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Chapter 361 Richard stormed into the room , eager to witness the scene for himself .

He hadnt even knocked , just baryony in with his 11 And sure enough , the show was in full swing The moment the door creaked open , Jeremys gaze snapped to it , his heart pounding with the hope that it was Vic returning , to rescue him from the inevitable .

But when he saw the face that entered , his heart sank .

It was Richard .

Jeremy thought, I thought it was Vic, back to rescue me ... but its just Richards face ! The light in Jeremys eyes flickered instantly, replaced by a familiar, crushing emptiness.

Jeremy thought, Of course, Richard wont save me.

Hes probably just here to watch the show , And Richards the one who uses Yvonnes powers to fish , lure birds

Hes taken it way further than I ever did .

No wonder Im so bold , I mustve gotten the idea from Richards antics ! Jeremy paused , a sudden thought flashing in his mind .

He thought , Wait a minute ! Richards been using Yvonnes abilities for his amusement , too .

If anyones getting scolded , he should be part of it .

Richard continued to chuckle and toss out sarcastic remarks , completely oblivious that he , too , would soon feel the heat of the situation .

Ah, Jeremy, what did you do this time to upset Kelvin? Richard walked in, pacing around them, his eyes lingering on Jeremys expression of utter despair.

The amusement was almost too much for him to contain , and it was evident on his face -he was barely holding back a grin .

Kelvin remained silent , Richards gaze settling on Jeremy with a hint of malicious amusement .

Jeremy, what did you do this time? Look at how upset Kelvin is .

Do you even realize what youve done wrong ? I know , Jeremy muttered , gritting his teeth to hide his frustration .

Hearing the response, Richard was visibly pleased, nodding in approval.

Richard thought, Great, now this mischievous Jeremy constantly tries to steal Yvonne from me ! But after a moment of enjoyment, curiosity started to bubble up.

What exactly had happened to make things so tense between Kelvin and Jeremy ? The air between them felt unusually cold , which he hadnt seen in a long time .

It seemed like Jeremy had messed up this time .

He moved closer to Kelvin , curiosity shining in his eyes as he asked again , So , what did Jeremy do this time ? Kelvin glanced up briefly , his tone cold .

He crossed the line .

He used Yvonnes abilities to attract swans for fun .

Richard thought, Attracting swans? Yeah, that was pretty excessive! But soon, a wave of familiarity washed over him, leaving him momentarily stunned.

There was that sharp , resentful look again Jeremys eyes fixed on him with an intensity that demanded attention .

Richard raised his gaze , and sure enough , there it was Jeremy staring at him , his emotions impossible to hide .

Richard thought, Using Yvonnes superpower to attract swans ... wait, didnt I do something similar? A chill ran down his back as he discreetly glanced at Kelvins cold expression.

The playful mood hed had earlier vanished instantly, replaced by an undeniable unease

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1/3 19:59 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 361 Richard had used Yvonnes superpower to catch fish and even had her kare some rare birds on white be wood was w his camera , snapping pictures .

Most importantly , he ensured Yvonne didnt return and told they w Richard thought , If Tinley finds out , shell never let me take Yvonne out again .

When i think be , 1 hd th line : Sweat started forming on his back as he remembered what hed done .

Acrow from him , wiemy moved basis , dow say something .

Richard thought, This Jeremy is definitely about to complain.

At my age , having to stand her like a de how utterly embarrassing After thinking quickly for a few seconds , Richard made a snap decision .

He thought, No way am 1 standing her and sing this punishment.

Ill slip away, find Yvonne, play the victim, and pretend I have no idea whats going on ? If Jeremy tries to complain, I can deny everything.

After all , Im the elder here ! With that thought , Richard found a quick excuse and fled the scene .

The speed at which he moved was astonishing , and his silhouette made one wonder how he could be an older man .

Taken aback by his shamelessness, Jeremy stood there momentarily, stunned.

He had planned to report the incident , but found that the words stuck in his throat .

Ultimately, he thought, No wonder hes his grandfather, theres so much to learn from him As Richard exited the private room, his steps were quick and purposeful.

He was in a rush , eager to find Yvonne When he encountered guests along the way , his demeanor instantly shifted back to the composed , authoritative figure people were used to seeing .

He greeted them calmly and walked on without missing a beat , his pace never slowing Finally , after what felt like an eternity , he spotted Yvonne sitting and enjoying her cake

All his urgency faded at that moment , and his eyes lit up as he rushed to her .

Yvonne looked delicate , dressed in a vibrant red outfit that made her resemble a little bundle of joy .

Many around her quickly recognized her identity .

Although a few guests had considered approaching her to express their presence , they were deterred by the cold faced Richard beside her .

His piercing gaze intimidated anyone who dared to get too close .

His stare carried the same uncase one might feel when a sniper rifle is aimed at him , and the seasoned individuals in the crowd quickly deduced his identity .

They decided against approaching , silently marveling at how Tinley had openly brought in his special bodyguard without any attempt to conceal it .

Even more shocking was that the events host , the Adler family , didnt object .

They had allowed the bodyguard to enter , which was unheard of , especially considering that guests drivers and bodyguards werent allowed inside the event , no matter their status .

But no one could complain .

Once bitten , twice shy everyone understood the need for caution .

