

## Night of Love 251

### [Chapter 251 I Also Listen To You](#)

Henry went to the study and sat alone inside, smoking quietly.

In the past three years, he had been so busy that he barely found time to miss Crystal, let alone anything else.

Now that he had a moment to reflect, he realized forcing Crystal to sever ties with Seth was one of his most regrettable decisions.

That act had allowed Seth to claim a permanent spot in Crystal's heart.

Even if she didn't love Seth, her sentiment for him was sufficient to make Henry feel bitter.

While Henry was feeling resentful, his musings were interrupted when the door to the study was pushed open. A barefoot little girl with curly brown hair dressed in an adorable floral pattern nightgown peeped in through the door gap. "Daddy!"

Skyler threw herself into Henry's arm, hugging his neck affectionately.

Henry placed her tiny feet in his lap, kissed her, and tenderly asked, "Why are you awake?"

Half-asleep, Skyler leaned against him, whimpering for her mother.

Henry felt a stir in his heart at the thought of the woman in the master bedroom. How can I let Skyler see Crystal in that state?

"Your mommy is asleep in my room," he said gently.

"I want to sleep with Mommy!"

Holding her with one arm, Henry gently rocked her and told her a bedtime.

story.

In the deep of the night, his slightly hoarse voice had a soothing effect on any listener's heart.

Skyler slowly dozed off in his arms. However, Henry knew putting her down would wake her, so he wrapped her in a small blanket and cradled her for nearly an hour.

Late at night, Skyler finally fell into a deep sleep.

Henry sat on the edge of the bed, looking at her delicate petite face, and couldn't stop himself from pecking her on the cheek.

This little girl is my and Crystal's child. I love her so much.

Skyler rolled on the bed, hugging her carrot pillow.

Reluctant to leave right away, Henry stayed with her a bit longer.

When he returned to the bedroom, he stopped in shock, taking in the scene before him.

Crystal's hair was drenched and her forehead was covered in beads of sweat. She looked rather disheveled.

Henry approached the bed, bending to look at her while gulping repeatedly.

He removed the necktie and released her. Crystal panted lightly, and her voice was soft when she cursed. "Henry, you b\*stard!"

Henry had an excellent grasp on women.

He knew she was sexually aroused, so he leaned forward and whispered beside her ear, "Should we take a shower or make love first?"

Crystal embraced and kissed him.

The atmosphere inside the room swiftly turned amorous.

A passionate session ensued. He kissed her while muttering sweet nothings, "Say my name. Crystal, say my name."

Crystal abruptly stopped.

She leaned in and whispered in his ear, "I'm sleeping with Skyler. Goodnight, Mr. Miller!" Then, she pulled away, even patting his handsome face as she did. "Have a taste of this feeling too, Mr. Miller."

Henry didn't stop her.

He leaned against the headboard, watching her get out of bed and adjust her clothes with his pensive gaze. He chuckled. "Your exceptional endurance surprises me."

Crystal cursed him, describing him as a scoundrel disguised as a gentleman.

Henry flashed a faint smile. He was handsome and adept at teasing her. Crystal didn't dare to meet his gaze any longer.

She took a shower in the guest room and went to sleep.

Suddenly, her phone rang, and she saw it was a WhatsApp message from Henry that read: I miss you so much!

Crystal grinned, reading the short text.

She didn't reply, but he sent her another message that read: Come sleep with me. I won't do anything. I just want to hold you. In the morning, I'll bring you a rose to wake you up when I return from my run!

Crystal had been entangled with him for several years.

In fact, she knew his intention. He hadn't forced himself on her because he desired to start fresh in their relationship and court her.

She closed her eyes. Over the years, Henry has been the one I've loved and hated. He's been the only one all along.

She didn't respond, knowing he didn't mind whether she did or not. He was thoroughly enjoying the process of pursuing her. If they were to settle for a life together simply for Skyler, it would be truly lamentable.

Going forward, Crystal no longer wanted herself to be taken for granted.

If Henry truly wanted her to stay in his life, he would have to woo her and put in the hard work.

It would be for Crystal to decide the extent to which she would reciprocate his feelings.

The next morning, when Crystal woke up, a fresh rose was placed by her bedside.

She turned to her side and played with the petals.

It reminded her of the times when they were together. He had often given her roses too. However, what she couldn't determine was how much his feelings had changed from then to

now.

Crystal didn't want to appear infatuated.

After freshening up, she went downstairs. Skyler was already awake and was having breakfast with her father, spilling the food all over the floor.

Meanwhile, the father was leisurely sipping on his coffee while reading the newspaper.

When Crystal went over, Skyler quickly wiped her mouth clean and began eating her food with better dining etiquette.

Crystal pecked her daughter on the cheek.

Henry put down the newspaper and smiled. "She really listens to you."

Crystal found his remark pleasant to hear.

He added, "I also listen to you. Whatever you tell me to do, I'll comply; whatever you tell me not to do, I'll obey too."

She bit her lip and uttered in an undertone, "You'd better not be a bad influence on Skyler!"

The little girl continued to have her meal.

The next second, Henry's expression turned serious as he regarded Crystal with an intense gaze. "Did you sleep well last night?"

Crystal ignored him. He knew very well how she slept.

Their interaction last night was overly intimate, making her too embarrassed to accompany him in sending Skyler to the kindergarten, so she stayed home to do the chores, tidying up the rooms upstairs. Since moving in, she had been handling all those tasks.

At ten o'clock in the morning, she called Melora and invited her to go shopping.

Seas Corporation's anniversary event was around the corner, but Crystal had yet to pick out her formal dress. She also wanted Melora to attend and take the opportunity to unwind.

Julia was a super VIP at Seraphim Boutique.

Naturally, the place was cleared and reserved for Crystal and Melora when they came to shop.

Crystal chatted with Melora while carefully selecting her outfit.

They inevitably talked about Alfred.

Crystal didn't attempt to persuade Melora to do anything. Instead, she discussed parenting experiences with her. Although she had only been a mother for two months, her insights were more abundant than Melora's. That was perhaps a result of how meticulously Skyler was raised.

Melora gradually felt more at ease.

Crystal chose a dress for her, and she took it to the fitting room to try it on.

While waiting for Melora, Crystal sat on the couch, sipping coffee.

Suddenly, the store manager approached with a troubled look. "Mrs. Miller, Mr. Sloan is also our VIP. I'd like to discuss with you if you could accommodate him."

Crystal was a considerate and understanding person, so she agreed.

However, when the newcomers entered, she realized it was Robert, accompanied by his relatively pretty girlfriend.

Robert was also taken aback.

He stared at Crystal for a long while before saying, "You're back?"

She nodded and smiled at the couple. "Please, make yourselves comfortable."

Robert wished to talk to Crystal, so he told his companion to shop for a dress on her own. The woman was an astute second-tier actress, and she tactfully stepped away.

Robert sat down opposite Crystal.

He had wanted to smoke, but after taking out his lighter and a packet of cigarettes, he put them down again. Then, he broke the silence while wearing a faint smile. "It's been a long time. I heard the child you have with Henry is already four!"

Flipping through a magazine, Crystal responded with a nonchalant hum.

Robert was momentarily dazed as he gazed at the serene expression on her face.

For a long time, he was madly in love with her and wanted her for himself.

However, years passed, and everyone seemed to have moved on except for him. He couldn't even tell if he still loved Crystal or missed Melora's innocence.

Just as he was lost in thought, Melora exited the fitting room.

She didn't notice Robert. She tugged at the strapless dress with her head lowered while complaining softly to Crystal, "Crystal, is this dress too revealing? Why don't we look for a different one?"

Crystal didn't answer..

Melora looked up and was stunned by the sight of Robert.

He had cheated on her, and the Miller family had assertively called off the engagement. Robert's business had been severely affected, but now, years later, he had made a comeback. and was again the affluent and charming Mr. Sloan.

Melora gave a faint smile and bobbed her head slightly at him.

In contrast to her indifference, Robert was much more astonished.

He had heard scandals about Melora and Alfred from Coldbridge. He didn't believe in the rumors at first, but after taking in Melora's current appearance, he was instantly convinced.

Her once-radiant countenance had lost its luster since she had experienced the hardships of love.

The vibrancy of Melora's mien had significantly faded, but she now possessed an extra hint of feminine charm.

Robert had once thought Melora would never mature.

However, she had since bloomed into a state he never imagined she could grow into, and all that happened because of another man.

#### [Chapter 252 I Belong To Crystal Alone](#)

The two ex-partners had nothing to say as they reunited.

Robert couldn't bring himself to ask about Alfred.

Despite being the accomplished man he was, he knew he had messed up when he lost both. Crystal and Melora.

