## **President 1281**

Chapter 1281
Eileen didn't go out to watch them leave. She was standing by the window.
She stood there, watching Brad being taken into the helicopter, and then they were gone. Her heart
felt a ceaseless pain.
But it was so much better than the first time she was separated from Brad.
She believed that Brad could do it.
On the top of the building
Luke picked up Brad with one arm and strode into the helicopter.
Brandy quickly handed Luke the headset.
Luke took the headset and put it on Brad's head. Then he put the headset on himself. Seeing the bite
mark on Luke's hand, Brandy froze. "Mr. Bennington, what happened to your hand? Did you get
bitten by something? Should we go to the hospital first?"
Luke glanced at the bite mark. He said indifferently, "It was a dog."
The flood in the street hadn't subsided.
Eileen couldn't go anywhere. She had to stay in her room.
Suddenly, her cell phone rang. She picked u p the phone. It was from a company's HR. The woman said she had read her resume and invited her to an interview.

It was an animation design company. They needed cartoonists to draw cartoon characters.

Eileen was actually good at drawing cartoon characters, but she wanted to be an artist and paint her own works, not to be a cartoonist.

But this was her only opportunity for the present. She couldn't miss it. She thought she should take the job for now. As for the rest, she would consider it in the long run.

She searched the company on the inte. It was a large company and a very famous one.

They offered her a good salary. She intended to take it.

However, she was worried that her body condition would not allow it. She didn't say yes right away but said she would consider it.

Then, she called her doctor.

The doctor understood her concern and told her, "It depends on the individual's condition. Some people have little reaction. Their bodies tolerate the chemotherapy drugs well, and they can go to work right after the chemotherapy. But some people can't."

"I see," Eileen said.

She planned to go to the company when the roads were clear to talk to the HR and inform her about her health condition.

On the third day, the flood on the road subsided and traffic resumed.

Early in the morning, Eileen went to the florist and bought a bouquet of roses. Then she went to the cemetery.

It was Merlin's birthday.

Eileen placed the red roses in front of the tomb. She slowly sat down and whispered," Merlin, I know the red rose is your favorite flower, and that you always wished the man to buy you a bouquet of red roses. But

today it's I who bring you the roses, not he. "

The man Eileen was referring to was Kingsley.

"You used to tell me that Kingsley was too gentle and mild with you, and I used to say that you were not content with your life. I had met him once, and I always thought that a man like him should be a gentleman and courteous."

"But when I saw him and his wife several days before, I realized that I was wrong. Although he is a gentleman, he is an ordinary man. Although he has always been a mature and introverted man, I saw him kiss his wife in front of people. It seems that he doesn't love you after all."

Eileen went on, "You always laugh at me for being too attached to a man. What about you anyway?"

Eileen was silent for a while. Then she continued, "There's one more important thing I want to tell you. Luke and I are divorced. I'm tired. I can't hold out any longer."

"You brought in Grandpa to persuade me to marry Luke. I didn't want to marry him at first. I knew he only had Zora in his heart."

"He always loved Zora, and she was always on his mind. He often talked about Zora. At first, I didn't agree to marry him. Do you know why I changed my mind the next day?"

It was silent all around. Occasionally, the wind blew through, making a whistling sound. Other than that, there was only tranquility.

"Grandpa and I had a long talk that night, and that was the night I learned that Grandpa was seriously ill. He might not live long. And you were also seriously sick. Your condition was getting worse and worse. There were just the three of you in the Bennington family. If Grandpa died and you were also..."

Eileen closed her eyes.

"Luke would be the only one left in the world! Zora was dead, and so were you and Grandpa. It would be a huge blow to Luke. My heart ached at the idea like it was being torn apart. I felt so painful for the grief your brother was about to endure."

"I am an orphan. I don't have anyone in this world. I knew too well about the loneliness and pain, so that's when I decided to marry Luke, both for Brad and for him."

## Chapter 1282

"I didn't want to see him live in loneliness and in grief for the rest of his life. I thought it would be good to have someone by his side. Maybe he would be cheered up..."

"But in the end, it turned out I was wrong. I overestimated myself. I could not make him happy. He hated me. I didn't get to live a single happy day either..."

