#### Love Rats 971

## **Chapter 971 You're Here**

"Selena-"

"This has nothing to do with Selena," Lady Lauren interrupted Daphne, her smile graceful and dignified, "It was my son who did it. I heard him ordering someone to beat Penelope, and to make it really hurt."

"So, Daphne, don't accuse Selena wrongly."

Of course, if Osvaldo hadn't intervened, Penelope might have been executed on the spot by now.

Lady Lauren thought of the words the person on the phone had said to Osvaldo, and was somewhat amazed.

She had not expected that the Judicature, which was known for its strict adherence to principles, would really break its principles because of Selena's words.

Daphne covered her chest, shaking with anger. "You..."

"You bully my son's beloved girl, and you won't let my son seek justice for her?" Lady Lauren said with a smile, "Daphne, you should be thankful that you are of a certain age and have the status of an elder. It wouldn't look good if my son beat you up. Otherwise, he wouldn't be beating Penelope, but you!"

When Kaitlyn heard this, she was afraid that Selena would really send someone to kill someone, and she trembled with fear. She looked up at her mother, hoping to find comfort and protection.

But when she saw Manny's expression, she was confused.

Manny lowered her head and smiled.

A pleasant, twisted, and somewhat pathological smile.

Daphne was humiliated by these people... why was her mother laughing?

Kaitlyn looked at her mother's weird smile and shivered.

Manny suddenly turned her head and asked in a low voice, "What's wrong?"

Her gentle and dignified voice made it seem like the previous smile was just an illusion.

Kaitlyn trembled and said, "Mom... Selena said she wants to kill me and my brother... I'm scared..."

Manny touched her hair and smiled meaningfully, "She won't."

Even if Selena really wanted to kill Kaitlyn and Ache in a fit of anger, someone would step in to stop her.

Before the Riddle family's secrets were completely exposed, they would not choose to go down with her.

When Kaitlyn heard Manny say this, she was not relieved, but even more afraid.

But she didn't dare to ask more, so she just lowered her head and stood quietly by her mother's side.

Daphne was almost fainting with anger. She pointed to the gate of the Riddle family and yelled, "Get out! All of you, get out!"

Lady Lauren's smile turned cold. "It seems like you don't think you did anything wrong, Daphne. Don't blame the Anderson family... we'll be ruthless from now on!"

With that, Lady Lauren walked away from the Riddle family, and the other noblewomen followed suit, giving Daphne cold looks.

Hunter listened to Lady Lauren's departing words, feeling sweat on his forehead. He looked at Daphne, who was breathing heavily in anger, and saw a hint of dissatisfaction in her eyes. All of this trouble for Penelope, and now they had offended both the Anderson and Turner families...

Meanwhile, in the Turner family's hall, Selena was tending to Hattie's swollen face. She sat on the sofa, watching as her gentle fingers brushed over the girl's cheek. "Remember, Hattie, this is the last time. Don't let anyone hit your face again."

Hattie looked into Selena's icy yet gentle eyes for a long moment before saying coldly, "She can't hit Selena..."

Selena replied softly, "No, she can't. Even if you didn't help me, I wouldn't let her touch me."

The real Selena was dead, and Daphne had nothing to do with her. Trying to trap her with family ties was a foolish and impossible move. The Riddle family in Creephia was a prime example of what could happen.

Once Hattie had calmed down, Selena motioned for the waiting psychologist to come forward and examine her. She leaned against the railing and asked Leia, "What's happening with the trial?"

Leia's eyes darted around nervously as she whispered, "I was a bit late with my call. Penelope got beaten up by the other inmates in the trial court because of her spoiled and arrogant behavior. She's now in the hospital..."

Selena's gaze paused for a moment before she pursed her lips and turned her head slightly. "She didn't fight back?"

"No," Leia nodded firmly. "The young master personally sent someone to watch over her. No matter how those people hit her, Penelope performed like a helpless little lady with no skills at all."

Leia suddenly realized that she might have said something terrible.

Selena seemed not to notice the information revealed in Leia's words. She lowered her eyes and began to ponder. She had always suspected that Penelope was the one who attacked her at the fragrance competition banquet. If it was really Penelope, then her identity was definitely on par with that of a top assassin. Would a top assassin be able to hold back and not fight back when being beaten?

Selena's eyes sank. There were two possibilities: either Penelope really didn't do it, or someone had instructed her beforehand not to show any flaws in the prison, otherwise she would die faster. Only when her life was threatened could the proud Penelope endure the beating without fighting back.

Selena's slender fingers slowly brushed across her eyes.

Leia knew that when Selena made this gesture, it meant she was concentrating on thinking. So she quietly stopped the psychiatrist who was walking towards them. The psychiatrist was startled, looked up and saw the person walking in from the entrance. Then, he turned and picked up Hattie, who had fallen asleep on the sofa under hypnosis, and went upstairs.

Leia also saw the person who walked in and covered her mouth, feeling a bit guilty, and slipped away. In an instant, there was only Selena in the entire hall, leaning lazily against the stairway with her eyes closed.

Suddenly, a pair of long arms stretched out from behind and hugged her delicate body. Selena felt a familiar warm embrace against her back, was stunned for a moment, then opened her eyes and revealed a sweet smile. "You're here..."

Osvaldo's deep gaze fell on Selena's side face, confirming that she showed no signs of sadness other than anger. He lowered his head and kissed her cheek.

## Chapter 972 Have you really thought about it?

Selena grabbed Osvaldo's hand and smiled, "I'm fine."

Daphne only makes her feel angry and sad, but not to that extent.

Osvaldo rubbed her forehead and asked, "Do you want to rest this afternoon?"

Selena tilted her head and thought for a moment.

She was originally planning to visit Milana in the afternoon.

But Osvaldo never interferes with any of her actions, and his treatment of her can be described as completely obedient.

When the man suddenly made a request, it seemed that it was because she had been poisoned and needed to recuperate.

It seemed impossible to refuse.

So Selena smiled and said, "Okay."

Osvaldo held her hand and walked out.

Selena turned back to Leia, who was hiding behind the stairs and peeking with her big eyes covered, and said, "Bring Hattie with us."

The little girl was sick, and Selena was worried about leaving her alone in the Turner family.

Leia immediately went upstairs to pick up Hattie.

...

That afternoon, the Industrial and Commercial Bureau and the Taxation Bureau suddenly intervened in the investigation of the Riddle's finances under the pretext of investigation.

Many of the Riddle's projects were forced to shut down.

To make matters worse, the Riddle's network suddenly suffered a major virus attack, causing the entire internet industry to collapse overnight and become inoperable.

Economic empires like the Riddle's, with intertwined roots, are all affected when the main company is in trouble, and its other industries are instantly affected.

Such a disastrous blow, even if it was just for one day or even just one hour, the losses for the entire the Riddle's cannot be estimated.

For a time, the whole the Riddle's was in turmoil.

Many of the capital's aristocratic families were also in an uproar.

