

Chapter 1636

Sabrina could not understand it. "Why? Why don't you like Tessa? Could it be that you don't want your uncle to have a girlfriend? You don't know how lonely he is. After he gets a girlfriend and gets married, their child will also be a part of your family!"

Sabrina was worried. Could it be that her little daughter was starting to rebel even before she was seven years old? She had actually started to talk back to adults and to interfere with their decisions? That would not do! If it was truly like that, Sabrina must properly discipline Aino.

Sebastian also looked upset as he looked at Aino. "Aino, this is the girlfriend that I personally selected for your uncle!"

Aino blinked. "She was selected by you?"

"What doubts do you have about her?" Sebastian asked seriously.

Aino sighed and shook her head. "Dad! You truly do not have a keen eye when it comes to selecting women, do you know that?"

comes to selecting women, do you know that?"

"Aino Scott!" scolded Sabrina.

Aino immediately hung her head a little. "Other than my mother, you truly are not an expert when it comes to selecting other women! Because the women you've met and got to know were truly too few!"

Sebastian was speechless.

"Believe it or not, if you let Uncle Kingston meet Tessa, he certainly will not like her!"

Sebastian was still speechless. He was so angered that he was embarrassed. "Your Uncle Kingston is not the one who's dating her! The person Tessa is dating is your Uncle Zayn. I'm sorry, but your Uncle Zayn likes Tessa!"

"Uncle Zayn is very innocent. Don't you know that? Could it be that you're just as innocent as he is?"

Sebastian was dumbfounded. He suddenly realized that his almost seven-year-old little daughter seemed to have already grown up. Her ability to think and

year-old little girl seemed to have already grown up. Her ability to think and level of calmness was so similar to him

“What...exactly do you mean?” asked Sebastian, trying to remain patient.

Aino sighed. “There was once when I went to your company to play, there were many ladies there who liked me and played with me. Tessa also played with me. At first, I thought that Tessa was very nice. However, when I went to the toilet, I overheard Tessa on the phone in the toilet and she was scolding someone! Do you know who she was scolding?”

Sabrina was startled. “The person she was scolding...can't be your dad, right?”

After all, Sebastian was the boss of the Ford group. It was possible for the employees to be dissatisfied with their boss and to badmouth them.

“She was scolding her mother!” said Aino with a tinge of sadness.

Aino was insanely protective of her mother. In this world, nobody could harm her mother, not even her father.

Therefore, when Aino saw someone

her mother, not even her father.

Therefore, when Aino saw someone disrespecting their mother, she would find that person's behavior very repulsive.

Sabrina and Sebastian were speechless. That was something worth thinking over for them. The couple was still thinking about that matter as they were laying in bed that night.

“What do you think about what Aino said? If Tessa truly has a problem with her character and would even scold her own mother, then she truly should not be the person for your brother. What would happen if the time comes, and she is not caring towards your brother's parents?” Sebastian was worried.

Sabrina originally had her head rested on Sebastian's arms. When she heard her husband saying that, she immediately raised her head, and then raised her hand to hit him. “This is easy to explain. She is like my mother. My mother often argued with her dad, and that one time their argument was the most severe, she was also criticized by outsiders for not being caring towards her own father. However, who would actually know what is the

also criticized by outsiders for not being caring towards her own father. However, who would actually know what is the truth? Before you judge a person, walk a mile in the person's shoes. If we have never experienced the hardships of others, then how could we criticize them?"

Sabrina had always been fair in treating others. She did not wish to wrongly accuse any innocent person.

Sebastian nodded. "That's true." There was a pause before he said, "Zayn is not in such a hurry that he will marry Tessa within a month, anyway. Let them just spend more time together. Only if they spend more time together can they understand each other better."

Sabrina nodded. She leaned on her husband's shoulders once again as she caressed her husband's neck. "Hubby..."

Chapter 1637

“Mm-hmm.” The man’s voice was a little deeper and hoarser.

“Say, recently, we have been worried about Jane and Alex’s matter, and then my brother’s matter the next. Our private time together seemed to be a lot lesser. You go to work every day, and you have no idea how bored I was at home alone. Every time I called you, you would either be busy handling the handover of Mister Poole’s affairs or busy discussing the collaboration with my brother. Tell me, how long have you not cared about me? Are you...tired of me already?”

What Sabrina said was actually a joke. Sebastian had just personally bathed her, cut her fingernails and toenails the night before. Even her hair had been blown dry by him as she leaned in his arms. She did not even know when her hair was dried because she had already fallen asleep.

“Hubby, say, how long have we not...”

Has it been four months?

Has it been four months?

Sebastian had never touched her again ever since Sabrina knew she had a risk of pregnancy complications. After all, she was weak and it was not easy for her to be pregnant, so how could the man harm her just for his own bit of personal desire? He originally did it for her own good, but who knew, that she would actually blame him for it. Sebastian truly was unable to defend himself even if he wanted to. He was speechless.

“Tell me!” Sabrina raised her fair hands and punched him on his chest. After that, she even took his hand and stroked her bulging belly and said very flirtatiously, “Do you dislike us, mother and child?”

Sebastian was speechless. He had always had great self-control. However, he often could not resist Sabrina. He scolded her with his husky voice, “Woman, do you know you’re playing with fire?”

Sabrina raised her eyebrows playfully. “I know. My husband is a ball of fire, but we are legally married, so isn’t playing with fire my rights as your wife?”

fire my rights as your wife?"

Once again, he was rendered speechless.

"Hubby!" said Sabrina flirtatiously.

With a flip of his body, Sebastian had her protected under him. He did not dare to squeeze her too hard. After all, she was pregnant. In the end, he was almost beyond exhausted. Sabrina, on the other hand, smiled happily.

"Sleep tight. I'll get up tomorrow morning to make you breakfast and properly reward you!" said Sabrina to Sebastian next to her with satisfaction.

Sebastian snorted coldly and fell asleep without answering her.

Sabrina truly got up earlier than Sebastian the following day. He was exhausted not because of what they had done at night, but because he had been rather tired recently. Just as Sabrina said, he had to process the handover of Alex's matter with Alex and also collaborate with Zayn on some project, so he had been busy in the study until late at night. Also, there was another matter that

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matter with Alex and also collaborate
with Zayn on some project, so he had
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Also, there was another matter that
concerned him. There were some matters
regarding Star Island. Recently, his
subordinates on that side had been
reporting that someone seemed to be
attempting to challenge and take over
Star Island. As he had been busy recently,
Sebastian still did not have the time to
investigate what exactly was going on. He
also did not tell Sabrina about it. He had
not had a good night's sleep recently
because he was worried about these
matters. In the end, the amorous
entanglement with Sabrina the night
before let him sleep well instead. ①

The following day, Sebastian was woken u
p by the ringing of the phone. Sebastian
picked up the phone and answered in a
lazy voice. "Hello, who is this?"

Chapter 1638

A raspy voice that sounded like a witch from hell could be heard from the other end of the line. "Do you know that your Sabrina is an extremely rotten thing! She had been involved with so many men, but why do you still like her that much? Why? Don't you know she has a tainted past? She was involved with your cousin, Nigel, and had slept with that broke guy named Zayn. She was even...involved with your biological brother, that b*stard on Star Island."

"You're Lily Parker?" Sebastian asked.

"You...how did you know it's me right away?" Lily answered.

"Because you're stupid!" Upon saying that, he hung up the call.

It had already been a month since Alex found Jane and brought her back. When Sebastian and Alex were processing the handover matters, they would occasionally talk about Alex's uncle, Axel, and also his former girlfriend, Lily.

and also his former girlfriend, Lily. Sebastian had heard from Alex that Lily was pregnant. However, the child was not Alex's because Alex had never lived with Lily before. Sebastian had also heard from Alex that it turned out Lily had spent a night with Holden. Lily thought that she was pregnant with Holden's child, so she had gone to Sebastian's father, Sean, as well as Rose. After that, they had asked Alex again to sneak Lily out of the country. At that moment when Sebastian heard that raspy voice of Lily's, he could tell that Holden certainly did not acknowledge that child.

Although Sebastian had not had much contact with Holden, he already had eighty percent certainty of Holden's character. After all, both of them were twin brothers. With Holden's viciousness, if he wanted to torture Lily alive, then that would be too possible for him to do it.

As for how Lily knew Sebastian's contact number, then without a doubt that it was Axel or Emma who gave it to him. Those two were birds of a feather. Sebastian had never even taken them seriously. At that

never even taken them seriously. At that moment, what truly concerned Sebastian was Holden. Where has their father sent Holden? Since Nigel happened to urge him to make a trip back to the Ford residence the night before, after he got up and had breakfast, Sebastian said to Sabrina, "Let's go out today."

Sabrina instantly understood what he meant. "Do you want to make a trip back to the Ford residence?"

Sebastian nodded. "It's been a long time since we've been back."

"I don't want to go!" Aino pursed her lips. There was always somebody who would attack her mother every time they had gone over. She had always gone there happily but had always returned in sadness. Eventually, Aino had no longer wanted to go there anymore. They had not gone over for almost half a year, but Aino did not miss her great-grandparents and grandparents there at the Ford residence at all.

Sabrina coaxed Aino. "It's fine, Aino. Great-grandpa and great-grandma are

Great-grandpa and great-grandma are already very old. If we don't go back to visit for a long time, they will be very sad. Do you understand that?"

Aino could only say dispiritedly, "Okay!"

However, Aino was very surprised this time. After they arrived at the Ford residence, not only were her great-grandparents very warm to Aino and her mother, but even her grandmother, Rose, who was not close to them, was unexpectedly incomparably warm to them.

"Aino, come, let me hug you. I have a gift for you," said Rose. She then took out an emerald necklace. "Come, let me put it on for you."

Aino was a little afraid. Sabrina whispered to Aino, "Go on, baby."

Only then did Aino walk towards Rose.

"Aino, come over here to play often in the future. Your grandpa and I love you. Do you know that you also have an uncle? He is your father's brother, so he is your uncle," said Rose.

“Aino, come over here to play often in the future. Your grandpa and I love you. Do you know that you also have an uncle? He is your father’s brother, so he is your uncle,” said Rose.

“Are you talking about Uncle Holden?” asked Sabrina.

Rose nodded. “Yes, your Uncle Holden has a very good relationship with me now.”

“Hmph!” Aino suddenly broke herself free from Rose’s embrace. “I hate Uncle Holden very much now!”

Chapter 1639

Rose was speechless.

There was a reason for Rose to take the initiative to suck up to Aino and also Sabrina. It was because Rose had heard from Holden that the child Lily was carrying was not his. Holden said to Rose with an angry grunt, "I will never marry in this life! To me, nobody could compare to Sabrina. Nobody could compare to Aino! Aino will be the closest child to me!"

Rose was rather shocked at that time, but it also made sense to her when she thought about it later on. After all, Holden and Sebastian were twin brothers. It was destined for Holden to love Aino as they were blood relatives. Therefore, Rose had an idea that emerged in her mind.

At that moment, she deliberately remained patient., "Aino, how can you hate your uncle? He likes you so much. He treats you as his own daughter. Do you know that?"

"No!" Aino got even angrier. She had

“No!” Aino got even angrier. She had liked her Uncle Holden very much. However, once she heard the old woman in front of her, the little girl immediately knew that her Uncle Holden was in cahoots with this old woman. That traitor! How nasty! Aino was so angry that she cried.

She had already told her parents that she did not wish to come this morning, but her parents insisted that she come. Now, she was not happy again. Hmph! She resolutely would not come in the future anymore! The little girl then angrily left her grandparent’s house.

When Aino left, Rose also became extremely furious. She then called Holden that night. “Holden, you like Aino and you treat her as your own daughter, but she doesn’t like you. She told me herself that she hates you. Holden, you should still have your own family and your own children. I am saying this for your own good.”

On the other end of the line, Holden was sulking and drinking alone. He said

sulking and drinking alone. He said drunkenly, "Aino...told you that herself?"

Rose then persuaded him earnestly. "She is not your daughter. She is your brother's daughter. In the future, she will be the legitimate heir to the Ford Group.

However, you're different, Holden. You don't have the slightest bit of share in the Ford Group, and you will also not have the inheritance rights. You are not even Aino's uncle nominally. Think about it. How could it be possible for such a young child who is under the influence of her parents all her life to like you?"

"Old woman! You aren't trying to come in between me and brother...and our relationship, right?" Holden snapped.

Rose instantly got irritated. "Holden! How can you talk to me like that? Don't you forget that I was the one who sent you abroad! I was also the one who gave you a billion dollars! My biological sons are no longer alive. You and Sebastian are the only two sons I have left. Both of you are brothers! What is there for me to come in between the two of you?"

come in between the two of you?

“Isn’t it a fact that you were driven out of Star Island by Sebastian? Isn’t it a fact that he had never acknowledged you even when you had been in South City for so long? How can it be that I am the one who came in between you two? Besides, Aino is Sebastian’s child. No matter from which perspective, Aino also can’t like you, the uncle that she had only met a few times!”

Holden was speechless. He had a kind of crumbling pain in his heart. He was already hurting at his limit. What was the point of having money? What is the use of being able to command the world? What about his kinship? Where is his kinship?

Holding a bottle, Holden went to Lily’s small room. When he arrived at the door, he kicked the door open so forcefully that there was a loud bang.

“Lily Parker!” Holden shouted furiously.

Chapter 1640

When Lily heard that voice in the small room, she cowered into a ball in fear.

Holden was not that perverted to truly have people over to take their turns on her. However, he did let a group of men come to laugh at her that she was already a completely useless woman. After they were done laughing at her, the room would be locked again.

There were times where he did not give her any food for a couple of days. When she was so hungry that she could not even straighten her back, she would call out in tears and beg Holden saying that she was willing to accompany men. She was willing to do anything as long as he did not let her go hungry or thirsty.

However, when that happened, Holden would reveal his ferocious expression. “Woman! How disgusting could you get? How cheap are you? No matter how horrible I am, I have never forced myself on a woman, let alone truly letting people take turns having their way with you! It’s you who is originally cheap to the bones.

you who is originally cheap to the bones. You could not even endure going hungry and thirsty for a while! What kind of a cheap person are you?

He spat. "How can that fool, Alex, like you for ten years? How can such a rotten woman like you be so unreasonable and overbearing, and beat up whoever you want? You don't behave yourself at all and made yourself a wh*re, but you want to blame it on me! Am I, Holden Payne, a person that could easily be taken advantage of? Is there even the slightest part of you that could be compared to Sabrina? You actually even had such wicked ideas and wanted to harm her! If Sabrina encountered this kind of situation like yours, she also would not beg for mercy even if she had nothing to eat and drink for seven days and nights. Do you understand? Do you? Disgusting! Stinky! Shameless thing! Do you know how stinky you are?"

Holden had insulted and cursed her, but he still had not vented his spleen. He even pulled her hair and beat her. He would also drag her out every time and pull her o

also drag her out every time and pull her on the ground for a distance. Although the road was made of dirt and not concrete, there were tiny gravels everywhere in the potholes. Lily would be cut by those sharp gravels every time and her whole body would be burning in pain.

In the end, Holden still did not give her enough food to eat and water to drink. Lily truly was in a difficult situation and was absolutely helpless. She had called her father, who was far away in Kidon City, but it was a pity that even if her father answered her call, he also would only calmly say, "There is nothing we can do." ①

After she had called several times, her father only said, "We had spoiled you. This is our fault. Come and settle the score with us one day in hell."

Lily understood that her father had made up his mind and no longer wanted this daughter of his anymore. Lily called Emma, but every time she called her, Emma could not implement a rescue plan. On the contrary, Emma would tell

plan. On the contrary, Emma would tell her every time, "I'm telling you, Lily. Alex had already put all of his properties under Jane's name. He truly is a genuine henpecked man now. Aren't you even a little upset? Lily, Jane has Sabrina backing her up now, so she simply became the First Lady of Kidon City. She is even staying in South City for the long term and gets along very well with Sabrina. That Sabrina is also lucky. She originally was a person who came out of prison. In terms of family and her status, even ten thousand of her would not be comparable to you alone, Lily." 1

"Give it to me! Give it to me!" Lily immediately shouted in fury.

On the other end of the line, although she already knew what Lily wanted, Emma deliberately asked, "Lily, what...do you want me to give you?"

"Give me Sabrina's number! Give me Sebastian's number! I want their numbers. Even if I die, I will not let them have a good life!" said Lily as she gritted her teeth.

Chapter 1641

On the other end of the line, Emma then smiled. "Lily, we are best friends after all. I will certainly give you a helping hand!"

Not long after that, Emma gave the numbers to Lily, and Lily cried when she got them. Lily had actually already realized that she had been used by Emma all this while. Lily had originally thought that she was the woman with unmatched power in Kidon City because she was Alex's girlfriend. Therefore, even if Emma was part of the Poole family, she also could not be as reckless as Lily. Lily had once thought that Emma was a servant to her. She would often mock and oppress Emma. However, being in this small pitch-black room in a foreign land made Lily realize that she was nothing in Emma's eyes.

Emma would absolutely not call Lily and let her return when Lily was no use for her, and would even call her to tell her that her boyfriend had already been snatched away by someone else. The reason why Emma called her and asked her to hurry back was that the position of

reason why Emma called her and asked her to hurry back was that the position of Emma's father, Axel, had been threatened. Lily, on the other hand, was just a pawn for them to counter Sebastian and Alex.

Perhaps everyone in the world had already known that Alex loved Jane deeply. Emma was even more clear about that, but she still notified Lily to return and let her implement the battle to get Alex back. In the end, Lily had lost terribly. Other than having a dead body at the moment, Lily had already been a creature that was neither human nor ghost. However, Emma still wanted to use her to harass Jane, Alex, Sabrina, and Sebastian. Lily, who was locked up in a small room by Holden, already fully understood Emma's true intentions. She had no choice but to willingly be used by Emma. This was because Emma was the only person that Lily could count on. If she had rejected Emma, then Lily would possibly have no way to seek revenge in this life anymore. Therefore, she could only endure it. She had to endure it even if she could not do it.

f could not do it.

Fortunately, an opportunity had arisen that day. Holden, who was drunk as a skunk, came to vent his anger at her. He kicked and cursed her like usual. "You damned woman! What's so great about you? Ten thousand of you are no match for one Sabrina! Never mind that the child carried was not mine, even if it was mine, that child also would not be a hundred times better than Aino!"

Lily dodged. "No matter how great Aino is, she is also not your daughter. She is your love rival's daughter! Don't forget that it was Aino dad who had married Sabrina! They are a family of three! You are just a pitiful soul like me."

"He is not my love rival! No! That is my... my brother..." Even when he was drunk as a skunk, he would still have an incomparably painful expression on his face, when Sebastian was mentioned.

"Ha!" Lily sneered. "Your brother? Would your brother not give a single penny of the property to you? Would your brother drive you out of South City? You

brother drive you out of South City? You think he is your brother? Do you believe that if you dare to return to South City again, your brother would let you receive the most severe punishment possible?”

“I’ll let you have the most severe punishment possible now.” Holden grabbed Lily by the hair and violently beat her up. Lily curled into a ball and was screaming in pain. It was not until her voice became sore and Holden was tired from beating her up that he kicked her aside. After that, he downed more than half a bottle of the alcohol and dispiritedly sat on the ground. He raised his head and looked at the bright moonlight outside the room. His tears suddenly failed him and streamed down his face. Immediately after that, he let out a wail. He took out his phone from his pocket after he was done laughing and dialed a group of numbers with his swaying fingers.

It was already late at night on the other end. Sebastian was afraid he might wake up Sabrina, who was sound asleep, so he got up and went to the large balcony with

swaying fingers.

It was already late at night on the other end. Sebastian was afraid he might wake up Sabrina, who was sound asleep, so he got up and went to the large balcony with his phone in hand, then only he answered it. "Hello?"

"Sebastian! You have been happy and well!" Holden's sorrowful, hateful, and drunken voice could be heard coming from the other end.

Chapter 1642

Sebastian was speechless. There was a long silence. Sebastian and Holden had only met twice in total. Holden had fled the first time they met. Later on, Sebastian only saw in without being uncertain or from afar. They did not even have a word. At that moment, Sebastian truly did not know what to say.

“Say...something! Why aren't you saying anything? Say something! You son of a b*tch!” Holden cursed hysterically and angrily. “I know you're a vicious and cruel man. In South City, you're simply a domineering and insistent man. I know you have a bad temper and you can crush me to death easily by stomping your foot. Come on then, come and crush me! Crush me to death!”

Sebastian still did not say anything.

“Say something! You son of a b*tch!”
When he cursed that, Holden clearly did not think with his mind that both of them have the same parents.

Sebastian finally spoke faintly in a tone so calm as if he was reciting poetry late at

o calm as if he was reciting poetry late at night. "Go on, I'm listening."

"You're a coward! A chicken! You've clearly received the benefits but you're still playing it cool, haven't you? Does she love you very much? She has loved you very much since young! For your sake, she had endured all the hardships being in the Ford family, right? For you, she did not get any status in her life, right? For you, she lived in exile abroad and raised you alone, didn't she? Why do you have so much happiness? You can have her love, but what about me? I have nothing," Holden said.

When he said that, Holden gulped down several mouthfuls of hard liquor by himself. He drank so much that the alcohol spilled out of his mouth and his speech was slurred when he spoke. "Do you know what kind of life I have lived? They don't love me! I was well-fed with food and drinks every day and had a maid to take care of me, but I didn't get to see my parents!"

Holden wiped his mouth. "My mother

Holden wiped his mouth. "My mother would cry every time she saw me and she would scold me if she saw me again! I have never understood what was the reason growing up. I was more handsome and well-built than my three elder brothers, and I was more hardworking than them. Why does my mother still dislike me? I had asked my father, why did he not care about me and leave me to fend for myself? My father would just sigh, look at me with a hateful gaze and leave! Ever since my childhood, for the sake of gaining their love, I have been working hard on my studies and have always gotten first place! I had gotten into the best high school on Star Island just to prove to them how excellent I was, so why didn't they like me? But they still ignored me."

He continued. "In a fit of anger, I went abroad to study. I was working while I studied and had not returned to the country for three consecutive years. Later on, I don't know what kind of kindness my mother has, but she asked me how I lived for three years without asking them for money? I told her I have been

for money? I told her I have been working. I was working in Lekall City in Yaclary. My mother was unexpectedly very shocked! I still remember the tone of her words now. She was so shocked and she asked if I had met any suspicious person! She asked if I had met with that woman! I was baffled. I didn't know what woman. What is this about me meeting with that woman? I asked my mother, but she did not tell me anything and just asked me to return to Star Island immediately. If I don't fly back within three days, then she will abandon me forever!"

Holden sounded angry. "I could only helplessly fly back! However, what if I had returned? I was just going to receive a scolding from my parents! They scolded me for being an ungrateful wretch. They withheld my passport so that I could never go to that country and city again! I find what they did very strange! Since they didn't like me, then why didn't they let me live on my own out there? Why did they still restrict my freedom? It wasn't until you conquered Star Island that I understood! It turned out that you and

they didn't like me, then why didn't they let me live on my own out there? Why did they still restrict my freedom? It wasn't until you conquered Star Island that I understood! It turned out that you and she were in that city. It turned out that she had a pretty job as an architect in that city. She used her lucrative salary to pay for your studies abroad! It turned out that I was once so near her, but no one told me that I was in the same city as my biological mother!"

Chapter 1643

"Sebastian Ford! I hate you to death! I hate you! I hate her! I hate everyone! I hate you b*stard! Don't let me see you. If I see you, I must sever your head and put it in front of her grave to mourn her! You son of a b*tch! How could you bear to let her be imprisoned for a decade? You jerk!"

Holden cursed plenty. His speech was incoherent. He hated everyone and he hated his biological mother. However, his words were clearly filled with a strong emotion of guilt for his biological mother. Was it the or love? Perhaps he himself could not tell.

"You have a mother's love, and you also have a father's love. You have everything. The Ford family left everything for you to you, but what about me? I have no mother's love, and I also have no father's love. I was fostered by someone else. I have nothing. Sebastian Ford, you son of a b*tch...Tell me, aren't you a son of a b*tch?"

After listening to Holden's disorganized mumbles for so long, Sebastian finally spoke up. "Holden, it's not what you think."

Holden spat at him. "Go to hell!"

