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Sonia watched him leave and made sure he entered the elevator before looking away and taking a seat on the chair outside the ward.

The chair wasn't originally there as the hospital prohibited visitors from staying overnight or even watching the patient outside the intensive care unit.

However, Sonia and Toby were special cases.

In addition to that, the floor had been taken over by Toby, and Toby couldn't bear to separate from Sonia, so the hospital allowed them to do that despite the rules. They even placed a chair outside for Sonia.

Sonia sat quietly and hunched a little as she watched the man lying in the ward.

The man was asleep, and the atmosphere was very quiet, so she couldn't get enough of him.

It wasn't until two hours later that the nurse came to her and reminded her that it was time to leave. Only then did she look away and returned to her ward.

The next day, when Sonia showed up at Toby's ward again, he sulked. Even after waiting a long time for her, she didn't return. In addition to that, Tim stopped by before she even appears, making Toby feel even more aggrieved. Hence, when she came in today, he turned away and ignored her.

Seeing the childish behavior of the man, Sonia felt annoyed but amused. She sat down beside the bed and asked him, "Toby, are you really going to ignore me?"

Toby was unmoved and did not turn his head to look at her. Sonia shook her head helplessly, then put on a straight face, pretending to be displeased. "Toby, how could you be upset with me? Didn't I just come back a little late? Didn't I tell you when I left that I wasn't sure how long it would take for me to return? You should've gone to sleep when I told you to. Even if you fall asleep, I will stay outside for a while to accompany you, but what did you do instead? You ignored my words and didn't take them to heart at all. You waited for me with your eyes open and ended up sacrificing your health."

Toby didn't expect that Sonia would suddenly lose her temper and vent on him. He was completely stunned and turned to stare at her in a daze.

However, Sonia did not intend to let him go just like that. She was going to take the opportunity to have a good talk with him so he could correct his mentality.

"Do you know what's going on with you now? You are a patient who can't move. If you move, your heart condition might worsen after the surgery, alright? What you have to do now is to listen to the doctor's advice, take a good rest, and take good care of your body. You should try to heal sooner and become healthy again, but did you listen to the doctors? You didn't. And you even ignored my words! I told you that I was going for an eye examination and told you to rest when you should, but you refused to listen and insisted on waiting for me. When something bad happens to you, you aren't the only one who suffers. You are also causing concern among those who care about you! Don't you think you're being too selfish?"

Toby's thin lips twitched, wanting to say something.

Regardless of that, Sonia didn't give him a chance to speak as she continued, "Do you know how worried I was when I saw Tim in your ward after I came back yesterday? I was almost scared to death. Do you think I'm not upset? I haven't even settled that matter with you yet, but you beat me to it and started sulking. Yes, I came back late, and Tim came sooner than me, but why didn't you ask me why I came late? And what have I been through? All you do is sulk with me. When I try to coax you, you show your anger even more. Toby, don't expect me to tolerate your nasty temper just because you are a patient. I'm furious right now!"

She had her hands on her hips, her little face was flushed, and she was obviously exasperated at the b*stard.

Toby could move his hands now because he asked Tim not to inject him with lidocaine anymore to which the doctor agreed.

Besides not being able to get out of bed, he was allowed to move his hands and feet with minimal gestures.

Seeing how enraged Sonia was, Toby was also a little worried and scared.

After all, he had never seen her so angry ever since they got back together, especially when her anger was projected onto him.

After getting a dreadful scolding from her, he was no longer upset. Furthermore, he had to worry about whether she would ignore him after this.

Toby had already forgotten about his anger and only wanted to coax the woman and make her happy.

If she decided to leave in a fit of anger, then he would lose the pitiful 10 minutes he had to talk to her every day. He might cry at the mere thought of it.

With that, he tugged Sonia's sleeves gently.

Sonia looked down and shouted sternly, "What are you doing?"

Toby blinked his eyes, pursed his thin lips, and pouted. "I was wrong just now. Please don't be angry..."

Seeing him being pitiful and carefully apologizing to her, Sonia almost couldn't stifle a laugh.

However, to give the man a hard time this time and teach him a good lesson, she quickly suppressed her smile and pulled a cold face before pulling her sleeves away from his touch. "Don't touch me. Do you really think I have no temper?"

Toby stared at his empty hand with a slightly startled expression and grabbed her sleeve again.

Sonia knew he would do that, so after pulling out her sleeve, she didn't place her arm elsewhere but merely put it in the same position as before so that he could pull it again without moving too much.

"It's all my fault. It really is, so please don't be angry, will you? I swear not to do it again." Toby tugged Sonia's sleeve, but his fingers kept sliding down until he finally took her hand.

Sonia glanced at him without shaking him off. "Hmm? You finally realize you're at fault?"

"Yeah." Toby nodded.

"Really?"

"Really." Toby acted like an obedient little child who answered every question.

Nonetheless, Sonia's expression remained unchanged as she looked at him indifferently. "Tell me what you did wrong then."

Toby parted his thin lips slightly and replied, "I shouldn't be upset with you. I should have listened to your words and taken good care of my body."

After he said that, Sonia's expression finally eased. "So, you do know what your mistakes are."

Toby's thin lips twitched as he muttered, "If I still couldn't get what I did wrong after you said all those things, you might ignore me forever."

Sonia smiled. "It's good that you're self-aware of that. You're right, if you answered wrongly, I was going to give you the cold shoulder for some time to make you realize that you can't have things your way all the damn time. Got it?"

"Got it," Toby hummed.

Sonia clenched his hand tightly, and her expression softened completely. Then, she brought his hand to her face and rubbed his palm. "Don't feel upset after I scolded you, okay? I'm just trying to make you realize the importance of your health."

"I know." Toby's fingers wiggled a little as he caressed her cheeks. "I'm sorry for making you worry last night."

"Now that you know how worried I am, I hope you don't do it again in the future. I know you are insecure, but don't overthink it. I will always be there for you, and something must have happened if I am not there for you or if I arrive late. I promise to never leave you, okay?"

She looked at him sincerely.

Toby nodded slightly. "Okay."

Sonia beamed at that. "All is well, then. From now on, you must take your health seriously, or I can't always be here with you since I have other matters to settle and will end up worrying about you all the time. You don't want me to feel that way, do you?"

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Toby shook his head. Of course, he didn't want her to feel that way!

Seeing that, Sonia bent over and kissed him on the forehead. "That's right, and here's your reward."

His thin lips curled up, obviously satisfied with the reward.

After she kissed him on the forehead, he quickly put his arms around her to keep her from standing up straight.

Sonia was momentarily startled before she realized that the b*stard would push his luck again. Her mouth twitched at the corner in despair as she moaned, "Toby, what are you doing? Let me go."

She was afraid to make sudden movements or pull his arms away for fear of tearing Toby's surgical wound. However, tearing the surgical wound was a trivial matter, but if it affected his heart, it would be a problem.

Since she had no other option, she had no choice but to lie down in his arms and request him to let her go. On the other hand, he knew she dared not move, so he hugged her with peace of mind.

"I'm not going to let you go. I haven't hugged you in a while, so allow me to hug you longer this time." Then, he took a deep breath while nestled against Sonia's neck.

Soon, the faint scent of the woman's body caused Toby to close his eyes and embrace her even more tightly.

When Sonia saw the man behaving in such a manner, she couldn't help but feel amused and sympathetic for him. She gave him a gentle pat on the shoulder and said, "We can only hug for a short time, okay? So, when the time is up, you must release me. It would be extremely embarrassing if the nurse came over and saw us in this state."

Then, he murmured his assent with a hum.

Therefore, shebent over and allowed him to hug her. On the other hand, she was in a position that made her feel uncomfortable because she couldn't lie on top of him. After all, doing so would risk tearing his wound and putting pressure on his heart.

Hence, Sonia propped herself up by resting her two arms against Toby's side to prevent her body from coming into contact with his. Consequently, she quickly became exhausted because she had to exert force with her two arms and her two legs. Even her spine was stretched out and tightened to the point where it was uncomfortable. Soon, she started to experience pain in her waist.

