

## Standing before Love Chapter 262

“If you call the police, naturally, someone will check the authenticity of your accusations! Since you said I was slandering you, then you won’t be afraid of people finding out the truth!” There was a joyful coldness in Gemma’s eyes.

Myra squeezed her fists into even tighter balls.

She wanted to say that what happened that day was just a misunderstanding. She had indeed entered Tony’s room that day, but only because Leo asked her to bring dinner up for Tony, which was why she entered Tony’s hotel room.

However, Tony did, in fact, have some intentions toward her at that time. How was she supposed to explain it? She couldn’t possibly say that Tony regarded her as the kind of woman who would sell her body for a project and had treated her accordingly, right?

Not to mention, she was framed for stealing trade secrets about the Chase Group’s Hillville Project, so she had indeed stayed with Tony for one night.

The next day, she even explained herself to the employees of the Chase Group, but no one believed her.

People often only believed and made judgments based on what they saw. How could they possibly believe that she was taken to Tony’s office because she was severely injured and that nothing happened between them?

Suspicious and gossip would only make things worse.

Myra was just afraid that Tony would earn the reputation of pursuing married women.

Her identity at that time was already a sensitive topic, so who knew what the public would twist the story into? She dared not bet on Tony, and she didn’t want him to be discredited because of her.

Nevertheless, her silence was obviously boosting the power of Gemma’s statements.

The expressions of every person looking at her had changed.

“Miss Stark...” Tilly peered at Myra, feeling worried.

She knew about how Tony pursued Myra back then.

Ever since she knew that Myra’s husband was Sean—the director who was constantly involved in scandals—Tilly immediately stood with Tony.

It could be said that Tilly had done quite a lot to get Myra and Tony together. Among them, when Myra left the Chase Group after being wrongfully accused of stealing their Hillville Project’s trade secrets, Tilly was the one who called Tony to inform him about what happened in the Chase Group.

She was also aware that the matter with the video was rather serious.

“Security, hurry up and get her out!” Tilly looked at the three security guards, who were standing frozen in place. Myra’s silence made her a little uneasy, so she decided that she would call Tony later to tell him about this.

The three security guards came to their senses and moved forward to pull Gemma’s arm, so the commotion grew.

“What’s going on?!”

Suddenly, a grave and stern voice rang out, bringing the stalemate to a halt.

The people gathering around them opened up a path for Cameron to walk out of the crowd.

While they were tugging on each other just now, Gemma’s hairdo was destroyed, so her hair was currently in disarray, making her look a little wretched.

An angry flame was burning in her eyes. Taking advantage of Cameron’s gradual approach, she broke free of the security guard’s grasp and tidied herself before walking forward. Along the way, she slammed hard into Myra’s shoulder. Then, she forced a smile and looked at Cameron. “You’re President Stark, right? I’m a member of the Walton Group’s board of directors, and my name is Gemma Walton. I believe you’ve heard of me before, President Stark.”

The Walton Family was once famous in Bradford City, so the older generation of businessmen must have heard of them before.

Something flashed across Cameron's eyes. As he looked around, his gaze swept over Myra, and the slightest hint of coldness crossed his features. However, when he looked at Gemma, there was a slight smile in his eyes. "I wonder what brought you to the Stark Group, Miss Walton?"

Evidently, he knew Gemma's identity.

Gemma immediately stuck out her chin and glanced at the crowd as she let out a cold laugh. "Miss Kris invited me to the Stark Group to wait for her, but I took the wrong elevator just now and ended up on this floor. I accidentally ran into Miss Myra, and I couldn't stand some of her shameless behaviors, so I just made a few remarks. Who knew that she would call for the security guards to kick me out!"

Although Gemma didn't like the Stark Family, she still listened to her brother's advice.

Since her brother asked her to find Kris to maintain a close relationship, she did as she was told.

In her opinion, for the Stark Family to be able to be friends with her was an honor for them.

When Cameron heard Gemma's words, he slightly narrowed his eyes at Myra. "Myra, you're in the wrong here. Miss Walton is a guest. If there are any misunderstandings, just talk it out. How can you so unreasonably try to kick someone out of Stark Tower? Is this how I taught you to treat guests?"

Cameron's expression was serious, but Myra was not surprised to hear him say all these.

Some time ago, Cameron might have been dejected and listless because he didn't have a son, but it never affected his opposition toward her.

"Was it accidental or deliberate? I'm afraid only Miss Walton herself knows. She's the daughter of the Walton Family, so why wouldn't she know who was situated on the top floor of Stark Tower? However, her luck today is rather good and impartial, as she appeared right after the meeting finished," Myra said stonily.

Gemma sneered, "Myra, are you blaming me for deliberately telling everyone about your dirty deeds?! That's right. I admit it. I just wanted to let everyone

know what you did! I'm bold enough to take responsibility for what I've done. Are you?"

Seeing the slight change in Myra's expression, Gemma looked at Cameron. "President Stark, I have a video here. I wonder if you're interested? After watching it, you may rethink how to educate your shameless daughter!"

She said outrightly that Myra was shameless, but it was clear that Cameron had no intentions of protecting his daughter.

He immediately began to watch the video on the phone in Gemma's hand.

After he was done watching, his expression changed instantly.

"Myra! You actually did something so disappointing in the past! You... Hey! How did I educate you! Did I tell you to betray your husband! Look at this. Look at what you've done!"

He stretched out his hand and was about to slap Myra, but halfway through, she grabbed his hand with a hardened expression.

"Myra, what are you doing! You've embarrassed the Stark Family! Yet, you still don't know how to repent! Miss Walton has already come to the Stark Group to create trouble. Do you want the entire Stark Family to become a joke because of you? You've really put your mother to shame!"

At the mention of her mother, Myra suddenly pushed Cameron away—hard.

Cameron staggered a few steps back and nearly fell. The look on his face changed in an instant!

"Myra, I'm your father!"

"President Stark, you must've forgotten who threw me out of the Stark Family two years ago." Myra fixed the man in front of her with a cold stare. "I only have a mother, but not a father!"

She could kind of guess that Gemma must have already planned all these with the Starks a while ago.

No wonder Gemma knew when to come up to make me feel completely helpless!

She shoved the people in front of her, wanting to get into the elevator and leave.

However, Gemma grabbed her wrist tightly. “Myra, are you just going to leave after doing all those things? President Stark is your father, yet that’s how you treat him! Are you even human? It’s no wonder you can do all those improper things! You shameless woman!”

“I may be shameless, but do you think you’re not?” Myra was being held by her wrist. Turning around, she stared at the woman in front of her, who was just pushing her luck. “Just because you can’t get Tony, you’re directing all your anger at me! Gemma, Tony doesn’t want you, so you should find your own reasons. For a despicable woman like you, who would dare to want you?!”

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“You! How dare you say that to me!” Gemma was so angry that her chest was heaving violently, and she suddenly grabbed Myra’s hair before pulling it backward.

Myra was caught off guard, and her scalp felt as if it was going to be torn off by Gemma.

Tears sprang to her eyes because of the pain. The next moment, Tilly grabbed Gemma’s hair as well. “Let go of Miss Stark!”

Just now, when Tilly sensed that something was wrong, she had given Tony a call. As soon as the call was connected, she saw Gemma pulling Myra’s hair. She was so shocked that she didn’t even bother talking to Tony anymore and quickly went to help Myra.

Gemma’s scalp hurt, and the pain made her scream. Fortunately, she let go of Myra’s hair.

Tilly rolled up her sleeves and looked at the people in front of her. With an extremely bitter expression, she pointed to the three security guards. “Did you not hear anything just now? I asked you to take her away, so why is she still here?! Is the commotion not big enough yet?!”

She glanced at Gemma, who was in so much pain that she was out of breath for a moment. “And you! Do you think you’re Tony’s fiancée just because you

say you are? That's funny! President Hart has only ever admitted to liking Miss Stark. Who do you think you are? You came and harassed Miss Stark just because you can't get him?"

