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The two of them then sat down at a table while a waiter came to take their order.

"What would you like to eat?"

Sebastian skimmed through the menus, and one particular dish caught his eye. "I'm fine with anything. Hmm... Looks like they have calzone here. It's been a while since we've had any, so how about we give this one a try?"

Sasha was surprised to hear that.

Does he want calzones? But he never eats calzone! In fact, he rarely even eats Chanaean food in general! Why does he want to eat this now? Is it because he has tried the ones I made before?

With a sweet sensation in her heart, Sasha ordered a serving of calzone and a couple more dishes.

"Sebastian, we'll be heading over to my Uncle Jackson's place after lunch, so..."

Sasha was about to tell Sebastian to put up with Jackson later when someone interrupted her, "Seb, is that you? Wow, what a coincidence! I didn't think I'd see you here!"

Seb? Who on earth would dare call him that in a place like this?

Sasha quickly turned around and saw an old man with a head full of grey hair standing by the entrance.

The old man then walked up to them, much to her confusion.

What's going on here? Does this old man know Sebastian?

"So this is your wife, eh? She's very beautiful, Seb! When will you bring her over for dinner at my place?"

The old man complimented Sasha with a smile after eyeing her from head to toe.

"Sorry, you are?" Sasha asked awkwardly.

"Sasha, go tell the waiter that we'll have the calzone for takeout instead. We'll be leaving soon," Sebastian said coldly.

Sasha quickly got up and did as told.

After a few minutes of complete silence, the old man cleared his throat awkwardly and said, "Ahem... Don't look at me like that, Mr. Hayes. You told me not to let Madam know about this, so I had no other choice!"

He seemed like a completely different person with the smile on his face replaced by a nervous and cautious expression.

Sebastian on the other hand, had the same old menacing look in his eyes.

"What do you want with me? Hurry up and get it over with!"

The old man sat up straight and cut to the chase right away. "Right, of course... When do you plan on returning to the company, Mr. Hayes? It's a real mess right now, and Solomon is forcing us shareholders to leave one after another. There are only a few of us remaining at the moment."

Me? Return to the company?

Sebastian sneered. "Why would I want to return? If I could remember, you guys were dying to have me leave the company! Isn't this exactly what you all wanted?"

The old man was quick to deny it. "No, that's not it, Mr. Hayes. It's true that we didn't quite like you before because of your young age and ruthless methods. However, having Solomon in power made us realize you're the right person for the job. We're sorry for what we did to you, Mr. Hayes."

"Heh..." Sebastian simply let out a cold chuckle without saying a word, much to the old man's dismay.

"You may not know this, Mr. Hayes, but Solomon wasn't the one who acquired our shares. It was Sinch Enterprise, the company that's backing him up."

"What? Sinch Enterprise?" The look in Sebastian's eyes changed slightly when he heard that.

"That's right. Here, I brought you all the evidence to prove it.

Please have a look."

Noticing a glimmer of hope, the old man quickly handed Sebastian all the documents he had brought.

However, Sebastian showed no interest in the documents presented before him.

"None of this has anything to do with me anymore. I'm no longer your president, so you should showing this to my dad instead."

Sebastian then got up and prepared to leave after saying that.

The old man was completely dumbfounded.

What? Does he not care about this at all? This company used to mean the world to him, so how could he just up and leave like that?

He quickly got to his feet and stood in Sebastian's path as he said, "How could you say that, Mr. Hayes? You're the heir to the Hayes family, and Hayes Corporation is the result of all your hard work over the years! Are you really just going to sit by and watch as someone else takes it from you?"

"This is your final warning, Peter! Step aside!" Sebastian said coldly, offering no room for negotiation whatsoever.

Peter fell into utter despair as he watched Sebastian walk away, and that glimmer of hope in his eyes was completely dead.

"Hm? Where'd he go?" Sasha asked as she returned with the calzone in a takeout box a few minutes later.

Realizing she was the only person who could help him, Peter stared at her and said solemnly, "Madam, there isn't much us old timers can do for the company anymore. Please, you have to convince Mr. Hayes to come back, or this will truly be the end for Hayes Corporation!"

With tears in his eyes, Peter handed Sasha the share transfer agreements that had been signed by the remaining shareholders and walked away, leaving her rooted to the spot in shock.

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Sasha didn't know what had happened between the two during her brief moment of absence earlier, but she couldn't bring herself to refuse the old man's request when she saw his expression and heard what he said.

On the way to the Blackwood residence, Sasha realized the unsettling tension in the car and asked, "So... who was that guy? Did he go there just to see you?"

"Yeah, that's Peter Miller, one of Hayes Corporation's shareholders," Sebastian replied, which came as a surprise to her.

Sebastian would never talk about anything if he doesn't feel like it, and he's saying that with such a scary look on his face too! Sabrina had wanted me to ask him about his decision regarding the company, but I never dared bring it up during our time in the village. Maybe this is my chance to do that. I'm really curious as to what his answer will be!

Sasha seized the opportunity and asked boldly, "What does he need from you? Is it about the company? You don't want to deal with it anymore, right?"

The look on Sebastian's face grew even colder when he heard that, but he still replied, "With Dad's healthy son managing the company for him, it's only going to become even better than before! I wouldn't want to ruin their happiness now, would I?"

