

Chapter 11

He said a bit nervously, “I don’t like reading!”

“Too much gaming will mess you up.”

Sophia suddenly showed up to defend her son, “Emmett, Alex is finally becoming cheerful. Why are *you* still so harsh on him! He’s just a kid, it’s normal for him to love playing!”

Emmett frowned and walked away.

Alex carefully looked at his grandma, pouting, “Did I make dad upset?”

“Don’t worry about him! Look at you; you’re so happy today. I’ve never seen you this cheerful since I’ve known *you*!”

It’s like... he became a different person!

“Do you prefer the happy me or the old me, grandma?”

“Of course it’s the current you! Good boy, grandma always worries that my love is not enough and that it might stress you out. You’ve grown up without your parents, that’s my fault.”

Upon seeing Sophia’s teary eyes, Alex quickly reached out to hold her, “Don’t cry, grandma! So what if I didn’t grow up with my parents? You can just bring my mom here, right? Then we can all be together!”

“You’re still little. There’s a lot you don’t understand!” Sophia sighed, “Back then... it was all my fault! I messed up!”

Emmett returned to his study. There were a lot of documents to process, but when he saw them, all he could think of was that woman.

Who was she? Who was the woman he saved? What was the connection he felt? Why wasn't he repulsed by them?

The more he thought, the more painful his headache he got. He stood up and randomly threw his tie onto the bed. Suddenly...his phone rang!

Emmett walked over to see. It was an unfamiliar number. He hesitated for a moment before answering. "Hello."

"Hello, is this Mr. Emmett?"

With just one sentence, Emmett recognized the voice! It was the woman he had saved!

"How did you get my number?"

"Ask the Mr. Matt beside you." Clara's voice was a bit noisy, "I'm on my way to the Melendez Group now. Can I meet you?"

"You want to see me?"

"Yes! I think it's better to discuss face to face about how to pay you back!"

Emmett softly said, "No need."

"That won't work! I can't just take your money for no reason! You saved me, and I'm already very grateful! I must repay you. It's just that it will take a long time. I might need to pay you in installments! So I wanted to discuss with you how to do the installment."

Huh, seemed like a determined woman.

Emmett's eyelids twitched slightly, "Eighth floor, come straight up."

"Okay!"

After hanging up, he looked at his phone screen, and suddenly felt that he had been a bit off recently! Every time he faced this woman, he acted out of character!

“Clara...Clara....”

Emmett’s lips moved slightly, just then Matt knocked on the door from outside.

“Sir! Taylor wants to see you.”

Taylor? Emmett squinted his eyes. His fingers habitually twirled his signet ring.

“Have him wait for me in the lounge.” Perfect! Clara was also coming over today! He really wanted to know what the relationship was between Clara and Taylor!

Chapter 12

Emmett drove himself to the office, and the moment he stepped into the lounge, he spotted Taylor waiting for him behind a desk. That guy, his biggest rival in the biz! The man who was leading the Atwoods to their current glory. Taylor was not someone to be

underestimated.

“Mr. Melendez.”

Taylor rose to his feet and greeted him with a smile. “For a sec, I thought you’d shut me out this time!”

Emmett slightly furrowed his brows, “Your highness graces us with your presence, Mr. Atwood. How could I not welcome you?” “We’ve known each other long enough. Let’s cut to the chase. I’m here to borrow something of yours.”

“And what would that be?”

“Your TrackR. Heard it could locate anyone with ease. No place it can’t find! Thought I’d give it a spin.”

Emmett’s fingers twitched slightly. “Who are you looking for, Mr. Atwood?”

Taylor suddenly laughed, stood up, and handed him a photo. “I’m looking for the woman in this picture!”

Taking the photo, Emmett saw – it was Clara!

“I’ve forgotten who this woman is. Probably someone I knew before my amnesia! I keep dreaming about her, but I’m not sure who she is!” Taylor furrowed his brows, “I want to find her and clarify!”

*...A woman you knew before the amnesia?”

“Exactly! Because I can’t remember her now, but I keep seeing her in my dreams. I started to doubt whether she was real or a figment of my imagination, until I found this photo among my old stuff! I’m sure she’s real!”

