

For Dinner 241

Chapter 241: More than Just a Pleasant Surprise

“By the way, after all these years, now that we’ve finally met again, should we exchange contact information?” Ian Morris asked, “I haven’t come across any old classmates in Belfard all these years.”

Though a small southern town, Nork City was economically well-off.

It couldn’t compare to first-tier cities like Belfard, but without any high ambitions, one could still live a comfortable life there.

So, most people from Nork City chose to return to their hometown after graduating, finding jobs that may not pay much, but were enough to get by. In Nork City, incomes might not be high, but the low cost of living ensured a decent life.

In all these years in Belfard, Ian Morris really hadn’t encountered any old classmates.

Running into Cindy Clarke today was truly a pleasant surprise.

Moreover, it wasn’t just a simple surprise.

If it weren’t for the deep impression Cindy had left on him in high school, how could he have recognized her at a glance after all these years?

Back then, he was the most popular guy in school, garnering much attention and only harbored a little crush on Cindy.

However, he mainly focused on his academics.

He was ambitious, unwilling to be confined to a small city like Nork City, and aspired to be admitted to a medical school in Belfard.

Therefore, he didn't have the time to indulge in puppy love.

Even if he wanted to, he'd have to wait till he got accepted first.

At the time, he had observed Cindy's grades and knew that she could get into a school in Belfard.

But unexpectedly, she chose to stay in Nork City in the end.

Ian Morris didn't understand, with Cindy's grades, she could have gotten into Belfard University, so why did she choose to stay in the ordinary and low-profile Nork University?

What use could the little tuition saved even be?

What she saved was four years' worth of tuition, but what she potentially sacrificed were her future opportunities, competitiveness, and even more money.

However, that was a decision Cindy had made, and Ian Morris naturally wouldn't say anything to her about it.

All the same, he couldn't help but feel a touch of regret in his heart.

He had come to Belfard full of vigor and ambition, bidding farewell to his past.

He felt as if his budding feelings for Cindy had been nipped in the bud, with no chance of ever seeing her again.

Years later, meeting her at a reunion, he wondered what she would look like.

However, he was studying medicine in Belfard, and after graduating, he planned to stay and work there.

After all, Belfard had numerous Tier 3 hospitals and renowned doctors, offering plenty to learn and experience.

In the future, the gap between him and the classmates who remained in Nork City would only grow

With a faint hint of pride, Ian Morris contemplated this thought.

However, life in Belfard was not easy.

The cost of living was high.

An undergraduate degree in medicine wasn't enough.

During his postgraduate studies, he got an internship at Pentz General Hospital.

Only after rotating through each department and earning satisfactory scores could he stay at the hospital and graduate smoothly.

As an intern, his salary was indeed low.

Moreover, he was too busy with work to even think about dating.

Besides, there were numerous practical issues that made him unable to afford a relationship for the time being.

Unexpectedly, he ran into Cindy here today.

He wondered how she ended up coming to Belfard from Nork City and becoming such a famous food blogger..

Chapter 242: Never Seen Anyone Burn Bridges Like This

He may not be a fan of Cain Velman, but he still follows him.

Especially the nurses at the hospital and the female colleagues who interned with him, many of them are Cain Velman's fans.

Whether or not they can cook doesn't matter; they just love watching Cain Velman make dishes.

Some simple ones, they would even learn to make themselves.

After all, living alone in Belfard, the cost of cooking is much lower.

Through those around him, Ian Morris also learned that Cain Velman is currently the number one food blogger in terms of popularity.

But before this, he had only regarded Cain Velman as an unfamiliar Internet celebrity.

However, now that he knows that Cain Velman is Cindy Clarke, the shock is even greater.

Once-forgotten feelings of affection suddenly resurface.

He has always had a fondness for Cindy, and this reunion is merely an opportunity.

Although reality prevents him from pursuing love right now, he still cannot help but ask Cindy for her contact information.

Whether it's for being old classmates, old friends, or potentially developing a romantic relationship, getting contact information is a must, right?

Cindy doesn't know about Ian Morris's twisted thoughts, but since they know each other, even if they haven't seen each other in years, she has no reason to refuse, as they are old classmates.

