Limits 751

Chapter 751

Jack wasn't interested in the subsequent auctions. He was only looking forward to the raw emerald stone.

Starting today, news would spread throughout Tarthy City that Jack was a low- class spendthrift. No one would respect him for this reckless behavior.

After the auction ended, the charity dinner also came to a close. When Jack paid and took the raw emerald stone, even the auction house staff looked at him as if he were a fool.

However, Jack was unbothered.

When he received that piece of raw emerald stone, he could feel the mysterious, magnetic pull growing stronger, as if it was calling for the energy buried deep within him. The sensation overwhelmed him like a tide ready to break free.

However, when he tried to grasp and truly understand the feeling, it slipped through his fingers, completely intangible.

He thought it was better to keep the stone with him and try to understand and experience it privately. Perhaps one day, he would break through into an entirely new realm because of this stone, one that transcended the limits of thought, spirit, body, and mind.

The next morning, Jack's family got up early and began preparing to visit Trent and Wilhelmina's place.

Reginald attentively prepared the car for them.

After they finished their breakfast, they rode in a bulletproof and blast-resistant vehicle, sandwiched by a convoy of seven to eight security cars, making a grand journey toward the Pacific Hotel, where the Dodgers were staying.

The Pacific Hotel was a five-star luxurious hotel that nestled between the mountains and the sea. The hotel happened to be part of the Dodger family's holdings.

Although the Dodgers were based in Boleria, they shared a deep connection with the Lycans. During this visit to Tarthy City for business, it was only natural for them to stay in the presidential suites at the Ghoston Hotel.

Before the trip, the staff had informed Trent's assistant that Quintis and Emily were visiting with their long-lost son.

Trent and his wife quickly called Wilhelmina, telling her that she had to meet Quintis.

Coincidentally, Wilhelmina was in Tarthy City and agreed to return home to welcome Quintis.

When Quintis' fleet of cars arrived at the Ghoston Hotel, Trent, his wife, Mavis Barrymore, and his hotel staff were waiting eagerly for them at the entrance.

When Quintis exited the car, the two men hugged each other tightly. One could tell how close the Dodgers and the Lycans were.

Trent was a refined man. His demeanor was calm, and his gaze was deep and unreadable, hidden behind his pair of glasses.

Mavis, who was around Emily's age and carried herself in a similar way to Emily, exuded an air of regal elegance and breathtaking beauty. Although she was nearing 50, she appeared slightly over 30, looking more like sisters with Wilhelmina when they stood next to each other.

After the parents from both sides met, they began discussing family matters warmly. Mavis exchanged whispers with Emily.

After a round of pleasantries, Trent's and Mavis' gazes finally fell on Jack.

Trent patted Jack's shoulder and said, "After so many years, you're finally home!"

Before this trip, parents from both sides had a mutual understanding of the purpose of this trip.

So, when Trent and Mavis looked at Jack, there was an undeniable edge of scrutiny in their gaze.

After all, both families had a pre-existing agreement for their children to marry one another. The young man before them could potentially be their future son-in-law.

Jack smiled in response, answering with a hint of modesty. "Hi, Mr. and Mrs. Dodger."

Such behavior earned a silent nod of approval from Trent and Mavis.

Jack carried himself with quiet confidence. His appropriate attire accentuated a striking charm. Even Trent's and Mavis' eyes couldn't help but glisten at the sight of him.

Mavis smiled. "Jack, I watched you grow up since you were a little boy. To my surprise, you've grown into such a tall and handsome young man. Mina would be so happy when she comes back."

Although the childhood betrothal had long been agreed upon, Jack's disappearance had placed the union on hold. However, since Jack had returned, the initial marriage agreement was back on the table.

Mavis took her time studying Jack, afraid that the years spent on the streets might have left him with unsavory habits.

Chapter 752

Fortunately, though Jack had spent years away from home, he still appeared poised and commanding, exuding a remarkable aura.

Trent and Mavis were pleased at first glance.

This marriage would be a success if their daughter and Jack fancied each other,

so both families returned to the house with bright smiles.

Mavis called Wilhelmina again, asking if she was coming back.