Sasha didn't dare say another word after that.

It's obvious that Sebastian hasn't gotten over that incident, and I can't blame him for it either. His dad said some really nasty things to him, so it isn't something you can just forget after a while and move on.

With that in mind, Sasha decided to drop that topic and return the share transfer agreements to Peter when she had the time.

Little did she know, Solomon had already found out about what happened.

"Mr. George, I think we should get those share transfer agreements back from Ms. Wand as soon as possible. If Mrs. Tsurka were to find out..."

The assistant was so nervous that he didn't dare finish his sentence.

Solomon looks so terrifying with that cold and menacing look in his eyes! He used to be such a cheerful and easy-going person, but now... He's had that suffocating air of hostility about him throughout the past two days!

"So what if she finds out? You think she'll kill her?"

"Sir, our main priority is to take back Hayes Corporation, and Ms. Wand is an outsider. If you don't want her to get harmed in any way, then our best bet would be to get the documents back before Mrs. Tsurka finds out."

It's perfectly possible for Mrs. Tsurka to kill Ms. Wand when it is necessary!

After what felt like an eternity, with an icy-cold look in his eyes, Solomon asked, "How are you going to take it back with Sebastian by her side?"

"Don't worry about that, Mr. George. I will arrange for someone to steal the documents from her without anyone noticing."

With the assistant's reassurance, Solomon nodded and tossed him a few wads of cash to get the job done.

The assistant then picked up the money and hurried off to do his bidding.

As Sasha had stopped talking about Hayes Corporation, Sebastian's mood was a lot better by the time they arrived at Blackwood residence in Old Town.

"We're here, Uncle Jackson!"

"Did you start your journey really late or what? Look at the time! The freaking sun is about to set!" Being the hot-tempered man that he was, Jackson scolded them angrily as they had arrived a lot later than they had planned to.

Sasha took a quick glance at Sebastian as she was afraid of him getting angry.

"N-No, Uncle Jackson! We had a traffic jam on our way here, that's all!"

"A traffic jam, you say? Where exactly?"

"Um..."

"Stop with the questions, will you? Who cares where the traffic jam was? They got here, and that's all that matters!" Sharon reprimanded him when she came out of the kitchen to serve up the food.

Thanks to her, Jackson finally stopped pressing them for answers, much to Sasha's relief.

She then turned toward Sebastian and was about to say something when she noticed how calm and indifferent he seemed. As Sharon placed the plate and cutlery down for him, Sebastian took a seat by the dining table and said, "It's not her fault. I had a last-minute errand to run. That's why we arrived late."

Jackson too, was surprised at how calm he was despite being down and out.

"What was it that you did?"

"This is my first time coming over, so I went to buy you a gift," Sebastian replied as he placed a box on the table.

Sasha went wide-eyed with surprise.

A gift? When did he get that? He didn't buy anything while we were in Lux Tower earlier!

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Both Jackson and Sharon were taken aback and hesitated for a bit before opening the box.

"An antique snuff box?"

"And a painting by my favorite artist!"

The two of them exclaimed, unable to believe their eyes.

Jackson was a smoker but hadn't been able to afford decent tobacco since the downfall of the Blackwood family.

On the other hand, Sharon was born into a family of scholars, and she would've dedicated her life to art had she not been burdened with managing the household after marrying into the Blackwood family.

As such, the two of them were touched to tears when they saw the gifts.

Sebastian shot them an indifferent glance and said, "These aren't the most expensive ones out there, but I assure you they are definitely authentic. Please feel free to keep them if they are to your liking. You may think of it as compensation for my neglect over the years."

His words sent mixed feelings into everyone's hearts once again.

Jackson and Sharon decided to accept the gifts in the end, and Sasha waited till she was in the car with Sebastian before asking, "Where did you buy all that? The Lux Tower? I didn't see you buy anything there, so when did you buy it?"

Sebastian shot her a quick glance before shifting his gaze back to the road ahead. "I didn't. I lied about that."

"What? Where did you buy that stuff from, then? Those looked pretty expensive, and I could tell they were really touched by it! How much did it cost you?"

Out of all the questions she asked, the last one was the most important one.

"Two hundred thousand, duh! That's all you gave me, remember? Good thing my friend gave me a discount, or that stuff could've easily costed over three hundred thousand! You should be glad we got it for a fairly cheap price!" Sebastian replied.

Sasha nearly fainted on the spot when she heard that.

Two hundred thousand is fairly cheap? Has he forgotten the fact that he's no longer the filthy rich president of Hayes Corporation? Right now, he's nothing more than a freaking penniless man being kept by me!

Noticing the angry look on her face, Sebastian pursed his lips and said cautiously, "D-Did I overspend, Darling? I'm sorry, I've gotten so used to that extravagant lifestyle that I forgot you're the only one supporting the family right now... How about I start looking for a job tomorrow?"

"What did you say?"

His words hit Sasha like a truck.

Does the great Sebastian Hayes want to look for a job? What kind of job could a man like him possibly get? He's my most precious sweetheart, and I would rather spend all of my hard-earned money on him than have him work under someone else! A king

like him shouldn't have to serve anyone, and I will do everything in my power to make sure of that!

