

## Standing before Love Chapter 292

Gemma's action of apologizing to Myra in front of everyone eased Sebastian's gloomy expression. Nobody can mess with the future daughter-in-law of the Hart Family!

As it was not the Hart Family's intention to drive the Walton Family into a corner, Sebastian darted a calm look at his grandson, Tony, when he heard Old Master Walton's words. Tony raised an eyebrow and did not say anything, so Sebastian smiled and nodded. "It was merely a small conflict between the young ones. Everything will be fine once they talk things out."

When the Waltons heard that, their expressions eased a little.

After the two families chatted for a while, the Hart Family left and returned to the crowd with the excuse that they had other things to attend to, leaving the Walton Family standing on the spot awkwardly.

It was only when the Hart Family had left that Old Master Walton's expression instantly fell and gloom spread across his face. To him, the Hart Family's attitude toward them was akin to humiliating him in public. The legitimate granddaughter of the Walton Family was forced to apologize to an outsider—a woman with an insignificant family background that they had never even heard of before.

"It was all your fault, you b\*tch!" He suddenly raised his hand and gave Gemma a tight slap.

Although they were at the rest area in a corner, there were quite a number of people around them and the commotion immediately attracted the gaze of many people nearby.

Gemma was stunned by the sudden and harsh slap. When she finally returned to her senses, her eyes reddened and she mumbled, "Grandpa..."

She looked at her grandfather in disbelief, a clearly visible handprint on her face. She was already frustrated and mortified for having been forced to apologize to Myra in front of everyone earlier and now, not only did her grandfather not comfort her, he even gave her a slap instead. However, for some inexplicable reason, this made her hold a grudge against Myra. If it weren't because of Myra, I wouldn't have been in this position now! She not

only snatched Tony from me, but she even flaunted their relationship in front of me!

“Dad, why did you hit Gemma? It wasn’t her fault to begin with; it was that b\*tch’s fault! Who could have guessed that she would come between Gemma’s relationship with Tony? Tony was together with Gemma at first, but the b\*tch actually snatched him from her!” When Shelly saw her beloved daughter being hit, she immediately stepped forward and pulled Gemma to her side while looking at Old Master Walton.

“Do you want to go looking for trouble? Perhaps you are hoping to announce it to the public and let everyone know about it?” He glared at his daughter-in-law with his eyes filled with wrath.

Shelly then glanced around and instantly fell silent. However, Gemma, who was behind her, started to weep in aggrivement. “Grandpa, it was that woman’s fault to begin with so why did you hit me? I did that for the sake of the Walton Family. I thought that exposing what that woman did in the past would result in her being kicked out of the Hart Family. How would I know that not only did they not drive her away, they even helped her...”

If the Walton Family was not in a plight now, Gemma wouldn’t have swallowed her pride. To her, apologizing to Myra was even more agonizing than death itself.

Old Master Walton’s eyes were so dark that they seemed to contain a raging storm in them. “For the sake of the Walton Family?” He chuckled coldly. “You should consider yourself lucky for not completely destroying the Walton Family! Gemma, you are my granddaughter, so don’t speak or act so stupidly! Don’t let anyone take advantage of you without you being aware of it!”

After he said that, his gaze calmly flicked across Kris, who had been standing off to one side without saying a word ever since they had arrived. Upon noticing Old Master Walton’s gaze, Kris froze and she bowed her head even lower.

Gemma gritted her teeth. “What should we do now? Grandpa, are we really going to just let that woman marry into the Hart Family?”

Her gaze was fixated on Myra, who was intimately standing together with Tony among the crowd, from afar. That spot should belong to me but it has been snatched away by that woman! Whenever Gemma thought of the fact

that Myra would soon acquire the identity that the former had been longing to attain, she would be consumed by jealousy to the point where she nearly lost her mind.

“Of course not.” Old Master Walton narrowed his eyes and something sinister flashed across his gaze. “It’s against the principle of the Walton Family to back down when we are bullied.”

He then turned to Shelly and muttered, “Go ahead, Shelly.” He looked at her meaningfully, which she instantly understood, and she scoffed before saying to Gideon, “Gideon, don’t get too absorbed in your relationship that you neglect your sister. Take good care of her these days.”

Upon hearing his name, Gideon raised his brows and glanced at the woman beside him before nodding at Shelly. “Okay.”

...

After Myra and Tony made small talk with a director, they continued forward. Upon seeing Myra’s pale face, Tony frowned and advised, “You go upstairs and take a rest.”

Myra seemed unwell ever since she arrived at the banquet today, and he was afraid that she would push herself too hard. Therefore, after saying that, he fished out his phone from his pocket and searched for Philip’s contact.

Just then, a phone rang; however, it was not Tony’s phone, as the sound came from Myra’s handbag. She froze before she took out her phone; what appeared on the screen was another unknown number.

Upon seeing the number, she subconsciously furrowed her brows, whereas Tony’s gaze darkened slightly. She promptly hung up the call. However, right after that, the person on the other end of the line called her again. It was as if the person would continue calling her if she refused to pick up his call.

Just as she was about to block the number, Tony narrowed his eyes and took out his phone, then dialed the same number that he saw on her phone. Apparently, the person on the other end of the line knew his number. The moment the call went through, Sean’s angry voice was heard from the other side. “Tony Hart, don’t you dare touch Myra! It was you who framed her back then and made us believe that she stole the confidential business intel of the Chase Group’s Hillville project, not to mention the Hillville project itself—it

was also you who colluded with Lyla to acquire the project, right? What are you planning to do with Myra?”

Lately, Sean had been investigating the gold Aston Martin Taraf and he managed to recover a section of the video that was taken at the underground car park after it had been accidentally deleted. Although he did not know who the person in that sports car was at that time, he knew that the car belonged to Elliot, who was as thick as thieves with Tony. In the video, Lyla was seen passing a document to the person in the car. Sean did not need to be a rocket scientist to be able to guess that the document was the confidential intel of the Chase Group’s Hilliville Project. He had long been unable to see through Lyla!

She was no longer the kind and beautiful woman she used to be; now, she was cruel and manipulative. In order to drive Myra away from him, she probably had taken countless actions against Myra in secret. To top it all off, he kept thinking that it was all Myra’s fault. It was only when the entire incident was slowly revealed and the truth was slowly presenting itself in front of him that he finally had no choice but to believe it. The woman lied to me! She schemed everything together with the man on the other end of the line, and she succeeded in pushing Myra away from me!

Before Tony managed to say even a word, the man on the other side beat him to it and gave him a lecture. When Tony heard his words, his expression instantly became dark.

Upon seeing his expression, Myra, who was standing beside him, frowned slightly. “You don’t need to say anything to him; let’s not pick up his call ever again.”

When Sean heard Myra’s voice, the anger in his voice escalated. “Tony, do you think that Myra won’t find out about all this if you hide it from her? I will definitely place every single piece of evidence in front of her to prove all the despicable things that you have done to her!”

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Sean’s voice was filled with anger. Myra was initially mine! She was mine! Then, she was snatched by the man on the other end of the line with dirty tricks! No, that man can’t possibly be sincere to her. He must be scheming something!

His eyes were red. For the past few days, he had been searching for evidence day and night, but all he found were basically his presumptions.

Suddenly, someone knocked on his office door.

He hung up the call and massaged his temple in exhaustion.

When the matter that he had been investigating slowly surfaced, Tony and Myra's intimate relationship was also gradually revealed to him.

Sean was baffled by the news. Myra was still deeply in love with him a few months ago, and in the blink of an eye, she fell in love with another man. How was that possible?

He closed his eyes and said in a low voice, "Come in."

The door to his office was pushed open and Lyla slowly walked in.

She seemed healthier than before; it was probably because she felt that the crisis was over now that she had gotten rid of the baby in Elsie's belly.

"Sean, is there anything I can help with?" Lyla paced toward the man behind the office desk.

Although they had a disagreement some time ago, she still forced herself to wear a slight smile. After all, Sean was the man she had decided to spend the rest of her life with and her feelings for him were genuine as well. As she was pregnant, she wore a soft cotton dress and a pair of flat shoes, which made her look like she was emitting a soft maternal glow.

However, Sean was unable to notice it at that moment.

When he heard Lyla's voice, his expression instantly fell. He grabbed the stack of documents in front of him and he suddenly tossed them at her when she approached him.