Everyone knew that this was the Anderson family and the Turner family retaliating against the Riddle family for Selena, and they were gloating while secretly fearing.

Even the former Riddle family of the four major families couldn't resist the joint revenge of the Anderson family and the Turner family, so what would happen if they were targeted by other families?

Compared to the leaders of the major families who are watching the situation, the daughters and wives of the major families are mostly jealous. Selena felt aggrieved. The Turner family and the Anderson family went to great lengths to help her, and this honor was absolutely unique in the entire capital!

While they gritted their teeth with envy, they also thought Daphne was really foolish. She implicated the entire Riddle family just for an adopted daughter...

The Riddle family. Hunter paced anxiously in the hall, his face full of anger. Although the Riddle family hadn't fallen apart yet, it was inevitable that there would be losses, especially in his industries.

The other members of the Riddle family also sat with grim faces. Angus walked in from outside with a dark look on his face. "Master David, we haven't found Miss Hattie."

Hattie was with Selena, guarded by Osvaldo. Even though Hunter was Hattie's father, they couldn't just barge in and demand her return.

"Unfilial daughter!" Hunter's face turned pale.

Issac glanced at him with a hint of coldness in his eyes. "David, don't you know that Hattie was beaten by her mother and is now in the hospital unconscious?"

Hunter's face changed, and his brow furrowed. "I just wanted her to say a few words. Can't she just wake up?"

Leon's face turned cold when he heard this. "Enough! Uncle David, you should be grateful to Hattie. If it weren't for her blocking Grandmother's slap, Lady Selena would have been hit and the situation of the Riddle family would be even worse than it is now!"

"And why are you looking for Hattie for such a big matter? Do you want her to plead for the Riddle family?" Leon sneered. "Believe me, if you do that, whether your other daughter can see the sun tomorrow is an unknown variable."

Hunter was humiliated by the father and son's mockery and his face turned white. "What should we do then? That unfilial daughter always talks about how Selena saved her and was good to her. Now that the Riddle family is in trouble, why can't she go and plead for them?"

"Don't forget, even if Selena can clear her relationship with the Riddle family, she can forget about having a good life!" Issac coldly sneered. "David, I think you've really gone mad!"

Leon shifted his gaze away, too lazy to speak again. Hunter's face was almost distorted with anger at the father and son's stubbornness.

The other shareholders of the Riddle family didn't say anything, but the disapproving look in their eyes towards Hunter was unmistakable. What kind of person could be so cruel to his own daughter? The Riddle family was fortunate that their future wouldn't fall into his hands. Although they looked down on Hunter, they still needed to address the matter at hand. One shareholder looked towards Leon and said, "Young Master, now is not the time to be prideful. We need a solution for the Turner and Anderson families."

Leon tapped his slender fingers on the table and smirked, "A solution... hasn't it always been there?" The people in the room were initially stunned, but then they suddenly understood what Leon meant. The reason why the Turner and Anderson families targeted the Riddle family was because Daphne openly bullied the young lady from the Turner family. The conflict caused by Daphne naturally needed her to step up and resolve it. It was obvious that the Turner and Anderson families wanted Daphne to apologize to Selena in person.

Once they realized Leon's plan, he stood up, put on his coat, and casually buttoned it up. He then addressed Issac, "Father, I'll be relying on you for the next few days." Issac, who anticipated the chaos that would occur in the Riddle family, waved his hand, allowing his son to leave quickly.

As the grandson, Leon could hide, but as the son, he had no room to do so. Leon smiled and walked out of the room, where he saw Erica waiting for him outside the front door. Erica walked over and helped her son adjust his collar. "I told you before that I wanted to meet Miss Turner... what did she say?"

Leon stared into his mother's eyes and suddenly asked, "Do you have something to say to her?" Erica's eyes seemed to be clouded by something as she spoke flatly, "I don't know if it's right or wrong to say it, but... that child has the right to know."

Leon's eyes turned cold as he asked, "Is it related to Aunt Nevaeh?" Erica didn't deny it. Leon's heart sank bit as he stared into her eyes and asked, "Mother, have you really thought this through?" Erica smiled and said, "Maybe what I'm doing is bit rebellious as a daughter-in-law, but Leon, remember, before having this identity, your mother was a police officer!" Leon remembered her brave deeds when she was younger and smiled, hugging his mother before leaving.

## Chapter 973 Arrange a meeting with Christ for me

"Alright, brave and righteous Officer Wen," Leon said in a gentle tone, "I will arrange the time for you."

Earlier, Selena had mentioned leaving it to fate, but now she must be willing to meet the senior inspector who had married into the Riddle family for many years.

Erica hugged her arms and lifted her chin. "Let the second wife worry about the trouble caused by the old lady. Don't get involved."

Selena's lips twitched. "Father is after all-"

"If he dares to meddle, I'll kick him out to sleep in the study tonight!" Erica retorted with a glare.

Leon remained silent.

Alright, you win!

...

The Riddle family had not yet resolved their disputes when they faced more problems that night.

Kaitlyn accidentally slipped and fell down the stairs, breaking her leg. At the same time, the Riddle family's illegitimate son was sent to the emergency room again due to illness.

The second wife of the Riddle family faced consecutive blows in one night, which made Hunter furious. Daphne first heard about Penelope being beaten, then the Riddle family's company was attacked, and finally, her beloved grandchildren were hospitalized one after another, leaving her utterly breathless.

...

Selena was unaware of what was happening in the Riddle family. After Osvaldo brought her back, she had been staying in the flower room, writing. Therefore, she did not hear any of the rumors from the outside world.

After finishing a piece of calligraphy, Selena put down her brush and stared at the characters she had just written.

Leia stood behind Selena, staring at the snow-white paper, trying to recognize the characters but to no avail. She had seen Selena's beautiful handwriting before, with each stroke in a beautiful, thin gold style that everyone would praise.

But this one... forgive her for her limited knowledge, but she really could not recognize a single character. However, it was very imposing.

Selena smiled slightly. "A famous saying from Caesar of the West... I came, I saw, I conquered."

Unfortunately, perhaps she had been too well-educated, and this handwriting was too calm compared to her previous writing.

Leia widened her eyes and was about to ask more when she saw Selena raise her hand and crumple the calligraphy into a ball before throwing it into the trash can.

Leia exclaimed, "Ah, Madam, why did you..."

Although she did not understand the characters, she had a strange feeling that if Selena had shown it, someone would have fought over it to buy it.

Selena smiled. "I wrote it poorly, there's no need to keep it."

She put down her brush and walked to the edge of the water basin, washing her hands clean. She then took the towel that Leia handed over, wiped her hands, and asked, "Has Hattie woken up?"

"No," Leia shook her head. "Dr. Wilkinson said it's good for Miss Hattie's body to let her sleep longer."

Selena strolled outside the flower room and looked up at the nearby capital. Suddenly, she spoke up, "If the Riddle family calls again and asks to meet me, please accept the invitation for me."

As soon as she finished speaking, the phone on the table suddenly vibrated and fell down.

