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“Alright, Honey, when did she say she would come to eat with us?” Mr. Field had wanted to meet Ms. Saunders for some time now. Alas, this hadn’t sat quite well with Mrs. Field.

But thankfully, Ms. Saunders hadn’t harmed her in any way.

“Tomorrow night.”

“That’s it. When tomorrow night comes, ask her about today’s gathering and see what she says.”

Upon hearing this, Mrs. Field could only reluctantly nod her head. “Alright then.”

The next day at 9 o’clock in the Nolan Group’s CEO’s office.

The moment Joseph stepped inside, he said cheerfully, “Hey Lucas, did you know? I’ve got a really special guest coming to my house tonight.”

“Hmm,” came the man’s disinterested reply as he continued with his work.

“Tsk tsk,” Joseph disapproved, “What a heartless man you are. Aren’t you going to even ask me who this guest is?”

“Who’s your guest?” Lucas asked cooperatively. However, the expression on his face didn’t change in the slightest.

Joseph’s lips curled into a mysterious smile. “Do you know who Ms. Saunders is? The woman who can play the piano with her left hand while painting a picture with her right! My mum’s on really good terms with her.”

Joseph thought of something all of a sudden. “Didn’t you ask my mum to set up a meeting between you and Ms. Saunders? Why don’t you tag along tonight?”

However, he was completely oblivious to how his best friend’s eyes gleamed coldly as he tightened his grip around his pen after hearing the words Ms. Saunders.

“Alright.”

Lucas didn’t tell Joseph about how he had already brought Hera to go see Ashlyn.

However, since his best friend had made such a sincere invitation, how could he turn his best friend down?

"You're agreeing just like that?" Joseph felt that Lucas was acting rather oddly today. He then studied his best friend from head to toe. However, Lucas had already regained his composure.

Upon that dashing face was a pair of piercing eyes with dark circles around them. "Hey, couldn't sleep again?"

The hypomania Lucas had developed a few years ago was accompanied by frequent bouts of insomnia.

The medication he had been taking all this while had helped to suppress the symptoms. Only Joseph knew about this and he seldom saw Lucas with dark circles around his eyes.

Thus, he instinctively associated Lucas's eye bags with his illness.

"I was flying all night and I just got off not too long ago," Lucas explained coldly.

"What the f***! You flew for an entire night and yet you still came back for work? Are you a machine? Go back home and sleep! Go on!"

"I can't sleep," Lucas said as he rubbed his forehead, "I'll go back home with you tonight after work."

Joseph wanted to say something else but eventually thought the better of it.

That afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Ashlyn headed straight for the biggest mall in the city center.

This was the first time she was paying the Field family a visit. Since Mrs. Field was always really nice to her, she naturally had to prepare some gifts beforehand.

As she had always been a very decisive shopper, she was out of the mall in ten minutes.

After she exited the mall, she got into her Land Rover and sped off to the Field family house.

Mrs. Field had already sent her their address via WhatsApp.

The traffic on the way to the Field family house was rather congested. Soon, it was almost 6 o'clock.

Just as she was about to U-turn and try a different route, she heard a siren in the distance.

As she curiously rolled down her windows, she overheard pedestrians discussing what had happened.

"Oh my god! There's been an accident up ahead!"

"I heard that there were many kids in the car as well. It's uncertain if they're still alive."

As Ashlyn's brows furrowed, she got out of her car and started walking towards the accident site.

The moment she arrived at the accident site, she was greeted with the sight of a van that had been wrecked beyond recognition by a lorry. Crawling out of the wreckage were three hooligan-looking men. Ignoring the children still in the car, they immediately made a mad dash for the crowd after hearing the police sirens.

Something's not right!

If those children were theirs, saving them would have been their top priority.

If those kids belonged to a certain kindergarten, those men would have chosen to save them as well.

But now...

They're running away...

Damn it!

With a frosty expression in her eyes, Ashlyn barked, "Don't let them get away! They're human traffickers!"

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Not only were there many pedestrians who had stopped to watch, but there were also many drivers around due to the congested traffic caused by the accident.

Upon hearing Ashlyn's voice, those three men immediately picked up their speed.

Glancing at the children trapped inside the van, Ashlyn was then presented with a dilemma. Should I go after the bad guys first or should I save the children first?

Just then, the van started emitting an ear-piercing screech. Thick acrid fumes then began billowing from beneath the bonnet.

And it seemed as though there were several sparks as well!

Damn it! If this were to carry on, there would be a really high chance that the van will blow up.

Gnashing her teeth together, she turned and began walking towards the van. By then, two passers-by had already managed to extricate one of the children from the wreckage.

