## Ex Convict 1801

Chapter 1801

He looked up at her and said, "Grace, you'll never be a burden to me. You're my everything."

Her heart jumped. This man was so deeply in love with her. It was the same five years ago and the same five years later!

She moved out of bed.

"What's the matter? Do you want a glass of water or go to the bathroom?" he asked as he got up and walked quickly to her side.

"Nothing, I just... suddenly want to touch you," said Grace. Although the bandages on her hands had been removed and she only had to apply some scar-lightening cream on the wounds every day, her fingers were still unable to move. She also needed to stimulate the nerves in her hands with slight electric currents

every day.

"Where do you want to touch? My face?" asked Jason as he gently took Grace's hand and pressed it against his cheek.

His cool cheek touched her warm fingers, and he gently rubbed

his cheek against her palm.

She always made him feel warm.

The next moment, he picked her up in his arms and placed her on

the large hospital bed.

She appeared shimmer on the white bedsheets. Her injured hands

made her look pitiful and delicate.

Jason gently kissed Grace on the forehead. "Grace, I love you."

"I love you just like how you love me," said Grace.

Jason's eyes dimmed slightly. Does she know how much I love her? Does she... love me as much as I do?

"If so, how great would that be?

He should be content with how things were. As long as she loved him, it did not matter even if she did not love him as much as he

loved her!

His fingers tenderly unbuttoned the hospital gown she was wearing, and he put himself on top of her...

## Chapter 1802

"I'll have someone tidy up the place later," said Jason.

"Oh," said Grace as she blushed.

Jason helped Grace clean up and changed her into a clean hospital gown.

"By the way, Dr. Russell said I can be discharged in two days. I'd like to see Mason after that," said Grace.

Mason had been discharged from the hospital, but he refused to live in Reed Residence no matter what. He wanted to go back to the He family's house just because Veronica Barlow lived there.

Grace did not want Mason to become even more resistant to them, so after discussing with Jason, they decided to let him stay in the He family's house.

Of course, the He family agreed and were eager to take good care of Mason However, Grace knew that the He family just wanted to get on the Reed family's good side.

Jason replied, "Okay, if you want the child to move back to the

Reed Residence, then I'll think of something else."

It was not difficult for him to bring the little one back to Reed

Residence, but he had to use some tricks.

"Let's take it slow. After all, we've waited for five years. It doesn't matter if we need to wait a little longer for him to accept us and come back to Reed Residence," said Grace.

"Then we'll do as you say." Jason agreed.

On the day Grace was discharged from the hospital, Lina was afraid she would give her best friend trouble if she went. After finding out that her best friend wanted to see Mason, she simply waited in Kyla's store.

When school was about to end, Lina saw the small figure walking to the school gate. He was waiting for his beloved sister to come

out.

However, Mason was not alone this time. Archer Barlow and Rosalind Bush accompanied Mason. They looked just like two

guards.

One was holding a thermos flask while the other was holding a variety of snacks and fruits. They crouched down from time to time, seemingly lovingly telling the little one something.

However, the little one paid no attention to them. He looked straight at the school gate.

"How shameless of them! They used to treat Mason so badly. They've completely changed their attitude now!" Lina said to Kyla

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when Grace tried to crouch down and hug ham, he sti

away. He was clearly unwilling

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Chapter 1803

Rosalind Bush, who was nearby, looked enthusiastic as she said,

"Mrs. Reed, don't take it to heart. Mason's still little. Don't worry,

Yetian and I will take good care of him while you let him stay at the

He family's house!"

Rosalind Bush seemed to have forgotten how they used to treat

Mason!

The He family thought the longer Mason stayed in the He family

the better. That way, the He family would have a better chance of

getting on the Reed family's good side.

Lina walked over from the store. After hearing Rosalind Bush's

hypocritical words, she sneered and said, "I wonder who beat up such a small child until there were wounds all over his body previously. How shameless of you to say that!"

Rosalind Bush's expression stiffened.