"Well, I've talked so much. I'm feeling tired. You must be tired of listening to me out. I used to think that without love, just for Brad's sake, I should stick with our marriage." "But I'm so tired. I'm exhausted. It had been eight years, countless days and nights. He was no longer relevant to me now. I gave him my first love and my years of youth. That was enough."

"From now on, I want to live my own life. As for Luke, I don't love him anymore. I used to be a blind moth flying to the fire. Now I don't love him anymore. It's getting late. I should leave now. I'll bring Brad to see you in a few days. You haven't seen him for a long time..."

Eileen said so much to the tomb and she felt relaxed. She was relieved.

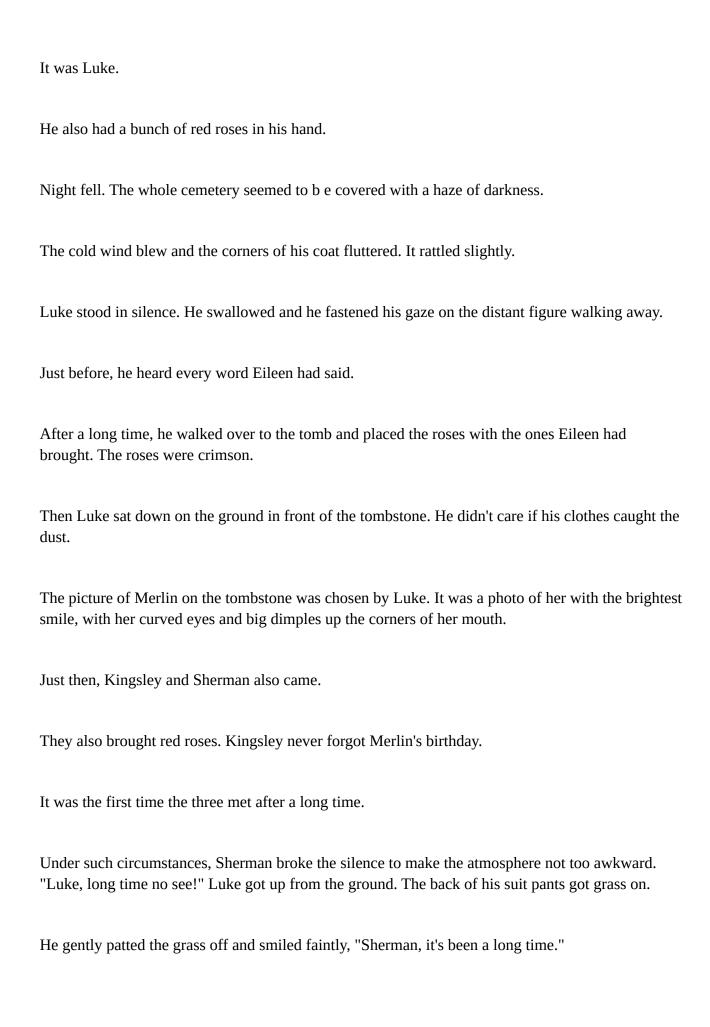
Now she had really let go of everything.

For so long, she had kept these thoughts on her mind. She had no one to talk to.

Eileen smiled and waved her hand. Then she walked away slowly, dragging her limp leg.

The road was a little bumpy and Eileen stumbled on her feet. She almost fell to the ground. Fortunately, she held onto a tree to steady herself.

When Eileen left, a tall figure came out from nearby.



At that moment, the two both smiled from their hearts. They were both earnest. They both let go of the past.

"You brought so many roses!" Sherman's eyes fell on the red roses in front of the tombstone, dark-colored. "We brought some, too."

"Merlin loved red roses when she was alive. She'll be happy." Luke still had the faint smile.

His eyes paused slightly as he glanced over the bouquet of roses Eileen had placed.

It was an appropriate place to talk.

Then Luke said, "Thank you for coming to see Merlin. You must have something to say to Merlin. I have some business to attend to. I'll leave now."

Then Luke turned around.

His eyes met Kingsley's. He had mixed emotions in his heart at this moment. "I'll give you a call when I have time! Take care!

After what happened in the woods, it was impossible for the two to get back to being a s close as they were when nothing had happened.

They became a little distant.

