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Nora stretched lazily. After stretching her body, she let out a deep breath and opened her eyes. She had thought that she would open her eyes to see the ceiling, but she did not expect to see three heads looking down on her.

The two little ones stared at her from the side.

Pete asked softly, "Is Mommy finally awake?"

"Shh..." Cherry made a shushing gesture and lowered her voice. "Mommy might just be turning around. Brother, don't wake Mommy up. Mommy is very scary when she's awake! One time, she even beat me up!"

Pete immediately covered his mouth.

The two little guys widened their eyes in fear and covered their mouths tightly. They were afraid that they would make another sound and anger Nora, who had just woken up.

Nora: "..."

She rolled her eyes at Cherry and said in a hoarse voice that sounded like she had just woken up, "Cherry, don't cause panic here. When have I ever beaten you up?"

Cherry chuckled and jumped into Nora's arms. "Mommy, Cherry missed you so much~ You don't know how worried Cherry was the past two days when you were sleeping. I couldn't sleep well and couldn't eat well!"

Pete was speechless. He wondered who had been nonchalant and playing a live-stream game for two days!

However, he did not expose his sister. Nora understood her daughter very well and only said, "Is that so? Why do I remember vaguely hearing someone playing games happily?"

"..."

Cherry blinked her big grape-like eyes. She was not flustered at all from being exposed. "Sigh, Mommy, I haven't been in the mood to do anything else these past two days. I can only play games. Even playing games wasn't as fun as usual. I could only turn my worry for Mommy into motivation and beat people up in the game!"

Pete was speechless. He felt like he had learned something from her!

Nora did not argue with Cherry.

The little fellow was worried that she would not wake up, but it was not as exaggerated as she had said.

Nora was not worried about her daughter's extroverted personality.

She turned her head to look at Pete. Indeed, she saw a hint of deep worry in her son's eyes. Pete, who was not good with words, was really worried about Nora's body. Even in her sleep, she seemed to have felt the little fellow climbing onto the bed gently a few times. He even touched her nose and was probably checking if she was still breathing.

She smiled. "Pete, did you miss Mommy?"

Pete blushed and lowered his head. "Mm-hm."

"Yes, did you miss me or not?"

Nora sat up and teased him.

Pete was not good at sweet-talking. His face turned even redder as he stammered and could not speak. Nora simply teased him. "Sigh, looks like my son didn't miss his mom! I'm so sad. Why don't I sleep for a few more days?"

Pete panicked and hurriedly shouted, "No, I, I... I missed you."

Nora laughed and hugged him. "I missed you too. I even dreamed of you!"

Pete was stunned. "Dreamed about what?"

Nora: "?????"

She was also stunned.

She had always had a lot of messy dreams when she slept. It was as if her brain never stopped working while she slept.

When she woke up, she had already forgotten her dream. How could she still remember what she had dreamed?

But her son was so serious. She couldn't say that she had forgotten, right?

Nora spoke nonsense. Her voice was hoarse as she said, "I dreamed that Pete grew up and became cold to Mommy after marrying some girl. I was so sad, sigh!"

Pete: "!!!"

Cherry blinked her big eyes at the side and asked, "Mommy, who did Pete marry? Did he marry Cherry? Then our family of four can be together forever!"

Nora: "..."

Justin coughed. "Your brother can't marry you!"

Cherry looked disappointed. "I see~"

However, Pete hurriedly said, "Mommy, your dream is too fake. I don't plan on marrying anyone in the future."

"..."

Looking at his serious expression, Nora was touched.

Justin, who was beside them, looked at their affectionate gazes and instantly felt a sense of danger. He immediately pushed Pete away and said, "Why are you staying at home if you don't want to get married? The only one who can walk with you forever is your partner!"

After saying that, he looked at Nora. Under his pitch-black eyes, the mole on his eye shone.

Nora: "..."

The corners of her lips twitched. She felt that this head of the Hunts was a little unreasonable.

What was there to compete with a child for?

She coughed and lifted the blanket to get out of bed. She realized that she had changed into a comfortable sleeping gown. She hesitated for a moment and asked, "Who changed my clothes?"

She still remembered that before she fainted, her red dress was covered in blood.

However, she felt quite refreshed now...

At the thought of this, Cherry raised her hand. "Daddy changed it for you! Plus, I helped you shower!"

Although it was Lily who gave her a shower on the operating table on the first day, after returning home, Justin helped her every day.

Nora: "..."

This man was the one who had bathed her when she was asleep?!

Heat slowly rose in her cheeks. She looked around, her eyes wandering. "Where's Lily?" she asked.

When she was overseas, she had given herself to Lily wholeheartedly after she fell asleep!

After returning to the country, had Lily begun to slack off?!

At this moment, Lily, who had just slept for six hours after taking care of Quentin, sneezed violently.

Then, she rubbed her nose.

Sigh!

She really wanted to go overseas. She was so busy after returning to the country that she barely had any free time!

Sensing Nora's shyness, Justin hurriedly said, "Don't worry. I didn't look at anything I shouldn't have."

Nora: "?"

The corners of her lips twitched. "Do you think I'm a child? How did you help me shower if you didn't look?"

Justin was silent for a moment before he coughed. "I covered my eyes and... washed."

"..."

Nora's face became even redder. So, he touched her entire body?!

She picked up her phone and walked to the bathroom. "Oh, I'll go take a shower. Mr. Hunt, please go downstairs and get someone to prepare some food for me."

Justin looked at her flustered back and smiled. "Alright. You can take your time with the shower. After all, when I bathed you, I didn't dare to rub anything. I only washed... briefly."

"..." Nora staggered and rushed into the bathroom in a panic.

Justin smiled and went downstairs.

In the bathroom.

Nora took a few deep breaths before looking at her phone. She planned to see if anything had happened during the two days she was unconscious.

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Nora took out her toothbrush first. After putting on some toothpaste, she brushed her teeth with one hand and turned on her phone with the other. She realized that there were a few new emails in her inbox.

Her attention was first on the DNA report Lily had sent her. She paused.

She had slept for almost three days this time, right?

Tanya and Mia's results were out. She hurriedly opened them and realized that it was as she had expected.

However, she quickly saw the top trending news article. It was about the lawsuit between Tanya and Hillary. She instantly realized that Tanya and Joel already knew the truth.

Yes, it seemed like he had taken the email to heart.

As she thought about this, she casually browsed through the inbox. When she did not see any urgent messages, she put down her phone and focused on brushing her teeth.

As she brushed her teeth, her eyes slowly darkened.

Her happy mood after being teased by the two children slowly became heavy.

Quentin was still in the hospital.

All the bones in his body had shattered. She did not know if he still had a chance to stand up.

Thinking about this, Nora decided to spend some time in the future to think about all kinds of ways to make him stand up.

Yes, according to modern medicine, there was nothing they could do.

Then, she could only look at it from alternative medicine. She vaguely remembered that there was a saying about bone refinement in ancient traditional medicine.

However, that method had been lost for a long time. She did not know if she could still find the relevant information.

With this in mind, she started brushing her teeth faster and faster. After spitting out the water in her mouth, she took a shower and changed into a black top and light-colored jeans before leaving.

Her long hair was half dry as it fluttered behind her.

She went downstairs feeling refreshed when she heard Cherry shouting, "Mommy is out!"

Then, enthusiastic applause erupted downstairs.

Nora: "????"

She walked down with a head full of question marks. Then, she saw Ian, Joel, Tanya, Warren, Maureen, Louis, Brandon, Mia, Cherry, Pete, and Justin sitting on the living room sofa.

The group of people raised their heads in unison and stared at her as if she was some kind of leader.

Nora: "..."

She twitched her lips and went downstairs. Facing this situation, she did not have any intention of being shy. Instead, she looked at Ian first. "Why are you home?"

