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Once their lust dissipated, her unhappiness over the evening's events crept in. When she thought about the private room at The Bay Restaurant, she recalled how the men looked at her and their attitude toward their female companions. It was simply infuriating. She didn't understand Tobias' social circle and wondered if philandering was a favorite pastime of theirs.

Tobias didn't expect Skylar to be so affected by it. His intention was simple. All he wanted to do was have dinner and head home after that. And yet, it triggered Skylar.

He bit down on her shoulder forcefully. It was so painful Skylar covered it and glared at him.

"Next time, please don't take me to such dinners. All of them see women as objects. Is it supposed to be a gathering of mistresses?" Skylar voiced her resentment. Tonight's experience was really upsetting for her.

"Alright. Stop letting your imagination run wild. I don't have a mistress and neither are you one." Tobias pulled Skylar into his embrace easily and drank some water from the glass beside the bed. After that, he fed it into Skylar's lips.

As the warm water flowed from his lips, Skylar didn't swallow and let it flow along her lower jaw instead. Tobias quickly followed up by kissing along the trail of the water.

Under normal circumstances, Tobias was a man of few words. He seemed to be born with a frosty demeanor, similar to those of noble blood. He was both powerful and intimidating, to the extent Skylar didn't dare disobey him.

But in bed, he was never lacking in ideas. He could easily arouse her and turn her on until she was driven crazy with lust.

Again, Skylar woke up before Tobias did. Both of their circadian clocks seemed to be on different tracks. She remembered falling asleep in a daze before Tobias left the room. When

she went to the bathroom at midnight, she realized he wasn't in bed and noticed that the study room light was on.

She didn't disturb him and left without making a sound. She was curious as to when Tobias would ever sleep earlier than her.

Breakfast was simple. They had whole wheat bread, hard-boiled eggs, and black coffee.

Skylar began to watch her weight. Previously, she assumed that she could eat anything without putting on weight. After being together with Tobias for the last few months, she realized she gained ten pounds despite not seeing each other every day. Fortunately, ten pounds wasn't a lot for an ordinary person as she was still just as slim.

But, the saying goes, "one looks ten pounds heavier on the silver screen". When Skylar saw her face on film, it looked as if she had put on more than ten pounds. As screens were two-dimensional, they had the effect of flattening one's face. Even Daryl questioned her as to why did she put on so much weight.

Skylar wondered if it was because she was getting older and her metabolism was slowing down. But, she was only twenty years old. Hence, it must be due to Tobias. A man's love could also fatten a lady up.

Without waiting for Tobias, she began biting into the tasteless whole wheat bread. She planned for it to be her only meal for the day. So that she could lose ten pounds within the month.

While she was nibbling on the dense texture of the bread, Tobias came down from upstairs. His first reaction was, "Are you broke?"

After painstakingly swallowing a mouthful of bread and drinking some water, she replied, "It's bad luck to talk about being broke first thing in the morning."

Tobias picked up the whole wheat bread and realized that it was dark and hard. Skylar hadn't bothered to toast the bread first. Although they seldom cooked, the kitchen was still very well equipped.

"Why are you tormenting yourself by having such a breakfast? What in the world are you even eating?" Tobias brought out a bottle of milk and put it into the microwave.

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Skylar didn't dare tell Tobias that she was trying to lose weight as he wanted her to look plumper. Ideally, he wanted her to have big breasts and protruding hips so that it felt curvaceous to the touch. However, her figure was still pretty good with curves in all the right places.

Tobias had even asked her before if she had stopped growing after sixteen.

Despite sounding harmless, it was an utterly humiliating question.

She had actually put some serious thought into it. She only vaguely remembered that she had to wear a long sleeve school uniform even in summer. It had covered all her physical beauty that came along with puberty. Hence, no one thought about buying bras for her.

At that time, she thought how wonderful it would be if her mom were still around. However, she grew up with minimal supervision as her parents were not around. As Grandma was already old, this was one of the things that slipped her mind.

