

Ex Convict 3521

Chapter 3521

After saying these words, the phone call ended abruptly.

Veronica stared at her phone in disbelief. Did he not want her to be Veronica anymore?

Was the person who had always pursued her, the child who loved to snuggle up to her, really going to break up with her?

Tears streamed down her face even harder! She instinctively wanted to call back, but no one answered on the other end, no matter how many times she tried.

“Okay, Veronica,” Jason, who was beside her, held her hand.

He had also heard the conversation between the two children

just now. “You and Mason should take this time to calm down and think about your feelings towards each other.”

Veronica was taken aback. “Feelings?”

“Yes, if you really only see Mason as a ‘little brother’, then maybe it’s a good thing to distance yourselves from each other during this incident,” said Jason.

As a father, he naturally understood his son’s feelings, and all along, he and his wife were most worried that Mason’s feelings for Veronica were too absolute, but Veronica might

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not have any feelings for Mason beyond siblinghood.

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If that were the case, it would only be a hurtful experience for both children.

And now, as they had feared, it had happened, but the timing of the outburst was earlier than they had imagined.

Veronica was stunned. She didn’t expect Jason to describe it as a “good thing”. “So, does uncle Reed also think I should distance myself from Mason like this?”

Veronica was stunned to hear Jason use the phrase “good thing” to describe the situation. “So, does Uncle Reed think I

should just distance myself from Mason?” she asked.

“What else can you do? Can you just stop treating Mason like a brother?” Jason replied.

Veronica was speechless.

Jason continued, "I know Mason's personality, and you do too.

If you can fall in love with him, then it's great for everyone. But

if you can't, then it's best to stay away from him for his own.

good and for your own good."

Veronica walked out of the Reed family mansion feeling lost.

Was it really for the best to distance themselves from each

other like this?

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But why is she feeling so miserable? Why does her heart feel like it's in so much pain?!

Why can't she be his sister for life?!

Once, she had hoped to grow up quickly, but now she feels that it would be so much better if people never grew up, so they could still be as close as they used to be.

Back in the Barlow family, when she came to her senses, she found herself in Mason's room, looking at this cold room, with his voice constantly ringing in her ears – "Veronica, from now on, you are no longer my Veronica."

No longer Veronica! No longer!

So this time, it was him who didn't want her, he left her behind!

She walked up to his desk and picked up the photo frame he

had placed on it. The photo inside was a picture of them taken together when they were young.

Back then, he was 5 years old and she was 7 years old, at an innocent and naive age. His small body was leaning against

hers, and her hand was holding him close to her chest.

She said she wanted to be his sister for life!

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But now, today, she is no longer his sister!

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"Wow!" She suddenly burst into loud sobs, holding the photo frame tightly to her chest.

Tears kept rolling down her face, wetting it completely.

She didn't want this, she didn't want to feel this way, but she didn't know what to do to make the pain go away... and no

one was there to tell her how to ease the discomfort and make

her heart... hurt less!

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Meanwhile, the Barlow couple panicked completely when they found out that Mason had suddenly gone abroad and

Veronica couldn't be reached.

"How could this happen? It must have been the day when you angered Mason. Veronica, you must apologize to Mason

properly. We can't let him turn against our family. Otherwise, your brother will be in big trouble! Who knows if the Reed family will let him off the hook and put all the blame on your

brother?" said stepmother Rosalind.

Archer chimed in, "Yes, Veronica, you can't let your brother

go to jail. You need to make up with Mason so that the Reed family will help us. Then Lionel can also be cleared of

charges!"

Veronica felt a chill in her heart and said to her father and

stepmother, "Mason is not guilty at all! He had no idea about the kidnapping from start to finish. It was all Lionel's plan!"

"How is that possible? Lionel clearly said that Mason knew about it! And he was the biggest beneficiary of this whole thing!" Rosalind argued.

