

Go After 441

Chapter 441

“Rosa, is it you? she asked in a quivering voice.”

“Yes, it’s me. Rosa blinked back her tears and answered with her voice raised.”

“Although Sophia was experiencing some hearing loss, she heard clearly what Rosa had said. She stretched out her withered hand to hold hers as she struggled to sit up. ”

Belle quickly stepped forward and supported her by holding up her back. She placed a pillow behind her and helped her lean against it as she patted her back to help her catch her breath.

“Rosa, I’m so happy that you have come to see me. I thought that you would never set foot in Harvey Manor again in your life. Tears streamed down her cheeks and her hands were trembling violently, as she held Rosa’s hand. ”

Rosa was filled with anguish and burst into tears. She lowered her head as tears streamed down her cheeks.

“Rosa, the Harvey family is indebted to you. Martin has betrayed your trust. We have never blamed your father for going against your engagement with Martin. After all, we are in the wrong and we have ruined your reputation. I’m truly delighted that you came and saw me today. You are so forgiving. I’m so blessed. I wasn’t wrong. You are indeed a kind soul. Sophia struggled to catch her breath as she spoke to Rosa. Belle was filled with sorrow, to see her in this state. So, she comforted Sophia.”

“Grandma, don’t worry. Rosa is a kind girl. She is reasonable and knows how to differentiate between good and bad. You have always been kind to her. The Harvey Group has treated her well. She remembers our kindness. ”

“Yes, Grandma. You have treated me like your grandchild since young. I still remember your kindness to me. I wanted to come and see you for a long time but I was busy with my studies. I’m so sorry that I’m late. Rosa wiped away her tears and held her hand. Her smile was strained. ”

“Thank you, Rosa. It looks like you have really grown up well. Sophia smiled with pleasure. ”

“Both of you have been under my care since young and you have been my daughter-in-law. Sophia placed Rosa’s and Belle’s hands together and held them tightly. “”It’s a shame that my grandchildren don’t know how to appreciate you. Now that Calvin and Belle are back together, I can finally be at ease. As for Martin, he brought it upon himself. Hence, he can’t blame anyone else.”” ”

“Upon finishing her sentence, she glanced at Rosa, with her eyes brimming with tears. “”Rosa, Martin has brought it upon himself. Hence, I will not be so selfish as to beg you to forgive him. It’s a blessing if you can forgive him, but if you don’t, that’s his punishment. He has done something very wrong and I don’t dare to ask you to forgive him. He has grown up in a terrible environment and it has affected him negatively. It’s my fault for not raising him well. Rosa, no matter who you choose to marry in the future, I will give you my blessing. I have prepared a dowry for you as well, and I will ask Belle to hand it to you on your wedding day. After all, we are pretty close, even if you are not my flesh and blood. To me, you are just like my granddaughter.”” ”

“As Sophia spoke, the smile warmed her eyes. Her gaze softened and a smile touched the corners of her mouth when she glanced at Rosa. ”

“Thank you, Grandma. Rosa was very touched. She sniffed and wiped away her tears. She wanted to reject the gift but she was afraid that Sophia would be disappointed. Hence, she nodded her head. ”

“Relief washed over Sophia after speaking everything that was on her mind. It seemed that she had used up all her energy for the conversation. She leaned against the pillow, panting heavily as she closed her eyes. ”

“Belle helped her lie down on the bed and covered her with the quilt. She also asked for the medical team to come over and check on her condition. Once it was confirmed that there was nothing wrong with Sophia, she led Rosa out of the room. ”

“Ruth, thank you for taking care of Grandma. You have done a very good job. Ruth followed them out of the room. Seeing Ruth’s haggard face, Belle was filled with gratitude and thanked her. ”

“Madam, this is my duty. Ruth smiled and answered modestly. ”

“Ruth, do you think that there is anything wrong with Grandma? Rosa was pretty anxious and glanced at her as she asked with a solemn expression. She knew that Ruth was a doctor and would be able to diagnose Sophia’s condition. ”

“Ruth’s eyelids drooped. She stared at their faces, which were filled with hope and said gently,
””Madam, Miss Rosa, it’s hard to say for sure. Considering her age and her bed-ridden condition currently, even if you manage to recruit the best medical team...”” ”

“She did not need to say further. They understood what she meant. Besides, Sophia was getting old. At her age, nothing was certain. ”

“On the Central Island of Harvey Manor, the scenery was breathtaking, with greenery and blooming flowers. ”

Belle and Rosa strode down the path with a heavy heart. Both of them were lost in thought.

“The scene during the New Year’s Day banquet two years ago was still vivid in their memory. However, things had changed ever since. ”

“Belle, back then, right in this spot, Lexie was acting pretty arrogant and Tristan was in high spirits. I thought Calvin was going to marry Lexie and I was filled with sorrow. After knowing what Martin had done, I was heartbroken. Everything changed that day. However, I finally understand what was on Calvin’s mind back then. He is a loyal man who values his family and partner above all. He is worthy of your love. Now that you guys are having a good time together, I’m indeed delighted for you. Rosa sighed. Two years had passed in the blink of an eye. How quickly the time went by!”

Belle also looked up at the stage in the middle of Central Island as she reminisced about the past.

“Rosa, thank you for staying by our side when the Harvey Group is in trouble. I’m over the moon to be able to see you today. Thank you so much. Belle spun around and held her arm. ”

The sincerity on her face touched Rosa.

“Belle, my feelings for Harvey Manor are no less than yours. I used to come here often as a kid and I have spent more time over here compared to you. Now that the Harvey Group is in trouble, I must come over. What’s more, Grandma is in a bad state. Please don’t say anything like this again. It will only make me embarrassed. Rosa lowered her head in embarrassment. ”

She was wearing a light pink dress. It enhanced the blush on her cheeks. She was stunning and youthful.

Belle glanced at her and held her hand even tighter as they walked on.

“Rosa, to be honest, the Harvey Group has encountered a major crisis this time. Calvin and I have no idea whether we can survive it. ”

“Fear gripped Rosa’s heart. After a while, she shook her head and said, “”Belle, no. Things aren’t as bad as you think. The Harvey Group is wealthy and powerful. Besides, the company has been around for a very long time. It won’t be destroyed because of this. Believe me, you must have faith that it will work out somehow.”””

“Although Rosa’s heart was pounding rapidly, what Belle said made her feel very uneasy. To be honest, she really did not want anything to happen to the Harvey Group. ”

“Rosa, you don’t understand. Even a powerful company can be ruined by a carefully plotted out scheme. What’s more, it has something to do with politics. It’s a tragedy, Belle said calmly. Nobody knew the situation better than she did. ”

“At the moment, the Harvey Group was in the limelight. Many were jealous of them and wanted to make the company their own. However, not many were willing to support them.”

“To make matters worse, the enemy was in the dark. They did not even have a clue about the enemy’s identity. ”

“Belle pondered the matter with a heavy heart. For example, she felt that something was seriously strange about Liya’s behavior. However, she couldn’t quite put her finger on it. She couldn’t even identify what she had done wrong. Besides, Liya was hired by her. Even if she knew that something was wrong, she cannot complain about it.”” ”

“The weather was genial and the sky expanded above, like an ever-growing dream. A cool breeze touched the warmth of their cheeks. ”

Rosa had a bad feeling about the situation after hearing what Belle said. A long silence followed as none could think of what to say.

A bird chirped and she raised her head.

The bird on the tree had a yellow bill and emerald feathers. It was very beautiful.

The bird chirped when she looked at it as if it knew her.

“Martin, I want that bird! A girl yelled as she tagged along behind Martin. Her voice was sweet and pleasant to the ears. ”

These birds are a precious species that Grandpa had bought from all around the world. They are raised to contribute to the environment and maintain the balance of the ecosystem. It's illegal to catch them. Do you understand? The boy retorted in annoyance.

"Well, then I don't want it. The girl pouted and lowered her head."

"Martin, why have you been sitting over here for so long? Let's go home. The girl ran over after playing for a while on the swing. She asked the boy who had been sitting under the tree, apparently in a daze, as he stared blankly ahead. "

"Rosa, you are the one who wanted to follow me. If you are bored, then leave. Don't disturb me. A flash of annoyance crossed his gloomy face. He was being pretty rude and disregarded her. "

The girl was furious but she did not leave.

"The boy had handsome and charming features. His expression was gloomy and no matter how hard she tried, she could not seem to understand what was on his mind. Slowly, she became infatuated with him. It happened when they were still kids. "

"However, once they grew up..."

"Rosa shook her head and tried to dismiss those thoughts which troubled her. In her opinion, although he remained mysterious as an adult, he could not be forgiven after what he had done. She could not accept him anymore. Besides, he had never like her before."

Rosa who was always cheerful and optimistic fell silent.

"Rosa, were you telling the truth when you mentioned that you wished to return to the Harvey Group and aid us as we try to overcome the difficulties ahead? Belle held her hand as she noticed her gloomy expression and the sorrow in her eyes. She sighed. Two years had passed. Rosa had changed. She had grown up and she was now much more mature."

Rosa turned her face away as if she was thinking about how to answer her question.

"She admitted that she had said that she wished to return to the Harvey Group and help them as they overcome the challenges ahead when she first set foot in her office. However, she had blurted it out without thinking it through, as she was agitated. In reality, how was it possible? "

"Now that she was no longer engaged to Martin, she had nothing to do with the Harvey Group. If she really did stay to help them, what would she be doing it for? She was no longer part of the family. "

"What's more, ever since the summer vacation, General Perry had been urging her to return and go on a blind date as she was already 25 years old. "

"Belle understood what was on her mind right away upon reading her expression. She merely smiled and said, ""Rosa, my apologies for being so impudent. It's just my wishful thinking. I am Calvin's wife. Hence, it is my duty to protect the Harvey Group. However, you aren't part of the family. I have no right to ask you to help us. I'm sorry. I was just being selfish. Please ignore what I have said."" "

"As she spoke, she held Rosa's hand and they strolled down the path. "

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“Belle, it’s not what you think. I do wish to help but I don’t think that I would be much of a help. After all, I do not have any power. Seeing the look of disappointment on her face, Rosa felt sorry. She lowered her head and stammered, as her fingers fidgeted nervously. She really wanted to help the Harvey Group. Although she said it out of agitation, it was what she had been thinking all this while.”

“Who says? You can definitely be of help. Belle shook her head and smiled. She said firmly, ““Have you forgotten? Back then, we organized the New Year Eve’s banquet together right over here. It was a big success. Although Lexie stole our spotlight, we both knew that it was a result of our team effort. We cooperated pretty well together. Didn’t we?””

Rosa was stunned. She thought for a moment and her face broke into a grin.

Her words rang true.

“However, Belle, this isn’t as simple as planning a grand banquet. It’s far more complicated and a scheme is involved. Rosa shook her head, not looking very confident. Besides, it seemed inappropriate for her to intervene in the Harvey family’s matters.”

“Belle chuckled out of a sudden. ““Rosa, have you forgotten? Back then, our only focus was to organize a grand banquet. However, Calvin utilized that opportunity to plot a scheme against Tristan and succeeded in bringing him into custody. Hence, whether it’s a banquet or a scheme, it’s all the same. First of all, we must have the confidence that we can pull it off.””

“When she heard what Belle said, Rosa stood up and was lost in thought.”

“Rosa, I wanted to ask you. Do you know where Martin is now? Did he try to look for you? Belle suddenly changed the topic.”

