## The Kiss 211

## Chapter 211

Ellinor hung her head and heaved a frustrated sigh. "You might not believe me, but I'm not into Theo, an d I've no interest in marrying him. Hailhel You're just wasting your time and energy going after me like th is!"

Haillie blinked, looking at her in confusion, "What did you just say? You don't like Thea? I dare you to swe ar that there's nothing going on between you two and you don't like

him!"

Ellinor fell silent

She couldn't do what Haillie was demanding.

Because her relationship with Theo had become quite intimate due to... that incident.

Of course, she had to do what she did then

But no one would understand her dilemma, and even if she tried to explain, no one would believe that she was just trying to save someone

So, it was best to keep this a secret forever.

## Once the three-

month collaboration period was over, she would leave the Blanchet family and completely disappear from Theo's life, proving through her actions that she had no interest in anything related to the Blanchet family.

Seeing Ellinor's silence, Haillie scoffed. "I knew you wouldn't dare! How could you say you don't like Theo and don't want to marry him! Women like you, once they get their hands on a rich man, they don't let go so easily!"

Ellinor couldn't be bothered to argue with her, nor did she feel the need to explain her actions.

Just then, Belinda approached her, leading a horse, "Ellinor, have you picked a horse yet?"

As soon as she finished speaking, she noticed Haillie was there too and frowned

"Haillie, didn't you hurt your foot? How come you're riding? Were you pretending to be in pain?"

Haillie didn't dislike Belinda, so she replied softly. "Belinda, my foot

feels much better after resting. I don't want to miss out on riding with everyone, so I'll try to hang in ther e''

Belinda muttered under her breath, "No one wants to ride with you"

Ignoring Haillie, Belinda led the horse towards Ellinor,

"Ellinor, have you picked a horse? If so, let's lead them out."

Ellinor nodded and pointed at the horse, "I've picked. It's that one"

She hadn't changed her mind. She'd chosen the white horse with a black spot on its forehead.

Haillie frowned at Ellinor; daring to choose that horse was practically asking for trouble!

Seeing which horse it was, Belinda shook her head, "Ellinor, you can't ride that horse! A lot of people hav e been thrown off by it; some even broke their bones. For safety reasons, you better pick another one."

Even Belinda was saying this, it showed the horse was indeed wild

It was loyal, only recognized its own master, and wouldn't submit.

She liked that kind of horse

Haillie sneered, then suddenly said, "Belinda, since Ellinor insists on that horse, just let her try! Maybe Elli nor can really tame that wild horse!"

It was her own choice. If she ended up being thrown off, she had no one to blame but herself!

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Belinda was still hesitating. "But....."

Ellinor had already led the horse out, "Let's go, let's give it a try

Belinda was still worried 'Ellinor, are you sure about this? This horse is really hard to ride!

Ellinor just chuckled, "No worries, I really like this horse."

"Alright then, just be extra careful when you're riding it!"

"I got it"

Haillie, leading the horse, was trailing behind them, looking at Ellinor's back with disdain.

She couldn't wait to see Ellinor tumble off the horse's back.

Actually, Haillie's foot no longer hurt, but she had to play along with her previous act, so she pretended to limp.

Byran came over on a chestnut horse looking for them, and when he saw the white horse Ellinor was lead ing, he was first shocked, then frowned

"Ellinor, you actually dared to take Yvette out!"

Yvette?

Such a handsome horse with such a cute name?

Ellinor reached out to pat Yvette's neck, "What's the problem? Can't I ride it?"

Byran dismounted from his horse and explained seriously. "You can ride Yvette, but you might lose your li fe after that! Yvette is my sister's horse; it only lets my sister ride it, anyone else who tries to ride it gets t hrown off hard!"

Ellinor was stunned. This was Byran's sister's horse?

"Which sister's horse is it?"

Byran said, "My eldest sister's!"

"I heard from my brother that this was a pony my father gave my eldest sister for her third birthday. My sister named it Yvette! After my sister disappeared, for all these years, Yvette never let anyone ride it! So, I suggest you take Yvette back and switch to

another horse! Otherwise, if you fall off, you might end up crippled!"

