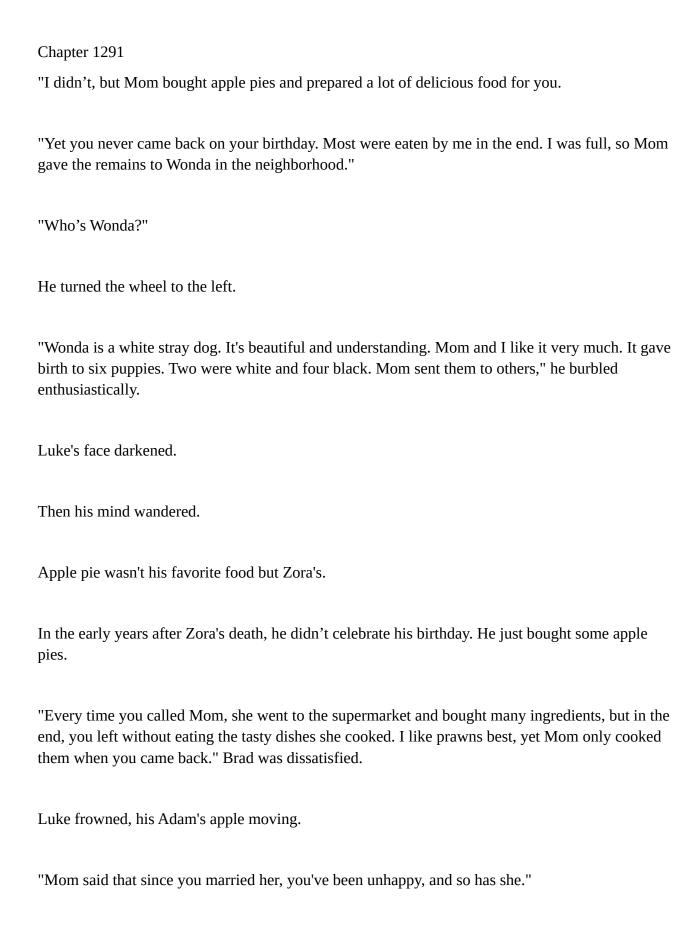
President 1291



She married him just because she didn't want him to suffer so much. She hoped he could live happily, but he didn't. Luke somehow thought of what Eileen said in front of Merlin's tombstone. His eyes slightly narrowed, deep and troubled. "If... I mean if your mother remarried, what would you do?" Luke didn't know why he asked this question. It was probably because he saw the man in the car who was chatting happily with her. After thinking for a moment, Brad answered, "I'll buy a big gift for Mom with all my pocket money!" Luke's brow wrinkled as he heard this. Usually, when asked such a question, children would either cry or act up, but he was going to prepare a gift. "Maybe she'll have another son or a daughter and have no time to care about you anymore. Are you okay with that?" he continued to ask. "I know Mom was unhappy being with you these years. My classmates' parents all live together, but you don't. You are with beautiful women on TV or in the newspapers. "Every time Mom saw that, she was in a trance and even cried with her back to me, and then I knew that Mom loved you, but you didn't love her. She led a hard and lonely life. When she told me you

"She said I had to go with you and could no longer live with her. I cried. I was sad, but I didn't make a scene. Even at the most important moment, I didn't. How will I do that in the future?

were divorced, I didn't make a scene.

"I know I'm young and no one will listen to me. Even if I make a scene, it won't be useful. I understand that Mom will get married and have a new baby, and so will you. "Mom will still love me, but not as much as now. I'll share her love with my sisters and brothers. You never love me, let alone when you have other children. I know it." He was very young but precocious. There were so many dramas on TV. He knew what would happen, Brad's head dropped. His voice was muffled, not as light as usual. Such words from a child could make one feel sad and pity for him. Precocious children tended to be mentally mature. As Luke heard Brad's words, Luke's eyes gleamed. He had never known his son. Now, Brad seemed quite like him. However, that was a good sign. Only then could he take over the family business and be a qualified heir. Chapter 1292 Finally, the little kid aroused his sympathy. Luke's Adam's apple went up. He propped his left hand on the wheel, and his right hand on Brad's head. Just like Eileen did, Luke stroked Brad's hair.