“She had a reason to ask her about this. There were not many men among the younger generation of the Harvey family. Calvin and Martin were the only grandsons of Sophia. Although Sophia was forced to drive Martin away, she was filled with anguish when she did so. Belle was well aware of it.”

“Now that the Harvey family was in trouble and Sophia’s health was deteriorating, she had every reason to find Martin and bring him back to the Harvey Group.”

A family needs to remain united in difficult times like this.

“Now that the family was facing a crisis, Martin ought to return to help, or at least, take advantage of this opportunity to achieve something. After all, he was still part of the Harvey family. Nothing could change that. His return would also bring joy to Sophia, who was severely ill, and fulfill her wish.”

“Belle, when I left the country, Martin came to find me at the airport but I rejected him. After that, I had never seen him again. However, from what I know, he remained abroad. Rosa understood the importance of the current situation and said bitterly.”

“Back then, he swore to become successful and make others look up to him. If that was the case, he probably hadn’t returned.”

“Moreover, she had a hunch that he was living somewhere not far from her. There were a few times when she caught a glimpse of his figure as she walked out of the school gates. However, once she looked carefully, he had already disappeared. Although she could not say for sure, her instincts told her that she was right. ”

“Oh, do you happen to know which city he is in? Belle was on cloud nine upon hearing what she said and inquired immediately.”

“To her disappointment, Rosa shook her head.”

“This made Belle a little discouraged, but she decided that she would go abroad as well in the next few days. After all, she had to check on the situation over there, after the cars had been recalled from the market. ”

“Rosa, how long are you going to stay in A city this time around? Belle inquired. She sighed. If only Martin hadn’t chosen the wrong path and they had been married instead, what a blessing it would be. ”

“If that was the case, both of them could protect the Harvey Group together. Although the Harvey Group belonged to Hudson, as long as she was willing to do so, she couldn’t see why they could not work together in the company. However, this was no longer possible. ”

What was done was done. The misdeeds that Martin had done could not be erased.

Both of them held hands as they strolled leisurely along the path.

“Belle, Sergio’s father wants me to be their daughter-in-law. After a while, Rosa spoke hesitatingly. Her voice was so soft that it was barely audible. However, Belle heard what she said. ”

“Belle merely replied, ““Oh.”” ”

“Sergio was the son of one of the most promising politicians in Capital City. Rosa’s father was an important figure as well. They had similar family backgrounds. It was only normal that Yadiel wanted an arranged marriage between the two families. It was also natural that General Perry would agree to the arranged marriage. Hence, Belle was not surprised at all. ”

“Belle, what do you think of Sergio? Rosa noticed that Belle was not surprised at all and accepted the news calmly. After all, she also felt that it was a sound arrangement. She was already 25 years old. General Perry had insisted that she return during her summer break for the marriage.”

Her thoughts of Sergio?

“Belle thought for a moment and asked, ““Rosa, do you have any feelings towards Sergio?”” ”

“Rosa’s eyes widened in shock. She shook her head immediately after a moment’s thought. ““Belle, I have never thought of marrying Sergio. I don’t really know him, let alone have feelings towards him. It’s all so sudden.”” ”

A slow smile worked its way across Belle’s face and into her eyes.

“Are you kidding? Sergio is a remarkable man. He has good looks and is pretty charming. He is like the Prince Charming that many women yearn for. His Dad is about to run for the State Governor’s position.

If he wins, their family would be powerful. Sergio's future would be bright. If you marry him, you will live a life of luxury. Although she was teasing her, her expression was serious. What she said was true. Sergio did have many strengths. "

Rosa's face fell when she heard what she said.

"Belle, you know as well that I value relationships over a person's background. I want someone who truly loves and cares about me. Someone whom I can talk to and rely on for the rest of my life. I don't want someone who only desires power and has great ambitions. Sergio is pretty outstanding, but I feel that he and his family value power too much, which was why I did not agree to the marriage immediately, she said softly. There was a hint of exasperation in her voice. "

"Rosa, you have truly grown up and become more mature. You finally know what you want. What Rosa said surprised Belle and she gasped in admiration at once. "

"She was really thrilled to see Rosa thinking so rationally. Although Sergio was outstanding, he was not suitable for Rosa. That was the key message. "

Belle approved of what Rosa said. She was on the right track.

"Belle, I just said what was on my mind. But to be honest, I'm at a loss as to what to do as well. Considering my family background, my Dad will never let me marry someone with a lower social status. Hence, I don't have much of a choice. Besides, I'm already 25 years old. When Yadriel proposed the idea, my father agreed right away. I bet that Yadriel was aware of my father's concerns as well and he utilized it to his advantage. After all, I was previously engaged to Martin and everyone knows that. Rosa lowered her head and sighed. A look of exasperation crossed her face. "

"Rosa, have you ever loved someone after all these years? For example, a classmate? Belle examined her. She recalled that she had fallen in love with Calvin when they were just kids. What about Rosa? She was already 25 years old. Could it be that she had never loved anyone before? "

"Belle's question caught Rosa off guard. She pondered the matter and she looked more confused than ever. After a long silence, she shook her head. "

"Alas, silly girl. You are so outstanding. Don't worry, you will definitely find a guy who loves you and adores you. Don't worry. Belle comforted her in a soft voice. "

"Rosa lowered her head and pondered for a while. She then raised her head suddenly and her face lit up with joy as an idea crossed her mind. She asked, ""Belle, is Sergio in charge of the Harvey Group's case?""

Yes.

"This means he will remain in the Harvey Group until the truth is out, am I right? Rosa continued. "

I think so. Belle nodded and answered.

"Well, Belle, I will stay and keep you company. I will do my best to help the Harvey Group survive the crisis. I already thought of an idea on how to persuade my father. Rosa had a smug smile on her face. Her smile widened. It showed off her dimples and it made her look very cute and lively. "

What do you mean? Belle looked at her with a smile.

“It’s very simple. I can just tell my father that Sergio is handling the Harvey Group’s case and I want to get to know him more before I give him an answer. Anyway, once the matter has been resolved, I will give him my answer. Besides, marriage should not be taken lightly. It will be a perfect opportunity for me to see if we are suitable together before I make a decision. But the most important thing is, it would be a perfect excuse for me to stay and help the Harvey Group during troubling times like this. Upon saying that, Rosa was ecstatic. ““Don’t worry, Belle. Since Sergio is in charge of this case, I will try my best to make him prove the company’s innocence. After all, his father is going to run for the State Governor’s position, he won’t dare to offend my father just yet. You guys need not worry about him.”” ”

“Upon finishing her sentence, a look of joy and satisfaction lit up her eager face. Rosa was feeling very proud of herself for coming up with such a splendid idea. It was a brilliant idea, especially to her. It was the best option she had right now. ”

“Thank you. Belle nodded and held Rosa’s hand tightly, flashing her a smile. ”

“However, would they be able to prove the Harvey Group’s innocence? Belle was skeptical. ”

“Belle, I was cracking my head, trying to come up with an idea to persuade my Dad. Now I finally have an excuse! Rosa’s smile broadened into a grin and she held Belle’s hand tightly. ““Don’t worry. Let me stay and help you protect the Harvey Group. Let’s survive this together. I have always believed that justice will prevail. Evil cannot triumph over good. As long as we have done nothing wrong, everything will work out eventually.”” ”

“Yes, you are right. What Rosa said inspired Belle and put her in a good mood. She beamed from ear to ear. ““Now that I have your support, I feel much more confident.”” ”

“Okay, let’s work hard together. Rosa flashed her a smile and they held each other’s hands tightly. ”

“At this moment, the sun was shining brightly over the horizon, lighting up the golden roof of Harvey Manor. The building was shining brightly, surrounded by a dazzling, golden light. Besides, the compound was full of dense greenery. It was truly a breathtaking scene!”

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“At the main office of the Sky Sword Group, Zoella, who was wearing a white dress and a black shawl, was sitting at her desk. Her silky hair fell over her shoulders and she looked very elegant and charming. ”

“She was holding a pen, and was lost in thought, as she stared at the computer screen.”

“Octavia walked in and said softly, ““Miss Yates, Mr. Jones is here.”””

“Zoella, who was staring at the computer screen, narrowed her eyes. Her mouth twisted into that wry smile again and her eyes twinkled with mirth. She was not paying attention to what Octavia was saying. ”

“Octavia did not receive a response after standing there for a while. Hence, she could only raise her voice. ““Mr. Oscar is here.”” ”

“What did you say? Who’s here? she asked incredulously. Upon hearing Oscar’s name being mentioned, Zoella finally came to her senses. ”

“Mr. Jones, Mr. Oscar. Octavia had to repeat what she said. ”

Why was he here? Zoella’s gaze turned ice-cold and it was dripping with spite.

“Octavia couldn’t help but tremble with fear when she saw Zoella’s withering stare, although it was not chilly in the room. ”

Let him in. Zoella’s icy expression only lasted for a few seconds. She soon calmed down and she instructed Octavia calmly. An enigmatic smile spread across her face.

She didn’t expect that Matteo would really ask his good-for-nothing son to come over and keep an eye on her. Amazing!

“After a while, the scent of cologne wafted towards her.”

“Although the scent of the cologne was alluring and it was popular among men nowadays, Zoella sniffed with disgust when she saw Oscar’s bald and plump figure appeared before her. He literally reeked of sweat and the scent of the cologne no longer seemed appealing. ”

“Honey. As soon as Oscar set foot in the office, he sat down immediately on the couch and beamed from ear to ear when he looked at Zoella’s attractive figure, as well as her skin, which was tender and soft to touch. He longed for her so terribly and was satisfied with her looks. “”It must have been hard for you. My dad told me that it’s not easy for a woman to handle a company all by herself and asked me to come over and help you. You can just sit back and relax.”” ”

“He flashed her a smile, looking very gleeful. His gaze remained riveted upon her face and the desire on his face was so apparent. Anyone could see that he wanted more than anything to reach his hands out to touch her smooth and tender skin. He was getting increasingly impatient and gulped repeatedly throughout the conversation. ”

“Zoella gave him a sideways glance and almost shuddered in disgust. This plump and ugly man had his gaze riveted upon her body. His eyes were filled with lust and judging from his expression, it seemed that he regarded her as his plaything. His expression told her clearly that he was aroused and wanted to sleep with her. ”

“She wanted to puke in disgust. Feeling nauseous, she covered her mouth and steadied herself. ”

“It would already be a blessing if Oscar had not disrupted her plans, but to help her? What utter rubbish! ”

“Oscar, I have something to do here. Why don’t you go to the hotel and get yourself a room to rest in the meantime. Once I’m done, I will go and meet you, Zoella said gently, forcing a smile.”

“Oscar stared at her beautiful features, and her charming and captivating smile. He was super satisfied with the wife his father had ‘procured’ for him. His gaze fleeted across her face and fell on her bosom. The sight made his stomach churn with excitement and his desires manifested. He was reluctant to leave at the moment. ”

“Honey, there’s no need to rush. I’m not tired at all. The sight of you makes me pretty energetic. Let me keep you company, Oscar said gleefully as he stole a glance at her exposed, ample cleavage, and gulped. He wished more than ever to stretch out his hands to grab her breasts and satisfy his desires. Hence, he was not going to leave so easily. ”

Zoella’s expression darkened. She could clearly see the desire in his eyes and it filled her with disgust. She would rather commit suicide than let his filthy hands touch her.

