

Ex Convict 3071

Chapter 3071

Camille brought Valda to her place and at night, the two of them lay on a bed together.

Camille said, "Come on, even if you haven't figured out how to deal with Brian, you haven't figured out how to deal with me either? You could have contacted me earlier."

"I'm sorry," murmured Valda.

"Okay, stop apologizing all the time. Do we really need to keep saying sorry to each other?" Camille said.

"By the way, how did

you manage to survive? It's been so long, why haven't the police or Brian found you yet?"

"I never thought I would still be alive," Valda exclaimed. At the time when she put Jasmine in the basket, she was actually prepared to die. "I woke up two months ago."

"Awakened two months ago?" Camille was surprised. "So, you were in a coma for 10 months?"

"Yeah," Valda said.

After waking up, Valda told her friend what had happened, including how Lisa had saved her and how she couldn't contact

the outside world when she first woke up.

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Because it was a very backward village, even making a phone call required going to the neighboring village.

Even at the very beginning of her recovery, she experienced a condition called aphasia, which made it difficult for her to speak. and caused weakness throughout her body. She even struggled to write a single word with a pen.

Of course, even if she could really write, Lisa who saved her is illiterate and probably wouldn't be able to understand it at all.

Later on, as time passed, her physical condition gradually improved and she was finally able to speak. It was then that she found out that she had been unconscious for a long time.

Although her broken leg had been cast and treated, it had not

been fully healed.

And now, because the optimal treatment time has been missed, it is no longer possible to fully recover.

Yesterday, she hitched a ride with a kind stranger back to Emerald City, but she hadn't figured out how to face the situation yet.

"Actually, last night, I saw Brian at the entrance of the community!" Valda murmured.

"What?! You saw him?" Camille exclaimed in surprise.

"Yes," Valda nodded. "At that moment, I actually wanted to go up

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and call out to him, but when I lifted my foot, I...saw the crutch I was leaning on and my foot..."

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"So you didn't go up to him, did you?" Camille said. "But Valda, do you know? No matter what you look like, Brian won't leave you. He will only love you more and cherish you more! These days, I've seen him miss you so much that he doesn't seem like a normal person."

Valda remained silent and didn't speak.

"Valda, you're alive now, so you must have good fortune after surviving such a disaster. You and Brian will definitely be very happy!" Camille said, feeling full of heartache for her friend.

Happy... Valda gently closed her eyes, but now, she dared not hope for happiness anymore.

Originally, he and she were like people from two different worlds, and now, she had a limp leg again. What made her suitable to

stand by his side?

Perhaps from the beginning, they were destined to be apart. Everything...was forced by her at that time!

It was another day of meeting Brian once a week, usually Brian would send a car to pick up Camille, it could be a restaurant, Brian's villa, or a place that Valda and Brian had been to before.

In the past, every time Camille met with Brian, she only felt

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sadness and sorrow in her heart.

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But this time, it's...nervous.

Valda is still alive, but now they have to keep it a secret from Brian and wait until Valda figures out how to face the situation before telling him.

Camille understands her friend's hesitation and insecurity.

After all, people like Brian are already unattainable men, and Valda knows that this love may seem warm on the surface, but in reality, it is very difficult.

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Valda was already lacking in self-confidence, and now... she's afraid that this feeling of inferiority will only get worse.

At times like this, it may not be helpful to rush things. It might be better to wait for Valda to work on her own psychological development before facing Brian.

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This time, Brian's driver pulled up to the entrance of a restaurant and led Camille to a private room.

Brian is already inside the private room.

Camille walked in and Brian said to her, "What do you want to eat? Order for yourself."

"Okay," Camille absentmindedly ordered a few dishes and looked at Brian's almost emotionless face, which was much colder than before.

Compared to before, Brian was now much colder.

It was like he was frozen in an icy abyss, devoid of all emotions, except for a hint of humanity when talking about Valda.

