

SURPRISED 491

Chapter 491 Does He Have a Girlfriend?

“Impossible!” They panicked. The scene where Catherine signed the contract appeared in their mind.

In disbelief, another man echoed, “We saw her sign it personally. After that, we checked several times, afraid she might have missed something.”

“We didn’t lie, Mr. Eastwood.” The man in the lead looked into Leslie’s eyes, which were sparking anger flames.

“Where is her signature?” Leslie gazed at them icily. He only cared about the result. “Tell me where her signature is.”

All the men recalled what had happened the previous night. Catherine picked up an ordinary pen and signed her name in black. They could still remember her writing.

However, she didn’t look resistant when signing the contract, nor did she go through the conditions carefully, which was the only abnormality.

“Mr. Eastwood, well...” A man was puzzled. “The contract cannot be switched. I kept it in my safe.

Besides, all of us saw her sign the contract personally.”

“I did. Her writing was beautiful.”

Listening to them, Leslie frowned. His chest heaved up and down. Then he took over the agreement and took a closer look at the blank.

Suddenly, a man asked, "Did she use a pen with erasable ink?"

His words attracted others' attention, but he wasn't sure as he just made a wild guess.

"The erased ink has two types. One will vanish under the heat; the other vanish after a certain time," he explained, "My daughter has such a magical pen."

His words seemed to reach the breakthrough of their questions.

"After practicing calligraphy with such a pen, the characters will be erased in ten minutes without a trace."

The office was in dead silence.

Evidently, they were fooled by Catherine.

Leslie smashed the agreement on the desk, eyes full of murderous looks. He bit out, each word a staccato, "Take me to her."

"Yes, Mr. Eastwood."

Then they left the office and delayed a meeting, heading for Catherine's apartment.

Meanwhile, the Marsh Group.

Linda knocked on the door of the president's office and entered with a file. "Morning, Mr. Russell. This

file is urgent. I need your review and approval."

"OK." Finnley took it over, looking easygoing.

Linda plucked up her courage and asked with a smile, "Can I add you on my WhatsApp and Twitter,

please? It'll be helpful to talk about the work in the future. After all, we cooperate frequently now."

"Sure," Finnley agreed immediately. He pulled out his phone without hesitation.

Linda was overjoyed as it was too smooth.

She tried to keep calm, added his IDs on the two apps, and left.

Back in the vice president's office, Linda couldn't calm down after a long while. She summoned up her

courage and sent Finnley a cartoon emoji to say hi on WhatsApp.

A minute later, Finnley replied with another emoji in response.

Linda giggled while staring at it.

She believed some goals could be achieved if she was brave enough.

Curling up in the chair, she browsed Finnley's posts and shares. He updated Twitter once or twice monthly. Seemingly he disliked twitting.

His posts had nothing to do with his work but a few moments in his life.

While browsing them, Linda found he was fond of playing basketball. Half photos posted were relevant to the basketball court. He made the sunset scene appealing.

Linda finished browsing all his posts within 20 minutes, which recorded his 10-year life. None had anything to do with a woman.

It seemed he was single.

Linda was confused. "If he had a girlfriend, why did he never post anything about her? He didn't have even a photo to show breakfast for two persons."

She failed to find the clue to prove that he had a girlfriend.

Linda was delighted.

Chapter 492 Tricked

After putting down her phone, Linda recalled the girl sitting in his car the previous night, wondering who she was.

Although she had only seen a figure, it reminded her of the girl she had once met in the dessert store.

However, she wasn't sure.

'If she was with Finnley, why didn't they pay the bill together?'

Ultimately, Linda concluded that the girl must know Finnley, but they were not close.

A while later, she tried to call Catherine again but failed to get through.

Catherine's words in the morning worried her indeed.

Catherine's apartment.

Leslie took the elevator and arrived at Catherine's apartment door.

"Sure it's her apartment?" Leslie gazed at his men, his hands stuffed into the pockets of his slacks.

"Yes, Mr. Eastwood. I'm sure," one man answered, "We were here last night."

Leslie pressed the doorbell, his golden watch shining under the light.

Shortly after, the door was opened.

