

Chapter 434

Patrick was still abroad on a business trip. When Old Master Hopkins saw them coming back, he tried to invite Charles for dinner tonight. Charles did not dare to refuse.

Christina looked at Old Master Hopkins and felt that the way he looked at Charles today was strange.

"Grandpa, do you have any ideas about Charles?" Christina was very close to Old Master Hopkins and asked him in a low voice.

He seemed to have been seen through by her, and he glared at her angrily, "What do you think?"

Seeing him like this, Christina knew he was obviously guilty. So she asked him in a lower voice, "The way you look at Charles is like you are going to completely strip him of his clothes..."

"How dare you!"

Old Master Hopkins scolded her, but he was not angry. He looked like he was considering something, so he told her directly.

"What do you think of Charles and Brianna?"

When Christina heard this, her eyes widened. She mechanically turned to look at Charles and then at Brianna.

She did not know what to say for a moment.

Was the old man trying to be a matchmaker and randomly arrange a couple together?

"Grandpa, I don't know how many girlfriends Charles has had. How can he be a match for Brianna? She will definitely be bullied..." Christina expressed her thoughts excitedly.

"Charles is not that bad."

"But Brianna doesn't know anything."

"You are her sister-in-law, so you should teach her more..."

Christina was speaking so close to the old man, whispering like she was his biological grandchild. The old housekeeper was making tea and when he saw them, he smiled. Their young madam and Old Master Hopkins were really close.

Even Brianna would not be so close to Old Master Hopkins, even though she was his grandchild.

"Grandpa, what are you talking about?" Charles found an opportunity to interrupt. His standard handsome smile was suitable for all ages.

"Christina works outside. I heard that she did a good job on her business trip. I praised her a few words to encourage her to perform well in the future." Old Master Hopkins didn't have to prepare a lie at all.

Christina complained in a low voice, "How quickly his expression changes."

The old man coughed guiltily and glared angrily at the granddaughter-in-law who could not take a hint. He turned to the old housekeeper and said, "Serve the dishes."

After dinner, as usual, Brianna nodded respectfully to them as a greeting, then she went back to her bedroom.

Old Master Hopkins then went to the nursery to see his precious great-grandchildren, the twins.

Christina and Charles went to the lotus pond near the garden of the Hopkins family, so as to take a stroll for better digestion.

"Christina, you are a really happy mother. Other newbie mothers worry about their babies all day and night. Your twin sons are almost a year old, and you haven't hugged them many times."

"Grandpa and Patrick don't agree on me to do so. What can I do about it? Grandpa has set a special entrance guard for me in the nursery." It was not easy for her to visit her son.

"You like children so much. Go and find a woman to give you one. Then you will be surrounded with diapers, bottles, and all kinds of props all day long."

"Stop it."

Charles recalled the painful memories of his consecutive blind dates.

Christina leaned against a guardrail. The water in the artificial pond flowed slowly. A gust of night wind made her feel a little cold. It lifted her hair and made her more awake from her fatigue all day long.

"Christina, aren't you very tired before? Do you want to go back to your room to rest first? You don't have to accompany me. I'm very familiar with the Hopkins family..."

Seeing that she had been looking at the dark bottom of the pond, Charles didn't know what she was thinking. He asked with concern.

"What do you think of Brianna?" She suddenly asked him.

Charles didn't think of anything else and just answered seriously, "It's good for Brianna to work with you at the same company. She should get in touch with society more..."

This Mr. Shepherd was sometimes quite simple-minded.

Christina's face was slightly cold blown by the night wind. She looked up at him and said, "Grandpa just told me that he has watched you grow up and you are very good. He also said you deserve a woman to be entrusted with for the

rest of her life."

"Ah?"

Charles was looking at a carp jumping up in the pool. When he heard her suddenly say this, he was inexplicably worried.

"What does grandpa want to do? He doesn't want to find me a wife, does he... It's already difficult for me to have a woman as an empress dowager in my family. Stop tormenting me."

Seeing his pitiful look, Christina laughed presumptuously.

Charles felt uncomfortable being ridiculed by her, and he decided to fight back.

He pointed to a dark spot behind her and exclaimed in shock, "Ah, Christina, look, there's a woman with black hair and a white dress on your back. She is looking at you with a gloomy look!"

"What?"

Christina was so scared that her face turned pale. She turned right in panic and tried to escape. She then hit her forehead against the pavilion pillar.

Charles didn't expect her to be so easy to scare, so he quickly pulled her, "I lied to you. You don't have to run."

Christian still had not recovered from her panic. She looked at him with suspicion and pulled Charles in front of her to cover for her. Only then did she quietly look back.

She breathed a sigh of relief. There was nothing there.

"Christina, you are so afraid of ghosts."

Charles seemed to have discovered a new continent and was extremely excited. He immediately said meanly, "Can it be that you usually have done too many guilty things?"

Knowing that he was deliberately scaring her, Christina raised her hand and patted him on his head angrily, "How dare you to scare me!"

"When I was a child, during my sleep I always felt someone talking in my ear in the middle of the night. I would have nightmares. I am just afraid that something would happen to me. So what? Next time you dare to scare me, I will throw you into the lotus pond!"

Charles got a headache, "Who knows you are so delusional, you are usually so tough..."

"I'm not delusional!"

Christina recalled one thing, "Initially when I was married into the Hopkins family, once I stood by the fish pond to

feed the fish. Suddenly, a heavy object flew over and hit my right knee. I fell to my knees unsteadily and fell into the fish pond. I was wet all over. At that time I was even pregnant, Patrick and grandpa thought I was playful and scolded me, but..."

