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"Nonsense! Who would put her own baby at stake? Do you think I believe in what you said? You are trying to give a false account of the truth!"

Claudia was overwhelmed by grief and indignation. As a result, she was feeling dizzy and unable to stand properly. Tobias held her but she pushed him away coldly.

Their relationship as mother and son had never been so estranged before if not for Tanya's incident.

Skylar sighed. "I would never believe that a mother would do that to her child if I didn't see it with my own eyes. I didn't push her and my mother can be the witness."

Miranda was nowhere to be found. Despite such an eventful scene, she didn't even turn up to check on Skylar.

"Your mother is a murderer. Yet, you expect me to believe her words? You have to pay for the baby's death," Claudia cursed her.

Her vicious remark sent a chill down Skylar's spine. Claudia must have been so enraged that she made such a remark in the public. Eventually, those people were also having cold sweats upon hearing her comment.

"Mom, you looked tired. I will handle the issue here. Please return to the ward first."

Claudia noticed that Tobias didn't even blame her for the entire episode. Instead, he still defended her.

As such, Claudia was very disappointed. She couldn't take both the physical and the emotional impact anymore. Tears gradually flowed down from the corner of her eyes. Despite that, her inner rage had yet to settle.

As Claudia was afraid that she might collapse, she was then ushered by someone back to the ward.

Before she left, she stared daggers at Skylar. As long as I live, I will not let you have the opportunities to be part of The Fords by any means. I will never ever forgive you unless I die.

Skylar gazed at Tobias with the expression of being framed and mistreated. It made everyone felt heartbroken upon seeing her pitiful look.

With a hoarse voice and a crying tone, Skylar said, "Mrs. Ford, I didn't do anything to her. If you suspected me, then you can call the police to take me away. Let them investigate. Nonetheless, I don't have the gut to carry out this act as it harms other's life."

However, Claudia didn't seem to believe in her crocodile tears. This little lass had a lot of tactics up her sleeve to seduce my son into falling head over heels for her.

Others had left whereas Tanya was still inside the delivery room as the doctor had put her under a two-hour observation.

Finally, the situation returned to peace temporarily. Then, Skylar was relieved and asked, "Why don't you go inside and have a look? I could do without your companion as I will be alright."

Tobias didn't have any intention to go inside.

Skylar wrapped her arm around Tobias's waist while she placed her head tightly on his chest. She looked like she was lacking in strength and as weak as a kitten.

"Why do I need to go inside? I don't want to do that," Tobias replied without any hesitation.

Although Tanya was still lying inside the delivery room, Skylar didn't even show any sympathy for her.

Even a fierce tigress wouldn't eat its own cub. However, Tanya had resorted to such an unscrupulous way just to frame me. This woman was very cruel indeed. As such, she was compatible with Tobias.

"Are you hungry? I can take you to eat something," Tobias asked while feeling a bit exhausted.

Skylar shook her head. "I don't have any appetite. In fact, I don't wish to eat anything. I am returning to my mum's ward. I'll fetch her from the hospital tomorrow. Carry on with whatever that you have to do! It is not appropriate for me to be here."

Tobias asked her in return, "There is no such thing. As long as I am by your side, no one can harm you."

Upon hearing that, Skylar felt warm in her heart. In addition, she felt content with the promise that Tobias made. At the time when she felt helpless, Tobias didn't accuse her like the others. For that, she was grateful to him.

"Do you believe in me? I don't mind if others misunderstand me since I only care about your opinion."

Tobias gently stroked her slightly messy hair. "There is no reason why I shouldn't believe you. I believe in everything that you told me. Now, you don't have to worry too much. I will see you once the issue has been sorted out."

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Skylar nodded as she felt that today was a very terrible day for her. Hence, she had a bad feeling about this incident. The consequence of this incident was likely leading to an extreme outcome – only one of them would survive in this tragic tug of war over Tobias.

After Skylar left, Tanya was also being transferred to the ward. She looked very frail and her face looked pale as she was lying sickly on the patient's bed.

"Tobias, you own me for this," Tanya uttered in a hoarse voice with her eyes closed.

"Oh, really? I don't think so. I guess you should have a clear picture of whether Skylar really caused your miscarriage or otherwise," Tobias looked at her coldly without even the slightest hint of sympathy in his eyes.

"You are still trying to protect that woman up until this point. Seeing that you have caused me to lose a child, you will have to marry me this time to make up to me."

