

Ex Convict 2011

Chapter 2011

Seeing this, the class teacher said with displeasure on their face, "This is the discipline office. If you're not a parent,

please leave. I'll only talk to the parents about this." They were trying to kick Grace, Lina, and Hadwin Stephenson out of the discipline office.

"Really?" Hadwin Stephenson took out his phone, dialed a number, and said to the person on the other end of the line, "I'm Hadwin Stephenson. I'm having some issues here. Please ask the principal of this school to come to the discipline office."

Hadwin Stephenson then gave them the name of the school.

The student's mother looked at Hadwin Stephenson like he was a fool. "Who do you think you are? If anyone can just summon the principal, won't the principal be awfully busy?"

The class teacher also looked angrily at Hadwin Stephenson, only thinking he was here to cause trouble! "Sir, please leave immediately, or I'll call security."

Meanwhile, the student's father was staring at Hadwin Stephenson's face, finding it familiar. Besides, when he made the phone call, he had called himself Hadwin Stephenson.

'Stephenson...

2/3

Just then, the principal rushed into the discipline office. After looking around the room, they immediately headed toward Hadwin Stephenson. After all, there were only two men there. One was the boy's father, who donated money to the school every year, so the principal knew him.

The principal hurried over to Hadwin Stephenson. "You must be Mr. Stephenson. I'm the principal of this school. I'm so sorry. I wonder why you asked me here? Did something happen?"

The principal's attitude immediately surprised the class teacher, who hurried forward. "Sir, Mr. Stephenson is..."

"Mr. Stephenson is the president of Stephenson Group. What on earth is going on here?" the principal asked.

The class teacher immediately turned pale as cold sweat broke out on their forehead. "It's... It's just a misunderstanding."

Stephenson Group. Even if the class teacher did not know the name of the president of Stephenson Group, they had heard of the company. The problem was that they did not expect a big shot like that to be here!

The student's parents seemed to realize it too. Their faces turned pale and awkward. 'The president of Stephenson Group?'

'Gosh. How did this happen? Didn't that deaf kid only have a
have the president of Stephenson Group backing her?"

3/3

"There was no mistake in what I heard," Hadwin Stephenson said with a half-smile. He told the principal what Lina told him. "My friend's child does have a hearing problem, but your teacher thinks it's okay for parents to discriminate against students with hearing loss. The child did nothing wrong but is being forced to apologize and even at the risk of getting thrown out of the school all because he has a hearing problem. You should know what effect this will have on the school if it's reported in the news."

Hearing this, the principal immediately smiled awkwardly. "How is that possible? Our school treats all students equally."

The student's parents also hastened to reply, "It's a misunderstanding. It's just a misunderstanding! It's our child's fault, and we apologize for that. Just tell us how much money you need for your medical expenses. We'll pay you!"

With that said, the couple immediately grabbed their son and was about to apologize to Nelson Corbyn and Kyla.

However, Nelson Corbyn and Kyla would not accept their apology. Nelson Corbyn even stepped back with a look of rejection on his face.

Chapter 2012

Hadwin Stephenson said lazily, "I think you can save the apology. Since you just said that your child can't be in the same class as Nelson, you should transfer to another school. That way, you don't have to stay in the same class."

The couple and their child were dumbfounded. They had never thought of transferring. They had been making donations to the school every year. Their donations would have gone to waste if they transferred.

Just then, the principal looked at Grace and suddenly froze.

"Mrs. Reed, what... What are you doing here?"

"Oh, I'm the child's godmother. My godson is in trouble. Of course, I have to come and see what's going on," said Grace.

The principal was stunned when he heard that. "Is this child... Is this child your and Young master Reed's godson?"

"Yes, my husband adores the child too," said Grace.

The couple was shocked when they heard the words 'Young master Reed. In Emerald City, only one man was referred to as 'Young master Reed'. Besides, the principal looked so respectful, so they were probably referring to Jason.

ther with bitterness in their

If they had known that the child had Hadwin Stephenson, the

2/3

president of Stephenson Group, and Young master Reed of the Reed family as their backer, they would have let their son suck up to him. They would have gotten on the Stephenson and the Reed families' good side.

However... they had now made themselves their enemy!

The class teacher beside them seemed to realize who 'Young master Reed' might be. Their face instantly turned pale, and they could not help trembling.