"And you!" Tilly was willing to go all out this time. Without thinking any further, she turned around to look at Cameron. "You're Miss Stark's father. You're pretending to be distressed about her, and you're letting this woman use that strange video to slander Miss Stark! You should be embarrassed to say that you're her father!"

"And all of you!" Tilly glanced at the people around her. Indignation was clear on her face. "Is it fun to stand idly by and watch the excitement? If you have the time to stick your nose in other people's affairs, then why don't you spend some time reflecting on your own life to avoid feeling so lonely and empty that you have to rely on other people's lives to fill your life with excitement?"

After being scolded by Tilly, the faces in the crowd turned unpleasant.

A manager from the human resource department twitched his lips. "It's not that we want to stick our nose in other people's affairs, but we're stuck here. What can we say anyway? If you don't want anyone to know what you've done, it's better for the general manager to not have done those dirty deeds in the first place, right? Nothing happens for no reason, right?"

"How dare you say that! You—"

Seeing that Tilly was burning with rage, Myra took hold of her hand and looked at Cameron. "So, it seems like Kris has made an alliance with the Young Master of the Walton Family, which is why you're so confident, President Stark."

There was less indignation in Myra's eyes than Tilly's. The more she remained like this, the calmer she was. Nevertheless, there was a flurry of emotions in those eyes that Cameron couldn't discern. He couldn't help tightly clenching his fists. Myra laughed coldly. "Since you said I cheated during my marriage, then show me proof. What's there to say about a video that can't prove anything? Did you all just watch a video of me cheating on Tony, or did you watch a video of me deliberately fooling around with Tony? I'm quite surprised with your reaction, President Stark. This has yet to prove anything. You just appear anxious to convict me. Are you afraid that I won't be accused?"

“Myra, I can’t believe you’re still arguing. Well then, tell everyone why you came out of Tony’s room with your clothes disheveled that day? According to the video, after you entered Tony’s room, he was inside the whole time. You couldn’t have ended up looking so wretched on your own, right?”

Gemma pressed on relentlessly.

Clenching her hands into fists, she calmly lifted her head. “No matter what, it has nothing to do with you, right, Miss Walton? Why should I tell you?”

“Heh. Apart from feeling guilty, why can’t you tell everyone what happened at that time?” Gemma had a venomous smile on her face.

Myra studied the woman in front of her, whose face was slightly contorted. Some people were like this. The matter obviously had nothing to do with them, but in order to gain personal benefits, they would harm others unscrupulously under the guise of justice.

“Miss Walton, if you think your guess is right, then why don’t you just continue thinking that?” Myra was too annoyed to be in Gemma’s presence any longer, so she didn’t bother taking the elevator. Turning around, she walked straight toward the stairs.

However, after just taking two steps, she was stopped by Gemma, who seemed to be constantly lingering.

“Myra, you betrayed Director Chase, yet you’re acting so bold and righteous when you cheated during your marriage. It’s no wonder Mrs. Chase hated you that much! Myra, you’re so shameless. Does Director Chase know that you cheated on him back then? Does the Hart Family know you cheated? Have you been hiding it from them all this while?”

“Get out of the way!” Myra’s expression turned cold.

“What if I don’t? Don’t think that you can be so arrogant just because you have Tony backing you up now. You’re just hiding him from the truth for now! Myra, I’ll definitely let everyone know about the things you did during your marriage. I’ll tell Director Chase, Tony, and the Harts!”

“Whatever—”

Just as Myra was going to say 'you want', a low male voice intervened in their conversation, stopping them amidst their intense battle.

"I wonder what this lady has to tell me?"

Stunned, everyone was frozen in place.

At some point, someone had walked out of the elevator. This person was none other than the man Gemma had repeatedly mentioned just now—Sean, the Director of Chase Group!

He was dressed in a gray suit and white shirt, which made him look sharp and cold. He was expressionless, but when his gaze fell on Myra, a complex emotion fled across his face. Then, he looked at Cameron. "Initially, I came here because I had an appointment with President Stark today to discuss some stuff. It seems like I arrived just in time for a good show."

"You are..." Gemma frowned slightly.

"Miss, didn't you mention me just now? Why? Don't you even know who I am?" Sean's face was stony, and his eyes seemed to contain ice, but his whole demeanor exuded slight extravagance.

Cameron reluctantly forced a smile. "Turns out it's Director Chase. I'm sorry you had to witness such a ridiculous scene. Something happened in the company just now. Director Chase, why don't you go to the lounge for a cup of tea first? I'll go over after I deal with the matter here."

Obviously, they couldn't continue their argument in front of Sean because it was partly about his and Myra's marriage. If they did, it would utterly embarrass him!

In an instant, Gemma realized who the handsome man in front of her was.

She looked Sean up and down and thought, He's talented indeed. At such a young age, he's already the director of a company. This means that his skills and abilities aren't that simple.

But, after seeing Tony, how could she still put Sean in her sights?

However... she heard that after Sean and Myra got divorced, the relationship between the two of them immediately fell apart.



The man next to her even got together with another woman right after.

Gemma figured he hated Myra a lot for him to do something that would humiliate her this much!

Gemma's eyes darted around. She wasn't as scrupulous as Cameron. She wouldn't let his value go to waste if she could use it to her benefit!

She looked at Sean with sympathy in her eyes. "Director Chase, you came here just in time. We were just talking about how Myra betrayed you back then! She messed around outside with no regard for your marriage! I presume you had a deep intuition last time too, which was why you divorced Myra right away!"

Gemma was almost certain that Sean would mock and ridicule Myra, so she smiled triumphantly.

Now, she wanted to see what else Myra could do!

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When Sean heard Gemma, his eyes immediately turned cold. Narrowing them, he glanced over to see the smug expression she had on her face as she was looking at Myra.

Myra was in a rather awful state after Gemma pulled her by the hair. Her hair was disheveled and her hairline was still red.

Frowning, Sean immediately walked up to Myra and, instead of criticizing her, asked with a concerned voice, "What happened? Are you hurt?"

Everyone there was stunned including Gemma and Cameron.

After a slight pause, Myra knitted her brows together and walked around him without saying anything.

Seeing the way she was treating him at the moment, Sean clenched his hands beside him.

He was only concerned for her, but she no longer cared.

Turning around, he looked at Gemma and asked, "What did you say? That Myra messed around with someone else while we were married?"

His attitude garnered a doubtful expression from her.

The attitude he had now was inconsistent with the rumors she heard about him, thus making her frown slightly.

According to the information she had, Sean spent each day partying in the two years he was married to Myra. He was always with a different woman. After his ex-girlfriend, Lyla, returned, he practically left Myra in a heartbeat. At one point, the two even had many arguments with each other. Why is he treating her so nicely now?

Lyla was another matter, but his attitude still made Gemma frown.

Studying him carefully, she tugged at the corner of her lips. "Director Chase, I believe you've seen the video Sasha showed you. The video shows Myra sneaking off to a room in Tony's hotel on the pretense that she was on a business trip, then coming out with her clothes in a mess. I think everyone should know the implications of her shameless behavior."

"What does it imply?" Sean asked impatiently right after she spoke.

Indeed, he had seen the video she was talking about. At the time, he even showed it to Myra and questioned her about it.

Listening to the way Gemma was talking about Myra now, however, he heard a voice telling him to protect Myra. Regardless of what happened back then, he could criticize her, but he couldn't let this be an excuse for Gemma to lash out at her.

All of a sudden, his gaze turned cold as he looked at Gemma.

Gemma did not think that he was that baseless. Seeing the unconcealed warmth in his eyes as he looked at Myra when he clearly had a cold look on his face, she scorned him, "Are you trying to shield Myra, Director Chase? Do you think this will erase the fact that she once cheated on you? Everyone knows the truth. While she was still married to you, she was already openly having an affair with Tony. Director Chase, don't tell me you want to help this woman now?"

