For Dinner 21



suffer at your nursery. If that's the case, then your nursery isn't even worth it!"

That was quite an accusation from Cindy. Although it was true, Teacher Linda couldn't admit it! "Morgan's mother, you misunderstand. Our nursery treats every child equally. How could this happen? I was just neglectful earlier." Teacher Linda quickly said. Cindy didn't make a sound. Was this matter going to be resolved with a simple claim of negligence? "So? Does Arthur Woods' family want us to take responsibility?" Cindy asked coldly. Teacher Linda didn't dare to admit it. This was now a matter between parents. Therefore, Teacher Linda said, "Morgan's mother, Arthur Woods' mother will be at the nursery at halfpast one. So we hope you can come too. If Morgan can come, that would be even better. If there are any misunderstandings, let's clear them up." "Alright," Cindy agreed readily. Teacher Linda didn't expect Cindy to agree so easily. She originally planned to persuade her further. Hearing that, Teacher Linda immediately said happily, "Then we will wait for you at the nursery." The word "we" made Cindy smirk. After hanging up the phone, Cindy told Adrian Zhekova and Sheldon Rowland, "Mr. Zhekova, Mr. Rowland, I'm really sorry for the trouble today. I have to take Morgan to the nursery

now..."

As Cindy spoke, she paused for a moment and took an insulated food container from her bag. "I made these beef strips myself," Cindy placed the container of beef strips on Sheldon Rowland's desk. This was originally intended to be a snack for Morgan. "You can try them. If you like them, I can make more, along with other snacks. I think it's quite convenient to have something to eat when you're hungry at work." She didn't have anything more suitable as a token of appreciation at hand and could only give a container of beef strips. Cindy felt quite embarrassed. However, Sheldon didn't feel that way at all and accepted it with surprise, "I really didn't do much. This is too kind." "No, you helped a lot," Cindy insisted. Adrian Zhekova, standing nearby, narrowed his eyes. How did it turn out that Sheldon Rowland got all the credit? Without his approval, Sheldon's words would have been useless!

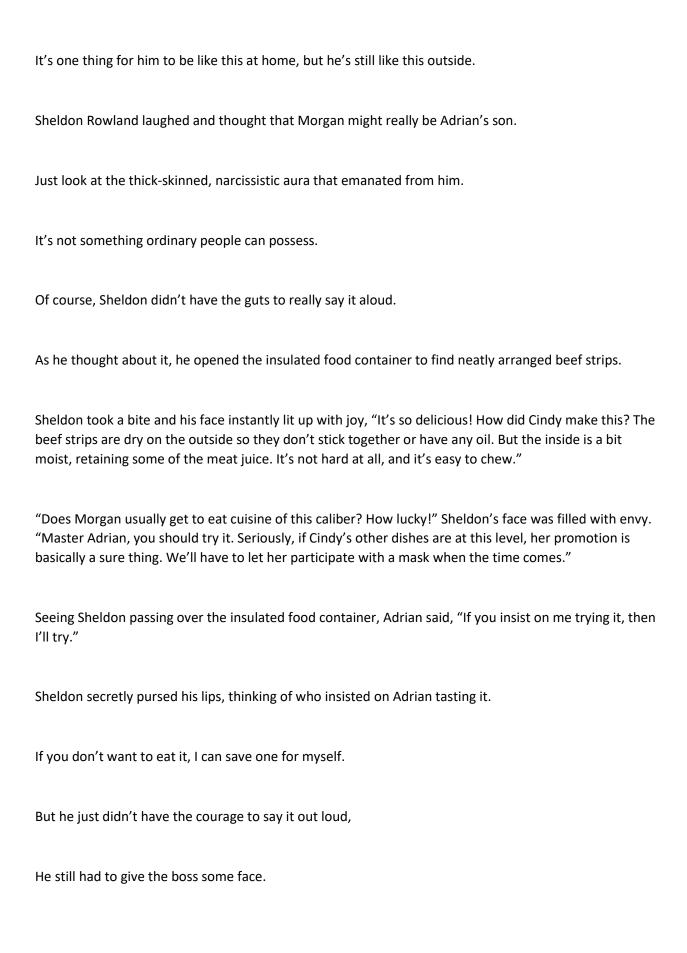
This woman didn't thank him, the one making the final decision, and instead ignored him to thank

Was she blind?!