However, she had no intention of disclosing her discomfort to the man. Anyway, he wouldn't be able to hug her for long, so there was no point in telling him that. Instead, she let him hug her for as long as he wanted. After all, he'd spent days in the hospital bed, looking pathetic. Since there was nothing he could do, she reasoned that the best she could do for him was to hug and try to comfort him.

As promised, Toby let go of Sonia when their time was up.

When she felt his arm gradually release her, she could finally straighten her posture. Since she had leaned for too long, she heard her spine's distinct cracking sound when she finally stood up. She grimaced in response to the discomfort, but to prevent Toby from noticing and placing blame on himself, she quickly gathered her composure and smiled at him. "Not bad. There was no refusal to release me at the end of the allotted time. Good job!"

She praised him with her thumb.

Toby smirked and said, "I understand that if I refused to let you go, you would never let me hug you again."

"So, you're being obedient to hug me next time?" His remark elicited a frown from Sonia.

Toby nodded noncommittally. That was precisely what he had in mind.

Then, she chuckled dryly and commented, "Oh, you are so crafty!"

Even though Toby wanted to hug her, Sonia was uncomfortable. What will happen to my waist if he continues to hug me while I'm bending over? However, seeing the expectant look in the man's eyes as he blinked, she could not reject him. Forget it. I can't bear to deny him with that expression on his face. It is merely waist pain, and in terms of discomfort, I cannot compare myself to him, who had to spend the entire day in bed.

"Fine. As long as you listen to me, receive your treatment, and stop the behavior that made us worry last night. I promise to hug you every day," she assured him.

Toby felt instantly energized after hearing that. "What about another kiss? Instead of kissing the cheeks or forehead, kiss my lips." Following that, he pointed at his lips.

Sonia was rendered speechless. "Greedy brat. I already promised to hug you every day, and you're trying to ask for kisses now? Dream on, Toby Fuller. If you asked me to kiss you on the forehead or cheeks, I might agree easily, but you're asking me to kiss your lips! Do you think I don't know what you're up to? What if you are washed over by your desire and begin moving when you should stay in bed and rest? Don't even think about it and put away your unrealistic thoughts."

As a reaction to what she said, he pouted. In fact, he had been prepared for her to reject him, but he had never imagined that she would agree to kiss him on the cheek or forehead. As he anticipated her rejection if he asked for kisses, he decided to go for broke and requested that she kiss his lips. Who knew that would happen?

Toby was aggrieved with his earlier effort. If he had known that Sonia would agree to kiss his forehead or cheek, he wouldn't have teased her and told her that he was content with kisses on the forehead or cheek every day. What about now? He only managed to get a hug every day and nothing else.

"Can I change my request?" He reached for her and looked at her expectantly. "I don't want a proper kiss on the lips anymore. Can I get kisses on the cheeks or the forehead instead?" he asked cautiously.

If the other party was soft-hearted, they would definitely agree immediately.

On the other hand, she was determined not to let him have his way. "No."

Then, she made the cross sign with both of her arms. "You are always greedy for more. Once I agree to one of your requests, you will take advantage of it and push your way forward and throw me another request. To break your bad habit, I will not grant any of your requests at this time. Don't you dare use those sad eyes and aggrieved expressions to attack me! I will not give in to your tricks."

Toby's eyelids drooped as he exuded an aura of disappointment and despair.

Sonia stood beside his hospital bed and looked at him coldly. "Don't give me that look. I won't agree anyway."

"Can't we negotiate?" He wasn't ready to give up yet.

Then, Sonia grinned at him and said, "Of course... Not!"

Nonetheless, Toby was exasperated, and he wasn't putting on an act when Sonia rejected him. It dawned on him that she was serious at that moment and that she would not budge no matter what he said or did. Soon, he was submerged in a sea of melancholy.

However, her lips parted involuntarily as she looked at him. Why does he appear so dejected because I did not grant his request? Why is he behaving so coquettishly after becoming ill? Then, she rubbed her forehead, feeling slightly dumbfounded. Understandably, sick people have a terrible reputation for being the most annoying. This b*stard is behaving exactly as described!

"Okay." With a sigh, she reached out her hand to shake his. "Be good. Maybe I will consider giving you another reward like today."

In his downcast eyes, a gleam of light flashed instantly. "Really?"

"Yes." She nodded and continued, "I'm telling the truth, but the premise is that you must be good, and I'm in a good mood."

"I'll be good!" Toby nodded fervently.

Sonia smiled and uttered, "Great, then. It's time for me to leave now." She told the man after noticing the nurse entering the ward.

The light in Toby's eyes disappeared in an instant.

Then, she uttered helplessly, "Stop acting like that. I will stay outside to accompany you all day today, but I can't get in close contact with you like now. I'll head out first, okay?"

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Sonia walked out of the ward after tucking Toby in the bed. As she was leaving, she glanced back and was unsurprised to meet the man's loving eyes. In retrospect, their situation was slightly ironic. So, when the man got sick, he became more vulnerable and looked like a helpless child who couldn't bear to be separated from his parents. Then, she gave the man a friendly wave and a smile while sitting on the outside bench. Soon, the reluctance in his eyes dissipated when the man saw that she had sat down instead of leaving.

A while later, Tom dropped by to fill Toby in on what was happening at work. In addition to that, he also updated Toby on the progress of Miles hypnotizing Harry Lore.

However, Sonia was unable to overhear their conversation and waited patiently outside. Eventually, when Tom came out, he would report it to her.

It wasn't long before ten minutes had passed, and he rushed out from the ward. Before she could inquire, he stopped in front of her and greeted, "Hello, Miss Reed."

"Didn't Mr. Snyder come to the hospital?" she inquired.

Tom readjusted his glasses and replied, "Mr. Snyder is in the hospital, but he didn't come over. He went to pick up Mr. Quentin Snyder's heart and is planning to bring it back to their hometown after collecting it."

"I see." Sonia nodded in acknowledgment and asked, "Will he still come to the hospital in the future?"

"Yes, he will," he replied. "Tina hasn't been caught yet. Mr. Snyder already knew that Tina harmed Mr. Quentin Snyder, so he asked us to notify him after we caught her. He will definitely come over again."

"That makes sense." Then, she sighed and continued, "It is a fact that Tina killed his brother. Although he may not be able to feel family affection, their family hood will inspire resentment and vengeance toward the person responsible for his brother's death."

"You're right," Tom sighed. "After I made initial contact with Mr. Snyder and informed him about it, he remained silent on the phone for an extended period. After a while, when the name Tina was mentioned, his tone was noticeably more hostile than before. It demonstrates that he is not devoid of human emotions, but rather reacts indifferently to them."

"That's the same case with Tim." Sonia smiled and added, "Although he is a Deficient Emotional Self-Regulation patient who cannot feel emotions, I know they aren't completely emotionless. They merely don't know their emotions are controlling them. The fact that Miles resents the murderer who killed his brother means he has emotions projected onto his family. Meanwhile, Tim always looks after me because I saved him from drowning once when we were young. That is enough proof that he is also a man with emotions who has gratitude and prioritizes friendship."

Following that, he nodded in agreement.

Meanwhile, Tim, who wanted to approach them from the nearby corner, was taken aback by Sonia's sudden reference to him and quickly retreated. As it turns out, she does not see me as some emotionless monster but rather as a human being who possesses emotions. Then, he looked at his hands and grinned, sensing his heart pumping with excitement rather than sitting there like a pool of stagnant water. This must be the joy and excitement that people often talk about—being recognized and accepted by others.

Tim looked over at Sonia, then Tom, and silently walked away. He wanted to go back and sort out his emotions while keeping track of all the changes brought on by these new feelings. Then, he might gain a deeper understanding of the human emotional spectrum.

On the other hand, Sonia was unaware that Tim was nearby. So, when she had finished talking about him, she looked at Tom and switched to a serious topic. "Did Harry tell the truth?"

In response, he immediately nodded in excitement. "Of course! No one can resist Mr. Snyder's hypnotism. After he was hypnotized, Harry truthfully confessed when the police interrogated him. He was indeed the one who killed Professor Randall."

Even though they had known the answer for a long time, she could not help but take a deep breath when it was confirmed.

