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Being sensitive as she was, Skylar was always concerned about how others would feel, even though no one cared about how she felt.

She was about to get out of the car when Tobias grabbed her by the waist. "It's better to have a man around you as you look so weak. Aren't you afraid of being bullied?"

Better? I've seen how things got "better" last night with you around me.

You didn't play by the rules at all and actually allowed Jeremy to get off so cheap.

He then leaned closer to her and said with his lips pressing against her ear, "I won't cause you trouble. I'll go in with you."

Skylar noticed that his hand was moving down her body as he touched her, teasing her like how he always did.

Thus, she had no choice but to agree to him.

"Who's this, Skylar?" Standing in the doorway, Wesley scrutinized the man standing next to his niece.

"My friend..." Skylar introduced him perfunctorily as she could not say that this man was her sugar daddy.

"Boyfriend," Tobias corrected.

Skylar shot him a look. Evidently, she was ashamed to say that they were a couple.

Wesley had met Skylar's boyfriend before and knew that he was a tall young man with a gentlemanly appearance.

Whereas the man in front of him now was obviously much older than Skylar was even though he was good-looking and so much taller than Jeremy.

Nonetheless, Wesley let them in and gave them two pairs of old dirty house-slippers.

Tobias was obviously disgusted by it.

Seeing that Skylar had come back again, Sharon mocked, "Why did you bring another person with you when our place is already so small?"

Tobias gave her a cold look.

"We won't stay for long and will leave soon," explained Skylar.

At first glance, Tobias disliked how Sharon looked as her high cheekbones and thin eyebrows gave the impression that she was mean-spirited.

"Why didn't you tell me about my mom's application for medical parole?" Skylar asked politely without being confrontational.

Sighing, Wesley replied, "What's the point of telling you? Can you afford her treatment after she's released on medical parole?"

Tobias cast a fleeting glance at Wesley. "Isn't she your sister? Why can't you pay for it?"

Meanwhile, Sharon cleaned the chip crumbs that were left on her fingers and said, "Did you seriously think we've never thought of that before? We're barely surviving over here! Where would we get the money for that? By talking? Huh? Why don't you tell me, Mr. Smarty-Pants!"

Skylar had never expected her uncle and aunt to help either, so she secretly tugged at Tobias' sleeve, trying to stop him from talking.

Then, she said in a low voice, "I just wanna know how my mom is doing. Someone from the prison called me today, but I didn't get to ask them."

"Hmph... She's still as deranged as ever. Listen to me, Skylar, don't let her come out. It'll be a burden. It's not like you can take care of her or even afford her treatment!" Wesley replied with a grunt.

Upon hearing him saying something so mean, Skylar could stand it anymore and stood up angrily, her eyes slightly reddened. "Uncle Wesley, my mom is your sister. How can you be so cruel?"

Sharon rolled her eyes at her. "Hey! We don't need this kind of sister. I mean, just look at your mom! What did she ever do to contribute to the family?"

If it weren't for Skylar, Tobias would have never known how ignoble people like them were.

Wrapping his arm around Skylar's shoulders, Tobias said gently, "I told you. You're just wasting your time here. Why must you talk about family ties with an animal?"

His cruel words hit the nail on the head.

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"Hey, watch it! Who are you calling an animal, huh?" Wesley chided him angrily.

"If you don't like hearing such a thing, then you shouldn't do something so revolting." Tobias had a chilling look in his eyes as he said that.

Before coming over, Skylar had planned to talk with Wesley about what to do after her mother was released from prison.

Her mother was her only family now, but Wesley did not like her as she was not close with him. Still, her mother was his sister.

But now, she had seen through it. Wesley wanted nothing to do with them at all.

She leaned weakly in Tobias' arms, realizing that it was indeed better to have a man around.

If she were here all by herself, she would not know how to face it.

Skylar said disappointingly, "Let's go. Anyway, sorry for disturbing you guys. I won't come over anymore."