Sheldon Rowland?

Chapter 22: In the end, who was followed?

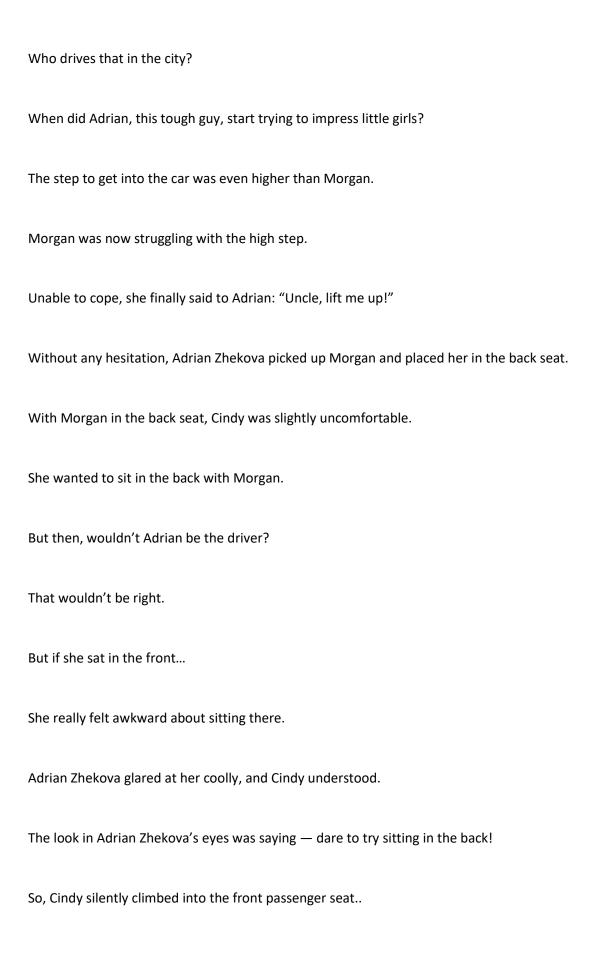
"Ahem!" Adrian Zhekova cleared his throat heavily and looked at Sheldon Rowland with a dangerous gaze.
How dare he try to steal the boss's thunder? Is this something an assistant should do?
Cindy Clarke thought that Adrian was getting impatient, so she quickly said, "In that case, we won't disturb you any longer. I'll formally express my gratitude another day."
After Cindy finished speaking, she left with Morgan Clarke.
Before leaving, Morgan waved to Adrian Zhekova and Sheldon Rowland,
"Goodbye uncles, don't miss me too much!"
After thinking about it, he added, "Of course, since I'm so cute, you definitely won't be able to help but think of me. So just think of little me. Don't think too much, or else it won't be good if you feel uncomfortable missing me."
Sheldon Rowland:
Adrian Zhekova: '
Who did this child take after to be so narcissistic?
Even Cindy was having a hard time dealing with Morgan's thick-skinned behavior.



Adrian didn't know about Sheldon's grumbling in his mind as he took a bite of the beef strip.
It was even more delicious than what Sheldon had described!
Adrian looked down at the box of beef strips in Sheldon's hand.
He watched Sheldon as he was about to grab a second strip.
Adrian quickly took the whole box of beef strips away.
Sheldon was eating his beef strips!
Sheldon looked at his empty hands in confusion, "Master Adrian?"
"A grown man who loves snacking like this will never find a girlfriend!" said Adrian while walking away with the box of beef strips.
Sheldon:
What does loving snacks have to do with finding a girlfriend?
Instead of returning to his office, Adrian Zhekova took the box of beef strips and left the company.
He just saw Cindy and Morgan leaving the company's main entrance.
Morgan was short and had small legs. Cindy couldn't walk very fast with him.

Considering his little short legs, he definitely couldn't have run far.
Cindy paused and realized, it made sense.
But why would Adrian Zhekova, without any reason, be so kind?
The grandson of the Zhekova Family, he wasn't someone to mess around with.
The Zhekovas, one of The Big Eight families.
The Big Eight families are the top eight families in this country, West, Smith, Carden, York, Hamilton, Zhekova, Wells, Callaghan.
Adrian was a character at the top of the pyramid, the next Family Head of the Zhekova family.
The Big Eight are not like those ultra-rich or richest families.
The heritage of The Big Eight, that's the real nobility.
They have power, depth, and wealth.
Now, such a person is offering them a ride?
Was he being friendly?
"This is too much trouble." Cindy politely declined, actually, she did not want to have any relationship with Adrian Zhekova.
They are not from the same world, so there was no need to have a relationship.

