

# **I Became a Villainous Character with a Limited Lifespan**

## **- Episode 41 - 45**

### ***Episode 41***

In order to go all the way, he had to go deeper than this. Seung-hyun, who was taking deep breaths, looked at Jae-young while lying down.

This situation was just fascinating to him. The fact that the moment he thought he might never experience in his life, that it might just be a world he could only see through a screen, was right in front of his eyes was exciting in itself.

“It, it doesn’t hurt, so just keep go... ah!”

Seung-hyun, who was about to say it was okay so keep going while fidgeting his fingers on his stomach, pulled his waist back and then thrust it up strongly. Startled by the feeling as if his stomach was being punched, Seung-hyun clutched the sheets.

When it was first thrust up into him, he only felt strange from the tight feeling, but this time, it wasn’t just the feeling of being filled up inside.

It wasn’t just his pheromone-exposed skin that felt ticklish and tingly, but the inside of his stomach felt ticklish.

“Aah, ah. Ah!”

That sensation that had been subtly tickling his waist started to gradually and definitely increase its presence with the thrusting hip movements. It was strange that the moaning sounds he had only seen in videos, novels, and comics were coming out of his own mouth.

“Wai, t a moment...”

“Hoo, sorry but... I don’t have much leeway right now either.”

“Ah, haa!”

Jae-young, who tightly held one of Seung-hyun’s flailing hands, didn’t stop moving as if to block his mouth. If he said he wanted to stop, he would have to stop. So he didn’t want to hear anything.

“Haa. Ut... wait, just a moment. No, wait, this. No...”

He didn't think a relationship between alphas would feel that great. He had just accepted it out of curiosity about Seung-hyun, wondering how amazing the act that this man, famous for being thorough, wanted to do so much that he was even falling apart like this.

It felt better than expected. Even relationships between alpha and beta or beta and omega were called unique tastes, so a relationship between alpha and alpha. If they were young people, they might not know, but for adults with an old-fashioned mindset, it was just the thing to make them collapse holding the back of their necks.

It wasn't for nothing that the world's traits were divided like that, and Jae-young had also thought that way to some extent.

“Ha, I'm not telling you to stop. Just a bit slower...”

“Why? When it feels good.”

Was it because he wasn't used to sexual pheromones that he didn't feel much discomfort in this relationship? Just seeing him panting with his white skin flushed red and his penis erect was exciting.

“Go, od. Who said it doesn't feel good? Just a bit, slowly... ah?!”

“Raising it like this, while dripping wet.”

“Ah, at!”

“Or, is this also part of the plan? Making that face, dripping in the front while saying those words, it rather... makes me want to do it more.”

Seung-hyun couldn't answer and shook greatly. As Jae-young said, Seung-hyun's penis had become fully erect at some point. The precum-soaked front looked unfamiliar even to himself.

“Try answering. Hoo, do you dislike it?”

Jae-young stopped moving for a moment and asked. Just a little more, it felt like he could come if he did just a little more. Seung-hyun unconsciously brought his hand to his front but was stopped by Jae-young.

“Do you dislike it?”

Jae-young, who was confident that a disliking answer wouldn't come out in that short moment, asked again. Seung-hyun took a small deep breath and said,

“I told you to go slowly, not to stop.”

“Ha.”

“Continue.”

From the flushed skin to the penis that had stiffly raised its head. Not a single thing felt leisurely, but the voice mixed with rough breathing somehow felt calm.

It was an unsexy answer, but that appearance somehow suited him well. Jae-young shrugged his shoulders and grabbed Seung-hyun's waist again.

In a state like this, even if he told him to stop, he wanted to cover that pretty mouth and continue what he was doing.

“I can hear your answer slowly.”

“That, hand...”

“Do you like it being touched?”

Only after seeing Seung-hyun flinching as if the hand that went up to his waist tickled did Jae-young realize that he had simply been thrusting his penis without any foreplay.

Well, it doesn't seem like he dislikes it even with just that. But it seemed like it would be nice to see this face crumble a bit more.

“Don't, do weird things and just thr... ahng!”

“Your words and reaction are different. Anyway, the reaction that pops out immediately is probably a bit closer to your true feelings.”

“Hngh, whe. Where are you putting your mouth...”

Seung-hyun had no time to come to his senses with the waist that had started moving again at some point and the tongue that began to sweep down his plain chest. He clutched the sheets, not knowing what to do, and reached out his arms to wrap around Jae-young's neck.

"Please, if a person, ut. Says something..."

However, the voice tickling his ear only excited Jae-young more, and couldn't make him stop. Jae-young made Seung-hyun wrap his arms more tightly around him.

"Ah, ut!"

The body doesn't lie, but he didn't like that he wasn't saying it felt good with his mouth. He could tell even without hearing it in words, but Jae-young wanted to hear that answer on purpose.

"You said you wanted to do it, haa. How is it? You were singing about how much you wanted to do it, but now you have nothing to say."

"Haa, it feels, strange..."

He liked how the panting breaths tickled between his neck and shoulder. How could he hear the words that it feels good?

"Stra, strange..."

"If it's strange, hoo. Does that mean you dislike it? Then, should we, stop?"

