

Departure with a Belly Chapter 491

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Chapter 491

“In that case, get up and brush your teeth. We’ll go after breakfast.”

Nicole wasn’t in the mood at first, but she became excited and ran toward the bathroom to brush her teeth.

Nathan followed behind her after he saw her run.

In the bathroom, Mary had prepared the cups and toothbrush for them with the toothpaste squeezed on as well.

When Nicole saw that, she turned her head around and met Nathan’s eyes. Then, they looked up at Mary when she entered and said, “Grandma, Mommy said we have to do our own things. You don’t need to help us squeeze the toothpaste next time!”

Mary was a little taken aback at her words as she stared at their chubby cheeks. She wanted to treat them well, so she prepared toothpaste for them. It had been a long time before she could care for children and couldn’t help but spoil them a little. Who knew that...

“I’m sorry. I was wrong. I thought it’d be easier if I squeezed it for you both. Your mommy is right. You have to be independent.”

“Nonetheless, since Grandma helped us today, we still have to thank you.” Nathan suddenly changed their stance.

Nicole immediately said, "Thank you, Grandma!"

Mary's heart melted at their words.

After brushing their teeth, the three of them had breakfast. Mary asked the maid to see if the car was ready and that everything had been loaded into the vehicle. Followingly, she left with Nicole and Nathan.

They left at once, and the rest of the servants were left behind as they watched the car drive off into the distance.

"The bosses aren't here now. Does that mean we can laze around next week?"

"Hey! Don't say nonsense. They pay us handsomely. Do what you've been paid to do.

You can't even get half the pay here if you work like a dog elsewhere."

Some of the servants who were thinking of taking it easy were reminded of that reality and didn't dare think of lazing on the job anymore.

The car merged onto the highway, not noticing a black van coming in the opposite direction as they passed by each other.

At that moment, Mary sat in the car and opened the bag of candy she brought.

"We're going to a village today, so some roads might be bumpy. Here, have a sweet. It should help with nausea."

Then, Nicole and Nathan got one each before Mary put the bag away.

"Grandma, why are we going to the countryside? Where is it?" Nicole blinked her eyes and asked curiously, "Is Mommy there?"

Mary didn't dare answer when it came to Victoria and explained briefly, "No... I want you

guys to meet two people."

She didn't hide it from them. "She is my mother. You've seen her picture in my room."

Nicole blinked again and asked, "Is it the family picture of you and your parents,

Grandma?"

"Yes. That's it."

"I know now. It's Great-Grandma and Great-Grandpa!"

Mary smiled and nodded her head. "Yes."

"Hmm. Grandma, do Great-Grandma and Great-Grandpa live in the village? Why do they

live there?"

Nicole had many questions that kept arising one after another, to which Mary answered tirelessly. She even thought to herself, This trip won't be boring and quiet at all.

After two hours, the car finally arrived.

The children were full of energy and didn't seem to feel tired. However, Mary wasn't feeling well even though she was worried about the children getting car sick.

When she got down the car, her legs trembled. Nicole and Nathan wanted to help support her but couldn't due to the height difference. As such, they supported her leg and said, "Grandma, rest in the car if you're sick. We can get down later."

Mary nodded and sat down. She sipped on the drink Nathan passed to her. It was a

little sour, but its sweetness took away the nausea she was feeling.

She thought to herself as she drank, I can't believe this road didn't get patched up after so many years. I have to tell Adrian about this. We should donate to fix the road if we can.

"Grandma, are you feeling better?"

Mary came back to her senses. "Yes, I'm feeling much better. Let's go. The car can't drive further in, so we'll walk together."

To avoid disturbing the area, only a driver came with them. After parking the car, the driver carried two pieces of luggage and followed behind them.

The road was narrow and winding, so cars couldn't drive in. If another car came in the opposite direction with another car behind them, they would be stuck.

Mary had gotten into that situation when she first came to visit. As such, she ordered the driver to park the car at the village entrance so that they could walk inside, for it would be much easier that way.

It was a first for Nicole and Nathan to visit a place like this. Coupled with the natural curiosity in children, their eyes looked around as they walked.