There were still three children trapped inside, out of which two were unconscious and trapped in the

narrow space below the seats. The child who was still conscious looked hurt as well. At that moment, he was pinned underneath a chair and was bawling his eyes out in fear.

“Make way!” Ashlyn barked at those two men as she walked over.

Although they were confused, they complied and made way upon seeing the frosty expression on her face.

The slim woman raised one of her slender legs and aimed a swift kick at the chair with her high heels, dislodging it in the process.

She then reached out both hands and placed them on the seat. Snap!

With one mighty pull, she ripped off the entire seat.

Ashlyn proceeded to stick her head inside the wreckage and carry out the three children.

Just as she was carrying out the children, the van started emitting crackling sounds.

“Get down!” Ashlyn yelled as she leapt forward.

The van behind her burst into a ball of flames in a deafening explosion!

Dirt and rubble from the wreckage flew into the air and rained down onto the street.

The crowd jumped in shock upon witnessing this turn of events.

The van actually exploded!

Pain seared across Ashlyn’s back as she held the children firmly in her arms to protect them.

Her face immediately turned as pale as a sheet.

Quaking fearfully, one of the children in her arms grabbed on tightly to her shirt. “It’s alright, don’t be scared,” she assured him.

Meanwhile, those three men were still running for their lives.

Upon discovering that the children only had superficial wounds, she immediately gave chase.

There were already several strong and burly men hot on those three men’s heels.

But all of a sudden, a swift figure overtook them!

Before they could even react, they were greeted with the sight of a slender figure leaping off the ground as her dress twirled midair like a blooming flower!

In one swift motion, she split open her beautiful legs and sent two men flying to the ground!

“Ow!” the both of them wailed.

It was a scene right out of the movies!

Even though she was in heels, she still moved at an astonishing speed nonetheless.

Dashing forward, she leaped into the air once more. Even though she looked like a fairy in her getup, it in no way diminished how cool her movements were.

In one smooth shoulder throw, the last man was apprehended by the woman as well.

The rest of the crowd, on the other hand, were pinning down the other two men that Ashlyn had mowed down.

The entire scene seemed to have played out in a second.

The woman’s stern gaze landed on the three men. The moment she turned around, the crowd felt their hearts skip a beat.

What a beautiful woman!

How can one be so beautiful?

What an overwhelming aura.

And those eyes! How stern they look!

Just then, a police car pulled up beside them and several traffic policemen darted out.

Next came the ambulance. The doctors and nurses came out and then helped the injured children into the ambulance.

Heaving a sigh of relief, Ashlyn gazed at her watch and discovered that it was almost 6 o’clock.

She hastily got into her Land Rover and sped off.

It would be rude of her to turn up late.

After she got into the car, the first thing she did was send Mrs. Field a message on WhatsApp, “I got caught in a jam so I might be a little late.”

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Mrs. Field’s reply came almost immediately. “It’s fine. We’ll wait for you.”

Back at the accident site, the crowd was recounting to the police how that pretty woman had apprehended those three men.

After hearing them out, one of the policemen asked, “So where is she?”

The crowd looked around for her but to no avail. “Eh? She was right here a moment ago!”

“Mr. Policeman, you have no idea how cool she was just now! And how gorgeous she is!”

“That’s right! For a moment there, I even thought that I was watching an action film!”

“Are you sure?” The police had their doubts about what the crowd had said. However, after confirming with the criminal police team, they said, “They really do seem to be that group of human traffickers we’ve put out a warrant of arrest for. Hurry up and take them away!”

Someone from the crowd had actually managed to take a video of Ashlyn kicking the car seat and ripping it out.

The moment he posted this video online, it immediately garnered the attention of the online community.

“Wow, she’s amazing! She looks so cool when she’s saving those kids!”

“Hey, am I the only one who thinks that she looks like Ashlyn?”

“Yeah, she does look like Ashlyn from behind!”

“But isn’t our Ashlyn just a dainty little princess?”

“That’s right...so this can’t be her.”

“No dress or high heels is going to stop Lyn from saving anyone!”

Just then, another video of Ashlyn beating up those human traffickers filmed by another passer-by was uploaded onto the Internet.

In this video, the woman’s moves were swift and precise, especially the part where she leaped into the air and kicked those two men.

What was even more impressive for the viewers was the shoulder throw that she ended with.

Afterwards...this gorgeous girl turned around...and all the viewers were flabbergasted.

"I'm f***ing losing my mind!"

"She really is Ashlyn!"

"Wow, I certainly didn't expect you to be like this."

"You're so cool. You look like a superhero out of the movies!"

"Please accept my humble obeisance."

"What a righteous goddess she is. I love her!"

"She apprehended a bunch of human traffickers and saved so many families from pain and misery. I'm so touched..."

"No! No! No! She's saved countless families! I heard that those three human traffickers have abducted many more children."

