

Revenge Of The Rogue Heiress

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Bradley was speechless, his face livid with anger. He pointed at Dexter, who remained calm and composed, but after a long while, he couldn't utter a single word.

"Do you have anything else to say?" Dexter asked lightly. "If not, I'll head back to my room."

Bradley waved his hand in resignation. "Forget it, just go."

Dexter immediately stood up and left the study. A while later, the door to the study opened again, and Laura walked in.

Noticing that Dexter wasn't in the room, she walked further in and asked, "Honey, have you sorted things out with Dexter?"

Bradley sighed and shook his head, "I brought up the idea of helping Evangeline find a partner, and although he didn't oppose it, he said that if he couldn't bear it, he'd end his own life. How can I possibly introduce someone to Evangeline now?"

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Laura's expression changed. She hadn't realized Dexter's dependence on Evangeline was so that he would say something like that.

"How did it go on your end? If Evangeline agrees, we need to tell her not to consider finding someone for now," Bradley said.

Laura responded gloomily, "She didn't agree. She said she hadn't thought about dating or marriage, and she even threatened that if we forced her, she'd cut ties with us.

Bradley nodded. "That's great."

Laura frowned and asked with concern, "But if we let things continue like. romantic feelings for each other? What if something happens between them?"

what if they develop

"They're twenty years old, yet they're still inseparable almost every day. Their rooms are even connected. I'm worried..."

Bradley shook his head. "Let things run their course. We can't risk losing our son over this."

Laura looked conflicted. "But Evangeline has no social standing or family connections. If Dexter really chooses her, she won't be of any help to him. It's the worst possible option. Moreover, she's still our daughter in name. If they really end up together, it would ruin our reputation."

The more she spoke, the more distressed she became. Bradley sighed and said, "All of that only matters if Dexter is alive. If he doesn't even want to live, what's the point of worrying about any of this? Laura fell silent. Bradley continued, "Evangeline isn't as bad as you made her out to be. We watched her grow up. Even though she's straightforward and doesn't understand the art of flattery or the intricacies of business, she has a good character and treats Dexter well."

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"And she's not entirely without value. She has high combat ability and can protect Dexter, ensuring he won't fall victim to any schemes."

"In a family like ours, danger is always looming. Having someone by your side who can ensure your safety is more valuable than anything."

"If someone had been there to protect Dexter seventeen years ago, he wouldn't have been kidnapped and spent seven years suffering in the outside world."

Remembering the past, Laura felt a wave of pain, her eyes turning red.

Dexter was her and Bradley's only child. When he was kidnapped at just under three years old, they were thrown into despair and cried every day.

Her prolonged search for Dexter, combined with her overwhelming grief damaged her health to the point where she can no longer bear children. Dexter became their only child.

Now, they were terrified of anything happening to him.

As a result, over the years, they had done their best to fulfill any requests Dexter made.

Laura wiped the tears from her eyes and said in a choked voice, "But Evangeline is too unforgiving of wrongdoing and intolerant of even the smallest mistakes. No matter how close someone is to her, if they make a mistake, she holds a grudge.

"If the mistake isn't too serious and the person is close to her, she might give them one or two chances. But once they cross her line, she treats them like a stranger or even an enemy.

"We're her adoptive parents, and we only wanted to introduce her to some potential partners, yet she calmly said she'd sever ties with us.

"She's too cold-hearted. If she and Dexter end up together and Dexter ever makes a mistake or does something to upset her, she won't make an exception for him either. She'll distance herself from him, maybe even treat him as an enemy..."

Evangeline actually had friends growing up. She was beautiful and good at fighting, which attracted other kids. But children are often mischievous and make mistakes. Whenever they did, Evangeline would cut ties with them immediately. Apologies didn't work; if they pestered her, she'd beat them until they were too scared to come near her.

Laura knew that Evangeline's attitude was a result of growing up in harsh conditions from a young age, and it was this very attitude that had helped her survive.

But this kind of personality wasn't suited for life in high society or the business world.

and When dealing with people from high society, where interactions are often marked by pretense diplomacy, and in the business world, characterized by deceit and scheming rivalry, people must wear masks and engage in feigned cordiality while exchanging toasts. They had to keep smiling and act friendly with the person who had stabbed them, as long as there was still mutual benefit. Evangeline would never be able to do that. She was intolerant even of her family, let alone of

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outsiders.

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Bradley said, "Given how dependent Dexter is on Evangeline, he won't do anything to make her angry enough to sever ties with him. Stop worrying

Laura gritted her teeth and said, "Everyone makes mistakes in life. Dexter might not make any now, but that doesn't mean he won't ever.

Bradley looked at her and asked seriously. "Do you want to lose Dexter now?"

Laura didn't reply, her dignified, elegant face flushed with frustration.

She knew that if she and Bradley interfered in Dexter and Evangeline's relationship, there was a high chance Dexter might be unable to cope and could end his life.

If they didn't interfere, at least Dexter would be safe for now.

"Fine, let's just leave it be. As long as I see Dexter living well before I die, I won't ask for anything else, Laura said, resigned.

When Dexter returned to his room, he opened the door connecting it to the other room.

Evangeline had also returned to her room. She was looking for clothes, preparing to take a bath.

When she heard the door open behind her, she glanced back briefly before returning her focus to searching for clothes.

"Eva, what did Mom say to you?" Dexter asked as he approached her.

Evangeline answered honestly, "She wanted to introduce me to some potential partners, but I refused. I told her that if she forced me, I'd cut ties with them and leave so that they would have no right to interfere with my life."

Dexter chuckled. "Good job, Eva. If you ever leave the family, I'll leave with you."

Evangeline raised an eyebrow. "This is your home. Would you really be willing to leave?"

Dexter replied earnestly, "Wherever you are, that's where my home is."

Evangeline glanced back at him. Dexter, in a cheerful mood, said, "Wait a moment, Eva. I'll go run. the bath for you."

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Evangeline did not refuse Dexter's kind gesture. She understood Dexter well; if she declined, he would be unhappy, as if he had suffered a great injustice. After Dexter finished running the bath, she entered the bathroom.

The bathtub was filled with water and scattered with rose petals, while snacks and drinks were placed on a nearby counter, showing considerable thoughtfulness. Evangeline rinsed herself first before soaking in the bathtub and eating.

When she finished and came out of the bathroom, Dexter was still in her room, and the room was

filled with sleep-enhancing incense.

She walked to the bed, lay down, and said to Dexter, "Go back to your room. I'm going to sleep."

Dexter glanced at the bothersome wall with a deep, thoughtful look and said, "Eva, let's knock down this wall"

"Don't even think about it. Go back to your room now. I'm going to sleep. Evangeline refused without hesitation and even gave him a nudge with her foot to urge him out.

Dexter reluctantly went back to his room.

Evangeline didn't go to sleep immediately. Instead, she took out her headphones, opened her phone, and secretly watched videos until late at night.

In the following days, Evangeline and Dexter continued to go out and enjoy various activities to relax and unwind.

Laura and Bradley had not brought up introducing Evangeline to any potential matches again. In fact, Laura had even changed her stance, telling Evangeline that marriage was not necessarily a good thing and that she could remain single for as long as she wanted. She even said that as long as both Evangeline and Dexter were healthy and safe, marriage was not a concern.

