

Pregnant 1211

Chapter 1211 Accompanying Jeanne For A Pregnancy Checkup, Nox's Condition Improves

"It's not magical at all." Jeanne put the clothes down.

Edward looked up.

"Isn't it all the same? He was sent away in the end anyway." Then, she walked out of the room.

Edward smiled.

George's departure had probably become a thorn in Jeanne's heart that could not be removed.

When he walked out of the room, Finn and Jeanne were talking about some things to take note of during her pregnancy.

Edward sat down and listened quietly.

"When you're seven months in, I don't recommend you both sleep together in the same room," Finn said.

Jeanne's eyes flickered, and Edward glanced at Finn.

"It's because you're back, and that's why I want to remind you of that. The baby is very big now, and it would be easy to hurt her. Also, sharing the same room can easily cause premature labor, so you need to be careful," Finn said.

If he said the word out loud, he would feel embarrassed instead.

"Yes," Jeanne replied.

"These are the things you need to take note of this month," Finn said. Then, he seemed to have thought of something. "Jeannie, are you planning to give birth naturally?"

"Yes."

"If it's a natural birth, I suggest you watch your diet. The baby looks a little chubby now, which means it might be more difficult for you to give birth naturally."

"I also think my belly has grown especially fast this month."

"Anyway, just pay a little attention to it," Finn said with a smile.

"Alright."

"If there's nothing else, I'll take my leave." With that, Finn got up and left.

Before he left, he glanced at Edward and said, "Are you free? Let's go and see Nox."

Edward glanced at Jeanne, who walked away from them.

Finn looked at Jeanne and turned to look at Edward. "Did you both quarrel?"

"I sent George away."

"To where?"

"Where we used to be."

Finn was stunned. Then, he asked, "Alex told you to do it."

"Yes."

"He's too possessive of you." Finn enunciated each word.

Edward did not seem to want to talk about it. He said, "Let's go and see Nox."

The two of them left Bamboo Garden and went straight to Nox's private apartment. Other than Nox, there were two other servants in the apartment.

At that moment, Nox had just finished his treatment and was lying on the sofa like his life was devoid of meaning. His entire body was drenched in sweat.

In fact, the so-called health treatment was torture, so the recovery process was brutal.

Nox gasped as he looked at the two men in front of him, thinking that he was hallucinating. He cursed, "Damn it. I haven't had a woman for a few months, and I'm even starting to miss men."

Edward could not help but laugh, and Finn smiled as well.

Wherever Nox was, it would always be fun.

"Holy sh*t, you guys are real!" Nox reached out and touched the person in front of him.

He could not help but be surprised.

"Did you think we were ghosts?" Edward was speechless.

"Aren't you supposed to be busy all day? How do you still have the time to care about me?" He sounded jealous.

At that moment, he sat up from the sofa with the help of Finn.

"I'm done. Alex gave me three months off."

"Is he that kind?" Nox did not believe him.

"I'm waiting for Jeanne to go into labor."

"I knew it! You did it for that woman!" Nox was still very prejudiced against Jeanne.

It was not because Jeanne made him a cripple, but because of Jeanne's attitude toward Edward.

He had always felt that Edward loved Jeanne so much that he could die for her, but Jeanne treated Edward... She could turn hostile against him with just a snap of her finger.

"Are you feeling better?" Edward immediately changed the topic.

In fact, Edward had come to see Nox before. However, because she was too busy later on that he did not have time.

"It's alright." Nox said, "The doctor said there's still room for improvement."

"Can you feel your legs?"

"I feel a little numb." Nox said, "I don't know if it's an illusion or not."

At that moment, Finn used his hand to press hard on the nerves in Nox's leg.

"Hiss." Nox grinned.

Finn's expression changed at that moment.

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Edward, who was standing at the side, looked nervous.

Finn used a little more strength.

"Can you be gentler?" Nox could not help but curse.

The moment he cursed, he was also stunned. He looked at Finn in disbelief. "Was I screaming in pain just now?"

Finn was speechless at Nox.

"Congratulations," Edward said. His voice sounded a little emotional.

"I can actually feel pain." Nox touched his thigh, feeling a little too excited.

"I told you. A person like you would not have too bad of luck." Finn could not help but smile.

He did not think that Nox would be in a wheelchair for the rest of her life.

"Help me up. I need to walk two steps." Nox was extremely excited.

"You're only feeling pain. It's not time for you to walk yet. Just follow the doctor's instructions and do your rehabilitation. Don't rush things," Finn reminded Nox.

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"A month at most." Nox boasted, "I'll run to see you."

It was typical of Nox to act like that. All they had to do was compliment him a little and he would be walking on air.

Finn could not help but say a few words to Nox, but obviously, Nox did not listen to him.

The three of them stayed in Nox's house for half the afternoon.

Although Nox was very reluctant to let them leave, he did not want them to know for the sake of his dignity.

Hence, he watched them leave and took a deep breath.

As expected, now that they had all grown up, they would be separated. When they were young, their only support at the training base was each other, but now, things were different.

Nox sat in the wheelchair and could not help but touch his legs. Then, he pinched himself hard.

'F*ck!'

Where did Finn pinch him? Why did he not feel any pain when he pinched himself?

However, he did not care anymore. In any case, he was about to regain his dominance!

Chapter 1212 Nox Was Seduced By Shelly

When Shelly came back from school, she saw Nox sitting in a wheelchair, smiling like an idiot.

