

Love from My Dominant Boss

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After returning home, I felt extremely uneasy. All I could think about was the scene of Michael being together with that woman.

Aside from feeling restless, I was terrified too.

I remained seated in the living room until midnight, but Michael did not return for the entire night. Could it be that he's with that woman?

I felt an unprecedented sense of panic. In fact, I was even more flustered than when I caught Justin and Mabel sleeping together. It was at that moment that I realized I had fallen in love with Michael.

In the morning, I stared at my reflection in the mirror. Filled with self-contempt, I smirked mockingly when I saw the dark circles under my eyes.

Anna, you think too highly of yourself. To Michael, you're nothing but a lover who cannot be known to the public. What right do you have to feel sad?

I did not like being in such a state, and I hated the feeling of being unable to control my feelings even more. Despite knowing that I would be hurt if I fell in love with Michael, I just could not control my heart at all.

I did not even eat breakfast. When I arrived at the office, the CEO's office was still closed. Usually, Michael would have already reached the office by now, but he was still nowhere to be seen. Could it be that he's still sleeping?

Sitting at my desk, I kept staring at Michael's office. I had no motivation to work at all.

Long after office hours had started, Michael finally appeared. His hair was slightly disheveled and he looked exhausted.

Despite knowing him for so long, I had never seen him so haggard. I could not help but wonder if he was too tired from sleeping with another woman the previous night.

My thoughts were not usually so vulgar, but I couldn't help but think of that. These possibilities were precisely those that I was terrified of.

Michael did not leave the office after that. When he walked past me in the morning, he did not even spare me another glance. I started to suspect if our relationship was going to end soon.

“What’s wrong, Anna? You don’t look well. Are you sick?”

Millie, who was sitting opposite me, discovered that something was wrong with me. Hence, she asked me softly with a worried look on her face.

Jolted back to my senses, I panicked and averted my eyes. “No, I just didn’t have a good rest last night and am a little tired.”

“I heard about you being locked in the toilet a few days ago. Are you alright now?”

Millie brought up the incident that had happened earlier. She stared at me with a look of pity and there was a hint of worry in her voice.

“I’m fine. Don’t worry!” Feigning nonchalance, I forced out a smile and replied casually.

Although I pretended that I was not bothered by it, I wanted to find out who was the person targeting me and insisting on going against me.

Not only were the files in my folder deleted a few days back, the person even locked me in the toilet and turned the air conditioner to the lowest temperature. In fact, I almost died. If it were not for the cleaner who discovered me, I would not be sitting here anymore.

“Attention, please. Everyone in the design department, please head to the meeting room for a meeting.”

Just when Millie was about to say something, Michael’s secretary walked out of the office, clapped her hands and made an announcement.

I’ll have to meet Michael at the meeting. My heart skipped a beat. For some reason, I felt reluctant to do so. Is it because I’m terrified of something?

However, since I was at work now, I had to prioritize work regardless of how unwilling I was.

Joyful Success was such a large company, but Michael’s office was located on the same floor as the design department coincidentally. Earlier, I was narcissistic enough to think that it was because of me. Yet, I now understood that I was nothing to him.

When I arrived at the meeting room, everyone was discussing what Michael was going to brief them about.

Soon, the door opened and Michael appeared. He was wearing a black suit which accentuated his lean figure. His expression was as cold as always and there was a calm look in his eyes.

He scanned our faces briefly before sitting on the main seat.

Although he did not speak hastily, his silence and cold aura were so intimidating that no one dared to utter a single word.

“I’m sure that everyone has heard the news about an employee being locked up in the toilet for an entire night a few days ago, right?”

Michael finally spoke after a long time. The reason why he organized this meeting was to address the incident where I was locked up in the toilet two days ago. My heart skipped a beat as I looked at him with complex facial emotion.

Everyone started discussing softly after he finished speaking. I could not hear what they were whispering about, but they were probably surprised that Michael would hold a meeting just for such a minor incident.

“This is not an accident. Someone did it deliberately, and that person is from the design department! Can the culprit please reveal yourself?” instructed Michael coldly after glancing at everyone.