How happy would this man be if he knew Valda was still alive?

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Camille secretly thought that Brian could help Valda feel less insecure and let go of her worries.

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"Why are you looking at me like that? Is there something on my face?" Brian's voice suddenly rang out in the private room.

Camille suddenly snapped out of her thoughts and hurriedly said, "Ah, no...nothing."

She quickly lowered her head, afraid that the other party would detect that she was hiding something, after all, the person sitting

in front of her was Brian!

Brian glanced at Camille and didn't say anything else, his gaze shifting to the rag on his wrist.

"What do you think Valda is doing now?" muttered the coarse voice.

Camille was startled and stared at Brian with wide eyes. "What...what is she doing?"

"Maybe she's injured and still recovering, so she can't come back yet," Brian continued. "Or maybe she suddenly got inspired and is drawing her favorite comics, forgetting about time. When she finishes drawing the story she wants to tell, she'll naturally come back..."

But when will she come back? Camille wondered.

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She breathed a sigh of relief. So that's what he was talking about. She thought Brian had noticed something else.

"It won't be long before Valda comes back," Camille said.

"Yeah, she'll be back soon!" he said, as if this belief had become his only reason to keep going.

If one day this belief were to collapse, could he still go on living?

After loving someone so deeply, losing that person made the whole world lose its meaning.

If only he had realized it earlier, how good would that have been?

If only he had told her how much he loved her earlier, how good would that have been?

The phrase "I love you" has now become an unforgettable regret in my heart.

"Um..." Camille pursed her lips and hesitated a bit before saying,

“Brian, if Valda were to come back in the future, but she’s not quite the same as before, what would you do?”

“What’s different? What do you mean by ‘different’?” Brian asked in response.

“It’s like having an incurable disease, for example, it’s better to... be disabled, or have some physical problems,” Camille said.

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Brian looked up and stared at the other person. “Why do you say that?”

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Suddenly, Camille felt extremely guilty and her palms started sweating. She tried her best to remain calm and said, “Just like you said earlier, she might have been injured, which is why she couldn’t come back. So, I was thinking that her injury might be quite serious, which is why she hasn’t been able to return yet.”

“No matter what she looks like, she will always be my wife, as long as she is alive and can come back to me...” With this in mind, he will do his utmost to take care of her, protect her, and prevent her from any danger or harm in the future.

“That’s good.” Camille breathed a sigh of relief. As long as Brian didn’t mind Valda’s leg disability, her insecurity would eventually disappear and she could be with Brian.

At this moment, the restaurant staff brought out the dishes.

Camille was eating, but Brian didn’t touch the dishes in front of him much.

“You should eat some too,” Camille said. Every time they met, it seemed like she was the only one eating, while he hardly ate anything.

“I don’t have much of an appetite,” Brian said flatly.

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“Even if you don’t have much of an appetite, you should eat a little. You seem to have lost some weight again. If you lose any more, you’ll disappear. Let me tell you, Valda likes to paint beautiful women and she used to love painting you the way you

were before. If she sees you like this now, she might not even want to paint you anymore,” Camille said.

Brian’s eyelashes trembled slightly. “You’re right.”

So he picked up his fork and started eating.

Camille knew that sometimes, she had to bring up Valda to get Brian to listen.

During the meal, Camille talked about the past experiences she had with Valda, and Brian listened attentively.

When they finished eating, Camille said to Brian, "Um...can I take a picture of you?"

"Why?" Brian asked, puzzled.

Camille said, "I was thinking that when Valda comes back, I'll show her. It would be such a shame if she wanted to know about you during this time and there wasn't even a photo."

Brian responded nonchalantly, "Sure, go ahead and take the picture." However, he knew that he was currently too skinny. He wondered if Valda would still find him attractive in this state.

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Camille took a photo of Brian with her phone and then sent it to Valda while he wasn't paying attention.

