

Reborn 921

Chapter 921 Using

“Rowan is cunning and shrewd. If he dares make a move now then he must have his plan. Otherwise, when we were fighting against the Collins family and the Balderston family in the past, Rowan wouldn’t have compromised. We held an advantage but couldn’t necessarily deal with Rowan. But since Rowan chose to let go at that time, it showed his caution.” Oscar analyzed, “We can’t underestimate him.”

Theodore also knew this truth of course.

But he still felt they could kill the old man Rowan no matter how sly he was. It would just require sacrificing more lives than usual. However, from a larger perspective, some sacrifices were necessary.

Oscar wasn’t an indecisive person.

“And also,” Oscar said again. “I can only protect one person.”

Theodore’s heart skipped a beat. At this moment, he truly understood Oscar’s intentions. He didn’t want history to repeat itself.

Back then there was Hannah and Cian, and he lost Cian. But he never blamed Hannah for anything; he thought it was his fault for not being strong enough at that time. Now facing another situation involving Hannah, Salem and Una, he wouldn’t let something like that happen again.

“If you do this, will you lose Hannah?” Theodore couldn’t help asking out loud.

Knowing what kind of person Oscar was like from their previous interactions, Oscar wouldn’t tell his inner thoughts about all of these things to Hannah until everything had been settled once-and-for-all.

If things happened like this, Hannah would misunderstand Oscar. Since she had a level-headed personality, once she accepted what Oscar had chosen and gave him up, it would be impossible for Oscar to get her back. No matter how deep their feelings were, they could still become disheartened and broken.

“Yes.” Oscar nodded in agreement with Theodore.

Regardless of the outcome, Hannah was only getting further away from him. Ever since the accident, Hannah had been eager to leave him. At that time, Oscar had already prepared himself for losing her. This extra year felt like it was all earned by him. It was enough.

Theodore sighed heavily once again.

“You’ve been through a lot, Theodore,” Oscar said in response.

“I’m fine, I just worry about you getting depressed!” Theodore couldn’t help but express his concern for his friend’s well-being.

Oscar seemed to spend most of his time now in silence without any hint of emotion on his face. He felt like he was closing off into his world more and more each day-if this continued much longer, he might become depressed enough to die.

"I'm hanging up now." Without responding further to Theodore's words, Oscar hung up the phone and leaned back against the car seat with a heavy sigh.

He even felt like being able to afford depression would be an indulgence. Then he extinguished the last cigarette butt before opening the car door and walking into the castle.

When he was heading for his room, Lillian called out for him as soon as she saw him come home late at night, "Oscar, Did you eat dinner yet?"

She asked with feigned concern. She had just received a call from her father, saying that Oscar went out earlier today towards Kensbury, so she got up from her bed and went to check if he was in his room. The moment she saw him, Lillian felt disappointed, for they were waiting for an opportunity when they could take down Oscar once and for all-an opportunity that seemed missed again tonight.

"Lillian."

Suddenly hearing her name spoken in such a tone, Lillian's heart started racing. Despite everything else going on between them now, there remained an undeniable attraction for this man. Even just hearing her name spoken by him sent shivers down her spine. But she tried hard not to let herself get carried away by these emotions.

"It's over, between Hannah and me," Oscar said in a low voice.

It seemed like he was grieving, yet also trying to remain calm.

Lillian was surprised. She couldn't believe what Oscar had just said. She always thought that Oscar would never let go of Hannah. Even though he hadn't returned to Kensbury for a long time because of Una, Lillian knew very well about Oscar's feelings towards Hannah. How could they just end like this? Was Oscar playing some kind of trick again?

Lillian felt doubtful but also excited deep down inside her heart.

If Oscar ended things with Hannah, did that mean they could further develop their relationship?

"I went back to Kensbury today," Oscar confessed.

Lillian tried to control her emotions as she listened intently.

So he did leave before. But the time was too short and Rowan wasn't ready yet, so he came back again. It was hard to find any flaws in this man.

"Today is Salem's first birthday." Oscar continued speaking softly.

"Really?" Lillian forced herself to smile and replied, "I forgot all about it. Happy birthday to Salem."

"When I saw him today, he didn't want me anymore." He spoke as if talking about someone else, "When I held him, he cried loudly."

"You were only there for a short while; kids are like that, whoever they're with at the moment is who they'll like best. If they don't see someone often enough then they'll become afraid and avoid them altogether." Lillian appeared comforting but wanted to provoke him further, "Una does the same thing,

she cries when she sees strangers but since you've been taking care of her since she was little, she clings onto you tightly now."

She added more fuel by comparing the time he spent with Una and his son, Salem.

"I used to think that I could balance both sides." Oscar continued speaking while ignoring her intentions.

Lillian looked at him closely, thinking that Oscar seemed different from his usual self.

"I always thought that while taking care of you and Una, I could also take care of Hannah and Salem. But when I went back to Kensbury today, I realized how wrong I was." Oscar chuckled self-deprecatingly, "Hannah and Salem don't need me anymore. I feel like a stranger to them now."

"Oscar, don't say that. You've just been too busy." Lillian tried to console him.

"That's why I decided to let go." Oscar seemed not to have heard what Lillian said as if he just wanted to get everything off his chest.

Lillian pursed her lips.

Her heart was still in turmoil because of Oscar's words. But she couldn't fully trust him yet.

"Let's live well from now on," Oscar said slowly and deliberately towards Lillian.

Suppressing her emotions, Lillian asked him, "Are you willing to let go of Hannah and Salem?"

Oscar didn't give a direct answer. He only said, "I don't want two women getting hurt for me again."

Chapter 922 Lillian's Doubts

Lillian felt a sudden flutter in her chest as she pondered over what Oscar meant. Her heart raced uncontrollably as she looked at him intently.

She didn't know if she had misunderstood something.

Did Oscar mean that he thought he was hurting her?

She didn't understand why he suddenly thought so.

Did he discover something? Or did he develop some feelings for her too?

Lillian bit down hard on her lip, afraid that she might be reading too much into it out of wishful thinking. She had given up on any romantic prospects with Oscar long ago. But the feeling of giving up came more from unwillingness than acceptance.

It could not be true that she had no feelings left for him anymore.

"I know you like me." Suddenly, without warning or hesitation, Oscar spoke his mind aloud,

Lillian's body jolted with surprise. She looked up at him with wide eyes but remained silent, biting down harder on her lip this time around.

"I'll try to like you back in the future." He continued speaking.

Tears welled up in her eyes as doubts clouded over her once again.

Was this all just another one of his lies?

However uncertain it might be though, his words still hit Lillian hard. She never imagined there would come a day when someone like Oscar would say such things about trying to like her. She had accepted the fact that Oscar could not be swayed in his love for Hannah, and all she could do was make him submit to her by depriving everything of him. Never did she expect to hear Oscar saying this.

She looked at Oscar, her voice choked with emotion as she asked, "Is what you said true?"

Oscar gave her a positive answer.

"But why didn't you leave me and Una for Hannah?" Lillian asked him.

"I can never let go of Una," Oscar emphasized each word.

Lillian had no doubts about that. If it came down to choosing between the two, Oscar would undoubtedly choose Una. It was his debt to Cian. But she still couldn't believe that Oscar would give up Hannah for Una.

Could he really do it?

