

Chapter 396 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

Those few lines of hers had severed the mother-daughter relationship between Tanya and her. This was also why Tanya had never been to the Joneses despite so much time passing since her return to the States.

When Jill heard the recording, she sneered, "Hah, what an ingrate you are. To think you remember those things I said so clearly. Never mind if you don't want to bear the responsibility of supporting me in old age, because I have never once counted on you to do that, either! But how could you turn around and bully us so maliciously?"

Tanya looked at her and Hillary. She couldn't help but retort, "Who exactly is bullying whom here?"

Her simple one-liner made Hillary and Jill exchange a look. Jill then yelled angrily, "Does it matter who the one bullying the other is? You are the one who's targeting the Joneses now! You'd best agree to settle in private while the trial has yet to start. Otherwise, I will make you pay!"

No one knew what gave her the confidence to say something like that.

When Tanya wanted to reply, Joel asked, "How do you intend to make her pay?" His words made Jill choke

Joel came over, put his arm around Tanya's shoulder, and looked at Jill. "Mrs. Jones, may I ask, what are you planning to do to my fiancée?"

Jill was shocked. "When did the two of you get engaged?"

Joel cast his eyes down. "You don't have to bother yourself with that, Mrs. Jones. I think the two of you should use this time to discuss the case with each other instead of glaring at and saying mean things to my fiancée."

When Jill wanted to reply, Mr. Jones strode over and grabbed both Jill and Hillary. He smiled and said to Joel, "Look at how big a fuss this has become, Mr. Smith... It's all because the kids are so insensible. Please forgive us!"

Joel did not say any more. He dragged Tanya back to the lounge.

After the two of them went in, Mr. Jones flew into a rage as he stared at Jill and Hillary. "Can the two of you stop creating so much trouble?! We are

already about to go to court, so stop provoking them and making trouble in private!”

Hillary curled her lips disdainfully. “Dad, all you know is to blame me whenever we run into trouble! They are obviously the ones in the wrong! You’re just afraid of Mr. Smith’s power, right? But you don’t have to be anymore!”

Jill raised her chin slightly at Hillary’s words, and she also said impatiently to Mr. Jones, “Alright, that’s enough. Karl has already agreed to intervene, so nothing will go wrong!”

Mr. Jones stared at the two women and pointed at them angrily. “Karl will eventually leave. Once he leaves, the Smiths have a thousand and one ways to make us pay! The two of you have created so much trouble for the Joneses!”

However, Jill and Hillary completely ignored him and even curled their lips disdainfully.

Jill even said, “If worse comes to worst, the whole family can just migrate to Switzerland. Karl has both power and authority over there, so he can protect us!”

Mr. Jones: “!!”

He stared at Jill and shouted angrily, “Migrate to Switzerland? The way I see it, it’s more like you and him are still in love, isn’t it?!”

Afraid that others would overhear what he had said, Mr. Jones turned and left angrily.

Hillary stared at him from the back and pursed her lips. She said, “Look at him, Mom. Why do I have such a pushover of a father?! He doesn’t even have the courage to stand up for his daughter! If only Karl was my father!”

Jill’s eyes flickered the moment she said that.

She patted Hillary and said, “Don’t talk nonsense!”

Then, she and Hillary entered the lounge.

Soon, it was time for the trial.

Both parties entered the courtroom and sat opposite each other.

Karl had found a very famous lawyer for Hillary. After both parties took their seats, the judge asked the plaintiff to speak. The attorney immediately stood up and said reproachfully,

“Mr. Smith, where is Ms. Mia Smith? The court had instructed you to bring her here so that she can be asked whether she wants to stay with her father or her mother. Why didn’t you bring her?”

He looked at the judge and went on. “Or is it because you have no respect for the court at all? And think you can do whatever you want because of the Smiths’ power?”

“It has been very long since my client last saw her daughter. By separating mother and daughter from each other, and showing no respect for the court, your actions are simply atrocious!”

As Hillary had made a huge fuss and blown up the lawsuit before the trial, everyone was afraid that the Smiths would bribe the judge, so they had vehemently demanded a live-stream of the court proceedings.

After giving it some thought, the court had agreed to the public’s request.

Therefore, the trial was currently being broadcast live.

People were commenting fiercely in the live-stream:

“Isn’t he showing too little respect to the law?”

“He’s so arrogant! But with so many of us watching, the court won’t cover up for the Smiths!”

Amid the discussion, the judge frowned. After all, the fact that Joel had not brought Mia along had gone against their wishes. His actions were indeed rather disrespectful of the court.

He frowned. At this point, the defendant’s attorney stood up.

When the people watching the live-stream saw the lawyer stand, all of them started ranting in the comments.

“That lawyer has no conscience! How can he help the Smiths in this lawsuit? Who knows how much money the Smiths have given him?”

“I heard that lawyer has never lost any of his cases. He’s definitely gonna lose the one today,

right?”

“Mr. Lawyer, can you have a bit of a conscience? How can you help the Smiths bully a weak and helpless woman? I am so disappointed in you!”

“I hope the lawyer dies together with his whole family!”

Hillary and her attorney next to her were also paying attention to the happenings online.

In addition, there were also people constantly keeping the judge up-to-date about the people’s opinions. After all, he had to take the people’s opinions into consideration, too.

The judge sighed when he heard that everyone was taking the plaintiff’s side.

It would probably be very difficult for the defendant to win the case this time!

While he was thinking about it, the defendant’s attorney said, “Your Honor, members of the jury. First of all, I would like to explain the relationship between my client and the plaintiff.”

He walked out from behind the desk, looked at Hillary, and said, “According to my investigations, Mr. Joel Smith and Ms. Tanya Turner have been in love since they were in junior high, and their relationship continued even after they entered college. They are recognized by everyone as a model couple. Mr. Smith and Ms. Turner’s classmates can testify to this. The plaintiff will not deny this, right?”

Hillary narrowed her eyes.

Her attorney stood up and said, “That has nothing to do with the case. After all, a lot of people’s first relationships do not last. Does every spouse have to give way to their partner’s first love just because they have returned? Be it true love or his inability to forget his previous lover, it is no reason or excuse for Mr. Smith to cheat on and betray Ms. Jones!”

His answer was very well-worded. A whole row of thumbs-ups appeared in the comments.

“That lawyer said it! No matter what, they have already broken up back then. To put it bluntly, even if Jones was the third wheel in Turner and Smith’s relationship back then, the two of them have already had a child together. Tanya Turner shouldn’t have come back!”

“I’ve just imagined a big story about Turner coming back for revenge!”

“Don’t say any more. Let’s listen to them instead. What if the reason for Turner and Smith’s breakup back then wasn’t Jones?”

Almost at the same time the comment appeared, the defendant’s attorney said, “Of course. My client requested that I make this clear in the courtroom in front of the judge and everyone in the country because he doesn’t want Ms. Turner to be called a third wheel.”

The plaintiff’s lawyer couldn’t help but laugh when he heard what he said. He looked straight at the judge and said, “Objection, Your Honor. That has nothing to do with the case. What we are here to talk about is Ms. Mia Smith’s custody, and not who the real third wheel of their relationship is!”

Tanya, who was seated in the defendant’s dock, was surprised.

She turned and looked at Joel.

The two of them had agreed that they would immediately lay out sufficient evidence at the beginning of the trial, and change her status from the defendant to the plaintiff. She hadn’t expected her attorney to actually walk out and say something like that.

Was Joel... trying to clear her name?

The plaintiff’s attorney looked at the defendant’s attorney, as well as Joel and Tanya who were seated in the dock. He said, “Even if my client had been the third wheel in your relationship back then, she did not break the law! Moreover, she even gave birth to a daughter for Mr. Smith. As a mother, she has the right and duty to raise her child!”

The defendant’s attorney looked straight at the judge. “Your Honor, I mentioned the past because this case can no longer be looked at normally.

Humans are creatures of emotion. When everyone is censuring my client, I have the right to defend them. I ask the court for permission to explain things clearly to everyone.”

The judge looked at Hillary, and then at Tanya and Joel. At last, he nodded. “Permission granted.”

The defendant’s attorney looked straight at Hillary. “You were the third wheel in Mr. Smith and Ms. Turner’s relationship back then. Do you admit to this?”

Hillary curled her lips disdainfully. “They were just dating back then. It’s not like they were married, so you can’t say that I was the third wheel at all! Mr. Smith and I were also really in love back then!”

“Is that so?” The defendant’s attorney couldn’t help but smile. “But as far as I know, even though you claim that you have given birth to a daughter for Mr. Smith, the two of you did not become engaged or hold a wedding. Moreover, Mr. Smith also signed an agreement with you back then. The agreement says that once Ms. Mia Smith is five years old, Mr. Smith will terminate his marriage agreement with you, and the two of you will regain your respective freedom. Accordingly, the Smiths will take care of the Joneses’ business during those five years. Once the agreement is terminated, Ms. Mia Smith’s custody is to go to Mr. Smith. Therefore, can I interpret this as a transaction, except that Ms. Jones intends to go back on her word?!”

Hillary was rendered speechless.

The people in support of Hillary in the comments were also stunned. For a while, they didn’t quite know what to say.

“In that case, it seems that the Smiths aren’t in the wrong?”

“But isn’t it too much to prevent the mother from seeing her daughter?”

The plaintiff’s attorney stood up. “The relationship between a mother and her daughter cannot be described as a transaction. Ms. Jones is not a surrogate mother! That agreement was illegal from the start! Besides, as Ms. Smith’s mother, Ms. Jones has visitation rights!”

He glanced at Hillary.

Hillary immediately got the hint.

Before they came here, the two of them had already discussed how they should deal with the agreement. Hillary immediately started to weep. "Yes, that's why I want to ask the court for help in mediation. It was my first time being a mother back then. The Smiths are too powerful, so I had no other choice. But during the last five years where my daughter and I were dependent on each other, we have already developed strong feelings for each other. How can one control their own emotions? Your Honor, what kind of agreement can stop a mother from seeing her own children?"

She then started to cry bitterly. "Please, Mr. Smith, give me a way out! I've already fallen into depression because I can't see my daughter!"

The plaintiff's lawyer immediately produced a diagnostic report for depression. "This is my client's diagnostic report. She misses her daughter too much. I hope the court can be considerate toward her difficulties."

At the sight, everyone in the comments suddenly started to sympathize with Hillary again.

"The Smiths are simply too cold-blooded! The richer people are, the more domineering they become! They don't care for people's feelings at all! How can they let the child grow up in a family like that?!"

"Exactly! It is not right to stop a mother from meeting her daughter! How can they do that?!"

"The Smiths are too much!" "The child's mother is already depressed. She's so pitiful. She just wants to see her child, what's so wrong about that?"

"Who knows, maybe the Smiths had threatened her into signing the agreement back then!"

"My god, look at where the defendants are! Turner and Smith are completely expressionless even when they saw Jones crying so badly! They are so heartless! Capitalists are the worst!"

"Yes, they are too inhumane! The child may not understand anything right now, but she will hate them once she grows up and realizes the truth!"

Everyone's words and the stances they took were conveyed to the judge.

The judge glanced at the defendants. They had completely lost the public's support.

However, at the defendant's dock, Tanya was still glaring at Hillary furiously while Joel was expressionless. Even their attorney looked completely calm as if he was not moved by Hillary's cries at all.

He lowered his gaze and asked, "The defendants, what else do you have to say?"

Joel and Tanya exchanged a look.

Tanya had a firm look in her eyes, but her eyes were gradually turning red.

Joel turned to the attorney and nodded at him.

Following the nod, the defendant's attorney suddenly walked out from behind the desk and looked at the judge. "Your Honor, I have a piece of evidence I'd like to submit."

The judge nodded.

The defendant's lawyer handed over two documents.

The judge was shocked when he saw the documents, and his expression changed drastically. He glanced at Tanya with a complicated look in his eyes, and then looked at Hillary with a frown. Disgust flashed across his eyes.

In the comments, everyone was speculating. "What evidence is that? It actually made the judge's expression totally change." "Oh no, the way he's looking at Smith and Turner isn't that cold anymore. Could it be that they didn't submit evidence but a check just now?" "How can they bribe the judge so openly? They are too much!"

Hillary glanced at the comments out of the corner of her eye. When she saw that all the comments were siding with her, the corners of her lips curled up slightly.

However, it was at this moment that the defendant's attorney slowly said, "Your Honor, members of the jury. On behalf of my client Ms. Tanya Turner, I shall now file a lawsuit against Ms. Hillary Jones for maliciously stealing Ms. Turner's child five years ago!! This led to my client being separated from her

daughter for as long as five years. May the law impose the most severe sanction on Ms. Jones! I demand that Ms. Jones compensate my client for emotional damages, as well as damages for material losses incurred while searching for her daughter for the last five years!”

His words caused a furor to go through everyone!!

Hillary got up abruptly and looked at them in disbelief.

What did they say just now?

How could this be?!

How did she know?!

She understood Tanya very well. Because she loved Joel too much, she would never tell him that she had lost her child. After all, who wouldn't be miserable about losing their child?

But if it wasn't her who had brought it up, Joel would never imagine that Mia might be Tanya's daughter... So, how did they realize the truth?!