"I told them I didn't fall into the fish pond by myself. They just didn't believe me. The butler and the others didn't find any hard stuff around the fish pond. They said I was being paranoid, but something did hit my foot."

When Christina said this, she became very excited.

Charles looked at her and felt it was unlikely that she was lying. Besides, Christina didn't like to lie.

"Didn't you ask Patrick to investigate it thoroughly?"

Christina looked awkward, "We were not that close at that time."

Charles wanted to laugh. At that time, Patrick and Christina had already had sex, got the marriage certificate, and Christina was already pregnant. Now Christina actually said she and Patrick were not that close at that time. This couple was really weird.

"Stop thinking nonsense. You may encounter dangerous things outside, but it's absolutely safe in Hopkins family."

Charles comforted her out of humanitarian concern, but he also thought about it carefully.

"I heard that pregnant people are prone to have calcium deficiency, so you might really just fall down because your intake of calcium was not enough."

"But I remember something did smash over." Christina began to hesitate. After all, it had been more than a year. If it was a lack of calcium or something, she was really not so sure.

Charles also told her another scientific guess, "There's another possibility. If someone aimed an ice cube at your back knee and threw it at you, you would be hit, and then the ice fell into the water of the fish pond. If the ice melted, you would naturally not be able to find anything."

Christina was stunned. Ice?

She had never considered such a situation before.

Did someone hit her with ice on purpose?

"I think you were more likely to have a calcium deficiency at that time," Charles said seriously, "Christina, you are in the Hopkins family. No one could have hurt you on purpose. Besides, you were carrying babies for the Hopkins family at that time, when you had just got married and probably didn't offend anyone."

"The conclusion is that you think too much."

Christina was silent for a long time. She then took out a silver-black ancient coin from her pocket and asked him

seriously, "What about this ancient coin? It seems that it has been following me..."

Charles burst into laughter, "It's not gold or silver. It's a worthless gadget. It's idealism. You always think in one direction and you'll always doubt it..."

Charles picked up the ancient coin and put it in the soft light from the lantern hanging on the pillar. He checked it carefully. He then made a bet with Christina, "I'll throw it into the lotus pond now and see if it will come back..."

As he spoke, he simply threw it away.

He threw it into the dark lotus pond. On this quiet night, he heard a thud and the ancient coins fell into the water.

Christina stared blankly as her "life-savior" coin was thrown away. She was stunned for a few seconds, "Why did you throw my thing?" She glared angrily at the Charles in front of her with a straight face.

"I'll pay back you a pure gold coin at most."

Charles didn't care about these little things, "Just throw it away, lest you think too much."

It was thrown away already. In fact, Christina was not that angry. She had been troubled by this coin and had been suspicious for the past two days.

"Maybe I really misunderstood Brianna," she muttered.

"What are you talking about now?"

Charles could not hear what she said clearly. Seeing her look tired, he advised, "Go back to your bedroom and rest, or Patrick will worry about you again."

"We are old couples. Don't say such disgusting words." Christina was really a boring woman.

Charles tutted.

"Oh, if your husband did not worry about you, why did he accompany you during your business trip? Do you really think he happened to be on a business trip to Japan that day and happened to book an economy-class ticket... And last night, you sent a message on your Instagram, saying Patrick got allergic to food from a small stall. Hehe, do you dare to say that you didn't make him allergic? If someone asked him to eat it, do you think he would eat it? Hmph!"

Everyone knew clearly how good Patrick was to her, but this stupid woman didn't know how lucky she was.

Christina thought about it and felt ashamed.

Because Patrick's allergy was not serious at that time, her first thought at that time was to post it on Instagram. In this way, she could vent her frustration. How could she alone to criticized as being picky about food all day long?

But at that time, she really didn't think that Patrick's allergy was actually caused by her. She was the one who

desperately asked him to eat it, and he didn't refuse.

"The first thought in my mind is that you are indeed a scourge."

Charles was not polite at all. He added, "That jerk Chandler gloated that Patrick has not got sick too often since he was a child and he could now just go to the hospital a few more times to experience it."

"At that time Patrick didn't care at all."

She herself didn't take it too seriously either. After all, they had always been very healthy. A small allergy did not matter.

"You don't care. The people around Patrick care. Think about his family and a lot of women who secretly admire him. They feel sorry for him."

Charles lectured her patiently, "That's why I said that you are easy to get into trouble. You have to know the truth, that is, just like a humble peasant will be punished for carrying precious jade, people with advantages will be easily targeted by others."

"You accidentally made Patrick sick. Sometimes, some people even hate you for this."

In terms of emotional intelligence and social interaction, Charles had indeed surpassed her over several levels.

Christina listened to his lecture without any expression. She then went back to her bedroom, took a shower, then rested on the bed.

Christina was obviously very tired. She tossed and turned on the big soft bed but couldn't sleep.

Perhaps she was used to sleeping next to him, and it was always difficult to fall asleep alone. Patrick had already transferred his flight route and went to Europe, and he should be back the day after tomorrow.

She slept on her side with the pillow pressed against her left shoulder. She felt a little sore and frowned, as she almost forgot the bruise on her back shoulder.

Christina simply got up from the bed and went to the cabinet to look for the medicine box.

She remembered that Patrick had specially instructed Nanny Faang to prepare a few medicine boxes in the room and one in the study room. In this way, she could deal with colds, fever, scratches, and bleeding at any time.

