Read The Abandoned Husband Dominates Chapter 397 Online

Chapter 397: Hailey Wreaks Havoc At The Wedding!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

"What nonsense is Lauren's mother up to again?"

Jordan frowned, knowing that his new mother-in-law hated him because of Brad. However, he didn't expect her to embarrass him at his wedding.

Marissa, who was also dressed to the nines today, said to the guests with a microphone in hand.

"Everyone, thank you for coming to attend the wedding of my daughter, Lauren, and son-in-law, Jordan. There may be some of you who don't know that Lauren is marrying her live-in husband, Jordan Steele today!"

Salvatore and Tim were immediately displeased.

"Why must that old hag emphasize that Mr. Jordan is marrying Lauren as a live-in husband? Isn't she obviously out to embarrass Mr. Jordan!?"

Despite the awkward situation, Jordan had a calm look on his face but he wasn't bothered by the looks that the crowd was giving him. Only the poor would be concerned if others thought they were poor. The rich wouldn't care what others thought of them. Marissa continued, "Of course, this son-in-law of mine is very outstanding himself and he used to be the president of a listed company who has had his heyday."

The guests began discussing among themselves and many of them did not know exactly what company Jordan was the president of before.

Marissa said, "Since he's going to be my daughter's live-in husband, the wedding is naturally going to be a little different from a normal wedding. As Lauren's mother, I naturally have some requirements for my son-in-law.

"First, after you marry into our family, you'll be responsible for cooking all three meals for my daughter and granddaughter every single day. You also have to take care of their daily necessities. Are you willing to do that ?"

Jordan had been doing that for three years prior to this so he nodded and said simply, "Yes, I'm willing."

Marissa continued, "Second, after you marry into the Howards, you mustn't have friends of the opposite sex. You must be home by ten at night and you can't go out for meals or watch movies with the opposite sex. Are you willing to accept that?"

Upon hearing her words, many of the guests burst into laughter. 'Does the Howards' son-in-law have to follow such rules?'

Jordan was speechless but he nevertheless nodded and said, "I'm willing."

"Third, after marrying my daughter, you may not go through my daughter's cell phone, diary, and other personal, private belongings without her permission. My daughter can have meals and watch movies with the opposite sex as she pleases, and you are not to have any objections."

As soon as she named the third condition, everyone was in an uproar.

"Damn it, these requirements are really harsh. Doesn't this just mean that the man can't have any interaction with the opposite sex except for his wife while the woman can see any man as she pleases ?"

"Yes, Miss Howard can stay out all night and her husband can't even question her about it. Isn't that too unfair on him?"

"Hehe, told ya it isn't that easy being the live-in husband of the Howards."

Before Jordan could speak, Lauren flew into a rage on the stage and she hissed, "Mom, what kind of conditions are those?"

Lauren was infuriated because the wedding, which was originally supposed to be romantic, was ruined by her mother.

Marissa was making it sound like Lauren would really stay out with other men and cheat on Jordan after they got married. She had a vague feeling that the guests at the wedding were already looking at her that way.

Martin was just as exasperated. "Marissa, what are you trying to do!?! What nonsense are you spouting!?! Stefan, quickly drag

your wife down the stage, and don't let her embarrass us any further!"

Brad, who was seated in a wheelchair, started laughing because he knew that his mother had deliberately said those words to irk Jordan.

"Haha, it would be awesome if Lauren could make a cuckold of Jordan Steele. Hahaha."

Brad knew that Jordan's ex-wife, Hailey, had cheated on him so if he were to face the same thing again in his second marriage, he'd probably break down.

At this moment, Stefan slowly got up and acknowledged, "Yes, Dad."

Just as Stefan was about to go on stage to pull Marissa down, a beautiful guest suddenly stood up and hollered at the stage.

"Jordan Steele, you're such a good-for-nothing! You're the scion of the Steeles, what are you becoming someone else's husband for? You're an embarrassment!"

The person who spoke was Hailey!

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"Hailey Camden ?"
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When Jordan saw Hailey, he froze for a moment, not expecting that he would run into his ex-wife on the day of his wedding!

Hailey's words made the scene extremely lively again.

"Hey, who are you? How dare you disrupt the wedding hosted by the Howards? You're really brazen, huh?"

"This woman is super pretty, is she here to crash the wedding?"

At this moment, Salvatore rushed over and grabbed Hailey in a bid to drag her away.

Struggling to break free, Hailey exclaimed, "Let go of me! Jordan Steele has ruined my wedding twice. Why can't I take revenge on him!?!"

Jordan couldn't help but recall how Hailey and Tyler's wedding had been disrupted and terminated halfway by Jordan's appearance, as well as the revelation of his identity as the chairman of the Ace Corporation.

When she married Cayden, her wedding was also ruined because of Jordan's exposure of Cayden's scandal, which led to Cayden being stabbed.

It seemed that Hailey wanted to take revenge on Jordan!

Jordan walked down the stage and said to Hailey, "Hailey Camden, you're out of your mind. What are you doing here?"

Throwing her head back in confidence, Hailey said, "Why can't I come here? I gave birth to a son for you and you didn't even inform me that you're getting married. What if you abandon me and our son in the future?"

There was an even greater commotion as soon as she said that.

"What? The groom has a child with this woman? So she's his ex-wife!"

"Far out, this guy is very lucky with women. His ex-wife and fiancee are both stunning beauties!"

"Haha, things are getting exciting now. I wonder how this is going to end."

At this moment, the bride, Lauren, suddenly spoke up slowly.

"Miss Hailey Camden, hello, I'm very glad to see you here. It's my mistake to have not given you an invitation personally. As for your child with my husband, please rest assured that I'll treat him as my own child and provide him with the best living conditions. I'm making this promise as a Howard."

The guests gasped in awe and surprise.

"She's really worthy of being a Howard. How magnanimous!"

"Although Lauren and Hailey Camden are both gorgeous, they're worlds apart when it comes to manners, graciousness, mannerisms, and temperament!"

"Hah, how can a woman from a third-tier family in a second-tier city compare with the greatest beauty of DC ?"

"You..." Hailey was at a loss for words.

She hated how magnanimous Lauren was because she felt that it made her seem petty and hypocritical!

At this moment, Brad had already arrived at Hailey's table in his wheelchair. He dragged Hailey back to his seat and barked, "Hailey Camden, are you nuts? How dare you ruin my sister's wedding? You'd better sit down, or I'll take back the 230 million dollars that I gave you!"

Having no other choice, Hailey bit her lip and took her seat obediently.

At this moment, Martin walked onto the stage himself to calm everyone down and cease the commotion. The moment he spoke, order was restored and the originally chaotic scene instantly became silent!

No one dared to speak again and some even covered their children's mouths, for fear that they would spout nonsense!

That was how tyrannical Martin was!

Chapter 398: Hailey Humiliates Jordan and Lauren!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Martin walked onto the stage with the microphone in hand and a benevolent look on his face.

"Thank you all for coming today. My daughter-in-law was just cracking a joke with you guys just now and it was purely for your amusement. Please don't take her seriously. In fact, my granddaughter and grandson-in-law met each other four years ago and they share a four-year-old daughter. "However, we were against their relationship at that time and after four years of trials and tribulations, we've finally realized that Jordan is a very loyal and driven person. That's why we agreed to let them get married."

As soon as he said that, there was endless discussion among the crowd.

"So it turns out they already have a child together. This punk is really something! Even after fathering her child, he has to be put under probation for four years. It really isn't easy being the Howards' son-in-law!"

Martin continued, "We won't be accepting gifts for today's wedding. Many friends and families have been presenting me with monetary gifts just now but I hereby declare that we will not be accepting a single gift today. Thank you all for your goodwill."

The guests began discussing again.

"Someone of high status like Mr. Howard Sr. indeed shouldn't be accepting any gifts. Otherwise, given his power in the world of business and politics, I'm afraid someone would give him a gift that's worth over a million dollars!"

"Hah, over a million? You must be underestimating the Howards. I'm sure some people would dare to give gifts that are worth 15 million dollars!"

"Yeah, as long as the Howards accept the gifts, they'll have to work for others. They can easily earn that money back." Martin looked at the crowd and said, "But I saw that many of you have come bearing gifts. Since ancient times, giving gifts to newlywed couples has always been customary. And so, we will graciously accept non-monetary gifts."

As soon as Martin said that, the guests at the scene immediately got excited.

A middle-aged woman quickly got up and said, "Mr. Howard Sr., I'm the CEO of Feather women's watches and I've brought a red, limited-

edition women's watch that our brand has just launched. There are 900 18-carat gold beads on it that rotate with the dial, and together it forms the face of deer with the pre-paved track. I believe Miss Howard will definitely like it."

Everyone was shocked.

"Feather women's watches are akin to Hermes. That watch is probably worth more than a hundred grand, huh?"

"How impressive it is that they're receiving the watch directly from the brand's CEO. Unfortunately, it's a gift for the bride and not the groom. Haha."

Martin smiled faintly at her and said, "Thank you for the gift."

Likewise, Lauren thanked her profusely.

Soon after, Russell also stood up and said, "Mr. Howard Sr., since it's Miss Howard's wedding today, I have a Graff ruby here,

which I won at the Sotheby's auction in 2014. I'd like to present it to Miss Howard today as a gift. I wish her a happy marriage!"

Russell took out a delicate little box and opened it to reveal the sparkling ruby to everyone.

"Wow! Graff ruby! I remember that it was auctioned off at a price of nearly % 9 million in 2014! The price has long since doubled!"

"Oh my, almost % 9 million? As expected of the richest man in Houston, Russell Miller is really wealthy!"

"Damn it, why did Old Russell stand out so quickly? He should be presenting his gift as the finale. Now that he's given a % 9-million gift, who would dare to stand up to present their gifts?"

Lauren was aware of Russell's relationship with Victoria and Jordan, and she also knew how valuable the ruby was. In response, she said, "Mr. Miller, your gift is too valuable, I can't accept it."

However, Russell insisted, "Miss Howard, I got to where I am today thanks to Mr. Howard Sr.'s help. I'll take it that you're looking down on me if you don't accept this gift."

Having been put in a difficult position, Lauren looked helpless. "Grandpa, this..."

Martin laughed and said, "Yes, Russell and I were business partners before this and he still owes me a large sum of money. Just take this ruby as his repayment. Haha." After cracking that joke, Martin decided to just accept the gift. He had not only given Russell an out, but he also made sure that others wouldn't have anything to say about it afterward.

Following Russell's gift, there was a short silence for a while since no one had prepared a gift as expensive as that ruby.

In the end, a young man broke the awkward tension with a gift that was worth tens of thousands of dollars, after which the guests continued to present their gifts one after another.

However, looking at the guests who gave gifts, Salvatore and Tim felt terrible.

Salvatore said, "They're all giving gifts to Lauren Howard. None of them are for Mr. Jordan!"

Tim said, "Yeah, it's the wedding of two people after all. Would it kill them to include Mr. Jordan? They even specified that the gifts are for Lauren without even mentioning Mr. Jordan at all. This is infuriating!"

They weren't being sensitive. In fact, many of the guests had already sensed it.

Elle and Dakota, who were sitting far away from them, didn't even bother hiding their laughter.

With a smirk, Dakota laughed and said, "That former brother-in-law of yours, Jordan, is behaving like a fool out there. So many people have brought gifts but not a single one is for him." Elle sighed and said, "Yeah, it seems like this wedding is only for Lauren. I really pity Jordan. This is exactly what happened during the wedding when he married my cousin. After they get married, Jordan won't have any status anymore. She'll definitely cheat on him unrestrainedly. Ah, I wonder what Lauren's character is like. Will she cheat on Jordan like my cousin did?"

While snacking on some nuts, Dakota smiled and said, "What are you worried for? Isn't it right for him to be made a cuckold? He deserves it for being a live-in husband. I'd cheat on him too. Hmph!"

Other than Dakota, the others also mocked Jordan.

"Haha, nobody cares about this groom. None of the gifts are for him and he doesn't have a presence here at all."

"What groom ? He's more like the bride. Miss Lauren is the one who wears the pants in the relationship, haha."

Hailey stood up again at this moment!

Grabbing onto Hailey's hand, Brad growled at her. "Hailey Camden, what are you doing? Are you trying to create trouble again? Sit down!"

In response, Hailey took out a beautiful rose gold necklace from her bag.

"Who's creating trouble? I'm giving a gift!"

Brad was instantly stunned the moment he saw the valuable necklace in Hailey's hand.

'Isn't she here to make a scene and ruin the wedding? Why did she prepare a gift?'

Hailey suddenly said, "Jordan Steele! You're so incompetent. It's your wedding today and not a single person here is giving you a gift!"

Jordan cursed in his head, 'You bitch, what are you trying to do? You're not done, are you!?!'

"Also, Jordan, your wife, Lauren Howard, is the bride today but she isn't wearing a single piece of jewelry except for her wedding ring. It must be because you're too poor to buy her anything!"

Indeed, the Howards had a rule that stipulated that men had to be the ones to prepare the jewelry that the bride was to don during the wedding. The women of the Howard family were not to buy their own jewelry.

Hailey suddenly smiled wickedly and took out the rose gold necklace.

"This necklace is worth a few hundred thousand dollars. Jordan bought this for me previously. Miss Howard, I'll gift you this necklace on Jordan's behalf!"

Everyone was shocked that Hailey was going to give something that she had used to Lauren!

Chapter 399: Shocking Everyone!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Upon hearing this, Brad immediately shouted at Hailey, "My sister doesn't want something that you've used before. Sit down!"

Jordan felt rather embarrassed on the stage too.

"Haha, the groom's ex-wife is quite generous. She's giving him an out. Otherwise, Miss Lauren Howard won't even have a decent piece of jewelry."

"Yes, the rules of many wealthy families in DC are that the groom has to be the one to get the jewelry for his bride."

How could Jordan not know that Hailey was deliberately trying to make him and Lauren look bad? It was clear she was jealous and she still wanted to be with Jordan!

Jordan said coldly, "No, keep the necklace for yourself!"

Afterward, Jordan asked Salvatore who was on the stage. "Salvatore, where's that bag that I left in the hotel and asked you to take previously?"

In response, Salvatore piped up, "Are you referring to the plastic bag from Target? I left it in the trunk of my car and it's in the parking lot of the hotel."

"Okay, go bring that bag over here. It contains the gift that I brought for Lauren."

"Alright."

Salvatore said while scurrying over.

However, at this moment, all the guests started giggling.

"The groom's gift for Miss Howard is actually in a Target bag?"

"Haha, is the gift from Target? Did he buy her socks that cost 10 bucks a pair?"

It seemed that everyone despised Jordan and belittled him, judging from the way the live-in husband was being humiliated by everyone at his wedding!

Jordan did not say anything and waited quietly for Salvatore. Soon, Salvatore came over with the Target plastic bag.

Jordan was just about to reach out to pick it up when his mother-in-law, Marissa, beat him to it. Snatching the bag, Marissa flew into a rage.

"You disgraceful son-in-law! If you're too poor to give my daughter any gifts, you can choose not to give her anything. Lauren will be elegant and beautiful even if she doesn't wear any jewelry! But I will never allow you to give my daughter these things that are going to degrade her!"

As he said that, she tossed the plastic bag far, far away.

Jordan suddenly panicked and got off the stage. He then leaped over to catch the Target bag.

Marissa was even angrier. "How disgraceful! You even leaped onto the ground in front of the guests for a stupid bag! Oh God, what sins have I committed in my last life to have my daughter marry such a man!?" The guests roared in laughter.

'Must he go all out to catch a lousy bag from Target?'

'He doesn't even care about his image as a groom.'

Lauren, on the other hand, couldn't bear to watch anymore.

Instead, she denounced Marissa, "Mom, how can you do this? Jordan is my husband. Even if he gives me something that costs ten dollars, I'll like them too. You're being too rude!"

"You... you silly girl. Don't you even feel embarrassed? You only care about what you like. Have you ever spared a thought for the Howards' pride?" Marissa lectured Lauren.

At this moment, Jordan had already picked up the Target plastic bag and walked over.

"Lauren, here is a necklace for you."

As he said that, he took out a very exquisite box from the bag, and the moment everyone saw it, they felt that something was amiss.

The packaging of the box was obviously of superior quality and it definitely wasn't something that could be bought at Target!

Jordan humphed coldly. Those stuck-up snobs obviously didn't know that it was the most expensive necklace in the world!

It was the 'A Heritage In Bloom' necklace that Jamie had found in the safe of Jamie's suburban house previously!

Taking extra care, Jordan slowly opened the box and the moment the necklace was revealed, countless people felt that they were blind!

"Oh my God! What is this thing!?!"

"Ah, I'm blinded! This color and vibrancy are driving me mad!"

Hailey and Marissa were both dumbfounded!

Picking up the necklace, Jordan showed it to Marissa.

"Mom, this necklace is named 'A Heritage In Bloom' and is made from a 507-carat, pure Type lla 'Cullinan Heritage' diamond, which was cut from its ore. The designer has incorporated many oriental elements in it, creating this exquisite design. May I put this necklace on for your daughter?

"Ah, I forgot to mention that this necklace is worth 200 million dollars."

Everyone was flabbergasted the moment he said that!

"200 million dollars! Oh my god, 200 million dollars for a necklace!?! Is this a real existence?"

"How is he a live-in husband? He's much richer than his bride!"

Marissa was stunned too. 'Weren't Jordan's assets and valuables frozen? What's up with this necklace?'

"Could this be a replica? It's the most expensive necklace in the world and it's priceless. You may not be able to buy it even if you can afford it. If you give my daughter a counterfeit necklace, it will be a disgrace to the Howards!"

Jordan humphed coldly and said, "For all those present, does anyone here know how to appraise and authenticate treasures?"

At this moment, a middle-aged man raised his hand, stood up, and came over to Marissa.

He said respectfully, "Mrs. Howard, I am the president of Vans Jewelry and a professional gemstone appraiser. I've been in this business for forty years. I believe that I can help you."

Marissa knew that there were hidden experts among the guests so she frantically smiled and said, "I'll have to trouble you then."

Jordan gave the necklace to the middle-aged man who kept singing praises about it after checking it carefully.

"What a finely crafted piece. These diamonds and jades are definitely not counterfeit! 1, 2, 3...26, 27. The necklace is recombinable through its strings. There are indeed 27 ways to wear it!

"Mrs. Howard, this necklace is, indeed, the most expensive necklace in the world and it's worth 200 million dollars!"

Marissa was a bit stunned. She initially wanted to humiliate Jordan at the wedding. She wanted to let everyone present know that Jordan was a live-in husband who sponged off her daughter. However, who would have thought that Jordan would give her daughter a necklace worth 200 million dollars!?! Lauren was stunned too. "Jordan..."

Jordan smiled, took the necklace, and then personally put it on Lauren's neck.

The moment it was completed, everyone started applauding!

"How compatible! Only someone as noble as Miss Howard would be worthy of the world's most expensive necklace!"

"Yes, a beauty and an exquisite necklace. What a perfect match."

At this moment, Hailey was standing like a fool, holding the rose gold necklace worth a lot less than 200 million dollars.

She was biting her lip, filled with jealousy!

"Damn it! Jordan you bastard, how am I worse than Lauren?"

"You're giving her a necklace worth 200 million dollars and you gave me a necklace worth a few hundred thousand dollars? You're making me seem so cheap! This necklace shouldn't belong to Lauren!"

In fact, Jordan felt the same inside.

'This necklace should belong to Victoria...'

Chapter 400: Victoria Gives A Wedding Gift!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

The reason that Jordan didn't take out this necklace earlier was because he intended to give this world's most expensive necklace to Victoria!

Victoria was the woman he loved the most, and previously, Jordan had given her the world's most expensive pair of diamond earrings. Coupled with the world's most expensive necklace, Victoria must be incredibly beautiful and noble...

Of course, with Lauren's beauty and noble aura, she was also able to carry the necklace perfectly.

Jordan smiled at Lauren and took her hand in a bid to help her to the stage.

However, a Perry Express delivery man suddenly barged in. He was holding a beautifully wrapped gift and was arguing with the doorman at the door.

"Sorry, you can't enter without an invitation. Put the gift here."

The courier deliverer said, "Please be accommodating. The customer gave me a % 2,000 tip, and instructed me to personally hand this gift to the bride and groom."

Jordan felt a sense of kinship towards employees of Perry Express.

He instructed Salvatore, "Let that courier deliverer come in."

Salvatore immediately said to the doorman, "Let him in!"

Without further ado, the courier quickly ran to Jordan and Lauren.

He asked, "May I ask if the two of you are the couple getting married today, Mr. Jordan Steele and Miss Lauren Howard?"

Jordan and Lauren nodded somewhat curiously.

The courier deliverer said, "This is a wedding gift from someone who wishes you conjugal bliss."

Jordan and Lauren looked at each other, wondering who the person who had sent the gift in such a bizarre manner was.

The Howards had deliberately lowered the standard of requirements for guests. Those who were related to them would be allowed to enter. Even those who had nothing to do with them, like Hailey, could easily get an invitation just by spending some money.

There shouldn't be a case where someone had no choice but to send the gifts in because they couldn't enter to give their blessings. However, Jordan still took the gift and removed the red packaging, only to see a familiar box.

The moment he saw this box, Jordan and Salvatore both froze for a while!

"This box is..."

Jordan and Salvatore immediately recognized what the box was for!

"No…"

Jordan tensed up!

He quickly opened the exquisite box, and sure enough, it contained exactly the two things he expected!

Apollo Blue and Artemis Pink!

The most expensive pair of colored diamond earrings in the world!

They were the things that Jordan had given to Victoria!

"Victoria..."

Jordan's emotions were completely out of control. He knew that Victoria had been wearing those earrings.

They were sent by Victoria!

"Excuse me, please let me take a look!"

The moment the president of Vans Jewelry saw the pair of colored diamond earrings, his eyes widened and he immediately scurried over to authenticate them!

Jordan also wanted him to authenticate it.

If they were authentic, it would prove that the diamond earrings were a gift from Victoria!

The president of the jewelry brand was full of incessant praise after careful observation.

"My gosh! It's really Apollo and Artemis! These are the most expensive colored diamond earrings in the world, which cost % 57.4 million in total!" "Who is so generous to give such an expensive gift ?"

It was indeed authentic!

Jordan suddenly found a note at the bottom of the box and immediately picked it up.

There was only one line of words on it.

"Jordan, I wish you a happy marriage!"

The cursive was beautiful, thin and clear. It was Victoria's handwriting!

"Victoria!"

Jordan could not contain his emotions and burst into tears at some point. His tears had already fallen onto the paper.

Seeing his reaction, Lauren and Hailey were both stunned too.

Jordan actually cried.

This man was a tough guy who would never cry regardless of how aggrieved he was.

Yet, he cried because of a gift.

"Hey, why is the groom crying?"

"Damn it, I'd cry if I received a % 57.4 million gift!"

These superficial people would never know that Jordan cried because the gift was from Victoria!

As Jordan held the note with Victoria's wishes with trembling hands, his vision gradually turned blurry.

"Victoria, why did you leave ... "

Jordan knew that Victoria was definitely safe and aware that he was getting married. However, Victoria chose not to stop him and instead gave him her blessings. She wanted Jordan and Lauren to be together!

"Why..."

At this moment, Lauren took the tissue handed over by her maid, Felicia, and personally wiped Jordan's tears.

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"Honey, who sent this?"
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Jordan didn't want Lauren to know the truth so he replied, "My mother."

Hailey was enraged. "What's wrong with Jordan's mother? Your son is becoming a live-in husband and you gave them earrings worth % 57.4 million. When he married me back then, you didn't give me a single thing and he even sponged off the Camdens for three years!"

Hailey was already green with envy when Lauren received the most expensive necklace in the world just now. Now that the world's most expensive diamond earrings were in Lauren's hands too, Hailey was incredibly jealous!

Lauren was overjoyed too. "So it's from your mother. These diamond earrings are so beautiful, and they come in two colors."

"Honey, will you put them on for me?"

Jordan wiped his tears and said, "Alright."

As Jordan gently squeezed the blue-colored diamond earring with his hand, he felt that there was still Victoria's scent on it. In his mind, he was imagining what Victoria would look like when she took the earring off!

After freezing for a moment, Jordan personally put it on Lauren's ear. He then put the pink earring on Lauren's other ear.

At this moment, there were countless flashes of light as everyone picked up their phones to take pictures of Lauren!

257 million dollars worth of jewels were now donned by Lauren alone!

The gold diggers were so jealous that they were about to vomit blood!