Emmett’s hand stiffened slightly. “What’s in it for me if I help you?”

“This year’s bidding, AW Corporation will opt-out.”

“You think your participation in the bidding is a threat to me?”

“It’s not a threat, but if we pull out, Melendez stands a better chance at winning. Isn’t that a good thing for you? Using TrackR won’t cost you a dime! I just want to know where this woman is.”

Emmett suddenly tossed the photo onto the table, his eyes narrowing. “I can’t help with this.”

“Why not?”

*No reason necessary.”

Taylor wanted to say more, but Emmett cut him off. “Mr. Atwood, I think it’s time you left.”

“What if I pay to use your TrackR?”

“I don’t need your money.”

Taylor clenched his fist. “Emmett, didn’t expect you to be so petty! You’re being stingy? Just because I’m your competitor.” “Matt, show our guest out.”

“Alright.

After saying that, Emmett left the lounge. He took the elevator to the eighth floor, and as soon as the doors opened he saw Clara! “Mr. Melendez!”

“Hmm. Emmett glanced at her, recalling the photo Taylor showed him. He was certain the woman in the picture was the one standing in front of him!

Something must’ve happened between her and Taylor before his memory loss! Perhaps, Clara’s child might even be Taylor’s! His gut told him it was a complicated love affair!

“Here’s the repayment plan I’ve drafted.” Clara handed over a chart, then smiled, “There’s one condition though... I can’t be fired from the Melendez Group because of the previous incident! I need to work here to make this plan work.”

“Your plan seems well thought out.” Emmett took the chart and cracked a rare smile, “You’re hinting at me not to fire you, aren’t you?”

Clara laughed awkwardly. “That’s not what I meant. I just need a job! Any job! I have a family to feed, a son to raise, and now your debt to pay!”

Chapter 13

“There are loads of jobs out there that can put grub on the table for your kids and pay off your debts, you know. Like AWI Even if you lose the gig at Melendez, you’ve always got that. So don’t go pinning your hopes on me.”

Emmett’s fingers tapped rhythmically on the desk with a meaningful look in his eyes.

“AW, huh....”

Clara’s “Why?”

eyes flickered with panic for a moment, but she quickly regained her awkward smile. “But I really wanna work here, at Melendez.”

“Um... it’s pretty simple!” Clára lightly touched her forehead, her mind spinning. “You’re my debtor right now. Seeing you every day would constantly remind me of the money I owe you, giving me more motivation to earn money!”

“You wanna see me every day?” Emmett asked with a meaningful tone.

“Yes, but don’t get it twisted. I want to see you every day only to remind myself that I still owe you money. I need to work hard to pay off my debt.” Clara raised her finger earnestly in promise. Anyway, she would never work at AW, never face Taylor... and she actually thought the Melendez Group was better. Getting into the Melendez Group was her goal after much effort; she couldn’t give up on this job. Seeing Emmett still not agreeing, Clara started to get anxious. “Mr. Melendez, trust me. I can bring unforeseen profits to Melendez, there’s definitely room for me to shine... If you think I can’t, you can fire me on the spot once I’ve paid off your debt! At that time....” Anyway, she would stay as long as she could.

“Deal.”

She hadn’t finished speaking when she heard Emmett’s low voice.

“You mean... deal?” Clara couldn’t believe her ears, wondering if she heard wrong.

“My personal secretary.”

Personal... secretary?" Clara looked puzzled, "But... but I applied for the position of secretary to the branch manager..."

"This is the only position you can hold at Melendez. You have ten seconds to consider."

Emmett didn't plan to explain much to her. He kept this woman just to let the outside rumors fade away on their own. He raised his wrist to check the time for a moment; he spoke in a low voice, "Time's up. You can leave now."

"No!" Clara quickly explained, "I agree!" She lowered her eyes. It didn't matter who she worked for as a secretary anyway. She just didn't expect Emmett to directly propose that she work as his personal secretary. It was a shock, not a rejection.

"Tomorrow morning at nine, report here." Emmett's deep gaze lifted to look at her, his tone still indifferent.

"No problem." Clara answered decisively. As long as she wasn't fired, she would definitely cherish this job opportunity. Ha, she was already feeling excited about her repayment plan. What a great idea, killing two birds with one stone.

