

The Kiss 171

Chapter 171

Ellinor was beat. She gave the tubby guy a light kick before turning to make her exit.

Suddenly, the massive warehouse door was thrust open from the outside, letting out a piercing screech of rusty metal....

Someone walked in!

A tall guy with silver hair, dark skin, and a blue diamond earring in his left ear

Ellinor took a few cautious steps back, sizing up this newcomer

The other kidnappers were incapacitated with broken bones, they looked at the silver-haired guy as though he was their savior.

"You're just in time, don't let this bitch escape!"

The silver-haired guy got closer, and she got a good look at his features.

He had a deep scar on his left cheek, his whole aura screamed "badass".

The silver-haired guy stomped hard on the chubby guy, "Can't even handle a woman, you're useless!"

The fat guy blacked out from the pain.

Ellinor quickly realized that this silver haired guy was the mastermind behind the kidnapping, she frowned, "Who are you?"

This man was ruthless even with his own people, he wouldn't be easy to deal with.

The silver-haired guy looked at Ellinor like she was a lamb ready for slaughter, taunting. "You're not worth knowing who I am!"

Ellinor remained cool and collected, "So, you're looking to give me a hard time like them?"

The silver-haired guy glanced at her, said distastefully. "I'm not into girls Theo has been with!"

He suddenly pulled out a gun from his waistband, aiming it at Ellinor's forehead.

Ellinor was startled, but kept her composure, 'I don't even know you, just because I'm of no use to you, doesn't mean you need to kill me, right?' The silver-haired guy gave a merciless smile, 'Hostages with no value are just a liability!'

With that, he pulled the trigger...

The phone rang out of the blue!

The silver-haired guy's trigger-pulling hand froze and he answered the call.

Whatever was said on the other end had him frowning, "What? What's the situation now? I'm on my way!"

By the time he hung up, Ellinor was nowhere to be seen.

*One of the kidnappers pointed towards
the warehouse window, "The bitch just jumped out that window!"*

The silver-haired guy glared murderously at the window.

He didn't have time for this woman today, but next time he saw her, she was toast!

Meanwhile

A helicopter was speeding through the air....

*In the cabin, Collin turned up the volume and said, "Mr. Blanchet, judging from the last known location of
the white van in the road surveillance, the guys who kidnapped Ms. Mendoza should be hiding in that abandoned warehouse below!"*

Theo was all business, "We're landing now!"

Chapter 172

*Ellinor managed to make a break for it from the warehouse, fumbling her way
alone through the dark wilderness*

Her phone was chucked somewhere unknown by the kidnappers while she was out cold Right now, the sky was dark and stormy with not a hint of moonlight.

*In the pitch-black, she couldn't find her bearings and had to find a spot to hunker down and wait till daybreak to find
the way back home*

This suburban wasteland was even more barren than the real wilderness.

*Out there she could've found a cave to hide in. But here there was nothing but flat wasteland. All around,
apart from some thorny weeds, there wasn't a single big tree for
cover!*

Then the sky started to pour

With no place to take shelter, she was left to the mercy of the rain.

*Suddenly, she heard footsteps following her from the back, the
rustling of the weeds, and the sweeping of a flashlight...*

Who else could it be out here in the dark, if not the accomplices of the kidnappers!

Ellinor held her breath and immediately ducked into the bushes...

*The footsteps were getting closer and closer, a tall man's silhouette stopped one meter away from her, the
flashlight shining directly at her, blinding*

"Come out!"

The man's voice was cold and hard, full of menace.

Ellinor knew her hiding spot had been found out. She grabbed a handful of dirt and flung it at the man's face, trying to blind him!

He might have a gun and she had nothing. Going head to head was not an option. She had to blind him to get a chance to escape..

However, he reacted swiftly, dodging the dirt and grabbing her wrist tight!

Ellinor was taken aback, trying to wriggle free while raising her other hand to strike...

'It's me'

The man's voice was steady and strong

Being close, his voice was clearer. The familiarity of his voice made Ellinor pause....

Immediately after, she was pulled into a warm, broad chest!

The man's large hand gently held the back of her head, as if comforting a scared little animal, and stroked her hair, "Easy, it's okay now."

Ellinor's guard gradually dropped, "Theo, how did you..."

