

## **Pregnant 1271**

Chapter 1271 Edward's Rise and Alex's Defeat

"Big liar," George said suddenly.

With a choked voice, he finally could not hold it in anymore and burst into tears.

"Yes, I'm a big liar." Edward nodded.

"You and my mother are both big liars!" George kept crying. He glared at his father and the black and white photo, "Didn't you promise me that you would grow up with me? Didn't you promise me that you'll live with me? Didn't you promise me that even if the whole world left me, you would never leave me?! Liar, liar, liar!"

Pointing to Jeanne's photo, George vented all his emotions.

Really... tragic.

That was the pain that he should not have to bear at such a young age!

That day, George stood guard in front of Jeanne's grave, crying until the sky fell apart.

That day, Edward hugged the weeping George and left Jeanne's grave.

It was dark when they left.

Edward looked back at the black and white photo, and saw that she seemed to be smiling at him.

The wind blew the dust and sand on the ground and whisked up the fallen leaves, blocking his vision.

The vision in front of him had long been blurred.

Jeanne did not want to...see him.

George left the next day.

He hugged Paige before leaving on his own.

Edward refused to send him off and only watched his back as he left.

He looked at George's small frame who got into the black car and left without turning back.

He probably did not deserve to be called a father.

A month later, Susan moved into Bamboo Garden.

She and Edward now officially lived together.

Half a year later, Susan gave birth to Edward's daughter, and the whole country celebrated together.

Monica just watched the news on the phone, and at that moment, she really endured and did not drop the phone!

So, she conceived in October, and was pregnant for half a year.

That meant that when Jeanne just died, Edward and Susan fell in love and slept with each other.

If she were Jeanne, she would call that fraud.

One year later, Edward and Susan held a wedding ceremony.

On the wedding day, Edward rebelled.

When William appeared at the wedding scene as Gates' eldest son, he was detained by Edward on the spot and sent to prison.

A year and a half later, William was suspected of multiple homicide cases, abuse of power, and private misappropriation of state finances. He was sentenced to death with a twenty-year reprieve, and his personal property and all property of the Gates family were confiscated.

Alex was sent to a special prison.

Rather than a prison, it was better to describe it as a courtyard house where people are imprisoned.

It had everything you needed, including servants.

When Edward walked into this courtyard, it was half a year since Alex fell from his throne.

With the support of the masses and courtiers, Edward took the position of chief of Harken.

So far, the country's surname was changed from Gates to Swan.

When Edward arrived, Alex was sitting on the lawn of the courtyard, basking in the sun, accompanied by Susan.

The two turned to look at him at the same time and saw him walking up to them alone.

"You're here." Alex's voice was very soft with no hint of emotion.

Edward nodded slightly.

"Susan, make me a cup of tea."

"Alright."

In fact, he just wanted Susan to leave.

Susan was not oblivious, she turned and walked into the main room, and then looked at the two people from a distance, one tall and one short in the yard.

"How are your legs?" Edward asked proactively.

"Shouldn't you know better?" Alex sneered.

At that time, Alex was detained by Edward at the wedding, because he tried to escape, so he aimed a gun directly at his leg. He did not receive the appropriate reasonable treatment and succumbed to the injury. He was not completely disabled, but he was walking with a limp. When it was raining, the pain would arise.

"I'm the chief now." Edward cut to the chase.

A ceremony was held today.

"I saw it," Alex said bluntly.

"I didn't expect that one day we would turn out like this," Edward said.

His eyes looked at the clear sky, and there was not much emotion on his stern face.

Alex did not respond.

Edward continued, "When I was young, what I heard the most was to be loyal to you and your family. This is why I was born. If it wasn't for the cause of the Chief's family, I would not exist. So for a long time, I really believed that I should do everything for your family and you in this life. I was trained and experimented on crazily, and madly suppressed all my emotions. There is no meaning in anything I do."

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Chapter 1272 Edward's Rise and Alex's Defeat

Alex's throat moved slightly.

He clenched his fist and continued to be silent.

"When I first met you, you said that I am your brother." Edward seemed to have paused for a moment.

Alex also seemed to recall that image from once upon a time.

That time, Edward was four years old while he was seven.

It was so long ago and Edward still remembered.

"You said, in this world, I am your only family. You will only trust me alone." Edward said silently.

Sometimes it felt like he was telling someone else's story.

"So for a long time, I remember only that one sentence—that one sentence, you said you only trust me alone." Edward's voice was calm when he said, "In order to live up to your trust in me, I worked hard to do everything for you, to help you clear all the obstacles that stand in the way of your great work, to help you do all the cruel and bloody things, to help you step by step, to create history."

Alex's fist seemed to clench more and more tightly.

