Rewritten 251

Chapter 251

Adrian lowered his head and chuckled, "Timothy... You've gone too far!

"If Madelyn's suffering were to happen to you, and everyone mocked you for your suffering, would you still find it funny?"

Adrian tried his best to make Timothy understand the weight of his words, since Timothy could not put himself in other people's shoes.

Timothy remained silent.

Adrian continued, "Besides, a child shouldn't be held responsible for their parent's wrongdoings." We're living in a society governed by laws. All those crimes that Hayson committed will eventually be exposed to the public, and he'll receive legal punishment. Madelyn's done nothing wrong, but you're blaming Hayson's wrongdoings on her. Do you really think that makes sense?"

Timothy still did not speak.

Adrian said, "Forrest may look reckless, but he always has his reasons for what he does. He isn't as bad as you think. It's true that he looks like a jerk, since he doesn't study and just hangs out with pretty schoolgirls, always drinks and plays cards. He's got a fancy life," Adrian added, "But

have you ever seen him spend a night with a girl?"

Timothy could not believe what he had just heard. "Wait, are you saying he's never been with a girl? So, all that stuff about him and the girl from Southview University was just rumors?" Then his mind turned to Jadie, and he blurted out, "And what about Jadie? He's into her, right?

Remember that night they rode off a bike together? There's definitely something between them!"

Adrian smiled slightly as he looked at the lake in front of him. The wind lifted the hair on his forehead. He responded, "I'm guessing that he did it so Madelyn would see it." He pondered, 'Maybe he's been interested in Madelyn for a long time." Timothy could not understand it. "Why?! What makes you say that? I don't believe it!" Adrian explained, "Actually, Forrest had already started to have a soft spot for Madelyn back when he was in the hospital." Timothy exclaimed, "Are you kidding me?!" Adrian responded, "Do you still remember that crescent moon tattoo on Forrest's stomach when Adrian lowered his head and chuckled, "Timothy... You've gone too far! "If Madelyn's suffering were to happen to you, and everyone mocked you for your suffering, would you still find it funny?" Adrian tried his best to make Timothy understand the weight of his words, since Timothy could not put himself in other people's shoes. Timothy remained silent.

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Adrian responded, "Do you still remember that crescent moon tattoo on Forrest's stomach when

Timothy vaguely remembered it. At that time, he had even ridiculed Forrest for it, but Forrest had ignored him.

Timothy wondered, 'So, Forrest has been interested in Madelyn from the very beginning?"

He pondered aloud, "Why didn't he pursue Madelyn then? Why was he always so unfriendly towards her? Back when Jadie was bullied, Forrest almost strangled Madelyn to death because he thought she was the person behind it. If he really liked her, wouldn't doing that only push her further away?
"Hmm Why does none of this make sense?"
Adrian said, "Well, only Forrest himself knows why he did all that. He got what he wanted"
Indeed, he had gotten what he wanted and paid for it with his life.
Adrian patted Timothy's shoulder, "I've told you so much. Do you get it now?"
He thought, 'Knowing Timothy's mindset and personality, he'll probably keep supporting Forrest."
Adrian and Timothy had never cared about Forrest's background in the first place.
Forrest was indeed a friend worth keeping for a lifetime, and they had known each other for many
years.
They would be friends for life.
Chapter 252
Having learned from the previous lesson, Madelyn returned home before eight at night. Before
that, she also went to the hospital to get her stitches removed. Her wound was healing and had scabbed over. It was prominent but thankfully it did not reopen just from minor pressure or
movement.

The atmosphere in the study of the Arnold residence was tense. Ethan was sitting at the desk. After the video conferencing ended, he lifted his eyes to look at the person standing in front of him, who was dressed in an untidy school uniform. Ethan asked, "You haven't been home these days. What've you been doing out there?"

"What else could I be doing? Don't you already know?" Forrest tilted his head as he replied, reaching into his pocket and fidgeting with the lighter inside.

