

Crystal was rattled with a pale face.

She didn't know what to do, "Why is there no fetal heart..."

Suddenly, her mind was in a mess. Because she had no experience of pregnancy, she tried to calm herself down and kept thinking about the popular science knowledge of pregnancy.

The first thing that came to her mind was that if the three-month fetus didn't have a heartbeat, it meant that the fetus was dead.

She was so scared that her hands were trembling. She leaned against the back of the sofa. She didn't even dare to move, being afraid that her movements would cause bad effects. Looking down at her legs, she saw that there was no blood. Actually she didn't feel unwell...

"It's okay, it's okay..." She mumbled to comfort herself with trembling lips.

Grabbing the phone on the table restlessly, she dialed Chandler's number.

[Sorry, the phone number is busy now. Please try again later.]

She was utterly upset.

[Sorry, the phone number is busy now. Please try again later.]

She dialed again and again in bewilderment. But all she got were the same cold mechanical replies.

An unprecedented grievance and helplessness were choked in her throat. Her eyes turned red. Holding back her tears, she dialed another number.

"Chris, Christina, I, I don't know what happened... It seems that my baby doesn't have a heartbeat..."

The moment the call was connected, she spoke out her panic and fear. Finally, she couldn't help crying.

"I, I have no experience. What should I do now? Can I take a car to the hospital? Should I stay here? I really don't know what to do. Can you come over quickly? I'm so scared. I'm really scared..."

Tears rolled down her eyes uncontrollably. She shouted in a trembling voice and prayed from the bottom of her heart that God didn't take her baby away. She was willing to exchange everything for the baby's safety.

It was Charles who answered the phone. He was surprised, "What's going on... Why are you crying?"

Even Mr. Shepherd, who had never spoken much, frowned, "No fetal heart? You must go to the hospital immediately."

There was a faint cry on the other end of the phone. Originally, Christina was chatting and laughing with the Shepherd family. Suddenly, everyone quieted down and listened to her in confusion. Then, Christina rushed over and said, "Charles, get out of my way and give me back my phone... Crystal, stay where you are. I'll go back right now."

"It's useless. It'll take at least an hour to drive back from the villa. When you get back, the baby won't be able to survive."

When Crystal, who was on the other end of the phone, heard that, her heart was beating wildly. Even her tears ceased. Feeling frightened, her brain was blank and she could not think.

Patting her stupid son on the head, Mrs. Shepherd said hatefully, "Don't say that."

Mrs. Shepherd snatched the phone and asked with concern, "Where's Chandler? Did you call him? Is the Stephenson family present? Oh, why do they leave a pregnant woman alone at home?"

These questions made it worse at that moment.

Lucy, the outsider, was the clearest, "It's best to lie still, take a deep breath, and calm down."

"We need an hour to get there. If you call 911, it will take 35 minutes for the doctors to arrive... I personally recommend that you call the hotline for community service. Someone will answer in 1 minute, someone will be at the door in 3 minutes, and you will arrive at the nearest hospital in 6 minutes."

Christina almost yelled at her phone, "Yes! Yes! Crystal, you should call the community service now. They are on duty 24 hours a day..."

Crystal was suffering at home alone. But when she heard that so many people on the other end of the phone were giving her advice, she felt more at ease.

She sobbed and calmed herself down, "I, I know. I call immediately..."

By the time Christina and the others arrived at the hospital, Crystal had already been placed on the sickbed for injection. With a pale face, she was still scared.

Mrs. Shepherd was the first to rush into the ward excitedly and asked, "How are you? Do you feel any discomfort? Oh, look at your little face. The nutrition isn't enough..."

Crystal was not familiar with Mrs. Shepherd, but when she saw how concerned Mrs. Shepherd was, she forced a smile on her weak face and nodded, "Hello, Mrs. Shepherd." Her voice was low and weak.

The other members of the Shepherd family, Mr. Shepherd, her three sons, and even Lucy, followed closely behind.

"Stop talking, stop talking. Your body was weak... Are you thirsty? I pour you half a cup of warm water." Mrs. Shepherd had always loved girls. She immediately displayed her maternal love.

Mrs. Shepherd turned around and called out to her sons, "Take a clean cup over. Also, you, Shepherd, go downstairs to the restaurant and buy some soup. The fish soup and chicken soup are better..."

Shepherd quickly looked around the ward and did not find anyone from the Stephenson family. He immediately obeyed Mrs. Shepherd's orders with a calm expression and went downstairs to buy tonic soup.

It was not unwillingness. But in principle, these things should be done by Chandler or the Stephenson family.

What was the matter with the Stephenson family? Even Shepherd was dissatisfied.

Christina and Charles went straight to the doctor to ask about Crystal's current situation, and then they walked into the ward.

When Crystal saw Christina, as if she met a relative, she immediately shouted, "Christina!"

After all, she was not familiar with the Shepherd family, including Lucy.