Lina crouched down again and looked at Mason. "You should know that your mommy suffered a lot for you. You're able to stand here and wait for your sister to finish school because your sty saved you by disregarding her own life!"

Mason's pretty little mouth was tightly closed and he did not say a

word.

Lina had dealt with the little one before and understood that his

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personality was not quite the same as ordinary children.

"Your mommy is the one who loves you the most, got it?" asked Lina.

"The one who loves me the most is Sis!"

'Huh?' Lina was amused by the little one. "Do you know what it feels like to love someone that much?"

"Sis loves me the most, and I love Sis the most!" Mason said confidently.

"This kid..." Lina was speechless by the little one's stubbornness.

'Love? How would a five-year-old know what that means?"

Grace said, "Alright, Mason. Daddy and I are the ones who love. you!"

Just then, the bell rang. The little one immediately stopped

speaking and stared intently at the students coming out of the

school.

Finally, when Veronica Barlow's small figure walked out of the school gate, Mason ran toward her and threw himself into her

arms.

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Looking at Mason's attachment to Veronica Barlow, Grace felt a little bitter. However, she still felt grateful to Veronica Barlow.

If it were not for the little girl protecting Mason with her tiny body, Mason's life in the past two years would have been a lot worse.

Mason was probably so attached to Veronica Barlow because she truly cared about him.

"aunt Cummins, Uncle Reed." After Veronica Barlow saw them, she asked a little timidly, "Are you... here to take Mason away?"

Mason hugged her even tighter when she asked that.

Grace said, "No, we're just here to see Mason. Mason may be staying at your house for a while."

Veronica Barlow instantly felt a burst of relief when she heard that.

Grace talked to Veronica Barlow again. Then, she insisted on sending Veronica Barlow and Mason back to the He family's house. Jason naturally accompanied her while Archer Barlow and Rosalind Bush looked elated and smug.

If word got out that Jason and his wife had gone to their house, everyone would think highly of them!

Lina said to Grace, "I'm not going to the He family's house. How are your hands? Did the doctor say when they would return to normal?"

Chapter 1804

"It'll take about a year and a half to heal, but he said I should be able to carry light things in a week. After a month, I should be able to do simple things like typing and writing," said Grace.

"That's good." Lina breathed a sigh of relief.

Grace said goodbye to Kyla before heading to the He family's

house.

Lina sat in the store and said to Kyla, "Grace was eager to meet her son as soon as she got discharged, but Mason..."

Kyla said, "He's still young and unfamiliar with Grace. Maybe

they'll get closer after some time. I saw how that boy is attached

to his sister. That means he'll accept anyone who is truly kind to

him."

"I hope so," said Lina.

The two chatted, and Nelson soon returned. Nelson Corbyn greeted Lina politely when he saw her.

"Why are your clothes so dirty? Did you fall?" asked Kyla.

"I accidentally fell," said Nelson Corbyn.

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"Your pants are torn." Lina saw a hole in the knee of Nelson's pants, which she thought was caused by the fall.

"Go change your pants. I'll mend them," said Kyla.

Nelson Corbyn responded and went to the room at the back to change his pants.

Lina looked at Nelson Corbyn's tiny figure and frowned slightly. Then, she looked again at Kyla, who was busy with her store. Linal walked to the room at the back.

Nelson Corbyn was about to take off his pants. His face instantly turned red when he saw Lina.

Before he could speak, Lina took a step forward and asked, "Did you get into a fight?"

Nelson Corbyn's expression stiffened when she asked that.

"Don't lie. Your Aunt Lina used to fight almost every day when I was little and made my parents worry a lot. You've always been a cautious child. If you had really fallen, you wouldn't have ended up like this. Here, here, and here... These are all signs of friction." Lina pointed to a few spots on Nelson Corbyn's clothes. She also

grabbed Nelson's pants legs and pulled them up, revealing several

bruises on his calves.

Lina asked, "What's going on?" Nelson was not a troublemaker. On the contrary, he was a quiet child who would not cause

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trouble. "Is someone bullying you at school?"