A granny with gray hair and a wrinkled face looked at them at the door, seemingly puzzled.

The other five men were baffled. Leslie entered the room sullenly, followed by them.

The living room still looked the same as last night. However, an old man with gray hair was sitting in a

wheelchair. A young woman was feeding her child, and a young man was doing laundry.

The five men had an illusion that they had found the wrong place.

“Who are you looking for?” the granny followed them and asked in confusion.

Leslie glanced at his men coldly. ‘What’s going on?’

A man answered affirmatively, “It’s the right place. She stayed here last night.”

They wondered if this was a trick.

“Where is Catherine Collins?” Leslie ran out of patience, glancing at people in the apartment sullenly.

The residents exchanged glances with each other, looking baffled.

Leslie looked more annoyed. “Tell me. Where is she?”

His roar scared the little boy eating. He burst into tears in fear.

His mother put down the plate hurriedly, holding the boy protectively. “Don’t cry, baby. There, there.”

The young man could tell they were tough to deal with. Suddenly, he was enlightened. “We’ve just

moved in. The apartment was sold to us. The previous owner seemed to be surnamed Collins.”

The granny also understood what was going on. Afraid of getting in trouble, she suggested, “I can show

you the agreement. The owner's family name was Collins, but we didn't know her and had never seen her. We bought this apartment through an agency."

When the granny showed them the agreement, Leslie seethed with rage when seeing Catherine's signature.

His eyes were full of angry flames.

After returning the agreement to the new residents, he had to take his men away.

He was the president of the R-Alan Group but was tricked by a woman.

Leslie was too furious to let go of this matter, feeling humiliated.

However, Catherine seemed to vanish from the world.

R-Alan Group failed to find her, nor did Linda reach her on the phone.

Rowan's villa.

Ivan and Jennifer didn't stay there the previous night. It was a sunny day after the storm. Spencer remained in the villa alone, and he felt joyful.

The warm sunshine fell through the window.

Spencer got up early, and Rowan carefully removed the plaster from his arm.

“Try to lift your arm. Don’t put too much strength,” Rowan reminded him.

Spencer lifted his right arm and didn’t feel hurt. Then he lifted higher, feeling well.

“Thanks, Rowan. I like your special medicine,” he complimented, “It decreased half the time to recover.”

Rowan was also excited. “My experiment succeeded. Thank you for being my lab rat.”

“Haha...” Spencer trusted him. “I can be your lab rat in the future if you need me.”

Chapter 493 She Had a Unique Charm

“It won’t be that unpredictable.” Rowan put away his medical kit and chuckled, “My medicines are pretty

safe.”

“Can I check out the hospital now, Doc?” Spencer felt too bored to continue staying there.

“Not the time yet,” Rowan answered seriously, “It’s the first time to use the medicine, so I need to observe you for another week to avoid any side effects.”

He mentioned it to Spencer before.

“You can observe me in the morning. I want to go out this afternoon. May I have a half-day off?”

Spencer had been thinking of doing something for a long time.

Rowan answered while putting away his equipment, “I’ll let you know in the afternoon. Now you should

rest.”

Spencer couldn't retort to him as he was the doctor.

After all, when Jennifer left, she reminded him to be obedient to Rowan and rest well.

The recording studio.

Pippa was watching Jennifer dub.

“What does it have to do with you? Why are you so nosy to ask about my family affairs?”

“What's real? She's my younger sister, so she's a daughter of the Lindsay family. How dare you say she's just a foster daughter. Do you want your company to survive? Stop making wild guesses. Your words would raise uproars.”

Jennifer could tell her voice and feelings matched the roles perfectly.

Listening to her, Pippa also felt her status was terrific, making her immersed in the drama.

Time passed, and it was noon break.

When Jennifer and Pippa were about to go out for lunch, they opened the studio door and found Ivan outside the door with lunch boxes. For how long he had been waiting, they didn't know.

Seeing Jennifer, he wore a gentle smile.

Jennifer was surprised, glancing at the bag in his hands. "Delivering lunch to us?"

"Mr. Marsh, how are you?" Pippa hurriedly greeted him.

"Why?" Ivan looked into Jennifer's eyes. "Aren't you happy?"