"The doctor said the baby was fine. Don't worry." Christina walked to the sickbed and comforted her.

She nodded with red eyes.

Then, she looked at the people in the ward, feeling touched and ashamed, "Mrs, Mrs. Shepherd, I'm sorry that you didn't eat well..."

"Maybe I was too nervous. I touched my belly and couldn't feel the fetal heart, so I panicked... I'm sorry to trouble you."

"It's okay. It's okay." Mrs. Shepherd, who was always straightforward, waved her hand.

"Crystal, have you eaten something wrong recently?" Charles asked her with a serious expression, "Have you eaten something cold?"

"I didn't." Crystal shook her head on the hospital bed.

Then she panicked again, "Is something wrong with my baby?"

Charles and Christina looked at each other and did not intend to hide it from her. He said directly, "The doctor said that the fetal heart is really weak, so you can't feel it with your hands just now..."

"Then, then what should I do..."

Crystal's heart beat wildly again. She was anxious to get up. Seeing that, Christina immediately pressed her down.

"Lie down. The doctor looked at your previous prenatal report. The fetus had been growing very well before. He suspected that you might have eaten the cold food during this period of time. Fortunately, you didn't eat much, otherwise..." Otherwise, she would really have miscarried.

Anyway, you need to take care of yourself and rest more now. Your baby is fine. Don't think too much."

Looking at her little pale face, which was quite pitiful, Charles comforted her, "The hospital took a blood sample for you. The test will take half a day. When the results come out, we will know what food you ate affected you. You should pay more attention to your diet in the future."

Crystal lay down and looked at the white ceiling of the hospital, nodding in the blank, "Okay, okay."

Lowering her eyebrows, Christina muttered, "It is impossible to eat anything wrong."

Crystal was very careful about her diet during pregnancy. Crystal was much more careful than when she was pregnant. How did it happen?

"Don't think too much now. For pregnant women, the most important thing is keeping a good mood."

Mrs. Shepherd immediately spoke frankly and talked about her childbirth experience, "By the way, Crystal, is it a son or a daughter?"

Mrs. Shepherd was very curious about it. So she moved close to Crystal's ear and asked, "Is it a daughter?"

Originally, Crystal was in a panic. But now looking at such a large group of friends present and Mrs. Shepherd's eager eyes, she gradually reassured. Since the doctor said that the fetus was fine, she could also be relaxed.

"It's just three months now. I don't know if it's a son or a daughter."

Talking about the child with others, she felt happy. She really cherished the baby.

Pulling a chair and sitting by the bed, Mrs. Shepherd talked to Crystal about many pregnancy precautions and how to breastfeed the baby after giving birth in detail.

"Did Mrs. Stephenson tell you that because everyone's methods are different? During the first month after the pregnancy, I ate all kinds of fruits and vegetables. I don't know what kind of customs they have in the Stephenson family."

Just then, Shepherd bought a pot of fish soup from the restaurant downstairs of the hospital and immediately handed it over to Mrs. Shepherd. Mrs. Shepherd casually despised him.

"These guys don't know how hard it is for women to give birth. If we want them to do something, it's like squeezing toothpaste. They only took a step after kicking them. We don't have to be polite to them."

Clearly, Mrs. Shepherd was abusing a person by ostensibly pointing to someone else.

Her four sons all had a tacit understanding and remained silent.

If Chandler was a member of their Shepherd family, acting like that, Mrs. Shepherd would chop him up, roast him,

throw him into the toilet.

Compared to the Stephenson family, who was well-educated and bookish, the Shepherd family had been in business for generations. In the Shepherd family, men were slippery and calm, while women were more straightforward.

It was already 12 pm when Chandler rushed to the hospital.

He went to the airport to pick up his clients, negotiated a business contract, and naturally had to entertain them.

"Do you still feel uncomfortable?"

With full of anxiety in the face, he walked to the bed and asked Crystal gently.

When Crystal saw him, she became agitated with red eyes, "I was scared just now. I thought..." She didn't dare to continue.

"It's okay, it's okay. Don't think too much." He patted her on the shoulder.

Originally, Christina was furious. But she saw Chandler rushing over and he did it for business. Now, he was also very dutiful and concerned about Crystal. She held back those swearing words.

On the other hand, Mrs. Shepherd couldn't help but say, "Chandler, it's important to make money, but your wife and baby are more important. Fortunately, nothing serious happened this time. Otherwise, you would regret it."

"I know," Looking sincere, Chandler immediately bowed to Mrs. Shepherd to thank her, "Thank you for doing so much for Crystal tonight."

Seeing his attitude, Mrs. Shepherd did not say more. After all, it was a family matter of the Stephenson family. It was not suitable for outsiders to say too much.

Just now, she asked her youngest son about the Stephenson family's plan. Actually, they planned to let Crystal have an abortion. It seemed that after the discussion, it was to let her take care of the fetus outside. After giving birth to the child, she could not live in the Stephenson family. This was simply... Mrs. Shepherd was irritated.