Ellinor looked at the white horse next to her. It didn't seem as fierce as they described. Plus, there was so mething oddly familiar about the name "Yvette".

"Yvette"

She tried calling its name

The white horse seemed to respond a bit, tilting its head to look at her and trying to nudge her head.

Seeing Yvette's reaction, Byran immediately pulled Ellinor back a bit, "Careful! It's starting to get agitate d! You'll definitely get thrown off if you try to ride it!"

Ellinor wasn't scared at all. She reached out to pat Yvette's face, soothing its mood.

Haillie came over to Byran's side, "Byran, I told Ellinor the same thing just now, but she insists on choosin g Yvette, why don't we just let her try?"

Byran frowned seriously, "Haillie, this horse is very dangerous, you know how fiery Yvette's temper is; it c ould easily turn deadly!"

Haillie looked helpless. But Ellinor is stubborn..."

Suddenly, there was a horse's neigh!

Byran whipped his head around just in time to see Ellinor had already hopped onto the horse's back, swin ging the reins, "Yvette, let's go!"

Yvette was very excited, it reared up and neighed.

Ellinor would have surely fallen off if she wasn't holding onto the reins!

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What a nerve-wracking scene!

Over yonder, Theo, about to race Jonah and others, heard the commotion and turned to see this hair–raising spectacle

Theo was freaked out, he immediately whipped his black thoroughbred around and dashed over

Over here, after Yvette gave an excited neigh, she landed steadily on all fours and then cheerfully carried Ellinor towards the fields of the racing track, not resisting the rider

on her back.

This made Bryan, who was about to rush to the rescue, freeze He was completely flabbergasted. Ellinor c ould actually ride Yvette?

How How is that possible? Haillie was also speechless, disappointed, and pissed off that she didn't see Ell inor tumble off the horse as she had expected

Why could Ellinor tame this stubborn horse? This horse didn't even let Patricia ride!

Belinda was still scared, but she admired Ellinor even more.

Ellinor could even tame such a wild horse, no wonder she could win her uncle's heart.

Upon confirming that Ellinor was safe, Theo relaxed. He reined in his horse, slowing its pace.

He watched Ellinor riding in the distance with an expression of appreciation for her ability

It seemed like there was nothing in this world that Ellinor couldn't handle.

"Yvette!"

After running a few laps in the field, Ellinor pulled on the reins to let the horse rest a bit.

Yvette obediently slowed down and leisurely strolled.

Ellinor stroked its mane, "Do you miss your owner?"

The horse didn't speak, but it made some animal noises as if to affirm her question.

"Ellinor Ellinor!"

Belinda rode over, and her horse walked alongside Ellinor at the same pace.

"Ellinor, you're amazing You actually tamed this difficult horse. This makes me admire you even more!"

Ellinor shook her head, not particularly thrilled, "She's got a good character, she's just a bit stubborn."

"Ellinor, you're still amazing! Nobody else can ride her!"

Haillie and Byran also rode over

Byran looked at Ellinor with a haughty

expression, "Ellinor, I didn't expect you to be able to tame Yvette! How did you make my sister's horse list en to you?"

Ellinor replied nonchalantly, "I don't have any tricks. I just felt a connection with her, so I rode her"

-Haillie was—disgusted by Ellinor's explanation! How could she possibly have a connection with Byran's sister's horse?

How could a pauper like her have any connection with such a noble thoroughbred?

If it weren't for Theo bringing her here today, she probably wouldn't even get a chance to see such an expensive purebred in her life!

Haillie scoffed quietly. "Ellinor, since you can handle Yvette so well, why don't we have a race?"

Ellinor looked at Haillie, then glanced sarcastically at her injured foot, "Is your foot okay, Haillie? You're not gonna blame me if something happens, right?"

Caught off guard, Haillie gave an awkward laugh, "Ellinor, that was a misunderstanding before. I've apol ogized to you! Can you stop bringing it up?"

