

Surprised 1581

Chapter 1581: War for the Throne

"Even if the prince is fake, can you provide evidence?" Katharine asked calmly. "With your status, can you intervene?"

"I..."

"So let's assume he is genuine for now and find a way to verify the truth."

"But what if he is genuine?" her son asked.

"In that case, we eliminate him!" Katharine snorted coldly, a glint of coldness flashing in her eyes.

"While your father is still alive, we must settle the matter of the Crown Prince. In this intricate royal court, Louis is at a disadvantage. Are you afraid he won't succeed?"

"..." Taylor furrowed his brow.

Katharine continued, "Starting today, you must diligently attend to your father's health, show your concern, and demonstrate your filial piety. Don't spend your days horseback riding! When someone is sick, what they care about most is empathy and warmth. And although Louis is the eldest son, you have been by your father's side all these years, and your bond is deeper!"

Taylor felt frustrated. Why did this Louis suddenly emerge and cause trouble?

He had planned to go abroad for horse racing, but now he was being confined by his mother.

Ten minutes later.

Katharine, dressed up carefully, arrived in front of the King's palace. She didn't bring her son, only

Julie, and intended to find out the situation.

As usual, she was about to step forward when she was politely stopped by the guards. "I'm sorry,

Queen, but without the King's permission, no one can enter or leave in recent days."

"Open your eyes and see, I am the Queen!" Julie scolded them coldly as a reminder.

"Sorry, the King has stated that no one, including the Queen, is allowed to see him," the guard

respectfully said. "Prince Taylor is also included."

Katharine didn't want to waste time arguing. She went straight to the point. "Where is Eden? And where

is Arthur? Have them come out and see me."

As soon as she finished speaking, two tall figures walked out of the palace. As they approached,

Katharine and Julie locked their gaze on them.

It was Eden and Arthur.

Eden was Rowan's uncle, in his fifties, with a strong physique. His face rarely showed a smile, and it had some wrinkles. He had always served the royal family and was the most trusted person by the King.

Arthur was a young man, around twenty-six years old, and had been Louis's childhood playmate. His father used to be the captain of the guard, which was now Julie's position, but unfortunately, he died honorably during a mission.

As they approached and saw Queen Katharine and Captain Julie being stopped outside the door, they slowed their pace.

The guards at the entrance saluted them.

"Hello, Queen," the two of them greeted the servants before turning to the Queen and Captain Julie.

As they approached, the guards respectfully bowed.

"Hello, Queen," the two of them greeted them in unison.

"Hello," Katharine greeted them with a smile, maintaining her elegant posture. "How is the King's health? And why did he suddenly order that no one can enter or leave the palace?"

Eden stopped in his tracks and answered sincerely, "It's because Prince Louis has returned. The long-lost father and son are reconnecting emotionally."

Oh, they didn't intend to keep it a secret? That surprised Queen Katharine.

Eden continued, "You are aware of the King's health condition. He cannot stand or sit for long periods, and his mental state is not as good as before. So, this emotional reconnection will take some time."

Katharine felt uncomfortable hearing this. She was afraid that it wasn't an emotional reconnection but rather brainwashing by the King.

"Please inform the King that Prince Taylor is also very concerned about his health and has been clamoring to come and accompany him," Katharine maintained her smile throughout.

"Alright, I will convey your message."

Unable to hold back her curiosity, Katharine asked, "By the way, I have a question."

"Please, Queen."

"Who can prove that the man brought back is truly Prince Louis? Has a paternity test been conducted?"

Eden smiled patiently and replied, "We are currently preparing for a royal physician to arrive and conduct a blood test in front of all members of the royal family to determine his identity."

Chapter 1582 Parentage Testing

Katharine's face changed slightly, "..."

Eden said, "The royal physician will arrive soon, and the senior royal members are also being notified

one by one. The king will take this matter seriously, so please don't worry, Queen."

Do a parentage test?

Katharine was suddenly a little afraid of the result. Without absolute certainty, why do a parentage test?

What if this man really is Prince Louis...

