

Spoiled 1451

Chapter 1451: So You Were There At That Time

Charlotte Thompson was well aware of the online comments about her and Riley Thompson.

Therefore, she did not want to stir up too much controversy and trouble; her current plan was to leave the venue immediately.

Justin Battleson, of course, knew what Charlotte had in mind, and after hearing her words, he nodded towards her.

"Isn't there a charity auction later? You're leaving without attending?"

Annie Anne, hearing Charlotte's words, couldn't help but speak up from the side.

Annie's words reminded Charlotte, making her hesitate for a moment in thought.

It wasn't that there was something special Charlotte wanted in the upcoming auction, but all the items in this auction were jewelry and the designers of the auction pieces were almost all present at the gala.

One of the items in the auction was a piece of jewelry designed by Charlotte.

Introducing one's own design is almost an unwritten rule in the design industry, and if she left early, it might affect the item.

Moreover, all the proceeds from the auction would be donated to XTZ, and Charlotte certainly hoped her item would fetch a higher price, in order to help more people.

While Charlotte was hesitating, she spotted Riley Thompson walking over towards them from afar.

"Miss Thompson, what a coincidence; I didn't expect to see you at this gala." Riley lifted her skirt and walked briskly over to Charlotte, showing her a bright smile.

However, this reminded Charlotte of the friction they had before in the production crew.

Now that Riley was standing right in front of her, Charlotte's desire to leave was completely dashed.

Compared to Riley's enthusiastic greeting, Charlotte's expression appeared rather indifferent.

"Miss Riley, long time no see." Charlotte wore a perfectly measured smile, but subtly kept her distance from Riley.

Now standing together with Charlotte, Riley had drawn the attention of everyone present.

Riley seemed unconcerned with the attention, continuing to chat with Charlotte on her own accord.

"Back in the production crew, I was thinking of inviting Miss Thompson to dinner after filming, but didn't expect an accident like the prop collapse to happen."

Recalling the accident, Riley's expression turned somewhat gloomy.

After hearing Riley's words, Charlotte couldn't help but purse her lips.

She certainly hadn't forgotten the accident that injured Justin Battleson.

But before Charlotte could say anything, Annie Anne, standing next to her with arms crossed, looked at Riley and said, "Oh? So, Miss Riley, you were present at that time."

Annie's words made Riley pause for a moment, with an inexplicable look directed at her.

"Annie, what do you mean by that? Of course, I was there; otherwise, how would I know about the accident?"

Facing Riley, Annie also curved a smile at her, though it did not reach her eyes at all.

Although Annie and Charlotte had reviewed all the footage from the cameras at the time, it looked like the prop had fallen naturally.

Despite the lack of evidence, Annie still instinctively suspected Riley, who hadn't appeared in the initial footage.

"So, where exactly were you standing when you saw the accident?"

Chapter 1452: Pretending to be Pitiful to Set the Pace

Annie Anne's tone was very light, with her head slightly tilted, giving off a somewhat nonchalant demeanor.

However, there was a hint of interrogation in her words.

Facing Annie Anne's scrutinizing gaze, Riley Thompson tightened her grip slightly, but instead of answering Annie's question, she countered with her own:

"Annie, are you suspecting that I knocked over the props?"

There was a trace of hurt in Riley's eyes.

Initially, everyone was very surprised to see Riley proactively greet Charlotte Thompson.

On the internet, there were many comparisons between Charlotte and Riley. Moreover, encountering someone who looks so much like you in real life would likely make anyone feel somewhat awkward at first meeting.

However, to everyone's surprise, Riley and Charlotte chatted pleasantly, seeming very familiar with each other.

Just when everyone thought there was no more drama to witness, they heard Annie Anne's conversation with Riley, which immediately drew their attention.

At this moment, whispers among the crowd began to stand out amidst the music.

"What are they talking about now? What props fell over, an accident happened?"

"Didn't Riley and Annie Anne previously film the same TV series? Maybe it has something to do with events within the crew."

"But why hasn't the media reported anything about this?"

