## **KINDA SWEET 561**

Chapter 561 Just For Money
When the music stopped, Laura panted a little. Max took her to the lounge to rest. In a low voice, he
said, "Stay here. I gotta do something."
Laura nodded meekly.
Library has not for away cay their event mayonant
Lily, who was not far away, saw their every movement.
Tonight, she also wore a light violet yarn skirt. Light violet was Max's favorite color.
When they were still dating, he once said that in this dress, she looked like the blooming crape myrtle,
tasteful, independent, and enchanting.
Lily wasn't sure if Max's compliment was genuine, but she preferred to believe it was.
It was true that Max had a lot of girlfriends before he was with Laura.
it was true that Max had a lot of girinlends before he was with Ladia.
That those girlfriends never stuck around for long. By far, Lily was the one woman who had the longest
relationship with Max.
Because of that, others tacitly thought that no matter how many women Max was seeing, Lily was still
his official another half.
Besides, Lily was from a rich family. Though her family was not top-class like the four most powerful

families, she was still well known in the upper class in Egitin.

As a female celebrity who had tons of fans, Lily was indeed attractive. She had always taken pride in her good looks.

But at this moment, Lily saw that another woman had easily earned Max's care and attention. She felt that jealousy had twined around her throat like a wild vine, making her unable to breathe.

Selina, Lily's agent, appeared behind her, gazing coldly at Laura, who was in the lounge.

She sneered and said, "She's just a second-rate vixen from the bottom of the circle. How dare she be so pretentious!"

Lily turned around to look at Selina. With the rims of her beautiful eyes a little red, she asked, "Selina, has Mr. Nixon really left me?"

"No, of course not. You and Max have been together for so long. That woman is nothing but a clown.

You know men. When they get bored with fancy food, they'd like to have some cheap snacks for a change. But they will feel sick after taking a few bites. So, he will eventually get back together with

you."

"But... I'm still worried."

Lily shook her head. Tears streamed down her cheeks. She began to shiver in sorrow, which made her seem very pitiful.

"There is something you don't know. Since that day, he's been rather tepid to me. I have a feeling that he has completely gotten over me."

Selina furrowed her brows. She looked around to make sure no one was looking their way. Then, she said under her breath, "Didn't you bribe Lanna to play a trick during the shooting? How did your plan fail? You end up giving Max the chance to rescue Laura. You've suffered a great loss!"

Lily bit her lips in bitterness when this subject was broached.

Moments later, she finally said, "Lanna can't do anything right. Max already found out it was her. But luckily, I wrote her a very generous check. So, she kept her mouth zipped and didn't say I put her up to it."

After a short pause, Lily added, "But I won't give up so easily."

At this, Selina felt there was nothing to say. She just cast a significant look at Lily and asked, "What else can you do?"

Lily shook her head and said, "Don't know yet." Selina chortled and said, "I've just learned about something. But I'm not sure if you're interested." Lily looked up at her in dismay and said, "Tell me about it." Selina leaned in and whispered something in Lily's ear. Lily immediately showed an incredulous expression, then she even quivered with excitement. "Is this true?" Selina nodded, "Yeah, absolutely. After I got this piece of information, I sent people to investigate in case it was false. And it proved that it's true. Her foster father is a gambler and perhaps a drug user, who cost most of the money she earned these years. She also has a mother lying in a hospital bed due to her heart trouble. So, I think she's dating Max for his money." After getting the news, Lily was so thrilled that her hands quivered uncontrollably. "For his money... Now all she wants is money, things are much simpler."

Selina nodded in agreement. She cast another look in Laura's direction, then looked back and patted

Lily on the shoulder.

"Anyway, I've tipped you off. How you'll make use of this tip is up to you. If you can't stand watching her and Max being together, just leave. Don't be too hard on yourself."

Lily nodded and said, "OK, I see."

Laura waited in the lounge for a whole hour. During this time, a man came over to flirt with her. Laura chatted and laughed with him just to kill time.

Those who were at the party were all slick and worldly. This man knew that Laura's status was distinguished when he saw her dancing with Max. As Laura was laughing at his joke, he said, "Miss Davies, it's my honor to meet you. If there is a chance, please put in some good words for me in front of Mr. Nixon."

As he spoke, he whipped out a check and handed it to Laura.

Laura's beautiful eyes blinked. With a chuckle, she said, "Mr. Parsons, you're flattering me. I and Mr.

Nixon are just friends. I'm afraid I can't talk you up in front of him."

Mr. Parsons was shrewd. Seeing this, he didn't press Laura. After putting away the check, he raised his glass toward her and said, "It's OK. I'm still very glad to have met a smart and pretty lady like you."

Right at this moment, Max came into the lounge and saw Laura socialize with ease. Her eyes sparkled



Though Max usually appeared sloppy and unrestrained, he was a completely different person when he deliberately turned on his charm.

At this time, Max and Mr. Parsons were already engaged in a conversation and clicked glasses. Max said beamingly, "Thank you for taking care of Laura for me. Come to visit me at my company if you have time. We're friends now. You don't need to stand on ceremony."

Mr. Parsons's eyes brightened at once. Looking pleasantly surprised, he said, "Thank you, Mr. Nixon.

I'll definitely visit you someday."

He was enthralling!

He knew that a rich and powerful man like Max would never go back on his word. Given his caliber, his chance of associating with the Nixon Group was zero. But as Max had invited him over, it would be much easier for him to work his way into the Nixon Group.

Chapter 562 Spending Money like Water

"Gotta tell my wife this good news when I get home. We shall celebrate this!" Mr. Parsons thought to

himself.

Max didn't stay at the party for long. He soon left with Laura.

As he had had a few drinks, he didn't drive but sat in the back seat with Laura. The car window was

half-open. As the night breeze came in, the scent of wine on Max and Laura's fragrance blended and
then dispersed with the wind.
"Thank you for showing me so much respect in front of everyone."
Laura meant it. Considering their current relationship, she knew that Max had really treated her with
courtesy.
Max cast a sidelong glance at her. His face blushed slightly under the effect of alcohol. But his dark
eyes were glinting bewitchingly, as though he could see through one's soul.
"That's it? But I don't accept the mere words of thanks."
Laura was taken aback. She caught sight of the slight mockery in Max's eyes. An idea popped up in
her mind.
Smiling, she swirled her pretty pupils shrewdly and snuggled up to Max. The tip of her smooth fingers
fiddled with the buttons of Max's shirt as she bit her red lips.
"Mr. Nixon, how would you like me to thank you? That pretty Miss Thomson kept eyeing me furtively at

the party. Her bitter stare even made my hair stand on end.

