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Josiah came downstairs and said to Alfred, "Edith is right. I am the one who decided to help Nia with her hair and prepare breakfast for them."

Alfred sighed and walked away. After dropping off Nia at the kindergarten, Josiah drove Meredith to the hospital.

Meredith did not want Josiah to drive her but she could only give in because Josiah insisted.

After reporting her arrival at the hospital, Meredith started her work at the hospital right away.

Because she had experience working at the hospital, Meredith adjusted quickly and everything went smoothly on the first day of her work.

Right when she was about to get off from work, she heard a familiar voice calling out to her," Miss Witch."

That dude...

The name 'Miss Witch' never failed to irk and annoy Meredith. She decided to ignore him. "Sir, please stay still. You're going to injure your legs even more," The doctor said. "I would like her to dress my wound, thank you."

"Who?"

"That lady over there."

"You mean Doctor Meredith?" The doctor then called out to Meredith, "Doctor Meredith, would you mind coming over for a second?"

Meredith had no choice but to turn around and walk toward them.

As she had guessed, it was him, Charlie Larson.

He was dressed in sports attire and his left ankle was swollen badly. But he was wearing a huge smile on his face as he waved happily at her. As if he felt no pain.

The last time she saw her, he was bleeding from his nose and this time, his ankle was swollen.

"You..." Meredith was checking his swollen ankle.

"I might have sprained my ankle while playing basketball. I didn't know that you worked here This is perfect. I'm sure it wouldn't be that painful if you're the one treating my wound."

The female doctor that was treating Charlie earlier clicked her tongue annoyedly and said mockingly, "Sir, I bet you didn't know that today is Doctor Meredith's first day at work. If you're not worried that she might break your leg then be my guest."

Meredith added, "Yes, I am new and I only started today. It's better to have Doctor Halsey attend to you instead."

Meredith thought that she should distance herself from Charlie.

Just when she was about to leave, Charlie grabbed her hand to stop her.

Stunned, Meredith turned around to look at him. "Let go of me." With a smile plastered on his face, Charlie replied, "You can't go. I still need you." Meredith tried to remove her hand from his grip but Charlie tightened his grip around her hand. Still having a smile on his face, Charlie said, "It's going to hurt unless you help me to dress my wound."

Meredith was rendered speechless. Rolling her eyes, she asked, "Are you a three-year-old kid?

"I'll be whatever age that you want me to be."

Scanning the crowd who had gathered around them, Meredith had no choice but to accept his request. "Fine, keep your mouth shut and I'll dress your wound."

"Thank you." Meredith read his charts before treating his wound. "We would need to put you in a cast." "Do I need to be hospitalized?" "It isn't necessary." "But it means I can be, right?" At a loss for words, Meredith stared at him and asked, "Are you that eager to be hospitalized?" "Yeah, I think that this is quite a decent hospital. I want to be hospitalized." The female doctor earlier said coldly, "You were the one who was complaining that the hospital here is bad and that you don't want to be admitted here."

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Immediately, Meredith pinched his leg to warn him.

Charlie inhaled sharply. "Ouch..." "Shut your mouth then."

The female doctor that was 'abandoned' by Charlie said purposely, "Doctor Meredith, I'm guessing that our patient had never seen you without your mask and that is why he's flirting with you. Why not remove your mask? I'm sure that will shut him up."

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Meredith felt slightly humiliated.

Before she could even say anything, the smile on Charlie's face faded away, and said to the female doctor, "I've seen her face before, thank you for your reminder."

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The female doctor was stunned and chuckled dryly, "Oh, I didn't know that you know each other."

Unfazed, Meredith explained, "He is a friend of mine and he's always this bubbly and chatty. He can be rude sometimes. Please forgive him, Doctor Halsey."

Meredith did not wish to be caught up in any gossip on her first day of work. After all, Charlie was a good-looking lad and it was easy for people to misunderstand.