Skylar opened the fridge in front of Tobias. "The fridge is empty. So I'll head to school first before stocking it up. What do you want to eat tonight?"

Tobias picked up the bread that Skylar had eaten halfway and took a bite. He immediately found it unpalatable.

"You can save the trouble. I won't be staying here for the next few days. You decide whatever you want to eat. Or else I can get a chef to cook for you every day."

When Tobias told her what his plans were, Skylar pursed her lips. She had many plans in her mind as she assumed he would be treating the place like home and spend more time with her. However, it now appeared that he had different plans.

"Where are you going if you're not staying here?"

"Home. My mom is due for her heart surgery. The international team of specialists treating my mom concluded that we shouldn't delay any longer. After all, it is an extremely risky surgery."

When Tobias brought up the matter, his eyes were filled with concern. There were risks in any surgery and he was worried that his mom couldn't survive it.

"Therefore, are you going to stay in the same house as Tanya?" Looking annoyed, Skylar tilted her chin upward.

Tobias laughed at her. "You used to be so afraid of me. And now, you're being extremely territorial. I'll come back once the operation is over. So stop letting your imagination run wild."

Skylar didn't insist on him staying as she knew he had his mind made up and was just informing her about it. Besides, given that Claudia was undergoing a major operation, Tobias would definitely have to be there for her.

After breakfast, she returned to school. The moment she entered her dorm, she realized her bed was filled with random things belonging to everyone else.

Feeling embarrassed, Yasmin rolled up her sleeves and prepared to move her things. "I thought you were not coming back. I'll move my stuff right away."

"Forget it, I won't be here anyway. You don't have to move them."

Carmen sneered, "That's true. I heard you found a new place and that it's a villa. You wouldn't come back here unless you needed to."

Despite maintaining her smile, Skylar gathered all of Carmen's things on her bed. "You should take your things away. It's running out of space here."

Carmen scoffed, "You're so petty. Can't you be more generous?"

When Skylar looked at Carmen's annoying face, she understood why she was close to Avery. After all, both of them belonged to the extremely annoying group.

When Avery saw Skylar after her class ended, her attitude improved a lot. However, Skylar could still sense the lack of sincerity. "Congratulations for completing filming in the hills as the second female lead."

Smiling, Skylar replied plainly, "Thank you. I really regret taking your role from you. If it were you, you may have ended up as the female lead. I failed to keep the role."

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When Avery heard Skylar's snide remarks, her true feelings were not written on her face.

After leaving the dorm, Skylar went to the instructor's office to cancel her leave. The instructor was on bad terms with her. During the spring trip, he blamed her for all their problems. Also, Skylar didn't gift him anything when he went around announcing his wedding to everyone.

All the students sent him wedding gifts privately except for Skylar.

After knocking on the door, Skylar informed him of her purpose of visit. Standing in front of his table, the instructor scrutinized her from head to toe. He realized that she had become a different person ever since she started acting in a movie. Skylar was holding a Hermès bag and wearing clothes from Chanel. Her pants were from a brand he didn't even recognize.

Despite being rich after starting from humble beginnings, she was still oblivious about his wedding. That was utterly disrespectful of her!

"You didn't complete all your credit hours. Hence, you need to repeat the semester again." The instructor pulled out her notice to repeat from a file of documents.

Skylar was puzzled. "Why do I need to repeat when I have taken leave? Before I went filming, I already applied for leave from you."

"No, you didn't do that," the instructor lied. He did remember Skylar applying for leave but he had canceled it. He preferred students that curry favor with him instead of the stingy ones.

It isn't about money. It's about respect.

"I did apply for leave three months ago!" Skylar was guessing if the instructor was making her life difficult on purpose. It was of no use if it was just her word against his.

"I have no record of that. You should just accept the notice. If you can't do it, I'm afraid you can't continue studying here."

Skylar suppressed the urge to roll her eyes. She forced a laugh instead. "I'll go and check with the administrative office and hope that you have made a mistake. After all, I have a weak heart and will feel miserable if I have been wrongly accused. I'll be so depressed that I may leave this world for another one. Who knows what I'll do when I'm impulsive. I'm just worried I'll get you involved."