Ethan lazily leaned back. He responded, "You're right. Indeed, I do know everything that you do. I have people watching you, but not because you're a threat to me. It's just to keep you from causing me trouble out there. Do you really think you can do anything you want just because you're from the Arnold family?"

Ethan added, "When I was in the company today, I received a lawsuit from the legal department saying you were involved in bullying and fighting in the school..."

He then grabbed the document from the table and threw it directly in front of Forrest.

He continued, "I've been busy with work lately and haven't been keeping an eye on you. I thought you'd behave well, but you gave me such a big surprise, huh?"

Forrest smiled as he picked up the document from the floor. He responded, "It was just a joke between schoolmates. Brother, don't listen to their one-sided story."

He said the word "brother" very smoothly.

Suddenly, someone knocked on the study door. A beautiful woman in her thirties walked in,

carrying two glasses of milk and some pastries. "I noticed you're still busy working, so I made you some pastries. I'm not sure if they're to your taste."

Sylvia was a middle-aged woman, but she had taken excellent care of her skin, so she looked to be

in her early thirties at most. She had a gentle expression and the unique charm of a woman from Jadence. She had seductive, foxy eyes which Forrest had inherited.

The arrival of Sylvia made the unsettling atmosphere even more tense Ethan never hid his hatred toward her.

"Who let you in? Get out!"

Sylvia did not lash back at Ethan Instead, she tenderly said, "Did Forrest do something wrong again? Forrest, kneel down and apologize to your brother, quick"

Forrest furrowed his brow and lowered his gaze before quietly looking at Sylvia, noticing there was a hint of pleading in his mother's eyes.

Forrest licked his lips and gave a sarcastic laugh before kneeling down in front of Ethan

Sylvia turned around and said, "Ethan, Forrest has kneeled down. He knows he's in the wrong He's still young and immature. Please forgive him this time

Ethan scoffed, "You two are indeed mother and son, both so used to kneeling down Looking at Forrest, he continued, "Since you like kneeling so much, get lost and kneel down outside You're only allowed to get up once this matter is resolved"

Sylvia walked forward to support Forrest, "Forry, listen to your brother"

Forrest had not spoken a single word since Sylvia came in He stood up and immediately left the room as Sylvia followed behind him.

After the study door was closed, Sylvia looked at Forrest with pity "Sorry I'm so useless and made you feel like you were in the wrong."

Forrest finally spoke, "It's okay, just go back to your room. I'll find a way to deal with this"
Sylvia assured him, "Don't worry, Owen isn't home today, so I'll accompany you "
"What can you do by staying here?"
Sylvia tried to respond, but instead had to cover her nose and mouth as she turned her head to the side and started coughing
"Have you taken your medicine?" Forrest asked, concerned.
Sylvia had suffered from asthma ever since the incident back then, but as long as she was careful,
it rarely flared back up.
"Don't worry, I've taken it."
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it rarely flared back up.

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Chapter 254

At two in the morning, Forrest was walking back to his room as he noticed a faint light peering through the slightly open door, along with a soft weeping. Whoever it was, they were trying their best to retain control of their emotions but failing.

He raised his hand and was about to push open the door, but he thought better of it. Instead, he took out a pack of cigarettes from his pocket and walked out to the balcony at the end of the corridor before lighting up a cigarette.

He looked at the night sky with a solemn expression as he felt the cold breeze blow past him on the poorly lit balcony. Yet, he felt somewhat hopeful.

The next morning, the light from the sun shone into the room through the window.

Madelyn woke up early and went to water the plants on the balcony. She looked down at the street and watched the hustle and bustle of people going about their daily lives. She smelt a faint aroma of cooking but could not tell where it was coming from.

The people here lived tough and simple lives, but she was envious of their ordinary lives that were filled with love and warmth.

She cleaned the place today and mopped the floor. Whenever she felt agitated or bored, she would do house chores to calm her mind.

