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"Accompany you?" Mai frowned. "And why should I do that, Sir? I think you're a fully functioning adult capable of doing things on your own, plus I'm Mr. Grant's and Mrs. Woods's secretary, you have your own."

Michael was caught off guard by her sharp words. He knew Mai disliked him because she didn't know he was involved with Erin because of a mission.

"You're supposed to be assisting and monitoring me and my job here," Michael said. "That's what your boss, Mrs. Woods told us earlier."

"Ugh..." Mai could only clench her jaw in silence. It was true. She was supposed to assist and monitor Michael's work as Co-Manager, but she didn't want to spend more time with Michael and Erin. She didn't want to see them being all cuddly and smoochy. It was gross.

"And what do you want me to do, Mr.
Eckermann?" Mai asked. "Do you want me to sit
and watch you and that slut next to you fuck in
the middle of the room? Do you think I don't
have enough common sense to leave you alone?



It's clear that she would want that." 3

Michael opened his mouth, but Erin quickly interrupted before he could speak, "I don't mind if you watch us," she shrugged. "I mean, it should serve as a reminder so you don't forget that you're nothing compared to me. I bet Mr. Eckermann agrees with me, right?"

Michael's body stiffened. He was in hell right now because he was caught between two women about to claw each other's faces. 3

He was distressed as he watched Mai looking at him with hatred. It made him wonder what he should do to soften the feisty lady's stone heart.

He didn't know why he felt distressed by a random woman's stare. But it bothered him so much that he wanted to change her view of him. 4

This was the first time a woman ever looked at him with disgust. He might not be as rich as Henry, or as fortunate to be born to a rich and powerful family as Henry, but Michael was still a man born with a silver spoon.

Since birth he had been praised for all his achievements and as he grew up, women naturally swooned over his good looks.

As a decorated soldier, he was used to being praised for his upstanding behavior and definitely never expected to be looked down on with so much disgust by a petite woman four years younger than him.

'Who knew I'd be so bothered by a woman looking down at me? No woman has ever acted this way towards me before,' Michael thought. 'I have to fix things between me and this woman. She needs to know that I'm just acting.'

Michael knitted his brows as he looked at the petite woman before him.

'Let me ask Henry later if I can tell Mai about our plan to trap Erin.'

"Please release my wrist, Mr. Eckermann. I don't care if you're fucking that bitch, but I'm not the type to watch two horny dogs mating in the office," Mai said.

Michael prepared himself. He'd need a lot of patience facing Mai, who completely misunderstood the situation.

"I want you to stay with me," Michael said calmly, but his voice carried a lot of pressure. "You're not allowed to leave, and this is an order from the Co-Manager. I can report you to your Boss or the HR department for not fulfilling your duty to oversee me and my work." 2

Mai was so angry right now, but she knew there was nothing she could do the moment Michael brought up Mrs. Woods and the HR department.

So she took a deep breath to calm herself down and replied, "Fine, I will assist and monitor what you are doing today, Mr. Eckermann. But the moment I see you doing something with that slut right next to you, then I will not hesitate to leave."

"Trust me, I won't be doing anything to Miss Ross as long as you're around," Michael promised. "In exchange, you should lessen your cursing towards me. It's... unprofessional and disrespectful."

Truthfully, Michael wasn't used to hearing a woman swearing. He grew up in an environment full of women who watched their words, and when he entered the military, he was surrounded by battle-hardened men, so he didn't have much interaction with women in general.

"Unprofessional?" Mai sneered. "If I may be honest, Mr. Eckermann. I have no respect for you or Mr. Grant. You two are idiots whose heads are so empty, you can't even see the walking STD in front of you." 3

"YOU BITCH! THAT'S IT, I WILL FUCKING RIP YOUR HAIR!" Erin was already trying her best to keep her temper at bay and not to attack Mai. But she couldn't hold it anymore.

"Watch out!" Michael yelled.

Erin was about to pounce on Mai, but Michael quickly used his back to block the attack. Erin was stunned when she saw Michael, who was supposed to be on her side, suddenly protecting Mai's petite figure with his body, almost burying her in his embrace.

Everyone in the room was stunned. Even Michael was stunned by what he had done just now.

He simply stopped the attack out of instinct, mostly because he was trained as a soldier, so his protective instinct immediately kicked in, especially for a weak bunny he embraced just now.

'Wait, weak bunny?' Michael quickly warded off that thought. 'This woman is not even a weak bunny. She's too vicious to be one.' 'But still, why did I protect her? I should've let Erin attack her, so she'll be happy.'

Mai was stunned for a while, and then her gaze turned sharp. She used all her strength to push Michael away, separating herself from the man who embraced her just now, but this man was like an immovable mountain.

"Disgusting! Let me go, you asshole!" Mai yelled as she struggled to break free.

"Ah—Sorry," Michael quickly released his arm around her petite body.

Mai glared at Michael, who was dumbfounded by the situation he was in, and yelled, "Don't you ever do that again with your filthy hand, you animal!"

Michael saw tears in the corner of Mai's eyes, and his heart ached when he saw it. Mai might spout many cruel words, but the moment they stared at each other like this, with tears at the corner of her eyes, he soon realized that she did look like a weak bunny when she was vulnerable.

But before he could do anything, Mai suddenly rushed out of the room and didn't return, leaving Michael and Erin alone.

Michael was still processing what happened. He didn't know why, but he had a feeling there was more than what meets the eye about Mai. 3

She was struggling too much just to break free from him as if he was truly the most wretched thing on the planet. She also cried and trembled after he held her in his arms.

Michael had a feeling that something deep and much more problematic had happened to Mai, which was why she had such a strong reaction against him.

Behind those cold eyes and harsh words,
Michael sensed a scared woman who didn't want
to get touched, even in a non-sexual way.