A commotion broke out immediately afterward. Everyone exchanged looks, wondering who was the one who did it.

I was looking around as well. When I saw Tiffany, who had deliberately targeted me in the toilet, I noticed that there was a panicked look on her face. However, she was still pretending to be calm.

Out of all of us present, she was the only one flustered. Hence, I was certain that she was the culprit. Despite the fury raging within me, I tried my best to stay calm.

Since I had no evidence now, I could not possibly accuse an innocent person. Since Michael held a meeting to address this issue, it meant that he had found out who the culprit was.

“Is no one going to come forward?” demanded Michael coldly, his gaze landing on Tiffany.

Everyone could sense the coldness in his stare.

Noticing Michael looking at her, Tiffany looked even more flustered. However, she did not stand up and admit to it.

“Tiffany Barker?”

His cold voice sounded as he called out her name directly. There was a hostile look in his eyes and his voice laced with rage.

Tiffany trembled before standing up in a panic. After shooting a glance at Michael, she lowered her head in a hurry. I could see her shivering all over.

“Mr. Shaw...”

“Why did you do that?”

Michael stared at her coldly, his tone was terrifyingly solemn.

“Mr. Shaw, I didn’t do it. It was not me...”

Trembling, Tiffany waved her hands frantically and denied it.

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“Do you still want to deny it?”

Michael narrowed his eyes as he shot a cold glare at her. His voice was filled with an intimidating tone.

This caused Tiffany to tremble even more. Everyone in the meeting room stared at her and were beginning to suspect her.

“Mr. Shaw, I really didn’t do it! I’m innocent! Please find out the truth.”

Tiffany gazed at Michael agitatedly, her eyes reddening.

“You won’t give up till the very end, huh?” asked Michael coldly before beckoning his secretary, who immediately inserted a flash drive into the laptop.

Tiffany’s figure appeared on the screen. The surveillance camera footage taken at the entrance of the toilet captured how she had deliberately locked the door after I entered.

The surveillance camera footage was so clear that it was impossible for Tiffany to deny it anymore.

“Mr. Shaw, I...”

She knew that it was useless to keep denying it. However, when she was about to say something, Michael interrupted.

“This is just a small part of it. There’s more.” Not giving her a chance to reply, Michael stated coldly while staring at her sharply.

Soon, the image on the screen changed to that of Tiffany turning the temperature of the air conditioner to the lowest level.

Not only did she lock me inside the toilet, but she even turned the temperature to the lowest. It was really lucky of me to survive till the next morning. If I was discovered a bit later, I might have died freezing.

“Do you have anything else to say?” Michael asked Tiffany plainly after the secretary turned the screen off.

“I’m sorry, Mr. Shaw. I really am! After doing that, I felt very terrified too. I only wanted to play a prank on her and didn’t expect the consequences to be so serious.”

As there was no way for her to rebuke him further, she admitted to her wrongdoings. However, she kept trying to defend herself.

“Well, you did it. Do you need a reason to justify your actions?”

Michael’s expression was still cold despite hearing her explanations.

“Mr. Shaw...”

Michael never condoned preferential treatment. Regardless of what the reason was, what was right and wrong were clearly distinct. He would not forgive someone because of the reasons or justifications they gave.

“You’re fired,” stated Michael in an icy tone.

After glancing at her nonchalantly, he looked at the rest. “If anyone else does something like that again, then you should just leave the company on your own!”

I was surprised when Michael fired Tiffany as I had expected him to simply punish her. After all, she did not actually want to harm me. To my surprise, Michael actually fired her.

Because of that, my heart started beating rapidly. Did Michael do that because of me?

"I'm really sorry, Mr. Shaw. I promise that this will never happen again. Can you please forgive me this time?"

Hoping to keep her job, Tiffany stared at Michael anxiously and apologized profusely. As it was a tough feat to work at Joyful Success, so there was nothing more important than safeguarding her job.

"Why are you still standing there in a daze? Chase her out now!" Frowning impatiently, Michael instructed the secretary coldly.

After receiving his orders, the secretary asked Tiffany to leave directly.