Feelings of reminiscence arose within him when he saw Melora again.

Yet, Melora had completely moved on.

She clutched onto her chest and nodded at Crystal. "I'll get changed."

Crystal smiled faintly and nodded.

Then, she noticed the look of disappointment on Robert's face but said nothing. Well, some people only appreciate something after losing it.

The man left with his date, not even trying on any clothes.

At the door, they bumped into Henry, who had just parked his car.

Henry narrowed his eyes at Robert, and the two men brushed

past each other.

He entered the studio to find Crystal still seated while drinking a cup of coffee and flipping through a magazine.

“You look pretty calm even after bumping into an ex-lover,” Henry commented, sitting next to her.

“You’re my ex-lover too,” Crystal responded nonchalantly while continuing to browse her magazine.

“Oh, wait. We were actually married, so that makes you my ex-husband.”

Henry laughed in exasperation.

“Funny how you’re saying that after all the things we did last night,” he murmured.

Crystal realized she had no way of arguing with him.

Her face flushed as she recalled the previous night’s ordeal. “You pervert!”

The man chuckled.

He unbuttoned his suit and took the magazine from her before looking through it himself.

“This gown’s pretty nice.”

Choosing not to retaliate, Crystal leaned over.

Henry placed an arm around her shoulder and turned his head slightly to gaze at her profile. “We’ll go home after the banquet and do it while you’re in this dress,” he muttered.

Crystal felt her cheeks burn. She knew he’d harbor such thoughts.

Still, there was no denying that she liked the gown too.

Henry’s taste was indeed praiseworthy.

The woman pointed at the magazine and had a sales assistant bring out the dress, but she refused to let Henry take a look as she changed into it. She believed in keeping things interesting even if they were married or still dating.

Melora headed home after picking her outfit.

Meanwhile, Henry and Crystal made their way over to Seeas Corporation with Skyler for their PR photoshoot.

Crystal appeared hesitant.

“Am I not worth being with again, Crystal?” Henry asked with his eyes on the road and one hand on the wheel, knowing how she felt. Worried that Skyler would hear him, he lowered his voice as he added, “You’d do it with me, but you don’t want to marry me?”

Crystal leaned back into her seat, observing him quietly.

The light turned red.

Taking the opportunity, Henry turned toward her and took her hand gently. “We can date while being married, Crystal. I don’t just want your body. I want everything about me a chance. Don’t turn me down.”

Crystal held his hand in return.

you. Give

If she didn’t want to give him a chance, she wouldn’t have agreed to sleep in his bed and let him do whatever he pleased with her. She had never even gotten mad at him or picked a fight.

Henry stared at her deeply.

This time, it’ll just be us

Skyler sat in the backseat, listening quietly

I think I’m really going to have a mommy!

The PR photos were released on the day of Seeas Corporation’s anniversary.

There was a significant change in this yearly tradition. While all of the previous years’ photos. were of Henry alone, it was a family photo this time.

The image showed a graceful-looking Crystal carrying Skyler while seated on the couch inside the CEO’s office, with the little girl smiling elegantly.

Standing behind the couch was Henry, with one hand on Crystal’s shoulder.

He had a very tender expression on his face.

From this picture, it was clear how much the CEO of Seeas Corporation adored his wife.

By eight in the evening, almost every member of Barnwood’s upper echelon had come over to Seeas Hotel for the celebration.

Henry stood on the stage to deliver his speech while occasionally glancing at Crystal. From the he looked at her, it was plain to see how enthralled he was.

way

She looked absolutely stunning tonight.

With her dark green silk gown highlighting her slim figure, she certainly didn’t look as though she had given birth before. Her waist was so slender that he could hold it with one. hand.

Her shoulders and back looked just as exquisite.

“A massive thank you to our dear Mr. Miller!” the emcee said after Henry was done with hist speech.

Henry smiled faintly. “I belong to Mrs. Miller alone.”

The crowd was taken aback. No one had expected Henry to make such a remark since he was known for being especially uptight about his private life and rarely talked about women.

The man had already walked down the stage while everyone remained stunned.

“May I invite you to a dance, Mrs. Miller?” he asked Crystal, gazing at her and smiling courteously.

His charming demeanor made Crystal’s heart race.

She had been with him for five years since she was twenty-four. They had gotten married and had a child together, but this was their first time officially announcing their relationship.

### [Chapter 254 Cuddle Her](#)

In the master bedroom, only a bedside lamp was lit, casting a dim yellow light over the space.

The atmosphere was incredibly romantic and sensual.

Locked in a kiss in each other’s arms, Henry and Crystal tumbled onto the foot of the bed. together.

It had been three years since they had last been intimate with one another. Henry was somewhat inept, while Crystal was a tad restrained.

However, her shyness rendered her all the more alluring.

Leaning close to her ear, Henry thoughtfully and tenderly coaxed her at first. Subsequently, he started losing control and allowed his nature to take over.

Pleasure flooded them both time and again.

Without warning, the bedroom door swung open, revealing a little girl hugging a pillow and rubbing her eyes. “Daddy!”

Everything screeched to a standstill.

Henry arduously exhaled a breath and gazed down at Crystal.

Crystal’s voice was hoarse and wobbly. “Cuddle her, Henry!”

Henry’s gaze was dark, and his Adam’s apple bobbed repeatedly. Ultimately, he put on his bathrobe before getting out of bed and scooping the little girl up.

Skyler burrowed into her father’s embrace.

She had a nightmare and had yet to wake fully. Perhaps she was scared, for she hooked her arms around Henry’s neck and hugged him tightly.

Henry comforted her lovingly. Then, he shifted his eyes to the woman beside him and murmured in a gravelly voice, “Go and wash up. Otherwise, it’ll be uncomfortable for you.”

Crystal’s face burned slightly. He grabbed his shirt, put it on, slipped into the bathroom.

In the dimly lit master bedroom, Skyler whimpered softly in her father’s arms.

Henry took a storybook from the bedside table and read it to her, his voice pleasant and husky. Slowly, Skyler quietened down.

That was precisely the scene that greeted Crystal when she stepped out of the bathroom.

Her heart inevitably softened.

Well, our reconciliation indeed has something to do with Skyler. He has sacrificed a lot for her. In the past, it would've been practically impossible for him to pause in the hustle and bustle of his busy life.

After toweling her hair dry, she sat down on the edge of the bed. She stroked Skyler's head lightly and asked in a low voice, "Does she always wake up in the middle of the night?"

Henry placed the storybook aside.

The look in his eyes was dark and unfathomable.

A long moment later, he chuckled softly. "You're afraid she'd always barge in at the critical juncture?"

Crystal flushed bright red. "You know that wasn't what I meant, Henry!"

Henry's gaze remained fixed on her.

She had just taken a shower. Her skin was still tinged with a rosy shade left from their passionate encounter earlier, and she emanated a faint sense of sultriness. He was seized by the desire to carry on where they left off.

Seeing right through him, Crystal whispered, "Keep it for another time!"

A grin stretched Henry's face. "Come here and let me kiss you."

Crystal leaned over meekly.

Henry gave her a kiss.

The kiss was exceedingly tender and pure.

He did not allow her to leave but gathered her close to his other side. Shaking out the blanket, he draped it over them and turned off the light in the bedroom.

Crystal nestled in his arms without saying anything.

"Things will be better when Skyler's older," Henry said.

Crystal grunted lowly in acknowledgment before countering, "That wasn't what I meant!"

Henry caressed her lips in the darkness, his voice hoarse beyond recognition. "I haven't had my fill, Crystal. I know the same goes for you!"

They were young, both at the age when their libidos ran high. Neither could possibly remain unaffected when interrupted during an intimate moment. Nonetheless, the fact that the sense of unfulfillment was courtesy of their daughter infused them with a hint of bliss.

A scarlet shade stained Crystal's cheeks. She could not help chiding. "No man is like you!"

He appears decent on the surface, but he's a downright rogue deep in his bones!

Henry snickered softly.

Leaning close to her ear, he purred, "You don't like it? I don't believe it, Crystal!"

Crystal went wholly silent.

She rested her head against his chest. Listening to the rhythmic pounding of his heartbeat, she gradually drifted off to sleep.

Early in the morning, she slowly opened her eyes.

Right before her was Henry's magnified handsome face mere inches away from her.

"You're awake?" He gently brushed his fingers across her delicate face. "There's half an hour before Skyler wakes up. Let's go to the bathroom."

Crystal's knees went weak.

At the end of the day, she wanted him, so she eventually caved.

Even after they had been intimate once, Henry wanted more. With an arm wrapped around her slender waist, he muttered, "Come to my office after sending Skyler to kindergarten, okay?"

However, Crystal did not want to do that.