"Why did you have to do it personally?" Jennifer took the bag from his hands and asked in concern,

"You've just recovered. Don't drive too often."

She returned to the studio, followed by Ivan.

Pippa passed a bottle of mineral water to Iva. "Have some water, Mr. Marsh."

"Thanks, Pippa." Ivan took it over and opened the lid. "Pippa noticed I was thirsty. Why couldn't you

show me your excitement when seeing me?"

Jennifer opened the lids of the lunch boxes, the food's fragrance spreading. Ignoring him, she praised,

"Marry is indeed a good cook."

Ivan could tell she was delighted, and his joy doubled.

"Had lunch?" Jennifer looked back at him. "Shall we have it together?"

"I've had it."

“Pippa, hurry. Let’s eat.”

Ivan could tell Jennifer was excited to see him, but she pretended to be indifferent.

He stared at her, his eyes full of affection.

Ivan said, “I’ll go to my office today and come back to pick you up later. When will you go home?”

“Not sure,” Jennifer answered while munching, “When you return, we can leave together. I cannot finish them all in one day.”

“No problem.” Ivan nodded his agreement. “I gotta go. See you later.”

“Bye!” Jennifer waved him goodbye.

“See you later, Mr. Marsh.”

Ivan withdrew his gaze from Jennifer with lingering love. Somehow, he always thought Jennifer had a unique charm to attract his attention.

It was noon, but Mya was still lying in Finnley’s bed. Seemingly she had forgotten the time.

Probably it was because the bed was too soft.

Finnley didn’t have her number, so he didn’t call her to check on her.

He thought she must have gotten up, locked the door, and put the bedding into the washing machine before leaving his apartment.

Chapter 494 Catherine Might Be in Trouble

The recording studio.

After lunch, Jennifer worked until three in the afternoon and finished seven episodes. With this progress, she could accomplish dubbing soon.

She listened to one short episode.

“Perfect!” There was applause at the door.

It was opened, and the director entered with several staff members. They smiled at Jennifer, satisfied with her work.

“StaRise, we’ve seen the news. How’s Spencer doing? Has he been wounded severely?” the director asked on behalf of the crew, “Where is he now?”

“Thank you, Director. He’s almost recovered.” Jennifer put down the earset and walked to them. “His arm was broken, and his shoulder was wounded.”

“Please send our regards to him. We’re worried about him.”

“Sure. I will.” Jennifer beamed at them. “I’ll pass on your message to him.”

“I look forward to cooperating with him again. We love his acting. He’s professional.”

The compliment made Jennifer happy for Spencer.

The director talked about the dubbing progress with her. Since the group knew Spencer’s status, they waved goodbye to Jennifer.

The Marsh Group.

In the vice president’s office, Linda dialed Catherine’s number for the 13th time but still failed to get through.

‘Is she in danger?’

Linda was worried about her but didn’t know what to do.

Some footsteps approached the door. However, Linda was still lost in thought.

Ivan stood in front of her desk, his hands stuffed in the pockets of his slacks. He gazed at the absentminded young woman.

Feeling his shadow, Linda suddenly looked up. She shivered when she caught sight of Ivan.

Three seconds later, she jumped to her feet.

“Good day, Mr. Marsh...” Her voice was trembling. She was so fearful that she dared not to look at him.

“What’s bugging you?” Ivan asked calmly.

Linda cast her eyes down and held her breath.

Ivan asked again, “Anything happened to your family?”

Since he sounds caring, Linda suddenly believed she should inform him about what had happened to

Catherine the previous night.”

“Mr. Marsh, Catherine must be in trouble.” Linda raised her head and asked boldly, “Can you send

someone to look for her? I want to make sure she’s safe and sound.”

She knew Ivan disliked Catherine and didn’t want to hear her name.

Therefore, Linda didn’t pause and told him what she had witnessed in Catherine’s apartment the

previous night.

Ivan listened to her carefully.

He felt shocked. The R-Alan Group wanted to hire Catherine, but they used an illegal way to force her

to sign the contract.

“Mr. Marsh, she was forced to sign it. She did it to save my life.” Tears welled up in Linda’s eyes.