"Sure, let's add each other on Whatsapp." Cindy pulls out her phone very generously and quickly opens her QR code page, showing it to Ian Morris.

Ian Morris also takes out his phone to scan her QR code. Adrian Zhekova, who just arrived at the scene, sees this.

"Cindy." Adrian Zhekova calls out in a hurry.

Add what Whatsapp!

Why does this girl want to add a random guy's Whatsapp when he's not around!

How can she just casually add people on Whatsapp!

Adrian Zhekova leaves Morgan Zhekova behind and hurries over to Cindy's side.

Unfortunately, he still doesn't make it in time.

Just as Adrian Zhekova tries to grab Cindy's phone, he hears Ian Morris say,

"Alright, I've added you."

Cindy looks down and also approves, "I've approved you too."

Adrian Zhekova: ‘

Why is this girl’s hand so fast!

Adrian Zhekova is so angry that he lowers his head and glares at Morgan Zhekova, who arrives late with her short legs.

If it weren’t for his short legs and slow walking, how could he be a step late!

Morgan Zhekova: ‘ .

Is there no justice!

Morgan Zhekova is so shocked that she can’t even speak.

He’s never seen such a bridge-burner!

Had it not been for him rushing to inform the news, could Adrian Zhekova know that Cindy was here meeting her old flame?

If he didn’t know, they would still be able to add each other on Whatsapp.

Not only could they add each other on Whatsapp, but they might even have set the time for their next date! And now Adrian Zhekova is mad at him!

It’s just too much!

Feeling angry and puffed up, Morgan Zhekova doesn’t even want to deal with Adrian Zhekova anymore.

With puffy cheeks, she snorts at Adrian Zhekova and walks to the other side of

Cindy.

She raises her head and observes Ian Morris standing opposite her.

Cindy is surprised and turns her head, meeting Adrian Zhekova's dark face.

"How did you come over?" Cindy asks with a trembling heart, nervously holding her breath, and looking at him with apprehension.

"I just saw Morgan come back alone and didn't see you, so I came over," Adrian Zhekova says.

Morgan Zhekova quietly sympathizes with her Godmother Peggy Lewis, as she is not even worthy of having a name in Adrian Zhekova's eyes.

"On the way, I heard Morgan say that you met an old..." Adrian Zhekova can never say the word "lover," not even if he's beaten to death, "classmate.. Is this him?"

Chapter 243: Meeting the Parents

Adrian Zhekova continued speaking and finally turned to look at Ian Morris. He reached out his hand towards Ian and gave a very formal smile, "Hello."

"Mr. Zhekova," Ian was so surprised that he forgot to shake hands with Adrian.

It took him several seconds to react, feeling quite embarrassed and thinking he had lost his composure.

He hurriedly shook hands with Adrian.

But he couldn't help showing a puzzled expression.

Although he followed the show as a medical staff, he still watched the show on-site.

Even closer to the stage than the audience in the VIP section.

At that time, he clearly saw Adrian on the stage.

Even if he had seen Adrian in the news before, he might not have recognized Adrian if he were right in front of him.

But this time, it was so memorable that there was no way he could be mistaken.

Ian was shocked.

Adrian Zhekova actually knew Cindy Clarke!

And it looked like they were on really good terms.

How could they be so close to each other?

Ian couldn't hide the shocked expression on his face. He didn't know how to ask his questions without appearing impolite.

After thinking it over, he couldn't come up with a good way to ask.

Before Ian could figure out how to start a conversation, Adrian asked, "Are you and Cindy classmates?"

Adrian had already called Cindy “Cindy” earlier on.

However, Ian hadn’t noticed it at that time.

Now that he heard it, his heart skipped a beat.

Could their relationship be so good that they could address each other so intimately?

“We’re in the same grade but in different classes,” Ian replied with a smile.

Adrian Zhekova nodded and didn’t ask further. He just turned to Cindy and said, “Grandmother and my mother are waiting over there to meet you.”

Ian’s heart sank heavily.

What did that mean?

Meeting the family?

Was Cindy dating Adrian?

