

The Kiss 301

Chapter 301

The cop was sweating bullets, trying to come up with a legit reason to explain to Mr. Blanchet why Elinor was under

arrest. From the previous confrontation, he'd figured out that Elinor was probably Mr. Blanchet's wife.

But Theo didn't say a word. He just sidestepped the cop and placed his cup on the bedside cabinet.

The straw in the cup was all chewed up, with teeth marks clearly visible.

After setting down the cup. Theo stood by the bed, his gaze on Elinor complex and unreadable.

In the face of his silent stare, Elinor's nonchalant attitude shifted slightly.

She frowned a bit, glanced at him, then lowered her eyes, murmuring. "I didn't do it."

His response was calm: "Mhm."

Elinor looked puzzled at him. What did he mean by that? Even with the evidence stacked against her, he didn't doubt her. But he didn't say anything more, leaving his thoughts a mystery.

Elinor furrowed her brows, shifting her gaze from him to the cop. "Officer, can I see my lawyer now?"

The cop nodded, "Yes."

Elinor continued, "Then could you pass me my phone? I need to call my lawyer."

Theo chimed in, "I have a lawyer. I can have them."

Elinor cut him off, saying, "No, I have my own lawyer. Don't trouble yourself."

Theo's brows knitted together, he coolly handed her the phone from the cabinet, then turned to leave.

As soon as Theo left, Patricia's gaze followed him, trying to wriggle out of her brother's arms to follow him.

Balfour didn't feel comfortable letting Patricia go alone. He shot Elinor a look, then left with Patricia.

Once the cops had done their job and cuffed Elinor, they took off.

In the empty ward, Bryan stormed up to Elinor, his eyes seemingly ablaze.

Seeing Bryan's hostile stance, Elinor arched an eyebrow and asked, "What are you going to do? Hit me?"

Bryan snapped, "Elinor, I'm so disappointed in you!"

Elinor chuckled, "Well, be disappointed then!"

Bryan gritted his teeth. "You..."

"Bryan, let's not waste our time on her! The police will handle her!" Haillie walked over, shot Elinor a disgusted look, then pulled Bryan, his face a mask of disappointment and anger, away.

With everyone gone from the room, Elinor picked up the phone and dialed Chase.

“Chase, get the legal team to come to the hospital.”

Chase, puzzled, asked, “Boss, why are you at the hospital? What happened?”

“Nothing serious; just have the lawyer come alone. You don’t need to tag along.”

“Alright, I got it!”

Chapter 302

After Patricia left the ward, her gaze swept the hospital corridor, hoping to catch a glimpse of the man who had just left.

She didn’t see Theo in the winding hospital hallways, even though they had only been separated by a few minutes.

Where the hell did Theo go? It was only when she saw the door to the stairwell being pushed open and Collin’s stern face emerging that she got her answer.

Patricia quickly headed that way, running smack into Collin.

Collin gave a slight nod and said, “Ms. Howard.”

Patricia nodded back, asking, “Collin, is Theo in there?”

As honest as ever, Collin replied, “Yes, he’s in there.”

Patricia said, “Then I’ll go in and see him.”

With that, she pushed open the door to the stairwell.

Collin didn’t stop her, but as he saw her disappear into the stairwell, his usually calm face showed a flicker of emotion before he quickly turned and left. He had work to do that Theo had just handed off to him.

Once inside, Patricia saw Theo standing by a window, smoking.

She approached him, coughing a couple of times from the smoke, and said, “Theo...”

Exhaling a puff of smoke, Theo squinted at her and asked, “What’s up?”

With a worried look on her face, Patricia asked, “Theo, are you mad because someone deceived me?”

Theo didn’t respond.

Patricia sighed. “Because you trusted her, and she betrayed your trust. You must be really pissed off. I can tell you’re mad.”

Again, Theo didn’t deny it. After a pause, he told her, “You should be able to leave the hospital today. Go home with your brother.”

Patricia looked stunned, her eyes filled with sadness.

She shook her head and said, "Theo, I'm fine. I want to stay here with you."

Frowning, Theo pointed out, "The hospital is full of germs. You're not strong enough to fight them off. Don't get sick again when you're still recovering."

Patricia's heart beat faster, a tear glinting in her eye. "Theo, so you do still care about me.... I thought you didn't care anymore."

Theo told her, "Alright, go home. Your brother is waiting."