Veronica sneered and her nose felt even more sour. "The

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biggest beneficiary wasn't it the Barlow family? At that time, I was in a cold war with him. Weren't you afraid that if our relationship fell apart, the Barlow family would lose the protection of the Reed family? Then they wouldn't be able to get money or connections like before, right?"

This sentence immediately caused a change in the Barlow family's expression.

"Veronica, how could you say such a thing?" Archer said.

"Why can't I say it?" Veronica retorted, "I know the truth. Lionel knows it too. He was called 'young master' and 'big brother' by a group of older gangsters when he was so young. What did he rely on?

Don't you know that? He planned this alone, and when I was about to go find him, he sent a message to Mason, and then he dragged Mason down with him. He thought he could get away with it!"

"How could you say that about your brother?" Rosalind said disapprovingly, "Don't you believe what your brother said?"

"You all saw Lionel's mental state at the time. How much of what he said can be trusted? Compared to Lionel, I believe what Mason said more!" Veronica said without hesitation.

Yes, she should have done this earlier. She should have believed in Mason!

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But she realized it too late!

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"How can you say such things? Don't forget, Lionel is your own brother!" Archer scolded.

"Yes, Lionel is my own brother, and you are my biological father. But your care for me is far less than Mason's. He is the one who is my family!"

Smack!

A slap was delivered directly to Veronica's face, causing her cheek to immediately feel a burning pain.

"Shut up!" Archer exclaimed angrily. "Anyway, you better make up

with Mason quickly. If anything happens to Lionel this time, I'll hold you accountable!"

Veronica, however, seemed to feel no pain at all. She simply lifted her hand and tightly grasped the pendant hanging from her necklace around her neck.

Will they make up? As long as Mason comes back and she gets to see him, they will make up, won't they?

After all, every time they had an argument before, they always made up!

She only sought reconciliation not for others, but for herself.

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She didn't want to become a stranger to him in the future. Even if their feelings towards each other were not aligned, perhaps they would eventually find a path that suited them.

Although I know I shouldn't feel this way, the feeling of unease seems to be getting stronger and stronger.

And his words, "From now on, you are not my Veronica anymore!" kept ringing in her ears, unable to be shaken off!

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Afterwards, Mason never returned to his home country. The

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next time Veronica saw him was on the day of the kidnapping trial.

Mason attended as a witness, and when Veronica saw him, tears immediately filled her eyes.

If they weren't in court at that moment, she might have rushed over to him, taken his hand, and apologized...

Even when he spoke in court later, she didn't hear what he said. Her eyes were fixed on him, and after he finished testifying and left the courtroom, she instinctively wanted to follow him.

"Veronica, wait!" Jasper stopped her. "It's our turn soon. You can talk to Mason later. He's back this time, and my parents said he probably won't leave the country again right away!"

"Veronica!" Jasper grabbed her and said, "It's almost our turn. You can look for Mason later. He's back now and my parents

said he shouldn't be leaving the country again anytime soon!"

"Really?" Veronica murmured, her excited emotions slowly calming down because of Jasper's words.

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"When did Mason come back?" she asked, her voice choked

with emotion.

“He probably just got off the plane not long ago. He didn’t come home last night,” Jasper said.

After the first day of the trial ended, Veronica hurriedly rushed out of the courtroom to look for Mason’s figure.

Where could he be? Is he still here at the courthouse? Or has he already left? If he has left, then...

Just as she was guessing in her heart, suddenly, her gaze caught sight of a familiar figure.

It was... Mason!

Veronica stared at Mason, who was not far away, and tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably.

Then she watched as he lifted his feet and walked step by step towards her.

Her tears fell even more.

Finally, his footsteps stopped in front of her, and his beautiful black eyes stared at her.

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“...Mason...” Veronica choked, “Finally...finally seeing you

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again. I’m sorry, I...I want to apologize to you. I shouldn’t have doubted you before...I’m sorry. I know this kidnapping case has nothing to do with you, I should have believed you. Can you forgive me?”

“Okay, I forgive you.” His calm voice spoke, and his expression was also incredibly calm. It was as if what she said was just ordinary words that couldn’t stir any emotions in him.

