

Chapter 241 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

“How about now? Let’s go to the movies?”

“No, thanks.” Nora said, “The movies make me fall asleep. They are boring when their plots don’t make sense.”

“How about touring the countryside, then?”

“So that we can admire an endless field of vegetables on a farm? Sorry, Mr. Hunt, but I come from a small town. These things aren’t rarities to me.”

“... What do you feel like doing, then?”

Nora immediately replied, “I wanna sleep.”

“...”

The other end of the call fell silent for a long, long time, so much so that Nora even wondered at one point if the call had been disconnected due to signal loss. Just as she was about to hang up, the scumbag’s voice rang out again. “This... Aren’t we moving things a little too fast?”

Nora, “?”

“We’ve only just started dating, so our relationship hasn’t reached the point of passion and infatuation yet. Isn’t it too early for us to sleep together? But of course, since you’re the one who brought it up, I will definitely satisfy you, Ms. Smith.”

Nora, “!!!!”

She obviously meant that she wanted to sleep by herself!

That scumbag was simply too narcissistic!!

Once again, the man made Nora so mad that she gnashed her teeth in fury. She snapped, “Are you incapable of understanding English, Mr. Hunt? Or perhaps you need me to operate on your brain?”

Her words suddenly reminded Justin of a message that Anti had once relayed to him through Solo.

The message had made him so angry at that time that he made up his mind to would beat up the other party real bad once he found them.

But later on, he had forgotten about it.

Now that she had brought it up, Justin suddenly smiled and said, "Your words have reminded me of a message that Anti passed to me back then."

Nora, "?"

"Why did you insult me that time, Ms. Smith?" asked Justin.

Nora, "!!"

Because you're so narcissistic, of course!

But could she say that? No, she couldn't...

Once she said it, she would have to explain that she wasn't in love with him, which would then require her to explain why she was approaching Pete.

Driven into a corner, Nora coughed and said, "Don't they call such behavior 'tough love'?"

"..."

Nora then said, "If there's nothing else, then I'm hanging up, Mr. Hunt."

Just as she was about to hang up, Justin chuckled softly and said, "Please wait a moment."

Nora paused. The next moment, his voice traveled through the phone again. "About sleeping..."

However, she didn't give Justin the chance to continue and hung up straight away.

When she looked back up, she saw an astounded Melissa and Mrs. Anderson staring at her...

The two of them asked in unison, "Nora, are you not in a relationship with Mr. Hunt?"

As the saying goes, beating is a sign of affection, and cursing is a sign of love.

How could they not be in a relationship?!

Nora: "..."

She rubbed her forehead in pain. How was she supposed to explain this?

Melissa's eyes widened, and he stuttered, "Nora... Nora, is this how you usually talk to Mr. Hunt?"

That was Mr. Hunt!

Even Simon did not dare to scold Mr. Hunt like this.

However...

Melissa swallowed.

For some reason, Nora's face felt a little hot when her aunt and grandmother looked at her like that. She coughed and suddenly said, "Aunt, Mr. Hunt and I are really not in a relationship. We just..."

However, she could not say anything.

Just as she was feeling conflicted and wanted to use a word to accurately express their relationship, Melissa smiled. "I understand, I understand! Nora, you don't have to explain!"

Nora, "?"

She hesitated. "You understand?"

"Yes!" Melissa smiled. "Alright, stop talking. I won't force you! After all, you're young and thin-skinned."

Nora: "?"

She's thin-skinned? Did she have some misunderstanding about her?!

She twitched her lips and heard Mrs. Anderson say excitedly, "Melissa, come upstairs with me later and see how much jewelry I have left. I want to prepare a dowry for Nora!"

Melissa nodded. "Alright, I'll prepare some too!"

She sat up straight and smiled. "I've raised two children but haven't prepared for a wedding yet. We're marrying off our daughters. Mom has to teach me what to prepare!"

Mrs. Anderson smiled. "Sure. Back then, we didn't send your elder sister to get married, but your second sister got married at home. I still remember those customs! The rules here are really big!"

Nora, "!!"

Did they understand?

The corners of her lips twitched. "Grandma, there's no need. Aunt, you don't have to..."

As soon as she said this, the two excited people immediately looked at her.

After a while, Mrs. Anderson lowered her shoulders. "That's true. After I married into the Andersons, they didn't think much of my jewelry. Sigh, it's already old, there's no new design."

Melissa nodded as well. "Yes, the Hunts have assets in hundreds of billions of dollars. We Andersons can't even afford a few hundred million dollars now. Nora, it's because we don't have the ability..."

Nora, "..."

She waved her hand. "That's not what I meant. I..."

Melissa held her hand. "I know that our things are just a drop in the ocean for the Hunts, but these are all our intentions! Also, we have transferred 35% of Harmonia Pharmacy's shares to you! Sign the contract someday and it will take effect!"

Nora, "!!!"

She was about to say something when Mrs. Anderson suddenly sighed deeply. "Justin isn't bad, but the Hunts' life is actually not easy!"

Melissa looked at her. "Mom, what's wrong? Why are you suddenly saying this?"

Mrs. Anderson frowned. "The Hunts are very big and have a lot of businesses. They also have a lot of competitors. Sigh!"

She looked at Nora. "Nora, the second branch of the Hunts is always causing trouble, but they don't have much power in reality. Justin can crush them with a single finger. Being able to marry him might seem glorious, but do you know... Back then, Justin's mother also looked glorious, but in the end, she was chased out of the house."

Melissa frowned. "Speaking of which, Justin can suppress the rest of the Hunts, but he can't suppress his mother. I heard that his mother has a very strange personality. With such a mother-in-law, what should we do with your personality?"

Although Nora looked easygoing, this was only in front of them.

Melissa knew this niece of hers. She was sharp-tongued when it came to ill-intentions.

She was really afraid that after Nora marries Justin, she would have a conflict with her mother-in-law and directly punch her...

As she was thinking all this, Mrs. Anderson sighed. "Actually, there's something important."

Melissa was stunned. "What?"

Mrs. Anderson looked at Nora. "After you marry Justin, do you still want a child?"

Melissa immediately understood something and looked at Nora.

Nora: "..."

Facing their gazes, she answered slowly, "No."

Her body looked strong, but she was very weak internally.

Back then, she had lost a lot of blood and had barely escaped death. Her foundation had long been damaged.

Sleeping for a long time now was a sign of her body's deficiency. Have another child? Wouldn't that kill her?!

However, Mrs. Anderson's thoughts had gone astray. "If you don't give birth, it'll be fine. Then there won't be much conflict. But if you give birth to another child, then the Young Master of the Hunts will become your enemy!"

Melissa nodded. "Now that I think about it, Mr. Hunt is actually not a good person. Sigh, Nora, since you don't want a child, you must tell us about your plan when you go to the Hunts."

The minds of the wealthy families were usually more conservative. The boys' standing was greater than the girls', and the heir was always a boy.

The two of them were worried that the Young Master of the Hunts would have other thoughts if Nora ever had another son.

But if she did not have this thought, everything would be fine.

Nora twitched her lips and stood up. "Aunt, help me reject them. I'm not going."

She did not want to cause any trouble.

Melissa still wanted to say something, but Mrs. Anderson nodded. "Yes, we're not going! Why should we go just because the Hunts asked us to? This is ridiculous! How can they just call a girl over?!"

Melissa thought about what she said and felt that it made sense. She nodded.

Nora saw that the two of them finally stop talking, and went to the dining room to eat breakfast.

After she left, Mrs. Anderson looked at Melissa. "Melissa, I'm afraid I'll have to ask you to make a trip!"

Melissa nodded. "Mom, I understand!"

Since the two families were discussing marriage, why would they call the young lady over directly? It should definitely be the parents of the two families sitting together to have a chat.

She stood up. "I'll call Mrs. Hunt right away."

She went upstairs and returned Mrs. Hunt's call. She smiled and said, "Unfortunately, Nora is sick. She's afraid she'll pass the disease to you. How about this? I'll come over and see you."

When Mrs. Hunt heard this, she understood what she meant and immediately made another request. "I remember that Miss Smith's daughter is called Cherry. Can you bring her over? Let Cherry and Pete get to know each other better!"

Melissa understood what Mrs. Hunt meant. She wanted to meet Cherry.. She was confident that Cherry would be loved by everyone. Therefore, she smiled and said, "No problem!"

After chatting for a while more, Melissa hung up and went to chat with Mrs. Anderson.

Melissa was worried. "Mrs. Hunt's attitude is quite good, but I don't know if this is her basic upbringing or if she's very satisfied with Nora."

Mrs. Anderson sighed. "If she was satisfied, she wouldn't have called early in the morning to ask Nora to come over."

Melissa clenched her jaw and did not speak.

Mrs. Hunt's behavior was actually very rude.

When ordinary children fell in love, the man would definitely be more proactive. However, there was no reason for an elder to directly call the girl over to their house.

If they really wanted to see what she looked like, most of them would visit personally.

In ancient times, if the royal family took a liking to someone, they would summon them to the palace to take a look.

Therefore, this made Melissa and Mrs. Anderson very uncomfortable.

Although the Andersons were already in dire straits, they were still a prominent family. They were not a small family in New York.

Mrs. Anderson sighed deeply and said the main point. "It's because Nora got pregnant before marriage and gave birth to a child."

Melissa was indignant and her words became a little unpleasant. "But Justin also has a child. I don't know where he got an illegitimate child from!"

Mrs. Anderson shook her head. "Why don't you understand? In their eyes, their family is different! Especially men, they're even more different."

Just like the emperors in ancient times, could it be that with a child, the position of the empress is no longer important?

There were still many women rushing forward.

Who would despise the emperor for having a child outside? But if a girl had an illegitimate daughter, her status would drop.

Although these were already modern times, the more noble a family was, the more particular they were. They valued men more than women.

Take the Andersons for example. No matter how open-minded they were, Sheena had still married off and left Simon to inherit the family business.

Melissa knew that this was not right. It was normal for people to get married twice, let alone have a child. However, when she heard Mrs. Anderson's words, she fell silent.

She sighed. "Alright, I'll go."

Mrs. Anderson nodded. "Yes, we have to put on airs. We can't let them look down on us. Otherwise, Nora will be bullied when she marries over to the family in the future!"

Melissa nodded.

She walked out of Mrs. Anderson's room and walked to the next door. She happened to see Pete writing the Mathematical Olympiad questions seriously at the desk.

She did not know what was wrong with the little guy. He had been quiet recently and was not as lively as before.

Melissa smiled and walked over. "Cherry, how about you go out with your grandparents?"

Pete did not even look up. "I don't want to go."

“...” Melissa stood in front of him and stared at the cluster of hair on the child’s head. She said slowly, “Come, I’m going to a friend’s house as a guest. Don’t stay at home all day.”

Pete looked up slowly.

He had originally wanted to continue rejecting her, but he heard Melissa mumbling to herself, “I wonder what’s wrong with Cherry lately? In the past, it was impossible for Cherry to stay in her room. She always pestered me to take her out to play...”

Pete slowly swallowed the words that were about to come out of his mouth. He was silent for a moment. “Alright.”

“That’s great!”

Melissa said, “Wait a minute. I’ll find you a dress!”

Pete, “...”

He grimaced. “I don’t want to wear a dress. Aunt, Grandma, I like what I’m wearing.”

Melissa looked at Pete’s clothes. He was wearing a gray suit, and it was hard to tell if he was male or female. His hair was a little long, but he had not cut it in a while, as if he was waiting to grow braids.

Melissa asked hesitantly, “But shouldn’t we be more serious when we’re going out as guests?”

Pete resisted. “...I think this is good, it’s comfortable.”

Comfortable...

These two words made Melissa calm down. “You’re right. We’re going as guests, and we’re just going to play. There’s no need to be too serious. Just do as you wish and be comfortable.”

With that, she looked at her own clothes. “I’ll change into something comfortable too!”

Pete, “?”

He just did not want to wear a dress. How did his casual words convince her?

Five minutes later, Melissa walked over in her usual clothes and waved at him. "Let's go, Cherry."

"Okay."

Pete followed her downstairs. When the two of them were about to walk out, they bumped into Nora, who had eaten and was preparing to go upstairs.

Melissa greeted her. "I'll take Cherry to a friend's house to play."

Nora heard this and raised her eyebrows. "Sure."

She did not ask where she was going and went upstairs.

The Andersons' chauffeur drove while Melissa brought Pete out.

On the way, Melissa instructed, "Cherry, be more polite and sweet when you see her later. Don't embarrass your mother! Okay?"

Pete nodded. "...I'll work hard."

Melissa laughed instead. "Work hard for what? Isn't being cute and likable your specialty? Hahaha~"

Pete was speechless. That was his sister's specialty, not his.

Sigh!

Who were they going to meet? Why did he have to curry favor with her?

As he was thinking, he suddenly realized that the car was driving on the highway in front of him. Why did the road look more and more familiar?

After making another turn, the Hunts villa appeared not far away. Pete could not help but turn to look at Melissa. "Grandma, are you going to the Hunts?"

Melissa smiled. "That's right. Cherry is really smart!"

Pete: "!!!"

He was about to say something when the driver stepped on the accelerator and entered the Hunts' manor.

The Hunts' manor occupied three thousand square meters. It would take another five minutes to drive all the way from the main entrance to the main hall.

Pete looked at the servants hired by the Hunts and grimaced.

What should he do now?

“Screech!”

The car stopped and the Hunts' butler welcomed them personally. He stood at the door respectfully. “Ms. Melissa, you're here. Old Madam has been waiting for you for a long time!”

Melissa got out of the car and nodded at the butler with a smile.

Then, she turned back to look into the car. “Cherry, we're here. Let's get out of the car?”

In the car, Pete was speechless.

The butler of the Hunts knew him!

Furthermore, the butler was Great-Grandmother's subordinate. After the tyrant took control of the Hunts, it was also a form of respect for Great-Grandmother not to fire the butler.

But now, what could he do?

If he got out of the car, the butler would definitely know!

In the room.

Cherry was craning her neck to look outside. As she did, she asked, “Great-Grandmother, who are you bringing me to meet? Why isn't she here yet?”

Mrs. Hunt smiled and spoke very gently.. “You're meeting your sister. See if you like her! If you don't, you don't have to force yourself!”

Meeting a sister?

Cherry had always liked to make friends. Her eyes immediately lit up. "Is she good-looking?"

Mrs. Hunt: ?

The corners of her lips twitched as she smiled. "I don't know yet, but she definitely isn't as good-looking as our Pete."

Although Mrs. Hunt's words were biased, Pete was indeed the most exquisite and good-looking child she had ever seen.

He was even more exquisite than Justin back then.

Cherry grinned. "Great-Grandmother, don't say that. I'll be shy!"

Mrs. Hunt: "..."

She felt that Pete had become even cuter and lively!

She hugged him. "Our Pete is so cute! Great-Grandmother will give you a gift later!"

At the mention of a gift, Cherry immediately stood up. "Great-Grandmother, since I'm meeting my new sister, I'll prepare a gift for her! Wait a minute~"

With that, she ran over to the toy room.

Ever since Cherry became close to Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Hunt would call her over to play sometimes. Therefore, she had prepared a little toy room for Cherry inside her room.

Of course, most of them were cars, and there were very few teddy bears.

But there were still some.

Cherry choose a plush toy and planned to give it to the new girl.

As she watched Cherry run away, Mrs. Hunt slowly retracted her gaze and wiped the smile off her face. She said to the butler beside her, "Pete's personality is a little too good."

The housekeeper, Mdm. Lea, had followed Mrs. Hunt when she got married to the Hunts back then. Although she had been married and had children all

these years, she had always stayed by Mrs. Hunt's side and helped her manage the family matters.

Mdm. Lea nodded. "He's too approachable. He doesn't have the arrogance he had when he was silent in the past."

Mrs. Hunt lowered her head. "What do you think we should do if Pete really likes this sister?"

One of the reasons why she asked Melissa to bring cherry over was because she wanted the two children to have a conflict. This way, Pete would resist this marriage.

She really understood Justin too well.

Once he made up her mind, he would not change it again.

Actually, she did not agree to this marriage.

After all, if the Madam of the Hunts was a woman who had given birth and married into the family with a child, she would become the laughing stock of the entire New York.

However, if she resisted, Justin would definitely not listen to her.

Justin's only weakness was Pete.

As long as his son disagreed, this marriage would not be possible.

Mdm. Lea glanced at Mrs. Hunt and lowered her head. "They're children, there will always be conflicts when they interact. After all, if they steal each other's toys... It won't be surprising if they fight."

If they were to fight...

Mrs. Hunt's eyelids did not move, but her eyes darted around before she smiled. "Okay, as long as you arrange it."

After saying that, she sighed deeply. "Speaking of which, this is the first time in so many years that I've schemed against Justin."

Mdm. Lea hurriedly comforted her. "You're doing this for his own good. I don't know what's wrong with Mister. He must have been bewitched to fall for such

an immoral woman. The future head of the Hunts definitely can't be such a woman."

When she heard this, Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and nodded. Then, she slowly said, "Justin said that he hasn't succeeded in wooing that girl. Actually, this is all because of the Andersons... You don't know this, but back then, his father had also taken a liking to Yvette. He was so obsessed with her..."

Mrs. Hunt felt a little uncomfortable at the mention of the past.

Actually, if the woman Justin liked was not from the Andersons, it might have been better. But she was actually Yvette's daughter...

How much trouble had Yvette caused in New York back then?

Even her son, Justin's father, had been infatuated with Yvette. He had even fought with Ian because of her.

In the end...

Mrs. Hunt nagged. "Yvette chose Ian, and only then did my son leave. But from then on, Justin's father seemed to have become a different person. He used to be such a progressive person. Later on, he didn't care about the marriage anymore. I helped him choose Justin's mother. When I asked him for his opinion, he said that it was fine. As long as it wasn't her, he didn't care who it was, and it was up to me to arrange."

Mrs. Hunt was full of complaints. "I was too anxious back then. I wanted him to get back on his feet and choose Iris, who was not inferior to Yvette. This Iris comes from a better family than Yvette, and she's well-educated. It's just that she doesn't like to be in the limelight, so her reputation isn't as great as Yvette's. But she's really not inferior to her..."

"After they got married, they treated each other with respect. However, Iris was too stubborn. When she found out that he already had someone outside, she couldn't bear it anymore. But in a wealthy marriage, isn't it normal for a man to have one or two mistresses outside? The marriage was based on two good surnames. Even the old man was very infatuated when he was young..."

When Mdm. Lea heard this, she hurriedly interrupted her. "Madam isn't bad. At least, Justin's father's outcome was better than the one in the Smiths..."

Her words stunned Mrs. Hunt. She asked, "I heard that the person from the Smiths is dying?"

Mdm. Lea sighed. "Isn't that so? Back then, he and Justin's father were the two elites of New York. Although Yvette chose Ian, Ian didn't even have a child with her in the end! Now that he's terminally ill, I heard he won't live for long. In comparison, Justin's father is at least still alive..."

Mrs. Hunt sighed again.

At the same time, she was even more dissatisfied with Nora and hated the Andersons even more.

Although they all knew that it was his own fault that Justin's father had come to this point and that the Old Master had given up on him, as his biological mother, she was still filled with anticipation for the brilliant Boss from back then.

In the end, her son had fallen into dire straits. On one hand, she blamed her son for being disappointing. On the other hand, it was convenient for her to vent her anger on the Andersons.

She had her own bottom line.

At the very least, they had not kicked the Andersons while they were down for so many years.

Moreover, Yvette had passed away many years ago, and the Andersons were gradually falling into decline. Logically speaking, everything that had happened in the past was already in the past. After so many years, she could not even remember the Andersons anymore.

If Nora was not Yvette's child, perhaps she would not be so harsh to her.

As she was thinking, she heard footsteps outside.

Mdm. Lea hurriedly reminded her, "Madam, they're here."

Mrs. Hunt immediately sat up straight and looked sharply at the door.

That woman thought highly of herself and refused to come over.. Therefore, she would first take a look at her child and see what she looked like. After all, the daughter would surely be a miniature version of her mother!

The first to enter was the butler.

He looked a little surprised, but he still held it in. When he saw Mrs. Hunt, he bowed. "Madam, Ms. Melissa is here."

Only then did he move aside and reveal the person behind him.

Melissa was wearing a casual family suit. She did not look like she had specially dressed up. However, her clothes were fitting and elegant. She was smiling as well, but her smile was appropriate and did not appear flattering. She was poised and composed.

When Mrs. Hunt saw her, she nodded secretly.

At least in this outfit, she was not the type to curry favor with the Hunts, and would not be hated.

She looked at Melissa and behind her. After a while, she asked in surprise, "Where's the child?"

When she said this, Melissa revealed an awkward expression.

She looked at the butler and felt a little uncomfortable when she thought of the situation earlier.

Just now, when Melissa looked at Pete, she realized that he was hugging his head and burying it on the sofa in the backseat. After she spoke, he directly said gloomily, "Aunt, my... my stomach hurts. I want to go home..."

Melissa was shocked and hurriedly asked, "Where does your stomach hurt? Why are you feeling uncomfortable? Cherry, let me take a look!"

"I don't want to," Pete said firmly. "I want to go home and find Mommy. Mommy is a doctor. She can treat all illnesses."

Melissa was anxious. "Then I'll accompany you back."

No matter how important it was, it was not as important as the child.

However, just as she finished speaking, she saw Pete look up from inside the car. He blinked at her and said softly, "I'm fine. It's just that this butler uncle looks too scary. I don't want to get out of the car. I want to go home and find Mom."

Melissa: "..."

The butler, who had taken the blame for no reason: "..."

The butler touched his face. If he had not always been famous for being polite and gentlemanly, he would have felt like a monster!

Look at how frightened the little kid was!

Melissa was helpless as well. She coaxed Pete to get out of the car again. "Cherry, Uncle Butler is very kind. If you get out of the car, he'll take you out to play with toys and eat delicious food, okay?"

Pete shook his head like a rattle drum. "I don't, I don't want to. I want to go home and find Mommy!"

Melissa: "Cherry, you're being rude~"

Pete retorted seriously, "I'm a child. I'm unreasonable!"

Melissa, "..."

Pete said, "Besides, bringing me in like this is embarrassing. You might as well let me go home to Mommy."

Melissa: "..."

She had been convinced!

In the end, she could only get out of the car and get the chauffeur to send Cherry home first. The chauffeur would pick her up later.

Facing Mrs. Hunt's question, Melissa could only explain, "The child is very clingy to her mother. She didn't see her mother and wanted to go home. I got the chauffeur to send her back first. Mrs. Hunt, how have you been lately?"

Looking for her mother?

Mrs. Hunt glanced at the butler and saw him nod.

She looked down on Nora even more.

She had indeed grown up in a small place and was not generous at all. Her daughter was also so willful. She had already arrived at the door and had left again.

As she thought this, she revealed some impatience on the surface.

She pointed to the chair beside her. "Have a seat first."

Melissa's body stiffened.

This condescending attitude was obvious, and even though she was experienced and concealed her expression, she still revealed a little impatience. It made Melissa very uncomfortable.

After she sat down, Mrs. Hunt smiled and said, "You can't spoil a child too much."

Melissa lowered her eyes. Although Cherry had indeed lost her composure today, she still protected her own family. She smiled. "You're right. However, Cherry is a delicate girl. Aren't all wealthy families raising their daughters like gems? This has always been the case in our family. Our daughters are all very precious! Boys are tougher, on the other hand."

In other words, "Our girls are willful! Nora is also very willful!"

Melissa felt that she could not lower her stance and blindly pander to her. She had to tell Mrs. Hunt that Nora had also been pampered by the Andersons since she was young!

Mrs. Hunt understood and smiled. "Isn't this how wealthy families raise their children? But why do I hear that Nora grew up in California?"

Melissa smiled. "Yes, my elder sister married into California back then and set up a company there. However, it's more difficult to raise children there. Nora's good skin is all because of her. Also, you haven't seen her fingers before. They're as fair as freshly peeled onions without any creases."

Mrs. Hunt smiled and remained silent.

Mdm. Lea said, "That's because you raised her too carefully. The boys in our family are raised roughly. Our family has only raised one child who is not

rough. That child is our Young Master. Sir raised him himself since he was young.”

Mdm. Lea smiled. “Sir fed Little Young Master milk powder and changed his diaper. Speaking of which, even in an ordinary family, a father who can do this is already a good father. Moreover, our Sir highly values Little Young Master. He never left his side for more than three days since he was young and even taught him personally... At that time, we said that we would find a mother for Little Young Master. Sir said that the child was still young and was afraid that a stepmother would be bad. We would talk about it when the child grew up. He even said that he wanted to find someone from a small family. Someone who would not dare to bully Little Young Master. Speaking of which, Little Young Master is already five years old!”

In other words: Justin cared about the Little Young Master the most. Even if he married, it could not affect the Little Young Master’s status.

Melissa clenched her fists.

After Nora marries Justin, it was her freedom to have children or not. However, the Hunts were clearly looking down on them by saying all this in advance.

What small family?

She was instantly furious, and her smile stiffened.

Mrs. Hunt scolded, “Mdm. Lea, what nonsense are you talking about? The Andersons aren’t a small family!”

Mdm. Lea immediately slapped her mouth gently. “Ms. Melissa, don’t take it to heart. I didn’t think before I spoke. That’s not what I meant. Of course, the Andersons are not a small family. Your Carefree Pills are too famous. Even our family has a few for emergencies.”

Melissa: “...”

She clenched her fists tightly, but she knew that even if this marriage did not succeed, they could not fall out. After all, the Andersons could not compare to the Hunts.

However, she had already made up her mind to persuade Nora to break up with Justin.

She could not marry into such a family!

As she was thinking to herself, a clear and cute voice suddenly sounded. "Great-Grandmother, is my little sister here?"

With that, a small figure ran over.

Melissa looked over subconsciously, but the moment she lifted her head, she froze all of a sudden.

She stared incredulously at the child running in, and swallowed hard. Cherry also noticed her while she was running in. The little fellow came to a stop, and a touch of surprise appeared in her big round eyes.

An astonished Melissa said, "Ch..."

But before she could say '...erry, why are you back?', the little fellow suddenly exclaimed, "Ooh! Hi, Grand-aunt!"

She interrupted Melissa, ran up to her, and sat on her lap.

Melissa: "?"

She couldn't understand how Cherry could go in and out of the Hunts' residence at will. Moreover, she had clearly come from the inner premises. Shouldn't she be in the car going back to the Andersons right now?

While she was in a daze, Mrs. Hunt frowned and asked, "Grand... Aunt? Pete, do the two of you know each other?"

Cherry nodded at once. "Uh-huh! Great-Grandma, this is Grand-Aunt. Grand-Aunt, this is my great-grandmother~"

Even more question marks filled Melissa's mind: ???

She suddenly turned to Mrs. Hunt and asked, "W-what did you call the child just now?"

Pete? What Pete?

Before Mrs. Hunt could explain, Cherry said, “Don’t you remember who I am, Grand-Aunt? I’m Pete Hunt! My father is Justin Hunt!”

Then, she looked at Mrs. Hunt again and said, “Are they the guests you were talking about, Great-Grandma? I’ve been to their house! Daddy took me there before, yeah!”

Cherry’s young and tender voice rang out in the living room, shocking Melissa so badly that she was practically crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.

What nonsense was Cherry spouting?

Pete Hunt? What nonsens...

No, wait, Hunt?

And ‘Great-Grandma’...

‘My father is Justin Hunt’...

She looked at Cherry, who was in her arms, in disbelief after connecting the pieces of crucial information. She swallowed hard and asked, “Y-your father is Justin Hunt?”

Justin was the father of Nora’s child???

Cherry blinked at her and replied, “Uh-huh! My father is Justin Hunt, and I am his son, yeah!”

She deliberately placed emphasis on the word ‘son’. Then, she asked, “Where’s my sister? Didn’t she come?”

If Pete had come, he would definitely find a way to escape!

There was absolutely no way he would stay!

Cherry understood her elder brother very well, so there weren’t any loopholes in her words at all.

The dumbfounded Melissa’s mind was a complete blank.

Mrs. Hunt, however, was very displeased with how close and intimate the two of them were. She beckoned to Cherry and said, "Come to Great-Grandma, Pete."

Cherry nodded and ran to Mrs. Hunt.

After getting her to sit beside her, Mrs. Hunt looked at Melissa and asked with a fake smile, "So, Justin has already paid your family a visit?"

Melissa: "..."

When had he ever paid them a visit?!

But when she thought of what Pete had said just now...

She looked again at Cherry, who was sitting beside Mrs. Hunt obediently...

The child in front of her felt more like the Cherry whom Nora had brought with her from California. On the contrary, it was the Cherry, who was always so quiet and taciturn lately, that felt more like she would be the little mister of the Hunts...

Could it be that...

Everything suddenly clicked in her head in this instant.

She looked at Mrs. Hunt again, who said with a smile, "You mustn't be so casual with your terms of address, Pete. You should call her Mrs. Anderson instead."

Cherry blinked. "But Daddy told me to call her Grand-Aunt!"

The clever Cherry had long since discovered that everyone in this family became fearful the moment she brought her father into the picture!

Sure enough, Mrs. Hunt didn't make any more mention about changing the term of address. Instead, she looked at Melissa with a smile and said, "Would you just look at this child? He's just so innocent that he can't even distinguish between who's family and who's not. That said, it's not really a big issue even if he goes along with it and addresses you as Grand-Aunt."

Mrs. Hunt could tell from Cherry's attitude that Justin had already taken care of everything long ago. Knowing that there was no way she could stop the marriage anymore, she heaved a silent sigh inwardly.

In that case, there were some things that must be made clear.

She took a deep breath and said with a smile, "Mrs. Anderson, I asked you over because there's something I want to talk to you about. I should think that you're already aware that Ms. Smith and Justin are dating. What are your thoughts on this? Also, our family has high hopes for Pete. Surely the Andersons won't mind if he becomes close to his biological mother in the future, right?"

Although they didn't know who Pete's biological mother was, they would eventually find her.

In Mrs. Hunt's opinion, no one could compare to their own blood relatives.

It was just like Iris back then. For Justin's sake, hadn't she also willingly suffered injustice for so many years? She was the only person in this world who didn't harbor any thoughts of using Justin and treated him well.

Although she didn't know why Justin had never made any mention of Pete's biological mother, these thoughts of hers had never once changed.

Melissa had already recovered from her shock and consternation by now. As expected of someone who had experienced so much in life, the woman had already understood everything during these short few moments.

No wonder Nora had kept in contact with Justin. As it turned out, the father of her children was none other than Justin himself!

Although she didn't know how Nora and Justin had come to have children, or what exactly had happened back then, what she did know right now was that Mrs. Hunt was obviously unaware that Nora was Pete's biological mother!

She coughed and asked, "Do you know where Pete's biological mother is, Mrs. Hunt?"

Mrs. Hunt, however, misunderstood her.

She thought what Melissa meant was—how was Pete going to become close with his biological mother when they didn't even know where she was?

At once, Mrs. Hunt smiled and replied very meaningfully, "Of course, I do."

Melissa: "??"

Then, Mrs. Hunt puffed herself up at her own cost and said, "It's said that mothers and their children share a connection. You should have heard of that saying before, right? You're also a mother yourself, so you must know how a mother feels toward their children. Although there are some misunderstandings between Justin and her, for the boy's sake, I think Justin will eventually forgive her."

She looked at Melissa again after she spoke, and thought of a way to get her to back down. She said, "Of course, if Ms. Smith doesn't mind, then it's not a problem."

Melissa: "..."

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. She suddenly felt very much like laughing.

She asked, "How do you feel about his biological mother, then?"

Mrs. Hunt became domineering this time. She replied, "I don't care who she is. She deserves my gratitude just for giving birth to such an excellent successor for the Hunts!"

Her words were filled with heartfelt sincerity.

Pete was simply too outstanding. Even his IQ showed signs of surpassing Justin's!

Melissa glanced at Cherry when she heard what Mrs. Hunt said, and she couldn't help but laugh. She suddenly felt like it didn't seem that bad for Nora to marry into the Hunts, either?

Her smile baffled Mrs. Hunt.. "What are you laughing at, Mrs. Anderson?"

Melissa lowered her gaze and hurriedly reined in her smile. "I was just amused, that's all. These are the Hunts' private affairs. I shouldn't be asking about it."

“Our private affairs?” Mrs. Hunt frowned. “It’s not really just our private affairs anymore, is it? Aren’t Ms. Smith and Justin in a relationship right now?”

Melissa feigned surprise. “Are the two youngsters dating? I really wouldn’t know about that.”

She didn’t know what Nora’s plans were, so there was no way she would agree to any sort of request.

Mrs. Hunt: ??

What was the matter with her?

Melissa wasn’t that wary and cautious anymore all of a sudden!

Was it really like what Justin said? Nora Smith wasn’t interested in him?

That... wasn’t quite possible, was it? Which girl could possibly resist the temptation that was Justin Hunt?

However, since Melissa had already put it that way, she couldn’t go on about the topic anymore. She changed the subject tactfully and invited Melissa to stay for dinner.

However, Melissa declined the invitation and hurried back to the Andersons before dinner.

As soon as she entered the compound, she saw the usually asleep Nora looking at her. Her brows were drawn together as she asked, “I heard from Pete that you went to the Hunts’?”

Pete...

So, the child in their house was indeed the Hunts’ little mister!

The news astounded Melissa so badly that her legs turned into jelly the moment she got out of the car. She held Nora’s arm for support, grabbed her hand, and asked, “Nora, Cherry and Pete are...?”

“They are twins,” replied Nora simply.

Melissa swallowed. Even though she had already guessed it, she nevertheless couldn’t help but ask hesitantly, “And Justin is their...?”

“He’s their father.”

Nora sounded very sure.

In the past, she was sure because Justin must have already done a DNA test for himself and Pete. As for now, it was because Lily had already compared Justin’s DNA with the twins’, and Justin was indeed their father.

She still remembered what Lily had said then:

“Oh, by the way, I also checked the father’s IQ genes while I was doing the DNA test, and it’s astonishingly high. It’s at the highest end of the range of values for normal people though, so it’s still a teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit inferior to your crazy IQ.”

Since she had emphasized how minimal the difference was, it meant that there really wasn’t much of one.

However, Nora had been more concerned about the children at the time. “What about the children?”

“... The children’s IQs are also out of this world. Pete has the same IQ genes as you—in fact, they’re even a bit better. As for Cherry, hers is even crazier. Her IQ is the average of yours and her father’s, so it’s even higher.”

Nora: “...”

Her IQ was obviously a ‘teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit’ higher than Justin’s. Pete was a boy, so he had fully inherited his IQ genes from her. It was normal for it to be slightly higher than hers.

However, Cherry’s was the average of hers and Justin’s, so how was it higher than Pete’s?

Nora’s lip corners spasmed. “You must be mistaken.”

An exceptionally serious Lily replied, “Please do not question my professional abilities, Anti. I personally carried out all the tests involving your DNA.”

Nora: “...”

Before she hung up, she made it a point to remind her, “Please delete all the data.”

“No problem.”

...

Melissa stared at the girl in front of her in shock.

The unattainable Justin was every girl’s dream in New York.

When her daughter Sheril met him at a party when she was young, even she had come back saying, “He’s the most handsome boy I’ve ever seen! And he also has an air of elegance around him!”

At that time, Melissa had immediately warned her, “Even so, you mustn’t develop feelings for him. People like him can’t be tamed.”

Sheril had immediately understood then that some people were simply favored by God from the start.

Yet, their Nora had conquered that unattainable man?

An astonished Melissa asked, “Are two of you really going to get married?”

Although Mrs. Hunt looked down on the Andersons—in fact, she even had something against them because Yvette had broken her son’s heart in the past—after her chat with her earlier, Melissa was now sure of something: Once Mrs. Hunt realized that Nora was Pete’s biological mother and that she could even bring an additional Cherry to the Hunts, Mrs. Hunt would probably treat Nora as the Hunts’ most honored guest!

Nora yawned and replied, “No, we’re not.”

Then, she added seriously, “I’ve never entertained that thought before.”

Melissa nodded. The next moment, she saw Nora pick up her cell phone and make a call. The other party answered very quickly.

“Hello, Ms. Smith. Are you calling me this late because you miss me?”

Nora said, “... Keep your family members in check.”

Justin: “?”

Nora was cold and distant as she said, “Don’t harass the Andersons.”

Justin understood at once. “Was it Grandma?”

“Yeah.” Nora said unhurriedly, “She told my aunt to go over and discuss marriage plans.”

“ ... ”

“Mr. Hunt,” Nora said, “Didn’t we already reach an agreement about not believing in getting married?”

Melissa: “!!!”

Was that how Nora usually talked to Mr. Hunt?

Why did her voice sound like it was brimming with disdain?!

Mr. Hunt would definitely become angry, right?

While her imagination was running wild, the voice on the other end of the call said, “It’s my fault.”

Melissa: “????”

Was that the same Mr. Hunt who was always so aloof and overlooked others from high up in the air?!

Why did he sound a little like he was trying to please Nora?

Nora, who also didn’t expect him to admit his mistake, raised her eyebrows a little.

For the first time, she developed the illusion that she was being too much of a bully.

While she was thinking about it, Justin, who sounded even more aggrieved now, said, “I will keep my family members properly in check. Grandma was just hoping that I would have my own family soon. I know you’re a non-believer of marriage though, so I won’t force you into anything.”

“ ... ”

Nora kept quiet for a long while. At last, she finally coughed and said, “Actually, you can be with other women...”

“Ms. Smith,” Justin interrupted her solemnly and said, “You were the one who fell in love with me first, so you mustn’t push me away now.”

Nora: “...”

“In order to get close to me, you used all sorts of ways and means to get close to my son. You’re the only one that he acknowledges as his Mommy now, so you can’t just wash all this off your hands and leave. If you do that, not only would you be letting me down, but you’ll also be letting Pete down.”

“...”

“Don’t worry. I won’t force you if you’re unwilling to marry me. After all, I can’t let you down when you’re so in love with me. Even if Grandma is really old now and wants to see me get married... it doesn’t matter. Everything is fine as long as you are happy.”

“...”

Nora wanted very much to say that he really didn’t need to do that, yet she felt that if she were to say that without explaining everything clearly, she would end up sounding like a scumbag.

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. In the end, she could only humbly and guiltily hang up, feeling as if she had bullied someone.

As soon as she hung up, she received another call. When she picked up, Iris’ voice rang out. “Ms. Smith, are you free now?”

“Yes, I am. What’s the matter?” asked Nora.

Iris said, “I have a pot of flowers here that’s dying. Can you come over and take a look at it?”

Nora thought for a moment and replied, “Okay.”

At the same time, Justin also received a call from Mrs. Landis. “Mr.. Justin, please come over with Pete if you’re free.”

Panda Novel

Nora was about to hang up when Iris suggested, “Why don’t you bring your son along with you?”

Nora thought for a moment. Then, she nodded and said, "Okay."

She went upstairs, brought Pete down, and got in the car with him. She said, "I'll take you to meet a friend of mine."

Pete was very excited. "Okay!"

Even though he had known Mommy for a very long time by now, he only knew a few of her friends. Pete wanted to know what his Mommy was usually up to, since she was such an enigma.

Even though Mommy was always sleeping, she was so rich!

There was no way anyone could make that much money just by being a genius doctor!

He got into the car excitedly and sat in the backseat.

When Nora was walking to the driver's seat, she looked at Melissa, who was still in a daze, and slowly said, "Please keep this... a secret for now, Aunt Melissa."

"... Okay," said Melissa.

After Nora left, Melissa finally entered the living room. Mrs. Anderson, who had been waiting all afternoon, stepped forward nervously at once. She held her hand and asked, "How was it, Melissa? Did Mrs. Hunt say anything?"

Melissa was in a daze. "No, she didn't."

Mrs. Anderson breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good. Sigh, I'm just afraid that she'll bring up some kind of request or condition. If they want to treat Pete's biological mother as family, then will Justin take Nora's or the other woman's side?"

Melissa: "..."

She looked at Mrs. Anderson hesitantly before she finally said, "Actually, it's all the same."

Mrs. Anderson glanced at her. "You don't get it, do you? It's not the same. If that happens, Pete's biological mother will definitely cause Nora trouble. Also, what if Pete resents Nora even after she raises him into an adult? These

things all have to be made clear in advance. Sigh, it's just so troublesome when other people's children are involved."

"..."

In a villa on the outskirts of New York.

Mrs. Landis and Iris were happily preparing dinner.

Iris was in a very good mood. The woman, who looked as lithe as a teenager, hummed a little tune as she went back and forth the dining table and the kitchen joyfully.

Seeing her in such a good mood, Mrs. Landis laughed and said, "Ma'am, your mind must be at ease now, right? You've already asked around and found out that Mr. Hunt's girlfriend is from the Andersons. The other Ms. Smith only has a daughter while your god-sister has a son instead! As it turns out, the two of them just share the same name! You don't have to worry anymore!"

Iris nodded. "Yes, it's fine as long as they aren't one and the same. I was so scared that I had accidentally elevated Justin's girlfriend's position to one that was more senior than his, which would have made it awkward for the two of them!"

Mrs. Landis laughed again. "The fish and chips are fried especially nicely tonight, so they'll definitely taste awesome. The children are gonna love it."

"Yeah."

Iris smiled and said, "I wonder how old Ms. Smith's son is, and how far apart his age is from Pete's. I don't know if the two of them can get along or not."

Mrs. Landis teased her and said, "You worry too much!"