Sebastian remained calm. "Before I had

Sebastian remained calm. "Before I had gone to Star Island, I didn't know about your existence. Mom was already diagnosed with cancer when she was in prison. Her days were numbered. At that time, even I was being controlled by my elder brothers in the Ford family, let alone her. Both of us were hardly able to save ourselves. The reason Mom did not tell anybody that you were on Star Island was actually to protect you. She did not want all three of us, mother and sons, to die a violent death. Do you understand, Holden?"

When he said that, Sebastian was very heartbroken. At that time, his position was not strong enough yet, so how would his mother dare to tell him that he still had a biological younger brother on Star Island? He brought his mother out of prison the moment he rose to power, but his mother had only lived about two months. At that time, who understood his mother's concerns?

Instead of letting her youngest son live in South City in the midst of the battles and unpredictable situations, it was better to let him stay on Star Island and carry Payne as his last name forever. At least his parents from the Payne family only did not like

him, but they still raised him.

Holden roared ferociously. "I don't understand! Don't understand! Don't understand! I just know that I have died and I didn't even get to meet her!"

Up until this point, Holden had never even called out the word mother. His words were even filled with incomparable resentment. However, Sebastian could tell how regretful he was. He regretted not being able to meet his biological mother.

Sebastian sighed. "Holden, come back. As long as you return, half of the Ford Group is yours."

"Bullsh*t!" Holden scolded back in fury. "Do you think I will fall for your trick? I had long known how cruel and vicious you are! You asked me to return to South City and split the family fortune, but it's true that you will kill me once I return, won't you?" asked Holden miserably. "You had never once thought of me as your younger brother, right?"

"You are my younger brother. You're Aino's uncle. She misses you very much."

Sebastian tried to use Aino to ease Holden's emotions.

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Sebastian tried to use Aino to ease Holden's emotions.

Sure enough, Holden's tone was suddenly much gentler. "Aino...doesn't she...didn't she say that she hated me?"

At that time, a child's voice suddenly came from behind Sebastian. "Dad, who are you talking to on the phone?"

Chapter 1644

The little child had been woken up by the urge to go to the toilet in the middle of the night. After she had gone, she vaguely heard a voice in the sound that seemed like her dad's. At first, Aino thought that it came from her parent's bedroom. However, she saw that the door was just lightly shut and only her mother alone was sound asleep in there. Aino did not want to disturb her mother. She tip-toed barefooted and came to the balcony instead. Sure enough, it was her dad on the phone. She heard her dad mention her name, and she also heard that her name seemed to be mentioned on the other end of the line. Aino was very curious, so she called out to her dad behind him.

Sebastian turned his head around and saw his daughter, who was wearing floral-patterned pajamas, standing behind him barefoot. He reached his hand out and hugged her in his arms. "It's nothing, baby. Go to bed."

"Aino! Aino! Is it Aino?" Holden shouted excitedly on the other end of the line as soon as he heard Aino's voice.

Aino heard him, and she looked at her dad with a questioning gaze. "Is that Uncle

with a questioning gaze. "Is that Uncle Holden?"

Sebastian had no choice but to nod. "Mm-hmm."

On the other end of the line, Holden urgently shouted, "B*stard! Let Aino answer the phone or I'll kill you!"

Sebastian was speechless. It has been almost seven years, and no one had threatened him like this. Even Sabrina had never threatened him like this, but he actually let this b*stard on the other end of the line threaten him. At that moment, Sebastian wanted to yell at the other party very badly. "You're the f*cking b*stard! Aino is my daughter! My daughter!"

However, he did not say anything. He just put the phone to Aino's ear, then gently said to Aino, "Aino, this is your uncle. My brother."

After saying that, Sebastian could not help but smile bitterly. He suddenly realized that for a person living in this world, even though one may be extremely powerful and rich, one would still have moments of being helpless and being scolded by someone else. just as how he was at that moment.

else. just as how he was at that moment.

At the end, Aino already called out, "Uncle Holden, is that you?"

It was in the middle of the night and the little child was actually still in a half-asleep state, so that childish sweet voice had a thick nasal tone, which sounded gentle. Her voice immediately washed away all of the hostility all over Holden. Holden suddenly burst into tears like a child. He collapsed in front of the small room's door. When he heard Aino's voice, Holden curled up, and the door was instantly unguarded. He was only focused on being curled up, crying and snorting his nose. After that, he tried his best to change his voice so he did not sound choked up. "Aino, I...I miss you very much."

"Uncle Holden, don't cry. I have lots of snacks saved up for you. Don't cry. When you return, you must finish them all."

"Mm-hmm. Okay. Okay, Aino. But Aino, why did someone tell me that you said you hated me? Do you hate me?"

Aino suddenly felt a little guilty. She had just said that she hated her Uncle Holden in front of her grandma that morning. However, she just said those things in a

However, she just said those things in a moment of anger. Aino sincerely apologized. "I'm sorry, Uncle Holden. I didn't mean it when I said that. It was because... because I hated grandma at that time, then only I said that about you. I don't hate you, Uncle Holden."

Holden immediately laughed. "Then that's good. I thought that you no longer liked me."

Aino immediately coaxed him, "Uncle Holden, don't be sad. I even saw Miss Minerva yesterday. She got even prettier."

"Minerva?" Holden's heart softened a little. He gently asked, "Is your Miss Nerva alright? Does she...still have money on her to spend? Tell me if she doesn't have any money to spend anymore. I will give her some money."

He thought of his niece. For so many years on Star Island in the past, he had never cared for her. Later on, the entire Payne family had been broken into pieces, only then did Holden know to take care of his niece a little.

Chapter 1645

Holden still recalled that he had left a million dollars to his niece before he left. He wondered how long would that last her.

"Uncle Holden, you have to be well. Miss Minerva said that she is working very hard. In the future, she would even support you after she graduated from college. You have to be well, Uncle Holden. You can't do bad things," Aino said to Holden as if she was coaxing a little child.

Holden nodded. "Mm-hmm. I will certainly obey your words, Aino."

"Uncle Holden, it's already very late. I have to sleep. You should sleep as well, alright?" said Aino again. She was truly sleepy.

Holden immediately nodded. "Mm-hmm. Okay, Aino. Little children must sleep more, only then they can grow taller. Quickly go to sleep."

"Goodnight, Uncle Holden. Sweet dreams." The little child bid Holden goodbye.

"Okay."

Aino handed the phone to her dad and instructed her dad softly, "Don't be so fierce with Uncle Holden. He is a good person."

with Uncle Holden. He is a good person."

Sebastian was speechless. He watched Aino walk further away, turn into the corridor, then only Sebastian said into the phone, "Hello?"

At the other end, Holden did not speak for a long time. He had never expected that during the interval of time when he was speaking to Aino, that rotten woman in the small pitch-black room had actually gone missing. Where did she go? That d*mned woman had actually taken advantage of him being unaware and escaped.

"What's the matter with you, Holden?"

Sebastian was a little worried. He could tell that Holden, who was on the other end of the line, was actually drunk as a skunk. At that moment, Sebastian was thinking, something would not have happened to Holden from drinking too much, right?

"Holden! Holden!" Sebastian called out aggressively, lowering his voice slightly.

On the other end of the line, Holden suddenly roared. "It's all your fault! She has gotten away! She got away!"

Sebastian did not understand. "Who ran away?"

away?"

"That woman who had done all kinds of evil and was filled with malicious thoughts! She actually ran away!" said Holden in anger.

He originally planned to starve Lily to death. He did not expect that she would escape. This d*mned woman truly was lucky!

"Sebastian, you'd better remember this! Protect Sabrina and Aino better! Otherwise, I will kill you!" Holden abruptly ended the call after he said that.

Sebastian was speechless. He knew that the few harassing phone calls he had received recently were all from Holden. Sebastian did not even get to ask where Holden was. However, what was the point of asking?

Sebastian hoped that Holden could return, and then he would split half of the family fortune with him. It would more or less be a kind of compensation. However, Sebastian also hoped that Holden would not return, and that was because of Aino and Sabrina. He had thought to himself that it could also be fine. Both of them would be in separate corners of the world, and they could mind

corners of the world, and they could mind their own business. If Holden indeed became impoverished one day, Sebastian would still care for him and provide him enough to live.

When Sebastian thought of that, he felt slightly relieved. He sat on the balcony and thought about things for a very long time, then he returned to the bedroom. The woman in the bedroom was still sound asleep. The man helped tuck her in and then he also laid down to sleep.

The following day was Monday, which was also the busiest day for Sebastian. Every Monday, the Ford Group would have a meeting for the whole morning, so that day was no different. The meeting started at half-past nine and ended at half-past eleven in the morning. He did not even get to have a sip of water for two whole hours.

After the meeting, Sebastian had just come back from the meeting room, and he saw Alex sitting in his office. Alex's expression was a little grim.

Sebastian immediately asked, "What's the matter, Alex? Are Jane's emotions still unstable?"

Alex shook his head. "Jane is very well

was a little grim.

Sebastian immediately asked, "What's the matter, Alex? Are Jane's emotions still unstable?"

Alex shook his head. "Jane is very well now. Something else happened."

Sebastian's heart sank for a moment. "What's wrong?"

"It's Lily Parker!" Alex spat out three words coldly.

Chapter 1636

Sabrina could not understand it. "Why? Why don't you like Tessa? Could it be that you don't want your uncle to have a girlfriend? You don't know how lonely he is. After he gets a girlfriend and gets married, their child will also be a part of your family!"

Sabrina was worried. Could it be that her little daughter was starting to rebel even before she was seven years old? She had actually started to talk back to adults and to interfere with their decisions? That would not do! If it was truly like that, Sabrina must properly discipline Aino.

Sebastian also looked upset as he looked at Aino. "Aino, this is the girlfriend that I personally selected for your uncle!"

Aino blinked. "She was selected by you?"

"What doubts do you have about her?" Sebastian asked seriously.

Aino sighed and shook her head. "Dad! You truly do not have a keen eye when it comes to selecting women, do you know that?"

Chapter 1646

Sebastian nodded. His expression showed that he was not surprised at all. Alex was taken aback as he glanced at Sebastian. "You...already knew about it?"

"She was sent to Holden's place by my father and your uncle. It was her who told Holden that the child she was carrying was his. In the end, Holden saw through it, and the child was not his. Holden then violently beat her up," said Sebastian.

"Serves her right! Don't let me see her! I certainly will kill her once I see her," said Alex coldly. At that moment, he no longer cared about the affection they once had. After all, he had repeatedly given Lily many chances and had let her go. Even though they were no longer in love, he also could not bear to be cruel and lay his hand on her. However, what had the d*mned Lily done? She had actually lied and secretly went to the northeast to kill Jane! She had even killed Noah, forced Jane into a dead end and made her so despondent. Such a vicious woman, what was the point of keeping her alive?

Sebastian looked calmly at Alex. "Are you here to tell me this matter?"

here to tell me this matter?"

Alex nodded. "I wanted to call you this morning but I was afraid I would disturb and wake the pregnant lady in your house, so I came to the office to find you. I just wanted to tell you to watch out. That woman was destroyed by that brat, Holden, into a neither human nor ghost state. She is now an outlaw who had no regard for her own life. She could do anything."

Sebastian nodded. "Thank you."

Alex looked at Sebastian who had a slight sorrow expression. "You have something on your mind?"

Sebastian was not worried about Lily. He was concerned about Holden. Just when he was about to tell Alex, someone knocked on the office door from outside.

"Come in."

The person who came in was Zayn. He had many business collaborations with the Ford Group, so he had been coming to the company very often recently. Besides, his girlfriend, Tessa, was also working at the Ford Group, so Zayn came even more often.

When Alex saw Zayn entering, he immediately said, "Zayn, you have to be

immediately said, "Zayn, you have to be more cautious too."

Zayn was startled. "What's the matter, Alex?"

Alex sighed. "According to what I know, it was because of my cousin that Lily had returned to the country half a year ago. Emma deliberately called Lily and asked her to return. Because Emma realized that not only was I very close to Sebastian, but she also realized that Jane and Sabrina were also becoming close. She realized that the Poole family and the Ford family were working more and more closely together. However, my uncle had suffered a severe loss because he was funding Star Island back then. To counter Sebastian and I, my uncle asked his daughter to ask Lily to come back."

Speaking of that, Alex smiled bitterly. "Lily's return has indeed kicked up quite a storm and she almost killed Jane, but it's fortunate that it's all over now. That woman had received the punishment that she deserved, but..."

"What's wrong?" Zayn asked with a serious expression.

"That woman has now escaped from Holden

"That woman has now escaped from Holden's place." Alex was slightly worried. He looked at Zayn. "As long as she is alive, she will certainly seek refuge with Emma. This cousin of mine is also a pervert. She is already in her thirties now, but she isn't settling down with marriage and is bent on creating trouble."

"Is that my cousin's sister-in-law?" Zayn asked.

Alex nodded. "Your cousin's wife is considered my cousin. When she married your cousin back then, she was also going after your Zayn family's properties. A few months ago, Sebastian had helped you take your family fortune back, and you have no idea how hateful my cousin was. Therefore, Zayn, all of you have to be cautious. However, don't worry, with Sebastian and I around here, no one would dare to lay a single finger on you."

Zayn immediately smiled. "Thank you, Alex. Thank you, Sebastian." He handed Sebastian the documents that needed to be signed and walked out.

Chapter 1647

Sebastina was a very observant person.

Although he was the director of the Smith Group, he also knew that Alex and

Sebastian had important business to

discuss, so he did not want to disturb them.

After he left Sebastian's office, he came up

to Tessa's office desk. Tessa was not

around and her place was empty. When a

few of the female colleagues at the side

saw Zayn coming over, they could not help but tease him. 1

"The handsome Director Zayn is here again."

"Did Director Zayn bring us any gifts this time?"

"If you didn't bring any gifts, you can bring some candies or chocolates as well. You have to know, Tessa is the most hardworking, sensible, and the prettiest little beauty in our department, and she is just taken by you like this."

Zayn laughed. He took out two boxes of imported liquor-filled chocolates out of his bag and put them in the department. The young ladies instantly screamed.

young ladies instantly screamed.

"Wow..."

"My mouth is already watering..."

"Tessa is so lucky..."

"Director Zach is young, handsome, and rich. Most importantly, he is kind, has a good temper, is very gentlemanly, and also has the charm of a mature man. He truly is a treasure on earth..."

Zayn was speechless. He truly did not expect that these young ladies would praise him like this behind his back. Just as he was smiling with embarrassment, he saw Tessa coming over. For some reason, Tessa's eyes were slightly watery and she did not look too good. Seeing Tessa coming over, Zayn was startled. "Tessa, what's wrong? Did you...cry?"

Tessa forced a smile. "No, Zayn. Are you here for Director Ford? Have you finished with your matters?"

Zayn raised his wrist to look at his watch. "It's almost noon now, and it's lunch time already. Come on. Let's go for lunch, and tell me why you were unhappy today."

Tessa started to be reddened again and her

Tessa started to be redder again and her tears almost streamed down. However, she still replied to Zayn with a sweet smile, "Let's go, Zayn. We'll have whatever you decide today."

Both of them then went out together, and they came to a restaurant opposite the Ford Group. Zayn ordered a few delicious dishes, and while waiting for them to be served, he said, "You are so thin. You're not allowed to lose weight in the future, and also not allowed to have those meal replacement foods. The lesser the better for beverages and coffee. From now on, you must have carbs as main for three meals a day!"

Seeing Zayn speak with a half-command and half-concern tone like this, Tessa immediately asked cutely, "Then, Zayn, would you dislike me if I gained weight?"

Zayn smiled. "A girl is not judged to be pretty or ugly by how thin or fat, but by her soul. As long as my Tessa is a girl with a beautiful soul, even if you become as chubby as Pepper Pig, I will also like you."

"Ha! I don't want to be as fat as a pig, I'll be very ugly!" while saying that, she pinched her cheeks, smiled, and leaned in front of Zayn's chest.

Zayn's chest.

Zayn was stunned. After that, he regained his calm composure, and asked gently, "Tell me, why were you crying just now? Was it something at work not going well? Is there anything that needs my help? You must tell me if you face difficulties, do you understand?"

Tessa was speechless and her eyes immediately teared up. Her phone suddenly rang right at that moment. She took her phone out of her bag and took a look, then her expression instantly changed. She looked annoyed. Zayn saw the change in Tessa, so he asked with concern, "What's wrong, Tessa? Who's calling?"

Tessa fiercely hung up the call and forced a smile. "Nothing."

Just as she finished speaking, her phone rang again. This time, she could not hold back anymore. She aggressively pressed the answer button, and she suddenly exploded in anger. "I'm telling you, Hana Sharpe! If you harass me again, I will take you to court!"

Chapter 1648

Seeing Tessa explode in anger like that, Zayn immediately asked with concern, "Tessa, what's wrong? What happened?"

Tessa immediately put her phone down, raised her head to look at Zayn. She smiled miserably. "I'm sorry you had to see that, Zayn. I... actually, it's nothing much. It's nothing."

She lowered her head, and her tears dripped down. After taking a pause, she raised her head to look at Zayn again. "Zayn, let's...eat."

Zayn held Tessa's hand. "Tessa, I am your boyfriend. We are going to be married in the future. Your matters are mine as well. No matter what issues you need to handle, I can help you with it. Trust me. Your future husband still has this bit of capability."

Tessa pursed her lips and smiled. After that, she shook her head. "It's nothing, Zayn."

"What exactly happened? Do you want me to die of anxiety? You are already going to take it to court! Who is pestering you? Quickly tell me!" Zayn was anxious. He looked at her with concerned gaze, and

looked at her with concerned gaze, and Tessa finally could not hold back anymore. Her tears came gushing down her cheeks.

She looked at Zayn very helplessly. "Zayn, I... I have a mother who is insatiably greedy, especially when it comes to money.

Actually, she and my father are already divorced. However, she kept pestering my dad and has been greedily eyeing my dad's property."

"Your... your mother?" Zayn asked.

He looked at Tessa in great shock. He had already known Tessa for one and a half months, and he had never heard Tessa mentioning her mother. However, he had occasionally heard her mentioning her father. She had mentioned that her father had opened a medium size tobacco and liquor store, and he was also into some wholesale business. His annual income is almost two million dollars. Zayn had heard from Tessa that although her family was not extremely wealthy, they were also considered well-off. Therefore, Tessa had never needed to worry about living necessities since young, and she was a pure child with little concept of money. Zayn also knew that Tessa's dad doted on his daughter very much. He loved Tessa

his daughter very much. He loved Tessa dearly. He was a very good cook and always cooked for Tessa.

Tessa had once even told Zayn, "There was once I was so well fed by my dad that I truly was as fat as a little pig."

From what Tessa had said, Zayn could tell that she and her father had a very good relationship. However, the only thing was that Zayn had truly never heard anything about Tessa's mother. In the past month or so, Zayn had always thought that Tessa's mother might also be doted on by Tessa's father just like Tessa, as if she was a teenage girl. He thought that her mother rarely needed to ask about family matters, so that was why Tessa rarely mentioned her. However, Zayn only learned that day that Tessa's parents are actually divorced.

"How long...have your parents been divorced?" Zayn tried to understand the situation. Only by understanding the situation could he know who should help her. After all, she was Tessa's biological mother. Therefore, what exactly was the situation? Under normal circumstances, reconciliation was of course the main goal for mothers and daughters. Why would any daughter in this world want to take her

daughter in this world want to take her mother to court?

"When I was ten," said Tessa miserably. Immediate after that, she smiled and said helplessly, "It's hard for you to imagine, right? I was actually brought up by my father alone. That woman had never taken care of me even before she and my father were divorced. It had always been my father who brought me up by himself. That woman's name is Hana Sharpe."

Tessa never addressed her mother anymore, but called her by her name instead. "Hana was very young when she married my dad. It was said that she lacked discipline back then. She had been mingling around with those hooligans in the society when she was about eighteen years old. One day, Hanna was chased after by several hooligans, and my father, who had finished his night shift, saved her and brought her home. Ever since then, Hanna had just been clinging on to my dad. She was lazy but fond of enjoyment, and had never done any work."

Chapter 1649

"My dad tried but also could not chase her away. Besides, my dad had thought that she was very young, so he was worried that if he had driven her out, she would be bullied by those hooligans again. He could only bite the bullet and let her stay at his place. Later on...they had me. I heard that Hanna was only eighteen when she gave birth to me. Now, by calculation, she is only forty years old. You probably could not imagine that a forty-year-old woman, who is clearly still very young, is still only fond of enjoyment and is lazy. She is unmotivated and is only thinking of splitting half of my dad's property all day long."

"Was your dad's store opened before their divorce or was it already opened when he was with your mother, I mean Hana?" Zayn asked.

Unexpectedly, Tessa's reply shocked Zayn. "They had never actually been married. It was only because Hana could not endure the tough life, so she abandoned me and my dad and ran away alone. After she ran away, only then did my dad open the store. My family's store has not the slightest bit of relationship with Hana at all!" Tessa was

of relationship with Hana at all!" Tessa was incomparably resentful when she said that.

"She is alive and kicking! She is also not that old! She is only eighteen years older than me! Why doesn't she rely on herself to live? My dad had single-handedly built the store he opened. He worked so hard to run the store. Why should he give her his hard-earned money? Even if my dad agreed to give it to her, I would not agree! I don't agree! I simply won't agree!"

The young lady got annoyed as she spoke. She burst out in tears, and all the people at the restaurant were now looking at the two of them. Zayn immediately raised his arm to cover her and handed her a napkin to wipe her tears.

"Okay, okay, don't cry anymore. Don't be agitated. If there's anything, we have to settle it properly. After all, she...is your mother."

"She is not my mother! She had never loved me. She only knows how to play, play, and play all day long! My dad has always been the one raising me when I needed a mother to put me to bed since my childhood! When I needed a mother to tell me stories, it was my dad who had done it! When I opened my eyes, what I saw was my dad hugging me

eyes, what I saw was my dad hugging me. All three meals of every day were cooked by my dad. The clothes that I wore were all bought by my dad. Even the braids I had when I was a child were braided by my dad! My mom is just a tool to me! What do I need her for?"

Tessa leaned on Zayn's shoulder and was bawling inconsolably. Zayn was speechless. He did not know what he should say. He had never expected that there could be such a mother in this world. All of the women that he knew were all women who loved their child very much, especially Sabrina. Zayn had lived with Sabrina for six years. In those six years, Zayn had witnessed how much Sabrina loved Aino. He felt that the women who had it the worst in this world were mothers. The greatest women were also mothers. Zayn had once thought that no mothers in this world would not love their children. However, he only heard from his girlfriend today that there actually was such a cruel woman. Zayn was incomparably shocked.

He patted Tessa gently for a while. "It's fine. It's fine. Since I am now aware of the matter regarding your mother, I will settle it together with you. There is always room for negotiation. Now tell me what was the

He patted Tessa gently for a while. "It's mine.

It's fine. Since I am now aware of the matter regarding your mother, I will settle it together with you. There is always room for negotiation. Now tell me, what was the reason when your parents divorced and who was the one who first asked for it?"

Tessa wiped her tears. With an embarrassed and angry tone, she said, "It was her. She had an affair!"

Chapter 1650

Zayn was even more shocked when he heard Tessa say that. It was simply inconceivable. Before he had met Tessa's mother, he already had an extremely terrible impression of her. The world was truly filled with wonders. If there were such responsible mothers like Sabrina in this world, then there would also be such irresponsible mothers like Hana.

Hana was forty years old, which was not that much older than Zayn. He must bring Tessa along and argue face-to-face with Hana one day. Never mind the past, but since Zayn would be around from now on, he certainly could not let such a cheating and irresponsible mother harass Tessa again.

"This woman is indeed too much. Your father is so nice to her, and she actually had an affair!" said Zayn furiously.

Tessa sighed. "Before Hana, my dad had a wife. They have been together for many years, but they were unable to have a child. Later on, that woman blamed it on my dad, so she divorced him. My dad did not look for another partner for several years because he had been so heartbroken. Later on, when he met Hana, he was already in

on, when he met Hana, he was already in his thirties."