When no one else was around, Haillie's dislike for her was pretty obvious. But when others were present, she'd act all friendly and kind. It was making it awkward for her to expose Haillie's true colors

Ellinor shrugged and smiled faintly, "I was just kidding! Of course, you can race me. I don't mind."

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Byran had always been a big fan of competitions, so he eagerly suggested

"Let's have a race, all four of us! From here to the end of that forest up front, first one there's the winner! What do you reckon?"

Belinda raised her hand. Tm in!"

After everyone agreed, they spread out horizontally, each entering their own lane, making sure their star ting points were aligned and ready to bolt

"Ellinor"

A deep male voice suddenly roared from behind them

Ellinor was ready to run with Yvette when she heard her name. She turned around to see Theo, sitting on a glossy black horse, stationed not far away looking at her with a

stern face

Dressed in an elegant and professional equestrian outfit, Theo looked noble and handsome.

Theo on the horse didn't resemble a prince but was more like a majestic king.

Ellinor was taken aback before asking. "Theo? What's up?"

"Come here."

His tone was calm. It was not exactly a command, but it carried a sense of undeniable authority.

Ellinor frowned in confusion, guiding Yvette towards Theo, curious about what Theo was up to.

Belinda, Byran, and Haillie also turned around, watching with different thoughts.

Ellinor's horse stopped face to face with Theo's. She asked, "What's up, Theo? We were just about to star t a race!"

They were sitting on their horses, facing each other, at a distance unreachable by stretching an arm.

Unsatisfied with the distance, Theo pulled the reins, moving his horse forward and aligning the horses' b odies just so he could look at Ellinor up close.

His gaze swept over Ellinor's slightly swollen ear, then dropped to her hand holding the reins.

"Give me your hand."

Feeling perplexed, Ellinor nevertheless released the reins and extended her hand.

Theo flipped her hand in his rough, large one, noticing her allergic rash had improved, which slightly ease d his tense mood.

"Theo?" Ellinor frowned in confusion, growing impatient.

Theo looked back up at her, aware of her eagerness to race. He pulled out a sealed water bottle from the side of the saddle, opened it, and handed it to her.

"Have a drink, then you can go play."

He called her over just for this?

Ellinor was stunned. She thought he had something important to say!

Feeling a bit thirsty, she took the water and gulped down a few sips, then handed it back, "Thanks, Theo. Can I go race now?"

"Yes" Theo replied

With his permission, Ellinor turned her horse and galloped away without looking back.

Did Theo call her over just to give her water?

Since when did Theo start caring so much about her?

Theo watched Ellinor's slim figure bobbing on the horse, deep in thought for a moment. He took a sip from the water bottle in his hand and then sealed it

Theo, you're so considerate! You even rode over to give Ellinor some water to drink!"

Jonah joked while stopping his horse next to Theo..

Theo's expression darkened. He glanced sideways to see that Jonah, Kemp, and Bartlett had all ridden ov er to him.

Jonah held up a water bottle, mimicking Theo's serious tone, then turned to his friend on the other side, " Kemp, have a drink before you go play. Your lips are chapped, and it's breaking my heart"

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Kemp felt like he was gonna puke.

With a poker face. Theo casually lifted the whip in his hand and gave it a hearty swing

The whip landed on the backside of Jonah's horse. The next second, the horse darted off, Jonah and all,

Jonah, unable to control his startled horse, could only shout from a distance, "Theo! It was just a joke, m an! How could you do this to me?

Theo stowed his whip, his face as impassive as ever.

Bartlett chuckled softly, "Theo, Kemp, shall we continue our match over there?"

Kemp nodded, "Let's go."

Theo responded indifferently, but his eyes unconsciously drifted to Ellinor. Her match with the others had already begun.

She was galloping towards the woods, currently in the lead.

Theo, Kemp, and Bartlett headed to the equestrian field to have a friendly competition to kill some time.

Soon, Jonah came back on his horse, cursing the three of them as he joined in

And so, more than an hour passed

Ellinor, Belinda, Byran, and Haillie hadn't returned from their race.

Though the Mountain Racecourse was huge, there was only one grassland and one forest suitable for hor se racing.

Even if they had been racing all this time, they should have returned by now.