After Doctor Halsey left, Meredith continued treating Charlie's wound. She then moved him into a ward. Seeing how Meredith was about to leave, Charlie said, "I want to drink water."

Meredith came to a stop in her steps. Feeling skeptical, she asked, "Don't you have any friends or family? Have you informed them?"

"I can't seem to get hold of them."

"But the staff here are all busy. We wouldn't have the time to cater to you only."

"I don't need you to cater to me. I just need your help to get me a glass of water."

Meredith was at loss for words. Left with no choice, she went to get him a glass of water.

Taking the glass from Meredith, Charlie smiled. "Thank you."

Looking at the bright smile on his face, Meredith pulled a chair and sat down next to his bed." Say, kiddo, since I've got off work. Let's have a chat, shall we?"

"Sure." Hearing that Meredith wanted to chat with him, Charlie's face lit up. He even asked, ". Are you hungry? Should we order some food?"

"It's alright. I'll eat at home."

"But I'm hungry."

Speechless, Meredith said, "Order some take outs then."

Meredith then took a look at his charts and asked, "Charlie Larson, I wanted to know what it is

that you're trying to do. Is it because I look 'special' from the rest and you think that it is fun and interesting?"

She was reminded of the pervert patron Mister Quinn who too had an obsession with girls with disabilities

Charlie though looked serious. "I thought I've made it clear that I am pursuing you?"

Charlie took a glance at the tag hanging from her neck. "I didn't expect to be so lucky today. Not only did I get to know about your job, but I even got to know your name." Meredith replied, "And I've made it clear that I have a four-year-old daughter." "It's okay. I'm willing to be a stepfather." Meredith responded, "And you're simply assuming that her father is dead?"

"Is he...not?"

Very carefully, Charlie asked, "If he's still alive, then why do you always look sad and gloomy?

Meredith felt as if she could not continue the conversation with him anymore.

"Who said that I'm unhappy?" "I see it on your face." Charlie flashed a grin at him and said, "I'll believe you if you bring me to see him."

Inwardly, Meredith thought to herself, 'Josiah might probably kill you on the spot.'

She had no plans of letting anyone know about her relationship with Josiah. Hence, she would never let Charlie meet Josiah.

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She sighed helplessly and decided to persuade him instead, "Mister Charlie, could you please stop whatever it is that you're trying to do? I really do have a husband and a daughter. Plus, I have no plans on taking in a pup. "Oh and, I broke the hairpin accidentally and I'll compensate you for it when I have the money, I…"

"You're lying, Meredith Leighton," Charlie cut her off abruptly. "Sorry?"

"I've asked my friend to look you up and it says that you're single and unmarried." He then showed her the conversation thread on his phone with his friend. Looking at her relationship status that was shown on his phone, Meredith suddenly was at loss for words.

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"I knew that you were lying to me... luckily I didn't give in." With a victory smile on his face, Charlie put away his phone.

What else could Meredith say to him? He would not believe her no matter what she said.

"I…" Meredith paused before going on, "my boyfriend and I are not married yet, but we are going to be." It was clear that Charlie did not believe her. He even teased, "Alright then. I'll give up only when you get married."

"I can't seem to get through to you at all." Meredith stood up from her chair and said," Whatever. Have a good rest."

"Remember to get me breakfast tomorrow."

Meredith came to stop in her steps. "Mister Charlie, I've transferred you to another department and you're not my patient anymore. So, you should ask your family or friends to bring you instead."

"I've just returned to the country and I don't have many friends."

"Well, that's your problem." Hesitating, Meredith then said, "And, please stop harassing me. I don't want to lose my job." Right then, Meredith's phone rang

She checked her phone to see Josiah who was calling. A cold expression flickered across her face.

And Charlie caught the subtle expression. Inwardly, he thought to himself, 'And you said that you're happy with him...!

Meredith walked out of Charlie's ward before answering Josiah's call.