She shook her head imperceptibly. "I'm planning to go back and visit my mother."

Anna had already been discharged from the hospital. She was still living in the same condominium because she was used to it, and there were many memories of John there.

"We'll have dinner together after picking Skyler up at night," Henry persuaded.

After a moment's contemplation, Crystal agreed.

Leaning against his shoulder, she warned him not to put her through the wringer again.

Aware that he had gone too far, Henry nodded. He tenderly bathed and changed her.

When Skyler woke up, he was also the one who attended to her.

The little girl happily put on a floral dress. Then, she brushed her brown hair with a comb until it was smooth. While doing so, she asked in curiosity, "Why is Mommy still sleeping?"

By then, Henry already had a tie on, looking dashing in his suit.

He scooped Skyler up. As they headed downstairs, he answered, "She's tired."

Skyler hugged her father around the neck.

Her bright ebony eyes were fixed on Henry. "Why aren't you tired, Daddy?"

For a moment, Henry was rendered speechless.

He pinched her cheek. "You'll know when you grow up."

He might avoid speaking about some things when educating his daughter, but he would. never feed her nonsense.

Skyler did not quite understand that.

She balled her hands into fists. Christopher must know the answer! I'll ask him!

Henry went downstairs with Skyler.

Glancing upstairs, the housekeeper asked smilingly, "Is Mrs. Miller not up yet?"

Henry placed Skyler onto the chair and served her breakfast before replying, "She's not feeling too well. I'll be back to drive her to the hospital after sending Skyler to the kindergarten."

Advanced in age, the housekeeper promptly surmised everything following a brief deliberation.

Henry took a sip of coffee.

It contained no sugar, but he tasted a hint of sweetness.

Skyler was also as happy as a clam.

Upon waking up in the morning, I was in Daddy's arms. Mommy was also there, but she seemingly cried. Her eyes were swollen, and the corners of them were moist. That's likely what Daddy meant when he said she wasn't feeling too well! I can sense that Daddy is particularly gentle with Mommy. He looks at her differently each time, the look in his eyes just like Christopher's when he's eyeing a plate of nuggets.

She could not resist wondering, "Don't you just love Mommy, Daddy?"

Henry's heart melted.

He was incredibly fond of the daughter Crystal had given him, finding the little girl incredibly smart.

Ruffling her brown hair, he smiled tenderly. "Yeah. Like you, she has brown hair and fair skin."

Delight inundated Skyler.

In her happiness, she buried her head in her food.

After eating for some time, she lifted her head and asked bluntly, "Great-uncle Alfred's hair is also brown when it isn't dyed, and he has fair skin, too. Do you love him as well, Daddy?"

Words eluded Henry.

Skyler continued, "But Aunt Melora loves him! Daddy, does your family all love people with brown hair?"

A headache assailed Henry.

Skyler had an intelligence quotient of a hundred and seventy-six, which made her a genius.

I wonder what kind of man would be worthy of my precious daughter in the future!

After breakfast, he drove Skyler to kindergarten before making a trip home to pick Crystal up.

Crystal was rather tired, but still, she got out of bed.

She felt that she had overindulged last night to the point that the housekeeper might have overheard the movements upstairs. She was afraid of gossip behind her back.

Irrefutably, Henry was pretty patient.

While she washed up and changed, he remained downstairs and handled some work matters on his phone.

Seeas Corporation was expanding rapidly, so he was usually busy and had little time to spend with Crystal. Worse still, Skyler was at home at night. He hoped that she could keep him company during the day.

Even if they were not being lovey-dovey, he would be contented to be able to see her upon raising her eyes amidst his work.

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Hmm, this is probably the honeymoon phase!

He enjoyed such a feeling greatly.

Crystal slept away half the day in the CEO's lounge. In the afternoon, she flipped through Skyler's medical records. Henry was too busy while she was much more relaxed, so she was willing to share the burden with him.

Silence reigned in the spacious office.

When Crystal reached a particular page, she looked up and asked, "Skyler had two blood transfusions this year?"

Henry called her over.

Crystal went over with the medical report for him to have a look at it.

Henry stared at that page for a long time. "Skyler has hemophilia, and she has Rh-negative blood. It's inevitable for kids to fall and get injured in kindergarten. Besides the Rh-negative blood stocks in the blood bank, I have the contact number of all four people with Rh-negative blood in this city. Don't worry so much, Crystal."

He was Skyler's immediate family, so he could not donate his blood to her.

Otherwise, the situation would be much better.

In truth, Crystal was anguished. But with Henry making arrangements for Skyler, she felt inexorably relieved.

She saved the four people's contact numbers into her phone.

Henry watched her quietly.

Crystal smiled. "What's wrong with you?"

Henry lightly brushed a finger across her cheek, his voice suddenly turning hoarse. "When are you planning on giving me a rightful status after bedding me so many times last night?"

### [Chapter 255 Go All Out For Skyler](#)

Well aware of how shameless Henry could be, Crystal blushed. "You jerk!"

Henry pulled her onto his lap and teased, "Did you not? Who didn't want me to leave the bathroom this morning?"

Crystal did not want to reply to him.

She pushed him away and was about to walk toward the couch to put away the documents. when Henry's phone rang.

It was a call from David.

"Joshua just passed away," he said briefly.

David's intention was simple. Joshua was Crystal's biological father, and it would be better if Henry told her the news.

Henry understood the meaning of that call too.

After he hung up, he pulled Crystal back into his embrace and rested his chin on her head.

"Joshua's gone," Henry said in a soft voice.

Crystal was visibly taken aback.

She leaned against Henry's chest and did not say anything.

Henry knew she was upset. After all, that man had been with Krystal and then had Crystal.

In a low voice, Henry said, "I can go with you... if you want to."

After a long while, Crystal shook her head. "No. I'm not going."

Crystal was not cold and heartless, but if she went, she would have to face the Quinns. She did not know what identity she should. go with.

Knowing that Crystal would not feel good about it, Henry kept her company.

It was Joshua's funeral the next day.

Crystal went to Krystal's grave with a bouquet of lilies. Gazing at Krystal's smiling young face, she said, "Mom, that man has gone."

Standing by her side, Henry gently wrapped his arm over her shoulders, comforting her without words.

Crystal leaned against Henry and whispered, "Joshua spat out a mouthful of blood here at Dad's funeral four years ago. It seemed that it was destined to end this way. Henry, Joshua lett Mom down, but I don't think he's had a good time over the times or he wouldn't have gotten.

sick.”

Henry hummed in response.

He hoped Crystal could let go. If she did, she would feel much better.

It was almost noon when Henry walked Crystal out of the graveyard. After they got into the car, he said, “Dad invited us over for a meal. Melora has brought Skyler there.”

Crystal’s heart melted. “Skyler likes Melora very much!”

Speaking of Melora, Crystal thought about Alfred and sighed.

Henry stepped on the accelerator and said with a smile, “Just leave it to them. They can handle it. One is not so young anymore, and another one is old enough.”

Crystal thought the man had a foul mouth.

Henry held Crystal with one hand and said shamelessly, “I don’t see you disliking it when I made love to you.”

Crystal turned her head away awkwardly.

They reached the Miller residence half an hour later.

David was having coffee in the living room. When he saw Henry come home with Crystal, he gestured for them to take a seat.

David had mixed feelings.

He sincerely cared about Crystal.

He did not expect the Quinns to actually come over to announce the death of Joshua. Georgina had even thrown tantrums, wanting Crystal to be at Joshua’s funeral. Of course, David kept it all from Crystal.

Knowing Crystal was not in the mood, he said, “This is all fate. Don’t take it to heart.”

Crystal nodded.

“When will you two get married?” David changed the topic all of a sudden.

Get married?

Henry looked at Crystal with a smile on his face. “Dad, we just got back together. Isn’t it too soon to talk about marriage? Let us have fun for two more years first!”

David sneered, “Two more years? Do you think you’re still young? Besides, would getting married keep you from having fun?”

Henry scratched his nose.

Crystal said, “Maybe we should hold off until Skyler gets a little older.”

David nodded. "Now we're talking! This is how you answer, Henry. Only Crystal can put up with that mouth and that cheesiness of yours!"

Those words made everyone laugh.

Crystal felt much better.

Sitting in the car on their way home, Henry held Crystal's hand and asked, "When will you marry me?"

Skyler, who was sitting at the back, pricked up her ears.

Crystal saw her in the rearview mirror and flashed a smile. "Maybe next fall."

Henry stopped the car when the traffic light turned red. He turned to Crystal and teased, "You're not young anymore, Miss Winters. Aren't you afraid no one will want you?"

Crystal refused to fall for his trick.

She snorted and said, "Many people want me!"

