

Chapter 209

"Derek has turned the whole financial market upside down recently. You know what he wants to do... Christina, you'd better be aware of whose baby you are carrying," Barbara satirized.

Christina gritted her teeth at her words dripping with sarcasm.

She wanted to retort but suddenly saw a few figures rushing over.

"Young... Young Master Hopkins..."

The two maids in front of Christina fawned on Patrick.

Christina's face darkened as she stared at those in the front, silent. But Barbara, who was preaching to her just

now, turned obviously nervous.

Patrick never liked others to interfere in his private affairs.

"What's wrong?" the tall and strong man approached Christina and asked in a low voice.

Christina tilted her head to the lotus pool on the other side. Recalling what Barbara had said just now, she ignored Patrick angrily and pulled a long face. Clearly, she was out of her plate.

Originally, all the Hopkins family were in mortal fear of Patrick. Only Christina dared to give him a black look. In the beginning, even Nanny Faang was surprised by her boldness. After getting along with Christina for a year, they somehow got accustomed to

it.

Instead of pursuing, Patrick turned his deep eyes to her two new maids, hinting at them to speak.

The two poor girls' hearts had been in their boots by Christina these days. Being stared at by their Young Master, they turned green around the gills and wished to explain the quarrel between Miss Parker and Junior Mrs. Hopkins, shivering.

"Christina, stop troubling Barbara. She didn't do that," Charles couldn't stand it and interrupted the strange atmosphere lazily.

Utterly discomfited, Christina glared at him.

"Who on earth was making trouble?" she complained inly.

But judging from the imposing manner, it seemed that only Christina could be the one to blame.

"Barbara, Brianna is awaiting you in the hall," Chandler also came this day. He spoke gently, much wiser than Charles that fool.

Barbara smiled awkwardly, "I was just walking around... I'll be right there."

Her explanation meant that she didn't come to Christina on purpose, but just passed by.

Christina knew that Barbara was acting. Squinting at her receding figure, Christina got angry and cursed in the

heart, 'What a cheeky slut!'

Chandler also followed her gaze. He frowned slightly and wore dissatisfaction.

They'd seen a lot of people. Barbara's petty trick didn't hold water. Christina looked sideways at Patrick and found that his face was as cold as usual. To Patrick, Barbara's explanation collapsed at the first blow.

"What did you have for breakfast?" Patrick asked.

Hearing the low voice from above, Christina kept a straight face: such a bromidic question went beyond her expectation.

She grasped the phone on the stone

table in the pavilion, as if not wanting to reveal the content on the screen. Barbara's mention of the Fisher family and Derek quite upset her.

Charles was dissatisfied that Christina still grudged friendliness even though Patrick had softened his tone.

"I'll transfer her to the filiale in Paris next month..." Patrick continued in a low voice, sighing as if having compromised.

Christina's eyes lit up with surprise.

"Seriously?" Charles questioned. He turned his head sulkily and glanced at Christina, complaining with indication, "Barbara just argued with her for a while, not to such an extent as to be expelled abroad..."

How capricious was Patrick that he should casually determine to dispatch Barbara to Paris!

Christina held her tongue, just letting Charles grumble.

She remembered that while cursing Barbara, her rival in love, together with Crystal, she was evilly plotting how to eliminate Barbara. She disdained to snitch to Patrick about what Barbara had spoken ill of her. Now that Barbara was doomed to disappear, out of sight and out of mind, Christina gloated. Anyway, she was not a Virgin Mary. It would be more disgusting if she pretended to put in a good word for Barbara.

"Miss Dickens, are you satisfied now?"

Charles teased.

He sat down on the round stone chair beside and raised his eyebrows.

Christina was so furious that she had no idea how to vent her anger. Seeing that Charles desired a spanking, she intended to bend down to roar at him, but stopped by the man beside her, saying "The stone chair is cold."

It was late autumn. The stone table and stone chair made of white jade in the pavilion should be covered with a thick blanket.

Christina wasn't so weak as to be unable to stand any breeze, so she didn't mind such. The two maids behind suddenly turned pale and lowered their heads, ready for rebuke

as if they failed to take good care of their Junior Mrs. Hopkins.

Suddenly, Charles burst into laughter, "Ridiculous!"

Perhaps it was because Charles's laughter was too arrogant and funny that Chandler across the table also raised the corners of his mouth, so did Patrick, who usually kept a cold expression.

