

Pregnant 1391

Chapter 1391 Birthday Surprise

"Did Edward love her very much?" Candice could not help but ask.

Just from Teddy's short comment, she could tell that Teddy approved of Jeanne. After all, anyone who could be evenly matched with Edward was definitely no ordinary person.

Teddy hesitated, but he nodded in the end. "She was Fourth Master's first love."

"They seemed to have had George quite early on." Candice had also learned a little about Edward's love history.

"When Ms. Lawrence was 18 and Fourth Master was 22. I wasn't even here yet," Teddy said.

"Why did they split up?"

"There seemed to have been a lot of misunderstandings." Teddy was not too sure either. "However, after Ms. Lawrence returned to South Hampton City at the age of 25 and married Fourth Master, their relationship was great."

Candice nodded. She did not need Teddy to tell her what happened after that.

Due to political reasons, Edward and Jeanne had no choice but to separate, and Jeanne died in that political dispute.

"Where's Susan?" Candice asked.

She asked about Edward's second wife, Paige's biological mother.

"Her?" Teddy was stunned and said bluntly, "Fourth Master didn't love her."

"I know." Candice nodded. "But I'm just a little curious. How did Edward and Susan..."

Candice did not continue her sentence. Instead, she just glanced at the innocent Paige in her arms.

Initially, she did not question the idea that Edward and Susan had a child because of political reasons. However, after interacting with him for a long time, she did not think that Edward was such a person.

Edward would not do things that went against his conscience for political reasons, and no matter how she looked at it, she did not think that Page was a product of politics. If she were, Edward would not love Paige so much.

"Oh, no." Teddy understood what Candice was talking about and quickly denied it. "She's not Ms. William's."

Stunned, Candice looked straight at Teddy.

She was not? In that case...

Teddy suddenly felt like he had said something wrong. However, by the time he realized it, it was too late.

He asked Candice with a trembling voice, "Don't you know?"

He did not hide anything from Candice or even guard against her because he thought that Candice already knew.

After all, the people closest to Fourth Master knew that Paige was Jeanne's child. Since Fourth Master and Madam had such a good relationship now, he assumed that Fourth Master had told her.

Now that he realized that he had spilled the beans, he wanted to slam his head against the wall and kill himself. Had he made a big mistake?

"Is she Jeanne's?" Candice did not answer Teddy's question. Instead, she asked what she was thinking.

At that point, Teddy did not dare to say anything anymore.

"Didn't Jeanne die in that fire?" Candice did not need Teddy's answer to confirm what she suspected.

That was why Edward loved Paige so much.

Paige was the child that Edward and Jeanne had after they got together, so no matter what, it would mean a lot to Edward.

Teddy would rather die than say anything.

"Could it be that Jeanne isn't dead?!" Candice was shocked.

In fact, she was using words to provoke Teddy so that he would tell her the truth.

When Teddy heard what Candice said, he was indeed shocked. However, he quickly denied, "Jeanne is dead. She died giving birth to..."

Teddy bit his lips. After saying it out loud, he seemed to realize that he had been tricked again.

When he saw Candice looking like she finally understood what had happened, he really wanted to kill himself. He could even imagine how Fourth Master would beat him to death if he found out that he had divulged so much today!

Candice fell silent at that moment.

Therefore, Jeanne's death was not in that fire. Jeanne's death was due to childbirth, and that was when she gave birth to Paige.

In other words, there was nothing between Susan and Edward. It was just for show, and his goal should have been to protect Jeanne. After all, at that time, Jeanne's identity was somewhat illegitimate.

Moreover, Jeanne and Edward were probably enemies. Jeanne was from the Sanders, and Edward was from the Duncans. With such an identity, even if they let go of everything, it was impossible for them to be together without any grudges.

More importantly, the Duncans' loyal followers would not allow Jeanne's existence. Hence, Edward could only hide Jeanne.

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She also realized that when Jeanne was pregnant with Paige, Jeanne could not even leave the house. After all, Jeanne was already 'dead' to the public.

Suddenly, Candice felt a sudden pain in her heart. It was as if she had experienced it before and she empathized with Jeanne.

She clutched her chest as an indescribable feeling overwhelmed her. Was it because of jealousy? Was she jealous that Edward had only ever loved Jeanne?

There was no such thing as an affair when Jeanne was the only woman he loved. If Jeanne had not died, she would probably never be in Edward's life.

"Madam." Teddy looked at Candice and said awkwardly, "Can you don't tell Fourth Master that I've told you so much? I'm afraid--"

"Alright," Candice agreed immediately.

Of course, she would not betray Teddy. Since Edward did not mention that Paige was Jeanne's daughter, she would pretend that she did not know. However, she still hoped that Edward would be honest with her about it one day

"What about George's birthday?" Teddy asked.

