

## Chapter 633 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free

Mrs. Livingstone even blurted out, "Surely that isn't a fake, right?"

But as soon as she said that, she felt that she must be mistaken-because a curious Cherry had already put the two Hearts of the Ocean together. Usually, there were differences in gemstones that ordinary people might not be able to pick out, but when good and bad ones were placed side by side, even with the naked eye, one should still be able to tell the difference. However, there was no difference between these two gems at all. It was as if they had been carved out of the same stone!

And of course, they did indeed come from the same rock.

When Louis saw this, he said annoyingly, "Wow, Cherry, your grandaunt is so rich! To think she can gift you a diamond worth millions of dollars as a gift!"

Cherry grinned at him. "Yeah! My grandaunt is really rich!"

Louis glanced at Mrs. Livingstone.

Mrs. Livingstone pressed the matter and asked, "Who is your grandaunt? We should have more or less heard of someone as rich and influential as her!"

Cherry rolled her eyes. "I'm not gonna tell you!"

Her grandaunt's business was involved in some shady dealings, so Cherry didn't want to reveal her identity and occupation.

Mrs. Livingstone, however, misunderstood. She immediately scoffed, "Ha, you're just afraid that we would recognize her, aren't you? Well, that makes sense. Since the Smiths can afford one gemstone, they can also afford two."

Louis went on the offensive at once. "Mrs. Livingstone, what do you mean by that? Are you saying that the Smiths bought this gem too in order to make Cherry look good?"

Mrs. Livingstone had truly shed all pretenses by then. She laughed and said, "Mr. Smith, we are not trying to mock Ms. Smith. In fact, we even find her very inspirational! But aren't you kinda overdoing it a little, and also being a little too protective?! Even if you're just acting, can't you at least give Cherry's grandaunt a noble identity that commands high prestige and respect?! If she's

just rich, then who knows whose money that is? All the rich people overseas are of high social status!”

Now, that was going too far.

The others were about to tell her to knock it off a little when the butler entered the hall in a panic again. He said, “Princess Lucy from the UK... is here!”

Everyone was dumbfounded when they heard him.

Princess Lucy from the UK?

Who was that?

Everyone looked at Justin, wondering if the Hunts had already reached such a height that they could even get the British royal family to visit in person and offer well-wishes to their children for their birthday?

One must know that the royal family did not easily establish good relations with wealthy families.

While everyone was marveling, someone asked, “Mr. Hunt, when did you make friends with the British royal family?”

Justin, however, frowned. Unlike everyone else, the princess’ arrival did not make him nervous. Instead, he calmly instructed the butler, “Everyone visiting is a guest. Show her in.”

“Yes, sir!”

The butler replied. Then, with his head down, he went out again.

After the butler left, Mrs. Livingstone looked at Cherry. “Which country is your grandaunt living in?”

Cherry tilted her head. “The UK!”

Mrs. Livingstone covered her mouth and laughed. “Oh my, would you look at that? Had you known that Mr. Hunt was acquainted with the British royal family, it would have been so impressive if you had gotten him to get the princess to give you a gift instead!” In other words, she was implying that the Smiths had messed up.

Even if they wanted to give her the gem, they should have gotten someone with a high social status to give it to her instead. Only then would it prove that Nora really was very impressive.

But as soon as she said that, Justin said, "I don't know them."

To be honest, he did.

However, the one he knew was not Princess Lucy but her mother instead-in other words, the Queen of the United Kingdom!

But he clearly remembered that because he hadn't sent the Queen an invitation because he wanted to keep the party low-profile. Besides, the children's fifth birthday was not a big occasion, either.

Could it be that the Queen-who was one fry short of a Happy Meal-had heard about his children's birthday, so she sent the little princess here to please him?

That was impossible, though... His identity shouldn't have been exposed yet. While Justin was thinking about it with a frown on his face, the butler had already led the distinguished guests in.

A little girl with blond hair and blue eyes walked in. She was fair-skinned, and her big eyes were bright and twinkling. Her curly shoulder-length hair was spread out slightly behind her, and her formal dress cinching her waist made her look slim and graceful.

Although she was only five, so her body hadn't grown and developed yet, the princess looked just like a doll, and was extraordinarily good-looking!

Behind the princess were a few bodyguards in professional attire. They scanned the surroundings vigilantly and protected the princess.

After Lucy entered, her big eyes blinked and she looked around.

Although she was young, her every move carried an air of nobility and elegance.

Justin took a step forward and came up to Lucy. He asked the attendant next to her, "Why is the princess suddenly visiting our humble abode?"

Princess Lucy was too young, so Justin couldn't be bothered to greet the child.

Besides, since she was so young, her attendants would surely somewhat be able to speak on her behalf.

With a smile, the attendant replied, "Relax, Mr. Hunt. Her Highness merely heard that it's her close friend's birthday, so she has come over to visit."

As soon as he said that, Justin narrowed his eyes.

The people around them who had heard the attendant were also surprised.

The princess' ... close friend's birthday?

Everyone turned and looked at Cherry, Pete, and Xander once more.

So, which one of them was the princess' friend?

Mrs. Livingstone didn't hear the exchange, so she was still a little dazed. She was standing at the side and speaking to Cherry.

"You see that princess over there? There's grace in her every action. Now, that's self-confidence that only a good family background can provide! What a shame that you didn't grow up in a good environment. Even if you're the young lady of the Hunts, you still don't have a bearing as outstanding as hers! I'm sure that just a few months ago, you'd never even dared imagine that you would ever see a princess, right?"

Cherry: "?"

Everyone around them: "?"

Everyone looked at Mrs. Livingstone as though they were looking at a fool!

Mrs. Livingstone didn't understand why everyone was staring at her. Instead, she continued speaking smugly. "What are all of you looking at me like that for? Am I wrong? You don't have the guts to say these things, but I do! And it isn't just Cherry but Ms. Smith, too. No matter what, it's just not good to grow up in a family like that..." Seeing her performing a one-man show over there, Cherry gave her a push and said, "Excuse me, granny, you are blocking my way!"

Mrs. Livingstone, who had been pushed aside, stumbled to the side.

She looked over and censured Cherry furiously. "That's so rude of you, Cherry. How can you treat your elders like that? You should learn from Princess Lucy, take a gander at her deportment and manners! ..."

She had only just spoken when she saw Cherry, with joy all over her face, lift her little skirt and run past her.

On the other side, Lucy had also finally found the little buddy she knew so well among the adults' legs. Her eyes lit up, and she also rushed over.

"Cherry!"

"Princess Lucy!"

The two little girls called out each other's names and rushed toward each other. The adults standing in between them stepped aside one after another and made way for them.

Thus, in full view of everyone present, the two little girls met at last.

At a distance of four inches apart, the two came to a stop. Both of them lifted their skirts and greeted each other elegantly, their movements were very regal and beautiful!

In addition, Cherry and Princess Lucy's movements were practically identical!

When they were done, the two little girls finally held each other's hands and started jumping about happily.

"Dear Lucy, why are you here?" asked Cherry.

Princess Lucy replied, "Because I missed you, my best friend!"

Cherry laughed loudly, her voice crisp and clear.

Princess Lucy smiled at her happily. Then, she said, "It seems that you have fallen behind quite a fair bit in your etiquette lessons during the last six months that we haven't met~! If Mrs. Steve hears of this, I'm afraid, she'd spank your bottom so hard it would split into two!"

Cherry stuck out her tongue. “You have also fallen behind in your etiquette lessons.”

Princess Lucy burst into laughter. “After you left, I made an excuse and stopped going to classes. Besides, we have already passed the exam a long time ago, so Mother said that I don’t have to go anymore!”

“That’s awesome!”

Cherry clapped.

Lisa, who could hear them, was dumbfounded. She subconsciously asked, “Cherry, do you and Princess Lucy share the same etiquette teacher?”

Cherry explained, “Yup, we go for lessons together! Mrs. Steve is the best etiquette teacher in the UK. My grandaunt said that girls should learn to carry themselves well, so she sent me to take the lessons! Later, Princess Lucy begged Grandaunt to get Mrs. Steve to teach her too while she taught me. That’s how the two of us met each other!”

Her words were like a bomb that blasted everyone so hard that they couldn’t recover. Initially, when they heard the girls’ conversation, everyone had thought to themselves that Cherry, as expected, had indeed lived an extraordinary life abroad.

However, for most typical wealthy families, as long as they were willing to pay, they would be able to engage teachers who exclusively taught the royal family, and invite them to their homes to give their children lessons.

Everyone had also assumed that it was Nora or the grandaunt, whom Cherry had spoken of just now, who had done so.

Her grandaunt might also have wanted to let Cherry and Princess Lucy become acquainted with each other through the etiquette teacher so that it would be convenient for her to establish a connection with the royal family.

Going by what Cherry had said, though, why did it sound like it was not her grandaunt who wanted to curry favor with the royal family, but the other way around instead?

So, just what kind of social status did Cherry’s grandaunt have?!

Lisa didn't think that far ahead. She only remembered Mrs. Livingstone lecturing Cherry about her upbringing and criticizing her for having poor etiquette. Thus, she turned to Mrs. Livingstone and sneered, "Mrs. Livingstone, how do you find Cherry's etiquette? Do you think she learned well? Is there anything else about her upbringing that you think requires improvement?". Mrs. Livingstone was dumbfounded. She stared at Cherry incredulously, feeling like her face had already gone numb from all the slaps she received.

How could this be?

How come Cherry knew the princess of the royal family?!

Moreover, she seemed to know the princess very well...

In this instant, in the eyes of everyone there, Cherry and Nora suddenly turned into towering giants. Their image had become high and lofty in an instant, making them feel like people beyond their reach.

In fact, the two of them felt a few notches even more impressive than how Yvette Smith had felt back then!

Everyone swallowed. This time, they offered their sincere congratulations.

"Mr. Hunt, Ms. Smith is so amazing! She can even get her daughter to become good friends with a princess..."

"Mr. Smith, even though Ms. Smith was not by your side all these years, it looks like she has been living very well!"

"Eh? Where's Ms. Smith? Why isn't she here? I wanted to talk to her about parenting and ask her how she raised Cherry so well?"

While everyone was offering their congratulations, Justin smiled slightly. Then, he looked straight at Mrs. Livingstone and said, "Mrs. Livingstone, you've had your fill of fun. Surely you have nothing else to say now, right?"

Mrs. Livingstone bit her lip. "I didn't expect Ms. Smith to have such a superior standard of living ... Fine, you can take it that I was worried for nothing! It only had your interests in mind when I said all that. I was worried that you would wed an inappropriate woman, but it's alright now. I'm not worried anymore, so I have nothing more to say."

With that, she turned to leave.

But as soon as she turned, Justin's frosty voice reached her. "Wait a minute, Mrs. Livingstone. You may not have anything else to say, but I do."

Taken aback, Mrs. Livingstone looked at him.

Everyone also quietened down and looked over.

Justin looked at the butler and said, "It seems that the people at home don't have the ability to distinguish who is family and who isn't. People from beyond three generations are no longer considered relatives. The Hunt Manor is not a place that just anyone can enter."

The butler understood at once. He immediately straightened his back and replied, "Yes, sir."

Then, the butler walked up to Mrs. Livingstone. With a smile, he asked, "Mrs. Livingstone, may I know if you have an invitation to the party?"

Mrs. Livingstone: "??".

How would she possibly have one?!

All the guests at the party were invited by Justin. However, every time she came, she had always gone straight to Mrs. Hunt instead.

Dumbfounded, she shook her head. "No, I don't."

The butler heaved a sigh at once. "Sir, this is an oversight on my end. I will forgo three months of pay as punishment."

Then, he gave a wave. "Guards, there is a lady here without an invitation. Please take her out!"

Mrs. Livingstone: "!!"

Her eyes widened and she looked at the butler in disbelief. "H-How dare you?!"

However, the security officers had already rushed over. They subdued Mrs. Livingstone straightaway and led her out the door. She struggled fiercely, forming an extremely nasty sight.



At the same time, the security officers also located Thomas where the youngsters were and threw him out as well!

No matter how great the feud, generally speaking, no one would throw a guest straight out of their house. That would simply make the other party look too bad.

Justin's actions sent a clear message to everyone present: 'Justin Hunt hates the Livingstones!

The guests at the party were all either rich or noble. All of them immediately got the hint.

The president of a certain bank stepped forward at once. "The Livingstones owe the bank 30 million dollars. I'll have to press them for it tomorrow."

"Yikes, they don't even have any cash flow left. I think we'd better suspend our project with them!"

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As the saying went, everyone kicked men when they were down. The Livingstones could straight-up declare bankruptcy the next day!

Justin turned his head to the back in satisfaction and looked at Ian.

Just a moment ago, he had sensed murderous intent from Ian. He wondered what the Smiths' dark forces would do to the Livingstones?

He wanted to ask Ian about it. If his father-in-law wasn't going to take action, then he would make the arrangements himself.

But unexpectedly, when he looked over, he instead found Ian, who was surrounded by people, looking somewhat distracted.

He was staring hard at the pair of Hearts of the Ocean with an agitated look on his face.

When Cherry ran to Lucy, she had placed the gems in his hands.

The two gems...

He had bought the first Heart of the Ocean and given it to "her" back then...

The trembling Ian raised his head and looked at John, who was standing in front of him. His fingers curled tightly into fists and then he asked hoarsely, "The lady you serve... Who is she?!"

The tall and thin John was a little surprised by his question. He replied politely, "Mr. Smith, milady's name is Jessica."

Jessica?

Ian broke into a frown. "Is she American?"

John answered, "Yes, she is."

She was American!

Ian's heart thumped wildly again. He then asked, "Does she go by any other name?"

"Yes," John paused and then said, "She also goes by Queenie Schmidt."

Ian lowered his eyes in disappointment when he heard the unfamiliar name. He stared at the two gems in his hand. Suddenly, he pointed at them and asked, "How did she get this?"

John smiled. "Ma'am said that a friend who has already passed away had given it to her. Since it's that friend's granddaughter's birthday today, she shall return it to its original owner."

A friend who had already passed away had given it to her...

That friend must be Yvette.

Ian's disappointment grew even stronger.

He shook his head, feeling like he must have lost his mind.

Although he knew very well that Yvette had already died twenty years ago, the moment he heard a bit of news about her, he could not help but wonder if she was still alive.

He lowered his gaze and put the other gem into the box.

Then, he sighed.

As he had only just recovered, he couldn't stand for too long. Thus, Ian turned, went up the stairs and toward the VIP lounge to rest.

Justin didn't understand why his father-in-law had suddenly become depressed. He followed after him and asked, "Uncle Ian, what's wrong?"

Ian waved him off. "It's nothing. You get back to the party."

Justin held his arm and said, "I'll take you upstairs, and also check in on Nora along the way."

Nora hated crowds the most. Besides, she wasn't the star today, so she had been hiding upstairs the whole time.

Ian nodded.

But after Justin helped Ian upstairs, he found that Nora, who should have been resting in the VIP lounge, was not in there?

Where had she gone?

It was extraordinarily lively downstairs.

Cherry and Princess Lucy hadn't met for a very long time, so they had a lot to talk to each other about. The way they couldn't stop talking to each other was as though the two of them had become conjoined twins.

As for Pete, he was surrounded by the children of the Hunts. He was the future heir to the clan. Moreover, he had grown up with them and also gone to school with them. Thus, even though he was introverted, the group of children still played with him.

Pete didn't want to talk to them, so he turned and joined the children from the kindergarten instead.

The Hunts were celebrating the children's birthday today, so most of the guests had also brought children of similar age with them.

The children, led by Mia, didn't dare to disturb Cherry and Princess Lucy, so they could only circle around Pete instead.

"Wow! You really look just like Cherry!"

Someone stretched out their little hand to pinch Pete's cheek.

Mia smiled shyly and gave Pete a birthday present. "I drew this for you, Pete. Have a look and see if it looks good?"

When Pete opened it, he found that it was a drawing of three children.

Two of the children looked the same. One of them was wearing a white organza dress-it was Cherry.

The other was wearing a small suit-it was Pete.

The timid little girl in the middle was none other than Mia.

Mia looked at him and said timidly, "Pete, shall the three of us stay together forever?"

When Pete and Cherry were staying with the Smiths, they hadn't played with Brandon but only with Mia instead. The three of them got along very well.

Pete nodded. "Sure!" "Cherry!"

Brandon, who had been in a state of shock and silence ever since he saw Pete, suddenly yelled, "So you guys are two different people! It's not because you can cut off your little willy, turn into a little girl, and then have it grow back!"

Everyone: "??!"

Pete: "???"

Brandon wailed, "... To think I trusted you so much and started studying how to cut off my little willy without any pain! I'm lucky that I haven't gotten around to doing it yet! Sob!"

After a moment of silence, they suddenly burst out laughing.

Children's laughter was contagious. The whole party livened up because of their laughter.

In a corner one was paying any attention to, Xander stood all by himself and looked around blankly.

He didn't have a single friend here. Apart from the three gifts from his relatives, there was no one else here who would bring gifts for him.

"Wow! Did you see? Princess Lucy gave Cherry a diamond hairpin that she made! She's so good with her hands! That hairpin is really pretty!"

"Mia also drew a picture for Pete! And Brandon gave Pete his favorite plane!"

"When is my birthday? I want gifts too!"

In the children's world, how expensive a gift was didn't matter. What mattered was the amount of sincerity in the little gifts that the classmates gave one another.

Xander clenched his jaw.

He balled up his little fists tightly.

He suddenly wanted very much to go back, return to the basement, and lock himself up.

Just as his imagination was running wild, a big warm hand suddenly stroked his hair.

Xander was taken aback.

He looked behind abruptly and saw Nora standing behind him.

The woman was very tall and slim. Her almond-shaped eyes were slightly downcast. When he raised his head, the woman tugged her trousers up a little with her long and slender bandaged hands, and then she slowly squatted down. She rested her chin on her hands, looked at him at eye-level, and said, "Happy birthday, precious."

Xander's cheeks slowly started to burn.

The woman's voice was low and sounded pampering

This made his expression turn somewhat embarrassed.

He coughed and said, "Don't call me that, it's so mushy!"

Nora laughed. "Then what do you want me to call you? Babe? Darling? Or baby? Or perhaps... Xander?"

Xander rolled his eyes. "You can just call me Xander! Why are you so frivolous?! Be serious!"

Nora retracted her smile. Suddenly, she stretched out her uninjured hand to him and said, "Hello, Xander. Let me introduce myself. My name is Nora Smith, and I am your mommy. Mm, although I have been Cherry's mother for five years, and have also been Pete's mother for three months, I am still too incompetent a mother. I hope we can get along in the future. Oh, by the way, my hobby is sleeping."

Xander: "?"

The woman was speaking to him so seriously that it instead made him a little embarrassed.

He paused. Then, he suddenly grinned and said, "Hello, Nora Smith, my name is Xander. Although I have a father, it's as if I don't. This is my first time being someone's son. Please take care of me!"

One of the little guy's canine teeth was visible when he smiled, making him look very adorable.

Nora stroked his hair. "Yup, let's both try our best, okay~?"

Xander pursed his lips.

The way she spoke as if she was coaxing little kids sure was dumb!

But he didn't realize that even though he was pursing his lips, there was also a smile there.

During their conversation, Pete suddenly walked over and handed Xander a gift.

Taken aback, Xander stared at the box in front of him.

Pete said, "Although you haven't acknowledged us yet, Mommy has already told us that you are our brother. So, happy birthday."

Xander felt his eyes stinging again.

He took the gift and said in a stuck-up manner, “I didn’t prepare birthday presents for you guys though-“

“It’s okay, yeah!”

Cherry also walked over hand-in-hand with Princess Lucy. She handed him the little gift that she had prepared a long time ago and said, “We are older than you, so we won’t mind. Since you are the youngest, we will give in to you!” Xander: “??”

He frowned and got mad at once. “I’m your elder brother!”

Cherry tilted her head. “You are my younger brother! We should be particular about who comes first! Besides, isn’t it great being a younger brother? This way, I’ll give in to you!”

Pete also nodded and cooperated with Cherry.

Xander: !!

Nora had never thought that Trueman would actually send a gift.

The butler in front of her also had a grave look on his face. He said, “It was delivered by a mailman. We have investigated him—he is indeed an ordinary mailman, he has been delivering the mail here for many years. Also, the parcel was sent from within New York.”

From within New York...

Had Trueman returned to America?

She was alarmed.

To be honest, because Xander had grown up under Trueman’s care, his personality had long since developed to be like Trueman’s. Thanks to Trueman’s grooming, his moral compass had also strayed from the right path a little.

Trueman was not a good man. Besides, one could tell from what Xander had said that he did not treat Xander that well either.

Moreover, didn’t Xander leave her side precisely because Trueman had taken him?

One couldn't hold gratitude towards a human trafficker just because they didn't kill their

son.

Thus, Nora didn't want the two of them to ever make contact with each other again.

Besides, the way she saw it, Xander was nothing more than Trueman's pawn. Judging from Trueman's attitude towards Ruth, one could tell that the man was rather unfeeling...

She stared at the gift box in her hand and slowly opened it.

When she saw the contents, a look of shock suddenly formed in her eyes, and she instantly slammed the lid shut! She thought of all the events in the past, as well as what Caleb had told her, and her heart suddenly started to pound madly.

"What's wrong?"

Just as she was a little flustered, Justin's low and deep voice came from the back, putting her at ease a little.

She looked behind her and narrowed her eyes. Just as she was about to speak, someone nearby noticed Justin and came over to talk to him.

Nora kept quiet.

Justin said, "Uncle Ian is in the lounge upstairs. Why don't you go over there? I'll come over in a minute."

"Okay."

Nora's fingers around the box tightened, seemingly very afraid that the box would fall and shatter. She took a deep breath and went upstairs.

Before she entered the lounge, a cry of surprise suddenly rang out from below.

Nora looked down to see a few people holding cages. Inside the cages were some rabbits, as well as cats and dogs.



Xander was circling around them in joy and surprise. “No. 6! No. 3! And Rabbit No. 5! Why are you guys here?”

Nora: “?”

It was the butler again who had brought the cages in. He had only brought them in after consulting Justin.

In the midst of Nora’s hesitation, Justin had dismissed the person who came up to him with just a few words. He went over to her.

Nora kept quiet for a while. Then, she asked, “Are those also gifts from Trueman?”

“Yeah.”

Justin said, “I allowed the butler to bring them in here when he asked me about it. Since Trueman has shipped them to Xander by air freight from a great distance away, they are likely very important to him.”

Before, he had neglected Xander a lot when they couldn’t be sure of his identity.

The two of them were currently dying to give Xander everything he wanted so that it would foster a sense of belonging in him. It was indeed beyond their expectations that Trueman would send the animals here.

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After all, with the animals here, Xander would probably no longer have any longing for that basement abroad, right? Moreover, with the company of these animals that had grown up with him, perhaps he wouldn’t be so difficult to get along with anymore.

The two of them stood at the door and stared at that little corner below.

Some people simply loved having cats and dogs around, so they weren’t surprised that someone would give them to Xander as gifts. The butler put them in the corner and said to Xander, “Mr. Xander, these animals have to be tested for diseases. We didn’t know that you have so many pets. Are you planning to keep them with you, or would you like us to specially set aside a

room in the garden and let them stay there? If it's the former, then we'll have to merge your room with the one next to it, so that it'll be big enough."

Xander replied without any hesitation. "They are not my pets, they are my friends! Of course they are gonna stay with me!"

The butler was a little troubled. "But this would mean that you may have to stay in a guest room during the renovation."

Xander was very happy at the moment because of the animals, so why would he possibly mind all that? He immediately waved. Just as he was about to say that he was alright with it, Pete said, "Why don't you stay with me for the time being?"

Xander was a little surprised. Then, he grinned and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I will beat you up in the middle of the night?"

Pete sighed. "So be it, if that's the case. Don't worry, I won't retaliate. After all, you are my younger brother."

Xander: "??!"

"Get lost! I'm the older brother!"

Pete shook his head helplessly. "Okay, okay, you are the older brother. Will that do?"

Xander: "?"

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child's unreasonable demands would say "Will that do?" in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

Xander suddenly felt rather frustrated.

How was it that he simply could not get the upper hand when he faced Pete?

He bared his teeth at Pete and acted as if he was going to pounce forward and bite him. At the sight, the animals in the cages also howled at Pete.

In fact, Butterscotch-aka No. 6, the wolfhound-even got ready to pounce forward.

Pete was not frightened. Instead, it was Xander who got a shock. He immediately tried to calm them down. "Stop that, Butterscotch!"

Only then did the wolfhound stop. It looked at Xander perplexedly, probably wondering to itself, "Doesn't master hate that guy a lot?"

As though sensing its hesitation, Xander rolled his eyes. He looked up at the ceiling and said in a stuck-up manner, "He is my younger brother. Even though I don't like him, I'm the only one who can bully him. Understand?"

"Woof! Woof!"

Butterscotch let out a couple of barks. While there was no way of knowing whether it had understood Xander, it certainly didn't bark at Pete anymore.

"This cat is so cute!"

Princess Lucy said as she pointed at a listless little cat in the cage.

Cherry had also squatted down beside the cage. She stretched out her chubby little hand to touch the animals in the cage, but when the cat saw her hand reaching into the cage, it shrank back and stared at her with its green eyes. Cherry's heart melted at the sight. "Xander, this cat is so cute! Can you give it to me?"

"Heh, no way! Emerald is not a pet, I can't give her away just like that!"

But after Xander said that, he added, "Unless you acknowledge me as your older brother."

"Big Brother Xander!" Cherry yelled out without hesitation, taking Xander by surprise. Cherry rushed up to him and said, "Big Brother Xander! Big Brother Xander! You're the best, yeah!"

Xander: "!!"

Could the girl please have a limit to how low she could go?

The corners of his lips spasmed a little. "I can let Emerald stay in your room, but you mustn't bully her."

“Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!”

Cherry and Lucy looked at each other and the two of them secretly giggled. Lucy then asked, “Can we sleep with her tonight?”

“Of course!”

Without Nora and Justin’s permission, Cherry had agreed to Lucy’s request to stay over!

Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

Her mother had said that back then, after she regained consciousness, she had only managed to save her last child.

As for who the older one between Pete and Xander was, it was hard to say. After all, Nora didn’t know which of the two boys, that had been carried out of the room, Trueman had taken...

Cherry looked at Xander again and looked him up and down.

Xander was a little flattered by her gaze. “Are you looking at how your big brother is more handsome than Pete?”

Cherry replied, “... Nope. I was just thinking that it’s fortunate that you treat these animals very well. Otherwise, I would think that you’re the psychotic little friend I had met online!”

Xander: “??”

Cherry explained, “I met a little psycho on the Internet. He is very annoying and also very foul-mouthed, he’s basically just like you. He also has a lot of pets... but he’s always carrying out psychotic experiments and bullying those little animals every day. You are not like him, though. You love and care for the animals so much, you would never bully them, right?”

Xander the Little Psycho’s lip corners spasmed a little. He quietly replied, “... Nope!”

He swore that he would never let Cherry know in his lifetime that he was that exact little psycho himself!

The two adults upstairs didn't know about the children's conversation. The two looked at each other and entered the room.

Ian was sitting on the sofa. He looked at Nora when he heard the door open.

He wanted to ask about her aunt—in other words, about Queenie—and ask her how they had met, and also what kind of person she was. But unexpectedly, when he looked up, he instead saw a very grave and solemn look on Nora's face.

Ian immediately abandoned his thoughts and asked, "What's the matter?"

In just a split second, a sharp and forceful feeling had already crept into his voice, and he sounded much like he was ready to fight it out with the person who had bullied his daughter.

Additionally, after he spoke, he glanced at Justin.

Justin was speechless.

In an attempt to explain, he hurriedly asked, "What did Trueman send?"

Nora clenched her jaw.

She looked at Ian and then at Justin.

In the past, she had always shouldered everything by herself whenever she met with trouble. But now, she had a father, as well as a lover.

Nora did not push herself beyond her capabilities. At the question, she immediately opened the gift box in her hand.

Lying quietly inside the box was a small bottle of serum.

The serum was stored in a tiny glass bottle, and there was only a very small dose. However, written on the note beside it was its name: 'Gene Serum'.

For a while, all three people in the room fell silent.

Justin stared at the serum. Suddenly, he sighed. "I knew it. It was just a matter of time before we eventually found out. So, why would Trueman still send the boy back when he could have used the boy to threaten us. So that's how it is!"

Ian frowned. The man, who wasn't in the loop about the ins and outs of what had happened, asked, "What do you mean?"

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: "You have to inject Xander within half a month or he'll die."

Ian's pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, "Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly."

Ian drew a sharp breath. "Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?"

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"

Nora frowned. "To be honest, I don't know."

She looked at Justin. "At least he's healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?"

Justin took a deep breath. "Yes."

Justin's suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn't need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman's deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb's deep voice. "Miss Smith, you might be in trouble."

