

## **Pregnant 961**

Chapter 961 Birthday Party, Jeanne Returns To South Hampton City

“Even if I lie, we’re still friends.” Lucy smiled.

Even though it was just an ordinary gown, it made her look extremely charming with her smile.

Some people were just a natural, and it really had nothing to do with what she wore or how she looked.

Jeanne and Lucy chatted casually.

In fact, both of them were waiting.

Jeanne was waiting for Mason to give her a hint, while Lucy was waiting for an opportunity to approach Kingsley.

The hall was very lively, and everyone was relatively comfortable.

At the end of the day, Kingsley’s birthday party was a disguised opportunity for everyone to relax.

Otherwise, Kingsley would not have had to throw such a grand birthday celebration every year to announce to the world that he had aged another year!

Kingsley was dealing with the many people coming and going. If not for Kingsley’s high alcohol tolerance, he probably would have collapsed by now.

The one who came to propose a toast next was Mac, the aesthetician. He was the one who had helped Lucy with the treatment today.

Kingsley glanced at Mac and then at the other man Mac was holding.

Kingsley did not have much of an impression of him.

Mac quickly said, “This is Weiss. He has only been in the Hills for a year and is now a trauma surgeon.”

Kingsley’s judgment of Weiss was not because he was a stranger. Rather, it was the intimacy between Mac and Weiss.

It was obvious that they were not just friends.

In the Hills, other than the fact that the assassins were not allowed to fall in love, there were no requirements for the staff. Of course, there was a major premise that they were not allowed to get pregnant.

In a place where one could be shot to death at any moment, everyone naturally had to obey that rule.

“We’re a couple.” Mac seemed to have noticed Kingsley’s gaze and explained, “We’ve been together for half a year.

“You’re gay?” Kingsley asked.

Mac admitted, “Since I was young. It is by nature.”

Kingsley nodded, indicating that he understood.

As for Mac, with his status, he did not dare to say too much. Hence, he nudged Weiss, and the two of them raised their glasses together. "Happy Birthday, Mr. Thorn."

Kingsley nodded, as usual, and then finished the wine in his glass.

Naturally, Mac and Weiss did not leave a single drop behind.

One after another, many people took the initiative to approach Kingsley to toast him. In the end, Kingsley's face was flushed with the red of alcohol.

That was probably the only day in a year that Kingsley would allow himself to get a little tipsy.

At 10:10 p.m., Jeanne received Mason's signal.

She turned to look at Lucy, who understood tacitly.

At that, Lucy nodded, picked up her wine glass, and walked toward Kingsley.

Perhaps it was because Lucy had been by Kingsley's side for too long, but no matter what their relationship was now or how Kingsley had treated Lucy in the past, the others naturally made way for Lucy as soon as she went over.

Millie noticed the scene as well, and she could not hide the unhappiness on her face.

Lucy was already a thing of the past, so why did those people have to be so respectful to her?

"Mr. Thorn." Lucy raised her glass.

Kingsley looked at her.

Lucy smiled.

When she smiled, she looked really pretty, and there was a feminine charm to her.

"Happy Birthday," she said in a soft voice.

However, Kingsley did not respond. He just looked at her indifferently.

Then, he looked at her clothes.

Millie looked into Kingsley's eyes, and her expression turned uglier.

Lucy was dressed so shabbily today, yet he was still looking at her for so long! Most importantly, there was not the slightest look of disdain on his face.

Even though she was dressed like that tonight and had been by his side, he had not looked at her like that, nor did he look at her for too long.

At that moment, almost everyone present was looking at them.

After all, Kingsley was the main character, and he would naturally attract a lot of attention.

Therefore, everyone in the hall could see Kingsley's eyes lingering on Lucy.

'No,' Millie thought. Her status could not be threatened in any way.

Suddenly, she twisted her ankle, and her body “accidentally” leaned against Kingsley’s.

One move and Kingsley withdrew his gaze. Then, he reached out and helped Millie up.

Millie quickly whispered, “The heels are too high, and I accidentally—”

She looked embarrassed.

Kingsley did not answer.

Millie, of course, did not dare to push her luck and to hope that Kingsley would say anything to comfort her.

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She was just trying to attract Kingsley’s attention and achieve her goal.

Lucy did not plan to stay with Kingsley for too long. She raised her glass and said, “Here’s a toast to you.”

After that, she finished the glass of red wine in one gulp.

Kingsley looked at her glass of red wine and finished the glass of red wine in his hand.

Then, Lucy bowed politely.

It was the standard etiquette of the upper class, and Lucy was not the only one who knew how to do it. Everyone knew how to do it, and they were all very familiar with it.

That was the basic skill of an assassin because when an assassin killed someone, they had to disguise their identity. Etiquette was the most basic skill, and even the servants here knew it.

Just as she turned around and was about to leave, Kingsley suddenly called out to her, “Lucy.”

Lucy stopped, not daring to take a single step. She stood in front of Kingsley again at a distance that was neither too far nor too close.

At that moment, Kingsley’s fingers suddenly touched Lucy’s collarbone.

She pursed her lips.

She was dressed like this tonight only to cover up her burns.

However, before the burn could fully heal, the pressure from Kingsley’s fingers added to her pain.

She endured it, but she did not understand how she had offended Kingsley.

Was it because the violent nature in Kingsley’s body had been unleashed again recently and that he needed to torture people to make him feel better?

“Come to my room tonight,” he said.

Then, he lifted his fingers away.

Lucy looked at Kingsley. For a second, she thought she had heard him wrong.