"Ah, ah. Ut!"

Seung-hyun, who couldn't come to his senses with Jae-young thrusting shortly with each word, shook his head. On top of the already strange feeling, with his chest and front being tormented, it really felt like he would come at any moment.

With that state of mind, there was no way he had the leisure to notice what words the other person wanted to hear. But it seemed he thought he had to answer when asked.

"Dis, liking... it's not that."

"Then, is it just so-so?"

Jae-young, who rather got sulky at the answer that deviated from what he wanted, pushed his waist strongly once again. The penis that was already large in volume stimulated sensitive parts just by entering, so Seung-hyun trembled with his waist lifted.

“Haaa...”

“If this reaction is for just a so-so degree... I wonder how intense Executive Han will be when doing something he likes. I’m already looking forward to it.”

“Ri, ght now... is also go...”

Seung-hyun, who spat out the first letters of the words Jae-young wanted only after becoming limp, caught his breath once again.

“Right now is also what?”

“Go, od. More than I thought...”

The tone that was somewhat tense as if doing business had loosened up leisurely at some point. The first time was difficult, but the next was easy.

“Ah, unh. Go, od. There...”

Seung-hyun honestly expressed his impression every time Jae-young dug into his insides. Perhaps it was because of the alcohol, but the way he acted as if he had no idea of embarrassment or saving face made Jae-young blush instead.

“Inside, deeper. Earlier to there...”

Seung-hyun, who had a sweet face to the point that even his nails scratching down his back leaving long wounds felt pleasant, clung to Jae-young several more times after that, saying it felt good.

‘If it’s this kind of relationship, it would be a shame to end it with just once. From Executive Han Seung-hyun’s perspective too... Today may be an accident for one night, but since you already had an accident, wouldn’t it be better to continue the relationship with just one person?’

Fortunately he met me, there are so many people who come to find a one-night partner without manners or fear.

These days, he was thinking that he should end his pure one-sided love. They say a person should forget with another person, and while this is a bit of an unexpected person, could this also be fate?

“Haa...”

Jae-young made eye contact with Seung-hyun, who was looking at him with hazy eyes. Since there was plenty of time, he could slowly think about future matters.

“Ah, go... od. More...”

Jae-young lightly bit Seung-hyun’s shoulder with those thoughts in mind. There was still quite a long time left until sunrise.

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The start was the words he had brought out himself, but anyway, the one who clung on saying it was good was Seung-hyun. He did play a mean trick that was close to a threat at the appearance that seemed to not remember, but he wasn’t serious.

Indeed, he wasn’t the type of person to do that while sober, so he thought he would be embarrassed. He had thought he would remember to some extent, but he seemed to have completely forgotten that day.

How nice would it be if memories could be attached and shared? Then, instead of feeling disappointed at that appearance, he could just cleanly pass on the memories.

“If you’re going to say that, just go.”

If he was pretending not to remember, at least there would be the fun of seeing that appearance, but he really didn’t remember, so it wasn’t even enjoyable.

“Do you really not remember anything?”

“Why would I lie about this? How can I do anything if I really can’t remember?”

It’s fortunate that he doesn’t remember. He wasn’t good at lying, so if he really remembered that day, he would have been flustered and not known what to do, unable to hide his feelings.

“I guess you’re happy you don’t remember.”

“Why are you being like that again...”

Feeling guilty at the appearance that looked like he was genuinely hurt, Seung-hyun glanced at Jae-young. It made the resolve to not be swayed seem in vain.

### ***Episode 42***

“Well, whatever. What’s the point of talking about the past?”

Jae-young said with a not at all okay face. This makes me anxious instead. Seung-hyun just looked at Jae-young with a suspicious face, unable to give any answer.

As he expected, Jae-young didn’t answer that it was really okay because it was okay. But dwelling on the past would only hurt his own feelings.

“Since Han Seung-hyun said it’s done after doing it once.”

“When did I say that? Don’t make things up.”

Seung-hyun blushed slightly at the blatant words. Fortunately, he didn’t jump up from his seat and deny it. He must have said that wanting that reaction.

“It... probably wasn’t something I disliked. I don’t remember well, but it was something I wanted to do.”

“Saying it’s not something you disliked and saying it was good are not the same thing.”

“...If you’re going to hear what you want to hear, why even have a conversation?”

What vaguely remained in his memory was definitely pleasure. But saying that out loud was a bit, no. It was something he quite avoided.

Anyway, it’s a 1-year relationship. He felt like he could say it without hesitation in front of others. Strangely, it was difficult in front of Jae-young.

“It’s really okay. If you don’t remember, it can’t be helped. A person’s brain isn’t like a memory card, so there’s no way to restore it either.”

Seung-hyun, who barely held back wanting to ask if that was the tone of someone who was okay, shook his head. What okay? If he was going to say that, he should just put his protruding lips back in.

“Sleeping together isn’t anything to Han Seung-hyun, right?”

“If you keep talking like that, go ho...”

“Something trivial, it may be unfamiliar the first time, but it’s easy to do it two or three times, right?”

Seung-hyun’s mouth, who was about to tell him to go home if he was going to act so upset, was tightly shut. It was an unexpected answer.