Evangeline was surprised by this change in their attitude, but she didn't ask for the reason. After all, it was good news for her that they had given up on finding her a partner.

Soon, it was time for William's ninetieth birthday celebration.

As William was elderly and it was not suitable for him to be burdened, the celebration was held at his own home rather than at a hotel, to avoid the hassle of traveling back and forth.

The Rouse family, being a prestigious and well-established family, had a large manor in the flourishing part of Lyrendia.

The manor included a grand old mansion that William, being nostalgic, couldn't bring himself to

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have demolished.

Surrounding the old mansion were newly built villas, as luxurious as palaces, with one designed specifically for hosting events.

The birthday banquet was held in that villa.

All the influential families of Lyrendia had sent representatives to attend.

By the time Evangeline and Dexter arrived, many guests had already arrived. Some were strolling around the manor, while others mingled in the banquet hall.

Many families had sent younger members to attend, likely hoping they would make connections with influential people or meet potential romantic partners. If they found someone they liked and whose family background matched, a marriage alliance could be arranged.

The Johnson family was one of the top prestigious families in Lyrendia, so many people knew about Dexter and Evangeline.

Their arrival drew everyone's attention.

Upon seeing them, people couldn't help but show captivated expressions.

Evangeline wore a fitted blue-gray evening dress adorned with tiny diamonds, which sparkled under the lights as she moved.

The dazzling dress didn't overshadow her own brilliance. Her stunning features, enhanced by makeup, were striking and captivating. But her gaze was aloof and dignified, showing no hint of worldly or trivial traits. Instead, she had an aura of untouchable grace.

Especially noticeable were her well-defined arms, which, though slender, were muscular and seemed formidable, deterring anyone from approaching her inappropriately.

After watching her performances on two outdoor variety shows, the people present had no romantic interest in her.

Though beautiful, she gave off an impression that she might suddenly start crawling on all fours or give them a hard slap at the slightest disagreement.

They didn't even dare to entertain explicit thoughts about her. Before such ideas could form, her intimidating presence and weird behavior had already invaded their minds, making it impossible to imagine anything explicit.

Dexter, in a well-tailored suit with a tie that matched Evangeline's dress, appeared even more refined and elegant.

Soon, some people came over to greet them. "Evangeline, I've watched both of your recent variety shows. You were amazing, especially in Xtreme Survival. You brought honor to our country! You're now my top idol!"

And me too, I watched your show as well. Evangeline, you're incredible!"

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"Evangeline, can we add each other on WhatsApp? I'm interested in combat arts too and would love to have a chance to discuss it with you."

Dexter smiled gently and said, "I'm sorry, Eva has social anxiety disorder. She doesn't like making friends and is afraid of interacting with strangers. Please keep your distance from her. Don't scare.

her.

The few people were taken aback and thought, 'Evangeline has a social anxiety disorder? She seems quite the opposite! Her combat ability is so impressive that it's hard to believe she would fear social interactions. After following her live broadcasts for so long, we never noticed that she has social anxiety disorder.

"Exactly, I have social phobia, so please don't get too close. It scares me." Evangeline nodded seriously.

The guests were left speechless. With her saying so, they had no choice but to back off.

They shifted their focus to Dexter. Someone said while smiling. "Mr. Johnson, are you representing the Johnson family alone today? It's rare to see you at public events. Are you planning to take over the family business? How about we exchange contact information for future interactions?"

These people's real aim in approaching Evangeline was to get to know Dexter.

Although Dexter had not yet taken over the Johnson family business, he had attended some high- society events with his parents, as had Evangeline. These people had no direct interactions with the Johnson family, but they were all familiar with who they were.

They naturally knew that Evangeline was adopted while Dexter was the heir.

They admired Evangeline but were more interested in connecting with Dexter, the future head of the Johnson family.

"Eva, they are so scary." Dexter took Evangeline's hand and hid behind her. However, being taller than Evangeline, he could hardly hide..

Evangeline patted the back of his hand and then looked at the crowd of eager onlookers. "My brother is timid and especially shy around strangers. Don't get too close or look at him so eagerly, as it might frighten him. If you scare him into illness, I won't let it go easily."

The guests were once again left at a loss for words. As they were about to say something, Evangeline said, "We are here to celebrate Mr. Rouse's birthday so let's not cause any trouble that might affect the celebration."

The guests exchanged glances and, ultimately, had to retreat reluctantly.

After moving a distance away, they began to discuss in low voices.

"Is Dexter the only heir of the direct line of the Johnson family? But with him like this, he's not fit to take on the Johnson family's responsibilities."

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"I agree. He doesn't even handle basic social interactions well. If he takes over the family business, how will he manage?"

"The Johnson family is flourishing now, so everyone is eager to befriend him. But when his family declines and he needs to beg others, let's see how he manages."

"I think the Johnson family will fall under his leadership."

"Let's wait and see. When the Johnson family falls, they won't be so arrogant. We actively sought to establish connections, but they treated us with such disregard. They are really ungrateful." "They'll have to swallow their pride and beg us sooner or later."

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Avangeline and Dexter, both trained in combat arts had excellent hearing. Even from a distance, they could hear the conversations of the people and them

However, they didn't react and paid no mind to what those people were saying

I was just idle chatter, not enough to hold a grudge.

www.

As long as they weren't spreading malicious rumors taking any actions against them. Evangeline and Dexter wouldn't target anyone just because of a few negative remarks.

"Evangeline is way too arrogant. She's adopted, but she acts like she's some high and mighty young lady of the Johnson family. Who among us doesn't have a more noble background than hers? It's one thing for Dexter to ignore us, but what gives her the right to be so dismissive?"

"We said we admired her, and she actually thinks too highly of herself."

"It seems like the Johnson family doesn't value her otherwise, they wouldn't have let her return to the Gallagher family or allowed her to enter the entertainment industry. She really doesn't know her place. She's so arrogant, not even considering how she'll manage without the Johnson family as her support

"What kind of decent girl would go on a variety show with a bunch of men anyway? The live broadcast was cut off a few times during the show. Who knows what really happened"

Dexter stopped in his tracks and turned to look at the group of people. Evangeline was forced to stop as well. She grabbed Dexter's wrist and whispered, "Tonight is Mr. Rouse's 90th birthday. Don't cause any trouble. Let's deal with them after the banquet."

Dexter withdrew his gaze and smiled. "What trouble could I cause! I was just looking around"

Evangeline took him by the hand and led him to a resting area to sit down.

"I want some mango juice. Could you get me a glass, Eva?" asked Dexter.

"Sure, you sit here, and I'll go get it for you," replied Evangeline.

After watching Evangeline walk away, Dexter took out his phone from his pocket and sent a text to Wesley: [Alvin Levy, Marcus Simmons, Julian Knowle, Eric Carr, Brian Guerrero, Nancy Peterson Expose their families' scandals. If there's anything illegal, send it directly to the police]

After sending the message, he calmly put his phone away.

If they liked gossiping about others so much, surely they would gossip themselves.

mind being the subject of some

Evangeline quickly returned with a glass of mango juice and a plate of fruit.