Wilhelmina's sweet voice sounded through the phone as she said, "I'm almost there, Mom. Stop rushing me."

Before Mavis could say anything else, Wilhelmina hung up.

Mavis helplessly put her phone away and apologized with a smile, "Alas, she's so stubborn. I'll make sure to keep her in line from now on. I hope you don't mind."

Emily and Jack smiled, signaling that they didn't mind.

Jack held little mystery toward Wilhelmina. Plus, he knew well that the two of them might not be suitable for each other.

Jack's nonchalant attitude reduced Mavis' worry.

Frankly, she was fond of Jack.

Jack was courteous as a child. Although he had disappeared for many years, he was still the son of the Lycan family, and his future was undoubtedly promising. At this moment, the grace and character Jack displayed left Mavis utterly impressed. Since the guests had arrived, Trent instructed the chef to prepare the food. Mavis wanted to cook, but Emily stopped her and started chatting.

While Trent spoke to Quintis, he would occasionally ask Jack some lighthearted questions. Some questions were related to the finance industry.

Unfortunately, although Jack was a finance student, he had focused more on establishing his business in recent years and didn't know much about the finance industry.

This made Trent frown slightly, but then he eased. After all, Jack lived humbly for years and perhaps had little exposure to the world of finance and high society. He could always learn now. At least, he was the son of the Lycan family, a match worthy of their daughter in name and standing.

So, Trent intentionally found some more relatable topics to discuss, and the atmosphere was pleasantly harmonious.

At this moment, the food was served, but Wilhelmina was not home yet. Mavis couldn't help but frown and call Wilhelmina again.

This time, Wilhelmina rejected her call.

At this moment, she peered through the floor-to-ceiling window of the restaurant and saw a fleet of cars entering the hotel premises.

A face appeared on Mavis' face as she said gently, "Wilhelmina is back."

This convoy was the escort of Wilhelmina Dodger.

As expected, door knocks sounded not long after. The helper quickly opened the door, and a beautiful young lady entered.

She possessed a beauty so awe-struck that it seemed almost unreal. She carried an ethereal presence that set her apart from the world around her. Her delicate features looked as if a single touch would shatter them. With a cool and distant gaze, she swept her eyes across the room, calm and aloof.

However, compared to the last two times they had met, Wilhelmina looked absolutely stunning in a much dressier attire.

Wilhelmina was taken aback when she saw Jack.

How Lizzie teased Jack and how he had foolishly bought a worthless stone were vividly playing in her mind. Yet now, she merely allowed a flicker of surprise to pass through her eyes before settling once more into indifference.

She showed no signs of recognition. It was as if the two of them were complete strangers.

Chapter 753

Emily didn't notice the flicker of expressions on Wilhelmina's face. On the contrary, she was worried her son might act disrespectfully.

After all, not every man could resist Wilhelmina's beauty.

Fortunately, Jack only glanced at Wilhelmina in astonishment but did not continue staring at her. He behaved decently.

After the helper escorted Wilhelmina to her seat, she courteously greeted Quintis and Emily.

However, unsure whether it was intentional, she didn't greet Jack. Instead, she looked at her parents, a confused expression on her face.

It was clear that she didn't know Jack was coming today, let alone what was happening.

Trent reached out and grabbed Wilhelmina, introducing Jack. "Mina, do you remember Nicholas? You would always follow behind him everywhere when you were a little girl."

Then, laughter sounded across the room, but Wilhelmina politely smiled, glancing at Jack.

She already knew who Jack was, but her eyebrows unconsciously furrowed slightly.

She finally recalled memories from her childhood. There was a boy-wasn't he the one she'd once been promised to?

However, these were merely childhood memories, and they were a blur to her.

Could it be that this was the man?

This thought flickered in Wilhelmina's mind briefly, and her beautiful complexion instantly paled.

Scenes from last night continued to surface in her mind. She didn't know what she should think about now.

At this moment, Trent, Mavis, Quintis, and Emily reminisced about interesting stories of Wilhelmina and Jack's childhood, like how Wilhelmina would always run after Jack, and how she would always want to give Jack the best food she had.