"I may not have fallen for you as quickly as you did for me, but I'll adjust my feelings and try to forget Hannah soon." Oscar said, "Just give me some time."

"As long as you need!" Lillian exclaimed excitedly. She couldn't hold back anymore at this moment. Her emotions were too strong to hide any longer. If Oscar was willing to be with her, then they could make a good life together.

"I never thought about liking you before." Lillian continued after calming down a bit, "I always thought I liked Cian, well actually I still do like him, but every time I think of him now it just hurts my heart. That feeling can't be called love anymore; it's just regret over losing someone important." She paused before adding earnestly, "But seeing how attentive and caring you are towards Una has really touched me. It makes me start imagining having a real family with you and giving Una a real home."

"Mhm." nodded Oscar calmly as if he had already known what she was going to say all along.

"I feel so selfish sometimes. You should have been with Hannah from the beginning but now because of me..." Tears streamed down Lillian's face as she spoke emotionally again, "Oscar, after losing Cian, I'm so grateful that I met someone like you."

Oscar hadn't intended on using Lillian in any way, but there were things he needed to do for Una's safety that went against his conscience. But even if acting out this charade and deceiving Lillian, he didn't want to cause Hannah more bad feelings. He didn't want to be in a relationship with Hannah while letting Hannah suffer from his betrayal.

He walked over towards Lillian who looked up at him tearfully yet excitedly at the same time, then gently hugged her close into his arms.

Lillian's heart raced wildly in response. For the first time, Lillian felt Oscar so close to her, really by her side. Before, he always felt too far away.

“Go to bed early,” Oscar said softly.

“You too.”

Oscar let go of Lillian. He only wanted to comfort her and had no intention of taking things further with her. Of course, Lillian never thought that Oscar would be with her so soon. She was willing to give him time.

She watched as Oscar left slowly and returned to her room feeling like nothing was real. She was always worried about something. But when she thought about how kind Oscar had been towards her just now, she seemed less guarded again. It was true—she liked him too much. Whenever Oscar showed a little kindness towards her, she surrendered completely.

Suddenly the phone rang in Lillian’s room. She picked up the phone next to her and looked at who it was calling; then a shadow fell over her face gradually as she answered, “Father,”

“Is Oscar there?” Rowan asked on the other end of the line.

“Yes.” Replied Lillian

“Yes?” Rowan sounded a little taken aback

“He did leave the Capital today for a few hours, but he’s already back now.”

“Oscar isn’t as easy as we thought he’d be!” Rowan exclaimed angrily. This man could make them powerless before they even realized what happened, Rowan reckoned.

“But it doesn’t matter.” Rowan continued, “In ten days I have arranged an overseas interview for him. He will have no choice but leave.”

Lillian bit down on her lip tightly.

“Then we’ll follow our plan,” Rowan said viciously.

Lillian remained silent, seemingly absent-minded.

“Lillian?” asked Rowan, suspicious.

“Uh-huh?” she realized that she had been distracted and hastened to explain, “Are we confident to take him down? I don’t think he was easy to deal with. Once we failed, all of us would be doomed to death.”

“Don’t worry. I’m confident in my ability.”

“But...”

“What’s wrong with you tonight?” Rowan sensed his daughter’s reluctance and wasn’t pleased about it.

“It’s nothing... I’m just afraid that something unexpected might happen.”

“Don’t worry, even if our plan fails, we still have an ace up our sleeve. Oscar will definitely fall into our hands!” Rowan was confident.

“Okay.” Lillian agreed.

“Speaking of which, Lillian, do you have any concerns?” Rowan had developed to this point naturally because he was smarter than the average person. He could clearly see something in Lillian’s few questions.

“No.” Lillian quickly denied it.

“Don’t let Oscar deceive you. You have to believe that only family will never betray or hurt you in this world. And someone like Oscar who is not on the same side as us, can never really be good to you!”

“Hmm.” Lillian nodded.

At that moment, a hint of cruelty flashed through her eyes. Her father was right. She couldn’t easily trust Oscar. She couldn’t be swayed by him so easily.

Oscar might just be deceiving her.

Chapter 923 Preparing to Go Abroad

Hannah didn’t know how to tell her parents that they should leave Northfield. She knew they would accept it but still felt guilty deep down inside. After all, it was where they had lived for most of their lives, and leaving in their old age would be hard for them.

Hannah seemed absent-minded and Michelle noticed it.

“What’s wrong Hannah?” Michelle asked her daughter, “Is it because you had a disagreement with Oscar yesterday?”

Oscar finally came back after such a long time away from home but just left without staying overnight. In Michelle’s mind, there must have been some conflict between them. Despite how much she disliked him, as long as he made Hannah happy she would accept his presence in their lives too.

Hannah pursed her lips and finally gathered the courage to say what needed saying, “Mom, Oscar and I are completely over.”

Michelle froze for a moment, and she was obviously surprised by what Hannah said next, “He seems to have fallen for Lillian.”

Michelle’s face changed immediately upon hearing those words.

“What kind of karma did we accumulate? To meet someone like him!”

“But isn’t this what you’ve always wanted?” Hannah joked lightly before adding teasingly, “Why are you angry now?!”

“I wanted it. I was hoping Oscar wouldn’t come back to bother you, but being abandoned by him still makes me feel worthless!” Michelle couldn’t accept it.

“As long as we get the result we want, the process... will become a thing of the past.” Hannah said calmly.

Michelle really cared about her daughter too much. No matter what happened, she would never let anyone worry about her. Michelle sighed heavily and asked, “He doesn’t want Sal either?”

“Hmm.” Hannah nodded.

Oscar made it clear last night that Salem could change his name and identity. This was enough to show his attitude towards Salem. Of course, she was actually grateful that Oscar didn't fight for Salem with her. However, deep down in her heart, she still felt sorry for Salem. He had been abandoned by his father even before he knew who his father was.

“There's one more thing.” Hannah's tone became serious.

“What is it?” Michelle was so afraid of Oscar now. This man had too much power and could do whatever he wanted. She feared that he might hurt Hannah in some way.

“Oscar wants us to leave Northfield.”

“Why?!” Michelle got furious when she heard this news, “Even if he is a national commander-in-chief, he can't be so overbearing! Why does he want us out?”

Hannah knew this would hurt her parents deeply if they were forced to leave Northfield like this. She said softly, “It should be because of Lillian.”

Michelle felt indignant, “Doesn't Oscar have any feelings left for old times' sake?! Even if not for old times' sake, doesn't give birth to Salem count? Why does he have to go so far as to drive us away completely?”

“I can understand this a little bit though. I know women care about their spouse's exes' existence at some level.” Hannah comforted Michelle, “At least Oscar only wants us gone; he isn't trying to kill us.”

“If he ever did something like that, it would be insane. I won't let him go even if I die!” Michelle said fiercely.

Hannah smiled, “Do you want me or you tell Dad and grandma?”

Michelle clearly felt that her daughter didn't want to talk anymore. She sighed heavily again, “Forget it, I'll tell them myself.”

She thought that although Hannah seemed calm on the surface, she must also be suppressing many emotions inside herself.

“Thank you, Mom.” Hannah smiled slightly.

Seeing her smile, Michelle felt even more heartbroken, and she said to Hannah, “We'll really forget about Oscar from now on. We'll start over as a family abroad, truly starting anew.”

“I was thinking the same thing.” Hannah nodded with a still-beautiful smile.