“Do you have a problem with me helping her, Miss Walton?” he shot back without caring about what Gemma said.

Gemma became enraged. “Director Chase, you’ve seen for yourself the kind of woman Myra is! Why the h\*ll would you help her? If it wasn’t because of her, you wouldn’t have been separated from the woman you loved for such a long time!”

“You’re really funny, Miss Walton. I’m helping Myra only because what you said isn’t true. You’re falsely accusing her. I don’t know why you believed in that strange video, Miss Walton, but it’s obvious that your actions toward Myra today constitute harassment. If President Stark doesn’t take action, then I will have to report to the police myself.”

Sean was also looking at Cameron with a fairly cold gaze.

He had always known that Cameron did not treat Myra well. Even though they had a father-daughter relationship, theirs was not the same. At this moment, he knew Cameron’s intentions. He was going to excuse himself to the lounge earlier which showed that he never wanted to help Myra.

Sean scowled at him.

In an instant, Cameron stiffened and an awkward look appeared on his face.

“You!” Meanwhile, Gemma’s expression was filled with anger.

She had never imagined that Sean would help Myra. Isn’t he head over heels for Lyla? He always gave Myra the cold shoulder because of all the mean things she used to do to Lyla. Why is he acting this way today?

“Director Chase, I don’t think you’re fully aware of the situation. That video is not just some strange video; it’s a video your cousin, Sasha, gave me. At the time, as one of the competitors for the Sunny Bay Project, she also went to that hotel with Director Hart. It was at that hotel where she discovered the video. This video is foolproof.”

“Oh. Well, there’s one thing I must tell you and everyone else here. Two months ago, Sasha’s company, Hay Group, was publicly rejected by the Hart Group for plagiarizing Myra’s designs, meaning they won’t be working with Hay Group anymore. I think Sasha wasn’t able to let it go for some time, so

she came up with a plan to frame Myra. I presume you've all heard of some of this."

"Sean Chase!" Gemma's face was red with anger. She clearly had not known about the shameful act that Sasha had done. After Sean exposed Hay Group without any consideration for them, it felt like a slap in the face to Gemma. Her expression changed immediately. She couldn't believe that he would help Myra and disregard his maternal family. "You're both divorced now, but you're still saying all these things that you don't mean on her behalf! Don't tell me she's secretly having an affair with you now that she's with Tony? Is that why you're speaking up for her?"

"Enough with your filthy nonsense, Miss Walton!" Myra suddenly spoke up after remaining silent this whole time. Her lips were pressed together tightly, and her expression did not look good. "You know that Tony and I are together now, but you're trying everything in your power to get between us. You chide me, but why don't you chide yourself too? I'm sure it didn't feel great having Tony drag you out of the Hart Residence last night."

Since Gemma did not show Myra any mercy, she did not have a reason to put up with that woman's yapping either.

"Did you already forget what you said to me last night, Miss Walton? You know that Tony and I are together now, but you still threatened me to leave him. You already know that he doesn't like you, but you still cling to him and pretend you're his fiancée. Does the Hart Family know that you're doing this? What makes you think that just because you like someone, that person has to reciprocate your feelings?"

"What the h\*ll are you talking about, Myra?" Gemma's face turned purple.

"Am I wrong? You came to the Hart Residence last night as a guest, but you got thrown out by Tony. Unless you instigated the situation, why would he do that to you?" Myra's expression was chilly.

"It's all because of you, you wench. If it weren't for you, he wouldn't have treated me that way!"

Boiling with rage, she walked over to teach Myra a lesson, but Sean blocked her path.

However, Myra did not accept his gesture and simply walked around him to stand in front of Gemma. “Is that so? You said it yourself. Tony treated you that way because of me. It also happened at the Hart Residence where all the elders were present. If you were his fiancée, would the elders of the Hart Family just watch you get bullied because of me?”

The color drained from Gemma’s face.

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“Please have some respect for yourself, Miss Walton. You claim to be his fiancée without the Hart Family’s permission and even widely publicize it. Don’t you think that is inappropriate? Or do you not take the Hart Family seriously? It’s no wonder you barged into the Stark Group like a mad dog and attacked people.” Myra looked to the security guards at the side with an even colder gaze. “Looks like security is going to have to hire some new people now. A person can become incompetent when they’ve been in the same place for too long. Don’t you think so, President Stark?” She turned to look at Cameron who had a strange look on his face ever since Sean showed up.

Cameron narrowed his eyes. Before security took action, he said with a stiff smile, “It’s all a misunderstanding. Miss Walton is young and impetuous. She can be a bit rash with her words. Myra, why would you bother with her? Oh, Miss Walton, didn’t you come to see Krissy? Her office is downstairs in the Project Department. I’ll have my assistant take you there right away.”

He was obviously trying to resolve the dispute to prevent any further trouble.

Gemma was glaring at Myra and Sean. Not too long ago, she still had the upper hand, but Myra’s ex-husband, Sean, showed up out of nowhere. Not only did he not help her, but he even sided with Myra to go against her.

Clenching her fists tightly, Gemma wanted to say more, but Cameron stepped in her line of vision. He did not mind using Gemma to ruin Myra’s reputation but not on the basis that he got dragged down as well. Even if Gemma did not have second thoughts, he did. He did not know why Sean was helping Myra all of a sudden, but it was clear that now was not the time to keep arguing. They were at the Stark Group, and he was the president of the company.

“Myra, I still need you to make some adjustments to that plan from before. Once you’re done, bring the copy up to me so I can have a look.” Cameron cast an inadvertent glance at Gemma to send her a warning before looking at

Myra casually. After that, he turned to Sean and said, "Director Chase, we didn't get to finish our discussion last time. Please come this way. Let's continue."

Sean turned around to look at Myra, but she walked into the elevator ahead with Tilly without looking at him.

Seeing that his eyes were still fixed on Myra, Gemma let out a cynical smile. "I wondered why you kept defending Myra. You must have some feelings left for her, don't you? Does your current wife know about what you're doing?"

The people in the elevator heard Gemma. There were quite a number of people inside, but they all acted as if they did not hear anything. Very quickly, the elevator doors closed.

After watching the elevator doors close slowly, Sean's face turned cold. He cast a side glance at Gemma and retorted, "Having leftover feelings is still better than imagining things."

Her expression changed immediately, but he had already turned around and was walking toward Cameron's office.

"How dare you, Sean?" She looked exasperated. Originally, she was trying to make fun of Myra, but she got made into a joke instead. Letting out a heavy scoff, she walked toward the corridor in her heels with a darkened expression on her face.

Upstairs, Cameron went back to smiling in a steady and reserved manner at Sean. "Director Chase, you've been divorced from Myra for quite some time now. I was actually afraid that there might be some animosity between you two, but this is a sigh of relief to me."

Thinking about Myra's attitude toward him a moment ago, Sean still looked rather dejected. He did not bother much with Cameron's remark either. After all, he had not forgotten the way this man treated Myra earlier.

"President Stark, let's get straight down to business." He had a blank expression.

Cameron was taken aback and was slightly offended, but he still smiled brightly. "Sure."

...

After entering the elevator, the atmosphere inside felt extremely awkward. Nevertheless, it quickly arrived at her floor where she and Tilly both got out.

As soon as the elevator doors closed behind them, Tilly's expression sank. "Miss Myra, who was that woman? She was so aggressive! She claims to be Director Hart's fiancée, but Director Hart never mentioned her even once!"

At the thought of Gemma, Myra's brows also pulled together. "She's the Young Lady of the Walton Family. The Waltons are going to return soon to work in Bradford City. Her brother and Tony founded the Hartwell Group together."

"Oh, it's that Walton Family!" Tilly exclaimed.

"Do you know them, Tilly?" Myra asked.

She shook her head. "I only heard about them from Elliott recently. It didn't seem like his impression of the Waltons was that good either."

Whenever he speaks about the Walton Family, his tone is always full of scorn. Tilly let out a sigh. In that case, everything Gemma Walton said earlier was pure nonsense.