"I recall Harry and Professor Randall are both mentees of the same mentor. I still can't believe he killed his friend." Sonia let out a sigh.

What had become of humanity?

"That's right, the two are indeed fellow mentees and have similar talents in economics. However, the mentors usually preferred Professor Randall because he had a good character. Harry was obviously more cunning and had always been envious of Professor Randall. Still, Harry was good at hiding his feelings. Before President Fuller chose Professor Randall as his mentor, Harry did not make a move on his fellow friend. After all, Professor Randall was an ordinary professor with a family background less superior to Harry's. Hence, while Harry was jealous of his friend, he also had a sense of superiority to look down on Professor Randall. It wasn't until President Fuller chose Professor Randall as his mentor that Harry completely lost his cool."

"Because if Toby had chosen Professor Randall, he would gain the support of Toby and the Fullers, and his reputation would rise even higher. Therefore, Harry will be disregarded as time goes on," Sonia added.

Tom sighed and explained, "That's right. Since Harry was aware of that, his jealousy of Professor Randall grew. Therefore, when Harry knew that none of the Lores' descendants had the power to reunite the Lores, he was even more troubled. Soon, he devised the plan to overthrow Professor Randall and became President Fuller's mentor. With President Fuller as a mentee, even if the descendants of the Lores were not successful, they could rely on President Fuller and the Fullers to prosper. Facts have proved that Harry was right. If the Lores hadn't grown arrogant over the years and meddled in President Fuller's relationship issues, they wouldn't have angered President Fuller. The latter would have helped them, and they could still enjoy freedom under President Fuller's protection. Moreover, President Fuller would not even consider investigating the truth about Professor Randall's death."

"That means bad people always deserve bad endings. They can try to cover up their past bad acts, but eventually, those acts will come to light. This is called retribution," Sonia uttered coldly.

Tom continued, "According to Harry, he didn't want to kill Professor Randall. He merely wanted to hurt Professor Randall, so he couldn't attend the mentee appointment ceremony. By doing that, Harry would have a chance to take President Fuller in as his mentee. So, he had everything planned out for that. He placed banana peels outside Professor Randall's office, thinking that after the latter stepped on the banana peels and fell, he would be in a coma or hospitalized. However, Harry never foresaw that the fall would end Professor Randall's life."

"Everything in this world is so unpredictable that nothing goes as planned. Even if it is roughly in line with one's expectations, there will be some deviations. Even a slight change in circumstances will dramatically alter the nature of the situation. Harry claimed he simply wanted to injure Professor Randall and never intended to kill him, but did he not consider the possibility that Randall could die? After all, Professor Randall wasn't young anymore. Harry probably considered it, but counted on his good fortune and perseverance, so he went ahead with his plan anyway."

"I knew it! It turned out to be what I expected."

Tom nodded. "After Professor Randall's death, Harry took swift action to erase any lingering signs of his presence and contacted the investigating police chief. Since the police chief was a close family of the Lores, the investigation into Professor Randall's untimely death was swiftly wrapped up and ruled as an accident. This case would not have been closed so quickly if a different police chief had been in charge. Perhaps, the truth about Professor Randall's death would have been revealed, and Harry would have been arrested by now."

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Sonia let out a sigh. "Even though years have passed, it is not too late. Harry is still alive, and his age qualifies him for questioning and criminal investigation. He should still pay the price for his evil deeds."

"Yeah." Tom agreed with her statement. "I told President Fuller about this, and he echoed your sentiments."

"Has Harry been brought to the police station?" she asked.

"Yes, after the hypnosis ended yesterday, Harry knew that he had confessed everything and could not resist, so he didn't try to defend himself anymore. He was willingly taken away by the police. Moreover, the police were aware of his past contributions to the country's economy, so they made no public spectacle out of his detention. This can be viewed as maintaining his final dignity."

"What about the close family member who assisted him back then?"

Tom pushed up the bridge of his glasses and responded, "The police chief retired three years ago. He probably realized that he was doing something for personal gain and that he would never be able to keep it a secret for the rest of his life. Therefore, he moved abroad and changed his nationality."

"Changed his nationality?" Sonia was taken aback when she heard that.

Suddenly, his face was painted with disdain. "Even though he is no longer a citizen, the laws he violated while he was a citizen still apply. So, the police will continue their investigation even though he has changed his nationality. The police have contacted the embassy, and they will work to arrange for his return from that country. Rest assured, Miss Reed."

"That will be great." Then, Sonia showed her understanding of the situation with a slight nod. "However, what type of punishment will Harry receive?" "Given his age, it is implausible that he will face the death penalty or life in prison. Therefore, he will probably serve no more than ten years in prison at the most." Tom continued mockingly, "For an old man like Harry who thinks highly of himself and has strong self-esteem, one year is enough to drive him crazy, not to mention ten years. Furthermore, his health is deteriorating rapidly, so he might pass away in prison before the ten-year mark."

Hence, whether or not Harry would be sentenced to death or life imprisonment didn't make a difference.

Then, Sonia ran her fingers through her hair. "I see. In other words, except for some distant relatives, the entire Lore Family is either headed for prison or is already there."

"On the other hand, Mrs. Lore is still free. After a discussion, the police had no intention of arresting her because she did not commit any of the crimes and was not fully aware of them. On the contrary, her husband evaded taxes and committed commercial espionage. With such a large sum of money at stake, he will likely receive a prison term of more than ten years."

She sneered and commented, "It's no secret that the Lore Family is filled with worthless people. The grandfather was a murderer, the son evaded taxes and was involved in commercial espionage, and the granddaughter was charged with intentional homicide. They are undoubtedly related."

"Exactly." Tom shrugged and said, "There is no way for Harry ever to be released from jail. However, Mr. Lore should be able to hold out until he is released from prison, though by the time he does, he will be around 70 years old. Mrs. Lore could either wait for him or remarry by then. Who knows for sure? Regarding Lynette, she is unquestionably going to be given a death sentence. Consequently, the Lores may soon cease to exist."

"We don't have to sympathize with them. They are simply paying the price for their brazenly committed crimes."

"Correct." As he nodded, he glanced at his watch. "It's getting late now, Miss Reed. I'm going to see Mr. Miles Snyder and take him to the airport."

"Sure. Go on, then."

"Alright. Miss Reed, please look after President Fuller. If you need anything, you can call me at any time." Following that, Tom gave Sonia a quick nod before walking away.

She watched as his figure faded into the distance before averting her gaze and looking into the ward, where she made eye contact with the man and saw the resentment in his eyes. Instantaneously, she could tell the b*stard was envious. Toby's jealous expression was etched into his face after he saw how long she had been talking to Tom.

Sonia found his reaction humorous, so she jotted down some positive things she knew would make him feel better and posted them on the board. The current iteration of Toby was a child who acted immaturely and required constant coaxing, or else he would become irate at even the most minor thing. Soon, her encouraging words on the clipboard helped lift his spirits, and the resentment in his eyes faded. When she saw that, she shook her head helplessly and couldn't help but laugh.

A week passed in the blink of an eye, and Toby was transferred from the intensive care unit to the general ward. Moreover, Sonia was no longer required to wait outside the hospital ward daily, nor was she restricted to a ten-minute time limit to accompany him. Nevertheless, she could remain at his side and talk to him anytime, day or night, for as long as she desired. That was the best news she had received during that period. Similarly, his overall physical and mental vitality increased after being transferred from the intensive care unit.

Meanwhile, the past few days have been filled with several events that have followed one another. First, Lynette was transferred to the circuit courts in the Acrees case. From a legal standpoint, it makes no sense for her to appear in court so quickly. Due to the complicated nature of the processes, they estimated that it would take at least six months to get her ready for court. In fact, it would take at least two years to resolve the most significant cases.

Since she was transferred to the circuit courts in less than a month, they must have bypassed several procedures. It was not the court's oversight but rather a deliberate directive from higher-ups. They skipped some legal procedures and sent her straight to the circuit courts because her crimes were so heinous that they outraged the country's wealthy and influential people.

In the eyes of the general public, Lynette was a rotten apple that brought the rest of the barrel's reputation into disrepute. Consequently, their companies were in disarray for some time. It also prompted higher-ups to increase the scrutiny placed on their companies, making their lives even more difficult. Hence, they all felt nothing but pure hatred for her.

