

Ex Convict 821

Chapter 821

‘After all, nowadays, there are many Cinderellas who disdain the domineering presidents’ money and prefer to live a

miserable life while dating them.’

The female colleague thought that this

might be the case. Earlier, several of them got together and talked about who exactly paid the bill last night.

“No.” Grace denied it. ‘He once was, but

not anymore!’

“Eh? No?” The female colleague looked surprised, not expecting Grace to deny so straightforwardly.

“But Andrea

Schwartz said...”

“Does my boyfriend have to be whoever

she says?” asked Grace.

The other woman was stunned,

not knowing how to continue the

conversation.

Grace walked out of the pantry with a glass of water in her hand. She returned

to her seat and began the tasks at hand.

Dating was way in the past now. All she

wanted to do now was work well and

work hard in this city... to become a

lawyer again!

Only in this way could she be worthy of

those who loved her!

Lina was distracted at work all

morning. Her mind was full of Hadwin

Stephenson’s face and the things he

said.

'He said... he can be the sword in my hand even if the person I'm dealing with is Jason!'

Never had a man said such a thing to her!

'This sounds like sweet talk no matter how I look at it! He would have to involve the entire Stephenson Group if he's to go against Jason. No rational person would be willing to suffer such a loss.'

However... Hadwin Stephenson made her feel like... it was real when he said so.

It was as if he could involve the Stephenson Group he spent so many years and effort to get and risk losing everything for her.

Usually, the biggest possibility a man would do this for a woman was because... he had fallen in love with her!

'Could Hadwin Stephenson have possibly fallen for me?'

Lina was immediately doubtful when she thought of this.

'There's a possibility that Hadwin Stephenson hates me. As for loving me... It's most likely that he said these things to make me fall in love with him, and once I do, he'll finally get his revenge!

'That's the most plausible explanation, right?'

However... Somehow, her heart could not calm down.

"Lina!" A voice suddenly rang in her ear, causing Lina to come back to her senses.

Then, she realized that she had arrived

at the land bidding center.

for auction. Naturally, companies like their design firm wanted to establish a good relationship with those real estate

companies. Several powerful real estate

companies in Emerald City had come over to bid for the plots.

The director of Lina's design firm

brought a few designers over so they

could be the first to hear about the land

auctions. Then, they could pull some

strings and see if they could win over the

design projects.

Lina was one of the several designers

who came.

One of today's plots was a popular commercial land, which was planned to be built into a shopping mall cum

serviced apartment. Lina was quite

interested in this.

After all, anyone who was ambitious

about design was interested in challenging projects. However... Lina reckoned that her design firm would

not get such a project considering their

current size.

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They could get the project of a few residential lands at most and design a

batch of residential houses.

"Lina, don't get distracted. Who you're meeting today are the executives of those real estate companies." The

director advised Lina.

"Got it," said Lina after pulling herself

together.

When a group of people walked into the hall, Lina suddenly paused and saw a familiar figure-Lily!

This second daughter of the Atkinson family was also the woman who made Grace suffer so much in prison. Lina

hated her guts!

However, Lily came from an influential background. Even if she was blacklisted in the entertainment industry, she could

always return to the Atkinson family and assume an important position in Atkinson

Group.

Lily looked stunning in a high-end

bespoke suit with her long wavy hair falling on her shoulders. She also had elaborate makeup on.

A group of people seemed to gather

around. Lily, chatting with her.

The director standing next to Lina had

a big smile on his face and went up to greet Lily warmly.

Only then did Lina find out that Lily was attending the auction on behalf of the Atkinson family's real estate company.

With her identity, many people wanted to curry favor with her. If the Atkinson family won the auction, it would be a year's worth of work for any design firm

if they got the project!

Lina listened as the normally solemn

director flattered Lily with a smile. She

gathered from their conversation that

Atkinson Group was hell-bent on winning

the most popular plot in this auction.

"I've heard about you. It may not be impossible for us to collaborate, but..." Lily's voice faltered, then she looked at Lina. "Since you wish to deal with me, you should know my likes and dislikes, Director Tong. What am I supposed to make of you by bringing in an employee I don't like?"

Director Tong was stunned. "Do you

mean... Lina?"

“Is that so? I don’t know her name, but she irritates me.” Lily gave Lina a look of contempt. She did not know her name,

but she did know that this woman was
Grace’s friend.

When Grace was in prison, this woman
had helped her a lot.

