CHOSEN 1451

Chapter 1451

Queen Julia nodded, "Go on, keep him company. If you need anything, just give me a holler. She doubted it would be necessary though, Chloe nodded, picked up her dress and started towards the door. After a few steps, she paused halfway.

Queen Julia raised an eyebrow and smiled as Chloe turned around.

"I might not need those measurements we just took," Chloe said.

"What do you mean?"

Chloe grinned, gently patting her belly. Her eyes and brows were filled with happiness. "These two little ones are growing each day..."

The smile on Queen Julia's face stiffened slightly. She blinked in surprise, her expression shifting from confusion to joy. She covered her mouth with her hands in surprise, "Oh my God, are you for real... you're pregnant, with twins?"

Chloe nodded, "So I might not need those measurements for the dress. I have no idea how big these two will be..."

Queen Julia rushed forward, gently touching Chloe's still flat stomach, "Carrying twins must be so tough. Your belly will definitely be much bigger than others. No worries, we can make the dress more loose—fitting. Oh my God. I can't even imagine how exciting the coronation on Christmas will be."

Chloe looked down at her belly, imagining the scene, I completely understand your excitement about the coronation, because I also want to tell everyone that Damon is my husband, and we are having adorable twins."

Queen Julia nodded, "Yes, I love you, just like you love them."

"I understand. Take care of yourself, I gotta go now..."

"Go where?" A deep voice echoed from the entrance.

Chloe's foot, which had just taken a step, suddenly froze, and her entire body came to a halt. She tightened her grip on her dress and looked towards the door, her heart skipping a beat.

The double doors opened, revealing a familiar figure. Tall and elegant in a magnificent black coat, his attractive face smiled warmly, his deep gazes fixated on her.

Queen Julia glanced over, a smile flashed in her eyes. She nodded approvingly, relieved for Chloe's choice in a man. With his charisma and looks, Damon was definitely a chick magnet.

Chloe watched as Damon slowly approached her. Her longing for him bubbled up, mixed with a myriad of emotions. Her eyes immediately welled up, her eyelashes trembling, about to shed tears.

The calm she had just moments ago vanished as soon as she saw Damon. Her heart instantly softened, and she dropped all her defenses, clutching her skirt as she ran toward Damon like a child.

Before she even reached him, he had already reached out to catch her. She threw herself into his arms.

Damon tightly held Chloe by her waist, bending over so she could wrap her arms around his neck. "Where were you off to? Didn't you promise to wait for me here?"

Chloe shook her head, "I saw the news. You're no longer the CEO of The Harper Group."

Damon chuckled, let go of Chloe, looked down into her worried and guilty eyes, "I resigned voluntarily. I wasn't fired. Do you think I don't care about my reputation?"

Chloe looked him in the eyes, "But now you're no longer the CEO."

"So do you like me or me as the CEO?" Without hesitation, Chloe answered, "Of course, you as the CEO." Damon couldn't help but laugh. He shook his head and said, "Seems like I need to work harder." Chloe smiled; looking at his face, hearing his voice, she was quite smitten. "The Harper Group is someone else's now, why are you still here?" "I'm here to back you up." Chloe bit her lip, her eyes twinkling with amusement, "Actually, I was the bully. Don't worry, I won't let myself be bullied. "It's good you know." Damon ruffled her hair, pulled her closer and turned to face the silent Queen Julia. Lea stepped forward to greet Damon, "Mr. Harper, long time no see." Damon nodded. "About Becky, I hope the Queen will not interfere." Queen Julia nodded, "I should respect you. Besides, Chloe is my granddaughter. Even if you don't step in, I should give her an explanation." Damon calmly said, "That's not contradictory. You should give the explanation you owe, and I should get back what's mine." Chloe looked up at Damon, "I already beat up Becky"

Chloe was not one to be unreasonable. In this matter, she was not the one at a disadvantage. Damon glanced at her and praised, "Yeah, you're quite badass." Queen Julia nodded, "You're right. You can do as you please. I have no right to stop you." Damon nodded, "After all, you're Chloe's grandmother. I thought it was necessary for me to tell you in advance." Chloe didn't speak, but she thought Damon seemed to be treated quite well in the Y Country. Regardless of her relationship with the royal family, Damon was able to speak directly with Queen Julia, and could even detain Becky in the hospital. Lea also respected him a lot. All these pointed towards Damon's high status in the Y Country. What was going on? Damon looked down at Chloe in his arms, noticing her beautiful eyes gazing at him curiously, occasionally blinking. To Damon, she looked absolutely adorable. His Adam's apple bobbed, and he said, "I've been on a plane for over ten hours. I'm tired." Chloe's expression suddenly turned serene, and there was a hint of seriousness between his brows and eyes. "I'll take you to the room to rest first." "Okay." Queen Julia watched as Chloe left with Damon, a smile playing on her lips. "Lea, I always thought Chloe was just as I first saw her, smart, confident, proud and dominant. I never thought Chloe would have such a vulnerable side. Turns out she can also show a vulnerable side."

Lea nodded, grinning, "Yeah, when women face the man they love the most, they often unconsciously

become vulnerable, and they all want to be pampered by the other."

Queen Julia quietly agreed, "You hit the nail on the head, Chloe only lets her guard down with those she trusts the most."

Chapter 1452

"So, your majesty, how should we deal with the issue of Princess Ava and Barbara and Becky?" Lea's question gradually wiped the smile off of Queen Julia's face.

"Did Ava deceive me in the past? Lea

Lea remained silent.

Queen Julia shook her head, "If it's true, I can hardly believe a little girl of seven or eight could be so cunning"

Lea found it hard to believe too. After all, kids at that age, were usually curious and unguarded, how could they know how to manipulate the Queen's attention and care?

"I don't understand why the diamond bracelet I gave to Jasmine ended up in Ava's hands. It's terrifying, Ava even lied to me that Jasmine was dead. She was so young..." Queen Julia closed her eyes, her voice trembling.

If she hadn't been so trusting of a child's innocence, if she had been more persistent in her investigation, perhaps Jasmine would have returned to her side much sooner, Queen Julia had been deceived by a child for most of her life.

"As for Ava, we don't need to pay too much attention to her. She won't last long."

At this time, indifference was the best punishment for Ava. One day, Ava would not be able to bear it herself.

"Now the most important thing is to bring Jasmine back. I want to see my daughter. No matter what reason Ava gives, I will never forgive her."

Chloe and Damon walked towards the room Queen Julia had arranged. When Chloe reached the door and was about to unlock it with her fingerprint, Damon gently grasped her wrist and pulled her into his embrace. He lightly touched her forehead and whispered, "Did you miss me?"

Chloe's eyelashes trembled, and she didn't dare to meet his fervent gaze.

"Hmm?" Damon's tone was threatening as he lightly pinched her waist.

Chloe laughed and avoided him, "I didn't miss you."