The documents landed on her before it scattered all over the floor.

She was stunned as it was totally out of her expectation that Sean would throw the documents at her as soon as she arrived. He raised his head and looked with cold eyes. "Lyla, let me ask you this—why did you suddenly decide to return to Bradfort City?"

Lyla did not expect him to suddenly ask her that. His rude action had made her pale, but she still forced herself to ask in return, “Sean, what’s wrong?”

“I’m asking you—why did you suddenly decide to return to Bradford City some time ago?!” Sean repeated his question, but in a harsher tone.

Lyla furrowed her brows while she lowered her head to look at the documents scattered on the floor.

However, the moment her gaze rested on the documents, her pupils contracted at once. The papers had overlapped one another—on the top one was a black and white photo printed on it. It was taken in a car park and a woman was seen standing next to an Aston Martin while handing a stack of documents to the person inside the vehicle.

Her heart had suddenly raced when she saw the picture.

It was without a doubt that she was extremely familiar with the photo since the woman was none other than herself!

Why is this photo in Sean’s hands? He suddenly asked me to come over and he threw the stack of documents at me before he questioned me in this tone... Her face instantly drained of color.

“What’s wrong? Cat got your tongue?” The tiny hope that Sean had been holding on immediately vanished. His fists were tightly clenched with vague, green veins protruding on the back of his hands.

Before Lyla arrived, he was able to hold to the tiny expectation that he could be wrong about all these. However, her expression as well as her conversation with his mother that day, which suddenly crossed his mind now, made him feel like he had been thrown into an ice cellar—he was frozen to his bones.

“Is that so difficult for you to answer?” He suddenly curled up his thin lips, but his eyes were cold. “It is fine if you can’t answer me. How about I tell you the answer instead?”

Sean suddenly rose to his full height, striding toward the stunned woman and stepping on the photo. Then, he bent over and picked up the photo before throwing it hard at Lyla’s face. “It was Tony who asked you to come back! You even played the piano during the Hart Family’s banquet. Am I right?”

At that moment, he seemed calm—so calm that it seemed like nothing had happened. However, within his eyes was a complete darkness with unfathomable emotions.

Lyla suddenly felt flustered.

“Sean, what are you saying... Why did I return at that time? It was because I couldn’t stop thinking about you. Although I knew that you were married to Myra, I knew that you weren’t close with her as well. I came back to find you, so that we can start all over again...” Her hands tightly formed fists by her sides and there was a hint of aggrievement in her voice. “Why are you suddenly behaving so strangely today...”

It appears that this man before me must have found out something. Is it the Chase Group’s Hilliville project? Does he know that it was me? Her hands started to slightly tremble, but she told herself to stay calm. I’m now his wife and I’m pregnant with his child. Even if he really finds out anything, he won’t abandon me and the child for this matter.

“Sean...” Lyla gradually calmed down and looked at Sean while quietly asking, “Did Myra tell you anything?” Only Myra would investigate that matter; nobody else would care about it. “Have you forgotten what she did to me? If it was her who told you anything, how could you still believe her? Sean—”

“Shut up!”

Looking at the kind and beautiful woman before him, the conversation between her and his mother, which he eavesdropped on the other day, surfaced in his mind. This woman can’t be trusted at all and she is still trying to lie her way out of this until now!

“Lyla, you were one who leaked the confidential intel of the Chase Group’s Hilliville project, right?!” He grabbed the edge of the table with force and his expression was thunderous. “You colluded with Tony to acquire the Chase Group’s Hilliville project! You had a deal with him and sold the Hilliville project to him! On one minute, you said that it was a client referred by the Walton Family, but you claimed that it was a referral from the Hart Family the next minute! Let me ask you another question. When we were at the café, you had many photos proving that Myra was cheating on me. Tell me—where did you get those photos from?”

The truth of many of the incidents would reveal themselves as long as Sean gave it some thought and the time when he was completely disappointed with Myra was one of them. At that time, he saw the photos that Lyla gave him, which were evidence that Myra had cheated on him. In the photos, Myra seemed intimate with another man. He was unable to see the face of that man in the photos back then, but he now knew that the man was Tony. At that time, Lyla, who had just returned to Bradford City, would have been unfamiliar with everything in the city, so it was quite possible that the photos were all given to her by Tony!

“Sean, listen to me—” Lyla’s heart quickened. Now, she realized that Sean had been recently investigating her and the documents that he threw at her was probably the evidence of it. He knew that I stole the confidential intel of Chase Group’s Hillville project and sold the project to Hart Group as well as received the photos from Tony... What else does he know?

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Lyla’s back was drenched with cold sweat as an unprecedented panic and fear filled her chest.

“Sean, I am not sure what you heard and from whom... But, you have seen the trade secrets of the Hillville project from Chase Group. The video recording is concrete proof that Myra stole it. Besides, I do not understand what is happening with Chase Group’s Hillville. I merely provided a client for Chase Group to solve their emergency matters. Why are you making it sound like I have done something horrible to the Chase Group?!” The more she talked about it, the more convincing she sounded.

This is especially true for the Chase Group’s Hillville project. During that time, there happened to be an issue with the Chase Group’s funding chain. If I hadn’t provided them with clients at that time, Chase Group wouldn’t have been out of crisis! I know the reason why Sean is investigating me. It is all thanks to Myra! He rarely comes home nowadays and it is usually in the middle of the night even if he returns home. He never comes into our bedroom; instead, he sleeps in the study. Besides, he leaves early in the morning the next day. I am not on good terms with Eve, so we act as if the other doesn’t exist even when we run into each other at home. The Chase Residence is so empty that I feel like a dead person!



“Sean, you haven’t gotten over Myra, am I right?! Right now, you are blaming me for snatching Myra’s position. You are blaming me for the fact that Myra left you! However, please bear in mind that you told me that you hate Myra. For the past two years, judging by the way you have treated her, weren’t you telling me to return to your side? The moment I returned, you acted as if you had never forgotten our love and made the decision! However, you are looking for an excuse to make me leave you! Are you doing all this so that Myra would return to you?!” The more she yelled, the redder Lyla’s eyes became. Soon, tears started to ooze out from her eyes.

...

Upon hanging up on the phone call, Tony’s expression soured.

Myra bit her lower lip and she asked him quietly, “What happened?” I do not know what’s wrong with Sean. We are divorced and our relationship is already beyond the point of no return. I don’t understand why he is still pestering me!

He recalled what Sean had said and he squinted menacingly. “Nothing.”

Just as she sighed in relief, Tony, who was standing in front of her, embraced her.

He held her so tightly that Myra was almost out of breath. She frowned slightly because she seemed to have sensed that something was amiss with Tony. Hence, she asked softly, “What happened?” Since he did not reply, she asked again. “Did he say something horrible? You shouldn’t take him seriously. What happened between him and me is in the past and I do not love him anymore. Currently... I am only in love with you...”

Maybe it was Tony’s aura and scent that softened his heart because she had easily confessed her feelings for him.

Upon hearing what she had to say, he pursed his lips while he released his arms around her. Then, he looked into her exquisite eyes. “Nothing, I am just... slightly tired.”

With that, he raised his hand to massage his temples. However, before he could do that, a pair of petite and soft hands went a step ahead to help him with the massage.

“Are you feeling tired?” Myra asked.

Tony covered his hands over hers. Disregarding the venue, he bent down to peck her on her lips and asked her in a husky voice, “Are you only in love with me right now?”

Myra was slightly surprised when he asked that, but she nodded shyly with a faint smile. “Yeah.”

“If...” Tony thought, I want to ask her what she would do if she finds out one day that I have lied to her about something. However, I have asked the question before and I am not in the mood to ask again. In the end, he lifted Myra’s hand for a kiss. “I only love you too.”

“Oh, oh, oh! That is a blatant confession from Director Hart. Everybody here has heard that! Oh, my goodness! I am so jealous! No way, Director Hart, you have to drink with me; let’s hope some of your happiness will rub off on me!”

The group of people seized the chance and cheered, which caused the atmosphere to suddenly feel lively. Myra noticed that Tony’s expression had returned to normal and she instantly felt relieved too.

Later, she felt slightly tired after entertaining the guests for a bit. Hence, she excused herself and headed to a corner for some rest.