She did not know what was wrong with Nox today. Anyway, she had a lot of homework today and did not want to offend him, so she pretended not to see it.

She carried her school bag and wanted to go back to her room.

"Shelly!" Nox called her.

Shelly turned around. "What's the matter?"

"Aren't you going to cook now that you're off school? Where are you going?"

"Isn't Aunt Flora at home?" Shelly frowned.

Aunt Flora had just come out of the bathroom. When she heard their conversation, she quickly said, "I'll cook. I'll cook right away."

"Who told you to do it? Shelly will do it."

"I'm about to take my college entrance exam." Shelly tried her best to calm herself down.

"What does your college entrance examination have to do with me?" Nox deliberately made things difficult for her. "Either you cook tonight, or you hurry back to the Winters' villa and tell my parents that you don't want to marry me anymore—"

"I'll do it." Shelly directly interrupted Nox, "What do you want to eat?"

"I'm fine with anything." After getting what he wanted, Nox wheeled himself back to his room in a good mood.

Shelly put down her bag, put on her apron, and prepared to cook.

Aunt Flora quickly came over. "Miss, let me do it."

"If you do it, Nox is going to pick on me again." Shelly refused.

"Actually, Young Master treats you..."

"I know." Shelly said, "I know he doesn't like me and he probably won't marry me, but I want to persevere until the end."

Aunt Flora sighed.

Shelly was actually a nice girl. It was just that sometimes, she was too persistent.

The Young Master, on the other hand, was not a bad person either, but he hated being forced by others. Therefore, it would be difficult for those two to be together.

Once Shelly had made dinner, she invited Nox to the table.

Of course, Nox was extremely picky. However, he still ate two big bowls of what Shelly cooked.

After eating, he ordered Shelly to wash the dishes.

After Shelly was done washing the dishes, he ordered her to help him with showering.

After helping him shower, he wanted her to massage his legs with essential oil.

After finally getting Nox to bed, Shelly was about to return to her room to do her homework when she heard Nox say, "I can't sleep. Turn on the TV for me."

Shelly took a deep breath. Every time Nox made her want to explode, she would swallow his anger.

She returned to the room and turned on the television for him. She asked, "What do you want to watch?"

"I don't even know what shows there are, so how do you expect me to tell you?" Nox shouted at Shelly. His tone was as harsh as it always had been. "Go through all the TV stations from beginning to end."

Shelly endured it and went through the channels one by one.

"Slow down. You're going through the channels so quickly. Do you think I have eagle eyes?"

Shelly forced herself to slow down.

There were a total of 183 TV channels.

"Which channel do you want me to go to?" Shelly asked.

"32."

Shelly pressed the button.

"No, 65."

Shelly pressed the button again.

"No, 123."

"No, 68."

"I think it's 23—"

"Bam!"

Shelly slammed the remote control down on the bedside table beside Nox.

“Why are you so aggressive?” Nox was shocked.

He could not believe that Shelly would lose her temper with him.

“Your legs are crippled, but your hands aren’t!” Shelly yelled at Nox. She had suppressed her anger again and again. If you want to go to a specific channel, you can search for it yourself!”

As she said that, she turned around and left.

“Shelly, stop right there!” Nox was furious.

How dare Shelly scold him? Did she say that his legs were crippled?

Excuse him, but he would be able to run in a month!

In the room, Shelly stopped in her tracks because of Nox’s voice. Then, she came back and snatched the remote control away.

Nox sneered.

He thought Shelly would be able to walk away.

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He said, “Change it to 66.”

However, Shelly pretended not to hear him. She took out her cell phone, aimed it at the television, and pressed a few buttons on the remote control.

Suddenly, a shocking scene appeared on the television screen!

At that moment, Nox’s eyes were wide open.

However, Shelly’s expression did not change. “You’ll like this! Enjoy!”

After that, she left the remote control and phone far away from his bed, where he could not get it no matter what, before she left!

When she left, she even slammed the door behind her, leaving Finn alone in the room with porn playing on the television.

‘F*ck.’

Chapter 1213 Nox Was Seduced By Shelly

It was an insult to him. Ever since he had a woman, he had never watched that kind of thing.

Now, what was playing on the television? Did Shelly watch that kind of thing every day?

That woman was a monster.

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In the next room, Shelly sat in front of her desk. When she took out her homework, she glanced at the time.

Just like that, she had kept Nox company until 10 p.m.

In fact, as a high school senior, she was supposed to be self-studying at night, but she felt that since she was cultivating her relationship with Nox, she should be with more. Now that she thought about it, since Nox hated her so much, they might get along better if she did not hang out in front of him.

She took a deep breath and tried to focus on her studies. By the time she finished a set of exam questions, it was already 12 p.m.

She stretched her back and figured that Nox should be done with watching TV and had fallen asleep. Hence, she got up and went straight to Nox's room.

As she pushed the door open, the video was playing for the second time.

Nox, on the other hand, was not asleep. However, instead of watching TV, he was staring at the door, seemingly waiting for her.

Of course, Shelly had calmed down. Just now, she was in a hurry to do her homework, and Nox kept finding fault with her. That was why she was angry.

Now, she pretended as if nothing had happened and went to turn off the TV. Then, she took the phone away and walked to Nox's bedside to help him turn off the lamp.

Just as she was about to leave, someone suddenly grabbed her arm.

In fact, Shelly was prepared for Nox to fly into a rage. However, she felt her body being pulled onto the bed by Nox's brute force. Before she could react, Nox flipped over and pressed her under him.