"Later, I found out that I was in love." Edward said, "I found out that in this world, apart from revenge and more revenge, there can be happier things, such as watching a little girl, growing up innocently and romantically in front of me. The first time I saw Jeanne was when I was twelve years old. The first time I saw her, I found my heart fluttering. Perhaps the heartbeat you have never felt in your life—uncontrollably, disordered. But at that time I knew very well that I could not afford the time to like a girl, in addition to the great business of the chief's family, so I gave this opportunity to Eden, I hope Eden can replace me to take good care of her, and I was still fight life and death for you."

Inside the quiet courtyard, only Edward's faint voice was heard.

“But Eden let me down. I used to try to give him all I had, including all of the Swan family. I tried to let him take over all my achievements. When one day you’re at the top, I will still be by your side. Then I will leave all of the Swans’ to Eden. Even in the midst of being so busy growing up, I still took the time to help Eden get even better. I thought Jeanne needed a good boy to be with her. Unfortunately, the time I was able to spend on Eden was ultimately limited, and I didn’t know at what point Eden went off course and strayed further and further away from what I expected of him.”

“Eden betrayed Jeanne, and Jeanne came to me for help.” Edward’s throat moved slightly.

He recalled again, probably when he was eighteen years old, a girl was squatting in front of his house, shivering.

That was probably it.

If back then he and Jeanne did not miss each other, then they would not have continued missing each other later on.

“I had the idea to start over with Jeanne, but after she finally left South Hampton, I was finally caught between you and her. I chose you and gave up finding Jeanne. I gave up on being someone Jeanne could rely on.” Edward’s eyes seemed to redden.

If he had been more resolute, if he had been able to go abroad and get her back, Jeanne would not have suffered so much.

Jeanne would not have so much.

In this relationship, he gave up right from the start.

Time and again, he had given up.

Alex’s tightly clenched fist was slowly relaxing.

“Later on, Jeanne came back. With a purpose, she returned. Took me and her son and came back to South Hampton. I thought it must be fate after so many times and going in circles for many years and she still wanted to be by my side. I even thought that you would allow me to have a normal family.” Edward said, “If, indeed, we value each other as much as I do.”

“I said I would allow it if Jeanne was not a member of the Sanders family.” Alex was silent for a long time before he finally spoke.

Edward smiled a little.

He said, “If you really understood me, if you really had seriously understood me, not to mention that Jeanne was Joseph’s daughter, even if Jeanne was the daughter of Warren Sanders, you would have let her go. You don’t even know, or even understand, how much I would love Jeanne! Or maybe, in your opinion, I am supposed to be used by you from childhood. I am supposed to accept all your arrangements, I am supposed to do whatever you say, my resistance would be the worst crime!”

“Edward, the whole world is ours! The whole of Harken is ours, so why do you have to stick to that woman? Why don’t you stay with me and stand next to me in the world! You’ve lost your will to fight because of a woman, you’ve lost all your ambitions for a woman, don’t you feel sorry? I killed Jeanne

just to help you, let you return to your original self, let you understand what a man is and should have everything!" Alex was a little excited.

### **Chapter 1273 Edward's Rise and Alex's Defeat**

Even at this moment, Alex was still a little excited.

From the moment he was under Edward's control, he had maintained his calm.

He did not want anyone to see him in such a sorry state.

Not even Edward.

As the only descendant of the Duncans, he had a mission and had worked hard for so many years to get to where he was today. He could not let anyone see him collapse. Even if he had nothing, he could not lose his pride.

This was the dignity of the Duncan family.

No one could be trampled on.

But now, he was still angered by Edward.

Everything he had done was to let Edward and him rule the world together.

He was even willing to give half of his territory to Edward!

Yet, because of a woman, Edward had rejected him.

Edward had truly disappointed him.

He was so disappointed that he admitted that he was taking revenge on Edward when he dealt with Jeanne.

He wanted to let Edward know.

At that moment, Alex was left speechless.

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He was a man, a truly powerful man.

Everything should have been dealt with cleanly!

"Alex, did I say that I want the country?" Edward asked him coldly.

Alex was stunned.

"Since I was young, have I ever said that I want the country and power?" Edward asked him repeatedly, "Do you really know what I want?!"

"I don't need to know! I only know that as my only younger brother, half of everything I've conquered is yours!" Alex emphasized every word. He could not hear what Edward was saying.

"I've never had any desire for power. Everything I've done to you were done in numbness. I just want to help you complete everything you want to achieve. As for what will happen after you achieve it... I may still be by your side after I'm done, but I'm not keen on it. I just feel that since my life was given to me by you, I wouldn't have been born if it wasn't for you. So, I should give you everything in my life. But Alex, human feelings are mutual. I can give you everything, but you can't even tolerate a single grain of sand."