She shooed him away when he wanted to keep her company. “You do not have to sit here to keep me company. There are many guests today, so you should greet them. Ritz Carlton is my territory, after all. I won’t be disadvantaged here.” Almost all the servers here recognize me, so I will be fine.

Tony nodded in response and he kissed her cheek. “Well, in that case, wait here for me. I will take you home when it is almost time.”

“Sure.” Myra nodded with a smile.

After he left, her expression fell significantly. Earlier in the banquet, my cell phone vibrated upon receiving a MMS from an unknown number. A black-and-white photograph was attached in the MMS. There is a familiar woman in the picture—Lyla. Besides, there was a car, which I am exceptionally acquainted with and it is none other than Elliot’s gold Aston Martin.

There was only a line of sentence underneath the photo—‘Lyla was the one who leaked the trade secrets of Chase Group’s Hilliville project’.

Under usual circumstances, I wouldn't have given it much thought, no matter who was the one to tell me because I know that Lyla must have leaked the trade secrets to frame me. However, after analyzing the photo, I assume the sender must have treated the picture as proof when they sent it to me. I am feeling anxious about the person receiving the said information from Lyla. Besides, I have confirmed with Elliot that it is the one and only car in the world. I recall Elliot being bewildered when I asked him about it. It doesn't sound like Lyla would have given him this information. This means that somebody else must have worked together with her to frame me. And this person...

Myra felt a chill running down her spine and she couldn't think further in that instant.

From a distance, she saw Tony being surrounded by a crowd.

From the beginning until now, the man has given me the best. He has comforted me, helped me, and even pursued me. He has presented me with the wonderful things in life as well. However, I suddenly recall what Sasha said in the hotel. She mentioned that Tony gave her the video in acquiesce. It showed her running out of his hotel room and her clothes were in disarray...

While she stared at him, a shadow suddenly blocked her view.

Myra closed her eyes for a while before looking up—it was Mrs. Walton standing in front of her.

She didn't seem pleased, but she forced a smile at Myra anyway. "Miss Stark, do you mind if I sit beside you for a while?"

Myra recovered her composure almost immediately as she shook her head. "Of course not, Mrs. Walton. Have a seat."

Mrs. Walton shot a haughty, but approving look at Myra. Nevertheless, when she was about to sit down, Myra stood up to leave for somewhere else.

Mrs. Walton's expression fell instantly. "Stop right there!"

Myra ignored her, causing Mrs. Walton to appear even more upset. She rushed toward Myra's front and her gaze reflected her disgust toward Myra. "Miss Stark, didn't your family educate you that you should display basic manners toward your elders?"

“I wasn’t aware that I had been rude. Mrs. Walton, you mentioned that you’d like to have a seat and I did not object to that.” Myra maintained a calm expression.

“I told you to stop right there. Didn’t you hear me?!” Mrs. Walton’s tone was sharp.

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“Mrs. Walton, you did yell for somebody to stop, but you did not mention anybody’s name. Besides, it didn’t sound like how an elder would behave toward the younger generation. Well, excuse me, I wasn’t aware that you were asking me to hold up, Mrs. Walton,” Myra retorted calmly without backing down.

Shelly was rendered speechless by Maya’s response and her chest started to heave in anger.

“Well, don’t you have a smart mouth? However, I heard that your mother passed away early in life, so I suppose this is expected since she couldn’t educate you well. In any case, as this is a banquet by the Hart Family, you should take note of your behavior, Miss Stark. Please know your place because things will turn ugly if you were to stir up trouble.”

Myra hated it whenever others mentioned her mother in such a condescending tone. Hence, her expression darkened immediately. She had been in a foul mood from the beginning and her mind was now in a mess, so she answered harshly, “My mother passed away when I was young, but you are still alive, Mrs. Walton. Therefore, you should keep an eye on your own daughter. Even if I were to cause trouble, what does it have anything to do with you, Mrs. Walton?”

“How dare you!” Shelly held a significantly superior position among the wealthy ladies. Hence, she was used to others surrendering to her; nobody ever had the guts to openly challenge her, forget about a young woman in her twenties. Her expression twisted in anger. “Miss Stark, I am merely reminding you out of the kindness of my heart. Is this how you speak with me in return? The Walton Family is connected with the Hart Family. Miss Stark, you should not embarrass yourself!”

Myra lost the last shred of patience she had to talk with Shelly, so she answered indifferently, "Whatever." Then, she walked past Shelly to leave the place.

Shelly's expression fell and she viciously grabbed onto Myra's arm. "You better stand right there! I am not done speaking with you!"

"I don't think we have anything else to chat about, Mrs. Walton." Myra scowled at the spot where Shelly had grabbed her.

Myra had already sensed Shelly's animosity from the start. I am generous enough toward the Waltons by not digging up what Gemma did to me in the past. However, it is obvious that Mrs. Walton isn't here to speak nicely with me.

"Miss Stark, I know that you are a woman from an average family, so it is your utmost honor to have associated yourself with the Hart Family. Under these conditions, you will not let go of Tony, but you should think hard and long about it!" Shelly did not release Myra's arm; instead, she increased the force of her grip as she glared at Myra sharply. "You have to think hard and long about it! How could you possibly nail a man like Tony? Forget about the vast differences between your families; I bet you have no idea what a good family can bring to the table for the Hart Family! Tony might find you refreshing now, but what happens after the novelty wears off? There are numerous abandoned women among the wealthy families. Miss Stark, are you prepared to join the crowd of abandoned women?! Well, if you know what's best for you, Miss Stark, I can agree to one of our terms. Be it money or career—take your pick. Your younger sister is with my son now, so I will support the Stark Family with all that I have." Shelly sounded full of herself.

Myra was at a loss for words when she heard that. First Gemma, and now Mrs. Walton. I finally understand where Gemma's personality comes from. Hence, she gazed mockingly at the wealthy lady in front of her. "Mrs. Walton, do you have anything else to say?"

Shelly was stunned into silence and she frowned slightly. "Miss Stark, what do you mean by that?"

"Mrs. Walton, if that is all, please release my hand. I am not related to you, Mrs. Walton, and we can't even call ourselves friends. I suggest you spend your kindness on others." Myra coldly stared.

“Myra, I am advising you out of the goodness of my heart, but you do not appreciate it. I am more well-versed with issues within this social circle than you are. You will have nowhere else to vent your despair when the time comes!” Shelly’s tone took a sharp turn and her already shrill voice sounded awful, causing Myra to scowl in response.

“I’ll look into it when the time comes.” Myra brushed Shelly off while trying her best to pry away Shelly’s fingers off her hand.

A nearby Gideon led Kris toward them. He had an unreadable facial expression whereas she noticed that Shelly seemed to be in an argument with Myra. Hence, she spoke to him, “Gideon, it seems like Myra is bullying Mrs. Walton.”

He mumbled in acknowledgement and something flashed through his eyes when he caught Myra’s eyes. After that, the two made their way there, but it happened that a woman holding a flute of champagne was walking toward the rest area too. She most probably wanted to take a short break along the way.

Kris maintained a blank expression when she suddenly stepped on the hem of the woman’s skirt. There was a tearing sound and the woman screamed in shock before she fell forward.

The woman coincidentally fell in Shelly’s direction.

Shelly shrieked loudly after the woman had spilled champagne on her. The next thing she knew, an unknown person knocked against her and she felt her body sway unsteadily.

Shelly was wearing a cheongsam with a high slit on her thigh today. Hence, she would be embarrassed if she were to fall down and suffer from a wardrobe malfunction. As she started to panic, she saw Myra, who was about to leave. A blaze of anger flashed through her eyes and she immediately held onto Myra’s arm.

Myra already had her back facing Shelly, so she wasn’t aware of what was happening. She merely heard a surprised shriek followed by a scream. Initially, she wanted to turn to have a look, but before she could do that, she felt a huge force dragging her body downward.

There was a huge crash and the beverages on the table spilled on the floor, which led to a chaotic disaster.

After Myra was yanked to the ground, she felt an excruciating shooting pain radiating from her stomach. It was so painful that the color drained from her face. She couldn't make a sound while she clutched her hands over her stomach.

At the sudden ruckus, those who were chatting nearby turned to look at them. They would have noticed who had fallen onto the ground because there were shouts of surprise all of a sudden.