Shelly was still in shock.

She did not expect Nox to be so strong now. Moreover, the proficiency of the flip was completely different from when he had just been discharged.

She remembered that when Nox was sleeping, he would wake her up with his phone in the middle of the night to get her to turn him over. It was because he had slept in the same position for too long and it felt uncomfortable.

Nox pressed her down tightly.

Not all the lights in the room were switched off, and there was still a lamp on, emanating a faint light. Hence, at such a close distance, Shelly could see Nox's furious expression clearly.

She bit her lip lightly and believed that she was about to be beaten by Nox because when Nox was angry, he would really hit her.

The moment Nox's hand came close to her face, Shelly closed her eyes. She was prepared to be slapped.

However, at that moment, she suddenly felt a pair of lips pressed tightly against hers.

Shelly was stunned, and her mind suddenly went blank.

Was Nox not going to hit her? Why did he suddenly kiss her?

Moreover, he was kissing her deeply. In fact, she could feel his eagerness and his lack of control. Nevertheless, she endured Nox's sudden violence and lay motionless under him.

Suddenly, Shelly felt a sharp pain on her lips. "Ow!"

She opened her eyes and looked at Nox, who was biting her lips ruthlessly. It was so painful that she frowned.

"Ow..." Shelly tried to push him away.

Nox's bite was really too painful! She could even smell blood.

At that moment, Shelly also burst into tears. However, she did not push Nox away until he let go and looked at Shelly's flushed, tear-stained face.

Shelly was clearly not a woman who would not make men lose their minds, but her current appearance suddenly gave him the urge to violate her.

He clenched his fists and held in that urge. Only then did he seem to have regained his rationality.

Then, she turned to Shelly. "Are you trying to seduce me?"

Shelly, who was overtaken by the pain on her lips, was suddenly jolted back to her senses by Nox's voice, and she looked at him.

Was it because of the light shining on her teary eyes that made them look so clean, clear, and attractive?

Nox gritted his teeth and said, "Yes, I'm thinking about it now. That video of yours has made me miss women a lot. But Shelly, I'll have you know that even if I die, I won't do anything to you, and you can forget about me sleeping with you!"

Shelly hesitated and did not say anything.

In fact, he did not need to remind her how much he hated her because she knew.

"In that case, let me go." Shelly looked very calm.

She did not do it to seduce him. She just found him annoying.

Even though at that moment, when Nox hugged her and kissed her, she was a little glad that she had unintentionally planted a willow tree.

Clearly, she was overthinking things. Nox was just taking revenge on her, and her mouth was numb from the pain.

Therefore, they were even.

However, Nox did not let go of her.

Just like that, he pressed her down firmly and stared at her. It was as if he wanted to kill her, and at that moment, Nox really wanted to kill Shelly.

As a normal man, when that desire was ignited and could not be released, it could really drive a person crazy.

There were so many times that he really wanted to rip Shelly's clothes off, but then...

"Get lost!" Nox suddenly let go of Shelly, and she left.

Shelly could feel Nox's anger, that kind of anger that could kill her in the next second. Hence, the moment Nox let her go, she wanted to run away.

The moment she made that move, Nox suddenly went back on his words. "Stop."

Shelly turned around and looked at him.

Her clothes were already in a mess and torn apart by Nox because he could not control himself just now.

At that moment, Nox seemed to...

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Nox really believed it had been so long since he had a woman that now even Shelly looked pretty.

"Just because I don't f*ck you doesn't mean I'll let you go," Nox said fiercely.

What was Nox going to do?

"Give me your hand!" Nox ordered.

Shelly hesitated for a moment before reaching her hand out.

What was Nox going to use her arm for?

While Shelly was in a daze, Nox grabbed her hand and put it under the blanket...

After that, Shelly's entire face turned red!

Chapter 1214 The Love Rivals Meet

Ever since George was sent away by Edward, the relationship between Jeanne and Edward had become... a little delicate.

Jeanne basically ignored Edward. Hence, Edward followed her everywhere she went.

When she took a step forward, he followed.

When she sat down, he also sat down.

When she went to bed, he would sleep next to her.

When she got up to go to the toilet, he... was locked out at the door.

Edward's lips curled into a smile, and he stood at the door, waiting for Jeanne to come out.

When Jeanne came out, he said to her, "George can come back tonight."

Jeanne turned to look at Edward.

Edward laughed. "It's been a week. You're finally willing to look at me."

Jeanne shifted her gaze and walked away, with Edward following behind her.

In May, the weather in South Hampton City was good, especially the morning breeze, which was the perfect temperature.

Jeanne was walking in the back garden.

That was because Finn had said that if she were to give birth naturally, she should walk more on top of controlling her diet. Hence, she would do her best to walk around.

As she walked around, Edward accompanied her to walk slowly in the back garden.

"I'll pick up George in the afternoon," Edward said.

Jeanne did not reply, so Edward reached out to hold Jeanne's hand. However, Jeanne shook it off, and Edward held her hand again, so Jeanne shook it off again.

Towards the end, she could not shake him off no matter how hard she tried.

He said, "Don't be angry. I'll give you a present."

He was coaxing her, just like he would coax a child.

Still, Jeanne ignored Edward.

That was when Edward took out a small item from under his clothes and shook it with his hand.

"Rattle!"

Jeanne's expression darkened. "Is this for me?"

"I thought you would never talk to me again."

Jeanne was furious.