Nora was taken aback. "What's the matter?"

Caleb said in a low voice, "I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother's hands."

Nora's eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words "V15" were written on it!!

She asked, "Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!"

The other party paused and sighed. "Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he's in such a hurry!"

A cold light flashed across Nora's eyes. "What do you mean?"

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.



His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had

already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, "Butterscotch's heart can't take it anymore. Fluffy's body isn't good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy's heart for Butterscotch's... That way, both of them would be alive..."

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.

After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, "Yes, I can change now."

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, "You can prove that you're my parents now, but this is only written

evidence. I haven't acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?"

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

“Butterscotch, don’t worry. I’ll treat you.”

“Fluffy, don’t be afraid. I don’t have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad...”

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. “Dad, shouldn’t Xander’s name be changed?”

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name “Cheryl Smith” was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 634 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

Everyone looked at Mrs. Livingstone as though they were looking at a fool!

Mrs. Livingstone didn’t understand why everyone was staring at her. Instead, she continued speaking smugly. “What are all of you looking at me like that for? Am I wrong? You don’t have the guts to say these things, but I do! And it isn’t just Cherry but Ms. Smith, too. No matter what, it’s just not good to grow up in a family like that...” Seeing her performing a one-man show over there, Cherry gave her a push and said, “Excuse me, granny, you are blocking my way!”

Mrs. Livingstone, who had been pushed aside, stumbled to the side.

She looked over and censured Cherry furiously. "That's so rude of you, Cherry. How can you treat your elders like that? You should learn from Princess Lucy, take a gander at her deportment and manners! ..."

She had only just spoken when she saw Cherry, with joy all over her face, lift her little skirt and run past her.

On the other side, Lucy had also finally found the little buddy she knew so well among the adults' legs. Her eyes lit up, and she also rushed over.

"Cherry!"

"Princess Lucy!"

The two little girls called out each other's names and rushed toward each other. The adults standing in between them stepped aside one after another and made way for them.

Thus, in full view of everyone present, the two little girls met at last.

At a distance of four inches apart, the two came to a stop. Both of them lifted their skirts and greeted each other elegantly, their movements were very regal and beautiful!

In addition, Cherry and Princess Lucy's movements were practically identical!

When they were done, the two little girls finally held each other's hands and started jumping about happily.

"Dear Lucy, why are you here?" asked Cherry.

Princess Lucy replied, "Because I missed you, my best friend!"

Cherry laughed loudly, her voice crisp and clear.

Princess Lucy smiled at her happily. Then, she said, "It seems that you have fallen behind quite a fair bit in your etiquette lessons during the last six months that we haven't met~! If Mrs. Steve hears of this, I'm afraid, she'd spank your bottom so hard it would split into two!"

Cherry stuck out her tongue. "You have also fallen behind in your etiquette lessons."



Princess Lucy burst into laughter. “After you left, I made an excuse and stopped going to classes. Besides, we have already passed the exam a long time ago, so Mother said that I don’t have to go anymore!”

“That’s awesome!”

Cherry clapped.

Lisa, who could hear them, was dumbfounded. She subconsciously asked, “Cherry, do you and Princess Lucy share the same etiquette teacher?”

Cherry explained, “Yup, we go for lessons together! Mrs. Steve is the best etiquette teacher in the UK. My grandaunt said that girls should learn to carry themselves well, so she sent me to take the lessons! Later, Princess Lucy begged Grandaunt to get Mrs. Steve to teach her too while she taught me. That’s how the two of us met each other!”

Her words were like a bomb that blasted everyone so hard that they couldn’t recover. Initially, when they heard the girls’ conversation, everyone had thought to themselves that Cherry, as expected, had indeed lived an extraordinary life abroad.

However, for most typical wealthy families, as long as they were willing to pay, they would be able to engage teachers who exclusively taught the royal family, and invite them to their homes to give their children lessons.

Everyone had also assumed that it was Nora or the grandaunt, whom Cherry had spoken of just now, who had done so.

Her grandaunt might also have wanted to let Cherry and Princess Lucy become acquainted with each other through the etiquette teacher so that it would be convenient for her to establish a connection with the royal family.

Going by what Cherry had said, though, why did it sound like it was not her grandaunt who wanted to curry favor with the royal family, but the other way around instead?

So, just what kind of social status did Cherry’s grandaunt have?!

Lisa didn’t think that far ahead. She only remembered Mrs. Livingstone lecturing Cherry about her upbringing and criticizing her for having poor etiquette. Thus, she turned to Mrs. Livingstone and sneered, “Mrs.

Livingstone, how do you find Cherry's etiquette? Do you think she learned well? Is there anything else about her upbringing that you think requires improvement?". Mrs. Livingstone was dumbfounded. She stared at Cherry incredulously, feeling like her face had already gone numb from all the slaps she received.

How could this be?

How come Cherry knew the princess of the royal family?!

Moreover, she seemed to know the princess very well...

In this instant, in the eyes of everyone there, Cherry and Nora suddenly turned into towering giants. Their image had become high and lofty in an instant, making them feel like people beyond their reach.

In fact, the two of them felt a few notches even more impressive than how Yvette Smith had felt back then!

Everyone swallowed. This time, they offered their sincere congratulations.

"Mr. Hunt, Ms. Smith is so amazing! She can even get her daughter to become good friends with a princess..."

"Mr. Smith, even though Ms. Smith was not by your side all these years, it looks like she has been living very well!"

"Eh? Where's Ms. Smith? Why isn't she here? I wanted to talk to her about parenting and ask her how she raised Cherry so well?"

While everyone was offering their congratulations, Justin smiled slightly. Then, he looked straight at Mrs. Livingstone and said, "Mrs. Livingstone, you've had your fill of fun. Surely you have nothing else to say now, right?"

Mrs. Livingstone bit her lip. "I didn't expect Ms. Smith to have such a superior standard of living ... Fine, you can take it that I was worried for nothing! It only had your interests in mind when I said all that. I was worried that you would wed an inappropriate woman, but it's alright now. I'm not worried anymore, so I have nothing more to say."

With that, she turned to leave.

But as soon as she turned, Justin's frosty voice reached her. "Wait a minute, Mrs. Livingstone. You may not have anything else to say, but I do."

Taken aback, Mrs. Livingstone looked at him.

Everyone also quietened down and looked over.

Justin looked at the butler and said, "It seems that the people at home don't have the ability to distinguish who is family and who isn't. People from beyond three generations are no longer considered relatives. The Hunt Manor is not a place that just anyone can enter."

The butler understood at once. He immediately straightened his back and replied, "Yes, sir."

Then, the butler walked up to Mrs. Livingstone. With a smile, he asked, "Mrs. Livingstone, may I know if you have an invitation to the party?"

Mrs. Livingstone: "??".

How would she possibly have one?!

All the guests at the party were invited by Justin. However, every time she came, she had always gone straight to Mrs. Hunt instead.

Dumbfounded, she shook her head. "No, I don't."

The butler heaved a sigh at once. "Sir, this is an oversight on my end. I will forgo three months of pay as punishment."

Then, he gave a wave. "Guards, there is a lady here without an invitation. Please take her out!"

Mrs. Livingstone: "!!"

Her eyes widened and she looked at the butler in disbelief. "H-How dare you?!"

However, the security officers had already rushed over. They subdued Mrs. Livingstone straightaway and led her out the door. She struggled fiercely, forming an extremely nasty sight.

At the same time, the security officers also located Thomas where the youngsters were and threw him out as well!

No matter how great the feud, generally speaking, no one would throw a guest straight out of their house. That would simply make the other party look too bad.

Justin's actions sent a clear message to everyone present: 'Justin Hunt hates the Livingstones!

The guests at the party were all either rich or noble. All of them immediately got the hint.

The president of a certain bank stepped forward at once. "The Livingstones owe the bank 30 million dollars. I'll have to press them for it tomorrow."

"Yikes, they don't even have any cash flow left. I think we'd better suspend our project with them!"

III1

As the saying went, everyone kicked men when they were down. The Livingstones could straight-up declare bankruptcy the next day!

Justin turned his head to the back in satisfaction and looked at Ian.

Just a moment ago, he had sensed murderous intent from Ian. He wondered what the Smiths' dark forces would do to the Livingstones?

He wanted to ask Ian about it. If his father-in-law wasn't going to take action, then he would make the arrangements himself.

But unexpectedly, when he looked over, he instead found Ian, who was surrounded by people, looking somewhat distracted.

He was staring hard at the pair of Hearts of the Ocean with an agitated look on his face.

When Cherry ran to Lucy, she had placed the gems in his hands.

The two gems...

He had bought the first Heart of the Ocean and given it to "her" back then...

The trembling Ian raised his head and looked at John, who was standing in front of him. His fingers curled tightly into fists and then he asked hoarsely, "The lady you serve... Who is she?!"

The tall and thin John was a little surprised by his question. He replied politely, "Mr. Smith, milady's name is Jessica."

Jessica?

Ian broke into a frown. "Is she American?"

John answered, "Yes, she is."

She was American!

Ian's heart thumped wildly again. He then asked, "Does she go by any other name?"

"Yes," John paused and then said, "She also goes by Queenie Schmidt."

Ian lowered his eyes in disappointment when he heard the unfamiliar name. He stared at the two gems in his hand. Suddenly, he pointed at them and asked, "How did she get this?"

John smiled. "Ma'am said that a friend who has already passed away had given it to her. Since it's that friend's granddaughter's birthday today, she shall return it to its original owner."

A friend who had already passed away had given it to her...

That friend must be Yvette.

Ian's disappointment grew even stronger.

He shook his head, feeling like he must have lost his mind.

Although he knew very well that Yvette had already died twenty years ago, the moment he heard a bit of news about her, he could not help but wonder if she was still alive.

He lowered his gaze and put the other gem into the box.

Then, he sighed.

As he had only just recovered, he couldn't stand for too long. Thus, Ian turned, went up the stairs and toward the VIP lounge to rest.

Justin didn't understand why his father-in-law had suddenly become depressed. He followed after him and asked, "Uncle Ian, what's wrong?"

Ian waved him off. "It's nothing. You get back to the party."

Justin held his arm and said, "I'll take you upstairs, and also check in on Nora along the way."

Nora hated crowds the most. Besides, she wasn't the star today, so she had been hiding upstairs the whole time.

Ian nodded.

But after Justin helped Ian upstairs, he found that Nora, who should have been resting in the VIP lounge, was not in there?

Where had she gone?

It was extraordinarily lively downstairs.

Cherry and Princess Lucy hadn't met for a very long time, so they had a lot to talk to each other about. The way they couldn't stop talking to each other was as though the two of them had become conjoined twins.

As for Pete, he was surrounded by the children of the Hunts. He was the future heir to the clan. Moreover, he had grown up with them and also gone to school with them. Thus, even though he was introverted, the group of children still played with him.

Pete didn't want to talk to them, so he turned and joined the children from the kindergarten instead.

The Hunts were celebrating the children's birthday today, so most of the guests had also brought children of similar age with them.

The children, led by Mia, didn't dare to disturb Cherry and Princess Lucy, so they could only circle around Pete instead.

"Wow! You really look just like Cherry!"

Someone stretched out their little hand to pinch Pete's cheek.

Mia smiled shyly and gave Pete a birthday present. "I drew this for you, Pete. Have a look and see if it looks good?"

When Pete opened it, he found that it was a drawing of three children.

Two of the children looked the same. One of them was wearing a white organza dress-it was Cherry.

The other was wearing a small suit-it was Pete.

The timid little girl in the middle was none other than Mia.

Mia looked at him and said timidly, "Pete, shall the three of us stay together forever?"

When Pete and Cherry were staying with the Smiths, they hadn't played with Brandon but only with Mia instead. The three of them got along very well.

Pete nodded. "Sure!" "Cherry!"

Brandon, who had been in a state of shock and silence ever since he saw Pete, suddenly yelled, "So you guys are two different people! It's not because you can cut off your little willy, turn into a little girl, and then have it grow back!"

Everyone: "??!"

Pete: "???"

Brandon wailed, "... To think I trusted you so much and started studying how to cut off my little willy without any pain! I'm lucky that I haven't gotten around to doing it yet! Sob!"

After a moment of silence, they suddenly burst out laughing.

Children's laughter was contagious. The whole party livened up because of their laughter.

In a corner one was paying any attention to, Xander stood all by himself and looked around blankly.

He didn't have a single friend here. Apart from the three gifts from his relatives, there was no one else here who would bring gifts for him.

"Wow! Did you see? Princess Lucy gave Cherry a diamond hairpin that she made! She's so good with her hands! That hairpin is really pretty!"

"Mia also drew a picture for Pete! And Brandon gave Pete his favorite plane!"

"When is my birthday? I want gifts too!"

In the children's world, how expensive a gift was didn't matter. What mattered was the amount of sincerity in the little gifts that the classmates gave one another.

Xander clenched his jaw.

He balled up his little fists tightly.

He suddenly wanted very much to go back, return to the basement, and lock himself up.

Just as his imagination was running wild, a big warm hand suddenly stroked his hair.

Xander was taken aback.

He looked behind abruptly and saw Nora standing behind him.

The woman was very tall and slim. Her almond-shaped eyes were slightly downcast. When he raised his head, the woman tugged her trousers up a little with her long and slender bandaged hands, and then she slowly squatted down. She rested her chin on her hands, looked at him at eye-level, and said, "Happy birthday, precious."

Xander's cheeks slowly started to burn.

The woman's voice was low and sounded pampering

This made his expression turn somewhat embarrassed.

He coughed and said, "Don't call me that, it's so mushy!"



Nora laughed. "Then what do you want me to call you? Babe? Darling? Or baby? Or perhaps... Xander?"

Xander rolled his eyes. "You can just call me Xander! Why are you so frivolous?! Be serious!"

Nora retracted her smile. Suddenly, she stretched out her uninjured hand to him and said, "Hello, Xander. Let me introduce myself. My name is Nora Smith, and I am your mommy. Mm, although I have been Cherry's mother for five years, and have also been Pete's mother for three months, I am still too incompetent a mother. I hope we can get along in the future. Oh, by the way, my hobby is sleeping."

Xander: "?"

The woman was speaking to him so seriously that it instead made him a little embarrassed.

He paused. Then, he suddenly grinned and said, "Hello, Nora Smith, my name is Xander. Although I have a father, it's as if I don't. This is my first time being someone's son. Please take care of me!"

One of the little guy's canine teeth was visible when he smiled, making him look very adorable.

Nora stroked his hair. "Yup, let's both try our best, okay~?"

Xander pursed his lips.

The way she spoke as if she was coaxing little kids sure was dumb!

But he didn't realize that even though he was pursing his lips, there was also a smile there.

During their conversation, Pete suddenly walked over and handed Xander a gift.

Taken aback, Xander stared at the box in front of him.

Pete said, "Although you haven't acknowledged us yet, Mommy has already told us that you are our brother. So, happy birthday."

Xander felt his eyes stinging again.

He took the gift and said in a stuck-up manner, “I didn’t prepare birthday presents for you guys though-“

“It’s okay, yeah!”

Cherry also walked over hand-in-hand with Princess Lucy. She handed him the little gift that she had prepared a long time ago and said, “We are older than you, so we won’t mind. Since you are the youngest, we will give in to you!” Xander: “??”

He frowned and got mad at once. “I’m your elder brother!”

Cherry tilted her head. “You are my younger brother! We should be particular about who comes first! Besides, isn’t it great being a younger brother? This way, I’ll give in to you!”

Pete also nodded and cooperated with Cherry.

Xander: !!

Nora had never thought that Trueman would actually send a gift.

The butler in front of her also had a grave look on his face. He said, “It was delivered by a mailman. We have investigated him—he is indeed an ordinary mailman, he has been delivering the mail here for many years. Also, the parcel was sent from within New York.”

From within New York...

Had Trueman returned to America?

She was alarmed.

To be honest, because Xander had grown up under Trueman’s care, his personality had long since developed to be like Trueman’s. Thanks to Trueman’s grooming, his moral compass had also strayed from the right path a little.

Trueman was not a good man. Besides, one could tell from what Xander had said that he did not treat Xander that well either.

Moreover, didn’t Xander leave her side precisely because Trueman had taken him?

One couldn't hold gratitude towards a human trafficker just because they didn't kill their

son.

Thus, Nora didn't want the two of them to ever make contact with each other again.

Besides, the way she saw it, Xander was nothing more than Trueman's pawn. Judging from Trueman's attitude towards Ruth, one could tell that the man was rather unfeeling...

She stared at the gift box in her hand and slowly opened it.

When she saw the contents, a look of shock suddenly formed in her eyes, and she instantly slammed the lid shut! She thought of all the events in the past, as well as what Caleb had told her, and her heart suddenly started to pound madly.

"What's wrong?"

Just as she was a little flustered, Justin's low and deep voice came from the back, putting her at ease a little.

She looked behind her and narrowed her eyes. Just as she was about to speak, someone nearby noticed Justin and came over to talk to him.

Nora kept quiet.

Justin said, "Uncle Ian is in the lounge upstairs. Why don't you go over there? I'll come over in a minute."

"Okay."

Nora's fingers around the box tightened, seemingly very afraid that the box would fall and shatter. She took a deep breath and went upstairs.

Before she entered the lounge, a cry of surprise suddenly rang out from below.

Nora looked down to see a few people holding cages. Inside the cages were some rabbits, as well as cats and dogs.

Xander was circling around them in joy and surprise. “No. 6! No. 3! And Rabbit No. 5! Why are you guys here?”

Nora: “?”

It was the butler again who had brought the cages in. He had only brought them in after consulting Justin.

In the midst of Nora’s hesitation, Justin had dismissed the person who came up to him with just a few words. He went over to her.

Nora kept quiet for a while. Then, she asked, “Are those also gifts from Trueman?”

“Yeah.”

Justin said, “I allowed the butler to bring them in here when he asked me about it. Since Trueman has shipped them to Xander by air freight from a great distance away, they are likely very important to him.”

Before, he had neglected Xander a lot when they couldn’t be sure of his identity.

The two of them were currently dying to give Xander everything he wanted so that it would foster a sense of belonging in him. It was indeed beyond their expectations that Trueman would send the animals here.

as

After all, with the animals here, Xander would probably no longer have any longing for that basement abroad, right? Moreover, with the company of these animals that had grown up with him, perhaps he wouldn’t be so difficult to get along with anymore.

The two of them stood at the door and stared at that little corner below.

Some people simply loved having cats and dogs around, so they weren’t surprised that someone would give them to Xander as gifts. The butler put them in the corner and said to Xander, “Mr. Xander, these animals have to be tested for diseases. We didn’t know that you have so many pets. Are you planning to keep them with you, or would you like us to specially set aside a

room in the garden and let them stay there? If it's the former, then we'll have to merge your room with the one next to it, so that it'll be big enough."

Xander replied without any hesitation. "They are not my pets, they are my friends! Of course they are gonna stay with me!"

The butler was a little troubled. "But this would mean that you may have to stay in a guest room during the renovation."

Xander was very happy at the moment because of the animals, so why would he possibly mind all that? He immediately waved. Just as he was about to say that he was alright with it, Pete said, "Why don't you stay with me for the time being?"

Xander was a little surprised. Then, he grinned and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I will beat you up in the middle of the night?"

Pete sighed. "So be it, if that's the case. Don't worry, I won't retaliate. After all, you are my younger brother."

Xander: "??!"

"Get lost! I'm the older brother!"

Pete shook his head helplessly. "Okay, okay, you are the older brother. Will that do?"

Xander: "?"

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child's unreasonable demands would say "Will that do?" in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

Xander suddenly felt rather frustrated.

How was it that he simply could not get the upper hand when he faced Pete?

He bared his teeth at Pete and acted as if he was going to pounce forward and bite him. At the sight, the animals in the cages also howled at Pete.

In fact, Butterscotch-aka No. 6, the wolfhound-even got ready to pounce forward.

Pete was not frightened. Instead, it was Xander who got a shock. He immediately tried to calm them down. "Stop that, Butterscotch!"

Only then did the wolfhound stop. It looked at Xander perplexedly, probably wondering to itself, "Doesn't master hate that guy a lot?"

As though sensing its hesitation, Xander rolled his eyes. He looked up at the ceiling and said in a stuck-up manner, "He is my younger brother. Even though I don't like him, I'm the only one who can bully him. Understand?"

"Woof! Woof!"

Butterscotch let out a couple of barks. While there was no way of knowing whether it had understood Xander, it certainly didn't bark at Pete anymore.

"This cat is so cute!"

Princess Lucy said as she pointed at a listless little cat in the cage.

Cherry had also squatted down beside the cage. She stretched out her chubby little hand to touch the animals in the cage, but when the cat saw her hand reaching into the cage, it shrank back and stared at her with its green eyes. Cherry's heart melted at the sight. "Xander, this cat is so cute! Can you give it to me?"

"Heh, no way! Emerald is not a pet, I can't give her away just like that!"

But after Xander said that, he added, "Unless you acknowledge me as your older brother."

"Big Brother Xander!" Cherry yelled out without hesitation, taking Xander by surprise. Cherry rushed up to him and said, "Big Brother Xander! Big Brother Xander! You're the best, yeah!"

Xander: "!!"

Could the girl please have a limit to how low she could go?

The corners of his lips spasmed a little. "I can let Emerald stay in your room, but you mustn't bully her."

“Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!”

Cherry and Lucy looked at each other and the two of them secretly giggled. Lucy then asked, “Can we sleep with her tonight?”

“Of course!”

Without Nora and Justin’s permission, Cherry had agreed to Lucy’s request to stay over!

Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

Her mother had said that back then, after she regained consciousness, she had only managed to save her last child.

As for who the older one between Pete and Xander was, it was hard to say. After all, Nora didn’t know which of the two boys, that had been carried out of the room, Trueman had taken...

Cherry looked at Xander again and looked him up and down.

Xander was a little flattered by her gaze. “Are you looking at how your big brother is more handsome than Pete?”

Cherry replied, “... Nope. I was just thinking that it’s fortunate that you treat these animals very well. Otherwise, I would think that you’re the psychotic little friend I had met online!”

Xander: “??”

Cherry explained, “I met a little psycho on the Internet. He is very annoying and also very foul-mouthed, he’s basically just like you. He also has a lot of pets... but he’s always carrying out psychotic experiments and bullying those little animals every day. You are not like him, though. You love and care for the animals so much, you would never bully them, right?”

Xander the Little Psycho’s lip corners spasmed a little. He quietly replied, “... Nope!”

He swore that he would never let Cherry know in his lifetime that he was that exact little psycho himself!

The two adults upstairs didn't know about the children's conversation. The two looked at each other and entered the room.

Ian was sitting on the sofa. He looked at Nora when he heard the door open.

He wanted to ask about her aunt—in other words, about Queenie—and ask her how they had met, and also what kind of person she was. But unexpectedly, when he looked up, he instead saw a very grave and solemn look on Nora's face.

Ian immediately abandoned his thoughts and asked, "What's the matter?"

In just a split second, a sharp and forceful feeling had already crept into his voice, and he sounded much like he was ready to fight it out with the person who had bullied his daughter.

Additionally, after he spoke, he glanced at Justin.

Justin was speechless.

In an attempt to explain, he hurriedly asked, "What did Trueman send?"

Nora clenched her jaw.

She looked at Ian and then at Justin.

In the past, she had always shouldered everything by herself whenever she met with trouble. But now, she had a father, as well as a lover.

Nora did not push herself beyond her capabilities. At the question, she immediately opened the gift box in her hand.

Lying quietly inside the box was a small bottle of serum.

The serum was stored in a tiny glass bottle, and there was only a very small dose. However, written on the note beside it was its name: 'Gene Serum'.

For a while, all three people in the room fell silent.

Justin stared at the serum. Suddenly, he sighed. "I knew it. It was just a matter of time before we eventually found out. So, why would Trueman still send the boy back when he could have used the boy to threaten us. So that's how it is!"



Ian frowned. The man, who wasn't in the loop about the ins and outs of what had happened, asked, "What do you mean?"

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: "You have to inject Xander within half a month or he'll die."

Ian's pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, "Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly."

Ian drew a sharp breath. "Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?"

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"

Nora frowned. "To be honest, I don't know."

She looked at Justin. "At least he's healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?"

Justin took a deep breath. "Yes."

Justin's suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn't need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman's deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb's deep voice. "Miss Smith, you might be in trouble."

Nora was taken aback. "What's the matter?"

Caleb said in a low voice, "I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother's hands."

Nora's eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words "V15" were written on it!!

She asked, "Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!"

The other party paused and sighed. "Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he's in such a hurry!"

A cold light flashed across Nora's eyes. "What do you mean?"

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had

already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, "Butterscotch's heart can't take it anymore. Fluffy's body isn't good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy's heart for Butterscotch's... That way, both of them would be alive..."

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.

After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, "Yes, I can change now."

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, "You can prove that you're my parents now, but this is only written

evidence. I haven't acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?"

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.



Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

“Butterscotch, don’t worry. I’ll treat you.”

“Fluffy, don’t be afraid. I don’t have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad...”

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. “Dad, shouldn’t Xander’s name be changed?”

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name “Cheryl Smith” was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 635 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

Dumbfounded, she shook her head. “No, I don’t.”

The butler heaved a sigh at once. “Sir, this is an oversight on my end. I will forgo three months of pay as punishment.”

Then, he gave a wave. “Guards, there is a lady here without an invitation. Please take her out!”

Mrs. Livingstone: “!!”

Her eyes widened and she looked at the butler in disbelief. “H-How dare you?!”

However, the security officers had already rushed over. They subdued Mrs. Livingstone straightaway and led her out the door. She struggled fiercely, forming an extremely nasty sight.

At the same time, the security officers also located Thomas where the youngsters were and threw him out as well!

No matter how great the feud, generally speaking, no one would throw a guest straight out of their house. That would simply make the other party look too bad.

Justin's actions sent a clear message to everyone present: 'Justin Hunt hates the Livingstones!

The guests at the party were all either rich or noble. All of them immediately got the hint.

The president of a certain bank stepped forward at once. "The Livingstones owe the bank 30 million dollars. I'll have to press them for it tomorrow."

"Yikes, they don't even have any cash flow left. I think we'd better suspend our project with them!"

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As the saying went, everyone kicked men when they were down. The Livingstones could straight-up declare bankruptcy the next day!

Justin turned his head to the back in satisfaction and looked at Ian.

Just a moment ago, he had sensed murderous intent from Ian. He wondered what the Smiths' dark forces would do to the Livingstones?

He wanted to ask Ian about it. If his father-in-law wasn't going to take action, then he would make the arrangements himself.

But unexpectedly, when he looked over, he instead found Ian, who was surrounded by people, looking somewhat distracted.

He was staring hard at the pair of Hearts of the Ocean with an agitated look on his face.

When Cherry ran to Lucy, she had placed the gems in his hands.

The two gems...

He had bought the first Heart of the Ocean and given it to "her" back then...

The trembling Ian raised his head and looked at John, who was standing in front of him. His fingers curled tightly into fists and then he asked hoarsely, "The lady you serve... Who is she?!"

The tall and thin John was a little surprised by his question. He replied politely, "Mr. Smith, milady's name is Jessica."

Jessica?

Ian broke into a frown. "Is she American?"

John answered, "Yes, she is."

She was American!

Ian's heart thumped wildly again. He then asked, "Does she go by any other name?"

"Yes," John paused and then said, "She also goes by Queenie Schmidt."

Ian lowered his eyes in disappointment when he heard the unfamiliar name. He stared at the two gems in his hand. Suddenly, he pointed at them and asked, "How did she get this?"

John smiled. "Ma'am said that a friend who has already passed away had given it to her. Since it's that friend's granddaughter's birthday today, she shall return it to its original owner."

A friend who had already passed away had given it to her...

That friend must be Yvette.

Ian's disappointment grew even stronger.

He shook his head, feeling like he must have lost his mind.

Although he knew very well that Yvette had already died twenty years ago, the moment he heard a bit of news about her, he could not help but wonder if she was still alive.

He lowered his gaze and put the other gem into the box.

Then, he sighed.

As he had only just recovered, he couldn't stand for too long. Thus, Ian turned, went up the stairs and toward the VIP lounge to rest.

Justin didn't understand why his father-in-law had suddenly become depressed. He followed after him and asked, "Uncle Ian, what's wrong?"

Ian waved him off. "It's nothing. You get back to the party."

Justin held his arm and said, "I'll take you upstairs, and also check in on Nora along the way."

Nora hated crowds the most. Besides, she wasn't the star today, so she had been hiding upstairs the whole time.

Ian nodded.

But after Justin helped Ian upstairs, he found that Nora, who should have been resting in the VIP lounge, was not in there?

Where had she gone?

It was extraordinarily lively downstairs.

Cherry and Princess Lucy hadn't met for a very long time, so they had a lot to talk to each other about. The way they couldn't stop talking to each other was as though the two of them had become conjoined twins.