Soon, the meeting room was silent again, for no one dared to say a single word. I gazed into Michael's dark eyes, not knowing if he did all that for me.

"Meeting dismissed!"

Michael did not say anything else. After glancing at me emotionlessly and saying those two words, he left the meeting room.

Sitting at my desk, all that I could think of was how Michael had taught Tiffany a lesson in the meeting room. I wanted to know what he was thinking about and whether his punishment was so severe because of me.

"Anna, I think that Mr. Shaw treats you differently. Although Tiffany really crossed the line this time, firing her was an exceptionally harsh punishment. Employees who have been fired from Joyful Success could hardly find a good job anywhere else," remarked Millie as she inched closer to me.

Now that even Millie thought that Michael was treating me differently, I felt even more unsure. However, it was not easy to read Michael's mind.

"Mr. Shaw's a fair person, so I expected him to make that decision. I don't think that it's because of me."

I remembered how Michael was together with another woman last night, and how he did not come back for the entire night. Hence, it was impossible for a man like that to take those actions because of me. He probably did it for the sake of the company.

I shot a glance at the CEO's office. Actually, I wanted to go in, and confront him on what was his relationship with the woman from yesterday.

However, I was in no position to do that. Thus, I had no choice but to suppress all of my emotions and thoughts.

I did not want to discuss anything about Michael, so I lowered my head and started to work. Suddenly, there was a commotion in the department and everyone was discussing amongst themselves.

I glanced over and spotted a fashionably dressed woman walking toward Michael's office. That was the woman with Michael yesterday.

Since she could come to the company and look for Michael so openly, it meant that they shared a special relationship.

After she entered his office, she did not come out for a long time. I had no idea what both of them were doing.

My colleagues in the department were discussing whether the woman was Michael's girlfriend and praising her for her beauty.

The more they said that, the more upset and uneasy I felt.

"Anne, do you think that the woman who just came is Mr. Shaw's girlfriend?" Millie moved closer to me again and asked curiously.

Since everyone was thinking that she was Michael's girlfriend, I was even more convinced about it. Averting my gaze and suppressing my sadness, I tried my best to sound calm. "I don't know."

"The woman who went in just now is really pretty. It's so obvious that she's from a rich family too! She's a good match with Mr. Shaw."

Millie did not notice anything wrong with me. Like the others, she kept praising that woman's beauty.

I knew for a fact that a woman who could catch Michael's eye would definitely be good-looking.

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The woman stayed in Michael's office for a long while before coming out. When she left, there was a happy grin on her face.

When she passed by me, she suddenly stopped in her tracks and stared at me in confusion. "Have we met before?"

Not expecting her to suddenly speak to me, I was stunned. After returning to my senses, I averted my gaze guiltily. "Really? I don't remember."

I had to admit that this woman had a good memory. We only met each other briefly yesterday, but she still had an impression of me.

The only reason why I had a strong impression of her was solely because she was together with Michael yesterday.

"I remember that we met yesterday at the shopping mall. So, you're an employee of Michael's company!"

A look of revelation dawned upon her face before she exclaimed, sounding like she was hinting at something.

Although there was a smile on her face, I could already sense her hostility from yesterday.

"Really? I don't remember that."

Laughing dryly, I feigned a look of nonchalance and tried my best to suppress the upset feeling within me.

Just when she was about to say something, the door of the CEO's office opened and out came Michael. When he spotted her talking to me, he immediately strode toward us.

"Emma, what happened?" asked Michael calmly when he reached her side.

"I'm fine. When I was about to leave, I bumped into this lady. Since we met in the shopping mall yesterday, I could remember her."

Emma flashed him a gentle smile before linking her arm with his intimately.

With their good looks, they looked like a match made in heaven when they stood together. However, I felt a little upset.

"Really?"

Michael glanced at me calmly before looking back at Emma with a small smile on his lips. I had never seen him look so gentle before.

"I asked you if you knew this lady yesterday, but you said no. Are you lying to me on purpose?"

Emma gazed at Michael in feigned anger. Although her tone seemed displeased, she sounded cute more than anything else.