She knew Zach would stick to his word and come to pick her up in three days, but she did not want to leave. Although she had only been here for a short while, she was already getting used to life here. She wanted to keep renting this place, so that if she ever got kicked out of her home

again, she would still have a place to stay.

By twelve at noon, Forrest still had not arrived though he usually arrived by eleven-thirty in the

morning. After waiting past the expected time, Madelyn decided not to wait any longer.

She then went to the ski resort at The Enchanted Mountain on a whim.

The sunrise over the snowy mountain could be viewed from the top of the mountain at five or six

in the morning, and Madelyn had never seen that before.

She boarded a bus and after an hour's ride, she arrived at the foot of the mountain. She bought a

ticket before riding to the mountaintop by cable car with a group of people.

Incensed, Madelyn threw her phone onto the bed and lamented, 'Just when his grades are beginning to improve, he's starting to neglect his studies again. He's hopeless."

But soon, her phone vibrated with a message from Forrest.

Forrest: [I've finished the paper. The last math question is quite similar to a question from last year's university entrance exam. I've come up with two different solutions. Can I snap a photo of it and show you after I finish showering?]

Madelyn looked at the message as she shook her head. The text did not sway her, and she ignored the last part of his message. She replied: [Every night before you sleep, remember to memorize five Etlinish words. We'll have a quiz tomorrow.]

Forrest faintly smiled at his phone: [Okay.]

After a while, Ethan walked out of the study.

Ethan looked at Forrest coldly and said, "If you and your mother want to stay in the Arnold family, stay away from Madelyn."

"Well, I'm afraid you'll be disappointed. She's acting so clingy and attached to me, I can't shake her

off."

Ethan stood in front of Forrest and looked down at him. He scoffed, "What else can you do besides

resorting to dirty tricks? Just like your nasty mother."

Forrest lifted his head and stared defiantly right at Ethan. He mocked, "At least I got what I

wanted. But in your case...It seems like she doesn't even want to go anywhere near you."

Ethan suddenly raised his leg and stepped on Forrest's shoulder. He leaned towards Forrest

menacingly and said, "Do you really think you can compete with me? Loser!

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In twenty minutes, she arrived at the top of the mountain, where it was freezing cold, and

Madelyn shivered. The icy wind blew into her clothes as she carried her bag and went to the hotel to check in. After she took the room card, she wished she could just wrap herself entirely in her

scarf...

In another corridor, a lady with long hair wearing a white clock and sunglasses held onto a man's arm. When she saw him stop walking, she looked at where he was looking and asked, "Darling, what are you looking at?"

Zach coldly looked away without responding.

Madelyn sensed someone familiar was watching her, but when she turned her head to look, the corridor behind her was empty.

'Hmm, I must've been mistaken.'

When Madelyn got to her room, she quickly turned on the air conditioner and put on her thickest long, black cotton coat to wear. She casually tied her hair up and let it fall behind her shoulders. After a short while, someone suddenly knocked on her door. She then heard a man's voice call out, "Hi, Ms. Jent. I'm the personal skiing instructor that you hired. My name is Marcel Miller. Are you ready?"

Madelyn immediately pulled up the zipper and shouted, "Give me a moment. I'll be right there."

She did not expect the personal instructor, whom she paid fifty dollars for, to arrive so quickly.

The instructor was part of her hotel package. It was Madelyn's first time skiing, so hopefully having someone to guide her would prevent her from any major falls.

After Madelyn got ready, she grabbed her things and immediately walked out. To her surprise, the

man was muscular and tall, at least six feet two. His toned muscles were clearly visible even

under his windbreaker jacket.

Madelyn was about five feet five after wearing her skiing shoes, but she still looked very small

standing next to him.

Chapter 255

The skiing area was a few minutes' walk behind the hotel. After Madelyn changed into the skiing gear, she hesitantly used the ski poles and slid clumsily.