Only then did Iris suddenly realize that she was indeed worrying too much.

For so many years, many people had tried to please her. There were even some that tried to pander to her interests and spoke knowledgeably to her about orchids.

All of them were trying to ingratiate themselves with Justin.

In order to reduce unnecessary troubles for Justin, she had rejected them all. Therefore, all the rumors outside claimed that she was difficult to deal with, and had a strange temperament.

Come to think of it, Nora was actually the only friend she had made all these years. Therefore, she hadn't stopped Mrs. Landis when she also told Justin to come over after Nora was invited over for dinner.

This was just her selfish desire, but she wanted her son to help Nora out a little if he could.

After all, it wasn't easy for a woman to bring up a child on her own. It reminded her of herself when she was taking care of Justin back then.

Perhaps because she had suppressed her feelings for too long, it led to her wanting to give the other party all the good things she could after she made a friend.

Moreover, what Nora said the day before had made Iris suddenly realize that she indeed didn't understand Justin.

She was Justin's mother. In situations that wouldn't cause him any trouble, helping her friend out was something he should do, right?

... Even though Iris didn't know what kind of help Nora could possibly need from her.

While driving to the villa in the suburbs, Nora received another call from Justin.

After she uttered a 'hello', Justin asked, "Are you free tonight? I'll take you somewhere for a meal?"

Nora, who was looking ahead of her, replied, "I'm not free."

Justin, who seemed to have heard some kind of sound, immediately asked, "You have an appointment? Who are you meeting that has actually made you abandon me? That's not something that someone in love with me should be doing."

He was afraid that she was going on a date with Caleb.

Nora's lip corners spasmed a little. She couldn't be bothered to explain that she was visiting her newly-gained god-sister, lest the guy says something like 'Which is more important—meeting me or your god-sister?'

Thus, she simply said, "I'm sleepy. I'm going home to sleep."

"... Alright then," said Justin.

In a rare moment, Nora asked, "What about you?"

Justin let out a low chuckle and replied, "I'll sleep with you."

Nora: "?"

Her voice turned cold. "Talk properly!"

Justin said, "We'll sleep together after you go back to your house and I go back to mine. Is there something wrong with this sentence? Or did you get the wrong idea?"

Nora: "!!!!"

The corners of her lips spasmed, and she said, "I'm hanging up!"

On the other end of the call, Justin couldn't help laughing after Nora hung up so fiercely.

He was in the car at the moment. The chauffeur was driving to the suburbs.

Cherry, who was sitting beside him, asked, "Are you planning to take Mommy to Grandma's for dinner, Daddy?"

Justin nodded. "Yes. Your Grandma has some misunderstandings about her. I think she would be able to understand what she's like after we sit down and have a meal together, but unfortunately..."

"Mommy definitely won't go!" Cherry said, "She wants to sleep!"

Justin: "..."

Half an hour later.

Nora arrived at the suburbs.

It was already dark, so Pete didn't notice where they were when they entered the residential area. Besides, he rarely came over in the first place. In the day, he could still tell that this was where his grandmother lived, but because it was too dark now, he didn't manage to make out the surroundings until the car reached the villa entrance.

It was only after Nora took him out of the car and they entered the villa that Pete finally realized something. Unfortunately, it was too late!

"Ms. Smith!" Iris welcomed her into the house excitedly. "Let's have dinner together tonight!"

Nora nodded. Then, she pushed Pete—who was hiding behind her and trying to say something all this time but didn't have any chance to—to Iris. She said, "This is my son, Pete."

Then, she said to Pete, "Say hi to your god-aunt, Pete."

Mrs. Landis, who had sent the two into the living room, hurried out the door when she heard another car at the door. When she saw Justin walking over with Cherry, she smiled and said, "You're here, Mr. Hunt!"

Justin noticed a car in the corner. As the place was dim, he didn't make out what kind of car it was. He asked casually, "You have guests over?"

"Yep!" Mrs. Landis explained, "It's Ma'am's new god-sister! It's just nice that you're here, so you can also meet her!"

God-sister?

Justin's brows drew together.

Iris had been leading a reclusive life all these years. She treated outsiders harshly and was like a robot without emotions.

He could even clearly remember that one time he came over when he was a child and saw that her family, the Evanses, had come over. However, he also saw, with his own eyes, Iris driving them out of the villa.

Mrs. Landis had stood in front of the door to stop them from entering at that time. His aunt from the Evanses had knelt in front of the door with her child

and cried out in tears that they mustn't delay medical treatment for his uncle anymore. He needed immediate treatment, otherwise he would die.

But Iris hadn't spared them even a glance.

He had bodyguards protecting him when he walked in, so his aunt couldn't get near him. She stayed where she was and sobbed as she cursed, "You're no different from a cold-blooded monster, Iris Hunt! You're a venomous snake! It's all because of you that the Evanses are in this state today! Yet, you're actually sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing! He's your elder brother! How can you be so cruel?"

His footsteps had paused at that time.

However, he hadn't taken the liberty to give her any money, say anything, or comfort her—because he had already understood by then that sometimes, what one saw was not necessarily the truth.

He didn't understand the relationship between his mother and her family at all, so how could he ask anything of his mother?

Regardless, the sight of his aunt berating Iris and calling her a venomous snake with a savage look on her face had remained in his memory.

All these years, every time he came over and saw how Iris was always so cold toward everyone, and heard from the bodyguards how all she did every day was take care of her flowers, and how she didn't seem to have any social interaction with anyone, he had even thought that she didn't have any friends at all.

Yet, she was actually introducing her god-sister to him now!

He understood the implicit meaning behind introducing her god-sister to him—it was nothing more than her wanting the Hunts to help her god-sister out and take care of her. Over the years, on account of various people, he had already helped out a lot of people with their businesses.

Adding one more person to the count didn't matter.

However, he felt rather unhappy.

His mother had never worried about him or comforted him before. She had abandoned him at the Hunts' icy-cold manor when he was only five and left him to his own devices ever since.

Yet, she was actually showing so much concern for an outsider now?

He was really curious. Just what kind of woman had managed to capture his mother's heart?

Justin's expression turned cold, and he entered the house.

In the living room.

Iris was staring at Pete at the moment, her beautiful eyes widened in disbelief.

Pete had also raised his little head and was looking at his grandmother.

Although the two rarely saw each other, Justin did occasionally bring him over for quick visits, so one could say that they were the most familiar strangers.

For a while, neither of them spoke.

Nora looked at Iris, and then back at Pete. Finding their silence rather strange, she frowned and prompted Pete. "Pete?"

Although Pete was mildly autistic, he had shown good manners ever since he started to live with her, and would always greet his relatives whenever he met them. This was especially so with the Andersons. He always greeted Melissa very sweetly whenever he saw her.

So, why was he suddenly not greeting his elders anymore the moment he came here?

While she was hesitating, Iris asked in a trembling voice, "M-Ms. Smith, is... is he your son?"

Nora nodded. "Yeah."

But when she looked at Iris again, she found that the woman suddenly had an extremely complex look on her face. She stared at Nora for a while.

In the midst of Nora's confusion, Pete's small and weak voice entered her ears.

“Hello, Grandma.”

Nora: “??”

Her head whipped to the side abruptly to see Pete with a resigned look on his face as if he didn't have anything to live for anymore. He said, “Mommy, she... she's my grandmother.”

Seemingly because he saw that Nora didn't seem like she understood what he was saying, he added, “You know, my father's mommy.”

Nora: “...”

Iris: “...”

Pete held his forehead. He knew that the two of them were utterly shocked at the moment, so he said to Iris, “Grandma, can you keep this a secret from Daddy for now?”

Practically right after he spoke, someone suddenly opened the living room door. Mrs. Landis' voice traveled over.

“Come on in, Mr. Hunt!”

When Mrs. Landis was bringing Nora and Pete into the house, as she had been preoccupied leading the way, she hadn't managed to see Pete's face clearly. Right after that, she had gone out in a hurry again. Thus, she looked at Cherry, pointed at Pete from the back, and said, “Your god-grandaunt has brought her little boy here. You guys can play with each other later!”

As soon as she said that, Iris stood up straight and looked at the door.

Nora and Pete also turned around instinctively. For a time, the family of four stood facing one another.

“...”

The whole room was suddenly filled with weird silence.

After a full twenty seconds of silence, Mrs. Landis finally rubbed her eyes. She looked at Nora, and then at Justin before finally looking at Pete and Cherry. Then, she looked at Iris in confusion. “Have I become that old, Ma'am? Are

my eyes playing tricks on me? Why does Ms. Smith's son look exactly the same as the little mister?!"

Her words made Iris's lip corners spasm.

She suddenly realized that she had really done something wrong. She coughed and said, "M-Mrs. Landis, w-why don't you introduce them to each other? I... I suddenly have a headache, so I'll go upstairs and rest for a bit."

After speaking, she walked to the stairs with her left arm moving forward with her left leg, and vice versa. She seemingly went upstairs, but after turning the corner, she immediately stopped and secretly popped her head out from behind the wall to look at the others' reactions.

But when she did, she instead found that all five people downstairs were looking straight at her, frightening Iris so badly that she immediately retracted her head, coughed, and went upstairs.

When Mrs. Landis saw her fleeing, something suddenly clicked in her head, and she immediately cursed at Iris inwardly. How could she leave her all alone downstairs in a situation

like this?!

She could already feel the awkward and frosty atmosphere in the living room without even looking at Justin. She swallowed hard and stammered, "Um, M-Mr. Justin, this... this is Ma'am's new god-sister."

As soon as she said that, she felt Justin looking at her.

In a brainless move, she added, "In other words, she's your g-g-god-aunt..."

"..."

The low air pressure in the air seemingly became even lower.

Only then did Mrs. Landis realize that she had really rubbed Justin's nose in it. How could she possibly not understand by now? Ms. Smith was none other than Justin's said girlfriend that Tina had mentioned!

But what had she and Ma'am done instead? They had elevated his girlfriend's position to one that was senior to his own!

Justin was probably secretly cursing his mother right now!

While she was thinking about it, she suddenly had a brainwave. She said, “Oh dear, Ma’am always eats some cake at this time every day. I’ll bring some up for her...”

After saying that, she ran straight upstairs without even taking any cake with her.

For a time, only the family of four remained in the living room.

Ten seconds later, dead silence filled the room.

“ ... ”

A minute later, the silence in the room became even scarier.

“ ... ”

Even after two minutes went by, none of them had any intention of speaking.

“ ... ”

Nora, who had always been short of sleep, found time especially hard to pass at the moment. How she wished she could just close her eyes and fall asleep, so that by the time she woke up, the day would be bright and sunny once more.

But that was obviously not the most appropriate thing to do at the moment.

She had never been afraid of anything, and she had always been a direct and straightforward person. Even so, she kinda understood in this instant what it meant to want to dig a hole and bury oneself in it.

Her gaze drifted about erratically. She looked at the ceiling with her arms hanging by her side and nudged Pete with her hand to get him to break the silence.

Pete: “ ... ”

By then, Pete and Cherry had already communicated a great deal with each other with their eyes.

Pete looked at Cherry: 'What do we do now?'

Cherry's big eyes blinked: 'I don't know, either!'

Pete held his hands up helplessly: 'The tyrant looks so calm, but the calmer he is on the outside, the angrier he is on the inside!'

Cherry also glanced at Nora: 'Mommy also has a really grave look on her face. The more grave she looks, the scarier the decision she'll make!'

Pete was terrified: 'Surely Mommy isn't thinking of knocking out the tyrant and taking the two of us away, right?'

Cherry: '... It's not impossible.'

Pete: '...'

While the two children were communicating with their eyes, Nora nudged Pete. She curled her fingers a little, motioning for him to speak.

Thus, Pete said, "Mommy, Daddy always brings 12 bodyguards and even 24 hidden bodyguards whenever he goes out. You won't be able to fight your way out."

As soon as he said that, the room became even quieter.

"..."

It was as if everyone's breathing was audible.

Justin: "..."

To be honest, he was also in a huge panic at the moment!

Before this, Nora hadn't known that he was already aware of everything. In order to make the woman stay, he had deliberately kept one of the two children with him. This way, she would always stay by his side.

But now!

If they were to address the elephant in the room, he wouldn't be able to continue being 'narcissistic'!

The woman would explain everything, and then...

What must he do to make the woman and the children stay?

The man, who had always been full of ideas when it came to the world of commerce, was also in a panic. Thus, all he could do was stand there with a pensive look on his face.

Unfortunately, his expression instead gave Nora the impression that he was a very terrifying man.

Well, that made sense. Justin would definitely be furious once he knew that one of his children had been taken away from him. It was already very impressive that he could suppress his anger and keep himself from venting it. Moreover, he hadn't said anything really awful, either.

When Nora, who had just thought of that, heard what Pete said, the corners of her lips couldn't help but spasm.

Cough.

She would never ever admit that she had indeed been itching just a moment ago to knock the man out and then flee the country with the two children.

In fact, an escape route had already formed in her mind that very moment. After going out, she mustn't drive straight to the airport because Justin was definitely powerful enough to seal the airport and trains.

Therefore, she would drive to the suburbs instead, find an empty helipad, and get Lily to pilot a private jet and come over to pick them up as soon as possible!

However, it would take Lily seven to eight hours to fly over. After all, they were too far away from Switzerland, where Lily was... Should it really be beyond Lily's means, she would get Solo to pick them up instead. After all, he was closer to where they were.

If not, then her only option would be to approach her aunt overseas for help instead...

But when she heard about the 36 bodyguards, Nora fell silent and dismissed the idea.

She had fought Justin's bodyguards before; it was easy for her to beat one or two, but 36... Say, just how fearful of dying was that man? Did he have to bring so many people with him whenever he went out?

While Nora was daydreaming, Justin finally spoke. "Shouldn't you give me a reasonable explanation for this, Ms. Smith?"

Phew...

The weird atmosphere was finally broken. Nora breathed a sigh of relief at last. After thinking for a while about how to word the situation, she started to explain the issues with the children. She said, "... Since you've already seen everything, then I won't keep it from you anymore. The reason why I have been trying to get close to you and Pete is actually..."

But before she could finish, Justin cut her off and said, "That's not the explanation I'm asking for. Rather, back then, why did you get pregnant with my children behind my back?"

All the words that Nora had prepared became stuck in her throat, choking her. She was about to speak when Justin said sharply, "You'd best give me a reasonable explanation, why did you plot against me and then run away that night?! You even bore two of my children!"

Nora: "???"

Her mind was full of question marks!

Which night was he talking about?

No, wait...

Nora narrowed her eyes. "Didn't you say that you don't know how I became pregnant?"

Justin lowered his gaze. "I didn't know it was you at that time, so of course I would say that. After all, surely I couldn't tell outsiders that a woman had plotted against me and taken advantage of me, right?"

Nora: "?????"

She pointed at herself incredulously. "I... plotted against you?"

Justin, who was pulling a long face, replied, “Yes. Given how you were fat and ugly at that time, it can’t possibly be because I fell in love with you and plotted against you, right?”

Nora: “???????”

Was she suffering from memory loss? Or had she really been sleepwalking that time?! But she really didn’t remember him appearing in her dream! After all, given that face of his, it would have been deeply etched in her memory if she had indeed dreamed of him!

She was about to refute him when Justin spoke again. “Tell me, woman, what exactly are you plotting by scheming against me and even bearing me two children?”

Nora: “...”

She was speechless.

She didn’t know what to say!

Seemingly because she wasn’t saying anything, Justin’s voice turned even colder. “If you’re not going to explain yourself... These two children are part of the Hunts. There’s no way I will allow the Hunts’ children to wander about outside, let alone allow a woman with ulterior motives to go near my children! So, without a good reason, you can forget about ever seeing my children again!”

He placed his hands on top of Pete’s and Cherry’s heads and took a step back with the two.

Nora: “?”

Her eyes darkened.

How dare that man threaten her! Hah!

Just as she was about to attack...

Cherry and Pete, whom Justin was holding on to, panicked when they heard their father.

They wouldn’t be able to see Mommy ever again?

No, they couldn't have that!

Cherry immediately shouted, "Daddy, Mommy doesn't have any ill intentions! She doesn't have any ulterior motives, either!"

Even though Justin, who was in the midst of a confrontation with Nora, had adopted an icy-cold demeanor on the surface, he was actually secretly terribly anxious.

Why hadn't that silly girl taken the bait yet?

Well, it was true that she wasn't afraid of a head-on confrontation, after all.

However, his precious little baby finally spoke up at this point. Justin breathed a sigh of relief inwardly, though the look on his face remained cold. "What is she planning, if not something malevolent?"

"It's... it's... it's..." Cherry looked at Nora, and then at Justin. At last, she turned to Pete for help and asked, "It's... What was it again, Pete?"

Pete: "?"

Seeing the tyrant also looking over, Pete stammered, "It's... It's..."

Pete was in a huge panic. It was simply too difficult to find a reasonable answer!

Just as all three other people in the room were staring at him, and while Cherry was frantically giving him looks, Pete suddenly thought of the bossy CEO-type romance novels that he'd chanced upon in the past. Thus, his next few words came easily to him:

"It's because she 'couldn't help it', and because she 'couldn't control her feelings'..."

His words were rather hesitant in the beginning, but the more he spoke, the brighter his eyes shone, and the more certain he sounded. He said, "It's because Mommy likes you! Yes, it's exactly because of that!"

Nora: "??????"

She was about to refute him when Cherry rushed over and grabbed her hand. She looked at Justin and said, "Daddy, it's because Mommy likes you so

much that she had to do something like that. You won't stop us from seeing Mommy in the future, right?"

Nora: "..."

Although they had made her the scapegoat, she did indeed want to know Justin's opinion on the matter.

If that scumbag took a step back as a result, it wasn't like she couldn't just roll with it, either...

While she was thinking about it, the cold aura around Justin gradually subsided. He looked at her amicably and asked, "Is what they say, true?"

Nora: "..."

She felt that since they had already addressed the matter, she might as well say it all.

But before she could say anything, Cherry nodded repeatedly and said, "It's true, it's true! Mommy really likes you, Daddy! Mommy kept singing your praises before we met you! She even said that you look so cool, handsome, and tender! You're the world's number one hunk!"

Nora: "!!"

When had she ever said anything like that?

"Cough." Cherry's words seemed to have given Justin quite the shock, too. He let out a low cough, looked at Nora, and said, "That's a little too explicit of you."

Nora: "..."

Never mind.

She would just bear with it.

She had only just quietly suppressed her annoyance when Justin asked, "But since you like me so much, why don't you believe in marriage?"

Nora: "?"

Was there no end to that man's questions?

Her brows drew together, and a sharp look flashed across her eyes. She sneered, "There's no correlation between liking someone and getting married, is there, Mr. Hunt? Who says non-believers of marriage can't date?"

Upon hearing her sarcasm and the sound of her gnashing her teeth, Justin knew at once that they had to end it here for today. Otherwise, once he angered her for real, the chances of them getting together would become even lower.

This was the very first time in all these years that he had fallen for a woman. He mustn't let her run away.

Justin feigned sudden realization and said, "I see."

Suddenly, Nora asked, "Since you claim that I had pestered you back then, where did I do said pestering, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin raised his eyebrows.

How would he know?!

He didn't even know how she became pregnant!

That night didn't even exist in his memory at all, alright?!

Regardless, even if he did know, he didn't know what the woman was thinking at that moment, so he had deliberately lied.

However, he absolutely mustn't give her the impression that there were loopholes in his words. Thus, he smiled and suddenly replied, "In California."

"Which hotel in California was it?"

Justin gave her a seemingly amused look. "Are you thinking of reliving the moment, Ms. Smith?"

Nora: "!!"

She took another deep breath and tried her best to tell herself, 'Remain calm, remain calm. Don't get angry.'

At last, she said, “Just asking.”

Justin, however, stepped forward. “The past is in the past, we have to look to the future. You don’t have to keep reminiscing about that night five years ago, Ms. Smith. If you find it necessary, we can consummate right away.”

Consummate?

Pete and Cherry’s eyes lit up at the same time. But as soon as they wanted to speak, Nora said coldly, “No, it’s fine.”

She gritted her teeth and spat out word after word—“I don’t find that necessary, my! God! Nephew!”

Justin’s face instantly turned green.

Upstairs.

Iris and Mrs. Landis popped their heads out and tried their best to listen to the voices downstairs.

Unfortunately, their voices were too low, so they couldn’t hear what they were saying at all. Iris looked at Mrs. Landis. “Why does the situation downstairs feel kinda weird?”

“... It feels kinda weird to me, too. Surely there wasn’t some kind of dramatic love-hate relationship between Mr. Justin and Ms. Smith back then, right? Have they reconciled now? Ma’am, don’t you feel that what happened to Ms. Smith sounds like a tale of a pretty little wife running away with a babe in her belly?”

“Don’t spout nonsense! Their story is much more exciting than a novel!”

Mrs. Landis: “...”

The two listened to the voices downstairs again. Seeing that nothing seemed to be happening anymore, Mrs. Landis asked, “Should we go downstairs and get ready for dinner, Ma’am?”

Iris nodded. “Yeah. Let’s go down and take a look.”

However, as soon as they went downstairs, they saw Nora sitting on the sofa triumphantly with her arms folded. There was a small smile on her usually cool and distant countenance.

Justin, on the other hand, looked livid.

Clearly, Nora seemed to have won the confrontation just now.

Mrs. Landis coughed and called out, “Ms. Smith, Mr. Hunt, and the two little misters. Shall we have dinner?”

Nora got up. “Sure. I just so happen to have gotten hungry.”

After speaking, she looked at Iris and asked, “Let’s have dinner, Sis?”

Iris: “?”

Why did it suddenly feel like the temperature in the room dropped a few degrees when she said the word ‘Sis’?

She looked at Justin, who was pulling a long face, and the corners of her lips spasmed. She coughed and said, “Um, I didn’t know about your relationship with Justin previously. Considering the situation now, we...”

“These are two separate matters,” Nora replied casually but surely, “We’ll keep the terms of address separate in the future. Mr. Hunt won’t mind, right?”

Justin replied, “... No, I don’t.”

Iris: “...”

The group settled at the dining table.

Pete and Cherry sat next to each other. When they looked at the tyrant and Mommy sitting at the same dining table, they suddenly felt much more blissful than usual!

Unfortunately, the adults didn’t feel that sense of bliss at all.

After they finally finished dinner and the group left, Justin asked coldly, “So, Pete goes with you? And the daughter comes with me?”

Nora breathed a sigh of relief at his words.

At least that guy didn't ask for both children.

Otherwise, she would really explode.

What kind of horrible evening was this? She felt so frustrated!

She had never felt this frustrated in her entire life!

She nodded. "That works."

She took Pete's hand after she spoke. When she was about to leave, she paused and looked back at Iris. "Don't tell anyone else about this for now, Sis."

Justin paused. He was also about to tell Iris that, but unexpectedly, Nora had done it a step ahead of him.

Thus, he decided not to say anything.

It wasn't convenient for so many people to protect Pete while he was with Nora. Therefore, the children's identities indeed had to be kept secret.

Iris nodded.

While on the way home with Pete, Nora suddenly received a text message on her cell phone.

She glanced at it when she reached a red light, but the moment she did, she suddenly froze.

The text message read: 'Do you wanna know how exactly you became pregnant back then?'

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When Nora saw these words, her eyes narrowed.

It was an anonymous message.

She picked it up casually. Before the traffic light turned green, her fingers moved nimbly to trace the sender's number. However, she realized that the phone number had not been registered with an identity card.

She hacked into his phone again, trying to find his location.

In the blink of an eye, she had locked onto him!

Position: New York!

The exact location was near her car!

When she saw that the red dot was less than a few meters away from her green position, the other party seemed to have sensed her tracking. The red dot flickered a few times and disappeared.

Nora clenched her fists tightly and suddenly looked around.

Although it was already 9 PM, there were still many cars on the road in New York. Because of the traffic lights, most of the cars behind were already blocked.

In other words, that person's car was also blocked inside.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and instructed Pete, "Stay in the car."

Hearing her grave tone, Pete nodded in understanding. "Okay."

He was not afraid because, on the way home, he knew that Justin had assigned a few bodyguards to secretly protect him.

After Nora got out of the car, the car made a clicking sound and was locked up to prevent the bad guys from taking Pete away.

Nora then ran in the direction she remembered.

From the map, she could tell that the other party was less than 200 meters away from her.

The car was not more than 200 meters away from her...

She used her eyes to estimate and agilely weaved through the cars.

100 meters... 150 meters...

The traffic light was relatively long. It took about 90 seconds to go green, and it took her 80 seconds to locate the other party and get there. There were still 10 seconds!

If she could not find that person, she might miss this opportunity.

Although Justin had said that she had killed the other party back then, she had no memory of it at all.

Therefore, even if Justin remembered that night, the two of them had still been schemed against.

The person who had schemed against them and made her give birth to two children was a mystery. As for how she got pregnant, it was even more of a mystery.

And the mystery was only 50 meters away.

Nora took a few steps forward suddenly. The cars beside her were already honking impatiently. There were too many cars in New York, and the roads were filled with cars.

200 meters!

About seven to eight cars were parked 200 meters away from her!

She walked over quickly and knocked on the window of the first car.

The car window rolled down and the driver looked at her impatiently. "What are you doing? Do you want to die?"

That person's expression was very real. It was obvious that he was a passerby.

It wasn't him.

Nora walked around him and continued to walk back.

But at this point!

Beep!

A car suddenly honked. Nora was stunned. She turned around and saw a black Land Rover parked two cars away from this car.

The car window rolled down, revealing a familiar face. “Miss Smith, what are you doing?”

This person was... Morris, Captain Ford!

While she was in a daze, the traffic light in front changed. The cars started to move, but because Nora’s car was parked in front, this line of cars could not move.

Seeing the two cars driving away slowly, Nora was no longer anxious. Instead, she narrowed her eyes and looked at Morris. “Captain Ford, what a coincidence. Why are you here?”

Morris looked ahead, his cold face sharp and clear. “Miss Smith, I should be the one asking you this, right? If you stop the car, it will seriously affect the traffic rules. It will be a violation of the rules and you will be fined. Of course, if you still don’t leave, I’m afraid it will be so serious that your driver’s license will be revoked.”

Nora was unmoved. “This is the traffic police’s jurisdiction, right? Captain Ford even cares about this?”

Morris was expressionless, but he took out a document from the car and handed it to her. “Special Case Departments, I have the right to ask about all illegal matters.”

Beep!

Beep!

“F*ck? What’s going on in front? Why aren’t you driving?”

“Is it an accident? Or did the car break down?”

“...”

The other drivers started honking wildly. Some got out of the car and looked forward.

Nora knew that she could not delay anymore, so she nodded at Morris. "I'll leave now."

She looked around again but did not see any familiar cars. Then, she walked forward and followed the cars to the front.

A driver in the back had already gotten out of the car and was pointing at her nose and shouting, "What are you doing? Do you have any courtesy? Don't you know you're delaying us by stopping here?"

However, when he raised her head, he could clearly see that it was a young lady's face. This lady was also as beautiful as a fairy. Furthermore, although Nora did not smile, her apology was still considered sincere. "I'm sorry. I'll leave now."

She was simply using her beauty to commit murder.

The driver's cursing voice became softer and warmer. "It's fine, it's fine. It was just a minute. Let's go!"

Nora got into the car and started it. The cars parked behind her then returned to normal traffic.

On the way home, she looked ahead with a serious expression.

Who was the person who had followed her and controlled her pregnancy back then?

Why was Morris around her again? Was he the one who had sent her the message?

Once or twice could be a coincidence, but so many times? What was his motive?

Also, special department... What was that? Why had she never heard of such a department?!

At the Hunts'.

Mrs. Hunt frowned. After thinking about it for an entire day, she finally decided to make a move. "Although they don't admit it now, once they do, it'll be too late for them to acknowledge it! I can't control them in this matter, but someone can."

Mdm. Lea was stunned. "Who?"

Mrs. Hunt took out her phone and made a call that she had not made in a long time. The moment the call was picked up, she lowered her eyes and slowly said, "Iris, this is Mom. I'm calling you for the sake of Justin and Pete..."

Iris's attitude was very cold, but she didn't hang up. Instead, she asked, "What? What do you want me to do this time?"

When Mrs. Hunt heard the words "this time," she instantly felt guilty, but she still hardened her heart and said, "Justin likes a woman from a small family. She definitely can't be Pete's stepmother! You're probably the only person in the world who can stop him! You..."

Before she could finish, Iris sneered and asked, "Stepmother?"

Mrs. Hunt paused and immediately said, "Yes, she will marry Justin to be Pete's stepmother. Iris, you know stepmothers can't possibly be good. Back then..."

Iris interrupted her again. "Not every stepmother in this world is like that mistress!"

Mrs. Hunt: ??

She was stunned by Iris' words. After thinking for a while, she tried to ask, "But what if she gives birth to a child for Justin again?"

"Mom, I think you're mistaken." Iris' voice was cold.

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

Iris said slowly, "Being a mother and being a wife is different. A mother wants her son to be better. Justin is getting married, and it'll be good for him to have a woman to please him and take care of him in the future. Isn't that what you told me back then?"

Mrs. Hunt clenched her jaw. "Iris, are you still blaming me?"

"No." Iris' answer was very simple. "I don't blame anyone. If I have to say it, I only blame my bad luck."

As soon as she said this, she hung up.

Mrs. Hunt looked at her phone in a daze. After a while, she sighed deeply and looked at Mdm. Lea. "She still hates me."

Mdm. Lea looked at Mrs. Hunt and wanted to say something, but she hesitated. In the end, she said something fair. "It has been quite difficult for her all these years."

She had stayed at the Hunts for her son.

However, she could not love her son affectionately. This was much more bitter than what Justin's father had suffered.

Mrs. Hunt sighed as Cherry's voice came from the door. "Great-Grandmother, I'm here~"

Mrs. Hunt immediately looked at the door in joy and saw Justin striding in with a smile. His appearance stunned her. She smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy today?"

Justin's expression froze as he asked, "Am I?"

Mdm. Lea teased, "You can't even suppress the corners of your mouth. Aren't you happy? Mr. Hunt, did something good happen today? Tell us, so we can be happy too!"

When Justin heard this, he thought of how he had had dinner with Nora tonight and could not help but smile again.

Seeing that he was silent, Cherry raised her hand. "I'll talk, I'll talk! Daddy had dinner with Mommy tonight. That's why Daddy is happy, right?"

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

She turned to look at Justin again.

In her impression, this grandson had always been stern. Even after signing a huge contract and earning a few hundred million, he had never smiled like he did today.

It had been five years since he last smiled like this. At that time, he had just brought Pete back. After pulling him back from the brink of death, he had done a DNA test and realized that Pete was indeed his son.

He had hardly ever smiled like this before.

Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and touched Cherry's head. "Is that so? No wonder."

She suddenly looked at Justin and said, "Justin, it's my 80th birthday in a week. We can hold a party this year, right?"

Justin was stunned when he heard this.

Ever since his father left and his grandfather passed away, his grandmother had been eating vegetarian food and reading Buddhism. She had never liked the liveliness of birthday parties.

Every year on her birthday, the entire family would gather together for a meal. They had never organized a big banquet before.

Why did she suddenly...

However, he did not ask further and immediately agreed. "Okay. Let Mdm. Lea and Mr. Long handle the party. I'll prepare a guest list."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "Alright, invite Miss Smith over as well."

Only then did Justin realize that Mrs. Hunt's birthday celebration was actually for Nora.

However, if Nora came over, they could at least publicize their relationship so that the outside world would not have to keep guessing.

He nodded. "Yes."

After chatting for a while more about the details of the birthday banquet, Justin left with Cherry. Mdm. Lea stood beside Mrs. Hunt. "Mrs. Hunt, are you... trying to use this method to persuade Miss Smith to leave?"

Mrs. Hunt's birthday banquet would definitely shock all the influential people in New York.

At that time, if the people from small families could not handle that scene, they would automatically retreat.

However, Mrs. Hunt did not seem to hear this. Her gaze was only fixed on Justin at the door. She suddenly said, "Mdm. Lea, how long has it been since we last saw Justin with such a relaxing smile?"

Mdm. Lea was stunned.

Mrs. Hunt sighed. "Actually, how good would it be if he could smile like this every day? Even I wavered a little just now. If that Miss Smith could make him happy by marrying her, shouldn't I give in a little?"

Mdm. Lea understood her thoughts. She walked to her side and held her shoulder. "Mrs. Hunt, you're not only Mr. Hunt's grandmother, but you're also the Matriarch of the Hunts."

These words made Mrs. Hunt's expression darken.

Yes.

She had devoted her entire life to the Hunts. Just like back then... when her grandson was only five years old, she would definitely have favored her son more.

However, for the sake of the Hunts, she still chased her son away and kept her grandson with her.

She was not only a mother, but she was also the Matriarch of the Hunts.

The trace of guilt that she had felt instantly disappeared.

She could not disregard the Hunts' reputation just because Justin was happy for a moment.

The Matriarch of the Hunts could not be such a lowly woman like Nora!

She took a deep breath and suddenly looked at Mdm. Lea. "Remember to invite that lady from the Smiths over on my birthday."

Mdm. Lea understood what she meant and nodded. "Yes."

The next day at the Andersons'.

"What gift did you prepare?"

When Melissa woke up in the morning and received the invitation, she had a headache. She complained to Mrs. Anderson, "They're holding a special banquet for Mrs. Hunt's birthday this year. Moreover, our relationship is different now. We can't afford not to bring out valuable gifts. But what kind of treasure have the Hunts not seen? What can we send that would bring out new meaning and show our magnanimity?"

Mrs. Anderson rubbed her temples as well. "I hate thinking about gifts the most, especially a gift for Mrs. Hunt. She has high standards. Sigh! But why don't you ask Nora? She might have some good ideas."

It was almost noon. When Nora went downstairs, she heard Melissa say worriedly, "Nora, you're finally awake! Mrs. Hunt's birthday is a week from now and she has invited our entire family. What do you think we should give her?"

Birthday?

Nora paused for a moment before smiling. "Don't worry. I know what to give her."

After all, she was Pete and Cherry's grandmother. It was only right that she did her best.

Melissa was curious. "What are you planning to send?"

Nora slowly said, "Isn't the most common thing in our Harmonia Pharmacy, medicine?"

Melissa: "??"

Nora yawned. "Aunt, lend me a room in the pharmaceutical factory."

Melissa immediately nodded. "No problem!"

After Nora had lunch, Melissa brought her to the Andersons' pharmaceutical factory.

The Andersons' pharmaceutical factory was in the suburbs of New York. It looked very big and neat inside. When they walked in, they could smell the fragrance of medicine.

Sheril was here all year round. When she heard that they were here, she immediately welcomed them. "Mom, Sister, the empty laboratory is ready."

Melissa nodded. "Then I'll go back first. You guys can prepare."

She was a little worried.

The best medicine the Andersons had right now was the Carefree Pill. However, the pill had a price, and it was mass-produced. It was a big gift to give someone else 20 pills, but to Mrs. Hunt, it was only a few thousand dollars.

Was Nora's medicine okay as a present?

She was a little worried.

There was only a week left. She had to find something good so that Nora's pill wouldn't be looked down on and she wouldn't have to take it out to save the situation.

Therefore, Melissa went out early and returned late every day. She went to various auction houses to look for various gifts.

In the laboratory.

Nora only did the preparation work and did it for half a day. It was only at night that she finished preparing all kinds of things.

Sheril, who had been helping from the side, asked curiously, "Sister, what medicine are you going to make?"

Nora thought for a moment and replied, "Calming Pill."

Mrs. Hunt's brain was filled with bruises and lumps. If she took the Calming Pill for a while, it would be very effective.

Sheril immediately let out a sigh of relief. "Calming Pill? Our Harmonia Pharmacy has many of them, and they're very cheap. Just take some... No, the Calming Pill formula doesn't have these ingredients?"

The Calming Pill didn't have so many herbs?

Just as she thought about this, she heard Nora say slowly, "Yes, it's Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill."

Sheril was stunned. "Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

The legendary Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

There were many types of Calming Pills.

However, Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill was definitely the best!

It was said that this Calming Pill was offered to the emperor in ancient times. It was similar to a Tao priest refining pills. The prescription was extremely complicated, and the herbs used were also very expensive!

Even with the current high level of technology, this pill was still very difficult to refine. Up until now, Dr. Zabe was probably the only one in the world who could refine one or two pills.

However, Nora actually knew how to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

She swallowed. "Sister, I heard that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace. How many do you plan to give?"

Nora glanced at her. "Who said that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace?"

Sheril: "??"

Dr. Zabe said so!

He had personally refined a batch three years ago and only produced one finished product. It had ruined a lot of medicinal herbs, causing his heart to ache so much that he never refined it again!

Nora rolled her eyes. Master could not perform well because he was old and could not control his behavior well.

This kind of problem would not happen to her.

However, the process was a little long and needed three days and four nights. With all this time, she might as well sleep. Therefore, she had not refined it over the years.

She said nothing.

Sheril decided not to speak anymore. She just looked at the expensive herbs Nora took over, with an aching heart.

There was an old manager at the pharmaceutical factory in Harmonia Pharmacy. He was also an old pharmacist and could be considered Sheril's master. At this moment, he stood outside the door and happened to overhear their conversation.

He waved Sheril over.

Sheril walked out.

The old pharmacist frowned and reprimanded, "Sheril, you guys are too reckless!! Are these hundred thousand dollars of herbs going to be wasted just like that? How can she possibly refine Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

Although Sheril's heart also ached for the money, when she heard her master's words, she hurriedly explained, "Master, Sister Nora was the one who gave us the Carefree Pill formula. So even if money is wasted, it's nothing. My father and mother definitely won't feel the pinch."

The pharmacist sighed. "They only look at money, but do you only care for money too? Do you know how much the 500-year-old ginseng she took is worth now? We could only buy one or two from the entire country. This isn't a matter of money at all, okay? Don't you feel bad that she wasted it?"

Of course, her heart ached!

Now, everyone was growing ginseng artificially. Most of it was just decades old, and it was rare to find one that was centuries old.

These two 500-year-old ginsengs had been preserved by Harmonia Pharmacy. They could be considered the treasure of the store, and were priceless!

People had been asking for 500-year-old ginseng for a long time, but they still could not get one.

After all, most of the older ones had been sent to the auction. The value of ginseng had already far exceeded the medicinal value. Harmonia Pharmacy would not auction them. Most of the people who could auction them were like the Smiths and Hunts. But how could such families sell ginseng to Harmonia Pharmacy?

However, to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill, one needed ginseng that was this old!

Actually, if it could be made, this ginseng would definitely not be wasted. After all, the Calming Pill was much more valuable than the ginseng itself.

The problem was!

Dr. Zabe had only managed to refine one pill in a furnace. Could Sister Nora succeed?

The old pharmacist suggested, "Although other herbs are expensive, we can still buy them. Can you talk to your sister and exchange that ginseng for a 100-year one?! If she fails, we'll only lose money!"

When Sheril heard this, she fell into deep thought.

After a moment, she shook her head. "Master, Sister Nora's kindness to the Andersons is too great. I can't say anything about it."

The old pharmacist was instantly furious. He pointed at her forehead and scolded, "You, you're really a blockhead! The Andersons have fallen this far because none of you know how to make drugs! You're wasting herbs!! Even with a Carefree Pill, if you continue to be so willful in the future, you'll eventually go downhill!"

Sheril argued anxiously, "Master, you can't say that. What if Sister Nora really manages to master it?"

The old pharmacist had been working with the Andersons since he was young and had never attended school. He had learned the skills from an older generation and was loyal to the Andersons. At this moment, he was furious. The more he cursed, the more unpleasant he became. He took advantage of his seniority and said, "Dr. Zabe could only produce one pill. How can she master it at such a young age? Stop bragging! If she can master it, I, I won't need any salary in the future! But if she can't, you have to listen to me in the pharmaceutical factory in the future!"

When Sheril heard this, her eyes turned red.

She knew that her master was trying to put her in her place.

Ever since she came to the pharmaceutical factory, she had been using the introduction of new alchemy skills. Her master had been dissatisfied with her long ago, but she was the owner, and her master could only listen to her.

Chapter 242 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

The two of them were worried that the Young Master of the Hunts would have other thoughts if Nora ever had another son.

But if she did not have this thought, everything would be fine.

Nora twitched her lips and stood up. "Aunt, help me reject them. I'm not going."

She did not want to cause any trouble.

Melissa still wanted to say something, but Mrs. Anderson nodded. "Yes, we're not going! Why should we go just because the Hunts asked us to? This is ridiculous! How can they just call a girl over?!"

Melissa thought about what she said and felt that it made sense. She nodded.

Nora saw that the two of them finally stop talking, and went to the dining room to eat breakfast.

After she left, Mrs. Anderson looked at Melissa. "Melissa, I'm afraid I'll have to ask you to make a trip!"

Melissa nodded. "Mom, I understand!"

Since the two families were discussing marriage, why would they call the young lady over directly? It should definitely be the parents of the two families sitting together to have a chat.

She stood up. "I'll call Mrs. Hunt right away."

She went upstairs and returned Mrs. Hunt's call. She smiled and said, "Unfortunately, Nora is sick. She's afraid she'll pass the disease to you. How about this? I'll come over and see you."

When Mrs. Hunt heard this, she understood what she meant and immediately made another request. "I remember that Miss Smith's daughter is called

Cherry. Can you bring her over? Let Cherry and Pete get to know each other better!”