Just then, the queen's private phone rang.

She hurriedly took it out and saw who was calling. She answered the call in front of everyone, listening

to the invitation on the other end to join the king in his palace to witness this parentage test.

She softly replied, "I understand." After hanging up the phone, Katharine looked at Eden again.

Eden was tall, with a hint of aloofness and determination in his eyes. He was the king's confidant,

having accompanied the king for many years.

He was also Prince Louis' uncle, so naturally he was not as familiar with Louis' birth mother.

"Arthur, go accompany the queen in first. I'll go get the royal physician," Eden arranged.

Before Arthur could speak, Katharine said with upturned lips, "I'll go with you!"

Their gazes converged, one second, two seconds, three seconds, five seconds, ten seconds... Eden's face was expressionless.

He knew what the queen was thinking at that moment.

Katharine, over a decade younger than Eden, had a determined light in her eyes. "What's wrong? Is it inconvenient?"

"After you, Your Majesty," Eden gestured for her to go first, then collected his gaze and strode forward.

What was inconvenient about it?

Katharine exchanged a look with Julie, then stepped forward to follow Eden.

Julie stayed behind. She had to be observant of any clues.

Arthur's gaze met Julie's. As captain of the royal guards, Julie was also invited to witness the parentage test.

In about half an hour, nearly fifty senior royal members had all arrived after receiving phone calls.

Arthur stood at the door to greet them, including Julie.

These people were either royal relatives or had made important contributions to Lu Layuoka, traditionally recognized as senior royal officials. They were followed by many people in various positions.

But they were full of dignity and honor, often sent by the king to attend various charity events or prestigious public venues. Some were spokespersons for the foreign ministry, representing the royal family at fancy balls or international parties.

After about half an hour, all the senior royal members had arrived.

Queen Katharine had also entered the king's palace with the royal physician.

As the King of the Diamond Country, Bertie certainly had more than one residence, but this one always made him linger - mainly because of the beautiful scenery and livability. Plus his old age made him prefer tranquility, not to mention his illness.

In the dignified, magnificent palace, everyone took their seats in an orderly manner, with a sense of solemnity in the silence.

Everyone had received the call and knew why they were gathered here today.

After taking their seats, all eyes fell on the royal physician, watching his every move. They saw him put

down his box and start preparing.

The king, wearing comfortable white home clothes, sat casually in his chair. Although ill, he still exuded an aura of majesty.

Katharine and Taylor's gazes fell on Rowan - the legendary Prince Louis?

This was the first time the mother and son had seen him. Regardless of whether he was real or fake, his over six-foot height was shrouded in a cold aura. The black bespoke overcoat, long legs, straight posture.

Rowan did not look at anyone, standing sideways to the crowd. He was cooperating with the blood draw, exhibiting a noble temperament in his actions.

Everyone tried their best to see the face of this Prince Louis, attracted by him - the heroic brows, deep-set eyes, straight nose, quite resembling the king...

Everyone was waiting for the test results.

Chapter 1583 Regarding the Royal Line of Succession

Some of the elder royal members could already ascertain that this man was the eldest son of King

Bertie and Queen Elsa.

The resemblance was a combination of the parents.

Although not seeing him for many years, some still recognized him at first glance - his features as a child were still there.

How did he come back?

Why did he leave in the first place?

How could he have disappeared for so many years?

Many had doubts in their hearts.

Medical technology was also advanced in Lu Layuoka. The royal physician was a man of few words, but very fair. The paternity test results came out within ten minutes of the blood draw.

And during those ten minutes, there was silence in the palace.

Some anticipated, some were nonchalant, some were nervous, some looked at the king, concerned about his condition.

Some looked at Prince Louis again and again, thinking, who knows which woman will be lucky in the future.

Rowan's thin lips tightened. He still didn't look at anyone, as if the royal family was of no concern to him. No one knew what he was thinking.

He was very silent and cooperative.

Taylor, Katharine and Julie could not figure out his thoughts. Did he want to inherit the throne or not?

He was brought back tied up, but now relatively free. What was the point of tying him up? Just for show?