Henry stopped speaking and looked at Crystal with tenderness in his eyes, making her feel uncomfortable.

No matter how long they had been together, it was always too overwhelming for her when Henry looked at her like that.

After putting Skyler to bed, Henry made love to Crystal twice.

Once they were done, Crystal lay and rested in Henry's arms. Henry said, "I'll be going on at business trip to Horbah tomorrow for about ten days. If it wasn't because Skyler needs to go school, I'd love to take you both with me."

Crystal was actually quite moved.

However, she felt he was too clingy, but she did not say it.

Perhaps the upcoming separation would be a little too long for Henry. He could not help but copulate with her until she cried and begged him to stop.

In the end, Crystal was so tired that she fell asleep in his arms.

When Crystal woke up in the morning, she saw a white rose beside her pillow. Henry had left. for Horbah.

Crystal stayed in bed only for ten more minutes. Then, she got up and went to take care of Skyler.

Skyler was well-behaved. She put on her clothes and combed her hair all by herself.

Crystal sent Skyler to kindergarten and saw Christopher, the boy Skyler longed for, for the first time. He was a good-looking kid.

Crystal winked at Skyler.

Feeling embarrassed, Skyler looked away and walked into the kindergarten.

Crystal got into the car and texted Henry: I saw Christopher.

Henry was quite busy. He only replied when it was almost noon: Is he as good-looking as me?

Crystal could not hold back her laughter.

As Henry was not around, she went to the music center and checked the statement of account with Pete.

In the afternoon, she went to meet Madison for coffee.

Madison was late. When she arrived, she exclaimed, "There's been a murder up north. The traffic control made me stuck there for almost half a day. The victim was stabbed seven times. and died of blood loss!"

Crystal asked, "Did they get the guy?"

Madison shook her head. "Not yet! I wonder how big of a grudge it is that made the murderer commit such crimes. I think it's because of love."

Love?

Crystal felt uneasy.

She stirred her coffee, trying to distract herself.

She did not notice what Madison had said.

At night, she was still feeling disturbed. She could not help but call Henry. After chatting for half an hour, she started to feel sleepy.

She found faint dark circles under her eyes the next morning and needed to apply a thicker layer of foundation to cover them.

After sending Skyler to the kindergarten, Crystal sat in the car and waited for the driver, who had gone to the restroom.

Right then, Crystal's phone rang. It was a call from Madison.

"We just met each other yesterday. You want to have coffee again?" Crystal asked with a smile. on her face.

In a quivering voice, Madison said, "No, not coffee! I told you about the case up north. yesterday, right? The case has yet to be solved, but there were another three cases last night. I heard it was the same murderer!"

Crystal was startled.

Four victims? Something's wrong! Very wrong!

Madison let out a soft sigh. "And coincidentally, all those four people had Rh-negative blood. How creepy!"

Crystal's blood ran cold.

Rh-negative blood!

Those who had Rh-negative blood in Barnwood were all killed. The last one would be Skyler!

Right at that moment, there was a commotion at the entrance of the kindergarten.

There was a stench of blood, and screams could be heard from every direction.

A thin woman in a red shirt was standing among the people.

Audrey was holding a sharp knife in her hand. She slashed Skyler's calf, and blood began to gush out of her.

Time seemed to have stopped.

Crystal felt her heart stop beating too.

Audrey smirked. She has Rh-negative blood and hemophilia... It only takes one cut to take away your precious daughter's life, Crystal!

Audrey was a psychopath. She was not legally responsible for her action.

Crystal, if I can't get the man, you can't get him either!

A teacher quickly fed Skyler her blood-clotting medication, but the cut was too deep.

She could not stop bleeding.

Blood... We need Rh-negative blood!

Audrey stared at Crystal with an eerie smile. She had killed all the Rh-negative blood donors!

She turned around and escaped.

Crystal clenched her fist, trembling all over.

She recomposed herself and remembered that Audrey had Rh-negative blood.

She's the only one who can donate blood to Skyler immediately!

Crystal knew she had to stop Audrey. She needed her blood to save Skyler.

She climbed into the driver's seat and took off her heels.

She had injured her foot many years ago, and the doctor had advised her never to drive. She had not been driving since five years ago, but now, she could go all out for Skyler.

Staring at Audrey, Crystal stepped on the accelerator, and the black car zoomed toward her, knocking her to the ground.

[Chapter 256 I Am Here For You](#)

Bang!

Audrey crumpled to the ground, a pool of blood forming around her.

Crystal couldn't stop trembling as she gripped the steering wheel. It was not that she did not have any mental barriers; she did not have time to consider her options. All she could think of was what'd happen to Skyler if Audrey escaped.

The kindergarten security restrained Audrey while someone else called the police. Skyler, on the other hand, was so frightened that she burst into tears. Needless to say, the scene was absolute chaos.

Crystal was still shaking when she finally stepped out of the car.

I need to send Audrey to the hospital, but how can I explain it to the others? Will they even allow me to take her?

Just then, her hand was taken in a warm, firm grasp. "Don't be afraid, Crystal!"

The woman stiffened as she turned her head around, only to find herself staring at Henry.

At that moment, she felt her strength drain away, and all she could manage was a feeble reply. "H-Henry?"

Henry squeezed her hand reassuringly. "Leave this to me."

He hurried toward Skyler and fed her, her blood-clotting medication.

It pained Henry to see the blood on his daughter's legs, and as he pulled her into an embrace, she buried her tear-stained face in his arms.

"Daddy... it hurts!"

Henry kissed the little girl. "I'll take you to the hospital."

Knowing that time was of the essence, he quickly handed Skyler to Crystal and ordered them to get into the car.

After hauling Audrey up from the ground, Henry fished his phone out and made a call. "Captain Jones, it's me, Henry! There's been a murder outside Whittleberry Kindergarten,

my wife subdued the murderer. However, the latter's in bad shape, so we'll send her to the hospital first. Yes... Everything will be fine!"

and

A while later, Henry finally hung up the phone.

Having seemingly realized something was amiss, Audrey muttered weakly, "No! That can't be! Henry... y-you won't do that to me!"

"I will!" Henry spat before shoving her into another car.

The two black sedans sped off one after another and pulled into a high-end private hospital in just ten minutes.

Crystal held Skyler tightly and comforted her while Henry shielded them from Audrey.

"Don't be scared," the man comforted as he caressed Skyler's head. "I'm here for

you!”

Skyler merely hugged Crystal, her eyes still brimming with tears.

“Take her to the emergency room. I’ll be with you guys shortly,” Henry gently instructed. Crystal before turning around and walking away.

Crystal, however, couldn’t shake off her feeling of unease. “Henry!”

Henry instantly stopped in his tracks and gave her an encouraging smile. “Don’t worry. Everything will be fine!”

Crystal hugged Skyler and looked at the man’s retreating figure, a determined look in her eyes.

Yes. I have faith in him.

With the driver leading the way, Crystal hastily followed behind until they arrived at the emergency room. Fortunately, the doctors had been on standby for almost twenty minutes, and it didn’t take long before the nurses rushed in with a blood bag.

“Begin the blood transfusion immediately! The kid has hemophilia!”

Skyler lay quietly on the bed, her face pale as a sheet.

The hundred-millimeter blood bag was emptied within minutes, but thankfully, fresh packets of blood were delivered in succession, ensuring a steady supply. Knowing full well who the blood donor was, Crystal shuddered.

Just like that, eight hundred millimeters of blood was successfully transfused.

By then, Skyler was so tired from all the crying that she fell asleep on the small bed, her lashes wet from the tears. It was, without a doubt, a pitiful sight to behold.

Crystal clutched the little girl’s hand, her body still trembling from fear.

She instantly turned around when she felt a hand on her shoulder, only to come face to face with Henry.

Like her, the man looked exhausted.

Henry promptly sat beside Crystal and pulled her into his arms. Before the latter could ask her question, the man’s deep, husky voice rang out. “After you called me last night, I dreamed that Skyler got injured... I was worried sick, so I returned on a private jet this morning.” He gently pressed his forehead against hers. “You did well, Crystal!”

Just as Crystal was about to say something, Henry interrupted her again, “Leave everything to me! All you need to know is that nothing will happen to Skyler.”

Even though Crystal didn’t ask any further, there was still a lingering fear in her heart as she leaned against his shoulder and wrapped her arms around his waist.

A while later, Henry left Crystal with Skyler while he walked out to have a smoke, desperate for some time alone to clear his head.

After he finished one cigarette, his phone rang.

As it turned out, Wilson Jones was on the other end of the call, and his tone was stern. "Henry, we've zeroed in on Audrey being the unhinged murderer! She's responsible for the deaths of four people!" he exclaimed before pausing. "Is she still alive?"