When Tobias noticed the factory uniform worn by Wesley, a mysterious smile appeared on his face. "I only hope that one day, you won't kneel on the ground and beg her."

Wesley disliked Skylar's new boyfriend whose speech and presence were intimidating.

He assumed that Tobias must be a middle-level manager as the latter exuded an aura.

Meanwhile, Sharon replied mockingly, "Beg her? What nonsense are you spouting? Anyway, Skylar, don't be upset. Your mother hates you so much, and yet you still treat her like this."

Skylar's blood boiled when she heard what her aunt had said.

"How I treat my mom is none of your business. I shouldn't have come today," she said through her gritted teeth.

Having wasted her time coming here, she felt her heart sank the moment she left the old house.

In fact, she had been in a bad mood since yesterday.

Looking at Skylar, who appeared as if she had lost her soul, Tobias handed her a cigarette.

Skylar, who didn't know how to smoke, pushed it away and turned him down.

"Don't worry about your mom's medical fees. As long as you continue to be with me, I'll take care of her."

Skylar suddenly broke into a smile. He's still the same as he's always been.

He offers to help, but it always comes with conditions, leaving me like a puppet with strings forever bound to the puppet master.

Skylar asked, "What if we separate?"

"You and I are still inseparable for the time being. Our relationship can last longer if it becomes one that serves each other's needs," asserted Tobias.

Upon learning that Tobias wanted to maintain their relationship for a long time, Skylar was upset.

Girls her age were having a rich and colorful life by attending universities and having fun.

Yet, she still needed to serve her sugar daddy. After being with Tobias, the most exciting part of her life was the nightlife on her bed.

"Deal," She said while leaving a thumbprint on the window of Tobias' car. "Can you pick up my mother for me? I don't want her to see me."

Her request surprised Tobias.

He even wondered if she kept a distance from her mother because the latter was a prisoner.

After sending Skylar back to her campus, he received calls after calls from Tanya.

He had long blacklisted her phone number.

If she could not take it anymore, she could just get another number to contact him.

She often bombarded him with persistent calls and texts every few other days.

When Tobias reached his house feeling exhausted, he was stopped by Claudia at the door.

"What have you been up to lately, Tobias? You didn't come back for several nights."

Tobias took off his jacket and handed it to the butler. "I'm not a minor, Mom. Don't you feel a little awkward asking me this?"

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Claudia replied, feeling disappointed, "It'd be easier if you're a minor. Tobias, you've never made me worried about you. I raised both you and your brother by myself. You-"

Having gotten used to the kind of things she was saying, Tobias interrupted her, "I know, Mom. I'll keep that in mind and try my best to come home earlier. It's getting late now. You should go to bed." He was afraid that Claudia would talk about that old chestnut and use the family to shackle him once she was crossed.

Back then, his father abandoned the three of them and settled down abroad with his mistress, leaving a mountain of debt behind.

As a mother, Claudia started from scratch while taking care of him and his brother. Although they were not rich, they led a worry-free life.

When Tobias was only sixteen years old, he started his own business and got incredibly rich so that Claudia would not have to suffer again, and the man who abandoned them would atone for his crimes after his return.

"Alright then, head upstairs. Tanya is waiting for you. I have to say that she's really a good girl. She never complains about you even when you don't come back." Claudia was extremely satisfied with her daughter-in-law.

Every now and then, Tobias had this urge to tell his mother that he did not want to get married.

But he was afraid that she could not take it due to her heart condition. Thus, this was a choice that he could not make for the time being.

He pushed open the bedroom door and was instantly greeted by the strong perfume of the woman in the room.

Tanya was wearing a sexy black lace satin lingerie with an alluring pose on the bed.

Her curves were so voluptuous that women would envy her and men would fall head over heels for her.

Nonetheless, Tobias walked towards the bed nonchalantly, while Tanya lay on her side. She had her slender thighs exposed through the slits, and an enchanting and longing look in her eyes.

As Tobias lifted the blanket, she closed her eyes and waited for the man to grace her with his attention.