Ian's body was still quite weak. He needed all kinds of medical equipment in the hospital to help monitor his vital signs. It was dangerous for him to come home.

Ian heaved a sigh of relief when he saw his daughter looking at him first.

To be honest, although the father and daughter had reunited, their relationship was relatively distant.

Nora was born with a cold personality, but Ian was a little embarrassed. After all, when they had just reunited, he still wanted to die and not stay behind to accompany his daughter. Therefore, he was a little embarrassed.

However, his daughter didn't seem to care about the past. He said, "I'm fine."

Nora frowned and said slowly, "I'm going to eat. I'll go to the hospital to see Quentin later and take you over too."

It had not been easy to save Quentin's life. If she was not careful and something happened to Ian, the gains would not make up for the losses!

When Joel heard this, he looked at Ian.

Over the past few days, he had tried to persuade Uncle Ian to go to the hospital many times, but Uncle Ian was stubborn and refused to leave. Now that his little sister had spoken...

As expected, although Ian was still unwilling, he still said obediently, "Okay."

Joel: "..."

Therefore, even Uncle Ian was subdued by his little sister!

The corners of his lips twitched. Then, the family followed Nora to the dining room.

The Smiths' dining table was very long. There were 10 chairs on each side.

Now, everyone was sitting at the dining table obediently. There was nothing in front of them. They all turned to look at the only person sitting there eating.

Nora: "..."

Suddenly, she felt that the porridge in front of her was a little hot.

It was rare that she could not drink a bowl of porridge in a few gulps like she usually did. Under the gaze of more than ten pairs of eyes from the nannies, she took a spoon and drank it one mouthful at a time.

The small bowl of porridge took half an hour to finish.

After finishing, she looked at the group of people and suddenly asked, "Are you guys... not busy?"

Tanya answered for the children and herself, "It's the weekend."

Joel: "Yes, the rest of us don't work, either."

Nora: "..."

She took a tissue and elegantly wiped the corners of her mouth. Then, she coughed and glanced at Justin.

Justin chuckled softly and stood up to say, "Alright, everyone, disperse! Nora is feeling awkward that you guys are all gathered here."

Nora: "?"

Who was awkward?

They quickly stood up.

Warren and Maureen said, "Well, little sister, if there's anything you need, just tell us!"

Joel and Tanya looked at each other and said calmly, "I'll take Uncle Ian back to the hospital with you!"

Ian: "..."

Seeing that everyone had spoken, Louis thought for a long time before finally saying, "Sis, if there's anything you can't spend, feel free to ask me for help~"

"..."

The family finally dispersed. Nora heaved a sigh of relief.

She stood up. "Let's go to the hospital."

The group followed her majestically and went to the hospital in two separate cars.

Nora first took Ian back to the VIP ward. After confirming that all his organs were fine, she then walked towards Quentin's ward.

On the way, Joel and Justin sensed her silence.

Joel said, "Quentin hasn't complained about being dispirited or cried over the past two days. Don't worry."

Nora nodded.

However, just because Quentin did not cry or complain did not mean that he was not in pain.

That young man loved to be in the limelight.

Now, he was all alone on the hospital bed and could not even move his neck.

With this thought in mind, she walked to Quentin's ICU ward.

To be precise, Quentin was not out of danger yet, so he was still in the ICU.

At this moment, just as they approached, they heard Quentin's pained voice. "God, just let me die!"

The people outside: ??

Joel: "?"

They were just saying that Quentin did not complain about life. Why was he suddenly looking for death?!

He was about to explain when he heard Lily's pained voice. "Don't. Wouldn't it be a pity if someone as handsome as you died? Stay, don't move. I'll wipe your face~"

Quentin: "...Ahhhh, you damn pervert, get lost! You're bullying me because I can't move! God, I'll just die!"

The corners of Joel's lips spasmed.

Tanya could not help but ask, "Should we... maybe... not go in now? Would we disturb them?"

Her words made the four of them stand outside in a pause.

Nora took out her phone and opened her email inbox in boredom. She also opened Black Cat's exclusive Internet chats.

These were all her habits.

After a long break, she would log on to various platforms to see if anyone was sending her messages.

On Black Cat's exclusive webpage chat interface, there were many messages. She first opened Karl Moore's chat window and saw his message. "Black Cat, please do me a favor. Can you help me steal a person's DNA sample?"

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When she saw Karl Moore's message, Nora was a little stunned.

Joel and Tanya's lawsuit was spread all over the Internet. However, Karl Moore's name was definitely not written in those reports because those people did not know of his existence.

Therefore, Nora still did not know that Karl Moore was already in New York.

She casually typed a few words: "I'm in New York. It's not convenient."

Karl Moore seemed to be staring at the chat. The moment she sent the message, he replied: "The person I want is also in New York. It's very convenient. By the way, I'm also here. Why don't we meet?"

Nora ignored his request to meet. "...Whose DNA is it?"

Although Karl Moore was a foreign underworld force and the leader of the Assassin Organization, he was not a bad person in the traditional sense.

Based on his neutral rules in the Assassin Organization and the fact that he would not casually kill women and children, Nora had a good impression of him.

Moreover, although he looked stupid and silly, he was actually a very upright and smart person.

Over the past three years, their collaboration had been very fruitful. She was also very satisfied with some of Karl Moore's actions, so she had long treated Karl Moore as a friend. She would help resolve some of his requests if they were not very troublesome.

After sending this message, she saw Karl Moore reply: "It's a young lady called Tanya."

Nora: "?"

She stared at the word "Tanya" for a long time before suddenly looking up at the Tanya standing in front of her.

Was this Tanya the same Tanya she knew?

As she was thinking, Karl Moore's news came again. "She's currently in the Smiths and is being protected. I've also brought a few people over. But you know, in New York, strong dragons cannot suppress local snakes."

Nora: "..."

She pursed her lips and asked, "Why do you want her DNA?"

Karl Moore: "Sigh, I'm wondering if she's my daughter."

Nora: "..."

What was going on?

Not even television dramas would dare to write something like that!

She grimaced and replied: "OK, wait."

After sending the message, she casually put away her phone and looked up at Tanya.

Tanya: "...What's wrong with me? I'm not wearing the right clothes? My pants aren't zipped?"

Nora: "..."

Tanya's voice was a little loud. After she said that, the people in the ward sensed the sound outside and immediately fell silent.

Then she heard footsteps and the door opened.

The tall Lily always had exquisite makeup on. She was wearing high heels and had a smile on her face. "Boss, Miss Tanya, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Smith, you're all here?"

Nora nodded and entered the ward.

Quentin lay on the bed and could not move. His face was very clean, but there were still traces of friction on his cheeks. Some places were a little red.

When he saw Nora, he instantly looked like he had nothing to live for. "Little cousin, can you chase this Lily away for me?"

Nora: "...Not for the time being. Although she's my assistant, she's also the best surgeon. Your injuries are too serious. The other doctors can't clean you as carefully as she can."

Quentin was covered in wounds. He had to undergo strict disinfection and debridement every day.

Hearing this, Quentin sighed heavily.

Lily said, "What's with your expression? I'm not going to eat you! At most, I like your face a little. Besides, it's already good that I don't mind you lying there!"

When Quentin heard this, he looked at Nora angrily. "Little cousin, when can I stand up again?! I'm almost done being harassed by your assistant!"

"..."

As soon as he said this, the entire room fell silent.

Nora then realized that Quentin had always had a good mentality no one had ever told him that he might not be able to stand up in this life.

She looked at Joel and saw him turn his head away. His eyes were flickering a little as if he did not dare to look at Quentin directly.

Justin held her hand.

When Lily heard this, she was about to say something when Nora suddenly said, "Maybe half a year, maybe a year, maybe two years... Don't worry, I will make you stand up again."