With a gloomy aura all over her body, Christina took a step ahead and kicked him mercilessly.

"Ouch-" Charles exclaimed.

"Son of a bitch! My new shoes..." he continued screaming.

Chandler chuckled, witnessing that Patrick naturally held Christina in his arms. She raised her eyebrows with a smug smile, fairly resembling Helen of Troy.

The autumn wind blew over the pavilion, listening to their loud laughter.

It dispelled the impatience in Christina's heart that there was indeed something she could not handle. She could only tell herself to pretend not to know.

After Christina had lessoned Charles for half an hour, Nanny Faang trotted over and told her to go to the Main Residence for Old Master Hopkins wanted her.

"Why is grandpa looking for me?"
Christina asked.

Nanny Faang didn't anticipate that Patrick and the others were also in the back garden. Little embarrassed, she stammered, "I don't know the details. It might be related to the Young Master's birth banquet. The lunch is delayed for an hour because Old Master has invited a lot of guests this morning..."

Charles and Chandler were also specially invited. Who else did Old Master invite?

Patrick didn't examine minutely and held Christina in his arms and went straight to the Main Residence. Christina had no alternative but to follow him.

She didn't know what kind of guest her grandpa-in-law had invited on a whim this day. Nanny Faang seemed busy, leading a few servants to the kitchen.

"Adam, your family is thriving. You have another great-grandson so soon. A girl is also satisfactory, heart-warming. Congrats!" Old Master Hopkins said.

When Christina entered the hall of the Main Residence, she saw Old Master Hopkins sitting upright on the sofa, holding the phone as if chatting with an old friend. Having got closer, she clearly saw that he was replying in a high spirit.

"There're only twins in my family. Hahaha... You must come," Old Master Hopkins laughed.

Previously, Christina always heard the old steward gossip that those families welcoming a grandson would invite Old Master Hopkins for meals with them. Every time Old Master saw their cute grandson, he would immediately scold Patrick for being unfilial as soon as he came home.

This time, Old Master Hopkins appeared confident, as if he had won a battle, laughing happily.

Charles and the others stepped forward and greeted him politely. Old Master Hopkins was in a good mood and waved at them to sit down. He even made tea for his offspring in person.

Christina sat beside Patrick and looked

around the spacious hall. Judy and Brianna were both present, as if waiting for someone.



Chapter 210

In the corner of this magnificent and spacious hall in Hopkins family, the antique clock made a deep sound. It rang exactly 12 times, indicating that it was 12:00 am.

Usually, the lunch had already started, but today, a row of people were sitting in the hall chatting. Obviously, they were waiting for someone.

Christina did not ask who had been invited, because she had been very upset recently. Listening to Barbara and Charles talking and laughing beside her, she kept looking down at her toes and thinking about other things.

"Grandpa, what name are you gonna

give the two babies?"

"It's a big deal, so I haven't decided yet..."

The babies in her belly were the topic of their discussion. The whole Hopkins family was filled with a joyful atmosphere. Christina did not know what was wrong with her. As an expectant mother, she was not that excited, but nervous.

Suddenly, a big palm was gently put on her abdomen. Christina raised her head in shock and looked at the man beside her, "Is there anything wrong?"

Christina thought he had something to tell her, but Patrick didn't say anything. His eyes were as deep as the sea, always hard to see through. His big

palm touched her abdomen and sensed the new lives. He didn't care about the eyes around him at all. Christina blushed slightly and lowered her voice, "Stop it."

In the past, Patrick used to say this to Christina when he was teased by her, but now it was Christina that said this to him. Somehow, there was joy in his eyes.

Christina felt that Patrick really liked to tease her more and more recently. He was so childish.

However, he was really in a good mood these days.

It seemed that Old Master Hopkins thought his grandson had humiliated him. He snorted coldly and glanced at

Patrick with disdain.

The atmosphere in the hall was good, and Charles occasionally made jokes, making everyone laugh.

Charles sighed, "I'm going to be a godfather."

Christina could not help but laugh. She didn't expect Old Master Hopkins agreed to let Charles be the godfather of her children. Why didn't he choose Chandler? At least Chandler was more reliable.

"Grandpa, the education should start as early as possible."

"Well. When they're one month old, I'll teach them..."