Having been with him for so long, she didn't understand why he didn't want to touch her.

This time, she decided to take more initiative.

Unexpectedly, she felt a weight on her body as Tobias actually threw the blanket on her.

There was nothing more heartbreaking than being rejected after offering oneself to others.

"Tobias, what the f*ck are you doing? Do you think I'm that dumb to not know you've been fooling around outside? But why wouldn't you touch me?" Tanya finally lost it and got out of bed as she began to curse.

There was an obvious look of disgust in Tobias' eyes. "Who let you in my room? Get out!"

Flying off the handle, Tanya yelled frantically, "No matter what you do to me, you're my future husband. Even if I die, I'll die as your wife."

All of a sudden, Tobias' phone kept vibrating in his pocket, which enraged Tanya even more.

"Answer it – in front of me," Tanya ordered.

The look in her eyes and her tone of voice pissed Tobias off.

He threw the phone directly downstairs before Tanya's eyes before he said coldly, "Since you don't want to leave, then do whatever you want!"

He left the room while Tanya broke into a wicked grin. "Since Tobias refuses to give me what I want, I'll make sure no one can live an easy life."

Skylar couldn't get through to Tobias on the phone, so she guessed it was probably inconvenient for him to answer it.

For someone like her, she should not have disturbed him at this hour.

Although she did not know when his wedding would be held, she only hoped that he could be a man and let her go after he got married. As for her mother's medical expenses, she could slowly earn it herself.

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Ever since she was a child, she had understood that there was no one she could rely on. She hoped that everything would go smoothly tomorrow even though she did not remind Tobias.

"Are you heading to the office this early? I'll go with you." Tanya got up early in the morning and waited for him.

Frowning, Tobias looked at her with a gloomy expression.

Tanya, on the other hand, added with a bright smile, "Since I'm gonna be Mrs. Ford soon, I have to get familiarize myself with the company's operations. This is also what Mom wants me to do."

She used Claudia's name again as she knew very well that Claudia was Tobias' weakness although he seemed tough and stubborn.

Whenever she was dissatisfied with Tobias, she would go to Claudia to fan the flames.

"Tobias, take Tanya with you. As you two are getting married, you should spend more time together."

Claudia came downstairs in her pajamas with faint dark circles under her eyes. It was apparent that she couldn't rest well.

"It's not convenient," Tobias said coldly and left.

Tanya, who was ready to go out, looked at him with tears in her eyes.

"Mom, Tobias treats me like this even when we're not married yet. What should I do in the future? He must be having an affair, Mom. My parents are coming soon, so how should I explain to them?"

She cried aggrievedly, making people feel sorry for her.

Seeing how Tobias had treated Tanya, Claudia was so furious that she clutched her chest, and one of the maids hurriedly handed her the medicine.

She popped two tablets into her mouth. Only then did her breathing return to normal.

"Don't cry, Tanya. I'll definitely help you out. Not anyone can just marry into our family."

Meanwhile, Sheldon was having a sandwich as he watched the scene before him, feeling like he was watching a sad drama.

He also did not know why Claudia liked Tanya so much to a point that she treated Tobias like he was not her biological son.

Unable to stand it, he said, "My dear future sister-in-law, my mom has a heart condition, but you're bawling in front of her so early in the morning. What are you up to?"

Tanya wished that she could tear Sheldon's mouth into pieces right there and then.

Holding herself back, she gave Sheldon an innocent look. "Something went into my eyes. I'm so sorry, Mom, I didn't want to cry. It's my fault for causing you trouble early in the morning."

The more understanding Tanya was, the more Claudia felt sorry for her as she thought of her as a good woman.

Shooting daggers at Sheldon, she chided, "Why don't you think before you speak? Finish up your breakfast quickly and go about your business. And get out of my sight."

After being made to eat dirt, Sheldon shrugged. He had a task from Tobias today, which was to go to the prison to pick someone up.

He stuffed all the remaining half of the sandwich into his mouth as he needed to shut his mouth, for fear that he would mock Tanya again.