As for Pete, he was surrounded by the children of the Hunts. He was the future heir to the clan. Moreover, he had grown up with them and also gone to school with them. Thus, even though he was introverted, the group of children still played with him.

Pete didn't want to talk to them, so he turned and joined the children from the kindergarten instead.

The Hunts were celebrating the children's birthday today, so most of the guests had also brought children of similar age with them.

The children, led by Mia, didn't dare to disturb Cherry and Princess Lucy, so they could only circle around Pete instead.

"Wow! You really look just like Cherry!"

Someone stretched out their little hand to pinch Pete's cheek.

Mia smiled shyly and gave Pete a birthday present. "I drew this for you, Pete. Have a look and see if it looks good?"

When Pete opened it, he found that it was a drawing of three children.

Two of the children looked the same. One of them was wearing a white organza dress-it was Cherry.

The other was wearing a small suit-it was Pete.

The timid little girl in the middle was none other than Mia.

Mia looked at him and said timidly, "Pete, shall the three of us stay together forever?"

When Pete and Cherry were staying with the Smiths, they hadn't played with Brandon but only with Mia instead. The three of them got along very well.

Pete nodded. "Sure!" "Cherry!"

Brandon, who had been in a state of shock and silence ever since he saw Pete, suddenly yelled, "So you guys are two different people! It's not because you can cut off your little willy, turn into a little girl, and then have it grow back!"

Everyone: "??!"

Pete: "???"

Brandon wailed, "... To think I trusted you so much and started studying how to cut off my little willy without any pain! I'm lucky that I haven't gotten around to doing it yet! Sob!"

After a moment of silence, they suddenly burst out laughing.

Children's laughter was contagious. The whole party livened up because of their laughter.

In a corner one was paying any attention to, Xander stood all by himself and looked around blankly.

He didn't have a single friend here. Apart from the three gifts from his relatives, there was no one else here who would bring gifts for him.

"Wow! Did you see? Princess Lucy gave Cherry a diamond hairpin that she made! She's so good with her hands! That hairpin is really pretty!"

"Mia also drew a picture for Pete! And Brandon gave Pete his favorite plane!"

"When is my birthday? I want gifts too!"

In the children's world, how expensive a gift was didn't matter. What mattered was the amount of sincerity in the little gifts that the classmates gave one another.

Xander clenched his jaw.

He balled up his little fists tightly.

He suddenly wanted very much to go back, return to the basement, and lock himself up.

Just as his imagination was running wild, a big warm hand suddenly stroked his hair.

Xander was taken aback.

He looked behind abruptly and saw Nora standing behind him.

The woman was very tall and slim. Her almond-shaped eyes were slightly downcast. When he raised his head, the woman tugged her trousers up a little with her long and slender bandaged hands, and then she slowly squatted down. She rested her chin on her hands, looked at him at eye-level, and said, "Happy birthday, precious."

Xander's cheeks slowly started to burn.

The woman's voice was low and sounded pampering

This made his expression turn somewhat embarrassed.

He coughed and said, "Don't call me that, it's so mushy!"

Nora laughed. "Then what do you want me to call you? Babe? Darling? Or baby? Or perhaps... Xander?"

Xander rolled his eyes. "You can just call me Xander! Why are you so frivolous?! Be serious!"

Nora retracted her smile. Suddenly, she stretched out her uninjured hand to him and said, "Hello, Xander. Let me introduce myself. My name is Nora Smith, and I am your mommy. Mm, although I have been Cherry's mother for five years, and have also been Pete's mother for three months, I am still too incompetent a mother. I hope we can get along in the future. Oh, by the way, my hobby is sleeping."

Xander: "?"

The woman was speaking to him so seriously that it instead made him a little embarrassed.

He paused. Then, he suddenly grinned and said, "Hello, Nora Smith, my name is Xander. Although I have a father, it's as if I don't. This is my first time being someone's son. Please take care of me!"

One of the little guy's canine teeth was visible when he smiled, making him look very adorable.

Nora stroked his hair. "Yup, let's both try our best, okay~?"

Xander pursed his lips.

The way she spoke as if she was coaxing little kids sure was dumb!

But he didn't realize that even though he was pursing his lips, there was also a smile there.

During their conversation, Pete suddenly walked over and handed Xander a gift.

Taken aback, Xander stared at the box in front of him.



Pete said, "Although you haven't acknowledged us yet, Mommy has already told us that you are our brother. So, happy birthday."

Xander felt his eyes stinging again.

He took the gift and said in a stuck-up manner, "I didn't prepare birthday presents for you guys though—"

"It's okay, yeah!"

Cherry also walked over hand-in-hand with Princess Lucy. She handed him the little gift that she had prepared a long time ago and said, "We are older than you, so we won't mind. Since you are the youngest, we will give in to you!" Xander: "??"

He frowned and got mad at once. "I'm your elder brother!"

Cherry tilted her head. "You are my younger brother! We should be particular about who comes first! Besides, isn't it great being a younger brother? This way, I'll give in to you!"

Pete also nodded and cooperated with Cherry.

Xander: !!

Nora had never thought that Trueman would actually send a gift.

The butler in front of her also had a grave look on his face. He said, "It was delivered by a mailman. We have investigated him—he is indeed an ordinary mailman, he has been delivering the mail here for many years. Also, the parcel was sent from within New York."

From within New York...

Had Trueman returned to America?

She was alarmed.

To be honest, because Xander had grown up under Trueman's care, his personality had long since developed to be like Trueman's. Thanks to Trueman's grooming, his moral compass had also strayed from the right path a little.

Trueman was not a good man. Besides, one could tell from what Xander had said that he did not treat Xander that well either.

Moreover, didn't Xander leave her side precisely because Trueman had taken him?

One couldn't hold gratitude towards a human trafficker just because they didn't kill their

son.

Thus, Nora didn't want the two of them to ever make contact with each other again.

Besides, the way she saw it, Xander was nothing more than Trueman's pawn. Judging from Trueman's attitude towards Ruth, one could tell that the man was rather unfeeling...

She stared at the gift box in her hand and slowly opened it.

When she saw the contents, a look of shock suddenly formed in her eyes, and she instantly slammed the lid shut! She thought of all the events in the past, as well as what Caleb had told her, and her heart suddenly started to pound madly.

"What's wrong?"

Just as she was a little flustered, Justin's low and deep voice came from the back, putting her at ease a little.

She looked behind her and narrowed her eyes. Just as she was about to speak, someone nearby noticed Justin and came over to talk to him.

Nora kept quiet.

Justin said, "Uncle Ian is in the lounge upstairs. Why don't you go over there? I'll come over in a minute."

"Okay."

Nora's fingers around the box tightened, seemingly very afraid that the box would fall and shatter. She took a deep breath and went upstairs.

Before she entered the lounge, a cry of surprise suddenly rang out from below.

Nora looked down to see a few people holding cages. Inside the cages were some rabbits, as well as cats and dogs.

Xander was circling around them in joy and surprise. “No. 6! No. 3! And Rabbit No. 5! Why are you guys here?”

Nora: “?”

It was the butler again who had brought the cages in. He had only brought them in after consulting Justin.

In the midst of Nora’s hesitation, Justin had dismissed the person who came up to him with just a few words. He went over to her.

Nora kept quiet for a while. Then, she asked, “Are those also gifts from Trueman?”

“Yeah.”

Justin said, “I allowed the butler to bring them in here when he asked me about it. Since Trueman has shipped them to Xander by air freight from a great distance away, they are likely very important to him.”

Before, he had neglected Xander a lot when they couldn’t be sure of his identity.

The two of them were currently dying to give Xander everything he wanted so that it would foster a sense of belonging in him. It was indeed beyond their expectations that Trueman would send the animals here.

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After all, with the animals here, Xander would probably no longer have any longing for that basement abroad, right? Moreover, with the company of these animals that had grown up with him, perhaps he wouldn’t be so difficult to get along with anymore.

The two of them stood at the door and stared at that little corner below.

Some people simply loved having cats and dogs around, so they weren't surprised that someone would give them to Xander as gifts. The butler put them in the corner and said to Xander, "Mr. Xander, these animals have to be tested for diseases. We didn't know that you have so many pets. Are you planning to keep them with you, or would you like us to specially set aside a room in the garden and let them stay there? If it's the former, then we'll have to merge your room with the one next to it, so that it'll be big enough."

Xander replied without any hesitation. "They are not my pets, they are my friends! Of course they are gonna stay with me!"

The butler was a little troubled. "But this would mean that you may have to stay in a guest room during the renovation."

Xander was very happy at the moment because of the animals, so why would he possibly mind all that? He immediately waved. Just as he was about to say that he was alright with it, Pete said, "Why don't you stay with me for the time being?"

Xander was a little surprised. Then, he grinned and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I will beat you up in the middle of the night?"

Pete sighed. "So be it, if that's the case. Don't worry, I won't retaliate. After all, you are my younger brother."

Xander: "??!"

"Get lost! I'm the older brother!"

Pete shook his head helplessly. "Okay, okay, you are the older brother. Will that do?"

Xander: "?"

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child's unreasonable demands would say "Will that do?" in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

Xander suddenly felt rather frustrated.

How was it that he simply could not get the upper hand when he faced Pete?

He bared his teeth at Pete and acted as if he was going to pounce forward and bite him. At the sight, the animals in the cages also howled at Pete.

In fact, Butterscotch-aka No. 6, the wolfhound-even got ready to pounce forward.

Pete was not frightened. Instead, it was Xander who got a shock. He immediately tried to calm them down. "Stop that, Butterscotch!"

Only then did the wolfhound stop. It looked at Xander perplexedly, probably wondering to itself, "Doesn't master hate that guy a lot?"

As though sensing its hesitation, Xander rolled his eyes. He looked up at the ceiling and said in a stuck-up manner, "He is my younger brother. Even though I don't like him, I'm the only one who can bully him. Understand?"

"Woof! Woof!"

Butterscotch let out a couple of barks. While there was no way of knowing whether it had understood Xander, it certainly didn't bark at Pete anymore.

"This cat is so cute!"

Princess Lucy said as she pointed at a listless little cat in the cage.

Cherry had also squatted down beside the cage. She stretched out her chubby little hand to touch the animals in the cage, but when the cat saw her hand reaching into the cage, it shrank back and stared at her with its green eyes. Cherry's heart melted at the sight. "Xander, this cat is so cute! Can you give it to me?"

"Heh, no way! Emerald is not a pet, I can't give her away just like that!"

But after Xander said that, he added, "Unless you acknowledge me as your older brother."

"Big Brother Xander!" Cherry yelled out without hesitation, taking Xander by surprise. Cherry rushed up to him and said, "Big Brother Xander! Big Brother Xander! You're the best, yeah!"

Xander: “!!”

Could the girl please have a limit to how low she could go?

The corners of his lips spasmed a little. “I can let Emerald stay in your room, but you mustn’t bully her.”

“Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!”

Cherry and Lucy looked at each other and the two of them secretly giggled. Lucy then asked, “Can we sleep with her tonight?”

“Of course!”

Without Nora and Justin’s permission, Cherry had agreed to Lucy’s request to stay over!

Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

Her mother had said that back then, after she regained consciousness, she had only managed to save her last child.

As for who the older one between Pete and Xander was, it was hard to say. After all, Nora didn’t know which of the two boys, that had been carried out of the room, Trueman had taken...

Cherry looked at Xander again and looked him up and down.

Xander was a little flattered by her gaze. “Are you looking at how your big brother is more handsome than Pete?”

Cherry replied, “... Nope. I was just thinking that it’s fortunate that you treat these animals very well. Otherwise, I would think that you’re the psychotic little friend I had met online!”

Xander: “??”

Cherry explained, “I met a little psycho on the Internet. He is very annoying and also very foul-mouthed, he’s basically just like you. He also has a lot of pets... but he’s always carrying out psychotic experiments and bullying those

little animals every day. You are not like him, though. You love and care for the animals so much, you would never bully them, right?”

Xander the Little Psycho’s lip corners spasmed a little. He quietly replied, “... Nope!”

He swore that he would never let Cherry know in his lifetime that he was that exact little psycho himself!

The two adults upstairs didn’t know about the children’s conversation. The two looked at each other and entered the room.

Ian was sitting on the sofa. He looked at Nora when he heard the door open.

He wanted to ask about her aunt—in other words, about Queenie—and ask her how they had met, and also what kind of person she was. But unexpectedly, when he looked up, he instead saw a very grave and solemn look on Nora’s face.

Ian immediately abandoned his thoughts and asked, “What’s the matter?”

In just a split second, a sharp and forceful feeling had already crept into his voice, and he sounded much like he was ready to fight it out with the person who had bullied his daughter.

Additionally, after he spoke, he glanced at Justin.

Justin was speechless.

In an attempt to explain, he hurriedly asked, “What did Trueman send?”

Nora clenched her jaw.

She looked at Ian and then at Justin.

In the past, she had always shouldered everything by herself whenever she met with trouble. But now, she had a father, as well as a lover.

Nora did not push herself beyond her capabilities. At the question, she immediately opened the gift box in her hand.

Lying quietly inside the box was a small bottle of serum.

The serum was stored in a tiny glass bottle, and there was only a very small dose. However, written on the note beside it was its name: 'Gene Serum'.

For a while, all three people in the room fell silent.

Justin stared at the serum. Suddenly, he sighed. "I knew it. It was just a matter of time before we eventually found out. So, why would Trueman still send the boy back when he could have used the boy to threaten us. So that's how it is!"

Ian frowned. The man, who wasn't in the loop about the ins and outs of what had happened, asked, "What do you mean?"

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: "You have to inject Xander within half a month or he'll die."

Ian's pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, "Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly."

Ian drew a sharp breath. "Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?"

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"



Nora frowned. “To be honest, I don’t know.”

She looked at Justin. “At least he’s healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?”

Justin took a deep breath. “Yes.”

Justin’s suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn’t need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman’s deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb’s deep voice. “Miss Smith, you might be in trouble.”

Nora was taken aback. “What’s the matter?”

Caleb said in a low voice, “I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother’s hands.”

Nora’s eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words “V15” were written on it!!

She asked, “Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!”

The other party paused and sighed. “Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he’s in such a hurry!”

A cold light flashed across Nora’s eyes. “What do you mean?”

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at

the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, "Butterscotch's heart can't take it anymore. Fluffy's body isn't good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy's heart for Butterscotch's... That way, both of them would be alive..."

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.

After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, "Yes, I can change now."

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, "You can prove that you're my parents now, but this is only written evidence. I haven't acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?"

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.



Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

"Butterscotch, don't worry. I'll treat you."

"Fluffy, don't be afraid. I don't have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad..."

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. "Dad, shouldn't Xander's name be changed?"

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name "Cheryl Smith" was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 636 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

The Hunts were celebrating the children's birthday today, so most of the guests had also brought children of similar age with them.

The children, led by Mia, didn't dare to disturb Cherry and Princess Lucy, so they could only circle around Pete instead.

“Wow! You really look just like Cherry!”

Someone stretched out their little hand to pinch Pete’s cheek.

Mia smiled shyly and gave Pete a birthday present. “I drew this for you, Pete. Have a look and see if it looks good?”

When Pete opened it, he found that it was a drawing of three children.

Two of the children looked the same. One of them was wearing a white organza dress-it was Cherry.

The other was wearing a small suit-it was Pete.

The timid little girl in the middle was none other than Mia.

Mia looked at him and said timidly, “Pete, shall the three of us stay together forever?”

When Pete and Cherry were staying with the Smiths, they hadn’t played with Brandon but only with Mia instead. The three of them got along very well.

Pete nodded. “Sure!” “Cherry!”

Brandon, who had been in a state of shock and silence ever since he saw Pete, suddenly yelled, “So you guys are two different people! It’s not because you can cut off your little willy, turn into a little girl, and then have it grow back!”

Everyone: “??!”

Pete: “???”

Brandon wailed, “... To think I trusted you so much and started studying how to cut off my little willy without any pain! I’m lucky that I haven’t gotten around to doing it yet! Sob!”

After a moment of silence, they suddenly burst out laughing.

Children’s laughter was contagious. The whole party livened up because of their laughter.

In a corner one was paying any attention to, Xander stood all by himself and looked around blankly.

He didn't have a single friend here. Apart from the three gifts from his relatives, there was no one else here who would bring gifts for him.

"Wow! Did you see? Princess Lucy gave Cherry a diamond hairpin that she made! She's so good with her hands! That hairpin is really pretty!"

"Mia also drew a picture for Pete! And Brandon gave Pete his favorite plane!"

"When is my birthday? I want gifts too!"

In the children's world, how expensive a gift was didn't matter. What mattered was the amount of sincerity in the little gifts that the classmates gave one another.

Xander clenched his jaw.

He balled up his little fists tightly.

He suddenly wanted very much to go back, return to the basement, and lock himself up.

Just as his imagination was running wild, a big warm hand suddenly stroked his hair.

Xander was taken aback.

He looked behind abruptly and saw Nora standing behind him.

The woman was very tall and slim. Her almond-shaped eyes were slightly downcast. When he raised his head, the woman tugged her trousers up a little with her long and slender bandaged hands, and then she slowly squatted down. She rested her chin on her hands, looked at him at eye-level, and said, "Happy birthday, precious."

Xander's cheeks slowly started to burn.

The woman's voice was low and sounded pampering

This made his expression turn somewhat embarrassed.

He coughed and said, "Don't call me that, it's so mushy!"

Nora laughed. "Then what do you want me to call you? Babe? Darling? Or baby? Or perhaps... Xander?"

Xander rolled his eyes. "You can just call me Xander! Why are you so frivolous?! Be serious!"

Nora retracted her smile. Suddenly, she stretched out her uninjured hand to him and said, "Hello, Xander. Let me introduce myself. My name is Nora Smith, and I am your mommy. Mm, although I have been Cherry's mother for five years, and have also been Pete's mother for three months, I am still too incompetent a mother. I hope we can get along in the future. Oh, by the way, my hobby is sleeping."

Xander: "?"

The woman was speaking to him so seriously that it instead made him a little embarrassed.

He paused. Then, he suddenly grinned and said, "Hello, Nora Smith, my name is Xander. Although I have a father, it's as if I don't. This is my first time being someone's son. Please take care of me!"

One of the little guy's canine teeth was visible when he smiled, making him look very adorable.

Nora stroked his hair. "Yup, let's both try our best, okay~?"

Xander pursed his lips.

The way she spoke as if she was coaxing little kids sure was dumb!

But he didn't realize that even though he was pursing his lips, there was also a smile there.

During their conversation, Pete suddenly walked over and handed Xander a gift.

Taken aback, Xander stared at the box in front of him.

Pete said, "Although you haven't acknowledged us yet, Mommy has already told us that you are our brother. So, happy birthday."

Xander felt his eyes stinging again.

He took the gift and said in a stuck-up manner, “I didn’t prepare birthday presents for you guys though-“

“It’s okay, yeah!”

Cherry also walked over hand-in-hand with Princess Lucy. She handed him the little gift that she had prepared a long time ago and said, “We are older than you, so we won’t mind. Since you are the youngest, we will give in to you!” Xander: “??”

He frowned and got mad at once. “I’m your elder brother!”

Cherry tilted her head. “You are my younger brother! We should be particular about who comes first! Besides, isn’t it great being a younger brother? This way, I’ll give in to you!”

Pete also nodded and cooperated with Cherry.

Xander: !!

Nora had never thought that Trueman would actually send a gift.

The butler in front of her also had a grave look on his face. He said, “It was delivered by a mailman. We have investigated him—he is indeed an ordinary mailman, he has been delivering the mail here for many years. Also, the parcel was sent from within New York.”

From within New York...

Had Trueman returned to America?

She was alarmed.

To be honest, because Xander had grown up under Trueman’s care, his personality had long since developed to be like Trueman’s. Thanks to Trueman’s grooming, his moral compass had also strayed from the right path a little.

Trueman was not a good man. Besides, one could tell from what Xander had said that he did not treat Xander that well either.

Moreover, didn't Xander leave her side precisely because Trueman had taken him?

One couldn't hold gratitude towards a human trafficker just because they didn't kill their

son.

Thus, Nora didn't want the two of them to ever make contact with each other again.

Besides, the way she saw it, Xander was nothing more than Trueman's pawn. Judging from Trueman's attitude towards Ruth, one could tell that the man was rather unfeeling...

She stared at the gift box in her hand and slowly opened it.

When she saw the contents, a look of shock suddenly formed in her eyes, and she instantly slammed the lid shut! She thought of all the events in the past, as well as what Caleb had told her, and her heart suddenly started to pound madly.

"What's wrong?"

Just as she was a little flustered, Justin's low and deep voice came from the back, putting her at ease a little.

She looked behind her and narrowed her eyes. Just as she was about to speak, someone nearby noticed Justin and came over to talk to him.

Nora kept quiet.

Justin said, "Uncle Ian is in the lounge upstairs. Why don't you go over there? I'll come over in a minute."

"Okay."

Nora's fingers around the box tightened, seemingly very afraid that the box would fall and shatter. She took a deep breath and went upstairs.

Before she entered the lounge, a cry of surprise suddenly rang out from below.

Nora looked down to see a few people holding cages. Inside the cages were some rabbits, as well as cats and dogs.

Xander was circling around them in joy and surprise. “No. 6! No. 3! And Rabbit No. 5! Why are you guys here?”

Nora: “?”

It was the butler again who had brought the cages in. He had only brought them in after consulting Justin.

In the midst of Nora’s hesitation, Justin had dismissed the person who came up to him with just a few words. He went over to her.

Nora kept quiet for a while. Then, she asked, “Are those also gifts from Trueman?”

“Yeah.”

Justin said, “I allowed the butler to bring them in here when he asked me about it. Since Trueman has shipped them to Xander by air freight from a great distance away, they are likely very important to him.”

Before, he had neglected Xander a lot when they couldn’t be sure of his identity.

The two of them were currently dying to give Xander everything he wanted so that it would foster a sense of belonging in him. It was indeed beyond their expectations that Trueman would send the animals here.

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After all, with the animals here, Xander would probably no longer have any longing for that basement abroad, right? Moreover, with the company of these animals that had grown up with him, perhaps he wouldn’t be so difficult to get along with anymore.

The two of them stood at the door and stared at that little corner below.

Some people simply loved having cats and dogs around, so they weren’t surprised that someone would give them to Xander as gifts. The butler put them in the corner and said to Xander, “Mr. Xander, these animals have to be tested for diseases. We didn’t know that you have so many pets. Are you

planning to keep them with you, or would you like us to specially set aside a room in the garden and let them stay there? If it's the former, then we'll have to merge your room with the one next to it, so that it'll be big enough."

Xander replied without any hesitation. "They are not my pets, they are my friends! Of course they are gonna stay with me!"

The butler was a little troubled. "But this would mean that you may have to stay in a guest room during the renovation."

Xander was very happy at the moment because of the animals, so why would he possibly mind all that? He immediately waved. Just as he was about to say that he was alright with it, Pete said, "Why don't you stay with me for the time being?"

Xander was a little surprised. Then, he grinned and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I will beat you up in the middle of the night?"

Pete sighed. "So be it, if that's the case. Don't worry, I won't retaliate. After all, you are my younger brother."

Xander: "??!"

"Get lost! I'm the older brother!"

Pete shook his head helplessly. "Okay, okay, you are the older brother. Will that do?"

Xander: "?"

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child's unreasonable demands would say "Will that do?" in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

Xander suddenly felt rather frustrated.

How was it that he simply could not get the upper hand when he faced Pete?



He bared his teeth at Pete and acted as if he was going to pounce forward and bite him. At the sight, the animals in the cages also howled at Pete.

In fact, Butterscotch-aka No. 6, the wolfhound-even got ready to pounce forward.

Pete was not frightened. Instead, it was Xander who got a shock. He immediately tried to calm them down. "Stop that, Butterscotch!"

Only then did the wolfhound stop. It looked at Xander perplexedly, probably wondering to itself, "Doesn't master hate that guy a lot?"

As though sensing its hesitation, Xander rolled his eyes. He looked up at the ceiling and said in a stuck-up manner, "He is my younger brother. Even though I don't like him, I'm the only one who can bully him. Understand?"

"Woof! Woof!"

Butterscotch let out a couple of barks. While there was no way of knowing whether it had understood Xander, it certainly didn't bark at Pete anymore.

"This cat is so cute!"

Princess Lucy said as she pointed at a listless little cat in the cage.

Cherry had also squatted down beside the cage. She stretched out her chubby little hand to touch the animals in the cage, but when the cat saw her hand reaching into the cage, it shrank back and stared at her with its green eyes. Cherry's heart melted at the sight. "Xander, this cat is so cute! Can you give it to me?"

"Heh, no way! Emerald is not a pet, I can't give her away just like that!"

But after Xander said that, he added, "Unless you acknowledge me as your older brother."

"Big Brother Xander!" Cherry yelled out without hesitation, taking Xander by surprise. Cherry rushed up to him and said, "Big Brother Xander! Big Brother Xander! You're the best, yeah!"

Xander: "!!"

Could the girl please have a limit to how low she could go?

The corners of his lips spasmed a little. "I can let Emerald stay in your room, but you mustn't bully her."

"Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!"

Cherry and Lucy looked at each other and the two of them secretly giggled. Lucy then asked, "Can we sleep with her tonight?"

"Of course!"

Without Nora and Justin's permission, Cherry had agreed to Lucy's request to stay over!

Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

Her mother had said that back then, after she regained consciousness, she had only managed to save her last child.

As for who the older one between Pete and Xander was, it was hard to say. After all, Nora didn't know which of the two boys, that had been carried out of the room, Trueman had taken...

Cherry looked at Xander again and looked him up and down.

Xander was a little flattered by her gaze. "Are you looking at how your big brother is more handsome than Pete?"

Cherry replied, "... Nope. I was just thinking that it's fortunate that you treat these animals very well. Otherwise, I would think that you're the psychotic little friend I had met online!"

Xander: "??"

Cherry explained, "I met a little psycho on the Internet. He is very annoying and also very foul-mouthed, he's basically just like you. He also has a lot of pets... but he's always carrying out psychotic experiments and bullying those little animals every day. You are not like him, though. You love and care for the animals so much, you would never bully them, right?"

Xander the Little Psycho's lip corners spasmed a little. He quietly replied, "... Nope!"

He swore that he would never let Cherry know in his lifetime that he was that exact little psycho himself!

The two adults upstairs didn't know about the children's conversation. The two looked at each other and entered the room.

Ian was sitting on the sofa. He looked at Nora when he heard the door open.

He wanted to ask about her aunt—in other words, about Queenie—and ask her how they had met, and also what kind of person she was. But unexpectedly, when he looked up, he instead saw a very grave and solemn look on Nora's face.

Ian immediately abandoned his thoughts and asked, "What's the matter?"

In just a split second, a sharp and forceful feeling had already crept into his voice, and he sounded much like he was ready to fight it out with the person who had bullied his daughter.

Additionally, after he spoke, he glanced at Justin.

Justin was speechless.

In an attempt to explain, he hurriedly asked, "What did Trueman send?"

Nora clenched her jaw.

She looked at Ian and then at Justin.

In the past, she had always shouldered everything by herself whenever she met with trouble. But now, she had a father, as well as a lover.

Nora did not push herself beyond her capabilities. At the question, she immediately opened the gift box in her hand.

Lying quietly inside the box was a small bottle of serum.

The serum was stored in a tiny glass bottle, and there was only a very small dose. However, written on the note beside it was its name: 'Gene Serum'.

For a while, all three people in the room fell silent.

Justin stared at the serum. Suddenly, he sighed. "I knew it. It was just a matter of time before we eventually found out. So, why would Trueman still send the boy back when he could have used the boy to threaten us. So that's how it is!"

Ian frowned. The man, who wasn't in the loop about the ins and outs of what had happened, asked, "What do you mean?"

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: "You have to inject Xander within half a month or he'll die."

Ian's pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, "Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly."

Ian drew a sharp breath. "Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?"

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"

Nora frowned. "To be honest, I don't know."

She looked at Justin. "At least he's healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?"

Justin took a deep breath. “Yes.”

Justin’s suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn’t need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman’s deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb’s deep voice. “Miss Smith, you might be in trouble.”

Nora was taken aback. “What’s the matter?”

Caleb said in a low voice, “I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother’s hands.”

Nora’s eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words “V15” were written on it!!

She asked, “Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!”

The other party paused and sighed. “Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he’s in such a hurry!”

A cold light flashed across Nora’s eyes. “What do you mean?”

Caleb sighed. “The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body’s endurance becomes. They have realized that one can’t take more than two years to take the next injection. I’m the same age as Trueman. We’re 29

years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die.”

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. “So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!”

“...” The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. “Yes.”

One word made Nora’s heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. “Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!”

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman’s actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, “Let Trueman die!”

With that, she hung up.

That’s right. This was Trueman’s true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, "Butterscotch's heart can't take it anymore. Fluffy's body isn't good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy's heart for Butterscotch's... That way, both of them would be alive..."