Shawn, who wasn't too far away, was the first to notice this incident. He frowned when he realized that Myra had fallen down, so he beckoned Tony hastily. Tony was initially chatting happily with someone at that time. However, when he turned to look in the direction that Shawn pointed at, he apologized and hastily excused himself. Then, he ran toward Myra,

Tony's expression darkened along the way as he approached closer toward her. If it is just a usual fall, Myra wouldn't be struggling to stand up. She is covering her belly now and her face is pale...

His expression slightly changed and he carried Myra in his arms. "What is it? Where have you hurt yourself?" he asked urgently.

Before Myra could answer him, Shelly, who was just by the side, started to howl loudly. "It hurts! Tony, quickly help me up too."

Since Shelly had her back facing Gideon, she didn't notice that he was approaching her. In fact, she was upset because Myra had Tony's full attention. The man did not even notice Shelly's existence.

Tony didn't even glance at her; instead, he glared at the other woman who had fallen onto the ground.

The woman from earlier felt the skin behind her neck stand as he was glaring at her frostily. Hence, she tried her best to explain in a stutter, "I-I am s-so sorry... I am not sure who stepped on the hem of my skirt earlier, which caused me to knock into Mrs. Walton. Then, she held onto Miss Stark..."

"Mom, are you alright?" Gideon finally broke the silence whereas Kris crouched down in concern to slowly help Shelly to her feet.

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“Ouch, my back, it’s killing me...” Shelly glared at Myra, who was in Tony’s arms. “All thanks to that woman! I wouldn’t have fallen if it weren’t for her! Her acting is rather convincing now! Did you fall and hurt yourself? Why are you kicking up a fuss after your fall since you are so young?! I have never seen a more pretentious woman than you!”

“Mrs. Walton, did you hear what the madam said just now? Myra wouldn’t have fallen if you hadn’t dragged her down with you. How could you possibly blame her for your fall?” Upon hearing Shelly’s accusation, Elliot, who was right behind Tony, sneered. He was looking at her in disdain.

Gideon scowled at Elliot. “Young Master Elliot, my mom did not do it on purpose. The lights are dim and there are many people around us. She must have been mistaken.”

Elliot was about to refute him when Tony interrupted in a deep, stern voice, “Elliot, get Philip to the second floor.”

Tony had a grave expression as there was worry in his eyes while he focused on Myra.

Hence, everybody shifted their focus onto Myra and they were shocked at what they saw.

She had not made a sound, so nobody was paying much attention to her. However, at a quick glance, the crowd noticed that she seemed as pale as a white sheet in his arms. Her cheeks were covered with a sheen of cold sweat and she seemed terribly weak to make a sound. Her lips were trembling slightly too.

Tony wasn’t in the mood to handle what happened earlier. Instead, he immediately carried Myra up the stairs.

“Tsk! Oh, my! Is she addicted to acting?! She merely fell onto the ground, but she’s acting as if she has just gotten into a car crash! Who would have expected such a questionable moral standing from such a pretty woman?! What now? Is she planning to frame me for this?!” Shelly was shocked when she saw Myra’s condition earlier. However, she immediately frowned as she mumbled audibly. She merely fell, but it is obvious that Myra is a conniving woman. Aside from blaming me for the entire situation, she’s planning to kick



up a big fuss! No wonder Gemma keeps running into problems with her! Well, too bad she has bumped into me now! I will reveal her true colors!

Shelly was just about to tag along, but Elliot immediately stopped her. He spoke steadily, “Mrs. Walton, are you still unsure of Myra’s status? She is the future daughter-in-law of the Hart Family. Forget the part where you refused to apologize to her after knocking her down, Mrs. Walton; you have made some harsh comments after Myra has suffered such a severe fall. Don’t you think you have been rather unkind?”

With that, he walked past her while glancing at Gideon. “Director Walton, Tony has just forgiven your sister today. Is it Mrs. Walton’s turn now?”

“Young Master Elliot! You better clarify the situation! What do you mean by me not apologizing to Myra after knocking her down?!” Shelly’s face turned red after listening to Elliot’s statement. She stomped her feet while glaring at Elliot standing in front of her. Myra, that b\*tch, what has she done to bewitch these men? She has Tony wrapped around her finger, whereas Elliot is taking her side too!

“She fell herself, but she’s blaming me! I am fine despite my old age. So, why is she acting like she is about to die?!” Her expression contorted with fury. “I need to clarify the situation with her!”

“Everybody witnessed it just now. Myra did not say anything. You were the one speaking the whole time, Mrs. Walton,” Elliot commented casually without the fear of offending her. He was not associated with the Walton Family, so he had no qualms in being direct with his comments. “Mrs. Walton, you can’t be thinking that you are still in the United States where the Walton Family has the final say?!”

“Young Master Elliot!” Gideon’s expression fell. He marched forward to separate the two of them. “My mom indeed went overboard with her comments earlier. Why don’t you search for Young Master Philip first since we should prioritize Miss Stark’s health now?”

“Since when did I go overboard?!” Shelly yelled stubbornly and she tried to shove Gideon away. “Gideon, it’s fine that you refuse to help your little sister, but how could you not take your mom’s side too?! Are you trying to p\*ss me off?!”

“Mom!” He scowled deeper when he caught sight of Elliot’s mocking gaze. Initially, he wanted to embarrass Myra through her, but things had clearly taken an unexpected turn. “You have to calm down since this is the Hart Family’s banquet. We do not want to anger Grandpa.”

At the mention of Edward, Shelly’s demeanour drastically changed. She glared at Gideon and Elliot before marching away into the crowd with the clacking of her high heels.

Gideon was just about to make small talk with Elliot, but Elliot had already turned to leave without even bidding him farewell.

As a result, Gideon’s expression turned grave and gloomy.

“Gideon, should we chase after Mrs. Walton? She seems to be in a foul mood...” Kris asked gently.

After witnessing the entire drama, she was obviously the most delighted of them all. I hate Myra, but hate the self-righteous Waltons even more, especially Mrs. Walton. After all, I stepped on the woman’s skirt on purpose.

“Kris, do you know what type of woman I hate the most?” Gideon suddenly turned to narrow his eyes at her.

Kris was stumped, but she subconsciously asked, “What type?”

He twirled a lock of hair that was by her ear. His eyes twinkled with a smile, but she felt a chill running down her spine. Then, he spoke calmly, “Presumptuous women.”

With that, Gideon released Kris to make his way into the crowd. “Do not assume that I am oblivious to what you did. If it happens again, Kris, I will get upset.”

Kris stood rooted to the spot and she felt an odd chill spread all over her body.

...

“For the past two years, weren’t you telling me to return to your side, judging by how you treated her? Upon my return, you acted as if you had never forgotten our love and made the decision to be with me! However, you are

now looking for an excuse to make me leave you! Are you doing all that so that Myra will return to you?!”

Sean’s body stiffened when he heard Lyla’s observation and he clenched his fists.

That’s true; when the Chase Group was previously experiencing an internal economic crisis, the company would have been in deep trouble if it weren’t for Lyla. The video clip at that time did prove that Myra is the suspect for stealing the trade secret of Chase Group’s Hillville project! But, this is different... Lyla should not have... She should not have used this as an excuse to force Myra to leave me!

Sean’s facial expression contorted as various things flashed through his mind. He suddenly raised his hand to slap Lyla across her face.

Smack! Time seemed like it was at a standstill.

She wasn’t the only shocked one because he was staring in surprise at his extended palm.

I cannot believe that... I have just... slapped Lyla... I hit the woman whom I have loved all along. She is the woman whom I haven’t been able to forget ever since she left me...

A surge of emotion stirred up in Sean’s chest and he seemed to have a better grasp of his true feelings.

For the past two years, I might have been missing Lyla. However, the feeling of being unreconciled is much stronger than any feelings I have for her because she has hurt me once, after all. No matter how much I resent Myra for the past two years, she has managed to make a mark in my heart gradually. In any case, I have just realized the truth now...

“Sean, I cannot believe you hit me...” Lyla covered her face with her hand while staring at the man in front of her. I have done so much for him and the Chase Family. How dare he hit me!

Sean’s gaze reflected his exhaustion. He stared at the woman, who had unknowingly become a stranger to him, in front of him. “Lyla, let’s divorce,” he stated calmly.