Wilhelmina was a smart lady. She knew what the parents were doing-they planned to fulfill the promise made when they were children.

The thought barely flickered through her mind before Wilhelmina decided to take action, so she turned her attention toward Jack and asked, "What are you doing now?" Her tone was casual and indifferent, but the sharpness in her gaze made it clear she was pressing for something more.

Trent's eyebrows slightly furrowed, and Emily and Quintis turned their gaze toward Jack.

They could sense Wilhelmina's hostility.

Jack only smiled. "I'm in my senior year."

"What's your plan after you graduate?"

"Start my own business!"

Emily quickly added, "Yes! He established Drakengard Games. It's a sizable company, but most importantly, Jack founded this company on his own without any help from the family."

Emily said it this way to show others how exceptional Jack was.

However, Trent and Wilhelmina furrowed their eyebrows-they had never heard of Drakengard Games before.

Watching Emily rush to defend Jack, Wilhelmina felt the faint trace of disregard

she once held for Jack hardened into pure disdain.

So, Wilhelmina asked again, "Where are you studying?"

"Alnewgo University!"

"Alnewgo University?" A confused look appeared on Wilhelmina's face.

She was studying at Oxfard University. Although she was still studying, she had become the deputy CEO of a large company. Plus, this university was ranked among the top in the world.

Aside from the top two universities in the country, Wilhelmina had never heard of Alnewgo University.

Chapter 754

Perhaps it wasn't a reputable university.

Noticing the contempt in Wilhelmina's eyes, Emily was worried Jack would be looked down upon, so she quickly explained, "Alnewgo University is a pretty good university and is among the top five universities in the country. Plus, Jack was the top scholar in the state too."

"Oh, it must be a pretty good university then."

Wilhelmina politely echoed what Emily said, but a faint tone of doubt lingered in her tone. Yet, deep down, her impression of Jack had quietly slipped a little lower.

Wilhelmina had always been proud and lofty by nature, born to privilege, surrounded by the elite of society. She was a leader among them, possessing an exacting and discerning gaze.

Even if Jack was the heir of the Lycan family, in Wilhelmina's eyes, he was nothing more than an ordinary person. To her, his foolish behavior last night was nothing short of a glaring flaw.

So what if he was the top scholar in the state? What was there to brag about? No one in her circle had ever heard of it before.

As the beloved princess of Boleria, she was clueless as to what the title of the top scholar of the state was truly worth.

Alnewgo University was among the top five universities in the country. Even if it was the best university in the country, Wilhelmina couldn't give a damn.

Moreover, Wilhelmina had seen too many prodigal sons who relied on their family's power to act with reckless arrogance. Although she knew little about the character of her betrothed, based on his behavior last night and that he had lived on the streets for years before he was found recently, she couldn't help but wonder-would he have strayed from the righteous path if he didn't have the halo of family wealth and influence?

Perhaps he had long since picked up unsavory habits like petty thievery and brawling during his time on the streets. After all, he grew up in a harsh environment without access to the finest, most orthodox education and had moved in circles far beneath the standards she was accustomed to.

Jack was the definition of the phrase "hard times make hard heads".

In short, Wilhelmina was well aware of what these low-class people were like. They were often troubled by their negative traits, so different from her own life experiences.

Even if they got together, they had nothing in common to talk about. Hence, Wilhelmina had little interest in Jack.

Jack noticed her demeanor and snorted coldly.

Wilhelmina and Jack's parents also noticed the change in Wilhelmina's expression. A tinge of anger colored Emily's face.

Any mother would do whatever it took to protect her son. Even if her son were mediocre at best, he would always be one-of-a-kind in his mother's eyes.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call Emily's love for Jack the greatest, most fiercely protective love in the world.

So, when Wilhelmina looked at Jack with disdain, Emily was displeased. However, she had to conceal it.

Mavis noticed her daughter's indifference toward Jack, and an embarrassed look appeared on her face.

After all, the two families had arranged for a betrothal for their children years ago, and they were of similar social standings.