To a friend after spending the night together. It was a bit of a strange relationship from the start, but he had never thought deeply about it. Anyway, making new acquaintances was also work, so he thought it wouldn’t be bad if they became connected like this.

But can you still call each other friends if you repeat such things a second and third time? No, in the first place, is it okay for friends to make such a proposal?

He knew it was definitely strange. But if he had immediately countered, maybe. If he refused in this atmosphere, Seung-hyun intuitively knew that he and Jae-young would become awkward rather than friends.

No matter what he was thinking, how long had it been since he said not to show it? Love and sex aren’t synonymous, but...

“.....”

But still, isn’t this wrong? Seung-hyun hesitated for a moment. It was a wrong worry to start with, knowing the correct answer but still hesitating.

“...Someday, if I want to do it again. Let’s think about it then...”

Seung-hyun said words promising the future and lowered his head. Thinking that if he says there won’t be a day he wants to, that’s it, he himself didn’t notice the moment he inwardly imagined that someday.

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“This is, well, I wasn’t close with Executive Han... but my eyes are getting hot for no reason.”

“If you’re going to say something you don’t mean, it’s better to say nothing at all.”

“Who would dare say a word out of fear?”

Hyeokjae said, shrugging his shoulders. The pile of documents on the desk were mostly about Seung-hyun.

“The more I know, the more surprising. I thought our Secretary Lee was a dog that listens well to Executive Han’s words.”

The source of those documents was naturally Seok-hyung. Seok-hyung, who handed over to Hyeokjae all the data about Seung-hyun’s medical records, of course, and the things he had lastly handled at the company and was preparing, was looking at Hyeokjae with eyes full of hostility rather than loyalty.

“Our Executive Han... probably didn’t expect to be backstabbed like this.”

“I’m only acting as he wishes.”

“Well. It seems like Executive Han wants to quit everything and rest. Well, thinking of the usual Executive Han, it’s understandable, but... People change when it’s time for them to die, you know? Ah, is it the opposite? Anyway.”

Hyeokjae flipped through the documents with a face showing no sympathy or pity. Of course, Seok-hyung’s sudden action wouldn’t harm him. If anything, it would benefit him.

“If it’s at most a year, since you can’t take money with you when you die anyway, he may want to live a leisurely life now.”

“...There’s no way that’s the case.”

Seok-hyung denied Hyeokjae’s words, clenching his fists tightly. There was no way. The Han Seung-hyun he knew wasn’t such a person.

“Right now, he’s probably just wandering for a bit because he’s confused. But he... is absolutely not the kind of person to let go of everything for such a reason.”

Although the current Seung-hyun was very different from the Seung-hyun Seok-hyung knew, Seok-hyung firmly believed it was only a temporary change.

He couldn't say he had seen him the longest, but he was confident that he had at least seen him the closest.

Even the weak parts of that person that no one knew, and the ambition he couldn't let go of until his last breath.

"What, is he someone who can't die alone even out of resentment? Is that it?"

"....."

He thought it was a vulgar expression, but it wasn't fundamentally very different from what Seok-hyung was thinking.

He was someone who couldn't bear the thought of his death benefiting others. If the future given to him was the same anyway, he would have acted without hesitation.

But he would have thoroughly used what he had learned. Because he was a person with strong pride. Because he was a person who wanted to be recognized for his work.

"Although he's confused right now... he'll return to his original self before long. Don't we need to lay the groundwork for that time?"

So these documents will definitely be of great help to the future Seung-hyun. He didn't want to reveal Seung-hyun's illness, but Jeong Hyeokjae was also quite a suspicious person, so he couldn't make a deal while hiding his cards.

"Well. It's fine with me. Anyway, I don't care about HJ's succession structure... What's important right now is each and every achievement. Our Secretary Lee won't be loyal to me... but at least he's reliable when it comes to deals, right?"

"....."

"Well, I know Secretary Lee is good at his job. I'd be happy to work with him next year too."

Seok-hyung, who didn't blink an eye, answered. 1 year later. He hoped it wouldn't come, but time couldn't be avoided.

"Then what's the first card I should play? There's the most data on the construction side. Hmm. It seems like it would be efficient to touch this side at the end too."

"All the data I have is based on the day the resignation was submitted, so it's better not to drag it out. Among them, the most urgent is... probably this one."

Seok-hyung said, pulling out a document. Hyeokjae, who checked the contents of the document while adjusting his glasses, grinned.

"I didn't know HJ was trying to touch this side too."

"It's a field that Executive Han Tae-sung is set to oversee from planning to overall management. The time it should be made known externally will be around late next month."

It was HJ Group's new business plan that would go out under Tae-sung's name. Around the same time, the new business plan Seung-hyun was preparing was abolished with the sound of Chairman Han clicking his tongue, but Tae-sung's eventually passed the final approval and was proceeding with the goal of launching before the end of the first quarter next year.

"I've seen that internal control is also well done... Indeed, this is the kind of field where if you announce it before the preparation is finished, it's just right to hear words like the tyranny of a giant corporation and withdraw."

"Since it's the field they're investing the most time in, if you shake it up once, there will be gaps for a while."

