

Chapter 513 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

When Nora heard this, she countered with a question of her own: “Why not?”

Damon didn't believe her at first. “How can that be?! Captain Johnson has already invited Q to join the team so many times, but Q didn't respond at all. Besides, because you are so cold and distant, Ruth said that your status among the Smiths may not be very high, so maybe you can't assign tasks to Q. Because of that, she told us not to give you any trouble... Therefore, it is impossible for Q to have fixed it!”

Her status wasn't high among the Smiths? She wouldn't be able to get Q to do something for her?

Nora looked at Ruth again.

Ruth stood where she was uneasily and immediately said, “Damon, those are just my private speculations. Don't word it so bluntly.”

She felt really embarrassed.

Damon actually hadn't been resentful toward Nora initially the day before. It was under Ruth's purposeful guidance that he had slowly become brainwashed and felt that working for the special department was an honor and that it was every citizen's duty to serve the special department!

This had led to him becoming resentful toward Nora. He had said, “I am going to talk to her tomorrow. Even someone like you, who has just returned from abroad, is dedicated to the country and the homeland. As the young lady of the Smiths, she comes from an even better family background than you and enjoys an even higher social status, so why doesn't she have a sense of responsibility?”

His words had displeased Ruth.

She sighed and replied, “Everyone has their own difficulties. Interpersonal relationships among the wealthy are also complex. Some people don’t hold any work positions in their families. Even though they say that they are from rich families, they just look a bit more glamorous on the surface, that’s all. Who knows what it’s like for them in private...” Damon had understood what she meant at once. He said, “You mean Nora’s status among the Smiths may not be high enough? But isn’t she the only daughter of the previous head of the Smiths? The current head of the family is the previous head’s nephew, you know!”

Ruth smiled and looked at him. “There you go. The current head of the family is the previous head’s nephew. This means that they aren’t real siblings...”

Damon immediately felt like he had understood something. He nodded and said, “I get it now.”

That was how it had led to the conversation just now.

After Ruth made that ambiguous statement, Damon went on. “At first, I’d thought that you must be quite pitiful at home, so I didn’t ask you for help anymore. Neither have I ever forced you to make any contribution to the special department. But for you to make things difficult for Ruth when you haven’t even done anything for the department... You’re too much! Are you upset that she managed to get Y to help?”

As Nora listened to him prattle on, she kept her head down and continued to use her phone, ignoring him.

She had always been someone who preferred to let her actions speak for themselves.

Meanwhile, Damon was still complaining. “I have always liked Q and Y, the two of them are every programmer’s idols. I also believe that Q is a patriotic person, it’s just that you have never been willing to convey our messages to him, that’s all! Never mind that you aren’t introducing him to the team, but how can you still be jealous of other people?”

He was really noisy.

Nora became even more annoyed. She pressed the Enter key on the phone.

Then, she raised her head.

Next to them, Ruth had already slowly opened her mouth. She said, “Don’t say any more, Damon. Everyone has their own lifestyle, we mustn’t impose our own standards on others. Being strict with ourselves and being lenient with others is the best quality one can have.”

She spoke patiently and used her words methodically to guide everyone’s thoughts. On top of that, her voice was sweet and pleasant, and she even had two dimples on her face when she smiled.

This immediately made everyone around them find Ruth even more approachable.

The contrast between the two women was simply too strong.

At this moment, Johnson and Morris also came over.

Seeing the group of them there, Johnson frowned and asked, “What are all of you gathering around here for?! Slacking off?”

“No...” Damon walked over and quickly explained what had happened.

Ruth hurriedly tried to get Nora off the hook again. She said, “Captain Johnson, Captain Ford, don’t hold it against Ms. Smith. She must have her own difficulties too...”

Johnson sneered, his eyes sweeping over Nora. He looked at Morris and said, “Morris, even though you are now the acting director, I still have a better eye for people than you! Even the person you picked trying to bring special talents into the department is so irresponsible. In this respect, you still have lots more to learn from me!”

Then, he looked at Ruth and Nora. “Capabilities and so on are secondary for people specially recruited into the special department. What matters

the most is, ultimately, still one's character! After all, this is a special department!"

Morris frowned. He wasn't very convinced.

Previously, it was because Nora had gotten a hacker to help them out that they had managed to identify the hotel that Trueman was staying at.

Later, it was only after word, that Q was working for the Smiths, had gotten out that all of them had speculated that Q was the hacker that Nora had approached. Nora might seem like a cold person all the time, but when he thought of how she had fought the people at the martial arts tournament and the boxing champion one-on-one after Quentin met with harm...

She was a loyal person who stood up for her friends and family.

If she really hadn't helped, then there could only be one reason why-Damon had upset her.

But... whether to help or not was an individual's own decision in the first place.

Morris lowered his head and said, "I don't think we should claim the moral high ground to guilt-trip others."

Johnson immediately reprimanded him. "What do you mean by claiming the moral high ground? You youngsters come up with all sorts of reasonings and use an endless string of different terms. Back in our era, all we had was a passion for the department! If everyone stands back whenever something happens, how bleak would society become?!".

He didn't hold back at all when he reprimanded Morris and didn't show the respect that he should be to the acting director.

He was deliberately taking Morris down a notch in front of everyone.

He wanted everyone to know that even though Morris was the acting director of the special department, he still had the final say when it came to seniority!

His words made Morris frown.

It didn't matter that he was reprimanded, but if Nora was the one being reprimanded...

He was about to say something when someone from the IT department suddenly ran over and shouted, "Damon, Damon! This is terrible!"

Damon was taken aback. Everyone turned around in unison and asked, "What's wrong?"

The man gasped for breath and replied, "Our network was hacked into again a moment ago. The other party has sent us a message."

Damon asked, "What did they say?"

"I am Q, not Y."

Damon: "??!"

Everyone: "??"

Stunned by the news, everyone looked at Nora, only to see her standing there calmly... If she told them that she had asked Q to help, the group of them would definitely continue to whine. Thus, she had decided that she would just use her actions to prove it instead.

She didn't give much of an explanation, but Brenda stepped forward and said, "I get it now! It's you who got Q to help, Nora!"

Everyone looked at her in unison. Brenda explained, "When we were tracking Trueman the other time, Damon wasn't skilled enough to do it. It was the hacker whom Nora had approached who pinpointed the hotel as his location! That hacker must have been Q. right? The person who fixed the network bug for us free of charge last night was also Q!"

The whole corridor fell silent.

Damon's eyes widened and he looked at Nora in surprise. "Were you really the one who helped us?"

Then, he turned back to Ruth in confusion. “But didn’t you say that it was you who got Y to help?”

Ruth clenched her fists.

She hadn’t expected things to turn around this way!

However, she’d already thought that this might happen when she falsely claimed the credit, so she managed to remain calm and composed. She even acted surprised and said, “Y said he would help, though! Wasn’t it Y who did it?”

After speaking, she deliberately took out her cell phone and took a look. “I’ll ask him.”

She went to the side and sent a message.

Brenda, however, launched straight into mockery mode. She said, “Oh my, is there still a need to ask, though?! What’s this? Are you already starting to steal other people’s credit when you’ve only just joined the special department?”

Then, she pretended to reprimand Nora. “And you too, Nora! Why are you so silly?! In the future, remember to leave your name behind after you do good deeds, get it?”

“Those who understand you all know that, even though you look like a cold person, you’re actually very enthusiastic deep down. You obviously did the IT department a big favor last night, yet you had to suffer all these ridiculous accusations after coming to the office today! It’s too much!”

Chapter 514 – The Plan of Saving Nora

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Every word of hers was like a knife that stabbed right at all the people who had condemned Nora just now.

They were all straightforward men. Knowing that they had misunderstood her, some of them immediately apologized. “Sorry about that, Nora! We really didn’t know...”

“Yeah. What’s going on, though? Ruth claimed the credit for herself just like that. It’s only because we misunderstood that we...”

“Why did Ruth claim false credit for it, though?”

While everyone was talking about it, Ruth returned. With a guilty look on her face, she immediately said, “I’m sorry, everyone! It was a misunderstanding on my part! After so long, it turns out that it was a misunderstanding!”

After speaking, she handed her cell phone to Damon.

Displayed on the screen was her chat history with Y on Messenger.

Ruth: ‘Wasn’t it you who helped us fix the network bug last night?’

Y: ‘No. When I infiltrated the system after agreeing to help, I found that the bug had already been fixed, but I forgot to tell you about it.’

Ruth sighed and said, “Y has always been unsociable and eccentric, and he rarely speaks. He didn’t inform me about it. Moreover, the moment I arrived at the office today, Damon said that the bug had been fixed, so I assumed it was Y... Ms. Smith, I formally apologize for what I said just now! You should still speak up if something happens again next time, though The department is full of men, so their thoughts are all very straightforward. They won’t get it if you don’t say anything.”

