

A Lifetime With You –

Chapter 193 - 224

Chapter 193 - I Was Wrong (18+) -

Warning: Half of the chapter is not suitable for underage. Read at your own discretion.

Edith looked at her mobile phone in Neil's hand. Then, she shifted her gaze to him and asked, "Do you trust me now?"

His throat rolled upon meeting her intense gaze. He was perfectly aware that he was being unreasonable and the woman in front of him was aggrieved with the way he had behaved.

Although he was not comfortable with how Edith and Aaron were close, he had made mistakes when he did not trust her enough and had not let her explain their relationship.

"I don't like your friend."

Edith was startled and she started to wonder if he was going to prevent her from being a friend with Aaron.

"But I trust you," Neil said.

He was unhappy seeing Edith with her ex. Though he wished that the two would not be interacting much, he could not prevent her from doing anything she liked. He knew that Edith would not like it if he had restrained her.

Edith stared at him with an aggrieved expression. "We are a couple. If there is any issue, you need to talk to me instead of ignoring me. Not saying anything is not going to help either of us. I don't want our relationship to end when it had just begun."

At the thought that his unreasonable behavior might have caused their relationship to end, Neil suddenly panicked. He walked over to Edith and pulled her into his embrace.

"Sorry." Neil buried his nose in her hair and took a deep breath. "I was wrong."

"That the relationship started because I had a little bit too many drinks and made a stupid bet. It was something stupid I did when I was younger," Edith said.

Back then, they could only hold hands and not do anything beyond that. They tried to kiss but found that the idea was too repulsive. They broke up, knowing that they were better off as brothers who will look over each other's back.

"I know."

"Really?"

"I didn't mean to ignore you. When I thought that you used to date him and how you are still very close to him, I get upset to the point that I did not know what to do. What if he still had feelings for you? What if that old feeling rekindled?"

Edith found their situation was a bit surprising. He was President Neil Mo of MH Group, and he was out of her league. He could get any woman he wanted, but surprisingly, he had his own insecurities. He would get jealous to the point that he started to act unreasonably.

She pulled away from his embrace with ease and looked at him in the eye. "Neil Mo. You listen to me. I only like you." Seconds later, she grabbed at the front of his shirt, forcing him to bent down before she pressed her lips on his in a kiss.

Neil was momentarily shocked at her action. Her kiss was not as gentle as it usually was. Neil thought that her kisses at this time were a little bit rough and domineering. It was as if she wanted to punish him for doubting her.

But he thought that her domineering side was quite attractive and he was enjoying this style.

As he thought that the woman in his arms belonged to him, Neil felt his possessiveness grew. Soon, he followed suit and kissed her with the same desperation.

The room grew hot and the sounds of heavy panting and moaning resounded. They were both kissing each other as if they had something to prove to each other. For Edith, she had wanted to let him know that she had only liked him, Neil Mo, and no one else. For Neil, he had wanted to let her know that she can only be his.

His throat rolled and Neil tried to take dominance in their little dance.

Sensing what he was about to do, Edith pulled away from him and broke their kisses. Her eyes grew darker, knowing that Neil was trying to use his height as an advantage to take control of their kiss.

Edith raised her hands to his chest and gave him a little shove.

The man staggered backward before he fell on the bed behind him. Neil tried to sit up. Before he was able to register what was going on, a shadow loomed over him and his lips were caught again.

Edith parted her legs, straddled his body, and kissed the man under her senselessly. She wanted to give him a lesson for doubting her while trying to convince him what she

felt for him. Until he was convinced that she only liked him and not somebody else, Edith was determined that she was not going to back down.

Their bodies were sticking to each other close as they continued the battle.

Even though he had a lot of strength as compared to Edith, she would always find a way to break away from his move.

Noticing that he was unable to push her under him and turn the situation around, Neil decided not to fight for it. Someone was taking the initiative to coax him and he was not going to reject her attention.

His hands stopped trying to push her under him and instead, Neil rested his hands on her waist to hold her in place. Slowly, his hand crept under her shirt and he started to grab her soft mound.

A moan escaped her at the contact. Edith broke their kiss and stared at the man under her.

She was suddenly reminded of Lily's advice and thought that it was pretty helpful. At least, they have forgotten about whatever argument they had in the first place and Neil's eyes on her were no longer as cold as it was a few hours ago.

Neil froze when the woman on top of him had suddenly pulled away. He had thought that perhaps she was not happy that he had touched her chest and was going to push him away.

However, a few seconds later, Edith leaned forward again and bite at a spot on his neck.

Neil let out a sharp gasp. His breathing grew quicker as he felt the way she had sucked at the spot. Her move gave him both pain and pleasure.

He closed his eyes to enjoy the way she had made him feel while his hand started to move again, exploring her skin under her big T-shirt. Suddenly, Neil felt a strong tug and the towel around his waist loosened.

His throat rolled when her hand reached for his shaft and started to fondle them curiously.

Neil grew excited as he was reminded of that night Edith had gotten too drunk and had insisted to touch him everywhere on his body.

Her lips moved to leave her marks on his jawline, to his collarbone, and then, she went lower as she continued to tease him the way he would tease her previously. Her hand continued to move on his length, pleasuring him.

This time, she was not drunk and was completely aware of what she was doing. The way she was touching him was different. Her hand would move to touch him and experiment at which way he enjoyed to be touched the most.

It was torturing him.

"Baby." His voice became hoarse as he continued to whisper her name. "A little faster."

After a while, he was no longer able to bear the stimulation. His breathing hitched and a low grunt escaped him.

When he came to his senses, the woman on top of him was staring at her hands which were smeared by his load. As if sensing the way he was staring at her, Edith turned to look at him with a languid smile on her face. "Do you like it?"

Unable to find his voice, Neil only replied to her with a soft nod.

Her body on top of him moved as she tried to find a comfortable place.. Leaning forward, Edith gave a peck on his lips and chuckled just beside his ear. "Then, do you want more?"