"Oh, my goddess, why do you enchant me so?"

"Not only did our goddess twirl her dress so beautifully, but she also even managed to keep everything beneath hidden! How did she do that?"

Ashlyn immediately began trending on Twitter once again.

#Goddess Berry Is A Martial Arts Expert#

#Goddess Berry Saves Children From Van#

#Ripping Off Car Seat With Bare Hands, Apprehending Human Traffickers#

#Are You Not Going To Make Your Debut, Our Righteous Goddess#

Even those netizens who had previously criticized Ashlyn were completely dumbfounded after watching the video.

"I've decided not to criticize her anymore in the future."

"I think this wasn't a publicity stunt because this video was uploaded by a passer-by."

“Well, she couldn’t have been informed beforehand about something like an accident right? And how could she have known of the human traffickers and children inside the van? This means that she did everything on impulse... I hereby apologize for all the nasty things I’ve said about her in the past.”

“I admire all righteous people like her. I won’t accuse her of pulling publicity stunts and using money to make herself trending on Twitter. Neither will I accuse her of having done plastic surgery ever again! And she really had me with that furious expression in her eyes when she looked at those human traffickers!”

“I’m so moved by what Ashlyn’s done! Oh, I’m suddenly really jealous of Jared for having such a girlfriend!”

Just like that...

Jared became trending on Twitter as well.

#So Jealous Of Jared For Having A Girlfriend Like Ashlyn#

#Jared Must Have Saved The World In His Past Life To Deserve Her#

Jared, on the other hand, was completely mystified by this unexpected turn of events.

What happened?

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Who am I? What am I doing here?

Just then, Lake City’s official Twitter account posted a rather hilarious message saying, “We would like to thank this brave woman for stepping forward today and apprehending these human traffickers and saving those children. If you’re reading this message, please get in touch with us. Not only is there a fifty thousand dollar reward waiting for you, but so is a brocade flag commending you for your bravery! Thank you so much once again!”

This was a confirmation of what Ashlyn had done!

An official confirmation!

Netizens then began flooding the Lake City’s Twitter account with comments.

“Her name’s Ashlyn Berry. She’s Jared Quickton’ girlfriend. You’ll be able to get in touch with her if you contact the president of Centennial Healthcare.”

“Ashlyn’s so cool!”

“Wow, even Lake City’s official Twitter account is commending Lyn for her actions.”

“Lyn is so cool!”

Ashlyn, on the other hand, had just parked her Land Rover outside the Field family house.

The Field family was staying in a home meant for government officials’ family members. Most of the people staying here were government officials.

All of the houses were separate stand-alone cottages. Although it was no match for Lucas’ villa, it was clean, tidy and rather spacious.

The moment Ashlyn got out of her car, the Director of the police force drove into the courtyard.

“Director!” his driver yelled, “Look there! She’s the superheroine!”

The director’s brows furrowed. “What superheroine?”

As the driver watched Ashlyn walk into Mr. Field’s house, he spluttered, “She’s...she’s the superheroine who apprehended those human traffickers and saved those children!”

The director’s eyes immediately began gleaming. “Are you sure?”

Ashlyn walked into the Field family house with the gifts she had bought in hand.

Upon hearing her footsteps, Mrs. Field came out to welcome her, “You’re finally here, Ashlyn.”

“The traffic was a little congested,” Ashlyn grinned before nonchalantly shoving her gift into Mrs. Field’s hands, “This is for you and Brother-in-law.”

As Mr. Field got to his feet, he was greeted with the sight of a slender and gorgeous woman. She was, however, dressed rather casually.

With her white dress, white heels and long hair tied to the back, she looked as exquisite as a little fairy who had just walked out a forest.

Mrs. Field had complimented Ashlyn’s good looks multiple times in front of him. However, he certainly hadn’t expected her to be so beautiful.

“Please, make yourself at home.”

Ashlyn nodded in Mr. Field’s direction. “Hello, Brother-in-law.”

Mr. Field exuded the aura of a gentleman. He was rather slim, unlike many other paunchy middle-aged

man.

Tall and lanky; it was clear that he was once a dashing young lad himself.

Mr. Field, on the other hand, was rather unaccustomed to a girl, who was even younger than his son, addressing him as Brother-in-law.

He couldn't help but lament his wife's antics internally.

Mrs. Field was instantly stunned after opening up the present and spotting the branded pair of couple's watches laying silently inside. "Ashlyn, why did you get such an expensive present?"

"It wasn't that expensive. They're just watches," Ashlyn replied airily.

"Ashlyn," Mr. Field said as he gazed at his wife exasperatedly, "We're the ones who are asking you for a favor. You certainly didn't need to get us a gift."

What a polite child!