Quentin agreed. "I believe you."

These four words were like a huge rock pressing on Nora.

She lowered her eyes and suddenly smiled. "Don't worry."

As soon as he finished speaking, Quentin looked at Lily. "But while you do that, can you hire a nurse for me?! Brother, is our family so poor? Why do we need this doctor to take care of me? I need someone else!"

Joel: "..."

Lily told him coldly, "Because, at the moment, ordinary nurses are not allowed to take care of you due to your injuries. It can only be me."

With that, she sighed. "I have already cleaned your body countless times while you were unconscious. Why are you so shy? Your fair skin is actually no different from a pig in my eyes... Don't worry, I won't tell anyone about the mole on your butt."

Quentin: "..."

Everyone else, "..."

Quentin was silent for a moment before suddenly closing his eyes. "Can someone cover my face with a blanket?"

He did not want to live anymore!!!

The others laughed.

At this moment, Lily pursed her lips and said, "Alright, alright. I'll get another nurse to take care of you. I'm going back to rest well today!"

With that, she yawned. "Yesterday, Mr. Hunt and Mr. Smith asked me to help them with a DNA test. I waited for two hours and didn't get a sample. I didn't even get enough sleep! I should finally be able to sleep well today, right?"

"DNA?"

Nora was stunned and looked at Joel and Justin.

Justin explained faintly, "Karl Moore came to New York. We suspect that he might be related to Tanya by blood, so we wanted to test him."

After saying that, Joel frowned. "But the killers around Karl Moore are too difficult to deal with. We sent many people, but they didn't get close to him, so we haven't gotten any DNA samples."

Nora: "..."

Her lips suddenly twitched.

Lily did not notice her abnormality. She stretched and said, "Okay, continue discussing. Call me when you get the samples. Of course, it would be best if that could take at least 12 hours! I'm going back to sleep."

However, before she could reach the door, she heard Nora cough. "Lily, maybe you shouldn't sleep yet?"

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Lily: "???"

She almost doubted her life. She looked at her boss in disbelief. "Boss?"

Nora coughed and stood up. "Yes, I'll get you a DNA sample now."

Lily was speechless.

When Nora walked out, Justin had already stood up and started following beside her. "I'll accompany you."

Nora thought for a moment and said, "Alright."

With that, she walked toward Tanya.

Tanya stood up in confusion. "What? You want another hug? Since when are you so attached to me? Be careful or your Mr. Hunt will be jealous!"

Before she could finish, Nora pulled two strands of her hair.

Tanya: "???"

She covered her head. "Nora! If you want DNA next time, I can give you finger blood. Can you stop pulling my hair? I'm going to become bald!"

"It's fine. I'll treat you if you're bald."

Nora waved her hand casually and skillfully took out a bag specially used to store these things. She placed the two strands of hair in it.

Then, she and Justin went downstairs.

Justin drove while Nora took out her phone and sent a message to Karl Moore. "Address."

After Karl Moore replied with the hotel's address, he said, "How many days do you need?"

When the people standing behind Karl Moore saw this news, they immediately began to guess.

"I think it would take at least half a day for Black Cat to steal a DNA sample! Black Cat spent two days assassinating the boss of that organization!"

"A day! The Smiths aren't any better than the organization over there. Furthermore, the organization over at Burundi doesn't have much discipline. The Smiths' security system is very impressive. I've already investigated. It's very difficult to break through so many security measures and reach Tanya!"

"I think it would take two days! Because one of them went out just now, I sent someone to follow behind. In the end, I realized that whenever they went out, there were more than fifty security guards and bodyguards following them in secret! Isn't this too scary?"

Ian went out with more than ten bodyguards.

Joel went out with more than ten people.

Justin went out with 18 people.

In total, weren't there more than 50 people following Nora?

When Karl Moore heard this, he could feel his temples throbbing. "More than fifty? I only bring a dozen of you when I go out. Is my lineup a little weak?"

The person behind him twitched his lips. "If you bring out more than fifty people from the organization, who would be left to do our missions?"

Karl Moore coughed and sighed. "What does this mean? It means that the best among us assassins are still not enough!"

"..."

Beep. A message notification chimed. Karl Moore looked at his phone. "Come on, let's see how long Black Cat will take!"

However, when he opened it, Karl Moore's expression changed.

Seeing the extremely strange look on his face, the subordinates immediately asked, "Boss, what's wrong? Is the time that Black Cat needs too much?"

"Could it be four days? This is a little difficult. There's a cost to protecting Hillary in prison. If it's more than four days, we might as well break Hillary out of prison first!"

"It couldn't be that Black Cat can't break through the Smiths' security guards and get Tanya's DNA, right? But thinking about it, the Smiths' defense line is indeed not that easy to break."

"Hahahaha, Black Cat has finally encountered something he can't handle. Why do I suddenly feel like laughing so much?"

"..."

As they giggled, Karl Moore looked up. "Black Cat said half an hour."

"..."

The entire hotel suddenly fell silent.

The group of assassins looked at each other and finally couldn't help but swear.

"Holy shit!"

"It's fake, right?"

"Black Cat is bragging too much this time!"

"Hehe, then I'll laugh at Black Cat in half an hour!"

The group of people waited to see the joke. Half an hour passed quickly.

Karl Moore took out his phone and was about to send a message to Black Cat when he received a message. "It's here. Go downstairs."

Karl Moore was speechless.

He looked at his subordinates in shock. Their mouths were wide open in disbelief.

Karl Moore coughed and adjusted his clothes before standing up. "I'll go downstairs and take a look. Put away your inexperienced looks. You're really embarrassing me!"

"As the number one assassination organization, you should learn the efficiency of Black Cat!"

Someone asked, "Boss, Boss, I just want to ask, who is this Black Cat? This efficiency is not something that can be achieved by humans, right?"

"Is Black Cat not human?"

His words made everyone stand up straight.

They all swallowed.

Actually, after Black Cat had killed in Burundi, the assassins started sharing myths about him. But now, they suddenly felt that the myths were not enough?

Karl Moore no longer bothered with these brats and took them downstairs.

People were coming and going in the lobby downstairs.

Karl Moore went downstairs and stood in the lobby, looking around. His subordinates spread out on both sides, not letting anyone disturb him.

Karl Moore was already very excited. He wanted to see what the legendary Black Cat looked like.

He narrowed his eyes and was looking around when a thin figure rushed straight at him!

The surrounding killers agilely wanted to stop him, but the man seemed to have been pushed by someone. He avoided everyone just in time and bumped into Karl Moore!

Karl Moore felt a sting on his head.

Then, the person immediately apologized. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry..."

Just as Karl Moore was about to catch this person, a voice sounded from afar. "Karl Moore..."

He subconsciously thought it was Black Cat. He turned his head but saw no one in the distance.

When he came back to his senses, the person who had bumped into him had also disappeared!!

It was as if he had bumped into a ghost. He shouted for bad luck and took out his phone. Just as he was about to send a message to Black Cat, he saw a message: "Left pocket of your suit."

Karl Moore: "?"

He was stunned. Then, he lowered his head and looked at his left pocket. There was a bag quietly sitting inside. In the bag were two strands of hair.

Karl Moore was speechless.

"Boss? What is this?"

Karl Moore swallowed. "That Tanya's DNA sample."

“...”

“So the one who bumped into you earlier was Black Cat?!”

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His words reminded Karl Moore. He looked at the killers around him and asked, “Did any of you see what Black Cat looks like?”

As soon as he said this, the few of them thought hard about it and realized that they could not remember Black Cat’s appearance.

Because when that person bumped into him earlier, he was wearing a cap, sunglasses, and a mask. His speed was too fast, and those people did not even recognize if he was a man or a woman!