Nelson trembled slightly. Lina was right.

"Why are they bullying you?" asked Lina.

Nelson hesitated a little before saying, "Because I wear hearing aids. They say people like me should go to school for disabled people. They also said Mommy must have done something bad to give birth to a disabled child."

Lina's nose instantly felt sore when she heard this. She straightened up. "Who said this? I'll talk to their parents!"

"Aunt Lina!" Nelson yanked Lina. "Don't... Don't go look for their parents. I don't want Mommy to know about this."

He knew his hearing disability was his mother's sore spot. Every time she saw his hearing aid, his mother's eyes would flash with guilt.

His mother kept saying he could not hear because she had taken fever medicine when she was pregnant.

However, he did not blame his mother at all. He thought his

mother was the best! He did not want to see her sad.

He would not have fought today if those guys had not talked

about his mother.

Chapter 1805

Lina saw Nelson's nervousness and could not help sighing, "Okay, I won't tell your mommy. If those people talk about you like that again, call me. I can talk to your teacher and we'll see how we can stop this!"

Nelson obediently replied, "Thank you, Aunt Lina!"

Lina touched Nelson's head. The child was so sensible that it made people feel sorry for him sometimes.

He was only nine years old but was already burdened with more hardships than other children his age.

Neither noticed Kyla at the door. She was leaning against the wall with tears welling in her eyes.

It had occurred to her that Nelson would be discriminated against for his hearing disability, but the boy had never mentioned it to her. Hence, she always assumed that his classmates were not discriminating against him.

He could spend his schooling days healthily and happily while learning like ordinary children.

However, it seemed that it was wishful thinking after all.

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'He should have been a healthy child! He doesn't deserve to be discriminated against.

'I did this to him. It's my fault..."

Kyla only felt her heart throbbing with fits of pain...

Grace and Jason came to the He family's house. Archer Barlow and his wife wanted to inform all their neighbors.

However, due to Jason's cold gaze, Archer Barlow and his wife dared not do anything.

Grace found that the He family had reorganized Mason's room.

However, according to Veronica Barlow, Mason did not sleep in this room at night. Instead, he would come to her room and sleep with her.

"I like to sleep with Sis," said Mason.

When Grace was ready to leave the He family's house, Veronica Barlow could not help asking, "aunt Cummins, can Mason still be my brother?"

She knew that Mason would return to the Reed family one day. What she feared most was that Mason would no longer have. anything to do with her after he left the He family.

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Mason still had the surname He, and he was her younger brother. She and Mason were sister and brother, not people who had nothing to do with each other.

"Sure," said Grace as she glanced at the nearby couple who were pretending to be good parents. Then, her eyes fell on Veronica Barlow. "Veronica, have you thought about my suggestion? You can move to the Reed family's house with Mason. The Reed family will cover all your living expenses and tuition fees. You don't need to worry about anything."

Veronica Barlow hesitated for a moment before shaking her head. "My... daddy's still here, and my mommy left me this house. I don't want to leave it."

There were memories of her mother in this house.

At this moment when Grace was looking at Veronica Barlow, she thought of herself. "Okay then. Call me if you're in any trouble."

"Thank you, aunt Cummins," said Veronica Barlow.

Back at Reed Residence, the two little ones had come back from kindergarten. When they saw Grace, Jasper rushed forward to kiss and hug her, saying she missed her mommy. Then, she asked her sweetly, "Do your hands still hurt? They'll stop hurting if I blow on them."

As Jasper spoke, she leaned forward with her little head and blew

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on Grace's hands, making Grace's heart melt.

Chapter 1806

Mick Reed walked up to Grace a little hesitantly. There seemed to

be a look of struggle on his little face.

"Mick, what's wrong?" Grace looked at her eldest son in

confusion.

Mick Reed's face was tense and slightly red. Then, he hugged Grace, who had crouched down, and kissed her on the cheek.

"Mommy, I... I... missed... I missed you too..."

Mick Reed's face grew redder after saying this. After all, it was the first time he was saying such a thing in front of so many people.