This rare moment of peace was a blessing for Yvonne .

She took a bite of the freshly served mini cake , her eyes lighting up with delight .

She stood up from the sofa without hesitation , ready to run off with the cake .

However, her little legs couldnt quite get her moving.

No matter how hard she tried , she remained rooted to the spot , her body instead slowly lifting off the ground .

What are you doing ? Grave asked , holding onto the back of her dress .

2/3 19:59 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 361 Yvonne looked back innocently , still holding her cake firmly .

Im going to give it to Jeremy .

 $38\ \%$ Grave gently lowered her back to the sofa , placing her at the edge before sitting beside her .

With a stern look , he spoke , You can eat it yourself .

Jeremys not clueless .

If hes hungry, hell find food on his own.

Yvonne tilted her head, puzzled by his words.

Yvonne thought , Thats such a strange thing to say , but I cant quite figure out whats so odd about it .

Still , she obeyed and settled down , quietly eating the cake in her hands .

Before long, Richard came rushing toward her with exaggerated noises.

Yvonne , you have to help me ! Richard cried , shamelessly seeking sympathy from a child .

The moment he appeared , Yvonne put her cake down and turned to him with a concerned look .

Seeing how much attention he was receiving, Richards mood immediately lifted.

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Chapter 362 Indeed , being cared for was something to be happy about even for a man in his seventies .

Yvonne didnt understand the complexities of adult interactions .

All she knew was that Richard was akng fox her help She immediately set down her favorite little cake and looked up at him with a soft, paté face full of concern Richard, whats wrong? Her voice trembled with worry, and her tiny hands clenched tightly Seeing her so adorably innocent, Richard couldnt bring himself to lie to her.

Feeling guilty, he gently pinched her wh cheek and cleared his throat.

Avoiding her clear, concerned eyes, he made a small gesture with his hand.

Its nothing ... Its just that Kelvin doesnt want me to go fishing anymore .

Ah ? 11 Richard thought , This is laughable theres no way Kelvin would have the nerve to stop me from fishing .

If I want to fish , n one can stop me .

This is just a story to fool Yvonne ! Upon hearing this , Yvonne believed him without question .

Her mouth parted slightly, her expression one of pure confusion Her small, uncertain voice asked, Why is Kelvin acting like that? Then, she hugged Richards arm, tilting her little head and pressing her cheek against him as if to comfort Richard.

Its okay , Richard , well go secretly Yvonne loves fishing with me , right ? Richard looked down at her fuzzy hair , smiling as he asked The question made Yvonne hesitate

She thought , Honestly , I dont enjoy it that much .

Its not as fun as playing with Bear But Richard looks so lonely ! If I dont go with him , hell have to go alone and probably wont catch any fish , and the other grandpas will laugh at him .

Thats why I always go, like a little accessory, carrying my bucket and fishing with him After a long internal struggle, Yvonne nodded, her kind heart shining through.

I like it , Richard .

Richard beamed and ruffled her hair, then began to charm her with his words again.

Kelvin found out that every time I go fishing , I have you do something special with the bait thats why hes stopping me .

But if you could help me out ... Before he could finish , the innocent , kind hearted Yvonne hurriedly nodded , afraid she might be unable to help Richard in time .

With a serious little face , she promised , Richard , I wont tell Kelvin ! Richard was even more touched .

He lovingly rubbed her little face , his heart softening even further Good girl , I havent spoiled you for nothing .

Next time, I will catch fish just for you to eat ! The truth was that most of the fish he caught were released back into the water, and a few were kept at home, mainly for display.

There was no way they could eat it all there was too much .

To avoid raising suspicion from his family, Richard always released most of the fish he caught before going home, keeping 1/2 19:59 Tue, 15 Apr Chapter 262 only a few lucky ones to return.

 $< 581 \mbox{ Yet}$, despite this , he still couldnt finish all the fish , and he kept bringing more home .

The problem was, he didnt even enjoy eating them , nor would he give them away it was pure torment for his family .

So, when Richard made that promise , Yvonne couldnt help but frown .

Just a moment ago, she could think clearly, but now her mind was full of fish.

Yvonne thought , Eating fish every day ... Im going to turn into a fish at this rate ! She wanted to run away right then , but Yvonne politely said , Thank you .

Richards face instantly lit up with a wide grin , so delighted that he almost wanted to lift her in excitement .

He certainly would have done it if he were younger , strong , and agile .

But now , with his strength fading , all he could do was imagine it .

Usually, he could control his emotions, never letting them show.

Others would never know if he was happy or angry .

But in front of Yvonne , he couldnt help himself his smile was so wide it was as if another spirit had taken him over .

The people around them couldnt believe their eyes .

A few even rubbed their eyes or pinched themselves to ensure they werent imagining things .

It was true Richard was smiling so happily .

Their gaze shifted to Yvonnes face , and they started to understand more .

They thought, Shes so adorable ... this is the power of grandparental love !

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Chapter 363 2 + 58 % 53 It was no surprise that Richard was so fond of her if they had a granddaughter as adorable as hers , theyd be just as smitten .

A few people , who were on friendly terms , gathered together and began talking in tones full of envy .

They hadnt noticed the plain looking man standing behind them , listening for a while .

He stepped forward when their conversation was winding down and asked , Excuse me , I overheard you talking about the child with Richard .