The two of them sat there, eating and waiting for the banquet to begin, without mentioning the

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earlier incident.

In less than half an hour, the people who had been gossiping about Evangeline started receiving phone calls. Their expressions changed dramatically, and before the banquet even began, they hurriedly left. Many people at the venue noticed this and were puzzled as to why these people would suddenly leave.

They came to the birthday party on behalf of their families. Why did they leave before it started?

With the Rouse family's significant status in Lyrendia, how could they not worry about offending them?

Suddenly, someone started sharing news they found on their phone, and soon the word spread like wildfire. At first, people were whispering, but eventually, everyone was openly discussing it.

"Alvin's sex video with his stepmother was sent to his father. Now his dad is chasing her with a knife..."

"Marçús had affairs with his three aunts, and now all three of his uncles have gone to his house and beaten his parents within an inch of their lives..."

"Julian forced an underage boy and even recorded a video to blackmail him..."

"Eric embezzled public funds and has been reported to the police..."

"Brian has driven under the influence more than thirty times in five years, fled the scene over ten times, and it's all been exposed. He's already been reported to the authorities..."

"Nancy isn't even the biological child of the Peterson family. To protect her position, she found her parents' real daughter first and sold her overseas. Now, no one knows how the real daughter is doing... While it was not uncommon for wealthy families to have secrets, the fact that so many were exposed at once shocked everyone. Secrets from several prominent families were exposed at the same time-this was certainly more than just a simple coincidence. People began to remember that these individuals had spoken poorly of Dexter and Evangeline

earlier.

While there was no direct evidence linking Dexter to the exposure, the timing was suspicious. They had just gossiped about Dexter and Evangeline, and soon after, all of them were hit with scandals. This inevitably led to further speculation.

Everyone looked at Dexter with complicated expressions. The Johnson family's influence was truly extraordinary-they even managed to dig up such well-hidden family secrets. Now, people couldn't help but wonder if the Johnson family had similar information about their own families. A chill ran

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down their spine. They looked at Dexter with a mix of awe and fear. It seemed likely that from now on, no one would dare to speak ill of him and Evangeline again. This little incident didn't cause much disruption to the banquet.

Soon, the members of the Rouse family arrived. William, supported by two younger relatives, stepped onto the stage that had been set up for the occasion.

Evangeline recognized the young man on William's left-it was his grandson, Mark Rouse.

William was already ninety, yet his grandson was only in his twenties, which was quite an age gap..

It was said that William had married and had children early, having his first child before he turned

twenty.

But when he was forty, his family was targeted by enemies, and his wife and children were all killed. He remarried and had children later.

Then his son and daughter-in-law died in an accident, leaving only his grandson, Mark.

Evangeline's gaze then shifted to the man standing to the right of William, a hint of confusion in her eyes. She thought, Arthur... What is he doing here? And why is he on stage with William? Evangeline wasn't

the only one curious about Arthur. Many others were intrigued as well. Arthur didn't carry himself like a bodyguard or attendant, so what was his connection to the Rouse family?

At that moment, someone handed William a microphone. He took it, his voice old but steady as he said, "Thank you all for coming to my birthday celebration. If there's anything we haven't done well, please forgive us.

"On this happy occasion, I have one more thing to announce..." William grasped Arthur's hand, his aged face filled with emotion and pride.

He declared forcefully, "The man beside me is my eldest grandson who went missing twenty years ago. I've finally found him and brought him back home!

"His original name was Arthur Rouse, but he later changed it to Arthur Ferdinand. I'm sure many of you have heard of him. Regardless of what name he goes by, he is and always will be a member of the Rouse family!"

In fact, the Rouse family had found Arthur some time ago, but he had been reluctant to return and acknowledge his roots.

The crowd was stunned by William's announcement.

"Arthur Ferdinand? The new richest man in Hofcaster, the self-made legend? I've heard of him. My company even works with his Ferdinand Group, but I've only ever dealt with his assistant. I've never met him. I can't believe he's the eldest son of the Rouse family."

"No wonder he was able to expand the Ferdinand Group to such a large scale in such a short time. It turns out that he is a Rouse. With the Rouse family's support, it all makes sense now..."

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William's face was filled with pride as he continued. "My eldest grandson is the one who resembles me the most. Whether in his iron-fisted methods or his business acumen, he's surpassed me in every way. Before I found him, he had already built the Ferdinand Group from scratch.

"I asked him to return to the Rouse family, but he refused. I even tried to suppress his business to force him back, but he never compromised. Instead, he withstood the pressure and made his business grow even larger.

"My feelings for him are a mix of guilt and pride! I hadn't tried to suppress him back then, perhaps the Ferdinand Group would have been even more prosperous than it is today."

The crowd was shocked by William's words..

They had always thought that Ferdinand Group's rapid rise was thanks to the support from the Rouse family. But the reality was far different. Not only did the Rouse family not help out, but they also actively tried to hold Arthur back.

Arthur's expression remained calm, as if he was just there to do a job and nothing more concerned him.

William continued, "I'm at an age now where I don't have many years left..."

The crowd quickly interjected. "Mr. Rouse, don't say such ominous things. You may be ninety, but you look healthier than many of us in our fifties or sixties. You'll definitely live for several more decades!" "That's right. With today's rapidly advancing technology and medical improvements, in a few years, there might be medicines to prolong life. Living to one hundred or two hundred years will be a breeze. Today is your 90th birthday. You shouldn't say such inauspicious things."

William raised his hand to stop them. "If I could live longer, it would be a good thing. But at my age, I should be prepared for the day I don't wake up.

"So, while my mind is still clear, and since so many people are here today, I have something to.

announce.

"I declare that my eldest grandson, Arthur, will be the next heir of the Rouse family!"

This announcement caused an uproar among the guests.

Although Arthur was a Rouse family member and undoubtedly capable, he had lived outside the family for most of his life and had only recently returned. On the other hand, Mark had been raised in the Rouse family and was personally nurtured by William.

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Everyone had assumed that Mark would be the heir of the Rouse family.

They didn't expect Arthur, who had just returned, to steal the position and couldn't help but wonder whether Mark could accept this fact.

Mark's face was dark and sullen, but he remained silent with his eyes lowered.

Arthur, however, frowned in displeasure..

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He thought in anger, I only agreed to attend the birthday, not to return to the Rouse family as an heir. He didn't even ask for my opinion before making the announcement.

Arthur said displeasedly, "We'll talk about this later. For now, let's just enjoy your birthday party."

Seeing that he was unhappy, William could only appease him, saying, "Alright, since you don't want to talk about this now, we can discuss it later."

The crowd couldn't help but take another look at Arthur.

The Rouse family was one of the top families even in the whole country, yet Arthur was so disdainful of being its heir.

After William finished speaking, he announced the beginning of the banquet. The guests extended their well-wishes before heading to the dining hall.

The gifts had been delivered upon arrival and were recorded by staff, so guests wouldn't have to carry them around.

As Arthur descended from the stage, he caught a glimpse of a familiar face out of the corner of his eye in the crowd.

Because it was just a fleeting glance, he didn't see clearly. He stopped and looked in that direction again.

By then, the figure had turned away, and he could only see her back—a slender, graceful back that stood out in the banquet hall..