In fact, when Justin Battleson got injured on set, the director immediately blocked all information from going public, so that incident was never disclosed externally.

Now they could only guess a thing or two from Annie Anne and Riley's conversation.

"Annie, I don't know what I did wrong to make you suspect me like this, but regardless, you can't falsely accuse me without any proof."

Riley paused at this point, then turned her gaze to Charlotte Thompson's face.

There seemed to be a fleeting complex expression in Riley's eyes, but the change was so swift that Charlotte didn't catch it.

"Or is it that Miss Thompson, you also think I intentionally tried to harm you because I wasn't where you two saw?"

Upon hearing Riley's words, Charlotte's brow furrowed slightly.

She clearly hadn't said anything, but now Riley seemed to be setting the narrative.

Charlotte's silence looked like a guilty conscience to Riley, giving her enough confidence to immediately say to Charlotte,

"If I did anything before that made Miss Thompson and Miss Anne dissatisfied, I apologize here, but I also hope such accusations of framing won't appear again."

This solo act by Riley left the clueless onlookers with their own speculations, and naturally, the balance tipped in Riley's favor due to her one-sided story.

Charlotte looked at Riley in front of her, who slightly lowered her eyes, appearing to have suffered a great grievance in a delicate manner.

This made Charlotte chuckle to herself.

During their time in the crew, she didn't notice Riley's acting skills standing out, but now it seemed as if she had become a different person altogether.

"Miss Riley, the one slandering others is you."

Annie Anne fiddled with the ring on her finger, the silver band reflecting a faint gleam under the party lights.

"I didn't say anything, so where are all these words coming from?"

Chapter 1453: Sir, do you still remember me?

Riley was taken aback by what Annie Anne said.

She was just about to defend herself, but Annie Anne spoke first:

"I asked you about this incident, where you were at the time, simply because I was concerned if you were hurt. I was standing quite far away and yet got a scratch on my arm from the flying stone chips."

Annie Anne gazed into Riley's eyes, saying slowly, "I just didn't expect that because of my words, Miss Riley would imagine so much."

"I..."

Riley parted her lips, her face suddenly turning awkward.

Annie Anne shifted her gaze from Riley's face and slyly winked at Charlotte Thompson.

"Miss Riley, it was a pleasure meeting you here. If there's nothing else, I need to prepare for the upcoming charity auction."

Charlotte smiled politely at Riley, and without waiting for her response, planned to leave with Justin Battleson and Annie Anne.

As Charlotte turned around, she heard Riley exclaim from behind.

"Sir, it's you!"

Charlotte took a deep breath, wondering what Riley intended to do next. But as she turned her head, she found Riley already standing in front of Justin Battleson, blocking his way.

"Do you remember me?"

This situation was completely unexpected for Charlotte, finally causing a ripple in her emotions.

But when Justin Battleson saw Riley in front of him, his brow furrowed deeply. Yet, he directly ignored Riley and grabbed Charlotte's fingertips into his palm.

"Why are your hands so cold? I'll have Michael Richard bring your coat."

However, Charlotte shook her head towards Justin, stopping his action.

"It's nothing, the juice earlier was cold, and I held it for a bit too long."

Charlotte replied softly, making Justin grasp her hand even tighter.

Justin and Charlotte interacted naturally and sweetly, completely ignoring Riley standing beside them.

Looking at Justin and Charlotte just a few steps away, Riley bit her lip, using all her strength to control her facial expression.

The person who once stood by Justin's side should have been her, the one receiving Justin's gentle treatment should also have been her.

Yet now Charlotte had taken everything that rightfully belonged to her, forcing her to stand here with a face remarkably similar to Charlotte's.

Riley felt the glances from those around her were also tinged with a bit of mockery, as if ridiculing her current overreaching position.

Her sharp nails dug fiercely into her palm, making her skin turn pale.

But Riley's expression remained unmoved. She bit her lip and once again spoke to Justin:

"Sir, do you remember me? At the bar last time, you drank too much."

And Riley's words were like a huge stone dropped into a calm lake, causing ripples to spread.