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.



After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, "Yes, I can change now."

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, "You can prove that you're my parents now, but this is only written evidence. I haven't acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?"

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

"Butterscotch, don't worry. I'll treat you."

"Fluffy, don't be afraid. I don't have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad..."

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. "Dad, shouldn't Xander's name be changed?"

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name "Cheryl Smith" was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 637 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

"It's okay, yeah!"

Cherry also walked over hand-in-hand with Princess Lucy. She handed him the little gift that she had prepared a long time ago and said, "We are older than you, so we won't mind. Since you are the youngest, we will give in to you!" Xander: "??"

He frowned and got mad at once. "I'm your elder brother!"

Cherry tilted her head. "You are my younger brother! We should be particular about who comes first! Besides, isn't it great being a younger brother? This way, I'll give in to you!"

Pete also nodded and cooperated with Cherry.

Xander: !!

Nora had never thought that Trueman would actually send a gift.

The butler in front of her also had a grave look on his face. He said, "It was delivered by a mailman. We have investigated him—he is indeed an ordinary mailman, he has been delivering the mail here for many years. Also, the parcel was sent from within New York."

From within New York...

Had Trueman returned to America?

She was alarmed.

To be honest, because Xander had grown up under Trueman's care, his personality had long since developed to be like Trueman's. Thanks to Trueman's grooming, his moral compass had also strayed from the right path a little.

Trueman was not a good man. Besides, one could tell from what Xander had said that he did not treat Xander that well either.

Moreover, didn't Xander leave her side precisely because Trueman had taken him?

One couldn't hold gratitude towards a human trafficker just because they didn't kill their

son.

Thus, Nora didn't want the two of them to ever make contact with each other again.

Besides, the way she saw it, Xander was nothing more than Trueman's pawn. Judging from Trueman's attitude towards Ruth, one could tell that the man was rather unfeeling...

She stared at the gift box in her hand and slowly opened it.

When she saw the contents, a look of shock suddenly formed in her eyes, and she instantly slammed the lid shut! She thought of all the events in the past, as well as what Caleb had told her, and her heart suddenly started to pound madly.

"What's wrong?"

Just as she was a little flustered, Justin's low and deep voice came from the back, putting her at ease a little.

She looked behind her and narrowed her eyes. Just as she was about to speak, someone nearby noticed Justin and came over to talk to him.

Nora kept quiet.

Justin said, "Uncle Ian is in the lounge upstairs. Why don't you go over there? I'll come over in a minute."

"Okay."

Nora's fingers around the box tightened, seemingly very afraid that the box would fall and shatter. She took a deep breath and went upstairs.

Before she entered the lounge, a cry of surprise suddenly rang out from below.

Nora looked down to see a few people holding cages. Inside the cages were some rabbits, as well as cats and dogs.

Xander was circling around them in joy and surprise. "No. 6! No. 3! And Rabbit No. 5! Why are you guys here?"

Nora: "?"

It was the butler again who had brought the cages in. He had only brought them in after consulting Justin.

In the midst of Nora's hesitation, Justin had dismissed the person who came up to him with just a few words. He went over to her.

Nora kept quiet for a while. Then, she asked, "Are those also gifts from Trueman?"

"Yeah."

Justin said, "I allowed the butler to bring them in here when he asked me about it. Since Trueman has shipped them to Xander by air freight from a great distance away, they are likely very important to him."

Before, he had neglected Xander a lot when they couldn't be sure of his identity.

The two of them were currently dying to give Xander everything he wanted so that it would foster a sense of belonging in him. It was indeed beyond their expectations that Trueman would send the animals here.

as

After all, with the animals here, Xander would probably no longer have any longing for that basement abroad, right? Moreover, with the company of these animals that had grown up with him, perhaps he wouldn't be so difficult to get along with anymore.

The two of them stood at the door and stared at that little corner below.

Some people simply loved having cats and dogs around, so they weren't surprised that someone would give them to Xander as gifts. The butler put them in the corner and said to Xander, "Mr. Xander, these animals have to be tested for diseases. We didn't know that you have so many pets. Are you planning to keep them with you, or would you like us to specially set aside a room in the garden and let them stay there? If it's the former, then we'll have to merge your room with the one next to it, so that it'll be big enough."

Xander replied without any hesitation. "They are not my pets, they are my friends! Of course they are gonna stay with me!"

The butler was a little troubled. "But this would mean that you may have to stay in a guest room during the renovation."



Xander was very happy at the moment because of the animals, so why would he possibly mind all that? He immediately waved. Just as he was about to say that he was alright with it, Pete said, "Why don't you stay with me for the time being?"

Xander was a little surprised. Then, he grinned and asked, "Aren't you afraid that I will beat you up in the middle of the night?"

Pete sighed. "So be it, if that's the case. Don't worry, I won't retaliate. After all, you are my younger brother."

Xander: "??!"

"Get lost! I'm the older brother!"

Pete shook his head helplessly. "Okay, okay, you are the older brother. Will that do?"

Xander: "?"

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child's unreasonable demands would say "Will that do?" in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

Xander suddenly felt rather frustrated.

How was it that he simply could not get the upper hand when he faced Pete?

He bared his teeth at Pete and acted as if he was going to pounce forward and bite him. At the sight, the animals in the cages also howled at Pete.

In fact, Butterscotch-aka No. 6, the wolfhound-even got ready to pounce forward.

Pete was not frightened. Instead, it was Xander who got a shock. He immediately tried to calm them down. "Stop that, Butterscotch!"

Only then did the wolfhound stop. It looked at Xander perplexedly, probably wondering to itself, "Doesn't master hate that guy a lot?"

As though sensing its hesitation, Xander rolled his eyes. He looked up at the ceiling and said in a stuck-up manner, "He is my younger brother. Even though I don't like him, I'm the only one who can bully him. Understand?"

"Woof! Woof!"

Butterscotch let out a couple of barks. While there was no way of knowing whether it had understood Xander, it certainly didn't bark at Pete anymore.

"This cat is so cute!"

Princess Lucy said as she pointed at a listless little cat in the cage.

Cherry had also squatted down beside the cage. She stretched out her chubby little hand to touch the animals in the cage, but when the cat saw her hand reaching into the cage, it shrank back and stared at her with its green eyes. Cherry's heart melted at the sight. "Xander, this cat is so cute! Can you give it to me?"

"Heh, no way! Emerald is not a pet, I can't give her away just like that!"

But after Xander said that, he added, "Unless you acknowledge me as your older brother."

"Big Brother Xander!" Cherry yelled out without hesitation, taking Xander by surprise. Cherry rushed up to him and said, "Big Brother Xander! Big Brother Xander! You're the best, yeah!"

Xander: "!!"

Could the girl please have a limit to how low she could go?

The corners of his lips spasmed a little. "I can let Emerald stay in your room, but you mustn't bully her."

"Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!"

Cherry and Lucy looked at each other and the two of them secretly giggled. Lucy then asked, "Can we sleep with her tonight?"

"Of course!"

Without Nora and Justin's permission, Cherry had agreed to Lucy's request to stay over!

Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

Her mother had said that back then, after she regained consciousness, she had only managed to save her last child.

As for who the older one between Pete and Xander was, it was hard to say. After all, Nora didn't know which of the two boys, that had been carried out of the room, Trueman had taken...

Cherry looked at Xander again and looked him up and down.

Xander was a little flattered by her gaze. "Are you looking at how your big brother is more handsome than Pete?"

Cherry replied, "... Nope. I was just thinking that it's fortunate that you treat these animals very well. Otherwise, I would think that you're the psychotic little friend I had met online!"

Xander: "??"

Cherry explained, "I met a little psycho on the Internet. He is very annoying and also very foul-mouthed, he's basically just like you. He also has a lot of pets... but he's always carrying out psychotic experiments and bullying those little animals every day. You are not like him, though. You love and care for the animals so much, you would never bully them, right?"

Xander the Little Psycho's lip corners spasmed a little. He quietly replied, "... Nope!"

He swore that he would never let Cherry know in his lifetime that he was that exact little psycho himself!

The two adults upstairs didn't know about the children's conversation. The two looked at each other and entered the room.

Ian was sitting on the sofa. He looked at Nora when he heard the door open.

He wanted to ask about her aunt—in other words, about Queenie—and ask her how they had met, and also what kind of person she was. But unexpectedly, when he looked up, he instead saw a very grave and solemn look on Nora's face.

Ian immediately abandoned his thoughts and asked, "What's the matter?"

In just a split second, a sharp and forceful feeling had already crept into his voice, and he sounded much like he was ready to fight it out with the person who had bullied his daughter.

Additionally, after he spoke, he glanced at Justin.

Justin was speechless.

In an attempt to explain, he hurriedly asked, "What did Trueman send?"

Nora clenched her jaw.

She looked at Ian and then at Justin.

In the past, she had always shouldered everything by herself whenever she met with trouble. But now, she had a father, as well as a lover.

Nora did not push herself beyond her capabilities. At the question, she immediately opened the gift box in her hand.

Lying quietly inside the box was a small bottle of serum.

The serum was stored in a tiny glass bottle, and there was only a very small dose. However, written on the note beside it was its name: 'Gene Serum'.

For a while, all three people in the room fell silent.

Justin stared at the serum. Suddenly, he sighed. "I knew it. It was just a matter of time before we eventually found out. So, why would Trueman still send the boy back when he could have used the boy to threaten us. So that's how it is!"

Ian frowned. The man, who wasn't in the loop about the ins and outs of what had happened, asked, "What do you mean?"

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: "You have to inject Xander within half a month or he'll die."

Ian's pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, "Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly."

Ian drew a sharp breath. "Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?"

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"

Nora frowned. "To be honest, I don't know."

She looked at Justin. "At least he's healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?"

Justin took a deep breath. "Yes."

Justin's suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn't need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman's deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb's deep voice. "Miss Smith, you might be in trouble."

Nora was taken aback. "What's the matter?"

Caleb said in a low voice, "I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother's hands."

Nora's eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words "V15" were written on it!!

She asked, "Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!"

The other party paused and sighed. "Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he's in such a hurry!"

A cold light flashed across Nora's eyes. "What do you mean?"

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"



Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, “Butterscotch’s heart can’t take it anymore. Fluffy’s body isn’t good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy’s heart for Butterscotch’s... That way, both of them would be alive...”

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.

After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, “Yes, I can change now.”

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, “You can prove that you’re my parents now, but this is only written evidence. I haven’t acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?”

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch’s heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

"Butterscotch, don't worry. I'll treat you."

“Fluffy, don’t be afraid. I don’t have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad...”

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. “Dad, shouldn’t Xander’s name be changed?”

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name “Cheryl Smith” was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 638 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

That way of speaking... Why did it sound so much like he was giving in to him?

When he thought of what Pete had said just now about how an older brother should give in to his younger brother, he immediately understood. It was just like how an adult faced with a child’s unreasonable demands would say “Will that do?” in a pampering manner! That was exactly what it felt like!

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"Okie-dokie! I promise! No problem!"

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"Of course!"

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Also, the reason why she had happily acknowledged Xander as her older brother was that she was very sure that she was the youngest! Her mother had said so.

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Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, “How dare he scheme against my grandson! He’s really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!”

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. “Xander’s DNA can’t match yours and mine. It’s because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!”

Nora frowned. “To be honest, I don’t know.”

She looked at Justin. “At least he’s healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?”

Justin took a deep breath. “Yes.”

Justin’s suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn’t need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman’s deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb's deep voice. "Miss Smith, you might be in trouble."

Nora was taken aback. "What's the matter?"

Caleb said in a low voice, "I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother's hands."

Nora's eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words "V15" were written on it!!

She asked, "Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!"

The other party paused and sighed. "Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he's in such a hurry!"

A cold light flashed across Nora's eyes. "What do you mean?"

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

eman

Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

It was Cherry's voice.

Justin rushed over fiercely and opened the door. Cherry rushed in anxiously and pulled Nora downstairs. Her voice was filled with tears. "Mommy, hurry up and see Butterscotch. Butterscotch can't take it anymore!"

Butterscotch?

Nora frowned and suddenly realized something. She hurriedly went downstairs in front of Cherry.

As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

Nora nodded at the butler.

This was Justin's butler. He was good at handling matters and had always been very polite to her.

Hearing this, Nora rushed to the lounge again. Just as she entered, she heard Pete's voice. "My mommy is also your mommy. She's a doctor. She will definitely be able to treat Butterscotch. Don't worry."

Princess Lucy was also standing beside them, looking at them with wide eyes and fear.

Hearing the sound of footsteps, Pete and Princess Lucy turned to look at Nora. Pete's eyes lit up. He rushed over and held Nora's hand. He pointed at the dog in the cage in the corner and said, "Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch."

Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, “Butterscotch’s heart can’t take it anymore. Fluffy’s body isn’t good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy’s heart for Butterscotch’s... That way, both of them would be alive...”

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

However, at this moment, Nora only felt her heart slowly getting stifled.

In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

Last time, he was framed as an outsider and had taken Pete away. Until he returned, he had not explained a word.

During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

Nora thought of how he looked when she took the DNA test report and walked to the VIP lounge upstairs to hand the report to him.

After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, “Yes, I can change now.”

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, “You can prove that you’re my parents now, but this is only written evidence. I haven’t acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?”

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

This was how Xander was. He was a strange, eccentric, and domineering child. At this moment, he was holding a knife and quietly saying that he wanted to replace Butterscotch’s heart.

Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

Xander frowned. "Aren't they all hearts? How can you be so sure?!"

With that, he extended his hand again and wanted to open the cage. "Open the cage quickly. I want to save Butterscotch! It'll be too late!"

"Woof."

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander's body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. "Aren't the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn't come, kill her!"

Xander's eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. "Xander, I'm Anti."

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander's body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. "You're Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!"

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily's voice was hoarse. "Boss, I'd just fallen asleep..."

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children's birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, "Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!"

"...OK."

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.



When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

"Butterscotch, don't worry. I'll treat you."

“Fluffy, don’t be afraid. I don’t have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad...”

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. “Dad, shouldn’t Xander’s name be changed?”

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name “Cheryl Smith” was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 639 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

Justin pursed his lips and handed a piece of paper beside the medicine in the box to Ian.

Ian opened it and saw a line of words: “You have to inject Xander within half a month or he’ll die.”

Ian’s pupils shrank as he looked up in disbelief.

Nora took a deep breath and explained, “Caleb once told me that there is no way to expel the side effects of the gene serum on an adult. Therefore, even if an adult succeeds in improving their genes, their lifespan is greatly shortened. Within the mysterious organization, they had once found thousands of children to do experiments. Among these children, those who could not withstand the gene serum died. Those who could withstand it had to be injected regularly. Otherwise, they would die too. Just like Caleb and Trueman have to inject the gene serum regularly.”

Ian drew a sharp breath. “Are you saying that Xander will be controlled by him from now on?”

Nora nodded.

Ian clenched his jaw and gripped the handle of the chair tightly. Then, he said sternly, "How dare he scheme against my grandson! He's really suicidal! Our family will fight this mysterious organization to the end!"

Nora looked at him and lowered her eyes. Justin looked at Nora nervously. "Xander's DNA can't match yours and mine. It's because of this medicine, Nora. Is there something wrong with his body?!"

Nora frowned. "To be honest, I don't know."

She looked at Justin. "At least he's healthy for now. Do you think Trueman is lying to us?"

Justin took a deep breath. "Yes."

Justin's suspicion was very reasonable.

Trueman was both good and bad. He had never done things logically. It was indeed reasonable that he really planned to cheat them.

What if Xander didn't need a gene serum but was still injected with it under Trueman's deception?

Nora kept quiet for a long while.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. She picked it up and heard Caleb's deep voice. "Miss Smith, you might be in trouble."

Nora was taken aback. "What's the matter?"

Caleb said in a low voice, "I noticed that Trueman secretly sent a V15 gene serum to the country... You might not understand what V15 means. Let me tell you—The gene serum is divided into 16 stages from 1 to 16. The serum is also divided into 16 injections. Only after these 16 injections can you completely become a transgenic person. Your life will be worry free, and you might even get more benefits from your body and live longer. But before this, if any injection is missed, you would die! I once told you that the mysterious organization raised a group of children who were very powerful. Among those few, there were five who survived. The five of us have taken the doses up to V15. Currently, only V16 is left, but V16 is in your mother's hands."

Nora's eyes narrowed. She stared at the gene serum in her hand and took out that small bottle. She flipped to the back and realized that the words "V15" were written on it!!

She asked, "Xander is my son. He sent this gene serum to my son!"

The other party paused and sighed. "Trueman only has three months left to live. No wonder he's in such a hurry!"

A cold light flashed across Nora's eyes. "What do you mean?"

Caleb sighed. "The longer the interval between the injections, the lighter the body's endurance becomes. They have realized that one can't take more than two years to take the next injection. I'm the same age as Trueman. We're 29 years old. After the initial few, we had taken injections every two years. We injected V15 nearly 21 months ago. If V16 is not found within three months, Trueman will die."

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Nora instantly grasped the logic behind this. "So Xander was not even six years old, but he was already injected with 14 serums? This means that he was injected with three serums annually!"

"..." The other party was silent for a long time before he sighed silently. "Yes."

One word made Nora's heart hurt like a needle.

She could not think about it. She had no idea what Xander had experienced in the past five years!

She clenched her jaw.

Caleb sighed. "Trueman must have realized your existence when you were giving birth, so he deliberately stole your child. When your mother died that year, the mysterious organization could do nothing to her. The mysterious organization was probably afraid that you would not come out and hide the antidote your mother had left behind, so they deliberately took Xander to force you to

yield!"

Nora took a deep breath.

Trueman's actions had really infuriated her!

She was furious!

Trueman used the child as the bait just to force her to find the V16 left by her mother!

She said angrily, "Let Trueman die!"

With that, she hung up.

That's right. This was Trueman's true motive.

Sending Xander back to drive a wedge between them was not his real goal. If Justin and Nora could not even save a child, they were not worthy of being the heads of the Hunts.

His goal was to force Nora!

Nora took a deep breath and looked at Justin.

As the two of them were thinking, there was a sudden violent knock on the door. "Mommy, mommy, open the door quickly! Something's wrong!"

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As soon as she came downstairs, the butler walked over. "Xander and Butterscotch are in the lounge. I was afraid of causing a panic, so I asked the security to move them over."

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Nora walked over and realized that Butterscotch was lying in the cage. It seemed to have no strength at all. It lay on its side with its legs straightened. However, its eyes were wide open as it looked at Xander. Its pupils had already begun to expand, and it was obvious that there was no treatment possible.

Nora's heart sank. She turned to look at Xander and saw that he was extremely calm. His little face was tense as he squatted beside Butterscotch and stared at him. He held a small knife in his hand.

When she saw that knife, Nora's pupils constricted. She asked directly, "Xander, what are you doing?"

Xander was still staring at Butterscotch as he said stubbornly, "Butterscotch's heart can't take it anymore. Fluffy's body isn't good, but its heart is still alive. I want to exchange Fluffy's heart for Butterscotch's... That way, both of them would be alive..."

Any child would definitely panic upon hearing such words.

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In the past, she had always thought that Xander was a mischievous child who was just ruthless. When the security officer had collected his DNA samples, Xander had even bitten him.

Later on, he was always acting stubborn. Whatever Justin asked him, or whatever Nora asked him, he would not answer.

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During that time, Justin tried to talk to him many times, but he was stopped by Nora.

It was only when Pete woke up and told the truth that Justin could let go of the knot in his heart.

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After he pretended to be mature and finished reading the report, he stood up and looked at the butler to simply say, "Yes, I can change now."

He did not say anything and only glanced at Justin and Nora proudly. Then, he said, "You can prove that you're my parents now, but this is only written evidence. I haven't acknowledged you in my heart yet. You still have to work hard, understand?"

Therefore, he had never called her Mom and Dad.

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Over the years, although Nora had saved many people, it was inevitable that she experienced life and death in the hospital. She had a calm personality and did not care about many things.

But at this moment, her eyes were gradually turning red.

Even though Xander had grown up in a bad environment, he still remained true to himself.

She said, "Xander, it's useless. Its body will reject the new heart."

"How could that be?"

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“Woof.”

Butterscotch suddenly let out a weak bark. The bark made Xander’s body stiffen. Then, he suddenly turned to look at Nora. “Aren’t the Smiths and Hunts very powerful? Hurry up and call the doctor Anti to treat Butterscotch! Anti can save Butterscotch! Quickly call her over. If she doesn’t come, kill her!”

Xander’s eyes were filled with madness.

Looking at his heartbreaking appearance, Nora reached out and pressed his head. “Xander, I’m Anti.”

I am Anti.

These words caused Xander’s body to stiffen.

He pushed Nora away and stared at her in shock. “You’re Anti... Mommy, hurry up and save Butterscotch!”

The first time he called Nora Mommy, he was asking her to do something that she could not.

However, Nora knew that if she did not do something now, Xander would probably go crazy.

She took a deep breath and nodded. “Okay.”

Then, she took out her phone and called Lily.

Lily’s voice was hoarse. “Boss, I’d just fallen asleep...”

She had done the DNA tests without sleeping for several days. She did not even attend the children’s birthday party and had fallen asleep.

Only two hours had passed!

Before she could finish complaining, she heard Nora say, “Come to the Hunts immediately and assist me in a heart transplant surgery!”

“...OK.”

Before Lily could rush over, the tables in the waiting room had already been gathered. All the medical equipment at the Hunts' had been transported in under Justin's guidance.

When Lily rushed over, she hurriedly changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves to assist Nora in the surgery. When she saw the dog on the operating table, Lily was stunned. She hesitated and asked, "Boss, why are you operating on a dead..."

Before she could finish saying the words 'dead dog', Nora suddenly shot her a look. That glance contained a warning, causing Lily to instantly shut her mouth.

Only then did she realize that the others in the room had been chased out. Except for a child standing in a corner.

He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

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Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. "Dad, shouldn't Xander's name be changed?"

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name "Cheryl Smith" was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

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## **Chapter 640 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

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He stood there silently with a knife in his hand and did not move at all. His eyes were fixed on the operating table.

He was not afraid of such a bloody scene at all.

Only then did Lily realize that something was wrong. Therefore, she cooperated with Nora prepared to replace Butterscotch's heart.

Nora stared at the dog. Butterscotch was already dead.

When Nora came to see it, she realized that its heart had already stopped beating.

This was also the first patient who had died in front of her in Nora's medical career.

But she was still acting.

No, not for show.

Nora was actually dissecting Butterscotch.

These words were cruel. Butterscotch was Xander's friend. Xander would never allow it to be treated like this, but Nora had to do it.

That was because she wanted to observe the power of the gene serum through Butterscotch!

Xander had been injected with a gene serum. This was definitely the most important thing for her. Her mother had not left anything behind. She had long investigated this.

There was nothing in the company she had left behind, either... or she had not realized it yet.

She couldn't just pin all her hope on her mother. She had to research it herself!

When she saw Butterscotch's heart filled with cracks, her heart shrunk. The power of that mysterious gene serum was too great.

In Butterscotch's body, only its heart was ruptured. The rest of its body was more developed than an ordinary dog.

Furthermore, this dog's brain development was very good. The current Butterscotch had the intelligence of a three-year-old child. The gene serum was indeed powerful!

Two hours later, Xander covered Butterscotch with a white sheet.

He finally admitted that Butterscotch was dead.

He looked at Butterscotch in a daze but did not cry. He only said, "So, even a heart transplant was useless!"

With that, the child lowered his head, as if he felt guilty for his ignorant thoughts.

He looked at Butterscotch's corpse and then at Nora. For the first time, he made his own request. "Can we... not eat Butterscotch?" Nora was taken aback.

Xander sighed. "The friends who died in the past had all been eaten."

He still remembered Butterscotch's mother, who was also a fierce big dog. After it was taken away by the two bodyguards to be dissected, the two of them had boasted it in front of him, "Dog meat is really delicious!"

Therefore, after his little animals died, he would force himself to eat them.

In that case, those friends' corpses would not be treated so cruelly.

But now, he did not want to eat it anymore.

Would his new parents agree?

While Xander was a little perturbed, Nora held his chin up and touched his head.

Half an hour later, a pit was dug out on the ground in the Hunts' back garden. Butterscotch's corpse was placed in a glass coffin Justin had bought and slowly lowered underground. Then, the man handed a shovel to Xander. "Let him rest in peace!"

For the first time, Xander realized that his dead friend could be buried in peace!

His eyes turned red.

He finally felt the warmth of this house.

After Butterscotch was buried, Xander was still sick. The child was a little feverish and was talking nonsense in his sleep.

"Butterscotch, don't worry. I'll treat you."



“Fluffy, don’t be afraid. I don’t have to eat you anymore. Actually, rabbit meat is very bad...”

Cherry looked at him with her chin propped up and sighed silently.

Pete also frowned. “Dad, shouldn’t Xander’s name be changed?”

Hearing this, Justin glanced at Nora.

After Cherry returned to the Hunts, he had not changed her name. The name “Cheryl Smith” was very pleasant to hear. Besides, he did not think that there would be anything between their surnames.

As for Xander... Justin had already found a few names for him. Since the child had grown old enough, Justin wanted him to choose for himself once he was awake.

## **Chapter 641 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

Nora did not care about this, but her heart ached for Xander.

At this moment, her phone suddenly rang. It was a message from Trueman.

“Looking at the time, Butterscotch’s V15 should have expired. It died without the V16, right? Do you want Xander to die too?”

“Oh, right, I forgot to tell you. Xander’s injected genes were to modify his brain, so if he dies, it won’t be because of his heart. It’s useless for you to transplant his heart. You have to change his brain, but as everyone knows, there have yet to be any successful cases of brain transplants. Besides, are you really going to replace his brain?”

“Since Xander is still a child he would only have about three months after taking the V15. Therefore, you only have three months, just like me.”

Three months...

This was indeed Trueman’s real goal.

Nora stared at the V15 serum in her hand. At this moment, she was contemplating whether to inject it into Xander.

If she did not inject it, he would die in ten days. If she injected it, he would be in control of the drug.

Nora lowered her eyes.

Justin walked out and held her shoulder. "Xander's fever has subsided. Don't worry."

With Nora around, even if Xander had a fever, he would not have any problems.

Nora nodded.

At this moment, the butler suddenly walked over. He looked at the two of them and fell silent. For a moment, he did not know how to report.

Nora asked, "What's wrong?"

The butler sighed. "There's a cat among Xander's pets. Seems like it wouldn't make

it."

||

Nora went to the room downstairs. Mrs. Hunt liked raising pets, so there were people at home who knew how to raise pets. They took good care of Xander's ten-plus pets.

The other pets were very energetic, but they were clearly a little afraid. They huddled in a corner, but one of the cats was lying on the ground listlessly. Its eyelids were drooping, and it was obvious that it would not survive.

Nora glanced at it.

Her phone rang again. It was Trueman. "Oh, and Tiger. It seems like Tiger won't be able to make it past two days. Those pets have been injected with V15. They're only short of V16."

Nora clenched her jaw.

Justin narrowed his eyes. "He only wants us to watch the animals die one by one, but there's nothing we can do. We need to find V16!"

Trueman's methods were really cruel.

He knew that the two of them were not people who could be easily manipulated, which was why he had made this decision. Perhaps the two of them did not believe that Xander would die. When they were searching for the V16 Yvette had left behind, they had not put in enough effort. Perhaps they would not realize the severity of the matter until Xander suddenly died.

Therefore, he had sent Xander's friends over with good intentions on the surface to make the child happy. However, his real goal was to let the two of them witness their deaths one by one to increase their urgency.

Yes, that was right.

A sense of urgency.

Nora felt very anxious at this moment.

Although she was very good at medicine and had a certain status in biological engineering, it still took time for her to grasp new things.

Furthermore, the mysterious organization had worked hard for so many years and no one had been able to develop V16. This meant that V16 might not be something that she could easily develop alone.

Nora suddenly turned around and walked out.

Justin followed behind her, but she stopped him. "Stay here and take care of Xander. I'll be right back."

The woman who had always been sleepy did not have time to sleep now. Although Justin wanted to follow her, he knew that if he did not stay by the three children's side, Nora might not be able to feel at ease, either. Therefore, he stopped in his tracks.

He stared at the woman's back and lowered his eyes.

His eyes were dark as he clenched his fists tightly.

Nora went straight to the hospital and found Charles's ward.

Charles had already fallen asleep. He was woken up by the noise and looked at Nora in front of him in shock.

Nora asked, "You stopped me and didn't want me to know about the triplets. I understand now."

When Charles heard this, he instantly sat up.

He stared at Nora and said carefully, "Miss..."

"What is the V16? Do you not want me to look for the formula my mother had left behind?"

When Charles heard this, he instantly sighed. "Miss Nora, once the V16 appears, it will definitely cause widespread panic in the world. If the serum is perfected and humans are able to acquire flawless genetics, do you think humanity would survive?"