No wonder Honey likes her so much.

Upon hearing the commotion downstairs, Joseph and Lucas walked out of the study room.

"Come here and greet your Aunty, you little rascal," Mrs. Field barked.

"....."

Are you really my mother?

You want me to address a girl who's younger than me as Aunty?

You might as well end me here right now!

Ashlyn's gaze bypassed the tall and dashing Joseph and landed on the man standing behind him. The pilot's uniform that he was clad in was wrapped tightly around his tall and broad body, accentuating his perfect figure.

Coupled with his cold and aloof face, he was so handsome that one could barely look him in the eye.

Lucas?

What's he doing here as well? And why is he in pilot uniform?

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Ashlyn's brows creased slightly as she began silently calculating how long he had been flying. He was flying last night? Had he not rested since then? Is his health a joke to him?

Just as her mind was running wild, Joseph's voice rang in the air, "Lucas, this is Ms. Saunders. She's...my mother's sworn sister."

There was no way he was going to address her as Aunty.

"Don't be silly, son. Lucas and Ashlyn know each other," Mrs. Field chided her son gently as she gave him a little slap on the back, "Go on then. Take the both of them to wash their hands so that they can be seated."

Ashlyn and Lucas were both rendered speechless.

How long has it been someone's told me to go wash my hands... I certainly hadn't expected this to happen here in the Field family home...

Oh, this takes me back...

Mrs. Field was probably the only person in the world who would tell them to go wash their hands before a meal. For some reason, Ashlyn felt a warm feeling beginning to manifest inside her. And she loved every bit of it.

This was one of the reasons why she always liked to interact with Mrs. Field.

There was an inexplicable homely sort of feeling to Mrs. Field.

The few of them obediently headed off to the toilet to wash their hands.

Lucas habitually applied some hand wash on his hands. He then instinctively grabbed the hands of the woman next to him and hold them gently as he prepared to wash them.

After tugging a couple of times but to no avail. she hissed, "What are you doing?"

"Helping you wash your hands," Lucas replied coldly.

Back when they hadn't separated, he loved to wash her hands at home.

They were soft and smooth to the touch. Lucas just couldn't keep his hands off them.

"I can wash my hands myself!" Ashlyn protested as her cheeks started to flush scarlet red.

As his large hands began rubbing hers gently, her...her chest actually began heating up as her body started feeling weak... Her Spirogyra was acting up again! Damn it!

Joseph, who was standing at the side as he waited for his turn, stared at them unblinkingly.

When his mother had said that they both of them knew each other, he had assumed that they were just normal acquaintances.

But judging by the look of things, the both of them were clearly incredibly intimate and familiar with each other!

Lucas and him had quite literally grown up together. He had never seen this friend of his display the slightest interest in any woman.

Yet, he was being so intimate with Ashlyn now!

After washing her hands, Ashlyn immediately fled the bathroom.

Grabbing on to Lucas before he could give chase, Joseph asked, "Hey, have you lost your mind? Are you trying to become my uncle?"

"Didn't you refuse to address her as Auntie?" Lucas countered coldly as he gave Joseph a shove.

"....."

Back in the kitchen, Mr. and Mrs. Field were already seated by the time the three of them returned.

"You young people should sit together," Mr. Field suggested with a smile on his face, "Please, make yourselves at home. This is just a casual family dinner. We don't usually have many visitors and our son doesn't come home to eat with us that often. It's such a rare opportunity to have so many people in the house."

Although he seemed rather friendly, the aura around him seemed to be tinged with an air of authority -- a trait exclusive to ambitious leaders.

Yet, he did not come off as aloof while he was speaking.

"You're too courteous, Brother-in-law," Ashlyn said with a smile on her face, "Sister tells me that you want me to be the performing arts consultant for the National Day Gala Night?"

Mr. Field could feel his head beginning to throb once this topic was raised. "Every year, the city will spend some money on the gala. However, attendance and viewership ratings have always been a problem. Every year, the attendance and viewership ratings for our gala are ranked behind all the television stations throughout the country. That's why...I wanted to ask for your help this year."

"I'm fine with that," Ashlyn agreed promptly.

After a moment's hesitation, Mr. Field continued, "So...can I inform the staff in the advertising department to start promoting you?"

As Ashlyn's pretty eyes gazed at Mr. Field, they betrayed no signs of the fear one might have when facing the mayor. "Truth be told," she said calmly, "I don't want to be pushed into the spotlight."

A glimmer of hope flashed across Mr. Field's eyes.

The name Madeline Saunders was bound to attract a lot of attention. If they were to release this information, they would immediately attract a lot of audience for the gala.

Lucas gazed at Ashlyn emotionlessly as cold sweat started forming on the nape of his neck.