"It's no trouble." Adrian Zhekova lifted his hand to show a box of beef strips in his hand, "Consider it a thank you." "..." Cindy opened her mouth, but she couldn't say that she had prepared the box of beef strips for Sheldon Rowland. It wasn't that she wasn't grateful to Adrian Zhekova, but she felt Adrian wouldn't care for such a trivial gift. Who knew that he would accept the whole box? In the end, Adrian didn't give Cindy a chance to refuse, and led them to his car. Little did they know, Sheldon Rowland had been secretly following behind them the entire time. Seeing Adrian take away the beef strips but not return to his office, Sheldon's eyes widened, sensing that something was amiss, and he followed secretly. To his surprise, Adrian went to find Cindy. Following behind, Sheldon secretly thought that Adrian was really cunning. Adrian usually drives a Rolls-Royce Cullinan, an SUV which is not too difficult to get into. But this time, Adrian is taking Cindy in a G. Patton GX! What kind of car is the G. Patton GX? It's a massive off-roader!



Chapter 24: A Great Backing

However, the step to get on the car was higher than Morgan Clarke and even reached the position slightly above the thigh of Cindy Clarke.

Cindy couldn't climb up with her legs wide open.

She couldn't help but grumble, "Does this man usually drive such a high car?"

Just as she was about to disregard her dignity and crawl up, Adrian Zhekova suddenly supported her waist.

Cindy became stiff immediately.

The heat from Adrian's palm was continuously transmitted to her waist, making her feel extremely hot.

Cindy couldn't help but shiver slightly at the sensation.

At the same time, Cindy smelled the scent of mint coming from Adrian.

With her mind going blank, Adrian lifted her up and carried her into the car before she could react.

As he was leaving, he whispered, "Shorty!"

Having said that, he walked around to the passenger side.

Cindy's face turned beet red.
Who was a shorty, huh!
She was one meter and sixty centimeters tall!
Adrian also got into the car, while Cindy's face remained red.
Although Adrian had helped her get into the car, it was indeed a hard climb.
However, the help felt a little too intimate!
As a result, Cindy didn't dare look at Adrian now, and could only stare at the rearview mirror outside the car window, embarrassed by her flushed face.
Adrian fastened his seatbelt and was about to start the car.
Morgan Zhekova, who was sitting in the back row, suddenly stretched his head between the two front seats.
"Uncle, do you have any intentions towards my mom, Cindy?" Morgan suddenly threw out a question that shocked both Adrian and Cindy. Cindy angrily said, "Sit back properly and fasten your seat belt!"
That brat, he really dared to say anything!
While Morgan sat back and fastened his seatbelt, he said with his short legs swinging, "I just think that he was so nice to you from the first time he met you. He must be either a villain or a thief."
Adrian thought to himself, this kid has guts to even know the phrases 'villain or thief.'

Adrian said with a straight face, "Although I'm meeting Cindy for the first time, it's not my first time meeting you. I just like your narcissism and thick-skinned nature, that's why I'm treating you so well."
Cindy: ""
This man, he dared to scold her son in front of her!
Morgan: '
Was this a compliment or an insult?
But then, Morgan grinned and said sheepishly, "Isn't this what they call a soulmate? What's that saying, like attracts like?"
Adrian's face turned green.
Who the hell is your soulmate!
Cindy, smiling, added, "Birds of a feather flock together."
Adrian: '
Now he knew how this little brat learned so many idioms.
Since it was not appronriate for Adrian to touch Cindy. he stretched out his
arm, pinched Morgan's chubby cheeks and said, "Yes, birds of a feather flock together. I really like you!"
Morgan immediately seized the opportunity and said, "Since you like me so much, you have to help me if anyone bullies me in the future!" The heir of the Zhekova Family, such a powerful backing!

