

Chapter 254 The AI

The door was shut with a loud bang, blocking out all outside noise.

Only the sounds of the two people's breathing and heartbeats could be heard in the room, aside from a faint electric current sound coming from the equipment.

For a while, Loraine was dumbstruck. When she came to her senses, she quickly pressed the door's switch.

But the door didn't budge. It appeared to be completely broken down.

Stumped, Loraine turned to face Marco and asked, "What is happening?"

Marco frowned slightly. After a brief pause, he yelled, "Qbot!"

The intelligent entrance guard's light flashed, and a cute expression appeared on the screen. Qbot's soft voice asked, "Daddy, what's wrong?"

Marco said coldly, "Don't play dumb. Unlock the door!"

Qbot immediately became timid. "Daddy, the system isn't working properly. I'm figuring it out!"

Loraine's heart softened. She simply couldn't treat Qbot like an emotionless AI machine. She glared at Marco.

"Qbot is still a child. Can you please tone it down a bit?"

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"Qbot is still a child. Can you please tone it down a bit?"

Marco was embarrassed and explained softly, "I'm not scolding him. Other than me, Qbot has the highest authority level and control over every channel. He clearly locked us up on purpose."

As the small screen flickered once more, Qbot withdrew the emoji on its screen.

Again, Loraine was astounded by Qbot's intelligence.

She looked at Marco suspiciously and asked, "Shouldn't Qbot follow your orders? Why did he close the door without your authorization?"

Marco was speechless. The situation eluded him as well.

When Qbot noticed that the two of them were still at a standstill, he exclaimed, "Mommy, don't blame Daddy. I did it!"

This confused Loraine. "Why?"

"Despite not having Daddy's approval, I deduced this was the best course of action. It can help you mend your relationship and is for your benefit!"

Qbot's voice was upbeat and a little smug.

Marco gave Loraine a startled look.

Loraine had a conflicted look on her face. Although she felt a little angry, she was powerless. She couldn't argue with an



a little angry, she was powerless. She couldn't argue with an intelligent AI robot.

Despite being only three years old, Qbot had access to knowledge that would take many people their entire lives to learn.

Loraine sighed and explained patiently, "Qbot, we weren't in love when we got married, and we divorced because we couldn't stand being around each other. Your current actions are not helping..."

Marco felt an immense emotional pain. He took hold of Loraine's hand and gave her a deep look.

"Loraine, what do you mean by saying that we couldn't stand being around each other? I didn't ask for a divorce!"

Marco was overcome with frustration and sadness, and he experienced a crushing sensation in his chest.

Loraine didn't understand why he seemed so angry. She shot back with a sneer, "I requested a divorce, and you agreed. Don't you know why we got divorced?"

Marco frowned.

Loraine asked aggressively, "Didn't you bring Keely home to coerce me into getting a divorce?"

"But I never considered that!" Marco replied without hesitation.

It turned out Loraine had believed this all along.

Looking lovingly at Loraine, he explained, "That time, I took Keely home because she said she wanted to see my family. I will no longer be concerned about her now that I have completed all of my obligations."

Loraine was a little taken aback and mystified. What obligation? What obligation would Marco have for Keely?

But it was true that Marco never brought up Keely again.



When Marco was about to express his feelings, Qbot suddenly cut in, "Daddy, who is Keely?"

It had an unmistakably angry tone.

Marco remained silent because he had no idea where to begin. He was worried that Loraine would be unhappy if he said too much.

The question from Qbot surprised Loraine. Given Marco's care for her, how could Qbot be unaware of Keely?

Was Marco's claim that he didn't like Keely true?

While she was deep in thought, the lab's lights started to flicker erratically, and the light tubes started to sizzle. Suddenly, a light tube burst with a click.

Loraine opened her eyes wide in astonishment. She was immediately pulled into his arms and pressed into his chest before she could avoid the flying shards.

The lab became completely dark. Loraine lifted her head. In the sparks, she could only make out Marco's side face, and she felt safe in his arms.