Melissa understood what Mrs. Hunt meant. She wanted to meet Cherry.. She was confident that Cherry would be loved by everyone. Therefore, she smiled and said, “No problem!”

After chatting for a while more, Melissa hung up and went to chat with Mrs. Anderson.

Melissa was worried. “Mrs. Hunt’s attitude is quite good, but I don’t know if this is her basic upbringing or if she’s very satisfied with Nora.”

Mrs. Anderson sighed. “If she was satisfied, she wouldn’t have called early in the morning to ask Nora to come over.”

Melissa clenched her jaw and did not speak.

Mrs. Hunt’s behavior was actually very rude.

When ordinary children fell in love, the man would definitely be more proactive. However, there was no reason for an elder to directly call the girl over to their house.

If they really wanted to see what she looked like, most of them would visit personally.

In ancient times, if the royal family took a liking to someone, they would summon them to the palace to take a look.

Therefore, this made Melissa and Mrs. Anderson very uncomfortable.

Although the Andersons were already in dire straits, they were still a prominent family. They were not a small family in New York.

Mrs. Anderson sighed deeply and said the main point. “It’s because Nora got pregnant before marriage and gave birth to a child.”

Melissa was indignant and her words became a little unpleasant. “But Justin also has a child. I don’t know where he got an illegitimate child from!”

Mrs. Anderson shook her head. “Why don’t you understand? In their eyes, their family is different! Especially men, they’re even more different.”

Just like the emperors in ancient times, could it be that with a child, the position of the empress is no longer important?

There were still many women rushing forward.

Who would despise the emperor for having a child outside? But if a girl had an illegitimate daughter, her status would drop.

Although these were already modern times, the more noble a family was, the more particular they were. They valued men more than women.

Take the Andersons for example. No matter how open-minded they were, Sheena had still married off and left Simon to inherit the family business.

Melissa knew that this was not right. It was normal for people to get married twice, let alone have a child. However, when she heard Mrs. Anderson's words, she fell silent.

She sighed. "Alright, I'll go."

Mrs. Anderson nodded. "Yes, we have to put on airs. We can't let them look down on us. Otherwise, Nora will be bullied when she marries over to the family in the future!"

Melissa nodded.

She walked out of Mrs. Anderson's room and walked to the next door. She happened to see Pete writing the Mathematical Olympiad questions seriously at the desk.

She did not know what was wrong with the little guy. He had been quiet recently and was not as lively as before.

Melissa smiled and walked over. "Cherry, how about you go out with your grandparents?"

Pete did not even look up. "I don't want to go."

"..." Melissa stood in front of him and stared at the cluster of hair on the child's head. She said slowly, "Come, I'm going to a friend's house as a guest. Don't stay at home all day."

Pete looked up slowly.

He had originally wanted to continue rejecting her, but he heard Melissa mumbling to herself, “I wonder what’s wrong with Cherry lately? In the past, it was impossible for Cherry to stay in her room. She always pestered me to take her out to play...”

Pete slowly swallowed the words that were about to come out of his mouth. He was silent for a moment. “Alright.”

“That’s great!”

Melissa said, “Wait a minute. I’ll find you a dress!”

Pete, “...”

He grimaced. “I don’t want to wear a dress. Aunt, Grandma, I like what I’m wearing.”

Melissa looked at Pete’s clothes. He was wearing a gray suit, and it was hard to tell if he was male or female. His hair was a little long, but he had not cut it in a while, as if he was waiting to grow braids.

Melissa asked hesitantly, “But shouldn’t we be more serious when we’re going out as guests?”

Pete resisted. “...I think this is good, it’s comfortable.”

Comfortable...

These two words made Melissa calm down. “You’re right. We’re going as guests, and we’re just going to play. There’s no need to be too serious. Just do as you wish and be comfortable.”

With that, she looked at her own clothes. “I’ll change into something comfortable too!”

Pete, “?”

He just did not want to wear a dress. How did his casual words convince her?

Five minutes later, Melissa walked over in her usual clothes and waved at him. “Let’s go, Cherry.”

“Okay.”

Pete followed her downstairs. When the two of them were about to walk out, they bumped into Nora, who had eaten and was preparing to go upstairs.

Melissa greeted her. "I'll take Cherry to a friend's house to play."

Nora heard this and raised her eyebrows. "Sure."

She did not ask where she was going and went upstairs.

The Andersons' chauffeur drove while Melissa brought Pete out.

On the way, Melissa instructed, "Cherry, be more polite and sweet when you see her later. Don't embarrass your mother! Okay?"

Pete nodded. "...I'll work hard."

Melissa laughed instead. "Work hard for what? Isn't being cute and likable your specialty? Hahaha~"

Pete was speechless. That was his sister's specialty, not his.

Sigh!

Who were they going to meet? Why did he have to curry favor with her?

As he was thinking, he suddenly realized that the car was driving on the highway in front of him. Why did the road look more and more familiar?

After making another turn, the Hunts villa appeared not far away. Pete could not help but turn to look at Melissa. "Grandma, are you going to the Hunts?"

Melissa smiled. "That's right. Cherry is really smart!"

Pete: "!!!"

He was about to say something when the driver stepped on the accelerator and entered the Hunts' manor.

The Hunts' manor occupied three thousand square meters. It would take another five minutes to drive all the way from the main entrance to the main hall.

Pete looked at the servants hired by the Hunts and grimaced.

What should he do now?

“Screech!”

The car stopped and the Hunts’ butler welcomed them personally. He stood at the door respectfully. “Ms. Melissa, you’re here. Old Madam has been waiting for you for a long time!”

Melissa got out of the car and nodded at the butler with a smile.

Then, she turned back to look into the car. “Cherry, we’re here. Let’s get out of the car?”

In the car, Pete was speechless.

The butler of the Hunts knew him!

Furthermore, the butler was Great-Grandmother’s subordinate. After the tyrant took control of the Hunts, it was also a form of respect for Great-Grandmother not to fire the butler.

But now, what could he do?

If he got out of the car, the butler would definitely know!

In the room.

Cherry was craning her neck to look outside. As she did, she asked, “Great-Grandmother, who are you bringing me to meet? Why isn’t she here yet?”

Mrs. Hunt smiled and spoke very gently.. “You’re meeting your sister. See if you like her! If you don’t, you don’t have to force yourself!”

Meeting a sister?

Cherry had always liked to make friends. Her eyes immediately lit up. “Is she good-looking?”

Mrs. Hunt: ?

The corners of her lips twitched as she smiled. “I don’t know yet, but she definitely isn’t as good-looking as our Pete.”

Although Mrs. Hunt's words were biased, Pete was indeed the most exquisite and good-looking child she had ever seen.

He was even more exquisite than Justin back then.

Cherry grinned. "Great-Grandmother, don't say that. I'll be shy!"

Mrs. Hunt: "..."

She felt that Pete had become even cuter and lively!

She hugged him. "Our Pete is so cute! Great-Grandmother will give you a gift later!"

At the mention of a gift, Cherry immediately stood up. "Great-Grandmother, since I'm meeting my new sister, I'll prepare a gift for her! Wait a minute~"

With that, she ran over to the toy room.

Ever since Cherry became close to Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Hunt would call her over to play sometimes. Therefore, she had prepared a little toy room for Cherry inside her room.

Of course, most of them were cars, and there were very few teddy bears.

But there were still some.

Cherry choose a plush toy and planned to give it to the new girl.

As she watched Cherry run away, Mrs. Hunt slowly retracted her gaze and wiped the smile off her face. She said to the butler beside her, "Pete's personality is a little too good."

The housekeeper, Mdm. Lea, had followed Mrs. Hunt when she got married to the Hunts back then. Although she had been married and had children all these years, she had always stayed by Mrs. Hunt's side and helped her manage the family matters.

Mdm. Lea nodded. "He's too approachable. He doesn't have the arrogance he had when he was silent in the past."

Mrs. Hunt lowered her head. "What do you think we should do if Pete really likes this sister?"

One of the reasons why she asked Melissa to bring cherry over was because she wanted the two children to have a conflict. This way, Pete would resist this marriage.

She really understood Justin too well.

Once he made up her mind, he would not change it again.

Actually, she did not agree to this marriage.

After all, if the Madam of the Hunts was a woman who had given birth and married into the family with a child, she would become the laughing stock of the entire New York.

However, if she resisted, Justin would definitely not listen to her.

Justin's only weakness was Pete.

As long as his son disagreed, this marriage would not be possible.

Mdm. Lea glanced at Mrs. Hunt and lowered her head. "They're children, there will always be conflicts when they interact. After all, if they steal each other's toys... It won't be surprising if they fight."

If they were to fight...

Mrs. Hunt's eyelids did not move, but her eyes darted around before she smiled. "Okay, as long as you arrange it."

After saying that, she sighed deeply. "Speaking of which, this is the first time in so many years that I've schemed against Justin."

Mdm. Lea hurriedly comforted her. "You're doing this for his own good. I don't know what's wrong with Mister. He must have been bewitched to fall for such an immoral woman. The future head of the Hunts definitely can't be such a woman."

When she heard this, Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and nodded. Then, she slowly said, "Justin said that he hasn't succeeded in wooing that girl. Actually, this is all because of the Andersons... You don't know this, but back then, his father had also taken a liking to Yvette. He was so obsessed with her..."

Mrs. Hunt felt a little uncomfortable at the mention of the past.

Actually, if the woman Justin liked was not from the Andersons, it might have been better. But she was actually Yvette's daughter...

How much trouble had Yvette caused in New York back then?

Even her son, Justin's father, had been infatuated with Yvette. He had even fought with Ian because of her.

In the end...

Mrs. Hunt nagged. "Yvette chose Ian, and only then did my son leave. But from then on, Justin's father seemed to have become a different person. He used to be such a progressive person. Later on, he didn't care about the marriage anymore. I helped him choose Justin's mother. When I asked him for his opinion, he said that it was fine. As long as it wasn't her, he didn't care who it was, and it was up to me to arrange."

Mrs. Hunt was full of complaints. "I was too anxious back then. I wanted him to get back on his feet and choose Iris, who was not inferior to Yvette. This Iris comes from a better family than Yvette, and she's well-educated. It's just that she doesn't like to be in the limelight, so her reputation isn't as great as Yvette's. But she's really not inferior to her..."

"After they got married, they treated each other with respect. However, Iris was too stubborn. When she found out that he already had someone outside, she couldn't bear it anymore. But in a wealthy marriage, isn't it normal for a man to have one or two mistresses outside? The marriage was based on two good surnames. Even the old man was very infatuated when he was young..."

When Mdm. Lea heard this, she hurriedly interrupted her. "Madam isn't bad. At least, Justin's father's outcome was better than the one in the Smiths..."

Her words stunned Mrs. Hunt. She asked, "I heard that the person from the Smiths is dying?"

Mdm. Lea sighed. "Isn't that so? Back then, he and Justin's father were the two elites of New York. Although Yvette chose Ian, Ian didn't even have a child with her in the end! Now that he's terminally ill, I heard he won't live for long. In comparison, Justin's father is at least still alive..."

Mrs. Hunt sighed again.

At the same time, she was even more dissatisfied with Nora and hated the Andersons even more.

Although they all knew that it was his own fault that Justin's father had come to this point and that the Old Master had given up on him, as his biological mother, she was still filled with anticipation for the brilliant Boss from back then.

In the end, her son had fallen into dire straits. On one hand, she blamed her son for being disappointing. On the other hand, it was convenient for her to vent her anger on the Andersons.

She had her own bottom line.

At the very least, they had not kicked the Andersons while they were down for so many years.

Moreover, Yvette had passed away many years ago, and the Andersons were gradually falling into decline. Logically speaking, everything that had happened in the past was already in the past. After so many years, she could not even remember the Andersons anymore.

If Nora was not Yvette's child, perhaps she would not be so harsh to her.

As she was thinking, she heard footsteps outside.

Mdm. Lea hurriedly reminded her, "Madam, they're here."

Mrs. Hunt immediately sat up straight and looked sharply at the door.

That woman thought highly of herself and refused to come over.. Therefore, she would first take a look at her child and see what she looked like. After all, the daughter would surely be a miniature version of her mother!

The first to enter was the butler.

He looked a little surprised, but he still held it in. When he saw Mrs. Hunt, he bowed. "Madam, Ms. Melissa is here."

Only then did he move aside and reveal the person behind him.

Melissa was wearing a casual family suit. She did not look like she had specially dressed up. However, her clothes were fitting and elegant. She was

smiling as well, but her smile was appropriate and did not appear flattering. She was poised and composed.

When Mrs. Hunt saw her, she nodded secretly.

At least in this outfit, she was not the type to curry favor with the Hunts, and would not be hated.

She looked at Melissa and behind her. After a while, she asked in surprise, "Where's the child?"

When she said this, Melissa revealed an awkward expression.

She looked at the butler and felt a little uncomfortable when she thought of the situation earlier.

Just now, when Melissa looked at Pete, she realized that he was hugging his head and burying it on the sofa in the backseat. After she spoke, he directly said gloomily, "Aunt, my... my stomach hurts. I want to go home..."

Melissa was shocked and hurriedly asked, "Where does your stomach hurt? Why are you feeling uncomfortable? Cherry, let me take a look!"

"I don't want to," Pete said firmly. "I want to go home and find Mommy. Mommy is a doctor. She can treat all illnesses."

Melissa was anxious. "Then I'll accompany you back."

No matter how important it was, it was not as important as the child.

However, just as she finished speaking, she saw Pete look up from inside the car. He blinked at her and said softly, "I'm fine. It's just that this butler uncle looks too scary. I don't want to get out of the car. I want to go home and find Mom."

Melissa: "..."

The butler, who had taken the blame for no reason: "..."

The butler touched his face. If he had not always been famous for being polite and gentlemanly, he would have felt like a monster!

Look at how frightened the little kid was!

Melissa was helpless as well. She coaxed Pete to get out of the car again. "Cherry, Uncle Butler is very kind. If you get out of the car, he'll take you out to play with toys and eat delicious food, okay?"

Pete shook his head like a rattle drum. "I don't, I don't want to. I want to go home and find Mommy!"

Melissa: "Cherry, you're being rude~"

Pete retorted seriously, "I'm a child. I'm unreasonable!"

Melissa, "..."

Pete said, "Besides, bringing me in like this is embarrassing. You might as well let me go home to Mommy."

Melissa: "..."

She had been convinced!

In the end, she could only get out of the car and get the chauffeur to send Cherry home first. The chauffeur would pick her up later.

Facing Mrs. Hunt's question, Melissa could only explain, "The child is very clingy to her mother. She didn't see her mother and wanted to go home. I got the chauffeur to send her back first. Mrs. Hunt, how have you been lately?"

Looking for her mother?

Mrs. Hunt glanced at the butler and saw him nod.

She looked down on Nora even more.

She had indeed grown up in a small place and was not generous at all. Her daughter was also so willful. She had already arrived at the door and had left again.

As she thought this, she revealed some impatience on the surface.

She pointed to the chair beside her. "Have a seat first."

Melissa's body stiffened.

This condescending attitude was obvious, and even though she was experienced and concealed her expression, she still revealed a little impatience. It made Melissa very uncomfortable.

After she sat down, Mrs. Hunt smiled and said, "You can't spoil a child too much."

Melissa lowered her eyes. Although Cherry had indeed lost her composure today, she still protected her own family. She smiled. "You're right. However, Cherry is a delicate girl. Aren't all wealthy families raising their daughters like gems? This has always been the case in our family. Our daughters are all very precious! Boys are tougher, on the other hand."

In other words, "Our girls are willful! Nora is also very willful!"

Melissa felt that she could not lower her stance and blindly pander to her. She had to tell Mrs. Hunt that Nora had also been pampered by the Andersons since she was young!

Mrs. Hunt understood and smiled. "Isn't this how wealthy families raise their children? But why do I hear that Nora grew up in California?"

Melissa smiled. "Yes, my elder sister married into California back then and set up a company there. However, it's more difficult to raise children there. Nora's good skin is all because of her. Also, you haven't seen her fingers before. They're as fair as freshly peeled onions without any creases."

Mrs. Hunt smiled and remained silent.

Mdm. Lea said, "That's because you raised her too carefully. The boys in our family are raised roughly. Our family has only raised one child who is not rough. That child is our Young Master. Sir raised him himself since he was young."

Mdm. Lea smiled. "Sir fed Little Young Master milk powder and changed his diaper. Speaking of which, even in an ordinary family, a father who can do this is already a good father. Moreover, our Sir highly values Little Young Master. He never left his side for more than three days since he was young and even taught him personally... At that time, we said that we would find a mother for Little Young Master. Sir said that the child was still young and was afraid that a stepmother would be bad. We would talk about it when the child grew up. He even said that he wanted to find someone from a small family. Someone

who would not dare to bully Little Young Master. Speaking of which, Little Young Master is already five years old!”

In other words: Justin cared about the Little Young Master the most. Even if he married, it could not affect the Little Young Master’s status.

Melissa clenched her fists.

After Nora marries Justin, it was her freedom to have children or not. However, the Hunts were clearly looking down on them by saying all this in advance.

What small family?

She was instantly furious, and her smile stiffened.

Mrs. Hunt scolded, “Mdm. Lea, what nonsense are you talking about? The Andersons aren’t a small family!”

Mdm. Lea immediately slapped her mouth gently. “Ms. Melissa, don’t take it to heart. I didn’t think before I spoke. That’s not what I meant. Of course, the Andersons are not a small family. Your Carefree Pills are too famous. Even our family has a few for emergencies.”

Melissa: “...”

She clenched her fists tightly, but she knew that even if this marriage did not succeed, they could not fall out. After all, the Andersons could not compare to the Hunts.

However, she had already made up her mind to persuade Nora to break up with Justin.

She could not marry into such a family!

As she was thinking to herself, a clear and cute voice suddenly sounded. “Great-Grandmother, is my little sister here?”

With that, a small figure ran over.

Melissa looked over subconsciously, but the moment she lifted her head, she froze all of a sudden.

She stared incredulously at the child running in, and swallowed hard. Cherry also noticed her while she was running in. The little fellow came to a stop, and a touch of surprise appeared in her big round eyes.

An astonished Melissa said, “Ch...”

But before she could say ‘... erry, why are you back?’, the little fellow suddenly exclaimed, “Ooh! Hi, Grand-aunt!”

She interrupted Melissa, ran up to her, and sat on her lap.

Melissa: “?”

She couldn’t understand how Cherry could go in and out of the Hunts’ residence at will. Moreover, she had clearly come from the inner premises. Shouldn’t she be in the car going back to the Andersons right now?

While she was in a daze, Mrs. Hunt frowned and asked, “Grand... Aunt? Pete, do the two of you know each other?”

Cherry nodded at once. “Uh-huh! Great-Grandma, this is Grand-Aunt. Grand-Aunt, this is my great-grandmother~”

Even more question marks filled Melissa’s mind: ???

She suddenly turned to Mrs. Hunt and asked, “W-what did you call the child just now?”

Pete? What Pete?

Before Mrs. Hunt could explain, Cherry said, “Don’t you remember who I am, Grand-Aunt? I’m Pete Hunt! My father is Justin Hunt!”

Then, she looked at Mrs. Hunt again and said, “Are they the guests you were talking about, Great-Grandma? I’ve been to their house! Daddy took me there before, yeah!”

Cherry’s young and tender voice rang out in the living room, shocking Melissa so badly that she was practically crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.

What nonsense was Cherry spouting?

Pete Hunt? What nonsens...

No, wait, Hunt?

And 'Great-Grandma'...

'My father is Justin Hunt'...

She looked at Cherry, who was in her arms, in disbelief after connecting the pieces of crucial information. She swallowed hard and asked, "Y-your father is Justin Hunt?"

Justin was the father of Nora's child???

Cherry blinked at her and replied, "Uh-huh! My father is Justin Hunt, and I am his son, yeah!"

She deliberately placed emphasis on the word 'son'. Then, she asked, "Where's my sister? Didn't she come?"

If Pete had come, he would definitely find a way to escape!

There was absolutely no way he would stay!

Cherry understood her elder brother very well, so there weren't any loopholes in her words at all.

The dumbfounded Melissa's mind was a complete blank.

Mrs. Hunt, however, was very displeased with how close and intimate the two of them were. She beckoned to Cherry and said, "Come to Great-Grandma, Pete."

Cherry nodded and ran to Mrs. Hunt.

After getting her to sit beside her, Mrs. Hunt looked at Melissa and asked with a fake smile, "So, Justin has already paid your family a visit?"

Melissa: "..."

When had he ever paid them a visit?!

But when she thought of what Pete had said just now...

She looked again at Cherry, who was sitting beside Mrs. Hunt obediently...

The child in front of her felt more like the Cherry whom Nora had brought with her from California. On the contrary, it was the Cherry, who was always so quiet and taciturn lately, that felt more like she would be the little mister of the Hunts...

Could it be that...

Everything suddenly clicked in her head in this instant.

She looked at Mrs. Hunt again, who said with a smile, "You mustn't be so casual with your terms of address, Pete. You should call her Mrs. Anderson instead."

Cherry blinked. "But Daddy told me to call her Grand-Aunt!"

The clever Cherry had long since discovered that everyone in this family became fearful the moment she brought her father into the picture!

Sure enough, Mrs. Hunt didn't make any more mention about changing the term of address. Instead, she looked at Melissa with a smile and said, "Would you just look at this child? He's just so innocent that he can't even distinguish between who's family and who's not. That said, it's not really a big issue even if he goes along with it and addresses you as Grand-Aunt."

Mrs. Hunt could tell from Cherry's attitude that Justin had already taken care of everything long ago. Knowing that there was no way she could stop the marriage anymore, she heaved a silent sigh inwardly.

In that case, there were some things that must be made clear.

She took a deep breath and said with a smile, "Mrs. Anderson, I asked you over because there's something I want to talk to you about. I should think that you're already aware that Ms. Smith and Justin are dating. What are your thoughts on this? Also, our family has high hopes for Pete. Surely the Andersons won't mind if he becomes close to his biological mother in the future, right?"

Although they didn't know who Pete's biological mother was, they would eventually find her.

In Mrs. Hunt's opinion, no one could compare to their own blood relatives.

It was just like Iris back then. For Justin's sake, hadn't she also willingly suffered injustice for so many years? She was the only person in this world who didn't harbor any thoughts of using Justin and treated him well.

Although she didn't know why Justin had never made any mention of Pete's biological mother, these thoughts of hers had never once changed.

Melissa had already recovered from her shock and consternation by now. As expected of someone who had experienced so much in life, the woman had already understood everything during these short few moments.

No wonder Nora had kept in contact with Justin. As it turned out, the father of her children was none other than Justin himself!

Although she didn't know how Nora and Justin had come to have children, or what exactly had happened back then, what she did know right now was that Mrs. Hunt was obviously unaware that Nora was Pete's biological mother!

She coughed and asked, "Do you know where Pete's biological mother is, Mrs. Hunt?"

Mrs. Hunt, however, misunderstood her.

She thought what Melissa meant was—how was Pete going to become close with his biological mother when they didn't even know where she was?

At once, Mrs. Hunt smiled and replied very meaningfully, "Of course, I do."

Melissa: "??"

Then, Mrs. Hunt puffed herself up at her own cost and said, "It's said that mothers and their children share a connection. You should have heard of that saying before, right? You're also a mother yourself, so you must know how a mother feels toward their children. Although there are some misunderstandings between Justin and her, for the boy's sake, I think Justin will eventually forgive her."

She looked at Melissa again after she spoke, and thought of a way to get her to back down. She said, "Of course, if Ms. Smith doesn't mind, then it's not a problem."

Melissa: "..."

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. She suddenly felt very much like laughing.

She asked, "How do you feel about his biological mother, then?"

Mrs. Hunt became domineering this time. She replied, "I don't care who she is. She deserves my gratitude just for giving birth to such an excellent successor for the Hunts!"

Her words were filled with heartfelt sincerity.

Pete was simply too outstanding. Even his IQ showed signs of surpassing Justin's!

Melissa glanced at Cherry when she heard what Mrs. Hunt said, and she couldn't help but laugh. She suddenly felt like it didn't seem that bad for Nora to marry into the Hunts, either?

Her smile baffled Mrs. Hunt.. "What are you laughing at, Mrs. Anderson?"

Melissa lowered her gaze and hurriedly reined in her smile. "I was just amused, that's all. These are the Hunts' private affairs. I shouldn't be asking about it."

"Our private affairs?" Mrs. Hunt frowned. "It's not really just our private affairs anymore, is it? Aren't Ms. Smith and Justin in a relationship right now?"

Melissa feigned surprise. "Are the two youngsters dating? I really wouldn't know about that."

She didn't know what Nora's plans were, so there was no way she would agree to any sort of request.

Mrs. Hunt: ??

What was the matter with her?

Melissa wasn't that wary and cautious anymore all of a sudden!

Was it really like what Justin said? Nora Smith wasn't interested in him?

That... wasn't quite possible, was it? Which girl could possibly resist the temptation that was Justin Hunt?

However, since Melissa had already put it that way, she couldn't go on about the topic anymore. She changed the subject tactfully and invited Melissa to stay for dinner.

However, Melissa declined the invitation and hurried back to the Andersons before dinner.

As soon as she entered the compound, she saw the usually asleep Nora looking at her. Her brows were drawn together as she asked, "I heard from Pete that you went to the Hunts'?"

Pete...

So, the child in their house was indeed the Hunts' little mister!

The news astounded Melissa so badly that her legs turned into jelly the moment she got out of the car. She held Nora's arm for support, grabbed her hand, and asked, "Nora, Cherry and Pete are...?"

"They are twins," replied Nora simply.

Melissa swallowed. Even though she had already guessed it, she nevertheless couldn't help but ask hesitantly, "And Justin is their...?"

"He's their father."

Nora sounded very sure.

In the past, she was sure because Justin must have already done a DNA test for himself and Pete. As for now, it was because Lily had already compared Justin's DNA with the twins', and Justin was indeed their father.

She still remembered what Lily had said then:

"Oh, by the way, I also checked the father's IQ genes while I was doing the DNA test, and it's astonishingly high. It's at the highest end of the range of values for normal people though, so it's still a teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit inferior to your crazy IQ."

Since she had emphasized how minimal the difference was, it meant that there really wasn't much of one.

However, Nora had been more concerned about the children at the time. "What about the children?"

"... The children's IQs are also out of this world. Pete has the same IQ genes as you—in fact, they're even a bit better. As for Cherry, hers is even crazier. Her IQ is the average of yours and her father's, so it's even higher."

Nora: "..."

Her IQ was obviously a 'teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit' higher than Justin's. Pete was a boy, so he had fully inherited his IQ genes from her. It was normal for it to be slightly higher than hers.

However, Cherry's was the average of hers and Justin's, so how was it higher than Pete's?

Nora's lip corners spasmed. "You must be mistaken."

An exceptionally serious Lily replied, "Please do not question my professional abilities, Anti. I personally carried out all the tests involving your DNA."

Nora: "..."

Before she hung up, she made it a point to remind her, "Please delete all the data."

"No problem."

...

Melissa stared at the girl in front of her in shock.

The unattainable Justin was every girl's dream in New York.

When her daughter Sheril met him at a party when she was young, even she had come back saying, "He's the most handsome boy I've ever seen! And he also has an air of elegance around him!"

At that time, Melissa had immediately warned her, "Even so, you mustn't develop feelings for him. People like him can't be tamed."

Sheril had immediately understood then that some people were simply favored by God from the start.

Yet, their Nora had conquered that unattainable man?

An astonished Melissa asked, “Are two of you really going to get married?”

Although Mrs. Hunt looked down on the Andersons—in fact, she even had something against them because Yvette had broken her son’s heart in the past—after her chat with her earlier, Melissa was now sure of something: Once Mrs. Hunt realized that Nora was Pete’s biological mother and that she could even bring an additional Cherry to the Hunts, Mrs. Hunt would probably treat Nora as the Hunts’ most honored guest!

Nora yawned and replied, “No, we’re not.”

Then, she added seriously, “I’ve never entertained that thought before.”

Melissa nodded. The next moment, she saw Nora pick up her cell phone and make a call. The other party answered very quickly.

“Hello, Ms. Smith. Are you calling me this late because you miss me?”

Nora said, “... Keep your family members in check.”

Justin: “?”

Nora was cold and distant as she said, “Don’t harass the Andersons.”

Justin understood at once. “Was it Grandma?”

“Yeah.” Nora said unhurriedly, “She told my aunt to go over and discuss marriage plans.”

“...”

“Mr. Hunt,” Nora said, “Didn’t we already reach an agreement about not believing in getting married?”

Melissa: “!!!”

Was that how Nora usually talked to Mr. Hunt?

Why did her voice sound like it was brimming with disdain?!

Mr. Hunt would definitely become angry, right?

While her imagination was running wild, the voice on the other end of the call said, "It's my fault."

Melissa: "????"

Was that the same Mr. Hunt who was always so aloof and overlooked others from high up in the air?!

Why did he sound a little like he was trying to please Nora?

Nora, who also didn't expect him to admit his mistake, raised her eyebrows a little.

For the first time, she developed the illusion that she was being too much of a bully.

While she was thinking about it, Justin, who sounded even more aggrieved now, said, "I will keep my family members properly in check. Grandma was just hoping that I would have my own family soon. I know you're a non-believer of marriage though, so I won't force you into anything."

" ... "

Nora kept quiet for a long while. At last, she finally coughed and said, "Actually, you can be with other women..."

"Ms. Smith," Justin interrupted her solemnly and said, "You were the one who fell in love with me first, so you mustn't push me away now."

Nora: "..."

"In order to get close to me, you used all sorts of ways and means to get close to my son. You're the only one that he acknowledges as his Mommy now, so you can't just wash all this off your hands and leave. If you do that, not only would you be letting me down, but you'll also be letting Pete down."

" ... "

“Don’t worry. I won’t force you if you’re unwilling to marry me. After all, I can’t let you down when you’re so in love with me. Even if Grandma is really old now and wants to see me get married... it doesn’t matter. Everything is fine as long as you are happy.”

“ ... ”

Nora wanted very much to say that he really didn’t need to do that, yet she felt that if she were to say that without explaining everything clearly, she would end up sounding like a scumbag.

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. In the end, she could only humbly and guiltily hang up, feeling as if she had bullied someone.

As soon as she hung up, she received another call. When she picked up, Iris’ voice rang out. “Ms. Smith, are you free now?”

“Yes, I am. What’s the matter?” asked Nora.

Iris said, “I have a pot of flowers here that’s dying. Can you come over and take a look at it?”

Nora thought for a moment and replied, “Okay.”

At the same time, Justin also received a call from Mrs. Landis. “Mr.. Justin, please come over with Pete if you’re free.”

Panda Novel

Nora was about to hang up when Iris suggested, “Why don’t you bring your son along with you?”

Nora thought for a moment. Then, she nodded and said, “Okay.”

She went upstairs, brought Pete down, and got in the car with him. She said, “I’ll take you to meet a friend of mine.”

Pete was very excited. “Okay!”

Even though he had known Mommy for a very long time by now, he only knew a few of her friends. Pete wanted to know what his Mommy was usually up to, since she was such an enigma.

Even though Mommy was always sleeping, she was so rich!

There was no way anyone could make that much money just by being a genius doctor!

He got into the car excitedly and sat in the backseat.

When Nora was walking to the driver's seat, she looked at Melissa, who was still in a daze, and slowly said, "Please keep this... a secret for now, Aunt Melissa."

"... Okay," said Melissa.

After Nora left, Melissa finally entered the living room. Mrs. Anderson, who had been waiting all afternoon, stepped forward nervously at once. She held her hand and asked, "How was it, Melissa? Did Mrs. Hunt say anything?"

Melissa was in a daze. "No, she didn't."

Mrs. Anderson breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good. Sigh, I'm just afraid that she'll bring up some kind of request or condition. If they want to treat Pete's biological mother as family, then will Justin take Nora's or the other woman's side?"

Melissa: "..."

She looked at Mrs. Anderson hesitantly before she finally said, "Actually, it's all the same."

Mrs. Anderson glanced at her. "You don't get it, do you? It's not the same. If that happens, Pete's biological mother will definitely cause Nora trouble. Also, what if Pete resents Nora even after she raises him into an adult? These things all have to be made clear in advance. Sigh, it's just so troublesome when other people's children are involved."

"..."

In a villa on the outskirts of New York.

Mrs. Landis and Iris were happily preparing dinner.

Iris was in a very good mood. The woman, who looked as lithe as a teenager, hummed a little tune as she went back and forth the dining table and the kitchen joyfully.

Seeing her in such a good mood, Mrs. Landis laughed and said, “Ma’am, your mind must be at ease now, right? You’ve already asked around and found out that Mr. Hunt’s girlfriend is from the Andersons. The other Ms. Smith only has a daughter while your god-sister has a son instead! As it turns out, the two of them just share the same name! You don’t have to worry anymore!”

Iris nodded. “Yes, it’s fine as long as they aren’t one and the same. I was so scared that I had accidentally elevated Justin’s girlfriend’s position to one that was more senior than his, which would have made it awkward for the two of them!”

Mrs. Landis laughed again. “The fish and chips are fried especially nicely tonight, so they’ll definitely taste awesome. The children are gonna love it.”

“Yeah.”

Iris smiled and said, “I wonder how old Ms. Smith’s son is, and how far apart his age is from Pete’s. I don’t know if the two of them can get along or not.”

Mrs. Landis teased her and said, “You worry too much!”

Only then did Iris suddenly realize that she was indeed worrying too much.

For so many years, many people had tried to please her. There were even some that tried to pander to her interests and spoke knowledgeably to her about orchids.

All of them were trying to ingratiate themselves with Justin.

In order to reduce unnecessary troubles for Justin, she had rejected them all. Therefore, all the rumors outside claimed that she was difficult to deal with, and had a strange temperament.

Come to think of it, Nora was actually the only friend she had made all these years. Therefore, she hadn’t stopped Mrs. Landis when she also told Justin to come over after Nora was invited over for dinner.

This was just her selfish desire, but she wanted her son to help Nora out a little if he could.

After all, it wasn't easy for a woman to bring up a child on her own. It reminded her of herself when she was taking care of Justin back then.

Perhaps because she had suppressed her feelings for too long, it led to her wanting to give the other party all the good things she could after she made a friend.

Moreover, what Nora said the day before had made Iris suddenly realize that she indeed didn't understand Justin.

She was Justin's mother. In situations that wouldn't cause him any trouble, helping her friend out was something he should do, right?

... Even though Iris didn't know what kind of help Nora could possibly need from her.

While driving to the villa in the suburbs, Nora received another call from Justin.

After she uttered a 'hello', Justin asked, "Are you free tonight? I'll take you somewhere for a meal?"

Nora, who was looking ahead of her, replied, "I'm not free."

Justin, who seemed to have heard some kind of sound, immediately asked, "You have an appointment? Who are you meeting that has actually made you abandon me? That's not something that someone in love with me should be doing."

He was afraid that she was going on a date with Caleb.

Nora's lip corners spasmed a little. She couldn't be bothered to explain that she was visiting her newly-gained god-sister, lest the guy says something like 'Which is more important—meeting me or your god-sister?'. .

Thus, she simply said, "I'm sleepy. I'm going home to sleep."

"... Alright then," said Justin.

In a rare moment, Nora asked, "What about you?"

Justin let out a low chuckle and replied, "I'll sleep with you."

Nora: "?"

Her voice turned cold. "Talk properly!"

Justin said, "We'll sleep together after you go back to your house and I go back to mine. Is there something wrong with this sentence? Or did you get the wrong idea?"

Nora: "!!!!"

The corners of her lips spasmed, and she said, "I'm hanging up!"

On the other end of the call, Justin couldn't help laughing after Nora hung up so fiercely.

He was in the car at the moment. The chauffeur was driving to the suburbs.

Cherry, who was sitting beside him, asked, "Are you planning to take Mommy to Grandma's for dinner, Daddy?"

Justin nodded. "Yes. Your Grandma has some misunderstandings about her. I think she would be able to understand what she's like after we sit down and have a meal together, but unfortunately..."

"Mommy definitely won't go!" Cherry said, "She wants to sleep!"

Justin: "..."

Half an hour later.

Nora arrived at the suburbs.

It was already dark, so Pete didn't notice where they were when they entered the residential area. Besides, he rarely came over in the first place. In the day, he could still tell that this was where his grandmother lived, but because it was too dark now, he didn't manage to make out the surroundings until the car reached the villa entrance.

It was only after Nora took him out of the car and they entered the villa that Pete finally realized something. Unfortunately, it was too late!

“Ms. Smith!” Iris welcomed her into the house excitedly. “Let’s have dinner together tonight!”

Nora nodded. Then, she pushed Pete—who was hiding behind her and trying to say something all this time but didn’t have any chance to—to Iris. She said, “This is my son, Pete.”

Then, she said to Pete, “Say hi to your god-aunt, Pete.”

Mrs. Landis, who had sent the two into the living room, hurried out the door when she heard another car at the door. When she saw Justin walking over with Cherry, she smiled and said, “You’re here, Mr. Hunt!”

Justin noticed a car in the corner. As the place was dim, he didn’t make out what kind of car it was. He asked casually, “You have guests over?”

“Yep!” Mrs. Landis explained, “It’s Ma’am’s new god-sister! It’s just nice that you’re here, so you can also meet her!”

God-sister?

Justin’s brows drew together.

Iris had been leading a reclusive life all these years. She treated outsiders harshly and was like a robot without emotions.

He could even clearly remember that one time he came over when he was a child and saw that her family, the Evanses, had come over. However, he also saw, with his own eyes, Iris driving them out of the villa.

Mrs. Landis had stood in front of the door to stop them from entering at that time. His aunt from the Evanses had knelt in front of the door with her child and cried out in tears that they mustn’t delay medical treatment for his uncle anymore. He needed immediate treatment, otherwise he would die.

But Iris hadn’t spared them even a glance.

He had bodyguards protecting him when he walked in, so his aunt couldn’t get near him. She stayed where she was and sobbed as she cursed, “You’re no different from a cold-blooded monster, Iris Hunt! You’re a venomous snake! It’s all because of you that the Evanses are in this state today! Yet, you’re

actually sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing! He's your elder brother! How can you be so cruel?"

His footsteps had paused at that time.

However, he hadn't taken the liberty to give her any money, say anything, or comfort her—because he had already understood by then that sometimes, what one saw was not necessarily the truth.

He didn't understand the relationship between his mother and her family at all, so how could he ask anything of his mother?

Regardless, the sight of his aunt berating Iris and calling her a venomous snake with a savage look on her face had remained in his memory.

All these years, every time he came over and saw how Iris was always so cold toward everyone, and heard from the bodyguards how all she did every day was take care of her flowers, and how she didn't seem to have any social interaction with anyone, he had even thought that she didn't have any friends at all.

Yet, she was actually introducing her god-sister to him now!

He understood the implicit meaning behind introducing her god-sister to him—it was nothing more than her wanting the Hunts to help her god-sister out and take care of her. Over the years, on account of various people, he had already helped out a lot of people with their businesses.

Adding one more person to the count didn't matter.

However, he felt rather unhappy.

His mother had never worried about him or comforted him before. She had abandoned him at the Hunts' icy-cold manor when he was only five and left him to his own devices ever since.

Yet, she was actually showing so much concern for an outsider now?

He was really curious. Just what kind of woman had managed to capture his mother's heart?

Justin's expression turned cold, and he entered the house.

In the living room.

Iris was staring at Pete at the moment, her beautiful eyes widened in disbelief.

Pete had also raised his little head and was looking at his grandmother.

Although the two rarely saw each other, Justin did occasionally bring him over for quick visits, so one could say that they were the most familiar strangers.

For a while, neither of them spoke.

Nora looked at Iris, and then back at Pete. Finding their silence rather strange, she frowned and prompted Pete. "Pete?"

Although Pete was mildly autistic, he had shown good manners ever since he started to live with her, and would always greet his relatives whenever he met them. This was especially so with the Andersons. He always greeted Melissa very sweetly whenever he saw her.

So, why was he suddenly not greeting his elders anymore the moment he came here?

While she was hesitating, Iris asked in a trembling voice, "M-Ms. Smith, is... is he your son?"

Nora nodded. "Yeah."

But when she looked at Iris again, she found that the woman suddenly had an extremely complex look on her face. She stared at Nora for a while.

In the midst of Nora's confusion, Pete's small and weak voice entered her ears.

"Hello, Grandma."

Nora: "??"

Her head whipped to the side abruptly to see Pete with a resigned look on his face as if he didn't have anything to live for anymore. He said, "Mommy, she... she's my grandmother."

Seemingly because he saw that Nora didn't seem like she understood what he was saying, he added, "You know, my father's mommy."

Nora: "..."

Iris: "..."

Pete held his forehead. He knew that the two of them were utterly shocked at the moment, so he said to Iris, "Grandma, can you keep this a secret from Daddy for now?"

Practically right after he spoke, someone suddenly opened the living room door. Mrs. Landis' voice traveled over.

"Come on in, Mr. Hunt!"

When Mrs. Landis was bringing Nora and Pete into the house, as she had been preoccupied leading the way, she hadn't managed to see Pete's face clearly. Right after that, she had gone out in a hurry again. Thus, she looked at Cherry, pointed at Pete from the back, and said, "Your god-grandaunt has brought her little boy here. You guys can play with each other later!"

As soon as she said that, Iris stood up straight and looked at the door.

Nora and Pete also turned around instinctively. For a time, the family of four stood facing one another.

"..."