Seeing how handsome and remarkable Jack had become, it seemed natural that the union between both families would take place. Yet, to everyone's surprise, Wilhelmina became the problem.

Soon, the parents immediately concluded that perhaps Wilhelmina and Jack had formed a bad impression of each other because they hadn't had time to interact.

As long as they interacted more and got to know each other better, they would naturally fall into a relationship.

So, even when they noticed Wilhelmina was disinterested in Jack, the adults continued to bring up old stories, attempting to evoke the memories of their childhood together, subtly deepening their relationship.

Before they knew it, they had finished their lunch.

After that, Quintis and Trent discussed business while Mavis and Emily shared the gossip they heard within the circle.

Under Mavis and Emily's persuasion, Wilhelmina and Jack were asked to take a stroll in the small garden outside the hotel.

Although Wilhelmina was unwilling to comply, out of respect for the adults, she reluctantly followed Jack, walking behind him.

Chapter 755

The nearby landscape facilities were complete for a five-star hotel.

The two walked slightly apart, keeping silent the entire time.

Jack finally said, "I remember you. You often came to our place to play."

He was lowering his pride with this conversation opener, attempting to draw their distance closer. It was purely out of courtesy to Wilhelmina. He thought even if Wilhelmina didn't like him, she would at least

go through the motions out of respect for their parents and their long-standing ties between their families.

However, Wilhelmina didn't immediately answer him. She glanced at him briefly. Then, she said coldly, "Nothing can ever happen between us."

Her eyes were cold and even carried a hint of contempt.

Jack was taken aback. He didn't rush to retort, but instead, he asked in surprise, "Why?"

"We're people of two different worlds."

Wilhelmina didn't hold back as she continued, "It's not only about family wealth, but also about the environments we grew up in and the education we received. We're shaped differently and have nothing in common."

Then, she didn't even look at Jack's slightly cold expression and added, "My parents told me Mr. and Mrs. Lycan recently reunited with you. I heard you grew up in a poor environment."

Seeing the trace of mockery on Wilhelmina's face, Jack instead grew curious about what more this overly confident girl, who had never lifted a finger in her life, would say. So, he nodded and said, "Yes, I did."

"I knew it." Wilhelmina sighed and said gently, "I think you were pretty young at that time, thinking that getting into a university was the pinnacle of your life, right? If I guessed it correctly, you must have been giddy when you discovered you're a Lycan, that your life story has been rewritten, huh?"

Jack squandering eight million dollars on a worthless stone last night was the most evident proof.

Jack wanted to say something, but Wilhelmina did not let him. She said, "Don't even try to defend yourself. Oh, and your little Drakengard Games? Frankly, I've never heard it before."

Sensing the condescension laced with Wilhelmina's words, Jack nearly laughed out loud.

Wilhelmina added, "I'm currently studying at Oxfard University, and I serve as the Deputy CEO of Zenith Capital. Unless you can surpass me on your own without relying on the Lycans, you're not qualified to be my husband."

Wilhelmina wanted Jack to know how influential Zenith Capital was, so she added, "Zenith Capital is one of the top private equity firms in the country, managing assets worth 30 billion dollars. Only when you can rise to such heights

or surpass me will you have the right to pursue me."

The conversation had reached a point where neither party had any way of sustaining it.

Jack lightly responded, "Whether to pursue you isn't a decision you and I can make. It requires both of our parents' approvals."

Although he didn't feel much for Wilhelmina, he said this to anger the arrogant girl.

As for Zenith Capital, would Jack even spare a glance at it? Although Genesis Games had a market value of slightly over 10 billion dollars and could not be compared to Zenith Capital, Jack still possessed Haven Net, which was rapidly growing with 700 million users. It was as massive as social media platforms like Facebook and TikTok.

In front of Haven Net, Zenith Capital was nothing more than a joke.

As expected, a tinge of anger flickered across Wilhelmina's face when she heard Jack mention that it was their parents' decision.

She scoffed and asked, "What age are we living in now? I can't believe you still care about childhood betrothals. How childish!"

After saying that, she swatted her hand and left in the opposite direction without looking at Jack again.