"That won't be necessary! I own a company, remember? We'll just work together and make it as powerful as Hayes Corporation!" she declined his suggestion and transferred another five hundred thousand into his bank account.

What a silly woman!

A smile formed on Sebastian's face when he saw how goofy she looked.

The kids were fast asleep by the time they arrived at the village later that night, and they retired to bed shortly after taking a quick shower.

"Sebastian, I... Mmph..."

Sasha could barely get a word out before Sebastian climbed on top of her.

"Can you change the way you address me?"

"W-What?"

"Call me Honey... Or Sebby." Sebastian's voice went really low when he said the last word, nearly driving her insane from how sexy he sounded.

Sebby? That was how I used to address him back when I was five! But then, a lot had happened, and he forbade me from doing so after that. Is he seriously asking me to call him "Sebby" again?

With that in mind, Sasha burned bright red instantly.

Her eyelids fluttered as she stared deeply into his eyes, and the words slipped out of her mouth before she even realized it. "Sebby…"

Sebastian felt as if a surge of electricity shot through his body upon hearing that. Unable to hold himself back any longer, he leaned in to give her a deep and passionate kiss on the lips.

The two of them soon fell asleep after a wild night in bed.

In the middle of the night, Sebastian was woken up by a noise coming from outside the bedroom. It was really faint, but he had a sharp sense of hearing and could tell there was a fight going on outside.

Who could it be?

He opened his eyes immediately and covered Sasha up with the blanket before climbing out of bed.

"Mr. Hayes!"

"Karl? What are you doing here?"

There was a cold glint in his eyes when he opened the door and saw his bodyguard covered in blood.

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"I followed these guys here. Mr. Hayes, did something happen during your trip to the city today?" Karl asked while tossing the items he took from them onto the floor.

A syringe filled with anesthetic, a coil of rope, and two silenced pistols with an intricate design... Are these men here to kill me? No, Solomon wouldn't dare go that far just yet. Besides, he should know he doesn't have what it takes to kill me!

Sebastian narrowed his eyes at the thought of that.

"Wait here," he mumbled as he went into the bedroom and returned moments later with a folder in his hand.

"What is this?" Karl asked.

"Share transfer agreements from Peter and a few other shareholders. He came to see me today and gave these to me, but I refused to accept them. Little did I know, he handed them over to Sasha instead," Sebastian replied while staring furiously at the documents like he wanted to rip them all to shreds.

"What will you do next? Things aren't looking good at the office. Remember how you had me do some digging on Sinch Enterprise the other day? Well, I found something rather fishy about that company!" Karl said after a brief pause.

Sebastian shot him a glare. "Fishy? How so?"

"While it's true that the company was founded by a Jetroinian, Solomon had become the person in charge at some point in time. According to my sources, he was the adopted son of Tanaka Ichirou," Karl replied while sending him a file he had stored in his phone.

"Adopted son?" Sebastian was shocked when he saw that part in the file. "Yancy Young brought Solomon over to the Wand family when he was eight. When she passed away, Sasha's mom, Heather Blackwood, helped raise him until he was eighteen. How on earth did he become the adopted son of some Jetroinian guy? Could it be that Solomon came across this guy when he was studying abroad?"

Karl shook his head. "No. According to our investigation, Solomon has only been in contact with Sinch Enterprise within the past two years. In other words, this took place while he was still in Clear."

Sebastian went silent after that and simply glared coldly at the file in his hand.

Looks like this Jetroinian guy is the one we should really start looking into, then...

"Arrange for someone to investigate this guy."

"Yes, Mr. Hayes."

Karl's eyes lit up immediately.

Oh, my god! Mr. Hayes finally going to do something about the company!

However, that feeling of excitement didn't last long as Sebastian then handed him the folder and said, "Give this back to Peter."

"Huh? But... What if Madam finds out?" Karl refused to give up without a struggle.

"What are you talking about? This has nothing to do with Sasha."

"I mean, she must have her reasons for keeping it a secret from you. Wouldn't she get mad if she wakes up and finds out that you gave this to me without telling her first?"

Seeing no response from Sebastian, Karl continued, "As such, I think you should discuss it with her before making this decision. After all, it wasn't easy for you two to get back together!"

This bodyguard sure has gotten a lot bolder, talking to me like this... It pisses me off, but I have to admit, he does have a point.

Noticing the bulging veins on Sebastian's forehead, Karl knew it was his cue to leave. "Will that be all, Mr. Hayes? If not, I'll be taking my leave now! Oh, right, almost forgot... Have you really gone bankrupt? If I recall, you have two limitless credit cards with you, right?"

"Get lost!" Sebastian shouted angrily.

Karl took off as quickly as his could carry him, and the village fell into silence once again.

Sasha woke up the next morning with no clue as to what happened the night before.

Her gaze fell upon the folder she had kept inside her handbag as she dragged her exhausted body out of bed, and she furrowed her brows wondering what she should do with it.

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"Come and have breakfast. We'll go to the farm to pluck some fresh vegetables later."

Mrs. Hudson was busy preparing breakfast in the kitchen. When she saw Sasha downstairs, she quickly brought out breakfast and made preparations to pluck vegetables later.

How can I do this?

Sasha felt embarrassed to accept so many things, particularly considering that she had stayed in this house for many days.