They saw many children from the village standing by the road as they entered, and the kids all looked at them with curious gazes.

There was a stark difference between both parties.

Nicole saw the floral print dress a girl had on and looked down at her princess dress

before looking up at Mary to ask, “Grandma, I’ve not tried that dress. Can I get that next time?”

Mary looked over in the child’s direction to see a girl who seemed to be the same age. as Nicole in a blue floral print dress. The fabric looked a little old, but it was clean. Besides, the girl was cute, so the dress matched her well.

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A few other children standing beside her seemed to be her friends. Mary stopped to
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give them a few candies before telling Nicole, “Of course. After we settle in, we can ask your Great–Grandma to bring you to the market to buy all the dresses you like.”

Nicole had only heard of shopping malls or grocery stores, so the word ‘market’ piqued her interest.

“Okay. Nathan will go too.”

“Of course.”

After walking for another ten minutes, they finally arrived at a yard.

Compared to two years ago, there were more flowerpots at the entrance of the yard, but the flowers had withered since the weather was cold.

There were red ribbons stuck around the frame of the door and a wreath that was probably still there from Christmas.

The gate of the courtyard was sturdily built with a big lock installed by a professional

team.

When they decided on the door, Mary wanted to use a coded door lock that would make it easier for her parents to open and close. If they forgot the code, they could also use their fingerprints. However, her parents were against the idea and said that they

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should do as the Romans do since they were in the village for retirement.

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Mary couldn't resist her mother's insistence, so in the end, she had to buy an extra-large

lock that most people couldn't open.

At this moment, since the gate was unlocked, she assumed her mother was inside. She pressed the doorbell next to the gate and waited outside with her two grandchildren.

After a short while, they heard faint footsteps from inside, followed by the voice of an elderly person. "Who is it?"

The two little ones were excited when they heard the voice of the elderly person. They looked up at Mary and asked, "Grandma, is that Great-Grandma's voice?"

With a smile, Mary nodded at the two children while responding, "Mom, it's me."

Her familiar voice caused the footsteps inside to pause for a moment before becoming more urgent.

When Mary heard that, she said with a smile, "Take your time, Mom. Be careful."

After the gate opened, an elderly person with gray hair but dressed in casual

loungewear, looking exceptionally elegant, appeared in front of them.

Nicole and Nathan had been taught to be polite ever since they were young, and Victoria had taught them to greet others as well. So, when the gate opened, they both called out in unison, “Hi, Great–Grandma.”

It had been a long time since Casey had seen her daughter. She had been worried about her children recently but was afraid of disturbing them, so she didn’t call them.

Unexpectedly, her daughter visited her at this time.

She was delighted, but just as she opened the gate and saw her daughter’s face, she heard two adorable voices calling out ‘Great–Grandma’. Great–Grandma? Who are they

talking about? Or is my old age playing tricks on me?

As she lowered her head, she saw two adorable children standing there, looking up at her together. What shocked her was that they looked remarkably similar to her grandson, Alaric.

Astonished, she looked at the two children and then raised her head to look at her daughter, Mary.

Mary was smiling at her, raising her eyebrows slightly as if to say, ‘Look, I brought your great–grandchildren to visit you.’

“They are...” Casey was genuinely shocked for a while before realizing what was happening. She was about to reach out and touch the cheeks of the two children to see if they were real. Yet, as soon as her hands reached out, they were held by the two children, one on each side. The warm and soft sensation instantly spread from her fingertips to the rest of her, and the touch was so genuine that it left her momentarily stunned before she came back to her senses. “They are Al’s...”

With a nod, Mary replied, “Yes, they’re twins.”

“Hi, Great–Grandma. I’m Nicole Selwyn.”

“I’m Nathan Selwyn.”

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Although they were Alaric’s children, they introduced themselves as Selwyns without changing their last names to Cadogan.

At that, Mary felt slightly awkward, but she didn’t mind the issue of the children’s last names. After all, the Cadogan Family owed Victoria five years of her life. Victoria had been looking after them for so many years, but now she was willing to let the two children call them Grandma and Grandpa. That was already enough for Mary.