“Several companies wanted to hire her in the past few weeks, but she refused them all.”

Ivan knew Leslie would definitely ask Catherine to pay a lot of money as a penalty if she refused to work in the R-Alan Group after signing the contract.

However, why would she have disappeared if she had gone to work? No one could reach her.

“Mr. Marsh, if Catherine went to the R-Alan Group, why would she disappear?” Linda also thought about it, adding affirmatively, “I don’t think she’s gone there. As far as I know, she won’t work for them.

No one can threaten her to do things she doesn’t want to do.”

In tears, she continued, “However, if she doesn’t work for them, those devils won’t let go of her...” She still had a lingering fear when she recalled the previous night.

Chapter 495 Marry’s Call

Watching her shed tears, Ivan trusted her.

He narrowed his gaze slightly. However, Ivan didn’t respond to Linda’s request. He turned away in silence.

Linda watched him leave tearfully, wondering what he would do.

However, she was just an assistant. How could she figure out what was in Mr. Marsh’s mind?

She had plucked up all her courage and told him the matter, anyway.

Linda sitting in her chair in depression, wishing Catherine could be safe and sound.

Ivan went to the president's office and told Finnley about Linda's words.

Finnley's eyes darkened. "How dare Leslie Eastwood threaten her! I don't think it's because he treasures her. Instead, he wants to obtain the Marsh Group's confidential information."

Ivan picked up the water mug and sipped some water. "How much confidential information does Catherine know?"

He didn't care about it at all. "She's valuable for the R-Alan Group."

In the Marsh Group, Ivan believed Catherine's position was replaceable.

Finnley said, "Probably they value her talents. However, she doesn't have motivation, so she won't work as hard as before."

"Check where she is." Ivan didn't remark more. He fetched his car key and said, "I gotta go."

Finnley didn't know what he wanted, but Ivan was his boss, so he did as Ivan told him.

He guessed Ivan was probably concerned about her safety.

After the investigation, Finnley found Catherine had sold her apartment and could be certain Catherine

was still in Arkpool City.

However, locating a person in such a metropolitan city was challenging.

Finnley was competent and considerate, so he didn't only want to send someone to find Catherine's

whereabouts but also sent his man to check Leslie's recent status.

Ivan left his company, sat in the Lamborghini, and left.

He had driven recently for the private space with Jennifer.

They could chat in the car, and the driver would be the third wheel.

He went to pick up Jennifer and Pippa from the recording studio.

Jennifer sat in the passenger's seat, and Pippa watched a soap opera with an earplug. She was young,

so watching dramas was one of her hobbies.

Therefore, she didn't interrupt Ivan and Jennifer.

While driving, Ivan told Jennifer that the R-Alan Group had threatened her to sign a contract.

Jennifer was frightened, looking at him in disbelief.

"I asked Finnley to look for her," Ivan told her bluntly and didn't want to cause any misunderstandings.

Jennifer was kind-hearted, so she was concerned about Catherine's safety after hearing his words.

If Catherine was pestered by the R-Alan Group, she would lead a difficult life. Once she didn't obey them, they would threaten her again.

After all, Ivan and Jennifer had experienced how nasty the R-Alan Group was.

Suddenly, Ivan's phone rang.

"Answer it for me." He stared ahead while holding the steering wheel.

Jennifer picked up his phone, checked the caller ID, and swiped to answer, "Hello?"

"Mrs. Marsh, Madam Aubree has come here. When will you and Mr. Marsh come home?" Marry asked,

"Madam Aubree plans to have dinner here. She's been waiting for almost an hour."

Jennifer darted at Ivan and answered, "We're on the way home. Will arrive soon."

After ending the call, Jennifer passed on Marry's message to Ivan.

Ivan was also surprised, just like Jennifer.

Chapter 496 Being an Uncle for the First Time

"She's been in the house for an hour? She wants to have dinner?"

"Is it because we haven't gone to her villa for a long time?" Jennifer panicked slightly. "To be polite, we should go back to visit her often. She even sent my clothes back. It meant she had forgiven me, didn't

it?"