"When will this bruise fade..." She held the medicinal wine and managed to use the wine to rub her shoulder with her right hand. She was thinking that if Patrick found out about her bruise, he would definitely ask it thoroughly.

Christina had not told Patrick about the attack she had suffered in Japan. She suspected it was Brianna who did it, but no one would believe her. Besides, at that time Judy said things so mean and made all things difficult for her. She was angry and didn't want to say anything.

Moreover, Patrick tended to make a fuss about her things and would overreact.

"Anyway, the Ancient Coin was thrown into the lotus pond by Charles. It's useless to think so much..." She simply pretended that nothing had happened.

After packing up the medicinal wine, she lay back on the bed and closed her eyes to force herself to sleep.

Once suspicion arose, it was difficult to eradicate it.

Christina hated herself for being so stubborn. The next morning, she got up with dark circles under her eyes. Looking at herself in the mirror, who did not seem to sleep well, she scratched her long hair angrily, "How annoying."

She had told herself not to think so much, but even in her nightmare, she had dreamed of being schemed by the people in the dark, and she just could not see their faces clearly.

When it was time to go to work in the morning, Crystal in the company knew one thing, that was, Christina asked for leave and skipped work.



Super Like



Comment

0 Super Like

Chapter 435

It was Brianna's first day at work, so the servants in Hopkins family set a schedule for her. She arrived at the company five minutes early. Everything went well.

However, Christina had called in sick and did not come to the company today.

"Is she sick?"

"I don't know. She just called in sick since she didn't feel well today. Maybe she went on a business trip before and stayed up late, so she broke down and got a cold."

After the business trip with colleagues, Penny and Rachel became Christina's friends. They were concerned for Christina when they heard that she was off sick.

Crystal, Christina's best friend, let out a sigh.

Crystal knew her physical fitness very well. It was impossible for Christina to fall ill because of that, so she probably skipped work.

"She pretended to be sick?" Crystal was muttering to herself, "What is Christina doing at home..."

Crystal's colleagues got along well and chatted happily. The company only had a staff of about twenty. Everyone was busy working while gossiping about the stars.

On the other side of the office, it was very quiet.

Bill, the manager, personally welcomed the new employee, Brianna.

Although Bill briefly said Brianna was an intern, everyone could tell from his flattering actions that nepotism was the reason why she could work here.

The experienced employees were sophisticated in the workplace. They knew they'd better have a neutral attitude towards Brianna at first. Only when they got familiar with her character and background, could they know what they should do.

Therefore, Brianna sat in her office, and no one talked to her all morning.

It was almost lunchtime when Bill suddenly walked towards her.

He asked in a low voice. "Brianna, do you know if Christina is seriously ill? Did she see a doctor? Did anyone accompany her to the hospital..."

It seemed that he was concerned for Christina.

Although he didn't know Christina's background, he saw Charles sitting directly in Christina's office chair as soon as

he arrived at the company yesterday. Therefore, Charles must have a close relationship with her.

Moreover, Christina and LUCY, the female representative of IP&G Group, seemed to be very familiar with each other. When Christina and Miss Hopkins left, Charles accompanied them. Therefore, Bill was eager to seize the opportunity to care about his subordinates in his own interests.

"My sister-in-law is not sick," Brianna said in a very low voice.

Brianna stared timidly at the documents on the table. She seemed nervous when talking with a stranger and did not look up at him.

Bill was stunned.

First of all, he never thought that Christina would lie.

Secondly, Miss Hopkins actually called Christina "Sister-in-law." What was their relationship?

Crystal also called Christina several times during lunch and sent messages on WhatsApp, but Christina didn't reply, which made her a little anxious.

"Hello, I'm Christina's friend. My name is Crystal Zhu..."

Crystal was nervous during lunch, so she used her trump card after thinking for a long time.

She decided to call the Hopkins family directly.

The landline number was an extension in the Eastern Garden of the Hopkins family. Nanny Faang answered with a kind and respectful attitude. "Hello, Mrs. Stephenson."

Christina had few friends. Everyone in the Hopkins remembered Christina's relatives and friends. Moreover, Crystal was Chandler's wife now, so Nanny Faang called her Mrs. Stephenson respectfully.

Crystal was unaccustomed to it. Common people like her wanted to flinch from the etiquette of the Hopkins family.

She smiled awkwardly and got to the point. "May I ask if Christina is at home now?"

"Junior Mrs. Hopkins left at 7 o'clock in the morning. She drove by herself..." Nanny Faang told her truthfully.

Hearing this, Crystal grasped her phone and became more worried.

Christina suddenly skipped work and even lied to people of the Hopkins family.

"Didn't Junior Mrs. Hopkins go to the company today?" Nanny Faang asked out of prudence.

Crystal felt extremely guilty.

Now she really didn't know how to answer. She would betray Christina if she said Christina was not in the company. But what if there was an emergency?

Crystal hesitated nervously. Nanny Faang was sophisticated, so she knew she was right.

Nanny Faang had worked in the Hopkins family for most of her life, and she was diplomatic. Therefore, she said politely that she had something to do and hung up the phone before Crystal answered.

Crystal stared at the phone that had been hung up and thought that she made trouble for Christina. Nanny Faang would definitely report to the people of the Hopkins family...

"Christina is on her own. Oh, where did she go for no reason?" Crystal was anxious.

Christina was in the prison of C City.

It didn't occur to Connie that Christina would visit her in prison.