Tobias felt that she must be out of her mind as she was willing to employ such an unscrupulous tactic just to get him to marry her. Originally, he wanted to arrange for a paternity test once the baby was born. Then, the truth would be out. However, he would not have to wait anymore due to her own deed.

"You are still hoping that I would marry you? Do you have any other means to blackmail me? Maybe my mother's health as a threat? You should know that I hate being threatened. I have been tolerating you for such a long time."

Tobias' cold treatment was not what Tanya had expected, so she was feeling grief and despair after seeing how heartless he was. The result was not what she had imagined earlier as she had expected Skylar to become the scapegoat of her miscarriage. Consequently, Tobias would definitely not forgive her.

Unfortunately, the event took a turn. In fact, Tobias didn't even utter a single harsh word to Skylar. Furthermore, he didn't show the slightest concern towards her.

"Mom will definitely feel indebted for my condition. Tobias, I want you to redeem yourself for what you have done to me." Her eyes were red and filled with rage.

Tobias smirked, "Your miscarried fetus has been removed by someone even before you left the delivery room. You are really capable as you have probably managed to bribe the hospital personnel. Now, let's see who has more money. Since you are not willing to give birth to that baby, I will grant you your wish. Do you think my mother will accept a woman who is without a uterus?"

Tanya gazed at him with a fearful expression and she shouted, "You are no different from the animals. You can even think of such a low and wicked method!"

She felt a chill running up her spine.

Two people wearing white coats were walking towards the ward. Tanya recognized both of them as she had gone through them in order to falsify her medical report previously.

Currently, both of them had become Tobias' men now.

Tanya got up from her bed even without thinking of the excruciating pain in her body while trying to run away. Tobias had lost his mind and conscience. He was now the personification of the Grim Reaper waiting to sign her death warrant.

Unfortunately, she was being pinned by two people. "Sorry, Ms. Hanson."

Tanya was forcefully brought into the operation theater. Tobias watched on with a deep gaze while there was nothing but frostiness in his eyes. It all over now.

He ordered everyone to have their lips sealed and announced that Tanya's miscarriage had caused her to have a huge blood loss. Hence, her uterus had to be removed in order to save her life.

When Skylar returned to her mother's ward, Miranda was still knitting a wool sweater. She didn't ask her a thing while she also didn't mention anything to her.

She was sorting out things before hospital discharge. The imprint of palm on her face was still visible as her right cheek had swollen unusually. With that kind of strength, Claudia certainly did not behave like a patient with a heart problem.

Finally, Miranda asked her, "You were being bullied?"

Skylar wanted to conceal the truth and covered her face with her hand. "Nope. I just hit something accidentally."

Miranda gave Skylar an egg with its shell still unpeeled. "Put in on your face and roll it around the wound. Skylar, your boyfriend's wife is pregnant. Isn't it bad for you to act like this? As a girl, you need to be more self-restraint. After all, you are a daughter from a high-status family."

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Skylar was overjoyed due to the concern from her mother. To her, that was better than being totally ignored. She guessed that only her mother would still treat her as a daughter from a

high-status family. In the eyes of others, she was just a murderer's daughter who had been abandoned by her own father.

"There is nothing bad about it. There are things which are hard to explain to you." She was too tired to do any explaining. Currently, she just wanted to keep quiet while wondering what happened on Tobias's side. Additionally, she feared that she had severely offended Claudia.

Previously, she didn't harbor any hope that Tobias would marry her.

Currently, it seemed even more hopeless.

The next morning, Skylar who had not slept for the whole night gave Tobias a call but he didn't pick up. Miranda already put on a wig and dressed up in a khaki-colored dress with a floral design. On top of that, she also put on the shades. It was as though she was going on vacation.

"Do I look good?" Miranda looked at the mirror and put on a smile which she thought was the most perfect smile.

"Appeared to be an old-fashioned look," Skylar commented.

Miranda rolled her eyes at her daughter. "I asked a nurse called Wincy to buy it for me. By the way, where are we going to stay after I discharge from here?"

Skylar was in a dilemma as the house belonged to Tobias. In spite of that, he didn't have the intention to invite Miranda to stay with them. Nevertheless, this was normal as no one wished to be disturbed. Furthermore, he preferred the house to be guiet.

Skylar remained silent for some moments and Miranda asked again, "Don't tell me that I don't have a home to go to."

Skylar replied, "I'll find a house for you."