With a start, Patricia turned to see that, indeed, Balfour had pushed open the door to the stairwell and was watching them with a heavy

gaze.

A bit helpless, she turned back to Theo and asked, "Theo, after I go home, will you still come to see me?"

Theo was silent, then nodded his head.

A blush spread across Patricia's pale face as she tugged at the corner of Theo's shirt. "Can you walk me down to the hospital entrance? I want you to see me off."

Theo took a moment before crushing out his cigarette and saying, "Let's go."

With a soft glow in Patricia's eyes, she obediently nodded and followed him out.

To her waiting brother Balfour, she said, "Balfour, let's go home!"

Balfour gave her a sidelong glance, pretending to be angry. "When I told you to go home, you wouldn't listen. But when someone else tells you, you jump right to it?"

Patricia's face instantly turned red. She shyly glanced at the man beside her before stamping her foot and yelling, "Balfour!"

"Alright, let's go." Balfour ruffled her hair with a smile, his eyes then turning cold as he turned to Theo. "Theo, thank you for putting the past aside and persuading Patricia to go home."

"No problem. Theo said it nonchalantly, his tone cool.

Chapter 303

Patricia Howard walked between the two handsome men, attracting envy and attracting everyone's attention.

The only way they

had to pass was Ellinor's ward, which was guarded by a police officer. A man with a briefcase was talking to the police officer at the door of the ward, explaining his purpose. Balfour Howard recognized the man from a distance, his eyes sharpened instantly, "Is that Case Quinne?"

Case Quinne, an important figure in the legal field; the founder of the top law firm in Greenhaven, was currently served as head of legal department at Crescent Society.

This barrister was usually responsible for some major economic cases, how could he personally come here today to handle a small case of attempted wounding? Patricia naturally knew who Case Quinne was. So he looked to the man next to her in disbelief, "Theo, are you still trust Ellinor? Did you even bring in Case Quinne to defend her for her sake?"

The expression on Theo Blanchet's face was elusive, and his deep voice had no warmth, "I didn't invite him."

What?

Patricia was taken aback, her eyes were surprised. It wasn't Theo who invited him?

Then how did Ellinor invite Case Quinne?

You know, most people would not be able to ask this barrister to act in person, especially for such a small case. Balfour gave Theo a sarcastic look. He didn't believe that Ellinor could invite Case Quinne on her own.

Until....

The negotiation between Case Quinne and the police officer was successfully concluded. When he was able to enter the ward, he suddenly saw two acquaintances walking down the corridor. He stopped immediately, turned around, smiled and nodded to them, "Mr. Theo, Mr. Balfour, long time no see." Theo nodded back.

Balfour smiled and nodded too.

Case Quinne politely excused himself, "I'm sorry, I still have work to do. So I am leaving first."

After speaking, Case Quinne entered

Ellinor's ward... Only then did Balfour believe that Mr. Quinne might not have been invited by Theo. If Theo did find him, Case Quinne would at least come over and have a chat with Theo because of their employment relationship, not keep his distance like he just did, being polite but rusty

However how could Ellinor contact the authoritative lawyer Case Quinne himself and invite him?

The three of them stopped in their tracks, not moving forward.

The three of them seemed to have a tacit understanding, but each had their own thoughts, wanting to know something...

About ten minutes later, Case Quinne came out of the ward.

Case Quinne looked serious and polite, and said to the police officer guarding the door of the ward: "My client Ellinor has entrusted me with full responsibility for the case. Mr. Police Officer, I need to go to the police station to meet the criminal who attacked Ms. Howard and find out the case. Who can take me there?"

Before the police could respond, Balfour spoke not far away, "Mr. Quinne, I'm also heading to the police station to provide some evidence. Shall we go together?"

Balfour stepped forward gracefully, with a modest smile.

Case Quinne responded politely and professionally, "Mr. Balfour, I apologize, I am now Ellinor's attorney, it's not appropriate for me to have private contact with the victim and her family. I hope you can understand."

"I get it. Completely understand."

Balfour was just a little curious and wanted to chat with this Mr. Quinne and find out how Ellinor invited him here. Their Howard family had a case once, and despite paid a lot of money at it, they couldn't get Case Quinne.

Patricia watched Balfour and Case Quinne talking, then glanced at Ellinor's ward, her brow furrowing slightly, looking somewhat wary.

