She's actually threatening me with her life?

The man rushed there overnight, and at that moment, he felt so sorrowful that it imprinted into his very bones. Then, he hovered over that woman. His dark brown eyes carried no warmth and the menacing danger was the only thing those eyes exuded.

"You are so adamant about leaving me now. Have you forgotten how you went all out and tried to court me in the past?"

Sasha couldn't speak.

Her entire body trembled, and her pretty face paled even more.

She remembered that all too well.

That was why she hated herself at that moment. If she could turn back time, she would never have acted that way.

Anger and humiliation maxed out in Sasha's heart. Her eyes glowed with pain and regret when she replied, "How could I forget that, Sebastian Hayes? For you, I abandoned everything, including the Wand family, the Blackwood family, and myself. Are you reminding me of that past because you want to know why I insist on torturing myself over and over again?"

Sebastian didn't know what to say.

He was stunned and immediately wanted to say that wasn't what he meant.

Unfortunately, the woman in front of him suddenly developed a surprising strength. She pushed him away.

"It's good that you're here today. We can take this opportunity to clear the air. From now on, Sebastian Hayes, we are nothing but strangers. I will ask my lawyer to send you the divorce papers, so you can leave now."

Sasha was especially mean and cruel when she said that last sentence.

This woman... she no longer fears me, and she does not panic anymore. Her tone is even as she spoke, and her eyes glow like she is an entirely different person.

Sebastian's expression suddenly became downright terrifying.

The only reason it took him that long to reach her was because he wanted to give her some time to think. Everybody makes stupid mistakes when they act impulsively. That is why I am willing to wait and give her some time.

What Sebastian never anticipated was that even after waiting patiently for a few days, she still said something that cruel.

Am I really that unforgivable? Even if the matter with Xenia is just a misunderstanding? Am I guilty even though I had nothing to do with what my father did?

Sebastian was utterly disappointed. His face had a grouchy expression on, and it was almost visibly turning paler. It was clear that his suppressed emotions were acting up and threatening to break free.

"Are you still hung up on the incident involving Xenia? If so, let me share something with you. I have investigated the matter, and my father is innocent!"

"None of that is important, Sebastian. I am tired. I no longer want to have anything to do with the Hayes, and my only wish is that I can build the Wand family back up. My dad will be out soon."

"What about the kids? Do you not want to have anything to do with them anymore as well?"

Sasha hesitated. It seemed she had gathered a lot of courage when she closed her eyes, and her pale lips said, "No, I don't. They're all yours now."

The aura in the room froze over.

How disappointed and tired did a person have to be to say something like that?

The man started breaking down.

He had always been the one to determine others' fate and could do whatever he wanted. However, at that moment, hearing those words... it felt like something was slipping out of his control, and it frightened him to his core.

His fingers were trembling.

She's actually abandoning the kids! They were her everything...

Sasha had been waiting for his response. Unfortunately, she couldn't see his expression in the dark and could only detect his movement.

What she saw was that he had remained motionless.

I guess that makes sense. Why would he do anything? He's probably ecstatic now. All three kids are with him, and he has everything now.

Sasha grinned bitterly and turned around.

"Where are you going?"

To Sasha's surprise, the man reached out and grabbed her as soon as she moved. His hold on her was so strong that she frowned in discomfort.

"You don't get to care about where I'm headed. Let me go!"

"Not even in your dreams. I'm warning you, Sasha. You are mine, and you will remain that way unless I give you permission to leave. If not, you will be mine forever!"

The man with bloodshot eyes howled. He was like an untamed beast that had been infuriated, and he shoved her to the side of the door before he planted countless kisses on her.

Sasha couldn't speak.

She was stunned for a second before she struggled and demanded, "Mmm... Sebastian Hayes... You... Assh\*le! Let me go."

He was the poison she should never touch. That was what Sasha convinced herself of. It took her so long to accept that truth, and she refused to make the same mistake again.

Unfortunately, the more she struggled, the wilder he got.

It eventually got to the point where he carried her and walked into the bedroom right away!

At Prime Cloud Corporation's Headquarter in Clear.