Arthur frowned, thinking, I must have been mistaken. How could that possibly be Evangeline? She is so fierce; there is no way she would dress so femininely or wear such high heels. That is just not her style. Besides, how could she be at this birthday banquet? He retracted his gaze and walked off the stage.

After having their meal, Evangeline and Dexter didn't linger. They said their goodbyes to the host and made their way out.

At the entrance, Evangeline noticed that Arthur was also about to leave. William, leaning on his cane, grabbed Arthur's arm tightly and choked out, "Arthur, can't you return? I'm old and don't have many days left. If you leave now, who knows how many more times I'll see you in my lifetime..."

Arthur's voice was indifferent. "It doesn't matter if we don't see each other again. After all, we didn't see much of each other in the past twenty-odd years."

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William's voice was filled with sorrow. "Are you still grumpy? I know you suffered a lot outside all those years can make it up to you by giving you the Rose family... Abandoning you back then was a last resort. Please try to understand"

Arthur said, "Since you abandoned me and chose Mark back then, continue placing your hopes on him. Don't expect me to come back and work for your family."

He pushed William's hand away and was about to leave when he heard footsteps approaching from behind him. He glanced back and was shocked to see who was coming. He had been mistaken earlier? But why is she here?

He thought, Evangeline? It's really her? So, I have. And who is the man beside her? She is holding onto his arm.

William also noticed Evangeline and Dexter. His fate quickly transformed from guilt and sadness to a kind, smiling expression. "Dexter, Evangeline, are you done eating already?"

Dexter politely responded, "Yes, Eva and I have had enough. We have some matters at home, so we'll take our leave now."

William smiled. "Okay, I won't keep you then. Please send my regards to your grandfather and parents."

Dexter nodded.

Arthur snapped out of his shock and walked up to Evangeline, asking in surprise, "Evangeline? What are you doing here?"

Evangeline smiled. "My brother and I are here for Mr. Rouse's birthday on behalf of our parents. I didn't expect to see you here. You really surprised-me."

Suddenly, Arthur remembered Evangeline once mentioning that her sister had adopted her and a younger boy, who came from a very wealthy family, and that after the boy was found by his biological family, they brought her home as well.

He hadn't expected that the family who adopted Evangeline was a well-known prestigious family in Lyrendia.

"Arthur, you know Evangeline?" William asked curiously, glancing between them.

Arthur quickly composed himself and gave a noncommittal nod without offering any explanation.

Dexter glanced at Arthur before gently nudging Evangeline. "Eva, I'm feeling a bit unwell. Let's go home."

Evangeline immediately turned to him, her face full of concern. "What's wrong? Where are you feeling unwell?"

Dexter replied, "My stomach hurts a bit."

Evangeline said, "It must be due to the cold juice you drank. Bear with it for now. I'll make you some soup to soothe your stomach when we get home."

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She turned to William and Arthur and said, "We'll be on our way now." Then she left with Dexter.

Because she was unaccustomed to wearing high heels, she walked arm-in-arm with Dexter for support.

Arthur stood still, his gaze dark as he watched them leave.

When they were far away, he turned back to William and said, "I think we can try to mend our relationship. I'll stay here for a few days."

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William's eyes lit up instantly, his excitement barely contained. "You are really willing to stay?"

Arthur nodded. "Yes"

William's hands trembled with excitement. "Good, good. This is your home. Now that you are willing to be here, I would die without regrets even if it were to happen tomorrow!"

Fearing that Arthur might change his mind, William immediately took his hand and led him towards the grand old mansion, saying. "You should live in the old house with me. We haven't seen each other for so many years. Let's work on strengthening our bond.

"I've kept your room just as it was when you were young. The layout and furnishings are exactly the same. I've had it cleaned every month, so it's very clean and ready for you to move in directly." Arthur's eyes darkened a little. He had left home at the age of six due to an incident. Before his disappearance, he had lived in the grand old mansion with William. He had been smart and well-loved by William and his parents.

He had also loved them very much. He had always felt happy and considered himself to have a perfect family. When he and his younger brother were kidnapped by the Rouse family's enemies, he was seriously injured while protecting his brother. But during the rescue, seeing his injuries were severe, his grandfather and parents probably thought that saving him was futile and only rescued his brother. They even disregarded the threat from the kidnapers and ignored the fact that he was still in their hands, and gave the order to use force against them.

He sustained half of his injuries from the Rouse family's actions against the kidnapers.

The kidnapers, enraged, took him with them and jumped into the sea.

Fortune favored him; he survived and was washed ashore over 62 miles away, where he was rescued and received timely medical attention.

When he regained consciousness, he heard the police at the door of his hospital room saying they had found his family and that his family was on their way.

He immediately pulled out his IV and climbed out the window to escape.

Even though he suffered a lot afterward, he didn't stop avoiding the Rouse family's search.

Even when he saw the news of his parents' assassination, he felt nothing and had no intention of returning.

Arthur came to his senses, withdrew his hand from William's grip, and said lightly. "I'm used to living in a modern villa and don't want to stay in the old mansion."

William's expression froze, and a trace of pain appeared in his eyes. William's expression froze, and a trace of hurt appeared in his eyes. But he didn't dare to say anything and could only go along with Arthur's wishes. Then I'll have a room prepared for you in the villa to the left of the mansion. The

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nearby villas are occupied, but that one has a room available."

Arthur had no objections, as long as he wasn't forced to go back to his original residence and relive the past.

William personally led Arthur over and instructed someone to get the room ready immediately.

After the room was ready, Arthur entered, closed the door behind him, and kept William outside, unwilling to engage in further conversation.

William stood at the door, sighing silently, and thought, 'Arthur holds a grudge for too long. Even after twenty years, he still bears such resentment.

"Don't be too upset, Mr. Rouse. He will understand your difficulties eventually. Your decision to give up on him back then was also out of necessity," William's assistant, who had been working for him. for years, said softly.

William shook his head and turned to go downstairs.

Inside the room, Arthur took out his phone, intending to have Gerald look into Evangeline.

However, after typing the message, he quickly deleted it and opened the chat window with Evangeline, deciding to ask her directly.

He texted: [Are you in Lyrendia lately? I'll be staying here for a while, but I'm not familiar with this place. Could you show me around?]

He waited for a while with no reply, and his heart started to race.

Evangeline had been cold towards him when he first developed romantic feelings for her, and if she sensed he still had lingering feelings for her, she would definitely avoid him.

He thought for a moment and sent another message: [I don't have any other intentions. It's just that I don't have any friends here and am not comfortable dealing with

help. If it's inconvenient for you, it's fine. I won't be disappointed angers, so I'm asking for your

motive

alright.]

as I don't have any ulterior It's just that you're the only person I know here, so I reached out. But if you decline, it's

[You haven't blocked me, have you?]

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Arthur waited for Evangeline's reply for a long time, growing increasingly restless.

He stared at the chat window for a long time, his eyes dimmer and dimmer.

Just then, he received a voice call on his WhatsApp. It was from Evangeline.

His heart skipped a beat when he saw the name.

Fearing she might hang up, he quickly answered the call.

"I was making soup for my brother earlier and didn't check my phone. I didn't block you." Evangeline's voice came through the phone.