Charlotte turned her head towards Riley, and the sight of her staring at Justin's profile brought an oddly familiar feeling.

She felt as if she had seen such a scene somewhere before.

Finally, Justin turned his gaze to Riley.

This made Riley involuntarily excited, her eyes seemed to have flames dancing within.

She had waited for so many years to once again stand in front of Justin Battleson!

Chapter 1454: You're Still Holding My Hand

But the next words from Justin Battleson made the joy on Riley Thompson's face vanish instantly.

"Don't block the way."

Justin only spared Riley a glance before impatiently moving his gaze away.

He had no emotional reaction at all because of Riley's words and didn't even bother to ask who she was.

Because he simply didn't care about this matter.

In Justin's eyes, Riley was no different from a roadblock.

His words also sparked quiet ridicule from those nearby.

"I thought Riley really knew Justin, but it turns out she's just trying to make herself seem important. By that logic, I also know Justin, he just doesn't know me."

"I think if you actually tried talking to Justin, he might give you more attention since you don't look like Charlotte Thompson."

"You're right, seeing someone who looks exactly like your loved one would certainly be unsettling for anyone, wouldn't it?"

"I believe she is intentionally approaching Justin because she resembles Charlotte."

The mocking comments from around pierced Riley's ears word for word, making her face gradually turn pale.

Riley was seen gradually lowering her eyelashes, and when she raised her head, her eyes were already moist.

Everyone was still expecting to watch a good show, eagerly waiting to hear what Riley would say next, but she softly spoke:

"Sir, I was just recalling the last time we met at the bar; you were holding my hand the entire time."

Instantly, the crowd buzzed with Riley's brief words like a pot about to boil over.

Charlotte finally turned her gaze to Riley's face.

Charlotte knew exactly what Riley was talking about.

So the lipstick mark on Justin's shirt...

Charlotte's expression slightly darkened, but at this moment, she felt a gentle squeeze in her palm, and when she looked up, she saw Justin's cold profile.

"Miss, I would appreciate it if you'd clarify your words. Our meeting at the bar was purely coincidental."

At this point, Justin paused.

"However, you do remind me of something. I remember that floor in the bar should have been reserved by me. How did you end up there?"

Justin and Oliver Hudson liked to meet without being disturbed, so the floor at their usual bar would be reserved.

Because of this matter, there was a conflict between Justin and Charlotte, and Riley bringing up this issue reminded Justin of it.

How did Riley end up there?

Moreover, Justin vaguely remembered she seemed to have called his name.

With this thought in mind, Justin's gaze at Riley now held a hint of scrutiny.

But Riley's gaze was fixed on Charlotte's direction, observing Charlotte's reaction as she knew this would surely upset her.

Yet, Charlotte showed no change, while Riley remained stunned by Justin's questioning.

"I..."

Riley bit her lip. She couldn't admit she had used her appearance to fool the security outside, could she?

Her complexion worsened.

At the moment Riley was anxiously unsure of how to explain, Charlotte had already wrapped her hand around Justin's arm.

Chapter 1455: Still Feeling Uneasy

"Justin, perhaps your assistant mistook Miss Riley for me."

Charlotte Thompson's voice was soft, seemingly offering a plausible explanation to everyone present.

But who here isn't sharp enough to have already guessed some of the truth from Justin Battleson's inquiry?

If someone mistakes you for another, who would step up to clarify?

"Is that so, Miss Riley?"

Charlotte's gaze, with a hint of amusement, landed on Riley's face, making her feel extremely awkward.

"Ah... yes, I accidentally walked in myself."

Riley's expression was quite unpleasant as she forced a smile, her fingers on the hem of her dress tightening, wrinkling the exquisite, smooth fabric.

"I didn't expect to see Miss Thompson here today. Looks like the auction is about to start, so I'll head to the venue first."

Although Riley knew leaving now might make her a laughingstock, she really didn't want to stay a second longer.

"Goodbye, Miss Riley."

Charlotte politely bid farewell to Riley, but all Riley left her with was a hasty departing figure.