"I am doing this for your own good! I've shared with you the things that I want the most in my life, and I've given you half of the power and empire that I've set my eyes on so much. Am I not good enough to you?" Alex said to Edward angrily.

"No, I don't. That's because you're selfish," Edward said coldly.

Alex's face was extremely ugly.

"It's because of selfishness that you don't consider other people's thoughts, that you compulsively gave me what you thought you felt was best." Edward hit the nail on the head.

At that moment, Alex was left speechless.

"If you weren't so selfish, if you could really let go of your preconceptions and accept my changes, if you could accept that there are many important people in my life besides you, you wouldn't have forced me to this point. You wouldn't have forced me to rebel against you to this point!" Edward looked at Alex, seeing his veins bulging in anger. "We used to be brothers, but now, because of your selfish desires, we have become enemies!"

"It's not my fault, and I'm not selfish!" Alex glared at Edward, his entire being filled with rage. "You're the one who betrayed our promise. You've forgotten that you promised me that you'd be with me for the rest of my life!"

"Alex, people grow up." Edward was calm.

Even with the slightest emotional fluctuation, he would remain calm.

"Since you were young, you were locked up in a house. Your world was either black or white. In your world, other than politics and the country, there was only my blood. But I'm not. Although I have a mission, I grew up in a normal social group, and my feelings will slowly enrich as I grow. I won't be as single-minded as you, and I won't be as stubborn as you!"

"That's because you betrayed us!"

"I've betrayed you," Edward admitted. "However, your first reaction when you found out that I had betrayed you was not to try to understand me, or even to understand me. Instead, you controlled me at the first moment and forced me to obey you. Alex, the only thing that hasn't changed is that you didn't break the promise between us. But what has changed is that you betrayed our feelings!"

"I didn't! If I didn't care for you, would I have given you the power of the country?"

"You knew that what you did would cause me so much harm, but you still chose to hurt me. If this isn't betrayal, what is it then?" Edward's eyes narrowed, and he said heavily, "Perhaps you did not betray me! Ultimately, you don't care for me at all."

## Chapter 1274 Edward's Rise and Alex's Defeat

Alex's eyes were red.

At that moment, he was still furious at Edward's accusation. His face looked ferocious.

"You're just insecure. You just think that there's no one close to you in this world except me. You're afraid that you'll be the only one left. That's why you're so afraid that I'll leave. You've never really thought of me as your brother. You're like everyone else, including the mother I've never met who gave birth to me. You're just using me as a tool."

Alex looked at Edward with a terrifying expression.

It was as if he could not accept it.

Edward's words were so straightforward.

"It's just that none of you expected this tool to have its own thoughts one day," Edward said coldly.

Actually... There were not many emotional fluctuations.

Sometimes, he could not understand, but after being numb to it, he figured it out.

"Alex. I rebelled against your regime. I went against everyone's expectations of me. I betrayed my mother's mission to give birth to me. However, I don't owe you anything. I don't owe any of you anything," Edward said clearly.

Alex sneered and laughed coldly.

Edward did not owe them anything.

So, did he owe Edward something?!

Edward was a tool his mother had left for him!

Should he not use Edward as he pleased?!

It was Edward.

He had let him down!

He had let his mother down!

He had let everyone down!

Edward looked at Alex indifferently.

He knew very well that he could not convince Alex.

In Alex's heart, there was nothing wrong with himself.

He had already given Edward the greatest favor while Edward was the one who did not know how to be grateful.

In fact, one could not blame Alex for being so stubborn.

After all, this was all he knew as he grew up.

Actually, he was just a victim of politics.

Sadly, they were just sacrificial lambs.

He thought that perhaps Alex would not admit his sorrow until the moment of his death.

Admitting that becoming such a numb and paranoid person was the sorrow of life!

He had only come today to tell Alex that he did not feel guilty.

He then turned to leave. Right before he left, he turned around and said, "Alex, we will never meet again!"

From this moment on, they had nothing to do with each other anymore.

Edward left.

His cold back facing Alex became distant.

Alex vaguely remembered that after his mother gave birth to Edward, she held his hand and said, "Alex, don't treat him as a tool. He's your younger brother."

That was right—Edward was his brother.

However, he had already forgotten.

Susan appeared beside Alex after Edward left for a long time.

Honestly, she actually liked Alex and not Edward.

She had long realized that the man in front of her was no longer her brother, yet she did not tell anyone because she had selfishly fallen in love with Alex.

Therefore, she gave up on avenging her brother.

She had endured so much for Alex but he pushed her away.

Regardless of whether he loved her or not, as long as he was still William Gates, she would never be able to be with him for the rest of her life.

When Alex asked her to marry Edward, she had a thought, a terrible thought.

