

Chapter 474

After Patrick went home, he couldn't find Christina in the bedroom. He asked the servant and found out that Christina had gone to the nursery.

[In the nursery.]

The nanny and maids who took care of the baby looked at Christina in surprise.

Christina sat by the baby's bed with a fairy tale book in her hand. She was telling the baby a story.

"After defeating the evil witch, the prince and princess got married in the castle." She told the story of Snow White.

Then, Christina closed the fairy tale book and told the baby seriously, "Son, this fairy tale is actually a lie."

The baby didn't understand.

Christina reached out and pinched Small's chubby face. The baby smiled so contentedly that his eyes narrowed.

Big barely laughed or cried since he was born. However, Small looked at Christina with his bright eyes as if he was trying his best to remember his mommy. He was very focused and serious, and it looked very funny.

Every time Christina was in a bad mood, she liked to come to the nursery to play with the baby.

Senior Mr. Hopkins set a time limit for her to stop disturbing the child's rest. But when Christina was angry, she didn't care about these restrictions, and the servants didn't dare to stop her.

An old nanny stepped forward and said, "Madam, it's getting late. You'd better go back to bed early. The child is almost going to sleep..."

Christina turned around and her face darkened. "I haven't finished telling my son the story yet."

The old nanny was sent by Senior Mr. Hopkins, and she was not afraid. "Madam, you have finished telling that story. Please don't disturb the child's rest anymore. If the child doesn't get enough sleep, Senior Mr. Hopkins will blame..."

Christina said coldly, "You can complain to Senior Mr. Hopkins now."

No matter what, Christina was the granddaughter-in-law of the Hopkins family, and the nanny was just a servant. Although the old nanny was a little angry, she did not dare to say anything more and only warned Christina.

"If lack of sleep affects the child's health, I won't be responsible for it."

"It's none of your business!" Christina could not bear it any longer.

The old nanny was startled by her, and the rest of the maids did not dare to speak.

There were so many rules in the Hopkins family. In order for her babies to be as outstanding as Patrick when they grew up, Christina could bear it, but she couldn't tolerate a servant's provocation.

Christina ignored them, reached out, and rubbed the twins' curly hair in boredom. The babies were not afraid of her and let her rub them. They waved their hands and giggled, and they fluttered their little bodies and tried to climb to her side.

"After the prince and princess got married, one day, they quarreled."

Christina continued to tell the story to her twin sons. As she spoke, she picked up them and kissed them on their chubby faces.

"The prince didn't allow the princess to eat and that the castle belonged to the prince. Everyone must listen to him," Christina said with an angry expression.

The twins fixed their big clear eyes on her as if they could understand her.

"Then, in a fit of anger, the princess ran away from home."

The maids standing by were surprised. Did the fairy tale develop like this?

Christina tucked the twins in and played with the baby for a while. She was in a much better mood and smiled. "Don't worry. I'll take you with me when I run away from home."

"Young Master Hopkins."

The nanny turned around and found Patrick outside the door.

When Christina heard this, she immediately got up without looking at Patrick. She walked past him and walked out of the nursery.

Patrick stood there and did not reach out to stop her. He turned his head and watched her walk past him.

The maids in the nursery also felt that it was a little strange. Did they quarrel?

It was very common for couples to quarrel after marriage. Christina figured out that marriage was indeed a very boring thing.

But it was too empty to live alone for the rest of one's life.

So when a man married a woman and gave birth to a child, they would spend the rest of their lives together. This was similar to doing business together. With a child, there would be common interests. Those fairy tales would always end in the marriage because the author did not want to write about the messy life after marriage.

Christina didn't even want to argue anymore now.

She was not as angry as before. She didn't throw pillows or lock the bedroom door to prevent Patrick from coming in. Now, even if they slept together, they were on the edges of the bed and had nothing to say.

Late at night, most lights in the bedroom were turned off, and the bedside lights were dim, illuminating Christina's sleeping face.

Christina had to turn on the bedside lights at night before she could fall asleep.

Patrick, on the contrary, slept soundly in a dark bedroom, but after marriage, he got used to it.

It was dark outside the window and it was quiet at night. Patrick was not sleepy and did not hug her as he usually did. He fixed his eyes on Christina's side face.

He didn't explain what happened this afternoon to her, and he didn't intend to explain it to her.

He was thinking about a question. Christina might be angry for a long time this time.

The next morning, Christina deliberately woke up very late. She was not willing to get up until Patrick left because she didn't want to see him or talk to him.

Christina went back to the company. She had no pressure in Shepherd's company and she just needed to memorize the manuscript. If she didn't have to go there, she would be really free.

In the afternoon, she made an appointment with Crystal and skipped work.

"Let's go to the hospital to see Derek. The last time I went to his apartment, Larry said he was hospitalized."

Since the last pregnancy test at the Hopkins family with a pregnancy test stick, Crystal had been out of spirits and was not in the mood to work. So she sneaked out with Christina.

"Well, I haven't told Chandler yet." Crystal was so dejected that she almost bumped into the tree next to her when she walked.

"Why?"

Christina was decisive and she did not understand Crystal's hesitation. "If you're really pregnant, Chandler has the right to know..."

At this time, Christina remembered that Patrick was inexplicably furious yesterday and dragged her to the hospital for a pregnancy test. Suddenly, her face also darkened.

Christina cursed in a low voice, "Bastard, bastard."

Crystal saw her angry look and smiled. "Are you arguing with Patrick again?"

"He thought I was pregnant, so he took the pregnancy test stick with two red bars and flew into a rage at me."

Crystal was surprised. "So Patrick thought that was the result of your pregnancy test. Didn't you say that you throw the pregnancy test stick away?"

"I don't know." Thinking about this, Christina was still very angry.

"Even if you're pregnant, he should be happy..."

Crystal couldn't figure it out. With Patrick's temper, he was unlikely to lose his temper with Christina. After thinking for a while, she said, "Maybe he thinks that having twins is enough? And there's no need to have another child?"

Christina was very angry. "He couldn't wait to drag me to the hospital. In front of the doctors and nurses, he asked me to do all kinds of tests to test my pregnancy as if I was pregnant with the child of someone else."