"I was thinking if we should call her and explain our relationship to her. Then, umm..." Before she could finish, a passionate kiss struck her lips. Laura felt her body was softened by the kiss. She wanted to resist, but her reaction was more like a silent invitation. A muffled snicker sounded from the front. Suddenly, Laura snapped back to reality. "Max Nixon!" She pushed Max in anger. It was not until this moment that she found she was lying on the back seat, with Max lying upon her. She saw from the rearview mirror that the driver was trying to suppress his laughs. Annoyed and abashed, she yelled, "You jerk!" Max squinted at the front. The driver instantly put on a serious look and pressed a button on the dashboard. A baffle dropped, separating the back seat from the front seat. "Didn't you say you wanted to thank me? This is how I like to be thanked." Max looked down at Laura, who was lying on the seat. His breathing quickened. His voice was deep and husky, which sounded particularly sexy in this confined space.

Laura's cheeks burnt with a blush. Her heart almost jumped out of her throat. She looked away and shoved with all her might. "Get up! You're too heavy!"

Max smiled and let go of her. He then sat up, straightened his clothes with grace, and said in an indolent voice, "Don't ever thank me with words. If you really wanna thank me, kiss me instead."

Laura clenched her teeth and snapped, "Screw you!"

She then kicked the car door and shouted, "Pull over!"

The driver parked the car on the roadside. Miffed, Laura got out of the car and slammed the door shut.

Max lowered the window and reminded her kindly, "This place is still miles away from your house."

"I'll never ride your car anymore! I'd rather take a cab!"

After that, Laura stalked off in her high heels.

Max rested an arm on the car door and watched Laura furiously walk into the evening darkness. A tiny smile quietly climbed onto his lips.

At this moment, his phone suddenly rang. He picked up.

"Max, when will you bring your girlfriend home? Didn't you say you'd soon let us see my future



The good thing was, tidbits about Max had never stopped emerging. Therefore, once the
announcement was released, everyone was convinced that Laura merely accompanied Max to attend
an event as his friend, and there was no so-called inside story. The discussion on this matter soon
subsided.

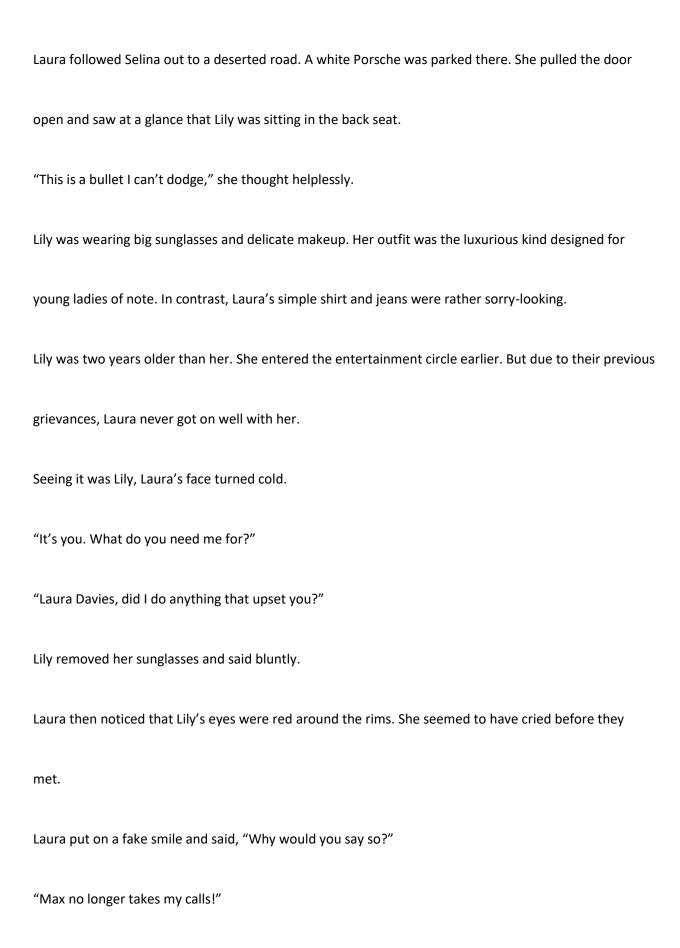
The indoor variety show Laura decided to go to was about to start shooting. The shooting wouldn't last long. It only took a week. Laura's partner was a newcomer in the acting business, who was just moderately popular. They had worked together before, so they were well-coordinated during the shooting.

After the variety show was done, Laura packed up her things and prepared to go home. Just then, a crasher came to see her.

Selina was an experienced agent in the entertainment circle. She had made many artists top stars and so had many strong backers. Thus, the artists in the circle all held her in reverence.

Laura put her baggage down. With neither haughty nor humble attitude, she called, "Hi, Selina."

"Come with me. I wanna have a word with you."



Laura looked up, astonished. But a second later, she blinked and lowered her eyes.

In a voice devoid of emotion, she said, "Why does that have anything to do with me?"

Seeing her being so cold, Lily gnashed her teeth and said, "Laura Davies, you would suffer in the days

to come!"

Laura pressed her lips and retorted, "Whether I would suffer is not up to you."

"Humph!" Lily laughed scornfully and said, "You think Max is really into you? He's had tons of lovers

over the years. But how many of them are still with him?

"I and Max have known each other for so long. I'm the one who has had the longest relationship with

him. We're having a falling-out. And he is cold-shouldering me because he's mad at me.

But as long as I swallow my pride and apologize, he'll come back to me. When that time comes, he'll

dump you as if you're a worn-out shoe. Now you've offended me, do you think any man would dare to

date you ever again?"

Laura wasn't sure how much of what Lily said was true. With a slight frown, she said, "I'm just an

actress with no strong backers. I can't afford to offend you, nor Mr. Nixon."

"However, what would you fear if you had money?"

Lily reached out. Selina took a check from her purse and put it in Lily's hand. Lily then handed it to

Laura.

Chapter 563 She Agreed

"This check is enough for you to live a luxurious life for years. After I and Max get married, you can

come back to the acting business again. I promise you. Even if Star Entertainment doesn't want you

back then, I'll introduce you to other entertainment companies, and your payment won't be less than it

is now."

Laura took a glimpse at the number on the check. It read 20 million dollars.

"She's really... having a splurge for love. How extravagant!" she exclaimed internally.

With a faint scornful smile dangling at the corners of her mouth, Laura looked up, beamed with ease,

and accepted the check. "Thanks a lot."

Lily didn't expect that she would agree to the deal so decisively. Dazed, she looked at Laura's eyes,

which were crystal clear, not hiding any vile intention.

Seeing this, she breathed a sigh of relief. Her plan worked. As long as Laura had the decency to back

off on her own initiative, Lily believed she could definitely find a way to get back together with Max.

This check cost almost all of her savings. But to win Max back, this was a price worth paying.

After, considering Laura's current status, she wouldn't leave Max if the bribe was not big enough.

"If nothing else, I gotta go now."

With that said, Laura got out of the car.

Lily watched Laura walk away. She had a feeling that something was wrong, but she couldn't tell exactly.