The Stephenson family was in a right mess.

No matter what the Stephenson family's attitude was, at least Chandler was genuinely concerned about Crystal and her baby. He asked in detail what kind of food she might have eaten wrong, and asked professional people to go back to their homes to carefully check the stock of various tonics to see if there were any problems.

"What? There is something wrong with the bird's nest I bought for Crystal?"

The next day, receiving a call from Chandler, Christina was in a daze.

"I brought those bird's nests, sea cucumbers, and fish glue from the Hopkins family. The bird's nests are mixed with

saffron powder?"

the Shepherd family had been in calm, while women were more

"I don't know, I really don't know..."

Holding the phone, she denied, "I don't even know what saffron looks like, and pregnant women."

naturally had to entertain them.

Saffron was found in half a bowl of bird's nest that Crystal had eaten last night cucumbers, and fish glue in the locker all had saffron...

When Chandler heard that, he was shocked.

Originally, Crystal's pregnancy was beyond his expectations. But gradually, with photos of the fetus, he also had a sense of joy and expectation of being a father.

...w. I thought..." She didn't dare to

At the same time, he was also angry about what had happened.

"Christina, I'm not sure if you mean it or not, but now I hope you don't care that caused her to miscarry..."

it for business. Now, he was also

Christina stammered nervously, "I, I..." She could not refute it.

to make money, but your wife and wise, you would regret it."



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thank her, "Thank you for doing so

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"There must be a misunderstanding."

"Christina will never add saffron to my bird's nest soup."

In the hospital, Crystal needed to be hospitalized for prenatal care because of weakness.

Chandler said that the reason why she almost had a miscarriage was that the bird's nest, sea cucumber, and fish gelatin Christina bought for her was mixed with saffron powder.

She felt a chill in her back at the thought that she had been eating these things for the past few days.

"... Fortunately, these dried goods need to be soaked and rinsed many times, or else you will eat more." Chandler had ordered people to keep all the "Evidence" properly and discuss it after Patrick returned from a business trip.

Chandler knew Christina, who was not the kind of vicious women. He was sure that it was not Christina's idea, but he had to take it seriously since it involved the safety of Crystal and the baby.

"... Crystal, for the safety of you and the baby, stay in the hospital. I'll find a quiet and comfortable place for you to stay at. Don't go back to Christina's place."

Crystal hesitated when he heard this. "But, this is definitely not Christina..."

Chandler poured out half a bowl of lean porridge and served it to her. "Don't overthink. Patrick and I will figure it out. Now you just need to try to fatten yourself up and give the baby more nutrition, okay?" he said in a gentle voice.

Crystal looked at him and nodded in agreement.

She knew that Chandler, reserved as he was, would take responsibility without hesitation once he accepted her. Just like at this moment, he was really concerned about her and the baby in her belly.

"... Mrs. Shepherd spoke in a sarcastic tone just now." The door of the ward was pushed open, and Mrs. Pei looked a little embarrassed. She brought in a cup of chicken soup.

"Mom."

Crystal sat on the bed and greeted upon seeing her.

Mrs. Stephenson looked at her and grunted.

"This is the chicken soup for you. Your father bought at the market early this morning and cooked it for hours."

"Thank you, mom."

Mrs. Stephenson motioned for Chandler to pour out some chicken soup to cool down before drinking it. Then she

sat by Crystal's bed and said in a gentle voice, "Crystal, you suddenly went to the hospital last night. Your father and I don't know anything. Don't blame us."

"Don't say that. I'm fine. There's no need to bother you guys."

Crystal's face was still a little weak and pale, but she forced a smile.

As for the reason why she was hospitalized, Chandler did not tell his parents in detail, nor did he mention that saffron was found in Christina's tonics. Now more was better than less.

Mrs. Stephenson, on the other hand, didn't seem to have much enthusiasm to ask the reason. She said politely, "It's good that you're fine."

But then, Mrs. Stephenson asked again, "By the way, did Christina tell Mrs. Shepherd anything last night?" She seemed to be concerned about this more.

Crystal was just about to give her a perfunctory response.

However, Mrs. Stephenson frowned and continued, "Crystal, I know you're not a big talker. Maybe it was because your father and I didn't come to the hospital in time to see you last night... I don't know what Christina said to Mrs. Shepherd. Just now, Mrs. Shepherd called me personally. She sounded like I was some kind of vicious mother-in-law..."

Mrs. Stephenson, as a famous professor, her reputation was also enhanced. She was respected by the students. She had her pride, but just now she was taught a lesson like Mrs. Shepherd, which made her feel aggrieved.

Her words left Crystal wordless. Mrs. Stephenson never let it go, because Christina hit Chandler in a fit of anger. Although she also felt sorry for her husband, Christina was doing this for her sake, so she naturally could not say anything.

"Mom, actually, Christina..."

"Forget it. Don't mention her anymore," Mrs. Stephenson sighed... "Our family does everything open and above board. They can say whatever they want. We are not afraid of them."