"Are you hurt?"

Theo didn't seem as calm as usual, his deep voice revealing rare concern. He held her shoulders and under the dim flashlight, he checked her from head to toe.

Ellinor shook her head, blinking in confusion.

How did Theo end up here?

Wasn't he just saying he didn't care about her and would leave her to the mercy of the kidnappers?

He even hung up the phone impatiently without even asking about the ransom...

The rain was getting heavier.

Seeing no obvious injuries on the girl, Theo's tension eased a bit. He took off his jacket and draped it over her, even covering her head to shield her from the rain, then apologized quietly, "Sorry, I'm late."

Ellinor watched Theo's unusual behavior in silence, feeling a bit unsettled.

Actually, he wasn't late. In fact, he was quite fast

It had been less than half an hour since the fat kidnapper called him for ransom...

If he left downtown right after hanging up the phone, it would have taken almost two hours to get here.

But he arrived in just half an hour, his speed was astonishing! How did he manage that?

'Mr Blanchet!'

Collin ran over, panting heavily, quickly opening the umbrella in his hand to shield him from the rain.

Seeing Ellinor in Mr Blanchet's arms, Collin breathed a sigh of relief, "Thank goodness, we've found Ms. Mendoza! Ms. Mendoza, are you alright?"

Ellinor nodded her head faintly, "I'm fine."

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"That's a relief" Collin heaved a sigh of relief. If anything happened to Ms. Mendoza, Mr. Blanchet would be hopping mad.

From the moment today's incident happened. Collin noticed that Mr. Blanchet's concern for Ms. Mendoza had far surpassed the definition of a contract marriage.

Mr. Blanchet cared about Ms. Mendoza. A lot.

"Mr. Blanchet, there's a thunderstorm coming up. The helicopter can't take off! I've arranged for a car nearby. It's here now Why don't you get Ms. Mendoza in the car first?"

Upon hearing this, Ellinor realized something. So they came by helicopter No wonder they arrived so fast!

Theo then ordered "You stay here and wait for the police to arrive. Make sure they nab those guys no one should slip through the net!"

Collin nodded, "Yes, Mr. Blanchet, I'll see to it!"

After giving instructions to his subordinate, Theo picked up Ellinor, turned around, and strode toward the car ahead.

Collin followed behind with an umbrella...

Ellinor felt a bit awkward. "Theo, I'm not hurt, I can walk..."

As she spoke, she tried to wriggle out of his hold...

Theo's strong arm tightened, gripping her securely, and warned, "Don't move! Keep fidgeting and I'll dump you in the ditch!"

Ellinor stopped moving immediately, rolled her eyes and pouted. This guy's good side doesn't last more than three seconds!

Theo placed Ellinor in the passenger seat, then personally buckled her seat belt...

The two were very close to each other.

Ellinor felt uncomfortable, instinctively tried to fasten the seatbelt herself, but accidentally yanked Theo who was bent over her....

Pulled by her, Theo's chin naturally rested on her collarbone Turning his head, his lips unintentionally brushed against her fair neck...

Theo's throat went dry with heat. He swallowed, released her, and straightened up.

Due to the previous contact, Ellinor turned her face away in embarrassment, blinking awkwardly...

After Theo stood up straight, he stood by the car door and stared at her for a while, his gaze burning

At this moment, she looked oddly attractive.

Then, Theo reached out to close the car door for her, loosened his tie in annoyance, walked around the front of the car to the driver's seat, and got in.

It was pouring rain, and the car was driving on a country road, the windshield wipers swinging back and forth...

The two people in the car were silent, the atmosphere somewhat awkward.

Clearing her throat, Ellinor asked, "Theo, didn't you say you wouldn't care about me and let the kidnappers do whatever they wanted? Why did you come looking for me?"

Theo glanced at her. "You heard that?"

Leaning on her hand and looking out

the window, Ellinor pouted and complained, "Yeah, I not only heard it, I also think you were being really mean!"

Theo gazed at the road ahead, his voice deep as he explained, "If I had shown any intention to save you then, those people would have been more cautious and might have tortured you in the cruelest way to provoke me. Moreover, this matter had to be handled secretly, we couldn't let anyone know. Otherwise, more and more people would want to kidnap you to threaten me in the future. Even after our relationship ends, you wouldn't be able to live a peaceful life."

