

## CEOs Baby 1781

### Chapter 1781: The Drastic Change in Nox

The smile on Shelly's face gradually faded. She did not know why, but she started to feel that Nox had changed for the better, and she seemed to have started to accept him.

She gritted her teeth, not wanting to think too much about it. Seeing that Nox had finished his meal, she took the initiative to clear the plates.

"I'll do it." Nox shouted at Shelly, "Since I've cooked, let me do the dishes as well."

Shelly frowned. Did Nox's personality change today? What was he trying to do? She found it very unusual. Moreover, it was not the weekend. Did he not need to go to work today? Shelly had many questions, but in the end, she kept it all to herself.

She sat on the sofa and watched Nox busy himself. Although his movements were a little clumsy, she could tell that he was trying his best to adapt to the situation. Hence, she turned around and decided not to look.

She was afraid that it would stir up some emotions in her. In fact, she was even more terrified that she would develop a good impression of him, so she decided to watch some TV on the sofa.

While she was watching, her phone suddenly rang. Shelly glanced at the caller ID. Even though the number had been deleted, she could recognize the string of numbers. She could not help but glance at Nox, who was still busy in the kitchen. Then, she picked up the phone and walked to the balcony outside the living room.

Nox glanced at Shelly. In the end, he did not say anything and just smiled bitterly. Only God knew that when she was drunk and called out Benjamin's name last night, his heart shattered into pieces. He could not help but get someone to check if Benjamin was back, and sure enough, Benjamin was back. Therefore, Shelly and Benjamin met last night.

Shelly would not usually come back so late at night, but she did last night. On top of that, she had never been a woman who would get herself so drunk, but she was really drunk last night. There were too

many abnormalities, and it turned out to be because she saw Benjamin, whom she had not seen for a long time.

He lowered his head and continued to wash the dishes seriously. Even though he could guess who the call was from, he was still trying to make himself look indifferent.

Shelly answered the call. "Hello." "Are you awake?" the other party asked.

"I just woke up."

"You were drunk last night."

"Yeah, I thought I wasn't drunk, but when I went back, I was so drunk. I can't remember much from last night as well. I really can't drink like this next time." n0veLUsb.c0m

The other party seemed to chuckle. "I tried to tell you that last night, but you didn't listen to me."

"I didn't anticipate the aftereffects to be so bad."

"Are you feeling better now?"

"Much better." Shelly nodded.

The conversation between the two of them was so easy-going and calm. Nox could not see her clearly from afar, but he was certain that Shelly was smiling the entire time.

"Oh, right." Shelly asked, "Did you call me just to ask how I was today?"

"No. Sarah drank too much last night, and I just received a call from the private room saying that she had dropped her phone at the nightclub. After asking around, I found out that it should be Sarah's. But

since Sarah's phone is at the nightclub, no one can contact her, so I'm calling you to see if it's okay for you to send it to Sarah or how to contact her.”

“Did you leave it at the front desk?”

“Yes.”

“In that case, I'll go get it and send it to her later.”

“Will it be too much trouble for you?” Benjamin asked with concern.

“No, I don't have anything to do at home anyway. Besides, I have to pick Bella up from school later, so

I just need to leave a little earlier.” “Thank you.” Benjamin was very polite.

“No trouble at all.”

“Then... If there's nothing else, I'll hang up now,” Benjamin said. It seemed like they were deliberately keeping a distance from each other.

“Bye-bye.”

“Bye-bye.”

After hanging up the phone, Shelly was still in a daze as she looked at her phone. She felt differently toward Benjamin than others.

She took a deep breath. Of course, she did not want to repeat the same mistake since Benjamin's family could not accept her. Before Benjamin made a career for himself, she did not think she was worthy of him. Now, she was even more unworthy.

She put down her phone and turned around to walk into the living room. By then, Nox had washed the dishes, and Shelly instinctively went to the kitchen to clean up..

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She always felt that Nox was not meticulous enough in cleaning up. However, when she walked over and saw the clean and tidy kitchen, she was stunned. When did Nox become so capable? He knew nothing about housework, did he not?

She turned to look at Nox, who had walked to the laundry room, and could not help but follow. Nox took out the clothes he had washed from the dryer one by one. She even saw her underwear. For some reason, she felt a little awkward.

She could not help but ask, "Nox, what's wrong?"

Nox was stunned. He turned to look at Shelly with a baffled expression, which made Shelly feel even more awkward. She said, "Why are you suddenly doing all this?"

"On a whim."

No one would do housework on a whim. Did he not play video games in his free time?

"Oh." Shelly did not know how to answer him.

In any case, she would take it that he suddenly went crazy and that his sudden impulse would only last for a day at most.

She watched as Nox took out the clothes and put them back into the closet. Then, he started to clean the house, and it made Shelly feel like Nox was possessed. Otherwise, how could a person change so much?

While she watched Nox busy himself, Nox was actually getting a little impatient. After all, he did not like housework. However, because Shelly's eyes were all on him now, he was glad he did the work. Normally, Shelly would not look at him, let alone make eye contact with him.

