

## Standing before Love Chapter 42

Sasha would whisper to Lily from time to time since there was a hint of reluctance on the latter's face, but she nodded her head quietly in the end.

Soon after, Logan and Leo came down to welcome them. It was only at that moment when Lily kept her design plans away.

For some reason, Myra suddenly had a weird feeling.

As soon as Logan came down and saw her, his eyes immediately brightened as he tried to stride over to her. However, Leo stepped on Logan's foot, causing him to suppress his facial expression in a hurry. After that, they both walked over to the ladies and said gently, "Miss Stark and Miss Hay, both of you must be ready, right?"

Myra and Sasha nodded their heads.

Upon seeing Myra, Logan's smile seemed to have softened. When he turned toward Sasha, his smile became a little indifferent instead, but he was still polite toward her. "I heard that Miss Hay and Miss Torres have been here all afternoon. Looks like you two are quite enthusiastic."

Lily's face slightly changed, but Sasha quickly tugged her hand before she smiled at Logan. "The early bird gets the worm. It's also better for us to respond to any sudden changes." Suddenly, she turned toward Myra. "Am I right, Myra?"

Even though Myra felt a bit strange, she still nodded her head.

Soon, all of them rocked up to the meeting room on the 48th floor. In the room, Tony and the other managers from every department were already seated.

As soon as the four of them entered the room, they quickly sat at their arranged seats.

To be fair, each company would have needed to draw lots to decide who would start the presentation first. The moment Sasha received the first pick, the smile on her face suddenly widened. "Myra, we'll start our report first."

For some reason, her smile was exceptionally bright and it made Myra feel a little uneasy in her heart. Something shook her mind, but she could not pinpoint what it was.

However, as soon as the Hay Group laid out their design plans under the lights, she immediately realized what went wrong. For a moment, her face instantly turned pale.

After the design plans were laid out, it was almost a meter long and everyone around the table was able to clearly see every inch of the drawing.

The contents of the design plan were exactly the same as Myra's!

No, wait. That design plan is practically mine! I have even checked it personally this morning! Look at those familiar little folds, corners and countless little details that I've changed! This drawing is practically mine!

While holding the design plan in her hands, her fingers started to pale as well.

If that design draft is mine, it means the paper in my hand is a... Needless to say, it has been secretly changed.

"Myra, what is it?" Tilly's concerned voice was heard beside her. Upon seeing her pale face, Tilly assumed Myra felt that the Hay Group's designs were much better than theirs, so she quickly comforted her. "Don't worry. Since we are already here, let's show everyone how good your design is. I trust you!"

However, Myra's entire body froze as she did not know what to say. Immediately, she shot a glance at Sasha, who sat opposite her.

At that moment, Sasha's eyes were filled with disdain as she seemed to be paying attention on Myra. The moment she met Myra's gaze, she slowly revealed a smirk before she coldly pouted her lips. It isn't possible for Sasha to swap the design plans without me knowing about it because I never left it out of my sight. Also, I've even checked the plans this morning. The only time it wasn't in my sight was... at noon when I wasn't at my work station! Who is it?! Who is the one who changed my design plans and gave it to the Hay Group?!

Quickly, an image surfaced in her mind—after taking a few deep breaths, she finally suppressed the rage inside her. Elsie Foster! How dare you!

Not far away, Tony glanced at her and he seemed to notice that there was something wrong with her expression, so he furrowed his brows slightly.

Leo followed his gaze and he also noticed the gloom on Myra's face, so he whispered, "Do I need to ask Miss Stark whether there is a problem?"

"No." Tony withdrew his eyes and he gently tapped on the desk with the finger on his right hand to redirect Leo's attention to the Hay Group's designs.

Usually, it was Sasha's job to present the Hay Group's designs, but this time, it was the designer, Lily, who personally explained the designs.

After roughly perusing the designs, Tony furrowed his brows inexplicably. Lily's explanation is perfect. She has a deep understanding of the designs, so she is able to explain every detail very clearly. There are a few tiny mistakes on the data, but it's not a big deal.

After a round of applause, it was time for the Chase Group to present their report.

Meanwhile, Myra's palms were already coated in a layer of perspiration. If I leave now, I'll only be handing the Sunny Bay Project over to them. She was unwilling to be framed, but if she went ahead and presented the design plans in her hands, she would only end up embarrassing herself!