As for the issue of the children’s last names, both she and her husband weren’t particularly concerned. No matter what their last names were, it wouldn’t change the fact that they were Alaric and Victoria’s children. However, while Mary didn’t mind, she wasn’t sure how Casey felt. After all, age would make people more conservative.

Just as Mary was about to change the subject, Casey smiled and nodded. “Those are nice names. Did your mommy give them to you?”

The two little ones nodded.

Anxious, Mary pressed her lips together. Yet, in the next moment, she saw Casey smile and say, “Come inside. I’ll prepare some delicious food for you.”

She stepped aside to make way and invited everyone inside. After the driver brought their luggage inside, he said to Mary, “I’ll head back now, Madam. I’ll come and pick you up when it’s time.”

Mary nodded in reply and watched the driver leave. After she closed the gate and locked it, the two little ones followed behind her, and only then did they get a clear view of the courtyard.

There was a large tree planted in the courtyard, and its leaves had already fallen due to the weather, leaving it bare. At once, the children ran over curiously to take a closer look.

Meanwhile, Casey watched as the two little ones ran over. When they were at a distance, she started talking to Mary. "So, it's just the three of you who came?"

Mary nodded. "Yes."

"Where are their parents? Why didn't they come along?"

"They... have some matters to attend to and couldn't make it." Mary didn't dare tell

Casey about the news of their mishap. With her mother's advanced age, she didn't want

to give her any unnecessary shocks.

"Young people nowadays are always so busy that they neglect their health. When you go back, tell them not to work too hard. Otherwise, they'll fall sick easily, and it will be difficult for them when they grow old."

"Alright, I'll tell them when I go back. I'll ask them to bring the children to visit you too."

"But..." Casey paused for a moment and sighed. "Didn't they get divorced back then?"

The children are at least 4, right? Did Victoria..." Casey guessed in her mind.

With a nod, Mary confirmed what she suspected.

Although Casey had already guessed it, it was a different feeling when it was confirmed. She never imagined that Victoria would give birth to two children on her own after the divorce. Now she understood why both children followed their mother's last name.

"Mom, I feel that since both children were raised by Victoria herself, I don't want to make a big deal out of their last names. I hope..."

Before Mary could finish her words, Casey interrupted, "Why are you telling me that? Do

you think I'm someone who can't tell right from wrong? It wasn't easy for her to raise the two children all by herself, but now she's willing to bring them back. It's our debt to her. It's just a last name; it doesn't mean anything."

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Mary thought her mother would have more conservative thoughts at her age, but seeing that she didn't mind and even lectured her, Mary finally let go of her worries and couldn't help but say coquettishly, "I'm not saying that you can't tell right from wrong, Mom. I just wanted to explain it to you. Don't be angry at me."

It had been a long time since Casey heard her daughter speaking coquettishly, so her anger dissipated at once. She walked up and welcomed the two little ones. "Let's go inside. Nothing is interesting here. Come inside with me, and I'll make you something delicious. Are you two allergic to anything?"

Although it was their first meeting, the two little ones were already taken to her, and they went inside together.

Meanwhile, Mary stood in place and checked her phone.

It had been a whole night, and Adrian still hadn't given her a call. How are things going on his side? How much longer will it take? I hope everything will go smoothly and without any hiccups.

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In the study room, when the news of the two children being missing from the Cadogan Residence reached Bane's ears, he immediately furrowed his brow. "They're not there? She wouldn't have entrusted the children to someone else. Have you searched

everywhere?”

Ethan nodded. “Our people who went looking reported that the children are not there, but they don’t know their exact whereabouts yet. So…” He hesitated for a moment before continuing, “It might take some time to locate their next location.”

“How long?”

“Um… I’m not sure. The car drove for about half an hour and then entered an unmonitored area, so we can’t track them for now.”

Hearing this, Bane understood what it meant. So, our people arrived late. Otherwise, why would they leave at this time? At this thought, he stared intensely at Ethan. “How did they know?”

Ethan didn’t immediately grasp his meaning and asked, “What?”

“Did you leak the information?” Bane looked at Ethan with a gaze as though he were looking at trash. “Do you want her to die?”