She looked over her shoulder and asked Selina, "Do you think she'll really leave Mr. Nixon?"

Selina laughed coldly and answered, "Women like her care about nothing but money. You've already

given her 20 million. She'll definitely end her relationship with Mr. Nixon."

 $For some \ reason, \ Lily \ didn't \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ face, \ Selina \ said \ considerately, \ "Don't \ line \ think \ so. \ Seeing \ her \ distraught \ her \ distrau$ 

worry too much. You and Mr. Nixon had been together for a long time. On no account would he

completely abandon you."

Lily was enlightened. "Yes, Max would definitely come back to me!" she told herself in her head.

It was already six in the afternoon when Laura came home. But she jumped in fright the moment she

walked out of the elevator.

A tall man was leaning against the wall by the door. Many cigarette butts were lying at his feet. It seemed that he had waited there for a long time.

"Why are you here?"

Laura came over with her baggage. Max's brows were tightly knitted. Instead of answering Laura's question, he asked, "Didn't you finish work early in the morning? Why did you get back so late?"

While groping for her key to open the door, Laura replied, "Halfway I got caught off guard by..." She paused abruptly and turned around. To her surprise, Max was right behind her. Her lips brushed against his chin. Both the two were stunned for a second.

"You got caught off guard by what?" Max's lips curved into a tiny smile. With an arm propping against the wall, he had trapped Laura in his bosom. A faint smile could be seen in his eyes.

They were just inches from each other. Laura could smell tobacco from Max mixed with the fragrance of his hormones. The scent was quite good, yet it sent Laura into a trance.

Laura pressed her lips, shook her head, and thrust him. "Move. I gotta open the door."

When the door swung open, they walked into the simple two-room apartment. The decoration and

fittings were warm-toned. There were a lot of objects, which made the living room look a bit crowded. Some furniture also seemed old. But the owner of the apartment was clever with her hands. She put the same-colored cloth covers on the furniture, so the pieces seemed to be a whole set. Laura told Max to sit on the sofa and relax. She then poured two glasses of water and handed one to him before explaining, "Lily came to me this afternoon. She offered me 20 million to leave you." Max seemed to have long expected this. He didn't look surprised at all. He just eyed the glass of purified water with disdain. Still, he picked up the glass and took a sip. Then, he said, "What did you say to her?" "I said okay." Max glowered at her. Though he didn't fly into a rage, he was rather intimidating at the moment.

Max glowered at her. Though he didn't fly into a rage, he was rather intimidating at the moment.

Laura shrugged as if it was no big deal. "It's no use glaring at me. I'm just a nobody. I'm neither rich nor powerful. You can't expect me to confront her head-on, can you?"

Max's sleek brows furrowed slightly. "You're my woman now. You don't have to walk on eggshells around anyone."



actually coercion mixed with coaxing, Laura reluctantly handed the check in.

At the sight of her pinched face when she gave the money up, Max's expression finally softened a little.

He decided not to blame Laura for attempting to sell their relationship off for just 20 million dollars. He rubbed her head affectionately and said, "Don't be sad. I'll give you a gift as compensation."

But Laura's interest had been sapped. Now the 20 million dollars had slipped through her fingers, she looked rather downhearted.

Max chortled. He got up and headed for the bathroom while taking off his clothes.

Taken aback, Laura yelled, "What are you doing?"

Without looking back, Max answered, "Take a shower."

Laura was stupefied. The next second, she leaped out of the sofa and went after Max, shouting, "Hey!

This is my apartment!"

"But you're my woman!"

The bathroom door closed with a clang. Laura skidded to a halt but almost banged her nose against the glass door. She stood in a daze for seconds. Then, she felt like crying but had no tears.

"God! Why do I feel that I'm in trouble?" she cried inwardly. The sound of running water was heard from the bathroom. Laura knew it was too late to stop Max. Resigned, she took a deep breath and shouted, "Don't use my towel! There are some new ones in the drawer!' The night fell. Evening lights were lit one after another. Sulking, Laura stumped into the kitchen and opened the fridge. Just then, someone knocked on her door. She came over and looked through the peep. Surprisingly, it was Jim Helberg, Max's assistant. "Hello, Miss Davies." Jim was about 25. He seemed cold and distant. But at this moment, he was very kind and friendly. He was standing in the doorway, holding a stack of new clothes and smiling benignly. "Sorry to bother you. I'm here to deliver some clothes to Mr. Nixon." Laura eyes him with suspicion. "How did you know Max is here? He called you?"

"Er, look, Mr. Nixon brought the inspection team to the Rose Garden on the Fragrant Hill this afternoon.

Mr. Nixon is allergic to pollen. So, he felt very sick after the inspection on the hill and needed a place to

shower. But this area is too far from the hotel. Mr. Nixon knew you lived in this area, so he told me to go to the hotel to fetch some clothes for him and deliver them here."

That explained it!

Laura's heart, which was in her mouth, finally went back to its old position. She knew a man like Max

would never come to her place for no reason.

Chapter 564 Not Spicy at All

Without suspicion, Laura took the clothes. At the thought that Jim was Max's trusted assistant, she put

on a friendly look and said, "Thank you for going through all the trouble. Please come in and have

some water."

Jim waved and said, "No, thanks, Miss Davies. I have somewhere else to go. Please excuse me."

He started to head for the elevator as he spoke.

Seeing this, Laura didn't try to persuade him to stay. She watched Jim enter the elevator before closing

the door.

Max soon came out of the bathroom. He had nothing but a towel wrapped around his waist, so his

strong abs and long legs were exposed. His hair was wet. Drops of water slid down his nice V-line,

making him look hot and alluring.

Seeing Laura standing by the door holding a stack of clothes, he asked, "Jim's been here?"

That gave Laura a turn. She spun around. Her pupils froze for a second.

"Holy cow! How could he be so gorgeous?" she exclaimed in her head.