"I have a reporter on my line. Should I contact them?"

"It would be good if we could meet once during the weekdays."

Seok-hyung clearly remembered how frustrated Seung-hyun was and how angry he was on the day when the fortunes of the two were reversed.

In the first place, it was just an ostensible opportunity, and he knew whose hand would be raised if the proposal had a similar level of completion. That's why he prepared harder.

'The time to read it was different from the start.'

Seok-hyung recalled Seung-hyun's expression as he left the president's office. For a moment, his brows almost furrowed, but Hyeokjae's office was also no different from the middle of enemy territory to him.

'If you look weak, you'll be eaten up in an instant. Don't stop struggling. Even if you get hit while doing that, you have to struggle till the end. The moment you give up, you lose.'

The words he had heard from Seung-hyun someday made Seok-hyung stand up straight. His words were right. The end comes the moment you give up.

"Yeah. I wonder how happy our Executive Han will be to see what his capable secretary has prepared."

Hyeokjae, who didn't see the slightly furrowed brows, laughed as if it was interesting.

"In my opinion, Executive Han and I are slightly similar types. So I think we'll get along quite well too."

Hyeokjae, who had been giggling for a while, wondering what was so funny, lightly tapped Seok-hyung's shoulder. Seok-hyung just slightly lowered his head without answering.

### ***Episode 43***

– The number you have dialed does not exist. Please check the number and dial again.

Seok-hyung was startled by the mechanical voice flowing out of the cell phone and checked the number on the screen again. The number that couldn't be confused even if he could recite it right after waking up from sleep was floating on the display.

However, even when he called again, all that came back was the mechanical voice with a stiff tone saying that the number currently being called does not exist.

Denying the reality that was clearly visible was only a loss to oneself. Seok-hyung, who understood the situation before long, let out a small hollow laugh.

'For a businessman, changing numbers is no different from saying they'll quit work.'

It was something Seung-hyun had said when he tried to change his number someday. He had also self-deprecatingly said that he wasn't great enough for business partners to individually save his changed number.

But he was a born workaholic and hated inefficiency, so he probably wouldn't have changed his number even after reaching such a position.

That was natural. That's what he thought. But these days, Seung-hyun seemed like a completely different person.

Seok-hyung also knew that a life with an end and a life that can dream of the future have to be different. But can it change this much?

He didn't fully know Seung-hyun's life, but he prided himself on knowing what kind of person he was better than anyone else in the world. Perhaps even the parts that Seung-hyun himself couldn't see.

The anxiety and weakness that existed within that always sensitive-looking interior, the way he protected himself expressed through hysteria. He thought he knew everything.

"Even when it's time to die... there are parts that won't change no matter what happens."

The appearance that seemed to have given up on everything, the calmness with which he called the work he had clung to all his life a nuisance. It was so unfamiliar that it was unbelievable to think that circumstances had changed a person.

Seok-hyung was always someone who cared for Seung-hyun. Some compared him to a dog, but he was even happy to be called a loyal dog. He even felt pride that anyone could see that he and Seung-hyun were tied together with such a bond.

If the current Seung-hyun saw Seok-hyung, he might make a slightly creepy face. But Seok-hyung rather didn't understand such Seung-hyun.

"It was you, Director, who made me like this."

It was also Seung-hyun who taught him the coldness of the world when he knew nothing, and how to endure facing it. Seung-hyun was Seok-hyung's world, no different.

That it was just a temporary whim. Thinking that as long as Han Seung-hyun is Han Seung-hyun, he will someday want this situation again, he was preparing for him. But.

"Don't doubt. There's no need to doubt."

Seok-hyung put the cell phone on the desk and looked out the window. It wasn't a familiar view. What was familiar to him was the view through the window of Seung-hyun's office at HJ, or the secretarial office attached next to it.

"As long as Executive Han is Executive Han... a person can't change that much. So this is."

This is for him. Seok-hyung muttered to himself for who knows how many times. The face he had last seen, it hadn't been long but it was strangely blurry, he tried to draw Seung-hyun's face and bit his lip hard.

"This is all for you."

A small voice that couldn't reach anyone resounded through his teeth.

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"Suddenly getting chills..."

Seung-hyun shivered at the sudden chill he felt. Come to think of it, the weather had gotten quite cold.

"Winter is coming soon..."

It was around the time of entering fall when he first became Han Seung-hyun, and now that season was ending.

That meant at least 25 percent of the time given to him had passed.

'I don't like that.'

At first, he thought this kind of life was good too. Anyway, he was dead, and even if he had lived, the situation was on the verge of his being gay being revealed.

Moreover, he would have been seriously injured, so he would definitely need to be hospitalized for at least a month, but there was no way he had that kind of money.

‘Since I don’t have insurance either... I thought it was better to die cleanly at once.’

It wasn’t that he didn’t have a family to grieve, but it was the same for everyone that just making a living was burdensome, so rather than making them bear the burden of his hospital bills, it might be better to end it after being sad for a while.

So he thought the present, where he could enjoy daily life without worrying about money as long as he took his medicine faithfully, although with a time limit, was better. At first, he definitely thought so, but...