Even if they weren't tired, the horses must have been

As Theo jumped over an obstacle in the field on his horse, he felt an inexplicable sense of unease and rubbed his furrowed brows.

At that moment, several figures on horseback appeared in the distance.

They were back.

But, there were only three horses and three people.

As they got closer, he saw clearly that it was Belinda, Byran, and Haillie.

Ellinor was missing

After a sharp look around the trio, Theo asked in a low voice, "Where is she?"

Belinda looked up, her face pale and tear-streaked, "Uncle Theo, Ellinor..."

Theo immediately asked, "What happened to her?"

Belinda broke down, crying. "We were racing, and Ellinor came in first. We were all tired, so we dismount ed to rest under the trees in the woods.

When we decided to head back, Ellinor got back on her horse, Yvette. Suddenly, Yvette got wild and took off with Ellinor.

The three of us quickly followed, but Yvette was too fast! We couldn't catch up!

Eventually, we found a calmed down Yvette near the edge of a cliff on the mountain, but Ellinor was now here to be found. It seems like she might have fallen off the cliff." Byran's shoulders were trembling, guilt was written all over his face, "Theo, I'm sorry..."

Haillie, the oldest of the group, was comparatively calm. With a regretful look, she sighed, 'Theo, Byran, and I both warned Ellinor not to ride that horse today, but she didn't listen to us. She thought she could h andle Yvette; we didn't expect this to happen."

Theo didn't have the patience for Haillie's rambling. With a stern face, he whipped the reins, turned his h orse around, and galloped off towards the cliff.

This was serious. A life was on the line!

Jonah, Kemp, and Bartlett also quickly got on their horses and followed Theo to check out the situation.

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On the edge of a cliff.

Yvette, the white horse, was still lingering mournfully on the edge

A piece of torn red fabric was hanging off a rock on the cliff's edge. They recognized it as part of Ellinor's riding outfit.

Theo pulled on his horse's reins, leaped off immediately, and briskly walked to the cliffs edge. He peered down with sharp eyes but didn't see anything Behind him, the scattered, hurried sound of horse hooves a pproached and then stopped

Jonah, Kemp, and Bartlett had arrived

The three got off their horses, looking at the dangerous scene at the edge of the cliff. They exchanged gla nces and were speechless for a moment Jonah became serious and solemn. He stepped forward and patted Theo's shoulder gravely. "Theo, don't be sad."

Theo's expression was stern and he was silent.

Sad?

Why should he be sad?

Theo turned around and looked at Jonah with a stern and calm gaze. "I'm going down there. You guys go call for a rescue team right now!"

With that, he turned around, took a climbing rope from the saddle of his black horse, swung it out, and h ooked it onto a large tree at the edge of the cliff. Then he tied it around himself, ready to go down person ally

Seeing this, Kemp raised his arm to grab Theo's arm, trying to calm him down. "Theo, cool down."

Jonah also tried to stop him, "Theo, we don't know what the terrain is like down there. You can't go!"

Bartlett slowly walked to the edge of the cliff, bent down to pick up the piece of red fabric hanging from the rock, and sighed sadly. "Such a shame, Ellinor was so young

Theo was quite annoyed. He broke free from Kemp's grip, "Go call for a rescue team now!"

Theo

At that moment, Belinda, Byran, and Haillie arrived on their horses. Before they got close, they saw Theo jumping off the edge of the cliff.

Haillie's eyes widened in shock, and she shouted. "Theo, don't

Belinda was also frightened, "Uncle!"

"Theo!" Byran urgently spurred his horse, trying to get it to run faster.

But Theo's figure had already disappeared from the edge of the cliff.

When they arrived at the edge, Belinda immediately jumped off her horse, ran up, and looked down in de spair. She couldn't help but cry. "Oh my god, my uncle has gone to die

with Ellinor!"

Byran was initially very anxious, but after hearing Belinda's words, he felt helpless and said, "Theo went down with a rope. He's not that stupid to go die with Ellinor!"

Belinda finally realized this and instantly stopped crying. She looked around, and sure enough, she saw the rope hooked on the tree. She sighed in relief, "You're telling the truth!"