And the king - he kept a straight face, exuding an aura of majesty. He too said nothing. What was he thinking?

He couldn't even recognize his own son? Needed a test?

It's said that the imperial heart is unfathomable, truly unpredictable.

Soon the ten minutes were up. When the royal physician handed the test results to the king, everyone became tense and expectant, all eyes on the king.

The king took a look at the results, then looked at Rowan standing in front and all the seated people.

He directly announced, "This is Prince Louis!"

"Prince Louis!" Everyone stood up and bowed respectfully to Rowan.

Katharine and Taylor also got up, their hearts thumping heavily. He was Louis... So why bring him back now?

Was it to have him inherit the throne?

Just then, a senior royal member spoke up and asked, "Your Majesty, now that both princes are here, will you appoint an heir apparent? After all, our country's succession is not primogeniture."

That's right, not primogeniture. It's legally stipulated!

Taylor and Katharine breathed a sigh of relief, seemingly seeing a glimmer of hope again. Equal opportunity!

She looked forward to the king's response!

This was also what everyone cared about, and they whispered among themselves.

In fact, Taylor was not interested in the throne at this moment. His gaze remained fixed on Rowan, just looking at him, as if to see through him.

Rowan still didn't look at anyone, seemingly detached from fame and gain. As if he had no interest in this, and as if he hadn't heard the official's words earlier.

King Bertie's gaze fell on the face of the one who had asked the question. He gave an answer, "Haven't read the latest law? The succession was changed to primogeniture last year, not male preference."

At this, they couldn't help but discuss again. That's right, the law was changed.

But at the time, no one thought Prince Louis would return, so no one took this law to heart.

They all thought he had voluntarily given up his succession rights, so the throne would surely be Prince Taylor's in the future.

But now the situation...

Suddenly a voice popped up from the crowd, "Your Majesty, that means if Princess Annie comes back someday, she would also have succession rights, right?"

Chapter 1584: I'm Sorry, Father

When Rowan heard this, his expression was calm and his heart was tranquil. He had no interest in the royal inheritance rights. However, he cared about the whereabouts of his sister Princess Annie... She had been missing for so many years, where was she? Was she dead or alive?

The king's gaze fell on Rowan, his eyes a bit stern and cold, staring at him steadily and somewhat annoyed by his expression.

Everyone was waiting for the king's response.

"Yes," the king's voice was cold as he said, "If Prince Louis insists on giving up the right of succession,

Princess Annie would become the first heir. If Princess Annie gave it up too, then Prince Taylor would

become the first heir."

What was this about?

Katharine almost wanted to curse!

So it seemed Taylor was third in line?

Princess Annie? Everyone looked at each other, whispering about this person that most had forgotten

existed. Princess Annie disappeared during an outing when she was three years old, and Queen Elsa

had been bedridden with illness ever since... eventually passing away from grief.

Louis had been found after leaving the royal family for years, what if this Princess Annie came back

one day too!

Then Taylor's position would become more uncertain.

This made Katharine, as the mother, feel uneasy, as if she had been hit on the head!

The king was in poor health and could not sit for long. He had summoned everyone today and

announced what needed to be announced.

So the king looked around at everyone and spoke again, "You're all dismissed, go take care of your duties. Louis, you stay, everyone else leave."

Katharine wanted to speak but held back, as everyone else bowed and began heading out.

Katharine and Taylor deliberately glanced at Rowan before leaving, remembering the face of this number one enemy.

Eden noticed the expressions of this mother and son. After everyone left, he and Arthur also stepped out.

The palace doors closed. The spacious hall was left with only King Bertie and the father and son Rowan.

Bertie sat in the chair, his expression still stern as he stared at the paternity test report in his hand. The next second, he tore the report into pieces, "I'm sorry, I just wanted everyone to be convinced, after all you've been gone so long."

In fact, he recognized his son.

Likewise, Rowan could recognize his father at first glance. The king looked the same as when he was young, only much older now.