Yeah, that's the truth!

Theo's status was unique, and

there must be plenty of people who wanted to find his weaknesses to manipulate him.

Ellinor sneered, propped her cheek lazily, turned her head to look at Theo, "So, you do realize that your actions can cause trouble for other people

Her eyes were challenging as she spoke, her lips red, her teeth white....

Theo's eyes turned bloodshot, his throat even drier. Just a quick glance at her stirred a strong urge from within, his whole body trembling.

As a grown man, he knew exactly what this feeling meant.

Suddenly, he slammed on the brakes!

Ellinor was thrown forward by inertia, then yanked back by the seatbelt, leaning back in her seat, her face full of surprise, "What are you doing?"

'Get out!' Theo said coldly

Ellinor was dumbfounded, her face full of confusion, "Why? It's raining outside! What did I do wrong?"

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Theo looked ahead with a cold expression, not even glancing at her, and impatiently said, "Get off the car and sit in the back"

Ellinor felt angry She hadn't said anything excessive, so why was this man getting mad? His emotions changed so quickly!

Fine, she would get off the car and sit in the back where she'd be more comfortable. No need to look at his face!

Ellinor unfastened her seatbelt, prepared to open the car door, and before leaving, she gave the man a glare. In that moment, she suddenly noticed that Theo's hand gripping the steering wheel was clenched tightly, as if he was struggling to restrain something...

She furrowed her brows and tentatively asked, "Are you feeling unwell?"

Theo didn't answer "Get off immediately!"

Ellinor began to sense that something was off. So she pulled the car door shut again, turned around, and looked at Theo seriously. "If you're feeling unwell, don't continue driving I can take over for you"

Suddenly, Theo turned his face to look at her, his gaze predatory, with an abnormal redness in his eyes....

Ellinor froze. "What's wrong with you..."

Before she could finish her sentence, Theo grabbed her by the collar and pulled her towards him. He held her head firmly in his hands and kissed her forcefully!

Ellinor was startled, her eyes widening, and she pushed him away with force...

What on earth was happening! The car was still in the middle of the road!

His kisses grew deeper, yet he seemed to feel it wasn't enough, like he was under some sort of spell, greedily taking in her taste.

Ellinor became furious and fiercely bit him!

The pain made Theo regain some clarity. He stopped and forcibly maintained his composure. He released her, wiped away the blood from his lip, his breath heavy, and warned, "If you don't want me to lose control, sit in the back!"

Ellinor realized something. She didn't have time to be angry. She quickly grabbed his wrist and furrowed her brows. "What did you eat tonight?"

Theo struggled to control his desires as he looked at her. "What do you think?"

Ellinor figured it out. "Did you go to Moonscape Hotel tonight and meet Sheila Mendoza?"

Even in his almost unconscious state, mention of the hotel sparked annoyance in Theo's eyes, and he sarcastically replied, "Wasn't it you who asked me to go? Said you wanted to personally cook and make it up to me?"

Ellinor touched her forehead, understanding Sheila must have put something in his food. Now the effects were taking hold!

Sheila was always scheming to attach herself to powerful men. She and her mother would go to any lengths to achieve their goals!

The only thing that puzzled her was why Theo clearly had no interest in Sheila. He wasn't the kind of person who was easily fooled. So why would he easily eat something Sheila made in the hotel room?

Ellinor didn't know that the only reason Theo was willing to try it was because he thought she made it herself.

Ellinor looked up and asked, "Tell me, what did you eat?"

The key now was to find the cause and solve the problem!

Seeing that Ellinor seemed to have some medical knowledge, Theo felt a surge of warmth, despite her cute and charming appearance.

Theo coldly turned his head, his voice hoarse, and said, "A dish with a particular type of fungus."

It was that kind of mushroom! A relatively uncommon ingredient.

She had come across it in medical books before. This type of mushroom was known to enhance intimacy between couples, and consuming it would intensify pleasure for spouses, making it difficult for men to control their emotions. Its effects were incredibly potent.

The worst part was, there was no antidote for it.

Only sexual activity could dissipate its effects...