When Myra noticed Tilly mention Elliot, she turned around skeptically. "Are you close to Elliot these days?"

Tilly's face immediately turned bright red. She wanted to wave her hands, but she couldn't say anything to refute and only felt embarrassed for a while. Myra turned back around with a smile. "It's not a bad thing to be close. I think Elliot is quite a decent person." Minus the times when he becomes too self-centered.

Tilly was also at the age where she should be dating. If she and Elliot really got into a relationship, Myra would certainly be happy for them.

Noticing that Myra had sensed something, Tilly quickly turned red then followed after her. Keeping her head down, she murmured, "We're still not in the kind of relationship you're thinking of, Miss Stark."

Once Myra entered her office and sat down at her desk, she looked up at Tilly in front of her. Tilly was blushing, and her eyes were glistening. She looked exactly like a girl who was in love. I don't know how Elliot feels about her, but she has definitely fallen for him.

After a brief pause, Myra suddenly remembered the time when Elliot also stood in front of her and asked about Tilly. She chuckled. "Get to know him more then, and see if you're compatible with each other."

Tilly nodded while blushing.

Myra waited for her to leave before taking a look at her phone. At a glance, she realized that she had several missed calls.

During the meeting, she had put her phone on silent, so she did not notice the calls.

When she saw the name of the caller, she smiled without realizing and felt the frustration, from being provoked by Gemma earlier, subside. "Why did you call me so many times? I came out of the conference room not too long ago, so I didn't see your calls."

"Okay." Tony was already in his sports car heading toward Stark Group. "Was Gemma at your company?" His low and deep voice was transmitted wirelessly into her ears and lifted her mood as if it carried some sort of magic with it. At the moment, however, she was not seeing the stone-cold look on his face. The temperature surrounding him had seemingly fallen below freezing and warded off people from getting close to him.

"Yes, she made a scene here for a while, but that was it. I didn't take her seriously." The video did make Myra feel uneasy, but she knew that Gemma only liked to stir trouble.

"Is she gone now?"

"Not yet." Myra pondered for a moment and decided that she should reveal Gemma's relationship with Cameron and Kris now. "Tony, if I'm not wrong, Kris is currently dating Gideon. She's also on good terms with Gemma at the moment. Gemma came to the company today on the pretense of seeing her."

"Do you need me to go over?" Even though he asked, he was already on his way there.



She shook her head. "You don't have to come. I can deal with it. You're busy enough. How can I let you worry about this tiny matter too?"

"I didn't know my wife was so considerate."

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Tony's voice was low and humorous as he bantered. When Myra heard the word 'wife', her cheeks started to turn red. He was not usually a sentimental man, but, surprisingly, hearing that word come out of his mouth did not feel strange. Instead, it felt rather intoxicating.

Biting her lower lip, she murmured, "I'm not married to you yet..."

He let out a low and deep laugh. "Are you complaining that I'm not moving fast enough?"

Upon hearing his words, her face turned even redder. She bickered, "Forget it. I'm going to sort out some documents now. Focus on your work. Don't worry about things here."

He acquiesced with a smile.

Soon after, their call ended.

Nonetheless, he did not change the direction he was going in even after he hung up.

When Tilly called him, she did not get a chance to talk to him, but he had heard everything that was happening at the time. He knew that Sean had gone to Stark Group and heard him defend Myra. Naturally, he also heard them talk about the video.

Hay Group... Sasha Hay...

He smirked at the thought of the woman who seduced him in his office back then, but the tip of his brows showed the concern he felt. Stepping on the gas pedal, he hurried his way over to Stark Group.

Meanwhile, Gemma did not wait very long before Kris returned to the company.

Gemma's expression was not great and neither was Kris'.

Not only did Kris bump into Estelle at City Hall, but she was even humiliated by both Estelle and Shawn. How could she get over it?

"Gemma..." Even though Kris looked unhappy, she still forced a smile when she saw Gemma and walked into her office toward her. "I heard you came to Bradford City a while ago. Sorry, I didn't know you in the beginning, so I didn't invite you. I only found out when Gideon talked about you last night."

To be frank, Gemma looked down on the Stark Family, especially because it was Myra's family. Ever since she found out that Cameron and Kris stood in opposition to Myra, however, she immediately agreed to her brother.

When she heard Kris' words, she smiled at her. "What are you saying? We'll be one family in the future. Why are you being so courteous with me, sister-in-law?"

Thinking about the women around her brother, Gemma sympathized with the woman in front of her, but in spite of her sympathy, she still wouldn't betray her brother for this woman.

As soon as Kris heard Gemma, she started to blush. "You know how to tease me, Gemma!" Suddenly, she remembered the phone call with her father earlier and looked at Gemma cautiously. "Gemma, my dad told me that my pompous sister was rude to you outside his office earlier. Don't be angry. That's the way she is. But don't worry; Dad and I are still on your side."

When Kris first heard about the existence of that video, she felt frustrated for a really long time. If she had known earlier, she would've gotten closer to Sasha and got that video for herself. I didn't think Gemma would be so dumb. She clearly has a trump card in her hands, but she doesn't know how to use it properly! Instead, she let Myra step all over her and even humiliated Dad.

Gemma was instantly reminded of the incident that took place. At the thought of Myra's arrogant and smug expression earlier, she became livid and snickered. "It's no wonder your dad wanted to kick her out of the family that year. With her around, how will the Stark Family manage to stand tall and proud in the business industry in Bradford City?"

Even though Myra cheated, she still kept it a secret from everyone. Not only is Tony protecting her, but it looks like she also has Sean's protection after what

happened today. Lyla is a good-for-nothing. She can't even keep an eye on one man! At the thought of Lyla, Gemma's brows furrowed even deeper.

"What do you plan to do, Gemma? That video didn't fluster Myra. Do you think she has a card up her sleeve?" Kris asked in a composed manner.

"Didn't fluster her?" Gemma scoffed. She still hadn't forgotten how Myra's face sank in an instant when she first revealed the video. As long as this video is real, she can't possibly remain calm!

"Why the rush? Myra may be good at talking, but how many people can she explain this to?" Gemma looked down at her phone. "We can't keep something so scandalous just between us, can we? Wouldn't it be more fun to share this with everyone?" A dubious light flickered across her eyes.

Kris acted surprised. "You're brilliant, Gemma. Once everyone finds out about this, it will be over for Myra."

"I don't care what moves she used in the past to deceive Tony and the Hart Family, and even Sean! I have to see whether they would still want a disgraceful woman!"

Members of influential families emphasized the honor of their families. If Myra's act was exposed and her true colors were revealed to the world, at the very least, the Hart Family would no longer allow Myra to be with Tony.

When Kris heard Sean's name being mentioned, a puzzled look flashed across her face.

She couldn't believe that Sean really helped Myra. In addition to seeing Sean outside Tony's villa last time, she started to have a look of ridicule as things were getting more and more interesting now.

...

After Myra hung up the phone, she began to think about the plan they discussed in the meeting earlier.

Then, she instructed Tilly to return the document to each department and make the changes according to the plan they discussed in the meeting today.

Standing up from her chair, Myra moved her body around a little and was about to go to the break room for some water with a cup in her hand when she heard an urgent knock on the door. It sounded pressing as though it was something important.

She walked over right away to pull open the door. Tilly came right in from outside, making Myra take a couple of steps back, then she closed the door again.

Even though it was only for a brief moment, Myra saw three to four female employees gathered together and whispering to each other outside through the gap of the door. When they noticed her, they quickly dispersed while acting nonchalant.

Tilly's face was filled with anxiety. Putting her phone in front of Myra, she tapped into the entertainment news and immediately revealed the headline of today's news: 'The daughter of Stark Group openly had an affair while married; disowned by Chase Family after being secretly married for two years!'

The big red heading that looked like it was stained with blood barged into Myra's line of vision without any warning.