However, she came to an agreement with Edward.

Edward understood that he had to be strong when it came to Jeanne!

When Alex pushed her away, he understood that only by making Alex lose everything could she really be with him.

Therefore, their compromise was to cooperate.

In order not to make Alex suspicious, she chose to cater to him.



She had always thought that this cooperation might take a long time to come to fruition.

In the end, it was faster than she had imagined!

She was really afraid that one day, she would fall in love with Edward during their working together.

But on that day, he succeeded.

Later on, when she returned to Alex's side, she gradually found out that Alex's empire was given to him by Edward.

If Edward wanted to take it back, he could.

It was Alex himself who did not recognize the reality!

### **Chapter 1275 A Woman Appears**

Alex might not have expected that the government he had been looking forward to for so many years would return to its former state in just two to three years.

In the past, there were still eyes on him.

He was still looking at Edward, who was glowing in front of everyone.

In the short year since Edward ascended the throne, he reorganized the internal affairs and changed the blood of all the courtiers to unify the internal affairs.

He developed the economy, expanded industries, revived agriculture, and signed import-export cooperative trade agreements one by one with other countries.

He was committed to free health care and free education, alleviating the pressure on the national economy and improving the happiness of the people.

He developed a new industry and cultivated artificial intelligence technology alone. He became one of the few advanced countries in the world with artificial intelligence...

In one year, Harken had reached unprecedented prosperity.

Not only in the country, but Edward's reputation had also skyrocketed in the hearts of the people. Even internationally, he had a deep influence.

It seemed that in just one year, everyone had forgotten that there had been many internal riots in Harken before this.

In a flash, three years had gone by!

It had been three years since Jeanne's death.

Monica sat in her office and read a special report on Edward.

Of course, he chose to report on his outstanding performance. It would not involve any scandalous news.

It was undeniable that Edward was indeed capable and had all kinds of abilities.

In just a year, Harken had reached its peak for thousands of years. It was really incomparable to ordinary people.

He was indeed a good leader, but he was really not a good person!

This was based on the fact that he could let go of Jeanne so quickly for the sake of his rights, Monica was certain that Edward was a scumbag.

Not only did he abandon Jeanne, but he also abandoned Susan.

After William Gates was dethroned, the Gates family also suffered. Not only were all the assets of the Gates family confiscated, but everyone in the Gates family was also sent overseas and not allowed to step into Harken again, including Susan.

In other words, after Edward made use of Susan, she abandoned her heartlessly.

What was the point of giving birth to a daughter for him?!

There was no need for him to use her.

Monica really did not expect that Harken would eventually become Fourth Master Swan's world.

She had never thought that Fourth Master Swan's desire for power had reached such a level. She had always thought that he would do anything for Jeanne!

So had Fourth Master Swan always harbored a desire for power? Or was he always hiding this side of him?

From the beginning, Fourth Master Swan had been aiming for the position of the chief of the Harken!

Monica put down her phone.

She felt that if this continued, her depression would flare up again.

She had no idea why.

During this period of time, she would often think of Jeanne.

For a long time after Jeanne's death, she had tried her best to restrain herself from thinking about her. She had not thought about her for a long time. During this period of time, she would dream of Jeanne being alive every night. She dreamed of the many happy times they had...

Monica rubbed her head and replied to the door, "Come in."

Tim pushed the door open and entered. "Chairman, there's a charity banquet tonight. I'm reminding you that you can set off to change into your gown now."

"Alright," Monica replied.

Ever since she sat in this position, there were many things that she could not control.

Although she was repulsed in her heart, she was now able to do everything with ease.

Come to think of it, this was the so-called growth.

The price of growing up was to learn to let go of yourself first.

She left the office and sat in her personal car to try on her haute couture gown.

As soon as she walked into the luxury dress shop in the mall, she saw Nox.

When she saw Nox, she would be reminded of a creature called a cockroach.

The man who said that his legs were disabled and he could not take care of himself had managed to stand on his own feet after only a year. No one knew if he was born lucky or if he had hidden a lot of hardships that outsiders had no privy to. In any case, Nox's legs were back to normal now and he could jump around.

At this moment, beside Nox was Zoe Sullivan, the daughter of the Sullivan Group, one of the twelve big families in South Hampton. The Sullivan Group was originally a family that had begun to decline, but in recent years, it had seized the trend of economic development and invested in the development of smart AI technology. It developed rapidly in Harken. Because of Swan's Enterprise relationship with Edward, the Swan Group was merged with the Winter family, and the Swan family Winter family could not be evaluated as the real twelve big families. Therefore, among the twelve withdrew from the position of the head of the twelve big families. Due to historical reasons, the big families in South Hampton, the Sullivans were in the limelight for a while. Of course, the assets of the Cardellini Medical Technology were stable at the top for the time being, but judging from the market trend and the Sullivans' ambition, it was not a problem for them to surpass the Cardellini Enterprise.