Tsk.

She was accusing Nora of not being genuine enough now.

Nora looked at her and asked, “Are you very familiar with Y?”

To think she even had him on her Messenger!

Even she didn't have Y as a contact on Messenger. The chat window in the Hacker Alliance was her only way of contacting Y!

Ruth was too much!

The rest, however, felt enlightened. "I knew it, it's just a misunderstanding!"

Elsewhere, Brenda, who had already walked out of the crowd, stared at Ruth.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly beeped.

She looked down and saw a message from Justin: 'Have you asked her? Why is Nora ignoring me?'

Brenda took out her cell phone and sent Justin an audio message: "It's all y's fault, Justin. If I were Nora, I would also be really mad! Someone named Ruth, who joined the department recently, said that she's friends with Y and embarrassed Nora! Quick, go and ask him why he has a friend like that!"

Justin: "?"

To think that was why Nora was angry! In that case, he would have to explain things properly to the public!

Justin narrowed his eyes and called Brenda straightaway. He asked, "What exactly is going on? Make it clear."

He obviously wouldn't know that a new employee had joined the special department, so he needed to ask for the specifics.

Brenda told him what had happened.

Justin fell silent. Then, he said, "I see."

"?" :Brenda

She panicked. “What do you mean ‘I see’? Ruth is no kind soul! It’s obvious that she’s a complete bitch, and she keeps making things difficult for Nora in the department both openly and secretly! It’s so infuriating! Hurry up and contact Y! Doesn’t he listen to you the most? Get him to just blacklist Ruth, lest she uses his name to throw her weight about here!!”

Justin replied, “Yeah okay, I’m hanging up.”

Brenda: “??”

As she stared at the disconnected phone, she simply felt so anxious on Justin’s behalf.

Nora was already so mad. Why didn’t he seem anxious at all? Besides, this was really a tricky situation.

After all, Y was only an employee of the Hunt Corporation. To be honest, even Justin wouldn’t have the right to interfere with Y’s right to make friends, right?

In addition, most of the employees in the special department were men. Once they cleared things up, they would all just drop it and wouldn’t hold any grudges.

As a result, the atmosphere had returned to a harmonious one now.

“Ruth, are you actually that familiar with Y?! You actually have him on Messenger! And he instantly replies to your messages too!”

Ruth lowered her head and smiled. “We’re alright, I guess. He didn’t reply to me the whole day yesterday, though, so I got angry last night. That’s why he’s paying extra attention today.”

“???” :Nora

Hah!

That scumbag had sent her a few messages the day before, but she hadn’t paid him any attention. As it turned out, he had gone to coax Ruth and

make her happy instead? Although Ruth might not even know Y in reality, she just didn't feel like paying any attention to Justin now!

Nora took a deep breath.

At this time, Damon walked up to her and bowed a little. "Sorry about that, Nora! I was too impulsive just now! I mouthed off to you when I didn't even know what was going on. I know you're probably still angry. You can beat me up and vent your anger!"

Nora: "..."

The corners of her lips spasmed as she looked at Damon. She couldn't be bothered to hit him, though, so she said, "No, it's fine."

She wasn't trying to specifically help Damon when she helped the special department, so it didn't matter to her one bit what he had said.

Seeing how distant she was being, Damon flushed as red as a tomato. He knew that he was in the wrong, so he did not dare to ask for Nora's forgiveness, either. As such, he could only take a step back in embarrassment.

At this moment, Johnson suddenly looked at Nora. "Ms. Smith, since you can get Q to do what you want, then why don't you, on behalf of the special department, try asking Q to join us again?"

Nora glanced at him and replied very slowly, "Q cannot be bothered to join the department."

She turned around and got ready to leave.

However, it was at this point that she suddenly heard Ruth take the initiative to speak. She said, "I'll try asking Y when I'm free! Y is unsociable and eccentric, though, and all masters of art have hot tempers, so he may not

agree."

Johnson was overjoyed. “That’s great! You have to help us out on this, Ruth!”

Then, he looked at Nora and sneered again, “Isn’t it just doing the IT department a small favor? I don’t know what some people are so arrogant for.” Nora: “??”

She abruptly turned to Johnson, only to see that he was already singing praises of Ruth. “You’re really a great comrade to have, Ruth. If you can get y onto the team for us, then you would be making a huge contribution to the team! I will definitely promote you!”

Ruth lowered her head and beamed as she said, “Nah, a promotion isn’t necessary. I’m just hoping that the special department will do better and better.”

“You are so self-aware! Unlike some people, who only care about themselves and never take the department into consideration! You are a much better person than her!”

Johnson continued to compliment her.

Nora curled her lips disdainfully and kept quiet. Morris came up to her, lowered his voice, and said, “Don’t hold it against them! I know that you’ve done a lot for the department.”

Nora: “...”

Was Morris afraid that she would get angry, so he had specially come over to comfort her?

There was no need for that, though!

It wasn’t like she was a child.

Nora was about to speak when a hesitant voice traveled over from the side again. “Nora... I know you’re very angry with me, but I’d still like to be a little thick-skinned and ask you something... Can you introduce Q to me? Me? I promise I won’t disturb him. I’ll only ask him the occasional question.”

Chapter 515 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

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Nora looked at Damon. The man had already lost the accusatory attitude from just now, and there was a pleading look in his eyes.

Nora sighed and replied, “Q doesn’t have a Messenger account.”

As soon as she said that, Ruth’s surprised voice rang out. “Q doesn’t have a Messenger account? How can that be?! Everyone uses Messenger to contact one another these days, so why wouldn’t he have one?”

Her words made the atmosphere turn somewhat grave again.

Everyone looked at one another, a guess forming in their hearts. However, they were too embarrassed to say it, for fear that they would embarrass Nora.

Johnson, however, was more than happy to blow things up. He immediately said, “Q probably has one, just that Nora doesn’t know his account, right? That’s why you say that he doesn’t have one. Here I was, thinking that you were really familiar with Q. Did you have to ask for your elder brother’s approval first when you asked Q for help?”

His words were overflowing with mockery!

Everyone else immediately shut up, not daring to speak anymore.

Everyone looked at Nora, hoping that she would not get mad.

Nora, however, narrowed her eyes. “Even so, I have the means to contact Q, do you?”

Johnson: “??”

He had nothing to say to that!

Just as everyone was at a loss as to what to say, someone suddenly ran over and said, "This is terrible! Someone has hacked our network again!"

The moment he said that, Damon and another member of the IT department hurriedly rushed over to the IT department.

Nora thought for a while and followed them over as well.

On the way there, Ruth remarked worriedly, "Surely Q didn't leave an opening when he was fixing the bug, right? Otherwise, why would we be hacked?"

The few of them entered the IT department just as she said that.

All the screens of the computers in the IT department had gone black. Damon was typing on the keyboard, but the screen was completely black without anything on it.

"What's going on? The other party is a computer expert, we aren't their match at all!"

"How did they hack into the system? This is too weird!" "Our firewall has always been very strong, so ordinary hackers can't get in at all. Q was the one who hacked into the system to fix the bug for us last night. Apart from Q, there's pretty much no one else who can hack into the system..." While the few of them were quietly complaining, a chat box suddenly popped up on the computer. Then, a row of words appeared:

"Hello, everyone. Don't worry, I'm Y."

Y?

The entire special department was stunned.

Damon, who was seated in front of the computer, even cried out with excitement, "Y! Oh my god, to think I have the opportunity to talk to Y in this lifetime of mine!"

Someone echoed him. "First, it was Q who invaded us today, now it's Y. What kind of sheer dumb luck is the special department having? My god,

I feel like I can brag to everyone else in this line of work from now on! This is a big boss we're talking about here!"

The people next to them were stunned.

"But why is Y suddenly hacking into our system?"

"Yeah, and with such a big fanfare too. No one introduces themselves the moment they appear, right? Besides, judging from his tone, he doesn't have ill intentions."

Someone glanced at Ruth and made a guess. "Could it be that Y has specially come over to explain on behalf of Ruth? Is he afraid that we won't believe her? There is actually really no need for him to do that..."

"It's also possible that Y is saying hi to us on account of Ruth, right? Also, judging from what he said, Y seems very friendly..."

"Can I quietly say something? Y feels more approachable than Q. Q is too cold and unapproachable~".

"What's the point now? I've already heard everything you said. Besides, Ms. Smith is still here. What if she overhears and tells Q?"