“When are we leaving?” Michelle asked.

“In a week, probably next Wednesday,” Hannah replied.

“So soon?” Michelle was still agitated.

“Yeah.”

Michelle was really angry but ultimately kept it in check because she didn't want to burden Hannah mentally. She knew Hannah too well; she always carried everything herself and never let others worry about her. She couldn't let Hannah be too upset either.

"Then I'll go tell your dad and grandma and prepare for our departure while I'm at it," Michelle said.

"Okay."

Michelle left the room.

Hannah watched her mother's back disappear and felt suppressed discomfort after all. She had told herself when she was reborn that she would make sure her family survived and lived better.

But what happened?

They were still suffering with her.

Hannah leaned against the sofa lost in thought for a while before picking up her phone to make a call.

Manuel answered, "Hannah?"

"Are you at work?"

"Yes," Manuel said.

"How did Susan do last night?"

"What else could happen? She got so mad that she pouted all night long." Manuel talked about Susan with his mouth unconsciously curving upwards. He probably hadn't even noticed how gentle his voice became.

Hannah smiled. With Manuel taking care of Susan like this, she could rest assured that everything would be fine.

"She scolded my cousin all night long until talking in sleep." Manuel continued speaking of Susan's antics from last night.

Susan sometimes made him laugh or cry without knowing why.

"Oh really?" Even Hannah couldn't help but laugh imagining what Susan must have looked like last night.

"She doesn't know much between you and my cousin." Manuel explained, "There are many things I haven't told her because they're just too complicated for anyone to understand."

It wasn't that Susan couldn't understand; it was just that he didn't want things to get any more complicated than they already were.

Living life as carefree and innocent as Susan was the dream of many. Meeting Manuel, who loved and protected her so fiercely, was truly the luckiest thing that had ever happened to her. At least, Susan didn't repeat the same mistakes from her past life.

That was a consolation in itself.

"Manuel," Hannah's voice grew slightly heavy.

Manuel immediately sensed something amiss and his expression turned serious.

"I ended things with Oscar for good," Hannah stated plainly.

Manuel looked surprised and asked, "Did he really agree to it?"

He thought she would be the one initiating the breakup.

Hannah explained, "It was his decision."

"What?" Manuel couldn't believe it.

"I'm surprised too but for me, it's a relief." Hannah said calmly, "I don't have to live under his shadow anymore and he doesn't have to juggle between two women and two families. It's better for both of us."

Chapter 924 Destined

"Are you sure it was my cousin who suggested this?" Manuel furrowed his brows in concern.

"Do you think I'd lie to you?" Hannah retorted back at him.

"I just find it hard to believe," Manuel said thoughtfully. At that moment, he knew there had to be some hidden motive behind Oscar's decision. Maybe his cousin had already started making moves against the Collines. If they did make a move, there would definitely be danger involved.

The only way he could ensure Hannah's safety was by taking them somewhere absolutely secure where they wouldn't get caught up in this dangerous situation.

But based on what he knew about Oscar, he wouldn't reveal any reasons behind his actions either way.

On the one hand, he didn't want Hannah to trust him blindly because telling her the truth wouldn't change anything except make him feel worse inside; on the other hand, even if Oscar won this fight, there were no guarantees that everything would turn out okay-something unexpected could always happen-so giving false hope wasn't an option either.

Until everything settled down completely, Oscar wouldn't say anything at all.

"Manuel," Sensing Manuel's silence, Hannah called out.

"Hmm?" He snapped back into focus.

Since Oscar wasn't saying anything, then naturally he'd respect whatever decision he made.

"Oscar wants me overseas," Hannah stated bluntly. After understanding all the ins and outs, Oscar's actions didn't seem so surprising anymore. He asked, "When are you leaving?"

"Next Wednesday."

"So soon?" Manuel exclaimed.

And what he was really thinking was whether his cousin was going to go after the Collins family so soon. During their internal power struggle years ago, Oscar hadn't gone all the way because Lillian was pregnant. Whether or not they had a hundred per cent chance of taking down the Collins family at that

time, their actions were essentially keeping a threat growing. It was hard to say what kind of activities the Collins family had been up to during this long period of time.

However, after such a short amount of time, they were already taking action again; it seemed like they were being too hasty, Manuel reckoned.

But since Oscar had already made up his mind, Manuel believed that he wasn't someone who acted rashly and must have prepared for everything.

"I won't tell Susan about my leaving Northfield yet. I'm afraid she won't be able to accept it and I'm even more afraid that she'll directly go find Oscar and fight him." Hannah said with a smile.

Although she smiled, her heart felt uneasy. She always felt like her leaving would be difficult for Susan to accept.

"That's possible." Manuel nodded. "Okay then, I won't tell her."

Maybe she would come back soon enough anyway.

"Susan is in your hands now," Hannah said solemnly.

"Don't worry. I'll take care of her."

"I trust you completely," Hannah said. "You're the only person in this world who makes me feel at ease."

Manuel blushed slightly at Hannah's words as he had always been an easily embarrassed person since childhood.

"Well then, I won't disturb you while you're working," Hannah said after finishing speaking on the phone. She feared that if they talked too much longer it would be harder for them both.

"Hannah," Manuel called out before she hung up.

"Yes?"

"Don't be too disappointed with my cousin."

"I won't," Hannah replied calmly. "When there are no expectations left, there can be no disappointment either."

Manuel pursed his lips, surprised by her words. He thought this kind of feeling was even more terrible. It was a complete detachment from someone.

"Alright then." Manuel finally spoke again after some silence between them both on the phone line.

"Goodbye."

"Goodbye."

After the call, Hannah remained silent for quite some time afterwards. It took time to truly let oneself become emotionless about something.

One week later, Theodore came to personally see them off on Wednesday. After Oscar went back that day, he disappeared from Hannah's world as if he never existed. They didn't call or text each other and naturally couldn't meet again.

When Hannah saw Theodore at this moment, she wasn't surprised. Oscar could send his most trusted person to see them off, which was considered going above and beyond.

"Is everything packed?" Theodore asked Hannah.

"Yes. We took what we could bring with us. For the things we can't take with us, I'll have Manuel and Susan mail them to me once we settle down." Hannah said.

"Alright then. Let's go." Theodore nodded his head.

Hannah held Salem in her arms as they got into a car, while Lorie, Miguel and Michelle were in another car behind them.

Theodore sat beside Hannah in the same car but it was quiet inside the vehicle.

Salem was curious about the outside world while looking out through the window. Salem didn't usually go out much except for their garden, so everything seemed new to him.

Theodore noticed his reaction too. Sitting in the driver's seat, he looked through the rear-view mirror at Salem, who was waving his little hands around.

"Salem has grown so big." Began Theodore.

"Hmm." Replied Hannah, knowing that it had been just as long since Oscar had seen him too, and so did Theodore.

"Time flies by so quickly." Sighed Theodore

"Yeah."

Time always had a way of diluting many emotions.

"Salem looks like Oscar." Added Theodore

Hannah pursed her lips, not wanting to continue this topic any further. Theodore could sense her mood change so he didn't say anything else either.

The sedan arrived at a private airport where security was tight, which made sense, considering how secretive their departure needed to be.

As they prepared to board their flight with Salem still being held by Hannah, Theodore started hesitantly, "Hannah..."

