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To be in a relationship with a married man wasn't something that felt natural to her.

Meanwhile, she noticed that many people were staring at Tobias.

Although the film academy did not lack handsome guys and pretty ladies, Tobias' looks could easily put many guys to shame.

He plainly replied, "Against your conscience? Why do you say that? We're not harming anyone by being together. Besides, I kind of like you too."

Skylar ignored Tobias' first confession in his entire life.

She put down her fork and asserted in a low voice, "I don't want to be involved in your marriage. Furthermore, you are going to be a father soon. I hope I have made it clear enough."

Tobias realized then that Skylar had believed what Tanya said. The latter had told Skylar he was going to marry her because she was pregnant.

With his arms folded, he stared at Skylar's pained expression quietly.

"Give me some time to deal with all these problems and provide you with an explanation. Whatever happened that day will not be repeated."

Skylar shook her head and decided to be honest with Tobias. "I still have a long road ahead of me. How long can I afford to wait? You're rich and powerful, so you can afford to do whatever you please. However, I'm not the same. I want to return to living an ordinary life. You don't have to explain yourself to me. Just go home and explain it to your wife."

Tobias' expression darkened. "That's not what was written in the contract. Have you forgotten who gave you everything you have now? Leaving me is not going to be as easy as returning a card or a necklace."

As if Tobias were strangling her again, Skylar felt like she could hardly breathe.

"At most, I'll stop studying. It doesn't matter if you condemn me or even sue me for breaking the contract."

Skylar's destructive attitude infuriated Tobias further.

When she saw Tobias had nothing further to say, Skylar left with her food. She didn't even touch the steak he bought her.

Tobias stared at the steak that was already cold. She didn't even notice I've prepared this for her on purpose...

Before he came, Tobias made a trip to the restaurant which he had visited with Skylar.

He still remembered that she loved the steak there and bought it for her on purpose.

Before she left, Skylar bought a smoothie with her cafeteria card. As the lady preparing it wasn't in a good mood, she accidentally added too much sugar.

It was so sweet that it caused her tooth to ache.

Meanwhile, Tobias followed her but kept his distance.

Despite being thirty, Tobias was as dashing as ever. Even the lady working at the cafeteria couldn't help but steal a glance at him.

Skylar hated the feeling of being watched.

When she checked the balance on her card, there were only six eighty left, and it caught Tobias' attention.

Just when Skylar was poking a straw into her smoothie, Tobias used the opportunity to pick the card out from her pocket. "What are you doing with my card? I still have to use it tomorrow."

Ignoring her, Tobias found a place to reload the card and asked, "What is the maximum I can put into the card?"

Tobias had seen the few students queuing in front of him load their cards with two hundred, which he felt was too little.

The staff replied in a mechanical tone, "I don't know."

However, the staff's robotic expression changed drastically when Tobias wanted to load a hundred thousand in it.

After working in the cafeteria for so many years, it was her first time encountering someone who wanted to deposit so much into the card.

What sort of family is this?

After reloading her card, Tobias put it back into Skylar's pocket. "Even when I'm not around, you shouldn't live so miserably. Treat yourself better."

Skylar stared at Tobias for a while. "Why are you being so nice to me? But then again, this is probably normal for you. After all, money is just a number to you."

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Tobias coldly retorted, "I'm disappointed at how ungrateful you are."

It was obvious to Skylar that she had worn out his patience.

After she left the cafeteria, Tobias continued to follow her, leaving one meter between them.

They stopped at the new cafeteria building, which just had its foundations laid.

Skylar remembered that it was Tobias that funded the building.

She asked him, "Did you promise the principal to donate this building to the school as a condition for my admission?"

Tobias smiled smugly. "That's right. Your school fees are... expensive."

Skylar finally verified the claims. I've owed Tobias too much. How could I ever repay him in this lifetime?

However, what Tobias withheld from Skylar was that the principal had no right to demand anything from him.

Even if he wanted to enroll a dog, the principal wouldn't even dare refuse him.

Actually, he donated the building on his own accord. But, he used it as a sneaky lie to shackle her even further.

Skylar scratched her head. "Since I can never repay you, I will not try to do so. You can take it as a show of goodwill to the poor."