Is she indeed Taylors apprentice from the Academy of Sciences ? At the sound of his voice , the group turned around as though they had just noticed him standing there .

They hadnt realized someone had been behind them .

His sudden appearance took them by surprise , but considering that anyone with an invitation to this event must have some status , even if they werent from their circle , it wasnt all that surprising .

Besides , the question he had asked was no secret to them ; it was something everyone in their circle knew .

Telling him wouldnt hurt, and leaving a good impression was always beneficial.

The seasoned businesspeople were the sharpest , but even the cleverest knew when to hold back .

They all understood that their information was what the Adler and Holmes families had implicitly allowed them to know .

So , when they gossiped , it was about trivial matters .

As long as neither family had approached them directly , there was nothing they couldnt share .

They were generous in their answers .

quite the rare sight .

Havent you heard about her before ? shes The man nodded , a slight apologetic smile on his face .

I dont usually keep up with things like this .

I only heard about it from your conversation .

Why would Taylor take such a young child as his apprentice ? group grew even more confident in their earlier guess about the man .

He wasnt from their circle if he were , he Wouldnt have asked such a question .

Of course, its for a partnership.

A partnership ? Can you elaborate ? What kind of partnership ? One of them paused ; then gave a straightforward example .

Its like a marriage alliance .

Its not the same , but the concept is similar .

In high society , marriage alliances were a standard method of exchanging favors and strengthening business ties .

So , they figured that having Taylor take Yvonne as an apprentice must be a strategic move to solidify the cooperation between the two families .

If they were in Taylors shoes, they would have chosen to send one of their younger family members to become his apprentice.

It was a perfect way to secure the partnership .

And if anything went wrong, it provided an extra layer of protection with no worries.

Although neither side had officially confirmed anything , they had already pieced together the details .

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After explaining this to the man, he was clearly still processing, lost in thought.

Unable to keep quiet , one added , When we first heard that Taylor was taking on apprentices , the technology hadnt been developed yet .

We were curious, but now everythings clear.

1/3 19:59 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 363 It seemed the man picked up on something in that statement , as he suddenly asked , When did you say Taylor started accepting apprentices ? 58 % (+58 ß He couldve easily checked this on his own later , and probably more accurately , but at that moment , it felt like a sudden realization , as if he was about to uncover something important .

Oh, it was quite a while ago.

Back then , Taylor hadnt made any breakthroughs yet .

Who would have thought the Adler family had already started planning ? Admiration filled their faces as they spoke , but it was mixed with a hint of respect .

They thought, Who would have thought? This is truly impressive.

No wonder the Adler family has achieved this level of success ; theres a rea ehind it .

They sighed in awe , but by then , the man had stopped paying attention to the rest of the conversation .

His gaze was fixed on one point , his mind racing .

The man thought, If Taylor had truly made a breakthrough, he wouldve reported it.

He could not use his discoveries to strike deals with business people .

His current lifestyle and the lack of large sums in his bank accounts tell a different story .

The Adler and Holmes families are just funding the research institute , nothing more .

Taylor no children and values simplicity over fame and fortune .

So whats his real motive for this collaboration ? Its like a murder case theres always a motive .

In a partnership , the motive is usually fame or profit , but neither seems to fit here .

I hadnt thought of it before , but now something feels off .

Luckily , he had overheard their conversation and sensed something was wrong , prompting him to ask a few questions .

He asked a few more questions , but the answers were primarily speculations with little helpful information .

When he realized he wasnt getting anywhere , he thanked them and turned to leave .

After he walked away, the group chatting turned to each other, puzzled.

Who was that guy ? Have you seen him before ? I dont know , he looks unfamiliar .

I feel like Ive seen him somewhere , but I cant place him right now .

The man who spoke sighed in frustration , and another person comforted him .

Probably just curious , asking a few questions .

As for feeling familiar , most people here look familiar to me .

Though they werent all in the same circle, they crossed paths at various events, and after seeing so many faces, it was natural for some to seem familiar.

Once he left the group , the man walked to a quieter spot and quickly jotted down his thoughts on his phone , worried he might forget later .

The man thought, Looks like III need to talk to Taylor again when I return.

The Adler and Holmes families were reluctant to share their technology, so they set up a small research team to study Taylors findings.

Unfortunately, they havent made much progress so far.

Taylor wasnt fully aware of what was happening .

He claimed that his job was to provide the flowers for the Adler family , and he did not know how to extract the active ingredients .

But he could sense that Taylor was hiding something from them .

Recently, the leadership of the research institute had been working on him, trying to figure out what he was keeping secret.

2/3 19:59 Tue , 15 Apr 0 Chapter 363 Researching flowers in a lab was like finding a needle in a haystack .

If Taylor didnt cooperate, they would have to find another way to break through with the Adler family ..

And for Richard , he was utterly unwilling to make concessions , even refusing to discuss any terms .

Usually, they would do whatever it took to meet any demands, no matter how outrageous, because the technology was worth it.

But now, Richard wouldnt even talk on terms and had no interest in cooperating.

This had shattered their usual perception of him .

But now , seeing the softer side of him the way he cared for Yvonne gave him a potential breakthro you If I remember correctly , Alex mentioned that Taylor is particularly fond of Yvonne .