When Crystal heard this, she didn't know what to say.

Generally speaking, a man as rational as Patrick could not be so impatient and out of control for no reason.

Patrick always dealt with matters calmly.

The more Christina thought about it, the angrier she became. "I can't communicate with him now. I don't want to talk to him anymore!"

Crystal advised her, "You should have a talk. If he doesn't say it and you don't ask, then you won't know what the problem is."

Christina was furious. "Stop talking about him. I'll take the twins back to the Dickens family this weekend. Since grandpa won't let me take care of the children, I'll take them away secretly. I don't want to see anyone in the Hopkins family now and I even hate the servants."

She turned around and looked at Crystal. Christina said in a low voice. "Ask Chandler to accompany you to the hospital for a B Ultrasound to confirm if you're pregnant. If Chandler is not happy that you're pregnant, call me. I'll go beat him up... Men are all assholes." Christina gritted her teeth in anger.

Crystal saw that Christina was angry and nodded wisely. "Yes, I know."

After walking out of the company, Christina called Larry first. After confirming the hospital ward, she bought some cakes.

"Derek likes cake?" Crystal was a little surprised.

"Yes, he likes sweet food very much."

Everyone had some habits. Derek had no requirements for food, but he liked sweet food personally. Only people who knew him well knew it.

Crystal smiled, "Very few men like sweet food."

Christina replied subconsciously, "Patrick hates sweet food."

Crystal turned to look at her and suddenly smiled. Though they quarreled, Patrick had become a part of Christina's life.

The two of them went to the ward together.

From a distance in the corridor, they could see Derek by the hospital bed easily. He was so handsome that his side face was enough to make him stand out.

When they walked in, Derek lowered his head and was thinking about something with a cup of hot water in his left hand. Then, he put his right hand into the cup...

"What are you doing?" Crystal looked at it and immediately exclaimed.

"The boiling water is very hot."

Crystal was used to taking care of Geoffrey. She subconsciously ran over to take away the steaming cup and scolded Derek as if she was talking to the child, "Derek, you can't play with boiling water like this!"

Christina knew him better. She frowned and walked to his bed to sit down. First, she looked at Derek's corrugated brow and looked down at his fingers, which were red from the boiling water.

"Don't you feel it's hot?" Christina looked straight at him and asked hesitantly.

There was a hint of panic in Derek's eyes, but it seemed that he didn't want anyone to know it. He said casually. "I just want to test the temperature."

"Larry told me that you couldn't taste the porridge. Is that true?"

Christina stared at him with her deep eyes and asked him, "Tell me the truth. What's going on?"

When Crystal heard this, she realized that Derek seemed to be seriously ill and she became nervous. "What's wrong? Tell us."

Why did he lose his taste?

Derek tilted his head slightly as if he didn't want to look Christina in the eye. He held Christina's wrist with his red hand, and he suddenly held her very hard.

Christina did not understand what he was doing, but she did not push his hand away and looked at him strangely.

He didn't let go of her hand until Derek thought that it was enough.

Derek looked calm.

Christina continued to ask him, "What's the result of the hospital examination? You said your body hurt a lot before, and now will it..."

"The doctor doesn't know." Derek had always been very honest with her.

But there were some things that Derek didn't want to tell her. He clenched his fists and didn't feel anything.

He couldn't feel anything. It was as if he was numb and he couldn't feel cold or warm. Even if he held Christina's wrist, he no longer felt any warmth.

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Subtext: yesterday, for the first time on new year's day, a chicken soup was added to the public number, the public number "Ls jun."

The editor said that the readers thought you were dead. I: ... "" silent

I don't have any great ideals, just to share some beautiful and interesting things.

If you're interested, come over and take a look. I'll try my best to reply to your private letter in time. Wave it.



Super Like



Comment

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Christina looked at Derek for a while, feeling a little at loss. She immediately got up to look for the medical record and a pile of CT reports hanging at the end of the bed.

All indicators of his physical examinations were quite good, and the CT test for his brain also showed normal.

Derek himself had a Ph.D. in medicine, and his talent was extraordinary. He knew it better than many authorities. But now, he did not understand what was wrong with his body, and these doctors could not help him.

Crystal didn't know much about medicine and suggested, "Why don't we go to another hospital or go abroad for a checkup..."

Derek did not panic at all.

He looked indifferent and looked at the calendar hanging on the wall. Three days later, it would be the fifteenth of the month, a day of a full moon.

"Bae, I'm leaving the hospital." He suddenly told to her in a low voice.

Christina disagreed, "You haven't been diagnosed yet. Why do you leave the hospital? Just stay there."

Derek was more stubborn than anyone else. When he said he wanted to be discharged, he mean exactly what he said.

He got up and went under the bed to take out a bag. There were several files with copies of the contract documents in the bag. He handed it to her.

"What is this?"

Derek looked at her and hesitated, "Help me hand it to Peter. It's... It's the company's documents."

Hearing that they were company documents, Christina took them without further concerns.

Suddenly, an acquaintance stood at the door, "It turns out that you spend all day outside dealing with a man. Now I'll see how you explain it." Ms. Hopkins took a picture of Christina and the others with her phone.

Christina turned around and immediately became angry, "Ms. Hopkins, you can still run around in the hospital after being hospitalized. Is your leg okay?" She gritted her teeth.

"Oh, what do you want to do, scare me?"

Ms. Hopkins was smashed by something last time, now she had recovered 70% from her injuries. She was still in a cast, and neither of them had a good temper when they met.

Ms. Hopkins looked as if she had something against Christina and said coldly, "Christina, you have married into my

Hopkins family. How dare you hook up outside..."

Christina was angry. The last time Ms. Hopkins was smashed by something in the leg and she inexplicably said that Christina was the one who did it. This was slander.

This Ms. Hopkins did not know how to behave properly as an elder. Christina also directly rebuked her angrily, "Ms. Hopkins, you are married to another family already, but you always speak 'we the Hopkins family'. Now that you are a daughter-in-law of another family, won't you be embarrassed if you always talk about 'we the Hopkins family'?"

