Reborn 341

Chapter 341

Hannah got off work on time to return home for her date with Oscar tonight. Tomorrow he would leave the city, which she found reluctant to see. Sitting in the car and looking outside the window, Hannah murmured to ask, "Jimmy, will Theodore go with Oscar?"

"You mean Mr Wold? I didn't hear of any of that." Jimmy shook his head.

"Will you go with him?"

"No. Mr Wells told me to protect you. I am not going anywhere." Jimmy answered.

"He will leave alone?" asked Hannah worriedly.

"Mrs Wells, don't be worried. He has definitely been fully prepared for it since he had carefully considered about it. He has never failed what he plans to do." Jimmy thought highly of Oscar.

Hannah nodded to agree. Though she barely knew about Oscar before, who used to be one of her opponents in her previous life, she gradually noticed how strong he was after they got to know each other. He was much stronger than what she could ever expect.

The car soon arrived home. Hannah felt like her heartbeat skipped a beat as soon as she got off the car. Though she met Oscar every single day, she couldn't help feeling nervous at this moment. After taking a deep breath, she walked into the lobby. However, she didn't see Oscar as soon as she stepped in. She couldn't help frowning. Max was a bit surprised to see her return home so early, "Mrs Wells, what brought you back so early?"

"Hasn't Oscar returned yet?" asked Hannah.

"No, he hasn't." Max answered.

Hannah took a look at her own watch. As Oscar commonly got off work half an hour later than her, she wasn't too much anxious about it. After putting down her bag, she started watching TV to wait for Oscar. About an hour had passed. The sky started to turn dark. Commonly speaking, Oscar should have arrived home at seven after he got off work at six even during rush hour.

He still hadn't arrived. Hannah started to get a bit agitated.

It was he who said that he had no social occasion tonight, and he still hadn't arrived at eight.

Oscar, you liar!

Sulky, Hannah stood up, grabbed her bag and went upstairs, having no appetite for dinner.

"Mrs Wells." Max hurried to stop her.

"I don't feel well. I won't have dinner tonight. Tell Oscar to sleep in the room next door. I gotta rest." After saying that, she continued to go upstairs. However, all lights were suddenly off. Hannah turned on the flashlight on her phone.

But then, a ray of warm light suddenly appeared in the lobby. It was a few candles lighting up the space. Above the light, a charming smile appeared. Hannah felt like her heart beating fast.

So what kind of trick was he planning for this time?

Did he pretend that he hadn't arrived home while suddenly showing up here?

Silent, he was holding a cake with candles on top of it. He simply stared at her like that.

But today was not the birthday of either of them. As far as she knew about him, he hardly came up with any surprise. Perhaps he had just learned it from some kind of social media, she supposed.

Though still feeling a bit annoyed, she was rendered nervous when seeing him approaching. Her heartbeat started running wild. Whenever she made eye contact with him, nervousness, excitement and thrill would all surge up in her heart. She couldn't help biting her own lips, watching him standing in her front with a cake he was holding.

Candles were burning. Both of them stared at each other with great affection. She got to admit that she totally fell for him. Indeed, she was enchanted.

"Are you celebrating for my love for you?" said Hannah.

A second later, Oscar replied with a smile. His smile widened as soon as he noticed what she meant. But his smile still remained as charming as usual. Of course, a guy with a dazzling face like him still appeared greatly charming with whatever expression he showed.

"Yes." He smiled to reply.

She simply stared at the candles, "Shall I blow it out?"

"Make a wish first." Said Oscar.

Frowning, Hannah could tell he seemed to enjoy it.

"And make a wish for me." Oscar suddenly added.

Hannah looked at him confusedly.

"I have already come up with a wish. May we have a lovely child." Oscar stressed out his wish seriously.

Damn!

She should have expected that.

But still, Hannah closed her eyes to make a wish. Of course, she didn't intend to follow his wish. After making the wish, she felt like her face turned blushed. Oscar gazed at her affectionately.

"Alright, I finish." Hannah smiled at him.

Oscar also replied with a smile.

"Just blow out the candles."

After taking a deep breath, Hannah blew them out. The room fell into darkness.

"Oscar, turn on the light." Hannah required. She hated darkness, especially when she couldn't see his face.

"Hannah." Oscar suddenly uttered. His voice sounded husky and serious.

Hannah could locate where he was by his figure.

"Will you regret?" asked Oscar.

"Will you let go of me if I say yes."

"Never."

"Neither do I. I never regret."

This time, if the God was going to play the same trick on her once again just like her previous life, she decided to let it be.

Hannah suddenly screamed because Oscar abruptly held her up. She wrapped around his neck with both arms. The next second, she could feel that Oscar was taking her upstairs.

"What about the cake?"

"You want it?" asked Oscar.

Of course she wanted it.

After all, it should be a routine to enjoy the cake after making wish and blowing out candles.

"Don't be hurried. We will have it when we get hungry."

"Now I am hungry."

"You will be hungrier later."

Oscar took her into the room and turned on the light. He pinned her down onto the bed, which immediately dented the soft mattress.

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What she expected was meant to happen tonight, she supposed. She even noticed that the bed was covered with petals of rose. Obviously, Oscar had it arranged beforehand.

Their breath grew stronger as their faces were so close to each other. Oscar slowly straightened up his body. Hannah took a sigh of relief, thinking that he might need some time to brew his own desire.

She saw him take off the suit jacket, untie his tie and unbutton his shirt. Oscar fixed his eyes on her while doing all these, making roses come to Hannah's cheeks. Hannah was still wearing formal office suit nicely fitting her sexy figure.

His Adam's apple went up and down out of desire. However, he didn't take off his shirt after unbuttoning it. He climbed onto the bed again.

Hannah flinched back instinctively. The closer he approached, the further she flinched out of nervousness until her back reached the headboard.

She saw his dazzling face approaching to hers. They were close enough to feel each other's breath. There seemed to be some kind of chemistry happening between them. Oscar suddenly reached out his hand, which startled her. Her sudden shiver amused him.

Hannah felt a bit annoyed when seeing him smirking. She had every reason to be nervous when knowing that he was gonna take away her virginity tonight.

He fondled her face with his hand. Soon, her startle turned into heartbeat. Her heartbeat was about to lose control.

"Don't be afraid." His voice sounded extraordinarily tender and gentle.