After reaching this conclusion, Ellinor immediately released his wrist, avoiding any physical contact that would stimulate his desires. "You seem to be under the influence of that type of fungus."

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Theo held back his discomfort, giving a silent nod. He had a hunch about what was happening

Ellinor looked at him with a hint of sympathy, asking. "Can you still drive? Or do you want me to take over?"

"No need." Theo restarted the car, gripping the steering wheel tightly "You, backseat, now"

"Okay"

Ellinor understood why Theo had asked her to get out of the car suddenly, so she wasn't mad

However, she didn't actually get out because the rain was coming down hard. She just hopped from the passenger seat to the back.

Just as she settled down. Theo raised the divider between the front and back seats, isolating them in two different spaces.

Although they were still in the same car, they were separated by a thin partition, close enough to hear each other's breathing.

Ellinor was in turmoil, knowing full well that Theo was struggling to keep his composure, unable to play it cool.

The rain was getting heavier, the roads flooded. It was too risky to keep driving, so Theo pulled into a motel on the outskirts.

The receptionist told them there was only one room left.

This put them in an awkward spot.

In normal circumstances, sharing a room with Theo wouldn't be an issue. After all, they had a similar arrangement back at the Blanchet family's place, one on the bed, the other on the couch, minding their own business.

But today, Theo had accidentally consumed something, and was grappling with an overpowering urge. What if he couldn't control himself....

Ellinor was still mulling it over when Theo said, "It's fine."

She gaped at him, on high alert

Despite his pallor, Theo showed no emotion. He took the room key from the receptionist, then took her with him into the elevator."

In the confined space of the elevator, Ellinor was on edge. Theo's breathing was particularly loud, charged with danger

She turned to look at him, only to find him staring at her intently.

Their eyes met. She knew what he was enduring, and he knew what she was wary of. Their thoughts were all too clear in their glances.

Feeling awkward, Ellinor blinked and looked away.

Once in the room, Theo went straight into the bathroom and closed the door with a bang.

Ellinor could finally let out a sigh of relief, sitting down to collect her thoughts and figure out a plan.

In the car, she had only told Theo that he was poisoned by some kind of fungus, but left out the most crucial part.

If her memory served her right, the medical literature stated that anyone who consumed this kind of mushroom and failed to satiate their desires within the day would suffer severe consequences. Depending on the dosage, the worst case scenarios ranged from lower body paralysis to death from full-body congestion.

She had no idea how much Theo had eaten.

Sheila played a dirty game!

If Sheila had just bought some aphrodisiacs from an adult store, even if Theo was affected by the drugs now, he could have endured it.

But she used this mushroom, forcing Theo into a corner where he had to sleep with her to detoxify, there by claiming him....

But little did Sheila know, Theo had fled to the suburbs before the drug could take effect, thereby thwarting her plan.

Ellinor needed to find a way to help Theo detoxify, and fast....

She reached for her pocket instinctively, only to remember that her phone had been tossed away by the kidnappers. Luckily, she was wearing Theo's coat, which had his phone in its pocket.

She used his phone to search for information, but found nothing useful.

As she was fretting, she accidentally opened the contact list. An idea struck her, and she quickly found and dialed Bryan's number.

Chapter 176

The phone had been ringing for a while before someone finally picked it up

"Hello?" Bryan Howard said cautiously, lowering his voice a bit. "Theo, I'm doing my homework What's up?"

"It's me." Elinor chimed in.

"Elinor?" Bryan's voice lifted a bit in surprise, then he quickly tried to soften it again, sounding slightly irritated. "Elinor, why are you calling me from Theo's phone?"

"I was wondering is your sister at home? She asked

Bryan was a bit puzzled "Why? You need to see my sister?"

Elinor hesitated, feeling it was inappropriate to tell Bryan directly. "Theo Blanchet needs her right now. Could you check if she's available to come over?"

Bryan was even more confused. "My sister is abroad right now, it'll take her a while to get back. Why does he need to see her? Why doesn't he just call her himself?"

It was then that Elinor understood their predicament. The person they needed was miles away!

"Never mind then! Bye!" Elinor said it abruptly.

Bryan was annoyed 'Elinor, can you finish what you're saying?"