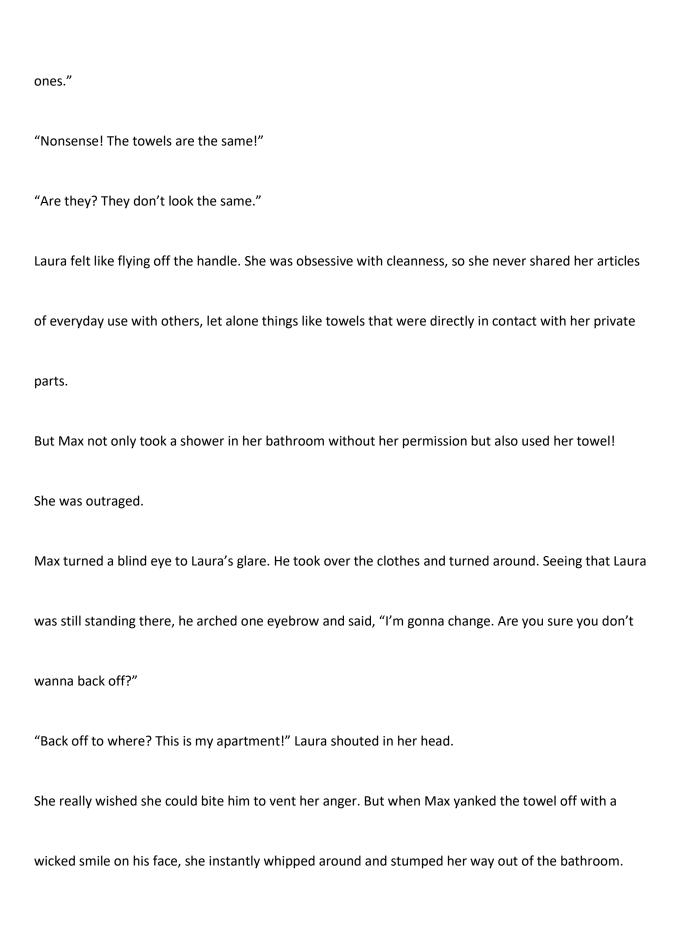
Although she had slept with Max once, she only had a fuzzy memory of Max's figure. After all, Max was drugged at that time. He almost sapped all her energy that night. How could she memorize anything else about that night?

Right now, Max's upper body was fully exposed. He was definitely hunky and muscle-bound. Behind his disarranged wet hair, a pair of deep, twinkling eyes could be seen. His thin lips had become cherry-colored. He now looked just like a gorgeous prince coming out of a bath. Any woman would want to throw themselves at him if they saw this.

Laura swallowed without realizing it. She forced herself to tear her eyes away from Max. But then, she saw the towel he was wearing. Her beautiful pupils stopped moving, and her slender brows furrowed.

"Didn't I tell you not to use my towel? Why did you use it anyway?"

With an innocent look on his face, Max spread his hands and said, "I don't like the fabric of the new



She wouldn't argue with this shameless man!

The door was slammed shut. Laura stood in the doorway for moments, feeling that her stomach began

to ache. It was not until then that she realized she hadn't had anything to eat since this morning.

She looked the time. It was already 7 pm, too late to order takeout. Resigned, she inhaled deeply and

headed for the kitchen.

Laura was a good cook. But when she didn't have company, she just made noodles. It was nutritious

and easy to make.

Just as she started to boil the water, Max appeared by the kitchen door. Seeing her busy in the kitchen,

he asked with interest, "You're cooking?"

Laura snorted, not answering his question.

Max didn't mind that. He entered the kitchen and walked around. Then, not feeling abashed or

anything, he told Laura, "Don't forget to cook for two."

"Why would I?"

Laura couldn't stand this anymore.

Max looked at her with composure. Smiling faintly, he said, "I remember Maria just handed in the

assessment report. The performance is not ideal. Though I'm not the one running Star Entertainment, I
am, after all, a board member of Annie International. Now that Star Entertainment is attached to Annie
International and the competition in the agent industry is so fierce, I think"

"Mr. Nixon, do you want some eggs?"

Laura's attitude changed drastically. She blinked charmingly as a bright smile spread across her face.

Max nodded with gratification. With some reluctance, he said, "Do as you like. You can't possibly cook

anything fancy. I think I'll have to lower my standard for you."

Then, he went off with a swagger.

Laura's ingratiating smile vanished the moment Max disappeared out of her sight.

"You wanna me to cook for you? Hell with you!" she cursed inwardly.

She threw the ladle aside in anger. Then, her eyes landed on the chili powder on the spice rack. A

vicious smile climbed onto her lips.

In less than ten minutes, two bowls of hot noodles were served. The bigger bowl was sprinkled with red

chili powder and two golden fried eggs, which was mouth-watering. The smaller bowl only had noodles

and pieces of vegetables. In comparison, the latter seemed bland.

Laura put the big bowl in front of Max and the small bowl in front of her seat. Seeing this, Max asked with a frown, "You eat this little?"

Laura sat across from Max. The hot steam from the bowl turned her cheeks pinky, making her look adorable. Beamingly, she said, "I'm an actress. I gotta watch my weight. This is enough for me."

But Max picked up his fork and delivered one of his eggs to Laura's bowl. "Let's make an exception today."

Laura panicked. She leaped to her feet and pushed the bowl away. "No, I'm good! Really! I have a TV play to shoot. If I gain weight, I won't look good on TV."

To convince Max, she nodded vigorously after she said that.

Holding the fork, Max gazed at her for seconds. Seeing the sincerity in her eyes, he eventually chose to believe her

But his expression altered the instant he took the first bite.

Laura fled into the kitchen with her bowl of noodles before Max could fly into a rage.

Her long-suppressed laughter instantly burst out. But she didn't dare to laugh out loud in case Max

heard her. She had to clasp one hand over her belly and rock back and forth with sniggers while
covering the other hand over her mouth to muffle the sound.
She had added half of a bottle of chili powder into that big bowl!
It was the hottest chili on market!
"You're arrogant and bossy! You look down on my cooking! This will serve you right!" she thought with
satisfaction.
After having a good laugh, Laura gingerly poked her out from behind the door to check what was going
on in the kitchen.
To her surprise, Max was sitting at the table, enjoying his noodles with ease. His movements were
elegant. His expression was relaxed, as though nothing odd had occurred.
"Eh? This can't be right!"
"Does Max actually like spicy food?"
"But how can he eat such spicy noodles without batting his eyelid? I've added half a bottle of chili in
that bowl!" Laura wondered.

The bowl of noodles was soon finished. Max grabbed a napkin and wiped his mouth gracefully. Laura
frowned slightly. After watching him suspiciously for a while, she walked over pretending to take the
empty bowl away and asked with a smile, "Mr. Nixon, did the noodles taste good?"
Max looked up indolently and fixed his eyes on her. "You wanna know?"
Laura nodded.
"Come here."
Though Laura had no idea what Max was up to, she still took a step forward. Suddenly, Max reached
out, grabbed her wrist, and pulled.
Laura instantly fell into Max's arms.
A burning sensation struck her. Max lowered his head, placed his lips on hers, and kissed her with all
his might.
Laura found herself out of her breath several times.
Meanwhile, the hot chili made her tears well up.
"Oh my, he thinks this is not spicy? It's spicy like hell! How can Max stand such hot chili? He even ate
that whole bowl of hot noodles with immense grace! He's a freak!"

