

The Kiss 731

Chapter 731

Balfour arched an eyebrow "It's so late, and you still haven't had breakfast?"

Ellinor was hungry, so she took a bite of her sandwich before responding. "Yeah, I had a bit of a breakfast hiccup today, and now I finally managed to grab a bite. I assume you've eaten by now, Mr Howard, so I won't bother offering you some"

Balfour didn't care whether or not the Blanchet family included him in their breakfast plans. He was not there for a meal

"Given your current state. Is having breakfast this late and eating just a sandwich enough for you?"

Ellinor shrugged it off. "Today's an exception, and I'll be having lunch soon.

Balfour checked his watch. "It's about two hours before lunch. You plan to stay hungry till then?"

Ellinor waved her sandwich. "I'm not starving. I'm eating!"

Balfour frowned, looking at the Blanchet family's butler, and spoke with a displeased tone. "Is this how you guys take care of her?"

Devin was a bit puzzled, not understanding why Balfour was upset, but he explained politely anyway.

"Mr. Howard, it's not what you think. We have fresh ingredients delivered every day, and we prepare a hearty breakfast for her. It's just that she didn't make it in time for breakfast today. And today's lunch ingredients haven't arrived yet, so she's making do with what we have",

Balfour stared at the sandwich in Ellinor's hand, his dissatisfaction evident. "So, do you guys have four on hand?"

Devin replied. "Yes, we have all those ingredients. It's just that we have fresh veggies and meat delivered daily. We don't keep stock."

Balfour stood up, "Bring out the flour I'll use it."

Devin paused before he responded. "Sure, Mr. Howard, just a moment."

As she ate her sandwich, Ellinor watched Balfour, wondering if he was planning to cook there.

Balfour gracefully removed his suit jacket, rolled up his shirt sleeves, and walked into the kitchen.

This left Devin completely baffled. Mr. Howard was suddenly cooking in their kitchen? What was going on?

As he thought, Devin had one of his staff call Mr. Blanchet to update him on the unusual situation.

While Balfour was busy in the kitchen, Ellinor leaned curiously on the kitchen door, watching him as she enjoyed her sandwich.

"Mr. Howard, I never took you for a cook!"

Balfour was kneading dough. He was silent for a moment before he said, "I'm not great at it. Just when I was a kid, my little sister used to make me play cooking games with her. That's how I learned to make a few things she liked."

Ellinor paused, chewing her sandwich with a cold glint in her eyes. She chuckled, "So, thanks to Ms. Howard, I get to taste your cooking today!"

Balfour's hands stilled on the dough. He turned to look at her, his eyes showing his complex emotions. "Alright, the kitchen's a bit smoky. Why don't you wait outside? I'll bring it to you when it's done"

Ellinor shrugged, "Fine, thanks!"

She went back to the dining room and sat down, deep in thought.

Was Balfour high? Or was he trying a different approach?

Was he still trying to help his sister Patricia win over a man, hoping she'd hand Theo over to Patricia?

Interesting!

Chapter 732

About fifteen minutes later, Balfour came out of the kitchen with a plate of pasta, gently placing it in front of Ellinor, "Wanna give it a try?"

Ellinor glanced at the pasta in front of her, then picked up a fork and stirred it a bit, noticing the red tomato sauce on the plate

She looked up at Balfour, "Is this spaghetti?"

Balfour nodded. "Yeah, you're pregnant now, so you should eat more, this was your favorite when you were little..."

At this point, Ellinor paused slightly. She frowned as if she had realized something.

After seeing her frown, Balfour's words got stuck in his throat. He didn't continue, afraid that it would affect her appetite, "Never mind, just eat while it's hot."

Ellinor snapped back to reality. "Thanks"

She squinted thoughtfully, forked some spaghetti, and put it in her mouth.

The taste surprisingly hit the spot, even the thickness of the tomato sauce was just right

But in her memory, she had never eaten this food before.

Balfour had already sat back in his seat across from her. He was watching the girl across from him softly, his eyes filled with the complex emotions of a long-awaited reunion. He asked gently and cautiously, "What do you think?"

Ellinor was about to praise the taste.

"Balfour! How did you get here?"