Nora thought of the few people who had injected gene serum in the martial arts arena. They were really powerful. If that kind of serum was mass-produced and had no side effects, wouldn't future humans be able to create several powerful armies?

Thinking about it, it was indeed terrifying.

However, she could not care less about this.

She said, "I know the truth now. I don't have time to care about what you're saying. I can find V16 and save Xander before destroying it!"

When Charles heard this, he knew that it was hopeless for him to stop her. He took a deep breath and said, "But V16 is not that easy to find. The mysterious organization has been searching for 25 years for the thing, but there are still no clues. It means that this thing is really very well hidden."

"No matter how well hidden it is, there must be traces."

Nora stared at him and said, "You must have a clue."

Otherwise, the mysterious organization would not have spared him. Charles had betrayed Yvette many years ago, and the mysterious organization had squeezed him dry of all his value but had not killed him. This meant that there was a need for this person to live.

To Trueman, the only value of Charles's life was that he could provide some clues to find V16.

Therefore, Nora was certain that Charles had a clue.

When Charles heard this, he instantly shut his mouth as if he was facing a formidable enemy.

Nora sat opposite him. "At this point, there's no longer a need to hide. Tell me."

Charles lowered his head and sighed heavily.

He felt like he had no dignity to speak of it in front of Nora.

However, he knew that he had betrayed Yvette and then Nora. He deserved all of this.

He raised his head and looked at Nora. "Ms. Nora, do you know how difficult and dangerous it will be for you to find V16?"

Nora looked at him.

Charles took a deep breath. "Do you really think that the mysterious organization is weak? Ms. Nora, you're wrong, very wrong! Trueman is only one of them! Their power is so strong that you can't even imagine it, their background as well. Everything they show you is what they're willing to let you find out. Even that child..."

"At the time, I kept emphasizing that you had twins because I wanted you to stay away from Xander and not be dragged into the V16 mess. But you were still too smart. That child was injected with a gene serum. Logically, if I didn't admit it, you shouldn't have noticed, since your DNA wouldn't match very well."

What he did not know was that Nora and Lily's medical skills were high enough to restore the initial DNA.

Nora could not be bothered to explain this to him. But was the mysterious organization really so powerful?

She lowered her eyes.

To be honest, all she had heard until now was that there would be danger when she grew up and that she should stay away from mysterious organizations.

However, the only person from the mysterious organization whom she really came into contact with was Trueman.

Although Trueman's behavior was bad, to Nora, he was as childish as a three-year-old little demon.

She asked, "Is the mysterious organization really that powerful?"

Charles asked, "If they're not strong, if they're not powerful, why didn't Ms. Yvette ask for help? Why did she escape to California by herself? Why did she keep you alive while she herself had to die in the end?"

Nora fell silent.

She had already wondered about this question.

The mysterious organization was very powerful overseas, but was it that powerful in New York? Back then, if her mother had asked the special department for help and not tried to escape, would she not have had to die?

Charles shook his head. "Because your mother knew that even if she asked for help, it was useless! In the end, she came to California. In the end, she could only die helplessly to protect you and your secret. No matter how powerful your mother was, she was still discovered by the mysterious organization in the end. Ms. Yvette was still a step behind."

After Yvette died, Charles felt like his worldview had collapsed.

Even someone as strong as her had been forced to this extent by the mysterious organization that she had to protect her daughter with her life. She had been discovered by the mysterious organization and they had found him as well.

At that time, his heart wavered.

Ms. Yvette was not a match for a mysterious organization.

Therefore, in the end, he chose to betray Ms. Yvette in fear.

After that, he watched helplessly as the Grays and the Smiths in California slowly developed. Both sides thought that their cooperation was very stable, but they did not know that everything was under the surveillance of the mysterious organization! The two families were played like monkeys. In the end, they arranged for Charles to get Nora pregnant with multiple children...

He sighed and continued, "I betrayed Ms. Yvette. Not long after her death, the mysterious organization discovered your existence and learned about your mother and the Grays' conspiracy. They sat on the fishing boat and dominated the subsequent events!

Later, I was used by the mysterious organization to deal with you. It was indeed because of the drug that you gave birth to the triplets. And your pregnancy back then was plotted by Trueman!"

Compared to the mysterious organization, Ms. Yvette was still a step behind.

As Charles was thinking, he saw Nora shake her head. "Instead, I feel that the mysterious organization has fallen into my mother's trap."

Charles was stunned and looked at her in confusion.

Nora stared at him. "So what if the mysterious organization found out about me? They did not catch me and interrogate me about V16's whereabouts because they knew that it was useless!

They had to wait obediently until I grew up. They had to ensure my safety with bodyguards because if I died, the Grays would never have been able to get the V16, and the mysterious organization would forever lose it as well.

Mother should have known this when she died. Until now, everything has been in her plans!"

Charles was stunned.

His eyes widened and he stared at Nora in disbelief.

After careful consideration of her words, he realized that it was not impossible for Ms. Yvette to fight against the mysterious organization!

At least for the past 25 years, the mysterious organization had been protecting Nora.

This was all within her expectations.

Charles felt like his entire worldview was about to collapse. He looked at Nora in a daze.

Nora continued, "In fact, mother should have guessed that they would inject my child with gene serum and I would be controlled by them. Therefore, she really must have left behind the V16 formula or the completed product! Although I don't know why the mysterious organization didn't just keep me themselves, she couldn't just let my child die at their hands!"

Charles looked at Nora. His thoughts were already in a daze.

He said, "I know why they didn't keep you."

Nora hesitated and asked, "Why?"

"It's because your mother had injected you with a gene serum to improve your intelligence the moment you were born. That drug was unique. Once injected, the body is unable to take other drugs. Not only did they not dare to inject you with another serum, but they also needed to guarantee that you digested the small amount your mother had injected you with."

Genetic serums themselves had huge side effects. This was also why only five children from the mysterious organization had survived all these years.

Charles was silent for a moment as if he was slowly realizing how ingenious Yvette's arrangements were. "Besides, the mysterious organization doesn't dare to attack you. If you die, there will be nothing left! That's why they chose your child!"

When Nora heard this, she suddenly realized that her mother had injected her with a small amount of medicine after she was born. She had really considered all aspects of the matter!

She was surprised by her mother's ingenious arrangements. She looked at Charles and stepped forward, staring at him. "So now can you tell me?"

Charles was a little stunned by Nora's words.



Over the years, he had always thought that it was because Yvette was no match for the mysterious organization that she had been schemed against. But it turned out that he was wrong.

It was as expected of Ms. Yvette.

He lowered his head and smiled bitterly. After a moment, he said, "She left behind a medicine."

Nora suddenly looked at him. "Where is it?"

Charles shook his head. "I really don't know. She had left you a clue. She once said that it would be up to you to find it."

Before she died, Yvette had arranged everything for the three of them.

When the four of them separated, Old Maddy was worried about Nora's safety and had asked, "Are you really sure about Nora? Besides, the clues to the V16 are only meant for Nora. Will she be in danger?"

Yvette had said at that time, "If she finds it in the future, it would mean that she has the intelligence and power to resist the mysterious organization. If she can't find it... Then, as long as V16 doesn't show up, nothing will happen to her. The mysterious organization will protect her."

Clues...

Her mother had really left a clue.

Nora stood up suddenly. At this moment, there was no need for Charles to lie to her. He was definitely telling the truth.

However, other than a voice message, the only thing her mother had left behind was that company.

The company... When she was in California, she had suspected that the Grays wanted her company, so she had already turned the company upside down. There was nothing there!

It seemed like she had overlooked something.

At this moment, Charles was useless to her. Nora turned around and walked out.

She had just taken two steps when Charles suddenly shouted, "Ms. Nora..."

Nora stopped in her tracks and turned back.

Charles's old face was filled with caution and frustration. He looked like his heart had turned to ashes. He hesitated and said, "I'm sorry... Ms. Yvette probably won't forgive

me."

Looking at this person and thinking about his miserable life, Nora suddenly said, "She will."

Charles was stunned.

Nora said calmly, "She never blamed you."

Charles had betrayed Yvette and spent his entire life in guilt. When he heard this, he felt like the huge rock pressing on his heart for so many years had dropped. He heaved a sigh of relief.

Nora did not look at him again and walked out of the ward.

Lily followed beside her and asked in confusion, "Boss, why did you say your mother would forgive him? For someone like him who betrayed his master, if it were me, I would never forgive him!"

Hearing this, Nora sighed and looked at her. "Because even his betrayal was within my mother's expectations."

After saying this, Nora strode away.

Lily was left standing in the hospital. When she came over today to see Quentin, she did not plan to leave with Nora. When she heard Nora's words, she suddenly felt a chill run down her spine.

The clue was with her, which was also the reason why the mysterious organization did not attack her directly.

As for staying low-profile, her mother's warning was probably to let her conserve her strength.

By now Nora had finally guessed all her mother's plans. At the same time that she was excited, she was also anxious.

With her mother being so smart, it would probably be even more difficult for her to resolve this problem.

On the way back to the Smiths, she put on her earphones and listened to the recording her mother had left her. This was the only thing her mother had left behind.

After listening to it a few times, she had those words memorized.

Nora sighed silently.

It seemed like she had to go to California and chat with the manager of Idealian Pharmaceuticals. Since her mother had trusted him back then, he must have some important information.

As she thought about this, she listened attentively to the recording in her earpiece and suddenly captured some information.

At the same time, her phone rang.

Nora had a flash of inspiration and caught some information. However, all her inspiration was interrupted by her phone ringtone, making her frown.

She felt like something she had overlooked was about to surface, but it instantly sank to the bottom again.

She sighed silently.

It seemed like she really could not be anxious.

She picked up her phone. A gentle voice came from the other end. "Nora, I'll go to the Hunts later. Are you coming?"

It was Justin's mother, Iris.

When she thought of the gentle woman, Nora laughed softly. "Okay... Sister."

After all, she had recognized her as her God-sis back then.

Iris had really taken good care of herself. Over the years, she had been raising flowers every day and did not care about the outside world. Such a person had no worries and still looked to be in her thirties.

She probably couldn't get Nora to call her Mom, either.

Hearing Nora call her 'sister', Iris was silent for a moment before she smiled. "Only call me that in private. Don't call me that when we're at the Hunts."

Nora: "?"

Just as she raised her eyebrows, she heard her say, "I don't want my son to become a cold machine when he faces me."

When Nora heard this, she was silent for a moment before replying, "Okay."

Justin and Iris's relationship did not seem to be very good. She did not know the specific reason, but she did not want to add to the misunderstanding between them.

After hanging up, she drove back to the Hunts.

When she arrived at the door, she noticed that Iris' car had also arrived.

The woman was wearing a white dress. She was tall and slender. Her actions had the elegance and grace of a young lady from a big family. She slowly walked toward Nora.

"...What are you here for?"

Nora almost called her God-sis. Fortunately, she controlled herself.

Iris looked at her affectionately and said, "It was Cherry and Pete's birthday yesterday. I won't join in the fun, but as a grandmother, I have to make up for it. Besides... I heard that you had actually given birth to triplets back

then?"

Nora: "..."

Why were Iris's eyes so mocking when she mentioned the triplets?

She had even added, "How awesome!" at the end.

Nora felt a little awkward and followed her into the room.

In the living room, Cherry was playing games on the sofa while Pete was sitting beside her, reading. Xander was still resting upstairs. Although his fever had subsided, he was still a little weak.

When they saw Iris, their eyes lit up. They jumped down from the sofa and ran to her.

Pete was clearly much more lively than before. He took the initiative to shout, "Grandma!"

Cherry's eyes widened as well. "Grandma, tell me the truth. Are you a vampire?"

Everyone: "?"

The others were a little surprised. Why would Cherry say such rude things?

Only Nora's mouth twitched. She was used to it. Sure enough, she heard her next words. "Why don't you look old at all? You're still so young and beautiful? If we go out together, people will definitely think you're my sister!"

Saying that she was her sister was too much.

However, such lies did not feel strange coming from Cherry's mouth. She even wanted to laugh.

Iris smiled and picked her up. "Cherry, you're so sweet. I wonder who you inherited that from?"

"Not Mommy!"

Her mother was the most stubborn and did not like to speak!

After Cherry subconsciously said this, she looked up at Nora. When her eyes met Nora's, she immediately added, "After all, I've already inherited Mommy's beauty~ I can't be greedy!"

This little bootlicker.

Nora's lips curled up. Her almond-shaped eyes glared at her slightly

Iris also laughed out loud. Then, she gave the three children the gifts she had brought and went upstairs to see Xander.

Nora had lit a calming incense in the room, so the little guy was sleeping very soundly and did not wake up.

Iris did not want to stay in the Hunts for very long. She stood up and said, "I'll see him next time."

She went out and then downstairs with Nora. When she saw Justin standing there, her eyes flickered for a moment before she nodded at him.

"You're here."

Justin's attitude was also very cold. Iris said, "I'd come to see the child. I'll get going now."

Justin nodded distantly.

Iris glanced at him. Although there was a lot she wanted to say, she did not know where to start. In the end, she silently walked past Justin.

Just as she reached the door, the butler rushed in. "Sir, bad news! Old Sir is back!"

When the butler saw Iris, he instantly shut his mouth.

Iris frowned. "Who?"

The butler was anxious. He glanced at Justin and could only bite the bullet and say, "J-Jus... Justin's... father."

Iris immediately clenched her fists.

The butler added carefully, "And... and that woman."

When Nora saw the situation, she looked at Justin. She saw the man raise his eyes and stare outside with a deep gaze. He was silent for two seconds before saying, "Chase her away."

However, as soon as he finished speaking, a voice was heard. "This is my house. Let's see who dares to chase me away?"

Then, a middle-aged man strode in.

Herman was almost fifty years old this year. He looked elegant and his hair was half white, making him look a little old. On his face, which was 40% similar to Justin's, his long and narrow eyes had the wisdom of many years.

Iris looked at him.

She hadn't seen him for more than twenty years. He was still wearing the suit he loved the most back then. The years had left traces on his face, making her momentarily dazed.

Then, a gentle smiling woman followed him in. If one looked carefully, one would notice that the woman and Iris's style was a little similar. They were both gentle and elegant.

Unfortunately, the same clothes had all kinds of charm on Iris, but on her, it seemed a little too heavy.

Iris's pupils constricted.

When Herman saw her, he frowned and asked sternly, "Heh, I was wondering who wanted to chase me out? So it's you..."

His gaze fell on Justin before he looked at Iris. "You two seem to have a good mother-son relationship!"

Justin looked at the two of them in silence. He did not speak or deny this sentence because he did not want to say anything that would make Iris lose face.

When Iris heard this, her expression instantly turned cold. She turned back to look at Nora and said calmly, "From now on, you have to take good care of the three children. I'll be leaving now."

With that, she prepared to go leave.

Nora glanced at Cherry. Cherry immediately walked to Iris's side and held her arm. "Grandma, be careful~"

Iris froze when she heard her.

She immediately retracted her arm from Cherry's hand. She lowered her eyes and said calmly, "There's no need. I can walk myself."

Cherry looked at Iris in confusion. Why did her grandmother suddenly change her attitude when she was still so good to her and her brother just a moment ago?

She must be angry that she and her brother had not gone to see her for too long!

Therefore, Cherry looked up and whined, "Grandma, Pete and I will visit you often in the future!"

Iris's grip on her bag tightened slightly, but she still lowered her head and said slowly, "No."

She turned around and said coldly, "My flowers are all very expensive. You touched them so casually the last time you came to visit me. You're very rude..."

Cherry bit her lip.

Since she was young, she did not care if others criticized her or scolded her. This was the first time that someone she cared about had said something bad about her!

She widened her eyes sadly and looked at Iris in confusion.

Justin, who was a slave to his daughter, could no longer stand Cherry's aggrieved look. He stepped forward and said in a very cold tone, "She's still young. How is she being rude? Six-year-old children would naturally be curious about things. Did she harm your flowers?"

Iris said, "Orchids are the most precious. They're not for children to play with. Besides, I hate children the most. They're too noisy..."

Justin sneered. "So you hated me this much when I was young?"

Iris was stunned.



Justin ignored her and picked up Cherry. "If you like orchids, I'll buy you a hundred pots. You can smash them anywhere in the back garden."

The hostility in his words was very strong.

Nora narrowed her eyes and saw Iris' face instantly turn as pale as paper. However, following that, she continued coldly, "You're rich. You can spoil the child however you want, but don't bother me!"

Justin was about to flare up when Herman suddenly said, "Iris, why are you still so selfish? This is your granddaughter! How can you treat her like this? You're really too much!"

Iris suddenly looked at Herman with anger in her eyes. Everyone else had the right to criticize her, but what right did he have to criticize her? Did he not know why she had become like this?!

Herman narrowed his eyes and smiled. He walked forward as if he did not understand her. Step by step, he arrived in front of Justin and sighed deeply. Like an old father, he said, "Justin, it was Dad and Mom who let you down back then. For so many years, I've always wanted to come back to see you, but your mother always refused... Sigh! I came back this time because I heard that you held a birthday party for the triplets. I specially came to give gifts to my grandchildren!"

With that, he looked at the woman behind him. "Lauren, hurry up and get the gifts!"

The mistress named Lauren stepped forward and placed the three presents in her hand on the ground. Then, she took one out and handed it to Cherry. "Is your name Cherry? Your name is really cute. The little guy is also so cute. Come, let your grandmother hug you!"

A hug from a grandmother...

Iris had already reached the door, but when she heard this, she suddenly stopped.

She subconsciously turned around and saw the four of them standing together like a family. She felt like an outsider.

Iris felt a pain in her heart.

However, she still turned around forcefully and prepared to leave.

At this moment, a pair of hands held hers tightly. She was stunned for a moment. When she raised her head again, she saw Nora.

Iris was stunned.

Nora asked, "Why?"

Iris's jaw tensed up.

She clearly knew that Nora was asking why her attitude suddenly changed so much, but she still pretended to not understand. "What why?"

As the two of them were in a stalemate, Cherry's childish voice was heard. "Grandma? But isn't Grandma Daddy's mother? Why does Daddy have two mothers?"

The mistress, Lauren, was stunned for a moment and stood there awkwardly.

Herman said, "Cherry, this is my current wife. You should call her Grandma."

Cherry tilted her head and stared at him, feeling a little unhappy. "Who are you?"

Herman's expression froze. He coughed and suppressed the frustration in his heart.

Before returning home, Lauren had already asked around and found out that Justin was a slave to his daughter, so as long as she pleased Cherry, she could obtain Justin's favor.

Therefore, Herman pretended to explain patiently, "...I'm your father's father."

"Daddy's father is my grandpa, and Daddy's mother is my grandma-" Cherry pretended to be stupid and sang a children's song. After she finished, she even smiled at Justin. "Daddy, did I sing well?"

"Very well."

Justin touched her head, but his gaze swept across the area in front of him. Iris and Nora's figures tugged at each other in the corner before the two of them went out.

Justin lowered his eyes.

Outside.

“What on earth is wrong?” Nora blocked Iris’s way and asked, “Is there something you can’t

say?”

“No!” Iris looked as cheerful as before. She even smiled gently. “I just don’t like the Hunts.”

Nora frowned. “But when we first met that afternoon, you told me a lot about you and your son. You clearly care about him. I thought that you had thought things through when you came to give birthday presents to the three children.”

Iris frowned and suddenly looked up. “I just want to maintain a good relationship with

you.”

Nora: “?”

Iris revealed her purpose casually. “You know orchids so well. You’ll definitely be able to help me. Therefore, for your sake, I pretended to give my grandchildren some gifts. I don’t like them.”

Nora frowned. Her almond-shaped eyes shone with confusion. “Why?”

“Because...” Iris said word by word, “Herman’s blood flows in their veins! He betrayed me back then, so I hate everything related to him!”

Nora clenched her jaw.

Iris continued to smile as she said, “I used Justin to force Grandpa Hunt to chase him away and successfully stayed at home. It was not because I was noble, but because I wanted to fight with him for the assets! Didn’t he want Hunt Corporation? I snatched it from him! As for Justin... I really can’t get close to him. He looks too similar to Herman. As soon as I get close to him, I remember Herman’s disgusting face. I just want to stay in the villa alone. No one can disturb me.”

Iris turned around and left.

This time, Nora could not stop her.

However, Iris must have her reasons.

The woman who had confided in her for an entire afternoon was not lying. But why?

Nora thought about it and turned back to enter the room. However, the moment she turned her head, she saw Justin standing not far behind her.

The man's eyes were dark and unclear. Half of his face was in the light under the street lamp, and the other half was in the dark. Under the night sky, the mole at the corner of his eye became colder.

Obviously, he had heard Iris' words.

When Nora thought about how she and Iris were talking earlier, Iris must have clearly seen Justin's eyes, but she still said those words. She was clearly doing this on purpose!

She was even more certain that Iris had her reasons.

But what difficulties did she have?

As she was thinking, she saw a hint of loneliness flash across the man's face. Justin suddenly said, "Nora, even my birth mother doesn't like me. Do you really like me?"

At this moment, he was like a pitiful worm in the corner forgotten by everyone.

Nora looked at him and her heart softened. She walked to Justin and looked at him seriously. "I really like you."

Justin seemed to be extremely touched. He reached out and hugged her tightly as he murmured in her ear, "How could that be? Even Mother hates me... What can you like about me?"

This side of Justin was really heartbreaking.

Nora thought about it and hesitated for a long time. In the end, she replied, "You're good-looking!"

She did not see the corners of Justin's mouth twitch. "..."

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Did he not have any other merits in Nora's heart?!

As he was thinking, he felt Nora pushing him away. Justin quickly sorted out his emotions and regained his lonely expression.

He seemed to have been hurt by Iris's words.

He finally grabbed the opportunity to push Nora further. He could not let go so easily. He sighed silently. "Nora, can you stay with me tonight?" Nora: "???"

Justin looked into the distance, his deep eyes filled with sadness. "I have some things I want to tell you."

Nora was about to reject him when she heard him say, "It's about me and my mother."

Nora twitched her lips and finally sighed. "Alright."

At this moment.

Iris sat in the car and left the Hunts.

When the Hunts' iron gate was closed, Mrs. Landis couldn't help but say, "Ms. Iris, why must you do this... It has been so many years. Now that Mr. Hunt has grown up, he's clearly very powerful. Tell him your difficulties!"

Iris lowered her head. "It'll be troublesome if I tell him. Forget it. It has been so many years. He didn't grow up with me. Why should I ask him to grow old with me?"

Mrs. Landis stared at her. "What do you mean by trouble? You're his mother! You've suppressed the longing in your heart for so many years and you didn't even look at him. You hug your phone every night and repeatedly watch videos of him growing up that the servants at home had sent your husband... You can't bear to delete those videos, even if your phone is full..."

Iris didn't say anything.

Mrs. Landis suddenly leaned in front of her. "Miss, if you don't want to tell Mr. Hunt, then tell me! What happened back then? Why?"

What had happened back then...

Even Mrs. Landis didn't know the full story. All she knew was that after Herman left, Iris had suddenly packed up her things one day, moved out of the Hunt Manor, and moved into the small villa here.

From then on, it was as if she had suddenly become cold-hearted, and no longer cared about Justin.

But Mrs. Landis still remembered that one day when the five-year-old Justin, who didn't understand anything at all, suddenly ran all the way to the villa, crying and shouting for his mother.

But Iris had refused to open the door. She had stayed in the house and merely said, "Go back. I don't want to see you."

"Mom, open the door!"

Outside the door, the five-year-old Justin tried his best to knock on the door, but as though she had hardened her heart, she never opened it.

Justin was just as stubborn. He shouted, "If you don't open the door, I won't leave!"

Later, it started to rain.

It was storming, and the winds were howling in the heavy rain. The bodyguard gave him an umbrella, but he pushed him away. The stubborn little boy kept standing on that rainy night.

Justin had a very determined look in his eyes. He didn't believe that his mother would really ignore him.

Neither did he believe that his gentle mother would suddenly become so cruel and hard-hearted.

But later, cold and hungry, he finally fainted from exhaustion. Even when he had collapsed onto the ground, he kept his eyes open with the last vestiges of his strength and stared at the door.

What disappointed him was that from beginning to end, the door never opened once.

From then on, Justin understood that Iris didn't love him anymore. After visiting a few more times, he rarely came again.

But he didn't know that Mrs. Landis had seen with her own eyes that the entire time he was in the rain, Iris had also stood in the rain in the courtyard inside the villa.

When the bodyguards outside exclaimed in shock after he fainted, Iris had rushed to the door. Both her hands had been on the gates, but she never opened the door.

Her tears had mixed together with the rainwater on her face, and she wept silently with her mouth open. That was the most painful night of Iris' life that Mrs. Landis had ever seen.

She was a hundred times sadder than when Herman had betrayed her.

In her opinion, Iris didn't actually love Herman at all-or rather, she didn't love him that deeply. After all, theirs had been a political marriage.

She had given all her love to Justin.

But for some reason, mother and son had to be separated. They had clearly been so close once upon a time, yet they were like complete strangers now.

Mrs. Landis simply didn't understand what had happened. She stared at Iris, only to see tears all over her face.

Mrs. Landis panicked. "Ma'am, what's wrong? What's the matter?"

Iris covered her face with her hands.

Before coming, she'd thought that since so many years had gone by, everything must be okay by now, right?

Besides, Nora had once tried to persuade her and had told her that her son had already grown up. Perhaps her troubles were nothing more than trivial matters to him.

That was why she had, after a long internal struggle the day before, come to the Hunt Manor today with the clothes she had carefully selected for the three children.

Deep down, she wanted to repair her relationship with her son. She could also see that, although her son was surprised to see her, he was not hostile towards her. But little did she expect that... that man would come back!

As expected, those thoughts of hers were all just wishful thinking.

She should just stay in that small villa her whole life like someone's trapped canary and live out her life all by herself.

This was the price she had to pay for that incident back then.

Without any hope, there would be no disappointment.

The little spark of hope that had finally ignited after much difficulty had suddenly been extinguished that evening.

Iris lowered her head. "Don't ask anymore, Mrs. Landis."

Seeing how sad she looked, Mrs. Landis sighed.

At the Hunts'.

When Justin and Nora entered the living room, they found that Cherry had gone to the bedroom upstairs. Herman and Lauren were sitting on the sofa, drinking the tea that the butler had just handed them.

Justin seemed utterly heartbroken by Iris. There was sadness on his face. He took Nora's hand and sat opposite Herman and Lauren.

Herman said, "You saw that, didn't you? Your mother is a cold-hearted person. Justin, she has always been so selfish. You should have already become accustomed to it a long time ago, right?"

Justin raised his head suddenly, piercing light shooting out of his eyes. "Why are you here?"

Herman narrowed his eyes. "This is my home. Of course I was going to come back someday! Besides, my agreement with your mother back then was for me to leave the Hunts for twenty years! Don't worry, I know that the entire Hunt Corporation is now in your hands. Even if I'm back, I won't be able to take anything back from you... I've been doing my own business abroad all these years, and have my own assets, so I won't covet your money. I came back just to visit you, as well as your grandmother along the way." After



saying this, he stood up and started walking out. “I will go and say hi to your grandmother first. I will stay at her place tonight.”

The fake Lauren said pretentiously, “Justin, this is our gift for the children. Cherry is afraid of strangers, so she didn’t accept the gift. You can give it to her later.”

After the two left, Justin looked at Nora. “Why don’t you go upstairs first? I will deal with these gifts.”

Nora had been worried that he would misunderstand Iris, and end up being moved by Herman’s few words. It was only then that she realized that he actually disliked Herman that much. She was relieved.

She nodded and went upstairs.

After she went upstairs, Justin picked up his cell phone and answered a call. Sean’s voice came from the other side: “Boss.”

Justin’s gaze was very cold. He lowered his eyes slightly and asked, “Have you looked into it? What did she say in the car after she left...?”

Sean then recounted the conversation between Mrs. Landis and Iris in the car and told him how Iris had reacted.

Justin lowered his eyes and listened quietly.

Sean said tentatively, “Ma’am seems to be having some difficulties, and she is not indifferent to you. Although she speaks disdainfully about the videos sent to her in the past, she has actually kept them all...”

Justin knew all this, of course—because he was the one who had gotten them to send those videos!

All he wanted to know right now was—why?!

Sean was still reporting his discoveries. “The gifts that Ma’am brought for the children were all carefully selected and prepared a month in advance. After hearing that you have another child, she even prepared an additional gift overnight to make up. She was actually planning to tell you some kind of truth when she took the initiative to visit today... but it seems like she has regretted

it. It seems that the change in her emotions only took place after your father returned.”

“Okay.”

Justin understood what Sean was saying. He raised his eyes and looked ahead of him dispassionately. Then, he slowly said, “If you can’t get anything out of my mother, then try the other side.”

“Yes, sir.”

Justin stared into the distance as he hung up the call.

There was a tinge of loneliness in his eyes.