"Didn't you plan to go to see her tonight?" Ivan glanced at her. "Stop feeling guilty. Anyway, she has come to our house. Let's have dinner and a good conversation with her then."

"Let me prepare dinner, then," Jennifer suggested. "Your mother likes my dishes. Turn right in the intersection ahead. Let's shop for some ingredients."

"OK."

In fact, they had planned to see Aubree this evening but hadn't informed her yet.

Emerald Bay.

The sunset glory made the yard look magnificent. The sunlight painted the house with a golden outline.

In the living room, Aubree was sitting on the sofa. Diana stood behind Aubree with her shoes off, plaiting for her grandmother.

Alfie held a mirror to Aubree. "Look, Grandma. Do you like it?"

Aubree was amused by her hairstyle. "How beautiful! Diana, can you untie my plaits? Your parents will return soon. They'll laugh at me. I'm too old for this hairstyle."

“No way! Grandma, you are the most beautiful.” Diana still continued plaiting.

“No, no, no. Stop it.” Aubree turned around and held Diana in her arms. After she flattered the little girl

for a while, Diana finally agreed to untie her plaits.

Although Aubree liked the twins, she must keep her image in front of her son and daughter-in-law.

Piles of toys were displayed on the shelves in the children’s department of a shopping mall.

Spencer covered his appearance carefully while shopping.

“Those toys help develop the children’s intelligence,” the saleslady introduced, “Half price for the second piece.”

“My niece and nephew are too smart for those toys,” Spencer remarked bluntly. Then he walked toward the other shelf.

The Barbie Dolls looked like real humans. The playdough set was too childish. The dancing mart was not bad. However, Spencer wasn’t sure if the children would like the kitchen toys. The bubble machine for heart-shaped bubbles was interesting, but he disliked the car models...

Spencer couldn’t find satisfying toys.

“Mister, which one do you prefer?” The saleslady was confused after following him for a round. “Tell me

your requirements. I can look for them.”

“I don’t have any idea.” Spencer browsed the department with a puzzled look. “They are not my kids.

I’ve never played with any. I only know they are brilliant.”

“Your friend’s children?” The saleslady said, “You can choose two toys at random. No matter what you

give out, it’s just for maintaining your friendship.”

Spencer frowned, stopped, and gazed at her. “What are you talking about? You are too perfunctory.

They are not my children but are more important than my own. I must find toys for them carefully.”

“All right, Mister. Sorry for that,” the saleslady immediately apologize. “One boy and one girl, right?”

“Right. They are twins,” Spencer answered. “This is the first time I’m sending them gifts. It must be of

high quality.”

“Ehn... How about the magnetic sphere? It’s more expensive than other ordinary toys, but it’s with a

limited edition,” the saleslady suggested, “The magnetic sphere can develop the children’s intelligence

and prevent them from being noisy.”

She passed the magnetic sphere set to him.

“Why didn’t you tell me earlier?”

“It’s with the limited edition. Seldom people could afford it.”

“I’ll take it.” Spencer was delighted to hear her emphasize the limited edition.

Chapter 497 Reconciliation

The saleslady was delighted and continued, “The ball is called Buck Ball, with a strong magnet up to

5000 Gauss. It’s especially solid with full color. There are six layers of electroplating on it, so the color

won’t fade after a long time. You can play it based on your imagination, so it’s popular with children and adults.”

“I’ll take two boxes.” Spencer believed that he must treat the two children equally.

“OK, Mister.” The saleslady gave him the only two boxes in the department. “The company only developed two sets for one quarter. 300,000 yuan in total. I can give you 10% off.”

“Ehn.” Spencer didn’t care about the price at all. “Anything else? Schoolbags?”

“This way, please. We have the latest arrival from our designer, Joy.”

“OK. Show me.”

...

In the evening, the Lamborghini stopped in the yard of Emerald Bay.

Ivan and Jennifer didn't know what was going on in the living room, nor did they figure out why Aubree had come to see them so suddenly.

They got off the car, entering the living room in expectation and panic.

"Good evening, Madam Aubree." Pippa bowed at Aubree respectfully, as usual.

Aubree had just tidied her hair. She stood up and smiled at them. Before Ivan and Jennifer responded, she said, "You're back."