Marcel said, "Don't worry. Just move with confidence and try to control the rhythm of your movements. I'll catch you if you fall."

Madelyn had never done any extreme sports before this, so naturally she felt somewhat nervous. Even with protective gear on, she was terrified of falling, but she was looking forward to skiing. She wanted to be like the people down there sliding gracefully down the slope, but she did not dare to even move...

Marcel walked beside her and taught her how to control the snowboard. He said, "Stop thinking about how painful it'll be if you fall. Otherwise, you won't learn."

"Okay.'	•
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She clenched her teeth and started to learn. However, after half an hour passed, she still had not gotten the hang of it, while the eight year old boy nearby had already gotten used to it.

There was also a delicate-looking girl nearby who had fallen countless times and had even thrown a tantrum at her instructor. She had actually come with who Madelyn assumed was her boyfriend, but he had already slid down the slope in his ski gear on his own.

"Dad, look, that woman is so stupid! I've already got the hang of it, but she still hasn't." That boy

pointed at Madelyn, laughing and making fun of her with no hesitation.

His father immediately covered the boy's mouth as he lectured him, "Don't be so rude. Quick,

apologize to that woman!"

Madelyn was offended. 'Woman? I'm just an eighteen-year-old girl, and he called me a woman?

How rude!'

Madelyn gave a faint smile as she said, "Kid, hasn't your dad taught you to keep your mouth shut if you have nothing nice to say? Be careful, or your mouth will rot, and all your teeth will fall out!"

It seemed like the little boy believed her warning and instantly broke into tears. His father could

not console him no matter how he tried...

Madelyn knew it was time to leave the scene.

"Mr. Miller, let's go to the other side!"

"Sure."

Madelyn believed that if that little kid could pick up skiing, she could too. Though most people were at the slope, there was a flat surface at the top for beginners. The instructor was patient, as most men are with pretty ladies, especially since Madelyn had the figure and appearance of an international movie star.

When the delicate-looking girl saw Zach return, she pushed her ineffective instructor away and went up to Zach.

She said, "Zach... Can you teach me? This idiot can't even teach me anything. What kind of an instructor is he? Can you stay with me, Zach? I'm scared, but with you by my side, I'll have nothing to worry about."

Upon hearing that familiar name, Madelyn stopped in her tracks.

She thought, 'Zach? Why's he here?'

Madelyn did not dare to think about the relationship between Zach and the woman. She

immediately lost interest in skiing after she heard his name.

Marcel supported her as he asked, "What's wrong?"

Madelyn responded, "Nothing. I can't seem to get the hang of it. I'll try again tomorrow."

"Sure, what time tomorrow? Tell you what, why don't we exchange phone numbers? If you want to



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1/2
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"Sure, what time tomorrow? Tell you what, why don't we exchange phone numbers? If you want to

ski in the future, you can look for me anytime. I'll even teach you for free."

Madelyn nodded, "Okay."

Chapter 257

Julia realized she had misspoken She broke the awkward silence as she said with a smile, That's right You shouldn't be in a relationship when you're in school. You should focus on your studies now" Her tone clearly showed that she was terrified of Zach too





up, "You're

Julia then walked Madelyn to the elevator. After that, Madelyn politely said goodbye to Julia.

As soon as the door of the elevator closed, Madelyn's smile disappeared. She put her hand over her pounding chest and breathed a sigh of relief, leaning against the elevator wall.

She felt very uncomfortable just being in the same space with Zach, let alone having to eat with him. She would not be able to take it if she had to stay any longer.

Julia returned to the table and sat down, happily enjoying the dessert. Suddenly, she thought of something and put down the dessert spoon before asking, "Zach, before this, I was worried that your family might not like me... We've been dating for so long. When are you going to introduce me to your family?"

"You? Are you worthy?" A hint of fierceness flashed past Zach's eyes, and his tone was extremely harsh. Julia was terrified.