As she was placed in a difficult situation, many emotions started flashing across her face.

At that moment, everyone was still whispering about how perfect the Hay Group's designs were, but as soon as they noticed the motionless Myra, they started talking in hushed tones.

On the other side, Sasha's concerned voice was heard. "Myra, what is it? Are you sick? Do you need to rest for a while before continuing with your presentation?"

"No." Myra wore a cold face as she stood up from her seat and went up the stage.

"Myra, the design plans..."

When Tilly saw Myra throwing the design plans aside, she halted her in surprise.

Instead, Myra turned toward Lily. “Miss Torres, do you mind if I use ‘your’ design plans?”

As she had heavily emphasized on the word ‘your’, sure enough, Lily’s expression changed slightly, but soon, she calmly smiled and acted casually. “If you like our design plans, you can use it as you like.”

After that, she calmly sat down next to Sasha.

However, Myra was tightly clenching both her fists on each side.

It was the most embarrassing presentation she ever had to make since she started working long ago. The designs aren’t mine, the data isn’t mine, and the idea isn’t mine either... At least, this is what everyone will think. However, only I know that all of this is actually my idea. Only I understand the teeth-gritting grievance that I’m experiencing now.

After Myra awkwardly ‘repeated’ everything that Lily said, everyone was in disbelief as they fell into complete silence. A few pairs of eyes seemed to poke holes all over Myra’s body, and soon after, a loud discussion erupted in the meeting room.

“Miss Stark, what do you think you are doing? Are you admitting defeat or are you blatantly plagiarising the Hay Group’s designs?” A deputy project manager among the audience took the initiative to express his dissatisfaction. “We are still waiting for the Chase Group’s design, but instead, you repeated the Hay Group’s presentation. Is this the answer that you are giving us?”

At that moment, Myra tried her best to stay calm as she scanned through the audience below her. Almost everyone’s eyes were filled with disdain and dissatisfaction.

Immediately, her back stiffened while her clothes were soaked in sweat. “Actually... I also find this strange—why is our presentation looking exactly the same as the Hay Group’s?”

Immediately, it caused an uproar in the meeting room.

Myra's words were secretly implying that she was actually the owner of the design plans, which meant that the Hay Group obtained the plans through dubious means.

"Myra, you are now crossing the line. You obviously brought your own design plans, but you refuse to use it. Instead, you insist on using our plans, but rather than thanking us, you claim that our design plans are the same as yours. Are you accusing the Hay Group of plagiarizing the Chase Group's designs?!"

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An aggrieved Sasha stood up in the midst of the whispers.

"If that's the case, why don't you open the design plan that you brought so that everyone can have their say?"

A hint of disdain flashed through her eyes from an angle that no one could see.

At that moment, Myra's nails were sunk deep into her palms. The design plans that I brought have been changed. What's there to look at? Someone had obviously set up this meeting in advance. However, she wanted to give it a try because she refused to admit defeat, but sadly, nothing she did would change anything.

"Fine! What's there to be afraid of? I trust Miss Stark!"

Tilly's angry voice was heard from below as Myra tried to stop her, but it was already too late.

Tilly quickly brought the design plan to the square table before she opened it. "Huh? What is this?!"

Her scream was heard at first, but when she tried to cover the plans, she was quickly stopped by a hand next to her.

After the design plan was opened, no one knew who had started laughing from below, but what ensued was a mixture of laughter and a deep sense of mockery.

“Miss Stark, is this the design plan that the Chase Group decided to present to the Hart Group?” The deputy manager pointed at a charming man’s different postures on the draft paper while saying disdainfully. “Looks like the Chase Group didn’t send a designer over here to discuss the project. Instead, they sent a fangirl over!”

Looking at the design plan, Myra’s face immediately flushed and her body trembled slightly after experiencing such an unprecedented embarrassment.

“Mr. Gardner.” Suddenly, a man’s deep voice was heard in the meeting room.

Ever since she started explaining her design plans, Tony had remained silent, but now, he was slowly standing up.

His figure was imposing and the black suit managed to restrain the intimidating aura around him; instead, others did not dare to look him right in the eyes. He remained a calm expression as he scanned everyone with his eyes, causing everyone to subconsciously remain quiet. Even Mr. Gardner let out an awkward cough as he did not dare to speak again.