Arthur tried to stay calm and said casually, "Well, I know. I'm not in a rush. I just type fast."

Evangeline asked, "Where would you like to go?"

Arthur hesitated and thought, 'Does this mean that she agrees to show me around?'

"You can't hear me?" Evangeline asked, puzzled.

Arthur came back to his senses and said, "Anywhere is fine. I just want to get familiar with the city."

Evangeline paused and asked, "Are you going to stay here often?"

Arthur replied, "Probably."

Evangeline said, "Alright, I'll contact you tomorrow after I wake up naturally. But my brother will be coming along"

Arthur recalled the man he saw with Evangeline at the banquet, and his gaze darkened.

He thought, 'Am I being too suspicious? But I feel the man's eyes carried an expression of unclean intent as he looked at Evangeline.'

He asked, "Was the man who spoke on your end during the video call on the day you won, your brother?"

Evangeline chuckled. "Yes, that was him. He's a bit mischievous and innocent. He isn't very good with words."

Listening to Evangeline's affectionate and candid tone, Arthur felt a bit relieved.

He could tell that her feelings for her brother were solely those of affectionate care.

"Okay, see you

tomorrow."

"Alright, I'll hang up now." Evangeline ended the call and returned to the living room.

Dexter had already finished his soup. He looked at her and asked with a hint of unhappiness, "Who

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were you on the phone with? Why did you avoid nie? Is there something I'm not allowed to hear?"

Evangeline explained, "The person we met when we left the Rouse family. He will be staying here. for a while and asked me to show him around. I agreed to take him around tomorrow." Dexter's eyes darkened as he said, "He asked you to show him around, and you agreed? Why are you being so nice to him...."

Evangeline said, "He's a friend, and he's the one who brought back Naomi years ago. We shouldn't forget that favor."

Dexter muttered, "But you've already repaid him, and he also profited a lot from your appearance on the variety show this time." Evangeline lightly tapped his head and said, "Naomi's life is priceless. Even if we've repaid him before, we shouldn't forget his kindn Dexter snorted, obviously unhappy.

Evangeline said seriously, "Be good and don't throw a tantrum. Even though I have other friends, you are still the person I am closest to."

She knew that Dexter was actually very insecure and had an extraordinary dependence on her. Every time she grew close to someone else, he would become anxious and unsettled.

When they were taken in by Naomi during their childhood, Dexter was initially very resistant, fearing that with others around, she would become distant to him and he would no longer be the closest to her.

This fear stemmed from the psychological trauma he experienced as a child, which worsened over time due to a lack of timely counseling and treatment. Now, it was even more difficult to address his mental health issues.

Moreover, he himself was uncooperative with treatment, believing that he had no problems.

"Stop overthinking and go rest. Your emotions can also affect your health. If you're not feeling better by tomorrow, I won't let you go out with me," said Evangeline.

Dexter sulked and went upstairs dejectedly.

Evangeline followed him upstairs. After some rest and adjustment, her routine had normalized, and she got up at 6 a.m. the next morning.

Dexter also got up when he heard her moving around.

After washing up, he joined her for morning exercises in the manor.

Dexter's health was inconsistent; on good days, he could keep up with her exercise, but on bad days, even a few steps would leave him breathless. After exercising, they returned to the manor to shower and change

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[Have you gotten up? I'm about to head out. I'll pick you up for breakfast.]

Arthur quickly replied: (Okay, I'll wait for you.)

Evangeline put away her phone and went to Dexter's room.

Dexter had just come out of the bathroom, his hair still dripping with water.

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Evangeline said, "Why are you so slow in the shower? I've already finished showering and blow-drying my hair, and you're just done."

Dexter glanced at her and smiled. "I'm taller than you, so I need to wash more, which naturally takes a bit more time."

Evangeline was speechless. The next second, she slapped him on the head. If it weren't for being at home and the worry of hurting his face and having their parents see, she would have slapped him a few times across the face.

"Hurry up and get dressed. If you dawdle any longer, I'm leaving without you!" After saying that, Evangeline left the room and went downstairs first.

She waited downstairs for about ten minutes before Dexter came down.

Perhaps due to the rush, his hair was only half-dried.

Evangeline grabbed the car keys, and they headed out.

She drove to the entrance of the Rouse manor, where Arthur was already waiting.

Evangeline rolled down the window and nodded to him. "Get in. We'll go have breakfast first. My brother can't stay hungry for too long."

Dexter also nodded. Seeing the passenger seat occupied, he took the back seat.

As the car moved, Arthur observed Dexter through the rearview mirror. Dexter also watched him, and their gazes met in the mirror.

Arthur paused for a moment, then nodded slightly, and said, "I'm Arthur Ferdinand, a good friend of Evangeline's. She used to stay at my place when she was in Hofcaster

Dexter gave a faint smile, appearing harmless, but his eyes were icy. "I'm Dexter Johnson. Eva and I live under the same roof, even in the same room."

Arthur said, "You two have a close bond."

Dexter replied, "We're not actually siblings by blood."

Arthur said, "That's fine. Even if you're not blood-related, Evangeline treats you like a real brother. To her, bond matters more than blood ties."

Dexter's smile faded, and he looked at Arthur through the rearview mirror with a cold gaze.

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But in an instant, he returned to his indifferent demeanor and smiled faintly. "You seem older, and there's quite an age gap between you and Eva. You probably don't have many common topics to talk about, do you? If friends lack common interests, their relationship might fade."

Arthur said, "We do have common topics to talk about. My hobbies are the same as hers. I also enjoy crawling on the floor. Plus, I'm naturally talented; I make rapid progress after just one try. I can talk about this common interest with her."

Dexter was speechless. He glanced at Evangeline, feeling annoyed that she had taught others to crawl!

Arthur continued, "I can also be her punching bag. I'm particularly tough, so she can hit me to her heart's content without worrying about any criminal liability. You can't do that, right?"

Dexter proudly said, "She hits me every day. She just hit me this morning. Compared to outsiders, she values me more, which is why she prefers to hit me with full force."

Arthur went silent, thinking, 'Damn, I lost!'

Evangeline listened to Dexter and Arthur chatting amiably and felt pleased.

She thought, 'It's not easy for Dexter to talk so much with anyone other than me, and to be this happy while doing so. It seems that he really likes Arthur, which is why he talks so much with him. Although their conversation is a bit strange, Dexter's willingness to talk indicates a positive impression of Arthur. If it's someone Dexter is not interested in, he couldn't be bothered to engage

with them.

The car soon stopped in front of a five-star hotel, and the three got out of the car. As they were about to walk into the hotel, a familiar figure approached them and said, "Evangeline?!"

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Evangeline raised her gaze, her expression darkening immediately as clear disgust showed in her

eyes.

She frowned in disgust. "How unlucky, how can I still run into this idiot here?"

The person was actually Samson.

'Isn't the Gallagher family in Hofcaster? How did he end up in Lyrendia?' Evangeline wondered.

Samson's face stiffened when he heard Evangeline's words. His eyes instantly dimmed as he said sadly, "Evangeline, haven't you forgiven us yet? We've realized our

mistakes. Why won't you give us a chance? Aren't we family? Can't you be a little more lenient with family? Dad and Eddie have already paid with their lives. Jasper lost a leg, and Mom feels a great deal of guilt towards you. She's mentally unstable and often dreams of apologizing to you...