"I don't like lateness, nor do I like my secretary being tied up with personal matters." Emmett added expressionlessly.

"Don't worry, Mr. President. I always put my work first. Unless it's about my son, nothing else is more important than my work. I promise."

“You can leave now!” Emmett just turned his chair around, leaving her with an unresponsive silhouette.

Chapter 14

The next day, Clara not only arrived at the company half an hour early, but she also followed the manager’s advice during the interview and wore a very elegant skirt and light makeup.

The skirt was white, both elegant and professional, simple yet tasteful.

The moment the exclusive elevator doors opened for CEO Emmett, he saw the silhouette waiting in front of his office. A sight that made him space out for a few seconds.

“Come in.” The voice came from Clara’s side.

Upon lifting her gaze, she saw the shadow that had opened the office door. She nodded politely, “Morning, Mr. Melendez, I’m here to report.”

She was calm and professional, without any excessive attempts to ingratiate herself.

“Come in first.”

Although Emmett’s tone was as cold as usual, he knew very well that he didn’t have any hatred toward Clara.

After Clara followed him into the office, Emmett handed her some documents, then personally took her to her own office.

“Thank you, Mr. Melendez, I appreciate you personally walking me here.”

Clara nodded politely at him, then placed the documents that she had just received from Emmett on the bookshelf one by one. With a clatter, a blue folder fell to the ground. Clara bent down to pick it up and frowned when she saw the document that had fallen out, “Isn’t this the piece of land in the south of the city....”

“Do you know about the project there?”

Emmett frowned, his eyes fixed on her profile as he heard her murmur.

“Oh!” Only then did Clara come back to her senses. She hurriedly picked up the document, put it on the table, and then smiled, “I once went there for a survey. I know a bit about the place.”

“Is there a problem with the document?”

“Ah? The document....”

Clara hesitated a bit. The document should have been made by the Melendez Group’s professional team.

“Just spit it out.”

“The location is intended for a lot of tourist activity. Although construction hasn’t started construction yet, if the Melendez Group wants to develop, I think the design should....”

Clara said a lot. She was initially hesitant, but as she spoke, she couldn’t stop and even opened up the previous document and directly drew her ideas on it.

Watching her talk, Emmett’s eyes flashed with something unusual, he seemed to... have underestimated this woman.

“Mr. Melendez, did I... talk too much? I’m just blabbering, I’m definitely not as professional as the Melendez Group’s design team....” “Good job.”

Emmett unexpectedly not only didn’t get angry but praised her, Clara was dumbfounded for a moment.

Emmett glanced at her drawings again, then put his hands in his pockets and calmly said, “Modify it according to your design, and show me after you’ve made the changes.”

Until the end of that day, Clara couldn’t believe that the CEO of the Melendez Group had actually praised her design and asked her to draw a design diagram.

Thinking about how everything had gone so smoothly that day made her very happy. The moment she opened the door to her home, her beloved little one was already waiting for her on the sofa.

Alex, mom missed you! Come here and let mom give you a kiss!”

Clara took off her shoes and rushed towards her child. She hugged him in her arms, and passionately kissed his slightly stiff little face.

Aiden frowned, obviously struggling to adjust to such enthusiasm.

“Mom, please don’t kiss my face randomly next time.“

Chapter 15

“Huh? Why? Don’t tell me you don’t like mommy’s kisses anymore?”

Clara looked at her son with a puzzled expression, feeling that he had been acting a bit strange lately. Remembering his serious face when she entered the room just now, Clara chuckled and took his little hand, “Kiddo, Mommy had a great first day at work. Let’s celebrate at Domino’s.”

“Pizza?” Aiden’s brows furrowed slightly.

So yesterday was Burger King, and today is Domino’s. Does Mommy like fast food or is it this kid called Alex who likes it? “Yep!” Clara thought her son was surprised and quickly reassured him with a smile, “Alright, I know I always kept you away from this stuff before, but after you ran away from home last time, Mommy realized what’s important. As long as you’re safe by my side, whatever you want to eat, Mommy will take you,”

“You’re the best....” Aiden said flatly, but he felt warmth in his heart. He didn’t actually like eating so much fast food, but he had always craved this kind of motherly love from Clara.