## **Chapter 1276 A Woman Appears**

Nox and Zoe's marriage began when the Winter family secretly helped Edward support AI artificial intelligence. Nox was in charge of financing, and Zeke Sullivan, Zoe's father, was in charge of technology development. They came in contact many times, and Nox naturally met Zeke's daughter. It was said that the two of them fell in love at first sight. Nox even broke off his relationship with his family for her. After more than half a year of the battle of wits and courage, Nox finally succeeded in setting up an engagement with Zoe. Now, in any public place, as long as Nox was around, he would definitely be seen with Zoe. It was widely rumored that Nox had given up a forest for Zoe's sake.

As for Shelly Carter, it was already impossible in the public's eye for Shelly to marry Nox, so no one cared about her at all. They only thought that it was natural for Nox and Zoe to be together. From the beginning to the end, Shelly was insignificant.

Monica actually agreed with the public.

Nox and Shelly were really incompatible side by side. However, he looked like a perfect match with Zoe, who was a delicate young lady.

"Monica, you're here." When Zoe saw Monica, she hurriedly greeted her warmly.

As she had some financial dealings with Nox, coupled with Nox and Dr. Jones's relationship, it was inevitable that Monica shared a deep relationship with Nox over the years. Moreover, there was something that many people had no idea about—Nox and Monica were actually the two largest private

companies that controlled the economic development of Harken. To put it bluntly, both of them were working for Edward.

Yes, she hated Edward very much. Emotionally, she really hated this scumbag, but rationally, she could not refuse to help Edward's expansion. Not only was she restrained by his tyranny, but she also owed him ten billion dollars. Even though the money debt had been paid, she still owed him the kindness of him helping her back then. So all these years she had been helping him with many things while scolding Fourth Master Swan begrudgingly.

Sometimes, Monica wondered if Edward had planned to make use of her one day by helping her like this back then!

Fourth Master Swan was really a bad person!

"Which gown did you choose?" Zoe seemed to be very familiar with Monica.

Monica and Nox had a very close relationship, but she was not that close to Zoe. They met often, but they were definitely not friends. However, every time Zoe was in public, she would make others think that they were chummy with each other.

Of course, Monica would let Zoe have it. Even if she kept thinking about Shelly, she understood Nox's choice even if she felt that Nox was a little ungrateful. After all, Shelly had been with him when he was in his most difficult time. Then, the first thing he did was fall in love with someone else and dump Shelly. He was ruthless. However, now that she saw that Nox could really give up anything for Zoe, perhaps it was true love. True love was innocent, so there was nothing to fuss about.

She gave him a friendly smile. "I got someone to order a set for me half a month ago. I don't know which one it is."

"Ms. Cardellini, this one." The staff hurriedly walked out with Monica's beautiful gown.

The gown sparkled and looked extremely beautiful.

Zoe hurriedly echoed, "Wow, this looks gorgeous. Monica, you have such a nice figure and you're so beautiful. You'll definitely look pretty in it."

Monica's lips curled into a smile.

She suddenly had an indescribable feeling but she could only hide it with a smile.

After all, Jeanne had been by her side for many years. It was rare to hear anyone describe her as beautiful. Those were the words used to describe Jeanne. In the years after Jeanne's death, she had often heard this word of praise.

"I'm going to change." Monica smiled politely and left.

When she left, she saw Zoe wheedling to Nox. "Next time, you have to come early to order a gown for me..."

Sure enough, everything had its weakness.

Monica walked into the dressing room to change into her gown.

Zoe also chose one and went to the changing room.

Nox was sitting on the sofa with nothing to do. He picked up the phone and made a call. "Finn, are you busy?"

"Not too bad."

"You're not going to the charity dinner tonight?" Nox asked.

### **Chapter 1277 A Woman Appears**

"I didn't receive any news," Dr. Jones said bluntly.

"Didn't Monica tell you? I saw her changing her gown here. I thought you were busy."

"I'm usually very busy." Dr. Jones played dumb.

"Don't you think that the way you and Monica are interacting now is a little strange?"

"What's wrong?" Dr. Jones asked disapprovingly.

"It's been so many years. Not only are you not married, but you don't even attend events together."

"You're overthinking. I don't attend events because it's really difficult for me to integrate into your circle. Previously, I went with Monica for a few, but she could not be at ease at the banquet. That's why I suggested that if it wasn't necessary for me to attend then I won't. She agreed."

"Didn't you notice that you and Monica are getting further and further apart?" Nox could not help but remind him.

"You're thinking too much. We're good together. We've found the best way to get along with each other."