‘If it wasn’t for Grace, how could I have
been forced to quit the entertainment
industry?’ Lily’s heart was filled with hatred as she thought of this.

However, she was afraid to go after
Grace, so she could only go after the
woman in front of her.

“Director Tong, people like her are like
cockroaches in the gutter. It’s hard to think that you can undertake any big
projects with such staff,” said Lily.

All of a sudden, everyone around them

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looked at Lina.

Lina felt embarrassed.

Others who were trying to curry favor
with Lily said, “How could you let such a
person in?”

Someone even shouted for the security
guards to kick Lina out.

Director Tong wanted to defend Lina, but there were too many people trying to please Lily that it was
useless.

One even pointed at Lina and said, “Get out. This is not the place for you.”

Lina raised her chin. Even if she was

embarrassed, she did not want to give

“Why should I get out? This isn’t the

Atkinson family’s turf!”

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“Are you trying to argue with me? So what if we kick you out of here? Who do you think you are?” Lily naturally had someone to speak up for her.

“You want me to get out? Which law says

I can’t set foot in here? Must I scam

when you tell me to? I’ll tell you what, I can sue you for doing this!” Lina said stubbornly.

“Sue me? Well, I’d like to see you sue me!” As she spoke, the man ordered his two subordinates beside him, “Get her out of here so as not to upset Miss Atkinson!”

The two strong men came and grabbed each of Lina’s arms, trying to drag her out.

Director Tong and several other colleagues did not dare to speak up on

Lina’s behalf.

There was a faint smile on the corners of Lily’s lips as she looked at Lina mockingly. “It seems that you have no choice but to get out of here. Grace may have someone to protect her, but that doesn’t mean you have someone to protect

you. From now on, I’ll make sure you get

kicked out every time you show your

face.”

Lina’s face turned red.

However, she had no way to fight in such a place. The more she struggled,

the more she was embarrassed and

humiliated.

‘Why... can people like Lily humiliate and

torture others? Is it because she comes

from a strong background?’

Just like back then when Grace had her fingernails pulled out by Lily.

Was her only option to suffer when Lily humiliated her? Just because she was the daughter of the Atkinson family?

Just when Lina was ready to give up struggling, a familiar sound rang suddenly.

“Is that so? When did someone else get to decide whether my girlfriend is kicked out or not?”

Lina immediately shuddered. ‘This voice...’

The next moment, a tall figure caught her sight.

It was Hadwin Stephenson!

Lina stared at the man who had suddenly appeared in front of her, only feeling her eyes heating up. Something seemed to surge out of her chest.

Hadwin Stephenson had already pulled her away from the two men grabbing her arms. Looking at her carefully, he

said, “Are you alright? Did they hurt you?”

Those inky eyes were full of worry.

Lina shook her head. “Why... are you here?” Her voice was somewhat choked when she spoke.

She did not want to cry when she was humiliated by Lily, but now that he had saved her, she wanted to.

Hadwin Stephenson gently caressed Lina’s bangs. “Alright, don’t cry. I’ll have them pay for making you suffer.”

Then, he went to the man who had his subordinates drag Lina out. “Apologize.”

That man did not recognize Hadwin Stephenson, so he immediately said angrily, “Who the hell are you to make

me—”

However, before he could finish, Hadwin Stephenson had already punched him to the ground.

The man’s subordinates wanted to come forward but were stopped by Hadwin Stephenson’s bodyguards.

Chapter 824

Hadwin Stephenson lazily waved his hand. “It seems that you don’t want to apologize after bullying my girlfriend. As her boyfriend, I have to stand up for her. Otherwise, wouldn’t I turn myself into a joke?”

The man was now lying flat on his stomach. The spot where he was hit with Hadwin Stephenson’s punch hurt so much that he could no longer speak.

Then, Hadwin Stephenson turned to Lily. “What about you, Miss Atkinson? Are you going to apologize?”

The seemingly polite question had a dangerous tone to it. Lily even had the feeling that if she said no, she would end up like the man who was just beaten to the ground.

The man in front of her would not have any compassion.

Lily had now recognized the man in front of her. He was the new patriarch of the Stephenson family who just took office for more than half a year-Hadwin

Stephenson.

He managed to take over the

Stephenson family with the identity of a b*stard, which meant he was no rookie in terms of schemes and trickery.