The king tore up the paternity test results, stood up, and flung the pieces upwards. The fragments drifted down like snowflakes onto Rowan's hair and shoulders.

The air was suddenly filled with grief.

Rowan's legs weakened and he knelt before the king, "I'm sorry, Father, for worrying you all these years." He deeply blamed himself.

"You're too willful!" The king loved, pained and pitied him, "How could you be so heartless as to disappear for so many years?"

"I hated the royal disputes, I wanted an ordinary life," Rowan said softly.

"An ordinary life where you didn't even want your father?" The king was nearly angered to death. His cold eyes stared at him, his face even twitching in pain.

"..." He had no words.

"If your uncle hadn't found your whereabouts, were you planning on not even attending my funeral?!"

The king was extremely heartbroken. "I remarried, but it was five years after your mother passed away!

I'm a man, you should have..."

"I can understand that." Rowan looked up and sincerely interrupted him, "Please don't blame yourself for this anymore. Your happiness is certainly my wish."

"Louis..."

The king didn't know what to say for a moment. He couldn't accept his son disappearing for so many years. "I loved your mother, I love you, I love Annie, but you've all left me... Did you ever think of me as a person of flesh and blood with feelings? Think of my longing and missing on those long nights?"

Rowan had no rebuttal to his father's accusations. He hung his head, frowning, and also felt very bad inside.

Chapter 1585: Rowan Noticed Something Unusual

"My child..." The king suddenly felt very sad. He bent his frail body and grasped Rowan's shoulder, sadly asking, "Have you been well these years? Stand up!"

Rowan's brows knotted, feeling a stabbing pain in his heart. "Father, I'm sorry." Other than those three words, he didn't know what else to say.

A kind of pain permeated his heart.

Rowan looked up, "Father, can you promise me one thing?"

"You must inherit the throne." Bertie shook his head, thinking he had guessed what was on his mind.

"Taylor is not capable, his mother is too ambitious, she's had her eye on the throne long ago. Our Lu

Layuoka cannot be destroyed by them."

"That's not it." Rowan told him, "Let's put aside the matter of succeeding the throne for now and

discuss it later. There's something more important I need to tell you."

Outside, Eden and Arthur stood guard, unable to hear what was said inside. They just protected there,

not allowing anyone to approach.

"What is it?" Inside the palace, the king firmly grasped his shoulder, unable to think of anything more

important than this. "Tell me after you stand up."

Rowan didn't want his father to tire himself by bending down, so he stood up and said, "Go lie down

and rest first, Father. I'll accompany you." Then he supported the king back to his room.

"Speak," said the king as he took off his shoes and lay down in bed.

Rowan sat at the edge of his bed. "Let me take your pulse." These days he had noticed something

unusual but hadn't had a chance to bring it up.

"..." The king was startled at first. He knows how to take pulses?

Then he sighed lightly again. "No use, my body has collapsed already, my time is up, I can't hold on much longer. I can feel it."

As a genius doctor, Rowan did not immediately draw conclusions. He carefully took his pulse.

Because the king's condition... was a bit complicated. He had already sensed something wrong and his mood was heavy, regretting very much that he hadn't been by his father's side these years to discover earlier that he had been poisoned with chronic toxins. Rowan really blamed himself.

A minute later, Rowan looked up. "Father," he said truthfully, "You've been poisoned with chronic toxins for at least five years."

The king looked back at his son in shock. "How do you know?" He didn't believe it, and a sense of horror arose.

"Because I'm a doctor now."

Father and son looked at each other, and silence filled the bedroom...

Rowan held his hand and told him, "Have you heard of the medicine master Rowan? Genius doctor,

developed a vaccine to prevent cancer."

"I've heard of it, heard of it..." The king didn't understand what this had to do with anything.

"That's me." He looked steadily at his father, encouraging him. "Your condition is bad now, but I think... I

can try, as long as you believe in me."

His voice was not loud, wary of eavesdroppers. These past few days he had observed the food he ate,

the main dishes, desserts, tea, medicine...

Among them one thing was problematic.

Rowan was still thinking when the king let out a heavy sigh.