“However, she had to come up with a plan to send him away or he would definitely get his way. With him over here, she could not plan out her revenge in peace. ”

“Octavia, Oscar has come from afar. It must be a tiring journey. Hurry up and pour him some water to quench his thirst. Zoella spun around and smiled smugly as she instructed Octavia. As she spoke, she winked at her and gave her a meaningful look.”

“Octavia understood at once what she wanted her to do. With a smile, she nodded her head and left the office. ”

“After a while, Octavia returned with a porcelain cup filled with water. ”

“Come, Oscar, have some water. Surprisingly, Zoella was very enthusiastic and handed him the cup of water herself.”

“Oscar could not believe his eyes. She was coming closer to him. Mesmerized by her beauty and her captivating smile, Oscar gulped in excitement. Beaming, he gladly accepted the cup of water. ”

“As he held the cup, he caught sight of her slender hands and seized the opportunity to hold her hand. Zoella already expected that he would do something like that, but all she did was to smile in response. She did not withdraw her hand. He stroked her hand gently and she seized the chance to push the cup against his lips. She said gently, ““Oscar, drink some water first. The weather is pretty hot.”” ”

“Yes, yes, honey. I am kind of thirsty. Holding her hand in his made him even thirstier and he parted his lips and gulped down the cup of water.”

“Zoella quickly withdrew her hand from his and smiled as she asked, ““Are you still thirsty? Would you like another cup of water?”””

“Oscar giggled sheepishly. After a while, his eyelids drooped and he collapsed onto the couch. ”

“What a fool. Once he fainted, the smile on Zoella’s face vanished in an instant and it was replaced with an icy stare. She stretched out her legs to kick him hard before dashing into the toilet, and washed her hands repeatedly with lots of soap. It wasn’t until her hands were red from excessive washing did she stop. ”

“Finally, she came out of the toilet and looked at Oscar, who was lying spread out on the couch in disgust. She instructed Octavia. ““Call a few security guards over to carry him to the hotel room.”” ”

Okay. Octavia immediately called for the security guards to come over and they soon carried him out of the office. Octavia followed them to the hotel to make the necessary arrangements.

Zoella stood silently by the side. She watched as Oscar was carried out of her office. She placed her hand on her chest and her expression was unreadable.

“After a while, she sat down on her chair and laughed hysterically as she stared at her computer. ”

“Soon! Soon, I will be able to leave Oscar for good and I need not bear with him anymore, she muttered silently to herself and there was a crazed look on her face. ”

“Meanwhile, at Calvin’s office. Alberton, a software engineer whom Calvin had sent abroad to be trained in secret was sitting at the desk, as he looked through the program on the computer. He was very focused and his expression was solemn. ”

“Calvin leaned against the couch and remained as motionless as a statue, looking very serious. ”

“Mr. Harvey, there doesn’t seem to be anything wrong with the program. I can’t seem to find anything that looks suspicious. Some time later, Alberton announced, raising his head, after he had checked through everything numerous times. ”

Calvin raised his eyebrows and frowned in disbelief. “Are you saying that the program for the cars designed by the network department is fine and that there’s nothing wrong with it? Are you sure?”

Alberton checked the program once more before nodding confidently.

That’s right. I don’t see any flaws with this program. Alberton nodded his head and phrased his answer carefully.

“Calvin narrowed his eyes slightly, lost in thought. His expression was unreadable. ”

“In your opinion, do you think that the implanting of the nation’s top secrets into the program had been carried out by an outsider or was it someone in our company? Calvin asked, taking a deep breath.”

“Alberton thought for a moment before responding hesitantly, “”To be honest, implanting something into the cars’ GPS can be done by an outsider as well as someone in the company. It can be done easily by hacking into the system. Hence, it’s kind of hard to say for sure.”” ”

“Calvin remained silent and did not budge. It was just a hunch. However, it seemed that he was just being paranoid. ”

“You can leave now. Continue checking for anything wrong with the program. Feel free to ask me if you have any questions. Calvin gave a dismissive wave of his hand and Alberton left the office. He was then lost in thought as he pondered the matter. A few days had passed, yet there was no progress. They did not have a clue how everything had gone wrong. On top of that, they did not have a lead. If this continued, all the cars produced by the Harvey Group would be recalled from the market forever and it would incur huge losses to the company. ”

“However, as long as the truth remained undiscovered, Sergio and his team would not leave the company. As time progressed, the company would fail to operate properly and the other industries would be affected as well.”

The other industries might go out of business due to the incident.

It would be a huge blow to the company.

“Presently, everything remained peaceful on the surface, although the cars produced by the Harvey Group had been recalled from the market. All the other industries were still in development as planned, without any signs of them being affected. However, Calvin knew that danger was imminent.”

Everything was starting to go out of control.

He had been in the business world for a very long time. How could he not know that a crisis was coming?

The thought crossed his mind and he picked up the phone and made a call.

“Liya, come to my office right now. He picked up the phone and placed it by his ear. His tone was gentle, and his voice was pleasant to the ears.”

Okay. Liya was ecstatic. She put down the phone and her face flushed crimson.

Calvin had called her. He wanted to see her. This was the first time he had asked to see her!

“She rushed into the toilet in a hurry to touch up her makeup. After making sure that she looked very stunning, she waltzed into the VIP elevator.”

“As the elevator ascended to the 88th floor, she examined herself in the mirror. She turned around, showing off her slender figure.”

Calvin asked her to go over to his office. This was the first time she received a call from him. His voice was so gentle and sweet. Liya couldn’t help but to beam with excitement.

“Mr. Harvey, Calvin. Liya walked into the office, looking very graceful and elegant. A sweet smile was plastered across her face and she gave him a seductive look.”

Calvin was sitting on the couch and he flashed her a charming smile.

“Calvin, what can I do for you? Her smile was captivating and beautiful, as her face flushed scarlet.”

“Calvin looked at her. His gaze was ice-cold, and his expression was unreadable as he stood up abruptly. ““Yes,”” he replied with an air of indifference.”

“As he responded, he walked past her. The smell of cologne wafted towards her and her heart pounded rapidly.”

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“Liya, you have performed well ever since you joined the company. The program you have designed is pretty good as well. Calvin took out a USB drive from his drawer and placed it on the table. He flashed her a smile and complimented her.”

“Thank you so much for the compliment, Calvin. It’s my honor to be able to work in Harvey Group. Liya was filled with delight upon receiving his praise. Jubilant, she showered him with flattery.”

"I didn't expect you to work so hard for the sake of Harvey Group. It's beyond my expectation. What about this? I will inform the finance department to increase your salary by 50% from today onwards, he announced. The smile warmed his eyes. He was being pretty generous."

"Really? Liya raised her head and exclaimed in delight. She looked at him with moist, shining, and ecstatic eyes."

"Of course, why would I lie to you? Calvin's smile broadened into a grin and he said firmly, ""Didn't I mention that you have done a great job? The company will definitely give you the reward you deserve."" "

"Okay, thank you so much, Calvin. Liya was over the moon and she batted her eyelashes at him. There was affection in her eyes."

"It was a dream come true! Calvin had treated her so coldly just a few days ago. However, he was being so good to her right now. Not only did he call for her himself, he also decided to give her a pay rise. The change in his attitude was so sudden that she was not accustomed to it. In fact, she found it hard to believe."

"Liya, how did you come to work at the Harvey Group? Calvin sat down at his desk and asked casually."

"Liya was stunned for a moment before she smiled and said, ""Calvin, I saw that the Harvey Group was looking for a software engineer. Hence, I submitted my resume and Mr. White informed me to come over for the interview. On my first day here, I met Ms. Morris and she agreed to let me stay in the company as an official employee."

She was eloquent and clear about the details. Everything seemed logical.

"Calvin nodded and sighed. ""What a shame. Liya, since you recognized me at first glance, why didn't you come to find me right away and tell me that you wished to work at my company?"" "

"As he spoke, he looked at her with his charming eyes and gave her a meaningful look. It made Liya's heart beat rapidly."

"Calvin, I... Liya did not expect that Calvin would say something like that and was at a loss for words for a moment. However, she responded quickly by lowering her head and her full lips pouted slightly. She said pitifully, ""Calvin, you have a high social status whereas I'm a nobody. I didn't dare to approach you."" "

"For the first two times she encountered him, his attitude was cold and detached. Besides, he did not recognize her. Hence, she didn't dare to even walk up to him."

"Oh, so that's your first impression of the company. Do you think we value a person's social status over their abilities? Calvin furrowed his brows and sneered as he stared at her. ""If that's the case, why did you approach me after that and revealed your identity? How are you going to explain this?"" "

This... I... Liya was caught off guard by his question that she could not utter a single word. She couldn't possibly say that she was infatuated with him and wished to seduce him.

Could it be that he had figured out her intentions?

“The thought crossed her mind and she grew a little uneasy as she looked at him sheepishly. Upon noticing that he was looking at her calmly and did not seem to be suspicious of her, she calmed down and said sweetly, ““Calvin, I know that the company values a person’s abilities above all. Hence, I did not approach you at first, as I wanted to prove my worth and make you proud.”” ”

“Oh, that’s no wonder. Calvin burst out laughing suddenly. ““Good, that’s great! Continue doing your best. Once the company has survived the current crisis, I will give you a promotion. You know as well that I’m wealthy and powerful. A mere trifle such as what has happened to the car industry will not affect the company at all. What do you think?”” ”

“Yes, you are right, Liya echoed his words and nodded in agreement. She heaved a sigh of relief. It looked like he did not notice that something was amiss. He was just curious.”

“Zoella was right. Calvin was becoming increasingly interested in her. If that was the case, once she received the money from Calvin, she would then pay Zoella back. After all, compared to working for Zoella, she would rather stay at Harvey Group. She did not wish to be Zoella’s pawn for revenge. Liya understood her predicament well. She was not willing to be used by Zoella and sacrifice herself for her revenge. ”

“Okay, you may leave now. I’ll call you again if I need anything. Calvin flashed her a smile and he was being pretty friendly. The smile warmed his eyes and it made Liya’s heart race with joy. ”

“Okay, Calvin, I’ll take my leave, Liya replied in a soft and sweet voice, beaming. Her slender figure then spun around as she slowly walked out of the office. ”

“As soon as Belle and Rosa set foot at the International Triumphant Court and waited in front of the VIP elevator, they saw Liya coming out of the VIP elevator. She was blushing and giggling sheepishly. ”

“Good afternoon, Ms. Morris. Upon seeing Belle, she could not hide the smugness on her face as she parted her lips and greeted her carefully. ”

Why did she use the VIP elevator?

“Belle found it very suspicious. After all, it was the VIP elevator. At the moment, it was reserved only for her and Calvin. The other employees could only use the other elevators. Why was she here? There was only one plausible explanation. She had just come back from Calvin’s office. ”

Belle recalled her behavior in front of Calvin when she was present a few days ago and this put her in a bad mood.

“Belle, is this woman working in the Harvey Group as well? Rosa glanced towards Liya’s direction as she walked away. Her curiosity was piqued. ”

“Yes, she’s an employee in the network department, Belle replied, apparently lost in thought. ”

“She is quite beautiful. Her eyes are captivating. She looks like those women who are experts at seducing men. Rosa pondered for a moment before she grinned. ““Belle, you must be careful. Don’t let Calvin fall for a woman like her.”” ”

“Rosa had hit a raw nerve. Fear gripped at her heart and she said right away, ““How dare he? If he dares to do something like this right under my eyes, I will not let the matter slide easily.”” ”

She was deeply troubled as she spoke.