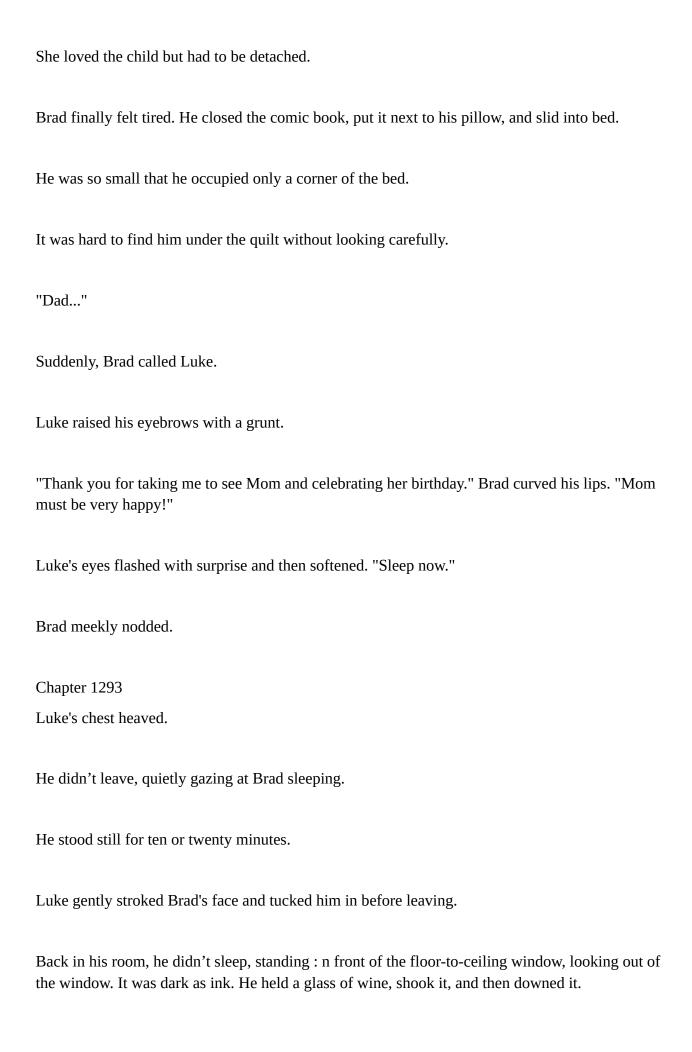
Brad looked strangely up at him.
The car soon arrived at the villa.
They stepped into the living room one after the other.
It was very late, nearly eleven o'clock. Brandy took Brad upstairs to bed. The boy was very obedient and understanding.
Standing downstairs, Luke could clearly hear Brad happily talking to Brandy about Eileen's birthday.
A moment later.
Brandy came down the stairs. Luke was sitting on the sofa in the living room.
Hearing footsteps, he looked up. "Is he asleep?"
"No. Brad is very excited," Brandy answered with a smile.
Immediately, Luke sat upright.
He got up, told Brandy that he was going upstairs to have a look, and left.
Brandy felt that the atmosphere between Luke and Brad was unusual.
It seemed very harmonious.
After all, they were father and son. They would naturally get closer after spending time together.
When Luke pushed open the door and walked in, Brad was reading a comic book.

He was in high spirits and didn't want to sleep. "Why don't you sleep?" "I'm not sleepy yet. I want to read comic stories for a while." Brad's head was buried in the comic book. "Can you read it?" Luke sat down. Brad nodded. "I'm already in the fourth grade. I know a lot of words, and I've been reading storybooks since the second grade. Hearing this, Luke frowned slightly. As a father, he didn't even know what grade his child was in. "When did you start sleeping alone?" he asked. Brad scratched his head. "When I was very, very young, too young to remember." "Why didn't you sleep with Mom?" "Mom didn't agree. She said a man couldn't sleep with his mom. "But she was not happy when saying it. She always looked sad. I often find Mom tucking me up in the night." Brad didn't understand, but Luke did.