The whole room was suddenly filled with weird silence.

After a full twenty seconds of silence, Mrs. Landis finally rubbed her eyes. She looked at Nora, and then at Justin before finally looking at Pete and Cherry. Then, she looked at Iris in confusion. "Have I become that old, Ma'am? Are my eyes playing tricks on me? Why does Ms. Smith's son look exactly the same as the little mister?!"

Her words made Iris's lip corners spasm.

She suddenly realized that she had really done something wrong. She coughed and said, "M-Mrs. Landis, w-why don't you introduce them to each other? I... I suddenly have a headache, so I'll go upstairs and rest for a bit."

After speaking, she walked to the stairs with her left arm moving forward with her left leg, and vice versa. She seemingly went upstairs, but after turning the

corner, she immediately stopped and secretly popped her head out from behind the wall to look at the others' reactions.

But when she did, she instead found that all five people downstairs were looking straight at her, frightening Iris so badly that she immediately retracted her head, coughed, and went upstairs.

When Mrs. Landis saw her fleeing, something suddenly clicked in her head, and she immediately cursed at Iris inwardly. How could she leave her all alone downstairs in a situation

like this?!

She could already feel the awkward and frosty atmosphere in the living room without even looking at Justin. She swallowed hard and stammered, "Um, M-Mr. Justin, this... this is Ma'am's new god-sister."

As soon as she said that, she felt Justin looking at her.

In a brainless move, she added, "In other words, she's your g-g-god-aunt..."

"..."

The low air pressure in the air seemingly became even lower.

Only then did Mrs. Landis realize that she had really rubbed Justin's nose in it. How could she possibly not understand by now? Ms. Smith was none other than Justin's said girlfriend that Tina had mentioned!

But what had she and Ma'am done instead? They had elevated his girlfriend's position to one that was senior to his own!

Justin was probably secretly cursing his mother right now!

While she was thinking about it, she suddenly had a brainwave. She said, "Oh dear, Ma'am always eats some cake at this time every day. I'll bring some up for her..."

After saying that, she ran straight upstairs without even taking any cake with her.

For a time, only the family of four remained in the living room.

Ten seconds later, dead silence filled the room.

“ ... ”

A minute later, the silence in the room became even scarier.

“ ... ”

Even after two minutes went by, none of them had any intention of speaking.

“ ... ”

Nora, who had always been short of sleep, found time especially hard to pass at the moment. How she wished she could just close her eyes and fall asleep, so that by the time she woke up, the day would be bright and sunny once more.

But that was obviously not the most appropriate thing to do at the moment.

She had never been afraid of anything, and she had always been a direct and straightforward person. Even so, she kinda understood in this instant what it meant to want to dig a hole and bury oneself in it.

Her gaze drifted about erratically. She looked at the ceiling with her arms hanging by her side and nudged Pete with her hand to get him to break the silence.

Pete: “ ... ”

By then, Pete and Cherry had already communicated a great deal with each other with their eyes.

Pete looked at Cherry: ‘What do we do now?’

Cherry’s big eyes blinked: ‘I don’t know, either!’

Pete held his hands up helplessly: ‘The tyrant looks so calm, but the calmer he is on the outside, the angrier he is on the inside!’

Cherry also glanced at Nora: ‘Mommy also has a really grave look on her face. The more grave she looks, the scarier the decision she’ll make!’

Pete was terrified: 'Surely Mommy isn't thinking of knocking out the tyrant and taking the two of us away, right?'

Cherry: '... It's not impossible.'

Pete: '...'

While the two children were communicating with their eyes, Nora nudged Pete. She curled her fingers a little, motioning for him to speak.

Thus, Pete said, "Mommy, Daddy always brings 12 bodyguards and even 24 hidden bodyguards whenever he goes out. You won't be able to fight your way out."

As soon as he said that, the room became even quieter.

"..."

It was as if everyone's breathing was audible.

Justin: "..."

To be honest, he was also in a huge panic at the moment!

Before this, Nora hadn't known that he was already aware of everything. In order to make the woman stay, he had deliberately kept one of the two children with him. This way, she would always stay by his side.

But now!

If they were to address the elephant in the room, he wouldn't be able to continue being 'narcissistic'!

The woman would explain everything, and then...

What must he do to make the woman and the children stay?

The man, who had always been full of ideas when it came to the world of commerce, was also in a panic. Thus, all he could do was stand there with a pensive look on his face.

Unfortunately, his expression instead gave Nora the impression that he was a very terrifying man.

Well, that made sense. Justin would definitely be furious once he knew that one of his children had been taken away from him. It was already very impressive that he could suppress his anger and keep himself from venting it. Moreover, he hadn't said anything really awful, either.

When Nora, who had just thought of that, heard what Pete said, the corners of her lips couldn't help but spasm.

Cough.

She would never ever admit that she had indeed been itching just a moment ago to knock the man out and then flee the country with the two children.

In fact, an escape route had already formed in her mind that very moment. After going out, she mustn't drive straight to the airport because Justin was definitely powerful enough to seal the airport and trains.

Therefore, she would drive to the suburbs instead, find an empty helipad, and get Lily to pilot a private jet and come over to pick them up as soon as possible!

However, it would take Lily seven to eight hours to fly over. After all, they were too far away from Switzerland, where Lily was... Should it really be beyond Lily's means, she would get Solo to pick them up instead. After all, he was closer to where they were.

If not, then her only option would be to approach her aunt overseas for help instead...

But when she heard about the 36 bodyguards, Nora fell silent and dismissed the idea.

She had fought Justin's bodyguards before; it was easy for her to beat one or two, but 36... Say, just how fearful of dying was that man? Did he have to bring so many people with him whenever he went out?

While Nora was daydreaming, Justin finally spoke. "Shouldn't you give me a reasonable explanation for this, Ms. Smith?"

Phew...

The weird atmosphere was finally broken. Nora breathed a sigh of relief at last. After thinking for a while about how to word the situation, she started to explain the issues with the children. She said, "... Since you've already seen everything, then I won't keep it from you anymore. The reason why I have been trying to get close to you and Pete is actually..."

But before she could finish, Justin cut her off and said, "That's not the explanation I'm asking for. Rather, back then, why did you get pregnant with my children behind my back?"

All the words that Nora had prepared became stuck in her throat, choking her. She was about to speak when Justin said sharply, "You'd best give me a reasonable explanation, why did you plot against me and then run away that night?! You even bore two of my children!"

Nora: "???"

Her mind was full of question marks!

Which night was he talking about?

No, wait...

Nora narrowed her eyes. "Didn't you say that you don't know how I became pregnant?"

Justin lowered his gaze. "I didn't know it was you at that time, so of course I would say that. After all, surely I couldn't tell outsiders that a woman had plotted against me and taken advantage of me, right?"

Nora: "?????"

She pointed at herself incredulously. "I... plotted against you?"

Justin, who was pulling a long face, replied, "Yes. Given how you were fat and ugly at that time, it can't possibly be because I fell in love with you and plotted against you, right?"

Nora: "??????"

Was she suffering from memory loss? Or had she really been sleepwalking that time?! But she really didn't remember him appearing in her dream! After

all, given that face of his, it would have been deeply etched in her memory if she had indeed dreamed of him!

She was about to refute him when Justin spoke again. "Tell me, woman, what exactly are you plotting by scheming against me and even bearing me two children?"

Nora: "..."

She was speechless.

She didn't know what to say!

Seemingly because she wasn't saying anything, Justin's voice turned even colder. "If you're not going to explain yourself... These two children are part of the Hunts. There's no way I will allow the Hunts' children to wander about outside, let alone allow a woman with ulterior motives to go near my children! So, without a good reason, you can forget about ever seeing my children again!"

He placed his hands on top of Pete's and Cherry's heads and took a step back with the two.

Nora: "?"

Her eyes darkened.

How dare that man threaten her! Hah!

Just as she was about to attack...

Cherry and Pete, whom Justin was holding on to, panicked when they heard their father.

They wouldn't be able to see Mommy ever again?

No, they couldn't have that!

Cherry immediately shouted, "Daddy, Mommy doesn't have any ill intentions! She doesn't have any ulterior motives, either!"

Even though Justin, who was in the midst of a confrontation with Nora, had adopted an icy-cold demeanor on the surface, he was actually secretly terribly anxious.

Why hadn't that silly girl taken the bait yet?

Well, it was true that she wasn't afraid of a head-on confrontation, after all.

However, his precious little baby finally spoke up at this point. Justin breathed a sigh of relief inwardly, though the look on his face remained cold. "What is she planning, if not something malevolent?"

"It's... it's... it's..." Cherry looked at Nora, and then at Justin. At last, she turned to Pete for help and asked, "It's... What was it again, Pete?"

Pete: "?"

Seeing the tyrant also looking over, Pete stammered, "It's... It's..."

Pete was in a huge panic. It was simply too difficult to find a reasonable answer!

Just as all three other people in the room were staring at him, and while Cherry was frantically giving him looks, Pete suddenly thought of the bossy CEO-type romance novels that he'd chanced upon in the past. Thus, his next few words came easily to him:

"It's because she 'couldn't help it', and because she 'couldn't control her feelings'..."

His words were rather hesitant in the beginning, but the more he spoke, the brighter his eyes shone, and the more certain he sounded. He said, "It's because Mommy likes you! Yes, it's exactly because of that!"

Nora: "??????"

She was about to refute him when Cherry rushed over and grabbed her hand. She looked at Justin and said, "Daddy, it's because Mommy likes you so much that she had to do something like that. You won't stop us from seeing Mommy in the future, right?"

Nora: "..."

Although they had made her the scapegoat, she did indeed want to know Justin's opinion on the matter.

If that scumbag took a step back as a result, it wasn't like she couldn't just roll with it, either...

While she was thinking about it, the cold aura around Justin gradually subsided. He looked at her amicably and asked, "Is what they say, true?"

Nora: "..."

She felt that since they had already addressed the matter, she might as well say it all.

But before she could say anything, Cherry nodded repeatedly and said, "It's true, it's true! Mommy really likes you, Daddy! Mommy kept singing your praises before we met you! She even said that you look so cool, handsome, and tender! You're the world's number one hunk!"

Nora: "!!"

When had she ever said anything like that?

"Cough." Cherry's words seemed to have given Justin quite the shock, too. He let out a low cough, looked at Nora, and said, "That's a little too explicit of you."

Nora: "..."

Never mind.

She would just bear with it.

She had only just quietly suppressed her annoyance when Justin asked, "But since you like me so much, why don't you believe in marriage?"

Nora: "?"

Was there no end to that man's questions?

Her brows drew together, and a sharp look flashed across her eyes. She sneered, "There's no correlation between liking someone and getting married, is there, Mr. Hunt? Who says non-believers of marriage can't date?"

Upon hearing her sarcasm and the sound of her gnashing her teeth, Justin knew at once that they had to end it here for today. Otherwise, once he angered her for real, the chances of them getting together would become even lower.

This was the very first time in all these years that he had fallen for a woman. He mustn't let her run away.

Justin feigned sudden realization and said, "I see."

Suddenly, Nora asked, "Since you claim that I had pestered you back then, where did I do said pestering, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin raised his eyebrows.

How would he know?!

He didn't even know how she became pregnant!

That night didn't even exist in his memory at all, alright?!

Regardless, even if he did know, he didn't know what the woman was thinking at that moment, so he had deliberately lied.

However, he absolutely mustn't give her the impression that there were loopholes in his words. Thus, he smiled and suddenly replied, "In California."

"Which hotel in California was it?"

Justin gave her a seemingly amused look. "Are you thinking of reliving the moment, Ms. Smith?"

Nora: "!!"

She took another deep breath and tried her best to tell herself, 'Remain calm, remain calm. Don't get angry.'

At last, she said, "Just asking."

Justin, however, stepped forward. "The past is in the past, we have to look to the future. You don't have to keep reminiscing about that night five years ago, Ms. Smith. If you find it necessary, we can consummate right away."

Consummate?

Pete and Cherry's eyes lit up at the same time. But as soon as they wanted to speak, Nora said coldly, "No, it's fine."

She gritted her teeth and spat out word after word—"I don't find that necessary, my! God! Nephew!"

Justin's face instantly turned green.

Upstairs.

Iris and Mrs. Landis popped their heads out and tried their best to listen to the voices downstairs.

Unfortunately, their voices were too low, so they couldn't hear what they were saying at all. Iris looked at Mrs. Landis. "Why does the situation downstairs feel kinda weird?"

"... It feels kinda weird to me, too. Surely there wasn't some kind of dramatic love-hate relationship between Mr. Justin and Ms. Smith back then, right? Have they reconciled now? Ma'am, don't you feel that what happened to Ms. Smith sounds like a tale of a pretty little wife running away with a babe in her belly?"

"Don't spout nonsense! Their story is much more exciting than a novel!"

Mrs. Landis: "..."

The two listened to the voices downstairs again. Seeing that nothing seemed to be happening anymore, Mrs. Landis asked, "Should we go downstairs and get ready for dinner, Ma'am?"

Iris nodded. "Yeah. Let's go down and take a look."

However, as soon as they went downstairs, they saw Nora sitting on the sofa triumphantly with her arms folded. There was a small smile on her usually cool and distant countenance.

Justin, on the other hand, looked livid.

Clearly, Nora seemed to have won the confrontation just now.

Mrs. Landis coughed and called out, “Ms. Smith, Mr. Hunt, and the two little misters. Shall we have dinner?”

Nora got up. “Sure. I just so happen to have gotten hungry.”

After speaking, she looked at Iris and asked, “Let’s have dinner, Sis?”

Iris: “?”

Why did it suddenly feel like the temperature in the room dropped a few degrees when she said the word ‘Sis’?

She looked at Justin, who was pulling a long face, and the corners of her lips spasmed. She coughed and said, “Um, I didn’t know about your relationship with Justin previously. Considering the situation now, we...”

“These are two separate matters,” Nora replied casually but surely, “We’ll keep the terms of address separate in the future. Mr. Hunt won’t mind, right?”

Justin replied, “... No, I don’t.”

Iris: “...”

The group settled at the dining table.

Pete and Cherry sat next to each other. When they looked at the tyrant and Mommy sitting at the same dining table, they suddenly felt much more blissful than usual!

Unfortunately, the adults didn’t feel that sense of bliss at all.

After they finally finished dinner and the group left, Justin asked coldly, “So, Pete goes with you? And the daughter comes with me?”

Nora breathed a sigh of relief at his words.

At least that guy didn’t ask for both children.

Otherwise, she would really explode.

What kind of horrible evening was this? She felt so frustrated!

She had never felt this frustrated in her entire life!

She nodded. "That works."

She took Pete's hand after she spoke. When she was about to leave, she paused and looked back at Iris. "Don't tell anyone else about this for now, Sis."

Justin paused. He was also about to tell Iris that, but unexpectedly, Nora had done it a step ahead of him.

Thus, he decided not to say anything.

It wasn't convenient for so many people to protect Pete while he was with Nora. Therefore, the children's identities indeed had to be kept secret.

Iris nodded.

While on the way home with Pete, Nora suddenly received a text message on her cell phone.

She glanced at it when she reached a red light, but the moment she did, she suddenly froze.

The text message read: 'Do you wanna know how exactly you became pregnant back then?'

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When Nora saw these words, her eyes narrowed.

It was an anonymous message.

She picked it up casually. Before the traffic light turned green, her fingers moved nimbly to trace the sender's number. However, she realized that the phone number had not been registered with an identity card.

She hacked into his phone again, trying to find his location.

In the blink of an eye, she had locked onto him!

Position: New York!

The exact location was near her car!

When she saw that the red dot was less than a few meters away from her green position, the other party seemed to have sensed her tracking. The red dot flickered a few times and disappeared.

Nora clenched her fists tightly and suddenly looked around.

Although it was already 9 PM, there were still many cars on the road in New York. Because of the traffic lights, most of the cars behind were already blocked.

In other words, that person's car was also blocked inside.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and instructed Pete, "Stay in the car."

Hearing her grave tone, Pete nodded in understanding. "Okay."

He was not afraid because, on the way home, he knew that Justin had assigned a few bodyguards to secretly protect him.

After Nora got out of the car, the car made a clicking sound and was locked up to prevent the bad guys from taking Pete away.

Nora then ran in the direction she remembered.

From the map, she could tell that the other party was less than 200 meters away from her.

The car was not more than 200 meters away from her...

She used her eyes to estimate and agilely weaved through the cars.

100 meters... 150 meters...

The traffic light was relatively long. It took about 90 seconds to go green, and it took her 80 seconds to locate the other party and get there. There were still 10 seconds!

If she could not find that person, she might miss this opportunity.

Although Justin had said that she had killed the other party back then, she had no memory of it at all.

Therefore, even if Justin remembered that night, the two of them had still been schemed against.

The person who had schemed against them and made her give birth to two children was a mystery. As for how she got pregnant, it was even more of a mystery.

And the mystery was only 50 meters away.

Nora took a few steps forward suddenly. The cars beside her were already honking impatiently. There were too many cars in New York, and the roads were filled with cars.

200 meters!

About seven to eight cars were parked 200 meters away from her!

She walked over quickly and knocked on the window of the first car.

The car window rolled down and the driver looked at her impatiently. "What are you doing? Do you want to die?"

That person's expression was very real. It was obvious that he was a passerby.

It wasn't him.

Nora walked around him and continued to walk back.

But at this point!

Beep!

A car suddenly honked. Nora was stunned. She turned around and saw a black Land Rover parked two cars away from this car.

The car window rolled down, revealing a familiar face. "Miss Smith, what are you doing?"

This person was... Morris, Captain Ford!

While she was in a daze, the traffic light in front changed. The cars started to move, but because Nora's car was parked in front, this line of cars could not move.

Seeing the two cars driving away slowly, Nora was no longer anxious. Instead, she narrowed her eyes and looked at Morris. "Captain Ford, what a coincidence. Why are you here?"

Morris looked ahead, his cold face sharp and clear. "Miss Smith, I should be the one asking you this, right? If you stop the car, it will seriously affect the traffic rules. It will be a violation of the rules and you will be fined. Of course, if you still don't leave, I'm afraid it will be so serious that your driver's license will be revoked."

Nora was unmoved. "This is the traffic police's jurisdiction, right? Captain Ford even cares about this?"

Morris was expressionless, but he took out a document from the car and handed it to her. "Special Case Departments, I have the right to ask about all illegal matters."

Beep!

Beep!

"F*ck? What's going on in front? Why aren't you driving?"

"Is it an accident? Or did the car break down?"

"..."

The other drivers started honking wildly. Some got out of the car and looked forward.

Nora knew that she could not delay anymore, so she nodded at Morris. "I'll leave now."

She looked around again but did not see any familiar cars. Then, she walked forward and followed the cars to the front.

A driver in the back had already gotten out of the car and was pointing at her nose and shouting, "What are you doing? Do you have any courtesy? Don't you know you're delaying us by stopping here?"

However, when he raised her head, he could clearly see that it was a young lady's face. This lady was also as beautiful as a fairy. Furthermore, although Nora did not smile, her apology was still considered sincere. "I'm sorry. I'll leave now."

She was simply using her beauty to commit murder.

The driver's cursing voice became softer and warmer. "It's fine, it's fine. It was just a minute. Let's go!"

Nora got into the car and started it. The cars parked behind her then returned to normal traffic.

On the way home, she looked ahead with a serious expression.

Who was the person who had followed her and controlled her pregnancy back then?

Why was Morris around her again? Was he the one who had sent her the message?

Once or twice could be a coincidence, but so many times? What was his motive?

Also, special department... What was that? Why had she never heard of such a department?!

At the Hunts'.

Mrs. Hunt frowned. After thinking about it for an entire day, she finally decided to make a move. "Although they don't admit it now, once they do, it'll be too late for them to acknowledge it! I can't control them in this matter, but someone can."

Mdm. Lea was stunned. "Who?"

Mrs. Hunt took out her phone and made a call that she had not made in a long time. The moment the call was picked up, she lowered her eyes and slowly said, "Iris, this is Mom. I'm calling you for the sake of Justin and Pete..."

Iris's attitude was very cold, but she didn't hang up. Instead, she asked, "What? What do you want me to do this time?"

When Mrs. Hunt heard the words “this time,” she instantly felt guilty, but she still hardened her heart and said, “Justin likes a woman from a small family. She definitely can’t be Pete’s stepmother! You’re probably the only person in the world who can stop him! You...”

Before she could finish, Iris sneered and asked, “Stepmother?”

Mrs. Hunt paused and immediately said, “Yes, she will marry Justin to be Pete’s stepmother. Iris, you know stepmothers can’t possibly be good. Back then...”

Iris interrupted her again. “Not every stepmother in this world is like that mistress!”

Mrs. Hunt: ??

She was stunned by Iris’ words. After thinking for a while, she tried to ask, “But what if she gives birth to a child for Justin again?”

“Mom, I think you’re mistaken.” Iris’ voice was cold.

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

Iris said slowly, “Being a mother and being a wife is different. A mother wants her son to be better. Justin is getting married, and it’ll be good for him to have a woman to please him and take care of him in the future. Isn’t that what you told me back then?”

Mrs. Hunt clenched her jaw. “Iris, are you still blaming me?”

“No.” Iris’ answer was very simple. “I don’t blame anyone. If I have to say it, I only blame my bad luck.”

As soon as she said this, she hung up.

Mrs. Hunt looked at her phone in a daze. After a while, she sighed deeply and looked at Mdm. Lea. “She still hates me.”

Mdm. Lea looked at Mrs. Hunt and wanted to say something, but she hesitated. In the end, she said something fair. “It has been quite difficult for her all these years.”

She had stayed at the Hunts for her son.

However, she could not love her son affectionately. This was much more bitter than what Justin's father had suffered.

Mrs. Hunt sighed as Cherry's voice came from the door. "Great-Grandmother, I'm here~"

Mrs. Hunt immediately looked at the door in joy and saw Justin striding in with a smile. His appearance stunned her. She smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy today?"

Justin's expression froze as he asked, "Am I?"

Mdm. Lea teased, "You can't even suppress the corners of your mouth. Aren't you happy? Mr. Hunt, did something good happen today? Tell us, so we can be happy too!"

When Justin heard this, he thought of how he had had dinner with Nora tonight and could not help but smile again.

Seeing that he was silent, Cherry raised her hand. "I'll talk, I'll talk! Daddy had dinner with Mommy tonight. That's why Daddy is happy, right?"

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

She turned to look at Justin again.

In her impression, this grandson had always been stern. Even after signing a huge contract and earning a few hundred million, he had never smiled like he did today.

It had been five years since he last smiled like this. At that time, he had just brought Pete back. After pulling him back from the brink of death, he had done a DNA test and realized that Pete was indeed his son.

He had hardly ever smiled like this before.

Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and touched Cherry's head. "Is that so? No wonder."

She suddenly looked at Justin and said, "Justin, it's my 80th birthday in a week. We can hold a party this year, right?"

Justin was stunned when he heard this.

Ever since his father left and his grandfather passed away, his grandmother had been eating vegetarian food and reading Buddhism. She had never liked the liveliness of birthday parties.

Every year on her birthday, the entire family would gather together for a meal. They had never organized a big banquet before.

Why did she suddenly...

However, he did not ask further and immediately agreed. "Okay. Let Mdm. Lea and Mr. Long handle the party. I'll prepare a guest list."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "Alright, invite Miss Smith over as well."

Only then did Justin realize that Mrs. Hunt's birthday celebration was actually for Nora.

However, if Nora came over, they could at least publicize their relationship so that the outside world would not have to keep guessing.

He nodded. "Yes."

After chatting for a while more about the details of the birthday banquet, Justin left with Cherry. Mdm. Lea stood beside Mrs. Hunt. "Mrs. Hunt, are you... trying to use this method to persuade Miss Smith to leave?"

Mrs. Hunt's birthday banquet would definitely shock all the influential people in New York.

At that time, if the people from small families could not handle that scene, they would automatically retreat.

However, Mrs. Hunt did not seem to hear this. Her gaze was only fixed on Justin at the door. She suddenly said, "Mdm. Lea, how long has it been since we last saw Justin with such a relaxing smile?"

Mdm. Lea was stunned.

Mrs. Hunt sighed. "Actually, how good would it be if he could smile like this every day? Even I wavered a little just now. If that Miss Smith could make him happy by marrying her, shouldn't I give in a little?"

Mdm. Lea understood her thoughts. She walked to her side and held her shoulder. "Mrs. Hunt, you're not only Mr. Hunt's grandmother, but you're also the Matriarch of the Hunts."

These words made Mrs. Hunt's expression darken.

Yes.

She had devoted her entire life to the Hunts. Just like back then... when her grandson was only five years old, she would definitely have favored her son more.

However, for the sake of the Hunts, she still chased her son away and kept her grandson with her.

She was not only a mother, but she was also the Matriarch of the Hunts.

The trace of guilt that she had felt instantly disappeared.

She could not disregard the Hunts' reputation just because Justin was happy for a moment.

The Matriarch of the Hunts could not be such a lowly woman like Nora!

She took a deep breath and suddenly looked at Mdm. Lea. "Remember to invite that lady from the Smiths over on my birthday."

Mdm. Lea understood what she meant and nodded. "Yes."

The next day at the Andersons'.

"What gift did you prepare?"

When Melissa woke up in the morning and received the invitation, she had a headache. She complained to Mrs. Anderson, "They're holding a special banquet for Mrs. Hunt's birthday this year. Moreover, our relationship is different now. We can't afford not to bring out valuable gifts. But what kind of treasure have the Hunts not seen? What can we send that would bring out new meaning and show our magnanimity?"

Mrs. Anderson rubbed her temples as well. "I hate thinking about gifts the most, especially a gift for Mrs. Hunt. She has high standards. Sigh! But why don't you ask Nora? She might have some good ideas."

It was almost noon. When Nora went downstairs, she heard Melissa say worriedly, “Nora, you’re finally awake! Mrs. Hunt’s birthday is a week from now and she has invited our entire family. What do you think we should give her?”

Birthday?

Nora paused for a moment before smiling. “Don’t worry. I know what to give her.”

After all, she was Pete and Cherry’s grandmother. It was only right that she did her best.

Melissa was curious. “What are you planning to send?”

Nora slowly said, “Isn’t the most common thing in our Harmonia Pharmacy, medicine?”

Melissa: “??”

Nora yawned. “Aunt, lend me a room in the pharmaceutical factory.”

Melissa immediately nodded. “No problem!”

After Nora had lunch, Melissa brought her to the Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory.

The Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory was in the suburbs of New York. It looked very big and neat inside. When they walked in, they could smell the fragrance of medicine.

Sheril was here all year round. When she heard that they were here, she immediately welcomed them. “Mom, Sister, the empty laboratory is ready.”

Melissa nodded. “Then I’ll go back first. You guys can prepare.”

She was a little worried.

The best medicine the Andersons had right now was the Carefree Pill. However, the pill had a price, and it was mass-produced. It was a big gift to give someone else 20 pills, but to Mrs. Hunt, it was only a few thousand dollars.

Was Nora’s medicine okay as a present?

She was a little worried.

There was only a week left. She had to find something good so that Nora's pill wouldn't be looked down on and she wouldn't have to take it out to save the situation.

Therefore, Melissa went out early and returned late every day. She went to various auction houses to look for various gifts.

In the laboratory.

Nora only did the preparation work and did it for half a day. It was only at night that she finished preparing all kinds of things.

Sheril, who had been helping from the side, asked curiously, "Sister, what medicine are you going to make?"

Nora thought for a moment and replied, "Calming Pill."

Mrs. Hunt's brain was filled with bruises and lumps. If she took the Calming Pill for a while, it would be very effective.

Sheril immediately let out a sigh of relief. "Calming Pill? Our Harmonia Pharmacy has many of them, and they're very cheap. Just take some... No, the Calming Pill formula doesn't have these ingredients?"

The Calming Pill didn't have so many herbs?

Just as she thought about this, she heard Nora say slowly, "Yes, it's Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill."

Sheril was stunned. "Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

The legendary Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

There were many types of Calming Pills.

However, Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill was definitely the best!

It was said that this Calming Pill was offered to the emperor in ancient times. It was similar to a Tao priest refining pills. The prescription was extremely complicated, and the herbs used were also very expensive!

Even with the current high level of technology, this pill was still very difficult to refine. Up until now, Dr. Zabe was probably the only one in the world who could refine one or two pills.

However, Nora actually knew how to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

She swallowed. "Sister, I heard that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace. How many do you plan to give?"

Nora glanced at her. "Who said that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace?"

Sheril: "??"

Dr. Zabe said so!

He had personally refined a batch three years ago and only produced one finished product. It had ruined a lot of medicinal herbs, causing his heart to ache so much that he never refined it again!

Nora rolled her eyes. Master could not perform well because he was old and could not control his behavior well.

This kind of problem would not happen to her.

However, the process was a little long and needed three days and four nights. With all this time, she might as well sleep. Therefore, she had not refined it over the years.

She said nothing.

Sheril decided not to speak anymore. She just looked at the expensive herbs Nora took over, with an aching heart.

There was an old manager at the pharmaceutical factory in Harmonia Pharmacy. He was also an old pharmacist and could be considered Sheril's master. At this moment, he stood outside the door and happened to overhear their conversation.

He waved Sheril over.

Sheril walked out.

The old pharmacist frowned and reprimanded, “Sheril, you guys are too reckless!! Are these hundred thousand dollars of herbs going to be wasted just like that? How can she possibly refine Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill?”

Although Sheril’s heart also ached for the money, when she heard her master’s words, she hurriedly explained, “Master, Sister Nora was the one who gave us the Carefree Pill formula. So even if money is wasted, it’s nothing. My father and mother definitely won’t feel the pinch.”

The pharmacist sighed. “They only look at money, but do you only care for money too? Do you know how much the 500-year-old ginseng she took is worth now? We could only buy one or two from the entire country. This isn’t a matter of money at all, okay? Don’t you feel bad that she wasted it?”

Of course, her heart ached!

Now, everyone was growing ginseng artificially. Most of it was just decades old, and it was rare to find one that was centuries old.

These two 500-year-old ginsengs had been preserved by Harmonia Pharmacy. They could be considered the treasure of the store, and were priceless!

People had been asking for 500-year-old ginseng for a long time, but they still could not get one.

After all, most of the older ones had been sent to the auction. The value of ginseng had already far exceeded the medicinal value. Harmonia Pharmacy would not auction them. Most of the people who could auction them were like the Smiths and Hunts. But how could such families sell ginseng to Harmonia Pharmacy?

However, to make Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill, one needed ginseng that was this old!

Actually, if it could be made, this ginseng would definitely not be wasted. After all, the Calming Pill was much more valuable than the ginseng itself.

The problem was!

Dr. Zabe had only managed to refine one pill in a furnace. Could Sister Nora succeed?

The old pharmacist suggested, "Although other herbs are expensive, we can still buy them. Can you talk to your sister and exchange that ginseng for a 100-year one?! If she fails, we'll only lose money!"

When Sheril heard this, she fell into deep thought.

After a moment, she shook her head. "Master, Sister Nora's kindness to the Andersons is too great. I can't say anything about it."

The old pharmacist was instantly furious. He pointed at her forehead and scolded, "You, you're really a blockhead! The Andersons have fallen this far because none of you know how to make drugs! You're wasting herbs!! Even with a Carefree Pill, if you continue to be so willful in the future, you'll eventually go downhill!"

Sheril argued anxiously, "Master, you can't say that. What if Sister Nora really manages to master it?"

The old pharmacist had been working with the Andersons since he was young and had never attended school. He had learned the skills from an older generation and was loyal to the Andersons. At this moment, he was furious. The more he cursed, the more unpleasant he became. He took advantage of his seniority and said, "Dr. Zabe could only produce one pill. How can she master it at such a young age? Stop bragging! If she can master it, I, I won't need any salary in the future! But if she can't, you have to listen to me in the pharmaceutical factory in the future!"

When Sheril heard this, her eyes turned red.

She knew that her master was trying to put her in her place.

Ever since she came to the pharmaceutical factory, she had been using the introduction of new alchemy skills. Her master had been dissatisfied with her long ago, but she was the owner, and her master could only listen to her.

Chapter 243 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

Meeting a sister?

Cherry had always liked to make friends. Her eyes immediately lit up. "Is she good-looking?"

Mrs. Hunt: ?

The corners of her lips twitched as she smiled. "I don't know yet, but she definitely isn't as good-looking as our Pete."

Although Mrs. Hunt's words were biased, Pete was indeed the most exquisite and good-looking child she had ever seen.

He was even more exquisite than Justin back then.

Cherry grinned. "Great-Grandmother, don't say that. I'll be shy!"

Mrs. Hunt: "..."

She felt that Pete had become even cuter and lively!

She hugged him. "Our Pete is so cute! Great-Grandmother will give you a gift later!"

At the mention of a gift, Cherry immediately stood up. "Great-Grandmother, since I'm meeting my new sister, I'll prepare a gift for her! Wait a minute~"

With that, she ran over to the toy room.

Ever since Cherry became close to Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Hunt would call her over to play sometimes. Therefore, she had prepared a little toy room for Cherry inside her room.

Of course, most of them were cars, and there were very few teddy bears.

But there were still some.

Cherry choose a plush toy and planned to give it to the new girl.

As she watched Cherry run away, Mrs. Hunt slowly retracted her gaze and wiped the smile off her face. She said to the butler beside her, "Pete's personality is a little too good."

The housekeeper, Mdm. Lea, had followed Mrs. Hunt when she got married to the Hunts back then. Although she had been married and had children all these years, she had always stayed by Mrs. Hunt's side and helped her manage the family matters.

Mdm. Lea nodded. "He's too approachable. He doesn't have the arrogance he had when he was silent in the past."

Mrs. Hunt lowered her head. "What do you think we should do if Pete really likes this sister?"

One of the reasons why she asked Melissa to bring cherry over was because she wanted the two children to have a conflict. This way, Pete would resist this marriage.

She really understood Justin too well.

Once he made up her mind, he would not change it again.

Actually, she did not agree to this marriage.

After all, if the Madam of the Hunts was a woman who had given birth and married into the family with a child, she would become the laughing stock of the entire New York.

However, if she resisted, Justin would definitely not listen to her.

Justin's only weakness was Pete.

As long as his son disagreed, this marriage would not be possible.

Mdm. Lea glanced at Mrs. Hunt and lowered her head. "They're children, there will always be conflicts when they interact. After all, if they steal each other's toys... It won't be surprising if they fight."

If they were to fight...

Mrs. Hunt's eyelids did not move, but her eyes darted around before she smiled. "Okay, as long as you arrange it."

After saying that, she sighed deeply. "Speaking of which, this is the first time in so many years that I've schemed against Justin."

Mdm. Lea hurriedly comforted her. "You're doing this for his own good. I don't know what's wrong with Mister. He must have been bewitched to fall for such an immoral woman. The future head of the Hunts definitely can't be such a woman."

When she heard this, Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and nodded. Then, she slowly said, "Justin said that he hasn't succeeded in wooing that girl. Actually, this is all because of the Andersons... You don't know this, but back then, his father had also taken a liking to Yvette. He was so obsessed with her..."

Mrs. Hunt felt a little uncomfortable at the mention of the past.

Actually, if the woman Justin liked was not from the Andersons, it might have been better. But she was actually Yvette's daughter...

How much trouble had Yvette caused in New York back then?

Even her son, Justin's father, had been infatuated with Yvette. He had even fought with Ian because of her.

In the end...

Mrs. Hunt nagged. "Yvette chose Ian, and only then did my son leave. But from then on, Justin's father seemed to have become a different person. He used to be such a progressive person. Later on, he didn't care about the marriage anymore. I helped him choose Justin's mother. When I asked him for his opinion, he said that it was fine. As long as it wasn't her, he didn't care who it was, and it was up to me to arrange."

Mrs. Hunt was full of complaints. "I was too anxious back then. I wanted him to get back on his feet and choose Iris, who was not inferior to Yvette. This Iris comes from a better family than Yvette, and she's well-educated. It's just that she doesn't like to be in the limelight, so her reputation isn't as great as Yvette's. But she's really not inferior to her..."

"After they got married, they treated each other with respect. However, Iris was too stubborn. When she found out that he already had someone outside, she couldn't bear it anymore. But in a wealthy marriage, isn't it normal for a man to have one or two mistresses outside? The marriage was based on two good surnames. Even the old man was very infatuated when he was young..."

When Mdm. Lea heard this, she hurriedly interrupted her. "Madam isn't bad. At least, Justin's father's outcome was better than the one in the Smiths..."

Her words stunned Mrs. Hunt. She asked, "I heard that the person from the Smiths is dying?"

Mdm. Lea sighed. "Isn't that so? Back then, he and Justin's father were the two elites of New York. Although Yvette chose Ian, Ian didn't even have a child with her in the end! Now that he's terminally ill, I heard he won't live for long. In comparison, Justin's father is at least still alive..."

Mrs. Hunt sighed again.

At the same time, she was even more dissatisfied with Nora and hated the Andersons even more.

Although they all knew that it was his own fault that Justin's father had come to this point and that the Old Master had given up on him, as his biological mother, she was still filled with anticipation for the brilliant Boss from back then.

In the end, her son had fallen into dire straits. On one hand, she blamed her son for being disappointing. On the other hand, it was convenient for her to vent her anger on the Andersons.

She had her own bottom line.

At the very least, they had not kicked the Andersons while they were down for so many years.

Moreover, Yvette had passed away many years ago, and the Andersons were gradually falling into decline. Logically speaking, everything that had happened in the past was already in the past. After so many years, she could not even remember the Andersons anymore.

If Nora was not Yvette's child, perhaps she would not be so harsh to her.

As she was thinking, she heard footsteps outside.

Mdm. Lea hurriedly reminded her, "Madam, they're here."

Mrs. Hunt immediately sat up straight and looked sharply at the door.

That woman thought highly of herself and refused to come over.. Therefore, she would first take a look at her child and see what she looked like. After all, the daughter would surely be a miniature version of her mother!

The first to enter was the butler.

He looked a little surprised, but he still held it in. When he saw Mrs. Hunt, he bowed. "Madam, Ms. Melissa is here."

Only then did he move aside and reveal the person behind him.

Melissa was wearing a casual family suit. She did not look like she had specially dressed up. However, her clothes were fitting and elegant. She was smiling as well, but her smile was appropriate and did not appear flattering. She was poised and composed.

When Mrs. Hunt saw her, she nodded secretly.

At least in this outfit, she was not the type to curry favor with the Hunts, and would not be hated.

She looked at Melissa and behind her. After a while, she asked in surprise, "Where's the child?"

When she said this, Melissa revealed an awkward expression.

She looked at the butler and felt a little uncomfortable when she thought of the situation earlier.

Just now, when Melissa looked at Pete, she realized that he was hugging his head and burying it on the sofa in the backseat. After she spoke, he directly said gloomily, "Aunt, my... my stomach hurts. I want to go home..."

Melissa was shocked and hurriedly asked, "Where does your stomach hurt? Why are you feeling uncomfortable? Cherry, let me take a look!"

"I don't want to," Pete said firmly. "I want to go home and find Mommy. Mommy is a doctor. She can treat all illnesses."

Melissa was anxious. "Then I'll accompany you back."

No matter how important it was, it was not as important as the child.

However, just as she finished speaking, she saw Pete look up from inside the car. He blinked at her and said softly, "I'm fine. It's just that this butler uncle looks too scary. I don't want to get out of the car. I want to go home and find Mom."

Melissa: "..."

The butler, who had taken the blame for no reason: "..."

The butler touched his face. If he had not always been famous for being polite and gentlemanly, he would have felt like a monster!

Look at how frightened the little kid was!

Melissa was helpless as well. She coaxed Pete to get out of the car again. "Cherry, Uncle Butler is very kind. If you get out of the car, he'll take you out to play with toys and eat delicious food, okay?"

Pete shook his head like a rattle drum. "I don't, I don't want to. I want to go home and find Mommy!"

Melissa: "Cherry, you're being rude~"

Pete retorted seriously, "I'm a child. I'm unreasonable!"

Melissa, "..."

Pete said, "Besides, bringing me in like this is embarrassing. You might as well let me go home to Mommy."

Melissa: "..."

She had been convinced!

In the end, she could only get out of the car and get the chauffeur to send Cherry home first. The chauffeur would pick her up later.

Facing Mrs. Hunt's question, Melissa could only explain, "The child is very clingy to her mother. She didn't see her mother and wanted to go home. I got the chauffeur to send her back first. Mrs. Hunt, how have you been lately?"

Looking for her mother?

Mrs. Hunt glanced at the butler and saw him nod.

She looked down on Nora even more.

She had indeed grown up in a small place and was not generous at all. Her daughter was also so willful. She had already arrived at the door and had left again.

As she thought this, she revealed some impatience on the surface.

She pointed to the chair beside her. "Have a seat first."

Melissa's body stiffened.

This condescending attitude was obvious, and even though she was experienced and concealed her expression, she still revealed a little impatience. It made Melissa very uncomfortable.

After she sat down, Mrs. Hunt smiled and said, "You can't spoil a child too much."

Melissa lowered her eyes. Although Cherry had indeed lost her composure today, she still protected her own family. She smiled. "You're right. However, Cherry is a delicate girl. Aren't all wealthy families raising their daughters like gems? This has always been the case in our family. Our daughters are all very precious! Boys are tougher, on the other hand."

In other words, "Our girls are willful! Nora is also very willful!"