“Well, anything’s possible. A man can’t reject a woman who flirts with him, let alone a woman who is attractive and knows how to please a man. Men are all the same. To put it lightly, you must be careful. Rosa replied dismissively, pouting.”

“Belle’s heart sank and she was feeling very dejected. Soon, they arrived at the 88th floor. ”

“Rosa, you may stay here at my office for the next few days. I’m going abroad. Belle frowned, apparently lost in thought. ”

“As they spoke, someone appeared at the door. It was Calvin. He strode into the office. ”

“Rosa, you’re here? He heard Rosa’s voice from the office beside and walked over as he greeted her cordially. ”

“Rosa turned around and said, ““Calvin, I’m here to see Belle and help her.”” ”

“Oh, thank you for your help then. As soon as Calvin entered the room, he caught a glimpse of Belle standing silently by the side. Her face was pale and she did not look at him affectionately, which seemed pretty unusual. In fact, it seemed that she was in a bad mood and there was a sullen expression on her face. Worried, Calvin was about to approach her when Sergio walked into the office. ”

Calvin frowned when he saw him. A flash of irritation crossed his gaze.

“Rosa, I have something to talk to you about. He entered the office and said to Rosa, ““Please come with me.”””

“Rosa’s expression darkened and she glanced at Belle, who was also looking at her before she followed him out of the office. ”

“Rosa, I don’t wish for you to be involved in the Harvey Group’s matters. General Perry has already said the day before that you are going to return to the Capital City. Upon entering his office, Sergio addressed Rosa with a solemn expression. ”

“Rosa’s temper sparked when she heard that he had told her father regarding her arrival. How overbearing was he? Who did he think he was? She immediately raised her eyebrows as she glared at him. ““Sergio, or should I say, Mr. Xanthe, you can’t control what I do. I will do as I wish. Besides, this is my personal affair. What does it have to do with you? How dare you tell my father about this. What a j*rk!”” ”

What Sergio did was enough to ruin her impression of him.

“Rosa, the matter regarding Harvey Group is pretty complex. You are just an outsider and you don’t understand the predicament. You can’t be of much help. Getting involved in this matter will only ruin General Perry’s reputation. I’m advising you for your own sake and I really hope that you can leave as soon as possible. ”

Sergio did not care what she thought of him. His expression was solemn and his tone was stern. It never crossed his mind that Rosa would intervene in this matter. This gave him a headache and he was extremely frustrated.

“Really? Rosa sneered. “”Thanks for your reminder. However, I’m a person who loves to meddle in other people’s affairs out of boredom. Besides, I have a close relationship with those in the Harvey Group. I won’t just sit back and watch when they are in trouble.”” ”

“Upon finishing her sentence, Rosa raised her head and glared at him as she snorted in disgust. She gave him a look of disdain, looking very indignant and unsatisfied. ”

“Sergio was seriously getting a headache. “”Rosa, what relationship do you have with the Harvey Group? Don’t forget, you are no longer engaged to Martin. Can you imagine what people will say behind your back if you continue staying here? Or are you still madly in love with the ex-convict, Martin?”””

“Sergio, how can you say something like that? Burning anger spread across her body when she heard what he said. Rage overcame her. She glared at him and gave him a warning. “”Let me be frank with you. I may not be part of the Harvey Group but this is none of your business. We aren’t close or anything. What I do has nothing to do with you. Let me say this one last time. I’m going to intervene in the Harvey Group’s matters. Although your father has proposed an arranged marriage between both of our families, I haven’t given my consent. I already spoke to my dad that I will remain here at the Harvey Group while I keep an eye on you. He has agreed to let me stay here for a while. Let me tell you. If you fail to prove the Harvey Group’s innocence, I will not hesitate to reject the marriage proposal and I will definitely teach you a lesson.”” ”

“Rosa was seething with anger as she drove her point across. Fuming mad, she snorted and left. Sergio was left alone in a daze. His lips grew thin with anger. “

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“Belle, did you go home just now? Is Jerry alright? As soon as Rosa left the office, Calvin walked towards her and reached out his hand to touch her. However, for some inexplicable reason, Belle seemed to be in a bad mood and avoided him. ”

She recalled Liya’s expression when she went out of the elevator a moment ago and it made her even more upset. Liya was apparently in high spirits.

Calvin was startled when Belle avoided him. He glanced at her and was a little taken aback to see her gloomy expression. His mind raced.

“Did Jerry say that he missed me? he asked gently with a grin. However, a flash of anguish crossed his face. ”

“Yes, he was wailing, begging me not to leave. Belle could still hear the sound of Jerry weeping and it made her heart ache terribly. She raised her head as she was choked with sobs.”

Calvin fell silent.

“Calvin, I’m going abroad for a while. She pondered the matter for a while before firmly stating her wish.”

“Oh, why though? Calvin was surprised when he heard that she was going aboard. His voice was filled with concern as he asked.”

What else can I do? I'm going to settle the issues over there. All the cars have been recalled from the market. I must go over and check on the situation. Belle's expression was solemn.

"Sure, Calvin replied after only a moment's thought. ""When are you leaving?"" "

"Tomorrow, Belle answered clearly."

"Calvin raised his head and looked at her. He seemed to be preoccupied with something when he said, ""If there's a lot to do over there, you can stay there for a few days or go on a vacation. Enjoy yourself over there."" ""

Calvin reached out his hand and wrapped his arms around her as he pulled her into an embrace. He rested his chin on her hair as he stared blankly ahead.

Stay there for a few more days? What did he mean by that?

Belle's heart sank and she was terribly upset. Was he planning to spend time with Liya once she was gone?

"At this moment, they heard Sergio and Rosa quarreling in the room next to them. "

Both of them turned their heads towards the direction.

"Calvin, Yadriel has proposed an arranged marriage between Sergio and Rosa to General Perry, Belle explained to him in a low voice."

Calvin furrowed his brows as he sniggered.

"He seemed to be lost in thought and merely replied, ""Oh."" "" "

Belle. Calvin glanced down at her and called her name gently.

"Belle looked up at him. Their eyes met and they were filled with affection, longing, anguish, and exasperation. "

"Calvin's square jaw tensed up visibly and his eyelids drooped as he said, ""Remember what I've told you before."" "" "

"There were some secrets that he did not wish to tell her, as he was afraid that she would be worried about him. If she could stay out of the matter and leave the company for a while, it would be the best arrangement. The thought crossed his mind and he reminded her in a gentle voice."

Belle seemed to be lost in thought. Thoughts of Liya clouded her mind and her smile was strained. She did not hear what Calvin said at all.

She felt the urge to question him whether Liya had come over to his office a moment ago and the reason for it. She parted her lips and was about to ask him when she saw him looking at her with deep affection. It made her heart race with joy.

"In that instant, she changed her mind. She decided to trust him again. She believed that he loved her and would not be seduced by Liya. "

“Their eyes locked on one another. Both of them wanted to say something, yet nobody spoke. There were so many things to say and neither knew how to begin the conversation.”

“The door swung open with a loud bang. Fuming mad, Rosa walked into the office and shouted, ““How infuriating! Who does he think he is? How dare he order me to leave?””

Belle and Calvin glanced at one another and both of them understood at once what the other was thinking. They were both touched by Rosa’s kindness.

“You two can continue chatting. I’ll take my leave first, Calvin said indifferently as he walked out of the office.”

“As soon as stepped out of the office, he saw Sergio standing in the corridor, with his unwavering glare holding him in place.”

“Calvin walked towards him and his gaze turned ice-cold. He wanted to ignore him but Sergio lowered his voice and bellowed, ““Calvin, I have solid evidence that you guys are involved in the matter. Even General Perry would not be able to save you. You should know what you have to do.””

“Upon hearing what he had said, Calvin’s temper sparked and he said sternly, ““Sergio, you may be a public official, but that does not give you the right to speak as you please. Let me warn you that we have always obeyed the law and have never been involved in any illegal activities. There is not enough evidence to press charges against us. Since many are suspicious of us, I will definitely get to the bottom of the mystery. As for you, I would like to remind you that your father is going to run for the State Governor’s position soon. Why don’t you help him instead of meddling in my affairs? You better not regret what you are doing right now as I will make you pay for it.””

Calvin was seething with anger. His aura was overbearing and he did not back down in front of Sergio. Their eyes met and both were filled with rage and pure hatred for each other.

“I’m warning you. Don’t throw the helve after the hatchet. Although Sergio was troubled by what he had said, he did not show it. Instead, his expression darkened and he sniggered. ““We’ll see, Calvin,”” he said confidently.”

“Upon saying that, he glanced at him. His expression was unreadable before he spun around and left.”

“Calvin was stunned. For the first time in his life, he was feeling so agitated and lost. He clenched his fists and dragged himself back to his office.”

“Belle stood by the door and she had heard every bit of the conversation. After a while, thoughts of Sophia and her emaciated appearance crossed her mind. It filled her with anguish.”

“Belle recalled the sight of Calvin walking towards his office, looking very dejected and miserable. This was the first time she had seen him in this state after all these years. He was no longer confident and formidable. Instead, he was in distress and he looked extremely lonely. Belle’s heart ached for him and she was no longer suspicious of him.”

The atmosphere in the room was tense. Belle struggled to catch her breath and she felt light-headed out of a sudden. She steadied herself against the wall and closed her eyes.

“When she opened her eyes, she saw Sergio looking at her with his deep-set eyes. His expression was vague and his eyes were filled with concern. There seemed to be something more... Something more than concern, but Belle stopped herself from dwelling on the matter.”

“Belle, he whispered.”

Belle’s gaze was ice-cold as she stared at him.

“Belle, if you can, leave this place, Sergio said eventually in an attempt to convince her. In reality, he did not want to see Belle getting hurt. Nobody, including him, could foresee what would happen next. Zoella had gone out of her mind. She would not let the Harvey Group go so easily.”

Leave this place? What did he mean by that?

“By leaving this place, was he asking her to leave Calvin?”

How was that possible?

“Without hesitation, she retorted.”

“Mr. Xanthe, no matter what you say, I believe that the Harvey Group is innocent in this matter. I will find evidence to prove it. Even if I get myself into trouble or face any misfortune in the process, I will not leave him, she said firmly before turning around and returning to her office.”

Sergio stood silently by the door as he thought of what she said.

“Meanwhile, in Los Angeles.”

All the luxury cars produced by the Harvey Group had been piled up in the factory. The factory was desolate and nobody was at work. All the employees gathered outside as they chatted and discussed the matter.

This was the sight that Belle saw upon arriving at the factory.

She went straight to the management office.

Joey hurried over to greet her upon noticing her arrival.

“Ms. Morris, he greeted her politely, looking very uneasy.”

“Mr. Wilson, where’s Mr. Levin? Belle asked directly, looking around.”

“Alas, the company has been out of business for a few days. Mr. Levin has something to do at home. Hence, he left Tristany. Joey was looking pretty crestfallen.”

“Well, please help me inform him to come over in the afternoon. I have something to tell him, Belle said briefly and she walked out of the office.”

“Joey was about to follow her when she turned around and smiled. ““Mr. Wilson, you can continue doing your work. I’ll just look around.”” ”

Many beautifully designed cars were placed in the hall of the factory. They were covered with dust and they looked like second-hand cars that had been abandoned. A deep gloom had settled over the whole factory.