"Mrs. Shelby, are you getting off work now? I'll come to pick you up," Josiah said. Meredith did not want him to pick her up, hence she responded, "I've already gotten a ride."

"Why didn't you wait for me?"

"I don't want to trouble you."

"If that's the case, I'll have the driver pick you up the next time."

"Okay."

Meredith then asked, "What about Nia? Have you picked her up?"

"Yeah she just got home."

knowing that Josiah was busy with work, Meredith said to him, "You can have Lily pick her up the next time if you're busy with work."

"It's alright. I can always continue with my work at home," Josiah then added, "talk to you soon then. Have a safe ride home."

During dinner, Josiah put a piece of meatball into Meredith's plate and asked, "How's your first day at work? Anything interesting that you'd like to share?"

Meredith instantly thought of the lad that always wore a bright smile on his face. Was Charlie considered as something 'interesting'?

But Meredith knew that Josiah would make a scene if he knew about Charlie.

So she shook her head. "Nope."

"What about you, Nia? Did you have a fun time at school?" Meredith quickly changed the subject.

Nia nodded. "I did."

"Do you have anything fun that you'd like to share with us?"

"I have one." Nia then said, "Mommy, Teacher Lily said that Daddy is really handsome and that she wants to come visit our house."

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Meredith remained silent.

How was that considered something interesting?

Meredith took a quick glance at Josiah then teased him sarcastically, "Congratulations, Mister Josiah."

"What's there to congratulate about?" Josiah replied. He then leaned in closer to her ears and whispered, "The new secretaries even said that they want to play with me in bed. Isn't this much more interesting?"

Meredith tightened her grip on the fork, looked at him, and asked, "Do you need me to make room for you guys?"

"There's no need for that." Josiah kissed her on the cheeks and went on, "I'm not telling you this to show off, I just wanted to remind you to keep a good watch on your husband, if not you might lose him someday."

"Pft..." Meredith pushed him away and said, "If that happens, I'd be the happiest." Josiah shook his head and said to Nia, "Did you hear that, Nia? Your Mommy is saying words that she doesn't mean again."

Nia could not understand her parents' conversation so she could only smile.

She was happy to see her father kissing her mother.

As they were staying in a secluded area, it was hard for Meredith to call for rides. She also did not want the driver to drive her back and forth from work. Hence, she bit the bullet and brought a car pamphlet for Josiah.

"Just a heads up that I'm planning to get this car."

Josiah looked through the pamphlet. It was a car that cost around one hundred thousand dollars.

Meredith went on, "I know you have a lot of cars in your garage but they are all too expensive. I don't want to bring attention to myself at work."

"And, I will make sure to pay you back once I have the money."

In fact, she could buy the car with the card that Josiah had given her. But she still thought that it was only right to let him know.

Josiah looked at her, arched his brow, and asked, "How are you going to pay me back? With your body?"

"Who knows? Maybe I might get married to a rich man?"

Josiah's face darkened instantly. "Meredith Leighton, do you still want to buy the car?"

"How is it that only you can provoke and tease me?" Meredith scoffed, "I told you that you have nothing to hold against me anymore. So you better watch yourself."

Josiah sighed and put the pamphlet aside.

"You're right. I might have let you get your way too much."

Seeing how he was putting the pamphlet aside, Meredith frowned. "So do you agree or not?"

"The safety features are not too good for this model. Let's get another one." Josiah looked through the internet and then handed the table to her. "Let's get this one instead. The safety features are better and four hundred thousand dollars is still within the middle-class range."

Looking at the pictures, Meredith thought that the car was okay. "I'll have Yoseph settle this. You don't have to do anything."

"Okay, thanks."

Meredith was about to leave but was stopped by Josiah.

"I've just lent you four hundred thousand dollars and this is your attitude?" Josiah was looking at her with a displeased expression on his face. "I don't expect you to pay me back with your body. But it's not too much to ask for a hug or a kiss, right?"