"By the way, Crystal, we didn't force you to give up this baby when we discussed it with you. It came all of a sudden."

Crystal immediately became nervous. "Mom, if you're afraid that Geoffrey won't be able to accept my child, I'm willing to stay outside and not go back to the Stephenson family."

Having gone through the experience of almost losing her baby last night, she took her baby as everything of her.

Mrs. Stephenson comfortingly stroked her soft hair and said kindly, "Don't be so nervous. We're a family... Since we've decided to keep this child now, you should take good care of yourself and give birth smoothly. The Stephenson family will certainly be able to raise a child."

Crystal was touched to hear that "We are a family." She was about to say something that she would be filial to elders and take care of her child.

But at this moment, Mrs. Stephenson added in a serious tone, "Crystal, Geoffrey is the eldest grandson and the first successor of our family. I hope you can also treat Geoffrey as your own child. Be nice to him, okay?"

Crystal's expression froze in an instant.

She turned her face slightly to avoid looking at Mrs. Stephenson and nodded. "Okay."

Mrs. Stephenson immediately smiled with satisfaction, "The Stephenson family is so lucky to have a such a kind daughter-in-law as you. You're so considerate. I'm sure everything will go well in our family."

At this moment, the phone on Crystal's bedside table vibrated. She took a quick look and saw that it was a call from Christina.

She immediately took the phone and hung up.

She knew the rarely harmonious atmosphere would be disturbed if Mrs. Stephenson heard that she was talking to Christina.

She didn't dare to answer Christina's call.

[In a spacious and luxurious bedroom on the second floor of east park, Hopkins family]

Christina was in a daze, looking at he phone.

Crystal had never hung up on her like this before. She thought maybe Crystal was also angry about the saffron powder thing.

She wondered if Crystal suspected it was she did it.

Or both she and Chandler tried to avoid her?

"Well, they shouldn't. How could I do such a thing?"

Christina looked a little depressed. She sat on the bed, holding her cell phone tightly. She had an impulse to call Patrick to tell him that she was really wronged.

But she didn't call Patrick for the reason that she didn't want to disturb his business trip, and the other reason that she didn't want to be someone who called her husband to complain from afar.

She had principles.

Anxiously, she went downstairs to look for Nanny Faang.... "Where did you buy the bird's nest, sea cucumber, and fish glue I asked you to prepare? How could it be mixed with saffron?"

Nanny Faang, who was busy in the kitchen in Eastern Garden, turned around and was surprised to see Christina ran into the kitchen. What was more surprising was her words.

"All the ingredients we use, dry goods, vegetables, and fruits, are supplied by fixed suppliers. Every batch of goods has been inspected before they come in. Moreover, these suppliers have been working with us for a long time, so there shouldn't be any food safety problem."

She stopped what she was doing and walked out of the kitchen with her, chatting, "Junior Mrs. Hopkins, what did you just say about saffron?"

Christina looked at her with a serious face, listening carefully to every word she said just now. She would not easily doubt the people around her. She excluded Nanny Faang from her list of suspects, believing that she had no evil intentions.

"Some time ago, I asked you to prepare dry tonics. I was going to give them to a friend of mine. Did you add anything to those dry tonics?"

"What? How could that be?"

Nanny Faang looked nervous and quickly explained, "I know Miss Zhu is pregnant. Her food must be carefully prepared. There's absolutely impossible that I adulterate it with defective food..."

The butler who worked with her, in addition to taking care of their masters' diet, was particularly concerned about their related personnel.

"I picked them myself last time. They were all the best dry supplements." She thought the Hopkins family must give the best gift.

Seeing that Nanny Faang didn't seem to lie, Christina was about to ask something more when a sharp and arrogant voice came. "All in your mind is to empty our things in Hopkins family:"

s. Hopkins looked at her provocatively and sneered, "Christina, you married into our family and are our granddaughter-in-law. You should be more considerate of your family. Why do you want to take advantage of your family and only think about bringing all good stuff to your mother's home?"

"Ms. Hopkins, Junior Mrs. Hopkins has a good friend who is pregnant. It's just a small gift."

Nanny Faang said kindly, expressing that Christina was not the kind of woman as she said.

Given that Nanny Faang and the old housekeeper used to serve the old master, Ms. Hopkins showed her some respect. She snorted, and turned to look at Christina.

Christina did not refute, which was rare. Usually, they were totally incompatible.

Seeing that Christina was a little preoccupied today, Nanny Faang asked with concern, " Junior Mrs. Hopkins, is

something wrong? Is saffron found in those dried goods? This is impossible... Do you want to tell Young Master Hopkins?"

"No need."

With that, Christina walked out of Eastern Garden. Her mind was in a mess and she was not in the mood to argue with Ms. Hopkins. She walked casually along the path with a puzzled face.

"Meow!"

Suddenly, a meow came from the grass on the right side of the back garden of Eastern Garden.