She had thought that it would not be as easy to get into Kingsley's bed tonight as she had thought. After all, what Kingsley had done to her in her room that afternoon made her feel like he no longer had any feelings for her, and she was still thinking about how she could make it seem less purposeful.

At that moment, Kingsley had told her to go to his room that night in front of everyone.

She naturally knew what he meant by going to his room, so she replied respectfully, "Yes."

Then, she glanced at Millie a little proudly.

In fact, she was deliberately provoking Millie. After all, Millie was still young and could not withstand such provocation.

From the flash of anger on Millie's face, Lucy knew that Millie had fallen into her trap.

As Kingsley walked past Lucy with Millie, Lucy also turned around and walked back to her original corner.

Jeanne was no longer around.

Kingsley was busy dealing with so many people at the moment, so he probably did not notice.

As expected, not only did he not notice that Jeanne was missing, but it had never crossed his mind that Jeanne would suddenly return to South Hampton City, especially under Mason's protection.

At Mason's signal, Jeanne left the manor's hall and returned to her room, where she changed out of her princess dress and jumped out of the window.

Mason was waiting for her below.

After jumping down from the third floor, he barely managed to roll onto the ground and land safely.

"The car is this way," Mason said.

Jeanne nodded and followed Mason into the parking lot of the manor.

There were so many cars in the parking lot that it was comparable to a large-scale auto show. Moreover, all of them were top-grade cars.

Mason brought Jeanne to his private car, in which Jeanne sat in the back seat. After that, Mason drove away from the manor.

When they were leaving, the guards at the gate had to do a check.

Mason rolled down the car window and said coldly, "It's a last-minute mission. I need to leave."

The guard respectfully let them through.

Jeanne turned around and took a look at the dazzling manor under the night sky. At that moment, she sighed.

It was not that she could not bear to leave. After all, she would be back soon.

However, she suddenly understood why Lucy wanted her to ask Mason to help her leave. Usually, when she wanted to go out, she had to report back to Kingsley. Kingsley would only allow her to take a walk in the city if he was in a good mood, and she would be closely monitored 24 hours a day. On the other hand, Mason only needed to say one word, and he could leave so easily.

Mason parked the car at the private airport of the Delta Islands before leading Jeanne into a helicopter.

With Mason flying the helicopter, he and Jeanne left the Delta Islands and landed in a city on the border. Then, they went to the international airport to handle the flight procedures and boarded the plane to South Hampton City.

Jeanne found the entire process unbelievably smooth.

If she was alone, she might have been captured by the assassins Kingsley had sent.

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Even if they did not capture her, they would have started to hide and fight with their wits!

Her eyes moved slightly as she felt the plane take off.

In six hours, she would be back in South Hampton City!

...

Back in the Delta Islands, in the manor where the party was held, it was around 12 a.m. at night when Kingsley left.

He had obviously drunk too much, but that was the only day in a year when he would let himself go a little.

Millie helped him back to his room.

The moment he lay on the bed, he instructed, "Call Lucy over."

Millie's expression was ugly. She thought that Kingsley would forget about it since he was drunk. If he really forgot...

In that case, she would just pretend that she did not know anything and would never ask Lucy to come.

However, at that moment, although her expression was extremely unsightly, she did not dare to disobey Kingsley's orders. Hence, she could only stand up and get Lucy.

Just as she walked out of Kingsley's room, she saw Lucy waiting at the door in a sexy red nightdress.

As Lucy watched Millie come out, her eyes flickered.

Millie held it in for a while before saying, "Go in."

The corners of Lucy's mouth curled up into a grin that made her look charming and enchanting.

How could that old woman have that kind of style? How did she make herself so feminine?

Millie glared at Lucy's back.

No. She would never let that woman return to Kingsley's side. She absolutely could not.

When she returned to her room, she instructed the servant, "Get Cain to come to my room."

"Okay, Ms. Millie." The servant was extremely respectful.

After a while, Cain entered.

Cain was currently the Hills' manager. He was mainly responsible for arranging for the assassins of the Hills to carry out missions, but they were all small missions. The bigger missions required Kingsley's approval. In the past, Kingsley's approval was required, but in reality, Lucy was the one in charge. However, now that she had become Kingsley's subordinate, they had not had any particularly big missions recently, so Millie had not had a good opportunity to replace Lucy.

"Ms. Millie, is there anything I can help you with?" Cain asked respectfully.

In fact, Cain was also an assassin, and he was quite competent. Hence, he had now retired to work behind the scenes.

In the Hills, only Kingsley's women could have that kind of status and treatment.

She said, "Let me take a look at the assassin's mission list during this time and mission arrangement recently."

"Do you have something in mind, Ms. Millie?"

"Mr. Thorn has instructed me to manage the internal affairs of the Hills, so there are many things I need to know. Why? Can't I know?" Millie raised her eyebrows.

Cain hesitated for a moment.

Previously, when Lucy was in charge of internal affairs, she had never put her nose where it did not belong. She had never asked much about the work he was in charge of.

Nevertheless, he said, "Ms. Millie, please wait a moment."

Millie nodded.

After Cain left, he quickly returned with a list and handed it to Millie.

Millie looked at it for a long time.

"There's an assassination the day after tomorrow?" Millie asked as she looked at the list.

"Yes, it's already been arranged—"

"Let Lucy go," Miley said bluntly.

Cain was stunned for a moment. "These are all small missions. There's no need for Ms. Harmon to go personally."

"I have other plans for Kelly the day after tomorrow."

"In that case, we can send other assassins—"

“What’s wrong? You don’t dare put Lucy for the mission? If you don’t dare to, I’ll help you.”

“I just don’t think it’s necessary.”