Meredith's lips curled up into a smirk. "Haven't you been taking advantage of me by using Nia as an excuse?"

"That's a different case." Josiah stood up from his chair and lifted her onto his desk. He then put his forehead against hers. "I want you to make the first move."

Feeling his warm breath on her face, Meredith felt as if her breath was taken away.

Yet at the same time, she felt frustrated with herself.

Could it be that Josiah had recently been nice to her? She was starting to fall for his seduction.

Even if she was being forced, she did not feel a strong resistance toward him anymore.

Meredith wanted to stop herself from acting this way.

She reminded herself that it was Josiah who caused the death of her mother and he was also the devil that trampled her and Nia under his feet. She should never forgive the devil.

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Josiah did not get what he wanted, but instead, he was pushed away by Meredith.

"Josiah Shelby, let me remind you of something. You are the one who destroyed the Leightons and it was also you who tore my family apart and took everything away from me. If you want to count how much I owe you, well, let me tell you that even if you compensate me for four million dollars it would never be enough. Because the damage that you've done to me is way more than just that!

"I only asked you for a car for the sake of taking care of your face in front of our daughter!" Meredith then turned around wanting to storm out of the room.

Josiah grabbed her by her wrist and pulled her into his arms. "You're right, Edith. I should be satisfied that you're only doing this because of our daughter. And for that, I am thankful.

"As for the Leighton Group, I can return it to you whenever you want it. Then you don't have to work at the hospital anymore." He looked at her solemnly and asked, "Do you want that?"

Meredith was stunned.

She had never managed any kind of business, let alone run an entire company. Meredith did not have the confidence to lead the Leighton Group.

But under Josiah's management, the Leighton Group would still be able to survive. "I want to, but not now," Meredith replied.

"Okay. Just let me know whenever you want it. I'll give it back to you."

"Let go of me first." Meredith looked at his arms that were wrapped around her waist.

Josiah let go of her and Meredith walked out of the room.

The next morning, Meredith had gotten her new car.

Yoseph was really good at his work.

Looking at how Meredith was checking out the car, Josiah asked, "So? Do you like it?"

"It's just for driving anyway. It doesn't matter," Meredith replied flatly as she did not want him to act too arrogant.

Josiah said to her, "Let's test drive the car together. So that you can familiarize yourself with the car."

"It's fine. I don't need to test drive it."

It was not like she had no experience in driving.

Josiah was supposed to get back into his own car after Meredith dropped Nia off at the kindergarten, but he insisted on staying in her car. He claimed that he wanted to test drive the car with her.

Meredith's driving was careful and stable and that was when Josiah was assured.

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At the red light, Meredith's phone's screen lit up with a message notification.

Josiah and Meredith subconsciously looked at the phone. On the phone's screen was a message from Charlie, (Miss Witch, have you gotten me breakfast?]

Meredith did not know what to say.

She stole a glimpse at Josiah from the corners of her eyes and reached for her phone.

"Who was it from?" Josiah was simply curious. "Miss Witch...what nickname is that?"

"It's a patient at the hospital who has no family or friends. The patient wanted me to get breakfast." Meredith tried to act calm and went on, "Perhaps it's because of my face, that is why he gave me the nickname Witch."

"The patient is so rude yet you're getting breakfast for him?" Josiah sounded upset." Meredith Leighton, I didn't agree for you to go to work just so that you could be bullied by others. Bring me the details for the patient. I'll go teach them a lesson." Meredith rolled her eyes. "The patient is only a child. Can you be more forgiving?"

"The more that we should educate the child earlier. If not, they will only grow up to be trouble.

"Leave it, okay? Now, get down from my car." Meredith pulled over to the side and had him go back to his own car.

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The hospital that she was working at was just right in front of them.

Josiah took a glance outside the car and before getting down from the car, he said, "Don't get breakfast for people like that, okay?"