Leia widened her eyes and felt that the young mistress of their family was really prescient. However, could it be that the Riddle family was calling at this time to either scold or plead with the young mistress?

Leia stared at the flashing number on the screen, her expression becoming serious.

She looked at the number and then turned to Selena, only to find that Selena's expression was completely different from what she had imagined.

Selena's face was very cold.

Her dark eyes stared at the flashing number on the screen, emitting a cold chill.

Leia's spine also shuddered, and she keenly sensed that Selena's emotions seemed to be tightly wound.

In the warm sunshine, in the quiet courtyard, the ringing on the table lasted for a long time. Just as Leia thought Selena wouldn't answer, she suddenly heard Selena say, "Give it to me."

Leia carefully held the phone and handed it to Selena.

At the moment she touched Selena's fingers, Leia shivered from the icy temperature on her skin.

"Madam..." The little girl couldn't help but call out, "Are you okay?"

Selena said faintly, "I'm fine."

Then, she pressed the answer button.

Leon's cold voice came from inside, sounding like his emotions weren't very good. "Lady Selena, my mother wants to meet you. Do you have time recently?"

Leia was prepared for Leon to talk about what was currently happening with the Riddle family, but she didn't expect to hear such a sentence.

Leon's mother, the Riddle family's grand madam, wanted to meet their young mistress?

Leia carefully searched her memory and finally remembered the rumors about the Riddle family's grand madam.

The Riddle family's grand madam was not born into a prestigious family. When she was young, she was an outstanding police officer. Later, she was seriously injured during an operation and then married into the Riddle family...

Now, the woman with a complicated background is going to meet Selena.

Under the warm sunshine, Leia suddenly shuddered for no reason.

Selena's lips curled into a somewhat cold arc, "Of course, thank Mrs. Riddle for me."

Leon remained silent for a moment, "No need."

If things were really as they thought, Erica would definitely not want Selena's gratitude.

After agreeing on the time and place, Selena put down her phone and looked into the distance with a cold expression.

Leia approached her shakily, "Madam..."

Selena lowered her curly eyelashes and hid her warm eyes. After a long time, she said, "It's okay."

Before meeting Erica again, she had to see another person first.

Selena turned to Leia and said, "Make an appointment with the Poole family's young master for me."

was dumbfounded, "What?"

Looking into Selena's eyes, Leia complained, "Mr. Poole has bad intentions towards Madam. Madam cannot cheat on the young master behind his back..."

Selena was first stunned, then laughed and reached out to touch the girl's hair, "It's not what you think. I have something to ask him."

"Why doesn't Madam ask Young Master?" Leia whispered. "If Mr. Poole knows about it, the young master must also know..."

"I..." Selena lowered her eyelashes. "The young master doesn't know about this."

That was the real Selena, the connection between her and Christ that no one knew except for the two of them.

Therefore, there were some answers that no one else except for Christ and the deceased Selena could answer.

Leia suddenly realized something as she looked at Selena's eyes and turned around to leave, "Madam, I'll contact Mr. Poole immediately!"

But before contacting Christ, Leia first called Osvaldo and reported everything.

It took a long time before a hoarse voice came from the other end of the line.

# **Chapter 974 Hazy Memory**

"I'll personally take her there," Osvaldo said.

Leia was shocked. Given Osvaldo's extreme paranoia, how could he actually allow Selena to meet a man who coveted her? He even wanted to personally escort Selena there.

Unless... Selena's reason for meeting Christ was really as compelling as she said. It was enough to make Osvaldo back down and even choose to condone it.

Leia immediately turned to find Christ's phone number.

...

A slender hand picked up the vibrating phone on the table. The man's handsome face showed no surprise as he looked at the flashing number on the screen.

Christ held the phone and walked to the floor-to-ceiling window, looking at the capital outside for a moment before pressing the answer button.

A cold voice of a young girl came through the speaker, "Mr. Poole, are you free tonight?"

Christ's lips curled up. "Miss Turner wants to have tea with me?"

Selena's voice was warm and elegant. "I don't know if I have the honor."

Christ's eyes darkened. "Of course, but the condition is that you can't bring him along!"

Selena paused for a moment before her tone wavered slightly. "I can't hurt him for anyone."

Christ sneered and hung up the phone.

Then he lowered his eyes and called Osvaldo.

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An hour later, Selena put on her coat and walked out of the villa with her long hair loose. When she stepped out of the gate, she suddenly stopped in her tracks.

Osvaldo leaned against the car door with his black hair and eyes, cold white skin, and exquisite features that were too distinct in the dusk.

The man's deep gaze quietly fell on her, and he walked over and reached out to touch her hair.

Selena came to her senses and tried to explain, "I..."

Although she didn't know much about love, she was the most responsible and empathetic girl. When she refused Christ earlier, she didn't know that Osvaldo already knew about it. She just didn't want to hurt him in any way.

It was only now that Selena realized that she was the only one who had left the house. Leia didn't follow her.

Osvaldo's translucent fingertips brushed her eyes, and his eyes looked at her with bone-deep tenderness and compassion. "Selena, don't be afraid."

Selena's curled eyelashes trembled uncontrollably.

Osvaldo took her cold hand, opened the car door, and led her to the passenger seat.

Then, he drove the car and took her away from the villa.

A black sports car drove smoothly on the road, and Selena held her chin with her delicate white hands, looking at the unfamiliar scenery outside the window with bustling traffic and colorful lights. Suddenly, she said, "I've been to the capital before."

Osvaldo's eyes became even darker, but he didn't say anything. A layer of heart-wrenching emotion seemed to be shrouded between his delicate eyes as he listened quietly to her.

Christ mistook Selena, who grew up in the capital, for someone from a faraway city. It was clear that there was a problem.

"But I can't remember anything..." Selena's voice was muffled, and she seemed particularly concerned and uncomfortable about her memory loss.

She raised her hand and pressed her forehead with restraint. It seemed that not only Selena's memory was missing, but there was also a deeply buried unforgettable past, which made her feel an unprecedented sense of oppression and loss of control whenever she touched upon it.

Selena felt uncomfortable, but more than that, she felt lost.

Her memories from childhood to adulthood were complete and there was no sudden appearance of people like Christ. Then why did she still feel this empty and uncomfortable feeling?

It was even more uncomfortable than the feeling she had during the fragrance competition when something suddenly appeared.

Was it something related to the person who "revived" her?

Selena's fingers were so pale that they were frightening. She lowered her eyes and began to carefully recall all her past experiences from childhood.

After she grew up and became sensible, she would definitely notice if someone had tampered with her memories.

The only opportunity to do so was before she grew up.

Her childhood memories seemed complete as well.

Father, mother, Stanley, and...

Wait!

Selena suddenly noticed a blurry memory node. She suddenly froze, and her eyes widened in an instant.

It felt like she had been searching for it for a long time, and finally, in a blank space, she caught a glimpse of a long-hidden secret.

Selena even broke out in a cold sweat all over.

She got lost once when she was a child!