The Stephenson family was now on a roll and was actively expanding in Emerald City. The Atkinson family had not been doing so well in recent years. Several

major projects at hand had suffered

losses. Some time ago, her father

mentioned that he wanted to collaborate

with the Stephenson family on several projects.

However, she did not expect that Hadwin Stephenson's girlfriend was... Grace's friend!

Lily's face paled as she pursed her red lips, only feeling that the world was smaller than she imagined.

"You're not apologizing?" Hadwin Stephenson's voice rang again.

A sentence escaped Lily's mouth with much difficulty. "It's my fault, Miss..."

"Sweeney. My girlfriend's last name is Sweeney," said Hadwin Stephenson.

"Miss Sweeney, please forgive me." With that, Lily stepped on her high heels and left without turning back.

Lina was still a little confused. From Hadwin Stephenson's appearance to Lily apologizing and departure, everything happened too fast.

It was not until Hadwin Stephenson took

her into the VIP room of the auction and gave her a cup of juice to calm down that she finally came to her senses.

While blinking, she sipped her juice and

looked around the VIP room. It was a

place where even the director could not get in!

"Are you here for the auction?" she asked.

"Yeah. Real estate is the best way

to make money nowadays. If the Stephenson family wants to expand in Emerald City, real estate would be the safest choice," he replied.

Then, Lina recalled that the Stephenson

family did have any real estate

companies.

"Why didn't you call me? Were you really

going to let yourself be dragged out if I

didn't happen to bump into you?" asked

Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina was stunned. Then, she said
somewhat lamely, "I forgot."

"You..." he said somewhat helplessly. "You never take my words to heart, do you?"

He had told her more than once to call
him if she was in trouble.

However, she never seemed to
remember.

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'Not really... Lina said to herself. She took it to heart when he said he wanted to
become the sword in her hand that day.

It was because she cared so much about
it that she kept thinking about it.

"By the way, which plot are you going to bid for?" asked Lina as she changed the
subject.

"What do you think? Which one's the
best?" asked Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina immediately pointed to the most popular plots and said, "This one, of course. They're going to build
a complex, right? I wonder which design firm will undertake this project. Wow, I'm itching

just thinking about it."

Hadwin Stephenson glanced at her
thoughtfully. "Why, do you want to design
a complex?"

Chapter 825

"It's just a thought." She shrugged. "As an architectural designer, I have to dream a
little."

"That's true." He smiled faintly.

Hadwin Stephenson joined the bidding on the popular plot Lina mentioned

when the auction began.

“President Stephenson.” His assistant was surprised.

After all, the plot was not part of their plan. It was so popular that the competition was intense, so the final

price might not be pretty.

Even if they won the auction, they would probably earn a reputation rather than a profit.

However, Hadwin Stephenson said, “Bid for it and use this land to make a name for the Stephenson Group.”

The assistant stopped speaking, but his eyes could not help but wander to the woman who was drinking juice while surfing the internet on her phone.

‘President Stephenson isn’t going to bid for that plot just because of what the woman said, is he?’

‘Is it possible? Spending billions of dollars just because of what she said?’

It was crazy just thinking about it.

Lily sat in the private room and looked at the numbers jumping on the screen in front of her. ‘Stephenson Group... is also bidding for that popular plot.’

Earlier, she had clearly said that Stephenson Group was not interested in the land and other companies participating in the auction did not have what it took to get the land, so she was pretty confident she could get it.

Now... Stephenson Group was going to compete with her!

Lily gritted her teeth. Her gorgeous face was now contorted.

‘Could it be because of the woman named Qin? Is that why Hadwin Stephenson has decided to continue standing up for that woman and compete with the Atkinson family for the plot?’

It seemed that not only Grace, but even her friend, a woman who had always been a nobody in her eyes, was now her

obstacle!

‘Sooner or later, I’ll make them regret it! I’ll make them see that I, Lily, am not someone they can pick on easily!’

Lina felt relieved when the auction was over!

She even laughed out loud when the Atkinson family lost their bid.

On their way out, Lina once again bumped into Lily who was about to leave. She unceremoniously gave Lily a sarcastic look.

The director and her colleagues had already left, but Lina received a lot of text messages from them.

They all said that they did not help her out because it happened so quickly that they were stupefied. As such, they hoped she would not mind.

Looking at these text messages, Lina pursed her lips and did not reply.

“If you don’t feel comfortable in your current design firm, just go somewhere else,” Hadwin Stephenson said suddenly.