Melissa felt that she could not lower her stance and blindly pander to her. She had to tell Mrs. Hunt that Nora had also been pampered by the Andersons since she was young!

Mrs. Hunt understood and smiled. "Isn't this how wealthy families raise their children? But why do I hear that Nora grew up in California?"

Melissa smiled. "Yes, my elder sister married into California back then and set up a company there. However, it's more difficult to raise children there. Nora's good skin is all because of her. Also, you haven't seen her fingers before. They're as fair as freshly peeled onions without any creases."

Mrs. Hunt smiled and remained silent.

Mdm. Lea said, "That's because you raised her too carefully. The boys in our family are raised roughly. Our family has only raised one child who is not rough. That child is our Young Master. Sir raised him himself since he was young."

Mdm. Lea smiled. "Sir fed Little Young Master milk powder and changed his diaper. Speaking of which, even in an ordinary family, a father who can do this

is already a good father. Moreover, our Sir highly values Little Young Master. He never left his side for more than three days since he was young and even taught him personally... At that time, we said that we would find a mother for Little Young Master. Sir said that the child was still young and was afraid that a stepmother would be bad. We would talk about it when the child grew up. He even said that he wanted to find someone from a small family. Someone who would not dare to bully Little Young Master. Speaking of which, Little Young Master is already five years old!"

In other words: Justin cared about the Little Young Master the most. Even if he married, it could not affect the Little Young Master's status.

Melissa clenched her fists.

After Nora marries Justin, it was her freedom to have children or not. However, the Hunts were clearly looking down on them by saying all this in advance.

What small family?

She was instantly furious, and her smile stiffened.

Mrs. Hunt scolded, "Mdm. Lea, what nonsense are you talking about? The Andersons aren't a small family!"

Mdm. Lea immediately slapped her mouth gently. "Ms. Melissa, don't take it to heart. I didn't think before I spoke. That's not what I meant. Of course, the Andersons are not a small family. Your Carefree Pills are too famous. Even our family has a few for emergencies."

Melissa: "..."

She clenched her fists tightly, but she knew that even if this marriage did not succeed, they could not fall out. After all, the Andersons could not compare to the Hunts.

However, she had already made up her mind to persuade Nora to break up with Justin.

She could not marry into such a family!

As she was thinking to herself, a clear and cute voice suddenly sounded. "Great-Grandmother, is my little sister here?"

With that, a small figure ran over.

Melissa looked over subconsciously, but the moment she lifted her head, she froze all of a sudden.

She stared incredulously at the child running in, and swallowed hard. Cherry also noticed her while she was running in. The little fellow came to a stop, and a touch of surprise appeared in her big round eyes.

An astonished Melissa said, "Ch..."

But before she could say '...erry, why are you back?', the little fellow suddenly exclaimed, "Ooh! Hi, Grand-aunt!"

She interrupted Melissa, ran up to her, and sat on her lap.

Melissa: "?"

She couldn't understand how Cherry could go in and out of the Hunts' residence at will. Moreover, she had clearly come from the inner premises. Shouldn't she be in the car going back to the Andersons right now?

While she was in a daze, Mrs. Hunt frowned and asked, "Grand... Aunt? Pete, do the two of you know each other?"

Cherry nodded at once. "Uh-huh! Great-Grandma, this is Grand-Aunt. Grand-Aunt, this is my great-grandmother~"

Even more question marks filled Melissa's mind: ???

She suddenly turned to Mrs. Hunt and asked, "W-what did you call the child just now?"

Pete? What Pete?

Before Mrs. Hunt could explain, Cherry said, "Don't you remember who I am, Grand-Aunt? I'm Pete Hunt! My father is Justin Hunt!"

Then, she looked at Mrs. Hunt again and said, “Are they the guests you were talking about, Great-Grandma? I’ve been to their house! Daddy took me there before, yeah!”

Cherry’s young and tender voice rang out in the living room, shocking Melissa so badly that she was practically crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.

What nonsense was Cherry spouting?

Pete Hunt? What nonsens...

No, wait, Hunt?

And ‘Great-Grandma’...

‘My father is Justin Hunt’...

She looked at Cherry, who was in her arms, in disbelief after connecting the pieces of crucial information. She swallowed hard and asked, “Y-your father is Justin Hunt?”

Justin was the father of Nora’s child???

Cherry blinked at her and replied, “Uh-huh! My father is Justin Hunt, and I am his son, yeah!”

She deliberately placed emphasis on the word ‘son’. Then, she asked, “Where’s my sister? Didn’t she come?”

If Pete had come, he would definitely find a way to escape!

There was absolutely no way he would stay!

Cherry understood her elder brother very well, so there weren’t any loopholes in her words at all.

The dumbfounded Melissa’s mind was a complete blank.

Mrs. Hunt, however, was very displeased with how close and intimate the two of them were. She beckoned to Cherry and said, “Come to Great-Grandma, Pete.”

Cherry nodded and ran to Mrs. Hunt.

After getting her to sit beside her, Mrs. Hunt looked at Melissa and asked with a fake smile, "So, Justin has already paid your family a visit?"

Melissa: "..."

When had he ever paid them a visit?!

But when she thought of what Pete had said just now...

She looked again at Cherry, who was sitting beside Mrs. Hunt obediently...

The child in front of her felt more like the Cherry whom Nora had brought with her from California. On the contrary, it was the Cherry, who was always so quiet and taciturn lately, that felt more like she would be the little mister of the Hunts...

Could it be that...

Everything suddenly clicked in her head in this instant.

She looked at Mrs. Hunt again, who said with a smile, "You mustn't be so casual with your terms of address, Pete. You should call her Mrs. Anderson instead."

Cherry blinked. "But Daddy told me to call her Grand-Aunt!"

The clever Cherry had long since discovered that everyone in this family became fearful the moment she brought her father into the picture!

Sure enough, Mrs. Hunt didn't make any more mention about changing the term of address. Instead, she looked at Melissa with a smile and said, "Would you just look at this child? He's just so innocent that he can't even distinguish between who's family and who's not. That said, it's not really a big issue even if he goes along with it and addresses you as Grand-Aunt."

Mrs. Hunt could tell from Cherry's attitude that Justin had already taken care of everything long ago. Knowing that there was no way she could stop the marriage anymore, she heaved a silent sigh inwardly.

In that case, there were some things that must be made clear.

She took a deep breath and said with a smile, “Mrs. Anderson, I asked you over because there’s something I want to talk to you about. I should think that you’re already aware that Ms. Smith and Justin are dating. What are your thoughts on this? Also, our family has high hopes for Pete. Surely the Andersons won’t mind if he becomes close to his biological mother in the future, right?”

Although they didn’t know who Pete’s biological mother was, they would eventually find her.

In Mrs. Hunt’s opinion, no one could compare to their own blood relatives.

It was just like Iris back then. For Justin’s sake, hadn’t she also willingly suffered injustice for so many years? She was the only person in this world who didn’t harbor any thoughts of using Justin and treated him well.

Although she didn’t know why Justin had never made any mention of Pete’s biological mother, these thoughts of hers had never once changed.

Melissa had already recovered from her shock and consternation by now. As expected of someone who had experienced so much in life, the woman had already understood everything during these short few moments.

No wonder Nora had kept in contact with Justin. As it turned out, the father of her children was none other than Justin himself!

Although she didn’t know how Nora and Justin had come to have children, or what exactly had happened back then, what she did know right now was that Mrs. Hunt was obviously unaware that Nora was Pete’s biological mother!

She coughed and asked, “Do you know where Pete’s biological mother is, Mrs. Hunt?”

Mrs. Hunt, however, misunderstood her.

She thought what Melissa meant was—how was Pete going to become close with his biological mother when they didn’t even know where she was?

At once, Mrs. Hunt smiled and replied very meaningfully, “Of course, I do.”

Melissa: “??”

Then, Mrs. Hunt puffed herself up at her own cost and said, "It's said that mothers and their children share a connection. You should have heard of that saying before, right? You're also a mother yourself, so you must know how a mother feels toward their children. Although there are some misunderstandings between Justin and her, for the boy's sake, I think Justin will eventually forgive her."

She looked at Melissa again after she spoke, and thought of a way to get her to back down. She said, "Of course, if Ms. Smith doesn't mind, then it's not a problem."

Melissa: "..."

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. She suddenly felt very much like laughing.

She asked, "How do you feel about his biological mother, then?"

Mrs. Hunt became domineering this time. She replied, "I don't care who she is. She deserves my gratitude just for giving birth to such an excellent successor for the Hunts!"

Her words were filled with heartfelt sincerity.

Pete was simply too outstanding. Even his IQ showed signs of surpassing Justin's!

Melissa glanced at Cherry when she heard what Mrs. Hunt said, and she couldn't help but laugh. She suddenly felt like it didn't seem that bad for Nora to marry into the Hunts, either?

Her smile baffled Mrs. Hunt.. "What are you laughing at, Mrs. Anderson?"

Melissa lowered her gaze and hurriedly reined in her smile. "I was just amused, that's all. These are the Hunts' private affairs. I shouldn't be asking about it."

"Our private affairs?" Mrs. Hunt frowned. "It's not really just our private affairs anymore, is it? Aren't Ms. Smith and Justin in a relationship right now?"

Melissa feigned surprise. "Are the two youngsters dating? I really wouldn't know about that."

She didn't know what Nora's plans were, so there was no way she would agree to any sort of request.

Mrs. Hunt: ??

What was the matter with her?

Melissa wasn't that wary and cautious anymore all of a sudden!

Was it really like what Justin said? Nora Smith wasn't interested in him?

That... wasn't quite possible, was it? Which girl could possibly resist the temptation that was Justin Hunt?

However, since Melissa had already put it that way, she couldn't go on about the topic anymore. She changed the subject tactfully and invited Melissa to stay for dinner.

However, Melissa declined the invitation and hurried back to the Andersons before dinner.

As soon as she entered the compound, she saw the usually asleep Nora looking at her. Her brows were drawn together as she asked, "I heard from Pete that you went to the Hunts'?"

Pete...

So, the child in their house was indeed the Hunts' little mister!

The news astounded Melissa so badly that her legs turned into jelly the moment she got out of the car. She held Nora's arm for support, grabbed her hand, and asked, "Nora, Cherry and Pete are...?"

"They are twins," replied Nora simply.

Melissa swallowed. Even though she had already guessed it, she nevertheless couldn't help but ask hesitantly, "And Justin is their...?"

"He's their father."

Nora sounded very sure.

In the past, she was sure because Justin must have already done a DNA test for himself and Pete. As for now, it was because Lily had already compared Justin's DNA with the twins', and Justin was indeed their father.

She still remembered what Lily had said then:

"Oh, by the way, I also checked the father's IQ genes while I was doing the DNA test, and it's astonishingly high. It's at the highest end of the range of values for normal people though, so it's still a teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit inferior to your crazy IQ."

Since she had emphasized how minimal the difference was, it meant that there really wasn't much of one.

However, Nora had been more concerned about the children at the time. "What about the children?"

"... The children's IQs are also out of this world. Pete has the same IQ genes as you—in fact, they're even a bit better. As for Cherry, hers is even crazier. Her IQ is the average of yours and her father's, so it's even higher."

Nora: "..."

Her IQ was obviously a 'teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit' higher than Justin's. Pete was a boy, so he had fully inherited his IQ genes from her. It was normal for it to be slightly higher than hers.

However, Cherry's was the average of hers and Justin's, so how was it higher than Pete's?

Nora's lip corners spasmed. "You must be mistaken."

An exceptionally serious Lily replied, "Please do not question my professional abilities, Anti. I personally carried out all the tests involving your DNA."

Nora: "..."

Before she hung up, she made it a point to remind her, "Please delete all the data."

"No problem."

...

Melissa stared at the girl in front of her in shock.

The unattainable Justin was every girl's dream in New York.

When her daughter Sheril met him at a party when she was young, even she had come back saying, "He's the most handsome boy I've ever seen! And he also has an air of elegance around him!"

At that time, Melissa had immediately warned her, "Even so, you mustn't develop feelings for him. People like him can't be tamed."

Sheril had immediately understood then that some people were simply favored by God from the start.

Yet, their Nora had conquered that unattainable man?

An astonished Melissa asked, "Are two of you really going to get married?"

Although Mrs. Hunt looked down on the Andersons—in fact, she even had something against them because Yvette had broken her son's heart in the past—after her chat with her earlier, Melissa was now sure of something: Once Mrs. Hunt realized that Nora was Pete's biological mother and that she could even bring an additional Cherry to the Hunts, Mrs. Hunt would probably treat Nora as the Hunts' most honored guest!

Nora yawned and replied, "No, we're not."

Then, she added seriously, "I've never entertained that thought before."

Melissa nodded. The next moment, she saw Nora pick up her cell phone and make a call. The other party answered very quickly.

"Hello, Ms. Smith. Are you calling me this late because you miss me?"

Nora said, "... Keep your family members in check."

Justin: "?"

Nora was cold and distant as she said, "Don't harass the Andersons."

Justin understood at once. "Was it Grandma?"

“Yeah.” Nora said unhurriedly, “She told my aunt to go over and discuss marriage plans.”

“ ... ”

“Mr. Hunt,” Nora said, “Didn’t we already reach an agreement about not believing in getting married?”

Melissa: “!!!”

Was that how Nora usually talked to Mr. Hunt?

Why did her voice sound like it was brimming with disdain?!

Mr. Hunt would definitely become angry, right?

While her imagination was running wild, the voice on the other end of the call said, “It’s my fault.”

Melissa: “?????”

Was that the same Mr. Hunt who was always so aloof and overlooked others from high up in the air?!

Why did he sound a little like he was trying to please Nora?

Nora, who also didn’t expect him to admit his mistake, raised her eyebrows a little.

For the first time, she developed the illusion that she was being too much of a bully.

While she was thinking about it, Justin, who sounded even more aggrieved now, said, “I will keep my family members properly in check. Grandma was just hoping that I would have my own family soon. I know you’re a non-believer of marriage though, so I won’t force you into anything.”

“ ... ”

Nora kept quiet for a long while. At last, she finally coughed and said, “Actually, you can be with other women...”

“Ms. Smith,” Justin interrupted her solemnly and said, “You were the one who fell in love with me first, so you mustn’t push me away now.”

Nora: “...”

“In order to get close to me, you used all sorts of ways and means to get close to my son. You’re the only one that he acknowledges as his Mommy now, so you can’t just wash all this off your hands and leave. If you do that, not only would you be letting me down, but you’ll also be letting Pete down.”

“...”

“Don’t worry. I won’t force you if you’re unwilling to marry me. After all, I can’t let you down when you’re so in love with me. Even if Grandma is really old now and wants to see me get married... it doesn’t matter. Everything is fine as long as you are happy.”

“...”

Nora wanted very much to say that he really didn’t need to do that, yet she felt that if she were to say that without explaining everything clearly, she would end up sounding like a scumbag.

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. In the end, she could only humbly and guiltily hang up, feeling as if she had bullied someone.

As soon as she hung up, she received another call. When she picked up, Iris’ voice rang out. “Ms. Smith, are you free now?”

“Yes, I am. What’s the matter?” asked Nora.

Iris said, “I have a pot of flowers here that’s dying. Can you come over and take a look at it?”

Nora thought for a moment and replied, “Okay.”

At the same time, Justin also received a call from Mrs. Landis. “Mr.. Justin, please come over with Pete if you’re free.”

Panda Novel

Nora was about to hang up when Iris suggested, “Why don’t you bring your son along with you?”

Nora thought for a moment. Then, she nodded and said, "Okay."

She went upstairs, brought Pete down, and got in the car with him. She said, "I'll take you to meet a friend of mine."

Pete was very excited. "Okay!"

Even though he had known Mommy for a very long time by now, he only knew a few of her friends. Pete wanted to know what his Mommy was usually up to, since she was such an enigma.

Even though Mommy was always sleeping, she was so rich!

There was no way anyone could make that much money just by being a genius doctor!

He got into the car excitedly and sat in the backseat.

When Nora was walking to the driver's seat, she looked at Melissa, who was still in a daze, and slowly said, "Please keep this... a secret for now, Aunt Melissa."

"... Okay," said Melissa.

After Nora left, Melissa finally entered the living room. Mrs. Anderson, who had been waiting all afternoon, stepped forward nervously at once. She held her hand and asked, "How was it, Melissa? Did Mrs. Hunt say anything?"

Melissa was in a daze. "No, she didn't."

Mrs. Anderson breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good. Sigh, I'm just afraid that she'll bring up some kind of request or condition. If they want to treat Pete's biological mother as family, then will Justin take Nora's or the other woman's side?"

Melissa: "..."

She looked at Mrs. Anderson hesitantly before she finally said, "Actually, it's all the same."

Mrs. Anderson glanced at her. "You don't get it, do you? It's not the same. If that happens, Pete's biological mother will definitely cause Nora trouble. Also, what if Pete resents Nora even after she raises him into an adult? These

things all have to be made clear in advance. Sigh, it's just so troublesome when other people's children are involved."

"..."

In a villa on the outskirts of New York.

Mrs. Landis and Iris were happily preparing dinner.

Iris was in a very good mood. The woman, who looked as lithe as a teenager, hummed a little tune as she went back and forth the dining table and the kitchen joyfully.

Seeing her in such a good mood, Mrs. Landis laughed and said, "Ma'am, your mind must be at ease now, right? You've already asked around and found out that Mr. Hunt's girlfriend is from the Andersons. The other Ms. Smith only has a daughter while your god-sister has a son instead! As it turns out, the two of them just share the same name! You don't have to worry anymore!"

Iris nodded. "Yes, it's fine as long as they aren't one and the same. I was so scared that I had accidentally elevated Justin's girlfriend's position to one that was more senior than his, which would have made it awkward for the two of them!"

Mrs. Landis laughed again. "The fish and chips are fried especially nicely tonight, so they'll definitely taste awesome. The children are gonna love it."

"Yeah."

Iris smiled and said, "I wonder how old Ms. Smith's son is, and how far apart his age is from Pete's. I don't know if the two of them can get along or not."

Mrs. Landis teased her and said, "You worry too much!"

Only then did Iris suddenly realize that she was indeed worrying too much.

For so many years, many people had tried to please her. There were even some that tried to pander to her interests and spoke knowledgeably to her about orchids.

All of them were trying to ingratiate themselves with Justin.

In order to reduce unnecessary troubles for Justin, she had rejected them all. Therefore, all the rumors outside claimed that she was difficult to deal with, and had a strange temperament.

Come to think of it, Nora was actually the only friend she had made all these years. Therefore, she hadn't stopped Mrs. Landis when she also told Justin to come over after Nora was invited over for dinner.

This was just her selfish desire, but she wanted her son to help Nora out a little if he could.

After all, it wasn't easy for a woman to bring up a child on her own. It reminded her of herself when she was taking care of Justin back then.

Perhaps because she had suppressed her feelings for too long, it led to her wanting to give the other party all the good things she could after she made a friend.

Moreover, what Nora said the day before had made Iris suddenly realize that she indeed didn't understand Justin.

She was Justin's mother. In situations that wouldn't cause him any trouble, helping her friend out was something he should do, right?

... Even though Iris didn't know what kind of help Nora could possibly need from her.

While driving to the villa in the suburbs, Nora received another call from Justin.

After she uttered a 'hello', Justin asked, "Are you free tonight? I'll take you somewhere for a meal?"

Nora, who was looking ahead of her, replied, "I'm not free."

Justin, who seemed to have heard some kind of sound, immediately asked, "You have an appointment? Who are you meeting that has actually made you abandon me? That's not something that someone in love with me should be doing."

He was afraid that she was going on a date with Caleb.

Nora's lip corners spasmed a little. She couldn't be bothered to explain that she was visiting her newly-gained god-sister, lest the guy says something like 'Which is more important—meeting me or your god-sister?'

Thus, she simply said, "I'm sleepy. I'm going home to sleep."

"... Alright then," said Justin.

In a rare moment, Nora asked, "What about you?"

Justin let out a low chuckle and replied, "I'll sleep with you."

Nora: "?"

Her voice turned cold. "Talk properly!"

Justin said, "We'll sleep together after you go back to your house and I go back to mine. Is there something wrong with this sentence? Or did you get the wrong idea?"

Nora: "!!!!"

The corners of her lips spasmed, and she said, "I'm hanging up!"

On the other end of the call, Justin couldn't help laughing after Nora hung up so fiercely.

He was in the car at the moment. The chauffeur was driving to the suburbs.

Cherry, who was sitting beside him, asked, "Are you planning to take Mommy to Grandma's for dinner, Daddy?"

Justin nodded. "Yes. Your Grandma has some misunderstandings about her. I think she would be able to understand what she's like after we sit down and have a meal together, but unfortunately..."

"Mommy definitely won't go!" Cherry said, "She wants to sleep!"

Justin: "..."

Half an hour later.

Nora arrived at the suburbs.

It was already dark, so Pete didn't notice where they were when they entered the residential area. Besides, he rarely came over in the first place. In the day, he could still tell that this was where his grandmother lived, but because it was too dark now, he didn't manage to make out the surroundings until the car reached the villa entrance.

It was only after Nora took him out of the car and they entered the villa that Pete finally realized something. Unfortunately, it was too late!

"Ms. Smith!" Iris welcomed her into the house excitedly. "Let's have dinner together tonight!"

Nora nodded. Then, she pushed Pete—who was hiding behind her and trying to say something all this time but didn't have any chance to—to Iris. She said, "This is my son, Pete."

Then, she said to Pete, "Say hi to your god-aunt, Pete."

Mrs. Landis, who had sent the two into the living room, hurried out the door when she heard another car at the door. When she saw Justin walking over with Cherry, she smiled and said, "You're here, Mr. Hunt!"

Justin noticed a car in the corner. As the place was dim, he didn't make out what kind of car it was. He asked casually, "You have guests over?"

"Yep!" Mrs. Landis explained, "It's Ma'am's new god-sister! It's just nice that you're here, so you can also meet her!"

God-sister?

Justin's brows drew together.

Iris had been leading a reclusive life all these years. She treated outsiders harshly and was like a robot without emotions.

He could even clearly remember that one time he came over when he was a child and saw that her family, the Evanses, had come over. However, he also saw, with his own eyes, Iris driving them out of the villa.

Mrs. Landis had stood in front of the door to stop them from entering at that time. His aunt from the Evanses had knelt in front of the door with her child

and cried out in tears that they mustn't delay medical treatment for his uncle anymore. He needed immediate treatment, otherwise he would die.

But Iris hadn't spared them even a glance.

He had bodyguards protecting him when he walked in, so his aunt couldn't get near him. She stayed where she was and sobbed as she cursed, "You're no different from a cold-blooded monster, Iris Hunt! You're a venomous snake! It's all because of you that the Evanses are in this state today! Yet, you're actually sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing! He's your elder brother! How can you be so cruel?"

His footsteps had paused at that time.

However, he hadn't taken the liberty to give her any money, say anything, or comfort her—because he had already understood by then that sometimes, what one saw was not necessarily the truth.

He didn't understand the relationship between his mother and her family at all, so how could he ask anything of his mother?

Regardless, the sight of his aunt berating Iris and calling her a venomous snake with a savage look on her face had remained in his memory.

All these years, every time he came over and saw how Iris was always so cold toward everyone, and heard from the bodyguards how all she did every day was take care of her flowers, and how she didn't seem to have any social interaction with anyone, he had even thought that she didn't have any friends at all.

Yet, she was actually introducing her god-sister to him now!

He understood the implicit meaning behind introducing her god-sister to him—it was nothing more than her wanting the Hunts to help her god-sister out and take care of her. Over the years, on account of various people, he had already helped out a lot of people with their businesses.

Adding one more person to the count didn't matter.

However, he felt rather unhappy.

His mother had never worried about him or comforted him before. She had abandoned him at the Hunts' icy-cold manor when he was only five and left him to his own devices ever since.

Yet, she was actually showing so much concern for an outsider now?

He was really curious. Just what kind of woman had managed to capture his mother's heart?

Justin's expression turned cold, and he entered the house.

In the living room.

Iris was staring at Pete at the moment, her beautiful eyes widened in disbelief.

Pete had also raised his little head and was looking at his grandmother.

Although the two rarely saw each other, Justin did occasionally bring him over for quick visits, so one could say that they were the most familiar strangers.

For a while, neither of them spoke.

Nora looked at Iris, and then back at Pete. Finding their silence rather strange, she frowned and prompted Pete. "Pete?"

Although Pete was mildly autistic, he had shown good manners ever since he started to live with her, and would always greet his relatives whenever he met them. This was especially so with the Andersons. He always greeted Melissa very sweetly whenever he saw her.

So, why was he suddenly not greeting his elders anymore the moment he came here?

While she was hesitating, Iris asked in a trembling voice, "M-Ms. Smith, is... is he your son?"

Nora nodded. "Yeah."

But when she looked at Iris again, she found that the woman suddenly had an extremely complex look on her face. She stared at Nora for a while.

In the midst of Nora's confusion, Pete's small and weak voice entered her ears.

“Hello, Grandma.”

Nora: “??”

Her head whipped to the side abruptly to see Pete with a resigned look on his face as if he didn't have anything to live for anymore. He said, “Mommy, she... she's my grandmother.”

Seemingly because he saw that Nora didn't seem like she understood what he was saying, he added, “You know, my father's mommy.”

Nora: “...”

Iris: “...”

Pete held his forehead. He knew that the two of them were utterly shocked at the moment, so he said to Iris, “Grandma, can you keep this a secret from Daddy for now?”

Practically right after he spoke, someone suddenly opened the living room door. Mrs. Landis' voice traveled over.

“Come on in, Mr. Hunt!”

When Mrs. Landis was bringing Nora and Pete into the house, as she had been preoccupied leading the way, she hadn't managed to see Pete's face clearly. Right after that, she had gone out in a hurry again. Thus, she looked at Cherry, pointed at Pete from the back, and said, “Your god-grandaunt has brought her little boy here. You guys can play with each other later!”

As soon as she said that, Iris stood up straight and looked at the door.

Nora and Pete also turned around instinctively. For a time, the family of four stood facing one another.

“...”

The whole room was suddenly filled with weird silence.

After a full twenty seconds of silence, Mrs. Landis finally rubbed her eyes. She looked at Nora, and then at Justin before finally looking at Pete and Cherry. Then, she looked at Iris in confusion. “Have I become that old, Ma'am? Are

my eyes playing tricks on me? Why does Ms. Smith's son look exactly the same as the little mister?!"

Her words made Iris's lip corners spasm.

She suddenly realized that she had really done something wrong. She coughed and said, "M-Mrs. Landis, w-why don't you introduce them to each other? I... I suddenly have a headache, so I'll go upstairs and rest for a bit."

After speaking, she walked to the stairs with her left arm moving forward with her left leg, and vice versa. She seemingly went upstairs, but after turning the corner, she immediately stopped and secretly popped her head out from behind the wall to look at the others' reactions.

But when she did, she instead found that all five people downstairs were looking straight at her, frightening Iris so badly that she immediately retracted her head, coughed, and went upstairs.

When Mrs. Landis saw her fleeing, something suddenly clicked in her head, and she immediately cursed at Iris inwardly. How could she leave her all alone downstairs in a situation

like this?!

She could already feel the awkward and frosty atmosphere in the living room without even looking at Justin. She swallowed hard and stammered, "Um, M-Mr. Justin, this... this is Ma'am's new god-sister."

As soon as she said that, she felt Justin looking at her.

In a brainless move, she added, "In other words, she's your g-g-god-aunt..."

"..."

The low air pressure in the air seemingly became even lower.

Only then did Mrs. Landis realize that she had really rubbed Justin's nose in it. How could she possibly not understand by now? Ms. Smith was none other than Justin's said girlfriend that Tina had mentioned!

But what had she and Ma'am done instead? They had elevated his girlfriend's position to one that was senior to his own!

Justin was probably secretly cursing his mother right now!

While she was thinking about it, she suddenly had a brainwave. She said, “Oh dear, Ma’am always eats some cake at this time every day. I’ll bring some up for her...”

After saying that, she ran straight upstairs without even taking any cake with her.

For a time, only the family of four remained in the living room.

Ten seconds later, dead silence filled the room.

“ ... ”

A minute later, the silence in the room became even scarier.

“ ... ”

Even after two minutes went by, none of them had any intention of speaking.

“ ... ”

Nora, who had always been short of sleep, found time especially hard to pass at the moment. How she wished she could just close her eyes and fall asleep, so that by the time she woke up, the day would be bright and sunny once more.

But that was obviously not the most appropriate thing to do at the moment.

She had never been afraid of anything, and she had always been a direct and straightforward person. Even so, she kinda understood in this instant what it meant to want to dig a hole and bury oneself in it.

Her gaze drifted about erratically. She looked at the ceiling with her arms hanging by her side and nudged Pete with her hand to get him to break the silence.

Pete: “ ... ”

By then, Pete and Cherry had already communicated a great deal with each other with their eyes.

Pete looked at Cherry: 'What do we do now?'

Cherry's big eyes blinked: 'I don't know, either!'

Pete held his hands up helplessly: 'The tyrant looks so calm, but the calmer he is on the outside, the angrier he is on the inside!'

Cherry also glanced at Nora: 'Mommy also has a really grave look on her face. The more grave she looks, the scarier the decision she'll make!'

Pete was terrified: 'Surely Mommy isn't thinking of knocking out the tyrant and taking the two of us away, right?'

Cherry: '... It's not impossible.'

Pete: '...'

While the two children were communicating with their eyes, Nora nudged Pete. She curled her fingers a little, motioning for him to speak.

Thus, Pete said, "Mommy, Daddy always brings 12 bodyguards and even 24 hidden bodyguards whenever he goes out. You won't be able to fight your way out."

As soon as he said that, the room became even quieter.

"..."

It was as if everyone's breathing was audible.

Justin: "..."

To be honest, he was also in a huge panic at the moment!

Before this, Nora hadn't known that he was already aware of everything. In order to make the woman stay, he had deliberately kept one of the two children with him. This way, she would always stay by his side.

But now!

If they were to address the elephant in the room, he wouldn't be able to continue being 'narcissistic'!

The woman would explain everything, and then...

What must he do to make the woman and the children stay?

The man, who had always been full of ideas when it came to the world of commerce, was also in a panic. Thus, all he could do was stand there with a pensive look on his face.

Unfortunately, his expression instead gave Nora the impression that he was a very terrifying man.

Well, that made sense. Justin would definitely be furious once he knew that one of his children had been taken away from him. It was already very impressive that he could suppress his anger and keep himself from venting it. Moreover, he hadn't said anything really awful, either.

When Nora, who had just thought of that, heard what Pete said, the corners of her lips couldn't help but spasm.

Cough.

She would never ever admit that she had indeed been itching just a moment ago to knock the man out and then flee the country with the two children.

In fact, an escape route had already formed in her mind that very moment. After going out, she mustn't drive straight to the airport because Justin was definitely powerful enough to seal the airport and trains.

Therefore, she would drive to the suburbs instead, find an empty helipad, and get Lily to pilot a private jet and come over to pick them up as soon as possible!

However, it would take Lily seven to eight hours to fly over. After all, they were too far away from Switzerland, where Lily was... Should it really be beyond Lily's means, she would get Solo to pick them up instead. After all, he was closer to where they were.

If not, then her only option would be to approach her aunt overseas for help instead...

But when she heard about the 36 bodyguards, Nora fell silent and dismissed the idea.

She had fought Justin's bodyguards before; it was easy for her to beat one or two, but 36... Say, just how fearful of dying was that man? Did he have to bring so many people with him whenever he went out?

While Nora was daydreaming, Justin finally spoke. "Shouldn't you give me a reasonable explanation for this, Ms. Smith?"

Phew...

The weird atmosphere was finally broken. Nora breathed a sigh of relief at last. After thinking for a while about how to word the situation, she started to explain the issues with the children. She said, "... Since you've already seen everything, then I won't keep it from you anymore. The reason why I have been trying to get close to you and Pete is actually..."

But before she could finish, Justin cut her off and said, "That's not the explanation I'm asking for. Rather, back then, why did you get pregnant with my children behind my back?"

All the words that Nora had prepared became stuck in her throat, choking her. She was about to speak when Justin said sharply, "You'd best give me a reasonable explanation, why did you plot against me and then run away that night?! You even bore two of my children!"

Nora: "???"

Her mind was full of question marks!

Which night was he talking about?

No, wait...

Nora narrowed her eyes. "Didn't you say that you don't know how I became pregnant?"

Justin lowered his gaze. "I didn't know it was you at that time, so of course I would say that. After all, surely I couldn't tell outsiders that a woman had plotted against me and taken advantage of me, right?"

Nora: "?????"

She pointed at herself incredulously. "I... plotted against you?"

Justin, who was pulling a long face, replied, “Yes. Given how you were fat and ugly at that time, it can’t possibly be because I fell in love with you and plotted against you, right?”

Nora: “???????”

Was she suffering from memory loss? Or had she really been sleepwalking that time?! But she really didn’t remember him appearing in her dream! After all, given that face of his, it would have been deeply etched in her memory if she had indeed dreamed of him!

She was about to refute him when Justin spoke again. “Tell me, woman, what exactly are you plotting by scheming against me and even bearing me two children?”

Nora: “...”

She was speechless.

She didn’t know what to say!

Seemingly because she wasn’t saying anything, Justin’s voice turned even colder. “If you’re not going to explain yourself... These two children are part of the Hunts. There’s no way I will allow the Hunts’ children to wander about outside, let alone allow a woman with ulterior motives to go near my children! So, without a good reason, you can forget about ever seeing my children again!”

He placed his hands on top of Pete’s and Cherry’s heads and took a step back with the two.

Nora: “?”

Her eyes darkened.

How dare that man threaten her! Hah!

Just as she was about to attack...

Cherry and Pete, whom Justin was holding on to, panicked when they heard their father.

They wouldn’t be able to see Mommy ever again?

No, they couldn't have that!

Cherry immediately shouted, "Daddy, Mommy doesn't have any ill intentions! She doesn't have any ulterior motives, either!"

Even though Justin, who was in the midst of a confrontation with Nora, had adopted an icy-cold demeanor on the surface, he was actually secretly terribly anxious.

Why hadn't that silly girl taken the bait yet?

Well, it was true that she wasn't afraid of a head-on confrontation, after all.

However, his precious little baby finally spoke up at this point. Justin breathed a sigh of relief inwardly, though the look on his face remained cold. "What is she planning, if not something malevolent?"

"It's... it's... it's..." Cherry looked at Nora, and then at Justin. At last, she turned to Pete for help and asked, "It's... What was it again, Pete?"

Pete: "?"

Seeing the tyrant also looking over, Pete stammered, "It's... It's..."

Pete was in a huge panic. It was simply too difficult to find a reasonable answer!

Just as all three other people in the room were staring at him, and while Cherry was frantically giving him looks, Pete suddenly thought of the bossy CEO-type romance novels that he'd chanced upon in the past. Thus, his next few words came easily to him:

"It's because she 'couldn't help it', and because she 'couldn't control her feelings'..."

His words were rather hesitant in the beginning, but the more he spoke, the brighter his eyes shone, and the more certain he sounded. He said, "It's because Mommy likes you! Yes, it's exactly because of that!"

Nora: "??????"

She was about to refute him when Cherry rushed over and grabbed her hand. She looked at Justin and said, "Daddy, it's because Mommy likes you so

much that she had to do something like that. You won't stop us from seeing Mommy in the future, right?"

Nora: "..."

Although they had made her the scapegoat, she did indeed want to know Justin's opinion on the matter.

If that scumbag took a step back as a result, it wasn't like she couldn't just roll with it, either...

While she was thinking about it, the cold aura around Justin gradually subsided. He looked at her amicably and asked, "Is what they say, true?"

Nora: "..."

She felt that since they had already addressed the matter, she might as well say it all.

But before she could say anything, Cherry nodded repeatedly and said, "It's true, it's true! Mommy really likes you, Daddy! Mommy kept singing your praises before we met you! She even said that you look so cool, handsome, and tender! You're the world's number one hunk!"

Nora: "!!"

When had she ever said anything like that?

"Cough." Cherry's words seemed to have given Justin quite the shock, too. He let out a low cough, looked at Nora, and said, "That's a little too explicit of you."

Nora: "..."

Never mind.

She would just bear with it.

She had only just quietly suppressed her annoyance when Justin asked, "But since you like me so much, why don't you believe in marriage?"

Nora: "?"

Was there no end to that man's questions?

Her brows drew together, and a sharp look flashed across her eyes. She sneered, "There's no correlation between liking someone and getting married, is there, Mr. Hunt? Who says non-believers of marriage can't date?"

Upon hearing her sarcasm and the sound of her gnashing her teeth, Justin knew at once that they had to end it here for today. Otherwise, once he angered her for real, the chances of them getting together would become even lower.

This was the very first time in all these years that he had fallen for a woman. He mustn't let her run away.

Justin feigned sudden realization and said, "I see."

Suddenly, Nora asked, "Since you claim that I had pestered you back then, where did I do said pestering, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin raised his eyebrows.

How would he know?!

He didn't even know how she became pregnant!

That night didn't even exist in his memory at all, alright?!

Regardless, even if he did know, he didn't know what the woman was thinking at that moment, so he had deliberately lied.

However, he absolutely mustn't give her the impression that there were loopholes in his words. Thus, he smiled and suddenly replied, "In California."

"Which hotel in California was it?"

Justin gave her a seemingly amused look. "Are you thinking of reliving the moment, Ms. Smith?"

Nora: "!!"

She took another deep breath and tried her best to tell herself, 'Remain calm, remain calm. Don't get angry.'

At last, she said, “Just asking.”

Justin, however, stepped forward. “The past is in the past, we have to look to the future. You don’t have to keep reminiscing about that night five years ago, Ms. Smith. If you find it necessary, we can consummate right away.”

Consummate?

Pete and Cherry’s eyes lit up at the same time. But as soon as they wanted to speak, Nora said coldly, “No, it’s fine.”

She gritted her teeth and spat out word after word—”I don’t find that necessary, my! God! Nephew!”

Justin’s face instantly turned green.

Upstairs.

Iris and Mrs. Landis popped their heads out and tried their best to listen to the voices downstairs.

Unfortunately, their voices were too low, so they couldn’t hear what they were saying at all. Iris looked at Mrs. Landis. “Why does the situation downstairs feel kinda weird?”

“... It feels kinda weird to me, too. Surely there wasn’t some kind of dramatic love-hate relationship between Mr. Justin and Ms. Smith back then, right? Have they reconciled now? Ma’am, don’t you feel that what happened to Ms. Smith sounds like a tale of a pretty little wife running away with a babe in her belly?”

“Don’t spout nonsense! Their story is much more exciting than a novel!”

Mrs. Landis: “...”

The two listened to the voices downstairs again. Seeing that nothing seemed to be happening anymore, Mrs. Landis asked, “Should we go downstairs and get ready for dinner, Ma’am?”

Iris nodded. “Yeah. Let’s go down and take a look.”

However, as soon as they went downstairs, they saw Nora sitting on the sofa triumphantly with her arms folded. There was a small smile on her usually cool and distant countenance.

Justin, on the other hand, looked livid.

Clearly, Nora seemed to have won the confrontation just now.

Mrs. Landis coughed and called out, “Ms. Smith, Mr. Hunt, and the two little misters. Shall we have dinner?”

Nora got up. “Sure. I just so happen to have gotten hungry.”

After speaking, she looked at Iris and asked, “Let’s have dinner, Sis?”

Iris: “?”

Why did it suddenly feel like the temperature in the room dropped a few degrees when she said the word ‘Sis’?

She looked at Justin, who was pulling a long face, and the corners of her lips spasmed. She coughed and said, “Um, I didn’t know about your relationship with Justin previously. Considering the situation now, we...”

“These are two separate matters,” Nora replied casually but surely, “We’ll keep the terms of address separate in the future. Mr. Hunt won’t mind, right?”

Justin replied, “... No, I don’t.”

Iris: “...”

The group settled at the dining table.

Pete and Cherry sat next to each other. When they looked at the tyrant and Mommy sitting at the same dining table, they suddenly felt much more blissful than usual!

Unfortunately, the adults didn’t feel that sense of bliss at all.

After they finally finished dinner and the group left, Justin asked coldly, “So, Pete goes with you? And the daughter comes with me?”

Nora breathed a sigh of relief at his words.

At least that guy didn't ask for both children.

Otherwise, she would really explode.

What kind of horrible evening was this? She felt so frustrated!

She had never felt this frustrated in her entire life!

She nodded. "That works."

She took Pete's hand after she spoke. When she was about to leave, she paused and looked back at Iris. "Don't tell anyone else about this for now, Sis."

Justin paused. He was also about to tell Iris that, but unexpectedly, Nora had done it a step ahead of him.

Thus, he decided not to say anything.

It wasn't convenient for so many people to protect Pete while he was with Nora. Therefore, the children's identities indeed had to be kept secret.

Iris nodded.

While on the way home with Pete, Nora suddenly received a text message on her cell phone.

She glanced at it when she reached a red light, but the moment she did, she suddenly froze.

The text message read: 'Do you wanna know how exactly you became pregnant back then?'

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When Nora saw these words, her eyes narrowed.

It was an anonymous message.

She picked it up casually. Before the traffic light turned green, her fingers moved nimbly to trace the sender's number. However, she realized that the phone number had not been registered with an identity card.

She hacked into his phone again, trying to find his location.

In the blink of an eye, she had locked onto him!

Position: New York!

The exact location was near her car!