Every action of theirs caused my heart to ache. However, I still pretended to be calm.

“There are so many employees in the company. How can I possibly remember all of them?” replied Michael nonchalantly as he stared at me without any emotion.

He was trying to tell Emma that even if I was his employee, he still did not know me.

Forcefully suppressing the bitter feeling rising within me, I feigned nonchalance. After glancing at Michael, I fell silent.

“I thought that you’re close to this lady. Still, how can you not have an impression of such a beautiful woman? Are you lying to me, Michael?”

Emma’s gaze flitted between me and Michael before glancing back at him suspiciously.

“Do you think that I’m lying to you?”

Instead of saying anything, he frowned impatiently. He was a man skilled at concealing his emotions. Even if he was lying, it was impossible to capture any traces of guilt from his expression.

“How is that possible? I trust that you’ll never lie to me. Am I right?”

It was as if she had noticed Michael’s displeasure, Emma leaned her large breasts against his body and spoke in a cutesy voice.

Michael scrutinized Emma calmly before saying, “It’s getting late, so you should go back first. I still have a lot of work to attend to here.”

After that, he spun around and entered the office without sparing a second glance at either of us.

The moment his office door closed, the woman’s smile disappeared from her face. She shot me an arrogant glance before leaving.

I could not help but frown. A woman’s instinct was always the most accurate and I could sense that she was extremely hostile toward me.

After she left, silence returned to the office. Everyone lowered their heads and started working. However, some people would shoot me a strange glance occasionally.

I had been feeling uneasy since yesterday. For some reason, I thought that I was about to be ditched. Michael would probably bring up the topic of breaking up with me soon.

After ending things with him, I could finally have my own life. However, even though our relationship had not ended yet, I felt sad just by the thought of it. I had no clue what I should do now.

It was a long wait before work ended. Since Michael was usually the last to leave, I deliberately sat at my desk and waited for him, my gaze constantly fixed on his office.

Everyone in the office had left except for me. Nevertheless, Michael still had not come out. I stood up, took in a deep breath, and strode toward the CEO's office.

When I entered the office, Michael was still reviewing his documents with his head lowered. Upon hearing me entering the room, he raised his head and glanced at me calmly. Still, he did not say a single word.

I was displeased by his cold attitude. Even if he was about to end our relationship, he should still inform me. Why is he pretending that we are strangers?

"I have something to tell you, Mr. Shaw."

Standing not far away from him, I said in a very cold tone. There was also a rare tone of solemnity in my voice.

"If there's anything, tell me after I'm done with work."

Michael did not say anything else. After saying that calmly, he continued reading the documents and ignored me.

Although I was upset by his attitude, I was in no place to argue with him.

Hence, I just stood rooted to the spot and waited for a long time until he finally finished his work.

"What is it?" After tidying his documents, he raised his head and asked me nonchalantly.

There was no trace of emotions in his gaze. Staring into his eyes, I was at a loss for words for a brief moment.

“Is... Is Emma your girlfriend?”

After a long hesitation, I finally asked the question that had been occupying my mind.

I stared at him nervously, hoping that he would deny it. Although I had already guessed the answer, I still felt indignant and reluctant to give up.

“There’s a clause in the agreement that states that you’re not allowed to interfere with my private affairs, right?”

Michael did not answer my question. Instead, he frowned and gazed at me unhappily.

I was rendered speechless by his words. My expression changed slightly as I found myself at a loss for words.

“I just want to know if Emma’s your girlfriend. I’m not interfering with your private life.”

I knew what Michael thought of me. Even if I knew about his relationship with Emma, there was nothing I could do. At the very most, I could only end our relationship.

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“So what are you going to do about it even if you knew?”

Michael frowned and directed his cold glare at me.

He had been acting indifferent towards me since yesterday. I assumed it was because he had a girlfriend. It looked like I needed to end this relationship even though it hurts me to do so.

“I think we should end our relationship. I assume you have no further need for me since you have a girlfriend now to help fulfill your desire.”

I suppressed my anger but couldn’t keep out the indifference from my tone.