While everyone was speculating, Johnson laughed again and said, "Seems like Mr. Y is a very polite man! I've also sent him an email before to invite him to join the special department, but he didn't pay me any attention. Come to think of it, Ruth gets more respect from him after all!"

"As expected, the relationship between Y and Ruth isn't a simple one after all!"

"If all this is true, then I suddenly have a bold guess here, and that is—Y likes Ruth!"

Nora: "??"

What the f*ck?

Was this something that could be tolerated?

The corners of her lips spasmed and she sneered, “That’s not necessarily true.”

“Even if it’s not necessarily true, it’s still Ruth who got Y here!” Johnson said, “Therefore, no matter how you look at it, it’s all still Ruth’s credit!” He looked at Morris again. “You must consider one’s personality when you recruit someone! Morris, this is not an era where an individual should be trying to play the hero. Teamwork is what matters the most! An approachable person like Ruth would definitely bring more pleasant surprises to the department!”

Johnson looked at Ruth and said, “Work hard, Ruth! You have a promising future!”

Ruth, who had been utterly stunned when Y appeared: “...”

She stared at the computer screen blankly, feeling dumbfounded!

Why was Y here?

While she was still surprised, another few words appeared on the screen: “Apologies, I don’t have a Messenger account, so I can only use this method to clarify some things with everyone.”

No personal Messenger account...

When those four words appeared, Ruth felt as if a bomb had gone off in her mind!

However, the rest hadn’t realized it yet. In particular, Damon was even typing a reply excitedly: “It’s okay. What do you want to clarify?”

The others were also quietly marveling.

“Advanced hackers approach people in such peculiar ways...”

“Yeah! I suddenly find his actions so cool!”

“What do you mean ‘so cool? It’s more like ‘too cool’, okay?”

“It’s obvious at a glance that you guys are science and engineering majors. How uncultured! This is called ‘the coolest ever!’”

While they were being silly, someone suddenly realized something. He said, “Why wouldn’t he have a personal Messenger account, though? Isn’t he friends with Ruth on Messenger?” As soon as he said that, the entire IT department suddenly became dead silent.

In addition, almost as soon as he said that, another row of words appeared on the computer screen: “Just to clarify, I don’t know any lady named Ruth. Of course, if the special department ever needs my help, Ms. Nora only has to say the word and I will do my absolute best.”

The whole room fell dead silent again.

Surprised, everyone slowly turned to look at Ruth.

As if she had suddenly contracted some kind of contagious disease, the few people who had gathered around her silently moved away at once.

Ruth clenched her fists tightly.

She stared ahead of her in shock. Never would she have ever imagined that a master-level figure like Y would suddenly descend upon their department, and even hack into the IT department with great fanfare just to clarify something like that?!

How could this be?!

It was just like someone bragging outside that they knew a certain celebrity. Would the celebrity specially make a public social media post to clarify that they didn’t know them?

How would a nobody like Ruth possibly attract the attention of someone as talented as Y?!

It must be Nora!

Chapter 516 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

Y was the Hunt Corporation's consultant. In order to make herself look good again, Nora must have approached Mr. Hunt and asked him to talk to Y, right?

As Ruth figured this out, she suddenly felt like she had accidentally messed with the wrong person!

She clenched her fists tightly. In the midst of her fury, Morris' low and serious voice rang out. "Ruth, please explain what on earth is going on. Do you or do you not know Y?" Ruth couldn't help but stammer. She swallowed and suddenly said, "I, I... How are all of you so sure that this person is Y?"

Damon's jaw tensed up and he slowly said, "By his abilities. Do you think that any old hacker can hack into our IT department?"

Ruth: "!!"

She clenched her jaw. Suddenly, she lowered her head, her demeanor so aggrieved that even her eyes turned red. She said, "I'm sorry, everyone. I... I might have been deceived!"

She took out her cell phone, opened the chat window with Y, and said, "I chat with him a lot. When he said he was Y, I believed him. I didn't expect that I've actually been deceived!"

With her in tears, it would be hard for the others to continue blaming her.

However, the corners of Brenda's lips spasmed and she clicked her tongue loudly. She said, "The moment you joined the department, you claimed that you knew this person and that person. So, you've found out

that the Y you knew is a fake? In that case, might the Black Cat that you claim to know also be a fake? Which other big boss do you also know?"

Ruth's face flushed at once. Seemingly unable to bear the pressure, she ran off in tears covering her face. After she left, everyone in the special department started to whisper to one another. "What's going on?" "Maybe she really was deceived?" Johnson felt as if he had been slapped in the face. He stared at the people in front of him and suddenly said, "Alright, stop speculating What's there to say? Go and do your jobs!"

As soon as he said that, Morris said coldly, "Captain Johnson is right, go do your jobs right now! You can't get any work done just by flapping your lips! Do you think you're special just because you know certain people? Also, let Ruth serve as a warning example for all of you. Despite being a member of the special department, she was deceived by a conman! What an embarrassment!"

His words were simply too mean!

Nora almost laughed out loud.

Johnson flushed even redder. He looked straight at Morris. "You—".

But before he could finish, Morris interrupted him and said, "Johnson, the department should be recruiting people who at least have a functioning brain! Also, their character takes priority!"

Morris left straightaway after saying that.

Johnson felt as if his cheeks were stinging and burning hot from being slapped in the face. He looked at the people around him again, waved, and said, "Alright, begone! What are all of you looking at?"

Nora left the IT department with a smile on her lips.

As soon as she entered her office, her cell phone rang. She picked it up and took a lookit was Justin. She raised her brows a little and pressed the answer button.

"Nora."

The man sounded very aggrieved. “Remember to give me the opportunity to explain the next time something happens!”

Nora looked straight ahead of her and leaned back on her chair. “... Alright.”

Her perfunctory tone, however, made Justin very dissatisfied. He heaved a quiet sigh and said, “We are lovers. If even lovers have to be so suspicious of each other, wouldn’t life be too tiring?”

Nora kept quiet for a moment.

She had never been in love, nor had she ever known how to interact with people. She had merely felt uncomfortable when Ruth said that she knew Y and when the others said that Y might like Ruth. Thus, she had ignored Justin’s messages.

Thinking about it again, she had indeed gone overboard.

She looked at the phone seriously and said, “Okay, I will take note of it next time.”

“How are you going to make it up to me this time?” The man suddenly asked in a low voice.

Nora: “?”

The corners of her lips gradually hooked upward. In a lazy tone, she asked, “Do I have to make it up to you?” “Yes, you have to.” The man was just like a little puppy. He said, “Besides, I haven’t seen you for two days, I miss you. Shall we have dinner together?” Nora was about to tell him to bring the two children along when the man spoke in a low voice again. He said, “Just you and me. I will book a private room at a place where no one will disturb us, okay?”

The man’s voice was very low and he sounded as if he was cajoling her, making Nora feel as if feathers were tickling the depths of her heart. She coughed and replied, “Alright.”

Nora’s smile stayed on her face even after she hung up.

At the Hunt Corporation.

Lawrence's lip corners spasmed as he listened to his boss' shameless words. After Justin hung up with a smile on his lips, Lawrence handed him the document in his hand.

Justin took a couple of glances at it and signed it.

When Lawrence was about to step out, Justin suddenly said, "Lawrence."

Lawrence stopped and looked at him. "Yes, Mr. Hunt?"

Justin asked unhurriedly, "How long do you think it will take for people to seize my power and take over my position?"

Lawrence: "???"

The entire company is under your control, Boss! I'm afraid your uncle and his family will have to wait a hundred years after this batch of employees changes!

What the heck was his boss thinking?

While thinking about it, Justin said, "With that, I will become harmless and easy to control, right? And Uncle Ian won't worry anymore."

Lawrence: "?????"

Justin looked up at him in silence.

"... Boss, I have something to do!"

Lawrence fled the office before Justin could say anything else. He was really afraid that his boss would ask him to make up plans for the company's bankruptcy!

At the special department. Nora was notified of an impromptu meeting. As soon as she entered the conference room, Johnson said, "Alright, as evident from the investigation, the Y that Ruth knew is indeed a fake. She was deceived by the other party's skillful tricks. Fortunately, no losses

were suffered. The good news, though, is that it is true that Ruth knows Black Cat!”

Nora, aka Black Cat: “??”

Before Nora could raise objections, Brenda scoffed and said, “Captain Johnson, you must back up your claims with reasonable evidence! She also said that this Y was real when she claimed to know him! How can we be sure that the Black Cat she knows is real?” Johnson sneered. “Of course I have my own way of verifying this! Moreover, not only is the Black Cat she knows real, but Ruth has also gotten in contact with Black Cat for us! Those men that we arrested still haven’t revealed any useful information. After Black Cat heard about it, he has decided to design some interrogation methods for us! Ruth and Black Cat will discuss and jointly decide on the specific methods!”