The more he felt satisfaction with his current life, the more he gradually had lingering feelings. It was a life where he was always busy and lived with anxiety that someone might notice his secret.

Now, time was what he had left, and since the end was set anyway, he was living each day where it didn’t matter what he did. Rather, because of that, the desire to live was gradually growing.

But... perhaps there was an even bigger reason than that. A more decisive reason for him to think that if only the time left for him was a little longer.

He told him not to say it, but in the world, are there only things you know by hearing them in words? Seung-hyun wasn’t completely sure what feelings Jae-young had for him, but at least he knew what nature they were.

And Seung-hyun didn’t dislike those feelings. The fact that those feelings that only existed on the screen could become his own, the fact that someone expressed such feelings to him was good in itself.

But he didn’t want to admit it. He didn’t want to recall the two letters of the name of the emotion that filled his head.

“No. Useless thoughts...”

Both the lingering feelings for life and the feelings he once had a fantasy about. They were things not allowed for the current Seung-hyun.

They had to be untrue, feelings that shouldn't deepen any further. Seung-hyun shook his head and lightly slapped both his cheeks.

In fact, he knew what the wisest action was. Even now, to draw the line with Jae-young and distance himself from him so that neither lingering feelings nor hope would arise, he knew it was the right choice, but...

Wouldn't this much greed be okay? Jae-young's feelings probably started from curiosity and novelty, so it might not last long. He just wanted to think that way.

It had to be so that he could rationalize that he knew his feelings but couldn't completely push him away.

“I need something else... anything to focus on.”

Seung-hyun shook his head and wandered around the living room that was now quite filled with things. He didn't want to do outdoor activities in the gradually cooling weather, but he had to do something to shake off stray thoughts.

‘Should I go for a short walk? Getting some cold air might refresh my mind.’

And while doing that, let's think about what to do tomorrow and the day after. Seung-hyun changed into comfortable outdoor clothes and zipped up his outerwear to the top of his neck.

It was good up to the point of energetically going out.

“It's cold.”

The weather entering early winter was a bit chillier than he thought. Should I have worn thicker clothes when I came out?

‘No, won't it get a bit warmer if I walk?’

He pondered for a moment whether to go back in and change clothes now, but decided to walk like this and took a step.

It had been about a week since he moved. During that time, Jae-young had visited Seung-hyun's house one more time.

'There are many empty rooms.'

'If you like sleeping on the bare floor without a blanket or pillow, do as you please.'

When he made an excuse that there was no bedding for the transparently visible request, he inwardly hoped he would say it was okay. The answer Seung-hyun wanted didn't come back, but it wasn't like Jae-young gave up meekly either.

'Then it's solved.'

Seung-hyun couldn't stop Jae-young from buying this and that on the spot as if he was going to set up his room furnishings in someone else's house. It might be more accurate to say he didn't stop him.

I shouldn't be swayed, it shouldn't deepen. But it was always just a thought.

"Was I such an indecisive person..."

When it shouldn't be, he should have coldly cut it off, but he was only being dragged along in a relationship, and while feeling stupid himself, he didn't want to end it.

If he ended up hearing those words like this, then he would really have to cut off this relationship.

'I guess I'm destined to have no connection with dating.'

Seung-hyun smiled self-deprecatingly. Unlike his mood, the sunlight was dazzling. It was an ambiguous time between morning and afternoon, but quite a lot of people were passing by in the park.

'There are many people walking their dogs.'

And most of their hands held a handle connected to a leash. Well, I guess this is the only place nearby to walk them. Seung-hyun looked at the dogs walking around in a good mood.

'I wanted to raise one.'

He liked animals, but he knew that it was a bad thing for someone who couldn't even take care of his own body to take responsibility for a life just because it was cute.

Not being able to raise one was the same now. Going out for a walk occasionally and watching would be the best. He sat on a park bench for a moment and looked at the dogs passing by.

Perhaps because it was a wealthy neighborhood, they all had a well-managed appearance, with no trace of tear stains on their faces.

“Woof!”

“...?”

How long had he been like that? A feisty sound was heard from behind his legs. When he lowered his head, he saw a puppy sticking its wet nose against Seung-hyun's calf.

#### ***Episode 44***

It was about the size of a medium-sized dog. I'm not sure what breed it was, but it wasn't something you'd see often in Korea.

“Seeing the leash connected to a line...looks like the owner must have let go of the leash.”

“Huff, huff.”

The dog that approached Seung-hyun through the bench legs tilted its head while panting. The fact that it wasn't afraid of people at all and had a face full of curiosity made it clear it was a mischievous one raised with love.

“But your owner will still worry. What if you just run over like this.”

Seung-hyun said while lightly petting the dog's head. The dog, looking satisfied as if liking the touch of a stranger's hand, soon perked up its ears and barked once looking in the direction it had run from.

“Woof!”

“Leo. What if you just run off as you please...huh?”

The man, who seemed to have been running around looking for his dog, catching his breath, made a surprised face upon seeing Seung-hyun.

“The one I saw at the mart that time...right?”

It was the man who had helped Seung-hyun when he suddenly had a seizure at the mart not long ago. Who would have thought we'd meet again here. Seung-hyun awkwardly got up from the bench and greeted the man.