"The imperial physician said my organs have started failing irreversibly." The king had lost faith in

recovering his health, but he was unwilling to just die like this. "Louis, can you find the murderer?"

Rowan was silent for a while. "Can't alert the enemy, have to investigate slowly. We're in the light, the

murderer is in the dark."

The king frowned. "I should be more certain." He suddenly felt very disappointed.

But Rowan shook his head. "This can't rely on guessing. Everyone around you is a potential suspect.

Settling on a conclusion prematurely without evidence is unwise."

"So..." The king placed his hopes on him. "Do you have any good suggestions now? I want to find the murderer as soon as possible, while I'm still alive."

Obviously the other side was after the throne. He didn't want his son to struggle in this murky palace and eventually suffer the same fate as himself.

Chapter 1586: Rowan Was Being Followed

Then, Rowan told him about a plan of his own...

Half an hour later, Eden and Arthur came in. They saw Rowan sitting in front of the bed, tucking the king in.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Rowan got up and greeted them, "Uncle."

"Eden, give the phone back to Louis. Also give him a royal pass and take him back to his own palace," the king said gently.

Clearly, he had no intention of leaving. He had decided to stay?

Eden's face was gentle, and there was a hint of joyful smile at the corner of his lips. "Prince Louis, do you really plan to stay with the royal family?"

"Yes, my father is in poor health. I will stay for now to keep him company, but we'll discuss succession later. Right now, my father's health is the priority," Rowan said gently. "The most important thing right now is my father's health."

Eden didn't know how to tell him that the king's health was beyond recovery. The doctor said his organs were failing.

Just then, Arthur came over with the phone and returned it to him.

Rowan and him briefly met each other's gaze. "Thank you," he said, reaching out to take it and turning it on.

He immediately saw dozens of missed calls from Claire.

Rowan didn't call back right away. Instead, he put the phone away.

The king spoke up, "Eden, take him back to his palace first."

"No need to take me. Father, please focus on recovering. I remember the way," Rowan said, turning to look at his father with a gentle expression.

Then he looked at Eden and spoke to him in the same tone, "Uncle, please send me the pass later. I may leave the palace."

"Alright."

"Father, please get some rest first," Rowan said. Then he stepped away and left.

From the moment Rowan was born, he had his own independent palace, a gift from the king that had always been in his name.

Although he hadn't lived in the royal palace for years, the palace had always been kept tidy by servants everyday, full of life, not deserted at all.

Rowan returned to his palace alone. With every step, he felt very complicated.

He was greeted affectionately by the servants at the door, "Welcome home, Prince Louis!" They were very happy.

Rowan stopped and acknowledged them. He felt a sense of change.

"Hello," a warm feeling surged in his heart and his expression was extremely gentle.

These servants used to serve Queen Elsa. They had taken care of little Prince Louis and Princess Annie. Over the years, they had missed him very much.

Rowan entered the palace. He went upstairs and into an elegantly decorated room. He closed and

locked the door.

He took out his phone and stared at the missed call, hesitating whether to call Claire back or not.

Would the call be wiretapped?

The one who had poisoned his father was able to lay the groundwork five years ago, which meant it was not just one person but a rigorous organization.

Rowan was also very clear about his own situation. It seemed inconvenient for him to contact anyone now. He was afraid to bring disaster to anyone.

Would it really be wiretapped?

He wanted to test it out, of course not by making a call.

Soon, Eden brought him the pass.

"I need to go out for a bit."

The servant immediately arranged a car for him to go out.

In addition to the driver, four guards were assigned to the car.

On the way, Rowan had the driver stop and go. Through the rearview mirror, he kept observing and sure enough, a car was following him.

Rowan pretended not to notice. He told the driver, "No more stops. Go to a nearby flower market to buy

flowers."

"Yes, Prince."

Of course Rowan would have people following and protecting him when he went out. After all, he was the king's beloved Prince Louis now.

He just didn't know which side the people protecting him were on.

Having just returned to the palace, he would not trust anyone except his father.