After he spoke, he clapped his hands by himself and said, “Therefore, let’s let the little misunderstanding today pass. There’s no need to keep harping on it. Ruth is young and has not been exposed to fraud syndicates. Moreover, those conmen’s tricks are too sophisticated. It is normal that she would fall for it!”

The rest of the staff immediately echoed him. “Yeah, it’s nothing much that she fell for it!”

Even Damon said, “Yeah, it’s nothing. Besides, you’ve never seen Y either. But you’ve met Black Cat in person before, right?”

With her eyes red, Ruth bowed and said, “I’m sorry, I’ve really let all of you down. I also feel very embarrassed about it. I met Y through the Internet, but I’m good friends with Black Cat in private. I definitely won’t be deceived on that. Besides, Black Cat has already agreed to discuss with me the interrogation methods. I will definitely give everyone a proposal within the next two days!”

She wiped her tears and heaved a silent sigh. She said, “The incident with Y was a huge misunderstanding on my part. Ms. Smith, you were the one who asked Mr. Hunt to get Y to come forward, right? Thank you so much.

If it weren't for you, I'd still be thinking that the YI knew was real and be kept in the dark!"

Nora: "..."

Ruth's level of hypocrisy and bitchiness was really beyond her!

The corners of Nora's lips spasmed.

Ruth stared at Nora. Her expression was still aggrieved and apologetic, but a touch of contempt and disgust welled up in her.

The incident with Y was indeed negligence on her part.

She'd originally thought that big figures like Q and Y wouldn't be involved in competitiveness between women, so she hadn't linked the incident to Nora.

But unexpectedly, in order to beat her in their reputation, Nora had simultaneously gotten both hackers to make an appearance!

One could say that she had spent a lot of money just to make things difficult for her!

However, Q and Y were people whom the Smith Corporation and the Hunt Corporation could easily contact. With the two companies' financial and material resources, it was very understandable that Nora would win this round.

But no matter how powerful the Smith Corporation and the Hunt Corporation were, there was no way they would know Black Cat!

Chapter 517 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

She had already asked around.

When Karl first returned to the States, things had been very unpleasant between him and the Smiths and the Hunts. He'd even threatened the two heads of the families with Black Cat.

Therefore, Black Cat was definitely someone that the Smiths and the Hunts couldn't get in contact with!

No one would be able to expose her again for sure this time.

With that in mind, Ruth became rather smug deep down.

What was the big deal about being temporarily suppressed? Johnson had invited her into the special department precisely because of her identity as a master of interrogation. Only by exhibiting superb working ability would she be able to conquer the people in the department!

Nora ignored her.

This made Ruth's bow look a bit awkward.

Johnson took the initiative to speak first. He reprimanded her and said, "Alright, Nora, let bygones be bygones. Harmony must be maintained among co-workers, and there mustn't be any talks of revenge in private, understand? Also, certain people must not hold grudges. We are all a team here!"

Nora curled her lips disdainfully.

Brenda scoffed and said, "Interesting that you should say that, Captain Johnson! Originally, everyone in the department was handsome, so I definitely would've wanted the department to be whole. But now that you've joined us... Tsk, why do I not want it to be whole anymore?"

Johnson: "!!"

He could hear the ridicule in Brenda's words, of course.

But there was nothing he could do about her.

Brenda had been transferred into the department by Interpol, so it was impossible for her to ever rise to the position of director in the department. Therefore, she behaved brazenly and fearlessly.

Additionally, because she was from Interpol, she was entirely outside of his and Morris' jurisdiction. Whether she cooperated with them or not depended entirely on her mood.

Johnson took a deep breath. He could only ignore her and say, "I asked all of you to come here because Ruth and Black Cat need to understand your personalities when customizing interrogation methods and plans for all of you, so I need all of you to fill out a questionnaire for them. Ruth will send the questionnaire to all of you later. I hope everyone will cooperate with her. Understand?" "Understood!"

Everyone answered in unison.

However, somebody raised a question. "Why do we have to fill in a questionnaire?"

Ruth explained, "I have studied the people you guys arrested. To be honest, we have already employed many different methods, but have not achieved good results. In that case, we may have to crack them one by one, in which case all of you would have to cooperate with one another in acting and so on... As such, I would need to understand everyone's personalities. The questionnaire is very simple, there aren't any complicated questions." Then, she smiled sweetly and added, "Also, I will be showing everyone's questionnaires to Black Cat. I'm sure all of you will leave an impression on Black Cat, so you must try your best to answer the questions, okay~?"

As soon as she said that, those who were originally reluctant to answer the questionnaire suddenly became excited.

Johnson nodded. Then, he gave a wave and sat down.

Ruth said, "I will send everyone the list of questions that need to be answered. I hope you can pass them to me before work ends tomorrow. Alright, let's end the meeting."

When leaving the conference room, Brenda sneered, “Who does she think she is? She just knows Black Cat, that’s all, isn’t it? What’s she arrogant about? She wants me to fill in the questionnaire? Hah!”

Nora looked at her. “Do you think everyone will fill it out?”

“... Yes!”

Nora: “?”

Brenda looked up at the ceiling. “If it means that Black Cat would remember my name, then even I’m willing to fill out the questionnaire.”

Nora’s lip corners spasmed. “Do you like Black Cat too?” “Of course!” Brenda walked with wind in her steps. “Is there anyone in our line of work who wouldn’t like Black Cat? If possible, I’d even like to marry Black Cat.”

“... What if Black Cat is a woman?”

“That’s even better!” Their male colleagues who had come over at some point jokingly said, “Then we can marry Black Cat!”

The group of them walked past Nora and caught up with Ruth, who was walking in front. They asked, “Ruth, hey Ruth. What does Black Cat look like? Is Black Cat good-looking? C’mon, just reveal a little about him!”

Ruth became popular again.

Brenda curled her lips disdainfully and sighed. “Although I really don’t feel like paying any attention to her, the temptation that Black Cat presents is simply too great! Sorry, Nora, I gotta betray you for a while. Just a short while...”

After speaking, Brenda took a step forward, hooked her arm around Ruth’s neck, and said bewitchingly, “C’mon, little girl, tell big sis here whether Black Cat is a man or a woman? Is he handsome? Do you think big sis here stands a chance?”

Nora: “...”

She felt like all of them had gone mad.

Then, she heard Ruth sigh and say, “Is everyone that interested in Black Cat? Then why don’t I pick two representatives from among you guys to say hi to Black Cat when I have a meeting with him to discuss the interrogation plans?”

“Wow!”

Everyone was delighted.

Nora: “...”

Was the video conference tomorrow?

In that case, she would arrange a face-slapping session!

Nora left this group of people and went straight to Karl’s interrogation room.

This big boss still looked relaxed. He was on the sofa sleeping soundly. When he heard the door, he opened his eyes and looked at her heartlessly. “You’re here? Why didn’t you bring lunch today?”

Nora: “...”

Did he really treat her as a food deliveryman?

She grimaced and sat across from him. “How long until your business is over?” she asked.

“Soon.”

Karl crossed his legs and swayed. Nora could only say tactfully, “Tanya is very worried about you. Logically speaking, they’re newlyweds now. She and Joel have booked a flight and hotel for their honeymoon two days later. If you don’t come out now, she’ll probably cancel all her plans.”

When Karl heard this, he slowly sat up straight. Then, he said, “Two days later?”

Nora nodded.

Karl coughed. "Alright, I'll be released in two days. Tell her not to cancel her plans. Young people have to be romantic as newlyweds."

"... Okay."

Nora was extremely satisfied. She stood up and left the room before walking towards Caleb Gray. The man was still coughing. Nora reminded him to take his medicine on time and asked him a few questions. When she saw that Caleb still wasn't saying anything, she left.

Not long after Nora left the interrogation room, Karl suddenly knocked on the door.

The person guarding him asked through the door, "What's wrong?" Karl said, "I want to see Captain Johnson!"

The person thought that he was finally going to reveal information and said excitedly, "Okay, I'll go look for him now!"

Soon, the person walked away. Two minutes later, Captain Johnson, who was about 50 years old, strode over. Before he entered, he said to the two guards, "Leave for a while. Let me have a few words with Karl in private."

"Yes, sir."

Captain Johnson entered the interrogation room and shut down the surveillance cameras. Then, he looked at Karl. "What do you want?"

"I want to see Old Morry."

Karl said, "I've been making the same request ever since I was arrested the second time. When will you get him to see me?"

Captain Johnson frowned and replied, "I told you, Old Morry's health isn't good. He's in the hospital!"

Chapter 518 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

“Then let him take out my documents. That way, he can prove my innocence. I’m very anxious!” Karl said forcefully.