Could this country girl like Ellinor, without background in Greenhaven, have other connections?

She turned her head unconsciously again, and glanced at the expression of the man beside her.

Theo's eyes were slightly narrowed, his face expressionless, not knowing what he was thinking.

Chapter 304

Ellinor closed her eyes and leaned on the head of the bed to doze off. Suddenly someone knocked on the door, and then a strange woman who was about forty years old walked in.

"Who are you looking for?" Ellinor asked, watching the stranger with suspicion.

There were police at the door, how did they let a stranger in? Who was she?

The middle-aged woman bowed respectfully, "Ms. Mendoza, I'm the caregiver invited by Collin. My name is Ada, and I'll be here full-time to take care of your diet and daily needs. If you need anything, just let me know."

*Collin?"

"Yes, that is him."

Ellinor frowned. Why called a nurse for her? Could it be that Theo has left?

Ha, it seemed that the man did no longer trust her.

Originally, they were no relation to each other anyway, so what was there to trust or not to trust?

The funny thing was that man said he liked her last night and told her not to keep him out of her heart... She had really almost believed him.

Just then, there was another noisy sound outside the door....

"Who are you guys? Why won't you let me in? Let me in! I'm Belinda Wesley! I need to go in for seeing Ellinor..."

It was Belinda's voice.

Upon hearing it, Ellinor instructed the new caregiver, Ada, “Ada, go tell the police at the door to let that girl in.”

Ada nodded and turned around and left.

After a while, Ada brought Belinda in, who still looked upset.

“Really! I’m away for one day and this happens! You’ve been wronged!”

Ellinor saw the lunch box in Belinda’s hand, “What yummy food did you bring me?”

Belinda said, “This is beef and mushroom soup my mom made. Have some soup, it might help your hand recover faster!”

“Thanks, I’m starved! Ada, please fill a bowl for me and let it cool down?”

“Sure, Ms. Mendoza.” Ada replied, took the thermos from Belinda’s hand, and went off to handle it.

“Are you just going to let them lock you up like this?” Belinda looked at the handcuffs on Ellinor’s hands and feet, fuming.

“I’m a suspect now. It’s understandable that the police would do this to prevent me from running away, Ellinor nonchalantly shrugged.

“What suspect! You wouldn’t do such a thing! This is driving me crazy!”

Ellinor was slightly taken aback, looking at Belinda’s confident face, she felt a pang of sadness.

She hadn’t known Belinda for very long, and even Belinda believed she wouldn’t do such a thing, but Theo...

Forget it, don’t think about him!

Just as she decided not to think about him, Belinda began to vent again, “And that good—for—nothing Theo, how could he leave you at a

time like this...”

She stopped mid-sentence, as if worried about causing any trouble, and didn’t continue.

Ellinor, only hearing half of it, couldn’t help but be curious.

“Hmm? He goes for doing what?”

Chapter 305

Belinda pulled up a chair and sat down, a little uncomfortable. “Nothing special, actually I’m not quite sure either! Your hand’s not in a good shape, let me feed you soup?”

“Don’t you tell me?” Ellinor frowned at her.

Belinda always respected Ellinor greatly and worried that she would ignore her if she upset her, so she dared not to say nothing.

"It's just... when I just came here, I saw Theo escorting Patricia out of the hospital at the gate of the hospital, and Patricia got into his car."

Ellinor's gaze turned slightly dark, and she stayed silent.

Belinda was a little nervous, "Ellinor, don't get pissed! Please don't divorce Theo just because of this, give him another chance....."

Ellinor came back to her senses and looked at Belinda calmly, "I'm not angry. It's just, if there's no feeling of love between us, why can't I divorce him?"

Belinda pouted sadly, "If you divorce him, then won't I lose the family tie with you? I don't want some other woman to take your place. I won't like anyone but you!"

Ellinor looked into her eyes as if looking at a stubborn child: "With his money, power and good looks, Theo can easily find someone better than me, and you'll like her when that time comes."

"I don't want that, no one is better than you!" Belinda insisted.

"What about Ms. Howard..."

Belinda shook her head furiously, with a face full of refusal, "Don't mention her again. I mostly don't want to see her with Theo!"

The Howards and the Blanchets had a deep-seated grudge, but with the Wesleys, it should be fine, right?

Ellinor was puzzled, "Belinda, you seem to really dislike Patricia, why?"