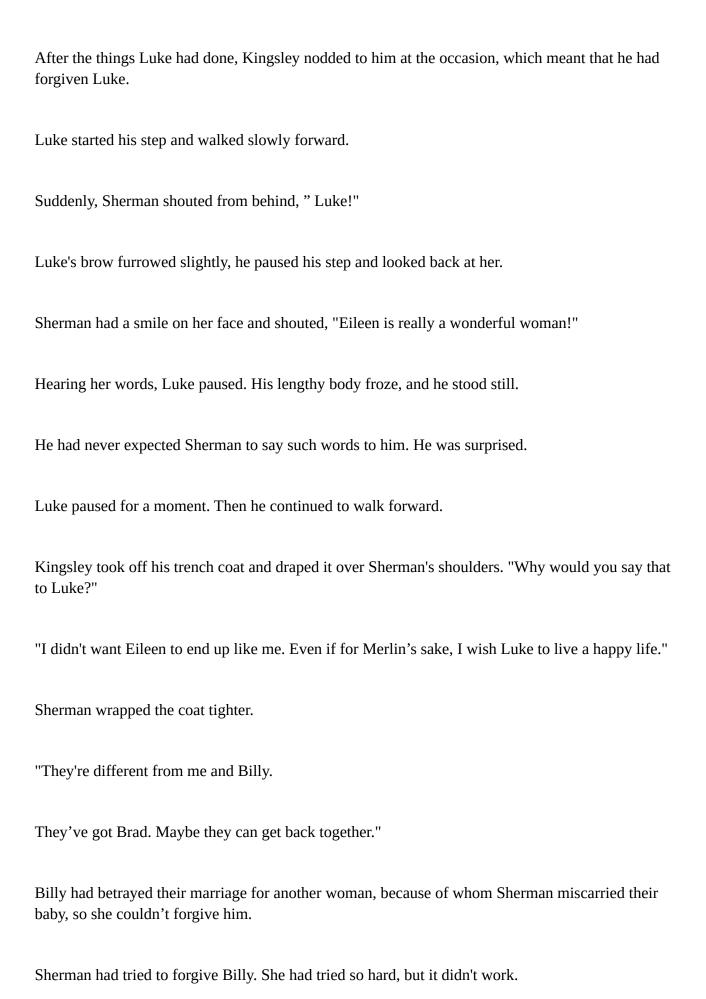
Kingsley's handsome face remained nonchalant as before, neither too warm nor too cold. He nodded his head slightly.

Chapter 1283

Seeing Kingsley nod his head in response, Luke was content. He was grateful." Thanks!"

Luke knew Kingsley's character very well.

Although Kingsley used to be gentle and mild, if he got enraged, no one could turn him back.



Luke was a good man. He would let go of Zora's death sooner or later and realize the importance of cherishing the one who loved him.

If Luke and Eileen could get back together, that would be great. If they couldn't, that was fate.

Hearing Sherman's words, Kingsley's thick brows slowly furrowed. "It sounds like you're being nostalgic."

"Am I?" Sherman was confused.

"I don't like what you just said and the look on your face..."

Kingsley's low voice had an explicit sense of accusation in it. "You said you didn't want Eileen to end up like you. Do you mean to get a divorce, or something else?"

Instantly, Sherman laughed out softly, "Are you becoming so jealous now? Do you realize that?"

Kingsley raised his eyebrows slightly.

He didn't care about her teasing. He just stared into her eyes.

"When I said I didn't want Eileen to end up like me, I mean I didn't want her to live alone as I did after my divorce. Life is tough for a woman to live alone after a divorce. Of course, that was before I met you.