Solomon tossed his coat and slumped down on the sofa aside as soon as he got back.

He had too much to drink that night, and it was likely that he wouldn't make it home if he hadn't pushed hard.

His assistant went over at that moment. Seeing that scenario got the dutiful assistant to hurry over and pour Solomon a glass of warm water.

"Mr. George, are you okay? Why did you drink so much? You can't hold your drink very well."

The assistant felt bad upon seeing Solomon like that because the two of them had been working together for a while.

Solomon, however, smiled. He rested on the sofa and tilted his head up to look at the ceiling. He seemed utterly satisfied.

"I was happy, so I drank a little more."

"Happy? Is it because of Ms. Nancy? Did she finally show up?"

"Yes, she did."

Solomon didn't deny anything. He picked up the glass of water his assistant got him and downed it in one gulp.

The assistant was speechless.

What could he say, anyway? His boss had always been smart and diligent, except when things involved a particular woman. That was when Solomon would act completely out of character.

The situation at the time, for example, was something the assistant simply couldn't understand. Why would he jump through so many hoops for that one woman?

"Is everything done? I have been gathering information lately, and it seems that Ms. Nancy is actually thinking about stepping back into the finance industry. The Leonard family, who she collaborated with previously, had fallen. It is likely that she will need someone who is even more powerful to rise back up to the top."

"Yeah, that's why I drank so much tonight," muttered the man before he smiled once more.

He had rarely been that happy. Although he grinned often and sounded cheery when he spoke to others, he rarely smiled genuinely.

The assistant stopped talking and started packing up to get ready and leave.

"By the way, is there any interesting place nearby? Make the necessary arrangements. I will take Nancy and some friends out tomorrow to hang out together."

"Understood."

The assistant turned around and took one look at Solomon before making a mental note of the matter.

He works so hard and so carefully to court this woman. If only he is as hardworking at his job...

The next morning soon rolled by and Solomon got the booking number for a country club. What no one expected was that when Solomon called Sasha to invite her out, she rejected him.

"Sorry, Solomon. Today is... Something came up, and I can't hang out anymore."

Sasha had a tough time rejecting Solomon's invitation at the time. If her action wouldn't get the blanket off of her naked body, Sasha would've truly wanted to kick the man beside her off of the bed.

Je\*k!

Hearing that response instantly got Solomon disappointed. He asked, "Can't you postpone that? It is rare that my friends gathered over today. Andy Rind, in particular, is usually busy because he plays a major role in Wall Street."

Sasha said nothing. She hesitated.

Before she got to say anything, a huge palm slipped to her side and caressed her before pulling her into a hug. Sasha's entire body instantly trembled, and she was affected so much that even her voice seemed off. "N-no," replied Sasha, "Let's meet up some other time..."

"Meet up? Where? And with who? It's so early in the morning. Are you heading out to flirt with that guy again? Did I not satisfy you last night?"

The sexy and deep voice of a man came from the other side of the line, and that got Solomon to clench his fist.

He hadn't had the chance to get to the bottom of the issue before Sasha hung up. Hence, Solomon gripped his phone as he stared at the scrumptious breakfast in front of him. He smashed the phone onto the floor at the very next second and got it to break in two.

"What's wrong?" asked the assistant, who hurried over after hearing the noise.

Solomon, however, never answered.

He stared ahead, and his gaze was murderous and wild, like a tsunami.

Sebastian Hayes!

Yep, he guessed right. The person who interrupted and cut the phone call short was none other than Sebastian.

However, justice was served. Sasha had already kicked the perpetrator off of the bed. After a night of intense love-making, she kicked the annoying man off the bed before he could act up again and demand more time together.

"Get the f\*ck out of here!"

Sebastian didn't respond.

After a night like that, any man would be in a good mood, and Sebastian was so delighted that he wasn't angry despite being kicked out of the bed.

"Fine, I'll f\*ck out of here, but... shouldn't you get me something to wear?"

"Excuse me?"

"Look! You tore my clothes off yesterday, and it's in shreds now. You don't expect me to walk out of here like this, do you? I don't mind at all, but you're renting this place, and who knows what the owner would think of you?"