Oscar kept on approaching. Then, his lips fell onto hers. Before their lips were about to glue to each other, Hannah suddenly turned her head away. After two seconds of pause, Oscar approached again. But still, Hannah turned her head away once again.

"Want to stop?" he didn't sound like being annoyed.

With her lips pressed, Hannah responded with silence. Oscar didn't push her into a guick answer.

He stroked her hair softly. He smiled as if he had forgiven her, "It's fine. I can wait."

Of course, he could wait. And he was willing to wait even for a lifetime. He somehow felt in this way as well. Before he was about to leave, Hannah suddenly grabbed his arm. Oscar appeared expectant.

"I don't know why. I feel like I have fallen in love with you. And of course, as I promised, I am ready for it. But I feel like I don't wanna do it out of instinct." Hannah seemed to explain.

"It's okay." Oscar replied generously, from which she could tell his love for her. At this moment, he looked too composed for her to believe.

"Perhaps it's because of my suffering past, which grows a kind of instinct that I worry if I will end up miserably the same just like before." Hannah softly explained why she refused him.

Oscar nodded, "Okay, don't worry. I won't push you. I can afford to wait as long as you wish." He loved her so much that he was literally pampering her. Actually, he had already knew that her period had gone last night. However, he decided to hold back his own desire just because Hannah didn't talk about it. He would like to compromise whenever she asked for it.

"Oscar," Hannah looked straight into his eyes.

Under the light, her eyes shone with pure glow.

"I just wanna tell you even if in the midst of panic, I am willing to have sex with you."

Oscar paused surprisedly.

"Because I love you." Hannah confessed. Before that, she found it awkward to express love, which she deemed too serious to be shown. But now she finally realized that love would be naturally expressed

when it grew strong enough. This time, she took the initiative to kiss him, who seemed to be frozen at this moment.

Though it was not his very first time to hear her expressing love for him, it still greatly startled him every time it happened, for which his heartbeat was running wild. He gently laid his hand on the back of her head to strengthen his kiss.

Inside the room, Oscar suddenly huffed, "Hannah, you're killing me!"

Hannah replied tentatively, "I just want you to turn off the light."

Soon, the light was off.

"Oscar..."

"Sh! Quiet..."

After a few seconds of silence, Hannah continued, "Oscar..."

"Hannah, I won't let you go even if your period returns!"

But she remembered he promised not to push her a moment ago.

What a nature of man!

"Oscar..."

"What do you want?" Oscar seemed a bit impatient.

He just wanna sleep with her.

How came there were so many obstacles!

"I just wanna say... don't be nervous." Clinging to him, she whispered. Then she took the initiative to approach. Even the darkness seemed to be painted with blush.

...

The next morning, writhing slightly, she felt like her body turned sore all over. It was going too crazy between them last night. Oscar seemed to have emptied all his storage of hormone. She should be mad at this. However, as soon as she recalled what she experienced last night, she couldn't help smiling happily.

It was a sweet loss of virginity, which she had never experienced before. She tossed around, only to find that she was left alone on the bed. Oscar had left a few hours ago. He must be reluctant to tiptoe out of the room, she could tell. His farewell kiss was gentle enough to keep her sleeping.

In the midst of drowsiness, she vaguely remembered him whispering, "Take care, Mrs Wells."

Hannah struggled herself up, feeling sore all over. She lifted the quilt to get off the bed. Not until then did she notice that there was a hole on the bed sheet. Obviously, someone had scissored it. It felt quite weird. But soon, she realized it must be where her virginity blood stained.

'It must be Oscar! Did he take it away? Is he some kind of a freak?' At the thought of that, she couldn't help shivering. It was hard to believe he was going to keep that thing.

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It took her guite a while to collect herself.

Enduring the sore body, she washed herself up, got dressed and put on makeup. Her feet trembled badly when she struggled downstairs. She felt like she almost stumbled down the stairs. But she still managed to fake a composed look as usual when seeing Max. She walked over to the table and sat down for breakfast.

As soon as she was seated, Max hurried to present the breakfast.

"Cake?" Hannah looked a bit surprised.

Commonly speaking, Max always prepared breakfast of abundant kinds. However, there was only a piece of cake and a glass of milk for today, which was rare to see.

"It was specifically required by Mr Wells before he left." Max explained.

It suddenly occurred to her that it must be the cake he brought to her front last night. They didn't even touch it last night. But Hannah happened to be hungry right now. What was more, she didn't have dinner last night. Nor did she fill her own belly after having sex with him. Whatever, Hannah picked up the fork and started eating.

It tasted nice.

"Max, did you make the cake yourself?" asked Hannah as she noticed that the cream on top of it was roughly shaped. It didn't look like one of those sold in a fancy cake store.

"No, it's Mr Wells who made it himself." Answered Max.

Hannah was a bit surprised.

Max then added, "Actually, he has returned home yesterday afternoon. Sorry, Mrs Well, I didn't mean to lie to you."

"Never mind." Hannah smiled.

"He started decorating the room and making cake as soon as he arrived home. He made it all by himself, including baking, whisking the cream and shaping it."

"I didn't expect he knew how to make a cake."

Obviously, the cake didn't look like his very first try.

Hannah had ever planned to learn bakery before. Making cake was her first try. However, the cake wasn't flurry enough and the cream wasn't smooth enough. As for the cream shaping, she could hardly deal with it. So she could tell from the taste and shape that Oscar must be experienced.

"After all, Mr Wells tried to..." Max suddenly paused.

Hannah turned to take a look at him.

"He tried hard to prepare a surprise for you last night." Max smiled.

Hannah felt that Max had kept a secret from her but she didn't intend to ask further. Since Oscar didn't want to inform her of it, she wouldn't be likely to push Max.

"When did he leave this morning?" asked Hannah to change the subject.

"Six in the morning."

"Have you seen him off?"

"No, I just walked him out of the door. It was Jimmy who saw him off."

"Did he..." Hannah didn't finish her words.

"Mrs Wells, I am sure he must be missing you." Max hurried to say.

But actually, it wasn't what she intended to ask.

"I mean... did he look tired when he left?"

"No, he looked quite energetic when going downstairs. He seemed to be in a hurry to leave. So he trotted out of the door. Mrs Wells, don't worry. Mr Wells will take care of himself."

It was so unfair, Hannah thought.

"Mrs Wells, do you want more for breakfast?" asked Max when Hannah finished the piece of cake.

"No, thanks." After that, Hannah cleaned her own lips and set off to the office.