She felt suffocated for a moment but quickly clenched her fists tightly beside her.

The video of Myra running out of Tony's hotel room in a disheveled state was exposed in the entertainment news except they had blurred her face and only pointed out that the cheating woman was the daughter of the Stark Family without giving a name. The man she had an affair with was only described as a powerful man from Bradford City, but his identity was not revealed. Nevertheless, Myra and Sean's divorce was a big issue at the time. Moreover, recent news about Myra and Tony being together also spread like wildfire. Any person would be able to put two and two together.

The media also tried to depict her as a woman who only had eyes for the rich and looked down on the poor. In the news, she became someone of a lower status who fawned over the powerful and rich. Everyone else was made to be innocent while she was the only one stirring up trouble.

## Standing before Love Chapter 267

Soon, the public started to condemn Myra. On top of that, the time when the Stark Family kicked her out of the house was also exposed. They called her malicious for harming the child her stepmother carried twice, promiscuous for cheating on several men while married to the director of Chase Group, and despicable for selling her own husband's company's trade secrets without hesitation in order to seek connections with influential families.

Myra did not have to look to know how vicious the comments were. Drawing in a sharp breath, she took a step back. I didn't think Gemma would risk everything to release this video to the public. She didn't even stop to think about the Hart Family and Tony's reputation!

"Miss Stark, what should we do now? Should we issue a statement to deny the news report?" Tilly felt so anxious that she was sweating on her cheeks.

It was obvious that they had underestimated Gemma's ruthlessness. Tilly was too afraid to even think about what the Hart Family would think of Myra if they saw the video.

"Or... we could ask Director Hart to clarify this situation to the public." A bright light flickered across her eyes as if she had found a chance.

"No!" Myra refuted with clenched teeth and a slightly sullen expression on her face.

She knew better than anyone that the video was real. Currently, the media was focused on her and had not dragged Tony in yet. But, if he stood out to clarify the matter, it would only drag him down with her. I don't want to see people attaching all kinds of filthy labels to him.

"What do we do then?" Tilly was pacing around Myra.

After she heard the group of women whispering among themselves, she quickly checked the entertainment news and was not expecting something this big to have happened. It had spread everywhere and was garnering harsh criticism from the public.

Myra clenched her fists tightly. At this moment, she did not know what to do either. Has Tony seen all of this? Has the Hart Family seen all of this? Old

Master Hart is finally seeing me in a different light. Will he go back to thinking that I am one of those shameless women because of this video?

...

'Tony, I don't know why you're protecting that woman, Myra, but you better think through this carefully! She came to seduce you before she got a divorce. She is clearly a woman of loose standards, but she still pretends to be weak and innocent in front of you. Don't let her fool you!'

'You didn't see how she was exchanging glances with Director Chase at Stark Group today! They colluded with each other to bully me! I won't say any more on this. I just don't want you to get blindsided by her!'

'Old Master Hart, Old Madam Hart, and the rest of the Hart Family will see her true self. Tony, you will come to understand my efforts!'

...

Several texts poured in one after the other on Tony's phone. Even if it was from a new number he had never seen before, he still knew the identity of the woman who sent those texts to him.

His face darkened considerably. A moment later, his phone rang, but this time, it was not that woman. Seeing Leo's name on the screen, he answered the call with a sullen expression.

"Bad news, Director Hart. The video Miss Hay took from the hotel was released on the internet! People are criticizing Miss Stark online. It's impossible to stop all the gossip now!"

In all the years Leo worked with Tony, he rarely ever sounded that alarmed.

When he saw those entertainment articles earlier, only one thought crossed his mind—we're doomed.

Back then, they had tacitly given permission to Sasha to take the video and show it to Sean, but they did not think that she would have the nerve to expose it on the internet.

Without wasting a second, Leo immediately reported the issue.

The car swerved off to the side where it almost hit a sedan. After steadying the car, Tony held the steering wheel with a death grip which made the veins on the back of his hand bulge slightly.

It was no surprise who had released the video online.

Remembering the texts on his phone, Tony turned even more sullen. Gemma sure has the nerve to do these things!

“Issue my statement at once. This issue is unfounded.” His dreary voice resounded inside the car.

When he heard Leo speak earlier, he was already on guard and wanted to rush over to Myra. Gemma is a capricious woman, or perhaps it's more appropriate to call her a capricious snake! Even at the Hart Residence, she dared to challenge Myra and raise her hand at her. Tony did not believe that she wouldn't make matters worse. The video...

If he hadn't been in such a rush at the time, he wouldn't have left leverage for Sasha. As someone who had been in the business industry for many years, how could he not know the trouble this type of public opinion would bring to Myra? Back then, I should've... “D\*mn it!” The air around him felt even grimmer as though he was an envoy from hell.

When Leo heard him, however, he was troubled once more. “Director Hart, the video doesn't point out whose hotel room Miss Hart went to. Her face is also blurred. Public opinions differ widely, but most of the people have managed to find Miss Hart's and your identity. That was how this blew up!”

That meant that if Tony issued a statement now, he would be giving himself away.

The person who released the video clearly thought about showing the Hart Family and Tony mercy, but Tony's bottom line was Myra.

Glaring at the condition of the cars in front of him, Tony scoffed all of a sudden. “Doesn't Sasha have the Wallace Enterprise behind her lately? Tell Director Wallace that we're willing to reduce one percent for the FY Project. We will also help them bring in technology for the project. As for the conditions, you know what to do.”

He stepped on the gas pedal. On the road, it only looked like a bolt of lightning had passed by.

Leo also became stern. “Leave it to me.” It’s over for the Hay Group now!

“Tell Gideon that we will have to halt the plans they mentioned last time to enter the Paradigm Mall—for special reasons. He can find out the specific reason for himself.” The ridicule on Tony’s face had even turned cold.

The times he let Gemma off were not for her sake, but mostly for the Walton Family’s sake. Because she had overstepped her boundaries over and over again, he did not have to show their family any mercy now.

“But, Director Hart, Old Master Walton called last time and said—”

“Would you like to take Justin’s place and let Justin come back?” Tony cut Leo off coldly without waiting for him to finish.

Leo fiddled with his nose. He wanted to tell him that Edward was willing to allocate seventy percent of the profits from the Apollo Plan the two companies were working on together to Hart Group. Still, how could seventy percent of earnings stand against the person in Tony’s heart? For instance, even if it was Hillville, he still wouldn’t bat an eye at it.

Leo immediately responded, “I’ll get it done right away. But your family...”

“If Old Master Hart calls, tell him to call me directly.” Tony frowned. He did not know whether Myra knew about the news yet, but he only knew that her situation did not look too good. “Postpone all the meetings this afternoon.”

## Standing before Love Chapter 268

With a heavy weight on her mind, Myra took her cup and went to the break room to get some water. Before she went in, she heard a few women whispering to each other inside.

“Do you guys think that video is real? I was at the meeting today. When Miss Walton released that video, Miss Stark simply remained silent. There’s no telling whether this video is real or not!”

“Ah! If it’s real, does that mean she really had an affair?”



“No! I heard from a friend at Chase Group that while Miss Stark was working with them, she was already hitting on Director Hart in order to get a hold of the Sunny Bay Project! How else did you think Chase Group, a real estate company that started barely two years ago, was able to get Hart Group’s Sunny Bay Project?”

“But I think Director Hart treats Miss Stark really well. When I was working extra shifts the other night, it was raining heavily. You should’ve seen how gentle and caring he was when he came to pick Miss Stark up. Before this, I didn’t think Director Hart ever smiled.”

“It still doesn’t change the fact that Miss Stark cheated. A woman who doesn’t carry out her duties as a wife after getting married and even messes around with other men is truly shameless!”

“Hey, keep your voice down! But, didn’t Director Chase also have other women over those two years? Are only men allowed to lead promiscuous lives while women have to fulfill their wifely duties?”

“What’s gotten into you? Are you trying to curry favor with Miss Stark?”

“I’m just stating the facts...”