At this moment, seeing Lauren wearing the pair of colored diamond earrings, Jordan suddenly thought of the scene of Victoria wearing the earrings.

Perhaps because he missed Victoria too much, he thought of Victoria when he looked at Lauren!

Lauren's smile turned into Victoria's!

"Victoria..."

Jordan couldn't help himself and went forth to kiss Lauren!

Lauren was a little surprised but she was soon happy and surprised.

The guests in the room began applauding one after another too.

Besides, Hailey was so furious that she stomped her feet and hollered, "Jordan, you've gone overboard. If you try to disrupt my next wedding, I will definitely kiss another man in front of you too! I'll drive you to your grave!"

At this very moment, a couple with a noble aura who was about 30 years old, suddenly arrived at the door.

"Sir, Ma'am, do you have an invitation?" The doorman at the door asked.

The middle-aged man said, "No."

"Sorry, if you don't have an invitation card, you won't be allowed to enter."

The doorman spoke very politely because he could tell that the middle-aged man had a powerful aura.

The woman beside him was elegant and gorgeous!

The middle-aged man laughed and said, "It's my younger brother's wedding.. Why do I need an invitation to enter?"

Chapter 401: The Glory Of The Eldest Son Of The Steeles

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

The doorman of the Howards froze right on the spot and he exclaimed, "Ah! So it's Jordan's brother and sister-in-law! Please come in!"

Jordan had already informed the Howards that his eldest brother and the latter's wife would be attending the wedding. The Howards had also informed the doormen about it a long time ago. Martin even personally instructed them to treat Jesse and his wife with the utmost respect, and to not anger them!

At this moment, the guests were all watching the bride and groom share a passionate kiss and hence, did not pay attention to Jesse.

Jesse walked over and patted Jordan's back. "Jordan."

Only then did Jordan snap out of his fantasy.

In his consciousness, the person he had just kissed was Victoria and not Lauren!

'Poor Lauren. She would be devastated and heartbroken if she were to know the truth!'

Jordan turned around and was excited when he saw Jesse and the woman with an elegant and noble temperament.

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"Jesse! Emma!"
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Jordan immediately hugged Jesse!

At this moment, the Howards were all really excited.

Martin stared at Jesse without even blinking. Brad even wanted to stand up from his wheelchair!

To think that the esteemed Howards actually lost their composure and got really worked up the moment they saw someone from the Steele family!

The guests were discussing incessantly too.

"The groom's family is here. His older brother looks quite mature."

"The groom's sister-in-law is so elegant. She's clearly the wife of a wealthy man!"

"Yes, although she's not as pretty as Miss Howard, a woman like her is pleasing to the eye and I'll never get tired of looking at her."

Jordan's sister-in-law had also caused an uproar among the crowd. Moreover, ravishing beauties like Hailey and Lauren were both present.

The fact that she could spark an intense discussion among the crowd in the presence of these two beauties, just goes to show that she was very charming.

In fact, Jordan's sister-in-law, Yumi, was Japanese-American and was named after her mother.

Jesse patted Jordan on his shoulder and said, "Jordan, you've changed. You're not shy about kissing in front of so many people."

Yumi smiled and said, "Yeah, you've become taller and more handsome."

Lauren was also excited to see the two of them. "Aren't you guys Jordan's brother and sister-in-law? Hello, my name is Lauren, nice to meet you guys!"

Jesse and Yumi shook hands with Lauren respectively.

Yumi smiled and complimented, "You are really beautiful, no wonder Jordan was so mesmerized when he kissed you."

Lauren blushed shyly.

At this moment, Martin also took the initiative to walk over.

Although Jesse was Martin's junior, Martin thought very highly of Jesse. One of the reasons was that Jesse was the eldest son of the Steeles who had already experienced all the trials that his family put him through and hence, was already aware of the family secret.

He was also extremely likely to be the helmsman of the Steeles in the future.

The second reason was that Jesse was extremely mysterious. Martin had sent his subordinates to ask around countless times but he still couldn't find a single photo of Jesse!

"You're Jordan's eldest brother, Jesse, right? Welcome!"

Martin took the initiative to walk over and shook Jesse's hand.

Jesse was neither humble nor condescending. He shook Martin's hand and said, "Mr. Howard Sr., my grandfather was supposed to come in person, but he's been a bit unwell lately, so he had to

take a rain check. He asked me to tell you that he is happy to be in-laws with the Howards."

Martin was overjoyed. "I'm also really glad to be in-laws with your grandfather."

The guests at the venue were bewildered to see the scene. After all, they knew Martin's power in the country. Yet, he took the initiative to talk to Jesse, a junior, and he even seemed to be deferential and subservient!

The Steeles seemed to be quite powerful!

Jesse had a powerful aura and he didn't smile at all.

He said, "I saw many people saying that this is Miss Lauren Howard's wedding at the entrance just now. Miss Lauren's name was also written in front of my brother's. This seems a little inappropriate, isn't it? Shouldn't his name be written before hers? Isn't that usually the case?"

Martin was a little embarrassed, knowing that Jesse was probably trying to seek justice for Jordan!

Marissa was displeased with Jordan's family. She said, "Your brother is marrying Lauren as a live-in husband so it's only right that his name is at the back!"

"Live-in husband ?" Jesse sneered. "Pardon me but your family isn't worthy of making Jordan your live-in son-in-law." Brad, who could not walk over from afar, was enraged to hear that. "Bullshit, who are you looking down on!?"

As soon as Jesse entered the door, Brad became agitated because he could tell at a glance that Jesse was a big shot!

Out of everyone, Brad loved to confront such formidable figures! Hence, he was hollering to seek attention and find a sense of presence.

Martin, on the other hand, was afraid that Brad would anger Jesse so he quickly chided him.

"Brad, shut your mouth! You're not allowed to speak again!"

The guests at the venue were all stunned. 'What is going on ?'

'Are the families of the bride and groom going to get into a scuffle ?'

"So handsome..."

Hailey watched Jesse's every single move since he entered and she was completely charmed by him when she saw how proud and arrogant he was when facing a powerful family like the Howards.

Although Jesse's face was not as handsome as Jordan's, Hailey liked men who were domineering, rich, and of high status.

Hence, Jesse was incredibly suave to her!

Jesse glanced at Marissa, and then said to his wife, "Yumi, take out the contract."

"Okay."

Yumi pulled out the contract from the bag in her hand. Then, she took out another fountain pen worth hundreds of thousands of dollars which was usually used by royals.

Jesse handed the fountain pen and the contract to Lauren.

Lauren was stunned and she froze for a moment. "Jesse, you..."

Jesse said, "This is the contract transfer of the largest bar group in the UK. My grandfather has transferred his bar businesses in the UK to you and Jordan. Once you sign it, all the bars in the entire UK will be yours."

The guests at the scene were flabbergasted.

"No way! How many pubs are there in the whole of England? I can believe it if he buys one but he bought the pubs in the entire country?"

"I heard that a few years ago, all the bars in the UK were bought by one corporation. Was it the Steeles?"

"Oh my God, there are so many bars. It must have cost hundreds of millions of dollars! Bar businesses are very lucrative in England because everyone likes to watch soccer at the bar!"

"Miss Howard is going to become the lady boss of the British bars? Damn it, the Steeles are impressive!"

In fact, even Jordan was stunned because the bar industry was very important and very profitable. "Brother, I'm the third in line. Why did Grandpa give me all the bars?"

Jesse smiled and said, "I suggested that to Grandpa. Yumi and I do not need any businesses to handle, and Jamie has been disobedient the past few years. So all the bars will be going to you."

The Howards were dumbfounded.

'Jesse is such a good brother!'

Chapter 402: Hailey Camden Is Too Shameless!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Stefan whispered to Martin, "Dad, it seems like Jordan's brother treats him very well."

Martin smiled and nodded, feeling extremely relieved.

Since ancient times, many heirs of wealthy families fought and even killed each other for the throne and assets.

For example, Brad and Alex may be brothers but they wouldn't even greet each other when they met because they were each trying to take full ownership of the Howards' assets.

However, Jesse and Jordan were different.

As the eldest son, Jesse actually took the initiative to give the businesses to Jordan, just so that Jordan would be able to hold his head high and not be bullied by the Howards.

Jesse looked at Lauren and said, "Miss Howard, please sign it."

Lauren was not a money-grubber so it was naturally awkward for her to sign it.

Jordan said to Lauren, "Lauren, since this is a token of goodwill from Jesse and Yumi to us, you can accept it."

Lauren was not a wishy-washy person. She lifted the pen and signed her name. Afterward, she handed the contract over to someone from the Howards for safekeeping.

There was intense applause in the venue!

"Congratulations, Mr. Howard Sr.! All the bars in the UK now belong to your granddaughter!"

"Haha, I'm flying to the UK the day after tomorrow. Old Howard, if I order two more bottles of whisky, you're not allowed to charge me!"

Martin thanked, "Thank you all for giving us the honor. You're welcome to patronize our bars. The Steeles and the Howards will entertain you the best we can!"

Martin was extremely proud and dignified too.

Why had he been so desperate to become in-laws with the Steels over the years?

It was because of this!

The Steeles were doing too well abroad and it was common for the rich to expand their businesses to other countries. Hence, having power abroad is a very important capital!

Now that the Howards and the Steeles were becoming in-laws, the local families would think of the Howards even more highly!

Jesse said to Lauren, "The Steeles have investments in various fields around the world, not just bars. Find some time to go to England with Jordan and meet my grandfather so that you can find out more about our family's business. When the time comes, take over whatever business you fancy. You don't need to ask me and Yumi for our opinion."

Like many Japanese women, Yumi behaved very gently. "Yes, your brother and I don't feel much about money, just take whatever you like."

Jesse nodded coolly and said, "Yes, don't worry about Jamie either. He idles about and has fun all day and night. He might not come home even when it's time to split the inheritance and assets."

Hearing this, the guests at the scene were stunned, especially those rich and pretty women who were filled with jealousy that was about to drive them mad!

"My goodness, since Jordan's brothers don't want their share of the inheritance, the Steeles' assets would all belong to Jordan and Lauren!" "It is said that the Steeles assets amount to hundreds of billions, even trillions! They are the richest family in the world!"

"What? Is that true? Wouldn't Lauren become the richest woman in the world then!?"

"Ah! Hurry up and suck up to Lauren. She might end up being the first-ever female trillionaire!"

Listening to the crowd's discussion about Lauren, a beautiful woman's eyes were deadpan and she was trembling incessantly!

The woman was none other than Hailey!

At this very moment, Hailey suddenly squeezed in, pushed Lauren away, and leaped into Jesse's arms!

"Jesse!"

Hailey burst into tears and hugged Jesse tightly.

Although it wasn't summertime yet, Hailey, who had gotten back in shape, was wearing only a skirt and a top that exposed her arms.

Jesse was dumbfounded, confused as to what was going on.

Seeing that Hailey had leaped towards Jesse, Jordan immediately reached out and grabbed Hailey's fair and tender arm but he didn't recall the joy that touching her would bring him in the past. Instead, his heart was full of disdain.
Hauling Hailey out of Jesse's arms, he questioned her ruthlessly, "Hailey Camden, what are you doing? Don't touch my brother!"

Jordan knew that Hailey was a promiscuous woman, so he thought that maybe she did it on purpose to get Jesse's attention so she could be with him!

Jesse froze for a moment and pointed to Hailey. "Jordan, who is this lady..."

Jordan was somewhat ashamed and he introduced, "This is my ex-wife, Hailey Camden."

Jesse seemed to have a moment of epiphany. He sized Hailey up and felt that she was very pretty. He reckoned that Jordan must have been the one who had chosen her.

Hailey looked at Jesse coquettishly. "Jesse, you and Mrs. Steele are too biased. When I married Jordan three years ago, none of your family members attended our wedding and you didn't give us a single gift. Today, Jordan and Lauren are getting married, and you guys are giving her a necklace and bars. Why?"

Hailey felt aggrieved, jealous, and resentful!

After all, she had been Jordan's wife for three years. She felt that she was the one who should have inherited the Steeles' assets and become the richest woman in the world!

In response, Jesse said to Hailey politely, "Miss Camden, Jordan married you as a trial that our family put him through. If we had given you money, that would have exposed Jordan's identity. We were not being stingy with you, please understand. If you had

passed our family's test at that time, these assets would now naturally be yours, not Lauren's."

Jordan also said to Hailey, "Jesse is right. Hailey, you brought it upon yourself, so don't blame anyone!"

In the past, Jordan loved Hailey as much as he loved Victoria!

But what did Hailey do to him? She betrayed Jordan time and time again, so how was she qualified to inherit the Steeles' assets!

Hailey was incredibly indignant. "Who can stand the test of three years? Why didn't you let Jordan hide his identity and test Miss Howard? I bet if you tested her like you tested me, she would have made a mistake too!"

Lauren was furious. She had long been paying attention to Hailey. In the past three years, she even treated Hailey as herself at one point because of how much they resembled each other.

Because then, she could pretend that she was with Jordan.

When she found out that Hailey had betrayed Jordan, Lauren was even more enraged than Jordan.

'You didn't cherish the man I could never get by any means and even toyed with him and betrayed him?'

So when Hailey insulted Lauren, Lauren immediately retorted. "Hailey Camden, don't be ridiculous! Not every woman is as vain as you are! I will never look down on him because of money, and I will never betray Jordan because of that!" As soon as Lauren said that, the crowd at the scene also gradually understood that the groom had gotten a divorce because his ex-wife cheated on him.

This was the Howards' turf, so Hailey could not say anything to Lauren.

Hence, Hailey ignored her and continued to look at Jesse.

In fact, Hailey actually reached her slender hand out to hold Jesse's hand.

She said coyly, "Jesse, come over here.."

Chapter 403: Hailey Becomes His Sister-In-Law?

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

To think that Hailey hugged and held hands with Jesse on their first meeting.

It was too much of a provocation! Besides, he had done it in front of Jesse's wife!

Yumi was clearly displeased when she saw the scene. Likewise, Jordan was extremely repulsed by Hailey because she felt that she was too shameless!

"It's good that I divorced her. Otherwise, she might one day sleep with Jesse!"

Although Jesse was an austere and imposing man, he seemed like an honest and simple man to most girls. Hailey took Jesse to her seat and pointed to the baby in the stroller.

"Jesse, this is your nephew, do you want to carry him?"

At this moment, Yumi seemed overjoyed too and she took the initiative to look at the two babies in the stroller.

Yumi looked at the baby boy and said to Jesse gleefully, "Look at this little boy, his mouth and nose resemble Jordan's so much."

Jesse also nodded smilingly. "Indeed, he resembles Jordan a lot."

Hailey also said with a proud look on her face, "He's totally a chip off the old block."

However, Yumi quickly shifted her attention to the girl.

"This baby girl is really beautiful and delicate too."

Yumi couldn't help but want to carry the baby girl. However, at this moment, Jordan coughed twice.

"Yumi, this girl isn't my biological daughter," Jordan said coldly.

Yumi wasn't aware of Jordan's paternity test previously so she was extremely shocked.

"What did you say!?!"

The two babies were clearly of the same age and since they both belonged to Hailey, Yumi had assumed that they must be twins.

Yet, Jordan said that the boy was his son but the girl wasn't his daughter.

As a woman, Yumi immediately understood what had happened! She glared at Hailey furiously, causing the latter to immediately become diffident.

Smack!

Yumi gave Hailey a tight slap on her pretty face!

"Baka! (Fool)! Hailey Camden, as a woman, how dare you do such a disgusting thing!?! Not only that, since you've hurt Jordan, why did you bring this girl here? Are you deliberately trying to irk Jordan!?!"

Yumi knew that as soon as Jordan saw the baby girl, he would be enraged and recall the fact that he had been betrayed. Hence, Hailey ought to have only brought the baby boy and not the girl with her.

In fact, Hailey did not want to irk Jordan. The reason she took the baby girl here was that she was Brad's daughter.

Since she was the Howards[,] flesh and blood and the Howards were the host of the wedding today, she decided to bring the baby girl too.

At this very moment, Marissa suddenly stood out.

"What's wrong? How did my granddaughter irk you in any way? Why can't she be here!?" Marissa had long been displeased with Jordan, and now, she was even more annoyed by Jesse and Yumi for stealing the limelight from the Howards and behaving tyrannically here.

Besides, she had already learned of the affair between Brad and Hailey, and also knew that the baby girl in the stroller was her son's flesh and blood.

As soon as Marissa said that, the situation became even more complicated and chaotic.

"What... what is going on !?! Why is the groom's ex-wife's daughter the granddaughter of the bride's mother?"

"Crap, does that mean that the groom's ex-wife and the bride's brother also had an affair before this ?"

"Oh my, that's too scandalous!"

Martin didn't want others to gossip about his family affairs and thus, immediately shot Stefan a glance.

In response, Stefan hurriedly said loudly, "Everyone, please return to your seats. We'll be serving the food immediately. Please enjoy your meal and drink to your hearts' content!"

Out of respect for the Howards, everyone immediately didn't dare to discuss any further and instead, returned to their seats immediately to enjoy the food and drinks. Soon, the atmosphere was happy and lively again.

At this moment, Hailey saw Jesse and Yumi, who seemed to be very upset about her betrayal of Jordan. She knew that she might not be able to get the Steeles' acknowledgment anymore.

Seeing that Brad's mother, Marissa, was willing to stand up for her, she quickly showed her goodwill and treated her kindly.

"Ma'am, you're Brad's mother, right ?"

Marissa looked at Hailey and said, "Yes, I'm his mother. Are you Hailey Camden from Orlando? You're very pretty. That explains why my son likes you so much."

Ruffling her hair, Hailey said shyly, "Nah, Ma'am, I'm just an ordinary girl compared to you. You're the beautiful one."

Marissa suddenly said, "I'm very happy that you gave birth to a daughter for Brad, Hailey. By the way, would you like to move into our place? I'd like to spend more time with my granddaughter. Since Brad is healing from an injury now, you can take care of him while you're by his side."

Hailey was stunned because she realized that Marissa seemed to be implying her acknowledgment of Hailey as her daughter-in-law!

Previously, Hailey had once fantasized about being the Howards^{*} daughter-in-law, but Brad made it clear that she was not worthy of marrying him. Brad said that he merely treated Hailey as a plaything and a friend-with-benefits.

Hailey was overjoyed but she quickly pretended to be worried. "Huh? Brad's injured? How did he get hurt? Can he still walk in the future?" Marissa glowered at Jordan before humphing coldly.

Hailey finally figured out what happened.

'No wonder Brad's mother approves of me and acknowledges me. It turns out that Jordan is the reason Brad is injured!'

Hailey immediately promised, "Ma'am, rest assured, I'll stay here and take good care of Brad."

At this moment, Jordan was extremely displeased. Now that Jordan was getting married to Lauren, Hailey would become his sister-in-law if she were to marry Brad.

'This mother-in-law of mine seems to be deliberately trying to upset me!'

Lauren could tell that Jordan was displeased. She said softly, "I'm sorry, Honey. My mom is behaving too nonsensically."

Not wanting to pull a long face on his big day, Jordan forced himself to smile.

"It's okay, we won't be living with Brad so we can at most choose not to see them."

At this juncture, Martin had already invited Jesse and his wife to take a seat at the same table with him and they had already begun to drink together.

On the other hand, Jordan and Lauren proceeded to toast to some of their elder relatives. There were hundreds of tables here and most of the guests were there out of admiration for the Howards. Jordan didn't have to toast to the guests at every single table.

After the toast, Jordan finally had the chance to catch his breath but Salvatore suddenly walked over.

"Mr. Jordan, look over there."

Salvatore pointed to a direction in the distance. Since it was extremely crowded, Jordan did not spot anything unusual at first.

"What do you mean?" Jordan asked.

Salvatore explained, "That one in the pink dress is Elle Camden!"

Only then did Jordan recognize her. "Elle Camden? What is she doing here?"

Jordan had run into Elle when he was still working as a security officer just a few days ago.

Salvatore whispered into Jordan's ear, "I was eavesdropping for a while and it seems that Elle is looking for a rich old man to be her sugar daddy!"

"What?"

Jordan looked over again, only to see that Elle, who was clad in a low-cut dress, was unabashedly flaunting her excellent figure to a man in his forties in front of her. The old man grabbed Elle's fair and tender arm lecherously, wishing he could do her there and then!

Chapter 404: Elle, The Next Hailey!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Seeing this scene, Jordan was extremely displeased. He could tell at a glance that the old man had ill intentions towards Elle and was taking liberties with her.

The strange thing was that Elle did not resist but instead had a shy look on her face.

Many men would take a woman's shyness as a signal for a man to pursue her!

"Could it be that Elle is taking the initiative to offer herself as his sugar baby ?"

Jordan frowned and walked over.

At this moment, the man was talking to Elle and Dakota. They were chatting merrily with glasses of wine in their hands.

Dakota kept recommending Elle to the man.

"Mr. Adler, Jenny has never even been in love and she hasn't lost her first kiss yet. Mr. Adler, you and Jenny seem to resemble each other. Why don't you take Jenny as your goddaughter?"

Obviously, Dakota and Elle couldn't explicitly ask him to take Elle as his sugar baby in public. However, they were all smart enough to know that they were implying that Mr. Adler would become Elle's sugar daddy.

Advertisementst

Everyone knew that sugar babies were common these days.

Mr. Adler was extremely pleased too. "Not bad, the fortune teller did tell me that I should acknowledge a goddaughter this year to have great luck, Jenny, are you willing to be my goddaughter?"

Jenny smiled and looked at the old man shyly. "Godfather!"

Without explicitly expressing her agreement, Jenny addressed him as her godfather straightaway.

"Hahahaha, good. I'll take you to have a good time in DC tonight."

Not showing any restraint, Mr. Adler wrapped his arm around Jenny's shoulders while the other middle-aged men at the same table laughed along. They all naturally understood what would happen to Mr. Adler and his "goddaughter" tonight.

At this moment, Jordan walked over.

"Here comes the groom."

When Mr. Adler saw Jordan, he also got really worked up. Although he was a big shot in the financial circle and film industry of DC, he was still a notch below the Howards. After witnessing the "confrontation" between Jordan's elder brother and Martin, he realized that the Steeles seemed to be even more powerful than the Howards.

Hence, Mr. Adler was very respectful to Jordan. "Hey Jordan, I've been friends with your father-in-law's family for decades and since it's your big day today, we must have a drink!"

As he spoke, Mr. Adler was about to pour some wine. Since he was a guest of the Howards, Jordan knew it was inappropriate to shame him. Otherwise, Jordan would have long lashed out at him for putting his arm around Elle's shoulder and grabbing her arm.

"I'm here to look for Elle."

"Elle? Who's Elle?" Mr. Adler was stunned.

At this moment, Elle lowered her head, not daring to look up at Jordan. She was greatly ashamed to have Jordan run into her while she was soliciting a sugar daddy.

Ignoring the older man, Jordan grabbed Elle's wrist.

"Come with me."

He then pulled Elle and went to the restroom on the second floor. Since the banquet had just started and everyone was eating, there was not a single person here.

Jordan was extremely displeased so he questioned, "Elle..."

"My name is now Jenny," Elle corrected.

Jordan looked at her face that had undergone plastic surgery, and indeed it was different from the original Elle.

"Okay, Jenny. Let me ask you, why did you acknowledge that old man as your godfather? You should be able to tell that he just wants to sleep with you, right?"

Elle said, "I want to be a famous celebrity and make good money! I think it's worth it to use my body for a chance to become famous."

Hearing those words from Elle made Jordan furious. He had never expected it to come from her.

All along, Jordan had treated her like she was his younger sister. In the past three years as Hailey's live-in husband, he often took care of Elle, who was still a pubescent girl at that time. Although she was mischievous, she had a lot of self-love and Jordan didn't want her to hold herself as cheap as this!

"I don't want to see you like this, and to become like Hailey! Don't sell your body for money! Once you do it for the first time, there'll be a second time. Look at what kind of a woman Hailey has become!

"The last time she went to see me in Houston, she checked into a hotel room with another man right after she said that she wanted to reconcile with me. You've seen how she reacted when she saw my brother today. If my sister-in-law hadn't come along, she might have knocked on my brother's door at night!" Hailey used to be a simple and adorable girl in the past but she had slowly reduced herself to such a state. How could Jordan bear to see Elle follow in Hailey's footsteps?

However, Elle thought otherwise. "What's wrong with how Hailey is right now? I think Hailey is great. She's rich and she's even set up her own company. Grandma praised her and said that she's the most competent one among us. She even wants me to learn from Hailey!"

"What!?!"