Damon raised an eyebrow at her and chuckled, "Then who just ran into my arms as soon as she saw me? Why is your face so red?"

Chloe's face turned even redder, and she pushed him away, "Stop it."

Damon held her hand, looked down at her blushing face and said softly, "I'm hungry."

Chloe's smile faded, and she looked up at him, "Didn't you eat on the plane?"

"It didn't taste good."

Chloe's face was full of concern, as if his hunger was a serious matter. She turned around, opened the door with her fingerprint, led Damon into the room, and then said, "You wash up and rest for a while, I'll go find you some food... Ah..."

As soon as they entered the room, Chloe was pushed against the wall by Damon and kissed deeply.

"You tricked me." Chloe took the chance to glare at Damon, accusing him of his series of deceptive actions.

However, the man's passionate kisses came at her, leaving her no opportunity to chide him. He lightly bit her lips, with such force that it seemed he was trying to suck out her soul.

Chloe couldn't resist his sudden passion; days of longing made her fall quickly into his trap.

Damon's hands unzipped her dress, and it slid down her smooth skin to the floor. In a daze, Chloe was picked up by Damon and placed on the sofa in the living room.

Chloe closed her legs tightly, her face flushing even more than her body, almost as if she was bleeding. "Don't mess around. It's not the time... Bastard." "Hiss!" At this point, Damon couldn't stand it, he gasped, and Chloe quickly let go of her hand.

"...Are you okay?"

Damon clenched his lips and sat down in embarrassment without saying a word.

Chloe stuck out her tongue. Seeing that Damon was really angry, she felt somewhat at a loss. She reached out and poked his arm, "Hey, are you really mad? It's not the time right now..."

I'm sorry about before, I was just worried."

Did you fly for more than ten hours just to come and fight with me? I already apologized..."

"Hey, talk to me."

Chloe held a pillow over her chest and snuggled up to Damon. She lifted her head and kissed the man's jaw.

Damon looked down at Chloe, suddenly lifted his arms and moved her to the sofa next to him. "Don't get so close to me. You seduce me but don't take responsibility, can you bear the consequences?"

Chloe blinked, then suddenly giggled. Then I'll stay single for the rest of my life. After all, I already have babies in my belly."

Damon's eyebrows twitched; this comment was hard to swallow. "Mrs. Harper, you can provoke me now..."

Chloe's smile froze, suddenly regretting joking with him. "I'm sorry."

Damon smiled and leaned down to kiss her lips. "It's too late, baby." His deep voice filled with temptation.

Chloe blushed. But seeing the exhaustion in his eyes, her face returned to normal. "Go wash up and sleep for a while."

Damon stood up and picked her up. "Come with me."

In the bathroom, Chloe prepared clothes for Damon and asked about the Harper Group. "The Harper Group was built by you. To fight against the Harper family, your enemy is not just Robin, but also your past self. Of course, I'll help you with all I've got, but it's like an ant shaking a big tree. It might take years to see any effect."

Fighting against the Harper Group was a huge challenge. The Harper family had a history of hundreds of years; she couldn't estimate how deep the foundation they had accumulated in the past. Moreover, the Harper family was always managed by Damon himself, how could Damon's family be easily invaded by others?

Damon just chuckled at Chloe's words and instead asked, "Need a hand dealing with the Alonso family?"

Chloe responded, "Nah, not necessary."
Did he miss the point? Or could it be that he simply didn't give a hoot about the Harper family?
Chapter 1453
Chloe didn't bother asking more; it seemed like Damon was pretty confident about taking over the Harper Group. Damon got dressed, scooped Chloe up and hopped into bed. "Cuddle with me for a bit."
"I need to prepare some food for you."
"We can talk about that after I wake up."
He gently laid Chloe on the bed and then slid in next to her. With his long arms, he drew her into his embrace.
Chloe obediently let him hold her, tilting her head to look at his handsome face with closed eyes, a smile playing on her lips. "You still haven't mentioned the fact that I suddenly became Queen Julia's granddaughter. Did you already know that?"
Damon's eyes remained tightly shut, not even a twitch of his eyelids. "What's there to say?" he held her close, burying his head in her fragrant neck, murmuring, "Yasmine is the Queen's daughter, so naturally, you're the Queen's granddaughter, isn't that normal? I didn't know in advance. But princess or not, to me, you're always the most beautiful, strongest goddess. Now that you're a princess, it's no biggie. It doesn't change the fact that you're my wife." Chloe pursed her lips, a shy smile creeping onto her face. "What goddess"
"Then be a queen." Damon said with a smile, then suddenly opened his eyes, grinning at her, "Next time, I'll let you take control. You can play the Queen for
real.

Chloe's face flushed red. "Sleep, let's sleep!" Damon snickered, holding Chloe tightly, and soon fell asleep. When Chloe woke up, it was almost noon. She opened her eyes, unsure when she had drifted off to sleep.. Damon felt her movement and opened his eyes as well. His chilly gaze softened instantly at the sight of Chloe, and he leaned over to peck her nose. 1 "I feel like it's been ages since I woke up to see your face. I'm not used to it." Chloe chuckled, snuggling into Damon's embrace. After some sweet moments, a servant came asking about lunch, and only then did Chloe tug Damon out of bed. By the time they arrived at the dining room, cries could be heard. Chloe stopped in her tracks, expressionlessly listening to the commotion inside. "I'm sorry, I deceived you. I didn't actually witness Jasmine's cremation. I was young then. I only knew she was sent to the crematorium. Everyone said that's where people were cremated, so I assumed Jasmine really died.

"Are you really sure Chloe is your granddaughter? Even though I didn't see Jasmine's cremation, her severe illness was real. You don't want to be deceived by those with ulterior motives. That Chloe is a cunning woman; she wouldn't dare to venture into the palace unprepared.

"No matter what, I didn't mean to deceive you."

Queen Julia's voice echoed after a while. "You know, because of your words, I missed more than thirty years of my daughter's life. Do you know how I've been living all these years, every day, every moment? Ava, how could you make me suffer for so many years?"

"I didn't, I really didn't, your sadness hurts me more than anything. I've been treating you like Jasmine would have, I've been hoping you're happy every single moment."

"Your Majesty, Ava was only seven years old at the time. I don't believe she intentionally deceived you. Even if she did make a mistake back then, could you forgive her for me and Becky's sake? I know Becky messed up this time, but we've grown up under your care, you've always loved us, and we love you dearly. Could you stop being mad at us? Ava didn't sleep all night. She's afraid you're mad at her..."

"I'm really sorry, if Chloe really is your granddaughter, then I truly feel guilty."

The dining room fell silent for a moment, and Queen Julia didn't speak any further.

Chloe stood silently in her place, her face devoid of any expression. She understood the Queen's helplessness and reluctance.