“If I say it’s necessary, it’s necessary.” Millie’s face darkened, and she threw the list in front of Cain.

“Lucy will be carrying out an assassination mission the day after tomorrow. I’ll arrange it myself. You don’t need to get involved!

Cain nodded. “Yes.”

In the Hills, Kingsley had always been the one calling the shots, and when Kingsley was not around, his woman had the final say.

It was not that Kingsley had told him that before, but when Lucy was with Kingsley back then, Kingsley had silently allowed her to help him deal with it.

Thus, everyone thought that as long as Kingsley acknowledged a woman, she had the right to interfere in internal affairs.

“You may leave.” Millie waved her hand.

With that, Cain left.

Millie smiled. She refused to believe that she could not kill Lucy!

At that moment, in Kingsley’s room, Kingsley was already asleep when Lucy walked to his bed, and he reeked of alcohol.

She was hesitating whether to wake him up or to help him wash up. In the end, she thought about it for half a minute and chose the latter.

She then went to the bathroom and wrung a hot towel to wipe his face.

When exactly did that handsome face find a way into her heart?

However, she looked away

After all, Jeanne’s reminder was right. She could not fall in love with Kingsley; she could only make use of him.

She was just using his power to give her a better life.

After she was done wiping his face, she took off his suit jacket and shirt, which were a little tight.

Kingsley’s muscles were visible, and each of them was bulging as if cut by a knife.

In fact, apart from Kingsley’s power, his appearance could make women admire him.

Lucy quickly wiped Kingsley’s body clean before taking off his pants and continued to wipe him down.

Suddenly, she smiled.

That was because she suddenly remembered that Jeanne had described Kingsley as ‘still young’. In that case, he should be embarrassed by his current state.

Once she was done, she stood up. Just as she was about to leave, someone suddenly hugged her body. The movement was smooth, and he pressed her under him.

When it came to sex, she did not know whether Kingsley was naturally gifted or that he was very skilled in bed.

All in all, he was very good at it

She closed her eyes, thinking that things would go on as they usually did between a mature man and woman. However, she felt Kingsley's kiss suddenly land on her collarbone.

Lucy frowned.

Kingsley really knew how to torture her. As long as it was a wound, he had to touch it.

She gripped the bedsheets tightly as she felt Kingsley's lips kissing her wound, pressing against it.

The kiss made her sweat profusely as it was an instinctive pain-induced response. Fortunately, Kingsley was not as horrible as to bite down on her wound.

After he kissed her, he suddenly lay on top of her and fell asleep. Lucy could even hear Kingsley's heavy breathing.

At that moment, she thought about it carefully.

That seemed to be the only time she had not had sex with him in Kingsley's bed, and it ended because Kingsley was drunk.

However, she did not know if she should push him away or just let him lay on her...

In the end, she chose the latter.

When it came to Kingsley, she did not dare to offend him, so she could only obey him unconditionally.

Chapter 964 Jeanne and Monica Reunited and Joined Hands to Destroy the Sc\*mbag

In South Hampton City, it was already morning when Jeanne returned to the city.

First, she and Mason checked into a hotel and slept. When they woke up, it was already in the afternoon.

As such, Jeanne sent Mason a message and left the hotel.

Mason, on the other hand, looked at Jeanne's message and took his time to call Kingsley.

"Mr. Thorn," he said in a respectful tone.

"Yes." Kingsley seemed to have just woken up as his voice was still a little groggy.

Lucy was also still in Kingsley's bed.

When Kingsley had nothing to do, he was actually a very lazy and laid-back person. Sometimes, he could even lie in bed for an entire day.

If it were not for Mason's call, he did not know how long he would have slept.

"I've returned to South Hampton City with Jeanne," Mason said bluntly.

Kingsley's expression changed.

Lucy, who was beside him, could see how angry Kingsley was.

"I will do my best to keep her safe."

"When are you coming back?!"

"Jeanne said a week."

"If anything happens to her, you know the consequences," Kingsley said coldly.

"Yes," Mason said respectfully.

Immediately after that, Kingsley hung up.

His expression was extremely ugly.

Lucy did not dare to speak, so she just lay beside him and pretended to be asleep. She even felt that if she made a sound at this moment, she would anger Kingsley.

The consequences of angering that man were hard to imagine.

However, at that moment, someone suddenly opened the door.

Without knocking, the person pushed the door open and entered. "Mr. Thorn—"

It was Millie who came in. She was all smiles and wanted to please him.

"Get lost!" Kingsley roared.

Frightened, Millie quickly said, "Yes!"

She immediately closed the door.

Lucy even smiled at that moment.

It did not take a genius to know that Millie must be fuming right now. Moreover, she must think that Kingsley was angry because he did not want her to disturb him. She would never know that he was angry because Jeanne had left the Delta Islands.

Now that Millie's anger was triggered, it would make her do something that was out of line.

The smile on Lucy's face was very obvious, but it froze in the next moment because Kingsley had caught that hint of pleasure on her face.

She looked into Kingsley's eyes and could feel his hostility.

Just like that, her smile slowly faded away.

At that moment, he was also thinking about how to explain her smile just now.

She could not possibly let him misunderstand that she was gloating over Jeanne's departure.

"You knew that Jeanne was leaving?" Kingsley asked her.

"I didn't know," Lucy lied.

Some white lies were told to keep oneself alive, and to Lucy, it was well-intentioned.

Kingsley furrowed his brows, clearly not believing her.

Lucy asked, "Did Mason leave with Jeanne?"

She was reminding him that Mason was the accomplice, and Kingsley would never do anything to Mason.

Among the assassins, there would always be someone Kingsley especially liked.