She was abducted by a notorious mercenary group!

She was still in the mercenary's lair when she met a boy who was also abducted. That boy was even persuaded by her and might have "been single all life".

She had never thought about it before, but now that Selena's amnesia reminded her, she seemed to remember something and wanted to investigate a question... why did she get lost when she was young?

Within the Riddle family, with such a close circle of defense and protection, even if all the mercenaries in the world rushed in, and with the Riddle family's secretly malicious people, it would not be possible to steal her away from under her father and mother's noses.

So why did she run out alone? ... she didn't remember.

No matter how Selena thought, she couldn't remember this.

She squeezed her fingers with some pain, forcing herself to calm down and analyze.

If it was impossible for her to be stolen, then there was only one other possibility.

She ran away by herself.

But why did she run away?

Obviously, at that time, she was not even five years old and was so weak that walking was difficult. In that situation, why did she still sneak out alone, hiding from her father, mother, and everyone?

It seemed like an absurd guess that was impossible.

But Selena's intuition told her that compared to being stolen, her second guess was correct.

She ran away by herself, alone, evading all the protection layers, even deliberately avoiding her most trusted father and mother, and ran out of her own home... and then was abducted by mercenaries.

Afterwards, she was found and completely forgot about the incident.

What was she looking for, paying such a high price? She didn't remember.

A hint of suppressed pain surged in Selena's eyes, and she closed them.

Her father and mother must have known why she had run away, but for so many years, they had never mentioned it, even specifically washing away her memory of that event, which meant... they wouldn't tell her.

Stanley had just arrived by her side at that time-

Selena suddenly opened her eyes.

Why was Stanley arranged to be by her side from an early age?

Her father said it was because she was an only child and they were afraid she would be lonely, so they found Stanley to accompany her.

Did that mean that before Stanley, she had a companion?

# **Chapter 975 Milk Tea**

... Who is that person?

Who are you?

Where are you?

If you really exist, why have you never shown up all these years?

Selena felt an inexplicable restlessness rising in her heart, and she couldn't control herself from biting her slender fingers.

Suddenly, a pair of cold hands reached out and gently wrapped around her hands, preventing her from continuing to hurt herself.

Selena looked up in surprise and met the deep, dark and eerie eyes of a man, which overlapped with a blurred figure from her memory.

She stared blankly at the man's perfect face and blurted out, "Have I seen you somewhere before?"

Osvaldo lowered his butterfly-like eyelashes and looked at her fingers with red marks from biting. "If I have really seen you before..."

He seemed to remember something extremely unpleasant, and his body trembled slightly. His low and dark voice settled into something that was disturbing to hear. "I won't let you..."

Won't let her do what?

Osvaldo's voice was too low for Selena to hear.

She just looked at him, vaguely sensing that he was very sad, and her heart also produced a trace of pain.

Her confused mind slowly returned to normal.

Osvaldo grew up in H Country, and her hometown was far away, thousands of miles away. There was no way they could have met before. Moreover, as Osvaldo had said, even if she had really seen him before, she wouldn't easily forget his outstanding looks.

It must have been her imagination.

Selena approached the man and comfortingly kissed his eyes, whispering, "I'm okay."

Osvaldo grabbed the back of her head and kissed her sweet lips, which was very gentle, but the aggressiveness emanating from his body seemed like he wanted to devour her.

After a long time, Osvaldo closed his eyes and suppressed the frenzy and desire in them. He leaned against her ear and spoke in a low and dark voice, "Selena, when the matter in the capital is over, tell me everything about you, okay?"

Selena breathed heavily, listening to the man's voice full of bone-deep emotions. After a long time, she suddenly smiled and said, "Okay."

She promised to tell him everything after the matter in the capital was over, whether she wanted to be his real wife or not.

If she became his wife, there would be no one more qualified to know everything about her than him. And even if they eventually separated, this would still be the most sincere and sweetest love story of her past nineteen years.

Osvaldo's dark gaze fixed on her face, then he opened his arms and hugged her without reservation.

Selena lay on his chest, listening to the man's strong heartbeat, thinking of her father and mother.

Her parents loved her dearly and would never harm her.

At the same time, it also indirectly showed that if there was something so serious that it could make them willing to erase her memory and hide it from her for over a decade, they wouldn't tell her unless she pursued it herself.

But actually...

Apart from her parents, there was another person in this world who must know the truth about her disappearance.

Selena remembered the young man in the mercenary den who, despite looking fierce and cold, was always indulgent towards her, and she couldn't help but smile.

If Christ was the key to unlocking Selena's memories of Creephia, then that person was the key to unlocking the lock on her memories.

Once she found him, she would surely know why she had run away in the first place.

She would know whether the person she was always searching for really existed.

Selena remembered the name the young man had told her before they parted ways and smiled slightly as she looked out of the car window at the dusk outside.

"My knight, after so many years, do you still remember me, despite the distance and time?"

When she found him again, she didn't know how he would hold her accountable for standing her up on their last goodbye.

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A milk tea shop on the second floor of a street.

Christ stood in front of the French window, looking at the black sports car parked on the roadside.

Through the slightly open car window, he could clearly see the black-haired man in black clothes sitting in the driver's seat, embracing the girl, kissing and whispering in her ear.

Christ stared at Selena's sweet smile, her watery eyes, and her lips that were kissed until they were moist and red. In his eyes, there was a faint hint of destructive rage.

Christ clenched his fist, unable to contain his jealous anger. Just as he was about to rush forward, the black car door suddenly opened.

Selena got out of the car, lowered her head, and said something to Osvaldo in the driver's seat with a smile.

The man got out of the car, held her waist, and cuddled her for a while before letting go of her and quietly watching her walk towards the milk tea shop.

After Selena's figure disappeared from view, Osvaldo leaned against the car door. His tall and slender figure was black and white, perfect to the extreme.

Then he looked up and met Christ's gaze, which was filled with deep resentment as he looked down upon him. The two men locked eyes, and the atmosphere immediately became tense and precarious.

Osvaldo smiled emotionlessly, even though he was looking up, he gave off a sense of superiority. His gorgeous eyes were ominous, and his dangerous presence was unsettling. "I don't like anyone coveting my woman. If you dare to have any improper thoughts about her..."

His gaze grew cold as he spoke nonchalantly, "then you'll die here today."

Christ smiled, "She belonged to me first during our childhood."

"She's not your woman."

"She doesn't really love you either."

Osvaldo's gaze suddenly became dark, and his black coat seemed to billow in the absence of wind. The surrounding darkness gathered around him like a tide. The eyes that were overflowing with tenderness just a moment ago were now full of sinister and eerie malice.

Christ's eyes were filled with cold mockery, "Would you dare to let her see you in this state? A paranoid, dark, and inhuman lunatic..."

"Heh... Love gained through deception will eventually shatter."

Osvaldo stared at Christ's back as he walked away, his exquisitely handsome face now as cold as a mask. He knew that Christ was leaving because Selena was coming.