During the thirty odd years Yasmine was separated from the Queen, it was Ava who played the role of a daughter by the Queen's side. If one were to compare, Chloe, as the suddenly appeared granddaughter, really didn't share the same level of intimacy with the Queen as Barbara and Becky did.

The gap was there, and it was something that could never be filled.

Chloe's eyes narrowed.

Chloe and Yasmine were grateful for Ava, Barbara, Becky's existence. But all of this was under the premise that they enjoy their comfortable lives in

peace.

"Everyone, get up. Chloe will be here for lunch soon. You should leave so as not to disrupt her meal." After a while, Queen Julia spoke, leaving Ava gritting her teeth in anger. Not disrupt Chloe's meal? What was so important about her that even eating required a good mood. She had been sobbing for so long, and in the end, it wasn't as important as Chloe's meal? Chloe raised an eyebrow, took a deep breath and led Damon into the dining room. Queen Julia, who was initially frowning, immediately smiled upon seeing Chloe. "Chloe." Barbara furrowed her brows at the door, her eyes flickered when she saw Damon beside Chloe. "Mr. Harper." she uttered softly, feeling a bit flustered. But Damon didn't even glance at her. "Are you hungry?" "Mhm." Queen Julia immediately stood up, guided Chloe to sit beside her and ordered the servants to serve the food. Ava and Barbara were totally unprepared for Damon's sudden appearance. Seizing the opportunity, Ava sat across from Damon, eagerly saying, "Mr. Harper, it's a pleasure to meet you. I must tell you, Becky's face requires an urgent surgery abroad. I was wondering if you could let her go." "No way." Ava's words were coldly interrupted by Damon.

Ava froze, "Mr. Harper, Becky is just a kid. Her mistake was made in a moment of impulse. If she doesn't get surgery, it'll mar her life. I hope you can help her. Please, arrange for a doctor. I'm begging you."
"Mistakes are mistakes. Even if she's just a kid, she'll have to pay for her actions. It's only fair."
"But Mr. Harper, considering the current circumstances, Becky is actually the victim."
Damon lifted his gaze, his deep, icy gazes sweeping over Ava.
Chapter 1454
"So Becky dumped a bucket of ice water on Chloe in front of everyone, who do you think is the real victim here?"
Ava's lips twitched hard
Becky splashing water on someone else, but ended up looking like a battered mess, who truly was the victim?
"And how exactly do you plan to get Becky treatment?"
"Nothing special, just receiving treatment at the hospital' Ava anxiously retorted, "But her face needs surgery abroad'
"That's the price she gotta pay"
"Mr. Harper!"
"Could you let us enjoy our lunch in peace?"

Chloe's cold voice abruptly came in. She forked a piece of lobster and placed it on Damon's plate. Ava abruptly fell silent, turning to look at Chloe, who offered no response. Upon seeing this, Queen Julia glanced at Ava, "If there's nothing else, I suggest you leave." "But Your Majesty...." Ava wanted to say more but was silenced by Queen Julia's stern expression. She was fuming inside. It was lunchtime, and she had already seated herself here, but she was ruthlessly driven away from the dining table. But looking at the Queen, she realized there was no reasoning at the moment. So she swallowed her pride, stood up, forced a smile and said to Queen Julia, "Since Chloe just returned to the palace, she might not be familiar with some of our customs and manners. I am free now, I could take some time to teach her, and I could also get her and Barbara to get along." Barbara quickly chimed in, "Yes, there's been some misunderstanding between Chloe and I. This could be a good opportunity for me to clear things up." Chloe sat straight, elegantly savoring her lunch, her face devoid of any emotion. "And where exactly did I go wrong to deserve a life lesson from our esteemed princesses? I merely spoke a few words and you're already trying to school me?" Chloe's words were dripping with sarcasm, causing Queen Julia to wince. "Chloe." "I don't need any schooling right now." The room fell deafeningly silent; only the clinking of cutlery could be heard. Queen Julia looked at the expressionless Chloe, her heart filled with mixed emotions. "Chloe, no one has

the right to teach you a lesson."

Chloe suddenly said calmly, "I understand. They've been by your side for over thirty years, and I can appreciate the bond formed over years of companionship. That doesn't conflict with the relationship between me, Yasmine and you. I understand your dilemma, but no one can cross my line. Otherwise, I won't easily forgive."

Ava and Barbara exchanged a smug glance. No matter what, they had been with Queen Julia for over thirty years. Their bond with the Queen was no less than that of Chloe and Yasmine. Even if Ava and Becky made mistakes, the Queen wouldn't punish them.

Chloe put down her fork, picked up the napkin and wiped the corners of her mouth. "However, I hope you understand what true lineage is, especially royal lineage. It's something that can never be replaced or confused."

Chloe stood up, leaning her hands on the table, her gaze fixed on Ava and Barbara standing side by side.

She slowly walked towards them. Her tall, slender figure and domineering aura made it seem like every step she took was a display of her power. Damon lowered his head with a smile, elegantly enjoying his lunch as if there were no one else around. He didn't concern himself with Chloe's actions. After all, who would dare to bully her?

Chloe stood before Ava and Barbara, looking at their furrowed brows, her lips curled into a smirk and she said in a low voice, "You better behave yourselves and not give me a reason to act. I should remind you that I have a strong sense of vengeance. I like to torture people slowly. Whatever you've done, I'll return it in kind. That's the only way I'll feel balanced."

Chloe's aura was so oppressive that cold sweat broke out on Ava and Barbara's faces.

"Don't tell me you're a psycho." Unwilling to concede to Chloe's dominance, Barbara gritted her teeth and retorted in a low voice.

Chloe smiled, "Psycho? That's a good description,"

Barbara's face turned rigid.

Seeing the obvious pressure Barbara was under, Ava stepped forward, pulling Barbara away, forcing an awkward smile on her face. "Chloe, your words are a bit too much Strictly speaking, our first official meeting was only at the state banquet, and we've had no prior interaction. There shouldn't be any

reason for us to offend you. As for what happened at the state banquet, we admit, it was a misunderstanding."

Chloe arched her eyebrows, brushed her loose hair off her shoulder, her eyes flashed with a cold light, but her face was all smiles. "Is that so? Let's just leave it at that then'

Ava didn't want to see Chloe's smug face any longer. She pulled Barbara to bid goodbye to Queen Julia, then hurriedly left.

When their figures disappeared, Queen Julia finally spoke, "Chloe, if you don't like them, I can have them leave"

"No need Chloe said calmly.

The investigation was still ongoing. If Ava and Barbara left, she would have to spend more energy finding them.

Barbara was shaking with rage. But perhaps due to witnessing Becky's countless blunders and using her as a negative example from a young age, she appeared more steady. Even in her current state of suppressed rage, she hadn't exploded.

However, even as she tried to restrain herself, the resentment and anger in her eyes were so palpable that it sent a shiver down one's spine.