Suddenly, Patricia's voice came from upstairs, interrupting Ellinor's response.

Patricia quickly came down from upstairs and rushed to the dining room, looking at Balfour in astonishment.

Balfour was also a bit surprised to see Patricia coming down from the upstairs area of the Blanchet family's villa. He frowned and asked, "Patricia, what are you doing here?"

Caught off guard by Balfour's question, Patricia's eyes flickered a bit, making her look a little guilty, "I came to hang out with Veronica! Balfour, what about you? What brings you here?"

Balfour showing up at the Blanchet family's today was totally unexpected.

And Veronica, seeing Mr. Howard personally visit today, confidently said, "Patricia, isn't it obvious? Your brother must have come to pick you up."

Patricia thought about it and felt that Veronica was right. Balfour must have come to pick her up. Why else would he willingly come to the Blanchet family's villa?

Although she didn't know how Balfour knew she was there, she thought the fact that he came to pick her up and even stepped into the Blanchet family's house must mean he was really worried about her.

Patricia was very happy. She had thought that Balfour was still holding a grudge against her because of Baber's injury yesterday.

Now she could rest assured that no matter what happened, Balfour would still trust her, forgive her, and love her.

After Patricia and Veronica came over, Ellinor decided to keep her mouth shut. She was thoroughly enjoying her spaghetti as if there was no one else around.

Chapter 733

Veronica spotted Ellinor eating and seemingly enjoying herself, which ticked her off. So she stepped up to Balfour to rant.

"Balfour, good timing! I've got to tell you. Patricia just got bullied!

It's this Ellinor here, she poured her meal, a hot bowl of noodles, straight onto Patricia's hair. She made her hair and clothes all dirty, and she even burnt her face a bit!

Patricia just had a shower in my room and changed into clean clothes!"

With Veronica on her side, Patricia put on a brave face, her voice choked with emotion, "Balfour, I'm fine..."

Balfour listened to Veronica's rant, and his eyebrows furrowed. He turned to Ellinor with a displeased look.

"The chef prepared a hearty breakfast for you, why did you have to order food from outside?"

Patricia and Veronica were expecting Balfour to get mad at Ellinor, but instead, they heard him ask such an irrelevant question. Both of them wondered if Balfour had missed the point.

Ellinor, enjoying her meal, paused before saying, "Ah well, they did prepare a nice breakfast for me, but my breakfast got eaten by a guest, so I ordered some food. Then, that got accidentally ruined with milk by a guest and couldn't be eaten, so I ended up with a sandwich."

Balfour's brows furrowed deeply. Before he arrived, the only guest there was Patricia!

So, the issues with the breakfast Ellinor mentioned were because of Patricia?

Patricia was secretly thrilled to see the anger rise in Balfour's eyes. Balfour was finally going to get mad at Ellinor.

Considering herself the favored one, she took the opportunity to fan the flames, "Balfour, I didn't mean to eat Ellinor's breakfast, I didn't know it was hers; I just felt a bit hypoglycemic and ate some.

I didn't mean to ruin Ellinor's food either, I was worried that she might choke, so I brought her some milk. But then I tripped because of my hypoglycemia and spilled the milk on her noodles

I apologized to Ellinor right away and promised to compensate her for double the meal cost. But I didn't expect her to get so mad and pour the food on my head! But I understand how Ellinor feels! Balfour, please don't blame Ellinor because of me, it was my fault."

As she spoke, Patricia's voice became more and more choked, and she looked extremely aggrieved, like she was about to cry.

Balfour's eyebrows were knit tightly; he coldly looked at her sobbing and snorted, "So you admit it was your fault?"

Patricia was taken aback after not getting Balfour's usual unconditional support. She looked at him with surprise, "...Balfour?"

Balfour looked serious as he reprimanded her, "You know you have hypoglycemia, so why didn't you rest at home instead of running to someone else's house early in the morning?"

Patricia was confused about why Balfour said that, but after a while, she softly explained, "Balfour, I didn't know I would have hypoglycemia before I left home; it might be because I forgot to eat breakfast at home..."

Balfour didn't let his guard down because of her explanation, "Then why didn't you stay home to take care of your child early in the morning instead of going to someone else's house for breakfast?"