"I'll plan it, and you can help."

"Alright." Teddy quickly nodded.

Candice also decided to focus on George's birthday preparations. As for Edward and Jeanne's past... it was all in the past.

After breakfast, Candice continued to play with Paige for a while. When Paige's tutor came to class, Candice took the initiative to send Edward a message, wanting to discuss George's matter with him.

However, she was afraid of disturbing him at work, so she sent him a message to ask if he was busy.

After she sent that message, Edward called. "Did you miss me?"

Candice blushed.

Were there not a lot of people around him? What would the people around him think of him if he said that? What would they think of her?

She controlled her emotions. "I just heard from Teddy that George's birthday is this Saturday."

There seemed to be a pause for a few seconds, which meant that he must have forgotten.

At that moment, Candice was a little displeased because it was clear that Edward did not care about George.

"George won't be celebrating his birthday at home," Edward said bluntly.

The silence just now was not because he had forgotten, but because he was looking at the time to go to the training base. At that time of the year, George would go there alone.

In fact, ever since he took office, George's training was not as harsh anymore.

For a politician, his physical condition was secondary, and it was fine as long as he was better than average. The most important thing was his ability to plan strategies. Therefore, most of the time was spent on nurturing his overall vision and how to manage a country well.

"So if he doesn't want to live at home, you're just going to allow him to do that?" Candice asked.

Edward pursed his lips. He was simply respecting George's choice.

"George is only ten years old. What do you take him for?" Candice was a little angry.

Edward was speechless.

He believed that it was best for him to satisfy George's needs as much as possible, even though George's needs were very few.

"I've discussed it with Teddy. We're going to plan a birthday surprise for George, so think of a way not to send George away." Candice was not up for discussing that topic, and her tone was firm.

Edward did not reply for a long time.

"Can't I?" Candice was a little nervous.

No matter how good her relationship with Edward was recently, he was the leader of the country. Was she pushing her luck?

Just as Candice was about to compromise, Edward suddenly said, "Alright."

Candice was stunned.

"I'm not close enough to George, so I'll leave everything to you in the future." Edward sounded a little excited.

She realized that she did not understand Edward that well.

However, now that Edward had agreed, she was excited. She said, "I'll invite Nox, Finn, and Monica to celebrate George's birthday together. Is that okay?"

"Sure." Edward agreed.

"Let's not tell George yet. I want to give him a surprise."

"Alright." Edward nodded.

"In that case, it's settled. I'll plan it."

"Thank you."

Candice hung up the phone happily.

After hanging up the phone, she called Monica.

Monica was sitting in her office, and when she saw the incoming call, she was still a little surprised.

How long had it been since she last contacted Candice? Why was she suddenly looking for her?

She frowned and answered the call. "Candice?"

"Yes, it's me, Monica." The person on the other end sounded much friendlier than her.

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Most importantly, she did not feel repulsed at all.

She had originally decided not to have any contact with that woman. However, that woman had a magical power that made it difficult for her to resist.

"What's up?" Monica's expression was cold.

"George's birthday is this Saturday," Candice said bluntly.

She just did not feel like she had to be too polite with Monica.

At that moment, Monica seemed to realize what was going on. She had almost forgotten because George had not celebrated his birthday in the past two years.

He was not even in South Hampton City on his birthdays, so she could not celebrate with him.

"Are you free on Saturday?" Candice asked.

"Are you going to celebrate George's birthday with him?"

"That's right."

"George doesn't spend his birthdays in South Hampton City."

"I've already spoken to Edward to keep George here this time."

"Alright." Monica immediately agreed.

George was her godson, so she definitely had to go.

"I want to give George a surprise." Candice asked, "Do you have any ideas as to how we can do that?"

"I really don't know how to answer your sudden question. Let me think about it."

"Okay, but if you do have some good ideas, you must let me know."

"Yes." Monica nodded. Then, she thought of something and said, "George is a little stubborn."

Candice was stunned.

"George still hasn't let go of Jeanne after so many years, and he probably doesn't celebrate his birthday because he doesn't want to think of Jeanne. I'm worried that we'll make things worse if we want to celebrate his birthday without telling him beforehand."

"But George can't stay like this forever. He will have to get over it one day." Candice did not think much of it.

“Of course, I support your decision, but I just want you to be mentally prepared.”

Monica was not stupid to know that Candice wanted to celebrate George’s birthday to gain his approval.

However, what she was worried about was that George would not only not approve of it but would also dislike her even more. After all, no one could change Jeanne’s place in George’s heart.

“Don’t worry. I have a strong mind.” Candice smiled and said, “I won’t disturb you from your work. I’ll go online and see if there are any good ideas that I can use as a reference.”

“Okay.”