"Mrs Wells," said Max. Then he brought over a glass of nutrient drink, "Mrs Wells, Master Oscar required you to drink it before work."

But actually, she felt like her stomach was being fully stuffed at this moment.

"He told me that it will be good for you. It will help to refresh you." Before Hannah was about to refuse, Max suddenly continued.

Hannah got speechless. Of course, a glass of nutrient drink was far from enough to refresh her.

"Mrs Wells?" Max looked a bit awkward when noticing that Hannah remained speechless.

But Hannah still took over the drink and drained it all. Though Oscar didn't know much about what she needed, she still felt moved by his care. After that, Jimmy drove her to the office as always.

"Has he boarded the plane?" asked Hannah. As Max just said, it was Jimmy who drove him to the airport.

"Yes, the plane will take off at 8:20 AM. And he arrived at the airport at 7:30AM." Answered Jimmy.

"Okay."

Then Jimmy remained silent. It seemed that Oscar didn't tell Jimmy anything special, she reckoned.

As soon as Hannah reached the office, Rose hurried over, "The kick-off meeting for project South Bay New Town will start at 3:00 PM at the construction site. We are all invited. The secretary department for Mr chairman noticed me that you should attend the meeting together with the chairman."

"It's just a simple kick-off meeting, isn't it?" asked Hannah.

"No, the meeting will present the rules for public bidding. So it's said that most of the companies in Kensbury City will attend. Based on fair standard, most of them are also invited."

"Okay, I got it. Now you may tell the chairman office. I will attend the meeting with him."

"Okay." Then Rose left.

Sitting on the chair, Hannah didn't feel like doing anything. Her mind was overwhelmed with the memory of South Bay New Town project. This time, she swore she would never let the Sawyers win the game.

While thinking, she somehow thought about Oscar. He needed to spend a few hours on the plane, she supposed. The flight should be halfway. She put down her phone after failing to connect with his. She took a deep breath. Obviously, she was greatly bothered by love. She convinced herself to get back to work. After all, he wouldn't be likely to return in half a year.

She turned on the laptop and forced herself to work.

At 1:20 PM, Hannah got into the car to set off to the meeting together with her father.

"Hannah, what do you think about this project?" Miguel suddenly asked.

"I mean to take it." Hannah answered.

"Well, but I am afraid a heated competition will be expecting us today. Don't let your guard down." Miguel reminded.

"Okay." Hannah nodded.

During her previous life, she was being too merciful when dealing with the Sawyers. That was why they took away all the profit. But this time, she swore she would revenge on them all.

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Soon, Hannah and Miguel arrived at the spot.

Besides invited attendants, there were journalists from all media. Hannah and Miguel were both arranged to be seated in the first row, where attendants from the Top Four families and officials-incharge from the Municipal Bureau of Land Management took their seats. That was to say, the Wells, the Coopers, the Sawyers and the Phillips all attended.

"Hannah!" Susan hurried to yell at her, whose seat was nearby.

Hannah smiled decently to reply. Susan ran over to her, acting like an elegant lady who didn't seem to concern about her image.

"Hannah, so glad to see you here! I thought I would be alone to attend this boring meeting with my father."

Hannah told her to lower her voice. Those officials from the bureau were sitting right next to them. Perhaps only Susan would be that bold enough to complain right in front of them.

"I wanna sit right next to you." Susan pleaded.

After some consideration, she walked over to Edward together with Susan, "Hi Edward, may I ask if we could exchange the seats? I wanna sit next to Susan. Maybe you can take the seat next to my father."

"Sure thing. Hannah, please watch over Susan in case she acts indecently in this formal occasion." Edward stood up and said gently.

"Okay." Hannah nodded.

Susan looked a bit annoyed. Hannah forced her to sit down, "Hey, behave yourself!"

"If he worries I will embarrass him, he should have let me stay at home. I don't even wanna be here!" Susan was badly complaining about her father.

"You gotta learn to understand your father. You are his only daughter to rely on. Of course he's gonna cultivate you into a capable heir. Now your father has divorced for your sake. Have you ever wondered how lonely he feels?" Hannah tried to reason with her.

Speechless, Susan pouted.

During these days Susan worked with her father, and their relationship had been a bit better. However, she found her father was indeed ageing.

She remembered how violently he coughed while making speech in a conference. She could clearly see the gray hairs on both his sideburns. Susan told herself not to think about it. Meanwhile, she still clearly remembered the moment when her mother passed away. She swore she would never forgive her father for that.

At 3:00 PM, the meeting was started. After delivering a speech about the planning of the project, the official announced the bidding process, to which Hannah paid full attention.

Susan couldn't help wondering how Hannah managed to sit still in this boring meeting. She found herself too impatient to stay still here.

The meeting lasted for an hour and a half. After it was over, all attendants and journalists started leaving.

"Hannah, let's have dinner together." Susan clung to her.

"But I need to get down to the planning for the bidding."

"You can leave it tomorrow. I heard Oscar had left the city. Don't you feel lonely?" Susan asked with a smile.

Since they were kids, Hannah found it hard to refuse Susan. Whatever Susan asked for, Hannah always compromised if it didn't offend her bottom line.

After a few seconds of hesitation, Hannah said to her father, who was talking with Edward, "Dad, I won't be back to the office. Susan and I have an appointment."

Miguel replied with a smile. Of course, he could tell that they planned to hang out for fun.

"Okay, I will get back to the office then." Miguel agreed.

"Okay." Hannah nodded.

After saying goodbye to Edward, Miguel left.

Hannah called Jimmy here to pick them up. Since it was still too early for dinner, Susan suggested they should go shopping first. Hannah agreed.

However, with her hand on her belly, Susan suddenly retched.

"What's wrong?" asked Hannah.

"I don't know. Maybe it's just carsickness." Feeling unwell, Susan answered.

"I don't think you have carsickness."

"Don't' you remember how drunk I was after Oscar's party? The sickness still haunts me deep within my stomach. I wonder if there is a stomach bug."

"Have you gone to the hospital for a check?" Hannah asked.

"I thought I would recover in a few days. So I haven't. I have a phobia for the hospital, where my mom died..." while speaking, Susan felt like the memory still haunted her.

Holding her hand, Hannah felt sorry for her. She still remembered how sad Susan was when she witnessed her mother's death.

"Don't be afraid. Let's go to the hospital together." Said Hannah.

"No. I don't want to." Susan refused.

"Listen to me!" Hannah said seriously.