"Hehehe." Nox sneered.

Sometimes, he really felt that Dr. Jones was too full of himself.

What a prosperous society this was.

It was really a matter of minutes for someone to steal his woman.

Now, look at Monica.

He wanted to see how much attention Monica could garner. As long as Monica even slightly gave a nod, a group of men could surround her and let her choose carefully.

Dr. Jones was really overconfident. Nox felt that everyone in the world should be like him. Once he fell in love with someone, it would last for a lifetime. He would never change his mind for even a second!

Nox ended the call.

Monica walked out gracefully.

She saw Nox standing outside and asked, "How do I look?"

"Why don't you ask Dr. Jones?" Nox refused any comments and said that directly.

"He doesn't have an eye for such things," Monica said bluntly.

Nox was speechless.

"Neither do you," Monica concluded, not getting Nox's answer.

"Monica, am I not talking to you?!" Nox was speechless.

This woman had matured very quickly in the past few years, but she still kept picking fights with him.

Were the two of them born to be at odds?

"Nox, how is it?" At this moment, Zoe also walked out.

Nox shifted his gaze away from Monica and nodded. "Very nice."

"I knew you'd like it."

Monica looked at Nox's fawning over Zoe.

She rolled her eyes.

"Monica, this dress of yours is really beautiful." When Zoe was satisfied with her gown, she did not forget to praise Monica.

Monica said, "Yours looks very good too."

"Speaking of which, why isn't Dr. Jones here yet? Isn't he coming with you?"

"He's busy."

"I just called him. He's not busy at all," Nox interrupted.

Monica was speechless.

She said, "Dr. Jones doesn't fancy such occasions."

"Is that so?" Nox raised his eyebrows.

"Aren't you very close to him? Don't you know what kind of person he is?" It was rare for Monica to talk to Nox.

"He doesn't know how many butterflies follow you every time you attend a banquet..."

"You should mind your own business," Monica interrupted Nox.

"W-what? I'm doing very well with Zoe now. We're getting married in the second half of the year," Nox said seriously.

"Are you really getting married?" Monica was still a little surprised.

Nox had a good relationship with Zoe over the past two years, and it was obvious to see. However, she was still a little surprised that he was really getting married.

She had always thought that Nox would not get married so quickly. It did not seem like his style at all... Perhaps in the eyes of others, marriage was a very normal thing, but she was a little too paranoid.

"Why? Are you jealous? If you are jealous, you should get married to Dr. Jones as soon as possible," Nox said deliberately.

It was rare for Monica to waste her breath on Nox. Accompanied by the staff, she walked into the dressing room to put on her makeup.

Zoe followed her in and Nox accompanied them.

In the somewhat quiet and boring dressing room, Zoe took the initiative to change the topic. "I heard that the organizer of the charity banquet is coming back tonight. Is that true?"

Nox looked down at his phone and replied, "Yes."

"Are they really coming? It's really been a long time since I've seen the chief with my own eyes." Zoe was obviously excited.

"Can you control yourself, please? I'll get jealous." Nox was angry.

In any case, with Fourth Master Swan around, the other men turned into nothing.

He was furious.

"Don't be jealous. I don't have any improper thoughts about him. I just admire his good looks. The person I love is still you," Zoe said with a smile.

### **Chapter 1278 A Woman Appears**

Actually, Nox did not mind.

After being under Edward's shadow for so many years, he was used to it.

He said, "Other than Fourth Master Swan, there's another important person who's going to appear tonight."

"Who is it?" asked Zoe.

Monica was also a little curious.

"I'm not too sure about the details. I only know that she organized this charity banquet. This person has a rich background and grew up in the spotlight. Her father is Wyatt Nicholson, who is in charge of the Harken Royal Force."

"You're talking about Candice Nicholson." Monica immediately thought of it.

"You know her?" Nox looked up at Monica.

"I don't know her. It's just that I've been reading some gossip recently and saw a little bit of her profile. It mentioned that she's Minister Nicholson's favorite daughter. She's outstandingly capable and grew up in the force with her father. She seems to be the youngest person in the country to receive an honor related to the army. She's also a woman. At that time, she caused a national sensation. Later, I heard

that she made a mistake during an aerial exercise and fell from a high altitude. It's unknown if she's dead or alive."

Monica recalled as she spoke, "Nox, I vaguely remember saying that Candice Nicholson died from a failed resuscitation. Did I remember wrongly? I even viewed a post at that time about a memorial to show Candice Nicholson's dazzling life. Could I have remembered wrongly?!"

After all, it had been a long time.

Candice Nicholson was rumored to have died when she was twenty years old. Now, Monica was almost twenty-nine years old. She had long forgotten everything that had happened so many years ago.