When she saw that the red dot was less than a few meters away from her green position, the other party seemed to have sensed her tracking. The red dot flickered a few times and disappeared.

Nora clenched her fists tightly and suddenly looked around.

Although it was already 9 PM, there were still many cars on the road in New York. Because of the traffic lights, most of the cars behind were already blocked.

In other words, that person's car was also blocked inside.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and instructed Pete, "Stay in the car."

Hearing her grave tone, Pete nodded in understanding. "Okay."

He was not afraid because, on the way home, he knew that Justin had assigned a few bodyguards to secretly protect him.

After Nora got out of the car, the car made a clicking sound and was locked up to prevent the bad guys from taking Pete away.

Nora then ran in the direction she remembered.

From the map, she could tell that the other party was less than 200 meters away from her.

The car was not more than 200 meters away from her...

She used her eyes to estimate and agilely weaved through the cars.

100 meters... 150 meters...

The traffic light was relatively long. It took about 90 seconds to go green, and it took her 80 seconds to locate the other party and get there. There were still 10 seconds!

If she could not find that person, she might miss this opportunity.

Although Justin had said that she had killed the other party back then, she had no memory of it at all.

Therefore, even if Justin remembered that night, the two of them had still been schemed against.

The person who had schemed against them and made her give birth to two children was a mystery. As for how she got pregnant, it was even more of a mystery.

And the mystery was only 50 meters away.

Nora took a few steps forward suddenly. The cars beside her were already honking impatiently. There were too many cars in New York, and the roads were filled with cars.

200 meters!

About seven to eight cars were parked 200 meters away from her!

She walked over quickly and knocked on the window of the first car.

The car window rolled down and the driver looked at her impatiently. "What are you doing? Do you want to die?"

That person's expression was very real. It was obvious that he was a passerby.

It wasn't him.

Nora walked around him and continued to walk back.

But at this point!

Beep!

A car suddenly honked. Nora was stunned. She turned around and saw a black Land Rover parked two cars away from this car.

The car window rolled down, revealing a familiar face. “Miss Smith, what are you doing?”

This person was... Morris, Captain Ford!

While she was in a daze, the traffic light in front changed. The cars started to move, but because Nora’s car was parked in front, this line of cars could not move.

Seeing the two cars driving away slowly, Nora was no longer anxious. Instead, she narrowed her eyes and looked at Morris. “Captain Ford, what a coincidence. Why are you here?”

Morris looked ahead, his cold face sharp and clear. “Miss Smith, I should be the one asking you this, right? If you stop the car, it will seriously affect the traffic rules. It will be a violation of the rules and you will be fined. Of course, if you still don’t leave, I’m afraid it will be so serious that your driver’s license will be revoked.”

Nora was unmoved. “This is the traffic police’s jurisdiction, right? Captain Ford even cares about this?”

Morris was expressionless, but he took out a document from the car and handed it to her. “Special Case Departments, I have the right to ask about all illegal matters.”

Beep!

Beep!

“F*ck? What’s going on in front? Why aren’t you driving?”

“Is it an accident? Or did the car break down?”

“...”

The other drivers started honking wildly. Some got out of the car and looked forward.

Nora knew that she could not delay anymore, so she nodded at Morris. "I'll leave now."

She looked around again but did not see any familiar cars. Then, she walked forward and followed the cars to the front.

A driver in the back had already gotten out of the car and was pointing at her nose and shouting, "What are you doing? Do you have any courtesy? Don't you know you're delaying us by stopping here?"

However, when he raised her head, he could clearly see that it was a young lady's face. This lady was also as beautiful as a fairy. Furthermore, although Nora did not smile, her apology was still considered sincere. "I'm sorry. I'll leave now."

She was simply using her beauty to commit murder.

The driver's cursing voice became softer and warmer. "It's fine, it's fine. It was just a minute. Let's go!"

Nora got into the car and started it. The cars parked behind her then returned to normal traffic.

On the way home, she looked ahead with a serious expression.

Who was the person who had followed her and controlled her pregnancy back then?

Why was Morris around her again? Was he the one who had sent her the message?

Once or twice could be a coincidence, but so many times? What was his motive?

Also, special department... What was that? Why had she never heard of such a department?!

At the Hunts'.

Mrs. Hunt frowned. After thinking about it for an entire day, she finally decided to make a move. "Although they don't admit it now, once they do, it'll be too late for them to acknowledge it! I can't control them in this matter, but someone can."

Mdm. Lea was stunned. "Who?"

Mrs. Hunt took out her phone and made a call that she had not made in a long time. The moment the call was picked up, she lowered her eyes and slowly said, "Iris, this is Mom. I'm calling you for the sake of Justin and Pete..."

Iris's attitude was very cold, but she didn't hang up. Instead, she asked, "What? What do you want me to do this time?"

When Mrs. Hunt heard the words "this time," she instantly felt guilty, but she still hardened her heart and said, "Justin likes a woman from a small family. She definitely can't be Pete's stepmother! You're probably the only person in the world who can stop him! You..."

Before she could finish, Iris sneered and asked, "Stepmother?"

Mrs. Hunt paused and immediately said, "Yes, she will marry Justin to be Pete's stepmother. Iris, you know stepmothers can't possibly be good. Back then..."

Iris interrupted her again. "Not every stepmother in this world is like that mistress!"

Mrs. Hunt: ??

She was stunned by Iris' words. After thinking for a while, she tried to ask, "But what if she gives birth to a child for Justin again?"

"Mom, I think you're mistaken." Iris' voice was cold.

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

Iris said slowly, "Being a mother and being a wife is different. A mother wants her son to be better. Justin is getting married, and it'll be good for him to have a woman to please him and take care of him in the future. Isn't that what you told me back then?"

Mrs. Hunt clenched her jaw. "Iris, are you still blaming me?"

"No." Iris' answer was very simple. "I don't blame anyone. If I have to say it, I only blame my bad luck."

As soon as she said this, she hung up.

Mrs. Hunt looked at her phone in a daze. After a while, she sighed deeply and looked at Mdm. Lea. "She still hates me."

Mdm. Lea looked at Mrs. Hunt and wanted to say something, but she hesitated. In the end, she said something fair. "It has been quite difficult for her all these years."

She had stayed at the Hunts for her son.

However, she could not love her son affectionately. This was much more bitter than what Justin's father had suffered.

Mrs. Hunt sighed as Cherry's voice came from the door. "Great-Grandmother, I'm here~"

Mrs. Hunt immediately looked at the door in joy and saw Justin striding in with a smile. His appearance stunned her. She smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy today?"

Justin's expression froze as he asked, "Am I?"

Mdm. Lea teased, "You can't even suppress the corners of your mouth. Aren't you happy? Mr. Hunt, did something good happen today? Tell us, so we can be happy too!"

When Justin heard this, he thought of how he had had dinner with Nora tonight and could not help but smile again.

Seeing that he was silent, Cherry raised her hand. "I'll talk, I'll talk! Daddy had dinner with Mommy tonight. That's why Daddy is happy, right?"

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

She turned to look at Justin again.

In her impression, this grandson had always been stern. Even after signing a huge contract and earning a few hundred million, he had never smiled like he did today.

It had been five years since he last smiled like this. At that time, he had just brought Pete back. After pulling him back from the brink of death, he had done a DNA test and realized that Pete was indeed his son.

He had hardly ever smiled like this before.

Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and touched Cherry's head. "Is that so? No wonder."

She suddenly looked at Justin and said, "Justin, it's my 80th birthday in a week. We can hold a party this year, right?"

Justin was stunned when he heard this.

Ever since his father left and his grandfather passed away, his grandmother had been eating vegetarian food and reading Buddhism. She had never liked the liveliness of birthday parties.

Every year on her birthday, the entire family would gather together for a meal. They had never organized a big banquet before.

Why did she suddenly...

However, he did not ask further and immediately agreed. "Okay. Let Mdm. Lea and Mr. Long handle the party. I'll prepare a guest list."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "Alright, invite Miss Smith over as well."

Only then did Justin realize that Mrs. Hunt's birthday celebration was actually for Nora.

However, if Nora came over, they could at least publicize their relationship so that the outside world would not have to keep guessing.

He nodded. "Yes."

After chatting for a while more about the details of the birthday banquet, Justin left with Cherry. Mdm. Lea stood beside Mrs. Hunt. "Mrs. Hunt, are you... trying to use this method to persuade Miss Smith to leave?"

Mrs. Hunt's birthday banquet would definitely shock all the influential people in New York.

At that time, if the people from small families could not handle that scene, they would automatically retreat.

However, Mrs. Hunt did not seem to hear this. Her gaze was only fixed on Justin at the door. She suddenly said, "Mdm. Lea, how long has it been since we last saw Justin with such a relaxing smile?"

Mdm. Lea was stunned.

Mrs. Hunt sighed. "Actually, how good would it be if he could smile like this every day? Even I wavered a little just now. If that Miss Smith could make him happy by marrying her, shouldn't I give in a little?"

Mdm. Lea understood her thoughts. She walked to her side and held her shoulder. "Mrs. Hunt, you're not only Mr. Hunt's grandmother, but you're also the Matriarch of the Hunts."

These words made Mrs. Hunt's expression darken.

Yes.

She had devoted her entire life to the Hunts. Just like back then... when her grandson was only five years old, she would definitely have favored her son more.

However, for the sake of the Hunts, she still chased her son away and kept her grandson with her.

She was not only a mother, but she was also the Matriarch of the Hunts.

The trace of guilt that she had felt instantly disappeared.

She could not disregard the Hunts' reputation just because Justin was happy for a moment.

The Matriarch of the Hunts could not be such a lowly woman like Nora!

She took a deep breath and suddenly looked at Mdm. Lea. "Remember to invite that lady from the Smiths over on my birthday."

Mdm. Lea understood what she meant and nodded. "Yes."

The next day at the Andersons'.

"What gift did you prepare?"

When Melissa woke up in the morning and received the invitation, she had a headache. She complained to Mrs. Anderson, "They're holding a special banquet for Mrs. Hunt's birthday this year. Moreover, our relationship is different now. We can't afford not to bring out valuable gifts. But what kind of treasure have the Hunts not seen? What can we send that would bring out new meaning and show our magnanimity?"

Mrs. Anderson rubbed her temples as well. "I hate thinking about gifts the most, especially a gift for Mrs. Hunt. She has high standards. Sigh! But why don't you ask Nora? She might have some good ideas."

It was almost noon. When Nora went downstairs, she heard Melissa say worriedly, "Nora, you're finally awake! Mrs. Hunt's birthday is a week from now and she has invited our entire family. What do you think we should give her?"

Birthday?

Nora paused for a moment before smiling. "Don't worry. I know what to give her."

After all, she was Pete and Cherry's grandmother. It was only right that she did her best.

Melissa was curious. "What are you planning to send?"

Nora slowly said, "Isn't the most common thing in our Harmonia Pharmacy, medicine?"

Melissa: "??"

Nora yawned. "Aunt, lend me a room in the pharmaceutical factory."

Melissa immediately nodded. "No problem!"

After Nora had lunch, Melissa brought her to the Andersons' pharmaceutical factory.

The Andersons' pharmaceutical factory was in the suburbs of New York. It looked very big and neat inside. When they walked in, they could smell the fragrance of medicine.

Sheril was here all year round. When she heard that they were here, she immediately welcomed them. "Mom, Sister, the empty laboratory is ready."

Melissa nodded. "Then I'll go back first. You guys can prepare."

She was a little worried.

The best medicine the Andersons had right now was the Carefree Pill. However, the pill had a price, and it was mass-produced. It was a big gift to give someone else 20 pills, but to Mrs. Hunt, it was only a few thousand dollars.

Was Nora's medicine okay as a present?

She was a little worried.

There was only a week left. She had to find something good so that Nora's pill wouldn't be looked down on and she wouldn't have to take it out to save the situation.

Therefore, Melissa went out early and returned late every day. She went to various auction houses to look for various gifts.

In the laboratory.

Nora only did the preparation work and did it for half a day. It was only at night that she finished preparing all kinds of things.

Sheril, who had been helping from the side, asked curiously, "Sister, what medicine are you going to make?"

Nora thought for a moment and replied, "Calming Pill."

Mrs. Hunt's brain was filled with bruises and lumps. If she took the Calming Pill for a while, it would be very effective.

Sheril immediately let out a sigh of relief. "Calming Pill? Our Harmonia Pharmacy has many of them, and they're very cheap. Just take some... No, the Calming Pill formula doesn't have these ingredients?"

The Calming Pill didn't have so many herbs?

Just as she thought about this, she heard Nora say slowly, "Yes, it's Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill."

Sheril was stunned. "Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

The legendary Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

There were many types of Calming Pills.

However, Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill was definitely the best!

It was said that this Calming Pill was offered to the emperor in ancient times. It was similar to a Tao priest refining pills. The prescription was extremely complicated, and the herbs used were also very expensive!

Even with the current high level of technology, this pill was still very difficult to refine. Up until now, Dr. Zabe was probably the only one in the world who could refine one or two pills.

However, Nora actually knew how to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

She swallowed. "Sister, I heard that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace. How many do you plan to give?"

Nora glanced at her. "Who said that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace?"

Sheril: "??"

Dr. Zabe said so!

He had personally refined a batch three years ago and only produced one finished product. It had ruined a lot of medicinal herbs, causing his heart to ache so much that he never refined it again!

Nora rolled her eyes. Master could not perform well because he was old and could not control his behavior well.

This kind of problem would not happen to her.

However, the process was a little long and needed three days and four nights. With all this time, she might as well sleep. Therefore, she had not refined it over the years.

She said nothing.

Sheril decided not to speak anymore. She just looked at the expensive herbs Nora took over, with an aching heart.

There was an old manager at the pharmaceutical factory in Harmonia Pharmacy. He was also an old pharmacist and could be considered Sheril's master. At this moment, he stood outside the door and happened to overhear their conversation.

He waved Sheril over.

Sheril walked out.

The old pharmacist frowned and reprimanded, "Sheril, you guys are too reckless!! Are these hundred thousand dollars of herbs going to be wasted just like that? How can she possibly refine Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

Although Sheril's heart also ached for the money, when she heard her master's words, she hurriedly explained, "Master, Sister Nora was the one who gave us the Carefree Pill formula. So even if money is wasted, it's nothing. My father and mother definitely won't feel the pinch."

The pharmacist sighed. "They only look at money, but do you only care for money too? Do you know how much the 500-year-old ginseng she took is worth now? We could only buy one or two from the entire country. This isn't a matter of money at all, okay? Don't you feel bad that she wasted it?"

Of course, her heart ached!

Now, everyone was growing ginseng artificially. Most of it was just decades old, and it was rare to find one that was centuries old.

These two 500-year-old ginsengs had been preserved by Harmonia Pharmacy. They could be considered the treasure of the store, and were priceless!

People had been asking for 500-year-old ginseng for a long time, but they still could not get one.

After all, most of the older ones had been sent to the auction. The value of ginseng had already far exceeded the medicinal value. Harmonia Pharmacy would not auction them. Most of the people who could auction them were like the Smiths and Hunts. But how could such families sell ginseng to Harmonia Pharmacy?

However, to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill, one needed ginseng that was this old!

Actually, if it could be made, this ginseng would definitely not be wasted. After all, the Calming Pill was much more valuable than the ginseng itself.

The problem was!

Dr. Zabe had only managed to refine one pill in a furnace. Could Sister Nora succeed?

The old pharmacist suggested, "Although other herbs are expensive, we can still buy them. Can you talk to your sister and exchange that ginseng for a 100-year one?! If she fails, we'll only lose money!"

When Sheril heard this, she fell into deep thought.

After a moment, she shook her head. "Master, Sister Nora's kindness to the Andersons is too great. I can't say anything about it."

The old pharmacist was instantly furious. He pointed at her forehead and scolded, "You, you're really a blockhead! The Andersons have fallen this far because none of you know how to make drugs! You're wasting herbs!! Even with a Carefree Pill, if you continue to be so willful in the future, you'll eventually go downhill!"

Sheril argued anxiously, "Master, you can't say that. What if Sister Nora really manages to master it?"

The old pharmacist had been working with the Andersons since he was young and had never attended school. He had learned the skills from an older generation and was loyal to the Andersons. At this moment, he was furious. The more he cursed, the more unpleasant he became. He took advantage of his seniority and said, "Dr. Zabe could only produce one pill. How can she master it at such a young age? Stop bragging! If she can master it, I, I won't need any salary in the future! But if she can't, you have to listen to me in the pharmaceutical factory in the future!"

When Sheril heard this, her eyes turned red.

She knew that her master was trying to put her in her place.

Ever since she came to the pharmaceutical factory, she had been using the introduction of new alchemy skills. Her master had been dissatisfied with her long ago, but she was the owner, and her master could only listen to her.

Chapter 244 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

After she sat down, Mrs. Hunt smiled and said, "You can't spoil a child too much."

Melissa lowered her eyes. Although Cherry had indeed lost her composure today, she still protected her own family. She smiled. "You're right. However, Cherry is a delicate girl. Aren't all wealthy families raising their daughters like gems? This has always been the case in our family. Our daughters are all very precious! Boys are tougher, on the other hand."

In other words, "Our girls are willful! Nora is also very willful!"

Melissa felt that she could not lower her stance and blindly pander to her. She had to tell Mrs. Hunt that Nora had also been pampered by the Andersons since she was young!

Mrs. Hunt understood and smiled. "Isn't this how wealthy families raise their children? But why do I hear that Nora grew up in California?"

Melissa smiled. "Yes, my elder sister married into California back then and set up a company there. However, it's more difficult to raise children there. Nora's good skin is all because of her. Also, you haven't seen her fingers before. They're as fair as freshly peeled onions without any creases."

Mrs. Hunt smiled and remained silent.

Mdm. Lea said, "That's because you raised her too carefully. The boys in our family are raised roughly. Our family has only raised one child who is not rough. That child is our Young Master. Sir raised him himself since he was young."

Mdm. Lea smiled. "Sir fed Little Young Master milk powder and changed his diaper. Speaking of which, even in an ordinary family, a father who can do this is already a good father. Moreover, our Sir highly values Little Young Master. He never left his side for more than three days since he was young and even taught him personally... At that time, we said that we would find a mother for Little Young Master. Sir said that the child was still young and was afraid that

a stepmother would be bad. We would talk about it when the child grew up. He even said that he wanted to find someone from a small family. Someone who would not dare to bully Little Young Master. Speaking of which, Little Young Master is already five years old!”

In other words: Justin cared about the Little Young Master the most. Even if he married, it could not affect the Little Young Master’s status.

Melissa clenched her fists.

After Nora marries Justin, it was her freedom to have children or not. However, the Hunts were clearly looking down on them by saying all this in advance.

What small family?

She was instantly furious, and her smile stiffened.

Mrs. Hunt scolded, “Mdm. Lea, what nonsense are you talking about? The Andersons aren’t a small family!”

Mdm. Lea immediately slapped her mouth gently. “Ms. Melissa, don’t take it to heart. I didn’t think before I spoke. That’s not what I meant. Of course, the Andersons are not a small family. Your Carefree Pills are too famous. Even our family has a few for emergencies.”

Melissa: “...”

She clenched her fists tightly, but she knew that even if this marriage did not succeed, they could not fall out. After all, the Andersons could not compare to the Hunts.

However, she had already made up her mind to persuade Nora to break up with Justin.

She could not marry into such a family!

As she was thinking to herself, a clear and cute voice suddenly sounded. “Great-Grandmother, is my little sister here?”

With that, a small figure ran over.

Melissa looked over subconsciously, but the moment she lifted her head, she froze all of a sudden.

She stared incredulously at the child running in, and swallowed hard. Cherry also noticed her while she was running in. The little fellow came to a stop, and a touch of surprise appeared in her big round eyes.

An astonished Melissa said, “Ch...”

But before she could say ‘... erry, why are you back?’, the little fellow suddenly exclaimed, “Ooh! Hi, Grand-aunt!”

She interrupted Melissa, ran up to her, and sat on her lap.

Melissa: “?”

She couldn’t understand how Cherry could go in and out of the Hunts’ residence at will. Moreover, she had clearly come from the inner premises. Shouldn’t she be in the car going back to the Andersons right now?

While she was in a daze, Mrs. Hunt frowned and asked, “Grand... Aunt? Pete, do the two of you know each other?”

Cherry nodded at once. “Uh-huh! Great-Grandma, this is Grand-Aunt. Grand-Aunt, this is my great-grandmother~”

Even more question marks filled Melissa’s mind: ???

She suddenly turned to Mrs. Hunt and asked, “W-what did you call the child just now?”

Pete? What Pete?

Before Mrs. Hunt could explain, Cherry said, “Don’t you remember who I am, Grand-Aunt? I’m Pete Hunt! My father is Justin Hunt!”

Then, she looked at Mrs. Hunt again and said, “Are they the guests you were talking about, Great-Grandma? I’ve been to their house! Daddy took me there before, yeah!”

Cherry’s young and tender voice rang out in the living room, shocking Melissa so badly that she was practically crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.

What nonsense was Cherry spouting?

Pete Hunt? What nonsens...

No, wait, Hunt?

And 'Great-Grandma'...

'My father is Justin Hunt'...

She looked at Cherry, who was in her arms, in disbelief after connecting the pieces of crucial information. She swallowed hard and asked, "Y-your father is Justin Hunt?"

Justin was the father of Nora's child???

Cherry blinked at her and replied, "Uh-huh! My father is Justin Hunt, and I am his son, yeah!"

She deliberately placed emphasis on the word 'son'. Then, she asked, "Where's my sister? Didn't she come?"

If Pete had come, he would definitely find a way to escape!

There was absolutely no way he would stay!

Cherry understood her elder brother very well, so there weren't any loopholes in her words at all.

The dumbfounded Melissa's mind was a complete blank.

Mrs. Hunt, however, was very displeased with how close and intimate the two of them were. She beckoned to Cherry and said, "Come to Great-Grandma, Pete."

Cherry nodded and ran to Mrs. Hunt.

After getting her to sit beside her, Mrs. Hunt looked at Melissa and asked with a fake smile, "So, Justin has already paid your family a visit?"

Melissa: "..."

When had he ever paid them a visit?!

But when she thought of what Pete had said just now...

She looked again at Cherry, who was sitting beside Mrs. Hunt obediently...

The child in front of her felt more like the Cherry whom Nora had brought with her from California. On the contrary, it was the Cherry, who was always so quiet and taciturn lately, that felt more like she would be the little mister of the Hunts...

Could it be that...

Everything suddenly clicked in her head in this instant.

She looked at Mrs. Hunt again, who said with a smile, "You mustn't be so casual with your terms of address, Pete. You should call her Mrs. Anderson instead."

Cherry blinked. "But Daddy told me to call her Grand-Aunt!"

The clever Cherry had long since discovered that everyone in this family became fearful the moment she brought her father into the picture!

Sure enough, Mrs. Hunt didn't make any more mention about changing the term of address. Instead, she looked at Melissa with a smile and said, "Would you just look at this child? He's just so innocent that he can't even distinguish between who's family and who's not. That said, it's not really a big issue even if he goes along with it and addresses you as Grand-Aunt."

Mrs. Hunt could tell from Cherry's attitude that Justin had already taken care of everything long ago. Knowing that there was no way she could stop the marriage anymore, she heaved a silent sigh inwardly.

In that case, there were some things that must be made clear.

She took a deep breath and said with a smile, "Mrs. Anderson, I asked you over because there's something I want to talk to you about. I should think that you're already aware that Ms. Smith and Justin are dating. What are your thoughts on this? Also, our family has high hopes for Pete. Surely the Andersons won't mind if he becomes close to his biological mother in the future, right?"

Although they didn't know who Pete's biological mother was, they would eventually find her.

In Mrs. Hunt's opinion, no one could compare to their own blood relatives.

It was just like Iris back then. For Justin's sake, hadn't she also willingly suffered injustice for so many years? She was the only person in this world who didn't harbor any thoughts of using Justin and treated him well.

Although she didn't know why Justin had never made any mention of Pete's biological mother, these thoughts of hers had never once changed.

Melissa had already recovered from her shock and consternation by now. As expected of someone who had experienced so much in life, the woman had already understood everything during these short few moments.

No wonder Nora had kept in contact with Justin. As it turned out, the father of her children was none other than Justin himself!

Although she didn't know how Nora and Justin had come to have children, or what exactly had happened back then, what she did know right now was that Mrs. Hunt was obviously unaware that Nora was Pete's biological mother!

She coughed and asked, "Do you know where Pete's biological mother is, Mrs. Hunt?"

Mrs. Hunt, however, misunderstood her.

She thought what Melissa meant was—how was Pete going to become close with his biological mother when they didn't even know where she was?

At once, Mrs. Hunt smiled and replied very meaningfully, "Of course, I do."

Melissa: "??"

Then, Mrs. Hunt puffed herself up at her own cost and said, "It's said that mothers and their children share a connection. You should have heard of that saying before, right? You're also a mother yourself, so you must know how a mother feels toward their children. Although there are some misunderstandings between Justin and her, for the boy's sake, I think Justin will eventually forgive her."

She looked at Melissa again after she spoke, and thought of a way to get her to back down. She said, "Of course, if Ms. Smith doesn't mind, then it's not a problem."

Melissa: "..."

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. She suddenly felt very much like laughing.

She asked, "How do you feel about his biological mother, then?"

Mrs. Hunt became domineering this time. She replied, "I don't care who she is. She deserves my gratitude just for giving birth to such an excellent successor for the Hunts!"

Her words were filled with heartfelt sincerity.

Pete was simply too outstanding. Even his IQ showed signs of surpassing Justin's!

Melissa glanced at Cherry when she heard what Mrs. Hunt said, and she couldn't help but laugh. She suddenly felt like it didn't seem that bad for Nora to marry into the Hunts, either?

Her smile baffled Mrs. Hunt.. "What are you laughing at, Mrs. Anderson?"

Melissa lowered her gaze and hurriedly reined in her smile. "I was just amused, that's all. These are the Hunts' private affairs. I shouldn't be asking about it."

"Our private affairs?" Mrs. Hunt frowned. "It's not really just our private affairs anymore, is it? Aren't Ms. Smith and Justin in a relationship right now?"

Melissa feigned surprise. "Are the two youngsters dating? I really wouldn't know about that."

She didn't know what Nora's plans were, so there was no way she would agree to any sort of request.

Mrs. Hunt: ??

What was the matter with her?

Melissa wasn't that wary and cautious anymore all of a sudden!

Was it really like what Justin said? Nora Smith wasn't interested in him?

That... wasn't quite possible, was it? Which girl could possibly resist the temptation that was Justin Hunt?

However, since Melissa had already put it that way, she couldn't go on about the topic anymore. She changed the subject tactfully and invited Melissa to stay for dinner.

However, Melissa declined the invitation and hurried back to the Andersons before dinner.

As soon as she entered the compound, she saw the usually asleep Nora looking at her. Her brows were drawn together as she asked, "I heard from Pete that you went to the Hunts'?"

Pete...

So, the child in their house was indeed the Hunts' little mister!

The news astounded Melissa so badly that her legs turned into jelly the moment she got out of the car. She held Nora's arm for support, grabbed her hand, and asked, "Nora, Cherry and Pete are...?"

"They are twins," replied Nora simply.

Melissa swallowed. Even though she had already guessed it, she nevertheless couldn't help but ask hesitantly, "And Justin is their...?"

"He's their father."

Nora sounded very sure.

In the past, she was sure because Justin must have already done a DNA test for himself and Pete. As for now, it was because Lily had already compared Justin's DNA with the twins', and Justin was indeed their father.

She still remembered what Lily had said then:

"Oh, by the way, I also checked the father's IQ genes while I was doing the DNA test, and it's astonishingly high. It's at the highest end of the range of

values for normal people though, so it's still a teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit inferior to your crazy IQ."

Since she had emphasized how minimal the difference was, it meant that there really wasn't much of one.

However, Nora had been more concerned about the children at the time. "What about the children?"

"... The children's IQs are also out of this world. Pete has the same IQ genes as you—in fact, they're even a bit better. As for Cherry, hers is even crazier. Her IQ is the average of yours and her father's, so it's even higher."

Nora: "..."

Her IQ was obviously a 'teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit' higher than Justin's. Pete was a boy, so he had fully inherited his IQ genes from her. It was normal for it to be slightly higher than hers.

However, Cherry's was the average of hers and Justin's, so how was it higher than Pete's?

Nora's lip corners spasmed. "You must be mistaken."

An exceptionally serious Lily replied, "Please do not question my professional abilities, Anti. I personally carried out all the tests involving your DNA."

Nora: "..."

Before she hung up, she made it a point to remind her, "Please delete all the data."

"No problem."

...

Melissa stared at the girl in front of her in shock.

The unattainable Justin was every girl's dream in New York.

When her daughter Sheril met him at a party when she was young, even she had come back saying, "He's the most handsome boy I've ever seen! And he also has an air of elegance around him!"

At that time, Melissa had immediately warned her, “Even so, you mustn’t develop feelings for him. People like him can’t be tamed.”

Sheril had immediately understood then that some people were simply favored by God from the start.

Yet, their Nora had conquered that unattainable man?

An astonished Melissa asked, “Are two of you really going to get married?”

Although Mrs. Hunt looked down on the Andersons—in fact, she even had something against them because Yvette had broken her son’s heart in the past—after her chat with her earlier, Melissa was now sure of something: Once Mrs. Hunt realized that Nora was Pete’s biological mother and that she could even bring an additional Cherry to the Hunts, Mrs. Hunt would probably treat Nora as the Hunts’ most honored guest!

Nora yawned and replied, “No, we’re not.”

Then, she added seriously, “I’ve never entertained that thought before.”

Melissa nodded. The next moment, she saw Nora pick up her cell phone and make a call. The other party answered very quickly.

“Hello, Ms. Smith. Are you calling me this late because you miss me?”

Nora said, “... Keep your family members in check.”

Justin: “?”

Nora was cold and distant as she said, “Don’t harass the Andersons.”

Justin understood at once. “Was it Grandma?”

“Yeah.” Nora said unhurriedly, “She told my aunt to go over and discuss marriage plans.”

“...”

“Mr. Hunt,” Nora said, “Didn’t we already reach an agreement about not believing in getting married?”

Melissa: “!!!”

Was that how Nora usually talked to Mr. Hunt?

Why did her voice sound like it was brimming with disdain?!

Mr. Hunt would definitely become angry, right?

While her imagination was running wild, the voice on the other end of the call said, "It's my fault."

Melissa: "?????"

Was that the same Mr. Hunt who was always so aloof and overlooked others from high up in the air?!

Why did he sound a little like he was trying to please Nora?

Nora, who also didn't expect him to admit his mistake, raised her eyebrows a little.

For the first time, she developed the illusion that she was being too much of a bully.

While she was thinking about it, Justin, who sounded even more aggrieved now, said, "I will keep my family members properly in check. Grandma was just hoping that I would have my own family soon. I know you're a non-believer of marriage though, so I won't force you into anything."

"..."

Nora kept quiet for a long while. At last, she finally coughed and said, "Actually, you can be with other women..."

"Ms. Smith," Justin interrupted her solemnly and said, "You were the one who fell in love with me first, so you mustn't push me away now."

Nora: "..."

"In order to get close to me, you used all sorts of ways and means to get close to my son. You're the only one that he acknowledges as his Mommy now, so you can't just wash all this off your hands and leave. If you do that, not only would you be letting me down, but you'll also be letting Pete down."

"..."

“Don’t worry. I won’t force you if you’re unwilling to marry me. After all, I can’t let you down when you’re so in love with me. Even if Grandma is really old now and wants to see me get married... it doesn’t matter. Everything is fine as long as you are happy.”

“ ... ”

Nora wanted very much to say that he really didn’t need to do that, yet she felt that if she were to say that without explaining everything clearly, she would end up sounding like a scumbag.

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. In the end, she could only humbly and guiltily hang up, feeling as if she had bullied someone.

As soon as she hung up, she received another call. When she picked up, Iris’ voice rang out. “Ms. Smith, are you free now?”

“Yes, I am. What’s the matter?” asked Nora.

Iris said, “I have a pot of flowers here that’s dying. Can you come over and take a look at it?”

Nora thought for a moment and replied, “Okay.”

At the same time, Justin also received a call from Mrs. Landis. “Mr.. Justin, please come over with Pete if you’re free.”

Panda Novel

Nora was about to hang up when Iris suggested, “Why don’t you bring your son along with you?”

Nora thought for a moment. Then, she nodded and said, “Okay.”

She went upstairs, brought Pete down, and got in the car with him. She said, “I’ll take you to meet a friend of mine.”

Pete was very excited. “Okay!”

Even though he had known Mommy for a very long time by now, he only knew a few of her friends. Pete wanted to know what his Mommy was usually up to, since she was such an enigma.

Even though Mommy was always sleeping, she was so rich!

There was no way anyone could make that much money just by being a genius doctor!

He got into the car excitedly and sat in the backseat.

When Nora was walking to the driver's seat, she looked at Melissa, who was still in a daze, and slowly said, "Please keep this... a secret for now, Aunt Melissa."

"... Okay," said Melissa.

After Nora left, Melissa finally entered the living room. Mrs. Anderson, who had been waiting all afternoon, stepped forward nervously at once. She held her hand and asked, "How was it, Melissa? Did Mrs. Hunt say anything?"

Melissa was in a daze. "No, she didn't."

Mrs. Anderson breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good. Sigh, I'm just afraid that she'll bring up some kind of request or condition. If they want to treat Pete's biological mother as family, then will Justin take Nora's or the other woman's side?"

Melissa: "..."

She looked at Mrs. Anderson hesitantly before she finally said, "Actually, it's all the same."

Mrs. Anderson glanced at her. "You don't get it, do you? It's not the same. If that happens, Pete's biological mother will definitely cause Nora trouble. Also, what if Pete resents Nora even after she raises him into an adult? These things all have to be made clear in advance. Sigh, it's just so troublesome when other people's children are involved."

"..."

In a villa on the outskirts of New York.

Mrs. Landis and Iris were happily preparing dinner.

Iris was in a very good mood. The woman, who looked as lithe as a teenager, hummed a little tune as she went back and forth the dining table and the kitchen joyfully.

Seeing her in such a good mood, Mrs. Landis laughed and said, “Ma’am, your mind must be at ease now, right? You’ve already asked around and found out that Mr. Hunt’s girlfriend is from the Andersons. The other Ms. Smith only has a daughter while your god-sister has a son instead! As it turns out, the two of them just share the same name! You don’t have to worry anymore!”

Iris nodded. “Yes, it’s fine as long as they aren’t one and the same. I was so scared that I had accidentally elevated Justin’s girlfriend’s position to one that was more senior than his, which would have made it awkward for the two of them!”

Mrs. Landis laughed again. “The fish and chips are fried especially nicely tonight, so they’ll definitely taste awesome. The children are gonna love it.”

“Yeah.”

Iris smiled and said, “I wonder how old Ms. Smith’s son is, and how far apart his age is from Pete’s. I don’t know if the two of them can get along or not.”

Mrs. Landis teased her and said, “You worry too much!”

Only then did Iris suddenly realize that she was indeed worrying too much.

For so many years, many people had tried to please her. There were even some that tried to pander to her interests and spoke knowledgeably to her about orchids.

All of them were trying to ingratiate themselves with Justin.

In order to reduce unnecessary troubles for Justin, she had rejected them all. Therefore, all the rumors outside claimed that she was difficult to deal with, and had a strange temperament.

Come to think of it, Nora was actually the only friend she had made all these years. Therefore, she hadn’t stopped Mrs. Landis when she also told Justin to come over after Nora was invited over for dinner.

This was just her selfish desire, but she wanted her son to help Nora out a little if he could.

After all, it wasn't easy for a woman to bring up a child on her own. It reminded her of herself when she was taking care of Justin back then.

Perhaps because she had suppressed her feelings for too long, it led to her wanting to give the other party all the good things she could after she made a friend.

Moreover, what Nora said the day before had made Iris suddenly realize that she indeed didn't understand Justin.

She was Justin's mother. In situations that wouldn't cause him any trouble, helping her friend out was something he should do, right?

... Even though Iris didn't know what kind of help Nora could possibly need from her.

While driving to the villa in the suburbs, Nora received another call from Justin.

After she uttered a 'hello', Justin asked, "Are you free tonight? I'll take you somewhere for a meal?"

Nora, who was looking ahead of her, replied, "I'm not free."

Justin, who seemed to have heard some kind of sound, immediately asked, "You have an appointment? Who are you meeting that has actually made you abandon me? That's not something that someone in love with me should be doing."

He was afraid that she was going on a date with Caleb.

Nora's lip corners spasmed a little. She couldn't be bothered to explain that she was visiting her newly-gained god-sister, lest the guy says something like 'Which is more important—meeting me or your god-sister?'. .

Thus, she simply said, "I'm sleepy. I'm going home to sleep."

"... Alright then," said Justin.

In a rare moment, Nora asked, "What about you?"

Justin let out a low chuckle and replied, "I'll sleep with you."

Nora: "?"

Her voice turned cold. "Talk properly!"

Justin said, "We'll sleep together after you go back to your house and I go back to mine. Is there something wrong with this sentence? Or did you get the wrong idea?"

Nora: "!!!!"

The corners of her lips spasmed, and she said, "I'm hanging up!"

On the other end of the call, Justin couldn't help laughing after Nora hung up so fiercely.

He was in the car at the moment. The chauffeur was driving to the suburbs.

Cherry, who was sitting beside him, asked, "Are you planning to take Mommy to Grandma's for dinner, Daddy?"

Justin nodded. "Yes. Your Grandma has some misunderstandings about her. I think she would be able to understand what she's like after we sit down and have a meal together, but unfortunately..."

"Mommy definitely won't go!" Cherry said, "She wants to sleep!"

Justin: "..."

Half an hour later.

Nora arrived at the suburbs.

It was already dark, so Pete didn't notice where they were when they entered the residential area. Besides, he rarely came over in the first place. In the day, he could still tell that this was where his grandmother lived, but because it was too dark now, he didn't manage to make out the surroundings until the car reached the villa entrance.

It was only after Nora took him out of the car and they entered the villa that Pete finally realized something. Unfortunately, it was too late!

“Ms. Smith!” Iris welcomed her into the house excitedly. “Let’s have dinner together tonight!”

Nora nodded. Then, she pushed Pete—who was hiding behind her and trying to say something all this time but didn’t have any chance to—to Iris. She said, “This is my son, Pete.”

Then, she said to Pete, “Say hi to your god-aunt, Pete.”

Mrs. Landis, who had sent the two into the living room, hurried out the door when she heard another car at the door. When she saw Justin walking over with Cherry, she smiled and said, “You’re here, Mr. Hunt!”

Justin noticed a car in the corner. As the place was dim, he didn’t make out what kind of car it was. He asked casually, “You have guests over?”

“Yep!” Mrs. Landis explained, “It’s Ma’am’s new god-sister! It’s just nice that you’re here, so you can also meet her!”

God-sister?

Justin’s brows drew together.

Iris had been leading a reclusive life all these years. She treated outsiders harshly and was like a robot without emotions.

He could even clearly remember that one time he came over when he was a child and saw that her family, the Evanses, had come over. However, he also saw, with his own eyes, Iris driving them out of the villa.

Mrs. Landis had stood in front of the door to stop them from entering at that time. His aunt from the Evanses had knelt in front of the door with her child and cried out in tears that they mustn’t delay medical treatment for his uncle anymore. He needed immediate treatment, otherwise he would die.

But Iris hadn’t spared them even a glance.

He had bodyguards protecting him when he walked in, so his aunt couldn’t get near him. She stayed where she was and sobbed as she cursed, “You’re no different from a cold-blooded monster, Iris Hunt! You’re a venomous snake! It’s all because of you that the Evanses are in this state today! Yet, you’re

actually sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing! He's your elder brother! How can you be so cruel?"

His footsteps had paused at that time.

However, he hadn't taken the liberty to give her any money, say anything, or comfort her—because he had already understood by then that sometimes, what one saw was not necessarily the truth.

He didn't understand the relationship between his mother and her family at all, so how could he ask anything of his mother?

Regardless, the sight of his aunt berating Iris and calling her a venomous snake with a savage look on her face had remained in his memory.

All these years, every time he came over and saw how Iris was always so cold toward everyone, and heard from the bodyguards how all she did every day was take care of her flowers, and how she didn't seem to have any social interaction with anyone, he had even thought that she didn't have any friends at all.

Yet, she was actually introducing her god-sister to him now!

He understood the implicit meaning behind introducing her god-sister to him—it was nothing more than her wanting the Hunts to help her god-sister out and take care of her. Over the years, on account of various people, he had already helped out a lot of people with their businesses.

Adding one more person to the count didn't matter.

However, he felt rather unhappy.

His mother had never worried about him or comforted him before. She had abandoned him at the Hunts' icy-cold manor when he was only five and left him to his own devices ever since.

Yet, she was actually showing so much concern for an outsider now?

He was really curious. Just what kind of woman had managed to capture his mother's heart?

Justin's expression turned cold, and he entered the house.

In the living room.

Iris was staring at Pete at the moment, her beautiful eyes widened in disbelief.

Pete had also raised his little head and was looking at his grandmother.

Although the two rarely saw each other, Justin did occasionally bring him over for quick visits, so one could say that they were the most familiar strangers.

For a while, neither of them spoke.

Nora looked at Iris, and then back at Pete. Finding their silence rather strange, she frowned and prompted Pete. "Pete?"