That guy was doing it on purpose.

She was indeed giving him the silent treatment because he sent George away. Even if she knew that she could not blame him, she did not want to accept it.

"This is for you," Edward said.

Jeanne was stunned as a necklace with red gemstones suddenly appeared in Edward's hand. Before Jeanne could reject him, Edward had already put it around her neck.

Jeanne was speechless.

"Isn't your birthday tomorrow?" Edward suddenly said, "Happy Birthday in advance."

"Why are you gifting it to me in advance?" Jeanne looked at him.

Edward smiled.

Sometimes, Jeanne was so smart that he could not lie to her.

He said, "There's a state banquet tomorrow, so I have to leave early in the morning and will only be back very late."

Jeanne pursed her lips.

"I'm sorry." Edward apologized.

Jeanne said indifferently, "It's good that George will be back."

"George will be with me."

Jeanne kept quiet.

"From now on, George is no longer just our son."

"He'll be a tool for the Duncans, right?" Jeanne mocked.

Edward pursed his lips.

Jeanne turned around and left without expecting an answer from Edward. However, Edward did not chase after her. He just stared at her back silently, lost in thought.

In the afternoon, Edward brought George back.

George almost thought that he would not be able to make it back because the strange place he was sent to was not a good place at all.

Every morning, he would wake up and run for a long distance. After running, he would do a lot of exercises, and they would only let him go to sleep when it was very late at night.

His stamina had always been poor, so he fainted a few times in the middle. Not only that, but the people there even ordered him to kill small animals with a knife.

He did not want to kill small animals. Every time he killed one, he would have nightmares at night. Hence, he did not want to go back there anymore.

This time, he wanted to have a good talk with his father.

However, his father refused. His father said that he had no choice and that had to persevere. His father even told him not to tell his mother because if he told her, it would only make his mother sadder.

Secrets between men should be kept between men to prevent women from worrying.

George was convinced by his father, but he really did not want to go anymore.

When he returned home with his father, his mother was already waiting for him in the living room.

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The moment she saw him, her eyes turned red.

George's eyes reddened as well. It was just that when he was at that place, he really, really wanted his parents to appear and take him away.

George could not help but throw himself into Jeanne's arms.

He did not want to be a man anymore.

He did not want to leave his mother.

Jeanne hugged George too. She knew very well that George would not reveal his emotions unless he really could not control them.

She had no idea what George had gone through, and she did not even dare to think about it.

Chapter 1215 The Love Rivals Meet

Edward stood beside them and pretended to be the bad guy. "George, go back to your room and take a shower."

George bit his lips, not very willing to do what Edward told him to.

"I'll go with you." Jeanne took George's hand.

Edward stared at their backs and held back the words that he was about to say.

After Jeanne and George returned to the room, and Jeanne was looking for clothes for George, George looked at his mother and said, "Dad told me not to tell you."

Jeanne paused in her search for clothes.

"But I really don't want to go there anymore." George's tears flowed out of his eyes.

After all, no matter how mature he was, he was only six years old. At the age of six, when he was faced with something he did not want to do and felt powerless, he could only cry.

Jeanne's throat moved slightly, and she lowered her head to wipe his tears. She said, "George, do you know that Kingsley is dead?"

George was shocked. Tears blurred his vision as he stared at his mother in disbelief.

Jeanne said, "I didn't tell you because I didn't want you to be sad."

George's tears flowed even harder.

"I'm telling you now because I want you to know that we don't have anyone to back us up. In other words, the only person in this world who can protect us is no longer here. Therefore, we need to protect ourselves. We can't be willful anymore." Jeanne stroked George's head as if to comfort him.

In fact, she was already in tears.

In this world, there was no one who could protect them, so they could only choose to protect themselves.

"Can't dad protect us?" George asked her.

Jeanne pursed her lips.

It was not that he could not protect them. Rather, he just had too many people to protect, so he would not be able to take care of everything.

Jeanne said, "I hope you can become stronger on your own."

"Do I have to do that to be strong?" George could not help but ask.

"You must," Jeanne replied firmly.

George bit his lips.

"You will understand in the future." Jeanne used a logic that all children could not accept.

However, that was the only reason she could use.

"Go take a shower." Jeanne wiped George's tears for him.

George nodded obediently.

Jeanne looked at George's back and thought she finally understood why her mother had put away her hatred back then, married someone randomly, and had her grow up in an ordinary family.

It was really just because it was hard to deal with, just like how helpless George was toward her right now.

Her eyes flickered as she watched the door close silently.

As for Edward, she really did not hate him.

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The next day, Edward left early in the morning with George, and Jeanne watched them leave.

George was wearing a black suit and a black bow tie, looking like a noble young master.

It made her think, 'Was Edward the same back then? Did he grow up like this?'

After they left, Jeanne and Teddy were alone at home again.

Teddy seemed a little awkward in front of Jeanne at that moment. After all, Edward and George could leave in their fancy clothes, while she could only be trapped in the house.

"Teddy," Jeanne called out to Teddy, who was pretending to be busy.

"Madam," Teddy said respectfully.

"Do you know how to bake a cake?"

"I do," Teddy quickly replied.

"Teach me."

"Huh?"

"It's my birthday today."

Teddy was visibly surprised.

"I want to make a cake for myself."

"I'll teach you immediately." Teddy seemed very enthusiastic.

Jeanne smiled. She felt that since she was alive, she should live well.

With Teddy's help, Jeanne was very serious about baking the cake.