As Tony’s gaze reached the design plan, he realized that the man in the drawing was him. It contained various postures of him walking, sitting, thinking and raising his brows. After that, he turned toward Myra whose eyes were closed.

“If Miss Stark is a one of a kind genius who has the ability to remember everything at first sight, I’m really impressed by her audacity to ‘plagiarize’ the Hay Group’s designs in front of everyone.”

Tony’s voice was calm, but at the same time, it seemed to have exerted a sort of pressure, and caused everyone to breathe heavily. On the surface, he was accusing Myra of having the audacity to plagiarize in front of everyone, but there was a strange feeling about his words. Even Mr. Gardner was starting to furrow his brows because he obviously understood the meaning behind Tony’s words.

When everyone thought about it, they remembered that Lily continued to refer to her drawings while explaining her designs. When it was Myra’s turn, she never turned to look at the outline once even though it was laid out behind her, as though she was exceptionally familiar with the designs to a point where every piece of data that she explained was correct.

If she didn't ask someone to spy on the Hay Group's design, how could she have such a deep understanding of the structure of their design? Or does she really have the ability to remember everything at first sight? However, both plans are exceptionally risky. For the first plan to work, she would have needed to draw the first pick whereas for the second idea to work, she had to explain her design after the Hay Group's presentation. No matter what, not many people will tend to believe her. The Chase Group is also a massive company, so why would they embarrass themselves? Logically, why would the Hay Group take such a huge risk too? This...

"Director Hart..." Seeing that everyone was starting to doubt the situation, Sasha stood up amidst the silence and whispered. "I remember that you once said that the Hart Group will severely punish those who plagiarize other people's work, but this time, I beg you to forgive Myra. She... might have a reason to do what she did. The Hay Group will not hold the Chase Group accountable, so I hope that the Hart Group will do the same."

The people, who were doubtful at first, were now looking at her in shock with eyes of admiration.

On the other hand, Myra's eyes instantly darkened.

However, as soon as Tony noticed that she was about to say something, he immediately stopped her while stoically looking at Sasha. "I'm not accusing Miss Stark of plagiarism." His eyes were so dark that it looked like a bottomless pit, as if everyone in front of him had nowhere to hide.

Sasha felt her heart violently skipping a beat while her face darkened. "What are you saying, Mr. Hart?"

Just as his gaze was about to burn her alive, Tony redirected his glance toward Myra. "The Hart Group will not tolerate any plagiarism, but we won't simply accuse others either. Given the current situation, the Hart Group will discover the truth soon. No matter who the culprit is, as long as the evidence is conclusive, the Hart Group will be merciless toward any wrongdoings. Unless..."

His eyes swept from Sasha's watertight expression to Myra's calm demeanor. When Myra saw the comfort in his eyes, she could not help but clench her fists.

A second later, he focused his sharp eyes on Lily. “Unless that person is willing to stand up and admit to what she has done; otherwise, she won’t be willing to see her fate afterward.”

Her entire body trembled as her leg softened. Luckily, she was sitting on her seat, but her head immediately lowered.

Beside her was Sasha, who almost pierced her palms with her nails! Isn’t he actually looking out for her?! I can confirm that the two of them are definitely in a secret relationship!

In the end, the meeting turned out to be a joke.

Myra tried to comfort herself again, but when she stumbled upon the gazes from everyone in the Hart Group, she still felt upset in her heart.

“Miss Stark, I’m sorry. I didn’t know about the drawing...” Tilly was almost in tears.

Then, Myra patted her shoulder. “It’s not your fault. If someone else has untoward intentions, it’s hard for us to avoid it.”

“Who stole your design plan?!” At that point, even Tilly knew that someone had set them up.

Myra’s face immediately grew colder as she closed her gaping mouth. “I don’t have any evidence, so I can only guess.”

“From the time of our departure from the Chase Group to the Hart Group and until the meeting ended, the Hay Group wouldn’t have had any chance to lay their hands on the design plan, which means that it was possibly swapped when we were at the company... It’s Elsie. It’s definitely her! She was upset that she was booted from the Sunny Bay Project and demoted to an assistant. That’s why she wanted to set you up!”