Just like a company or a country, there would always be a talent that the leader liked, so even if they did something wrong, they would not be punished too badly.

At that moment, she did not need to suffer with them out of loyalty.

That was the survival rule of an assassin.

Kingsley glanced at Lucy and ordered coldly, "Help me light a cigarette."

"Alright." Lucy quickly sat up on the bed.

In her heart, she heaved a sigh of relief that she had managed to get away with it.

She picked up a pack of cigarettes by the bedside, took one out, and put it to her mouth. Then, she lit it with a lighter before putting it in Kingsley's mouth.

Kingsley took a puff and looked at Lucy's clothes indifferently.

She seemed to like the color bright red because she was wearing a red silk bathrobe. As she had just woken up, the bathrobe was loose on her body. It looked even more indecent with her snow-white shoulders exposed and the bathroom looking like it was about to slide off.

His gaze was now on her collarbone, which had been burned by the cigarette butt. At that moment, there was a thin layer of calluses on it, and it seemed a little out of place on her fair body.

Lucy seemed to have noticed Kingsley's gaze.

To be honest, she was really afraid that Kingsley would do something to her small wound.

She did not have any masochistic tendencies, so she fixed up her sleeping robe quietly, lifted the quilt, and got up.

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"Where are you going?" Kingsley asked.

"I think it's getting late, so I'm going to get up."

“Are you the one who decides whether to get up or not?” Kingsley frowned.

Lucy stopped talking. Kingsley had been in a bad mood since he woke up, so she did not want to go against him.

Did Millie not take the shot for her just now?

Kingsley put out the remaining half of the cigarette and suddenly pulled Lucy into his arms.

Lucy’s entire face slammed into Kingsley’s chest, and she felt like her nose was smashed. However, in front of Kingsley, she did not dare to show it.

Kingsley then pressed her under him.

Just as Lucy was about to cooperate with him, Kingsley suddenly hugged her again.

Lucy was speechless. Was he throwing a tantrum?

Was it because Kingsley was unhappy that Jeanne had secretly left, so he had to do something that did not conform to his usual routine to vent his frustrations?

One had to know that the insufferably arrogant Kingsley had always dominated the world and would never allow anyone to be above him!

...

After Jeanne left the hotel, she went straight to the hospital, where she heard that Gary was hospitalized.

She walked toward the ward.

In the ward, other than Gary, who was lying weakly on the bed, Ruby was the only one accompanying him.

When she arrived, Ruby was chatting softly with Gary.

Gary would also respond, but they were all simple words, such as “yes”.

If Jeanne had not seen it with her own eyes, she would not have known that Gary’s condition was so serious.

She felt a little upset. On the one hand, she treated Gary and Ruby as her family, and on the other hand, she felt very sorry for Monica.

Monica may seem carefree, but when it came to relationships, be it family, friendship, or love, she was terrifyingly weak. Once she was emotionally hurt, she would be hurt deeply.

“Jeannie?” Ruby seemed a little excited.

She still could not believe that the person standing at the door was Jeanne, so she looked straight at Jeanne and called out to her.

Jeanne returned to her senses.

Her eyes were a little red as she was touched by Ruby's warmth and her undisguised feelings. She said, "Auntie."

"Come in." Ruby quickly took Jeanne's hand.

Ruby's palm was very warm. It was the kind of warmth that only an elder could give.

Jeanne asked, "How's uncle?"

"He's in good spirits." Ruby quickly said.

"I'll go see him."

"Yes." Ruby held Jeanne's hand.

When Gary saw Jeanne, he smiled. "Jeannie is here."

His voice was very soft, but just as Ruby said, he was still in good spirits. However, Jeanne did not know if Gary was putting on an act so that she would not worry about him.

"Uncle, how are you feeling?"

"I'm fine." Gary said kindly, "I'm waiting for the heart transplant surgery."

Jeanne was stunned.

Ruby quickly explained, "Finn suggested that the best thing now is to do a heart transplant for Gary. We understand the risks of the operation and have talked to international experts. Once Gary's physical condition gets to a point where he has to undergo the operation, we will proceed with it."

"Alright." Jeanne did not ask how high the risk would be.

As long as they had made a decision, she would support them unconditionally.

"Is Monica in the company?" Jeanne changed the topic.

"Yup." Ruby was still a little helpless. "Gary isn't in good health now, and something has happened at the company, so Monica is there now. She hasn't worked much, so I don't know how she's doing in the company!"

"Don't worry. Monica is stronger than you think. Besides, I came back this time to help her." Jeanne quickly comforted them.

Actually, it was not comforting.

She felt that as long as Monica put her heart into it and made up her mind, she would be able to surprise her.

"Jeannie, I really don't know how to thank you." Ruby's eyes were red.

"Aunty, don't say that. Haven't you always treated me like your daughter since I was young? So shouldn't I do something for my parents now?" Jeanne said indignantly because she did not want them to feel bad.

Ruby's eyes turned even redder. "Yes, yes. You and Monica are both good daughters of mine."

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"That's why you should focus all your energy on your dad now, and the same for you, uncle." Jeanne shifted her gaze to Gary and said, "You're in charge of recuperating. Monica and I will help you settle the Cardellini Pharmaceutical, understand?"

Gary stretched out his hand, which Jeanne quickly held.

He had lost so much weight that Jeanne could not help but tighten her grip.

"Jeannie, I will take good care of myself. I'll leave Cardellini Pharmaceutical to you and Monica," Gary said solemnly.

To him, he still could not let go of the Cardellinis' family business.

Although he had been trying to convince himself not to take it too seriously, he would still look forward to it once there was some hope.