“Ah, right,” said Cindy, nodding quickly. She felt especially embarrassed to keep Old Madam and Mrs. Zhekova waiting.

She quickly said to Ian, “We’ll leave first.”

Adrian was very satisfied with Cindy’s “we” and couldn’t help but show a very friendly smile on his face.

“I’ll catch up with you on Whatsapp later,” Cindy hurriedly told Ian.

Adrian: "..."

I'll give you a chance to connect on Whatsapp, my ass!

This girl wants to cuckold me right in front of my face!

Adrian Zhekova's face, which had just softened, instantly darkened again.

Morgan Zhekova silently worried for Cindy's safety from the side.

When Uncle Adrian got angry, he was really quite scary.

Unfortunately, Cindy didn't notice and just waved goodbye to Ian with a smile. She took Morgan's hand and walked away with Adrian.

From the start, Ian's attention had been on Cindy.

The unexpected reunion after so many years was too surprising and delightful.

As a result, Ian hadn't even taken the time to look at Morgan, let alone ask who the child was.

Now that he noticed, all he could see was Morgan's retreating back.

Cindy holding Morgan's hand, with Adrian Zhekova by her side.

From their backs, they looked just like a family of three.

It was hard for Ian to imagine that Cindy was so close to Adrian, even to the point of meeting the family.

Were they really dating?

Ian couldn't quite accept it.

Even if Cindy was a famous internet celebrity, it still seemed like she didn't match up with Adrian Zhekova..

Chapter 244: Needing Hundreds of Thousands

In his view, Cindy Clarke and Adrian Zhekova were from two different worlds, and it was impossible for them to be together.

Yes, there were trust-fund babies who dated internet celebrities, but that was just for fun, and both took what they needed from the relationship.

Those trust-fund babies wouldn't bring the internet celebrities to meet their parents, would they?

Only when the relationship was serious would it come to the point of meeting their parents!

Ian Morris, somewhat unable to accept this, stared in a daze in the direction where Cindy had left.

"She's gone, stop staring." Charles Payne, Ian Morris's mentor, joked as he approached.

He had deliberately stayed behind to create an opportunity for Ian Morris and didn't follow earlier.

"She's my high school classmate," Ian Morris said, walking back with Charles Payne, "She was originally at Nork University. I don't know how she ended up in Belfard. I haven't even had a chance to ask her."

"I really didn't expect that Cain Velman is your high school classmate," Charles Payne laughed.

"Mentor, you also know Cain Velman?" Ian Morris was a little surprised.

"The young ladies in our hospital often watch her videos. How could I not know?" Charles Payne said, "And, my sister is a fan of Cain Velman's." "Did you say she's originally from Nork City?" Charles Payne asked.

'Yes," Ian Morris said with some regret, "She did really well on her college entrance exams back then. Belfard University, S University, she could pick any. But in the end, she chose the local Nork University. I heard it's because Nork

University waived her tuition fees for all four years."

"Oh, her grades must have been really good. After all, it's quite difficult for out-of-town students to get into prestigious universities like Belfard and S

University. I thought most internet celebrities didn't have such good grades." Even if they managed to attend college, it wouldn't necessarily be at a prestigious university.

Although Cindy ended up at Nork University, her grades were good enough for her to attend Belfard.

"But, is her family's financial situation not very good? Otherwise, why would she give up prestigious universities just for waived tuition fees?" Charles Payne asked, "You know, there's a huge difference between prestigious universities and ordinary ones after graduation."

"From the moment of job interviews, the competitiveness of graduates from prestigious universities is much stronger than those of ordinary ones. Especially during recruitment at well-known large companies, if all else is equal, graduates from prestigious universities are definitely given priority.

That's just during the job application process. The development trajectories of those who join large companies and those who join smaller ones are definitely not the same."

“Especially in big cities, there are so many prestigious university graduates that ordinary ones are at a disadvantage. If you can’t get in, that’s one thing, but to have the opportunity and not go... How bad must one’s family situation be?” If a family has a child with such great ambition and even a little ability, wouldn’t they do everything they could, even if it meant selling the family pot, to send their child to a prestigious university?

This is one of the top universities in the country, after all.