That freaking pe\*vert! He actually stood up as he spoke and revealed himself completely in front of me.

When Sasha's gaze swept past his exposed private part, her blood rushed right to her head and got her to blush hard. At that moment, she was tempted to gauge her eyes out and just live blindly!

"Sebastian Hayes, you freaking.... Ugh, just you wait, I will castrate you, you lunatic!"

After saying her piece, Sasha used the blanket to shield herself and fled.

The naked man remained standing there. His smile became brighter because his tease was successful.

Going against me? You're bound to lose!

Sasha had no idea where she could go after she ran out of the house. She ended up going to Willow's place.

Willow was still making breakfast when she suddenly saw a disheveled Sasha rushing in. That surprised Willow, and she blurted, "Nancy? What brought you here? Why were you running this early in the morning? Were you chased by a ghost or something?"

Sasha was speechless.

Ghost? Hell no, the thing that is after me is a monster that is much scarier than ghosts!

Sasha took some time to calm herself down before she entered the place while ignoring the discomfort on a certain part of her body.

"I'm fine. What are you cooking? Is Brandon up? He's going to go pick Lance up today, so let's not be late."

"How would I know if he's up? He locked himself in the room and played video games all night after he got back. Who knows when he went to bed?" replied Willow as she glared angrily at the second floor.

Willow let Brandon stay in her place because Sasha's place was too cramped, and the buses didn't go to that region.

Unfortunately, the second son of the Emmanuel family was like a kid who didn't know how to behave. He was already in his twenties, but Matilda had been spoiling him since he was a kid. Moreover, his uncle had been playing favorites with him whenever he visited, so he remained immature.

Despite being an adult, the guy still didn't understand responsibilities and discipline. He stubbornly played and messed around whenever he wanted.

Sasha shook her head. In the end, she had no choice but to walk up the stairs.

"Brandon? Are you awake? It's time to go pick Lance up."

No one spoke.

Sasha knocked on the door for quite some time before she heard a groggy voice saying, "Got it."

Sasha didn't leave until she heard his reply.

When it came to Lance, Sasha's plan went as follows. He was willing to follow her lead, so she will make him begin as her assistant. She planned on making a killing in the finance industry, then had Lance manage the money she made.

I heard that the kid majored in accounting when he was in university.

Brandon left the house an hour later.

To his surprise, someone blocked the road while he was on his way over.

"Holy f\*ck, when did you get here? Darn it, we're already ridiculously careful at covering our tracks. How did you find us so quickly? Do you have super hearing or something?"

Brandon cussed aloud as soon as he saw who the person was.

Sebastian scoffed. He didn't say anything. Instead, he flicked his finger and got several men in black to show up behind him. They rushed toward Brandon immediately after.

F\*ck! He's not going to kill me, is he?

Brandon was frightened. He opened the door to his car, got out, and admitted defeat right away. "My dear, sweet cousin, w-what are you doing? I-I've never done anything to hurt you before."

"You kidnapped my wife. Does that not count as hurting me?"

"What? She's your wife? No way! She's just your ex-wife," complained Brandon aloud. He refused to accept the fake crime that was forced onto him.

The part that got Brandon utterly hopeless, however, was when Sebastian toss him a booklet after hearing his protest.

"Take a good, long look at the valid marriage certificate. Is she my ex-wife?"

Brandon could no longer speak. His handsome face instantly lost its colors, and it was as if someone had sucked the life out of him.

They're married? Then w-why would he treat her like that? Does he not know how much she had sacrificed for him?

Brandon's eyes reddened with tears. He recalled that fateful night when Sasha went to look for him. She looked drained and sorrowful. A sharp pain tugged at Brandon's heart upon recalling that memory, and immense fury rose.

"Fine, so she's not your ex-wife, but that doesn't mean you get to treat her like this. She is a human being. She's not an inanimate object that has no feelings! What gives you the right to hurt her repeatedly?"

Sebastian was speechless.

He narrowed his eyes and scanned the man, who roared and scolded him.

If I am right, this cousin of mine has finally lost his last brain cell. How dare he fall for my wife?

