The Return 321

Chapter 321

The following day arrived.

The Baynes Group.

Joanna returned to the company, resuming the shareholders' meeting as usual.

Though Bruce had resolved to cease his campaign of suppressing and retaliating against Joanna, his decision to sever ties with the Haynes Group was now a foregone conclusion.

Mr. Paul and Mr. Roger wore troubled expressions, deep in thought for a considerable time.

"Given the current circumstances, our only option is to seek new investors!"

"Otherwise, the company won't be able to come up with such a substantial amount of cash!"

Joanna furrowed her brow. "Seeking new investors?"

"At this crucial moment, who in their right mind would be willing to invest?"

Even if the Haynes Group changed its name, the stench of its tarnished reputation remained. Everyone knew the Haynes Group was teetering on the edge of collapse. Who would be foolish enough to step into the role of a sacrificial lamb eagerly?

Mr. Roger's face turned grave. "Our only option now is to urgently sell off a portion of our shares to raise funds. It's the quickest way to get our hands on cash."

"Otherwise, if we can't gather the funds within a month, Mr. Everett will petition the court to freeze the Haynes Group's assets, leading to even more complications."

Joanna's eyes grew somber. With no other options left, she had no choice but to make a desperate gamble and take drastic

measures.

Although she was reluctant to part with the shares Raymond had bequeathed to her, she knew there was no other way to tackle the imminent crisis.

...Alright then! Let it be known that the Haynes Group is preparing to sell some of its shares and seeking potential partners."

Word of the Haynes Group's intention to sell shares quickly spread throughout the business circles.

To her astonishment, within two days of the news circulating, a mediator emerged, revealing that an expatriate expressed a sincere interest in investing in the Haynes Group and acquiring its shares at their original price.

It was a ray of hope amidst adversity for the struggling Haynes Group!

Joanna carefully assessed her holdings. If she sold off just 10%, and with a bit of additional capital, she could reclaim the

shares held by Bruce.

Even if she sold 10% of her shares, she would retain a significant 41%.

She would remain the company's largest shareholder!

"I'd like to meet this person."

Ethan carefully briefed Joanna on the investor's information. "The investor is an expatriate named Caleb Harrison."

"We have also conducted a thorough background check on him. He had a background in the food and beverage industry in Antlen before. He is determined to venture into the domestic market and is highly interested in our Haynes Group!"

Upon hearing this, Joanna exclaimed, "That's fantastic. Let's schedule a meeting and find a convenient time to meet him."

"Very well, Miss Haynes."

The following day, with the introduction of a mutual acquaintance, Joanna arranged a meeting with Caleb!

He was a sharp—witted middle—aged man in his forties. With a refined presence, he emanated a distinctive gentlemanly aura.

background in Antlen and his

market.

everything, she felt confident in

the share transfer

a heavy heart, Joanna sold

to continue being

exit from the company would serve as a definitive closure to their complicated entanglement.

company's second-largest shareholder, holding

slower than expected, with Caleb's

the

surprised Joanna was the active involvement of Miss

media company in Greene Town

on the day of the grand

company to attend the opening ceremony. In addition to Brother Trumpet,

having not achieved any notable achievements. Nonetheless, its name was already

the conclusion of the opening ceremony, Joanna how can I assist you?" Cora wore a polite smile as efficiently handled be acknowledged that she was indeed Joanna's want you to go to Greyport anymore in the Cora's expression froze. Have I fallen short in any want you to stay here in Greene Town and take on the role of Vice President." for so long, and I truly admire also believe you are more than capable of fulfilling this and she looked at Joanna in disbelief. "Yes!" I won't be trust my judgment and your heart into it, and I have solemn expression. "Thank you, Miss Haynes. I will exert every effort to excel in my role." may go expressed her gratitude, overwhelmed by the star and benefactor throughout her PR representative for a company tasked with entertaining clients and playing poker. Joanna recognized Cora's potential and brought her She was sincerely grateful to Joanna for rescuing her from the abyss. Working by Joanna's side, Cora was room, "Hello, Jay!" heard the new company had its Jaydon's video on the phone. "Yes, getting married soon,

brushed her hair behind her ear. "I've wrapped things up here

fly over to be with you next

too

"Not at all!"

Chapter 322

Joanna would only reach out to him if it were about seeing their children.

It was often said that men could be heartless in relationships..

But in truth, when a woman fell out of love, she could be far more ruthless.

Joanna arrived at Century Plaza Station at 9.30 am. the next day, well ahead of time.

With a few insulated containers in hand, Joanna carried the cakes and dumplings she had personally made.

She couldn't make up for everything she had done wrong, but she wanted to do what she could for her children

At precisely 10 a.m., a chauffeur–driven luxury car pulled up, followed by a nanny car stopping in front of her.

When the doors opened, Davian and Irvin hopped out of the car.

Shortly after, the nanny emerged, cradling Lilia in her arms.