Why doesn't he tell me directly that he doesn't need me anymore since he has a girlfriend now? What's the point of keeping quiet and merely gave a brooding look?

"You came looking for me to tell me this?"

He stood up as his face turned darker and walked towards me.

He stopped in front of me and looked down at me.

The rage burning in his eyes pressured me to shift my gaze. Yet, I forced myself to maintain eye contact with him. I shouldn't feel guilty because I had done nothing wrong.

"Yes, that is why I came looking for you. I think you should be loyal to your girlfriend. You're disrespecting her by sleeping with me."

I calmly stared Michael down.

"Loyal? Anna, are you joking?" Michael merely sneered.

His sardonic gaze made me feel disturbed. I had no idea what he was thinking.

"What do you want then? You already have a girlfriend now, so we should just end our relationship."

My temper was spiking at that point. Does he plan to continue our relationship? Is he not worried about his girlfriend finding out at all?

"I don't intend to end our relationship because I think sex with you is better than sex with Emma."

Anger rushed through me as I couldn't believe such shameful words would come out of his mouth.

He still doesn't want to let me go despite having a girlfriend. What have I ever done to him for him to treat me this way?

"Michael, you're crossing the line. I agreed to be your lover on the condition of you being single. If you continue this relationship with me despite having a girlfriend, I would be the mistress."

It was not something I could accept. I despised being the third person in a relationship.

"You're not considered a mistress if I'm not married. So our relationship will end the day I get married."

He stated indifferently with a deadpan expression.

So our relationship will end on his wedding day? Is he expecting me to look at him as he gets married to another girl?

How could he so be heartless?

I was rooted in place with both of my hands balled into fists by my sides. My nails were digging into my palms, yet I didn't feel the pain because my hatred towards Michael had consumed me.

"Let's go. It has been two days since I slept with you."

He didn't care about my feelings. He merely reached for my hand and approached me.

I struggled to release my hand from his grasp while glaring at him. I loathed his touch.

His forehead creased as he looked at me glumly. I guessed he had never encountered a woman who would deny him.

I was furious and anxious due to his penetrating gaze. I merely stared at him silently and left without a word.

I was planning to take the subway home, but he stopped his car at the entrance directly in front of me.

"Get in!"

He didn't sound angry anymore, but I knew he was still angry.

"Mr. Shaw, we're not in Birchwood right now. You said we're strangers once we left the house."

I don't want to be alone with him right now, so I reiterated what he had said to me the other day. I feel sad every time I think about him having a girlfriend.

"Anna!"

Michael glowered at me with gritted teeth. His face turned even darker. It was a sign that he was about to blow up.

I avoided looking at him and instead took him as a stranger. Didn't he say he didn't know me in front of his girlfriend that day? So it makes sense for me not to know him now.

"Sorry, I need to take the subway."

After a glimpse at Michael, I walked away, not giving him a chance to speak.

After a few steps, a loud and piercing honk sounded from behind.

He was hitting the honk forcefully, inciting a piercing sound, making me frown. I blatantly ignored him, unwilling to spare him another glance.

I don't want to return to Birchwood at this moment. But I don't have anywhere else to go.

I was pacing at the entrance of Birchwood, unwilling to enter. But as the day turned dark, I entered resignedly.

The first view that welcomed me as I opened the door was Michael sitting cross-legged, reading a book on the couch in the living room.

He said nothing when he saw me. His face was impassive.

I didn't want to talk to him either. I headed straight for the kitchen after I set my bag down.

I didn't know what got into me but I only prepared dinner for myself and nothing for him that night.

As I prepared to eat, he set his book down and walked towards me.

I ignored him. I have nothing to say to him. I wanted to leave this place so badly every time the thoughts of his girlfriend crossed my mind.

"Where's mine?"

He took a seat opposite of me with a frown on his face.

"What?"

I feigned ignorance and continued eating.

"My dinner. Do you expect me to look at you as you eat?"

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Michael fixed his gaze on my dinner.

“I forgot to prepare yours. It’s not too late for you to dine out.”

I didn’t lift my head as I spoke, unwilling to look at him.

“You’re doing this on purpose!”