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At his question, Ethan was taken aback. He initially thought he had misheard and took a moment to understand what Bane meant. “Do you think I leaked the information, Mr. Morison?”

“Did you not? Otherwise, why would they leave early? And why would they coincidentally take an unmonitored route? Or perhaps you manipulated something in between?”

Ethan pressed his lips together and fell silent. Only after a while did he say, “Mr. Morison, if you don’t trust me, find someone else to handle this for you, then.”

“Ethan, do you know why I kept you?”

“Yes, Mr. Morison. You entrusted me with protecting Miss Selwyn’s safety, and I’m also concerned about her. With her situation now, how could I possibly leak any information?”

Bane stared at him, observing that his tone was normal when he spoke. Well, if he didn’t

care about Victoria, he wouldn’t have dared to assist her in escaping in the first place.

Now that her life is in danger, there is no way he will betray her. However, he may be doing this intentionally, using her life to force me to release her and make me give up.

With this in mind, Bane sneered. “How long have you been working for me?”

Ethan remained silent.

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“You know what kind of person I am, right?” Bane tapped lightly on the table with his fingertips, revealing impatience. “Since I managed to bring her back for the second time, there will be a third and a fourth time. So, you better not have any ideas. This time,

I have no intention of letting her go.” As he said that, he smiled faintly.

It was the first smile he had shown since Victoria’s accident, but this smile was completely ill-timed. Not only was the timing off, but the angle of his smile was also wrong, giving off an eerie feeling.

At his words, Ethan felt like something in his heart had collapsed, and he had an extremely bad feeling.

Sure enough, in the next moment, he heard Bane say, “She can only stay by my side, even if she dies.”

Previously, he had used Victoria’s life as a means to provoke Bane into letting her go. A

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that time, Bane seemed afraid, perhaps because he had experienced the feeling of

losing a loved one. That was why he locked himself in the study for a long time.

However, Ethan never expected him to change so quickly.

“Surprised? I just decided. Now that you know, go and do what you should be doing.”

After leaving Bane’s study, Ethan felt as if he was floating as he walked. How did things escalate to this point? Why did it turn out like this? What does Miss Selwyn have to do to leave this place? Does she really... have to die here for Mr. Morison to be satisfied? I

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can’t believe that he can be so cruel. Perhaps his words were only meant to provoke me and urge me to find the two children quickly.

At this thought, he suddenly became clear-headed. Yes, Mr. Morison must still be worried about Miss Selwyn’s safety. If he isn’t worried, why would he be so impatient about not finding the two children? But I really didn’t leak any information, so why did the Cadogans take the children out all of a sudden? And they didn’t even tell anyone at the residence where they were going. What should I do? If I can’t find the two children, Miss Selwyn’s chances of survival will be slim. But if I find them, there may be no turning back anymore. I have to make a decision soon.

After thinking it over, he made up his mind.

After Ethan left, Bane remained alone in the study. His expression was sinister and his aura was icy cold, his entire demeanor giving off the feeling that he hated the world.

Suddenly, his phone rang, so he glanced at the caller ID, his eyes flickering slightly. After

a moment, he answered the call. “Hello, Grandpa?” His tone wasn’t too good, but it wasn’t too bad either. It was his normal way of speaking.

However, the words from the other end of the line made his expression suddenly turn

cold. "What do you mean?"

Old Mr. Morison's cold snort sounded from the other end of the line. "Are you really asking me that? You know exactly what I'm saying. The girl from the Selwyn Family is with you, right? What do you plan to do to her, you brat?"

Bane pursed his thin lips and remained silent.

"Bring that girl back home now! I don't want people annoying me anymore."

"Did the Cadogans tell you that?"

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"It doesn't matter who told me. Just do as I say." Old Mr. Morison's words carried an air of autocracy and tyranny, for he had no intention of negotiating with Bane; it was a direct order.

When Bane didn't answer him, he questioned again, "I'm talking to you. Are you listening?"

However, Bane let out a low laugh. The laughter was deep, but at this moment, it sounded extremely eerie to Old Mr. Morison.

"Why are you laughing, you brat?"

Bane laughed for a full minute, leaving Old Mr. Morison on the other end of the line almost fuming with anger before he finally stopped.