"I am afraid I will be scared to death if there's something wrong with me."

"If there is something wrong with you, I will keep you from knowing it." Hannah said frankly.

"Don't jinx it!"

"Don't worry. The bad girl lives longer."

Susan got speechless.

"Take us to the hospital." Said Hannah to Jimmy.

"I said I don't want to..."

"Don't worry. You won't die of disease." Harrison interrupted.

"So what will I die of?" asked Susan.

"Stupidity."

"Damn you!"

Of course, she wouldn't believe Hannah could tell her future fortune.

The car soon arrived at the hospital. Susan was taken to a doctor of Gastroenterology & GI Surgery.

"When did it start?" asked the doctor.

"A week ago."

"You didn't turn to a doctor until today?"

"I was afraid of being diagnosed as having some kind of incurable disease." Susan said frankly.

Both Hannah and the doctor were rendered speechless.

"How old are you?"

"Twenty-two."

"Got a boyfriend?"

"Is it have something to do with my disease?"

"Just answer my question." The doctor required seriously.

"No."

"Yes, she does. She's married." Hannah hurried to explain.

The doctor took a glance at Susan, who looked away.

"How long have you been married?"

"Are you investigating me?" Susan seemed annoyed.

Hannah grabbed her hand to solace her. Then she spoke to the doctor, "For about more than two months."

"Have you ever taken contraceptive?"

Susan almost got choked, "What kind of doctor are you? How dare you probe into my privacy?"

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The doctor took a weird glance at her as if he were looking at a fool.

Hannah soon noticed there was something wrong. She hurried to answered, "No, she probably hasn't."

As careless as Susan had always been, she wouldn't take the contraceptive, Hannah supposed.

"According to her symptoms of retch and lack of appetite, she's probably pregnant. So I suggest she should turn to the gynecology. If it's confirmed that she isn't pregnant, she can return here to have an endoscopy."

"No way! I can't be pregnant! It has just been a night! Impossible!" Panic, she couldn't believe what she just heard of.

"You will know the answer after you have a check in the gynecology department."

Before Susan could continue to argue with the doctor, Hannah dragged her out, "Let's go for the check first."

"No! Hannah, I can't be pregnant!" her eyes were filled with tears of panic.

"You gotta go for a check first."

"No, I want no check!"

"Susan, you gotta face it if it happens!" Hannah said seriously.

Aggrieved, Susan bit her own lips with her eyes glowing with tears.

When seeing her pitiful look, Hannah continued with a softer voice, "We can deal with it after the check." Hannah took her hand and led her there.

Though reluctant, Susan still went into an office of a gynecological doctor.

"When is your latest period?" asked the doctor.

"You don't remember?" the doctor frowned.

Susan still remained silent. Seeing that, Hannah helped to answer, "Exactly around these days last month."

"Did she have period this month?" the doctor continued to ask.

"Probably no."

"When did she have sex?"

"The sixth day this month." Hannah confirmed after some consideration.

After a few seconds of estimation, the doctor said, "That day happened to be her ovulation date. So she's likely to be pregnant. But it's just the first few weeks, the Doppler Ultrasound won't be likely to work. So will be the urine test. I suggest she should take a blood test to check her hormone. Here is the bill. Please have it paid. After that, you may start the blood test."

"Thank you, doctor." Said Hannah.

Then she paid the bill together with Susan. After that, they went to blood test.

"Can I skip that? I hate needle!" Susan pleaded.

"No."

Susan got speechless.

Hannah teased, "Come on, you have been bold, haven't you?"

"Stop teasing me! I regret it! I should have taken the contraceptive the next day! If I had done that, I wouldn't have been so panic!"

"It's destined."

"Destined my ass!" Susan cursed.

Of course, that would be the worst news for her if she really got pregnant, Hannah reckoned.

Ten minutes later, it was Susan's turn for the blood test. Bearing the pain, Susan finished the blood drawing.

"You can see the result on machine half an hour later." Said the nurse.

"Thank you." Said Hannah.

Both Susan and Hannah waited outside the corridor. Susan wrapped around herself with both arms, silent. Hannah didn't intend to start any conversation. Of course, she was also nervous. But actually, from the bottom of her heart, she hoped that Susan could be pregnant. Yet she also feared that the reality would fail her expectation.

Suddenly, Hannah stood up from the bench.

"What are you doing?" Susan grabbed her arm.

"Let me see if the result has come out."

"No!" Susan stopped her.

"Girl, calm down."

"Stay with me. You can go to check it half an hour later." Susan insisted.

Finally, Hannah sat down to wait.

Half an hour later, Hannah stood up again. Susan grabbed her arm out of instinct.

"It's been half an hour." Hannah reminded.

"I gotta prepare myself." Susan seemed quite nervous.

Hannah got speechless. Sitting still, Susan took a deep breath.

"Have you finished?" Hannah urged.

Susan didn't reply until quite a while later, "Okay."

Hannah walked over to the machine. At this moment, she might be even more nervous than checking her own pregnancy report. Hannah typed in the number and got the report. She started reading it carefully.

Sitting nearby, Susan felt like her heart skipped a beat. Hannah didn't walk to her until quite a while later.

"Is it a mistake?" Susan hurried to ask.

"Congratulations." Hannah smiled.

Susan let out a sigh of relief. Thank God, she didn't get pregnant. It had just been a night. There was no way that she got pregnant, she believed.

However, when Susan was relieved, Hannah suddenly added, "You are pregnant."

Susan felt like being frozen. Hannah just said 'congratulations'. She must be congratulating for her not being pregnant.

It must be an illusion!

"I didn't expect you to be a mother so soon." Hannah smiled.

"I gotta abort the child!" Susan hurried to decide.

Of course, she could turn to an abortion, which appeared to be her only choice.

"Hannah, make an appointment for me. I need an abortion right away!" Susan tried to remain composed. Whatever, an abortion could get it solved.

"Susan, calm down! An abortion will only harm you. Don't make rash decision!"

"I know what I am doing. I know I don't want this child! I don't wanna conceive a baby for Manuel." Susan insisted.

"The child is innocent. And you have married him. It's common for you to have a baby with him. Come on, let's consult the doctor to see if drinking will be harmful to your baby."

"I don't want this baby!" Susan didn't care however hard Hannah tried to convince her.

Hannah turned a bit sulky. Her voice became serious, "You can't make decision for the baby alone! Manuel has the right to be informed and to make the decision."