They were chatting enthusiastically. Patrick, the father-to-be, seemed to have no opinion of his children's education. Christina felt that the children's father was unlikely to take care of them personally.

However, if Old Master Hopkins knew that Patrick was going to take his great-grandchildren to the other side of the Pacific Ocean, he might be so angry that he would directly hit Patrick with his walking stick.

"After the babies are born, you just go to the United States with Patrick..."

Old Master Hopkins seemed to have remembered something, and his face became a little more serious. Christina was surprised by his words.

She didn't expect grandpa to know that Patrick was going to America.

Old Master Hopkins raised his eyebrows, saw through her thought and snorted, "The children will stay in the Hopkins family."

He said that with a serious tone, making Christina unable to reject. She did not dare to show dissatisfaction. She just sighed.

As expected, even if Patrick was powerful, Old Master Hopkins would always find a way to deal with him.

Christina secretly tugged at Patrick's clothes and motioned for him to deny Old Master Hopkins's order.

But Patrick was expressionless as if he

thought it was a wise decision to leave the children to his grandfather.

Christina glared at him sideways and began to negotiate gloomily, "Grandpa, it's not good for me to be separated from my sons, is it?"

She didn't have a big problem with her children staying in the Hopkins family, but she wanted to fight for the rights of a mother. Patrick had said that they would stay in the United States for almost one year.

Old Master Hopkins seemed to have planned for her a long time ago. He answered in a good mood, "You can video with my great-grandsons, but the electronic radiation may do harm to the children. Just see them once a month."

Christina's expression was ferocious for a moment. She scolded in her heart, 'Damn it!'

It was true that veterans were abler than recruits.

Seeing that Christina was deflated, Old Master Hopkins laughed insidiously.

Old Master Hopkins was satisfied with Christina. Although as his granddaughter-in-law, she was not as dignified as a fair lady, she was brave and had a strong sense of knowledge and etiquette. The most important thing was that Old Master Hopkins could use her to suppress his rebellious grandson.

When a person reached old age, he

only wanted to enjoy the harmony of the whole family. When Christina married Patrick, in fact, Old Master Hopkins had a sense of relief and gratitude in his heart.

He turned to look at the clock, finding that it was 12:30.

At this moment, Nanny Faang came over and whispered in Judy's ear, as if she was talking about the arrangement of the seating order. Judy was the first lady of the Hopkins family, so she was supposed to arrange these family affairs. She spoke to Old Master Hopkins in a dignified and generous manner and quickly followed Nanny Faang into the kitchen.

"Grandpa, what distinguished guest did you invite?" Barbara asked with a

smile.



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Chapter 211

In fact, Christina was also a little curious. She could not help but raise her eyebrows and turned to Old Master Hopkins. Coincidentally, Old Master Hopkins was also looking at her. He said two words in a hoarse voice, "The Dickens family."

Christina's expression changed and she said quickly, "Why did you invite them..."

She complained. After all, she was a member of the Dickens family. She didn't dare to say anything about the basic etiquette. So she wouldn't deny Old Master Hopkins's arrangement.

"Your aunt will be here today."

Patrick reminded her in a low voice. It was obvious that he had already known the Dickens family was invited.

"My aunt." Christina changed from dissatisfaction to surprise. "Is my aunt really here today? Didn't you say you couldn't get in touch with her before? How is she now? Will she come with other people of the Dickens family..."

Christina grabbed Patrick's arm excitedly and asked. Looking at her happy expression, Patrick felt a little jealous although he knew that the woman named Betty Eisenhower was very important to her.

"Your aunt has been living in your previous apartment since she was discharged from the hospital. She's recovered and looking good." Chandler

knew Betty well. Seeing that Christina was so excited, he smiled and told her some news.

Christina had kept calling Betty, but the treatment center only said that Betty's operation was successful and that she was discharged from the hospital. Losing Betty's news, Christina was very worried about her and wanted to go out to look for her, but was stopped by Patrick who only said that he would send someone to investigate for her.

Christina punched Patrick in the chest and said angrily, "Since my aunt was in the apartment, why didn't you tell me? Why did you say that you couldn't get in touch with her?"

Patrick didn't feel pain, and kept calm,

"She won't die anyway."

This man was really shameless. Christina warned him with a dark face, "When my aunt comes over, don't be so stiff. Why do you show such a gloomy face as if someone owes you money? Don't scare my aunt."