Jordan was shocked. 'Is Diana screwed up in the head? She wants Elle to learn from Hailey?!'

Did they forget how Hailey got rich?

She did so by cheating on her husband! The women of the Camden family were all money-grubbers!

'It's no wonder that Hailey and Elle have become who they are today. It's all Diana's fault!'

Jordan was exasperated. "Elle, no, I mean, Jenny. We've been getting along very well during this period of time and you've even helped me successfully divorce your cousin. I'm very grateful to you for it.

"I can't watch you fall into the doldrums like that. Once you make Mr. Adler your sugar daddy, you'll soon have a second and third sugar daddy. You're still young and you have no idea how insatiably lustful those bosses and investors in the entertainment industry are." However, Elle said, "I don't care as long as I can become famous and make big money!"

Jordan was stunned. 'Has Elle gone out of her mind because she's so obsessed with wanting to be rich and famous!?!'

He couldn't slap Elle to wake her up, because he was the very reason that she had ended up in the entertainment industry.

Advertisements

If Jordan didn't cause the Camdens to go bankrupt, Jenny would still be the heiress of the Camdens and live a carefree life.

Elle said emotionally, "Jordan, thank you for your kindness, I really appreciate it but if I can't rise to fame in the entertainment industry, I really can't bring myself to face my parents and grandmother. I'm going to accompany Mr. Adler tonight and my only regret is... not losing my virginity to you."

Jordan was stunned. 'This girl still likes me!'

For a moment, Jordan remembered the time when he took Jenny's first kiss in his office after finding out about Hailey and Cayden's affair.

If he wanted to, he could take Elle's virginity also.

Although Elle was gorgeous and had the best figure Jordan had ever seen, he had never felt any romantic feelings for her. Or rather, Elle had never appeared at the right time.

Perhaps it was all just a matter of mismatched timing.

"I'm sorry, Jordan, just think of me as a lowly woman and stay out of my life from now on. I'll continue on the path that I have chosen!"

Jenny's eyes were filled with tears and he was about to leave after saying those words.

Jordan grabbed Jenny's wrist and said, "I won't let you become the next Hailey.. You want to be famous, huh? Fine, I'll make you famous!"

Chapter 405: The Struggle On The Wedding Night

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Elle was so touched that she leaped into Jordan's arms and even kissed him.

Jordan hurriedly pushed Elle away and snapped, "What are you trying to do!?! What if my wife sees us!?!"

The Howards were the hosts today so if they were to see anything untoward, Jordan would really be unable to bear the consequences.

Elle was extremely agitated too as she hurriedly took out some wet wipes and handed them to Jordan for him to wipe himself.

There were still traces of Jenny's lipstick on him.

Jordan looked at his reflection in the mirror and carefully wiped himself clean before giving Elle a warning. "You're not allowed to do this again, do you hear me? I treat you as my younger sister."

Elle said, "Jordan, as long as you are willing to help me become famous, I'm willing to do anything for you. When you're bored, you can always look for me to keep you company."

In response, Jordan said, "I don't need you to do anything for me, nor do I need you to sleep with me. If it weren't for me, your family wouldn't have been reduced to such a penniless state. This is what I owe to you."

Advertisementst

Although her parents had been resentful towards Jordan for causing the Camdens to go bankrupt, Elle had never felt that way.

"Jordan, how do you want to promote me and help me become famous?"

After a pause, Jordan said, "I don't know anyone in the domestic entertainment industry either, and I have no way to invest in you now that my funds are frozen. So I'll take you to meet my brother. He should know some people in the local film industry."

Jordan was acquainted with big names like Christopher Nolan, James Cameron, and other notable directors of their level. Given the fact that Elle was still in her first year of studies at the film academy, she clearly couldn't act in films that they directed.

Hence, Jordan took Jenny downstairs and brought her to Jesse's table.

At this moment, he was drinking wine with Martin and Stefan while chatting with them happily.

Jesse was surprised to see Jordan bringing a woman with a superb figure over.

"Jordan, this is?"

"This is Jenny, the cousin of my former wife."

Everyone was stunned. 'Why are the Camdens here at Jordan Steele's wedding ?'

It was no secret that Jesse and Yumi had a bad impression of Hailey, and thus, they didn't have a good impression of Elle either.

Elle took the initiative to go forward and called out, "Jesse, Yumi, I'm pleased to finally have the opportunity to meet you. There is one thing you may not know. Our grandfathers initially arranged for me and Jordan to get married when they were discussing the engagement back then. But my father opposed it because I was underage at the time so Hailey replaced me.

"If only I had married Jordan at that time, I would have treated him well."

Jesse and Yumi looked at each other, at a complete loss for words. The Howards could also tell that this woman, the cousin of Jordan's former spouse, was somewhat fond of Jordan.

Jordan was extremely awkward as well. "Let's stop talking about this. By the way, Jesse, do you know someone who deals with

local film investments? Jenny has recently delved into the entertainment industry, and I want to make her famous."

Since it was Jordan's request, Jesse naturally wouldn't turn him down.

"I do know a few directors. I can recommend her to both of them."

"Really? Thank you, Jesse!" Jenny was overjoyed.

At this moment, Stefan suddenly said, "Miss Jenny, do you want to break into the entertainment industry? Actually, the quickest way to become famous nowadays is not by acting in movies but by participating in reality shows.

"I happen to know a guy who runs a film and TV productions company, which produced a program called Creating Idols. The artistes that get selected each year tend to immediately shoot to fame. Miss Jenny, if you have a background in singing and dancing, I can guarantee that you will rise to fame and become a household name in the country within six months!"

Elle was surprised and flattered. "I do! I can sing and dance!"

Jordan was puzzled because he didn't expect Lauren's father to be so enthusiastic as to help him out. It seemed that the Howards also wanted to show off their power in front of Jesse.

"Thank you," Jordan thanked Stefan.

Stefan waved his hand and said, "We're already a family, what's there to thank me for? It's just a trivial matter."

The boss of the film company was also there, and Stefan personally took Jenny to see him. After the two people left, Clarice suddenly interjected while staring at Jenny's graceful back.

"Jordan, your former cousin-in-law is so hot. Have you ever had a thing with her? Otherwise, why do you still want to help her when you no longer have anything to do with the Camdens?"

It was obvious Clarice was trying to say that Jordan had slept with Jenny!

Given that Lauren was present, she felt extremely awkward. However, Jordan wasn't upset by the veiled accusation. He merely said, "Yeah, my former cousin-in-law has such a good figure, and I feel the difference now. My wife's face and figure are comparable to my ex-wife, though not on par. But my current sister-in-law is far inferior."

Clarice had a mediocre figure that was worlds apart from Jenny!

"You... Are you saying that I have a poor figure!?!"

Clarice was astounded.

"Did I say something wrong?" Jordan coldly snorted.

Martin, on the other hand, burst into laughter and raised his wine glass while looking at Jesse.

"Kids just like playing a fool. Let's drink."

Jesse smiled. He didn't harbor any animosity or hostility towards spoiled brats like Clarice who liked talking back to others. However, he harbored a strong animosity towards Brad, who had previously made a cuckold of Jordan!

That caused Brad to be too scared to even sit at this table!

The gaze in Jesse's eyes alone was enough to frighten Brad to the point of shuddering!

Even Jordan had never made Brad that fearsome before. The imposing presence made Brad feel that Jesse was a much more powerful existence than Jordan!

•••

The wedding soon ended smoothly and it was extremely dramatic.

However, it had fortunately come to a successful end.

At ten o'clock in the evening, Jordan and Lauren headed back to Lauren's bungalow in a car.

There were wedding decorations all over the house, on the corners, windows, and doors, adding a touch of celebratory joy.

It was the night of Jordan and Lauren's wedding. To keep Chloe from playing a fool and causing trouble, the maid Felicia even took her to live with Lauren's parents to leave Jordan and Lauren alone in the bungalow.

Upon arriving home, Lauren took a shower, removed her makeup, and put on a silk nightgown, which would be an absolute temptation for any man. She took care in gently applying skincare products to make herself smell good.

Advertisements

"Honey, it's been a long day. Get on the bed and get some rest."

However, Jordan remained in his seat without moving at all.

"Lauren, go to bed first, I'm not sleepy yet."

It wasn't that Jordan wasn't sleepy but rather, he didn't want to sleep with Lauren! All he could think about was the gift from Victoria and the congratulatory message to congratulate him on getting married!

He was still in love with Victoria, so how could he sleep with another woman?

"Oh."

Lauren laid down to get some rest, filled with disappointment.

At midnight, Jordan got on the bed, thinking that Lauren must have already fallen asleep. However, to Jordan's surprise, Lauren grabbed his hand as soon as he lay down.

"Honey."

Lauren's gentle voice was heartbreaking ..

Chapter 406: Jordan, You' re A Scumbag!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

It was dead silent in the pitch dark room.

Jordan said gently, "Lauren, you... you're still awake ?"

Lauren turned sideways to face Jordan.

"Honey, you know what? I've waited three whole years for this day. Often I've fantasized about being your wife. Perhaps even every day. My dream was to marry you. I don't dare to beg you to love me as much as you love Victoria and I don't ask for much either. I just want to be like an ordinary woman who leads a normal life and has a loving husband.

"Honey, please don't neglect me, okay?"

Lauren wasn't a fool and she could obviously tell that Jordan had been deliberately neglecting her for the last two hours.

Jordan was put in a difficult spot. "Lauren..."

Lauren said pitifully, "Honey, I've never experienced the joy of being a woman in my life. I'm already 26 years old, I don't want to wait until I'm 30..."

Jordan was both shocked and sympathetic towards Lauren. He was shocked that Lauren's only sexual encounter was when he slept with her in Syria four years ago.

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Besides, that wasn't a pleasant memory for Lauren but an agonizing one.

Since then... To think that she hadn't slept with a single man before. It came as a surprise to Jordan.

It was indeed quite pitiful for a woman who was almost 30 years old. After all, beautiful women like Lauren usually had lots of suitors.

Jordan sighed in self-reproach, knowing that he was the cause of Lauren's current plight. Since he had married Lauren, the only thing he could do now was to make her happy. He had to do so even if it was only for a short period of time.

Jordan gently caressed Lauren's hair in the dark and let his lips roam down as he kissed her...

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At this moment, it suddenly began pouring amidst thunderclaps.

On the other hand, Brad went to Martin's home and they began chatting with each other in the night. Brad was surprised by Jesse's aura and frightened by the look in his eyes.

Hence, when he arrived at Martin's place, Brad gave him a suggestion.

"Grandpa, haven't you always wanted to know the secrets of the Steeles? Jesse is already in his thirties, he definitely already knows what they are! We can't lose this opportunity. He finally came to our turf so why don't we just nab him and force him to confess!?!"

Brad always felt that Jesse would seek revenge on him for making him a cuckold so he wanted to make the first move. With a shake of his head, Martin only said, "What a naive child. Do you think that Jesse came alone ?"

Brad said indignantly, "Hmph, even if he has connections in the country, he is no match for us!"

Martin sighed and said, "Son, do you know where he is now and who he's with ?"

Brad shook his head.

Martin said, "The British royal family! He came here with the prince and princess! Are you out of your mind? How dare you think of harming Jesse Steele?"

Brad then pounded his chest and exclaimed, "Damn it, that Jesse really is something!"

Martin sat in his chair and said with a smile, "Now that Lauren and Jordan are married, we're considered the Steeles' in-laws and we can clearly use Lauren to get some news. Why do we have to fall out with them? Brad, from now on, you should also treat Jordan better. He's your brother-in-law now after all."

Brad looked at his injured leg and humphed angrily. "I'm not going to acknowledge him! I'm at loggerheads with him!"

Without saying another word, Martin only smiled.

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By the time Lauren woke up in Jordan's arms again the next day, it was already past 10 am.

In fact, Jordan woke up very early and he merely didn't want to move his body because he didn't want to wake her up.

Lauren opened her eyes and smiled shyly with bliss when she saw Jordan.

As Jordan looked at Lauren who was sleeping, he said with a smile, "Lazy bum, are you finally awake? It's almost 11 am."

"Huh? It's already 11 am?"

Lauren got a great shock too because she usually woke up at six or seven in the morning.

Jordan looked at the gorgeous Lauren and said, "It's okay, anyway, Chloe is at Marissa's place anyway. You can sleep in if you're tired."

Lauren recalled what happened last night and suddenly felt embarrassed. She was a girl and yet, she actually took the initiative to say those things...

"Um... I'll get up after you do."

Lauren was a little shy. It was the first time Jordan had seen such a shy girl, so he got up first to wash up. Afterward, when Lauren finished washing up and putting on her makeup, it was already close to noon.

Once they were ready to go, the two drove to Lauren's parents' place to have lunch.

"Dad! Mom!"

With the gifts in hand, Jordan greeted Lauren's parents.

"Oh, you're here, Jordan. Come on in. It's pouring heavily outside. You didn't get caught in the rain, did you?"

Stefan greeted them with a smile. He was rather amicable. However, Marissa was different. She glanced at Jordan and ignored him.

"Chloe!"

"Mommy!"

As soon as Lauren came in, she went to Chloe.

Lauren pulled the girl into a hug and asked, "Chloe, were you obedient when you stayed here last night?"

Chloe nodded. "Mommy, where's my little brother?"

Lauren asked in bewilderment, "What little brother ?"

Chloe said, "Felicia said that you two gave birth to my little brother last night. I want a little brother."

Lauren couldn't help but laugh and say, "Silly baby, it won't be so quick. Even if you want a younger sibling, you have to wait till next year for him or her to be born."

When Lauren's family looked at her, they felt that she was a little different. She had become bubblier and there was a blissful look on her face. Her parents could tell that she was very happy now.

Lauren's parents were not the only ones around. Brad and Hailey happened to be there too.

Hailey walked in through the door while pushing the stroller along. She said, "You don't have to wait till next year. You've got a little brother."

Afterward, she glanced at Jordan and said, "They're both your kids. Aren't you going to introduce him to your daughter?"

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Although Jordan was displeased at the sight of Hailey, he knew that she was right. It was a fact that Chloe was Jordan's child, as was Hailey's son. Jordan hoped that they could get along harmoniously and support each other.

Taking Chloe's hand, Jordan led her to the two babies. Pointing at the baby boy, he said, "This is your brother."

Chloe looked at the boy with surprise written all over her face. "Wow, Daddy, you and Mommy gave birth to a little brother so soon!"

Everyone burst into laughter because they were amused by Chloe.

Rendered speechless, Hailey didn't want to argue with a four-year-old girl.

"Jordan, come here, I have something to ask you."

Hailey brought Jordan to the second floor and asked as soon as he came up.

Did you sleep with Lauren... yesterday?"

Jordan laughed and asked, "Nonsense. We've already registered our marriage and received the marriage certificate. Of course, we've already slept with each other. What are you asking this question for ? Does it matter to you ?"

Hailey was clearly displeased. "Scumbag! A few days ago, you were head-over-heels in love with Victoria and now you're sleeping with another woman in the blink of an eye.. Don't you think you're letting Victoria down!?!"

Chapter 407: Hailey Camden, You' re Going To Be The Death Of Me!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan was speechless for a while.

"What does it have to do with you whether I'm letting Victoria down or not? Are you affected in any way? Don't pretend to be on good terms with Victoria in front of me. You've been against her for more than a day or two!"

While anyone had the right to scold Jordan for letting Victoria down, the only person who didn't have the right to do so was Hailey.

Jordan still remembered how she had snatched away Victoria's office and called her an unscrupulous vixen.

"Yes, I used to hate Victoria in the past but now, I think she's just as pitiful as I am! We've both been cheated out of our feelings by you, jerk! You're always putting on airs and despising my love for money in that condescending manner of yours. You pretend like love has nothing to do with money or status.

"And what happened in the end? The Steeles look down on me because I'm from a third-tier family, so you didn't choose me. You didn't choose Victoria either because her parents have passed away and she's homeless.

"In the end, you chose the famous Howards because they can help you! You abandoned Victoria for the sake of your own interests and profits and chose to marry into the Howards instead. Who are you to criticize me!?!"

Jordan was infuriated by Hailey for accusing him of marrying Lauren for the sake of benefits.

Indeed, the Howards were more powerful than the Steeles. Once he married Lauren, Jordan would never have to worry about things like having his assets frozen or being investigated by the police.

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However, Jordan had never wanted to use the Howards for clout!

Jordan snapped furiously, "Bullshit! Don't make me sound like you! I'm warning you, take the child back to Orlando immediately. Don't loiter around in the Howards' home anymore!" Hailey humphed coldly and retorted, "Why should I leave? Your mother-in-law personally invited me to stay at the Howards' place and your in-laws like me a lot!"

Seeing how smug Hailey was, Jordan couldn't help but reach his hand out to poke her head.

"You stupid pig. You've already been divorced thrice and you're still fantasizing about marrying into a wealthy family? The Howards will only get married for the sake of benefits and their marriage partners must be of a compatible background. It's definitely impossible for you to marry into the Howards.

"The reason that Marissa kept you behind is to use you to anger me because I broke her son's legs. That's why she keeps hating me and being jealous of me. Don't you understand?"

Hailey stomped her feet in anger. "Don't poke me with your finger! What do you care if I'm willing to be used? I'm going to stay, I'm going to kill you, you scumbag!"

As she said that, Hailey slapped Jordan's body hard twice before flouncing off in exasperation.

Looking at the familiar back, Jordan couldn't help but sigh with emotion.

"Hailey, oh, Hailey, what have I done to you in my last life to have you pester me like a ghost in this life!?!"

After washing his hands, Jordan made his way downstairs for breakfast.

Jordan, Lauren, and Hailey sat at the same dining table. The two of them were Jordan's current wife and ex-wife respectively, and they were both top beauties in the country.

The atmosphere at the table became rather strange.

Hailey was clearly comparing herself to Lauren, both in terms of table manners and mannerisms.

Stefan, who was sitting in the main seat, looked at Lauren and Hailey on the left and right and couldn't help but speak up.

"Actually, there's really a bit of a resemblance between Hailey and Lauren. If only Hailey was my daughter too."

Marissa laughed and said, "Yes, I felt like I was looking at my own daughter when I met Hailey for the first time."

Hailey was overjoyed to hear that. "Sir, Ma'am, I felt a sense of closeness to you two when I met you for the first time. It feels as if you two are my parents!"

Despite letting out a cold humph, Jordan otherwise remained silent. However, looking at the gorgeous Hailey and Lauren, Jordan couldn't help but feel lucky.

"I've married the most beautiful women in the country."

At this moment, Stefan suddenly asked, "Jordan, I'd like to invite your brother over for dinner tonight. Is he available?"

Jordan took out his phone and said, "I'll ask him."

Jordan sent a text to Jesse, who soon replied.

Jordan said to Stefan, "My brother has to accompany the prince for dinner tonight, I'm afraid he won't be able to make it."

Stefan smiled, knowing that Jesse was accompanying the British royal family. "It's okay, hosting the prince is more important."

On the other hand, Brad suddenly started singing in disdain. Hailey and Marissa couldn't help but burst into laughter. However, Lauren could tell that her brother was being sarcastic and hence did not laugh.

Besides, Jordan hadn't heard that song before so he didn't know what Brad was trying to imply.

"Hahahaha..."

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"A bunch of lunatics."
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Jordan ignored him and instead, continued to eat to replenish his energy after an exhausting night.

Soon, it was nine in the evening and Jordan had just finished dinner. He initially wanted to have dinner before going home. However, he didn't expect the rain to get even heavier.

Seeing his predicament, Stefan said, "Jordan, it's raining very heavily outside and it's not safe for you to drive. Don't go home tonight. Just stay here for the night. Lauren's room is on the second floor."

"Sure."

There was no reason to refuse as Jordan wasn't against the idea of staying at his in-laws' house. However, the fact that Hailey was here made him feel extremely uncomfortable!

Hailey and Brad's room was also on the second floor, right across from Jordan's and Lauren's room!

After tucking his daughter, Chloe, in bed, Jordan returned to his own room.

By 11 pm, everyone returned to their rooms to sleep. However, there were two knocks on the door of Jordan's and Lauren's room.

Jordan and Lauren looked at each other, and when Jordan saw that Lauren was going to bed, he said, "I'll go and open the door."

He opened the door, only to see that it was Hailey!

"What's the matter?"

Hailey, who was clad in Chanel pajamas and still wearing the scent that Jordan was most familiar with, said, "I'm looking for you guys to borrow something."

"What do you mean ?" Jordan asked.

Hailey said, "The thing you gotta use at night. We need it too but we didn't buy any."

Jordan said in puzzlement, "What nonsense are you babbling?"

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As soon as he finished speaking, Jordan realized what Hailey wanted to borrow.

Jordan was exasperated. "Hailey Camden, are you deliberately trying to disgust me? Don't try to borrow anything from me, we don't have any!"

After saying that, he closed the door furiously.

"What a petty miser!" Hailey left angrily.

After coming back, Lauren immediately went forth to comfort Jordan when she saw how furious he was.

"Honey, what's wrong? What did Hailey come to borrow?"

Jordan said angrily, "She wasn't here to borrow anything but to deliberately piss me off!"

Lauren kept stroking Jordan's back and spoke to him comfortingly. "I'm sorry, Honey. It's all my mom's fault for deliberately letting Hailey stay behind to anger you. We'll leave tomorrow and not live here anymore, okay?"

"Okay," Jordan said while holding onto Lauren's hand.

He was glad that his wife understood him so well and spared a thought for him in everything!

Chapter 408: Hailey Camden, What Are You Doing !?!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

It seemed that every woman he met after divorcing Hailey was very kind and understanding.

Lauren said gently, "It's getting late. Let's... go to bed earlier."

"Okay."

Jordan could tell that Lauren was shy and surprised. The first time he saw Lauren, he thought she was an aloof and cold goddess. He had never expected that she would become so clingy after marrying him.

Soon, the lights in Jordan's and Lauren's room were switched off. On the other hand, the lights in Brad and Hailey's room remained lit.

About 40 minutes later, the light in Jordan's and Lauren's room came back on. On the contrary, the lights in Brad and Hailey's room went out at this moment.

Jordan switched on the lights, walked out of the room, and walked towards the bathroom on the second floor of the villa to wash up.

Coincidentally, Hailey was holding her phone in her right hand and using the flashlight function of her phone as she walked to the bathroom.

The two of them happened to bump into each other.

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At this moment, it was almost midnight. Jordan looked at Hailey, who was dressed in only a pink tank top and shorts.

He was extremely careful as if he had just done something terrible.

Jordan felt really unlucky because he didn't expect to have run into her at such a juncture. It just so happened that the two of them wanted to use the bathroom at this moment. As a man, he naturally wouldn't vie with her.

He said, "Go ahead, I'll go downstairs to take a bath."

After saying that, he rolled his eyes at Hailey and then got ready to leave.

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"Hold it right there!"
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Hailey suddenly called out to Jordan and asked, "Jordan, what's up with that look in your eyes?"

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"What look ?" Jordan asked.
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Hailey humphed coldly and exclaimed, "You're clearly in disdain towards me! I was married to you for three years. Why wouldn't I be able to tell?"

Jordan didn't deny it. "That's right, I really dislike you and I look down on you! I just want to throw up at the thought of the fact that you used to be my wife and the woman I used to love the most! "You've become more and more cheap and shameless. I used to treat you like the most noble and the purest woman in the world. Even though we've been married for three years, you wouldn't even let me get intimate with you but I didn't have any resentment towards you!

"On the contrary, that made me feel that you're very noble, unlike other women! But what about now? You sleep with just anyone! Now, I really feel that I was a fool in those three years!"

Hailey was infuriated to have been insulted and despised by Jordan, which made her feel terribly ashamed!

Smack!

Hailey slapped him and exclaimed, "You're not allowed to say that about me!"

'Hah, you have the guts to do it but you won't let others talk about it?'

Smack!

Jordan also slapped her back as he roared, "You have no right to hit me now! Even if you're really together with Brad now, I'm still your brother-in-law! Besides, he's just toying with you and he definitely won't marry you!"

The slap from Jordan hurt Hailey physically, as well as her self-esteem. She glowered at him and she said angrily, "Jordan Steele, you're a scumbag. So you're allowed to be with other women but you won't let me date another man, huh? Fine, I'll let you embarrass yourself in front of your parents-in-law!" After saying that, Hailey suddenly shouted in the bathroom.

"Ah! Help! Brad, come and save me! Jordan, what are you doing? Don't touch me, let go of me! Aunt Marissa, Uncle Stefan, quickly come save me!"

Hailey said while ripping her clothes and hair.

Jordan was shocked. 'What is Hailey Camden trying to do!?!'