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It was often said that accompanying one's sovereign was like accompanying a tiger. In that case, Mr. Field was both the sovereign and the tiger of Riverdale.

Mrs. Field was starting to feel a bit awkward as well. She opened her mouth, planning to smooth out the situation when a cold female voice rang out.

"Don't you worry, Charles. If you put me in charge of the celebrations later, I can promise you that it'd be a night to remember."

Mr. Field raised an eyebrow. "What are you planning to do?"

Ashlyn tilted her head slightly. Her gorgeous eyes twinkled like crystals under the LED lighting, almost blinding whoever was looking at her.

"The name 'Madeline Saunders' must be a magnet for many people. However, the other performers' efforts are all going to be buried under that glaringly bright name. They'll be ignored by the audience; their efforts forgotten. You can use her name to bring in one audience's attention, but will you be able to do that next year? What about the year after that?"

Her words made complete sense and sent them into deep thought.

James Field couldn't help himself. "Please continue."

Ashlyn paused before saying, "What we need is an event that will totally blow the entire audience's minds. It has to be memorable enough that it will sear Lake City and our performers into everyone's minds forever. Then they'll definitely be looking forward to next year. Our views will only come with detailed planning, not from making a one-time attention grabber."

James nodded. "You're right. As expected of you young people. You're full of good ideas."

Fae's face was gleaming with pride. "Of course! That's my baby sister."

She genuinely adored Ashlyn.

Lucas exhaled slightly. When he looked at Ashlyn, a surge of warmth entered his cold stare.

She was filled with life and practically glowed while talking just now.

She was stunning.

It was as if she had a halo around her.

Joseph was clearly taken aback. This young lady is pretty smart!

"James, I'd like to be involved in stage design. I have to be in charge of all the stage lights, effects, etc." Ashlyn wasn't asking for permission, she was making a statement. There seemed to be zero room for disagreement.

This strength she had in her words gave James a slight shock. What a cocky stare! What an arrogant tone! If it were from anyone else, he would certainly have been irked. However, when it came from the pretty girl in front of him, he couldn't find it in himself to be angry. In fact, he was even more impressed.

Lucas was right next to Ashlyn, and his hand slowly wrapped around Ashlyn's. His rough fingertips caressed hers gently.

Ashlyn gnashed her teeth.

I mean business here. What the hell are you doing?

She wriggled out of his grasp, but he held on even tighter.

Ashlyn thought about how she had accidentally stepped on the wrong person's foot back in Bayview Villa and slowly put her raised heel down.

It would be pretty bad if she accidentally stepped on someone else again.

Especially since it was the first time she came to the Field household.

Lucas held onto her hand happily as he passed her a shrimp from the salad. "Try this. It's really fresh."

Then, he cut off a slice of his own steak and put it on her plate. "This is one of Fae's best dishes, mashed potatoes and steak."

He was close enough to the Field family that he came to eat with them often.

They had a maid, but Fae cooked rather regularly as well. Naturally, Fae had made some of her best dishes to welcome Ashlyn.

“This, too. It’s really good.” Lucas continued passing Ashlyn different dishes from the table with an expressionless face. Despite that, the way he acted clearly showed how much he adored Ashlyn.

He probably didn’t realize how tender he looked as he placed dishes into Ashlyn’s plate.

He was as different as could be from the usual Lucas, who was cold and unfriendly.

The Field family were pretty familiar with Lucas. To whom had he took care of so lovingly before?

No one, that’s who.

The three of them looked at each other. They had known that Lucas treated Ashlyn differently than he treated anyone else, but this was way too much of a difference.

Fae was pretty unhappy. In fact, she was feeling a ton of things at once. However, she didn’t dare to show any of it.

“Don’t give me any more. I’m getting full.” Ashlyn turned slightly to look at Lucas.

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She didn’t realize how the tilt of her head emphasized the corners of her eyes, making her look extremely seductive.

Lucas suppressed the sudden urge he felt to take her home and swallowed heavily. “Okay.”

He held onto his glass and gulped down two mouthfuls of alcohol that burned their way down his throat, trying to wash away his impatience.

Then, he closed his eyes and let out a sigh quietly.

“Ashlyn, have some soup.” Fae spooned some chicken soup into a bowl for Ashlyn.

Ashlyn looked at the bowl, her eyes starting to become dewy with emotion.

After her mother had passed away, she had never drunk chicken soup again.

She took a small sip. The familiar taste spread throughout her mouth, tasting more like her childhood than anything.

She couldn't help but take another mouthful.

Fae's brow clouded over with sorrow as if she were recalling something. "I had a really close friend when I was younger. She was the one who taught me the recipe for this chicken soup. Sadly..."

"Mom, what happened?" Joseph asked curiously.