Patricia's eyes dodged a little. "Uh... Balfour, I've arranged for a nanny to take good care of Baber"

"The child was seriously injured yesterday; he almost lost his life, and you as a mother don't seem to care? Did you want to adopt Baber, or did you plan to let the nanny adopt him?"

"Balfour, I..."

Chapter 734

Balfour rubbed his temples as he looked at Patricia, this real headache of a woman "Whatever you're here at the Blanchet family's home for, it doesn't matter. You need to head home right now"

Patricia noticed that Balfour was not messing around. She obediently nodded and stepped forward “Balfour, I know I shouldn’t have left Baber alone at home and come out. I’ll go home and accompany Baber now, let’s go!”

However, Balfour didn’t budge. “Quinton is outside, he can drop you home.”

Patricia was taken aback and puzzled. “Balfour, you’re not coming with me?”

Balfour nodded silently I have things to take care of, you go home first”

Wait, what? Balfour didn’t come here to pick her up? Patricia was shocked. She glanced at where Balfour was sitting, right across from Ellinor

Was Balfour here to see Ellinor?

The more she thought about it, the more it didn’t sit right. Patricia obediently said, “Balfour, it’s okay, I can wait for you. We can go home together after you’re done.”

Balfour’s eyes flashed with impatience. “No need to wait, you can go first. I’ll be heading to the office later. I won’t be going home.”

With that Patricia had no reason to stick around and find out why Balfour came to see Ellinor. She simply said, “Oh, okay, then I’ll go ahead...”

Before leaving. Patricia shot a significant glance at Veronica.

Veronica caught Patricia’s look. She was confused at first, then seemed to understand something and said excitedly. “Patricia, I’ll come with you!”

Patricia twitched her mouth in disbelief.

Veronica really had no brain. Why would she come with her? Her look was meant to tell Veronica to eavesdrop on what Balfour and Ellinor might say, not to tag. along! What a dummy!

Veronica, completely oblivious to her misunderstanding, linked arms with Patricia and walked out with her, mumbling, “Patricia, what’s up with your brother today? He didn’t come to pick you up?”

Patricia rolled her eyes at Veronica and forced a laugh. “I have no clue, maybe my brother has some business to discuss with Ellinor”

Veronica thought for a moment, and then it dawned on her. “Oh! I get it! Your brother must be putting pressure on Ellinor to get the hell away from my brother and give him back to you!”

Patricia considered Veronica’s statement. It was possible. Balfour had always been concerned about her marital issues. Had he come specifically to put pressure

on Ellinor?

With Patricia and Veronica gone, the butler and servants of the Blanchet family discreetly withdrew.

Balfour finally relaxed, looking at Ellinor across the table, who was enjoying her meal. He asked softly, “How is it? Do you find it delicious?”

Ellinor nodded sincerely. "Your cooking is really good, it's very delicious!"

Balfour's eyes sparkled with joy at her approval. "You still love pasta, just like when you were little"

Ellinor paused, then calmly looked at Balfour. "Really? I don't remember"

Balfour's brow furrowed "Aren't you curious how I know your childhood favorites?"

Ellinor smiled slightly. "Yes, how do you know my childhood favorites?"

After a moment of silence, Balfour said formally, "Ellinor, you are actually my long-lost sister. Your real name should be Pearl."

Ellinor calmly took another bite of pasta. "I knew."

Chapter 735

Balfour looked shocked, "You knew?"

Ellinor continued her nonchalant attitude, "Hmm, yeah, I knew."

Balfour was puzzled, "When did you find out?"

Ellinor replied casually. "A long time ago, probably not long after I met you"

Balfour was even more confused, "If you knew back then, why didn't you tell me?"

Ellinor chuckled as if mocking him, "Even if I told you, you wouldn't have believed me. All along, haven't I just been a plain Jane with ambitions in your eyes who just wants to get ahead using power?"

Just think about it, if I suddenly showed up saying I'm your long-lost sister, you'd probably think I'm a pain in the ass and that I'm full of tricks, trying to worm my way into your rich family, right?"