After they hung up the phone, Monica was also thinking about how they could surprise George and what birthday present she should prepare for him. However, George seemed to have everything he wanted.

While she was lost in thought, someone knocked on the door.

Monica responded, “Come in.”

“Chairman, your flowers.” Tim walked in with a bouquet of flowers.

It had been a month since she broke up with Finn, but she still received flowers every day. Even though she had rejected them every time, Tim would still bring them in, and she was starting to get a little scared of them.

She was a little angry at Tim. “I said I don’t want them. Why are you bringing it in?”

“Uh...” Tim felt a little awkward after being scolded.

“Is there something you can’t say?” Monica frowned.

She, too, knew that Tim would not ignore her instructions.

“Dr. Jiang sent it over personally,” Tim said.

Monica was stunned.

“I really can’t refuse Dr. Jones, so...”

Monica did not expect to hear that Finn personally delivered it.

Was he not usually very busy? Why did he have so much time now to deliver the flowers personally?

The key was to send it every day at 10 a.m. in the morning, and Finn should be busy at the hospital.

She looked at Tim, who was a little embarrassed, and held herself back. “Put it down.”

“Yes.” Tim heaved a sigh of relief and left.

Monica glanced at the fresh flowers in front of her and picked up her phone to send a message to Finn.

When she opened their chat, she saw that Finn had sent her a lot of messages in the past month. He had probably said everything he wanted to say in this lifetime, yet Monica did not look at it or reply to him.

She initially wanted to block Finn's number, but after thinking about it, Finn was her father's attending doctor, after all. If anything happened, they would not be able to contact each other.

However, because of Monica's coldness toward him, Finn went from sending long text messages at the start to only sending one or two sentences a day.

Today's text was even simpler. Only a "good morning" message was sent at 7:30 a.m., so she figured Finn's enthusiasm would probably die down soon.

With that, she typed into the dialog box. "How much were the flowers? I'll pay you back."

Chapter 1394 Nox and Shelly Meet Again

"How much were the flowers? I'll pay you back."

Finn looked at Monica's reply and stared at it.

That was the first time Monica had replied to him in a month. Although the content was not great, it made him excited.

At least, Monica was reacting to everything he did, and everything he did could still affect her. It proved that being annoying could be a good thing too.

He was afraid that she would feel nothing for him — no expectation or even resentment.

After a long time, he typed a few words in the chat box. "This is for you. You don't have to pay me back."

The other party replied very quickly, "I don't need you to send me flowers. From tomorrow onwards, I will also get my secretary to reject your flowers. Please don't make things difficult for my secretary."

Finn looked at the text Monica sent, which was a little hurtful, and wondered if it was the same for Monica in the past. Was she also hurt by his indifference toward her when she was pursuing him?

In the past month, he had truly felt how hurtful it can be.

Ever since Monica and Brandon left that day, Monica had been ignoring him.

No matter how he texted her to explain his past thoughts or how he insisted on sending her flowers every day, she remained indifferent and even pretended not to know.

He had a feeling that Monica would ignore him every time he sent her a message, but the text gave him hope. Even if she hated him, Monica was not completely indifferent to him.

Yet, at that moment, Monica's cold rejection made him a little flustered again.

He may have never pursued a woman before, but deep down, he had always felt that it was not difficult to woo women.

Perhaps he had always had suitors around him, so he subconsciously felt superior. Now, all his efforts were wasted on Monica.

He looked at the text on his phone and did not reply for a long time as he did not know how to reply.

Seeing that Finn did not reply, Monica did not take it to heart. When it came to breaking up with Finn, she was much more carefree than she had imagined.

Suddenly, someone knocked on the door.

"Come in."

Brandon pushed the door open and entered. The first thing he saw was the dazzling bouquet of flowers.

Monica seemed to have noticed Brandon's gaze. She said, "If you like it, you can take it away."

Brandon smiled. "Finn hasn't given up yet?"

"I don't know."

"He has exceeded my expectations. I didn't think he would be so persistent."

"Me, too." Monica agreed.

"It seems that he really can't let go of you."

"No, he just can't let go of himself." Monica was certain. "He has been entangled with me for so many years that he just can't figure it out at the moment."

"If Finn really changed for you, would you return to his side?"

"Finn won't change."

"What if?"

"There are no ifs," Monica said, setting up a huge wall in her heart. "I won't try again."

To put it bluntly, Monica did not believe that Finn would really change.

Just as Brandon wanted to say something, Monica directly interrupted him, "It's working hours. Do you have too much free time on your hands?!"

Brandon swallowed the words he was about to say. Then, he changed the topic and reported his work. "The development of the new product has been successful, and it will soon be available on the market. Before this, you mentioned that you wanted to go abroad to learn about the market's operating concept. So, I've contacted the world's most famous S Group, and they said they'll welcome us next week."