His wife, who was gradually getting closer to another man. She would spend time alone with that man, and reminisce about their childhood secrets, which belonged only to the two of them. Although he knew that those memories didn't really belong to her, he still couldn't tolerate his wife having any involvement or contact with other men!

#### **Chapter 976 Smart Girls Will Suffer**

However, contrary to her wishes, when he forced Selena to admit that she accepted him as Selena, Christ and Alfie both developed a complicated relationship with her that was hard to cut off.

And there was Stanley, whom she trusted.

And he became the last person she would meet in her life.

In the gradually darkening sky, Osvaldo's face was cold and devoid of any humanity, with a hint of twisted malice in his eyes.

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Just as Selena was about to raise her hand to knock on the door, someone opened the door first.

Christ was standing behind the door and chivalrously made way for her, saying, "Come in."

As Selena looked at the huge French window in the private room, she was stunned. Suddenly, she seemed to have remembered something and walked quickly to the window, and sure enough, she saw Osvaldo standing downstairs, waiting for her.

Seeing Osvaldo standing there all alone, with his head bowed, Selena felt a sense of oppression in her heart.

She was about to call out to him when suddenly the room darkened.

Someone had pulled the curtains shut.

Selena's eyes narrowed. "What are you doing?" she asked, reaching up to pull the curtains open. But they were electronically controlled, and she couldn't move them with her hands.

Christ chuckled and grabbed her wrist, pushing her up against the window. "Selena, even if you don't like me, you don't have the right to trample on my feelings like this!"

Selena's back was against the icy-cold curtain, and she suddenly remembered that the curtain was transparent.

By now, the street lamps outside had come on. If Osvaldo looked up, he would see her being pressed up against the window by a man... and he might misunderstand!

Selena was both angry and annoyed.

Luke had told her before that Christ was crazy and that he would do anything to achieve his goals, regardless of the consequences.

A chill ran through Selena, and she was about to speak when she looked up and saw the uncontrollable anger in Christ's eyes, and her expression suddenly froze.

She suddenly remembered that Christ might not be a good person, but his feelings for Selena seemed to be real.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have pampered the counterfeit carnelian and turned her into who she was.

Perhaps it was because she paid too much attention to Osvaldo's movements when she came in that she had angered him.

If this was really the case, and she brought Osvaldo up here, and the two men faced off, it would not be worth the trouble.

Selena calmed down her emotions a bit and said coldly, "You hurt me, let go of me."

Christ stared at her eyes fixedly for a moment and then let go of her hand.

Selena rubbed her red wrist and walked to the opposite side of him, where she was furthest away from him but still visible to Osvaldo if he looked up.

Christ sneered and didn't bother with her thoughts, turning to the counter to pick up a cup of pearl milk tea and placing it in front of her.

Selena looked at the cup of pearl milk tea and was stunned.

She didn't like milk tea.

What she liked was the Selena of Creephia.

Selena looked up and stared at Christ. "I have something to ask you."

Christ's eyes flickered with a hint of complexity as he inserted the straw into the milk tea cup and bent down to push it in front of her. "No sugar added. Would you like to try it?"

He knew what Selena wanted to ask. Ever since he saw her in Creephia and realized she was the little girl from all those years ago, he knew she would eventually come to find him.

Selena stared at the milk tea being handed to her and wondered if Osvaldo was watching her right now. Another man was offering her a drink, waiting for her decision.

Christ's attitude was also clear. If she didn't make a move, he wouldn't tell her anything.

To drink or not to drink?

Selena tilted her head slightly, looked through the curtains, and gazed down to where Osvaldo was. After composing herself, she picked up the milk tea with both hands, bit the straw, and took a sip.

Seeing this scene, Christ suddenly sneered and his expression was filled with disappointment. "You really... don't remember anything!"

Selena forced herself to calm down, placed the milk tea back on the table, and looked up at Christ's eyes. "Can you tell me now?"

Christ stared at her for a while before asking in a low voice, "What do you want to know?"

Selena lowered her eyes, her pale fingers trembling uncontrollably. "Where did you meet me?"

This time, Christ's silence was longer than before. He looked at her and said, "You're too smart, and that could be dangerous."

Selena stared back at him with a determined look. "I remember very little, but I vaguely recall that I once saw boy in a very dark place, and I think I called him 'big brother'."

Christ's heart trembled. Selena's eyes were cold as she continued, "I guess the reason why I have a vague memory of this is because nobody knows I met you back then."

"I was not even five years old at the time, and it was impossible for me to come to Capital by myself. Therefore, it must have been my mother who brought me here, and no one in the Turner family knew of my existence for all these years. So whoever my mother brought me to see back then, it definitely wasn't the Turner family."

"Even a few months ago, no one in the major families of the capital knew that Lady Nevaeh had a daughter living in Creephia."

"The only ones who knew... were the two old ones from the Riddle family..."

"I confirmed what Hattie said to me. She told me that Daphne and Maddox had indeed known for a long time that they had a granddaughter."

Christ looked at Selena's pale face, with an urge to stop her from speaking, but when the words came to his lips, he couldn't say them, "Selena..."

Selena sneered, a trace of sadness appearing in her eyes, "If my mother had brought me back to the Riddle family to visit my grandparents, then I should have been happy, joyful, because other than my mother and a hypocritical father, I had no other relatives since I was young."

"If it was a happy thing, why did my mother want me to forget that memory?"

"How could I, a member of such a magnificent family like the Riddle family, appear in such a small and dark place where I dare not even make a sound?"

"Why did my mother suddenly die of illness shortly after bringing me back to the Riddle family?"

A sharp and cold thing gradually appeared in Selena's eyes, "Tell me, Christ, where did you meet me and what did I say to you?"

Christ looked at Selena with deep eyes, memories flooding back to that dark and lightless night many years ago.

From the moment he stumbled and pushed open the door, to the little girl who fell out of the cabinet in surprise, her voice crying out, as if a young kitten.

She trembled and groped her way over from the darkness and hugged him.

"Mommy..."

## **Chapter 977 Memory**

The hands he held were so delicate and fragile, and the small body that snuggled up tightly was warm enough to make his heart tremble.

It would only take a push to push her away, but for some reason, his bloody hands acted against his logic, holding onto the trembling little body in his arms. He even spoke to her to calm her down.

"You should call me brother."

. . .

Christ snapped back to reality from his memory, staring into Selena's dark eyes, searching for a hint of familiarity in her features.

But there was none.

All traces of the innocent and naive girl from all those years ago were gone. The woman in front of him was just as cold and heartless as he was.

Christ's throat tightened, and his voice was hoarse as he spoke. "Selena..." He looked at her pale, icycold face and struggled to get the next words out. "... I'm sorry."

He had promised to protect her, but he...

Selena sneered. "You certainly owe me."

Christ owed the real Selena.

He had promised to protect her, but instead, he had raised a viper that tormented the kind and innocent girl for over a decade.

In the end, she died.

No one who was involved in her death was innocent!