Morgan was immediately overjoyed.
Arthur Woods had bullied him before, but that was in the past, and it wouldn't be right to rely on Adrian's support now.
If Arthur Woods bullied him again in the future, he would bring out Adrian!
After all, Adrian had said he liked him!
If he liked him, wouldn't he protect him?
Adrian said disdainfully, "Whose genes are responsible for your thick skin?" Not only was his face thick-skinned, but he was also good at seizing opportunities.
They had only met for the second time today, yet he dared to use Adrian's name to protect himself!
As he said this, Adrian glanced at Cindy.
Like mother like son?
Cindy couldn't help but laugh.
Even if Morgan were her biological child, she would still say that she didn't have such thick skin Chapter 25: Carrying the Pot

Cindy sneered and said coldly, "Probably like his father with that terminal illness."
After all, she didn't know who that man was back then.
She just got taken advantage of by him.
Couldn't she let him bear some of the consequences?
Adrian Zhekova: .
For some reason, hearing her say that made him really angry! Adrian Zhekova pulled a long face and didn't say a word. He drove them straight to the nursery entrance.
As the car stopped, Cindy was rummaging through her bag.
In no time, she found a tiny pinhole camera and attached it to her shirt button.
It would be hard to notice if nobody pointed it out.
"What are you doing with this?" Adrian asked.
"It's wrong for Morgan to fight with others, but when other kids insulted her, their parents came to find Morgan instead. I have to be prepared." Cindy explained, "Their family is one of the biggest sponsors of the nursery, so the nursery will definitely side with them and cover for them."
Cindy gave a cold smile, "If the nursery dares to put all the blame on Morgan, I'll make them pay for it! My million fan influence as Cindy Clarke is no joke!"
Did they think she would go unprepared to be led to the slaughter?

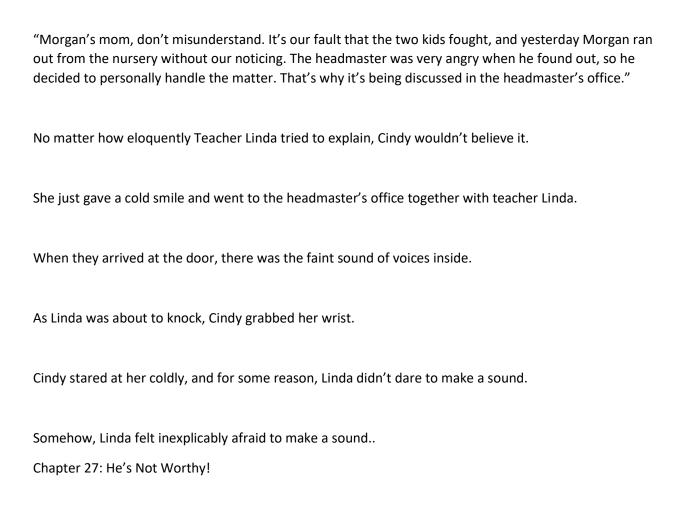
She never fights unprepared!
Getting everything ready, Cindy opened the door to get out of the car.
But then she saw the height and was speechless.
She had forgotten how high this car was!
Helplessly, since she couldn't get off on her own, Cindy reached for Adrian's hand.
But as soon as her hand stretched out, Adrian suddenly turned his palm and grabbed her wrist.
The warmth of his palm heated her wrist, making her tremble uncontrollably.
Immediately after, Adrian placed her hand on his shoulder.
Cindy: '
She subconsciously tightened her grip on his shoulder.
Meanwhile, Adrian's two hands grabbed Cindy's slim waist.
And he directly lifted her off the car.
When Cindy was steady on her feet, she was almost pressed against his chest, completely enveloped by him.
Adrian still had no intention of letting her go.

Lowering his head, his lips were almost touching Cindy's forehead. Right now, Cindy was only focusing on her nerves, feeling anxious, and her ears were burning hot. She couldn't notice Adrian's small movement. Morgan was still sitting in the back, unattended. But they weren't blind! Adrian dared to take advantage of their Cindy in front of them! Morgan was so mad. Even if Adrian liked them, it wasn't allowed! Little hands immediately opened the car door. Since they were short, Morgan couldn't get out of the car. Standing by the car door, they suddenly shouted, "Cindy, I can't get down!" Silly Cindy, letting people take advantage of her without even knowing! Luckily, they were there. What would Cindy do without them! Cindy was suddenly awakened by Morgan's shout and quickly withdrew from Adrian's embrace. Adrian didn't stop her and just let her go.