Although Pete was mildly autistic, he had shown good manners ever since he started to live with her, and would always greet his relatives whenever he met them. This was especially so with the Andersons. He always greeted Melissa very sweetly whenever he saw her.

So, why was he suddenly not greeting his elders anymore the moment he came here?

While she was hesitating, Iris asked in a trembling voice, "M-Ms. Smith, is... is he your son?"

Nora nodded. "Yeah."

But when she looked at Iris again, she found that the woman suddenly had an extremely complex look on her face. She stared at Nora for a while.

In the midst of Nora's confusion, Pete's small and weak voice entered her ears.

"Hello, Grandma."

Nora: "??"

Her head whipped to the side abruptly to see Pete with a resigned look on his face as if he didn't have anything to live for anymore. He said, "Mommy, she... she's my grandmother."

Seemingly because he saw that Nora didn't seem like she understood what he was saying, he added, "You know, my father's mommy."

Nora: "..."

Iris: "..."

Pete held his forehead. He knew that the two of them were utterly shocked at the moment, so he said to Iris, "Grandma, can you keep this a secret from Daddy for now?"

Practically right after he spoke, someone suddenly opened the living room door. Mrs. Landis' voice traveled over.

"Come on in, Mr. Hunt!"

When Mrs. Landis was bringing Nora and Pete into the house, as she had been preoccupied leading the way, she hadn't managed to see Pete's face clearly. Right after that, she had gone out in a hurry again. Thus, she looked at Cherry, pointed at Pete from the back, and said, "Your god-grandaunt has brought her little boy here. You guys can play with each other later!"

As soon as she said that, Iris stood up straight and looked at the door.

Nora and Pete also turned around instinctively. For a time, the family of four stood facing one another.

"..."

The whole room was suddenly filled with weird silence.

After a full twenty seconds of silence, Mrs. Landis finally rubbed her eyes. She looked at Nora, and then at Justin before finally looking at Pete and Cherry. Then, she looked at Iris in confusion. "Have I become that old, Ma'am? Are my eyes playing tricks on me? Why does Ms. Smith's son look exactly the same as the little mister?!"

Her words made Iris's lip corners spasm.

She suddenly realized that she had really done something wrong. She coughed and said, "M-Mrs. Landis, w-why don't you introduce them to each other? I... I suddenly have a headache, so I'll go upstairs and rest for a bit."

After speaking, she walked to the stairs with her left arm moving forward with her left leg, and vice versa. She seemingly went upstairs, but after turning the

corner, she immediately stopped and secretly popped her head out from behind the wall to look at the others' reactions.

But when she did, she instead found that all five people downstairs were looking straight at her, frightening Iris so badly that she immediately retracted her head, coughed, and went upstairs.

When Mrs. Landis saw her fleeing, something suddenly clicked in her head, and she immediately cursed at Iris inwardly. How could she leave her all alone downstairs in a situation

like this?!

She could already feel the awkward and frosty atmosphere in the living room without even looking at Justin. She swallowed hard and stammered, "Um, M-Mr. Justin, this... this is Ma'am's new god-sister."

As soon as she said that, she felt Justin looking at her.

In a brainless move, she added, "In other words, she's your g-g-god-aunt..."

"..."

The low air pressure in the air seemingly became even lower.

Only then did Mrs. Landis realize that she had really rubbed Justin's nose in it. How could she possibly not understand by now? Ms. Smith was none other than Justin's said girlfriend that Tina had mentioned!

But what had she and Ma'am done instead? They had elevated his girlfriend's position to one that was senior to his own!

Justin was probably secretly cursing his mother right now!

While she was thinking about it, she suddenly had a brainwave. She said, "Oh dear, Ma'am always eats some cake at this time every day. I'll bring some up for her..."

After saying that, she ran straight upstairs without even taking any cake with her.

For a time, only the family of four remained in the living room.

Ten seconds later, dead silence filled the room.

“ ... ”

A minute later, the silence in the room became even scarier.

“ ... ”

Even after two minutes went by, none of them had any intention of speaking.

“ ... ”

Nora, who had always been short of sleep, found time especially hard to pass at the moment. How she wished she could just close her eyes and fall asleep, so that by the time she woke up, the day would be bright and sunny once more.

But that was obviously not the most appropriate thing to do at the moment.

She had never been afraid of anything, and she had always been a direct and straightforward person. Even so, she kinda understood in this instant what it meant to want to dig a hole and bury oneself in it.

Her gaze drifted about erratically. She looked at the ceiling with her arms hanging by her side and nudged Pete with her hand to get him to break the silence.

Pete: “ ... ”

By then, Pete and Cherry had already communicated a great deal with each other with their eyes.

Pete looked at Cherry: ‘What do we do now?’

Cherry’s big eyes blinked: ‘I don’t know, either!’

Pete held his hands up helplessly: ‘The tyrant looks so calm, but the calmer he is on the outside, the angrier he is on the inside!’

Cherry also glanced at Nora: ‘Mommy also has a really grave look on her face. The more grave she looks, the scarier the decision she’ll make!’

Pete was terrified: 'Surely Mommy isn't thinking of knocking out the tyrant and taking the two of us away, right?'

Cherry: '... It's not impossible.'

Pete: '...'

While the two children were communicating with their eyes, Nora nudged Pete. She curled her fingers a little, motioning for him to speak.

Thus, Pete said, "Mommy, Daddy always brings 12 bodyguards and even 24 hidden bodyguards whenever he goes out. You won't be able to fight your way out."

As soon as he said that, the room became even quieter.

"..."

It was as if everyone's breathing was audible.

Justin: "..."

To be honest, he was also in a huge panic at the moment!

Before this, Nora hadn't known that he was already aware of everything. In order to make the woman stay, he had deliberately kept one of the two children with him. This way, she would always stay by his side.

But now!

If they were to address the elephant in the room, he wouldn't be able to continue being 'narcissistic'!

The woman would explain everything, and then...

What must he do to make the woman and the children stay?

The man, who had always been full of ideas when it came to the world of commerce, was also in a panic. Thus, all he could do was stand there with a pensive look on his face.

Unfortunately, his expression instead gave Nora the impression that he was a very terrifying man.

Well, that made sense. Justin would definitely be furious once he knew that one of his children had been taken away from him. It was already very impressive that he could suppress his anger and keep himself from venting it. Moreover, he hadn't said anything really awful, either.

When Nora, who had just thought of that, heard what Pete said, the corners of her lips couldn't help but spasm.

Cough.

She would never ever admit that she had indeed been itching just a moment ago to knock the man out and then flee the country with the two children.

In fact, an escape route had already formed in her mind that very moment. After going out, she mustn't drive straight to the airport because Justin was definitely powerful enough to seal the airport and trains.

Therefore, she would drive to the suburbs instead, find an empty helipad, and get Lily to pilot a private jet and come over to pick them up as soon as possible!

However, it would take Lily seven to eight hours to fly over. After all, they were too far away from Switzerland, where Lily was... Should it really be beyond Lily's means, she would get Solo to pick them up instead. After all, he was closer to where they were.

If not, then her only option would be to approach her aunt overseas for help instead...

But when she heard about the 36 bodyguards, Nora fell silent and dismissed the idea.

She had fought Justin's bodyguards before; it was easy for her to beat one or two, but 36... Say, just how fearful of dying was that man? Did he have to bring so many people with him whenever he went out?

While Nora was daydreaming, Justin finally spoke. "Shouldn't you give me a reasonable explanation for this, Ms. Smith?"

Phew...

The weird atmosphere was finally broken. Nora breathed a sigh of relief at last. After thinking for a while about how to word the situation, she started to explain the issues with the children. She said, "... Since you've already seen everything, then I won't keep it from you anymore. The reason why I have been trying to get close to you and Pete is actually..."

But before she could finish, Justin cut her off and said, "That's not the explanation I'm asking for. Rather, back then, why did you get pregnant with my children behind my back?"

All the words that Nora had prepared became stuck in her throat, choking her. She was about to speak when Justin said sharply, "You'd best give me a reasonable explanation, why did you plot against me and then run away that night?! You even bore two of my children!"

Nora: "???"

Her mind was full of question marks!

Which night was he talking about?

No, wait...

Nora narrowed her eyes. "Didn't you say that you don't know how I became pregnant?"

Justin lowered his gaze. "I didn't know it was you at that time, so of course I would say that. After all, surely I couldn't tell outsiders that a woman had plotted against me and taken advantage of me, right?"

Nora: "?????"

She pointed at herself incredulously. "I... plotted against you?"

Justin, who was pulling a long face, replied, "Yes. Given how you were fat and ugly at that time, it can't possibly be because I fell in love with you and plotted against you, right?"

Nora: "??????"

Was she suffering from memory loss? Or had she really been sleepwalking that time?! But she really didn't remember him appearing in her dream! After

all, given that face of his, it would have been deeply etched in her memory if she had indeed dreamed of him!

She was about to refute him when Justin spoke again. "Tell me, woman, what exactly are you plotting by scheming against me and even bearing me two children?"

Nora: "..."

She was speechless.

She didn't know what to say!

Seemingly because she wasn't saying anything, Justin's voice turned even colder. "If you're not going to explain yourself... These two children are part of the Hunts. There's no way I will allow the Hunts' children to wander about outside, let alone allow a woman with ulterior motives to go near my children! So, without a good reason, you can forget about ever seeing my children again!"

He placed his hands on top of Pete's and Cherry's heads and took a step back with the two.

Nora: "?"

Her eyes darkened.

How dare that man threaten her! Hah!

Just as she was about to attack...

Cherry and Pete, whom Justin was holding on to, panicked when they heard their father.

They wouldn't be able to see Mommy ever again?

No, they couldn't have that!

Cherry immediately shouted, "Daddy, Mommy doesn't have any ill intentions! She doesn't have any ulterior motives, either!"

Even though Justin, who was in the midst of a confrontation with Nora, had adopted an icy-cold demeanor on the surface, he was actually secretly terribly anxious.

Why hadn't that silly girl taken the bait yet?

Well, it was true that she wasn't afraid of a head-on confrontation, after all.

However, his precious little baby finally spoke up at this point. Justin breathed a sigh of relief inwardly, though the look on his face remained cold. "What is she planning, if not something malevolent?"

"It's... it's... it's..." Cherry looked at Nora, and then at Justin. At last, she turned to Pete for help and asked, "It's... What was it again, Pete?"

Pete: "?"

Seeing the tyrant also looking over, Pete stammered, "It's... It's..."

Pete was in a huge panic. It was simply too difficult to find a reasonable answer!

Just as all three other people in the room were staring at him, and while Cherry was frantically giving him looks, Pete suddenly thought of the bossy CEO-type romance novels that he'd chanced upon in the past. Thus, his next few words came easily to him:

"It's because she 'couldn't help it', and because she 'couldn't control her feelings'..."

His words were rather hesitant in the beginning, but the more he spoke, the brighter his eyes shone, and the more certain he sounded. He said, "It's because Mommy likes you! Yes, it's exactly because of that!"

Nora: "??????"

She was about to refute him when Cherry rushed over and grabbed her hand. She looked at Justin and said, "Daddy, it's because Mommy likes you so much that she had to do something like that. You won't stop us from seeing Mommy in the future, right?"

Nora: "..."

Although they had made her the scapegoat, she did indeed want to know Justin's opinion on the matter.

If that scumbag took a step back as a result, it wasn't like she couldn't just roll with it, either...

While she was thinking about it, the cold aura around Justin gradually subsided. He looked at her amicably and asked, "Is what they say, true?"

Nora: "..."

She felt that since they had already addressed the matter, she might as well say it all.

But before she could say anything, Cherry nodded repeatedly and said, "It's true, it's true! Mommy really likes you, Daddy! Mommy kept singing your praises before we met you! She even said that you look so cool, handsome, and tender! You're the world's number one hunk!"

Nora: "!!"

When had she ever said anything like that?

"Cough." Cherry's words seemed to have given Justin quite the shock, too. He let out a low cough, looked at Nora, and said, "That's a little too explicit of you."

Nora: "..."

Never mind.

She would just bear with it.

She had only just quietly suppressed her annoyance when Justin asked, "But since you like me so much, why don't you believe in marriage?"

Nora: "?"

Was there no end to that man's questions?

Her brows drew together, and a sharp look flashed across her eyes. She sneered, "There's no correlation between liking someone and getting married, is there, Mr. Hunt? Who says non-believers of marriage can't date?"

Upon hearing her sarcasm and the sound of her gnashing her teeth, Justin knew at once that they had to end it here for today. Otherwise, once he angered her for real, the chances of them getting together would become even lower.

This was the very first time in all these years that he had fallen for a woman. He mustn't let her run away.

Justin feigned sudden realization and said, "I see."

Suddenly, Nora asked, "Since you claim that I had pestered you back then, where did I do said pestering, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin raised his eyebrows.

How would he know?!

He didn't even know how she became pregnant!

That night didn't even exist in his memory at all, alright?!

Regardless, even if he did know, he didn't know what the woman was thinking at that moment, so he had deliberately lied.

However, he absolutely mustn't give her the impression that there were loopholes in his words. Thus, he smiled and suddenly replied, "In California."

"Which hotel in California was it?"

Justin gave her a seemingly amused look. "Are you thinking of reliving the moment, Ms. Smith?"

Nora: "!!"

She took another deep breath and tried her best to tell herself, 'Remain calm, remain calm. Don't get angry.'

At last, she said, "Just asking."

Justin, however, stepped forward. "The past is in the past, we have to look to the future. You don't have to keep reminiscing about that night five years ago, Ms. Smith. If you find it necessary, we can consummate right away."

Consummate?

Pete and Cherry's eyes lit up at the same time. But as soon as they wanted to speak, Nora said coldly, "No, it's fine."

She gritted her teeth and spat out word after word—"I don't find that necessary, my! God! Nephew!"

Justin's face instantly turned green.

Upstairs.

Iris and Mrs. Landis popped their heads out and tried their best to listen to the voices downstairs.

Unfortunately, their voices were too low, so they couldn't hear what they were saying at all. Iris looked at Mrs. Landis. "Why does the situation downstairs feel kinda weird?"

"... It feels kinda weird to me, too. Surely there wasn't some kind of dramatic love-hate relationship between Mr. Justin and Ms. Smith back then, right? Have they reconciled now? Ma'am, don't you feel that what happened to Ms. Smith sounds like a tale of a pretty little wife running away with a babe in her belly?"

"Don't spout nonsense! Their story is much more exciting than a novel!"

Mrs. Landis: "..."

The two listened to the voices downstairs again. Seeing that nothing seemed to be happening anymore, Mrs. Landis asked, "Should we go downstairs and get ready for dinner, Ma'am?"

Iris nodded. "Yeah. Let's go down and take a look."

However, as soon as they went downstairs, they saw Nora sitting on the sofa triumphantly with her arms folded. There was a small smile on her usually cool and distant countenance.

Justin, on the other hand, looked livid.

Clearly, Nora seemed to have won the confrontation just now.

Mrs. Landis coughed and called out, “Ms. Smith, Mr. Hunt, and the two little misters. Shall we have dinner?”

Nora got up. “Sure. I just so happen to have gotten hungry.”

After speaking, she looked at Iris and asked, “Let’s have dinner, Sis?”

Iris: “?”

Why did it suddenly feel like the temperature in the room dropped a few degrees when she said the word ‘Sis’?

She looked at Justin, who was pulling a long face, and the corners of her lips spasmed. She coughed and said, “Um, I didn’t know about your relationship with Justin previously. Considering the situation now, we...”

“These are two separate matters,” Nora replied casually but surely, “We’ll keep the terms of address separate in the future. Mr. Hunt won’t mind, right?”

Justin replied, “... No, I don’t.”

Iris: “...”

The group settled at the dining table.

Pete and Cherry sat next to each other. When they looked at the tyrant and Mommy sitting at the same dining table, they suddenly felt much more blissful than usual!

Unfortunately, the adults didn’t feel that sense of bliss at all.

After they finally finished dinner and the group left, Justin asked coldly, “So, Pete goes with you? And the daughter comes with me?”

Nora breathed a sigh of relief at his words.

At least that guy didn’t ask for both children.

Otherwise, she would really explode.

What kind of horrible evening was this? She felt so frustrated!

She had never felt this frustrated in her entire life!

She nodded. "That works."

She took Pete's hand after she spoke. When she was about to leave, she paused and looked back at Iris. "Don't tell anyone else about this for now, Sis."

Justin paused. He was also about to tell Iris that, but unexpectedly, Nora had done it a step ahead of him.

Thus, he decided not to say anything.

It wasn't convenient for so many people to protect Pete while he was with Nora. Therefore, the children's identities indeed had to be kept secret.

Iris nodded.

While on the way home with Pete, Nora suddenly received a text message on her cell phone.

She glanced at it when she reached a red light, but the moment she did, she suddenly froze.

The text message read: 'Do you wanna know how exactly you became pregnant back then?'

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When Nora saw these words, her eyes narrowed.

It was an anonymous message.

She picked it up casually. Before the traffic light turned green, her fingers moved nimbly to trace the sender's number. However, she realized that the phone number had not been registered with an identity card.

She hacked into his phone again, trying to find his location.

In the blink of an eye, she had locked onto him!

Position: New York!

The exact location was near her car!

When she saw that the red dot was less than a few meters away from her green position, the other party seemed to have sensed her tracking. The red dot flickered a few times and disappeared.

Nora clenched her fists tightly and suddenly looked around.

Although it was already 9 PM, there were still many cars on the road in New York. Because of the traffic lights, most of the cars behind were already blocked.

In other words, that person's car was also blocked inside.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and instructed Pete, "Stay in the car."

Hearing her grave tone, Pete nodded in understanding. "Okay."

He was not afraid because, on the way home, he knew that Justin had assigned a few bodyguards to secretly protect him.

After Nora got out of the car, the car made a clicking sound and was locked up to prevent the bad guys from taking Pete away.

Nora then ran in the direction she remembered.

From the map, she could tell that the other party was less than 200 meters away from her.

The car was not more than 200 meters away from her...

She used her eyes to estimate and agilely weaved through the cars.

100 meters... 150 meters...

The traffic light was relatively long. It took about 90 seconds to go green, and it took her 80 seconds to locate the other party and get there. There were still 10 seconds!

If she could not find that person, she might miss this opportunity.

Although Justin had said that she had killed the other party back then, she had no memory of it at all.

Therefore, even if Justin remembered that night, the two of them had still been schemed against.

The person who had schemed against them and made her give birth to two children was a mystery. As for how she got pregnant, it was even more of a mystery.

And the mystery was only 50 meters away.

Nora took a few steps forward suddenly. The cars beside her were already honking impatiently. There were too many cars in New York, and the roads were filled with cars.

200 meters!

About seven to eight cars were parked 200 meters away from her!

She walked over quickly and knocked on the window of the first car.

The car window rolled down and the driver looked at her impatiently. "What are you doing? Do you want to die?"

That person's expression was very real. It was obvious that he was a passerby.

It wasn't him.

Nora walked around him and continued to walk back.

But at this point!

Beep!

A car suddenly honked. Nora was stunned. She turned around and saw a black Land Rover parked two cars away from this car.

The car window rolled down, revealing a familiar face. "Miss Smith, what are you doing?"

This person was... Morris, Captain Ford!

While she was in a daze, the traffic light in front changed. The cars started to move, but because Nora's car was parked in front, this line of cars could not move.

Seeing the two cars driving away slowly, Nora was no longer anxious. Instead, she narrowed her eyes and looked at Morris. "Captain Ford, what a coincidence. Why are you here?"

Morris looked ahead, his cold face sharp and clear. "Miss Smith, I should be the one asking you this, right? If you stop the car, it will seriously affect the traffic rules. It will be a violation of the rules and you will be fined. Of course, if you still don't leave, I'm afraid it will be so serious that your driver's license will be revoked."

Nora was unmoved. "This is the traffic police's jurisdiction, right? Captain Ford even cares about this?"

Morris was expressionless, but he took out a document from the car and handed it to her. "Special Case Departments, I have the right to ask about all illegal matters."

Beep!

Beep!

"F*ck? What's going on in front? Why aren't you driving?"

"Is it an accident? Or did the car break down?"

"..."

The other drivers started honking wildly. Some got out of the car and looked forward.

Nora knew that she could not delay anymore, so she nodded at Morris. "I'll leave now."

She looked around again but did not see any familiar cars. Then, she walked forward and followed the cars to the front.

A driver in the back had already gotten out of the car and was pointing at her nose and shouting, "What are you doing? Do you have any courtesy? Don't you know you're delaying us by stopping here?"

However, when he raised her head, he could clearly see that it was a young lady's face. This lady was also as beautiful as a fairy. Furthermore, although Nora did not smile, her apology was still considered sincere. "I'm sorry. I'll leave now."

She was simply using her beauty to commit murder.

The driver's cursing voice became softer and warmer. "It's fine, it's fine. It was just a minute. Let's go!"

Nora got into the car and started it. The cars parked behind her then returned to normal traffic.

On the way home, she looked ahead with a serious expression.

Who was the person who had followed her and controlled her pregnancy back then?

Why was Morris around her again? Was he the one who had sent her the message?

Once or twice could be a coincidence, but so many times? What was his motive?

Also, special department... What was that? Why had she never heard of such a department?!

At the Hunts'.

Mrs. Hunt frowned. After thinking about it for an entire day, she finally decided to make a move. "Although they don't admit it now, once they do, it'll be too late for them to acknowledge it! I can't control them in this matter, but someone can."

Mdm. Lea was stunned. "Who?"

Mrs. Hunt took out her phone and made a call that she had not made in a long time. The moment the call was picked up, she lowered her eyes and slowly said, "Iris, this is Mom. I'm calling you for the sake of Justin and Pete..."

Iris's attitude was very cold, but she didn't hang up. Instead, she asked, "What? What do you want me to do this time?"

When Mrs. Hunt heard the words “this time,” she instantly felt guilty, but she still hardened her heart and said, “Justin likes a woman from a small family. She definitely can’t be Pete’s stepmother! You’re probably the only person in the world who can stop him! You...”

Before she could finish, Iris sneered and asked, “Stepmother?”

Mrs. Hunt paused and immediately said, “Yes, she will marry Justin to be Pete’s stepmother. Iris, you know stepmothers can’t possibly be good. Back then...”

Iris interrupted her again. “Not every stepmother in this world is like that mistress!”

Mrs. Hunt: ??

She was stunned by Iris’ words. After thinking for a while, she tried to ask, “But what if she gives birth to a child for Justin again?”

“Mom, I think you’re mistaken.” Iris’ voice was cold.

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

Iris said slowly, “Being a mother and being a wife is different. A mother wants her son to be better. Justin is getting married, and it’ll be good for him to have a woman to please him and take care of him in the future. Isn’t that what you told me back then?”

Mrs. Hunt clenched her jaw. “Iris, are you still blaming me?”

“No.” Iris’ answer was very simple. “I don’t blame anyone. If I have to say it, I only blame my bad luck.”

As soon as she said this, she hung up.

Mrs. Hunt looked at her phone in a daze. After a while, she sighed deeply and looked at Mdm. Lea. “She still hates me.”

Mdm. Lea looked at Mrs. Hunt and wanted to say something, but she hesitated. In the end, she said something fair. “It has been quite difficult for her all these years.”

She had stayed at the Hunts for her son.

However, she could not love her son affectionately. This was much more bitter than what Justin's father had suffered.

Mrs. Hunt sighed as Cherry's voice came from the door. "Great-Grandmother, I'm here~"

Mrs. Hunt immediately looked at the door in joy and saw Justin striding in with a smile. His appearance stunned her. She smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy today?"

Justin's expression froze as he asked, "Am I?"

Mdm. Lea teased, "You can't even suppress the corners of your mouth. Aren't you happy? Mr. Hunt, did something good happen today? Tell us, so we can be happy too!"

When Justin heard this, he thought of how he had had dinner with Nora tonight and could not help but smile again.

Seeing that he was silent, Cherry raised her hand. "I'll talk, I'll talk! Daddy had dinner with Mommy tonight. That's why Daddy is happy, right?"

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

She turned to look at Justin again.

In her impression, this grandson had always been stern. Even after signing a huge contract and earning a few hundred million, he had never smiled like he did today.

It had been five years since he last smiled like this. At that time, he had just brought Pete back. After pulling him back from the brink of death, he had done a DNA test and realized that Pete was indeed his son.

He had hardly ever smiled like this before.

Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and touched Cherry's head. "Is that so? No wonder."

She suddenly looked at Justin and said, "Justin, it's my 80th birthday in a week. We can hold a party this year, right?"

Justin was stunned when he heard this.

Ever since his father left and his grandfather passed away, his grandmother had been eating vegetarian food and reading Buddhism. She had never liked the liveliness of birthday parties.

Every year on her birthday, the entire family would gather together for a meal. They had never organized a big banquet before.

Why did she suddenly...

However, he did not ask further and immediately agreed. "Okay. Let Mdm. Lea and Mr. Long handle the party. I'll prepare a guest list."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "Alright, invite Miss Smith over as well."

Only then did Justin realize that Mrs. Hunt's birthday celebration was actually for Nora.

However, if Nora came over, they could at least publicize their relationship so that the outside world would not have to keep guessing.

He nodded. "Yes."

After chatting for a while more about the details of the birthday banquet, Justin left with Cherry. Mdm. Lea stood beside Mrs. Hunt. "Mrs. Hunt, are you... trying to use this method to persuade Miss Smith to leave?"

Mrs. Hunt's birthday banquet would definitely shock all the influential people in New York.

At that time, if the people from small families could not handle that scene, they would automatically retreat.

However, Mrs. Hunt did not seem to hear this. Her gaze was only fixed on Justin at the door. She suddenly said, "Mdm. Lea, how long has it been since we last saw Justin with such a relaxing smile?"

Mdm. Lea was stunned.

Mrs. Hunt sighed. "Actually, how good would it be if he could smile like this every day? Even I wavered a little just now. If that Miss Smith could make him happy by marrying her, shouldn't I give in a little?"

Mdm. Lea understood her thoughts. She walked to her side and held her shoulder. "Mrs. Hunt, you're not only Mr. Hunt's grandmother, but you're also the Matriarch of the Hunts."

These words made Mrs. Hunt's expression darken.

Yes.

She had devoted her entire life to the Hunts. Just like back then... when her grandson was only five years old, she would definitely have favored her son more.

However, for the sake of the Hunts, she still chased her son away and kept her grandson with her.

She was not only a mother, but she was also the Matriarch of the Hunts.

The trace of guilt that she had felt instantly disappeared.

She could not disregard the Hunts' reputation just because Justin was happy for a moment.

The Matriarch of the Hunts could not be such a lowly woman like Nora!

She took a deep breath and suddenly looked at Mdm. Lea. "Remember to invite that lady from the Smiths over on my birthday."

Mdm. Lea understood what she meant and nodded. "Yes."

The next day at the Andersons'.

"What gift did you prepare?"

When Melissa woke up in the morning and received the invitation, she had a headache. She complained to Mrs. Anderson, "They're holding a special banquet for Mrs. Hunt's birthday this year. Moreover, our relationship is different now. We can't afford not to bring out valuable gifts. But what kind of treasure have the Hunts not seen? What can we send that would bring out new meaning and show our magnanimity?"

Mrs. Anderson rubbed her temples as well. "I hate thinking about gifts the most, especially a gift for Mrs. Hunt. She has high standards. Sigh! But why don't you ask Nora? She might have some good ideas."

It was almost noon. When Nora went downstairs, she heard Melissa say worriedly, “Nora, you’re finally awake! Mrs. Hunt’s birthday is a week from now and she has invited our entire family. What do you think we should give her?”

Birthday?

Nora paused for a moment before smiling. “Don’t worry. I know what to give her.”

After all, she was Pete and Cherry’s grandmother. It was only right that she did her best.

Melissa was curious. “What are you planning to send?”

Nora slowly said, “Isn’t the most common thing in our Harmonia Pharmacy, medicine?”

Melissa: “??”

Nora yawned. “Aunt, lend me a room in the pharmaceutical factory.”

Melissa immediately nodded. “No problem!”

After Nora had lunch, Melissa brought her to the Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory.

The Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory was in the suburbs of New York. It looked very big and neat inside. When they walked in, they could smell the fragrance of medicine.

Sheril was here all year round. When she heard that they were here, she immediately welcomed them. “Mom, Sister, the empty laboratory is ready.”

Melissa nodded. “Then I’ll go back first. You guys can prepare.”

She was a little worried.

The best medicine the Andersons had right now was the Carefree Pill. However, the pill had a price, and it was mass-produced. It was a big gift to give someone else 20 pills, but to Mrs. Hunt, it was only a few thousand dollars.

Was Nora’s medicine okay as a present?

She was a little worried.

There was only a week left. She had to find something good so that Nora's pill wouldn't be looked down on and she wouldn't have to take it out to save the situation.

Therefore, Melissa went out early and returned late every day. She went to various auction houses to look for various gifts.

In the laboratory.

Nora only did the preparation work and did it for half a day. It was only at night that she finished preparing all kinds of things.

Sheril, who had been helping from the side, asked curiously, "Sister, what medicine are you going to make?"

Nora thought for a moment and replied, "Calming Pill."

Mrs. Hunt's brain was filled with bruises and lumps. If she took the Calming Pill for a while, it would be very effective.

Sheril immediately let out a sigh of relief. "Calming Pill? Our Harmonia Pharmacy has many of them, and they're very cheap. Just take some... No, the Calming Pill formula doesn't have these ingredients?"

The Calming Pill didn't have so many herbs?

Just as she thought about this, she heard Nora say slowly, "Yes, it's Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill."

Sheril was stunned. "Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

The legendary Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

There were many types of Calming Pills.

However, Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill was definitely the best!

It was said that this Calming Pill was offered to the emperor in ancient times. It was similar to a Tao priest refining pills. The prescription was extremely complicated, and the herbs used were also very expensive!

Even with the current high level of technology, this pill was still very difficult to refine. Up until now, Dr. Zabe was probably the only one in the world who could refine one or two pills.

However, Nora actually knew how to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

She swallowed. "Sister, I heard that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace. How many do you plan to give?"

Nora glanced at her. "Who said that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace?"

Sheril: "??"

Dr. Zabe said so!

He had personally refined a batch three years ago and only produced one finished product. It had ruined a lot of medicinal herbs, causing his heart to ache so much that he never refined it again!

Nora rolled her eyes. Master could not perform well because he was old and could not control his behavior well.

This kind of problem would not happen to her.

However, the process was a little long and needed three days and four nights. With all this time, she might as well sleep. Therefore, she had not refined it over the years.

She said nothing.

Sheril decided not to speak anymore. She just looked at the expensive herbs Nora took over, with an aching heart.

There was an old manager at the pharmaceutical factory in Harmonia Pharmacy. He was also an old pharmacist and could be considered Sheril's master. At this moment, he stood outside the door and happened to overhear their conversation.

He waved Sheril over.

Sheril walked out.

The old pharmacist frowned and reprimanded, “Sheril, you guys are too reckless!! Are these hundred thousand dollars of herbs going to be wasted just like that? How can she possibly refine Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill?”

Although Sheril’s heart also ached for the money, when she heard her master’s words, she hurriedly explained, “Master, Sister Nora was the one who gave us the Carefree Pill formula. So even if money is wasted, it’s nothing. My father and mother definitely won’t feel the pinch.”

The pharmacist sighed. “They only look at money, but do you only care for money too? Do you know how much the 500-year-old ginseng she took is worth now? We could only buy one or two from the entire country. This isn’t a matter of money at all, okay? Don’t you feel bad that she wasted it?”

Of course, her heart ached!

Now, everyone was growing ginseng artificially. Most of it was just decades old, and it was rare to find one that was centuries old.

These two 500-year-old ginsengs had been preserved by Harmonia Pharmacy. They could be considered the treasure of the store, and were priceless!

People had been asking for 500-year-old ginseng for a long time, but they still could not get one.

After all, most of the older ones had been sent to the auction. The value of ginseng had already far exceeded the medicinal value. Harmonia Pharmacy would not auction them. Most of the people who could auction them were like the Smiths and Hunts. But how could such families sell ginseng to Harmonia Pharmacy?

However, to make Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill, one needed ginseng that was this old!

Actually, if it could be made, this ginseng would definitely not be wasted. After all, the Calming Pill was much more valuable than the ginseng itself.

The problem was!

Dr. Zabe had only managed to refine one pill in a furnace. Could Sister Nora succeed?

The old pharmacist suggested, "Although other herbs are expensive, we can still buy them. Can you talk to your sister and exchange that ginseng for a 100-year one?! If she fails, we'll only lose money!"

When Sheril heard this, she fell into deep thought.

After a moment, she shook her head. "Master, Sister Nora's kindness to the Andersons is too great. I can't say anything about it."

The old pharmacist was instantly furious. He pointed at her forehead and scolded, "You, you're really a blockhead! The Andersons have fallen this far because none of you know how to make drugs! You're wasting herbs!! Even with a Carefree Pill, if you continue to be so willful in the future, you'll eventually go downhill!"

Sheril argued anxiously, "Master, you can't say that. What if Sister Nora really manages to master it?"

The old pharmacist had been working with the Andersons since he was young and had never attended school. He had learned the skills from an older generation and was loyal to the Andersons. At this moment, he was furious. The more he cursed, the more unpleasant he became. He took advantage of his seniority and said, "Dr. Zabe could only produce one pill. How can she master it at such a young age? Stop bragging! If she can master it, I, I won't need any salary in the future! But if she can't, you have to listen to me in the pharmaceutical factory in the future!"

When Sheril heard this, her eyes turned red.

She knew that her master was trying to put her in her place.

Ever since she came to the pharmaceutical factory, she had been using the introduction of new alchemy skills. Her master had been dissatisfied with her long ago, but she was the owner, and her master could only listen to her.

Chapter 245 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

What was the matter with her?

Melissa wasn't that wary and cautious anymore all of a sudden!

Was it really like what Justin said? Nora Smith wasn't interested in him?

That... wasn't quite possible, was it? Which girl could possibly resist the temptation that was Justin Hunt?

However, since Melissa had already put it that way, she couldn't go on about the topic anymore. She changed the subject tactfully and invited Melissa to stay for dinner.

However, Melissa declined the invitation and hurried back to the Andersons before dinner.

As soon as she entered the compound, she saw the usually asleep Nora looking at her. Her brows were drawn together as she asked, "I heard from Pete that you went to the Hunts'?"

Pete...

So, the child in their house was indeed the Hunts' little mister!

The news astounded Melissa so badly that her legs turned into jelly the moment she got out of the car. She held Nora's arm for support, grabbed her hand, and asked, "Nora, Cherry and Pete are...?"

"They are twins," replied Nora simply.

Melissa swallowed. Even though she had already guessed it, she nevertheless couldn't help but ask hesitantly, "And Justin is their...?"

"He's their father."

Nora sounded very sure.

In the past, she was sure because Justin must have already done a DNA test for himself and Pete. As for now, it was because Lily had already compared Justin's DNA with the twins', and Justin was indeed their father.

She still remembered what Lily had said then:

"Oh, by the way, I also checked the father's IQ genes while I was doing the DNA test, and it's astonishingly high. It's at the highest end of the range of values for normal people though, so it's still a teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit inferior to your crazy IQ."

Since she had emphasized how minimal the difference was, it meant that there really wasn't much of one.

However, Nora had been more concerned about the children at the time. "What about the children?"

"... The children's IQs are also out of this world. Pete has the same IQ genes as you—in fact, they're even a bit better. As for Cherry, hers is even crazier. Her IQ is the average of yours and her father's, so it's even higher."

Nora: "..."

Her IQ was obviously a 'teensy-weensy, itty-bitty bit' higher than Justin's. Pete was a boy, so he had fully inherited his IQ genes from her. It was normal for it to be slightly higher than hers.

However, Cherry's was the average of hers and Justin's, so how was it higher than Pete's?

Nora's lip corners spasmed. "You must be mistaken."

An exceptionally serious Lily replied, "Please do not question my professional abilities, Anti. I personally carried out all the tests involving your DNA."

Nora: "..."

Before she hung up, she made it a point to remind her, "Please delete all the data."

"No problem."

...

Melissa stared at the girl in front of her in shock.

The unattainable Justin was every girl's dream in New York.

When her daughter Sheril met him at a party when she was young, even she had come back saying, "He's the most handsome boy I've ever seen! And he also has an air of elegance around him!"

At that time, Melissa had immediately warned her, "Even so, you mustn't develop feelings for him. People like him can't be tamed."

Sheril had immediately understood then that some people were simply favored by God from the start.

Yet, their Nora had conquered that unattainable man?

An astonished Melissa asked, “Are two of you really going to get married?”

Although Mrs. Hunt looked down on the Andersons—in fact, she even had something against them because Yvette had broken her son’s heart in the past—after her chat with her earlier, Melissa was now sure of something: Once Mrs. Hunt realized that Nora was Pete’s biological mother and that she could even bring an additional Cherry to the Hunts, Mrs. Hunt would probably treat Nora as the Hunts’ most honored guest!

Nora yawned and replied, “No, we’re not.”

Then, she added seriously, “I’ve never entertained that thought before.”

Melissa nodded. The next moment, she saw Nora pick up her cell phone and make a call. The other party answered very quickly.

“Hello, Ms. Smith. Are you calling me this late because you miss me?”

Nora said, “... Keep your family members in check.”

Justin: “?”

Nora was cold and distant as she said, “Don’t harass the Andersons.”

Justin understood at once. “Was it Grandma?”

“Yeah.” Nora said unhurriedly, “She told my aunt to go over and discuss marriage plans.”

“...”

“Mr. Hunt,” Nora said, “Didn’t we already reach an agreement about not believing in getting married?”

Melissa: “!!!”

Was that how Nora usually talked to Mr. Hunt?

Why did her voice sound like it was brimming with disdain?!

Mr. Hunt would definitely become angry, right?

While her imagination was running wild, the voice on the other end of the call said, "It's my fault."

Melissa: "????"

Was that the same Mr. Hunt who was always so aloof and overlooked others from high up in the air?!

Why did he sound a little like he was trying to please Nora?

Nora, who also didn't expect him to admit his mistake, raised her eyebrows a little.

For the first time, she developed the illusion that she was being too much of a bully.

While she was thinking about it, Justin, who sounded even more aggrieved now, said, "I will keep my family members properly in check. Grandma was just hoping that I would have my own family soon. I know you're a non-believer of marriage though, so I won't force you into anything."

"..."

Nora kept quiet for a long while. At last, she finally coughed and said, "Actually, you can be with other women..."

"Ms. Smith," Justin interrupted her solemnly and said, "You were the one who fell in love with me first, so you mustn't push me away now."

Nora: "..."

"In order to get close to me, you used all sorts of ways and means to get close to my son. You're the only one that he acknowledges as his Mommy now, so you can't just wash all this off your hands and leave. If you do that, not only would you be letting me down, but you'll also be letting Pete down."

"..."

“Don’t worry. I won’t force you if you’re unwilling to marry me. After all, I can’t let you down when you’re so in love with me. Even if Grandma is really old now and wants to see me get married... it doesn’t matter. Everything is fine as long as you are happy.”

“ ... ”

Nora wanted very much to say that he really didn’t need to do that, yet she felt that if she were to say that without explaining everything clearly, she would end up sounding like a scumbag.

The corners of her lips spasmed a little. In the end, she could only humbly and guiltily hang up, feeling as if she had bullied someone.

As soon as she hung up, she received another call. When she picked up, Iris’ voice rang out. “Ms. Smith, are you free now?”

“Yes, I am. What’s the matter?” asked Nora.

Iris said, “I have a pot of flowers here that’s dying. Can you come over and take a look at it?”

Nora thought for a moment and replied, “Okay.”

At the same time, Justin also received a call from Mrs. Landis. “Mr.. Justin, please come over with Pete if you’re free.”

Panda Novel

Nora was about to hang up when Iris suggested, “Why don’t you bring your son along with you?”

Nora thought for a moment. Then, she nodded and said, “Okay.”

She went upstairs, brought Pete down, and got in the car with him. She said, “I’ll take you to meet a friend of mine.”

Pete was very excited. “Okay!”

Even though he had known Mommy for a very long time by now, he only knew a few of her friends. Pete wanted to know what his Mommy was usually up to, since she was such an enigma.

Even though Mommy was always sleeping, she was so rich!

There was no way anyone could make that much money just by being a genius doctor!

He got into the car excitedly and sat in the backseat.

When Nora was walking to the driver's seat, she looked at Melissa, who was still in a daze, and slowly said, "Please keep this... a secret for now, Aunt Melissa."

"... Okay," said Melissa.

After Nora left, Melissa finally entered the living room. Mrs. Anderson, who had been waiting all afternoon, stepped forward nervously at once. She held her hand and asked, "How was it, Melissa? Did Mrs. Hunt say anything?"

Melissa was in a daze. "No, she didn't."

Mrs. Anderson breathed a sigh of relief. "That's good. Sigh, I'm just afraid that she'll bring up some kind of request or condition. If they want to treat Pete's biological mother as family, then will Justin take Nora's or the other woman's side?"

Melissa: "..."

She looked at Mrs. Anderson hesitantly before she finally said, "Actually, it's all the same."

Mrs. Anderson glanced at her. "You don't get it, do you? It's not the same. If that happens, Pete's biological mother will definitely cause Nora trouble. Also, what if Pete resents Nora even after she raises him into an adult? These things all have to be made clear in advance. Sigh, it's just so troublesome when other people's children are involved."

"..."

In a villa on the outskirts of New York.