After a while of watching Nox, Shelly suddenly returned to her room, and Nox watched as Shelly left. Ultimately, Shelly's patience with him was limited.

Shelly returned to her room, changed her clothes, and prepared to go out. Bella would end school early in the afternoon, so she had to pass the phone to Sarah earlier. Otherwise, she would be late to pick Bella up.

Once she got changed and was about to go out, she looked at herself in the mirror. She would not know if she did not look, but she was shocked by what she saw. It was because she looked very pale, especially her lips. If she walked out, people might think that she was malnourished.

Shelly pondered for a while and looked at the time before starting to put on some makeup at the dressing cabinet. It was rare for her to put on a full face of makeup, but her complexion was horrible. Besides, she had to pick up Bella later, and she could not embarrass Bella.

She fiddled with the makeup for a while. After making sure that the person in the mirror no longer looked weak and was even a little too good-looking, she got up and walked out of the bedroom.

At that time, Nox happened to have completed all the housework at home and was leaning back on the sofa, looking a little tired. When he saw Shelly walk out of the room, he could spot the difference.  
n0veLUsb.c0M

He rarely saw Shelly put on makeup, and even if she did, it would be extremely light makeup. However, she looked extra gorgeous today. He had to admit that it suited Shelly very well. Especially with Shelly's beautiful post-plastic surgery face, a little embellishment would make her look stunning.

Today, she looked very good. Even though it was not for him but for the person she liked, he was not sad about it. At the end of the day, he had prepared himself for it.

Shelly walked straight to the door. "I need to go out to sort something out for a while."

“Do you need me to go pick Bella up?”

“No need.” Shelly shook her head. “I’ll go pick her up later.” “Okay,” Nox replied. “Will you be back for dinner tonight?”

“Yes,” Shelly replied.

She would come back after picking Bella up and did not plan to stay out for dinner.

“In that case, I’ll wait for you.”

“Alright,” Shelly responded faintly.

Nox even wondered whether Shelly heard what he was saying and whether her reply was just perfunctory.

When the door was closed, Nox leaned against the sofa and stared blankly into space. In the future, he would have to get used to seeing Shelly with another man.

Shelly took a taxi to the nightclub to get Sarah's phone before heading to Sarah's apartment.

She knocked on the door, and it was Brandon who opened the door. Shelly felt a little awkward. After all, it was a little unexpected for a man to open the door.

Brandon asked, “Are you looking for Sarah?”

“Oh, yeah.” Shelly nodded. “She left her phone at the nightclub, and no one can contact her, so I brought it to her..”

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"Alright, thank you." Brandon took it and said casually, "Do you want to come in and have a seat?"

"Where's Sarah?" Shelly could not help but ask.

"She's still asleep," Brandon said.

"She's still asleep at this hour?" Shelly was surprised.

She thought she woke up late, but Sarah was still asleep.

"She's too tired from last night, so I let her sleep a little longer today," Brandon blurted out.

After Brandon said it, Shelly felt so awkward. No matter how innocent an adult was, they would know what "tired" meant. As expected, they were just joking around when they said they had broken up.

Brandon also felt a little... embarrassed after he said it out loud. After all, he was not too familiar with Shelly.

The two of them stood in awkward silence for a few seconds before Shelly quickly said, "Since Sarah is still asleep, I won't disturb her. Just pass her the phone for me, and I'll head off now."

"Alright, thank you."

"You're welcome."

Shelly quickly left, feeling extremely awkward.

Brandon looked at Shelly and could not help but smile. He could not believe that Nox, who was such an unrestrained person, would fall in love with an innocent person like Shelly. It made him see Nox in a different light. Then, he returned to the room with his phone.

In the bedroom, Sarah finally opened her eyes in a daze. For a second, she felt her mind go blank as she stared straight at Brandon, who had suddenly pushed open the door and entered.

Seeing that he was wearing her pajamas, she lowered her head and saw that she was naked under the blanket.

“Ahhh!” Sarah shouted.

Brandon frowned. His eardrums were about to burst from Sarah's shout.

“Haven't you shouted enough last night?” Brandon asked softly.

Only then did Sarah remember what happened last night.

'F\*ck!' she cursed secretly. She could not believe that she had slept with Brandon again while she was drunk!

Why could she not control herself when she was drunk? She had clearly broken up with the man.

“Do you remember now?” Brandon smiled.

“So what if I do? I was drunk last night and couldn't control myself, but so what? Since we've broken up, you should leave my house now,” Sarah urged.

“So you don't plan on taking responsibility for what you did.”

“Take responsibility, my \*ss. You're a grown man. Why should I take responsibility for you? I repeat, I was drunk last night and didn't know what I was doing. I made a mistake that men and women easily make. It was meaningless to me.” “But I wasn't drunk,” Brandon said bluntly.

Sarah was stunned.

“So, I knew what I was doing last night.” n0veLUsb.c0M

‘What exactly do you want?’ Sarah looked at him.