"Next Monday?" Monica asked.

"Yes, next Monday."

"Okay. Book the plane tickets and plan the itinerary in advance. We'll leave on Sunday."

"The flight will take about eight hours, so I suggest we leave on Saturday. Then, we can still have some time to rest on Sunday. Otherwise, it'll be very tiring on Monday. Moreover, if we don't adapt to the weather there, I'm afraid it will affect the outcome of the visit."

Monica thought for a moment and said, "Let's leave on Saturday night."

“Are you busy on Saturday?” Brandon was smart enough to figure it out immediately.

“I have something very important on Saturday. Book a flight for after 10 p.m.,” Monica said.

It should be fine after 10 p.m.

“Alright.” Brandon naturally did not probe further. He said, “Your secretary, Tim, and I will accompany you on this business trip. Is that okay?”

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Monica nodded and agreed with Brandon’s arrangements.

Brandon’s lips curled into a smile, even though Monica did not notice it.

“Is there anything else?” Monica frowned when she saw that Brandon had not left.

“There’s a dinner party tonight. The pharmaceutical company from Europe has invited you to dinner, so it’s up to you whether you want to attend or reject the invite.”

“Hasn’t he invited me many times now?”

“Yes, and you’ve rejected him many times,” Brandon said bluntly.

“I don’t have anything on tonight, so I’ll go.”

“Alright.” Brandon said, “I will just be him and his assistant from his side, and from ours—”

“It’ll just be the two of us. Also, give them a heads up that they should act within their means with the alcohol.”

“Yes.”

Having reported his work, Brandon was prepared to leave.

The moment he left, he paused again and said, “If you don’t like this bouquet of flowers, you can give it to me.”

Monica frowned and looked at Brandon.

“As your subordinate, I’m willing to share your problems.”

Monica smiled.

Brandon had been behaving himself for the past month. Even after she rejected him, he did not pester her anymore. Their interaction this month was purely for work.

It made her feel that Brandon was a trustworthy person, and naturally, she had a good impression of him.

It was not a romantic relationship, but she found that interacting with Brandon was very easy and relaxing. That feeling was completely different from when she was with Finn.

She said, “Take it.”

“Alright.” Brandon happily carried the bouquet of red roses away and placed them in his office.

He looked at them and thought they looked pretty. Finn must have put in a lot of effort. However... it was all too late.

He now believed that Monica had no feelings for Finn.

With that, Brandon took out his phone and took a few photos of the flowers.

Then, he typed a Facebook post, which said, “Thank you for your commendation, Chairman. I will work harder.”

He also attached a photo to the post. He was sure that if Finn saw it, Finn would be furious.

On one hand, the post was to make Finn give up on Monica completely, and on the other, it was to take revenge on Finn for hurting and bullying Monica to the point that she was afraid of falling in love.

After he sent it, he contacted paid Facebook to boost his traffic on the post because he wanted Finn to see it, and Finn did see it.

That was because he had quite some spare time recently, and when he had nothing to do, he would read a lot of things on his phone. That was when he was caught off guard by Brandon’s Facebook post.

He looked at the bouquet of flowers. He had wrapped it himself, so he knew it was the bouquet he had given Monica.

At that, his expression turned ugly.

He thought that Monica would throw it away. However, he did not expect Monica would turn around and give it to another man, who was Brandon!

Suddenly, his phone rang, so Finn tried his best to calm himself down.

He picked up the call. “Nox.”

“What’s wrong? Are you in a bad mood?” Nox could tell the change in Finn’s mood from their years of interaction.

“What’s the matter?” Finn did not answer, but his tone was unusually cold.

Nox did not even need to think to know that Finn must have suffered a lot of “humiliation” while pursuing Monica.

Initially, he felt sorry for Finn. After all, Finn had loved Monica for so many years, yet Monica left the relationship just like that.

However, for some reason, he felt good at that moment. Making a man like Finn, who had never changed and was always calm, anxious was not necessarily a bad thing.

Sometimes, he felt that Finn was too rational and lacked a bit of humanity. It was as if he was a zombie and only lived for the sake of living.

At that thought, Nox realized that Monica was very patient to have been able to be in a relationship with Finn for so many years.

“George’s birthday is on Sunday. Edward just called me and said that he’s going to Zhu Qin Garden on Sunday to celebrate George’s birthday.”

“Isn’t George usually not at home for his birthday?” Finn was surprised.

“I heard it was Candice’s idea,” Nox said, still feeling a little upset. “That woman is quite capable, and I think Edward has really fallen in love with her. She is the second woman Edward has fallen in love with after Jeanne. After so many years, I thought that Edward would never fall in love again.”

Chapter 1396 Nox and Shelly Meet Again

Finn was not surprised.