Ian Morris shook his head and said, “I don’t know much about her family situation. We weren’t in the same class, but I guess it’s just average. I remember in high school, she was very low-key, and dressed modestly.”

“That’s true,” Charles Payne nodded, “But it seems that as long as one works hard, success is possible when the timing is right.”

“My sister told me that Cain Velman can charge up to several hundred thousand for a single ad placement in her videos,” Charles Payne said.

Ian Morris gasped, “That much? Really?”

Chapter 245: Call Her Aunt

“My sister is really into gossip from the entertainment and internet celebrity world, so I trust her,” Charles Payne laughed. “She saw how much money internet celebrities can make and wanted to try her hand in that field. Since she just started her freshman year in college, it wouldn’t interfere much with her life, so our family didn’t oppose her trying it out in her spare time.”

“She’s a fan of Cain Velman, but even though she watches a lot of his videos, she’s never tried his stuff herself. So, instead, she decided to go down the beauty blogger route. She’s only been in the field for a little while, but she’s already heard plenty of gossip. Beauty bloggers around Cain Velman’s level pretty much all charge similar fees for advertisements.”

“But, she said Cain Velman doesn’t do what some bloggers do. They become famous and stuff their videos with promotions. Cain Velman basically maintains a pace of one or two promotions every couple of months; he doesn’t overdo it. Even when he does promote something, it’s not a scam. So, his reputation is pretty good, and his fans are solid.”

“Some bloggers who promote too often end up losing a lot of fans,” Charles Payne explained to Ian Morris, who obviously didn’t know much about this field. “But Cain Velman keeps gaining fans, and his value keeps rising.”

“However, his income isn’t really a big secret to his fans. It’s just that he’s low-key and never shows off, and he doesn’t accept many ads. So no fans harbor any resentment or jealousy towards him, and they continue to support him.”

Ian Morris still felt a bit dazed and confused.

Before, he thought that staying in Nork City, the gap between him and Cindy Clarke could only grow wider.

Even seeing Cindy Clarke appear at the racecourse today, Ian Morris still didn’t think much of it.

He didn’t understand that industry and just thought, like many others, that she was just a chef.

It couldn’t compare to his profession as a doctor.

Nevertheless, her hard work was worth recognizing.

But now, hearing Charles Payne say that Cindy Clarke could earn hundreds of thousands from a single promotion.

Since she accepts one or two promotions every couple of months, taking the lower rate, she could still earn at least a million within a year!

But it was clear there was more beyond that.

The gap between him and Cindy Clarke did widen, indeed.

Except that it was he who had been left behind by her!

He wondered if Cindy Clarke would even consider him now.

Upon this thought, the image of Adrian Zhekova sprung to Ian Morris' mind.

He didn't know what the relationship between them was.

Cindy Clarke was unaware of Ian Morris' shock and internal struggle.

She held Morgan Zhekova's hand, and along with Adrian Zhekova, hurried over to see Old Madam and Victoria Wheeler.

Seeing Cindy Clarke from a distance, the Old Madam quickly got out of her car, and Victoria Wheeler followed.

"Old Madam," Cindy called out quickly. "Mrs."

"I'm sorry, I ran into an old high school classmate on my way here. I haven't seen them since high school, and I didn't expect to meet them again in a foreign land. So we chatted for a bit," Cindy quickly apologized. "I'm sorry for making you wait."

"Not a problem, we didn't wait long," the Old Madam didn't mind at all as she formally introduced Cindy. "This is my daughter-in-law, Morgan Zhekova's mother. You haven't met her yet."

"Mrs., nice to meet you," Cindy quickly greeted.

“Don’t call me Mrs., it’s too formal,” Victoria Wheeler smiled. “Why don’t you call me Aunt?”

As she spoke, Victoria Wheeler cast a warm smile at Morgan Zhekova..

Chapter 246: Calling Mom is the Best

Morgan understood immediately.

Victoria Wheeler actually wants to compete for Cindy’s affection!

It’s not enough that an Uncle Adrian showed up, now even Uncle Adrian’s mom wants to snatch him away!

Morgan suddenly felt the hardships of life.

He is just 4 years old!

How could these adults act like this!