Captain Johnson was puzzled. “Why are you in a hurry? I said before that if you’re really an informant, you have to wait until we have a clue. It’s not suitable to expose your identity now! Otherwise, we’ll alert the enemy!”

Karl stood up. He was 1.85 meters tall and very strong. When he stood in front of Captain Johnson, his aura was several times stronger than his. Captain Johnson was so frightened that he subconsciously took a step back. “What are you doing? Look at yourself. You don’t look like an informant at all! You’re clearly the leader of the assassins!”

Karl lowered his eyes at these words.

From the time he first went undercover on the streets till now, he had been undercover for more than thirty years.

Yes, he had always been an undercover agent.

Back then, he had deliberately pretended not to care about his family and dated Jill for nothing. It was only a cover for his undercover mission.

Later on, he was framed for killing someone in an accident. His undercover identity could not hold out anymore. At that time, Old Morry had given him another choice.

The first was to clarify his identity, but because there was no evidence regarding the murder, he had to wait for the police to slowly solve the case.

The second was to go overseas and continue being an informant.

Karl had no choice at the time. He had sent many people to prison when he was an informant. If he was imprisoned, there was no telling what could happen to him!

Therefore, he had chosen the second option.

Besides, he liked this path too.

After leaving the country, he had kept in contact with Old Morry and got him to help take care of Jill. Old Morry had never told him about Jill's pregnancy, only saying that Jill had married into a wealthy family a year later.

It was not surprising that the wealthy families took a liking to Jill's face. Karl had completely let go of Jill and resumed his undercover career.

He had helped solve five major cases and made several second-class merits. With his character and looks, he really gave off the feeling that he was a bad person. Therefore, his identity had never been discovered.

However, he still wanted to go back.

Every time he called Old Morry, he would ask, "When can I go back? I got a promotion again!"

Old Morry was always amused by him. "Keep rising through the ranks. When the time comes, you might become the boss and lead a group of people straight to the right path."

Karl was a capable person. He really rose to the second-in-command position step by step.

After helping Morryh crack this criminal gang, he moved again.

After being moved around a lot, his temper became wild, and he gradually forgot about wanting to go home.

Later on, he established the Assassin Alliance. When he had asked Old Morry about it years ago, Morry had even said that it was possible.

His actions had actually crossed the line.

However, Old Morry said that he would help him report to the higher-ups and specially approved him to continue what he was doing. Furthermore, this way, he could continue serving his country.

After he established the Assassin Alliance, he would regularly transfer a portion of the money he had saved back to his “home” every year. He had gotten Old Morry to donate that money.

Over the years, he had indeed helped Old Morry crack many major cases. Many clues could only be obtained with his identity.

Until last time, when Old Morry asked him to introduce someone from a mysterious organization when he returned to the country. Morry asked him not to reject her and to bring her back to catch a turtle in a jar.

This was also one of the reasons why he had lured Trueman and the others back despite already being rich! If not for Tanya’s appearance, Karl would have left the country long ago. At that time, even if he had captured and investigated Trueman, he would not have been caught. He would have continued to be the part-time informant in the Assassin Alliance...

But now, everything had changed.

Captain Johnson looked at his deep eyes and his tone became gentle. “Of course I trust you. I’ll arrange it as soon as possible. However, after your identity is exposed, you can’t be our informant anymore. Are you sure you’ve thought it through?” Karl stared at Captain Johnson and suddenly said, “Old Morry once promised me that as long as I want to quit, he will immediately let me go. Now, for my daughter’s sake, I want to reveal my identity!”

He could not become the shame of his daughter’s life!

Hearing his powerful and resonating words, Captain Johnson continued to speak sincerely, “I know, and I understand you. Actually, I’ve seen Old

Morry and he has even verified your identity. Why do you think you were able to escape so easily the last time? You shouldn't have returned!"

Karl stared at Captain Johnson.

Captain Johnson kept looking at him. "Now, the country needs you, and the people. The mysterious organization has already revealed its hand. As long as we keep following the clues, we'll catch them sooner or later. I can help you leave now. Going overseas is much better than exposing your identity! Don't you want to make this special contribution? At that time, you'll return to the country even more gloriously. As for your daughter... she's only being gossiped about now. She'll definitely be able to forgive you and even understand your difficulties!"

Old Morry had said this countless times.

Therefore, Karl remained overseas time and time again.

In the past, he had no relatives and was alone. The struggle was nothing, but now...

Karl lowered his eyes and slowly said, "You don't have to tell me that. I'm 49 years old this year and have already been undercover for 30 years. How many decades does a person have in their lifetime? I only want to do whatever I want for the rest of my life! I think the people will understand me!"

"You-!"

When Captain Johnson saw that he was unyielding, he said in exasperation, "Why have you become so selfish now? Have you already been outside for so many years that your heart has been polluted?"

Karl frowned.

He clenched his fists. "Captain Johnson, Old Morry said that I can stop when I want to stop! This is my freedom! You don't have to say anything else. Please help me contact Old Morry!"

When Captain Johnson saw his determined expression, he knew that the decision had been made and that he could not persuade him anymore. He could only sigh deeply. “Okay, I’ll arrange for Old Morry to come over and settle the matter!”

With that, he walked out.

When he reached the door, Karl emphasized, “Two days. I’ll give you two more days. If Old Morry still doesn’t come, I’ll look for your Captain Ford. I think he will be very interested in my story!”

Captain Johnson choked and could only nod hatefully. “...Alright!”

“Also...” Karl asked, “I want a grand press conference. I think you all know how to announce my real identity, right?”

If he left just like that, those people would not believe a single word coming out of his mouth.

This was the Internet age. If he wanted to recover his identity and walk out of the darkness, he naturally had to do it in a spectacular manner. Otherwise, wouldn’t he be letting down his reputation?

Furthermore, this way, he could improve his social status and public recognition. This was beneficial to his daughter Tanya!

Captain Johnson took a deep breath. “Okay! Wait for the good news!”

He left angrily.

After leaving the special department, Nora returned home.

As soon as she entered, she saw two uninvited guests sitting in the living room. She had seen these two people before at the wedding. They were the eldest uncle and aunt of the Smiths’ eldest branch, as well as Joel’s parents.

At this moment, the two of them were sitting upright on the sofa. An uncle, who looked similar to Ian, was crying to Ian. “Ian, Joel married the daughter of a murderer. This matter has embarrassed us all!”

When Ian, who was sitting in a wheelchair, heard these words, his eyes drooped. “Karl didn’t kill anyone. Amos, didn’t we make it clear that the person who killed the man back then was that woman called Margot?”

Amos snorted. “They’re still not worthy!”

Ian sneered. “Not worthy? You all should know who he is, right? I heard that Black Cat and Black Panther are top assassins. Do you think they’re not good enough?”

Amos choked. His wife, Heather, instantly snorted coldly. “But other than us, who else knows that he’s the boss of the Assassin Alliance? Now, everyone only says that he committed a crime! He’s a criminal! We know his true identity, but ordinary families don’t! They only mock us!”

Ian looked at his elder brother and sister-in-law in front of him. Amos was like a father, but he could not support a big family back then. His ears were soft and he listened to Heather on everything.

He had even treated Joel like that back then...

If Ian had not intervened in time, the outcome would have been unimaginable!

Ian did not have a good impression of these two people. He said in a cold voice, “What on earth do you want?”

Chapter 519 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

Amos and Heather replied, “Anyway, we can’t stay in New York anymore! We want to go overseas! We’ll stay overseas from now on. Make the arrangements for us!”

When Ian heard this, he was so angry that he laughed. “Sure. Don’t ever come back after you leave the country. It saves me from feeling vexed!”

What could he do if Amos did not have the ability?

Furthermore, Joel was in charge of the family now. Ian also knew that their status at home was very awkward. Going overseas was indeed the best choice for their entire family.

Joel and Tanya were also coming downstairs as Ian was thinking about this.

Joel's smiling face instantly turned cold when he saw the two of them. He had also heard the two scourguses and he said, "No problem. Your living expenses won't be lacking either. The Smiths will support you forever! We'll provide you with a wealthy life!"

Nora also felt that this was a good thing.

Heather looked like she was not easy to get along with. Them leaving was the best outcome for Tanya.

However, when she heard Heather's last sentence, she instantly regretted her thoughts.

Heather looked at the two of them and said, "We'll definitely leave. After all, we can't live in this country with all of you! You didn't care about your face and insisted on marrying such a woman. But what about your daughter? I can't let my granddaughter be mocked in this country. This is harmful to her physical and mental health! Therefore, I'm going to take my granddaughter Mia with me!!"