Karl Moore was speechless.

He hastily said, “Check the surveillance cameras!”

Someone was already operating a computer. He could only look up at Karl with a disappointed face. “Black Cat is definitely meticulous. The surveillance cameras have been cleared.”

“...”

Karl Moore pursed his lips and sent a message to Black Cat. “You’re already here, why don’t we meet?”

Black Cat... ignored him.

Karl Moore was speechless.

He could only take a deep breath. “Forget it. Let’s go to the testing center.”

“Understood.”

However, someone still asked, “Boss, is this Tanya’s hair?”

Karl Moore narrowed his eyes. “Definitely. When has Black Cat ever made a mistake?”

Everyone nodded.

At the same time, at the back door of the hotel.

Nora got into Justin's car very quickly.

She took off her hat, sunglasses, and mask. Her hair, which was covered by the hat, fell down. She shook her head and said after straightening her hair, "Done."

She raised the bag with a few short hairs in it. "Karl Moore's hair loss is a little serious. I grabbed a bunch, but there are only so few?"

Justin: "..."

Suddenly, he felt his scalp tighten.

Thank goodness, he didn't need to do any more DNA tests.

The car started, and Justin slowly rushed to the hospital. He asked, "How did you get Karl Moore to come downstairs?"

Nora raised her eyes and looked at Justin. "That... is a secret."

"..."

Forget it. She had many aliases. Justin was no longer amazed by any of her actions.

The two of them arrived at the hospital. Just as they were about to enter, they heard Quentin say, "They won? Did they really win? I thought that without me, Third In The World would lose! I asked Lily, but she didn't know anything!"

Joel had been busy fighting the lawsuit these past few days. When he found out that Quentin had woken up and was in a stable mood, he had yet to see him.

Not many people who came to see him knew about the competition.

Therefore, Quentin had just found out the outcome of the competition.

Nora was about to push open the door and enter when she heard Quentin say, "I remember the competition rules say that there must be three people, right? Did Big Brother represent our team? Is that why we won the competition? It must be like this!"

Joel stared at Quentin and twitched his lips.

Although not many people knew that Justin was Irvin School of Martial Arts' Big Brother, Joel knew it very well.

He coughed and said, "Yes, Big Brother competed too."

"Big Sister competed alongside Big Brother and I missed it? What a pity!" Quentin was still chattering. "But Big Brother and Big Sister don't get along, right? Big Sister said that she's not compatible with Big Brother!"

Whether they were compatible or not... they had already given birth to two children.

Joel cursed in his heart.

Outside the door, Nora suddenly turned her head and looked at Justin. "... Big Brother?"

She had been so focused on revenge that she had almost forgotten about it!

Justin had deceived her so badly!

She thought about how she had criticized Big Brother many times in front of him, but this person had never said a word. She wondered how he had mocked her in his heart.

Nora sneered and suddenly moved her wrist. "Big Brother, I've been friends with you for a long time. Why don't we find a place to spar?"

Justin: "!!!"

He smiled with narrowed eyes, the mole at the corner of his eye flashing guiltily. "I think the DNA test is a bit more urgent."

Nora nodded. "You're right."

Justin heaved a sigh of relief.

The next moment, Nora pushed open the door and threw the sample in her hand toward Lily. "The results will be out in three hours."

Then she turned around, grabbed Justin's tie, and pulled him downstairs.

Justin: "..."

This domineering posture was too ambiguous.

For a moment, he did not know whether to laugh or cry.

The two of them went downstairs and found an empty seat. Nora clenched her fists and waved at Justin. "Come on, don't be merciful. Let me see how powerful this Big Brother is that Master keeps talking about!"

Justin: "..."

Should he fight or not? Wasn't she making things too difficult for him?

—

At the testing center.

After Karl Moore personally delivered Tanya's hair, he got his brothers to wait and returned to the hotel.

As soon as he returned, he saw Jill waiting for him.

Karl Moore narrowed his eyes and walked forward. "Why are you here?"

Jill immediately asked, "When are you going to save Hillary? It's been a day. Why haven't you saved her yet?"

Karl Moore walked upstairs. "There has to be time for everything. I've already made arrangements. Don't be anxious."

Jill followed behind him. "Karl Moore, you slept with me back then and walked away. I had to marry someone while I was pregnant with your child. You've let me down. I don't have any other requests for you, as long as you save my daughter and take her overseas!"

Karl Moore nodded. "I already know your request. Go back now."

However, Jill followed him into the hotel room. "No, I want to stay here and watch you arrange my daughter's rescue! I won't leave until you save her!"

With that, she sat on Karl Moore's sofa confidently and folded her arms as she looked at him.

Karl Moore ignored her nonsense and instructed his subordinates to do what they needed to do. He took out some documents and looked at them, handling some matters.

When Jill saw that he was still calm, she stood up and snatched the documents from his hands. She could not help but say, "Your daughter has been in prison for a day. The Smiths and the Hunts have done countless evil deeds. Karl Moore, why is your heart so cold? You can still bear it! Is your job more important? Or is your daughter? It's been so many years, but you haven't done anything as a father. Now, you owe her! Can you save your daughter quickly?!"

Karl Moore looked at her and frowned unhappily.

At this moment, his phone rang.

Karl Moore picked up the call and his subordinate's voice came from the other end. "Boss, the results are out."

Karl Moore stared at Jill and asked, "What was the outcome?"

"99%. You and Miss Tanya are father and daughter."

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Karl's grip on his phone tightened.

His jaw tensed up and he felt that he must have misheard. He kept his emotions under control and asked again, "What did you say?"

"Boss, Tanya Turner is your real daughter. Hillary Jones is not your daughter at all. That sadistic woman even stole your daughter's child and tortured her for five years..."

"I looked into her background along the way. Ms. Turner suffered a lot in Switzerland during those five years. After she lost her child, she suffered a mental breakdown and was almost sent to a mental institution. Later, someone even framed her and broke her leg. When I looked into it, it turned out that it was also Hillary's doing. Fortunately, she met a genius doctor who fixed her leg for her..."

"Also, as you must already know from the court hearing, it was Hillary behind Ms. Turner and Mr. Smith's breakup back then. She schemed and plotted to sow discord between the two of them and separate them.

"I also found out that everyone knows that Tanya Turner is Jill's daughter. She was Jill's extra baggage when she married into the Joneses back then. The Joneses have always treated Ms. Turner like a servant.

"Also, after the first nine years of compulsory education, ever since she entered junior high, Ms. Turner had been working part-time to earn money for her tuition fees. Her tuition fees when she was attending college in the States also came from her part-time jobs. It seems that Jill has never given her any money for living expenses..."

The more his subordinate spoke, the graver and more solemn Karl's face became.

To be honest, when Jill told him that Hillary was his daughter, he had been somewhat in an internal struggle.

After all, no one wanted their daughter to be a thief who stole other people's children!

But for someone like him, who couldn't ever have any more children, having a descendant was something that didn't come by easily. He didn't dare to wish for more.

When he instructed his men to look into Tanya, he actually hadn't held much hope. He had merely found Jill's behavior a little fishy.

Even though he was the leader of a group of assassins, Karl gave people the impression that he was a very simple and naive man, as if he was very gullible. It was just like how he had seemed like a foolish small-time gangster in the States many years ago...

But if he really were that stupid, how would he possibly have become the leader of the Assassin Organization?

The instant the report was out, Karl was thankful that his daughter was not a woman who did all sorts of wicked and malicious deeds, an acute sense of guilt also surged up in him!

He had never expected his daughter to be living such a hard life!

He had also never expected himself to actually become an accomplice to someone trying to take his daughter's child away from her just as his daughter's life was improving.

He slapped himself across the cheek angrily.

Smack!

He used a lot of force in the slap. After he slapped himself, his mind also became clearer. He turned to look at Jill!