In the hallway, the employees from the Hart Group were still exiting the meeting room, one after another in groups as they continued to whisper about what had happened.

When Tony stoically exited with Leo behind him, everyone quickly stepped aside to make a path for them.



Thinking about how Tony helped her at the meeting earlier, Myra felt a sense of gratification inside, but as soon as she stepped forward, he simply went past her without even looking back at her.

However, Leo blinked at her before quickly following in Tony's footsteps.

Myra was startled for a moment before Logan came up to her and whispered, "Director Hart doesn't want people talking behind his back. After all, he just helped you out at the meeting. That's why he can't be close to you in private."

After that, he left in a hurry.

For a moment, she was touched as she remembered Tony's faint soothing gaze at the meeting earlier...

For some reason, it immediately reminded her of the same eyes that he had last time when he told her to 'trust him'...

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"That's great! With Director Hart and Mr. Logan's help, you'll definitely be fine!" Tilly let out a sigh of relief when she heard Logan's words as Myra returned to her senses.

Then, Myra looked past Tilly's shoulder and saw Sasha and Lily, who were both standing behind her.

Myra never had a good impression of Sasha in the beginning, but now, she finally saw what an awful person the latter was.

On the other hand, Sasha felt a little guilty when she met Myra's gaze, but she immediately lifted her head in arrogance as she walked over. "Myra, I can't believe that you don't even have the courage to admit your mistake. No wonder Sean always looks down on you!"

Myra instantly smiled with anger. No one else is better at talking nonsense than her.

"Then, who do you think will fall for you?" She could not suppress her anger any more, so she coldly gazed at Sasha. "You failed to seduce him, so you are now trying to frame me. Sasha, is this project really that important to you? Is it so important that you are willing to abandon all of your morality?!"

The moment Sasha heard the word ‘seduce’ from Myra’s mouth, her expression changed slightly. “Myra, don’t you dare slander me. How dare you try to insult me when Mr. Logan and you are in a clandestine affair! I’ve already shown enough respect to you, so don’t push your limits!”

“I think you are the one who is taking this too far!” Myra took a deep breath. “Do you know why Director Hart didn’t immediately believe your words when you accused me of plagiarism?” Sasha was now tightly clenching her fists while Myra revealed a disdainful smile on her face. “It’s because just like me, he knows what kind of a person you are!”

After that, Myra left with Tilly.

When they left, Tilly vented her anger by wearing a triumphant expression and she coldly grunted as she walked past Sasha.

Sasha immediately felt a sense of rage surging from her chest, as if it was about to explode.

Beside her, Lily’s face was already pale when Tony cast his gaze at her earlier. After listening to Myra’s words, she grabbed Sasha’s hand while breathing heavily. “Miss Hay, don’t you think we should admit to it? Maybe Director Hart will consider preserving our dignity—”

“Do you know what you are saying?!” Sasha swept Lily’s hand aside, but when she noticed the crowd was looking at them in shock, she lowered her voice and whispered, “If we admit to it, everything will be over! Don’t worry, they won’t find any evidence to prove that we did it. You just need to keep your back straightened all the time!” However, when she saw that Lily’s eyes were still full of fear, her eyes sharpened as she murmured. “Miss Torres, you know how capable the Hay Family is, right? Even though we aren’t the wealthiest family in Bradford City, it won’t be difficult for us to fire a designer...”

Instantly, Lily’s expression changed as she lowered her head and mumbled, “I know what to do, Miss Hay.”

Back at the Chase Group, everyone from the front desk to the Design Department were completely quiet, but when Myra and Tilly walked past them, they immediately pricked their ears.

“Have you heard about it? When Miss Stark gave her presentation to the Hart Group just now, she actually used the Hay Group’s design plan. That’s blatant plagiarism!”

“That is so embarrassing. Isn’t she directly discrediting the Chase Group?”

“I even heard that the design plan Miss Stark brought was filled with caricatures of Director Hart. She failed to seduce Director Chase, so she now has a new target. What an embarrassment.”

However, Myra remained silent.

On the other hand, Tilly looked upset. Miss Stark probably knew that something was wrong with the design plan, so she did not take it up on stage with her. In the end, I stupidly opened it in front of everyone, landing her in an even worse position.

