Patrick warned her to stop, but Christina pushed him away and went out.

When she returned to her Apartment 402, the door was open. She walked in and found that Patrick had left.

Casually, she took a stroll around Apartment 502, and he was not there.

At that moment, the phone in her coat pocket rang again, and she answered it warily, "Why did you give me the USB drive?"

"You sounds nervous. What happened?"

It was Crystal who called her. Christina was surprised for a second before she noticed that she was a little neurotic.

She opened her hand. There was a USB drive in it. And she became more and more serious. Seeing that she was silent for a long time, Crystal asked with concern, "Did you meet someone?"

Christina came back to her senses and gave a far-fetched explanation, "I met a strange man just now. He called me sister for no reason. I'm the only daughter. I feel that he's a scoundrel."

"Nowadays, there are all kinds of swindlers in society. You should pay more attention." Crystal immediately reminded her.

Christina was absent-minded. She didn't think that man was a liar. His Chinese was not very fluent. Judging from his clothes, figure and appearance, he looked like a European. His cold but elegant temperament indicated that he disdained to lie.

The more she thought about it, the faster her heart beat as she looked at the USB drive in her palm.

"Christina, actually, I, I have something to tell you today..."

On the other end of the phone, Crystal was in a awkward and contradictory mood. She did not pay attention to Christina's strange behavior but wanted to share a big thing with her good friend drawlingly.

"I, I and Chandler now..."

"He bullied you?" Christina replied.

"No," Crystal was nervous as if she had done something wrong and said hesitantly in a low voice, "I'm at the municipal Bureau of Civil Affairs now..."

"What?"

Christina was thinking about something else, so she didn't hear Crystal's whisper clearly.

It seemed that Crystal was in a hot place which was noisy. Chandler's voice came. "Geoffrey called. Do you want to talk to him?"

Then, Crystal shouted in shock, "No, don't tell him!"

"Crystal, what sort of attitude is that?? You want to go back on your word?"

Chandler seemed to be very dissatisfied. After that, they had a detailed conversation. Christina couldn't hear them clearly. After a while, Crystal seemed to accidentally touch End Call and then hang up.

When Christina returned to her apartment, she was still alone in the cheerless room.

There was no computer in her apartment, so she couldn't read the data on the USB drive immediately. She casually placed the small black USB drive on the TV counter.

She took her phone to order a takeout. Then she remembered Patrick.

Thinking of him, Christina was in a mess.

"He knew that every time he met her, he would lose control of his emotions, but he still gets close to her..."

The word "Rest" was hanging at the entrance of the high-class private boxing club, and at this time, several staff in the bar of the entertainment area gathered together to badmouth their boss.

The top shooting coach in the club poured a large glass of cold beer and handed it to the woman in front of him. He laughed heartily and asked curiously, "Lucy, I heard you scare Miss Dickens?"

"William, don't count it on me."

Picking up the big glass of German beer, she took a big gulp. Then she raised her voice and explained solemnly, "I was ordered to threaten her to participate in the group's advertising audition and keep her away from other men. Do you think I want to do these stupid things? It's all..."

"Don't say it."

The shooting coach suddenly winked at her and motioned her to shut up.

Lucy was an acute intelligent person. She immediately pretended to be her usual cold and arrogant expression and continued to drink as if she had not noticed anything.

At the same time, a tall bodyguard in a black uniform came over from the door, "Mr. Hopkins is here. He wants to see Lucy now."

Lucy raised her eyebrows at William opposite her and whispered in a hoarse voice, "I haven't finished my task yet."

"Where's the USB drive?"

The cold and deep voice, accompanied by heavy steps, walked towards them step by step.

Lucy's expression was twisted, and William whispered to her, "Good luck".

"Boss, I heard you're not feeling well. Didn't you get off the plane last night and go to rest?" She put down the beer glass, turned around, raised her face with a smile, and pretended to speak to him easily.

Without the expression, Patrick stood a meter away from her.

LUCY couldn't smile anymore. Even a fool could notice that he was in a bad mood.

William, a American shooting coach, was a nice guy. Seeing that Patrick was about to lose his temper, he immediately say something to lighten the atmosphere, "Mr. Hopkins, let me report. Miss Dickens's shooting and boxing practice is very good..."