Lina knew that Hadwin Stephenson had figured out that she was unhappy because the director and her colleagues stayed quiet to keep themselves safe earlier.

“It’s not that easy to get a new job!” she said.

“How hard is it? I’ll help you find a suitable place later,” said Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina was stunned. ‘Oh, I forgot. These things are pretty easy for him.

Chapter 826

“No thanks. I won’t switch my job for the time being. I’ll do it when I’ve made some real achievements and have a better resume,” she said.

“Don’t you mind how those people treat you?”

“I do, but... that’s also the frustration of being an adult. Even though I don’t

get along with those people, I still have to stay for the sake of earning a living. As for them... Um, it was the second daughter of the Atkinson family, Lily, who wanted to embarrass me. If they helped me, they would be offending Lily. We’re

not that close, so they have no reason to do that for me, right?”

Hadwin Stephenson was somewhat surprised. He did not expect her to be so understanding.

However, after saying that, she froze and looked at him strangely.

“What’s the matter? Why are you looking at me like that?” he asked with a slight frown.

She pressed her lips together for a long time before she said, “Nothing... I’m hungry and I want something to eat.”

“Alright.” Hadwin Stephenson smiled.

Since it was not dinner time, Hadwin Stephenson took Lina to a dessert shop that was pretty popular these days.

He ordered the dessert he was interested in, but Lina was a little absent-minded.

She kept looking at Hadwin Stephenson.

He naturally felt that something was wrong with her, but... it felt good when she looked at him that way.

“What’s the matter? Why do you keep looking at me today?” Hadwin Stephenson asked with a smile on his lips.

Lina bit her lip. Everyone in this world

knew how to seek benefits and avoid harm. She understood that her colleagues and director were afraid of offending Lily, so they dared not intervene in her affairs with that woman.

However, when she had a conflict with Jason, Hadwin Stephenson did not hesitate to intervene and took on all the responsibilities for her. Someone like him should know that once he intervened, he would offend Jason by doing so.

However, he chose to stand by her side and was willing to be the sword in her hand.

'Is it really... fake? What if it's true?'

"Hadwin Stephenson, do you really like me?" Lina asked suddenly.

Hadwin Stephenson suddenly narrowed his eyes. There was a flash of surprise in his eyes. He could feel that she was being unprecedentedly serious right now.

His thin lips parted as he said gently,

"Yes." The simple word had already been declared his heart.

"Are you... still going to get even with me?" Lina took a deep breath before continuing to ask, "Are you going to dump me after I fall in love with you?"

He sighed. "If I only wanted to get even with you, why would I do so much for you? Lina, do you really think I've been with you all these days just to get back at you?"

She was speechless.

Regarding the time they had spent together these days... If there was a so-called boyfriend grading system,

even if he did not get a full score, he certainly had a high score.

Sometimes she could not help but think that if she could find a boyfriend who would treat her as well as he did, then she would be really happy.

He made her know what it was like to be

so carefully cherished by a man.

"Hadwin Stephenson, I think I like you. If you want, then... How about a real relationship? Not one that's on the premise of revenge, but let's become a real couple?" said Lina.

Speaking of which, this was the first time she was confessing to a man so seriously.

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She did not want to escape the feeling in her heart. Since she had fallen for him, she did not want to miss him.

Or should she say she did not want to miss him a second time, having already missed him more than three years ago?

He stared at her, his beautiful black eyes looking as if he wanted to see through her.

"Do you want us to have a real relationship?" His voice was slightly hoarse.

She nodded.

"However, you must know that once we're really dating, you can't just leave me whenever you want anymore. I can forgive you for leaving without saying goodbye the last time, but if you leave again without saying goodbye, maybe I'll break your legs so that you can't go anywhere," Hadwin Stephenson said.

Each word sounded like a final warning
to her.

Lina trembled, her teeth leaving a row of
bite marks on her red lower lip.

“No, not just leaving without saying
goodbye... You don’t even have the right
to break up with me,” said Hadwin

Stephenson. He simply could not imagine letting her go once he had her heart.

He would probably not give her a chance to leave him when that happened. He would not let go even if
she no longer

liked him, or even if she hated him.

Lina looked at Hadwin Stephenson in
shock, and the bite marks on her red lip became deeper.

“If you hate me in the future, I won’t
break up even if you cry and beg me on your knees. So, do you still want to date
me?” he asked, word by word.