To be honest, he had never believed that his mother had suddenly stopped loving him. When he was a child, he had been so stubborn that he had fainted in rain. When he woke up, he had known right away that it would be useless to approach her again.

Later, as he grew up, he suddenly discovered one day that a servant at home was filming a video of him. After that, the servant had sent it to someone.

At first, he’d thought that the servant must be scheming something, so he’d constantly stayed on guard against him. However, even as time passed, the servant didn’t take any action.

After he grew up, Justin quietly studied and learned hacking techniques without anyone knowing. He had then hacked into the servant’s phone and discovered his secret.

As it turned out, all the videos of him—from when he was a child all the way until he turned into a young adult—had all been sent by the servant to his mother, who had never shown any concern for him!

He took the opportunity to hack into his mother’s cell phone, only to find all the videos of him stored within. Every video of him from when he was a child until he became a young adult—was in there. None of them had ever been deleted. And every night, before going to bed, she would watch the videos of him over and over again.

Justin had been thirteen years old then.

Since then, he became certain that his mother was hiding something from him, and that she had her reasons and difficulties for doing so.

It could be said that he had never held any grudge towards his mother.

However, this did not mean that he was not angry about it.

He was indeed furious.

When he was young, he couldn't do anything. Thus, for his own good, his mother had kept those secrets from him. But even as he grew up, was his mother still unable to believe in him?

Besides...

It was undeniable that feelings and relationships were built and developed through daily contact and interaction with one another. The twenty-year-long separation had left him and Iris with nothing much to say to each other.

Thus, later on, he only occasionally visited her at the villa, and never without reason.

He was waiting.

He was waiting for his mother to take the initiative to tell him the truth. But judging from her behavior, was his mother planning to keep it from him for the rest of her life? Just because it would bring him trouble?

Justin lowered his head.

To be honest, there were times when he felt like giving up on the investigation.

So what even if he found out what had happened?

Since she hadn't been by his side as he grew up, why should he accompany her as she grew old...? Besides, sometimes habit really was something awfully scary—he had already grown used to not having her at home.

If there came a day where he suddenly found himself with a mother nagging at him, he might not be able to get used to it either.

Yet when he heard from Sean that she had cried, his heart softened again.

No matter what, they were still mother and son. Even if he was indifferent by nature, and even if he might only care about a few people; the woman was still among the few he cared about.

Moreover-and also the main reason-Nora seemed to share a very good relationship with her.

Upstairs.

Nora entered the room to see Cherry pulling a long face. Although she was sitting on the sofa and playing games, she was not happy.

Pete glanced at her. "What's the matter? Is something troubling you?"

Cherry killed an enemy in the game and then looked up at him. "Is it that obvious that I'm upset?"

"... You didn't rant at anyone while playing your game today," replied Pete with the corners of his lips spasming. The little girl was pretty much just short of blatantly writing the words "I'm unhappy" on her face.

Even Princess Lucy asked, "Cherry, what's wrong? Did someone bully you? I'll get the bodyguards to beat them up!" As she spoke, she even waved her tiny little fists. She looked just like a Barbie doll.

Cherry sighed quietly. "Don't beat her up, Lucy. You don't understand."

A puzzled Lucy asked, "What don't I understand? Is this some kind of rule in America? Why should you put up with it when that person is upsetting you?" "Because it's my grandma we're talking about!"

Cherry rested her chin on her hand and said, "Grandma was really nice to me in the past, I don't know why she suddenly changed today. She must have a reason for doing so! Do you know why she did that, Pete?"

Pete shook his head. "I don't know."

Cherry was a little disappointed. "You are so stupid~"

Cherry sighed quietly. "Forget it, it's time for my live-stream!"

After speaking, she sat on the sofa and opened the live-stream app.

Seeing the little fellows chatting so happily, Nora didn't go in to disturb them and left instead.

Cherry was not someone to dwell on things, so she would never take such small matters to heart. Neither did she need Nora to comfort her. In her opinion, Justin was simply overthinking things.

After she left, she looked downstairs again and saw that there was no one in the living room. However, there was a figure on the balcony.

Although Nora was very sleepy and wanted very much to look for someplace where she could sleep, when she thought of how hurtful Iris' words earlier in the day had been for Justin, she nevertheless went down the stairs and walked towards him.

As she went over, she saw the man standing there with his back to her.

The moonlight cast a silver glow on him, making a smooth silhouette of the dark and overcast figure. He exuded a sense of alienation and indifference, yet at the same time, he looked as though he had been forgotten in a corner.

He seemed so sad and lonely that it made one feel sorry for him.

This was especially when the man, who had never smoked, actually had a cigar held in between his fingertips at the moment. The smoke from the cigar curled upwards, making him look even lonelier.

Nora felt like they could pretty much make a movie with the scene.

The corners of Nora's lips twitched a little. She hadn't expected the man to be so deeply hurt.

She walked over and stood behind him. Just as she was about to speak, the man suddenly turned around and embraced her tightly. His chest was very hard and solid. It felt rather uncomfortable when he held her so tightly.

Yet Nora did not dare to push him away at a time like this, for fear that he would become even sadder—because the man happened to whisper into her ear, "Nora, you're the only one I have left now."

Nora kept quiet for three seconds, but in the end, she still couldn't stop herself from saying, "You still have Cherry, Pete, Xander, Brenda, and also Sean and Lawrence. There's also..."

Justin: "..."

He really shouldn't have allowed the woman to speak. The moment she opened her mouth, she would absolutely become the insensitive girl who ruined the atmosphere!

The corners of Justin's lips spasmed. Seeing that Nora was actually planning to continue listing the rest, he promptly and decisively lowered his head suddenly and caught the woman's lips.

He could see the girl freezing suddenly. Then, her almond-shaped eyes widened and she looked at him in astonishment. It seemed like her first reaction was to push him away, yet she held back.

Justin closed his eyes. He could sense that the girl was being extra-tolerant today, so he pushed his luck and invaded her mouth.

The crisp smell of tobacco on the man rushed into Nora's nostrils bossily, making her feel like the smell was actually quite pleasant?

To be honest, she hadn't thought of pushing him away.

If the man needed a hug and a kiss to reinforce his sense of security, then she didn't mind giving them to him.

Besides, he really was exceptionally pitiful today. Thus, not only did Nora not resist, but she even stretched out her arms and circled them around his neck tightly, and started responding to his kiss.

The atmosphere gradually turned amorous.

It seemed like all the air at the balcony had been sucked away. In the narrow space, the man and woman's chests heaved up and down. After some time, Justin suddenly picked up Nora and carried her like a newly-wed bride. He said, "Let's... go to the bedroom upstairs."

The suggestiveness in his words were very apparent.

When he stared hard at Nora, he saw the girl, whose cheeks were scarlet and her eyes misty, reply, "Okay."

To be honest, Justin hadn't expected her to agree.

He'd long discovered that the woman had always been relatively indifferent in her feelings. It hadn't been that long since the two of them confirmed their relationship, either.

The woman's chest was heaving up and down intensely at the moment, and her eyes contained a faint hint of womanly charm and shyness. When she agreed with her cheeks all red, he was instead stunned for a moment.

But right after, he regained his senses.

Seemingly afraid that the woman would go back on her word the very next second, he turned around at once and strode up the stairs.

Nora, whose head was buried into his chest, could see that his eyes were as deep and bottomless as the ocean. The way his eyes were staring at her so closely was as though he was looking at his prey, which made one feel daunted and timid.

But unfortunately, who did he think Nora was?

She had always been the hunter, not the hunted. When had she ever allowed herself to be in a disadvantageous position?

So, the next moment, she yawned. The two went up the stairs and entered the bedroom. With her in his arms, Justin rushed straight towards the bed. However, he had only just taken two steps when Nora said, "Let's take a bath first. Who's going in first, you or me?"

Justin's eyes instantly turned even darker. "... Let's go in together?"

"Get lost."

Nora sat upright and jumped out of his arms. "I'll take a bath first."

She took out an unused bath towel from the side and walked into the bathroom.

Mr. Hunt, who had stayed outside, was so anxious that he was going around in circles. He hurriedly made the bed; then he checked whether the big bed was sturdy enough and whether it would make any noise if people jumped on it.

After that, he swallowed again and smoothed his hair.

If Lawrence or Sean were to see him like this, they would probably marvel in amazement. Was that really their boss, who had never even frowned a little in the face of business transactions worth billions, or even dozens of billions?

Splash

The sound of water stopped. Justin stood up straight, his eyes fixed in the direction of the bathroom. The door opened, and Nora walked out.

The bathrobe was wrapped around her, and she was toweling her hair. Because of the hot bath, her cheeks had become even rosier and moist. Her almond-shaped eyes glanced at him shyly and she said, "It's your turn."

His Adam's apple shifted a little. "... Okay."

He picked up the bathrobe and rushed into the bathroom like an eager child.

He washed himself seriously and carefully during the bath, for fear that Nora would notice if he didn't clean any part of himself well. Even so, he took only two minutes in the bath and ran out again.

Then, he saw Nora already lying on the bed.

He slowed down, his breathing becoming heavier and heavier. He walked up to the bed where Nora was. As he thought of what was about to happen that night, he became rather excited.

But the next moment, his excitement died down.

Because! The mouth of the woman on the bed was slightly ajar, and her eyes were closed. This... Was she asleep?

Justin: "??"

How would he know that when they were downstairs just now, as they kissed and kissed, Nora had also been getting sleepier and sleepier?! This continued



until the man finally suggested going to the bedroom, and she breathed a huge sigh of relief.

Would she finally be able to go to sleep?

Therefore, with her eyelids droopy, she had replied sleepily, "Okay."

It wasn't the shy and bashful reaction that Justin had imagined on his own at all!

The corners of Justin's lips spasmed a little. He wanted to lift the quilt but realized that the woman had wrapped it tightly around herself, and was refusing to let him in.

Justin took another deep breath. In the end, he stood up in silence, went into the bathroom, took out the hairdryer, and quietly started drying her hair for her.

He hoped beyond everything that perhaps the noise would wake the woman?

Unfortunately, even until her hair was all dry, she didn't wake up.

On the contrary, seeing her unintentionally exposed shoulders while drying her hair, the fire in Justin's heart started to burn even more strongly.

In the end, Justin took another cold bath that night.

Nora did not wake up until noon the next day.

She stretched comfortably. But when she turned her head to the side, she was instead faced with the man's dark and gloomy face, which gave her a huge shock.

Justin asked quietly, "Did you sleep well?"

"... Yeah."

Nora yawned. Then, she got out of bed and went to wash up.

Justin could only sigh helplessly. As he got up, he heard movement outside the door. He went over and looked through the peephole to see the three children and Brenda standing outside.

Brenda was asking nosily, “Did your Mommy really sleep in there last night? That’s why your father is sleeping in for once?”

Cherry replied, “Uh-huh, uh-huh! It seemed like Mommy’s legs felt a little weak last night, so Daddy carried her upstairs!”

Pete said, “... It’s not that Mommy’s legs were weak.”

Cherry was puzzled. “Then was it because Mommy couldn’t walk anymore? So she was acting like a baby?”

Pete: “?”

At the side, Lucy covered her mouth and giggled.

Brenda’s eyes, however, were gleaming in an extremely gossipy manner. She said, “Cherry, you are so dumb! They are making younger brothers and sisters for you!” Cherry: “?”

Justin: “??”

What kind of nonsense was she saying? What was she teaching his daughter?

Justin opened the door angrily. His voice deepened and he reprimanded, “Brenda!”

Brenda got a huge fright. But when she looked over at him, she received an even bigger fright. She swallowed and asked, “How hard were you guys going at it last night, Justin? It gave you dark circles under your eyes?”.

Justin: “?”

Before he could speak, Brenda spoke again. “I understand, I understand it all. After all, this is the first time you guys were doing it after such a long time. It’s very normal that you wouldn’t be able to hold yourself back. But you guys still have a long future ahead of you, you know? You have to...”

The corners of Brenda’s lips curled into a smile as she spoke. With an alluring voice, she said, “... take it easy a little~ After all, Nora is frail and unable to take care of herself. You mustn’t be a beast to her, Justin.”

Justin retorted angrily, “What nonsense are you saying?”

“What do you mean ‘nonsense’~?” But after she spoke, something suddenly occurred to Brenda and she became terribly alarmed. “Surely not? The two of you, a lone man and a lone woman sharing the same room, you know? Could it be that you have some kind of undisclosed condition, Justin? If so, then you mustn’t keep it to yourself. Nora’s a doctor, hurry up and have her give you a checkup!”

Justin’s expression turned even darker. “No, I don’t!”

“That’s more like it!” Brenda breathed a sigh of relief and patted her chest. “Otherwise, you’ll be worse than a beast.”

“...”

Justin felt like he was about to get a heart attack from anger.

Who was she calling worse than a beast, goddammit?!

Bang!

Justin shut the door.

In the suburbs.

At noon, Iris stood in the greenhouse and took care of her orchids in boredom.

The door was suddenly pushed open and Herman strode in. When he saw her, he entered the greenhouse.

Iris frowned at the sight of him. “Get lost, you are not welcome here.”

Herman said, “Don’t get me wrong, I’m not here to rekindle old relationships with you. It’s just that... how were you taking care of our son at home? Your relationship with him is terrible. I was not by Justin’s side when he was a child, yet you didn’t stay with him?!”

Iris balled up her fists tightly. “You’re asking why my relationship with Justin is so terrible when you already know the answer to that question?! Isn’t it all because...”

“Because...”

Iris had hidden the secret about what happened all those years ago in her heart for twenty years and had never mentioned it to anyone. Everyone in this world could criticize her, scold her, and hate her.

In fact, it was okay even if Justin refused to acknowledge her as his mother. However, the man in front of her was the only person who was not worthy of speaking about her relationship with her son!

She stared at Herman, though, there wasn't any anger in her. She merely felt that the man couldn't get any more thick-skinned than he already was. She sneered and slowly said, "It's all because of the fantastic things you did back then!"

Herman frowned when he heard this. "What does it have to do with me? You were obviously the one who was unfaithful!"

"You—!"

Iris really found his words ridiculous to the extreme. She stared at Herman. A short while later, she sneered, "It's been twenty years. Your ability to reverse right and wrong and twist the truth has really improved!"

Herman wanted to speak again, but Lauren walked in through the door and interrupted their conversation. She said, "That's enough. Dear, Iris, don't argue anymore. I know you still hold a grudge against Herman, but it's already been twenty years now, so what's the point of doing that to yourself? Justin has already grown up. What Herman did for you back then is already good enough. He has already given up all of his inheritance to the family assets for the two of you... He practically left the family penniless."

Lauren sighed. "You don't know how difficult it has been for us to start from scratch when we were abroad all these years."

Iris: "?"

What a clever way of phrasing things. Those who didn't know better might really have thought that Herman was a good man!

Iris was not a woman of forbearance. She said eloquently, "How come I don't remember Herman leaving the Hunts penniless back then? Weren't the company shares from back then his father's? Just because his father had

chosen Justin over him as the heir to the family, it somehow ended up becoming him giving the assets to me and my son?"

A sharp look flashed across Lauren's eyes. "Sigh, you don't understand. It was Herman who took the initiative to withdraw from the fight because he felt that he had let the two of you down. Otherwise, why would the old sir have chosen a child, who was only five years old, over him?"

Iris was really rendered speechless by her shameless remark. She sneered and said, "So, am I supposed to be thanking the two of you then?"

A sullen Herman said, "You can skip the words of gratitude! What was that way of bringing up the boy, though? Just because I was forced into leaving and couldn't see Justin anymore, you really left him to fend for himself?! And ended up causing that boy to become so perverse and domineering?!"

Seeing that he was criticizing her again, Iris was so furious that she actually laughed. "I have never stopped you from visiting him, but have you ever taken the initiative to contact him all these years? Your son had probably already stopped existing in your eyes when he was lost back then!"

Herman frowned. "How can you say that, Iris? Isn't it obvious that I didn't contact him because I was afraid that you would feel uncomfortable about it? If I contacted him frequently whereas you, his mother, stayed here like a widow, then he would have hated and resented you even more!"

Iris gave a low laugh. Suddenly, she really couldn't be bothered to say anything to him anymore. He was simply so capable of twisting all her words.

For Iris, her son was what mattered to her the most.

All these years, because she hadn't been able to stay by his side, the child had lacked mother's love. She had been counting on Herman to stay in contact with him frequently. After all, a father played a very important role in a child's growth!

But he hadn't.

Herman rarely ever contacted Justin. In fact, he had only called Justin twice during the past twenty years.

She took a deep breath and pointed to the door. “This is my home. Please leave, otherwise, I’m going to call for someone to send you out.”

Justin had told her before that he’d stationed some bodyguards for her nearby.

Due to certain reasons, Iris had agreed to it. The bodyguards were standing right outside the door at the moment. However, they hadn’t come in to stop Herman.

To be honest, this made Iris a little uncomfortable.

The son must still resent her. That was why he hadn’t protected her despite the circumstances.

While she was thinking, Lauren continued adding fuel to the fire and said, “Well, no matter what happened in the past, now that Justin has grown up, you’ll have to interact with Justin in the business market, Herman. Iris, we came back to America this time partially to expand our business into the domestic market. It just so happens that we can deal more with the Hunts for some of our operations. They are father and son after all. They will eventually get in touch with each other once they work together, and will slowly make up for the regrets from the past.”

After saying that, she looked at Iris. “Also, Justin’s kids are really just too adorable! You don’t know how funny Cherry is. She loves the princess dress I brought over to her this morning.”

Iris’s heart tightened.

Her granddaughter was having fun with Lauren?

But when the thought formed, she felt like she was being narrow-minded again.

That’s true, even though she and Herman were divorced, it did not mean that Justin had to sever all contact with him. The Hunts were Herman’s family, and the elderly Mrs. Hunt was his mother...

She had only just thought of that when Lauren spoke again. She said, “By the way, we don’t have a place to stay during our temporary return to America, so we will stay at the Hunt Manor for the time being. You won’t have any objections, right? Cherry is very welcoming of us, she even said that she likes me, her grandmother, very much...”

The two of them had stayed at the Hunts’ the previous night.

Iris’s heart felt even heavier. Then, she heard Lauren sigh and say, “Iris, we will be part of the same family in the future. I hope you can let go of all your grievances from the past so that we can all live in peace with one another. This way, Justin won’t feel awkward being caught in the middle either, right?”.

Iris clenched her fists. “We won’t interfere with each other’s lives as long as you people don’t come over and bother me!”

Lauren took Herman’s arm. “Why would we bother you?”

With a big smile, she said, “Herman, since there’s nothing else we need with Iris here, then let’s go back. We just need to inform Justin that he needn’t worry about Iris being unhappy about it! Let’s go back, Cherry is still waiting for me to play dolls with her!”

Herman nodded, and the two turned and left.

As she stared at them from the back, Iris felt as if there were needles pricking her heart.

Even though she couldn’t approach her son or her grandchildren before, she could still live with it somewhat. But why should Herman and Lauren be able to stay at the Hunt Manor? Why should they be able to play with her granddaughter every day?

Iris’ eyes reddened.

Mrs. Landis came over. She heaved a quiet sigh and said, “Ma’am, if you still keep the truth of what had happened back then to yourself, that scumbag and that cheap woman will take Mr. Hunt away from you! Look at how the bodyguards didn’t even stop them from going in and out of here. These must have been Mr. Hunt’s instructions!”

Iris felt even worse.

At this moment, Cherry's voice suddenly rang out from Mrs. Landis' cell phone...

Cherry should be live-streaming at this time.

Iris suddenly took the phone from her. She would see how Lauren was going to interact intimately with Cherry!

Cherry had switched on her webcam during her live-stream that day, so the live-stream was relatively more formal this time.

Every time she live-streamed, her Sponsor Grandpa would definitely be online. Sponsor Daddy occasionally came in to visit, but it was not as frequent as before.

It was probably because he could now see her in person every day.

Cherry wasn't bothered about these things, though.

However, a Sponsor Grandma had joined the live-stream recently.

Of course, she wasn't addressing that person as Grandma; rather, "Sponsor Grandma" was that person's username. Sponsor Grandma was currently ranked second in her virtual gift rankings.

The one in the first place was always Sponsor Grandpa. No one could surpass him.

The one in third place, Sponsor Daddy, no longer cared about the ranking these days, so his score had been slowly dropping. Cherry first greeted Sponsor Grandpa. Then, when she saw Sponsor Grandma enter the live-stream, the little fellow immediately called out sweetly, "Hi, Sponsor Grandma! How are you doing?"

Sponsor Grandma wrote in the comments: 'Not well.'

As the big boss ranked second in her virtual gift rankings, her comment was highlighted in the live-stream.

Cherry saw the comment right away. Puzzled, she asked, "Why? Did someone make you angry? Beat them up then!"



Iris looked at the live-stream. She wanted to say, "You're the one who made me angry, you little brat."

To think she was actually having fun with someone like Lauren...

If Lauren had gotten into a relationship with Herman after the two of them had divorced normally, then Iris actually would not have prevented Lauren and Cherry from having fun with each other.

After all, it was good for her to have another person who loved her.

But Lauren was not a good person at all. She was afraid that Lauren would lead Cherry astray.

Iris was terribly angry and frustrated. When she was about to send another comment, she suddenly caught a glimpse of a princess dress on the sofa behind Cherry.

Was that the gift that Lauren had spoken of? The one that she had delivered to Cherry early in the morning?

Iris suddenly felt very discouraged.

She put down the phone silently and stood up.

To be honest, when she agreed to that condition back then, she had already left the family. It was destined that she would no longer have much of a relationship with her son for the rest of her life.

In that case, why bother disturbing his life?

Iris lowered her head and turned off the live-stream.

She didn't want to ask Cherry about Lauren anymore-after all, she was the one who had pushed Cherry away with her own hands the night before.

Since she had already made her choice, then what right did she have to demand that Cherry be close to her?

Iris was caught in a dilemma and internal struggle. Mrs. Landis, who was looking at her from the side, was terribly anxious. However, she also knew that once Iris made up her mind, no one would be able to convince her otherwise.

She heaved a silent sigh and changed the subject. “Ma’am, the pot of Jade Orchids you wanted to buy will be delivered soon, right? Where should we put it?”

Sure enough, Iris finally perked up a little when she heard this. She stood up and walked one round in the greenhouse with Mrs. Landis. At last, she said, “That pot of Jade Orchids is very rare and very difficult to take care of. We must treat it with great care.”

“Okay.”

As the two chatted, they got busy in the greenhouse.

Seeing that she was finally no longer so listless anymore, Mrs. Landis breathed a sigh of relief.

An hour later, the two finally made room for the new pot of orchid. Only then did they sit down again.

Night had almost fallen. The sky had gradually darkened, and the surroundings were quiet. Apart from the chirping of birds, there was no other sound.

When one looked up, through the small courtyard, they could see the skies of New York that were hazy all year round.

Iris had lived like this for a whole twenty years.

Mrs. Landis had left to make dinner. As Iris sat in the greenhouse, her gaze fell onto Mrs. Landis’ cell phone again, hardly able to stand the itch in her heart.

Suddenly, she really wanted to hear Cherry’s voice.

She opened the live-stream again. At once, she heard Cherry’s clear and pleasant voice: “... Jungler, have you gone invisible? How come I never see you during team battles?”

Iris couldn’t help but smile at the way she spoke when she dissed other players, and she almost laughed out loud.

As expected, Cherry was still the same bundle of joy she knew her to be.

Beep.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly rang

Iris picked it up casually, the smile still on her face. She saw that someone had sent her a short video. She opened it casually, upon which Lauren's face immediately appeared. She was speaking to the camera with a smile on her face, "Iris, I am going to go and play with Cherry now. Cherry has always been a very polite and adorable child~"

Iris: "!!"

She stood up angrily. Lauren must have been afraid that she wouldn't believe that they had a better relationship with Justin's family, so she had deliberately sent that to provoke her, right?

Iris was jealous and envious, but even more helpless and sad.

She stared at the video. She could see that it was Cherry's room that Lauren was about to enter.

The next moment, in Cherry's live-stream, the sound of someone knocking on the door, as well as Lauren's gentle voice rang out: "Cherry? Grandma's coming in, okay\_?"

Iris clenched her fists.

She looked at Mrs. Landis' cell phone and stared at Cherry's live-stream.

She wanted to close it so that she wouldn't see their interaction, yet at the same time, she wanted to open her eyes wide and take a good look at what exactly she had lost...

She felt as though a big invisible hand had closed around her heart tightly. Her chest felt stuffy and tight, and she felt awfully aggrieved.

Just as she was in a dilemma, she heard Cherry's young and tender voice become impatient: "Who said you could come in here?"

At the Hunts'.

Lauren entered the room with a smile on her face. She'd originally wanted to get along properly with Cherry-after all, she really did want to make Cherry happy.

Once she pleased Cherry, that would mean that she had also pleased Justin.

But she hadn't expected Cherry to always look so impatient whenever she saw her.

She didn't know that Cherry was live-streaming, so she smiled and said, "Grandma misses little Cherry, so I came over to visit you..."

After speaking, as if she was on very good terms with Cherry, she walked over to the sofa next to her and picked up the princess dress she had given Cherry earlier that day. She asked, "Don't you like the princess dress that Grandma bought you? Why didn't you put it on?"

Cherry blinked with her big eyes and answered bluntly, "Because I don't like it, of course!"

Lauren looked at her hesitantly. "Then what kind do you like? Pink ones? Purple ones?"

Or?"

Cherry tilted her head to the side, which made her look very naughty. Her grin made her look even more like a little devil. She replied, "It's you I don't like."

Lauren was taken aback.

Cherry said, "So, as long as it is from you, I won't like it. Don't waste your time trying to please me. Please go out! I don't have a grandmother like you!"

The little fellow's voice was crisp and clear, and she spoke loudly and sonorously.

Lauren flushed, but she didn't dare to bully Cherry, especially in this room. Thus, she said, "Cherry, it is not right of you to speak to your grandma like this. It's very impolite behavior..."

Cherry suddenly stood up and walked straight towards Lauren.

The camera in her live-stream was facing the side right from the start, so it had captured part of the scene.

As a result, everyone saw Cherry pick up the princess dress and then push Lauren out the door. The little fellow was very strong. After she pushed Lauren out of the room, she stood there and said, "Go away you... you... wh\*re!"

Cherry had never ever called anyone names.

Even when she was dissing people in her live-streams, she had never called anyone names. Therefore, when she tried to think of a word for Lauren, she had to think for a very long time before she finally remembered one of the insults that Xander frequently used.

After calling Lauren a wh\*re, Cherry slammed the door shut.

Cherry continued her live-stream after she returned.

But at this point, she noticed that a lot of reproachful remarks had suddenly appeared in the comments:

"Isn't the live-streamer's behavior too crass? What did that gentle old lady do to you? To think you're actually calling her names?"

"I've already found her an eyesore a long time ago. She's only five, yet she's so skilled at dissing people in games. To think you guys claim that she has never called anyone names. Ha, didn't she do just that just now?"

Some of her fans were also trying to correct her:

"sweetcherry, that's your grandma. You mustn't call your family such awful names."

"Yeah. It's very rude of you to just toss the dress that your grandma bought for you..."

A group of Internet keyboard warriors, who didn't even know anything about her family situation, started to leave comments in her live-stream.

A bad-ass Cherry replied, "You are not me, so what would you know? She is a bad person! My mom told me to stay away from her!"

The comments instantly became even fiercer.

However, Iris was no longer in the live-stream at this point.

She had closed the live-stream when Lauren knocked on the door. She didn't want to watch their heartwarming moments, which would only sadden her. She stared ahead of her blankly.

About half an hour later, Lauren sent her another text message: 'Sorry about that, Iris, I was playing with Cherry the whole time just now. I realized that the little girl is really very well-behaved. We had a lot of fun together. She also said that she likes me very much.'

Little by little, Iris' heart sank as she read the message.

Yeah, how would Cherry possibly not be lovable?

She had always been a good girl who was polite and sweet-talking. Every time she saw her, the things she said made her heart melt.

It seemed that no matter what, she just couldn't harden her heart towards the little fellow.

Everyone would probably like her, no matter who it was.

Iris didn't want to think about it anymore, so she straight-up blocked Lauren's phone number. Then, she stood up and went to dinner.

Mrs. Landis had made mushroom risotto that evening.

The two of them had a plate each. However, the usually fresh and delicious mushroom risotto didn't taste right to her that evening. She said, "Mrs. Landis, the mushroom risotto doesn't taste very nice today."

Mrs. Landis took a bite. "It tastes pretty good, Ma'am. You only think it tastes bad because you are in a bad mood. Every time you are in a bad mood, you don't feel like eating."

"... Really?"

Iris slowly put down her spoon. She sighed silently. Then, she got up and started walking upstairs. "I'm not eating anymore. I'll go to bed instead."

Mrs. Landis heaved a quiet sigh as she stared at her from the back.