After saying this, he lifted his foot expressionlessly and was about to pass by her.

She was taken aback. His calm demeanor made her feel flustered, and almost instinctively, she grabbed his hand and said, “Wait a minute!”

His footsteps halted, and his gaze flicked towards the hand that she had caught, as he calmly said, “Let go.”

“Mason, can you wait for a moment?” She said urgently, “I have a lot of things I want to say to you. Can we find a place to talk properly?”

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"In the future, don't call me Mason anymore. You can address me by my full name, Mason Reed, or call me Reed or Mr. Reed." His cold voice rang out. "Also, there's probably nothing

left for us to talk about between us."

"Are you still angry with me? I know, I shouldn't have..."

But before she could finish her sentence, he had already lifted his other hand and grabbed her left hand that was originally holding onto his.

Suddenly, her left hand felt a sharp pain.

She let out a low cry and furrowed her eyebrows.

"If you don't want your hand to get hurt, then let go," he said.

She clenched her teeth and bit her lip, but she was unwilling to let go of his hand so easily.

For some reason, at this moment, she had a feeling that if she let go, she and him might never be able to go back to how things were before.

So, Veronica endured the pain and continued to hold onto

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Mason's hand.

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"Mason, I really...have a lot to say to you," she murmured.

"I remember I made it clear to you on the phone that you're not my Veronica anymore since then, so there's no need to call me Mason," he said.

Her body trembled and her face turned pale. "You... are you really going to completely cut ties with me because of a misunderstanding?"

"It's not just a misunderstanding between us," he replied. "And I'll say it again, let go, otherwise you'll only end up hurting yourself.""

"If it's not just a misunderstanding, then what is it? What else is there that requires you to completely cut ties with me?" she

asked.

“Because you only see me as a ‘little brother,” he said, slowly leaning down and bringing his cheek close to hers. “But don’t worry, from now on, I won’t have any feelings for you anymore. The feelings I had before are nothing to me now.””

Her pupils suddenly shrank. “I... I don’t understand what you mean. What do you mean by ‘nothing to me now’?”

He suddenly exerted force with his fingers, causing a sharp

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pain that caught her off guard and spread from her wrist.

“Ah!” She cried out in pain, and her fingers, which had been gripping his hand, finally released uncontrollably.

“Because I have forgotten all those emotions,” his voice entered her ears, and his fingers also released her hand.

She stared blankly as his figure disappeared little by little from her sight. She wanted to lift her feet and catch up with him, but her feet felt heavy, and her body trembled.

Forgotten?

Why did he forget that word?

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But just now, his expression and tone of voice when talking to her were completely different from before, as if she really didn’t mean anything to him anymore!

Veronica lowered her head and looked at the red mark on her wrist. It was the bruise left by him pinching her wrist just now.

He used to be unwilling to let her suffer any harm. If anyone hurt her, he would do everything he could to help her get justice. But now... she was hurt by him.

A feeling of fear spread through her body, as if telling her that she might lose something...

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Veronica arrived at the Reed family’s mansion to meet Mason.

Jasper looked at Veronica with some concern, her face pale. “Veronica, are you okay?”

“It’s okay,” Veronica said. “Jasper, when will Mason meet me?”

“It’s okay,” Veronica said. “Jasper, when will Mason meet me?”

“Mason... He should be coming down soon. Veronica, as long as you explain the misunderstanding to Mason, everything should be fine,” Jasper comforted.

Veronica gave a bitter smile. She used to think that way too, but their encounter in court made her think otherwise.

Even she felt that Mason had already cast her out beyond the threshold of his heart.

Fortunately, after a short while, Mason appeared on this side of the staircase.

Veronica looked up and watched Mason walking down the stairs step by step. She quickly stood up and approached him, saying, “The court decision was too hasty. Can you give me

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some time to talk things over?”

“Okay,” Mason replied calmly and led the way towards the main entrance of the house.