"Yes. She's still in the hospital. I'll fully cooperate with what you need me to do! As for my wife... she was only doing what was right, so it'd be better to keep her out of the public eye."

Once the call ended, Henry strode into a standalone cold room.

The room was big, and ten bags of fresh blood were neatly kept inside.

Henry picked one of the bags up and scrutinized it.

Seconds later, Jamie entered the room and approached him. "Mr. Miller, I've found three people with Rh-negative blood in Avenport and Tellmoore."

Henry placed the blood bag down and turned to his secretary. "Invite them to work in Seeas Corporation."

Jamie nodded, but there was a moment of hesitation before she spoke again.

"Actually... there's another person with Rh-negative blood in Barnwood. The only problem is that he's pretty young."

Henry furrowed his brows.

"It really is quite the coincidence. He's Christopher Ziegler, one of Skyler's kindergarten classmates," Jamie said as she handed a file to Henry. "Here, Mr. Miller. These are all his information."

Henry accepted the file and began flipping through the documents. Christopher Ziegler, huh? Let's see... His family has an established business, but sadly, the first son was stillborn. Because of that, Christopher was accepted into the Ziegler family despite being an illegitimate child. From the looks of it, his life doesn't seem to be all sunshine and rainbows.

As a mother, Jamie couldn't help but said, "The kid has a pretty rough life!"

Henry said nothing as he continued poring over the documents.

Not only is the boy very handsome, but I can also tell by his eyes that he's smart as a whip.

Henry closed the file and turned to Jamie. "Help me ask Cosmos Corporation's Andy Ziegler out for a game of golf. Tell him I have a project to discuss with him."

Jamie instantly understood Henry's intention and nodded.

Henry got everything in order and returned to the ward, only to see that his sister were already there.

Needless to say, David's heart ached for his precious granddaughter.

parents and

He cradled Skyler as if she was a baby and kept comforting her until Henry couldn't stand it any longer. "Dad, Skyler has lost a lot of blood. She'll feel dizzy if you keep shaking her like that!"

"Are you dizzy, Sky?" David hastily asked.

Skyler loved being coddled, so even if she felt dizzy, she didn't mind being held and kissed by her grandfather.

David's face fell, and tears suddenly started streaming down his cheeks.

Oh, my poor Skyler. She almost died as a baby, and it wasn't easy for Henry to bring her up, either. I can't believe she has to suffer this much at the hands of that crazy woman...

Despite his seething anger, David suppressed it and looked at his son. "Do what needs to be done, Henry."

Henry nodded. "I know, Dad."

Crystal lifted her gaze and locked eyes with the young man, prompting him to give her a gentle squeeze on her shoulders.

"Don't worry. Everything's okay," he reassured.

That afternoon, Henry left for the police station and only returned to the hospital late at night.

Upon entering the dimly lit ward, he saw Crystal lying on the side of the bed. She was fast asleep.

Skyler, however, had woken up from Henry's footsteps. She whispered, "Daddy."

Henry removed his jacket and covered Crystal with it.

Then, he sat on the bed and lifted Skyler onto his lap before pulling the blanket over her.

It didn't take long for Skyler to snuggle into Henry's arms and make herself comfortable. After all, he was the one who had brought her up, so she felt the closest to him.

Henry ruffled his daughter's brown hair and carefully touched her bandaged legs. "Does it still hurt?"

"Yes!" Skyler whined as she buried her face in the crook of her father's neck.

Henry merely hugged her tighter and showered her with kisses.

Even though he didn't say a word, his heart was undeniably overwhelmed with emotions. Everything that had happened was far too much for him to bear. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that my old flame would hurt Skyler this much! What if Crystal wasn't there? I can't even bring myself to think of the outcome... It's all my fault. I've let Skyler down!

Having seemingly detected her father's mood change, Skyler leaned in and pecked him on the cheek.

She was so small and soft, and Henry was ready to trade everything he had to keep her safe and healthy.

“Tomorrow, your teacher will visit you with some of your kindergarten classmates,” he uttered.

The high-spirited Skyler suddenly looked a little awkward.

“I heard Christopher Ziegler will be here too,” Henry added.

Knowing that her father had seen through her, Skyler bristled with annoyance as she slid under the blanket and yawned.

“Daddy, I want to sleep now!”

Henry ruffled her curls and started on a bedtime story.

“Once upon a time, there was a young prince named Christopher Ziegler...”

Dumbstruck by what her father was doing, Skyler began snoring. “I’ve fallen asleep, Daddy!”

Henry hummed nonchalantly and patted the little girl’s back, soothing her to sleep like he had been doing for countless nights over the past years.

To him, Skyler wasn’t just a child.

She was a beacon of hope for rekindling his and Crystal’s relationship.

#### [Chapter 257 Just Nice](#)

Two days later, the children dropped by to visit Skyler, and Crystal received them.

Henry was there the entire time. He leisurely worked on some documents while sitting on the couch in the VIP ward.

Not only was Skyler radiating joy but also pride.

My daddy is so good-looking, and my moinmy is so pretty.

The envious gazes of her kindergarten friends made the little girl feel on top of the world.

Before they left, they gave her gifts.

Christopher’s gift was a lollipop, and she intended to share it with her father.

Silence returned to the ward, and Skyler fell asleep.

“You’ve been acting weird today, Henry,” Crystal said in a low voice.

Henry let out a soft chuckle. “How so? By the way... didn’t you use a more affectionate way to call my name

a while ago? Why do you sound so formal now?” He placed the documents down and pulled her to beside him. “Don’t ever be so distant with me again, Crystal!”

Crystal allowed him to guide her head to rest on his shoulder.

“It was you who arranged the children’s visit, wasn’t it?” she asked softly.

Henry looked at her intently.

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It took a while before he replied in an equally low voice, “Yes, I arranged it. Didn’t you see how happy Skyler was? She’s in so much pain. What’s wrong with cheering her up?”

Crystal could find no words to refute him.

Henry flashed a faint smile. He did not tell her that he had already met Christopher’s father.

From now on, Christopher will be Skyler’s classmate throughout her schooling years until she graduates from university because he has Rh-negative blood!

As they continued chatting, they could not help but bring up Audrey.

Henry froze for a moment.

He grabbed a glass of plain water and downed half of it slowly before saying flatly, “I had dinner with the prosecutor last night. He stated that Audrey committed the crime while she was clear-headed, and the combination of the few heinous incidents is enough to warrant a death sentence!”

Crystal said nothing in response.

Audrey deserves to be punished for her crimes!

As he had been busy for many days, she offered him a light massage. After a while, he clasped her wrist and whispered, “I finally get to enjoy this soft side of you after so long.”

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1/4

The small smile she gave him in response was serene and beautiful.

Having been on edge for several days and finally able to relax, Henry could not help but be enticed by her. He lowered his head to envelop her lips in a kiss, alternating between feathery light and deep passionate

kisses.

Crystal put up some resistance. After all, they were at the hospital with people coming and going..

“Henry, don’t.... People will see us!” she begged, her voice hoarse.

Henry’s body was burning with passion.

It was as if he had gone through a stressful period. Now that he could unwind, he desperately needed a release, and the best way to do so was through sex.

He leaned over and locked the door before guiding Crystal further in the ward to a small room, his arm around her slender waist. He kissed her as they walked.

Crystal fell onto the foot of the bed.

The bed was very small, only one meter and twenty centimeters wide.

With Skyler sleeping just outside, she had to hold back from making a sound as they got intimate surreptitiously.

That realization made Crystal bite her lip to suppress her moans.

Henry drew closer to the side of her neck and whispered in a raspy voice. "Say my name. Crystal... I want to hear you say my name."

The docile Crystal had pleasure glistening in her eyes.

"Henry... Henry..." She eventually caved in and bit his neck while saying his name.

Once they were done, Crystal lay in his arms and said softly, "Just now, you didn't..."

Henry lowered his head to glance at the woman resting in his arm before stroking her cheek. "If you get pregnant, it'll be just nice. Skyler will have a brother or a sister!"

Crystal remained silent, tracing his chest with her slender finger.

After a long silence, he caught her finger and muttered, "What are you thinking? Tell me!"

She was about to speak when someone outside knocked on the door.

Crystal could not help but blush.

Henry kissed her and got out of bed to get dressed. "It's probably Melora. I'll handle her."

She observed him moving swiftly without a trace of fatigue. He's not young anymore. How is he still full of energy?

Henry figured out what was on her mind and pinched her chin. "You've been starving me for too long. Mrs Miller!"

Crystal felt too embarrassed to say anything.

2/4

As Henry left the room, he thoughtfully closed the door behind him.