"Mommy..." Davian and Irvin called out in their usual manner.

Joanna felt a pang in her heart, her eyes welling up with tears. She hurriedly approached her children. "Davian, Irvin, Lilia! I've missed you so much. Do you miss Mommy?"

"Yes!"

"Mommy..." The three little ones looked a bit weary as they gazed at Joanna.

Although the children still showed happiness, an invisible barrier seemed to have formed.

After being separated for such a long time, even the strongest bond could slowly dissipate. Especially since the children were only five, their emotions and perceptions were still developing.

They could quickly adapt to new environments and new lives.

Having spent over half a year with the Everett family, they had already adapted to their new lives.

"Mommy, why haven't you come to see us for so long?" Davian furrowed his little brow, his tone laced with a hint of dissatisfaction.

Joanna knelt and planted a kiss on Davian's cheek. "Mommy has been very busy lately..."

But Irvin interjected before Joanna could finish her sentence, his voice filled with frustration. "Hmph, we knew Mommy would say that!"

"It's always either Daddy being busy or Mommy being busy. We've gotten used to it. Who has time to spend with us anymore?"

"Daddy is busy with the pretty lady, and Mommy is busy with Mr. Grimm. We're not important to Mominy and Daddy anymore!"

With a pout, Irvin displayed his discontent.

Joanna listened in silence, feeling a sharp pang in her chest.

"I'm sorry, it's Mommy's fault, alright? It's all Mommy's fault! Can you forgive Mommy?"

"Mommy, we know you're busy. So, we won't blame you. But deep down, there's still some disappointment."

"I'm

sorry, my sweethearts. Mommy will make sure to spend more time with you in the future."

Mommy's career is on track, once Mommy has the means, I promise I'll

a touch of arrogance, "Forget it! Mommy wants to compete

you say such a

We

again, be careful. I might give you a timeout," Davian

It would be best if you never treated your

understand, Mommy!"

her tiny hands

bent down and embraced

not seeing each other for nearly a month, Davian and Irvin had noticeably grown

How about going to the amusement park?"

don't want

Don't you both love

afternoon, which is much more

and science classes in the evening! Those are way more interesting!"

excitement.

sadness upon hearing their response.

even though they were no

financial resources would ensure that

around to play with the children that their dependence on their parents

already. It's time

"So soon?"

music lessons coming up. Mr. Everett requested that we

Alright then!"

lessons?" Joanna voiced her concern, fearing

classes are actually really

warmly at their

worries seemed unnecessary now.

was confident that he would provide the children with the best teachers available. These teachers were industry experts who knew how to make learning engaging and exciting, incorporating games and interactive activities into their lessons.

and fun,

dumplings that Mommy made just

"Thank you, Mommy!"

quickly stepped in, taking the food from Joanna's hands. "Mr. Everett has instructed the children to follow a specific dietary plan."

briefly, feeling too weary to

"Goodbye, Mommy!"

sweethearts!" Joanna embraced each child tightly and

hopped

zoom away, a wave of melancholy washed over her, causing her to stand there for

her emotions.

children had grown increasingly distant from her. If things continued down this path, it wouldn't be

these thoughts weighing heavily on her, Joanna felt an intense pang in her heart!

more time, sweethearts. Mommy will bring you back to her side. No matter what

Finally home!

her belongings, preparing for her flight to Gaprington the next

quality time with Jaydon. This time, she decided to

noticed her packing and hurriedly approached to offer assistance. "Joann, do you need help with

I can handle it

Chapter 323

With the next day's arrival, Joanna rose from her bed at 6 a.m. She meticulously packed her belongings and readied herself for the journey to the airport.

The drive to the airport would take approximately 40 minutes.

Leaving precisely at 6:10 a.m. would be ideal.

Her car had been expertly repaired and promptly returned to her, enabling her to embark on her journey independently!

Miranda was also up early, diligently preparing a hearty breakfast. "Joann, may your journey be smooth, and may you take the utmost care! Once you reach Gaprington, ring me to let me know you've arrived safe and sound."

"Got it. I understand!"

After devouring her breakfast, Joanna dragged her suitcase and descended the elevator to the underground parking lot!

The underground parking lot.

Beep-beep!

Joanna unlocked her car and hopped in.

Meanwhile, a faint ticking sound emanated from beneath the car as if a needle on a gauge was rhythmically dancing.

Unfazed by the faint noise, Joanna didn't give it much thought. She dismissed it as a harmless electrical hum

With that thought aside, she ignited the car's engine.

Just as she was about to exit, the phone began to ring.

Ring, ring, ring!

"Hello, Miranda!"

From the other end of the line, Miranda's voice carried a sense of urgency. "Joann, you forgot to grab your passport! Shall I bring it to you right away?"

Joanna instinctively smacked her forehead upon hearing this. "Oh gosh, I completely forgot."

"Miranda, can you bring it to me in the elevator lobby? I'll be waiting for you there."

"Sure thing!"