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Lily was right about one thing... After a night battle, when the sun is up, the relationship would then turn to normal. Well... at least, before she closed her eyes and sleep, her darling's cold gaze had turned warm.

Though she did not own battle armor, her battle instinct was high enough that it had saved her life.

Edith blinked as she stared at the bare chest in front of her and the memories of last night rushed to her mind.

It turned out that making love to dispel someone else's jealousy could be quite fun. Although she did not enjoy his misunderstanding and jealousy, at least, coaxing him was exciting.

As the thought came to her mind, Edith started to wonder if she should get them into another misunderstanding so that she could enjoy the process of coaxing him. But when she recalled that frightening Iceblock Mo, Edith decided not to go through with her plan.

Fortunately, their misunderstanding this time was not that bad. They have resolved their misunderstanding and stopped fighting before they went to bed. Edith was sure that she could not bear the idea of going to sleep without resolving whatever issue they had.

At the thought that Hazel might wake up anytime soon, Edith tried to get off the bed and slipped out of the bedroom. However, her movement halted as her waist was feeling a little bit sore.

When she recalled the second half of their battle, Edith had the urge to cry. Although she was domineering the battle in the first half, her body started to go weak afterward, and soon, the man had turned around the situation to return her favor.

By now, Neil knew her soft spot and would tease her here and there until her body grew weak with pleasure. Soon, she was at his mercy and could no longer slip away as she liked. Taking the chance, Neil then got his revenge and punished her until she had no strength to lift a finger.

It seemed that she needed to work on her stamina. But still... even if she had her stamina, this man still knew her weak spot and would torture her until she gave up.

Edith let out a groan, knowing that she would never win the overall battle. Another thought came to her mind and Edith began to seriously consider getting a battle armor.

Should she ask Lily to come and shop with her? Her friend has been married for years and would surely know which battle armor is the best...

As if sensing that someone was watching her, Edith raised her head and met with Neil's piercing gaze.

His lips turned to a smile and he leaned in to kiss her forehead. "Good morning."

Edith stared at him for a long time, not saying anything. Seeing that the smile on his face did not disappear, Edith shifted away slightly and asked, "Not angry anymore? Not jealous anymore?"

The smile on his face froze. The tip of his ears reddened and Neil lowered his head, embarrassed. Seconds later, he looked at her again and flashed a roguish smile. "Are you going to coax me again?"

Knowing that he was only teasing her, Edith turned her head away as if too lazy to look at him. However, her body was still sore from last night's battle and she could not turn around too much. In the end, she could only find a comfortable position and buried her face on his chest.

Edith closed her eyes as she felt his hand caressing her back. Just like that, the couple was enjoying the silence between them.

"Darling," Edith spoke after a while. "You cannot be jealous of me and Aaron, alright? I've explained to you our relationship last night. When I started to live with my grandfather, he often left me at his parents' place whenever he had to work overtime. We grew up with each other and found the idea of being together is too absurd."

Neil stared at her and asked, "Is he important to you?"

Edith nodded. "We look after each other. Whenever one of us gets bullied, the other would seek revenge. That was all. When I was bullied in the past, Aaron would be the first to help me. This is the kind of friendship we have. You can say that we are like sworn-brothers. Therefore, if you are going to ask me to cease contact with him, it would be impossible."

"I am not going to ask you to do such a thing." Neil stared into her eyes and sighed. "I cannot promise that I would not get jealous." He watched her frown and continued, "After all, that feeling was not something that I can control. But I can promise you that I won't misunderstand your relationship anymore."

Her eyes brightened up and Edith leaned to kiss a spot on his neck. She pulled away and studied the mark on his neck with a reddened face. Edith stretched her hand and touched the spot. "President Mo, how are you going to show up at work tomorrow with this mark on your neck?"

"What's wrong? Even if I showed up with this mark, who would dare to say a thing about it?" He chuckled.

Alright. If he can be thick-skinned and appear at his office like that, she would not say anything. After all, other than a few people who were stationed at the president's floor, none of the staff knew about their relationship.

Neil moved a hand to her waist and started to help her massage the sore spot. A thought came to his mind, and Neil asked, "Where did you learn your self-defense move?"

He could still remember last night, no matter how he tried to subdue her, the silly woman would often find a way to squirm out of that position and turned the table. It was how he had lost the first battle between them.

Edith laughed at his question. She pondered over his question and answered, "I was around ten when my grandpa suddenly thought that I should learn self-defense skills. Even if I did not want to learn them, my grandpa was so determined to make me learn." A laugh escaped her as she recalled her childhood.

The corner of his lips turned as he looked at the expression on her face.

"Grandpa and his teammates would always try-out a few moves. According to my grandpa, as long as I can protect myself and escape safely whenever I'm in trouble, he would be relieved. Therefore, most of the moves I know was self-defense as well as ways to escape."

"Your grandpa is right. It is good as long as you could protect yourself well and escape whenever you're in trouble."

"Hmm..." Edith nodded. "I am planning to teach those move to Hazel later on. They said that learning self-defense would raise one's confidence. Perhaps Hazel would not be so afraid after learning a little bit."

Neil leaned to kiss the tip of her nose and spoke, "I agree to whatever you say."

After staying in each other's embrace for a while, Edith finally shifted to look around. The room was still dark with the blind curtains blocking the window. She reached for her phone at the bedside table and froze when she saw the time.

Swiftly, Edith pushed the man beside her, jumped out of bed, and scramble to pick up her clothes.

"What's wrong with you?" Neil asked as he observed his girlfriend.

"I'm late!"

Neil chuckled. "What do you mean. It's Sunday. You don't need to go to work today, do you?"

"It's not that." Edith slipped into her shirt. "Hazel should be up at this time. I don't want her to see me coming out of your room." Edith picked up her shorts and paused when there was a sudden, anxious knocking at the door.