Now, Taylor and Taylor had a point of leverage.

Whether or not he could seize the opportunity would depend on his ability,

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Chapter 364 11 Grave thought , If I miss this chance today , who knows when III see Yvonne again .

It might not be until her wedding , bur there are too many uncertainties .

If something goes wrong, III miss my shot This could be my only chance, and whether I can contribute to the organization depends entirely on me ! With that thought, he tucked his phone into his pocket and left the room.

Yvonne was still eating , and her focus was entirely on the food .

Richard had already left , his day pr Hed been by Yvonnes side the whole time , but Carol wasnt happy about it , so now and then , sor remind him to return .

d with responsibilities .

e had to come and Earlier , while he was here deceiving Yvonne , someone had already come twice to hurry him along , Reluctantly , that was why Richard had to leave .

Once he was gone, Yvonne resumed eating her cake, expressing pure contentment.

She smiled when she reached her favorite flavor ; its sweetness made her even happier

Grave watched her for a while before suddenly speaking up , startling Yvonne and causing her to jump .

Richard is lying to you .

Yvonne stared at him , confused and shocked .

Grave didnt quite understand what had startled her so .

Her eyes were so strange that he wanted to ask what she was thinking .

What are you staring at ? Yvonne let out a soft , adorable Wow , and stopped eating , gazing at him intently with her large , sparkling eyes from her position below .

The light from the crystal chandelier gleamed in her eyes, sparkling like tiny glass balls

How she looked up at him reminded him of a fan gazing at their idol from the front row of a concert .

At least thats what I think its like , Grave thought .

He had never been to a concert , nor had he ever been an idol himself .

But hed seen enough to recognize the intensity in her stare .

Yvonne still didnt speak , just continuing to look at him with those eyes , making him uncomfortable .

What are you staring at ? Grave asked again .

This time , Yvonne spoke up , carefully smiling and replying in her sweet , childlike voice , Mr.

Sterling, this is the first time youve talked to me, huh? Grave paused momentarily, then responded, Ive talked to you before.

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Grave thought , How does Yvonne forget so easily ? Shes so young , but I didnt notice this before .

He thought about reminding her , but she beat him to it , nodding eagerly and saying , Thats right .

Yvonne set down her cake and began counting on her fingers, one by one.

Sterling, you always used to say things like, Are you done playing? Are you heading home? Arent you tired? This is the first time youve talked to me like this! You remember that pretty clearly.

He hadnt even summarized it well, but what did normal conversation mean ? 1/3 19:59 Tue, 15 Apr Chapter 364 He looked down, and Yvonne smiled at him, her big eyes sparkling like crescent moons, They locked eyes, and she opened her mouth again, Are you in a perfect mood today, Mr.

Sterling ? It was such a random question .

Grave replied flatly, No, then casually asked, Why do you say that ? Grave thought, Whos ever happy at work ? Every day, its like carrying a dull sense of exhaustion ! 4.58 %) Hed worked for the Holmes family for ten years, and his heart had grown just as cold as the blade he carried.

No matter how cute the little girl was, it couldnt warm the icy heart of a man whod spent years working in a weld of cold duties.

He and Yvonne were complete opposites .

She was lively, playful, and always energetic, like she never had a bad day.

Right now , she was seriously analyzing the situation , her sweet voice melting his heart

Because you said something different to me today .

Sterling , are you in a good mood ? So thats what it is about , Grave thought , looking at her blankly .

No , he said .

The truth was , hed only said that because Richard had been tricking Yvonne , and as a soldier of the Holmes family , his loyalty naturally leaned toward them .

He still hoped Tinley would build him a house on the island .

Although every evening Wendy would routinely ask him about what had happened to Tinley during the day, he couldnt be bothered to mention the little things he had already classified as insignificant; his mind was focused on finishing his work.

As long as things didnt cross the line , he pretended not to know .

But today, Richard had gone too far.

Yvonne wasnt foolish ; she was young and didnt understand .

Thats why she had asked .

Hearing his answer , Yvonne let out a small , disappointed Oh , her expression dropping like a sad little puppys ears .

But it lasted only a second before she perked up again , her energy returning .

With the same enthusiasm as before , she asked , So , Mr.

Sterling , what would make you happy ? Yvonne gazed up at him , her large eyes sparkling with innocence and curiosity .

What is it ? Grave asked , not immediately responding .

Grave thought , Its not that Im overly cautious , but with Yvonne , my usual guard seems to vanish .

Her thoughts are like an open book so clear and easy to read ! Yvonne smiled shyly and softly said , I just want to make you feel better , Mr.

Sterling .

Grave stayed silent for a long moment , processing her words .

Finally , he looked at her sweet , innocent face and asked cautiously , Should I ask Tinley to give me a day off ? Yvonne blinked , surprised , and then lowered her gaze , her hesitation evident , Grave thought , I had just found her adorable , but now it feels like Ive been stabbed in the back .

She said she wanted to make me feel better , but now my mood is even worse .

As he sat in his thoughts, Yvonne looked up again, her expression puzzled.

Sterling, Tinley said you enjoy working.

Grave thought, Thats the kind of thing that sounds completely ridiculous who enjoys working? But Yvonne was serious.