Joanna let out a yawn and then stepped out of the car, heading toward the elevator lobby.

In her hurry to leave earlier, she had absentmindedly left her passport on the dressing table, forgetting to pack it into her bag.

Drip! Drip! Drip!

The car's gauge needles began their countdown.

After Joanna stepped out of the car, she walked approximately 90 to 120 feet when suddenly, a loud and ear—shattering explosion echoed behind her with a resounding "boom!"

The blast from the exploding bomb sent car glass fragments flying through the air, accompanied by an intense wave of heat that violently propelled her off the ground.

"Boom!"

Joanna instinctively lunged forward, hitting the ground with a heavy thud.

Countless shards of glass embedded themselves into her back, causing her to lose consciousness instantly.

Blood began to seep and spread across her body.

completely obliterated her car. Thankfully, she had managed to move away from it. Otherwise,

stepped out of the elevator, only to be jolted by the loud blast,

did that explosion come

anxiously exited

Joanna lay motionless in a

Joann, what happened

sheer panic as she rushed to assess the

was drenched in blood,

guards from the Residential Complex and neighbors who heard the commotion hastily rushed

"What's going on?"

lift Joanna, but her entire body was drenched in blood, making it difficult for her to get a proper grip. She desperately screamed to

I'll call for an ambulance

the

the hospital? Please send an

There has been an explosion at Greenwick Residential Complex..."

In an instant!

was jolted

on the scene, promptly sealing it off. They dispatched experts to investigate and determine if there were any other hidden explosives.

capable of destroying a car without a second

that Joanna wasn't inside the

time at all!

was swiftly transported to the hospital by ambulance.

give way. The patient's

to save Joann!" Miranda trailed closely behind, her

we'll do our best!" The doctor and nurses pushed Joanna swiftly into the

is severely injured.

didn't dare take the situation

her hands clasped together in continuous

divine watch over you, keeping you safe and

Joann, who could be so heartless as to unleash such a vicious attack upon you!"

the usual time for hustle and bustle,

radio broadcasted the latest

been an explosion in the underground parking lot of Greenwick

of the Haynes Group! She has been rushed to Greyport Hospital for emergency treatment, and her life hangs in the balance." "The police have now launched an investigation into what appears to be a terrorist

Boom!

spun upon

Residential Complex, chairman of the Haynes

heart pounded with unease as he swiftly retrieved his phone to call

Ring, ring, fing!

dialed her number repeatedly, but Joanna's phone remained

need to go to the hospital, immediately head to Greyport Hospital!"

Mr. Everett!" The driver immediately made a sharp turn, heading toward Greyport Hospital.

Fifteen minutes later!

haste at

inquired, "Nurse, what's the name of the victim in the explosion today?

by Bruce's presence, ... Yes, it

Chapter 324

Jaydon was aware that Joanna was due to arrive today, and he couldn't contain his excitement, staying awake throughout the night in anticipation.

As soon as his alarm went off, he wasted no time and dialed Joanna's number.

Ring, ring, ring!

"Hello, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable. Please try again later..."

Jaydon spent the entire morning attempting to reach Joanna, but all his efforts were in vain. Her phone remained unresponsive.

A foreboding sensation washed over Jaydon, filling his heart with unease.

Joanna wouldn't simply ignore his calls without a valid reason.

Jaydon had carefully planned the timing, calling Joanna before she boarded the plane.

But now, five hours had passed, and Joanna's phone remained consistently unreachable.

Each unanswered call only heightened his sense of dread.

It seemed something significant had occurred.

"Could it be that Bruce has imprisoned Joanna?"

"Has Joann had a change of heart? Is she no longer willing to see me?"

Jaydon was consumed by anxiety, his mind racing with the thought that Bruce might have again caused trouble for Joanna.

Unable to reach Joanna by phone, he also found it impossible to get in touch with Miranda and Tracy, adding to his growing

unease.

As noon approached, Jaydon finally succeeded in reaching Miranda on the phone!

"Hello, Mr. Grimm!"

"Miranda, why haven't you been answering your phone all this time?"

Miranda sniffled and cleared her throat, her voice hoarse. "Oh, I've been at the hospital all this time, I didn't hear the phone ringing!"

Jaydon's brow furrowed in concern. "Why has Joann's phone been consistently unreachable?"

Upon hearing his question, Miranda burst into tears, her sobs intensifying. "Mr. Grimm, something terrible has happened to Joann."

Boom!

Jaydon's heart sank, a wave of unease washing over him. His eyebrows twitched involuntarily. "... What has happened to Joann?"

"Joann has been involved in an accident, and she's currently undergoing critical treatment at the hospital!" Miranda's voice trembled with emotion, her tears flowing freely.

Jaydon's mind went blank, a chilling emptiness settling within him. He felt as though he had been plunged into an icy abyss.

"What's going on? What has happened to Joann?"