Nonetheless, the owner of the farm was super friendly. She gave them fruits, vegetables, and even chicks before they left.

Since Vivian liked the chicks so much and was reluctant to let go of them, Mrs. Hudson decided to gift some of them to her.

This child...

"My goodness. We might have to stop visiting the farm from now on."

On their way home, Sasha couldn't help but complain as she gazed at the car that was full of things.

Sebastian nodded and replied, "Indeed. So, the best way is to build our own house here."

"Did you say build our own house?"

"Yup. Since the cost of building a house here isn't high, we can bring the kids to stay here for a few days whenever we want to.

Besides, it's better than letting the kids play video games when they are on holiday."

Sasha was surprised to hear that Sebastian cared a lot about the kids' education and well-being, though he was young.

Of course, Sasha was more than willing to accept the suggestion.

The family returned to Avenport two hours later.

Initially, Sasha thought Sebastian would drive them to Frontier Bay.

Much to her surprise, Sebastian asked after exiting the highway, "Should we go to the Wand residence or the Blackwood residence?"

"Ah ?"

Sasha was taken aback for a while.

Meanwhile, the kids came closer once they heard what Sebastian said. "I want to go to Uncle Lance's house. Don't go to Uncle Jackson's house because he is too fierce!"

Sasha was rendered speechless upon hearing it.

A few seconds, she gazed at Sebastian and said with an awkward smile, "In that case, let's go to the Wand residence. They have cleaned the house, and Lance lives there now. Rest assured that it's clean."

Sasha indirectly brought up the reason that she didn't propose to stay at the Wand residence.

Since the Wand residence was an old house, she thought Sebastian wouldn't get used to it. After all, he had always lived in comfortable places since he was a boy.

Once Sasha finished, Sebastian turned the steering and drove toward Old Town.

Sasha was delighted and pursed her lips.

Hence, the whole family moved into the Wand residence officially.

Lance was happy upon hearing the news and even purposely came back from the company earlier to prepare a feast for them.

After having lunch, Sasha decided to visit the company with Lance.

"Err... Sebby, I'm going to the office now. Can you please take care of the kids at home?" She blushed and dared not gaze at Sebastian when she called his nickname.

Upon hearing it, Sebastian was excited and wished to take Sasha into his arms badly.

However, he suppressed his excitement, for it was inappropriate to do so at that moment.

"Alright. Do you want me to drive you home later?"

"Never mind. I'll be late because I have to check the company's account. After all, many customers have left these days because Lance is not experienced enough."

Sasha grabbed her bag as she was talking to Sebastian.

Wand Enterprise, which was owned by the Wand family, didn't do well recently for a few reasons. Firstly, Sasha wasn't here, while Lance lacked the experience in running the company.

Secondly, since Wand Enterprise was only established not long ago, many customers merely gave it a try to collaborate with the company. In other words, the customers would eventually leave if Wand Enterprise didn't follow up on their services.

Sasha arrived at the company by her car.

Not long after Sasha was here, she realized quite a lot of problems in the company.

"Didn't I close the deal with Mr. Lozano when I went to Summerbank last time? Why was the order withdrawn?"

"Yes, but he was worried that something would have happened to you because you hadn't returned for quite some time. As such, he was reluctant to honor the deal," Lance explained cautiously and helplessly.

Meanwhile, Sasha frowned tighter upon hearing it.

Although Sasha expected that Lance wouldn't be an outstanding manager, she was surprised to find out that he was nearly unqualified for the job.

Hence, Sasha couldn't help but feel annoyed.

Sasha wasn't in the mood to continue checking the company's account anymore. Later, she left the company and decided to visit a few customers to ascertain the situation.

Unexpectedly, Sasha saw a white Maybach at the entrance the moment she exited the company.

"Sha, isn't that—"

Lance's expression turned grim when he followed Sasha and saw the car.

Sasha remained silent until the door opened. After a man with spectacles and looked gentleman came out, Sasha instructed coldly, "Get in."

Lance hopped in right away.

The weather in the city was getting colder by the day as it was already late in the autumn. Besides, leaves fell off trees once the cool breeze blew.

The man was Solomon.

His gaze was fixated on Sasha and never left her, not even for a moment.

Unfortunately, Solomon could feel Sasha's coldness, disgust, and hatred toward him. He thought she probably wouldn't stop if his car didn't happen to block the entrance.

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"Nancy, you're back."

"Yes, I'm sorry to disappoint you because I'm not dead yet," she ridiculed.

Solomon's face turned pale instantly.

Since Solomon remembered what he did to Sasha clearly, he did expect to hear pleasant words from her in the first place.

However, a suffocating discomfort still swept over him the moment she said it.

Deep down, Solomon knew that he was the one who betrayed Sasha.

"Nancy, I'm here to ask if the share transfer agreements of Hayes Corporation are with you now? If you have them, please hand them over to me."

"What?"

Sasha almost burst into laughter after Solomon requested them without showing any guilt.

"Why must I give them to you? Are those agreements yours?"

"Nancy!"

Solomon finally couldn't hold in his anger. "Stop messing around. I mean, keeping those things to yourself won't do you any good. If all you want is money, I can pay it to you."

"Do you think I want money?"