Christina thought for a long time at home. She felt that Connie was the most likely person to regard her as an enemy.

Because Connie had caused a disturbance in the Dickens family, which caused Donald to have a stroke and be sent to the emergency room. Moreover, she had abetted people to kidnap Christina. On the surface, Connie, a public figure who used to be an actor, seemed to be banned, but in fact, she was put into prison by Patrick.

Connie did not appeal. She seemed to calm down after the last farce. She confessed to the crime of kidnapping and served prison sentences. People of the Dickens family did not even know that she was in prison.

"Connie, I have something to ask you..." Christina spoke bluntly.

"I'm not interested in Junior Mrs. Hopkins. You can leave now. I don't want to see you." Connie looked proud. Even though she was imprisoned, she still tried to maintain her dignity.

Christina was only three years younger than her, but she married Donald and became Christina's stepmother.

But now, she wore prison clothes in prison, while Christina was still bright and beautiful.

How ironic.

"You think my father came to see you, don't you?" Christina suddenly asked.

Connie could no longer keep calm since her dignity was trampled. She shouted at Christina angrily, "I don't want to see anyone from the Dickens family!" Although it wasn't her real thought, she said through gritted teeth.

Christina was right. The jailer told her that a person came to visit her and the person's surname was Dickens.

The first name that came to Connie's mind was Donald.

At this moment, Christina revealed what she was thinking. It's pathetic that she had that thought.

Christina noticed that Connie, her stepmother, had changed.

"Christina, what's wrong with your expression? I don't need your sympathy!" Connie was stared at by her and had mixed feelings.

"Don't expect me to say anything nice. I hate your selfish mother, and I hate you, a bastard. You are not Donald's own daughter, but they treat you as the daughter of the Dickens family."

To put it simply, Connie had a hard time being looked down upon when she was young. She loved Donald, the handsome, considerate, and frustrated man, but no one believed her. What's more, Donald missed his ex-wife Mary. Therefore, she hated him.

"You're so stupid that you want to ask me something. Christina, no matter what you want to ask, I won't answer you. Even if I say it, I will lie to you!" She said angrily as if she wanted to provoke Christina deliberately.

Connie hated her.

However, Christina just disliked rather than hated her.

"The bad guys are not thoroughly bad. They have different positions." Christina's voice was flat. "Connie, you're wrongheaded to attempt to own something that doesn't belong to you. You became obsessive about it..."

Connie loved Donald but he didn't love her, so her love begot hate.

"Ha! Ha! Ha..."

Connie laughed loudly and insanely and shed tears so that her eyes were bright with tears. "I'm obsessive about it? Obsessive?"

"Christina, tell me. What am I obsessive about?"

"Patrick lied to you that he lost his memory to induce me to show up, then he secretly sent someone to give you a Caesarean and took the baby. The geezer of the Hopkins family kept so many secrets for his son, Victor. The silly boy from the Fisher family has been following you since he was a child. Aren't they obsessive about something?"

"I'm paranoid..."

Suddenly, Connie became ferocious.

She slammed the table, stood up, leaned forward, and shouted as hard as she could, "Your mother's the one who's really sick and paranoid. Mary's a completely selfish bitch."

"They all thought that Mary's the most beautiful woman in that era, the queen of the piano in the music industry, and she's extraordinary... She, that bitch, was never good. She was just pretending!"

Connie looked at Christina's face, and memories of her past welled up, then she became even crazier. "Your mother slept with a stranger in the bar and got pregnant. Then the man left her, but she married Donald with you in her belly. After giving birth to you, she still refused to settle down and waited all day long for that man to come back to her..."

"She didn't love Donald at all. She just took advantage of him. How dare her, a liar, push me downstairs to make me miscarry? That was the real blood of the Dickens family!"

"Do you know how cruel your mother is? Not only could she attack me but she also fed you sleeping pills."

Connie's voice became shrill. "When you were a baby, she fed you sleeping pills because she thought you were crying all the time. It was annoying and noisy. And it was useless to give birth to you because that man never showed up again..."

She smiled slightly, with a hint of mockery. "Christina, it must be that no one has told you that your mother was like this!"

Christina was shocked.

Connie looked at her like a snake staring at its prey, waiting to see how Christina would fall into the pain and hatred step by step.

"When the Dickens family knew about it, they kept an eye on her for a while, but how could a bitch like her stop so easily? When you grew up, about three years old, she began to feed you sleeping pills every now and then..."

Her voice was low, and the more she spoke, the more hurried she became. In the end, Connie could not suppress her excitement.

"Didn't you often have nightmares when you were young, saying that there was someone by your bed in the middle of the night? It was your own mother. She squatted at the head of your bed and thought of you as that man talking to herself."

"After Donald found out, how could he take all of these? Every one said that Mary was far out of his league since he was poor. And he had to see you, a bastard, every day. How could he take all of these?"

"Donald has been very strict with you since you were a child. He has always tried to persuade himself to treat you as his own daughter, but your mother made him very upset. He couldn't hate your mother, so he always had mixed feelings towards you. You've been calling him dad since you were a child, but in fact, he didn't want you to exist at all."

Christina's body stiffened.

"Christina, you should hate your mother. It was she who brought you to this world. It was she who led you to be schemed and resented by so many people since you were born."

Connie shouted out in frustration. She was so desperate that she looked like a loser, who was unwilling to give up.

After all she had said, Christina still remained calm.

"My father treated me very well."