“C’mon, son. Let’s hit the road.” Hearing her son’s praise, Clara’s mood lifted even more. She took Aiden’s little hand, helped him into his clothes and headed out.

Aiden didn't resist, letting Clara lead him. Normally he could dress himself at home, but when Clara helped him button up and tie his shoelaces, he cherished the feeling. Now and then, Aiden would look up at the beautiful woman beside him. She really was like a mother...

Clara ordered a bunch of pizzas for Aiden, all Alex's favorites. But Aiden just stared at the greasy food, somewhat at a loss. For the entire meal, he only ate a little...

Meanwhile,

Alex, who was living in the Melendez mansion in Aiden's place, wasn't feeling so great.

"I've already said I don't want to read. Why do you guys keep shoving books in my face?"

He sat there looking irritated, arms crossed, and clearly unhappy. Living with the Melendez family was great, except for the studying part and the difficult knowledge he had to learn. He thought even middle schoolers would have struggled with it. Who made a kid read books about CEO skills?

"Aiden," the tutor tried to appease him while awkwardly laughing, "Aren't these the books you and Mr. Emmett asked for? Don't you usually love reading these?"

"I usually love these?"

Alex thought the kid called Aiden was nuts. He was trying to emulate his CEO Dad at such a young age! No wonder he looked so serious in photos, just like his dad Emmett.

"Yes, Aiden..."

"Humph, whatever." Alex waved his hand dismissively, "Go to the kitchen and find me some snacks. I'm going to get some fresh air in the yard."

He sent the tutor away and went to the yard alone, lowering his head. He began to miss his mom.

Yes, Mom! It seemed like it was time to go back! He suddenly perked up, and ran to the gate ready to go find his mom.

Chapter 16

“Hey kiddo, the boss told ya, you can’t just waltz out of this door yourself, come on back with me.....”

Just as Alex was about to take a stride out of the door, the servant who’d just gone off for some snacks had already grabbed his hand.

“I can’t stand being here anymore.” Alex shook off the servant’s hand, his eyes full of rebelliousness.

“Oh boy, you can’t go on talking like that. Your old man would blow his top if he knew!”

“Hmph, he’s a lousy dad! Always bossing me around and won’t even hang out with me!”

Alex crossed his arms in discontent, snorted and then stubbornly headed back into the house. These servants couldn’t possibly keep an eye on him all the time!

At night, in the darkness, the small figure on the bed squirmed restlessly. He slipped out from under the covers and took a peek at the servant who was fast asleep. Alex decided to give it another shot, he quietly opened the door and snuck out....

Meanwhile, at Clara’s apartment.

Clara closed the storybook and planted a loving kiss on Aiden’s forehead.

“Goodnight.”

Watching the child asleep on the bed, a content smile spread across Clara’s face. Thinking about how she worked tirelessly for him every day and how she was greeted with his smiling face when she came home, she felt truly blessed.

Softly closing the bedroom door, Clara stretched her arms, there was still a lot of work to be done.

“Go get ‘em!”

Clara mustered up her courage and pushed open the door to her study, flicking on her computer.

“Emmett...”

As she was sorting out Emmett’s schedule, his name unconsciously slipped out of her mouth. Clara furrowed her brows, why did Emmett’s face seem so familiar?

“Alex?”

No, no, no. She quickly shook her head to dispel the absurd thought that had entered her mind.

Her son couldn’t possibly resemble that cold–hearted big shot. Alex was clearly a lively kid! Besides, Emmett’s personality was nothing like Alex’s, there was no way they could be related! What was wrong with her recently? Why did she keep thinking about Emmett!

Hearing the sound of typing from the study, Aiden, who was just put to sleep, slowly opened his eyes and sat up on the bed. His big brown eyes darted around in the darkness, feeling a bit reluctant.

“Mom, I’m sorry, I have to go....”

His small figure slowly made its way to the study door, whispering softly where Clara couldn’t see.

Aiden was really reluctant to leave Clara, but he felt that he had been eating too much greasy food recently, and his grandmother must have been really worried about him! There had to be a limit to being willful, and he thought it was time to go home. Even if he was mad at his father, he still had his grandparents! They must have been worried! He was being too willful and selfish.