Tobias frowned. He had assumed Skylar would be touched but didn't expect her to use it as an excuse to default on her debt.

He plainly remarked, "Money is indeed not important to me. But how are you going to return my stolen heart?"

Skylar pretended not to hear him as she put on her earphones.

By the time Skylar ended work at the cafe, it was almost time for her curfew. Hence, she quickly ran back to her dormitory.

When she arrived at the entrance, a dark shadow loomed upon her.

Before she had the chance to scream, someone covered her mouth from behind.

She only managed to calm herself down when she caught a whiff of the familiar white sandalwood scent. Tobias is still here.

Under the dim light of the streetlamp, Tobias let go of Skylar's mouth and placed his hands around her waist, pulling her into his embrace. "I came a long way to your school. Unfortunately, my car has broken down. Not only do I not have a place to stay, but I also lost my wallet and cards. Tonight, only you can take me in."

Skylar elbowed Tobias' chest but felt like she had hit a concrete wall. He didn't feel the pain at all.

Skylar seethed as she replied, "You can pay with your phone."

Tobias countered, "I don't know how to because I have not done it before."

After letting Skylar go, he showed her his phone to prove that he was telling the truth.

Skylar took his phone to check and realized he didn't have any payment apps installed.

She felt as if she was dreaming. The filthy rich Tobias was pretending to be as poor as her.

Just before she returned his phone, she saw an unread message from Tanya.

It read: Mom is asking you to come home earlier. She is waiting for you.

Skylar stuffed his phone back at him. "I don't care about you. You can call your driver and get him to pick you up."

After he switched off his phone, Tobias threw it in the garbage bin in a nonchalant manner. "I've lost my phone now. What am I to do?"

However, Skylar had turned away and was about to leave as it was two more minutes to her curfew.

She saw the lady in charge of the dormitory walking toward the main gate with a key in her hands.

Skylar called out, "Wait, I'm still not in yet!"

Tobias stepped in front of her to block her way. "If you don't take me in, I'm afraid I'll have to sit downstairs the whole night. It will be extremely embarrassing."

Skylar was incensed at how a cold person could do something so irresponsible.

Meanwhile, she watched with widened eyes as the lady in charge of the dormitory locked the main gate. Now, even she couldn't get back in.

Taking a deep breath, Skylar explained, "I have spent all my money on the dormitory fee and food. I only have a hundred with me now so I can't take you in either."

Tobias replied calmly, "I'm not particular about where I stay. I'm fine as long as there's a bed."

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When Skylar realized that Tobias was still shamelessly sticking to her, she felt like bursting into tears.

Without a choice, she led Tobias out of school. Since she had barely any money left, they could only afford a budget hotel near the school.

Lucky for them, such hotels were abundant nearby.

Since Tobias had claimed that he wasn't particular, she led him around the small alleyways before arriving in front of a hotel with a red sign.

The neon sign at the entrance was broken while the glass door looked smudgy. Furthermore, the whole place was covered in dust.

Tobias held onto Skylar's wrist and gave her a suspicious look.

"Baby, are you sure you want to stay here?"

Skylar looked at the price on the neon sign. "Sixty for a night. I don't think you can complain as my budget previously was only thirty."

Tobias had not imagined that one day he would be in such dire circumstances together with Skylar.

The moment they opened the door, a moldy smell filled their noses, causing Tobias to retch.

The owner shot them a disinterested glance and quipped, "Show me your ID."

After Tobias handed over his, Skylar gave him a suspicious look. "Didn't you say that you lost your wallet and cards? Why do you still have your ID?"

Tobias repeated her words, "Didn't you just mention card and wallet yourself?"

Skylar was speechless. All she wanted was to do was quickly settle the pampered Tobias in. After that, she planned to spend the night at a cybercafé.

After the owner checked both their IDs, he collected payment from Skylar for the room.

Tobias was finishing off whatever little money she had left.

The owner mocked, "Miss, your boyfriend is so much older than you. How can he expect you to pay for the room?"

Skylar retorted, "He claims that he lost his wallet but who knows if it's true."

The owner glanced at him with disdain. Although he is handsome, he is a real miser to not pay for the room.

Despite being thirty, he can only afford to come here with his young girlfriend. What a failure.