Ms. Hopkins looked furious hearing Christina surprisingly saying this, "You, you flirtatious bitch..."

Christina had argued with Ms. Hopkins too many times. So she pretended not to care and ridiculed, "Ms. Hopkins, you act as if you were a princess with such a bad temper. You are no longer young, and still, you take yourself as the young Miss Lassie of the Hopkins family. I really pity your daughter, your daughter-in-law, and your granddaughter. They must extremely hate you secretly. You have to have some self-awareness."

"Patrick, look at your wife. How vicious she is..."

Ms. Hopkins suddenly raised her voice and let out a cry of grievance.

Christina's expression changed slightly. She looked at the corridor. Patrick and Charles were walking towards her.

They heard Christina's last sentence clearly.

Vicious.

Christina did not want to refute at all. She did not want to be humiliated by these so-called elders of the Hopkins family. She did not want to endure it any longer.

Lassie limped and dragged her leg in a cast. She anxiously walked to Patrick's side, used her phone to show the picture she had just taken of Christina and Derek leaning close together, "Patrick, look, look at your wife, she's with another man..."

Patrick glanced at the screen and then looked up at her.

Christina found it amusing. She finally understood why Patrick looked like that when he dragged her to the hospital for pregnancy tests. At that time, he thought she was cheating on him and that she had another lover. He had never really trusted her.

The most serious taboo for a daughter-in-law from a rich and powerful family was to avoid having too much contact with other men. If she shook hands or met with another man other than her husband, she would be accused of cheating even when there was no evidence for such accuse.

Christina looked cold, then she approached the door. Then, she stretched out her right hand and slammed the door of the ward.

Ms. Hopkins and the others stood outside the ward, hearing a bang. Christina looked gloomy. She didn't want to talk to these people at all.

The door was closed, but it did not mean that people outside the door could not come in. Patrick turned the door open and looked at Christina with complicated eyes.

"Derek, what's wrong?" He suddenly asked.

Crystal was in the ward. She nervously approached Christina and whispered near her ear, "Please talk properly." Crystal was afraid that Christina's sudden impulse would make the atmosphere even more stifling.

Christina suppressed her irritation and looked at Patrick coldly. She did not lose her temper and tried to ask calmly, "Can you help him?"

Such a question was like a request between strangers.

"Your relative is very ugly."

Derek walked up to Christina as if deliberately blocking her behind him. His blue eyes looked at Patrick, then he calmly told Patrick, "The people around you are really annoying."

Derek didn't usually talk to people. The two men looked at each other. What Derek had just said obviously showed that he hated people from the Hopkins family. Those people were mean, ferocious, and scheming in rich families.

Larry also barged in. He came to help with handling procedures for being discharged from the hospital. He glanced at Patrick in the ward. Subconsciously, he was the one who did not like people from the Hopkins family. However, rationally speaking, Larry hoped that Patrick could help. After all, Derek's medical situation was very complicated.

Derek seemed to have ignored Patrick's existence. He said to Christina, "Don't lose the bag." He rarely warned her like this.

Christina's hand was held by Derek, which seemed like the last handshake. Derek looked at her with deep eyes and said in a deep and mellow voice, "Bae, I'm leaving."

Christina was slightly stunned and her mind was in a trance for a moment. When she tried to hold him back with force, Derek simply let go of her hand.

Derek and Larry walked out of the ward.

She just looked at Derek's slender and erect back. Derek seemed to have gotten rid of this disease and looked relaxed, calm, and elegant.

But this fine figure was so difficult to keep and made people feel like it would disappear.

Outside the door, Ms. Hopkins stood and watched the show. She didn't mind drawing others' attention and shouted, "Oh, look, he must have done something bad, so now he leaves in such a hurry..."

When Christina passed Lassie, she suddenly kicked her.

"Ah!"

Lassie's broken leg was in a cast, and the other leg of hers was suddenly kicked hard by Christina. She lost her balance and fell back to the ground, screaming in embarrassment.

Charles nearby was stunned by this. For a moment, he forgot his gentlemanly demeanor and did not help. He looked at Christina leave without looking back, who left arrogantly.

"Stop, stop her. It hurts so much..."

Ms. Hopkins's face was ferocious and she wanted to get up to fight Christina.

In the corridor of the hospital, she shouted angrily, "You saw it. You saw it just now. This Christina is evil. Such a vicious woman should be divorced. We the Hopkins family don't want such a granddaughter-in-law..."

Christina could hear Lassie crying and howling from afar. Crystal quickly caught up with her and whispered, "Hi, is it really okay to kick her like that?"

Crystal felt that this Lassie was not an easy piece to deal with and she would definitely make a scene.

Christina felt no guilty and said calmly, "I've wanted to kick her for a long time."

Hearing her saying this so honestly, Crystal did not know what to say, feeling angry and also amused.

That night, Ms. Hopkins called the Hopkins family and complained to Senior Mr. Hopkins about being publically kicked by Christina in the hospital. She said that Christina was disrespectful and had a bad temper. In short, Christina did not deserve to be the granddaughter-in-law of the Hopkins family.

"Dad, to show Patrick a favor, I forgive her for kicking me... But you mustn't let her have too many contacts with the twins at home. The children are too young to know right and wrong. A wicked mother like Christina will definitely implicate the babies in the future."

Lassie knew what her father cared most about, that was, the heirs to the Hopkins family, which were the root of a family in every elder's mind.

After hanging up the phone, Senior Mr. Hopkins frowned and remained silent.

The old butler, who had been accompanying him for many years, called out, "Old Master, don't worry too much. Children have their own blessings."

The twins were naturally great-grandchildren, but the old butler knew that in Senior Mr. Hopkins's heart, Patrick was his favorite as he brought Patrick up personally. If it hadn't been for this, Senior Mr. Hopkins wouldn't have agreed to Patrick's marriage with Christina, Judging by her position. If Patrick liked something or someone, Senior

Mr. Hopkins would let Patrick have them.

"What did the nanny come to tell you yesterday?"

Though Senior Mr. Hopkins was old, he was not confused nor stupid. The nanny from the nursery came to Northern Garden to complain. He did not interfere in these trivial matters, but he generally knew that there was such a matter.