His palm and chest felt a little empty.
His fingertips moved, as if still holding onto the memory of her soft waist.
Cindy's face flushed, and she didn't dare look at Adrian.
She pretended to be busy, picking up Morgan and not looking at him.
As she held Morgan, she was about to put them down.
But then Morgan clung to Cindy like a koala, with hands and feet both gripping tightly Chapter 26: Unable to Admit
Cindy could only helplessly hold Morgan, who loudly said: "You can hold me, but not my little sister, no way!"
Adrian Zhekova sneered. He had already held her when they were getting in and out of the car!
In the future, he would have to continue holding her!
Adrian Zhekova's cold gaze slid over the chubby hand Morgan was hugging on Cindy.
Cindy didn't dare to let Morgan say anything more.
Usually, he was a clever and well-behaved child, but he seemed to be confrontational at the sight of Adrian Zhekova.



And his heart was stirred for a moment.
Adrian Zhekova looked down, at the hand that had held her waist.
His fingers twitched, and he drove away to find a parking space.
Cindy thought he was just driving by and leaving.
But in fact, he deliberately brought them here, and he had no intention of leaving.
Unaware of this, Cindy was about to take Morgan to Teacher Linda's office, but they were stopped at the door by her.
"Morgan's mom, Morgan," Teacher Linda greeted them with a smile, then looked down and asked, "Morgan, how are you doing? Your mom said you were injured too."
Morgan clenched his mouth, hugged Cindy's leg, and hid behind her, looking both wronged and scared.
Teacher Linda saw this and didn't know what to say.
"Have the Arthur Woods' parents arrived?" Cindy asked.
"They have, but Nelly Woods is in the headmaster's office now," Teacher Linda replied awkwardly.
Cindy raised her eyebrows. What did she say on the phone earlier?
Teacher Linda also realized that even if Nelly Woods really went to exert pressure on the headmaster and ask him to help Arthur, she couldn't admit it.



Without a sound, Cindy Clarke slipped her right hand into her bag and stealthily activated her mobile phone's recording function without taking it out.

"Teacher Linda, don't say anything. I want to hear what the headmaster and Arthur Woods's mother mean." Cindy whispered, "If you speak out, leaving aside how the Woods Family will hold us accountable, based on yesterday's incident, we will have to place all the responsibility on you." Teacher Linda's expression suddenly became bitter.

Arthur Woods had fought with Morgan Clarke.

While Arthur Woods was from another class, Morgan Clarke was a child in her class.

Indeed, all of this was her responsibility.
More than that, she only discovered that Morgan had left the kindergarten quite a while after he had gone.
This responsibility was just too great!
"Stay calm. I only seek accountability from the Woods family and the headmaster for your side, I won't bring it up." As for whether or not the headmaster will find fault with Teacher Linda, Cindy didn't dare promise.
Still, Teacher Linda harbored a glimmer of hope.
If Cindy only sought trouble from the Woods family and the headmaster, and the headmaster got so troubled that he forgot about her responsibilities, that could be possible.
Yes, Teacher Linda had figured it out now.
Nelly Woods thought she was here to trouble Cindy but didn't know that Cindy wasn't here to show weakness.
Cindy had come to cause trouble too!
Somehow, Teacher Linda always felt that Nelly Woods and the headmaster were in for a disaster today.
Don't ask her why she had this feeling, she didn't know either.
Teacher Linda sighed and quietly nodded.

Satisfied, Cindy smirked and quietly cracked open the door slightly.

Just enough for the conversation inside to clearly filter out.

Inside, Arthur Woods's mother was saying: "Headmaster, our family donates nearly ten million to the school each year, not for our Arthur to be bullied in school."

"Nearly ten million, and given annually, it's no small sum. The nursery maintained its status as one of Belfard's top ten prestigious kindergartens largely thanks to our donations."

"Yes, I'm aware." The headmaster hastily nodded, "It's thanks to your family's sponsorship that our kindergarten can keep up in terms of teaching faculty and infrastructure, including annual winter and summer exchange camps with foreign kindergartens. All of this is reliant on those funds."

All of these cost money.

Although Nelly Woods held a high and mighty attitude, the kindergarten was heavily dependent on the Woods Family's sponsorship.

"We're not giving our money for nothing. Isn't it because we want our Arthur to have a comfortable time here? You've got the reputation of a prestigious kindergarten, but when admitting children, don't you check their family background?"