Her heart skipped a beat and Edith turned to look at Neil.

"Uncle!" Hazel's voice sounded anxious as she continued to knock. "Uncle! Open up! Auntie Edith is missing!"

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The two grownups paused and turned to look at each other.

Neil was amused when he saw the surprised look on his girlfriend's face.

Though she had said that she was going to talk to Hazel and explained that they have been sharing a bedroom, Edith has been delaying on this matter for a long time.

It looked like they can no longer pretend and keep this matter a secret from that little girl.

Seeing that his girlfriend was unable to respond, Neil got off the bed and look for something to wear.

"Uncle! Are you there?" Hazel knocked on the door again, and this time, the sound was a little louder.

"Yes. Hold on. I'll be out shortly," Neil shouted back.

Edith watched as Neil slipped into a shirt and pants and immediately went to his side as he was a few inches away from the door. She grabbed at his wrist and stared back at him with horror. "What are you trying to do?"

"I'm just going to open the door."

"Why?"

His lips twitched. "Hazel is out there looking for you. What do you think I should do? Hazel would be worried when she could not find you in your room." Neil inched closer to her face and whispered. "Then, do you think you want to stay in my room here forever?"

"Why does this happen when I stay for one night in your room? You never got caught sneaking out from my room." Edith retracted her hand and looked at him with an aggrieved face. "This is your fault!"

"Alright. It is my fault." Neil chuckled. He helped to adjust her shirt and turned to the door.

Hazel's eyes grew bright when she saw her uncle appeared at the door. "Uncle! Auntie Edith has gone missing! Do you think that she has run away?"

Neil turned his gaze towards the person who was hiding behind the door and then back at the little girl. "Why do you think that Auntie Edith had run away?"

"Last night, she told me that you were angry at her. Auntie Edith is a good girl. She should have apologized to you if she did something wrong."

That was what her teacher had taught them. Whenever they did something wrong, they have to apologize. Little Hazel looked up to her Auntie Edith so much and she believed that her auntie would have gone to look for her uncle to apologize.

A gasp escaped her and Hazel eyed her uncle suspiciously. "Uncle! What did you do?"

Her uncle can be fierce. What if he had said something to her Auntie Edith because he was too angry and cause her auntie to run away?

Neil felt that something was not right with the way Hazel was looking at him. "Why are you looking at me like that?"

Hazel did not say a word, but the accusation in her eyes was too obvious. Neil could guess that the little girl was thinking that he had said something to her Auntie Edith and made her run away.

The two of them were blood-related, but it seemed that his little niece favored her Auntie Edith more and would be on her side if they get into an argument one day.

"Why are you so sure that she has gone missing?"

"Her bedroom door was half-opened. She is not inside. I look for her in the kitchen and she is not there. Usually, if Auntie Edith went out to by breakfast, she would tell me or leave a note on the dining table. But she is not around and there is no note." Hazel's voice trembled as she continued to speak.

Various scenarios came to her mind and Hazel was worried that her Auntie Edith would suddenly leave and disappeared. It was not long ago that she had lost her parents. At the thought that the person she relied on and trusted most would suddenly leave her, Hazel grew afraid.

"Uncle, help me to find Auntie Edith, alright?"

The little girl's lips were slightly pouted. Neil had a feeling that if he had said no, the little girl would cry.

Neil glanced at the person who hid behind the door again and raised a brow at her as if asking whether she wanted to come out or not.

Edith, who was listening to the little girl's words felt a tug on her heart. She stretched her hand and tugged on Neil's shirt.

A sigh escaped him, knowing well what his girlfriend was asking him to do. Neil crouched to get to Hazel's height and patted at the little girl's hair. "Alright. Don't get upset. Your Auntie Edith is fine."

"Did she tell you where she was going when she left?"

"She did not leave."

Hazel's eyes grew misty. She blinked and a tear streamed down on her cheek.

Neil glanced at Edith and said. "Look, you have made Hazel cry."

"Ah?" Edith panicked and suddenly walked out from her hiding place. Her eyes went wide upon seeing the tears on Hazel's face. Edith leaned over and ran her thumb on Hazel's cheek to wipe the tears. "Hazel, what's wrong?"

"Auntie Edith!" Hazel spread her arms and buried her face in her auntie's embrace. Her tone was full of complaint.

Neil stared at the scene with his mouth gaped. He wanted to tease his girlfriend and was not expecting Hazel to actually cry.

"Why are you crying?" Edith asked.

Hearing the question, Hazel's crying grew louder. The two grownups looked at each other and both were at loss at what to do.

"I thought," Hazel tightened her grip around Edith's neck and sniffled. "I thought you have left me. Auntie Edith, don't leave me, alright?"

Edith patted her back and hugged the little girl tightly, giving her a sense of security. "Why would I leave you? Where would I go?" Her voice grew soft as she tried to coax the little girl. "I promised that I will stay with you, didn't I?"

Hazel bit at her lips and did not speak of her worry. She was afraid that if she had said her worry out loud, it will become true.

The last time, Cindy Bai called her unwanted and a bad luck bringer. It had left a shadow in her heart and Hazel was afraid that Edith would not want her anymore.

Suppressing her grievance, Hazel tightened her embrace on Edith and had refused to let go.

It took her a while until Hazel was finally calm. Her face reddened and her eyelashes were wet with tears. She looked very pitiful and Edith was having a hard time letting her go. However, after crouching down for so long, her legs were starting to sore.

"Are you hungry?" Edith asked. She watched Hazel nodded and smiled. "Can you wait for me downstairs with your uncle? I'll take a shower first. Then, we'll make breakfast together, alright?"

Neil looked at Hazel and reached her hand. "Alright. Hazel, let's go downstairs."

Hazel stared at her uncle with uncertainty, but before she could say a word, her uncle had already carried her into his arms and headed downstairs. Hazel stared at Edith and her gaze did not leave her figure until Hazel saw her enter her bedroom.