After saying that, Mick Reed saw a happy and excited smile on his mother's face. He suddenly felt happy to have said those words.

If his mother liked it, then... he would voice out more in the future. However, it would be difficult... if she wanted him to do and say the same things as his sister.

There was a little boy nearby watching what was going on. He had seen the woman before and knew she was Jasper Reed's mother.

'She's also the woman Mommy hates!"

His mother had once told him that he and Jasper could never be

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friends. He did not understand why at the time, but now he did.

His mother almost killed this woman. He had received a lot of criticism while he was here. Everybody knew whose child he was as well as what his mother had done.

The child of a maid had even run up to him and spat at him,

saying he was the child of a bad person so he would also be a bad person in the future!

'Is Mommy... a bad person? I guess so, but she's also my mommy. That's never going to change."

He remembered Jasper jumping in front of him and shielding him. The spit got all over her new beautiful pink dress.

The maid's child had paled with fear and they could not say a word. The other maids' children were also stunned as they watched the scene.

Jasper said in a loud and clear voice, "His mommy's the one who did something bad, not him. He's not a bad kid, and he's never going to be one!"

Then, she took him by the hand and went back to her room.

She looked a little regretfully at her dirtied dress. "What a pity. I like this dress a lot."

"I'm sorry," he uttered those two words, which was rare for him.

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Jasper blinked in confusion. "Why are you apologizing to me? You're not the one who spat on my dress."

"If you hadn't shielded me..."

"I did it of my own accord," she said.

Then, she asked the maid in charge of looking after her to help her

get another dress to change into.

From then on, the pink dress was deeply imprinted into his memory.

After she changed out of her dirtied dress, she played the piano with him.

She kept having him play the piano with her these days, and he was also amazed at her piano skills. His piano teacher once said he was a genius.

However, it seemed to him that she was more gifted than he was.

Although he could play all the notes perfectly, it seemed that the music he played was never as beautiful as hers. 'Is this what the teacher meant by playing with feelings?"

Chapter 1807

"Why did you rush out to shield me and stand up for me?" he asked in a mutter when they were done playing the piano.

"You're my friend. Of course, I'm going to help you! Besides,

they're wrong. It was your mommy who did the wrong thing, not you. Why should they criticize you?" she said justly.

'Friend?'

He looked at her blankly. They were not friends!

In the Reed family's living room, Grace looked at Lily's son and could not help sighing.

The boy she previously admired for playing the piano so well was unexpectedly Lily's son.

"You must be William. We've met before. I'm Mick and Jasper's mommy. You can call me aunt Cummins," said Grace.

She did not want to involve the younger generation in the older generation's grudges. Since Jasper insisted on keeping the child. in the Reed family, she hoped that the child could live in peace. with everyone in the Reed family with no hatred in his heart.

Fortunately, she did not see hatred or anger in his eyes but

trepidation instead.

"If you have something you want to say to me, go ahead," said

Grace.

William said, "I want to see my mommy."

Jason's eyes narrowed instantly, but he heard Grace say, "Okay, I'll arrange for you to see your mommy."

Once they were back in their room, Jason asked, "Are you really

going to let that kid see Lily?"

Grace said, "The kid is innocent. He just misses his mother.

What's more, if I reject his request, the child will end up doing something unexpected if he really wants to see his mother."

"I'll make the arrangements," said Jason.

However, before William could meet Lily, news came that Lily had committed suicide in the detention center.

Lily had killed herself with a small iron awl. No one knew how it came into her possession, but she had resolutely stabbed it into her heart.

After examining her corpse, the forensic expert said she had been determined to die as her actions were very decisive.

What was even more impressive was that she died with a smile on

her lips as if it was a relief!

Grace was momentarily stunned when she heard the news.

"Lily, the woman who changed the course of my life, killed herself?"

Then again, Lily was once a renowned celebrity. If she went to trial, it would probably be all over the news. How could someone like Lily accept it?

It was better to commit suicide than to show others her worst

side.