Joann was getting ready to head to the airport this morning, but little did she know, there was a bomb planted in her car." "Joann has been critically injured in the explosion and is undergoing life—saving treatment..."

"What?" Jaydon gasped, feeling a chill run down his spine. His mind was buzzing with disbelief.

"How is Joann now? What is her condition?"

Grimm, Joann is currently in the hospital undergoing treatment. She just underwent

condition and needs to be closely

accompanied Miranda's words, but Jaydon couldn't absorb the rest of her

kept reverberating in

couldn't fathom the image

compelled him to try

was completely numb, and his

to the ground with a heavy

carefull Two nurses hurriedly approached to assess

How can we assist

has been involved in

up.

Grimm. please try to remain calm..."

blood rushing through his veins as he exclaimed hoarsely, "I need to fly back right away! Please, help me book a plane ticket as soon

treatment today. The doctor emphasized the importance of maintaining consistency for optimal

me immediately. Find the earliest available one. I have to

I must return to the country right away to be by her side."

to reason with him, urging him to prioritize

up with determination as he raised his voice.

his urgency, the nurses nodded in understanding and replied. "Alright, we will make the arrangements promptly!" Joanna's involvement in such a grave incident left Jaydon in a state of unease, making it impossible for him to remain calm and composed. Without wasting a moment, he

minutes later. "Mr. Grimm, we have secured

the earliest flight available is scheduled for tomorrow at

another two days before he could

way to secure a faster

ticket is for tomorrow

over him. Even if he could arrange a private

for a quicker return was

to wait for me. Please, wait for

happens, I can't let

too devastated. Ms.

deeply, his eyes ablaze

meant to be a day filled with excitement,

such a devastating turn

planted in the car!

of it was unbearable, leaving him unable to

countenance

at that moment q, replaced

her well. He was ready to let go

I need you, and our children need you. How could they ever live

trailed off, struggling to find the right words

immediately and spare no

must bring the culprit to justice, no matter what

"The police have already dispatched experts to investigate. It

a timer connected to the engine. Once the car door was opened, the timer

Chapter 325

[The Haynes Group's chairman Joanna was seriously injured in an explosion, which is suspected to be an act of revenge!]

[The police attach great importance to the explosion. A special task force has been established to investigate the accident.]

[The Haynes Group's chairman has fallen into a deep coma.]

The explosion caused a stir in the entire Greyport. It quickly went viral on the Internet and all the netizens were discussing the incident.

*Heavens! Why is someone trying to kill the Haynes Group's chairman again? Who did she offend?"

"Tsk, tsk! Her stepmother hired someone to kill her half a year ago. Now, someone tried to kill her again!"

"Who did it? It's so brutal!"

"Fortunately, the explosion happened in the morning, and no innocent people were injured."

"I wonder who she offended. Why did that person hate her so much that he even tried to kill her?"

"She has slim chances to survive this time. I heard that she has been unconscious for a few days. To be honest, it would be a pity if she died so young."

"I feel the same way."

Shaun was at home.

Television and online media were full of news of the explosion in the past few days.

So, he already learned about the incident.

After knowing that Joanna was severely injured, he fell silent for two days.

Although he hated his daughter very much, he was not happy at all after knowing that such a thing happened to her.

Derick, on the other hand, was overjoyed. "God is fair! That bitch deserves the punishment!

"God, please let her die as soon as possible!

"As long as she dies, the Haynes Group's shares will return to the Haynes family. We'll take our things back!

"God, please take that damn bitch away right now."

Shaun couldn't take it anymore. "No matter what, she's your sister."

Derick sneered. "She's not my sister. She's our enemy. Dad, didn't you want her to die in the past?

"Justice from God! She was injured in the explosion because God could stand it anymore and punished her in this way."

Shaun let out a long sigh.

Looking at his father's gloomy face, Derick was a little unhappy. "Dad, why are you sad for her?

"Think about how she treated us. If it weren't for her, our family wouldn't have been down—and—out like this. It would be a good thing for us if she died."

hint of gloat flashed across Derick's eyes as he spoke. "Dad, according to the law, as her immediate family, you have

what belongs to us. I can't wait for her to die! It would be great if she died right

shook his

this moment, he was wrestling with

three children were the first heirs to her property. Although he was her father, he

could get a dividend from the Haynes Group every year. If she really died, her inheritance would probably fall into the hands of the Everett family, then he would get nothing.

rather

and thought of himself.

health was poor, and

discuss how to distribute the property

hasn't been home for a long time. Call him and see when he's

"Okay."

up the phone and was about to call Ryan.

the door opened.

back." The servant Fantine walked

gloom on Shaun's face was

Fantine also

jeans and a casual sweater with a backpack

lad with a sunny disposition.