The soft light of the chandelier fell on her, making her look easygoing. For the first time, she looked like a loving mother.

"Mom." Ivan held Jennifer's hands while standing in the living room, their fingers intertwining.

"Good evening, Aunt Aubree," Jennifer also greeted her with a smile. "You could have let Marry call us earlier."

"It's alright." Aubree walked to them. "I'm idle. Alfie and Diana are accompanying me."

Her smile was warm. She darted at Ivan first. When she stopped mid-step, her gaze fell on Jennifer's face.

Jennifer looked into her eyes, feeling tense somehow.

“Why don’t you change the way to address me?” Aubree asked, smiling at her. “You still called me Aunt.”

Jennifer was slightly taken aback, warmth surging in her heart.

She seemed to understand what Aubree meant but wasn’t sure. Aubree’s attitude change astonished them.

Aubree said bluntly, “You’ve taken my son away. Shouldn’t you call me Mom?”

Jennifer was a sentimental woman. Aubree’s words made her tearful. “Mom...” she sobbed.

Since she turned five, she hadn’t called anyone Mom.

Aubree listened to her, and her heart fell back to her chest. “Sorry, Jennifer. I apologize for what I’ve done to you.”

She had plucked up her courage to speak those words out.

With those words, she bowed at Jennifer.

“Please, Mom!” Jennifer realized what she was doing. She hurriedly released Ivan’s hand, held

Aubree’s shoulders, and bowed to her. “Mom, I should apologize to you.”

They stood upright. Aubree held her hand, gripping it gently.

Jennifer added, "It's my fault. I didn't give you enough time to accept me but suddenly broke into your home with my children. I'm sorry, Mom. Please forgive me."

"Sure." Aubree nodded. "I accept your apology." Then she asked sincerely, "Will you forgive me?"

Their gazes met in mid-air. Tears welled up in Jennifer's eyes.

She opened her arms to embrace Aubree, which answered her question best.

Aubree hugged her back. For the first time, they were so intimate. All the grudges between them were gone.

Watching them, Ivan felt touched. Tears sprung to his eyes, and he felt touched.

The reconciliation happened so suddenly.

Chapter 498 She Was a Good Mother-in-law

The scene moved all people on the scene. Biting her lip, Pippa couldn't help shedding tears.

Jordan and Marry turned around, wiping tears off their reddened eyes.

"Yeah!"

Alfie and Diana hopped up excitedly.

“Wonderful!”

Jennifer and Aubree didn’t hug for a long time as they must keep their images in the children’s presence.

Jennifer said in excitement, “Mom, I’ll cook some homemade dishes for you tonight. What would you like to have? Tell me. Don’t be shy.”

Alfie chimed in, “Jennie’s dishes are yummy.”

“I’m not picky.” Aubree was delighted from the bottom of my heart. “You can cook the same dishes made in Kelsington Bay last time.” She had missed those dishes for a long time.

“All right. I’ll cook now.” Jennifer said to Ivan, “Why don’t you play chess with Mom? I’m cooking now.”

She also noticed the tears in his eyes.

Jennifer smiled at him brightly.

Ivan planned to help her cook as she would cook by herself, but it was more appropriate to play chess with his mother now. It was more meaningful.

“OK.” Ivan watched her enter the kitchen. He felt sorry, reluctant to let her suffer in grease and smoke.

Marry was considerate, so she could tell his reluctance. She hurriedly said, “Mr. Marsh, I can help Mrs.

Marsh. Please go ahead to accompany Madam Aubree.”

“All right.” Ivan nodded his agreement.

Aubree could tell how much he loved Jennifer from his eyes. His love had already deepened in his

bones. He was reluctant to let Jennifer do anything, and he risked his life to protect her.

Aubree envied such a type of love.

After Marry entered the kitchen, Ivan looked over at his mother, only to find she was gazing at him.

When their eyes met, the grudges in the past vanished.

The kitchen.

Jennifer put on an apron. She took out the ingredients according to the recipes in her mind.

Marry was pretty sensible. Marry helped Jennifer rinse and chop the ingredients without asking her

what to cook. She also prepared the necessary seasonings.