Christ felt the weight of Selena's deep condemnation in her eyes, piercing his heart.

He couldn't help but reach out to grab her hand. "Selena, I can make it up to you-"

Selena pulled her hand away, stood up with her hands on the table, her eyes cold and dark, and a hint of blood at the corner of her eye. "I don't need compensation! I only want an eye for an eye!"

"I want all those who harmed my mother, father, the Turner family, and me, to pay the price!"

"Tell me, what really happened in the capital?"

Christ watched as her emotions became more and more uncontrollable and closed his eyes.

...

A few minutes later, Selena walked out of the tea shop.

The cold winter night breeze blew past, carrying a heavy weight in the air.

"Osvaldo." She stood on the empty steps and called out.

The man hurried over, embracing her with fear in his eyes. "Selena..."

She smiled at him, "I want to go home." Her frail figure seemed as if it could fall at any moment.

Osvaldo tightly held her, his tone carrying a clingy and oppressive meaning. "I'll take you home." He lifted Selena up and didn't even let her sit in the passenger seat. He just held her in his arms and drove quickly back to the small villa.

As the black sports car drove away, Christ walked out of the bubble tea shop and stared in the direction Selena had left, his expression equally cold and chilling. Two black-clad bodyguards emerged from the corner.

"Boss, Miss Turner, she..."

After the black sports car disappeared from view, Christ's gaze turned to the direction of the Riddle family. A bloody arc curved up at the corner of his lips. "Why are all these old capital people so damn insidious?"

...

Osvaldo brought Selena back to the small villa and startled the group of servants waiting in the living room.

The butler hurriedly approached him. "Young master, what happened to the madam?"

Osvaldo didn't say a word and carried Selena upstairs. His expressionless face was cold and frightening.

Just before entering the room, Osvaldo suddenly stopped and looked towards Hattie, who was running towards him.

Hattie had just woken up from her illness. When she heard that Selena had returned home, she hurriedly ran over without even putting on her shoes. When she suddenly met Osvaldo's cold gaze, her back chilled, and she fell to the ground.

Leia exclaimed and hurried over to help her up. "Miss Hattie..."

The child's small body was tense, her face very pale, and her eyes sharply staring at Osvaldo.

Osvaldo stared at the face that resembled Selena's and remembered that this little girl, like Selena, had also lost her mother.

Osvaldo lowered his eyelashes, covering the killing intent in his eyes. "Take her to Leon's place!" Leia instinctively objected, "But it's already dark..."

Her words were cut off when she met Osvaldo's strange and cold gaze. Leia hugged Hattie tightly and said shakily, "Yes, young master..."

Only then did Osvaldo carry Selena back to the room. The door opened and closed again in front of everyone in the hall.

The people left in the hall looked at each other, not knowing what to do.

Leia helped Hattie up and patted her clothes, "Miss Hattie, you should change your clothes quickly. I'll take you to your brother's place."

Hattie blinked her hollow eyes and obediently let Leia help her change into clean clothes. Leia then carried her into the car and drove her back to the Yun's building.

Looking at her pale-faced apprentice, Leia raised her hand and gently touched her, "Miss Hattie, don't be angry. The young master may just be in a bad mood..."

If it were Selena, she would never send Hattie away so late at night.

Hattie sat quietly in her seat like an empty doll, turning her head to look out of the car window at the deep black night. There was a scent of an impending storm in the air.

Hattie suddenly looked up and asked, "Can I come and see Selena tomorrow morning?"

Leia's heart tightened, "As long as the young madam wakes up, Miss Hattie can come to see her."

Osvaldo was fierce, but he wouldn't do anything to Hattie in front of Selena.

Hattie lowered her head again and remained quiet, like a lifeless doll. It seemed that asking this question had drained all her strength.

Leia looked at the young girl's pale face and remembered Selena's own pale face. She sniffed and raised her hand to hold Hattie's cold body in her arms.

Until the car arrived at the Riddle's building, Hattie didn't say another word.

Leon received a call and frowned as he came to pick up the person. Hattie, however, seemed to not notice him and walked past him towards the light.

Leon saw that something was wrong and hurriedly caught up to her, lifting her up and saying, "Hattie..."

Hattie, however, seemed to be trapped in some memory and murmured something, unable to even focus her eyes.

Leon held her in his arms and heard what she said.

"The Riddle family is so dirty..."

"They're all bad people..."

"Mom..."

Looking at the child's lifeless expression, Leon thought of the news he had just received. Selena had gone to see Christ, and she was also brought back by someone from the Anderson family afterwards!

A hint of coldness flashed through Leon's eyes.

All the daughters of the Riddle family were living such hard lives, why couldn't Daphne even be seen?

# **Chapter 978 Jokes**

While Selena was sleeping, the Riddle family was in chaos. Penelope was in prison, Kaitlyn and Ache were both injured and ill, hospitalized, and even Daphne's beloved grandson had been harmed. She not only hated Selena's heartlessness, but also felt a chill down her spine.

Especially that night, the situation at the Riddle Corporation not only did not improve, but the losses became more severe. Daphne, who was lying in bed unable to sleep, felt a stabbing pain in her heart when she heard Hunter say that Ache's condition had worsened and he almost couldn't be saved. She immediately sat up and called a bunch of people, and early in the morning, she led them to the small villa where Selena lived.

When the major families who were observing the situation heard this news, their spirits were shaken. The wealthy wives and daughters who liked to watch the drama quickly put on their makeup and rushed over in their cars. After all, whether it was the famous and noble Riddle family or the loyal Turner family,

who among them was not high and mighty in their daily lives? The chance to see these two families become a joke was too rare, and naturally, no one wanted to miss it!

When Leon received the news, he laughed so hard that he was almost angry. He was about to rush over to stop them, but suddenly remembered that Hattie was sleeping in the next room and stopped in his tracks. Perhaps it was because Daphne had been too smooth sailing for the past few decades that she couldn't even see the basic situation clearly until now. She actually thought she could threaten Selena with that little bit of blood relation. It was time for her to see reality!

Leon turned around and walked back. His assistant was shocked, "Young Master, you know Miss Selena's methods. The one who will ultimately suffer and feel disgraced is surely the old lady. You..."

If Daphne felt disgraced, it would mean that the entire Riddle family would feel disgraced! If he let this go, they would really become the laughingstock of the major families!

Leon's expression was cold, "Is the Riddle family lacking in things to be ashamed of?"

This was not a wise move to provoke Selena at this time. The assistant was speechless.

Regardless of anything else, just sending the true Miss of the Riddle family to juvenile detention for the sake of a mistress was enough to make the Riddle family a laughingstock among the major families! Now, they had created such an embarrassing drama...

How could Daphne be so foolish to let things come to this?

...

At this moment, outside the small villa, it had just become light. Daphne stood in the cold wind with a look of anger on her elderly face. Manny held her arm and softly advised, "Old lady, the wind is too strong. Your health is not good. Let's go back..."

Daphne snorted, with a fierce look on her face. "So Selena wants me to apologize to her in person? I'll apologize to her, as long as she can handle my manners!"