"Are we just going to sit by and watch Chloe and Yasmine rise to power? I have a feeling, if we don't act, we'll be kicked out of the royal family sooner or later."

Ava bit her lip, her hands clenched till they turned white, "No one can take what's ours."

Barbara turned her head, the resentment in her eyes slightly subsided.

"Having royal blood doesn't mean you can fulfill the duties of a princess. The royal family always needs to maintain its dignity. Even if the Queen really likes them, she must consider Y country's image on the international stage."

Ava's eyes flickered, and her face contorted as she said, "You're absolutely right."

Their moods lightened slightly, but as they had just returned home and were about to enter, Cole approached them. Wendy was there too, sitting in her wheelchair, her eyes filled with anticipation as she looked at them.

"Ava, I gotta bolt back to P' City now. The Alonso family is in deep shit right now and I'm hoping you can help us out with our financial mess ASAP. Otherwise, the Alonso family might totally go off the rails."

Chapter 1455

Ava felt annoyed whenever she saw someone from the Alonso family, especially Wendy, whose behavior was like that of a madwoman, causing her to lose dignity at the banquet. If it were possible, she would have wanted to strangle her right then and there. Now they were asking for her help, which was incredibly frustrating.

Maybe noticing Ava's impatience, Cole immediately said, "Now that the Harper Group is in Robin's hands, and the Alonso family deserves some credit for it. If our family faces any problems, you might lack two powerful allies at a crucial moment.

"Everyone knows that I came to the Y Country to discuss business with you. If I return empty—handed, people might speculate that your power has weakened. You are the princesses of the royal family, and whether Chloe is truly a princess is still under investigation. You shouldn't let people start ridiculing you so early, right?"

Ava couldn't stand being mocked, especially when she had planned everything meticulously only to end up with nothing. Cole had a point. In terms of finances, her family had no issues. Over the years in the Y

Country, Ava had accumulated a significant amount of wealth for her family through her princess status. At least in the Y Country, apart from the mysterious group Obsidian, her family was a first—class existence. However, if they wanted to expand the influence of her family beyond the Y Country, they needed to open up other channels. The Harper Group and the Alonso family would be excellent assistants.

Frowning, Ava walked toward the villa. As she passed by the entrance, she glanced at Wendy with a hint of disgust in her eyes. She stopped in her tracks and said, "I can help the Alonso family, but not through cooperation... I want to acquire 20% of the Alonso family's shares."

Wendy's expression suddenly changed. "Aren't you just taking advantage of the situation? The Alonso family has also helped your family a lot over the years, and now that we are in trouble, you're making such outrageous demands."

"Stop mentioning our relationship. Who was the one that lost control at the banquet? You've only been here for a few days, and you've already ruined my reputation. And now you want to negotiate with me? Our family is not short of money, and considering the current situation of the Alonso family, I don't actually value the 20% shares. But just the thought of someone like you being the heir of the Alonso family makes it a waste of effort for me to help you." Ava scolded Wendy, making her face turn red. Wendy gritted her teeth but couldn't say a word.

Cole closed his eyes, looking exhausted as if he had aged overnight. "You're right. If you obtain a 20% stake, the Alonso family may not be destroyed in Wendy's hands. That's the condition I agree to."

Although the Alonso family wouldn't collapse so easily, giving away 20% of the shares was painful for Cole.

At that moment, Phoebe suddenly descended from the stairs. Cole saw her and called her over in a cold voice.

"What do you need me for?" Phoebe's tone was icy.

"We just decided that, for the stability of the Alonso family, the Alonso family will give 20% of the shares to Ava..."

Phoebe's eyes trembled for a moment, then she looked at Cole and said, "So what?"
Cole furrowed his brow. "You have 25% of the shares."
Phoebe coldly interrupted him, "Wendy still has 43% of the shares
"Wendy is the heiress. If she gives up 20% of the shares, she will have even less."
"Less than me?" Phoebe looked at him coldly. "Have you ever thought about why the Alonso family has become what it is now? Are you still paving the way for Wendy? Why should I bear the consequences for the trouble she caused? It's impossible for me to give up my shares."
"You ungrateful daughter." Cole was furious and his face turned red. "You're so unreasonable. Who taught you to be so disobedient!?"
"No one taught me. The shares in my hands are what the Alonso family owes me and my mother. You caused my mother's death, and now you want me to give up my shares? Where in the world does such a good thing exist?"
"Phoebe, you're truly ungrateful. I should have raised a dog instead of you."
"I'm here to collect the debt from all of you." Phoebe suddenly shouted back, her voice raised. "You should regret not letting me die with my mother back then. If I survived, it was to come here and collect the debt from all of you."
Smack! Cole slapped Phoebe hard across the face.
"You're right, I should have let you die earlier." Cole exclaimed.
Phoebe covered her swollen face, her eyes filled with hatred.

"Hand over the shares." Cole roared.'

Phoebe stared at him, then suddenly smirked. "Do you think I'm stupid? If I hand over the shares, do you think I'll still have a place in the Alonso family? I'l| become your marriage alliance tool and find cooperation for you? Forget it, don't even think about it. I won't even give you 1%."

Cole accurately picked up on the subtleties in Phoebe's words and was about to inquire further, but Ava, standing beside them, appeared impatient.

"That's enough. Stop embarrassing yourself in front of me. Phoebe is right. The current situation of the Alonso family is solely Wendy's responsibility. The shares I want should come from her. Moreover, Phoebe is going to get married in the future. If she doesn't have any shares, who would be willing to marry a woman with no value? Let her keep the shares for now."

Phoebe sneered, finding Ava's words hypocritical. Everyone thought Phoebe was easy to bully, so they first took away a portion of her interests, waiting for the right opportunity to target Wendy, right? By then, Wendy would only be a nominal leader, without any real power. They would definitely do everything possible to take away Alonso Corporation's shares from Wendy. Then the struggle between her and Wendy would allow others to gain even more benefits. Such tactics, such shameless people were definitely capable of doing that.

At that time, not only would the 20% stake go to Ava and her family, but the entire Alonso family might become the property of hers.

If the Alonso family went bankrupt, it wouldn't be unjust. Everything had a reason.

When Wendy heard Ava asking for her shares, her expression immediately changed. "Isn't that inappropriate? The amount of shares I hold is too small. How could the Alonso family Board of Directors listen to me."

"I don't care," Ava said with an indifferent expression before walking away.

This decision has been made. I will make Wendy give you 20% of the shares." Cole's words made Ava pause in her tracks.

"Good, I'll inform Rhys to prepare the funds right away."

After lunch, Damon and Chloe left the palace and returned to their hotel. Once they were back, Damon handed Chloe a document.

Chapter 1456

"What's this?"Chloe took the documents and asked.

documents

"This is what Phoebe asked me to give you."