Chapter 756

When Wilhelmina and Jack returned one after the other, Mavis immediately stood up and asked gently, "Mina, why are you and Jack back so early?"

Emily also stood up and looked at them, confused. Her heart sank when she noticed the awkward expressions on their faces.

As expected, Wilhelmina glanced at Jack and said lightly, "I have nothing in common to talk about with him."

After she said that, Emily's and Mavis' expressions drastically changed.

Trent, who was talking to Quintis, stood up hastily. He asked, "Mina, what's the matter with you?"

Wilhelmina squinted her eyes slightly and said in a dissatisfied tone, "I said what I said! Dad, you have always been an understanding man. Do you really want to force me to marry someone I don't like? This is the modern age."

Trent's expression turned ghastly, thinking that Wilhelmina's behavior was out of line.

Children were the apple of their parents' eyes. It was nothing short of a slap to Quintis and Emily's faces when Wilhelmina said she didn't want to marry Jack in front of them, leaving them with no dignity to stand on.

Trent was livid as he snarled, "You've gone too far! How dare you disobey the arrangement we already made!"

However, Trent's harsh tone had ignited Wilhelmina's competitive spirit.

Wilhelmina asked coldly, "Dad, are you really forcing your daughter into the flames?"

Trent couldn't believe Wilhelmina would use such a degrading way to describe Tarthy City's most prestigious family.

She had gone too far to describe the family in this manner. It was absolutely outrageous.

Although Emily and Quintis tried their best to resist the anger stirring within them, their expressions inevitably changed.

They never expected Wilhelmina to think that marrying into the Lycan family was like jumping into flames.

Trent was consumed by his anger, and his face paled. He lifted his hand and slapped Wilhelmina hard. "Shut up!"

Mavis was so terrified that she quickly wrapped Wilhelmina in her arms. She snarled at Trent, "What are you doing? Why did you hit our daughter?"

Trent ignored Mavis and Wilhelmina and said to Quintis, "I'm sorry, Quintis. My daughter has gone out of line and acted so recklessly. Please don't hold this against her."

Wilhelmina caressed the side of her face where her father had slapped her. Her face was full of shock.

Since she was a child, her father had always loved her to bits. She never thought her father would be furious and slap her.

Humiliation flickered across Wilhelmina's eyes, but she darted her eyes at Jack with hatred. "Save your breath, and don't force this to happen. I'm telling you— you'll never get me."

Then, she proudly held her head high and said to Quintis, "Mr. and Mrs. Lycan, I respect you as my elders, but marriage can't be forced. I promise you this—if Jack could surpass me without relying on the

Lycans, I will go to the Lycan family on my own accord. I'll do as you say and will not have a single complaint."

This was the greatest compromise Wilhelmina could offer.

Though Quintis and Emily's expressions softened slightly, they still looked grim. For Jack to surpass Wilhelmina without the help of the Lycan family? That was nothing short of an impossible task.

They knew Wilhelmina was managing Zenith Capital. Even Quintis couldn't help but give a thumbs-up at the sheer scale of the funds under its management.

If Wilhelmina wanted Jack to surpass her without his family's help, it would be more practical for him to just reject the betrothal instead.

After all, such criteria were preposterous.

Chapter 757

With Jack's capabilities, how could he surpass Zenith Capital, the company under Wilhelmina's care?

Even if he managed to surpass her, it would take countless years for him to achieve that alone. By then, it would no longer be realistic to discuss marriage.

In other words, Wilhelmina was rejecting the idea of marrying into the Lycan family. To put it bluntly, she despised Jack.

Though he had long known of Wilhelmina's arrogant character, Jack had never imagined it to reach such heights.

Emily wanted to speak of Jack's promising future, but with Wilhelmina's undeniable achievement, commanding such great capital with her own strength, her words became lacklustre. After all, the chasm between Jack and Wilhelmina was far too great.

"What's the matter? Do you lack the courage to surpass me? Or do you plan to hide under your parents' wings and continue to indulge in the resources handed to you on a silver platter?"

Wilhelmina stared at Jack arrogantly with a disdain that was hard to conceal.