He opened the door of the ward, and sure enough, Melora was waiting there, carrying a thermal food jar.

"Mom prepared some nutritious food." She peeped inside and whispered, "Is Skyler asleep?"

Henry hummed in response.

Melora entered the ward. After bending over and pecking Skyler on the cheek, she stared at her for a long

time.

The genes of the Lodge family are too strong! Skyler looks a lot like Crystal but also resembles that person....

While staring intensely at the little girl, she fell into a daze.

Henry leaned back on the couch, feeling sluggish after doing the deed. He snorted as he mindlessly flipped through some documents. "If you truly love him, marry him! Since he's much older than you, you can take his money and look for a young, handsome one once he kicks the bucket!"

Melora appeared gloomy and did not respond.

She knew very well that her brother was still mad at her.

Even though he had agreed to stay out of her affairs, he still could not contain himself. "Learn from Crystal and make a decision when it's time to decide. Since you and Alfred have no future, why didn't you go when Mom introduced you to someone?"

Melora was quite afraid of him. She said in a low voice, I need to work. I'm busy!"

Henry sneered, "Are you referring to those magazines?"

Melora was at a loss for words. She looked around, but Crystal was nowhere to be seen. Crystal will surely defend me.

Henry laughed in exasperation. "Look at you. Your sister-in-law is resting inside."

Resting?

Melora fixed her gaze on her brother.

Henry's handsome face was slightly flushed, and he feigned nonchalance. "She's just a little tired!"

Having been there and done that, Melora immediately understood what he meant. Her cheeks turned pink, and she quickly stood up and said, "Uh... I'll head back now, Henry!"

"Drive safely," Henry uttered calmly.

Melora hummed in response, feeling tears welling up in her eyes.

As she left, Henry stared at the door.

How can I not tell that Melora is deeply hurt... She once loved Alfred, and he had showered her with affection, so how can she move on so easily, and how can she readily fall in love with someone else? But if she doesn't try, she'll be stuck there forever, and Alfred will become a thorn in her heart.

Henry could not help but feel frustrated.

Melora was clutching the door handle outside.

No one mentioned Alfred to me for the past few days, fearing I'll be upset. Only Henry did! He said Alfred and I have a kid, so we must eventually meet. There are only two ways out for me, one is to love him, and the other is to forget him. I have achieved neither!

She closed her eyes gently and exhaled slowly, ready to leave the hospital and go home.

However, when she looked up, she instantly froze.

Alfred was standing in front of her.

He looked gentlemanly and elegant in a white shirt, black trousers, and a navy blue trench coat draped over his shoulders.

But only she knew how ruthless and aggressive he was in private, especially in bed, where he seemed like an entirely different person.

### [Chapter 258 She Still Loved Him](#)

Melora and Alfred stared at each other silently.

She didn't expect to run into him at the hospital.

The scene reminded her of the night when they had their first sex because it had also taken place in the hospital.

He had been drunk and had pinned her down on the couch while having his way with her.

It was obvious that Alfred was thinking the same thing.

Caution was his middle name, and he often thought about the outcome before acting.

However, he didn't have time to consider the consequences when it came to his relationship with Melora. Just like that, he was seduced by a woman sixteen years younger than him and did probably the craziest thing in his life.

Of course, it wasn't just because she was young and attractive.

After all, he had met plenty of beauties before, and they weren't any less alluring than her. In fact, they were quite thoughtful.

They wouldn't cling to him like Melora, calling him Mr. Alfred like a kitty.

He had to admit he was addicted to Melora calling him that.

After a while, Alfred said, "You're here to visit Skyler?"

Melora was stunned for a while before she returned to her senses and nodded. "Yes. She's doing much better now, and she'll probably be discharged tomorrow."

Just as Alfred was about to say something, Leslie stepped out of the elevator. He was shocked to see Melora, but as an experienced man, he swiftly calmed down and greeted with a smile, "Miss Miller!"

Melora nodded and said to Alfred, "If there's nothing else, I'll be leaving now."

Alfred held her hand. "Wait!"

Leslie gasped and turned around.

Melora attempted to shove Alfred's hand away, but he was strong, so she couldn't shake him off at all.

“Let’s talk,” said Alfred in a deep voice.

Eventually, they entered a serene cafe. Leslie asked for a private room for the two and guarded the entrance.

Inside the room, Alfred dismissed the server and personally made coffee.

Typically, coffee would be served to him by others. However, he secretly loved coffee and could brew it well.

Once he was done, he placed a cup of coffee in front of Melora. “Give it a try.”

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1/5

Melora pursed her lips. “I don’t like coffee!”

A smile surfaced on Alfred’s countenance as he spoke warmly. “I forgot that you prefer milkshakes and fried chicken...”

Melora stared at him wordlessly.

The man before her was still as elegant as she recalled,

Once, she was enamored with him. However, that was no longer what she wanted.

“Did you bring me here just to talk about that, Mr. Lodge?” she asked coldly.

Alfred went to the mini-fridge, opened it, and grabbed a drink for her.

She didn’t accept it.

As he inserted a drinking straw into the bottle for her, he said, “I’ve been wanting to know how you’ve been doing for the past two years.”

Melora’s heart ached for a moment.

Then, she raised her head and said nonchalantly, “Pretty good. I was enjoying life.”

Despite her casual tone, Alfred knew her life wasn’t as simple as that.

After all, she was pampered since young and didn’t know how to do many things.

While he wanted to ask more questions, Melora grinned and tossed him a question of her own. “What do you want to know, Mr. Lodge? Do you want to know how embarrassed I felt and why I didn’t tell you I was pregnant? Or perhaps you want to know why I didn’t abort the child.”

Alfred paled but still maintained a smile. “Don’t be so childish.”

Melora lowered her gaze. “Childish! You still treat me as a child, I see. If you do, why did you have sex with me, Mr. Lodge? Is it because you’re sick of older women and want a taste of fresh meat?” She did her best to keep her emotions in check. “Look at how different we are! You enjoy drinking coffee and

playing chess while I like drinking milkshakes and eating fried chicken, not to mention I like frequenting nightclubs. We're people from two different worlds. You said we weren't compatible, so I didn't pester you and forgot everything that had happened in the past just like you wanted. So, tell me, what are you doing right now?"

Alfred's heart was heavy with sorrow.

There was a world of difference between them, and he could tell from her words that she hated him, not that he didn't deserve it.

Back then, they had had a good and crazy time together.

Women, no matter how simple or how old-fashioned they were, would always assume their man would marry them.

Alfred had thought about marrying Melora, too, but he failed her.

He really wanted to hold her hand, but she wouldn't allow him to.

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2/5

She recomposed herself and said, "Sorry for losing my temper. If you wish to meet Berthold, ask your secretary to contact me. I'll arrange for it."

"Can I visit the Miller residence too?" Alfred asked softly.

Melora was stunned.

She wanted to say no, but because the Miller family and the Lodge family were in-laws, she couldn't.

Alfred didn't force her.

He had no other intentions when he accidentally bumped into her that day. The only thing he wanted was to chat with her. It had been a long time since he had a casual conversation with anyone without having to worry about anything.

A moment later, Melora left in a hurry.

When she arrived downstairs, opened the car door, and was about to get into the vehicle, she saw someone.

Across the seat, the rear window of Alfred's car was lowered, and Melora spotted a gorgeous and mature woman inside.

Melora knew who that woman was.

The woman was Caylie Cook, Alfred's subordinate and confidante.

Caylie nodded at Melora.

Melora snorted. What a scumbag he is. He brought his female subordinate out on a business trip while reminiscing about the past with me.

Just then, Alfred arrived.

He frowned and walked up to Melora. "I brought her along with me for business matters!"

"You don't need to explain anything to me, Mr. Lodge," Melora said calmly. "Besides, are you really going to tell me nothing happened between you and her?"

Alfred went silent.

Although he did have a one-night stand with Caylie before, it was a long time ago.

Right then, they were merely ordinary colleagues.

Without saying another word, Melora entered the driver's seat, fastened her seatbelt, and stepped on the gas pedal.

The red automobile before Alfred zoomed past him.

At that moment, he noticed tears in the corner of her eyes. Melora's crying?

He pursed his lips and watched her leave.

Caylie approached him and asked tenderly, "Is there a misunderstanding between Miss Miller and you, Mr. Lodge? Should I talk to her?"

3/5

Alfred's heart sank.

He turned around, looked at his beautiful subordinate, and smiled nonchalantly. "What misunderstanding? She's just defending her brother."

There was no way he would talk about his relationship with Melora.

Caylie smiled plainly.

Leslie arrived in a hurry and had also spotted the scene from earlier. He wiped his sweat away and questioned the driver. "Why did you park here?"