“Belle paced back and forth slowly, as she tried to work out a plan in her mind. ”

“After a while, she chose a car in the hall and drove it out of the factory alone. ”

“At the Saint Lawrence River, the water was crystal clear, complementing the sunny spots of greenery. ”

The area was filled with Sadie and fauna. The air was fresh and sweet.

“When Belle got down from the car, Rhys was already standing by the riverside.”

Rhys. Belle walked over and greeted him cordially.

“Back then, she met him by this river and it opened a new chapter in her life. She was forever grateful to him. ”

Jen. Rhys greeted her with a warm smile.

He was always friendly and his smile was always warm whenever they met.

“Rhys, I’m sorry for disturbing you, she said, smiling sheepishly. Now that the Harvey Group was in trouble, she thought of him right away and came to find him. However, she had never contacted him at all previously. ”

“Jen, are you and Calvin alright? Rhys asked casually. His gaze fell on her somewhat haggard face.”

“It’s not too bad. Belle nodded, and she understood at once what he meant. The news had spread. Everyone from all around the world had heard the news that the Harvey Group was in trouble, what more Rhys, who was the CEO of the Atkinson Corp. ”

“What happened? Rhys furrowed his brows. In his opinion, the Harvey Group would not be so foolish as to do something like this. It was clear that it was a scheme to destroy them. ”

“Rhys, the matter is still under investigation but I will find the culprit, Belle said firmly. She then changed the topic. As if she had made up her mind, she asked, ““Rhys, I know that your company has developed a self-driving AI system. Can you sell it to us at a high price?”” ”

She drove her point across but she did not expect him to agree.

“After all, the self-driving AI system was their masterpiece. The system made them stand out from the other companies. In the past, when the Harvey Group dominated the car industry, they were still able to come in second, in terms of sales. Now that she wanted to buy the system, he might not agree, considering that it was indeed a competitive market. Even though she had offered a high price, he might not agree as well.”

“The system gave them an advantage over the other companies. If he sold it to her, the Harvey Group might study it and develop a similar system in the future. ”

“In fact, the Harvey Group was also developing the system. However, it was far from ready and it had yet to make its debut in the international market.”

She did not expect him to agree.

“As expected, he remained silent for a while without uttering a word.”

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“I’m sorry, Rhys. I understand that you have your concerns. I will not bother you anymore. Belle gave him a knowing smile. She understood his concerns and was about to leave.”

“Jen, it doesn’t seem right if I were to make you pay for the system. How about this? I’ll give you the system for free. Just as Belle was about to leave, Rhys’s voice rang, announcing the good news.”

Really? Belle turned around and asked in surprise.

“Of course, I’m doing this for your sake. Calvin is so lucky to have you. Rhys smiled and said grudgingly.”

Belle’s eyes welled with tears.

Are you planning to have a fresh start? Rhys looked at her and asked with a smile.

“He knew very well what was on her mind. In fact, he figured out her intentions right away when she called him and wanted to meet him.”

“Rhys, to be honest, the luxury cars produced by the company have no value anymore. Even if we manage to find evidence to prove our innocence, it will be difficult to introduce the cars into the market again. We are forced to make some changes and start all over. However, I believe that with our skills and your system, we will be able to achieve our goals, Belle said with a heavy heart.”

Rhys nodded. He stared ahead and complimented her.

“Jen, I’m so jealous of Calvin. He has all your love. What a blessing!”

There was a hint of envy in his voice and he looked pretty dejected.

“Belle sighed. ““Rhys, don’t pull my leg anymore.”” ”

“No, I’m not teasing you. I have noticed your potential right from the start. Alas, I was too late. He chided himself in a self-deprecating tone.”

“Belle was filled with anguish when she heard what he said. If she had met Rhys first when she was just a kid, she might have fallen in love with him. After all, he was a remarkable man. If that was the case, she might have lived a much better life.”

“However, this was her fate.”

“Rhys, Lottie is far better than me. You are so lucky to be able to marry her. Everyone has their own path in life. We have our own destinies. People come and go. Hence, we should appreciate those who are still by our side. That’s what we should focus on, Belle said impassionedly. She thought of Lottie and a slow smile worked its way across her face and into her eyes.”

“Although she did nothing much, she had indirectly brought them together. It was their fate. Everything was destined from the beginning. Who were they to change their paths? ”

“Rhys, when you get married, I will send you my blessing. The wind tossed her head and she grinned. Her smile was pure and innocent. ”

Seeing her smile moved him and brought a smile to his face as well.

“Rhys, I will take my leave first. Someone will contact you later regarding the matter. Thank you once again. Belle remembered that she had lots to do over here and time was scarce. Hence, she did not chat with him any longer and left after saying goodbye. ”

“Rhys stared at her thin figure walking away. Although she was skinny, there was determination in her eyes and she remained steady and firm. He sighed. ”

“Just as Belle was about to disappear from sight, Rhys raised his voice and shouted, ““Jen, the Jones Group has suddenly introduced lots of cars into the market. I find it very suspicious. You can look into the matter.”” ”

Belle stopped in her tracks.

“Everything had been in a mess in the Harvey Group since the crisis. However, what Rhys said reminded her about something. ”

An image of a woman flashed across her mind and her gaze turned ice-cold.

“She turned around and smiled. ““Rhys, thank you for the reminder. I know what to do now.”” ”

“She then waved goodbye to Rhys, who waved to her as well. ”

“At that moment, the sight of Rhys standing by the river made her recall the past. She remembered the times when she was poor and in despair. She was crouching on the grass over there with her car designs, looking very weak and helpless. ”

A man walked towards her and everything changed ever since.

“She was truly blessed beyond measure to have met Rhys in her life. Although there was no romance between them, he was very important to her. She would always remember what he had done for her. ”

“She smiled, revealing her neat row of white teeth. ”

“At first, her lips held a faint smile and her eyes twinkled, but eventually, she broke into a wide grin. ”

Belle had arrived Tristany at the M Countryn University of Fashion Design and Business Studies that Rosa had been attending that morning. She had been wandering around the campus in her car for quite a while.

“Rosa had been enrolled in the fashion design course at the university. According to her, she had bumped into Martin before over here. ”

Belle parked her car inconspicuously in a corner and looked around at the crowd.

She had come over the day before but she did not see him.

“If she had guessed correctly, breaking up with Rosa had served a huge blow to Martin. He seemed to have discovered something that he had been looking for all this while in Rosa.”

This was human nature. They seldom appreciated what they had and will only regret it once it was gone.

“Suddenly, a tall man emerged at the gate of the building.”

“Belle stared at him, as if she couldn’t believe her eyes.”

“After a while, the man appeared, carrying a bag. He was followed by a few other men. They got into a van.”

Where were they going?

The van pulled away.

Belle was puzzled and hurried after them.

“After a while, the van came to a halt in front of a grand building.”

The men got down from the car and they gestured something to the wall before entering the building.

Belle caught a glimpse of the words written on the back of the van and understood at once what they were about to do.

They were the window cleaners in charge of washing windows from a small platform that hung from ropes on the side of tall buildings and skyscrapers. They worked at great heights.

Belle never expected that Martin would become a window cleaner. It was a risky job.

“Besides, he had been doing this for the entire year.”

Was he still the Young Master of the Harvey Group?

She stared at his back from the car.

His silhouette was similar to Calvin’s.

“However, something had changed. He looked sturdier than ever.”

She sat in the car and watched as he hung from the ropes on the side of the building and washed the windows. He was pretty focused while working and was doing a splendid job.

“Everyone was the same. Although Martin was inferior to Calvin, he was still part of the Harvey family. Besides, there were not many descendants of the Harvey family. He was supposed to live a comfortable life without the need to worry about anything. However, he was forced to adapt to the situation as well during difficult times like these.”

Belle could not believe her eyes when she saw Martin washing the entire wall.

Environmental factors did play a role in a person’s growth.

“It turned out that Martin, who had been driven out of the family, had no source of income at first. Hence, he was forced to take up this job as he had no other expertise.”

“Although it was a risky job, he was able to earn a lot and he had lots of time to himself. This was his choice. Besides, the place he worked at was near Rosa’s university. He would be able to see her often.”

He knew what happened to the Harvey Group but he had no intention to intervene.

He was no longer part of the family.

“At noon, Martin finally finished his task for the day. He was free to do anything he wished with the remaining time. ”

“Of course, he was not satisfied with being a window cleaner forever. However, he needed money to start a business. Hence, he could only look for opportunities while working as a window cleaner.”

He didn’t dare to meet Rosa due to his job. He was afraid that she would look down upon him.

“Each time, he could only watch her from afar. He vowed to become successful and make everyone look up to him. ”

“After returning to the company to get his salary for the day, he kept the money in his bag and walked out of the building. ”

Belle followed him in her car.

He went to a restaurant to have his lunch before walking into a dark and narrow basement.

Belle parked her car and walked down the street. She was just about to go down to the basement to find him.

“Suddenly, a man emerged. ”

He was walking towards her. Belle was finally able to take a good look at him.

“He looked tanned and thin. He wore a plain t-shirt and it seemed that he had not shaved for a few days as he was growing a beard. However, he seemed calm and steady as he looked coolly ahead.”

He cast a glance in her direction.

The expression on his face changed abruptly. He spun around and was about to run away.

“Martin, stop! Belle bellowed.”

Martin had no choice but to stop in his tracks.

“Martin, how long are you going to hide from us? You are a man. Are you planning to stay here forever? Belle asked, standing behind him. Her expression was solemn. ”

Martin trembled and he slowly turned around. He sniggered.

“Belle, you’re making fun of me now, aren’t you?”

“His expression was unreadable. There was a sneer on his face, but apart from that, he did not show any other emotions. He was far more mature and calmer compared to the past. ”

Are you kidding me? Belle sneered. "Why would I waste my time on you? You better not make others look down upon the Harvey Group."

"The muscles along his jaw clenched and his smile was strained. ""I have already been driven out of the family. Don't worry, no matter what I do, it will not affect the reputation of the family. I have nothing to do with you guys anymore.""

What he said was harsh and brutal. Rage flowed through her veins when she heard what he said.

"Nonsense. Without the Harvey Group, where would you be? I didn't expect you to be such an ungrateful brat! After all these years in prison, you still failed to recognize your mistakes and come to your senses. How ridiculous! Belle was seething with anger. How could he still bear a grudge against the Harvey family for driving him out of the family? "

"Belle, you love Calvin. Hence, no matter what he did, you will always think that he is in the right. What about me? I may have made some mistakes in the past, but was it so hard to forgive me? I already said before that all I wished was to stop your father from participating in the election so that I can win, and make you guys proud of me. I have never thought of murdering him. Who knew that Tristan would do something like that behind my back after using me? I have endured my punishment for the past few years and I don't owe you anything anymore. Now, I'm no longer part of the family and what I do is none of your business. Please respect me. Martin sniggered and he remained detached and cold. He was in no mood to stay and was about to leave. "

Stop right there. Belle saw what he was about to do and stopped him. She was filled with anguish. The Harvey Group was in trouble and Sophia had been longing to see him every day. She didn't expect him to still bear a grudge against the family. Her disappointment was apparent.