She knew from the beginning that she would be separated from her child.

to part with him.

She thus couldn't and dared not be very close to her child, afraid that it would be even more difficult



Early the next morning.

Brad was brought downstairs by Brandy to eat breakfast. Brandy was surprised to see his boss reading the newspaper instead of going to the company.

Brad didn't like soya milk.

At the smell of it, he wrinkled his small brows like an aged man.

It was just a tiny detail, but Luke noticed it. He put down the newspaper, saying, "Just leave it if you don't like it."

Yet Brad shook his head. "Mom said I can't waste food. I'll drink it this time. Don't prepare soya milk for me again."

Raising his little head, he pouted and swallowed the soya milk though reluctant.

Luke was stunned and had to admit that she educated Brad very well.

Brad was well-behaved and good-mannered.

After Brad had his breakfast, Brandy wanted to drive him to school but was stopped by Luke. "I happen to have time. I'll take him to school."

Brandy froze, while Brad blinked his bright eyes, tilted his head, and stared at Luke.

Luke walked forward on his long legs, his straight and neat trousers fluttering slightly.

As he passed by Brad, he crooked his long fingers and tapped on his forehead. "What are you waiting for?"

Eileen was still busy with work. The comic book would soon be published, so she had to finish it quickly.

Suddenly, a strong aroma wafted over.
She looked up in surprise, meeting Ruben's eyes.
"I saw you rushing to work early in the morning. Have a cup of coffee to refresh yourself," Ruben said softly with a smile.
"Thank you."
Indeed, she was a little tired. She stopped working, stretched, picked up the coffee, and took a sip. "It tastes good."
"Do you have time after work tonight?"
Ruben sat down in the chair opposite her.
"I know a new cafe. The coffee there is quite good. Would you like to go and try it after work?"
Hearing this, Eileen paused, holding the cup.
What did he mean by this?
Was he inviting her?
After a while, she looked at Ruben. "Sorry, I have something to do after work, so I can't g o there."
"It's okay. Do your things first. We're in the same office. We'll have many chances in the future."
Ruben chuckled, pointing at the coffee cup i n her hand. "Hurry up and drink it while it's hot."
Eileen nodded, smiled, and then went back to work.



Jayla passed by and said behind them," Haven't you heard about 'the first cup of coffee in autumn? It's the latest buzzwords. Eileen smiled, "I rarely surf the Inte." Jayla smiled, "It's Ruben who drove you home on your birthday. You should buy him a cup of coffee." Hearing that, Eileen thought that Jayla was right. Eileen thought that she should return the favor. She said, "OK. What would you like to drink?" Before Ruben replied, Jayla said, "Not far away, there is a new coffee shop. It is about 1 km away from our company. It tastes good. Have a try." Ruben smiled, "Jayla has a good taste. Since she recommends the coffee shop to u s, it will be great. Would you like to have a try?" Eileen smiled, "OK." Seeing them off, Jayla smiled all the time. The coffee shop was not far away. It took them several minutes to go there by car. Eileen saw the coffee shop across the road. She said, "You can park the car first. I will buy the coffee for you." Ruben agreed, "OK. After I park the car, I will meet you there."

When Eileen got close to the coffee shop, she was surprised.

There was a long line. Most of them were couples. Unexpectedly, so many people would line u p for a cup of coffee. It seemed that she would line up for more than half an hour. To be honest, she usually wouldn't spend half an hour buying a cup of coffee, but she needed to buy it to return the favor. 'By the way, what does "the first cup of coffee in autumn" mean?' Suddenly, a couple jumped the queue. Eileen hated to see that. She frowned and said, "Please do not jump the queue." The man turned around. He stuck a cigarette between his lips and looked at Eileen lasciviously. Seeing her beautiful face, he was fascinated by her. He said, "If you call me 'honey', I will go back u p the line" Eileen felt disgusted and ignored him. The man added, "Or you call me sweetie ..." Before Eileen said something, the man's girlfriend cursed loudly, "You're thirty something. Don't you feel shameful to seduce my boyfriend in public?" Eileen said, "Why don't you save your breath and keep an eye on your boyfriend? I think no girls will be interested in your boyfriend. Besides, please do not jump the queue." The girl said, "No girls will be interested in my boyfriend? What do you mean?" She pushed Eileen suddenly as she said.