He had an expression that said, ‘If worse comes to worst, we'll perish together.’

“I just want to tell you that everything I did to you was done under circumstances where I was clear-minded and rational. I wasn't out of my mind.”

“So what?”

“That includes our first time,” Brandon said bluntly.

Sarah was stunned again.

“It's impossible for a man to... do that when he's really drunk.” Brandon said, “That's why I knew what I was doing to you the first time. Although I grew up abroad, I'm not a casual man. To put it bluntly, the last time was your first time, and so was mine.”

She had never thought that Brandon would still be a virgin at his age! She could tell that he had never slept with her cousin, but she did not expect to learn that he had never slept with anyone.

“Sarah, I'm serious about you.” Brandon became much more affectionate. “I'm cold to you not because I don't like you, but because I'm really busy. I have at least a hundred documents on my phone that need to be approved.”

Sarah pursed her lips when she realized that was why he accused her of being unreasonable.

"I'm not saying you should forgive me because I'm very busy. I'm just telling you that I didn't mean to be cold to you. I hope you can forgive me." Brandon said seriously.

He was also looking with such intense affection that Sarah was certain he had been possessed. She thought Brandon was in love with her cousin, so how could he confess to her so affectionately?

The moment she did not react, Brandon suddenly walked over and sat in front of her. Sarah instinctively wrapped herself tightly in the blanket, trying to protect herself. She found the distance between the two of them was too dangerous.

"Sarah, I don't know if I liked you because of Monica, but I can be sure now that I've let go of Monica and fallen in love with you." Brandon held the back of Sarah's head. "So, let's not break up. Let's start over, okay?"

Sarah was stunned. His sudden confession had caught her off guard, and she could not resist him! In fact, she could feel her heart beating very fast. She had originally planned on cutting all ties with that fellow and go their separate ways. Yet now, they were on the same bed, and she was even being confessed to.

Sarah pursed her lips unconsciously, which made Brandon's sexy Adam's apple move. As he really could not take it anymore, he exerted a little strength in his palm, and Sarah leaned forward. Then, their lips touched and developed into a passionate kiss. It was so hot that she felt as if a ball of fire was burning on her body..

Chapter 1784: A Forced Relationship Won't Last

After Shelly left Sarah's house, she went straight to Bella's kindergarten. As it was about time she made her way over, she took the bus there.

In fact, it had been a long time since she had taken a bus. Bella's kindergarten was so close to home that they could walk there, and since she rarely went to other places, she would take a taxi sometimes when she had to. However, she thought she would take the bus today since she was a little early.

She looked at the scenery of South Hampton City outside the window. If Nox did not go back on his word, in less than a month, she would leave Nox and go back to living her original life with Bella.

Suddenly, she felt somewhat emotional. She could not seem to pinpoint if it was because she was so happy that she was feeling sad.

After the bus arrived at Bella's kindergarten, Shelly waited for a while before Bella walked out with her small school bag and jumped into Shelly's arms excitedly. "Mommy."

Shelly smiled at Bella and patted Bella's head lovingly. She said to Bella, "Are you happy at school?"

"Yes, I have a lot of friends to play with." Bella hurriedly nodded and even talked non-stop about what happened at school.

At some point in time, Bella had become much more lively and cheerful. She was no longer as self-abased and introverted as before. Shelly thought about it carefully and realized that ever since Nox accompanied her to the sports day, Bella seemed to have changed completely.

At that thought, Shelly sighed and held Bella's hand as they went back.

When they passed by the newly opened chicken shop outside the school, Bella got a little greedy. "Mommy, I want fried chicken."

"Bella, you can have fried chicken once in a while, but eating it too often isn't good for you, and it can affect your growth."

"But Mom, I haven't had it for a long time. I really want some fried chicken and fries," Bella said pitifully.

Shelly hesitated. Bella had never made any requests of her since she was young, and most of the time, her heart would ache because of how sensible Bella was. Now, seeing Bella's expectant gaze, she finally gave in.

She said, "I can take you out to have fried chicken, but you have to promise me that if you eat it today, you won't ask for more tomorrow. You can't have fried chicken every day. It's not good for little kids like you."

"I promise you that I won't ask for it tomorrow." Bella nodded, looking very serious.

Shelly was amused by her, and they walked into the chicken shop hand in hand. After the two of them ate slowly, Bella would usually play in the children's area of the chicken shop for a while. During that time, Shelly would sit in the shop, look at her phone, and quietly accompany Bella. n0vElusB.cOM

At around 7 p.m., Shelly called Bella back. As Bella had to go to kindergarten tomorrow, she could not stay out for too long. Besides, after all these years, Bella had developed the habit of going to bed early and waking up early.

Daddy."

Shelly was stunned. At that moment, she remembered Nox asking her if she would be back for dinner tonight and she casually said she would, not expecting Bella to request to have fried chicken.

She felt a little guilty about that, but on second thought, Nox did not call her either. Hence, he probably knew how to settle dinner himself. With that in mind, she returned home with Bella.

At home, Nox was alone, watching TV in the living room.