What... What have I done?' The class teacher just wanted to slap themselves.

The fiasco ended just like that. Grace and the rest left the school. She took Kyla and Nelson Corbyn to the hospital to

order Nelson Corbyn a new hearing aid, while Lina went home with Hadwin Stephenson first.

Lina seemed worried on their way home.

"What's the matter? Are you still thinking about Nelson's incident?" asked Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina said, "Yeah. I didn't expect some children to be so... mean. Although Nelson has a problem with his hearing, he's as normal as other kids once he puts on his hearing aid. He has no problem communicating. Nelson is even much smarter than ordinary children."

3/2

Hadwin Stephenson said, "There are always people who look at others' flaws differently. Ignore them. Their transfer will serve as a warning to others, and no one will discriminate against Nelson anymore."

"There are still a lot of people who look at Nelson differently even though Nelson is better than average," said Lina as she lifted her hand and touched her bulging belly. "I... I don't know if our baby will be perfectly healthy!"

After all, even after careful prenatal examination, there were some problems that could not be detected. They would not know if the baby was perfectly healthy until they were born.

"Our baby will be alright," said Hadwin Stephenson.

"But..."

Hadwin Stephenson said, "Even if there's a problem, I'll make sure our child is safe." He was confident.

Chapter 2013

"Alright, don't overthink it. No matter what happens in the future, I'll be there for you," he said.

His melodious voice was not loud, but it could appease her somewhat uneasy heart.

It was as if she had nothing to be afraid of when he was around!

On the other hand, Grace took Nelson and Kyla to the nearby hospital. The doctor examined Nelson and found that the wounds he suffered in the fight were only some skin injuries. They were not serious. However, even if they ordered a new hearing aid now, it would take at least a week.

It also meant Nelson would not be able to hear for a week.

Grace pondered about it and said to Kyla, "Then let's Nelson take a leave of absence from school and return a week later with the new hearing aid. Otherwise, it would be inconvenient for him to attend classes."

Kyla replied gently, "That's all we can do now. I'll withdraw the money I owe you for the hearing aid tomorrow, but... Maybe it won't be enough, so later--"

Crese interrupted her "Kyla. I'm just

Kyla's eyes reddened.

In the small room at night, Kyla looked at her son, who was already asleep. She said to her mother, "Mom, was I wrong?"

"What did you do wrong? It's not your fault that Nelson got hurt today." Mrs. Corbyn comforted her daughter.

"I gave birth to him, but I can't give him a good life. I took fever-reducing medicine when I was pregnant, which made him deaf and discriminated against. I forced him to stay with

me but can't be his strong backer," Kyla said bitterly.

What happened in the discipline office today showed her how much injustice her son was suffering from at school.

However, he had never mentioned them in front of her.

If Hadwin Stephenson had not shown up and Grace was not the mistress of the Reed family, then things might not have

ended so easily.

Although she never envied any position or power, sometimes the difference could be so striking!

"If Nelson was with Martin Weiss, he'd be the heir of the Weiss family. No one would dare to bully him and discriminate against him," murmured Kyla.

3/3

Mrs. Corbyn froze. Then, as if realizing something, she asked, "You... You're not thinking of handing Nelson to Martin Weiss, are you?"

Kyla was silent.

However, her silence told Mrs. Corbyn that it was indeed what

her daughter had in mind. "How could you hand Nelson to Martin Weiss? Nelson has always hated Martin Weiss! Besides, would you be in jail if it wasn't for him? Would Nelson be deaf?"

"But Nelson is the Weiss family's only child. At least, Nelson's the only child Martin Weiss has. If he's in the Weiss family, the Weiss family will at least give him enough protection. He'll... have a better future than if he were to stay with me."

The wealth and status of the Weiss family was something she could not give to her son!

"But Nelson has a flaw. Families like the Weiss family won't want him at all. Martin Weiss can just get a wife and give birth to plenty of healthy children!" said Mrs. Corbyn.

Chapter 2014

Kyla looked down slightly and sighed, "Yes, he can have plenty of healthy children if he wants to."

"So don't think about handing Nelson to Martin Weiss. The two of us can raise the boy well. The school principal and teachers already know Nelson has Grace, the mistress of the Reed family as his godmother, so no one will dare to bully him

anymore."