Balfour's face stiffened a bit. In front of the sister he lost and found again, he, as a brother, felt extremely awkward, "I was prejudiced against you back then, it was my bad. I'm sorry. How can I make it up to you?"

Ellinor put down her bowl and waved it off, "No need! You don't have to do this! You're Patricia's good brother, not mine."

Balfour understood Ellinor's rejection of him, but he stressed with a frown, "Ellinor, we share blood. I am your brother and always will be!"

Ellinor leaned back in her chair, looking indifferent

"I accept we share blood, but to me, that's all it is. In reality, we are just strangers who happened to have the same mother. Apart from the blood relation, we are from completely different worlds"

Balfour felt very guilty. "I know I had a lot of misunderstandings about you before, and I did a lot of things that upset you. I'm sorry! Can you give me a chance to make up for my mistakes?"

Ellinor chuckled, "Let's set aside the blood relation for now. You don't like a girl like me who grew up in the countryside without any manners, and I don't like a man like you who thinks he's above everyone"

else. We don't have anything in common, nor do we have the bond of growing up together, so let's not force this sibling relationship!"

Balfour tried to explain, "No, it's not as you think."

In fact, he admired Ellinor in his heart, but because of Patri, he had been prejudiced and hostile towards Ellinor from the very beginning.

And now Ellinor finally understood why Balfour wanted to talk to her in person today.

Although she didn't know how Balfour found out the truth, Ellinor didn't want to hear his pleas for forgiveness and recognition anymore.

She smiled calmly and politely. "Thanks for the breakfast, I'm honored to have tasted your cooking."

Balfour said gently, "If you'd like, I can make this for you often..."

Ellinor cut him off, "No need! Some things become boring after one taste. Sorry, I'm a bit tired now, I won't be joining you for lunch! Devin, show our guest out!"

"Yes!" Devin stepped forward, "Mr. Howard, please."

Balfour felt a bit awkward after noticing Ellinor's clear denial of him. There was no way he could stay, as he recalled how badly he had treated Ellinor before. He let out a deep sigh and stood up. "Then I'll come to see you another day"

Ellinor rejected him again, "No need to bother. It's better you don't come in the future. Don't forget, Mr. Howard, I'm now part of the Blanchet family. Considering the rivalry between the Blanchet and Howard families, I think we'd better not have any more contact in private."

Balfour was speechless. He turned around and left reluctantly.

"Wait! Ellinor called out to him.

Balfour thought Ellinor had changed her mind. He immediately stopped, turned around, and looked at her with hope.

Chapter 736

Ellinor looked at Balfour coolly but politely. "Mr Howard, remember I worked for the Howard Group for a hot minute and then you sacked me?"

Balfour squirmed at the reminder, his face cringed with a hint of embarrassment. He stammered, "You can come back to the Howard Group anytime and take any position you want."

Ellinor smirked. "Mr Howard, you've got it wrong. I was hoping to get paid for those few days! I'm not a fan of working for free"

Balfour blinked, then looked at her

It was not about the money, Ellinor was clearly hinting that she wanted to cut ties with him. She didn't want anything to do with him anymore.

Ellinor arched her eyebrows, "What? Mr. Howard, you're not willing to pay me?"

Balfour snapped back to reality, "No, that's not it. I can pay whatever you want."

He pulled out his wallet from his suit jacket, scribbling down an amount on his checkbook.

After seeing his move, Ellinor snorted, "Mr. Howard, are you going to handle this with a check again?"

Balfour paused, recalling his past dealings with Ellinor via check and feeling a pang of shame.

He hesitated, then put away his checkbook, "You don't like checks; how about a transfer?"

Ellinor replied, "I want cash. I only worked for the Howard Group for a few days; the pay isn't much, and you don't need to write a check or do a transfer"

Balfour was quiet for a moment, "I don't carry much cash on me; I'll have Quinton deliver it to you later."

Ellinor raised an eyebrow, "Not much; how much exactly?"

Balfour looked at the cash in his wallet, "Around a few hundred dollars."

"That'll do Ellinor got up, took his wallet, and pulled out some bills, "Based on market rate, these will cover a few days of work, but I did close a big deal for the Howard Group, the extra should be my deserved commission. No objections, Mr. Howard?"