“Fancy meeting you here again.”

“I know, right. Wow. This neighborhood may be small but...I don't live here, so I don't come often. But how did we happen to run into each other like this?”

The man sat naturally next to Seung-hyun, winding the dog's leash tightly around his hand as if never to let go again.

“Are you feeling a bit better? Did you go to the hospital?”

“I'm fine. It was because I couldn't take my medication on time. I'm taking it well now, so that shouldn't happen.”

“Medication?”

The good-natured man asked with a worried face. Hide it, or no. He's someone who will just pass by anyway. After contemplating briefly, Seung-hyun said,

“My health isn't good.”

“Ah...that must be very hard.”

Even at the vague words, the man made a face of sincere sympathy. Somehow, he was someone who made you feel at ease.

“Shall I introduce you to my doctor? My father's health was poor until last year too, but he got much better after the doctor took good care of him.”

“It's alright. It's not a problem with the doctor.”

“Ah...I'm sorry. I meddled too much.”

“No. It's okay.”

Seung-hyun smiled, seeing the man worrying if he had meddled too much belatedly.

“I don’t mind.”

“Is that so. That’s a relief. I get nagged at a lot by my family to stop meddling unnecessarily.”

The man said, seeming relieved while brushing his chest. Well, there are certainly people who dislike this kind of meddling, but Seung-hyun didn’t find that excessive kindness uncomfortable.

“I was feeling bad that I didn’t properly thank you then.”

“No, no. I just did what I had to do.”

“I should have at least gotten your number, but I was so out of it I just let you go.”

“Haha. I thought the same thing. I kept worrying if you got home okay.”

The man laughed brightly. It was obvious he was someone raised with love. Although Seung-hyun hadn’t met many people since becoming Han Seung-hyun, there were enough to compare in many ways.

‘Strictly speaking, Ju Jae-young is like that too, but...that side is a bit different.’

“Leo begged to go on a walk with me, so I delayed my schedule to go home and came out for a walk...Leo, did you know this would happen and told me to come out?”

“Kying?”

Leo, who was playing while digging the ground firmly holding the leash, tilted his head upon hearing his name.

“This guy. What are we going to do with you digging the ground like this.”

“Woof woof!”

The man pretended to be angry at Leo, who had dug the ground quite a bit in the brief moment of being unattended, but Leo just turned his head, acting coy, not paying any attention.

“He must be frustrated to come out for a walk and do this.”

“Still...I told him to only dig at home so many times.”

“We can still talk while walking, can't we.”

Seung-hyun said, getting up from his seat. The man, alternating glances between Leo and Seung-hyun for a moment, let out a small sigh saying ‘this troublemaker’.

“I raised him so dotingly that he thinks he's the king, not even giving his paw if there's no snack.”

“You must cherish him a lot.”

Although they had only met twice, he was strangely someone who made people feel at ease. Is this what it means for someone to be likeable as a person? Seung-hyun continued the conversation, walking side by side with the man.

“I can't say much myself but...it's a problem that my parents cherish him too much. At first, I insisted on bringing him, you know. Back then, they told me to take care of everything myself, but at some point, my parents started cherishing him more...when I said I'd take him when I get married, they jumped up and down saying no way.”

“Marriage? You must have gotten married early.”

He looked to be a college student. Well, it's not strange to marry early in a chaebol family.

“I'm not that young...I'll be thirty-one soon.”

Just as he was thinking that, the man, with a slightly embarrassed face, hesitated for a moment before telling his age. Surprised by the age exceeding his expectations, Seung-hyun apologized in embarrassment.

“I'm sorry. I didn't know...”

“No, it’s okay. Ah, come to think of it, we didn’t even know each other’s names.”

Seung-hyun, who only then realized he had forgotten to introduce himself in the strangely comfortable atmosphere, made a late self-introduction.

“I’m Han Seung-hyun. As for my age...I’m twenty-nine.”

“I thought you’d be younger. You have a baby face.”

The man said with a surprised look. Strictly speaking, it’s true that Han Seung-hyun has a baby face too, but it felt strange to hear he has a baby face from someone who looks much younger.

“My name is...ah! Wait a minute! Leo!”

The moment the man was about to say his name, Leo discovered something and tried to run towards it. His strength was so great that the man almost fell forward.

“This guy, really...huh?”

The man, who was being dragged in the direction Leo was running, made a surprised face as if he discovered something. The man’s steps headed towards where Leo was trying to run.

“That’s my husband’s car. He did say he’d come to pick me up but...ah. There was a call. I’m going to get scolded.”

The man took out his cell phone from his pocket, checked the missed call records, and made a face like he was in big trouble.

“Actually, there’s another reason I couldn’t take Leo when I got married. My husband and I didn’t get along well from the beginning...but somehow Leo really likes my husband. Who was the one who fed, walked, and cherished him. This traitor.”

“Woof woof!”

The man checked there was no one in the car and looked around.

“I guess he’s looking for me in person since I didn’t answer the phone. If I meet him, I’ll get nagged again asking why I carry a cell phone if I’m going to keep it on silent every time.”