The instructor had heard that last semester there was a student who was devastated when she received a repeat notice. Unable to accept it, she committed suicide by jumping into a lake. Therefore, Skylar was using this incident to threaten him.

He cleared his throat and answered, "I'm just doing my job according to the rules. I can't accord you special treatment just because you went filming."

Skylar left the office with the notice in hand. Ever since she was young, none of her teachers ever liked her.

She didn't have good results nor a good family background. Also, she wasn't street smart at all. During sports day in high school, she was sitting in a front-row seat. But her teacher forced her to give up her seat to others.

During the parent-teacher meeting, Grandma would always have a glum expression on.

No matter which school she went to, someone would always find out that her mom was a murderer and that she had no one to watch over her.

Hence, she never had any luck with boys in school. During those days, the only person by her side was Jeremy.

The repeat notice stated that she needed to complete another thirty credit hours to avoid punishment this semester. Or else, she would be expelled from school.

The thirty credit hours translated into thirty classes of two hours each. Furthermore, she needed to sit for the supplementary exam.

On top of that, she still had to complete her B2 French lessons. In their film academy, French was an extremely important subject, more so than the others.

If she didn't pass her B2 exam, she would have to drop out and it would really be troublesome.

Filming was physically tiring while school was mentally taxing. She couldn't allow the instructor to get away with twisting the facts about her leave application. Hence, she wasn't going to accept the status quo. Worse comes to worst, she would go and see the principal.

Whether she would end up repeating the classes would depend on more than just her words. Hence, Skylar wanted to find someone to complain about it.

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However, she realized there wasn't anyone she could talk to. Tobias had gone home and wouldn't be interested in listening to her rants. Therefore, she decided to have lunch at the cafeteria.

When she arrived, she recalled that she was on a diet. However, the whole wheat bread in the morning was simply too little to fill her stomach. Furthermore, her body was signaling to her that she was in need of food.

Lucky for her, the cafeteria of a film academy was not short on meals for people on a diet. There was even a special booth catering to them. Skylar ordered a salad without the vinaigrette and dressing.

The calories of the dressing and vinaigrette combined come close to that of a fatty piece of steak.

Holding her salad, Skylar went around finding a seat. She finally found one in front of a BBQ booth. Eating her greens while taking in the smell of BBQ meat was a tormenting experience.

As long as she continued acting, she would have a never-ending battle with her appetite. She finally understood why actresses always had a bad temper.

"Can I join you?" Above her, a sweet voice rang out while Skylar was munching on a piece of cucumber.

Looking up, she saw Luciana from the dinner last night. In a pair of TB shorts, a white top, and a Kenzo cap, she looked exceptionally sporty and fashionable. Compared to how provocatively she dressed last night, she appeared to be an entirely different person. Today, she looked like a pretty and active female student.

"It seems like fate has brought us together again." Skylar had heard that it was common for students at the film academy to have sugar daddies. In fact, anyone in school might have one.

After all, they were all gorgeous, and being beautiful meant that they had what men wanted. Regardless of whether it was looks or figure, all of them were the cream of the crop from the whole country.

Luciana laughed. "Actually, I already recognized you yesterday. After all, you are relatively famous to have been chosen by Daryl. I was also there on the day of the audition. Now, I understand how you got the part so easily. It's because you slept with Tobias."

When Luciana talked about it, it seemed like a casual chat to her. She didn't feel that it was inappropriate to be discussing this at the cafeteria.

"The fact that I got the part had nothing to do with him." Skylar didn't understand why she even bothered to explain. Perhaps, she didn't want to be misunderstood and wanted others to know she got the part based on her own merit.

Luciana scoffed, "In that case, you should milk the opportunity as much as you can before you are dumped. There are no good men among them. If you hadn't saved me last night, I might have died at the table itself. However, if I made Mr. Crane happy, I would get a part. Hence, it was a worthwhile gamble."

Skylar didn't understand why Luciana had to set aside her dignity to do that. Given how pretty she was, she would potentially have a bright future ahead of her.