He watched Ellinor earnestly, hoping she wouldn't act this way, "Pearl..."

"Im Ellinor." She cut him off; she didn't like her old name.

Balfour had to change his words, "Ellinor, I know you might find it hard to accept me as your brother, and it's hard to forgive my past attitude towards you. I'll try not to bother or trouble you.

But if you're wronged in the Blanchet family, or if Theo dares bully you, come find me, I'll always be here."

Ellinor smiled, "Mr. Howard, you're overthinking this. I'm not your sister, Patricia. I'm not fragile, I don't have many grievances to bear, and I won't let anyone take advantage of me

Balfour was speechless, he just looked at her bitterly, his eyes filled with weary red lines, as if he had a lot more to say.

Just then, Devin stepped forward, respectfully and politely saying his goodbyes, "Mr. Howard, Ellinor needs to rest now, please leave."

Balfour sighed heavily, gave Devin a glance, and left.

After leaving the Blanchet family's villa, Balfour saw his car still parked outside, Quinton hadn't driven away.

Chapter 737

He squinted slightly, got up, and climbed into the car.

In the backseat Patricia and Veronica were sitting together. They had been chatting, but when Balfour got in, their conversation came to a halt.

Patricia, sitting in the middle, turned to look at Balfour obediently

“Balfour, are you done with your stuff?”

Balfour, looking worn out, leaned back in his seat and rubbed his temple, asking, “Why didn’t you go home first?”

Patricia pouted and explained, “If I had left first, you wouldn’t have had a ride. So, I asked Quinton to wait for you a bit.”

Balfour just gave a grunt in response, closing his eyes and saying no more.

On the other side, Veronica couldn’t help but ask, “Balfour, did your negotiation with Ellinor go well? Did she agree to leave my brother?”

With a furrowed brow, Balfour suddenly opened his eyes and shot Veronica a glance. “You really want her to leave your brother?”

Veronica nodded, “Yes! Don’t you want the same? Only if Ellinor leaves my brother can he go back to Patricia! Balfour, I know how much you care for Patricia; you would definitely remove any obstacles in her way to happiness!”

Balfour shot her a warning glance, “Ms. Blanchet, I’d suggest you keep your nose out of this. Don’t disrespect Theo’s wife, Ellinor, or I won’t stand by and watch, even if Theo doesn’t care!”

Veronica was taken aback, “Balfour? Why?”

Patricia was stunned too. She hadn’t misheard, Balfour had actually referred to Ellinor as Theo’s wife.

What was going on? Why was Balfour suddenly taking Ellinor’s side?

Balfour said. “Ms. Blanchet, we don’t welcome Blanchet family members in our car. Please get out.”

After feeling the pressure from Balfour, Veronica was scared. She got out of the car awkwardly. She had originally planned to go to the Howard family’s home with

Patricia

After Veronica got out, Quinton drove the car away.

Inside the car, Patricia tried to lighten the mood, asking, “Balfour, what did you say to Ellinor today?”

“It’s none of your business”

Balfour was in a bad mood; he clearly didn’t want to discuss it

Patricia moved closer to Balfour on purpose, cooing, “Balfour, even if it’s none of my business, can’t you tell me? I’m so curious! Your relationship with Ellinor wasn’t good before, why did you go to the Blanchet family’s villa to see her today?”

Balfour gave her a cold glance and retorted, “Is Baber willing to talk to you now?”

Patricia froze, "Uh.."

Balfour said sternly to her, "First off, you should worry about your own business and stop being so nosy about other people's affairs!"

Patricia was taken aback. She didn't expect Balfour to be so strict with her. She put on a hurt and lost face, saying, "Balfour, I know I should be focusing on Baber, but since Theo doesn't need me anymore, I feel so heartbroken, so..."

Balfour had heard enough. He cut her off, saying, "If a guy doesn't love you anymore, you shouldn't keep pestering him. You should find some meaningful things to do! As a girl, your life doesn't have to revolve around men!"

Chapter 738

Patricia looked stunned. Balfour had never been this serious with her before.

"But I really love Theo. Balfour, you've always known..."