After all this time, Grave had never seen her lie, so was it Tinley who had said something so absurd ? 2/3 2000 Tue, 19 Apr Chapter 264 Tinley said its because you like me so much that you always stay with me, she said earnestly.

Grave froze .

He thought, So this is what Tinley said to calm Yvonne? How shameless ! 8/8

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Chapter 365 58 % 11 Grave wanted to tell her everything about liking work or liking her was a lie that Finley had made it up to keep her from worrying But when he looked down , he was met with her large , innocent eyes , blinking up at him her head tilted in curiosity .

Alright, Grave sighed, his face showing a mix of resignation.

Finleys right ? Grave thought , How shameless , pretending to be cute ! Yvonne giggled in response to his words , her face brightening with a delighted smile .

Grave thought, Shes so innocent.

I cant understand how Tinley raised such a sweet , naive child ! Grave decided to shift the conversation back to the earlier topic .

Richard was lying to you Ab She still didnt understand .

Graves expression remained neutral as he explained , No one dares to stop him from fishing .

You should tell Tinley about it .

Grave thought, Even though the child struggles to express herself, if she says just a few words in front of Tinley, that sharp woman will figure it all out ! Grave thought, Then Richard wont be so carefree anymore ! After a pause, Grave thought she had understood, but she hesitantly looked up at him again.

But if I tell her, Richard wont be able to take me fishing.

Grave was surprised .

You know ? Yes , she replied , nodding .

She counted on her fingers , her voice soft and sweet .

When she reached a certain point , her brow furrowed with sympathy .

Richard could never catch any fish .

The other grandpas could , but not he .

Yvonne thought, Richard is terrible at fishing, but his pride is strong.

If he catches a fish , itll make him happy for days , so its worth it to help him ! Grave stayed quiet momentarily before asking , Does using your superpower make you feel tired or uncomfortable ? She looked up , surprised .

How do you know , Mr.

Sterling ? Grave gave her a blank look .

How could I not know ? The Adler and Holmes families , including Yvonne , never treated him like outsiders .

They didnt treat him like a person at all .

They spoke freely around him , as though he were nothing more than a background figure .

After all this time, it is evident to anyone who wasnt blind.

Hed been surprised at first , but not for long .

Before he was recruited , hed met a few others with abilities back when he was a killer .

His rank had been high , and the jobs hed been assigned were always big , involving extreme situations , including a former partner with an ability .

1/3 20:00 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 365 57 % But none of them were like Yvonne .

His old partner had extraordinary hearing , which had been enough for the organization to treat him like a weapon .

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Grave thought , I cant even imagine if Yvonne were in my old organization , shed be treated like a treasure .

Im unsure about the specifics , but Id guess it has something to do with animals , Yvonne smiled brightly at him , shaking her head .

No , it doesnt make me uncomfortable She might get a little hungry , but a snack would take care of it .

Alright, Grave said.

Grave didnt mention the part about Yvonne telling Tinley .

He glanced at the small cake left on the side and asked , Are you going to eat it ? Yvonne shook her head , so he stood up , ready to leave with her , The eyes on them were everywhere too many to ignore .

Grave had become numb to it , and following Yvonne , being watched , had become a part of his daily routine .

Grave thought, Ive been trained to blend in, and Ive done it well yet here I am, still getting all this attention.

Yvonne took a few steps ahead , then turned back to him , her voice filled with excitement .

Sterling , lets go find Jeremy ! She suddenly remembered it had been a while since she had seen Jeremy .

She mumbled with a pout , I wonder where he is .

Grave already knew .

Jeremy was probably getting scolded at the moment .

When they passed by the pond earlier , he had seen everything .

Based on his observations and research on the Adler family , Jeremy couldnt escape a good scolding .

He said nothing and followed Yvonne, letting her lead the way.

When Yvonne grew tired and sat down to rest, he turned and walked back toward the hallway they had come from, grabbing a man along the way.

Graves face was cold , and a subtle but chilling aura surrounded him , making him feel physically uncomfortable .

Grave straightened his clothes, awkwardly explaining, Its a misunderstanding.

He had wanted to approach Yvonne earlier , but he hadnt dared out of respect for Grave .

After Yvonne finished eating and left , he followed them at a distance of about fifteen yards , staying behind .

Grave , still expressionless , asked in a cold tone , Who are you ? The man froze under the intensity of Graves gaze , which locked onto him like a predator eyeing its prey .

The man smoothed his clothes again and pulled an exquisite , gold embossed invitation from his pocket , holding it out to Grave .

Im not a bad guy .

I was invited to the event too .

He also pulled out his phone , opened it , and showed the screen to ease doubts .

I have it here too, you can take a look.

Grave glanced at the invitation, reading the name Luke Donovan.

As the two spoke , Yvonne , sitting nearby , leaned in with curiosity , lifting her small head to see what they were doing .

When he saw Yvonne , Lukes eyes brightened slightly .

He switched his phone to his left hand and waved with his right , offering a friendly smile

2/3 20:00 Tue, 15 Apr Chapter 365 Hey, Yvonne.

Yvonne waved politely , her voice sweet , Hello , Luke .

Still looking at the invitation , Grave lowered his head and eyed Yvonne suspiciously .

Do you know him ? No , she replied , her tone innocent and natural .

Grave blinked , speechless .