"Yes, I think so. Don't you wish to develop Wand Enterprise?
You might want some money to invest in your company or collaborate with Hayes Corporation. Well, I'll agree to it as long as you hand over the share transfer agreements to me."

Solomon proposed two tempting terms without hesitation.

After all, Wand Enterprise would grow if it collaborated with Hayes Corporation.

Well, I never thought about requesting any investment from Hayes Corporation, even when my husband was the president. In that case, what makes him think that I want to collaborate with him now?

Sasha felt disgusted and chuckled at Solomon's proposal. "Who are you to make sure that Hayes Corporation will collaborate with my company? Is Hayes Corporation yours?"

"You-"

"I tell you what, the position that you are holding now doesn't belong to you. Since it's not yours, why should I hand it over to you? Shouldn't I return it to its true owner instead?"

"What did you say?"

"I said its' true owner—my husband, Sebastian Hayes!"

Sasha emphasized every word as though she plunged a sharp sword into Solomon's heart.

At that moment, Solomon's face had lost all color.

Moreover, there were feelings of embarrassment, anger, and disappointment in his eyes.

After a while, he turned ferocious like a beast who would grab the lady away anytime to lock her up.

Why? Why did she humiliate me in such a way? Is it because I have hurt her before?

If that's true, what about the man she mentioned just now? What has he done? Didn't he hurt her as well? Were the things he did any better than what I did?

Besides, can't she remember at least something good about me? Back then, when Solomon heard that Sasha was in trouble in Clear, he let go of his well-paid job and went to the place to accompany and take care of her.

At that time, Sebastian cherished her like a precious diamond.

Has she forgotten everything about it?

Solomon grew increasingly furious even though he remained silent.

However, Sasha didn't notice his change of expression. She wanted to leave after venting out her feelings.

"Ah—"

"What are you doing? Solomon, are you crazy? Let go!" Sasha yelled shockingly, for Solomon grabbed her wrist all of a sudden.

Sasha tried hard to wriggle free from Solomon, yet he was exasperated and refused to let go.

The next moment, Solomon wanted to drag Sasha back into his car.

"Sha! Hey, let go of my sister!"

Lance was hiding in the company and observed the situation all the while. As Solomon acted aggressively, Lance screamed at him and wanted to save Sasha.

Suddenly, a red Ferrari charged toward them from the other end of the street like a strong cheetah.

Upon seeing the car, Solomon was shocked and had no choice but to let go of Sasha and step aside.

Who is this? How dare she ruin my business?

At that moment, anger clouded Solomon's face.

The Ferrari stopped right before them. The next moment, a woman in a black leather jacket, black jeans, and a pair of high-heels hopped out with a baseball bat in her hand.

"You b*stard! How dare you mess with the Hayes? Let me teach you a lesson today!"

Her furious yell could have shocked everyone around the street.

My goodness! It's Sabrina!

Sasha, who lost balance and fell to the ground just now, was startled.

At the same time, Solomon's face darkened once she saw the woman.

"Sabrina, are you tired of living already?"

"Yes, I'm indeed tired. Come on, b*stard! I have always wanted to go to hell with you!"

After yelling at Solomon, Sabrina flung the baseball bat toward him.

This woman was really fearless!

In the end, Solomon had no choice but to get into his car. He shot a cold glance at Sabrina for a moment and sped off.

The whole family is insane.

The street became peaceful again.

Lance quickly helped Sasha up. Since Sabrina was still shouting across the street while holding the baseball bat, Sasha said helplessly, "That's enough. He has already left. You don't have to shout anymore."

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Sabrina continued cursing Solomon for a while before she came back.

"Are you mentally retarded? Why did you still see him since he had mistreated you before? I mean, are you a masochist? Believe it or not, I'll kill you if you continue doing this," The next moment, Sabrina scolded Sasha non-stop.

Sasha was agitated and immediately denied the allegations. "What nonsense is that? I didn't know that he would be here. Well, I wouldn't even come here if I knew it."

Sabrina finally stopped scolding Sasha and didn't suspect her upon hearing her explanation.

Nonetheless, Sabrina's face was still grim.

Meanwhile, Sasha fell silent for a while before she said, "Are you here to discuss something with me? Would you like to sit down in my office and talk?"

Sasha invited Sabrina into the building with the hope of calming her down.

Besides, Sasha also made some tea for Sabrina as a token of appreciation for saving her.

Fortunately, Sabrina was willing to heed Sasha's suggestion. She stood still for a while and entered the building.

After having some tea, Sabrina began explaining her purpose for coming here. "Hayes Corporation is about to collapse."

"What? What do you mean by that?" Sasha, who was enjoying the tea, was shocked upon hearing that.

Sabrina replied with resentment and frustration, "That scumbag used a company in Jetroina to purchase all of the shares of Hayes Corporation. Now, there are only three shareholders left in the company, namely my dad, Sinch Enterprise, and him."

Sasha was rooted to the floor.

Besides, she felt a shiver running down her spine.

Deep down, she was shocked to know that Hayes Corporation was in such huge trouble.

"When my dad handed over the company to Sebastian, he didn't transfer all the shares to him to prevent him from making any reckless decisions. As such, he still had 35 percent of shares, while Sebastian had 25 percent. In short, my dad still has the power to make final decisions related to the company."