"Dad! Derick!"

finally back! Have you found

"Yes, I've found it. You don't have to

of

in finance, so I found a bank for my internship."

was very happy when he heard

Derick, his second son was well-behaved

to

gratified. "Don't worry

wait to announce the good news. He said excitedly. "Ryan. I have good news for you!"

it?" Ryan asked.

planted a bomb in her car. She was seriously injured and was

and he didn't seem to be

at his indifferent reaction.

has nothing to do with

and our sister wouldn't have suffered so much. It's all because of her that our family has become

dies 100 times, it doesn't make us hate her

I really want to thank the person who planted the bomb in her car. But that damned bitch is so lucky that she didn't die instantly when the bomb went off.

when

I'm going back to

you busy with all day long? Why are you

home?"

I'm about to graduate, so I need to prepare my thesis and my graduation exams. I've been

Go ahead then."

that.

have a chance to talk about dividing up the family assets.

going back to the

Chapter 326

Shaun could only ask the nurse. "Miss, how is the patient? When will she wake up?"

The nurse paused for a while before she answered politely, "I'm not sure yet. The patient is still in the intensive care unit."

"What are her chances of waking up?"

"It's hard to say at the moment. You may ask the doctor."

"Oh. Then please take good care of her." Shaun didn't know what to say.

"Mr. Haynes, don't worry. We will do our best."

Now that the hospital was run by Bruce, the doctors and nurses would do their best to treat and take care of Joanna of

course.

What's more, Bruce was personally watching outside the intensive care unit. No one would dare to make the slightest. mistake.

Shaun sighed and compressed his lips, forcing back the words that sprang to his lips.

It would be useless no matter what he said now.

No one welcomed him here, so he was too embarrassed to stay any longer.

"Then I'll go back. Let me know if there's any news."

"Okay."

The maid wheeled Shaun out of the hospital.

Bruce turned to Jaydon. The more he looked at him, the angrier he became. "Someone may leave too. There's no need for him to stay here."

Jaydon heard his every word clearly.

He was not someone who could swallow humiliation.

Like a volcano erupting suddenly, he lost his temper and roared, "You're the one who should go back! I'm Joann's fiance. It's only right for me to stay here to wait for her to wake up!"

Bruce frowned coldly. "Hmph! Joanna is the mother of my children. The children are the fruit of our love. Who do you think you are?"

Jaydon took a deep breath. "Bruce, don't be arrogant!"

Bruce suddenly stood up. "Jaydon, it's all your fault!

"If you were not crippled, I would have killed you with a punch!

"If it weren't for you, Joanna wouldn't have ended up like this. If it weren't for you, such a thing wouldn't have happened!"

Indeed, if Jaydon hadn't come between them, he would not be jealous and even lose his temper at Joanna.

If he hadn't kicked Joanna out of the Everett family's house, she would not have encountered such a catastrophe.

Therefore, in Bruce's mind, Jaydon should be blamed for all this. He indirectly caused Joanna's injury.

Jaydon was infuriated by his irrationality. "Bruce, you are the one who caused Joann to end up like this!

"If it weren't for you, Joann and I would have gotten married long ago! You're the one who destroyed her life. You deserve to die!"

Miranda grew sense when she saw the two of them about to argue again. "Mr. Everett, Mr. Grimm, we're in the hospital now. Stop arguing!

don't you go back to rest for a while?

take care of everything here.

was explosive, so Miranda wanted him

wakes up!"

she did not dare to persuade him

the office for three days

his boss well and didn't dare to say

"Beep! Beep! Beep!"

Andy's phone suddenly rang. He took out

out

"Go ahead."

and walked out

the other end of the line. She asked

for a while, Andy unwittingly

Martha call him?

called Bruce, but he didn't

you get my phone number?"

desk of your company and got your

see! What's the matter?"

him?

а

hurried to Bruce, and whispered, "Mr. Everett, Princess

Bruce frowned.

had been so anxious that he did not have the mood to answer anyone's calls.