While rinsing the lettuces, Marry felt touched again as a sentimental woman.

She knew how difficult for the scene tonight to happen.

Jennifer also felt she was in a dream. It was unreal but beautiful.

No matter what they had been through in the past few months, they would have a bright future. The thought delighted Jennifer, and a warm smile touched her lips.

The bright light from the costly chandelier lit up the luxurious living room.

Ivan was playing chess with his mother on the sofa. Diana sat next to him, and Alfie lay on their grandmother's lap.

Aubree put down a chess piece and asked concernedly, "Has your wound recovered?"

"I've recovered," Ivan answered gently while staring at the chessboard. "Rowan developed a special medicine, and it worked perfectly. It doesn't hurt anymore."

"OK." Aubree was relieved. "He's a medical genius."

A while later, Aubree asked in concern, "What about Spencer? Has he recovered?"

Ivan stared up at her, and Aubree looked up at him simultaneously. They locked eyes.

Ivan could tell the sincere concern in her eyes.

He withdrew his gaze and answered. "He's almost recovered. Rowan is always taking care of him."

"That's good, then." Aubree put down another chess piece, feeling peaceful.

Ivan realized that his mother had completely let go of the past. She must have thought everything

through.

He was delighted, as she could let go of herself and others.

Chapter 499 Spencer Arrived

“Daddy, can you put the chess piece here?” Diana was observing, blinking at her father.

Ivan checked on the chessboard. “Of course.”

Diana picked up a chess piece joyfully and put it down.

Alfie also put down a chess piece on Aubree’s behalf.

Jordan served herbal tea to them, the pleasant smell spreading in the air.

Jennifer had finished two dishes in the kitchen. The food fragrance spread in the dining room.

Moon rose in the sky. The moonlight covered the yard and the house like putting on a layer of gauze on them.

Plants in the yard shook gently in the night breeze.

Harmonious silence blanketed the villa. The light in the house looked extremely warm and gentle this evening, making people happy.

In the dark, a black Volvo was heading for the villa.

Spencer held the steering wheel with a hand while resting his other arm on the window, enjoying the soft night breeze.

The gifts he chose for the children piled up in the passenger's seat. Thinking about their excitement later, he couldn't help smiling.

He bought the bubble machine for Diana and believed she should like it.

He also bought her a coloring book with more than a thousand sketches of cartoon princesses, which she could color for three years.

He bought two boxes of magnetic spheres with different colors.

Also, he bought two schoolbags with limited editions.

Spencer also bought the children denim jackets as they were fashionable and suitable for Alfie and Diana.

He stopped shopping until he couldn't carry anything, planning to buy other things for the children in the future.

He was overexcited as it was the first time he bought things for the kids.

Soon, the black Volvo was parked in the yard of Emerald Bay.

Spencer got off the car, opened the door next to the passenger's seat, and carried two big shopping bags of gifts down.

Then he strode toward the living room excitedly.

When he entered the house, he saw Aubree playing chess with Ivan on the sofa. The two children were beside them.

Spencer stopped mid-step and was startled, wondering if he had picked up the wrong time to come here.

"Good evening, Mr. Lawrence," Jordan greeted him as he was the first one seeing Spencer.

His words made Ivan and Aubree raise their heads. Spencer was in a dilemma.

Right then, Jennifer walked out of the kitchen and announced, "Dinner is ready, Mom."

Then she noticed the young man at the door.

Spencer also looked over at her, only to see her wearing an apron with a bright smile.

Jennifer could tell the two bags in his hands were full of gifts.

"Hello, Spencer. Welcome." She walked to him.

“Uncle Spencer!”

Alfie and Diana trotted to him in excitement.

Spencer withdrew his eyes, looking at the children. “Those are your gifts. This is my first time buying gifts for children. I hope you’ll like them.”

“Thank you, Uncle Spencer.” Alfie and Diana took over the bags joyfully.

“Whoa! So beautiful!”

“Is this the magnetic sphere? I like it so much. Thank you, Uncle Spencer.”

The children’s excitement delighted Spencer, but he didn’t think he could stay here long.

Meanwhile, Ivan and Aubree stood up and walked to them.