She didn't care what those people in the Dickens family would do. Christina only took Betty as her family, because it was Betty that raised her up.

"Christina's aunt is known for her elegance and talents." Old Master Hopkins had heard of Betty many years ago.

"Sure." Christina was a little proud.

"Unfortunately, Christina, you didn't

learn from your aunt..." Charles chuckled.

Christina wanted to grab an apple and hit him. Suddenly, some voices came from outside the main house, "It seems that they are here." Old Master Hopkins said.

Christina was stunned for a moment, then immediately got up and ran out excitedly.

"Donald, how could you allow her to marry Patrick!"

Outside the main house, there was a noise. It was Betty that was scolding violently. She stopped being gentle, grabbed the collar of the middle-aged man in front of her with both hands, "Donald Dickens, you, how can you..."

"Auntie." Christina was the first to rush out. She stood at the magnificent gate of the Hopkins family's main residence, feeling astonished.

Betty's face was purple. She pushed Donald away and turned to walk closer to Christina.

Christina looked at her blankly. Betty was really much better after the operation. She looked very healthy, but her face was pale. It was not because she was sick, but because she was depressed and angry.

"Slap!"

Betty raised her hand and slapped Christina hard, making her left cheek red and swollen. Christina's mind was

blank.

"How dare you to be pregnant with Patrick Hopkins's babies!"

Christina's cheeks were red and swollen after being slapped. She was dumbstruck and stood there motionlessly.

It was noon and the sun was shining brightly above.

Christina looked at the woman who stood in front of her clearly. Betty, her aunt, who looked so angry, should slap her.

This was the first time Betty really hit her.

"What happened?"

Mrs. Dickens shouted at them in a hurry, and Donald, who was standing aside, seemed also to be frightened by Betty's sudden behavior. He came back to his senses after hearing Mrs. Dicken's shouting and looked at Betty and Christina worriedly. He wanted to say something but hesitated.

Mrs. Dickens was invited to the Hopkins family today, so she wore an expensive dress and looked noble. Though she was old, she was still very strong. She pulled Christina to her in anger and scolded Betty.

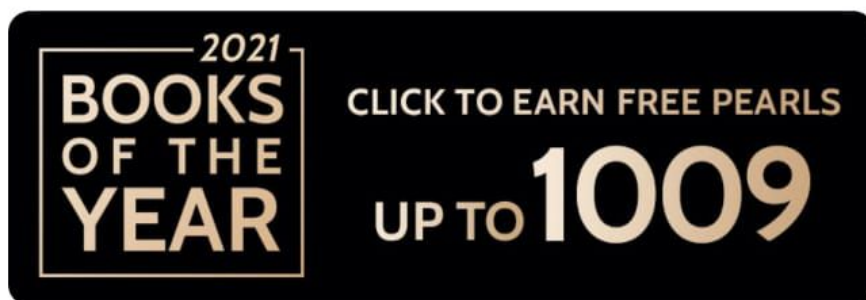
"Betty, if you don't want to come over, no one will force you. You came here to act wildly and even slapped my granddaughter. Do you know your identity? There's no one in the

Eisenhower family and you are free to do anything you want?"

"Shut up. I just want to teach her a lesson."

Betty was no longer as calm and tolerant as she used to be. She gritted her teeth and put on a gloomy expression, accusing Mrs. Dickens fiercely.

"Well, look at her. She finally showed her true color..."



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Seeing Betty yelling at her, Mrs. Dickens was so angry. She pointed at Betty and said, "I knew long ago that there was no one good in your family. Your sisters died, and you, you are so pathetic. You haven't married yet..."

"It's none of your business!"

Christina shook off Mrs. Dickens's hand in disgust subconsciously and stood in front of Betty to protect her.

No matter how Betty hit her, the Dickens family had no right to judge.

"You, you..." Mrs. Dickens was so angry that she couldn't speak normally.

A few people strode out of the front

door of the Hopkins family. They felt something was wrong when they heard the noise.

Charles ran out excitedly and planned to mock Christina that she was not as elegant as her aunt at all. However, when he saw the obvious palm print on Christina's cheek, he was shocked.

"Christina, what's wrong with your face?"

Charles couldn't imagine who dared to hit Christina.

The next second, he was pushed aside by someone behind him. Patrick walked to Christina quickly without saying a word, but it was obvious that he was very unhappy. He stared at the palm print on Christina's cheek and got

angrier.