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Although Valda plans to see Brian later, can she take a look at the photos now?

After two hours, Mo and the other person left the private room and walked towards the restaurant. At that moment, a woman holding a drink hurriedly walked towards them. Suddenly, it seemed like she stumbled and fell towards Brian, spilling her drink in the process.

Brian quickly dodged to the side, catching the woman off guard. She didn't expect him to dodge, and ended up missing him completely. She stumbled a few steps before regaining her balance.

"Ah, yes... I'm sorry..." the woman said awkwardly.

Camille, who was standing aside, rolled her eyes when she saw

this. This is an old trick from many years ago, and she couldn't believe that someone still enjoys performing it.

At the moment, Brian didn't pay attention to the other person. He just looked at the torn cloth wrapped around his right wrist. Although he had avoided the woman's drink, some of it had splashed onto the cloth.

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The woman's gaze also fell on the torn piece of cloth and she said,

"Oh, my drink spilled on the cloth in your hand. This one is a bit torn. Why don't I give you a new silk ribbon instead? It looks much better than this one."

Although she didn't understand why this man was holding onto a piece of tattered cloth, she found him very attractive and his clothing suggested he was wealthy. Most importantly, she made a bet with her tablemates that she could obtain something from the man.

In that case, why not just take this rag? It's just something a man carries around anyway!

At this moment, the woman thought to herself in this way, and then eagerly reached out to try to untie the fabric on Brian's wrist.

Her hand was caught by Brian before it even touched the piece of cloth in his hand. With a sudden grip on her wrist, there was a loud

"snap" followed by the woman's painful cries.

This is... the woman's wrist was forcibly broken!

Camille was startled, and the friends at the woman's table were even more dumbfounded!

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No one expected Brian to act so decisively and use his hands.

"Replace it with a new one? What do you think this is?" Brian's cold voice, accompanied by his extremely cold expression, directly grabbed the other person's head and slammed it hard against the nearby wall.

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The woman is screaming, struggling, and her face is full of pain.

However, the restaurant staff dare not move because they all know who this man is!

That's the prince of the entertainment industry. A woman who foolishly gets involved with him, who would dare to help her?

The woman's friends rushed forward to try and pull Brian away, but they were stopped by Brian's henchmen.

Brian's eyes turned crimson as he dislocated the woman's other arm. "You deserve to die! This is something Valda left for me. How dare you defile it? Who gave you permission to do so?!"

The roaring sound already carries a hint of madness.

For Brian, this piece of torn cloth represents Valda to some extent.

Now that the cloth is dirty, it also represents Valda being dirtied.

And this, is something he cannot tolerate!

His Valda, he hasn't found her yet, how can he do this?!

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At first, the woman's wailing was louder, but as time went on, it gradually became quieter. Camille became anxious, afraid that Brian would really go crazy and cause harm to someone. So she stepped forward and advised, "Okay, this woman has already learned her lesson. Please let her go."

"Let her go?" His clear eyes became less and less clear. "How could I possibly let her go! Someone like her should not be let go at all!"

He spoke and once again slammed the woman's head against the wall. "If I let her go, then who will let go of Valda? Can she do it? Can she forgive Valda? Why hasn't Valda come to find me? Is she still angry with me? Angry that I didn't jump down to save her, angry that I didn't say the words she wanted to hear..."

Brian is becoming more and more crazy, as if he is about to lose control.

In front of him, it seemed as if the river that took Valda away had appeared once again. The surging waves rushed towards him, and then he could no longer find that person!

"Valda... Valda..." He kept shouting this name, his forehead and the veins on the back of his hands bulging out.

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Camille tried to step forward to pull Brian's hand off the woman he was holding down, but Brian pushed her away and she fell to the ground.

It hurts!

Camille was silently grieving in her heart, but she was more worried about Brian's loss of control than her own pain at the

moment. For Brian, the torn piece of cloth on his wrist that got

stained today might have been like a fuse, igniting the emotions he had been suppressing for some time.