Evangeline's gaze was icy as she stepped up and slapped Samson across the face. Samson was thrown to the ground, his head ringing.

Before he could react, Evangeline kicked him and punched him while continuing to kick. "Are you out of your mind? I've warned you many times. Don't mention we're family when you see me. Otherwise, every time I hear it, I'll hit you. Are you addicted to being beaten or what?"

Samson held his head in his hands, screaming in agony.

Dexter also stepped forward and helped Evangeline beat him.

Not to be outdone, Arthur joined them.

Beaten by the three of them, Samson was utterly unable to fight back and left in a pitiful state.

It wasn't until he could no longer move that Evangeline stopped. Dexter and Arthur ceased their assault as well.

Evangeline, still angry, kicked Samson once more and warned, 'If killing weren't illegal, I'd really want to kick your head to a pulp to see if it's filled with shit. Not only are you dumb, but you also can't understand human language. Get lost, and don't come near us again!"

After saying that, she stepped on him and entered the hotel.

Dexter and Arthur followed suit, stepping on him as well.

Samson lay there, his eyes rolling back. 'It's one thing that they stepped on me, but why did they have to stomp on me? It feels as if my ribs are on the verge of breaking, he thought.

At this moment, a hotel security guard approached and politely asked, "Sir, would you like us to call an ambulance and the police?"

The security guard's eyes revealed disdain and disgust when he saw Samson's face clearly. Samson

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had been wearing a hat and mask earlier, so the guard hadn't recognized him, but now, with his hat and mask knocked off, the guard instantly recognized him as Samson, who had embarrassed himself on a live variety show two months ago,

Although the security guard harbored considerable disdain for Samson, as a hotel employee, he could not ignore a guest and had to inquire.

Samson shook his head and said weakly, "No need.

He struggled to get up from the ground and looked dejectedly at Evangeline's retreating figure.

He thought, "We are family; why have we become like enemies? We have already paid the price and realized our mistakes. We want to make it up to her. Why wouldn't she give us a chance?" Samson was set to leave for a consultation at the hospital, but now, with his injuries, he could only return to the hotel.

Back in the hotel room, Bethany saw him covered in bruises, hurriedly walked up to him, and asked, "Sam, what happened to you? Why is your face bruised and swollen? You were beaten? Who did it?" Jasper was also in the room, but ever since he lost a leg, he had been listless and immersed in his Lown sorrow, so he didn't notice Samson's injuries.

Samson and Bethany had brought him to Lyrendia to seek professional counseling for him at a local hospital and to inquire about custom prosthetics.

Samson lowered his gaze and forced a sad smile. "I ran into Evangeline downstairs. I just wanted to greet her, but she started hitting me as soon as she saw me..."

When Bethany heard Evangeline's name, her body tensed instantly, and her expression froze. Many complex emotions surged in her eyes and were eventually drowned out by tears.

Her feelings towards Evangeline were complicated. On one hand, she felt guilty about Evangeline. On the other hand, she harbored some resentment towards her. If it weren't for Evangeline, Eddie wouldn't have died.

As Bethany thought of Edward, she was once again heartbroken, and tears uncontrollably streamed down her face. She covered her mouth, sobbing silently.

After a long while, she managed to control her emotions and choked out, "Is Evangeline still in the hotel? I want to see her."

Samson, feeling low, said, "She just entered the hotel not long ago. She's probably here for breakfast, but I don't know which floor or room she's in.

"Mom, maybe you shouldn't go see her. She's still holding a grudge against us, sees us as enemies, and doesn't consider us part of the family at all. If you go to see her, she probably will ignore you and might even beat you..."

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Bethany said, "No matter if she acknowledges me or not, she's my daughter, and I want to see her.

"Apply the medicine yourself. If the injuries are too severe, go to the hospital. I'll wait at the hotel entrance for Evangeline."

Then she quickly left the room before Samson could stop her.

Bethany waited at the hotel entrance for over an hour before she saw Evangeline walking out of the hotel with two tall men. Excited, she hurried over and grabbed Evangeline's hand.

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Bethany was so emotional that her eyes were filled with tears and her hand was trembling as she held onto Evangeline's.

"Evangeline... Ouch..." She had just begun to speak when Evangeline slapped her across the face. At almost the same moment, Dexter kicked her, sending her flying. Bethany had only managed to call out Evangeline's name before she was interrupted, slapped, and kicked, ending up sprawled on the ground in a sorry state.

Seeing that both Evangeline and Dexter had taken action, Arthur realize he needed to do something to fit in. So he went up and kicked Bethany as well.

Bethany rolled down the hotel steps, her head spinning from the impact.

"That was close; she almost said something that would disgust me. Luckily, I reacted quickly," Evangeline said with lingering fear. "Let's hurry and leave before she feels better and makes us sick again." The three of them left the scene quickly. In their haste, they didn't watch their steps and accidentally stepped on Bethany.

Bethany was in so much pain that her eyes rolled back. It took her a while to recover, and then she lay on the ground, crying bitterly while covering her face.

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She thought, "When Evangeline was pushed off the stage that time, we were in a hurry to Meghan and inadvertently stepped on Evangeline as she was in our way. Was she as heartbroken then as I am now? I deeply regret it. I've recognized my mistakes and want to make it up to Evangeline. But she won't even give me a chance. I am so useless, unable to do anything right, not even to bring my own daughter back to me.

The hotel security guard arrived late again and politely asked, "Ma'am, would you like me to call an ambulance or the police?"

Bethany sat up with difficulty and shook her head in tears.

After leaving the hotel, Evangeline continued driving and showed Arthur the main recreational areas and major shopping centers in Lyrendia.

Due to the traffic jam, it took them all day to barely finish their tour.

For dinner, they went to another hotel where Evangeline ordered a variety of seafood and many

other dishes.

While peeling shrimp for Dexter, Evangeline said with emotion, "This might be the last time we can enjoy seafood without worry. With Japrium dumping nuclear wastewater into the sea, we'll have to worry about radiation affecting the seafood in the future."

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Arthur remarked, "Yonorem quite attentive to current affairs."

He glanced at Evangeline, who was naturally peeling shrimp for Dexter, and his gaze darkened at

little.

Her care for her non-blood-related brother was excessive.

Arthur hesitated for a few seconds and then, feigning casualness, placed a peeled shrimp on

ine's plate, saying, "This is good. Try it."

Dexter, with a faint smile, said to Arthur, "Eva doesn't like seafood. Didn't you know?"

Arthur's expression froze, and he said apologetically. "Sorry, I didn't know you didn't eat seafood. You ordered so much, so I thought you liked it."

Evangeline replied, "Dexter likes seafood, but I usually don't let him eat too much. Considering that safe seafood might become scarce in the future, I onlered more for him to enjoy today.

and apathetic

Arthur lowered his gaze, his expression darkening. He thought, 'She is indillere liy

toward everyone and everything else, but she dotes on her brother, who isn't related to her by blood, far too much.'

Throughout the meal, Arthur found everything tasteless. Moreover, watching Dexter, too weak to even lift his fork, rely on Evangeline to peel shrimp and crack crabs for him made the food utterly unappetizing. After dinner, Evangeline and Dexter took Arthur to explore the night market.