## Standing before Love Chapter 297

The word 'divorce' had slipped through Sean's lips once again. Never in his wildest dreams did he expect himself to divorce the woman in front of him—the one whom he had once been madly in love with. As my dreams gradually come true, I have to admit that my feelings have changed and that I have fallen in love with Myra. I have no idea when it started, but I have been suffering since Myra isn't mine. Somehow, I have started to feel excited about the slightest news about her. Besides, I would even lose sleep over the small things involving her. However, I am also not sure when it started, but I no longer harbor the feelings I once had for the woman now standing in front of me.

"Divorce?!" Lyla's body stiffened straight away. It was such a simple term, but it felt like thousands of poisonous arrows piercing her heart. She stumbled a couple of steps backward while staring in disbelief at the man who was in front of her. "Sean, what did you say?"

Nevertheless, she shook her head violently right after asking that. She stammered incoherently, "N-No... No... Say no further. I know that you were merely joking earlier..." She packed her bag before turning to leave. "Sean, I suddenly recalled that I have something to attend to. I'll leave now."

Just as she was about to leave, Sean's large and strong hand grabbed her right arm.

His eyes were blazing with determination, making him look almost defiant. "Lyla, you know very well that I am no longer in love with you. Besides, you are no longer the woman I once loved. Instead of dragging each other along for the rest of our lives, it's best to get a divorce as soon as possible. You will be free to live a new life whereas I can live the life I want."

"Instead of dragging each other along for the rest of our lives, you say?" Sean was grabbing onto Lyla's right hand tightly, so she could not release herself. She was devastated after listening to what he had to say.

Initially, I might have been aiming to marry into the Hart Family and I may have agreed to marry into the Chase Family later due to my greed, but I truly am in love with Sean. That is why I agreed without any hesitation when Tony suggested this option. The feelings I have for Sean over the years have never changed. In fact, I'd miss him even when I was in the United States. But, what

did he just say to me? He wants us to get a divorce. He claims that if we were to remain together, we would be dragging each other. He even wants the two of us to start afresh and live separately...

Lyla suddenly turned and hissed through gritted teeth, "Sean, who gave you the right to decide for the both of us? You married me for the Hillville project, so how could you divorce me simply by claiming that you aren't in love with me anymore?! What do you take me for?!"

"You have lied to me about many things—haven't you harmed Myra with all you have?" Sean merely frowned in disdain when he saw Lyla's sour expression. He released her hand, but he sneered. "You are not a good person—you did not marry into the Chase Family for me. Since that is the case, there is no need to consider other issues, regardless of whether we are married or getting a divorce. Everything we did was consensual."

"Wow, that's a great play on word usage!"

When I felt Sean's suspicious gaze and learned about Sean's feelings toward Myra, coupled with the incident when he came forward to clear Myra's name when others accused her, I had a vague sense that this would have happened sooner or later. I just did not expect it to happen so soon. He has been delaying the wedding he once promised me due to his hectic schedule at work. Well, right now, it looks like it is not due to his hectic workload. I suppose he has wanted to divorce me from the get-go.

"Sean, do you think that Myra would return to you just because you divorce me now?" Lyla's expression contorted into a snarl as her rage and agony made her eyes bloodshot. "Dream on! The first option is an old flame who has been torturing her whereas the other is a new lover who spoils and loves her. Who would you pick if you were in her shoes? You should forget about Myra because she will never return to you! She told me that herself! She doesn't even care about you anymore. She can't even be bothered about what you did to her in the past!"

"That is because I have been fooled by both you and Tony!" After listening to Lyla, Sean recalled that Myra refused to recently answer his calls. Anger started to boil in his chest and his gaze was dark with rage. "If it weren't for you and Tony pulling strings in the dark, Myra would not have treated me badly! I will explain everything to her!" He tightly clenched his fists.

Lyla inhaled sharply when she saw the determination in his gaze. Sean is going insane. He is really planning to get Myra back!

“You are insane!” She wanted nothing more than to slap the man in front of her. “Did you claim that I have lied to you? If you hadn’t ignored Myra and treated her cruelly for the past two years, why would she leave you? Do you need me to remind you of every woman that you have slept with? You even got one pregnant and she tried getting rid of me in order to marry into the Chase Family!” Her gaze glinted with sarcasm when she was reminded of Elsie.

Sean tightened his fists while glancing at Lyla. He recalled what she had said to Eve the other day and his voice dropped to an icy tone, “Do you think that I do not know who made you abort the unborn child all those years ago?”

His voice was calm, but it felt like a struck of lightning in Lyla’s heart. She then asked Sean in a trembling voice, “W-What do you mean?”

“Huh! What do I mean?” Sean laughed mirthlessly, but he was staring at Lyla unblinkingly. He wasn’t even bothered to conceal his rage. “I heard the whole conversation between you and Mom at the hospital that day... Lyla, my mom made you abort the child, but you told me Myra did it. You blamed everything on Myra. If you hadn’t done that to me, why would I hurt her?!”

Once upon a time, I used to be happy with Myra. At the time, I was devoted to protecting her with all I had and I wanted to make her happy. However, that did not last long and I have regretted it ever since.

“Since I now know what kind of woman you are, how could I possibly be with you? You have done countless things to Myra ever since you’ve returned. I have proof for some of them, but I don’t for the rest. However, that is fine because I will gradually get hold of them.” He gave her a cold look. That man snatched Myra from me and I must snatch her back!

Lyla felt goosebumps all over her body. Sean has just admitted that he overheard my conversation with Eve in the hospital the other day... That day, I made Elsie miscarry and I had an argument with Eve outside the hospital room. We were talking about each other’s shortcomings at the time. If he had heard them...

Her expression drastically changed and she reached out to grab Sean’s hand. “Sean, you have to listen to me. I was merely mad at Mom, which is why I said

all those awful things to her. Most of the things we said that day were not true...”

“Which of them isn’t true? Was it the part where you made Elsie miscarry or my mom made you miscarry your unborn child?” His gaze was as dark as the night when he stared unblinkingly at Lyla. The cold ruthlessness in his eyes made her chest heave painfully.

Lyla shivered reflexively. “Didn’t you request Mom to make Elsie abort her child? I was just lending you a hand.”

## Standing before Love Chapter 298

“Lending me a hand?” Sean raised his voice and mocked. “Isn’t it the same to abort the child with drugs as opposed to her having the abortion at the hospital? Lyla, I finally see what kind of woman you are. Did you believe that I would forgive everything you have done just because you’ve explained yourself?” He clenched his fists. “If you are still who you are, things might have worked out between us, but we are no longer the same people as before.”

“What do you mean that I am no longer who I used to be?!” Lyla started sobbing and cackling simultaneously. “How would you know that I was not like this?! Sean, when a man no longer loves or spoils a woman, she would be left with no choice, but to do whatever she can to get what she wants. The ‘me’ from the past is just the same as who I am right now. The only difference is that once upon a time, I used to have your love, so I could assume the role of a simple princess. However, you are now in love with someone else! You claim that you see my true colors, yet you are blaming the whole situation on me?”

Lyla stopped crying, but her eyes seemed crazed. “Since you claim that I have lied to you and that you missed me for the past two years, why did you get involved with other women? You clearly enjoyed a hedonistic lifestyle and you indulged. However, you are looking for an excuse for yourself right now. Do you truly believe that Myra would be oblivious to what type of man you are if you were to explain yourself to her?”

“Is that so? Well, great. It looks like we have arrived at the same conclusion.” Sean’s eyes were pitch-black as he hid his boiling anger. “I will get Richard to

hand you the divorce papers in a few days. Voice out your other conditions right now.”

Lyla felt like knives were stabbing her heart. She clenched her fists on her sides while answering him viciously, “I will never agree to a divorce!” With that, she turned to leave without waiting for a reply from him.

...

Tony’s expression was grave throughout the time he carried Myra up the stairs. Soon, Sebastian, Lisa and everyone from the Hart Family learned about Myra’s fall. They made their way up the stairs, but Tony refused to let them in.

In the room, Myra seemed to have slightly recovered, but she was still ghostly pale. He was wearing a foul expression, but when he noticed her turning to face him, he asked gently, “Where does it hurt? Where did you get injured during the fall?”

He looked upset, so she inhaled deeply once she noticed that. Then, she touched her belly. “For some reason, my stomach feels unwell after arriving at the banquet today... When I fell down just now, my belly hurt quite a bit...”