Morgan hurriedly hugged Cindy’s leg, determined to confirm once they are back home whether he is the most important person in Cindy’s heart.

Cindy was slightly stunned by what Victoria Wheeler had said, feeling quite embarrassed.

To Cindy, Victoria Wheeler seemed to be speaking out of courtesy.

There is no way she could be that intimate.

Who knew, then Adrian Zhekova said, “Yeah, don’t call her so distantly. Call her aunt. ”

The Old Madam looked at Adrian Zhekova approvingly.

This grandson is indeed promising!

She knew that her grandson, Adrian Zhekova, is successful!

Even though among the children of the Big Eight, Adrian Zhekova is neither the first one to have a girlfriend, nor the last one.

But who can deny that he’s moving fast!

Now, not only is he about to get into a relationship, but he also has such a big son.

This progress is much faster compared to others.

As for getting into a relationship, with a child already, isn’t the end of bachelorhood near?

Given Adrian Zhekova’s cleverness, the Old Madam never worries.

“Exactly, we’re not strangers,” the Old Madam quickly added.

Victoria Wheeler, aside from showing her true colors to her family members, usually puts on a pretty good front.

People always see her as a high-society lady with an amazing demeanor.

Although she trusts the Old Madam's judgment, and she has nothing against Adrian Zhekova's liking, she still met Cindy Clarke for the first time today and had barely spoken to her, so she doesn't know her yet.

Victoria Wheeler is not the type to act familiar with people.

In front of unfamiliar people, she tends to be somewhat cold.

But once you get to know her, you'll learn about Victoria Wheeler's true nature.

She doesn't know Cindy Clarke that well yet.

So, Victoria Wheeler was able to maintain her composure, sitting elegantly and kindly smiling next to the Old Madam, "That's right. Given your relationship with Adrian, isn't it too distant to call me Mrs.?"

The Old Madam, smiling cheerfully beside her, nodded in agreement.

According to her, even calling her "Aunt" was too distant.

Calling her "Mom" would be best.

Under the pressuring gazes of the three members of the Zhekova family, Cindy had no choice but to call her "Aunt."

Just a brush between her upper and lower lips was enough to pronounce "Aunt. "

But it was extremely difficult for Cindy to say it.

Her face was burningly hot as soon as she finished speaking.

Even without a mirror, she knew her face must have turned red.

Cindy felt annoyed at herself, wondering why on earth she was blushing.

Even if they were just friends, she'd call their parents Aunt and Uncle.

It was a completely normal address, so why was she blushing?

She was making it seem as if she had indecent thoughts, which was very embarrassing.

Cindy tried hard to calm herself, when she heard the Old Madam asking, "By the way, what are your plans for Valentine's Day? On Valentine's Day, only you and Morgan will be home, right?"

Peggy Lewis was from Belfard, although she lived separately, her family members were all in Belfard.

So, she had to go home during the holidays.

Fortunately, she had Morgan's company every year, so Cindy didn't feel lonely.

"Yes, it's just going to be me and Morgan on Valentine's Day," said Cindy.

Hearing that, Adrian Zhekova was not pleased.

Why didn't she count him in?

Has she ever planned on inviting him to spend Valentine's Day together or not?

Adrian Zhekova was somewhat frustrated.

At that moment, the Old Madam said, “Don’t just stay at home for Valentine’s Day, it’s not fun. Come over to our house..”

Chapter 247: Going to the Family Mansion for Valentine’s Day?

Cindy Clarke was shocked into stillness, gaping at the Old Madam.

What did the Old Madam just say?

Going to the Zhekova Family?

To celebrate Valentine’s Day in the old mansion?

“You and Morgan celebrating the holiday by yourselves, it’s so bleak. We have a big family, it’s very lively.” The Old Madam said cheerfully, “You should come celebrate at the mansion, it’ll suit perfectly.”

Cindy looked at the Old Madam skeptically, suspecting if the Old Madam was aware of something.

Otherwise, why would they be invited to celebrate Valentine’s Day out of the blue?

Valentine’s Day is a festival for family reunion.

The mere thought of the Old Madam possibly knowing made Cindy’s scalp tingle.