Eileen was unsteady on her feet and stepped back.

The girl covered her mouth and burst into laughter, "She is a cripple! Does the cripple also want to drink coffee?"

The girl's voice was loud. Many people turned around to look at them.

At that time, Ruben arrived. He stood in front of Eileen to protect her. He said coldly, "Don't force me to hit a girl."

The girl rolled her eyes at him and said, "It's the truth. She is a cripple. Why can't I say that? Your girlfriend is a cripple. A cripple. A cripple..."

Ruben couldn't suppress his anger anymore. He rolled up his sleeves and walked towards the girl.

The girl wasn't afraid at all. Her gaze was scornful. She pushed her boyfriend and said, "Beat him up!"

The man spat and had a tussle with Ruben.

The man was tall and strong. He looked powerful.

Unexpectedly, he was no match for Ruben.

Soon, the man was thrown to the ground by Ruben.

The surrounding people were surprised, including Eileen.

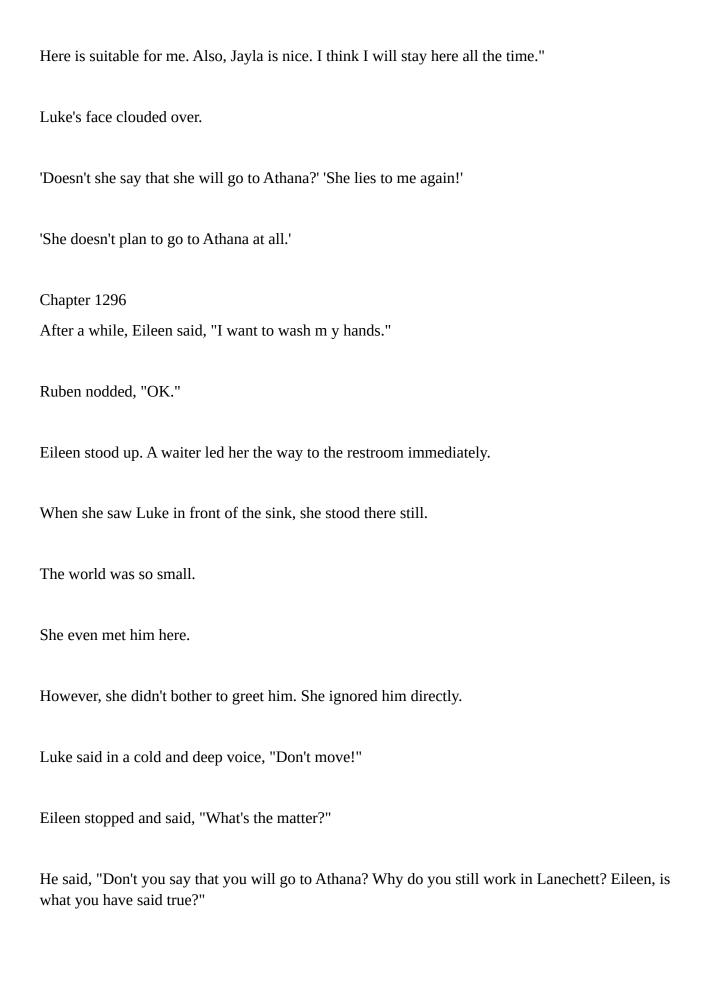
Ruben looked down at the man and said," Apologize to her!"