The wealthy ladies who were watching the show nearby, not afraid of causing trouble, heard Daphne's words and added fuel to the fire with laughter.

"Madam, please don't say that. Even if Miss Turner speaks out, she still has to call you grandmother. How can a grandmother apologize to her granddaughter?"

"Mrs. He is right. If Miss Turner really dares to do this, it would be outrageous!"

"In fact, Miss Turner is at fault in this matter. Madam, you only scolded her a little, but she dared to be willful and even attacked her own siblings, you, and the the Riddle's company. She is really ruthless..."

Daphne was struck in the most painful part of her heart, staring at the black iron gate of the villa, and a few black airs surged in her eyes.

Almost everyone thought that if Daphne personally apologized, Selena, in order to preserve her reputation, would greet her with anger and panic. However, in fact, they had been waiting for ten minutes in the freezing cold wind, but there was still no movement from the iron gate on the other side.

Could they not have heard?

It shouldn't be...

Daphne brought so many people and made a grand entrance. In this high-end villa area with advanced security systems, how could the people inside not see them?

Could it be that Selena was too scared and pretended not to see?

The more she thought about it, the more likely it seemed, so the group continued to wait and watch.

They waited for several hours until everyone's face was almost frozen stiff.

It wasn't until dawn when a silver Rolls-Royce drove into the garden.

The group shivered and gritted their teeth, looking over.

The car door opened, and Patrick walked out, coldly glancing at Daphne before leading the way outside the gate.

The group of people who had been waiting for several hours suddenly became alert.

In their view, Patrick was obviously called by Selena to support her under panic!

They knew it, who wouldn't care about their reputation?

Patrick had just arrived at the entrance when the large black wrought-iron gate, which had remained motionless, was opened from the inside by someone. The security guard came out and said, "Mr. Turner, Miss Turner is not awake yet. It may take a while. Please come in and have some hot tea while you wait."

Patrick nodded and was about to enter when he heard Daphne's angry voice, "Let Selena come out!"

Daphne was so angry that her body trembled, and her face was so ugly that it was hard to look at. "Selena caused Penelope's death, Ache's injury, Kaitlyn's misfortune, and the Riddle family's ruin... Does she want me to come and apologize to her? I came to apologize, so why don't you let her out?"

"Let everyone see what kind of heartless and vicious daughter Nevaeh has given birth to..." She was so upset that she choked up at the end of her sentence.

Patrick sneered and stared at Daphne. "Daphne cares about the Riddle family's adopted daughter, illegitimate daughter, and illegitimate son. Have you ever asked how Miss Riddle is doing?"

Daphne remembered the scene yesterday when Hattie followed Selena and targeted her, and her resentment grew stronger. "She was bewitched by Selena. How could she remember me, her grandmother? Why didn't that unfilial daughter die outside like Selena?"

Patrick turned his head and said to his assistant, "Tell Mr. Riddle what Daphne just said."

The assistant called Leon and relayed Daphne's words verbatim. After a long silence, Leon's icy voice came through the phone.

The assistant turned on the speaker, and everyone heard Mr. Riddle's cold voice, which they had never heard before.

"Grandma, perhaps your wish is about to come true soon..."

# **Chapter 979 Apology**

"In the future, you will not only have no granddaughter, but you will also never have a granddaughter again." Daphne understood Leon's meaning, and her face changed slightly. "How can that be? I... I just slapped her, why would she..."

Patrick's eyes were full of sarcasm. "That's probably because Daphne has a bad memory and forgot that she had hit Miss Riddle under similar circumstances before."

The last time she hit Hattie was...

Daphne's face suddenly changed, and she wanted to ask about Hattie's situation, but Leon had already hung up the phone.

Patrick's tone was full of irony. "Even when her illegitimate granddaughter broke her leg, Daphne personally went to visit her out of anger. She hated her own granddaughter and wished to eat her. When her biological granddaughter was dying of illness, she didn't even greet her and cursed her for not dying sooner..."

"The biggest misfortune in the Riddle family's life is probably having a mistress like you!"

Daphne's face turned white, and she didn't know if it was from anger or shame.

Whispers surrounded them. "How can she be so cold and biased, even towards her own granddaughter?"

"Is Daphne crazy? She doesn't care about her own granddaughter or her illegitimate granddaughter. Her heart is only devoted to her foster daughter and illegitimate children. She ruined every daughter from the Riddle family, born from the legitimate bloodline or not. It's simply wicked!"

"What about her treatment of her own biological daughter for the sake of her foster daughter? Compared to what Nevaeh went through, this bias towards her grandchildren today is just child's play..."

Manny lowered his head even more, holding onto Daphne's arm as if he didn't exist.

As the voices continued to drill into her ears, Daphne's mind went blank. She just wanted the descendants of the Riddle family to be well, how could she not care about them?

Patrick only mentioned Lavender's broken leg, why didn't he mention Penelope's imprisonment, Ache's heart attack, and near-death experience?

He was only trying to protect Selena. No, maybe this was Selena's way of whitewashing her own scheme, deliberately letting Patrick say this!

Hattie only had a mental illness, and she just accidentally hit her with a slap. How could she get so sick? She had never heard of a mental illness that could kill people!

Daphne suddenly understood everything and became even more resentful towards Selena and Hattie for deceiving her. She angrily scolded, "Selena did these despicable things just to make me come and apologize to her, right? Let her come out, I will kneel down and apologize to her, as long as she can bear it!"

Patrick instantly felt that Daphne was hopeless.

He turned around to leave, but when he lifted his head, he saw Selena walking down the garden steps.

Patrick was slightly stunned.

In the bright daylight, the girl who came in from the door was wearing a white windbreaker. Her black long hair was not adorned and scattered behind her. She seemed to have just woken up. Her slender body was almost weak, but every step she took was full of momentum.

The people on the scene were also stunned. Selena walked out of the garden languidly and stood at the door, looking down at the crowd with a light gaze.

She looked at Daphne, who was stunned, and asked in a lazy tone as if just waking up, "What did you say about Hattie just now?"

Her tone was naturally cold, as if she was used to talking to people in a superior posture.

Daphne was stunned.

The momentum and righteousness just now disappeared inexplicably at the moment she saw Selena.

Manny, who was holding her arm, quietly clenched his fingers.

The scene fell silent.

Those who had just prepared to make fun of Selena didn't dare to speak up at this moment for some reason.

Patrick saw that Selena's complexion was not good and walked over, "What's wrong?"

Selena raised her hand and rubbed her temples, "It's nothing."

Then, she seemed to remember something and said to Patrick, "I'm going to Creephia. I'll be back in two days."

Patrick keenly sensed that her mood was off and kindly advised, "There is not much to do in the capital. You can stay in Creephia for a few more days."

Selena nodded, turned around and was about to leave.

Daphne, who was suppressed just now, suddenly burst out again when she saw Selena's indifferent attitude, "Selena, stop! You did so much just to make me apologize to you, didn't you?"