"Martin, let bygones be bygones. I no longer hate you for what has happened in the past. Don't tell me you still bear a grudge against us? Have you thought of Grandma? What about your mother? You are being pretty irresponsible here. Martin, let me remind you. You are a man. I'm here to tell you that I wish to bring you home. Belle's aura was overbearing and her unwavering glare held him in place. "

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"Martin raised his head and looked at her. Suddenly, he laughed. ""Belle, who are you to reprimand me? Why should I listen to you?"" "

"What gives me the right to reprimand you? Well, I'm currently the mistress of Harvey Manor. Hence, I have the right to ask you to come back with me. Belle snorted and said firmly, ""You are still part of the Harvey family. Back then, Grandma was forced to drive you out of the family. You are a man. You have to face your punishment after what you have done. Look at you right now, loathing everyone in the family. Did we impose the charge upon you? You brought it upon yourself. Do you know how much Grandma wished that you could turn over a new leaf? Are you aware of how much she misses you?"" "

Belle really wanted to slap him across his face to make him come to his senses.

"Judging from his unkempt appearance, he was having a rough time. It was apparent that he was struggling to make ends meet. However, he remained proud and haughty, refusing to admit that he was in the wrong. How narrow-minded! "

“Calvin and Martin were both men. Tall and handsome as well. However, they were very different in terms of mindset.”

“You are saying that Grandma hopes I’m doing great and that she misses me? Martin paused for a moment. Feeling incredulous, he wanted to laugh. ““You’re wrong. She only regards Calvin as her grandson whereas I’m just a nobody. I’m just the son of a mistress. Someone who isn’t worthy of love and affection. Even if you guys hadn’t driven me out of the family, I would have left sooner or later.”” ”

Belle was so pissed when she heard what he said that she shook with fury.

It seemed that he had not learnt from his mistakes. He was being as pessimistic as ever.

“Martin! Unable to hold back her anger, Belle bellowed, ““What are you thinking? Grandma’s health has been deteriorating, yet all she does is nag about you. She’s worried that you are struggling on your own. Back then, if Grandma didn’t make that decision, you would still be in jail right now. The authorities would have blamed you for my father’s death. You are a man, Martin. How can you be so dense and misunderstood Grandma’s intention? If you are going to continue behaving in this manner, nobody will be able to help you anymore.”” ”

“Belle was out of breath due to anger. She wanted to find him and bring him back to the family. Now that the Harvey family was in trouble and Grandma wasn’t in her best shape, he should at least return to see her. However, he was really an a*shole. How could he act as if everyone had betRhyseed him?”

“D*mn, what a scoundrel!”

“Martin flushed scarlet. Guilt trickled through him when he saw Belle blowing a fuse. He had never been able to refute her words. To make matters worse, he realized that he was a little afraid of her. ”

“Martin, Grandma is currently very ill and the Harvey family is facing a crisis. I have come over personally to inform you about the matter. Make up your mind by tomorrow. I will be at the Harvey Group’s Los Angeles’ branch and I will return to A City tomorrow morning. If you decide to return with me, then come and find me. If you don’t, you better not regret it in the future. Belle warned him as she shot a glare at him. She turned around and was about to leave.”

“Belle, is Grandma really unwell? Martin asked with concern. He just recalled what she had said. When he was still a kid, Sophia would keep him and Aleena company at night whenever they visited the Harvey Group. Sophia had always taken good care of them by herself. Afraid that someone would hurt them, she always protected them well and cared about them. The thought crossed his mind and he soon came to his senses. For some inexplicable reason, he was filled with anguish when he heard the news that she had fallen ill. ”

“He hated Sophia for choosing Belle to marry Calvin back then. Sophia had always thought highly of Calvin and showered him with praise. Her heart swelled with pride whenever she saw Calvin and she always looked at him with affection. However, she had never looked at him in the same manner. ”

“He knew that Calvin was far more important than him to Sophia. He loathed her for being biased, which was why he had always given her the cold shoulder. However, upon receiving the news that she was ill, he was deeply troubled. After all, he had always regarded her as someone very strong and

capable. She had treated him well when he was just a kid. She was family. The thought crossed his mind and he couldn't help quivering. "

Tears welled up in his eyes.

"Grandma is extremely ill and weak right now. She is practically bed-ridden. However, she still nags about you. I can tell that she is extremely worried about you. Belle turned around and said slowly. Once she was done, she sniggered and said sardonically, ""Martin, I never expected you to be so heartless. Rosa may not be part of the family but she is far better than you. Upon receiving news that the family was in trouble, she came over right away and took our side. As for you, what were you doing? You are part of the family, yet you did nothing, pretending as if you have not received the news. You didn't even bother asking how we are doing. To be frank, I feel sorry for you."" "

Her gaze fell upon him. It was icy cold. A look of disappointment crossed her face.

"Martin gaped in disbelief. After a while, he asked in a hurry, ""What did you say? Rosa has returned to the Harvey Group?"" "

"A faint smile touched the corners of her mouth and she chided him. ""Yes, so tell me, is she better than you?"" "

"Upon finishing her sentence, she stared at him for a while. Noticing the surprise and joy on his face, her lips held a faint smile and her eyes twinkled. She turned around and left. "

"At that moment, as she was turning around, relief washed over her."

She knew that Martin would definitely return with her.

"Looking confident, her silhouette soon disappeared from his sight. For a while, Martin stood there in a daze. "

"Rosa, you have returned to the Harvey Group. Do you still feel that you are part of the family? "

His eyes began to shine with hope and his face lit up with joy. All his sorrows vanished in an instant. He thought for a while before he turned around and returned to the basement.

"When Belle returned to the factory, Jersey was already waiting for her arrival. "

"Belle, you are finally here. Jersey approached her upon seeing her. He greeted her cordially but his expression was solemn. "

He had been in the automobile industry for a very long time. He knew very well that the company was in deep trouble.

"Hello, Mr. Levin. Belle smiled. The smile warmed her eyes. She was calm and composed and did not seem to be in a panic. "

"Mr. Levin nodded in approval. Belle was definitely a capable woman. Despite the crisis they were facing, she remained calm and composed. It was rare to see someone like her."

"Joey was also in the office. When he saw Belle coming in, he stood up and was about to leave. "

“Mr. Wilson, you may stay. I have something to discuss with you guys today. Belle stopped him in the nick of time.”

The three of them sat down at the table.

“Mr. Levin, if the factory was to start producing cars installed with the telematics system, would you be able to do it within a month? Belle asked right away once she sat down at the table.”

Telematics system? Jersey was shocked. He then sighed in exasperation.

“For the time being, only the Atkinson Corp had succeeded in developing the high-tech system. The Harvey Group had started developing the system a little later. Hence, it was still in the testing phase. It will be near impossible to finish it within a month.”

“He shook his head right away and sighed. ““Belle, it’s not something I can achieve even if I wish to.”””

“I know. Belle smiled and said confidently, ““However, the good news is, the Atkinson Corp has agreed to share their system with us.”” ”

“Belle continued, ““Mr. Wilson, you can go over to the Atkinson Corp tomorrow to get the system from their technician. So, I would like to ask, will you guys be able to produce the cars installed with the telematics system within a month, now that you have the Atkinson Corp’s system?”” ”

Belle looked at Jersey with a solemn expression.

“Jersey had a lot of experience in the automobile industry. If he said that it was possible, then the plan would definitely work out.”

“Jersey was surprised. The Atkinson Corp was actually willing to share their system with them at a critical period like this. How noble of them! The competition had always been fierce in the car industry. It was already a great blessing if they did not stab them in the back during difficult times like these. To his surprise, they were willing to help them. It was a miracle indeed! ”

“After a while, he came to his senses. In the exuberance of joy and jubilation, he responded, ““Then, it will not be a problem at all!”” ”

“Great! A month later, we will introduce new cars into the market and start all over. Belle was thrilled when Jersey confirmed that the plan was feasible. She continued, ““One month later, I will register for a new company and we will make some arrangements to the current system. At present, with our unique design and the telematics system, I believe that we will stand a chance in the market. Let us forget our failures and start all over.”” ”

“As soon as she finished her sentence, Jersey and Joey understood at once what she planned to do. Their faces lit up with joy and Jersey couldn’t help nodding in approval. He was delighted with Belle’s suggestion.”

The three of them then proceeded to discuss the details. Their meeting went on throughout the afternoon and ended late at night.

“The plan would change everything. One month later, the Harvey Group would be able to start all over abroad and conquer the market. Although they were still kind of stuck right now back in their home

country and were nowhere near discovering the truth. However, at least, they would be able to conquer the international market. In fact, they would be able to do so better than before. It was going to play a crucial role to save the Harvey Group.”

Puffy clouds drifted across the vast blue sky.

“Belle stood at the entrance of the airport and watched as people walked in and out of the building. Listening to the sound of traffic and the planes landing, she felt as she was in a dream.”

“Back then, she and Calvin poured their hearts out to one another at the airport in Los Angeles and they became closer ever since. Although many things happened afterwards, they were still madly in love with each other. Hence, that was why she really loved this place. ”

“Standing there, she stole another glance at the place before she spun around, ready to enter the lobby.”

“Someone seemed to be following her. Whenever she took a step forward, the person would follow suit and as soon as she stopped, the person would come to a halt as well. ”

She frowned and spun around abruptly.

The person wanted to turn around and run away but he eventually stopped in his tracks.

“Martin was standing behind her with a bag in his hand. He was looking pretty abashed. He looked at her timidly without any confidence, just like a child who had done something wrong and was begging for forgiveness.”

“Belle almost burst out laughing. She took a long, hard look at him. Her expression was unreadable. ”

She then turned around and continued to walk towards the lobby.

Martin followed closely behind. It was as if he was afraid that Belle would disappear suddenly and he would never be able to return to his family.

“Over the years, he had struggled tremendously in prison and had lost his dignity. As a result, he loathed everyone in the Harvey family for being so heartless. ”

“However, when Belle found him...”

“At that moment, his perception of her had changed completely. ”

“She was now his sister-in-law, the person in charge of Harvey Manor. ”

“Aside from admiration and respect, he trusted her.”

“He followed her, depending on her to find his way home. She was the one who guided him when he was lost. “

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“Martin, now that the Harvey Group is in trouble, have you ever considered how you can help us? Belle asked callously. ”

“Martin sat by her side, lowering his head in silence.”

“Belle glanced at him and said indifferently, ““Rosa is currently working alongside me at Harvey Group. Once we have landed in A City, you may return to the manor to see Grandma.”” ”

“Belle was unsure whether Rosa was willing to meet him or not. She was afraid that Rosa would be displeased to see him. Hence, she did not plan to let them meet each other for the time being.”

A person should be given a second chance if they had turned over a new leaf.

“However, had Martin turned over a new leaf? Was he capable and worthy of Rosa’s love? Well, at the moment, Belle did not see those qualities in him.”

“Rosa was straightforward and simple. She followed her instincts whenever she made decisions. Hence, if Martin failed to realize his mistakes, Belle would stop her even if Rosa was willing to forgive him.”

“Marriage was not to be taken lightly. She had suffered a lot in her marriage and she did not want Rosa, who was innocent, to experience what she did.”

Sure. Martin’s expression was grave as he nodded his head.

“Meanwhile, in the spacious and brightly lit office.”

“Calvin stood in his office, looking very formidable and overbearing. His eyes were bulging from their sockets and his gaze could send a chill down anyone’s spine.”

Standing in front of him was Sergio who was demanding an explanation. His cheeks flushed with anger even though he had won this time around.

They glared at each other and the atmosphere was very tense as an argument was about to break out.

“Calvin, all the evidence now points to Belle. She has inserted the software containing the nation’s top secrets into the system. We have her fingerprints as proof. How are you going to explain this? What Sergio said made Calvin shake with rage.”

He was truly miffed as rage coursed through his veins. What he said had truly triggered him.