As things were getting out of hand and someone might get hurt, Camille urgently shouted, "Brian, don't do this. If Valda finds out

that you caused harm for her sake, she won't be happy!"

“Really?” Brian murmured, his phoenix eyes becoming even more crimson. “It’s because I didn’t take a life for her that she disappeared. If I had been more ruthless back then, maybe she would still be by my side now...”

If he had exterminated the Cross family back then, and if he hadn’t saved Whitney, then as long as one of these two conditions had been met, Valda wouldn’t have had any trouble. It was him, he caused Valda’s harm, his hesitation caused Valda’s

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harm!

2/3

Camille urgently said to Brian as he was about to get aggressive again, “Brian, Valda is still alive! She’s back, she really is!”

This sentence made Brian abruptly stop his movements, and then he slowly turned his whole body towards her, as if in slow motion.

His thin lips trembled slightly, and after a while, he finally managed to squeeze out a few words, “She... has she come

back?”

Even though it was just a few words, he spoke as if he had put all his strength into it. His voice trembled heavily, and his phoenix eyes were filled with both anticipation and fear..

It’s as if he’s afraid that what he heard just now was only his imagination.

“Yes, she’s back!” said Camille. “Valda is at my house right now, she’s back!”

Although she really wanted to keep it a secret from Valda, there’s no other choice now. If she doesn’t speak up, Brian might actually cause harm to someone here!

The next moment, Brian had already dashed out of the restaurant.

The woman had fainted with a bloody face, and her friends and restaurant staff quickly gathered around her.

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Camille breathed a sigh of relief and took out her phone, dialing Valda's number.

No matter how many times she dialed, there was never an answer on the other end of the phone.

"Did Valda forget her phone?" Camille wondered to herself. She

wasn't sure if Valda would blame her, but either way, Brian and Valda were going to meet today.

She only hopes that everything will be okay!

Valda went downstairs to take out the trash, which should have

been a simple task. However, now it seemed much more difficult as she had to use her crutches and carry the garbage down the

stairs.

Valda chuckled a bit. Camille's apartment was still in the old building without an elevator. Luckily, Camille's place was on the

third floor. If it were on the seventh floor, it would have been even

more difficult for her to take out the trash.

Back in the room, Valda glanced at her phone charging on the

table. There were messages on it – three missed calls from Camille and a message she had sent online.

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Is Camille looking for her or something? Valda opened the message sent by the other party online and saw a photo.

That's a photo of Brian!

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Valda's eyes suddenly turned red, staring tightly at the person in the photo.

He has really lost a lot of weight. That day, she only saw him from afar, but now, this photo is so clear and obvious.

Valda felt a pang in her heart as she looked at Brian in this state.

If... If her legs weren't like this, maybe she would be eager to go see him.

But unfortunately... in the future, she will always be a cripple.

The original her, standing next to him, was already so reluctant, let alone the current her?

At that moment, there was a sudden and urgent knocking on the door.

Could it be that Camille forgot her keys? Valda wiped her eyes, not wanting her friend to see her red eyes.

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Leaning on her cane, Valda shuffled over to the door and opened

1. "Camille, are you..."

The remaining words abruptly stopped, and what came into view was not Camille, but the person in the photo she had just looked at!

Valda stared at the person in front of her, stunned. She never expected that after a year apart, their first face-to-face meeting would be under these circumstances.

His hair was disheveled, he was panting as if he had rushed over, and his eyes were fixed on her.

In those eyes, there was longing, shock, and the madness of a traveler who was almost dying of thirst in the desert finally seeing an oasis.

Without waiting for Valda to speak again, Brian suddenly hugged her tightly and held her in his arms.

"It's you, Valda. You're finally back. Do you know how long I've been searching for you? I waited for you, and it was so painful."

His voice choked up as he held her, and his empty heart slowly

began to fill up.