Mrs. Landis and Iris were happily preparing dinner.

Iris was in a very good mood. The woman, who looked as lithe as a teenager, hummed a little tune as she went back and forth the dining table and the kitchen joyfully.

Seeing her in such a good mood, Mrs. Landis laughed and said, “Ma’am, your mind must be at ease now, right? You’ve already asked around and found out that Mr. Hunt’s girlfriend is from the Andersons. The other Ms. Smith only has a daughter while your god-sister has a son instead! As it turns out, the two of them just share the same name! You don’t have to worry anymore!”

Iris nodded. “Yes, it’s fine as long as they aren’t one and the same. I was so scared that I had accidentally elevated Justin’s girlfriend’s position to one that was more senior than his, which would have made it awkward for the two of them!”

Mrs. Landis laughed again. “The fish and chips are fried especially nicely tonight, so they’ll definitely taste awesome. The children are gonna love it.”

“Yeah.”

Iris smiled and said, “I wonder how old Ms. Smith’s son is, and how far apart his age is from Pete’s. I don’t know if the two of them can get along or not.”

Mrs. Landis teased her and said, “You worry too much!”

Only then did Iris suddenly realize that she was indeed worrying too much.

For so many years, many people had tried to please her. There were even some that tried to pander to her interests and spoke knowledgeably to her about orchids.

All of them were trying to ingratiate themselves with Justin.

In order to reduce unnecessary troubles for Justin, she had rejected them all. Therefore, all the rumors outside claimed that she was difficult to deal with, and had a strange temperament.

Come to think of it, Nora was actually the only friend she had made all these years. Therefore, she hadn’t stopped Mrs. Landis when she also told Justin to come over after Nora was invited over for dinner.

This was just her selfish desire, but she wanted her son to help Nora out a little if he could.

After all, it wasn't easy for a woman to bring up a child on her own. It reminded her of herself when she was taking care of Justin back then.

Perhaps because she had suppressed her feelings for too long, it led to her wanting to give the other party all the good things she could after she made a friend.

Moreover, what Nora said the day before had made Iris suddenly realize that she indeed didn't understand Justin.

She was Justin's mother. In situations that wouldn't cause him any trouble, helping her friend out was something he should do, right?

... Even though Iris didn't know what kind of help Nora could possibly need from her.

While driving to the villa in the suburbs, Nora received another call from Justin.

After she uttered a 'hello', Justin asked, "Are you free tonight? I'll take you somewhere for a meal?"

Nora, who was looking ahead of her, replied, "I'm not free."

Justin, who seemed to have heard some kind of sound, immediately asked, "You have an appointment? Who are you meeting that has actually made you abandon me? That's not something that someone in love with me should be doing."

He was afraid that she was going on a date with Caleb.

Nora's lip corners spasmed a little. She couldn't be bothered to explain that she was visiting her newly-gained god-sister, lest the guy says something like 'Which is more important—meeting me or your god-sister?'. .

Thus, she simply said, "I'm sleepy. I'm going home to sleep."

"... Alright then," said Justin.

In a rare moment, Nora asked, "What about you?"

Justin let out a low chuckle and replied, "I'll sleep with you."

Nora: "?"

Her voice turned cold. "Talk properly!"

Justin said, "We'll sleep together after you go back to your house and I go back to mine. Is there something wrong with this sentence? Or did you get the wrong idea?"

Nora: "!!!!"

The corners of her lips spasmed, and she said, "I'm hanging up!"

On the other end of the call, Justin couldn't help laughing after Nora hung up so fiercely.

He was in the car at the moment. The chauffeur was driving to the suburbs.

Cherry, who was sitting beside him, asked, "Are you planning to take Mommy to Grandma's for dinner, Daddy?"

Justin nodded. "Yes. Your Grandma has some misunderstandings about her. I think she would be able to understand what she's like after we sit down and have a meal together, but unfortunately..."

"Mommy definitely won't go!" Cherry said, "She wants to sleep!"

Justin: "..."

Half an hour later.

Nora arrived at the suburbs.

It was already dark, so Pete didn't notice where they were when they entered the residential area. Besides, he rarely came over in the first place. In the day, he could still tell that this was where his grandmother lived, but because it was too dark now, he didn't manage to make out the surroundings until the car reached the villa entrance.

It was only after Nora took him out of the car and they entered the villa that Pete finally realized something. Unfortunately, it was too late!

“Ms. Smith!” Iris welcomed her into the house excitedly. “Let’s have dinner together tonight!”

Nora nodded. Then, she pushed Pete—who was hiding behind her and trying to say something all this time but didn’t have any chance to—to Iris. She said, “This is my son, Pete.”

Then, she said to Pete, “Say hi to your god-aunt, Pete.”

Mrs. Landis, who had sent the two into the living room, hurried out the door when she heard another car at the door. When she saw Justin walking over with Cherry, she smiled and said, “You’re here, Mr. Hunt!”

Justin noticed a car in the corner. As the place was dim, he didn’t make out what kind of car it was. He asked casually, “You have guests over?”

“Yep!” Mrs. Landis explained, “It’s Ma’am’s new god-sister! It’s just nice that you’re here, so you can also meet her!”

God-sister?

Justin’s brows drew together.

Iris had been leading a reclusive life all these years. She treated outsiders harshly and was like a robot without emotions.

He could even clearly remember that one time he came over when he was a child and saw that her family, the Evanses, had come over. However, he also saw, with his own eyes, Iris driving them out of the villa.

Mrs. Landis had stood in front of the door to stop them from entering at that time. His aunt from the Evanses had knelt in front of the door with her child and cried out in tears that they mustn’t delay medical treatment for his uncle anymore. He needed immediate treatment, otherwise he would die.

But Iris hadn’t spared them even a glance.

He had bodyguards protecting him when he walked in, so his aunt couldn’t get near him. She stayed where she was and sobbed as she cursed, “You’re no different from a cold-blooded monster, Iris Hunt! You’re a venomous snake! It’s all because of you that the Evanses are in this state today! Yet, you’re

actually sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing! He's your elder brother! How can you be so cruel?"

His footsteps had paused at that time.

However, he hadn't taken the liberty to give her any money, say anything, or comfort her—because he had already understood by then that sometimes, what one saw was not necessarily the truth.

He didn't understand the relationship between his mother and her family at all, so how could he ask anything of his mother?

Regardless, the sight of his aunt berating Iris and calling her a venomous snake with a savage look on her face had remained in his memory.

All these years, every time he came over and saw how Iris was always so cold toward everyone, and heard from the bodyguards how all she did every day was take care of her flowers, and how she didn't seem to have any social interaction with anyone, he had even thought that she didn't have any friends at all.

Yet, she was actually introducing her god-sister to him now!

He understood the implicit meaning behind introducing her god-sister to him—it was nothing more than her wanting the Hunts to help her god-sister out and take care of her. Over the years, on account of various people, he had already helped out a lot of people with their businesses.

Adding one more person to the count didn't matter.

However, he felt rather unhappy.

His mother had never worried about him or comforted him before. She had abandoned him at the Hunts' icy-cold manor when he was only five and left him to his own devices ever since.

Yet, she was actually showing so much concern for an outsider now?

He was really curious. Just what kind of woman had managed to capture his mother's heart?

Justin's expression turned cold, and he entered the house.

In the living room.

Iris was staring at Pete at the moment, her beautiful eyes widened in disbelief.

Pete had also raised his little head and was looking at his grandmother.

Although the two rarely saw each other, Justin did occasionally bring him over for quick visits, so one could say that they were the most familiar strangers.

For a while, neither of them spoke.

Nora looked at Iris, and then back at Pete. Finding their silence rather strange, she frowned and prompted Pete. "Pete?"

Although Pete was mildly autistic, he had shown good manners ever since he started to live with her, and would always greet his relatives whenever he met them. This was especially so with the Andersons. He always greeted Melissa very sweetly whenever he saw her.

So, why was he suddenly not greeting his elders anymore the moment he came here?

While she was hesitating, Iris asked in a trembling voice, "M-Ms. Smith, is... is he your son?"

Nora nodded. "Yeah."

But when she looked at Iris again, she found that the woman suddenly had an extremely complex look on her face. She stared at Nora for a while.

In the midst of Nora's confusion, Pete's small and weak voice entered her ears.

"Hello, Grandma."

Nora: "??"

Her head whipped to the side abruptly to see Pete with a resigned look on his face as if he didn't have anything to live for anymore. He said, "Mommy, she... she's my grandmother."

Seemingly because he saw that Nora didn't seem like she understood what he was saying, he added, "You know, my father's mommy."

Nora: "..."

Iris: "..."

Pete held his forehead. He knew that the two of them were utterly shocked at the moment, so he said to Iris, "Grandma, can you keep this a secret from Daddy for now?"

Practically right after he spoke, someone suddenly opened the living room door. Mrs. Landis' voice traveled over.

"Come on in, Mr. Hunt!"

When Mrs. Landis was bringing Nora and Pete into the house, as she had been preoccupied leading the way, she hadn't managed to see Pete's face clearly. Right after that, she had gone out in a hurry again. Thus, she looked at Cherry, pointed at Pete from the back, and said, "Your god-grandaunt has brought her little boy here. You guys can play with each other later!"

As soon as she said that, Iris stood up straight and looked at the door.

Nora and Pete also turned around instinctively. For a time, the family of four stood facing one another.

"..."

The whole room was suddenly filled with weird silence.

After a full twenty seconds of silence, Mrs. Landis finally rubbed her eyes. She looked at Nora, and then at Justin before finally looking at Pete and Cherry. Then, she looked at Iris in confusion. "Have I become that old, Ma'am? Are my eyes playing tricks on me? Why does Ms. Smith's son look exactly the same as the little mister?!"

Her words made Iris's lip corners spasm.

She suddenly realized that she had really done something wrong. She coughed and said, "M-Mrs. Landis, w-why don't you introduce them to each other? I... I suddenly have a headache, so I'll go upstairs and rest for a bit."

After speaking, she walked to the stairs with her left arm moving forward with her left leg, and vice versa. She seemingly went upstairs, but after turning the

corner, she immediately stopped and secretly popped her head out from behind the wall to look at the others' reactions.

But when she did, she instead found that all five people downstairs were looking straight at her, frightening Iris so badly that she immediately retracted her head, coughed, and went upstairs.

When Mrs. Landis saw her fleeing, something suddenly clicked in her head, and she immediately cursed at Iris inwardly. How could she leave her all alone downstairs in a situation

like this?!

She could already feel the awkward and frosty atmosphere in the living room without even looking at Justin. She swallowed hard and stammered, "Um, M-Mr. Justin, this... this is Ma'am's new god-sister."

As soon as she said that, she felt Justin looking at her.

In a brainless move, she added, "In other words, she's your g-g-god-aunt..."

"..."

The low air pressure in the air seemingly became even lower.

Only then did Mrs. Landis realize that she had really rubbed Justin's nose in it. How could she possibly not understand by now? Ms. Smith was none other than Justin's said girlfriend that Tina had mentioned!

But what had she and Ma'am done instead? They had elevated his girlfriend's position to one that was senior to his own!

Justin was probably secretly cursing his mother right now!

While she was thinking about it, she suddenly had a brainwave. She said, "Oh dear, Ma'am always eats some cake at this time every day. I'll bring some up for her..."

After saying that, she ran straight upstairs without even taking any cake with her.

For a time, only the family of four remained in the living room.

Ten seconds later, dead silence filled the room.

“ ... ”

A minute later, the silence in the room became even scarier.

“ ... ”

Even after two minutes went by, none of them had any intention of speaking.

“ ... ”

Nora, who had always been short of sleep, found time especially hard to pass at the moment. How she wished she could just close her eyes and fall asleep, so that by the time she woke up, the day would be bright and sunny once more.

But that was obviously not the most appropriate thing to do at the moment.

She had never been afraid of anything, and she had always been a direct and straightforward person. Even so, she kinda understood in this instant what it meant to want to dig a hole and bury oneself in it.

Her gaze drifted about erratically. She looked at the ceiling with her arms hanging by her side and nudged Pete with her hand to get him to break the silence.

Pete: “ ... ”

By then, Pete and Cherry had already communicated a great deal with each other with their eyes.

Pete looked at Cherry: ‘What do we do now?’

Cherry’s big eyes blinked: ‘I don’t know, either!’

Pete held his hands up helplessly: ‘The tyrant looks so calm, but the calmer he is on the outside, the angrier he is on the inside!’

Cherry also glanced at Nora: ‘Mommy also has a really grave look on her face. The more grave she looks, the scarier the decision she’ll make!’

Pete was terrified: 'Surely Mommy isn't thinking of knocking out the tyrant and taking the two of us away, right?'

Cherry: '... It's not impossible.'

Pete: '...'

While the two children were communicating with their eyes, Nora nudged Pete. She curled her fingers a little, motioning for him to speak.

Thus, Pete said, "Mommy, Daddy always brings 12 bodyguards and even 24 hidden bodyguards whenever he goes out. You won't be able to fight your way out."

As soon as he said that, the room became even quieter.

"..."

It was as if everyone's breathing was audible.

Justin: "..."

To be honest, he was also in a huge panic at the moment!

Before this, Nora hadn't known that he was already aware of everything. In order to make the woman stay, he had deliberately kept one of the two children with him. This way, she would always stay by his side.

But now!

If they were to address the elephant in the room, he wouldn't be able to continue being 'narcissistic'!

The woman would explain everything, and then...

What must he do to make the woman and the children stay?

The man, who had always been full of ideas when it came to the world of commerce, was also in a panic. Thus, all he could do was stand there with a pensive look on his face.

Unfortunately, his expression instead gave Nora the impression that he was a very terrifying man.

Well, that made sense. Justin would definitely be furious once he knew that one of his children had been taken away from him. It was already very impressive that he could suppress his anger and keep himself from venting it. Moreover, he hadn't said anything really awful, either.

When Nora, who had just thought of that, heard what Pete said, the corners of her lips couldn't help but spasm.

Cough.

She would never ever admit that she had indeed been itching just a moment ago to knock the man out and then flee the country with the two children.

In fact, an escape route had already formed in her mind that very moment. After going out, she mustn't drive straight to the airport because Justin was definitely powerful enough to seal the airport and trains.

Therefore, she would drive to the suburbs instead, find an empty helipad, and get Lily to pilot a private jet and come over to pick them up as soon as possible!

However, it would take Lily seven to eight hours to fly over. After all, they were too far away from Switzerland, where Lily was... Should it really be beyond Lily's means, she would get Solo to pick them up instead. After all, he was closer to where they were.

If not, then her only option would be to approach her aunt overseas for help instead...

But when she heard about the 36 bodyguards, Nora fell silent and dismissed the idea.

She had fought Justin's bodyguards before; it was easy for her to beat one or two, but 36... Say, just how fearful of dying was that man? Did he have to bring so many people with him whenever he went out?

While Nora was daydreaming, Justin finally spoke. "Shouldn't you give me a reasonable explanation for this, Ms. Smith?"

Phew...

The weird atmosphere was finally broken. Nora breathed a sigh of relief at last. After thinking for a while about how to word the situation, she started to explain the issues with the children. She said, "... Since you've already seen everything, then I won't keep it from you anymore. The reason why I have been trying to get close to you and Pete is actually..."

But before she could finish, Justin cut her off and said, "That's not the explanation I'm asking for. Rather, back then, why did you get pregnant with my children behind my back?"

All the words that Nora had prepared became stuck in her throat, choking her. She was about to speak when Justin said sharply, "You'd best give me a reasonable explanation, why did you plot against me and then run away that night?! You even bore two of my children!"

Nora: "???"

Her mind was full of question marks!

Which night was he talking about?

No, wait...

Nora narrowed her eyes. "Didn't you say that you don't know how I became pregnant?"

Justin lowered his gaze. "I didn't know it was you at that time, so of course I would say that. After all, surely I couldn't tell outsiders that a woman had plotted against me and taken advantage of me, right?"

Nora: "?????"

She pointed at herself incredulously. "I... plotted against you?"

Justin, who was pulling a long face, replied, "Yes. Given how you were fat and ugly at that time, it can't possibly be because I fell in love with you and plotted against you, right?"

Nora: "??????"

Was she suffering from memory loss? Or had she really been sleepwalking that time?! But she really didn't remember him appearing in her dream! After

all, given that face of his, it would have been deeply etched in her memory if she had indeed dreamed of him!

She was about to refute him when Justin spoke again. "Tell me, woman, what exactly are you plotting by scheming against me and even bearing me two children?"

Nora: "..."

She was speechless.

She didn't know what to say!

Seemingly because she wasn't saying anything, Justin's voice turned even colder. "If you're not going to explain yourself... These two children are part of the Hunts. There's no way I will allow the Hunts' children to wander about outside, let alone allow a woman with ulterior motives to go near my children! So, without a good reason, you can forget about ever seeing my children again!"

He placed his hands on top of Pete's and Cherry's heads and took a step back with the two.

Nora: "?"

Her eyes darkened.

How dare that man threaten her! Hah!

Just as she was about to attack...

Cherry and Pete, whom Justin was holding on to, panicked when they heard their father.

They wouldn't be able to see Mommy ever again?

No, they couldn't have that!

Cherry immediately shouted, "Daddy, Mommy doesn't have any ill intentions! She doesn't have any ulterior motives, either!"

Even though Justin, who was in the midst of a confrontation with Nora, had adopted an icy-cold demeanor on the surface, he was actually secretly terribly anxious.

Why hadn't that silly girl taken the bait yet?

Well, it was true that she wasn't afraid of a head-on confrontation, after all.

However, his precious little baby finally spoke up at this point. Justin breathed a sigh of relief inwardly, though the look on his face remained cold. "What is she planning, if not something malevolent?"

"It's... it's... it's..." Cherry looked at Nora, and then at Justin. At last, she turned to Pete for help and asked, "It's... What was it again, Pete?"

Pete: "?"

Seeing the tyrant also looking over, Pete stammered, "It's... It's..."

Pete was in a huge panic. It was simply too difficult to find a reasonable answer!

Just as all three other people in the room were staring at him, and while Cherry was frantically giving him looks, Pete suddenly thought of the bossy CEO-type romance novels that he'd chanced upon in the past. Thus, his next few words came easily to him:

"It's because she 'couldn't help it', and because she 'couldn't control her feelings'..."

His words were rather hesitant in the beginning, but the more he spoke, the brighter his eyes shone, and the more certain he sounded. He said, "It's because Mommy likes you! Yes, it's exactly because of that!"

Nora: "??????"

She was about to refute him when Cherry rushed over and grabbed her hand. She looked at Justin and said, "Daddy, it's because Mommy likes you so much that she had to do something like that. You won't stop us from seeing Mommy in the future, right?"

Nora: "..."

Although they had made her the scapegoat, she did indeed want to know Justin's opinion on the matter.

If that scumbag took a step back as a result, it wasn't like she couldn't just roll with it, either...

While she was thinking about it, the cold aura around Justin gradually subsided. He looked at her amicably and asked, "Is what they say, true?"

Nora: "..."

She felt that since they had already addressed the matter, she might as well say it all.

But before she could say anything, Cherry nodded repeatedly and said, "It's true, it's true! Mommy really likes you, Daddy! Mommy kept singing your praises before we met you! She even said that you look so cool, handsome, and tender! You're the world's number one hunk!"

Nora: "!!"

When had she ever said anything like that?

"Cough." Cherry's words seemed to have given Justin quite the shock, too. He let out a low cough, looked at Nora, and said, "That's a little too explicit of you."

Nora: "..."

Never mind.

She would just bear with it.

She had only just quietly suppressed her annoyance when Justin asked, "But since you like me so much, why don't you believe in marriage?"

Nora: "?"

Was there no end to that man's questions?

Her brows drew together, and a sharp look flashed across her eyes. She sneered, "There's no correlation between liking someone and getting married, is there, Mr. Hunt? Who says non-believers of marriage can't date?"

Upon hearing her sarcasm and the sound of her gnashing her teeth, Justin knew at once that they had to end it here for today. Otherwise, once he angered her for real, the chances of them getting together would become even lower.

This was the very first time in all these years that he had fallen for a woman. He mustn't let her run away.

Justin feigned sudden realization and said, "I see."

Suddenly, Nora asked, "Since you claim that I had pestered you back then, where did I do said pestering, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin raised his eyebrows.

How would he know?!

He didn't even know how she became pregnant!

That night didn't even exist in his memory at all, alright?!

Regardless, even if he did know, he didn't know what the woman was thinking at that moment, so he had deliberately lied.

However, he absolutely mustn't give her the impression that there were loopholes in his words. Thus, he smiled and suddenly replied, "In California."

"Which hotel in California was it?"

Justin gave her a seemingly amused look. "Are you thinking of reliving the moment, Ms. Smith?"

Nora: "!!"

She took another deep breath and tried her best to tell herself, 'Remain calm, remain calm. Don't get angry.'

At last, she said, "Just asking."

Justin, however, stepped forward. "The past is in the past, we have to look to the future. You don't have to keep reminiscing about that night five years ago, Ms. Smith. If you find it necessary, we can consummate right away."

Consummate?

Pete and Cherry's eyes lit up at the same time. But as soon as they wanted to speak, Nora said coldly, "No, it's fine."

She gritted her teeth and spat out word after word—"I don't find that necessary, my! God! Nephew!"

Justin's face instantly turned green.

Upstairs.

Iris and Mrs. Landis popped their heads out and tried their best to listen to the voices downstairs.

Unfortunately, their voices were too low, so they couldn't hear what they were saying at all. Iris looked at Mrs. Landis. "Why does the situation downstairs feel kinda weird?"

"... It feels kinda weird to me, too. Surely there wasn't some kind of dramatic love-hate relationship between Mr. Justin and Ms. Smith back then, right? Have they reconciled now? Ma'am, don't you feel that what happened to Ms. Smith sounds like a tale of a pretty little wife running away with a babe in her belly?"

"Don't spout nonsense! Their story is much more exciting than a novel!"

Mrs. Landis: "..."

The two listened to the voices downstairs again. Seeing that nothing seemed to be happening anymore, Mrs. Landis asked, "Should we go downstairs and get ready for dinner, Ma'am?"

Iris nodded. "Yeah. Let's go down and take a look."

However, as soon as they went downstairs, they saw Nora sitting on the sofa triumphantly with her arms folded. There was a small smile on her usually cool and distant countenance.

Justin, on the other hand, looked livid.

Clearly, Nora seemed to have won the confrontation just now.

Mrs. Landis coughed and called out, “Ms. Smith, Mr. Hunt, and the two little misters. Shall we have dinner?”

Nora got up. “Sure. I just so happen to have gotten hungry.”

After speaking, she looked at Iris and asked, “Let’s have dinner, Sis?”

Iris: “?”

Why did it suddenly feel like the temperature in the room dropped a few degrees when she said the word ‘Sis’?

She looked at Justin, who was pulling a long face, and the corners of her lips spasmed. She coughed and said, “Um, I didn’t know about your relationship with Justin previously. Considering the situation now, we...”

“These are two separate matters,” Nora replied casually but surely, “We’ll keep the terms of address separate in the future. Mr. Hunt won’t mind, right?”

Justin replied, “... No, I don’t.”

Iris: “...”

The group settled at the dining table.

Pete and Cherry sat next to each other. When they looked at the tyrant and Mommy sitting at the same dining table, they suddenly felt much more blissful than usual!

Unfortunately, the adults didn’t feel that sense of bliss at all.

After they finally finished dinner and the group left, Justin asked coldly, “So, Pete goes with you? And the daughter comes with me?”

Nora breathed a sigh of relief at his words.

At least that guy didn’t ask for both children.

Otherwise, she would really explode.

What kind of horrible evening was this? She felt so frustrated!

She had never felt this frustrated in her entire life!

She nodded. "That works."

She took Pete's hand after she spoke. When she was about to leave, she paused and looked back at Iris. "Don't tell anyone else about this for now, Sis."

Justin paused. He was also about to tell Iris that, but unexpectedly, Nora had done it a step ahead of him.

Thus, he decided not to say anything.

It wasn't convenient for so many people to protect Pete while he was with Nora. Therefore, the children's identities indeed had to be kept secret.

Iris nodded.

While on the way home with Pete, Nora suddenly received a text message on her cell phone.

She glanced at it when she reached a red light, but the moment she did, she suddenly froze.

The text message read: 'Do you wanna know how exactly you became pregnant back then?'

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When Nora saw these words, her eyes narrowed.

It was an anonymous message.

She picked it up casually. Before the traffic light turned green, her fingers moved nimbly to trace the sender's number. However, she realized that the phone number had not been registered with an identity card.

She hacked into his phone again, trying to find his location.

In the blink of an eye, she had locked onto him!

Position: New York!

The exact location was near her car!

When she saw that the red dot was less than a few meters away from her green position, the other party seemed to have sensed her tracking. The red dot flickered a few times and disappeared.

Nora clenched her fists tightly and suddenly looked around.

Although it was already 9 PM, there were still many cars on the road in New York. Because of the traffic lights, most of the cars behind were already blocked.

In other words, that person's car was also blocked inside.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and instructed Pete, "Stay in the car."

Hearing her grave tone, Pete nodded in understanding. "Okay."

He was not afraid because, on the way home, he knew that Justin had assigned a few bodyguards to secretly protect him.

After Nora got out of the car, the car made a clicking sound and was locked up to prevent the bad guys from taking Pete away.

Nora then ran in the direction she remembered.

From the map, she could tell that the other party was less than 200 meters away from her.

The car was not more than 200 meters away from her...

She used her eyes to estimate and agilely weaved through the cars.

100 meters... 150 meters...

The traffic light was relatively long. It took about 90 seconds to go green, and it took her 80 seconds to locate the other party and get there. There were still 10 seconds!

If she could not find that person, she might miss this opportunity.

Although Justin had said that she had killed the other party back then, she had no memory of it at all.

Therefore, even if Justin remembered that night, the two of them had still been schemed against.

The person who had schemed against them and made her give birth to two children was a mystery. As for how she got pregnant, it was even more of a mystery.

And the mystery was only 50 meters away.

Nora took a few steps forward suddenly. The cars beside her were already honking impatiently. There were too many cars in New York, and the roads were filled with cars.

200 meters!

About seven to eight cars were parked 200 meters away from her!

She walked over quickly and knocked on the window of the first car.

The car window rolled down and the driver looked at her impatiently. "What are you doing? Do you want to die?"

That person's expression was very real. It was obvious that he was a passerby.

It wasn't him.

Nora walked around him and continued to walk back.

But at this point!

Beep!

A car suddenly honked. Nora was stunned. She turned around and saw a black Land Rover parked two cars away from this car.

The car window rolled down, revealing a familiar face. "Miss Smith, what are you doing?"

This person was... Morris, Captain Ford!

While she was in a daze, the traffic light in front changed. The cars started to move, but because Nora's car was parked in front, this line of cars could not move.

Seeing the two cars driving away slowly, Nora was no longer anxious. Instead, she narrowed her eyes and looked at Morris. "Captain Ford, what a coincidence. Why are you here?"

Morris looked ahead, his cold face sharp and clear. "Miss Smith, I should be the one asking you this, right? If you stop the car, it will seriously affect the traffic rules. It will be a violation of the rules and you will be fined. Of course, if you still don't leave, I'm afraid it will be so serious that your driver's license will be revoked."

Nora was unmoved. "This is the traffic police's jurisdiction, right? Captain Ford even cares about this?"

Morris was expressionless, but he took out a document from the car and handed it to her. "Special Case Departments, I have the right to ask about all illegal matters."

Beep!

Beep!

"F*ck? What's going on in front? Why aren't you driving?"

"Is it an accident? Or did the car break down?"

"..."

The other drivers started honking wildly. Some got out of the car and looked forward.

Nora knew that she could not delay anymore, so she nodded at Morris. "I'll leave now."

She looked around again but did not see any familiar cars. Then, she walked forward and followed the cars to the front.

A driver in the back had already gotten out of the car and was pointing at her nose and shouting, "What are you doing? Do you have any courtesy? Don't you know you're delaying us by stopping here?"

However, when he raised her head, he could clearly see that it was a young lady's face. This lady was also as beautiful as a fairy. Furthermore, although Nora did not smile, her apology was still considered sincere. "I'm sorry. I'll leave now."

She was simply using her beauty to commit murder.

The driver's cursing voice became softer and warmer. "It's fine, it's fine. It was just a minute. Let's go!"

Nora got into the car and started it. The cars parked behind her then returned to normal traffic.

On the way home, she looked ahead with a serious expression.

Who was the person who had followed her and controlled her pregnancy back then?

Why was Morris around her again? Was he the one who had sent her the message?

Once or twice could be a coincidence, but so many times? What was his motive?

Also, special department... What was that? Why had she never heard of such a department?!

At the Hunts'.

Mrs. Hunt frowned. After thinking about it for an entire day, she finally decided to make a move. "Although they don't admit it now, once they do, it'll be too late for them to acknowledge it! I can't control them in this matter, but someone can."

Mdm. Lea was stunned. "Who?"

Mrs. Hunt took out her phone and made a call that she had not made in a long time. The moment the call was picked up, she lowered her eyes and slowly said, "Iris, this is Mom. I'm calling you for the sake of Justin and Pete..."

Iris's attitude was very cold, but she didn't hang up. Instead, she asked, "What? What do you want me to do this time?"

When Mrs. Hunt heard the words “this time,” she instantly felt guilty, but she still hardened her heart and said, “Justin likes a woman from a small family. She definitely can’t be Pete’s stepmother! You’re probably the only person in the world who can stop him! You...”

Before she could finish, Iris sneered and asked, “Stepmother?”

Mrs. Hunt paused and immediately said, “Yes, she will marry Justin to be Pete’s stepmother. Iris, you know stepmothers can’t possibly be good. Back then...”

Iris interrupted her again. “Not every stepmother in this world is like that mistress!”

Mrs. Hunt: ??

She was stunned by Iris’ words. After thinking for a while, she tried to ask, “But what if she gives birth to a child for Justin again?”

“Mom, I think you’re mistaken.” Iris’ voice was cold.

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

Iris said slowly, “Being a mother and being a wife is different. A mother wants her son to be better. Justin is getting married, and it’ll be good for him to have a woman to please him and take care of him in the future. Isn’t that what you told me back then?”

Mrs. Hunt clenched her jaw. “Iris, are you still blaming me?”

“No.” Iris’ answer was very simple. “I don’t blame anyone. If I have to say it, I only blame my bad luck.”

As soon as she said this, she hung up.

Mrs. Hunt looked at her phone in a daze. After a while, she sighed deeply and looked at Mdm. Lea. “She still hates me.”

Mdm. Lea looked at Mrs. Hunt and wanted to say something, but she hesitated. In the end, she said something fair. “It has been quite difficult for her all these years.”

She had stayed at the Hunts for her son.

However, she could not love her son affectionately. This was much more bitter than what Justin's father had suffered.

Mrs. Hunt sighed as Cherry's voice came from the door. "Great-Grandmother, I'm here~"

Mrs. Hunt immediately looked at the door in joy and saw Justin striding in with a smile. His appearance stunned her. She smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy today?"

Justin's expression froze as he asked, "Am I?"

Mdm. Lea teased, "You can't even suppress the corners of your mouth. Aren't you happy? Mr. Hunt, did something good happen today? Tell us, so we can be happy too!"

When Justin heard this, he thought of how he had had dinner with Nora tonight and could not help but smile again.

Seeing that he was silent, Cherry raised her hand. "I'll talk, I'll talk! Daddy had dinner with Mommy tonight. That's why Daddy is happy, right?"

Mrs. Hunt was stunned.

She turned to look at Justin again.

In her impression, this grandson had always been stern. Even after signing a huge contract and earning a few hundred million, he had never smiled like he did today.

It had been five years since he last smiled like this. At that time, he had just brought Pete back. After pulling him back from the brink of death, he had done a DNA test and realized that Pete was indeed his son.

He had hardly ever smiled like this before.

Mrs. Hunt lowered her eyes and touched Cherry's head. "Is that so? No wonder."

She suddenly looked at Justin and said, "Justin, it's my 80th birthday in a week. We can hold a party this year, right?"

Justin was stunned when he heard this.

Ever since his father left and his grandfather passed away, his grandmother had been eating vegetarian food and reading Buddhism. She had never liked the liveliness of birthday parties.

Every year on her birthday, the entire family would gather together for a meal. They had never organized a big banquet before.

Why did she suddenly...

However, he did not ask further and immediately agreed. "Okay. Let Mdm. Lea and Mr. Long handle the party. I'll prepare a guest list."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "Alright, invite Miss Smith over as well."

Only then did Justin realize that Mrs. Hunt's birthday celebration was actually for Nora.

However, if Nora came over, they could at least publicize their relationship so that the outside world would not have to keep guessing.

He nodded. "Yes."

After chatting for a while more about the details of the birthday banquet, Justin left with Cherry. Mdm. Lea stood beside Mrs. Hunt. "Mrs. Hunt, are you... trying to use this method to persuade Miss Smith to leave?"

Mrs. Hunt's birthday banquet would definitely shock all the influential people in New York.

At that time, if the people from small families could not handle that scene, they would automatically retreat.

However, Mrs. Hunt did not seem to hear this. Her gaze was only fixed on Justin at the door. She suddenly said, "Mdm. Lea, how long has it been since we last saw Justin with such a relaxing smile?"

Mdm. Lea was stunned.

Mrs. Hunt sighed. "Actually, how good would it be if he could smile like this every day? Even I wavered a little just now. If that Miss Smith could make him happy by marrying her, shouldn't I give in a little?"

Mdm. Lea understood her thoughts. She walked to her side and held her shoulder. "Mrs. Hunt, you're not only Mr. Hunt's grandmother, but you're also the Matriarch of the Hunts."

These words made Mrs. Hunt's expression darken.

Yes.

She had devoted her entire life to the Hunts. Just like back then... when her grandson was only five years old, she would definitely have favored her son more.

However, for the sake of the Hunts, she still chased her son away and kept her grandson with her.

She was not only a mother, but she was also the Matriarch of the Hunts.

The trace of guilt that she had felt instantly disappeared.

She could not disregard the Hunts' reputation just because Justin was happy for a moment.

The Matriarch of the Hunts could not be such a lowly woman like Nora!

She took a deep breath and suddenly looked at Mdm. Lea. "Remember to invite that lady from the Smiths over on my birthday."

Mdm. Lea understood what she meant and nodded. "Yes."

The next day at the Andersons'.

"What gift did you prepare?"

When Melissa woke up in the morning and received the invitation, she had a headache. She complained to Mrs. Anderson, "They're holding a special banquet for Mrs. Hunt's birthday this year. Moreover, our relationship is different now. We can't afford not to bring out valuable gifts. But what kind of treasure have the Hunts not seen? What can we send that would bring out new meaning and show our magnanimity?"

Mrs. Anderson rubbed her temples as well. "I hate thinking about gifts the most, especially a gift for Mrs. Hunt. She has high standards. Sigh! But why don't you ask Nora? She might have some good ideas."

It was almost noon. When Nora went downstairs, she heard Melissa say worriedly, “Nora, you’re finally awake! Mrs. Hunt’s birthday is a week from now and she has invited our entire family. What do you think we should give her?”

Birthday?

Nora paused for a moment before smiling. “Don’t worry. I know what to give her.”

After all, she was Pete and Cherry’s grandmother. It was only right that she did her best.

Melissa was curious. “What are you planning to send?”

Nora slowly said, “Isn’t the most common thing in our Harmonia Pharmacy, medicine?”

Melissa: “??”

Nora yawned. “Aunt, lend me a room in the pharmaceutical factory.”

Melissa immediately nodded. “No problem!”

After Nora had lunch, Melissa brought her to the Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory.

The Andersons’ pharmaceutical factory was in the suburbs of New York. It looked very big and neat inside. When they walked in, they could smell the fragrance of medicine.

Sheril was here all year round. When she heard that they were here, she immediately welcomed them. “Mom, Sister, the empty laboratory is ready.”

Melissa nodded. “Then I’ll go back first. You guys can prepare.”

She was a little worried.

The best medicine the Andersons had right now was the Carefree Pill. However, the pill had a price, and it was mass-produced. It was a big gift to give someone else 20 pills, but to Mrs. Hunt, it was only a few thousand dollars.

Was Nora’s medicine okay as a present?

She was a little worried.

There was only a week left. She had to find something good so that Nora's pill wouldn't be looked down on and she wouldn't have to take it out to save the situation.

Therefore, Melissa went out early and returned late every day. She went to various auction houses to look for various gifts.

In the laboratory.

Nora only did the preparation work and did it for half a day. It was only at night that she finished preparing all kinds of things.

Sheril, who had been helping from the side, asked curiously, "Sister, what medicine are you going to make?"

Nora thought for a moment and replied, "Calming Pill."

Mrs. Hunt's brain was filled with bruises and lumps. If she took the Calming Pill for a while, it would be very effective.

Sheril immediately let out a sigh of relief. "Calming Pill? Our Harmonia Pharmacy has many of them, and they're very cheap. Just take some... No, the Calming Pill formula doesn't have these ingredients?"

The Calming Pill didn't have so many herbs?

Just as she thought about this, she heard Nora say slowly, "Yes, it's Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill."

Sheril was stunned. "Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?"

The legendary Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

There were many types of Calming Pills.

However, Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill was definitely the best!

It was said that this Calming Pill was offered to the emperor in ancient times. It was similar to a Tao priest refining pills. The prescription was extremely complicated, and the herbs used were also very expensive!

Even with the current high level of technology, this pill was still very difficult to refine. Up until now, Dr. Zabe was probably the only one in the world who could refine one or two pills.

However, Nora actually knew how to make Zabe Corporation's Calming Pill?

She swallowed. "Sister, I heard that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace. How many do you plan to give?"

Nora glanced at her. "Who said that only one or two pills can be produced in a furnace?"

Sheril: "??"

Dr. Zabe said so!

He had personally refined a batch three years ago and only produced one finished product. It had ruined a lot of medicinal herbs, causing his heart to ache so much that he never refined it again!

Nora rolled her eyes. Master could not perform well because he was old and could not control his behavior well.

This kind of problem would not happen to her.

However, the process was a little long and needed three days and four nights. With all this time, she might as well sleep. Therefore, she had not refined it over the years.

She said nothing.

Sheril decided not to speak anymore. She just looked at the expensive herbs Nora took over, with an aching heart.

There was an old manager at the pharmaceutical factory in Harmonia Pharmacy. He was also an old pharmacist and could be considered Sheril's master. At this moment, he stood outside the door and happened to overhear their conversation.

He waved Sheril over.

Sheril walked out.

The old pharmacist frowned and reprimanded, “Sheril, you guys are too reckless!! Are these hundred thousand dollars of herbs going to be wasted just like that? How can she possibly refine Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill?”

Although Sheril’s heart also ached for the money, when she heard her master’s words, she hurriedly explained, “Master, Sister Nora was the one who gave us the Carefree Pill formula. So even if money is wasted, it’s nothing. My father and mother definitely won’t feel the pinch.”

The pharmacist sighed. “They only look at money, but do you only care for money too? Do you know how much the 500-year-old ginseng she took is worth now? We could only buy one or two from the entire country. This isn’t a matter of money at all, okay? Don’t you feel bad that she wasted it?”

Of course, her heart ached!

Now, everyone was growing ginseng artificially. Most of it was just decades old, and it was rare to find one that was centuries old.

These two 500-year-old ginsengs had been preserved by Harmonia Pharmacy. They could be considered the treasure of the store, and were priceless!

People had been asking for 500-year-old ginseng for a long time, but they still could not get one.

After all, most of the older ones had been sent to the auction. The value of ginseng had already far exceeded the medicinal value. Harmonia Pharmacy would not auction them. Most of the people who could auction them were like the Smiths and Hunts. But how could such families sell ginseng to Harmonia Pharmacy?

However, to make Zabe Corporation’s Calming Pill, one needed ginseng that was this old!

Actually, if it could be made, this ginseng would definitely not be wasted. After all, the Calming Pill was much more valuable than the ginseng itself.

The problem was!

Dr. Zabe had only managed to refine one pill in a furnace. Could Sister Nora succeed?

The old pharmacist suggested, "Although other herbs are expensive, we can still buy them. Can you talk to your sister and exchange that ginseng for a 100-year one?! If she fails, we'll only lose money!"

When Sheril heard this, she fell into deep thought.

After a moment, she shook her head. "Master, Sister Nora's kindness to the Andersons is too great. I can't say anything about it."

The old pharmacist was instantly furious. He pointed at her forehead and scolded, "You, you're really a blockhead! The Andersons have fallen this far because none of you know how to make drugs! You're wasting herbs!! Even with a Carefree Pill, if you continue to be so willful in the future, you'll eventually go downhill!"

Sheril argued anxiously, "Master, you can't say that. What if Sister Nora really manages to master it?"

The old pharmacist had been working with the Andersons since he was young and had never attended school. He had learned the skills from an older generation and was loyal to the Andersons. At this moment, he was furious. The more he cursed, the more unpleasant he became. He took advantage of his seniority and said, "Dr. Zabe could only produce one pill. How can she master it at such a young age? Stop bragging! If she can master it, I, I won't need any salary in the future! But if she can't, you have to listen to me in the pharmaceutical factory in the future!"

When Sheril heard this, her eyes turned red.

She knew that her master was trying to put her in her place.

Ever since she came to the pharmaceutical factory, she had been using the introduction of new alchemy skills. Her master had been dissatisfied with her long ago, but she was the owner, and her master could only listen to her.