Moreover, the public outcry and the pressure of the wealthy in concert made it so that the higher-ups were under significant pressure. As a result, in order to quell public outrage, the higher-ups convened a series of meetings before deciding to disregard specific procedures. They decided to transfer her to the circuit courts and execute the verdict quickly to explain it to the public.

Therefore, it should not be surprising that she was given the death penalty for her crimes. Soon, when the verdict was reached, it was posted to the court's website and met with widespread netizens' praise. However, she was dissatisfied with the ruling and decided to file an appeal.

Lynette was unable to comprehend the verdict because she had committed no wrongdoing. In addition, she was merely advising the fisherman, assisting him in overcoming obstacles, and she did not drive a car to kill the Acrees. So, how could she be the mastermind and be sentenced to death?

She believed that as long as she did not commit the murder by her own hand, it would not be considered murder, and she should not have ended up in that situation. As a result, she insisted on filing an appeal, and the court granted her request.

However, everyone except Lynette knew that the second trial would not affect the verdict. Ultimately, she would be forced to come to terms with her impending execution because the ruling from the first trial would be upheld.

Knowing that she intended to file an appeal did not provoke any particularly hostile responses from netizens beyond the expected level of disdain. Nevertheless, she would be subject to the same repercussions regardless of how persuasively she argued her case.

On the other hand, Mrs. Lore became so overwhelmed by the news of Lynette's firstinstance verdict that she fainted in the courtroom. According to rumors that circulated, she allegedly suffered a stroke and was in a coma in a small hospital.

As for Harry and Grayson, the police took their sweet time to sort out their crimes and evidence.

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In any case, when the allotted time had passed, Harry and Grayson would be brought before the judge, and they would no longer be able to escape. Furthermore, it would still not be tardy for them to appear in court. After Lynette's second trial, they would likely make court appearance arrangements for the father and son. After all, everyone in the Lore Family was a criminal; the higher-ups became enraged and wanted to wipe out the family as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, Toby's subordinates broke the news to Grayson that Lynette had been given a death sentence, but Toby had no intention of telling Harry. After all, Harry was an elderly man, and if he found out what her granddaughter's verdict was, he might not be able to take the news and pass out, which would result in his death.

However, death wasn't necessarily good news, but it would be a relief for him to avoid serving his sentence. Hence, those seeking justice for Professor Randall would be aggrieved because Harry's sudden death without any due punishment could not be

viewed as retribution for Professor Randall. Consequently, Toby chose not to inform Harry.

On the other hand, Harry most likely was aware of what was in store for him, and he had been making a fuss about seeing Toby because he had something to tell him. However, Toby had no intention of seeing him. Even if he wanted to, Sonia would not permit it.

With his current state of health, Toby couldn't even take one step out of the hospital. So, how was he supposed to meet Harry? In addition, Harry was a criminal, so what difference did it make if Toby met him or not? Even if Harry had something to say, what importance could it have? At most, he would plead for Toby to rescue him.

That was what Toby thought, and coupled with his complex hatred for Harry, he promptly declined when Tom told him that Harry wanted to see him. Regardless, Harry was tenacious, and even though Toby refused to see him, he insisted on trying his luck every day. He persisted for three days before giving up when he realized Toby would not meet him.

Soon, another week passed in a blink of an eye. Sonia decided to return to work at Paradigm. After all, she had been away from Paradigm for too long. Although Rita would report to her about work daily, working remotely wasn't as efficient as direct management.

The reason why she made such a decision was that Toby was recovering. Moreover, he could sit straight and could handle the documents brought by Tom for an hour or two every day instead of lying in the hospital bed all day long.

Moreover, Toby was aware that Paradigm was still in its early stages of development. Therefore, Sonia was required to manage company affairs, particularly the factory fire that had yet to be investigated.

She had to return to Paradigm and hold a meeting to give the shareholders and senior management an answer on the follow-ups for the plant. After all, the plant was burned down. Even though they had regrouped the bricklayers, construction team, and plumbers, they still had to discuss the next operation date.

When Toby heard her proposal to return to work, he agreed quickly, even though he was reluctant to let her go. Sonia assured him that she would visit him every night after work, and they would still be together every day, so he saw no reason to reject her. So, on that particular day, she bid farewell to him, left the hospital, and returned to Paradigm.

Learning that she was returning to work, Rita told the company to hold a small welcome ceremony. Even though the ceremony was modest and straightforward, Sonia was

grateful for them. The fact that her employees held a welcome ceremony spontaneously showed how much they cherished their boss.

"Thank you so much, everyone." After thanking everyone happily, Sonia dismissed them so they could return to their posts, carrying a bouquet in her arms

At that moment, someone was in her office. The man was sitting behind her desk with his head lowered as he processed some documents. Hearing the sound of the door opening, the man raised his head, revealing a handsome face. He turned out to be Charles Lane.

"You're back." Seeing Sonia coming in with flowers in her arms, he put down his pen, got up, and walked over to greet her with a smile.

Then, she nodded and said, "Yeah. I'm finally back. Thanks for handling the work for me, Charles."

If she had not temporarily delegated management of Paradigm to Charles, she would have returned to a mountain of work. Even in the hospital, she would not be able to care for Toby with peace of mind, as she would have to care for him daily while taking calls from Rita.

She was grateful to Charles because, during that time, she could relax without being disturbed. So, when she returned, she was not greeted with any overwhelming work that needed to be completed.

"Nah. It's just a small matter. Lane Corporation has recently undergone a reformation, so I have lots of free time to help you manage the company. Treat it as me trying to fill up my boredom." Then, he poured her a glass of water and continued, "What about you? You've been away for quite a long time, haven't you?"

Sonia grabbed the glass and sat down on the couch. At that moment, she was parched, so she took a sip of water before responding, "Yeah. I just went with Toby to gain some knowledge. I didn't expect it would take so long."

"It's all good now that you're back. So, how was the trip?" Charles sat down opposite her and asked.

She put down the water glass, her eyes flickered, and she replied casually, "Not bad. It was an eye-opener."

"Sounds great. It is useful for your future management of Paradigm."

"Yeap." Sonia nodded.

Charles looked at her and asked, "By the way, why didn't you tell me in advance that you were coming back? I could've picked you up at the airport, but you suddenly returned. I didn't even know you were back until this morning. You seem to be in good spirits, though. Aren't you jet-lagged?"

Then, she lowered her eyelids guiltily and responded, "No, I've been back for two days. I suffered from jet lag for a day or two, but I'm feeling refreshed and don't feel exhausted. I didn't tell you I was returning because I knew you would insist on picking me up, but I didn't want to bother you too much, so I chose to keep my return a secret."

"I see." He nodded, but he didn't doubt her. "What about Toby? Is he back too?"

"Nope." She shook her head and said, "He's going to stay there a little longer."

"Pfft." Charles pursed his lips in disdain. "Did that brat willingly let you come home alone? I thought he'd stick to you like gum and return to the country with you. I'm surprised that he's still abroad, though. Seems like there's nothing to shout about him, after all."

Sonia chuckled. "Well, he was quite reluctant to send me off, but he knows that I value Paradigm, so he respects me and lets me return."

She found Toby cute at the thought of him being unwilling to part with her this morning, looking as if he had been abandoned but he had suppressed his intentions to stop her from leaving.

Seeing her expression, Charles knew that she must be imagining Toby's face again, so he couldn't help but roll his eyes. "Okay, that's enough. My eyes hurt looking at you all smitten over him. Since you have returned, I will hand over responsibility for the company to you and return to my place."

Following that, he left to tidy his stuff.

Sonia got up and followed behind him, remembering what the detective had told her. Hence, she parted her lips and hesitated to speak. She wanted to ask him straightforwardly if he locked Daphne up and what he was up to. Still, when the words came to her lips, she couldn't ask any questions. She didn't know how to word it, fearing that he would be enraged if she asked.

Seemingly sensing something wrong with her behind him, Charles turned around just in time to see her biting her lip. Thus, he asked in puzzlement, "What's wrong?"