Iris had originally thought that she would be fine after she went upstairs and had a good night's sleep. But after she lay down, she simply couldn't get to sleep.

The text messages that Lauren had sent to her kept appearing before her eyes, making her feel like there was something stuck in her chest, unable to get out.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly rang.

When Iris answered, Lauren's voice came from the other side again. "Iris, why did you block me? Is it because you don't want me to send you those messages? Well, that makes sense. I'm sure you don't want Cherry and I to be so close to each other, but the child wants a grandmother too!"

Her words made Iris so mad that she was shaking all over. Right at this moment, she suddenly heard a rush of footsteps. Then, Mrs. Landis opened the door and entered her room. She said, "Ma'am, Cherry is trending!"

Trending?

What was trending?

Iris pretty much subconsciously picked up her cell phone. Right away, she saw that sweetcherry was trending on social media because she had called her grandma names out of anger in her live-stream.

To be honest, it wasn't really trending that high in the rankings.

It barely entered the top fifty in the rankings and had only just made the list. Mrs. Landis had only found out because her attention was on Cherry.

Iris hurriedly opened the article linked in the post, where she saw a video clip from the live-stream footage. In the clip, Cherry had driven her grandma out of her room and called her a wh\*re.

## **Chapter 642 - The Plan of Saving Nora Novel Free**

However, the only person from the mysterious organization whom she really came into contact with was Trueman.

Although Trueman's behavior was bad, to Nora, he was as childish as a three-year-old little demon.

She asked, "Is the mysterious organization really that powerful?"

Charles asked, "If they're not strong, if they're not powerful, why didn't Ms. Yvette ask for help? Why did she escape to California by herself? Why did she keep you alive while she herself had to die in the end?"

Nora fell silent.

She had already wondered about this question.

The mysterious organization was very powerful overseas, but was it that powerful in New York? Back then, if her mother had asked the special department for help and not tried to escape, would she not have had to die?

Charles shook his head. "Because your mother knew that even if she asked for help, it was useless! In the end, she came to California. In the end, she could only die helplessly to protect you and your secret. No matter how powerful your mother was, she was still discovered by the mysterious organization in the end. Ms. Yvette was still a step behind."

After Yvette died, Charles felt like his worldview had collapsed.

Even someone as strong as her had been forced to this extent by the mysterious organization that she had to protect her daughter with her life. She had been discovered by the mysterious organization and they had found him as well.

At that time, his heart wavered.

Ms. Yvette was not a match for a mysterious organization.

Therefore, in the end, he chose to betray Ms. Yvette in fear.

After that, he watched helplessly as the Grays and the Smiths in California slowly developed. Both sides thought that their cooperation was very stable, but they did not know that everything was under the surveillance of the mysterious organization! The two families were played like monkeys. In the end, they arranged for Charles to get Nora pregnant with multiple children...



He sighed and continued, "I betrayed Ms. Yvette. Not long after her death, the mysterious organization discovered your existence and learned about your mother and the Grays' conspiracy. They sat on the fishing boat and dominated the subsequent events!

Later, I was used by the mysterious organization to deal with you. It was indeed because of the drug that you gave birth to the triplets. And your pregnancy back then was plotted by Trueman!"

Compared to the mysterious organization, Ms. Yvette was still a step behind.

As Charles was thinking, he saw Nora shake her head. "Instead, I feel that the mysterious organization has fallen into my mother's trap."

Charles was stunned and looked at her in confusion.

Nora stared at him. "So what if the mysterious organization found out about me? They did not catch me and interrogate me about V16's whereabouts because they knew that it was useless!

They had to wait obediently until I grew up. They had to ensure my safety with bodyguards because if I died, the Grays would never have been able to get the V16, and the mysterious organization would forever lose it as well.

Mother should have known this when she died. Until now, everything has been in her plans!"

Charles was stunned.

His eyes widened and he stared at Nora in disbelief.

After careful consideration of her words, he realized that it was not impossible for Ms. Yvette to fight against the mysterious organization!

At least for the past 25 years, the mysterious organization had been protecting Nora.

This was all within her expectations.

Charles felt like his entire worldview was about to collapse. He looked at Nora in a daze.

Nora continued, "In fact, mother should have guessed that they would inject my child with gene serum and I would be controlled by them. Therefore, she really must have left behind the V16 formula or the completed product! Although I don't know why the mysterious organization didn't just keep me themselves, she couldn't just let my child die at their hands!"

Charles looked at Nora. His thoughts were already in a daze.

He said, "I know why they didn't keep you."

Nora hesitated and asked, "Why?"

"It's because your mother had injected you with a gene serum to improve your intelligence the moment you were born. That drug was unique. Once injected, the body is unable to take other drugs. Not only did they not dare to inject you with another serum, but they also needed to guarantee that you digested the small amount your mother had injected you with."

Genetic serums themselves had huge side effects. This was also why only five children from the mysterious organization had survived all these years.

Charles was silent for a moment as if he was slowly realizing how ingenious Yvette's arrangements were. "Besides, the mysterious organization doesn't dare to attack you. If you die, there will be nothing left! That's why they chose your child!"

When Nora heard this, she suddenly realized that her mother had injected her with a small amount of medicine after she was born. She had really considered all aspects of the matter!

She was surprised by her mother's ingenious arrangements. She looked at Charles and stepped forward, staring at him. "So now can you tell me?"

Charles was a little stunned by Nora's words.

Over the years, he had always thought that it was because Yvette was no match for the mysterious organization that she had been schemed against. But it turned out that he was wrong.

It was as expected of Ms. Yvette.

He lowered his head and smiled bitterly. After a moment, he said, "She left behind a medicine."

Nora suddenly looked at him. "Where is it?"

Charles shook his head. "I really don't know. She had left you a clue. She once said that it would be up to you to find it."

Before she died, Yvette had arranged everything for the three of them.

When the four of them separated, Old Maddy was worried about Nora's safety and had asked, "Are you really sure about Nora? Besides, the clues to the V16 are only meant for Nora. Will she be in danger?"

Yvette had said at that time, "If she finds it in the future, it would mean that she has the intelligence and power to resist the mysterious organization. If she can't find it... Then, as long as V16 doesn't show up, nothing will happen to her. The mysterious organization will protect her."

Clues...

Her mother had really left a clue.

Nora stood up suddenly. At this moment, there was no need for Charles to lie to her. He was definitely telling the truth.

However, other than a voice message, the only thing her mother had left behind was that company.

The company... When she was in California, she had suspected that the Grays wanted her company, so she had already turned the company upside down. There was nothing there!

It seemed like she had overlooked something.

At this moment, Charles was useless to her. Nora turned around and walked out.

She had just taken two steps when Charles suddenly shouted, "Ms. Nora..."

Nora stopped in her tracks and turned back.

Charles's old face was filled with caution and frustration. He looked like his heart had turned to ashes. He hesitated and said, "I'm sorry... Ms. Yvette probably won't forgive me."

Looking at this person and thinking about his miserable life, Nora suddenly said, "She will."

Charles was stunned.

Nora said calmly, "She never blamed you."

Charles had betrayed Yvette and spent his entire life in guilt. When he heard this, he felt like the huge rock pressing on his heart for so many years had dropped. He heaved a sigh of relief.

Nora did not look at him again and walked out of the ward.

Lily followed beside her and asked in confusion, "Boss, why did you say your mother would forgive him? For someone like him who betrayed his master, if it were me, I would never forgive him!"

Hearing this, Nora sighed and looked at her. "Because even his betrayal was within my mother's expectations."

After saying this, Nora strode away.

Lily was left standing in the hospital. When she came over today to see Quentin, she did not plan to leave with Nora. When she heard Nora's words, she suddenly felt a chill run down her spine.

The clue was with her, which was also the reason why the mysterious organization did not attack her directly.

As for staying low-profile, her mother's warning was probably to let her conserve her strength.

By now Nora had finally guessed all her mother's plans. At the same time that she was excited, she was also anxious.

With her mother being so smart, it would probably be even more difficult for her to resolve this problem.

On the way back to the Smiths, she put on her earphones and listened to the recording her mother had left her. This was the only thing her mother had left behind.

After listening to it a few times, she had those words memorized.

Nora sighed silently.

It seemed like she had to go to California and chat with the manager of Idealian Pharmaceuticals. Since her mother had trusted him back then, he must have some important information.

As she thought about this, she listened attentively to the recording in her earpiece and suddenly captured some information.

At the same time, her phone rang.

Nora had a flash of inspiration and caught some information. However, all her inspiration was interrupted by her phone ringtone, making her frown.

She felt like something she had overlooked was about to surface, but it instantly sank to the bottom again.

She sighed silently.

It seemed like she really could not be anxious.

She picked up her phone. A gentle voice came from the other end. "Nora, I'll go to the Hunts later. Are you coming?"

It was Justin's mother, Iris.

When she thought of the gentle woman, Nora laughed softly. "Okay... Sister."

After all, she had recognized her as her God-sis back then.

Iris had really taken good care of herself. Over the years, she had been raising flowers every day and did not care about the outside world. Such a person had no worries and still looked to be in her thirties.

She probably couldn't get Nora to call her Mom, either.

Hearing Nora call her 'sister', Iris was silent for a moment before she smiled. "Only call me that in private. Don't call me that when we're at the Hunts."

Nora: "?"

Just as she raised her eyebrows, she heard her say, "I don't want my son to become a cold machine when he faces me."

When Nora heard this, she was silent for a moment before replying, "Okay."

Justin and Iris's relationship did not seem to be very good. She did not know the specific reason, but she did not want to add to the misunderstanding between them.

After hanging up, she drove back to the Hunts.

When she arrived at the door, she noticed that Iris' car had also arrived.

The woman was wearing a white dress. She was tall and slender. Her actions had the elegance and grace of a young lady from a big family. She slowly walked toward Nora.

"...What are you here for?"

Nora almost called her God-sis. Fortunately, she controlled herself.

Iris looked at her affectionately and said, "It was Cherry and Pete's birthday yesterday. I won't join in the fun, but as a grandmother, I have to make up for it. Besides... I heard that you had actually given birth to triplets back

then?"

Nora: "..."

Why were Iris's eyes so mocking when she mentioned the triplets?

She had even added, "How awesome!" at the end.

Nora felt a little awkward and followed her into the room.

In the living room, Cherry was playing games on the sofa while Pete was sitting beside her, reading. Xander was still resting upstairs. Although his fever had subsided, he was still a little weak.

When they saw Iris, their eyes lit up. They jumped down from the sofa and ran to her.

Pete was clearly much more lively than before. He took the initiative to shout, "Grandma!"

Cherry's eyes widened as well. "Grandma, tell me the truth. Are you a vampire?"

Everyone: "?"

The others were a little surprised. Why would Cherry say such rude things?

Only Nora's mouth twitched. She was used to it. Sure enough, she heard her next words. "Why don't you look old at all? You're still so young and beautiful? If we go out together, people will definitely think you're my sister!"

Saying that she was her sister was too much.

However, such lies did not feel strange coming from Cherry's mouth. She even wanted to laugh.

Iris smiled and picked her up. "Cherry, you're so sweet. I wonder who you inherited that from?"

"Not Mommy!"

Her mother was the most stubborn and did not like to speak!

After Cherry subconsciously said this, she looked up at Nora. When her eyes met Nora's, she immediately added, "After all, I've already inherited Mommy's beauty~ I can't be greedy!"

This little bootlicker.

Nora's lips curled up. Her almond-shaped eyes glared at her slightly

Iris also laughed out loud. Then, she gave the three children the gifts she had brought and went upstairs to see Xander.

Nora had lit a calming incense in the room, so the little guy was sleeping very soundly and did not wake up.

Iris did not want to stay in the Hunts for very long. She stood up and said, "I'll see him next time."

She went out and then downstairs with Nora. When she saw Justin standing there, her eyes flickered for a moment before she nodded at him.

"You're here."

Justin's attitude was also very cold. Iris said, "I'd come to see the child. I'll get going now."

Justin nodded distantly.

Iris glanced at him. Although there was a lot she wanted to say, she did not know where to start. In the end, she silently walked past Justin.

Just as she reached the door, the butler rushed in. "Sir, bad news! Old Sir is back!"

When the butler saw Iris, he instantly shut his mouth.

Iris frowned. "Who?"

The butler was anxious. He glanced at Justin and could only bite the bullet and say, "J-Jus... Justin's... father."

Iris immediately clenched her fists.

The butler added carefully, "And... and that woman."

When Nora saw the situation, she looked at Justin. She saw the man raise his eyes and stare outside with a deep gaze. He was silent for two seconds before saying, "Chase her away."

However, as soon as he finished speaking, a voice was heard. "This is my house. Let's see who dares to chase me away?"

Then, a middle-aged man strode in.



Herman was almost fifty years old this year. He looked elegant and his hair was half white, making him look a little old. On his face, which was 40% similar to Justin's, his long and narrow eyes had the wisdom of many years.

Iris looked at him.

She hadn't seen him for more than twenty years. He was still wearing the suit he loved the most back then. The years had left traces on his face, making her momentarily dazed.

Then, a gentle smiling woman followed him in. If one looked carefully, one would notice that the woman and Iris's style was a little similar. They were both gentle and elegant.

Unfortunately, the same clothes had all kinds of charm on Iris, but on her, it seemed a little too heavy.

Iris's pupils constricted.

When Herman saw her, he frowned and asked sternly, "Heh, I was wondering who wanted to chase me out? So it's you..."

His gaze fell on Justin before he looked at Iris. "You two seem to have a good mother-son relationship!"

Justin looked at the two of them in silence. He did not speak or deny this sentence because he did not want to say anything that would make Iris lose face.

When Iris heard this, her expression instantly turned cold. She turned back to look at Nora and said calmly, "From now on, you have to take good care of the three children. I'll be leaving now."

With that, she prepared to go leave.

Nora glanced at Cherry. Cherry immediately walked to Iris's side and held her arm. "Grandma, be careful~"

Iris froze when she heard her.

She immediately retracted her arm from Cherry's hand. She lowered her eyes and said calmly, "There's no need. I can walk myself."

Cherry looked at Iris in confusion. Why did her grandmother suddenly change her attitude when she was still so good to her and her brother just a moment ago?

She must be angry that she and her brother had not gone to see her for too long!

Therefore, Cherry looked up and whined, "Grandma, Pete and I will visit you often in the future!"

Iris's grip on her bag tightened slightly, but she still lowered her head and said slowly, "No."

She turned around and said coldly, "My flowers are all very expensive. You touched them so casually the last time you came to visit me. You're very rude..."

Cherry bit her lip.

Since she was young, she did not care if others criticized her or scolded her. This was the first time that someone she cared about had said something bad about her!

She widened her eyes sadly and looked at Iris in confusion.

Justin, who was a slave to his daughter, could no longer stand Cherry's aggrieved look. He stepped forward and said in a very cold tone, "She's still young. How is she being rude? Six-year-old children would naturally be curious about things. Did she harm your flowers?"

Iris said, "Orchids are the most precious. They're not for children to play with. Besides, I hate children the most. They're too noisy..."

Justin sneered. "So you hated me this much when I was young?"

Iris was stunned.

Justin ignored her and picked up Cherry. "If you like orchids, I'll buy you a hundred pots. You can smash them anywhere in the back garden."

The hostility in his words was very strong.

Nora narrowed her eyes and saw Iris' face instantly turn as pale as paper. However, following that, she continued coldly, "You're rich. You can spoil the child however you want, but don't bother me!"

Justin was about to flare up when Herman suddenly said, "Iris, why are you still so selfish? This is your granddaughter! How can you treat her like this? You're really too much!"

Iris suddenly looked at Herman with anger in her eyes. Everyone else had the right to criticize her, but what right did he have to criticize her? Did he not know why she had become like this?!

Herman narrowed his eyes and smiled. He walked forward as if he did not understand her. Step by step, he arrived in front of Justin and sighed deeply. Like an old father, he said, "Justin, it was Dad and Mom who let you down back then. For so many years, I've always wanted to come back to see you, but your mother always refused... Sigh! I came back this time because I heard that you held a birthday party for the triplets. I specially came to give gifts to my grandchildren!"

With that, he looked at the woman behind him. "Lauren, hurry up and get the gifts!"

The mistress named Lauren stepped forward and placed the three presents in her hand on the ground. Then, she took one out and handed it to Cherry. "Is your name Cherry? Your name is really cute. The little guy is also so cute. Come, let your grandmother hug you!"

A hug from a grandmother...

Iris had already reached the door, but when she heard this, she suddenly stopped.

She subconsciously turned around and saw the four of them standing together like a family. She felt like an outsider.

Iris felt a pain in her heart.

However, she still turned around forcefully and prepared to leave.

At this moment, a pair of hands held hers tightly. She was stunned for a moment. When she raised her head again, she saw Nora.

Iris was stunned.

Nora asked, "Why?"

Iris's jaw tensed up.

She clearly knew that Nora was asking why her attitude suddenly changed so much, but she still pretended to not understand. "What why?"

As the two of them were in a stalemate, Cherry's childish voice was heard. "Grandma? But isn't Grandma Daddy's mother? Why does Daddy have two mothers?"

The mistress, Lauren, was stunned for a moment and stood there awkwardly.

Herman said, "Cherry, this is my current wife. You should call her Grandma."

Cherry tilted her head and stared at him, feeling a little unhappy. "Who are you?"

Herman's expression froze. He coughed and suppressed the frustration in his heart.

Before returning home, Lauren had already asked around and found out that Justin was a slave to his daughter, so as long as she pleased Cherry, she could obtain Justin's favor.

Therefore, Herman pretended to explain patiently, "...I'm your father's father."

"Daddy's father is my grandpa, and Daddy's mother is my grandma-" Cherry pretended to be stupid and sang a children's song. After she finished, she even smiled at Justin. "Daddy, did I sing well?"

"Very well."

Justin touched her head, but his gaze swept across the area in front of him. Iris and Nora's figures tugged at each other in the corner before the two of them went out.

Justin lowered his eyes.

Outside.

“What on earth is wrong?” Nora blocked Iris’s way and asked, “Is there something you can’t

say?”

“No!” Iris looked as cheerful as before. She even smiled gently. “I just don’t like the Hunts.”

Nora frowned. “But when we first met that afternoon, you told me a lot about you and your son. You clearly care about him. I thought that you had thought things through when you came to give birthday presents to the three children.”

Iris frowned and suddenly looked up. “I just want to maintain a good relationship with

you.”

Nora: “?”

Iris revealed her purpose casually. “You know orchids so well. You’ll definitely be able to help me. Therefore, for your sake, I pretended to give my grandchildren some gifts. I don’t like them.”

Nora frowned. Her almond-shaped eyes shone with confusion. “Why?”

“Because...” Iris said word by word, “Herman’s blood flows in their veins! He betrayed me back then, so I hate everything related to him!”

Nora clenched her jaw.

Iris continued to smile as she said, “I used Justin to force Grandpa Hunt to chase him away and successfully stayed at home. It was not because I was noble, but because I wanted to fight with him for the assets! Didn’t he want Hunt Corporation? I snatched it from him! As for Justin... I really can’t get close to him. He looks too similar to Herman. As soon as I get close to him, I remember Herman’s disgusting face. I just want to stay in the villa alone. No one can disturb me.”

Iris turned around and left.

This time, Nora could not stop her.

However, Iris must have her reasons.

The woman who had confided in her for an entire afternoon was not lying. But why?

Nora thought about it and turned back to enter the room. However, the moment she turned her head, she saw Justin standing not far behind her.

The man's eyes were dark and unclear. Half of his face was in the light under the street lamp, and the other half was in the dark. Under the night sky, the mole at the corner of his eye became colder.

Obviously, he had heard Iris' words.

When Nora thought about how she and Iris were talking earlier, Iris must have clearly seen Justin's eyes, but she still said those words. She was clearly doing this on purpose!

She was even more certain that Iris had her reasons.

But what difficulties did she have?

As she was thinking, she saw a hint of loneliness flash across the man's face. Justin suddenly said, "Nora, even my birth mother doesn't like me. Do you really like me?"

At this moment, he was like a pitiful worm in the corner forgotten by everyone.

Nora looked at him and her heart softened. She walked to Justin and looked at him seriously. "I really like you."

Justin seemed to be extremely touched. He reached out and hugged her tightly as he murmured in her ear, "How could that be? Even Mother hates me... What can you like about me?"

This side of Justin was really heartbreaking.

Nora thought about it and hesitated for a long time. In the end, she replied, "You're good-looking!"

She did not see the corners of Justin's mouth twitch. "..."

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Did he not have any other merits in Nora's heart?!

As he was thinking, he felt Nora pushing him away. Justin quickly sorted out his emotions and regained his lonely expression.

He seemed to have been hurt by Iris's words.

He finally grabbed the opportunity to push Nora further. He could not let go so easily. He sighed silently. "Nora, can you stay with me tonight?" Nora: "???"

Justin looked into the distance, his deep eyes filled with sadness. "I have some things I want to tell you."

Nora was about to reject him when she heard him say, "It's about me and my mother."

Nora twitched her lips and finally sighed. "Alright."

At this moment.

Iris sat in the car and left the Hunts.

When the Hunts' iron gate was closed, Mrs. Landis couldn't help but say, "Ms. Iris, why must you do this... It has been so many years. Now that Mr. Hunt has grown up, he's clearly very powerful. Tell him your difficulties!"

Iris lowered her head. "It'll be troublesome if I tell him. Forget it. It has been so many years. He didn't grow up with me. Why should I ask him to grow old with me?"

Mrs. Landis stared at her. "What do you mean by trouble? You're his mother! You've suppressed the longing in your heart for so many years and you didn't even look at him. You hug your phone every night and repeatedly watch videos of him growing up that the servants at home had sent your husband... You can't bear to delete those videos, even if your phone is full..."

Iris didn't say anything.

Mrs. Landis suddenly leaned in front of her. "Miss, if you don't want to tell Mr. Hunt, then tell me! What happened back then? Why?"

What had happened back then...

Even Mrs. Landis didn't know the full story. All she knew was that after Herman left, Iris had suddenly packed up her things one day, moved out of the Hunt Manor, and moved into the small villa here.

From then on, it was as if she had suddenly become cold-hearted, and no longer cared about Justin.

But Mrs. Landis still remembered that one day when the five-year-old Justin, who didn't understand anything at all, suddenly ran all the way to the villa, crying and shouting for his mother.

But Iris had refused to open the door. She had stayed in the house and merely said, "Go back. I don't want to see you."

"Mom, open the door!"

Outside the door, the five-year-old Justin tried his best to knock on the door, but as though she had hardened her heart, she never opened it.

Justin was just as stubborn. He shouted, "If you don't open the door, I won't leave!"

Later, it started to rain.

It was storming, and the winds were howling in the heavy rain. The bodyguard gave him an umbrella, but he pushed him away. The stubborn little boy kept standing on that rainy night.

Justin had a very determined look in his eyes. He didn't believe that his mother would really ignore him.

Neither did he believe that his gentle mother would suddenly become so cruel and hard-hearted.

But later, cold and hungry, he finally fainted from exhaustion. Even when he had collapsed onto the ground, he kept his eyes open with the last vestiges of his strength and stared at the door.

What disappointed him was that from beginning to end, the door never opened once.

From then on, Justin understood that Iris didn't love him anymore. After visiting a few more times, he rarely came again.



But he didn't know that Mrs. Landis had seen with her own eyes that the entire time he was in the rain, Iris had also stood in the rain in the courtyard inside the villa.

When the bodyguards outside exclaimed in shock after he fainted, Iris had rushed to the door. Both her hands had been on the gates, but she never opened the door.

Her tears had mixed together with the rainwater on her face, and she wept silently with her mouth open. That was the most painful night of Iris' life that Mrs. Landis had ever seen.

She was a hundred times sadder than when Herman had betrayed her.

In her opinion, Iris didn't actually love Herman at all-or rather, she didn't love him that deeply. After all, theirs had been a political marriage.

She had given all her love to Justin.

But for some reason, mother and son had to be separated. They had clearly been so close once upon a time, yet they were like complete strangers now.

Mrs. Landis simply didn't understand what had happened. She stared at Iris, only to see tears all over her face.

Mrs. Landis panicked. "Ma'am, what's wrong? What's the matter?"

Iris covered her face with her hands.

Before coming, she'd thought that since so many years had gone by, everything must be okay by now, right?

Besides, Nora had once tried to persuade her and had told her that her son had already grown up. Perhaps her troubles were nothing more than trivial matters to him.

That was why she had, after a long internal struggle the day before, come to the Hunt Manor today with the clothes she had carefully selected for the three children.

Deep down, she wanted to repair her relationship with her son. She could also see that, although her son was surprised to see her, he was not hostile towards her. But little did she expect that... that man would come back!

As expected, those thoughts of hers were all just wishful thinking.

She should just stay in that small villa her whole life like someone's trapped canary and live out her life all by herself.

This was the price she had to pay for that incident back then.

Without any hope, there would be no disappointment.

The little spark of hope that had finally ignited after much difficulty had suddenly been extinguished that evening.

Iris lowered her head. "Don't ask anymore, Mrs. Landis."

Seeing how sad she looked, Mrs. Landis sighed.

At the Hunts'.

When Justin and Nora entered the living room, they found that Cherry had gone to the bedroom upstairs. Herman and Lauren were sitting on the sofa, drinking the tea that the butler had just handed them.

Justin seemed utterly heartbroken by Iris. There was sadness on his face. He took Nora's hand and sat opposite Herman and Lauren.

Herman said, "You saw that, didn't you? Your mother is a cold-hearted person. Justin, she has always been so selfish. You should have already become accustomed to it a long time ago, right?"

Justin raised his head suddenly, piercing light shooting out of his eyes. "Why are you here?"

Herman narrowed his eyes. "This is my home. Of course I was going to come back someday! Besides, my agreement with your mother back then was for me to leave the Hunts for twenty years! Don't worry, I know that the entire Hunt Corporation is now in your hands. Even if I'm back, I won't be able to take anything back from you... I've been doing my own business abroad all these years, and have my own assets, so I won't covet your money. I came back just to visit you, as well as your grandmother along the way." After saying this, he stood up and started walking out. "I will go and say hi to your grandmother first. I will stay at her place tonight."

The fake Lauren said pretentiously, “Justin, this is our gift for the children. Cherry is afraid of strangers, so she didn’t accept the gift. You can give it to her later.”

After the two left, Justin looked at Nora. “Why don’t you go upstairs first? I will deal with these gifts.”

Nora had been worried that he would misunderstand Iris, and end up being moved by Herman’s few words. It was only then that she realized that he actually disliked Herman that much. She was relieved.

She nodded and went upstairs.

After she went upstairs, Justin picked up his cell phone and answered a call. Sean’s voice came from the other side: “Boss.”

Justin’s gaze was very cold. He lowered his eyes slightly and asked, “Have you looked into it? What did she say in the car after she left...?”

Sean then recounted the conversation between Mrs. Landis and Iris in the car and told him how Iris had reacted.

Justin lowered his eyes and listened quietly.

Sean said tentatively, “Ma’am seems to be having some difficulties, and she is not indifferent to you. Although she speaks disdainfully about the videos sent to her in the past, she has actually kept them all...”

Justin knew all this, of course—because he was the one who had gotten them to send those videos!

All he wanted to know right now was—why?!

Sean was still reporting his discoveries. “The gifts that Ma’am brought for the children were all carefully selected and prepared a month in advance. After hearing that you have another child, she even prepared an additional gift overnight to make up. She was actually planning to tell you some kind of truth when she took the initiative to visit today... but it seems like she has regretted it. It seems that the change in her emotions only took place after your father returned.”

“Okay.”

Justin understood what Sean was saying. He raised his eyes and looked ahead of him dispassionately. Then, he slowly said, "If you can't get anything out of my mother, then try the other side."

"Yes, sir."

Justin stared into the distance as he hung up the call.

There was a tinge of loneliness in his eyes.

To be honest, he had never believed that his mother had suddenly stopped loving him. When he was a child, he had been so stubborn that he had fainted in rain. When he woke up, he had known right away that it would be useless to approach her again.

Later, as he grew up, he suddenly discovered one day that a servant at home was filming a video of him. After that, the servant had sent it to someone.

At first, he'd thought that the servant must be scheming something, so he'd constantly stayed on guard against him. However, even as time passed, the servant didn't take any action.

After he grew up, Justin quietly studied and learned hacking techniques without anyone knowing. He had then hacked into the servant's phone and discovered his secret.

As it turned out, all the videos of him—from when he was a child all the way until he turned into a young adult—had all been sent by the servant to his mother, who had never shown any concern for him!

He took the opportunity to hack into his mother's cell phone, only to find all the videos of him stored within. Every video of him from when he was a child until he became a young adult—was in there. None of them had ever been deleted. And every night, before going to bed, she would watch the videos of him over and over again.

Justin had been thirteen years old then.

Since then, he became certain that his mother was hiding something from him, and that she had her reasons and difficulties for doing so.

