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It's settled then.

With that, Kira continued preparing food for the banquet.

Sasha came up to the banquet table and sat beside Sebastian while holding a bowl of soup.

"Mr. Hayes, since you've just recovered, I'd suggest that you should avoid oily food. Here, I've prepared a bowl of soup for you."

Sasha unknowingly bent over as she handed over the bowl of soup to Sebastian.

After glancing at Sasha nonchalantly, Sebastian pushed away the food served to him earlier on and took the bowl of soup.

Sasha put on a smile when she saw Sebastian's reaction.

However, as Sasha was about to leave, she couldn't help but feel that someone was staring at her.

Sasha took a sideways glance and realized that it was Candice.

She was stunned upon meeting Candice's gaze.

However, Candice shifted her gaze quickly as though their eyes only met coincidentally

As such, Sasha also shifted her gaze and continued walking.

Why was she staring at me? What did she want?

That thought gave Sasha a really bad feeling in her gut.

"Mr. Hayes..."

The next moment, Sasha returned to the table swiftly and stopped Sebastian right before he put the spoon into his mouth.

"What's wrong?" Sebastian still looked cold when he looked up at Sasha. However, Sasha could tell that he wasn't angry at her.

"It crossed my mind that the soup wasn't hot. Please allow me to heat it up. Besides, please don't eat the food on the table, or else you might have a tummy upset later," Sasha took the bowl of soup back and reminded Sebastian purposely.

Although Sebastian didn't utter a word, he glanced at Sasha, trying to figure out what was on her mind.

Since Sasha couldn't stand his gaze, she quickly ran away with the soup.

When Candice saw that Sasha took the soup back, she finally couldn't stay composed.

"Oh? Dr. West, why are you taking the soup back?"

Meanwhile, Kira had finished preparing the dishes and went out of the kitchen. She was shocked upon seeing that Sasha came back with the bowl of soup.

Ignoring Candice and Kira, Sasha went straight into the kitchen and poured the soup into the sink. Then, she took out a silver needle to test the soup.

Confusion flashed past Kira's eyes when she saw it.

When Kira came up to Sasha, she noticed that the silver needle began to turn black, indicating that it was poisonous.

Instantly, Kira turned pale-faced as though she was struck by thunder.

How could it be?

Didn't she dispose of the soup already?

Meanwhile, Sasha's hand shivered upon seeing the change in the needle's color.

The next moment, she pushed the plates and bowls away furiously and yelled, "What's your explanation on this? Why are you doing this, huh?"

Sasha glared at Kira ferociously as though she wanted to devour Kira in no time.

I might be too aggressive, but Sebastian is everything in my life!

Scared to death, Kira staggered backward and replied stammeringly, "No... It's not me. I didn't..."

Besides, she almost couldn't steady herself.

Deep down, Kira knew that she could never give Sasha a satisfying explanation.

Furious, Sasha wanted to bring Kira and the pot of soup to Jonathan.

At that juncture, someone showed up at the kitchen door and asked, "What are you guys doing?"

Sasha turned around immediately when she recognized the cold voice from her back.

"Mr. Hayes? Why are you here? I—"

Sasha was lost for words all of a sudden. Deep down, she wished to protect Sebastian and keep the despicable things that people did from him.

However, Sebastian was aware of it when Sasha took the soup back.

"Let her go. She didn't do this."

"Ah?" Sasha gazed at him with her widened eyes and continued, "Why? I mean, she was the one who made the soup. Why isn't she the culprit?"

"Well, it's because no one is that stupid. Think about it—the soup is specially made for me only. As such, you'll become the most likely suspect because you asked her to make the soup for me."

Sasha was stunned when Sebastian pointed out the obvious.

Sasha felt that a shiver ran down her spine. Besides, the glow in her eyes vanished at once.

However, Sebastian probably didn't notice the change in Sasha's expression at all. Instead, he frowned and continued to analyze the situation. "For instance—"

"Even so, you can't say that I might harm you. I mean, I won't harm you even if the whole world targets you," Sasha murmured. Apparently, she felt dispirited by Sebastian's words.

On the other hand, Kira rushed toward Sebastian hurriedly, for she thought he was her lifeline.