Suddenly, she squeezed out a smile and uttered, "Charles, you-"

"Yeah?" He waited for her to say something.

Sonia took a deep breath and continued, "Well, I wanted to ask you something. Did you—"

Before she could finish her sentence, however, his phone rang.

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Left with no choice, Sonia could only stifle her words and wait for Charles to hang up the call. Two minutes later, Charles' expression changed as he appeared apprehensive. "I got it. I'm heading over right now."

The next instant, he turned around to leave without even packing up his stuff. Sonia called out to him, "What's wrong, Charles?"

Charles stopped in his tracks, for he suddenly remembered that Sonia was still around. He hurriedly said, "I'm in a hurry, Sonny, so I'll take my leave now. Please help me pack up everything and ask someone to send it to my company. Alright, I have to get going now."

Following that, he dashed out of the office. Sonia had just raised her hand to stop him when he disappeared in a rush. She put down her hand, feeling helpless. In the end, she still couldn't tell him what she wanted to say. She let out a sigh. I'll talk to him about it when we meet again, then.

After stroking her forehead, she walked up to Charles' desk and helped him pack up his stuff. He didn't have many things, so everything could be stuffed into a box.

Sonia then told Lina to come in and asked her to get someone to send the box to Lane Corporation later. Lina agreed to it and picked up the box. However, instead of leaving, she stared fixedly at Sonia.

Knowing what she wanted to ask, Sonia smiled helplessly. "I'm sorry. I didn't get to ask him about it as he left in a hurry after answering a call. We'll have to wait until next time."

"I see." Lina sighed dejectedly. "There was nothing you could do anyway."

Sonia consoled her, saying, "Don't worry, I'll get to the bottom of it."

Lina nodded and left the place with the box. As Sonia looked around the empty office, she felt lonely all of a sudden. Then, she sat down on the chair and sent a message to Toby, telling him that she had started work.

Before she left home in the morning, Toby had asked her to do so. He insisted that she had to send him a message when she started working so that he could rest assured. She had to let him know that she had arrived at the company safely.

It went to show that the previous incident had traumatized him. Now, he no longer let the bodyguards follow her in secret. Instead, they directly followed behind her car so that they could always protect her.

Presently, the two bodyguards were standing in the lobby of Paradigm Co., waiting for her to get off work so that they could escort her to the hospital.

Despite that, Toby was still worried about her safety. She had to personally send him a message to tell him that she had arrived at the company. Otherwise, he could never set his mind at ease even though the bodyguards already informed him that they had successfully sent her to the company.

In fact, Toby had been waiting to hear from her. The instant he received the message, he gave her a call and questioned, "Why did you only send me a message now? The bodyguards informed me about your arrival 30 minutes ago."

Hearing the displeasure in the man's voice, Sonia hurriedly said with a smile, "I'm sorry. I was held up by something."

"What was it?" he asked.

Sonia didn't intend to hide it from him, so she told him that she talked with Charles.

Hearing that, Toby snorted. "Why did you even talk to him for so long? You should have dismissed him and got him to leave."

Sonia rolled her eyes. "He's helped me manage the company for a long time. It would've been inappropriate if I just dismissed him. It's as if I've abandoned him after making use of him."

"So what if that's the case?" Toby shrugged.

Torn between tears and laughter, Sonia decided not to dwell on this topic. After drinking some water, she asked caringly, "How are you feeling today?"

After a moment of silence, Toby replied, "Not good."

Sonia hurriedly put down the cup and asked anxiously, "What do you mean? What happened? Do you feel any discomfort in your heart?"

Hearing her anxious voice, Toby felt guilty and coughed. "No."

"What's wrong, then?" Sonia scowled. "You have to tell me why you're feeling unwell. Don't make me worry." She was ready to head to the hospital.

Toby parted his lips and replied, "I'm not feeling unwell. It's just that I feel terrible when you're not by my side."

In an instant, Sonia fell silent. Noticing her silence, Toby felt his heart skipping a beat. "Are you mad, Little Leaf?" he asked cautiously.

Sonia sneered. "You know I'm mad, huh? Do you know it's annoying when you keep me on tenterhooks?"

Toby stroked his nose and fell silent as he realized he was in the wrong.

A helpless Sonia sighed. "Toby, you should feel fortunate that you're sick; that's why I can still put up with your pranks. Otherwise, I would've ignored you. Stop scaring me again, will you? I was worried something was wrong with your heart again, then you told me such nonsense."

She was so apprehensive earlier that her soul almost left her body. To her chagrin, the man had only pulled a prank on her. Therefore, it was only natural that she was mad.

"I'm sorry. Please don't get mad at me," Toby apologized once more.

Sonia snorted. "Alright, I'm hanging up now since I still have work to do. I'll teach you a lesson in the evening." Then, disregarding what the man might feel, she directly hung up.

As Toby looked at his phone screen, he was stunned. He never expected the woman to hang up the call just like that.

Tom, who was sorting out some files for Toby, felt gleeful when he saw that. If I were Miss Reed, I would've been pissed off by President Fuller's actions too. All of us are concerned about his health, but he'd always scare us from time to time. That's annoying.

"President Fuller, I've sorted all the files. I'll bring them back to the company now." Tom rose from the chair.

Toby put down his phone and grunted. Then, Tom picked up the files and left the place. Following that, Tim came over and checked on him.

While sitting on the bed, Toby scowled with displeasure. As he looked at Tim, who was listening to his heartbeat with a stethoscope, he asked impatiently, "When am I going to be discharged?"

Tim shot him a glance and kept his stethoscope. "Be patient. It'll be another month at the very least."

"Another month?!" Toby widened his eyes in disbelief as his expression darkened. He was visibly displeased because of how much longer he had to stay in the hospital.

Tim went through the man's medical record and said, "Of course. Do you think it's a minor operation and that you can be discharged whenever you want? We've estimated that it'll take you one month to recuperate based on your current health. To be honest, if you had been any weaker, it would've taken you two to three months before you'd be allowed to go home. Just stay right here."

Toby pressed his lips into a line.

While updating Toby's medical record, Tim said, "Don't look so displeased. It's not like I'm the one who caused your heart disease."

Toby was rendered speechless.

"Alright, the examination is over, and you're fine. Just get some rest here." Tim kept his pen and was ready to leave.

"Wait a minute," Toby called out to him.

Tim stopped in his tracks. "What's wrong?"

"Is Titus still in the hospital?" Toby asked with narrowed eyes.

Tim replied, "His wife still hasn't given up on him yet, and she refuses to get her husband discharged. We've done our best to persuade her, but she insists that as long as her husband is still alive, there will be hope. She's been asking all the doctors here to save her husband."

'That's naive of her." Toby put on a sneer.

Tim adjusted his glasses. "They're your in-laws, after all. It's inappropriate for—"

Toby shot him a glare.

Tim shrugged. "Fine, forget what I said. Why are you even asking about it?"

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"I want you to get them to leave the hospital by today. I don't want Little Leaf to see them again," Toby said, his expression impassive.

As long as Titus and his wife were still in the hospital, they remained a ticking time bomb. Therefore, Toby had to chase them away as soon as possible.

Tim adjusted his glasses again. "Got it. I'll try my best. Is there anything else?"

In response, Toby shook his head. Then, Tim left for Titus' ward at once.

At this moment, Titus was lying in bed. He was so skinny that he no longer looked like a human. It was as though he was a skeleton wrapped with human skin, which was terrifying.

Julia was seated by the bed as she sobbed and wiped Titus' body clean. At the same time, she kept saying that he would survive. Although her words were moving, the reality was cruel.

Even the doctors couldn't guarantee Titus' life, so how could someone like her, who had zero medical background whatsoever, make such a claim?

Standing outside the ward, Tim knocked on the door. "Mrs. Gray."

Hearing his voice, Julia quickly got to her feet and said, "You're finally here, Dr. Lancaster. Are you here to save Titus?" She clasped her hands together and looked expectantly at him.

Tim leaned against the door frame and replied, "Mrs. Gray, I have no idea why you think my presence here means there's hope for Mr. Gray. All the doctors have already told you there's no way Mr. Gray will recover, so there's no point in saving him. Even if there's a suitable kidney, he won't be able to get off the operating table alive. As such, I hope you'll wake up to reality. Rather than letting Mr. Gray stay in the hospital and experiencing such torment, you should bring him home and let him spend the rest of his days happily."