Elinor didn't have time for chit-

chat and quickly hung up. She had originally hoped Bryan's sister could help Theo out with some issues. But Pearl was abroad!

Elinor sighed in frustration Theo's phone suddenly buzzed again. She thought Bryan was calling back, but the caller ID showed it was Theo's friend, Jonah Wyton

Her first instinct was to hand the phone to Theo, but given his current situation, she decided to answer it herself.

"Theo, where are you?" Jonah sounded casual.

"It's me Elinor said it flatly.

Jonah laughed "Oh, where's Theo?"

"He's in the shower, can't answer the phone" Elinor said it bluntly.

Jonah paused for a couple of seconds, then laughed in surprise. "Oh, I get it! Sorry to interrupt."

Elinor widened her eyes, blushing as she understood the insinuation in Jonah's words. "Wait, don't hang up!"

Jonah was about to end the call "Hm? Anything else?"

Looking out at the rainy scenery, Elinor thought for a moment and asked, "Does Theo have any ex-girlfriends?"

Jonah didn't expect such a question at this moment and chuckled "Why? You want to know about Theo's past?"

Elinor sighed "No! I mean, can you help contact one of his ex-girlfriends? Maybe she could meet him?"

On the other end of the line, Jonah was leisurely enjoying a glass of wine in a club. He almost choked on his drink at Elinor's request. "What? You want to reunite Theo with his ex? All three of you together? Elinor, you guys...play these games?"

Elinor was initially confused, not understanding his meaning, and asked what he meant by these games'. She frowned. "It's not like that! He's in a special situation right now, and he needs a woman to come

Before she could even finish, a large hand suddenly snatched the phone from her!

Elinor froze, turning around to find Theo standing behind her, having seemingly appeared out of nowhere.

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Theo had just come out of a bath, draped in a white robe, his hair half wet, giving off a lazy and casual vibe, but he didn't look too pleased.

"Um. when did you come out?"

A cold shower later, Theo seemed a bit more composed.

He had barely stepped out of the bathroom when he saw Elinor making a call by the window.

Glancing at the ongoing call on the mobile screen, Theo ended the call, stared at her, and asked, "What's the big idea, calling my ex?"

*Elinor didn't
dodge the question and candidly explained. You need to sort out your current situation, so I just...*

"So, you're playing matchmaker now? Theo snapped.

Elinor nodded. "Well, yeah, that was the idea, but no luck so far. Why don't you try getting in touch with your ex and see if she can pop over?"

Theo responded, "Seems like Ms Mendoza is quite happy to share her husband with other women, huh?"

Today, she had even set him up with another woman at a hotel who had drugged him!

If he hadn't left early, he would have been in deep trouble. And she couldn't care less!

Elinor chuckled, looking helpless. "I was just trying to help you out!"

"Oh, you want to help me?" Theo smirked, his tone dripping with sarcasm "Since Ms. Mendoza is so helpful, why don't you do the honors?"

Elinor was taken aback and frowned in discomfort. I can't. I'm not your type."

Theo moved a step closer, his rough hand forcefully lifting her chin. "I'm starving here; who cares about types?"

Feeling a dangerous vibe, Elinor instinctively stepped back, her mind racing. "Really? If you don't care about type, I can check if there are any flyers for services at the door They're quite convenient these days"

Was she thinking of getting him a professional? Theo's eyes were a mix of anger and desire.

She seemed quite keen on this!

Clearly, she didn't care one bit if he was with another woman!

Just as Elinor was trying to step back, Theo grabbed her hand, turning her around and holding her wrists together behind her!

With a harsh pull, her upper body was forced upright, and her head tilted up to look at him

Elinor was no match for his strength What are you doing? Let me go!"

Theo pushed her against the wall, revealing a muscular leg that was slightly raised and pressed between her knees against the wall, leaving her immobile. He leaned in, his heavy and passionate breath washing over her scrunched face.

"Why would I need another woman when my wife is right here. Ms. Mendoza? Don't you agree?"

Elinor turned her head away, avoiding getting closer. If they got any closer, they would be kissing

Theo was not pleased, his large hand turning her face back to him, looking down at her and asked, "Are you this scared of me touching you? Are you in a hurry to push me towards other women?"