Seeing that Shelly and Bella had returned, he casually asked, "Have you eaten dinner?"

"We have." Shelly said, "Bella wanted to have fried chicken, and there was a restaurant not far from the kindergarten, so I brought Bella to have dinner."

"Yes," Nox replied without much emotion.

Shelly wondered whether it was all her imagination, but it seemed like Nox had not lost his temper in a long time. Logically speaking, it was abnormal for a hot-tempered man like Nox to not have a temper!

“Have you eaten?” Shelly asked him.

“Yes,” Nox said lightly.

“That's good.” Shelly seemed relieved. She was really afraid that Nox was waiting for her to have dinner.

After that, she added, “In that case, I'll take Bella to her room to wash up.”

Nox nodded again, and Shelly brought Bella into Bei's room. Then, Nox stood up from the sofa, walked into the kitchen, poured all the food that he had made tonight into the sink, and cleaned up all the food that he had cooked for the entire afternoon..

Chapter 1785: A Forced Relationship Won't Last

Once he had cleaned up the kitchen, he went straight back to his room. When he came out of the shower, Shelly had also returned to the room after putting Bella to sleep. The two of them did not communicate much. Since Shelly would not take the initiative to talk to him, Nox gradually became less proactive.

After Shelly came out of the shower, her phone suddenly rang. She glanced at the caller ID and smiled brightly. It was a smile that she would show anybody but Nox.

He watched as Shelly took her phone and put on a bathrobe to go to the balcony outside the room to answer the call. With the floor-to-ceiling glass door closed, he could not hear what she was saying at all.

“Sarah, you're finally awake, huh?” Shelly teased.

Sarah blushed and glanced at the man sleeping on his bed. She said, “You came to pass me a phone today.”

"I didn't mean to bother you."

"Shelly."

Shelly teased, "Didn't you say you didn't like Brandon? And that you broke up with him? Don't tell me you guys had a one-night stand last night?"

"Shelly, how could you mock me?"

"I'm not mocking you." Shelly denied it. "Actually, you and Brandon are quite compatible. I can tell that he cares about you a lot."

"I don't know." Sarah was a little confused. "I feel like he still likes my cousin."

"Brandon doesn't seem like that kind of person. If he liked your cousin, he wouldn't be with you. After all, by dating you, he would have to see Monica and Dr. Jones together frequently, and why would he want to torture himself like that? The reason he could accept your cousin's marriage so calmly and get together with you is simply because he has let go of Monica." Shelly comforted Sarah.

Sarah felt better after hearing Shelly's words. She was really afraid that Brandon would still have feelings for her cousin, and she had to admit that she was afraid because she liked him.

"I'm waiting for your wedding invitation," Shelly joked.

"Who said anything about getting married? I haven't had enough fun yet! Give me at least three more years."

"That might not be the case." According to Shelly's understanding of Sarah, once Sarah liked someone, she would want to marry him immediately. nOVelusB.cOm

"Shelly, why are you going against me today?" Sarah complained.

“Alright, I won't say anymore.” Shelly was not a particularly gossipy person. “Anyway, just be with Brandon. It's getting late now, so I'm hanging up.” “Wait a minute.” Sarah quickly stopped her. “What's wrong?”

“About you and Benjamin,” Sarah said bluntly.

Shelly's expression changed slightly, and she said, “There's nothing between us. It's over. Don't worry about it.”

“I can see that Benjamin still likes you very much. Since you also have feelings for him, why don't you give yourself a chance? Nox is really not worth your time.” Sarah was rarely so serious.

“I won't be with Nox, and I won't be with Benjamin. I don't want to hurt him.”

“Hurt him?” Sarah raised her voice. “I'm afraid you're wrong about yourself. Don't you know that women like you are extinct? All men in the world would love to have a good wife and mother like you, but you're afraid that you would hurt him? Shelly, be more confident in yourself!”

“This has nothing to do with my confidence.” Shelly said, “Benjamin's parents will never allow me to be with him. And after breaking up with him that year, I have never thought of getting back together with him. I believe Benjamin thinks so too.”

“If I were you, I would choose to pursue happiness. You'll be marrying Benjamin, not his parents. I don't know why you're so timid.”

Shelly did not explain further. After all, Sarah would never understand her perspective. As someone who was born with a silver spoon and pampered at home, Sarah did not know what reality was.

The way Sarah saw it, as long as she liked a man, she could have him. However, that was not the case for Shelly. From the moment she was born, she did not have many choices.

She said, "Let's not talk about it anymore, Sarah. I know what you want to say to me, and I also know what life I want in the future. You should be with Brandon, and as for my matters, I know how to handle them.."

Chapter 1786: A Forced Relationship Won't Last

"You really do make me worry." Sarah was speechless at how stubborn Shelly was.

Shelly was usually easy to talk to, but when it came to matters of the heart, she would become abnormally stubborn.

After they hung up, Shelly stood on the balcony for a while and felt a little melancholic about her life. It seemed like she had never been able to do anything as she wished since she was young and had been forced to live every day as it was.