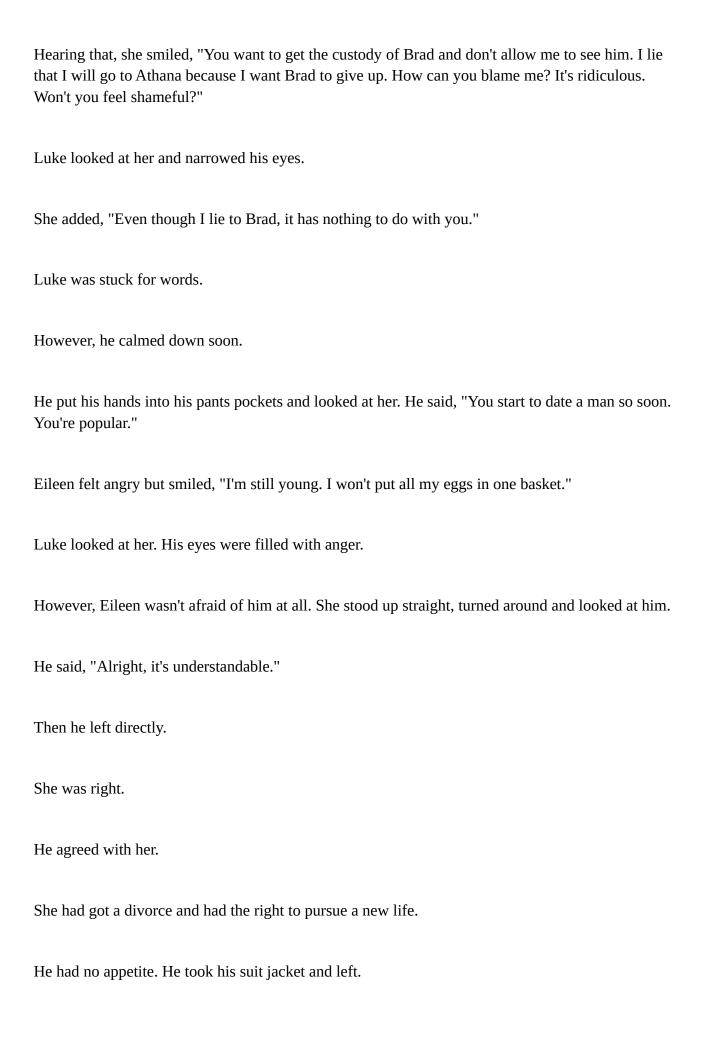
Chapter 1295



Eileen thought he was right.
She asked, "By the way, what does 'the first cup of coffee in autumn' mean?"
Ruben said, "Last year, a girl sat out of the balcony fences and wanted to jump from the building. A local policeman moved her with 'the first cup of coffee in autumn' and saved her. Thus, it becomes buzzwords."
Eileen fell into a trance.
Unexpectedly, there was such a story behind the coffee.
Suddenly, she felt that it was meaningful for them to spend half an hour buying the coffee.
As for the girl who wanted to commit suicide, "the first cup of coffee in autumn" meant redemption and new life.
Then would Eileen get redemption and new life?
However, they didn't notice Luke was behind them.
Luke held a glass of wine and frowned.
Lanechett was not small, but he even met Eileen here.
It was strange. They had never met each other by chance before they were divorced. After they got a divorce, they always met each other.
Of course, Luke recognized the man who was in front of Eileen. He was the man who drove her home on her birthday.
Luke compressed his lips and sneered," Humph"

'I shouldn't have believed her.'
'She loved me so much and was reluctant t o get a divorce with me before.'
'We just have got a divorce within a month, but she is chatting and laughing with a man. He drives her home, and they have dinner together.'
'Women are capricious.'
'I shouldn't have believed her when she said she loved me!'
Seeing the scene, he felt ironic.
He had no appetite and stood up.
His friend, who sat opposite him, was shocked. He asked, "What's the matter?"
Luke said, "I need to go to the bathroom."
Luke's friend said, "OK. Hurry back! I'll be here waiting for you."
Luke walked behind Eileen and Ruben.
Then he stopped and pretended to touch the plants.
Eileen still didn't notice him.
Ruben said, "You have finished all the drawings. Would you like to work at the headquarters? You will have a better future with your ability."
Eileen shook her head, "No, thank you.