He looked around at everyone furiously.

Who slapped Christina!

Patrick was so angry and horrible that everyone around him kept silent for a moment.

He stood in front of Christina and reached out his hand to her, but Christina took a step back.

Christina lowered her head awkwardly as if she didn't want anyone to see the swelling on her face. But actually, she just don't want anyone to see Betty.

"What's going on?"

Later, Old Master Hopkins came out with a walking stick and shouted seriously. He was extremely dissatisfied with the noise.

"Mr. Hopkins, it's just a small misunderstanding..."

Mrs. Dickens smiled flatteringly and explained, "Christina's aunt is not in a stable mood. She seems to be a different person ever since she had an operation. Someone may instigate her. It's not a big deal. Today is an important day and we shouldn't ruin it..."

Patrick still felt extremely angry. He pinched his lips tightly and looked at Christina. Later, he looked to Betty who stood behind Christina...

Everyone felt strange and looked at

Betty.

Betty was over 40 years old with shoulder-length black hair. Her bangs were picked up with a simple black clip. She wore light makeup and a simple light yellow suit. She looked thin and weak but elegant at the same time.

Betty stood up straight as if she must do something today, and her eyes were filled with determination and hatred.

Yes, hatred.

Christina habitually looked to Betty, but she could not understand the hatred in Betty's eyes. Why?

"Come with me." Betty suddenly spoke. Her voice sounded cold and determined.

Betty somehow lost her usual modesty today and stood against everyone present. She reached out her hand to grab Christina's wrist and pulled Christina to her.

But Patrick was faster. He grabbed Christina's other wrist tightly, showing that Christina belonged to him.

"Patrick Hopkins, let her go!"

Betty raised her head and glared at Patrick. Men from the Hopkins family were always so outstanding but disgusting.

Except for Old Master Hopkins, almost no one dared to order Patrick like this.

"She hit you?" Patrick lowered his head

to look at Christina and asked. He ignored Betty's words at all, but it could still be told from his voice that he was trying to control his anger.

Christina's cheek was still burning with pain, but her mind was dull. She did not answer Patrick. In fact, she had no idea what was going on. She didn't know what to do.

"Kick her out."

Patrick moved swiftly. He held Christina's shoulder with his other hand and pulled her into his arms. He ordered his bodyguards to kick Betty out, but Betty still grabbed Christina's left wrist. She didn't let go even if there was a circle of bruises on Christina's wrist.

"Christina, go with me!"

Patrick and Betty confronted each other while Christina stood in the middle of them, being dragged.

"Goddamn!" Patrick shouted loudly. He had no patience for outsiders, especially when he saw Christina being tugged. He almost went mad.

Patrick was stronger. He used all his might to pull Christina and hold her horizontally. Then, he turned around quickly. Betty was not prepared. She was pushed away by Patrick and staggered to the ground.

"Auntie." Christina looked at Betty in horror and struggled subconsciously, but Patrick was stubborn and refused to let her move.

"What are you doing?"

Old Master Hopkins glared at them with great dissatisfaction and shouted majestically.

Hearing Old Master Hopkins's shout, everyone felt nervous and no one dared to make any noise anymore.

"Take Miss Eisenhower to have a rest first..." Old Master Hopkins ordered. Servants on both sides immediately came over.

However, Betty was like a trapped beast being hunted down. She screamed desperately, "Don't touch me. All of you are dirty. I hate everyone from your family."

"Christina, if you don't go with me today, I am not your auntie anymore. You can continue to be the young madam of the Hopkins family. I will just forget that you are my niece. You are not allowed to worship me after my death!"

Betty crawled on the ground and looked very embarrassed, but when she looked up, Christina could see the determination in her eyes. Betty was serious about what she said and she wouldn't yield.

Christina was so shocked. She was tightly locked in Patrick's arms, but she couldn't take her eyes off Betty.

Why did Betty hate the Hopkins family so much?

Chapter 213

Creak -

The screeching sound of brakes was very harsh, and it lasted long.

It was not until a black Maybach appeared on the main road of the Hopkins family's mansion had everyone realized that it was Derek who had the guts to drive into the Hopkins family...

The door was opened and a slender figure came out.

"Derek."

Charles was surprised, and he shouted first.

