking for pictures of my mom--"

"What then?" Joanne could not bear the long story Catelyn was going to tell.

"My father said that when my mother died, she was full of regrets, so he burned all her things, including photos, and buried them with her. Therefore, I never knew what my mother looked like, but my father would occasionally stare at my face in a daze. I'm guessing... that we share some similarities."

Speaking of her past, Catelyn instinctively thought of Ezekiel.

He was suffering in a prison somewhere in the world.

She had already divorced Cedrick and given up the custody of her two children at the request of Elder Mason. She did not know when Elder Mason would be willing to let her father come back to reunite with her.

'Does he want to wait until we go through the divorce entirely?' Edwin's sharp gaze fell on Catelyn's sad face for a moment.

He always thought that his aunt and Catelyn looked alike, but he did not expect that they were similar even when she was sad.

Perhaps Catelyn had never been so helpless in front of him before.

When they got out of the car, Edwin secretly collected a string of Catelyn's long hair. Maybe he and his grandmother could find the real Miss Atherton without waiting for the day when Quinn was exposed.

Until then, he had a question in his mind.

'My aunt left Sapphire City with that mysterious man, so how did she have a daughter with Ezekiel?'

Chapter 800-'Could it be that the man betrayed her, so my aunt was too ashamed to come back to the family?' It was all a mystery, and it seemed like Edwin needed to dig into his family's history of the past 20 years to unearth everything.

All the while, Catelyn had only been thinking about calling Elder Mason to inquire about her father's whereabouts. She did not notice that Edwin was staring at her.

As soon as she returned to Shoal Villa, Miles sprinted toward her with his tiny legs.

His short hands tightly wrapped around her legs, and he rubbed his chubby face against her knees.

"Mommy, Mommy!"

Catelyn was taken aback as she never expected to see Miles.

Feeling as though something was lodged in her throat, she squatted and hugged the boy tightly.



“How could you leave me like that? That’s unforgivable! If you do that again, I’ll find a new mother!” Miles, despite obviously grieving and sobbing, sounded endearing all the same.

Catelyn felt upset, but she did not cry. “How did you get here? You should return to Daddy...”

“The Big Demon hit me. I don’t want to be with him!” said Miles aggrievedly, his eyes filled with tears. “You said that we’d never be separated again... I’ll be obedient in the future, so please don’t leave me!” Catelyn wiped the tears from the boy’s eyes. “I’m sorry. Forgive Mommy. I have no choice...”

“What do you mean? Where are you going? Just take me with you!”

“It’s not that easy, honey. I can’t take you with me.”

Miles could not understand all the entanglement and vendetta between the adults. After all, he was just a child who was about to turn four.

“Why can’t you take me with you? You just want to leave me and Ollie here, don’t you? We could escape to Franche together like last time!”

“This time is different.” Catelyn tried to push Miles away gently as her nose turned sour. “Mommy has to leave you and Daddy for now, but trust me: As long as I find a way to solve the problem, I’ll be back again.” “How long?” Miles’ melodic voice came out of his throat.

No matter how hard Catelyn tried to pry off his hands, he still hugged her tightly and refused to let go.

Catelyn swayed, afraid of hurting the child. She did not dare to exert force, so she could only repeat, “Soon, very soon. I promise...”

“Lies. You’re lying again! If you knew, you’d tell me in detail instead of skirting around your answers. You’re not mentally prepared, are you? I don’t want it!”

“If you let me go to the Big Demon, I’ll go on a hunger strike or even jump off a building. I refuse to separate from you!”

“Don’t be like this, Miles. Don’t you always say that you’re not a three-year-old child anymore? You’re already a young man, a little superhero, so be strong for me, will you?”

“Miles, you have to let Mommy go, alright?”

‘Why is Miles here? Why did you send him here? You knew I couldn’t bear it, didn’t you?’ Catelyn tried her best to hold back her tears, but the tears fell down her cheeks as she lost control.

Drop after drop, it hit the back of the child’s tiny hand.

Miles also started to cry bitterly, and the more he cried, the more miserable he became.

He started to mumble, admitting his fragility and panic, “I’m only four years old, so I am still a kid! Kids are all unreasonable, so I won’t leave...”

“You’ve become disobedient, haven’t you?” said Catelyn sharply.

Miles bit his lip, and his shoulders trembled.

Joanne could not stand it any longer. “Cat, just keep Miles with you, please. He isn’t used to losing his mother suddenly.”

“But I’m afraid—”

“Maybe we could make a phone call! No one can be that inhumane.” Joanne could not see Miles crying so painfully, so she took out her phone, intending to call the stubborn Elder Mason.