It was bright early in the morning so it was dead silent and the slightest movement could be heard very clearly.

Besides, Hailey had just yelled so loudly.

Jordan immediately covered Hailey's mouth and exclaimed, "Bitch, stop yelling!"

However, Hailey insisted on slandering Jordan as she bit his hand hard and continued yelling loudly.

Soon, Lauren put on her clothes and came out of the room while Brad wheeled himself out of his room in the electric wheelchair. On the other hand, Stefan and Marissa too, quickly came down from the bedroom on the third floor to go downstairs to check on the situation.

The four of them came to the bathroom on the 2nd floor, only to see that Jordan and Hailey were both scantily clad.

Besides, Hailey's hair was messy and her eyes were stained with tears, as if something had really happened.

When Hailey saw Marissa walking over, she moved over immediately too.

"Aunt Marissa, you have to speak up for me. I just came to the bathroom and Jordan actually... tried to..."

Brad was so furious that his face was flushed too. "Jordan Steele, you scoundrel, you've just married Lauren and you're already thinking of cheating on her? Are you human at all?!"

Jordan hated being wronged by others, especially women like Hailey, and he bellowed at Hailey again, "Ridiculous! I feel repulsed by the mere sight of you. How can I possibly take liberties with you!?!"

However, Marissa didn't believe Jordan.

She walked up to Jordan, raised her arm, and gave him a hard slap.

Smack!

Marissa was enraged. "Jordan! You are already married to Lauren and you should no longer have anything to do with your ex-wife! Hailey is now your brother-in-law's girlfriend. How can you take liberties with her?!

"I know what it is. You must be feeling cynical about what Brad did to you in the past so you're trying to get back at him in the same manner, huh? You've already shot Brad in the leg and you want to torture him again now, huh!?"

Jordan was speechless. "No!"

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Lauren hurriedly stood in front of Jordan and said, "Mom, how can you hit someone when you haven't gotten to the bottom of everything? I believe Jordan isn't such a person."

"You..."

Marissa was just about to speak when Stefan suddenly thundered out, "That's enough! All of you, shut up and go back to your rooms. You're not allowed to come out again!"

Stefan had always been gentle and refined as a father, and he rarely lost his temper.

Once they heard his words, no one dared to say anything else and went back to their rooms. When Marissa and Stefan returned to their room on the third floor, Stefan questioned Marissa.

"Do you really believe what Hailey said? Hailey is indeed pretty and Jordan might still have lingering feelings for her. But Jordan is a promising young man from a wealthy family and no matter how much he likes her, he couldn't have taken liberties with her in the bathroom of his parents-in-law's house, right?"

Marissa humphed coldly and said, "Of course I know Hailey Camden was lying. I was just doing that on purpose because I wanted to hit him and take it out on him for Brad!" Your son has been crippled and yet you're still laughing and joking all day long with the culprit who caused him to end up that way. Do you treat Brad as your son at all? Or do you suspect that I have done something wrong to you and Brad is not your real son?" Stefan said helplessly, "Oh, what are you saying? Honey, Brad may have been wrong about this but just think about how powerful the Steeles are. Fortunately, Jordan has quite a good character and he listens to advice. If it were either of his brothers, what do you think would happen if their wives cheated on them?"

Marissa gave it some thought and recalled how imposing Jesse was.

"Maybe... Brad would have died!"

Chapter 409: Falling In Love With Lauren!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Stefan also very much agreed with Marissa's assumption. It was true that Jordan's elder brother seemed to be simple and non-ambitious as he was even willing to give the power and assets he had to Jordan.

However, Stefan knew that the descendants of the Steeles had all been through tough trials and tests so none of them were silly and simple-minded.

This alone made Stefan feel that Jesse was unfathomable!

After Jordan and Lauren returned to the room, Jordan was extremely awkward when facing her. He didn't want Lauren to misunderstand that he treated marriage as child's play.

"Lauren, don't listen to Hailey's nonsense. I didn't touch her at all and she was the one who tried to frame me." However, to his surprise, Lauren smiled.

"Honey, you don't need to explain to me, I definitely believe you."

"Lauren..."

Jordan did not expect Lauren to trust him that much and thus, was extremely touched.

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It was still pouring the next morning, so Jordan and Lauren left together with Chloe without bidding goodbye to Lauren's parents.

They didn't even eat breakfast.

It was Lauren who suggested it because she knew that Jordan did not want to see Hailey at breakfast.

Lauren was always sparing a thought for Jordan and prioritizing him. For the sake of Jordan, she could forgo all etiquette, even toward her parents.

What man wouldn't want to marry such a wife!?!

On the way back, Chloe dozed off as soon as she got in the car because she had gotten up too early after being woken up before she had enough sleep. Lauren then asked Jordan, "Honey, should we give Chloe a younger brother or sister?"

They had already slept with each other for two consecutive days so she reckoned that they would probably continue being in a loving relationship in the future.

Hence, Lauren thought of giving Jordan another child.

On the other hand, Jordan felt like he was put in a difficult spot. He had indeed started to like Lauren more and more, but he had never forgotten Victoria.

He also didn't forget that he married Lauren to find out Victoria's whereabouts!

While driving, Jordan said, "There's no rush. If you get pregnant, you can't go anywhere because you can only stay at home to nurse the pregnancy. We just got married, I still want to take you around the world to have lots of fun."

Lauren really liked that excuse because she also wanted to travel around the world with Jordan.

"Okay, okay, fine! But you have to take responsibility if I accidentally get pregnant when we're traveling," Lauren said while chuckling.

Jordan smiled and said, "I will take responsibility, don't worry."

Just like that, another day passed.

At 6:30 the next morning, Jordan slowly opened his eyes, only to find that Lauren was no longer beside him. He turned around to

see that Lauren had already put on makeup and a beautiful white dress.

She looked extremely elegant, especially after wearing the most expensive pair of earrings in the world that Jordan gave her!

Jordan jokingly asked, "Honey, you're wearing such a beautiful dress bright early in the morning. Are you going on a date with some hunk?"

At that moment, Lauren was putting on her earrings in front of the mirror. Seeing that Jordan was awake, she said smilingly, "Honey, you're awake. Did you forget? Jesse and Yumi asked us out for breakfast this morning."

While saying that, Lauren sat down on the edge of the bed. The faint scent of Hermes Orange Starlight perfume immediately wafted up to his nose.

Jordan couldn't help but hold Lauren's slender wrist. The couple was almost inseparable these days.

With a laugh, Jordan said, "We're just going to meet my brother and sister-in-law. Why bother dressing up in such formal wear? We are a family, you can just dress normally."

Lauren said, "How can I do that? I heard that your brother and sister-in-law are staying with the British royal family. In case we meet, wouldn't I seem too rude if I'm dressed too casually?"

Only then did Jordan understand why Lauren was dressed so formally.

Indeed, people from notable families did attach great importance to etiquette when meeting guests.

At this moment, Jordan suddenly noticed that Lauren had already put on her makeup but she didn't put on any lipstick.

"Honey, you seem to have applied foundation and everything else except lipstick," Jordan reminded.

However, Lauren didn't seem to have panicked at all. Instead, she looked really shy. "I... I didn't forget."

Jordan smiled and suddenly understood why Lauren had deliberately left out her lipstick.

It turned out that she wanted a morning kiss!

'Hah, women! It turns out that Lauren, who has always been pure and simple, is such a scheming girl!'

Jordan pretended not to understand what she was driving out and hurriedly got out of bed. He frantically said, "We're running late. I'll hurry and wash up so we can leave soon."

"Wait a minute, Honey! Ugh!"

Lauren tugged at Jordan's shirt, but Jordan walked away directly, making her so furious that she stomped her feet.

Jordan was overjoyed. He initially thought that after getting married to Lauren, the two would keep a certain distance from each other. To his surprise, their relationship progressed very quickly. In just three days, they had already become so close that they could tease each other and joke around without any awkwardness.

The rain had already stopped today and after the couple dressed up, they drove to the hotel where Jesse and Yumi were.

The hotel that Jesse stayed in was usually the venue used to receive important foreign guests, such as dignitaries, royal families, famous figures, scientists and so on. There was no way for ordinary people to get in.

When Jordan and Lauren entered, they had to undergo a security frisk. First, they were scanned by the machine before being frisked by the security personnel. There was double security.

Of course, the security officers who carried out the inspection were of mixed gender, so that each guest would be searched by an officer of the same sex.

However, Jordan surprisingly felt a little jealous even when watching a woman touch Lauren's body.

'Geez, surely I haven't really fallen in love with Lauren, right? I actually got jealous because of that! It shouldn't be so quick!'

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Real feelings might develop over a long period of time. Jordan and Lauren had only been married for three days but why did he have such strong feelings for her? Jordan had studied psychology, so he did not need to rely on others to analyze his feelings as he began to do so himself.

'I think the reason that I took a liking to Lauren so quickly is that Lauren and Hailey are very similar to each other! Both of them are beautiful, and I used to like Hailey a lot, but Hailey doesn't deserve to be loved so deeply by me.

'On the other hand, Lauren is not only as pretty as Hailey, she also has the virtues that many women don't. She is kind, loyal, devoted, and understanding. I guess it can be said that she has all of Hailey's advantages and none of her flaws!'

After a careful analysis, Jordan felt that it probably wouldn't take long for him to completely fall in love with such a perfect woman.

'Victoria, please come back quickly...'

Jordan could only pray to himself that way. Otherwise, he really couldn't be certain.

Will I be unable to leave Lauren when Victoria appears one day!?

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"Jesse! Emma!"
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Jordan and Lauren immediately spotted Jesse and Yumi when they reached the hotel restaurant..

Chapter 410: Finding Out The Truth About Victoria's Disappearance!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jesse and Yumi were having breakfast in the public dining area, dressed in appropriate attire for the setting. There were not many people here as most of them were foreigners.

"Go and help yourselves to some food."

Yumi smiled at the two. The breakfast was buffet-style and the patrons didn't need to present a ticket to dine there. Anyone who could enter the hotel would be free to choose from a plethora of hundreds and even thousands of delicacies.

Lauren was already one step ahead and went to pick the food. Although Jordan also wanted to go with her, Jesse had already stood up and walked over at this moment.

Jesse said, "Jordan, come upstairs with me to get something. We'll come back again to eat afterward."

"Oh."

Jordan didn't say anything and instead, walked out with Jesse.

When he reached the elevator, Jordan asked, "Jesse, nothing happened in DC the past few days, right?"

Jesse shook his head. "It's okay, I'm here with the prince and the princess for some business matters and private matters too. The Howards wouldn't dare to do anything to me."

Swiping his card, Jesse entered the room but he didn't seem to be looking for anything in particular. Jordan could tell that Jesse had deliberately called him to come upstairs so that he could have a word with him alone. "Jordan, I'm leaving tonight."

Jordan was a little surprised. "You're leaving tonight? Don't you want to stay for a few more days? Lauren's parents and grandfather would like to have a meal with you again."

Jesse shook his head with a solemn expression. "I actually took a great risk in coming here. I can't stay here for long."

Jordan nodded, understanding that the Steeles^{*} current situation was indeed at a very tricky stage.

Continuing, Jesse said with a stern expression, "Before I leave, there are a few things that I want to tell you. After the last few days of scouting, I was able to find out where Jamie is."

"Where's Jamie now ?" Jamie asked curiously.

Jesse shook his head and said, "I don't know, but he came to DC some time ago and he even took Victoria with him."

Jamie was immediately stunned. "Jesse… What did you say? Did you say that Victoria was taken away?"

Jordan had always thought that the Howards had kept Victoria captive to force him to marry Lauren!

In response, Jesse took out a photo from a handbag. It looked like it had just been printed out.

"Look, here is the photo taken by the surveillance camera at the airport that day."

Jordan carefully looked at the photo of the two of them.

However, based on their figures and the look in their eyes, Jordan was 100% sure that they were Jamie and Victoria!

In fact, Victoria was wearing the same dress as she did on the day that they broke up!

"There's no mistake, this is Victoria!"

Jordan was extremely excited. This was the first time he had ever gotten any information about Victoria's whereabouts since she went missing for no reason!

At this moment, Jordan also realized that Jesse's connections were much stronger than his. He had checked for such a long time but he still hadn't discovered any of Victoria's whereabouts.

However, Jesse had only been here for three days and yet, he had already found a photo of Victoria and Jamie. Besides, it had been quite a long time since she went missing.

The longer it had been since a matter has passed, the more difficult it is to investigate it.

In fact, Jesse had also gone through a trial about seven or eight years ago. Hence, he had his own network of connections and henchmen here.

However, Jesse had always been a very private person. To the point that even Jordan, his brother, didn't know whose Jesse's henchmen were, let alone outsiders.

With the photo in hand, Jordan asked continuously, "Why did Jamie take Victoria away!?!"

"Ah."

At this moment, Jesse surprisingly lowered his head and sighed, as if he was having a hard time trying to speak.

Given how much Jordan loved Victoria, how could he stand not knowing the answer?

He grabbed Jesse's clothes and asked loudly, "Jesse, do you know something? Quickly, tell me!"

Seemingly put in a spot, Jesse said, "Jordan, you and I grew up together with Jamie. Now that we're adults, we may go through long periods without contacting each other or seeing each other. But I think our brotherhood has never vanished."

Jordan thought so too. The three of them had always been close and their relationship was much better than most brothers of ordinary families!

Jesse said, "But in the end, Jamie and I are not born to the same mother. We might treat him as our biological brother but he might not treat us as his brothers. I've always felt that he harbors a strong animosity towards the two of us."

"What?"

Jordan was stunned. 'Why would Jamie...'

Jesse said, "Jordan, think about it carefully. He sent Lauren to you during your battlefield training. Do you think it was a coincidence or a deliberate act of his? There are countless beautiful women in the country. Of all women, why did he have to pick one from a powerful family like the Howards?"

Actually, Jordan had also thought about that question and felt that it was definitely not a coincidence that Jamie had sent Lauren to him!

Lauren may be gorgeous but she was not the only beauty around. Besides, there was also Hailey, who was from a third-tier family and wasn't valued by her grandmother.

It would be fun if he had given Hailey to Jordan and let him toy with her.

After the deed was done, he wouldn't be hunted down by the Camdens either.

Jesse asked, "Did the Howards take revenge on you because of what happened between you and Lauren? Was your life in danger at some point too?"

Jordan nodded.

Brad had deliberately bribed Hailey with money to seek justice for Lauren who had been violated by Jordan. He caused Jordan to end up having one of his twin children being fathered by another man, which left Jordan on the edge of collapsing in the end.

After that, Jordan broke into the Howards' home.

If it wasn't for the UFO-shaped aircraft that he brought and hid nearby, he would have already been killed by the Howards!

Jamie was the cause of it all!

If Jamie hadn't taken Lauren away and given her to Jordan, these nonsensical things wouldn't have happened at all!

Jesse continued, "Although I don't want to think of my brother like this, after piecing things together... I can only deduce that Jamie did this on purpose, just to borrow the power of the Howards to kill you!"

Jordan was so appalled that he subconsciously took a step back and asked, "What? Jamie wants to kill me!?!"

Jordan couldn't believe this fact at all!

All along, Jamie had been very good to him and he would often pick the most beautiful women for him and send him the best food and gifts in the world.

'Could this all be an illusion ?'

Jordan did not dare to believe his ears at all. "Why did he do that? We might not be born to the same mother but there's no need for him to kill me either! The Steeles have so many assets, which are enough for all seven of us to share equally and enjoy for the rest of our lives. There's no reason for him to do this just to fight for a greater share of the assets!"

After a moment of silence, Jesse said, "It's not for the sake of money but the family's secret!"

The family secret?

What exactly is the secret that would be revealed to them only after they completed all the trials given by the family!?!

Could it be something that's worth more than their assets of over a hundred billion dollars!?!

Chapter 411: Lauren Is A Vile Woman!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

"Sorry, Jordan, I can't reveal anything about the family secret to you for now because you haven't completed all the family's trials yet," said Jesse.

Jordan knew that this was the family rule and even their father didn't mention a word about it to Jordan.

So he only said, "I just want to know if that family secret is more tempting than our family's dozens of billions of dollars worth of assets?"

With a contemptuous smile on his face, Jesse said, "How can those assets be compared to our family secret!?! Our family's secret is priceless! It can't be measured with money!"

Jordan was shocked and he didn't expect the family to be so impressive! However, he did not want to think about those secrets and other things for the time being. All he wanted was to find Victoria! Jordan asked, "Jesse, did you find out where Jamie took Victoria?"

Jesse shook his head and said, "The only thing I'm certain about is that they're both no longer in the US. However, I have sent people to go around searching and once they find them, I might resort to extreme and forceful measures to arrest him.

"If I hurt him, I hope you can understand, Jordan. It's not that I don't care about brotherhood but because he's gone too far."

Jordan was put on the spot. "Jesse, it's better not to be too ruthless. I'm afraid something will happen to Victoria if she's in his hands. Besides, I want to ask him the reason that he did this!"

Jesse nodded and continued, "I now suspect that Jamie and the Howards have joined forces."

"What? Jamie and the Howards have joined forces?"

Jordan was stunned again.

"Yes." Jesse walked towards the curtain and said, "Based on my observations over the last few days, I discovered that Martin Howard is very interested in our family's secret. That old fogie could tell from decades ago that Grandpa is not only rich but also carries lots of secrets. He has always wanted to become our in-laws and use the marriage to find out our family secret.

"Although Jamie, like you, has yet to complete all the trials, I suspect that he already knows what the family's secret is!"

Jordan was surprised. "How is that possible ?"

Jesse shook his head. "Beats me. He may have found out unintentionally, or maybe one of our family members revealed it to him."

Two of the three male third-generation heirs of the Steeles actually already knew about the family secret!

It seemed that Jordan was the only one who didn't know!

That made Jordan feel like he was lagging so far behind that he vowed to speed up the completion of the trials and find out quickly, just what secrets the family was up to!

Jesse continued, "There is something else that I don't know if I should tell you about because I noticed that you and Lauren are getting along quite well, and you two even seem to be really loving."

Jordan was instantly shocked to hear that. "Does it have something to do with Lauren? What is it? Tell me, I can accept it!"

Since experiencing the blow that Hailey dealt to him, Jordan felt that no woman could hurt him anymore.

"Sorry, Jordan, in the past few days, I sent someone to investigate your wife. I found out that Lauren is not as infatuated and loyal to you as she seems to be. She's not a good woman. She pretends to be pure, innocent, and madly in love with you but that's all an act. "Jordan, don't be fooled by her and don't fall in love with her. You must ensure that you won't let yourself fall for her. I don't want the history between you and Hailey to repeat itself!"

Jordan froze in shock after hearing Jesse's words. In the past three days, he and Lauren had been spending time together and were almost inseparable!

Lauren would text him and chat with him even when he was in the bathroom, just so he would feel her presence every single moment.

Lauren seemed to be such a perfect woman and coupled with everything that he owed to her, he had long fallen in love with her!

However, Jesse actually told Jordan that she was a bad woman at this juncture.

He told her that everything was fake.

"No, it can't be!" Jordan got extremely worked up and hollered, "I don't believe it! She can't be a bad woman! I'm the only person she has loved in this lifetime and the only person she's gotten intimate with."

Jesse got just as agitated and he pressed Jesse's shoulders down with both hands.

"Jordan, don't be silly! Lauren is almost thirty years old and she's a beautiful woman from a good family background. She doesn't have any social phobia either and she has a long list of suitors. How could you be the only man she's ever slept with all these years!?! Those are all part of her pretense!"

"She knows that you like women who are pure and innocent. That's why she deliberately created the illusion that you're the only one she has ever loved in this lifetime!"

Jordan was dumbfounded. 'Could it be that what Jesse said is true ?'

In fact, Jordan was also in doubt because it seemed unlikely to him that a normal woman would stay single for such a long time.

Jordan suddenly recalled Lauren's illness and said, "Jesse, you have no idea that Lauren has developed a strange illness ever since she returned from the battlefield. It was a psychiatrist in DC who came up with the idea of treating her with hypnotic consciousness manipulation, so she..."

Without letting Jordan finish, Jesse interjected.

"You don't have to go on. I already know about it, that doctor is named Matt Gale, right?"

Jordan nodded.

To his surprise, Jesse said, "Matt is one of Lauren's men."

His words were like a bolt of thunder that struck Jordan's head!

"What... What are you talking about?"

Jordan began to stutter.

"Matt has slept with Lauren more than once. Silly, don't believe what Lauren says, she is not a simple woman. She married you for the sake of finding out our family's secret from you!"

At that moment, Jordan was speechless.

In his mind, Lauren's beautiful, svelte and pure figure and the words that she had said to "deceive" him kept surfacing. Since Lauren and Hailey resembled each other greatly, the images of both of them kept surfacing in his mind.

Finally, the two women became the same woman.

•Could it be that Lauren, just like Hailey, is also a pretentious woman who is beautiful but full of lies?•

Seeing how stunned Jordan was, Jesse said, "I'm sorry, Jordan, you just got married and you're in the honeymoon period. I shouldn't have told you this. But if I keep my mouth shut about this and let you sink further, you'll be even more miserable when you learn the truth someday in the future ?

"I'm also doing this for your own good. Jordan, find an opportunity to divorce her while you haven't developed strong feelings for her yet. Also, leave the Howards' home. If they do anything to you, let me know and I'll send someone to pick you up and take you back to England. When you get to England, no one will dare to deal with you. Yumi and I will take care of you for the rest of your life."

Jordan clenched his fist. How could he just get a divorce and walk away like that!?!

Jordan would never let things go without revealing Lauren's true colors and forcing her to admit her hypocrisy!

"Lauren, I will definitely find evidence of your affair with Matt or any other men.. By then, let's see if you still have the cheek to say to me that I'm the only man you've ever loved in this lifetime! Let's see if you still have the cheek to say that your lifelong dream was to marry me!"

Chapter 412: Secretly Checking Lauren's Cell Phone!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Indeed, as many would say, the more beautiful a woman is, the more deceitful she is! Jordan's ex-wife, Hailey was such a woman, and it seemed that Lauren was as well!

Yet, Jordan had always felt sorry for Lauren. He even slept with her out of sympathy for her and guilt that he had deprived her of a normal life. However, now he had found out today that Lauren had slept with another man in the last few years!

She had been living freely with joy!

Jordan clenched his fist. He was still in love with Victoria and did not want to become too intimate with Lauren. It wasn't easy for Jordan to let his guard down and yet, this was what he got!

As he puffed on a cigarette in Jesse's room, Jordan tried to ease his mood. Soon after, he took the elevator downstairs together with Jesse to the restaurant for the breakfast buffet. At this moment, Lauren and Yumi were sitting face to face, smiling at each other while eating with knives and forks in both hands. Both of them had the aura of a noble goddess, especially Lauren who was more youthful.

Lauren had her hair tied back and her tiny face was round. She looked perfect from every angle.

There was a woman who had the same hairstyle as Lauren, seated at the table beside theirs. However, her face was large and squarish. The more one compared, the more beautiful Lauren seemed.

Seeing Jordan and Jesse walking over, Lauren smiled.

"Honey, you're back? I've already picked up a selection of things for your breakfast. See if you like what I've chosen and if there's anything else you need, I'll get it for you."

Lauren looked at Jordan gently and meticulously. If it were in the past, Jordan would have felt blissful to have such a wife. However, Jordan now felt that this was all just Lauren's disguise!

Of course, although Jesse told Jordan about Lauren's past, Jordan didn't turn his back on her immediately. He pretended to be the same as before and said smilingly, "It's fine, I'll just have this. Thanks."

In response, Lauren said to Jordan shyly, "You're my husband. It's only right that I help you get some food. Why are you being so polite with me? Oh yes, Yumi just told me that she and Jesse are going back to England in the evening." Jordan nodded and said, "Yeah, Jesse also told me about it just now."

Lauren suddenly suggested, "Why don't we go back to England with Jesse and Yumi? We could treat it as a honeymoon?"

'It seems like Lauren is so eager to go to England to see Grandpa!'

When Jordan thought of what Jesse had just said about Lauren marrying him only for the sake of using him to find out his family's secrets, he humphed coldly.

'Hmph, Lauren Howard, I bet you're just using the honeymoon as an excuse to find out my family's secrets, huh?'

Yumi was elated too. "Yeah, Jordan, why don't you go back with us? You have to go on a honeymoon."

Jordan could tell that Yumi seemed to like Lauren a lot, so he guessed that Jesse probably did not tell her about Lauren.

"We'll go another time. Grandpa hasn't been in good health lately."