Spencer said to Jennifer, “I gotta go.” He didn’t want to see the mad woman. He disliked Aubree and didn’t want to argue with her again.

Jennifer seized his arm to stop him. “Stay for dinner. Spencer. It’s ready.”

“Right. Stay for dinner,” Ivan echoed.

Spencer was about to refuse, but Aubree also suggested, “It’s dinnertime, and the food is ready.

Jennifer prepared it personally. Stay for dinner.”

All of them asked him to stay.

Spencer thought he was hearing things, looking over at Aubree. Then he saw rare kindness in her eyes.

Chapter 500 What About You?

“Right. Uncle Spencer, please stay for dinner.”

“Uncle Spencer, please join us for dinner.”

As the children also requested, Aubree smiled at Spencer more gently.

Ivan and Jennifer were shocked, and so were Jordan and Marry. They realized Aubree had indeed changed utterly.

She was trying to accept everything happening in her life.

Spencer looked into her eyes but couldn’t utter a word.

“Spencer,” Aubree said frankly in others’ presence, “Sorry. I must apologize for my childish behaviors before.”

Then she bowed at him.

Time seemed to pause. The room was deadly silent.

All people looked at her in disbelief.

Spencer frowned. His gaze swept between Jennifer and Ivan, wondering what was happening as

Aubree still wanted to kick him out of the city two days ago.

“Spencer,” Jennifer uttered to ease the awkwardness, “Mom has apologized. Will you forgive her?”

Spencer noticed the way how she addressed Aubree.

Countless ideas came across his mind, and he couldn’t understand the current situation.

Aubree stared at him faithfully after bowing at him.

“Why don’t we have dinner?” Ivan propped his arm on Jennifer’s shoulders and patted his mother’s

arm. Then he walked toward the dining room. “Spencer, hurry. You’ll love the dishes made by your

sister-in-law.”

Spencer hadn’t admitted Ivan was his older brother yet.

Jennifer took Aubree’s arm. “Mom, let’s go. I made Sunday Roast, your favorite. I hope I’ve made some

progress.”

“Yeah! Eat!”

“The food smells so good.”

The children were joyful, trotting toward the dining room.

Aubree felt less embarrassed as Jennifer had been too considerate.

The table was covered with dishes. Under the gentle light in the dining room, they had good appetites and were in good moods.

Nine homemade dishes were on the table, none rare or valuable, including Bangers and Mash, Cottage Pie, Full English Breakfast, Pie and Mash, and Sunday Roast.

Jennifer cooked them personally, and they believed the dishes must be delicious.

“Take a seat.”

All sat at the dining table. A maid served them with rice.

Alfie and Diana sat next to Spencer. “Thank you for your gifts, Uncle Spencer.”

“It’s so nice of your, Uncle Spencer.”

“I’m glad you guys like them,” Spencer replied gently.

He could tell how excited the children were. They couldn’t wait to unpack the gifts.

Spencer, however, felt awkward during dinner. He wondered why he sat with them in the dining room.

He was baffled.

Aubree could hardly tell the food's taste. She even didn't dare to look at Spencer, feeling guilty somehow.

She thought Spencer was unwilling to forgive her.

She had apologized to him in the presence of the butler, maids, Ivan, and Jennifer, but Spencer kept silent.

She felt disgraced and embarrassed.

Dinner ended.

Aubree kept silent. However, Spencer took the initiative to talk to her, "Congratulations! You've let go of yourself." He didn't address her, but his tone was relaxed.

"What about you?" Aubree asked him, "Have you let go of yourself?"

Spencer didn't answer. His eyes darkened. He didn't know, or probably he hadn't been ready to let go of himself yet.

After all, Aubree had hurt him too deeply in the past decades. Since he was a child, she had kept

suppressing him and trying to kick him out of the town.

Therefore, he disliked this woman.

Moreover, Aubree used to harm Jennifer before.

“Spencer.” Jennifer panicked while watching them. “If you let go of yourself, you’ll feel happy. We all were born to die. Whenever we’re still alive, we must be happy.”

A smile touched Spencer’s lips. He darted at her and Aubree. Finally, he reached his right hand to the latter.