Sabrina paused for a while and said, "However, once Solomon gained control of the company, he inherited Sebastian's 25 percent of the shares and used Sinch Enterprise to purchase individual shares that are worth 20 percent. Also, he will have 65 percent of the shares in total once he obtains another 20 percent from the old shareholders. By then, he will be the biggest shareholder, while my dad can't stop him. Therefore, Hayes Corporation will fall into the hands of Solomon and the Jetroinan company."

Sabrina gnashed her teeth as she explained the company's situation thoroughly.

Meanwhile, Sasha's heart sank upon hearing it.

Since Sasha was knowledgeable in finance, she was well aware of how a listed company distributed its shares. In short, anyone with the most shares in a company held the power to decide its direction.

Moreover, Sinch Enterprise, which possessed 20 percent of the shares of Hayes Corporation, belonged to Solomon as well.

So, what does Solomon intend to do? Could it be that he wants to gain control of the entire company?

A moment later, Sasha got furious as she recalled Solomon's rudeness to her.

"He will not succeed!"

"What?"

"The share transfer agreements are in our hands. Hence, Solomon can't lay his fingers on the shares if they belong to us."

With that, Sasha flung the agreements on the table.

Sabrina's eyes widened in shock.

"How... How is this possible?"

Sabrina couldn't believe her eyes. After quite some time, she finally calmed herself down and began reading the documents.

A moment later, she was shocked once again.

These are really the share transfer agreements!

The whole company is busy looking for the agreements; yet, it turns out that Sasha has them.

"Peter gave these to me when he met Sebastian and me. He handed the documents over to me since Sebastian didn't want them," Sasha explained briefly.

The sudden waves of emotions hit Sabrina once she got the picture.

"What did you mean when you said the shares belong to us? Are you suggesting purchasing the shares from the original owners? It won't be easy because one can't purchase the shares randomly."

"Isn't your dad still in charge? We can do it as long as he agrees to it."

Sabrina fell silent for a while and felt that Sasha was right.

What's next? Who's going to buy it? It constitutes 20 percent of Hayes Corporation's shares. Well, Hayes Corporation is a conglomerate worth a few hundred billion!

In other words, 20 percent of the shares would be worth dozens of billion!

The two fell into silence as they pondered about it.

"Do you think Sebastian has the money? After all, he used to be in charge of the company for so many years."

"Forget it, for he doesn't even have a penny. Besides, I'm paying for all of his expenses now," Sasha complained.

"Ahem! Ahem!..."

Sabrina spurted out a mouthful of coffee upon hearing that.

In the end, the two ladies went home because they couldn't come up with a good solution.

On their way back to the Wand residence, Sasha purposely reminded Lance to keep a tight lid on the discussion so that Sebastian wouldn't be worried.

Lance agreed to it willingly.

It was near dusk, and the sun was about to set. When Sasha arrived at the Wand residence, the old building unknowingly gave her peace of mind.

"Vivi, Matteo, and Little Ian, I'm back."

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She called out to the children the moment she stepped into the house.

Before they could react, a large shadow towered over them. "You're back?"

"Huh?"

Caught by surprise, Sasha was shocked.

"S-since when did you come up from behind me? Aren't you supposed to be at home?"

Sebastian stood quietly behind her. Although he looked calm, there was a cold glint in his eye.

His eyes glistened with greater intensity when he saw the red mark on her wrist.

"Mmm-hmm. I just went to the supermarket."

"Oh? The supermarket? That's good. Did you buy any ingredients there? Shall we cook together then?"

Sasha began to feel guilty.

His eyes were like razor-sharp swords that could pierce through whatever secrets she had hidden in her heart. It was as if he knew what happened during the day.

It's really scary!

Lowering her head, Sasha tried to reach for what he was carrying in his hand.

However, the moment she moved her hand, he grabbed onto her fingers instead. The warmth she felt from his palms caused her heart to skip a beat.

"Let's go."

His voice was deep and raspy. It was a side effect from Lightspring. However, at that very moment, it sounded like a melodious cello to her.

After nodding happily, both of them walked into the kitchen holding hands.

By eight in the evening, all of them had finished dinner. Once Sasha was done bathing them, they swarmed their uncle's room where he read them a story.

Sasha left them with him and went downstairs.

She had to do the dishes and clear up the dining room. Unlike Frontier Bay, there were no maids to do the chores here.

Just as expected, when she came downstairs, she saw Sebastian sitting idly there. He was so free that he was playing video games. However, the mess on the table was still untouched.

"Are they asleep?"

"Not yet. They got their uncle to read them a bedtime story."

Nevertheless, Sasha wasn't angry at all. She was well aware that Sebastian wasn't someone who would do any household chores.

Entering the dining room, she began to clean up.

"In that case, they won't need you to coax them to sleep tonight, right? We should rest early too."

Sebastian had stopped playing his game despite happily doing so earlier. He quickly got up and help her clear the dishes.

Sasha was briefly stunned.

Just when she wanted to tell him that she didn't need his help, she noticed that it came easily to him.

He actually knows how to do the dishes?

Sasha was shocked.

The reality was that during the five years when she was away, Sebastian had raised Ian by himself. That was when he learnt how to do the chores.

After both of them cleaned the kitchen thoroughly, Sebastian pulled Sasha upstairs.