"The uterus is mine! I have the final say!" Susan screamed.

"Don't be willful!"

"I hate it! I can't believe Manuel got me pregnant!" Susan burst into tears.

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She felt like it was the end of the world for her.

Having sex with Manuel had been the worst experience she ever had. But now something worse than that actually appeared—she conceived a baby for Manuel! She would rather kill herself.

"I know how much you hate it. But you can't selfishly decide on your own. The baby also belongs to him. Listen, go home and talk to him about it. Talk nicely. Even if you want to abort the baby, he has the right to know that."

As always, whenever Hannah reasoned with her, she found it hard to refute.

Then Hannah led her into the doctor's office. During consultation, the doctor provided his professional advice. After that, Hannah stayed with her on the way to Susan's apartment. Ever since Susan was told that she got pregnant, she looked rather dispirited.

Great upset seemed to strike her. She appeared rather disappointed, unlike the energetic girl she had always been. Hannah took a look at her. Of course, she knew it wasn't the suitable time to talk to her. Instead, she needed more time to compose herself. Perhaps she would settle down herself after a period of time.

Then Hannah took out her phone to text Manuel so that he could get himself prepared for it.

"Hannah," Susan suddenly uttered after Hannah finished texting.

Hannah was startled by her sudden voice as if she had stumbled upon some kind of secret of hers. But Susan didn't see what she was doing.

"I wanna meet Henry." Said Susan frankly.

"Do you think it will help you?" Hannah looked a bit sulky.

"I don't know. I just wanna talk to him. I don't wanna see Manuel, not even for a second."

"Do you think talking with Henry will make yourself feel better? No, I don't think so. It will only make both of you worse. Are you gonna tell him that you got pregnant? Or will you choose to keep the secret from him? If he knows you are pregnant, what kind of answer do you expect from him? You want him to convince you to give birth to the baby? Or do you want him to tell you to abort it?" Hannah analyzed seriously.

Susan responded with silence. Every time she wanted to act willfully, Hannah would manage to dissuade her.

"Whichever his answer will be, you won't want it. So for what reason do you need to talk to him right now?" said Hannah frankly.

Leaning against the seat, Susan was greatly depressed.

But still, they reached the apartment where Susan lived with Manuel. Hannah walked her through the door. At this moment, Manuel was watching children animation on TV. Amused, Hannah wondered if he had prepared himself for being a father already.

Before Hannah was about to speak, Susan suddenly exclaimed, "Hannah, stay quiet!"

Obviously, Susan didn't want Manuel to know about her pregnancy. Hannah did as she wished. However, she had already noticed him through the text. After all, it seemed rather unfair to Manuel if he

were to be kept in the dark. Before Hannah could observe Manuel's expression, she saw Susan rush into her own room with anger. Hannah rushed over to enter her room.

Lying on the bed, Susan seemed depressed.

"Take a rest. You can talk to him about the baby later." Hannah said softly.

She knew how upset Susan felt today.

"Hannah, I don't want this baby. I mean it." Susan looked at her.

Hannah replied with silence.

"I don't have love for Manuel. It will be torturing to the baby if I gave birth to it. I am afraid having an abortion will be a better choice than letting the baby live in a family with no love." Susan stated seriously. It was rare to see Susan make serious statement.

"If the baby's feeling is what worries you the most, abortion won't be the best solution. Instead, you and Manuel should build a family of love for the baby's sake. You can choose to live with him and love him..."

"But I don't love him."

"Have you ever tried?" asked Hannah.

"He doesn't deserve a try."

"No fact will be convincing without a try first. Susan, remember, since you married Manuel, you are couple. There is no way back. Don't expect him to divorce you when he gets tired of you. If he never gets tired of you, both of you will be wasting the rest of your lives."

"No! I won't spend the rest of my life with him."

"Do you want the marriage with him?" asked Hannah.

"Never."

"But you still married him."

Susan got speechless.

"Divorce is not a simple decision to make. Frankly speaking, your current mindset is harming both Manuel and you. Of course, Henry is harmed as well because you have been leaving him a trace of hope. But have you ever wondered what if Henry wastes the rest of his life waiting for you while you finally decide to spend the rest of your life together with Manuel." Hannah tried to convince her in another aspect.

As expected, Susan hesitated.

"Susan, you can't live such a selfish way. During most of our time, we don't simply live for ourselves. You need to consider if your willful act will harm the one who is nice to you. Even though what had happened has gone against your will, you still had sex with Manuel and conceived a baby for him. After all kinds of duties between couple has happened, do you think you can easily get rid of the marriage? If I

were you, I would let go of the bias against Manuel after all these had happened. So would I let go of my preference for Henry and start a new life."

"But I don't want to." Tears welled up in Susan's eyes.

Of course, she deemed Hannah's words reasonable. After what happened between her and Manuel, she no longer had the right to turn to Henry even if he had promised that he would be willing to wait for her. From her own perspective, she couldn't start over with Henry as if nothing had happened.

The failure of the relationship between her and Henry wasn't the reason why she felt aggrieved. Instead, she felt aggrieved because she let go of everything and started over with Manuel after he maneuvered dirty tricks on her.

How could Manuel get what he wanted while she and Henry were forced to let go of everything to grant his wish?

Chapter 347

"Susan, don't you trust me?" Hannah noticed that she was at the edge of breakdown.

"I don't mean to complain about your suggestion..."

"We have grown up together since we were kids. You are like sisters to each other. I feel greater pain than you do whenever you suffer. Meanwhile, I know you would definitely revenge for me whenever I suffer." Hannah suddenly interrupted her seriously.

It was so rare to see Hannah talking to her in such a serious way.

"I never express how much I care about you just because I know you can feel it. And it's the same to me. Now I gotta talk to you seriously because I wanna let you know I am willing to persuade you to keep the baby even at the cost of our friendship." Hannah looked determined, which Susan found hard to refuse.

However, she was still writhing in pain brought on by the fact that she could do nothing about it. Susan felt like she might be driving herself crazy.

"What if I can share the chance of rebirth with you..." Hannah murmured.

But Susan didn't catch what she was murmuring about. Nor did Hannah explain about it. Coming back to life wouldn't be likely to be a kind of fortune for Susan, Hannah supposed. At least she wouldn't feel the pain Hannah ever experienced in her previous life. This time, she swore she would do everything she could to protect Susan.

Hannah smiled, "Trust me. One day in the future, you will rejoice about the fact that you choose to keep the baby."