"I just hate her weak type! She saved Theo once when they were kids, and she's been clinging to him all these years! Theo's almost sick of her!" Belinda huffed.

"Aren't Theo and her really close?"

Belinda's face suddenly became complicated, "I'm not too sure, but Theo does treat her differently from others, so everyone thinks they are close..."

"Yeah, definitely different, it shows!" Ellinor nodded in agreement.

Last night, when Patricia called for help. Theo genuinely panicked.

Then she saw Theo gently patting Patricia's shoulder to comfort her frightened emotions. It was clear that he really cared about her.

Theo's tone when talking to Patricia was also extremely gentle, as if worried that a louder voice might scare her.

He never had that patience with others.

Seeing Ellinor lost in thought, Belinda's eyes were full of worry: "But Theo treats you differently too! Ellinor, out of everyone I know, you're the one he tolerates the most!".

Really?

Maybe Theo was just being tolerant because he needed her to deal with the Blanchet family elders. If she didn't cooperate, he'd be at a disadvantage.

If she misunderstood that as something special, it would be overthinking.

After persuading Belinda to finish her soup and go home, since there was a caregiver, Ada, at home, Belinda had nowhere to rest here.

After discharging Patricia, Theo didn't come back and didn't show up the next day either..

The next afternoon, the nurse came and took off the gauze from her hand.

Her hand was no longer swollen, just a little red. The doctor said she could be discharged from the hospital and she could go home and just take some anti-allergic medication for a few days.

At this time, the police came with an arrest warrant.

"Ellinor, according to the doctor's diagnosis, you can be discharged from the hospital. We're here to formally inform you, you're under arrest!"

Chapter 306

In a dark interrogation room.

Two serious police officers sat across from each other, and one of them asked sternly, "Ellinor, do you admit your crime?" Ellinor sat behind a small desk, with blank expression on her face, yet her answer was firm, "I'm not guilty, how can I admit it?" Seeing her stubbornness, the police frowned in dissatisfaction, "Don't you know honesty earns leniency? I've seen lots of hard mouthed suspects like you throughout my policing years, every one of them regretted it when sentenced. Young girl, why didn't you focus on studies instead of committing crimes and not repenting? Your parents would be pissed if they knew you turned out this way!"

"If you want to blame it on me, I have no way to stop you.. Over the years, I have seen very few police men who are as confused as you! You don't look like a novice who just graduated, how can you handle the case so hastily? If your superiors know that you are handling cases like this, they will definitely deduct your wages!"

The policeman blushed with anger, and was speechless when he was refuted, "You..."

Another police officer coughed heavily and said: "Ellinor, this is an interrogation room, one of the most serious places. This is not a place for you to play tricks!"

Ellinor nodded, "Fine, then I choose to remain silent. Any questions, you can ask my lawyer directly. He'll be here any minute."

Another police officer was also angered by her indifferent attitude, "Ellinor, you..."

Suddenly, someone knocked on the interrogation room door. A cop came in and called away one of the interrogating officers.

In a while, that cop came back, communicated something about the case's new development to his colleague....

After hearing it, the other cop seemed a bit flustered.

"Why did new witnesses appear?"

"Yeah! For such a simple case, there sure are lots of witnesses!"

"Members of the Howard family are here at the police station waiting for Ellinor's interrogation result! I thought it would be resolved quickly today. I didn't expect another situation has appeared!"

"Anyway, let's take her to them first!"

"Ellinor, your lawyer's here. We're taking you to meet him now."

Ellinor's hand was fastened to the small desk in the interrogation room, and a cop came over to unfasten it.

She stood up, followed the two cops out of the interrogation room, into a spacious room, specially designed for outside visitors to see the suspects.

Besides her lawyer, Case Quinne, the Howard brothers – Balfour and Byran, Patricia and her good friend Haillie Knotts were all in the room.

They all were waiting to see her final interrogation result.

Ellinor calmly glanced at everyone present, and then subconsciously looked around... However, there was no one else in the square room.

She frowned. Who was she expecting?

That man wouldn't care about her anymore.

Of course, she didn't need him either.

She just felt a bit ironic!

Balfour sat on the visitor room chair, looking relaxed and exuding an extraordinary aura. He looked at Ellinor, who just walked in with handcuffs on, his eyes revealing a touch of indifference.