Every time he saw this annoying woman, the desire he thought he had suppressed flared up again, like an unquenchable wildfire.

Theo was now out of control, his cold eyes were filled with fervent flames.

Elinor felt things were getting out of hand, so she said, 'Please calm down! Don't forget, you don't really like me.'

Chapter 178

Theo's eyes were full of desire, like a predator eyeing its prey. He said, "What If I told you I'm interested in you right now?"

Just as he finished a thunderclap sounded outside the window

Suddenly, the rain got even heavier, rolling like waves

*Elinor looked at him in surprise and then laughed,
"Did you hear that? Even God doesn't let you lie, Theo He wants to punish you!"*

Theo was furious

Elinor sighed "Theo, you might just be hallucinating from food poisoning, thinking you want to bed every woman you see. I get it."

devery

Did she get it?

"What do you take me for, Elinor?" Theo stared at her, his warm breath hitting her face with a hint of to bacco.

Elinor's gaze was firm, and her brow furrowed. "I take you for a man. A man whose brain is clouded by desire"

"You're right! Theo's breath was heavy, his chest heaving as if he were losing control Then he bent down and kissed her.

Elinor's eyes went wide with shock. She fought against him, resisting his strength and twisting her head to bite him.

Then, suddenly, her resistance stopped. Her hands were released, and he backed off, panting heavily.

She was in a panic, looking up at him. Theo turned and walked towards the guest room door.

Elinor let out a sigh of relief, then asked uneasily, "Where... where are you going?"

Without turning his head, Theo's voice was firm: "I'm sleeping in the car You stay here. Get up at seven and meet me downstairs

At that moment, his body felt like it was crawling with ants. If he didn't get away from this woman, he would really lose control.

From the beginning. Theo had never thought about forcing her to solve the problem.

If he hadn't seen her on the phone trying to get a woman for him as soon as he came out of the bathroom, he wouldn't have lost his temper

He had taken a cold shower to calm himself down, but she had provoked him again.

Elinor watched his retreating figure, torn.

He didn't realize that his situation wasn't something he could just endure. If he didn't have sex with a woman, he would be paralyzed from the waist down by morning, at the very least.

Thinking back on the past few weeks, she and this man had been getting along fairly well. Except for being a bit too domineering at times, he was a decent partner. He even gifted her an expensive painting.

It was pouring outside. Even if a woman was willing, she wouldn't be able to get there in time.

So now she could either stand by and watch a healthy man with whom she had no connection become paralyzed or die.

Or she could choose to help him.

This was a tough decision for a girl who had never been in love before.

But then she thought about how she was the one who had invited Theo to the hotel, which led to him being targeted by Sheila Mendoza. She couldn't deny her responsibility

for this.

Besides, when she was kidnapped, Theo was the first one to come and save her.

Chapter 179

If she doesn't do anything today, she'll feel guilty later on, and that's even more mental torture!

Realizing this. Elinor took a deep breath and said, "Hold on! I can help you!"

Theo stopped in his tracks

Just like a vampire, still with a shred of humanity, struggling with his primal instincts when faced with an enticing human, trying to control the urge to pounce...

Theo squinted his eyes menacingly "Why?"

Elinor stepped in

front of him hesitated for a moment, then undid the belt on his bathrobe and said. This is an emergency, consider it a humanitarian act! Besides, you're pretty handsome and have a great body, so helping you out isn't a loss for me! Let's do it!"

Her words, all hitting his soft spots, were devoid of emotion, only fairness.

Theo, suppressing his excitement, stared at her and said. "If it were any other man in this situation, would you also be so kind to help him?"

Elinor nodded "If he's a good person, I would!"

Theo was planning to let her off the hook, but hearing her firm answer, he felt angry instead.

So, he's not special at all!

Would she do the same for other men?

Theo extended his arm, putting it around her waist as if to punish her, looking at her and saying, "Alright, since the kind-hearted Ms. Mendoza is so charitable, I'll accept."

Elinor had more to say, but a passionate kiss swiftly approached, silencing her!

Theo picked her up and threw her onto the bed, his strong body pressing down on her, his rough hand gently brushing away the hair on her face. "Regretting it yet?"