Speaking of that, Tessa looked at Zayn. "When my dad was together with my mom, he was almost your age. My dad was very handsome, hardworking, and had a good character. Zayn, I liked you back then and had agreed to date you because I felt that your mannerism and all other aspects were similar to my dad. My dad is... truly too pitiful. My dad originally did not plan to find another wife anymore. However, he had rescued Hana and brought her home. Hana saw that he was handsome and knew who to love others, so she got together with him. When Hana turned twenty-eight years old, she actually took a sum of money that my dad had worked so hard to save and ran off with a man who was almost six years younger than her. At that time, my dad was so angered that he got severely ill and had almost died. When she was twenty-eight years old, my dad was forty-five. She simply thought that my dad was already older than her and was no longer worthy to be with her, so she got together with another man! Such a woman deserved to be sliced into pieces!

Tessa sighed. "Now that the money has been spent and she doesn't have any

been spent and she doesn't have any money left, I'm guessing that the man she had run off with does not want her anymore. She actually has the face to come looking for my dad again! She came to me, asked me to be the go-between and let her come home! How could I possibly agree? Tell me, how could I possibly agree? I hate her! How could there be such a shameless woman in this world!"

Tessa bawled inconsolably. Zayn was also heartbroken for her girlfriend. That noon, they did not have lunch together at the restaurant. Seeing that many people were looking at Tessa, Zayn packed some desserts for her, and then sent her back to the company.

"Don't be upset anymore. Work properly during working hours, do you hear me? We will settle the rest of the matter together. Next time if your mother calls you again, let me answer it. We will both look for her together to have a proper discussion. First, go to work now." Zayn comforted Tessa.

Tessa nodded. "I know, Zayn. I must prioritize work in the company."

"Come on, I'll send you into the office, then I'll leave." Zayn was still worried about Tessa, and he wanted to console her a little

Tessa, and he wanted to console her a little longer.

Both of them walked through the hallway of the company. Tessa's eyes were still red from crying so much. As Tessa was walking towards her department, they met Aino who was walking towards them.

"Aino, why are you here?" Zayn was very surprised. He had just gone out for lunch, how did Aino appear here?

"Who sent you here? Is your mother here?"

Aino ignored Zayn, she just looked at Tessa as if she was interrogating a criminal. "

What did you do together with my uncle?"

Tessa did not say anything. She wanted to force an awkward smile, but because she was too sad, she just could not do it. She barely smiled but was ridiculed by Aino. "Your smile is more awful than crying! So ugly!"

"Aino! Don't be rude!" Zayn was extremely angry.

Aino stuck her tongue out at Zayn. Seeing that her uncle was truly angered, she behaved like a spoiled and unreasonable child and stepped forward to hold her uncle's hand.

Chapter 1651

Zayn was speechless. How could he bear to beat Aino up?

Tessa, on the other hand, had always been a sensible and understanding person. She still smiled. "I'm sorry, Aino. I'm not very happy today, so my smile is more awful than my crying. I'll apologize to you, alright?"

"Alright," Aino said nonchalantly.

Tessa then looked at Zayn again. "Zayn, you should look after Aino. The company is so huge. If she simply ran around by herself, Director Ford would not be able to find her later. I'll go to work first. I'm fine. I'll call you after work."

"Alright. Don't hold it against Aino, she is just a little brat!" Zayn said.

Tessa smiled. "I know. It's fine, Zayn. I'm going in."

Zayn nodded. He watched Tessa enter her office, then suddenly felt a little pain in his feet. He looked down and saw that Aino was stepping on his feet with both her little feet and she was grinding them fiercely.

Zayn was so angry that he suddenly roared, "Aino, Scott!"

"Aino Scott!"

"I told you I forbid you from dating Tessa. Why don't you listen?" Aino glared at him with both her arms on her waist!

"Who are you to control me?"

"Because you're my uncle!"

"I'm your uncle! You're not my uncle!"

"I'll just control you!" Aino said stubbornly.

Zayn was speechless. He was so angry but he could never bear to hit such a young girl, but at this moment he truly wanted to beat someone up! He wanted to pick up this little brat and give her bottom a good beating! Was her father there? Even if her father was there, Zayn also would beat her all the same! He was truly fuming! He raised his hand and his palm came down fiercely, but he stopped at the very last moment. He still could not bear to do it in the end. Aino was Zayn's dearly beloved person, so how could he bear to hit her?

He squatted and sighed. "Aino, if you won't let me date someone, then I won't be able to get a wife. Do you know that?"

Aino shook her head. "I forbid you from dating Tessa, but I didn't forbid you from

dating Tessa, but I didn't forbid you from dating other women! Is Tessa the only woman in the world? Hmph!"

Zayn was simply so angry that he laughed. "You...if you're so capable, then find me another one then! Go get me another one!"

"It's not like I haven't been helping to look. I have already found one for you!"

Zayn was speechless. It turned out that this little niece of his was waiting for him!

"Who?" asked Zayn with an angry grunt.

The little girl instantly became gleeful. "Uncle Zayn, come with me. Just come with me. You will be able to meet your girlfriend soon."

Zayn was speechless. Before he was able to think clearly, Zayn had already been led by Aino. The little girl held her uncle's hand with great force and walked past the reception. They went into the lift and went straight down.

When they had exited, she then left her uncle to a place not far outside of the Ford Group's main entrance. After that, she pointed at a person. "Look, Uncle Zayn. She is your girlfriend. What do you think? I have quite a keen eye, right? Do you like

Group's main entrance. After that, she pointed at a person. "Look, Uncle Zayn. She is your girlfriend. What do you think? I have quite a keen eye, right? Do you like her?"

Zayn followed the direction of Aino's little finger and looked up with annoyance, and then he was completely stunned. "This is the girl that you're introducing to me to be my girlfriend?"

Chapter 1652

The woman Aino pointed at was squatting in a corner of the wall. Her clothes were extremely ragged and her hair was in a mess. When he looked closer, she actually still had some grey hair. The woman had a bony appearance and seemed to be at least forty years old. Also, she seemed very down-and-out at a glance. She could be...a cleaner who swept the streets? However, she was not wearing a uniform, and she was not holding any cleaning tools. She was just squatting there and what she was doing was unknown. At first glance, she looked like a homeless woman.

Zayn had never discriminated against vagrants who were homeless. This was because once when Zayn and Sabrina brought Aino along to wonder, they simply were no different from the beggars. They had once lived the toughest life. Therefore, Zayn had always only had compassion and not contempt for such people.

However, even so, he could not marry one to be his wife, right? Zayn was also considered a young master from an eminent family back then. In terms of height and appearance, he was not bad at all. Even if he was slightly older at that

all. Even if he was slightly older at that moment, he was only thirty-two years old. He would not be considered an elderly man, right? Was he wrong for wanting to seriously fall in love and find a pretty young lady? Why did Aino choose such a woman to be his girlfriend? Zayn simply did not know if he should laugh or cry!

He was so angry that he truly wanted to beat Aino up. "Scott! Am I that bad for you to find such a person to be my girlfriend? Do you hold a grudge against me?"

Aino tilted her little head and looked at her uncle. "What is it, Uncle Zayn? You don't like her?"

"Of course! I don't know her!"

"But I like her," said Aino.

Zayn was speechless. He truly wanted to tell her very rudely, "If you like her, then why don't you get her to be your dad's girlfriend?"

However, after thinking carefully, the relationships between the characters are not right. Her dad is his sister's husband. Zayn was exasperated!

"Uncle Zayn, look, how pitiful is this woman? The way she squatted there

woman? The way she squatted there reminded me of my mom," said Aino with incomparable innocence.

"When I was very young and only as big as a pug, I saw my mom wearing rubber boots to work every day. At that time, my mother had no cosmetics. When it was in the summer, my mom would have patches of reddened skin from being sunburnt. Later on, her skin would peel off. My mom had to work at the construction site in the morning, and after dinner at night, he still had to wear leather clothes and pants, as well as rubber boots, to clean the public toilets. Cleaning public toilets could earn a lot. Much more money could be earned compared to moving bricks during the daytime. My mother was very happy at that time. She could bring a lot of money back and buy pretty clothes for me, and I could then go to kindergarten. She would even use the remaining money to buy saltwater fish and collagen for you to eat and nourish your body. She even bought you many medicines. You had to eat medicine every day back then. After buying all that, Mom even saved a big bag of money, and she took that money to buy you an electric wheelchair. Uncle Zayn, my mother was very similar to this old woman. You liked

very similar to this old woman. You liked my mother that much, so I thought you would also like this kind of woman..."

Zayn suddenly teared up when he heard Aino say that. He had not been able to understand why this little child did not like him dating Tessa. He was even more clueless as to why this little thing would find such a woman for him to be his girlfriend. He thought that the little thing was pranking him to find such an ugly and old woman for him.

After all, it was him, the adult, who had nasty thoughts. The child's heart had always been pure and innocent. Aino's thoughts were also the most truthful. The little girl had always remembered that her uncle liked her mother. When they had been living together, the family of three were very poor, but they were very happy.

Chapter 1653

They had been living together for six years. The little girl actually had remembered it all and had been taking that to her heart. Aino and her parents were already living together at that moment, so only her uncle was left alone. Aino had always wanted to find a home like that before for his uncle.

Such a small person who has such an innocent heart. She was just thinking that only that kind of home could make her uncle feel happy.

It was Zayn who had nasty thoughts. It was him who did not understand what the little child was thinking in her mind.

Zayn squatted and hugged Aino in his arms. "It's my fault, baby. I'm mistaken. I did not know you too well. You're the best child in the world. You have the brightest eyes and you're the best at thinking on my behalf, right?"

Aino rolled her little eyes, she then raised her hand and pointed at Zayn. "Uncle Zayn, you're finally enlightened. Now you know that the girlfriend I found for you is good, right?"

Zayn nodded. He did not know if he should laugh or cry. "Good, good, very good."

laugh or cry. "Good, good, very good."

'She's good, but this age is too old, right? Your uncle is only thirty-two years old!

However, this woman is at least more than forty years old, right? Are you sure your uncle truly deserved to be doomed and have an older woman as his wife?'

Of course, Zayn did not ask Aino that. He only kept going along with Aino. Aino looked happier, she dragged Zayn along. "Uncle Zayn, let's go and get acquainted with your girlfriend. Uncle, although she is not dressed very well, but after you buy her pretty clothes and cosmetics just like how my dad treated my mom, I think she will certainly look as beautiful as my mom."

Zayn was speechless. The little child even had already thought that out for him. She sure was his niece!

Seeing Aino so persistently wanting to lead him over to greet that woman, Zayn had to stop her. "Hold on. Aino, I have something to ask you. How do you know her?"

At that moment, Zayn seriously suspected that the old woman not far away had already accepted Aino's invitation, and was especially waiting here for him to go on a date?

date?

Surprisingly, Aino said, "I don't know her."

Zayn was speechless. He almost choked at air he just inhaled.

"Who was it who told me when we were upstairs that she would introduce a girl for me to be my girlfriend? Who was it who pulled me out here? Who was it who pointed at this woman and told me she is my girlfriend?" Zayn wanted to smack Aino again.

Only then did Aino sigh. "Zayn Smith! Can you not get angry first? Yes, I don't know her. Just now when you took Tessa for lunch, Uncle Kingston happened to drive me here. I saw this woman from inside the car just now. I liked her the moment I first saw her," Aino said solemnly.

"And it was love at first sight, right?"

"Yes!"

Zayn was speechless. The most screwed up matter that Zayn had encountered in his whole life was his six-year-old niece forcing him to get this stranger to be his girlfriend. It turned out that even she herself also had not known the woman yet! She then wanted to introduce the woman

She then wanted to introduce the woman to her uncle? She truly knew how to love her uncle. Zayn had a big 'You've won' written all over his face as he looked at Aino.

Aino urged him instead. "Quickly go, Uncle Zayn. You have to take the initiative to greet her. You're a man, uncle!"

Aino pushed, pulled, dragged, and tugged, and she actually dragged Zayn to the front of the woman.

Once the woman saw Zayn coming, she immediately glared at Zayn. "Mister, you're already not young, right? How can an old man like you date young girls?" Zayn was shocked. "What...did you say?"

Chapter 1654

That woman had an indignant expression on her face. "I am saying that you're an old man dating young girls! No matter how you look at it, you seemed to be in your thirties! This is called cheating. Do you know that?"

"What... what are you talking about? Do we know each other?" Zayn stuttered.

At that moment, he did see the woman's appearance clearly. The woman had a bit of grey hair and she seemed like she was not that young anymore. Her features were decent and there was a deep vertical line in between her eyebrows as if she had many dreadfully worrisome matters. The woman looked like a homeless person from afar, but she did not give off an unkempt feeling to others upon seeing her up close. On the contrary, she was very clean and tidy.

However, her clothes were discolored all over from being washed too many times, and there were also torn places on her sleeve and hem of the shirt. Such a person did not look like an unreasonable woman. She was more like... a fallen princess.

"Ma'am, I... I like you very much. Could you not be this fierce?" Aino was frightened that she hid behind her uncle.

that she hid behind her uncle.

Once the woman glanced at Aino, she became even angrier. "You...even have such a big daughter already? You...Immediately leave my-"

The woman's phone in her pocket rang suddenly as was speaking halfway. She then answered it in a hurry. "I..."

Zayn and Aino could not hear what the person on the other end of the call was saying. The woman suddenly ran away in a panic.

Zayn was bewildered. "Hey, you haven't made yourself clear yet. How could you just leave? What's the matter with you?"

Aino, on the other hand, said to Zayn with certainty, "Uncle Zayn, you will still meet her again next time."

"How would you know that I will still be able to meet her the next time? What's going on?" Zayn asked.

"Mm-hmm, I had been coming to my father's company to play a few times these few days. I have seen this woman nearby a few times. Therefore, I know that you might still be able to meet her the next time you come here. You can ask for her number

come here. You can ask for her number then and buy her a meal. Oh, right, Uncle Zayne. You have to explain to her that I am not your daughter, and tell her there's no need to be afraid."

Aino had already firmly maintained that this woman was to be her uncle's girlfriend, but Zayn was filled with questions. Who was this woman? She clearly knew him, but they have never met before. She even accused him of being an old man dating young girls. What does that mean? She meant that he was a very old man who had gotten a very young girlfriend, right? Him and Tessa? Zayn suddenly realized something. Could this woman be Tessa's mother?

When he thought about it carefully, the woman looked like she was forty years old and was down-and-out. That was very similar to the Hana Sharpe that Tessa had described.

With a head full of doubts, Zayn carried Aino and went back upstairs again. He sent Aino to Sebastian's office. After he briefly spoke to Sebastian, he turned around and went to find Tessa. However, Zayn found out that Tessa was not in the office. He asked her colleagues, and they said Tessa

went to find Tessa. However, Zayn found out that Tessa was not in the office. He asked her colleagues, and they said Tessa had gone to the toilet. She had been gone for a while, so she could possibly be doing a number two. That was why she had to be there for a longer time. 1

Had she gone to the toilet for such a long time?

Zayn immediately realized that the person who called that woman earlier must have been Tessa. He guessed that Tessa was crying in the toilet.

This woman! She actually came to Tessa's company to harass her!

Chapter 1655

Zayn was furious. He took out his phone and called Tessa. The call was picked up very quickly on the other end of the line, and Tessa's voice was indeed all choked up. "Zayn?"

"Tessa, did your mother harass you again?" Zayn asked straightforwardly.

Tessa immediately insisted. "No, Zayn, she didn't."

"That's not right. You're crying! Tell me the truth, did she harass you again?" Zayn said.

Tessa cried. "No, Zayn. I was the one who called her. I just wanted her to stay further away from me. I didn't want her to harass her, so I took the initiative to call her. It's alright now. Zayn, go back. Don't delay your work at the company. I want to be alone for a while. I...I will want to cry once I see you, I will not be able to hold myself back. So, go home. I don't want to cry anymore. I want to do my job properly."

Zayn thought about it, Tessa was right. She originally could hold it back and stay strong when she was alone, but she certainly would want to cry when she saw him. It was time to work at that moment, and they could not delay their work.

and they could not delay their work.

He sighed. "Stay a little stronger. I will first go back, and I will come and pick you up after work. I will go to your house together with you."

Tessa said assertively. "Mm-hmm, okay then, Zayn."

After he hung up the call, Zayn then walked out of the building. He subconsciously looked towards the direction just now.

Nobody was there anymore. Was that woman Tessa's mother? If yes, then Zayn's first impression of that woman was that she did not seem like a bad person. On the contrary, she seemed worried. That woman had no trace of a debauched lifestyle on her face and was not like a woman who cheated others for food and drinks. Could she not be Tessa's mother? However, if she was not, then who could say Zayn was an old man dating young girls? Zayn simply could not wrap his head around it.

After he had driven for a distance, he had made sense of it. After all, a good person would not have anything written on their face, so a bad person would also not have words on their face. That woman did not seem like a bad person at a glance, but perhaps that was her disguise. She should

seem like a bad person at a glance, but perhaps that was her disguise. She should be Tessa's mother.

Zayn planned to ask Tessa seriously when he picked her up to send her home that evening. Tessa was his officially acknowledged girlfriend, so Zayn would certainly help Tessa settle her matters properly.

That afternoon, Zayn had come to pick up Tessa early. He even bought a trunk full of gifts for Tessa's dad. After all, that was Zayn's first time meeting his future father-in-law. It was a must for the son-in-law to bring luxury gifts when visiting.

Seeing Zayn brought so many things for her father, Tessa felt touched. However, she still politely said, "Zayn, my dad is not a person who is greedy for money. Also, his annual income is almost in millions, so he does not lack anything. You're too polite!"

Zayn laughed. "It's my first time visiting my future father-in-law, so how can I go empty-handed? He does not lack anything, but I still have to express my sincerity."

Tessa also laughed playfully. "When I arrive home, my dad will certainly lecture me. He had always taught me not to be greedy and

had always taught me not to be greedy and take advantage of others, especially girls. Girls shouldn't be greedy, otherwise, they will not be able to stand the temptation from the outside and will be deceived.

Zayn immediately nodded. "Mm-hmm, he looked like a good father at a glance.

Fathers were all afraid of their daughters being deceived. Even me as an uncle is also afraid of Aino being deceived, let alone a father."

Tessa laughed. They had almost arrived at Tessa's place, when Zayn asked her, "Tessa, has your mother been pestering you outside of the company these few days?"

Tessa looked surprised. "How did you know?"

"I saw a woman outside your company today.."

"You mustn't be fooled! She is a cheater!" said Tessa with hate.

Just as Zayn was about to say something, he heard Tessa say, "Zayn, I'm home already. Look, my dad is welcoming us at the main door."

Zayn followed the direction where Tessa had pointed, and he saw a man waving at

Just as Zayn was about to say something, he heard Tessa say, "Zayn, I'm home already. Look, my dad is welcoming us at the main door."

Zayn followed the direction where Tessa had pointed, and he saw a man waving at them.

He was immediately stunned. "He is your dad?"

Chapter 1656

Zayn had never expected that the world would be this small. Hector Caven was unexpectedly Tessa's father.

"Do you know my dad?" Tessa asked in surprise.

Zayn was speechless. He knew him but he was not very familiar with him. Zayn had met Hector twice, and he had left a very bad impression on Zayn both times. The first time was when Zayn was about six years old. One year when Zayn's parents brought to travel outstation to play, they were suddenly threatened by a few of the hooligans. The leader was Hector.

At that time, Hector was still very young. He looked like he was in his twenties. He brought about six men and had forced Zayn's family of three to a desolate place at the tourist attraction. He threatened them, holding a knife. "I urge that you let go of the Smith Group. Otherwise, you will suffer a bad end!"

However, what Hector did not expect was that Zayn's father was not afraid of being threatened. Zayn's father put his chest against the knife. "I dare you to stab me to death! If you do that, then you will be

death! If you do that, then you will be receiving the death penalty! Don't even dream of getting away with it in this life! You will be found one day! I'd rather die than surrender to you!"

What he said almost made Hector drop the knife in his hand.

Zayn's father egged him on. "Come on, stab me to death! Stab me now! I'll see if you can get away!"

Hector immediately dropped the knife to the ground.

"Dir-Director Smith, I...I will not kill you anymore. I was not made to kill others anyway, I..." Hector was so anxious that he started sweating profusely.

The few hooligans behind Hector then raised their legs and kicked him a few times on his bottom, and they then cursed angrily. "You truly f*cking good at ruining the plan!"

The few hooligans then turned around and scrambled in all directions. Hector was left alone, and he knelt on the floor. "Director Smith, seeing that I did not kill you, could you give me...a sum of money?"

Zayn's father was so angry that he laughed.

Zayn's father was so angry that he laughed. He looked at Hector with disgust. "Why? You didn't kill me so I owe you a favor now?"

"I-I originally wanted to end the lives of your family of three. If I don't end your life now, then the other party will not give me the money! You... You are all alive now. How lucky is that? Shouldn't you give me a little money?"

Zayn's father also did not wish to dwell with Hector any further. "How much do you want?"

"One-one million... no, no, five million!" Hector was simply asking for an outrageous price.

To think that was more than twenty years ago. The Smith Group was in the midst of a crisis at that time, and this person had the audacity to ask for five million dollars in one swoop.

"Hmph!" Zayn's father was so angry that his face was completely flushed. "What exactly are you doing? You failed to kill people so you're extorting now?"

"No... no, no, Director Smith, I...I actually have no choice anymore. I...I owe people money because of gambling. Including the

money because of gambling. Including the interest rate, I owed a total of five million. If I don't return the money, the other party will kill me!" Hector's tone was getting softer and softer.

Zayn's father glared at Hector. "What exactly is the situation?"

Only then did Hector tell Zayn's father all about his matter. It turned out that he had been addicted to the bad habit of gambling earlier on. After he gambled a few times, he had lost everything including his ancestral home. Later on, he owed a lot more money. The leader of those debt collectors told him if he still could not pay, then he had to help him kill a family. Not only did he not have to pay for the money, but he would also give him a sum of money. Hector only accepted the job as he was desperate and helpless.

Chapter 1657

However, Hector just could not do it.

Hector begged, pestered, and was also unreasonable in front of Zayn's father. In the end, Zayn's father indeed had given Hector a million dollars for the sake of him sparing his family's life. Not only that, but Zayn's father also had aggressively eradicated that leader's base overnight with lightning speed. This way, Hector no longer had any worries.

Later on, Zayn's father heard from that leader of the debt collectors that it was Zayne's uncle and family who wanted to kill them. Hector, on the other hand, was only a pawn being used. Zayn's father then warned Hector to stop gambling in the future! He has to turn over a new leaf. Sure enough, Hector had never gambled ever since then. However, considering that Hector was not someone with good manners, the Smith family also did not have any more contact with Hector.

Almost six years had passed in a blink of an eye. When Zayn met Hector again, Hector already looked quite decent. Zayn had once gone over to a classmate's house to play. His classmate's family was not very wealthy, and they also were staying in an

wealthy, and they also were staying in an average community. After Zayn had entered the community, he unexpectedly met Hector, the man who had given him several years of nightmare.

At that moment, Hector could no longer recognize Zayn. After all, they had only met once before, and Zayn was just five years old at that time. After almost six years, Zayn had already grown up to be a young man, and he was almost 170 meters tall, so it was only natural that Hector did not recognize Zayn.

However, Zayn could recognize Hector in an instant, the man who had almost killed Zayn's whole family. Hector did not change much, but he looked much more decent compared to the past. The child that Hector was carrying in his arms seemed to be more than one year old, but the gender of the child could not be distinguished. Hector was carrying the child and was sitting on the swing, and the child giggled happily.

Zayn was stunned by what he saw. The gambling addict who was originally fierce-looking also had such a warm fatherly side. However, that good impression also only lasted for about five minutes. Later on, a woman approached Hector. Her back was

woman approached Hector. Her back was facing Zayn, so he could not see her face, but he could hear that woman's voice. The woman said to Hector with a pleading tone, "Hector, I am having a fever. Could you give me a hundred dollars for me to go get an IV treatment?"

"What IV treatment? Do you think our money grew on trees? You don't even know how to get by in life. Aren't these common ailments for people to have fever and heartache? You, on the other hand, are so delicate, and you even wanted an IV treatment. The child is still breastfeeding. If you've gone to have an IV treatment then what would she get?"

The woman then said aggrievedly, "Hector, I have a fever and my body is weak, so the child could not be breastfed."

"If the child can no longer be breastfed by you, then it's even more useless for you to have an IV treatment! It's better to save the money and spend it modestly!"