"You must have remembered wrongly. Candice didn't die from a high-altitude fall and has been receiving treatment overseas. I heard that she faced many critical health conditions and finally survived. Then, she recuperated overseas for many years before returning home. This charity banquet was organized by Minister Nicholson for her daughter, so Fourth Master Swan has to attend. I heard that, although Candice is back to normal now, but because of many injuries, she can't return to the Force. Minister Nicholson wants to bring her to Harken to develop her business. The charity banquet is the first step for Candice."

Monica nodded.

Nox definitely knew more insider information than she did, and she had never doubted it.

"Is Candice good-looking?" Zoe suddenly asked.

Sometimes, a woman's focus was really strange.

Nox shook his head. "I have no idea."

"Monica, did you see her face on the news?"

"I didn't see her." Monica shook her head. "She was wearing a military uniform, but she was wearing a hat. There was camouflage on her face, so I couldn't see her face clearly."

"Oh." Zoe nodded. "But you'll see it tonight."

"Okay."

"Be careful."

Monica was not looking forward to it. After all, she was just an insignificant figure.

At most, they might cross paths in the business world in the future, and when they did interact, then could take their time to socialize.

She was frighteningly calm when dealing with many things.

After putting on makeup, it was already six in the evening.

The three of them left the store. Nox and Zoe went to the banquet in a car.

Monica got into her car.



All these years, she seemed to have gotten used to being alone; everything was done by herself.

She looked at the streets of South Hampton.

Under Edward's lead, the streets of South Hampton had become even more prosperous over the years.

Therefore, to the citizens, Edward was indeed a good person.

Her eyes moved slightly as she looked at the phone that was ringing. She picked it up unhurriedly.

"Monica, I heard from Nox that you're attending a charity banquet tonight."

"Yes, I was too busy today and forgot to tell you." In fact, there were many things she did not want to reveal.

On second thought, it did not matter if she mentioned it or not. It was a remark made out of courtesy.

"Don't drink too much. Remember to eat something tonight," Dr. Jones reminded her.

"Okay."

"Be careful."

"Yeah."

After a few short exchanges, he hung up.

Actually, for the past three years, there was nothing wrong with living under the same roof as Finn.

At least they had satisfied each other's desires, even if it was not that great.

However, she felt that mature women at a certain age still needed to maintain their lives in this aspect.

The car soon arrived at its destination.

People came and went.

Obviously, it was a rather grand charity banquet. All the high-ranking officials and nobles who could attend were present here.

Monica followed the crowd into the hall and there were already quite a few people.

Chapter 1279 A Woman Appears

Everyone was mingling around on their own and Monica took her time before joining in the crowd.

In fact, every time Dr. Jones reminded her about something, she would always heed his words, such as grabbing something to eat first.

She went straight to the dessert section and chose a few pastries that she liked.

She was ready to leave the station when someone called her from behind, "Godmother."

Monica turned around in surprise. "George, you're here!"

"Yes." George nodded.

The ten-year-old George had really grown much taller.

She had no idea when but his fair face had grown tanner. Even his baby face was not as childish anymore. He gave off a big boy vibe, and he was clearly more mature than his age ought to be.

If Jeanne knew that her son had suddenly become so sophisticated, her heart would probably ache.

Monica patted George's head. "Do you want some pastries? Godma will get you some."

"No need. I've just eaten."

"Did you follow your father here?" Monica asked.

"No," George said. "I came on my own. I asked Teddy to send me here."

"Your dad's not coming tonight?"

"No."

"Why so?" Monica was surprised.

George didn't answer.

Oh well. George actually had a deep prejudice against Fourth Master Swan, just like she did.

Once someone was related to Jeanne, who would not have a prejudice against Fourth Master Swan?!

Monica smiled. "Don't worry, I'm on the same side as you."

George nodded.

He seemed to believe her.

"By the way, how's your sister?" Monica asked as she ate her pastry.

Although Monica did not like Paige very much. Once she saw Paige by accident. She inexplicably felt that Fourth Master Swan's daughter looked very likable, the kind affability at first glance. Paige probably looked exactly the same as George, that was why she felt a sense of familiarity.

However, logically speaking, she still could not accept the existence of Fourth Master Swan's daughter. Therefore, even if she liked that little girl very much, she would not care much for her.

She had only heard that George loved his sister very much. At this moment, the two of them had nothing to talk about. They could not keep complaining about Fourth Master Swan. It was fine if they complained in private, but it would be awkward if others heard them.

She could only switch the subject.

"She's such a chubby girl. She's very cute." George's eyes instantly lit up when speaking of Paige.

Monica could not help but sigh to herself.

George was still a child after all.

He did not expect his father to abandon his mother and give birth to his sister.