"Alright," Jeanne agreed.

Gary smiled and was visibly much more at ease.

After all, Jeanne had proved her capability before. With Jeanne's help, it would be much easier for the Cardellini Enterprise to rise from the dead.

Jeanne said a few more words to comfort the two elders before leaving the hospital.

As she was leaving the ward, she brushed past someone.

"Jeanne?" That person called out to her.

Jeanne paused for a moment, but she did not stop or turn back. Instead, she walked away.

Finn stared at Jeanne's back and knew that he should be right. Then, without any hesitation, he made a call. "Fourth Master."

"Finn."

"I think I just saw your wife."

"..."

"In the hospital. She just left."

"Alright."

After that, Finn hung up the phone.

If he did not guess wrong, Jeanne was back to help Monica. As for whether she would visit her husband and son, he could not make a guess.

...

Jeanne hailed a cab and headed straight to the Cardellini Enterprise.

She had just bumped into Finn.

Of course, she did not intend to hide from anyone that she was back, and neither could she hide it from anyone.

Moreover, she only had a week's time. If it took too long, Kingsley would explode.

One week was just right.

However, one week might not give her enough time to do many other things. The purpose of her return this time was to help Monica get through Cardellini Enterprise's crisis and also to clean up the mess that she left behind at Lawrence Enterprise.

The car arrived at the Cardellini Enterprise, and Jeanne went straight to the chairman's office.

Everyone looked at Jeanne as if she was familiar, but they could not recall who she was. When they saw her walking past with such an imposing aura, no one dared to stop her. She simply pushed open the door to the chairman's office.

The moment she pushed open the door, Monica was still yawning. She was having a headache from the messy data in front of her, but she was forcing herself to continue reading it.

When she felt the door being pushed open, she raised her head and was completely dumbfounded.

She thought she had seen wrong, so she even rubbed his eyes.

Was she seeing a ghost?

However, it was really Jeanne, the woman who left without a second thought! How did that woman still have the cheek to come back?

Monica's eyes suddenly turned red. "Didn't you leave?!"

Jeanne walked into the room and sat down in front of Monica.

She said, "I was planning to leave, but a certain woman made me worried."

"Y-You... How can I lose my temper at you if you say that?" Tears welled up in Monica's eyes.

She was ready to argue with Jeanne for leaving her wedding just like that. In fact, she was still brooding over it.

However, she did not ask Jeanne for help on the Cardellini Enterprise incident not because she held a grudge. She just felt that Jeanne must have a lot of things to do after she left and that she could not keep disturbing her. Moreover, Jeanne was not in South Hampton City. If she asked for help, Jeanne would only worry if she could not return.

Thinking that she had not reached the point of complete despair, she chose to endure it herself.

However, when she saw that Jeanne had returned, she still felt a little betrayed that Jeanne left her.

"I'll only be back for a week," Jeanne said bluntly.

Monica looked straight at Jeanne, speechless. "I really wish I could beat you to death!"

Jeanne smiled.

She said, "Alright, wipe your tears. I'll help you to take a look at the Cardellini Enterprise's current situation."

Monica suppressed the displeasure in her heart.

She also knew that Jeanne was pressed for time, so she did not waste any more time.

She handed the pile of documents on her desk to Jeanne. "This is Cardellini Enterprise's current internal situation. The finance department is in a state of emergency because all our drugs have been returned and we have almost no cash flow in our account. The raw materials for the new product have been purchased, and if we don't produce the products now, we will suffer a huge loss. But if we do, the production costs will be quite pricey. More importantly, no hospital or pharmaceutical company is willing to buy our products now. Jeannie, I think my family is going bankrupt."

It was a little uncomfortable to say it out loud.

A few days ago, she could still comfort her father and tell him that if they had no money, so be it. However, now that they were going to go bankrupt, she could not help but feel sad at the thought that the days of squandering were coming to an end.

"Let's not worry about the hidden problems within the company for now. How's the situation at the quality inspection department?" Jeanne went straight to the point.

"We've already forced them to issue a report within a week. It's been five days now, and I've been sending people to inquire about it every day. However, we haven't gotten any results so far. I'm guessing that they'll announce it directly and won't reveal any information to the public." Monica said indignantly, "Jeannie, do you know? All of this is Michael's doing! It was all his fault. If not for him, the Cardellini Enterprise would not end up in this predicament! How could I have been so blind back then?"

"It's not your fault." Jeanne said, "Michael is very skilled. It's normal that you can't deal with him."

"But all of you reminded me that Michael is not a good person, and I was the only one who still believed him." Monica still felt terrible when she thought about it.

"It proves that you're kinder than us."

"...Are you complimenting me?" Monica was skeptical.

"Sort of, but..." Jeanne's eyes narrowed.

Monica looked at her and found her best friend really overbearing!

Then, she heard Jeanne say, "From this moment on, you must exterminate Michael!"

Chapter 967 Since You Refuse to Help Monica, I'll Have To Do It, No?

In the chairman's office in Cardellini Pharmaceutical, Jeanne's words shocked Monica.

It was not that she still had any feelings for Michael, but Jeanne's words made her a little overwhelmed.

What did it mean to be ruthless? Was she supposed to kill Michael?

She did not dare to do anything illegal.

Jeanne did not explain too much to her. "Monica, I only have one week with you. In this one week, you have to learn how to survive on the job. Do you understand?"

Monica quickly nodded.

Whenever Jeanne was in a serious mood, Monica would be like a little lamb.

Jeanne, on the other hand, did not waste any more time. At that point, what she had to do next was to show Monica what she meant.