The woman was speechless. She could only slowly leave. Right after she took two steps, her body just went limp and she collapsed on the ground. At that time, Zayn wanted to go up and support the woman. However, he

go up and support the woman. However, he was just a twelve-year-old child, so even if he already had the strength, he was still afraid of that man who had once threatened them.

By then, Hector had already taken a step forward. He then raised his leg and kicked the woman. "What are you doing, playing possum? Get up and go home. You'll be fine after compressing with an ice towel!"

After that, the woman forced herself up and slowly walked away. Zayn also went to his classmate's home to play. Later on, that classmate of his had also moved, and Zayn had never been to that place anymore.

It has been twenty years, and Zayne had never expected to meet Hector again that day. He was already very old, and he seemed slightly friendlier compared to during his younger days. Especially when he saw his daughter, the old man's face was covered by his smile. "My precious daughter has returned. Quickly, let me see what kind of boyfriend you brought back?"

Zayn did not answer the question that Tessa asked just now, but he just looked blankly at Hector. "Mister Caven! Hello, we meet again!"

Chapter 1658

Hector was startled, but he smiled at Zayn. "Young man, do you know me? You must have come to my store and bought something there. I have never expected you to become my son-in-law, but you have a good eye. My daughter is the cream of the crop. She graduated from a famous college and is currently working in the largest company in South City. I also heard that her boss appreciates her."

"Mister Caven, my name is Zayn Smith. I am the current director of the Smith Group. You should have heard of it, right?" Zayn looked calmly at Hector.

Hector had been peeling an onion in his hands. Suddenly, the onion fell to the ground. He glanced at Zayn in horror, and then he immediately fixed his expression. Hastily, he laughed as he looked at Tessa. "You little girl, why did you...not inform me beforehand that you have found a rich boyfriend? You gave me a shock."

Tessa then wrapped her hands around Hector's neck. "Dad! Although Zayn is the director of the Smith Group, he is just my boyfriend in my eyes. For you...he should also just be your future son-in-law. He is not here to put in airs!"

not here to put up airs!"

Hector immediately nodded. "Mm-hmm, my daughter is right!"

He held the onion in his head and subconsciously wiped his tears. Zayn had taken in the entire scene in his eyes.

However, seeing that Tessa was so happy, and seeing that Hector was trying his best to hide it, Zayn also did not say anything else anymore.

After all, to young Tessa, she should have no clue about this matter at all. Even if the father had done something in the past, the child should not be guilty. Besides, Hector loved his child very much. Zayn could tell that from the time when Tessa was almost one year old. He did not say anything and just followed Tessa into the Caven residence.

The Caven residence was truly not bad. It was a small detached mansion, and there were two cars in the house. There was also an old grandmother in the house. She was Hector's mother.

The dinner was truly awkward. Tessa's grandma kept staring at Zayn without moving her gaze at all. She would stare for a moment, and smile at the next. Zayne felt

a moment, and smile at the next. Zayne felt that each time he smiled, even he himself felt that it was very fake. With much difficulty, they had finally finished the dinner. Hector then instructed Tessa, "Tessa, go chat with your grandma for a while. I want to speak to Zayn alone."

"Dad! You're not allowed to put Zayn in a difficult position!" Tessa pouted.

"Don't worry. How would your dad dare to put Director Zayn in a difficult position?" Hector looked at Zayn ingratiatingly.

Unexpectedly, Tessa pouted again. "Then, Zayn, you're not allowed to use your position as the director of the Smith Group to overpower my dad! He is your future father-in-law!"

Zayn nodded. "Mm-hmm."

"Quickly say, Roger that!"

Zayn was speechless.

"Tessa, no nonsense allowed!" Hector scolded Tessa.

"Oh...Dad, who are you siding now? You have only met your future son-in-law once, and you're protecting him already. No fun!" Tessa said.

Tessa said.

After saying that, Tessa made a funny face at Zayn, and then went to her grandma's room. Hector and Zayn walked out together instead.

After they had walked out of the mansion and had walked far away, they arrived at a deserted main road. Only then did Zayn say coldly. "Hector Caven, when I first met you, I was only six years old. I have never expected the world to be so small. My future father-in-law actually was the outlaw who had once tried to kill me!"

Hector knelt in front of Zayn.

Zayn was immediately shocked. "What are you doing?"

Hector had a catch in his throat. "Director Zayn, I had already thought it was you the moment you said you were the director of the Smith Group. You were only almost a six-year-old child. I am very glad now that I did not kill you. Otherwise, my daughter would become a widow!"

Chapter 1659

Zayn was speechless. He was so angry that he almost laughed. What on earth was going on?

He coldly reprimanded. "Get up! Get up and speak!"

Hector did not intend to get up. "Director Zayn, I called you out just to tell you in all seriousness, that I have long repented and turned over a new leaf! Ever since that incident, I have regretted it for a very long time. I fell severely ill. Later on, I no longer gambled. To teach myself a serious lesson, I even severed my pinky."

Hector raised his hand and showed Zayn. Zayn looked closely and noticed that Hector's pinky had indeed been severed. Zayn said nothing.

Hector continued. "Ever since then, I had been diligent and attentive. I took care of my old mother and my daughter. All these years, I have a mother and a child to care for. I have never done anything illegal. If you don't believe me, you can head to the police to check on my records. I'm just a small trader who abides by the rules. Also, ever since I had my daughter, I also realized that I was a b*stard back then. I

realized that I was a b*stard back then. I spent all my energy teaching my daughter. Look at how well she turned out to be. I beg of you. For the sake of my daughter, who has had no mother since young, please do not tell her about my past. My daughter is a good girl. She did not have a mother since young. It's really hard on her. As...as long as you treat my daughter well, I would be willing to die even if you ask me to."

Hector looked at Zayn with a bitter smile. He was covered in tears, and he did look quite pitiful. Zayn did not know what to say. When Zayn was young, Hector was his nightmare. It was only until Zayn was in his teens when he started to be less afraid of him. However, he never would have thought that he would be family with this person. Also, he saw with his own eyes how Hector treated Tessa's mother. This was not quite the same as what Tessa said.

Zayn thought for a while. "Tessa is a good girl. You are you, Tessa has nothing to do with you. Furthermore, when you wanted to kill our entire family back then, it was also unsuccessful. I will not pursue further what happened back then. Of course, I won't tell Tessa, because I don't want her to be traumatized. Why don't you get up?"

traumatized. Why don't you get up?"

Only then did Hector stand up, trembling. "T

-Thank you, thank you, Director Zayn.

Thank you, thank you!"

Hector paused for a moment before expressing to Zayn. "Don't you worry, Director Zayn, I will teach my daughter to be a good wife, to teach her children well and assist her husband. She will live properly in harmony with you. I will make sure she will be an obedient good wife.

Although my daughter is outstanding, I know that it is a blessing for her, who came from a well-doing family, to marry an influential figure of South City. I will make sure that she would be a qualified wife for you! Don't worry!"

Looking at how respectful and servile

Hector was, Zayn thought that he was rather spineless. Zayn had already told him how he would get Tessa involved and let bygones be bygones, yet Hector still fawned over him. Clearly, this was a man who was good at flattering others. Zayn's impression of Hector was still not that great.

Zayn sighed. He no longer wanted to see Hector's cowering look, so he changed the subject. He deliberately asked, "Tessa has

had no mother since young. What

subject. He deliberately asked, "Tessa has had no mother since young. What happened? Where is her mother?"

Hector sighed. "...It's my karma. When I was young, I did bad things, so I married a wife that almost got me killed. Not only did she almost bankrupt me, but she also abandoned Tessa and left when she was young."

Zayn remained calm and composed. He continued asking intentionally, "Then, where is Tessa's mother now?"

Chapter 1660

Hector sighed again. "Who knows where she has ended up? She was here and there. She did not have a fixed place nor did any honest work! She was a woman who was only active at night, it is such a humiliation to Tessa to have a mother like that!"

When Zayn heard what Hector said, he thought about the woman he met outside Ford Group. The woman had a pale face, but she did not have the aura of a flirtatious and debauched woman who works at night. However, Zayn was not sure if that woman was Tessa's mother.

He probed Hector. "How did you meet Tessa's mother in the first place?"

Hector was stunned. "W-What's your point in asking this?" He clearly looked nervous and a little guarded.

Zayn smiled a little. He came clean to Hector. "To be honest with you, Tessa has been harassed recently. I think it's her mother calling.."

"This woman deserves to die! How terrible! I had even thought of killing her!" Hector said suddenly.

Zayn was shocked. "What? You want to kill

Zayn was shocked. "What? You want to kill again?"

Hector immediately chuckled awkwardly. "No, no, Director Zayn. I didn't mean anything by that. I only think that this woman is despicable! She has never brought up her daughter. She has never taken care of her daughter when she was young, now that she's all grown up, she harassed her. What would the child think of that?"

He paused for a while before asking Zayn, "Can't we take her to court over this matter? I heard that as long as you have blood relations, even if she did not bring up and care for Tessa, Tessa still has to care for her. Is that it?"

Zayn nodded. "It's something like that."

Hector suddenly pounded the railings next to him. "How horrible!"

Zayn said in a persuading tone, "I came here today to do two things. One is to visit Tessa's father, the other is to help Tessa solve her problem with her mother because if her mother continues to harass her, it will affect her job and life badly. We must fix this problem. Can you tell me how you and Tessa's mother got married and then

and Tessa's mother got married and then divorced?"

Although Tessa has already told him about this, Tessa was not the main person involved, after all. Moreover, her mother left when she was still very young. Many of her memories were fuzzy.

When Hector heard Zayn asking this question, he sighed and said aggrievedly, "Back then, I took a million dollars from your father. To be honest, it was not enough to pay off my debts. I still had to take care of my old mother. What could I do? I took odd jobs all around. I had a few jobs in a day. It was a very hard time. Also, a few of our surrounding neighbors knew that I used to gamble, so they spread the rumors all around. No one would introduce a girl to me to be my girlfriend. This was on hold as I got older. Even if I tried very hard, no one wanted me. Back then, I regretted it terribly. I regretted gambling, but what use was there regretting? I also had low self-esteem then. I thought that I won't find a wife anymore for the rest of my life."

He continued. "Just when I was in despair, I found a girl by the roadside. She was working at the nightclub at such a young age. That day, when I found her, she had

working at the nightclub at such a young age. That day, when I found her, she had been beaten up badly, covered in bruises. I brought her back home. It took a long time for her to recuperate. Later, I found out that she also owed others money. It was quite a huge sum, about a few hundred thousand. At that time, I was happy. I found this girl. Doesn't that mean she could be my wife? I did not mind helping her pay back her debt. I also did not mind that she used to be a bargirl, as long as she was willing to spend her life with me. I did not despise her because my life was also tainted. The two of us could just get by like this. She agreed to it too."

Chapter 1661

"Our greatest obstacle was that I was more than ten years older than her, but I really loved her. We got pregnant not long after getting married. The three of us were extremely happy. If we had a child, we would be able to live happily in the future."

There was a pause before Hector sighed heavily. His face was filled with frustration and anger. "Who would have thought..."

At that point, he suddenly stopped speaking. His expressions became gloomy. Zayn could hear that what he said and what Tessa said were similar. However, Tessa did not go into such details like Hector.

"What happened?" Zayn asked.

"Humiliation! It was so humiliating!" Hector sighed. He looked at Zayn with an embarrassed expression. "Tell me, which man would be able to stand it after encountering such an incident? I was so good to her. I took her in and paid off her debt of a few hundred thousand dollars. The four of us were living happily initially, who knew that after a few years with me, she... would have an affair. I caught her in the act with that man! I caught them red-

the act with that man! I caught them red-handed on the bed! Director Zayn, tell me. I'm a man, a decent man. How could I put up with her?"

Zayn was speechless. He said nothing. Not only Hector, but any other man in this world who encountered such a thing would not be able to take it.

Hector said viciously, "I'll be honest with you, Director Zayn. At that time, I was truly impulsive. I could not care for anything else anymore. I took a knife and was about to cut the man to pieces. That man was so scared he started begging like a dog in front of me, yet I was not persuaded. I thought that I would just kill him. At most, I had to pay with my own life, that's all.

However, just when I raised the knife, my daughter knelt in front of me. Tessa cried terribly in front of me. It was pitiful. I only had this daughter. She was my precious baby ever since she was young. She was my beloved daughter. If I had to pay with my own life for killing someone, what was going to happen to her?

"Not only did she not have a mother already, but she would also not have a father too. What would happen to my little princess? At that time, looking at my

princess? At that time, looking at my daughter, I forcefully suppressed the pent-up frustration. When I returned home, I fell severely ill. My daughter and my mother had been taking care of me all the while. Ever since then, Tessa's mother has never returned."

"D-Don't....feel too sad." Zayn paused for a while before asking, "So why did she suddenly return now?"

Hector sneered. "Why? She just got old and decrepit! Come to think about it, she is almost forty this year? If not forty, at least thirty-nine. Who would want a woman in her late thirties selling sex? She's also lazy, naturally, she won't be able to last long outside. She wants to return to rely on her daughter. Not to mention, the store I've been running is very popular right now. For the past ten over years, I have saved up quite a huge lump sum for Tessa as a wedding gift. Tessa has been working hard herself too. I'm guessing she's just coveting Tessa's money. I've thought about it, Director Zayn. If she were to harass Tessa again, we will take her to court and sue her! I don't believe we won't win!"

Zayn was suddenly rendered speechless. He did not know what to say at that

I don't believe we won't win!"

Zayn was suddenly rendered speechless. He did not know what to say at that moment. His purpose there was just to get a better understanding of the situation. Only by doing that could he plan the next step.

That night, in front of Tessa, Zayn did not bring up the matter of Hector back then.

They only talked about Tessa's mother.

Before leaving that night, Zayn stood up to bid his farewell, then he asked suddenly, "Back then, you and Tessa's mother did not register your marriage, right? There was no marriage certificate?"

Chapter 1662

Hector stammered. "D-Did...Tessa tell you about this?"

Zayn smiled lightly. "No. Didn't you say that when you took in Tessa's mother, she was only eighteen, so you can't officially register to get married?"

"Yes, yes, back then, it was because of this matter that was why I did not get married to that woman, but we were in fact husband and wife."

Zayn nodded. "I know." He paused for a while. "If that's the case, since she is Tessa's mother after all, see if you could ask her out if you happened to meet her? Let me have a chat with her."

"Zayn, you treat me too well," Tessa said.

"You've already said it yourself. I'm the future son-in-law of this family. Of course, I have to bear the responsibility of a future son-in-law," Zayn replied.

The entire family laughed, they were delighted. Tessa was even more elated. She even coquettishly leaned her head on Zayn's shoulder in front of her father and grandmother. However, there was something on Zayn's mind. His instincts

something on Zayn's mind. His instincts were not wrong. Back then, Hector indeed treated his wife badly. Furthermore, the woman he met outside the Ford Group was not as how Hector described her to be, engaging in dishonest work and selling her body for a living. As for what was the twist in this, before Zayn could meet Tessa's mother, naturally, he would not say anything.

Zayn was still handling this matter with the thought of helping his girlfriend settle her problems. At that moment, Zayn did not expect that the things that happened next would be way beyond his expectations or control.

After Zayn left Tessa's home, Tessa's father and grandmother were extremely pleased with this future son-in-law of theirs. Hector was feeling dejected, so much so he could not sleep the entire night. On the other hand, Tessa was feeling extremely moved and warm. She thought to herself that if she were to meet that woman again in the future. Yes, Tessa only addressed her mother as that woman when she was thinking to herself. Tessa also thought that if she were to meet that woman again in the future, she would get her boyfriend to help teach her a lesson! Then, let her die in

help teach her a lesson! Then, let her die in the end! That way, Tessa would not need to see her for the rest of her life.

However, Tessa's wishes only came true for three days before reality ruined it. Ever since Zayn made a trip to her house, Tessa and Zayn got even closer. She even actively expressed to Zayn that she could be his woman. However, Zayn was too reserved and decent. He said that if he did not propose to her and if there was no ring on her finger, he was determined not to touch her at all.

Tessa was frustrated. "Are you just a restrained man?"

Zayn smiled gently. "Silly, if I, as your future husband, don't even have an ounce of self-control, and it's not as if I can't get any woman in South City, if I were to do that, the women I had all these years would be uncountable. Do you want a philanderer as a husband?"

Tessa chuckled. "Of course, not!" She paused for a while before saying, "Okay, okay! I'm just too lustful, but I agree it's better we listen to you. We will leave it for our first night as husband and wife."

Although both Tessa and Zayn did not

Although both Tessa and Zayn did not consummate their relationship, they both got even closer to each other. For the next consecutive three days, Zayn came to pick Tessa up after work.

One day, Zayn walked out of Ford Group with Tessa around his arm. A few of her colleagues were teasing Tessa by the entrance.

"Tessa, how lovely you are right now."

"I'm envious that you could find such a handsome and rich husband."

"Tessa, I want a mature man like that. Could you introduce one to me?"

"What mature man, don't make it sound so terrible."

"Hey! You don't get it, it's all the rage now to date mature men! Furthermore, a mature man is not really an old man. Look at Director Zayn, he does look a little mature, right? He is only thirty-two years old. It's when a man is at his most charming age! I want a mature man like that. I really want one."

"Tessa, introduce one to me please!"

Chapter 1663

"Alright, I will certainly introduce you to one." Tessa replied.

"He must be a successful and mature man."

Tessa laughed. "I'll introduce a man so mature that he is twenty years older than you, alright?"

"That's fine too! I like mature men. Besides, Director Zayn is twelve years older than you, twenty years older is not much. I'm fine with it."

"Hahaha. Are you looking for a dad or a husband?"

"Pfft..."

Everyone was joking and was only half-genuine. However, everybody's envy towards Tessa was real. Zayn was said to be a mature man because of his age, but he did not have the slightest trace of an old man. He clearly was still very young and rich. Who would not be envious of Tessa?

Tessa was incomparably satisfied. Being envied by these female colleagues made her feel joyful. In any case, the company did not have a limit on how long they could stay, and Tessa also did not despise staying on. She still had her arms wrapped around

on. She still had her arms wrapped around Zayn's arm and did not let him leave.

She then openly acted cute. "Zayn, I want to announce to the whole world that I am your girlfriend. I have to let all the women in the entire Ford Group who covet you drop their ideas on you. Therefore, Zayn, you have to accompany me and stand here a while longer."

Zayn smiled dotingly. "Sure, no problem! I will satisfy you."

He was not afraid to be looked at anyway. Who in the entire Ford Group did not know that he was the brother of Director Ford's wife? They could look as they please. After the female colleagues in the company took their turn to envy Tessa, and then one by one got on the bus, Tessa was still immersed in their envy and could not have enough of it.

"Zayn, where are we going for dinner today?" Tessa was hanging onto Zayn's arm.

"Tell me what you want to have and I will go along with you." Zayn was not picky when it comes to food.

"What do you want to have?" Tessa asked. After that, she smiled. "Seeing that you have helped me boost my reputation so

have helped me boost my reputation so much, I want to go along with your taste today. Whatever you want to eat today, it's my treat!"

Zayn smiled and pinched Tessa's smiling face. "It's your treat? With that bit of salary of yours?"

Tessa mischievously looked at Zayn's wallet. "Of course, it's my treat, but you're the one paying!"

"Haha!" Zayn immediately burst out laughing from being amused. "You little thing. Alright! Alright! It's your treat, but I'm paying. In this lifetime starting from now, it will always be your treat, but I'll be the one paying!"

Tessa smiled. "That's right!"

The way her little face was beaming with happiness was indeed very beautiful. Being young was indeed great. Her skin was as fair as porcelain and was radiating a healthy glow under the light of the setting sun. Zayn was absolutely stunned by her.

He was a man, and he had all the affections and desires a man should have. The reason he respected and cherished Tessa so much was because of Sabrina. It was Sabrina who

had taught him how to truly cherish a

he respected and cherished Tessa so much was because of Sabrina. It was Sabrina who had taught him how to truly cherish a woman. However, at that moment when he saw that young face with a beaming smile, Zayn truly was slightly unable to control himself. He was slightly tipsy and was slightly intoxicated by her. Unexpectedly, Tessa asked him, "Zayn, is it alright for you to have me tonight?"

Zayn was speechless. He truly could not resist it anymore.

A voice from behind them suddenly scolded. "Not alright! Let go of my Tessa, you old man!"

Chapter 1664

Tessa suddenly shuddered when she heard that voice behind her. Tessa and Zayn both turned around at the same time. As expected, Zayn saw that woman from a few days ago. That was the same woman that the little child, Aino, wanted to introduce to her uncle to be his girlfriend. The woman was still wearing the same clothes as a few days ago, and she still had a very deep vertical wrinkle in between her eyebrows.

"It's you?" Zayn knowingly asked.

However, the woman did not look at Zayn, but she looked at Tessa instead. "Tessa, he is older than you. He is so much older than you. You are not suitable for each other. Tessa, can't you date normally?"

At that moment, Tessa's face was completely flustered. She gritted her teeth and stared at the woman with both her eyes reddened with rage. "You...go to hell! Go to hell! To hell! I feel so disgusted! Why don't you go to hell!"

Tessa was outraged. She did not care about her image at all. She never expected that not only would Hana normally call her, but she actually came to the entrance of the company today.

company today.

Seeing her daughter chase her away like that, Hana was not angry at all. She just looked anxiously at Tessa. "Tessa, I will not harm you. You are my only daughter. I would not harm you even if my life is at stake. You can't walk the same path as I did. Look at what happened to me. How miserable am I? You're only twenty-two years old. This old man is in his thirties. You can't outsmart him. You will be fooled by him! Tessa!"

The anxiousness in the woman's tone was clear as day. Even Zayn could not bear to blame such a mother when he saw it.

Although the woman kept calling him an old man, without knowing the reason, Zayn was deeply moved when he saw the woman speak. He immediately felt the difficulty the woman had as a mother. He felt the anxiety, and also the concern and care the mother had towards her child.

Was it because of Aino? Was it because he had once witnessed how Sabrina gave birth to Aino, how she had to go to work without resting for a month, and how difficult it was? Zayn did not know. He also did not have the time to think in detail. He just looked at the woman in front of him with

looked at the woman in front of him with the same frown.

The woman reached out her hand to touch Tessa's face, but Tessa slapped her hand away. Even then, Tessa's hate was still unresolved. She even violently pushed the woman away. "Hana, you shameless woman! You truly are the most shameless woman in the world that I've ever met. Why do you deserve to live? You have created my dad's feelings, money, and everything, but you left my dad with a child! Now that my dad has a little wealth, and that you're already old and grey, you want to return again? How can you be this unashamed? It was you who gave birth to me! But this was my lifelong shame, shame! Why don't you go to hell? I am going insane soon being tortured by you. Hana Sharpe, listen to me carefully! I will get the best lawyer in the entire South City and take you to court even if I go bankrupt! I must make you get lost! I want you to lose everything! I want to make you never acknowledge me in this life! Go to hell! D*mned woman!"

Her voice was sharp when cursing. That voice and action were more Ruth than Ruth herself. Zayn recently had been in contact with Ruth so he knew that Ruth's

voice and action were more Ruth than Ruth herself. Zayn recently had been in contact with Ruth so he knew that Ruth's personality was a little shrewish. However, at that moment, Ruth was nothing compared to Tessa.

The woman, who had fallen on the ground after being pushed by Tessa, was depressed as the falling leaves in the wind. She looked at Tessa in tears.

"Tessa...it's all for your own good. It will be too late for you to regret it when you've ended up like me," said the woman patiently.

"You're not my mother. You're not my mother. You're not! No!" Tessa simply kicked the woman like a madwoman. Zayn called out to stop her. "Tessa!"

Chapter 1665

Tessa turned around and looked at Zayn with her face covered in tears. "Zayn! Do you think I've gone too far? But do you know how far this woman has gone? She did not give me enough affection at all! She only gave birth to me, but she had never brought me up at all! She left all the housework and trivial matters to my dad. I grew up being a child from a single-parent family! I have never had a mom since I was young. My dad also doesn't have a wife! She doesn't deserve to be a human being at all!"

Zayn was speechless. At this moment, he was even slightly caught between a rock and a hard place.

"You d*mned woman! Are you still not getting lost? Do you want me to hit you to death?" Tessa looked at Hana, who was on the ground, with repulse.