Balfour frowned, "Love takes two to tango, not just you. If he doesn't love you, all your efforts are in vain. Let him go, and let yourself go too"

As Patricia's eyes reddened and tears streamed down her face, she asked, "What's wrong with you, Balfour? Did Ellinor say something to you? You've become so cold and indifferent, don't you care about me anymore?"

As he watched Patricia's tears drop, Balfour felt annoyed but also a bit of heartache. He thought maybe he was too hard on her.

"Alright, stop crying. I'm just looking out for you. You're losing yourself over Theo, you know?"

Balfour patted Patricia's shoulder to comfort her.

With tears in her eyes, Patricia looked at Balfour, "But I really love Theo! Balfour, I can't control myself..."

Balfour rubbed his forehead; he felt a headache coming on.

Was God playing a joke on him? Why did his two sisters fall for the same guy?

Being a big brother was tough.

After sending Patricia home, Balfour returned to the office.

Only he and the driver, Quinton, remained in the car.

Quinton asked "Mr Howard, how did your talks go with Ms. Mendoza? Did Ms. Mendoza recognize you as her brother?"

In the back seat, Balfour leaned back and lightly pinched his brow. "Do you think she would recognize me?"

Quinton paused for a moment and reassured, "Ms. Mendoza grew up in the countryside and has endured many hardships; she's rather strong and independent. It's understandable if she has difficulty accepting that she's found her long-lost family"

Balfour closed his eyes. He was tired and began to laugh sarcastically, "No, she's known all along."

Quinton furrowed his brow, "Ms. Mendoza knew you were her brother all along?"

Balfour let out a heavy sigh, "Yes. From the start, she endured all my extreme actions, even though I was her brother. But she didn't say anything and treated me as

a stranger.

Do you think she'd want to recognize me?"

Quinton was at a loss for words, it was indeed a tough situation.

"But why didn't Ms. Mendoza say anything if she knew it? Doesn't she want to reunite with her family and receive their love?"

"She probably hates me." Balfour's sarcastic smile was self-deprecating.

Quinton also felt that Balfour's previous attitude towards Ms. Mendoza was a bit over the top in order to protect Patricia. He sighed, "Mr. Howard, relax a bit. Given time, I believe Ms. Mendoza will come around"

Balfour didn't say anything, he knew his situation wasn't optimistic.

Pearl wasn't just angry with him, she didn't want to admit he was her brother at all!

She didn't care about his wealth and power or their family's background; she didn't care about any of it.

Otherwise, why didn't she come looking for him when she knew her identity?

He had previously guessed that Ellinor was a gold digger.

He really wanted to slap himself.

He had been such a jerk!

Chapter 739

At the Blanchet family's villa.

After Balfour left, Ellinor took out her phone, which had been buzzing in her pocket.

It was a video call from Theo

Because she had been talking to Balfour, she hadn't answered it.

Now that Balfour was gone, she could talk to Theo.

After answering the phone, Theo's handsome face appeared on the screen.

Theo's normally cold and handsome features now looked annoyed. He had a chill on his face, "What were you doing just now? Why did you only answer now?"

Ellinor lazily sat on the sofa, "I was eating!"

Theo's face darkened, "Eating? Whose cooking were you eating?"

Ellinor knew what was going on once he asked that question. Someone must have snitched!

She rolled her eyes, unhappily saying, "Why are you asking if you already know?"

Theo narrowed his eyes, not bothering to beat around the bush with this little miss, "What was Balfour doing at our house while I was gone? Why did he cook for you?"

Ellinor found his jealous antics cute, so she deliberately teased him, "Maybe he was just itching to show off his cooking skills in our house."

The phrase 'our house made Theo instantly pleased, but his tone was still somewhat unhappy, "Why are you eating food cooked by another man? Have you forgotten what I told you before? You're not allowed to casually eat things given to you by other men!"

Ellinor pouted, "I didn't eat it casually, I considered it carefully before eating it! Balfour isn't that stupid, even if he wanted to harm me, he wouldn't openly come to our house to poison me, right, Theo?"

The repeated use of our house' made it impossible for him to get angry with her. He sighed and asked, "What did he come to see you for?"

Ellinor said, "It's a long story! You keep earning money, and I'll tell you when you get home."