He grumbled, but even without seeing, it seemed like he had a good relationship with his husband. Well, if he’s this comfortable with a stranger, he must provide stability to his spouse too.

“I said I’d be back before lunch, but he’s always so impatient. Leo. Look for the person, not the car. Can’t you smell him?”

“Woof woof!”

The man told Leo to look for his husband, but Leo only circled near the car. After watching for a moment, the man sighed as if giving up.

“I’m the fool for counting on you.”

“You two must have a good relationship.”

“Hmm...I guess so. That’s right.”

Seeing that they didn’t get along well from the beginning, was it an arranged marriage at first? Well, it’s not a rare story.

Just thinking about Tae-sung and Seon-hu, the main characters of this novel, it was like that. Tae-sung, who hated the traits of alphas and omegas themselves, disliked Seon-hu, but before long, he began to feel drawn to Seon-hu’s sunny personality....

‘Come to think of it, I think Seon-hu also raised a dog. He couldn’t see it often since it was at his family home, but he occasionally came to the family home and walked it together with Tae-sung....’

“At first, we didn’t get along well...it’s all because I made the person. Well. It’s okay now.”

The man said, smiling mischievously. Well, if it’s someone like this, anyone would have no choice but to think so, and Seung-hyun also nodded in agreement.

‘But somehow...the more I hear the story, the more I get an inexplicable uneasy feeling....’

“Ah. Come to think of it, I was introducing myself. I’m Lee Seon-hu.”

The moment he felt an unexplainable uneasiness and heard the man’s familiar name, Seung-hyun froze on the spot. Seon-hu, Lee Seon-hu?

‘No. There must be more than one person in the world named Lee Seon-hu. But...no way....’

“By any chance, is your husband....”

“Lee Seon-hu. Why aren’t you answering your phone....”

Just as he was about to ask if the husband’s name was Han Tae-sung, a familiar voice called out to Seon-hu from behind. The expressions of the two people who simultaneously looked back were markedly different.

“Leo kept going off on his own, so I couldn’t pay attention to my phone. Ah, this person is....”

“...Han Seung-hyun?”

Tae-sung’s expression hardened upon discovering Seung-hyun. Seeing his husband’s expression stiffen, Seon-hu stopped talking in the strange atmosphere.

### ***Episode 45***

“Do you know this person? Wow. It’s such a small world.”

“Lee Seon-hu, you...you don’t know who this person is?”

“I...I know him too?”

It seems that “Lee Seon-hu” was indeed this Lee Seon-hu. Seung-hyun held his throbbing head.

Although he tried hard to memorize the faces of the characters in the novel, it was particularly difficult to find photos of Seon-hu. Not only was he unrelated to management, but as RF’s precious youngest omega, Seon-hu was thoroughly protected from the media.

If he had asked Seok-hyung, he could have gotten at least one photo, but he was also afraid of how Seok-hyung would interpret that request, and thinking he wouldn't run into him anyway, he had forgotten about it.

'But like this....'

Well, it was said that Jae-young and Seon-hu grew up as neighbors and childhood friends, so if Jae-young's family home is in this area, naturally Seon-hu's family home would be nearby too. Why didn't he think of this? No, even if he had thought of it, who would have known that out of so many people, he would get entangled with Seon-hu like this?

It was a ridiculous situation even to himself, so it was obvious how Tae-sung would take this situation.

"Take Leo and go home first. I'll be there soon."

"Why...."

"Hurry."

Seon-hu, who hadn't noticed the seriousness of the situation, observed for a moment at Tae-sung's scary voice and left with Leo.

"I was stupid to think I should believe your words."

"....."

Tae-sung's voice was filled with hostility. Seung-hyun looked up at Tae-sung without a word. It was a ridiculous situation even to himself. He couldn't even gauge how to answer.

"If you wanted to turn my stomach, you could have just messed with me alone. Pretending to cower and going after Seon-hu behind my back...."

"I have zero interest in Mr. Lee Seon-hu."

It was a statement that lacked credibility even to himself, but there was no other way. Seung-hyun let out a small sigh and said,

"We just happened to meet while I was taking a walk after moving here, and talked briefly. If you're suspicious, ask him directly. What we talked about."

“That’s how it would start at first. But think about it. Do you need to get close to Seon-hu? It’s obvious what you’ll try to do next, and you’re making such an excuse.”

He had been too careless. It doesn’t matter what Tae-sung thinks of him, but he would pass on this kind of misunderstanding. Because it’s obvious he’ll be annoying if he thinks there’s an ulterior motive.

“Just make up a more credible story if you’re going to lie. Not some stupid excuse that’s not even funny.”

Tae-sung said in a cold voice. A quiet Seung-hyun, and Seok-hyung who became Hyeokjae’s secretary. He really thought he had lost interest in the company.

But it seems he had underestimated Seung-hyun too much. While pretending to be quiet in front, he was reaching out to Seon-hu behind the scenes.

“...Then think as you please.”

Seung-hyun sighed at the hostile gaze that yielded no answer. Whatever he said, Tae-sung wouldn’t believe him. It was ridiculous even to himself, so it was only natural what Tae-sung, who was already suspicious of Seung-hyun, would think in this situation.