Laura felt like crying. But Max didn't let her go, as though he was determined to get back at her. This kiss lasted a good eight minutes! Chapter 565 Being High and Mighty Max didn't let Laura go until she couldn't feel her lips. In a husky voice, he asked, "Did you taste it?" Laura covered her mouths with both hands. Her tongue was so numb that she couldn't speak. She could only scowl at him with her almond-shaped pretty eyes. Her curly eyelashes were draped with glinting tears. She looked a bit wronged and a bit lost, which made her even more stunningly beautiful. Max's deep eyes bore into hers. Waves of desire raged in the depths of his eyes. Laura was startled by his intense gaze. Sensing the hand on her waist grew increasingly hotter, she jumped to her feet, shoved Max, and yelled, "You perv!" She then dashed into the kitchen. Max cocked his brows. He lowered his eyes and saw his private part, then rubbed his forehead in distress.

"What a perturbing babe!" he cried inwardly.

Laura fetched milk out of the fridge. The burning sensation didn't recede until she gulped down two
glasses of milk.
Max also drank a lot of water. His lips were glaringly red due to the sting of the hot chili. Laura had
never seen him being in such a sorry state before. She couldn't help but laugh out loud.
Her anger ebbed, too.
She looked at the clock again. It was almost 8 pm. It was completely dark outside. The wind howled,
and dark clouds blotted out the moon, foreboding a storm. She frowned and asked, "Shouldn't you
leave now?"
Her tone showed that she didn't want Max to stay at all.
Max was a little miffed. He was used to seeing others beg him to stay. When had he ever been driven
out before?
Still, he maintained a cool face. He grabbed his phone and said, "I'll call my driver right off."
Laura didn't say more. She turned around and went into the bedroom, leaving Max alone in the living
room.

Not long ago, Blaine got her a part in a costume TV play. It would start shooting in a week, so she had

to familiarize herself with the script as soon as possible.

This TV play was not big-budget. But it had caught the attention of many because the novel it was based on was a hit. Plus, with Lily, the famous actress, playing a part in it, the cast alone was very impressive.

Laura involuntarily knitted her brows at the thought of Lily.

She didn't need to think to know that Lily would not leave her out of harm's way during the shooting.

She just had to handle more trouble.

"Alas!"

After heaving a sigh, Laura decided not to think about it. She picked up the script and began to read.

When Max walked in, he saw Laura sitting at the desk, reading a script by the lamp. The warm light

poured on her profile, setting off her exquisite and chiseled features. Her skin was smooth. Her pink

lips were slightly pursed. Her curly eyelashes quivered, which seemed to be tickling Max's heart.

Right at this moment, Max's phone vibrated. He glanced down and saw it was the driver's call.

Inexplicably, he pressed "Decline".

He then strode into the room. His footsteps staggered Laura, who was sitting by the lamp. She looked up and asked, "Is the driver here?" Max shook his head and furrowed his brows. "Perhaps the traffic is heavy. I think he'll get here soon." "OK. Sit for a while then." She did not pay more attention to him but continued to focus on her script. Having been ignored, Max revealed a fleeting trace of discontent in his eyes. He glanced at the script Laura was holding. The lines marked by red were not very brilliant. This play mainly centered on the male lead. The female lead was only a foil. Laura didn't want to be part of this play at first. But she needed to change her image. Since no bigbudget production wanted to hire her, she had to start with this kind of role. Max snorted and said, "You won't become popular even if you play a thousand roles like this one."

Laura raised her chin and puckered up her brows. Then, as if she had thought of something, she giggled out loud before lowering her head to look at the script again.

Clearly, she didn't want to give Max any of her attention.

Max was even more vexed. He walked over and leaned against Laura's small desk with folded arms.
To break the silence, he said, "I know you want to change your image. But have you considered other
ways? This play's focus is all on the male lead. It won't do you any good. This kind of play will only
slowly drain the popularity you've accumulated. In the end, you'll become a has-been that no one wil
notice."

Max only meant to do some chitchat. But to Laura, his remark was somewhat scornful and provoking. She put down the script, stood up, and looked at Max with a serious face.

"Mr. Nixon, Annie International has signed more than 500 artists. Do you know every one of them?"

Max arched his brow, not answering.

"In this world, not everyone was born with a golden spoon like you. Those artists must strive to get what they want through their own efforts. Some even have to work one hundred times harder than ordinary people."

Laura shook the script in her hand and continued with a sardonic look on her face, "Now, I have roles to play. I have a professional agent working for me. I even have been cast by a good show. Though this is

not a show centered on actresses, and I may just be a foil of the actors, the cast and the crew of this
play have a very good repute. If I study my role thoroughly, I may have a chance to shine in this play.
"Do you know how many artists still have no job offers even after they're signed by entertainment
companies? They can hardly get to play an extra even though they've tried all means! Compared with
them, I think I'm kinda lucky!

"Mr. Nixon, I believe you know perfectly how hard it is to become a star. Still, you're used to judging others' achievements with your high and mighty attitude and your ridiculous sense of superiority. Don't you think you've gone too far?"

Laura's speech was powerful and rousing, which carried a note of seriousness and solemnity that she rarely showed.

Max was flummoxed. It seemed that he didn't expect her to get so worked up. As he saw the earnest look in her eyes, his sleek brows knitted together.

All of a sudden, he found that Laura was different from all the women he usually associated with.

Those women were all social climbers. Even if they could not marry into the rich, they would at least also seize every opportunity to hype their fame. Many would even trade sex for more important roles.

But Laura was not like that. Max had investigated her background. She had a clean record. After having sex with her that night, he was certain that it was her first time. A virtuous woman like her could hardly be found in the chaotic entertainment circle. Yet, Laura managed to stay in the circle, for she truly loved being an actress.

Max had been in the entertainment industry for years. He had seen all kinds of artists, but very few were like Laura.

Thinking of that, his strong attitude softened a little.

Seeing that Max was not answering, Laura thought he would not even bother to criticize her opinions.

Crestfallen, she sank back into her seat and mumbled, "Forget it. I knew like you wouldn't understand."

As she spoke, a thunderclap struck. With the loud rumble, the earth seemed to start shaking.

Laura jumped in fright. Deftly, Max reached out and held her in his arms so that she didn't fall.

A bolt of lightning shaped like a silver snake flashed by the window. Laura muttered, "It's raining?"

With a frown, Max said, "This morning's weather forecast said a typhoon would arrive tonight." Chapter 566 He Won't Leave Tonight

Hearing that, Laura froze. Then she thought of something, pushed Max away, and quickly ran out.

On the balcony, the wind was howling and it was raining heavily. Laura was pushed against the glass door by the wind as soon as she went out. She grunted and suddenly fell into a warm embrace. Max looked at the sky and said in a low voice, "There's going to be a storm." "I know." Laura could barely keep her eyes open, "My succulents are out there." She bought them the other day. She loved them and took care of them carefully. People always wanted to have some plants or animals to gain hope in difficult times. Watching them thrive, people would think that the future was bright. Laura was about to rush out when Max looked at those potted succulents on the balcony and pulled her back, "Hold on to the glass door." He rushed out and quickly brought them in. Then he closed and locked the door. Laura found some scotch tape, which they used to hold the large pieces of glass together to prevent the typhoon from shattering them. Only then did they breathe a sigh of relief. The wind was howling outside but it was silent in the house.