At the same time, Skylar was restless all morning.

She did not know if Tobias would go to the prison or if he had already forgotten her request.

After all, he was an unpredictable man whom she could not fathom at all.

Thus, she now regretted not picking her mother up in person.

She would not have asked Tobias for help if she weren't worried that her mother would be triggered and become mentally unstable again upon seeing her.

When she went to visit her in prison last time, her mother, Miranda, seemed to have lost it. Miranda said that she shouldn't have given birth to Skylar in the first place and ended up getting her whole life ruined. Not only that, but she also told Skylar that she would not have lived so miserably if it weren't for her daughter.

At that, Skylar stopped thinking about it.

As everyone's phone was locked away in the locker during the physique lesson, she sneaked out under the pretext of going to the washroom so that she could call Tobias.

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Coincidentally, she ran into Avery, who was also taking a physique lesson in the classroom next door, with two girls trailing after her.

"Avery, your necklace is so beautiful. It must be very expensive, right? It looks so good on you," one of the girls said with envy.

Picking up the pendant on the necklace, Avery raised her eyebrows slightly and replied, "It's okay, I guess. My dad likes to buy me necklaces and always buys me gifts whenever he goes on a business trip."

"You have a great dad who pampers you so much. Unlike my family. My dad favors my younger brother more, so most of the good stuff belongs to my him instead."

Avery smiled and said, "I'm his only daughter, so of course, he has to pamper me. My brothers complain as they feel like they're adopted, and I'm his only biological kid"

When she spoke, she held her head high proudly like a princess.

She even gave Skylar a sidelong glance when they brushed past each other as she spoke.

Obviously, she deliberately directed her words at Skylar.

Nevertheless, Skylar was expressionless and calm when she heard that Thomas pampered Avery so much.

She had never experienced any kind of fatherly love, nor had she ever been showered with love and attention from both her parents anyway.

She was already numb from all their ill-treatment anyway.

Her grandmother was all she had during every festive season back then.

When Wesley brought his family over for dinner, she envied her cousins as they had their parents by their side and were showered with gifts and candies.

Afterward, she gradually lost her expectations as the Joneses' existence no longer meant anything to her.

When she went on to get her phone, Avery called out to her after asking the two girls to buy her some drinks.

"Did Jeremy ask you not to tell anyone about our relationship?"

Skylar forced a smile. "Ah, you know what – it just so happens that I, similarly, didn't want people to know that I have a very rich and bratty sister. So don't you worry. I'm nothing compared to you."

Avery enjoyed Skylar's sarcastic compliment and approached her after seeing that there was no one around.

Instantly, Skylar took a few steps back in disgust.

"You seem to be afraid of me. That's great. If you behave well, I'm ready to forgive you. In fact, I could even invite you back for dinner and let Dad see you if I'm in a better mood," Avery could not help but snigger as she mocked.

Skylar rolled her eyes. It was a pity that Avery was not an actress as she was so good at being dramatic.

Not bother to waste another second talking to Avery, Skylar took her phone out of her locker. She wanted to contact Tobias as she did not hear from him all morning.

She wanted to know if he had picked her mother up.

"Have you picked up my mom? Is she at the hospital?" Skylar picked at the wall anxiously with her nails.

"I'm in a meeting. I'll contact you later," Tobias replied in a deep voice.

Skylar tightened her grip on her phone. Without asking further, she said in a cold tone, "Alright. I'm hanging up."

What does he mean by that?

Without further ado, she decided to go there in person while getting herself mentally prepared to be grabbed in a chokehold by Miranda.

Meanwhile, Avery hid in the dark and secretly overheard Skylar mentioning her mother. This b*tch really has the nerve to come out.

She immediately texted her mother.

Now that Miranda was released from prison, it was time to settle some old scores.

After coming out of the conference room, Tobias immediately called Skylar, but she did not answer her phone.

At the same time, Skylar had already reached the prison but was told that someone had already picked her mother up.

"Who was it?" asked Skylar.