Clara was completely engrossed in her work, oblivious to the child at the door and the sound of the door opening. She just sneezed, rubbed her nose and continued working.

Aiden took out his savings, hailed a cab and arrived at the entrance of the Melendez family mansion. Just as he was about to walk in, he heard a slight noise from the side and instinctively looked over it was a kid who looked exactly like him!

The two kids stared at each other, both taken aback.

Chapter 17

However, Aiden quickly snapped back to reality. He realized this must be Alex, the person his mother used to mention. But he didn't expect Alex to show up at the doorstep of his home.

“Wow, you really look like me! No wonder everyone in your house mistook me for you!”

Alex was staring at Aiden with his curious wide eyes. Even though he knew he had a half-brother after arriving here, he was still shocked to see a face exactly like his

“We're identical twins, so of course we look alike.”

In contrast, Aiden seemed very calm, his slightly wrinkled face was just like Emmett's.

“Huh? How do you know we're identical twins?” Alex still blinked his big eyes curiously.

“Did you sneak out from my house?” Aiden, seeing Alex wearing pajamas, glanced at the mansion but didn't answer his question.

“Yes!” Alex nodded dumbly.

“So, are you planning for us to just stand here and talk?”

“Then where should we go?” Alex pouted his lips, grabbed Aiden’s hand, and walked towards a side path. “Can we talk here? You haven’t answered my question yet. When did you know we were identical twins?”

“Whenever you found out was when I did.”

Alex gave him a sidelong glance, feeling a bit unhappy. What kind of answer was that? “Why are you as cold as your dad?” He pouted, clearly dissatisfied.

“Do you dislike him too?” Aiden asked calmly. “Him,” of course, referred to Emmett. He calmly looked at Alex and said, “You and your mom look alike.”

Both were very lively. Standing beside this identical twin brother who suddenly emerged, Aiden didn’t feel any disgust.

“Have you seen my mom?” Alex’s little eyes were filled with curiosity, and his longing for his mom deepened.

“Mm–hmm.”

“My mom is the best, unlike your dad who always forces me to study and doesn’t let me eat anything! Who would like him?” Alex crossed his little arms, stubbornly tilting his head. “My mom is the best!”

“She is indeed very good....” Aiden’s face was still calm, but he had a sense of appreciation towards Clara in his heart. “It would be even better if she didn’t feed me so much junk food!”

He rubbed his little belly, feeling a little uncomfortable.

“Who do you think is the older brother?” Alex suddenly blinked his big eyes curiously.

“I’m the older one.” Aiden was very serious and very firm.

“How do you know? Maybe I’m older!” Alex pouted, not wanting to be outdone.

“Alright, let’s not discuss this today. We both sneaked out, and if we don’t go back soon, we’ll definitely be found out. Here’s my phone number! Memorize it, and we’ll get in touch after we get back.”

Aiden’s expression changed slightly, and he changed the subject. He wasn’t sure who the older brother was, but if they were indeed twins, he thought his intelligence

would make him the older one.

“Okay, I’ll give you my number too, but. Alex’s face suddenly became serious.

“What’s wrong?”

“I’m too far from home, there doesn’t seem to be any transportation to take me home, and I don’t have any money... Mum didn’t give me any pocket money.”

Alex lowered his head, looking a bit depressed. His longing for Clara made him feel a bit emotional.

“Here you go.” Aiden took a hundred-dollar bill from his pocket and handed it to him. I’ll call a cab for you. When you get home, remember to sneak in. Mom should still be working in the study at this time and may not have noticed that I’m gone. Let me know when you get home.”

He gave Alex a lot of instructions, like an older brother.

“Okay, I got it. Thank you, temporary big brother....”

Alex gave a slight smile and glanced at the money in his hand. After all, he was in a strange environment and had to accept help. What was the harm in calling him big brother!

At the Melendez family’s mansion.

Chapter 18

The servant suddenly found that Aiden wasn’t in bed. He quickly opened the door to search for him and was met with a face very similar to Emmett’s

“Aiden, where the hell have you been? You gave me a scare! Why aren’t you in your mom at this ungodly hour?” The servant patted his chest with an anxious expression. If Aiden managed to sneak out under his watch again, he’d be in deep water.