She took a deep breath before returning to the room, where Nox was already asleep. It was rare that Nox had been sleeping earlier than usual. His life was very irregular, especially since he was used to nightlife, but unknowingly, Nox had changed many of his habits. Was it because he was getting old?

Nevertheless, Shelly did not take it to heart. She tiptoed onto the bed, afraid of waking Nox up. In reality, Nox was not asleep. He was forcing himself to sleep and did not ask Shelly who she was on the phone with; he did not dare to ask, even though he was mentally prepared.

In the quiet night, Shelly fell asleep very quickly, and her even breathing could be heard not long after. Shelly had a regular schedule, and since it was around the time she went to bed, she could fall asleep very quickly.

He, on the other hand, could not sleep all night. He wondered how long more would he and Shelly be sharing the same bed. He did not even want to sleep because he wanted more time with her.

With that, Nox turned around and pulled Shelly into his arms. Although Shelly squirmed uncomfortably, there was not much resistance. As soon as Nox hugged her body, he felt an instinctive impulse to kiss Shelly and press his lips against hers. n0VelusB.c0m

In the beginning, it was like a dragonfly skimming the surface of the water, but slowly, he could not control himself anymore. As he deepened the kiss, his body started to react.

“Slap!”

In the room that was getting steamy, the sound of a slap suddenly caused the atmosphere in the room to instantly cool down.

Shelly stared at Nox, whose face had turned red, and was completely dumbfounded. In her sleep, she felt like there was a mosquito on her face, so she instinctively slapped it, wanting to kill it. However, she did not expect herself to slap Nox's face instead.

At that moment, she instantly realized what Nox was doing, but she really did not slap him on purpose. She had never resisted when it came to satisfying Nox's needs in bed, and she also knew that she could not resist, but tonight...

Just as she opened her mouth to explain, Nox said, “I'm sorry.”

Shelly's heart skipped a beat, and it seemed to hurt a little. In the past, Nox would fly into a rage, but right now, Nox looked a little sad, as if he had been abandoned. Was it because the lights were too dim that she felt that Nox's spirit had disappeared and that he had become powerless?

“Nox, I...” Shelly wanted to explain.

She really did dream of a big mosquito on her face. It was not her intention to attack him.

“I woke you up.” Nox interrupted her as if he did not want to listen to her explanation. “You should go to bed early.”

As he spoke, Nox turned over and got off Shelly's body. Then, he lay on the side with his back facing Shelly.

Shelly stared at Nox's broad back and could tell that Nox was hurt and angry because of her rejection just now. She wanted to apologize, but she was deterred by Nox's cold back. Perhaps Nox did not lose

his temper right now because he was holding it in. Afraid that Nox would get angrier the more she said, she thought it would be better to... let it be.

Anyway, Nox would be fine in two days, and a man like Nox would never mull over it for more than three days. With that thought in mind, Shelly turned around and went to sleep with her back to Nox.

Nox could feel Shelly turning around. He was hoping that Shelly could reach out and hug him. Even if she did it reluctantly, he would be comforted. However, Shelly chose to turn her back on him and distance herself from him.

For a period of time, Nox and Shelly's interactions were not much different from usual. The days were the same, with Shelly cooking and sending Bella to school while Nox would go to work from nine to five.

After that day, Nox did not cook or wash the dishes anymore. Everything he did that day seemed to be on a whim..

Chapter 1787: A Forced Relationship Won 't Last

Now that the enthusiasm had passed, he was back to his normal self.

After dinner, Shelly received a call.

It was a call from a high school classmate. He said, "Shelly, I'm getting married this Saturday, and I'd like to invite you to my wedding."

Shelly was not familiar with that classmate. However , because they had attended the class reunion that night, they were friends.

Shelly was not someone who would reject such a thing, so she said, "Okay, give me the details, and I'll be there."

"I wanted to send you the wedding invitation in person, but because I'll be a little busy for the next two days, but I've asked Benjamin to send it to you. The details are on there," the other party said.

"Okay." Shelly agreed immediately. "Congratulations in advance."

"Thank you."

Shelly congratulated him a few more times before hanging up. As she hung up the phone, another phone rang.

She looked at Benjamin's call and slowly picked it up. "Hello."

"Shelly, did Anthony call you just now?" Benjamin asked her in a casual tone, which was not much different from him talking to their other classmates.

"He did. He said he's getting married on Saturday and has invited me to the wedding." n0VElusB.c0m

"That kid invited everyone who was at the class reunion. He really knows how to seize the opportunity," Benjamin joked.

"It's rare for us to get married, and it's such a big event in our lives."

"Will you be there?"

"If I have nothing else, I will be there."

"By the way, your wedding invitation is with me. I just got off work, so I'll bring it to you now," Benjamin said bluntly.

"You're only getting off work now?" Shelly raised her eyebrows.

"I've just started working, and there are quite a lot of things to do. It'll be fine once I get familiar with it," Benjamin explained.

Shelly did not ask further. It was not suitable for the two of them to talk about anything too in-depth anyway.