Looking troubled, the driver answered, "Miss Cook requested it."

Leslie looked at Alfred and said, "Mr. Lodge, what are we

"You lot should return to the hotel first. I'm going to visit Skyler," Alfred said placidly.

Knowing Alfred's intention. Leslie smiled at Caylie. "It seems that Mr. Lodge will be spending the night at Miss Lodge's place. This'll be our chance to relax. I'll take you out for a few drinks tonight, Caylie. The hustle and bustle of Barnwood is incomparable to Coldbridge's!"

After Leslie took Caylie away, Alfred smoked a few cigarettes at the parking lot.

When he spotted Melora's tears, he knew she still loved him.

A tidal wave of emotions washed over him.

He wished he could be free of his bondage and promptly provide her with a family so she wouldn't need to cry in secret again.

However, he couldn't, not at that moment.

As he held the cigarette between his slender fingers, he crossed the road.

He was so handsome that many female pedestrians couldn't help but take an extra glance at him when he passed them by. They couldn't tell he was past his prime.

Upon arriving at the ward, he knocked on the door.

Henry opened the door and was surprised to see Alfred.

He seemed to have forgotten about the scuffle in Coldbridge. He spoke affably and even poured Alfred a glass of water. He told Alfred about Skyler's condition before adding, "If you'd arrived half an hour ago, you could've met Melora."

Holding the glass of water, Alfred said, "I met her. We talked over coffee"

Henry, who was seated on the couch, smiled. "Coffee? Are you trying to let her experience the life of an elder in advance, Uncle Alfred? I still can't fathom how you two managed to hook up in the past. You two don't suit each other."

Annoyed by Henry's words, Alfred put down the glass and smirked. "We have a son, and we were together for some time, so we still have feelings for each other. But I'm quite envious of you, Henry. If you reconcile with Crystal, you'll be getting married a second time: I can't be compared to you at all

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4/5

Henry flipped through the documents, then glanced at Alfred, who was drinking water calmly.

"You don't need to be envious of me, Uncle Alfred. Our family is open-minded. We won't use Berthold to bind you, so you can still live the life of a playboy if you wish. As for Melora, my mother has already arranged a blind date for her, and she has agreed to it."

Blind date... Alfred clenched the glass in his hand.

Noticing that, Henry smirked. "Have some water, Uncle Alfred."

Alfred forced a smile.

At that moment, Skyler woke up. She sat up and greeted Alfred.

Alfred truly adored her.

As awful as he felt, he still picked Skyler up and kissed her cheek. Then, he grabbed a talisman from his pocket and put it on her

It was something he had specifically requested at a special place.

Henry had sharp eyes, so of course he could tell Alfred's intention. He softened his tone as he said, "Thanks for that."

Hugging Skyler. Alfred asked about Audrey's court sessions, and Henry answered in full detail.

Alfred whispered, "I'll drop by and pay them a visit, just in case."

Then he kissed Skyler's cheek. I won't let Crystal or Skyler be harmed by that crazy woman again.

### [Chapter 259 How Naughty Of You](#)

Two days later, Skyler was discharged from the hospital.

David hosted a family banquet and invited Alfred since the latter was on a business trip in Barnwood. Unexpectedly, the man turned up.

He even brought a lot of toys for Berthold.

Unfortunately, Berthold was not close to him. The little boy clung to Melora with shyness written all over his face.

Disappointment swamped Alfred.

He bore his eyes into Melora with a dark look in them, "Speak of me more often. Berthold thinks I'm a stranger.

At the side, Julia smiled faintly. "Just interact with him more. Berthold is incredibly obedient!"

David was indescribably magnanimous. He called Alfred over for a drink. Henry was there as well.

Alfred was no fool.

David was an old-timer who was beyond adaptable. Alfred had a son with Melora, yet he could remain pleasant with him. It was definitely not for Crystal's sake but for the resources in Coldbridge.

After all, it would merely require his signature or a word from him.

Intending to make amends, Alfred naturally agreed without hesitation. He ended up plied with liquor by the duo in turns. It had been more than ten years since he had last gotten drunk.

Indeed, no one had the audacity to offer him alcohol.

Whenever he socialized, it had always been his secretary and assistant who helped to drink on his behalf." He never had to do so himself.

When he left, Crystal saw him to his car.

She watched as he drove off into the distance before returning to her car where Henry was waiting.

The man stood beside the car, puffing away quietly with his head tilted back, looking elegant and handsome.

Walking over to him, Crystal remarked in amusement, "You and Dad made a great team! Uncle Alfred drank almost a pound of liquor!"

Henry eyed her and chuckled. "You feel bad for him?" Pinching her cheek, he added, "That isn't allowed! Even if he's your uncle, I forbid it!"

Crystal knew that he had always been jealous in nature. He would be envious as long as the other person was a man. As such, she did not bother taking offense to him. Swinging open the car door, she ushered him into the vehicle. "Let's go home! Skyler will be spending the night here. We'll come and pick her tomorrow night."

Henry wrapped an arm around her slender waist and murmured, "It's a deliberate arrangement on Mom and Dad's part to give us time alone. Shall we make a baby tonight, Crystal?"

Words eluded Crystal.

Good Lord! The driver is still in the car, but he has already shrugged off his inhibitions.

"You're drunk, Henry!" she hissed.

Henry pushed her into the car, but he did not behave after getting into the vehicle. He gently traced his sizeable palm along her leg. Then, he cradled her ankle and rubbed her heel lightly.

Crystal's heart skipped a beat.

In the dark interior of the car, all that existed were the sounds of their breathing and the pure masculine smell emanating from him.

She thought he would take advantage of her, but a long moment later, he leaned against her shoulder and asked softly, "Were you scared when you drove the previous time?"

Her leg had been injured, and there might likely be a problem when she braked, which would cause the car to barrel ahead. Even after so many days had passed, fear lingered within Henry.

Following that question, a wealth of warmth suffused Crystal.

She turned and kissed him on the bridge of his nose. "I didn't think much at that time."

Henry placed her leg down, then lay on her lap and hugged her around the waist.

In the few years Crystal had been with him, she had never seen that side of him. He appeared a touch fragile. She could not help reaching out and stroking his handsome face even as he gazed up at her.

At that instant, their feelings were on the same page.

Suddenly, Crystal grew unprecedently bold. While the driver was still in front, she could not resist kissing him.

She tenderly explored his mouth.

Henry hooked his arms around her neck and deepened the kiss. The driver was in front, so everything was done stealthily. It was very much thrilling..

They kissed until they were both turned on. With his lips resting against hers, he whispered, "How naughty of you, Crystal!"

“Do you like it, then?”

“I love it!”

The driver drove steadily, but a shade of red spread to the tips of his ears.

Half an hour later, the car slowly drove into the mansion.

Henry sat up and ordered solemnly, “Drive the car into the garage.”

“Sure, Mr. Miller,” the driver replied.

The black car slowly drove into the underground parking. As soon as it came to a stop, the driver swung open the car door and took off.

In the dark interior of the car, the couple was in a lip-lock.

Sitting on his lap. Crystal tilted her head back, her graceful neck drawing a beautiful curve. Henry could not help leaning over and kissing her.

As they kissed wildly, their clothes were all messy.

With her arms around him, Crystal bit her lower lip lightly. “Let’s take this to the bedroom!”

Henry gently grasped her brown hair and leaned over to kiss her, his voice growing indistinct. “I can’t wait anymore. Let’s do it once here first!”

By the time Crystal woke up in the morning, Henry was no longer in bed.

The pillow beside her had a slight dent, on which lay a stalk of rose.

Her entire body relaxed.

She cast her mind back to the madness last night, a sense of sweetness imbuing her. With her daughter away, she could savor the moment while plastering her face against his pillow.

A blush stained her face. She had never expected herself to crave him so much.

During the depths of passion last night, Henry had pinned her down and teased her relentlessly. “You’re at such an age now, Crystal. How did you survive the past three years? How did you alleviate the ache when you missed me?”

He loved talking dirty while in bed.

In the past, Crystal had thought that she would be repulsed. However, she was highly aroused when he said all that with his head buried in her neck.

Just as her desire rose, her phone rang.

It was a call from Henry. His voice was exceedingly gentle, making it seem as if he was purring in her ear. “Help me find a document, Crystal. Jamie will come over to collect it in a while.”

Crystal murmured an agreement.

Henry surmised that she was still in bed, and his voice grew even more tender. “Does it hurt?”

Crystal's face flamed.

It went without saying that she would never answer that. "I'll go and look for the document!"

Henry was probably alone in his office, for he had deliberately said something rather explicit to her. Crystal could no longer stand it and hung up the phone.

After hanging up the phone, she donned a robe and went into his study.