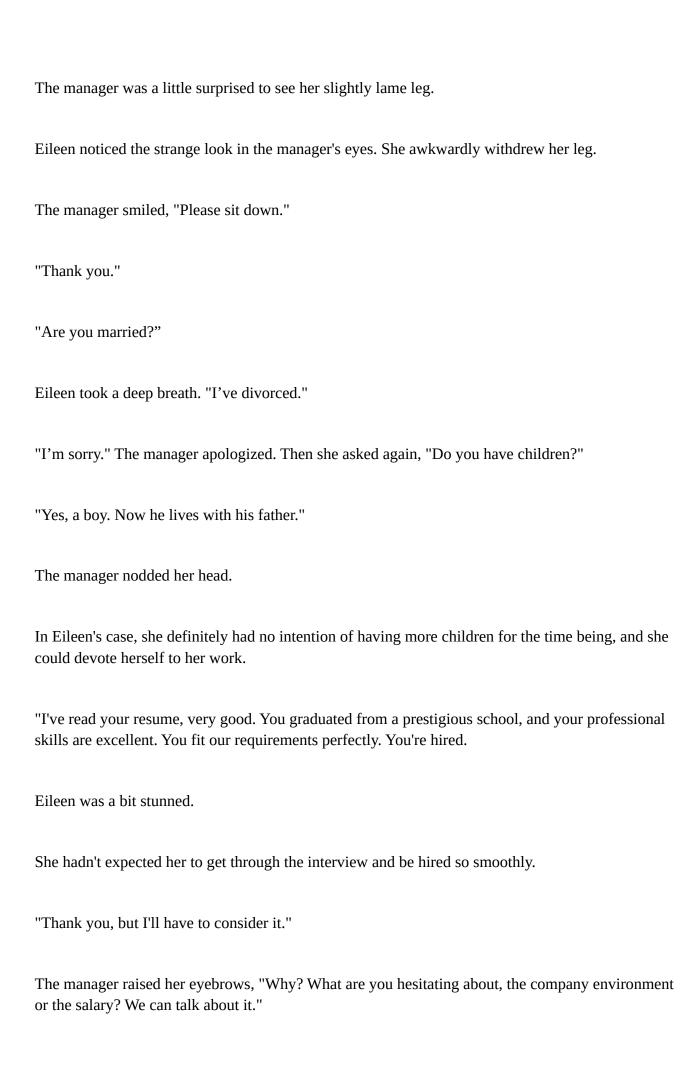
"Ever since I met you, my life has been wonderful. I'm so happy."

The last sentence was clearly meant to please Kingsley.

Sherman hadn't realized before that although a man was mature, he could also be childish when he was upset.

Kingsley's thin lips curled upward. He took her into his arms.





Eileen shook her head. She said honestly," I have stomach cancer. I'll probably need chemotherapy soon. I'm afraid my body condition can't take the work." The manager furrowed her brows. After thinking for a few seconds, the manager said, "I can help you apply to the management. When your body allows it, you come to the office. When you are not feeling good, you can work from home. I will give you the drawing and the salary will be calculated by piece." Eileen was overwhelmed with surprise, "Is that okay?" "Sure." "Thank you." The manager curled up her lips slightly," You are a tough woman. I am willing to give you an opportunity." Luke returned to Bennington family's villa. Brad was still awake. He was sitting on the couch, his little body twisted, doing his homework. Luke strode over and sat down next to Brad. Brad was writing attentively, but the next second, he became awkward and his pencil stopped. "Why did you stop? You don't understand this question?" Luke asked, noticing that his son had stopped writing. Brad hurriedly shook his head and lowered his head down to his book to continue his homework.



Then Brad was silent again. "If he doesn't eat much, get him what he wants. If he's being pettish, leave him alone! I want to see how long he could starve!" Luke glanced at Brad and warned the servant in a stern voice. Brad didn't dare to speak. He had always been afraid of his father, and now that Luke had lost his temper, Brad was even more frightened. However, the corners of Luke's lips curled up lightly. He called Brandy and gave him the names of a few dishes, and he asked Brandy to tell the kitchen to cook them. Those dishes were some of Brad's favorites at Eileen's place. He noticed that and kept them in his mind. The house fell quiet again. Brad continued to do his homework. Only the sound of the pencil scratching on the paper was heard in the room. Luke also stopped talking. He just watched Brad in silence. When Brandy came out of the kitchen, he saw this scene. He felt happy. Luke had never been close to Brad before. With such progress, it was really joyful! It was nine o'clock after Brad had done his homework and eaten some food.

Brad had something on his mind. He was hesitant, but he asked carefully, "It's mom's birthday in a

week. Can I go to mom's place to celebrate her birthday?"

Eileen's birthday?

Luke's brow furrowed, he didn't say a word. He just took a sip of water.

However, Brad became anxious, "I have to celebrate mom's birthday with her! I used to celebrate each of Mom's birthdays with her! I don't want her to spend her birthday alone this year!"