Then, he turned his gaze to Ellinor's lawyer, Case Quinne.

Chapter 307

"Mr. Quinne, your reputation with Greenhaven is quite high, but now it's time to defend a man accused of being a murderer.. Aren't you worried that this will affect the good reputation you have built up over the years?"

Case Quinne responded politely but firmly. "I'm a lawyer. My job is to fight for the fairest outcomes for my clients, to clear their names. No one should be held accountable for something they didn't do."

Balfour chuckled, "Well, if you say so. I'm all eyes to see how you'll prove her innocence against the solid evidence."

As Ellinor was seated by an officer, the suspect who had attacked Patricia was soon brought in by another officer.

Seeing the suspect, Patricia tucked herself into Balfour's arms out of fear...

Balfour held her, murmuring soothing words. He looked up at the suspect who had once bullied Patricia with a glint of ferocity in his mild eyes.

Case Quinne started

questioning, "Mr. Zachary, we've met before, so I won't introduce myself again. Now, please describe in detail how you committed the crime."

Zachary had already confessed and had nothing to defend. He nodded obediently and began:.

"Three nights ago, Ellinor asked me to meet by Trent River, transferred me \$100,000 as a down payment, asking me to hurt a girl named Patricia, with another \$100,000 to follow after I succeed. I thought, I could get the money and sleep with a pretty girl, so I said yes impulsively. Later, Ellinor contacted me, told me where Patricia was in which hospital room, and I went...And then, I was caught by the police.*

After he finished, Case Quinne immediately asked, "So you're saying that you only committed the crime under Ellinor's instructions, correct?"

Zachary confirmed, "Yes!"

"So how did you and Ellinor meet?"

"It was accidental. She... found my contact online and reached out to me."

Case Quinne continued, "As I understand, you were laid off from a company two months ago, but you didn't tell your wife and children about your unemployment, so you've been doing some temporary jobs to make ends meet. And three days ago, you were handing out flyers for a newly opened barbecue restaurant. At The Bund of Trent River, you happened to rest on the same bench as my client Ellinor. That was your first meeting!

At that time, you just recommended the barbecue restaurant to her for a commission, and you signed her up as a member of the restaurant. There was nothing else!"

Zachary lowered his head with a flicker in his eyes, "That's because she asked me to pretend to be the flyer guy to meet her. She said this could avoid suspicion from the police after the incident."

“Really? You were pretending to be the flyer guy? If you were pretending, then why did you need to start preparing two months in advance? Mr. Zachary, you’ve been handing out flyers for the past two months. Does this mean that my client found you two months ago and arranged for you to attack Ms. Howard? Does this plan require two months of preparation? Isn’t that too cautious?”

After thinking for a while, Zachary firmly said, “Ellinor stressed that I should be careful! She said that Ms. Patricia had a past with her husband, so she was jealous of Ms. Patricia, asking me to prepare in advance and wait until Ms. Howard returned to the country to find an opportunity to act... I thought I could also make some money by handing out flyers during this period, so I kept doing it.”

Case Quinne suddenly raised his voice, “You’re lying! Two months ago, my client didn’t even know Mr. Blanchet, let alone be jealous of Ms. Howard because of him! Why would she go after a girl she had never met and had no interest with so far in advance? It doesn’t make sense!”

Zachary seemed flustered, “Because... oh man! I don’t remember exactly, but it’s Ellinor who transferred me the money! It was her who asked me to do this! I have the transfer record on my phone, you can check if you don’t believe me!”

Case Quinne had of course already examined the evidence.

“The phone my client used was lost for a while that day, picked up by someone, and handed over to the police. Later, Mr. Blanchet sent his secretary to the police station to retrieve it! There’s a record of this in the police station. It’s completely possible that the phone was picked up by someone else during the loss and a sum of money was transferred out!”

At this point, Balfour seemed a bit impatient. He interrupted, “Mr. Quinne, please don’t overturn the established evidence. I’m not interested in hearing your assumptions or possibilities, they are not persuasive. I just want to know where is the new witness the police mentioned? If there isn’t, I’m leaving!”

Case Quinne glanced at his watch, clearly anxious, and then at Ellinor...

The new witness should have arrived by now, had something happened on the way?

“Excuse me, I need to go outside and make a phone call.”

Chapter 308

Case Quinne went out to call witnesses over the phone.