"I hope Uncle can bring Ellinor back up. I hope she's safe."

Byran took a pack of tissues out of his pocket and threw it to her with a disgusted look, "Wipe your snot; it looks disgusting!"

Belinda glared at him, picked up the tissues, and sobbed, "I want to disgust you!"

Haillie, standing to the side, was shocked into silence. She stood dazedly at the edge of the cliff.

She never expected that Theo would risk his life to save Ellinor!

*Is Ellinor that important to him?* 

*Is he willing to risk his life for Ellinor?* 

What does Patricia mean to him then?

At the bottom of the cliff.

It was dark and damp, with weeds sprouting everywhere.

The rope tied to Theo wasn't long enough, so he was still a considerable distance from the bottom of the cliff.

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He

gave the stone wall a forceful kick, swinging his body and, in one fluid motion, untied the rope and lande d on the ground.

His landing sent a horde of bats fluttering away

Brushing off the thomy weeds that clung to him. Theo scanned his surroundings with sharp eyes.

The bottom of the cliff was a harsh environment, making him incredibly uncomfortable

However, he didn't see any sign of Ellinor

No matter what state Ellinor was in, alive or dead, he had to find her!

He furrowed his brows, parted the underbrush, and searched for Ellinor.

Suddenly a dark figure lunged at him from behind.

Theo, quick as a fox, spun around and landed a kick, sending a brown bear tumbling to the ground, wailing in pain.

The bear seemed to be starving so when it saw food, it got all excited. After a brief pause, it charged at T heo again.

Theo was agile and strong, and in no time, he had the bear sprawled on the ground.

Danger averted!

However, the appearance of the bear made Theo realize something was very wrong.

There was a freaking big beast at the bottom of the cliff!

He hadn't seen any sign of Ellinor. Could she have been eaten?

The thought made Theo seethe with anger. He drew a small shotgun from his waist, aiming at the bear's head.

The bear seemed to know it was about to be shot, but it didn't have the strength to run away. It just lay there, trembling.

"Theo, don't kill the bear!"

Ellinor's voice echoed through the valley.

Theo spun around, and there she was, looking all disheveled, her hair a mess, and her clothes ragged, not far from him..

She looked rough, but she was still full of spirit.

Ellinor stepped over some underbrush and approached Theo. "Theo, about the...

Before she could finish. Theo rushed over and pulled her into his arms, holding her tightly

She couldn't breathe with her head pressed against his chest.

Finally, she managed to lift her head, "Theo, that bear is a protected species, it's illegal to kill it!"

After Theo made sure she was alright, he relaxed, looking at her and educating her, "Humans can kill any protected species in self-defense, you know?"

"You're right!" Ellinor replied, "By the way, Theo, why did you come down here?"

Theo frowned, looking at her as if she were an alien, "What do you think?"

Ellinor rolled her eyes, "I didn't fall down initially I was hanging on a crooked tree, waiting for rescue! But then I saw you coming down with a rope. I shouted at you, but you didn't hear! I had no choice but to jump down to find you, and 1 fell!"

Theo immediately grabbed her shoulders, scanning her for injuries, "Are you hurt?"

Ellinor waved her hand dismissively, "I'm fine! I just ripped my clothes!"

Theo stared at her, "If you didn't fall initially, why did you jump down after seeing me?"

"Because "Ellinor almost blurted out, but stopped herself, thinking it might be misunderstood.

Theo frowned, pressing her, "Because what?'

Ellinor turned her head away, uncomfortable under Theo's intense gaze, murmuring. "I came down for the same reason you did!"

Theo paused, then burst into laughter

He looked at her dirty little face, then ruffled her messy hair, saying, 'So you're not a complete idiot, you actually worried about your husband!"

Ellinor was speechless

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Ellinor chuckled helplessly deciding she'd had enough of Theo.

She walked around him to check on the bear that had been knocked down. After a thorough examination , she saw that the bear was in a bad state.

weak to run away

Seeing a human approach, it roared in fear, trying to bluff its way out!