"The quality inspection department said that the results will be out within a week, right?" Jeanne returned to the main topic.

"Yes," Monica answered solemnly.

"And it's been five days?"

"Yes,"

"In other words, it's very likely that the results will be announced tomorrow or the day after."

"My father said that there's absolutely no problem with the quality of our vaccine and that the incident was caused by the child's own autoimmune response. Once the results are out, Cardellini Enterprise's reputation will be restored. When that time comes, we can look for the hospitals and drugs we've worked with before to discuss partnerships. It's just that Sunny Pharmaceutical is really popular now—"

"Monica, you still don't get it." Jeanne interrupted her.

Monica blinked at Jeanne.

"Our focus now is not on whether Cardellini Enterprise will be cleared of suspicion after the results are out. Our focus is whether this result is what we want."

"What do you mean?" Monica looked at Jeanne blankly.

"Do you think Michael will let Cardellini Enterprise go?"

"Are you saying Michael will do something? That's impossible! The quality inspection department was under the Sanders' government. They wouldn't do anything against their conscience, right? Moreover, Michael's power can't be so great that everyone in the quality inspection department has to listen to him!" Monica had never thought that someone would tamper with the results

"Nothing is impossible," Jeanne answered

"Then, what should we do? What do we do now?" Monica began to panic. "If Michael can do that, once they announce to the public that there's a problem with our vaccine, not only will our Cardellini Enterprise be gone, but my father will also be held responsible! I can't let Michael succeed!"

“So now, we have to find a way to prove our innocence instead of relying on the quality inspection department.”

“However, the quality inspection department is the official authority. Once the results are out, we can’t convince the public otherwise.”

“No, there’s a way.” Jeanne enunciated each word.

Monica looked at Jeanne nervously. When she was at her wits ‘end, Jeanne would always know what to do.

“Has the child been cremated?”

“I didn’t ask.” Monica thought for a moment and said, “ it’s been so many days, so by right, it should have been cremated.

“Let’s ask first.”

“Alright.” Monica quickly picked up her phone and called Steve. “Mr. Warren, can you help me ask the family of the deceased child whether the child has been cremated?”

“Ms. Cardellini, why are you suddenly asking this?”

“It’ll be useful.” Monica did not know why either.

However, Jeanne’s instructions were definitely useful.

“Alright. I’ll ask them immediately and get back to you later.”

“Okay.”

Monica hung up the phone and then looked at Jeanne.

Jeanne also did not explain why to Monica either.

After waiting for two minutes, Steve called. “Ms. Cardellini, I heard that the other party couldn’t bear to part with the child, so they haven’t done anything to his body. But now, the child’s body has begun to show signs of decomposing even in the cooling board, so they had no choice but to choose to start the cremation at 5:10 p.m. this afternoon. The body has already been sent to the crematorium.”

Monica responded in acknowledgment before passing the news to Jeanne.

Jeanne looked at the time on her watch and dragged Monica away. “There’s still 20 minutes.”

“To do what?” Monica was dumbfounded.

“We’re going to stop them.”

“I’m afraid that’s not a good idea, Jeannie.” However, Jeanne had already dragged Monica away.

For some reason, Monica got into the car that Jeanne was driving.

The car was hers, but Jeanne was the one driving.

It was going so fast that Monica did not dare to remove her hand that was on the car window’s handrail.

'Jeanne's skills are... How many tickets would she get?' Monica thought.

Jeanne took ten minutes to get to the crematorium, which would have taken at least half an hour.

Chapter 968 Since You Refuse to Help Monica, I'll Have To Do It, No?

When they got out of the car, Monica did not even have the chance to vomit before Jeanne dragged her into the crematorium.

She endured her nausea and rushed in with Jeanne. Then, she saw the little boy's family.

Only his parents were there, and their eyes were already swollen from crying.

In fact, Monica still found it difficult to face them.

Whether it was the issue with the vaccine or not, the little boy's accident happened after he was injected.

She did not dare to go over. However, Jeanne was already pulling her toward the young couple.

The couple's eyes were dull, and their faces were lifeless. It was as if their lives had come to an end. There was no anticipation, but only desolation and despair.

The couple felt someone approaching them and turned around. The moment they saw Monica, their expressions changed.

The originally quiet waiting hall suddenly erupted with a woman's shrill scream. "Monica, you horrible woman! How dare you have the nerve to show up here? I'm going to kill you. I'm going to die with you!"

At that moment, she stepped forward and grabbed Monica.

However, Jeanne suddenly stood in front of Monica.

That day, Monica could still put on an act with that woman in front of the reporters. In fact, she did not really hit that woman that day because she could not bear to do it then, let alone now.

Just as she thought that she was going to be beaten up badly again, she saw Jeanne standing in front of her.

Suddenly, she recalled her childhood.

Although they were studying in a prestigious school, there were always one or two school bullies who were mischievous and not afraid of anything! Once, Monica accidentally provoked the two little tyrants, and they blocked her way in the back garden of the school after school. They did not let her leave and even wanted to beat her up. Monica was so frightened that she cried loudly. At that time, it was Jeanne who found her and stood in front of her. It was also Jeanne who protected her behind her back.

Even though both of them ended up being beaten up by the school bullies, at that time, Monica felt that Jeanne was like her guardian angel, glowing with radiance.

Now, she was 25 years old, yet Jeanne was still standing in front of her and protecting her.

She heard a slap.

The woman slapped Jeanne's face.

However, Jeanne did not retaliate. Instead, she said, "Please don't get angry. We want to give your child justice."