"Tessa... I can't watch you get yourself in danger..."

"Get lost!"

"You get lost! Get lost now! I am firing you on my father's behalf! Get lost immediately!" Suddenly, a small figure scurried over and pushed Tessa so

scurried over and pushed Tessa so violently that Tessa fell a couple of steps back.

Tessa was startled. She saw a little child, who was as tall as her waistline, looking at Tessa with her hands on her waist. Aino's gaze was cute but fierce and seemed as if she wanted to kill someone.

At that moment, Zayn was stunned by what he saw. He felt that the little six-year-old child's cutely fierce and sharp glare was truly cut from the same cloth as the person with the highest authority of the Ford Group. She was truly fierce! She was not faking it! She was cold and fierce.

Tessa also took another step back in fear. She then frightfully covered her mouth and glanced at Zayn. After that, she fawned up to Aino, stuttering. "Little-little princess, you... what's the matter? Have I offended you? I'll apologize to you, alright?"

"Hmph!" Aino put her arms on her hips and glared at Tessa, then she turned to Zayn.

"Aino, why are you here? Why are you alone? Who brought you here? How dangerous!" Zayn immediately asked with concern.

concern.

"None of your business!" Aino retorted.

"Why are you here?" Zayn suddenly exclaimed sharply.

"Mister Smith, it's me... I just brought Aino back from the kindergarten," said a voice from behind him. Zayn turned around and saw Kingston.

Kingston had already walked to the front of Zayn. "Madam has been on bed rest recently, so she seldom picks up the little princess from kindergarten. On top of that, Master Sebastian can't get off work on time every day because he has been busy with your Smith Group and Master Alex's matter recently. Therefore, I have been the one sending Aino to and fro the kindergarten. She said she misses her dad after school today, so I brought her over."

Only then did Zayn nod at ease. He pretended to be angry and looked at Aino. "Aino, do you know pushing Tessa like this is very rude? I am requesting you to apologize to her immediately."

Aino refused. "I'm not apologizing to her! You truly have gone too far, Uncle Zayn. The evil Tessa is bullying your girlfriend. You didn't ask Tessa to apologize to her."

YOU truly have gone too far, Carlos. Tessa
The evil Tessa is bullying your girlfriend.
You didn't ask Tessa to apologize to her,
but you want me to apologize to Tessa
instead. Didn't you notice that I'm helping
your girlfriend?

Tessa was suddenly stunned like an ice
sculpture. After a long while, she even had
forgotten about being terrified of the little
princess. She just stared blankly at Aino. "
What did you... what did you say? Who did
you say is your uncle's girlfriend?"

Tessa thought she had heard it wrong.
However, Aino looked at her smugly. "The
beautiful lady that you have pushed over is
my uncle's girlfriend! She is a hundred
times more beautiful than you!"
Everyone was speechless.

Chapter 1666

Zayn was the first to scold Aino. "Aino, don't talk nonsense!"

Aino instantly broke out in tears. "I am not talking nonsense! I have a discerning eye! I've decided that this beautiful lady is my aunt! I don't want Tessa to be my aunt!"

Tessa instantly burst into tears. She pointed at Hana, who was sitting on the ground all confused, and cursed. "Hana Sharpe! How cheap are you? It was not for my own good that you don't let me date Zayn. It turned out that you have your eyes on Zayn? You even already buttered up the little princess? Hana Sharpe, are you still human? Are you actually a human?"

Hana, who was still collapsed on the ground, uttered, "I..."

What has she done? She had no clue at all. She did not know who this fierce little princess in front of her was. She did not even know who Zayn was. She just saw that Zayn looked older compared to her daughter, so she was worried that her daughter would follow in her footsteps. She had no clue about the rest of it.

"You're pretending, then put your best

"You're pretending, then put your best effort in pretending!"

"Get lost!" Aino protected the woman on the ground once she saw Tessa scolding her.

Suddenly, there was a commotion at the entrance of the Ford Group. Many people wanted to look on! However, nobody dared to get closer because they saw that Director Zayn and the little princess were there.

Just as the situation was in chaos, Sebastian walked out from the company. It was Kingston who made a call to Sebastian. The little princess was afraid of nothing, let alone afraid of her uncle. However, the little princess was afraid of her dad.

"What's going on?" Sebastian's cold and calm words made the few people present instantly too frightened to speak.

Tessa was particularly so. She immediately stuttered, "I'm so-sorry, Director Ford. It's my fault. I made the little princess angry."

"Dad!" Aino felt so wronged that she wanted to cry. It was as if she had suffered a great loss.

"No crying!" Sebastian immediately shouted coldly. Aino then forcefully held

shouted coldly. Aino then forcefully held back her tears.

"Get into Uncle Kingston's car!" said Sebastian again with a cold expression.

"I know!" Just as she was about to leave, she was stopped by Sebastian again. "Wait!" said Sebastian.

Aino pouted her lips. "Dad..."

"Apologize to Miss Tessa!"

Aino stayed silent stubbornly.

"Apologize!"

"She bullied my aunt!" Aino strongly argued.

Sebastian was speechless. "Since when did you suddenly have another aunt?" He was absolutely in disbelief.

"You can help my uncle and introduce a girl to him, so can't I do the same? The girl that I introduced to my uncle is a hundred times better looking than the girl you introduced to my uncle. Dad, do you know that your beauty standards are problematic?" Even if Aino was afraid, she did not wish that her uncle's marriage was ruined. She even pointed at Hana to show her dad while she was saying that.

was saying that.

Sebastian followed the direction of her daughter's finger and he was stunned. He seriously suspected that the beauty standards for the apple of his eyes were problematic.

"Are you sure she is your aunt?"

She was already in her forties, right? Zayn was only thirty-two years old.

"Of course!"

Sebastian was speechless. Minerva was a beautiful lady in his daughter's eyes, but anybody who has seen Minerva would think that Minerva was ordinary looking. At this moment, this little monster thought that this woman in her forties was beautiful, so beautiful that she could be her uncle's girlfriend? Was his daughter being serious?

Aino immediately nodded. "Dad, I am seriously discussing this matter with you!"

"Well, you truly are great at setting up a trap for your uncle!"

Kingston, who was behind them, stifled a burst of laughter.

Chapter 1667

"Kingston," Sebastian called out.

Kingston responded immediately. "I'm here, Master Sebastian."

"Send the little princess and this woman to the car."

Kingston obeyed. "Yes, Master Sebastian!"

Kingston had already told Sebastian what had happened earlier. Kingston had the same opinion as Zayn. They found the woman that fell on the ground very pitiful. However, nobody understood how great the conflict between Tessa and her mother was. After all, who could clearly tell right from wrong when they had not personally gone through the experience themselves? However, Sebastian actually admired his daughter very much. As her father, Sebastian completely understood his daughter's intentions.

Aino, her mother, as well as her uncle, had once spent six years wandering out there. In those six years, Sabrina was also once so destitute. Sometimes, Sabrina even had it worse than this woman. It was because his daughter was very compassionate after all. Seeing this kind of woman, Aino could not help but feel compassion and fondness.

help but feel compassion and fondness towards them. Aino had not said a single word to her father, but her father knew her very well. Therefore, he asked Kingston to help Hana into his car first.

Sure enough, Aino instantly became happy. She stood in front of Tessa and said very sincerely, "I'm sorry, I went too far just now. I apologize to you."

Tessa was speechless. What she wanted was not an apology. What she wanted was to know why would Director Ford let Hana into his car?

Tessa called out. "Director Ford...this woman truly is morally corrupted..."

Sebastian cast a sidelong glance at Tessa, and said with an incomparably cold and calm voice, "No matter how morally corrupt she was, you shouldn't be the one to judge here, right?"

At that moment, he suddenly felt that he truly was not suitable to be a matchmaker. His daughter was right. He truly did not have a discerning eye at all. In the future, he would never take on the task to find a girlfriend for anybody else anymore! Everyone has their strengths and shortcomings. Being a matchmaker was

shortcomings. Being a matchmaker was Sebastian's shortcoming.

As he carried Aino into the car, Sebastian turned his head around and looked at Kingston. "In the future, find your own girlfriend yourself. Don't let me be concerned about it!"

Kingston was speechless.

'Well, Master, I did not say that you do not have a discerning eye. Master, are you concerned about my relationship matters? Never mind that. It's better for you not to be concerned with it. In this aspect, you truly are a fool!'

When Kingston was silently criticizing his master, Sebastian had already approached Zayn and Tessa. "Zayn, send Tessa home and let her calm down a little. Regarding the matter between her and her mother, invite her father some other day and settle it together!"

Tessa was speechless. She was a little afraid of Sebastian at that moment.

"That's set then!" Sebastian said seriously. Then, he turned around and left.

Zayn had long wanted to send Tessa away, so, of course, he was very pleased when he

so, of course, he was very pleased when he heard Sebastian say that. "Tessa, get in the car. You should first go back and calm down a little."

Tessa felt a little awkward. "Zayn, don't you all...be cheated by that woman. She is a cheater!"

Zayn smiled faintly. "With Director Ford taking charge in settling this matter, he will certainly help you settle it thoroughly. Don't worry."

"Mm-hmm. Thank you, Zayn." Tessa felt touched.

When Zayn was driving throughout the whole journey, he would place his hand on the back of Tessa's hand whenever they were at a traffic light to comfort her and ask her not to be afraid.

"Zayn, I want to get married quickly," said Tessa.

"Alright, we will get married whenever you want to." He felt that Tessa was a very good girl. He could not assume that she was bad because of her conflict with her mother. Without experiencing the hardships of others, how could one understand the love and hate in their hearts? Zayn believed that

Tessa was a very good girl.

others, how could one understand the love and hate in their hearts? Zayn believed that Tessa was a good girl.

The first thing Tessa did when she got home was to go to her father, Hector. "Dad, I have great news to tell you. Director Ford wants to personally take charge and settle our grudge with that woman. Are you happy?"

Hector was stunned. "What?"

After that, he said incoherently, "No...no way, I don't agree!"

Chapter 1668

Zayn was stunned when he heard such words. Zayn originally did not have a good impression of Hector, and he was even more suspicious when he saw Hector's evasive behavior.

"Why?" asked Zayn.

"I don't...don't want to trouble him," Hector said.

Zayn looked directly at Hector. "This matter has already become a sore point for Tessa. It has already severely affected Tessa's work and life. She has always been very afraid that it was unable to settle and the case could not be won after taking it to court. Sebastian is going to take charge and settle it for you guys now. Could it be that you have secrets that are difficult for you to disclose?"

Tessa persuaded Hector. "Dad, if Director Ford wants to settle this matter, then he will certainly resolve it thoroughly! Why don't you agree? What are you afraid of?"

Hector was hesitant to speak. In the end, he said in a disheartened manner, "Your mother cheated on me. Who in this world is willing to publicly disclose the matter of

being cheated on by his wife?"

Zayn and Tessa were both speechless. Zayn still had suspicions. When he came over three days ago, Hector was still very willing to settle the matter. He felt it was best for Hana to be charged and imprisoned. In the end, once he heard that Sebastian was taking charge and settling the matter, he did not agree anymore? Was Hector afraid that the matter of his wife cheating on him would be made public or was he afraid of... Sebastian?

When Zayn found a window of opportunity, he pulled Hector aside., "Are you worried that the thing you've done to us more than twenty years ago would be found out by others? That's why you're not willing to settle the matter? If that is the case, then you don't have to worry! I have said it before, for the sake of Tessa, I will never bring up the thing you've done back then again in this life, so I will never do it.

Firstly, it was because you indeed love Tessa and is a qualified and good father. I also indeed do not wish for Tessa to have any psychological burden. Another reason was that although you did want to kill us back then, you did not go through with it in the end. This is no big deal. It's fine as long

as you've turned over a new leaf."

Hector kept thanking Zayn. "Thank you, I..."

He was not afraid about the matter from twenty years ago. He was afraid because of Sebastian. Although Hector has never met Sebastian and has never interacted with him, he still clearly knew the deterrent power of Sebastian in South City. If Sebastian was to take charge and settle this matter, then he certainly would get to the bottom of everything about this matter. Hector was afraid that he could not bear the consequences when the time came.

"What's the matter with you? Do you have some secrets that are difficult for you to disclose?" asked Zayn doubtfully.

Hector was speechless. He felt that he was being forced and had a sense of foreboding.

"What are you afraid of?" Zayn asked again.

A person's intuition was just so accurate sometimes. Zayn always felt that Hector was not very upright. He always felt that Tessa's mother, that lady named Hana Sharpe, was not as described by Hector and Tessa at a glance. He always felt that there was something hidden in between all this.

Being directly stared down by Zayn, Hector

Being directly stared down by Zayn, Hector could only bite the bullet and agree. "Alright ... Alright." Of course, nothing could be better if Director Ford could take charge and settle this matter.

"Alright, then you and Tessa get yourselves ready. I will drive over and pick you up after I have returned and discussed a time with Sebastian."

"Thank you," said Hector mechanically.

That night, Zayn did not stay at Tessa's house for long before he left. He did not return home after he left Tessa's house, but he drove towards Sebastian and Sabrina's house instead. He still did not know how Aino was doing. Rather than making a call in the car, it was better for him to go over and ask. Nobody could be compared to Aino's position in Zayn's heart.

As he drove very steadily the whole way, and he thought about many things. He kept recalling that woman who was pushed to the ground by Tessa. Then, Tessa's call came in silently.

"Tessa." Zayn answered.

On the other end, Tessa was choked up. "Zayn, about today...I'm very sorry."

Chapter 1669

"What's the matter?" Zayn asked gently, then he coaxed her softly. "Why are you crying?"

"Zayn, do you feel that I've gone too far with what I've done outside the company today?" asked Tessa.

Zayn was speechless. To be honest, he did feel that she went a little too far.

Seeing that Zayn did not say anything for a long while, Tessa then said even more miserably, "I know, in the eyes of others, they will certainly say that she is your mother, how could you be so cruel to her? However, who could understand my misery? I grew up without a mother's love. When others could jump into their mothers' embrace and be pampered, I could only watch. I spent countless nights wetting my pillow with tears by myself. How much do I need my mother? Nobody could understand how I felt. But what about her? She did not give me any motherly love at all! What she gave me and my father was an endless shame! Now, I no longer need a mother's love anymore, not even a little bit, but she wants to force me and emotionally blackmail me. If this were to happen to someone else... who could endure it? Who?"

someone else, who could endure it? Who?"

Zayn was speechless.

"She has been pestering me for more than a couple of days. Just this couple of months alone, I have received more than a dozen calls from her. She simply has exhausted all possible ways to harass me! Why? Why can she be so irresponsible to me? She left me without a mother's love, but I still have to endure her emotional blackmails? Why?"

On the other end of the line, Tessa became more and more aggrieved as she spoke. In the end, she cried with incomparably great sorrow.

"Zayn, I truly hope that she's dead. I truly hope that she dies immediately. Do you know that? I hate her to my bones! I will never forgive her in my life!"

At this end of the line, Zayn slowly spoke. "Tessa, don't be upset. I understand, but no matter what, she is your mother. You have to calm down. This matter will be over once it's handled calmly. Nobody would harass you again in the future."

"Thank you, Zayn. Do you... know this, Zayn? You are now my mainstay. I... can't live with you. Zayn, I... I love you very much. I have

you. Zayn, I... I love you very much. I have actually already fallen in love with you ever since after you came back, when I heard that you had taken care of the little princess and her mother for six years, and after I've heard stories about all of you relying on each other. I am very honored to be your girlfriend. I will never covet a single penny from you in my life. I just want our hearts to be connected together. Zayn..."

"I love you too," said Zayn.

"Zayn..." Tessa has choked up again.

"Be good. This matter will certainly work out," Zayn coaxed Tessa.

"Mm-hmm. Drive carefully, Zayn. I'm hanging up."

"Alright."

Zayn's heart was filled with mixed feelings, but of course, he was touched more than anything else. She said those three words to him, and he also said those three words to her. Although they had not consummated their relationship, they also felt that their hearts were even more closely connected to each other. He thought to himself that he certainly must help Tessa thoroughly settle this matter.

felt that their hearts were even more closely connected to each other. He thought to himself that he certainly must help Tessa thoroughly settle this matter.

The car turned into the neighborhood and parked his car. Zayn got out of the car, got in the elevator, and knocked on the door. Within a minute, the door opened.

"Aino, look what I've brought you?" Zayn said in a very pleasing voice.

In the end, Zayn was stunned when the door was opened. "Why are you...here?"

Chapter 1670

The person who opened the door for Zayn was Hana, who was Tessa's mother.

"I have been waiting for you!" Hana's tone was still bad. She did not have the slightest bit of humble or pleasing attitude in front of Zayn. She was just dreadfully cold and stern. Hana just did not dress well, but her articulation and logic were still very clear. "Mister Smith, I hope you do not ignore a mother's strength. As long as I'm alive in this life, I will never allow you to harm my daughter. If you don't believe me, just wait and see! If you dare to ruin my daughter, then I will ruin you!"

They were at Sebastian's house. In other words, they were at Sabrina and Aino's house, which was also equivalent to being at Zayn's territory. Hana was actually so arrogant?

"What did you... what did you say?" Zayn simply could not believe his ears.

"Don't harm my daughter!"

Zayn was irritated. "On what grounds are you so determined that I will harm your daughter?" He shouted furiously, "Aino! Sabrina! Sebastian! Are the three of you siding an outsider?"

siding an outsider?"

At that moment, the little child, Aino, came running over. She then raised her head and looked at Zayn. "Uncle Zayn, this is my friend...be more polite to my friend."

'Oh! Your friend? You've actually restrained your behavior! You're not saying that she is my girlfriend in front of your parents and this woman!'

Zayn rolled his eyes in annoyance, and then looked at Hana. "Madam Sharpe, I think you have to understand something. Your daughter is already twenty-two years old. She is an adult and can make her own decisions. Even if you're her mother, you have no right to interfere with her! Our love is built on equal and mutual respect, and is not influenced by others! It's very sophisticated! I will never harm her!"

Hana teared up. "How can I believe you? Could it be that she also has to be like me? Gave birth to a child, cheated out of everything, and only to end up at a point where even my child doesn't want to acknowledge me? What's the use of her regrets when the time comes?"

Zayn frowned. "What are you...talking about? You were cheated to the point

about? You were cheated to the point where your daughter doesn't acknowledge you? Is that so?"

The woman raised her sharp and miserably cold gaze to look at Zayn. "What else did you think?"

Zayn was speechless. He truly has nothing to say anymore. Fortunately, Sabrina came out from the kitchen at that moment. She was already six months pregnant, so her belly was very obvious. She said gently to Zayn. "Zayn, come in and talk."

Zayn came in, and then Sabrina pulled him to the side.

"Zayn, for family matters like this, you also can't just listen to one side of the story. You have to listen from many perspectives. In short, family matters are very difficult to judge. However, since you're in a relationship with Tessa, it's inevitable for you to be involved. But to be honest, Zayn, as a woman, when I was misunderstood by the entire high society back then, they all thought that I was an extremely evil woman. I truly had no way to defend myself back then. Therefore, Zayn, you..." There was a pause before Sabrina sighed. "Find out the truth of the matter. This is related to

back then. Therefore, Zayn, you... There was a pause before Sabrina sighed. "Find out the truth of the matter. This is related to the matter of Tessa's character.

Sabrina only had one brother. She did not wish to have a dishonest sister-in-law in the future. Even though Sebastian had repeatedly assured her that Tessa's character has no problem when he introduced her to Zayn, Sabrina had no choice but to be greatly suspicious of her at that moment.

Chapter 1671

How great was the grudge for a girl to be hitting and cursing her mother? Besides, the mother did not look like that kind of glamorous woman who only cared about the present and not the future. This woman's thoughts were very clear.

Zayn was the most obedient to Sabrina. He then nodded. "I know. I will definitely handle it properly. Don't worry about it. You're further along in your pregnancy now, so take good care of your baby."

Sabrina nodded. "Mm-hmm. Let's eat. You must also be hungry." After saying that, she came out of the kitchen and wanted to invite Hana to dinner. In the end, Hana was no longer in the living room anymore.

"Well...where is Tessa's mother?" Sabrina asked Sebastian and Aino, who were sitting on the couch.

"She insisted on leaving, and was not willing to stay for dinner," Sebastian said calmly.

Aino teared up and nodded. "Madam Sharpe has left."

"Do you like her that much?" Sebastian asked Aino.

asked Aino.

"She is very beautiful, alright? She is almost the same as my mom!"

Sebastian was speechless. 'Are you siding with an outsider? Your mother is more beautiful than her, alright!"

Sebastian raised his head to look at Zayn and Sabrina. "She said she is not close to us, so she will not stay for dinner. The reason she stayed here was that she wanted to warn Zayn in his face to not have any ideas about her daughter."

Zayn and Sabrina did not know what to say. During dinner, Sabrina spoke up. "Zayn, you heard from Tessa's father that it was this woman who harmed him deeply and then she abandoned her daughter?"

Zayn nodded. "That's what Tessa's father told me."

"But that's not what Hana told me," Sabrina said.

Zayn was stunned for a moment, and then he asked, "What did she...what did she say?"

He thought that the reason Hana did not leave after Sebastian brought her over was purely to warn him not to get near her

daughter. However, Zayn did not expect

purely to warn him not to get near her daughter. However, Zayn did not expect that Hana would even take the initiative to say something to Sabrina.

Sabrina let out a sigh. "She said that she was very miserable. Her mother had passed away when she was a child. Her father then got another wife. If there is a stepmother, then there will be a stepfather. After her father and the new wife's child was born, her biological father was no longer like her biological father anymore. There was no place for her in that house at all. Hana went out to work at the age of sixteen. When she was seventeen years old, her half-brother had injured someone because of a brawl.

They had to compensate hundreds of thousands of dollars to the person in a go. At that time, her biological father came to her and forced her to help her half-brother pay. Hana, who was a teenager then, still had no ability to resist her father. In the end, under the coercion of both her biological father and her stepmother, she went to a nightclub.

Sabrina continued. "Because she was not used to it and did not know how to serve the customers, she was beaten up and severely injured by a customer. She had happened to meet Hector as she was

happened to meet Hector as she was escaping there. She was saved by Hector, and then she has been with him ever since."

Zayn felt a sense of relief in his heart. "It seems that both parties were not lying about this. Tessa's father also told me the same thing." There was a pause before Zayn muttered to himself, "I...I had originally thought that Hector was not a good person and might lie, but now I am relieved that he did not lie to me."

"Zayn, do you know Hector?" Sabrina asked subconsciously.

Zayn shook his head. "I...don't know him."

"I heard from Tessa that Hector is not a good person, but we also can't determine if she was telling the truth or not," Sabrina said with slight concern.

Zayn suddenly asked Sabrina as if he had thought of something, "Did Hana tell you the true reason why she and Hector were separated?"

Sabrina raised her gaze and looked at Zayn.

"What is it?"

Zayn sneered. "She cheated on him. When Tessa was still a little child, she ran away with a man who was several years younger

Zayn sneered. "She cheated on him. When Tessa was still a little child, she ran away with a man who was several years younger than her."

Sabrina looked surprised.

Chapter 1672

Zayn nodded. "Therefore, don't...judge a book by its cover."

After that, he looked at Aino again. "Aino! This is the girl that you wanted to introduce to me as my girlfriend? Not only is she eight years older than me, but she... once behaved so indecently. Even if she was initially forced to work at the nightclub, what about later on? Since she finally had a family and a child after many difficulties, not only did she not live her life properly, but she even cheated. She let her daughter lose her mother since childhood. Could her daughter not hate her? Aino, you're truly harming me to introduce such a person to me to be my girlfriend! Your judgement of people is far worse than your dad's."

"Hmph!" Aino lifted her little chin and looked at her uncle without the will to admit defeat. "Just wait and see! I, Aino Scott, have the best discerning eyes!"

Once the little child has set her mind on something, it would be very difficult for her to change within a short period. Zayn did not plan to make Aino agree with him. That

not plan to make Aino agree with him. That was mainly because he loved his little niece.

"Alright, alright. When you produce evidence that she is an extremely good person one day, I will let her be my girlfriend. How about that?"

"That's more like it." Aino smiled.