Julia became agitated as tears slid down her cheeks the instant he finished speaking. She barked, "Stop spouting nonsense! What do you mean that he'll never recover? You're a doctor, so how can you say something like that? Aren't you supposed to never give up on any patient until the very last moment? As relatives, we still haven't given up on him, so how can a doctor like you stop trying to save him?"

"Mrs. Gray, you'll never give up because you're his relative, and it's only natural that you want him to survive. However, I'm not his relative. As a doctor, I can look at this matter with rationality, and I know when I should give up on a patient and when not to. Mr. Gray is in a terrible condition, and the longer he stays in the hospital, the more torment he'll have to go through. I'm just trying to help him, so I'm persuading you to get him

discharged. That way, he won't feel bored in the hospital, and when he returns home, he'll spend the rest of his days doing what he loves."

"You..." Julia glared at Tim as though she couldn't believe that a doctor would say such cruel words.

Just then, the sound of stilettos clicking against the ground came from behind Tim. He turned around and saw Rina, whose eyes had turned red.

She stopped in front of Tim and stared fixedly at him. "Dr. Lancaster, I heard your conversation with my mom. You said that given his health condition, he'll probably never leave the operating table alive. Similarly, there's a small chance he'll survive, am I right?"

Tim replied nonchalantly, "The probability is less than 30 percent."

Rina bit her lip. "Thirty percent is indeed a small chance, but we can give it a try nonetheless. What if my dad survives? If we do nothing now, there would be zero chances of success."

"She has a point." Julia dipped her head.

Tim squinted his eyes. "Regardless, do you have a suitable kidney?"

The instant Julia heard his words, she turned from hopeful to despondent. With a pale face, she staggered and almost collapsed to the ground. He's right. Without a suitable kidney, everything we say is pointless even if Titus manages to hold out longer. At that moment, she sat back on the edge of the bed, appearing downcast.

On the other hand, Rina balled up her fists and lowered her head, falling into her thoughts.

Tim tucked his hands into the pockets of his white coat and said, "Alright, I've told you everything you need to know, and you should ponder on the rest. I'm asking you to get Mr. Gray discharged so that he feels better. I'm sure you don't want him to spend the rest of his days suffering in the hospital. Okay, I'll take my leave now. I'll come back later, and I hope you'll have decided by then." With that, he turned around and left.

Julia covered her face with her hands and bawled her eyes out. Meanwhile, Rina stood there with clenched fists. She glanced at Julia and shifted her attention to Titus, who was all skin and bones. As though having made a decision, she dashed out of the ward.

Startled by her actions for a moment, Julia soon ran after her. "Rina, where are you going?"

Rina stopped in her tracks but did not turn around as she replied, "I'm going to look for the person who can save dad."

"The person who can save your dad? Who is it?" Julia hurriedly asked.

Rina parted her lips and replied, "You'll find out soon, Mom. I'll get going now."

Following that, she left the hospital in a hurry. With a perplexed expression, Julia watched her go further away.

After that, Rina drove her car to Paradigm. On the way to her destination, she clenched the steering wheel, her eyes red.

If she had a choice, she would never want to look for Sonia, for that would mean her identity would be exposed. When that happened, she would lose everything. However, she couldn't bring herself to stand by and watch her father die.

She had never enjoyed parental love before; it wasn't until she became part of the Gray Family that she realized it felt wonderful and heart-warming to have parents. She longed for their love and warmth, so she would never want her identity to be exposed. Otherwise, she would lose everything that she currently enjoyed.

As such, she never wanted Sonia to meet up with her parents. Nevertheless, it had come to a point where she had no choice but to expose her identity to save her ailing father. She could never let her father die, after all.

Although everyone said that her father was a terrible person, to her, he was the best father in the world. She couldn't let the world's best father pass away, even if it meant he would no longer acknowledge her as his daughter.

While she was in her thoughts, she clenched her teeth. Soon, she arrived at Paradigm and parked her car before entering the lobby.

The receptionist called out to her, "Whom are you looking for, Miss?"

Rina stopped in her tracks. "I'm looking for President Reed." Then, she continued walking forward.

The receptionist hurriedly stopped her. "I'm sorry, Miss, but do you have an appointment? If you don't have one, I can't let you see her."

Rina frowned impatiently. "I don't have an appointment. Tell me what I have to do to see President Reed."

The receptionist replied with a smile, "Without an appointment, you won't be able to see President Reed. Unless she agrees to see you, I won't let you move forward." "Contact her and tell her that I'm looking for her, then. My name is Rina Gray," she urged while clenching her fists.

The receptionist nodded. "Alright, please give me a second." With that, she returned to the counter and picked up the phone before calling Sonia's office.

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Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again Chapter 1348

The instant Sonia left the meeting room, she heard the telephone on her desk ringing. After saying something to Lina, she went over and picked it up. "Hello?"

"President Reed," the receptionist called out to her. "There's someone who wants to see you."

"A person who wants to see me?" Sonia frowned. "Who is it?"

At this point, the receptionist had forgotten Rina's name, so she turned to look at her. An impatient Rina repeated her name. Then, the receptionist continued speaking to Sonia, who arched her brow and questioned, "Her? Did she say why she wants to see me?"

"She didn't." The receptionist shook her head. "Do you want to see her, President Reed?"

"No." Sonia rejected the request directly. "Tell her there's nothing to talk about between us, so she should get lost."

"Alright, President Reed." The receptionist nodded. After the call ended, she looked at Rina and said, "I'm sorry for making you wait, Miss Gray. However, President Reed said she has nothing to talk to you about, so she's not going to see you. I'm afraid you'll have to leave."

"Huh? She doesn't want to see me?" Rina couldn't accept it.

The receptionist kept a smile on her face. "Yes, Miss Gray. That was what President Reed said."

"How could she refuse to see me?" Rina yelled. "Did you even tell her that I'm here to see her?"

"Please stop pulling my leg, Miss Gray. You've been around all this while, so you must have heard what I said to President Reed. There's no way I didn't inform her about your

presence. She doesn't want to see you, so you'll have to leave." The receptionist then motioned for her to leave.

Rina said through clenched teeth, "What if I refuse to leave and insist on seeing President Reed?"

The smile on the receptionist's face disappeared. "Miss Gray, if you insist on staying here, the security guards at Paradigm are not some pushovers."

"You..." Rina didn't expect that the receptionist would threaten to chase her away with the security guards. At that instant, she was in a dilemma.

A smile reappeared on the receptionist's face. "Please leave, Miss Gray."

Rina glared at the receptionist and turned around to leave. The receptionist watched the woman leave and rolled her eyes before continuing with her work.

After leaving Paradigm Tower, Rina got into her car but didn't leave. Instead, she stared fixedly at the office building. She decided to wait for Sonia to get off work. Regardless, she had to see her on this day.

Unbeknownst to her, the moment she appeared in this place earlier, Toby was informed about her presence. He had no idea why Rina had gone to Paradigm to look for Sonia, but he reckoned that she was up to no good.

Given Titus' health condition, there was no doubt Rina wanted to see Sonia and talk about her father. In that case, she would most likely expose Sonia's true identity.

Toby pressed his lips together, then ordered coldly over the phone, "Get her to leave that place and make sure she won't have a chance to approach Sonia."

"Yes," the bodyguard replied. Then, he kept his phone and shuffled toward Rina's car before knocking on the window.

Rina rolled down the window. Thinking that it was probably a policeman trying to issue her a ticket for illegal parking, she glowered at the person and was ready to tell him off. To her surprise, the person wasn't a policeman. Instead, he was clad in a familiarlooking bodyguard's uniform. Her face paled in an instant. "You..."

She then realized that Toby's bodyguards had surrounded her vehicle. What are his bodyguards doing here?

"Miss Gray, why are you looking for Miss Reed?" The bodyguard stood outside the car and looked emotionlessly at her. Rina clenched the steering wheel and parted her lips, but she couldn't say anything. It wasn't like she could tell them she wanted to ask Sonia to save her father's life. She was certain that she would never live to see tomorrow's sun once she told them about her intention. While she didn't want her identity to be exposed, the crazy man named Toby wouldn't want that to happen either.