Nox mumbled, “I didn’t realize how capable Candice was. Not only is she not as pretty as Jeanne, but she’s only married to Edward for political reasons, so how did Edward fall in love with her? Back then, Susan was really in love with Edward, but he didn’t even glance at her before sending her back to Alex’s side. From then, I thought Edward would be alone for the rest of his life.”

As usual, Finn just listened without giving any explanation.

“Don’t you find it strange?” Nox was bored of being the only one talking.

He knew that a man like Finn needed to be taught a lesson. If Finn was not interested in anything, what was the point of living?

It was time Monica woke him up.

“You’ll know why Fourth Master likes Candice so much in the future.”

“Did Edward say something to you?” Nox got excited.

He could not believe that Edward told Finn but not him.

“You don’t need to know.”

“Finn!” Nox gritted his teeth.

That guy was just so annoying sometimes.

“Is there anything else?” Finn was very calm about Nox’s displeasure with him.

“Is your relationship with Monica better?” Nox asked.

Finn did not answer, and not answering meant that it was not good.

Nox gloated, “Finn, you have to pay for what you’ve done. Beware of Monica cheating on you!”

Finn’s expression turned ugly, and he abruptly hung up the call.

The small victory put Nox in a good mood.

At that moment, someone knocked on the office door.

“Come in.”

Nox’s secretary, Ms. Mary walked in and reported respectfully, “General Manager, I’ve made an appointment with the Wenda Group to visit their resort development project. We have to go to the site for inspection now, and your car is ready.”

Nox nodded. With that, he got up and left the company with his secretary.

He did not know when it started, but all of the Swans’ businesses had fallen on him to manage.

Initially, when Edward took office, he was focusing solely on developing his political career and could not spare any energy for business at all. Hence, Nox had to take over the business side of things. It was really tough back then, but now, everything was finally back on track.

There was not much pressure anymore, and he did not need to spend a lot of time on the business. However, he still felt physically and mentally exhausted.

He had always thought that once the country’s politics had smoothened out, he, Edward, and Finn would no longer have to shoulder any responsibilities and could live their own lives.

However, it was all wishful thinking. When the country was at peace, they had greater responsibilities!

Nox turned around and saw the car had parked in the largest sea area in South Hampton City. Then, he took a yacht to an island that had yet to be fully developed as he needed to see the results of the second stage of development today.

When the yacht arrived on the island, there were people welcoming them warmly. As Nox was used to being welcomed, he exchanged a few pleasantries with Danny Cruze, the general manager of Wenda Group, who then showed him around respectfully.

In the past, Danny had heard that Nox was sloppy and unreliable. However, after interacting with Nox twice, he realized that the rumors were false. In terms of work, Nox was even more demanding than ordinary people, and after he was humiliated last time, he did not dare to be negligent this time.

Nox’s expression was very serious as he listened to Danny’s report and looked around. He could see that the development progress this time was much better than the last time.

The last time, they cut corners, and he almost directly banned Wenda Group’s construction rights.

By the time Nox did a tour of the place and pointed out the parts that were not perfect, it was time to eat.

Nox did not refuse to eat at the only high-class restaurant on the island as it was also considered part of the project.

Only Nox and Danny were at the table while everyone else who did not have the right to sit at the table stood at the side.

From afar, Nox looked very noble. That was probably the Nox that Shelly had never seen before. In her memories, Nox was simply unbearable, so she almost could not recognize the serious-looking man in a suit and leather shoes at that moment.

She stood quietly in the crowd and watched Nox and Danny eat elegantly.

In fact, from the moment Nox arrived, she had been standing behind him. However, Nox did not recognize her and probably would not.

“Tell me about the restaurant.” Nox put down her knife and fork seriously.

Chapter 1397: Nox and Shelly Meet Again

If Shelly had not seen it with her own eyes, she could never imagine that Nox would be like that at work.

Attracted by his aura, everyone looked at Nox.

“Firstly, this is the most high-class restaurant on the island. We’ve injected a lot of cultural ideas into the island, but I don’t see the embodiment of these cultures in the restaurant. In fact, this place makes me feel no different than being in all the other high-class restaurants in South Hampton City.

“Secondly, there’s nothing special about the food here. Although the taste is alright, it doesn’t feel like a local specialty and won’t leave a deep impression on people. Even if you want to promote it, you won’t be able to create the hype.”

“Thirdly, I don’t recommend the staff here to wear formal attire. People come here to relax, and being too formal will make people feel depressed. At least, I don’t feel like I’m coming to the island to relax!”

Those comments made Danny sweat profusely, but he quickly agreed. “Alright. We’ll change it again.”

“The trial opening is on the 16th of next month. I don’t want to see anything that I’m not satisfied with on that day,” Nox said coldly.