As soon as she said this, the atmosphere in the living room became tense.

"No!"

"No way!"

Joel and Tanya's voices were heard at the same time, causing Heather to frown. She did not dare to speak to Joel but looked directly at Tanya.

"How can you speak to your mother-in-law like this? Although that woman wasn't your biological mother, you grew up in the Joneses. You

should know basic manners, right? Who taught you to address your elders so loudly?!”

Tanya’s chest heaved up and down as she looked at Heather and said slowly, “I know you’re dissatisfied with me, but Mia is the daughter I’ve been looking for for five years. I definitely won’t be separated from her now!”

Heather lowered her head. “Speaking of which, I have to criticize you even more. Tanya, how can you call yourself a mother? How did you lose the child and let her get picked up by Hillary? You helped her bewitch our family for so many years! Besides, I heard that she even abused the child?! This is all because you didn’t take good care of the child!”

Every word she said was like a knife, a knife that stabbed into Tanya’s heart.

She had felt guilty for five years.

She even wanted to torture Hillary after seeing Mia’s injuries...

Although Hillary was already dead, Tanya was still having frequent nightmares. She would often dream that Mia had been lost again. She would usually wake up in the middle of the night and rush to Mia’s room. She would only calm down after seeing Mia safe and sound.

Therefore, she had no way of refuting this sentence!

Seeing that she was stuttering, Heather was about to continue speaking when Joel suddenly rushed to Tanya and said, “I’m the child’s father. The child grew up under my watch, but I didn’t protect her well. In that case, I’m more responsible! Are you going to scold me now?”

How could Heather dare to scold him like this?

Their relationship had not been terrible since Joel was young. After Joel became the leader, his aura became stronger, and she did not dare to offend him!

She said, “You’re so busy with work and have to take care of the company. It’s fine that you’re a little careless. Besides, if Tanya hadn’t lost the child, this wouldn’t have happened. How can you be blamed? Tanya isn’t a qualified mother!”

“Heh!”

Joel sneered. “Then are you a qualified mother? What right do you have to criticize Tanya?”

Heather pursed her lips.

Amos instantly threw the teacup in his hand on the coffee table. “Joel, how can you speak to your mother like this? We’re doing this for Mia’s sake! We’re her grandparents, how can we hurt her? Besides, you’re not by our side all year round and follow behind Ian every day. Shouldn’t your daughter be living with us?”

When Joel heard this, he sneered.

He lowered his eyes and suddenly said, “Are you sure you want to take Mia overseas with you for her own good? For company? Isn’t it so that you can ask me for money?”

His words pierced through their thoughts.

Heather’s face instantly turned red.

Amos stood up angrily. “Joel, how can you say that? Do we have such a crude image in your heart?!”

“Isn’t that so?”

A sarcastic smile hung on Joel’s lips.

Nora, who was at the door, instantly understood.

It turned out that Amos and Heather insisted on taking Mia with them because they were worried that after they went overseas, Joel would not give them any money?

As long as Mia was by their side, they wouldn't be afraid that Joel wouldn't recognize them as his parents, right?

Nora frowned. What kind of strange parents were they?!

It was no wonder that her brother did not have a good relationship with his parents. Joel looked straight at Amos, whose aura weakened again... Right at this point...

Bam!

Ian suddenly smashed the teacup in his hand hard on the ground with a loud noise.

He slowly raised his head and looked at Amos with a pair of eagle-like sharp eyes. His voice was very cold. "Amos, I didn't expect you to still be so shameless after so many years! When you leave, the Smiths will definitely give you a huge settling amount. No matter how much you spend in this life, it'll be enough! Why are you still so greedy?!" When Amos heard this, he swallowed hard and said slowly, "Ian, that's not what I mean. Everyone knows that the days of the extended family are getting worse with each generation. Your sister-in-law and I adopted another daughter. She's going to get married in the future too. We must give it to her and her children..."

At this point, Heather poked his arm.

Amos finally realized that he had gone too far.

It was indeed unreasonable to ask Joel for money and leave it to his adopted daughter.

Therefore, he shut his mouth.

On the other hand, Heather suddenly said, "Ian, it's really not that Amos and I are unreasonable. It's just that it's really inappropriate for Mia to stay in the country. I have a video here for you to see!"

With that, she took out her phone and opened a video before handing it to Ian.

Joel and Tanya walked behind Ian and looked at it together.

Nora raised her eyebrows and walked over slowly too. She wanted to see what Heather was up to now.

The video was from Mia's kindergarten.

A group of children was playing with Legos..

Mia sat alone in a small corner, building a princess toy.

However, there were a few pieces missing. She stood up and walked to the Lego box. She was about to look for the missing parts.

However, as soon as she walked over, the children immediately dispersed.

“Mia's grandfather is a murderer! We don't want to play with her!”

“My mother said that murderers have lunacy in their genes. It's contagious. Mia, stay away from us!”

“That's right! Stay away from us!”

“A murderer's granddaughter is a small murderer. Will Mia kill people in the future?”

“My mother said she would. She might go crazy one day!”

“Ah! It's too scary! Boohoo, I don't want to die!”

The children were chattering and screaming. No one attacked Mia, but their actions made her feel hurt.

Chapter 520 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

The little girl looked at the group of people in a daze. She waved her hands. “Don’t be afraid. I won’t kill anyone. Really... I really won’t kill anyone...”

“I don’t believe you! Anyway, I won’t play with you! I won’t be your friend either!” “Me too. Mia, go away. We don’t want to talk to you!”

The world of children was very simple, so their words were even more hurtful.

If it was between adults, Tanya would not care about these words, but Mia would. She was already sensitive and fragile. Mia lowered her head and felt like she could not ever raise it up.

Mia then sighed silently and returned to her seat. However, as soon as she walked back, she realized that someone had broken the lego toy she had made.

She looked at it in a daze. Finally, she sat in the corner alone and lowered her head in frustration. She did not say anything else.

That small girl made one’s heart soften.

Nora sighed silently.

Even her heart ached when she saw this, let alone Tanya!

When Nora looked up, she saw that Tanya’s eyes were already red. She tried hard to control her emotions as her body trembled slightly.

Over the past few days, while Karl was in prison, she had put all her attention on him.

When Mia said that she wanted to go to school with Pete, Tanya had let her go. She had also told Joel to pay more attention to his daughter. However, she did not expect her daughter to be bullied in school?!

Joel hugged her shoulder and patted it gently as if he was giving her strength. “Don’t worry.” Although Mia was rejected, she was better than

the other children. She was from the Smiths, so those people did not dare to touch her.

It was just psychological isolation.

Joel had actually learned of Mia's situation long ago. He knew all this.

Joel looked at Heather and asked coldly, "What do you mean by showing this to us?"

Heather said directly, "I'm telling you that the child is not happy in school! She needs to go with us! Leave this place and change to a new environment. Live well in a place where no one knows her!"

She said sincerely, "Joel, you're in charge of the company, so you definitely can't leave. Tanya is your wife. You're newlyweds, and you're unwilling to separate. Therefore, it's best for us to take Mia overseas. Besides, if you really can't bear to leave the child, then the two of you can have another one.?!"

Joel felt that these words were really ear-piercing. "What are children to you? Are they commodities? Or are they pets? If Mia is gone, I can just get another one?"

Heather pursed her lips. "No matter what you say, I'm doing this for your own good! You saw it too. Mia is being pushed aside and isolated in school! You're still her parents, don't your hearts ache?!"

Joel lowered his eyes. "Mia is growing up. Her matters will be resolved very well. Don't worry about this. She won't care about this in the future."

Heather instantly pointed at his nose and scolded, "What do you know? Do you think Mia is as heartless as you? Do you think Mia is the same as you, that she doesn't care about the opinions of others at all? Let me tell you, in this country, with her grandfather in prison, Mia will be looked down upon for the rest of her life! Something big will happen sooner or later! You either let Mia leave with us or you divorce this murderer's daughter!"

Nora could not listen to this anymore. She said, “Who said that Karl is a criminal?!”

Heather sneered. “He is already in prison and they aren’t letting him go. They must have sufficient evidence to keep him in there. They couldn’t have kept him there just to make friends, right?”

After Heather said this sarcastically, she saw Nora looking at her with a faint smile.

It was as if she was looking at a clown making a fool of itself.

Nora was unwilling to say more. After all, saying anything before the truth was revealed might cause some unwanted changes.

She only spoke vaguely, “Perhaps he’s in there for tea with a friend?”

Karl was an informant. Going to the police station was like going to work!

Heather was about to say something when she felt Ian’s gaze.

Faced with this third brother, she was naturally afraid. She said, “No matter what, Karl’s matter has affected Mia. As her grandparents, the two of us have to interfere in this matter.”