Elinor, dizzy from the kiss, closed her eyes, unwilling to confront him, and declared firmly, "No regrets for doing a good deed"

Theo's eyes sparkled with a fiery light, and he laughed sarcastically, "Good, even if you regret it now. I won't let you off. Kind-hearted Ms. Mendoza, no crying from now on!"

Elinor was in turmoil, she knew she was slowly getting caught up in it, but she attributed all her reactions to saving a life, ignoring any other emotions.

This way, her relationship with Theo will be easier to manage later, less complicated, and still just a partnership that can be ended at any time.

After a night of passion,

By the time she woke up, the day was already bright.

Elinor stirred, feeling pain all over, as if she'd been taken apart and put back together.

She was alone in bed. She found a bathrobe to put on and got out of bed.

She wanted to go to the bathroom but noticed the door to the room was slightly open and there were voices in the hall; it was Collin.

She went over to take a look.

"Mr Blanchet, the kidnappers from yesterday have all been caught, but their leader vehemently denies knowing his men and even had a perfect alibi prepared. There's no evidence of contact with his men in his communication tools; the police couldn't do anything and had to release him again."

"Find that man, bring him to me."

"Understood"

Theo turned around to push the door open. Seeing Elinor with sleep in her eyes standing at the door, he frowned slightly and asked, "Are you awake?"

Chapter 180

Elinor looked at him, blinked, seemed a little embarrassed, and then responded softly

Theo was now in a clean, tidy suit, presumably the clothes that Collin had just brought him

Elinor thought for a moment, then lowered her head and said, "Uh, all of my clothes are ruined. Can you ask someone to bring me a couple of clean clothes?"

Theo looked around at the scattered torn clothes in the room, remembering the night before. His eyes narrowed slightly revealing a satisfied smile.

He handed her a shopping bag and said, "These are just some random clothes Collin picked up at the mall. If they don't fit, just make do, and we'll swap them when we get home."

Elinor took the bag and said, "Thanks"

Then she turned and went into the bathroom. After freshening up, she changed into the new clothes.

It was a very simple dress. It was a bit big, but it fit well enough.

When she came out after changing, Theo was smoking by the window. Elinor looked at his back and said softly, "I have to go now."

Theo turned his head to look at her, his eyebrows slightly furrowed. He exhaled a puff of smoke and then commanded, "Come here."

Come here for what? Elinor reluctantly walked over, stopping half a meter away from him, maintaining some distance. "What else do you need?"

Theo turned around, sitting on the windowsill, and put out his cigarette. "What should you call me?"

Elinor was a bit puzzled. "What should I call you?"

Theo's gaze was stern. "What do you think? How should a woman address her husband?"

Elinor's face turned red, and she said awkwardly, "Can you stop making jokes at my expense? It's not funny!"

Did she actually think this is a joke?

Theo laughed coldly, saying "Of course, Ms. Mendoza was so generous last night; I naturally won't shortchange you."

Elinor didn't know what he meant by not shortchanging her, but she didn't need any compensation.

What happened last night wasn't forced, nor was she confused. Although she felt a bit helpless, she was clear-headed and willing. She was just helping him out, she didn't consider herself anything, nor did she expect to get anything.

Suddenly, Theo stood up and walked up to her. His fingers gently grabbed her chin, and he leaned down to kiss her.

Elinor was taken aback and instinctively tried to step back, but he pulled her back.

After what happened last night, she was no longer scared by his actions, just a bit confused.

When he finished kissing her, Elinor asked him, "Are you still high?"

Theo's face immediately turned cold, and the warmth in his eyes instantly disappeared.

This woman was usually as cunning as a fox, but at times like this, she turned dense, which was really annoying.

Such a romantic idiot!

When they were checking out, the front desk clerk said there were some hard-to-clean red stains on their sheets and they needed to pay for some compensation.

What could the hard-to-clean red stains be? Some people might mistake it for a girl's period stain.

However, the two people involved knew exactly what it was.

Elinor lowered her head in embarrassment, her ears turning red.

Theo smiled as he watched Elinor's shy expression. He took out his wallet, took out some money, and put it on the counter. "Keep the change."

Theo put away his wallet, put his arm around Elinor's shoulder, and led her out to the car.

After getting in the car, Elinor finally recovered a bit and rolled down the window to get some fresh air.