The look in his eyes was fierce and vicious, making Jill feel cold all over. Her confrontational words toward Karl suddenly became stuck in her throat and she stammered, "W-why are you looking at me like that...?"

Karl sneered, "I'm just trying to see just how brave the person is who had the guts to deceive me into bullying my own daughter!"

Jill's pupils shrank when she heard him.

She took a huge step back. Her eyes flickered as she said, "What nonsense are you talking about? I don't understand what you're saying!"

"In that case, let me explain everything to you properly."

Karl took step after step toward Jill. "The hair you plucked out when you were at the court is Tanya Turner's, right?"

Jill hurriedly denied it. "No, it isn't!"

Seeing that she was still lying even at this point, disappointment flashed across Karl's eyes. He narrowed his eyes and slowly said, "I have already done another DNA test for Tanya and me."

That one line of his stunned Jill.

She looked at Karl in disbelief, seemingly never having expected him to be such a perceptive man...

Seeing that she had finally shut up, Karl sneered, "What else do you have to say now?"

Realizing that she couldn't continue to hide it from him anymore, Jill took another two steps back and put some distance between herself and Karl. She looked at him coldly and said furiously, "So what even if you now realize it? This is something you owe me, Karl! Even if Tanya is your daughter, I'm still the one who gave birth to her! I gave you a daughter, so you have to save my daughter's life!"

Karl narrowed his eyes. He suddenly took a step forward and slapped her hard across the cheek!

Smack!

The crisp smack caused Jill's voice to instantly disappear.

She could feel her cheek burning, and even two of her teeth had loosened and fallen off. She could taste a metallic sweetness—she was likely bleeding.

Her ears were also ringing. One could easily see just how hard Karl had slapped her!

When she finally came back to her senses, she saw that Karl was already seated on the sofa. He had one leg crossed over the other and was fiddling with a gun.

Jill's legs instantly turned into jelly when she saw the icy-cold muzzle pointed at her!

In this instant, the man in front of her suddenly became big and tall. It was as if even the air around him had changed. From a simple and naive nouveau riche, he had turned into a cold and unfeeling underworld boss.

Jill swallowed.

Since the moment she ran into Karl when she was taking Hillary to the airport, the man had always shown her kindness. It made her think that time was still stuck at over twenty years ago when the man was just a little gangster in the streets...

That was why she had kept making various demands to Karl, and even spoke as if she was giving him orders when she requested him to save her daughter.

It wasn't until now that Jill finally realized in shock that he was a man who could make even the Smiths and the Hunts compromise. He was not someone whom she could manipulate as and when she wanted...

She had assumed that he was much stupider than he really was!

She was so frightened that she couldn't help but shiver all over. Her lips trembled as she said, "You... you can't kill me..."

Karl's head was lowered as he glanced at her carelessly. "Why can't I kill you?"

"Because... because..." Jill suddenly thought of something. "Because I am Tanya's mother! I gave birth to her! I brought her all the way up! Even if there's nothing meritorious about what I did, you cannot deny the effort I've put in! I was the one who gave Tanya her life!"

Karl let out an icy laugh when he heard what she said. He looked up and said, "If it wasn't for that, did you think I would have stopped at just a slap?"

Cold sweat drenched Jill.

Karl got up. He stared at her and ordered, "Get lost!"

A frightened Jill got up abruptly and scrambled toward the door. The woman staggered as she moved as if she was afraid that Karl would kill her the next second.

—

Elsewhere, in prison.

During the prisoner's recreation time, someone came up to Hillary.

Hillary couldn't help but smile as she looked at her. "Did Karl Moore send you to take care of me?"

The woman was a female prisoner. She flexed her wrists when she heard what Hillary said, and the corners of her lips curled up into a strange smile. "Uh-huh. Boss asked me to take good care of you."

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Hillary didn't sense anything amiss even when she heard what the other woman said.

Although she had been very scared and in a panic when she first entered the prison, she soon discovered that she was receiving slightly better treatment than other prisoners. There were several times where someone had tried to make things hard for her, but someone else had fended them all off for her.

Later, Jill had visited her and informed her of some of the ongoings. She had also said that Karl would definitely save her and told her not to worry.

As a result, Hillary had completely put her mind at ease.

When she heard what the other woman said, she stretched out her leg and said, "Give me a leg massage. The bed in the cell is too hard. I didn't sleep well last night, I'm really tired..."

The female prisoner cast her eyes down and slowly squatted down. "Sure!"

She bent over and held Hillary's leg.

While the prisoner hadn't applied any force yet, Hillary ordered, "By the way, pass my dad a message and tell him to send me some bedding and stuff like that... oh, and skincare products too... I didn't have any products after I washed my face today, my skin is really dry..."

She had only just said that when she suddenly felt a sharp pain in her leg. The pain made her mouth open at once. She was about to yell when someone covered her mouth.

Then, another person rushed over.

Hillary's eyes widened. The next moment, the prisoner giving her a massage suddenly raised her head and gave her a smile. Then, she pressed down harder!

"Ugh..."

Hillary was in so much pain that she was covered in cold sweat all over. However, the woman didn't show any sign of stopping!!

By the time the prisoners' recreation time ended, Hillary had been taught a good lesson. Upon returning to her cell with the rest of the prisoners, she immediately pulled her clothes to the side. Her body was covered in bruises and some places were starting to swell, forming an unbearable sight!

Tears rolled down her cheeks at once.

"Hillary, you have a visitor."

She stood up abruptly. When she went out, she saw a pathetic-looking Jill standing in the room.

The agonized woman hugged Jill at once. "Mom, you're finally here! They are going to bully me to death! Quick, tell Karl the people he sent to protect me are bullying me every day! Make Karl take revenge for me and kill them!"

Her eyes were filled with hatred.

Jill's eyes reddened when she heard her. "It's been tough on you, Hillary! But there's nothing we can do at the moment!"

Hillary looked up at once. It was then that she noticed that Jill's cheek was also red and swollen on one side. Stunned, she asked, "What happened to you?"

Jill hugged her and wept bitterly.

When the visitation session ended, Hillary hugged her and shouted, "Mom! Mom, you must save me! I will die if you don't save me! I really will die!"

As per the public's wishes, Hillary had been sentenced to life imprisonment.

The moment she thought of how she would be in jail for the rest of her life, she felt acute despair swallow her up...

Jill clenched her fists tightly as she watched her crying daughter being led away.

No, she mustn't allow her daughter's life to be ruined just like that!!

—

At the Smiths.

Tanya was playing with Mia and the others.

Nora was seated leisurely on the sofa. Joel and Justin were sitting on the other side.

Cherry, who was sitting cross-legged, was playing games on her cell phone.

Pete was watching Mia and Cherry. For once, he actually wasn't doing Mathematical Olympiad drills.

The family formed a happy and harmonious sight, but in truth, they were actually waiting for the results of Lily's final DNA test.

If the busy Lily were to see what they currently looked like, she would probably call them "evil capitalists"!

Suddenly, the butler entered the room. He looked a little embarrassed as he said, "Sir, the old Mr. Smith is here."

The guest was Samuel Smith, Ian's third uncle who lived in the Smiths' ancestral home. He was also the one who had spoken up for Yvonne previously.

Joel raised his brows.

Samuel had helped Yvonne to make a scene at the hospital the other time, but it was to no avail. After that, he had left while Yvonne was arrested and thrown into jail.

What was he here for this time?

Joel's brows drew together, but it wasn't like he could really drive his elders out of the house, so he said dispassionately, "Let him in."

The butler nodded. A short while later, Samuel came in with a woman who looked about forty to fifty years old.

Joel glanced at the two of them. Then, he lowered his gaze and said, "Granduncle Samuel, Grandaunt Sue."