"Don't mention her to me!"

The expressionless man was instantly furious.

Lucy and William looked at each other. Well, it really pissed him off.

"Where's the USB drive?"

Patrick's face was a little gloomy, but he gave a final dispatch with a calm voice, "I told you last time that if you couldn't find it, then you would disappear with it."

"I didn't say I couldn't find it."

Lucy retorted. She knew very well how inhumane Patrick was to his incompetent subordinates.

"Boss, I'll tell you about the USB drive later. I should tell you about Derek first."

To Lucy, Derek was a man with beautiful blue eyes.

But he was an important figure to her boss.

"Derek has been looking into our affairs, so I followed your instructions to lead him, who was in the way, abroad. But later, I found out that he went to the United States not because he fell into my trap, but because he had something to do there."

This man named Derek was not easy to deal with at all. Lucy had secretly battle with him several times, and every time she felt that she had won, the result was inexplicable.

"He found out about you, including your previous life in the United States, your craniotomy, and... the grudge between the Hopkins family and the Dickens family."

When she said that, Lucy paused. They all knew that if Derek knew about these things, it meant that Christina would soon know.

"It seems that Miss Dickens will hate you even more." Finally, Lucy added recklessly.

William's expression became serious. He and Lucy were colleagues who had risked their lives for many years. He was really worried that their boss would vent to his anger on her.

Indeed, Patrick looked very terrible. Fortunately, he was always scrupulous in separating business from personal feelnigs. Lucy seemed to know his temper very well and shrugged, "Okay, the report about Derek is over. Let me talk about the USB drive now."

She couldn't take out the USB drive.

"I found a woman." She looked calm and strode towards the storage room as if she was bringing someone over.

Seeing her teasing expression, William hurriedly followed her, grabbed her, and reminded her, "Lucy, don't play tricks in front of him. If you piss him off, you won't be well."

"You think everyone can piss him off?"

She was not worried. The corners of her lips curled into a playful sneer, "Only what he cares about can make him angry." She mocked herself.

"Don't worry, I don't dare to kidnap his darling."

As she spoke, she pulled a woman out of a private room and untied the black gauze covering her eyes.

"Miss Parker, it's time to return what you took from our boss."

Barbara panicked. She had been at home for the weekend, but someone suddenly broke in and took her away by force.

Looking at the familiar club in front of her and the man in the booth diagonally opposite her, she was even more surprised and speechless.

Patrick frowned slightly, as if he was also surprised that Lucy had kidnapped Barbara.

"When Derek took Steven away from the hospital that day, Steven hid the USB drive in the corner of the hospital. After that, I checked the security cameras of the nearby area repeatedly. I noticed that Miss Parker happened to be traveling back and forth to the hospital at the same time. Her expression was as if she had picked up a hot potato."

Lucy looked straight at Barbara and said in a flat voice, "Miss Parker, I guess you've already seen the video of the operation on the USB drive."

Being stared at by her, Barbara looked flustered.

"Where's the USB drive?" The man who had been silent suddenly spoke.

Barbara had never experienced such an interrogation posture, nor had she seen Patrick's cold and almost heartless eyes. His eyes were colder and harsher than when he was at the company.

Lucy glanced at Barbara. She felt that this ordinary woman must have been scared silly.

Their boss was never a kind person.

"Miss Parker, please return our USB drive immediately." Lucy was in a good mood today, so she eased the atmosphere for Barbara.

However, Barbara might have been really shocked. Her throat was dry and she did not speak. She looked at the strange Patrick with a blank mind.

Suddenly, she remembered what Cecilia had said, "Patrick has a habit of hiding his favorite things. He can't share them with anyone."

"You think he's tolerant of you, but that's just indifference. Only what he really cares about will affect his emotions."

"Do you think he will really forget her after a craniotomy?"

Barbara was so stiff that even the nerves in her brain froze.

She had seen the video of the USB drive, which happened to be a video of Christina's cesarean section after a car accident.

Seeing that she had been silent, Lucy was dissatisfied and urged, "Is the USB drive still in your hands? I found that your things had been rummaged through before I arrived at your house."