The two of them were halfway done, and when Teddy was teaching her the next step, the room suddenly fell silent.

Jeanne frowned. Then, she looked up at Teddy and followed his gaze to see Alex and a familiar-looking woman beside Alex.

Jeanne's throat moved slightly.

She stood up straight and said to them, "Edward is out. Shouldn't he be attending the state banquet with you?"

"I'm looking for you," Alex said bluntly.

Jeanne thought about it and agreed.

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Alex's time was very precious now, so there was no way he would do something that wasted his time.

She told Teddy to help her take off her apron before she walked toward Alex.

Then, she heard Alex say to Teddy, who was behind Jeanne, "I advise you not to call Edward."

Teddy trembled in fear.

Jeanne turned around and saw that Teddy was indeed making a call. Hence, she said, "There's no need, Teddy. Mr. Duncan won't do anything here. You may leave."

Teddy was still worried, but he nodded.

Once Teddy left, Jeanne walked up to Alex.

Alex looked at Jeanne and said bluntly, "Actually, I've always admired you. You're very smart."

Jeanne did not reply because she knew that such words were meaningless.

Alex, however, was not embarrassed by Jeanne's silence. Instead, he changed the topic. "This is Susan, my sister."

"Hello," Jeanne greeted the woman politely and looked at the woman in a black dress.

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It was obvious that the woman was dressed to attend a banquet.

At that moment, she seemed to have put on exquisite makeup. Compared to what Jeanne had seen on the news, the woman looked more elegant and beautiful.

"Hello."

While Jeanne was sizing up Susan, the latter was also doing the same.

Both women had never seen each other before, but... although it was their first time meeting, they could already sense who the other party was — love rivals.

Sure enough, the next second, Alex said, “She’s also Edward’s fiancée.”

Jeanne’s eyes flickered.

“To the public, you’re already dead, so it’s normal for Edward to get married,” Alex explained.

“You mean, you want your bother to marry two wives?” Jeanne’s tone was sarcastic. “What a good brother.”

Chapter 1216 Edward Has Done His Best, He Had No Choice

Alex was unmoved by Jeanne’s mockery. Instead, he said, “Edward has agreed.”

Jeanne looked at him.

“You didn’t hear wrong. He agreed,” Alex said again.

Jeanne laughed. “Since he agreed, why did you come to tell me yourself? So that I can get along peacefully with her?”

“Well, I wouldn’t take it that far. Before you leave, she can’t possibly live with you.”

“So, you’re sending me away? Or are you just going to kill me?”

Alex said, “I did think of killing you directly.”

Jeanne clenched her fists tightly.

“But Edward told me to wait for you to deliver his daughter,” Alex said, enunciating each word. “In other words, your value will end the moment you give birth to your daughter.”

“Edward knows that?” Jeanne asked.

“This is the longest he can fight for you. You shouldn’t blame him.”

“Is that so?” Jeanne sneered.

Alex meant that he was allowing her to live a little longer, so she should be grateful.

“You should’ve known the moment Edward saved you that you wouldn’t live for long! Back then, I didn’t kill you not because I was threatened by Edward, but because I wanted Edward to recognize the reality of things. Even if it’s a woman he protected with his life, I’ll kill her sooner or later.”

Jeanne looked at Alex, the man who really had no feelings, coldly.

“Jeanne, I’ve said it before. I can keep you as long as you have no relationship with the Sanders, but unfortunately, you do. Be it Warren or Chester, they’re my old enemies as long as they bear the name ‘Sanders’. I can only make a comeback because the Sanders didn’t kill me back then, but I won’t repeat

the same mistakes.” Alex said coldly, “Of course, don’t worry. I won’t touch George and the daughter in your belly.”

Jeanne’s eyes were cold.

“As long as you die, they will only be Edward’s children and have nothing to do with the Sanders.” Alex made it clear. “But if you’re not dead, they’ll be related to the Sanders, and I can’t guarantee that I won’t do something to them at the spur of the moment.”

“You’re really... cruel.”

“You don’t have the experience of rebuilding your family’s great cause after they were killed, so you don’t have the right to call me cruel. Of course, even if it’s cruel, it’s to stop all cruel things from happening in the future.” Alex enunciated each word clearly. “Edward understands this principle.”

“So, he chose to let me die, ending all the Duncans’ worries.”

“Edward has been extremely kind to you. He tried to save you, but his ability is limited! Furthermore, Edward has no choice but to use you to save hundreds of lives.”

Jeanne looked at him coldly.

“I’m telling you all this so that you can prepare for your death in advance. You’re a smart person. You should know how to maximize the benefits and how to protect everyone you want to protect.” Alex looked at Jeanne. “The winner takes all, and I hope that it will end completely with you.”

After explaining everything, Alex turned around and left.

Just as he had taken two steps, he turned around and said, “Oh, right. The marriage between Edward and Susan will be announced to the public tonight. You better be mentally prepared.”

With that, he strode away.

Susan, on the other hand, stopped in her tracks and said, “This necklace suits you very well.”

Jeanne’s eyes flickered. She knew that Susan was referring to the one Edward had given her yesterday.

“I helped Edward pick it out.” Susan smiled.

Then, she strode away with Alex.

Jeanne watched them leave before she sat quietly on the sofa. On the contrary, she felt relieved at that moment.

Alex was right. From the moment Edward saved her, she knew that she would die sooner or later.

Edward could not protect her forever unless...