Terribly shocked, she stared in front of her in astonishment.

At the same time, countless question marks also flashed across the comments.

“???”

“????” “???”

The plaintiff's attorney was dumbfounded while the comments were being filled with question marks. He asked, “What nonsense are you saying?”

The defendant's... no, the defendant had already turned into the plaintiff at this point. The attorney looked straight at Hillary. As a lawyer, he had always been calm when handling cases, but when he realized the truth, even he couldn't help but subconsciously become angry when he looked at the woman. He spoke loudly and forcefully. “The evidence in the judge's and the jury's hands can prove whether I'm talking nonsense or not! The evidence consists of two reports, one is a DNA test report conducted for Ms. Turner and Ms. Mia Smith, and the other is proof that Ms. Jones had stolen the baby! On the day that Ms. Turner gave birth, Ms. Jones had booked a return ticket from

Switzerland! Even though she went there by herself, she had returned with a baby!”

His words made Hillary’s attorney dumbfounded.

Before the trial, attorneys would typically probe into their client’s private affairs in order to prevent the other party from producing surprise evidence that they weren’t prepared for.

Therefore, Hillary had even told her attorney the truth about her being the third wheel in Joel and Tanya’s relationship beforehand. That was why the attorney hadn’t even once accused Tanya of being the third wheel in Hillary’s family, for fear that the other party would take advantage of it to counterattack.

Never would he have ever expected such an unbelievable plot twist!

The plot twist was simply too big. The lawsuit between Hillary and Joel had turned straight into one about Hillary’s crime!!

They had evidence that she had stolen their child!

He didn’t doubt the authenticity of the evidence because the judge and the others would undoubtedly verify it. He was just staring at Hillary in shock, astonishment, and disbelief.

In this instant, he could even feel his career as an attorney ending!

Seeing that her attorney wasn’t saying anything but just staring at her, Hillary panicked. She suddenly stood up. “I didn’t do anything like that! That’s total nonsense!”

Tanya’s eyes narrowed as she looked at her. “The evidence can prove whether or not I am talking nonsense! The DNA test shows that Mia and I have a 99% DNA match!! These numbers could never lie!” Hillary swallowed and looked at the gallery.

Karl and Jill were seated in the gallery.

A somewhat incredulous Jill stood up abruptly when the plot twist came. She subconsciously looked at Karl.

Karl, who also seemed stunned by the plot twist, looked at Jill with a puzzled look.

Jill swallowed. She was about to say something when Justin, who was sitting behind Karl, suddenly said, “Mr. Moore, I’m sure you must know the truth of the matter by now. Wouldn’t it be rather unreasonable if you continue to help Hillary Jones fight for the child’s custody?”

Karl choked.

He had only helped Jill and stood up for her on account of their past relationship. After all, if Hillary was Mia’s mother, the Smiths’ actions would indeed be going too far.

But now...

If he continued to help Hillary fight for the child, then wouldn’t he just be making trouble for no reason?

He coughed and replied, “Of course. The Assassin Organization is not unreasonable.”

Justin nodded. Then, he immediately looked at Mr. Jones, who was seated nearby Jill. The astonishment in his eyes didn’t seem to be fake, and he looked like he wasn’t aware of his daughter’s actions at all. He slowly said, “Mr. Jones, are the Joneses still supportive of Hillary’s fight for the child’s custody?”

Given how even Karl wasn’t going to help anymore, there was no way Mr. Jones would have the guts to step forward, either. He shook his head and stammered, “M-Mr. Hunt, I really didn’t know about what Hillary did! She did it all by herself! It has nothing to do with the Joneses!” Jill looked at Mr. Jones furiously. “How can you say that? She’s your daughter! Is that how you should be treating Hillary?!”

An annoyed Mr. Jones retorted, “Even if she’s my daughter, I still didn’t expect her to actually do something like that! She stole someone else’s child! How can she do that?!” The furious Jill panicked. “Even so, you can’t just ignore her! Surely you can’t just watch as she goes to jail?!”

Justin didn’t say anything else. Instead, he looked at the stand.

From the looks of it, it seemed that neither Karl nor Mr. Jones were intending to help anymore. In that case, Jill and Hillary would no longer be able to make any more trouble.

On the judge's bench.

The judge and the jury were already looking at one another. The judge then looked at Hillary. "There is substantial evidence in my hands, and there are both witnesses and physical evidence against you. What else do you have to say?!"

Hillary knew that what's done is done at this point and that there was nothing she could do anymore to save herself.

She looked straight at Tanya. In the end, she yelled shamelessly, "I... I didn't steal the child! I did go abroad, and I did go to Switzerland, but I found the child somewhere! It... It was... It was Tanya who abandoned her child! Yes, that's it! Your Honor, you can't convict me. I saved that child's life! In fact, you should be holding Tanya responsible for abandoning her newborn baby!"

Everyone was stunned. They hadn't expected that Hillary would still say such things at this point.

Even her attorney had shut up and was unwilling to defend her anymore.

The judge looked at Tanya and Joel.

Tanya's eyes were red and she did not speak.

Joel's jaw was clenched tightly and he had lost the usual smile on his face.

Their attorney stood where he was and sneered, "Ms. Jones, I didn't expect you to be so stubborn. It seems like you're someone who holds out hope until faced with the grim reality!"

"Your Honor, I have a few pieces of evidence here that will prove that she had indeed stolen the baby! That day, she went to the hospital where Ms. Turner had given birth and bribed two nurses in the hospital. That was how she had successfully stolen the baby from the hospital!"

"Also! Your Honor, these are financial accounts detailing how much money and effort my client, Ms. Tanya Turner, spent in order to search for her child over the years."

“Your Honor, as you can see, Ms. Jones shows no sign of taking the initiative to plead guilty even now! I implore you to punish her severely in accordance with the law!!”

The more Hillary refused to plead guilty in the case where evidence was conclusive, the less likely she would receive mercy in court.

Her stubbornness was, on the contrary, a positive for Tanya.

The judge frowned, and the way he looked at Hillary changed.

Hillary’s legs went limp and she fell onto the chair. She hadn’t expected them to still be able to find evidence of her bribing the nurses when two years had already gone by. On top of that, they even managed to get the two nurses to testify as witnesses!

It was all over.

Everything was over!

Tanya’s attorney was still speaking. He said, “Your Honor, my client is a dancer with a sizable income, but every year, she pays most of her money to private detectives to engage them in search for her child...

“The millions of dollars she spends on the search each year are nearly the entirety of her income. If she had really abandoned the child, why would she spend that much money searching for her child?!”

“Ms. Jones is still slandering my client even at this point. Not only that, but she even bribed reporters to create public pressure on my client in an attempt to reverse the lawsuit’s outcome!

“I implore the judge to take serious action against her!”

As the attorney’s loud and powerful words rang out, the courtroom fell silent.

After discussion, the judge finally announced, “Given the severity of Ms. Hillary Jones’ crime in stealing the child, and the fact that she shows no intention of pleading guilty, let alone any sign of remorse, we will submit the case to the judiciary and have the Attorney-General’s Office bring charges against her, so that they may give her the maximum sentence possible!”

Upon hearing that, Hillary slumped onto the chair.

The maximum sentence was thirty years of imprisonment!!

Thirty years!

By the time she came out of prison thirty years later, she would be old!

No, she didn't want to go to jail!!

The court had its own procedures. The court hearing today was for Joel and Hillary's fight for the custody of their daughter. Therefore, the case was closed without even the need for a full trial.

Hillary was arrested on the spot. She would be under the judiciary's supervision while she waited for her next court hearing.

The comments in the live-stream had undergone a complete reversal. Everyone was censuring Hillary.

"My god, that's so disgusting! She is so wicked!"

"Let me give everyone a summary of what happened. Not only was Jones the third wheel in their relationship, but she even stole their baby and claimed that she had given birth to her. And now, she is actually fighting them for custody of the girl? She's so wicked! That woman is beyond salvation!"

"The fact that Turner has been searching for her daughter for so many years has suddenly moved me so much. I apologize for the derogatory remarks I made against Turner when I wasn't aware of the truth."

"I also apologize!"

"A woman like Hillary Jones should be sentenced to death!"

"Yes, not only did she steal a child, but she even thinks that she's right in doing so. She shows no signs of repentance at all. If she isn't sentenced to the death penalty, then she should at least be sentenced to life imprisonment! People like her should spend the rest of their life in jail!"

"I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Thirty years is too little. I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Agree with the previous comment!"

“+1!”

“+(my cell phone number)!” “+(my ID number)!”

The public opinion reversed in an instant, and the people took Tanya’s side.

When the handcuffed Hillary was being led away, Jill rushed over and hugged her. “Let go of my daughter! Let go of her!”

The sobbing Hillary yelled, “Mom, save me! Save me! I don’t wanna go to jail!! Sob, Dad, save me!”

However, even after the two of them cried their eyes out, none of the police officers were moved. They dragged Hillary out.

Jill was stunned to the spot. The next moment, she grabbed Hillary’s attorney and shouted furiously, “Why didn’t you say anything just now? We paid money to hire you! Why didn’t you defend my daughter?!” The attorney said with a sense of resignation, “Mrs. Jones, it was stated clearly in our contract that the client is not to conceal any information related to the case. Are you actually demanding an explanation from me when your daughter hid such an important matter from me?!”

He was also rather angry. “Besides, if I had known that the child was stolen from someone else, I would never have taken up the case! I have children, too. People like her should go to jail!”

Jill retorted furiously, “You’re the one who should go to jail, you trash lawyer!”

The attorney sighed and said, “Alright, I’m not going to argue with you anymore. I just want to tell you this now-you and Hillary were the ones who directed public opinion on the case, right? Now, she shall have to undergo the backlash!”

Jill was taken aback. “What do you mean?”

“Previously, the two of you created a buzz to make people take your side in order to put pressure on the court, but all of those people are furious now! They are now strongly demanding that your daughter be sentenced to death! Under such circumstances, I’m afraid your daughter will be sentenced to life imprisonment, at the least, for her malicious actions!”

“Life imprisonment...”

Jill stared straight ahead of her blankly when she heard those two words. She stared at the lawyer incredulously. “She just stole a child, that’s all! What kind of nonsense are you spouting?!”

Seeing that she was being so unreasonable, the attorney didn’t want to talk to her anymore. He merely shook his head and turned to leave.

At the sight, Jill grabbed his arm and said, “Don’t go! Tell me how I can save my daughter! Tell me!”

The attorney sneered, “Is there even any hope of salvation left for someone like your daughter? What’s the point of saving her and bringing her out of prison? So that she can steal other people’s children? Even if you offer three times the remuneration, no one will take up your case anymore, let alone me! Unless they don’t wish to work in this line of business anymore and wish to be attacked instead!”

Jill didn’t dare to lose her temper anymore. She held on to the attorney and said, “D-don’t go, I won’t lose my temper with you anymore. I won’t ask for a refund on the legal fees, either. Just tell me what I should do now. I can’t just watch as my daughter is sentenced to life imprisonment!”

Seeing that she had taken a step back, and thinking of how he needn’t return the exorbitant legal fees anymore, the attorney looked around. He lowered his voice and said, “There is only one way to lighten your daughter’s sentence.” “What is it?”

“Beg for the victim’s forgiveness! If the victim can forgive her, she may still have a chance of a reduced sentence.”

The victim’s... forgiveness...

Jill’s head turned abruptly to Tanya, who was about to leave with Joel.

He was right. Tanya was the plaintiff of the case now, which meant that she was the victim.

Jill let go of the attorney and went straight to Tanya. When she came up to her, she grabbed Tanya’s arm and said, “Tanya, my daughter, don’t go. Help Mom out. You’re the only one who can help Mom now. Go to the judge and

tell him that you've forgiven Hillary. Tell him that you don't hold it against her anymore! Go and tell him now! Immediately! Right away!"

Her words made Tanya sneer. All she could feel at the moment was just incredulity.

Tanya stared at Jill. Little by little, she pulled her arm out of Jill's grasp. She looked at Jill coldly and slowly said, "Did you know? I've always wanted to ask you something ever since I was a child."

Jill was taken aback. "What?"

"Am I really your daughter?"

Tanya's eyes were a little red. "How is it that you can do so much and go so far for Hillary, yet be so cruel to me?!"

Jill was stunned. But immediately after that, she said angrily, "What did I do to you? Did I bring you up and keep you alive so that you can bully me later in life? You are too much! You have to go to the judge right away and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary! Or else—"

"Or else what? What will you do?"

Tanya stared at her, but there was no fluctuation of emotions in her voice at all.

Jill was shocked by her reaction. For a moment, she couldn't say anything.

"Or else you won't acknowledge me as your daughter anymore? Didn't you already sever ties with me a long time ago?"

"Or perhaps, you won't pay for my tuition fees anymore? But have you ever given me any money? Or perhaps, you won't give me any food? That worked very well when I was young. I was indeed scared when you locked me up in that dark room and didn't give me any food or water. But I'm no longer the four-year-old kid anymore!! Jill, you can't control me anymore!"