Barbara did not answer her, but looked at Patrick's cold face in horror. She could not help but tremble her lips. "Patrick, you, you have never lost your memory."

"That video... It's you. You changed the twins."



#### 1 Comment >



1 day ago

Without saying anything, Patrick got up and walked towards the door.

Lucy raised her eyebrows, winked at her colleague, William, and said in a hoarse voice, "What does he mean by just leaving?"

"Suspension, you'd better get it back as soon as possible."

"Damn it!"

When her boss was already out of her sight, she immediately shouted angrily, "Damn it." Recently, everything went wrong with her.

"We are sure that the USB drive is not in Derek's hands. Who else was capable to snatch it from us? And he even took it away one step before me... Shit!"

The club was closed today, and Lucy's cursing echoed in the spacious space.

William and other colleagues all felt sorry for her. Lucy was so ruthless that she seldom had a setback. It seemed that he who made her like this was not simple.

"Who would expect this to become so complicated..."

William tried to comfort her, but Lucy became even angrier. "Who's to blame? At first, we agreed to fake a car accident and a dead fetus. We could take the medical staff away and cremate the dead fetus, so no one would find out."

"Now think about what we have done! So stupid! No wonder that Derek had been holding on from the beginning. On the day Christina woke up from the operation, she was suspicious about it..."

The more she spoke, the angrier she became. "It was all because he didn't agree to make it a real car accident. He claimed that it should just look like a car accident and the baby died from it, but Christina didn't get hurt at all. Everyone would know there's definitely something wrong!"

"And he even asked us to record the operation. What's wrong with him asking us to shot a video of a woman giving birth? Now he thought it's all our fault that the USB drive was missing."

William knew very well that Lucy had grown up with men so she had a tougher personality than men. Seeing her gritting her teeth and scolding, he suddenly felt like laughing. "Mr. Hopkins was going to accompany her in childbirth. Isn't that even more troublesome?"

"Why are you laughing!?"

Lucy glared at them angrily. Finally, her fierce gaze stopped on Barbara, who was timid. Barbara was kidnapped here, but she was useless to them.

Barbara had been absent-minded. It was the first time she had met someone like them. Looking at Patrick leaving, she became more and more nervous.

Now, Lucy even glared at her angrily with a cold and warning voice.

"Miss Parker, I'm in trouble now. It seems that I can only ask you to carefully recall who you've been in contact with recently and who broke into your house and took the USB drive away this morning!"

Derek had sensed that something was wrong long before, but he couldn't find any evidence.

If the USB drive was in his hands, it meant that Christina would soon know about everything... Then she would be the one that ended up in misery!

"I... I don't know."

Barbara tried to calm herself down, but in front of them, her face turned pale and she stammered, "I did know the contents in the USB drive. But I promise I won't tell anyone. I... I don't want the USB drive. I just happened to pick it up. I didn't mean to hide it."

Lucy narrowed her eyes and looked at Barbara. Her eyes were like those of a cat.

"Miss Parker, I know you're not lying, but what do you think I should do with you?"

"You've already known everything, and our Boss didn't give us a clear indication of how to deal with you. In a broad sense, we are kind of colleagues. However, Miss Parker, your work in the IP&G Group is very polished, but here, we are very different..."

"What do you want to do to me?" Barbara panicked at the thought of what they had done.

"Are you afraid?"

Seeing her timid look, Lucy said in arrogance and looked straight at her, "Miss Parker, you're smart, and you know we're not nice people. Besides, don't expect anyone to help you. He's been hard on Christina, not to mention you."

Lucy knew what Barbara was thinking about and that she was relieved when she picked up the USB drive. Barbara couldn't be so stupid as to reveal everything. People were ultimately selfish.

Barbara was so panicked that she said stiffly, "I will cooperate with you."

"Go to the group to ask for a long vacation for Miss Parker and arrange a new place for her to stay. I think she might have to stay with us for a while."

Lucy ordered the other two men with cold eyes and watched Barbara get up and leave stiffly.

"Actually, she didn't dare to tell anyone else even if we let her go."

William looked at Barbara's pitiful face and wanted to say something nice. But Lucy was in a bad mood now, her face turned cold and she cursed fiercely, "I've worked so hard to get rid of Derek and the clues, and now for no reason, someone just showed up to mess around with me. Damn it... Why should I always be the unlucky one? If I am to be unlucky, everyone should suffer with me!"