"Where are you staying now?" Benjamin asked.

"It's late. You should go home now and pass it to me when you have time." Shelly said, "You can pass it to me on Saturday."

"Tell me where you're staying now, and I'll see if it's convenient for me to pass it to you. If it's not, I'll pass it to you on Saturday."

Shelly thought about it and told Benjamin the address.

"I live two streets away from you and will pass by your neighborhood on the way back. I'll bring it to you right away. Give me ten minutes." Benjamin made a prompt decision.

He did not discuss it with Shelly. He even hung up the phone after saying that.

Shelly felt helpless. She put down her phone and looked at Nox, who was playing games on the sofa.

Recently, Nox had returned to his usual routine, and he would play games when he had free time.

Seeing that Nox was having fun, Shelly did not disturb him. She went back to her room to change out of her home clothes before walking out of the house. Nox glanced at Shelly's back and tried his best to not think about anything.

Shelly waited at the entrance of the neighborhood for a while before Benjamin drove a black car over and stopped the car beside her. As he opened the car door and got out of the car, Shelly was stunned as she thought Benjamin would take a taxi or walked over.

Benjamin also noticed Shelly's confusion and said, "It's the company's car."

Shelly smiled. "Congratulations."

Benjamin also smiled.

He handed the wedding invitation to Shelly. "There are two here, and one is for Sarah. I won't look for her alone. You can give it to her when the time comes."

"Alright." Shelly took it.

"Will you really be there?" Benjamin asked. "Probably." Shelly said, "What about you?"

"I should be there," Benjamin answered.

Then, the two of them smiled in a similar manner. "It'S getting late. You should head back early."

"Alright." "Don't forget to eat dinner."

"Yes. "

"Bye-bye." Shelly waved her hand and walked away from Benjamin with two wedding invitations in hand.

"Shelly." Benjamin suddenly stopped her.

Shelly turned around. "What's wrong?"

"It's nothing." Benjamin held his tongue. "See you on Saturday."

“Alright.”

As Shelly walked into the neighborhood, her mood changed. She understood Benjamin's hesitation. However, no one broke the silence because once it broke, they would not be able to have each other in their lives anymore.

As for her... she hoped that she could be friends with Benjamin. There was no need for them to become complete strangers. With that thought in mind, Shelly took a deep breath and adjusted her emotions for a long time before striding home.

Meanwhile, Nox saw the entire process of the two of them meeting. He watched as Shelly and Benjamin talked, laughed, and endured the discomfort of being separated. Thinking about it, it was he who ruined their relationship, and he smoked one cigarette after another on the balcony.

When Shelly came back and saw Nox standing on the balcony, she did not disturb him. Nox was a heavy smoker, and she did not like the smell of cigarettes, so she would not usually go near them. Nox turned to look at Shelly's cold back and smiled. In the end, a forced relationship would not last..

Chapter 1788: Shelly Starts to Care About Nox

When Nox finished smoking and was about to return to his room, his phone suddenly rang. Although he did not want to answer it, he still picked it up. “Mom.”

“Nox, have you broken up with Shelly?”

“Aren't there a few days left?” Nox was a little impatient. “Can you stop rushing me? I know what I'm doing.”

“If you knew what you were doing, I wouldn't have to worry so much about you. You're 30 years old, and you don't even have a child of your own. How can I not be worried?”

“There are still ten days. If I can't get Shelly back in ten days, we'll break up, ” Nox said angrily.

Mrs. Winter could tell that Nox was unhappy. She also knew that if she pushed too hard, things might go the other way.

As such, her voice became gentler. “I'm not rushing you. I'm just reminding you that I've arranged a few blind dates for you. You promised me that after you broke up with Shelly, you would go on blind dates and get married.” “I got it.” Nox said, “As soon as we break up, I'll go on those blind dates and do whatever you want.”

“In that case, it's settled.”

“Okay.”

After Nox hung up the phone, he looked up at the sky and suddenly could not help but shout to release his anger.

Shelly, who was in the room, heard it. She glanced at the balcony and frowned, wondering what Nox was up to this time. However, she ignored him. She had never thought of interfering with Nox's affairs; she could not care less.

On Saturday, Shelly went to her classmate's wedding and brought Bella with her. None of the students knew that Bella's daughter was already four years old, so they were all surprised. After all, they were only 22 years old.

Getting married at the age of 22 was rare enough, but Bella was four years old. Everyone was asking who the father was because everyone knew that Shelly did not go for the college entrance exam or stay with the Winters.

Shelly did not answer. However, since Sarah was there, the gossipers stopped asking more questions, and everyone gradually stopped talking about that topic.

Bella ate her food obediently and whispered unhappily to Shelly, “Mom, why didn't you tell them that my father is Nox ”

“Shh.” Shelly covered Bella's mouth.

Bella looked at her mother unhappily. She thought she was lucky to have Nox as her father. She even wanted to show off to the world that she had a father, yet why was her mother so... reluctant to reveal him?