Chapter 1297

Hearing that, Luke remembered it gradually. He explained, "I was drunk at that time."

Brandy said, "Anyway, Ms. Barton has never gone to the school since then and been reluctant to go out. She is reluctant to go out all the time."

He even cursed her like that after he was drunk.

Luke had a headache. He raised his hands and massaged his forehead.

He said, "Go to the school to pick Brad up. I will ask someone else to pick me up."

Brandy said, "OK."

The next day.

When Eileen arrived at the office, she was almost late for work.

She was out of breath. She wasn't relieved until she sat in her position. She calmed down and took a deep breath.

After all, she was a newcomer in the company. If she were late, it would be embarrassing.

At that time, a man's hand appeared in front of her.

A cup of coffee and bread were put in front of her. Eileen raised her head in surprise. She saw Ruben.

He said, "I saw that you were anxious just now. I guess that you haven't eaten breakfast. I have bought breakfast for two. Here you are."

Eileen felt surprised by his kindness. She shook her head immediately, "No, thank you. I have eaten breakfast at home."

Ruben winked at her and said, "I have bought it. I can't take it back. Drink the coffee and keep the bread as the dessert. I need to go to work. See you later."

Ruben left before she replied, "But..."

She was in a dilemma. After all, she couldn't throw it away. She had no other choice but to drink it.

She drank a glass of milk at home in the morning. Now she drank a cup of coffee. She felt as if her stomach was filled with water.

Seeing that, a female colleague walked over with a smile. She hit Eileen's shoulder slightly and said, "Ruben has a crush on you!"

Eileen shook her head, "Don't overthink it."

The female colleague said, "It's true. He is good at making coffee, but we have never drunk the coffee that he makes. He has never invited us to have dinner, not to mention bought breakfast for us. He must have a crush on you."

She whispered in Eileen's ear, "By the way, Ruben is handsome. He is the most handsome man in our company. Although we don't know his family background, he has a car. I think he is a good choice. He doesn't like me. If he likes me, I will be willing to be his girlfriend."

Eileen smiled and kept silent.

Ruben had hidden his identity. If his identity were exposed, he would be more popular in the company.

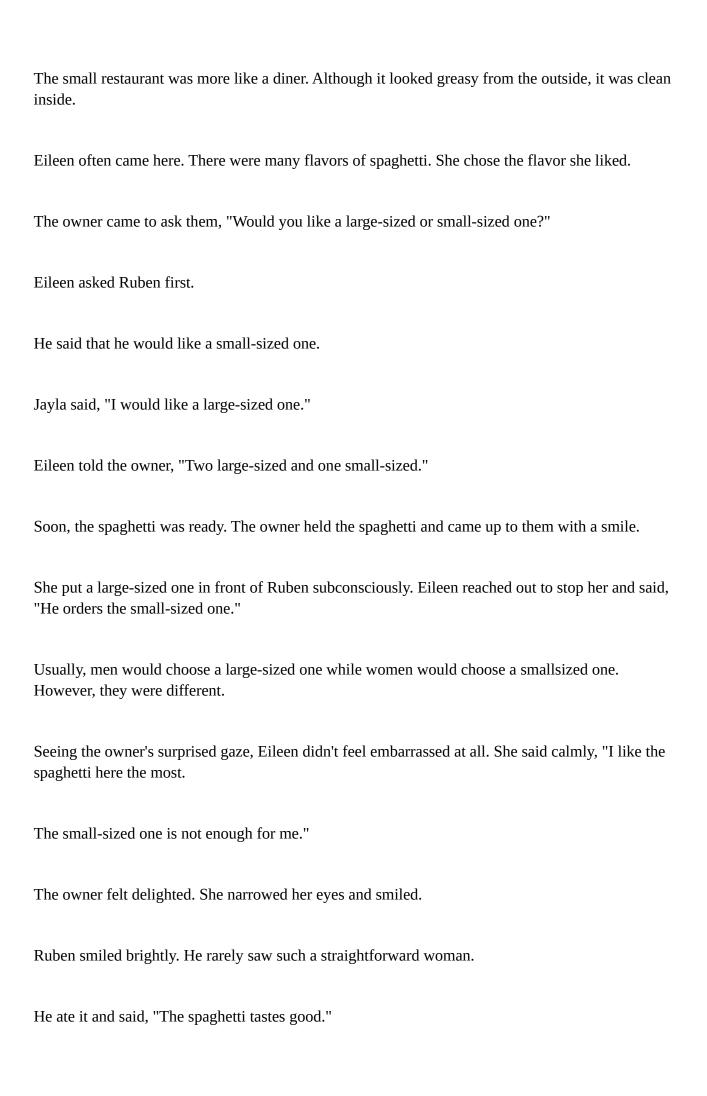
Seeing that Eileen kept silent, the female colleague didn't say anything else. She just patted Eileen's shoulder and said, "If you like him, don't miss him."