William knew that she was being pushed into a corner. Patrick had never treated his subordinates differently whether they were male or female.

However, for the first time, they saw that Lucy didn't accomplish her task perfectly. They laughed teasingly. "It seems that I should try to get on good terms with Miss Dickens next week. Lucy, please don't appear in front of her, or you'll get scolded again. Hahaha..."

Lucy's face was extremely gloomy.

"When I find out the one who took the USB drive, I will kill him!"

[In Apartment 402]

When Christina finished her takeout and sat on the sofa in her small living room with a male razor in her right hand, she was in a daze.

She became a little angry, then she threw the razor on the side table.

She got up and walked around the small apartment, getting more and more agitated. She looked up and glanced at Room 502 upstairs.

She picked up her phone and wanted to call him.

After hesitating for a long time, she still didn't call.

She wondered why she always had to take the initiative to call him.

In winter, night fell early. She got up at noon today and it became dark very soon. She didn't want to eat takeout for dinner, so she put on a white down jacket, changed her shoes and went out.

She wanted to have a bowl of noodles at a restaurant outside the neighborhood, then went to the mall to buy a laptop.

Before she left, she looked at the small black USB drive on her TV cabinet. She didn't know what it was. Maybe it's just a prank. She moved to this apartment without adding furniture or even a computer. There was no way for her to read the USB drive now.

There was a heater in the apartment, so she sensed the huge temperature difference as soon as she went out.

She stomp and closed the door.

"Miss Dickens, are you going out?"

She has lived in the community for a while and has known some residents here. Probably it's an old district, they were simple and warm-hearted.

She could not pretend to be enthusiastic and just nodded at them. "I'm going out for dinner."

"It's cold and windy tonight... Miss Dickens, you've been living here for so long, but I don't think I've seen any of your families. Have they all gone abroad?"

"Are you married now? If not, you have to fight for the one who is suitable. My niece is about your age. She has already given birth to two children."

When she got out of the elevator, her head was in a mess and she whispered to herself, "No, I don't have a child."

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#### 1 Comment >



5 days ago

Christina was in a mall buying a computer. Before getting one, she received an urgent call.

Then she rushed to the airport, took a short flight, and went to the central hospital in C city.

She hadn't contacted anyone from the Dickens family for a long time. Last Christmas, she didn't even call to greet them. Everyone had their own lives and had long been used to cutting off contact.

But when Christina heard that her father was suddenly seriously ill, her heart sank.

"How... How is he?"

When Christina arrived at the hospital, it was already 11 pm and the inpatient facility was quiet. When she came to the ward, she saw her grandmother, Mrs. Dickens, talking to the director of the hospital.

Mrs. Dickens's eyes reddened when she saw Christina coming. She grabbed Christina's arm and asked, "Where's Patrick? Why didn't the people from Hopkins family come?"

She really didn't know what to say. Her grandmother was still so stubborn and snobbish.

"Did you really divorce him? You are so stupid! You really should have asked him for compensation when you lost your child. Now your father is ill, what do you think we should do? Who can we ask for help..."

Mrs. Dickens cried as she spoke. Christina usually liked to talk back to them, but it was rare for her grandmother to be so flustered. Her grandmother and her father came from a poor family. Perhaps this also made them more infatuated with power and money.

She used to hate their lifestyle, but now that she had gone through so many things, she felt that it was not easy for them, especially since her grandmother was so old.

People really changed a lot when they grew up.

"Grandma, sit here. I'll talk to the doctor."

Christina couldn't pretend to be friendly. She lowered her voice and helped Mrs. Dickens sit on a chair beside her. Then she went into the doctor's office with the director to talk about it in detail.

"Your father was going to work this morning. Suddenly, his car hit a guardrail on the side, and then passers-by called the police and sent him to the hospital for emergency treatment. He is out of danger now..." The doctor gave her a rough idea of the incident.

"My dad has been in good health all the time and I've never heard of anything wrong with him. Could it be that someone did it on purpose?"

Christina questioned it at once. There were so many conspiracies happening around her that she had to suspect it.