"His family, the Clarkes, are nobodies. Aside from the necessary fees, they pay for nothing. I'd wager their money for this kindergarten has been squeezed out of a tight budget. How dare such people cause trouble for our Arthur!"

"Just because you kindergartens are wealthy and willing to take all, it doesn't mean you shouldn't check the students' family conditions. You take in any poor person!" Nelly Woods said angrily, "Morgan Clarke, what right does he have to quarrel with Arthur! He's not even worthy!"



"Morgan's mom, you're finally here," said Nelly Woods, her tone unpleasant, and sarcastically added, "You're such a busy person. I wanted to talk to you yesterday, but you weren't here."

"I took Morgan to the hospital for a check-up yesterday," Cindy said. "He has quite a few injuries, so I took him home to rest after the hospital visit."

"I initially planned to let Morgan rest at home today, and I had asked for leave for him. He's not only injured but also traumatized, and he's been terribly scared. If it weren't for Nelly Woods insisting that we come here to sort things out, I wouldn't have brought Morgan here." Cindy's tone was not demanding, and her voice was soft.

However, her words stabbed at their hearts, one by one.

Nelly Woods angrily said, "You're really playing the victim here! Morgan got hurt? Look at what happened to my Arthur!"

Nelly Woods pushed Arthur forward.

Cindy noticed that there were indeed scratch marks on Arthur's face.

Cindy looked at Morgan, and he pouted and explained, "I'm younger and weaker than him. When he was hitting me, the only thing I could do was scratch his face. I couldn't reach anywhere else."

"What a sharp-tongued little kid!" Nelly Woods snapped.

She was irritated that Morgan dared to imply that Arthur bullied him because he was older.

"However sharp your tongue may be, it's useless!" Nelly Woods said arrogantly.

"Our family donates nearly ten million a year to the nursery to make sure that Arthur isn't bullied and doesn't feel inferior here."

"Do you think your family can compete with my son? If you can't afford to donate, just pay the tuition fees and hold your tongue! The nursery's facilities, resources, and benefits that Morgan enjoys now are all thanks to our investments!"

"Morgan uses our things and hits my son. Who gave him the right to do so!" Nelly Woods exclaimed angrily.

Arthur puffed out his chest with pride in front of Morgan, looking at him as if he were a beggar who had taken advantage of their family.

Cindy immediately covered Morgan's eyes, not wanting him to be hurt by such a gaze.

"We paid all the required fees to the nursery. It's only right for the nursery to provide us with their services after we've paid. That's just the way it is," she said.

"Do you think the nursery belongs to you just because your family donates nearly ten million a year? Why not buy the nursery, then you can talk big in front of me. The nursery isn't owned by your family. Don't be so arrogant!"

Cindy said coldly..

Chapter 29: He Deserved It

"Since we're all in this nursery and we haven't missed any fees, we have the same rights as all the other children. Here, no one is more noble than anyone else."

"If you want to dominate, go open your own nursery!" Cindy snapped.

"You keep saying that our Morgan attacked Arthur. Arthur was injured on the face, but our Morgan was injured too!" Cindy didn't lift Morgan's clothes but took out the X-ray taken at the hospital yesterday. It wasn't appropriate to strip her child in front of everyone, and Morgan deserved respect too. She had kept the X-ray in her bag since leaving the hospital yesterday, knowing that it wouldn't be long before she could use it. Whether it was today or tomorrow, Arthur's family wouldn't wait long. So, she always carried it with her. As expected, she could use it today. "Your Arthur is pretty clever, not hitting the face and leaving injuries hidden by clothing." Cindy sneered, "The X-ray is here; you can see Morgan's injuries for yourself! He hit so hard; was he trying to cripple Morgan?" "How can such a young child have such a dark heart?" Cindy coldly guestioned. Headmaster and Teacher Linda were both taken aback, looking at the X-ray in silence. This... was different than what Nelly Woods had said. Nelly had brought Arthur to the Headmaster and Teacher Linda, showing them Arthur's facial wounds and accusing Morgan of being so wicked at such a young age! Indeed, Teacher Linda hadn't seen any injuries on Morgan's face. When she separated Morgan and Arthur yesterday, the red scratches on Arthur's face looked shocking.

In contrast, Morgan seemed to be fine and didn't cry out in pain.

Teacher Linda assumed that Morgan wasn't injured.