to find

```
"Hey, Martha!"
of the line. "Bruce, why didn't you
Why don't you
in trouble."
would come to Novlis to see my father. I've told my father about it. How can you go back
you really care about
voice, his eyebrows furrowed tightly. "Martha, I'm sorry!"
want your apology. I just want a
not be able
Martha was
himself and said, "I... I
don't want to marry me?"
have no plans to get
Martha fell silent.
not expect Bruce to be reluctant to
be overjoyed to marry her. After all, she
dreamed of marrying a princess.
are you serious?
"Answer me!"
heartbroken. I won't accept
took a deep breath. "I'm okay with it if you
with you! I love you. I really
"I'm really sorry!"
can tell me. I'm willing to change for
in a hoarse voice, "Martha, our relationship is developing too
down
Chapter 327
Bruce could not hold back his tears anymore.
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Sometimes, death came all of a sudden.

In the face of it, people didn't care about the things they used to care about very much. If he could turn back time, Bruce would definitely cherish Joanna's love for him, and would not allow their relationship to end up like this.

"Joanna, do you know how much I love you? I admit that I'm not a good man.

"I'm a jerk. I've done a lot of things that hurt you. I know I deserve to die and that many people want me to die.

"I'm really willing to die if you can wake up. But why have you never believed me? Why don't you believe that I love you?"

Joanna had never believed that Bruce would really love her.

Therefore, no matter what he did, she refused to accept his love. She also refused to open her heart to him and let him enter her world again.

Joanna lay on the sickbed without moving. There was a deep wound on the back of her head from the glass shards, and her head was wrapped in a thick layer of gauze.

After Bruce stayed in the intensive care unit for 10 minutes, the doctor came in.

"Mr. Everett, the patient needs a quiet environment. You'd better not be here for too long.

"Got it. Bruce took a deep breath and struggled to calm himself down before he left the intensive care unit with a gloomy

face.

When Jaydon saw him come out, a murderous look flashed across his eyes.

"Bruce is so annoying. He must have been sent by God to punish me!" he thought angrily.

No matter how outstanding Jaydon was, Bruce could always find a way to suppress him. Jaydon hated this man, but he just did not know how to deal with him.

Overwhelmed by jealousy and frustration, he was not in the mood to keep his gentlemanly demeanor.

Seeing Bruce walk out of the ward, Andy immediately handed the phone to him. "Mr. Everett, it's the butler!"

When Bruce heard this, he immediately took the phone. "Hello!"

On the other end of the line, the butler Gael said in a deep voice, "Mr. Everett, Lilia was very worried about you and had been asking me to call you. So, I could only make a phone call."

"Give the phone to Lilia."

"Okay" Gael immediately handed the phone to Lilia.

Lilia took the phone and said in a sweet voice, "Dad, you've been out for a long time. Why don't you come back?"

Bruce paused, not knowing how to comfort his daughter. "Well, Dad is busy."

are you on a business trip? When are you coming back? I

to deal with and can't go home for the

see that beautiful lady again! You don't want me anymore."

How could not want you? Dad loves you

two naughty boys, Bruce loved

to see us

every week, she would

had not called the children for four days since the

Bruce heard this, tears sprang to his eyes again. "Lilia, be good

will go home tonight to accompany

"Qkay!"

"Gotta hang up.

Dad." After saying that, Lilia kissed the phone.

ached even more. He had left the children at home for four days and never called them during this period. No matter what, he would

Irvin returned from

faces as if they

sitting in a special automatic wheelchair. She pressed the button on the remote to make the wheelchair quickly move toward her brothers. "Davian, Irvin, you guys are

"Yup!"

with concern, "You don't look

a solemn look on his chubby

worriedly, "We heard bad news in kindergarten

"Bad news?"

in Greenwick Residential Complex, and someone was seriously injured. The person who was injured seems

the terrible news. "The Haynes

has never called us in the past four days. Could the

frowned and shook his

up and

but no one answered. I can't get through to Miranda

we

don't we call Dad to ask about

dare to call him. Dad has an explosive temper. If I said something wrong, he would definitely lash out at

he would be back tonight. We'll ask him when he's back."

He had not been home for

him today, he would be waiting at the hospital

kids were waiting for him on the sofa

"Dad, you're back!"

replied in a muffled voice. His gloomy face

looked at him

servant. When he saw the children's strange expressions, he could not help but ask, "What's wrong? Why do you

that something happened to Mom. Is that

face darkened. "Who

not to tell the children about

Chapter 328

"You bad man! I hate you. You're not my dad. I want Mom!"

"Be good! Or you'll get more punishment!"

Lilia was terrified and kept pleading for her brother, "Dad, don't hit Davian anymore. Boohoo......."

Davian, come on, apologize to Dad. Say that you won't do it again!" Irvin was timid but smart. If he were Davian, he would apologize right away to avoid getting hit.

He was terrified to see his brother being beaten up by their father.

"Hurry up and tell Dad that you know your mistake!"

Davian was stubborn. Even though his butt hurt, he refused to give in. "You want me to apologize to this baddie? No way!"

Bruce was so angry that he spanked the boy again.

"Dad, don't hit Davian anymore! I'm begging you. Don't hit him anymore."

Gael couldn't stand it anymore and tried to stop Bruce. "Mr. Everett, don't hit Davian anymore. You're strong. What if you injured him by accident?"

"Do you know your mistake?" Bruce spanked Davian twice more.