Her granddaughter was not doing well at home, and it seemed reasonable for her grandparents to come looking for justice.

However, Joel said, “Tanya and I are the child’s parents. Her legal guardianship also belongs to Tanya and me. Even if we go to the court, it doesn’t seem like you have any right to order her around, right?”

Amos was furious. He slapped the table and roared, “Joel, do you still want to go to court with us? Don’t you find it embarrassing enough?”

Heather’s eyes turned red as she looked at Ian. “Ian, we rarely interfered in Joel’s matters for so many years, but look at this heartless person. He keeps threatening us. Aren’t we doing this for Mia?”

Ian would definitely protect Joel, but before he could say anything, Joel jumped in, “Since you care about Mia so much, you guys should know that she’s actually doing very well in the kindergarten! What are you trying to say here by taking things out of context?”

Heather was stunned. “What do you mean by taking things out of context?”

Joel snorted.

He patted Tanya’s shoulder and took out his phone. He opened the video player app. There were a few videos inside. They were all taken from the kindergarten’s surveillance cameras.

In the beginning, her classmates pushed her aside.

After all, the children were very simple-minded and felt that the granddaughter of a bad person must be another bad person.

Mia was indeed very sad.

However, after five minutes, Pete walked in with the Math Olympiad book in his arms. He only took a few casual glances before walking over to Mia and sitting beside her.

Someone said, “Cherry, aren’t you afraid that she’ll be a bad person and kill you in the future?”

Pete looked up at the child as if he couldn’t be bothered with him. However, he still said, “You’re so timid. Are you even a boy?”

Five-year-olds felt that they were already old enough and hated being mocked for being timid.

When that little boy heard this, he raised his chest. “Of course! How am I timid?! I dare to sit with Mia!”

He quickly walked over and sat near Mia.

Pete looked at the children looking over and pursed his lips. “Are you all cowards?”

“Of course not!”

“Of course not!”

“I’m very bold!”

A group of children quickly gathered around.

They surrounded Pete and Mia and watched as Mia rebuilt the Lego toy. She learned to dance, was agile, and had quick fingers. Soon, she used the Lego pieces to build the little princess from Frozen. It was very lifelike. “Wow! Mia, you did a good job!” “Mia, can you teach me?” “I want Elsa! Build another Elsa!”

Mia blushed and said, “But there aren’t enough Legos.”

“There’s more here!”

One of the children took out his own Legos and gave them to Mia. “My Legos are all here! Mia, hurry up. I want to see Elsa!”

The group of brats who had made Mia feel upset earlier was now dragging their chins as they watched Mia meticulously build the Lego models. The atmosphere became joyful. When the model was done, the group of people surrounded Mia and applauded.

“Mia, you’re so awesome!”

“I want to play with you in the next class!”

Hearing this, Pete stood up and pursed his lips. “You’re all cowards. Your mommies just scared you a little and you don’t dare to play with Mia anymore. Mia will ignore you now because the world of the strong doesn’t need fence-sitters.”

With that, he held Mia’s hand and walked out.

The other children looked at each other and stood where they were.

The surveillance cameras could only see Mia and Pete's backs. Mia suddenly stopped in her tracks and looked at Pete. "Brother Pete, I understand! I shouldn't care about what others think of me. You never played with them, but they still like you a lot because you're the best!"

Chapter 521 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

Pete nodded. "Yeah."

The two children then skipped out of the classroom.

The video ended there.

Joel looked at Amos and Heather. "Life isn't always smooth-sailing. Sometimes, some small bumps can increase the child's courage to overcome them. Furthermore, Ever since Tanya's return, Mia is clearly more confident than before! Therefore, she doesn't need your so-called care at all."

With that, his eyes turned cold as he said, "I still have something to ask the two of you. Only the children's guardians are allowed to watch the surveillance camera footage from the kindergarten. How did you know that Mia was being bullied? You got someone to steal the footage, and now you're even trying to use it to trick us?"

Joel's questions got sharper and sharper. In the end, his voice was already icy cold.

Of course Joel knew that Mia might not be doing well in school.

Joel had still insisted that Mia go. Mia was too timid. She had to learn how to face the world.

However, this did not mean that Joel had thrown his daughter out. He had been paying attention to her every moment in school. Therefore, when he saw Amos and Heather's video, he was not surprised at all because he had already known about it long ago.

Amos and Heather swallowed hard. The two of them clearly did not expect Joel to realize so quickly what they had done!

As they hesitated and thought about how to explain this, Ian said forcefully, "Amos, Heather, if there's no reasonable explanation for this, then you should know the consequences!"

Amos instantly looked up and straightened his neck. "Ian, we were anxious because we saw the video and didn't understand the situation! Besides, no matter what, Joel is our son! What's wrong with us meddling in his family matters? Can't parents control their children?!"

Heather said, "That's right, Ian. As his parents, can't we criticize him a little?"

Their unreasonable behavior made Ian take a deep breath.

He looked at Joel and suddenly sighed. "From today onwards, he's no longer your son."

With that, the entire room fell silent.

Amos and Heather were stunned. The two of them looked at Ian at the same time. "Ian, what do you mean?"

Joel looked at Ian in confusion.

Ian lowered his eyes and said slowly, "Back then, when I handed the position of the family head to Joel, I hesitated to formally adopt Joel under my own name. Now that I think about it, it would have been better to adopt him. This way, at the very least, it would've shut your stupid mouths. Not just anyone can mock my successor!"

His domineering attitude stunned Amos and Heather.

In the past, when Ian raised Joel by his side, the two of them were worried that Ian would not accept Joel. They had asked for adoption before, but Ian said that he was just a nephew.

They were all members of The Smith family. Whether they went through with the adoption or not was only a formality.

However, the two of them did not expect Ian to change his tune now.

Joel was also stunned as he looked at Ian in a daze.

Ian stared at him. "Joel, would you like to be my son?"

Joel's eyes turned red.

After so many years, he had gained a lot of knowledge from Ian and learned how to manage the company. It could be said that he was personally taught by Ian.

When he was young, everyone told him that Ian was only teasing him by bringing him along. Otherwise, why wouldn't he go through with the adoption?

He had also asked Ian this question.

However, Ian said, "Because I don't need a son. I raised you only because the Smiths lack a successor."

Joel understood at that time that Ian had never thought of him as a son. He was only doing his duty to the family.

Ian always had a distant attitude toward him.

Joel treated him as his father in his heart, and he knew that Ian had never wanted to leave any worries in this world.

He never expected Ian to make such a suggestion so many years after Joel inherited the Smiths.

Joel could maintain his composure in the face of company matters, but at this moment, he was a little moved. His voice was trembling as he said, "Of course I would, Uncle Ian."

Ian smiled. "You're still calling me Uncle Ian?"

Joel's mouth moved. He seemed embarrassed to have said that word.

However, Tanya, who was standing beside him, suddenly said, "Dad, Nora will be my aunt from now on!"

Her words woke Joel up.

Joel's lips trembled again as he shouted, "Dad."

He had not called Ian Dad for more than twenty years.

"Yes, son."

Ian responded and looked at the shocked Amos and Heather. "I'll get the lawyers to handle all the formalities. I hope that the two of you will maintain a distance from Joel in the future! After all, you have to avoid arousing suspicion! Understand? If I ever find out again that the two of you are doing something outside calling yourselves Joel's parents, don't blame me for being rude!"

His tone was filled with dense killing intent.

Both Amos and Heather were frightened. The two of them did not dare to say anything else. They stood up and said, "Okay."

Ian left another sentence. "I'll arrange for you guys to go overseas. Don't come back again."

The two of them: "..."

They had not expected that not only would they fail to trick Ian, they would even lose what they already had!

After this irksome couple left, Joel quickly restrained his emotions and looked at Nora. He asked, “Nora, Karl... What’s going on with Karl?”

Nora clicked her tongue.

This brother was indeed smart. From what she had said earlier, he guessed that Karl might have a plan.

In order not to make Tanya worry, Nora said, “I asked Uncle Karl today. He’s actually an informant. I’ve already found and asked his contact to come out. If nothing goes wrong, he can be released the day after tomorrow.”

This sentence shocked Tanya. “What?”

Joel was also a little stunned and found it unbelievable. “The boss of the Assassin Alliance... is an informant for the police? Why does this sound so hard to believe?”

The corners of Nora’s lips spasmed.

She had also found it hard to believe when she first heard Karl’s words.

However, other than this, there seemed to be no other explanation.

She nodded silently at Joel and Tanya.

Tanya: “...”

She suddenly felt like laughing and crying. After a while, she only sighed deeply.