I couldn’t hide my thoughts in front of him. He was staring at me coldly.

“No, you’re overthinking,” I retorted indifferently.

I took a page from his book. He used that same tone on me when he told Emma he didn’t know me.

“Anna, you better don’t piss me off. There is a limit to my patience.”

His dark eyes glinted as though they could swallow me whole.

He is unexpectedly scary when he’s furious. I try to keep myself in check whenever I challenge him.

“Have mine then. I’m tired I’m going to rest now.”

I have to keep my frustration in check, no matter how angry I am—the outcome of pissing him off is not something I can bear.

His rage dissipated from his face. He even managed a smile. Maybe he didn’t expect me to offer him my dinner.

When he smiled, he looked charming and attractive, but I wasn’t in the mood to admire him at that moment. I stood and headed straight for the bedroom.

After a quick shower, I was lying on the bed, preparing to sleep. Alas, sleep evaded me.

Unsure of how long it had been before I heard the bedroom door opened. Knowing it was Michael, I quickly pretended to sleep.

I know I don't have the right to be angry, but I can't control my feelings. I don't know how to talk to him.

Once he got on the other side of the bed, he moved near me.

No one understands his intention better than I do, but I'm not in the mood to do it tonight. My mind is full of thoughts of him with another girl. My train of thoughts keeps leading towards whether he had already slept with Emma and whether he was with Emma when he didn't come back last night.

I was gradually getting more irritated at my thoughts, so I turned my back to him. I was determined not to have sex with him that night.

He was very patient in bed. He understood I was rejecting him from my body language, yet he didn't give up. His hands started to caress my body.

A hot tingle flowed through me. He knew my body too well. He knew where exactly to touch to get a response from me, but I didn't give in.

I smacked his hand away. "I'm tired. I need some rest." I sounded impatient.

I didn't reject him outright but hinted to him.

"Since you're tired, just close your eyes and enjoy. Let me do the rest."

I don't know if he didn't get my hint or he was acting. He had a seducing smile when he breathed those words into my ear. And his hands continued fondling me.

I knew he was the type who wouldn't give up until he got what he wanted.

"Michael, that's enough! I said I don't want to do it tonight."

I turned abruptly and stared at him.

Why couldn't he be more understanding of my feelings? How could he be so self-centered?

He was baffled by my outburst. Next, I could see anger simmering in his eyes.

"Anna, watch your tone! You're pissing me off!"

Michael gritted his teeth and coldly threatened.

"I said I don't want to do it, and I am angry."

There is no way I will give in tonight. He can do it with his girlfriend instead. I'm sure she won't reject him.

"Anna, now you've done it!"

Michael got on top of me, pinning me down like a boulder.

He was rough. The pain brought tears to my eyes. He is torturing me!

I wanted to remove his hand, but he seemed to know my intention, for he used his other hand to trap both of my hands. There was lust and rage in his eyes.

"Let me go! You're hurting me!"

I bit back a cry of pain because I didn't want to appear inferior in front of him.

"Listen to me, Anna. You're my lover, so it is your duty to please me. Do you hear me?"

He said in a low, deep voice. His dark eyes stared ruthlessly at me.

The way he talked had always been arrogant and overbearing. He didn't care how others felt. I was angry and wanted to resist, but I was well aware of his temper. The more I resisted, the more he would torture me.

"Why are you forcing me? You have a girlfriend and so many other women."

There were tears in my eyes when I looked into his as I yelled.

"Forcing you? You think I'm forcing you right now?" His anger reached a boiling point.

"I'll show you what forcing you is like."

His face looked so cold that it was scary. Next, he started kissing me on my neck.

However, he wasn't gentle as he used to be. There was a hint of madness in his actions as he bit me all over my neck like a beast.

He bit so hard. My entire body was trembling from the pain in my neck. He is like a madman when he's angry.

I tried pushing him away and landed punches on his back with all my strength, yet it didn't deter him in the slightest. My resistance had only increased his madness.

Suddenly, I felt a piercing pain in my neck, making me yelp in pain. The tears flowed from the corners of my eyes as I grabbed the bed sheets tightly.