Seeing how Rina remained silent, the bodyguard urged, "Please answer my question, Miss Gray."

Rina hung her head low. "N-Nothing."

The bodyguard sneered. "Are you trying to say you've come all the way here for no particular reason? Miss Gray, I suggest that you be honest with us. It'll save both of us the trouble."

Rina bit her lip. "I told you there's nothing in particular that I want to do. Don't you get it? Go away. I'm leaving." With that, she was ready to roll up the window.

The bodyguard placed his hand on the glass, ensuring that she couldn't roll up the window. At the same time, another bodyguard rounded the car front and arrived at the driver's side before opening the door.

Rina exclaimed, "What are you trying to do?"

"We're not doing anything. We just want you to stay as far away from this place as possible."

Then, the bodyguard who opened the door earlier pulled Rina out of the vehicle and shoved her into the backseat. Following that, he got into the driver's seat and drove the car away.

Although Rina kept yelling and telling him to let her go, the bodyguard ignored her and sent her to the Gray Residence.

After getting out of the car, the bodyguard looked at Rina, who was glowering at him with reddened eyes. "You've arrived home, Miss Gray," he announced with a smile.

Rina was enraged. Indeed, she knew that she was home, but she didn't want to be there at this moment. However, she didn't dare to say such things to the bodyguard, so she could only suppress her resentment.

"Get in, Miss Gray. I hope you won't leave the house from now on, and your parents will be sent home by today. This way, the three of you will reunite," the bodyguard said.

Rina's expression changed. "What did you just say? Is Toby going to send my parents back?"

"Of course." The bodyguard nodded.

While clenching her fists, Rina stared furiously at the bodyguard. "It's Toby, right? It's his decision, right? He knows that my dad can't leave the hospital. My dad will probably pass away not long after he gets discharged. However, he still wants to get my dad to leave the hospital in a hurry. What is he trying to do? Has he ever considered the fact that my dad is Sonia's biological father as well as his future father-in-law?"

The bodyguard's face fell. "Please be careful with what you say, Miss Gray. I don't care if Mr. Gray has anything to do with President Fuller and Miss Reed. They had nothing to do with each other in the past, and it's not likely that they will be related in any way in the future. Regardless of what you say, it's pointless. Just stay in the house from now on. We'll get some people to keep an eye on you to make sure you won't have a chance to look for Miss Reed."

As soon as the bodyguard finished speaking, he turned around and left. Rina remained in the same spot as she yelled at him like a madwoman.

Ignoring her, the bodyguard hastened his pace. That woman is mad! Her high-pitched voice is piercing! He shuddered and started running before disappearing several moments later. When he arrived at the hospital, he reported to Toby about successfully sending Rina back to the Gray Residence.

Hearing that, Toby questioned with an impassive expression, "Have you found out why she went looking for Sonia?"

"I'm sorry. I forgot to ask." Knowing he had failed his mission, the bodyguard hung his head low.

All the same, Toby had no intention of blaming him. He waved his hand and said, "Go back to protect Little Leaf."

"Yes, President Fuller." The bodyguard nodded and turned around to leave.

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Toby rubbed the center of his eyebrows, then fished out his phone and made a call, which ended two minutes after it was connected. After putting down his phone, he looked at the screen and pressed his lips together.

In the afternoon, the doctors came together and persuaded Julia to get Titus discharged from the hospital.

Although Julia was reluctant, she couldn't possibly deal with so many people. In the end, she could only leave the hospital with Titus as she brought him home in tears.

When Rina saw that Titus had been sent back home, her mind turned blank as she couldn't believe that Toby was that merciless.

Although Dad has some grudges against the Reed Family, he's Sonia's biological father and his future father-in-law, after all. Even if Toby isn't willing to save Dad, he shouldn't have forced him out of the hospital. That's no different from killing him. It's very cruel of Toby.

As Rina listened to Julia's despondent cries coming from the room, she clenched her fists. At that moment, she decided that she had to escape from this place and look for Sonia, even if it meant sacrificing her life.

Although they have only been showering me with parental love because I'm 'Rina', they're good people and wonderful parents. In the past few months, I've truly felt the love they've given me. Therefore, I want to do something for them. However, how do I leave this place? As she looked around the spacious villa, she felt lost.

Meanwhile, Sonia had left Paradigm Tower as she drove her car to the hospital. Certainly enough, there was a black Mercedes G-Class following behind her. Inside the car seated the bodyguards that Toby had arranged for her.

The instant Sonia entered Toby's ward, she asked, "How are you feeling today?"

"Not bad." At her arrival, Toby smiled faintly and was ready to sit up.

Seeing that, Sonia quickly went over and stopped him. "Don't move. I'll help you."

When Toby saw her anxious expression, he decided to stop moving as he didn't want her to worry. Then, Sonia rolled the hand crank and lifted the upper half of the bed, allowing the man to sit up.

"It's done." Sonia tapped her palms and showed him the thermal flask she had brought with her. "I heard that bone broth with brown sugar is good for patients with heart disease, so I asked someone to buy me the ingredients, and I prepared the broth for you in the office today. I bumped into Tim earlier and asked him about it, and he's given you the green light to consume it. Why don't you give it a try?" She then poured him a bowl of broth.

As Toby glanced at the dark broth, his eyelids twitched. Just by looking at it, he knew that the broth tasted terrible and overly sweet.

However, as he met Sonia's expectant gaze, he could never bring himself to turn her down. As such, he scooped the broth with a spoon and gave it a try. In an instant, his

mouth was filled with an overwhelmingly sweet taste, which prompted him to close his eyes.

"What do you think?" Sonia asked.

Toby opened his eyes and forced a smile. "It's not bad."

If he had a choice, he would've told her it wasn't terrible; it was just overly sweet. He didn't have a sweet tooth to begin with, though he was fine with a mildly sweet taste. However, the sweetness of this broth was more than what he could tolerate.

All the same, the broth had been personally prepared by Sonia, and it was filled with her love. Therefore, even though he didn't like the taste, he wouldn't tell her the truth. Otherwise, he would be considered ungrateful.

Hearing his compliment, Sonia became at ease and smiled. "That's great. Finish it up, and there's more here." She pointed at the thermal flask.

Toby covered his face with one hand to conceal his reluctance and grunted.

Sonia didn't notice his expression as she rose from the chair and said, "By the way, I'm going to see an optometrist; I need to get some eye lotion. My eyes feel incredibly dry now. Perhaps I've been wearing contact lenses for far too long. I'll be back soon."

"Sure." Toby waved his hand.

In the past, he would've told her that they could just ask someone to send the eye lotion over. However, at this moment, he just wanted her to leave as soon as possible.

"I'll get going now, then." Sonia still hadn't realized the man's anomaly as she waved her hand and left the ward.

After she was gone, Toby put the bowl down and chugged a glass of water. When he was done, the sweetness in his mouth finally subsided, making him feel much better.

Then, he placed the glass on the table and looked at the remaining broth. Torn between tears and laughter, he shook his head. He wondered where she had gotten this idea to prepare the broth.

After rubbing his temples for a bit, he picked up the broth and continued drinking it. He had to drink some water every time he had a spoonful of broth. Regardless, Sonia had prepared the broth with love, so he couldn't waste it. I'll just drink more water to water down the taste.

When Sonia returned with the eye lotion, Toby was done with the bowl of broth. She picked up the empty bowl and asked with a smile, "Do you want more?"

A hint of fear flashed across Toby's eyes as he shook his head repeatedly. "No." He had suffered enough earlier. If he had to eat another bowl of broth, he would probably vomit.

"Alright, then. I'll reheat the remaining broth for you in the evening." When Sonia was done speaking, she took the bowl away and washed it.

Toby pressed his palm against his forehead while feeling both miserable and happy. He was happy because the woman he loved was there to keep him company and care for him. On the other hand, he felt miserable; his partner's love could be unbearable sometimes.