Brad used to celebrate Eileen's birthday with her every year. They would buy a small cake and Eileen would cook a few dishes herself.

Without Brad, Eileen would have been very lonely!

But Luke didn't answer him. He raised his hand to look at his watch and said, "It's time for you to go to bed."

Brad had always been afraid of Luke. He didn't dare offend his dad.

"Dad, I'll do whatever you say. But I have to go to mom's place on her birthday. It is my duty."

Luke straightened his back. He looked serious and stern.

Luke said coldly, "You just promised me that you would not go to your mother's.

Now you've found a new reason. What excuse do you want to use next time?"

Brad didn't say anything but angrily shoved the workbooks on the table into his bag haphazardly.

Grabbing his bag, Brad ran up the stairs. He was so angry that he made a clanging noise.

Brandy frowned. He was confused.

The two were getting along well just now,

weren't they?

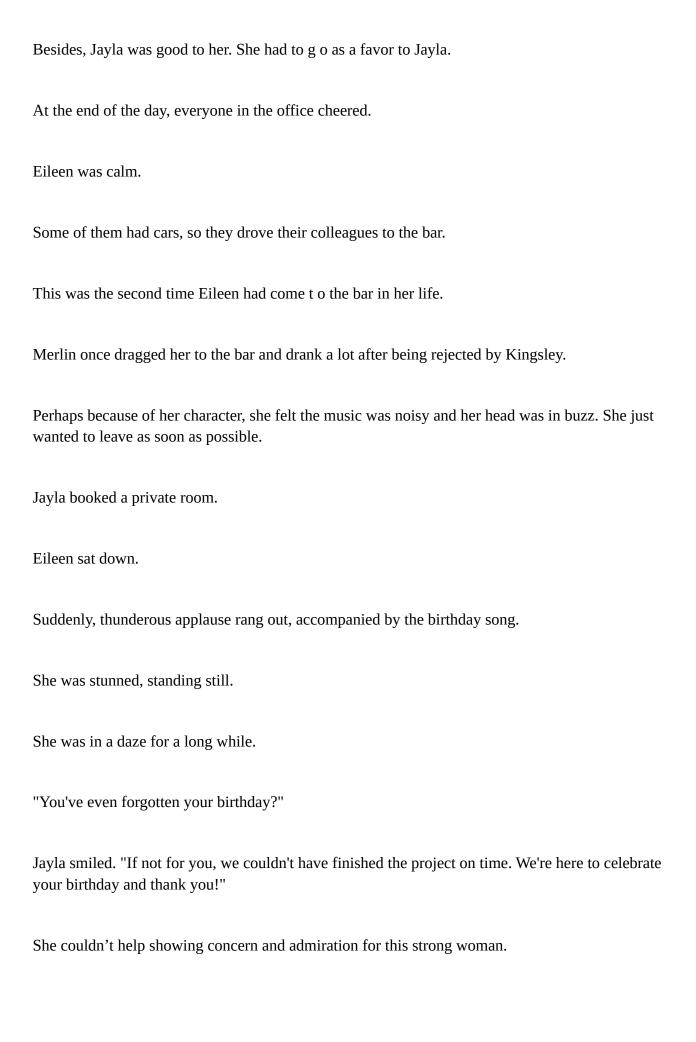
How could Brad get angry in just one second? Luke seemed nonchalant. He was still sipping his water. He felt that Brad's character was like that of his mother. When he was afraid of him, he was all cautious. He didn't even dare to say more. But when he got angry, he was explosive, and he was reckless. The drawings had to be done in a few days. There wasn't a lot of time left for Eileen. Eileen was working overtime on her drawings at the office. After all, only a few days were left. It was half a month before her chemotherapy date. She hadn't seen Brad in the last few days. and she missed her son terribly. She had looked after him for eight years. How could she stay easy leaving her little boy to Luke so soon? But most of the time she was very busy. She had a lot of work to do. That was fine. She could numb herself with work. Missing Brad would at least be less painstaking. Chapter 1286 A week passed in the blink of an eye. In the evening. As soon as he came back from school, Brad locked himself into his room, not eating.