It was as if all the resentment and unwillingness that Connie had accumulated had been wiped away.

She felt a sense of despair and the sneer at the corner of her lips turned into self-deprecation.

"Why, why would I meet an opponent like you?" She seemed to be muttering to herself. Her tone gradually calmed down, but she still seemed confused.

Connie looked out at the free world. She understood that although she had fought so hard for so long, she had made the wrong choice from the very beginning.

Mary left gracefully because the daughter of her enemy didn't care about her at all.

There's no need to fight.

Christina didn't fight with others at all. She was always acting in a monologue.

How ridiculous and sad!

"Christina, you are luckier than your mother."

When Connie looked at Christina again, her eyes changed, clear and proud. And she spoke in a low voice as if she was just talking about a stranger.

"You should thank your grandfather, General Eisenhower, who has long known how his eldest daughter was like. Your grandfather took you to the Eisenhower family to educate you personally and he taught you very well. He taught you not to fight, and in the end, you won."

It was the first time that Connie praised Christina. She was not as polite and hypocritical as she used to be and Christina could tell from her eyes that she's exhausted from fighting. She had tried her best to struggle, but now she

no longer resisted.

At the same time, Christina understood that, in fact, ever since Connie was willing to give up, she had figured it all out that who she really hated was herself in the past.

Therefore, Connie would not hurt her again.

"I went to Japan on a business trip the day before yesterday. At the hospital, a woman suddenly attacked me." Christina looked into her eyes and said slowly, "She was stabbing me with a needle used by an infected patient. She moved so fast that I didn't see her face clearly. I was only sure that she was a woman, tall and thin..."

Connie listened to her story and she turned to scan her from shock.

"You suspect that I did it?" Connie asked directly.

"If I suspect that you did it, I wouldn't have said so calmly."

Connie looked at her with mixed feelings. She had never thought that one day she would be able to sit with her enemy and have a talk in such a calm manner.

"It seems that a lot of people hate you." Connie could not help but mock her.

Perhaps Connie had finally accepted her fate and decided to let it all go.

She said to Christina. "Patrick has once interrogated me. He told me that you were once hospitalized with a stomachache while you were pregnant. One afternoon, a woman disguised as a nurse covered your mouth and nose with a pillow. She wanted to suffocate you but you survived..."

Christina's face turned pale. She remembered the struggle between life and death when she was covered by her mouth and nose, suffocating.

Connie slowed down and said word by word, "Patrick had interrogated me about a few accidents related to you. At that time, I admitted them all... Now I'm telling you, believe it or not, I didn't do anything to you except for the high school kidnap."

As she finished her sentence, Connie emphasized it at the same time.

At first, Christina was hesitating, then she turned vigilant and fearful. The fear of suspicion in her heart was growing.

She knew that Connie didn't lie, so who could have schemed against her so relentlessly? It was so scary.

She looked serious and did not speak again.

Neither of them was passionate and talkative.

After Christina asked Connie what she needed to know, she stood up and left. Connie looked at her coldly and did not say anything.

The visit to prison ended.

Christina followed the rules and went to line up to get her phone and handbag back because it was stipulated that she could not bring them in.

When she got back her phone and stood at the exit, she found that there were several missed calls.

"Miss, wait a minute. You left something here..." One of the staff in the prison suddenly shouted at her, "This coin is yours..."



Super Like



Comment

0 Super Like

"Miss, wait a minute. You missed a thing..." The logistics officer in the prison suddenly shouted at her, "This coin is yours..."

A silver-black coin was put in her palm.

The coin felt slightly cold, which made her shiver. A chill ran down her back.

"This..." Christina seemed to think what she was holding was something dirty and wanted to return it, "This, I didn't bring it here!" Even her voice was trembling.

People in the prison were more irritable. The people queuing behind shouted at Christina, "Don't block the way. Take your stuff and get out of the way!"

The logistics staff did not bother to pay attention to her.

Everyone who came to the prison to visit, their personal belongings like phone shall be stored in a small box. They could only bring papers from lawyers in the prison. No matter how Christina said that the coin was not hers, it was indeed the item discovered in her small box. According to the rules, it should be returned to her.

Christina was pushed to the side by the crowd behind her, and she still looked dull, staring blankly at the silver-black ancient coins.

"It was thrown into the lotus pond by Charles last night. How could it be..."

There was a scratch on the ancient coin, which was caused by the needle last time when she was attacked in Japan.

This was the same ancient coin.

Christina froze for a long time, and her face looked pale. An armed guard in the prison noticed something unusual about her while patrolling, so he walked over and rudely picked up an iron bar. He knocked hard on the iron window beside her, banged, and warned her, "This is prison. Leave quickly."

Christina was still in a state of shock. She looked up at the majestic prison guard in front of her and nodded dully. She then walked out and felt that she was floating.

"This ancient coin..."

"It really came back on its own." It deliberately pestered her.

Christina was instantly terrified by it and shuddered.

At this moment, her cell phone suddenly rang. The sudden sound startled her as she was already disturbed.

She looked at the familiar number on the screen. It was from Patrick.

Christina pressed the answer button and suppressed the nervousness in her mind. She said nervously, "What's the matter?"

"Where are you now!"

Unexpectedly, Patrick asked her back anxiously.

"At, at the company..."

She knew that Patrick was still in Europe, and people in the Hopkins family didn't know that she was on leave today. So she naturally lied to prevent him from asking further questions.

Patrick was even angrier when he heard her say that. He asked her directly, "Why did you suddenly go to C City?"