"Whether someone caused the car to hit the guardrail or not, we would need to wait for the traffic police's investigation results. But it seems that you don't know about your father's health condition."

The doctor picked up the CT scans, X-rays, and various documents and handed them to her. "Your father should have been in the habit of drinking, smoking, and staying up late for a long time."

"He has liver cirrhosis and his lungs are also not very well. This time, the main cause of the accident is myocardial hemorrhage..."

Christina listened in astonishment.

She really didn't know that her father, Donald, was in such poor health.

"Then, how is he now?" She asked, trembling.

"Don't worry too much. He has to stay in the ICU for two more days and we can decide how to treat him when his condition is stable."

Donald was a very famous entrepreneur in C city, and the hospital director and senior management also knew him. And this director was specially sent to perform the operation for Donald and he did not dare to be careless.

"Mr. Dickens was fortunate. His cardiovascular suddenly ruptured and bled, but the amount of blood loss was small. He was sent to the hospital in time, but his cardiovascular was weak, and his whole body was also weak..."

The doctor paused, looked at her, and reminded her, "Don't provoke him."

Christina nodded stiffly.

All the insiders knew that Donald, the richest man in C City, came from a poor family. When he was young, he married the eldest lady of the Eisenhower family and became what he was now with the support of the Eisenhower family. Besides, Donald's personal life was also a common topic that was secretly talked about in the circle, such as cutting off with his daughter.

Christina hated her father. He cheated on her mother and brought a mistress home, which caused her mother's death. He was ungrateful and didn't deserve her grandfather's support.

But now...

She went to the ward. On the white bed, her father was lying there with his eyes closed. His face was haggard and he was breathing slowly. The whole ward was quiet except for the sound of some equipment.

"Where are Connie and the others?"

She suddenly realized that when her father was sick, only her grandmother took care of him, but her honey-tongued stepmother was not there.

"Christina, how's your father?"

A woman ran over from the elevator. Betty seemed to come in a hurry.

Christina was a little surprised to see her aunt rushing over in a panic.

On the other side, Mrs. Dickens saw that Betty was coming and quickly went over. "Thank god you're here, Betty. Donald is ill. I am so scared that I don't know what to do..."

"How's your father now? What did the doctor say?" Betty was so anxious that she couldn't even breathe and asked Christina.

"The doctor said that the condition is stable now. We have to wait another two days..."

Christina told the truth, but Mrs. Dickens was very dissatisfied. "You just don't care about your father. We can't just wait for two more days."

"Donald hasn't woken up yet, and we don't know when he will wake up. They just look down on us and think that our Dickens family has fallen. You should get the people from the Hopkins family here. If they are here, they won't dare to say that!"

Christina lowered her head and did not answer. Betty comforted Mrs. Dickens, "Donald will be fine. Don't worry too much. We will help with it."

"Betty, I know you are warmhearted. Let the past be the past. We are a family anyway. Christina respects you and she will listen to you. Tell her, the world is dark and complicated. Donald's life is at risk. If something happens to him, I can't survive..."

Mrs. Dickens cried miserably. Finally, Betty asked the nanny to send her back home.

"Christina, don't blame your grandmother for being snobbish. She used to be poor and she has always been afraid of being looked down on and losing face."

After Betty asked the doctor about Donald's condition, she was relieved. The two of them sat outside the ward and chatted. And Betty seemed to be worried that Christina would leave in a fit of anger since she had a bad relationship with the Dickens family.

Christina looked at her and said stiffly, "I know."

The Dickens family didn't have a good relationship with her mother. Grandma used to like her aunt. Betty was really good-tempered, kind, and considerate.

It was already early in the morning and the hospital was very cold at night. Betty asked the nurse for some cotton swabs and a glass of water. She soaked the swabs and carefully applied them on Donald's dry lips. Her movements were very gentle.

Then Betty turned to Christina and said, "Christina, it's late now. You go to a nearby hotel to rest. I'll stay here tonight."

Donald was her father anyway. Christina felt that she should stay. "Auntie, go and rest. I'll watch over here."

"Do you know how to take care of others?" Betty chuckled.

"Where did Connie go? She disappeared at the critical moment."