There was no ‘unless’.

...

At night, in a hall as grand as a palace, it was the first time the new Leader of Harken held a banquet.

He invited all the political officials, as well as... the most influential family businesses in the upper-class society. Among them were Swan Enterprise and Cardellini Enterprise.

In fact, even if Swan Corporation was not invited, Edward would also be there.

Everyone knew that William and Edward had a close relationship.

They had heard that William and Edward used to be business partners before they became brothers-in-law. Now that the Sanders had abdicated, William had taken over, and Edward had assisted him.

Many of the rumors about William and Edward's relationship among the people were not exaggerated.

Monica was also present at the state banquet today.

Chapter 1217 Edward Has Done His Best, He Had No Choice

Who would have thought that when she woke up, the entire situation in Harken had changed?

The Sanders... were completely annihilated, including Jeanne Sanders.

She had only found out that Jeanne had disappeared a long time after she was discharged from the hospital.

At that time, she did not really believe the rumors that all the Sanders members had been burned to death in the fire and that Jeanne had died just like that. Later, as more rumors spread, the news became true. In the end, seeing that she really could not contact Jeanne, she asked Finn.

Finn tacitly agreed.

At that moment, it was hard to describe her grief over Jeanne's death.

She knew that Jeanne's life was in dire straits and that something might happen to her. However, what she did not know was that something did happen to Jeanne.

She did not know how she accepted it later on. Moreover, so what if she did not accept it? If she did not accept it, would Jeanne still be alive?

She had already died once, and her family had finally reunited.

Now that she had finally found the happiness she had been looking forward to, she was afraid of crying too loudly. Now, she really treasured everything she had now. She was really afraid that everything she had now would disappear in the blink of an eye. Therefore, she could only... silently accept Jeanne's death day by day.

It had been more than three months, and she had probably accepted it by now. That was why she was so calm when she saw Edward's arm being held by another woman.

She believed that time was perhaps the cruelest weapon. It could really make two people who loved each other so much forget each other.

"Do you want to go over?" Finn asked Monica.

Monica's eyes flickered.

Finn had probably misunderstood because she had been looking at Fourth Master Swan for too long.

She shook her head. "Forget it. I'm afraid we'll start fighting on the spot."

Finn smiled faintly.

The current Monica would no longer be as reckless as before. Even when she found out that Jeanne had 'passed away', she only nodded silently with tears in her eyes.

Many people were coming and going into the hall where the state banquet was held, and Monica knew some of them but not all of them. Those she had interacted with before and those she had never met were all socializing.

In the beginning, Finn had been accompanying her. However, because their social circles were too different and there was no common topic, Finn left silently later on.

After Finn left, Monica seemed to be more at ease by herself.

Finn just stood in the corner and watched indifferently. He had never thought that Monica would one day shine so brightly.

Halfway through the banquet, the lights in the hall suddenly dimmed. Everyone's eyes were focused on the light in the center of the hall.

Seeing that Alex was standing there, the audience burst into a warm round of applause.

He bowed to everyone in a gentlemanly manner, appearing very polite. Then, he took the microphone and gave an official speech.

He was neither arrogant nor humble. He was mature and reserved, and his speech was deep and meaningful.

When the speech ended, a faint smile appeared at the corner of his mouth.

His sincere smile would not make people think that he was too frivolous, nor would they think that he was just being perfunctory.

Monica could not help but sigh.

That was probably the most handsome and dignified person in the history of Harken's Leaders!

Most importantly, he was young and promising, and his wife had just died. She wondered how many socialites and upper-class ladies would want to marry him.

While she was thinking about that, she heard him say, "Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to announce something happen."

Everyone was looking at him.

She was attracted to him.

"My sister, Susan, and Edward have officially gotten engaged today. They will be holding their wedding at the beginning of next year." Alex's tone was a little high as if he was happy.

As soon as he said that, there was another round of applause.

Although Monica was also among the crowd, she did not clap. Instead, she looked on as Edward held the woman's hand and walked under the light, accepting everyone's blessings.

In this world, nothing seemed to last forever.

Monica turned around and left the banquet hall.

She had come today because she received the invitation and could not be disrespectful to the new Leader by rejecting his invitation.

However, her leaving halfway through now was because... she could not resist what he saw. Thus, she could only choose to leave even though it was a little embarrassing.

She sat in the car and looked at the palace that was getting further and further away from her.

She thought, 'It has only been four months since Jeanne died, yet the man she had loved for so long has already left her.'

However, it was not Fourth Master Swan's fault.

From Fourth Master Swan's perspective, Jeanne had passed away, and the Leader had betrothed his sister to him. No matter what, he could not refuse.

She sat in the car and only found out after receiving the call that she had forgotten about Finn.

She was not the one to ask Finn to come with her to the banquet today. It was Finn who had asked her if she would be attending tonight's banquet, and that was why she asked him if he wanted to come along.

Then, Finn agreed.

In fact, what kind of relationship had they been in for the past three months?

Occasionally, they would call each other and have a meal together. After that, everyone would return to their respective homes.

Other than the kiss they shared the day Finn said that they should start again, they did not even hold hands. Sometimes, she would even forget that she had a boyfriend.

"I'm sorry. I'm not feeling well so I left early," Monica apologized.

She could not tell him that she was afraid she would kill Fourth Master Swan, so she left first.

Finn and Fourth Master Swan had a close relationship.

...

In the past, she had never thought of caring about other people's feelings. However, now that she had been socializing a lot, she knew that she should care about him if she could.