However, it seemed as if Cindy could read her thoughts, directly saying: "Teacher Linda, Morgan is a year younger than Arthur. How could he possibly not be injured in a fight? Do you really think he wasn't hurt just because he endured it?"

Teacher Linda was at a loss for words.

How could Morgan not be injured without having an absolute advantage in the fight?

It was just because Teacher Linda valued Arthur more.

"What are you talking about! Watch your mouth!" Nelly Woods pointed at Cindy, "If he was hit, he deserved it! It was Morgan who started it! Are you saying that Arthur should let Morgan off just because he's bigger than Morgan?"

"Children fighting is wrong. As a parent, instead of teaching your child not to fight, you're actually defending him?" Nelly Woods sneered.

Cindy took a deep breath and said coldly: "Children fighting is wrong. When I found out about this yesterday, I told Morgan that no matter what, he shouldn't fight. If the other party is wrong, he should tell me or the teacher. Someone will give him justice, but he shouldn't take matters into his own hands."

Nelly Woods' eyelid twitched, feeling that she couldn't let Cindy continue speaking.

But Cindy reacted faster, taking the initiative to say: "So, you've been accusing Morgan of starting it. I admit that starting the fight was wrong. But I also need to talk to you about why Morgan did it."

Chapter 30: Malicious

Morgan Clarke, the little clever imp, didn't wait for Nelly Woods to explain. Clinging to Cindy Clarke's leg, he shouted loudly, "Arthur Woods said I'm a bastard without a father. He said my mom doesn't have self-respect, and that she had me at a young age without being married. He also said"
The headmaster could not allow him to continue speaking. This little fellow is really too clever.
Arthur Woods is just a child, and it's indeed excessive for him to say these things.
Moreover, everyone present is not foolish.
How would a child know these things?
It must have been the adults who mentioned these things and the child remembered them.
Nelly Woods must have often bad-mouthed Cindy Clarke at home.
The headmaster hurriedly said: "This isn't that really what Arthur Woods said? He's still so young, how could he know these things?"
"How could he not know?" Morgan Clarke said angrily, "That's exactly what he said, and I'm not lying. I remember every word he said! I will remember these words firmly!"
Remembering so firmly, what's the plan?
Everyone else didn't have time to think about it.

Just then, Arthur Woods huffed and said, "So what if I said it? You are a bastard, your. mother has no self-respect. How could a self-respecting girl have a child at such a young age? Your .mother probably doesn't even know who your father is!"

Arthur Woods has been spoiled at home, and because his family invests a lot of money, he is also pampered at the nursery.

He has developed an attitude of being fearless and not afraid of anything.

The headmaster's face changed. No matter how true his thoughts might be, he should not say it out loud.

Then Nelly Woods also said, "Where did Arthur say anything wrong? You are indeed a bastard born from your .mother's premarital pregnancy, and your father is unknown! You, as this bastard, have the audacity to hit Arthur? He didn't say anything wrong!"

"In my opinion, when the nursery admits students, they should conduct a background check on the family. They shouldn't admit students just because they are wealthy. Admitting unscrupulous people will corrupt our Arthur!" Nelly Woods said with a malicious and contemptuous expression.

Cindy Clarke tightly covered Morgan Clarke's ears, preventing these foul words from entering his ears.

With a cold laugh, she questioned the headmaster, 'You asked Morgan why he fought. This is the reason! Usually, Morgan doesn't complain about how he is treated, and he endures everything. But when someone insults his mother, he can't stand it."

"He said that as a son, he can't just stand by and watch others insult his mother without doing anything!" Cindy Clarke's eyes were red, and she was furious.

"Fighting is not right for children, but what about the one who started insulting first? Is that right? Is this the so-called family education? Morgan doesn't have a father. hilt he never insults others carelessly!

Arthur Woods has

both parents, yet he insults people's mothers as soon as he speaks!"

"Since you think you are wealthy and have a good family background, shouldn't you also pay attention to family education? When the nursery admits children, they really shouldn't just look at money but also the child's upbringing and manners!"

"At such a young age, the words are so malicious! Children may not understand how hurtful these words are. But don't adults understand? If adults don't constantly say these things, will children know them?"

"Children fighting is wrong. But fighting involves both sides. I fully support the two children to apologize to each other, shake hands, and make peace.

However, Arthur Woods must also apologize for insulting Morgan and me!" Cindy Clarke said firmly..