"Come over here. I'll feed you," said Zayn. Aino then carried her bowl and went over to her uncle's side. Simply put, she was still very close to her uncle. Her uncle went back to his house after he had dinner at their house. Only then did Sabrina and Sebastian call Aino over to their side, and they educated their child very patiently and in a gentle tone.

"Aino, I'm telling you, you're still a child, you can't randomly play cupid with your uncle and others," said Sabrina.

Aino did not quite understand it. "What does it mean to randomly play cupid?"

Their daughter was only six years old, so how should Sabrina explain to her? She then asked Aino, "Aino, do you wish for your uncle to be happy?"

Without hesitation, Aino said, "Of course!

Without hesitation, Aino said, "Of course! Other than my dad, the person who loved me the most is my uncle. Of course, I wish my uncle to be happy!"

"Then listen to me, your uncle is happy being together with Tessa. If your uncle truly listened to you and got together with Hana, he would not be happy. He will be depressed for his whole life. Do you understand, baby?" Sabrina explained to her daughter patiently.

Seeing her daughter was so serious in helping Zayn win over Hana, Sabrina knew that she needed to explain to her daughter in the simplest way possible. She could not let her daughter have any pent-up emotions in her heart, let alone let her daughter truly ruin her uncle's happiness. However, she did not expect that the little thing would start to tear up again. Sabrina and Sebastian looked at each other. What was the matter with this child? Aino should have quite a sentimental kind of personality, but they had not usually seen her being so sentimental.

"What's the matter, Aino?" Sabrina immediately squatted with great difficulty and wrapped her arms around her daughter.

With a catch in her throat, Aino said "

and wrapped her arms around her daughter.

With a catch in her throat, Aino said, "However, she is truly very nice. When Uncle Kingston brought me down from the car, I saw her hugging a stray puppy and I heard her talking."

It was not baseless or impulsive for Aino to insist on introducing a homeless person to her uncle. She had thought about it.

Chapter 1673

Aino had seen the woman squatting by the wall, holding the stray puppy that day. She clearly heard her saying to the dog, "Puppy, where is your mother? Are you looking for your mother? Look at you, you're so hungry that you can't stand straight. Come, let me give you my pancake to eat. You must find your mother after eating. How pitiful is a child without a mother? If your mother can't find you, she certainly also would be very anxious. Here you go. Quickly have some pancakes. After you've finished eating, you will have the strength to walk and you can go look for your mother."

After saying that, Hana tore up the pancake into small pieces for the puppy to eat. Aino, who had just gotten out of the car, had seen it clearly.

"Mom, that woman was so nice to a stray puppy. How could it be possible for her to treat her daughter badly? I liked her the moment I first laid my eyes on her. I like her very much. It's because she was particularly similar to the way you look before. At that time, you were dressed in ragged clothes, covered in mud, and you would sometimes smell. However,...the happiest thing for Uncle Zayn back then

happiest thing for Uncle Zayn back then was seeing you return. Even if you came back all dirty, he also would be the happiest.

"I thought...I thought Uncle Zayn would like this. Because I have always felt sorry for him. Mom and I have returned to Dad's side, but he can't return to his dad's side. He is just all alone, so I thought to find an identical home for him..."

The little child's thoughts were so pure, but also so attentive and kind. Sabrina burst into tears when she heard it, and she hugged Aino. "Baby, you're right, what you're thinking is right."

Aino was very upset. "However, Uncle Zayn ...seemed to dislike that woman."

Sabrina consoled her daughter. "Baby, you have to think like this, you're the one who loves your uncle the most, right?"

Aino nodded. "Of course!"

"You love him, so of course, you wish him to feel happy himself, right?" Sabrina asked.

"Mm-hmm," Aino said.

"So, he will only be happy when he can be with whoever he likes in his heart. Do you understand?"

understand?"

Aino nodded. "Mom, I understand. I will never try to make the woman to be my uncle's girlfriend again." Her tone sounded a little sad.

Sabrina was still hugging Aino. "However, Aino also doesn't have to be upset.

Although your uncle doesn't treat her as his girlfriend, we can treat her as a friend. This way, Aino also can see her often, alright?"

Aino immediately smiled. "Mm-hmm, alright, Mom. It would be great if that woman can work at our house just like Grandma Lewis and Aunt Tianna. Mom, can she?"

Sabrina gave it a thought. "It can be done, but we have to ask for that woman's opinion. It's already too late today. Your father and I will contact that woman tomorrow, and we will first ask her if she is willing to come to work at our house. How about that?"

Aino nodded. "Particularly good!"

The little girl was actually very easy to communicate with and she was particularly considerate.

That night, after Sabrina put Aino to bed

That night, after Sabrina put Aino to bed and returned to the large bedroom, she discussed the matter with her husband.

"Sebastian, what should we do about this matter? Should we ask Hana to our house and let her be a maid? She doesn't have a job now, anyway.

Sabrina's impression of Hana was also quite good, so he nodded. "You are the lady of this house, so you can call the shots. As for the matter between her and her daughter, we can slowly adjust to it. Your mother and your grandfather could adjust so well, so how can biological mother and daughter not adjust well?

Sabrina added. "Alright."

Early the following morning, Sabrina called Hana. "Hello, Madam Sharpe. Are you willing to come to my house to work as a maid?"

duffel bag on her back. The duffel bag looked extremely similar to the one that Sabrina had used almost seven years ago. Zayn could not help but feel a sense of sorrow flash by in his heart.

“We can slowly talk about the job later. What’s going on with you now? I see that you’re from this area. Why are you carrying such a big duffel bag? Are you...”

Zayn wanted to ask the old lady, has she run away from home? Did she have a fall out with her children, their spouses, or her own old man? He wanted to first clearly ask everything. Only then could he truly help the old lady resolve her difficulties.

“I’m fine. I just want to look for a place to work that also includes

aunt.

Hana was startled. "Aunt..."

"I can't be a burden to you anymore. I must find a job and a place to stay for myself. I can do it. I can endure all hardships.

Also, Tessa was also right. It certainly is true that she said Mister Smith had helped an old woman find a job. I have told him my situation just now. I was going to resolve it for me immediately," said the old lady while looking at Hana.

Hana sighed. "Aunt, let's not talk about the matter between Tessa and this man. Let's talk about you. You don't have to force yourself to work. I can support you. It's just sending one thousand and five hundred dollars to your grandchild every

force yourself to work. I can support you. It's just sending one thousand and five hundred dollars to your grandchild every month, right? I can pay, Aunt. I can pay. I just don't wish for you to go out and work. It has nothing to do with Tessa. Aunt, come on, let's go home."

The old lady still did not move. "Hana, your life is very tough as well. I see that you have to work almost five jobs a day. You go out at five in the morning, and only return in the middle of the night. I can't bear it. Your body will crumble sooner or later. My child, listen to me. Don't put any expectations on Tessa. Don't put any expectations on that damned person, Hector. You are only forty years old. It's not too late to find another man and

ing, and only
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any expectations on that d*
mned person, Hector. You are
only forty years old. It's not too
late to find another man and
have another child. My child,
listen to me!"

Hana nodded. "I will listen to
you. You should live with me
from now on. I will bring you
along and find a man to spend
our lives together. I can't let you
work anymore. Come home with
me!"

her aunt cried and her. Both the aunt and the niece walked further and further away. After they had walked away for a few dozens of meters, Zayn and Aino could still see the way Hana looked as she walked forward with her back bent while carrying that big duffel bag. She was also dragging her aunt behind her with great difficulty.

“Uncle Zayn, they are so pitiful,” said Aino.

Zayn sighed. “I agree.” It was very difficult for Hana to carry that duffel bag. The old lady was also carrying it when she came over. How difficult must that be for her?

“Uncle Zayn, let’s give them a lift, alright?” asked Aino.

Zayn nodded. “Of course, no

wanted to argue with Hana that since it was all for the child then why did abandon her? However, he did not say anything because he did not want to argue with his mother-in-law.

Zayn drove all the way to Hana's house according to the directions given by her. He already guessed that the house almost had no difference compared to the slum that Sabrina had once lived in, except this place was worse because it was a rural area in South City.

Logically speaking, rural areas are not bad. However, the locals of South City practically bought the houses in the city, so those who stayed in the rural areas were largely migrant workers. Most of them were migrant

...staying ill was bad, the interior of the house was incomparably neat and clean. It made one feel that it was pleasing to the eye.

Hana's attitude towards him was also much better. After they entered the house, she said, "Have a seat. I will pour a glass of water for you and the child."

Just as Hana turned around, the main door was kicked open. A fierce voice shouted, "Don't hide, you old d*mned person! I've found you!"

Chapter 1674

Hana, who was on the other end of the line, did not hesitate to refuse. "I'm sorry, Madam Scott. I have a job."

Sabrina uttered, "Oh..." She did not expect Hana to refuse so straightforwardly. Before Sabrina could reply, Hana spoke again. "Madam Scott, you have already told me that Zayn is your brother. Please urge your brother to stay away from my daughter!"

At that point, Sabrina certainly has to speak up for Zayn. However, she was still very gentle and patient. "What they have for each other is true love. Your daughter is also already an adult. The relationship between

Your daughter is also already an adult. The relationship between you and your daughter is not good, to begin with. If you so forcefully interfere..."

"True love?" Unexpectedly, before Sabrina finished her words, she was stopped by Hana, who was on the other end of the line.

"Madam Scott! You're also a person who has a daughter, don't you?"

"What do you want to say?" Sabrina asked.

Actually, Sabrina's impression of Hana was not bad. However, at that moment when she heard Hana's crystal-clear articulation and aggressive attitude, which made Sabrina feel pressured, Sabrina could not help but feel a

and aggressive attitude, which made Sabrina feel pressured, Sabrina could not help but feel a little pissed off. 'No wonder your daughter and your husband did not want you! Serves you right!' she thought.

On the other end of the line, Hana's tone became miserable. "Madam Scott! Your brother should be a man who lives a luxurious life, right? He should also be a scheming person, right? You should acknowledge these two points, right?"

"My brother is a man who lives a luxurious life, but he is not a scheming person!" Sabrina said.

"Ho!" Hana laughed. "If he is not a scheming person, then how could he manage such a big company?"

Sabrina was speechless. Hana's tone gradually became calm. "It's unnecessary for you and me, who are already mothers, to explain how scheming a man in his thirties is to be able to manage such a big company, right? Particularly so when you also have a daughter.

"Madam Scott, have you thought about it? One day when your daughter is grown up in the future, but she is only twenty years old. If she met a man in his thirties who has way more life experience than her, tell me, would you let your daughter marry such a man?"

Sabrina was speechless. The answer was that she would be reluctant. It was usually accepted by society for a man to be more

Sabrina was speechless. The answer was that she would be reluctant. It was usually accepted by society for a man to be more than a decade older than the woman. However, as parents, they certainly did not really wish to accept it. After all, would that man trick their daughter? That man was already so grown up, so why did he not get married? He was also rich, so did he have some hidden illness? Is that man a good or bad person? He did not marry when he was already in his thirties. Would his family have some criminal record, that's why he did not dare to get married? However, he wanted to get married at the moment, so was there any conspiracy? All sorts...

Sabrina spent a long time

Sabrina spent a long time contemplating this question. It was all because she also has a daughter. Just for a moment, she suddenly understood Hana's thoughts. It was a true concern of a biological mother.

Immediately after that, Hana said again, "Madam Scott, although I am living in destitute in South City, I have also seen all the things that happened in South City seven years ago. The internet is so developed now that all kinds of short videos are contending to spread."

When she said that, Sabrina was startled.

"What do you mean, Hana Sharpe? We're talking about your daughter's matter! You're

when she said that, Sabrina was startled.

“What do you mean, Hana Sharpe? We’re talking about your daughter’s matter! You’re talking about me? You just want to tell me that you have once seen a video seven years ago, and even though the video was quickly deleted not long after, you still remember that video of me being sandwiched between two men?”

Sabrina had never run away from her past. That was why she could so easily say those words with her own mouth.

However, Hana said, “Madam Scott, that’s not what I meant.”

Chapter 1675

“I must have hit your sore point talking about this. I am sincerely telling you that I have great sympathy for what happened to you seven years ago. I have never thought of you as a woman who behaved indecently. On the contrary, I have always taken you as my idol even though I am older than you. You may not believe it, but it was largely because of you that I truly cut all ties with Hector.”

Sabrina was speechless. She truly did not expect it. How could the topic be so far off again?

Hana continued. “I originally did not want to tell you about all this because you’re pregnant and are

Hana continued. "I originally did not want to tell you about all this because you're pregnant and are so far along in your pregnancy. I did not want you to be affected because of this matter. Besides, we were originally not related to each other. However, since you've asked me today, I will just tell you straightforwardly. I had left Hector a long time ago. To be more exact, I was kicked out of the house by him. However, we still had contact with each other many years after that because I had to go deliver living expenses to my daughter, and I had to take a glance at my daughter from time to time. Later on, because I saw what happened to you, it made me resolutely make a decision. Seven years ago, when the entire South City was spreading rumors about you, all

the entire South City was spreading rumors about you, all I had for you was my admiration. I admired your confidence, your resilience, your will to survive and your self-respect. In the world, some people were just innocent and did not have to explain themselves to anybody. You are this kind of person.”

She continued. “Because I saw that there were still people like you in this world, who could still stand up firmly after being wronged like that, I thought, why must I compromise with Hector? Why must I let him hold on to my weakness? The worst case was that I no longer want everything! From then on, I no longer gave Hector any living expenses anymore. As for my daughter, I have been saving

expenses any more. As for my daughter, I have been saving money in the bank for her every month. Therefore, Madam Scott, I just wanted to tell you today I did not have any bad impression of you at all. On the contrary, I truly admired you. However, your brother, Zayn Smith, what kind of a person was he in South City seven years ago! He had once toyed with so many women! He and the other young master with the last name Conor had toyed with so many women in South City! I don't have to investigate and find the proof for each and every one of that, right?"

Sabrina was speechless. She had nothing to say. Seven years ago, when Sabrina had not known Zayn yet, he had indeed had been mingling together with Nigel

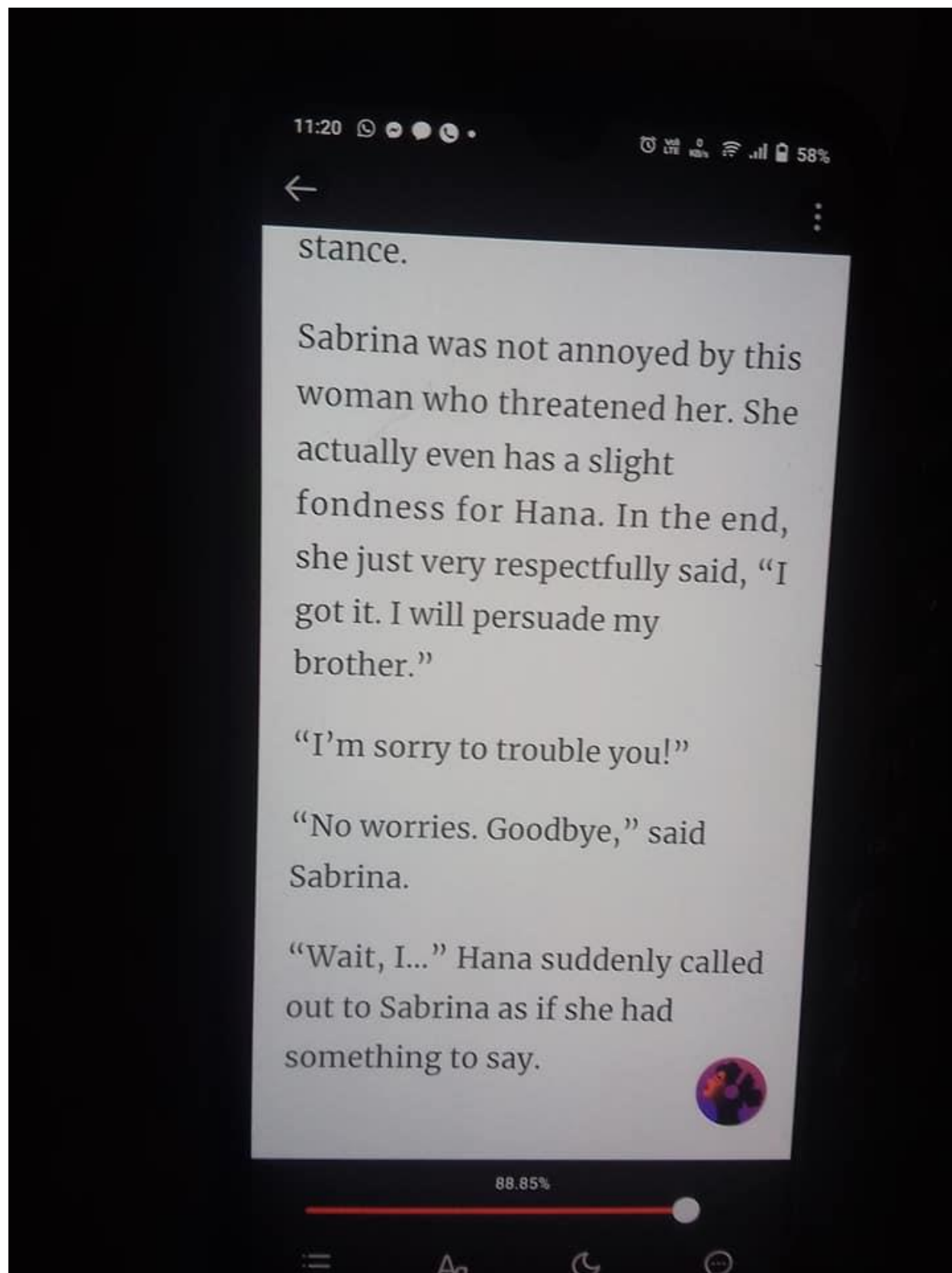
when Sabrina had not known Zayn yet, he had indeed had been mingling together with Nigel every day at that time. All the chicks in the high society of South City and also a few chicks from the clubhouse. To be honest, even Sabrina had never dared to carefully count how many of them had Zayn tainted back then.

On the other end of the line, Hana was still saying, "Say, how could I let such a man marry my daughter? I only have this daughter in this life. I don't want my daughter to follow in my footsteps! Otherwise, I will fight him to death! It's either he will die, or I will! Even if we both lose or both of us will die, I will also do everything I can! As long as I can ensure that my daughter is

or both of us will die, I will also do everything I can! As long as I can ensure that my daughter is not tainted!”

Sabrina was speechless. She had just purely wanted to offer Hana a job. That was all. However, she never expected that Hana would refuse. Hana was totally unlike what she seemed at first glance, which was homeless, ragged, confused, and a person who cheats others for food and drinks. On the contrary, she was well articulated, had a clear thought, and had a very firm stance.

Sabrina was not annoyed by this woman who threatened her. She actually even has a slight fondness for Hana. In the end, she just very respectfully said, “I got it. I will persuade my



Chapter 1676

Sabrina asked, "What's the matter?"

Hana said apologetically, "I want to...thank your little daughter."

Sabrina was speechless.

"Madam Scott, I am very envious of you for having such a good daughter. I like her very much. She is very nice to me. I see a sense of warmth in your daughter. She is so young, only six years old, but she is so strong. She always had a compassionate heart that is protective of her mother all the time. I could tell that the reason your daughter liked me and treated me well was that you had once been living in destitute as

treated me well as that you had once been living in destitute as well. I truly envy you for having such a priceless treasure. On the other hand, I..."

Speaking of that, Hana suddenly laughed in a self-mocking tone. "It's fine, Madam Scott. I'm hanging up."

Sabrina said, "Alright."

After hanging up the call, Sabrina turned around and saw Aino. The little girl, who wore Pikachu pajamas, had just woken up. She looked at Sabrina adorably and dazed expression. "Mom, Madam Sharpe is not willing to come to our house?"

Sabrina did not know how she should answer her daughter, but Aino was very sensible. "It's

should answer her daughter, but Aino was very sensible. "It's fine, Mom. We can't force others on matters that they did not agree on."

Sabrina kissed her daughter on her forehead. "Aino is so sensible. I am so relieved."

Not only was she comforting Aino, but she also felt glad. Just like what Hana had said, the daughter that Sabrina had risked her life to give birth to was worth it. Aino seemed like a fierce and tough girl, who feared nothing and no one and also dared to fight with little boys, but she was a particularly loving and gentle child in her bones. It was evident by her care and compassion for Hana.

Sabrina was very proud of her

compassion to Hana.

Sabrina was very proud of her daughter, and just like what Hana had said, she felt very glad to have such a good daughter.

Instead of being like Hana, who was forcefully separated from her daughter, but her daughter did not even acknowledge her after she had grown up. How cruel was it to a mother for her own daughter to not acknowledge her? Sabrina was even more sympathetic towards Hana. She thought if she had the chance to see Hana again, she certainly must put herself in Hana's shoes and talk to her.

Just when Sabrina had this plan, the little child, Aino, had already started to make a move.

Although Aino said to her mother that she was fine, she

started to make a move.

Although Aino said to her mother that she was fine, she knew that the problem originated from her uncle. It must be because Madam Sharpe hated her uncle, so she did not come to the house anymore.

In the afternoon, after Aino came out of the kindergarten, she said to Kingston, "Uncle Kingston, I don't want my dad's side."

Kingston immediately said, "Roger that, little princess! I will send you home now. "I also don't want to go home!"

Kingston was speechless. After a long while, he wiped the sweat on his forehead. "Little princess, you're only six years old and you're starting to...rebel? You're

in his forehead. "Little princess, you're only six years old and you're starting to...rebel? You're not going home anymore?"

Aino said, "What? Take me to find my uncle!"

Kingston said, "Oh, I see. Sit tight, little princess. I am going to change the route now. Well, what are you doing looking for your uncle?"

"I'm not telling you!"

Aino was looking for his uncle as she wanted to persuade him. She felt that it was because of her uncle that Madam Sharpe did not want to come work at her house. She must persuade her uncle to give up this girlfriend of his, Tessa. If her uncle truly gave up on Tess, then Madam Sharpe would not hate him anymore. If

Tessa. If her uncle truly gave up on Tess, then Madam Sharpe would not hate him anymore. If Madam Sharpe no longer hated her uncle, then she certainly would come to her house again. Perhaps after Madam Sharpe had worked in the house for a long time, she could even be in a romantic relationship with Aino's uncle. The little girl had thought of utilizing indirect means to achieve what she wanted.

"Alright. In any case, even if you go over to your uncle and beat him up, he also would not do anything to you." Kingston started the car engine, and then changed the route to go to Zayn's company.

At that moment, Zayn was still

Aino's uncle. The little girl had thought of utilizing indirect means to achieve what she wanted.

“Alright. In any case, even if you go over to your uncle and beat him up, he also would not do anything to you.” Kingston started the car engine, and then changed the route to go to Zayn's company.

At that moment, Zayn was still occupied with a little matter. He had originally planned to go to the Ford Group to pick Tessa up for dinner after he had finished handling his matters. In the end, once Aino came over, all of Zayn's plans had fallen through.

Chapter 1677

“Little thing! What are you doing here? Spying on me?” questioned Zayn with annoyance. After loving her for all these years, only at that moment did Zayn feel that this little thing was a nuisance! Was it easy for him? He was already a man in his thirties. He finally met a person he wanted to marry after much difficulty and had gotten the support of everyone. Even his parents also liked Tessa very much. In the end, this little thing became his obstacle. Look at the way she looked! Zayn desperately wanted to raise his palm and smack her bottom. In the end, he was very close to raising his palm. He did not bear

desperately wanted to raise his palm and smack her bottom. In the end, he was very close to raising his palm. He did not bear to let it land on Aino's bottom after all.

“Tell me, what good food do you want me to treat you or bring you anywhere to play? I will not meet my girlfriend today. I will risk my life to accompany my niece today,” said Zayn.

“Uncle Zayn, I have good news to tell you,” said Aino with her head tilted.

“Ha! Tell me quickly!”

“I am not going to ask you to make Madam Sharpe your girlfriend anymore.”

“Well, truly a good girl! This indeed is good news. If this is the

“Well, truly a good girl! This indeed is good news. If this is the case, then I’m taking you to dinner and bringing you to play today, and I will also bring Tess...”

“But I also have bad news.” Aino interrupted Zayn. Zayn raised his eyebrows.

“I promise to not make you let Madam Sharpe be your girlfriend. However, you also have to promise me to not let Tessa be your girlfriend. Let’s trade, how about that?”