She suddenly stopped and looked warily at the rose on her right. Sure enough, a fully tanned cat walked out gracefully and slowly.

It wagged its long tail and squatted upright, looking straight at her with its golden eyes.

At this moment, Christina felt frightened. Before she could react, the black cat suddenly jumped nimbly. It quickly burrowed into the grass and was out of sight.

In the afternoon, the sun was shining brightly above her head. The little black cat quickly flashed in front of her. She chased it instinctively.

The little black cat could easily hide itself in a dark corner. However, beneath the scorching sun, it ran along a clear route, seemingly trying to lead Christina to somewhere.



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Christina was in the Western Garden of the Hopkins family.

She had never been here since she married into the Hopkins family. She heard that the Western Garden was where Judy and Brianna lived.

She came here after the black cat, slowed down, and looked around curiously.

Senior Mr. Hopkins lived in the Northern Garden, where was the quietest place. There was a large bamboo forest and many pavilions around. She and Patrick lived in the modern-style Eastern Garden, where was the most lively with many servants there. It was said that the Southern Garden used to be where Victor lived, but it almost became a forbidden area after Victor passed away.

There were the most rooms in the Western Garden. There was a row of three-story villas with exquisite hand-carved wooden doors and hand-fired red bricks. The architecture was full of Eastern antique beauty.

There were also lanterns hanging above the mahogany corridor, with rockeries and willows on both sides. There were fewer servants here, and the scenery was as beautiful as a landscaped garden.

The Western Garden was mainly used to entertain guests, and Ms. Hopkins also lived here.

Suddenly, the bush on her right moved a little. The black cat jumped out and landed steadily.

The cat walked on the wooden corridor railing. It turned around proudly, glanced at Christina, and wagged its tail. Then it continued to walk forward gracefully with its four claws.

Christina watched the cat strut out without being afraid of people. Even the look in its eyes just now was a little contemptuous.

Which bastard raised this cat?

She judged silently, but she still followed the cat step by step.

She didn't know why she had to follow a black cat.

At the end of the corridor, there was a large sea of flowers. The flowers looked like narcissus, which was bulbous plants that did not grow very tall. But they also looked like trumpet flowers, which petals were purple and blue.

A sea of violet-blue flowers, which was so brilliant and beautiful.

The black cat stopped by the flowers and did not move then.

Christina was not a romantic person who loved flowers, but the beautiful violet-blue sea in front of her really pleased her eyes.

She didn't know much about flowers. She squatted down and took a closer look at the flowers. In her crude words, the leaves of the flowers were as green and slender as a scallion. There were six violet-blue petals and three red stigmas of each flower...

Getting closer to smell it, there was a unique fragrance.

Christina was not interested in flowers. She looked up at the black cat, whose paws were rough on the beautiful flowers. One of the flowers was dragged to the stone moss. The cat used its paws to split the petals into pieces. In the end, only the thin, silky, red stigmas were left on the stone moss.

Christina suddenly felt that these red stigmas looked familiar...

What are these flowers called?

"Saffron."

In front of her was a three-story house, and a door was suddenly opened. It was Brianna who looked at her and said coldly.

Christina didn't know that Brianna lived here, so she was surprised. But what surprised her more was the word Brianna had just said, "Saffron."

"You said these are saffron?" Christina exclaimed.

She was not familiar with flowers and did not know what saffron looked like originally. She only knew that it could be medicinal materials after being dried, which were red and slender.

The medicinal value of saffron was its stigmas.

Chandler claimed that the tonics she gave Crystal were mixed with saffron. Looking at Brianna, Christina had a mixed feeling. She didn't want to slander others.

Chandler wronged her, and she happened to find out there was a large sea of saffron in Brianna's garden.

Is it a coincidence?

Brianna leaned against the door frame and meaningfully looked at Christina, who was on the other side of the garden.

Brianna was still with a pure face, clear eyes, blunt bangs, and straight black hair.

Christina always felt that she was a little different as usual. She said carefully, "Did you plant these saffrons?"

Brianna admitted directly, "I mixed saffron with all Crystal's tonics."

Christina was so shocked that she couldn't believe her ears.

Brianna was dressed in a long dress with floral prints, who looked like a pure student.

However, Christina's heart was racing. She seemed to encounter a dangerous situation. She was so nervous that she even forgot to ask Brianna why she hurt Crystal. Her first reaction was fear.

Christina took a step back instinctively.

Brianna looked like a very patient and quiet hunter. She stared at Christina's movements and suddenly said, "My brother doesn't like your contact with Crystal."

"Why did you go against his wish?" Brianna questioned her.

She was obviously angry.

Christina was stunned, but she could feel that Brianna's emotion fluctuated the most when she spoke out the word "Brother."

"Brianna, I don't want to play cat and mouse with you. What do you want to..." Christina calmed down and asked her.

With a creak, the door was quickly closed by Brianna.

She dodged Christina in the most direct way.

