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Tobias ended the meeting ahead of time, sweeping his cold gaze across everyone as he

signaled for them to leave.

When they left, they made sure to smile and nod at Skylar, not missing the chance to get

acquainted with her.

As soon as they disentangled themselves from the somber atmosphere in the office, they

began discussing animatedly among themselves.

"No wonder Skylar Jones became so popular lately. It's because she's Mr. Ford's woman."

"I can't believe Mr. Ford would get together with an actress, but I have to admit, Skylar is

absolutely gorgeous. Mr. Ford is a red-blooded man, after all, so I can't say I blame him."

As they were talking quite close to the door, Skylar, who stood on the other side of it, could

hear bits and pieces of their conversation. Upon hearing this, she felt her ears burn up.

Tobias glanced fleetingly at Penelope before asking in a bland voice, "Why did you bring

your friend here? With such a big belly, she should be resting at home instead. What if her

water breaks? I doubt any of us would know how to deliver a baby."

"I'm here to ask for your help, Mr. Ford," Penelope answered before Skylar could, the resolve

in her voice a stark contrast to her haggard appearance.

After Penelope stated her purpose for coming here, she seemed to be slightly out of breath,

probably because pregnant women were slightly hypoxic during their last trimester. Upon realizing that Tobias' gaze had been on Skylar the whole time, Penelope was filled with

envy.

Brayden had never looked at her like that.

She wasn't even sure if Tobias had heard what she said with the way he was staring at

Skylar.

Just when she was about to repeat her statement, the corners of Tobias' mouth lifted

imperceptibly and he said, "Since you can't get in touch with him, it means he doesn't want

to get in touch with you, so why waste your time?"

Penelope stared at him with determination. "That's not true. He definitely has his reasons

for doing this."

Tobias shifted his gaze back to gauge Skylar's expression, wanting to know her thoughts on

this. After all, she was the one who brought Penelope here.

Wanting to speak privately with Tobias, Skylar made up an excuse to get away from Penelope. "I need to use the washroom."

However, Tobias remained seated even when she shot him a meaningful wink.

A crease appeared between his brows. "What? Don't tell me you don't how to take off your

own pants?"

Skylar felt exasperated. After all this time, how can we still have zero chemistry? Clearing her throat, she continued, "My hand is injured, so yeah, it's quite difficult for me to

take off my pants."

"I'll help you!" Penelope chirped.

Skylar pinched her nose bridge, utterly speechless.

Fortunately, Tobias got up and followed Skylar to the bathroom in his office. After he came

in, Skylar circled around him to lock the door from inside.

Tobias grasped her chin with a mischievous smile. "Your friend is still here. Are you that

eager to get it on with me? Be patient. I'll give it to you tonight."

"Get your head out of the gutter. I'm not that desperate. Can you help Penelope, please?

She'll never give up unless Brayden makes things clear."

Tobias released her, then leaned against the sink and folded his arms across his chest.

"Even if he makes things clear, would your friend accept it? Just don't bother about this

matter. Let her reap what she sowed."

Skylar knitted her brows together. "So, does this mean you're not going to make the call?"

Tobias shrugged. "Yeah. Why should I? It's not like this has anything to do with me." Skylar initially thought that he would agree to grant this small favor. To her chagrin, he was

so adamant, there was no room left for discussion.

Faced with this predicament, she started to get anxious. "I've already brought her here. If

you refuse to help with this, what would that make me?"

Tobias picked up a white petal on the sink top with his slender fingers, studying it as he

replied, "I wasn't the one who brought her here. She ruined someone's marriage and got

herself knocked up, so tell me, which part of her deserves my help?"

Skylar looked away to stare at the vase on the sink top, noticing that the jasmine flowers in

it had withered.

The corners of her mouth twitched slightly. "Funny, I never noticed when you'd become so

righteous. I understand where you're coming from, but what happened can't be undone."

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Tobias frowned slightly. "If you want my help, you'll have to give me something equal in

exchange."

Like a cat that had gotten her tail stepped on, Skylar's hackles rose and she immediately put

her arms akimbo. "Well, if you insist. You can hit me or strangle me tonight. Just do as you

wish."

Skylar acted like she was ready to face a death sentence, and Tobias found it rather comical.

The amusement gleaming in his eyes became more pronounced as he replied, "How could I

bear to hit you or strangle you? At most, I'll slap your a** a couple of times."

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Meanwhile, Penelope stood alone in the office. After looking around for a while, her gaze fell

on a name card on Tobias' desk.

Picking it up, she saw that printed on it was the name "Lina Queen", along with her phone

number.

Penelope placed it back on the desk with a look of disdain. Even masseurs have name cards

now, huh?

The last time she saw Lina was during the afternoon tea session. After that, they did not

contact each other anymore.

She wasn't even familiar with Lina in the first place and only agreed for Skylar's sake. Why does Tobias even have her name card? Don't tell me he visited her for a massage

again?

Just when she positioned the card back to its original spot, an unpleasant voice asserted

from behind, "Not just anyone is allowed to touch Mr. Ford's things."

Penelope jolted in shock and her hand flew to her chest as her heart pounded against her

ribcage. Spinning around on her heels, she realized that it was Skylar's cousin, Eva. Penelope and Skylar had been friends for a very long time. Hence, she knew that the latter

and her cousin had never been on good terms.

Eva would never miss the chance to gloat in front of Skylar, always seizing the high ground

Although Penelope had put on weight during her pregnancy, Eva recognized her at first

glance. Right then, the former was holding her protruding belly with one hand on her hip.

"When did you get pregnant?" Eva scanned Penelope up and down.

Penelope had wanted to ask her since when she had started working here. She constantly

looks down on Skylar, but here she is, working for Tobias?

"Do I need to report to you about my pregnancy? What? You wanna be my child's godmother

or something?"

Faced with Penelope's hostility, Eva scoffed in contempt and countered, "Acting all high and

mighty, aren't you? Well, you look like sh*t."

Skylar and Tobias emerged from the bathroom, one behind the other. Almost instantly, they

sensed the tension between Eva, who had a folder hugged to her chest, and Penelope, who

was supporting her belly.

Right then, Penelope couldn't be bothered about Eva and went over to grab Skylar's arm.

"You were gone for so long. Did you guys call Brayden?"

Upon hearing Penelope mention Brayden's name, Eva's brows drew together. Brayden just

came here to visit Tobias yesterday.

He even asked for my number before he left, and we chatted well into the night. With a nagging suspicion in her mind, she rudely interrupted, "Does the child in your belly

belong to Brayden?"

Skylar rushed to answer, "No. When are you going to break your habit of believing what

other people say, Eva?" Her behavior only served to show that she was trying to cover up the

truth.

As Tobias watched in silence, he found that these three women made a rather good drama.

He hadn't gotten the chance to tell Skylar that Brayden even told him he found Eva pretty the

previous day, which was also part of the reason why he knew that calling Brayden would be

useless.

Eva's expression changed subtly, but since she couldn't make a scene when Tobias was

around, she schooled her features and stated, "Mr. Ford, I've placed all the documents you

asked for on your desk. If there's nothing else, I'll take my leave first."

"You have dark circles. Didn't sleep well last night?" Tobias' question stopped her in her

tracks.

Eva was over the moon to receive Tobias' concern, in front of Skylar at that. Bowing her

head shyly, she replied, "I worked until late last night. Thank you for your concern, Mr. Ford."

Skylar pinned Tobias a hard stare, as though she was going to skin him alive.

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