It wasn’t a situation that could be explained in a few words, and rather, the more he tried to explain, the parts that couldn’t be explained would definitely catch Seung-hyun by the ankle.

‘I won’t go out of the house anyway...who cares if he dislikes it. I have no choice but to be suspected.’

“No matter what I say, you have no intention of believing me, right?”

“You call that words now...!”

A thick vein popped up on Tae-sung’s forehead. Seung-hyun honestly didn’t understand why Tae-sung was so angry. Why is he acting like someone who was betrayed when he never believed in him from the start?

“What’s the point of asking when you’ve already decided on the answer, when you never believed me in the first place.”

“Yeah. A person can’t change easily after all.”

“You hope I won’t change, right? Forget it. I won’t have a reason to approach Mr. Lee Seon-hu again, so don’t worry for nothing.”

If he had known from the beginning that the man was Lee Seon-hu, no matter how bad he felt, he would have run away immediately. No matter how good a person he was, as long as he was Han Seung-hyun, he was someone he shouldn’t get involved with.

“Just keep suspecting me. That will end someday too.”

It was foolish to try to persuade someone who couldn’t be persuaded. Well, and it’s better for Tae-sung if “Han Seung-hyun” remains a bad person until the end.

‘I guess I can’t go for walks anymore.’

If there was one thing he regretted, it was only that. Seung-hyun turned around and took a step. But he couldn’t take a few steps before Tae-sung grabbed his wrist and stopped him.

“What is it?”

“I’m not done talking yet.”

Tae-sung said, frowning. He was angrier than he himself expected.

It wasn’t simply that Seung-hyun was pretending to have no interest in the company or himself in front, while contacting Seon-hu behind the scenes.

‘I can’t believe I tried to trust this guy.’

He felt pathetic for worrying if something was really wrong with Seung-hyun, for the suddenly changed him. A person can’t change that easily, so what kind of foolish thoughts did he have?

“Tell me. What were you thinking approaching Seon-hu?”

It seemed he had no intention of letting Seung-hyun go until he heard that answer. But Seung-hyun was also frustrated. It was really just a coincidence, so what answer should he give?

“This park is a 10-minute walk from my house. Is it wrong to come out for a walk?”

“It seems you have things to do even after moving to a place with no connections.”

“Then I would have gone near Director Han’s house. How do you think I would know by some trick the date Lee Seon-hu is coming to his family home and be here waiting?”

“There’s no other reason for you to do this otherwise. Don’t tell me the clever Director Han forgot Seon-hu’s face. At least make up a more sincere excuse.”

It felt like talking to a wall. Of course, it was also a problem that he himself couldn’t answer properly. Seung-hyun held his forehead, feeling helpless about how to resolve this situation.

‘He seems determined not to let go until he gets a satisfactory answer...should I just answer as he wants?’

It seemed he should give an appropriate answer that fits the personality of the villainous Han Seung-hyun, but he couldn’t think of the right words.

“If you’re that worried, you just have to not send him here in the future.”

“What?”

“This is in front of my house, and the ones who came to this neighborhood as guests are Director Han and his spouse, so if you don’t want to run into me, that side just has to not come. I don’t want to deal with the hassle either.”

At the meaningful words, Tae-sung finally let go of the wrist he was painfully gripping. Is this enough? Seung-hyun lightly rubbed his aching wrist and said,

“Isn’t it right for the side that doesn’t want to get involved to not seek the other out?”

“Director Han Seung-hyun.”

“It’s been a while since I stepped down from the director position, but the information doesn’t seem to be updated. How long will you keep calling me that?”

“You...!”

“But we’re not close enough for me to be spoken to casually either.”

Tae-sung was a cautious person, so now he probably won’t send Seon-hu here alone. It was a bit regretful to grow distant from someone he wanted to get close to like this, but it couldn’t be helped.

“If you want to blame me, at least don’t enter my territory. Since when did taking a walk in front of my house become illegal?”

“The story you’re telling now....”

“What’s going on?”

“Did a fight break out?”

“Should we call security?”

As their voices grew louder, passersby were whispering, looking their way to see if something was happening.

“...You should at least keep those words for now. I have zero intention of just taking it lying down.”

As Tae-sung also seemed to not want to cause a scene, he growled in a low voice and turned away. Seung-hyun inwardly sighed, thinking this meaningless conversation would finally end.

I hope this meeting with Tae-sung is the last. Seung-hyun could only take steps after confirming until the end that Tae-sung got in his car and disappeared.

‘I came out to lift my mood but like this....’

It was a walk he took wanting to soothe his jumbled feelings but it became even more complicated. Not only meeting someone he didn’t want to meet, but the flow of getting entangled with characters from the novel for his remaining days that won’t be very long seemed to be telling him...you can’t completely escape from the life of “Han Seung-hyun”, making him feel more depressed.

I just want to live peacefully. Is there no other way but to not take a single step out of the house?

It would have been nice to at least drink alcohol on a day like this. Once again, this body that wasn't allowed even one deviation felt detestable.

At the very least, it would be nice to have someone to talk to. He didn't want to tell Jae-young about Seon-hu.

"I want to do something today."

Seung-hyun muttered quietly and walked towards home. The short walk ended like that.