Charlotte took this moment to release Justin's arm.

Although Charlotte didn't show it on her face, she felt a bit uneasy inside.

Going out for drinks, only to meet another woman — a woman who looks quite like her.

Charlotte then turned to Annie Anne, stepping forward to stand beside her.

"The auction is about to start, let's go."

Annie was still gleefully watching Riley leave when she heard Charlotte's words and was about to agree.

Another voice suddenly interjected ahead of Annie:

"Miss Anne, finally found you."

Campbell Prickly walked over at this moment, a gentle smile on his face.

"Looking for me?" Annie blinked, puzzled.

"The auction requires partners for entry, so I came to find you."

With that, Campbell didn't wait for Annie to respond, letting her take his arm as he led her away.

Annie was initially startled by Campbell's action, but quickly caught up with his pace, waving back at Charlotte to signal her departure with Campbell.

However, after just a few steps, Campbell released Annie, giving her a slightly apologetic smile.

"Sorry for pulling you away so abruptly."

Annie indeed had been startled by Campbell's move, but didn't mind, shaking her head to indicate it was fine.

Unexpectedly, Campbell brought his fist to his lips and chuckled.

"I didn't expect Miss Anne to have such a... cute side."

"What?"

As she was tidying her hair, Annie looked up, a bit confused upon hearing this.

"Earlier, when Miss Thompson invited you to the auction venue, were you about to agree?"

Campbell's eyes slightly curved with the smile on his face, forming a pleasing arc.

"Is there any problem with that?" Annie blinked her eyes.

But Campbell didn't answer Charlotte's query, instead nodding towards something behind her.

Annie turned her head, not understanding.

Chapter 1456: Please don't be angry, okay?

Annie Anne saw Justin Battleson talking to Charlotte Thompson with his head lowered.

Immediately, Annie's eyes widened in sudden realization.

No wonder she felt as if a cold gaze had just landed on her.

Didn't Riley Thompson say those things just to stir up trouble between Justin Battleson and Charlotte Thompson?

If she agreed to Charlotte Thompson's request at this critical moment, wouldn't Justin Battleson hold a grudge against her?

When Annie Anne looked at Campbell Prickly again, her eyes were full of gratitude.

"But it seems like Miss Thompson and Mr. Battleson have a good relationship," Campbell Prickly said softly to Annie Anne as he withdrew his gaze.

"Yeah, their relationship is very good," Annie Anne said, curving her lips, though unaware that a hint of melancholy flashed in her eyes.

Coincidentally, this emotion was caught by Campbell Prickly.

"Doesn't Miss Anne have an enviable partner herself?"

But Annie Anne only laughed softly and didn't continue the topic with Campbell Prickly.

...

As Charlotte watched Annie Anne being led away by Campbell Prickly, she parted her lips but ultimately said nothing.

At this moment, a pair of arms wrapped around Charlotte's waist, pulling her into a broad chest.

"Charlotte."

Justin Battleson hugged Charlotte from behind, resting his chin on her shoulder.

"I really didn't know why I ran into Riley Thompson that day. When I first saw her, I did think it was you, but I immediately recognized that it wasn't you."

Although Justin Battleson had already explained this to Charlotte before, he naturally noticed her displeased expression and explained once more.

"It was really just a coincidence, I don't know why she was there, but nothing happened between us."

As he spoke, Justin's voice carried a hint of grievance.

"Nothing happened, yet there was lipstick on your collar. That's quite unexpected."

Charlotte spoke slowly.

Even though she had forgiven Justin for this matter earlier, being reminded of it again stirred up her jealousy.

"Charlotte, don't be mad, okay?"

Only in front of Charlotte would Justin display such a gentle side.

He quietly brought his lips close to Charlotte, finally placing a gentle kiss on her ear.

The slightly wet sensation on her ear made Charlotte jump in surprise, feeling a bit ticklish, so her shoulder instinctively jerked, accidentally knocking against Justin's chin, making him gasp in pain.

Charlotte quickly turned around to check on Justin's condition.