It could be said that he had never held any grudge towards his mother.

However, this did not mean that he was not angry about it.

He was indeed furious.

When he was young, he couldn't do anything. Thus, for his own good, his mother had kept those secrets from him. But even as he grew up, was his mother still unable to believe in him?

Besides...

It was undeniable that feelings and relationships were built and developed through daily contact and interaction with one another. The twenty-year-long separation had left him and Iris with nothing much to say to each other.

Thus, later on, he only occasionally visited her at the villa, and never without reason.

He was waiting.

He was waiting for his mother to take the initiative to tell him the truth. But judging from her behavior, was his mother planning to keep it from him for the rest of her life? Just because it would bring him trouble?

Justin lowered his head.

To be honest, there were times when he felt like giving up on the investigation.

So what even if he found out what had happened?

Since she hadn't been by his side as he grew up, why should he accompany her as she grew old...? Besides, sometimes habit really was something awfully scary—he had already grown used to not having her at home.

If there came a day where he suddenly found himself with a mother nagging at him, he might not be able to get used to it either.

Yet when he heard from Sean that she had cried, his heart softened again.

No matter what, they were still mother and son. Even if he was indifferent by nature, and even if he might only care about a few people; the woman was still among the few he cared about.

Moreover-and also the main reason-Nora seemed to share a very good relationship with her.

Upstairs.

Nora entered the room to see Cherry pulling a long face. Although she was sitting on the sofa and playing games, she was not happy.

Pete glanced at her. "What's the matter? Is something troubling you?"

Cherry killed an enemy in the game and then looked up at him. "Is it that obvious that I'm upset?"

"... You didn't rant at anyone while playing your game today," replied Pete with the corners of his lips spasming. The little girl was pretty much just short of blatantly writing the words "I'm unhappy" on her face.

Even Princess Lucy asked, "Cherry, what's wrong? Did someone bully you? I'll get the bodyguards to beat them up!" As she spoke, she even waved her tiny little fists. She looked just like a Barbie doll.

Cherry sighed quietly. "Don't beat her up, Lucy. You don't understand."

A puzzled Lucy asked, "What don't I understand? Is this some kind of rule in America? Why should you put up with it when that person is upsetting you?" "Because it's my grandma we're talking about!"

Cherry rested her chin on her hand and said, "Grandma was really nice to me in the past, I don't know why she suddenly changed today. She must have a reason for doing so! Do you know why she did that, Pete?"

Pete shook his head. "I don't know."

Cherry was a little disappointed. "You are so stupid~"

Cherry sighed quietly. "Forget it, it's time for my live-stream!"

After speaking, she sat on the sofa and opened the live-stream app.

Seeing the little fellows chatting so happily, Nora didn't go in to disturb them and left instead.

Cherry was not someone to dwell on things, so she would never take such small matters to heart. Neither did she need Nora to comfort her. In her opinion, Justin was simply overthinking things.

After she left, she looked downstairs again and saw that there was no one in the living room. However, there was a figure on the balcony.

Although Nora was very sleepy and wanted very much to look for someplace where she could sleep, when she thought of how hurtful Iris' words earlier in the day had been for Justin, she nevertheless went down the stairs and walked towards him.

As she went over, she saw the man standing there with his back to her.

The moonlight cast a silver glow on him, making a smooth silhouette of the dark and overcast figure. He exuded a sense of alienation and indifference, yet at the same time, he looked as though he had been forgotten in a corner.

He seemed so sad and lonely that it made one feel sorry for him.

This was especially when the man, who had never smoked, actually had a cigar held in between his fingertips at the moment. The smoke from the cigar curled upwards, making him look even lonelier.

Nora felt like they could pretty much make a movie with the scene.

The corners of Nora's lips twitched a little. She hadn't expected the man to be so deeply hurt.

She walked over and stood behind him. Just as she was about to speak, the man suddenly turned around and embraced her tightly. His chest was very hard and solid. It felt rather uncomfortable when he held her so tightly.

Yet Nora did not dare to push him away at a time like this, for fear that he would become even sadder—because the man happened to whisper into her ear, “Nora, you're the only one I have left now.”

Nora kept quiet for three seconds, but in the end, she still couldn't stop herself from saying, “You still have Cherry, Pete, Xander, Brenda, and also Sean and Lawrence. There's also...”

Justin: “...”

He really shouldn't have allowed the woman to speak. The moment she opened her mouth, she would absolutely become the insensitive girl who ruined the atmosphere!

The corners of Justin's lips spasmed. Seeing that Nora was actually planning to continue listing the rest, he promptly and decisively lowered his head suddenly and caught the woman's lips.

He could see the girl freezing suddenly. Then, her almond-shaped eyes widened and she looked at him in astonishment. It seemed like her first reaction was to push him away, yet she held back.

Justin closed his eyes. He could sense that the girl was being extra-tolerant today, so he pushed his luck and invaded her mouth.

The crisp smell of tobacco on the man rushed into Nora's nostrils bossily, making her feel like the smell was actually quite pleasant?

To be honest, she hadn't thought of pushing him away.

If the man needed a hug and a kiss to reinforce his sense of security, then she didn't mind giving them to him.

Besides, he really was exceptionally pitiful today. Thus, not only did Nora not resist, but she even stretched out her arms and circled them around his neck tightly, and started responding to his kiss.

The atmosphere gradually turned amorous.

It seemed like all the air at the balcony had been sucked away. In the narrow space, the man and woman's chests heaved up and down. After some time, Justin suddenly picked up Nora and carried her like a newly-wed bride. He said, "Let's... go to the bedroom upstairs."

The suggestiveness in his words were very apparent.

When he stared hard at Nora, he saw the girl, whose cheeks were scarlet and her eyes misty, reply, "Okay."

To be honest, Justin hadn't expected her to agree.



He'd long discovered that the woman had always been relatively indifferent in her feelings. It hadn't been that long since the two of them confirmed their relationship, either.

The woman's chest was heaving up and down intensely at the moment, and her eyes contained a faint hint of womanly charm and shyness. When she agreed with her cheeks all red, he was instead stunned for a moment.

But right after, he regained his senses.

Seemingly afraid that the woman would go back on her word the very next second, he turned around at once and strode up the stairs.

Nora, whose head was buried into his chest, could see that his eyes were as deep and bottomless as the ocean. The way his eyes were staring at her so closely was as though he was looking at his prey, which made one feel daunted and timid.

But unfortunately, who did he think Nora was?

She had always been the hunter, not the hunted. When had she ever allowed herself to be in a disadvantageous position?

So, the next moment, she yawned. The two went up the stairs and entered the bedroom. With her in his arms, Justin rushed straight towards the bed. However, he had only just taken two steps when Nora said, "Let's take a bath first. Who's going in first, you or me?"

Justin's eyes instantly turned even darker. "... Let's go in together?"

"Get lost."

Nora sat upright and jumped out of his arms. "I'll take a bath first."

She took out an unused bath towel from the side and walked into the bathroom.

Mr. Hunt, who had stayed outside, was so anxious that he was going around in circles. He hurriedly made the bed; then he checked whether the big bed was sturdy enough and whether it would make any noise if people jumped on it.

After that, he swallowed again and smoothed his hair.

If Lawrence or Sean were to see him like this, they would probably marvel in amazement. Was that really their boss, who had never even frowned a little in the face of business transactions worth billions, or even dozens of billions?

Splash

The sound of water stopped. Justin stood up straight, his eyes fixed in the direction of the bathroom. The door opened, and Nora walked out.

The bathrobe was wrapped around her, and she was toweling her hair. Because of the hot bath, her cheeks had become even rosier and moist. Her almond-shaped eyes glanced at him shyly and she said, "It's your turn."

His Adam's apple shifted a little. "... Okay."

He picked up the bathrobe and rushed into the bathroom like an eager child.

He washed himself seriously and carefully during the bath, for fear that Nora would notice if he didn't clean any part of himself well. Even so, he took only two minutes in the bath and ran out again.

Then, he saw Nora already lying on the bed.

He slowed down, his breathing becoming heavier and heavier. He walked up to the bed where Nora was. As he thought of what was about to happen that night, he became rather excited.

But the next moment, his excitement died down.

Because! The mouth of the woman on the bed was slightly ajar, and her eyes were closed. This... Was she asleep?

Justin: "??"

How would he know that when they were downstairs just now, as they kissed and kissed, Nora had also been getting sleepier and sleepier?! This continued until the man finally suggested going to the bedroom, and she breathed a huge sigh of relief.

Would she finally be able to go to sleep?

Therefore, with her eyelids droopy, she had replied sleepily, "Okay."

It wasn't the shy and bashful reaction that Justin had imagined on his own at all!

The corners of Justin's lips spasmed a little. He wanted to lift the quilt but realized that the woman had wrapped it tightly around herself, and was refusing to let him in.

Justin took another deep breath. In the end, he stood up in silence, went into the bathroom, took out the hairdryer, and quietly started drying her hair for her.

He hoped beyond everything that perhaps the noise would wake the woman?

Unfortunately, even until her hair was all dry, she didn't wake up.

On the contrary, seeing her unintentionally exposed shoulders while drying her hair, the fire in Justin's heart started to burn even more strongly.

In the end, Justin took another cold bath that night.

Nora did not wake up until noon the next day.

She stretched comfortably. But when she turned her head to the side, she was instead faced with the man's dark and gloomy face, which gave her a huge shock.

Justin asked quietly, "Did you sleep well?"

"... Yeah."

Nora yawned. Then, she got out of bed and went to wash up.

Justin could only sigh helplessly. As he got up, he heard movement outside the door. He went over and looked through the peephole to see the three children and Brenda standing outside.

Brenda was asking nosily, "Did your Mommy really sleep in there last night? That's why your father is sleeping in for once?"

Cherry replied, "Uh-huh, uh-huh! It seemed like Mommy's legs felt a little weak last night, so Daddy carried her upstairs!"

Pete said, "... It's not that Mommy's legs were weak."

Cherry was puzzled. "Then was it because Mommy couldn't walk anymore? So she was acting like a baby?"

Pete: "?"

At the side, Lucy covered her mouth and giggled.

Brenda's eyes, however, were gleaming in an extremely gossipy manner. She said, "Cherry, you are so dumb! They are making younger brothers and sisters for you!" Cherry: "?"

Justin: "??"

What kind of nonsense was she saying? What was she teaching his daughter?

Justin opened the door angrily. His voice deepened and he reprimanded, "Brenda!"

Brenda got a huge fright. But when she looked over at him, she received an even bigger fright. She swallowed and asked, "How hard were you guys going at it last night, Justin? It gave you dark circles under your eyes?"

Justin: "?"

Before he could speak, Brenda spoke again. "I understand, I understand it all. After all, this is the first time you guys were doing it after such a long time. It's very normal that you wouldn't be able to hold yourself back. But you guys still have a long future ahead of you, you know? You have to..."

The corners of Brenda's lips curled into a smile as she spoke. With an alluring voice, she said, "... take it easy a little~ After all, Nora is frail and unable to take care of herself. You mustn't be a beast to her, Justin."

Justin retorted angrily, "What nonsense are you saying?"

"What do you mean 'nonsense'~?" But after she spoke, something suddenly occurred to Brenda and she became terribly alarmed. "Surely not? The two of you, a lone man and a lone woman sharing the same room, you know? Could it be that you have some kind of undisclosed condition, Justin? If so, then you mustn't keep it to yourself. Nora's a doctor, hurry up and have her give you a checkup!"

Justin's expression turned even darker. "No, I don't!"

"That's more like it!" Brenda breathed a sigh of relief and patted her chest. "Otherwise, you'll be worse than a beast."

"..."

Justin felt like he was about to get a heart attack from anger.

Who was she calling worse than a beast, goddammit?!

Bang!

Justin shut the door.

In the suburbs.

At noon, Iris stood in the greenhouse and took care of her orchids in boredom.

The door was suddenly pushed open and Herman strode in. When he saw her, he entered the greenhouse.

Iris frowned at the sight of him. "Get lost, you are not welcome here."

Herman said, "Don't get me wrong, I'm not here to rekindle old relationships with you. It's just that... how were you taking care of our son at home? Your relationship with him is terrible. I was not by Justin's side when he was a child, yet you didn't stay with him?!"

Iris balled up her fists tightly. "You're asking why my relationship with Justin is so terrible when you already know the answer to that question?! Isn't it all because..."

"Because..."

Iris had hidden the secret about what happened all those years ago in her heart for twenty years and had never mentioned it to anyone. Everyone in this world could criticize her, scold her, and hate her.

In fact, it was okay even if Justin refused to acknowledge her as his mother. However, the man in front of her was the only person who was not worthy of speaking about her relationship with her son!

She stared at Herman, though, there wasn't any anger in her. She merely felt that the man couldn't get any more thick-skinned than he already was. She sneered and slowly said, "It's all because of the fantastic things you did back then!"

Herman frowned when he heard this. "What does it have to do with me? You were obviously the one who was unfaithful!"

"You—!"

Iris really found his words ridiculous to the extreme. She stared at Herman. A short while later, she sneered, "It's been twenty years. Your ability to reverse right and wrong and twist the truth has really improved!"

Herman wanted to speak again, but Lauren walked in through the door and interrupted their conversation. She said, "That's enough. Dear, Iris, don't argue anymore. I know you still hold a grudge against Herman, but it's already been twenty years now, so what's the point of doing that to yourself? Justin has already grown up. What Herman did for you back then is already good enough. He has already given up all of his inheritance to the family assets for the two of you... He practically left the family penniless."

Lauren sighed. "You don't know how difficult it has been for us to start from scratch when we were abroad all these years."

Iris: "?"

What a clever way of phrasing things. Those who didn't know better might really have thought that Herman was a good man!

Iris was not a woman of forbearance. She said eloquently, "How come I don't remember Herman leaving the Hunts penniless back then? Weren't the company shares from back then his father's? Just because his father had chosen Justin over him as the heir to the family, it somehow ended up becoming him giving the assets to me and my son?"

A sharp look flashed across Lauren's eyes. "Sigh, you don't understand. It was Herman who took the initiative to withdraw from the fight because he felt that he had let the two of you down. Otherwise, why would the old sir have chosen a child, who was only five years old, over him?"

Iris was really rendered speechless by her shameless remark. She sneered and said, "So, am I supposed to be thanking the two of you then?"

A sullen Herman said, "You can skip the words of gratitude! What was that way of bringing up the boy, though? Just because I was forced into leaving and couldn't see Justin anymore, you really left him to fend for himself?! And ended up causing that boy to become so perverse and domineering?!"

Seeing that he was criticizing her again, Iris was so furious that she actually laughed. "I have never stopped you from visiting him, but have you ever taken the initiative to contact him all these years? Your son had probably already stopped existing in your eyes when he was lost back then!"

Herman frowned. "How can you say that, Iris? Isn't it obvious that I didn't contact him because I was afraid that you would feel uncomfortable about it? If I contacted him frequently whereas you, his mother, stayed here like a widow, then he would have hated and resented you even more!"

Iris gave a low laugh. Suddenly, she really couldn't be bothered to say anything to him anymore. He was simply so capable of twisting all her words.

For Iris, her son was what mattered to her the most.

All these years, because she hadn't been able to stay by his side, the child had lacked mother's love. She had been counting on Herman to stay in contact with him frequently. After all, a father played a very important role in a child's growth!

But he hadn't.

Herman rarely ever contacted Justin. In fact, he had only called Justin twice during the past twenty years.

She took a deep breath and pointed to the door. "This is my home. Please leave, otherwise, I'm going to call for someone to send you out."

Justin had told her before that he'd stationed some bodyguards for her nearby.

Due to certain reasons, Iris had agreed to it. The bodyguards were standing right outside the door at the moment. However, they hadn't come in to stop Herman.

To be honest, this made Iris a little uncomfortable.

The son must still resent her. That was why he hadn't protected her despite the circumstances.

While she was thinking, Lauren continued adding fuel to the fire and said, "Well, no matter what happened in the past, now that Justin has grown up, you'll have to interact with Justin in the business market, Herman. Iris, we came back to America this time partially to expand our business into the domestic market. It just so happens that we can deal more with the Hunts for some of our operations. They are father and son after all. They will eventually get in touch with each other once they work together, and will slowly make up for the regrets from the

past."

After saying that, she looked at Iris. "Also, Justin's kids are really just too adorable! You don't know how funny Cherry is. She loves the princess dress I brought over to her this morning."

Iris's heart tightened.

Her granddaughter was having fun with Lauren?

But when the thought formed, she felt like she was being narrow-minded again.

That's true, even though she and Herman were divorced, it did not mean that Justin had to sever all contact with him. The Hunts were Herman's family, and the elderly Mrs. Hunt was his mother...

She had only just thought of that when Lauren spoke again. She said, "By the way, we don't have a place to stay during our temporary return to America, so we will stay at the Hunt Manor for the time being. You won't have any objections, right? Cherry is very welcoming of us, she even said that she likes me, her grandmother, very much..."

The two of them had stayed at the Hunts' the previous night.

Iris's heart felt even heavier. Then, she heard Lauren sigh and say, "Iris, we will be part of the same family in the future. I hope you can let go of all your



grievances from the past so that we can all live in peace with one another. This way, Justin won't feel awkward being caught in the middle either, right?"

Iris clenched her fists. "We won't interfere with each other's lives as long as you people don't come over and bother me!"

Lauren took Herman's arm. "Why would we bother you?"

With a big smile, she said, "Herman, since there's nothing else we need with Iris here, then let's go back. We just need to inform Justin that he needn't worry about Iris being unhappy about it! Let's go back, Cherry is still waiting for me to play dolls with her!"

Herman nodded, and the two turned and left.

As she stared at them from the back, Iris felt as if there were needles pricking her heart.

Even though she couldn't approach her son or her grandchildren before, she could still live with it somewhat. But why should Herman and Lauren be able to stay at the Hunt Manor? Why should they be able to play with her granddaughter every day?

Iris' eyes reddened.

Mrs. Landis came over. She heaved a quiet sigh and said, "Ma'am, if you still keep the truth of what had happened back then to yourself, that scumbag and that cheap woman will take Mr. Hunt away from you! Look at how the bodyguards didn't even stop them from going in and out of here. These must have been Mr. Hunt's instructions!"

Iris felt even worse.

At this moment, Cherry's voice suddenly rang out from Mrs. Landis' cell phone...

Cherry should be live-streaming at this time.

Iris suddenly took the phone from her. She would see how Lauren was going to interact intimately with Cherry!

Cherry had switched on her webcam during her live-stream that day, so the live-stream was relatively more formal this time.

Every time she live-streamed, her Sponsor Grandpa would definitely be online. Sponsor Daddy occasionally came in to visit, but it was not as frequent as before.

It was probably because he could now see her in person every day.

Cherry wasn't bothered about these things, though.

However, a Sponsor Grandma had joined the live-stream recently.

Of course, she wasn't addressing that person as Grandma; rather, "Sponsor Grandma" was that person's username. Sponsor Grandma was currently ranked second in her virtual gift rankings.

The one in the first place was always Sponsor Grandpa. No one could surpass him.

The one in third place, Sponsor Daddy, no longer cared about the ranking these days, so his score had been slowly dropping. Cherry first greeted Sponsor Grandpa. Then, when she saw Sponsor Grandma enter the live-stream, the little fellow immediately called out sweetly, "Hi, Sponsor Grandma! How are you doing?"

Sponsor Grandma wrote in the comments: 'Not well.'

As the big boss ranked second in her virtual gift rankings, her comment was highlighted in the live-stream.

Cherry saw the comment right away. Puzzled, she asked, "Why? Did someone make you angry? Beat them up then!"

Iris looked at the live-stream. She wanted to say, "You're the one who made me angry, you little brat."

To think she was actually having fun with someone like Lauren...

If Lauren had gotten into a relationship with Herman after the two of them had divorced normally, then Iris actually would not have prevented Lauren and Cherry from having fun with each other.

After all, it was good for her to have another person who loved her.

But Lauren was not a good person at all. She was afraid that Lauren would lead Cherry astray.

Iris was terribly angry and frustrated. When she was about to send another comment, she suddenly caught a glimpse of a princess dress on the sofa behind Cherry.

Was that the gift that Lauren had spoken of? The one that she had delivered to Cherry early in the morning?

Iris suddenly felt very discouraged.

She put down the phone silently and stood up.

To be honest, when she agreed to that condition back then, she had already left the family. It was destined that she would no longer have much of a relationship with her son for the rest of her life.

In that case, why bother disturbing his life?

Iris lowered her head and turned off the live-stream.

She didn't want to ask Cherry about Lauren anymore-after all, she was the one who had pushed Cherry away with her own hands the night before.

Since she had already made her choice, then what right did she have to demand that Cherry be close to her?

Iris was caught in a dilemma and internal struggle. Mrs. Landis, who was looking at her from the side, was terribly anxious. However, she also knew that once Iris made up her mind, no one would be able to convince her otherwise.

She heaved a silent sigh and changed the subject. "Ma'am, the pot of Jade Orchids you wanted to buy will be delivered soon, right? Where should we put it?"

Sure enough, Iris finally perked up a little when she heard this. She stood up and walked one round in the greenhouse with Mrs. Landis. At last, she said, "That pot of Jade Orchids is very rare and very difficult to take care of. We must treat it with great care."

"Okay."

As the two chatted, they got busy in the greenhouse.

Seeing that she was finally no longer so listless anymore, Mrs. Landis breathed a sigh of relief.

An hour later, the two finally made room for the new pot of orchid. Only then did they sit down again.

Night had almost fallen. The sky had gradually darkened, and the surroundings were quiet. Apart from the chirping of birds, there was no other sound.

When one looked up, through the small courtyard, they could see the skies of New York that were hazy all year round.

Iris had lived like this for a whole twenty years.

Mrs. Landis had left to make dinner. As Iris sat in the greenhouse, her gaze fell onto Mrs. Landis' cell phone again, hardly able to stand the itch in her heart.

Suddenly, she really wanted to hear Cherry's voice.

She opened the live-stream again. At once, she heard Cherry's clear and pleasant voice: "... Jungler, have you gone invisible? How come I never see you during team battles?"

Iris couldn't help but smile at the way she spoke when she dissed other players, and she almost laughed out loud.

As expected, Cherry was still the same bundle of joy she knew her to be.

Beep.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly rang

Iris picked it up casually, the smile still on her face. She saw that someone had sent her a short video. She opened it casually, upon which Lauren's face immediately appeared. She was speaking to the camera with a smile on her face, "Iris, I am going to go and play with Cherry now. Cherry has always been a very polite and adorable child~"

Iris: “!!”

She stood up angrily. Lauren must have been afraid that she wouldn't believe that they had a better relationship with Justin's family, so she had deliberately sent that to provoke her, right?

Iris was jealous and envious, but even more helpless and sad.

She stared at the video. She could see that it was Cherry's room that Lauren was about to enter.

The next moment, in Cherry's live-stream, the sound of someone knocking on the door, as well as Lauren's gentle voice rang out: “Cherry? Grandma's coming in, okay\_?”

Iris clenched her fists.

She looked at Mrs. Landis' cell phone and stared at Cherry's live-stream.

She wanted to close it so that she wouldn't see their interaction, yet at the same time, she wanted to open her eyes wide and take a good look at what exactly she had lost...

She felt as though a big invisible hand had closed around her heart tightly. Her chest felt stuffy and tight, and she felt awfully aggrieved.

Just as she was in a dilemma, she heard Cherry's young and tender voice become impatient: “Who said you could come in here?”

At the Hunts'.

Lauren entered the room with a smile on her face. She'd originally wanted to get along properly with Cherry-after all, she really did want to make Cherry happy.

Once she pleased Cherry, that would mean that she had also pleased Justin.

But she hadn't expected Cherry to always look so impatient whenever she saw her.

She didn't know that Cherry was live-streaming, so she smiled and said, “Grandma misses little Cherry, so I came over to visit you...”

After speaking, as if she was on very good terms with Cherry, she walked over to the sofa next to her and picked up the princess dress she had given Cherry earlier that day. She asked, "Don't you like the princess dress that Grandma bought you? Why didn't you put it on?"

Cherry blinked with her big eyes and answered bluntly, "Because I don't like it, of course!"

Lauren looked at her hesitantly. "Then what kind do you like? Pink ones? Purple ones?"

Or?"

Cherry tilted her head to the side, which made her look very naughty. Her grin made her look even more like a little devil. She replied, "It's you I don't like."

Lauren was taken aback.

Cherry said, "So, as long as it is from you, I won't like it. Don't waste your time trying to please me. Please go out! I don't have a grandmother like you!"

The little fellow's voice was crisp and clear, and she spoke loudly and sonorously.

Lauren flushed, but she didn't dare to bully Cherry, especially in this room. Thus, she said, "Cherry, it is not right of you to speak to your grandma like this. It's very impolite behavior..."

Cherry suddenly stood up and walked straight towards Lauren.

The camera in her live-stream was facing the side right from the start, so it had captured part of the scene.

As a result, everyone saw Cherry pick up the princess dress and then push Lauren out the door. The little fellow was very strong. After she pushed Lauren out of the room, she stood there and said, "Go away you... you... wh\*re!"

Cherry had never ever called anyone names.

Even when she was dissing people in her live-streams, she had never called anyone names. Therefore, when she tried to think of a word for Lauren, she

had to think for a very long time before she finally remembered one of the insults that Xander frequently used.

After calling Lauren a wh\*re, Cherry slammed the door shut.

Cherry continued her live-stream after she returned.

But at this point, she noticed that a lot of reproachful remarks had suddenly appeared in the comments:

“Isn’t the live-streamer’s behavior too crass? What did that gentle old lady do to you? To think you’re actually calling her names?”

“I’ve already found her an eyesore a long time ago. She’s only five, yet she’s so skilled at dissing people in games. To think you guys claim that she has never called anyone names. Ha, didn’t she do just that just now?”

Some of her fans were also trying to correct her:

“sweetcherry, that’s your grandma. You mustn’t call your family such awful names.”

“Yeah. It’s very rude of you to just toss the dress that your grandma bought for you...”

A group of Internet keyboard warriors, who didn’t even know anything about her family situation, started to leave comments in her live-stream.

A bad-ass Cherry replied, “You are not me, so what would you know? She is a bad person! My mom told me to stay away from her!”

The comments instantly became even fiercer.

However, Iris was no longer in the live-stream at this point.

She had closed the live-stream when Lauren knocked on the door. She didn’t want to watch their heartwarming moments, which would only sadden her. She stared ahead of her blankly.

About half an hour later, Lauren sent her another text message: ‘Sorry about that, Iris, I was playing with Cherry the whole time just now. I realized that the little girl is really very well-behaved. We had a lot of fun together. She also said that she likes me very much.’

Little by little, Iris' heart sank as she read the message.

Yeah, how would Cherry possibly not be lovable?

She had always been a good girl who was polite and sweet-talking. Every time she saw her, the things she said made her heart melt.

It seemed that no matter what, she just couldn't harden her heart towards the little fellow.

Everyone would probably like her, no matter who it was.

Iris didn't want to think about it anymore, so she straight-up blocked Lauren's phone number. Then, she stood up and went to dinner.

Mrs. Landis had made mushroom risotto that evening.

The two of them had a plate each. However, the usually fresh and delicious mushroom risotto didn't taste right to her that evening. She said, "Mrs. Landis, the mushroom risotto doesn't taste very nice today."

Mrs. Landis took a bite. "It tastes pretty good, Ma'am. You only think it tastes bad because you are in a bad mood. Every time you are in a bad mood, you don't feel like eating."

"... Really?"

Iris slowly put down her spoon. She sighed silently. Then, she got up and started walking upstairs. "I'm not eating anymore. I'll go to bed instead."

Mrs. Landis heaved a quiet sigh as she stared at her from the back.

Iris had originally thought that she would be fine after she went upstairs and had a good night's sleep. But after she lay down, she simply couldn't get to sleep.

The text messages that Lauren had sent to her kept appearing before her eyes, making her feel like there was something stuck in her chest, unable to get out.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly rang.



When Iris answered, Lauren's voice came from the other side again. "Iris, why did you block me? Is it because you don't want me to send you those messages? Well, that makes sense. I'm sure you don't want Cherry and I to be so close to each other, but the child wants a grandmother too!"

Her words made Iris so mad that she was shaking all over. Right at this moment, she suddenly heard a rush of footsteps. Then, Mrs. Landis opened the door and entered her room. She said, "Ma'am, Cherry is trending!"

Trending?

What was trending?

Iris pretty much subconsciously picked up her cell phone. Right away, she saw that sweetcherry was trending on social media because she had called her grandma names out of anger in her live-stream.

To be honest, it wasn't really trending that high in the rankings.

It barely entered the top fifty in the rankings and had only just made the list. Mrs. Landis had only found out because her attention was on Cherry.

Iris hurriedly opened the article linked in the post, where she saw a video clip from the live-stream footage. In the clip, Cherry had driven her grandma out of her room and called her a wh\*re.