The more Tanya spoke, the colder her voice became. "As for Hillary..." Suddenly she bent down, lowered her head, and leaned into Jill's ear. "Why do you think the Smiths didn't bother with damage control and allowed public

opinion to get to this state? It's precisely so that she could have a taste of her own medicine!"

Jill was dumbfounded.

When the lawyer mentioned it, she had thought that it was just a coincidence, but from the way it sounded now... It was actually a conspiracy by Tanya and Joel!! The fiercer the people scolded them, the guiltier they would feel once the truth was revealed!

No wonder they hadn't explained anything the whole time, and even assaulted the reporter!!

Jill's eyes widened as she stared at the daughter who seemed so foreign to her now. Tanya straightened her back and, with an extremely cold look in her eyes, said, "She stole my daughter and my boyfriend, and even abused my daughter for as long as five years. Jill, even if you kneel here for the rest of your life, I will never forgive her!

"You want me to write a letter of forgiveness? Over my dead body!!"

She turned, took Joel's hand, and got ready to leave.

However, the furious Jill suddenly rushed towards her and grabbed her. "Why did I give birth to a bastard like you?! You're a bane to the world! I should have killed you when you were a child! I should have starved you to death!"

Neither Tanya nor Joel had expected her to actually jump up and attack them in the courtroom. She caught Tanya by her hair.

She reached out and tried to scratch Tanya's cheek, but Joel already had her wrist in a tight grip. He pushed her away with great force, making her fall onto the floor behind her.

Joel looked down at her from above and said, "Please treat my fiancée with courtesy, Mrs. Jones."

After speaking, he glanced at Mr. Jones, who was in the gallery.

Mr. Jones immediately got the hint. He came over hastily and held Jill back.

Only then did Tanya and Joel leave the courtroom.

As soon as they exited, they ran into Justin in the car park. As the three looked at one another, Joel asked, "How did it go?"

One of the reasons Justin had to be present today was so that he could convince Karl not to take any further action in the gallery.

Justin replied, "No big issues. Karl is an underworld figure and has a very strong aura of one from the underworld around him. With the truth publicly exposed and Hillary Jones arrested, there's nothing he can say anymore. Besides, the Assassin Organization probably doesn't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, either." His voice turned cold as he added, "Otherwise, I wouldn't have given him a chance to leave the country!"

Joel nodded. "He has already done enough to pay back the favor he owes his old lover. Unless Hillary is his daughter, that guy probably won't do anything for them anymore."

His daughter?

The moment he said that, both Justin and Joel suddenly thought of something, and they both abruptly turned to Tanya.

The two clan leaders' gazes made Tanya a little uncomfortable. She glanced down at herself and asked, "What's the matter? Is there something wrong with my clothes?" Nothing was wrong with them, though! Her clothes were very suitable for the occasion, and nothing was dirty... While she was wondering about it, Joel suddenly asked, "Tanya, have you ever wondered who your father is?"

Tanya: "..."

She sighed and replied, "Of course I have. But every time I asked Jill about it, she would always say that he's a scumbag and a hooligan who deceived her and made her pregnant..."

A hooligan...

The word made Justin and Joel suddenly glance at each other.

A short while later, Joel suddenly said, "Don't you find that Karl Moore actually has... a bit of a hooligan-like air around him?"

Tanya: “??”

In the courtroom.

Even after everyone else had left, Jill was still laying on the floor and making a scene. “I’m not going to get up if you don’t save my daughter! You’re a good-for-nothing! What’s the use of a father like you?!”

Mr. Jones was standing next to her. At last, he said, “Stay on the floor if that’s what you want. Who cares?!”

He left right away.

Karl, who was still in the gallery, looked at Jill who was on the floor. He scratched his head.

His subordinate behind him couldn’t help but ask, “Boss, what did you see in her in your younger days?”

Karl also felt a little embarrassed.

He coughed. “Maybe I was blind back then.”

The subordinate was speechless.

He got up and walked toward Jill. Just as he was about to say something, Jill got up by herself and patted the dust off herself. There was none of the shrewish behavior she had just exhibited around her anymore. Instead, she looked at Karl calmly.

Karl coughed, “Are you okay?”

“I’m fine.”

Jill stared at Karl and said, “You have to help me save my daughter!”

Karl cast his eyes down. “You’re not in the right with regard to this matter. Neither can I bring myself to do something like that.”

Wouldn’t he be thoroughly embarrassed if outsiders were to learn of it?

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Jill immediately asked, “Do you know why I chose to beg you instead of Hillary’s father for help?”

Karl shook his head.

Jill said solemnly, “Because Hillary is not his daughter but yours!”

Karl: “!!!!”

He was astounded. “What did you say?”

Jill stretched out her fingers—there were two strands of hair gripped tightly between them. “I plucked Hillary’s hair off her when I made contact with her just now. You can do a DNA test for you and her.”

Karl was dumbfounded.

He stared at Jill incredulously. His gaze landed on the strands of hair she was holding and he swallowed hard, feeling that his ears must be playing tricks on him. “What did you say?”

Jill sighed. “You can put the timeline together yourself. When I married into the Joneses, I was already four months pregnant! Think about it, isn’t the child yours if I was already four months pregnant at that time?” Karl swallowed. “But Hillary Jones’ birth date doesn’t match!”

Jill sighed. “That’s because I delayed registering her birth for four months. After all, I couldn’t bring shame to the Joneses. You can look into it. I gave birth to my daughter in a private clinic, so they may still have records! Also, no matter what, you should have a DNA test done first.”

Jill handed the strands of hair to Karl. “Only hair with the follicles intact can be used in a DNA test. Be careful not to damage them. By the way, my daughter doesn’t know that she is not my husband’s child...”

Jill said that because she was afraid that Karl would send someone to the prison to sound Hillary out.

After saying that, she started to head toward the exit. Before she left, she added, “No matter what, you should still make sure that your daughter stays alive, right?”

Karl looked at her and narrowed his eyes. “Don’t worry, if she really is my daughter, no one will be able to take her life!”

Jill breathed a sigh of relief.

She lowered her head and said, "I won't ask for that child from the Smiths anymore. All I ask for now is just for you to rescue my daughter, get her out of prison and take her abroad! I hope you can treat her well for the rest of her life after that!"

Karl hesitated for a moment. Then, he asked tentatively, "If she is my daughter, why didn't you tell me that from the start?"

Jill stared at Karl. After a long silence, she finally heaved a deep sigh and said, "I only wanted to borrow your authority in the beginning. I don't wish for anything beyond that anymore. Besides, my daughter wasn't having any problems at that time, and you were also willing to help me, so it didn't matter whether or not I told you the truth. But now that I know that you don't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, I can only tell the truth!"

Karl kept quiet for a long while. Suddenly, he broke into a grin and said, "Jill, you should know that I am an outlaw. You know it won't end well for people who lie to me, right?"

Jill was so frightened by the way he spoke that she shuddered. However, she then said resolutely, "Go and have a DNA test done."

Karl nodded.

After Jill left, his subordinate behind him asked, "Boss, surely not, right? Is that child-stealing woman really your daughter?"

Karl, however, frowned and said nothing. In the end, he suddenly sighed and instructed, "Send someone to the prison and protect Hillary Jones for now!" "Understood."

He turned, exited, and walked toward the car.

The subordinate asked, "Boss, where are you going?"

Karl replied, "A DNA testing lab. Find me a reliable one!" "Yes, sir!"

Justin, Joel, and Tanya returned to the Smiths' manor.

As soon as they entered the manor, someone came forward and whispered something to Joel.

Joel frowned.

The sensitive Tanya asked, "What's wrong?"

Joel didn't hide anything from her. After letting five years pass them by, both of them cherished each other very much now. When he heard her question, he replied, "I sent someone to the jail to teach Hillary a lesson, but I just received news that someone has interfered on her behalf."

Tanya immediately asked, "Who did it?"

Joel replied, "Karl Moore."

Tanya frowned at the name.

Ever since Joel and Justin voiced their guess, Tanya had been feeling a little uncomfortable. Surely Karl wasn't really her father, right?

She frowned and did some calculations of the timeline around her birth date. However, she didn't think it matched.

It seemed like her date of birth was half a year too early?

Besides, it was impossible for her date of birth to be wrong because Hillary was born a year later than her. It couldn't possibly be that Jill became pregnant with Hillary when she was pregnant with her, right? The age difference between the two of them was only one year anyway! While she was thinking about it, Justin said, "It doesn't make sense."

Joel nodded. "If it's just because of an old lover, Moore is unlikely to help Hillary further. After all, the Smiths and the Hunts can control almost the entire United States. Karl's assassins may be powerful, but he may not necessarily be willing to offend two big families at the same time!"

This was also why Justin had the confidence to threaten Karl when they were in the courtroom!

Justin said, "How strange. Something we are unaware of must have happened."

He took out his cell phone and sent messages to both Sean and Lawrence: 'Investigate why Karl Moore helped Hillary Jones in prison.'

Joel also said, "I'll get my men to investigate, too."

With the leaders of the two big families simultaneously investigating the same thing, they would surely get results very soon.

After sending the messages, Justin glanced at Tanya again and suddenly said, "I still find you and Karl Moore somewhat similar."

Joel also stared at Tanya for a while. "Why don't we do a DNA test, after all? It's safer that way."

The two men's gazes made Tanya's lip corners spasm a little, and she became a little hesitant.

She had originally been very resistant to the idea.

After all, Karl had helped Jill to bully her. However, given how the two men were staring at her, it seemed like she had no choice but to do the DNA test, after all?

In the end, she could only nod.

Lily walked down from upstairs at this point.

At the sight of Lily, Justin got a shock. He hurriedly asked, "What's the matter with Nora?"

Joel also looked over with concern.

Lily hurriedly replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith. Boss is fine. She has been sleeping the last two days, so I was afraid that she would have low blood sugar. I just gave her some nutritional fluids." The two men relaxed upon hearing her explanation.

Lily then said, "Boss is sleeping really soundly. Don't worry!"

Chapter 397 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

The plaintiff's attorney looked at the defendant's attorney, as well as Joel and Tanya who were seated in the dock. He said, "Even if my client had been the third wheel in your relationship back then, she did not break the law! Moreover, she even gave birth to a daughter for Mr. Smith. As a mother, she has the right and duty to raise her child!"

The defendant's attorney looked straight at the judge. "Your Honor, I mentioned the past because this case can no longer be looked at normally. Humans are creatures of emotion. When everyone is censuring my client, I have the right to defend them. I ask the court for permission to explain things clearly to everyone."

The judge looked at Hillary, and then at Tanya and Joel. At last, he nodded. "Permission granted."

The defendant's attorney looked straight at Hillary. "You were the third wheel in Mr. Smith and Ms. Turner's relationship back then. Do you admit to this?"

Hillary curled her lips disdainfully. "They were just dating back then. It's not like they were married, so you can't say that I was the third wheel at all! Mr. Smith and I were also really in love back then!"

"Is that so?" The defendant's attorney couldn't help but smile. "But as far as I know, even though you claim that you have given birth to a daughter for Mr. Smith, the two of you did not become engaged or hold a wedding. Moreover, Mr. Smith also signed an agreement with you back then. The agreement says that once Ms. Mia Smith is five years old, Mr. Smith will terminate his marriage agreement with you, and the two of you will regain your respective freedom. Accordingly, the Smiths will take care of the Joneses' business during those five years. Once the agreement is terminated, Ms. Mia Smith's custody is to go to Mr. Smith. Therefore, can I interpret this as a transaction, except that Ms. Jones intends to go back on her word?!"

Hillary was rendered speechless.

The people in support of Hillary in the comments were also stunned. For a while, they didn't quite know what to say.

"In that case, it seems that the Smiths aren't in the wrong?"

"But isn't it too much to prevent the mother from seeing her daughter?"

The plaintiff's attorney stood up. "The relationship between a mother and her daughter cannot be described as a transaction. Ms. Jones is not a surrogate mother! That agreement was illegal from the start! Besides, as Ms. Smith's mother, Ms. Jones has visitation rights!"

He glanced at Hillary.

Hillary immediately got the hint.

Before they came here, the two of them had already discussed how they should deal with the agreement. Hillary immediately started to weep. “Yes, that’s why I want to ask the court for help in mediation. It was my first time being a mother back then. The Smiths are too powerful, so I had no other choice. But during the last five years where my daughter and I were dependent on each other, we have already developed strong feelings for each other. How can one control their own emotions? Your Honor, what kind of agreement can stop a mother from seeing her own children?”

She then started to cry bitterly. “Please, Mr. Smith, give me a way out! I’ve already fallen into depression because I can’t see my daughter!”

The plaintiff’s lawyer immediately produced a diagnostic report for depression. “This is my client’s diagnostic report. She misses her daughter too much. I hope the court can be considerate toward her difficulties.”

At the sight, everyone in the comments suddenly started to sympathize with Hillary again.

“The Smiths are simply too cold-blooded! The richer people are, the more domineering they become! They don’t care for people’s feelings at all! How can they let the child grow up in a family like that?!”

“Exactly! It is not right to stop a mother from meeting her daughter! How can they do that?!”

“The Smiths are too much!” “The child’s mother is already depressed. She’s so pitiful. She just wants to see her child, what’s so wrong about that?”