Eileen shook her head with a smile.

She had cancer. She even didn't have the medical fee. How could she stay with anyone else?

The deadline was coming. She was busy with her work. Jayla was worried about her. She patted Eileen's shoulder and said, "Don't be so serious. Have a rest. Take it easy." After all, Eileen was sick. She wasn't like normal people. Eileen said, "Thank you, Jayla." Jayla said, "Don't mention it. You need to take care of yourself." At lunchtime, Ruben came to look for Eileen again and invited her to have dinner. Eileen wanted to refuse him. She wasn't sure if he had a crush on her or not, but she needed to keep herself apart from him. If she had dinner with him again, the rumors would be spread again. This would damage their reputations. However, before she refused, Ruben said," Didn't you say that there was a small restaurant whose spaghetti was delicious yesterday? Jayla and I like spaghetti very much, but we don't know where it is. Please take us there after you get off work." Chapter 1298 Eileen frowned and said, "Jayla will come with us?" Ruben nodded, "Yes."

Eileen said, "OK, but it's my treat today." Hearing that, Ruben teased her, "Although I usually won't let women treat me, it seems that I may not be able to have dinner with you if I disagree." Ruben was humorous. They looked at each other and smiled. The atmosphere was congenial. Eileen smiled. Jayla was nice to her. Now that Jayla wanted to eat spaghetti, Eileen was willing to go with them. When it was time for them to get off work, Ruben went to drive his car. Eileen and Jayla got in the car. Eileen told Ruben the address. The small restaurant was inside an alley. It took them a long time to find it. Ruben was hovering outside the restaurant. Eileen turned around and said, "If you don't like it, we can go to another restaurant. I choose the one that I like but forget to consider the preference of Jayla and you." The restaurant looked dirty from the outside. Ruben had a good family background and usually went to high-end restaurants. It was normal that he was unused to it. Jayla spread her hands and said, "It's OK." Ruben said, "Me too." He waved his hand and walked in.





Eileen smiled and said to the small restaurant's owner, "Hi, please wrap up one for me. I will take it to go. Don't cook it"

She was afraid that the spaghetti would stick together when she went back.

Ruben asked naturally, "Who do you wrap it up for?"

She said honestly, "My son."

Hearing that, Ruben opened his eyes wide i n surprise and asked, "Your son?"

Eileen said, "I have a son. I got married when I was twenty-two years old. My son i s eight years old now, but I have divorced his father. My son stays by his father's side.

Eileen was reluctant to hide it from others. She told him the truth calmly.

'If Ruben has a crush on me, he will give up after he knows about it."

Ruben closed his eyes and said, "Sorry, I don't mean to be offensive."

As for women, such a topic was private, and it might hurt them. Much of the time they would be reluctant to mention it.

Eileen said frankly, "It's OK. It's the truth. Whoever asks me, my answer will be the same. I don't think that it's offensive."

Ruben admired the straightforward Eileen very much.

Eileen didn't waste any time. After dinner, she paid the bill, took the spaghetti and got in Ruben's car. She said, "I'm sorry that you can't enjoy dinner at leisure tonight. I will buy your dinner next time."

Ruben teased her, "I expect it so much."