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Veronica hurried to catch up with Mason, while Jasper watched them leave with a worried expression on his face.

It wasn't until his phone rang with a video call that Jasper snapped out of his thoughts and answered the call.

On the phone screen, William's face appeared instantly.

“Today is the court hearing, everything went smoothly, right?” William asked.

“Yes,” Jasper replied.

“Is Mason back today too?”

“Yes, he is. But... Mason seems a bit strange,” Jasper said.

“Strange?” William's face showed confusion. “What do you mean by strange?”

“So...he treats Veronica like a stranger. Well, not exactly a stranger, but definitely not like before. Mason looks at Veronica as if she's someone he has no connection with,”

Jasper said after some thought.

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William found it strange too, “Maybe Mason is still angry.”

"Let's hope so," Jasper replied.

"You'll have a few more court hearings, right? I'll come to Emerald City in a couple of days," William said.

"Okay," Jasper agreed, "But if you're busy, it's okay not to come. There shouldn't be any unexpected surprises in the hearings anyway."

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"No, I want to come over," William said. "I want to be by your side, to see you in person, instead of just through a video call

on my phone."

At that moment, his expression was incredibly serious, and

his gaze made Jasper's heart race even though they were separated by a screen.

What was happening to her? Why did her heart race when he said those words?

Meanwhile, on the other side, Veronica followed Mason out of the main house and all the way to the Reed family's ancestral

hall, where Mason finally stopped.

"Do you remember when I told you about my grandparents' story?" Mason suddenly said.

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"Ah?" Veronica paused for a moment, then nodded and said, "I remember,"

"Well, then you should also remember how my grandfather died," his voice continued.

"Uh-huh," she responded.

"He lost the will to live because he was abandoned by the person he loved, and chose to freeze to death in the icy wilderness," Mason murmured, looking towards the entrance of the ancestral hall. "When I first found out how my grandfather passed away, I didn't understand why someone would choose to die instead of living on."

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His voice paused, slowly turning his head and his gaze landed on her face. "And then, I understood why."

In an instant, Veronica felt as though all the blood in her body was freezing under his gaze.

She could only hear his voice continuing to speak, word by word. "Because when you love someone too much, you see them as more important than your own life. If that person disappears, then your own life becomes insignificant."

She struggled to swallow the saliva that suddenly accumulated in her throat. "But...what does this have to do with the misunderstanding between us?"

"Because I don't want to love you too much anymore. I don't want to end up with no hope, only despair," he said. "So, Veronica, this is where we part ways."

She froze, is this the end? Is he really going to distance himself from her completely?

From now on, he won't be her brother or family anymore, he'll

just be Mason from the Reed family!

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In an instant, a feeling of fear surged from the bottom of her heart! This fear and discomfort even surpassed the feeling she had when she broke up with Daniel.

No! She didn't want this! If he was doing this because she only saw him as a brother, then she could even...

She took two steps forward, wanting to grab his hand, "But what if I don't want this?"

But suddenly, he pulled his hand away, leaving her hand empty.

"What makes you think you have the right to want or not want anything right now?" he asked in return. "Veronica, not every time do you hold the power to make the decisions!"

"Mason!" she cried out. "Can you really just end it all so easily? Can you just throw away all those years of our relationship?"

All those little moments they shared together were what had once supported their bond and strength throughout the years.

At this moment, Veronica tried to use their past emotions to dissolve the distance between them.

But his next words shattered all her hopes, "I can."

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He said this, and her eyes dimmed a little, her lips trembling

as she asked, "Can you...?"

"Yes, I can, because those long-standing feelings you mentioned no longer exist in me now," he said.

She stared at him blankly, feeling like he was a complete stranger. "What do you mean by that?" she asked.

"Do you know hypnosis?" he abruptly asked.

"Do you know about hypnosis?" he abruptly asked.

She furrowed her brows, feeling increasingly uneasy.