As they arrived in the living room, Neil placed the little girl on the sofa. Then, he turned around and pulled a few tissue paper to help Hazel clean her face.

It was Sunday morning and therefore, Auntie Emma did not come over to cook.

"Alright. Stop crying. Your Auntie Edith is fine, isn't she?" Neil tried to coax. He stared at Hazel for a long time and hesitated before he spoke again. "She is not going to leave. You know that we are dating, right?"

Hazel nodded.

"Now that we are a couple, it is natural for us to be sleeping together. Your Auntie Edith is not leaving. She is just moving over to my room." Neil continued to observe her reaction as he prepared herself for Hazel's questions.

"Just like mommy and daddy?"

"Un." Neil nodded. "Just like your mommy and daddy."

Hazel listened to her uncle's explanation and soon, her worry gradually disappeared.

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Since Hazel had understood that a couple usually slept together, Neil had tricked Edith into moving her things to his room.

Now that he no longer have to sneak around to sleep with his girlfriend, his mood has become much better and it was very noticeable among the staff in the company.

A few managers who had a meeting him had noticed a hickey on his neck was initially shocked. A few of them had their detective sense on and quickly guessed that their president was happy because of his girlfriend.

There was another wave of gossips among the staff but unlike in the past, Assistant Shawn did not make any move to shut down the rumor. This made them started to believe that the rumor was true. Soon, they started to try to find out the identity of President Mo's girlfriend, but no one had heard anything.

They tried to ask their friends who were working on the president's floor, but none of them would dare to speak a word and lose their job.

When Henry showed up at the office, he had run into a few gossip staff and heard their speculation on President Mo's girlfriend.

However, Henry has been friends with Neil for years and knew that the possibility for Neil to have a girlfriend was very thin as not many would be able to tolerate an iceblock like him.

The elevator arrived and Henry went over to Neil's office. He knocked and entered with permission.

"Why are you here?" Neil frowned when he saw his friend walked in.

"We haven't seen each other for a while. Don't you miss me?"

Neil rolled his eyes. He watched as Henry pulled out a few documents and turned to study them.

A while later, Secretary An entered the room carrying a pot of tea and some refreshment. She placed the tray on the table and left the two friends inside.

Henry poured himself a cup of tea and took a sip. "I went to the police headquarters and heard a few things about the serial murder case. I heard from a friend that before she died, Miss Shen was mingling around a few influential people. One of them is Joshua Fu and the other is Secretary Andrew Liu."

A frown appeared on his face as Neil was reminded on the night that he had run into both Amanda and Secretary Liu a few months ago. "Secretary Andrew Liu? The man beside General Attorney Leng?"

Henry nodded. "That's the one."

Neil pursed his lips into a thin line and lowered his head to hide from Henry's gaze. "Now that the police had linked Miss Shen's death to that serial murder, I don't wish to hear such gossip about her anymore."

Henry opened his mouth to speak but stopped himself when he saw the displeased look on Neil's face. Then, he recalled the reason he had come over to meet Neil. "Jamie had returned to the city last night and the guys were going to hold a celebration party. Why don't you come along?"

"That person had returned?" Neil looked up in surprise. A few seconds later, he lowered his head again. "I'm not going. It's enough for that person to come over and report for work next Monday."

His lips twitched at the way Neil had addressed their friend. "Are you still angry?"

Neil did not answer but instead shot Henry with a dagger look.

Seeing the look on his face, Henry coughed dryly and looked away. "At least you should give me a reason. How am I supposed to answer the others when they asked for you?"

"Just tell them that I wanted to spend my time with my girlfriend."

Henry scoffed. "What girlfriend? Did you expect them to believe it?"

"It's up to them whether they wanted to believe it or not. It's the truth."

Henry stared at Neil's face for a long time and soon, his expression changed. He had been friends with Neil for years and knew that Neil would not joke about this matter.

Just as he was about to shift his gaze, Henry's gaze fell on a mark on Neil's neck. Although that mark was starting to fade, Henry was familiar with that mark and knew what it implied.

Suddenly, Henry recalled the whispering voices he had heard while he was at waiting for the elevator. The staff was gossiping about their president's mysterious girlfriend.

A few cursing words escaped his lips and Henry looked at his friend with a surprised expression. "You're not lying? You're in a relationship?"

"Why would I lie to you about this?"

Henry grew excited at this news. "Who is that girl? Is it someone I know?"

"You're right. You know her too."

A deep frown appeared on his face as Henry tried to think of the few girls who had been on Neil's side. However, no matter how much he tried to think, Henry could not make a guess.

"Who?"

The corner of his lips turned up. "Edith Qian."

"Edith Qian?" Henry repeated. "Teacher Qian??"

Neil answered him with a hum.

"When did you get together?"

"Just a few months ago."

A thought came to his mind and Henry stood up suddenly and pointed a finger at Neil. "The last time I mentioned my plan to pursue her, you told me that she had someone she liked. So was that a lie?"

Neil looked at his friend calmly. "I was not lying. Back then, she did have someone she liked. That person is me."

Henry stared at Neil in disbelief. He slid into the chair behind him and took a deep breath. "Alright. Tonight I will be having dinner at your place."

"Why do you want to have dinner at my place?"

"Of course it is to verify whether you are telling me the truth."

"Didn't you said you were going to Jamie's party?"

"I'll go after having dinner at your place."

Neil Mo looked at his friend and decided not to argue. He pulled out his phone and texted Edith to inform her that an uninvited guess would be coming for dinner.

Henry waited for Neil to clock off work as he was planning to have a meal at Neil's place. The two of them reached the basement and walked over to their vehicle which was parked side by side.

However, their steps slowed when they saw a silhouette stood just beside Neil's SUV.

"Hey! Who are you?" Henry stepped forward. "What are you doing there?"