“Who knows, maybe the Smiths had threatened her into signing the agreement back then!”

“My god, look at where the defendants are! Turner and Smith are completely expressionless even when they saw Jones crying so badly! They are so heartless! Capitalists are the worst!”

“Yes, they are too inhumane! The child may not understand anything right now, but she will hate them once she grows up and realizes the truth!”

Everyone’s words and the stances they took were conveyed to the judge.

The judge glanced at the defendants. They had completely lost the public's support.

However, at the defendant's dock, Tanya was still glaring at Hillary furiously while Joel was expressionless. Even their attorney looked completely calm as if he was not moved by Hillary's cries at all.

He lowered his gaze and asked, "The defendants, what else do you have to say?"

Joel and Tanya exchanged a look.

Tanya had a firm look in her eyes, but her eyes were gradually turning red.

Joel turned to the attorney and nodded at him.

Following the nod, the defendant's attorney suddenly walked out from behind the desk and looked at the judge. "Your Honor, I have a piece of evidence I'd like to submit."

The judge nodded.

The defendant's lawyer handed over two documents.

The judge was shocked when he saw the documents, and his expression changed drastically. He glanced at Tanya with a complicated look in his eyes, and then looked at Hillary with a frown. Disgust flashed across his eyes.

In the comments, everyone was speculating. "What evidence is that? It actually made the judge's expression totally change." "Oh no, the way he's looking at Smith and Turner isn't that cold anymore. Could it be that they didn't submit evidence but a check just now?" "How can they bribe the judge so openly? They are too much!"

Hillary glanced at the comments out of the corner of her eye. When she saw that all the comments were siding with her, the corners of her lips curled up slightly.

However, it was at this moment that the defendant's attorney slowly said, "Your Honor, members of the jury. On behalf of my client Ms. Tanya Turner, I shall now file a lawsuit against Ms. Hillary Jones for maliciously stealing Ms. Turner's child five years ago!! This led to my client being separated from her

daughter for as long as five years. May the law impose the most severe sanction on Ms. Jones! I demand that Ms. Jones compensate my client for emotional damages, as well as damages for material losses incurred while searching for her daughter for the last five years!”

His words caused a furor to go through everyone!!

Hillary got up abruptly and looked at them in disbelief.

What did they say just now?

How could this be?!

How did she know?!

She understood Tanya very well. Because she loved Joel too much, she would never tell him that she had lost her child. After all, who wouldn't be miserable about losing their child?

But if it wasn't her who had brought it up, Joel would never imagine that Mia might be Tanya's daughter... So, how did they realize the truth?!

Terribly shocked, she stared in front of her in astonishment.

At the same time, countless question marks also flashed across the comments.

“???”

“????” “???”

The plaintiff's attorney was dumbfounded while the comments were being filled with question marks. He asked, “What nonsense are you saying?”

The defendant's... no, the defendant had already turned into the plaintiff at this point. The attorney looked straight at Hillary. As a lawyer, he had always been calm when handling cases, but when he realized the truth, even he couldn't help but subconsciously become angry when he looked at the woman. He spoke loudly and forcefully. “The evidence in the judge's and the jury's hands can prove whether I'm talking nonsense or not! The evidence consists of two reports, one is a DNA test report conducted for Ms. Turner and Ms. Mia Smith, and the other is proof that Ms. Jones had stolen the baby! On the day that Ms. Turner gave birth, Ms. Jones had booked a return ticket from

Switzerland! Even though she went there by herself, she had returned with a baby!”

His words made Hillary’s attorney dumbfounded.

Before the trial, attorneys would typically probe into their client’s private affairs in order to prevent the other party from producing surprise evidence that they weren’t prepared for.

Therefore, Hillary had even told her attorney the truth about her being the third wheel in Joel and Tanya’s relationship beforehand. That was why the attorney hadn’t even once accused Tanya of being the third wheel in Hillary’s family, for fear that the other party would take advantage of it to counterattack.

Never would he have ever expected such an unbelievable plot twist!

The plot twist was simply too big. The lawsuit between Hillary and Joel had turned straight into one about Hillary’s crime!!

They had evidence that she had stolen their child!

He didn’t doubt the authenticity of the evidence because the judge and the others would undoubtedly verify it. He was just staring at Hillary in shock, astonishment, and disbelief.

In this instant, he could even feel his career as an attorney ending!

Seeing that her attorney wasn’t saying anything but just staring at her, Hillary panicked. She suddenly stood up. “I didn’t do anything like that! That’s total nonsense!”

Tanya’s eyes narrowed as she looked at her. “The evidence can prove whether or not I am talking nonsense! The DNA test shows that Mia and I have a 99% DNA match!! These numbers could never lie!” Hillary swallowed and looked at the gallery.

Karl and Jill were seated in the gallery.

A somewhat incredulous Jill stood up abruptly when the plot twist came. She subconsciously looked at Karl.

Karl, who also seemed stunned by the plot twist, looked at Jill with a puzzled look.

Jill swallowed. She was about to say something when Justin, who was sitting behind Karl, suddenly said, "Mr. Moore, I'm sure you must know the truth of the matter by now. Wouldn't it be rather unreasonable if you continue to help Hillary Jones fight for the child's custody?"

Karl choked.

He had only helped Jill and stood up for her on account of their past relationship. After all, if Hillary was Mia's mother, the Smiths' actions would indeed be going too far.

But now...

If he continued to help Hillary fight for the child, then wouldn't he just be making trouble for no reason?

He coughed and replied, "Of course. The Assassin Organization is not unreasonable."

Justin nodded. Then, he immediately looked at Mr. Jones, who was seated nearby Jill. The astonishment in his eyes didn't seem to be fake, and he looked like he wasn't aware of his daughter's actions at all. He slowly said, "Mr. Jones, are the Joneses still supportive of Hillary's fight for the child's custody?"

Given how even Karl wasn't going to help anymore, there was no way Mr. Jones would have the guts to step forward, either. He shook his head and stammered, "M-Mr. Hunt, I really didn't know about what Hillary did! She did it all by herself! It has nothing to do with the Joneses!" Jill looked at Mr. Jones furiously. "How can you say that? She's your daughter! Is that how you should be treating Hillary?!"

An annoyed Mr. Jones retorted, "Even if she's my daughter, I still didn't expect her to actually do something like that! She stole someone else's child! How can she do that?!" The furious Jill panicked. "Even so, you can't just ignore her! Surely you can't just watch as she goes to jail?!"

Justin didn't say anything else. Instead, he looked at the stand.

From the looks of it, it seemed that neither Karl nor Mr. Jones were intending to help anymore. In that case, Jill and Hillary would no longer be able to make any more trouble.

On the judge's bench.

The judge and the jury were already looking at one another. The judge then looked at Hillary. "There is substantial evidence in my hands, and there are both witnesses and physical evidence against you. What else do you have to say?!"

Hillary knew that what's done is done at this point and that there was nothing she could do anymore to save herself.

She looked straight at Tanya. In the end, she yelled shamelessly, "I... I didn't steal the child! I did go abroad, and I did go to Switzerland, but I found the child somewhere! It... It was... It was Tanya who abandoned her child! Yes, that's it! Your Honor, you can't convict me. I saved that child's life! In fact, you should be holding Tanya responsible for abandoning her newborn baby!"

Everyone was stunned. They hadn't expected that Hillary would still say such things at this point.

Even her attorney had shut up and was unwilling to defend her anymore.

The judge looked at Tanya and Joel.

Tanya's eyes were red and she did not speak.

Joel's jaw was clenched tightly and he had lost the usual smile on his face.

Their attorney stood where he was and sneered, "Ms. Jones, I didn't expect you to be so stubborn. It seems like you're someone who holds out hope until faced with the grim reality!"

"Your Honor, I have a few pieces of evidence here that will prove that she had indeed stolen the baby! That day, she went to the hospital where Ms. Turner had given birth and bribed two nurses in the hospital. That was how she had successfully stolen the baby from the hospital!"

"Also! Your Honor, these are financial accounts detailing how much money and effort my client, Ms. Tanya Turner, spent in order to search for her child over the years."

“Your Honor, as you can see, Ms. Jones shows no sign of taking the initiative to plead guilty even now! I implore you to punish her severely in accordance with the law!!”

The more Hillary refused to plead guilty in the case where evidence was conclusive, the less likely she would receive mercy in court.

Her stubbornness was, on the contrary, a positive for Tanya.

The judge frowned, and the way he looked at Hillary changed.

Hillary’s legs went limp and she fell onto the chair. She hadn’t expected them to still be able to find evidence of her bribing the nurses when two years had already gone by. On top of that, they even managed to get the two nurses to testify as witnesses!

It was all over.

Everything was over!

Tanya’s attorney was still speaking. He said, “Your Honor, my client is a dancer with a sizable income, but every year, she pays most of her money to private detectives to engage them in search for her child...

“The millions of dollars she spends on the search each year are nearly the entirety of her income. If she had really abandoned the child, why would she spend that much money searching for her child?!”

“Ms. Jones is still slandering my client even at this point. Not only that, but she even bribed reporters to create public pressure on my client in an attempt to reverse the lawsuit’s outcome!

“I implore the judge to take serious action against her!”

As the attorney’s loud and powerful words rang out, the courtroom fell silent.

After discussion, the judge finally announced, “Given the severity of Ms. Hillary Jones’ crime in stealing the child, and the fact that she shows no intention of pleading guilty, let alone any sign of remorse, we will submit the case to the judiciary and have the Attorney-General’s Office bring charges against her, so that they may give her the maximum sentence possible!”

Upon hearing that, Hillary slumped onto the chair.

The maximum sentence was thirty years of imprisonment!!

Thirty years!

By the time she came out of prison thirty years later, she would be old!

No, she didn't want to go to jail!!

The court had its own procedures. The court hearing today was for Joel and Hillary's fight for the custody of their daughter. Therefore, the case was closed without even the need for a full trial.

Hillary was arrested on the spot. She would be under the judiciary's supervision while she waited for her next court hearing.

The comments in the live-stream had undergone a complete reversal. Everyone was censuring Hillary.

"My god, that's so disgusting! She is so wicked!"

"Let me give everyone a summary of what happened. Not only was Jones the third wheel in their relationship, but she even stole their baby and claimed that she had given birth to her. And now, she is actually fighting them for custody of the girl? She's so wicked! That woman is beyond salvation!"

"The fact that Turner has been searching for her daughter for so many years has suddenly moved me so much. I apologize for the derogatory remarks I made against Turner when I wasn't aware of the truth."

"I also apologize!"

"A woman like Hillary Jones should be sentenced to death!"

"Yes, not only did she steal a child, but she even thinks that she's right in doing so. She shows no signs of repentance at all. If she isn't sentenced to the death penalty, then she should at least be sentenced to life imprisonment! People like her should spend the rest of their life in jail!"

"I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Thirty years is too little. I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Agree with the previous comment!"

“+1!”

“+(my cell phone number)!” “+(my ID number)!”

The public opinion reversed in an instant, and the people took Tanya’s side.

When the handcuffed Hillary was being led away, Jill rushed over and hugged her. “Let go of my daughter! Let go of her!”

The sobbing Hillary yelled, “Mom, save me! Save me! I don’t wanna go to jail!! Sob, Dad, save me!”

However, even after the two of them cried their eyes out, none of the police officers were moved. They dragged Hillary out.

Jill was stunned to the spot. The next moment, she grabbed Hillary’s attorney and shouted furiously, “Why didn’t you say anything just now? We paid money to hire you! Why didn’t you defend my daughter?!” The attorney said with a sense of resignation, “Mrs. Jones, it was stated clearly in our contract that the client is not to conceal any information related to the case. Are you actually demanding an explanation from me when your daughter hid such an important matter from me?!”

He was also rather angry. “Besides, if I had known that the child was stolen from someone else, I would never have taken up the case! I have children, too. People like her should go to jail!”

Jill retorted furiously, “You’re the one who should go to jail, you trash lawyer!”

The attorney sighed and said, “Alright, I’m not going to argue with you anymore. I just want to tell you this now-you and Hillary were the ones who directed public opinion on the case, right? Now, she shall have to undergo the backlash!”

Jill was taken aback. “What do you mean?”

“Previously, the two of you created a buzz to make people take your side in order to put pressure on the court, but all of those people are furious now! They are now strongly demanding that your daughter be sentenced to death! Under such circumstances, I’m afraid your daughter will be sentenced to life imprisonment, at the least, for her malicious actions!”

“Life imprisonment...”

Jill stared straight ahead of her blankly when she heard those two words. She stared at the lawyer incredulously. “She just stole a child, that’s all! What kind of nonsense are you spouting?!”

Seeing that she was being so unreasonable, the attorney didn’t want to talk to her anymore. He merely shook his head and turned to leave.

At the sight, Jill grabbed his arm and said, “Don’t go! Tell me how I can save my daughter! Tell me!”

The attorney sneered, “Is there even any hope of salvation left for someone like your daughter? What’s the point of saving her and bringing her out of prison? So that she can steal other people’s children? Even if you offer three times the remuneration, no one will take up your case anymore, let alone me! Unless they don’t wish to work in this line of business anymore and wish to be attacked instead!”