Ellinor was lost in thought, looking at the pitiful creature. She sighed sympathetically, "Despite its size, it' s still a youngster, trying to act all tough"

Theo joined her, coldly studying the massive bear. He doubted Ellinor's judgment, the beast clearly seem ed dangerous

was injured and too

"Theo, brown bears don't usually choose

to live in such harsh conditions. I guess it fell down accidentally, just like us. We shouldn't hurt it anymore , let's set it freel

"III take your word for it

Without objection, Theo idly toyed with the silver mini-hunting rifle in his hand before putting it away.

Ellinor turned her head to look at him, deep in thought. Theo's handling of the gun was too proficient. His identity might not be as simple as that of Mr. Blanchet from the Blanchet family

"Do you usually carry a gun with you. Theo?"

"I don't usually need to carry it myself."

Theo explained casually. "The Mountain Racecourse is a wilderness, there might be some wildlife; that's why I brought a gun."

Ellinor gave a noncommittal response, then sidestepped away from him

Theo caught her small movement and feeling a bit peeved, he asked, "What are you doing? Are you afraid of me?"

Ellinor shook her head, "I'm not afraid of you, but I'm afraid your gun might go off!"

Theo flicked her forehead, "You're overthinking!"

Ellinor frowned, rubbing the spot on her forehead that stung a little. She wasn't pleased

What was Theo implying? Was he mocking her?

"Theo, where's the rope you were tied to when you came down? You can have the people up there pull us up one by one now!"

Theo tilted his head up, signaling her to look over there.

Following Theo's gesture, Ellinor looked up to see the rope swinging in the wind dozens of meters above t hem.

Even if they stood on each other's shoulders, they wouldn't be able to reach it.

Feeling helpless, Ellinor suggested, "I think we should find a place to rest for now. Who knows how long it will take for them to find us? It's going to be cold here at night."

"Alright, Theo replied simply

As Ellinor walked ahead, she suddenly felt a weight on her shoulders.

Turning her head, she saw that Theo had draped his coat over her

She was a bit taken aback.

"Thank you" She said politely

Theo didn't say anything and just casually walked beside her.

They hadn't gone far when they heard the bear start to whimper, like a weaned child.

Ellinor stopped, looked back, and then asked, "Theo, should we... take it with us?"

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Theo looked at her, "If you want, you can take it with you"

Ellinor nodded

Then, Theo turned around and tied the brown bear with vines, hoisted it onto his shoulders, and slowly followed behind Ellinor

After a long trek with the two of them and the bear, they finally found a small cave at the bottom of the dark, damp valley where they could take a breather

But the cave was cluttered with pesky weeds, they needed a good clean up

Theo set the bear aside. He rolled up his sleeves gracefully and began pulling out the half—meter tall weeds at the mouth of the cave Ellinor wanted to help out. As soon as she reached out. Theo s watted away her hand. He gave her a stern look, signaling for her to rest

She could only stand aside, feeling rather awkward

She had never seen Theo hard at work before. Now, she found him even more masculine than when he w as all dressed up in a suit

She was so engrossed in watching Theo that she forgot to watch her surroundings. All of a sudden, a shar p pain shot through her arm, and she winced in pain.

Looking down, she saw that a yellow–green snake had bitten her arm.

She immediately grabbed the snake and flung it into the distant bushes.

Seeing the two deep, bloody tooth marks on her arm, Ellinor thought back to the look of the snake. She w as pretty sure it wasn't venomous.

"What's wrong?"

Theo sensed something was off and approached her with a serious face

Ellinor casually wiped the blood off her arm, "No biggie, just got a little love bite from a snake."

She just got bitten and said it was no biggie?

Theo frowned, grabbed her arm, and inspected it.

Theo felt a surge of unease when he saw the clear bite marks on Ellinor's slender arm. He immediately leaned down to suck the venom out of her arm, spitting a mouthful of blood onto the ground

Then, Theo rushed over to the bushes nearby, rummaged around, and picked a wild herb.

Theo chewed up the herb and applied it to her bite wound. He then tore a piece of cloth from his shirt to bandage her wound.