"I've been away for a long time but she'll remember me. As soon as I come back, she'll want to sleep with me. She'll stick to me wherever I go. I came here just now to avoid my sister. She'll cry if she sees me leave," George said in one breath.

Monica seemed to be able to imagine that scene.

A chubby little girl crying her heart out.

'I can't think about it.'

Monica did not know why, but whenever she thought of that little girl, she felt an inexplicable heartache.

Was it because she was born without a mother?!

After all, Susan had already been expelled.

It was probably impossible for her to return to Harken and see her daughter again.

That was why there was a trace of sympathy.

"Godmother, when will you come to my house to see my sister? She's really cute. I'm sure you'll like her too."

"Uh... Okay." Monica nodded perfunctorily.

'Admit it. That was a white lie.'

George was about to say something else when there was a sudden movement in the hall.

Monica turned to look.

Looking across the banquet hall, a woman walked in with a security detail.

She could not see it clearly from afar but that should be the organizer for the event today, Candice Nicholson.

Chapter 1280 Edward Attends a Charity Banquet

Candice Nicholson's sudden appearance in the banquet hall instantly caused a stir among the people present.

Her cheat-death life was fleeting, making countless people feel sorry for her. After a few years, she could appear in front of everyone again. It was more or less unexpected.

As such, it naturally attracted everyone's attention.

At that moment, even Monica felt that the pastries were a little boring. She really wanted to go and take a look.

The countless highlights of Candice's in the media included her appearance.

Some media outlets said that Candice had a beauty different from traditional beauty. Her beauty also carried a heroic spirit. She exuded determination right to her bones and was valiant and heroic.

So this woman was... a tomboy.

However, when she looked at her from afar and saw her walking through the crowd in a light golden evening gown, she felt that her steps and bearing were elegant.

'Never mind.'

Monica stopped speculating.

She put down the pastry and decided to take a look.

For some reason, she felt that the person in the distance had a magical power that made her want to see what was going on.

She looked down at George. "Let's go. I'll show you what's fun."

"I'm not going," George refused directly.

"Why not?" Monica was surprised.

"I don't like it."

"You don't like socializing, or you don't like anyone?" Monica smiled.

Sometimes, George was very mature. He could think from an adult's point of view, which shocked people.

Other times, he was still childish and even a child would have a temper.

"I don't like that woman." George pointed at Candice.

What did Candice do to make George dislike her!

Monica was baffled.

George turned around and left.

Monica was even more shocked.

Could George be related to Candice?!

But no matter how he looked at it, the two of them were not related at all!

Monica decided not to think about it anymore.

She tidied up her appearance and walked into the crowd of the banquet.

Everyone's eyes were still on Candice. She was surrounded by many people. Monica could not see her face at all and she was already extending her neck for a better view.

"Are you that curious about that woman?" Nox suddenly appeared beside Monica.

Monica was shocked.

She came back to her senses. “Don’t you know that people are like this? The more mysterious someone is, the more they can’t help but want to find out. I just feel that Candice has been alive and even got up after so many years. It’s rather inspirational, so I want to get to know her. Besides, don’t you think that this woman gives off a sense of familiarity?”

The main point was...

Familiarity.

With just a glance, Monica felt her heart beating wildly.

The familiarity that followed made her unable to remain calm.

Logically speaking, she had never interacted with Candice at all, so it was impossible for her to have a familiar feeling.

“I don’t think so.” Nox threw cold water on Monica. “I, Young Master Winter, have been in the business for so many years and have seen many women. I’m sure I’ve never seen or interacted with a woman like Candice Nicholson.”

“Why? Judging from your tone, you’ve fallen in love with someone else so quickly?!” Monica raised her eyebrows.

“Pure admiration, you know?!” Nox was a little excited.

Monica smiled. “You really like Zoe, don’t you?”

Otherwise, why would he be in such a hurry to clear his name?

Nox rolled his eyes. “Of course.”

“Shelly can’t be any lesser in significance to you,” Monica said indifferently, looking a little sarcastic.

When Nox heard Shelly’s name, his expression changed slightly. “Do you have nothing better to do every day? Why don’t you just think about your relationship with Dr. Jones? Don’t you think the two of you get along very strangely? I’ve never seen a couple who doesn’t need each other that much.”

“Am I not showing it to you now?” Monica smiled calmly.

“Monica, tell me honestly, are you deceiving Dr. Jones’s feelings again?!” Nox looked serious.

Monica frowned.

“You don’t like Dr. Jones at all, right?” Nox was aggressive.

Monica was silent for a few seconds.

Speaking of liking him...

She did not know how much she liked him.

There did not seem to be any special kind of joy when they were together, nor was there any special longing when they were apart.

To say that she did not like him...

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