"Darling, shall we bathe together?"

"What?"

Sasha's eyes widened as her face flushed red in embarrassment.

What is he thinking about all the time? He must be really bored.

Sasha declined at once. "No... I don't want to. You go on ahead as there's something I need to attend to."

When she tried to flee, it was already too late.

With a forceful tug, she was pulled into the shower. For two consecutive hours, she didn't manage to leave.

What a beast!

After that, Sasha didn't even have the strength to lift her fingers.

She let him carry her out of the shower and back into the room. Her body was so worn that she slumped onto the bed.

"I think... you have too much free time."

"Is that so?" he replied languidly after being satisfied.

Lying on her bed, Sasha was still blushing. "Isn't it the case? All you can think about is... when you were busy previously, did you think of this too?"

With her cheeks still burning, she was too embarrassed to say the words.

When Sebastian saw her coy expression, he pulled her into his embrace. "How did you know that I wasn't thinking of it? Am I supposed to tell you every time?"

"Huh ?"

Sasha was dumbfounded. Spacing out in his embrace, she looked as if she had lost her mind and forgotten how to move.

He actually thinks of this at the office?

With who?

Me?

This is ridiculous...

Sasha was shocked by his words as it was the most hideous thing she had ever heard. At that time, their relationship was still in a terrible place.

"Perhaps, if you think that I'm too free, I don't mind having another baby with you."

"What!"

Sasha's response was even more dramatic than before.

Trembling, she hid underneath her blanket and hoped the ground would open up and swallow her instead.

Another child? Isn't three enough?

Fortunately, Sebastian was satisfied for the night. Smiling blissfully, he pulled her underneath the sheets before lying on the bed in each other's embrace.

Before long, Sasha fell into deep sleep.

Just when her breathing reached a steady pace. Sebastian's eyes opened, glistening sharply in the dark.

Solomon George!

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The next day. When Sasha woke up, Sebastian was no longer beside her. The morning sun illuminated the room, bathing it with its golden rays.

What time is it?

When she tried to move, she realized her body was aching all over, causing her to feel like sleeping in.

"Mommy, are you awake yet?"

"Hush, mommy is exhausted from last night. We better not disturb her. Let's get Daddy to send us to school instead."

Outside the door, the children discussed among themselves after having observed the situation briefly.

Consequently, Sasha blushed when she heard them.

Getting out of bed quickly, she was about to open the door when she heard Sebastian's voice ring out from downstairs.

"Matt, Ian, bring Vivi down. I'm taking all of you to school."

"Alright, Daddy."

The brothers led their sister down right away, causing Sasha to heave a sigh of relief.

After washing up leisurely, Sasha changed and headed downstairs. However, there was no sign of the children. All she saw was Lance tidying up the living hall.

"Sha, you're awake."

"Mmm-hmm. Are you heading to the office today? Please wait for me. I'll come along with you once I finish breakfast."

When Sasha saw that Lance had packed his briefcase, she asked him to wait for her.

After all, they could carpool to the office since there were only two of them.

However, Lance shook his head.

"Sebastian said that he will be driving you there."

"Sebastian?" Sasha was surprised. "Why? Didn't he send the children to school?"

"He did. He also said that he will return and pick you up. Sha, since it's rare for him to be so enthusiastic, you should not reject his offer. Anyway, I'm going off first."

Picking up his bag, Lance slipped out quickly, leaving Sasha dumbfounded.

Sebastian wants to send me to work?

Given how illustrious he is, I'm surprised that he wants to be my driver.

Sasha was curious at the sudden attention.

At that moment, Sabrina called.

"Hello, Sasha? Have you thought of a plan? Where are we going to find tens of billions?"

"I don't know. I haven't thought of anything yet," Sasha snapped after being annoyed by the reminder.

After all, she had not come up with a plan.

This involves tens of billions and not just tens or hundreds of millions. Where am I going to find so much money?

Even if she was a genius in finance, there was no way she could find that amount of money in such a short time.

"What are we going to do? If you don't come up with the funds, the share transfer agreements will fall into that jerk's hands. Do you want to see your man's assets taken over by another person?"

"You..."

Sabrina didn't mince her words at all. Instead of referring to him as her brother, she called him Sasha's man instead, causing Sasha to fume.

After ending the call, she pondered about the situation and decided to make a last-ditch effort to salvage the situation. She called Andy who was at Wall Street in Moranta.

"Andy, it's Nancy. I need your help. I wonder if you could lend me ten billion?"

"What did you just say? Nancy, did you hit yourself on the head?"

Andy felt that she was crazy to make such a ludicrous request.

Even she admitted that it was preposterous.

After ending the call, Sasha felt frustrated the entire morning.

Meanwhile, Sebastian returned after an hour. When he entered the compound, he saw the rare sight of Sasha cupping her face and spacing out by sitting the staircase.

He was briefly stunned.

"Darling, what's wrong? Did something happen? What's with the grim expression?"

"Huh ?"

Sasha, who had been wallowing in her frustration, finally regained her senses.

"You're back. How was the trip to school? Did you have any problems since you haven't been there in a while?"

The first thing that came to her mind was to ask about the children.

Sebastian sat down next to her.

The glorious afternoon sun reflected off her black hair in a shimmering glaze. Its rays illuminated her exquisite features with its golden rays.