Mrs. Corbyn paused and then said, "Besides, Nelson's your everything. If you give him to Martin Weiss, what will you do? Can you really take it?"

"Alright, Mom. It's getting late. You'd better go to bed early,"

said Kyla.

Once Mrs. Corbyn left the room, Kyla's eyes fell on her son's wounded and swollen cheek once more.

Her son was her life, so she could risk her life for Nelson.

As long as Nelson could have a bright future, she could do anything!

bad happened at the

2/4

"Even my heart broke when I saw the way Nelson looked today, let alone Kyla," said Grace. A well-behaved child like Nelson would not have done that if he had not been pushed to his limit.

Jason consoled her, saying, "After today, no one in that school will dare to bully him again.""

"I guess so. The principal will probably talk to all the other teachers at school. Even though they won't bully him openly and directly, I wonder if they'll isolate him because of his flaws or something. He's only in primary school now. What about. middle school, high school..."

Jason said, "No one can bear these for him. He has to slowly grow up and face these things himself. He's a boy, so he has to be tough. Otherwise, how is he going to protect the people he wants to protect in the future?"

"We can only hope Nelson will get stronger," said Grace, and the conversation turned to the triplets' birthday.

The triplets' birthday was approaching. It was the first birthday with all the triplets found, so Grace was taking it seriously.

The triplets were separated in the past. With all three together now, they hoped to officially announce the Reed family's triplets to the public with this birthday party.

Although Grace had hoped the triplets' birthday would be occasion.

3/4

However, Grace was shocked when she saw the guestlist Jason showed her.

"It's... just a children's birthday party. Do we have to invite all these people?"

"Either we don't invite anyone, or we have to invite all of them. Some people will overthink if we don't invite them," said Jason.

Grace thought about it and agreed. However, almost all of Emerald City's upper class were coming. It no longer seemed to be the three children's birthday party but a party for the upper class!

In the Reed family's house, William was also thinking about the triplets' birthday.

The butler said the triplets would be having a big party for their birthday this year, but... he could not attend.

'After all, you know what kind of relationship your mother had with the Reed family. If you attend the party, you'll be photographed by reporters at the party. Someone will reveal your identity and give the Reed family a hard time. So stay in your room on the day of the birthday party, okay?'

Uncle Kwan's words echoed again in his mind.

He would have liked to celebrate her birthday but was condemned to stay in his room without going anywhere.

Chapter 2015

"William, what's the matter?" Jasper Reed's child-like voice rang in William's ears.

He came back to his senses and quickly looked at the person in front of him.

"Did you hear what I told you?" she asked.

"What?" he asked.

"My birthday is only a week away. You mustn't forget to give me a present!" The little one asked for a present.

"A present?" He froze.

"No present?"

William instantly felt a pang of guilt when her beautiful almond-shaped eyes blinked, looking disappointed.

It was as if it would be a heinous crime if he did not give her a birthday present.

"What... What present do you want?" he asked in a stammer.

"You can only make it a surprise if I don't know what you're

sive it to me in

2/3

She could not help smiling as she spoke.

He looked blankly at her smile. There was... no way he could give her a present in front of everyone because he could not even attend her birthday party.

However, his mouth could not help saying 'okay' because he did not want to see her smile turn into disappointment.

Jasper rolled up her small blanket in content and soon fell asleep beside him.

William was awake. With his clear eyes wide open, he looked at Jasper Reed's sweet sleeping face.

How he wished he could go to her birthday party and give her the present in front of everyone as she wanted!

Her present... haunted William's mind, but he had no idea what to give her.

He did not have any money. The Reed family provided him with all the food and necessary things. Even if he wanted to give her a paper crane as a present, the paper would come from the Reed family.

During his lunch break, he snuck out of the kindergarten without

3/3

the guards noticing. He wanted to see what he could buy for Jasper on the streets.

However, all the things he saw cost money. There was no way he could buy them.

'Will I be able to buy Jasper a present if I have money?' His

little hand clutched the piece of paper tightly as he thought of

'The man I'm supposed to call my daddy sounds like a rich man. Will the man give me money if I ask for it?'

However, what the little one did not know was that Philip Barlow was looking at him through the window of a black car parked nearby.