Grace had no sympathy for her but she pitied William!

When Grace told the child, his little body quivered and all colors left his face. However, instead of crying, he said to Grace, "I want to see my mommy, may I?"

Grace looked at the little one who was in front of her. 'A

five-year-old child should already know what life and death mean.

Letting a child see a corpse, which is also the corpse of his own.

mother..."

"May I?" asked William as he looked at Grace.

Chapter 1808

"Okay, I'll take you to your mommy," said Grace.

Jason, who was standing beside them said, "I'll take him. The

doctor said you should stay at home and rest. You shouldn't move your hands. Otherwise, they won't recover."

Grace thought about it for a moment and nodded. "Okay then. You can take William."

Jason had arranged for William to see Lily at two o'clock.

In the back seat of the Bentley, William sat quietly beside Jason, just like a quiet doll.

Jason was a little impressed with the child's temperament. It was hard to conceive that someone like Lily had raised a child like him.

This child was only five years old but was able to keep a calm. composure and even asked to see his mother's body after shel committed suicide. Not many adults had such temperament.

Such a person was either born indifferent or... he knew how to control his temper and possessed shrewdness that did not belong

to kids his age.

However, which was he?

Jason was suddenly a little curious about the child's father. The child was good-looking, but he did not resemble Lily much. In

other words, the child looked more like his father.

When he had people search Lily's records, he failed to find out who the child's biological father was.

Lily's body was temporarily stored at the funeral home because it had been forensically examined.

Jason asked the worker to take William to see Lily's body while he walked to another room.

When he reached the room, the head of the funeral home was already waiting there. As soon as he saw Jason, he bowed and said, "Mr. Reed, have a seat. Everything has been arranged just as you ordered."

"Okay," Jason replied indifferently.

Right in front of his chair was a large electronic screen with several

split screens. They showed the same room that contained a

coffin. Inside it lay Lily.

Soon, two figures entered the room.

One of them was a funeral home worker, while the other was

William.

The worker seemed to say something to William, and the little one walked over to the coffin and quietly looked at Lily, who was lying

inside.

No one knew what the kid was thinking.

Jason stared thoughtfully at the screen as if he was thinking

about something.

For half an hour, the little one merely looked at his mother without shedding a tear or saying anything. Then, he turned to the worker who had brought him here and said, "Uncle, I'm done seeing my

mommy."

The worker took William out of the room.

Jason got up and turned to the head of the funeral home, saying,

"Ask the Atkinson family to claim the body."

"Yes," the head of the funeral home replied.

Jason got back into the car, and William came over after a while.

The car slowly drove away from the funeral home.

Chapter 1809

On the way back, Jason said nonchalantly, "You should have. seen everything you needed to see. I'm not interested in knowing what you're thinking right now, but I want you to be obedient

and not have any funny ideas while you're staying with the Reed family. Don't hurt Jasper and Mick!"

Even though William was only five years old, Jason spoke unsparingly and straightforwardly.

William looked up at Jason. "Uncle Reed, when are you sending

me away?"

Jason raised his eyebrows slightly, seemingly a little surprised by the child's incisiveness. Indeed, he never intended to let the child stay with the Reed family for long since the very beginning.

"When Jasper gets tired of you, I'll let you leave the Reed family. But until then, you'd better keep her company, got it? If she's happy, I'll arrange for you to go somewhere better after you leave the Reed family."

The little one fiddled with his hands, and a layer of cold sweat

broke out on his forehead.

Although the little one seemed calm at the moment, his young age made it easy to see how nervous he was.

"I'm just... Jasper's toy, aren't I?" the young voice asked.

Jason smiled, "William, you're smart. You're right. As far as I'm concerned, you're just Jasper's toy. As long as you stay out

of trouble, I won't mistreat you when Jasper doesn't want you anymore."

William felt the air getting colder. Being stared at by the man in front of him gave him a sense of dread.

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Just like the other night when he pretended to be asleep and listened to Uncle Reed and Jasper's conversation, Uncle Reed had said in a nonchalant voice that he could chop off his hand so that the handcuffs would not be an issue anymore.