After parking her car in the parking lot, Meredith was hesitating if she should get breakfast for Charlie.

She was hesitating not because of what Josiah had said, but because she was worried that Charlie might misunderstand her intentions.

But at the thought that he had no family or friends around, Meredith decided to bring him breakfast in the end.

Just as she expected, Charlie had misunderstood her intentions. "I knew that you would not leave me alone."

He smelled the breakfast that Meredith had given him and said, "Mm...this smells amazing! Don't tell me that you prepared this?"

"Do you really think that I would do that?" Meredith pointed at the paper box and said, "Can't you read the name of the breakfast place printed on the box?" "Even if it's not prepared by you, it tastes good too," Charlie took a bite of the sandwich and added, "oh and please come dress my wound later? You know I'm scared of pain."

"Mister Charlie, I am a busy person." "Miss Witch, just Charlie, please," Charlie replied Looking at how he was pretty much stuffing himself with the sandwich, Meredith asked, "You still haven't gotten in contact with your family or friends?"

"No."

"Why? Do they not care about you at all?" Meredith asked not because she cared about him, but simply because she wanted Charlie to stop bothering her.

"They had cut ties with me."

"Why?"

"Because I haven't been dating any girls."

"How old are you and they're already urging you to get married?" Meredith was confused.

"Because I told them that there's someone that I like and they are urging me to bring the giri to meet them," Charlie then stared at her and added, "Miss Witch, you are partly responsible for this."

"What do you mean?"

"Because you're the person that I like. And they're waiting to meet you."

"Miss Witch, come home with me this weekend, will you?" Charlie wore an expectant look on

his face and said, "I want my family to meet you and I know that they will definitely like you."

Meredith was rendered speechless.

How would anyone possibly like her with her disfigured face?

Unless she came from a wealthy background.

But Charlie was someone who would spend thousands of dollars on a hairpin just to flirt with girls. Meredith guessed that Charlie might be from a wealthy background as well.

"And what if they don't like me?" Looking at him, she said, "Will you give up on me and won't talk to me anymore?"

"That will never happen," Charlie replied firmly, "even if the whole world doesn't like you, I will still want to be with you."

"Charlie Larson, let's make a deal."

"What deal?" Charlie was curious.

Meredith paused before saying, "If your family doesn't like me, then you'll promise to not show up in front of me ever again."

"What if they do like you? Then you'll have to get married to me," Charlie said.

"Sure." Meredith accepted his deal.

She was confident that no parents in their right mind would allow their son to marry a woman with a disfigured face.

Even if the parents did not care about her looks, she could then tell them about the fact that she was married and had a daughter.

She guessed that Charlie's parents would definitely kick her out of their house.

Meredith did not wish for Charlie to waste any more time on her, hence she decided to make him give up on her as soon as possible.

Coming out of Charlie's ward, she then received a message from him. (Miss Witch, I've told my family about you and we will have dinner together this weekend.)

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Feeling speechless, Meredith replied, (I thought you weren't able to be in contact with your family?')

Charlie responded, [Hehe. I was able to reach them because I have a girlfriend now.] Meredith thought that Charlie was simply impossible. Shaking her head, Meredith put away her phone in her pocket. During noon time, Meredith received Charlie's text asking her to help get him lunch. Meredith replied with a cold message, (Get help from your family or order take-outs.]

After sending the message, she then shut off her phone.

Charlie was discharged from the hospital after being hospitalized for four days.

Before he left the hospital, he looked for Meredith and dragged her to the fire exit staircase.

Feeling anxious, Meredith asked, "Charlie Larson, what do you think you're doing? People are going to judge if they see us together."

"I'm really sorry," Charlie let go of his grip around her wrist immediately and explained, "I was worried that people would see us and would affect your job, and this is why I dragged you here."

Relaxing her wrist, Meredith said, "So what is it?"