"Nothing. Forget I said anything," Fae said with a smile and a shake of her head.

James gently held onto Fae's slightly chilly hand. "What are you suddenly bringing this up for?"

Fae stayed silent.

"Lucas, stop giving me food. I won't be able to finish everything." Ashlyn felt a little helpless when she looked at the amount of food piled up like a small mountain on her plate.

She had never really been a big eater, either.

Lucas looked at Ashlyn's small, mildly stressed face. How cute. She was acting completely differently from her usual cold act with him.

He reached over with a long arm and pulled her bowl towards him before starting to eat nonchalantly.

Ashlyn looked at him in surprise, as did the other Field family members.

Wasn't Lucas has mysophobia?

This was way too weird.

James was aware of how likable this young lady was. She wasn't like the other rich young ladies who barely ate at the dining table, either from being picky or from being on a diet, and messed with everyone else's appetites, too.

Suddenly, a loud chuckle came from the doorway.

"Is Mr. Field home?"

Most of the families who lived in the neighborhood never locked their doors.

A loud procession of footsteps followed right after the laughter.

James and Fae got up instantly and walked toward the door.

The chief of police strutted in with a few policemen behind him, toting a medal.

“Chief Chase, what is the meaning of all this?” James asked, dumbfounded.

Chief Chase chuckled. “I stopped by and caught sight of the superheroine in here. I rushed over so I could give her the medal.”

He pointed to the Land Rover still parked outside and said, “The superheroine’s still here, isn’t she?”

Superheroine?

James and Fae looked toward the dining room.

That Land Rover was Ashlyn’s. Was Chief Chase here for Ashlyn?

“Who’s this superheroine you’re speaking of?” Joseph asked, confused.

Chief Chase could tell based on their reactions that they didn’t know what happened that afternoon.

He couldn’t help but ask his assistant, “Jenny, how about you tell them?”

Jenny cleared her throat before speaking. “Ms. Berry here helped save some children from a car accident this afternoon at about five p.m. Then, she captured the human traffickers who had kidnapped those children in the first place. She was so cool! It was like seeing Wonder Woman in real life.”

“We plan on rewarding her with fifty thousand and a medal for chivalry. Where is Ms. Berry?” Chief Chase asked excitedly.

Lucas pressed close to Ashlyn’s ear and whispered in a seductive voice, “Honey, I didn’t know you caught criminals in your free time.”

Ashlyn’s ears heated up and she kicked him.

She stood up and walked to the living room, immediately spotting the chief’s extravagant presentation.

Her cold, perfect features betrayed no emotion and she accepted the medal. “I’ll take this, but I don’t want the money. Give it to whoever needs it.”

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“Ms. Berry, you really are an admirable woman.” Chief Chase hadn’t imagined that Ashlyn would be this gorgeous.

One of the policemen behind him was filming her on his phone, and even asked James and Chief Chase to stand next to Ashlyn for a photo.

Ashlyn didn't know why they were making such a huge deal.

Fae, on the other hand, was overjoyed. "Ashlyn, is that why you told us you were delayed on the way home? You were out catching criminals, huh? How amazing! You did a great job."

Joseph watched everything unfold with wide eyes.

How spectacular was this woman?

Even someone like James, who had seen more than a few bigshots in his lifetime, was kind of taken aback. If anyone else had accomplished such a thing, they'd have been bragging about it and trying to busk in the limelight.

But she had stayed silent this whole time since coming home.

If it weren't for Chief Chase stumbling across her car, would she have stayed silent about it all the way?

Lucas stayed to one side quietly. His cold features thawed slightly with some emotion, which seemed to only appear whenever he saw Ashlyn.

Of course, his wife was the best.

"Alright, since you're so adamant on not receiving the prize money, we'll donate it to the Haddock Charity under your name, Ms. Berry," Chief Chase said.

Fae didn't have a very good impression of the Haddock Group and couldn't stop herself from asking, "Chief Chase, Fae is actually pretty close to Madeline Saunders. What about just donating it to the Saunders Charity instead?"

"Mrs. Field, that's a pretty good idea. We'll donate it to the Saunders Charity then." Chief Chase wasn't about to say no.

As if just anyone could stop by Mr. Field's house to have a meal.

Chief Chase was smart. After chatting with James for a while longer, he left with his men in tow.

After walking out, he instantly commanded Jenny to upload the video taken just now on Twitter.

"We must spread Ms. Berry's positivity around. She'll be a good role model for the citizens. After all, it's quite rare to see such a genuinely chivalrous person in our society."

"Yes, Chief."

Back in the living room, Joseph was looking at his phone. "Those little punks want to meet up at

Sparrow. Lucas, you up for it?"

"You can go, just don't drink too much," Fae reminded.