“I will explain to you later. Now, listen to me and be a good girl. Eat your food.”

Bella blinked at Shelly and nodded obediently.

After lunch, the classmates gathered together to play some card games for entertainment. Since Shelly did not know how to play and did not want Bella to come into contact with those things early, she decided to leave early.

Sarah, on the other hand, was very proactive. She was shouting at her classmates to play with her.

When Shelly left with Bella in her arms, Benjamin called her from behind, “Shelly.”

Shelly paused and asked in surprise, “Aren't you playing with them?”

“There are enough people, so I won't join in. Moreover, my card skills are bad.” Benjamin smiled and

“Oh,” Shelly replied.

“Are you leaving?” Benjamin looked at her and asked.

“Yes. I'm thinking of taking Bella home. She has the habit of taking afternoon naps.” “This place is a little remote and not easy to get a taxi. Let me send you guys back.”

“Aren't you going to stay for dinner?”

"I won't. I still have to work overtime in the afternoon, so let's go. It's on the way." Benjamin smiled. While Shelly hesitated, Benjamin had picked Bella up and teased her. "Bella, do you remember me?" Bella looked at Benjamin whom she thought looked familiar but could not recall his name.

"What an ingrate. I even cooked for you. Have you forgotten?" Benjamin pretended to be angry.

Bella thought about it carefully before saying, "Uncle Ben."

"You do remember me!" Benjamin was very happy. "Are you happy that I'm back?"

"I'm happy." Bella smiled brightly.

"I'll send you and your mommy home, okay?"

"Alright." Bella's clear voice rang out as she nodded.

As Benjamin walked in front with Bella in his arms, he turned around and said to Shelly, "Let's go."

Shelly gritted her teeth and followed. She figured she would just treat him as an ordinary friend, so there was no need for her to hold herself back too much.

Benjamin drove them away in his car, but Shelly did not know what to say to him on the way back. She felt that it was a little awkward for the two of them to be alone..

Chapter 1789: Shelly Starts to Care About Nox

"Bella, do you want to have some ice cream?" Benjamin suddenly said to Bella, breaking the silence in the car.

“Yes!” Bella said with her face full of smiles.

“There's a delicious ice cream shop here. I will get down and get some for you later, okay?” Benjamin asked Bella.

“Alright.” Bella was so happy that she almost jumped with joy.

Shelly wanted to stop him, but she held herself back from saying anything. She rarely gave Bella ice cream because she did not think it was healthy. However, in fact, eating a little occasionally was alright.

Therefore, Benjamin went to buy two ice creams — one strawberry flavored for Bella and another chocolate flavored for Shelly.

Shelly looked at Benjamin. “Did you buy this for me?”

“Don't all girls like ice cream?” Benjamin laughed.

Shelly did not know what to say, so she just accepted it. After that, Benjamin sat in the driver's seat and drove them back.

Meanwhile, Bella was eating happily, and Shelly thought it was not bad too. It had been a long time since she had ice cream. For one, she was not a big fan of ice cream, and because she did not want Bella to have too much of it, she stopped having it. However, at that moment, she suddenly found ice cream delicious. She finished it in one go, and so did Bella.

“Is it delicious?” Benjamin asked after they finished eating and Shelly was wiping Bella's sticky hands with a wet tissue.

Bella said excitedly, “It is. Ice cream is my favorite. It's as delicious as fried chicken and fries.”

“Next time you want ice cream, I will bring you here again, okay?”

“Thank you, Uncle.” Bella was over the moon.

Shelly observed their interaction and looked away. She wondered, if there were no ifs, would the current scene become a reality?

When the car arrived at Nox's upscale neighborhood, Benjamin opened the car door for them and carried Bella out of the car.

Bella hugged Benjamin's neck and muttered, “Uncle, you promised me that he would bring Bella to eat ice cream next time.”

“I will definitely fulfill my promise—”

Before he could finish his sentence, Benjamin paused. Shelly followed Benjamin's gaze and saw Nox who was not far away.

It was the afternoon, so why was Nox here? Should he not be lying on the sofa at home? That was how he usually spent his weekends. Occasionally, he would work overtime, but his sudden appearance at the entrance of the neighborhood really surprised her. Besides surprise, it was also a little awkward.

“Daddy!” Bella called out loudly to Nox. Probably only she was unaware of the current atmosphere.

Nox walked toward Benjamin and reached out to Bella, who immediately threw herself into Nox's arms. However, when Nox held her, Benjamin did not let go.

Being held by both Nox and Benjamin, Bella felt rather uncomfortable. Hence, she moved her small body, and only then did Benjamin let go of Bella.

“When did you come back?” Nox asked coldly.

“More than half a month ago,” Benjamin answered.

Nox nodded. Other than that simple greeting, he carried Bella into the neighborhood without saying anything else. He did not even call out to Shelly.

Shelly stared at Nox's back before turning to Benjamin. "Thank you. I'll head back now."

"Shelly." Benjamin stopped her. "Did Nox misunderstand something?"

"He won't." Shelly was certain.