'Uncle Reed's... a terrible man!"

Even though Uncle Reed was smiling at him, he was terrified!

"Okay..." The word escaped his little mouth.

'A toy! I'm just a toy!"

His mother had once said, "William, you know what? Power and wealth determine everything in this world. Sadly, you can only let someone else control your destiny if you don't have them!"

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"What about me? Am I just a toy because I don't have the power and wealth that Mommy said?

"Uncle Reed has power and wealth. Is that why he can decide everything so easily?"

When he saw his mother lying in the coffin, he realized that he was all alone from now on. He no longer had a mother!

On this cold night, William snuggled in his covers that should have been warm. However, instead of feeling warm, he felt colder.

His mother was not usually very kind and gentle to him. She even used to pinch him in the face and say, "If I had known how tiring raising a child would be, I wouldn't have given birth to you. I'm just making myself miserable!"

However, he still wanted his mother to be alive.

Then he would not be alone.

Just then, a small hand reached its way into his covers. Startled,

he yanked the covers back and exposed his head. His eyes were instantly met with a pair of bright ones.

"Huh? William, why are you crying?" Jasper was surprised to see

that William's beautiful eyes were red and wet.

Jasper had never seen William cry, not even when he was chastised by the maids' children.

Chapter 1810

"I... I'm not crying," said William as he turned his little head away. with some embarrassment.

"Your eyes are red," said Jasper Reed. Following the direction of William's face, she moved closer to him. Then, she reached out her hand and used her fingers to dab under his eyes.

There were tears on her fingers.

Her action was so sudden that he was caught off guard.

"Look, it's your tears!" She stuck out her little tongue and licked the tears from her fingers as she said, "It's salty!"

William's face turned even redder. He was a little flustered.

"Why are you crying?" Jasper leaned her little head forward

and asked, "Is it because your mommy is gone?" She heard her parents say William's mother had died in prison.

'Dying... means he'll never see her again!

'That's what it meant on TV!'

William's little face was tense, and he was silent.

Jasper said grimly, "If my mommy's gone, I'd cry too. For many, many days! I won't laugh if you want to cry!"

"I won't cry." William took a while to utter the words.

Jasper blinked and took two pieces of chocolate out of her

pocket. "This chocolate is delicious. Every time I eat it, I won't feel. sad anymore. Give it a try!"

He looked at the chocolate in her hand somewhat blankly. "Did

she come to my room at night to give me chocolate?"

When aunt Cummins came back, he was given a separate

bedroom. He had been sleeping alone in his new bedroom

recently.

"I know how hard this must be for you." As Jasper spoke, she peeled off the wrapper and held the chocolate to his mouth. "Ah!"

She also demonstrated opening her mouth, hinting at him to open. his mouth and eat the chocolate.

However, his little mouth was still pressed together tightly.

"Eat it. It's delicious!" she said as if wondering why he was keeping his mouth shut.

He continued to press his lips together while she continued to hold the chocolate. For a moment, they seemed to be locked in at

stalemate.

After a long while, he suddenly asked, "Why are you giving me chocolate? What does it matter if I'm upset?"

"We're friends. William, you're a very, very important friend of mine!" she answered matter-of-factly.

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'Friends?' He bit his lip. They were not friends at all, nor could they ever be! He was nothing more than a toy to please her!

If she were upset, Uncle Reed would punish her! William's tiny body shuddered again at the thought of Uncle Reed's warnings.

"William, don't you like chocolate?" Jasper Reed's small brows furrowed, and she looked like she was in a dilemma.

William hesitated a little before opening his mouth to eat the chocolate she was holding.

The sweet taste instantly spread in his mouth, but he did not feel

better.

He was just a toy. He could not make Jasper upset. He would

suffer if Jasper was upset!

William kept his head down and ate the chocolate in silence. Suddenly, he heard sobbing noises. He looked up in confusion, only to find that Jasper Reed's face was full of tears.