“It’s all because of Elsie. She is the one who secretly changed the blueprint and caused Miss Stark to be humiliated. Miss Stark—”

“Tilly, you are badmouthing me again!” Before Tilly had the chance to finish her words, Elsie showed up from nowhere and interrupted. Then, she stood arrogantly in front of them with a malicious intent in her eyes. “I’ve heard that Myra was blatantly plagiarizing the Hay Group’s designs while presenting her report to the Hart Group. Myra, if you don’t have the capability to secure the Sunny Bay Project, please don’t blame it all on me. It only shows how low you are!”

Upon seeing her face, Myra could feel the rage slowly rising from her heart. I knew I was overly kind to her back then. I should have just kicked her out of the company when I had the chance last time! Otherwise, I wouldn’t be in this predicament! “Tilly, follow me to the surveillance room. I want to check the surveillance video for this afternoon!”

She forcefully resisted the urge to slap the woman in front of her in the face.

Just as Myra turned, she could hear Elsie’s sneer from behind. “Surveillance video? The surveillance room was under repair at noon. Didn’t you know about it? Or, is it because... you already knew it, so you are now purposely using it as an excuse to escape from your responsibility?”

“You!”

“What about me?” Upon seeing her pale and devastated face, Elsie let out a long-awaited giggle. “Oh, right. Miss Stark, Director Chase is now in the director’s office. He asked me to bring you there with me!”

The Design Department had mainly consisted of women, so their earlier argument drew a lot of attention from the people around them.

Tilly wanted to follow them, but Elsie immediately halted her. “I’m sorry, Tilly. Director Chase didn’t ask you to come along with us.”

Tilly was furious, but after seeing Myra’s gloomy face, she could only stomp her foot and worriedly watched her leaving.

On the way, Myra knew clearly in her heart that she was set up by someone. How is it possible that my design plan was swapped by someone on the day when the surveillance room was under renovation? I remember that when I met Sasha and Lily at the Hart Group’s lobby today, the two of them were still intensely studying their design plan. Also, Lily seemed like she was remembering the data at that time! They only had more than three hours to look through my design plan, which is enough, but when the data was involved, they definitely wouldn’t have the sufficient time to study all of it! That is why Lily was simply memorizing the data word by word because she knew that there wasn’t enough time!

Suddenly, she felt that her breath had stopped as she tightly clenched her fists. When they were about to arrive at the director’s office, they could see two figures exiting the room at the same time—it was Sasha and Lily!

Instantly, Myra’s eyes twitched the moment she saw them.

Then, Sasha came over with Lily and gently explained, “Myra, don’t worry. I’ve already explained everything to Sean. The Hay Group won’t hold you accountable for this and we won’t spread any rumors either.”

When Myra heard Elsie’s giggle from next to her, she gritted her teeth. “Thank you for your kindness, but before everything is clear, don’t you think you are getting ahead of yourself?”

“Is that so…” Sasha remained calm as she murmured softly, “Myra, for Sean’s sake, I won’t blame you—no matter what happens from now on.”

After that, she left with the silent Lily behind her.

Meanwhile, Elsie gleefully turned toward Myra's gloomy look. "You can enter now. Director Chase and the others have been waiting for a while."

After taking a few deep breaths with her head lowered, Myra pushed open the door of the director's room.

The room was completely quiet as there seemed to be an eerie silence in the atmosphere.

As soon as she entered the room, she walked straight to Sean.

At that moment, the man in front of her was leaning against his armchair while his eyes were slightly closed. He supported his forehead with one hand while the other held onto a piece of draft paper. His eyes were now extremely cold and his thin lips were tightly pressed. It was not hard to see that he was now in a bad mood.

"Director Chase..." Myra's fingers twitched as she called him with a husky voice.

Suddenly, Sean opened his dashing narrow eyes to reveal the chill in his eyes, which was enough to make her tremble. "What is this?!"

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As Sean brusquely threw the document over, he wore a stern expression on his face. "Where did you summon the courage to do something like this?"

Myra heard Elsie's snort of laughter from behind her. When she focused on the document, she realized that it was the document she brought to the Hart Group after it was switched—and images of Tony were drawn on it.

There were numerous drawings of him in various postures in a special, delicate style. Myra's expression immediately changed right after she saw that.