“If the Harvey Group were to fall, then so be it. If someone was against him and wanted him to go to jail, then so be it.”

“However, how dare they frame Belle, the woman he loved dTristany?”

“They had hit a raw nerve! Now that their target was Belle, he could do nothing. It was far more agonizing than killing him.”

“No, that was impossible!”

Belle would not do such a thing! Someone had framed her!

He clenched his fists so tightly that his knuckles were turning white. His blood vessels stood out in livid edges.

“Belle had become an important person to him. Her name would forever be engraved in his heart. If anything were to happen to her, he would be left in agony. The thought made him gasp in pain. ”

He vowed to protect her with his life. There was no way she would make a mistake like this! He was not going to see her go to jail for something she had not done.

“It’s ridiculous! Calvin’s eyes blazed murderously and the muscles along his jaw clenched. His face was turning red due to the adrenaline rush and his eyes glowed with a fiery savageness. He gritted his teeth as his breath grew thin and ragged. Fuming mad, he slammed his fist against the desk and yelled, ““Sergio, it’s obvious that someone has framed her. This is impossible!”” ”

Sergio shot him a cold stare. He masked his emotions and his expression was unreadable. “Someone had framed her? What makes you think so? What about the evidence?”

“Evidence? Calvin’s face instantly grew pale and he propped himself against his desk, looking very weary. ”

“You know just as well that the court only looks at the evidence. Now, all the evidence regarding the person who has leaked the nation’s top secrets in the Harvey Group points towards Belle. We found her fingerprints in the GPS. It’s a piece of solid evidence and there’s no other way you can explain it. Nothing she says will do any help unless you can find some evidence to prove her innocence, he bellowed. He gave Calvin a withering stare and his tone turned his insides cold. ”

He never expected that all the investigations for the past few days would show that Belle was the culprit. This was something that he did not wish to see.

“She was such a beautiful woman, who was so pure and innocent. How could she do something like this? ”

It was completely impossible!

The findings of the investigation shocked him a lot.

“However, all the evidence now pointed towards her. There was nothing he could do. ”

“At this moment, Calvin’s face had turned pale. His bloodshot eyes remained riveted upon Sergio. His icy stare bore into him, making it hard for him to back away. ”

“You know very well that if I hand over this piece of evidence to my superiors, Belle would be taken away immediately and be sent to jail once everything has been confirmed. Do you understand how serious this matter is? Sergio stared at Calvin who had gone out of his mind, as he spoke slowly. He emphasized the fact that Belle would go to jail. ”

“No. Calvin slammed his fist on the desk as rage overwhelmed him and roared, ““Sergio, are you even human? You are so cruel! Would Belle do something like this? You know very well that it’s impossible.”” ”

“Sergio’s eyelids drooped. He had thought highly of Belle ever since he was a kid. In fact, he trusted her completely, much more than Calvin. He refused to believe that she would do something like this. However, all the evidence pointed to her. ”

“Let me tell you, Calvin. I’m giving you a second chance for Belle’s sake. I’m not doing it for you. You better find out the real culprit. If you can’t find out who’s behind this, then I’m afraid that I have to hand over this piece of evidence to my superiors. If that’s the case, Belle would probably spend the rest of her life in prison. You better think this over carefully. Sergio’s unwavering glare held him in place. Once he was done, he turned around and left with a heavy heart.”

“Calvin lurched forward and almost fell onto the ground. Fortunately, he managed to support himself by grasping the edges of the desk in the nick of time.”

He lowered his head and beads of sweat formed on his forehead. He broke out into cold sweat and shivered with fear. The news had filled him with dread and his heart was aching terribly.

“After several days of investigation, the findings of the investigation filled him with agony.”

His muscles stiffened and he let go as he fell slowly onto the couch.

“Time seemed to have come to a standstill for a while. He collapsed onto the couch. Blood had been drained from his face and the shock made it hard for him to think. He remained as motionless as a statue, as he stared at the lamp on the ceiling. For a while, he was devoid of pain.”

“After a long time, a tear trickled down his cheeks and fell on the armrest of the couch. It was warm and bitter.”

“Don’t worry, Belle. I will protect you and Jerry with all my might, even if it means sacrificing my life.”

“He remained in the same position for a very long time as he lay on the couch. Not long after, darkness engulfed him.”

“Zoella, you are amazing! Calvin has become interested in me. Look, he has bought me some new clothes. At the Sky Sword Group, Liya was in high spirits as she entered the office. She was beaming from ear to ear and she blushed whenever she mentioned Calvin’s name. She looked so shy and flustered, just like a girl who had fallen in love.”

“Oh, really? That’s great. Zoella crossed her arms and placed them on the desk. She clenched her fists as she flashed her a smile. “”You are so beautiful and charming. Seeing you pout will make any man fall in love with you.”” ”

She narrowed her eyes and there was a gleam in her eyes.

“Liya flushed scarlet, looking very shy and embarrassed.”

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Tell me first. How’s the situation over there? she asked deliberately.

“Don’t worry. All the evidence now points towards Belle. She will probably go to jail soon. Liya raised her eyebrows and her smile was smug. She blushed, looking very dazzling and captivating.”

Zoella glanced at her. A wry smile briefly touched her lips. There was a gleam in her eyes.

“Liya, your chance has come. She narrowed her eyes and smiled. Her gaze remained fixed upon her and she assumed an air of indifference. Her expression remained ambiguous.”

“For a moment, Liya’s heart pounded rapidly and she flushed scarlet.”

“She had to become Calvin’s wife. She wanted nothing more than to lead a decent life. It was her dream to be able to spend extravagantly and buy everything that she wanted. She wished to become wealthy. Growing up, she had always struggled to make ends meet and she did not wish to spend her life in poverty again.”

“Of course, she was not going to be used by Zoella. She would not be her pawn and she would not sacrifice herself for her revenge.”

“Hence, she had come up with a plan.”

“Thank you, Zoella, for everything that you have done. If there’s nothing else that you would like to speak to me about, then I will take my leave first. She looked at her with her moist and shining eyes. A sweet smile was plastered across her face.”

“Zoella rapped her fingers on the table and narrowed her eyes. However, she masked her emotions and flashed her a smile.”

Her lips held a faint smile as she nodded.

Liya’s slender figure spun around gracefully and then she left.

“Her dress moved with her like a second skin, draping her curves and swishing silently around her legs. The scent of perfume wafted towards Zoella.”

Zoella watched as Liya disappeared from sight. The smile on her face vanished in an instant and it was replaced with an icy stare that could send a chill down anyone’s spine.

“It was almost noon when Belle arrived in A City. She did not even have time to return to Harvey Manor. Instead, she headed straight for the Harvey Group headquarters.”

“Although she had missed Jerry terribly, she tried her best to suppress the urge to see him at the moment. She longed for Calvin and wanted to see him right away. They had been apart for three days. Although only three days had passed, it seemed like an eternity to her.”

The employees of the company were heading out for lunch.

“Alas, I sympathize with Ms. Morris. She hasn’t been the vice president of the company for long, but now, she has been removed from the position.”

“Yes, she is now the secretary. How would she be able to bear the news! ”

“I know right. She has been doing her best to protect the company. However, now that the company is in trouble, she’s the first to bear the consequences. Mr. Harvey is really too heartless.”

My curiosity is piqued. Mr. Harvey and Mrs. Harvey have always been madly in love. I never expected that Mr. Harvey would be seduced by Liya in such a short time. Look at how things are right now. Ms. Morris might even be forced to sign the divorce papers. Men are really unreliable.

“Thinking about it, I’m truly disappointed. I heard that Mr. Harvey once begged Ms. Morris to return. He spent 500 million dollars on their wedding ceremony. Their love for each other made me believe in true love again and all of us were envious of Mrs. Harvey. Look how things had turned out. I’m not going to believe in true love again.”

“In conclusion, a woman should never marry a wealthy man. It may seem grand and everything but it’s actually a miserable life. ”

“By the way, have you heard? Maxim, an important figure in the finance and banking industry, has a mistress. It is rumored that he brought the mistress home, even though his wife was against it and made a big fuss about it. Incidents like these are starting to happen in A City and it’s a bad sign. Back then, the men of prestigious families only dared to flirt with women and have an affair in secret, but now, they can do it openly and even bring them home. This will serve a huge blow to their wives. ”

“Alas, a woman’s fate is indeed painful. How unfair this is to us! ”

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“A group of female employees walked down the path as they chatted. They did not notice Belle, who was standing silently in the corner of the parking lot. ”

The sound of them chattering soon faded into the distance.

“Belle had just parked her car in the underground parking lot. She was about to turn around the corner when she saw the employees of the company walking down the path, heading towards the elevator to go to the canteen for lunch. She overheard the conversation between the employees.”

“Stunned, she remained rooted to the spot, at a loss at what she should do. ”

Were they referring to her just now?

What were they saying? Why did they say that?

She must have misheard it. She thought silently to herself.

“Flustered, she headed straight for the VIP elevator. She was currently at the underground parking lot. From there, she could take the VIP elevator up to the 88th floor where her office was located. ”

“However, she seldom took the elevator from there, as it was pitch-black and creepy. The darkness always made her hairs stood on end and she found it hard to catch her breath over there. ”

She detested this feeling.

“Therefore, she would rather walk to the hall and take the elevator from there, as it was not dark and creepy over there. However, she did not want to see anyone else anymore. All she wanted to do was to see Calvin immediately and demand an explanation, to put her heart at ease. ”

The elevator went all the way up and stopped at the 88th floor.

“As soon as she walked out of the elevator, she walked towards the front desk. She could sense that the atmosphere was tense. ”

“Yuri was sitting at the front desk. Upon seeing her, she stood up in a panic. However, she did not greet her cordially as usual with a smile. Instead, she seemed to be at a loss about at to do. Looking abashed, she glanced at her. Her eyes were filled with concern, sympathy and grief. ”

Belle’s heart sank right away.

How is the situation in the company for the past few days? The tense atmosphere made her even more uneasy. Her instincts told her that things were bad.

“Yuri had always been at ease in front of her. This was the first time she saw her acting so nervous. Hence, her gaze remained fixed upon her face at the moment. ”

“Ms. Morris... Well... Everything is fine, Yuri stammered. “”Mr. Harvey has been focusing on the development of the other industries. Everything seems to be alright now. The company is operating as usual. However, regarding the car industry...”” ”

“She didn’t speak further. In fact, there was no need for her to do so. Belle understood the situation very well. ”

The company was done for good when it came to the car industry.

“Well, where is Mr. Harvey? Since the company was doing fine, why did she have a bad feeling about this? Feeling uneasy, she asked right away. ”

Mr. Harvey. Yuri averted her gaze and lowered her head.

“Tell me, where is he? Belle recalled that Calvin had not called her for the past three days when she was abroad. She thought that he was busy at work just like her. Hence, she did not take it to heart.”

“However, the look on Yuri’s face shocked her. Fear clutched at her throat and she glanced towards the direction of Calvin’s office. The door was closed. It was apparent that he was not in the office.”

“Ms. Morris, you... Yuri parted her lips. Just as she was about to speak, the door to Belle’s office swung open abruptly. Rosa who had probably heard her voice dashed over, looking very furious. She ran over and seized her arm, pulling her into the office.”

“Rosa, what’s wrong? Belle was dragged into the office towards the couch. Rosa was holding her hand so tightly that she grimaced in pain. Belle could not wrap her head around the matter and she was puzzled by Rosa’s behavior.”