Chloe, who was about to open the document, paused. She looked down at it, her gazes deep in thought. After a while, she retied the half—untied string. "Don't you want to open it?"

Chloe shook her head, "No need, I can probably guess what's inside."

She sighed and leaned gently against Damon's chest. "Sometimes, I'm grateful for my past experiences. At least now I know how to protect myself, and I have the ability to do so. I used to be like Phoebe, naively living in a world I thought was fair, thinking that as long as I asked for less, there wouldn't be too much pain and sorrow. But we all overlooked other people's greed. When we're satisfied with our current situation, there will always be people who aren't.

"If possible, I don't want to be so defensive, and I don't want to hurt anyone.

"I used to wonder why my life was so difficult, why I was always facing countless problems to solve. Later, I realized it was because I had too much." Keira obstructed Chloe everywhere because Chloe had a good life in the Summers family from the start, with superior living conditions and a wealthy fiance. At that time, what Chloe had was the life that Keira envied.

Later, Wendy made things difficult for Chloe becausé Chloe had the best man in the world and became the only candidate for Mrs. Harper. Everyone was envious.

Now Chloe was the princess of Y Country, so she can sense that there would be more things waiting for her to solve in the future, which she can't easily get rid of even if she wanted to escape.

Damon gently patted Chloe's shoulder and kissed her forehead. At this moment, all promises seemed so pale.

"But I'm proud of everything I have now." Chloe suddenly said. "Like you, no one dares to covet you in front of me."

Damon chuckled softly, "Hmm, I'm your best trophy."

"Yep." Chloe responded casually, "Let's go back home. I guess the Alonso family should be settled by now. What about the Harper Group? You still have big battle to fight."

"Let's talk about it after I deal with the hospital thing."

Chloe said with a laugh, "There's nothing left to deal with. Becky has been beaten pretty badly. You came here to back me up. Who knew I would actually end up becoming the granddaughter of the Queen."

Damon raised an eyebrow, "So I didn't get a chance to show off this time?"

"Your presence here is the best performance."

"Then let's go pay our respects to the Queen and then head home."

There were indeed many things to deal with at home.

There had been a lot of news at home these days. The Alonso family and the Harper Group had both become the focus of the news.

"Why do I feel like laughing so much? What's going on? Ms. Summers is really awesome."

"That's so satisfying! I was almost suffocated a few days ago! Every day, I watched Ms. Wendy brag about her relationship with Princess Ava from Y Country, feeling like her relationship with Princess Ava was better than with her own mother!"

"Ms. Summers is incomparable in tactics. That Wendy either brags about being the heiress of the Alonso family or uses Princess Ava as a shield. Now Ms. Summers is the Queen's real granddaughter."

"Look at how crazy Wendy was at the banquet. She totally deserves it. It's so satisfying to watch."

"Also, Presley from the Harper family, what a fool, not knowing what went wrong, insisting on forcing Mr. Harper to marry that lunatic, even threatening him with the inheritance rights of the Harper family. This time, Damon simply didn't want to be the CEO."

"They thought they had something important to threaten, but they didn't realize that they couldn't even compare the Harper Group with Ms. Summers."

"Thinking about Ms. Summers makes me feel powerful. Mr. Harper even gave up his company for her. How romantic!"

"I'll take a dozen of such men, please."

"Dream on, such men only exist in heaven."

"God!!! The Alonso family is so tenacious! The stock has been falling daily, how come they suddenly announced a collaboration with Princess Ava's family from Y Country!"

"What?"
"The stock trend of the Alonso family is also rising."
Amidst the mockery, the Alonso family suddenly announced their collaboration with Princess Ava's family, and news of receiving a large amount of investment funds spread quickly online.
At this time, Chloe was on the plane. When she saw the news, she couldn't help but sigh, "The Alonso family is really tenacious."
Damon glanced at the news on her phone screen and curled his lips. "Do you want to go to Las Vegas?"
Chloe frowned, "I'm not in the mood to play now"
Her voice got softer and softer, and finally, her gaze landed on Damon's face, "Am I?"
Damon nodded with a smile, "Yeah, you're right."
So the plane stopped at the nearest airport for a bit of refueling, and then headed straight for Las Vegas. They are and rested normally along the way, the flight attendant's service was attentive, and the treatment was top—notch.
By the time they arrived in Las Vegas, Chloe was more excited than ever. Her eyes were even brighter, twinkling as if they were full of stars.
Seeing her excited expression, Damon couldn't help but feel good. "You're that excited?"
Chloe turned to look at him, then shook her head, "No, I just feel that it's great to step on the ground."

Damon looked at her skeptically. Chloe turned her head away, no longer looking at Damon. "Where's Rhys now? Are we going to find him now?" Damon pulled Chloe into his arms and got into the car that had been waiting for them. "Let's have breakfast first." 1 "Mm, yeah, breakfast." Chloe didn't object at all. Her happy expression made it seem like she wouldn't oppose anything he said. Especially since they decided to go to Las Vegas, the sparkle in her eyes never faded. "Mrs. Harper, you seem pretty excited about coming to Vegas. You hiding something from me, huh?" "No." Chloe shook her head. Damon leaned in, looking directly into her eyes, squinting, "Were you a gambler, Mrs. Harper?" "Absolutely not!" Chloe crossed her arms in front of her, her tone firm. Damon looked at her for a while before sitting back. "What do you want to say to Rhys when you see him?" Chloe shook her head, "Why would I have anything to say to him?" Damon looked at her and asked, "Then why did you come to Las Vegas?"

Chloe blinked, counter-asking, "Didn't you say we should come?"

"I was asking your opinion."
You seemed eager to come here, so why did you suddenly want to come to Vegas to find Rhys?"
Damon suddenly sneered, his gloomy smile made Chloe shiver. He said coldly
"To see his strengths and to take him down."
Such a vengeful man!
Chapter 1457
Chloe quietly moved to the side, her eyes fixed on the early morning view of Las Vegas outside the window, murmuring, "Let's drop the size thing, okay?" Damon chuckled dismissively, "You wouldn't get it. It's a guy thing."
A guy thing? She didn't give a hoot. So juvenile.
Once they got to the hotel, the chef used the hotel's stove to whip up a delicious breakfast for Chloe, then started preparing for lunch.
Chloe had a good rest on the plane, and after breakfast, Damon took her out for a spin.
Las Vegas was a world–renowned holiday destination, a city centered around gambling and filled with tourism, shopping, and vacation industries. Being a woman, and a wealthy one at that, Chloe's main agenda was obviously shopping.
As soon as they hit the mall, all sorts of luxury brands and their wares filled their view. Damon stayed by Chloe's side, fully playing the role of the husband. Chloe asked, "These earrings are pretty, right?"