Usually, when they were alone, Zach would stare blankly at her. He also often asked her to make some strange facial expressions, as if he was making her imitate someone. However, Julia did not dare to ask or say anything.

He always told her that her eyes were beautiful.

When Zach was with Julia, he looked emotionless most of the time, with only the occasional

gentle look. She had never seen him look so frightening.

Julia was so scared that she did not dare to talk, and her face turned pale.

She thought, I'm indeed unworthy. I had inappropriate thoughts about Zach today because of

what Madelyn said just now. I thought Zach really liked me...'

Chapter 258

Julia did not come from a prestigious family background. A year ago, her father had borrowed money from a casino's loan shark because of his gambling addiction.

When he could not repay the loan, he had used her to repay his debt. She was sold to the

underground club of Supreme World to work as a hostess.

She accompanied guests to drink but she did not engage in sexual activities for money. One time, a guest went berserk and dragged her into a private room, trying to rape her.

As she was escaping, she met Zach.

After Zach helped her and learned of her situation, not only had he not looked down on her, but he had even supported her to continue her education. At that time, she had already dropped out of school to earn money. Without Zach, Julia would not have her current life, nor would she be able to study peacefully.

Madelyn was packing up and getting ready to leave the hotel. When she went to the front desk to check out, the receptionist told her that she could not check out due to a natural disaster. Due to heavy snowfall last night, a snow avalanche occurred on the mountaintop, and the snow had

blocked off the roads.

The power supply to the cable car was cut off too. Due to the major avalanche, several nearby areas were experiencing power outages.

Currently, the hotel was using emergency power, which would only last for about eight hours.

The relevant emergency workers had all arrived to help the hotel and those who were trapped in
the cable cars.
It seemed like everything was going wrong for Madelyn today. After meeting Zach, she
encountered a series of unfortunate events.
It was unclear when the road would be accessible again, and Madelyn had not brought many
clothes with her.
She returned to her room.
As soon as she opened the door, a hand from behind suddenly pulled her close. She was then
pushed forcefully, her back, against the door. When she realized what happened and saw the
1/4
She forced out a nonchalant expression as she looked at the person in front of her. Now that they were alone, she did not need to pretend they were close siblings.
Madelyn said, "Why'd you leave your girlfriend and come over? Won't she be mad?"
When Zach had touched her just now, Julia had looked like she was going to kill her. Madelyn did not want to be seen as a rival in love.

She wondered, 'Hmm... How did Zach know I'm staying here?'

Zach looked at the suitcase she was holding. He frowned before looking right into Madelyn's eyes, as if he was looking deep into her soul. He suddenly lifted his hand and tried to touch her cheek as he

asked, "Madelyn, are you jealous?"

Madelyn did not allow it to happen and moved her face to the side. Upon hearing his ridiculous claim, she just chuckled softly without speaking.

She pondered, 'Jealous? What's he thinking?"

She dragged the suitcase past him, put it to the side and just ignored him. She took her phone out and saw there was no signal, so she could not make any calls. It seemed she could only wait for the road to be cleared before she could leave this place.

Zach was staring at her. She looked at him from the corner of her eye as she said, "Why are you still here? I want to rest."

"Don't you want to ask something?" Zach walked closer to her.

She responded coldly. "It's your relationship, and it's none of my business. I have no right to ask. anything."

Madelyn could not stand being in the same space as him. The idea that he might have been intimate with a woman a few hours ago before coming here made her feel extremely disgusted.

'Whatever. If he wants to stay, I'll just let him stay.' She told him, "Remember to close the door when you leave."

She then took out a book about psychological healing. The doctor at the hospital had told her that she was suffering from moderate depression, so if she could not feel better from the medication. he encouraged her to read more to ease her mood.

She sat on the couch and removed her shoes before placing the book on her knees and turning to the page she had stopped at previously.