However, Jack laughed in fury. Wilhelmina's disdain was within tolerable bounds for Jack. In his eyes, Wilhelmina was nothing more than a passing stranger; she was hardly worth his genuine anger.

However, he couldn't tolerate how she humiliated Quintis and Emily.

Even if Jack had a strenuous relationship with his parents, he treated them like his alma mater and homeland. He could complain about them a million times, but he would never let anyone belittle them.

Jack said sternly, "Don't worry! I don't want to marry you. I wouldn't even bat an eye at your looks, let alone those puny achievements of yours. Give me two years -I'll crush Zenith Capital beneath my feet."

"Two years?" Parents from both sides were shocked at Jack's statement. Even though Emily held Jack in the palm of her hand, she was unsure what got over Jack that he would say something so ridiculous, claiming he would surpass Wilhelmina in two years.

Did he have any idea how powerful Zenith Capital was?

Emily shook Jack's arm, attempting to make her son realize how ridiculous his words were.

Even Wilhelmina looked at Jack in shock. She wondered where Jack's confidence came from for him to say something this ridiculous. However, Wilhelmina laughed. "I'm not sure why you would dare say something like that. Perhaps you have no idea how capable Zenith Capital is. How about this? I'll give you five years. If you can surpass my achievement by then, I'll marry you!"

"You've overestimated yourself. Two years is enough. Plus, I have no idea how haggard you might look five years from now." Jack's voice was full of arrogance, and it appeared domineering. "In two years, I'll crush you beneath my feet without the Lycan family's help."

"Okay! If you can surpass me in two years, I'll do whatever you say and be at your disposal," Wilhelmina said coldly.

A noticeable tinge of mockery appeared on her face. She was unwilling to bat an eye at Jack.

She had witnessed countless arrogant people before, and without exception, everyone eventually bowed down before her. Wilhelmina relished nothing more than putting their defiance in their place. She was determined to make this man from the countryside understand just how far she could go.

As the conversation reached this point, Quintis and Emily felt no need to stay any longer. Both families would start a fight if they continued the conversation.

After exchanging pleasantries, Quintis left the hotel with Emily and Jack. They entered the car and drove off slowly.

The atmosphere in the car was heavy as they made their journey back. This unpleasant meeting had left a heavy weight in everyone's hearts.

Finally, Quintis asked, "Jack, when do you want to start familiarizing yourself with how things work at Sandalwood Group in Alnewgo?"

Jack was taken aback but immediately understood Quintis' intentions.

Wilhelmina must have angered Quintis, so he planned to let Jack manage Sandalwood Group earlier than expected. According to Quintis' original plan, Jack would take over Sandalwood Group once Jack returned.

Although Tristan was managing Sandalwood Group, Jack was, after all, Quintis' real son.

Unless Jack had no talents to offer to the table, even if Tristan was capable, Jack would still be Sandalwood Group's rightful successor.

Chapter 758

However, Jack had been living with the commonfolk for many years. He was unfamiliar with the rules of high society, particularly in the context of the private equity industry.

So, Quintis planned to give Jack a few years to familiarize himself with it or send him to a reputable school to further his studies before letting him take over completely.

After all, even though Jack was Quintis' son, there were other shareholders in Sandalwood Group.

If Jack were to be promoted to the position at this stage, it may attract opposition.

However, time was of the essence. Jack and Wilhelmina had a two-year agreement. How was Jack going to reach Wilhelmina's level with his strength alone?

If Jack lost, it would be admitting that Wilhelmina was better than him.

Quintis, being proud and arrogant, could not allow this to happen. He planned to hasten things and let Jack manage some business matters in Alnewgo.

Once Jack had gotten the hang of it, Quintis would let him manage business matters in Zargonia. Eventually, Jack would be elevated to the core of power within Sandalwood Group, accelerating his path to growth.

If Jack were able to learn quickly, he could meet Quintis' requirements within two years. By then, once he took control of Sandalwood Group, he would stand invincible, even compared to Wilhelmina.

Quintis had put a lot of thought into this.

However, Jack shook his head. "Don't worry about it. I'll handle my own issues." He sounded indifferent, but his voice was laced with an undeniable confidence. Emily mistook Jack's confidence for arrogance.