Damon nodded, "Get them
Chloe asked, "What kind of gemstone is on this bracelet?"
Damon nodded again, "Get it."
Chloe sighed, "These cufflinks are really nice.""
Damon nodded once more, "Get them."
"These ones are nice, too, and this one, this one, that one. That tie, and that one, would suit you so well."
"Get it. Get it Get it."
In this mega mall, they had already bought a lot of stuff before they could even finish one floor.
When they got upstairs, Chloe was still enthusiastically scouting for her desired items, unable to make a decision in the men's section. She studied every piece of clothing in each store with full attention, sometimes stopping, sometimes nodding, and sometimes shaking her head. She looked very serious while choosing clothes.
Most clothes Damon wore were custom—made and handmade, each one finely crafted and utterly perfect. But Chloe still liked to pick clothes for Damon herself.
Every time he showed up in front of her wearing the clothes she carefully selected, she would swell with pride.
Damon always indulged Chloe in these little whims of hers. Besides, her taste had always been impeccable.

In the end, Chloe picked out a dark blue suit for him. She was pushing Damon towards the fitting room.

The sales associates in the store were all eyeing Damon, looking more excited than Chloe to see Damon coming out in the new outfit. It must be a sight to behold.

The women here were rather forward, or even overly bold. They looked at Damon, trying to find a way to get close to him. Their eyes were full of seduction, as if they could directly make a man's heart flutter.

Seeing the intimacy between Chloe and Damon, these women provocatively pushed out their chests even higher than their chins.

Chloe's heart suddenly missed a beat. This man was too good—looking, just like a troublemaker. Wherever he went, he could attract some admirers, which was really a headache.

Chloe casually picked a camel–colored gown in the store, asked the sales associate to find her a suitable size, then took the dress into the fitting room.

When Damon came out in a dark blue suit, there was a collective gasp in the store.

"I've always thought men looked handsome in suits, but someone as charismatic as him is definitely a rare sight."

"He looks amazing."

"Sir, there are ties here, I can help you tie it."

The sales associate tried to approach Damon with an excuse that seemed hard to refuse, but stopped under Damon's icy stare. He reached out for the tie next to him and looped it around his neck.

Everyone present was watching him tie his tie in front of the mirror. But when the tie was half—tied, Damon suddenly stopped and undid the tie. At this moment, someone immediately came forward and asked, "Can I help you, sir?"

Damon glanced at her indifferently, "I can do it myself."

A hint of embarrassment flashed on the woman's face. Even though she was rejected, she obviously didn't lose heart.

No matter how Damon rejected her, she seemed to never give up. If Damon got too blunt in the end, she might just rush up and embrace Damon directly.

"Please don't get it wrong, sir, we just want to provide you with the best service." The woman said while moving closer to Damon.

Just then, another fitting room door opened, and Chloe, looking up, saw a seductive woman about to approach Damon. She raised an eyebrow, slowly walked up to the woman with her dress in hand, and looked the woman up and down.

The woman straightened up, showing off her fine figure.

Chloe saw it all, and the woman, after seeing her, displayed disdain and mockery.

Chloe wasn't angry, and after looking at the woman's chest for a long time, she smoothly said with a smile, "Your boobs are sagging."

The store fell silent for a moment, then erupted in laughter. The woman's face turned red instantly. She looked at the tall and handsome Damon beside Chloe, feeling both embarrassed and furious.

The problem with a busty woman was that, due to the weight, some sagging was inevitable. But whether it was men or women, the first thing they should care about was the size, right?

The words were so harsh.

Watching the woman blush from embarrassment, Chloe chuckled, then turned to look at Damon in his blue suit. The cut of the suit was perfect, the high—end material looked slimming and sharp, complementing his tall and upright figure, and plus the inherent regal aura he carried, he was like a perfect male model who looked good in anything.

Damon was also looking at Chloe. She was in a caramel–colored gown, accentuating her delicate skin, her figure slim yet curvaceous, projecting maturity and elegance. Their outfits matched in color perfectly, at least enough to quieten some of the women who were smitten with Damon when they saw Chloe.

Damon put an arm around Chloe's waist, and with the other hand pointed to his tie. "I'm not so good at this."

Was this the same man who just rejected those women?

Chloe helped Damon adjust his tie, then took out a pair of cufflinks she had chosen earlier from the shopping bag and put them on his cuffs.

Absolutely perfect.

Chloe smiled happily, "Alright, change back, let's go check out other stuff. Well."

Chapter 1458

Before she could take a few steps, Damon scooped her up in his arms.

Everyone was taken aback.

"What are you doing?" Chloe exclaimed in surprise.

Damon glanced down at her, "You've done enough walking for today. Let's go back for lunch."

Without waiting for Chloe's response, he carried her out of the store in long strides.

Damon was spoiling Chloe like a princess, taking care of her meals, sleep and play every day. Others thought Damon was always flying around, looking pretty stressed out. But Chloe had no idea what stress was.

1

At 7 p.m., neon lights flickered by the seaside, waves lapped against the shore, and the sea breeze stirred up the cold air.

The view outside was beautiful, but it was too cold in the winter, so Chloe preferred to stay in the car with the heater on.

The magnificent Caesars Palace could be seen from a distance. In the dark night, the castle—like Caesars Palace was brightly lit, standing out among the numerous casinos. A long red carpet led straight to the casino entrance, with luxury cars parked on both sides.

"Don't run around inside, okay?" Damon reminded her again and again before getting out of the car. If someone took advantage of Chloe's beauty, even if he crippled that man, he wouldn't be able to

quench his anger.

Chloe nodded, "I know, you've told me many times. I'll be careful."

Damon looked at her with a hint of amusement. "I've never seen you so interested in anything before."

"Are you kidding? Don't I show a lot of interest in you?"

Chloe was in a good mood today, and her words were unusually sweet.

Damon raised an eyebrow, "Not bad. Now that you're pregnant and I can't touch you, you've actually learned how to flirt."

"I'm just telling the truth." Chloe smiled, gave Damon a quick peck on the cheek, and then hurriedly got out of the car before he had a chance to react.

Damon shook his head helplessly. This woman was becoming more and more cheeky.

He caught up with Chloe in a few steps and pulled her into his arms.

Entering the casino was like stepping into a completely different world.

The sea breeze outside was chilling; the view was pleasant, filled with charm. Inside the casino, it was all about opulence and hustle and bustle. Most of the men had alluring and beautiful companions by their sides, who smiled seductively, exuding charm and allure.

The casino was buzzing with noise. Some gamblers were laughing happily, while others were frowning, looking pale, angry, anxious, lost, happy, excited, showing all kinds of expressions.

As soon as Damon and Chloe entered, several tables at the entrance immediately looked over. The couple looked quite extraordinary, but after a quick glance, everyone turned their attention back to their own games.

Nothing was more important than the cards or dice in their hands. Even if someone handsome or beautiful walked in, it had little to do with them.

"Hello, Mrs. Harper."

Hearing a familiar voice in this strange place, Chloe was surprised. She turned to see Nathan, Kane and Noah approaching, "What are you guys doing here?"