Ellinor didn't

say a word throughout the whole process. She just stared at Theo, finding it all a bit surreal.

After bandaging her wound, Theo looked up at her. Seeing her unhappy face, he asked, "Are you grossed out by me?"

Ellinor snapped out of it and shook her head immediately. She touched the herbal patch on her wound, "I 'm not grossed out, I'm just surprised! Theo, you seem to be quite experienced with snake bites. Who wo uld've thought someone like you would know how to treat a snake bite!"

Theo showed no emotion and casually replied.

"I was bitten by a snake before; a girl taught me what to do"

"A girl taught you?"

Upon hearing about the girl Theo mentioned, Ellinor slightly furrowed her eyebrows, then asked with a s mile, "Theo, seems like you have quite a fan club!\*

Theo glanced at her upon hearing Ellinor's comment, "Are you jealous?"

Ellinor froze. She felt that the atmosphere suddenly became awkward. She turned her face toward the un fortunate bear and chuckled, "Why would I be jealous? I'm just bored and stuck here, so I'm making a jok e to tease you. Based on our relationship, it doesn't matter to me how many women you've been with."

Theo stared at her, "Are you really not jealous?"

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Ellinor shrugged, "I don't mind, I can gossip about my exes with you!"

Theo looked quite miffed. You have ex-

boyfriends? I remember Ms. Mendoza saying you've never dated anyone?" Ellinor nodded candidly. "I ha ven't dated anyone, but that doesn't mean I haven't had crushes on a lot of guys! Theo started to get a b it ticked off and asked coldly, "Really? Well, Ms. Mendoza, spill the beans I'm all ears"

Elliner didn't look at his face, so she didn't notice his mood swing

She started to list all the local and international male celebrities she had crushed on

To Theo, who didn't follow the entertainment industry, those names might as well be real people from he r past.

Ellinor adored those celebrities; she even said dreamily, "When I was eighteen, I had a crush on a guy na med Halley. I loved listening to his songs and even daydreamed about marrying him."

\*Shut up!\*

Theo, with a straight face, abruptly cut her off.

Ellinor jumped, even the bear nearby was startled.

She turned to look at him, confused, "Theo, why the yelling all of a sudden? Didn't you ask me to talk?"

Theo gave her a cold look, didn't say a word, and walked off, dragging the unfortunate bear into the cave

The bear was tossed into the corner of the cave and trembled in fear.

Ellinor followed him into the cave.

The cave was dark, and their phones had no signal, but they could still use the flashlight function.

Theo sat near the entrance, one leg stretched out, the other casually bent, his arm resting on his knee. He took out a lighter and lit a cigarette, exuding a lazy, wild vibe

He smoked in silence.

Ellinor was even more confused, they were chatting just a moment ago, why was he mad again?

She had never met someone so moody!

If he wasn't talking, she wouldn't either.

Ellinor was upset and sat down, found a comfortable position against the cave wall, and waited for rescu e in silence.

After a while, she fell asleep against the cave wall.

When she woke up, it was already dusk outside. Despite Theo's jacket draped over her, she felt a chill to the bone.

At the moment. Theo was sitting next to her, eyes closed, apparently asleep.

Ellinor was a bit thirsty and wanted to go out for a drink.

She got up quietly, without waking Theo, and left the cave alone.

Although the valley was damp, she didn't find any streams or other sources of water.

It seemed hard to find clean water to drink here

Suddenly, Ellinor saw a tree and felt thrilled; she walked over to it like she had just discovered treasure

When she got to the tree, she confirmed it was the one she was thinking of

This tree was called a water tree. If you cut the trunk, clean sap would

flow out, which was naturally filtered water that could be used as emergency drinking water in the wild

Ellinor immediately found a sharp rock on the ground and cut a small piece of the water tree's trunk, and soon, clean sap flowed out.

Ellinor washed her hands first, then cupped her hands to drink the water. After a while, she finally quenched her thirst.

She was about to go back, but after thinking about it, she decided to bring some water back for Theo.

Although the guy was moody, he came down today to look for her, and usually he was quite nice to her