Jill didn’t dare to lose her temper anymore. She held on to the attorney and said, “D-don’t go, I won’t lose my temper with you anymore. I won’t ask for a refund on the legal fees, either. Just tell me what I should do now. I can’t just watch as my daughter is sentenced to life imprisonment!”

Seeing that she had taken a step back, and thinking of how he needn’t return the exorbitant legal fees anymore, the attorney looked around. He lowered his voice and said, “There is only one way to lighten your daughter’s sentence.” “What is it?”

“Beg for the victim’s forgiveness! If the victim can forgive her, she may still have a chance of a reduced sentence.”

The victim’s... forgiveness...

Jill’s head turned abruptly to Tanya, who was about to leave with Joel.

He was right. Tanya was the plaintiff of the case now, which meant that she was the victim.

Jill let go of the attorney and went straight to Tanya. When she came up to her, she grabbed Tanya’s arm and said, “Tanya, my daughter, don’t go. Help Mom out. You’re the only one who can help Mom now. Go to the judge and

tell him that you've forgiven Hillary. Tell him that you don't hold it against her anymore! Go and tell him now! Immediately! Right away!"

Her words made Tanya sneer. All she could feel at the moment was just incredulity.

Tanya stared at Jill. Little by little, she pulled her arm out of Jill's grasp. She looked at Jill coldly and slowly said, "Did you know? I've always wanted to ask you something ever since I was a child."

Jill was taken aback. "What?"

"Am I really your daughter?"

Tanya's eyes were a little red. "How is it that you can do so much and go so far for Hillary, yet be so cruel to me?!"

Jill was stunned. But immediately after that, she said angrily, "What did I do to you? Did I bring you up and keep you alive so that you can bully me later in life? You are too much! You have to go to the judge right away and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary! Or else—"

"Or else what? What will you do?"

Tanya stared at her, but there was no fluctuation of emotions in her voice at all.

Jill was shocked by her reaction. For a moment, she couldn't say anything.

"Or else you won't acknowledge me as your daughter anymore? Didn't you already sever ties with me a long time ago?"

"Or perhaps, you won't pay for my tuition fees anymore? But have you ever given me any money? "Or perhaps, you won't give me any food? That worked very well when I was young. I was indeed scared when you locked me up in that dark room and didn't give me any food or water. But I'm no longer the four-year-old kid anymore!! Jill, you can't control me anymore!"

The more Tanya spoke, the colder her voice became. "As for Hillary..." Suddenly she bent down, lowered her head, and leaned into Jill's ear. "Why do you think the Smiths didn't bother with damage control and allowed public

opinion to get to this state? It's precisely so that she could have a taste of her own medicine!"

Jill was dumbfounded.

When the lawyer mentioned it, she had thought that it was just a coincidence, but from the way it sounded now... It was actually a conspiracy by Tanya and Joel!! The fiercer the people scolded them, the guiltier they would feel once the truth was revealed!

No wonder they hadn't explained anything the whole time, and even assaulted the reporter!!

Jill's eyes widened as she stared at the daughter who seemed so foreign to her now. Tanya straightened her back and, with an extremely cold look in her eyes, said, "She stole my daughter and my boyfriend, and even abused my daughter for as long as five years. Jill, even if you kneel here for the rest of your life, I will never forgive her!

"You want me to write a letter of forgiveness? Over my dead body!!"

She turned, took Joel's hand, and got ready to leave.

However, the furious Jill suddenly rushed towards her and grabbed her. "Why did I give birth to a bastard like you?! You're a bane to the world! I should have killed you when you were a child! I should have starved you to death!"

Neither Tanya nor Joel had expected her to actually jump up and attack them in the courtroom. She caught Tanya by her hair.

She reached out and tried to scratch Tanya's cheek, but Joel already had her wrist in a tight grip. He pushed her away with great force, making her fall onto the floor behind her.

Joel looked down at her from above and said, "Please treat my fiancée with courtesy, Mrs. Jones."

After speaking, he glanced at Mr. Jones, who was in the gallery.

Mr. Jones immediately got the hint. He came over hastily and held Jill back.

Only then did Tanya and Joel leave the courtroom.

As soon as they exited, they ran into Justin in the car park. As the three looked at one another, Joel asked, "How did it go?"

One of the reasons Justin had to be present today was so that he could convince Karl not to take any further action in the gallery.

Justin replied, "No big issues. Karl is an underworld figure and has a very strong aura of one from the underworld around him. With the truth publicly exposed and Hillary Jones arrested, there's nothing he can say anymore. Besides, the Assassin Organization probably doesn't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, either." His voice turned cold as he added, "Otherwise, I wouldn't have given him a chance to leave the country!"

Joel nodded. "He has already done enough to pay back the favor he owes his old lover. Unless Hillary is his daughter, that guy probably won't do anything for them anymore."

His daughter?

The moment he said that, both Justin and Joel suddenly thought of something, and they both abruptly turned to Tanya.

The two clan leaders' gazes made Tanya a little uncomfortable. She glanced down at herself and asked, "What's the matter? Is there something wrong with my clothes?" Nothing was wrong with them, though! Her clothes were very suitable for the occasion, and nothing was dirty... While she was wondering about it, Joel suddenly asked, "Tanya, have you ever wondered who your father is?"

Tanya: "..."

She sighed and replied, "Of course I have. But every time I asked Jill about it, she would always say that he's a scumbag and a hooligan who deceived her and made her pregnant..."

A hooligan...

The word made Justin and Joel suddenly glance at each other.

A short while later, Joel suddenly said, "Don't you find that Karl Moore actually has... a bit of a hooligan-like air around him?"

Tanya: “??”

In the courtroom.

Even after everyone else had left, Jill was still laying on the floor and making a scene. “I’m not going to get up if you don’t save my daughter! You’re a good-for-nothing! What’s the use of a father like you?!”

Mr. Jones was standing next to her. At last, he said, “Stay on the floor if that’s what you want. Who cares?!”

He left right away.

Karl, who was still in the gallery, looked at Jill who was on the floor. He scratched his head.

His subordinate behind him couldn’t help but ask, “Boss, what did you see in her in your younger days?”

Karl also felt a little embarrassed.

He coughed. “Maybe I was blind back then.”

The subordinate was speechless.

He got up and walked toward Jill. Just as he was about to say something, Jill got up by herself and patted the dust off herself. There was none of the shrewish behavior she had just exhibited around her anymore. Instead, she looked at Karl calmly.

Karl coughed, “Are you okay?”

“I’m fine.”

Jill stared at Karl and said, “You have to help me save my daughter!”

Karl cast his eyes down. “You’re not in the right with regard to this matter. Neither can I bring myself to do something like that.”

Wouldn’t he be thoroughly embarrassed if outsiders were to learn of it?

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Jill immediately asked, “Do you know why I chose to beg you instead of Hillary’s father for help?”

Karl shook his head.

Jill said solemnly, “Because Hillary is not his daughter but yours!”

Karl: “!!!!”

He was astounded. “What did you say?”

Jill stretched out her fingers—there were two strands of hair gripped tightly between them. “I plucked Hillary’s hair off her when I made contact with her just now. You can do a DNA test for you and her.”

Karl was dumbfounded.

He stared at Jill incredulously. His gaze landed on the strands of hair she was holding and he swallowed hard, feeling that his ears must be playing tricks on him. “What did you say?”

Jill sighed. “You can put the timeline together yourself. When I married into the Joneses, I was already four months pregnant! Think about it, isn’t the child yours if I was already four months pregnant at that time?” Karl swallowed. “But Hillary Jones’ birth date doesn’t match!”

Jill sighed. “That’s because I delayed registering her birth for four months. After all, I couldn’t bring shame to the Joneses. You can look into it. I gave birth to my daughter in a private clinic, so they may still have records! Also, no matter what, you should have a DNA test done first.”

Jill handed the strands of hair to Karl. “Only hair with the follicles intact can be used in a DNA test. Be careful not to damage them. By the way, my daughter doesn’t know that she is not my husband’s child...”

Jill said that because she was afraid that Karl would send someone to the prison to sound Hillary out.

After saying that, she started to head toward the exit. Before she left, she added, “No matter what, you should still make sure that your daughter stays alive, right?”

Karl looked at her and narrowed his eyes. “Don’t worry, if she really is my daughter, no one will be able to take her life!”

Jill breathed a sigh of relief.

She lowered her head and said, "I won't ask for that child from the Smiths anymore. All I ask for now is just for you to rescue my daughter, get her out of prison and take her abroad! I hope you can treat her well for the rest of her life after that!"

Karl hesitated for a moment. Then, he asked tentatively, "If she is my daughter, why didn't you tell me that from the start?"

Jill stared at Karl. After a long silence, she finally heaved a deep sigh and said, "I only wanted to borrow your authority in the beginning. I don't wish for anything beyond that anymore. Besides, my daughter wasn't having any problems at that time, and you were also willing to help me, so it didn't matter whether or not I told you the truth. But now that I know that you don't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, I can only tell the truth!"

Karl kept quiet for a long while. Suddenly, he broke into a grin and said, "Jill, you should know that I am an outlaw. You know it won't end well for people who lie to me, right?"

Jill was so frightened by the way he spoke that she shuddered. However, she then said resolutely, "Go and have a DNA test done."

Karl nodded.

After Jill left, his subordinate behind him asked, "Boss, surely not, right? Is that child-stealing woman really your daughter?"

Karl, however, frowned and said nothing. In the end, he suddenly sighed and instructed, "Send someone to the prison and protect Hillary Jones for now!" "Understood."

He turned, exited, and walked toward the car.

The subordinate asked, "Boss, where are you going?"

Karl replied, "A DNA testing lab. Find me a reliable one!" "Yes, sir!"

Justin, Joel, and Tanya returned to the Smiths' manor.

As soon as they entered the manor, someone came forward and whispered something to Joel.

Joel frowned.

The sensitive Tanya asked, "What's wrong?"

Joel didn't hide anything from her. After letting five years pass them by, both of them cherished each other very much now. When he heard her question, he replied, "I sent someone to the jail to teach Hillary a lesson, but I just received news that someone has interfered on her behalf."

Tanya immediately asked, "Who did it?"

Joel replied, "Karl Moore."

Tanya frowned at the name.

Ever since Joel and Justin voiced their guess, Tanya had been feeling a little uncomfortable. Surely Karl wasn't really her father, right?

She frowned and did some calculations of the timeline around her birth date. However, she didn't think it matched.

It seemed like her date of birth was half a year too early?

Besides, it was impossible for her date of birth to be wrong because Hillary was born a year later than her. It couldn't possibly be that Jill became pregnant with Hillary when she was pregnant with her, right? The age difference between the two of them was only one year anyway! While she was thinking about it, Justin said, "It doesn't make sense."

Joel nodded. "If it's just because of an old lover, Moore is unlikely to help Hillary further. After all, the Smiths and the Hunts can control almost the entire United States. Karl's assassins may be powerful, but he may not necessarily be willing to offend two big families at the same time!"

This was also why Justin had the confidence to threaten Karl when they were in the courtroom!

Justin said, "How strange. Something we are unaware of must have happened."

He took out his cell phone and sent messages to both Sean and Lawrence: 'Investigate why Karl Moore helped Hillary Jones in prison.'

Joel also said, "I'll get my men to investigate, too."

With the leaders of the two big families simultaneously investigating the same thing, they would surely get results very soon.

After sending the messages, Justin glanced at Tanya again and suddenly said, "I still find you and Karl Moore somewhat similar."

Joel also stared at Tanya for a while. "Why don't we do a DNA test, after all? It's safer that way."

The two men's gazes made Tanya's lip corners spasm a little, and she became a little hesitant.

She had originally been very resistant to the idea.

After all, Karl had helped Jill to bully her. However, given how the two men were staring at her, it seemed like she had no choice but to do the DNA test, after all?

In the end, she could only nod.

Lily walked down from upstairs at this point.

At the sight of Lily, Justin got a shock. He hurriedly asked, "What's the matter with Nora?"

Joel also looked over with concern.

Lily hurriedly replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith. Boss is fine. She has been sleeping the last two days, so I was afraid that she would have low blood sugar. I just gave her some nutritional fluids." The two men relaxed upon hearing her explanation.

Lily then said, "Boss is sleeping really soundly. Don't worry!"

Chapter 398 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

Karl, who also seemed stunned by the plot twist, looked at Jill with a puzzled look.

Jill swallowed. She was about to say something when Justin, who was sitting behind Karl, suddenly said, "Mr. Moore, I'm sure you must know the truth of

the matter by now. Wouldn't it be rather unreasonable if you continue to help Hillary Jones fight for the child's custody?"

Karl choked.

He had only helped Jill and stood up for her on account of their past relationship. After all, if Hillary was Mia's mother, the Smiths' actions would indeed be going too far.

But now...

If he continued to help Hillary fight for the child, then wouldn't he just be making trouble for no reason?

He coughed and replied, "Of course. The Assassin Organization is not unreasonable."

Justin nodded. Then, he immediately looked at Mr. Jones, who was seated nearby Jill. The astonishment in his eyes didn't seem to be fake, and he looked like he wasn't aware of his daughter's actions at all. He slowly said, "Mr. Jones, are the Joneses still supportive of Hillary's fight for the child's custody?"