The man was startled when at the sudden call. But his expression changed when he saw Neil beside Henry. His lips suddenly curled into a smile. "President Mo. I came here to see you."

"If you have something to talk to me about, then I suggest you make an appointment with my assistant. I don't have time to entertain you at this moment," Neil said. "Now, you need to step aside or I will call the security."

The man watched as Neil took out his phone.. But instead of panicking, the smile on his lips widened. "President Mo, don't you want to know what happened to your brother?"

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Neil walked into the cafe and found that Henry had his arms crossed on his chest as he stared at the young man in front of him. He slid into the chair next to Henry and the waitress came to serve their drinks.

Sensing that his friend had returned, Henry eased his pose and barked, "Speak."

The young man chuckled. He took a sip at his coffee languidly and smiled. "First, let me introduce myself. My name is Charles Tang. But you probably know me as Rainmaker."

Henry laughed at his words. "Rainmaker? What's that supposed to mean?"

Meanwhile, Neil frowned upon hearing that very familiar name.

"President Mo, I believe that you should recognize this name," Charles spoke. "After all, you have sent your lawyer to look for me previously."

Henry turned his head to Neil and watched as he spoke slowly. "You're that blogger."

The smile on Charles' lips stretched up.

"You know him?" Henry asked.

"We have a dealing with him previously," Neil said. "He operated a blog and mostly write on sensational news to attract his readers."

Charles laughed. "Don't confuse us with those yellow press. What my team and I did was to expose the truth to the public. We don't write reports without carefully investigating them."

Neil closed his eyes and leaned lazily on his chair. "Let's not waste our time. Mr. Charles, I would appreciate it if you tell me why did you come to find me. What do you know about my brother's death? Or, were you just bluffing to get my attention?"

"President Mo, since I dared to publish those articles back then, naturally, I do know something about it," Charles said. "What was he investigating before he died as well as what he found out before he died."

"How can we trust your words?" Henry asked.

Charles turned to Henry. "Mr. Wu, I believe that you were looking for a prosecutor named Jennifer Jiang."

Both Neil and Henry's eyes turned darker at the mention of the name.

Henry had previously found out that Adam and Clare had a few meetings with that prosecutor in a restaurant in A City. They sensed that the prosecutor might know something behind Adam's death and had tried to find her. However, after Adam and Clare passed away, Jennifer Jiang seemed to be disappearing as well.

Her co-workers mentioned that she had stopped showing up at work without notice and her family believed that she was on a holiday in Paris. It has been more than half of year but Jennifer Jiang has not shown up and her family continued to believe that she was on holiday all around the world.

"You know where she is?" Henry asked. His eyes narrowed. "What is your relationship with Miss Jiang?"

"Jennifer is my sister," Charles said. He saw the confused look on the men's face and took the initiative to explain. "Our parents got divorced when we were still young. I went with my mother and my sister went with our father. We were separated for years and only reunited after we were in college. Regarding her whereabouts... I'm sorry, for our safety, I cannot tell you where she is."

"What do you know about Adam's death?" Neil asked

"I'm sure by now you should know that your brother has been investigating MH Group's hospital project," Charles said. "He found out that the fund was misappropriated by a few of your directors." He took out a pen, wrote down a few words, and pushed the paper across the table. "These were the names that my sister had mentioned previously."

Neil read the name and recognized that they were the directors of MH Group. Before he was able to take the paper, Charles had retracted his hand and tore the paper into tiny pieces.

Through his investigation, Neil found out that Adam was looking into these directors before he died. At that time, Neil had a suspicion that these directors were somehow involved with Adam's accident, however, they could not find out any leads and the evidence had disappeared.

"Your brother found out something else during his investigation and that was how he and my sister started to contact each other," Charles continued. "My sister was investigating some higher-ups on a bribery case when they met. From what I understood, your directors and these higher-ups were working together. As for who was that higher-ups involved, my sister never mentioned them to me for my safety."

The frown on Neil's face deepened.

"Your brother was cooperating with my sister to get these men," Charles said. "Later, I heard that your brother might have found strong evidence to put them behind bars. My sister was working on some papers to charge those men with their crimes when your

brother suddenly met with an accident. After that, my sister went missing as well. It was not until recently that she began to contact me again."

"Why do you come to me at this time and tell me all these?" Neil asked. "Why didn't you come earlier and explain?"

"President Mo, you threatened to close my company and sue me after I posted that article, do you think I would be in a mood to contact you?" Charles said and chuckled. "If it was not for my sister, I would not be here."

"What do you want?" Henry asked. "Your sister asked you to find President Mo, what is she planning to do?"

"Of course, she was hoping that President Mo would be able to cooperate with her and help her to continue where they have left off." Charles stared at Neil and continued, "President Mo, don't you want to find justice for your little brother and your sister-in-law as well?"

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Neil and Henry left the cafe after exchanging a few more words with Charles Tang. Neil did not quickly agree to work together with the brother and sister and instead, told Charles that he was going to think about the matter first. Before they parted, Charles had passed him a black USB and asked him to look at them when he was at home.

The talk with Charles took a long time. Henry decided to postpone his dinner at Neil's place and instead went to the club to see his friends and welcome Jamie back to the city.

When he entered the house, Hazel walked over to welcome him with a bright smile on her face. Seeing the face that resembled both Adam and Clare, Neil became momentarily stunned. Suddenly, the conversation with Charles came over to his mind.

"Uncle, are you alright?"

The little girl's voice snapped him out of his thought.

"Why are you late? Auntie Edith had made a lot of dishes. If you come back later, the food was going to get cold," Hazel complained. Her tiny mouth opened to continue, but Hazel stopped herself when her uncle suddenly pulled her into a hug.

"Uncle, what's wrong?" Hazel asked. "Are you unwell?"

"No. I'm fine," Neil said.. "I was happy to see you welcome me at the door. Let me hug you for a while, alright?"