"It's nothing serious. It seems that you're ignoring my messages so I thought of meeting you in person to remind you about the meet-up with my family this weekend."

Meredith was stunned. She did forget about the meet-up.

To be exact, Meredith thought that Charlie was simply joking about the meet-up as he had not been talking about it.

"Do I really have to go?"

"Of course! Are you going back on your words?" Charlie sounded worried, "Please tell me that you'll attend the dinner? My family is already expecting you for the meet-up this weekend."

Seeing how Charlie was getting worried, Meredith had no other choice but to say, "It's not that I thought that you were the one who's going back on your words."

"How would it be possible?" Charlie sighed in relief and a smile found its way back onto his lace "It's good as long as you're not regretting this. I'll see you this coming Sunday then."

"Alright, I'll head back to work now."

"Hold on." Charle stopped her from leaving and magically pulled out a small box from his pockets *This is for you"

"What is this?" Looking at the pretty box, Meredith rejected him without any hesitation. "I couldn't even afford to pay you back for the broken hairpin. I really can't take anything from you anymore"

Smiling, Charlie shook his head. "Don't worry, it's not expensive."

He opened the box revealing a pretty hairpin in it.

Charlie then put up a few strands of her hair that was covering her face with the hairpin. "I noticed that your hair is always getting in the way, so I thought of getting you one online."

Meredith reached for her hair and realized that it was true that her hair was always getting in her face

She did not expect Charlie to be so thoughtful.

Meredith removed the hairpin from her hair. She felt relieved after making sure that it was not made with expensive material. "This is the last time okay? Stop buying things for me, do you

understand me?"

"I can't promise you that. What if after this Sunday, you end up getting married to me?" Charlie responded with a grin on his face.

Meredith was stunned.

"I'm going to head back to work now." Before she left, Meredith took a look at his ankle and said, "Take better care of your leg. Don't do intense activities."

"Okay."

Just when Meredith walked out of the fire exit staircase, she ran into Doctor Halsey.

Halsey flashed a knowing smile at her then looked toward the fire exit staircase. "Seems like you are really good friends with Charlie Larson."

Halsey, the doctor that Charlie 'abandoned' for Meredith, had been hostile and unfriendly because of the incident. Hence, she would not let this chance to mock Meredith slip away.

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Chapter 674 With no other choice, Meredith had to explain herself. "Doctor Halsey, you're mistaken. Mister Charlie and I are just friends."

"Oh really? Just friends huh," Halsey nodded but the expression on her face said otherwise.

Meredith knew that Halsey was not convinced but she did not care anymore.

After work, Meredith was changing in the locker room.

Halsey left her office and when she was in the parking lot, a black Rolls-Royce caught her attention.

To be exact, it was the man who was leaning lazily against the car who caught her attention. The man was tall and good-looking, exuding sophisticated vibes. The first thing that came to Hasley's mind was that the man must be some sort of celebrity or model.

Even though she knew that she would not stand a chance with him, Halsey still fixed her attire and her hair before approaching the man. "Hey good-looking, may I know..." Before she could even finish her sentence, Josiah cut her off abruptly, "I am here to pick up my wife."

"..." Just one reply from Josiah and Halsey's dream vanished into thin air.

A good-looking man like him was actually married?

Halsey guessed if his wife could be one of her colleagues from the upper management. But she never knew anyone who was that wealthy.

Being the nosy person that she was, Halsey smiled and asked, "May I know who your wife is? Who knows? Perhaps we're in the same department."

"Meredith Leighton."

"Huh?" Halsey was stunned.

"What's wrong?"

"Oh, it's nothing." Halsey replied.

Inwardly, she thought to herself 'That ugly b*tch is actually married to such a good-looking and rich man? How is it possible?'

"Meredith and I are in the same department. Both of us just got off work together," Halsey smiled as she took a glance at the car behind Josiah and asked, "is that car...yours?"

"No."

Exactly. Why would a good looking and rich man like a woman like Meredith?