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"Alright."
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Lauren did not throw a tantrum and instead, respected Jordan's opinion.

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In the evening, Jordan and Lauren, as well as Lauren's father, Stefan, personally went to the airport to see Jesse and Yumi off. Before leaving, Jesse and Jordan hugged each other for a while, and Jesse said to Jordan, "Think about what I said to you."

"I will, Jesse."

Jesse had told Jordan to divorce Lauren and leave the Howards.

However, Jordan didn't want to divorce her so quickly. They had only just gotten married after all. First, he wanted to find some evidence to prove that Lauren was a vile woman!

Once he found the incriminating evidence, when he exposed her true colors, she wouldn't be able to deny or argue with him.

When he got home, Chloe was already asleep. Chloe had a habit of holding a golden silk cloth in her hand when sleeping. Perhaps it was for a sense of security.

Looking at how adorable Chloe was when she was sleeping, Jordan had other thoughts in mind.

'Lauren Howard, you lied to me and said that I'm the only man you've ever loved but I can ignore that. I couldn't care less about whether or not you've slept with Dr. Gale or not, and how many times you've done it with him. But if you're using Chloe to deceive me, you'd have gone overboard!'

Ever since Jesse exposed Lauren's true nature to him, Jordan had begun to get worried. Now he couldn't help but wonder if Chloe was his daughter or not! Indeed, Jordan and Chloe had gone for a paternity test, and the test results also showed that he was indeed Chloe's father. However, what if the Howards had already paid off the paternity test center?

They were in DC, the Howards[,] turf. Given their power, they were completely capable of doing this!

Moreover, Jordan did not investigate the staff of the paternity test center and did not dare to guarantee that they were not threatened or bribed.

"Honey, it's very late. Let's go to bed."

Lauren had already finished washing up and came over to look for Jordan.

"Oh, okay."

Jordan quietly returned to the room with Lauren without revealing any flaws. Like the past few days, they got intimate before sleeping.

At 3 am, Jordan carefully listened to Lauren's breathing and started to make a move only after confirming that Lauren was asleep.

Indeed, he planned to look through Lauren's phone while she was asleep! Jordan never had the habit of snooping and he had never done so when he was married to Hailey either.

Neither had he done it to Victoria.

Everyone was entitled to their privacy and a relationship without mutual trust is bound not to last long. However, Lauren had disguised her true colors too well. Despite being well-versed in psychology and reading micro-expressions, he still couldn't tell how evil Lauren really was.

Hence, he could only secretly check her phone.

Lauren had placed her phone on the other side of her pillow, and Jordan stretched out his arm to grab her phone.

Since he would need her fingerprint or face to unlock her phone, Jordan carefully grabbed her right hand again and unlocked it with her thumbprint.

The moment her phone was unlocked, it let out a sound because Lauren had set it to ring when she unlocked it.

Jordan hurriedly held his breath and looked at Lauren.

Fortunately, Lauren was exhausted and thus, was sleeping soundly. She wasn't woken up by the sound at all.

Jordan let out a long sigh.

It was Jordan's first time behaving so sneakily so he was extremely nervous.

After unlocking the screen, Jordan immediately clicked on her messages. He believed he would be able to find out a lot of her secrets.

If Lauren and Matt had an affair, there must be clues in their text message conversation!

Gulp...

Swallowing some saliva, Jordan took a few moments to steel himself. He could hardly dare to look at the screen.

What if he saw some unsightly conversation or video !?!

Chapter 413: Tailing Lauren!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan couldn't help but recall the email that Cayden once sent him. At that time, he felt a strong urge to slap Hailey a few times on the spot after hearing the audio recording sent to him via email.

He had a hunch that history would repeat itself!

However, when Jordan opened Lauren's messaging app, he got a surprise.

The interface of her messaging app was very simple and there were only two text conversations.

One was the Howards' family chat group while the other was with Jordan.

"She only kept the text conversation with me and deleted the rest?"

Jordan was a little surprised, but he didn't expect Lauren's messaging app to be so clean. If Jesse hadn't exposed her, Jordan might have thought that Lauren loved him and revolved her life around him.

Hence, her text messages were reserved only for him. However, Jordan now felt that she had done so because she didn't want to leave any evidence behind! She deleted the chat records with Matt and other men because she didn't want Jordan to find out!

"What a smart woman!"

Wasting no time, Jordan checked her Instagram account too. She rarely posted anything on Instagram and would usually only share photos of scenery or music.

Matt often liked her posts and left comments on them but there were lots of people who left comments on her Instagram posts. Besides, people would rarely flirt on Instagram. In case a common friend saw it, it would be extremely embarrassing.

Still, text messages weren't the only source of secrets. Sometimes, the memos in the 'Notes' app might be scarier than chat records! In particular, women with meticulous minds, tend to pen their thoughts down in the notes app of their cell phones!

Jordan couldn't help but open the saved notes on Lauren's phone.

Indeed, the notes were full of words.

Of course, women had too many things to pen down, such as their outfit styles, clothes, cosmetics, shoes, bags, and so on.

When Jordan clicked on one, he found that it was a note about him.

As he read the contents of the note, Jordan was surprised.

"My birthday, my favorite food, the songs I like to listen to, my favorite movies, and the dates of my marriage and divorce with Hailey, and even Victoria's birthday?"

Jordan was shocked. 'Why does Lauren have these penned down ?'

She had recorded all the information about Jordan, as well as his interests and hobbies, in the notes of her phone. Logically speaking, this should be an act of love that a wife has for her husband.

By noting Jordan's birthday and preferences, Lauren would be able to prepare a surprise for Jordan.

As for the dates involving Hailey and Victoria, Lauren could have noted them down because she was afraid that Jordan would be in low spirits during those dates. On those days, Lauren would be mindful not to let Jordan recall his unhappy past.

If that was the case, Lauren was really too thoughtful and meticulous!

Jordan was puzzled. No matter how he looked at it, Lauren looked like a good wife, and nothing like a vile woman who would lie and deceive others. Since he didn't find anything from her phone, he put it back in its original position and went to bed.

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After breakfast, Lauren asked, "Honey, where should we go today to have some fun?"

The two of them were supposed to have their honeymoon now but because Jordan's assets were frozen, he didn't have the money to take Lauren to popular tourist spots.

Of course, it wasn't a matter of money now but rather, Jordan didn't want to go on trips with Lauren.

"I have to arrange for some of Pablo's underlings to leave DC today so I can't accompany you. Just do your own things. We don't have to stick with each other 24 hours a day, right ?" said Jordan.

Arranging for Pablo's men to leave was just an excuse. Jordan's real motive was to be separated from Lauren. Only then would Lauren go about her own business and meet the people that were related to her.

Lauren nodded and said, "I'll go to the gym then. After seeing your former cousin-in-law at the wedding, I really feel ashamed. Compared to her, my figure is terrible."

Jordan laughed and said, "I didn't expect that there are still women in this world who can make you feel inferior."

In fact, Elle initially only had an excellent figure and average looks. However, since she went to Korea for plastic surgery, her appearance was almost perfect now.

However, Jordan did not like this "fake perfection" because he preferred Elle and not "Jenny".

Lauren continued, "Faced with your ex-wife and her cousin, I really have an inferiority complex because they're prettier than me and their figures are better than mine too. Not only that, but they're also younger than I am. I'm really worried that you won't like me if I can't compare to them."

At that moment, Jordan suddenly said, "Your figure is already better than most women. Jenny is a vixen, you don't have to compare yourself to her. By the way, you probably work out too, right ?"

Lauren nodded. "Yes, I go to the gym every week."

"In that case, do you have a personal trainer to help you formulate a training plan or something?" Jordan continued to ask.

Nodding again, Lauren said, "Yes, it's a male trainer who's quite famous in DC and he's the trainer of many celebrities."

"Oh."

Jordan remained calm on the surface.

In fact, he was thinking to himself, 'Jesse said that Lauren has more than one man apart from Matt. Is she also in a relationship with her trainer ?'

After thinking about it, Jordan got up. "Anyway, I gotta go. Enjoy your workout."

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"Okay, bye honey."
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After leaving home, Jordan saw Salvatore and Tim.

As soon as he got into the car, Jordan instructed Salvatore, "Salvatore, arrange for someone to follow my wife, preferably a woman. Tell her to follow her into the gym."

Salvatore was a little baffled. "Mr. Jordan, you..."

"Victoria was taken away by Jamie who might be in cahoots with the Howards. All of this may be a scheme against me that Jamie has devised together with the Howards. Besides, the key to finding out this scheme lies with Lauren. If there's nothing wrong with her, Jesse is overthinking."

Salvatore was confused but he nevertheless sent someone to tail Lauren.

Soon, Jordan received a video.

It was a video of Lauren working out at the gym.
Lauren was wearing a tight-fitting outfit that revealed her excellent figure. Coupled with her gorgeous face, she was bound to attract anyone who saw her.

In the video, she was lying on a huge fitness ball and doing some sit-ups.

There was a tall and fit man beside her who he assumed was her personal trainer.

"Mr. Jordan, your wife is so beautiful, you'd better tell her to work out at home. If she goes to the gym, it'd be an advantage to those beasts," said Salvatore.

"Look, that trainer is almost drooling."

Jordan was also a little jealous. "After Lauren is done working out, get that trainer to come out."

"Yes!"

Just after Lauren left the gym at 5 pm, Salvatore sent a man with a stature of about 1.7 meters, who managed to easily subdue the 1.85-meter burly man and dragged him out.

Salvatore was going to interrogate him next!

Chapter 414: Lauren' s Personal Trainer!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Lauren's personal trainer was taken to the underground parking lot from the upscale gym in the building. The tall and imposing personal trainer began yelling incessantly after getting grabbed by a man who was shorter than him.

"Buddy, my arm is about to break. Let go of me. I won't run, okay? Can you understand English? Or do you only speak Thai?"

The man ignored him and took him directly to Salvatore.

This time, the interrogation was done by Salvatore, and Jordan hid inside one of the cars in the parking lot to watch from afar. He couldn't let Lauren or the Howards know that he was investigating Lauren.

The personal trainer looked at Salvatore and said with a look of bewilderment, "Sir, I don't know you, is there some misunderstanding?"

Bang!

Salvatore punched him and snapped, "Misunderstanding? As a gym trainer, you actually hooked up with a beautiful gym member and you're saying it's a misunderstanding?"

The gym trainer immediately looked flustered. "M... member? Which female gym member is your wife? You must have gotten the wrong idea!"

Salvatore exploded, "Damn it! Misunderstanding, my arse! I've been watching you, punk. The time you spend helping female members stretch is thrice that of what you spend on male members! If you're not lecherous, what are you? Your eyes were almost going to fall out of your eye sockets!" The personal trainer recalled for a while before saying, "Just now? You don't mean Miss Howard, do you? Oh my God, buddy, you've wronged me! Miss Howard is the Howards' heiress. I wouldn't dare to hook up with her even if I were brave!"

"On the first day Miss Howard came here, her brother came to assert dominance in front of me with his underling. Who would dare to mess with him? Besides, Miss Howard has great judgment and she's not a wanton woman who likes messing around. She doesn't even like me."

Salvatore punched the personal trainer and said, "You're still pretending!?! Give me an honest account of what happened with Miss Howard, and I can spare your life. Otherwise, you won't be able to walk out of this parking lot today!"

The personal trainer was about to cry. "Boss, I really didn't. Miss Howard and I don't speak about anything else except matters about fitness. I don't even have her number. Besides, we're the most upscale gym in DC, and the coaches are also the most qualified ones. They're unlike the sordid trainers around town. I swear I have never hooked up with any member of our gym!"

The personal trainer was dead set against admitting it, making Salvatore a little annoyed. When Salvatore's phone rang, he saw that it was Jordan.

"Let him go."

Salvatore grabbed the personal trainer and reprimanded furiously, "Punk, I'll let you off today. When you're training other female members in the future, quit your gawking! Also, you'd better not breathe a word about today's incident. As you can see, an underaged underling of mine can easily nab you. Think about what will happen to you if I send a grown-up to deal with you!"

The personal trainer knew that Salvatore was not to be messed with, so he hurriedly said, "Don't worry, don't worry. I definitely won't spread a word about this to anyone!"

"Scram!"

Salvatore watched the personal trainer leave before returning to the car that Jordan was in.

Getting into the far, Salvatore said, "Mr. Jordan, that trainer doesn't dare to admit anything at all. I was thinking of using some ruthless means to force him to speak up."

Jordan shook his head. "He didn't lie."

Throughout the interrogation, Jordan had paid close attention to the personal trainer's expression and tone of voice when he spoke. He was certain the man was telling the truth.

Based on Jordan's understanding of Lauren, he felt that with her status and judgment, she wouldn't fall for a gym trainer.

Since Jordan had said that Lauren had had a relationship with Matt, it would be better to focus on Matt.

With that in mind, Jordan ordered, "Salvatore, Tim, keep an eye on Matt Gale and find out where he lives, whether he has a girlfriend or not, and what the people around him say about him." "Got it!"

After giving them those instructions, Jordan called Lauren again.

"Hello, Honey."

"Where are you, Darling? Are you still at the gym?"

"No, I just got home from the gym. Hubby, are you done?"

"Yes, I just finished my business and I wanted to ask you if you wanted to eat out tonight."

"Yeah, of course! We haven't eaten out in a long time. Hubby, I want to have Chinese food. Hehe."

"Okay, I'll book a place at Yang's Chinese Food then. By the way, I won't take Chloe with me tonight, I want to invite someone."

"Who ?"

"Dr. Matt Gale."

Hearing that Jordan wanted to invite Matt along, Lauren felt a little surprised. "Hubby, why... Why do you suddenly want to invite him to dinner?"

"Oh, I noticed that he didn't attend our wedding," said Jordan.

"Yes, we had some conflict because he was coerced by Chris Hank previously." Jordan said, "I don't blame him for what happened previously. After all, Chris blackmailed him with his parents, and he had no choice."

Lauren seemed to reconsider. "Honey, if you put it that way I guess it is entirely thanks to Dr. Gale that we can come together today."

"Imagine if he hadn't done any consciousness manipulation back then which was why you were in love with me in the fantasy for three years. Would we be together now?" intoned Jordan.

In response, Lauren said, "Yeah, I also think that Dr. Gale is a very important person to us!"

"In that case, I'll call him and ask him out, I'm sure he'll be very happy if he knows you've forgiven him! Alright, I'll have Salvatore drive over to pick you up. Don't drive, let's have a drink together later. I'll see you at Yang's Chinese Food."

"Okay, bye Hubby, love you! Mua!"

Lauren kissed Jordan over the phone.

Beep. Jordan hung up the phone. Recalling what Lauren just said, he couldn't help but sneer.

'Lauren Howard, trust you to still have the cheek to say that Matt is a very important person to both of us! Of course he is important. Before I appeared, it was always him who stayed by your side! He's always been the one filling up your empty and lonely heart!' Jordan secretly swore that he must find the evidence between Lauren and Matt tonight!

More than half an hour later, Jordan and Lauren arrived before Matt. It turned out that when he learned that Jordan had invited him to dinner, he panicked and went to get a lift, which was the reason he had arrived late.

"Mr. Steele, Miss Howard, congratulations on your wedding. I'm sorry I wasn't there on the wedding day, this is a little token of my appreciation. I hope you will accept it."

Matt handed an exquisite gift box to Jordan.

Jordan smiled and said, "Dr. Gale, you're too polite. Please have a seat and order some food."

"Sure."

Matt sat down, took off his jacket, ordered some food, and then poured himself a glass of wine.

He then picked it up and said, "Mr. Steele, Miss Howard, I've been feeling ashamed to see you both after what happened last time. I actually helped that beast Chris Hank to ruin the perfect image of Mr. Steele in your heart, Miss Lauren. Fortunately, he didn't get his way in the end. Otherwise, I would have become a sinner. Thank you for forgetting the past and still treating me as a friend. I'll drink this!"

After saying that, he downed the glass in one go..

Chapter 415: Eavesdropping

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan looked at Matt, who was vexed.

"You're being too polite. Don't bring up the past again. Honey, let's toast to Dr. Gale."

"Alright."

Lauren could hold her liquor well. Jordan also made it a point to let both Matt and Lauren drink and it would be best if they were both drunk. Next, Jordan would find an excuse to leave and let the two of them be alone together.

Afterward, Jordan would secretly watch the two of them spill the beans after drinking!

Soon, the three of them started chatting casually again whilst enjoying the meal.

"Dr. Gale, we really have to thank you. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't have been able to marry a wife as perfect as Lauren. I'm not afraid of being laughed at by you. We may have only been married for four days but we're already very much in love and we're so blissful that we're simply inseparable."

Lauren smiled sweetly, not feeling shy in front of Matt.

Hearing this, Matt laughed and said, "Haha, as soon as I entered, I could see that you two have become much closer and more loving than before. I'm really happy for you two, especially Miss Howard! Jordan, you don't know how pitiful Miss Howard has been these past three years. She could only be with you in her fantasy. Now I finally don't have to see Miss Howard being all lonely and pitiful. Haha."

Despite smiling, Jordan humphed coldly and thought to himself, 'Lauren Howard is lonely and pitiful? Haven't you been by her side the last three years!?!'

Matt picked up his cutlery and helped himself to the food, and the three of them began to eat.

As he ate, Matt couldn't help but reminisce, "I still remember now, there was a time when I performed hypnotic consciousness manipulation for Miss Howard and we were at the juncture where she was about to hug you.

"Miss Howard was lying on that chair, reaching her arms out into the air and pretending to hug you. Ah, at that time, I prayed to God and wondered when Miss Howard would get to hug you in real life. To think that now it's finally come true! Miss Howard, here's a toast to you!"

Matt excitedly toasted to Lauren.

Lauren looked at Matt with gratitude before saying, "Mr. Gale, thank you so much for the last three years. I really don't know how I would have survived these three years without you."

If it were in the past, Jordan would only feel touched by their conversation and he wouldn't think much about it.

However, Jordan was now carefully figuring out the hidden meaning behind each and every word of their conversation! 'You couldn't have survived the last three years without Matt Gale? Hah, could it be that you're thanking him because he's slept with you multiple times?!'

Jordan did not separate the two.

Instead, he suddenly said, "So Lauren was hugging me like this after being hypnotized? Did she kiss me or carry out other intimate acts? Haha, I hope you don't blame me for asking such a touchy question. I just think that Lauren would have definitely wanted to do that because I felt her passion the past few days. Hehe."

Lauren blushed slightly and hit Jordan lightly. "You're so annoying. Don't talk about this in front of Dr. Gale."

'Hah, does it matter? You're not an outsider anyway!'

Matt suddenly became serious. "There are indeed some instances because I was controlling the plot when I was doing consciousness manipulation for Miss Howard. As a doctor, I would certainly not take the initiative to manipulate Miss Howard to do such a thing. After all, there are differences between the sexes and it would indeed be awkward for me to watch from the side.

"However, when Miss Howard had any such tendencies and thoughts, I would leave the treatment room and leave Miss Howard alone, so that she can slowly get some relief on her own."

Lauren also felt that this topic was a bit sensitive. Holding onto Jordan's hand, she said, "Dr. Gale's family has been practicing

medicine for generations. There's nothing wrong with his character and medical ethics."

Jordan said, "Of course. I trust Dr. Gale."

However, deep down, he thought, 'As if I'd believe you! You beast, you definitely took advantage of Lauren when you were giving her treatment! Lauren was in a hypnotized state, so who can prove if you really left the treatment room or not?'

Which man could resist his urges when facing a ravishing beauty? Besides, Jesse had clearly told Jordan that something was fishy between the two of them!

'There's definitely something wrong with that beast, Matt Gale! But there might not be anything wrong with Lauren!' Maybe Matt Gale took advantage of Lauren when she was being hypnotized.'

Jordan suddenly began to develop that thought because he felt that Lauren didn't seem to be a bad woman. Otherwise, she must be a really good actress.

Or perhaps deep down, Jordan was also hoping that Lauren was a good woman.

After about half an hour of eating, Jordan received a call from his henchman, which was actually part of his plan too.

"Hey, what? How did that happen? Okay, separate the two of them for now, I'll head over right now."

Jordan hung up the phone and when Lauren saw the change in Jordan's expression, she immediately asked, "Hubby, what's the matter? Who called?"

Jordan said, "It's my underlings. I don't know what happened to Salvatore and Tim. The two of them got into a huge fight and I have to go over personally."

Lauren also knew that Salvatore and Tim were Jordan's two most powerful subordinates whose conflict could only be mediated by Jordan.

Getting from his seat, Jordan said, "Sorry, Dr. Gale, something came up and I have to handle it. I can't accompany you."

"It's okay, it's okay, let's get together next time." Matt got up too.

"Did you drive here?" Jordan asked.

Matt nodded. "Yes, I drove."

Jordan said, "Oh, we didn't drive here. Please send my wife home after you're done with the meal, okay?"

Matt hurriedly said, "Yes, yes, you can count on me. I'll definitely take her home safely. Rest assured!"

Jordan nodded at him before hugging Lauren and leaving. Of course, before he left, he had already installed a listening bug in Lauren's bag. Soon enough, Lauren and Matt's conversation would be played in Jordan's ears.

Lauren and Matt both had drunk a lot of wine at this moment.

In addition, Jordan, the "eyesore" had already left so it should be the time for them to speak the truth in a drunken stupor.

However, Jordan discovered that their conversation after he left was rather ordinary.

Besides, they were all still very polite with each other.

Lauren still addressed Matt as Dr. Gale while he addressed her as Miss Howard.

There was nothing but respect in their behavior.

Something was amiss. If they had been lovers, they shouldn't be so polite with each other.

After just over ten minutes, the two left the restaurant, and Matt called for a valet driver. He and Lauren could have sat in the backseat together. However, Matt took the passenger seat in front while Lauren sat in the backseat.

Not only that, Matt and Lauren's conversations throughout the journey were quite normal.

At this point, Jordan couldn't hide his confusion...

Chapter 416: Found The Evidence!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

"That's strange... If the two of them used to be lovers, why are they behaving like strangers ?"

Jordan's previous attempts to eavesdrop on her conversations with the listening device were fruitful. However this time, he didn't yield any useful information at all.

It was either that Lauren was too good at disguising or there was nothing wrong with her at all.

"Mr. Jordan, did you hear anything suspicious ?" Salvatore asked curiously, in hopes that there was something strange with Lauren because he was a staunch supporter of Emily. If Jordan and Lauren were to get a divorce, Salvatore could boldly encourage Jordan to court Emily.

Jordan shook his head. "Matt behaved himself when taking Lauren home. There was nothing romantic about their conversations while they were on their way home. But Jesse has already investigated Matt and discovered that there's something wrong with him. He wouldn't lie to me.

"Salvatore, send someone to follow Matt's car and find out where he lives. I'm going to raid his house tomorrow."

Since Matt wouldn't admit to it honestly, Jordan decided to sneak into his house to find evidence.

Salvatore said, "Got it. I'm tailing him. I found his address a long time ago and I've sent someone to check out his front door. It has a fingerprint code lock, which isn't easy to unlock."

Jordan said, "Not to worry. Where's that box I gave you the other day ?"

"In the trunk. I'll go and get it."

Getting out of the car, Salvatore took the box out of the trunk and opened it.

"There is a colored piece of children's clothing. Take it out and grab the hat with your hands, don't touch anything else."

Salvatore carefully grabbed the hooded sweatshirt and asked, "Mr. Jordan, what is this for ?"

Jordan said, "Get a little girl to deliberately bump into Matt in front of his house and fall. Matt will definitely use his hand to help her up. That way, we can get his fingerprints."

Salvatore then came to a sudden realization. "So this dress is used to extract fingerprints! I was wondering why the material looked so strange."

Jordan nodded. "This shirt is made of a special material that is used specifically to extract fingerprints. This clothing will automatically wrap itself around fingers when touched to achieve the purpose of deep pressure. The fingerprint film made through this method is complete and clear. It won't be a problem to use it to unlock the door of Matt's house."

Salvatore could not help but praise, "Stop it! You really know a lot! I'll go now!"

Things went very smoothly, and after Matt ran into the little girl, he naturally reached out to help her up.

Like that, Jordan also easily managed to get all of Matt's fingerprints. Of course, he only needed the man's thumbprint.

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The next morning, Jordan went to Matt's residence after he went out to work.

Matt was an eligible bachelor who lived alone. Hence, after he left, there was no one else at home.

Jordan gently swiped the fingerprint film against the lock of the fingerprint door.

With a ding, the door was instantly opened!