Theo's frown deepened; he was clearly dissatisfied with her answer.

Balfour wouldn't step foot in the Blanchet family's villa unless it was something big.

Today, he broke his rule for Ellinor, what he came for must have been very important, yet Ellinor wouldn't tell him.

"Theo, look! What's this?" Ellinor showed off her bounty of the day.

Theo looked at the notes Ellinor was waving in front of the phone. Theo, who wasn't sensitive to money, just raised an eyebrow, "What's up?"

"This is my pay from the few days I worked at the Howard Group that I demanded from Balfour today. Balfour has owed me for a long time Ellinor's face was full

of excitement, like she had found a treasure. She excitedly told the serious man on the screen, "When you get off work, I'll treat you to something delicious!"

Theo paused for a moment, looking at the lively young girl on the screen. His previously gathered displeasure instantly dissipated, "You're so generous."

"Of course!" Ellinor lifted her face proudly, "I normally wouldn't invite people to eat with me. You're really lucky!"

Theo's lips slightly lifted, "Hmm? What delicious food are you planning to treat me to?"

Chapter 740

"I'll shoot you the restaurant location later, just focus on your work for now"

Before Theo even had the chance to respond, Ellinor ended the video call.

On the other side of the phone. Theo was left speechless.

Ellinor had quickly hung up because she saw Veronica returning, standing right across from her, staring at her with a face full of discontent.

She didn't want him to worry about her relationship with Veronica while he was at work, so she wrapped up the call early.

Ellinor didn't get angry while facing Veronica's stern glare. She just smiled nonchalantly. "Why are you back? Didn't you leave with your friends?"

Veronica crossed her arms with pride and sat down on the sofa, "None of your business!"

Ellinor yawned, "I don't care what you do, but keep your distance from Patricia, don't let her influence you."

Veronica had a crush on Patricia since she was little, hoping she could be a part of her family.

Veronica thought Ellinor was just jealous after listening to her advice about staying away from Patricia. She retorted immediately, "Ellinor, who are you to lecture me? Who gave you the right? Patricia is better than you, and I like being with her, so what can you do about it?"

Ellinor looked seriously at the clueless Veronica, "As your brother's wife, I have the responsibility to educate you, including but not limited to preventing you from bringing bad friends home."

Previously, she and Theo were just partners; she didn't care about Blanchet family matters, and she had no responsibilities.

But now it was different. She planned to spend the rest of her life with Theo, so she also had the responsibility to educate Veronica.

Otherwise, if Veronica spent too much time with Patricia, she'll definitely be used by this unscrupulous woman in the future, causing big trouble.

Veronica rolled her eyes as she heard Ellinor say she was going to discipline her, "You think I'm going to listen to you? You're too full of yourself!"

Ellinor smiled, slowly stood up, then suddenly grabbed Veronica's arm and twisted it back, pinning her to the sofa.

Veronica screamed in pain, then looked at her in terror, "Ah! Ellinor, what are you doing? Let me go!"

Ellinor whispered in her ear, "Nothing, just showing you if I'm too full of myself or not."

Despite the pain, Veronica glared at her defiantly, "You might be stronger, but I don't believe you'll hit me."

Ellinor gave a faint smile, "I won't hit you. It's pointless to hit someone as dim-witted as you."

After saying that, she let go and stood up. Veronica was free again.

As soon as Veronica was free, she stood up, rubbing her sore arm, and retorted, "Who are you calling dim-witted? You're the dummy!"

Ellinor ignored her and turned to Devin, "Devin, after lunch, give the staff half a day off, let them rest a bit. Today, all the housework is Ms. Blanchet's responsibility!" Devin was very confused, "What do you mean?"

Veronica, overhearing Ellinor, widened her eyes and protested, "Ellinor, have you gone mad? Who said I'm doing all the housework?"

Ellinor looked at Veronica, raising her eyebrows, and said, "Oh? Is there a problem with my arrangement? I'm just teaching you life lessons based on your own family values.

Veronica, I remember this morning when you barged into my room and told me that people from wealthy families like yours should never be lazy, always be diligent, and be capable of doing anything

And me, thanks to your brother's leniency, even if I don't do anything, I won't be kicked out of the house."