"Once, my mother and father were separated. My father thought my mother was dead and he was on the brink of madness. At that time, Secretary Wylie, who took me away, had my father hypnotized to forget about my mother's existence. This way, my father didn't go completely insane."

Veronica didn't understand why Mason suddenly brought this up. After all, he hadn't forgotten about her! He knew who she was and remembered everything between them!

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"But hypnosis doesn't necessarily mean forgetting. There's another way where you can remember everything, but... that feeling can be erased," Mason said.

Veronica stared at him in shock. Erased... what does that mean? "What do you mean by erased... I don't understand," she said nervously.

"To erase means that everything that happened between us, for me, is like watching a movie as a bystander. And now that the movie is over, there's nothing left," he explained.

"A movie? Everything between us is just like a movie to you now?" she asked.

"Yes, just like a movie," he replied, his gaze cold as he looked at her. This kind of look was like how he usually looked at his classmates in class. She had never thought that he would ever look at her with such eyes.

But now, reality has slapped her hard in the face.

"Are you joking with me? How...how is it possible to have that kind of hypnosis? Are you still angry because of my previous misunderstanding?" She asked anxiously.

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But his expression remained calm, so calm that it made her extremely uneasy.

"You know, I never joke. I voluntarily underwent hypnosis during my time abroad," Mason said.

"Veronica, as I said before, I won't call you Veronica anymore, so you don't have to treat me like a younger brother. If there's no need in the future, we don't have to meet again. You can go back now."

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After saying this, he turned around and headed back the way he came.

She watched his gradually disappearing figure and suddenly lifted her feet, rushing towards him and reaching out to stop him in his tracks. "Mason, do you really not care about our years of relationship?" she asked.

"I don't care," was his reply.

Her hand finally fell weakly to her side as he continued walking forward.

She bitterly smiled, never having thought that one day she and he would come to this point.

He hypnotized his feelings for her, their past was just a movie to him, and now that the movie was over, they should naturally go their separate ways.

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Is this their ending?

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Just now, she even wanted to blurt out that she could try not to
ay

just treat him as a younger brother, and see if she could fall in
love with him!

But in the end, she didn't have the chance to say those words!

At this point, even if she did say it, it would only be self-defeating.

Veronica returned to the Barlow family in a daze, only to face her father and stepmother's repeated questioning, "What did you say to Mason when you went to the Reed family? Will Lionel be found guilty in the final judgment?"

"Speak up! What are you staring at!"

In her ears, her father and stepmother kept asking questions, but she seemed to have trouble hearing them clearly. All she could think about was Mason's cold gaze flashing through her
mind.

Was all the love they had shared now only in her heart?

Did it mean nothing to him anymore?

And the irony was... he was the one who willingly underwent

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hypnosis. At that time, he was in pain and chose to undergo this kind of hypnosis.

Veronica felt like there was a hollow space in her chest. She

realized that something was lost and she couldn't get it back no matter how hard she tried.

This time, she had truly lost Mason.

She had lost her closest family member!

During the next few days of the trial, Mason never appeared again. Although Veronica showed up, she looked very haggard and even spoke very little. This made Jasper even more worried.

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The reason why Mason was so cold towards Veronica after returning to the country was revealed to her when she accidentally overheard a private conversation between Mason and his parents.

Hypnosis!

It turns out that there is such a hypnosis technique that allows one to remember everything, but at the same time, it can also diminish the emotions associated with those memories.

At that time, she clearly heard his father ask Mason, "How could you bear to use this kind of hypnosis?"

This is Mason's response:

"Because at that time, I felt like if I didn't undergo that hypnosis, I wouldn't be able to go on living."

"Was it really that bad?"

Did Mason's feelings for Veronica reach such a deep level at that time?

Initially, she had hoped that Veronica and Mason could

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reconcile, or that they could become a couple, but after everything that has happened, it seems unlikely.

Mason no longer has any feelings for Veronica.