"Haha, it really works! Mr. Jordan, you're impressive!"

Salvatore was amazed because mastering that trick meant that he could easily go to anyone's house.

Jordan, who was wearing a mask, instructed, "You guys keep a lookout outside I'll go in alone."

If too many of them entered, it would easily destroy the home's furnishings and layout.

Jordan was a veteran in this aspect but Salvatore was a boor who could only fight and not carry out tasks that required skill and meticulousness. "Yes, Mr. Jordan!"

With that said, Jordan walked into Matt's house with gloves on, only to discover that he really was a rich second-generation heir.

The decor was simple but luxurious. There were several expensive ornaments that were worth at least hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The things that Jordan wanted to find were not likely to be in the living room so Jordan went to Matt's study. He guessed that Matt's private computer might have some secrets hidden in them.

While he would need a password to unlock his Apple laptop, this was a piece of cake as he had learned how to hack computer passwords long ago.

However, Jordan did not go to such an extent.

He carefully observed the numerical area of the laptop keyboard, and then combined it with Matt's personal information, after which he deduced that the password was his birthdate.

He entered the passcode and unlocked it smoothly.

After carefully checking the computer, he did not find any suspicious files or photos. The contents of the only folder related to Lauren were normal records of her disease.

"That's strange. Could it be that there is really nothing between Matt Gale and Lauren?" Jordan switched off the computer and went to Matt's bedroom again.

While walking to the bed, he suddenly found that there was a private compartment that could be opened, at the headboard.

After Jordan opened it, he found a small bag inside, and after opening it, he discovered that there were many photos inside!

The first one was a photo of Matt and Lauren!

"Finally, I found it!"

Jordan immediately became agitated. 'Huh, Matt Gale and Lauren Howard, you two are really good at hiding! It took me such a long time to find any clues about you!'

This photo was in fact, nothing much because it was just a photo of the two of them standing together at the Grand Canyon. In the photo, the two of them were smiling and looking at the camera without holding hands, hugging, or performing any intimate actions.

Given the relationship between Matt and Lauren, it was normal for them to visit the Grand Canyon together and then take a photo together.

Jordan looked at the second one.

He was instantly appalled!

It was a photo of a woman's legs, which was taken from an extremely lewd angle. The photos after that were even more lewd.

Although their faces weren't pictured, Jordan was certain that they must be Matt and Lauren!

If it wasn't the two of them in those pictures, why would Matt put them together with the photo of himself and Lauren?

Moreover, judging from the figure of the woman in the photos, which was extremely similar to Lauren's, he was certain that it had to be her!

Jordan was exasperated to see those photos! He was even angrier than he was when he heard the recording of Hailey and Tyler!

Rationally speaking, it was Lauren's pre-marital affair so Jordan shouldn't have been concerned or allowed himself to hold it against her. After all, it was normal for one to have been in relationships before marriage.

However, Lauren deceived Jordan and deliberately portrayed herself as a pure goddess, which made Jordan feel disgusted!

More importantly, if Lauren was a lying woman with poor morals like Hailey, he would begin to doubt if Chloe was his daughter or not!

"Damn it! Lauren, if you dare to lie to me about Chloe, I won't spare you!"

Jordan clenched his fist. He had a strong urge to thrash things out with Lauren! He was going to smash these photos, which were evidence, onto her charming face! He wanted to see if she still dared to confidently say that Jordan was the only one she had ever loved in this lifetime!

Chapter 417: Questioning Lauren!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan walked out of the room with those photos in hand.

The moment he saw Jordan come out of Matt's house, Salvatore, who was lurking in the shadows, immediately came forth.

"Mr. Jordan, did you find anything?"

Jordan was obviously much angrier than he was when he went in. Salvatore had long been able to tell.

Furious, Jordan snapped, "Take that bastard Matt Gale from the hospital immediately and drag him to me!"

As soon as Salvatore heard that, he immediately realized what happened and answered, "Yes!"

Afterward, Jordan drove back home.

"Aunt, are you back so early?"

Felicia opened the door for Jordan smilingly.

On the other hand, Jordan had a sullen look on his face as he ignored her and walked straight into the room.

Felicia could tell that there was something wrong with Jordan and he seemed to be upset.

Tagging along, she piped up and asked, "Mr. Jordan, are you looking for Miss Howard? Miss Howard has gone to look for Mr. Steele Senior with Chloe."

Jordan was puzzled. "Is Lauren not home?"

Felicia nodded and said, "Yes, Mr. Steele Senior seems to have found a new painting teacher for Miss Howard. She brought Chloe as well to look for him."

Without saying another word, Jordan left her home and drove to Lauren's parents' home.

It was extremely lively in the living room of Lauren's parents' home. Apart from Lauren's mother, Marissa, Lauren, Chloe, Hailey, Brad, Alex, and Clarice were all around.

"Mr. Jordan is here!"

The maids of the Howards' place announced and only then did they realize that Jordan had come over.

Lauren was surprised because she hadn't expected Jordan to have come here.

Early in the morning, Jordan had gone out bright and early, so Lauren had brought Chloe to see the painting teacher as she thought that Jordan would be home late. Lauren knew that Jordan didn't like to come here since Hailey was now living at her parents' house. The last time Jordan and Hailey met, they had a heated conflict that didn't end well.

Lauren hurriedly walked up and said, "Honey, what brings you here? You don't have to come here personally. You could have just given me a call and I would have brought Chloe home."

Clarice was upset to hear those words.

"Lauren, look at what you're saying. Why can't he come here? He's my son-in-law, he can come over to see you and Chloe if he wants to. Besides, even if he's not your live-in husband but a normal one, isn't it normal for him to come over? Why? Is it because I'm here? Am I so annoying to you guys?"

Clarice knew that Jordan detested her so she thought that Lauren was directing that remark at her because she happened to be there.

Of course, Lauren didn't bother to explain. However, Hailey was the one who took the initiative to speak.

"Clarice, don't take it personally. You're not the one they hate, it's me. Lauren probably didn't want her husband to come because she knows I'm here."

Clarice and Hailey had only spent a few hours together briefly, but they had hit it off well.

Perhaps because Hailey had once betrayed Jordan, Clarice was pleased so she treated Hailey as a friend. Clarice immediately said sarcastically, "Hey, Hailey, you're so pretty. Why wouldn't anyone like you? I can seek justice for you."

Brad was drinking tea at the side when he suddenly realized that the ambiance was rather tense. He was a man and he liked to stir the pot when women took jabs at each other and made sarcastic remarks about each other.

They were unlike men who would scold each other and fight at the slightest conflict.

Besides, Jordan simply ignored Hailey's and Lauren's conversation.

If anything, he even ignored his wife, Lauren, and walked straight up to grab Chloe's hand.

Without saying a word, he grabbed Chloe and left.

The crowd was shocked by the scene. What was Jordan trying to do?

Marissa also could not help but speak up. "Jordan Steele! You rude and uncultured son-in-law! You didn't even greet me when you saw me! Do you still take me as your mother-in-law!?!"

Marissa was annoyed to have been ignored. She felt that Jordan must still hate her for slapping him the last time. Likewise, Clarice had also heard about it just now and sneered. "They all say that there is no feud that lasts overnight between couples. Jordan, surely you don't hate me until now because I slapped you? You're so petty."

Lauren was the only person present who could tell that there was something wrong with Jordan!

Jordan was in no way deliberately treating Lauren's family harshly because of what happened previously.

Jordan was magnanimous enough to not do such a childish thing!

Lauren chased Jordan all the way to the courtyard where she scurried up to him and asked, "Honey, where are you taking Chloe ?"

Jordan didn't hide it from Lauren. He merely said, "To the paternity test center!"

Lauren was instantly shocked. "To the... paternity test center? You want to take Chloe to get another paternity test done? Why?"

The Howards were dumbfounded.

Clarice was puzzled. "Wasn't one done already?"

Hailey was stunned and she immediately smiled with joy.

'I know! It must be that Jordan has already found out about Lauren's affair with another man so he suspects that the previous paternity test report was falsified! It turns out that Lauren is not a good woman either! I have a chance again!' When Chloe heard that they were going to go to the paternity test center again, she frantically let go of Jordan's hand.

"No, Daddy, I don't like going to that place. I don't want to go."

Lauren asked, "Honey, what happened? Can you tell me?"

Jordan didn't want to question Lauren to her face. "I don't want to embarrass you in front of your family. Let's talk when we get home!"

As he said that, he walked out of the villa while Lauren carried Chloe.

In the living room, the rest of the Howards were all confused.

Clarice asked, "What's going on here? Should we follow and take a look?"

Jordan quickly drove home with Lauren.

Upon arriving home, Lauren handed Chloe to Felicia before returning to the bedroom with Jordan. She could tell that Jordan was furious so she took the initiative to hold his hand.

She asked softly, "Honey, what exactly happened?"

Jordan shook off Lauren's hand and asked, "Lauren, tell me honestly, is Chloe my child or not?"

His question made Lauren dumbfounded.

Lauren said, "Of course Chloe is your child, you're the only man I've slept with in this lifetime..."

"That's enough!" Jordan suddenly thundered. "Stop saying that I am your only man and that I'm the only person you're in love with. I don't want to hear these lies from you anymore!"

Lauren was dumbfounded.. Only then did she realize that Jordan was doubting her loyalty!

Chapter 418: I' ve Always Carried A Torch For Miss Howard!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

The expression on Lauren's face was filled with confusion.

"Hubby, why do you think I lied to you? You're the person I love the most. Everything that I say to you, I mean it from the bottom of my heart. I've never lied to you."

Looking at the sincere expression on Lauren's face, he humphed coldly before taking out the photos that he had taken from Matt's home.

He initially wanted to smash those photos onto Lauren's face. Jordan would have definitely done so if it were Hailey.

However, for some reason, Jordan couldn't bear to do it to Lauren. He couldn't bear to go so overboard with Lauren, perhaps because Lauren was usually so gentle and nice to him.

She was completely unlike Hailey, who often gave Jordan the cold shoulder or got physical with him when he was penniless.

'What a perfect and flawless face.'

Jordan looked at Lauren's ravishingly beautiful place and couldn't help but feel a rush of emotions overwhelm him.

Not only was her face flawless but also her acting.

Despite Jordan's profound ability to read people, he couldn't even tell that Lauren was acting at this moment.

Hence, he took the photos out and placed them on the bedside table.

He exclaimed, "Take a look yourself!"

After putting them down, Jordan turned around.

Lauren picked up the photos and when she saw the one on top, which was a photo of her and Matt together, she finally understood why Jordan was so furious.

Lauren hurriedly explained, "Honey, you've misunderstood. This photo doesn't mean anything. Dr. Gale and I had this photo taken when he brought me to the Grand Canyon because I wanted to take a breather after one of our treatment sessions two years ago.

"We didn't go alone, Felicia tagged along too. She's the one who took this photo. Felicia brought food that day, and after we visited the Grand Canyon, we didn't even have a meal together. You can ask Felicia about it."

Lauren felt a little puzzled after explaining. She thought that Jordan should be more open-minded.

'Why would he get jealous about a photo of a friend and me at the Grand Canyon ?'

After thinking about it carefully, she thought that it was understandable for him to be suspicious since he had been hurt by Hailey before.

Jordan turned around and said indifferently, "I'm not referring to this photo. Continue looking at the rest."

"There's more?"

Lauren couldn't help but be bewildered because she remembered taking only one photo with Matt!

She curiously flipped the following photos, only to have her pupils dilate immediately after seeing the photos.

"What... What are these photos? Who is this woman?" Lauren asked in shock, finding those photos to be really unsightly.

Jordan humphed coldly and asked, "These are photos I found in Matt Gale's home. They were placed together with the photo of you and him. Who do you think the woman in those photos is ?"

Lauren immediately replied, "No, Hubby, it's definitely not me! I swear I have never engaged in any intimate behavior with any other man except you!"

Jordan sighed without losing his temper. Instead, he remained calm. After all, Jordan felt he didn't have the right to lose his temper either because it happened before they got married. If this had happened while they were married, Jordan would have questioned her furiously.

Jordan said softly, "Lauren, I've been married before and it doesn't matter to me how many men you've had before we got married. Matt is a very outstanding doctor and it'd be normal if you had dated him before. You don't have to deny it.

"But I don't want you to deceive me because once you do, I won't trust you ever again. I don't know whether I should believe what you say or not."

Jordan's tone was calm while Lauren became extremely agitated.

"Jordan, I swear, I really didn't cheat on you! You're the only person I've ever loved in this lifetime! If I did, there's no way I wouldn't dare to admit it."

Jordan asked, "Are you trying to say that Matt did it without your knowledge while you were being hypnotized?"

Lauren shook her head and said, "No, Dr. Gale is not that kind of person. He's a decent man who wouldn't do such a thing."

Jordan was furious to see Lauren defending Matt. There was definitely something wrong with the man. Otherwise, he wouldn't have hidden those photos in the bedside cabinet!

At this moment, Salvatore knocked on the door and walked in. "Mr. Jordan, Matt Gale is here."

Matt was still wearing a white lab coat. It didn't take Salvatore much effort to bring him over. The reason being, as soon as Matt

heard that it was Jordan who wanted to see him, he immediately came over very cooperatively.

Salvatore closed the door again after Jordan entered.

Matt smiled and asked, "Jordan, Miss Howard, why were you guys looking for me? Did something happen?"

Jordan said, "Dr. Gale, please explain what these photos that you hid in the secret compartment of the headboard of your bed are."

Matt's expression suddenly changed. The first photo he saw was also that of him and Lauren at the Grand Canyon.

"How did you know that I have those photos in my bedside cabinet? You went to my place, didn't you?" Matt questioned Jordan.

Jordan nodded and said, "I just came back from your place. You can file a police report against me for trespassing but before that, you'd better explain things clearly to me."

Matt seemed embarrassed as he lowered his head awkwardly.

After a long time, he finally said, "Alright, I admit that I've always had a crush on Miss Howard!"

Jordan immediately clenched his fists. 'You bastard, you finally admit that you are a hypocrite!'

Lauren was shocked too. She immediately lost control of her emotions and started punching Matt.

"Why!? Why did you do those things to me? I trusted you so much, why did you do that to me!?"

Lauren was crying while hitting him. She couldn't accept the fact that she had been taken advantage of by another man without her knowledge!

Matt was confused. "Miss Howard, what are you saying? What did I do to you? I only have a crush on you. I've never dared to confess to you or do anything to you!"

Jordan said angrily, "Now that it's come to this, you still have the guts to argue? You had such a great opportunity after she was hypnotized. Would you have let it go?"

Lauren threw the photos at Matt. "What are these photos!?!"

Matt crouched on the ground and picked up the unsightly photos one by one, only to be shocked.

"Where did these photos come from ? I haven't seen these photos at all!"

Jordan couldn't help but kick Matt to the ground. "These are the things I found from your bedside cabinet! Do you dare to say that you haven't seen them before ?"

Matt was shocked. "Impossible! I only have a photo with Miss Howard in my bedside cabinet.. There are no other photos! Besides, the couple in the photo are definitely not me and Miss Howard! I didn't take such indecent photos!"

Chapter 419: Another Paternity Test!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

To think that Matt actually denied it.

Well of course he wouldn't dare to admit it! Once he admitted that he had taken advantage of Lauren when she was hypnotized...

Not to mention that Jordan wouldn't spare him, even Brad would get him crippled if he were to find out! Hence, in order to protect himself, he could only vehemently deny everything.

Staring at him from above, Jordan questioned, "You said that except for that photo, all the other photos weren't placed in there by you. Are you trying to say that before I went to your house, someone deliberately put those photos in the secret compartment in the headboard of your bed?"

Matt was still crouched on the ground and said with an agitated expression, "Yes! If you didn't slander me, someone else must have done so to smear me!"

"Although that secret compartment is in the bed where I sleep every day, a long panel has to be broken for me to reach the contents in it. To be honest, it's been at least a year since I've lifted that long panel to see what's inside, and I don't even know when those photos came about."

Matt was a doctor who was busy at work every day and would go to sleep as soon as he got home. He didn't have the time to think about anything else. Besides, if he wanted to see the photos, he could have stored them in his phone. There was no need for him to open the long panel to take a look at the printed copies.

Hence, his statement was believable and logical.

To be honest, Jordan also felt that Matt did not seem to be lying! If Matt was a lecherous man who was bent on getting intimate with Lauren, he didn't have to make Lauren fall in love with Jordan through consciousness manipulation.

By doing so, wouldn't he never have a chance to be with Lauren?

One was a noble act while the other was lewd and unpleasant. It was unlikely that these contradictory acts were done by the same person.

"No... No..."

Jordan suddenly secretly thought that something was amiss and he immediately started pondering again, suspecting that he had fallen into someone's trap. 'If what Matt said is true, then someone must have gone to his house to place those photos in the secret compartment of the headboard of his bed.'

"The person who investigated Matt before I did..."

Wasn't that Jesse?

Jesse once admitted to Jordan that he had investigated Lauren. Since he had investigated Lauren, he must have found out about Matt who was close to her. That was to say, Jesse's subordinates must have gone to Matt's home before! Regarding the extraction of fingerprints, the children of the Steeles were all aware of that method because they were taught to do it by the same teacher.

Since Jordan could enter Matt's home, Jesse and Jamie must have been able to do so as well.

'However, Jesse has no reason to harm me. Jesse's henchmen may have also been cheated! Maybe someone went to Matt's house before Jesse even did. In fact, that person may have deliberately put these photos in Matt's house in advance, so that Jesse would misunderstand!

'Who exactly is that person!?!'

Jordan immediately thought of countless possibilities. However, the greatest possibility at the moment was that Matt was lying.

"Salvatore!"

"Yes!"

Jordan called Salvatore in.

Jordan said, "Bring Matt to a hotel. Let him out only when he decides to tell the truth."

Salvatore glanced at Matt and said, "Dr. Gale, please. On the account that you were quite cooperative when you came, I will not be rough with you."

Matt got up angrily and said, "Jordan, I do fancy Miss Lauren but which man wouldn't like a beautiful and noble woman like her?

Although the Gales are not worthy of the Howards, our family's descendants have been doctors for three generations and have been most concerned about medical ethics and reputation all their lives! Even if I die, I would never do such a lewd thing!"

After saying that, Matt left with Salvatore.

Only Jordan and Lauren were left in the room.

In the past few days, there would be continuous laughter whenever the two of them were in their matrimonial room. No one expected that less than a week after their new marriage, the two would end up in such a situation today.

"I will take Chloe with me to get another paternity test done."

Lauren's eyes were filled with tears. "Chloe is really your daughter. I didn't falsify the previous test report, I swear."

In response, Jordan said, "I'm sorry, I no longer dare to trust anyone now. It's better to let the data and the report speak for themselves. However, even if Chloe doesn't belong to me but Matt, I will still treat her as if she is my biological daughter.

"During this period, I've already completely developed a paternal love for Chloe. She's cute, pretty, talented and stubborn. Especially since she suffered so much at the Hanks' place for my sake... No matter what, I will treat Chloe as my daughter, don't worry about that."

After saying that, Jordan got ready to leave.

At this point, Jordan could no longer continue staying here and sharing the same bed as Lauren.

"Jordan, don't go..."

Lauren pulled Jordan's fingers with her slender hand.

However, Jordan shook her off and walked away very resolutely.

After that, Jordan walked towards Chloe.

Chloe was still a child of a tender age who wasn't clear about what had happened.

She said to Jordan innocently, "Daddy, I don't want to go to that paternity test center anymore. The people there are so mean. I don't like it there!"

The last time the two of them took Chloe there, someone said extremely callous things to her and Lauren. Hence, it was no surprise that Chloe was very repulsed by the idea of going there.

Crouching down, Jordan pinched Chloe's cute little cheeks.

"Okay, let's not go there. We'll go to Six Flags, okay?"

Chloe asked, "Is that fun?"

Jordan nodded and said, "Of course. It's a place for princesses like you to have fun. There are lots of other kids there too. It's fun and there'll be a lot of food."
Chloe jumped up immediately and exclaimed, "Yes, yes, I want to go!"

Jordan didn't want to go to the paternity test center in DC because the Howards held too much power here. If anything, he had greater trust in the one in New York that he had been to before and had complete faith in Professor Gunn.

Soon, Jordan booked a flight and brought Chloe to the paternity test center in New York where he met Professor Gunn again.

"Professor Gunn."

"Mr. Steele, it's been a while."

Professor Gunn took a look at Jordan and the little girl beside him. He couldn't help but say, "Ah, I really hoped you would never have to find me again."

"You are the person I trust the most, and I want to get the results in the shortest time possible," said Jordan.

Professor Gunn nodded and said, "I'll give you an outcome in three days!"

Chapter 420: Hailey Has A Chance?

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

That afternoon, Jordan brought Chloe to Six Flags after leaving the paternity test center. They rode the roller coasters and cruised through the fairytale world. Not only that, they played the Bugs Bunny ride and Bugaboo ride. Chloe also had several photos taken in the Alice In Wonderland attraction. Finally, at night, Chloe rode on Jordan's shoulders and watched the brilliant fireworks show.

It was the best time she had ever had, and the only unfortunate thing was that her mother didn't tag along.

The following day at noon, Jordan took Chloe back to DC. They initially wanted to play in New York City for two more days, but Lauren did not agree.

Seeing that they were having fun at Disneyland, Lauren was green with envy.

Jordan did not continue staying in Lauren's place after sending Chloe home. Instead, he checked into a room in the Hilton hotel.

Before the results of the paternity test came out and before figuring out the true relationship between Lauren and Matt, Jordan would not sleep with her again.

On the same night, Jordan was watching TV in the hotel room when someone suddenly knocked on the doorbell.

Salvatore walked in with Hailey following behind.

Salvatore whispered, "Mr. Jordan, Miss Hailey is here to see you."

Jordan shifted his gaze over when he heard that it was Hailey who arrived. He saw that Hailey was all dolled up and her appearance was still the one that he was familiar with.

However, Jordan was displeased. "Who told you to bring her here ?"

Salvatore was put in a difficult position. Of course, he knew that Jordan didn't want to see Hailey but Hailey often used her son as a bargaining chip.

She said that Jordan's son would definitely inherit the Steeles' business empire in the future and no matter what, Salvatore couldn't disregard Jordan's son since he was just a henchman.

Jordan had also guessed so. Hailey was often very resourceful!

"Okay, you may leave."

Jordan didn't blame Salvatore either. After Salvatore left, Hailey took the initiative to walk towards Jordan and sat on the couch.

"Are you here to make fun of me?"

Hailey said softly, "Jordan, why do you miss me so much? I've been worried about you since I found out about you. This time, I came here specifically to comfort and console you."

Jordan said sneeringly, "Thank you, I don't need your comfort."

Hailey sighed. "In fact, I could tell early on that Lauren was not a good woman. She deliberately behaved like she was high and

mighty and pretended to be innocent and magnanimous. Actually, it was all an act that she put up to deceive you!

"Women know other women best. I heard that you took Chloe to the test center to get another paternity test done, huh? Hah, this kid definitely doesn't belong to you. I can tell at a glance because the look in her eyes is different from yours. Lauren Howard has gone overboard. How could she deceive you and betray you like this!?!"

As soon as Hailey came forth, she started criticizing Lauren.

However, Jordan spoke up for Lauren. "Who are you to say that about her? Even if she really is like what you said, you're not fit to say that about her! You betrayed me and cheated on me earlier than she did. The fact that she isn't a good woman doesn't make you one either."

Hailey was rendered speechless.

"Why must you bring up the past again? Wouldn't it be good to just let bygones be bygones?"

Let bygones be bygones? Jordan humphed coldly and rolled his eyes at Hailey.

Hailey continued, "Jordan, are you going to divorce Lauren?"

"I might," Jordan answered.

Hailey thought that if Jordan and Lauren were to get a divorce and Victoria's whereabouts were still unknown, she would probably have a chance at getting back together with him. She knew that the three of them were the women who occupied Jordan's heart.

Hailey's cousin, Elle, was pretty and had a good figure. Besides, the three of them were young and liked taking the initiative to offer themselves to Jordan.

However, they still couldn't win Jordan's heart.

Since Hailey was the woman Jordan loved the most in the past, she was convinced that she definitely had a chance to be with Jordan in the future.

Hailey suddenly said, "When you divorce her, remember to take the most expensive necklace in the world and that pair of bi-colored earrings that you gave her. You can't let her keep such a precious and pretty thing!"

Jordan could tell what Hailey was saying. "After I take the necklace and earrings back, should I give them to you then ?"