*"Grandpa, if I may ask, when you forced my mother to marry that piece of sh*t back then, did you use the same tone with her?"*

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*The description of 'that piece of sh*t' stunned Old Mr. Morison, and he took a while to realize whom Bane was referring to. Instantly, he became furious. "You brat, how can you say that? That's your father!"*

“Oh, really? What has he done as my father? What responsibilities did he fulfill?” After saying that, Bane sneered. “He was just a murderer who killed my mother.”

“He may be despicable, but he’s still your father!”

“I have no father.”

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“How dare you?” Old Mr. Morison was infuriated, but considering the disgraceful acts of his son, he didn’t want to argue with his grandson about that degeneracy. That useless thing can no longer be salvaged, but Bane’s means as the person in power are beyond satisfactory. “Whatever, it doesn’t matter if you acknowledge him as your father or not. Just release the girl from the Selwyn Family.”

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Old Mr. Morison believed that Bane would listen to him. After all, the future of the family’s business would be in Bane’s hands, and if he wanted a smooth inheritance, he had to obey his commands. What were Old Mr. Morison’s thoughts? Men playing around with women is just normal as long as it doesn’t become too scandalous.

At first, he actually thought Victoria was quite good, but after her family went bankrupt, he didn’t think highly of her anymore, let alone when she divorced Alaric and became a divorced woman with two children. Since then, he had always looked down on her.

However, Bane turned out to be emotionally attached to her and couldn’t live without her. Although Old Mr. Morison tried to intervene several times, even resorting to using force, Bane wouldn’t listen.

During that time, Old Mr. Morison was furious, and it was his assistant who got him to calm down by saying, “Why are you so angry, Old Mr. Morison? They have been entangled for so many years, but they still haven’t ended up together, right? It’s clear

that Mr. Morison is just playing around. She's just a worthless divorced woman with two children. Once he gets tired of her, he will naturally leave her, so you shouldn't keep interfering. Besides, people have a rebellious nature. The more you try to separate them, the more he will think she is good. I'm afraid that before they break up, there will already be a rift between you and Mr. Morison."

After being persuaded by his assistant, Old Mr. Morison realized that Bane and Victoria hadn't actually ended up together. So, he started to believe what his assistant said, that Bane might just be playing around and wouldn't marry her. Since then, he stopped intervening and even started showing a favorable attitude toward Victoria.

A while ago, when he learned that Victoria had returned to the country, he thought that once she returned, she would break things off with Bane, so he was happy during that time. In fact, he even wanted to search for various socialites for Bane, but then the Cadogans came knocking on his door, asking for Victoria. Later, he found out that Bane

had kept her with him.

When the Cadogans came looking for him, he was extremely displeased. She's an adult,

after all. If she wants to leave, no one can force her to stay. How dare they come to me and ask for her? Yet, it was the Cadogans that he was facing, so he couldn't speak too harshly. She's just a divorced woman anyway. Only the Cadogan Family will treat her as

their treasure. That was why he made that phone call.

At this thought, Old Mr. Morison even belittled Victoria in front of Bane. "I know you have feelings for that girl from the Selwyn Family. To be honest, she has good looks, but you have to know that she's been married before. If you really like her, you can keep

her as a mistress outside. Think about it—she’s divorced and even has two children. Are those your children?”

“I don’t care,” Bane replied.

Old Mr. Morison had originally intended to just give him advice, hoping that his grandson would at least think about it. However, when Bane said he didn’t care halfway through, it instantly ignited his anger. “You don’t care? What gives you the right not to care? You are the heir of the Morison Family. You represent the entire family. Do you think you’re alone? No! You have the entire Morison Family behind you.”

“Oh.” Bane sneered, “Why didn’t you apply such strict teachings to that murderer? When

he disgraced the Morison Family, did he think about the family’s reputation?” He paused

for a moment before continuing, “Or more accurately, does the Morison Family even have any reputation left?”

*Stunned, Old Mr. Morison bellowed, “Y—
You little brat! What do you mean by the Morison*

Family? Aren’t you part of the family?”

Bane remained silent.