...

Their conversation turned into an argument. At the same time, Myra’s heart only continued to sink further.

Ever since she stepped out of her office, she could feel the unusual atmosphere among the employees as she made her way to the break room. She cautioned herself against wondering what other people thought about her, but it was still a bit difficult.

Upon returning to her office, she took out her phone to give Tony a call. Being in this overwhelming situation, she wanted to hear his voice, but as soon as she unlocked her phone, she suddenly received a call. After glancing at it, her expression became tense. She took a deep breath and answered, “Hello?”

When she heard what the other person said, the knuckles on her hand as she gripped her phone turned faintly pale.

...

Meanwhile, the moment Tony finished speaking on the phone with Leo, he immediately gave Myra a call, but her line was busy.

His eyes slowly darkened, and he tossed his phone aside.

Not long after, he arrived at Stark Group. When he tried calling Myra again, her phone was completely turned off.

With a deep frown on his face, he called Tilly instead.

“Hello? Director Hart.”

Whenever Tilly received Tony’s call or whenever she called Tony, she adopted a stern attitude and even straightened her posture without realizing it even though he was not actually in front of her.

At the thought of the news that broke out, she was going to tell him about it, but he interjected, “Where’s Myra?”

Tilly was taken aback. “Hasn’t Miss Stark gone to see you?”

Tony pursed his lips.

The afternoon light was shining sideways into his deep and serene eyes, but it did not add any warmth in them and only made them look colder. His high nose bridge also seemed sharp and fierce.

“Her phone is turned off.”

“What?” Tilly exclaimed.

After Myra received the phone call, she said she had to leave and was probably not going to return to the company this afternoon. Tilly assumed that she had gone to see Tony, but that did not seem to be the case, and she had even turned her phone off.

“Perhaps her phone ran out of battery?” Tilly asked without certainty. When Miss Stark told me she was going out, she looked normal... That can’t be right! Since this issue happened and after coming back from the break room, she didn’t look too good. How could she act normally again out of nowhere? “Do you think she might have gone home, Director Hart?” Tilly was getting a bit anxious.

It wouldn't be easy for anyone to have to go through this.

Nonetheless, Tilly could attest that Myra did not betray Sean at the time.

"Director Hart..." Even though Myra did not want Tilly to discuss too much about this with Tony and made it clear that she did not want to drag him down with her, Tilly still felt like he would have a solution. Biting her lip, she continued, "Director Hart, Miss Stark told me not to go to you for help, but do you have a way to stop those rumors? Everyone at the company is talking about it. It isn't going in a good direction online either. If things continue to unfold this way, I'm afraid..." Miss Stark's reputation will be destroyed for good.

Tilly did not say the last part out loud, but Tony clearly understood. His face sank. After giving Tilly a few instructions, he hung up the phone.

Of all people, he was not going to let things go down this way.

He remembered Tilly's words about Myra not wanting her to go to him for help. Is she afraid that the attention would be put on me? Despite being in a difficult situation, she's still trying to protect me.

Indeed, Myra was married to Sean at the time, and Tony did have feelings for her. The real immoral person here was him. She shouldn't have to bear all this hurt.

Turning the steering wheel, he stepped down hard on the gas pedal and started driving toward their apartment.

...

When the news broke out, Eve was getting a spa with her friends at the club.

She was falling asleep when her friends suddenly cried out in alarm beside her and woke her up from her drowsiness.

It had been a few days since she last had proper sleep.

She did not know how Lyla came to find out that Elsie was pregnant with Sean's child, but they had been arguing about it over the past few days. This time, Eve had gotten on her son's nerves. Sean was obviously not going to let

Elsie have the child and had even let Eve deal with this matter, but she couldn't do it.

That was her grandchild; their family's future generation. How could she let Elsie abort the child?

Therefore, she found an excuse each day to delay it.

Sean was busy. After the day he told her heartlessly to get rid of the child, he did not really go home that often. Eve thought she could let out a sigh of relief now, but these days, Lyla kept lingering around her and threatening her to make Elsie have the abortion soon.

Eve knew what Lyla was worried about—that Elsie would fight for the place as Young Mistress of the Chase Family with her once she gave birth to the child. Even though Eve patiently reassured her that even if Elsie gave birth to the child, she would most likely leave her child behind, but Lyla still frantically demanded that Elsie have the abortion. Because of that, Eve spent a few days arguing with her. She did not want to tell her son about it, so she just suppressed her anger and was finally able to relax today.

When she heard her friends squealing beside her, she did not have much of a reaction and only asked the attendant to pour her a cup of lemonade. After she took a sip, her friends came up to her. They placed a phone in front of her and pressed, "Eve, quickly take a look at this. Isn't that your precious son's ex-wife, Myra, the daughter of the Stark Family?"

Eve frowned upon hearing Myra's name. Looking down at the phone her friends handed to her, her hands began to tremble the moment she caught sight of the headline on the screen. A bit of the lemonade in the cup also spilled out, but, fortunately, it was not hot. She quickly handed the cup of lemonade back to the attendant then grabbed the phone and sat up.

## Standing before Love Chapter 269

Eve was all too familiar with Myra. Even though her face was blurred, her silhouette and status were depicted clearly. How could Eve not know who the woman in the news report was?

Because the Chase Family was ripped off by Myra when she and Sean got divorced, Eve's impression of her turned negative. Nonetheless, it did not stop her from having positive feelings toward her again after finding out about

Myra's present value. In the times when she loathed Lyla, she felt like she could still accept Myra if she and Sean started seeing each other again.

Since Eve had been occupied with Elsie's pregnancy, she did not hear about Myra and Tony's relationship. As far as she knew, there were rumors surrounding Myra and Tony, or more accurately, of Myra and many other men.

In her opinion, as long as Sean persuaded Myra, she would be willing to return to the Chase Family because of how much she loved Sean. Therefore, the scandal that broke out in the entertainment news was like a slap in the face to her. Myra cheated on Sean with another man. On top of that, the sight of her disheveled appearance only made Eve's eyes fill with indignation.

"Eve, is that Myra? People in the comments are saying it's her. Tsk, tsk. I didn't know she was this kind of woman! It's a good thing your son divorced her! Getting caught up with a woman like her would be a disgrace to the entire family!"

Eve grew paler. She no longer wanted to continue with the spa. After giving an excuse that something urgent had come up, she rushed out of the clubhouse and went straight to Chase Group.

These days, she undoubtedly felt that Sean's animosity toward Lyla grew even more. Late in the night one time, Eve noticed the lights in Sean's study still on and decided to make a glass of milk for him. When she arrived at his door, however, she saw him staring blankly at a ring. She had known Myra for two years, so she couldn't have failed to recognize that ring. It was a ring Myra used to wear as a wedding ring. Even though Eve did not know how it ended up in Sean's possession, seeing the absent-minded look he had, she had a feeling that he did have some feelings left for Myra, and the realization delighted her.

She did not like Myra, but if she could use her for her own advantage this time, the Chase Family would be in a much better situation than they were in now.

Moreover, she was starting to dislike Lyla almost to the point of hatred now. If it weren't for the Chase Family's child she was carrying, Eve would have wanted Sean to divorce her quickly and go back to Myra.

But, after seeing that video in the news, Eve only wanted to get rid of the lingering feelings Sean still had for Myra.

She did not see Sean upon arriving at Chase Group. When Richard informed her that he had gone to Stark Group, the look on her face suddenly turned pale. Taking out her phone, she dialed Sean's number right away.

...

After Myra ended the call, she turned her phone off with a bitter smile on her face. Thinking of Sebastian's stern and cold tone over the phone earlier, she tightened her hands around her purse.

She went to the underground parking lot, got in her car, and drove straight to the Hart Residence.

After getting out of the car, she was surprised to see that it wasn't Sebastian who was waiting for her outside, but Lisa.

A look of surprise flashed across Lisa's eyes when she saw Myra getting out of the car alone, then she gave her a slight nod. "Sebastian is in his study."