"Justice? What justice?!" The woman's eyes were red as she screamed at the top of her lungs, "My child died because of the vaccine from Cardellini Pharmaceutical! But the police didn't give us a result. All they said was that before the report came out, they couldn't determine whether Cardellini Pharmaceutical had anything to do with our child's death, so they couldn't detain the person in charge of Cardellini Pharmaceutical. But now, the report still isn't out yet, so what's the use of it even when it's released? Whether there's a problem with the vaccine or not is not for us to decide. What can ordinary people like us do?"

"We can only blame ourselves for being unlucky and incompetent. We can only blame ourselves for not being able to give our child a good living environment. Even when we die, we can't give our child justice..."

The woman was crying so hard that she could not continue.

"I know how upset you are. I'm also a mother, so I understand how you feel." Jeanne said to the woman, "We came looking for you today to tell you that your child's death was not caused by the vaccine—"

"Enough!" The woman screamed, "You've already succeeded. What else do you want?! What else do you want from us? Do you want me to tell the media that my child's death has nothing to do with you? Do you think that just because you're rich, ordinary people like us should be tortured by you?"

"You've misunderstood. I'm not asking you to do anything for us, and we won't be so selfish as to ask you to clarify anything. I swear that regardless of whether there's a problem with the vaccine or not, I won't force you to put in a good word for Cardellini Enterprise in front of the media! I'm here today to make you understand that your son's death wasn't because of the vaccine, nor was it an immune response. He was murdered!"

The woman was stunned, and so was Monica.

What was Jeanne saying?

How did it become murder?

"That's why we need to do an autopsy on your child now. Once the autopsy report is out, we can prove the cause of your child's death."

"What are you guys talking about?!" The man could not take it anymore. "In order to clear your name, you can come up with anything! Our family has no grudges against anyone. Why would my son be murdered?"

Chapter 969 Since You Refuse to Help Monica, I'll Have To Do It, No?

"It's not that you have a grudge against someone. It's that your son has become a scapegoat!"

"I don't know what you're talking about. Get lost! I don't want to see you guys for even a second. If you don't leave, I'll beat you to death!" The man's anger at the moment made him look extremely ferocious.

“I know it’s useless for me to say anything now, but if you’re willing to perform an autopsy on the body, everything will come to light—”

“Get lost!” The man refused to listen to Jeanne’s explanation and brutally pushed her back a few steps.

Monica quickly supported Jeanne, who shook her head, indicating that she was fine.

Just as she was about to go forward and persuade the other party, Monica walked in front of her.

Before Jeanne could react, Monica suddenly knelt in front of the couple.

The man, who was so angry that he wanted to kill Jeanne and Monica, was momentarily stunned by Monica’s sudden action.

“No matter what the reason is, I know that we can’t make up for the loss of your child. I won’t deny that everything we’ve done is to clear Cardellini Enterprise’s name, and I know we’re selfish, but we have no choice. My father is lying in the hospital now, and you have no idea how serious his condition is because of this.

“My father has always had a heart condition. He had a heart bypass surgery a few years ago, and the doctor suggested that he should rest more, but my father didn’t listen and spent most of his energy on work. Now, he has finally collapsed and is preparing for a heart transplant. However, the success rate of heart transplant surgery is only 50 percent, which means that there is a 50 percent chance that my father will die on the operating table.

“And even at a time like this, my dad is still concerned about the accident. If it weren’t for my mom, my dad would probably be at work with an IV drip. I can swear on my life here that my father is serious and responsible in his work. The supervision of drugs has been so strict that it’s crazy. There’s absolutely no chance that something is wrong with the drugs.

“I know you might not believe me even if I tell you this now. Of course, it doesn’t matter to you. My only hope is that you can give my family a chance to prove our innocence so that my father can go for his surgery in peace and bring justice to the person who really caused the death of your child.”

After that, Monica fell to her knees in front of the couple.

Jeanne, who was watching from the side, clenched her fists. At that moment, she wanted to pull Monica away, but she held back.

She had to admit that Monica’s way of playing the emotional card made it easier for the other party to relate to them. However, she did not expect Monica would be able to do what she just did.

In her memory, Monica was still the girl who needed protection, the little girl who would habitually hide behind her whenever something happened. Since when Monica did become responsible and mature?

However, it still pained her to see Monica like that as she had never thought that Monica would grow up in such a way.

On second thought, Monica had experienced a lot during this period of time. Yet, she endured it and was growing stronger instead.

Jeanne looked at Monica, who was on her knees and begging the other party for help.

Naturally, Monica could not convince the couple.

Jeanne said, "As a parent myself, I know how painful it is to see my child die. However, rather than letting my child die just like that, I would want to find out the truth so that my child can rest in peace. I hope you can agree for us to do an autopsy on the child. We will definitely give you a satisfactory answer!"

The couple looked at Monica on her knees crying and at Jeanne, who was so sincere and firm that they could not refuse her. The couple's tears kept falling, and no one agreed.

They were just unwilling to accept the truth.

That was until the staff member came to remind them, "It's your turn."

"No!" The woman suddenly broke down. "Hubby, I don't want to send our son in. I don't want to send him in!"

At the thought that all that would be left of her son would be ashes after she sent him in, she broke down.

The woman's crying made the man feel bad, so he said, "Please don't do this. If you don't send him, how could our child rest in peace?"

"Hubby, I can't lose my son. I really can't..."

The couple cried their hearts out, and the woman was so sad that she passed out from crying.

Shocked, the man quickly called out to her, "Honey! Honey, please don't do this. What should I do..."

"Take your wife to the hospital immediately." Jeanne quickly said.

"Okay. Okay." The man kept nodding.

At that moment, he was already beside himself with panic.