“B\*stard! Open the door right now! Myra is my granddaughter-in-law. Am I not even allowed to come in to check on her?!” Sebastian banged loudly on the door. There was an eruption from members of the Hart Family as they voiced their concerns for Myra.

Tony scowled slightly while looking at her belly. Her belly was flat now—it wasn’t red or swollen and nothing seemed amiss.

After a while, somebody started knocking on the door again. “Tony, it is me, Philip. I am here.”

He finally released Myra to make his way to open the door for Philip. Once the door was opened, Philip entered the room whereas Sebastian and the large group of people that consisted of the Hart Family and some guests spilled into the room.

Tony could not be bothered with them. Instead, he grabbed Philip by his shoulder to guide him to the bed. “Myra said that she is having a stomachache. She most probably injured her belly during the fall earlier.”



Feeling helpless, Philip was at a loss for words. “Tony, you can release me now. I am fully capable of walking on my own.”

However, the two had already arrived at the bedside whereas Sebastian, who was behind them, blocked everyone from moving forward. He only allowed those from the Hart Family to proceed toward Myra.

Myra especially looked frail while lying on the bed. At the sight of this, Philip’s originally playful smile turned into a serious frown. After a quick examination, he asked her tentatively, “Myra, did you have your period this month?” It was slightly embarrassing to have asked such a private question in front of such a huge crowd, but he tried to keep a straight face.

An astounded Myra shook her head after trying to recall her monthly menses. “It is late for two weeks now.” However, I tend to have irregular periods and that is why I did not pay much attention to it.

Philip’s expression relaxed significantly. After that, he checked Myra’s wrist for her pulse before he glanced at Tony. “Tony, if I am not mistaken, Myra is pregnant.”

“Pregnant!!!” Behind them, Sebastian shouted and echoed Philip’s explanation without waiting for a response from Tony. Then, Sebastian pulled Philip to the side to ask sternly while maintaining a grave expression, “Philip, are you sure you are not mistaken?”

Philip chuckled. “Old Master Hart, I am not a gynecologist, so I can only provide Myra with a provisional diagnosis. She needs an examination in the hospital to confirm that. However, I am quite sure of the diagnosis.”

“Philip, of course I trust your medical skills. If you say that Myra is pregnant, I am sure that she is!” Sebastian’s voice rose steadily. He wanted the whole world to know that his granddaughter-in-law was pregnant!

Sebastian walked past Philip to stand by Myra’s bedside, but he noticed immediately that she looked especially pale. Hence, his face fell when he turned to ask Philip, “But, wasn’t Myra complaining of a stomach ache? What happened to her? Did something happen to the unborn child in her womb?” He seemed especially worried whereas Tony’s expression turned grave.

Philip noticed that the entire Hart Family had focused their attention on him, so he waved his arm in response. “Don’t worry. Myra had some alcohol

earlier, so it is expected for her to feel unwell. Besides, she had a fall earlier and fortunately, it wasn't a severe fall. There wasn't any bleeding, so it shouldn't be serious. Nevertheless, Myra needs to nourish her body. She is rather weak and frail and it means that her pregnancy would be hard on her."

The rest of the group seemed relieved after hearing that.

"Myra, did you hear that?" Tony was riding on an emotional wave since he was feeling excited and scared with an overwhelming sense of happiness. He turned to crouch down and face the shocked Myra before he whispered, "You are pregnant... You are pregnant with our child..." His voice was husky and it sounded inexplicably sexy and alluring.

Myra felt a kind of warmth radiating within her chest and she placed a hand over her belly in wonder. After resting for a while, the pain in her belly gradually subsided. However, she still felt weak and tired. Then, she gazed at her belly. Am I... truly pregnant with our child? Am I about to become a mother?

Sebastian was overjoyed and he grabbed hold of Serena. "Did you hear that? Myra has a frail body. You have to head down to request the kitchen to prepare a bowl of chicken soup for her. From now on, I will prepare a menu for Myra's daily meals. Her diet has to be in accordance with the menu I prepare for her!"

Serena was rendered speechless when she heard that, but she obeyed his orders anyway.

The guests, who were standing outside, had heard Sebastian's announcement earlier. Therefore, they started to congratulate the Harts too. The banquet was intended for Tony's birthday, but in the end, it turned out to be an introduction of the Hart Family's granddaughter-in-law.

Myra was at a loss for words after listening to Sebastian's remarks and she held onto Tony's hand. "Fortunately, I am fine after that fall." She felt a chill down her spine. If the fall had been a bad one, I might have lost my child.

Naturally, Old Master Walton was among the group of guests who heard the announcement.

## Standing before Love Chapter 299

Upon listening to what happened inside the room, his expression soured. After that, he made a sarcastic remark to those around him, "Maybe the young woman deliberately bribed the doctor so that she can marry into the Hart Family. Well, from my point of view, it's best to get an examination in the hospital. Otherwise, they might be fooled by a young woman working with a doctor and she would end up with the Hart Family!" If Myra is pregnant, it will be even more difficult for Gemma to be married to Tony. In that case, the series of plans that the Walton Family have will not proceed smoothly!

Edward may not have recognized Philip, but everybody from Bradford City knew of him. Therefore, upon hearing Edward's sarcastic comments, they retorted in disdain, "If she is able to bribe Young Master Philip, it means that she definitely has the ability to marry into the Hart Family."

Upon hearing that someone went against him, Edward felt unhappy and was about to refute the person when he saw another middle-aged man squinting at him. Edward was shocked because he recognized the man too. He is Director Renaud, the person in charge of the Renaud Family, which is in second place to the Hart Family in Bradford City. Director... Renaud... His last name is Renaud...

His expression fell after connecting what the person had said earlier. So, it seems that the doctor is Director Renaud's son! In the end, he snorted contemptuously. He could not bear to stay a second longer there, so he immediately went downstairs.

Upon arriving downstairs, Edward caught sight of a fuming Shelly in the Ritz Carlton's back garden. He approached her and asked her with pursed lips, "How did the discussion go?"

She had just been embarrassed by a group of younger people, so she looked extremely upset. "Dad, forget about leaving Tony—that b\*tch even tried to blame me for her fall. She is not an easy woman to deal with." She frowned deeply the more she talked about Myra.

Then, Shelly's expression changed drastically. "What?! Is she pregnant?!" She raised her voice and many people turned to look at her.

"Keep your voice down!" Edward scolded when he saw people turning to look at them.

Shelly bit her lip and she started to pace with anxiousness. “How could she possibly be pregnant?! She just got together with Tony not too long ago! Dad, if she is pregnant, it will be a huge deterrent to Gemma!” She pursed her lips together. Then, she added worriedly, “Dad, you have to help Gemma!”

“Do I need you to remind me?!” Edward was extremely agitated upon recalling what he had heard earlier. My granddaughter has accomplished nothing apart from causing trouble! It has been so many years, but she has failed to pursue Tony. Instead, she allows a woman, who has just shown up, to snatch him. “Instruct Gemma to snatch Tony as soon as possible. Do it, no matter what it takes. I believe that woman might very well be pregnant. Since she is pregnant, Gemma would stand a chance too. As long as Gemma gets pregnant with Tony’s child, I will have my way to ensure the Hart Family welcomes Gemma into their wealthy family!”

Shelly nodded in response. “Sure, I will inform Gemma. Dad, Gideon said that the sum of money requires urgent laundering. If it drags any longer, he might not be able to keep it buried.” She was just about to leave, but she suddenly recalled what Gideon had told her. Therefore, she hastily updated Edward.

Edward’s expression turned gloomy upon hearing that. Then, he answered in a stern voice, “Got it.” He paused for a while before he added. “How has the Central Square project been recently?”

“Stark Group has waived their right to apply and are fully helping the Walton Group to procure the project. The main large families from Bradford City are not too interested in that project. After all, it is not a money-making project. Gideon has visited a few important officials and I believe there are not many issues there.”

“In that case, get ready and head up...” Edward lowered his voice into a barely-audible whisper. However, Shelly seemed to have understood him and she nodded before walking away.

Edward gazed at Shelly’s back when she walked away, but his eyebrows were knitted tightly together. He just couldn’t relax.

...