Laura was a little embarrassed. She yelled at Max earlier, but he helped her close the window. She shouldn't have done that.

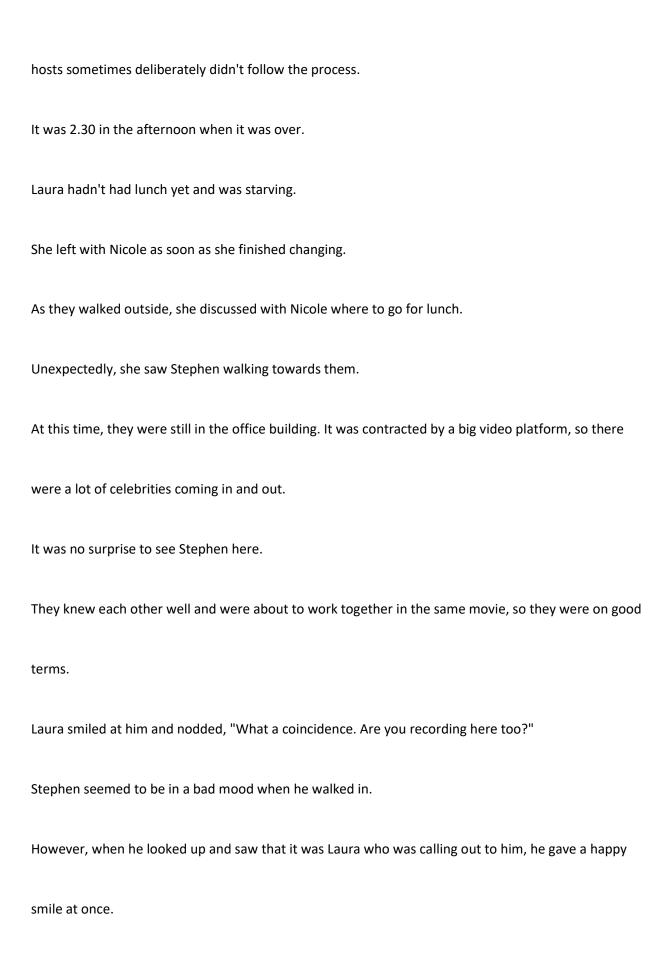
She smiled awkwardly, "Can your driver come here in this heavy rain?"
Max cleared his throat and pulled out his phone, "I'll call him."
When the driver picked up, Max glanced at Laura and saw that she was staring at him, so he had to
ask seriously, "Where are you? When will you be here?"
The driver who had been waiting downstairs was a little confused, "Mr. Nixon, I've been here for a long
time."
"What? The road collapsed? You are blocked? All right, you don't have to come. It's a typhoon. Be
careful!"
The driver was speechless.
Max hung up the phone and shook his head helplessly.
"The heavy rain caused a landslide. It seems that I'll have to stay here tonight."
He said as he sat down on the couch.
Laura immediately tensed up and had a bad feeling.
She hurriedly stumbled, "Well There is only one room. The other room is full of clutter. It's too late to



After saying that, she turned around and ran away. Max looked at her back and narrowed his eyes slightly. He withdrew his hand and laughed silently. Laura quickly cleaned up the room for him. For him? It was not quite accurate. After all, she knew his temper. Usually, she was the only one living here. There were two rooms, but she only slept in one room and the other room was full of clutter. The bed was piled up with paper boxes. She had just removed them and made the bed. It looked neat and tidy now, but she dared not propose him to sleep in here. So she let him sleep in her bedroom and she slept in this room. Max didn't say anything and went to his room to rest. Maybe it was because she was not used to this bed or she had something on her mind. Laura tossed and turned all night. She even dreamed in the middle of the night of a scene long ago when her father had just died. Life was hard and painful back then. Her mother dragged her through the mud.

She knew she might not have to care or do anything in her life but she must take care of her mother.
The hard years were in the past and everything was now okay.
She was willing to sacrifice everything as long as she could cure her mother's illness.
The dream was deep and long.
In the silence of the night, a hot tear slid down from the corner of her eye.
A man's low sigh suddenly sounded in the darkness.
Max reached out, gently wiped her tears, and tucked her in before turning away.
It was the next morning when Laura woke up.
The sunlight poured in through the windows and the room was warm.
She squinted, stretched, and suddenly remembered that Max was still in the next room.
Startled, she sat up right away and glanced at her phone. She found that it was 9. Her countenance
instantly changed.
She had a bad feeling and got up in a hurry.
However, when she got dressed and hurried to the next room, she found that Max had left.
There was no one in the room. The quilt was cold.

It meant that he left a long time ago.
Laura was relieved, but she didn't know if she should be relieved or frustrated. She had mixed feelings.
But it was good that he had left. At least he wouldn't try to mess with her.
Therefore, she didn't think much about it. She just assumed that Max left. She didn't even call him
before she went to wash up.
Then she made some breakfast.
It was about 10.30 after breakfast and Nicole came to pick her up.
These days Maria didn't arrange any special work for Laura. There was only an interview.  Chapter 567 Interview  Maria had printed and given Laura the process of today's interview and the questions that would be
asked.
She needed to familiarize herself with them.
The show was recorded in a TV building.
The interview lasted three hours and was quite enjoyable.
After all, it wasn't Laura's first time being interviewed, so she was able to handle it even though the