To avoid being recognized, Evangeline wore a mask and hat.

Dexter bought two fox masks from a stall-one for Evangeline and one for himself.

Seeing them both wearing the same mask and isolating Arthur, Dexter was satisfied and smiled.

Arthur glanced at them and then bought an identical mask for himself.

Dexter looked at him coldly,

Arthur raised an eyebrow and said leisurely, 'I'm here to join you.'

"Imitator," Dexter snorted coldly and led Evangeline forward.

Not far ahead, Dexter saw a stall selling glowing bunny ears and bought two, one for himself and one for Evangeline.

Evangeline asked, "Fox masks and bunny ears don't quite go together, do they?"

Dexter replied, "Mixing and matching is in style now."

Evangeline said, "Then add a bullhorn. I like bullhorns."

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She picked up a glowing bullhorn headband and put it on.

Then she used the horns to nudge Dexter.

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She didn't control her strength properly and ended up shoving Dexter back by about 3 feet.

Arthur couldn't help but laugh and teased, "You are too weak. No girl would like such a delicate man. right

Dexter's gaze turned cold, and he gave Arthur a frosty look. Before he could retort, Evangeline directed the bull horns toward Arthur and charged at him, saying. "Coming right at you!" Arthur staggered back several steps and, when he stopped. found himself knocked further than Dexter. He was dumbfounded.

Evangeline laughed heartily. This is so much fun!"

Dexter's eyelids twitched fiercely. He was too preoccupied with the situation to bother with mocking Arthur. He rushed to Evangeline, hugged her tightly, and said. "Eva, don't be impulsivel

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Evangeline bent over and elbowed Dexter away

Dexter let out a muffled grunt and took a few steps backward.

Arthur was right behind Dexter. Dexter hit him and they stepped back together. Then they both fell to the ground.

When they came back to their senses. Evangeline had already run away

Dexter said. "Evangeline, calm down! You will be detained if you disturb the social order?"

Dexter immediately got up and ran to chase Evangeline

It could be settled with money if they were on the beach, but now they were in Lyrendia and even downtown. There were police everywhere. They wouldn't allow the to settle everything with

money.

But Evangeline ran too fast. There were many people in the night market, and she wasn't very tall. so Dexter failed to find Evangeline.

-Dexter got a little anxious. He took out his phone and called Evangeline, but her phone rang in his pocket. Then he remembered that when Evangeline went to the Ladies, she gave her phone to him and then forgot to take it back. Dexter could only keep looking for her.

Arthur also stood up and started to look for Evangeline. He thought. Why did she suddenly go

After chasing for a while. Dexter suddenly saw a bunch of people gathered in front of him, and there was an uproar among them.

Although Dexter hadn't seen clearly what was in the middle, he had a bad feeling that it must have something to do with Evangeline.

Dexter quickly pushed his way through the crowd. As expected, he saw Evangeline, and the last thing he wanted to see. Several policemen surrounded her with sullen faces. The mask on her face had been taken off, and a group of people were taking photos of her.

Behind a policeman, there was a man who was crying.

It was a man in his twenties, with greasy short hair and a chubby figure. He was wearing a hat and T-shirt with a cartoon character on his upper body. But there was

nothing on his upper body. 1 one would go out without pants, so there was only one possibility.

Dexter's face darkened instantly. He thought. Why did she hit someone and even take off his pants?"

"Sir, you can't let her go. She must spend the rest of her life in prison! She ruined her reputation. How am I gonna face others afterward?" The man without pants pointed at Evangeline and said Chapter 139

angrily to the policeman.

The policeman looked at Evangeline and said sternly, "Why did you take off his pants and lift him up?"

Evangeline blinked and said innocently, "He kept following behind girls in dresses and taking upskirt photos. Since he liked looking at other people's private parts, I assumed that he also liked others to see his. So I gave him a hand.

"But I didn't expect him to be so hypocritical. He was really happy but pretended to be shy and even cried for help. He was just pretending to be pure and conservative."

A trace of panic flashed in the man's eyes. He denied it angrily and loudly, "Stop slandering me! I didn't take any upskirt photos!"

"Sir, she is quibbling. You can't believe her!"

Evangeline said, "You can check his phone."

Suddenly, a beautiful girl suddenly shouted, "They were behind me when they started to quarrel just now. Before that, I had noticed that this man had followed me for a long while, but every time I looked back, he was looking at the stalls around him, so I thought I was overthinking. Did he take upskirt photos of me?"

"Give me your phone!" The girl rushed forward but was stopped by the policeman.

The policeman said, "Calm down. Come with us to the police station for investigation!"

Dexter did not stop them. He also took off his mask and went up to the policeman to explain that he was Evangeline's family member, so he wanted to join them at the police station together. "I'm also her family. I'll go with you." Arthur also stepped forward and stole a ride shamelessly.

When they went to the police station, the photos and videos of Evangeline taking off someone's pants and lifting him up in a night market in Lyrendia had already gone viral

on the Internet. It also became a trending topic on various platforms, causing a stir online.

[Evangeline is really awesome. She either keeps silent or causes breaking news. I never expected that a female star would have a trending topic about taking off someone's pants at the night market] [How shocking it is. She not only took off that pervert's pants, but also lifted him up to show him. Damn!]

[He deserves it! Those perverts who secretly shoot people should be treated like this. They're so creepy and disgusting. We should know what they look like!]

I hope Evangeline won't be punished.]

[By the way, aren't you curious about Evangeline's two family members who came out of nowhere? They're so handsome! I need their information!]

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[I noticed them too, but I was afraid that others would call me an anthomaniac, so I didn't dare to say anything and just waited for others to mention them first. They are really handsome and have different styles. They're much better than those so-called top celebrities in showbiz!]

[I want all their information in three minutes!]

[They said they were Evangeline's family members, so they're her relatives, right? They can't have a relationship with Evangeline, can they? If no one clarifies it, I'll unilaterally announce that they are my husbands!]

Just when everyone was praising Evangeline for doing a good job as she cimated a bad guy and discussing who the two handsome guys around Evangeline were, a girl tweeted to condemn Evangeline. In order to attract attention, she even hired a lot of marketing accounts to retweet.

Because it was a hot topic, those marketing accounts were happy to do so, and they even took the initiative to pay to make this tweet the top of the trending topic.

The content of that tweet was as follows: [Hello, everyone. I'm the girlfriend of the man who got involved in Evangeline's incident tonight. My boyfriend is Jackson Hassan, a senior at Lyrendia. University. He has always been excellent in character and learning and helpful to others. His teachers and classmates all praise him a lot. He would never do such a bad thing as taking upskirt photos!]

[Evangeline deliberately insulted and slandered my boyfriend for hype. I hope netizens won't be used by her, and the police can do justice to my boyfriend! My boyfriend's mother passed out after seeing the public opinion on the Internet. Now she is waiting for an ambulance to pick her up. Evangeline harmed not only my boyfriend, but also my future mother-in-law. I hope the police will punish that vicious woman!]

Under this tweet, many students from Lyrendia University left comments: [Every student from Lyrendia University knows Jackson. He is a good person. It's impossible for him to take upskirt photos. Evangeline was slandering Jackson!]