If you dont know him , why are you greeting him? he said , gently pulling Yvonne behind hir unsure if it was to protect her from this stranger or keep her from being so familiar with everyone .

< 57 % 11 elding her from Luke , Once Grave confirmed that Luke was indeed the guest

He didnt let his guard down , keeping his sharp eyes fixed on him What are you following her for ? Luke placed the invitation in his pocket , cleared his throat , and glanced down , as if trying to look past Graves legs to where Yvonne was behind him .

I just thought she was adorable and wanted to talk to her .

It wasnt entirely untrue Yvonne did have a face that made you want to talk to her.

Before Grave could say anything, Yvonnes sweet voice came behind him.

Thank you , Luke .

She always made sure to be polite , no matter who it was .

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Chapter 366 His brow twitched when Grave heard Yvonnes sweet voice behind him .

He turned around and looked down at her .

She looked up at him with an innocent expression, blinking those big eyes.

57 % + 53) They held eye contact for a moment, and after realizing her usual tactic of being cute wasnt working, she raised a small hand to cover her mouth.

Her voice escaped between her fingers .

I wont say anything anymore , Mr.

Sterling .

Grave took a deep breath .

You better not .

They had barely exchanged a few words , yet Luke couldnt help but speak up when he saw the scene .

He stepped aside from Grave , just enough to see Yvonne standing behind him .

Dont be too hard on Yvonne , Luke said , his voice warm .

Shes clever and polite who wouldnt like her ? His words , coming from an elders point of view , made Grave seem almost like the bad guy in the situation .

Graves gaze remained locked on Luke , his focus sharp as he asked , studying every subtle shift in expression .

What are you trying to do with her ? Even with such a direct question , his piercing gaze made it hard to speak , let alone lie .

Luke had already prepared an explanation , but under Graves intense scrutiny , he could not speak .

No matter how hard he tried , the words just wouldnt come .

Finally, reluctantly, he decided to speak the truth.

Lukes reasons werent precisely sinister ; much of it was motivated by his interests , just like the others who tried to get close to Yvonne .

He figured he could use that to his advantage since Richard and Taylor , who couldnt handle Yvonne , were interested in her .

Lukes methods were typical, and he considered himself on the side of absolute right.

Even if he didnt fully achieve his goal , he would never do anything inappropriate toward a child .

So his actions werent extreme , but Grave his expression cold warned him to stay away

Then he grabbed Yvonnes hand and walked away without a second glance .

Luke , left standing behind , considered following them but hesitated when he remembered Graves chilling presence .

Luke thought , Hes too sharp .

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If I keep following them and get caught , what if he goes back and tells Tinley ? With a sigh of resignation , he stopped and reluctantly watched Grave lead Yvonne away .

After they had walked a reasonable distance , Grave finally stopped .

With a completely neutral expression , he glanced down at Yvonne and said coldly , People like him who get close to you have no good intentions .

Dont talk to them again .

His words were blunt , and Yvonne , nervously fidgeting with her hands , hesitated .

She thought , Im unsure if I should listen to Taylor or Mr.

Sterling For a four year old , this was truly a tough decision to make .

 $1/3\ 20{:}00\ {\rm Tue}$, 15 Apr Chapter 366 When she didnt immediately respond , Grave repeated himself .

K57 % Grave thought , Im starting to realize Yvonne , though she seems clueless , is quite perceptive .

She knows what Im saying , but is probably holding back because shes considering something in her mind .

I shouldnt get too involved .

As long as Tinley knows , shell handle the rest .

Its not my place to worry about it He instructed her , Before bed tonight , tell Tinley what happened today , alright ? Yvonne , her voice soft and concerned , asked , Is it about Richard ? No , Grave replied , his voice firm .

Its about Luke from earlier .

Grave explained to her , then casually added , You dont want your grandfather to get scolded , do you ? The little girl nodded with reassurance .

Okay, Uncle.

Grave nodded.

He thought, She does look out for her unreliable Richard.

They wandered for a long time afterward, but still couldnt spot Jeremy anywhere.

Later , when the engagement ceremony began , Grave carried her to the venue and finally saw him .

Jeremy was standing at the front , unable to make his way over .

When he saw Yvonne , he forced a smile that was more painful than a frown .

Ugh , Yvonne ... He had already profoundly reflected on his actions , but once he got home , Kelvin would still give him an earful .

Kelvin had seen Yvonne when her magical power was drained .

At first, everyone had been careful with her superpower, treating her like fragile glass.

But as they spent more time with her and got to know her better, they realized she wasnt as delicate as theyd thought, and gradually, they became more comfortable.

Still , there was a balance .

Even in play , they made sure not to push Yvonne too far and always stayed away from harming her .

Yvonne was enjoying herself and getting even better at using her abilities .

But Kelvin spent most of his time at the office , so he wasnt aware of much that happened at home .

He hadnt been there to learn her superpower .

So when he saw Jeremy using her abilities to entertain cats and dogs, he was frustrated, thinking there was no regard for limits.

It didnt help that Jeremy had gotten unlucky , crossing paths with a group of aloof black swans when he was already in a bad mood .

Of course , he had to act all tough in front of them .

No matter how reckless Jeremy could be , he was always wholly controlled when Kelvin was around .

So , he didnt dare to explain himself when they were in the private room .

He didnt even consider explaining ; his mind was consumed with wishing someone would come and pull him out of the mess .