The boy was still so young, yet he already dared to challenge his father. What would happen when he grew up?

Bruce did not approve of the use of violence to discipline children, but the kid would not listen to him if he tried to reason with him. What's more, he had a hard time controlling himself when he was in a rage.

"Thump!" Lilia fell from the wheelchair.

She burst into tears the moment her head banged on the floor.

Bruce's heart ached when he saw that. He hurriedly let go of Davian and rushed up to his daughter.

"Lilia! Sweetie, are you alright?" Bruce held his daughter in his arms and comforted her gently.

"Boohoo!"

"Come on, show me where you got hit."

Bruce took a close look and saw Lilia's forehead gradually swell up.

It made his heart ache even more. He hurriedly stroked her forehead and blew on it.

"Good girl, does it hurt? Dad will massage it for you."

Lilia looked up at him, her eyes full of tears. "Dad, can you stop hitting Davian?"

Davian felt a twinge in his heart when he saw his sister fall. He walked up to check on her as well. "Lilia, are you alright?"

"I'm fine."

Davian didn't cry after having been spanked so many times.

However, when he saw his sister deliberately fall out of the wheelchair to help him out and even get such a huge bump on her forehead, he couldn't hold back his tears anymore.

"Lilia, it's all my fault. I didn't protect you well."

accidentally fell down."

"Boohoo..."

crying children, Bruce felt even

was their mother. If she died, no one could replace her in their

you listen to

promise we'll be good. We're very worried about Mom and want to go

we get to the

Don't worry, Dad. We'll

"Then go have dinner now. Go to bed early after you are done today. I will take kids did not dare to cry anymore and went to eat as to see Joanna in the intensive care unit. will you hand tightly, heartbroken. know why, but it seemed to be especially hard if he wanted to be with Joanna. So much had happened since met. Now, me that you will wake up. We have to be strong!" caressed Joanna's pale face, tears streaming down his face and dripping onto the rolling down hear what Jaydon and Bruce said to her. open her eyes. It was as if she was possessed the corners of Joanna's eyes, his chest tightened. He leaned close to her regained your consciousness, right?" corners of Joanna's eyes, but she strong. You must you would marry me you can't break your promise! Jaydon became more and more he saw Joanna's abnormal heart get out crying. She can hear me. She has regained her he was so agitated, the doctor said, her too emotional. There's coagulated blood in her brain, and

moment for the patient's recovery. Don't make her have emotional fluctuation. Otherwise, it will be bad

for the

"Oh,
and wait outside."
slept for so long. Wake up quickly. I'm waiting for
pushed out of the intensive care
the ward, he received a call
"Hello!"
you came back from
"Yes, Dad."
"How have you
been?"

after hearing this.

like him, but not in every

I came back to

and affectionate as him but not as cold

saw, and it was impossible for him to

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"Alright, you've already seen Mom. Hurry up and go home...

"Lilian, take the kids home."

"We're not leaving. We want to stay with Mom."

Bruce put on a serious look, saying, "No, you can't stay here because it will affect your mom's recovery. Go home right now.

I promise I will bring you to see Mom again when she wakes up."

Irvin tugged at Davian's sleeve and whispered, "Davian, let's go! We'll go back and investigate the bad guy who hurt Mom."

Davian nodded hard when he heard this. "Bye, Mom!"

As soon as Davian and Irvin returned to Sherane Bay Villa, they immediately went to the computer room.

Davian turned on the computer and started hacking.

Irvin kept an eye out for anyone approaching the room and helped his brother when he was in need. "Davian, will it be very difficult to restore the data?"

Davian stared at the computer screen, saying, "No matter how difficult it is, I will restore the data to find the murderer and avenge Mom."

"Davian, you can do it!"

"Yes!" With a solemn expression on Davian's chubby face, he looked intently at the computer screen and quickly typed on the keyboard.

A short while later, he broke through the firewall and hacked into the city's surveillance data system.

Davian checked the surveillance clips of the street near the car-repairing shop.

No one had ever driven Joanna's car after it was repaired.

So the murderer was very likely to plant the bomb in the repair shop.

Unfortunately, the surveillance data of the street had been erased. Even if they were sure that the murderer had planted the bomb in the car when it was assembled in the repair shop, they would not be able to find out who did it.

If they wanted to find some clues, they had to restore all the data.

Davian was working on it. But as the workload was huge, there was no way he could restore all the data in one or two days.

Five days passed in the blink of an eye.

Joanna had been lying in the intensive care unit for nine days, and the clot in her cerebral cortex had almost been completely absorbed.

However, she was still in a coma.

It was Joanna's ninth day in the hospital. Bruce's phone rang crazily again.

Princess Martha called him countless times, but he never answered. She then bombed him with messages.

[Bruce, I'm at Greyport airport now. I want you to pick me up. If you don't come, I'll jump down from the building at the airport.]

message made Bruce extremely

the most when women

the past, and

the time being. Come on, go back to Novlis first.]

me, you know what will happen!] Bruce could tell from Martha's voice message that she was very emotional now.

be

battery. I'll give you half an hour. If you don't come, I'll jump off the roof of the