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When Edith walked out of the bathroom, Neil was not in the room waiting for her like he usually does. Recalling the strange mood from Neil during dinner, Edith went out to look for her boyfriend.

She walked past his office room and saw that the door was slightly ajar. The lights coming from the room told her that Neil was inside.

Edith knocked on the door, pushed the door slightly, and peeked inside. Her gaze softened upon seeing that her boyfriend was sitting behind the desk.

"Why are you here?" Neil glanced at his computer screen where incomplete information of his brother's previous investigation regarding the hotel construction was shown.

After dinner, Neil went to his office to look at the contents of the USB that Charles Tang had handed to him.

Most of the information that Charles Tang had was incomplete. Though that information would lead anyone to believe that the directors were involved in bribery, they were not concrete evidence and could not be used to put them behind bars.

In the end, he spent hours processing the new information that he did not realize the time.

"Don't you have a class in the morning?" Neil continued to ask. "Why aren't you sleeping yet?"

"I didn't see you in the room and decided to come and look for you," Edith said.

A teasing smile curved on his lips. "What is it? You couldn't sleep without me?"

Knowing that he was intending to tease her, Edith decided to play along. "Un." She nodded. "It's cold. It seemed that I was getting used to having someone warming the bed before sleep."

A chuckle escaped him. The knot on his face gradually disappeared and he put the information he read on the USB earlier on the back of his mind. Neil closed the documents on his computer and switched to another window. Then, he leaned back on his swiveled chair and waved his hand. "Come here."

Edith rushed over and stopped just before she reached his side. "Are you busy?"

"I will be done soon," Neil said. "Accompany me for a while."

Edith pulled a chair to sit down and stopped when the man in front of her patted at his thigh, motioning her to sit on his lap. Just as she was about to decline his offer, Edith heard his voice again.

"Didn't you say you're cold?" Neil raised a brow and patted at his thigh again. "Sit over here and let me warm you."

"I have a feeling that I will be in a dangerous position if I sit on your lap."

"You don't trust me?"

Edith stared at the handsome man in front of her and laughed. "At this time, no."

However, before she got the chance to escape, Neil had caught her wrist and gave it a little tug. In just seconds, Edith was lying in his arms. Her eyes blinked and her heart raced as they stared into each other's gaze.

Since she was already caught, Edith did not struggle to get off. Instead, she linked her arms around his neck and leaned on his chest. "Will you be able to continue your work like this?"

Neil leaned forward to close the gap between their faces. "Otherwise, should we do something else?"

Once she understood what he was trying to suggest, Edith gritted her teeth and attempted to get off his laps. However, Neil had prevented her from escaping again.

"I'm on my period, remember?" Edith said quickly.

"Just stay here for a while," Neil said with a laugh. "I just wanted to hug you. It won't affect my work. I'll just pretend that I am hugging a big baby while I read these documents."

Edith thought of how Neil would often call her 'baby' during their lovemaking and her face turned pink. Swiftly, she buried her face on his chest and refused to look at the man.

Seeing that the girl was sitting obediently in his arms, Neil continued to look at the email in front of him.

"Are you taking Hazel to the cemetery tomorrow?" Edith asked.

It has become a routine for Neil to bring Hazel over to the cemetery to visit Hazel's parents on the weekend.

His eyes darkened at the thought of his brother and the conversation he had earlier that day. Neil let out a hum before he looked at Edith again. "We'll come over to find you after your class, is that alright?"

"No. That's fine. I forgot to tell you that I will be meeting Lily after my class.

"Where are you going?"

"Just accompanying Lily to shop around. It won't take too long."

A while ago, Lily had asked her about the outcome of her battle strategy and Edith had admitted that she did not own any battle armor. Shocked, Lily then convinced her to go and shop around together. According to Lily, those pieces of garments would be useful, and she could always use them in an emergency.

Neil leaned over to pull out the top drawer. Seconds later, Edith found a black card in her hands.

"What is this for?" Edith asked.

"Didn't you say that that you're going shopping? The PIN is written on the back of the card."

Edith shot him an uneasy look. "I still have money with me."

She had dated him because she liked him very much.

Though Neil was very wealthy, Edith would feel uncomfortable whenever he gave him a little bit of money. It was understandable when he gave her some money for grocery shopping, but to receive a black card from him gave her a different feeling.

Edith did not want to feel as if she was dating this man for his money.

"You don't have to use them if you didn't want to," Neil said. "Just keep them with you for an emergency. If you found something that Hazel might like, just buy them for her."

Hearing his words, Edith had no reason to reject his offer. Though Neil had given her his credit card, she didn't need to use them.

Edith clenched her hand on the card and sat comfortably in his embrace while Neil continued to read the emails from his assistant.

Seeing that he was concentrating on reading his emails, Edith did not make any sounds or movements. However, after staying in his embrace and inhaling his scent for a while, Edith was starting to feel a bit drowsier.

Just as she was about to fall asleep, Edith noticed that something was amiss. Her sleepy eyes snapped open and she stared at the man who had his attention on the computer screen with a serious look on his face.

Edith could not tell whether he was really concentrating on his work or if he was just pretending.

"What are you doing?" Edith asked.

Neil snapped out from his thought as he heard her voice. He looked away from the documents and turned to Edith in the puzzle. "Just reading some information that Assistant Shawn send me earlier. What's wrong?"

Edith felt the corner of her lips twitched upon hearing his answer. "Then, what is your hand doing in my shirt?"

Neil turned to look and noticed for the first time that his hand had somehow sneaked into her shirt and he was fondling her chest absentmindedly.

Finding that it was comfortable to touch them, Neil did not attempt to pull his hand away. Instead, he gave them a gentle squeeze.

Neil cocked his head sideways and continued, "I think they are helping me to think better and focus better. They felt comfortable in my hand."

Edith wanted to curse and asked whether he thought of her chest as his stress ball. At this time, his finger carelessly brushed against her bud, causing her to stiffen.. After cursing him a rogue, Edith turned her head and took a bite on his chest for revenge.