Aiden, with a poker face, responded nonchalantly, “I went for a walk.”

“A walk? At this hour? The servant looked outside, a hint of confusion painted on his face.

“What you got a problem with that?” Aiden shot back, his face stern, aware that the servant was questioning his actions.

“No, no. I’m sorry, Aiden!” The servant gave an awkward laugh. As long as Aiden was fine, he could go wherever and whenever he pleased!

Aiden went back to his room but didn’t sleep, anxiously waiting for a message from Alex on his phone,

He was curious about the situation there.

Half an hour later, his phone screen lit up with Alex’s number.

“Are you home yet?” Aiden asked, sounding like an adult.

“Yeah, Mom’s still in the study, I didn’t get caught....” Alex’s voice was hushed, carefully not wanting to disturb Clara.

“Good, go to sleep.”

“Hold on, big bro....” Alex stopped him, worried he’d hang up. He had a lot of questions, glanced at the door, and then asked hesitantly, “Do you know why Mom and Dad split up? How did they choose us, why did Dad not want me, and Mom not want you?”

He felt lost. Although he never regretted following his mom, he wanted to know why Emmett left him and his mom.

Aiden pondered for a moment, then replied calmly. “I think Dad doesn’t know about you. As for why they split, I don’t know....”

He’d never heard Grandma or Dad mention Alex. Their personalities were completely different, and if Dad knew they were twins, he would’ve noticed something during these past few days.

Actually, Aiden wanted to know why his mom never looked for him even though she knew about him! Did she not miss him at all?

“Bro, do you like Mom? Do you want to live with her?” Hearing Aiden’s words, a cloud seemed to lift from Alex’s heart.

“I thought she was okay, but Mom seems a bit scared of Dad... and she doesn’t seem to know that Emmett is our dad.”

“Then... then we could try bringing Mom and Dad back together! That way, we could have both Mom and Dad, and we could live together!”

Alex was somewhat excited and hopeful at the thought of him and Aiden working together.

“It’s late, go to sleep. We’ll talk about this tomorrow.” Aiden said with a tone of a schoolteacher.

To be honest, he was also looking forward to Alex’s proposition, but compared to Alex, he was more afraid of Clara knowing about him and not accepting him. But as the older brother, he didn’t share these thoughts with Alex. He wanted to investigate everything first. What if there was a misunderstanding between his parents?

The next day, Clara woke up late and hastily pulled Alex out of bed. She dressed him up and took him to kindergarten.

“Mom, did you forget to kiss me? You have to kiss me, then I can leave!”

Alex pointed at his cheek, his face lit up with a bright smile.

“Kiss you?” Clara stammered, then affectionately rubbed his little nose, “You little pumkin, you’re full of surprises. Weren’t you the one acting all grown up yesterday. not wanting Mom’s kisses?”

“No kisses allowed?”

Chapter 19

Alex snickered inwardly, thinking his big bro was cold as ice! But considering his personality, it wasn’t too surprising.

“Mom, yesterday and today are different. I just miss you so much right now, I don’t wanna leave you, and mally want a kiss from you!”

Alex leaned his head onto Clara’s chest, nuzzling affectionately, showing how much he’d missed her these past few days. Being by his mom’s side felt so good....

“Alright, alright, here’s your kiss!” Clara kissed her son’s little face, and Alex enthusiastically returned the favor by cupping her face and giving her a kiss back. Watching her son walk into the kindergarten, Clara felt today’s Alex was particularly sweet, just like...he had just come back!

At the company

Clara hadn’t been called in by Emmett all afternoon, but the workload his assistant dumped on her was mountainous. She was so busy she hadn’t even noticed it had started to rain heavily outside.

As Emmett was about to leave the office, he noticed Clara’s light was still on, so he went over to her door to check.

“You’re still here?”

A frosty voice sounded above her head, Clara looked up to see Emmett with one hand in his pocket, his dark eyes staring at her.

“I haven’t finished my work yet!”

Clara responded instinctively, then suddenly realized something and hurriedly checked the time on her phone. Her face filled with urgency, “Oh no!”

She frowned, it was past the time for kindergarten to end, and she had forgotten to pick up Alex.