The little one looked up and said something to a woman passing by. Then, she took out her phone, took the paper from the little one's hand, and made a call.

Soon, Philip Barlow's phone started ringing in his hand and a woman's voice sounded. "Hello, Sir. Your son is alone on the street. He asked me to call this number and ask you to come here and pick him up."

The woman gave him the location, and the little one's melodious voice rang out. "Daddy, I'm William. Could you come and get me?"

Chapter 2016

"Okay," Philip Barlow said and ended the phone call. He opened the car door, got out of the car, and walked toward the tiny figure in the crowd.

When Philip Barlow approached his son and the woman who helped him make the phone call, the woman was surprised as if she had not expected the father to come so quickly. He was so... handsome.

"Thank you. I've come to pick up my son," Philip Barlow said to the woman.

"You... You're welcome." The woman blushed a little.

Philip Barlow took William's hand and said, "Let's go."

The little one obediently followed his father to the car parked nearby.

Once they got into the car, Philip Barlow seemed to say nonchalantly, "What's the matter? Have you decided to return to Deer City with me?"

The little one shook his head. "I... I want to borrow some money from you."

"Borrow money?" He seemed to have heard a funny joke.

"Yeah," the little one responded uncomfortably. His pearly white teeth were biting his lip.

Philip Barlow stared at him. "If you're asking me to lend you money, how are you going to pay me back?"

Embarrassment flashed across William's face. 'Yeah, how am I going to pay him back? I can't make money at all!'

Even if he wanted to earn money by performing like buskers, he had no piano!

"I'll lend you the money if you return to Deer City with me," said Philip Barlow.

'Return to Deer City?' His little body stiffened, and he shook his head firmly. "I... I'm not going to Deer City." He wanted to stay with Jasper.

“Do you want to stay with the Reed family so badly? What good will it do for you when you’re so dependent on others’ charity and can’t even afford to buy a present?”

William was instantly surprised when Philip Barlow said this, and his beautiful dark eyes opened wide to look at the man in front of him.

“What’s the matter? Didn’t you ask me to lend you money so you could buy Jasper a birthday present ?”
Philip Barlow

asked in

reply.

William asked in a mutter, “How... do you know?”

“I’m your father. Of course, I know what you’re thinking. Now, what are you going to do if I won’t lend you the money? What will Jasper think of you when you can’t even get her a presentable gift?”

The little one lowered his head and was silent.

“Alright, you’ve been out long enough. I’ll send you back. Otherwise, the kindergarten teacher will worry,” said Philip Barlow before ordering the driver to drive to the kindergarten.

When William returned to the kindergarten, the teacher had noticed that he was missing and was checking the

surveillance footage.

As soon as Jasper saw him come back, she rushed to him and hugged him. “William, why did you go outside? Didn’t

the teacher tell us that we can’t go outside alone? We’ll get kidnapped by bad people.”

“I...” William was silent, too embarrassed to say that he wanted

to see what presents he could buy for her. However, they all

cost a lot of money and he was broke.

Just then, Jasper noticed Philip Barlow. “Thank you for bringing William back, Uncle.”

Chapter 2017

“You’re thanking me?” Philip Barlow chuckled and stared at Jasper Reed. ‘She must be the one who’s making my son reluctant to leave the Reed family!

“I don’t need you to thank me.”

Looking at the man in front of her, Jasper found him a little familiar, but she had no idea it was because William looked somewhat similar to Philip Barlow.

Philip Barlow looked at William. “I hope the next time you come looking for me will be the time you’re willing to leave the Reed family.””

Jasper was shocked as soon as he said that. She immediately pulled William behind her like a hen protecting her chick. However, she was only five years old and was as tall as William.

"William wouldn't want to leave my family! Who are you, Uncle?" Her sixth sense gave her a feeling that the uncle in front of her would steal William away.

"I'm..." Philip Barlow was just about to speak when William suddenly exclaimed, "I'm not leaving!"

Philip Barlow stared at William. Moments later he asked

2/3

Without saying anything else, Philip Barlow turned to leave. Jasper hugged and kissed William. "I knew you wouldn't leave, William!"

However, Mick Reed, who had been quietly staring at

Philip Barlow's leaving figure, seemed to be thinking about something.

In the evening, Jasper came to William's room with her small pillow and blanket to sleep in his bed.