“Release her now!” Old Mr. Morison threatened.

Bane retaliated, saying, “You don’t have the right to order me around.”

“You are my grandson. How can I not have the right?”

When Bane heard that, he scoffed. “You want me to release her? Dream on.” After that,

he hung up the phone directly.

*“You b*st...” Old Mr. Morison was about to scold him, but he heard the busy tone*

coming from the other end of the phone. The call had been disconnected.

Instantly, he became furious, and his assistant beside him quickly approached him and patted his chest to calm him down. "Calm down, Old Mr. Morison."

"I can't believe it. That brat actually hung up on me."

"He's just young and hot-headed. Don't bother with him. It's not worth making yourself sick from the anger."

With the consolation of his assistant, Old Mr. Morison's breathing became smoother.

"He refuses to let her go. How am I going to explain this to the Cadogans?" As he said this, a worried expression appeared on his face.

After hanging up the phone, Bane turned it off, refusing to take any more calls. He sat there with a dark expression, his mind filled with the words that Old Mr. Morison had just said. Why? I just want her to be by my side, that's all. Why is everyone against me?

Why is everyone trying to take her away from me? Victoria...

His eyes darkened, and after a moment, he stood up and walked toward Victoria's room.

-Today, Benjamin came again. His idea was to come and talk to her every day to build trust between them, in the hopes that one day she would be willing to open up to him.

That was the current approach he was taking.

However, it seemed to have little effect. On the first day, Victoria glanced at him, but the

next day, she didn't even look at him. When he spoke to her, she simply closed her eyes

and ignored him.

When Benjamin came out, he looked at the others and could only shake his head

helplessly. "She still refuses to communicate. I'll try again tomorrow or the day after." At

this point, he paused and looked at Bane, seeming hesitant.

Bane noticed his expression and pressed his lips together before saying coldly, "Just say what you want to say."

With a nod, Benjamin replied, "I wanted to say that Miss Selwyn seems to be in a worse state today than yesterday. Is she still not eating anything at all?"

Bane looked at Jessie, who immediately said, "She had a little dessert soup today, but she still ate very little."

Since losing her memory and leaving the hospital, her eating habits had been extremely simplified. Fortunately, she was still willing to eat sweet foods, which helped sustain her to some extent. Otherwise, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

"If she's willing to eat, at least her daily nutritional needs will be met. For now, she doesn't show suicidal tendencies, so maintaining her current diet is sufficient. However, if she refuses to eat, it's equivalent to her committing suicide, but a slow one," Benjamin said with a sigh.

"What should we do?" Jessie was on the verge of tears. "Will Miss Selwyn die?"

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"Don't talk nonsense!" Bane sternly rebuked.

Startled, Jessie instantly fell silent, afraid to speak. Her eyes were reddened, and tears looked like they were going to slide down her cheeks at any time, making her look particularly pitiful.

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When Benjamin glanced at her, he sighed in his heart. "That won't happen for now. Anyway, consult other doctors and see if there are alternative ways to give her nutrition without her eating. If she doesn't want to eat, then find other means. There's always a solution. However, people still need to eat. The method I mentioned can only be temporary; a long-term refusal to eat is not viable. Even if there are other ways to keep her alive, her body will deteriorate, and in the end..." Although he didn't finish his sentence, everyone there understood what he was trying to say.

No one spoke further, and Benjamin soon left.

With an icy gaze, Bane stared at the closed door, feeling as if a knife was slowly cutting through his heart.

"I should go in now, Mr. Morison," said Jessie.

Yet, he stopped her. "Wait. Come with me."

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She exclaimed, "Huh?" Although she didn't know why he wanted to see her, he was her employer, so she followed him.

Before leaving, Bane glanced at Ethan and said, "Take good care of her. Let me know if anything happens."

Ethan, with an expressionless face, nodded.

After they left, Ethan remained standing in place. Only after a while did he look up at the closed door and remember the decision he had made. Did Mr. Morison give me this opportunity on purpose? Otherwise, why would he call Jessie away at this moment? Regardless, he decided to push open the door and enter.