“Alright, alright. I will do everything perfectly.” Danny was practically trying to curry favor.

Nox wiped his lips and got up from the dining table. Then, he said bluntly, “Arrange a tour guide for me.”

“Yes.” Danny gave the staff member beside him a look.

Shelly walked out.

When she first applied to be a tour guide here, she did not know that the Winter Enterprise was involved in the development of that place.

All she saw at that time was the high-paying job in the recruitment advertisement. She just wanted to give it a try but did not expect to be hired. After she was accepted, she had to go through a period of intense training.

Today, the first tour guide she received was to take the big boss on a tour of the entire island, but she did not expect the boss to be Nox. If she had known, she might have gotten someone else to do it.

It had been so many years, and she had never thought that she would have anything to do with Nox again.

She braced herself and walked up to Nox. “Hello, Mr. Winter. I’m your personal tour guide today, and you can call me Irene.”

It was just a random name that she had thought of.

Nox glanced at Shelly and did not pay much attention to her. He strode in front and said to the others, "You don't have to come with us."

It meant that other than the tour guide, no one else should follow.

With that, Shelly followed Nox out.

She took a deep breath and began to explain, "Hello, Mr. Winter. Welcome to Kylin Island. The reason why this island is called Kylin is mainly because of the overall shape of the island. You can look straight ahead now, and right in front of you is the head of the Kylin on the island. If you look carefully, there's an arc-shaped shape at the end of the sea. That's the Kylin's eye. We call it the window of the world—"

"Shelly," Nox suddenly called out to her.

Shelly suddenly stopped talking.

In the end, he still recognized her.

She pursed her lips and looked at Nox, who was also looking at her from above. The two of them just stared at each other, but Shelly did not feel inferior because of his imposing presence.

"Why are you here as a tour guide?" Nox asked, "Aren't you in school?"

"No," Shelly replied.

Nox's eyes widened in disbelief when he heard the answer.

"I haven't been to school since I graduated from high school," Shelly said bluntly.

"Why not?" Nox was surprised.

"I couldn't take the college entrance examination, so I stopped."

"Didn't I tell you to take the college entrance examination in the second year?"

"I lost interest in the second year."

"Shelly, what are you doing?" Nox suddenly became annoyed.

"Don't worry, I don't blame you. It was my choice."

"Your choice? What? Do you think you're so great just because you've changed your appearance?"

Nox's eyes were red at that moment. He was clearly a little angry.

Shelly pursed her lips tightly.

Yes, she had plastic surgery on her eyes, nose, and even her lower jaw. In short, she had done something to her face.

If it were not someone familiar with her, they probably would not be able to recognize her. That was why she thought that Nox would not be able to recognize her.

"Why do you need plastic surgery?!" Nox asked her.

"Every woman has the right to look beautiful, so why can't I?"

"So, you took the money I gave you and did this instead of going to school?" Nox asked her coldly..

Chapter 1398: Nox and Shelly Meet Again

"Yes." Shelly nodded.

"It's so ugly!" Nox said in disgust, "You look uglier than your original face."

"Everyone has a different level of appreciation." Shelly appeared very calm. "And I quite like it."

"All men hate women who have gone under the knife!" Nox said fiercely.

"I didn't do it to make you like me. Besides..." Shelly swallowed the words she was about to say.

After all, Zoe had also gone under the knife, but she did not think it was necessary for her to sow discord between them.

However, Zoe's plastic surgery was quite successful. If she had not bumped into Zoe when she went to the plastic surgery hospital for a follow-up, she would not have noticed that Zoe had done so much to her face.

She said, "I'm here for work now, so please cooperate with me."

"I'm here to check on work. Why should I cooperate with you?" Nox was very aggressive, and his bad temper was showing.

Shelly could not understand it. They had not seen each other for a few years, but why were they still quarreling when they met?

Was he only gentle and patient to Zoe and no one else?

"I just hope you don't mix up your personal feelings with work."

"I'm the boss. Do I need you to teach me how to do things?!"

Shelly felt that she could not communicate with Nox. Therefore, it was a wise choice for her to leave the Winters back then

She said, "If you don't want me to be your tour guide, I can immediately get someone else to take you around. I don't want my personal reasons to affect your acceptance of this project."

With that, Shelly turned around and left. She did not want to waste her breath on Nox as she thought it was useless.

Just as she walked away, Nox grabbed Shelly's arm. Shelly winced and endured it.

"Do your work!" Nox ordered.

Did that mean Nox wanted her to continue?

She pursed her lips.

Although she was a little surprised, she did not think there was anything to be surprised about.

No matter what Nox did, he never did things according to common sense.

Shelly took a deep breath and smiled professionally. "Mr. Winter, this way please."