The old butler did not dare to hide it, "It was said that Christina went to the nursery at night to read fairy tales to the children... That story was a little special and slightly affected the child's sleep."

When Christina arrived at the Main Residence for dinner at night, she already felt the tension in the atmosphere. But she did not want to say it out, she then lowered her head to eat as usual.

People in the Hopkins family didn't usually chat a lot at the dining table, as they followed family rules strictly.

Christina was in a bad mood tonight and had no appetite. She took a few small bites, put down her chopsticks, got up, and said, "Please excuse me."

She got up and left the table first, and grandpa and the others didn't say anything.

But not long after Christina left the Main Residence, someone followed her. She turned around and saw that it was the old butler.

"Did Ms. Hopkins call to complain?" Christina asked coldly without waiting for him to speak.

The old butler looked at her pretty face, a face which did not know to reserve feelings. The old butler had seen many ladies that were born in rich and powerful families and had angelic and beautiful faces. They all had their unique features. But in the Hopkins family, people usually subconsciously restrained their real selves. Also, members of the Hopkins family had always preferred a low-key and noble daughter-in-law. A woman like Christina was never the first choice for a granddaughter-in-law in the Hopkins family.

Christina didn't like to be looked at like this. She felt like she was being picked by others as if she were a piece of fat pig meat. She felt very uncomfortable.

Christina was very frank, "This afternoon, I kicked her on purpose." Her eyes were clear and she did not sound guilty at all, "Because I don't like her. She spoke terribly."

"Ms. Hopkins, she is your senior elder no matter what."

The old butler was lecturing on behalf of Senior Mr. Hopkins because there were many things that were not suitable for Senior Mr. Hopkins to say directly. So he asked the old butler to speak for him, so as not to break the relationship between him and Christina.

Christina was in a bad mood and didn't want to hear this. She asked directly, "So what? Does grandpa want me to go to the hospital to apologize to Lassie? Or do you want she to kick me back?"

The old butler looked at her beautiful face and the arrogance and wildness in her eyes.

"Senior Mr. Hopkins just wants you to learn to be more mature and steady. Don't make the house restless. As the future hostess of the Hopkins family, you have a lot to learn..."

Christina interrupted and suddenly sneered, "Tell grandpa that I don't deserve to be the hostess of the Hopkins family."

When the old butler heard her say that, his face immediately became serious, "You can't say such things casually."

"Don't you know what grandpa's daughters are like?"

Christina simply spoke things clearly and looked straight at him.

"You're just protecting your own people and you think they are right. I'm a granddaughter-in-law, a daughter from another family. So you should require me to be a decent and noble wife, a good mother. I'm sorry, I can't imitate Ms. Hopkins's tone. I know I'm not the most ideal granddaughter-in-law in your mind. Why don't you listen to her suggestion and ask Patrick to divorce me directly? I don't have a say. You can do whatever you want!"

In the end, she didn't hide her anger.

Christina turned around angrily and left.

The old butler was left in a daze. Others would kill for the title as a daughter-in-law of the Hopkins family. However, she easily said the word "divorce."

At the gate of the Main Residence, Patrick stood upright under the dark night. The night wind blew over. He had heard clearly what Christina and the old butler said just now.



Super Like



Comment

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Everything seemed to be the same except for Christina, who had recently become very silent.

Strictly speaking, she didn't like anyone here staying in the Hopkins family now. In addition, she was not even willing to talk to Nancy, the maid closest to her.

"Since grandpa doesn't think I deserve to be the mother of the twins and doesn't let me see them, then why doesn't he find a new mother for the children!"

Christina was outside the nursery. The old nanny and a few maids stopped her from going in to see the twins. So she immediately lost her temper.

The old nanny and a few maids were for grandpa, and they were old and somewhat arrogant. They had already known what always happened to rich families and wives thereof would be forced to divorce by being paid much. The old nanny especially did not like a woman like Christina at all. Christina did not know how to curry favor with others, and even if she married into a rich family, she would gain nothing. So the nanny did not take what Christina did seriously at all.

"Please don't make things difficult for us, it's all up to your grandpa." The old nanny said respectfully, but her eyes had a glint of provocation.

"Okay, okay, how dare I make things difficult for you!" Christina gritted her teeth.

It was today that she said something unpleasant and burst in. These servants immediately went to complain.

"I'm telling you now that I'm coming over this weekend to take my two sons away from home. You'd better keep an eye on me, or I'll run away with the children, and all of you will be punished by grandpa then."

Christina said fiercely, "See and wait!"

After all, Christina had been spoiled by people since she was a child. She had been with Patrick for two years and had learned to show willfulness. The nanny and maids were a little scared by her.

The old nanny, however, scolded, "What are you afraid of her for? A woman like her won't be in this family for long." The nanny has met so many rich ladies and none of them were as ostentatious as Christina.

In the company, Crystal suddenly offered to skip work. "Christina, can you accompany me for the B Ultrasound?"

Christina had been very annoyed in the Hopkins family recently. She looked up at her old friend and asked, "Will Chandler not go with you?"

Crystal lowered her head in shame. "In fact, I didn't dare to tell him myself."

"You coward!" Christina slapped the table and got angry.

Others around them all turned to look at them and most of them looked at Crystal with sympathetic eyes. In recent days, Christina had been working unhappily. Everyone was very sensible and did not dare to disturb Christina. However, Crystal was unlucky to anger her.

Others didn't know what happened actually, who only knew Christina was bad-tempered. It was obvious that they could tell Christina was in a bad mood.

Christina dragged Crystal out of the company and glared at her with hatred. "It's been so long, Crystal. You're too timid!"

Crystal stammered in a low voice, "I'm just worried that if I'm really pregnant, the Stephenson family people will think it's too sudden. If I'm not pregnant, it's not good to make a fool of myself!"

"You worry about everything useless all day long. Have you ever thought about yourself and the baby in your belly?"

Christina was very angry and she spoke quickly and vented her anger. "We can't just tolerate it. We must fight back when necessary. Do you know that those people really went too far? Why should we stand it? I won't tolerate it!"