Forget it. I'll put up with it and finish the rest. After that, I'll drop a few hints and tell her not to make it ever again. This time, I'll just close my eyes and gulp the remaining broth down.

While he was in his thoughts, he heard a phone ringing. He turned his head and realized it was Sonia's phone. He then looked in the kitchen's direction and shouted, "You have a call, Little Leaf!"

"Please answer it for me." Since Sonia was busy washing the bowl, she told the man to pick up the call for her.

A smile played on Toby's lips when he realized that she trusted him. There was no denying that he was pleased. It showed that she considered him a trustworthy person, and there were no secrets in her phone. Certainly, neither did his phone contain anything that he couldn't show her.

He picked up the phone and took a look. When he saw the name on the screen, he squinted his eyes. It's Carl!

In an instant, his face fell. He was resentful of Carl as well; if not for the fact that Carl had harmed Sonia with some poison, her child wouldn't have been killed. That was Toby's child too.

They eventually decided to abort the child. It was their own decision, and it had nothing to do with an outsider like Carl. However, Carl butted in on their affairs and caused the loss of their unborn child.

For that reason, Toby loathed the man, and he couldn't believe that the latter still had the nerve to call Sonia. With an expressionless face, he answered the call and said, "You'd better have something important to say."

Carl was evidently surprised when he heard Toby's voice, but he soon regained his composure and smiled faintly. "Oh, isn't it Sonia's husband, Toby?"

Toby arched his brow, for he was startled by the way Carl addressed him. Carl isn't someone who would call me Sonia's husband.

Nevertheless, he soon realized it wasn't the real Carl. Since Carl loved Sonia, he hated Toby with a passion. There was no way he would call the latter Sonia's husband. As such, it was Carl's second personality speaking, not the real one.

I can't believe his second personality is still in charge of his body. Why hasn't he managed to regain control of his own body? What a useless man.

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"Just cut to the chase. We're not close to each other." Toby frowned impatiently. However, he didn't dismiss Carl for calling him Sonia's husband. Evidently, he was pleased with the way Carl addressed him.

On the other end of the call, Carl sat languidly on the couch. His punk metal outfit made him look aggressive and ruthless, which was in stark contrast to his mild-mannered main personality.

His main personality was someone good at acting, and beneath the facade of his impeccable manners was his evil nature.

On the other hand, Carl's second personality was more straightforward as he directly showed everyone that he was evil. He didn't even bother concealing his true nature.

As he lifted his phone with one hand, he fiddled with a chain using his other. He licked his lips and asked, "Where's Sonny?"

Toby's temples throbbed as he questioned, "Why do you ask?"

Sonny? That's an endearing way of calling her! Although Carl always insists that Sonia is just a friend, I know he's into her. What about this guy that I'm talking to now? Does the second personality have feelings for Sonia as well? If that's true, I'll teach him a lesson!

"There's something I need to tell her. Why else do you think I'm looking for her? Could I be wooing her?" Carl laughed wickedly.

Toby's expression darkened at once as he immediately hung up the call. I knew it! The second personality also fancies Little Leaf after being influenced by his main personality. That's outrageous!

"What's wrong?" When Sonia was done washing the bowl and walked out of the kitchen, she saw the man clenching her phone with a furious expression.

Toby looked up at her with a bitter gaze.

A puzzled Sonia wiped her hands with a towel and walked over. "What happened? Say something. Who was it that made you so vexed? Look at how enraged you are! Calm down. I'll teach that person a lesson on your behalf. If you fall ill again, no one can help you."

She poked the man's face and appeased him like he was a child. This couldn't be helped, for a sick man was no different from a child in her eyes. He would give her the cold shoulder when he was mad, and she would be worried about his heart.

Hence, she could only placate him with patience so that he wouldn't be struck by a heart attack again. Otherwise, she would be the one getting anxious.

"It was Carl." Toby passed the phone to her as he enunciated Carl's name.

The instant Sonia heard the name, she was elated. "It was Carl?" She quickly took the phone. "What did he say?"

"Nothing much. He said he needed to tell you something, but he wasn't willing to tell me what it was. As such, I hung up the call," Toby replied honestly as he didn't intend to hide anything from her.

Sonia was startled and perplexed. "Why did you hang it up? You could've passed the phone to me."

"He's not the real Carl. That's still his second personality. He's a terrible guy, so you probably shouldn't talk to him," Toby replied while looking at her. In the meantime, he thought, The main personality isn't a good guy either.

When Sonia heard that it was his second personality, the surprise on her face faded. She was no longer as elated as when she heard that Carl had given her a call. At any rate, she didn't intend to call him back.

After all, she still believed that the second personality was an entirely different person, not the real Carl. Although the second personality had split from the main one, he had his own way of thinking and consciousness. As such, he was a completely different being. Therefore, she insisted that the second personality was a stranger instead of her friend, Carl.

"Don't you want to call him back?" When Toby saw her putting down the phone, his lips curved into a smile. It was apparent that he was pleased. However, worried that she might find out what was on his mind, he quickly pressed his lips into a line. Although his series of movements were swift, Sonia caught everything. She rolled her eyes and remarked, "Just laugh as loud as you want. What's the point of stifling your laughter?"

Turns out she's discovered it. Toby coughed and put on a smile.

Finding the man amusing, Sonia said, "No, I'm not going to call him back. He's not my friend, so you're right to say that I probably shouldn't talk to him. Whatever he wanted to tell me, that's none of my concern." Then, she put the phone into her bag. "It's getting late. I'll help you to the bathroom."

"Alright." Toby nodded.

Sonia went over and lifted his quilt. Then, she pulled the wheelchair closer and carefully helped him out of the bed. When he managed to take a seat in the wheelchair, she pushed him into the bathroom.

Despite being ill, he could still wash up on his own. Therefore, he didn't need Sonia's help at all. He just needed her to push him into the bathroom, and he could handle the rest.

Considering his condition, he couldn't take a shower, so he only wiped his body with a wet towel. Meanwhile, he could wash his face and brush his teeth since his hands were not affected at all.

Initially, Sonia was worried, so she offered to help him wash up. They had bared it all in front of each other before, so they knew everything about each other's bodies. They could even locate the other party's moles. Therefore, Sonia didn't feel psychologically burdened when she offered to help him clean up.

However, the man turned her down. First of all, he could still move, so it wasn't like he was paralyzed. As such, he didn't need anyone's help.

Secondly, he was in a wheelchair, so it was indeed difficult for him to move freely. If he let her help him wash up, she would see the helpless side of him. He didn't want to show his helplessness in front of the woman, after all.

Sonia had no idea about Toby's real reason for turning her down. She just thought that he didn't want her to exhaust herself. As such, she kept persuading him until she realized she couldn't change the man's mind. Left with no choice, she could only give up.

Although she let the man clean up on his own inside the bathroom, she didn't dare stay away from the door. She was worried that if she was far away from the bathroom, she wouldn't be able to hear him when he fell to the ground and called for help. As she stood outside the bathroom and heard the sound of splashing water, she fished out her phone and sent Charles a message. 'When will you have time to talk, Charles? I'd like to talk about Daphne. Can we do that?'

After she sent the message, she stared fixedly at the phone, worried that she would miss Charles' reply. However, until the sound of running water stopped in the bathroom, she still hadn't received Charles' reply.

Perhaps Charles is swamped with work, so he didn't see my message, Sonia thought with uncertainty, then heard the doorknob of the bathroom turning behind her. She quickly kept her phone and shifted her attention to the man.

"Are you done washing up?" When she saw the man leaving the bathroom with damp hair, she frowned with displeasure. "I've told you before that you should dry your hair before leaving the bathroom. Look at how damp your hair is! Aren't you worried you'll dampen your clothes? When that happens, you'll have to get changed again."

Toby smiled faintly. "I'm sorry. I forgot about that."

"You're always so forgetful. How many times have I told you this before?" Sonia rolled her eyes at the man, then picked up a towel and dried his hair for him. When she was done with that, she got a hairdryer to blow-dry his hair.

"Alright, it's time for bed. I'll help you." She then lowered the bed and helped the man get onto it. Following that, she adjusted the bed to an appropriate height and placed a quilt over him.

To her surprise, the man lifted the quilt the next instant.