Nox glanced at Shelly, waved his hand, and walked in front angrily. Seeing that, Shelly followed behind.

As Nox walked, Shelly kept talking. To be honest, Shelly did not even know if Nox heard her. In any case, she had told him everything she was trained to do on a tour.

Whether Nox was satisfied or not, she did not care since she had tried her best. At worst, Nox would complain about her, and she would be fired. With that thought in mind, she walked around the island with Nox.

It took them more than two hours to return to the starting point, where everyone was waiting for them.

Seeing Nox return with a dark face, Danny was frightened again. He quickly looked at Shelly.

Shelly, on the other hand, did not know what kind of look she should give her boss. In fact, she felt that she should be praying for herself.

When Danny saw Shelly's gaze, a chill ran down his back. He trembled as he asked, "Mr. Winter, look--"

"Her professionalism is not bad," Nox said bluntly.

When he said that, Shelly was shocked because she thought Nox did not even hear what she said.

"But her image won't do," Nox said coldly.

Shelly knew that she could not expect anything from Nox.

Danny smiled awkwardly. At that moment, he could not help but retort in a low voice, "Shelly's image is not bad. She's considered the best guide among us..."

Nox looked over, and Danny stopped talking.

Nox said without any hesitation, "Is an artificial face good-looking?"

Stunned, Danny could not help but glance at Shelly. In fact, everyone looked at Shelly, who felt a little embarrassed.

Of course, she did not deliberately hide that she had undergone plastic surgery, but she did not go so far as to tell everyone that she had undergone plastic surgery either.

Now that it was said in public, it would still be a little embarrassing.

"Um..." Danny said, "Ordinary people wouldn't be able to tell. Shelly's face looks so natural that even I couldn't tell."

"I could." Nox was being unreasonable.

Danny really did not know what to say. He felt that Nox was deliberately making things difficult for him by nitpicking on things.

“But Shelly is the best tour guide in terms of looks and professionalism...” Danny really did not want to fire her.

“So are all your tour guides this standard?”

“There’s no need to make things difficult for my boss.” Shelly could not stand it anymore. She said, “I didn’t meet Mr. Winter’s requirements, so I’ll resign.”

Chapter 1399: Finn Drinking His Sorrow Away

“I didn’t meet Mr. Winter’s requirements, so I’ll resign,” Shelly said frankly.

She knew Nox too well, and Nox had never made things easy for her.

She figured it was her fault for being brought back to the Winters, and that was why Nox had been trying to take revenge on her and torture her all these years.

When Nox heard Shelly’s words, he still felt disgusted.

Shelly never seemed to show him any weakness, and it was the same in the past. Although he had always forced her to do many things, he could tell that she was unwilling to do them. On top of that, she never knew how to please him — not that she could please him anyway.

His dislike for her was deep-rooted. He even knew very well that he was deliberately targeting her today.

However, so what if he was targeting her? She used the money he gave her for studies on plastic surgery! When he saw Shelly’s unrecognizable face, he was furious.

Danny chose to remain silent when he heard what Shelly said, even though he thought it was a pity.

“In that case, I’ll take my leave.” Shelly bowed politely.

Then, she turned around and left without waiting for anyone to agree. She was very calm and composed, as if she would not miss the job.

In reality, Shelly had put a lot of effort into the job. After all, a tour guide would have more freedom in terms of time, and she would not have to leave early and return late like her current part-time job.

Forget it. She did not have much expectations for Nox anyway.

Just like that, Shelly left under everyone’s watchful eyes. It was as if she was not fired by the boss, but she was firing the boss.

Looking at her back, Nox’s expression turned even uglier.

Danny did not even dare to breathe loudly. After interacting with Nox a few times, he knew that Nox was difficult to deal with.

The atmosphere was tense and awkward.

Nox said coldly, “I’m not satisfied with the inspection this time. I’ll come back and check on you again in a week. If the inspection fails, the trial opening will be postponed indefinitely.”

Danny felt helpless.

What the hell did he do wrong? How much did Young Master Winter hate girls with plastic surgery? It was too difficult for him to find a completely natural one in this day and age.

After saying that, Nox left in the speedboat he came. From afar, he saw a speedboat that had left arriving at the shore.

Nox's expression was extremely ugly. He had not seen Shelly for so many years, yet that woman still made him inexplicably angry. In the future, it was best they did not see each other again. Nox calmed himself down for a few seconds before he took out her phone and dialed a number.

"Zoe."

He really wanted to find someone to calm himself down.

"Why are you calling me at this hour? What's wrong? Did you miss me?" The voice on the other end was gentle. "How did you know that I was thinking about you too?"

The coldness on Nox's face gradually softened. "Let's have dinner together tonight."

"Tonight?"

"What's the matter?" Nox raised his eyebrows.