“I’m so pissed. Rosa stamped her feet as burning anger overcame her. “”Tell me, why did you have to go aboard? Why must you be too responsible and worry about the situation over there? Great! You have only been away for three days and Liya has already succeeded in seducing Calvin. What are you going to do?”” ”

“Her cheeks flushed with anger and her jaw thrust forward in indignation. She glared at Belle, annoyed that she allowed this to happen.”

“It wasn’t until a moment ago when Calvin walked out of his office together with Liya, apparently in high spirits that the realization dawned on her. Calvin had really fallen for Liya. He even showed off his love so openly. How infuriating!”

“Belle was dumbfounded when she heard what Rosa said. Shocked, she recalled the conversation between the employees that she overheard a moment ago. She stared at Rosa in disbelief. With a blank look on her face, she asked, ““Rosa, what are you saying? I don’t seem to understand.”” ”

“Of course you don’t. I find it hard to believe as well, what more you. However, this is the truth! Rosa smacked her palm onto her forehead and sighed. After a pause, she said in a clear voice, ““The truth is, your husband has fallen for another woman. Yet, you are still so naïve and know nothing about it.”” ”

“After saying that, Rosa said indignantly, ““I knew that Liya was up to no good. She has those captivating eyes. I hate them at first glance. Look at her, always acting so pitiful and innocent to gain everyone’s sympathy. How disgusting! But what can we do? Men love women like her. Belle, why are you so foolish?”” ”

“Rosa felt sorry for her. She hated herself for not being able to do anything, despite being in the office all this while. To make matters worse, she was not even aware of it. If she hadn’t seen it with her own eyes, she would not even believe it. ”

Liya was clearly not someone easy to deal with. It seemed that Belle was in trouble again.

“Belle’s mind was in a mess but no matter how lost she felt, she understood what Rosa was implying. Her heart ached terribly and she placed her hand against her chest. All she felt was pain and agony. For some inexplicable reason, she felt constant knots and unease in her stomach and it hurt terribly. She grimaced in pain as beads of sweat formed on her forehead. Her face grew pale in an instant. ”

Would Calvin fall for someone like Liya? They had gone through so much together. Would he be seduced by someone like her?

It was impossible.

She shook her head.

Where’s Calvin? Where’s he? She stood up abruptly and wanted to see him in person. “I won’t believe it.”

She would not believe it unless she saw it with her own eyes. She was not going to believe what the others said.

“Belle. Rosa tried to stop her. She said anxiously, ““Why don’t you believe me despite the circumstances? It’s the truth. Let me be frank. Calvin walked out together with Liya from his office just a moment ago. I saw it with my own eyes. They have gone out together and they looked just like a couple.”””

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Rosa had a headache as she tried to get Belle to come to her senses. Belle remained persistent and refused to believe that it was true despite the circumstances.

“However, in reality, she found it hard to believe it as well, what more Belle. Everything had changed in just a few days. It did seem that Liya had taken advantage of Belle’s absence and seduced Calvin in just a few days. In other words, the affair started just a few days ago. She had been in the office all this while but she had not seen them together or even noticed that something was amiss. ”

“It was truly extraordinary. She could not blame Belle for refusing to believe that it was true, as she found it way too absurd as well, if Calvin had really hooked up with Liya in just a few days out of loneliness.”

He was truly an unreliable man.

“What’s more, Belle and Calvin had gone through many hardships and challenges together before they reconciled. It was only for a few days. He started an affair during the Harvey Group’s most difficult times and betRhysed Belle. In all honesty, it seemed absurd. ”

Alas. Rosa heaved a sigh and shook her head.

Belle was completely dumbfounded. She stood there in a daze and her mind went blank.

Had she trusted Calvin way too much? Was she wrong to trust his feelings towards her and their relationship?

“Belle, wake up. Fear clutched at her throat when she saw Belle in this state. It was a huge blow to her and Belle might not be able to bear the shock. ”

“At first, she did not want to tell her the truth. However, it did not seem like a good idea to hide it from her. Calvin had already shown off his love to Liya in public. All the employees in the Harvey Group were aware of the matter. To make matters worse, it had already attracted the attention of the media. ”

“It would be irresponsible of her not to tell Belle. After all, the shock would be unbearable for Belle if she were to see them together without any warning. It would be better for her to tell Belle the truth right then than to let her humiliate herself in front of the employees. At the very least, she would be mentally prepared for the worst.”

“No, it’s impossible! Calvin won’t treat me in this manner. I don’t believe it! After a long silence, Belle finally came to her senses and she wailed in agony. ““I want to see him. I must ask him myself.”” ”

“Upon finishing her sentence, she dashed out of the office with a crazed look on her face. ”

“Belle, no! Rosa was shocked. Belle seemed to have gone out of her mind. Her expression filled her with concern. If she ran onto the streets in this state, especially with the heavy traffic, it would be a disaster. She wanted to stop Belle but she had already dashed out of the door and entered the elevator. ”

“At this moment, there was only one goal on Belle’s mind, which was to find Calvin and ask him what was happening. She wanted him to reassure her that he did not betRhys her, that it was just a rumor and asked her not to believe the rumors. ”

“To her, this was impossible. She would not believe it unless she saw it with her own eyes. ”

“Upon stumbling into the elevator, she leaned against the wall. Her head felt as though it was splitting apart. ”

“She and Calvin were madly in love. Such a situation would never happen. Besides, Calvin was not a man to be seduced easily. ”

“When the door of the elevator opened, Belle could not see clearly in the dark. She could barely make out what was in front of her.”

“Belle, where are you going? A stalwart man blocked her way and seized her arm. The man asked in a low voice.”

“Calvin. Hearing that it was the voice of a man, Belle was delighted. Her eyes widened in excitement. Perhaps it was too dark in the underground parking lot, or maybe Belle was grieving so much that she failed to recognize the man in front of her. All in all, Belle could barely think straight. She seemed to be seeing two overlapping images at once and she could not see the face of the man in front of her clearly.”

“However, the man was tall and well-built, just like Calvin. She could feel the force when he seized her by the arm. Everything felt so familiar.”

“Calvin, you’re back. She flung her arms and threw herself into his arms as she wrapped her arms around his waist. She buried her face into his chest and burst into tears. ““Calvin, tell me, have you betRhysed me? Don’t you love me? Or are you just in distress due to the crisis? You are grieving and at the brink of collapse, am I right?””

“As she spoke, she wailed in agony in his arms like an injured kitten. She hugged the man tightly as she sobbed.”

The man standing in front of her was stunned for a moment. He then reached out to hug her and tightened his embrace around her.

Belle continued sobbing in his arms. He thought for a while before he carried her in his arms and headed straight for his car in the parking lot.

The luxurious car pulled out of the parking lot. Belle was still sobbing in the back seat and had not come to her senses.

“Sunlight streamed in through the window. She blinked as the sunlight blinded her and looked out of the window. To her surprise, she realized that she was not in the Hummer which she was accustomed to. It was still a luxurious car but it was not of the same brand. Everything seemed different.”

Her heart skipped a beat. She quickly turned around to look at the man who was driving. Only then did she see his face clearly for the first time.

The handsome lad in the driver’s seat was Sergio.

She actually threw herself into Sergio’s arms and burst into tears. What was she doing?

It hit her like a bucket of ice and she came to her senses at once.

“In desperation, she could not see clearly and mistook Sergio for Calvin.”

How embarrassing!

“Sergio, I’m really sorry. I’ve mistaken you for someone else. Looking abashed and feeling extremely embarrassed, she apologized multiple times.”

Sergio's deep-set eyes did not even look at her. He did not respond and his gaze remained fixed upon the road ahead as he drove on. His expression was solemn.

"Sergio, I'm sorry to trouble you, please turn back. You can also stop the car and I will get down from here. Fear gripped her heart when Sergio did not respond and drove on. She noticed that they were not heading towards the Harvey Group and she did not recognize the place. Flustered, she begged him to turn back."

"He overtook many cars on the road. Although he did not drive as recklessly as Calvin, he drove pretty fast as well. He made many dangerous traffic maneuvers such as weaving, tailgating, and unsafe passing."

"Therefore, many steered clear of him."

"Sergio, stop the car right now. I want to return to the Harvey Group. Belle was on tenterhooks when Sergio did not show any signs of stopping the car or heading back to the Harvey Group despite her pleas. She patted the back of the driver's seat and urged him."

"Regret settled in the pit of her stomach. She was too anxious that she had mistaken Sergio for Calvin. Now, she was forced to pay the price."

"Belle patted the seat with all her might until it was shaking violently. Flustered, Sergio turned around and snapped. ""Belle, calm down. Didn't you wish to see Calvin? I'm taking you to him."" "

Belle was stunned.

He was bringing her to Calvin? Well... Great!

"She paused for a moment and stopped patting the seat. Startled, she asked in disbelief, ""Sergio, do you really know where Calvin is?"" "

"Yes, you will see him soon, Sergio said gloomily. ""Sit down and don't move around."" "

Belle didn't dare to move anymore. Her face lit up with joy.

It turned out that he was bringing her to Calvin. She was just planning to find him herself.

"If that was the case, she would behave herself."

"In one of the shops selling designer outfits of famous brands, a tall and burly man was accompanying a beautiful woman as she picked the clothes of her choice."

"The woman was blushing as she tried on the clothes one after another. The man stood silently by her side, with a smile plastered across his face. The woman seemed to be in high spirits as she tried on different kinds of dresses and showed off her figure in front of the man. Her moist, ecstatic, and shining eyes remained riveted upon the man's face, as if she was asking for his opinion. Whenever he nodded his head in approval, she would flush scarlet and turn around to try on another dress."

The man remained patient and seemed to have eyes only for the woman.

The scene of the woman giggling as the man flashed her a charming smile served a huge blow to Belle. Tears welled up in her eyes.

“She felt suffocated just by looking at the scene of them together. At the moment, it felt as if darkness had engulfed her and she could barely keep her balance. ”

“Sergio stretched out her arms to support her from behind, afraid that she would faint from the shock. ”

“The man who had sworn countless times to her that he would remain true and loyal to her, the man whom she loved from the bottom of the heart, had betrayed her in three days when she was away. No! It happened even before she left. He had already been seduced by Liya and betrayed her when she was still by his side. ”

The truth was too painful to bear!

Was love so fragile?

She shook with fury and wanted to dash into the shop and slap the woman across her face before facing the man and demanding an explanation as to why he betrayed her. Why?

“Next to her, Sergio seemed to guess what was on her mind. He stopped her and whispered into her ears, ““Belle, the Harvey Group is still in trouble. Calvin is a well-known figure. If you enter and make a scene, your reputation as well as Calvin’s will be ruined. Would that be the best choice considering the company’s current predicament?”” ”

“He spoke briefly. However, what he said made Belle calm down right away.”

Her eyes were brimming with tears as she stared in Calvin’s direction. Tears streamed down her cheeks and she sobbed in silence.

Sergio glanced at her without uttering a word.

“Belle, the woman he had thought highly of since they were just kids, was in so much pain. His heart ached terribly for her. ”

“He wrapped his arm around her shoulders and patted her gently on the back in an attempt to calm her down. ““Belle, don’t jump to conclusions. He might have a reason for doing this. Let’s leave this place first.”” ”

Belle nodded her head although she had no idea what she was doing.

Belle didn’t know how she left the shop. Images of Calvin smiling at Liya clouded her thoughts. She was heartbroken.