

## Chapter 31 And now he finally felt composed

Steward put his hand on Nora's arm and he could hold her arms with only one palm. She was so skinny.

"Please wake up, Nora! I'm going to feed you and make you gain some weight. You were so cute when you were a kid, with your arms like lotus roots..."

"When you were a child, you always loved to eat. Your mother even said that she would never worry about your appetite. But since you fell down the tree, you had eaten less and less."

"You believed that it was because of your weight that my wrist broke. What a silly woman! No matter how much weight you gain, I can still hold you up."

...

Steward gave her an arm massage for a while until her arms got warm.

He didn't want Nora to experience muscle atrophy when she wakes up so that he could take her home immediately.

Mia didn't sleep in Nora's room anymore so Steward didn't have to sleep on the floor. He moved another bed close to Nora's to make it one.

When he slept near her, he stared at his 'sleeping beauty'."

In the past, through nights like this, Nora slept near him with light breath, afraid to waking him up. At that

time,he knew her eyes were fixed on him but felt annoyed by her and always rolled over with his back to Nora.

Now they reversed their roles.

“Nora,you had been lying in the bed for so long.As long as you wake up,you can say or do anything to me.Please,please wake up.”begged Steward.

Holding her hands,Steward lay near her.And now he finally felt composed.

“I used to call you silly girl but how sensible I was?You know your feelings for me so well,but I always thought of you as my childhood playmate.Until you left me,I came to realize that I loved you as a man.

“I was grateful that you are still alive so we can get back together.So this time,let me be that stubborn guy and no matter what it takes,I will never leave you and always hold your hand.”

Steward buried his face in Nora's neck,and pressed his face against her warm skin.He thought he could finally have a good sleep.

He whispered,“Nora,my dear,I love you...”

The Christmas was over.Steward's father had to go back to work because his son quit his job again.