Hailey immediately became excited. "Yes, yes! I love the necklace and earrings. They're so beautiful! I'll be even more beautiful than Lauren when I wear that necklace and earrings! Thank you, Jordan! You're the best to me!"

As Hailey spoke, she took the initiative to wrap her arms around one of Jordan's arms before tilting her head to the side.

Jordan was speechless for a while. He soon reached his left hand out and gently rubbed Hailey's soft and smooth hair before pushing her away. "Hailey Camden, are you delusional? Even if I take that jewelry back, I would never give them to you! You're still sleeping with Brad, and you want things from me?"

Hailey said, "Didn't you also say that Brad would never marry me? I can break up with him anytime!"

Jordan wanted to curse his heart out.

'Anytime? Am I the kind of man that you can love and be together with as and when you please?' Hah, you'll leave him if I give you the most expensive jewelry in the world. If I don't, you'll continue to be with him. Aren't you treating me as a backup!?!'

Jordan suddenly recalled the moment Hailey chased after Jordan right after she agreed to Tyler's marriage proposal at the superstar's concert last year.

She chased him out just to tell Jordan not to give up liking her and that they could be together again in a few years.

At that time, Hailey treated Jordan as a backup lover!

Jordan snapped furiously, "Wake up! Even if I were to give the necklace and earrings to Jenny, I would never give them to you!"

"What? You're going to give the necklace and earrings to that wretch, Elle?"

Hailey immediately flew into a rage. "Jordan, I came to comfort you with good intentions, but you didn't even appreciate it. Instead, you're using my cousin to humiliate me. "Anyway, after you and Lauren get a divorce, you must give me either the necklace or the earrings. Even if you give me only one side of the earrings, I must have one of them!"

Jordan questioned, "Why do you think you deserve it?"

"Because I gave birth to your son! I am entitled to it!"

After saying that, Hailey stormed off in a rage.

Staring at Hailey's back, Jordan couldn't help but shake his head.

'Hailey... is really horrible in comparison. Even if Lauren lied to me too, her attitude towards me is a hundred times better than Hailey's! I will never give the most beautiful jewelry in the world to a selfish, arrogant woman like you!"

•••

Just like that, another two days passed.

Professor Gunn had promised to give the result in three days.

Indeed, Professor Gunn called Jordan!

Chapter 421: The Paternity Test Results!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

When Professor Gunn called, Jordan was still in the washroom.

Picking up the call, Jordan immediately asked impatiently, "Professor Gunn, do you have the results?"

Professor Gunn said, "Yes, Mr. Steele, they are with me. I can guarantee that the report results are absolutely accurate and there is absolutely no falsification."

Jordan naturally trusted Professor Gunn the most because he had gotten a clear idea of his profile and background. After all, Professor Gunn was aware of how powerful Jordan was. Even the Howards wouldn't be able to threaten or bribe them.

"May I ask what Mr. Steele is doing now ?" Professor Gunn suddenly asked.

Jordan answered truthfully, "I'm in the washroom."

"Are you doing a number two or what?" Professor Gunn continued to ask.

Jordan asked awkwardly, "Do you think I'd pick up your call while I'm doing a number one ?"

"Mr. Steele, you're not in a suitable state to hear the result right now. Why don't I tell you the result when it's convenient for you?"

Jordan was stunned. 'Why wasn't it convenient?' Was Chloe not his daughter?'

For a moment, Jordan began to let his imagination run wild again!

'That old fogey Professor Gunn is always so difficult to figure out.'

He was one of the very few people whose minds Jordan couldn't read.

The last time he did a paternity test for Jordan and Hailey, he had a complicated and incomprehensible look on his face that made Jordan troubled for a long time. Hence, Jordan didn't go to the test center to collect the results this time because he didn't want to be misled by Professor Gun's micro-expressions again!

"Okay, I'll call you later."

Five minutes later, Jordan called Professor Gunn again.

This time, Professor Gunn answered the phone and said, "Mr. Steele, I can see that you're getting anxious. I advise you to calm down before I tell you the outcome."

Hearing Professor Gunn's words, Jordan had a strong hunch that the results might be unfavorable!

Jordan took a deep breath and then said, "Okay, I can accept any result. Just speak your mind."

Professor Gunn added, "I heard that the environment on your side is quite chaotic. I suggest that you listen to the report in a quieter environment."

Jordan picked up the remote control and turned off the TV set in the hotel, after which the room fell silent again.

"Professor Gunn, don't torture me. Tell me, is Chloe my child or not!?!"

Jordan was already eager and he couldn't wait any longer.

"Okay." Professor Gunn remained calm and unpredictable. "I'll now begin to announce to you the results of the paternity test. Please prepare yourself mentally.

"Based on the available information and DNA analysis results, you are Chloe's biological father!"

"Damn!"

Jordan was not only excited to hear the result, he even snapped at Professor Gunn.

"Chloe is my child. You beat around the bush for such a long time and told me to finish my business before you would tell me the results. Couldn't you have just told me? Do you know what I was worried about during those few minutes!?"

This Professor Gunn was atrocious. He had deliberately put on a complicated and worrying expression in the paternity test center the last time. Jordan, who could read micro-expressions, felt extremely anxious.

He didn't expect to be tortured for a few minutes after picking up.

Professor Gunn then laughed and said, "I was just afraid that you'd jump up from the toilet bowl in a moment of joy. Haha."

Jordan cursed, "You cunning old man. I'm not going to engage you for paternity tests again!" Professor Gunn laughed and said, "I too, hope that Mr. Steele will never have such concerns and suspicions again. I wish you a happy family."

"Okay, I'm hanging up now."

Jordan hung up the phone and really leaped up in excitement!

Chloe was his child!

Chloe was indeed his child!

He just felt that his telepathy could not have been wrong. Besides, just like Jordan, Chloe had a flair for music and was just as hardworking!

All his suspicions were uncalled for. Lauren had never lied to Jordan, and she was a good woman. Jordan was the only man she had ever gotten intimate with in this lifetime!

Jordan hurriedly changed into his shoes and left the hotel while instructing Salvatore to check out of the hotel room. He decided to return to Lauren's home tonight! After buying Chloe a bag of her favorite rainbow candy, Jordan eagerly rushed back to Lauren's home to see Chloe.

At this moment, Chloe was in the courtyard and learning to paint with an elderly man who had a head full of white hair.

Seeing that Jordan was walking over with some gummies, Chloe immediately put down the brush and leaped towards Jordan as she exclaimed, "Daddy!"

"Baby!"

Jordan picked Chloe up happily.

The elderly man saw Jordan and took the initiative to greet him, "You're Chloe's father, right? No wonder Chloe is so pretty. As I said, girls tend to inherit their beauty from their fathers and their height from their mothers."

Lauren walked over and introduced the man to Jordan, "This is Chloe's painting teacher, Mr. George. He's a top painting master in the country."

Jordan looked at the old gentleman who had an ethereal appearance with some admiration. He took the initiative to reach his arm out for a handshake.

"Mr. George, nice to meet you. I'll have to count on you to teach Chloe to paint in the future."

Chloe said innocently, "Mr. George said that I inherited my beauty from Daddy and my height from Mommy. That's why I'm not as tall as Mommy. Does that mean I didn't inherit my mom's looks because she's not good-looking?"

Jordan was amused by Chloe's impressive logic before saying smilingly, "Your mother is the best-looking and most beautiful woman in the world. Chloe, you can forget about surpassing your Mommy before you reach the age of 20 years old."

Although Lauren couldn't read micro-expressions, he could still tell that Jordan was in a good mood today. The reason for his joy

was obviously because of his knowledge of the paternity test results.

This time, Lauren did not appreciate Jordan's affection. Instead, she walked back to his room angrily.

Jordan hurriedly followed and reached his arms out from behind Lauren to hug her.

"I'm sorry, Lauren, I shouldn't have doubted you."

Lauren would have been overjoyed to get hugged by Jordan in the past but now, she took the initiative to push him away.

"So the paternity test results out?"

Jordan nodded and said, "You didn't lie to me, I was the one who thought too much."

Jordan continued to pull Lauren's hand and said, "I'm sorry for what happened the last few days. I'll make it up to you tonight."

Lauren said, "You'd better stay in a hotel. Don't come home. Chloe and I can take care of ourselves. We don't need you."

It was the first time that Jordan saw Lauren talking to him with such an attitude.

It seemed that Lauren was really upset with Jordan. She loved Jordan so much and yet, he doubted her loyalty.

However, Jordan was not dejected because of it. Instead, he felt that Lauren was really cute when she was mad at him. All along, Lauren had been very submissive to Jordan but a woman who was too docile all the time would seem boring and hypocritical.

Everyone had a temper and the way Lauren was behaving now was more genuine.

Jordan kissed Lauren and said, "Honey, wait for me tonight.. I have to go out now and find out who did this to me!"

Chapter 422: Finding Out The Truth!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan left his home and headed to the hotel where Matt was by car.

Matt was held in purgatory for three days, during which he was told that he would not be fed any food if he refused to speak. But Jordan was merely scaring him and had actually prepared a sumptuous spread for lunch for him.

However, Matt was quite gutsy to have eaten only the fruit and dessert.

Seeing Jordan coming, Matt remained righteous-looking.

"Jordan, I'm still going to say the same thing. Those photos don't belong to me and I didn't take those photos at all. I did not disrespect Miss Howard in any way. You may check the footage of every treatment session that I have given her."

Jordan also compared the people in the photos. The man's legs were darker and coarser than Matt's.

Matt was a very gentle person who hadn't done much physical labor and seldom went to the gym. Hence, they could deduce that Matt was innocent.

"Let's go, Dr. Gale," Jordan said to Matt.

Matt asked, "Where to? Do you believe me now?"

Jordan nodded. "To your house. Don't you want to know who framed you and is mocking me at the same time?"

Hence, Jordan and Matt returned to Matt's house together.

Jordan firmly believed that there was no perfect crime. Since someone had come to Matt's home and placed the photos there, they must have left some traces behind.

Firstly, the secret contraption in the headboard of Matt's bed couldn't be found easily and it would take at least a few minutes to find it.

Secondly, the photos were placed after the contraption was discovered.

It meant that after this person left, he found a woman with a figure similar to Lauren's and took those photos with her.

He then came over again.

To have visited twice in a row, there was a high probability that there were clues left behind. Matt entered his home and asked, "Do you want me to go to the manager of the property and ask for the surveillance footage of the past days?"

In response, Jordan said, "Surveillance cameras are the deadliest enemies of experts and they're best at evading cameras. He would have been careful to avoid surveillance cameras, leaving fingerprints, and other things like that."

As Jordan walked, he suddenly smelled a strange odor and asked, "What's that smell?"

Matt was embarrassed for a while, and he frantically rushed forward to point at a rubbish bin.

"I'm sorry, I've been too lazy, this trash can has been full for a long time. I forgot to empty it."

Jordan said, "Dump out the trash can."

"Huh ?"

Matt was a little reluctant. The trash can was full of filthy things so why would they empty it?

The trash cans in Matt's house were the kind that was high-end, smart-sensing, and covered. It was not the kind where the contents could be seen immediately at a glance.

Matt nevertheless poured out the contents of the trash can, and the crowd instantly covered their noses. Feeling bewildered, Salvatore said, "Dr. Gale, you seem to be a clean freak. These rotten eggs have been there for a long time. Yet, you didn't dump them out."

Matt was embarrassed.

However, Jordan did not care about these details.

Kicking all the garbage away with his foot, he found a cigarette butt inside.

"Dr. Gale, do you smoke?"

Matt immediately got worked up. "I don't smoke! This cigarette butt is definitely not mine!"

He shockingly discovered something.

Jordan immediately crouched down and picked up the cigarette butt.

The cigarette butt was a Marlboro and there was only one word at the side of the butt. It was "Jamie"!

"Jamie! It's Jamie!"

Jordan suddenly recalled that the three of them had bought a ticket when they went out for some fun after training years ago. That was the first time Jamie learned how to smoke and he even engraved his name on the butt of each cigarette.

Jordan then asked him why he had to write his name on the cigarettes.

Back then Jamie had replied, "Cigarettes are like women, I have to give it an exclusive mark. I'm not only going to write my name on the cigarette, but later, I'm going to write my name on the most beautiful woman in the world, haha."

Jordan and Jesse both cursed, "Pervert!"

Based on Jamie's habits, he would leave his name on every cigarette he smoked and every woman he slept with.

"Mr. Jordan... Was this really done by your brother ?"

Salvatore was in disbelief. He hadn't met Jamie before. After meeting Jesse, Salvatore felt that Jesse was very imposing, and he had been really curious about Jamie.

At the same time, Salvatore was in a dilemma. What if Jordan's second brother was against Jordan?

"It's him, he must have learned that Jesse is investigating Lauren, so he deliberately put these things in Dr. Gale's house in advance. He was just out to make Jesse tell me that there's something wrong with Lauren.

"I would have then fallen out with the Howards and I might have even gotten killed by them. His agenda was to make me an enemy of the Howards and thus use them to get rid of me!"

Salvatore could not help but swallow his saliva and asked, "Mr. Jordan, is your brother... powerful or not?"

Salvatore was a little scared that he might not be able to defeat Jamie!

At this moment, Jordan's phone rang.

"Hello."

"Jordan, it's Grandpa."

The person who called was not Jordan's grandfather, but Lauren's grandfather.

"Mr. Howard Sr., what is it?"

"Come to my place for dinner, I have something to say to you."

"Sure."

With so many things happening recently, Martin must have found out about it, so Jordan had no choice but to give him an explanation.

After arriving at Martin's home, Jordan had a quick bite with Martin before going to Martin's study.

Martin asked, "I heard you brought Chloe to get another paternity test done. Is that true?"

Jordan lowered his head and said, "Yes, I apologize, I shouldn't have doubted your granddaughter. I fell into someone else's trap."

Martin said in a calm tone, "I know a bit about this matter too. As a man, it's only normal to be angry after seeing those photos. I was also worried about Lauren and Matt Gale getting too close for her own good previously but his grandparents and parents are very good people, so I was relieved.

"Jordan, this time, I won't blame you. After all, your ex-wife cheated on you before so it's normal for you to be a little sensitive. On the contrary, you didn't hit Lauren after you suspected that she had cheated you, nor did you say anything too callous.

"I heard Lauren say that you told her that even if Chloe is not your daughter, you'd still raise her as your own and I'm very heartened to hear that! It seems that you really treat Lauren and Chloe as your family."

Jordan remained silent.

Indeed, Chloe and Lauren had already become indispensable family members of Jordan's within this short period of time!

Martin asked, "Have you found out who pulled this trick on you?"

Jordan paused for a moment but he didn't mention Jamie's name.

However, to his surprise, Martin smiled and asked, "Is it your brother, Jamie?"

Jordan was instantly appalled.. How did Martin know about it!

Chapter 423: Completing The Business Trial!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan asked in surprise, "Mr. Howard Sr., how did you guess that it was my second brother who did it? How much do you know about him?"

Martin smiled and said, "Ever since he took my granddaughter away from New York City and threw her onto a plane just to make you sleep with her once, I knew that Jamie was the one behind all the conspiracies."

"Jordan, do you know why Jamie did this to you?"

Jordan sighed and then shook his head. "I don't know. I'm on pretty good terms with Jamie. Although we rarely meet, he has always been nice to me. Even if we're half-siblings, there's no need for us to kill him if he doesn't treat me as a brother."

"Our family's assets are enough for all seven of us and each of us will have an endless amount of wealth. He has no reason to do this."

To his surprise, Martin chuckled after hearing his words. "Do you want to know why he did this to you?"

Jordan was stunned. Based on what Martin said, he seemed to know the reason! But how could an outsider like him know the reason!?!

"Do you know ?" Jordan was bewildered.

Martin nodded and said, "He does want to harm you to compete with you but he's not competing with you for the inheritance of assets but your family's secret!" Jordan was immediately shocked. This old man did know that the Steeles had unknown family secrets!

After thinking through it carefully, Jordan felt that Martin's words were very reasonable. There was no need for Jamie to vie for the billions of dollars of assets because he could have any amount of money he wanted.

Jesse and Jordan didn't value money because their thoughts had already become transcendent. No matter how much money they had, they were just numbers that they couldn't use.

Hence, if they were going to fight, it must be because of the family's secret!

Jesse had told Jordan that Jamie might have already found out about the family's secrets. Hence, Jamie had every reason to go after Jordan!

However, these were all matters of the Steeles and there was no need for Jordan to tell an outsider much about it.

Jordan laughed and said, "Mr. Howard Sr., you seem to be very interested in my family's secrets. If I'm not wrong, you must have asked me to marry your granddaughter so that you could use her to get hold of my family's secret, huh!?!"

However, Martin didn't hide it at all. "Of course! I would never shortchange myself. If the Steeles didn't have such great power and this secret that makes me curious... Not to mention that you already have a daughter with Lauren. Even if you had ten, I would never let you marry her." Jordan humphed coldly and exclaimed, "You can try!"

Martin said, "You are a smart person. There's no need for me to lie to you. It's extremely normal for humans to be selfish. Why should I bother hiding? Jordan, I hope you won't reject me because of this. I just want to know what your family's secret is.

"I have no intention to snatch your family's secret. Besides, we're a family and Chloe is both yours and my descendant. No matter what your family's secret is, I will stand by your side and support you.

"My agenda is very simple. If you take the power of the Steeles and if this family secret can benefit the Howards, I hope you'll help my children and allow them to get some glory too. I am a dying man whose days are numbered. I definitely won't harbor any malicious intentions towards you."

Martin sounded very sincere.

It was normal for him to be curious. Jordan was filled with curiosity himself too!

Jordan nodded and said, "Yes, but you must complete all of the trials given by the family before you're qualified to find out. I haven't even completed the business trial yet so God knows how many years it will take for me to get access to it. So Mr. Howard Sr., don't blame me if you can't wait until that day."

Martin began to panic a little. It was really difficult to say if an elderly man like him who was sick, could really wait till that day.

In his lifetime, Martin had enjoyed all sorts of luxuries, so before dying, he wanted to know what Charleston Steele's secret was.

Otherwise, he probably wouldn't die a peaceful death.

Martin said, "Jordan, don't blame me for criticizing you. Ever since you ended your three-year experience as a live-in husband, you've been troubled with love. You were either messily involved with your ex-wife Hailey, or because of your child and your betrayal. You two were in such a terrible conflict. Either that or you were obsessed with Victoria and enjoyed yourself with her traveling in the mountains.

"Now, because of Lauren and Chloe's affair, you're focusing your attention on how many men Lauren used to date. Men shouldn't be tied up by these emotional matters all day long. You should focus on the trials given by your family!"

Martin was right about that.

Jordan also felt that if he had stopped caring about Hailey after divorcing her and focused on developing the Ace Corporation as part of his business trial instead of taking revenge, he might have already completed it by now!

Jordan nodded. "You're right. I've already decided that I'm not going to think about these messy things anymore and focus on completing the business trial!"

Martin smiled and said, "That's right! Family secrets are the most important. Since Jamie isn't hesitating to harm his brother for this, that just goes to prove that it's even more attractive than the wealth of billions of dollars! As long as you have this secret and become the successor of the Steeles, you can have the whole world!"

"Once I finish the trial and find out the secret, I will understand why Victoria's father disappeared for such a long time..." Jordan muttered under his breath.

After thinking about it, Jordan said somewhat pessimistically, "Previously, my business was considered extremely successful but I didn't get my grandfather's approval."

Martin nodded and said, "That's naturally the case because the Ace Corporation sprung up in a short period of time because of money. The companies under it were all very successful and you merely bought them with money. Of course, you couldn't have gotten your grandfather's recognition with that."

"Jordan, your grandfather's business trial is not meant for you to build the greatest company in the country, nor is he particular about the amount of profit you make. He is still mainly training your ability to run a business, shape your personality, and hone your ability to resist blows and find opportunities in various situations.

"Now that your assets have been frozen, you have nothing to your name and you're being watched.. If you can make a name for yourself and make impressive achievements in business under such circumstances... I believe that your grandfather will be very surprised and he'll definitely approve of you and conclude that you've successfully completed your trial!"

Chapter 424: The Way To Complete The Trial!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Martin was right.

Jordan would be going through the trial in "difficult" mode if he were to remain in the status quo. He was certain that he would get his grandfather's approval if he were to make great achievements in difficult mode!

Clenching his fist, Jordan secretly made up his mind. "I'll definitely pass the business trial as soon as possible!"

Martin also cheered Jordan on. "Son, although the possibility of making a difference in the business world is very low now that your assets have been frozen, you're a smart kid and I believe that you will be able to think of a way to make amazing achievements. Just do it!"

With his assets, bank accounts, and mobile payment accounts all frozen, Jordan couldn't even open a company now.

However, Martin and Jordan were convinced that Jordan could succeed.

"Jordan, before you go, I'll give you another piece of advice. The ones who harm and defeat you are usually those that are closest to you. Our forefathers have said and written many thought-provoking ideologies and philosophies. Read more of our ancestors' books when you have time, and I can guarantee that you will gain a lot!"

Martin smiled. At this moment, he was extremely benevolent like Jordan's grandfather.

"Okay, thanks. I'll go first and come back to see you another day."

"Great, I'll be waiting for your good news!"

Looking at Jordan's departing figure, Martin smiled and murmured to himself.

"Go and do it with courage. Jordan, no matter what you do and regardless of whether you complete this trial through cheating or relying on your true ability, I will secretly help you!"

Martin was glad, knowing that he wasn't far from discovering the Steeles' secret!

On the way back, Jordan carefully recalled these two sentences that Martin had said to him.

It meant that whether something was lucky or not was not something that was set in stone. It was likely to change with the person's mental state and emotions.

"Lauren's grandfather still doesn't think I have enough control of my emotions."

Jordan naturally understood what Martin meant.

However, as a man, how could he control his emotions after learning that his wife had lied to him and that his child might not even belong to him?

'Surely I don't really have to conform to those sayings on the Internet like "As long as I can get a pretty wife, it doesn't matter if the child is mine" ?' 'Ah, life is hard.'

Jordan was only in his twenties and he didn't want to be composed all the time like an old man.

When he returned home, Lauren was already getting ready to go to bed.

Jordan got undressed and was ready to get onto the bed to sleep. However, Lauren turned him down.

"Jordan, I want to sleep alone," Lauren said coldly.

He didn't expect to hear such words from Lauren.

In the past few days, she had been begging him to sleep with her. So he had no choice but to come out of his room obediently.

At this moment, Felicia, who had already changed into her pajamas and was wearing a pair of linen slippers, just happened to walk over.

Upon sight of Jordan who was walking out of Lauren's room with his head hanging low, Felicia couldn't help but smile.

She asked, "Mr. Jordan, did you get kicked out by Miss Lauren ?"

How could Jordan admit to such a humiliating thing!?! During the three years of his marriage to Hailey, he had never shared the same room as her.

After that, he swore that he would never let such a thing happen again!

But today, Lauren let Jordan taste it once again.

Jordan said with a straight face, "Kicked out? Nothing of that sort. I moved out of my own accord. I want to accompany Chloe to sleep."

"Don't." The petite Felicia immediately stood in front of Jordan to block him. "Chloe and I are sharing the same room. You'd better not go in."

Jordan said with bewilderment, "What's wrong with that? It's not like you're going to be on the same bed anyway."

Feeling a little shy, Felicia said, "Mr. Jordan, you're so handsome. I won't be able to control myself if we sleep in the same room!"

Jordan was speechless.

"You're right but I can tell that you dislike me! Forget it, I'll sleep in the guest room."

Felicia laughed and said, "Hehe, goodnight, Mr. Jordan. By the way, here's a reminder. It's Miss Lauren's birthday the day after tomorrow. It's a great chance for you two to make up."

"I remember," Jordan said.

He had already saved Lauren's birthday in his phone's memo.

Back in his room, Jordan didn't idle about either. It was time he did something serious!

Indeed, he had to finish the business trial as soon as possible because he wanted to know what the family secret was! He had to know why Jamie wanted to harm him and why Victoria's father, who was clearly still alive, did not contact Victoria and Emily for eleven years!

"My assets have been frozen, and so have my bank accounts and everything else related to my finances. I can't use any of them. Money talks when it comes to business. Without money, I can't set up a company, be a shareholder, or invest in anything. What does it take to become a dignified figure in the business world under these circumstances?"

After careful thought, he realized that it was simply impossible!

Jordan was now facing credit problems. He had been blacklisted by the bank, and all companies could not possibly cooperate with him. All he had was just a bunch of henchmen with little business acumen.

After pondering about it for a whole hour, Jordan was puzzled.