Is this... the real her, not just his imagination?

Valda leaned quietly into Brian's embrace, the familiar hug that

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she had missed so much, making her feel nostalgic.

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Every day since she regained consciousness, she has been desperately thinking about him. No matter how difficult it was, she used this longing to hold herself up.

She kept telling herself that she must come back alive and see him again!

She wanted to let him know that she was safe and sound, otherwise this man would blame himself and feel sad! Even if she died, her death would be less of a burden on him than the death of Grace's daughter, Jasmine.

But she didn't want to become his burden in the future!

And how many more hugs like this could they have in the future? She would cherish every hug and remember it with all her heart.

"Um, Brian, I'm back. I'm sorry for making you wait so long," she whispered, raising one hand to hug him back.

Holding him like this, she could feel his thinness even more vividly.

Much thinner than she had imagined!

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Brian trembled and held Valda even tighter.

"It's not you who should apologize, it's me. I couldn't find you and

I put you in danger!" Brian murmured, and after a while, he finally let go of her and looked at Valda carefully.

His fingers, slightly trembling, touched her face, her eyebrows, and then her hair. "Your hair... it's shorter now."

"Because short hair... is easier to manage," Valda bit her lip and said. At that time, Lisa took care of her very hard, and her long

hair became a burden. Cutting it short was the most convenient option.

His gaze slowly moved downwards, and suddenly his pupils shrank as he stared at the crutch under her armpit. "What's wrong? Are you injured?"

Valda's body stiffened and instinctively recoiled, trying to step back.

However, because Brian had his arm around her waist, she couldn't even move away even if she wanted to.

"It's...it's nothing..." she said in a fluster.

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"I'll take a look." He looked worried and anxious as he immediately crouched down and tried to lift Valda's long skirt to take a look.

But Valda stumbled backwards a few steps and said, "Don't look, there's...nothing worth seeing."

"Valda, let me have a look. I want to know how your injury is doing!" Brian said anxiously. "Don't be afraid, I won't hurt you. I just want to take a look. If your injury hasn't been treated properly, then I'll take you to the hospital right away for further treatment..."

He approached her again as he spoke, wanting to pull up her skirt to get a better look.

Valda, however, wanted to avoid it even more.

"Brian, please... don't look, don't look at my legs, okay?" Valda stuttered nervously.

But the more she acted this way, the more it made him worry.

Suddenly, Valda's foot slipped and she fell backwards, dropping her cane to the ground.

As she was about to fall, Brian quickly stepped forward and caught Valda, saying "Be careful." He then picked her up and gently placed her on the nearby sofa, telling her to sit down.

Then he knelt down in front of her, with a gentle and cautious look in his eyes, and said, "Valda, let me see your injury. If I don't see it,

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I won't be able to rest easy. It's been a year, and you finally appear in front of me, but you still have injuries on your body. How could I not look at your injury?"

At that moment, he didn't even ask why she came back or why she didn't come to see him. He wondered why he had to find out about her return from Camille, and if Camille hadn't mentioned it today, would he have had to wait even longer to find out?

He kept all these questions to himself at the moment, and only wanted to know how serious her injury was.

Valda tightly bites her lower lip, and her hands hanging by her side grip the hem of her skirt tightly.

Her legs...often she didn't even want to look at them herself, feeling that they were so ugly...and now, this ugly part of her was going to be seen. Seen by the man she cared about the most!

But... sooner or later, he will see it, won't he?

Now, it's just a little early. Valda kept repeating to herself in her mind.

This time, Brian lifted up her long skirt. She didn't resist anymore, but instead stiffened her body and let him pull up her skirt.

He saw a slightly deformed leg that looked noticeably different from a normal leg, and even had a gruesome scar on it.

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Brian was shocked as he looked at Valda's right calf. He knew very well what her leg used to look like.

And now, it has become like this!

