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"Long time no see." Hannah smiled.

In actuality, she didn't have anything against Manuel.

Manuel was easy to get along with.

He always played the role of a big brother in taking care of Susan. Of course, he did so too for Hannah.

In her memory, Susan was very repulsive towards Manuel, but he always tolerated her tantrums.

No matter how much bad blood Susan had in between them, he would always try to be understanding.

Hannah didn't know whether Manuel's departure had anything to do with Henry's appearance.

Maybe it had.

Or else, why would he suddenly go off somewhere far away after being by Susan's side for so many years?

Besides, Hannah had distanced herself from Manuel ever since Susan had chosen Henry from the two of them.

In fact, putting aside Susan, Manuel could be considered her intimate childhood friend too.

In the past, she didn't know the entirety of the truth, so she didn't like Manuel too, but now that she knew everything, she even felt some slight remorse towards this man.

Manuel returned her smile, "Long time no see too."

"I really thought that you will never come back anymore," Hannah said frankly.

"Well, I am here because I was forced by my mother." Manuel sounded a little helpless as he explained, "I am her only family, so..." Actually, Hannah wasn't feeling so repulsive towards his return.

In her last life, due to Susan, she also maintained some distance between Manuel and herself.

Therefore, in Manuel's opinion, she shouldn't be so warm in her reception of him.

"Welcome back." Hannah suddenly thrust out her hand.

There was a trace of shock on Manuel's ever so gentle smiling face.

He slowly took Hannah's hand and said, "Thanks."

"Welcome. We may have a meal together when you're free."

"Okay."

"Are you going to work in Phillips Bank after returning?" Hannah asked nonchalantly.

"No." Manuel sounded very determined.

Hannah smiled again, "You have overhead my conversation with Susan."

He must have heard Susan commenting that Manuel was back to wrestle away some of the family inheritance.

All the while, Susan thought that Manuel and her mother was hiding something malicious up their sleeves.

She couldn't blame Susan for thinking like that.

When Justine became part of the Phillips family all those years before, Susan's mother was still alive.

Of course, it didn't mean that Justine had caused Susan's mother's demise, it's just that when Susan's life was hanging on a tread due to a heavy disease, all Susan's father could think about was Justine, and he also didn't show a lot of concern for Susan's mother. Although the couple was divorced at that time, Susan still thought that her father was too heartless. The final and most critical came in the form of her father, Edward's refusal to see her mother one last time at the time she was giving her last breath. This incident would be something Susan would never recover from all her life.

"I won't take part in the division of inheritance of the Phillips family." Manuel said bluntly.

"I know that." She knew that it was true.

Manuel was still staring at Hannah with a strange light in his eyes.

He probably didn't imagine that Hannah would trust him fully like this.

After all, she had been standing in Susan's shoes all the time throughout the years.

"I just think that if you are capable, can you influence Susan to work at the company? I really can't ease my own worries about that..." Hannah began, "Susan is really head over heels for Henry."

"Henry is treating Susan very well." Manuel commented.

He said this without any hint of emotion.

Hannah continued to stare at him.

"Right. I heard that you are going to marry next month." Manuel ventured into another topic as he wanted to change the topic.

Hannah knowingly stopped lingering on the last topic.

After all, she was in no position to interfere in the problems of their relationship.

"That's true." Hannah nodded.

She was going to marry soon.

But her partner would not be Charles.

"I wish you all the happiness in the world in advance."

"Thank you." Hannah smiled, "It's getting late now. I need to head back home."

"Take care."

Hannah stepped into her car.

Her car slowly left the Phillips' villa.

She turned around and took a look at Manuel who was shrinking in the distance.

She would never forget the scene in her last life when Manuel laid eyes on Susan's corpse, and the anguished and tormented look he had on his face.

In this lifetime, she would not allow such a tragedy to happen again!

. . .

In the Cooper Manor, when Hannah reached home, her father was still awake.

He was probably worried about her being out so late sending off Susan from the nightclub.

Her mother on the other hand had retired to the bedroom.

"Dad." Hannah greeted her father intimately.

Hannah was really grateful for being able to live a life with her parents by her side. She thanked God for it.

"How is Susan that kid?" Miguel asked with concern.

He was concerned because their family was on good terms with the Phillips family.

Susan always frequented their home, and coupled with the fact that Susan despised her father and stepmother, she had stuck to Hannah's parents more often, and her parents indeed treated Susan like their own daughter.

"She's drunk, but I've sent her back." Hannah replied noncommittally.

"Great that you've sent her home. Ask her not to drink so much in the future. It's bad for her health."

"I've told her many times, you know."

"It's not early now. Go to sleep."

"Dad, I have something I want to discuss with you." Hannah's voice sounded a little grave.

"Spill it."

"You have been together with mum for many years and you have a great relationship. But have you really contributed anything to her at all?"

Miguel suddenly froze.

It seemed that he was struggling with coming up with an answer.

"Mum never chases after anything, but throughout all these years, my mother has been looked down upon by others! Nowadays, she rarely dabbles with the rich ladies in the circle, but do you really think that is her own choice? Do you really think mum doesn't want to make some friends? No. It's just that mum hails from a poor background, and those rich ladies didn't want to have anything to do with mum. And all those years, you never install her as an office lady in the family. You never told the others about mum, about her position in the family." Hannah continued gravely, "Those rich ladies probably think that mum is just like any other maid, who is not worthy of being the lady in our family!"

In the past, under the education of her parents, she always thought that names and reputation were superficial stuff, and as long as they could lead a good life, she wouldn't care about how outsiders view them.

However, she was different now.

She had changed into someone who could not afford any mistreatment.

She had changed into someone who didn't want her friends and families to experience any mistreatment.

In reality, the world was a huge food chain and only the fittest would survive. If they lowered their stance, they would get bullied even more.

Miguel couldn't help being angry after listening to Hannah's words, "Who dares to spout that nonsense?"

"That's not the point. The point is that those rich ladies do indeed have such an opinion."

"I can't allow your mother to get looked down upon like that!" Miguel cut her off firmly.

"That is why you need to do something for her."

"What should I do?" Miguel sounded a little worrisome.

"When mum's fiftieth birthday arrives, you need to throw a majestic party for her to show all those ladies in Kensbury City that the lady of the Cooper Group is someone they could never touch!" Hannah suggested.

Miguel looked a little hesitant after hearing that.

"Dad, our family is being too humble in the past few years. No matter what kind of occasion or party, we would be very low-key. If we are not up to par, then I can understand, but our family does have something to show for. As one of the four big families in Northfield, and as the second-ranked family in the wealthiest family list, why can't we show the world that we are indeed at the top of our game?"

Why did they have to succumb to the Sawyers all the time?