She couldn't help but feel anxious as she said, "Don't be stubborn, Jack. Do you know who Wilhelmina is? She is the person in charge of Zenith Capital, which has a market value of 30 billion dollars! You..."

Jack interrupted Emily, "I have my ways. Let's talk about something else."

Seeing how determined Jack was, Emily and Quintis didn't dare utter another word. After all, Jack had returned home not long after. They were worried they might anger him.

So, Emily diverted to a different topic. "Jack, do you remember? Your grandfather's birthday is just a few days away. He hasn't been feeling well physically lately, so we decided to bring you along to visit him.

"Grandpa's birthday?" Jack's eyebrow furrowed slightly.

He didn't have a good impression of his grandfather. His grandparents were always strict, especially his grandmother, who treated Emily with coldness and sharp words, leaving Jack with a lingering sense of resentment.

Jack's face darkened at the mention of them. "Given their rigid rules, aren't they preaching about frugality these days? A birthday celebration..."

Quintis interjected, "Your grandfather had recently fallen ill and is in the hospital. We can visit him. Plus, it'll just be a family dinner; it's nothing big."

Emily persuaded, "Jack, since you've returned home, you should get to know them."

No matter what, Emily wanted Jack to reunite with the rest of the family.

Jack hesitated slightly before eventually nodding. "Okay."

He didn't want to go, but when he saw the pleading in Emily's eyes, he softened.

Yet, another thought stirred restlessly deep within Jack. The moment he heard they would be heading to the capital, an inexplicable thrill rose in his heart.

The capital was close to where Bella was. If he went to Montclair Conservatory, where she studied, he might bump into her, even if it was just to see her from a far distance.

Chapter 759

Even though Jack had warned himself countless times that he should have

nothing to do with Bella anymore once he had Feena, that it was unfaithful toward the relationship to do so, yet the voice in his heart that missed Bella had never stopped.

Perhaps, as the old saying went, it was precisely because something was lost that it lingered hauntingly in the heart.

Perhaps watching her from afar and realizing she no longer loved him would liberate him. Then, he could let this relationship go and fall helplessly in love with Feena.

Emily and Quintis were thrilled that Jack agreed. This meant that Jack's heart, once drifting further and further away, was now quietly finding its way back.

The next day, Emily, Quintis, and Jack made their way to the capital.

That night, the family of three stayed in a five-star hotel in the capital.

This hotel was one of the flagship properties under the Sandalwood Group. Only the three of them and Tristan could stay in the private room on the top floor.

When the family arrived at the hotel, the hotel manager and staff held a grand welcoming ceremony.

As a Sandalwood Group staff member, it was a great honor to meet the head of the Sandalwood Group. If one could earn the favor of the head, it would mark the beginning of an extravagant rise, the true start of a successful life.

Jack settled into a room with a breathtaking view. Standing on the balcony, he could take in the dazzling skyline of the capital. In the distance, he could even make out the silhouette of Montclair Conservatory.

The next day, Jack said goodbye to Emily and Quintis after breakfast and went to Montclair Conservatory alone.

Montclair Conservatory was hailed as the cradle of future stars and had produced countless professionally trained celebrities who later took over the entertainment scene by storm.

It was rumored that Montclair Conservatory housed many gorgeous-looking men and women. Jack glanced around as he walked-Montclair Conservatory definitely lived up to its name.

The young men were tall and handsome, while the young women were graceful and radiant, each carrying an air of charm. Wherever he walked, it was like a breathtaking scene that had come to life.

However, Jack was lost after entering Montclair Conservatory.

He initially thought he could find Bella when he arrived at Montclair Conservatory, but then he realized he no longer had any information about Bella. How was he supposed to find her?

What was more was that the phone call back then had left his heart sinking into an icy abyss. There was no way he would pick up the phone and reach out again.

If he saw Bella holding a new boyfriend's hand walking down the campus, though the possibility was close to zero, what was he supposed to do if it did happen?"

However, Jack felt he was overthinking it. It was more likely that he was unable to find Bella at all because he had come unprepared.