Given how even Karl wasn't going to help anymore, there was no way Mr. Jones would have the guts to step forward, either. He shook his head and stammered, "M-Mr. Hunt, I really didn't know about what Hillary did! She did it all by herself! It has nothing to do with the Joneses!" Jill looked at Mr. Jones furiously. "How can you say that? She's your daughter! Is that how you should be treating Hillary?!"

An annoyed Mr. Jones retorted, "Even if she's my daughter, I still didn't expect her to actually do something like that! She stole someone else's child! How can she do that?!" The furious Jill panicked. "Even so, you can't just ignore her! Surely you can't just watch as she goes to jail?!"

Justin didn't say anything else. Instead, he looked at the stand.

From the looks of it, it seemed that neither Karl nor Mr. Jones were intending to help anymore. In that case, Jill and Hillary would no longer be able to make any more trouble.

On the judge's bench.

The judge and the jury were already looking at one another. The judge then looked at Hillary. “There is substantial evidence in my hands, and there are both witnesses and physical evidence against you. What else do you have to say?!”

Hillary knew that what’s done is done at this point and that there was nothing she could do anymore to save herself.

She looked straight at Tanya. In the end, she yelled shamelessly, “I... I didn’t steal the child! I did go abroad, and I did go to Switzerland, but I found the child somewhere! It... It was... It was Tanya who abandoned her child! Yes, that’s it! Your Honor, you can’t convict me. I saved that child’s life! In fact, you should be holding Tanya responsible for abandoning her newborn baby!”

Everyone was stunned. They hadn’t expected that Hillary would still say such things at this point.

Even her attorney had shut up and was unwilling to defend her anymore.

The judge looked at Tanya and Joel.

Tanya’s eyes were red and she did not speak.

Joel’s jaw was clenched tightly and he had lost the usual smile on his face.

Their attorney stood where he was and sneered, “Ms. Jones, I didn’t expect you to be so stubborn. It seems like you’re someone who holds out hope until faced with the grim reality!”

“Your Honor, I have a few pieces of evidence here that will prove that she had indeed stolen the baby! That day, she went to the hospital where Ms. Turner had given birth and bribed two nurses in the hospital. That was how she had successfully stolen the baby from the hospital!”

“Also! Your Honor, these are financial accounts detailing how much money and effort my client, Ms. Tanya Turner, spent in order to search for her child over the years.

“Your Honor, as you can see, Ms. Jones shows no sign of taking the initiative to plead guilty even now! I implore you to punish her severely in accordance with the law!!”

The more Hillary refused to plead guilty in the case where evidence was conclusive, the less likely she would receive mercy in court.

Her stubbornness was, on the contrary, a positive for Tanya.

The judge frowned, and the way he looked at Hillary changed.

Hillary's legs went limp and she fell onto the chair. She hadn't expected them to still be able to find evidence of her bribing the nurses when two years had already gone by. On top of that, they even managed to get the two nurses to testify as witnesses!

It was all over.

Everything was over!

Tanya's attorney was still speaking. He said, "Your Honor, my client is a dancer with a sizable income, but every year, she pays most of her money to private detectives to engage them in search for her child...

"The millions of dollars she spends on the search each year are nearly the entirety of her income. If she had really abandoned the child, why would she spend that much money searching for her child?!"

"Ms. Jones is still slandering my client even at this point. Not only that, but she even bribed reporters to create public pressure on my client in an attempt to reverse the lawsuit's outcome!"

"I implore the judge to take serious action against her!"

As the attorney's loud and powerful words rang out, the courtroom fell silent.

After discussion, the judge finally announced, "Given the severity of Ms. Hillary Jones' crime in stealing the child, and the fact that she shows no intention of pleading guilty, let alone any sign of remorse, we will submit the case to the judiciary and have the Attorney-General's Office bring charges against her, so that they may give her the maximum sentence possible!"

Upon hearing that, Hillary slumped onto the chair.

The maximum sentence was thirty years of imprisonment!!

Thirty years!

By the time she came out of prison thirty years later, she would be old!

No, she didn't want to go to jail!!

The court had its own procedures. The court hearing today was for Joel and Hillary's fight for the custody of their daughter. Therefore, the case was closed without even the need for a full trial.

Hillary was arrested on the spot. She would be under the judiciary's supervision while she waited for her next court hearing.

The comments in the live-stream had undergone a complete reversal. Everyone was censuring Hillary.

"My god, that's so disgusting! She is so wicked!"

"Let me give everyone a summary of what happened. Not only was Jones the third wheel in their relationship, but she even stole their baby and claimed that she had given birth to her. And now, she is actually fighting them for custody of the girl? She's so wicked! That woman is beyond salvation!"

"The fact that Turner has been searching for her daughter for so many years has suddenly moved me so much. I apologize for the derogatory remarks I made against Turner when I wasn't aware of the truth."

"I also apologize!"

"A woman like Hillary Jones should be sentenced to death!"

"Yes, not only did she steal a child, but she even thinks that she's right in doing so. She shows no signs of repentance at all. If she isn't sentenced to the death penalty, then she should at least be sentenced to life imprisonment! People like her should spend the rest of their life in jail!"

"I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Thirty years is too little. I agree with the life imprisonment sentence!"

"Agree with the previous comment!"

"+1!"

"+(my cell phone number)!" "+(my ID number)!"

The public opinion reversed in an instant, and the people took Tanya's side.

When the handcuffed Hillary was being led away, Jill rushed over and hugged her. "Let go of my daughter! Let go of her!"

The sobbing Hillary yelled, "Mom, save me! Save me! I don't wanna go to jail!! Sob, Dad, save me!"

However, even after the two of them cried their eyes out, none of the police officers were moved. They dragged Hillary out.

Jill was stunned to the spot. The next moment, she grabbed Hillary's attorney and shouted furiously, "Why didn't you say anything just now? We paid money to hire you! Why didn't you defend my daughter?!" The attorney said with a sense of resignation, "Mrs. Jones, it was stated clearly in our contract that the client is not to conceal any information related to the case. Are you actually demanding an explanation from me when your daughter hid such an important matter from me?!"

He was also rather angry. "Besides, if I had known that the child was stolen from someone else, I would never have taken up the case! I have children, too. People like her should go to jail!"

Jill retorted furiously, "You're the one who should go to jail, you trash lawyer!"

The attorney sighed and said, "Alright, I'm not going to argue with you anymore. I just want to tell you this now-you and Hillary were the ones who directed public opinion on the case, right? Now, she shall have to undergo the backlash!"

Jill was taken aback. "What do you mean?"

"Previously, the two of you created a buzz to make people take your side in order to put pressure on the court, but all of those people are furious now! They are now strongly demanding that your daughter be sentenced to death! Under such circumstances, I'm afraid your daughter will be sentenced to life imprisonment, at the least, for her malicious actions!"

"Life imprisonment..."

Jill stared straight ahead of her blankly when she heard those two words. She stared at the lawyer incredulously. "She just stole a child, that's all! What kind of nonsense are you spouting?!"

Seeing that she was being so unreasonable, the attorney didn't want to talk to her anymore. He merely shook his head and turned to leave.

At the sight, Jill grabbed his arm and said, "Don't go! Tell me how I can save my daughter! Tell me!"

The attorney sneered, "Is there even any hope of salvation left for someone like your daughter? What's the point of saving her and bringing her out of prison? So that she can steal other people's children? Even if you offer three times the remuneration, no one will take up your case anymore, let alone me! Unless they don't wish to work in this line of business anymore and wish to be attacked instead!"

Jill didn't dare to lose her temper anymore. She held on to the attorney and said, "D-don't go, I won't lose my temper with you anymore. I won't ask for a refund on the legal fees, either. Just tell me what I should do now. I can't just watch as my daughter is sentenced to life imprisonment!"

Seeing that she had taken a step back, and thinking of how he needn't return the exorbitant legal fees anymore, the attorney looked around. He lowered his voice and said, "There is only one way to lighten your daughter's sentence." "What is it?"

"Beg for the victim's forgiveness! If the victim can forgive her, she may still have a chance of a reduced sentence."

The victim's... forgiveness...

Jill's head turned abruptly to Tanya, who was about to leave with Joel.

He was right. Tanya was the plaintiff of the case now, which meant that she was the victim.

Jill let go of the attorney and went straight to Tanya. When she came up to her, she grabbed Tanya's arm and said, "Tanya, my daughter, don't go. Help Mom out. You're the only one who can help Mom now. Go to the judge and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary. Tell him that you don't hold it against her anymore! Go and tell him now! Immediately! Right away!"

Her words made Tanya sneer. All she could feel at the moment was just incredulity.

Tanya stared at Jill. Little by little, she pulled her arm out of Jill's grasp. She looked at Jill coldly and slowly said, "Did you know? I've always wanted to ask you something ever since I was a child."

Jill was taken aback. "What?"

"Am I really your daughter?"

Tanya's eyes were a little red. "How is it that you can do so much and go so far for Hillary, yet be so cruel to me?!"

Jill was stunned. But immediately after that, she said angrily, "What did I do to you? Did I bring you up and keep you alive so that you can bully me later in life? You are too much! You have to go to the judge right away and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary! Or els—"

"Or else what? What will you do?"

Tanya stared at her, but there was no fluctuation of emotions in her voice at all.

Jill was shocked by her reaction. For a moment, she couldn't say anything.

"Or else you won't acknowledge me as your daughter anymore? Didn't you already sever ties with me a long time ago?"

"Or perhaps, you won't pay for my tuition fees anymore? But have you ever given me any money? "Or perhaps, you won't give me any food? That worked very well when I was young. I was indeed scared when you locked me up in that dark room and didn't give me any food or water. But I'm no longer the four-year-old kid anymore!! Jill, you can't control me anymore!"

The more Tanya spoke, the colder her voice became. "As for Hillary..." Suddenly she bent down, lowered her head, and leaned into Jill's ear. "Why do you think the Smiths didn't bother with damage control and allowed public opinion to get to this state? It's precisely so that she could have a taste of her own medicine!"

Jill was dumbfounded.

When the lawyer mentioned it, she had thought that it was just a coincidence, but from the way it sounded now... It was actually a conspiracy by Tanya and Joel!! The fiercer the people scolded them, the guiltier they would feel once the truth was revealed!

No wonder they hadn't explained anything the whole time, and even assaulted the reporter!!

Jill's eyes widened as she stared at the daughter who seemed so foreign to her now. Tanya straightened her back and, with an extremely cold look in her eyes, said, "She stole my daughter and my boyfriend, and even abused my daughter for as long as five years. Jill, even if you kneel here for the rest of your life, I will never forgive her!

"You want me to write a letter of forgiveness? Over my dead body!!"

She turned, took Joel's hand, and got ready to leave.

However, the furious Jill suddenly rushed towards her and grabbed her. "Why did I give birth to a bastard like you?! You're a bane to the world! I should have killed you when you were a child! I should have starved you to death!"

Neither Tanya nor Joel had expected her to actually jump up and attack them in the courtroom. She caught Tanya by her hair.

She reached out and tried to scratch Tanya's cheek, but Joel already had her wrist in a tight grip. He pushed her away with great force, making her fall onto the floor behind her.

Joel looked down at her from above and said, "Please treat my fiancée with courtesy, Mrs. Jones."

After speaking, he glanced at Mr. Jones, who was in the gallery.

Mr. Jones immediately got the hint. He came over hastily and held Jill back.

Only then did Tanya and Joel leave the courtroom.

As soon as they exited, they ran into Justin in the car park. As the three looked at one another, Joel asked, "How did it go?"

One of the reasons Justin had to be present today was so that he could convince Karl not to take any further action in the gallery.

Justin replied, “No big issues. Karl is an underworld figure and has a very strong aura of one from the underworld around him. With the truth publicly exposed and Hillary Jones arrested, there’s nothing he can say anymore. Besides, the Assassin Organization probably doesn’t want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, either.” His voice turned cold as he added, “Otherwise, I wouldn’t have given him a chance to leave the country!”

Joel nodded. “He has already done enough to pay back the favor he owes his old lover. Unless Hillary is his daughter, that guy probably won’t do anything for them anymore.”

His daughter?

The moment he said that, both Justin and Joel suddenly thought of something, and they both abruptly turned to Tanya.

The two clan leaders’ gazes made Tanya a little uncomfortable. She glanced down at herself and asked, “What’s the matter? Is there something wrong with my clothes?” Nothing was wrong with them, though! Her clothes were very suitable for the occasion, and nothing was dirty... While she was wondering about it, Joel suddenly asked, “Tanya, have you ever wondered who your father is?”

Tanya: “...”

She sighed and replied, “Of course I have. But every time I asked Jill about it, she would always say that he’s a scumbag and a hooligan who deceived her and made her pregnant...”

A hooligan...

The word made Justin and Joel suddenly glance at each other.

A short while later, Joel suddenly said, “Don’t you find that Karl Moore actually has... a bit of a hooligan-like air around him?”

Tanya: “??”

In the courtroom.

Even after everyone else had left, Jill was still laying on the floor and making a scene. "I'm not going to get up if you don't save my daughter! You're a good-for-nothing! What's the use of a father like you?!"