Sue had married into the family after Samuel's first wife passed away. There was a shrewd and capable look in her eyes.

Her eyes, which had a lot of life in them, glanced at Joel. Then, she smiled and said, "Joel, we haven't seen each other for so long! I heard that there was some trouble at home, so Samuel and I immediately hurried over to visit you!"

Samuel let out a cold laugh.

Sue immediately prodded his arm, stopping Samuel from speaking.

She looked at the two women in the living room.

Then, she went forward, held Nora's hand enthusiastically, and said, "You must be Nora, right? You look just like a Smith! You're so pretty! I heard you're engaged to Mr. Hunt?"

She looked at Justin cheerfully.

Justin, who was unaware of all the inner workings of the family, nodded politely at her.

Before Nora could say anything, Sue took off the bangle on her hand and stuffed it into Nora's hand. "Even though you've returned to the Smiths, Grandaunt Sue has nothing much she can give you. Here, you can have some fun with this bangle for now!"

Nora: “??”

She narrowed her eyes slightly and pushed the bangle back to her. “I can’t take this. It’s too expensive a gift.”

“Aw,” Sue said, “What’s so valuable about this? I have a distant relative in this line of business who’s very knowledgeable about antiques!”

“Nora, I know there was a bit of a misunderstanding between you and Samuel previously, but we are all Smiths here. We’re all still connected to one another no matter what happens. You won’t hold it against him, right?”

Nora: “ ...”

Sue was simply too eloquent!!

She coughed. Just as she was about to say something, Sue stuffed the bangle back into her hand and turned to Tanya.

The look in her eyes wasn’t that humble anymore.

She said with a smile, “You must be Mia’s mom, the one caught up in all that drama recently, right?”

The children had already been taken upstairs to play when the two of them were coming in.

Justin didn’t want to reveal too much about his children.

Seeing Sue looking at her, Tanya nodded. “Yes.”

“Tanya, right? I met you before when you were a child!” Sue was very enthusiastic. She held her hand and said, “I was visiting the Joneses at that time. When you were pouring us water, you accidentally broke the glasses, so your mom punished you by making you kneel on the floor. You were only five then. You were so small and looked so pitiful kneeling there!”

Her words were rather discomfiting.

However, what she said next was even worse. “Who would have thought that you would become Cinderella and give birth to Joel’s child one day? A child with a high status elevates their mother’s status, indeed!”

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Tanya: “???”

Nora: “???”

Everyone in the room could hear the disdain hidden in Sue’s words.

What did she mean by saying that Tanya’s status had risen because she had given birth to Joel’s child?!

She was clearly refusing to acknowledge Tanya’s status!

Who would bring up someone else’s humiliating childhood events in front of other people?

The look in Nora’s eyes turned cold, and she threw the bangle onto the coffee table, producing a crisp clang.

However, it was as if Sue hadn’t sensed anything at all. She went on and said, “Joel, I heard that the two of you started dating in junior high and only broke up when you graduated from college? To think the two of you can still get together even after five years of separation... and that you can still hold your daughter in your arms. Tanya, you must feel very blissful to be able to live in such a big house, right?”

The look in Tanya’s eyes turned even colder. She wanted to pull her hand out of the woman’s grip, but Sue kept holding her hand tightly. “People mustn’t forget their roots. Tanya, it was the Joneses who fed you and brought you up. Now that you have married into a rich family... let’s not talk about repaying their kindness anymore, but at the very least, you mustn’t be an ingrate, right?”

Tanya narrowed her eyes. “I don’t understand what you’re trying to say, Mrs. Smith.”

Joel also got up abruptly. His expression turned cold and he said, “Tanya, why don’t you go upstairs and take a look at the child? Mia seems to be calling out for you.”

Then, he looked at Sue and said, “Grandaunt Sue, how rare of you to visit us today. If you have something to say, then why don’t you speak with me instead?”

Joel was still smiling, but he had completely unleashed his powerful aura.

Tanya breathed a sigh of relief.

She didn’t want to argue with people from the older generation of the Smiths. After all, it was very awkward for her to be living here at the moment.

She and Joel weren’t married, but because she couldn’t bear to be apart from her daughter—besides, she had only just been reunited with her—she could only stay at the Smiths’.

It was very embarrassing for her every time the nannies addressed her as “Ms. Turner”.

Yet she couldn't be so hypocritical as to bring up leaving.

Karl was still in New York. What if Jill got him to send people to take revenge on her?

At the very least, before the DNA report was out, there was no way she could leave the Smith manor.

However, in the eyes of outsiders, her actions were no different from how Hillary had so shamelessly insisted on living with the Smiths back then. Some people would undoubtedly look down on her!

They would think of her as someone clinging shamelessly to the Smiths as if what she was interested in was Joel's money.

She couldn't be bothered to explain, though.

She stood up and got ready to go upstairs. However, before she could go, Samuel let out a “hmpf”, looked at Joel, and said, “What's the problem, Joel? Is your grandaunt not allowed to chastise your woman even a little?”

Joel's expression turned cold at once. “Granduncle Samuel, perhaps it's because I haven't done the proper introductions yet, but Tanya is my fiancée! She is also the future matriarch of the Smiths! May I know what Grandaunt Sue is planning to lecture her about?”

Who would dare to lecture the matriarch of the family?!

The only reason why they had the audacity to go this far right now was that he and Tanya weren't married yet!

Joel found Samuel very annoying and bothersome, but unfortunately, he was the oldest in the family, so he couldn't casually refuse him an audience or drive him out!

When he said that, Samuel laughed and said, “Joel, you must be kidding, right? Her? What gives her the right to be the matriarch of the Smiths? I was already disapproving of your engagement to Hillary Jones back then. The Joneses are just a small nobody family. How can they be worthy of you? Even the mention of it is an embarrassment to the Smiths!

“I was even thinking of introducing you to someone of suitable and matching status when you broke off your engagement with her, but I didn't expect you to find yourself another woman with an even worse background!

"The one from the Joneses is at least the young mistress of their family, but what about this one? She's just extra baggage that that woman from the Joneses brought with her when she married into the family!

"Is there anyone who doesn't know that the Joneses have never liked her throughout her entire life? On top of that, she has such a weird temperament that even her own mother loathes her. How can such an unruly person be the matriarch of the Smiths?!"

Sue echoed him, "He's right, Joel. You'd better not let her trick you and talk you into being impulsive. If you marry her, you will end up a joke in all the wealthy circles in New York! I'm saying this for your own good. No one will say anything if you keep her as your mistress and have some fun with her, but you have to be careful about who you give the identity of the matriarch of the Smiths to! I have someone whom I can introduce to you. Not only does she have a good personality, but she also has a good character. Why don't I introduce the two of you to each other?"

Seeing how they were crossing the line further and further with their words, the cold Joel said, "I haven't reached the point where I need other people to dictate who I should be choosing as my wife. Besides, Uncle Ian has already approved of Tanya."

Ian held great authority in the Smiths.

Even Samuel didn't dare to behave obnoxiously in front of Ian even if he was older than him.

It was just that the difference in generational roles between Ian and Samuel was simply too big. That was why he had the guts to come over and say such things.

However, Samuel sneered and said, "I only said a few words, yet you're saying that I'm 'dictating' what you should be doing? Do you have any idea that word has already spread throughout the wealthy circle in New York that you've gone out of your mind because of a woman?! It's to the extent that you're already going against Karl Moore! If being a hero is what you want, then, by all means, go ahead! But why are you putting the Smiths at stake as a result? You may not be afraid of death, but we want to live!"

Sue nodded repeatedly. "He's right, Joel. However, our focus right now isn't about who the matriarch of the Smiths is. After all, it's not set in stone yet. I'm actually here today to persuade you to reconcile with the Joneses."