For a moment, Christina felt that the girl in front of her was not Brianna. She remembered that Brianna did not know how to refuse and would not be so impolite.

Christina rudely stepped over the saffron and pounded the door.

"Brianna, open the door!"

She had to figure out these things today. Why did Brianna always say so many strange words to her in private and even want to hurt Crystal?

However, Christina did not get a response from the other side of the door.

She was not a disciplined person either. She pushed, pulled, and kicked the solid wooden door fiercely. When she heard a slight click, the latch of the door broke, and the door opened.

The black cat squatted behind Christina. It raised its head and looked at her rudely action. Then it leisurely wagged its tail.

When Christina broke into Brianna's room, there was no one inside.

"Where is she?"

Brianna's room was like an ordinary suite, with a living room, bedroom, cloakroom, bathroom... There was no figure in any room. Where did she hide?

Just as Christina was wondering, she heard a meow.

The black cat jumped onto the wooden windowsill and scratched it with claws. The size of the wooden window in Western Garden was just right for one person to get out. And there were no anti-theft net and iron bars. The wooden window was open.

"Did she just jump out of the window?"

She saw a dusty footprint on the wooden sill where the black cat scratched.

Christina wanted to jump out of the window without saying a word, but at this moment, her phone rang.

It was LUCY.

"Christina, come out tonight. I'll treat you to dinner." Lucy was in a good mood and shouted at her phone generously.

Last time, she scrounged free meals off her. Lucy was not a stingy person. She found out that Patrick had gone abroad for business these days. So she was asking Christina to go out for a big meal.

Christina had no appetite at this moment, but on second thought, she immediately shouted at her phone, "Lucy, where are you now?"

Lucy raised her eyebrows. Hearing Christina's anxious voice, she also had a feeling that something had happened.

"I met Brianna just now. She was very strange. She planted saffrons in her garden. And she also admitted hurting Crystal."

"I don't know where she is now. Come over and trace her movement..."



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Mitchie Fajardo Casbadillo

2022/03/27

This story is getting in a different direction now. Its getting mysterious....

[In the inpatient building of the hospital]

The door of the ward was knocked, and Crystal looked nervously at the door. Because she didn't need to be shot in the afternoon, and the medical staff wouldn't knock on the door when they came in. Additionally, the Stephenson family was busy at that time, so she didn't know who was that.

"... Why do you look so pale? Were you frightened last night?"

Chandler carried a large bag of lunch boxes in one hand. When he entered the door, he found that Crystal was shocked. He put down the lunch boxes, walked to the bed, and asked.

When Crystal found that it was Chandler, she was happy and explained, "Nothing. I was thinking too much last night. The amount of saffron was so small that the doctor said it didn't affect a lot..."

"By the way, why do you come here now?" It was two o'clock in the afternoon.

Chandler patted her head gently with his big hand. He knew she was timid. When she suddenly couldn't feel the fetal heart the last night, she must be frightened because of the saffron.

The supplements were mixed with saffron was a little strange. He thought it had nothing to do with Christina. However, the supplements were given by Christina. He wanted to discuss the reasons with Patrick after Patrick came back.

"They say that pregnant women were easy to be hungry, so I decided to skip work to accompany my wife."

Chandler did not mention Christina and the saffron but smiled gently. "I'm here especially to bring you food."

"There's a scallop porridge with meat and a sweet and sour ribs rice. Do you like it?"

Crystal looked at him with happiness.

"I prefer sour food recently." She said sweetly.

Chandler smiled, set up the table on the hospital bed, and opened the sweet and sour ribs rice for her. He also remembered what she said just now. Crystal was experiencing severe "morning sickness." And she would vomit if she smelled anything greasy.

"... The elders all say salty boy and sour daughter. This baby may be a daughter."

Chandler sat by the bed, watching Crystal eat and chatted with her leisurely.

When Crystal found that Chandler was suddenly so interested in talking about the child, she felt complicated, afraid that Chandler didn't like daughter.

"Chandler, if it's a daughter, what do you think..."

"Daughter, ha-ha-ha..." Chandler was very happy. He seemed to fantasize about the little cute face of his daughter, and then he said to Crystal childishly, "If it's a daughter, the Charles family must be jealous of us every day."

"... And Patrick. Look at him always saying that he won't have a third child. He said that having twin sons was enough. If we take our daughter there..." Chandler laughed heartily as he spoke.

Seeing that Chandler was so happy, Crystal also smiled with eyes curved.

That was great. Because she was pregnant by accident, the Stephenson family was so worried. She even thought that she might get a divorce. But she didn't want to part with Chandler. If their child was born in the future, the family relationship would definitely be more harmonious.

Chandler's phone rang.

The sudden and urgent bell rang over and over again.

Crystal didn't say anything. Out of the corner of her eyes, she saw the word "Erica" on the screen. Chandler ignored it at first because he didn't think anything important would happen to Erica. After refusing to answer, he didn't expect the phone to ring again.