After all, the campus grounds were huge. Finding a specific woman would be like searching for a needle in a haystack. However, being able to wander through the place where she lived and studied offered Jack a measure of comfort.

Yet, fate had always been a mysterious thing. If it wanted a person to meet someone, it would allow them to.

When Jack walked to a bulletin board, he saw the latest posting of the campus' reputable figures.

Jack read through each column and realized the listed students were famous. Many had signed contracts with reputable directors and had successfully entered the entertainment industry. Some had even laid a strong foundation in the music industry.

The best among them had become huge celebrities like Feena.

Montclair Conservatory lived up to its name as the cradle of future stars. World- renowned stars emerged from this place in droves.

As Jack was lost in admiration, his steps suddenly halted-perhaps drawn by the invisible threads of fate or guided by the mysterious hand of destiny.

Chapter 760

Just when Jack felt that searching for her was as hopeless as fishing for a needle in the vast ocean, he stumbled upon her by sheer accident. It was Bella Cole.

Among these photos was one of a particularly eye-catching woman. She stood proudly in the most conspicuous spot in the photo column, as if she were announcing to the world that even among the lineup of dazzling celebrities, she was the most spectacular among them all.

Bella appeared beautiful in the photos, with a gentle smile. She was more captivating than he remembered, leaving him longing for more.

Jack felt slightly puzzled, so he walked closer to take a look. As he recalled, Bella

had always been a little headstrong. She loved to pout and act spoiled around

Jack, a spirited woman who carried a hint of a princess-like charm.

Yet, the woman in the photo seemed to have undergone a transformation, blooming into someone even more beautiful and radiant.

Now, she exuded a beauty that seemed unattainable, yet the warmth and approachability that once defined her had never faded. These qualities intertwined seamlessly, making her seem like a breathtaking vision come to life, even more enchanting than he remembered.

Fate was like two lines that were once misaligned. When Jack thought he, at least for now, would not cross paths with Bella, time seemed to have corrected the entanglement in the past. Once again, Jack and Bella were at the crossroads of

fate.

Just as Jack wondered if he would ever meet Bella again, she appeared gorgeously before him.

Not every student stalled during their university years. Jack was writing his own brilliant story at Alnewgo University while Bella was living a vibrant and fulfilling life in Montclair Conservatory, each shining in their own way.

"Jack?" As Jack was dwelling in his memories, a surprise voice sounded. He turned around and noticed a beautiful woman standing behind him, happily greeting him.

"Cynthia?" Jack recognized the woman. She was the class monitor of the other class during high school.

Cynthia had been diligently organizing class reunions over the years. Jack heard that Cynthia was studying at Montclair Conservatory, but he never thought he would bump into her here. It was always a delight to meet an old friend in a foreign place.

Jack laughed heartily. "What a coincidence! I knew you were studying at Montclair Conservatory, but I never thought I would bump into you."

Cynthia smiled sweetly and nodded. "Aren't you studying at Alnewgo University? Why are you here at Montclair Conservatory? This is the capital. It's miles away from Alnewgo."

"I have something to do at Montclair Conservatory." Jack glanced at his watch. "It's not every day old classmates run into each other. It's lunchtime now. Why don't we grab a meal together?"

Cynthia was thrilled to bump into Jack, so she nodded in agreement. "Sure. This is my turf, so let me buy you lunch."

Jack happily obliged. It was a happy occasion to bump into an old classmate. The two of them went to a restaurant.

Cynthia was familiar with the campus and brought Jack to a small restaurant in the cafeteria complex. The place had a cozy atmosphere, reasonable prices, and excellent food. It was Cynthia's usual spot for food.

After taking their seats, the food was quickly served.

Jack smiled and said, "You've been in Montclair Conservatory for so many years. Why don't you give me an autograph? When you become a celebrity in the future, your autograph will rise in value alongside your fame."

Cynthia said softly, "Becoming a celebrity is easier said than done. Back in high school, I was full of confidence, but it wasn't until I entered Montclair Conservatory that I realized this place was swarming with hidden talents. Compared to them, I'm mediocre at best."