"Yes?" asked Hannah looking towards him.

Theodore was silent while he showed no sign to send Hannah off.

"Do you have something you want to talk about privately?" asked she.

Theodore nodded his head, slowly.

Then Hannah passed Salem over into Michelle's arms and said, "I will catch up soon okay?"

Even though Michelle didn't like Oscar or the people around him, she couldn't refuse her daughter's request. Then she left with a parting remark, "Don't take too long, Salem will cry if he can't see you."

"Okay."

Michelle and the other two boarded the plane first.

Hannah followed Theodore to one side.

They didn't talk for very long. Theodore was never a talkative person. After a few words, he said, "Hannah, take care of yourself."

Hannah pursed her lips, "Take good care of Oscar."

Theodore looked at her.

"This is the only kindness I can give him," Hannah said frankly.

Theodore nodded. He knew that some wounds were destined to be difficult to heal again.

"Take care!"

Hannah turned and left.

At that moment of departure, tears welled up in her eyes after all these years. But many things were Oscar's own choice. She respected him and let go of him as well.

Theodore watched as they boarded the plane and left.

He sent a message to Oscar with his head down, "Hannah has gone."

The message was attached with a photo of the plane in the sky.

At this moment, Oscar was sitting in his spacious office, looking out through floor-to-ceiling windows at endless skies.

In the end, he still parted ways with Hannah.

Chapter 925 The Outbreak of War (1)

Three days after Hannah left, Oscar went abroad on business exchange interviews.

On the night before leaving, Oscar spent a lot of time with Una. His obvious reluctance did not escape Lillian's notice.

It wasn't just this night. Ever since he told Lillian about ending things with Hannah, his changes had been visible to everyone around him. He would take the initiative in talking to her, take initiative in caring about her life, and even smile at her. When he smiled like that, Lillian found herself getting lost in it every time.

As soon as he saw her appear at Una's room door, he gave her another gentle smile. His smiles always made her heart race faster than usual. She tried hard to keep calm and asked, "Are you leaving tomorrow?"

"So I'll miss you two." Replied Oscar.

"I'll take good care of Una," Lillian promised.

"Hmm." Oscar nodded and said, "But when I think about being away for three days, I still feel uneasy."

His words made her heart flutter a bit, wondering if Oscar had discovered something.

"But I trust you," Oscar said with a light laugh.

At that moment, it was as if he had given her the greatest trust in the world. The more he trusted her, the more conflicted and tangled up Lillian felt inside. She told herself not to trust Oscar, but she still held onto hope for him deep down inside, if only she could be with him without tearing each other apart. She endured the agony in her heart silently.

Then she saw Oscar leave Una's princess bed and walk towards her. Every time he approached her, it made her heart skip a beat or two.

Oscar said, "It's so late, why aren't you sleeping?"

"I can't sleep when I see you're not sleeping either."

"You don't want to let me go?" The corner of Oscar's mouth lifted into a smile.

The man's immense charm was something that Lillian couldn't resist at all.

She nodded silently. At that moment, she felt his warm hand stroke through her hair gently and tenderly. Her breathing became rapid and shallow as she looked at Oscar towering over her suddenly leaning down towards her.

But his movement stopped abruptly before their lips met.

Lillian closed her eyes tightly; there were too many expectations within herself that couldn't be concealed anymore.

She even raised up her chin actively waiting for his kiss. However, after a long while passed without feeling any touch from his lips on hers, she opened up eyes with some surprise in them, only to find out that there was a smile on the corner of Oscar's mouth and tenderness in his eyes,

"Wait for me until I come back."

Lillian frowned slightly, clearly showing some unhappiness. Her desires and emotions were aroused by him but now he suddenly stopped halfway

"I'm leaving early tomorrow morning." Oscar said seriously, "I fear that you might think I'm irresponsible."

He was telling her that if they slept together tonight then he would leave right away afterwards, he could make Lillian upset.

"It doesn't matter," Lillian spoke directly.

After tonight there wouldn't be another chance again.

"It does matter. It's important." Said Oscar.

Lillian pursed her lips tightly. She also knew that the more important it was for Oscar, the more important she was in his heart. But nobody knew what changes would happen after tomorrow.

"Be good." Oscar's gentle voice cooed to her. "Go to bed early and wait for me at home."

His gentle voice was like a spell, entrancing her. Oscar smiled and planted a kiss on her forehead. "Remember to think of me."

"Mm-hmm." Lillian nodded.

As she watched Oscar leave, tears blurred her vision.

Who should she trust? Her father or Oscar?

If she trusted Oscar, would he really be with her?!

Oscar returned to his room. And the smile on his face disappeared in an instant. At this moment, he was completely different from the man just now. He picked up the phone.

"Theodore."

"Here."

"Are you ready?" Oscar asked him coldly.

"Ready as can be."

"Good," Oscar nodded with a hint of cruelty in his eyes, "Tomorrow we'll catch our prey!"

"Understood!"

Oscar hung up the phone.

Tomorrow would be the final outcome, no matter who would win or lose.

Early the next morning, Oscar left by a car while Lillian watched him go from behind. She knew that as soon as he left, his father would immediately take action against him. Although it was said that he went abroad for exchange visits and interviews, in fact, Rowan had already made secret deals with another country using Northfield's interests as leverage in exchange for them secretly assassinating Oscar once he entered their borders.

In other words, once Oscar set foot inside their country's territory today it would mean farewell forever.

Lillian's eyes turned red at this thought.

She originally thought that all her father needed to do was control Oscar but never expected him to go so far as exterminating him completely without leaving any loose ends behind. Yet upon further

reflection, only by doing so could they have no worries about future troubles; there was no way she could convince her father otherwise.

But what about the hard-earned relationship between her and Oscar? She felt so reluctant.

Lillian stood at the door for a long time.

Her phone trembled continuously in her hand.

She didn't know whether or not she should inform Oscar because if she did then it meant putting her dad into danger. It was an extremely agonizing moment for Lillian when suddenly the phone rang out loud.

Lillian was startled by the call.

"Father."

"Did he leave?"

"Yes, a few minutes ago."

"Follow our plan, take Una with you. I'll send people to meet you."

"... Alright."

"Listen, Lillian. I know it may hurt you, but trust me, I do all this for the sake of our family."

Rowan kept persuading his daughter since he sensed her hesitance.

"I see."

"I won't say more. I know you are a smart girl since you were little. You know how to act. I'll leave you to it."

"Okay, Father."

Rowan trusted his daughter.

Upon hanging up the phone, Lillian appeared more gloomy. Then she got back to the room and held Una in her arms. According to their plan, she would take her daughter away with an excuse. Once Una was not under Oscar's control, they would not have any concerns. Besides, Una could be their lifeboat if they failed.

Looking at innocent Una, Lillian still felt a little guilty to take advantage of her daughter. When she finally made up her mind to leave, her phone rang again.

She hesitated but answered it in the end.

"Oscar?"

Chapter 926 The Outbreak of War (2)

"Oscar?" Lillian uttered with her hand clasping the phone tight. His call made her heart racing.

Lillian had no idea what Oscar called her for. With some expectation and distress, she answered it though it torture her at the same time.

“Is Una awake?” asked Oscar, sounding worried. His words of concern for her daughter made Lillian feel depressed. Whether Oscar was acting or treating her genuinely, he indeed gave his heart to her daughter, for whom he could even give up Hannah and his own son. Even if he had done this for Cian, Lillian was still touched by him. However, now, she was conspiring against him to murder him.