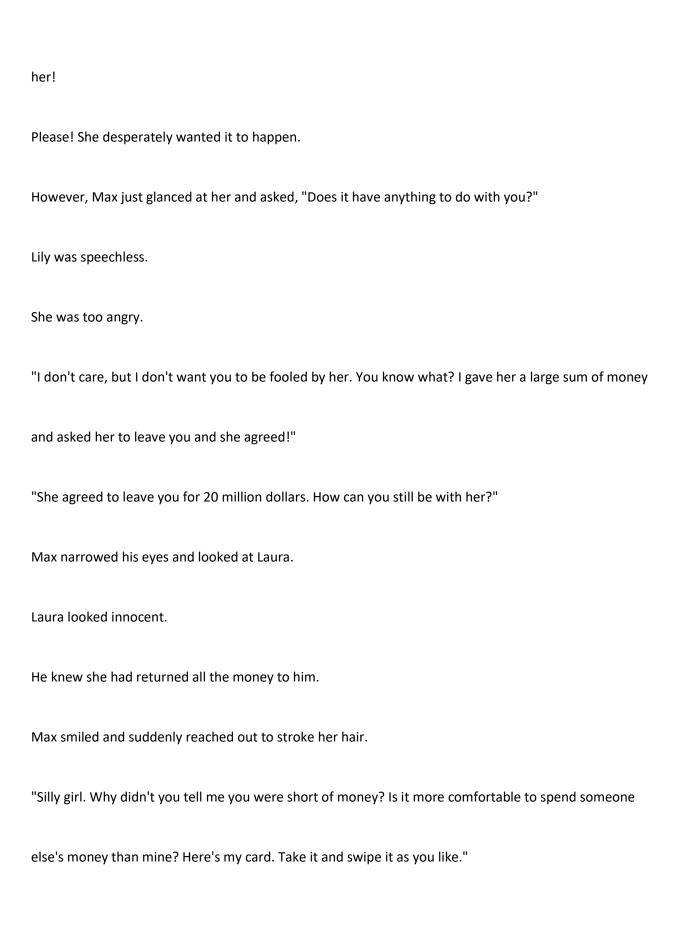


She pursed her lips and whispered, "Stop talking nonsense. I'm not going to be with either Max or
Stephen, so don't ever say that again."
Nicole noticed that her face was gloomy and her voice was serious. She knew Laura was serious.
Then she said, "Oh," and stopped talking.
The car soon arrived at the restaurant.
The restaurant was very famous in Eqitin and its name was Delicious Duck.
The roast ducks here were great.
Not only stars but also many famous people in Eqitin come to eat here.
Therefore, it ranked high in the restaurants in Eqitin.
It was secure and private enough for celebrities to dine in.
They arrived at the reserved private room.
They had just sat down when they heard the noise outside.
Chapter 568 Wrong Focus
Laura froze slightly, subconsciously looked at Nicole, and asked, "What's going on outside?"
Nicole was also confused, "I don't know."





She even pretended to meet him by chance. He was not a fool. How could he not see through her?
How ridiculous!
Just now, he saw Nicole peeking at them outside. He instantly realized that Laura was also eating here.
So he ran over without hesitation.
Lily gritted her teeth. Before she could say anything, she saw Max walk in and sit down in the chair next
to Laura.
"Didn't we agree to eat together? Why didn't you let me know when you arrived?"
Laura was confused.
She didn't know anything!
However, it was too late to explain. Lily was furious.
Ignoring Max's cold look, Lily rushed in, pointed at Laura, and screamed, "Max, why are you still with
her? Do you know what kind of woman she is?"
Laura bowed her head in silence.
She wanted Lily to denigrate her!
She wanted Lily to say she only loved money and was cheeky. She wanted Max to feel sick and leave

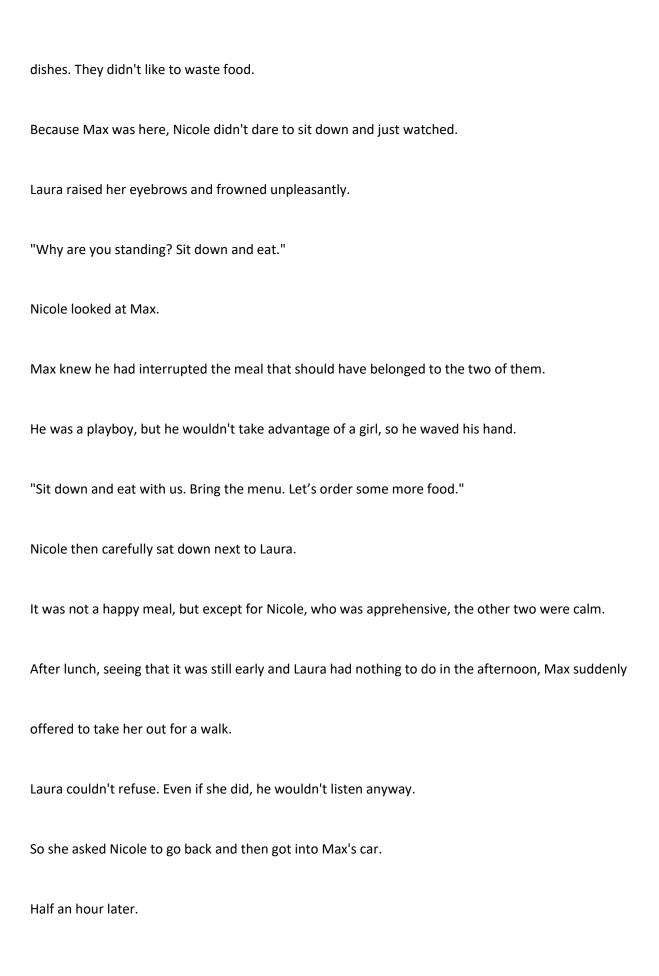




Lily, who had been neglected and changed from the main character to a bystander, was completely
confused.
She didn't know what was going on.
What was wrong with them? She was very angry and came to pick a fight. Could they at least show her
some respect?
Besides, why did things turn out this way?
Shouldn't Max be furious? Shouldn't they misunderstand each other and break up?
She had been planning this for so long. Why didn't they do what she wanted them to do?
Besides, Max's focus was wrong, wasn't it?
Laura took her money, but Max only noticed that she was poor and ignored that she betrayed him for
money.
What was wrong with them?
Lily was devastated!
Totally devastated.



She paused and didn't know what to say.
She was used to him blaming it on her.
Max glanced at her and said in a cold tone, "What? You got a problem with that?"
Laura was speechless.
What could she say?
What did she dare to say?
Before, she had no demands on him and dared to talk back to him, but now her career and her
mother's life were in his hands. How could she talk back to him?
Finally, Laura shook her head helplessly, "Nothing. Do what you want."
Anyway, even if Max didn't do anything, she and Lily couldn't possibly get along.
Lily hated her to the core and would not trust her even if she told her the truth now.
Having figured this out, Laura stopped dwelling on it.
At that moment, the waiter served the food. She picked up her knife and fork and started to eat.
Since she and Nicole were the only ones here before, they didn't order much food but only three



The car soon arrived near the destination.
Max parked his car in the parking lot. They got out and walked towards their destination.
Laura looked around at the unfamiliar surroundings and frowned.
"Max, where are we?"
She was a famous star now. She couldn't run around or she might get recognized by people.
Max naturally knew what she was worried about. He said with a smile, "Don't worry. I've already made
some arrangements, and I promise you've wanted to come to this place for a long time and will have
fun."
She didn't know that Max had arranged to get rid of everyone in this place at lunchtime. All the facilities
were set up for her and there could never be any problems.
Laura could only follow him, but the further she went, the more apprehensive she became.
Laura could only follow him, but the further she went, the more apprehensive she became.  Sure enough, five minutes later, she was speechless when she stood in a fairytale large amusement

She shouldn't have expected it! Max was obviously not very familiar with this kind of place. He looked around at the various rides and cleared his throat awkwardly. "Well... This is a VIP card. You can play with anything you want." As he spoke, he pulled a card out of his pocket and gave it to her. Laura was embarrassed. She had no interest at all in such childish things, so she asked, "Can I not play with them?" Max raised his eyebrows and looked at her, "Now that you are here, how can you not have fun? Besides, don't all girls your age like the amusement park?" "Who said that?" "I heard..." Max suddenly paused and pursed his lips, "You don't like it?" Laura looked at the VIP card in her hand and pouted.