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Edith immediately noticed Lily's vehicle the moment she stepped out of the class. She walked over, slid into the passenger's seat, and glanced at the back seat only to find them empty. "Alex is not coming with you?"

A chuckle escaped her. "Do you think the place where we're going is suitable for me to bring my son along? Relax. Ethan is at home to babysit him. They should be spending their quality times building model."

"Where are you taking me?"

"Let's go to the mall in the eastern district. I know a good shop over there."

Edith nodded and let her friend decide. The two of them chatted in the car and finally reached the mall after almost forty minutes' drive. It was the weekend. The traffic was pretty bad and it took them some time before they could find a parking spot.

As soon as they entered the mall, Lily dragged her friend to a lingerie shop before Edith could change her mind.

A female salesperson greeted them and her eyes brightened the moment she saw Lily. "Mrs. He, we haven't seen you for a while. What do you need this time? Do you want to look at the new arrivals? They have just arrived this week."

From the salesperson's words, Edith quickly found out that her friend was the shop's loyal customer.

Lily laughed. "This time, I need you to find something for my friend." She grabbed at Edith's hand and pulled her closer. "Miss Yu, what do you think about my friend?"

The salesperson called Miss Yu gave Edith a look over. After a while, she inched closer and spoke, "Please excuse my rudeness."

Just as soon as the words fall, Edith stood straight rigidly as the salesperson had put her hand on her body, feeling her curve under her shirt. After a while, the salesperson took a step back with an amused expression on her face.

"I can think of a few styles that would look good on your friend," the salesperson said and turned around excitedly.

"Are you alright?" Lily asked upon noticing that her friend had stood without moving. She then cocked her head sideways and smiled. "The salesperson was only trying to figure out your size. Do you need to be this surprised?"

Edith quickly recovered upon hearing her friend's teasing. "Lily Zhao, I did not think that you would be a frequent customer of this place."

"I've told you that the garment is essential. It was helpful to keep things spiced up between Ethan and me."

Edith put both hands on her ears. "God. I don't want to hear anything about you and Ethan."

Lily laughed again. Then, she inched closer and copied what the salesperson had tried to do to Edith a while ago, causing her friend to gasp in surprise.

"What's wrong with you?" Edith crossed her hands on her chest and took a few steps back.

She had let her guard down because Lily was the person she trusted. In the end, she was taken advantage of... twice. Why does everyone like to touch her chest?

Lily let out a sigh as she continued to give Edith a look over. "You have a great figure. It's too bad that you have to wear something loose and hide those curves."

After working as a kindergarten teacher for years, Edith had this habit to wear loose clothes. The first few months of working, there would be a few naughty kids who would suddenly touch her chest. At least, with loose clothing, her curve was hidden and the kids would not tease her and touch where they were not supposed to touch.

The salesperson came back at this time and showed them a few styles. Lily glanced at her friend again and helped to choose a few styles.

"You must be crazy if you think I'm going to wear them," Edith said as she eyed the garments. She had seen a few lingerie and nightdress before, but none of them was as revealing as the one in Lily's hand.

Edith raised one of the lingerie where the area on the chest was covered with nothing but laces. Her heart jumped and her face turned red. Before she was able to throw that piece of garment away, Lily had stopped her and explained about various types and functions of those delicate and flimsy dresses.

In the end, Edith walked out of the shop with a reddened face. She shoved the paper bag from that store into her knapsack and made a promise never to go with Lily to this kind of shop again.

"Why don't you get anything?" Edith asked upon seeing that her friend had walked out with an empty hand.

Being friends with Lily for years, Edith was used to hearing Lily talked about her plan to seduce her husband from the moment they were in a steady relationship years ago. All this time, Edith was stuffed with dog food and had grown immune to them.

Lily heaved a long sigh. "It's not good to make Ethan too excited."

Sensing that something was not right from her words, Edith then asked, "What's wrong?"

Lily turned with a mysterious smile on her face. "Well, this is supposed to be a secret. But since you're my best friend, then, I'll tell you my secret." She let out a giggle, leaned closer, and then whispered, "I'm pregnant."

Edith stared back at her friend with her mouth ajar. Then, a bright smile curved on her face. "Congratulations!"

She had always known that Lily had wanted to have a second child and the couple has been trying for a while.

"We went to check with the doctor last week I should be on the twelve weeks." Lily patted at her flat stomach. "I hope this time, we'll be having a daughter. Or else, I might really have to consider kidnapping Hazel to my home."

After walking around to shop for a few more things, Lily dropped her over at the apartment and left.

Edith heaved a sigh when there was no one at home when she arrived.

Since she was planning to head out with Lily, Neil decided to stop by his office with Hazel and settle with a few of his work. An employee was going to return from their overseas branch and Neil wanted to prepare for that employee's return.

Seeing that the line was clear, Edith went into her bedroom to hide the garments away. Fortunately, the garments were very light and easy to hide. Edith only had to pray that Auntie Emma was not going to find them when she cleaned up the room later.

Once everything was done, Edith changed her clothes and went into the kitchen to prepare for dinner. When Neil returned, Edith was surprised to see that he had brought home the guest who was supposed to come last night.

Neil glanced at his friend and sighed. "Sorry.. He insisted to come over and have dinner here."

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After five minutes of staying in the house, Henry began to regret his decision to have dinner at Neil's place.

Initially, he could not believe that his friend, Neil was now in a relationship. Though he knew that Neil would not lie to him, Henry still has his doubt Henry believed that Neil wanted to deceive him into believing that he was in a relationship.

After a long thought, Henry made an impulse decision to come over. He knew that Neil was at the MH headquarters and therefore, he waited at the lobby for his friend to return.

Henry thought that since this was a surprise visit, Neil would not be able to come up with something to trick him. However, he did not expect that the moment he stepped into the house, he would see the kindergarten teacher in her apron.