Il support Jackson. Jackson's girlfriend is the most beautiful woman in our school. Why would he do such a thing when he has such a gorgeous girlfriend? Evangeline is so malicious!] [Jackson was the top student in the college entrance examination back then. How could such an excellent person do that?]

[Humph. Evangeline has entered showbiz since she was nineteen years old. People at that age should be in college. She didn't go to college but went to the showbiz. Is she jealous of Jackson' excellence and deliberately spreading rumors to slander him?]

Someone even posted photos of Jackson speaking at the university and helping people, as well as some award-winning certificates,

Jackson looked modest, courteous, and friendly though he was not good-looking.

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The netizens were stunned. They thought, "The evidence posted by the students of Lyrendia University seems to be true. Jackson seems to be really excellent, and his girlfriend is also very beautiful. He doesn't look like a person who would take upskirt photos at all. Did Evangeline deliberately slander him for hype?"

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[I've checked it Jackson was really the top student in the college entrance examination back then, and his grades have always been excellent. His family is not wealthy, but he often wins awards and uses scholarships to support his family. I don't believe that such an outstanding person would do anything morally corrupt.]

[Well, when Evangeline participated in Xtreme Survival, I already said that she was psychologically distorted, violent, and had a bad character. I suggested the police rest her after she returned home to avoid hurting innocent people. But a group of foolish fans cursed me at that time, so I didn't dare to say anything else. Now it proves that my judgment was right. She's already hurting innocent people!]

[I also suggested the police shoot Evangeline but got cursed by her fans. Now I'm so happy to see her exposed. I hope the police will not let her go!]

[Jackson is so outstanding. He will definitely become a pillar in the future. The contribution he can make in the future is much higher than that of an actress. Evangeline must be punished severely! We can't let a future pillar down!]

[Exactly. I support the severe punishment of Evangeline. Our country has lost a lot of outstanding talents. We must not let them disappoint in our laws and make contributions to foreign countries because of this kind of thing.

[If anything wrong happens to Jackson's mother, Evangeline should pay with her life!]

Public opinion on the Internet began to turn upside down. The opinions praising Evangeline completely disappeared. Those who believed in Evangeline and remained neutral dared not speak for fear of being scolded. They could only wait for an official announcement from the police.

Many fans of Evangeline believed that she would not wrong innocent people. Evangeline had been slandered so many times before, and she turned out to be innocent every time in the end. So this time, they also believed in Evangeline.

They were all holding themselves back and paying attention to the official account of the police in Lyrendia, waiting for them to issue an announcement.

This incident had aroused so much public opinion. No matter what the result was, the police would definitely issue an announcement. Otherwise, it would be difficult for them to calm down the public opinion and the police would also be questioned.

At the police station. After Evangeline and the others were brought to the station, the two parties were given separate statements. Evangeline's statement remained unchanged. She was still very sure that she took off Jackson's pants and lifted him up to let others see him after seeing him take upskirt photos of other girls.

Jackson also insisted that he did not take upskirt photos. But when the police asked to check his phone album, he firmly refused. He said that it was his privacy, and before he was convicted, not one could violate his privacy. He even called a lawyer on the spot.

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His refusal had already made police suspicious, but they couldn't check his phone without evidence

to convict him.

It became a stalemate. The police took turns interrogating him, but Jackson didn't cooperate.

Until noon the next day, when the police were considering whether to let Jackson go first, Dexter suddenly submitted some evidence to the police.

Those policemen were shocked and immediately reported to their superiors. They quickly set up an investigation team to conduct an in-depth investigation of the evidence, and summoned Jackson's girlfriend, a dozen students from Lyrendia University, and school leaders.

Dexter applied to take Evangeline out for dinner, and the police did not stop them, because Evangeline hadn't made a big mistake and had left her address. It was not difficult to find her.

Seeing that Evangeline could leave, Jackson also wanted to leave, but the police stopped him. They even sent people to keep an eye on him in case he escaped.

Jackson was so angry that he asked with fury, "I am the victim! Why can't I leave when Evangeline can? Did you take a bribe from her?"

A policeman scolded him harshly, "Mind your words! Slandering the police is punishable!"

"Someone has submitted evidence of your crime, and we are investigating it. Once it is verified, we will formally arrest you and file a lawsuit!"

"If you have committed any crime, you'd better turn yourself in now. Then you can at least get a lighter punishment!"

Jackson's expression changed in an instant, and he began to panic.

But soon he calmed down and said loudly, "Don't intimidate me! I won't be fooled. I've never done anything illegal. I'm the victim, but you've been keeping me here for so long and even have let go of the person who hurt me. You must have taken benefits from Evangeline. When I get out, I will definitely expose you and sue you!"

The policeman shook his head and said, "You have the right to sue us, but you don't turn yourself in and even try to quibble and slander us. After we investigate it clearly, you will be severely punished!" The policeman didn't say anything more and left the interrogation room after asking someone to keep an eye on him.

Meanwhile, Evangeline, Dexter, and Arthur drove to a nearby restaurant for dinner after leaving the police station.

Before the dishes were served, Evangeline looked at Dexter and asked curiously, "What evidence did you give to the police?"

Dexter smiled and said, "Last night, after you told me that the person was taking upskirt photos, I

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asked Wesley to look into him. Usually, people who take risks to take upskirt photos outside must do it for benefits. They will post their videos or photos on some websites for others to pay to watch. Or if someone pays and offers themes, they will take the order and do it according to the requirements of the theme.

Wesley and others searched all night and found something useful.

"Jackson has been making profits by taking upskirt photos for three years. He has earned millions of dollars and caused a large number of victims.

"He has also done some other crimes which are really bad. If nothing goes wrong, he will spend the rest of his life in prison."

Evangeline was a little surprised. "Wow. He's really a serious criminal."

Dexter smiled and said, "You're amazing, Evangeline. You caught a criminal by chance. This steak is your award."

The dishes had already been served. Dexter handed Evangeline a steak.

Evangeline knocked on his head and said, "Kid, don't talk to me like coaxing a kid."

Dexter said, "Don't you always talk to me like that?"

Evangeline said. T'm older than you. Of course I can."

Dexter said. "You are only two months older than me.

Evangeline said, "So what? You can only be my younger brother all your life."

Dexter snorted and stopped bickering with her.

The scene of Evangeline having dinner in the restaurant was quickly photographed and posted on the Internet.

Since last night, all the netizens had been discussing about Evangeline taking off a talented student's pants and slandering him about taking upskirt photos. Everyone was cursing her. After the video was posted, there were more abuses on the Internet.

[What are the police doing? Evangeline took off Jackson's pants and spread rumors to ruin his reputation. Shouldn't she be punished? How could she be released so soon?]
[There must be something dirty behind it! They should look into the police station in Lyrendia!]

[She has already been released? I thought she would be detained for at least a few days. I underestimated Evangeline's background. I've lost confidence in our law.]

[I'm so disappointed. The victim hasn't been released yet, but the perpetrator is already free.]

[How can we believe in the country and the law?!]

III

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[Go to hell, Evangeline! If I were in that neighborhood, I would do something to her to uphold the justice!]

SEND GIFT