Christina's face darkened. It was Connie who really should take care of her father, but Connie disappeared.

"Your grandmother said she was busy with work... Forget it. It's important to treat your father now."

Betty was also very angry, but she took the overall situation into consideration and said calmly, "Besides, you don't have to go to the Hopkins family. If your father's condition really worsens, I will go ask Old Master Hopkins for help..."

"Auntie, are you familiar with Old Master Hopkins?"

Christina blurted out. Betty was a little embarrassed because she also felt that her tone seemed to take it for granted. Then Betty changed the topic and reminded Christina, "You go find a hotel to rest."

Christina did not ask again.

She felt that Betty was very determined to stay and take care of her father, and she was really not good at taking care of others. She agreed to have a rest in a nearby hotel and come to accompany her father in the morning.

Christina found a random hotel, but she couldn't sleep.

She had a bad relationship with the Dickens family. She never thought that her father, who had always been overbearing, would fall ill. She remembered a lot of things in the past, the two sisters of the Yankey family, the Hopkins family, and Patrick...



#### 1 Comment >



5 days ago

At five o'clock in the morning, Christina woke up in the hotel and was about to rush to the hospital.

When she reached the lobby on the first floor, she thought that Betty had been taking care of her father all night without eating anything. People in C City had the habit of eating breakfast and drinking tea. So she asked the waiter to pack two portions of porridge and some shrimp dumplings.

As she waited in line to pay the bill, she saw a familiar figure. "Crystal!"

Crystal immediately looked around. What met her eyes was Christina's surprised expressions. Astonished by the encounter with Christina in C City, Crystal asked. "Why are you in C City?"

"My father is hospitalized," Christina mentioned it casually and then looked at Crystal curiously. "What did you hesitate to say on the phone yesterday? Did you come to C City early this morning?"

Crystal, who was afraid of being found out, stammered, "I... I'm out looking for a job."

"You live in A City. Why do you come to C City to find a job?"

"I act on momentary impulse." Crystal looked embarrassed and quickly changed the topic of conversation. "Why is your father in the hospital? How is he now?"

"Yesterday morning, on his way to work, he seemed to have crashed into a guardrail and was sent to the hospital. He is still in a coma now. My aunt took care of him at the hospital last night. Now I'm going over..."

Christina was paying the bill and then hurried over with a few bags of breakfast.

"Then I'll go with you to see your father." Out of solicitude, Crystal also helped carry a bag of porridge.

"Well, thanks,"

After Christina met her friend, she was less in a panic. When in trouble, the company of friends always helped her calm down and feel secure.

"The doctor says he is not in good health. It might be because he has been drinking and smoking for years for the sake of social engagement required by his carreer. The Dickens family rose from obscurity. He might be working much harder than others."

As they walked side by side, Christina talked about her father, which she rarely mentioned to others.

Crystal listened quietly and muttered, "Your father must have devoted much more efforts to work than the Shepherd family, which has established its position for generations." Mr. Dickens started his career by relying on the resources and influence of his wife's family. He had to face more problems and was under more pressure.

"Don't worry too much. Everything will be fine with the treatment of the hospital. In the future, your father needs

to balance work and rest."

"I'm not worried about him."

Christina looked a little unhappy. "It's his own fault. What's the meaning of making so much money, when his family is broken up?"

Crystal knew that Christina was only firm in speech but soft in heart.

"Your father suddenly falls ill. How is the company? Does the Hopkins family help..." As soon as she asked, Crystal immediately regretted it.

At the mention of the Hopkins family, Christina also showed mixed feelings. Considering her relationship with Patrick now, she didn't want to have any associations with the Hopkins family as far as possible.

"A lean camel is bigger than a horse. There is no need to worry. When he is discharged, I'll ask him to retire. He always compares himself with the higher, which I dislike so much. I hate the style of the Dickens family of being so keen on face-saving."

Crystal laughed at her. "You've inherited the character of being keen on face-saving."

As they arrived at the lobby of the inpatient department of the hospital and waited for the elevator, Christina wanted to say that Crystal seemed more and more disobdient recently and wondered whether Crystal was under the influence of others.

At that moment, the phone rang in Crystal's pocket. She took it out, glanced at the caller ID, and was scared out of her wits.