It was a different atmosphere altogether in the room as members of the Hart Family were congratulating Myra. After all, the unborn child would be

Sebastian's long-awaited paternal great-grandchild. It would be his first and naturally, he was delighted.

She politely thanked everybody.

After a while, he chased everybody out of the room by claiming that Myra needed her rest, especially since she had a frail body.

Once the room was quiet, Sebastian cleared his throat lightly while looking at her with unbridled joy. "Myra, from now on, don't get worked up about certain issues. You just have to take care of your health and let Tony look after you. If he doesn't do a good job, return to the Hart Residence. Lisa and I will personally care for you. Furthermore, don't feel pressured at all because we are both extremely modern people. We believe that having a boy or girl is the same. We will have to be extra strict if it's a boy. If it turns out to be a girl, we will spoil her like a little princess. If your father angers you in the future, just come home and tell me. I will reprimand him in person!" he reassured Myra.

Sebastian was extremely excited after receiving news of her pregnancy.

Myra felt a warmth spread across her heart. "Old Master Hart, I know." Then, she turned to look at Tony with a raised brow. "Tony, you heard that. If you do not look after me well, I'll go to Old Master Hart."

"Are you still calling him Old Master Hart?" Tony cocked his brow at her too.

She was astounded, whereas Sebastian commented unabashedly, "It is time to call us Grandpa and Grandma."

Myra's cheeks blushed a deep red and she greeted him in a tiny voice, "Grandpa."

He broke into a happy grin. "I will head downstairs to check on the chicken soup. You should rest for now." Then, he turned to leave the room. He closed the door behind him when he left too.

When they were the only two left in the room, Myra nudged Tony. "You are the birthday boy today. A huge crowd is waiting to chat with you downstairs. You don't have to worry about me. I will rest well here."

"Let them wait." He sat by her bedside and bent down to get closer to her face. Then, he kissed her eyebrows, the tip of her nose, and her lips.

In the past, before meeting Myra, I thought that my successful career will be the only thing accompanying me for the rest of my life. I thought that I would have married the right sort of woman while having 2 or 3 lovers at the side. I figured I would live a cold, colorless life. However, I met Myra that year and everything changed drastically. When a man has feelings, he will have a weakness, but I feel lucky that Myra is my weakness. Tony pressed his forehead against hers and he chuckled in a rumbling voice, "Nobody is more important than my Myra."

"Tony, have you been secretly learning how to sweet talk from Elliot? You are becoming rather good at it." Myra giggled in amusement.

Tony raised his brows at her. "Don't you like it?"

Sweet talks are just like roses. Women might claim that it's old-fashioned, but who would actually hate it? "I like it..." She pouted before her lips pressed against his thin lips.

His smile broadened and he pulled a thin blanket to cover her. "Are you hungry? Why don't I request the kitchen to send some food up for you?"

She had been drinking alcohol during the banquet earlier. Fortunately, she didn't overdo it, so it's not detrimental to the baby in her womb. Upon thinking of that, Tony reached out to caress Myra's belly.

She felt rather hungry at that point, so she nodded. "Yes, I am slightly hungry."

Tony took out his cell phone to phone Serena with the request to send some food up.

The entire room was filled with warmth and happiness.

## Standing before Love Chapter 300

However, when Gemma learned downstairs that Myra was pregnant, her face immediately darkened. "That b\*tch doesn't deserve to be pregnant with Tony's child!" She squeezed the wine glass so tightly that it almost broke.

She had already been furious that night when she saw the lovey-dovey interactions between Myra and Tony. If Gideon had not held her back, she wanted to run to Myra and give her a good slap so that Myra would not dare to be ostentatious.

“Gemma, you must understand that it will be more difficult for you to marry into the Hart Family once Myra is pregnant with Tony’s child.” Gideon’s face also became sullen.

“You don’t have to tell me that, Gideon. I understand the implications well!” With that, Gemma placed the wine glass on a small table next to the swimming pool as a savage expression flashed in her eyes. “What do you think is the possibility of that b\*tch having a miscarriage?”

Before he could reply, Kris, who had been silent all this while, suddenly snorted in laughter.

“What are you laughing at?” Gemma turned and asked in a sarcastic tone. “Kris, I’m sure the Stark Family is the most resentful and troubled when Myra marries into the Hart Family. If the Hart Family decides to help Myra, they could take over the Stark Group at any second.”

Upon hearing that, Kris froze, but she quickly gave a slight smile. “You’ve misunderstood me, Gemma. I’m just thinking that the Hart Family will treat her even more tentatively after knowing that she’s pregnant. How would they allow her to have a miscarriage?”

“You don’t know what could happen in such a big, wide world.” Gemma continued in her sarcastic tone once again. After shooting Kris a glance, Gemma turned to look at Gideon. “Gideon, do you think the reason why the Hart Family hasn’t chased Myra away is because Tony has developed true feelings for her? They don’t seem to believe that she would betray Tony, but what if she did?”

“Gemma, you’re saying that—”

“Compared to the Hart Family, Myra is nobody. But, she’s above average, so I bet there are many people who have fallen for her. In all honesty, she is usually quite cold and lofty. What if her true character isn’t actually like this?” When she recalled the way Sean defended Myra in the Stark Group the other day, she snorted. “We have something we can immediately use.”

Gideon’s eyes narrowed upon hearing that.

...

Even when the party was about to end, Tony did not leave the room as well.

Myra was sound asleep due to the exhaustion at the halfway point of the event.

Sebastian and Serena had brought something up for them. After knocking on the door and placing the items down, they immediately left the room.

Meanwhile, Tony merely sat on Myra's bed as he carefully looked at her face.

Objectively speaking, she was not the most beautiful woman he had met. In fact, she was slightly less beautiful compared to her sister, but he had no idea why he felt as though the entire world had disintegrated around him when he first met her.

At this moment, Myra suddenly frowned in her sleep, as if she was dreaming. He stretched out with his hand and caressed her forehead. When her frown had finally relaxed, he planted a kiss on her forehead and walked out of the room, closing the door gently behind him.

Sean's call that night had given him a sense of danger.

Lyla was right—Sean would not give up on Myra at this moment. More importantly, he seemed to have known many matters. If Myra knows them one day...

Tony frowned deeply. Without any expression on his face, he walked down the stairs.

...

When Myra woke up, she was alone in her room. After glancing at the time, she realized that it was almost 10:00 PM and she assumed that the party was about to end.

When she was about to get out of bed, her phone suddenly rang. It was the management office of her apartment calling her.

Although she felt weird that the management office had called her at this hour, she answered the call nevertheless. As soon as the call went through, the other party responded nervously, "Miss Stark, your unit was robbed. Everything's a mess now, so please come back to take a look."



Myra froze for a moment before her eyebrows knitted together into a frown. "What's going on?"

It had been quite a while since she last returned to her apartment, which was a rather unique high-end private apartment. Every floor required a specific access card, so it was quite difficult for a thief to enter.

"We are not too sure either. When one of the surveillance workers checked on the equipment today, he saw the door of your apartment wide open and the inside in disarray. Therefore, we assumed that your apartment had been robbed."

After listening to what the voice said, Myra's thoughts were in a mess and she quickly sat upright after turning.

"Alright, I'll head back now."

With that, the door of the room was opened when she was wearing some clothes.

Upon seeing Tony, Myra quickly explained, "My apartment has been robbed. The management office asked me to immediately take a look."

His eyebrows also immediately knitted together into a frown. "What's going on?"

"I'm not entirely sure. I have to head back and have a look."

Tony lowered his head to look at the watch on his wrist. After walking over to her, he stopped her from wearing her clothes. "It's rather late, so I'll go over and take a look instead. I'll ask Leo to send you back to my place so that you can rest and I'll let you know what exactly has happened tomorrow."

Myra was a little hesitant about this arrangement. However, she remembered that she had drunk some alcohol and also fell today. On top of that, Phillip also advised her to rest well so that she would not be too exhausted physically and mentally. After taking a deep breath, she nodded. "Alright."

Since Tony's apartment was right next to hers, she had nothing to worry about.

He called Leo to inform him of the recent events. Only after seeing her finish the chicken soup did he let her sit into Leo's car.

After Myra left, Tony started his own car and drove to the apartment.

...