She looked at Tanya and said, "Hillary stole your child and deceived Joel, there's no doubt that she made a mistake there. But Jill is still your mother, no matter what, right? Surely you can't disregard even your own mother, right?! You and Hillary are technically sisters. Rather than making a fool out of yourselves in front of outsiders, in my opinion, why not let the whole thing pass altogether...? We can have the two families reconcile while you forgive Hillary. Let Joel do something about it and have her acquitted. This way, you won't make a fool out of yourself in front of others anymore. Don't you think I'm right?"

Tanya: “?!”

Her expression turned cold. “Mrs. Smith, I will never forgive a woman who stole my child, so I would advise you not to bother persuading us any further. If not, you can’t hold it against me if I don’t show you any courtesy!”

Sue curled her lips disdainfully. However, she took a step forward and held her hand again. “You silly girl, I’m not doing this for the Joneses; I’m doing this for you! Think about it, how are you going to gain a foothold in the Smiths when you don’t have a notable background? No matter how awful the Joneses are, they can still be considered your family. If you fall out with them, you’ll really become someone without a family! If a woman without a notable background like you doesn’t have anyone backing you up, how are you going to be with Joel? Am I wrong?”

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Her words made Tanya feel incredibly furious and shamed!

Honestly speaking, her status was indeed too low in comparison with Joel’s.

After all, the Smiths’ status was clear for all to see...

Moreover, she was already way past the point in her youthful days where love eclipsed all.

Were it back then, she would have said mockingly, “So what even if I don’t have a notable background? Joel and I are truly in love with each other!”

However, the five years she had spent living abroad had made her thoroughly understand what life really was like. She had also come to understand that one’s birth and family background were indeed their first hurdle in life!

Some people were born at the top of the pyramid, but she was instead at the furthest end of the line, unable to hold a candle to them.

She clenched her fists tightly, and her face flushed with shame.

Nora couldn’t make herself listen anymore. She looked up and said in a low voice, “Who says she doesn’t have anyone backing her up?”

Sue looked at her.

She didn’t want to offend Nora—after all, she was Ian’s daughter!

The entire family knew just how protective Ian was of his own. If she dared so much as to look at Nora the wrong way, Ian would surely crawl all the way out of the hospital and barge into their home to beat them up the very next moment.

However, she still curled her lips disdainfully. At the bottom of it all, she was still just a girl raised in a small household in a small town in California. She simply spoke so arrogantly and was completely lacking in foundation and cultivation.

She asked with a big smile, "Oh? Is Tanya the daughter of an internationally wealthy family? So, she comes from a very impressive family? Why haven't I heard of that?!"

Tanya: "!"

Just as Tanya was at a loss for words, Nora glanced at Justin.

Justin got the hint and got up at once. "Mrs. Smith, I forgot to make the introductions. Tanya is my younger god-sister."

As soon as he said that, Nora coughed and retorted, "She's your elder god-sister."

Tanya was a year older than Nora.

Justin: "..."

He coughed and said, "Well, yes. Therefore, the Hunts are her family!"

Sue narrowed her eyes at once. She smiled awkwardly and said, "Heh. Ms. Turner sure is pretty skilled at becoming god-relatives with others."

However, with Justin standing there, she ultimately didn't dare to say anything else.

At this moment, the butler outside came in again. This time, he had a solemn look on his face. Upon entering, he immediately said, "Mr. Joel. Karl Moore has brought his men here again!"

Joel: "??"

He narrowed his eyes and subconsciously exchanged a look with Justin.

In this instant, both men had figured out what Karl was here for!

... even if Lily's test results weren't out yet!

Karl had the DNA test expedited, so the lab completed it in three hours for him. On the other hand, after Nora retrieved Karl's hair samples, she had gone to the hospital to pass them to Lily, who then went to the relevant departments to borrow their equipment and so on. As a result, they were delayed by an hour.

However, if Tanya wasn't Karl's daughter, he would not have come to the Smiths' but gone to break Hillary out of jail instead!

Therefore, a relaxed Joel said, "Invite him into the house."

The butler nodded and left.

However, he didn't expect Samuel to suddenly latch on to this. He looked straight at Joel and said, "Did you see that? He's here again! He must be here because of the Joneses again! If you ask me, you shouldn't have offended people like him!"

Sue also said, "Yes, this is so scary. I heard that gangsters like them don't give two hoots about anything and are very unreasonable! We, the Smiths, are people who obey the rules and do business legitimately. We can't offend big figures like him! Joel, you have to think this through carefully. Are you really going to fight him at the cost of our family?!"

Joel sneered at their words.

He lowered his gaze and said slowly, "Granduncle Samuel and Grandaunt Sue, perhaps Karl is here to make peace?"

"That's impossible! You must be out of your mind!" Samuel angrily rebuked, "Why would someone like him bow down to you? He's definitely here to settle scores with you! You'd better hurry and think about what to say to him!"

Then, he looked at Tanya earnestly and said, "And you, too. Even if you are not a daughter-in-law of the Smiths yet, you are still more or less Joel's woman. Can't you be a bit more sensible and not make so much trouble for the Smiths?!"

Sue nodded. "Ms. Turner, you are still young, so you must feel like you have to get even with them. But by doing so, do you know how much risk you're putting the Smiths at?! There are tons of people waiting to see you make a fool out of yourself! Hurry and talk some sense into Joel. I don't think the Joneses want the child anymore, so why not just have the two families reconcile?!"

Tanya's thoughts were not on these matters at the moment, however.

She stared at the doorway with complicated feelings.

She had a vague inkling why Karl had suddenly come to the Smiths'. She had already considered the possibility when Lily went to redo the DNA test.

But was he really her father?

In that case, did she want to acknowledge him?

She was in an internal struggle about this, so she didn't hear Samuel and Sue going on and on by themselves.

At this point, Karl, together with three of his men, strode through the doorway into the living room. As he entered, his gaze immediately landed on Tanya excitedly. Even his voice was trembling a little as he asked, "You must be Tanya, right?"

Joel stepped in front of Tanya, looked at Karl, and said unceremoniously, "Mr. Moore, may I know what you are here for?"

He spoke aggressively, which shocked Samuel.

Samuel immediately grabbed his arm and said, "Mr. Moore, my apologies, Joel is still young and ignorant. You must be here to propose reconciliation, right?"

Karl was a little displeased that Joel was blocking his view of Tanya.

But when he thought of how he was the man whom Tanya loved, he didn't dare to offend him. As a result, he could only look away in dejection. He replied, "I'm here to talk to Tanya."

Samuel immediately gave him an obsequious smile. "Yes, that's right. We shouldn't be impulsive. Let's all sit down and talk it out!"

He glanced at Sue at once.

Sue got the hint. She grabbed Tanya's wrist, lowered her voice, and said, "Ms. Turner, if you are not stupid, then you should know what kind of choice to make, right?"

Tanya frowned. "What?"

Sue finally said, "I'm actually here because your mother came to me and asked me to talk to you. I believe that once you take a step back and give in, the Joneses will owe you one and support you in the future, in which case it won't be impossible for you to marry Joel... But if you insist on falling out with the Joneses and forcing the Smiths to offend Mr. Moore, then I am afraid you can forget about ever establishing a foothold in the Smiths!"

"You must have a good talk with Mr. Moore. Try to meet all of his demands. He is an influential figure that someone like you cannot afford to offend!"

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An influential figure?

Tanya looked at Karl.

She had never been afraid of influential people. After all, Karl was only one thing to her at the moment—a father who had tried to help someone else to take her child from her.

When Sue saw that she wasn't saying anything, she went on. "You'd best not do anything stupid. I'll tell you this, Joel is willing to stand up for you today because he's still in love with you now. Once he gets bored of you, he can easily push you out and make you suffer! You know what I mean, right?"