Then, Miranda was satisfied while she chuckled, "Initially, I thought that a daughter is not good. However, now I understand that having a daughter is actually better. Mom's beloved yet caring daughter, when are you going to introduce your boyfriend to me?"

Miranda just recalled after leaving the ward. She stood in the corridor and stared at Skylar when she was asking her that question.

"He is very busy, so he is not free." Skylar answered perfunctorily.

"Have you heard that Tobias's wife had a miscarriage that resulted in a huge amount of blood loss? She went through an operation to remove her uterus last night."

"She is not his wife as they are not married yet. She is just his fiancée! Well, her dream of marrying into a wealthy family was dashed. The Fords definitely would not accept a sterile woman," said a nurse.

"What a tragedy. She was arrogant when she came here and acted like a queen. However, look at her miserable predicament now," she continued.

The nurses walking along the corridor continued to gossip about Tanya's incident. Upon hearing that, Skylar frowned. When she was still there last night, she didn't hear anything about Tanya's uterus being removed. What happened after I left?

Miranda looked as though she was given a new lease of life after leaving the hospital. As a matter of fact, she had lost more than ten years of freedom. The air outside seemed to be so fresh for her.

Skylar waved for a cab and found a hotel nearby. She had Miranda settled down first while she searched for a house. This came out of a sudden, so she didn't prepare anything.

Upon knowing that she will be staying at the hotel, Miranda was clearly dissatisfied and queried, "You haven't owned a house yet?"

Skylar was stunned and looked at her. She thought of what she had done to give Miranda the wrong impression about her having the ability to purchase a house in a city, where land was highly expensive. After all, she was just a student. Everything she had was given by Tobias.

Skylar pointing to herself, "Please take a look at me. Do I look like I can afford a house? I am just renting a place."

Miranda started to criticize Skylar, "You are just so foolish. Tell me what do you get by getting involved in a relationship with a married man. He doesn't even give you the money! To make things worse, you even need to rent a house to live in. Are you sacrificing in the name of love?"

Miranda talked endlessly and thus causing Skylar a headache. In turn, she wished to know why was her mother still couldn't forget Thomas. Did he give her anything?

After Miranda had settled down, Skylar received a call from the university informing her about the registration of the B2 French exam. She had been absent from class for two days without a reason. Hence, she definitely wouldn't be able to pass this term's examination if she kept on skipping classes.

Skylar asked Miranda, "Can you stay here alone as I need to go and settle something?"

Miranda probed her, "Where do you want to go? You just left me here all by myself. I have just been set free and I know nothing. I don't even know how to switch on the television yet you are not worried."

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Skylar pointed at the phone. "You can call the front desk if you need anything. There's also food and beverages."

Skylar left without waiting for Miranda to finish her words. While waiting for a taxi in front of the hotel, a black Porche stopped in front of her.

The car's window rolled down, revealing Tobias with sunglasses on. He looked like a well-disguised pervert.

Skylar got into the car's passenger seat. "How do you know that I'm staying here?"

Right after she finished asking, Skylar remembered that Tobias installed a GPS tracking device in her phone. Thus, he would know her whereabouts while she knew none of his.

"Why did you bring your mom to a hotel? Who are you trying to humiliate right now?" Tobias asked, passing her the coffee he bought on the way.

The coffee was still warm. There were many coffee houses near his office, and their businesses were great. Not many girls could resist the temptation of coffee.

Skylar took the coffee but didn't drink it. "I don't understand what you mean. Who have I humiliated?" she asked curiously as she looked at Tobias with a slight tilt of her head.

Tobias didn't explain further. He didn't like clingy woman, and those obedient ones were his favorite.

Skylar, on the other hand, was too independent. She carried all her responsibilities and kept them to herself. This was something he disliked. It was clear that as independent as she was, she would rent a house for Miranda and stay with her, thereby fulfilling her responsibility as a daughter.

Was he going to be single again?

His face darkened at that thought. He fiercely stepped on the accelerator, despite the constant warning from the navigation system of the exceeded speed limit.

Skylar held on to the grab handle and kept reminding him, "Slow down! Slow down!"

Only then did Tobias release the accelerator. Skylar held onto her chest to calm her racing heart. After the terror passed, she furiously asked, "Did you know that you could get into an accident like this? You are not a kid anymore, so why are you acting like one?"

He almost had the impression of being much older than just a decade as he listened to Skylar's scolding.

"How can a kid satisfy you? You need an experienced person like me," said Tobias with a smirk.