There were many large flower markets in Lu Layuoka. All kinds of exotic flowers were very complete.

After getting off the car, Rowan browsed carefully like a professional flower picker. He seemed to have come out today just to buy flowers.

Chapter 1587: Why Did He Want to Buy Flowers?

"Lilies, daphne, lily of the valley, iris, five pots of each," Rowan said, pointing at a row of flower racks.

"And hydrangeas, wind chimes too."

"Okay." The guard followed him with a tablet, carefully taking notes.

While writing, he couldn't help glancing at Rowan. A big question mark appeared in his mind. This

Prince Louis looked quite masculine, how could he like flowers?

He was tall and muscular, not effeminate at all?

"They don't have red bamboo, tulips or daisies here." After taking a round, Rowan frowned slightly, a bit disappointed.

He turned around and said to them, "How about this - let's not look here for now. First take these back, then I'll give you another list. Just buy everything on it."

"Yes, Prince."

On the way back, the guards were puzzled.

They wondered - was Prince Louis' orientation okay?

How could a grown man like such tender flowers?

Sitting by the window holding a tablet, he was recording what else to buy, and would jot down a flower name when he thought of one.

In the guards' eyes, Prince Louis seemed very knowledgeable about flowers. Many names on the tablet were unheard of to them.

"That's all for now. Please make sure to get everything on the list," he said, handing over the tablet. "I need them this afternoon, to decorate my palace and garden. I'll give you a layout so you can put the sturdy ones outside."

"Does the prince like flowers a lot?" One guard couldn't help asking. "This exceeds our royal annual purchase. Only the princesses usually like them."

"The desire for beauty lies in all. Seeing blooming flowers naturally puts me in a good mood. They represent hope," Rowan said, looking at him with a calm and gentle voice.

With this explanation, it was understandable that Prince Louis loved life.

The stretched Lincoln headed towards the magnificent palace -

Driving smoothly on the bustling street, Rowan gazed out the window at the scenery passing by.

The last time he passed this street in a car seemed to be in another century.

Everything here was so familiar yet foreign, as if in a dream while also coming alive from the dream.

How were his Arkpool City friends doing?

And Claire, was she okay?

Rowan couldn't help but think back to their parting. He didn't even have time to explain to her. He really missed her a bit now.

This relationship was destined to go through a lot. He only wished for a beautiful outcome.

At this moment, he still noticed a car following not far behind. If his outings were monitored, calls would surely be too.

He couldn't implicate Claire or the Russells. Before finding out who had harmed his father, he didn't want to involve anyone.

It was a sunny day.

Claire sat by the window in a cafe, with warm sunlight coming through. She had her hair up in a high ponytail and wore a white blouse with a blue dress, looking quite elegant.

Her hands kept tapping the keyboard, immersed in her own thoughts.

When she typed the final period, she read through the finished draft quickly.

each one.

she finally picked up the coffee cup by her left hand and

leisurely took a sip of coffee.

Just then, a black stretched Lincoln passed by on the street outside...

Chapter 1588: Contacting Rowan

As the car passed by the cafe, Rowan, who was sitting by the window, happened to look away. "Oh

right, add another flower - Blue Jade."

"Yes, Prince," the guard noted it down on the tablet.

And so he regretfully missed catching a glimpse of Claire by a second...

After the car had completely passed by, Claire put down her coffee cup and turned to look out the

window. Facing the warm sunlight, she couldn't help but squint her eyes a little.

The weather was so nice today. She missed him again.

In the Lincoln heading back to the royal palace, Rowan was also thinking of Claire. He held his phone

and involuntarily opened up her novel.

She was still updating, which made him very happy. It meant she was doing alright and could still focus

on writing.

At this moment, Rowan felt so close to her. He

was a little delighted inside, truly hoping she was well.

Casually skimming through the content, he habitually clicked into the comments. He was slightly

startled, because the comments he saw were:

[Does the author visit castles? Why is the description so real?]

[Is the author a runaway princess who doesn't want an arranged marriage? Making a living by writing?]