Lucas looked at Ashlyn. "You?"

Fae's heart clenched with worry. "Ashlyn's just a young lady. She shouldn't go."

Lucas's eyes glazed over frostily as he directed a cold stare at Fae. Her spine prickled nervously when James said, "You young people should meet with other young people more often. Ashlyn, go ahead."

Lucas' expression finally warmed up slightly before reaching a large hand toward Ashlyn.

Ashlyn instinctively stepped back. "I can walk on my own, thanks."

After James had spoken up, she didn't feel like it was appropriate to turn him down.

She wasn't the type to beat around the bush and act all indecisive.

As she watched the three youngsters walk off, Fae asked worriedly, "Don't you think Lucas is planning to do something to Ashlyn?"

"You shouldn't worry too much about youngsters. To me, it's a pretty good thing. Have you ever heard of Lucas falling for anyone before?" James saw through them pretty quickly. "Besides, Ashlyn here...to me, she's not showing everything on the surface. She isn't like most girls."

Lucas had drunk a little during dinner, so he couldn't drive.

At first, Ashlyn was supposed to go there in Joseph's car. Joseph leaned out of the window and called out, "Ms. Berry, you can sit in my car!"

Ashlyn was thinking about it when a large hand suddenly wrapped around her tiny waist and pulled her into the backseat.

His tall stature pressed close next to her.

Ashlyn fell silent.

Did he have to be so overbearing?

She was under the impression that she had already made things very clear back in Royal Tea House.

However, by the looks of Lucas' actions, he still didn't get it.

On the way home, only Joseph tried to make some small talk as the other two stayed silent.

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Joseph felt like the other two basically saw him as a driver.

Lucas' large hand occasionally caressed Ashlyn's small waist. Her figure was pretty fit, with not an inch of flab to be found.

The skin beneath her white dress was as flawless as white jade.

In the deep velvet of the night's darkness, her beauty was even more striking.

Lucas' breathing started becoming heavy.

Ashlyn was on high alert and she felt the man beside her slowly change. She turned, silently moving away from him.

It was her way of soundlessly turning him down.

When Lucas felt Ashlyn's waist leave his grip, he felt a sudden sense of loss.

He seemed to be unable to control himself, reaching out once again. Ashlyn's hand shot out and gripped his wrist instantly. "Lucas. That's enough."

Joseph was still driving, but his ears were perked. He managed to get a glimpse of what was going on in the backseat through the rearview mirror.

Oh?

What's going on?

Lucas' voice was pressed deep and raspy as he whispered with sultry eyes, "Honey, quit playing around."

Joseph nearly crashed his car into the nearest lamppost.

What?

What was that?

Honey?

Was Ashlyn his best friend's ex-wife?

What a weird turn of events.

Was he joking?

“Lucas, we’ve already gotten divorced,” Ashlyn said clearly as she stared into his eyes.

“So what?” Lucas said, his eyes narrowed and his aura grew threatening.

“We’re divorced. That means we’re no longer together.”

The car had arrived at Sparrow. Sparrow was a club that was frequented by rich young men.

Naturally, the prices were ridiculously expensive.

Ashlyn brushed off Lucas’ hand from her waist and pulled open the door before walking off.

Lucas immediately followed.

The three of them, including Joseph, walked toward their private room.

The moment the door opened, the people sitting inside stood up to greet them. Only Winsor stayed seated.

Lyanna glanced at the girl next to Lucas quickly.

Her heart instantly sank.

She was pretty, down-to-earth, and overall stunning.

Every single one of her features was perfect and her face was dainty. She was almost dazzlingly gorgeous.

Her skin was fair and her neck shapely, like a swan’s. Her body was tall, tight and slim, with curves in all the right places.

Her white dress complimented her gorgeous features so well, it almost seemed like she was a goddess that descended down to earth.

She was the kind of girl who would fire up any man’s burning desire.

Winsor glanced at the doorway casually. The moment his eyes landed on Ashlyn, he got excited.

He walked toward Lucas, which left the others confused. Since when had Winsor become so chummy with Mr. Nolan?

Then, they heard Winsor's enthusiastic voice. "Ms. Berry, why didn't you tell me you were coming? You could have called me! If I'd known you were coming, then I'd have picked you up at the entrance myself!"

The others looked at him, even more confused. They'd never seen Winsor act so enthusiastically toward anyone before. He clearly wasn't being friendly toward Mr. Nolan, either. He was trying to flirt with this young lady.

To be fair, she was very pretty.

Almost unfairly pretty.

After he finished rambling, Winsor reached out and tried to grab Ashlyn's hand. However, Lucas acted quickly and stepped forward, blocking Ashlyn from Winsor's creepy glare. "Ignore him," he said, gesturing for Ashlyn to sit on one of the couches.