"Women are really then turned to Andy and said, "Andy, stay here and keep Mr. of the intensive to hold on. I have something to deal with and will be back the side could not help but mock him. "Hurry up and go ahead with your business! Joann doesn't need you to be here!" shot Jaydon a cold glare, not wanting to in a low voice, "Mr. Grimm, you've been waiting here for a long back and rest. I'll call you added, "That's right. Mr. Grimm, you've been in the hospital for body will break down if you continue like this. You should go back and bodyguards all whole week. Since he was here, past go back and here to keep ww here. You guys go back and rest for a day. Then, switch to two shifts and Mr. Grimm!" so grateful that they almost burst into crying. Jaydon only kept one first person you see outside the intensive to the airport. sitting alone on the bench at the airport Bruce called out in Martha was overjoyed to

are you doing this? Go home now. I'll go meet you after I'm done with

I knew you would come.

longer believed him. She shook her head vigorously and said, "No, I'm

marry you! Without you, I feel like life is meaningless. I will die without you!" With that, Princess Martha began to cry.

around, afraid that the media would take photos of them. "Let's

heard that, she sniffled and followed him out.

Click!" Not far away, a few

Bruce was worried

Princess Martha and him hugging

a global sensation. In less than 24 hours, even the netizens abroad began to discuss

Novlis are secretly dating and were seen

Everett

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Now, even if Bruce wanted to deny it, no one would believe him.

Half an hour later, he arrived at the hospital.

Seeing that Bruce was here again, Jaydon frowned with disgust. "Bruce, what are you doing here?"

Bruce immediately shot back, "I own the hospital. I can come whenever I want. Why should I explain to you?"

Jaydon took a deep breath. He had also seen the news. "Bruce, don't be too greedy. You already started a new relationship. and the girl is a princess. You should focus on your new relationship."

"Jaydon, shut the fuck up! I don't need you to tell me what to do."

"You'd better stop pestering Joann. A womanizer like you is not worthy of her at all."

Bruce sneered and retorted, "Did I hear wrongly? You're calling me a womanizer?

"I don't have so many women as you do!"

Jaydon sneered.

"That's all in the past! If Joann marries me, I'll only love her for the rest of my life. I'm willing to give up everything for her. Can you do it?

"If you really love Joann, you wouldn't be entangled with Princess Martha! At the end of the day, the person you love the most is yourself!"

When Bruce heard this, his face turned ashen and his chest heaved violently.

If it was in the past, he would have beaten Jaydon up.

He didn't know why, but this year, his temper became less explosive and he was much more tolerant than before. It was probably because people became mature when they were about 30 years old and their temper would turn milder accordingly. He would shudder when he occasionally thought of what he had done and how unruly he had been before When the two were arguing, a doctor in a white gown and mask walked over followed by four serious—looking nurses. The doctor glanced at the two of them and warned them sternly, "You're in the hospital now. Please don't make too much noise. It will affect the patients."

"Hmph!" Bruce and Jaydon looked at each other with disdain.

"Doctor, when will Joanna wake up?"

"If she continues to sleep like this, will she become a vegetable?"

The doctor replied with a serious expression. "The patient is in critical condition and needs to undergo emergency surgery. "Calm down. You don't have to worry too much."

Bruce and Jaydon were both stunned.

The doctor seemed to be a little strange.

Without saying anything else, he walked into the intensive care unit with the nurses.

A short while later, they wheeled Joanna out.

Jaydon asked nervously. "Doctor, where are you going to do the surgery?

"You didn't say anything about the surgery before."

"We observed in the monitoring room and found there was something wrong with the patient's heart. We have to operate on her immediately."

"We're taking the patient to the operation room. Please get out of the way."

As they spoke, the nurses wheeled Joanna to the other end of the corridor.

Bruce unwittingly wanted to go with them, but the doctor immediately warned him, "Don't come with us. It'll affect my performance in the surgery."

Bruce was even more suspicious.

something

is this doctor?" It was rare

to Mr. Carter's office and have

hurried to the doctor's oflice.

"Mr.

"What?"

on duty were knocked

no! That man who spoke to us just now is him! Hurry the lead to run in the direction the doctor had legs couldn't move now, so there was no way he could catch up with those bodyguards also swarmed toward the end of the point, the four fake nurses were about to wheel Joanna into right there!" Bruce shouted. "Bam! Bam Bam..." had been found out, two "nurses" immediately took out their pistols and fired a few shots at the bodyguard was hit and fell to the floor. also was still lying on the wheeled stretcher. Under the violent impact, she suddenly opened her eyes buzzed and everything in front of her was blurry to her, but she knew what had just she had woken up, he immediately turned around beat. She rolled down from the wheeled stretcher with to the The shot missed. face darkened. Just as he was about to fire a bodyguards took out their stun guns and pulled the triggers, aiming at the gangsters. two fake nurses were knocked out by the electric pounced over to check on Joanna. still finally awake! Everett, he's and catch up with him!" With that, Bruce turned to Joanna again. He hugged Joanna tightly her off the floor. Dogfor! Joanna

security guards on duty all came over.

is awake. Hurry up and transfer her

anxiety. He really wanted to rush over to snatch Joanna from Bruce's

being carried

arrange for an ambulance at once and transfer Joanna

"Alright, Mr. Everett!"

"Alright,

and nurses quickly put

ambulance whizzed towards St Mary's with a roar.