Studying the ever-changing expression on Halsey's face, Josiah asked, "You mentioned you got off work together with my wife? May I know where she is then?"

"Oh, Meredith?" Halsey quickly came up with an excuse and said, "I saw her being pulled aside

by a good-looking young lad. But I don't know where they went. The young lad is her patient and I heard that he is pursuing her. He even said that he wants to marry Meredith."

Halsey vented her jealousy toward Meredith. She hated the fact that Meredith was seducing a young lad when she had such a good-looking husband.

"What did you say?" Josiah's face darkened.

Halsey explained, "Sorry. I didn't mean to come in between the both of you. Meredith is my colleague after all, and I don't wish to see her going down the wrong path. This is why I chose to tell you."

"Who did you say was going after her?" Josiah fumed.

Halsey, on the other hand, pretended to be nervous. "I'm really sorry. I don't mean to come in between the both of you. Please don't tell Meredith that I told you this. I'm leaving now."

She then got into her car and drove away.

Josiah reached for his phone and dialed Meredith's number.

As she was about to leave, Meredith ran into her supervisor who wanted to have a chat with her. Seeing that it was Josiah who was calling, Meredith silenced her phone.

After parting ways with her supervisor, Meredith remembered the call from Josiah so she returned his call.

"Anything?" Meredith asked flatly.

"Where are you?" Josiah asked.

"At the hospital."

"It's way past your working hours, isn't it? Why are you still at the hospital?" "I had something to do," Meredith replied as she walked out of the building.

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What did you have to do? Go on a date with your patient."

Meredith was slightly stunned Feeling incredulous that she was accused of something that she did not do, Meredith seethed, "Josiah Shelby, what kind of nonsense is this?".

"Is it nonsense though?

Meredith suddenly felt a strong presence behind her. Suddenly, a pair of arms wrapped around her waist, and she was turned around and pushed against a car.

Meredith was first shocked. But at the sight of Josiah, rage gripped her and she pushed him

movedly, "What are you doing? You scared me!"

Josial stood close to her and studied her. "Meredith Leighton, you've only started working for

week, right? I heard that someone is already attracted to you? And he even wants to marry Vou?

Meredith was stunned. Looking at him, she asked, "What are you talking about?"

"Tell me, who is that guy? Is he the one that is calling you Miss Witch and wants you to bring him breakfast?"

"." Meredith was suddenly at loss for words,

How did he know about it? And who told him?

"Josiah Shelby, don't tell me you had someone in the hospital to spy on me." "So you're admitting that someone is going after you?

Meredith actually felt slightly guilty but seeing how Josiah was being arrogant and rude, she argued, "So? You have those secretaries of yours who want to sleep with you but I can't have a manchasing me?"

"You..."

Gutting his teeth, Josuali fumed, "I was only joking. Do you really think that the Shelby Group would hire such unprofessional people into the company."

"Even it that was a joke What about Quinley and Maeve? Aren't they considered as your pursuers too

Josiah replied, "Butlignored them."

"And how are you so sure that I didn't ignore him?"

Releasing his grip around her slowly. Josiah studied her and asked, "You mean that you nored him."

"Of course I live no plans of getting a boyfriend when all I care about is Nia"

"Are you sure?" Josiah's voice softened,

"losiah Shelby, who do you care about in my personal life?" Looking at him, Meredith added, "We've greed to steer clear of each other's business."

"But we also promised that we would be a role model for Nia and we won't do anything that would tarnish each other's reputation."

"It's not like I did something, have I?" "I believe you," Josiah gave a peck on her forehead and said, "and that is why I hope you'll believe me too."

"I do." She pushed away his arms and said, "Get away from me. I don't want anyone to see us."

"Get in my car."

"I don't want to."