At the thought of this, tears filled her eyes. She was trying hard to hold back many words in her heart.

“Lillian?” Oscar’s soft voice sounded again.

Lillian tried to calm herself down and said, “She hasn’t woken up yet, still sleeping. Una is really a little sleepyhead.”

There seemed to be a light chuckle from the other end, with an indulgent tone saying, “Children who sleep well will grow up well.”

“Uh-huh.”

“Lillian, are you crying?” Oscar still heard the faint sound of Lillian choking.

Lillian bit her lip. She was actually afraid that any small movement on her part would arouse Oscar’s suspicion.

“I’ll be back soon.” Oscar’s low and magnetic voice was incredibly gentle during this period of time. He was very tender towards her.

“In a while, I’ll have someone send you a gift,” Oscar said. “I’m not very good at being romantic.”

Lillian’s hand holding the phone trembled.

“I don’t know what you like so I only prepared a bouquet of flowers.” Oscar had some embarrassment in his tone, “I’ll improve over time in the future.”

Lillian had been feeling uncomfortable in her chest all along. She never expected that after leaving Northfield, Oscar would prepare a gift for her. Oscar was truly putting his heart into it for her sake.

“I’m almost at the airport now. When I get there I’ll contact you. Take care of yourself and Una.” Oscar reminded.

“Okay.”

In the end, Lillian still didn’t say anything.

She chose her father.

But after hanging up the phone, Lillian cried. Tears kept falling down non-stop. Looking at Una who was still sound asleep on top of her made Lillian think about every little thing that happened between herself and Oscar.

Sorry, Oscar

We could only blame our fate for not allowing us to be together.

Her eyes turned cold as she prepared to give Una a hard pinch but then suddenly softened for just one second.

In her mind echoed what Oscar said—he would buy flowers for her. This was the first and the last time he gave a gift to her. And there wouldn't be another chance in the future. She felt reluctant

Lillian gritted her teeth and put Una back on the bed again. She wanted to wait a little longer until she received Oscar's gifts.

Anyway, Oscar had left Northfield already, which meant he was no threat to her.

Inside the car, Oscar put down his phone. Sitting next to him, Theodore saw his icy expression. At this moment, he somewhat understood why Oscar had to send Hannah away, and even chose to end things with her. Oscar probably couldn't accept his tenderness towards another woman, let alone Hannah.

The car arrived at the airport.

There was no doubt that the people around Oscar were mixed with members of the Collins family, who were monitoring his every move at this moment.

Oscar boarded the plane with Theodore and a group of bodyguards.

After sitting down, Oscar gave Theodore a look, and the latter understood what he meant in an instant. He got up and casually went to the bathroom naturally.

There, in that instant, he suddenly took out a weapon from his clothes and killed one of the bodyguards next to him on sight.

At the same time, at least half of them fell on the plane. It had been arranged earlier that once Theodore acted, Oscar's people would immediately act against others. Perhaps there would be innocent casualties, but anyone without any confidence could not be left by Oscar.

After dealing with everyone, Oscar and Theodore quickly changed their clothes. Before takeoff, they secretly got off the plane and sat in a car that had already been prepared for them back home.

At this moment, only a group of bodyguards were leaving on board. As for the two who had left, they had prepared an unexpected attack for Rowan.

In the castle, Lillian waited for quite some time. The flowers still hadn't arrived yet. She felt anxious but didn't want to leave just yet either.

She made up her mind to go several times but then chose to stay again instead. Every minute was like torture for her.

When her phone rang again Lillian was startled once more; she bit her lip tightly before finally answering, "Father."

"Why haven't you come out yet?" asked Rowan, a little vexed.

Lillian bit down harder on her lip.

“Lillian,” Rowan interrupted coldly, “Don’t do anything that will disappoint me; I’m already taking action now... We have nowhere else left, don’t become our family’s eternal sinner!”

“I know... I just...”

“Don’t you understand? Oscar has left, you have to come out right now. If you don’t, I’ll make people force their way in. If there’s really a conflict and harm comes to you and Una, I won’t take responsibility!” Rowan’s voice was cold and threatening.

“Well, I’ll bring Una out right away,” Lillian said, hesitant.

“Lillian, don’t be soft-hearted. After this is over, I will make sure you live better than anyone else!” Rowan softened his tone when he heard his daughter speak like that.

“Okay.”

Lillian hung up the phone. She took a deep breath and finally made up her mind.

She picked up the sleeping Una and pinched her little butt hard. The sudden pain made Una cry loudly in a grievance. Lillian also felt sorry for her. But she had no choice but to do this to achieve her goal. She held Una anxiously and said, “Come on! Come on! Una suddenly cried so much that we need to send her to the hospital immediately!”

Lillian’s anxious voice made the leader of the castle guards come forward respectfully, “Madam.”

“Send a car to go to the hospital!”

“But Commander said during his absence...” The leader was clearly hesitant.

“If anything happens to Una while under your watchful eye will you take responsibility?!” Lillian asked him in a threatening manner.

The leader dared not speak any further.

“Prepare a car!” Lillian’s face darkened.

The leader could only agree reluctantly, “Yes.”

Thus, Lillian was escorted by the guards towards the hospital. Once they left here, it would be easy for them to get ambushed on their way.

Lillian looked back at the castle behind them, with her eyes red with tears. She knew very well that once she left here with Una, it would be forever goodbye.

Chapter 927 The Outbreak of War (3) Internal Strife within the Collins Family

Oscar sat in his car driving down the street. He couldn’t show himself now so he couldn’t go back directly.

He looked at messages on his phone and then told Theodore, “Lillian took Una away.”

Theodore nodded. This was what they expected early on. He couldn’t help but smile and said to Oscar, “So your charm isn’t all that great after all.”

Lillian still chose her family over him.

Oscar just ignored his words and said, "No matter what happens later, protecting Una comes first." The meaning was clear-even if he encountered danger, Theodore would protect Una first.

"You've brainwashed me so many times." Theodore leaned back in his chair, resting his head on the back of his hands.

"I get it. Anyone could die in this accident, but Una can't."

Oscar nodded.

Theodore looked out the window at the city, the peace of which was protected by Oscar, with the risk of losing everything.

Lillian returned to the Collins family.

Not far from the castle, Rowan had someone intercept their car. The guards didn't dare to harm her and Una, so they couldn't fight back and were quickly subdued by Rowan's men.

Lillian left smoothly incredibly. But it wasn't entirely unexpected either. Without Oscar around, Oscar's people would be scattered like sand. Her father also realized this and was confident enough to act accordingly.

Back home, Rowan was waiting for her along with Mathew, who now sat in a wheelchair. He deeply hated Oscar and wished he could die immediately, and he also held some grudges against his sister, for she had made him a scapegoat for herself. Otherwise, he wouldn't have fallen into such a predicament.

"Lillian, you're finally back," Rowan said happily upon seeing her.

Finally, he managed to trick Lillian into coming back. On the one hand, there was their father-daughter relationship and thus he didn't want his daughter dead at his hands; on the other hand, if Lillian didn't listen, he would resort to cruel methods. More importantly, if Oscar still had any tricks up his sleeve, Una would become their shield again; if Oscar died, Una would also "accidentally" die as well.