"I heard that you are pregnant, Miss Stark," Leo said with a wide smile. When Tony called him earlier, even though he had remained in his usual calm composure, Leo could tell that his voice was elated. After shooting a glance at Myra through the rearview mirror, he quickly responded. "Congratulations."

"Thanks," she replied joyfully as she touched her stomach.

She also did not expect that she would be pregnant after just a night.

A while ago, both of them were still joking about having kids.

"Are you missing Director Hart?" Worried that she would be bored, he tried to find some topics for a conversation. "Don't worry. It's probably just a normal burglar who had his eyes on your apartment. After all, you haven't been staying there for a while, so the burglar must have felt that it was easy to get his hands on it. I'm sure Director Hart will have it settled in no time."

"I'm not missing him." Myra felt slightly embarrassed when Leo claimed that she missed Tony. Even though she found out that she was pregnant today, she was not too jubilant. The phone in her bag seemed to scorch her like a piece of hot metal.

She suddenly took out her phone and clicked on the MMS to delete it.

When they arrived at the entrance of Tony's apartment, someone suddenly pounced on their car.

A shocked Leo quickly slammed his foot on the brake. "Don't get down, Miss Stark. I'll have a look instead."

As soon as he opened the door to exit the car, the woman, who had been knocked to the ground, suddenly rose to her feet and ran to the car windows near Myra.

As she had the windows slightly rolled down earlier, she did not have enough time to shut it. Hence, the woman quickly clasped onto it. As soon as she

lowered her head, Myra immediately frowned—the woman was actually Sasha!

## Standing before Love Chapter 301

However, Sasha was in a state of disarray at this moment. The car had really knocked her, so she shakily hobbled over to Myra. Apart from that, she even had an injury on her face.

Her beautiful image was gone—not only were her clothes wrinkled, her hair was disheveled and there was a panicked expression on her face.

As soon as she grabbed onto the window, she cried desperately in front of Myra. “Myra, I’m sorry. I’ve really learned my lessons this time around. I shouldn’t have provoked you at the hotel and sent your video to Gemma. I was too blinded by my own desires and forgot about Director Hart’s warning. I really learned my lessons and I beg you to ask Director Hart to take a pity on us! If this continues, the Hay Group is going to be destroyed!”

Sasha sobbed pathetically. Back when Tony warned me, I should have listened to him obediently. Otherwise, this would not happen—after spending so much effort to pull Wallace Enterprise over to our side, everything is ruined in an instant. Tony also attacked several other businesses of ours.

They could not rely on the Walton Family and the Chase Family would not help them either. It took everything the Hay Group had to survive until now. She herself had even invested a few million into the company. If the Hart Group did not stop with their attacks, the Hay Group would meet their demise.

Sasha and the other family members of the Hay Group were already used to the luxurious and lavish lifestyle that they had been living. It was a huge shock for them to be suddenly degraded to a lifestyle of a normal blue collar worker, whom they had always looked down on. Needless to say, they would have to bear a huge debt that they could never repay for the rest of their lives.

“I will explain everything to the media and let them know what exactly had been going on with the video. It’s all Gemma’s and my fault. Myra, we have wronged you. I will explain all of this to them and I just want to beg for your forgiveness. Please ask Director Hart to stop attacking the Hay Group...”

Myra merely looked at Sasha with calmness all this while. When Leo was about to walk to them, she flashed him a look of caution before looking back

at Sasha. “Tony has already warned you beforehand. Sasha, you can only blame your greed and selfishness that things have turned out the way they are today. If you don’t have the plans to accuse and blame me, the Hay Group would not have turned out in this way.”

“I know. I know.” Sasha nodded profusely as she could not wait to show Myra her genuine feelings. “I know that I’m wrong this time, but we have already received the punishment we deserve. Didn’t the video back then become the trigger for you and Director Hart to be a couple? Myra, I’m begging you to please help me and the Hay Group. As long as you plead to Tony, I’m sure he won’t attack the Hay Group anymore. Now that we have already received many blows, it will take a few years to just recover. Please, Myra, I beg you... The company is the result of my grandfather’s hard work throughout his entire life...”

Her eyes were swollen and red at this moment.

Even though their circle may have seemed lavish, everyone was in fact quite cold. Now that the Hay Group had reached this point, everyone including Sasha’s close friends avoided her as far as possible.

She was also at her wits end, so she had to abandon her pride and beg for Myra’s help.

However, Myra had a conflicted expression on her face.

Without a doubt, Sasha had done a lot of things that hurt her. In the beginning, she slandered Myra for plagiarism. Then, she sent the video to Sean to worsen the relationship between Myra and him. Apart from that, she also sent the video to Gemma, which had completely ruined Myra’s reputation. However, it was a little too much to ruin the Hay Group for all the things that Sasha had done since the Hay Group was not built by her alone.

Seeing that Myra was wavering, Sasha quickly added, “Myra, I promise to behave myself from now onward. If you need my help, I will never reject you! Apart from that, I will help you with Lyla—I won’t let her have a good time at the Chase Family!”

After hearing Sasha’s words, Myra replied calmly, “You don’t have to do anything about the matters between Lyla and me.”

“Sure, sure. Since you say so, I won’t do anything on my own accord.” Sasha stopped crying and continued to nod. At this moment, Myra’s orders were like ones from a king. After all, Sasha clearly knew the feelings Tony had for Myra. As long as Myra spoke up for her, Sasha believed that the problem with the Hay Group would be solved.

It was only at this moment that Sasha realized her own stupidity. It’s impossible that Tony would fall for Gemma, the scheming b\*tch! Why did I trust that woman? It resulted in my family business suffering from such a destructive power!

“I will talk to Tony, but I can’t guarantee whether he will stop after that,” Myra said indifferently.

“I’m sure he will! Director Hart will definitely listen to you!” As soon as Sasha heard that Myra would help her out, she immediately cried with tears of joy. She finally heaved a sigh as she sank to the ground weakly. In the next moment, she rose to her full height and tightly grabbed the car window beside Myra. “Myra, you have to be careful of Gemma. She’s not a kind person. I heard that she used a lot of ruthless methods to chase away the women around Director Hart when they were in the United States last time.”

Upon hearing that, Myra frowned. She had also heard about some incidents related to Gemma. Even without hearing the complete story, she understood that Gemma was a ruthless woman after their interaction. “Got it.”

Then, Myra signaled for Leo to enter the car. As soon as he was behind the wheels, the car was almost driven away. Seeing that they were about to leave, Sasha hesitated whether she should continue speaking. After a moment of hesitation, she finally responded, “Back then, when we were in the hotel, I told you that Director Hart deliberately provided me with the means to obtain the video. Don’t believe that, Myra. I said it because I was jealous that you were with Director Hart. I wanted to instigate the relationship between both of you. D-Director Hart... He would never do something like this to you.”

Sasha clenched her fists that were at her sides with a conflicted feeling within her. She was clear that Tony deliberately allowed her to obtain the video, but at this moment, she wanted to wash her hands off everything, so she had to tell Myra that everything she said back then was a lie.

As soon as she finished with her sentence, Sasha felt as though she had been liberated.

She had many different experiences in her life—she had gone through most of the major events in her life. After witnessing the dirty transactions behind the scenes and how cold humanity was, she felt a deep sense of exhaustion.

In the past, she was jealous of everything Myra had whereas now, this feeling had completely disappeared.

Sasha could not afford to be jealous or envious of what others had—after all, it belonged to them. After such emotions had gathered, she became another person whom she was unfamiliar with and she lived in constant exhaustion.

Before the car drove away, Myra heard Sasha's gentle voice that was brought by the wind. "Thank you, Myra... And I'm sorry for everything I've done..."

Conflicted emotions engulfed Myra in that moment.

If Sasha had not been competitive and proud, everything may not have turned out like this.

On the other hand, Leo was already used to the business world, where the strong would butcher the weak, so he did not pity her. Instead, he sighed quietly. "Miss Stark, you are too soft. If it were someone else, the Hay Group would have been sold off."

"Everything that she has done to me has ultimately made my life better," Myra explained calmly as she caressed her belly. "Apart from that, she has repented on her mistakes. I'm just going to tell Tony to stop his attack. Ultimately, whether or not the Hay Group can recover still depends on their own efforts."

After hearing Sasha's final words, Myra was sure that she had turned over a new leaf. Myra thought she merely did something that she should do, so she did not need to care about other implications.