"It's quite ugly, isn't it..." Valda said awkwardly, "Actually...there's nothing really nice about it. Sometimes, even I don't feel like looking at it."

"Am I ugly?" he hesitated, but the shape of her legs and the fierce scars on them told him of the pain she had endured.

Originally, she didn't have to endure such pain at all! And all this pain is because of him!

“Okay, stop looking,” Valda thought as she tried to cover her legs again with her long skirt.

But Brian took a step ahead and held her hand, then lowered his head and kissed her slightly deformed calf and the gruesome scar on her leg.

“I’m sorry for causing you so much pain, I’m sorry...” He choked up, his voice already hoarse.

Valda’s body suddenly became extremely stiff, and she just

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stared straight ahead at the man in front of her. He closed his eyes and kissed her calf almost reverently, while she felt an intense heat where he had kissed her.

My heart rate has become so fast that it feels like with every beat, my heart is about to jump out of my throat.

Stop jumping! Don’t jump so vigorously anymore!

This will only make her more reluctant!

“I...I’m fine now, it’s not a big deal. Besides, you didn’t cause this injury, so you don’t need to apologize to me,” murmured Valda.

Brian finally lifted his head and opened his eyes again, saying, “Now I’ll take you to the hospital and find a specialist to examine your injury.”

“No... no need, I’ve already seen a doctor for my injury!”

murmured Valda.

At that time, she lost her ID card, so she borrowed Lisa’s relative’s daughter’s ID card to go to a big hospital for a check-up. However, the final result was extremely disappointing.

And the person who examined her injury at that time was also an expert. The expert only expressed regret and said that her injury had been left untreated for too long, and some of the nerves had already lost their function. In addition, the bone fracture at that time was not properly treated, so now it’s too late for everything.

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Late, so from now on, she can only be a cripple.

"What did the doctor say?" Brian asked.

"The doctor... just said that my leg is going to be like this..." She tried to downplay her pain with a casual tone.

He frowned and asked, "What do you mean by 'that's it'?"

"In the future... let it be like this." She murmured, but then a smile appeared on her face. "But at least, I'm still alive now, and I can use one leg to exchange for my life. I think it's worth it. Before, I thought I was going to die for sure, so being alive is better than anything else."

He looked at her smile, but his heart felt a sourness.

Yes, as long as she's alive, that's better than anything else!

But why should she have to endure everything? Why can't these wounds fall on him instead?

"I'll take you to the hospital!" said Brian, lifting Valda up horizontally.

"Brian! I...I don't want to go to the hospital," Valda hurriedly said. "I don't need to go to the hospital right now!"

"Valda, please let me take you to the hospital and have the doctor check you again, okay?" Brian pleaded, "I don't know who the doctor was that treated you before, but I will find a doctor to examine you again. I won't let your leg be left like this!"

Valda froze, unable to refuse as if the words were stuck in her

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Brian held Valda and left Camille's apartment on his own, quickly walking down the stairs.

A black sedan is waiting downstairs.

He carried her into the car and instructed the driver in the front seat to go to the hospital.

On the way, he gave orders to his subordinates to arrange for experts to consult with Valda at the hospital later.

Valda was nervously tugging at her skirt hem when Brian's hand covered hers. "Don't worry, I've got everything under control!"

She lifted her head and met his ink-black phoenix eyes, which were filled with nothing but her in that moment.

“Valda, don’t worry. Whatever happens, I will help you solve it. Just stay by my side and I will do everything to protect you in the future!” He spoke with such assurance.

Valda’s nose feels sour and her eyes are slowly becoming moist.

She quickly lowered her head, avoiding his gaze.

And he, all along the way, held her hand tightly without ever

Chapter 3079 letting go.

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When the car arrived at the hospital, Brian carried Valda out of the

car and brought her to the examination room. Experts from the orthopedic and neurology departments of the hospital began to diagnose Valda’s condition.