"Edith. I came here all the way just to pick you up. Give me some face." Josiah said as he opened the car door and ushered her into his car. Meredith had no choice but to get into his car. Driving slowly out of the parking lot, Meredith asked, "You still haven't told me who told you about the patient who is pursuing me. Did you really have someone to spy on me?" Seeing how he was keeping quiet, Meredith got anxious. "Josiah Shelby, don't push it, ..." "I didn't," Josiah cut her off. Meredith glared at him as she waited for him to explain himself.

Sighing softly, Josiah said, "I ran into someone who claimed to be your colleague. She was the one who told me."

Meredith was slightly taken aback.

Even though Josiah did not tell her who was the 'colleague', Meredith already guessed that it was Halsey.

Because aside from Halsey, no one else had seen her with Charlie at the fire exit staircase.

But Meredith was relieved to know that Josiah did not have anyone to spy on her at the hospital. As for Halsey? Meredith could not care less about her.

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However...

"How did my colleague know that you're my husband?" Meredith studied him and she suddenly had a bad feeling. "Josiah, don't tell me that you introduced yourself to her as my husband."

Josiah cleared his throat awkwardly, "I didn't want to say anything but that colleague of yours was flirting with me. So I can only tell her that you're my wife."

To be fair, Meredith found his excuse reasonable.

Even though Josiah was cold and ruthless, he was good-looking and he went around driving in such an expensive car. Of course, women would want to flirt with him.

But still, she scolded, "Can't you come up with another excuse? Well, the least that you could do was not bring up my name, right?" "But I don't know anyone else who is working there. So I could only mention your name."

"How am I supposed to work here now that she knows about our relationship?" Freaking out, Meredith glared at him and asked, "Tell me, did she figure out who you are? And..."

"She didn't," Josiah patted her hand to reassure her and added, "aside from knowing the fact that I'm your husband, she doesn't know anything else."

"How is it possible? Did she not see your car?"

"She did. And she even asked if it was my car."

"And what did you say?"

"I said it's not mine."

"Oh thank God," Meredith sighed in relief. She then warned him, "Don't come to the hospital anymore. I have a car and I can drive myself."

"Why? Do I embarrass you?" Josiah was slightly upset. "Or am I getting in your way with that patient of yours?"

Feeling speechless, Meredith responded, "Yeah, you embarrass me, happy now?" "But I never once think that you embarrass me," Josiah replied.

Meredith knew that she would not win the argument hence she looked away and said, "In any case, stop coming to the hospital. I don't need you to pick me up."

At night, both of them kept Nia company until she fell asleep

Josiah then returned to his study to work whilst Meredith went back to their bedroom.

She was reading a book but fell asleep halfway through.

She even had a dream. In the dream, she was eighteen and her mother was holding her hands. "Edith, after today, you'll be a young lady. I hope that even after you grow older, you'll still be happy like when you were young."

Her mother then handed her a wooden box

In the wooden box laid a pretty emerald hairpin.

"It's beautiful. Thank you, Mom," Meredith thanked her happily.

Just when she wanted to put the hairpin on, the hairpin slipped from her hands, dropped on the floor, and broke into half.

"Mom, I broke the hairpin." Meredith looked up to find that her loving mother was gone.

What happened? "Mommy!" Meredith sat up abruptly as she let out a scream. Opening her eyes, the bright light hurt her eyes.

It was a dream.

Meredith wiped away the cold sweat on her forehead. She rushed to the vanity table and

started going through the drawers to find the broken hairpin.

She remembered clearly that she kept the hairpin in the last drawer but the hairpin was nowhere to be found.

Meredith wondered if it was stolen.

Going through the drawers frantically, she started to get anxious and tears were welling up in her eyes.

Josiah who had just walked into the bedroom found Meredith going through the drawers.' Edith, what are you looking for?"

"Where is my hairpin? Where is it?"

Meredith turned around and grabbed him by his arms. "Was it you? Did you take it away from me again? Give it back to me!"

"Edith, I sent the hairpin to be repaired."