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After the trial ended, all the kidnappers were sentenced to 7-15 years in prison. As for Lionel, since he was a minor and evidence showed that his initial intention was only a fake kidnapping, and Jasper and Veronica both issued forgiveness. letters for Lionel, he was released on the spot.

Archer and Rosalind were crying and laughing while holding their son, while Veronica stood aside, looking like an outsider.

Jasper wanted to go over and talk to Veronica, but William next to him pulled him back and said, "Don't go over there!"

"But what about Veronica?" Jasper asked, feeling worried.

"If you go over there now, it will only make her more embarrassed and uncomfortable. Besides, with your situation with Mason and her, what do you plan to say to her? Are you going to tell her not to worry or tell her to go find Mason again?" William advised.

"If you go over there now, it will only make her more embarrassed and uncomfortable. Besides, with the situation between you, Mason, and her, what do you plan to say to her? Are you going to tell her not to worry about it, or tell her to go

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find Mason?" William said.

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Jasper was speechless, as neither option seemed appropriate.

"This is between her and Mason. You are just an outsider, and getting involved would only make things worse," William continued.

Jasper had also learned about Mason's hypnosis from him yesterday.

After finding out, he couldn't help but admire Mason's determination to make such a difficult decision. Perhaps only someone who has liked someone before would understand

how much courage it takes for Mason to make that decision.

Upon hearing this, Jasper hesitated for a moment before ultimately deciding to leave with William.

As they walked outside the courthouse, Jasper asked, "Do you think hypnosis can really completely diminish one's emotions?

Even if they remember everything that happened, can they still detach themselves from it?"

"I don't know," William replied. "But based on how Mason is treating Veronica now, it seems to be the case."

"Mason clearly likes Veronica, so why doesn't he try to pursue her again? Maybe if he did, Veronica wouldn't just see him as

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a little brother," Jasper frowned.

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"That's because in this world, there are some things that can't be obtained just by pursuing them," William said. Just like him, he was uncertain about whether he could truly be with her in the future.

"So...William, if we ever have an argument in the future, would you choose to hypnotize and forget our feelings for each other?" Jasper asked abruptly.

She was afraid that one day he would make the same choice as Mason.

"No, I wouldn't," William paused his steps and looked at Jasper walking beside him. "Even if we argue, no matter how angry or sad I am, I would never make that kind of choice."

"Really?" Her eyes lit up.

"Yes," he said, because he couldn't bear to give up the feelings he had for her. Even if it would be painful in the future, he would rather keep this feeling.

"Then let's shake on it!" Jasper immediately said.

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William was taken aback and before he could react, Jasper had already taken his hand and hooked her pinky finger with his. She said, "Pinky promise, no take backs. If you break it, you're a little dog!"

He couldn't help but laugh as he listened to her childish words, "Okay, if I change my mind, I'll be a puppy."

Jasper was finally satisfied, and a content expression appeared on his face. However, her peripheral vision unintentionally glanced past him and towards his back.

Suddenly, her expression changed and she lifted her foot, rushing towards his back.

The incident happened suddenly. In the blink of an eye, Jasper had already run in the opposite direction, and William instinctively chased after her.

After a few steps, he caught up with Jasper and grabbed her, asking, "What's wrong?"

"Let go of me!" Jasper shouted urgently, struggling to break free from William's grip and continuing to run forward.

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William felt his hand empty, but at this moment, he didn't care about anything else and instinctively ran after Jasper.

Jasper ran for a while before stopping, gasping for breath. He looked around urgently, as if searching for something.

"What are you looking for?" William ran up to Jasper and asked.

"Just now...I think I saw Lawrence," Jasper murmured.

But when the word "Lawrence" came out of Jasper's mouth, William was suddenly shocked. A strong sense of unease spread through his body. "You saw Lawrence?"

"Yeah, he was just behind you not far away," Jasper said, pursing his lips and recalling the scene he had just seen. "That

person...should be Lawrence, although he has grown taller,

but I shouldn't be mistaken."

"It's been several years, so my appearance should have changed quite a bit. Maybe you mistook me for someone else earlier," William said.