When she was at Hart Group earlier, she did not clearly look at the document due to her embarrassment and fury. It was only now that she realized that the drawing style on the document was similar to hers! "I didn't draw this," she retaliated without a second thought.

When she lifted her head, her heart sank as soon as she saw Sean's mocking smirk. She had to give it to Sasha, who was certainly skilled in framing her—she was even able to find a drawing that was similar to hers. I bet Sean now assumes I drew this. Even if it proves that I didn't plagiarize, it shows that I drew the pictures of another man behind his back in such a lifelike manner.

“Get out—all of you!” he suddenly yelled in anger.

Xavier was smart—he was the first one to head out.

Elsie wanted to stay to watch the drama unfold, but after meeting Sean's cold gaze, she had to leave the office as well.

However, she predicted that even if Myra's reputation had not been completely destroyed, she would sustain a huge loss this time around. No matter what happened, she could no longer remain in Chase Group. Hence, Elsie did not care about watching the drama.

Initially, Myra thought that the actions Sean had done two days ago had alleviated their strained relationship, even though he did not directly mention that he wanted to do so. Now that she had been unexpectedly framed, they had grown further apart again.

She smiled bitterly in her heart. How is it possible for us to mend our relationship? It's... impossible! There's too much pain being inflicted. We are already separated by distrust, misunderstandings and the pain that we have caused each other—just like today.

Myra picked up the document and placed it in front of Sean. By that point, she had already calmed down. “I'm not the one who drew this and I've never committed plagiarism. It's up to you to believe it or not. If you want to fire me, I have nothing else to say.”

There was no recording and no other evidence to indicate that she was being framed. She had completed the draft alone and she only chatted with Tilly during her occasional breaks, but that could not prove anything as well.

Sean's face was extremely dark as he recalled the words that Sasha told him earlier.

“Sean, I only heard that Myra chased the woman you love away and caused the death of your unborn baby. I didn't expect her to become worse. I can't

believe she actually copied the designs from Hay Group! Well, actually, since we are relatives, I don't mind. I don't mind giving it to you if you just ask. However, do you know what Myra has done since you have given her the cold shoulder for such a long time?" Sasha seemed to hesitate at that moment, but she gritted her teeth and continued. "It might just be rumors, but I heard that Myra met Mr. Logan and D-Director Hart for this project..."

He could no longer listen to the rest of her sentence.

Looking at the man's picture in the design drawing, fury immediately rose within him. Just how much effort has she put in to produce such a realistic drawing?

"What is this attitude of yours?" Sean stood up immediately and he leaned forward on the office table in front of him to harshly pinch Myra's chin. "Myra, you seem to be quite casual about leaving. You can leave anytime you like, but you left a bunch of mess behind for us! If you didn't draw that, who did? Apart from that, about the plagiarism issue today, call Sasha immediately to apologize to her." His face turned even darker.

In an instant, tears immediately welled up in Myra's eyes.

She never expected Sean to trust her. During the incident which involved Elsie the other time, he did not listen to Myra's explanation at all; in fact, he asked her to apologize instead. Even though Hart Group had already announced that they would look into it, he was anxious to accuse her.

"So, you would rather believe that I plagiarized it than to believe that it is my original drawing?" Myra asked in a hoarse voice as she closed her eyes in front of him.

Pain shot from her chin again, but the intensity could not be compared to the hurt she felt.

Looking at her expression full of despair, he subconsciously released his grip on her chin.

He had recently seen her looking like that—she had the exact same expression when he accused her last time.

“The higher-ups of Hart Group saw it, yet you still claim that you didn’t plagiarize. Show me the evidence then!” After Sean loosened his grip on her chin, he looked colder.

Sasha was not the only person who reported it to him. Mr. Gardner, the deputy manager in charge of Hart Group’s project, also called him about it.

When he recalled Mr. Gardner’s tone, his face turned more dour.

Myra tightly clenched her hands as she smiled bitterly. “I-I don’t have any evidence.”

With that, Sean looked at her sharply. She quietly met his gaze with a pair of clear eyes that were void of any guilt or defensiveness.

However, Sean suddenly saw the drawing of Tony from the corner of his eyes again...

“Get lost!” he immediately shouted in fury.

Myra froze and she quickly shot a glance at Sean. After seeing his disgust toward her on his face, a pang of pain shot through her, but she quickly left the office with her head lowered.