He was prepared early. Hearing her speak so confidently, his tone became a little harsher.

Patrick was still in Europe, but an hour later, he received a call from his home, reporting to him that today Christina drove out to somewhere but the company. The one called also reported to Patrick that Christina had deliberately asked for sick leave to the company. He kept calling her just now but her phone was turned off.

Patrick remembered that recently Charles's elder brother could not be contacted. When he heard the report from the Hopkins family, he immediately sent someone to investigate. The project he was working on was also left to his subordinates to discuss. Now he was flying back with his exclusive plane.

Now that Christina's phone was connected, she even dared to lie to him!

Patrick looked unhappy, but Christina on the other end of the phone had no intention of explaining anything. He became angrier and angrier, "You'd better explain it clearly!"

Christina was so confused by the ancient coin in her hand that she didn't have the mood to think about anything else. She was also angry when he became angry out of nowhere.

He clearly knew that she didn't go to work today, and he also found out that she had taken a short flight to C City this morning. Now the way he spoke with her was like he was questioning a prisoner.

"Can't I come to C City? Can't I ask for leave from the company? Do I have no personal freedom at all? Should I be locked up like a prisoner?"

"Christina!"

Patrick was so angry that he didn't know how to scold her. He shouted her name angrily.

She, she was being unreasonable.

"What are you trying to lecture me again? Do you want me to shut up? I'm sorry, I'm not an employee of IP&G

Group. I'm not your subordinate. You have no right to order me to do things!"

Christina seemed to get angrier as she spoke.

In the past two days, she herself had been driven mad by these strange things. Patrick's anger towards her today was like a fuse for her to vent her anger out.

Patrick was usually very indifferent to what was going on outside, but now he was so furious that he gritted his teeth, "You suddenly asked for leave, and you did not answer the phone. Others will worry about you."

"My phone is only turned off for an hour. I came to C City in the morning. I'll be back in the Hopkins family by 7 pm. Don't worry."

She had already thought about it. She came over in the morning and went back before dinner. She didn't want them to worry. How did she end up making others worry about her?

Hearing her talk about her arrangement, Patrick became aware that she was not forced by others and felt better gradually.

After all, he was not angry because he restricted her from going out, but because he was worried that something unexpected might happen to her.

After calming down, he tried his best to use a gentle tone with a hint of coaxing, "Why did you suddenly go to C City?"

Listening to his soft voice, Christina also calmed down.

She turned around and looked at the solemn prison behind her. There was a kind of resistance in her mind which made her did not want to mention Connie. After all, Connie and her father Donald had not officially divorced yet. It would sound boring mentioning things of her family.

Christina thought about it and then asked, "How do you know I'm not at work today?" Patrick was in Europe now, since he got the news so fast, someone must have informed him that she secretly went to C City.

"Did Brianna tell you?" She sounded almost certainly.

She was now sure that Connie had not asked anyone to attack or retaliate against her. So Brianna was still her number one suspect.

Patrick knew what she meant. Grandpa arranged for Brianna to work with her in the same company, so Brianna could learn some skills in dealing with people. He could hear that she seemed to be a little alienating Brianna.

Patrick did not take it seriously, thinking that this might be a small conflict between women. Christina was not a person who held grudges, and she just had a minor ill-temper.

However, when they worked together, Christina was more likely to lead Brianna astray.

"Don't ask Brianna to mess around with you in the future."

"Why am I messing around with her... I didn't ask her to join me in the same company. I even don't want to get too close to her!"

When Christina heard this, she felt that Patrick was favoring his sister. Anyway, every time something bad happened, they would say that she was the one who caused it.

Christina admitted that she had a minor temper and was not so generous and open-minded.

Before Patrick could say another word, she quickly hung off the phone.

Christina had become used to hanging upon him.

Christina could not clear her thoughts for a moment. She mechanically walked out of the prison and aimlessly walked along the street. The sun at noon was full and bright.

The dazzling sunlight shone warmly on her and seemed to calm her down a little.

When she calmed down, she looked at the coin again, "It is on the day, and there's nothing to be afraid of with such a big sun above." She muttered to herself.

"I must take it to the antique store and have someone study the origin of this thing..."

Christina kept talking to embolden herself. She had never done anything wrong, so there was no need to be afraid. Besides, this ancient coin had saved her once, so it might not hurt her.

Because of the attack in Japan and the strange coin, she was quite disturbed. She thus decided to sneak from A City to C City. She thought it might be Connie. But Connie told her that she was only involved in her kidnapping in high school, and she had nothing to do with other accidents that happened to Christina.

Christina fell into a whirlpool and the more she looked into it, the more confused she became. When she came out, she somehow inexplicably quarreled with Patrick and was scared out of her wits by the ancient coin.

Under the scorching sun, Christina took a deep breath.

At this moment, her phone vibrated and a new text message came.

It was from Patrick Hopkins, "I'll come to pick you up."

Seeing these simple words, she suddenly felt much more relaxed and easy. Originally she was quite frustrated and depressed. She also found a sense of security.

This icy man Patrick had also changed a lot. When they first got married, once he quarreled with her, he would never reconcile without ten days or half a month. At that time, he always looked cold. Now Patrick had learned a lot

of new tricks.

She hung up on him and he then sent a text message.

"No need for you to pick me up. I'll go back myself." Christina replied in the message.

In fact, it was not that she was angry. She just didn't want to trouble him to C City. She estimated that he would rush back before the meeting in Europe was over.