Chapter 255 Power Off

Loraine felt safe and comforted in Marco's arms, his strong heartbeat bringing a sense of relief.

After a while, Loraine calmed down and heard Marco reprimanding Qbot.

"Qbot, stop being naughty! Restore the power immediately!"

Qbot did not respond after the power was off as if it was inactive.

The darkness had enhanced Loraine's other senses. Marco's breathing caused her to experience a tingling sensation that made her shiver.

His body temperature and heartbeat stimulated her senses through the contact between them.

Loraine gulped, stepped back from his arms and whispered, "Marco, let go of me."

Although Marco gradually relaxed his arms, his hand held hers.

The moment he held his hand, Loraine wanted to shake it off.

Marco, however, gripped her hand even more firmly. "Follow me. There are various pieces of equipment everywhere. You are unfamiliar with the place, and you will tumble."

Loraine wanted to express her disagreement but remained

silent.

It was hard to ignore the temperature coming from his palm. They were so close to one another in the dark, and their hearts began to race.

A moment later, Loraine shook off his hand.

"I can walk by myself."

But after taking a few steps, she tripped over the electric wire that was lying on the floor and tumbled.

Thankfully, Marco was quick and nimble enough to catch her. Sighing, he said, "I just told you."

Loraine flushed and bit her lip in embarrassment.

Fortunately, it was dark, and he couldn't see how embarrassed she looked.

Loraine cleared her throat and switched the subject. "What should we do right now? Is there a problem with the system? Or is it a trick by Qbot?"

Despite having a vast knowledge base, Qbot's mind was no different from that of a three-year-old, which left Loraine feeling helpless and amused.

"I'm going to investigate it."

Marco abruptly pulled Loraine forward. In shock, Loraine asked, "What are you doing?"

He held her hand and said gently, "This place has a lot of equipment. I'll lead you to a secure area. Don't be afraid. Just follow me."

Lorraine felt remorseful.

She had turned in her cell phone just before they entered the lab to prevent damage to the equipment. She now had to rely solely on Marco.

Lorraine snorted. "Bryant Group is a sizable company. How could it possibly have such a problem? Is there anywhere that is truly safe?"

Marco came to a halt when he thought she was scared. He gently comforted her. "Relax. Others will soon notice that we are gone. You'll be fine as long as I'm here."

"I am not afraid!"

Suddenly, Lorraine staggered again and was firmly supported by Marco's hand.

She was embarrassed, so she kept quiet and followed him.

Marco soon led her to a corner and said, "Wait here for me. I'll go check to see if the emergency switch works."

His tone was soft, and Lorraine could feel it. She was going to ask him if he needed her to help check the switch, but she was too embarrassed to ask.

Marco walked away. At first, Lorraine could hear his footsteps, but as time passed, she could not.

The vast blackness alarmed her. Her heart pounded, and Lorraine felt a little uneasy. She called out worriedly, "Marco? Are you there?"

Silence filled the room.

Fearful, Lorraine shouted, "Marco, is everything okay?"

Her sound echoed, making the room feel even more deserted.

Loraine suddenly heard what sounded like something hitting the floor. She couldn't stay still, so she held the wall and moved forward slowly, hoping that Marco was okay.

But she stumbled into his strong chest in less than two steps.

"Ah!"

Loraine covered her nose with her hand and was dragged into his arms.

Marco said calmly, "It's me."

"Why didn't you respond when I called out to you?" Loraine complained and heaved a sigh of relief.

Marco explained, "I'm sorry. I hurried over when I heard your voice and didn't get a chance to respond. I was too anxious."

A bright light entered at this time as the door opened. Unconsciously, Loraine shut her eyes and hid in Marco's arms.

Marco thoughtfully extended his hand to protect her from the bright light.

However, this scene caught the attention of those outside the room. They thought the two were hiding in the room and hugging.

As soon as Loraine adjusted to the light and opened her eyes, she noticed a group of scientists outside staring at them as if they had witnessed something remarkable.