But for now, Susan still failed to convince herself.

"Susan, you may think about it from another aspect. Do you think you were born in a happy family?" besides tough means, Hannah was aware that she needed to truly convince Susan with reason.

"No." Susan answered.

Ever since she was born, her parents had been quarreling until the day they divorced and also the day her mom passed away. Whatever. For her, it had been a hard time when she stayed with her parents.

"But have you ever regretted for the fact that you were born?" asked Hannah again.

This time, Susan paused surprisedly. She had never thought about that.

"If you have never thought about that, it means you have never regretted." Hannah simply concluded and continued, "Think about it. You were born under the situation that your parents were maintaining an unpleasant marriage. If you never regret for being born, how could you conclude that your baby will regret for being born? Perhaps he may be even grateful to you for not having him or her aborted."

Susan glared at her. However, she found herself convinced again just as always. Whatever, she never managed to outtalk Hannah. Indeed, she was still angry, but for which she found no reason to explain. She simply glared at Hannah and remained silent.

"Saving a baby will be the greatest deed ever done. God blessing to you." Hannah smiled.

Susan had no idea how to refute, yet she found it hard to admit. She tossed around and tucked herself in, "I wanna sleep. Stop talking. Just go home."

As far as she knew about Susan, she never condescended to show any signal of consent even though she had agreed.

"Alright, good night."

Susan didn't respond. Hannah bent over to smooth the quilt for her. After that, she walked out of the bedroom.

Manuel was sitting still outside the living room. He gave a sudden shiver as soon as Hannah walked over.

'Come on, did she look threatening?' Hannah though to herself.

Then she sat down next to Manuel. With her eyes on TV, she started teasing, "Hey, you start to prepare children animation for your baby? Really?"

Not until then did he finally collect himself. He hurried to switch to another channel. Of course he didn't mean to play any animation. The channel was playing animation as soon as he turned on the TV. Even he himself had no idea what he was watching.

After all, it shocked him greatly when he saw the text from Hannah. He found it hard to believe, to rejoice and to expect. Mixed feelings surged up in his heart. He felt like being frozen on the couch until both Hannah and Susan arrived.

Obviously, Susan didn't want to let him know just now, the reason of which he was clearly aware of. So he had been contemplating until Hannah walked over, for which he shivered out of nervousness.

"Manuel, I assume you have known it. Susan doesn't want the baby." Said Hannah seriously.

Manuel nodded. Of course he knew it. Nor did he expect Susan to change her mind.

"But I just forced her to keep the baby. And she acquiesced in it."

Manuel raised up his head to look at her.

"The baby is your only chance to fix your relationship with her. Now that I am on your side, I will strike for as many opportunities for you as I could. But Manuel, if you don't take the initiative, you will simply waste them and get nothing. You gotta capture her heart this time. As far as I have experienced, it's never something hard to change someone's love as long as you struggle for it."

Manuel couldn't help smiling, "The way you talk makes me feel like it is an honorable way to do so."

"Henry is scheming and evil. It's a glory to deprive him of Susan's love." Said Hannah firmly.

Manuel smiled. Indeed, he felt better after hearing that. After all, Manuel was the scheming and evil guy in the eyes of Susan.

"The baby is saved. Don't worry about it even if Susan makes any threats with it. As far as I know about her, she barely goes back on what she promised me. She has never been bold enough to have an abortion by herself. But Henry is what worries me the most. I am afraid he will conspire against you and the baby if he finds himself too jealous of her pregnancy. You gotta keep an eye on him in case he drives a wedge between you and Susan." Hannah warned him.

Once the baby was born, it would be the opportunity to change Susan's life. During her previous life, Manuel and Susan didn't nourish any baby.

Manuel simply looked at Hannah. He didn't nod. Nor did he shake his head. He couldn't provide a clear answer to something he wasn't sure about. He wasn't sure if he could make Susan feel disappointed about Henry. Nor was he sure if Henry would take chances to conspire. The only thing he could do was to change himself.

"Hannah, thank you." Manuel expressed his sincere gratitude.

Whatever the result might be, he felt truly grateful to Hannah for her aid.

"Actually, I wanna say thanks to you." Said Hannah sincerely.

Manuel looked a bit surprised.

"Whatever. Don't fail Susan."

"Sure."

Chapter 348

Hannah left the apartment and returned to the car. It was late at this time. Hannah hesitated for a moment and decided to go home.

At the sight of the setting sun in Kensbury City, she lost in her thought.

Did Oscar drift away like a kite with its strings? She heard nothing of him these days since he left.

"Jimmy, stop." Hannah seemed to think of something.

Jimmy pulled over to the side of the road and Hannah went into a drugstore. If it wasn't for Susan, she would have forgotten to take the contraceptive pill too. For her and Oscar, it was not the right time to have a baby. Hannah took the medicine and went back into the car.

Her phone rang suddenly. Hannah took a look at it and her heart was racing.

Trying to keep calm, she put on the phone, "Have you arrived yet?"

"I just got here." Oscar said, "Do you want to see around?"

"Video call?"

"I'll call you back."

After a while, Oscar began a video chat. Oscar's face appeared on the screen at close range. It seemed that the phone's camera and the wrong angle could not hinder the charm of his face.

"Let me show you." Oscar changed the rear camera, showing the room to her, which was a cosy one with two bedrooms and a living room, simply decorated, looking neat at present.

"Not bad." Hannah commented. But, certainly, it was a far cry from the luxury villa of Oscar.

"You miss me?" asked Oscar.

Hannah did not answer.

"I missed you." Oscar's voice suddenly became affectionate.

"Really? So you call me until now?" Hannah was a little unhappy.

"I thought you'd call me."

"Who knows how long your flight will take." Yet she didn't deny that she was expecting Oscar's call.

Oscar chuckled and explained, "Aren't you bidding on the new project today? I was afraid to disturb you."

"You know about it?" Hannah raised her eyebrows.

"The largest construction project in Kensbury City. I learned a little about it. Charles should be interested in this project and he did his research, I supposed. Be careful."

"I know." Hannah nodded. She knew exactly what Charles was up to.

"Are you off work early today?" Oscar asked while noticing Hannah was sitting in the car.

"Because something big happened." Hannah kept him guessing.

"What is it?"

"Susan is pregnant."

"Whose child is it?" Oscar frowned.

Hannah was a little speechless, "Don't question my friend's personality!"