"I apologize to you now. Please let go of Penelope and Ache, and let go of the Riddle family!" After she finished speaking, Daphne actually bent deeply to Selena.

The entire crowd gasped in shock.

In front of everyone, Daphne bowed to Selena. If this gets out, Selena will become the laughingstock of the entire capital!"

They all watched Selena for her reaction.

If it were someone else, they would have immediately avoided Daphne's behavior.

However, Selena stood her ground and received Daphne's apology.

The audience was shocked, not by Daphne's disgusting behavior, but by Selena's reaction.

In the past, they would have made fun of her, but this time, they were inexplicably respectful.

Daphne expected Selena to panic, become angry, and immediately release the Riddle family's three children, but she didn't.

Selena stood there motionless, with no sign of panic or anger on her face. Her black eyes sparkled like the endless night sky, beautiful and deep.

Daphne suddenly realized that Selena was truly ruthless.

She wasn't just angry or threatening.

Her granddaughter truly wished for her death.

Daphne shuddered.

Selena had attacked Kaitlyn, Ache, and Penelope, so why not attack her?

Selena saw the fear in Daphne's eyes and chuckled lightly.

She probably guessed what Daphne had said. "There's no need to waste time and energy on her. I also hate being a laughingstock!"

Especially being dragged down by an idiot like her!

Selena's gaze slid sharply over to Manny, who stood next to Daphne.

Then, she walked towards the garden.

Patrick frowned and followed her, leaving everyone else to watch the unexpected scene. They looked at Daphne's defeated face, glanced at each other, and left.

### **Chapter 980 Promise**

Soon, only Daphne and Manny, who was holding her arm, remained on the scene.

Daphne's face was pale, and she was trembling with anger. She had come here today to ask Selena to release Penelope and stop targeting the Riddle family. Although Selena had hinted that the crisis at the Riddle family had been resolved, she still refused to release Penelope!

Daphne was unwilling, but had no choice but to turn around and get into the car. Suddenly, she remembered that Leon had hung up on her call earlier, and couldn't help feeling uneasy. "Let's not go back yet, let's go check on Hattie," she said.

Manny spoke softly, "Madam, the hospital called earlier about Ache and Penelope. It seems that their condition is not very good..."

Daphne became anxious, "Let's go to the hospital!"

The driver frowned, "But Madam, Miss..."

Daphne interrupted, "With Leon watching over her, what could possibly happen? Let's go to the hospital now!"

Although the driver was reluctant, he had no choice but to obey as a servant.

As they were about to get into the car, Manny turned around and looked at the tightly closed black iron gate. He thought of the sentence Selena had said to her earlier, and a cold look flashed across his eyes.

...

After Selena finished breakfast in the hall, she took Leia and left. Once she was gone, Patrick's cold eyes turned to Osvaldo.

Selena was not a person to become emotional for no reason. The only times she had become emotionally unstable in the past were when she found out Callum was still alive during the International Perfume Competition, and when she was poisoned.

This time...

Thinking of Selena's dislike for Daphne, Patrick suddenly had a very bad feeling.

Osvaldo stared at Selena's back until she was out of sight before turning his gaze back to Patrick. He said coldly, "Tell Leon to choose between the Riddle family's elders and the Riddle family!"

Patrick's eyes suddenly widened in alarm.

...

Leia drove Selena to the Rose Manor on the outskirts of the city. Selena got out of the car without even glancing at her surroundings, and walked straight into the estate.

Although it was winter, all she could see were roses in full bloom, spreading their fragrance everywhere.

As Selena's gaze fell upon the red roses, she thought of the rose garden at the Turner family mansion, where Callum had planted roses for Nevaeh over the past twenty years, only for it to become another woman's lifelong heartache.

At the end of the rose garden, Milana sat barefoot on a rattan chair, playing with a deep red rose in her hand. There were several empty bottles scattered messily on the table in front of her.

Selena walked up to her and stopped a meter away, speaking politely, "Miss Poole, I've come to retrieve something my father left with you."

Milana raised her gaze, her eyes icy. "You haven't avenged him or the Turner family yet!"

Selena smiled. "I will avenge every one of them."

Milana clenched her teeth and glared at Selena, crushing the rose petals in her hand. The virus data was the only thing Callum left with her, and it had been her only source of support during her 20-year wait. She knew that as long as she didn't give it up, Selena would kill her before she could take it.

Selena walked up to Milana, took her hand stained with red rose juice, and stared into her eyes. She sighed softly. "Miss Poole, you must have heard that my father is still alive, right?"

Milana's eyes immediately filled with tears, and even her lips trembled. "He..."

Selena gently looked at her. "Isn't it good to trade a dead object for a living person?"

Milana choked up. "Is he really..."

"As a reward for helping the Turner family keep the most important thing safe, I promise you," Selena's tone became even gentler as she felt her trembling hand, "that I will make sure you see a living Callum soon."

Milana's tears burst forth uncontrollably. She cried until she couldn't control herself.

Selena looked at the weeping woman in front of her and finally connected her to the rumor of the beautiful and pure Katie. Could loving a man really cause such a drastic change in a person?

A trace of confusion passed through Selena's eyes.

Milana quickly regained her composure, wiped away her tears, and stared fiercely at Selena. "If you dare to deceive me, I will kill you!"

Selena's gaze was firm. "Any promise I make will never be broken."

Milana snorted but didn't stand up. Instead, she lowered her head and removed a necklace from around her neck. The pendant rested on her chest.

Milana placed the necklace in Selena's palm, her fingers trembling. "This is Callum's hard work. You must not let him down..."

Selena tightened her grip on the warm necklace and smiled slightly at Milana. "Thank you."

As if afraid that she would change her mind, Milana waved her hand in annoyance. "Just go."

Selena turned around and started walking out. Halfway through, she suddenly stopped and didn't look back, but asked, "Miss Katie, what kind of person is Kiera?"

It's said that a woman's greatest enemy is always her love rival. Could Kiera also be considered Selena's love rival against Katie?

Milana was initially stunned, but then disgust filled her face as she replied, "A disgusting lunatic!"

Selena nodded to indicate that she had heard her. She took a few steps forward and then heard Milana's voice behind her, "Be careful."

Selena responded lightly, "What?"

Milana sneered, "Dexter is a selfish person. He always resorts to any means necessary for the Poole family. Christ is his hand-picked heir, but now he openly defies him for you and damages the interests of the Poole family... he won't let you go!"

Selena thanked her and walked out of the estate gate. Before getting into the car, she looked back one last time. Perhaps it was because she had suddenly lost hope after guarding it for so many years, Milana was sitting with her legs hugged, quietly looking up at the sky. Even from this distance, one could feel her emptiness and loss.

What would Callum do if he knew that a woman had loved him so steadfastly for so many years? Selena clenched the necklace in her hand and got into the car.

...

Leia took Selena to the Capital University laboratory, where she handed the necklace found from Milana to Julian with a solemn tone. "I'm handing them over to you!"