What would the Old Madam do when she found out that Morgan was Adrian’s son?

Adrian was willing to have Morgan stay on her side, but what about the Zhekova Family elders?

At this moment, Cindy didn't even have time to worry about how the Zhekova Family elders might treat her.

Before Cindy could respond, the Old Madam said: "Let's consider it settled then, Adrian will come pick you up when the time comes."

"Alright." Cindy could only agree.

However, celebrating the festival with the entire Zhekova Family, Cindy couldn't help feeling insecure and anxious.

She didn't know much about the Zhekova Family, and couldn't have a good time during the celebration.

She had barely heard the Old Madam's suggestion and she was already getting a bit anxious.

"It's almost mealtime, how are you two planning on eating tonight? Why don't we eat together?" the Old Madam added.

This time, Cindy was prepared to refuse.

But to her surprise, it was Adrian who spoke first: "Grandmother, Cindy had a competition this afternoon and she's pretty tired. Let her go home early to rest.

It's not too late to have dinner together on Valentine's Day."

Upon hearing this, Cindy Anderson secretly let out a sigh of relief.

The Old Madam wanted to suggest having a meal together precisely because Cindy was tired and didn't have to cook when she went home.

However, thinking that Cindy might feel pressured, she understood.

“Alright, Adrian, please escort her.” The Old Madam added.

“I drove here.” Cindy said embarrassingly, “It will be inconvenient for Adrian if he sends me home, either leaving my car here or driving my car.”

“It’s fine, I will have the driver fetch my car later. I will drive your car to send you home,” Adrian responded promptly as if it was no big deal.

“However, I need to drive your car back to the mansion. I will come find you later tonight and duly return your car,” Adrian added.

Cindy didn’t have time to think about how he would leave afterward.

Her mind was filled with the thought of Adrian saying in front of the Old Madam and Victoria Wilson that he would come find her tonight!

Cindy’s mind exploded with a bang, and her face, which had just returned to normal, turned even redder.

She was as red as a thoroughly cooked shrimp.

What would the Old Madam and Victoria think when they heard this!

What Cindy didn’t know was, Victoria, when Cindy wasn’t looking, gave Adrian an approving eyebrow raise.

Keep fighting, so as to surpass Morgan’s position in Cindy’s heart sooner.

She hadn’t forgotten about her own request to Adrian!

As for the Old Madam, of course, she was more than satisfied.

She almost blurted out that Adrian should just live in Cindy's house. "Fine!" The Old Madam stopped coaxing Cindy to have dinner with them right away.

Compared to having dinner together, of course, it's much better to create opportunities for Adrian to spend time with Cindy.

"Don't be shy, let Adrian send you home," she said.

It was then that Cindy noticed Victoria and the Old Madam both called Adrian,

"Adrian..

Chapter 248: Learning narcissism from Cindy Clarke for sure.

Calling Adrian Zhekova "Little Adrian" seemed to make him younger.

Moreover, it immediately shortened the distance between them, making him sound like a sunny and lively boy rather than the respected CEO of Pingla Group.

Thinking of this, Cindy Clarke was no longer so uncomfortable and even wanted to laugh.

Feeling relaxed, she said goodbye to Old Madam and Victoria Wheeler and went with Adrian Zhekova to where her car was parked.

Peggy Lewis also called out to Cindy and went to find her own car to leave.

Adrian Zhekova and Cindy took Morgan Zhekova to Cindy's car. Adrian put Morgan in the back seat, strapped him into his child safety seat and fastened his seat belt.

After closing the door, Adrian Zhekova was about to go to the driver's seat when Cindy stopped him in a low voice. Adrian paused and turned to face her: "What's wrong?"

"Old Madam and Mrs. Zhekova..."

"Aunt." Adrian Zhekova interrupted Cindy's words, just to correct her address.

Cindy thought that Mrs. Zhekova was not here, but why was Adrian still concerned about the address issue.

"Do they know about Morgan already?" Cindy asked nervously. Adrian Zhekova hesitated for a moment and understood Cindy's worry.

He quickly thought in his heart.

If he told Cindy that they already knew.

When they meet again, Cindy would be nervous and uncomfortable, plus guilty, and unable to relax at all.