It wasnt very comfortable .

As Richard gave his speech, Jeremy didnt hear a word of it.

His eyes kept drifting toward Yvonne .



Chapter 367 Is Jeremy upset ? Yvonne , being carried , looked toward Jeremy , her voice filled with concern .

Grave responded with a quiet, Its to be expected.

35 / % They had barely entered when , before the waiter could approach them , Wendy appeared out of nowhere .

Silent as ever, she appeared beside Yvonne, who was still stunned, staring at her for a few seconds before reacting.

Wendy gently reached out to take Yvonne.

From this moment on , Yvonne would be safe with her , and once Yvonne was in her care , Grave could leave for the day .

It was part of his day.

He always looked forward to Yvonne waving goodbye to him .

Ill probably never see her again , Grave thought , though for some reason , today he found himself saying Goodbye in return .

Wendy shot him a puzzled look before carrying Yvonne to her seat .

The seat had a perfect view, allowing her to watch everything.

Even Richard , in the middle of his speech , managed to sneak a wink toward Yvonne .

When she giggled, he returned to his formal tone.

The entire scene was visible to the audience .

Carol felt a flicker of irritation, but this was Yvonnes engagement banquet after all.

She knew the cameras captured everything, and every eye in the room was on her.

The scene that had just unfolded would undoubtedly have people wondering how she would react .

Even though she felt annoyed , she kept her composure .

She needed to ensure that every media coverage would reflect positively on the family .

She gently nudged Anthony, and together, they turned their attention to Yvonne, offering warm, affectionate smiles.

Their adoring expressions were so sincere that anyone would believe it .

The cameras captured the moment perfectly.

The media , warned not to focus on Yvonne , instead turned their lenses toward Carol and Kelvin , capturing their every move .

Tomorrows headlines would likely align with Carols desires .

Outsiders couldnt see the thoughts running through her mind .

All they could do was sigh about how fortunate Yvonne seemed , casting a few curious glances in her direction .

But most could only make out her outline, not her face.

The Holmes family had been lying low for the past couple of years, and after finding Yvonne, they kept her out of the spotlight.

It was her first major event.

As the rooms eyes turned toward them , Wendy remained unfazed , subtly shifting to shield Yvonnes face from view .

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Ever the picture of composure , lan smiled politely , his expression neutral .

He looked down at Yvonne .

Are you hungry, Yvonne? Would you like something to eat? I can get it for you.

Yvonne had arrived a little late, so only some light appetizers were left on, the table.

But she had just finished eating about an hour ago .

She pressed her small hand to her stomach, shaking her head, her delicate face a picture of indecision.

 $1/3\ 20:00\ {\rm Tue}$, 15 Apr Chapter 367 The appetizers looked tempting , but she couldnt eat anymore .

Im not hungry, Ian, she said, her voice almost a whisper, as if forcing the words out.

At that moment, Wendys expression shifted.

She pulled out her phone and angrily typed a message on WhatsApp to someone who had just finished their shift .

57 % [How many times do I have to say this ? When Yvonne is hungry , let her have a small snack , but dont let her eat too many sweets or she wont be able to finish her meal .

] Outsiders didnt know why her face suddenly changed , and they speculated in their heart Carol , however , had noticed the exchange between Ian and Yvonne .

She could tell what was going on from their expressions and gestures .

Then , when she saw Yvonne glance at the appetizers with a troubled look , she quickly pieced it together .

Unable to hear their conversation, Wendy quietly formed her theory.

She thought, The appetizers are all cold dishes and desserts probably not to the childs taste.

So, what Ian had asked Yvonne earlier if she wanted something to eat made sense.

Yvonne had glanced at the appetizers, but when she didnt find anything she liked, she shook her head.

Such exchanges were common , but Carol found herself mainly focused on this one today .

To be blunt, she was focused on the person involved.

The smile from earlier had already caught the attention of the media and the guests .

Now, she needed to find a way to solidify or amplify the situation.

Her mind quickly spun, coming up with a plan.

Carol knew that everyone was watching her .

She scanned the room, then waved over a waiter, giving him a few quiet instructions.

The waiter left quickly, but those who had witnessed the earlier scene were now filled with curiosity.

At that moment, Richard was giving his speech, a critical part of the ceremony.

Even the food service had paused , and no waiters were allowed to move around .

So why was there something important to address right now ? Soon enough , the waiter returned , quietly entering from the rooms far side .

His entrance was subtle, but it drew attention since no one else was moving.

He approached with a tray of cute , kid friendly snacks intended for Yvonne .

He bent down to place them on the table beside her, then lowered his voice.

Miss , the ceremony will be going on for a while .

If youre hungry, you can have a little something, or just let me know if you want anything else.

It might have seemed like a breach of protocol, but it was done to ensure Yvonne wasnt hungry, and the slight boldness was forgivable.

Most importantly, breaking the rules for Yvonne indirectly spoke volumes about their relationship.

When Teresa noticed Carols intentions, her expression darkened slightly.

Today, the three of them were most passive, yet, as secondary players, they couldnt do anything about it.

They were at a disadvantage.

Teresa was frustrated .

She remembered how Widi had been playing with Yvonne earlier and , for a moment , felt a

flicker of 2/3 20:00 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 367 hope .