Sebastian walked over and hovered over Brandon. The former wasn't angry, but his handsome face exuded a chilly aura that told the latter to back off.

"That was just a misunderstanding. I came to talk to her to solve the issue."

"A misunderstanding? You killed her uncle's daughter! How is that a misunderstanding?" challenged Brandon before he scoffed.

The vein on Sebastian's head was jumping, and he almost couldn't contain his anger.

This jacka\*s really needs a good beating. He took my wife away multiple times! Who the hell gave him permission to do so?

Sebastian was mostly jealous, though. And that woman actually regards him as the person she trusts the most. She went to him whenever our arguments spiraled out of control!

Sebastian forced himself to calm down before he did anything else.

"I've done my part and told you that I am innocent. I don't care if you believe me. All I want to know is what she has been doing lately. What is her plan?"

"Pfft, you're asking me? Too bad I won't tell..."

Brandon didn't get to say that last word because someone had dragged him out of the car. It was obvious that the men in black that Sebastian brought with him were all highly trained.

What the hell?

"Mr. Emmanuel, you better answer Mr. Hayes question without delay or you will never see Mrs. Emmanuel or your brother and his family ever again," threatened the man in black as he whispered in an icy tone.

Brandon heard everything and was instantly infuriated.

This f\*cking assh\*le!

Unfortunately, Brandon was too cowardly to do anything. It seemed that Sebastian was the only one in the family who could scare Brandon.

Gah, I am so f\*cking mad!

In the end, Brandon was dragged into a cafe where he was forced to share Sasha's plan with Sebastian.

"She won't do anything to hurt Hayes Corporation. All she wants is to go back into the finance industry and help rebuild the Wand family. Why would someone like her, who doesn't have a mean bone in her body, go after Hayes Corporation?"

Brandon's last sentence was nothing more than an angry interrogation.

Sebastian's expression froze over. He couldn't speak.

Brandon is right. That woman doesn't have a mean bone in her body, but... she wants to work in the finance industry again!

Sebastian's expression turned grim.

"Is she going at it alone?"

"Who else can she do it with? Do you not think that she can do it on her own? Hah! If so, then you are sadly mistaken. You have no idea what her true strength is or what she is capable of!"

Sebastian was rendered speechless once more.

Naturally, Sebastian knew what Sasha was truly capable of.

What upset him was the fact that Brandon knew everything that Sebastian had just recently learned. Were they already that close back in the days?

Sebastian couldn't contain his emotions as jealousy ran wild again.

"So what if she is skilled? The finance industry is not an industry where anyone can just thrive in. She cooperated with the Leonard family in the past, but that was only because she was lucky. She'd need a lot of money to use as capital if she really wants to jump back into it."

Sebastian's tone was extremely vicious, and his expression was grouchier than anyone had ever seen.

Brandon knew nothing about stocks and investment, but seeing Sebastian's expression still scared Brandon.

"W-what does that mean? Is it still difficult for her to venture into the field even though she is skilled?"

"What do you think?"

Sebastian, who had reached the epitome of his anger, scoffed aloud.

Brandon became quiet.

He honestly knew nothing about finance, but his cousin, the man standing right in front of him, managed Hayes Corporation's matters daily. He defeated countless brokers and experts, so he must know a lot about it.

Many claimed that investment was a tool to help others grow and manage their wealth.

The truth was that investment was just a way of profiting off of other's misfortune. Those with the analytical skills would often try to sneak into legitimate, large-scale corporations. Once they were on the inside, they would milk the corporation dry.

That was why there were special departments within most large-scale companies. These departments' primary task was to keep those parasites away from the company.

A multinational corporation like Hayes Corporation attracted many parasites, and they had to deal with every single one of them.

Brandon didn't know what Sebastian was really talking about, but the latter's expression was too serious. Hence, he said, "You don't need to worry that much either. Last night, we went

to a party hosted for workers in the finance industry. Sasha was pretty lucky and found someone she could work with."

"Who did she find?"

"I think his name is Andy Rind. Do you know the guy?"