Hearing what Brandy had said, Luke raised his eyebrows. "Learning to make cakes?" He then remembered that Brad had said a week ago that it was Eileen's birthday today. "Yes." "Okay, just let him do it." An hour later. Brad walked up to Luke. "Dad, today is Mom's birthday. I want to go and celebrate her birthday." Luke turned a deaf ear. People were always greedy. As long as he gave an inch, Brad would take a yard. He wouldn't be soft-hearted this time. "Please, Dad..." Brad lowered his head, his voice pleading. Luke was still reading the newspaper. After waiting for two minutes, Brad gave u p, turned around, and walked to Brandy. "Brandy, today is Mom's birthday. I can't go to see her. Can you help me give her the cake?" Brandy was stunned, subconsciously looking at Luke. Luke's eyes were slightly narrowed. His face was sullen and unreadable. In front of Luke, Brandy didn't dare to agree. He said, "I'm still working, so I possibly can't go."



The little boy stood in front of the floor-to-ceiling window. He looked across at the night sky with an air of loneliness and sadness. Looking at his back, Brandy felt even more heartbroken, secretly wiping his tears. Seeing this, Luke was not in the mood to read the newspaper. Chapter 1287 Brad inherited her genes. They were both good at acting. He threw aside the newspaper and said in a deep voice, "Come here!" In the company. Eileen had adapted to the new work. She planned to earn enough money for chemotherapy and hospitalization. In the evening, the manager, Jayla Sampson, told the staff to go to the bar together after work. Eileen declined, "Ms. Sampson, I'm not feeling well. I want to go back home early." She had something wrong with one of her legs, so the bar wasn't suitable for her. People would make fun of her. Jayla shook her head. "Everyone else will attend. Why can't you?" Eileen wanted to refuse, but Jayla had already left. Resignedly, she intended to go through the motions quickly and leave the bar. After all, she had just joined the company. She needed to get used to it.



Finally, Eileen came out of her trance.
Immediately, a warm feeling surged through her. Her nose twitched and her eyes were moist. "Thank you all for giving me such a surprise!"
Her colleagues chuckled friendly.
The waiter pushed the cake in. They happily smeared each other with cream.
Eileen was smeared the most. Her cheeks and forehead were covered with the cream.
Yet she was smiling. She had never been s o delighted.
She had lived for so many years, but this birthday was the most lively and cheerful.
She wasn't as lonely as before.
She used to be afraid that she couldn't fit in with others because of her crippled leg, but now it seemed she thought too much.
When one closed her heart, who could walk in?
Once she opened her heart, she would find everything different.
She didn't understand that before.
Never had she expected to have fun with so many colleagues.
Eileen felt wonderful and pleased.
Her face lit up, completely not as gloomy as it used to be.

They played games until after nine o'clock.
Since they still had a lot of work to do, the
plan of singing Karaoke was canceled.
Jayla said, "Eileen is the birthday girl. We can't let her take the bus back. Ruben, drive Eileen back."
Eileen hastily refused.
She didn't want to trouble others, but Jayla didn't listen to her at all.
She had no choice but to get into Ruben's car.
After asking for the address, he set the destination on the guide map and then started the car.
Ruben was 30 years old and good-looking.
In the company, he was very attractive to female colleagues. They talked a lot in the car. He was chatty and good at spicing things up. The atmosphere was quite good.
Chapter 1288
Meanwhile, Ruben slipped up.
Only then did Eileen know that he was the son of the company's president.
"Keep it a secret for now." Ruben shook his head with resignation.
"Okay. I won't tell others."
Eileen smiled faintly. "I'm not a gossip. Don't worry."



As she opened the door, she was stunned. Brad was reclining on the seat at the table, A tall figure stood by the window, staring downstairs. It was none other than Luke.

She walked over, picked up Brad, and put him on the bed, asking, "Why are you in my room?"
Luke turned around with a sullen face." You are now quite good at having fun, aren't you?"
"I'm asking you how you entered my room."
Luke sat down on the sofa. "I asked your landlord for the key."
Hearing this, Eileen frowned.
How could the landlord give the key to others?
"Why did you come back so late?"
Luke looked askance at her.
Just now she was smiling at another man downstairs, but her expression changed as soon as she walked into the room and saw him.
What a mobile face!
Eileen ignored him, tucking Brad in.
"Don't get into my room again. I think you are a decent person. You shouldn't have broken into my place. You're violating my privacy and threatening my safety!"
"So what? You don't want me and Brad to come over or enter your room anymore, right?" Luke looked straight at her, saying slowly.
"Not Brad but you!"
She wrinkled her brow as she emphasized coldly, "Brad is my son. Of course, he can come here.