[The depiction of this palace is just too beautiful! Straight out of a fairy tale.]

Palace?

Seeing these comments, Rowan had a bad feeling.

When he saw the descriptions of the castle - the exterior, the eaves, the magnificent aura... he

suddenly concluded that Claire had come to Lu Layuoka!

At this moment, Rowan didn't feel delighted. Instead, it was all anxiety and deep concern!

Did she come alone? Was she outside the royal palace?

Out of worry, he didn't care anymore. He opened up her Facebook chat and typed: Claire, where are you?

Claire was sitting in the cafe, drafting the outline for tomorrow, when her phone beside her made a

'ding' sound.

She stopped typing and picked up her phone. She saw a message pop up from Rowan on the screen.

She was shocked beyond belief!

Her chest tightened. She opened his chat and read it three times to make sure it was him.

Claire quickly typed back: Lu Layuoka.

Then she also sent him several photos of the royal palace architecture she took yesterday, not to prove it to him, but to let him know she had been so close, just separated by a wall.

Receiving her reply, Rowan didn't feel delighted at all, only anxiety and worry. He quickly typed back:

Don't call, I'm being monitored.

Just as Claire was about to call him, seeing these words made her heart jump to her throat. She was suddenly very worried about him.

He was being monitored? Why?

He was a prince. What had happened to him?

Soon, another message came from Rowan: Claire, I'm fine, don't worry. Be good and go back to Arkpool City quickly. I have more important things to do now. I'll come find you when I'm done.

Seeing this message, Claire didn't know how to reply for a moment.

What exactly happened to him? What was the more important thing?

It was too troublesome to ask via text on Facebook. Things were too complicated to fully explain in one or two sentences.

To stop Rowan from worrying about her, Claire quickly typed back: Don't worry, I'll go back to Arkpool City right away. Take care of yourself, I'll wait for you.

Then, one minute passed without a reply from Rowan...

Two minutes, three minutes, still no new messages.

Claire held her phone, completely losing the mood to write. Her heart was suspended because of him.

Chapter 1589: Ivan Was About to Make His Move

But soon, her phone rang.

Claire's hand holding the phone shook heavily. She thought it was Rowan. Unexpectedly, it was a call from Ivan.

She was stunned for a moment, and equally happily picked up, "Ivan, you're here?"

"Yes, where are you?"

"I'm at a cafe not far from the royal palace. Let me send you the exact location," Claire said excitedly,

as if grabbing onto a lifeline. "Rowan just texted me on Facebook, we got in contact!"

"What did he say to you?" Ivan was also eager for information about Rowan.

Claire relayed the Facebook conversation in full detail to Ivan.

Worried about Rowan's situation, Ivan said to Claire, "I'll bring you into the palace. Take the opportunity

when it comes and try to see him. Find out about his circumstances and difficulties, what this important

thing is that he mentioned. Then we can discuss how to help him."

It wouldn't be easy to find him in such a huge palace complex.

They didn't even know which part he was in, plus he was being monitored.

But Claire still hoped to go in with him. "Alright, I'll cooperate as best I can." They could figure it out

once inside.

"We'll be there soon. You can pack up and wait by the roadside," Ivan said gently in his deep voice.

"Okay."

After hanging up, Claire hurriedly packed up her laptop and books. This was her third time at the

bookstore, buying several books on Arabic translation.

She had studied a little and her translation skills improved greatly.

This language was relatively difficult and not many people knew it, or were interested in it. She had

learned some in college and consolidating now might come in handy.

Claire was interested in obscure languages.

She slung her backpack over her shoulder and left the cafe, waiting by the roadside.

The Marsh Group had a branch office in Lu Layuoka. Ivan's driver drove towards them according to the

navigation. Passing by the cafe, he gradually slowed down. "Ivan, is that the girl by the roadside?"

Ivan shifted his gaze out the window. "Yes, that's her."

The window rolled down as the car pulled up steadily in front of Claire. Ivan waved to her, "Hey Claire,

get in!"