Tanya lowered her gaze and replied frostily, "Yeah."

Then, she walked around Sue, stood right next to Joel, and looked at Karl. She said very coldly, "I have nothing to say to you."

Anger filled inside her the moment she thought of how Karl had forced them to go to court with Hillary.

Her words and behavior shocked Sue!

She and Samuel looked at each other and hastily took a step forward. Sue grabbed Tanya and chastised her. "Child, watch the way you speak!"

Samuel looked at Karl and explained, "Don't take this the wrong way, Mr. Moore. She is from a small family, so she doesn't know how to speak properly. Rest assured that her attitude is not representative of the Smiths'. After all, she is not Joel's wife yet!"

He then looked at Tanya and reprimanded her loudly. "What kind of attitude do you think you're taking towards Mr. Moore?! Hurry up and apologize!"

Joel's eyes turned cold. However, when he saw that Karl's expression had darkened, he thought for a while and decided not to say anything.

Tanya would be living with the Smiths in the future. If Karl unleashed his wrath, perhaps he would be able to intimidate those two old fogeys and stop them from creating so much trouble in the future!

His silence made Samuel think that he had given him his tacit approval. Thus, his voice became even louder as he reprimanded Tanya. "I'm talking to you! Why aren't you listening? Hurry up and apologize!"

Tanya lowered her head and sneered, "He doesn't deserve my apology."

Her words horrified Samuel even further. He looked back up—sure enough, Karl was already pulling a long face. He immediately misunderstood and hastily scolded Tanya angrily again. "What's the matter with you? If you don't apologize, then you can forget about ever marrying into the Smiths!"

Then, he turned to Karl. "Mr. Moore, please don't be mistaken..."

Next to him, Sue also said, "Mr. Moore, don't be angry. Insensible, awkward, foul-mouthed, and short-sighted; she has always been like this since she was a child! It's all because she's a stray child without a father to bring her up. That's why she has no family upbringing whatsoever!"

As soon as she said that, she heard a click. The next moment, an icy-cold object was pointed right at her head.

Sue was stunned.

She slowly turned her head to see a pitch-black hole aimed at her head. When she realized what it was, Sue's legs went limp and she almost fell straight onto the floor!

She was so terrified that she was shaking all over. She pointed to Tanya and said, "Mr. Moore, you... you are pointing that at the wrong person. Tanya is over there..."

Karl's gaze, however, was fixed right on her.

She had the guts to mock his daughter when he was standing right in front of her. He then thought of all the things that his men had found out about Tanya while they were on their way here...

His daughter had suffered so much all these years!

Just the mere thought of it made his heart ache terribly!!

He asked coldly, "Did you just say that she doesn't have a father?"

Sue immediately nodded. "Yes, yes, that's right. She is the extra baggage that Jill brought with her when she married into the Joneses. Everyone knows that. I even heard that Jill's ex-lover was some small-time gangster. With a gangster for a father, she must be rotten through and through, either..."

Almost as soon as she said that, she heard a bang!

A gunshot rang out right beside Sue's ear, which made her jump in shock and fright. Her trousers immediately became scorching hot...

When she recovered, she saw that the gunshot had landed right next to her foot. It had even created a small hole in the Smiths' marble flooring.

Her legs turned into jelly and she fell onto the floor.

Karl blew at the muzzle and dissipated the smoke rising out of it. Then, as if nothing noteworthy had happened, he said, "Sorry, it went off accidentally."

Sue: "..."

She nodded obediently. Before she could say anything, Karl lifted the gun and pointed the pitch-black hole at her again.

Karl's voice seemed like it was coming from the heavens, yet also as if it was close at hand. He said, "Hearing you insulting me like that doesn't make me very happy, though. How am I a small-time gangster? How is my daughter rotten through and through?"

Sue: "???"

Samuel, who was also scared witless beside her: "???"

Both of them looked at Karl, question marks popping up in their minds at the same time: 'Huh?'

Just as the two were utterly confused about what was going on, Tanya's voice rang out. "I'm not your daughter!"

Karl immediately stopped paying attention to Sue. It was just that he didn't move his hand away, either, so the gun was still pointed at her, making her afraid to move.

Karl panicked and said, "Tanya, Dad knows he's in the wrong now! Jill tricked me! She told me that Hillary is my daughter... That's why I helped her to take your child!"

Sue: "???"

Samuel: "????"

The two of them felt that they might be mishearing things due to old age.

What did Karl just say?!

Samuel swallowed and asked, "Mr. Moore, w-what do you mean?"

Karl, who was very troubled that his daughter was refusing to acknowledge him, immediately replied angrily, "What I'm saying is, Tanya is my daughter, and I'm her father! I will fight everyone who dares to bully my daughter, to the death!"

Samuel: "!!!!"

When Sue heard the words "to the death" and saw the muzzle again, her eyes suddenly rolled up in fright and she passed out, her lower body was all wet.

...

However, no one was paying any attention to that at the moment.

Karl was anxious to acknowledge his daughter, but Tanya had a complicated look on her face. She couldn't accept him right away.

While the two were looking at each other, the butler at the door came in again. With a complicated look on his countenance, he looked at Tanya and said, "Ms. Turner, Mrs. Jones is here. She's at the door and insisting that you go out!"

Tanya frowned.

She glanced at Karl before she turned and went out.

The moment she came to the manor's gates, she saw Jill standing outside with a group of reporters.

Jill was currently holding a dagger to her neck. As soon as Tanya appeared, she yelled, "Tanya, write and sign off on a letter of forgiveness right away! Save Hillary and get her out of jail!"

Her eyes were icy-cold. "Even if we have severed our ties as mother and daughter, it doesn't change the fact that I am still your mother! My blood flows through your veins! If you refuse to save Hillary, I will kill myself right in front of you. Everyone is watching! You drove your mother to kill herself! I want you to never be able to rest in peace for the rest of your life!"

As soon as she said that, a fervor went through the reporters!

A mother killing herself in front of her daughter?!

This was breaking news!

Everyone rushed forward with their cameras and pointed their microphones at Tanya.

"Ms. Turner, what is your decision?"

"Ms. Turner, are you really going to disregard your mother's life?"

"If she dies here, you'll become the person responsible for driving her to her death, and you will definitely regret it in the future. Ms. Turner, hurry up and accede to her request!"

"Ms. Turner..."

At the same time, there were also people doing live-streams of the situation.

With a microphone in his hand, a reporter spoke to his live-stream audience and said, "I heard that Tanya's mother has never treated her well ever since she was a child. But she is ultimately still her mother and the person who gave birth to her. She gave Ms. Turner life. Surely the fact alone that she hadn't abandoned Ms.

Turner but fed her and brought her up all the way until she became an adult is enough that Ms. Turner shouldn't let her down, right?"

People were also commenting in the live-stream:

"It's all over! Tanya has gotten into huge trouble now!"

"She doesn't need a mother like that! She shouldn't forgive her. Why should she forgive her?!"

"What a horrific mother. But if Tanya doesn't save her, she will really become someone who killed her own mother. No matter what, she brought Tanya into the world!"

"What can she do now? Can Tanya really watch her mother die in front of her?"

...

Even without looking at the comments, Jill seemed to know what the people would say.

She sneered at Tanya and brought the dagger even closer to her neck. Someone wanted to come forward and stop her, but she shouted, "Don't come near! If you come any nearer, I will stab myself with the dagger!"

Her words made everyone stop.

Tanya looked at her.

In this instant, her heart was dead.

Would you look at that? That was her mother. For the sake of her other daughter, she was willing to threaten her with her own life.

Tanya closed her eyes.

She felt like a trapped beast forced into the most desperate of situations!

What could she do?!

In her despair, Karl and Nora came out of the manor.