Haillie got up, arms crossed, pacing a few steps before she warned, “Ellinor, don’t think having a well-known lawyer will help you get rid of your guilt! You dared hurt Patricia, Balfour will never let you dodge the law! I suggest you give up resistance and accept the trial of the law. If you have a good attitude, you may get a lighter sentence!”

Ellinor just raised an eyebrow, not bothering to engage with Haillie.

Seeing Ellinor’s lack of response, Haillie was ticked off!

Facing Ellinor, she always felt like her efforts were like punching a pillow, unable to vent her frustration!

No matter when, Ellinor always remained calm, not even getting too agitated by anything, always so calm and composed, one really wanted to slap her to see if she would feel any pain! Byran sat to one side, glaring daggers at Ellinor, his eyes filled with disappointment and anger, and a hint of confusion. He didn't say a word.

Nestled in Balfour's arms, Patricia slowly turned her head, gently and compassionately said, "Ellinor, Hailie's right, if you plead guilty, I'll persuade Balfour to sign a pardon and try to get you a lighter sentence. Quit this nonsense, it's only making Balfour angrier, it's not doing you any good."

Ellinor smiled, "Ms.

Howard, you and your best friend seem awfully worried about me causing more trouble?"

Patricia blinked, looking a bit hurt, and explained, "Ellinor, I'm just trying to help, I'm worried you'll do something reckless, it's not because I'm scared of anything else..."

"Really?" Ellinor casually dropped her gaze, ignoring her.

Seeing Patricia's good intentions being misunderstood, Balfour's gaze flashed with displeasure.

"Ms. Mendoza, because you helped old Mr. Howard in the past, I don't want to be ruthless to you. Are you really going to make things unbearable for yourself?"

Ellinor yawned, "Appreciate your generosity, but I'm not afraid of anything, bring it on!"

Balfour stared at Ellinor's fearless demeanor, a frown creeping onto his face.

What kind of family background could morph a girl who should be gentle and kind-hearted into such a cunning, vicious, and ruthless individual?

Haillie

glanced at Ellinor impatiently: "Balfour, let's just ignore her! Ellinor is just a country bumpkin who isn't afraid of anything! When she's found guilty, she'll regret it! Balfour, don't show her any sympathy, don't sign any pardon, she deserves to be punished. Otherwise, she'll never change."

Just as Haillie finished speaking, the door was flung open, and a seven or eight-year-old boy ran in, heading straight for the suspect, Zachary...

"Daddy!"

The boy wanted to jump into Zachary's arms, but was stopped short by the handcuffs around his dad's wrists. He stared at them, confused and reluctant to accept the situation, questioning, "Daddy, why are you wearing handcuffs? Only bad guys wear them on TV, right? Daddy, did you do something bad?"

Seeing his son, Zachary's defenses instantly crumbled, dropping his head in shame, he mumbled, "I didn't mean to..."

Chapter 309

The little boy's faith crumbled, a look of heartbreak on his face, "Dad, how could you do something bad? Haven't you always taught me to be a good person? How could you do this? You're not my dad, I don't want a bad dad like you..."

"Don't you dare talk to your father like that!"

Behind the little boy, a plainly dressed woman walked in, scolding the child before looking at her husband with a pained expression,

"Zachary, why don't you tell the truth soon? Do you really want our child to live under the shadow of his father being a bad guy?"

Seeing his wife and son safe and sound, Zachary breathed a sigh of relief, feeling too ashamed to face his family, he hung his head, "I'm glad you guys are okay. As long as you're safe, nothing else matters..."

"Yes, we're safe now, we've been rescued!" With teary eyes, the woman leaned into her husband's shoulder, "But Zach, why are you so foolish? You got laid off from the company and didn't tell me, working odd jobs all this time on your own, and even got used to do those nasty things! You need to tell the truth to the police, we can still hope for leniency!"

"I was wrong, as long as you and the kid are okay, I've got nothing to worry about!"

Hearing his wife not blaming him, Zachary was moved to tears. He wiped his tears and raised his head to the police, "Officers, I want to tell the truth! The reason I pleaded guilty before was because my wife and son were kidnapped and someone threatened me to say so!"

The cops were taken aback!

"What? Who kidnapped your wife and child?"

Everyone present was also stunned, shocked by this major plot twist...

One of the cops frowned cautiously, "Zachary, are you sure you want to retract your confession now? If you lie again, the consequences will be severe!"