The Reed family was used to Jasper sleeping with William every night.

"William, why did that uncle say that he wanted you to leave the Reed family the next time you look for him? Who's that uncle? Do you know him?" asked Jasper Reed.

Even though the man had left, uneasiness continued to envelop her.

"I..." William clenched his teeth and looked at the pair of clear eyes in front of him. His words were on the tip of his tongue, but what he said was, "No, I don't know him."

He did not want her to know that he had a father. He could

not stay with the Reed family anymore if everyone found out that he had a father.

3/3

didn't you say we're friends and I have to stay here forever?" William's voice stammered a little.

"Yeah." Jasper had a bright smile on her face. "We're friends. William, you can just stay here forever! I'll be nice to you!"

Her smile warmed his heart, but he felt guilty about lying to her at the same time.

He wanted to stay here. He wanted to stay here no matter what!

The birthday party for the Reed family's triplets had become the talk of Emerald City.

Many people only knew about Little Young Master Mick but did not know that there were triplets. The birthday party would be the triplets' first public appearance.

However, the Reed family was very protective of the triplets. The press was stopped at the hotel where the party was being held. All the reporters knew that they would have to blur the triplets' faces in all photos or videos of them.

If they exposed the triplets' faces to the public, they might not be able to make a living in Emerald City anymore.

Chapter 2018

The grand birthday party brought together Emerald City's top elites.

Ordinary people like the He family were only able to attend this party because of Mason, or more specifically, Veronica Barlow!

It would be strange if only Veronica Barlow came, so the He family was also invited.

Looking at the splendid party in front of her and the upper-class people whom she could only see on TV before this, it would be a lie if Rosalind Bush said she was not shocked.

Although she had thought about what to expect since the party was frequently reported on the news, she was still shocked when she arrived.

'Is this what it means to be a rich family?'

Only by holding on to Mason could her family enter high society and get more benefits so that her own son could become rich in the future.

With that in mind, Rosalind Bush smiled as she took her stepdaughter's hand and said. "Come on. Veronica Let's go.

2/4

She also gave her husband a look as she spoke. With a good luck charm like Veronica Barlow around, they were still related to the Reed family even though Jason and Grace often ignored them.

As long as the upper class there saw that they were related to the Reed family, it would greatly benefit their future.

"Yeah. Come on, Veronica. Take your brother's hand. We'll go see Mason and say hello to his parents," Archer Barlow said after receiving the hint.

However, Veronica Barlow looked at everything before her in a trance. She seemed to be stuck in a trance, not hearing what her father and stepmother were saying.

She had always thought of Mason as her younger brother, someone she had to take care of and protect. If she did not take care of Mason, then Mason would be too pitiful.

However, for the first time, she felt so distinctly that Mason was no longer the pitiful brother she thought but what the grown-ups called the young master of a rich family.

Even without her care and protection, Mason could live a good life. He had his daddy, mommy, and so many servants. Many people she had only seen on TV came to celebrate Mason's birthday today. It was something she could not imagine but was happening in reality.

When Veronica Barlow followed her parents to Jason and

3/4

the distinct feeling intensified.

She watched her father and stepmother give all sorts of compliments. Mason was dressed up just like the young master of the super-rich family she saw in TV shows.

He wore a crisp small suit with a small bow tie. His leather shoes were shiny, and his black hair was combed neatly, making his beautiful face look even better.

However, this Mason felt unfamiliar to her.

It was not until he looked at her with his dark eyes, came to her side, grasped her hand tightly, and called her 'Sis' that Veronica Barlow regained her senses.

'Mason... is still Mason, my baby brother! Even if Mason is the young master of the Reed family, even if he will one day leave the He family and return to the Reed family and... might no longer need my care and protection, I still hope he can always be my 'brother'!

"Happy birthday, Mason!" Veronica Barlow said with twinkling eyes.

The corners of the lips on Mason's expressionless little face raised, and a smile appeared.

Although the smile was faint and not obvious, it meant he was happy!

Chapter 2019

He was happy to have Sis around!

Jasper was very unhappy at the birthday party because she did not see William. She had been looking forward to seeing what present William would give her at the birthday party.

It was her first birthday since she became friends with William!

"What's the matter? Are you upset?" Grace asked her daughter.

