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My brows snapped together at her words. I just couldn't fathom her mentality. No matter

how Parker entrusted her to Ashton and the others, more than ten years had passed, and

they all had their own families now. Besides, they had provided and taken good care of her

as much as they could. In my opinion, Ashton and Joe had done more than enough.

How could Rebecca take it as a matter of course? The woman was so self-centered to the

extent that she thought their lives revolved around her. Even biological siblings had no

obligation to take care of one another for life, not to mention that Ashton and Joe were not

related to her by blood.

That was how selfish Rebecca was.

Holding Ashton's hand, I went into the ward. There was no sign of Jared, so I became

worried. "How's the checkup? Where's Jared?"

Helping me to take a seat, he brushed my question aside. "You're pregnant now, so

regardless of what's happening around you, you've to take the baby and me into

consideration. Can you do that?"

I froze at his words. Only then I noticed that his face was a little pale.

Perhaps Rebecca's

attack scared the daylights out of him. I couldn't help but smile.

"Actually, I had seen it

coming and was ready to defend myself, so Rebecca wouldn't have been able to hurt me or

the baby. I didn't put myself and the baby in a dangerous situation."

Exasperated, he sighed softly. "Even so, we can't afford to let such things happen again.

Most of the time, a lot of things are not within our controls."

Nodding my head, I asked him about Jared again. "How are things going at Jared's end?"

He heaved another sigh. "Be patient. He just finished the checkup. The results will be

released only after one or two days."

I was a little anxious. "But Summer's illness can't wait any longer. By the way, has the

hospital found a suitable kidney for her?"

For a split second, the man appeared slightly dejected at the mention of this issue, but he

quickly regained his composure and said, "Don't worry. Trust me, I'll definitely find a suitable

one."

I knew he had been asking around, but I was overcome with anxiety about Summer's

condition. Though she had gone through a few rounds of chemotherapy, the result was not

ideal. Each therapy was a torment for her. Feeling that I was undeniably responsible for her

illness, I didn't even have the courage to see her now.

Even if I threw a fit in front of Ashton, it wouldn't help a thing. Pulling myself together, I

looked at him. "What happened just now? Hasn't Joe been very caring towards Rebecca?

What's with the sudden change of attitude? What's going on?"

He pulled me into a hug. "I guess he ran out of patience. Rebecca is unwilling to marry him,

yet she depends on and clings to him. Both men and women naturally become worried

when they reach a certain age. Joe's parents have been urging him to get married, and he

himself becomes anxious as well since he has waited for years.

"In fact, Joe's a conservative man on the inside, so he's of the same mind as his parents. He

feels everyone should do what they're supposed to at the right time. He isn't young anymore,

but Rebecca keeps wasting his time and refuses to tie the knot with him. That makes him

feel even more restless than he already is. Besides, I just told him that you're pregnant,

which means everyone around him is settling down and starting a family."

As I listened to his words, a sudden realization hit me. Ashton seemed to have become a

different man. Previously, he was driven by dreams and ambitions, aspired to scale new

heights. He was like an emperor who was eager to expand his territory. But now he put all

his heart and love into this little family of ours.

Seeing me staring blankly at him, he rubbed the tip of his nose bashfully. "Why are you

looking at me like that?"

I chuckled. "I'm just thinking that I have to be a good mom, and I can't be as wayward and

reckless as I used to be."

He chuckled. "Hmm? Are you going to be a good mom only?"

"Of course, an amazing wife too!" I snuggled up to him. "Just wait till Summer recovers, and

the baby is born. I am sure everything will be fine"

We had been waiting for things to fall into place. Other than waiting, there was nothing else

we could do.

Thinking of Joe again, I asked, "After chasing Rebecca away, is Joe going to look for a

socialite in K City and get married?"

Ashton kept quiet for a moment. Suddenly, his expression grew solemn as he gazed at me

and said, "Sometimes, love and marriage are entirely two different things to men."

Stupefied for a few seconds, I grasped the meaning of his words. He was right. No matter

how much Joe loved Rebecca, there was no way she could be one of the Quinns because of

her background. We could never deny that in marriage, both parties had to be a good match.

Other than love, there was nothing useful that Rebecca could offer. His family wouldn't be

able to accept her, let alone the ambitious man himself. She was like a toy which a child

had. Once he grew up, the toy would be put away, regardless of how good it was.

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Without a word, I lifted my head and gazed intently at Ashton.

As my eyes were glued to him for quite some time, the man became uneasy and asked,

"What's wrong?"