He never thought about leaving behind enemies, no matter if they were Oscar's or Cian's children. Cutting off all ties was necessary for an imperial family like theirs.

At this moment, Lillian had no idea what exactly Rowan was thinking. She only thought that her father wanted to ensure her' and Una's safety or perhaps use Una as leverage against Oscar. She never considered that he would hurt them both.

"Come here let me hold Una." Rowan reached out his arms, with a face full of love.

Lillian handed over little innocent-looking Una without hesitation. Rowan held her close with an evil smile on his face.

Looking at little Una, who looked adorable and innocent, he silently said to himself, "I'm not being a cruel grandfather. It's your fault. You shouldn't exist in this world."

"Father," Lillian hadn't noticed anything unusual about Rowan and asked, "What's our next move?"

Rowan spoke while watching Una in his arms, "Once we receive news of Oscar's death after his arrival, I'll take down all of his men. Everything is in place; we just need the right moment."

Hearing Rowan talk about Oscar's death made Lillian feel uneasy. In fact, she had another purpose for coming back this time.

Looking at her father, she finally gathered the courage to speak up, "Can we spare Oscar's life?"

Rowan had been pretending to joke with Una until now but his expression changed instantly.

"What did you say?!" He glared at Lillian fiercely.

"I mean, can't we just control him? We don't have to kill him off completely. I understand Father's philosophy of cutting off the roots when it comes to enemies, but once Oscar loses all power and influence, he won't be a threat anymore..."

"That's enough! I don't want to hear any more nonsense from you!"

"Father, I admit it. I like Oscar." Knowing that reasoning wouldn't work on him, Lillian played her emotional card instead. She thought that since her father had loved her so much since childhood if she begged for something, he would soften up a bit.

This was actually why she chose to leave the castle today-she wanted to stop her father from killing Oscar.

"You liked Cian before too but now that you've met Oscar, and you like him again. Love is the most elusive thing. It can change anytime! Later on, you won't love Oscar and there will be better men than him." Rowan said coldly.

"There won't be anyone better than Oscar. I only want Oscar. Wait until your plan succeeds, Father, I can leave Northfield with him and help monitor him so that he never sets foot in Northfield again."

"So for Oscar, you're willing to leave me?"

"If I didn't care about you, I wouldn't have helped you get this far! If I didn't even care about you, I would've told Oscar your plan already. But I haven't done so because I'm still loyal to our family. Now that it won't affect our interests, couldn't you yield to a request of mine?"

"I can promise you anything else, but there is no way I will let Oscar live!" Rowan coldly refused.

"Father!"

"That's enough!" Rowan didn't want to argue with her, "I thought you were a smart person who wouldn't let emotions cloud your judgment, but it seems like you and your sister are the same. Once faced with emotions, you become foolish! Do you know that your sister ended up in jail because of her feelings for Oscar and the terrible things she did? Do you want to follow in her footsteps?"

"I won't!" Lillian retorted, "I just want to be with the person I love. I won't harm your interests! I have boundaries!"

“Your request not to kill Oscar shows that you don’t have any boundaries at all. I don’t want to waste any more time talking about this with you. The matter of Oscar is not something that can be influenced by you. Go back to your room!” Rowan was merciless.

Lillian’s eyes turned red. For the first time, she realized how cold and cruel her father could be towards her.

She narrowed her eyes and said, “Since it’s like this, don’t blame me for not showing filial piety.”

Rowan’s face darkened.

Lillian went forward and took Una away quickly.

Rowan clenched his fists.

“I won’t help Father anymore, nor will I let Una become a shield for you.” Lillian spoke coldly as she held Una close and continued, “The fight between you and Oscar will depend on who comes out on top!”

“Lillian!” Rowan shouted at her harshly.

Lillian walked away while holding Una tightly in her arms. However, after only a few steps away from him, the bodyguards blocked their path in front of them.

Chapter 928 The Outbreak of War (4) Lillian Commits Suicide

Lillian glared fiercely at the person in front of her. Her face was twisted with anger.

“Get out of my way!” Lillian roared.

No one moved a muscle.

Lillian gritted her teeth and pushed past the person blocking her path, but they didn’t budge.

Annoyed, she turned to look at Rowan with a fierce expression, “Father!”

“Take her back to her room!” Rowan ordered coldly, not even sparing a glance for Lillian.

“I’d rather die than be forced by you!” Lillian said fiercely.

Rowan snorted with laughter and said, “Do you really think that threatening me with death will work?”

Lillian’s face contorted in extreme displeasure.

“Do you think I value you so highly? I only care about your relationship with Oscar! I only care that you gave birth to such a useful Una! As far as I’m concerned, what use are you?” Rowan tore off his mask and no longer bothered hiding his true feelings towards Lillian anymore.

Lillian looked at her father in disbelief. She never thought that one day he would say such things to her.

“If you want to leave then go ahead, even if it means dying outside.” Saying, Rowan stepped closer towards Lillian step by step. The venomous words coming out of his mouth made her shiver uncontrollably from fear and disgust.

She had betrayed the man she loved most for the sake of protecting her father and family members; now he was treating her like this.

“But Una must stay behind.” Rowan reached out his hand wanting to take Una into his arms.

“Don’t touch Una!” Lillian shouted sharply while hugging her daughter tightly against herself,

Una was frightened by Lillian’s sudden scream and started crying loudly,

Rowan’s face turned cold. Just one look from him made two bodyguards rush forward, snatching away Una from Lillian’s arms using brute force without mercy.

Una left Lillian’s embrace crying harder than before.

When she saw them taking away Una, Lillian became extremely agitated, “Give me back my daughter! Give me back Una!”

“Shut up!” Rowan snapped coldly at Lillian, “I didn’t want our father-daughter relationship damaged but since you’re being so ungrateful then let me make it clear, you and your child are just pawns in my game plan! When I chose to cooperate with Oscar it wasn’t because of any sentimental attachment towards you two; it was simply because we weren’t confident enough we could win against him during those times when we were still biding our time.”

The anger inside Lillian grew stronger as she trembled all over from rage. She never thought that her father, who she always believed loved her the most, would actually use her and reveal such a cruel face.

“Now everything is ready, you are useless to me. Do you think I still have any mercy on you? Lillian, don’t you understand what’s most important in our family?” Rowan sneered and insulted her greatly, “If you listen to me, I can still let you enjoy wealth and status. If you insist on opposing me, I will make sure that your death is ugly!”

Lillian glared at him fiercely. She couldn’t imagine that these were words a father would say to his own daughter.

“Let me explain it clearly so that there’s no misunderstanding about your position in this family!” Rowan said viciously, “I never intended for Una to live.”

Lillian was immediately agitated. She couldn’t believe what she had just heard. She even felt like maybe her father’s previous words were just out of anger due to her rebellion against him. However, this statement truly made her feel terrified and even on the verge of collapse.

She stared straight at Rowan and asked, “What did you say?”

“Una is also a member of the Wells family and naturally should be eradicated.”

“Are you crazy? Una is my daughter! My flesh and blood! How could you harm her? She’s so young!”

“Just because she’s young makes it easy.”

“Enough!” Lillian was pushed over the edge completely now. She regretted it all-betraying Oscar and bringing Una into danger. Her tears blurred as she looked at the extreme cruelty in Rowan’s eyes.