Ashlyn glanced briefly at Winsor. "Winsor Jaquin," was all she bothered to say.

The others were taken aback again. In all of Lake City, there weren't many people who dared to call Winsor by his full name.

Who was she to immediately call him by his name?

Lyanna scoffed inwardly. Just wait.

Do you really think you can get all high and mighty because he treated you a little better?

She looked up to see Winsor all smiley-eyed at Ashlyn. "Ms. Berry, what would you like to drink? Wine or something else?"

What?

Was he not angry?

Lucas started getting agitated simply by watching Winsor act like Ashlyn's dog.

He started frowning.

His large hand automatically wrapped around Ashlyn's waist, silently showing his dominance.

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Ashlyn fell silent.

Was it considered harassment if he acted like that? They were divorced, after all.

She twisted away, and Lucas' angry whisper sounded next to her ear. "If you keep moving, you'll know what's coming to you."

Ashlyn was a smart girl. Her body stiffened, clearly sensing the way Lucas' breath started to heat up. She knew very well what this all meant.

This man was getting fired up even in front of so many people!

How could he!

When he felt Ashlyn stop moving around, his hand tightened slightly.

Lucas picked up his glass and swirled it around slightly before taking a sip.

"Today, we're here to celebrate Lyanna's birthday! Let's all lighten up, okay?" a different young guy called out. "Come, I'll give you my gift first."

Ashlyn finally understood that they came to celebrate the birthday of the pretty woman in the middle of the room.

"Lyanna, this is for you." Joseph took out a wrapped box and passed it to Lyanna.

Everyone in their inner circle knew that Joseph had a big crush on Lyanna.

Lyanna had never been clear about who she liked, either, keeping their relationship ambiguous.

Lyanna opened the box and smiled at what was inside. "Thank you, Joseph."

There was a pretty expensive diamond necklace lying inside.

Lyanna was the daughter of the Larson family, and she had plenty of money behind her. She managed to sign a contract with Nolan Entertainment, so she didn't have much to worry about.

Now, she was the star of Nolan Entertainment. She had quite a few well-received movies under her belt, and most considered her an up-and-coming A-list celebrity.

Compared to some C-list celebrity like Cindy, she was much more famous. Recently, there had even been talk of her making a debut on the big screen.

Since she was a huge celebrity and was an actual socialite, she had plenty of admirers.

Damian was close to Lucas and Joseph, so their bunch of friends usually were huge supporters of her.

Plenty of other rich kids gave them their gifts, too.

Winsor looked at the flirtatious tension between Ashlyn and Lucas and frowned. "Why isn't Mr. Nolan giving a gift to our gorgeous Lyanna?"

The moment those words left his mouth, everyone looked at Lucas.

Lyanna, too, directed her gaze toward that tall, handsome man with a glimmer of hope in her eyes. However, she managed to hide it well enough that no one noticed.

Lucas' deep voice said, "Ah. Well, my wife gets jealous pretty easily. She doesn't like it when I give gifts to other women."

Ashlyn stayed silent once more.

Lucas, you better watch yourself.

Joseph frowned, not understanding what Lucas was saying. Hadn't they gotten divorced? Why is he calling her his wife?

Lyanna's pretty eyes darkened in disappointment, but once again, it happened so quickly that no one noticed it. She purposely acted nonchalant before saying, "That's fine. Lucas has never given me presents before this, either."

"Lucas, aren't you being a little too cold?" Joseph frowned.

Winsor raised an eyebrow as he looked at Lucas mockingly. "I didn't know Mr. Nolan was such a cheapskate."

Lucas picked up Ashlyn's hand and started playing with her fingers in his large palm. His magnetic voice spoke again. "I'm not a cheapskate. I'm simply a slave to my wife."

Winsor looked at Lucas' large hand playing around with Ashlyn's and got even more angry. "Why are you so close with Ms. Berry? Aren't you, your wife's slave, scared that Mrs. Nolan will get mad?"

At that moment, everyone looked toward Ashlyn.

They had all sensed the strange atmosphere between Ashlyn and Lucas since they walked in.

Now, with Winsor's obvious prodding, the gossips started getting interested.

"You're all welcome to let her know." Lucas tugged Ashlyn over and casually made her land on his lap.

Ashlyn's pristine features remained expressionless as she held onto Lucas' shoulder and whispered next to his ear, "Lucas, that's enough."

To the eyes of everyone else, it looked like shameless flirting.

Lyanna's expression started to sour as she looked at Ashlyn perched on Lucas' lap like some shameless succubus.

Lucas had been ignoring her for yet another year now. Every year, she held onto the hope that Lucas would give her a birthday gift. Every year, she'd be disappointed once again.