"I come across Christina and stay with her now." She held her phone in a furtive manner and reported in a low voice.

"No, no one can be told. I acted merely on impulse. I regret it now."

Christina didn't know who Crystal was talking to. Crystal smiled guiltily at her and pointed to a corner on the left. "Wait for me." She said, signalling she had a big problem to solve.

Yesterday, she went to the Department of Civil Affairs with Chandler to get marriage license. Now when she thought back to it, she found it a disastrous decision and was filled with deep regrets.

Although it was Chandler who insisted they get the marriage license, she still felt that their relationship was not right and proper.

After receiving the license, she clung to the divorce window next to the marriage window and refused to leave, insisting on keeping secret their marriage, which meant that they could not let others know about their affair for the time being. Chandler finally gave in.

"Crystal, do you regret marrying me now?"

Chandler sounded extremely angry on the other end of the phone. Yesterday, she insisted on a secret marriage. Today, he took her away from A City to C City so as to enjoy the time for just the two of them without others, stood him up as soon as he arrived at the hotel.

"Don't mention it."

Crystal's expression was full of mixed feelings. She found it guilty and unforgivable that she had slept with him.

"Chandler, I don't have time to talk with you. Christina's father is seriously ill and has been hospitalized. I need to accompany her and I will contact you when I have time..."

Then she hung up the phone.

Chandler, who was alone in a luxurious double suite, looked gloomy and had to spend a solitary honeymoon.

Christina took away his newly married wife, but he couldn't ask Christina to send back his wife due to the secret kept specially from Christina. Chandler originally wanted to call Patrick, but he thought carefully for a minute and decided it was better to ask Charles for help.

When something occurred to the Dickens family, Charles was always eager to help.

But when Chandler dialed the number, Charles' phone was busy.

Charles was really fond of taking care of others' business. The last time he accompanied Geoffrey to freeload for food at Christina's apartment 402, he was very unhappy that the person in the apartment 502 upstairs was playing basketball and making noise. Then he called his assistant to buy the apartment upstairs, but the owner refused to sell it.

"That's strange. I offered three times the market price but he still refused."

Charles had just received the message this morning. He hurriedly washed up and drove over without even having breakfast.

"Oh, it's you."

With mixed feelings, he stood at the door of apartment 502 and looked at Patrick in front of him.

"Patrick, what do you want to do?"

Charles looked very eager to find out the true intention of Patrick. He had never thought that by poking nose into others' business, he would come to know such an inconceivable news that Patrick didn't want to live in the Hopkins family and condescended to live in this small apartment.

"Do you move here on purpose? Why do you do this? Does Christina know that you are the one who lives in apartment 502 upstairs..."

"If so, what's the matter?"

Patrick was not surprised to see Charles come, as if he had foreseen it.

Charles was no match for Patrick in terms of the family background and personal competence. However, Charles suddenly burst into laughters as he found it very funny.

"The last time we went on a business trip in H City, you asked someone to text her to stay away from me, didn't you?"

"Patrick, ever since you came back after your operation in the US, I've been suspecting that you haven't lose your memory at all. How could a person like you lose your memory only because of an operation?"

"So what I suspect is true," Charles said with a mocking smile, "You cheat all of us."

They had known each other since they were young. Charles regarded Patrick as a close friend and brother. He respected and cherished Patrick, but now he felt like he was being fooled with.

Charles became furious. "Patrick, I'm not as smart as you, but I know you're very uneasy now. You know what you've done. You always focus on the result and ignore the process. Now Christina's badly hurt by you, and you don't care at all. You're cruel enough."

There was a moment of silence as if they had no other topic to talk about.

Their personalities were too different, and their choices were completely different. Charles felt that for all these years, he had been shamelessly claiming ties with this brother of high status. It seemed that it was only suitable for them to part with each other.

Not wanting to say anything more, Charles turned around and left.

"The operation is true. I have sent someone to change the baby in advance," Patrick suddenly spoke behind Charles in a low voice, which could only be heard by himself. "If she wants the baby, she can only choose me."



"Something happened to the Dickens family, and she's in C City now."

The man in front of Room 502 suddenly shouted, "Charles, I want you to do me a favor. I want you to go to C City to watch her."