At the very least, it would not do her any harm by doing that

"You've left?" Finn had already walked out of the banquet hall at that moment.

The moment the lights were on and she was nowhere to be seen, he chased after her.

Chapter 1218 Finn, What's Our Relationship?

Finn had already guessed that Monica would leave. After all, no one would be able to accept the news of Edward suddenly announcing his marriage to someone else.

In fact, Finn was shocked too, but when he thought about it later, he believed Edward must have his reasons for doing that. Therefore, he quickly accepted it after a moment of shock.

However, Monica would not. Monica would leave impulsively.

In the past, she might have rushed forward emotionally. Now, in order to not cause any trouble, she chose to leave.

"I've left," Monica replied.

Finn stood at the main entrance with a bitter expression on his face. As expected, he was still a step too late.

He said, "If you're not feeling well, go back and rest early."

He knew that she was actually just looking for an excuse.

He, of course, would not expose her, but as a doctor, he should ask a few questions regarding her simple excuse. However, he did not ask her anything.

Therefore, at that moment, she asked, "Finn, what's our relationship now?"

Finn was stunned. In fact, he did not quite understand what Monica was talking about.

"I thought we were dating."

"What's wrong?" Finn was a little surprised.

At that moment, he was even a little panicked. Was their relationship not going well?

"It's nothing. I'm just a little sleepy." Monica's tone was light. "You should go back and rest early."

"Monica." Finn called out to her, "Are you going home now?"

"Yes."

"I'm coming to you."

"No need."

I don't know if I've made you misunderstand something, but I'll come to your house to look for you. Let's have a talk." Finn sounded a little flustered.

"No, it's just that Fourth Master Swan's actions today have come as a shock to me. I need to calm down."

"I'll be right there," Finn said firmly.

“Finn, I said there’s no need!” Monica’s tone suddenly became a little violent.

Finn was stunned.

“I’m really not in a good mood today,” Monica explained.

“I know.” Finn said, “I just wanted to tell you in person what our relationship is. Since you don’t want to see me, I’ll tell you over the phone that we can get married—”

“Finn, sleep with me,” Monica suddenly interrupted him.

Finn froze again.

“Actually, if you want to prove that we’re in a relationship, you just have to sleep with me.” Monica’s tone was really very light and indifferent.

He could not hear much emotion from it, but it made Finn silent for a long time.

“Come find me again when you’ve thought it through.”

Monica immediately hung up the phone and sneered.

As expected, Finn was unwilling. Thinking back to the time they had sex, his reaction after he woke up was still fresh in her mind.

What had gotten into her to make her ask him to sleep with her again?

She leaned against the car seat and looked out of the window of South Hampton City.

She figured she was in a bad mood today, and that was why she had said so much to Finn in a fit of anger. However, she really was thinking about whether she and Finn should continue like that.

She really felt a little tired.

At that moment, she suddenly took a deep breath.

She told herself she would do whatever came to mind. Otherwise, she would not be able to make up her mind in the next second.

She picked up her phone and typed a message for Finn’s Whatsapp. “Finn, let’s not date...”

“Do you want to go to my place or the hotel?”

Before she could send a message, a message suddenly popped up in their chat box.

Monica’s eyes flickered. Should she send the unfinished text message?

“Let’s go to my house. I’ll wait for you there.”

While she hesitated, Finn sent another message.

Monica gritted her teeth and deleted all the messages that she had composed. Then, she typed one word. “Okay.”

Whether they should continue or end it, they would find out soon.

Chapter 1219 Two Become One

Monica took a car to Finn's apartment.

She used to live there for three years, but after the divorce, she moved out. Finn, on the other hand, had always lived here, and now... she was back here again, standing at the door.

In fact, at that moment, she really did not know if she should ring the doorbell or not. Although she had agreed to it just now, she was still conflicted about it on the way here.

She had originally thought that their relationship should end.

After all, it had been so long since the accident happened that his guilt and her anticipation for the relationship should have settled, that they would not be impulsive anymore.

If anything happened tonight, would they not be repeating the same mistakes?

Monica stood at the door for a long time, so long that her legs seemed to have gone numb. Then, she took a deep breath before she turned around to leave.

She thought that since she was so hesitant and could not make up her mind, she would forget it. It was best for her and Finn to break up early anyway.

However, it was at that moment that the door suddenly opened. Monica, who was about to leave, stopped in her tracks.

She looked back and saw Finn appear at the door. He was still wearing the black suit that he had worn tonight and was opening the door for her.

He said, "I'm here."

His tone was casual as if what they were doing now was only a matter of course, and there was no need for her to feel conflicted.

Monica chuckled. Actually, between adults, what was there to be conflicted about sleeping together?

"Come in." Finn reached out and held her hand in his palm.

Monica furrowed her brows a little.

His palms were wet. Was he nervous, so nervous that his palms were sweating?

Nevertheless, Monica followed Finn into his house.

Nothing in the house seemed to have changed. The decorations back then were actually based on Finn's preferences, so it was still simple, clean, and tidy. The only difference was... they used to live separately.

This time, Finn brought her straight to his room which had a manly style. The grayish-white tone would make people feel a hint of coldness, which was exactly the same as the feeling Finn gave them.

"Do you want to take a bath?" Finn asked her.

Monica nodded.

“You don’t have any clothes here. Can I give you my bathrobe to wear?” Finn let go of her hand and said as he helped her to find a change of clothes.