Pressing my lips together, I asked in a serious tone, "How about your love for me? What is it

based on?" I believe in utilitarianism. There was no way for two people to get together solely

out of love. There must be other determining factors as well.

With his dark gaze riveted on me, the man didn't utter a word, deep in contemplation. After

what felt like an eternity, he finally spoke. "I feel lucky to have you.

When I was in my

twenties, I thought that love could last forever. Whether you're an orphan or a daughter of

the Moore family, I'm fine with it as long as it's you. But now I think differently. I love you,

because you're the one I fell for since I was young, and you're my wife. I'm grateful for your

birth and your identity. If it weren't for these, we would've to face countless hurdles and

troubles. Because of whom you are, we're able to spend the rest of our lives loving and

taking care of each other in peace. Other than that, others will look up to and find us an

enviable couple. You're exceptional, and I'm pretty good too. That's enough for us to live this

life together."

If love was getting together against all odds when we were young, then marriage was

deciding to go through every trivial and mundane matter in life together. However, some had

a chaotic married life, while the others treat one another with respect.

Ashton and I were the latter. Treating one another with respect was the best way to show

that we cherished our marriage.

Leaning against his chest, I smiled faintly. "Ashton, moving forward, I need your guidance."

He gave me a warm, gentle smile. "Please bear with me too, Mrs. Fuller."

After leaving the hospital, Ashton and I went to the office. Every day, the man ran around

between the office and the hospital. He barely had time to rest because of work and

Summer's condition.

Arriving in front of the office, I got out of the car and waited for him in the lobby while he

parked the car.

It was lunchtime, so the lobby was crowded. At the entrance, a striking red sports car pulled

over, drawing the attention of countless women nearby.

I couldn't resist glancing at it too. The woman who got out of the sports car was none other

than Rachel, whom I had not seen in a while. Thinking that she was still in A City, I didn't

expect that she was back.

The gorgeous woman and the sports car were an extremely eye-catching combination. The

man in the car was dressed casually, looking like someone from a wealthy family in K City.

Rachel's outfit was unusually seductive today. A black midi dress with a pair of boots made

her legs appear long and slender. She also wore a luxurious and stylish white coat, looking

alluring yet elegant.

She seemed to have gone out for lunch with that man. Getting out of the car, she brazenly

strode over to the driver's seat and kissed the man on the lips. After that, she gracefully

sauntered into the office.

I was surprised that Rachel found a new boyfriend.

Though we were not enemies, I didn't really want to see her. Holding a leather bag in her

hand, she raised her brows and said, "Are you here to see Mr. Fuller? I think he's not in the

office."

I nodded. "We just came back."

"I heard about your daughter. I guess you got a lot on your plate recently," she said with a

shrug.

Instead of denying it, I hummed in response, not wanting to tell her more about it.

With her brows raised, the woman seemed carefree as she explained, "You don't need to be

so defensive in front of me. Like I said, if we're no longer love rivals, I'll admire you a lot. The

man in the car is my boyfriend. Let me introduce him to you one day. Don't be so

antagonistic toward me. Although your husband is outstanding, he has no feelings for me,

so I better keep my options open."

Her words surprised me, but I remained silent. Nonetheless, she seemed unfazed by my

aloofness. "I guess you need more time, but please don't stay at odds with me. We woman

shouldn't be against each other, am I right?"

I pouted my lips, thinking about it briefly before replying, "You know I couldn't care less

whether you love Ashton. I'm absolutely confident that he will love me forever. It's just that

I'm surprised to see you getting a new boyfriend so soon."

She shrugged nonchalantly. "What's so surprising about that? Every woman has a dream of

marrying into a wealthy family, and the same goes for me. Other than the Fullers, there're

many wealthy families in K City, so I changed my target. He's the third son of the Quinn

family. Though the Quinn Corporation is no match for Ashton, it isn't too bad. He's the one

who gave me all my branded clothes, house, and car. After experiencing a lavish lifestyle,

I've come to the conclusion that one must make as much money as possible, especially a

beautiful woman, who can make a fast buck with her beauty." My brows knitted together. I couldn't bring myself to agree with her principles, so I kept quiet.

With her eyes fixed on me, she asked nonchalantly, "Do you look down on women like me?"

I shook my head. "Everyone has their own ambitions and pursuits, so I have no right to

comment on yours."

Pursing her lips, she shrugged. "Alright, you're not as annoying as I thought. I'm not going to

snatch your man away from you, so you don't have to put your guard up against me."