Charles suddenly turned round and shouted with a ferocious expression.

"What's wrong? You worried that I would fall in love with her, didn't you? And you specifically warned her to stay away from me last time, didn't you?"

However, Patrick was very calm in the face of Charles's anger and said, "She was always attacked during her pregnancy. I didn't send someone to do it, nor did Derek. I couldn't find out who it was."

Hearing that Patrick couldn't find out anything, Charles was surprised.

"Someone attacked Christina?"

"It's easy to guess. It's just those women who love you. You probably don't know women. Once a woman becomes jealous, she will be as scary as a madman and dare to do anything. They must want Christina and her children dead. If something happens to Christina, it's because of you."

Charles deliberately slowed down his tone to satirize Patrick. Christina married Patrick because she was suddenly pregnant, and many women wanted to kill her.

Charles thought Patrick would say something to refute, but he didn't. Patrick just fell silent.

It was as if Patrick himself also agreed what Charles said.

Charles had always respected Patrick since he was a child and rarely argued with him. It was the first time that Charles had satirized Patrick. Seeing Patrick's silence, Charles was a little guilty.

Charles knew that he should keep a low profile. Many people secretly said that he was close to Patrick to rely on the Hopkins family.

Charles didn't care the gossip at all. No matter how capable a person was, there would always be rumors about him.

Charles had three elder brothers. It was said that his mother had always wanted to have a daughter, but her fourth child was still a boy, so she was very resentful and liked to bully her youngest son. Charles didn't dare to resist his mother, and he had already lost his temper.

But Patrick actually suspected that he had an affair with Christina. Charles was really angry.

"Patrick, I do like Christina, and I'm willing to help her, but that's all because she's your wife."

It was because of Patrick that Charles believed Christina.

After saying that, Charles stepped into the elevator and left.

As the elevator door closed, Charles heard Patrick saying "Sorry" behind him. Charles was so surprised that he even thought it might be his illusion.

Patrick actually could say "Sorry".

Charles had known Patrick for nearly 20 years, and the bad-tempered Patrick had actually learned to apologize.

Charles walked out of the community and immediately asked his assistant to book a plane ticket. "Find out what happened to the Dickens family in C City."

"Mr. Shepherd, are you going to find out where Miss Dickens is?" The assistant had guessed it.

"Miss Dickens is at the central hospital in C City now."

Charles hesitated and said, "Was she injured?"

"Miss Dickens's father had a traffic accident yesterday morning."

Charles was relieved. Anyway, Christina was fine, and it was none of his business how others got injured. Something would happen to Christina every time she returned to C City. It was not that she was looking for trouble, but that those women liked to trouble her.

C City was really a disaster for Christina.

Crystal was making a phone call in the corner, and Christine was standing there and waiting for the elevator. Before the elevator reached, a woman rushed over behind her like a madman. She grabbed Christina's long hair and pulled it fiercely, and used her sharp nails to scratch Christina's face, leaving some shallow marks on Christina's face.

Christina came to her senses and pushed her away.

But the woman seemed to be fighting with her desperately. Christina's wrist was bleeding by the woman's pinch, and she still didn't let go of Christina. Christina immediately hit the woman's face with the hot porridge in her hand.

When Crystal heard the noise, she immediately ran over and screamed, "Carrie, what are you doing?"

Christina pushed the woman away. The marble floor of the hospital was very slippery, which made the woman fall down.

When Christina saw the woman in front of her clearly, she was very surprised. She thought she had suddenly attacked by a madman, but she didn't expect that the woman was someone she knew. Some of the porridge stuck to Carrie's long hair, making her really look like a lunatic.

Though Mrs. Dickens had always been snobbish, she did love her son very much. She rushed to the hospital right away. After all, her son was her only prop.

"Connie had a quarrel with my dad. What were they quarreling about?" Christina asked.

Mrs. Dickens ignored her and looked out the door. "Where are the people of the Hopkins family? I have asked clearly that you and Patrick haven't divorced yet, so he's still your husband. Now your father is in hospital, and Patrick doesn't even come over to see him. Christina, call the Hopkins family..."

Hearing the Hopkins family, Christina lowered her head and remained silent.



# 1 Comment >



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