"Where are you now?"

Patrick sent another message. He did not continue asking her what she had done in C City, lest she lost her temper again.

Looking at the question in the text, she felt uncomfortable.

She knew that the relationship between them was not as affectionate as others. They did not say what baby, honey. She really didn't like saying this when she was with Patrick. She felt that it was too disgusting, but she also knew that Patrick loved her very much.

"I'm not in the Dickens family."

Christina guessed that when he knew that she had come to C City, he would definitely first contact someone from the Dickens family to ask for her whereabouts.

She simply said it herself, lest there was a gap between their relationship. So she decided to confess.

"I went to the prison in C City to see Connie, so my phone was turned off just now."

Perhaps even Patrick felt it very strange that she suddenly went to the prison to see Connie. For a while, he didn't send a text message as if he was thinking. Or he was looking for someone to go to the prison to verify what she said.

"I'm wandering on the streets alone now. I'm not going back tonight. I'll go back tomorrow. I'll stay at the Dickens family for the night."

Christina thought for a moment. Since she had already come here, she might as well spend the night at the Dickens family. She hadn't returned to the Dickens family for a while.

Patrick agreed to let her go back to the Hopkins family tomorrow, and he just reminded her, "Be careful."

Looking at the rigid words he sent, she thought she would never imagine that Patrick would one day say sweet words to her like "I love you," "I miss you," "I'll wait for you at home".

Judging by Patrick's standard, "be careful" seemed to be the most romantic word.

Thinking of him, Christina also became happy and relaxed.

Since she had decided to go back to the Dickens' house, Christina stopped wandering on the street and called a taxi immediately.

When Betty opened the door and saw her, her face showed an expression of surprise and joy.

"Just now, Patrick called to ask if you had returned to the Dickens' house... How did you get here so fast?"

Betty quickly took her hand into the room and happily pushed her to the kitchen, where Grandma and Donald were eating soup.

"Christina, welcome back."

Mrs. Dickens was overjoyed and quickly got up from her chair.

Betty complained in the kitchen, holding a bowl of soup. "Why didn't you tell me you are going home in advance? I didn't do the grocery shopping today."

She put a bowl of ginseng conch soup on the table and said to Christina, "Go wash your hands and eat it before it's cold."

As she spoke, Betty was busy rummaging through the fridge and lockers to see if there were any ingredients to prepare a sumptuous dinner tonight.

Donald looked at her daughter who was still standing there and urged, "Are you in a daze? Didn't you hear your aunt asking you to wash your hands? Hurry up." His tone was not gentle, as always a strict father's style.

"Hey, Donald, it's been a long time for your daughter to come. Can you speak gently..." Mrs. Dickens looked at him discontentedly.

"You're spoiling her."

Donald's expression was a little complicated and he turned to continue to eat the soup.

When a girl in a family grew up, got married, and occasionally went back to her family home, her family would be very happy. The happiness of the elders was very simple.

Christina went to wash her hands and sat down to eat soup.

The soup Betty cooked tasted very good. Although she was not as professional as the cook of Dickens' family, she liked it very much and her heart was warm.

Connie said she should hate her mother, but she didn't.

Whether what they said was true or not, even if her mother was an unforgivable woman, Donald and Connie might

be qualified to hate her, and Betty might be qualified to blame her.

But Christina thought that at least she thanked her for giving birth to her and letting her come to this world as her daughter.

She was a contented girl.

After fiddling in the kitchen for a while, Betty decided to go out and buy groceries.

Grandma was in her eighties, still in very good health. The market was very near. Grandma and Betty went out together with baskets.

Christina would like to join them and help pick up the baskets, but Betty didn't allow it. She said that Christina might be tired and need a rest at home.

"As soon as she comes back, you all serve her like this. You hope her to be lazy in Hopkins family..."

Donald was usually serious at home. If the whole family had spoiled her since she was a child, she would have become an unruly girl.

Christina had been used to it.

When there were only the father and daughter left in the house, Christina sat warmly beside her father, took the ancient coin out of her pocket, and told him seriously, "Dad, let me tell you, this ancient coin is a little weird."

Donald had never thought of her approaching him so warmly before, her relationship with him really improved a lot.

He was old and no longer chased after fame. Seeing that his daughter was willing to be close to him, his eyes were wet.

But no matter how old his daughter was, she was still like this to make him angry. "Weird? You're talking nonsense."

"No, I'm serious. It has always been following me."

Christina knew that he didn't believe her and was in a hurry to explain, "Charles threw it into the lotus pond in Hopkins family last night, but it appeared in front of me again when I came to C City today."

"Dad, what I said is the truth. I'm not lying."

Christina raised her head, and looked at him with sparkling eyes, and said firmly.

Donald looked at her serious face and thought that was funny.

He found that his daughter had lived for more than 20 years without increasing her IQ and EQ.

"Why don't you find a piece of gold? Then tell me that you used it to buy things, and it will come back automatically." It was unusual for Donald to show a sense of humor.

Christina was very depressed. "I'm telling the truth."

"That must be Charles' mischief last night. He didn't throw the coin into the pool and secretly put it back in your pocket."

"No, I saw him throwing the coin into the pool and heard a thud." Christina tried her best to defend herself.

"Things are not what they seem, not to mention the big lotus pond in Hopkins family. If Charles threw a stone, you wouldn't know."

Listening for a while, Christina also thought that her father had a point.

But she didn't understand, "Why did Charles tease me? He was very serious at the time, and he threw it ..."