Skylar was in a hurry to go back to her university, but Tobias gripped her hand tightly and insisted that she joined him for food. This man was definitely a big hurdle in her studies.

She was almost dragged from the car and was urged into a convenience store.

She sat at an empty seat and saw that he bought a lot of instant food and croissants. "I still have work to do, so I can't accompany you for long. Just eat something simple."

This was the first time she felt Tobias was easy to deal with. He seemed like an average person with a croissant in his mouth.

"I didn't ask you to accompany me." Skylar held her face as she looked out the window. Tobias disliked clingy girls, but now he was the one being clingy.

"Don't let me hear you say that again. Just keep it in your heart. You don't appreciate the fact that I came straight from the hospital to see you."

She saw his resentment and harshness, meeting his eyes. It showed that he cared about her reaction a lot.

Skylar took a sip of the tea bought by Tobias, but she didn't like it because it was too bitter and not refreshing.

She wanted her coffee, but it was left in his car. Before she could have a sip, she was dragged by Tobias into the convenience store for tea instead.

"I shouldn't have said that. I need you here to accompany me and I hope that you're by my side every second. It would be even better if we're together twenty-four hours a day." She still apologized, even though she didn't feel anything wrong with what she said.

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Her tone was too exaggerated, her expression too stiff, and there was no emotion in her eyes.

Tobias coldly remarked, "Don't act. I don't like you lying to me. But if you want to be with me for twenty-four hours, I can still accept it."

Skylar pouted. It looked like he was in a bad mood. Tanya's incident must have affected him. How could any man not sympathize with a woman with a tragic background?

Skylar forced some sadness into her tone, "I know you're in a bad mood because your family was deeply affected by the incident, but I don't know how I can make you feel better."

Skylar wasn't sure of when this would end, and how long her relationship with Tobias could last. Tanya had criticized her as someone who could only hide in darkness and never see the light.

The way Tobias treated her was true to Tanya's words. He had only brought her to attend a public event and met his friends once.

He didn't introduce her to his friends. There were only mistresses who accompanied his friends. None of them were girlfriends or wives.

So, she was aware of her status. She was only hoping for a simple romantic relationship but ended up with a complicated man.

"Are you full? I'll send you to the university once you're full." Heavy rain started to fall outside, and a bolt of lightning tore across the dark sky.

Tobias didn't give Skylar a reply because he didn't want to talk about Tanya in front of her. He knew that Tanya would no longer be involved in their lives.

Tobias bought two umbrellas from the convenience store. He was holding his umbrella, but the rain still wet one side of him. While Skylar was dry as a desert.

When they reached his car, half of Tobias was drenched with water dripping down his hair.

Skylar took out a bag of tissues and wiped his face dry with it.

"This saga with Tanya has ended. She won't be involved with us anymore in the future. You don't have to ask indirectly about her, because you're my girlfriend from now on. Understood?"

After whatever that had ensued, he finally gave a reply. It was the last time he would bring up this matter, for there was no way he would let her know of what actions he took to resolve the situation.

"But your mom will never forgive me." Skylar sadly lowered her gaze. She was evil in Claudia's eyes, and she never wanted to face Claudia anymore.

The atmosphere turned solemn, but Tobias still kept the engine running.

All of a sudden, he pulled Skylar onto his lap, startling her. She wasn't prepared for it.

He locked his gaze with hers and stared at her beautiful eyes; Sensing the fear and frustration in her, he kissed her. The kiss was gentle and not from lust. "It will be fine as long as you listen to me. She will slowly accept you once she's better."

Tobias asked her to wait again. Skylar didn't understand what she was nervous about.

The rain outside was getting heavier, so Tobias drove his car into the university compound. He stopped in front of her department building.

Skylar set up an umbrella as she got down from his car and waved goodbye.

Tobias stared at her silhouette. Not long after she started walking, he saw her talking to a guy.

He drove in a bit further and honked. "You should hurry in now," Tobias rolled down his window and said.

Skylar was confused at his sudden change in attitude. The guy left in a hurry after meeting Tobias's sharp gaze.

Tobias drove nearer just because of some small talk between her and a guy. Is he jealous? Dispelling that thought, she hurriedly went to her classroom to pick up a B2 French exam form.

She filled the form and went to the instructor's room to submit it right after.

"You have been skipping class a lot recently even though you don't have any work. If this continues, I'll have to inform your parents," warned the instructor.

"I had some urgent family issue, so I didn't manage to apply for leave," explained Skylar.