Subtly, she nudged Widi with her elbow.

Widi understood the hint but pretended not to .

She shifted away, clearly uninterested in taking any part in this.

She thought, Tch, playing dumb? Fine, Im not going to do it.

Abandoned Super Cutie Adopted by Billionaire Clan Novel

Chapter 368 Teresa wasnt ready to give up , continuously dropping hints .

Widi , however , was resolute in not getting involved , shifting further away with every attempt .

As the space between them grew, Teresa reluctantly realized it was time to stop.

But she couldnt shake the anxiety rising in her chest over her and Kelvins situation .

Driven by urgency, she leaned in and quietly whispered in Widis ear.

Widi , between you and Laura , who has a better relationship with Yvonne ? Widi knew the question wasnt as innocent as it seemed .

With a calm face , she replied , Neither of us .

To discourage Teresa further, Widi spoke coldly, Our relationship is pretty bad.

She wanted me to take her to play this afternoon, but I didnt.

She got mad and stopped talking to me now .

It was a lie , but her delivery was so casual and natural that Teresa didnt catch on .

Shocked , she turned to Widi .

How could you not take her to play ? she demanded , her voice tinged with strong disapproval .

Widi shrugged nonchalantly .

I dont enjoy playing with kids .

Theyre loud and annoying .

Seeing them makes me want to kick them out of my way .

The words hit Teresa like a slap , her face going pale with anger .

She struggled to maintain her graceful composure but remembered the setting and forced herself to steady her breath .

Yvonne is not the same as the other kids ! Teresa hissed , lowering her voice .

Widi knew what Teresa meant , but she played dumb .

With a calm tone, she replied, How is it different? Theyre just kids.

As long as they can scream and cry, I dont want to be around them.

Teresa was left speechless , her anger building as she took a long , deep breath to calm herself .

What had happened to this child ? The change had been staggering in the few months shed been away in Blorence City .

It dawned on her that whenever she tried to talk to Widi for more than a few minutes , she always ended up frustrated and unable to respond .

It was like Widi had this way of speaking freely , indiscriminately attacking people with her words .

Teresa decided to ignore her, turning her attention elsewhere.

Thats when she saw Ian leaning down to speak with Yvonne , drawing her attention away from Widi .

Follow new episodes on the

Both of them were intelligent people , and lan was no fool .

He could tell what Carol was thinking .

The smile earlier was one thing , but now he was aware of the undercurrents .

Yvonne could quickly tell the difference between genuine affection and pretenses .

The sudden smile had made Yvonne uncomfortable for quite some time .

Looking at the items on the table , Ian lowered his head and smiled , asking if Yvonne wanted some .

They looked cute , but unfortunately , Yvonne couldnt eat them .

She awkwardly shook her head .

lan understood and motioned for someone to move the items farther away .

He then glanced up , meeting Carols eyes .

His gaze was faintly curved , but there was little warmth in it .

Keeping the items on the table was respectful ; moving them farther was more of a silent warning .

1/3 20:00 Tue , 15 Apr Chapter 368 Only those directly involved could genuinely comprehend the subtle exchange between them .

Teresa was well aware of this .

She had been watching it unfold and , seeing the items move farther away , felt a sense of relief wash over her .

Who would have thought that she had been so frustrated with Yvonne just moments ago ? She was used to rivalry with Carol , constantly feeling stung when they gained something she didnt .

Seeing them take a hit now, even without showing it on her face, lifted her spirits.

A sense of satisfaction filled her , so much so that even Widi couldnt help but glance at he mood .

rprised by the shift in her Teresa thought , The petty games adults played were downright childish .

It reminded her of her rivalries in school with people she didnt get along with .

The feeling was strangely similar.

But that had been middle school .

Still, after today, Teresa would never again ask Widi to approach Yvonne.

Widi finally found peace .

Widi thought, Its not that I dont want to be around Yvonne; I just dont want to do it with an ulterior motive.

Even if I went to Yvonne to please Teresa, Id know my intentions werent sincere, and that would make it feel off It would feel like betraying the bond we share ! Sure, theres no emotional connection between me and Yvonne, but thats why I dont want to go.

Jeremy didnt get to seek out Yvonne at dinner.

The seating was assigned according to the rules , and those around him were primarily young people , many of whom he had already met earlier in the day .

There were also a few people he didnt want to see .

They were from the Jill family.

When the waiter led him to his seat across from Nora Jill , he immediately noticed them

He only furrowed his brow , didnt say a word , and quietly took his seat .

He hadnt done anything wrong , so he felt no embarrassment .

It was Nora, sitting opposite him, who seemed a bit uncomfortable.

She had regretted it deeply since learning about their identities from her brother a few hours ago .

For the past few hours , she had quietly stayed with her relatives , not participating in anything , as if she had been left with some kind of mental scar , afraid to face such a situation again .

Nora knew she had caused trouble for her brother .

She had considered apologizing , but then dismissed the idea .

Apologizing for something so minor would have been overreacting .

Her brother and his future wife were already engaged .

Whether she apologized or not would not change anything , so not apologizing seemed fine .

She held onto a glimmer of hope , planning to avoid such situations again if they arese .

But just as she thought this , two hours later , she found herself face to face with them .

And there they were right across from her .

All she had to do was look up