"But you're just a stranger to me. You always wanted to make a clean break with me but didn't have the chance. Now that you're finally able to get rid of me, why do you have to get entangled with me again? This is not like you."

Luke's Adam's apple bobbed slightly. "You want to completely clear the line with me?"

"It was you who wanted to have done with me. Now me too. Since we have the same purpose, I think it will be easy to fulfill."

Chapter 1289

She had never spoken to him so calmly.

Now, however, she felt at peace. She was satisfied with her progress.

Hearing what she said, Luke didn't feel any better. Instead, he was annoyed.

He said indifferently, "It sounds as if I was eager to come here. If Brad hadn't cried for you, do you think I would have brought him here?

"Besides, if he hadn't been unable to stand because of the long wait, would I have asked the landlord for the key to bring him in?

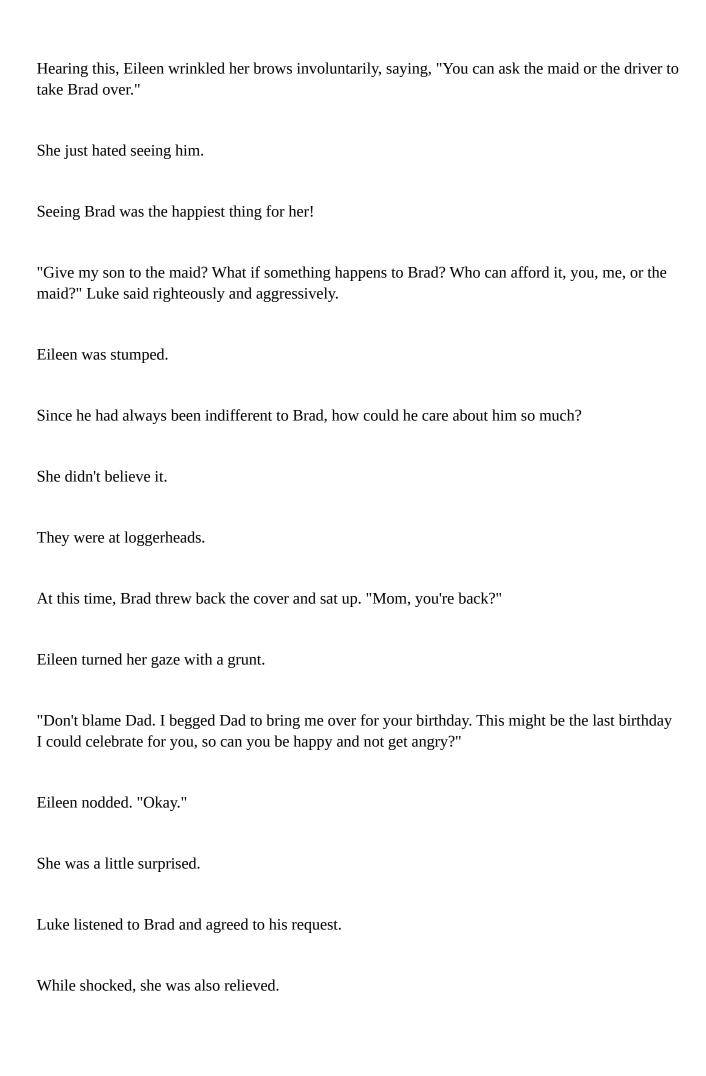
"But now I think that is superfluous. You don't want me to bring Brad here. You can rest assured. I won't do it again!"

Luke was in an extremely bad mood.

He shouldn't have been soft-hearted and listened to Brad!

Therefore, he should continue his previous style, being cold and impersonal.

Anyway, he didn't want Brad to be close to Eileen, which was not conducive to the development of Brad's character.



As long as they could get along well, she wouldn't turn in her grave.

"Why are you so late? I've been waiting for you for a long time. Today is your birthday. We bought a cake and came to celebrate it."

She was touched. The child's childish words were like a soft wind, warming her heart. She asked, "How long have you waited?"