When he saw her figure disappear at the office door, a surge of annoyance bubbled within him, as if something had blocked his heart and he was unable to remove it.

Xavier walked into the room and asked tentatively, “Director Chase, are you going to fire Myra?”

When he was standing outside, he clearly heard how angry Sean was. In the end, Sean even asked Myra to get lost. I bet Myra can’t stay here anymore after she landed into such serious troubles.

Right after Xavier finished asking, Sean shot a cold glare. “Mr. Xavier, since when have you learned to call your own shots?”

A shocked Xavier quickly bowed. “I take every instruction from you, Director Chase. I’ll do whatever you ask me to.”

Sean merely snorted coldly. “Investigate this matter! I must get to the bottom of this!”



“Yes, sir.” Xavier only felt that he almost broke out in cold sweat.

After Myra left the Chase Headquarters, she suddenly felt lost and was unsure of where she was heading to. Since I can't show them any evidence about the Sunny Bay Project, I'm definitely going to be the scapegoat. From now onward, I probably can't even be involved in the design industry anymore. The man who once promised me that he will take care of me forever has already hated me to the core. I wonder when we will finally end things with each other. Over the years, I've always tried my best to do a good job, but things just don't seem to go my way at all.

Soon, the night lights were switched on. A silver grey Bentley Mulsanne was driving slowly behind her some time ago. Seeing that she did not react to the car's presence, the driver honked twice.

The piercing sound finally pulled Myra back to her senses.

She turned and saw Leo poking his head out of the window. “Miss Stark, are you heading home? We are on our way there too. Get in the car; we'll send you home.”

She could slightly identify another person sitting in the backseat of the car. Of course, she knew who the person was without giving a second thought.

She still had not thanked Tony for everything that happened at the Hart Group earlier today. After thinking about it, she took a deep breath and nodded before opening the vehicle's back door.

“Thank you for the help today, Director Hart.”

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As soon as she entered the car, the cool air slightly alleviated the summer heat.

The man in the car leaned against the backseat with his eyes closed. He had a rather wide forehead and a straight nose; although his deep, narrow eyes were shut, it did not hide his handsome features. His physique and facial features made him look like a foreigner, which radiated an aura of elegance in each and every movement of his.

Upon hearing Myra's words, Tony opened his eyes and he slightly nodded without even shooting her a glance.

However, he suddenly turned to look at her. "How did this happen?" He stretched his long, slender hands and touched her chin, which now showed red terrifying fingerprints.

Tony frowned slightly as his gaze became colder.

Myra was shocked by what she saw. Even though his fingers had only lightly touched her chin, she felt as though she had been scorched and turned away reflexively. "It's nothing," she replied in a low voice.

When she turned, her fair neck was revealed and it further emphasized the redness on her chin.

Tony's eyes reflected his hesitancy about the matter, but the stiffness around his lips revealed his anger at that moment. Even without Myra's explanation, he could roughly guess what had happened.

Leo merely felt that the temperature in the car had further decreased. Suddenly, he felt the vibration from the phone in his pocket. After he learned what had happened, he quickly stopped the car and went to a nearby pharmacy. When he returned, he had a bag in his hands that he passed to Myra. "Miss Stark, here is some ointment for your injuries. The pharmacist said that it's quite effective."

Myra froze before she took the ointment from him. "Thank you, Leo."

He had been planning to drive Tony to the Hart Residence, which was located in the mansion region of Southern Hill. Since the Chase Residence was also in the same neighborhood, it was considered on the way for them.

Throughout the drive, she felt quite anxious. She had initially expected Tony to ask a lot of questions, but he merely closed his eyes to rest. She was not someone who would take the initiative to start a conversation, so silence fell between them.

Until they were close to arriving at Southern Hill, he slowly opened his eyes with a tinge of indifference that people rarely understood. "You don't have anything that you would like to ask me?"

Myra's body slightly jolted.

Perhaps she did not understand Tony's character well, but she was clear about one fact—the Chase Residence was not on the way from the Hart Group to the Southern Hill. Hence, Tony definitely had something to tell her for him to meet her 'coincidentally'. However, after such a long time, he did not ask a single question about the plagiarism that she was involved in. Is he already so confident? Or is it just a polite excuse when they say that the Hart Group will look into it?