Emmett stood at the doorway watching her expression change from calm to anxious. Just as he was about to ask what was going on, he saw Clara quickly turn off her computer. She grabbed the folders on her desk and rushed to the door, ‘Mr. Melendez, I’m running late. I need to pick up my son. I’ll finish the rest of the work at

home.’”

Just as she finished speaking, she nodded at Emmett and dashed out.

“Wait!” Emmett grabbed her arm, Clara looked startled, she turned around only to hear Emmett say in a deep voice, “It’s raining outside, I’ll give you a lift”

“No need, I can....

“It’s pouring outside! Get in the car!”

Emmett cut her off, his eyes swept over her and saw her white dress and high heels, with no umbrella. If she went out now, she would definitely get wet, and it could be late by the time she picked up her child.

Clara looked at her clothes and the heavy rain outside... if she didn’t go now, Alex would definitely be worried

She hesitated for a moment, pursed her lips and said, “Well, then... if it’s not too much trouble, Mr. Melendez.”

Having the CEO personally drive her made her feel a bit awkward.

“Let’s go.”

Emmett didn’t say anything, he just walked over to her side, accompanied her to the CEO’s private elevator, and then opened the door to get in. The elevator was

spacious, but the atmosphere became a bit weird when the two of them stood side by side.

Emmett's tall figure stood straight. His face was expressionless and silent, making Clara feel like the air was suffocating. She wanted to break the ice, but couldn't think of anything to say

Suddenly, there was a squeaky noise in the elevator, and the lights dimmed.

“Aah!”

Chapter 20

Clara screamed instinctively, her face and heart filled with fear.

Emmett reached out his broad arm to pull her in, his voice deep and calming.

“Chill out, it's probably just the weather messing with the circuit.”

“Okay.”

Clara nodded, still a bit uneasy inside but felt a bit better with Emmett by her side.

Ever since that night, she had developed a fear of the dark... Now, she always left her bedside lamp on, never turning it off. The sudden darkness in the elevator reminded her of that night.

Moments later, the lights in the elevator came back and everything returned to normal, except Clara was still in Emmett's arms, trembling slightly.

“All good”

Emmett looked down at her, his voice was soothing.

It took Clara a moment to realize that her head was still resting on Emmett's shoulder. She quickly pulled away from him and apologized, "Mr. Melendez, I'm sorry. It happened so suddenly and I'm kinda scared of the dark..

"Mm"

Emmett simply responded, his face expressionless and voice emotionless.

As the elevator descended, Clara consciously stepped back to lean against the elevator wall. She was still a bit scared, but she couldn't rely on Emmett anymore and had to rely on the elevator for support.

Without turning around, Emmett saw Clara's posture and pale face through the elevator door.

"Are you really scared of the dark?"

He was curious. Clara didn't seem like the type to be easily scared. As for why he, who normally didn't care, would suddenly ask such a question, he was also not sure.

"Huh?"

It took Clara a while to realize that Emmett was asking her. "I... it was just too sudden!"

She lowered her head, unsure how to explain.

Seeing that Clara was hesitant and unwilling to speak, Emmett didn't press further. Just then, the elevator door opened and he said, "Let's go," before walking out first.

Watching his retreating figure and feeling his strong aura, Clara felt a sense of familiarity... She quickly shook her head, thinking it was the darkness reminding her of the past.

In the car.

Clara leaned against the window, watching the heavy rain outside and feeling a bit anxious.

It had been almost two hours since the kindergarten ended... The traffic was jammed and she was worried about the kids. She glanced at Emmett from time to time but never urged him, knowing it wouldn't help. No matter how much they were in a hurry, they couldn't fly over the traffic.

Just as she was thinking this, Clara saw Emmett make a turn at the intersection and drive in another direction, speeding up.

"Mr. Melendez, you..." She wanted to say that this was not the way to the kindergarten.

"In a hurry, aren't we?" Emmett simply voiced her thoughts.

Clara closed her lips and remained silent. From Emmett's words, she should have guessed that he was planning to take a different route. On the rest of the journey, Emmett drove very fast, running who knows how many red lights. Despite Clara's attempts to persuade him to slow down, he only told her to sit tight and stay

quiet.