"Are you okay?" Charlotte blinked as she looked at Justin.

But Justin was holding his chin, looking at Charlotte pitifully, "Ouch, it hurts."

Then his gaze shifted slightly as he brought his face closer to Charlotte.

"Charlotte, what should we do?"

Seeing Justin's persistence, Charlotte reached out to push his face away, but Justin seized the opportunity to clasp her palm.

"Charlotte, how can I make you stop being angry?"

"Let go."

Charlotte raised her brow, and at this moment, the dissatisfaction in her heart had already dissipated without a trace.

Chapter 1457: No One Can Take It Away

Because, she trusts Justin Battleson.

However, upon hearing Charlotte Thompson's words, Justin Battleson shook his head.

Justin Battleson took Charlotte Thompson's hand and brought it to his lips, gently planting a kiss in her palm.

"I've only just caught you, how could I possibly let go?"

Justin Battleson's voice was gentle, yet his eyes were full of passionate love, making Charlotte Thompson's heart tremble.

"Stop it, let go, so many people are watching."

Feeling the eyes around her, Charlotte Thompson felt a bit embarrassed and tried to withdraw her hand, but Justin Battleson had no intention of letting go.

Instead, Justin Battleson's fingertips slowly slid down, dominantly entwining with Charlotte Thompson's fingers.

"It's best they all watch, to prove I belong to you, and no one can take that away."

Charlotte Thompson gave him a playful glare.

"Who cares about you."

Though she said this, the corners of Charlotte Thompson's lips gently curved into a smile.

Justin Battleson looked at Charlotte Thompson with extreme tenderness, but when she wasn't paying attention, he lifted his gaze, and the tenderness in his eyes instantly turned to indifference.

He looked around, making those with ill intentions look away.

Soon, the auction was about to begin, and Justin Battleson and Charlotte Thompson went into the venue.

The auction hall was very quiet, with only occasional whispers.

Charlotte Thompson looked down at the number placed on her seat, but her mind was on all the items that would appear at today's auction.

"What was the last item again..."

As Charlotte Thompson furrowed her brow in thought, footsteps sounded on the auction stage, and when she looked up, the auctioneer had already brought the first item onto the stage.

The first item was a Ruby ring, the final work of a renowned designer.

Although the event was labeled an auction, it was essentially a charity donation from everyone present.

Of course, Charlotte Thompson intended to participate as well; she was thinking about the items to find one that interested her to bid on.

After several rounds of bidding, the Ruby ring was bought by a wealthy businessman.

Next, various jewelry pieces were brought up for auction, all from famous designers, so they fetched quite considerable prices.

"Thirty-nine million eight hundred thousand, sold!"

The auctioneer struck the final bid, and everyone's eyes turned to the person who successfully bid on the jade bracelet.

Charlotte Thompson naturally looked over and found that the person was indeed Campbell Prickly.

At this moment, he seemed to turn and say something to Annie Anne beside him, making a surprised expression appear on Annie Anne's face.

But this interaction, seen by Charlotte Thompson, made her slightly furrow her brow.

Had Annie Anne and Campbell Prickly gotten that close?

As Charlotte Thompson was lost in thought, the auctioneer's voice softly came:

"The next item is designed by Miss Joy, named 'Tears of a Lover.'

Suddenly hearing her name, Charlotte Thompson blinked and raised her head, meeting the auctioneer's smiling gaze.

And at this moment, beside him was the necklace Charlotte Thompson had designed earlier.

Chapter 1458: Depends on Your Performance

Just seeing the necklace brought some other thoughts to Charlotte Thompson's mind.

This necklace was created when she was with the Thompson Family.

Initially, the diamond on the necklace was to be broken and divided, which many in the company felt regretful about.

It was evidently a gemstone with excellent quality, but unfortunately, a flaw appeared on it.

It's said that two gemstones of very high quality were initially found, intended to be made into a pair of accessories for sale. However, an accident occurred during the cutting process, causing a fracture on this one, which led to the other gemstone being sold to a buyer while this one remained unsold, eventually ending up being crushed and divided.