"Do you still want to cremate this body?" the staff member asked.

He appeared very calm and a little too cold-blooded, probably because he had witnessed too many such scenes.

The man hesitated. Looking at his wife who had fainted in his arms, he said, "Not for now."

"Can you leave it to us?" Jeanne asked, "Can you leave your child with us for the time being?"

At that moment, the man could not take it anymore. "I hope you can give me the truth!"

"I promise."

With that, the man strode away with his wife in his arms.

"Monica, take them to the hospital. I'll come over after I take the child away."

"Alright." Monica hurriedly got up from the ground, wipe her tears, and follow the couple out.

Monica let them get into her car. Then, she gritted her teeth and sped off.

When a person was pushed to the extreme, the body would react instinctively.

In the meantime, Jeanne had moved the ice coffin containing the child's body to the crematorium and called Finn. "Dr. Jones."

"It's you, isn't it, Jeanne?"

"It's me. I need you to do me a favor."

"Go ahead," the other party spoke bluntly.

"Help me find a forensic doctor, one with the most authority in Harken."

Finn's eyes narrowed. "What are you planning to do?"

"Since you refuse to help Monica, I'll have to do it, no?" Jeanne's tone was sarcastic.

Just because Monica could not think of many things did not mean that Finn could not.

However, she had no reason to blame Finn for anything.

After all, the two of them were separated and had nothing to do with each other, so they had no obligation to do anything for each other.

In fact, Finn did not give Monica any hope of reconciling the relationship, so he did the right thing.

She just wanted to vent her emotions at that moment.

Why could Finn be so carefree? Meanwhile, that silly Monica had been paying for her past mistakes alone?

Chapter 970 How Should She Repay Jeannie?

When Finn heard Jeanne's sarcasm, he chose to remain silent.

After all, he could easily guess what kind of sinister and cunning tricks Michael would play, but he did not let himself think about that.

Or rather, he did not dare to think too much about it.

It was not because he was afraid of Michael. It was because he just did not want to do anything that was out of his control.

Monica's matter was something she should solve herself, and it had nothing to do with him. The only thing he had related to Monica was Gary, her father's illness.

He was a doctor. His duty was to save patients and help the wounded, and no personal relationships should be involved.

At most, Gary had done him a favor, so he would pay more attention to him. That was all.

"Can you help?" Jeanne's tone was cold. She did not beat around the bush and said bluntly, "If you don't want to or think it's unnecessary, I won't trouble you."

“When do you need it?” Finn did not give her a direct answer, but the question he asked showed that he had agreed.

“Immediately. The little boy’s body is already showing signs of decomposing. We don’t have time to waste.”

“Okay. I’ll call you when I’ve found the person.”

“Thank you.” Jeanne thanked him and did not say anything else.

There were some things to take note of, such as not letting anyone else know and et cetera. However, she felt that Finn would know better than her, so she did not need to remind him too much.

After Jeanne hung up, she made another call.

As Jeanne’s original phone number had been changed, the other party asked, “Who’s there?”

“It’s me, Jeanne,” Jeanne said.

“Who?” The other party thought that he had heard wrong.

“Jeanne,” Jeanne replied impatiently.

“Eldest Young Lady Lawrence? Why are you calling me? Did you wake up on the wrong side of the bed?” Nox’s tone was rather sarcastic.

Jeanne pursed her lips and did not argue with Nox. Instead, she asked, “Do you know anyone from the crematorium?”

“Jeanne, are you cursing me?” Nox was furious. ‘What was wrong with Jeanne?’

“Do you know anyone?”

“How would I know someone from the crematorium? I’m in good health, and the people around me are in good health. I don’t need to know anyone from the crematorium.”

“In that case, can you get to know someone from the crematorium for me?” Jeanne asked.

The meaning was very clear — she just wanted Nox to help her pull some strings.

Nox had a lot of connections as he had been helping the Swans deal with business matters. Without his network of connections, it would be hard for them to survive in the business world.

Nox said, “What do you want?!”

“The Cardellinis’ pharmaceutical company has run into some trouble that needs to be resolved now. I’m worried that someone is trying to frame them, so I need to do something to pass off the fake as the real thing,” Jeanne explained. She knew that Nox would not stop until she made her intentions clear. “I’ll make it short. I suspect that the little boy who died because of Cardellini Enterprise’s vaccine has nothing to do with the vaccine. Someone is deliberately trying to frame and suppress the Cardellinis’ pharmaceutical company, so I need to do an autopsy on the little boy to get the evidence. I’ve just convinced the little boy’s family, but I’m worried that such a move will alert the enemy.”

Nox was a little confused, but he roughly understood that Jeanne had returned to South Hampton City for Monica.

“Now, we need you to use your relationship with the crematorium staff to stop the person who secretly wants to frame Cardellini Enterprise from becoming suspicious. We don’t need to do anything. We just need to inform the other party that the little boy has been cremated so that they can do what they think they can do without anyone knowing.” Jeanne said, “That’s why I need your help to bribe the people at the crematorium.”

She was very sure that Michael was a careful man. He would never make a big deal out of something that could be solved on a small scale, and he would never bribe some unimportant people. For something that could be solved with a casual inquiry, he naturally did not need to go to the crematorium to make a fuss.

However, not bribing the crematorium’s people was just her assumption of Michael.

Michael probably would not even ask for the result.

He probably would not have thought that Monica would do an autopsy.

In his mind, Monica was not smart or cunning enough, so she would not have thought that far.

However, Jeanne could not let her guard down at all when it came to Michael!

“Why should I help you?” Nox understood her situation, but why should he help her, a woman who did not even want her own husband and son?