"This is a dead-end. No matter how much business acumen I have and how capable I am, it's impossible for me to make any achievements in the business world. Because I don't even have the qualifications to make an effort to start. Once I start working on a certain project and preparing to start a business, it will be canceled immediately.

"What should I do to break out of this?"

Jordan suddenly remembered a saying.

"Two mice fell into a bucket of cream, and the first one quickly gave up and drowned. But the second mouse struggled so hard that he eventually churned that cream into butter and he walked out."

This is a quote from the famous director, Steven Spielberg's film, "Catch Me If You Can".

Jordan had a deep impression of the film, in which the male lead was played by Leonardo DiCaprio. The film revolved around the male lead's repeated acts of fraud. He disguised as a pilot and scammed airlines. He also disguised as a doctor and scammed a lawyer's daughter into marrying him.

Jordan suddenly had a flash of inspiration. "Since I can't set up a company or hire employees and start from the bottom, I can go straight to the last step."

"Wouldn't it be better if I just disguised myself as a successful businessman? As long as I can fool everyone and get everyone in the world of business to approve of me, my grandfather will definitely approve of me too! In fact, I can even fool Grandpa!"

He could fake his identity, his company and everything else.

All he had to do was make sure no one could tell!

Chapter 425: You' re The Queen Of Bars!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Bright and early the next morning, Lauren got up and went for a run.

Jordan thought about the business plan he had come up with last night and set his alarm for six o'clock. He wanted to get up a little early and give Lauren her favorite "morning kiss".

Unfortunately, he was a step too late and didn't catch her.

Hence, Jordan set up a grill in the courtyard and started a fire to cook. He stir-fried pasta, chopped onions, ginger, garlic, and green peppers. Soon after, a plate of aglio olio was freshly prepared.

Lauren came back from her run, clad in a cap and a mask. She then entered the courtyard and took off the mask.

Numerous beads of sweat had appeared on her clear and lovely face. It made her look even more innocent and beautiful.

As soon as she entered the courtyard, Lauren smelled a certain fragrance and entered to take a look, only to find Jordan cooking breakfast.

On the other hand, Felicia and Chloe were already gathered around and had started eating.

When Jordan saw Lauren running back in the morning, he smiled and said, "Lauren, you're back. Quick, try the aglio olio I made while it's still hot."

Lauren shook her head and said indifferently, "No, I don't like eating in the morning."

Ignoring her, Jordan carried the bowl and chopsticks towards Lauren and took the initiative to feed her some pasta.

"It smells good. Try it."

"I won't eat it."

Although Lauren said that she didn't want to eat, she unconsciously opened her mouth when Jordan handed it to her for some reason.

She quickly swallowed the noodles.

Chloe, who was at the side, laughed and said, "Haha, Mommy said that she doesn't want to eat but she still did."

Lauren also hated herself for blurting out those words. She couldn't deny that she was a foodie!

"How is it? How about I get you a plate?" Jordan asked with a smile.

Lauren had an awkward look on her face. After eating that mouthful, she kept swallowing her saliva and stopped pretending. "Yes."

So Jordan scooped a bowl for Lauren too and she enjoyed it greatly.

It was the same for Chloe.

Felicia was all praise as she ate. "Mr. Jordan, the food you make is so delicious! I feel so blissful to be able to eat such delicious food every day."

Lauren poked Felicia on her forehead and asked, "How can you have the cheek to say that? Shouldn't you be the one to do it?"

Felicia chuckled and said, "The food I make can't compare to that of Mr. Jordan's."

Although Felicia was Lauren's maid, Lauren treated her as her sister and not a servant.

After Jordan married Lauren, he didn't treat Felicia as a maid or order her around either. Felicia was touched that he was willing to cook even though he was supposedly her master.

Felicia finished a bowl of Aglio olio before scooping herself another bowl. While sprinkling some chili flakes onto it, she asked, "Mr. Jordan, are there lots of servants at your place? Will they treat me like their family like Miss Lauren does?"

In all honesty, Felicia was curious about what the specific situation in the Steele family was.

Hearing his question, Lauren raised her head too. She was now Jordan's wife but she hadn't lived with the Steeles before and didn't really know what they were like.

Jordan said, "Except for Butler Frank, who has been working for my grandfather for decades, the rest of the servants have a distinct master and servant relationship with us. They're not as close to us as you and Lauren are. My brothers and I don't really have any servants but my younger sisters have lots of servants around them.

"There are servants who are responsible for waking them up, teaching them to do their makeup, teaching them etiquette, as well as those who specialize in organizing their schedules and deciding their timetable. They also have an entourage of chauffeurs, bodyguards, hairstylists, fashion designers, and so on."

Felicia asked with her eyes wide open, "Wow, girls of your family must be living like princesses! Mr. Jordan, I heard that you have quite a few younger sisters. How old is the youngest one?"

Jordan said, "The youngest is my seventh sister who's only nine years old."

"She's so young. That's not much older than Chloe. Mr. Jordan, your father was really energetic," Felicia couldn't help but compliment. "You have so many siblings. Your family handed the bar businesses to you and Miss Lauren. It seems that they really value you!"

Hearing Felicia's words, Lauren seemed to have remembered something.

"Jordan, can you come to the room?"

Jordan had also finished eating and he stood up happily, wondering to himself if Lauren had been coaxed by a bowl of Aglio olio. 'Is she going to let me sleep in the room? It isn't appropriate to exercise vigorously just after eating, right?'

Jordan thought that Lauren wanted to get intimate with him but when he entered, he realized that that wasn't the case.

Lauren said with a cold and indifferent expression, "This is the bar share transfer agreement that your grandfather has drawn up. I've decided to give up my rights as a shareholder. You can have the bar to yourself. Also, these two boxes contain the necklace and the earrings that you gave me."

Jordan didn't expect Lauren to return all the gifts he had given her.

It seemed that Lauren was still mad at Jordan!

'Indeed, beautiful women are difficult to coax!'

Looking at the gifts, Jordan looked at the gifts and said, "This necklace actually belongs to Jamie. I got it by going through his safe in his house in the suburbs without his permission. Logically speaking, if he wants it back, we are supposed to return it to him. But after everything that guy has done to me without explaining, I don't plan to return it to him either. Just wear it.

"As for this pair of diamond earrings..."

Jordan lied to Lauren that it was from Jordan's mother, but it was actually from Victoria!

At the thought of Victoria, Jordan sighed and said, "Since she gave it to you, she probably wouldn't ask for it back. The
necklace and earrings belong to you. Except for you, no one else in this world is worthy of wearing them!

"And as for this transfer contract..."

Jordan picked up the contract and tore it up without even looking at it.

"Jordan..."

Lauren was a little shocked.

Jordan said, "Lauren, I won't take back the things that I gave you. No matter what, this is what I owe you and Chloe. I won't let you withdraw. You're destined to be the queen of British bars. I want you to point to every bar on the street and proudly say 'This is my turf!' when you arrive in England!"

If Jordan had said those words to Hailey, Hailey would have jumped up and down.

Although Lauren was not a vain woman, who would be able to refute such temptation?

Jordan grabbed Lauren's hand and said, "Honey, don't be angry. It's your birthday tomorrow.. How about I take you out for two days?"

Chapter 426: Lauren's Classmates' Gathering!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Jordan and Lauren hadn't gone on a honeymoon after they got married. Besides, Jordan wanted to take the chance to make it up to her since it was her birthday tomorrow.

However, Lauren refuted, "I've already promised my high school classmates that I'll be meeting them for our reunion tomorrow."

Classmates' gathering?

It was actually scheduled on Lauren's birthday too.

"Oh." Since Lauren had already promised them, there was nothing he could say.

"Which restaurant did they book?"

Lauren replied, "Sophomore, a campus-themed restaurant."

Jordan nodded and said, "Okay, go to the classmates' reunion then."

Jordan was slightly disappointed. Lauren actually promised her classmates to attend a reunion on such an important day. She must have agreed to it when Jordan was giving her the cold shoulder in the last two days.

Otherwise, given how much Lauren loved Jordan, she definitely wouldn't have given her time on such an important day to her high school classmates who weren't very close to her.

Afterward, Jordan ordered Salvatore to send a grand piano to the restaurant named "Sophomore" by tomorrow afternoon. He

intended to attend Lauren's classmate's party and give her a surprise!

Since Jordan was her husband, he had to be there on such an important day like her birthday!

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At 6 pm the following day, Lauren appeared at the Sophomore restaurant, dressed in a simple jacket and a pair of jeans.

It was a campus-themed restaurant and wasn't exactly an upscale place. Besides, it was a classmates' reunion today, so Lauren wasn't wearing a skirt or stilettos. Instead, she was dressed in very ordinary clothes.

However, Lauren was beautiful and even if she was dressed ordinarily, she could still make many heads turn.

Having long gotten used to getting admiring looks over the past two decades, Lauren did not take it seriously at all. However, she didn't expect to see that everyone seemed to be staring at a woman in front of her and not her when she walked into the restaurant.

Lauren looked at the girl in front of her in surprise. She had a good temperament and figure. Although it wasn't as good as hers, she was considered a beauty.

Besides, that girl was extremely young. She was at least four or five years younger than Lauren.

'Is it because I'm old and I can't compare to young girls?'

Lauren felt that everyone was looking at the girl in front of her instead of herself. Hence, she thought that she was getting old. After all, girls who were born in the 2000s were already adults now.

They had already gone through puberty too. After putting on makeup, she had the charm of a mature woman, as well as the unique pureness and collagen of a young woman. Her skin complexion was so good that a woman who was almost 30 years old wouldn't be able to compare to her at all.

Lauren paid a lot of attention to her beauty and the maintenance of her youth. Like other beautiful women, she was naturally afraid of aging. However, after taking a closer look at the eyes and comments of the passers-by, Lauren felt that they weren't purely admiring a beautiful woman.

The girl in front of Lauren seemed to be a celebrity!

"Look, isn't that the idol, Maggie!?!"

"Who is Maggie ? Is she a singer or an actress ? What works is she famous for ?"

"She's the one who was exposed by the tabloids after being caught having car sex with a wealthy scion in New York City!"

"Oh, I remember! That scion seems to be from the Huxleys of New York."

"Wasn't the matter clarified afterward? Maggie is a victim herself. She was deceived by that second-generation heir, Cayden Huxley." "Oh, in my opinion, she's not a victim. Why didn't she get deceived by me? At the end of the day, she's just greedy for money!"

"Keep your voice down, don't let others overhear you!"

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Lauren slowed down and as she heard the sounds of discussion coming from the crowd around her, she finally learned that the girl in front of her was Maggie, a popular idol.

At this age, Lauren had long stopped idolizing celebrities and had never heard of Maggie, especially since Maggie was much younger.

Soon, the two walked to their respective private rooms.

When Lauren entered the room, the other students in the room had all arrived.

This time, there were only ten people including Lauren, who would be attending the reunion because not all her classmates were invited.

Lauren attended an ordinary high school but her classmates[,] family backgrounds were not comparable to the Howards though they were affluent.

It could be said that in their eyes, Lauren was a princess who was high up in the air and whom they had to suck up to. Those classmates who were attending the reunion were the ones she was closer to and the boys' parents were government officials who had been doing well as of late. In other words, no one else would dare to invite Miss Howard.

In fact, although Lauren was a little cold and aloof, she treated her classmates equally. She didn't look down on her classmates and think that she was superior to them, just because she came from a powerful family.

"Hey, our class belle is here. Everyone, stand up to welcome her!"

A bespectacled man was the first to get up and clap his hands.

It was Colton, the class president back in the schooling days.

The rest of Lauren's classmates stood up to greet her.

Lauren was a little embarrassed and shy. "Hey, we're all classmates, don't act like this. You're making me awkward."

Lauren looked at the private room and realized that the tables weren't like the usual dining tables in restaurants. Rather, they were like school classroom desks.

Since it was a campus-themed classroom where classmates³ reunions were usually held, the decor was meant to make patrons reminisce about their schooling days.

The private room was large and there was a piano inside.

"Lauren, long time no see."

"Lauren, you've become even more beautiful!"

Lauren's female classmates greeted her affectionately.

One of the female students who was close to Lauren, asked, "Lauren, did you not bring the necklace and earrings your husband gave you?"

"You guys didn't attend Lauren's wedding so you probably don't know that her husband gave her the most expensive necklace and diamond earrings in the world!"

A few male students made some snide remarks.

"No, I heard that Lauren's husband is a live-in husband. Isn't he?"

"Yeah, I heard that Lauren's husband is penniless and jobless. He doesn't even have a house in DC and he's still living in Lauren's home now."

Lauren didn't invite her male classmates to her wedding and only the two female ones who were present now were invited. Hence, many people weren't clear of her situation and only knew that she had gotten married.

Colton had a complicated look on his face and his eyes were full of excitement when he looked at Lauren. He clearly didn't only treat her as a classmate.

"Lauren, what does your husband do? Tell us about it. Did the most expensive necklace and earrings in the world really belong to him?"

It was obvious Colton was extremely curious about Lauren's husband!

Chapter 427: Lauren' s Secret Admirer

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

As soon as Lauren came in and sat down, her husband, Jordan, had become the focus of their conversation. After all, in the eyes of her classmates, Lauren was a school belle.

Everyone wanted to know who the most beautiful and outstanding classmate of theirs had eventually married. It was especially the case for the boys who used to have a crush on her.

Lauren was gorgeous even when she was only in high school. She would usually wear a ponytail to school. She was taller than others her age and her pure, innocent look was extremely eye-catching.

The class president, Colton, had always carried a torch for Lauren. Lauren could be said to be the first girl he had ever had a crush on in this lifetime.

In the sophomore year of high school, Colton, who had had a crush on Lauren for the longest time, finally plucked up the courage to give Lauren a love letter to confess his feelings for her.

Lauren politely and shyly took the love letter but her family's chauffeur saw it.

Soon, the Howards found Colton's dad who worked in a certain institution.

That night, Colton's father taught him a hard lesson and told him very seriously that he was not allowed to harass or harbor any

romantic feelings towards Lauren anymore. He was warned to treat Lauren only as a classmate!

From then on, Colton knew that Lauren was not from an ordinary family at all and that her status was much higher than theirs.

However, for a fifteen-year-old, the more he suppressed his emotions and tried to restrain his feelings for her, the more he couldn't stop himself and the more he adored her!

Over the years, as he grew older and learned more about Lauren's family, Colton was more and more aware that it was impossible between him and Lauren. He knew very well that Lauren would definitely marry the son of a government official or an extremely wealthy man, like Chris.

If Lauren were to marry Chris, Colton would have nothing to say. After all, it was apparent to all that he couldn't compare to the powerful Hanks at all.

However, Lauren married a man they had never heard of, and to make matters worse, he was going to be her live-in husband! It was preposterous!

Although many of his former classmates had said Lauren's husband was actually from a powerful family, there was no concrete proof to support that point.

Lauren knew that her husband's family was very secretive and had always kept a low profile. Hence, she said, "My husband is just an ordinary person who doesn't have a job. Those two pieces of jewelry were gifts to him." Jordan had already told Lauren that the necklace did not belong to him but rather, he had gotten it from Jamie without his permission. In case Jamie wanted the necklace back one day, Lauren would have to give it back to him obediently. Therefore, Lauren did not dare to say that the jewelry belonged to Jordan.

A few of her classmates were stunned.

"Huh? They were gifts? Did your husband save the life of some rich man? Is that why he has this jewelry?"

"In my opinion, this jewelry may not be authentic. They might be counterfeit! Lauren, don't be fooled."

A female classmate hurriedly said, "What are you saying? They're authentic, you guys have no idea. The president of Vans Jewelry personally authenticated it at the wedding!"

"Not only did Lauren's husband give her those earrings and necklace, but his family also handed over the British bar business to her!"

Another female student also said with a smile, "Yes, Lauren is now the queen of British pubs! All the pubs in the UK are owned by her!"

"By the way, Lauren, I'm going to England in a few days. Does that mean that I can get free drinks when I mention your name at the bars?"

Her female classmates had been really excited ever since they learned that all the bars in the UK were owned by Lauren. They often went abroad but for various reasons, they would never have as much fun as they do at home. After all, they would be foreigners in other countries.

However, if all the bars in the UK belonged to their classmate, they would be able to behave unrestrainedly and have fun without any scruples.

Lauren hurriedly said, "No, don't mention my name, I haven't even been there myself. I'll send you guys money remotely to foot the bills when you're there."

The female student frowned and said, "Ah, we're after the thrill of not having to pay the bill. Which boss has to get the tab at her own bar?"

Colton asked with confusion, "Do all the bars in the UK belong to a single corporation? Is Lauren the current owner? That's not quite right, is it? I've checked on that corporation and it seems to have been founded by an Englishman."

Another male classmate of hers chimed in, "I studied at Oxford University in England. Lauren, your husband's last name seems to be Steele, right? I've investigated that too and there isn't a single family there with that last name."

Colton asked in amazement, "Is that so? You stayed in England for so long and you couldn't even find anything. Lauren, could it be that the contract your husband gave you is fake?"

The Steeles were very secretive, so ordinary people naturally couldn't find out any information about them.

Not wanting to explain too much, Lauren only said, "I don't care, it's not like I'm going to go there anyway. I don't intend to become the queen of British bars or whatever."

Seeing Lauren's dismissive attitude, her classmates were even more certain that the contract her husband had given her was fake!

Colton secretly thought, 'I was right! How can the son of a family that can own the entire bar industry in the UK, possibly be the live-in husband of Lauren!? Jordan Steele must be pretending! How infuriating. The goddess I've secretly been in love with for so many years married a fraud!"

The crowd started to scan the QR code with their phones to order food, and at this time, a female classmate smiled.

"By the way, everyone still doesn't know, right? It's the birthday of our class belle, who's newly married!"

The male students were dumbfounded. "What? It's Lauren's birthday today!?"

"Damn it, Lauren is really something. Instead of accompanying her husband on her birthday today, she's actually willing to come out and accompany us to the classmates' reunion. I really have to toast to you later!"

The female classmate said, "I was quite puzzled at first. When I invited Lauren, I didn't know that it was her birthday today. I only found out later."

"By the way, Lauren, did your husband agree to let you come out for a meal with us since it's your birthday today?"

Lauren said, "Oh, my husband happens to be out tonight, so I'm free to hang out with you guys."

Her few classmates immediately felt that something was wrong.

"It's your birthday and your husband is out?"

"Isn't he out of work? What serious business can he have?"

On the other hand, Colton secretly thought to himself, 'Seems like Lauren is having a fight with her husband. It's not that he has something on!'

Lauren wasn't behaving like herself at all. She didn't seem like a newlywed bride either.

'It's my chance tonight! Since even a liar like Jordan Steele can trick Lauren, I'll have a greater chance to be with her! I won't let myself continue to be so cowardly!'

Chapter 428: Meeting Maggie Again!

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

Ever since he received a warning from his father, Colton had never dared to pursue Lauren again.

As Colton's father's position rose higher over the years, Colton had also experienced a smooth-sailing journey in his career. He had already become the director of a certain project. Not only that, the bigwigs from other provinces had to line up to see him in DC.

Colton could tell that Lauren had had a tiff with her husband so he thought that it must be his chance to perform today.

Immediately taking out his cell phone, Colton said, "How nice of our class belle to join us today on such a special day. I have to order a luxurious cake for Lauren."

"Yes, yes, yes, order the cake!"

"Yes, we have to order a better cake that is worthy of Miss Howard."

Lauren was rather embarrassed. "You don't have to order a cake, we can just have a meal."

Colton immediately made a phone call. "Hello, is it Maxim Cake store? It's my classmate's birthday today. Please send the most expensive and extravagant cake in your store to Sophomore Cafe. Hurry it up!"

After hanging up, Colton smiled and said, "The cake will be delivered shortly."

The students could not help but laugh and said, "Colton, why are you being so eager when it's Lauren's birthday? Are you still interested in Lauren?"

"Haha, I remember that you sent love letters to Lauren back in high school."

Colton quickly denied, "Don't spout nonsense, or you'll put Lauren in an awkward position. That happened ages ago. Lauren, don't mind it."

Lauren laughed and chatted with her classmates whom she had known since she was a child. However, she didn't quite hold it against him.

Soon, the dishes were served and her male classmates drank some white wine while the girls drank red wine.

Colton was the first to clink glasses with Lauren. "Hey, former classmate, it's been a long time. Thank you for being kind and willing to get together with us."

The others also chimed in, "Yeah, we're really glad that you're willing to treat us as classmates."

Lauren came from a wealthy family and she lived a privileged life that was far above what her classmates could compare to. Their families added together couldn't compare to Lauren at all.

It was precisely because she had gone to an ordinary school when she was a child, that Lauren had the aura of a girl-next-door, unlike other heiresses of wealthy families who seemed aloof and untouchable.

Lauren said in a warm and gentle voice, "What are you saying? We're classmates, don't say that. Besides, I heard that your father has been doing well these last two days. He has quite a high status as a government official." "Hahaha." Colton laughed and said, "No, no, compared to your grandfather, my father is just a beggar."

Although he was criticizing his father on the surface, he was actually very proud! Apart from Lauren, who came from a powerful family, the rest of her classmates' families weren't doing as well as Colton.

Basically, each and every student was sucking up to Colton because there were many things that they needed him for. Even if they didn't, it would be quite a glorious thing to have a classmate of such a high status.

After having a drink, Colton suddenly asked, "Do you guys know a very popular celebrity named Maggie?"

"Maggie Stone?"

Lauren was stunned. Wasn't that the girl who walked in front of her when she first entered the restaurant?

A female student said, "I know! She was really popular last year and she was always on the hot search list. She has lots of fans. I've heard a lot about her from my junior colleagues at work."

Her male student also said, "Who doesn't know such a famous celebrity? Why? Colton, don't tell me that she's your girlfriend."

Colton waved his hand and said, "Why? She's just a distant cousin. Besides, she's now eating in this restaurant. Do you want to meet her? If you do, I'll get her to come over and have a drink with us." "Yes, yes, I'd like to take a picture with her too."

"Haha, I need to get an autograph for my brother."

The others certainly wanted to meet this star from the entertainment industry. After all, their work was typically involved with government organizations or hospitals, which were all very far from the entertainment industry.

Seeing that Lauren wasn't speaking, Colton asked, "Lauren, do you want to hear her sing? I can ask her to perform for you."

Not wanting to be a spoilsport and that everyone wanted to see this star, Lauren smiled and said, "Sure."

In fact, Lauren wasn't interested in this celebrity at all.

"Okay, I'll make a call and come over now."

Colton began putting on airs again in front of everyone and called Maggie. Indeed, in less than two minutes, Maggie walked towards the room that they were in.

"Colton."

"Maggie! Come, come, I'll introduce my classmate to you."

"This is Miss Howard, the belle of our class. This is..."

Colton wasted no time in giving introductions and also asked Maggie to accompany her for drinks. She even took photos with Lauren's female classmates.

The entire time, Colton was showing off with no restraint.

"You guys probably don't know how influential Maggie is. She has millions of fans on Twitter and any tweet she posts will be shared and retweeted millions of times!"

Maggie was much more modest than before and she said, "No, no, Colton, don't say that. I'm not that famous anymore."

Maggie used to be a top celebrity who could garner lots of traffic. However, ever since she and Cayden had gotten intimate in the car, her popularity had decreased greatly.

Colton pointed at the piano inside the room and said, "Maggie, there happens to be a piano in this room and a microphone attached to it. Do you want to perform a song for us?"

However, Maggie was quite repulsed. "I'm not good at playing the piano. I won't embarrass myself."

Lauren could tell that Maggie was very uneasy in the room and that she had a rather ordinary relationship with her distant cousin, Colton.

Lauren said, "Miss Stone, you're so famous. You must be very busy, right ?"

Maggie nodded and said, "Yes, I finally had an hour to come out and meet the friends I haven't met in years."

Lauren said, "I see. I don't want to waste Miss Stone's time then."

Maggie nodded at Lauren gratefully. "I'll go now then, Colton."

Colton waved at Maggie and said, "Maggie, I'll get the tab in your room."

"That's not necessary."

Colton said, "I've already paid at the front desk. Continue meeting with your friends."

"Yes, thank you, Colton."

After the celebrity left, the few classmates kept praising Colton. "Colton, you're really something. You could get such a huge celebrity to come and go as you please."

"I heard that you need to be worth at least millions to be able to dine with such a celebrity. Is that true?"

Colton waved his hand and said dismissively, "It's just a little girl that everyone likes. I can always ask her to come over at any time. Come on, let's keep drinking!"

At this moment, Jordan entered the restaurant..