"... There may be something urgent."

Chandler said softly to Crystal on the bed, then he stood up from the chair and walked to the balcony.

Then he pressed the answer button. "What's the matter?" His tone was flat and natural.

Her husband's ex-wife called him frequently, and no matter how considerate Crystal was, she felt a little uncomfortable.

However, something really happened to Erica.

After a while, Chandler picked up his phone and he looked nervous. "Are you in this hospital now? Pediatric?" His tone was full of anxiety.

"I see. I'll go down now."

Chandler didn't explain anything to Crystal.

With his phone in one hand, he strode out in a hurry.

Crystal looked at his anxious back and wanted to call him, but she did not dare to disturb him.

It seemed that at such a chaotic moment, she realized who Chandler cared about the most.

She didn't want to be the woman he loved the most. As long as he didn't make it too obvious, she could pretend to be happy.

Sitting on the bed, looking at the box of the sweet and sour ribs rice from the famous restaurant, she lost her appetite.

If Christina was pregnant and sick, Patrick would definitely take care of her and would not leave without any explanation.

Crystal couldn't help thinking. She was used to comparing herself with Christina. Then, she felt even more humble.

"... He just said Erica was in this hospital, pediatrics." She muttered to herself and looked out the door.

In pediatrics, maybe Geoffrey was sick.

Only when something happened to Geoffrey would Chandler be so worried.

Thinking of this, Crystal stopped being jealous of Erica. She also cared about Geoffrey. Did something serious happen?

Crystal hurriedly got out of bed, followed the signs to find the pediatrics floor, and then looked for the wards one by one.

Sure enough, Crystal saw Chandler and Erica in a double room.

"... It's all my fault."

"... I'm too incompetent as a mother. It's all my fault for giving him too much ice cream, so Geoffrey had appendicitis suddenly..."

Erica was blaming herself. She lowered her head and told Chandler the truth. As she spoke, she began to cry.

Erica, who was in the ward, did not have her usual heavy makeup. She wore a casual light purple hoodie and dark blue jeans and simply tied up her ponytail high. Because she was in a hurry before, the hair on her forehead was a little messy. A few strands of hair fell dropped, and her eye shadow was massed up.

When a strong woman learned to show her weakness and cry, it was easy to get the sympathy of men, especially since Erica was a pretty woman.

Erica had really changed a lot.

"It's okay. It's just appendicitis. The operation went smoothly."

Chandler comforted Erica gently in the ward and he patted her on the shoulder.

"Chandler, why do you always forgive me? You should scold me."

Erica's eyes were full of tears, and she cried even harder. She threw herself into Chandler's arms, wrapped her hands tightly around his back, and wept out.

"I've been provoking you and forcing you. Why have you always been so good to me... I couldn't control myself to love you... I really love you..."

These words, with tears in her eyes, came out in a choked voice. She was repenting and professing her love sincerely.

However, Crystal froze outside the door.

Although Chandler had divorced Erica and married Crystal, Crystal felt that she was more like an outsider.

Just as Crystal was sad, a hand suddenly reached out from behind, covering her mouth and nose tightly. That person pinched Crystal so hard that her face was distorted. It was growing harder and harder to breathe. She instinctively waved her hands and struggled to call for help.

Crystal widened her eyes in horror and looked at Chandler in the ward. It was so close to reaching Chandler but she couldn't. Her eyes were filled with fear and helplessness.

"Uh-huh..." She could only make a weak voice.

Crystal was dragged back.

Crystal tried her best to step on the person behind her, elbows against him, but the person did not slow down at all. Instead, he pressed harder against Crystal, and the other hand violently pulled Crystal's hair. Her scalp was in great pain as if her skin was about to be ripped off.

Crystal didn't even have the chance to look back at that wretch. She didn't even have the chance to be afraid to cry. The person dragged her to the safe stairway of the hospital...

Then, he pushed Crystal downstairs like he was throwing away trash.



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Chapter 524

At the safe passage of the hospital.

Someone rolled down the stairs. With a few sounds of bang, he hit the corner of the stairs and stopped...

Chandler was in the pediatrics ward and heard a noise outside the door.

He turned his head and looked out of the door.

"Help! Someone fell down the stairs and bled." The shouting came from the corridor.

The doctors and nurses rushed over as they heard this. The people in the corridor were in a hurry. Some of them were curious and gathered to watch at the exit of the passage.

Chandler suddenly felt a little uneasy. He seemed to want to see what happened.

But Erica held his hand... "Geoffrey just had his appendix operation. He hasn't woken up yet. Don't leave. He must want to see you as he wakes up."

Chandler hesitated for a second and looked at Geoffrey who was still in a coma. Indeed, as the guardian of Geoffrey, he must wait here at this moment.

Chandler nodded to Erica.

He casually shook off her hand, then sat down beside Geoffrey's bed.

The noise in the corridor still lasted. Somehow, Chandler was in a mood of uneasy.