Donald sighed resignedly. He knew his daughter's obsessiveness very well. She would take one idea and beat it to death since she was a child.

"Dad, when I grow up, can I catch the planes in the sky?"

Donald remembered that on the first day he sent her to kindergarten, a big plane happened to fly by. She was wearing a small floral dress with two braids. She was small, only at the height of his knees, holding his hand and asked.

"Will I grow very tall in the future? "

"No." He replied. She thought she would become a giant.

"Then how did this plane fly into the sky? "

As a father, it was really difficult for him to explain these complex principles to a little girl. So every time he replied coldly, "I don't know." "

When he was young, he often answered 'I don't know' to her questions.

In retrospect, he thought his cold attitude at that time was really cruel to a child.

But his daughter always had a lot of strange ideas. She always liked to ask questions. He was glad that she was not sensitive at that time. Even if he deliberately pushed her away and refused to talk to her, she still called him "Dad."

Christina sat in the living room and continued to check the ancient coin on the table. She did not notice that her father was recalling the past with emotion.

She still thought there was something wrong with the coin and continued to argue with her father.

"When I went to the prison to submit my cell phone and handbag, there was no such coin, but when I left, there was a coin in that box..."

Donald did not care about the ancient coin but raised his voice and asked, "Did you go to jail?"

"Why did you come to C City and go to jail?" A strict father's style came out again.

"I, I just..." Christina revealed her secret. Seeing her father's burning eyes, she hesitated for a while. "I went to jail to see Connie..." Her voice grew lower and lower.

Donald looked surprised and was in deep thought.

"I didn't trouble Connie. She was legally arrested and imprisoned for an old case..."

When Christina saw her father in silence, she suddenly became nervous and gibbered. She wanted to explain that it was not Patrick who abused his power but Connie's own fault.

"I know."

It took Donald a while to speak.

"Dad, you have known that Connie was in jail?"

She found that his expression seemed to tell he had known it long ago.

"Patrick told me," Donald said calmly. After thinking for a while, he emphasized, "Don't tell Grandma and Betty about Connie."

Christina nodded.

Her grandmother and aunt had always thought that Connie was still young and beautiful. Now that the Dickens family had fallen, she did not want to come back.

"Dad, let me ask you, what kind of person is my mother?"

Christina remembered that Connie had scolded her mother in prison.

Donald knew Connie's hatred for Mary very well and taught her a lesson with a serious face. "No matter what Connie told you, you just have to remember that she is your mother."

Every time she mentioned her mother, she was always so excited.

Christina curled her lips and stopped asking.

The dinner was very rich. The small round table was sitting around, and the family was in harmony. Christina looked

at her grandmother, her father and aunt's eyes were slightly wrinkled.

As her family grew old, she suddenly felt a little sad.

When she came to C City this time, she didn't want to come back to the Dickens family, but she only spent half a day home to see. They were already so happy.

She really should go home and visit them often in the future.

"What are you thinking? Just looking at it and not eating it doesn't suit your appetite, does it?" Betty gave her a few more pieces of stir-fried beef with green pepper.

"Yummy." Christina focused on eating.

"Look, you are not decently eating. When you're in the Hopkins family, haven't you got scolded for this reason?" Donald seemed to be able to grab every opportunity to teach her a lesson at any moment.

Seeing that he had scolded her niece again, Betty immediately gave him a sharp look. "There is no need to have so many rules at home. Just eat happily."

Now that Donald was suffering from a stroke and had a hemiplegia, although he was still recovering, the progress of his recovery was relatively slow. As Mrs. Dickens was already in her eighties, Betty was in charge of all the family business. Gradually, Betty had the final say in this family. She became more assertive and tough because of the daily necessities.

Christina immediately giggled when she saw that her father was retorted and did not dare to make a sound.

Since the family did not own a company to compete for fame and wealth, in spite of a less rich life, all family members live a peaceful life.

After dinner, her aunt and grandmother led her to the living room to ask some questions, which were always the same. "How are people of the Hopkins family treating you?"

"Did the people in the Hopkins family put you on the spot?"

Her grandmother was very worried because her family was in disadvantage in comparison to the Hopkins family.

"Christina, you have to learn how to behave. Even if we don't bear insult in normal times, there are some things that we should bear. Because you are the younger generation and their granddaughter-in-law, you have many elders to respect there."

It had been a received wisdom that filial piety mattered.

Betty quickly gave her an analysis. "Old Master Hopkins has five daughters, and his youngest son, Victor, died of illness in his early years. Although Patrick's five aunts are all married and some of them have already been grandmothers, those women were all very sharp. Christina, if you meet them, first of all, you have to be respectful

and modest. Don't do anything out of line as they are all elders. Even if you stand behind the truth, you still have to suffer sometime."

Grandma was also sincere. She picked up Christina's hand and patted it, reminding her.

"If you have a conflict with your relatives in the Hopkins family and get trapped in a dilemma, it will only lead Patrick into another dilemma. As a woman, you have to think for your husband. We are all relieved that Patrick is good to you, but he is from a giant family after all. We have to learn to be smart."

Christina nodded repeatedly.

Her aunt and grandmother continued to lecture her. They seemed to be always worried that she would do something wrong and offend people in the Hopkins family. Although she did not think that Patrick would be in such a difficult mood, it was good for her to be a quiet listener and be cared by her family.

That night, Christina slept soundly and comfortably in her childhood room. She had a good night's sleep.



Super Like



Comment

0 Super Like