Christina said these to Crystal and herself, who had been really upset in the Hopkins family recently.

"Now, let's go to the hospital for a B Ultrasound pregnancy test immediately!"

She immediately called a taxi, lest Crystal would hesitate again.

Crystal followed Christina obediently and she also felt that she was too cowardly and sighed in her heart. Even after thinking deeply for several days, she still had no courage, so she asked Christina to accompany her to the hospital to confirm. She felt more at ease with Christina.

Christina was efficient. The two of them queued up to register. They met the gynecologist and went to the examination room. Soon, the B Ultrasound results came out.

"She has been pregnant for four weeks."

"You need to take folic acid early and get the nutrients... You must pay attention to the fetus in the first three months. Don't eat some inedible food. Don't stay up late and don't lift heavy things..."

As the doctor wrote down the nutrition list, he talked about the precautions for novice mothers during pregnancy.

When Christina heard that, she suddenly felt a little depressed. In the past, she had heard these words all day long when she was pregnant. Time passed so quickly that her twin son was almost a year old.

Crystal, on the other hand, was completely confused.

Crystal was not in the mood to hear what the doctor say after the doctor said "pregnant for four weeks", and she put her hand on her abdomen and her mind went blank. She was excited and also felt unbelievable.

"Silly?" Christina laughed and shook her.

The gynecologist also smiled when he saw Crystal's dazed look. "There are a lot of new mothers who have been diagnosed with pregnancy being dazed for the first time. Next time, you should come with your husband for regular checkups, the hospital has some courses for prospective parents..."

"Patrick used to be very unhappy accompanying me to the hospital, but he also needed to go to class with me." Christina thought of the past and paused for a while.

She patted Crystal on the shoulder. "Don't worry, the Stephenson family people must be very happy to know that you are pregnant. After all, the child belongs to their Stephenson family and it should be easier to get along with Chandler who should like children."

Crystal smiled and nodded. "Chandler really likes children." Knowing how much Chandler loved Geoffrey now, Crystal thought he would definitely treat her baby well in the future.

Christina queued up to get the nutritious medicine. The hospital was crowded. She subconsciously protected Crystal. "Slow down, slow down."

Crystal smiled at her. "You've never been so careful when you were pregnant before."

"That's different. At that time, my pregnancy was just an accident. I was completely unprepared, and the doctor also said that you must pay attention to it in the first three months of pregnancy because you are a little weak."

Christina walked slowly out of the hospital with her. After thinking for a while, Christina added, "By the way, you can't eat crabs when you're pregnant."

"I know I can't eat crabs." Crystal seemed to know more than Christina did.

Christina smiled awkwardly. At first, she asked Patrick to fry crabs for her when she was pregnant, but in the middle of the night, her stomach ached. Later, both of them were scolded by grandpa.

Crystal was much more reliable, and Christina didn't worry about it. "Now, just think about how to tell Chandler about this. You can't delay it any longer. For your child, Crystal, you have to be strong."

Crystal's right hand kept stroking her abdomen. Pregnancy was a blessing to her, and she was in a state of excitement. "Got it. Got it."

"What are you talking about? Are you so happy?"

Suddenly, a familiar voice came from behind.

Both of them turned around at the same time and were slightly stunned. It was Peter.

"You two got off work early and ran to the hospital with such a silly smile. What happened?"

Peter was modest and humorous. He glanced at Crystal and guessed, "Is Chandler going to be a father?"

Crystal was a little shy.

Christina smiled. "You got it."

It was a good thing to be pregnant, and Christina felt that there was no need to hide it. Peter had been in the business world for a long time and was naturally more careful. Seeing that they were so happy to come out of the hospital, besides, Crystal kept her hands on her abdomen, he naturally guessed it.

"Peter, can you keep it a secret? I want to surprise Chandler." Crystal also followed Christina to call him that.

He smiled and nodded. "Of course, Chandler deserves this surprise."

"Where are you going now? Since Crystal is pregnant, don't wander around. Do you want me to drive you back?"

Christina and Crystal slipped out of the company, and Christina quickly spoke, "No, we drove here."

Peter was usually a busy man who had a lot of companies. Christina and Crystal only worked in one of his branches, so they rarely saw Peter.

Christina remembered the last time Derek asked her to bring a few documents to Peter, "Peter, wait a minute. I have a few documents in my car. Derek asked me to give them to you..."

Then she trotted into her car and found the briefcase that Derek had told her repeatedly.

Christina was very concerned because Derek rarely repeated one thing.

"These are not company documents." Peter took it and read French on the file, "These are all transfer agreements for you."

She was surprised. "For me?"

"But that day, he clearly said that he wanted me to give it to you..." Christina couldn't figure it out for a moment. She glanced at Peter and the file bag again. "He knows that I hate French the most and can't understand it. Why did he get me a few French documents? Is there something wrong?"

Peter also felt it was a little strange. "Do you need me to read it for you?"

Christina trusted him and muttered suspiciously, "Well, maybe he made a mistake with the envelope. Sometimes he just randomly scratches the waste paper and wrote..."

Peter didn't think so. Derek couldn't have made such a low-level mistake, except that he did it on purpose.

He opened the file bag and saw a few documents neatly printed out. Peter took them out finding they were all in

French. He quickly flipped through a few pages with Derek's autograph and seal.

Peter's face darkened as he watched.

"Is this, is this a company document or not?"

Christina did not understand why Peter's expression was suddenly so strange.

"Out of privacy, I don't think it's good to read it too carefully for you." Peter put the contract documents back in the file and returned them to her in a more serious tone. "This is for you."

She still didn't believe it. "Why did he give me a few documents?"

"He gave you not only documents but a lot of things." Peter didn't make it too clear. He sighed. "I don't understand why he did this. Go back and have a good look."

Christina felt strangely upset holding the file bag in her hand.

Derek knew that she couldn't understand French, but these documents were all written in French. Seemingly, he deliberately didn't want her to know it too early.

"What the hell is wrong with making up such an excuse that it's a company document?"

Recalling that time when Derek spoke to her, Christina felt it was a little strange. Derek was not good at lying to her. That day, he handed her the bag and hesitated before speaking.