"We've been waiting for you for a long time. How could we miss out on such a fun place?"

Nathan was dressed casually, looking relaxed yet aristocratic, a man that all women would pursue. If Nathan wasn't this charming, how could he attract Yulia?

Damon glanced at them, then looked down at Chloe, asking gently, "What do you feel like playing?"

Chloe's eyes were sparkling, she looked around and saw Damon staring at her. She shifted her gaze, fiddled with her hair, and said softly, "I don't really understand these games. HILplay whatever you want to play."

Damon kept his eyes on Chloe, and after a moment, a hint of a smile appeared in his eyes. "Alright, this is my first time in a place like this too. Let's just wander around." Damon couldn't help but chuckle.

Chloe nodded, "Okay, I'll follow your lead."

A waiter nearby asked with a smile, "How many chips would you like?"

Damon thought for a moment and said, "We're beginners. Let's start with half a million to warm up."

As soon as his words fell, the casino quieted down a bit. Everyone looked at Damon and Chloe with curiosity, some even looking eager, expecting

a show. A rich but inexperienced newbie, wasn't he just handing out money?

A few people glanced at each other, already making comparisons in their minds.

The waiter, quick on the uptake, immediately led Damon and the others to buy chips and a bunch of game tokens.

They spent some time on the slot machines and roulette at the edge of the casino, losing nearly ten thousand in less than half an hour. But Chloe seemed to be getting hooked, she threw in all the remaining tokens, and urged Damon to buy more.

Nathan played a few rounds and seeing Chloe lose again and again, he couldn't help but say, "Mrs. Harper, these games require a few rounds to get the hang of it, and not only skills but also luck. Unless your reflexes can match the speed of the machine, then you can easily win, but that's just a legend."
"Really?" Chloe nodded thoughtfully, her eyes clouded with confusion, completely looking like she didn't quite get it.
"Yes, let me show you."
"Beep beep beep."
Before Kane could finish, the machine in front of Chloe started playing victory music, the lights around the machine flashing in celebration. Nathan and Kane stared at the screen in disbelief for a long time, dumbfounded.
"Oh my God!"
"She actually won?"
2
Chloe turned to them with a light laugh, "So I won?"
The two men nødded in shock.
"Did I win?" Chloe looked incredulous.
Kane nodded, "Yes, you got a hundred times return. How many tokens did you put in?"

Chloe thought for a moment, then said, "Around two thousand?" She won over two hundred grand? Was this woman seriously that lucky? Chloe clapped her hands in delight, her gazes finding Damon as she said. "I won," she announced gleefully. Damon smiled, "You're pretty awesome. Wanna keep playing?" Chloe shook her head, "I want to try something different." Afterward, the group, along with Damon and Chloe, wandered through the casino, trying their luck at several games. They ended up losing all the winnings from earlier and even incurred additional losses in the hundreds of thousands. Throughout it all, Chloe was the one playing while Damon indulged her, accompanying her by her side. No matter how much she lost, his expression never changed. Chloe soon became the laughingstock of the entire casino, and the target of their schemes. Chapter 1459 Suddenly, Chloe became the center of attention in the whole gaming hall. Nathan carefully wiped the sweat from his forehead and said to Damon, "We may be loaded, but we can't afford Chloe's extravagant spending. If this keeps up, we're going to need million's to handle tonight!" "As long as she's happy." Damon responded with a poker face.

Nathan chuckled a bit and gave Damon a thumbs up. "You're really something!"

Indeed, Damon was ready to give up even the Harper family's empire, let alone a few million.

"But your situation is different now. Without the support of the Harper family, your money will only decrease, not increase...careful you don't squander everything and can't afford to keep the family..."

Damon frowned. He didn't want to argue with Nathan, who was always talking nonsense, but the phrase "can't afford to keep the family" got to him. He gave Nathan a warning glance. "If I can't afford to keep the family, I'll sell you."

Nathan immediately crossed his arms, looking like he'd fight to the death to protect himself.

"What are you talking about? I won't agree to that! No one can get their hands on my body."

1

Chloe frowned helplessly. When would Nathan ever be serious?_.

Kane, on the other hand, was laughing so hard he couldn't stand straight. "Nathan, are you trying to kill me.with laughter?!"

Nathan glared at him. "Or should I sell you?"

Kane instantly lost his smile. He huffed arrogantly, "My body belongs only to the woman I love."

With Nathan and Kane around, the journey would never be boring.

Chloe shook her head, looking somewhat bored, and took a seat on a high stool. Seeing her lack of enthusiasm, everyone crowded around her.

Nathan quickly walked over and sat down next to her. "Chloe, what's the matter, don't you want to play anymore?"

Kane chimed in, "There's still a lot we haven't tried. Maybe check out something else? We're here to have fun, so don't just go home like this." Damon stood silently next to Nathan, not saying a word, his gaze fixed on Nathan.

Nathan felt a chill down his spine. He plucked up the courage to meet Damon's gaze, then looked down at Chloe next to him. Realizing something, he quickly stood up and offered his seat to Damon.

Damon sat down in Nathan's place without hesitation. Nathan rolled his eyes and thought to himself that Damon was really childish.

Chloe seemed oblivious to the little exchange between Nathan and Damon. She propped her chin on her hand and tapped the table with her other hand out of boredom.

Being the target in the casino, Chloe naturally attracted attention. Seeing their target lose interest, others started to get anxious. They couldn't just let ja newbie who knew nothing about casinos just walk away.

A few people slowly approached Chloe. "Hello, would you like to join us for a few games?"

Chloe looked up, her gaze sweeping over the few people in front of her. Their faces were relaxed, and their eyes were filled with obvious greed.

She paused her table tapping. She looked at them, sat up straight, leaned to one side, and smiled at them. "Do you guys have money?"

The group laughed. "Of course, the casino has rules. You can't gain without investment."

Chloe leaned on her hand and asked, "How much do you have?"

"Don't worry, we just lost some, but we still have tens of thousands..."

To them, Chloe was just a newbie who came to donate money. She didn't know anything about the casino, Although she had money, wasn't gambling here the same as gaining without investment?

However, as soon as they finished speaking, Chloe shook her head and said, "Not interested. You don't have enough money"

Did they just get rejected by a newbie? Their faces turned awkward, but in order not to upset Chloe, they swallowed their displeasure. "How much do you want to play?"

"I'm not sure. I just lost about six hundred thousand, and I want to win back my money as soon as possible."

They couldn't help but laugh. "Winning back six hundred thousand in the shortest time, are you serious?"

Chloe–glanced at them and frowned. "Of course I'm serious. I can lose, but can't I win?"

"No, that's not what we mean. It's just that your luck is bad. Losing is normal but winning that back would be really abnormal."