Again, Monica nodded.

Finn placed his clean bathrobe into the bathroom and turned on the water for Monica. He then said to her, “It’s ready.”

Monica walked into the bathroom and closed the door. It was only at that moment that Finn seemed to heave a heavy sigh of relief.

In fact, he had been watching from inside the house for as long as Monica had been standing at the door. Hence, he saw all of Monica’s struggle and hesitation.

He knew that Monica might have been acting impulsively just now by saying that she wanted to sleep with him.

He had never thought of having sex with Monica, even though Jeanne had reminded him several times that it was best to have a child at the age of 25. He took it to heart but never thought of maintaining his relationship with Monica in that way. He had always felt that their relationship needed time, and as time passed, they would remarry and then naturally have children.

It was a... slow process, and he could not be too hasty.

He initially thought that Monica shared the same thoughts as him. From the moment Monica refused to marry him, he thought that Monica had become rational when it came to relationships and would no longer act rashly or impulsively. The two of them needed to help each other slowly and naturally.

However, he admitted that Monica had made him feel a little flustered today. He could sense the panic in Monica that she wanted to withdraw from their relationship.

Therefore, the moment Monica turned around and left, he did not hesitate to open the door and tell her to stay. In fact, he was a little scared.

He felt that Monica’s departure might really mean that she was going to leave, whereas he, on the other hand, really wanted to be with her again, for the rest of his life.

Finn glanced in the direction of the bathroom and then got up to leave the room. He went to the bathroom outside to take a shower.

After all, it was very late now, and he was a very rational person. At that moment, he had also considered that they both had to go to work tomorrow. Hence, he tried his best not to be late.

However, Monica did not seem to think the same.

She admitted that she had grown up a lot, but some deep-rooted habits could not be changed.

Chapter 1220 Two Become One

For example, when she was serious about something, she would not consider many other things.

It was to the extent that after the shower, she put on Finn's bathrobe but did not open the bathroom door for a long time.

It never crossed her mind that she and Finn would still have to go to work tomorrow — that she had a project to negotiate and that Finn, as a doctor, needed to maintain his best at all times and needed sufficient rest.

She just kept thinking about how she was going to face Finn after she went out and slept with him.

Should she let go of everything in the past, start over with him, and return to the kind of relationship where she was always the one giving and taking the initiative?

She even began to wonder whether Finn had really agreed to sleep with her just to satisfy her request. Would he always indulge her because of his guilt toward her?

"Monica." There was a knock on the bathroom door.

Monica's eyes moved slightly.

She had never thought that she would become such an indecisive person one day.

If it had been in the past and she had not experienced so many horrible things, she definitely would not have hesitated for even a second when Finn wanted to sleep with her; she would have immediately crawled into his bed.

In the end, she opened the bathroom door. By then, the steam from the shower had dissipated.

Finn looked at her. She had removed her makeup, taken a shower, and wrapped herself in his bathrobe that was obviously much bigger than hers but inexplicably made his imagination run wild. He suppressed his emotions and said, "I thought you fainted in the bathroom."

Monica pursed her lips and was about to speak, but Finn suddenly picked her up by the waist.

Stunned, Monica instinctively wrapped her arms around Finn's neck.

Just now, the moment Finn finished speaking, she actually wanted to tell him to forget about tonight. However, she suddenly swallowed her words.

Finn placed her on his large, soft bed that sank in a little with her weight, causing her entire body to be buried in between his beddings and under his body.

The room was brightly lit, so bright that they could clearly see each other's expressions.

The two of them looked at each other, and their breathing gradually became heavier. However, they stayed like that for a long time.

After a long time, Monica suddenly closed her eyes and exerted more strength on the hand that was hugging Finn's neck. She forcefully pulled his head down and kissed him deeply.

She thought that since things had come to this, and he could not make up his mind, she would do it.

Her lips were on his, entangled.

Finn's body tensed up because of her sudden initiative. In fact, he had been very tense because he never knew if he was good at it, and that was why he had been adjusting his emotions.

He was afraid that he would be too impatient or... stiff. Coupled with the softness under his body, his heart was beating so fast that his mind went blank.

In the end, Monica took the initiative, and since she took the initiative, he became even more helpless.

He had never thought that one day, under her seduction, he would lose control of himself to that extent.

It was just that... he wanted it so badly, but he also wanted to suppress it, and suppressing it made him want it even more.

Finally, Finn loosened his tightly clenched fists and hugged Monica's body with both hands. He went from being passive to proactive.

Then, he became one with her.

His memory from the previous time was blurry, and everything he did was just to release that instinctive desire.

This time, he could feel his intense desire. From beginning to end, he was unimaginably wild.

...

Under the same night sky, in the palace-like banquet hall, people came and went.

It was impossible for Alex to stay until the end. With his current status, all he needed to do was some simple socializing, and the rest Edward would handle.

Now, Alex was ready to leave, and Edward was naturally the one to send him off.

The group of them walked to Alex's exclusive passageway, where the surroundings were heavily guarded and there were many bodyguards.

Before Alex got into the car, he turned back to Edward. "I went to see Jeanne today."

Edward looked up.

"She's very smart. She knows what she should do," Alex said bluntly.

Edward remained silent.

"Edward, since you have chosen to give up, don't struggle anymore. Susan is not inferior to Jeanne. Over time, you'll know that liking someone is just a thing of the past. Power, wealth, and status are the only things that a man should possess and cherish."