"Hi Ivan!" Claire felt a little shy. She quickly went around to the other side, happily pulling the door open

and getting in.

With him here, hope seemed one step closer.

It was a seven seater stretch limo including the driver. Ivan had brought five others from Arkpool City.

Claire looked at them, then back at Ivan. "Can we go in now?"

"Queen Katherine will have someone let us through. I gave her the license plate number. She wants us

Marsh Group to design a castle park for her," Ivan explained. "I've arranged work back in Arkpool City.

Let's take the architects to see the site first and draft up a plan for her."

The car moved forward. Claire listened attentively, "Will we stay inside?"

"There'll be accommodation, and a welcome banquet tonight with singing, dancing and drinking -

should be a chance to see Rowan," Ivan guessed.

As they got closer, Claire inevitably felt nervous.

"What's wrong? What are you worried about?" Ivan could tell what she was thinking.

"I just promised him I'd leave right away, but now... I'm going in to find him instead. Won't he be angry?"

"Don't worry, we're together on this," Ivan said. "I can protect you well. He's just worried about your

safety, right?"

Chapter 1590: Katharine's Thoughts

Claire looked at him, full of gratitude. As she turned to look out the window again, she felt somewhat

lost inside. "Actually I'm more worried about his safety. Although this is his home, he hasn't lived here for years. There are definitely more enemies than friends around him."

"That's why we're here," Ivan said. "So he won't have to fight alone."

Claire nodded. She was determined to do her best to help him too.

With Ivan by her side, Claire felt much more at ease.

She had always heard her brother mention Ivan's capabilities and connections. He was like a god who held up half the sky in Arkpool City, and had great influence internationally as well.

Almost any matter he wanted to resolve would get resolved.

"Don't worry. I'll find a way to see him and not cause him any trouble," Ivan said. "Our only goal today is to figure out his situation first, and what he needs us to do."

"Ivan, why did he live anonymously in Arkpool City when he's the prince of Lu Layuoka?" Claire was very puzzled. "Was he not favored here? Then why did they bring him back?"

"To be honest, I'm not very clear about his matters. I only know of his identity," Ivan answered truthfully.

"I've told you everything I know that day, so your confusion is also my confusion now."

Just then, the man sitting behind them received a call. He glanced at the caller ID and reported, "Ivan, it's Queen Katherine."

"Answer it."

The man picked up and put it on speaker. A woman's voice came through, "Ivan, where are you now?"

Ivan didn't reply. The man then spoke up, "Hello Queen Katherine. Ivan will arrive shortly."

"How many of you are there?" the queen asked. "So I can arrange accommodation."

"Seven," the man said, including Claire in the count. "Six men and one woman, our assistant came along too."

But didn't he say six men before? Is there a female assistant too?

Katherine didn't dwell on it too much. "Alright, noted." But she had an idea - successful men on business trips tended to bring a young and pretty female assistant. It was normal.

In the modern styled palace, Katherine hung up with a corner of her lips involuntarily curving up slightly.

She looked to her confidante beside her, "He's here so quickly, it shows he cares about this project."

But the somber Julie said, "Caring about the project doesn't mean caring about you. He's just a businessman."

"Yes, he's a businessman," Katherine smiled. "So I know what businessmen want. They care about profits. I can pay him double for this castle park project."

Julie was very calm. "He's not an ordinary businessman, he's Ivan. He can't be led by the nose for money."

"Exactly because he's no ordinary businessman, he may be able to help us. I wouldn't need him if he was a regular businessman," Katherine said.

She had planned long ago, "Ivan has a branch in Lu Layuoka. As long as we befriend him, we can give him many policy benefits."

Julie looked at the queen slowly, falling into contemplation.

Katherine smiled and said, "With his support, our side's power would instantly grow stronger. What do we have to fear from just Eden?"

But Julie and Katherine were very clear that with Prince Louis' support now, Eden's side was not to be underestimated either.

Once Prince Louis succeeded the throne, Eden would be second only to the king. Taylor's days

definitely wouldn't be easy then.

That was why Katherine was anxious to get Ivan on her side.