"Fine, as long as it's Manuel's." Oscar smiled.

"What's the relationship between you and Manuel?"

"Guess what?"

"Fine, I don't interested in it." Hannah was slightly irritated.

Oscar smiled but said nothing about this.

"Was the cake good?" he changed the topic.

After a moment of silence, Hannah realized that he was talking about the cake last night.

"You could make dessert?"

"I can do a lot of things." Oscar laughed.

"When did you learn?"

"When I'm free."

"Don't you always pick up girls when you're free?" Hannah deliberately niggled at him.

"Didn't you say I was a master of time management. Since I am a master, I certainly can balance my schedule." Oscar said in a calm voice.

Hannah rolled her eyes.

"Do you feel painful?" his voice became serious.

"What?"

"Last night."

Hannah's face blushed. She found it hard to keep up with him foe he always changed the subject without any signs.

"I had a look when I was leaving this morning..."

"Oscar. Stop saying, Jimmy is also here." The red flush coloured Hannah's cheeks.

"I could be deaf." Jimmy hurriedly said.

Oscar's laughter was coming from the other side, while Hannah became more embarrassed.

"That's all, I'll be home soon."

"Mrs Wells," Oscar suddenly called her. Hannah felt emotion caused by his term for her.

"I love you."

Hannah hung up the phone without giving him a response. For a long time, the fluctuation of her heart can not be calmed down.

...

Susan woke up and found it was dark outside. She didn't expect that she would have fallen into sleep after sending Hannah away and pretending to be asleep in the bed. And it happened to be the hunger that woke her up. So she sat up in bed and turned on the light, holding her stomach. At the thought of what had happened today, she would rather die of disease than get pregnant with Manuel's child.

Susan wanted to rinse her mouth, but unexpectedly, when she started gargling, the food in her stomach rolled around, and she puked up all she had eaten at noon. Feeling badly sick, Susan was on the verge of collapse.

After a long time, she finally get composed but she turned pale. She never thought pregnancy would make her so painful. She propped herself out of the room.

In the bright living room, Manuel and Tia sat on the couch together. Manuel was correcting Tia's foreign language pronunciation. His voice was deep and pleasant one. Noticing Susan was coming out, they both turned to look at her.

Tia stood up from the sofa swiftly and said, "Ms Phillips, how're you feeling now? I made porridge for you. I'll get you some right now."

"OK." Susan answered. She wouldn't have come out if she was really hungry. And indeed, she had grown very fond of the food made by Tia. To her surprise, Tia had prepared the porridge for her beforehand.

She sat down at the table.

"Hot bowl, be careful."

"OK." Susan answered.

Urged by the hunger, she couldn't refuse any food served in front of her. Susan ladled up a spoonful of porridge, gave it two random blows and then quickly put it into mouth.

Coughing violently, Susan felt like she was going to die of scalding with the hot porridge in her throat.

Chapter 349

"Ms Phillips!" Tia was frightened by Susan.

Heard Susan coughing violently, Manuel on the sofa managed to get in his wheelchair swiftly and wheeled himself to Susan.

He saw Susan's eyes begin to tear up and she swallowed the food difficultly. She took her anger out on Tia, "Do you want to kill me? I thought I was going to die today!"

"I have told you it is hot." Tia said.

"So why did you make it so hot?" Susan argued with her.

"Heat is the only thing that makes them cooked..."

"Tia," Manuel interrupted Tia's words, "Go get an extra bowl."

"Yes, sir." Tia held back the grievance and went to the kitchen. After a while, she took out a small bowl.

Manuel picked up the spoon threw on the table by Susan, filled two spoons of porridge into the small bowl, stirred it a few times, blew it two times, and then placed it in front of Susan.

"It's not hot now." Manuel said.

Susan took a look at Manuel.

"Aren't you hungry?" Manuel tried to make himself look poised.

Now being reminded by him, Susan felt hungrier than ever. Susan didn't think she should have a bed time with herself, so she picked up the spoon in the bowl and began to eat. This time, she used her lips to sip at the porridge to make sure it was not hot, then ate.

At the same time, Manuel let Tia take another set of soup bowl and spoon for he wanted to cool the porridge while Susan was eating. Then he could hand her another bowl as she finished the former. In this way, Susan enjoyed herself.

Standing beside, Tia couldn't help but laugh.

Susan frowned, "What are you laughing at?"

"I suddenly felt like Mr Johnson was taking care of a kid."

"..." Susan got a long face.

Tia said nothing more, and she thought they were a lovely couple.

"Tia." Manuel suddenly said, "Take another bowl of porridge for me."

"Yes, sir." Tia nodded.

"Go away, I can eat by myself." Susan refused.

Manuel didn't go and continued with what he was doing.

"Manuel, I say, go away, I can eat by myself..."

"I'm not taking care of you." Manuel interrupted her, "I'm just taking care of my child."

"..." These words made Susan's blood boiled. She was about to get mad, "How did you know that?"

"Hannah told me."

"Fuck." Susan thought that Hannah was a traitor. She even thought Manuel was the other man who ruined the relationship between her and Hannah.

"Fine, you listen carefully." Susan said, "I don't plan to have this baby."

The expression of Manuel's face was changed but he didn't say a word.

Susan was excited, "Hannah has persuaded me to have this child, and she said a lot of words to me. I understand what she means. But, Hannah is not me. She doesn't know how painful I am in this marriage. She doesn't know how painful it is for me to bear your child. I did not refute her, not because I have compromise to her, I just don't want to argue with her because of you. You're not worth it. Listen, no

matter what you do, I still don't want to have this baby! Marrying you is my baseline. There is no way I have a child with you unless I die!"

Manuel held the spoon and his hand was suspended in the air. But then he thought of what Hannah had said to him, she said that Susan would not go back on the things she had promised her, no matter what Susan said in front of him. But at this moment, he felt hurt when he heard about Susan talking about her decision on the baby and her pain in their marriage.

He had been wondering tonight what Susan would say to him. He thought of thousands of bad situations. But the truth is much more brutal than he could imagine.

Manuel's silence drove Susan more irritated.

"Anyway, I will not give birth to the baby. Telling you is not asking for your opinion, I just inform you."

"Please think about it." Manuel spoke in supplication.

But for Susan, he was merely trying to stop her and give her a bad time.

"I don't need to. I never thought of having a baby with you." Susan said.

"The child is innocent."