Zayn was speechless. Kingston was also at a loss for words.

“Truly sympathized with Master Zayn. Master Zayn, you have to hang in there. You’re young and still haven’t had a proper girlfriend yet. You can’t be

Zayn. Master Aino, you have to hang in there. You're young and still haven't had a proper girlfriend yet. You can't be pissed off to death by your niece.'

Zayn was so angry that he could not say anything for a long while.

"Uncle Zayn, don't you think Madam Sharpe and Mom are very similar?"

Zayn suddenly hugged Aino in his arms. "I know, I understand. I'm taking you to a place, alright?"

Aino nodded. "Alright, Uncle Zayn."

"You can return first, Assistant Yates," Zayn said to Kingston.

"Alright, Master Zayn."

Kingston left. After Zayn was

Yates," Zayn said to Kingston.

"Alright, Master Zayn."

Kingston left. After Zayn was done packing up the work he had on hand, he then drove off from the Smith Group while taking the little thing along. When he left the company, he made a call to Tessa. "I'm sorry, Tessa. I have to first cancel our date today."

On the other end of the line, Tessa smiled very understandingly. "I got it, Zayn. You first coax the little princess."

"Alright." Zayn felt touched, and he was silently saying to himself in his heart that Tessa was a very understanding lady. After he hung up, he drove Aino all the way to the homeless shelter that he cared about the most. Aino instantly teared up when she

he cared about the most. Aino instantly teared up when she saw those people with no homes to return to.

“Uncle Zayn, have you been taking care of them all this while?” asked Aino.

Zayn nodded, “Baby, I have not forgotten your mother, I have not forgotten the miserable days we have gone through together in the past. I know that Aino also thinks the same way, right? Aino is a very kind child, right? Aino saw that Madam Sharpe was similar to when your mom, me, and you were living in destitute, that’s why you wanted to help Madam Sharpe, right?”

Aino nodded. “Yes, Uncle Zayn.”

“Look, I have been doing it.”

Aino nodded. "Yes, Uncle Zayn."

"Look, I have been doing it."

"Uncle Zayn. I know, Uncle..." At that moment, Aino suddenly became cheerful. She pouted her lips. "Uncle Zayn, I understand it. I will agree for Miss Tessa to be your girlfriend, but can she not be that fierce to you in the future and don't scold others? I really heard her fiercely scolding others. I am afraid that she will bully you. Ask her to change that, alright?"

Zayn nodded. He squatted and then hugged Aino again. "Of course! I know that you are the one who loves me the most!"

At that moment, a voice suddenly came from outside the gate. "Is Mister Sm-Smith here?"

and don't scold others? I really heard her fiercely scolding others. I am afraid that she will bully you. Ask her to change that, alright?"

Zayn nodded. He squatted and then hugged Aino again. "Of course! I know that you are the one who loves me the most!"

At that moment, a voice suddenly came from outside the gate. "Is Mister Sm-Smith here? I'm looking for him."

Chapter 1678

Zayn turned his head around and saw that it was an old lady with white hair. He then asked, "Do you have anything that needed help? I am Zayn Smith."

The old lady came to the front of Zayn in a tremble. "Mister Smith, it's just that my hair has turned white, but I am actually only fifty-seven years old this year."

Zayn was slightly shocked. Fifty-seven years old indeed is not that old. However, the old lady's face looked aged, and her hair was white. It was clear that she suffered quite a heavy blow from life.

"I still have the strength and my

life.

“I still have the strength and my body is very healthy. I...I heard that you have helped others find a cleaning job. Mister Smith, could you also help me find a job like this? I am not that old. I can show you my identification document.” As she said that, the old lady then took out her identification document for Zayn to see. Zayn looked at the old lady’s identification document closely, and it was truly her. Her actual age was truly fifty-seven years old.

“Don’t be anxious. What’s going on with you now?” He saw the old lady was still carrying a big duffel bag on her back. The duffel bag looked extremely similar to the one that Sabrina had used almost seven years ago.

duffel bag on her back. The duffel bag looked extremely similar to the one that Sabrina had used almost seven years ago. Zayn could not help but feel a sense of sorrow flash by in his heart.

“We can slowly talk about the job later. What’s going on with you now? I see that you’re from this area. Why are you carrying such a big duffel bag? Are you...”

Zayn wanted to ask the old lady, has she run away from home? Did she have a fall out with her children, their spouses, or her own old man? He wanted to first clearly ask everything. Only then could he truly help the old lady resolve her difficulties.

“I’m fine. I just want to look for a place to work that also includes

resolve her difficulties.

“I’m fine. I just want to look for a place to work that also includes meals and accommodation. It’s fine no matter how tough or tiring the job is. As long as meals and accommodation are included and the salary is reasonable. Mister Smith, I’m begging you, please.”

Zayn was speechless. An old lady at this age needed meals and accommodation to be included. Were her children not willing to support her? Zayn felt incomparably heartbroken. Just as he was about to continue asking, another person came into the yard at that moment, and the person called out, “Aunt, what are you doing here? I can support you. Let’s talk about it after we get home if there is

into the yard. At that moment, and the person called out, "Aunt, what are you doing here? I can support you. Let's talk about it after we get home if there is anything. Don't come here."

Zayn immediately called out, "Hana Sharpe!"

Hana looked at Zayn coldly. "I'll take my aunt away immediately. Regarding the matter of you and Tessa, I have already spoken to your sister very clearly. If you are to find my daughter again in the future, I will die with you!"

After saying that, she carried the old lady's bag on her back and headed out.

"Hana, put it down!" scolded her aunt.

Hana was startled. "Aunt..."

Chapter 1679

There was a pause before Hana turned around and looked at Zayn coldly. "Perhaps you are truly a good person. I believe you on the grounds that you are enthusiastically helping people like us. However, my aunt truly cannot work here. She is already fifty-seven years old and has never lived happily in this life. Please don't find her a job. I will take her away immediately."

After saying that, Hana carried her aunt's duffel bag and left without looking back.

"Hana, Hana, wait for me. This child! I will be a burden to you!" her aunt cried behind her. Both the aunt and the niece walked further and further away. After

over. How difficult must that be for her?

“Uncle Zayn, let’s give them a lift, alright?” asked Aino.

Zayn nodded. “Of course, no problem! Aino is the brightest child in the world. You’re my pride!”

After saying that, he then led Aino to chase after Hana and the old lady with big strides. Within three minutes, they caught up with them. He took over the duffel bag that Hana was carrying from behind her, which startled Hana. She suddenly turned her head around and shouted furiously, “What are you ... What are you doing?”

“At the very least, I am Tessa’s boyfriend. I’ll give you a lift. It’s easier compared to you carrying i

... What are you doing?"

"At the very least, I am Tessa's boyfriend. I'll give you a lift. It's easier compared to you carrying it like this," Zayn said.

Hana was speechless. Before she could react in time, Zayn had already put the duffel bag in the trunk, and then he pulled the car door open. "Please get in. Aino and the old lady can sit at the back. Mada.." He wanted to call her Madam Sharpe, but he felt that Hana was too young. Besides, Hana had never acknowledged that he was Tessa's boyfriend, so he might as well not address her.

"You sit in the front," said Zayn.

Hana was a little embarrassed. "Thank you."

"You sit in the car," said Zayn.

Hana was a little embarrassed. "Thank you."

"Don't mention it. It's fine as long as you don't look at me with prejudice."

Hana was speechless. She got in the car and did not speak the whole journey. After a long time, only then did she bite her lips and say, "I'm sorry! You don't have a child! You are also not a mother. There is no way you can understand a mother's concern for her child. I am not targeting you. I am truly worried about my child."

Zayn was speechless. He truly wanted to argue with Hana that since it was all for the child then why did abandon her? However, he did not say anything because

who stayed in rural areas were largely migrant workers. Most of them were migrant workers living in groups, so this place was considered filthy and messy.

However, what Zayn did not expect was that although the house Hana was staying in was bad, the interior of the house was incomparably neat and clean. It made one feel that it was pleasing to the eye.

Hana's attitude towards him was also much better. After they entered the house, she said, "Have a seat. I will pour a glass of water for you and the child."

Just as Hana turned around, the main door was kicked open. A fierce voice shouted, "Don't hide, you old d*mned person!"

Chapter 1680

Zayn turned around and saw four men standing by the door. The man standing in front was pointing his finger and cursing at the old lady who had just sat down. Aino was so frightened that she immediately ran into Zayn's arm. Zayn carried Aino with one arm and reached out the other arm to shield Hana and the old lady behind him. After that, he looked at the four men outside sternly.

Strange enough, although the leader of the men who angrily scolded the old lady had a fierce tone, he was decently dressed, and even had a pair of glasses. He looked very proper. The three men behind him did not seem

and even had a pair of glasses. He
e looked very proper. The three
men behind him did not seem
like hooligans. All of them
seemed like decent people.

“Who are you? How can you
trespass a private house? You’re
breaking the law. Do you know
that?” Zayn asked calmly. He
leaned in towards Aino. “Baby,
you just escape if I get in a fight
with them later. Escape into my
car and call for help with your
smartwatch. Do you
understand?”

Aino said firmly, “Don’t worry,
Uncle Zayn!”

The leader of the men who was
standing opposite Zayn also
surveyed him from top to
bottom. “Who are you?
According to what I know, other

The leader of the men who was standing opposite Zayn also surveyed him from top to bottom. "Who are you? According to what I know, other than the son that is still in prison, the old lady only has her niece in South City. So, who are you?"

After he thought about it, he sneered. "Oh, you are her niece's lover, right?"

The man then looked at Hanna. "Sharpe, since you said you'll be taking care of your aunt's matter, then hand over the money that she owes us! If you can't pay up, then let your lover pay!"

Hana's eyes were red with rage. "Are you still human? You let my aunt pay you back? My aunt has

pay!”

Hana's eyes were red with rage. “Are you still human? You let my aunt pay you back? My aunt has been married to your father since she was forty-five years old. That was eleven whole years! She has at least some credits for all her efforts! Your father was taken care of by my aunt, alright? How much would it cost for eleven years of service? My aunt has only taken that bit of money from you, and you still let her pay you back? Are you still human? Stefan Dixon! I'm telling you! If you come to our house to pester us again, I will call the police! I will call the police now! Do you think I, Hana Sharpe, will be afraid of you? Aunt, don't be afraid of him! We'll call the police. Worse

house to pest again, I will
call the police! I will call the
police now! Do you think I, Hana
Sharpe, will be afraid of you?
Aunt, don't be afraid of him!
We'll call the police. Worse
comes to the worst, we will see
them in court!"

Hana immediately took out her
phone and wanted to call the
police. Her phone was slapped
away by that man. "Are you
going to call the police? I urge
you to first think it through! It
was your aunt who silently took
my father's money away! That
was fifty thousand dollars! This i
s not a small figure for this theft!
You better think it through! You
can't have your cousin be in
prison, and still let your aunt go i
n to accompany him, right? You
can call the police if you have
thought it through! I'm not

n to accompany him, right? You can call the police if you have thought it through! I'm not afraid to see you in court!"

After saying that, the man then picked up the phone and handed it over to Hana. Hana hesitated, but that man closed in on her instead. The man first glanced at Zayn contemptuously, then he said, "Hana Sharpe, you think you can frighten us by bringing your lover over today, but you're in the wrong, after all! Low life! Your aunt has done such dirty tricks, and you are just the same! No wonder between the both of you, one has a son in prison, and the other has a daughter that doesn't acknowledge her! For such a woman who finds herself a love out there, it's no wonder that your daughter doesn't

a love out there, it's no wonder that your daughter doesn't acknowledge you!"

Hana gritted her teeth. "Stefan Dixon! You should only talk about the things that matter, don't insult others!"

"Alright, I will only talk about the things that matter! Pay up the fifty thousand dollars immediately!"

"I don't have it!" said Hana. Where was she going to get fifty thousand dollars in a go?

"Don't have it? Ask from your lover! He looks very decently dressed, doesn't he? That car outside also cost about three million, right? I didn't expect that you can actually hook up with such a young lover at your

Where was she going to get fifty thousand dollars in a go?

“Don’t have it? Ask from your lover! He looks very decently dressed, doesn’t he? That car outside also cost about three million, right? I didn’t expect that you can actually hook up with such a young lover at your age. Hey, gigolo, pay up for your woman!”

“Bullsh*t!” Aino was annoyed.

Chapter 1681

Stefen was speechless.

“Watch me bite you into pieces! You piece of sh*t!” Aino was furious.

She liked Hana the most, so how could she watch her being insulted? Before her uncle could say anything, Aino was already furious. She got down from her uncle’s arms, put her arms on her waist, and glared fiercely at that man opposite her. She looked just like a mighty little wolf dog.

Stefan was not an actual hooligan, after all. He was just here to take back his fifty thousand dollars on behalf of his father. Of course, he could not stoop down to her level to argue

here to take back his fifty thousand dollars on behalf of his father. Of course, he could not stoop down to her level to argue with a little child. He stuttered, "You...quickly carry your child. I will not stoop down to her level to argue with her!"

At that moment, Zayn slowly and coldly spoke up. "Mister, you don't seem like a hooligan, so can you tell me in detail about what exactly is going on? Tell me what happened. Once I've understood it, I will then return you the money they owe you!"

Zayn carried Aino in his arms again. "Aino, be good. I will handle this matter." Only then did Aino lean on her uncle and did not move anymore. However, she was still furiously glaring at

did not move a muscle more. However, she was still furiously glaring at the person opposite her.

Stefan glared back at them. “Hana’s aunt is the woman that my father married. A while ago, my father got sick. She then stole fifty thousand dollars from my father and ran away! If you, her niece’s lover, can quickly pay back the money for her, then I will not sue her for theft! If nobody helps this old woman pay the money, then I certainly will call the police and sue her for theft!”

After saying that, Stefan sneered. “Fifty thousand dollars is not a small sum! It’s enough for her to be imprisoned for a while!”

“Dixon, listen carefully,” Zayn

while!”

“Dixon, listen carefully,” Zayn said. “I am not anybody’s lover! Stop calling me that. As for the money that the old lady owed you, I can pay you back on her behalf! However, I first have to ask the old lady! You said she stole it, but what if she doesn’t admit it? We have to clarify this matter face to face! Besides, you said that she stole the money, but do you have any evidence? Did you see it?” Actually, Zayn did not doubt for a moment that the old lady had taken the fifty thousand dollars. He just had some doubts, and he wanted to clarify those doubts.

Sure enough, Stefan said, “Of course! My house has surveillance, and everything can be clearly seen on the

clarify those details.

Sure enough, Stefan said, "Of course! My house has surveillance, and everything can be clearly seen on the surveillance! The evidence is overwhelming. There is no way she can get away with it!"

Speaking of that, Stefan suddenly changed the subject, and his tone also became a little nicer. "I also knew that Hana can't return the money. Since you are not his lover, then I will not look for you anymore. I have thought of a solution. Hana, you can see if it's feasible!"

Hana sounded annoyed. "Say it! You want interest, don't you? Fine! I will pay you the interest!"

"My family is not short of fifty

fine! I will pay the interest!

“My family is not short of fifty thousand dollars! My father is now sick and is paralyzed in bed. As long as the old lady is willing to return to take care of my father and play the role of his wife! I will not pursue the matter of her stealing the money! Also, I will not ask for a single penny of interest! You just have to slowly pay back in installments. Even if you take ten years to pay back, we will not force you as well!”

Stefan said.

Zayn was speechless. He finally made a little sense of it. These people were not mainly here to ask for money. They wanted to find a person to go back and take care of their sick father?

Hana was so angered that she could not speak for a long while

care of their sick father?

Hana was so angered that she could not speak for a long while.

At that moment, they suddenly heard an angry roar coming from behind them. "If will fight t
o you to death if I let you b*
stards bully an old woman like m
e and my niece again! I will hack
all of you to death!"

Zayn and Hana both turned their heads back at the same time and were both stunned.

At some point, the old lady had a kitchen knife in her hand, and she was charging straight at Stefan and his brothers.

"Aunt, put down the knife!"

Hana was stunned.

Chapter 1682

Stefan and the few people behind him were all stunned for a second. When they clearly saw that the old lady had no slightest bit of intention in putting down the knife, the men instantly turned around and ran. They were competing to see who was the fastest runner. They stumbled and ran out of Hana's house in a short time.

The old lady with the knife in her hand did not run out and chase after them. She collapsed and sat at the door while holding the knife and cried inconsolably. "What sins has an old lady like myself committed? What sins have I committed for God to be punishing me like this?" The old lady cried with incomparably

punishing me for this?" The old lady cried with incomparably great sorrow.

Hana gently walked to the front of the old lady and gently took the knife in her hand away. "Aunt, don't be upset...hand me the knife."

The old lady gave the knife to Hana, and then she turned around to kneel in front of Zayn, who was still in shock. "Mister Smith, everyone said that you're a great person. That day when my niece came back, she told me that you had been taking care of the people at the shelter very often. I knew then that you were a good person.

"Mister Smith, help me. I don't want your money! No matter how poor I am, I will also never

"Mister Smith, help me. I don't want your money! No matter how poor I am, I will also never want money. I just want a job that includes meals and accommodation. I can do any work that others dare not do. Cleaning or washing dishes. Is that alright?"

Zayn was speechless.

"I'm begging you, Mister Smith. You see, if I stay at my niece's house, I will only be a burden to her. They will come again in the future. My niece has already had it hard enough, to begin with. She had to work four jobs to pay the mortgage, and she still has to give Tessa living expenses every month. She is already having it hard herself. I can't be a burden to her. I'm begging you, Mister Smith..."

Smith...”

“Ma’am, first get up,” Zayn said.

“I will be doomed if you kneel for me like this. You first get up and tell me what’s going on, and it’s not too late for me to think of a way to help you. Let’s not talk about the job. With that behavior of you holding the knife just now, I’m guessing that those bunch of people will not let you go at all. You first get up and we’ll think of a way to resolve this matter.”

Only then did the old lady wipe her tears and stand up with the help of Zayn and Hana. She sat on the bench in the house and slowly told them her story.

The old lady had lost her husband when she was young and had brought up her son

The old lady had lost her husband when she was young and had brought up her son alone. Her son was also very obedient. They were street vendors selling pork in this suburban town, and there was also another street vendor opposite her son. There was fierce competition between the two businesses, and the vendor opposite them often created trouble for them. They kept picking fights with her son every other day.

At first, her son just endured it. One day, the people from the opposite stall provoked her son. "Hey, little butcher, do you know that you can still keep your butcher stall open all thanks to your mother? I wonder how

many men she had slept with to b

your mother? I wonder how many men she had slept with to be able to save up enough money for you to open up this butcher stall! Your mother is old now, but your wife is still very young and can be introduced to men again. Hey, your mother and your wife's business seem to be doing pretty well!"

Those words had infuriated her son, who had always been honest and rule-abiding. Her son picked up a knife and slashed that person. It was not enough to vent his hatred after just one slash, so he continuously slashed the person up several times. It was fortunate that the person's life managed to be saved after getting emergency treatment in time. Although it was not

getting emergency treatment in time. Although it was not enough for his son to be charged with a death sentence, he also was a felon. Her son was only twenty two years old that year. The old lady was only forty-five years old.

At that time, her son's wife was pregnant and was about almost due. After she heard such a piece of news, she died giving birth. Their child was left behind, and both the child and the old lady then depended on each other for survival.

At that time, the old lady had lost everything to pay for compensation. After they resolved all the matters, the old lady was completely broke. The old lady also had to take care of

the old lady
then depended on each other for
survival.

At that time, the old lady had
lost everything to pay for
compensation. After they
resolved all the matters, the old
lady was completely broke. The
old lady also had to take care of
her grandson, so what to do?

Just like that, someone gave her a
n idea. She was told to find
someone else to marry and bring
her grandson along with her into
the family. After she thought
about it, she felt like that was
her only option.

Chapter 1683

It was also a coincidence that when the old lady was looking for someone to marry, a newly retired middle school teacher in this suburban town, who had been widowed for many years, also wanted to look for a partner as his children had already started their own family. The two of them hit it off with each other at once. The old lady then brought her grandson along with her and married Neo Dixon.

However, she only found out that it was not as easy as imagined after she had been married to him. Once they were married, Neo made a few rules for her to follow. "I can give you the money to buy formula powder for your grandson every

the money to the formula powder for your grandson every month, but that is all. This was also because I pitied you, but you can't push your luck. Once your son is released, your grandson has to be sent away."

The old lady already had no place to return to at that time, so it was already not bad to have a roof over her head. She then nodded in agreement to whatever Neo said. She said cautiously, "Thank you. Thank you for giving my grandson and myself a place to stay."

"You have to know that you're very honored for an illiterate woman like you to be able to marry an intellectual like me. This is your house from now on. You have to take more and better care of it!" ordered Neo.

This is your house from now on. You have to take more and better care of it!" ordered Neo.

The old lady immediately nodded. "I am best at taking care of the house. I'll certainly make sure you're satisfied."

With such a brief exchange, the two then went and got their marriage certificate the next day. They were then considered officially married. After they got married, she was responsible for all household chores and taking care of everything in the old man's life. The old lady was only forty-five years old at that time, so she was still capable in a certain aspect. Therefore, from time to time, the two people would still have sex several times a month.

would still have to eat several times a month.

At first, the old man was not very satisfied with her, and he did not like the food she cooked. After about two years of training by the old man, the food that the old lady cooked met the old man's taste. The old man was then very nourished. However, he only gave a maximum of three hundred dollars for the old lady to buy formula powder for her grandson every month. Never mind buying clothes or diapers, the old lady could not even take out a single penny to spend on groceries and other expenditures on a usual basis. That was because the old man had kept a close watch on this aspect. Even purchasing a single packet of salt needed to be recorded. From

close watch on every aspect. Even purchasing a single packet of salt needed to be recorded. From time to time when the children return home, they would also take turns to check on the old lady's accounts. The old lady felt upset and disrespected by the children, but there was nothing she could do. After all, she needed to raise her grandson.

The clothes that her grandson wore growing up were all picked up from the neighbors. When she asked the old man for money to send her grandson to kindergarten, the old man would refused to give her. With resignation, the old lady could only do some odd jobs outside while maintaining all the household chores every day. She would also pick up the empty bottles on the roadside when she

while maintaining all the household chores every day. She would also pick up the empty bottles on the roadside when she saw them sometimes. It was fortunate that the tuition fee for the public kindergarten was not much. It was only a few hundred dollars a year, so the old lady managed to save enough quickly.

As she was working some odd jobs outside, she could save a few hundred dollars from time to time, so she felt secure. She did not think about other things, she only thought about raising her grandson. Therefore, all the money that she had saved up was to pay for her grandson's tuition fee.

Ten years had gone by just like that. The old man got older, his health was not as good as before

Ten years had gone by just like that. The old man got older, his health was not as good as before anymore, so he needed the old lady to put in all her effort in taking care of him. That meant that the old lady could not do the odd job outside anymore. The old man then lashed out at the old lady. "I am your husband! Your husband! All that you have eaten and drank were mine, and you have stayed in my house for ten years, even your grandson also stayed here. How dare you not take care of me? Do you even have a conscience?"

The old lady then said helplessly, "I didn't say that I'm not taking care of you. My grandson has to go to school, so I have to work three hours a day. It would not

o to school, so I have to work three hours a day. It would not interfere with taking care of you.”

“Two options. You either come back or get lost!” The old man kicked the old lady.

Hence, the old lady had no choice but to leave her job.

However, what she didn't expect was that when her grandson's school term was about to start and needed tuition money, the old man actually refused to give her a single penny. He even cursed at her. “I have no obligation to raise your grandson!”

Chapter 1684

The old lady's heart sank when she heard that back then. They had been a married couple for ten years! She had cooked for him for ten years! He had been so nourished under her care. She had only asked him for her grandson's tuition fee that one year, and it was because she had no way to go out to work anymore. In the end, he did not give her a single penny. Never mind if he refused to give her, but he even hit her. He cursed at her too. Also, he kicked her into the yard of the accommodation for faculty members, and let many retired teachers and so on watch.

"All of you come and judge. Is

“All of you come and judge. Is this woman a parasite? I had raised her grandson since he was a baby! She is not a faculty member, but she could stay here. She did not have an official job and had no pension, but she could support and raise her grandson! I have raised him for ten years. When will it end?” The old man was so exasperated that he could not breathe. ①

All the people in the yard criticized the old lady. “You’re too unbelievable!”