His clear voice sounded as beautiful as a
crooning cello.

However, every word seemed to be so
heavy.

Lina discovered that there was a layer of
cold sweat on her palms.

Perhaps she had never expected her
confession to Hadwin Stephenson would
cause him to say such things.

It was as if he was warning her that if
she wanted to run away, she should do it
now, and if she missed this opportunity,
she would not have any more in the

future.

'But... Do I want to escape and miss my chance with this man again? Or... Should

I bet that we'll never break up?

'Should I bet that our love will be smooth

sailing from here on out?'

She had never been one to bet on good

luck, and she would lose most of her

games at poker and mahjong.

However, now she wanted to bet with the

rest of her life!

"I... want to have a real relationship with

you!" She heard herself saying.

Lina felt that this was the most important

decision she had ever made!

Just like that, they went from having a fake relationship to having a real one.

However, Grace and Jason had just split up, so she did not tell her best friend

about it for the time being. She only

planned to tell Grace about it later.

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In the evening, Lina and Grace had a

video call. "Have you tried on the clothes

and shoes I bought for you? Do they fit?"

Chapter 828

"They fit just fine," said Grace.

"Good. Tell me if you're still lacking

anything. Don't be shy. You can just pay me back after getting your salary," said

Lina.

"Sure." Grace smiled, but after a

moment, she looked like she was holding

something back.

“What is it? Do you need something?”

“No, it’s...” Grace hesitated a moment before saying, “When you picked me up yesterday... What was I doing?”

She thought about it all day, but she still could not remember what she had done after walking out of Drunken Days drunk! She only vaguely remembered seeing Jason.

“You... Uh, leaned in Jason’s arms and blacked out,” said Lina.

Grace froze immediately. “Anything... else?”

“No. I arrived and helped you get into the car with Hadwin Stephenson. However...

Before I got back to the car, I impulsively slapped him because I was mad at him for breaking up with you. I thought I was going to be in trouble, but probably

because of you, he just left without saying anything,” said Lina.

Grace was stunned, not expecting that such a thing would happen after she got drunk.

Few people in Emerald City dared to slap Jason! However, he... was willing to let Ling off the hook?

“Grace, did Jason really break up with you because he thought of your relationship as a game?” After yesterday’s incident, Lina found it a bit far-fetched.

‘If he really treated his relationship with Grace as a game, how could Jason not go after me for slapping him? And it was because Grace said something when she

was in a dazed state.

“Yeah. He felt tired and doesn’t want to love me anymore, so it’s over. If that doesn’t make it a game, then what does?” said Grace.

Lina was speechless. She could only hope for her best friend to get over this failed relationship as soon as possible.

Grace lay in bed after her video call with Lina.

The lights were on.

She could finally go to sleep with the lights off after dating him. However, after they broke up, she went back to sleeping with the lights on.

It was hot and stuffy in early August, even at night.

‘If it took less than a year to fall in love with him, how long will it take to forget him?’

‘Regardless, I’ll get over him one day!’ Grace said to herself and slowly closed her eyes.

Her new job was hectic.

In the past few days, her colleagues in the office had been talking about her behind her back, but at least no one would ask her face to face if she was dating Jason.

Andrea Schwartz did not pester her these days, so Grace was left in peace.

At the end of the day, Lawyer Carter

handed her a document. The document

needed the client's signature, but since the client was too lazy to visit the firm, they had to send it to the client for them to sign it before submitting it through the normal procedure.

As an assistant, Grace naturally needed to run this type of errands.

Chapter 829

"Alright, got it," replied Grace.

"It's going to be submitted tomorrow, so make sure you get it signed today." Lawyer Carter urged before giving

Grace the contact details.

However, when Grace called, it was

their secretary who answered. They just

told Grace that the client would be at

Magnificence for a party that night. If she wanted to get the documents signed,

she could go to Magnificence. They even

gave her the number of the banquet

room.

Magnificence was

mous nightclub

Emerald City.

However, when Grace arrived, she

found many men and women gathered

at the banquet room. They seemed

to be having a party. For a moment,

Grace was confused about who she was

looking for.

She had to call the secretary one more

time before finding the client near the

pool table.

He was the son of a rich family with a

pretty bad reputation. He was getting sued for being violent during his relationship with a girl who asked for

compensation.

Lawyer Carter took the case to defend

him.