“You can’t hurt Una...you can’t...”

“Whether or not I do is my business.” Rowan sneered coldly before ordering his men, “Take her back to her room!”

“I won’t go...Ahh!” Lillian screamed.

At this point, the guards had already come forward roughly shackling her arms. Despite how much she struggled, they dragged Lillian back into the room with brute force.

“LET GO OF ME! LET GO! GIVE ME BACK MY DAUGHTER!”

The whole hall echoed with frantic screams from Lillian, while little Una cried helplessly, feeling scared.

Lillian was locked up in the room and her daughter continued crying non-stop outside.

“Give Her some sleeping pills; too noisy.” Said Rowan with an emotionless voice.

“Father, why don’t we kill Una Wells now?” Mathew said cunningly.

He had no feelings for this niece. He even wished she would die sooner to get revenge on Oscar and Lillian.

“Not now.” Rowan said, “We’ll deal with Una when we see Oscar’s body.”

Rowan was always cautious. He wouldn’t act recklessly until the last moment.

Mathew dared not say more. Now that he saw how cruel his father was to Lillian, he knew where he stood in Rowan’s heart. As long as it threatened his father’s interests, Rowan could disown anyone.

A hint of cruelty flashed through his eyes. When Oscar broke his leg back then, it was also related to his father.

Inside the car, Oscar told Theodore, “Una has been taken to the Collins family.”

“Is there any danger?” Theodore worried.

“Rowan won’t do anything to Una until he sees my body,” Oscar assured him.

That was why he could let Lillian take Una back to Rowan. It could also reduce Rowan’s vigilance against him while letting them go free.

“When will we act?” Theodore asked.

“In ten minutes, surround the Collins family directly!” Oscar said.

“Got it!” Theodore was excited.

Here they were at last. That old fox from the Collins family should have met a deserved end already.

Rowan sat waiting for results in a good mood. In one hour, Oscar would arrive at his destination and they could create an accident that would kill him. Thinking about how close he was to succeeding made an evil smile appear on his face.

“Mr Collins!” A guard who monitored Lillian suddenly appeared in a hurry in the hall.

“What happened?”

“Lillian cut her wrist and committed suicide!” The guard exclaimed excitedly.

Rowan’s face darkened slightly; after all, she was his daughter. No matter how cruel and emotionless he was, there was still some reluctance deep down. Rowan finally followed the guard into Lillian’s room.

The room was covered with blood. At this moment, Lillian looked weak as she struggled under being held tightly by guards over her wrist.

Rowan’s face turned extremely ugly.

“Father please let me and Una go.” Lillian cried out pleadingly.

Chapter 929 The Outbreak of War (5) Surrounding Rowan

Rowan looked at Lillian coldly. He was unmoved by his daughter’s desperate pleas.

“Lillian, if you really want to die, then go ahead and die! Don’t delay my great cause because of you!”

“Father, is power really that important? Are you gonna give up your family?” Lillian cried out in despair.

“Family?!” Rowan sneered, “There are so many family members, one more or one less won’t make a difference. Do you think your mother died accidentally all those years ago? It was because she got in the way of my development!”

“Father!” Lillian screamed from the depths of her heart, “How could you be so insane?”

“If I wasn’t insane, how could I have developed to where I am now?! How could I have given you such good conditions? My brothers would have killed me long ago. How else could I become the only heir to the Collins family?”

Rowan was completely unaffected by his daughter’s accusations and revealed his true face at this moment. He continued cruelly, “Lillian, don’t try to threaten me with yourself! To me, if you die it’s like a dog dying!”

“Rowan!” Lillian screamed.

Rowan gave a cold smile. It was a terrifying face that Lillian had never seen before. She never knew that her father who had always been very good to them siblings would treat them as mere tools.

Her tears fell uncontrollably. At this moment, it didn’t matter if she died, but Una would be implicated and even Oscar would suffer.

She regretted everything.

Rowan didn’t care about Lillian’s emotions at all; he turned around and prepared to leave.

“Mr Collins, something bad has happened!” A subordinate suddenly rushed over quickly with a trembling voice.

“What happened?!” Rowan’s face darkened immediately upon hearing this news.

Something big had happened.

“We’re surrounded!”

“What?!” There was panic on Rowan’s face for an instant.

“It’s Commander’s men who did it; they’ve already surrounded us completely! I tried contacting our people for support but we can’t reach any of them now. I suspect we’ve fallen into his ambush!” The subordinate spoke quickly and urgently.

“Damn it!” Suddenly cursing loudly, Rowan turned around readying himself to leave immediately. As he turned to leave, Rowan suddenly spun around and faced Lillian.

“You betrayed me, you bitch!” Rowan roared.

Lillian laughed sarcastically. She wished it was her who had betrayed her father, but it wasn’t. In fact, she was even helping this insane man. However, his father still fell victim to the scheme.

It could only mean one thing-she had been played for a fool, being used by Oscar too.

How ironic!

She thought her father loved her all along. And she thought Oscar truly cared for her as well. But in the end, she was nothing more than a tool for them.

Rowan might have wasted time on Lillian, so he quickly left instead. As he walked out of the hall and looked through the video surveillance screen, he saw that outside there were guards surrounding him tightly.

Suddenly his phone rang.

Rowan glanced at it and answered fiercely, “Oscar!”

“Defect from your army and I’ll spare your life.” Said Oscar in a cold-blooded voice, slowly and deliberately.

“You wish!” Rowan shouted back loudly, “Don’t forget Una is in my hands!”

Oscar sneered sarcastically with a contemptuous smile on his face that made him look so dismissive of everything around him.

Rowan’s hand holding the phone trembled slightly as he tried to suppress his anger inside.

“Do you really think she can make me give up everything I have now or will soon possess? Would you give up everything you own or are about to own for your child?” asked Oscar rhetorically with ease.

Rowan suppressed his immense fury within himself.

“And besides,” continued Oscar nonchalantly, “Una isn’t even my biological daughter anyway; I’ve already secretly sent my real son away somewhere safer long ago.”

“It’s all just a game.” Said Oscar lightly without any hint of concern whatsoever.

“Oscar!” Rowan called out harshly to him.

He never expected that despite being so smart all these years, he would be calculated by Oscar to such an extent today.

“But when you asked for peace and I agreed, it was only because at the time I was suffering heavy losses in my fight against the Jun family. I didn’t have confidence that I could still beat you, so when you offered peace, I naturally accepted it. Then, in secret, I strengthened my own power and made myself stronger while also making you think that Una was important to me. You all thought that there was nothing I wouldn’t do for her and relaxed your guard against me.” Oscar spoke with a cold tone filled with sarcasm, “But as a result, Mr Collins, such an intelligent man, fell into my trap!”

“Enough!” Rowan couldn’t bear to listen any longer. He couldn’t accept being forced into this situation by Oscar. If he hadn’t truly believed in Oscar’s strong attachment to Una, he wouldn’t have become so radical; he thought controlling Una meant controlling Oscar.

As expected, those in power were all ruthless masters. Oscar had really fooled him and even fooled everyone else.

“I don’t want to be too extreme about this, since if something happens to you, it won’t look good for me publicly either. Of course, if pushed too far then maybe killing you would be necessary, using force against force; there is nothing that can’t be suppressed.” Oscar said lightly, contrasting Rowan’s anger, “But if we can find a way where both of us benefit then there’s no need for either of us to suffer.”