But somehow, he does look like a boss.

Tobias glared at the nosy owner and snapped, "You should mind your own business."

The owner was jolted by Tobias' angry gaze. He is really quick to temper. Only good-for-nothings will have a bad-tempered!

After completing the registration, Tobias waited for Skylar to go up with him. He even asked the owner for a roll of toilet paper.

Anyone in the industry would know what was going to happen that night.

"You stay here while I'm going off. Tomorrow, you will have to figure out how to go home yourself." Feeling that she had done what was required of her, Skylar prepared to leave.

Frowning, Tobias snorted, "I'm scared to stay here alone."

Skylar felt as if she had heard the funniest joke in the world. Tobias claiming that he is afraid!

When they were at Elysium, Camila told her that Tobias could kill someone as if he was squashing an ant. How can one whose hands are stained with blood pretend to be a coward?

Skylar retorted, "I'm scared when I'm with you."

In his heart, the owner sympathized with Skylar. Men do have a lot of ways to cheat little girls like her.

Just when she opened the door to leave, she heard Tobias call out her name. However, she didn't look back.

"Your mom's medical fees are due tomorrow!"

His words struck a nerve with Skylar. She stopped in her tracks and had no strength to take another step.

Seething, she turned around and followed Tobias up the narrow and rickety staircase.

After Tobias entered the room, she stopped at the door with her arms folded. She exclaimed defiantly, "I've already told you that I will accept your help for one more month. After that, I will think of a way to pay for my mom's medical fees."

Tobias' expression recovered its usual frostiness. "Are you rejecting me? Even if you said it, it doesn't mean that I accept. Furthermore, it's not like I'm a good person anyway."

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Skylar replied, "You really know yourself well. I have turned over a new leaf. Please let me go."

Tobias picked up the DVD on the bed. He was impressed to find little touches like that in such a place.

He sniggered, "Just accompany me one more night."

Tobias was filled with disgust as he scanned his surroundings. The supposedly white sheets were already yellowish while the wall was still equipped with an incandescent lamp. The light it emitted was uncomfortably glaring.

In fact, the wall had turned yellowish from the prolonged exposure to cigarette smoke. This was tormenting for a hygiene freak like him.

Skylar refused. "If there's a first time, there definitely will be a second. Tobias, can you stop bullying me? How long do you still want to torment me for?"

Tobias threw the pornographic DVD towards Skylar's and remarked gently, "If you learn all the techniques inside, I'll consider letting you off."

It was useless to reason with a gangster.

Skylar binned the disc and scowled, "Can you stop thinking about that all the time? Why can't you think of something more positive?"

Amused, Tobias looked at her longingly, "You don't understand how my life works. Other than being with you, there's no time for me to be relaxed."

Skylar wasn't interested in his life. Who am I to him? I'm nothing but his toy.

Our lives are not meant to overlap anyway.

"I'm going back as I still have to go to school tomorrow. That's my only way out and I need the money. Perhaps when I become a superstar one day, I can even pay you back for breaking the contract." Skylar's hand was already on the doorknob when Tobias coldly asserted, "I can give you all the money you need as long as you can wait for me. I promise you that I'm not going to get married."

Skylar ignored his words. She didn't want to play any part in him abandoning his wife and child.

Besides, Tobias made it sound too easy when he promised that he wasn't going to get married.

"Your mom's medical fees."

Since he couldn't change her mind any other way, he had to resort to leveraging on her weakness.

However, Skylar was filled with resolve and left without looking back. Even if she had to make money selling liquor, she preferred doing that over being ensnared further.

She regretted wavering earlier and following Tobias into the room.

Tobias didn't expect Skylar to leave abruptly. He now realized how firm she was in resisting his advances.

Worried that it was unsafe for her to walk the streets at night, he followed her downstairs.

The owner gave both of them a curious look. Are they already done?

I didn't expect someone that looks masculine to only last such a short time.

Never judge a book by its cover, I suppose.

Tobias' fearsome glare put a stop to the owner's ridiculous thoughts.

The owner quickly pretended to be busy and typed at the computer although its screen was off.

After they left the hotel, Skylar's suppressed temper exploded when Tobias continued following her. In the middle of the deserted street, she roared, "Can you stop tormenting me already? I won't mind if you are single but not under the current circumstance."