Grace had read the case files, and it was

almost clear that the man had indeed

violently assaulted the woman. Grace disliked such a man, but it was work after

all-unless she quit now!

“Young Master Yu, please sign this document. It has to be officially

submitted tomorrow,” Grace said to Curtis Row who was playing pool with a

beautiful woman in his arms.

Curtis Row just glanced at her lazily and asked, “Can’t you see I’m busy? Just wait till Jiao Jiao and I are finished. Then I’ll

sign it.”

Jiao Jiao, who was in his arms, giggled. They then brought their bodies closer

together.

Grace pressed her lips together and kept

quiet.

One would always get bullied at work,

and she had no means to escape it now.

At least it was better than what she had experienced in prison. She just had to

stand and wait.

Grace just stood aside quietly while Curtis Row was having fun with the

beautiful woman in his arms. Even if he

finished one round, he would

immediately start another.

Grace reminded him that it was only a signature, but Curtis Row just left her on

the sidelines.

Grace did not know how long she had been standing there for. It could very well have been an hour. As she had been standing like this for a long time, coupled with the air conditioning on full blast, her knees began to ache faintly.

Since her imprisonment, she had developed rheumatism. The bones in her fingers and knees were where the pain was most likely to occur.

Back when she lived in Reed Residence, she regularly took her medicine and was getting much better.

However, after breaking up with Jason, she no longer went to the hospital to see a doctor nor did she take any medication.

After all, it was more than her income could afford.

‘Just endure it. It’ll be over soon,’ Grace said to herself.

Just then, there was suddenly a

commotion at the entrance. Curtis Row, who was playing pool with the beautiful woman, stopped and said to Jiao Jiao, “Come on. Let’s meet the crown prince of the entertainment industry.”

Jiao Jiao was excited.

Grace immediately shuddered when she heard this. The crown prince of the entertainment industry... There was probably only one person in Emerald City with that title.

Brian!

Chapter 830

‘He’s... here too?’

She did not expect to bump into him again so soon. It seemed like such a small world.

Grace looked up, and a figure caught

her eye.

Brian was wearing an all-white casual outfit that was less formal than his usual attire and more laid-back.

Under the lamp's light, the handsome face showed a touch of indifference and estrangement. Even if he was surrounded by the crowd, there was an invisible barrier that made him look like he was somewhat out of place from the commotion around him.

It was as if he had put up a barrier in his world and would never allow anyone to enter.

The one... who was able to break through this barrier was only the little girl who went through thick and thin with him... Someone she used to be!

However... Grace's eyes fell on the woman who had walked into the room while holding onto Brian's arm.

It was Stella who had taken over her place. She was now standing next to Brian, a beaming smile plastered across her face.

Watching Stella and Brian standing next to each other, Grace suddenly had an indescribable feeling.

However, then she told herself she had nothing to worry about. She was the one who had decided to let go of that fact and bury her childhood memory forever, right?

Since she had repeatedly denied being the little girl in front of Brian, there was no reason to think about it now.

Suddenly, those dark phoenix eyes looked in her direction and met her gaze.

For a split second, Grace felt a pang in her heart. The pair of phoenix eyes that were looking at her now was so cold as if he was looking at a stranger instead.

The words he had said before immediately rang in her head. 'I won't have any more affection for you from

now on.'

Therefore, now she was only a stranger to him. The little girl who had gone through thick and thin with him and

carried him down the hill when he was

younger was Stella!

Stella, standing next to Brian, followed

Brian's eyes and saw Grace standing beside the pool table. She immediately froze and felt a little uneasy.

'Why is Grace here? Why is she...

standing there like that? Where's Jason? He's not with Grace?

'If I had known, I wouldn't have wanted to come here today!' Stella regretted it.

She had insisted on Brian bringing her to the party today for her to broaden her horizons, thinking she could quickly fit into high society.

It also created the illusion that she was Brian's girlfriend. 'Even though Brian doesn't acknowledge me as his

girlfriend, as long as everyone around

me thinks so, wouldn't I have a chance to

get to the top?'

She just did not expect Grace to be here.

At the sight of Grace, Stella could not help feeling a surge of guilt!

She worried that her false identity would be exposed one day.

"Young Master Gu, it's a pleasure to have you here today. I heard that you're good at pool. I wonder if you'd like to play one round with me," said Curtis Row as he stepped forward, eager to find a topic to talk about.