Nevertheless, Skylar didn't lecture her as she didn't know what Luciana had been through before. After all, her own life was messy enough, and she wasn't in a much better position.

After chatting a while longer, Skylar prepared to leave. However, Luciana called out to her, "Actually, you should consider yourself lucky. When you wanted to have a drink, Tobias changed it to fruit juice instead. It's obvious that our positions are different. You are the first woman that Tobias has brought along. Before that, I've seen him a couple of times in similar gatherings."

However, Skylar felt that was the way it should be. When men brought their girls out, they were responsible for taking care of their partners' needs. Instead, she felt Luciana was not showing herself enough respect to expect the same treatment.

Meanwhile, Penelope was waiting for her near the school. Skylar had the check Tobias had given her in her pocket.

When both of them met, Skylar gave her the check.

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However, both her tone and body language were filled with repulsion. "You took his money again? Who is he really to give you five hundred thousand that easily? This money is a lifetime of savings of another ordinary person."

"I borrowed the money but you don't have to repay me in a hurry. Just take your time." Skylar didn't want to give Penelope too much pressure.

She already had enough bad luck. Before she even graduated, she was cheated of so much money. Given how hard it was to make money now, there was no way she could earn much even if she worked non-stop.

Penelope was close to being driven mad by the debt collectors. Therefore, she had no choice but to take the check while insisting that she would repay everything.

Skylar heaved a sigh of relief when Penelope accepted the money. After all, she had been kept up the whole night by Tobias just so that she could get it.

Even then, Penelope didn't forget to show Skylar a picture of her new boyfriend. Skylar was impressed that under such dire circumstances, Penelope still had the mood to be in a relationship.

When Skylar leaned in to look at the picture on Penelope's phone, she saw a guy who had permed his hair to make it look frizzy. Even through the screen, she could feel that he was a jerk.

Penelope was always like that. Her taste in guys was extremely different from Skylar's. Hence, there would never be a case where both of them as best friends would fight over the same man.

She commented insincerely, "He's alright, just a little strange."

"What do you mean by 'strange'?"

Skylar replied, "He doesn't look like someone you could rely on."

There was no way Penelope shared Skylar's opinion.

She explained, "We have a very good relationship. Every day, we would talk a lot on the phone and yet still have so much to say."

Skylar laughed at herself for worrying about Penelope when she still had plenty of time for love.

Two minutes after she mentioned him, Penelope's boyfriend called.

When Penelope saw who it was, she quickly forgot her troubles with a smile. "He's checking on me again and is really clingy. That's why it's better to be in a relationship with someone your age. You will have common topics and also passion. Look at you now, your phone hasn't even rung once. Any man worth his salt would be calling by now."

Skylar put her phone back in her pocket. "He's really busy and will only call at night. However, we really are different from both of you. We don't chat till late into the night. After all, he has to work while I have to rest."

Penelope seemed to have comprehended Skylar's relationship status as she called her foolish. She didn't believe one could be so busy to the extent of not having time for a quick chat.

Not unless he didn't put in any effort at all.

Penelope advised Skylar, "You better keep your eyes open so that history doesn't repeat itself. Look at how much you did for Jeremy and got nothing in the end."

Skylar winked with a smile. "It's still alright. At least I'm out of the rat race early."

On the way back home, Skylar received a call from Kate. She requested Skylar to delete everything on her social media account. Furthermore, she was not to post anything arbitrarily.

When she checked her long-forgotten social media accounts, she realized it was filled with pictures of her and Jeremy when they were still a couple. No wonder Kate was so pissed over the phone.

When she arrived home, the first thing she did was wipe everything out until there was nothing left.

About half an hour later, Kate arrived at her house based on the address she gave. When she saw Skylar living in a villa, she knew right away that it was because of Tobias.

Skylar poured a glass of water for Kate and sat on the sofa opposite her. "Will anyone pay attention to my social media accounts? The movie posters are out, but it doesn't even have my face on it. It's really difficult for people to know me."