Luke narrowed his eyes and looked at Ruben through the door crack. Luke said," Then why does he come in?" Eileen said indifferently, "Brad is my son. 0 f course, he can come in. He is my friend, s o he can come in. What about you?" Luke thought about it and said, "I'm Brad's father!" Eileen questioned him, "It's my home. Although you're Brad's father, you have nothing to do with me. Why do you come i n?" Luke said, "My son is inside. I must come i n. If you don't let me in, I will stay here, and you won't be able to close the door. Anyway, I don't mind spending time with you." Luke's voice was cold. He squeezed his strong leg into the door crack again as he said. Eileen was ruthless. She leaned forward and wrestled with the door again. Luke's leg was caught in the door. It hurt. He frowned in pain. They kept the postures and refused to give i n. She was reluctant to let off, and he was reluctant to leave. She gritted her teeth secretly while he squeezed his leg into the door forcibly. Chapter 1300

'Why can that man get into her apartment while I have to be kept out?'

The two were in a stalemate.

The scene looked like a tug of war. Luke was a bit childish. Ruben walked over and said with a light smile, "It's getting late. I should leave. See you tomorrow." Hearing this, Eileen suddenly straightened up and stepped away from the door. Luke immediately pulled his leg back, which was hurting badly from the clamping. Enduring the pain, he stood straight to pretend that nothing had happened. "Don't drink something?" She always felt that she was a little impolite to Ruben. "There is still coffee at home. I'll make you a cup of coffee." Shaking his head, Ruben declined. "It's too late. It will take more than an hour to get back to where I live from here. You can make me coffee tomorrow when you get to the office." Eileen nodded. "Then I'll accompany you downstairs." Both of them ignored Luke and walked downstairs. When Luke squinted at them, his face turned dark. Taking advantage of Eileen's departure, he quickly walked into the room. "Is he your child's father?" Ruben asked when he walked downstairs. Eileen nodded. "Yeah."

"He looks very mature, with a kind of nobleness and elegance. From the perspective of a man, he is

very outstanding." Ruben commented.

"Not necessarily. It's easy to know a man's face, but not his heart. Some people are actually wolves in sheep's clothing. They look good on the surface, but they are actually terrible."

Ruben said, "I don't think he is that kind of person."

With a smile, Eileen said, "Perhaps. But that has nothing to do with me. Be careful on the road and send a message to me when you get home."

When she returned to the room, Luke was already sitting on the bed.

His face was still dark, as if someone owed him tens of millions.

Brad sat aside with his belly in his arms." Mom, I'm hungry."

Hearing that, Eileen didn't talk to Luke, as she hurried to the kitchen and cooked the spaghetti.

The scent came out of the kitchen and Brad licked his lips. "It smells delicious!"

Luke's chest was undulating, as his anger had not dissipated.

Coming over, Eileen put the spaghetti in front of Brad. "Eat slowly. It's hot."

Nodding his head, Brad ate slowly. After eating for a while, he seemed to think of something and raised his head to look at Luke. "Dad, do you want to eat? Let's share the spaghetti."

When Luke heard these words, his anger dissipated a little, but he shook his head lightly. "I'm not hungry."

Only then did he know why he had to raise a child.

Considerate words from a child were enough to make one feel warm and happy.

Nodding, Brad started eating again. The spaghetti was delicious. He liked the spaghetti made by Eileen. After eating, Brad watched TV for a while. Then he lay in the bed and fell asleep. Eileen was washing the dishes. And Luke hadn't even left yet. He was still sitting on the bed, with a thoughtful expression on his face. Nobody could know what he was thinking about. This was her room, so Eileen needn't leave and Luke was the one who should leave. "Who is that man?" Luke leaned on the bed, obviously without the intention to leave. He stared at her closely. "It's none of your business." Eileen looked indifferent and her tone was flat. Upon hearing this, Luke couldn't help but sneer. "Why didn't I find that you were good at hooking up with men? It's getting s o late and you even brought that man in." "That is my freedom. I am willing! Now that there is no relationship between you and m e, why do you intervene in my life?"