"I have a company dinner tonight. As the leader of my department, I can't miss it." The other party was in a difficult position.

Nox's expression darkened even more. He hated being rejected the most.

"Can I come over to your place after dinner tonight? Don't be angry." Zoe tried to please him. "I'll be yours for the entire night, okay?"

Nox obviously knew what Zoe was talking about.

He and Zoe had been dating for the sake of marriage, so they had slept together very early on. Although they were not officially living together, they would spend a night together from time to time.

At that thought, it crossed his mind that he had not done it with Zoe for a few days.

He did not know when he had started to get used to having sex once every few days with a woman, but he refused to admit that he was old.

He said, "Alright."

It turned out he was really at the age where he would not be too willful.

"When you're home tonight, wash up and wait for me." Zoe used her gentle voice to say something bold.

Nox smiled faintly. However, because there were people around, he could not say anything flirty. Hence, he said, "I'll wait for you."

Of course, Zoe was smart enough to know that Nox was not alone and that was why he did not say much.

The call between the two ended very quickly. After it ended, Zoe's expression changed slightly.

It was not that she did not like Nox..

Chapter 1400: Finn Drinking His Sorrow Away

Nox was the man she loved the most out of all the men she had met over the years. However, she had been playing around for so many years that it was difficult for her to give up being a playgirl and be loyal to Nox.

She would give herself another year, and a year later she would immediately pull herself together to be a good wife to Nox.

With that thought in mind, she looked down at the Whatsapp message on the screen. "6 p.m. I'll see you at our usual spot."

That was right. She had lied to Nox.

What company dinner? She just had another date with a man!

...

After being rejected by Zoe, Nox felt upset.

In fact, Zoe would not always agree to eat with him. Sometimes, she would even say no to going to his house. However, he was inexplicably annoyed today.

He thought about it and called Finn. "Let's have dinner together tonight."

Finn had yet to answer when Nox suddenly raised his voice. "Don't reject me!"

Finn frowned. "I never thought of rejecting you."

He did not have much to do these days. The only thing he had to do was to get Monica back.

"I'll give you the address." Nox said, "6 p.m. Don't be late."

"Alright," Finn replied.

He put down his phone and sat on the sofa. For the entire day, his mind had been filled with what Brandon was bragging about on the Facebook post.

After thinking about it for an entire day, he still could not get it out of his mind. He could not help but imagine the scene of Monica and Brandon...

He really wanted to drown his sorrows in alcohol. Therefore, he arrived at the restaurant Nox mentioned at 6 p.m. sharp. Under the guidance of the staff, he sat in the private room and waited for Nox.

He was used to Nox being late. Nox always reminded others to be punctual, but he had never been punctual.

Half an hour later, Nox pushed open the door and walked in.

When he looked at Finn, he did not look apologetic at all. Instead, he said, "I'm a working man, and you're jobless."

Finn did not care about Nox being late, so why was Nox giving him a reason?

"By the way, did you really resign from the hospital?" Nox still could not believe it.

Finn was a responsible man. They had known each other for so many years, and he knew Finn all too well.

He even had a feeling that Finn would devote his entire life to the medical industry not because he was a kind person, but because he was a little too cold-blooded.

That was why he could be so numb to doing some seemingly great things that made him feel like living in this world was not meaningless.

"Yes." Finn nodded.

"For Monica, you've really changed a lot." Nox could not help but sigh. "Most importantly, Monica doesn't appreciate it at all."

Finn was speechless. He did not come to have dinner with Nox just for Nox to attack him.

He said bluntly, "Do you still want to eat dinner together?"

"Can't I say something? Bro, I'm just concerned about you."

"You should worry about yourself. You're not young anymore, and you've been dating Zoe for so long. Don't you plan to get married? Do you not want your grandfather to have a great-grandson?"

"I don't know why, but after dating for so long, I really don't have any thoughts of getting married. I originally wanted to get married, but I really can't bring myself to do it." Nox suddenly felt a little melancholic.

"Maybe you don't like Zoe."

"How is that possible?!" Nox looked at Finn in disbelief.

"You just think that Zoe is the one you want as your wife," Finn said bluntly.

"Even so, it's fine. After all, Zoe is the only person who has made me think of getting married after so many years."

"In that case, why don't you get married?"

Nox was speechless.

"Zoe isn't the only one who makes you think you want to get married. Zoe just met you at the right time when your grandfather and your parents stopped forcing you." Finn hit the nail on the head.

Nox was exasperated. Why did Finn have to expose him like that?

He said, "I don't deny that I've thought of that, but after so long, Zoe and I are still dating. To me, she's still different."

"Why don't you say you've reached the age where you want to settle down?"

"Finn." Nox was a little angry. "Your relationship is a mess. What right do you have to judge my relationship?"