Thinking about how her nerves would be constantly tense, Adrian felt distressed.

So, Adrian Zhekova said: "They don't know."

"How come..." Cindy was surprised.

Adrian just smiled and said: "Morgan is so cute, both Old Madam and my mom are fond of children, especially Old Madam, who really wants to hold her great-grandson. Naturally, they like Morgan when they see him."

"This is probably fate." Adrian laughed.

Cindy totally agreed on the point that Morgan was cute.

Therefore, she didn't find anything wrong with Adrian's words and easily accepted his explanation.

Seeing that Cindy was relaxed, and not raising any doubts about his not- so- strong excuse,

Adrian strongly suspected that Morgan's narcissism might have been influenced by Cindy!

It was because Cindy naturally thought that Morgan was so cute that Morgan was so confident in his own cuteness!

Of course, Morgan is indeed very cute.

After all, he is a child from him and Cindy.

The genes are there.

However, Adrian Zhekova felt that he hadn't been there when Morgan was born, so he obviously couldn't have influenced Morgan in any way later on.

So, Morgan's narcissism must have been learned from Cindy.

Definitely!

Cindy didn't know that Adrian had silently put the blame for the narcissistic

pot on her.

At this moment, she was relieved and didn't have to worry about Zhekova Family elders' attitude, at least for now.

Adrian drove Cindy's car away.

"Do you want to go to the restaurant first to eat something?" Adrian asked while driving, "Or should we go home and I'll have someone deliver food there?"

Adrian's meaning was that he didn't want Cindy to cook dinner anymore.

She had been competing all afternoon, and it was different from cooking at home.

During the competition, she was highly nervous and constantly providing cuisine to the audience. After such high-intensity and continuous effort for several hours, she wouldn't have the strength to prepare dinner..

Chapter 249: Adrian Zhekova Withdraws His Hand

As expected, Cindy didn't refuse either.

"Alright, let's go home. Can you please have the Restaurant send over some food? I just want to go home and rest now," the tiredness was evident in Cindy's voice.

Considering her child, Morgan, she rarely ordered takeout; she cooked whenever possible.

Today, she was really out of energy and originally planned to cook the dumplings she had prepared and stored in the refrigerator.

Hearing Adrian Zhekova, say that the Restaurant would send food was naturally better than just eating dumplings.

"It's no trouble," Adrian said, "You don't have to be so polite with me." "Alright," Cindy agreed readily.

It surprised Adrian quite a bit as he hadn't expected her to accept so quickly.

"If you're tired, go ahead and sleep for a while," Adrian added.

"Then I'll take a nap," Cindy said immediately.

She was really too tired.

Previously, she was worried about falling asleep and leaving Adrian to drive alone, which would not be very good.

But since Adrian said so, Cindy was no longer polite.

She adjusted to a comfortable position and fell asleep.

Adrian subconsciously wanted to open the storage compartment to give Cindy a neck pillow.

He reached out his hand and remembered this was Cindy's car, not his.

Originally his car wasn't equipped with such complete supplies, but since he met Cindy, he gradually added more items to his car.

Thinking of Cindy possibly sleeping in the car, he prepared a neck pillow and blanket.

Thinking of the little one riding in the car, he installed a child safety seat in the back and placed a U-shaped pillow for the child beside it.

Considering that they might get thirsty in the car, he even installed a small refrigerator, filling it with various mineral water and fruit juices.

Unconsciously, his car was getting more and more things.

Adrian withdrew his hand and took the opportunity of the red light to look over at Cindy.

In a short time, Cindy had already fallen into a deep sleep.

Suddenly, Adrian felt the quietness inside the car becoming somewhat unsettling.

Looking back, he found that Morgan was also asleep with his drool almost dripping out.

Adrian smiled silently, realizing that even watching the competition all afternoon had worn Morgan out.

He moved his gaze back to Cindy's face, revealing an increasingly gentle smile involuntarily.

He reached out and gently swept the hair that had fallen onto Cindy's face behind her ear.

Worried about waking Cindy, Adrian's movements were particularly light.

His fingertip accidentally brushed her ear.