"Andy Rind?" blurted Sebastian. His expression turned even worse, and his gaze became icier than it initially was.

"Andy Rind? She actually knows the guy? Who introduced him to her?"

"A lawyer named Solomon. W-what is up with you this time? Why do you look like you want to kill someone? Is it a trick? Is she in danger?" asked Brandon, who couldn't stop worrying upon seeing Sebastian's expression.

However, Sebastian didn't reply. At that moment, his expression could only be described as nerve-wrecking. He is so scary, thought Brandon.

Andy Rind was actually the biggest player in Wall Street.

He didn't play by the rules, though. Instead, he hired countless subordinates to manipulate the share prices from behind the scenes. He truly was a monster in that field.

Andy even made Hayes Corporation suffer a sizeable loss when Frederick was still the person-in-charge.

Yet, that woman got acquainted with him.

Solomon George! He definitely knows all about that past.

Back in Avenport, I almost destroyed Sasha because of what he did.

I thought he has accepted his defeat and left with his head down. Who would've thought that he ended up hiding here? Did that woman get in touch with him before she came over?

Sebastian was uncomfortable when he heard about how someone else was helping the love of his life. Hearing that name exacerbated that feeling, and his expression could only be described as catastrophic. Crack! The coffee mug Sebastian held in his hand cracked under the force of his grip.

Seeing that got Brandon to jump in fear. He asked, "What the hell? You're not going to kill him or anything, right?"

Surprisingly, Brandon knew his cousin quite well.

Sebastian tossed an evil glare over and asked, "Am I not allowed to do so?"

F\*ck!

Brandon almost fell from his chair.

"Of course not! Did you hit your head or something? Have you gone nuts? Do you think Sasha will ever forgive you if you kill him? She'll flip out and come murder you herself!"

Those words were too impactful, and Sebastian practically reacted to it in an instant. He stared at Brandon and felt something stuck in his throat and chest.

She would kill me for that stupid, good-for-nothing Solomon George?

Sebastian felt that someone had mercilessly stabbed his heart. He didn't want to admit it, but given the situation at that time, it was likely that Brandon was right.

It doesn't even matter if we had just slept together last night.

Hopelessness washed over Sebastian like an angry tsunami and overwhelmed him. The all-powerful man's fingers actually trembled slightly in fear upon coming to that conclusion.

He had never felt that powerless before.

"I understand that you are worried, but you shouldn't act impulsively, unless you want Sasha to cut all ties with you. You're a smart guy. Is there really no other way to solve the matter?" advised Brandon, whose heart softened at the end of the day.

Sebastian remained quiet for a long time.

He sat there until Sasha called Brandon to ask if he had already picked Lance up.

Brandon replied, "I'll be there soon. I'm on my way over now, and I'll call you once I pick him up. By the way, do you know what your cousin looks like? If so, please send me a photo," said Brandon to get Sasha to send him a photo.

Sebastian, who had been sitting idly at the side, suddenly reacted upon hearing a particular word. His eyes glowed.

"Cousin?" asked Sebastian after Brandon had hung up.

As Brandon packed up, he answered, "We were talking about her uncle's son. The boy's name is Lance, and she wants to train him, so that they could rebuild the Wand family together."

Sebastian didn't comment.

That... is actually a pretty good idea.

Trustworthy aides are essential for the success of a family business, and family members are, no doubt, the best choice.

Training... does that mean he will be staying by her side 24/7?

The hopeless and grouchy man that had been sitting at the side suddenly became inspired. His gaze brightened.

"You don't need to go pick him up anymore. I'll do it."

"Huh?" blurted Brandon as his beautiful eyes instantly bulged. He asked, "You're going to go pick the guy up? W-what are you planning to do?"

"I want to meet him and see if he is worthy of rebuilding and being a successor to the Wand family's legacy."

The man, who had regained his composure, left Brandon with a simple answer.

Naturally, Brandon wouldn't keep asking after hearing what Sebastian said.

This cousin of mine might be an idiot sometimes, but he is rather good at judging a person.

Sasha waited for three long hours before she met her cousin.

She was infuriated when she did.