Jasper bit her lip.

Did she make a mistake? Lawrence, the Lawrence she remembered, was from when they were both 10 years old. It had been several years since then, so Lawrence's appearance

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could have changed.

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Although the person earlier looked like the Lawrence she imagined growing up, who knows what Lawrence looks like

now?

"Maybe I really did make a mistake," Jasper said with a dim look in her eyes. "If Lawrence really appeared, he should have come to me and asked me why I didn't answer that call and why I couldn't save his parents."

He looked at her remorseful expression and gently stroked her head, "Okay, stop blaming yourself. This isn't your fault."

Jasper gave a bitter smile, "Everyone says it's not my fault, but... is it really not my fault? If I had answered that phone call

back then, maybe some things could have been different."

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"Don't overthink it. Your parents are probably looking for us now. Don't make them worry," William said, taking Jasper's hand and leading him towards the exit.

After they left, a figure slowly walked out from a hidden corner, their gaze heavy as they watched the two figures

leave.

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“Young master, we need to leave now, or we’ll miss the flight,”

someone reminded him.

“Alright,” Lawrence replied, but he headed towards the side door. “Those kidnappers who were sentenced today, don’t let them have an easy time in prison.”

“Yes, I understand what to do,” his subordinate replied.

When they arrived at the side door, a black car was waiting outside. Lawrence got in and slowly closed his eyes.

In the end, he couldn’t resist and approached, letting Jasper see him.

The two of them found a noodle shop. The shop had a small storefront and the decor was quite old, but there were still

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many people inside and the business was good.

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Roger found a seat and Jasper sat down with him. However, when it came to choosing what type of noodles to order, she just stared blankly at the menu,

“What’s wrong? Don’t you want to eat noodles here? Do you think the environment is too poor? The food is too simple?” Roger mocked.

She looked up at him and asked, “Do you hate me?”

“What do you mean?” he asked in return.

Jasper returned to the Reed House, but the face and figure she saw at the court today kept flashing in her mind repeatedly.

Was that person really not Lawrence?

Or did she see it wrong?

If it was really Lawrence, he would definitely come to her and ask why she didn’t answer his calls back then.

Moreover, if Lawrence was really in Emerald City, so close to her, the people her father sent to find him should have noticed

it too.

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Over the years, even though the police have stopped searching for Lawrence, the Reed family never gave up.

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Thinking about this, Jasper suddenly threw off his thin blanket, got out of bed, and opened the bedroom door.

But as soon as he opened the door, he bumped into William who was about to knock.

“William?” Jasper looked at him in surprise. “Are you looking for me?”

“Just wanted to see if you were asleep,” William said. He had come to Emerald City for the trial of the kidnapping case and was temporarily staying with the Reed family. “Can’t sleep?”

“Well, there’s something I want to talk to my parents about,” Jasper said.

William’s eyes flickered slightly. “Do you want to tell them about seeing Lawrence at the courthouse today?”

Jasper wasn’t too surprised that William had guessed what she was thinking. After all, they had known each other for so many years, and he always seemed to easily figure out what she was thinking.

“Yes, regardless of whether or not the person I saw was actually Lawrence, I still hope my dad can help me

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investigate,” Jasper said.

At this moment, her father should still be in his study.

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As Jasper was about to head towards the study, William suddenly grabbed her wrist. “Are you still unable to let go of Lawrence? We already discussed this afternoon that you must

have mistaken someone else for him. It couldn’t have been

Lawrence.”

Jasper gave a bitter smile. “Can I really let go? I had the chance to save Lawrence back then, but instead, I caused him

to disappear! And his parents...”

“Stop,” William interrupted. “How long will you continue to blame yourself for this? You were only a child back then. None

of this was your fault.”

“But for the Lawrence back then, I was his only hope,” Jasper murmured. “Regardless of whether I was mistaken this time or not, I want to find out the truth.”

With that, Jasper pulled her hand away from William’s grip and walked towards the study.