They were going to break up soon, so it did not matter whether it was a misunderstanding or not.

"Do you want me to explain it to him alone?"

"There's no need."

Before Benjamin could say more, Shelly had strode away. He watched as Shelly left anxiously and how they were walking one in front of the other. He did not think it was an illusion when he saw Shelly nervous for a second.

Was she nervous because Nox saw them coming back together? He had always thought that Shelly had no feelings for Nox. With that thought, Benjamin gulped and realized that perhaps time could really change everything.

As Shelly followed Nox back to the house, Nox did not lose his temper, and his expression was the same as usual. However, for some reason, she felt that Nox was angry.

She said, "Benjamin and I happened to be leaving at the same time. I brought Bella back after lunch because she wanted to take a nap, and Benjamin happened to be passing by this area.."

Chapter 1790: Shelly Starts to Care About Nox

“Okay.” Nox replied, “I didn't say anything, so you don't have to explain yourself.”

Shelly pursed her lips.

Nox said, “Didn't you say Bella needs an afternoon nap? Why don't you go take a nap with her? I have something to do.”

“What is it?” Shelly blurted out.

“Do you want to know?” Nox asked.

He may look cold, but deep down, he was very nervous.

Stunned, Shelly said, “No, you can go ahead with your work I'll take a nap with Bella.”

It turned out to be all wishful thinking. Shelly was just asking him casually and did not really care what he was up to. As long as he got a little closer to her, she would distance herself further away.  
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After he walked out of the house and entered the elevator, his phone rang. Nox took a look at it and picked up the call.

“Hello.”

“Mr. Winter, it's me, Benjamin.” Nox's eyes narrowed. “What's the matter?” “I'm downstairs, and I'd like to see you.”

“I'll be right down.” Nox agreed.

In any case, he had seen through everything and could accept any outcome. Hence, he walked to the door.

Benjamin, who was surprised to see Nox come down so quickly, said bluntly, "There's nothing between Shelly and me."

If it were nothing, he would not be explaining himself. However, Nox kept quiet and listened to Benjamin's explanation.

"We're really just ordinary friends. Please don't misunderstand."

"There's no misunderstanding," Nox said bluntly.

However, Benjamin felt that there was a hidden meaning behind Nox's words.

"There's nothing to misunderstand." Nox added, "It's obvious that Shelly likes you."

Benjamin was stunned. He did not expect Nox to be so straightforward. In fact, Shelly had feelings for him... just like how he had feelings for Shelly. They could both feel it, but there were so many objective reasons that they chose to remain silent about it.

"So, there's no need for you to explain yourself."

"But Shelly and I can never be together." Benjamin said bluntly, "My parents won't agree, and I don't want Shelly to feel burdened."

"What if your parents agree?" Nox asked.

"I've never thought about getting back with Shelly."

Nox sneered. If Benjamin had not thought about it, why would he be so involved with Shelly? Whether it was out of courtesy or convenience, if he wanted nothing else to do with her, he would avoid all suspicion. However, Benjamin did not do that, and neither did Shelly.

'Forget it,' Nox told himself. He felt that he was torturing himself by overthinking.

He said, "If there's nothing else, let'S just leave it at that. I have something to do, so I'll leave now."

"Mr. Winter," Benjamin called out to him again.

Nox was getting a little impatient.

"Do you like Shelly?" Benjamin asked.

"What are you getting at?"

"I hope you can treat Shelly well. If you really like her, he must cherish her. If you don't like her anymore, I hope you can let her go as soon as possible. Don't hurt her."

"Why do you think I'm hurting her?" He wanted to tell Benjamin that she was hurting him instead!

"Shelly just doesn't seem too happy," Benjamin said bluntly.

"You don't have to worry about my affairs with her for the time being." Nox refused to say too much to Benjamin.

At least for the next ten days when Shelly still belonged to him, he did not want anyone to interfere.

"I just—"

"Enough!" Nox interrupted him, "Benjamin, even if I want to be a good person, you should know your limits. There are some things you shouldn't butt your head in, so you'd better shut up!"

Benjamin stared at Nox.

"I don't want to see you again for the next ten days!" Nox left after saying that.

Benjamin watched as Nox left. He did not understand why Nox said ten days, but NOX's temper was as bad as ever.

He could even imagine how Shelly had to endure Nox's hostility every day. Moreover, it was because he was afraid Nox would release his anger on Shelly that he explained himself to Nox. Obviously, his explanation did nothing. Hence, he thought about it and called Shelly.

Shelly had just coaxed Bella to sleep when she saw the call and quickly picked it up. "Benjamin."

"Shelly, I saw Nox just now and explained to him about us."

Shelly's expression changed. "What did you tell him?"

Her tone also sounded a little harsh, and it made Benjamin pause for a moment. He did not expect Shelly to lose her temper with him. After all, Shelly had never been angry with him the entire time he knew her.

He said, "I just don't want to cause conflict between the two of you. I'm afraid that Nox will release his anger on you."

"Between Nox and I..." Shelly chose not to say more..