Only after Zach left could Madelyn finally relax completely. As long as he was around, she could never have any peace of mind.

After half an hour, someone knocked on the door. As Madelyn opened the door, she saw a waiter standing by the door holding a variety of desserts.

"A gentleman asked me to deliver these to you."

Chapter 259

Madelyn coldly said, "I'm sorry. I don't know any gentlemen here. He might've mistaken me for someone else."

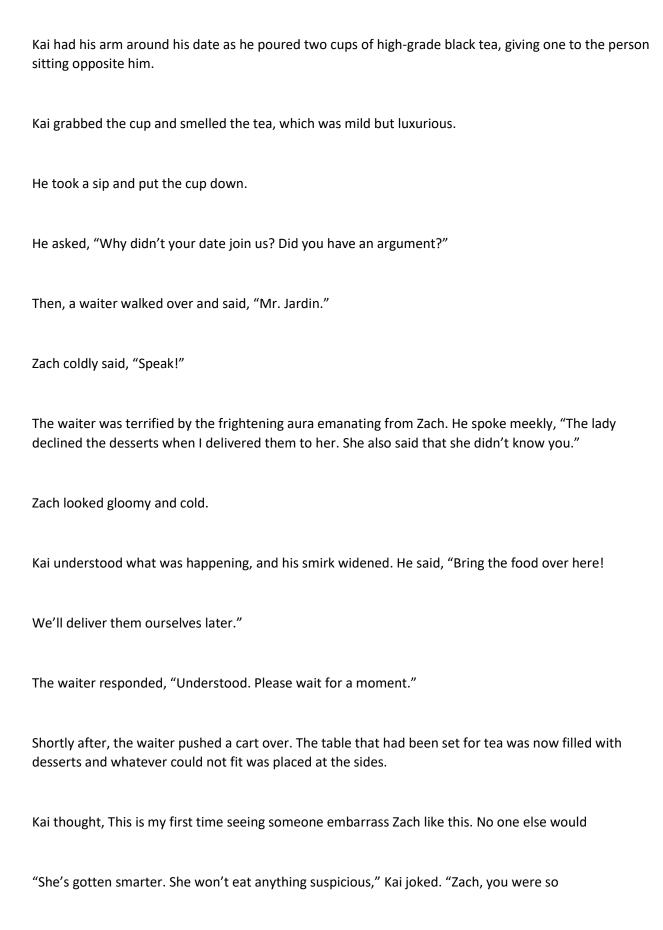
The waiter explained, "It's the gentleman who sat at the same table with you today."

Madelyn firmly responded, "I'm sorry, I don't know him. Please take it back."

Upon seeing her being so firm, the waiter did not bother her any further.

Madelyn closed the door and pressed the "do not disturb switch.

At the twelfth-floor bar's scenic viewing platform, Kai said, "I brought you here to enjoy the snow and relax. Why do you look so upset?"



determined before this. I thought you'd hold out until Hayson kicks the bucket, but I didn't expect you to soften toward her so quickly. Stop wasting your effort. There's no turning back from what you've done. Is Madelyn Jent really worth all this effort?" Zach's eyes looked gloomy as he said, "Mind your own business!" He then uncrossed his legs and left irritably. Indeed, Madelyn did not dare to eat any suspicious food. She had learned her lesson. She took a nap. When she woke up, it was already around si in the evening. She got up from bed and went to the restaurant for dinner before going to soak in the hot spring. When she returned to her room and switched on the lights, she was shocked by the man sitting on the couch. She remembered closing the door properly when leaving her room, so she wondered how he had gotten in without the room card. Madelyn snapped, "This is my room, Zach! Who let you in?! Get out!" There were also some desserts on the coffee table in front of him She pondered, 'Aren't those the ones the waiter brought over just now?'

"Come here!" he ordered, totally ignoring her words.