“What do you want?” Rowan asked harshly.

“It’s simple. Surrender now without any resistance and we won’t harm anyone or anything under your command.” Replied Oscar calmly, “Afterwards, I’ll send you abroad with enough wealth to ensure a peaceful life during your old age.”

Rowan didn’t answer back immediately.

Oscar didn’t say much more either.

“I’ll give you half an hour to think about it; otherwise we will attack!” said Oscar.

The phone call ended abruptly without any hesitation from Oscar, who left behind just one hint of his attachment towards Una, which wasn’t lost on anyone listening in on their conversation, including Rowan, who looked extremely unhappy now.

Matthew beside him was anxious beyond words, “Father, what should we do now? We can’t just switch sides like this.”

“Absolutely not!” Rowan said fiercely, “Oscar may sound nice but he definitely won’t spare me! He will go all out until every last root is destroyed! If he has come this far then there’s no way he will stop halfway through!”

“So what should we do?” Mathew seemed scared out of his wits

He had thought they would make Oscar pay the price this time around. But little did they expect, they were about to be taken down by Oscar instead.

“We’re surrounded by Oscar now, and there’s no way we can escape unscathed. But, Oscar can’t just kill me like this either. I have support from other countries. If things don’t work out in Northfield. As long as we leave safely, I’ll come back even stronger!” said Rowan.

Chapter 930 The Outbreak of War (6) The Collins Family Fighting Each Other

Matthew was a bit excited when he heard his father say that.

“What do you mean, Father?” asked he.

“Oscar gave me half an hour to live because he’s foolish! If it were me, I wouldn’t leave any room for the other side to survive.” Rowan said with extreme malice, “Get ready, we’re leaving through the secret passage.”

Matthew was stunned.

Was there a secret passage here?!

He had no idea after all these years. He only saw his father’s men quickly leaving to prepare.

It turned out that his father never treated them as his own people. They were just tools for him.

A few minutes later, the men came forward respectfully and said, “Mr Collins, everything is ready.”

“Good!” Rowan ordered sharply. “Let’s go quickly!”

“Yes.”

Rowan led Matthew towards a secret passage hidden in the corner of the Collins family estate. At this moment, there were already quite a few people waiting at the entrance of the tunnel- obviously, all of them were absolute confidants of Rowan’s.

“What about Lillian?” Matthew asked.

Rowan hesitated for a second. In fact, he was also struggling with whether or not to take Lillian with him.

“I think Lillian might still be useful.” Matthew said, “In case something unexpected happens, Oscar might show some leniency towards her, especially Una. Let Lillian hold Una and leave together.”

“Oscar won’t spare them because they are underlings!” Rowan asserted confidently.

Whatever kind of person he believed Oscar was would determine what kind of person he actually was in reality.

“If we bring them along it may not benefit us but at least it won’t harm us either! Leaving them behind would only benefit Oscar.” Matthew argued persuasively, “If we sneak away without harming anyone on his side, then Father you can tolerate that?!”

“Then kill Lillian and Una!” Rowan suggested cruelly.

Matthew nodded his head firmly.

Regardless if Oscar cared about them or not, he must make him pay for what happened.

When Rowan was about to give his order, he changed his mind in the end.

“Let them leave with us.”

On second thoughts, he didn't deem it necessary to kill his daughter. Besides, since Oscar had given him half an hour to make his decision, he might have some scruples about him. Although Rowan couldn't make sure whether Una and Lillian could be a powerful threat against Oscar, taking Lillian and her daughter with them made no harm to them anyway.

“Whatever you need, Father.” Mathew agreed and nodded.

“Bring Lillian and Una here,” Rowan ordered.

“Yes.”

Then, Lillian was taken to the entrance of the secret passage. As she was brought there, she knew what her father was about to do instantly, and she saw Una was taken there too.

“Lillian, since you're my daughter, I'll spare you. But don't play games!” Rowan said, threatening.

Lillian bit her lip, saying nothing. And Una was sent to her by a subordinate. While holding Una, who was sleeping in her arms, Lillian couldn't help but shed tears.

“Let's go!”

Everyone entered the secret passage after Rowan's order.

In the meantime, Oscar was sitting in the car out of the garden of the Collins Manor. He bet Rowan wouldn't take a chance at the cost of his own life. However, something caught his attention.

Theodore noticed it too.

“The locator on Una is moving quickly, they're escaping from the garden. But we've blocked all the passages to the outside, it could only be...” Theodore said as he got alert.

“They had a secret passage inside!” Theodore drew a conclusion.

Oscar's face darkened.

“Call Manuel to predict their route. Send all the guards to wait at all the possible exits, RIGHT NOW!” Oscar ordered.

Manuel had been on call for 24 hours today. And the moving location of Una was also sent by him.

“Right away.” Theodore started working on his phone.

At the same time, Oscar's car had been driven away.

In a few minutes, Manuel called and said, “I have conducted an investigation and screening of the possible areas that the courtyard can access. I have marked the three most likely areas and sent them to you. The most likely one is marked red, so you can go there first! I will continue to track and notify you as soon as possible if there is any discovery.”

“Got it.” Theodore hung up the phone. He quickly arranged for other personnel and rushed the driver to the destination as well.

They should be able to catch up since the destination was not far away.

Cars were running crazily on the street.

At this moment, Rowan and his team had arrived at an area not far from the Collins Manor. There was a helicopter parked there, which had been prepared for a long time. Whenever he encountered danger, he only needed ten minutes to leave safely. And there were already some people standing next to the helicopter waiting for them.

Rowan didn't delay. He walked straight to the helicopter.

But when he just took two steps, his face suddenly changed.

Lillian was also startled by the scene in front of her at that moment.

“Matthew!” Rowan called out coldly.

Unexpectedly, Matthew suddenly picked up his pistol and aimed it at Rowan's back.

“Do you know what you're doing?!” Rowan didn't feel nervous at all and turned to glare at him fiercely.

“Of course, I know.” Matthew sneered, “I'm killing you.”

“Do you think you can kill me? If you dare to, my people will immediately shoot at you right away!” Rowan threatened.

“Really?!” Matthew said, disdainful, “You may not know that most of your subordinates are mine.”

Rowan's face clearly showed a hint of panic, although he was still confident inside. Then he looked around, finding that many subordinates picking up pistols and aiming them at him.

Only the two closest people around him still stood by his side.

“Surprised?” Matthew asked with a sinister smile, “I don't think you should have been surprised.”

Rowan looked at Matthew fiercely.

“Besides the two subordinates you trust the most, do you treat others like people?! You don't believe in others so much, do you think others should work hard for you unconditionally?! Even to your children, you can be so cruel. Do you still think that others are willing to be loyal to you? Father, you are too arrogant.”

“Mathew!” Rowan's body trembled with anger.

“I won't kill you today, maybe I'll be killed by you in the future! You're right, cut down the grass and root, don't be soft-hearted.” Matthew pulled the trigger.

“How dare you!”

“You'll know in a moment if I dare!” Matthew remained motionless, his fingers twitching slightly.

“Don’t kill me!” Rowan was noticeably flustered when he saw Matthew’s expression, “I’m your father, you can’t kill me!”

“Humph! Lillian is your daughter, didn’t you almost kill her just now?” retorted Matthew, with a cruel expression on his face.