Myra was nervous and scared during the drive. Upon hearing Lisa's words, she only felt her palms start to sweat. "I'll go in right away."

Outside the car, she took a deep breath and headed inside the villa.

When she had just taken a couple of steps, she heard a calm voice from behind her. "Sebastian is just venting; don't take it to heart."

Myra stiffened. Suddenly, she felt a tingling feeling in her nose, and her eyes also turned red.

It had been a long time since she last felt that way. Although Lisa was always reserved around her, she always gave Myra warmth when she needed it the most.

Turning around abruptly, Myra hugged Lisa from the back as Lisa was walking out and murmured, "Thank you. If you'll let me, I would really like to call you Grandma."

Lisa was taken aback. There still wasn't much emotion on her face, but her eyes turned gentler, and she patted Myra's hand without saying a word.

Myra let her go then turned around and headed inside the house.

...

The house was quiet at the moment. Neither Serena nor Henry was home. It also seemed like the housekeeper was sent away.

As she was walking up the stairs, she felt herself tremble with fear.

Despite only growing more nervous, she still arrived at the study very quickly.

Gritting her teeth, she reached out and knocked on the door.

There was no response. She tightened her hands and knocked once more.

“Come in.”

This time, she got an answer from the person inside, but she could hear the unpleasant and gloomy tone in his voice.

Pushing the door open, she took a couple of steps inside before closing the door behind her.

She took one step after the other toward the desk and was able to see the storm that was brewing in his expression. Her eyelids twitched. “Old Master Hart—”

“Hmph!” A heavy interjection cut off Myra’s attempt to admit to her wrongdoings. In an instant, he tossed the paintbrush he was holding and smudged the painting he was working on. “Impudent brat!” he bellowed at her.

She jumped with fright. Seeing the displeased expression on his face, she clenched her hands nervously and murmured, “I’m sorry.”

“You’re sorry?” Suddenly, he lifted the paper in front of him and shook it in the air. “What’s the point of being sorry? Look at what you’ve both done! Yet I was told you two only met after your divorce! Myra, I’m not against you for being a divorcee. But if you were already involved with that impudent grandson of mine before you got divorced, aren’t the both of you just openly humiliating me?”

“I’m sorry, Old Master Hart.” Myra’s face was slightly pale. “I did start seeing Tony after my divorce. What you saw in the video is actually a misunderstanding. Nothing happened between us that day...”

“Do you two think I’m blind?”

In the video, Myra’s clothes were disheveled, and both her face and ears were red. If she wanted to insist that nothing happened, no one including Sebastian would believe her.

“Tell me. Did you develop feelings for him first or did he? My family has always been upright, but something like this happened today. All this time, you had many chances to explain to me, but you chose to stay silent. I’m very disappointed in you, Myra.”

A deep frown grew between his brows.

He had guessed that the both of them met before Myra’s divorce, but he still held onto the belief that their meeting was a fluke. After all, being involved in an affair was not a pleasant matter.

## Standing before Love Chapter 270

Sebastian did not expect to get fooled by both of them.

That video in the news report tarnished the Hart Family’s reputation.

At his age, he had gone through numerous hardships, but this was the first time someone had spoken ill of him. It was the first time he looked so enraged after going out fishing today.

...

When Tony returned to the apartment, he did not find Myra there.

He also called the villa, but the caretaker did not see Myra return.

After he hung up the phone, his expression sank even further. There’s no way her phone ran out of battery. She must have switched it off on purpose. But where did she go after switching her phone off? A strange look flickered across his eyes. Turning the car around, he started driving toward the Hart Residence.



...

“Tell me. Did you develop feelings for him first or did he? My family has always been upright, but something like this happened today. All this time, you had many chances to explain to me, but you chose to stay silent. I’m very disappointed in you, Myra.”

She was stung by that last sentence. Her face was starting to break out into a sweat, but she did not know how to explain all of this.

Feeling a sharp pain in her palms, she clenched her teeth and said, “I did.” She quickly looked at the old man in front of her then lowered her head and bit her lip. “It was me, Old Master Hart. I liked him first. I’m really sorry for bringing shame to the Hart Family. I’m sorry.”

Her throat felt rough, and her voice also sounded hoarse.

Across from her, Sebastian looked at her with a clear gaze. When he narrowed his eyes, the corners of his eyes slanted sharply. “Very well...” He crumpled the piece of paper and tossed it in the trash can. “I always thought you were wise and well-behaved but it turns out you’re no different from other women.”

Sebastian was truly infuriated this time. When he left the club earlier, he did not miss the way his friends were gloating. He had never been so humiliated in his life before.

“How do you think this should be settled?” He stared straight at her. His eyes looked calm but also seemed entangled within a storm.

“I-I don’t know,” she answered with difficulty.

He narrowed his eyes on her. He found it hard to believe the news report about the kind of person she was, but it was true that she had kept many secrets from him.

Pursing his lips, he glared at Myra as if he was going to burn a hole through her face.

The atmosphere came to a standstill for a moment.

Then, Sebastian let out a cold snicker. “You counted on that impudent brat for not leaving you, so you’ve always been fearless in front of me and disrespected me!”

Bewildered, she quickly shook her head. “I’ve never had that thought before. You’re an elder that I respect as well as Tony’s grandfather. How could I disrespect you?”

“Hmph. You’re a smooth talker. Was this how you deceived that impudent brat?” Sebastian’s expression did not improve after Myra spoke. Suddenly, he jabbed his walking cane beside him while grumbling to show his frustration.

If she was really the kind of woman who had an affair with his grandson, even if he was fond of her, he still felt repulsed. He couldn’t bear to let her go, but it was difficult to let her stay.

His frown deepened.

It was a daunting feeling he never had before.

At the same time, he also felt resentful.

It’s their fault for committing such a foul act! They even need me to worry about them now!

His lips were pressed tightly together as he looked coldly at a nervous Myra.

“Myra, I’m willing to talk through anything, but this time...” It looked like he had already made up his mind. Taking a deep breath, he looked sternly at her and continued, “I can’t ignore this. We can’t have people who commit immoral acts in our family. This is my bottom line. I can’t accept it. I have to—”

“Have to what?”

With a bang, the door to the study suddenly swung open from the outside. It bounced back and forth against the wall before slowly coming to a stop.

The two people inside the room looked at the door in shock.

“Tony...”

When Myra saw Tony's fierce and handsome face, she felt at ease for a moment but quickly became even more nervous as she turned to look at Sebastian.

His expression looked even worse now.

Looking at his grandson walk in with a sullen expression, Sebastian wanted to throw the inkstone by his hand at Tony.

"The audacity you have to come home." Sebastian's voice was even colder than when he was talking to Myra before. "You should be lucky the reporter didn't reveal your name. Tony Hart, how dare you come home? Why did you come home? To see how much of a mess we're in because of you? Should we show our faces to the world and let people humiliate us?"

His voice made it sound like he was close to exploding with rage.

Ever since Tony was little, he always made Sebastian concerned. If it wasn't for the early deaths of his son and daughter-in-law, Sebastian wouldn't have cared about Tony. Among his grandchildren, Damian was the most well-behaved one while Tony was the most worrisome one!

Sebastian used his walking cane to hit against the floor even more loudly. Trembling with fear upon hearing it, Myra pressed, "Old Master Hart, don't bother with Tony—"

"Be quiet!" Sebastian yelled suddenly, cutting off her words.

Tony's face grew darker. Walking up to Myra from behind, he reached out and pulled her by the hand.

With his temper, he would've taken Myra and brought her out at this moment. This time, however, he did not want to make matters worse for her. Pursing his lips, he looked up with an unusual determination in his deep and black eyes. "I want to marry Myra."

"What did you say?" Sebastian was threatening to go frantic.

Myra pulled him back by the hand and sent him a signal with her eyes to not say any more, but he only held her hand even tighter and turned to Sebastian. "I want to marry Myra."