He was Mr. Nixon. Shouldn't he go to a fancy place like a sky restaurant or some private estate? Why

It wasn't that she didn't like it. It was just that it was so different from what she had expected!

After all, she wasn't a child and wasn't at the age to ride roller coasters.

would he visit an amusement park?

It wasn't that she despised amusement parks. They could go to an amusement park for adults, but it was a children's amusement park!

Laura sighed inwardly. Forget it! Since they were here, they should have had some fun!

She noticed a place directly in front of her where she could shoot balloons and get dolls. She pointed to

it and said, "Let's go over there!"

Max nodded.

They went to the stall and bought ten rounds of ammunition from the stall owner. Laura pointed to a

white husky doll in the middle and said with a smile, "I want that!"

Max nodded, raised his gun, and adjusted his stance. With a bang, he shot it.

The stall owner was a man in his thirties. He was a little surprised because few customers shot the

balloon in the first round. The man was handsome and the woman was pretty, so he was impressed

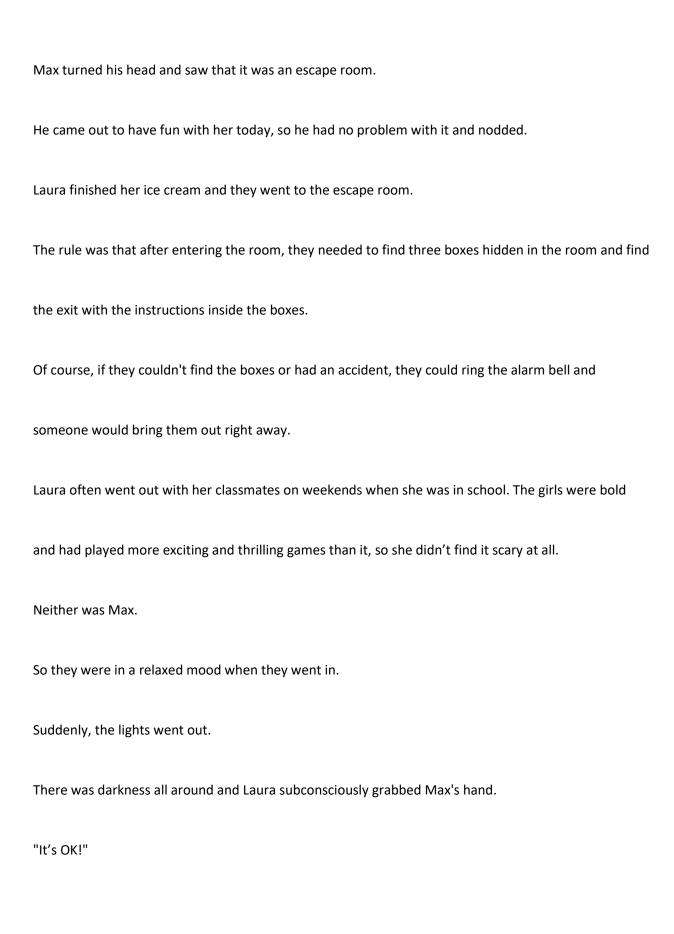
and smiled as he took the husky doll off and handed it to Laura.

Laura pointed to the monkey doll next to it, and Max shot the balloon above the doll without serious



They were so close that Laura could feel Max's warm breath tickling her ears. She couldn't help but
blush.
Although they had been more intimate before, it was a different situation.
At that moment, he was unconscious and she only wanted to save him. She didn't think too much
about it.
At this moment, they were close together like a couple in love.
Laura couldn't help but squirm, but Max growled, "Don't move!"
Then he adjusted her hand with was holding the gun and said, "Okay, that's it. Clench your right arm,
relax your left arm, and shoot!"
"Bang!"
The plastic bullet brushed against the balloon.
Laura put the gun down sadly. She pouted and said, "Ugh! It missed."
Max caressed her hair and smiled, "You haven't practiced before. It's no big deal."
Laura rolled her eyes at him, "Don't comfort me, sharpshooter!"

After saying that, she returned the gun to the stall owner and they took the dolls away. At Laura's suggestion, they rode the pirate ship, roller coaster, and trapeze, and other exciting rides. At first, Laura was not interested in them, but gradually, they carried her back to her childhood and she became excited. After three hours, they were both a little tired and went to an outdoor cafe next to the park to rest. Next to the cafe was an ice cream store. As soon as they sat down, Max asked her, "Do you want to try it?" Laura used to dislike sweets, but since she became a star and often dieted to lose weight and never ate sweets again, she became interested in them. They had played for so long today and consumed a lot of calories. Even if she ate ice cream, she wouldn't gain weight, so she nodded. Max bought an ice cream and handed it to her. Laura tore off the packaging and ate it carefully while squinting her eyes and looking around. Suddenly, her eyes lit up. "Let's go there later!"



His voice came from ahead and calmed her down slightly.
There were many intricate paths in the room. They moved slowly along the walls and passed many
forks.
Max had a logical mind and they soon found the first two boxes.
But they searched for a long time according to the clues on the note in the boxes and didn't find the
third.
Suddenly, they felt cool air blowing on them. They felt the wall and reached another four-way fork.
They stopped in their tracks.
In the dim light of the flashlight, Max turned to her, "How is it? Is it fun?"
Laura pursed her lips and didn't answer.
She was inexplicably alarmed since the lights went out.
She had never felt this way before.
It was as if some great fear was about to break out of the ground.
Noticing her strange look, Max frowned.
"Are you alright?"



They walked side by side towards the restaurant.
The waiter warmly showed them to their table. Laura ordered steak. Max didn't seem to like the food
here, so he only ordered drinks and salad.
The food was quickly served.
Laura said as she ate, "Actually, you don't have to indulge me like this."
They went to the lively places where young girls liked in the afternoon. She had known Max was doing
it on purpose!
Max leaned back in his chair, sipped his wine elegantly, and narrowed his eyes slightly.
"I've checked. You've had a hard time all these years. I didn't take care of you well. I'm sorry."
Laura froze slightly and looked up at him, "So you made it up to me by taking me to those places young
girls like?"
Max nodded.
"It's late, but I hope you'd have some good memories as anyone else."
Laura suddenly lost her appetite.
She put down her knife and fork, thought for a moment, and gave a wry smile.

"I know you mean well, but do you really think it will turn all the suffering I've endured over the years
into sweet memories? No way. You didn't go through all that. You will never understand how desperate
and sad I was."
"Honestly, it has nothing to do with you no matter what I've been through. You don't need to feel sorry
for me because of my past. You never"