Madelyn subconsciously took a step back as she was scared. She knew him too well, and knew he

was angry right now. She was too terrified to imagine what he was going to do to her.

She quickly ran out in a panic and pressed the elevator button to go down.

The next second, she felt a sudden pain in her scalp...

She felt her hair being grabbed. She struggled and shouted for help, but in the end, she still could not run away from Zach. He dragged her back into the room.

Chapter 260

Madelyn could still feel the burning pain on her scalp as she fell onto the sofa.

She immediately struggled to get up, but Zach immediately pushed her back down.

"Why did you run away when you saw me? Are you still trying to run away now?" Madelyn saw he

was smiling menacingly, like a bloodthirsty demon.

"What the hell are you doing?!" Madelyn huddled in the corner of the couch. She looked terrified.

Zach casually picked up a box with a white, beautiful, small cake in it. He then sat beside

Madelyn and opened it. He said, "Madelyn, you love desserts, right? Let me feed you some."

Zach grabbed the spoon and took a small piece of cake before putting it in front of Madelyn's

mouth. Madelyn's eyes were red, "What kind of drug did you put inside it this time?" She watched his reaction, waiting for his response. Madelyn lifted her hand and slapped away the spoon. She said, "I bet you poisoned it. Get lost!" She pushed him away and could not help but start sobbing. As soon as she tried to get up, Zach suddenly reached over and gripped her neck. She could feel his sturdy chest against her back, and his body temperature was very hot. He intentionally moved closer to her. Madelyn struggled, "Zach, let go of me!" "Are you really so afraid of dying? Didn't you say you weren't afraid of it before this, huh? I still don't feel like doing anything drastic to you yet, so you might suffer a little less if you listen to me. П He stretched his hand towards her. Madelyn instinctively avoided it in fear.

Zach fixed her hair he had messed up when he grabbed it just now. When he brushed the strands

of her hair aside, he saw that the skin had turned red.

Madelyn had no idea what he was trying to do. She remained stiff and did not dare to move, nor did she respond when she felt the gentle rubbing on her head. Zach slapped her before feeding
her a slice of cake.
Madelyn thought, 'He always does this. Does he still think I'm the same kid I used to be?'
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An hour later, Madelyn disdainfully frowned when she saw him feed her another piece of cake. She said, "I don't want to eat anymore."
She vowed to herself, From now on, I won't eat cakes anymore."
Her show of obedience seemed to have no effect on Zach. He made her eat five cakes, far beyond her limit. Her stomach churned and she felt nauseous.
Eventually, Zach loosened his grip and let her go.
He said, "Would you like to take a shower now, or should I?"
His tone was terrifyingly calm.
Madelyn was shocked. Her heart was pounding as she responded in an agitated tone, "This is my room. I don't want to stay here with you! Please leave!"
Zach casually finished the remaining half of the cake, then stood up and unbuttoned his suit before throwing it onto the sofa After that, he removed his belt and pants without even glancing at Madelyn.
She immediately turned around, not wanting to see.

"If you want to stay here, I'll leave this room to you," she told him. "I've asked and there aren't any available rooms. If you want to leave, go ahead," he said as he went into the bathroom. Madelyn scolded, "You're shameless!" When Zach went to take a shower, Madelyn took the opportunity to go downstairs to ask the receptionist. Indeed, there were no available rooms. Due to the heavy snow blocking the road, some tourists were sleeping on makeshift beds in the hotel lobby because there were not enough rooms for them. They were all shivering with cold. Madelyn disappointedly went back up to her room. Zach still had not come out of the bathroom. Madelyn thought, 'I guess he probably won't leave even if I ask him to." She took out a blanket from the cabinet and spread it on the couch. 'He definitely won't want to sleep on the couch." She heard the shower stop running, and Zach walked out wearing a bathrobe.

Madelyn said without looking at him,	"The road will be cleared	ed tomorrow. You can	sleep on the bed
tonight and I'll sleep			

on the couch