"Is it related to his illness?" Crystal was also present at that time. Thinking of Derek's illness, Crystal thought it was very likely to have something to do with it.

"He can tell me directly. Is there a need to give me a stack of documents?"

Christina complained, but she began to feel uneasy.



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Chapter 477

Recently, the atmosphere in the Hopkins family was a little awkward mainly because Christina had a grim expression and didn't comprise to anyone.

But after Christina came back from outside tonight, she looked more worried and absent-minded at dinner in the Main Residence.

It was as if she was worried about another thing and had no time to take into account the resentment towards the Hopkins family.

Nobody spoke at the dinner table. Patrick came back to have dinner with the family tonight. He suddenly said, "I will bring the twins back to Eastern Garden..."

Senior Mr. Hopkins, who was sitting in the master seat frowned and looked at Patrick discontentedly.

The others at the same table all looked at Patrick at the same time, waiting for his following words.

But before Patrick could finish speaking, Christina stood up hurriedly. She didn't seem to have heard what Patrick said and appeared to be in a hurry, "Take your time. I'll go back to my bedroom first."

After saying that, Christina strode away from the table, ignoring the dining etiquette.

Judy looked at Christina's back with displeasure. But As the hostess of the Hopkins family, she knew more about etiquette and did not scold her. Everyone was staring at their life in the rich family all the time. What happened in their family would be known to others even if nobody said it.

Sure enough, Senior Mr. Hopkins showed a serious expression when he saw Christina leave the table in such a hurry.

Patrick didn't continue.

The atmosphere at the table suddenly became a little depressing. The old butler was disappointed with Christina because she did not care about Patrick's feelings at all. Christina was indeed incompatible with the Hopkins family.

Christina ignored their rules. The only thing she thinking about was to figure out what was going on with the French documents that Derek had given her.

She was good at English and Arabic but didn't know French at all.

"Where's Eric?"

With the document bag in her hand, Christina rushed back to Eastern Garden while making a phone call.

Larry answered the phone, "He's asleep... What's the matter with him?"

"I gave Peter the document bag that Derek asked me to take away when we are in the hospital last time, but Peter said it wasn't the company document... Did Derek take the wrong document or something?"

Christina said with unconscious tension.

"If it's not an official document, it should be for you." Larry's voice was a little cold.

Although he didn't know what the document was, at least it was impossible for Derek to take the wrong document. Derek must have done it on purpose.

"Ask Eric to answer the phone. I want to ask him what documents he gave me. He knows that I hate French the most, and he still got me the French contracts..."

The more Christina thought about it, the more strange she felt.

"Derek was in a bad condition today and he needs a good sleep. He told me not to disturb him tonight... You can ask him tomorrow morning."

Hearing that Derek had been in poor health recently and was already asleep, Christina thought it was not appropriate to disturb him.

Christina forced herself to say patiently, "I see. I'll come tomorrow morning."

She had to immediately understand the contents of these French contracts. She rushed back to the bedroom and turned on her computer to find some online translations. But these French documents were really troublesome because they involved privacy and can't be read by outsiders. She irritably searched every keyword online and tried to understand the general meaning.

"Should I ask Patrick for help?" Such an idea flashed through Christina's mind.

Patrick was good at French, and if Derek needed to find doctors, Patrick would definitely be able to help.

But that day at the hospital, Derek obviously interrupted her, indicating that he didn't want Patrick to interfere.

Derek was especially stubborn since he was a child.

Thinking of this, Christina decided not to tell Patrick. After all, this was Derek's decision. She continued to bury herself in the pile of documents and focused on translating the French she hated most all night.

On the other side, Patrick went straight back to the study after dinner and was busy in the study all night.

In fact, at dinner, he wanted to say that he would let Christina take care of the twins so that she didn't have to go to work outside and could reduce the conflict with the Hopkins family.

"Derek..." Patrick sat back in his chair holding his pen. His deep eyes filled with mixed emotions.

He had a hidden sense of guilt towards Derek but he could not say it to Derek, nor could he say it to anyone.

That year, he and Derek were good friends. There were so many people trying to please Patrick, but he took the initiative to make friends with this autistic and talented illegitimate child of the Fisher family.

Derek was really smart. Apart from his outstanding appearance, his logical way of thinking often surprised Patrick.

Because of the strict education in the Hopkins family and the memories of his mother, Judy, betraying his father, Patrick had a deep dislike of women since he was a child.

Even though he was 22 years old that year, he had no experience in the relationship between men and women.

In his subconscious mind, business marriage was the best way to choose a partner.

The marriage did not require any emotional foundation but only required women to be loyal and give birth to an heir, even if they got divorced after that.

But that day, when he came back from abroad, he heard that Derek was near a college in C City. He was about to look for Derek, but he met Christina instead.

Christina was seventeen years old that year. She suddenly jumped down from a big tree and appeared in front of Patrick, throwing herself at him.

Christina appeared in Patrick's life before he could make any psychological preparation.

At that moment, Patrick admitted that he was really scared.

The most ridiculous thing was that Christina didn't even look at him seriously at that time. She got up in a panic but scolded him first.

It was just a small matter, but he could not help but recall her angry look, her voice, and her soft body the tenderness when she was in his arms.

He applied to be a teaching assistant at her university and sent people to visit her milk tea shop secretly, doing what he found extremely ridiculous for the rest of his life.

... Christina still didn't know him.

In the end, he realized that Derek came to C City that day to meet Christina. They had known each other since they were kids and were close friends.

Christina had such an outstanding man in her life long ago, so Patrick was always ignored.

Did he count as stealing his good friend's girlfriend?

Patrick threw the pen on the table with a cold expression. The guilty made him feel an uncontrollable panic every

time he met Derek.

Without his intervention, Derek and Christina might have... Many people say that they match each other very well.

"... She's mine now." Patrick muttered to himself in a low voice.

He had thought of giving up on her when he got angry because of being ignored. He couldn't tell if he couldn't afford to lose or why he was so persistent. The only thing he cared about was the result.

The computer screen suddenly flashed and a new email was in.

Patrick glanced at the screen and saw the message that he had marked as important. Then he sat upright and read it.