"Director Hart..." Myra looked at him with uneasiness, but he merely took out a cigarette and lit it.

Soon, smoke spread in the car. As Tony's expression was half-shrouded in the smoke, his handsome face looked even more indifferent. She gritted her teeth as she thought, He's probably the only person who could help me now. If he believes in me... "Director Hart, I did not plagiarize the design from Hay Group. The design that I brought over today is not done by me either."

When she finished speaking, she paused for a moment, but there was no reaction from him.

Myra's heart sank. Well, there's no reason for him to believe me unconditionally, is there?

She merely smiled. Just as she was about to turn, she heard his low voice. "Well, I would rather hope that you were the one who drew those drawings."

His gentle voice was slightly muffled. Although it sounded as light as the smoke in the car, her body stiffened upon hearing that.

After Tony extinguished the cigarette in an ashtray, he turned and looked straight into Myra's eyes with his indifference. "I have a way to investigate the truth."

Myra froze before she dug her fingernails into her palms. "Really?"

"Yes." Tony nodded simply.

Myra tightly clenched her fists. I knew it! I knew he had some ways! With his help, I believe that the accusation of me plagiarizing will be cleared!

Tears welled up in her eyes as she anxiously looked at the man in front of her. "What is it?"

Upon seeing her anxious expression, Tony slightly smiled with a twinkle in his eyes that disappeared almost immediately. However, he calmly shook his head at her. "Relax; I do have some ways to clear your name. But, how would you repay me?"

"R-Repay?" Before she could digest the joy she felt, she felt uneasy when she heard what he said.

At that moment, there seemed to be a fire in his profound eyes. It was not a strong fire—instead, it was a rather small flame that consistently burned—but the more it looked harmless, the deeper she sank into it. Her back stiffened as she understood what he meant. "H-How would you like me to repay you, Director Hart?"

"How about marrying me?" Tony said lazily as he stared into her eyes. Then, he suddenly turned and leaned into his seat.

He sounded like he was joking, but at the same time, it sounded like he meant his words. It was rather confusing to determine what he truly meant.

Myra merely felt as though her heart was about to jump out of her chest. She opened and closed her mouth multiple times as she was unsure on what to respond. After knowing that there was a way to clear her name, her excitement was doused by a bucket of cold water upon hearing his suggestion. She took a deep breath and replied dryly, "Director Hart, this joke is not funny at all. I'm already married and I know you have a woman whom you love deeply."

She placed her tightly clenched fists on each side of her body.

In an instant, the atmosphere in the car seemed tense.

Just as Myra thought the awkward atmosphere was about to be prolonged, Tony suddenly asked, "Didn't you say that you didn't watch my interview? How did you know that I have a woman whom I love?"

He looked at her with a half-smirk on his face and he seemed to have a gentle look in his eyes.

Myra immediately blushed.

Back then, when she stayed over at his place, he had asked about her thoughts on the interview when he sent her home the next day. However, she nervously gave an excuse that she had not watched the video. At that time, she was unaware that she would be exposed today. She quickly explained, "I didn't watch it back then, but since many people have watched it, everyone in Chase Group is talking about it. I initially didn't know about it, but now I do."

"Is that so?" The smile on Tony's face clearly illustrated his doubts on her explanation.

With a nervous expression on her face, Myra stiffly nodded.

However, Tony suddenly laughed out loud.

Usually, he was stern and serious. Even when he smiled, it would be a slight and cold one. It was her first time seeing him laugh out loud. The usual indifference disappeared from his eyes, making him look more warm and jovial, which had shocked her.

Unfortunately, Tony's laughter quickly ceased. His eyes narrowed as he turned away from her. "Well, then come back to the Hart Residence with me. Grandpa has something to discuss with me. After our discussion, I'll send you home. This time, I will clear your name."

With that, he closed his eyes again; he was obviously not giving her any chance to reject his offer.

Myra opened her mouth, but she closed it with a complicated expression moments later. Director Hart has a woman he loves. Even though I don't know who she is, I bet she's as perfect as him. Only someone like her can match his status.

She tried to suppress the peculiar feeling within her as she thought, I'm just going back to the Hart Residence with him. Perhaps he has some urgent matters to discuss. Apart from that, he also promised that he will send me home after he's done with the discussion.