"So long. Dad and I got here at seven o'clock, but you didn't come back. I felt cold, so Dad asked for the key to bring me i

n. Mom, where have you been?"

"My colleagues were celebrating my birthday," she answered, reaching out to brush the thread off his face.

Brad's bright eyes widened. "Really?" "Yes." "That's great! But I'm a little jealous that they celebrated Mom's birthday before me. " Brad was happy for her but somewhat discontented.

Eileen laughed. "But I like spending it with you the most, and I enjoy eating the birthday cake you buy me every year."

Only then did Brad feel better.

He sat up, put on the slippers, walked to the kitchen, and brought out a cake.

He put it on the table and placed the candles on top of it.

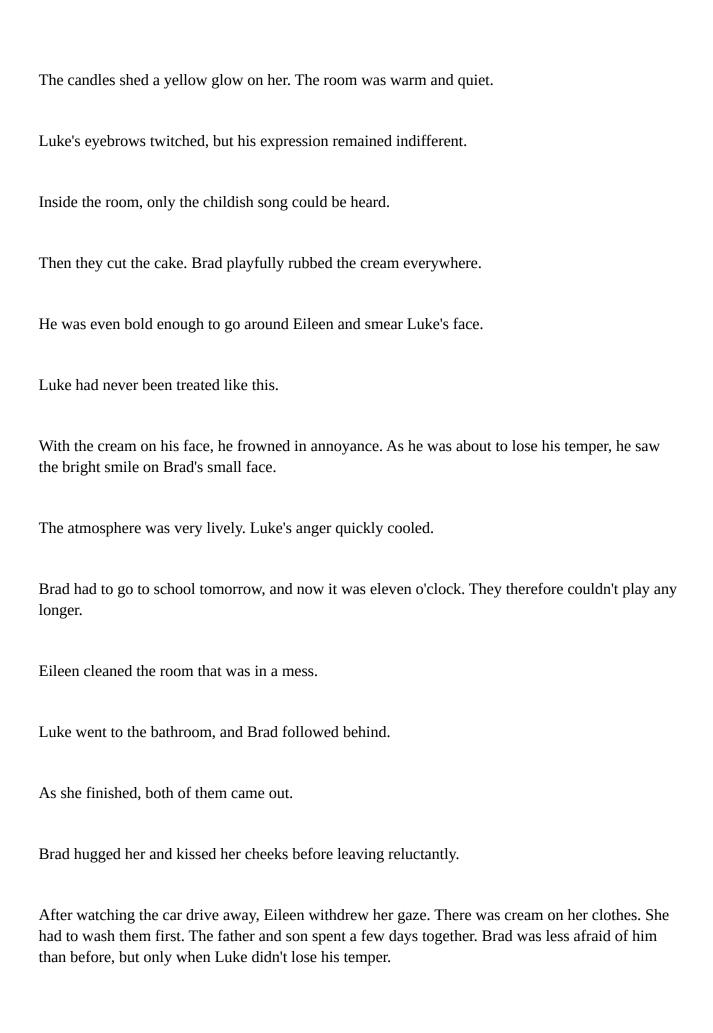
He did that seriously. His mom was 30 years old.

Chapter 1290

Every year on their birthdays, the most important thing for him was to put candles on the cake.

Brad felt it was sacred.

Therefore, he must do it reverently and seriously. He counted several times until he was sure he didn't make a mistake. He then pulled Eileen in front of the cake. "Mom, make a wish." 'Make a wish?' Eileen was stunned. All these years, she had never made a serious wish. They were all casual and perfunctory. Now that she had started a new life, she was going to make a serious wish! She wished she could survive. She wished Brad could grow up well, be loved, and have a good future. If she could only choose one wish, then it would be the second one. With her hands together in front of her chest, she closed her eyes and quietly made a wish. Brad blinked, glancing at Luke. He then walked over on his short legs, pulling him t o the table. His little hands clapped as he sang the birthday song and winked at Luke as a sign for him to sing together. How could Luke do such a childish and stupid thing? He raised his eyebrows slightly, leaning there without making any move. In the light, Eileen's face was fair, clear, and flawless.



Luke was driving.

Brad sat in the passenger seat, wearing the seat belt.

"Why didn't you make a cake and sing a song on my birthday?" Luke curled his thin lips.