"Mommy, why isn't William here?" asked Jasper Reed.

Grace knew why. William's existence was already a controversy to the Reed family. If someone with ulterior motives publicized it, it would only cause greater harm to the child.

"When we came out today, didn't William say he didn't like crowds so he didn't want to come?" asked Grace.

Jasper pouted. "If I had known he didn't like crowds, I would have invited fewer people to the birthday party. I don't even know many of the uncles here!"

"Yes!" Her little head nodded. "William is my best friend!"

Looking at her daughter's innocent face, Grace once again lamented children's simple and beautiful world. She only hoped that she and William could still get along well with each other in the future after finding out about the adults' feud and not get affected by the previous generation's enmity.

"Then we'll save William a slice of birthday cake and take it home, alright?" Grace asked gently.

Hearing this, Jasper smiled and said, "Okay! I'll save him a big slice of cake!"

In the Reed family's house, William was curled up in the corner of his room.

Jasper wanted to bring him to the birthday party today, but he said against his will that he did not want to go as there were too many people there. However, he actually wanted to go to her birthday party.

After Jasper and the rest left, the servants' children taunted him.

"He's the son of a wicked woman. He can't go even if he wants to!"

"Yeah, he's lucky enough to go to the same kindergarten as Little Young Lady and Little Young Master Mick. Just look at him!"

She might not enjoy spending time with William anymore if she finds out."

3/3

William was uneasy and frightened as the words rushed to his ears.

'Really? Will Jasper stop liking me? Will she hate me for all the bad things my mommy did?'

In the past few days, he learned things he had not known before from some servants.

He only thought his mother had kidnapped Mason, but he learned that his mother was also a murderer who killed her own sister and framed aunt Cummins, putting aunt Cummins in prison.

Chapter 2020

'Mommy did a lot of bad things. If Jasper finds out...

He could not help trembling at the thought.

After an unknown amount of time, he heard voices outside the room.

'Are Jasper and the rest back?'

"Happy birthday, Jasper!" He silently wished her in his heart. He heard that her birthday party was lavish, and many big shots attended it!

She wore a pink chiffon dress and a small tiara on her head when she went out today. She looked so beautiful, just like a little princess.

She must have looked even prettier at the party, surrounded by various lights.

In fact... he wanted to give her the present he had prepared for her at her birthday party, even if it was worthless.

Sometime later, his room door was suddenly pushed open. He saw a figure dressed in pink come in carrying a slice of cake.

"Great, you're still up! If you had fallen asleep. this cake
the cake in front of William.

"Here, this is my birthday cake. I saved a big slice for you. It's delicious. Try it," Jasper said with a smile.

William stared blankly at the cake in front of him. After a long time, he finally reached out his hand, took the cake from her, and began to eat it one bite at a time.

The cake was creamy and not overly sweet. It was delicious.

Jasper was cupping her chin and smiling as she watched William eat the cake.

"I've talked to Mommy. Mommy says we'll have a simpler party and not invite so many people next year. You must join my birthday party next year!" said Jasper Reed.

William paused as he ate the cake. 'Can... Can I really join her birthday party next year? Or will I not be able to attend any of her birthday parties in the future just like this time?'

"It will be your birthday in January, William. I'm going to celebrate your birthday with you!" Jasper continued saying.

However, William suddenly felt as though the cake had become heavy.

'My birthday... I don't deserve to have my birthday celebrated in the Reed family, right? A child like me isn't fit to celebrate

my

313

birthday in the Reed family's house!

"I... I don't like celebrating my birthday." He fumbled for an excuse. "I... I don't like it when everyone knows my birthday."

"I see." Jasper blinked her dark almond-shaped eyes as they seemed to be full of confusion. "Then... how about I celebrate your birthday in secret? Then no one else will know."

She spoke a little smugly as if they had another little secret.

William bit his lip a little. Moments later, he nodded his head.

After finishing the cake in his hand, William seemed to summon up his courage. "I... I got you a birthday present, but it isn't worth much. If you don't like it..."

“I’ll love whatever you give me.” Her almond-shaped eyes were curved as she held her hands open in front of him, waiting for him to place the present in them.

However, William took Jasper Reed’s hand and walked out of the room, all the way to the Reed family’s piano room.

It was where he and Jasper practiced piano at home.