The curtains in the room were drawn so it was dim inside, and the window was only

slightly open to allow for ventilation due to Victoria's weakened state. The whole room felt stuffy and suffocating. Ethan even thought, Wouldn't living in such an environment worsen her condition?

At this moment, Victoria was leaning on the couch with her eyes closed, appearing as if she were asleep. When Ethan approached, he silently watched her for a while before calling out, "Miss Selwyn."

As he expected, she completely ignored him. Initially, when he spoke to her, she still had some reaction, but now... As the doctor said, her condition is indeed worsening rapidly.

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Thinking that Bane might return soon, Ethan decided not to beat around the bush and spoke directly. "Miss Selwyn, besides Mr. Cadogan, are there any other people you can't forget?"

After he said that, he didn't wait for Victoria's reaction and continued, "Your memory may have temporarily disappeared, so you can't recall it now, but some emotions are ingrained in one's bones. Do you really have no one that you miss?"

At his words, she slowly opened her eyes and looked at him with a calm gaze. "Who would I miss?" She felt that she had forgotten something, but she couldn't recall it, so naturally, she attributed this feeling to the aftermath of amnesia.

As Ethan looked at her intently, he said, "For example, your children."

When she heard the word 'children', her chest felt as if it had been struck heavily, and her heart pounded like a drum. "My children..." She repeated the word, feeling as if a series of images were flashing through her mind.

“Yes, your children.”

At this moment, Victoria’s previously lifeless face finally showed a spark of life, as if a switch had been flipped within her. My children. I have children? No wonder I keep having the feeling that I’ve forgotten something important.

Seeing her seemingly reignite her will to live, Ethan glanced in the direction of the door

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and quickly said, “Please don’t tell anyone about this, Miss Selwyn. If possible, perhaps you can try to communicate with Mr. Morison. Maybe... you can persuade him.” If there’s anyone who can persuade him, it will probably be Miss Selwyn.

“Persuade him?” Victoria was no longer as desolate as before. She even forced herself to straighten her body, as if she had found mental support. “Persuade him to let me go? But even in my current state, he doesn’t seem willing to. Will he agree if I persuade him?”

“You have to give it a try, no matter what. It’s better than taking your health lightly, Miss Selwyn.”

If it had been before, Victoria might not have cared about her health, but after hearing from Ethan that she had children, she now felt that she had to take care of herself.

“Alright, I’ll try, but I don’t have any memories of him. Can you tell me something about the past? Maybe it will help me.”

“Of course.” Ethan nodded and then said, “But they might come back soon. It’s probably not a good time to talk now. If you want to, I can come to you tonight.”

“Okay.”

“So... are you going to eat later?”

She paused for a moment and then put on a rare smile. "I have to, for the sake of my children."

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When Ethan saw the smile on her face that had been missing for so long, he was momentarily stunned, but he then nodded. "I should leave now. Mr. Morison should be back soon. I think he's looking for food that you'll eat. Eat a little bit today, and try not to resist the psychiatrist too much tomorrow. Pretend to accept his treatment."

"I got it." Victoria hesitated for a moment, but when she saw that he was about to leave, she said, "By the way, can I ask you a question?"

At her words, Ethan, who had intended to leave, stopped in his tracks. "Go ahead."

"What do my children look like? Do you have any photos you can show me?"

He was taken aback for a moment and then shook his head. "I don't have them stored on my phone, but I will find a way to get the photos. If I manage to get them, I'll show them to you as soon as possible."

"Okay, thank you."

"You're welcome, Miss Selwyn. I should get going now." Without staying any longer, he quickly left.

Meanwhile, Victoria sat on the couch. Previously, she felt a heaviness in her chest, and her whole being seemed to have traversed a life of despair, completely devoid of any vitality. Living didn't seem like a meaningful thing at all.

However, the emotions she felt in her chest now were completely different. It was filled with indescribable feelings, soft yet powerful, not only igniting her will to live but also making her brave.

She didn't think that Ethan was lying to her because from the moment he told her about her children, she felt a connection with them. Hence, she was certain that she had children.

When Jessie returned and entered the room, she immediately sensed a different aura from Victoria. Even though Victoria was still leaning on the couch, the feeling she gave off was completely different.