The email was about Christina's Ancient Coin that he had sent someone to investigate.

At first, he didn't care much. He took a picture and asked people to find out where the texture of the Ancient Coin came from but nobody knew.

The more unknown it was, the more Patrick began to pay attention to it.

"It was the Strozzi family's badge."

He frowned at the explanation in the email. It took him a long time to find out the real origin of the Ancient Coin.

The Strozzi family had a history of hundreds of years but there was no information on the exact time of their rise. The main business dealings of the Strozzi family were concentrated in Italy.

There was no information about the members of the Strozzi family. They rarely communicated with the outside world, and the transactions were handled indirectly by Italian company employees.

Patrick showed a serious expression, and he was very dissatisfied with the small amount of information.

He directly called the person in charge of the investigation, "How could you only find this after searching for so long..."

"Mr. Hopkins, we have tried our best. Even local businessmen in Italy don't know much about the Strozzi family..."

"But there's another piece of news about the leader of the Strozzi family. We're not sure if it's true, so we don't dare to write it in the email."

Patrick listened without saying a word. The man understood Patrick's temper and reported carefully.

"It is said that there is a custom in the Strozzi family. They will choose a leader. The leader would have absolute decision-making power, many wives, and many children. Therefore, internal strife in the family is also very serious."

After a pause, he added, "We suspect that the Ancient Coin obtained by Junior Mrs. Hopkins should come from someone who used to work on the island and stole it..."

Patrick asked, "What island?"

The man hesitated, "Mr. Hopkins, this matter... we don't know the details yet. The information we have found is limited. We heard it from a local old fisherman and didn't know whether it was true or not."

"The leader of the Strozzi family seems to live on an island in the Atlantic. The family tradition is that the leader and his wife and children are not allowed to leave the island for the rest of their lives... The shrill scream could be heard on every full moon day on the island. Even the moon looks like fishy red. Most of their leaders have physical defects or are short-lived."

"... There was a legend that a long time ago, the head of the Strozzi family had innate foresight and could communicate with others with telepathy. His ability and wealth expanded rapidly and he became greedy and arrogant. He killed countless people for selfish desires and was cursed in the end. Even if the descendants were also gifted, their bodies were tortured and they didn't end well..."

These are all "rumours," because there is really no real record in the book.

Moreover, those who were asked about the Strozzi family seemed to be in awe and did not dare to say anything. It was possible that the family had been too low-key and secretive for hundreds of years and had been deified. In any case, it was not easy to investigate thoroughly.

"Mr. Hopkins, please send someone to bring Junior Mrs. Hopkins's Ancient Coin to us for further investigation. It should be helpful."

Since the Strozzi family had been so secretive for so many years, how could a badge representing the leader of their family appear outside? At the beginning of their investigation, many famous collectors thought it was just a fake, but after repeated comparison, they confirmed that the Ancient Coin taken in the photo was genuine.

Patrick listened to this and remained silent.

He was not interested in the rumour of the Strozzi family, but he was thinking why Christina could get such a rare ancient coin.

"You have to investigate this matter further and I will send someone to send the Ancient Coins to Italy..." As Patrick spoke, he walked towards the rows of bookshelves on the right side of the study.



He opened the dark brown suitcase at the top of the fifth row of bookshelves and felt shocked.

It was empty.

The Ancient Coin was gone.

Patrick looked suspicious. He had put the Ancient Coin in this suitcase at that time. Because he didn't take it seriously at first, he didn't set the password. Besides, ordinary people couldn't come to the Hopkins family's study.

Did Christina take it?

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"... Ask Junior Mrs. Hopkins to come to the study." Patrick pressed the intercom on the table with a serious expression.



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Chapter 478

Christina felt dizzy after spending hours translating a few French contracts.

"... All the shares of the fund shall be given to Christina Dickens." Christina was shocked when she found her name in the translation.

She couldn't wrap her head around them. She looked at these contracts. They were contracts of bonds, shares in the fund, real estate, shares in the company, and so on.

She got no ideas about business matters. These documents were signed and sealed by Derek.

"What does this mean?" Christina muttered to herself, feeling uneasy.

Suddenly, the phone rang.

The sound drew her back. She grabbed her phone. It was a strange number.

"Is this Ms. Dickens?"

"Yes," Christina replied hesitantly.

The strange but steady voice said politely, "Hello, I'm the chief lawyer of ZX law firm..."

"Mr. Fisher entrusted me with transferring his personal properties, including his funds, companies, stocks, real estate, and 1.6 billion US dollars in cash..."

"I want to ask for your schedule first because the figure is substantial. I should come in person and discuss with you about transferring ownership and signing the contracts."

Christina didn't say a word and her mind was in a mess.

She hung up the phone with hardened features. And then got up and ran out immediately.

Why did Derek do that?

What happened to him?

A terrible feeling arose in her heart, but she wouldn't like to guess but see Derek in person. There was no time to waste. She needed to know everything.

When Christina ran out of the east court, a maid behind her shouted hurriedly, "Mrs. Dickens."

"Mrs. Dickens, Young Mr. Hopkins wants to meet you at the study."

Christina didn't even look back. "Tell him I'm busy now!" She ran to the garage and rushed toward the fastest sports

car.

"Mrs. Dickens, are you sure you are going out by this time?" The garage attendant handed her the key hesitantly.

"Maybe you need a driver."

Before he could finish, Christina's face darkened. She grabbed the car key as if she didn't want to waste any second.

She seemed to flew into the sports car. Then it was the whole process of starting, reversing, and turning within half a minute. The dazzling black Ferrari sports car soon disappeared like a wind with a shadow.

The garage attendant froze in a daze.

Not long after, a few more anxious figures rushed over. A maid shouted anxiously, "Mrs. Dickens!"

The maid ran out of breath. "Mrs. Dickens, where is she? Where is she now?"

These servants really couldn't catch up with Christina in terms of physical strength and running speed.

"She drove out."

The garage attendant told her what had happened, but he also felt something wrong about it. So he raised his hand nervously, seeing Patrick come toward.

"Young Mr. Hopkins." He called out immediately.