When Charlotte saw this gemstone, she immediately halted the cutting and made it into a necklace herself,

As for the flaw on the gemstone, Charlotte merely made a simple correction, which seemed like a tear mark, narrating its past experiences.

At the time, when she bought the gemstone at a high price, Henry Thompson was somewhat puzzled, and Charlotte recalled the answer she gave then.

"Perhaps I just didn't want this abandoned gemstone to forever fade into obscurity. Since they are already separated, why shouldn't it transform into something unique?"

Just as Charlotte's mind wandered momentarily, a slight itch on her cheek pulled her thoughts back.

The auction for the necklace had begun by this time, with the sound of bidding continuously ringing in her ears.

"What are you thinking about?"

Justin Battleson's fingertip gently glided over the skin on Charlotte's cheek, speaking softly as he leaned closer to her ear.

Charlotte shook her head with a smile: "Just recalling the reason why I first made this necklace."

Saying this, Charlotte directed her gaze towards the auctioneer. But when she heard the current bid, a hint of surprise crossed her expression.

"Why is the bid so high?"

Initially, Charlotte was a bit worried.

After all, the gemstone on the necklace has flaws and might not fetch a high price at auction. But in the brief moment of her distraction, the price had multiplied several times when she looked again.

"Perhaps someone genuinely likes it," Justin said softly.

"Or maybe Joy Designer's skills are extraordinary?"

Upon hearing this, Charlotte felt a bit embarrassed and gently tapped Justin's shoulder.

"Stop talking nonsense."

Justin, however, seized the opportunity to grasp Charlotte's wrist and planted a gentle kiss with a hint of laughter in his voice.

"How could it be nonsense? Miss Thompson, you are the chief designer at my company; many of the collaborations depend on you to be completed."

Upon hearing this, Charlotte raised her eyebrows at Justin: "If I suddenly leave your company, wouldn't it go bankrupt?"

"Therefore, Miss Thompson, I plead with you to be merciful and pity me; don't leave me, alright?"

Only in the presence of Charlotte would Justin reveal his softer side.

Yet, while Justin spoke softly, his eyes were firmly fixed on Charlotte, carrying an undeniable authoritative presence.

"It depends on your performance," Charlotte smiled as she curved her lips.

During their conversation, her necklace was successfully auctioned off.

Chapter 1459: Is Someone Coming to Pick You Up?

However, the final price was somewhat high, almost matching the previous jade bracelet made from dragon stone.

"Congratulations, number 12, the bid is successful."

Hearing the auctioneer announce the guest number who won the necklace, Charlotte Thompson straightened up with curiosity, trying to find out who it was.

But Charlotte's seat was a bit further back, and she couldn't see who number twelve was.

Soon, the auction concluded smoothly, marking the end of today's banquet. Charlotte also successfully bid on a brooch and returned to the villa with Justin Battleson.

Meanwhile, Annie Anne stood by the roadside after the auction, looking down at her phone.

Perhaps because the wind was strong at night, Annie involuntarily shrugged her shoulders in her delicate evening dress.

"Why haven't I received any messages yet?"

Annie murmured softly to herself, when suddenly a voice sounded beside her.

"Miss Anne, why are you still here? Didn't you say someone was coming to pick you up?"

Turning her head, Annie saw Campbell Prickly standing next to her, looking slightly surprised. His actions seemed to suggest he was about to pick up the coat draped over his arm, but he stopped when Annie turned to face him.

"Oh... Mr. Prickly..."

Facing Campbell Prickly's inquiry, Annie smiled a bit sheepishly and touched her nose while explaining.

"I got the gala's end time wrong and forgot to notify my assistant, but I have already contacted him."

Glancing at Annie's thin dress, Campbell slightly furrowed his brows, then handed the coat to Annie.

"Put it on. It's a bit chilly tonight."

"No, no, no need to bother you." Annie waved her hand, feeling pleasantly surprised, but Campbell didn't seem to give her a chance to refuse.

Campbell stepped closer, shortening the distance between them.