With his pride hurt by Skylar's outburst, he retorted, "I don't have time to waste with you. I have made myself clear and it's up to you whether you choose to listen. You don't have to scream at me in public."

In truth, Skylar didn't understand why Tobias wanted her to wait for a non-existent conclusion.

She knew that someone ordinary like her would never be married into a prominent family, let alone the foremost among them.

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Tobias watched her forlorn figure as she left. Her steps were heavy and filled with sadness.

At that moment, he regretted losing his temper toward her.

After Skylar found a cybercafé, she paid for the whole night and bought some snacks. When she checked her message groups, everyone had gone offline.

"Hey pretty, are you spending the night alone? Why don't I see your boyfriend?"

Someone had unplugged her headset from behind her ears. A man who had dyed his whole head pink was grinning widely at her.

Skylar rolled her eyes at him. "My boyfriend will be here soon."

Pink Hair turned on the computer beside Skylar while his friends were all sitting on a different row.

Skylar checked the time on the computer and saw that it was three in the morning. It was the most painful time of dawn. The keyboard was oily while the headset was mind-numbingly tight. The place was filled with smoke and the temperature cold.

She then thought about her grandma. If only Grandma was still around, I would be snuggling up inside my blanket comfortably.

Now, she had no home to return to, just like a stray.

Pink Hair was banging on the keyboard violently as if he wanted to destroy it. Furthermore, he was cursing incessantly with a cigarette in his mouth.

When Skylar sneaked a peek at the game he was playing, she saw it was "Battle of the Century." It was an extremely popular game recently which Jeremy also liked to play.

The game does not have a limit on reloading credits.

No one had expected such a popular game to be produced by the Ford Group.

In recent years, Tobias had been extending his reach in the business world. He was able to secure a monopolistic position in many industries.

When a CEO of this caliber didn't know how to use a payment app and requested her to emulate a porn movie, it simply felt surreal.

Most of the time, Skylar felt her interactions with Tobias were no different than a dream.

"Hey babe, why isn't your boyfriend here yet? Is he giving me a chance to be yours?"

After putting out his cigarette and throwing the butt on the floor, Pink Hair smiled at Skylar.

"Babe, it's so boring surfing the net alone. Why don't I take you out to relieve your stress?"

"Our boss here is a handsome man. He even has a tattoo on his arm."

"It's so boring watching movies on a computer. It's a lot more comfortable to do it in the hotel."

Pink Hair's lackeys surrounded Skylar. There were about four to five of them.

Skylar watched them warily and tried to scare them, "My boyfriend is a police officer. He is coming to see me after he finishes his shift."

Pink Hair spat on the floor. "Who do you think you're threatening? Do we look like we're afraid of cops?"

Realizing she was in danger, Skylar screamed for the cafe supervisor.

However, the supervisor turned a blind eye to them as he didn't dare offend the hooligans. Nevertheless, he reminded them, "Hey guys, please take her outside. I can't afford to have anything happen here."

Pink Hair smirked as he saluted the supervisor. Then, he mischievously remarked, "Look, even he doesn't want you here. Why don't you come with us?"

Clenching her phone tightly, Skylar didn't move an inch from her seat. "If you continue to harass me, I will call the police."

Under such dangerous circumstances, Skylar didn't think of the police. Instead, she thought of Tobias.

When she encountered any trouble in the past, she never expected Jeremy to help her. Therefore, she had to resolve everything herself.

Meanwhile, Pink Hair snatched her phone from her hands. "You're just seducing men by being alone in a cybercafé at this hour. Babe, come with me. I will shower you with a lot of money, so much that you won't even believe it."

To demonstrate his financial prowess, Pink Hair pulled down his collar. He exposed the thick gold chain he was wearing.

He even pulled out a cigar from his pocket and lit it.

One of his lackeys suggested, "It's rare for our boss to approach a girl, so you should consider yourself lucky. Instead, you're still playing hard to get."

Fear began to overwhelm her when Skylar realized she was all alone. No one in the cybercafé was going to help her.

Ever since she was young, she knew that it was a bad idea to offend hoodlums like that. When they fight, they have no regard for their own lives at all.

Skylar declared, "I have AIDS."