Patrick's face went an ugly green. He noticed that the Ferrari sports car was driven away. And judging from the tire marks on the garage floor, he knew how anxious Christina was just now.

All people were standing silently at the garage. Patrick was also silent. He then turned around and went back to the east park.

The garage attendant and the maid breathed a sigh of relief at the same time. "Well, I thought he was going to chase her immediately."

If he chased after her now, they would argue. Once Patrick and Christina get into a fight, no one can mediate them.

The maid said hesitantly. "Shall we tell Senior Mr. Hopkins?"

The garage attendant lit a cigarette and said indifferently, "It's normal for a couple to have quarrels. My wife and I also quarrel all day long. But nothing happens. Don't take it seriously."

Looking up through the large glass at the top of the garage, there is a full moon hanging in the sky.

The moonlight dripped faintly. It is a full-moon night.

"Don't you feel there was a scarlet of the moon tonight? The outline of its edge seemed to be dyed scarlet ..." The garage attendant looked at the moon and muttered.

"What?"

The maid didn't care about his sayings and hurried back to the east park. She had no time to think about whether the moon was round or not.

The moon shone.

Christina jumped two red lights, stepped on the gas pedal, and did not stop for half a second. Finally, she slammed the car outside Derek's apartment, slammed the door, and left it on the side of the road.

She drove so fast that the wind reddened her hair and messed her hair. Her body was cold, and her heart couldn't beat steadily.

She was so nervous that every cell of her body was trembling. She found the key to Derek's door in the storage box, and ran straight to the elevator. She didn't want to wait for one more second.

At the elevator, she tried to be patient and took a deep breath.

"Why do you give me inheritance for no reason?" Christina scolded angrily.

She got into the elevator, pressed the floor number hard, and stared at the jumping number. Her heart was filled with unease. She would not be excited because Derek had given her all his wealth. Derek was such a fool. What did he want to do this time?

"Are you feeling bad? Why don't you go to the hospital? Why don't you know you should go to the hospital after growing up?"

When she reached the floor on which Derek lived, Christina rushed over and slapped the door angrily. "Eric, come out!"

She shouted angrily and opened the door with the key.

She opened the door, stepped into the room with no light on. She didn't dare to breathe because she noticed something was different here.

First, she subconsciously reached out to turn on the lights. She tried twice but no light was turned on.

"Blackout?"

Christina was confused. "The lights of this building are all on, so it can't be a power failure." She turned on the flashlight of her phone.

Christina walked in step by step. "Eric," she shouted.

She suddenly stopped. The room was in a mess as if someone had smashed it. Then she heard the muffled gasp coming from the bedroom.

It seemed that someone was enduring all the pain and was trying not to cry out.

Christina could not care so much. Her heart was in her throat. She had always been afraid of the darkness and even had to turn on the lamp when she slept. Now she ran over immediately with the dim light.

In the dark bedroom, under the dim light of her cell phone flashlight, she couldn't see clearly what happened here.

The bedsheets were messy and torn, the wardrobe was broken, the furnishings at the head of the bed were scattered all over the floor, and on the back of the wooden door, there were five bloodstains.

It was as if someone could not bear the pain. The five fingers scratch the door hard to relieve the pain.

Christina was stunned. The room was filled with destruction and despair.

"Eric!"

Her phone flashed across the bed. Derek was struggling among clothes and sheets. His hands were holding a tie around his neck.

Her heart almost stopped. "What are you doing? Let go! You're strangling yourself!" She wrenched his hand away, gasped, and screamed. Her eyes were brimmed with tears.

"It hurts," Derek mumbled for help as a child with his last trace of reason.

Christina pulled off his tie and threw it far away.

"Eric, Eric..." Christina hugged his head and called out to him eagerly. When her hand touched his body, it was as cold as a corpse. She shook inside. Wounds covered his body, and sweat wet his hair.

Her fingers trembled as she reached his nose. He was almost out of breath.

Christina couldn't think straight for a long time as if her whole brain was in a daze.

It was not until she felt Derek was breathing. His heart beat and came back to his sense.

Christina told herself to calm down.

She got up and lay Derek flat on the ground. She had to turn on the power in the room first. He must have turned off the main switch.

Don't panic.

She took a few deep breaths. "It's okay, it's okay..." She murmured, comforting herself.

After finding the main switch, Christina felt a little uncomfortable with the light on, but in an instant, she could see how shocking and messy the scene was.

The apartment was locked and no one else sneaked in, so... Derek smashed it himself.

Christina immediately ran into the bedroom, and then she heard a voice, "No one could know." Derek, who was lying on the floor, said these words with all his efforts.

Under the bright light, his bruise, the mess, his broken fingers, and the blood on his hand shocked her. She cried because she was indeed scared.

"Eric, you must live..." She grabbed his hand hard and prayed, "It will be fine, it will be fine..."

Christina wiped away the tears from the corners of her eyes. She quickly calmed down and repeatedly confirmed that Derek was breathing and had an artery beating.

She was struggling. Should she call the ambulance?

Qiao bao' er sat quietly beside him. She kept pressing her hand on the main artery of his neck and felt the beating of the blood vessels. Her heart gradually calmed down.

In the end, instead of calling an ambulance, Christina called Larry and asked him to rush to Derek's apartment immediately.

"Now?" Larry was surprised to receive a call from Christina and asked, "But when I left this afternoon, Derek specifically told me not to go tonight."

"I, I want you to come over now!"

Christina was still willful and domineering, but everyone could tell her panic from her trembling voice.

Larry frowned but felt something unusual. He immediately replied, "I'll be there in 30 minutes."

After hanging up the phone, Christina still felt a little uneasy. Like someone with obsessive-compulsive disorder, she repeatedly confirmed Derek's breathing and heartbeat frequency.

Christina did not dare to drag him to the bed. She let him lie on the floor and covered him with a quilt.

During the 30 minutes, she couldn't help but think about some terrible things. To distract herself, she tidied up the room. She checked Derek's heartbeat every three minutes.

Someone was knocking on the door.

Christina quickly ran to open it. She was surprised.

Patrick stood outside the door, frowning and looking at her pale face.



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