Mr. Jones was standing next to her. At last, he said, "Stay on the floor if that's what you want. Who cares?!"

He left right away.

Karl, who was still in the gallery, looked at Jill who was on the floor. He scratched his head.

His subordinate behind him couldn't help but ask, "Boss, what did you see in her in your younger days?"

Karl also felt a little embarrassed.

He coughed. "Maybe I was blind back then."

The subordinate was speechless.

He got up and walked toward Jill. Just as he was about to say something, Jill got up by herself and patted the dust off herself. There was none of the shrewish behavior she had just exhibited around her anymore. Instead, she looked at Karl calmly.

Karl coughed, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine."

Jill stared at Karl and said, "You have to help me save my daughter!"

Karl cast his eyes down. "You're not in the right with regard to this matter. Neither can I bring myself to do something like that."

Wouldn't he be thoroughly embarrassed if outsiders were to learn of it?

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Jill immediately asked, "Do you know why I chose to beg you instead of Hillary's father for help?"

Karl shook his head.

Jill said solemnly, "Because Hillary is not his daughter but yours!"

Karl: “!!!!”

He was astounded. “What did you say?”

Jill stretched out her fingers—there were two strands of hair gripped tightly between them. “I plucked Hillary’s hair off her when I made contact with her just now. You can do a DNA test for you and her.”

Karl was dumbfounded.

He stared at Jill incredulously. His gaze landed on the strands of hair she was holding and he swallowed hard, feeling that his ears must be playing tricks on him. “What did you say?”

Jill sighed. “You can put the timeline together yourself. When I married into the Joneses, I was already four months pregnant! Think about it, isn’t the child yours if I was already four months pregnant at that time?” Karl swallowed. “But Hillary Jones’ birth date doesn’t match!”

Jill sighed. “That’s because I delayed registering her birth for four months. After all, I couldn’t bring shame to the Joneses. You can look into it. I gave birth to my daughter in a private clinic, so they may still have records! Also, no matter what, you should have a DNA test done first.”

Jill handed the strands of hair to Karl. “Only hair with the follicles intact can be used in a DNA test. Be careful not to damage them. By the way, my daughter doesn’t know that she is not my husband’s child...”

Jill said that because she was afraid that Karl would send someone to the prison to sound Hillary out.

After saying that, she started to head toward the exit. Before she left, she added, “No matter what, you should still make sure that your daughter stays alive, right?”

Karl looked at her and narrowed his eyes. “Don’t worry, if she really is my daughter, no one will be able to take her life!”

Jill breathed a sigh of relief.

She lowered her head and said, “I won’t ask for that child from the Smiths anymore. All I ask for now is just for you to rescue my daughter, get her out of

prison and take her abroad! I hope you can treat her well for the rest of her life after that!”

Karl hesitated for a moment. Then, he asked tentatively, “If she is my daughter, why didn’t you tell me that from the start?”

Jill stared at Karl. After a long silence, she finally heaved a deep sigh and said, “I only wanted to borrow your authority in the beginning. I don’t wish for anything beyond that anymore. Besides, my daughter wasn’t having any problems at that time, and you were also willing to help me, so it didn’t matter whether or not I told you the truth. But now that I know that you don’t want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, I can only tell the truth!”

Karl kept quiet for a long while. Suddenly, he broke into a grin and said, “Jill, you should know that I am an outlaw. You know it won’t end well for people who lie to me, right?”

Jill was so frightened by the way he spoke that she shuddered. However, she then said resolutely, “Go and have a DNA test done.”

Karl nodded.

After Jill left, his subordinate behind him asked, “Boss, surely not, right? Is that child-stealing woman really your daughter?”

Karl, however, frowned and said nothing. In the end, he suddenly sighed and instructed, “Send someone to the prison and protect Hillary Jones for now!” “Understood.”

He turned, exited, and walked toward the car.

The subordinate asked, “Boss, where are you going?”

Karl replied, “A DNA testing lab. Find me a reliable one!” “Yes, sir!”

Justin, Joel, and Tanya returned to the Smiths’ manor.

As soon as they entered the manor, someone came forward and whispered something to Joel.

Joel frowned.

The sensitive Tanya asked, “What’s wrong?”

Joel didn't hide anything from her. After letting five years pass them by, both of them cherished each other very much now. When he heard her question, he replied, "I sent someone to the jail to teach Hillary a lesson, but I just received news that someone has interfered on her behalf."

Tanya immediately asked, "Who did it?"

Joel replied, "Karl Moore."

Tanya frowned at the name.

Ever since Joel and Justin voiced their guess, Tanya had been feeling a little uncomfortable. Surely Karl wasn't really her father, right?

She frowned and did some calculations of the timeline around her birth date. However, she didn't think it matched.

It seemed like her date of birth was half a year too early?

Besides, it was impossible for her date of birth to be wrong because Hillary was born a year later than her. It couldn't possibly be that Jill became pregnant with Hillary when she was pregnant with her, right? The age difference between the two of them was only one year anyway! While she was thinking about it, Justin said, "It doesn't make sense."

Joel nodded. "If it's just because of an old lover, Moore is unlikely to help Hillary further. After all, the Smiths and the Hunts can control almost the entire United States. Karl's assassins may be powerful, but he may not necessarily be willing to offend two big families at the same time!"

This was also why Justin had the confidence to threaten Karl when they were in the courtroom!

Justin said, "How strange. Something we are unaware of must have happened."

He took out his cell phone and sent messages to both Sean and Lawrence: 'Investigate why Karl Moore helped Hillary Jones in prison.'

Joel also said, "I'll get my men to investigate, too."

With the leaders of the two big families simultaneously investigating the same thing, they would surely get results very soon.

After sending the messages, Justin glanced at Tanya again and suddenly said, "I still find you and Karl Moore somewhat similar."

Joel also stared at Tanya for a while. "Why don't we do a DNA test, after all? It's safer that way."

The two men's gazes made Tanya's lip corners spasm a little, and she became a little hesitant.

She had originally been very resistant to the idea.

After all, Karl had helped Jill to bully her. However, given how the two men were staring at her, it seemed like she had no choice but to do the DNA test, after all?

In the end, she could only nod.

Lily walked down from upstairs at this point.

At the sight of Lily, Justin got a shock. He hurriedly asked, "What's the matter with Nora?"

Joel also looked over with concern.

Lily hurriedly replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith. Boss is fine. She has been sleeping the last two days, so I was afraid that she would have low blood sugar. I just gave her some nutritional fluids." The two men relaxed upon hearing her explanation.

Lily then said, "Boss is sleeping really soundly. Don't worry!"

Chapter 399 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

Jill retorted furiously, "You're the one who should go to jail, you trash lawyer!"

The attorney sighed and said, "Alright, I'm not going to argue with you anymore. I just want to tell you this now-you and Hillary were the ones who directed public opinion on the case, right? Now, she shall have to undergo the backlash!"

Jill was taken aback. "What do you mean?"

“Previously, the two of you created a buzz to make people take your side in order to put pressure on the court, but all of those people are furious now! They are now strongly demanding that your daughter be sentenced to death! Under such circumstances, I’m afraid your daughter will be sentenced to life imprisonment, at the least, for her malicious actions!”

“Life imprisonment...”

Jill stared straight ahead of her blankly when she heard those two words. She stared at the lawyer incredulously. “She just stole a child, that’s all! What kind of nonsense are you spouting?!”

Seeing that she was being so unreasonable, the attorney didn’t want to talk to her anymore. He merely shook his head and turned to leave.

At the sight, Jill grabbed his arm and said, “Don’t go! Tell me how I can save my daughter! Tell me!”

The attorney sneered, “Is there even any hope of salvation left for someone like your daughter? What’s the point of saving her and bringing her out of prison? So that she can steal other people’s children? Even if you offer three times the remuneration, no one will take up your case anymore, let alone me! Unless they don’t wish to work in this line of business anymore and wish to be attacked instead!”

Jill didn’t dare to lose her temper anymore. She held on to the attorney and said, “D-don’t go, I won’t lose my temper with you anymore. I won’t ask for a refund on the legal fees, either. Just tell me what I should do now. I can’t just watch as my daughter is sentenced to life imprisonment!”

Seeing that she had taken a step back, and thinking of how he needn’t return the exorbitant legal fees anymore, the attorney looked around. He lowered his voice and said, “There is only one way to lighten your daughter’s sentence.” “What is it?”

“Beg for the victim’s forgiveness! If the victim can forgive her, she may still have a chance of a reduced sentence.”

The victim’s... forgiveness...

Jill’s head turned abruptly to Tanya, who was about to leave with Joel.

He was right. Tanya was the plaintiff of the case now, which meant that she was the victim.

Jill let go of the attorney and went straight to Tanya. When she came up to her, she grabbed Tanya's arm and said, "Tanya, my daughter, don't go. Help Mom out. You're the only one who can help Mom now. Go to the judge and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary. Tell him that you don't hold it against her anymore! Go and tell him now! Immediately! Right away!"

Her words made Tanya sneer. All she could feel at the moment was just incredulity.

Tanya stared at Jill. Little by little, she pulled her arm out of Jill's grasp. She looked at Jill coldly and slowly said, "Did you know? I've always wanted to ask you something ever since I was a child."

Jill was taken aback. "What?"

"Am I really your daughter?"

Tanya's eyes were a little red. "How is it that you can do so much and go so far for Hillary, yet be so cruel to me?!"

Jill was stunned. But immediately after that, she said angrily, "What did I do to you? Did I bring you up and keep you alive so that you can bully me later in life? You are too much! You have to go to the judge right away and tell him that you've forgiven Hillary! Or else—"

"Or else what? What will you do?"

Tanya stared at her, but there was no fluctuation of emotions in her voice at all.

Jill was shocked by her reaction. For a moment, she couldn't say anything.

"Or else you won't acknowledge me as your daughter anymore? Didn't you already sever ties with me a long time ago?"

"Or perhaps, you won't pay for my tuition fees anymore? But have you ever given me any money? "Or perhaps, you won't give me any food? That worked very well when I was young. I was indeed scared when you locked me up in

that dark room and didn't give me any food or water. But I'm no longer the four-year-old kid anymore!! Jill, you can't control me anymore!"

The more Tanya spoke, the colder her voice became. "As for Hillary..." Suddenly she bent down, lowered her head, and leaned into Jill's ear. "Why do you think the Smiths didn't bother with damage control and allowed public opinion to get to this state? It's precisely so that she could have a taste of her own medicine!"

Jill was dumbfounded.

When the lawyer mentioned it, she had thought that it was just a coincidence, but from the way it sounded now... It was actually a conspiracy by Tanya and Joel!! The fiercer the people scolded them, the guiltier they would feel once the truth was revealed!

No wonder they hadn't explained anything the whole time, and even assaulted the reporter!!

Jill's eyes widened as she stared at the daughter who seemed so foreign to her now. Tanya straightened her back and, with an extremely cold look in her eyes, said, "She stole my daughter and my boyfriend, and even abused my daughter for as long as five years. Jill, even if you kneel here for the rest of your life, I will never forgive her!

"You want me to write a letter of forgiveness? Over my dead body!!"

She turned, took Joel's hand, and got ready to leave.

However, the furious Jill suddenly rushed towards her and grabbed her. "Why did I give birth to a bastard like you?! You're a bane to the world! I should have killed you when you were a child! I should have starved you to death!"

Neither Tanya nor Joel had expected her to actually jump up and attack them in the courtroom. She caught Tanya by her hair.

She reached out and tried to scratch Tanya's cheek, but Joel already had her wrist in a tight grip. He pushed her away with great force, making her fall onto the floor behind her.

Joel looked down at her from above and said, "Please treat my fiancée with courtesy, Mrs. Jones."

After speaking, he glanced at Mr. Jones, who was in the gallery.

Mr. Jones immediately got the hint. He came over hastily and held Jill back.

Only then did Tanya and Joel leave the courtroom.

As soon as they exited, they ran into Justin in the car park. As the three looked at one another, Joel asked, "How did it go?"

One of the reasons Justin had to be present today was so that he could convince Karl not to take any further action in the gallery.

Justin replied, "No big issues. Karl is an underworld figure and has a very strong aura of one from the underworld around him. With the truth publicly exposed and Hillary Jones arrested, there's nothing he can say anymore. Besides, the Assassin Organization probably doesn't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, either." His voice turned cold as he added, "Otherwise, I wouldn't have given him a chance to leave the country!"

Joel nodded. "He has already done enough to pay back the favor he owes his old lover. Unless Hillary is his daughter, that guy probably won't do anything for them anymore."

His daughter?

The moment he said that, both Justin and Joel suddenly thought of something, and they both abruptly turned to Tanya.

The two clan leaders' gazes made Tanya a little uncomfortable. She glanced down at herself and asked, "What's the matter? Is there something wrong with my clothes?" Nothing was wrong with them, though! Her clothes were very suitable for the occasion, and nothing was dirty... While she was wondering about it, Joel suddenly asked, "Tanya, have you ever wondered who your father is?"

Tanya: "..."