“People like you have sucked the old man’s resources till his bones have dried out!”

“People from the rural area cannot be taken as brides. She has no livelihood security, so she

cannot be taken as brides. She has no livelihood security, so she really can completely drain this little bit of your salary!”

“Neo, why didn’t you find a woman who was also a teacher like you back then?”

The group of people had various different opinions. Just as they were still conversing, a few children of the old man returned. When they saw the old man so angered, they criticized the old lady as if they had gone insane.

“Madam Cecilia! Is this how you take care of my father?”

“We have taken care of letting you have food to eat, water to drink, and a roof over your head! We had even taken care of your grandson. Is this how you repay

we had even taken care of your grandson. Is this how you repay my father?"

"Madam Cecilia! If you do not wish to stay at this house anymore, then just get lost as soon as possible!"

Being scolded by the few children like that, the old lady was instantly in tears. "I...I have been married to your father for ten years! We have slept together for ten years! I have taken care of all of you...when you had given birth. I have given your children allowances every year. I treated your children as my own grandchildren. All of you are driving me out now?"

"The money you had given to my grandchildren were all given to you by me! Did you take the
(...your own pocket?)"

y grandchildren are all given to
you by me! Did you take the
money out of your own pocket?"
the old man instantly said.

The old lady cried harder. "I had
never taken the money out of my
own pocket because do I have
money? It's not that you didn't
know I don't have a job. I had
been working three hours of odd
jobs a day for thirty dollars!
That's only almost eight
hundred dollars a month! Do I
have money? Doesn't matter if
it's your money or my money.
Isn't it enough as long as the
children have been given
allowances? I have given
allowances to your
grandchildren every year, but
have you given a single penny to
my grandson before? Why can't
you see my grandson? He has
calling you grandpa for ten

you see my grandson? He has been calling you grandpa for ten years!”

Hearing the old lady saying so, the old man became even more furious. “You d*mned old thing! You truly are a parasite! Are you being reasonable? You are a person with no salary! All of your living expenses were on me! That’s my money! Who can stop me from giving my money to my grandchildren and my children? Why should I give it to your grandson? I am not going to settle scores with you about the past anymore! I am setting the rules for you now! You’re now staying at my house! You’re eating my food and wearing my clothes! You’re under my control! However, you can only interact with my family. As for

control! However, you can only interact with my family. As for your family, forget it! I am not going to allow this bad habit of yours. The more I allow it, the more arrogant you'll be! Get up! Go cook for me now!" The old man scolded the old lady in front of so many people.

The old lady was truly heartbroken. People often said that it was truly difficult for couples in their second marriages to be of one mind, and that was true. After being married for so many years, she had been living miserably, but what about her husband?

Although he was more than a decade older than her, he looked more radiant than her. He was a faculty member after all. It was truly different for a person with

more radiant than her. He was a faculty member after all. It was truly different for a person with a pension.

The old lady got up and silently went into the house to cook.

That night, she cooked for the whole family, but her grandson did not even get a single bite of it. There were still many people criticizing her.

“Neo, the wife from the second marriage can’t be compared to the first.”

Chapter 1685

“Of course, she can’t be compared to the first one! You won’t dare to let her have anything. She is not of one mind with you!”

“That’s right! Greedy!”

“Think about it, is this reasoning correct? It’s my salary and my house. You’re just staying here. Of course, I have to take care of my relatives, why would I have the leisure to take care of your relatives?”

“That’s right! That’s the reasoning. It’s a pity that she is a woman from the rural areas, so she is greedy and not sensible!”

“She needs to be disciplined!”

she is greedy and not sensible!

“She needs to be disciplined!”

“She needed to be taught a lesson, then she won't dare to do it again!”

“Look at her now. She still obediently went into the house to cook for you. She can't bear to leave. Where can she go if she leaves? Surely, she can't sleep on the street!”

“She's so unappreciative!”

All these were said aloud, without hiding from the old lady in any way. The old lady remained very calm. That night, all the old man's children had dinner at home. After they were done, the old lady cleaned up the dishes. She even poured a bucket of water for the old man to wash

of water for the old man to wash his feet at night, and she personally scrubbed his feet for him, so much so that the old man even slept with her once in a fit of anger. She was all very calm.

The following day, all the children had returned to their respective homes, and the old man had gone out for a stroll and light exercises. The old lady then searched all the possible places that could hide money in the house. Sure enough, she truly found fifty thousand dollars! She put the money in a satchel and headed straight to her grandson's school. That was four years with meals and accommodation included. Her grandson could then safely finish his nine years of

accommodation included. Her grandson could then safely finish his nine years of mandatory education.

When she came out of her grandson's school, the old lady still stuck around outside the school as she could not bear to leave. "Baby, I'm sorry. I have given you everything I could give you. Stay in school these four years and don't create any trouble. After four years, your father should also be released. This way, you will have a father. My child, you have to be sensible and study well. When your dad is released, have him work and earn money to pay for your high school tuition. You have to go to college. Don't be a butcher like your father. So uncultured and impulsive. Baby, I have to part

your father. So uncultured and impulsive. Baby, I have to part with you forever now. You have to stay well.”

The old lady cried inconsolably outside of her grandson’s school until she had no tears left to cry anymore in the end. She washed her face by the river, then she returned home.

When she got home, the old man did not even notice that she had cried. He just looked at her with disgust. “I have not disciplined you and you’re so audacious now? Where have you been today? You didn’t even make lunch! I had to order delivery! The delivery food is so disgusting and so high in fats! You know that I have high blood pressure! I can’t have oily and

The delivery is so disgusting and so high in fats! You know that I have high blood pressure! I can't have oily and salty foods! Yet, you didn't come back to cook! Where on earth did you go? You have not been home all day! You haven't even done the laundry!"

As the old man was speaking, he raised his hand to hit her. He had been having the temptation to hit her recently. He just wanted to hit her at every turn. After he had hit her, he would feel satisfied. It felt as if he had returned to the time when he became a leader before he retired.

However, before his hand landed on her, he heard the old lady say calmly and flatly, "Neo Dixon. I have thought it through. Let's get divorced."

However, before his hand landed on her, he heard the old lady say calmly and flatly, "Neo Dixon. I have thought it through. Let's get divorced."

Neo's hand stopped in mid-air. He thought he had heard it wrong. "D*mned old thing, what...what did you say?"

The old lady's gaze was unwaveringly calm. "Let's get divorced. I will pack up and leave today. We'll go to city hall and get our divorce certificate tomorrow. I will never enter this house of yours again. I will leave this marriage without taking any possessions with me."

Neo was speechless.

Chapter 1686

The old lady's decision stunned Neo. Neo looked straight at the old lady without blinking. "D*mned old woman, you truly are very arrogant! Watch if I don't..."

Just as the old man was about to make a move, he turned around and saw that the old lady was holding a cleaver in her hand.

"It's just slaughtering pigs, right? I am a butcher's mother! I know how to do it!" The old lady looked at the old man with an expression as if she was looking at a stranger.

Neo was shocked. He did not expect that the old lady was being serious. She returned to her room and wasted no time

being serious. She returned to her room and wasted no time packing up all her things. It was just a duffel bag full.

“It’s all of my clothes in this bag and nothing else,” said the old lady. She left after that. She had already thought it through. She had stolen fifty thousand dollars from the old man to pay for the grandson’s tuition fee, so she wouldn’t mind going to jail.

After she had left that house, the old lady found a hotel and stayed here.

The following day, she waited for two hours at the city hall.

When she saw that the staff were about to clock out, the old lady then made a call to Neo. “Why haven’t you come to process our divorce?”

haven't you come to process our divorce?"

On the other end of the line, Neo was a little panicked. "You...you truly want to divorce me?"

"Have you gone nuts?" said the old lady patiently.

Neo ignored the question. "You won't even have a place to stay if you divorce me, so why are you being so arrogant?"

"Does it matter to you whether I have a place to stay or not?" asked the old lady in return.

Neo was speechless. The old lady continued. "I have inquired with others just now that if you don't come over to get divorced, I can unilaterally go to court and file for divorce. If you are not present, our divorce will

annulment court and the
for divorce. If you are not
present, our divorce will
automatically take effect two
years from the date I file my
suit.”

The old lady hung up as soon as she said that. Neo called again right after. “Do you...want to reconsider? I...can forgive you for many things. As long as you come back and admit that you were wrong, I can then forgive you, alright?”

The old lady smiled and said in a contemptuous and self-deprecating manner. “Mister Teacher! Are you pretending to be confused? You are an educated person! It’s me who left your house now. I have already moved my things away, and I am waiting for you at the city hall to

house now. I have already moved my things away, and I am waiting for you at the city hall to get divorced! It's not me who goes to you to admit my mistakes and then beg for your forgiveness. Do you hear me?"

After saying that, she immediately hung up the call. She truly had had enough! An hour later, the city hall was already closed. Only then did Neo come slowly and later. There were also two managers, a man and a woman, from the accommodation for the faculty member, who came together with him.

"Madam Cecilia, what are you doing? How can you be so dramatic?" The female manager was calling the old lady's name

doing. How can I be so dramatic?" The female manager was calling the old lady's name and pulling on her arm to lead her out of the city hall's lobby.

The old lady looked at the female manager. "Me getting a divorce is being dramatic?"

The female manager softened her tone. "Alright, alright, alright. Say, why did you want to get divorced? You first tell me what's going on and let me be the mediator for both of you. If we have managed to reach common ground, then let's not get divorced, alright? You're already an old married couple. It's not worth it to have a fight between a couple."

The old lady hung her head. "I have nothing more to say. Since I can't do it this morning, then I'll

It's not worth... have a fight
between a couple."

The old lady hung her head. "I have nothing more to say. Since I can't do it this morning, then I'll wait until the afternoon to get divorced."

"Just think of it like us, two ladies chattering, alright?" The female manager kept holding the old lady's hand and not letting it go. "Tell me, how exactly did he mistreat you? Tell me, and I'll help you vent your grievances, alright?"

Neo, who was standing at the side, rolled his eyes at the old lady. "Say what you want to say! Don't use divorce to threaten others!"

Chapter 1687

“Sure.” The old lady smiled. “If you want me to say it, then I’ll say it. I have been married to you for ten years! In the last ten years, you take your grandchildren and your daughter seriously, but what about mine? You gave money to your grandchildren. With the amount of money you have spent on them every year, which one of them didn’t cost you tens of thousands just on buying clothes and snacks alone? But, what about mine? I only have a grandson. Other than you buying the cheapest formula powder every month that costs a hundred dollars each in the first year, he had not even worn a single piece of new clothing growing up after that! All that he

year, he had never worn a single piece of new clothing growing up after that! All that he had worn were unwanted clothes given to him as a charity by the neighbors! Neo Dixon, ask yourself with a clear conscience, how did you treat your relatives and how did you treat my relatives?"

"Old woman! You're being unreasonable!" Neo was very unyielding. He looked at the few people in the city hall, then pointed at the old lady. "Let's clarify in front of everyone now! We are both remarried! We both have our respective children! You married me alone! You don't even have any property, and I've made sure you get to eat and have a roof over your head! It's been so many years! Have I

have a roof over your head! It's been so many years! Have I complained about anything? You're the one I married, not your whole family! It's not enough that I have to take care of you, but I also have to take care of your whole family? Let everyone here judge, is this appropriate?"

Everyone in the lobby heard him. Some people nodded. Some people shook their heads and walked away. This is their family matter, so no one would judge the matter for them. There were only the two managers beside the old lady.

The female manager criticized the old lady in a fair manner. "Say, Madam Cecilia, just talking on this matter alone, then it's you who is at fault! Both you and Neo

the old lady in a fair manner. “ Say, Madam Cecilia, just talking on this matter alone, then it’s you who is at fault! Both you and Neo had remarried. Neo is a person with a job and pension. He should take care of his children. He married you, but not your whole family! It was him being very kind to take care of your grandson back then. You can’t hold his kindness against him and push your luck! So, you’re divorcing him because he doesn’t care for your grandson? Then...aren’t you committing marriage fraud? Madam Cecilia, this is unethical. Let’s go, follow us back. We’re not going through with the divorce. You’re already an old married couple for more than a decade. What are you doing?”

more than a de. What are you doing?"

She then turned towards Neo. "Neo, let me tell you this, let the bygones be bygones. You're a man, so you should be a bigger person. You can't make a fuss about your past contributions with Madam Cecilia anymore after you've arrived home! Do you know that? Come on, let's take Madam Cecilia home."

After she said that, the two managers held the old lady by one arm each, and then they dragged her out. Neo was also pushing the old lady from behind. How could an old lady fight against three people by herself? They dragged her to the entrance of the city hall in one fell swoop. Out of desperation, the old lady shouted. "Security!

fell swoop. Out of desperation, the old lady shouted. "Security! Security! Please help me call the police and tell them someone is kidnapping me! Help me!"

The security immediately came out. "What are you doing? You're actually holding someone hostage in broad daylight?"

Neo immediately turned to the security. "This is...this is my wife. She is here to ask for a divorce from me."

The security was speechless.

"Sir, help me. I must get a divorce. I have had enough of being in his house. I will die if I go back now. Don't let them take me away." The old lady cried inconsolably.

The old lady did not get taken

me away." The lady cried
inconsolably.

The old lady did not get taken
away by Neo after they were
stopped by the security. They
just kept waiting there until the
afternoon shift at the city hall
started. The old lady was the
first to sit in front of the window
for processing.

The first thing the staff asked
was, "Divorce? Are there any
divisions of properties?"

"Yes!" Neo said incomparably
heartlessly. "She had been
eating, drinking, and living at m
y house for ten years. I even
helped raise her grandson. I will
only agree to get divorced if she
agrees to compensate me two
hundred thousand dollars!"

Chapter 1688

The staff looked up. "Are you not having a n amicable divorce? Is there a property dispute?"

"Of course, there is!" Neo said straightforwardly. "She had no one to depend on and had no income! Has she lived in my house for ten years for nothing? I even helped her raise her grandson! Who's paying all that? Two hundred thousand, and I'm already asking for very little!"

The staff immediately glanced at the old lady with contempt. "Is that so?"

At that moment, the old lady was already covered in tears. Could she truly not find a place that would listen to reason? If reason could not work here as well, then she planned to just end her life by banging her head on the pillar. She said with a face full of tears, "I want to ask you people who know the law, are we not a family once I have married him?"

The staff nodded. "Yes."

The staff nodded. "Yes."

"Since we're already a family, then why does he still want to clearly divide everything with me? He had raised my grandson, and I have lived at his house for more than a decade. Since we're already a family, isn't his house also my house?"

"You can't think of it like that! My house is my separate property as it was acquired before the marriage." The old man was very educated and well versed with the law.

The staff looked at the old lady. "If it was his separate property, then indeed it doesn't belong to you."

The old lady sneered. "Did I say I want to divide half of his house?"

Both the staff and Neo were speechless. Seeing that nobody answered her, the old lady then said with an aggrieved tone, "I have been married to him for ten years. Of course, I know that your house is your separate property! I have also never wanted to divide your property with you. I had never thought of wanting any of your

wanted to divide your property with you! I had never thought of wanting any of your properties, let alone your house! I am here to get a divorce and leave the marriage without taking any possession with me! Haven't you seen the duffel bag that I had taken away yesterday? I am leaving the marriage with nothing!"

She cried. "I have never wanted you to leave the marriage with no possessions! I'm still going to let you stay at my house in the future. We have been married for ten years. We're already an old couple, so why must we get a divorce? Are you afraid of being laughed at? Have I ever said to let you leave the marriage without taking any properties? As long as you don't care about your son and your grandson's troubling matters and live your days with me properly, then we can be together forever in this life even though this is our second marriage!" said the old teacher with a dogmatic tone.

The old lady spat at Neo. "I don't want to be with you anymore! Why can't an old scoundrel like you understand it? I'm disgusted by you! I despise you so much

disgusted by you! I despise you so much now that I feel you're a toad covered in poisonous warts! You're a shameless bandit and a d*mned old man!"

Neo was speechless. After a long while, the staff said, "Please calm down!"

The old lady cried. "I am very calmly asking for a divorce. Why is he still stopping me? I have already said that I don't want to be with him anymore! Do you know how much I regret it now? Ten years ago, I was just forty-six years old then. I was still so young, and I could do any sort of work. Even if I simply find a family and be their nanny, they also have to include my meals and accommodation, and give me three thousand dollars, right? Three thousand..."

Speaking of that, the old lady was almost choked up. "Three thousand dollars! How much formula powder can I buy for my grandson with that? Never mind those that are particularly good, even with the average ones that cost a hundred fifty dollars per can, my grandson would also not use up three thousand dollars after

not use up three thousand dollars after consuming four cans of formula powder a month. If I hadn't chosen to marry someone back then, but become someone else's nanny instead, not only could I raise my grandson, but I also can save almost two thousand dollars a month. If that was the case, then my grandson wouldn't have no formula powder to drink when he was just six months old and had to consume batter and milk mixture. My grandson also wouldn't have to wear hand-me-downs all year round to the point that he hasn't even bought new clothes until now."

The old lady was still sobbing. "My grandson is already in fourth grade now, but I don't have the money for his tuition. I don't even have the money to buy him something to eat. In the past ten years I've been in the Dixon family, I bought groceries, did laundry, cooked, and served the old man as if I'm serving my first husband. I treated him as my family and the person that is closest to me."

Chapter 1689

“However, I can’t raise my grandson. They were not willing to raise my grandson and said that they don’t have the obligation. I truly regret it very much. I’m only fifty-six now. There should still be people who want me if I were to become their nanny. After my divorce, I’ll find a place that includes meals and accommodation. I’ll earn money for my grandson, support his education, and let him grow up to be a man. Am I at fault? I don’t want to be with you. I simply just don’t want to be with you anymore. Is that not alright?”

The staff was speechless. He was simply stunned.

“Please hurry up and process my divorce!” said the old lady with unparalleled resolution. ①

The staff nodded. “Alright, Ma’am!”

He paused then looked at Neo, who was still stunned. “Sir, you were a teacher, right?”

right?”

Neo glared at the old lady, and then said to the staff, “That’s right! I am an educated person that is very easy to communicate with. Just tell me directly if you have anything to say!”

“How much is your monthly salary, Sir?”

“It was six thousand dollars a month five years ago, and I had an increment later on. Now, my pension is seven thousand two hundred dollars each month.”

“It’s like this, Sir. For your house and other properties that were acquired before the marriage, this old lady will not be able to take any of it away. However, as for the ten years of your salary since the day you married this old lady, if the first five years was six thousand dollars a month, then it would be three hundred and sixty thousand dollars in the five years. If the five years is seven thousand two hundred a month, then it would be eighty-six thousand four hundred dollars a year. That’s four hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars in five years. In total, that’s seven hundred and ninety-

total, that's seven hundred and ninety-two thousand dollars. In this seven hundred and ninety-six thousand four hundred, this old lady has half of it. Sir, if you were to get divorced, then you have to pay this ma'am three hundred and ninety-eight thousand two hundred dollars for her pension." The staff looked at Neo without any expression at all.

Neo was stunned back then, and could not say anything for a long while.

"Sir, you have to three give this ma'am three hundred and ninety-eight thousand two hundred dollars. After rounding up, it's four hundred thousand dollars."

Four hundred thousand dollars.

Neo was instantly annoyed. "By what virtue! This is my salary!"

"By the virtue of her being your wife!" the staff said.

"I object!"

The staff continued calmly. "You can take it to court. However, I will tell you this

it to court. However, I will tell you this first, you should pay this ma'am four hundred thousand dollars and not a single penny less. If you've lost the lawsuit, you'll be paying the legal fees."

Neo was speechless. He was so pissed off that he almost fainted.

The old lady, on the other hand, looked at the staff with a grateful expression. "Young man, you...are an understanding person. Thank you, young man."

The staff said with a smile instead, "Ma'am, I have already understood this situation. The marriage between you and this educated person indeed is not suitable to be continued. I will process your divorce now. However, you must fight for your share of the property. Four hundred thousand dollars is enough for you to retire and raise your grandson."

The old lady shook her head. "Young man, what you mean is that after I've married him, his salary in those ten years was considered his, but it's also considered mine?"

was considered his, but it's also considered mine?"

"Of course!"

"I also...also have the right to spend and take money?" asked the old lady again.

"Of course, you have the right to take your own money and your husband's money!"

The old lady instantly felt relieved. She laughed suddenly. She thought to herself that she did not need to be imprisoned anymore. The fifty thousand dollars she had taken from the house was hers. It turned out that it was not considered theft for her. Also, she had only taken fifty thousand dollars. It was still a lot short of four hundred thousand dollars.

"Young man, I don't want the properties. Just process my divorce now," said the old lady calmly.

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Chapter 1690

“Ma’am, have you thought it through? Are you truly going to give up such a big sum of money?” The young man felt that it was a pity for the old lady.

The old lady was not a person who was greedy for money. She also knew that the staff was just trying to seek justice for her. However, the old lady had already figured it all out within a few minutes. She was alone, and she still had to take care of her grandson in the future. Even if she forcibly took it to court to ask for the four hundred thousand dollars, it was anyone’s guess whether it could truly be executed in the end. She had no energy to take on such a long lawsuit. Besides, Neo had an extensive social network. The accommodation for the faculty members was filled with his colleagues and relatives. 1

However, what about her? Her only son was still in prison. She had no way to truly take back those four hundred thousand dollars at that moment. Since

thousand dollars at that moment. Since she already knew she could not take that money back, she also did not want to waste her effort anymore. The only thing she wanted at that moment was to get divorced and leave that family as soon as possible. After that, she could go find another job and spend the remaining days of her life properly raising her grandson.

Also, she felt that at least she had already taken fifty thousand dollars, so she was not completely at a loss, and it was considered normal usage. This was already considered the best. After she understood that, the old lady said with unparalleled determination. "I don't want the money anymore! I just want to quickly get divorced. It would be best if it can be done immediately."

The staff immediately obeyed. "Alright, Ma'am. I will process it for you immediately."

After saying that, the staff then looked at Neo. "Sir, may I have your identification documents and also your marriage

documents and also your marriage certificate? I will process it for you now.”

“No! I don’t want a divorce! We...can still discuss again...” Neo was panicking slightly.

To be honest, he had already gotten used to having Cecilia serving him in the past ten years. Cecilia was ten years younger than him. When she married him, she was only forty-six years old and was still very young. At that time, he had needs, and she still had a little charm. He actually had been very happy in his heart for a long time for getting himself such a young wife.

Besides, she had usually been playing her role very well. He did not give her money, and she had never asked for it. He did not buy her any clothes, and she was also not particular about it. She had been buying groceries and cooking every day, and she managed everything very neatly. She was also very thrifty. He made the rule to record all transactions for buying groceries and whatnot, and she had always recorded it very clearly. ①

always recorded it very clearly. ①

Actually, Neo had been very at ease in his heart about this wife from his second marriage. She did not spend much, did not create any trouble, and also took great care of him. Her cooking skills were getting even better too. Neo indeed had long been unaccustomed to eating outside food. He had originally thought that as long as he could control his wife in this life and reprimanded her, then it certainly was not a problem for her to serve him for life. However, he never expected that it had only been ten years, and his wife was so determined on divorcing him. There was not even a little room for discussion.

At that moment, he was slightly in a panic. He originally wanted to say something appeasing, but the old lady did not let him. She just snatched the marriage certificate and his identification documents from his hand and handed them to the staff. The staff then processed their divorce application very quickly. When they signed and stamped their fingerprints, Neo was in a

their fingerprints, Neo was in a dumbfounded state. After she got the divorce certificate, the old lady left without looking back at all. She suddenly felt very at ease. She raised her head to look at the sky, then she smiled to herself.

It was not too late. It was not too late yet. She was only fifty-six years old. If she worked another ten years and endured more hardships, she could still raise her grandson. Although her grandson had been poorly dressed and did not eat well growing him, he was a very sensible and obedient child. He also has a very good academic performance.

In a few years, her son would be released from prison, and then the three of them would be able to live a good life together. The fifty-six-year-old woman also has a blueprint for her ideals in her heart.

After coming out of the city hall with the divorce certificate, she never looked back at Neo again.