It was just a silhouette. But who else could have such an apathetic temperament?

Patrick was a little hesitant and his hand that holding Christina tightly in his arm relaxed a bit. It was almost at this moment that Christina got out of his arm.

"Auntie." She threw herself on the floor in front of Betty.

Betty looked anxious. She was a little bit happy seeing that Christina was in front of her, but she was also afraid that Christian would escape, so she held Christina's shoulders tightly.

She then turned to look at Derek and said in an anxious voice, "Derek, hurry up Derek. Take Christina with you.

Let's go..."

"Derek!"

"It's really you, Derek..."

There were many voices in her ears, all filled with shock and disbelief.

Christina did not look up, but she knew it was him.

Her mind was in a mess, making her unable to think. Betty grabbed her very hard as if she had grabbed the last straw. Her shoulder blades hurt a little, and the pain told her that the thing that was happening was true.

... Derek was finally back.

... Auntie was very angry.

... Auntie couldn't accept that she was pregnant with Patrick's child.

But why?

"Christina." The soft voice sounded in her ear.

Derek gently held her up. His movements were so natural as she and he had known each other so well a long time ago.

No one spoke, and everyone seemed to be speechless. Only Betty hurriedly got up from the ground and put her hands in front of Christina, afraid that she would be taken away by someone.

"Derek, Hurry up, let's go!"

After all, Betty was just a little woman. Facing so many people in front of her, she was already nervous. She lowered her voice and urged Derek anxiously.

Christina moved back obediently as if it was an instinctive reaction.

But when she raised her head and looked into Patrick's deep eyes, Christina's face turned pale. She could not move.

Patrick just stood there. Neither did he step forward, nor did he speak. He did not look angry either. Instead, he just stood there straight and looked at her calmly like an outsider.

He just saw her leave with someone else.

Charles and Chandler looked at each other in blank dismay. They did not know what to do. Although Old Master Hopkins had a gloomy face, he did not say a word even when the car door was slammed to close.

There were so many people out there, but no one stopped them from leaving.

Because the person who took Christina to leave was Derek.

"Derek, I don't know that you are a person who can go to any length. I really underestimated you in the past, you bastard!"

Finally, it was Charles who couldn't help but curse angrily at the back of the car.

How could the festive party turn into...

They drove all the way west. Christina was surprised that they did not face any obstructions.

Derek looked straight ahead and drove at a steady rate, while she and Betty sat in the back. None of them spoke, and it was very quiet in the car.

Christina kept her head down, tightly tugging at the hem of her pink cherry blossom maternity dresses on both sides. She looked a little reserved and confused.

She could feel that Betty was very angry, especially when she was looking at her bulging abdomen.

She wanted to say something, but at

this moment, in the narrow space of the car, all the words were drowned in her throat.

Suddenly, she had no courage to face it.

What did she do wrong?

Her mind was in a mess. Seeing the speeding cars flashing outside the window, for a moment, she wanted the car to not stop.

But about twenty minutes later, the car slowed down and entered a large group of villas in a rich area.

This was the center of east A City. The land was priceless here, and this should be Derek's new residence.

She thought that Derek would take her

back to F City, as she didn't expect his house to be so close to the Hopkins family.

It was as if he was fearless.

The security here was perfect. When they were parking in the garage, she saw a few famous a-listers passing by through the window. Only rich or noble people could live here. The first thought in her mind was that Derek was no longer the weak boy who would be bullied in the past. He was strong enough now.

The villa, which was more than 300 square meters, though was not comparable to the Hopkins' villa, which occupied tens of thousands of square meters on the hillside, was decorated exquisitely. It was not luxurious but

very warm.

Derek, who was in front of her, took out the key and opened the door. Betty, with a cold face, dragged her right wrist and walked in the door without saying anything.

Christina found the decoration of the house a little familiar, as it looked like the one of the Dickens family very much.

In fact, Derek knew better than she did that she hated the Dickens family. But in her heart, she couldn't bear to part with the Dickens family and she often dreamed about the time when she was still a child.

People were contradictory creatures. The more they hated a thing, the more

reluctant they were to part with it. Sometimes they just don't want to admit it.

However, when Christina looked at the familiar decoration and the familiar relatives in front of her, she didn't know what was wrong but felt very strange and nervous.

She felt that she was besieged as if she was waiting for a stern interrogate.

With a click, the door was closed.