Valda took a video and underwent an MRI, but the final expert consultation result was disappointing, as Grace was the cause of

1.

“I’m sorry, Mr. Hart. Miss Theller has several nerves in her leg that have already died. Additionally, her leg had a previous fracture and was immobilized with a cast, but it seems that the doctor

at the time did not handle it properly. As a result, her leg bone

healed crookedly. If we were to perform surgery on her leg now,

the outcome may not be good and there would be a significant risk. It’s possible that her lower leg may completely die, and

amputation would be the only option.”

The expert doctor spoke to Brian, and his face changed color. “Is there no way to cure it?” Brian asked.

“With the current medical methods, it is difficult to treat her leg, and at least our hospital cannot achieve such a level,” the expert replied, without making any definitive statements.”

But the orthopedics department of this hospital is the top orthopedics department in tMason Swansonty. The doctors who consulted with Valda are well-known among orthopedic experts

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nationwide!

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The consultation result is beyond doubt!

Brian’s face became extremely ugly, but Valda smiled slightly at him as if she had already expected it.

“It’s okay, Brian. I don’t rely on my legs to make a living anyway. At least my hands are fine,

and I can still draw comics in the future!”

Brian squatted down and said, “Valda, I will find other doctors to help you and find a way to cure your legs!”

She lowered her eyes gently, but she had no hope for her legs anymore. The consultation just now made her understand this fact once again.

“Brian, I want to go back.” Valda said.

“Okay, let’s go back.” He said, holding her again and leaving the hospital.

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However, after getting in the car, the car did not drive towards Camille’s place, but went straight to his villa.

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“I’ll just stay at Camille’s place!” Valda said anxiously. She was not ready to face him yet.

This unexpected visit, he went straight to Camille’s place, so it seems that Camille let it slip.

“Why did you go to Camille’s place if you’re back?” Brian asked.

“Well...I’ll just go back to my own apartment then. It’s just more convenient for me to stay there,” Valda said.

“So, staying with me is not convenient?” he asked.

“Your bedroom is on the second floor, and as you can see, my legs aren’t very good at going up and down stairs,” she finally

found a reason after a while.

“I’ll have someone tidy up the room on the first floor, so it’ll be easier for you to move around,” he said.

“There’s no need to make it so complicated. I’m not used to it,” she continued to refuse, looking down.

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He looked at her lowered head and her resistance, which he could see.

After hesitating for a moment, he finally asked, "Valda, do you...not want to see me again?"

Valda's body stiffened, "No...no, of course not."

"Really?" he asked. "Then why did you come back without me knowing, when Camille knew? If Camille hadn't mentioned it today, when were you planning to show up in front of me?"

"I..." She didn't know how to answer his question, so she just shrunk her shoulders and lowered her head even more.

Her appearance made his heart ache.

Even if she really doesn't want to see him, it's his own fault. He didn't protect her well at that time, which caused her to become

like this now.

When the car stopped at the entrance of his villa, Brian was about

to carry her out of the car, but she held his hand and said, "I can actually walk by myself, but I'll just be a bit slower without a cane. Brian, I...I want to walk by myself."

He pursed his thin lips, stared at her for a moment, and finally hoarsely said, "Okay."

Although he said those words, when she got off the car, he still

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insisted on holding her hand to help him walk. "I'll have someone prepare a suitable crutch for you later," he said.

"No need, actually I'm quite used to my original cane," said Valda.

It's just that her previous cane was left at Camille's house and wasn't brought out when she left.

"Okay, I'll have someone go get it later," said Brian.

Valda hobbled into the villa.

Everything in the villa still seemed strange to her, just as she remembered it. It was as if the past year had never happened. On

the coffee table in the living room, there was still a comic book she had left there when she left Emerald City. And on the sofa, there was a pillow she had brought from her own apartment at that time. But even though these things haven't changed, she has changed. She is no longer the same Valda as she was a year ago!