"What the hell, Brandon? Why did it take you so long to go pick him up? I thought that something had happened, and I got so worried!"

Brandon's scalp went tingly.

He saw how angry she was and knew that there was no other way out, so he confessed, "I ran into Sebastian. That assh\*le actually managed to track us all the way here. You don't have to worry, though. He left, and I never told him that you are here."

Sasha was speechless.

She stared at the man in front of her and was at a total loss of words.

That scum found me ages ago and even spent the night torturing me. Is Brandon really so innocent that he actually thinks his shutting up would p\*prevent Sebastian from locating me?

Sasha simply didn't know how to respond to that.

The two of them were at an impasse when Lance walked over timidly and asked, "Uh, Sha, where should I put my luggage?"

"Oh, that? Just hand it over to Willow. That reminds me. You must be hungry now. We've already made lunch, so I'll get it for you now, okay?"

Hearing her cousin call out to her made Sasha sniffle a little. Her attention was shifted to her cousin right away.

The tall young man was still innocent because he hadn't worked or set foot in the corporate world yet. How did he behave?

Well, he was obedient and listened to Sasha. As requested, he went to wash his hands before having his lunch.

Willow praised the guy when she saw how he acted. She commented, "He's a good kid."

That got Sasha even happier.

Her uncle was actually on pretty good terms with her immediate family. Sasha remembered how when she was still living in her family home, he used to drop by to help them out a lot.

Sasha didn't go back to her own place that night.

She worried that she would see Sebastian there again and end up being badgered for the entire night. Hence, she used her cousin as an excuse and shamelessly stayed the night at Willow's place.

What Sasha didn't realize, however, was that no one was actually staying in her place that night.

A week later, Solomon finally convinced Sasha to follow him over to Moranta to meet Andy.

Sasha actually knew about Andy. She might've only helped the Leonard family out back in the days as a favor, but she was extremely sensitive about financial news. Her instinct would prompt her to pay attention to the happenings within the industry.

That was why she knew about Andy Rind of Wall Street.

She knew that he was a Wall Street titan, and she was aware that he only recruit talented people like her to make them work for his own benefit. However, what they actually do behind the scenes? Sasha was smart, and she could guess it right away.

However, none of that mattered to her.

After the incident with the Leonard family, her alias, Nancy, was practically blacklisted in the finance industry.

That was why the only way she could make it big was to align herself with someone like Andy.

Sasha brought Lance along.

At first, she planned on taking Brandon and Willow along as well, but Brandon needed to go shoot a movie, so he left. Similarly, Willow had to clock in, so she couldn't make it either. Hence, only the cousins went over.

"Nancy, would you like the window seat? If I remember correctly, you get a little airsick."

"Huh?"

Sasha was about to take a seat when she suddenly heard Solomon offering to switch seats. She couldn't help feeling a little touched because she tended to get airsick.

That was when Lance, who had been following them around, asked timidly and suddenly, "Sha, c-can I sit next to you? I'm a little acrophobic."

"Oh, I see. No problem. Just sit next to me."

Sasha was quick to change her mind and took her cousin to go sit in the middle aisle where the two of them could sit together.

Solomon was about to earn some brownie points, so at that moment, he looked grouchy.

It didn't take long before he regained his footing, though. He knew that the young man was Sasha's cousin, so there was no need for Solomon to feel threatened. The group reached Moranta soon after.

Solomon might just be a lawyer, but his network was still pretty incredible. It wasn't convenient to go to Andy's place, which was secluded, so Solomon took everyone to a friend's house instead.

"Don't worry, guys. My friend is a businessman, and he knows many people from Wall Street. It will be much more convenient to go to Andy's place if we are staying in my friend's house."

"Okay."

Sasha didn't really mind, so she was quick to agree to Solomon's suggestion.

Lance followed along obediently after Sasha agreed to it.

However, when the cousins reached the place, Sasha worried about Lance because he couldn't speak the language. She thought it would be difficult for him to communicate with others, so she had him stay in the room right beside hers.

The abandoned Solomon didn't know what to say.

"Thanks, Solomon. Should I help you carry your luggage? I am very strong."