"No, it's not like they changed schools. Why would I have problems at the same place?"

He casually replied while combing her hair.

Only then was Sasha reassured by his words.

Although Frederick had kicked his son out and cut off Sebastian's access to any financial resources, she was relieved that the children were unaffected by it.

They could continue living their lives without any difficulty.

"What about you? Why are you just sitting there?"

Suddenly, an idea flashed within Sasha's mind. She carefully asked, "It's... nothing. I was just bothered by work. By the way, I have a question for you. When you were in Hayes Corporation, did you ever need to come up with a huge sum of money on short notice?"

Oh my, how could I forget about him?

I have one of the savviest businessmen standing right in front of me. Given that he had grown Hayes Corporation to the giant it is today, is there any problem he can't solve?

Sasha held her breath in suspense.

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Sebastian chuckled in response. "Of course. Given how big Hayes Corporation is, this happens all the time."

"Really? In that case... how did you solve it?"

"It's simple. It's no different from fishing. You have to first put some bait on the hook. Without a bait, the fish wouldn't bite. Isn't that the case?"

Sasha was dumbfounded.

She had never in her life heard such a blunt analogy before, let alone a tactic as brilliant as this.

Evidently, there was still a huge, wide gap between their capabilities.

Sasha sprang to her feet at once.

"Darling?"

"Sebby, I'm not going to the office today. I suddenly remember that I need to see Uncle Jackson about something. Anyway, I'm going off now."

Rambling on in excitement, Sasha bent over to peck Sebastian on his cheeks before darting off.

Sebastian was speechless.

She seems to enjoy defending my assets.

After watching her silhouette disappear, he stroked his cheeks to feel the lingering sensation of her kiss.

"Karl!"

"Yes, Mr. Hayes."

A burly figure entered quietly like a phantom.

Dusting his shirt with his hands, Sebastian's expression was icy cold. "What's the progress?"

"I have thrown the corpses at their front door. I believe they won't bother Mrs. Hayes anymore."

"Mmm-hmm."

Sebastian was satisfied with the conclusion.

Stroking his own face blissfully, he instructed, "Transfer ten billion to Andy's account."

What?

Jolted by what he heard, Karl lifted his gaze and starred at Sebastian in shock.

"Ten billion? Mr. Hayes, are you being serious? Why would you suddenly give Andy so much money? He..."

"Mrs. Hayes needs it. She is fighting for the assets on my behalf," Sebastian gloated proudly, just like a child showing something off.

Karl almost burst a vessel.

Fighting for his assets?

He is giving out ten billion so that his wife can borrow it from someone else?

Damn! Wouldn't it be easier if he fought for it himself?

What's the point of doing it in such a roundabout way? Isn't that money still? Is he playing such ridiculous games because he's too free?

"What are you spacing out for? Go quickly now."

"No, Mr. Hayes. I don't understand. Since you are not giving up on the company, why do you want Mrs. Hayes to go through all the trouble? Can't you do it yourself instead?"

"Why should I? Besides, I never said that I wanted to go back.

This is Mrs. Hayes' idea and I'm just helping her achieve it. Now, do you get it?"

Karl was speechless.

"Oh, I forgot you don't have a wife. Hence, you won't understand what I'm saying. Off you go now!"

Having been brutally insulted, Karl held onto his chest as he stumbled out.

How can Mr. Hayes be so cruel as to hurt my feelings seeing that I am still a bachelor!

Meanwhile, Sasha met up with Sabrina.

"I have an idea. We can form a partnership with Andy to buy up the shares and share some of the profits with him."

In a cafe within Central Square, Sasha's eyes glistened excitedly with her plan in mind.

Although Sabrina wasn't as talented as Sasha, she had managed Hayes Corporation before. Hence, she immediately understood what Sasha's plan was.

"Sounds good. But, will he bite the bait?"

"He will. After all, these are the highly coveted shares of Hayes Corporation that we're talking about. Hence, why wouldn't he agree?"

With that, Sasha gave Andy a call enthusiastically.

This time, instead of ridiculing her, Andy sounded intrigued after listening to her proposal.

"Are you asking me to sign the contract with you?"

"Yes. The Hayes corporation doesn't allow its shares to be sold to outsiders. Given that I'm a daughter-in-law of theirs, they naturally wouldn't object. Anyway, you don't have to worry. Once I have gotten hold of the shares, I will pay you twenty percent of the annual dividends."

Worried that Andy wouldn't agree, she dangled a larger carrot at him.

Andy finally consented as twenty percent of the dividends was a large sum of money.

After ending the call, Sasha and Sabrina both jumped up in delight.

"Look, I told you it was possible. We finally did it."

"Mmm-hmm. I'll go and see my dad immediately. By the way, are you really sure about using Wand Enterprise to buy it? That's the equivalent of investing everything you have."

Setting aside her joy, Sabrina reminded Sasha of the implications.

Sasha gulped in response.

Sabrina was right. Her newly minted company would be as good as gone and turned into a sacrifice for their marriage.

This was the second time she had given up everything for his sake.

After falling into a brief silence, she smiled at Sabrina. "I'm sure. I believe that he will not let me down again."

Sabrina was speechless.

She really is a foolish woman.