Having found the document, she was planning to leave when a folder grabbed her attention. The cover was a leather bag, making it look like an investigative report.

She wavered for moment, but ultimately, she opened it.

When she saw its contents, sheer surprise flooded her. She slowly plopped down on the chair.

The name on the document read: Christopher Ziegler.

It turned out that Christopher had Rh-negative blood.

At that exact moment, the housekeeper came upstairs and reported, "Mrs. Miller, Jamie is here. She said she came to collect a document."

Logically speaking, Crystal should go downstairs in person. But when she glanced down and noticed the marks on her body, she decided to have the housekeeper hand the document to Jamie and apologize on her behalf.

Downstairs, the housekeeper handed the document to Jamie.

In no time, Jamie left in her car.

Upon returning to Seeas Corporation, she handed the document to Henry. At the same time, she was a tad puzzled. This document isn't urgent. Why did Mr. Miller want me to go and collect it today?

Henry sat behind the desk in a classic black and white suit. Holding the document in his hand, he asked in a seemingly airy manner. "Did Crystal say anything?"

Jamie studied the man and noticed two distinct scratches on his neck, which made it clear that he had a wild time last night.

She cleared her throat softly. "She didn't come downstairs."

Henry had also realized that. He waved a hand lightly, dismissing her.

After the door slammed shut, he leaned back against the leather chair and swiveled slowly.

Crystal has likely seen it. How will she react when I return home at night?

### [Chapter 260 Are You Still Mad](#)

Henry returned quite late in the evening, around nine o'clock.

Crystal was accompanying Skyler to play the piano.

Skyler, dressed in a skirt, sat up straight, playing with grace and poise.

Henry took off his coat, tossed it on the couch, then walked over and leaned beside Crystal. "She just got discharged from the hospital. Why didn't you let her rest for a couple more days?"

He cared for the child but he also couldn't bring himself to blame Crystal.

Crystal smiled faintly. "She wanted to play."

She caught whiffs of alcohol on him and asked in an undertone. "Did you attend a social gathering?"

Henry chuckled, gently caressed her back, and said softly. "Make me a plate of spaghetti. I didn't eat much tonight and only drank most of the time."

Complicated emotions filled her gaze,

She got up, about to go to the kitchen to make him a plate of spaghetti when he wrapped his arms around her and lowered his head to press his nose against hers.

"There were young ladies there, but I didn't let them get close to me. Crystal, I won't do anything to upset you."

Crystal flushed bright red and bit her lip. "I didn't say anything!"

Henry riveted his pensive gaze on her. "But I wanted to keep you informed."

Crystal couldn't withstand his gaze, which was filled with a clear, amorous look unique to a man whose libido was high. She glanced at Skyler, hinting at him to show some restraint.

Only then did Henry let go of her.

He sat down beside Skyler, stroking her curly hair. "Why did our precious daughter become so diligent all of a sudden?"

Skyler stopped playing and climbed onto Henry's lap. She kissed her father and said, "Queenie Leeson played the piano at the kindergarten today, and Christopher kept staring at her!"

She hung her head, looking dejected. Queenie has been learning piano for a year and plays better than me!

Henry couldn't help but laugh. She's so young, yet she's already feeling jealous!

He held his daughter. "In that case, you must practice harder than usual, Skyler. Then, you'll definitely perform better than her!"

Skyler blushed.

She glided her delicate little fingers over the piano keys and fell silent for some time before mumbling. "But I want to be a lawyer when I grow up!"

Henry pecked her cheek. "These two matters don't clash. Becoming a lawyer is something you do when you grow up. Now, you can learn the piano first."

His words gave Skyler an out.

She clenched his little fists. That's right. I'm not doing this for Christopher!

While they were talking, Crystal had already finished preparing the plate of spaghetti and set it on the dining table.

Henry patted his daughter's head and encouraged her to keep playing. Only when Skyler went to take her shower at night did Crystal have the time to discuss serious matters with him.

The sound of Skyler taking a bath came from the bathroom inside the kid's bedroom while Crystal tidied the room.

Henry sat on the couch, watching her figure from behind, feeling a stir in his heart. Crystal has really come back. She's looking after the household like a wife.

He loved having her by his side.

"Don't you have anything to say to me?" Henry spoke in a low and hoarse voice.

Holding Skyler's pajamas, Crystal turned around and responded, "I saw it! Henry, Skyler is still young. You don't have to decide her future so early."

Henry took out a cigarette from his pocket and fiddled with it instead of lighting it.

He extended his hand toward her.

Crystal hesitated briefly before sitting down next to him. Unable to contain her emotion, she called out his name again, "Henry!"

He caressed her face and said huskily, "I invited Christopher's father to play golf today and discuss a project. Also, I invested two hundred million in his company."

Crystal was against it. "Henry, money can't buy affection!"

Henry gazed at her and smiled. "But it can buy Skyler's safety."

Due to Skyler's unique body constitution, she needed someone like Christopher by her side. The match in their family backgrounds was secondary. What mattered the most was the Rh-negative blood Christopher possessed.

Moreover, Christopher was a remarkable child with an ambitious character.

Henry's intuition had prompted him to make that decision.

Crystal wasn't pleased with the decision, but she couldn't pinpoint any fault in his judgment.

Henry hugged her slender waist and said tenderly, "Crystal, I know you'll be upset, so aren't we having a discussion now?"

Crystal laughed in exasperation. "You're not discussing with me. Clearly, you've made up your mind!"

Henry stared at her.

A few moments later, he smiled and said. "You're right. I've made up my mind, and I'm just waiting for your approval now, Mrs. Miller."

Crystal wasn't going to entertain him since he was just brazenly teasing her.

Just then, Skyler came out of the bathroom.

Crystal's anger dissipated instantaneously.

She took a towel and wiped her daughter dry before helping her change into her pajamas.

Henry went downstairs to pour Skyler a bottle of milk,

When he returned upstairs, he saw that Crystal was dressed in loungewear, looking as if she was ready to accompany Skyler to sleep. Henry smiled and handed the bottle of milk to Skyler. "You'll be sleeping with Mommy and Daddy tonight, Skyler."

Crystal said nothing to that.

Holding her milk bottle and clinging to her father, Skyler whined about going to her parent's room.

Henry curled his lips into a faint smile and carried Skyler into the master bedroom in his arms. After taking a few steps forward, he even deliberately looked back at Crystal. "Aren't you coming?"

Crystal was in the back, dawdling.

Dim and warm yellow lights illuminated the master bedroom.

Henry placed Skyler on the bed, then examined the injury on her leg. A scab had formed over the wound, and the sight of it caused his heart to ache. He couldn't help but give her daughter a kiss.

Crystal watched him.

He was no longer the same Henry she knew before. Perhaps when they were alone, he still liked to flirt with her shamelessly and was unrestrained in the bedroom, but he was undeniably a good father.

While she was in a daze, she didn't realize Henry had shifted his gaze onto her, regarding her with a gentle look in his eyes.

Under the dimly lit surroundings, he reached across Skyler and took Crystal's hand, whispering, "Are you still mad?"

Crystal traced his palm with his delicate fingers. "I'm not mad anymore for now."

"In that case, shall I invite Mr. Ziegler and his family over to be our guests?"

Crystal had the urge to take back her words.

Henry smirked. "Crystal, if you're still angry, why don't you come and torment me?"

Crystal ignored him and shut her eyes to sleep. He's truly shameless!

However, in the middle of the night, Henry discreetly rolled over and effortlessly pinned her down on the bed.

Crystal whimpered, "Don't do this here. Let's go to the guest room. Skyler might wake up."

Henry picked her up, kissing her as they went.

He had left her in a state of disarray by the time they reached the guest room.

After the passionate session ended, she rested her head on his shoulder, feeling utterly exhausted and sleepy.

Still, she asked, "Henry, why are you so horny all the time?"

He was lying on his back initially, but after listening to her remark, he turned on his side and gazed at her delicate features in the dark. "Crystal, I'm thirty-three years old now. Why don't you try counting how much time we've actually spent together in the past five years? I've dedicated the prime of my life to you."

Crystal touched his face. "And whose fault is that?"

Perhaps the ambiance in the middle of the night had caused both of them to be less emotionally resistant. They could calmly talk about things they were reluctant or didn't dare to mention on usual days.

"Mine," he replied hoarsely. "Crystal, please stop blaming me, all right? I'll treat you well from now on."

He couldn't stop himself from pulling her close, holding her tightly in his arms.

He had lost her for too long.

Aside from satisfying his sexual needs, he always wanted to engage in coitus with her because he desperately yearned to prove that she still belonged to him.

The night was still young.

Henry rolled over and copulated with Crystal again.