He only felt that the skin on Cindy's ear was unbelievably soft as well.

It made him unwilling to take his hand back.

Only his fingertips were slightly rough, causing Cindy's ear to feel a bit itchy as they brushed over it.

Seeing Cindy's ear quiver, Adrian suddenly thought of a cat being touched on the ear.

He couldn't help but want to laugh.

At this time, the green light was about to appear; Adrian withdrew his hand and waited for the green light. Then, he continued driving.

He parked the car in the spot Cindy rented.

It was only then he woke Cindy: "Cindy, wake up, we're home."

"Huh?" With a hint of sleepiness, Cindy uttered a sound, reacting slowly, and opened her eyes in confusion.

Adrian's face was close at hand.

Cindy gasped and instinctively leaned back while covering her mouth.

Adrian smiled gently and said, "Get out of the car."

Cindy rubbed her face and quickly unfastened her seat belt to get out of the car.

Adrian also got out of the car, went around to the back, opened the door, and unfastened Morgan's seat belt and carried him out.

After all this, Morgan also woke up..

Chapter 250: Driving me Away?

Adrian Zhekova noticed that the little one, just waking up in a daze, was exactly like Cindy Clarke.

Dazed for a few seconds, unsure of his surroundings.

Upon realizing that he was in Adrian Zhekova's arms, what surprised Adrian was that Morgan's first reaction wasn't disdain.

Instead, like a puppy, he snuggled into his chest a few times.

Murmuring in a drowsy voice, "Uncle."

Then, he peacefully laid his head on Adrian's chest and went back to sleep.

Morgan's subconscious trust made Adrian smile involuntarily.

Looking down at the little one peacefully asleep in his arms, Adrian bent his head and placed a kiss on Morgan's soft cheek.

Morgan's face still had a faint scent of milk. Adrian found the scent calming, giving him a comforting, warm feeling. When he looked up again, he turned to Cindy, "Let's go up to the house." Cindy nodded, following behind him.

Watching Adrian carry Morgan, Cindy remembered the tender smile on Adrian's face as he looked down at the sleeping Morgan. The warm scene of him bending down to give Morgan a kiss also came to mind.

A warm, longing smile spread across Cindy's face.

Because Adrian was holding Morgan, he didn't have his hands free.

Cindy helped by opening the door.

On their drive home, Adrian had asked one of his restaurants, "Fuellero," to prepare and deliver dinner.

He did not request dinner from either Quire or Eastco Resto.

These star-rated restaurants, though exquisite, would take too long to prepare their gourmet cuisine.

Though Fuellero was not star-rated and less exquisite than Quire and Eastco Resto, it had a great taste, was more popular, and delivered meals at a much quicker pace.

Once inside, Adrian placed Morgan on the couch and patted him, "Wake up, dinner will be here soon."

The little one rolled around in the couch, rubbed his eyes a few times before finally sitting up.

However, he was still quite drowsy, sitting on the couch with a blank look on his face.

Morgan's rarely seen dazed look was somewhat amusing to Adrian.

“By the way, when are you going to the family mansion?” asked Cindy.

She remembers that before parting with the old madam, Adrian had mentioned that he would need to return to the mansion after dropping her and Morgan home.

Adrian raised an eyebrow, “Would you kick me out before I even get to eat?”

” Cindy hurriedly explained, “No, I was just curious about it.”

“I’ll head over after I eat here,” explained Adrian.

By this time, Morgan had almost entirely awakened and went to change clothes.

Donned in loose homeware, he felt much more comfortable.

Just as he came out, dinner was delivered.

Despite having been busy all afternoon and feeling exhausted, having spent so long at the competition smelling all the different dishes had killed Cindy’s appetite.

Though the meal from the restaurant was exquisite, looking at it even made her mouth water, Cindy couldn’t eat much.

Adrian frowned at this, “You’ve eaten so little.”

“There’s plenty of food at home. I’ll eat something later tonight if I’m hungry. But now, I really don’t have an appetite.” Cindy explained.

Hearing her explanation, Adrian didn’t insist that she eat more.

After finishing dinner, Adrian tidied up the leftover food containers, planning to take them out when he left..