Zachary nodded firmly, "I'm sure, I want to tell the truth! Officer, I was really threatened and used, that's why I tried to harm Miss Patricia, but I wasn't used by Ellinor, it was someone else!"

On the side, Balfour was silent, waiting for Zachary to continue.

Byran's eyes were wide open, desperately wanting to know the truth...

Patricia was nervously hiding in Balfour's arms, still somewhat afraid to look at the villain who had tried to harm her, but was surprised by the sudden turn of events, occasionally glancing over.

Haillie seemed a bit annoyed, she was finally able to see Ellinor's downfall she had been looking forward to, but unexpectedly, even in this situation, Ellinor was still able to turn the tables, what a cunning person!

The lawyer, Case Quinne, calmly walked back in, "These two are the new witnesses I mentioned earlier. As you can see, they are the wife and child of the criminal Zachary. They have been held in an unfinished

building in the suburbs for the past few days, someone used. them to threaten Zachary, forcing him to frame my client.*

Balfour glanced at Case Quinne, then squinted at Zachary, asking coldly. "Who did it?"

Case Quinne continued, "Mr. Zachary, your wife and child are safe now, please tell us the truth! Tell us, who was it that was really controlling you?"

Chapter 310

Before revealing the true puppet master, Zachary bowed deeply towards where Ellinor was seated, apologizing with a face full of

remorse.

"Miss Ellinor, I'm really sorry. I was under threat when I said those things that implicated you, almost landing such a kind person like you in jail."

Ellinor shook her head, "It's okay, as long as you can clear my name now."

"Don't worry, I definitely will!"

Zachary started recounting his unfortunate journey to the police....

"So here's the thing, I was handing out flyers that day at The Bund of Trent River, I took a break on a bench because I was knackered. I saw a girl sitting next to me daydreaming, so I thought I'd give her a flyer. I was just promoting the barbecue joint to that girl Ms. Mendoza, who is a really nice person, she patiently listened to my whole spiel, unlike other people, those of us who hand out leaflets. stay away from us. Not only did Ms. Mendoza listen to my whole spiel, she also supported me, she even became a member at the barbecue joint, letting me get a commission. That day was the first time I met Ms. Mendoza, I didn't know her before that."

A police officer was diligently recording Zachary's statement, after finishing he looked up and said, "Keep going!"

"The next morning, while I was handing out flyers at a different location, a woman wearing a mask and sunglasses approached me, she said there was a temp job that paid way more than handing out flyers, and asked if I was up for it.

Hearing that the pay was good, of course I wanted to know what kind of job it was, so I agreed to check it out with her. However, I didn't expect that woman to just lead me to a deserted alley, telling me to help her frame someone, promising me a 500k reward once it's done, and even said that she had already transferred a 100k advance to my account the night before. I was totally puzzled, I didn't know her before, how could she have transferred so much money to me last night? But when I checked my account balance, there really was an extra 100k, transferred last night! I admit, I was tempted when I heard about the reward, but when I found out she wanted me to do something illegal, I immediately refused and told her I would return the advance. But when I got home, I found that my wife and son were gone, then I got a call from the woman who approached me in the morning, she demanded that I do as she says, or else I would never see my wife and son again. For the safety of my wife and son, I had no choice but to do as she demanded... That woman told me to go to the hospital at night to pre

tend to harass Ms. Howard, but not to actually do anything to Ms. Howard, just to make a scene, then wait for the police to find me, and push the blame onto Miss Ellinor, saying that it was Ms. Mendoza who instructed me to harass Ms. Howard, if I didn't cooperate, that woman would separate me and my family forever... Officer, I didn't want to do this, I really had no other choice..."

The officer was taking notes, frowning more and more as he listened, after writing down the statement, he asked, "Who is this woman. you're talking about? Why is she going to such lengths to frame Ellinor?"

Zachary thought of that woman, his eyes filled with resentment, "It's her! Haillie! Officer, it was Haillie who instructed me to do this!"

Haillie's face turned pale, "...What are you babbling about? I've never seen you before! Today is the first time I've seen you, why are you framing me like this?"

Zachary said firmly, "Haillie, it was you, you told me to pretend to harass Ms. Howard at the hospital, and then push the blame onto Ellinor! You told me it was because she stole your best friend's boyfriend, so you wanted to eliminate this rival for your friend!"