Why can't I win? Who says I can't win after I've lost?" Chloe raised her eyebrows, her voice a bit cold. With that, she sounded more like a newbie than ever. Nathan, listening to this, felt something was off. He leaned towards Damon and whispered, "Why does Chloe sound weird today? Such newbie talk coming from her, doesn't it seem a bit off?"

Damon also thought Chloe was overdoing the newbie act. Anyone who knew her even a little would notice that her way of speaking and acting was completely different from before.

Nathan looked at Chloe, shaking his head and full of disbelief. Even if she didn't understand casinos, she should have known some basic common sense. This kind of game was fun in small doses, but it could distress and drain you if played too much. You'd only lose more and get deeply stuck.

Nathan didn't believe that Chloe, who was so smart, wouldn't know this. Why did Chloe today seem like a moron who could be swindled at any time?

"Ha, you better be careful. If you still want to win back your lost money now, I advise you to leave here as soon as possible. Consider it as paying a few hundred thousand for the experience,"

"If you continue like this, no matter how much money you gain, it won't be enough to compensate for what you've lost."

A man nearby couldn't stand Chloe's words any longer and stood up to kindly warn her.

Chloe's face slowly frowned, looking extremely serious. "But I want to win," She said.

Everyone around heard this and laughed a little after a pause.

"Gambling is not something you can win just because you want to. If it were, no one would lose all their property from gambling."

"Do you think you're Randall? Can you win just because you say so?"

Chloe raised her eyebrows but didn't answer. Suddenly, Nathan's eyes lit up from the next seat. "Randall, has this guy shown up before? Do you guys know this dude?"

Chapter 1460

"Randall, you guys know him?" Nathan asked.

Everyone shook their heads. "We haven't seen him in years, but he did show up at the casino next door once. He played so hard that the casino had to close for a full six months! Just think about how much profit a casino makes in one night, let alone six months! Can you guys even comprehend that?!" In the gambling world, Randall was like a god. In fact, no one knew his real name. All they knew was that he

once declared he would win, and he did, leaving everyone dumbfounded, as if Lady Luck herself had descended.

Nathan seemed a bit disappointed. He took a sip from a beer bottle he'd somehow acquired, sighed deeply, and complained, "I don't even know if Randall is really that good."

At that moment, Chloe, who had been silent, suddenly smiled and said, "I have two million in chips. Who dares to gamble with me?"

"Pfft..." Nathan, who was drinking his beer, was startled by Chloe's words, and spat out his drink. He looked at Chloe in surprise, blinking in disbelief, repeatedly confirming if those words really came from the "innocent, kind-hearted, cute, smart and wise" Chloe.

"You are serious..."

Everyone gasped in shock. Had this woman lost her mind?

"To win six hundred thousand, plus your initial two million... that's just insane..." And incredibly stupid!

"I just want to have some fun." Chloe spoke again, this time directly to Damon.

Damon, looking at her expectant gaze, could only nod. "Let's play then."

People shook their heads. "Spoiling a woman this much is overdoing it. It's just wasting money."

Damon looked at them impassively. "Then what do I earn money for?"

Everyone. "What?"

Damon continued, "Earning money is, of course, to spend on women."

Everyone was speechless. Nathan and Kane could only hold their foreheads in disbelief. So that was the purpose of earning money!

Just then, Damon's phone rang. He glanced at Nathan and Kane beside him, got their assurance, and then looked at Chloe. He was abroad now, and unless it was really important, no one would call him.

Chloe gave him a look, and Damon picked up his phone and turned away.

Meanwhile, on the staircase of the second floor, someone noticed the excitement downstairs. He peeked through the railing and saw a crowd of people gathering. The people in the center were all facing away from him, so he couldn't see their faces.

"What's going on?" He asked the casino manager with a frown.

"There's a new lady from H Country. She doesn't know anything about gambling. She's already lost hundreds of thousands, but now she wants to win it all back! She even wants to place a two-million bet."

Rhys raised an eyebrow. "A newbie? Quite ballsy."

"Yes, she seems to know nothing about the rules of any of the games here, and she just suddenly showed up."

"I'll go check it out. I've been having bad luck these days, might as well use her to turn it around."

Rhys was a well–known figure in Las Vegas. When he came down from upstairs, some familiar faces began to make a fuss.

"Make way. Make way. Let Rhys through!"

Hearing these words, Chloe laughed. Seeing her subtle expression, Damon also smiled. This woman was truly unpredictable.

When they heard Rhys was coming over, everyone knew he was not to be trifled with and quickly made way for him.

As Rhys approached and saw Chloe, his legs became weak. If he hadn't steadied himself in time, he would have fallen. Maybe it was an illusion, but seeing Chloe made the places where he'd been whipped hurt.

"It's you! What are you doing here?"

Chloe looked at Rhys with a surprised expression. "Viscount Rhys, what a coincidence to meet you here. I was just bored and thought I'd come out for

some air."

Chloe propped her chin on her hand and smiled at him. "Long time no see, are you well, Viscount Rhys? I heard you invested a large sum of money in the Alonso Corporation. Is that true?"

Rhys suddenly felt a chill. He'd been spending his days in the casino lately and was completely unaware of what was happening outside. He was even ignorant of what had happened at the state banquet.

Aya had called him yesterday, telling him she wanted to buy the Alonso family's shares and needed his investment. He respected Ava greatly and had no objections to her decisions. So without asking any questions, he agreed. He had just signed the documents and was preparing to approve them.

Rhys looked at Chloe warily and asked coldly, "How do you know?"

Chloe raised an eyebrow, stood up, and said, "I was just asking, but none of this matters. You just said you wanted to gamble with me, didn't you? Shall we start now?"

Rhys had complicated feelings towards Chloe. He loved Chloe's personality, but he had been rejected by her when he pursued her, and she had humiliated him in front of the media. He was annoyed and unwilling!

Moreover, Chloe was Damon's woman, which made him want her even more.

Atwo-million bet was a high-stakes game. People started to gather around to watch. Seeing Chloe's fearless demeanor, some people began to caution her.

"You better quit while you're ahead. Losing six hundred thousand is better than losing a lot more later."

"Rhys is a renowned gambler, so you're bound to lose horribly."

"Stop joking around. Gotta know when to quit."

If he wanted to win Chloe's heart, this was undoubtedly a good opportunity. Rhys gave a faint smile, saying, "To be honest, I'm not short of money, and I don't want to make you lose too badly. So, I agree to gamble with you. If I lose, I lose money. If you lose, you lose yourself. How about it?"

Chloe didn't know anything. After all, he could easily handle her. This woman he'd wanted for so long would definitely be his.

Actually, when it came to picking ladies, Rhys didn't necessarily have to go for Chloe. But the fact that he couldn't have her, a woman he rarely took a fancy to, kind of grinded his gears.

After all, there was a world of difference between a woman you couldn't get and a woman you'd had your fun with and then ditched.