"You're shivering."

Campbell stated this fact calmly, making Annie feel a little unsettled.

With the coat now nearly touching her, Annie couldn't find a reason to refuse, so she accepted Campbell's coat and draped it over herself, instantly feeling much warmer.

"Thank you."

"Earlier, I think I heard you say your assistant hasn't replied to your message?"

Campbell's gaze subtly shifted over Annie's cellphone, which had a black screen, noticing her slightly embarrassed expression. He glanced at the time on his watch and said:

"How about this, I'll take you home."

Not waiting for Annie's reaction, Campbell continued: "It's quite late now, and it's not safe for a girl like you to wait for a car by the roadside."

"It's really too much trouble for you, my assistant should be here soon."

Annie clutched the coat draped over her, pressing her lips together, feeling a sudden wave of awkwardness wash over her.

Why does she always seem to end up in awkward situations in front of Campbell Prickly?

"If I really found it troublesome, I wouldn't have made the offer."

Campbell shook his head at Annie.

Yet, seeing the hesitation on Annie's face, Campbell slightly raised his eyebrows.

"Or, I'll wait here with you until your assistant replies and comes to pick you up."

Chapter 1460 Emerald Bracelet

"After all, there's no way I can leave a young girl alone waiting by the roadside."

Annie Anne opened her mouth but didn't know how to respond at that moment. Just then, her phone lit up with a message from her assistant.

It was a voice message, and Annie Anne meant to convert it into text, but accidentally opened it instead.

"I'm really sorry, Annie. I've suddenly had an allergic reaction and been hospitalized, so I can't pick you up. Where are you now? Shall I call a car for you?"

As soon as the assistant's voice ended, Campbell Prickly's voice came drifting over, "Looks like someone has already made the decision for you."

Hearing this, Annie Anne couldn't find any words to refute Campbell Prickly, so she just nodded towards him.

"Thank you for the trouble."

Campbell Prickly smiled, leading Annie Anne to the parking lot.

After the banquet ended, many people had already departed, leaving only a few solitary cars in the parking lot.

"Where to?" Campbell Prickly asked thoughtfully as he opened the car door for Annie Anne.

Annie Anne reported her address to Campbell Prickly as she got into the car, taking off the coat draped around her shoulders.

Originally Annie Anne returned the coat to Campbell Prickly, but after accepting it, Campbell Prickly placed it over her lap.

"Is the temperature in the car okay?" Campbell Prickly asked.

Seeing Campbell Prickly ask so earnestly, Annie Anne nodded but couldn't help curling her lips into a smile.

"You feel a bit like a chauffeur."

Hearing Annie Anne's words, Campbell Prickly paused for a moment as he was starting the car.

Then he chuckled lightly and said, "This is the first time someone has described me like this. But hearing you say it, I do feel quite like one. So, Miss Anne, please fasten your seatbelt, we're about to set off."

Perhaps because of these few joking words, the atmosphere between Campbell Prickly and Annie Anne wasn't quite as awkward.

The car played soothing music, allowing Annie Anne to relax a bit.

She originally intended to adjust to a more comfortable position, but as she moved, a box slipped out and rolled to her lap.

"What is this..."

Annie Anne looked at the black velvet box and turned to Campbell Prickly next to her.

"Is this the jade bracelet you won today?"

Campbell Prickly glanced at Annie Anne while waiting at a red light, then nodded.

"It must have been in my pocket all along."

"May I open it and have a look?"

Annie Anne asked politely; she really liked the jade bracelet during the auction but couldn't see it clearly from a distance.

With Campbell Prickly's permission, Annie Anne carefully opened the box. Inside lay a jade bracelet quietly, seeming to emit a gentle glow under the car's lights.

"So beautiful."

Annie Anne couldn't help but express her admiration, and gently reached out a finger to touch the bracelet, feeling a smooth sensation akin to water.

"Do you like it very much?" Campbell Prickly saw the smile on Annie Anne's face and softly asked.

"Of course, such a beautiful bracelet; I think anyone would like it."