Sebastian scoffed, "This child." He was laughing out of anger. All of a sudden, he flung the inkstone in his hand and yelled, "Without even giving me an apology upon returning, you're just going to announce that you want to marry Myra? Who gave you the audacity to still bring this up in front of me?"

The inkstone flew toward Tony's body, but he did not avoid it and let it hit him on the shoulder.

Since Myra was standing close to him, she could hear the short clacking sound. It must have injured Tony's bones. Turning pale, she immediately went to check on his shoulder.

"He won't die. Why the rush?" Sebastian mocked as he looked at Myra.

In a spur of the moment, she grabbed Tony's hand tightly and looked at Sebastian. "Old Master Hart, I told you already. I was the one who had feelings for him first, but before my divorce from Sean, I did not cross the line. I hope you believe me."

"Who said you were the one who had feelings first?" In an instant, Tony understood the meaning behind her words. When he was reminded of Sebastian's words as he arrived at the door earlier, his face fell. Narrowing his eyes at Sebastian, he said, "I liked her first; a few years ago. I just didn't get the chance. When I returned this time, I held onto those feelings with the intention of marrying Myra."

## Standing before Love Chapter 271

"I've been thinking about this since a few years ago..." Sebastian truly didn't know if his heart could bear it anymore. His grandson had been pursuing a married woman... Why did this make him feel... angry?!

"Do you feel particularly proud right now? Why don't you tell her ex-husband that you were pursuing his wife when they were still married?" Sebastian was close to breaking his cane. He stared fiercely at his grandson, whom he deemed unworthy. "Tony, there's no one in the Hart Family who's nearly as shameless as you!"

"So, what do you want?" Tony's lips were pursed tightly.

“What do I want?! I want to break your damned legs!” Sebastian was stunned by Tony’s indifferent tone, and his temper was set off. He walked out from behind his desk and swung his cane at Tony’s legs.

“Ahh—” Myra cried out. The sturdy stick really ended up hitting Tony’s legs.

Sebastian didn’t expect that his grandson wouldn’t dodge and just let him hit him with his cane. For a moment, he was stunned. Then, Tony’s cold gaze met his. “Are you done hitting me?”

Provoked by that single glance, Sebastian suddenly felt a little guilty. But, almost immediately, his face darkened, and he sneered, “Hit you? Hitting you would be like getting dirt on my hands!”

As soon as he said that, Tony suddenly grabbed hold of Myra and was about to walk out.

“Where are you going?” Sebastian was furious, but Tony didn’t answer.

From Myra’s perspective, she could see that the cheeks of the man holding her hand were extremely taut, and his thin lips were pressed tightly together. It was as if he was suppressing certain heinous emotions. Suddenly, she stood still and tugged on Tony’s hand. He sensed it almost as soon as Myra stopped walking. Turning around, he squinted at her.

Myra tried to placate him by pulling his hand and saying softly, “Can we leave after settling the matter?”

Anger, darkness, and violence were raging in his chest, so it was a miracle that Tony endured up till this point. Myra was aware of his temper, but she still felt a little helpless. They couldn’t just leave the Hart Residence like that. At the very least, they couldn’t leave Sebastian feeling mad and overthinking things. They were his family, and Lisa mentioned just now that the old man was just taking his anger out on her. She believed that he had only said those things earlier because he was too angry, so everything would be fine when he calmed down.

Tony’s gaze gradually became less hostile. He looked straight at Myra, then his thin lips moved as he uttered a single word. “Okay.”

Sebastian was furious, but he too knew how bad his grandson’s temper was. The fact that he was leaving now after holding it in for so long and had

endured being beaten by him twice indicated that Tony's patience had reached its limit. However, when Sebastian saw that this unruly beast of a man was held back after Myra said only one sentence, a flurry of emotions rushed into his heart. She's indeed the woman whom he hasn't given up on...

"But, you heard what he said just now. If I hadn't arrived in time..." The rest of Tony's statement needed no further explanation. His expression was sour, but Myra simply gave his hand a hard squeeze.

Both of them had been holding hands ever since Tony grabbed hold of hers just now. No matter how bad of a situation they were in, as long as they could feel each other's presence, they would feel at ease.

Feeling the warmth from the man's hand, Myra once again thought of Lisa, who was downstairs, and her attitude. She took a deep breath, then looked at Sebastian and bowed to him out of nowhere. Her eyes were filled with seriousness. "Old Master Hart, I know that I was wrong in the past. Back then, I was immature and lacked a sense of responsibility. I understand if you're angry and disappointed in me. But, that video... It only showed what was on the surface of the situation. Even if I was upset with Sean at that time, I still remembered that I was a married woman, so I never crossed the line." She wouldn't give up on Tony, but she didn't want the Hart Family to have a bad impression of her either.

Sebastian snorted. "Are you saying that you didn't seduce him?" Sebastian pointed at the man next to Myra, a look of disgust evident on his face. "Do you expect me to believe you just because you said you didn't seduce him?"

"She never seduced me," Tony interrupted abruptly. His expression was cold. "I was the one who seduced her." Myra stiffened. She was about to say something, but Tony squeezed her hand, not allowing her to speak. "I know her marital history isn't good. Old Master Hart, you've run a background check on Sean before, so you're aware of his lack of morality. Since that's the case, why shouldn't I snatch her from him?"

"You! You're still trying to reason!" Initially, Sebastian's anger was slowly subsiding, but after hearing Tony's remarks, his rage spiked again. "Why did the Hart Family give birth to such an ungrateful b\*stard? You're so treacherous! You're driving me insane! I'm really pissed off now!" As he spoke, he hesitated for a while before grabbing a green porcelain ornament next to him and throwing it at Tony.

There was a slight change in Myra's expression. She was about to block Tony, but as soon as she pounced on him, he held her in his arms and took the blow with his back.

A 'crash' sounded, but it was unlike the one created when the inkstone was broken just now. Myra heard Tony's muffled grunt. Turning pale, she quickly got out of his arms and tried to pull off his clothes to inspect the injury. "Are you okay? Are you hurt?"

Noting how panicked Myra was and how his grandson had indeed suffered a strong blow, Sebastian pressed his lips into a hard line. He felt angry, but regretful as well. He admitted that he acted a little ruthlessly this time, and he wondered if Tony was hurt.

"Get lost!" Feeling irritated, he waved his hand at the both of them. "Hurry up and get out of here! I don't want to see either of you anymore! Such eyesores!" The old man was truly upset. The matter with the video had yet to be resolved, but these two were already acting all affectionate in front of him. It was as if he was a vicious person who wanted to break up the young couple!

Myra wanted to say something, but Tony interrupted her once more. "You won't use this to make things difficult for Myra again?" He spoke slowly, and his tone was still rather cold.

Sebastian was so angered by this sentence that his beard was curling up. He wished so badly to kill this disrespectful grandson with his own hands. "You're already protecting her like this, so what else can I do?" he said enigmatically.

"All right. Then, we'll leave this matter at that. The next thing I'm going to say is the actual purpose of my return to the Hart Residence today." It seemed like the earlier incident where his back was injured was old news. Tony straightened his back, then looked at Sebastian with determination and said slowly, "What I said just now was not a joke. I want to marry Myra, and I don't want to delay it any longer."

...

"Sean, where have you been? Why are you only coming back now?" As soon as Sean returned to the Chase Group, Eve, who had been waiting on his floor, caught sight of him and asked with a frown. She had made countless calls to him just now, but he didn't answer any of them. Such a big incident had

happened, and her son even went to the Stark Group again. Eve was truly afraid that her son wouldn't think straight and would get involved with Myra again.

At this moment, Sean's expression wasn't exactly pleasant. When he was in the midst of discussing business with Cameron, he got to know that the video of Myra in the hotel room from some time ago had been uploaded to the Internet.

Just now, in front of the elevator, he wanted to help Myra, but it was obvious that she didn't want his assistance, which only irritated him even more.