However, Nora did not have the time to chat with them here. She looked at her phone and realized that it was already past four o’clock. She hurriedly said, “I have a date. I’ll get going then.”

Seeing that Nora was about to go upstairs instead of out the door, Tanya asked, “I thought you had to go out for the date, why are you going upstairs?”

Nora kept walking without turning back as she replied, "... To change my clothes."

Tanya: "?"

Chapter 522 – The Plan of Saving Nora

Novel Free

Filed to Story:

Joel: "??!"

Ian's head that was still lowered suddenly lifted up. He looked at Nora's back and an angry expression instantly appeared on his face.

Tanya and Joel hurriedly looked in opposite directions and pretended not to have seen Ian's current appearance.

After changing her clothes, Nora tidied her hair in the mirror again before going downstairs. She strode out happily.

She did not notice the eyes of the old father behind her filled with sadness and worry.

Joel walked to Ian's side and sighed. "Dad, actually, Justin is not that evil. At least in front of Nora, he's very obedient."

"What do you know?"

Ian was silent for a moment before he suddenly sighed. "His identity... is too mysterious. Nora definitely can't get the upper hand over someone like him. She'll be played by him."

Joel frowned.

However, he was guessing in his heart. What was Justin's identity? He could actually make Ian so vigilant?

He frowned and asked, "He is..."

Ian was silent for a moment before suddenly saying, “This is my guess. In short, you should make sure you never offend Justin.”

‘Never offend Justin’...

Joel mentally repeated the words and looked at Ian, perplexed.

Uncle Ian had transformed the Smith Corporation from a company always in second place into one that was ranked equally with the Hunt Corporation. Over the years, he had seen so much happen in the country, yet in spite of that, he had still reminded Joel to stay vigilant and not to offend Justin. Just how powerful and capable was Justin? While he was musing, Ian said, “If he truly cares about Nora, then he won’t mind even if I make things difficult for him now. But if he’s not, then let me be the one to offend him. I don’t have that long to live anymore anyway. You’re still young, you shouldn’t do things that might jeopardize your future.” Hearing the graveness in his words, Joel nodded hurriedly and replied, “I will keep that in mind, Dad.”

Fortunately, he had accepted Justin’s goodwill when he took the initiative to build a good relationship with him. Thus, the two of them currently shared a pretty decent relationship.

He also suddenly understood why Ian hadn’t reprimanded him when he allowed Justin to enter the house the other time. On the contrary, he had even somewhat given tacit approval to it. In the beginning, he’d thought that it was because Ian was ultimately still somewhat satisfied with Justin, but now it seemed like that might not be the case, after all.

Just as Nora left the house, she ran into Pete and Mia returning home hand in hand.

Pete was carrying a large schoolbag on his back, his little face was expressionless. He was totally a mini Justin. When his big round eyes caught sight of Nora, he subconsciously pulled his hand out from Mia’s.

Nora’s gaze swept across Mia. There was no sign of unhappiness on the little girl’s small face with the pointed chin, indicating that the events in the kindergarten indeed hadn’t affected her.

Moreover, Mia had always been very timid in the past and seemed fainthearted at everything she did.

However, the timid look on her face seemed to have dissipated a little. It seemed like Pete had given her a lot of confidence. Joel was right the two times when Tanya had met with cyberbullying and experienced reputation crises had indeed made Mia mature quite a fair bit.

While Nora was observing Mia, a puzzled Pete asked, “Mommy, where are you going?”

“Cough.”

For some reason, Nora felt a little guilty. Her eyes shifted about and she looked at the sky as she replied, “Mm, I’m going out to discuss some work matters with someone.” She couldn’t help but keep feeling a little guilty that she and Justin were going out on a date without Pete and Cherry.

Pete hesitated for a moment. “With who? Do I know them?”

If she said that it was Justin, how would she reject Pete if he said that he wanted to come too?

With that thought in mind, Nora subconsciously lied. “No, you don’t. I’m leaving.”

She hurriedly walked past Pete and Mia. After getting in the car, she drove out in a hurry, her face looking a little panicked.

Pete turned his head and looked at her.

Seeing that Pete was not moving, Mia also stayed where she was.

After a while, Nora’s car disappeared from their sight. Even then, Pete was still standing still.

A puzzled Mia asked, “Pete, what are you looking at?” Pete heaved a silent sigh. “At my family running out of time.”

Mia: “?”

Pete looked back at Mia with sorrowful eyes. “Mommy was lying just now. She doesn’t dare to look into my eyes any time she lies.”

Mia thought for a while and said, “Adults are all like that! Why would Aunt Nora lie to you, though? You mean she isn’t going out to discuss work matters with someone?” Pete nodded. “Mommy never discusses work face to face, always over the phone-because going back and forth to meet someone is a waste of time! She might as well sleep instead! I’ve never seen her go out for work before.”

Although Mia wanted to defend her aunt and explain on her behalf, after thinking about what he said, she actually felt like there was nothing she could refute. She could only stare at him and ask, “So? If Aunt Nora isn’t going out to discuss work, what is going out for?”

“It’s almost dinnertime. She’s likely going out on a date.” Mia: “?”

Pete continued to analyze the clues. “If she were going on a date with the tyrant, she would definitely take Cherry and me along with her. Even if she doesn’t take me, going by how much the tyrant dotes on Cherry, she would definitely take her.”

With that in mind, he took out his cell phone and called Cherry.

The call was answered as soon as he dialed the number. Before he could say anything, he heard Cherry ranting at someone. “Hey, do you really know how to play? Is your boat stranded? ... Pete, what do you need? Hurry up and say it! I’m playing games right now!”

Pete kept quiet for a while before he asked, “Where’s the tyrant?”

“Daddy has a very important meeting with foreign business partners tonight, he’s in the meeting right now!”

Puzzled, she asked, “What’s the matter?”

“... Nothing.” Pete hung up silently.

“Pete, why didn’t you tell Cherry the truth?” Mia asked.

Pete sighed. “She’s still dreaming that we will be together as a family. Let’s not make her worry, too, sigh!” He straightened his back.

Among the people in his family—the tyrant was unromantic, Mommy was obsessed with sleeping, and even his younger sister wasn’t any reliable, either. He was the only one bearing a weight that he should not be bearing at his age! Mia nodded as she listened. Nevertheless, she still tried to comfort him. “Maybe Aunt Nora and Uncle Justin are going out on a date? Maybe it just wasn’t convenient to bring you guys along. Pete, don’t think too much into it!” Pete shook his head. “What would stop them from bringing us along?”

Mia wanted to tell him that there were too many possible reasons.

For example, she was clearly sleeping in her mother’s room every night, yet when she woke up, she would always find herself in her own bedroom instead. Whenever she asked her mommy about it, she never gave her an answer.

When she secretly asked her father about it, her father would also blush.

Sigh, the adults’ affairs were simply so complicated!

While Pete kept worrying about her, Nora was currently seated in a private room in a Chinese restaurant and looking at the plate of roast duck on the table.

With the fork in her hand, she grabbed a piece of meat, planning to stuff it into her mouth. Justin stopped her with a smile and said, “You’re supposed to eat it with the flatbread.”

“I know.”

Nora looked at the numerous plates of exquisite side dishes, the thinly sliced meat, as well as the small and delicate slices of flatbread, and said disdainfully, “It’s just too much work.”

Not only did she have to pick up the flatbread and wrap the meat and side dishes in it, but she even had to dip it in the sauce afterward!. Whether one ate it in small bites or gobbled them all down, It made no difference since it all ended up in the same place anyway!

So what was the point of wasting all that time?

Justin let out a low chuckle. He picked up a piece of flatbread, wrapped a piece of meat within, and held it up in front of Nora's mouth. "Open your mouth," said Justin.

A surprised Nora opened her mouth, upon which the wrapped roast duck entered her mouth.

She subconsciously closed her mouth, her lips closing around the wrapped roast duck, as well as around the man's fingers that he hadn't been able to pull back in time...

Nora was stunned. Justin also froze. He had chosen a private room that evening. The two of them were sitting on the same side, and his body was turned slightly toward Nora. His fingers were in her mouth, and his fingertips just so happened to come into contact with her lips and her tongue...

Justin swallowed.

A certain scene flashed past his mind, and his cheeks turned red all of a sudden.

As for Nora, her lips parted slightly in a panic and she turned sideways. After she swallowed the mouthful, she looked at the ceiling and started looking for a conversation starter. She said, "The roast duck tastes pretty good with the bread."

"Is that so?"

Justin's low chuckle rang out in her ear. Then, Nora heard him say, "Then let me have a taste too..."

Accompanying that sentence of his was a large hand cupping the back of Nora's head. Then, her vision went dark as the man leaned forward and started kissing her...