Erica also noticed his uneasiness. She walked to the door and closed it to stop the sound from coming in. The room became quiet soon.

Chandler took out his phone and dialed a number.

The call didn't receive an answer, "The number you have dialed is not answered..."

With a sound of beep, it was hung up automatically.

Chandler frowned with confusion. Why didn't Crystal answer his phone?

Only then did he remember that he was too worried about Geoffrey's operation that he forgot to tell her as he went down stairs.

"... Crystal is not that stingy."

It was impossible for her to refuse his phone just because of such a small matter.

Chandler did not give up and continued to call her number, but the result was the same. No one answered.

Erica stood quietly beside him and watched he dialing the same number. "Is Crystal angry that you came to accompany Geoffrey?"

She knew best about women's temper.

"... I can go upstairs and explain to her."

Erica spoke in a direct and generous way. She really regretted allowing Geoffrey to eat too much ice cream, which suddenly caused his appendicitis. Now she hoped that Chandler could accompany Geoffrey. Indeed, she was a little selfish at this moment. But she thought she just kept a sense of proportion about these. After all, Crystal was an adult, while Geoffrey was just a child.

"No, thanks."

Chandler didn't want to cause the embarrassment between Erica and Crystal.

Here is the hospital. With the care of doctors and nurses, Crystal will be fine. Maybe she just felt jealous and didn't want to answer the phone.

Outside the hospital.

Lucy drove her brilliant red Ferrari, together with Christina, followed the trail of Brianna. Finally, they found Brianna at the covert alley outside the hospital.

Before the car stopped, Christina couldn't wait to get out of the car, and run over.

"... What do you want to do? Why do you come here again?"

Christina was furious and questioned Brianna, who was huddled on the ground.

Lucy parked the car and immediately ran over too.

"... She seems to be weird." Lucy was more rational. She noticed that Brianna was sitting in a corner with his head down. She seemed to be trembling in horror.

Christina got much angrier. "She's just pretending! She could almost win an Oscar. She was so arrogant when she spoke to me this morning."

"Brianna, I follow you all the way. Tell me, what did you do this time?" Christina blustered.

Christina thought of the strange words Brianna said to her at noon in Western Garden, "My brother doesn't like you to contact Crystal. Why aren't you obedient? "

She felt a growing unease.

"Brianna, are you a mute? I'm talking to you!"

Christina didn't receive answer, which made her angry and anxious.

Brianna still huddled in the corner of the alley with her head buried in between her knees. She leaned against the dirty, moldy wall and soiled her clothes.

She seemed to turn a deaf ear to all the sounds outside, hiding here frightenedly as her body was still trembling.

Christina lost her patience and strode forward to pull her up.

"Brianna Hopkins!" She shouted furiously.

Brianna seemed to get awake in an instant. She stared at Christina for a few seconds with her empty eyes. It seemed that after recognizing the person in front of her that she called Christina in a low voice.

Christina got frozen when she heard this.

It was as if her rage was suddenly put out with a basin of cold water. Christina wanted to scold Brianna, but she failed.

She didn't understand.

Was Brianna acting? But she couldn't be acting at this moment.

Lucy walked closer and observed Brianna with her sharp eyes. There was no bloodstains, and her clothes had not been torn.

However, Lucy also noticed that Brianna seemed to have come into conflict with someone before. Her left toes were trampled and got slightly injured. When she stood up, her body was not that stable.

"Whom did you have a conflict with just now?" Lucy felt suspicious. She asked Brianna calmly.

Brianna looked at her and paused for a long time before saying, "No." Her voice was low and weak, like a child who was afraid of answering the question.

Facing such a Brianna, Lucy's eyebrows were seized by a sense of uncertainty.

But Brianna couldn't be so calm. She grabbed Brianna's left shoulder and asked bluntly, "Tell me. Why are you here? Did you come here to fight with beggars?"

Brianna seemed to be in awe of Christina and did not dare to reject. She was almost incoherent with fear, "I, I, I don't know."

"Christina, I, I don't know."

"... I, I forgot."

Brianna wanted to explain. But she was gibbering with terror. Her eyes turn red and were filled with tears, which was marked by horror.

"I forgot. I forgot. I... I'm useless." She lowered her head, stood straight and sobbed.

The confusion was fogging Christina's brain.

She really suspect that it was an illusion she had met in Western Garden at noon. Why did she behave in this way again?

Lucy also felt it was weird. If it was the past, she would have thought that Christina had bullied this "delicate lady". But now, Brianna's behaviors really puzzled them.

Why did Brianna run to such a dirty alley suddenly? Why would she huddle and tremble with fear?

"... Who are you afraid of?" Lucy asked suddenly.

Christina didn't understand Lucy's intention of this question, while Brianna reacted violently. Her face suddenly turned pale. It seemed that something terrible had appeared in her mind. Her lips were trembling.... "a, a lot of blood."



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Lucy De Alvarez

could it be that Brianna has double personality?

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