"I'm more innocent!" Susan said loudly, "Manuel, I won't have sex with you if you don't insist on forcing me to marry you by dirty means. I wouldn't have a child! If I didn't meet you, I could have had my happy marriage and a happy life, but now all is ruined because of you! It's worse to have your baby than to let me die!"

The more she talked, the more furious she became. Susan was extremely depressed, due to the marriage with Manuel, the baby and the morning sickness. Everything was pushing her to lose her temper. Now she was trying to hate harder to keep away from this man.

However, Manuel chose to keep silent. He always kept silent at every choice. No matter what she said, that was a constant way he would choose.

"Manuel, I repeat one more time. I'm just telling you but not discussing it with you..."

Manuel put down the things in his hands, wheeled himself to his room and closed the door. Susan was enraged by Manuel's moves.

And Susan then heard the sound of locking the door.

"Manuel!" Susan was fuming as Manuel did not show his attitude.

Tia summoned up her courage and said, "Ms Phillips, don't get angry, that's not good for the baby."

"Then don't make me mad!" Susan roared but she was yelling at Manuel.

"Mr Johnson probably didn't mean it. After all, you said you don't want the baby, but Mr Johnson couldn't stop you. So what could he do except escaping?" Tia said a little helpless.

She could not figure it out why Susan couldn't understand the kindness of Manuel.

Chapter 350

"Escape?" Susan looked at Tia.

So Manuel was not losing his temper but escaping from the situation.

"Ms Phillips, Mr Johnson is really nice to you. He was afraid you would be hungry when you got up, so he asked me to cook the porridge for you in advance and told me about the food you like. Mr Johnson remembered you ate two bowls of it that morning."

Susan pursed her lips. Looking at the porridge in front of her, she suddenly didn't know what to say.

"I am a country person. Men in my hometown have never been so nice to women. They are all bossy. I've never seen a woman strut her weight around men like you, Ms Phillips. In the countryside, if a woman is disobedient, she must be locked in a pig's cage and immersed in the river."

Susan's face fell and glared at Tia.

Tia was afraid but still got up the courage and continued, "People always emphasize the equality between men and women in the city. In those families I have served before, the hosts would show tenderness and consideration for the hostesses in front of outsiders. But in fact, they don't respect the hostesses privately. I never see any man like Mr Johnson, who indulges you so much. He even agreed to sleep in separate rooms after marriage, and he just stayed with you together one night. You maybe don't know, I saw Mr Johnson washing his pants by himself in one morning."

Susan knew all about sex, so she quickly understood the meaning.

"Mr Johnson would rather endure than force you. I don't know where to find such a good man considerate and charming like Mr Johnson. If I had a husband like that, I'd wake up laughing..." Tia said with pink cheeks.

"Get out of here!" Susan snarled at Tia. She didn't want to hear anything nice about Manuel but Tia listed a lot of merits of him. She was annoyed.

Manuel was not only good to her. He was good to everyone. When they were little, Manuel treated her the same as Hannah. Even to a servant like Tia, he would also teach her how to speak a foreign language nicely and patiently.

Although Manuel was a super good man, she had no feelings for him. She just didn't like him, no matter how good he was and how much he did for her.

Focusing on her porridge, she didn't want to let herself think about Manuel. But she still could not accept the truth that she got pregnant. And she couldn't bear to hurt any life! Actually, she just wanted to use the quarrel and force Manuel to help her make a decision.

Suddenly there was a knock at the door in the quiet hall. It was so late.

Tia hurried to open the door. Susan looked towards the door.

It was Edward.

Susan's face was clouded as she saw her father. She ignored him and lowered her head to eat the porridge. Edward brought many packs of things which filled up the hallways. He let Tia pack them up and walked towards Susan. He sat on the opposite side of Susan, looking at her loving.

Susan felt uncomfortable with Edward's eyesight, "Could you stop bothering me to eat!"

"I just heard, you're pregnant?" Edward made his voice extremely gentle and afraid to scare her.

Susan rolled her eyes. She thought it was Manuel who spread it around.

"I'm so glad with it." Edward didn't get Susan's answer, so he said some words to ease the embarrassment, "You don't need to go to work recently, just take care of your baby at home."

Susan looked at Edward in disbelief.

"I'll give you pocket money and salary but you don't need to work, by the way, Dad will also give you an extra fee every month, don't starve the child." Edward said.

"Are you sure I don't have to go to work?" Susan asked.

If it wasn't for money, she wouldn't go to such a boring place

"Daddy never lied to you. The only thing you need to do right now is to give birth to the baby. You don't need to worry about anything else." Edward spoiled his daughter. He made no secret of his affection for the unborn child.

Susan rolled her eyes but she was glad she didn't have to go to work.

Seeing her father so happy, she was somehow not happy at all. She still hated him so much.

"By the way, daddy bought you a lot of baby supplies, milk powder, small clothes, toys and so on, and if not enough dad could buy more for you." Edward was thrilled.

"The baby hasn't been born yet. Why do you buy these things?" Susan was speechless.

She had questioned her own personality since she was a child, and now she thought it was probably because of her father for she was as unreliable as her father.

"Plan ahead. They are not expensive anyway."

It was uncommon that Susan talked to her father, "It's too late now, you better go back soon."

"I wanted to spend more time with you." Edward was reluctant to go back.

"Please don't accompany me, I feel sick to see you, if you go I could feel better, a better mood, which is good for the child." Susan didn't want her father to remain.

"Dad would not do anything..."

"If you don't leave me, my belly will go wrong!" Susan threatened him.

Edward was so scared that his face became pale. He quickly stood up from the chair, "OK, OK, I will go at once. Take care of yourself, okay?"

"Hurry up." Susan urged.

Edward was ready to leave. When he left, he suddenly thought of something, "Or you move back to our villa. There are more servants to take care of you, and it's bigger than here. If you want to go for a walk or something..."

"Guess what? The only happy thing after I married Manuel?" Susan interrupted him.

"Having a baby." Edward blurted out.

"It's to leave you, I don't have to live together with you."

"..." It was clear that Edward felt hurt.

Susan didn't feel guilty. However, when Edward walked to the door, Susan could not help saying, "It's too late, ask the driver to drive carefully."

Edward couldn't believe what he heard, and he looked back at Susan.

"I'm just afraid that I can't live off you if you die."

"..."

"Go, go, go!"

Edward smiled as he left.

"Don't worry," he said, "dad will let you live off me another 30 years."