She sighed and replied, "Of course I have. But every time I asked Jill about it, she would always say that he's a scumbag and a hooligan who deceived her and made her pregnant..."

A hooligan...

The word made Justin and Joel suddenly glance at each other.

A short while later, Joel suddenly said, "Don't you find that Karl Moore actually has... a bit of a hooligan-like air around him?"

Tanya: "??"

In the courtroom.

Even after everyone else had left, Jill was still laying on the floor and making a scene. "I'm not going to get up if you don't save my daughter! You're a good-for-nothing! What's the use of a father like you?!"

Mr. Jones was standing next to her. At last, he said, "Stay on the floor if that's what you want. Who cares?!"

He left right away.

Karl, who was still in the gallery, looked at Jill who was on the floor. He scratched his head.

His subordinate behind him couldn't help but ask, "Boss, what did you see in her in your younger days?"

Karl also felt a little embarrassed.

He coughed. "Maybe I was blind back then."

The subordinate was speechless.

He got up and walked toward Jill. Just as he was about to say something, Jill got up by herself and patted the dust off herself. There was none of the shrewish behavior she had just exhibited around her anymore. Instead, she looked at Karl calmly.

Karl coughed, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine."

Jill stared at Karl and said, "You have to help me save my daughter!"

Karl cast his eyes down. "You're not in the right with regard to this matter. Neither can I bring myself to do something like that."

Wouldn't he be thoroughly embarrassed if outsiders were to learn of it?

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Jill immediately asked, "Do you know why I chose to beg you instead of Hillary's father for help?"

Karl shook his head.

Jill said solemnly, "Because Hillary is not his daughter but yours!"

Karl: "!!!!"

He was astounded. "What did you say?"

Jill stretched out her fingers—there were two strands of hair gripped tightly between them. "I plucked Hillary's hair off her when I made contact with her just now. You can do a DNA test for you and her."

Karl was dumbfounded.

He stared at Jill incredulously. His gaze landed on the strands of hair she was holding and he swallowed hard, feeling that his ears must be playing tricks on him. "What did you say?"

Jill sighed. "You can put the timeline together yourself. When I married into the Joneses, I was already four months pregnant! Think about it, isn't the child yours if I was already four months pregnant at that time?" Karl swallowed. "But Hillary Jones' birth date doesn't match!"

Jill sighed. "That's because I delayed registering her birth for four months. After all, I couldn't bring shame to the Joneses. You can look into it. I gave birth to my daughter in a private clinic, so they may still have records! Also, no matter what, you should have a DNA test done first."

Jill handed the strands of hair to Karl. "Only hair with the follicles intact can be used in a DNA test. Be careful not to damage them. By the way, my daughter doesn't know that she is not my husband's child..."

Jill said that because she was afraid that Karl would send someone to the prison to sound Hillary out.

After saying that, she started to head toward the exit. Before she left, she added, "No matter what, you should still make sure that your daughter stays alive, right?"

Karl looked at her and narrowed his eyes. “Don’t worry, if she really is my daughter, no one will be able to take her life!”

Jill breathed a sigh of relief.

She lowered her head and said, “I won’t ask for that child from the Smiths anymore. All I ask for now is just for you to rescue my daughter, get her out of prison and take her abroad! I hope you can treat her well for the rest of her life after that!”

Karl hesitated for a moment. Then, he asked tentatively, “If she is my daughter, why didn’t you tell me that from the start?”

Jill stared at Karl. After a long silence, she finally heaved a deep sigh and said, “I only wanted to borrow your authority in the beginning. I don’t wish for anything beyond that anymore. Besides, my daughter wasn’t having any problems at that time, and you were also willing to help me, so it didn’t matter whether or not I told you the truth. But now that I know that you don’t want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, I can only tell the truth!”

Karl kept quiet for a long while. Suddenly, he broke into a grin and said, “Jill, you should know that I am an outlaw. You know it won’t end well for people who lie to me, right?”

Jill was so frightened by the way he spoke that she shuddered. However, she then said resolutely, “Go and have a DNA test done.”

Karl nodded.

After Jill left, his subordinate behind him asked, “Boss, surely not, right? Is that child-stealing woman really your daughter?”

Karl, however, frowned and said nothing. In the end, he suddenly sighed and instructed, “Send someone to the prison and protect Hillary Jones for now!” “Understood.”

He turned, exited, and walked toward the car.

The subordinate asked, “Boss, where are you going?”

Karl replied, “A DNA testing lab. Find me a reliable one!” “Yes, sir!”

Justin, Joel, and Tanya returned to the Smiths’ manor.

As soon as they entered the manor, someone came forward and whispered something to Joel.

Joel frowned.

The sensitive Tanya asked, "What's wrong?"

Joel didn't hide anything from her. After letting five years pass them by, both of them cherished each other very much now. When he heard her question, he replied, "I sent someone to the jail to teach Hillary a lesson, but I just received news that someone has interfered on her behalf."

Tanya immediately asked, "Who did it?"

Joel replied, "Karl Moore."

Tanya frowned at the name.

Ever since Joel and Justin voiced their guess, Tanya had been feeling a little uncomfortable. Surely Karl wasn't really her father, right?

She frowned and did some calculations of the timeline around her birth date. However, she didn't think it matched.

It seemed like her date of birth was half a year too early?

Besides, it was impossible for her date of birth to be wrong because Hillary was born a year later than her. It couldn't possibly be that Jill became pregnant with Hillary when she was pregnant with her, right? The age difference between the two of them was only one year anyway! While she was thinking about it, Justin said, "It doesn't make sense."

Joel nodded. "If it's just because of an old lover, Moore is unlikely to help Hillary further. After all, the Smiths and the Hunts can control almost the entire United States. Karl's assassins may be powerful, but he may not necessarily be willing to offend two big families at the same time!"

This was also why Justin had the confidence to threaten Karl when they were in the courtroom!

Justin said, "How strange. Something we are unaware of must have happened."

He took out his cell phone and sent messages to both Sean and Lawrence: 'Investigate why Karl Moore helped Hillary Jones in prison.'

Joel also said, "I'll get my men to investigate, too."

With the leaders of the two big families simultaneously investigating the same thing, they would surely get results very soon.

After sending the messages, Justin glanced at Tanya again and suddenly said, "I still find you and Karl Moore somewhat similar."

Joel also stared at Tanya for a while. "Why don't we do a DNA test, after all? It's safer that way."

The two men's gazes made Tanya's lip corners spasm a little, and she became a little hesitant.

She had originally been very resistant to the idea.

After all, Karl had helped Jill to bully her. However, given how the two men were staring at her, it seemed like she had no choice but to do the DNA test, after all?

In the end, she could only nod.

Lily walked down from upstairs at this point.

At the sight of Lily, Justin got a shock. He hurriedly asked, "What's the matter with Nora?"

Joel also looked over with concern.

Lily hurriedly replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith. Boss is fine. She has been sleeping the last two days, so I was afraid that she would have low blood sugar. I just gave her some nutritional fluids." The two men relaxed upon hearing her explanation.

Lily then said, "Boss is sleeping really soundly. Don't worry!"

Chapter 400 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

The subordinate was speechless.

He got up and walked toward Jill. Just as he was about to say something, Jill got up by herself and patted the dust off herself. There was none of the shrewish behavior she had just exhibited around her anymore. Instead, she looked at Karl calmly.

Karl coughed, “Are you okay?”

“I’m fine.”

Jill stared at Karl and said, “You have to help me save my daughter!”

Karl cast his eyes down. “You’re not in the right with regard to this matter. Neither can I bring myself to do something like that.”

Wouldn’t he be thoroughly embarrassed if outsiders were to learn of it?

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Jill immediately asked, “Do you know why I chose to beg you instead of Hillary’s father for help?”

Karl shook his head.

Jill said solemnly, “Because Hillary is not his daughter but yours!”

Karl: “!!!!”

He was astounded. “What did you say?”

Jill stretched out her fingers—there were two strands of hair gripped tightly between them. “I plucked Hillary’s hair off her when I made contact with her just now. You can do a DNA test for you and her.”

Karl was dumbfounded.

He stared at Jill incredulously. His gaze landed on the strands of hair she was holding and he swallowed hard, feeling that his ears must be playing tricks on him. “What did you say?”

Jill sighed. “You can put the timeline together yourself. When I married into the Joneses, I was already four months pregnant! Think about it, isn’t the child yours if I was already four months pregnant at that time?” Karl swallowed. “But Hillary Jones’ birth date doesn’t match!”

Jill sighed. "That's because I delayed registering her birth for four months. After all, I couldn't bring shame to the Joneses. You can look into it. I gave birth to my daughter in a private clinic, so they may still have records! Also, no matter what, you should have a DNA test done first."

Jill handed the strands of hair to Karl. "Only hair with the follicles intact can be used in a DNA test. Be careful not to damage them. By the way, my daughter doesn't know that she is not my husband's child..."

Jill said that because she was afraid that Karl would send someone to the prison to sound Hillary out.

After saying that, she started to head toward the exit. Before she left, she added, "No matter what, you should still make sure that your daughter stays alive, right?"

Karl looked at her and narrowed his eyes. "Don't worry, if she really is my daughter, no one will be able to take her life!"

Jill breathed a sigh of relief.

She lowered her head and said, "I won't ask for that child from the Smiths anymore. All I ask for now is just for you to rescue my daughter, get her out of prison and take her abroad! I hope you can treat her well for the rest of her life after that!"

Karl hesitated for a moment. Then, he asked tentatively, "If she is my daughter, why didn't you tell me that from the start?"

Jill stared at Karl. After a long silence, she finally heaved a deep sigh and said, "I only wanted to borrow your authority in the beginning. I don't wish for anything beyond that anymore. Besides, my daughter wasn't having any problems at that time, and you were also willing to help me, so it didn't matter whether or not I told you the truth. But now that I know that you don't want to offend the Smiths and the Hunts, I can only tell the truth!"

Karl kept quiet for a long while. Suddenly, he broke into a grin and said, "Jill, you should know that I am an outlaw. You know it won't end well for people who lie to me, right?"

Jill was so frightened by the way he spoke that she shuddered. However, she then said resolutely, "Go and have a DNA test done."

Karl nodded.

After Jill left, his subordinate behind him asked, "Boss, surely not, right? Is that child-stealing woman really your daughter?"

Karl, however, frowned and said nothing. In the end, he suddenly sighed and instructed, "Send someone to the prison and protect Hillary Jones for now!" "Understood."

He turned, exited, and walked toward the car.

The subordinate asked, "Boss, where are you going?"

Karl replied, "A DNA testing lab. Find me a reliable one!" "Yes, sir!"

Justin, Joel, and Tanya returned to the Smiths' manor.

As soon as they entered the manor, someone came forward and whispered something to Joel.

Joel frowned.

The sensitive Tanya asked, "What's wrong?"

Joel didn't hide anything from her. After letting five years pass them by, both of them cherished each other very much now. When he heard her question, he replied, "I sent someone to the jail to teach Hillary a lesson, but I just received news that someone has interfered on her behalf."

Tanya immediately asked, "Who did it?"

Joel replied, "Karl Moore."

Tanya frowned at the name.

Ever since Joel and Justin voiced their guess, Tanya had been feeling a little uncomfortable. Surely Karl wasn't really her father, right?

She frowned and did some calculations of the timeline around her birth date. However, she didn't think it matched.

It seemed like her date of birth was half a year too early?

Besides, it was impossible for her date of birth to be wrong because Hillary was born a year later than her. It couldn't possibly be that Jill became pregnant with Hillary when she was pregnant with her, right? The age difference between the two of them was only one year anyway! While she was thinking about it, Justin said, "It doesn't make sense."

Joel nodded. "If it's just because of an old lover, Moore is unlikely to help Hillary further. After all, the Smiths and the Hunts can control almost the entire United States. Karl's assassins may be powerful, but he may not necessarily be willing to offend two big families at the same time!"

This was also why Justin had the confidence to threaten Karl when they were in the courtroom!

Justin said, "How strange. Something we are unaware of must have happened."

He took out his cell phone and sent messages to both Sean and Lawrence: 'Investigate why Karl Moore helped Hillary Jones in prison.'

Joel also said, "I'll get my men to investigate, too."

With the leaders of the two big families simultaneously investigating the same thing, they would surely get results very soon.

After sending the messages, Justin glanced at Tanya again and suddenly said, "I still find you and Karl Moore somewhat similar."

Joel also stared at Tanya for a while. "Why don't we do a DNA test, after all? It's safer that way."

The two men's gazes made Tanya's lip corners spasm a little, and she became a little hesitant.

She had originally been very resistant to the idea.

After all, Karl had helped Jill to bully her. However, given how the two men were staring at her, it seemed like she had no choice but to do the DNA test, after all?

In the end, she could only nod.

Lily walked down from upstairs at this point.

At the sight of Lily, Justin got a shock. He hurriedly asked, "What's the matter with Nora?"

Joel also looked over with concern.

Lily hurriedly replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith. Boss is fine. She has been sleeping the last two days, so I was afraid that she would have low blood sugar. I just gave her some nutritional fluids." The two men relaxed upon hearing her explanation.

Lily then said, "Boss is sleeping really soundly. Don't worry!"