The way Edith stood at the entrance was as if she was welcoming her husband from work.

It was a moving scene, but unfortunately for Henry, the woman came out to welcome someone else.

After assigning him to accompany Hazel with her drawing in the dining area, the couple went into the kitchen to prepare dinner.

At the thought that the two were only pretending, Henry decided to peek at the couple's interaction. Through his seat, he was able to glance at the couple and witnessed their affectionate exchange.

At first, Henry was in disbelief that his iceblock friend was able to act sweetly.

He had known Neil for years and had seen the way Neil and Amanda interacted while they were dating years ago. Back then, Neil was someone who would never do PDA. He was dating Amanda, but as a friend, Henry thought that their relationship was akin to business partners instead.

It seemed that Neil and Edith were not pretending to be in a relationship.

After watching them for a long time, Henry was starting to get annoyed.

Weren't they supposed to be washing vegetables and cooking dishes? Was there any need to hug while you were washing vegetables?

Moreover, when did Neil know to wash vegetables?

From the way he moved, Henry could see that this was not the first time that Neil had entered the kitchen to help.

Suddenly, Henry was worried that the two were going to serve him with dog food instead of something that a human could consume.

Of course, Henry did not know that Edith had suggested for Neil and Hazel to bond together through preparing dishes in the kitchen. Hazel had enjoyed learning cooking and simple dishes and Neil had to join in Hazel's activities.

Henry turned to Hazel and saw that the little girl was focusing on her drawing. "Hazel, did your uncle often act like this?"

The little girl tilted her head in puzzled. "Uncle Henry, what do you mean? What is 'like this'?"

Suddenly, Henry was at loss at how he should explain to her. "You know... Hugging and whispering to each other like what they are doing now."

Hazel turned her head towards the kitchen and then, back at Uncle Henry. "Un." She nodded and answered seriously. "Uncle said that he and Auntie Edith are a couple."

Henry felt the corner of his lips twitched at the way Hazel was addressing Edith.

"They hug and kiss to show that they love each other," Hazel continued. "Just like mama and papa. In the past, mama and papa would always hug and kiss each other too."

Henry heaved a sigh, wondering if it was alright for Hazel to know such things. Suddenly, he was worried that the little girl might have seen something that she should not have.

Suddenly, Hazel stood on the chair and leaned to hug Henry's upper arm. "I liked Uncle Henry too."

Henry felt a tug on his heart at the little girl's adorable action and patted at her hair.

Soon, the food was served on the table and the delicious aroma of food wafted to his nose. However, Henry thought that everything he ate was a bit too tasteless. The two people across from him would not stop abusing him and he was forced to eat more dog food!

Henry was sure that Neil was deliberately doing everything he can to show off that he was now someone with a girlfriend.

After the dinner, Neil brought Henry to his study and the two began to discuss Charles Tang and the USB that he had given him the last time.

"Do you think I should trust him?" Neil asked.

At this time, Henry was sitting in front of the computer to read the documents that Charles had given them. Once in a while, his brow would furrow as he continued to digest the information.

"I've looked into him," Henry said. "There was nothing unusual about him and my team had verified that everything he told us yesterday. At this point, we knew that he was not lying."

His hand paused as he scrolled the documents. Henry has been investigating Adam and Clare's accident and the investigation has met a dead end. But now that he was looking at the information that Charles had sent, Henry thought that he could begin his investigation from another angle.

There were a few things that he can look into and perhaps through that lead, he might know what did Adam find out and why did he and his wife had to die.

There was a long silence on Neil's part. When Henry looked up, he noticed that his friend was in deep thought. Not wanting to disturb him, Henry turned and continued to read the documents.

"I think... I wanted to try and work with him," Neil said. "We have been stuck in a dead-end for too long. With this kind of case, it would be best if we find evidence quickly before they destroyed every lead we have."

"Whatever you decided to do next, you have to be careful," Henry reminded. "I don't have a problem with you working along with Charles Tang. However, I need to remind you not to trust him that much. I'm worried that he might try to get to our sides only to find out what we know. I don't want him to come only to destroy everything we have worked on so far."

Neil nodded. "I know. Next week, Jamie will return to the company. I'm planning to assign Jamie to the accounting department. With Jamie's help, we might be able to find out something from the accounting department. We have half a year until the auditors are coming over. If anyone wanted to destroy anything, they should do them before the auditors came. Hopefully, Jamie will be able to gain the department's trust and find out something for us."

Henry let out a dry cough and eyed his friend cautiously. "Last night, Jamie was still worrying whether you were angry."

"You're worrying too much," Neil said quietly.. "If I am still angry, I would not let call that person to return to the city."

Neil has been busy since the morning. With his intention to put Jamie in the accounting department, there were a few things that he had to prepare. After sending Assistant Shawn to deal with the HR Department, Neil walked into the meeting room to listen to their reports.

It was the beginning of a new month. There were a lot for them to discuss and the meeting lasted longer than it usually does. By lunch hour, the meeting was not yet adjourned. As the others went for their lunch break, Neil went back to his office and

continued to browse through some files. An hour later, he got up again and headed to the meeting room to continue the meeting.

When Secretary An entered the room, she was not surprised to see that the lunch box she had left for the president was remained untouched. With a sigh, Secretary An took out the lunch box and was ready to toss them away.

Just as she reached the pantry, Secretary An ran into Assistant Shawn and the man eyed the lunch box in her hand.

"President Mo didn't touch his lunch?" Assistant Shawn asked. He watched as Secretary An nodded and sighed. "Got it."

Assistant Shawn watched as Secretary An slid the lunch box into the bin and stood at the side. His lips pursed into a thin line as he was in deep thought. After a while, he took out his phone and texted a number.

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Back at the Sunflower Kindergarten...

Edith was packing up her bag when her phone chimed. Picking up her phone, she was surprised to see that it was a text message from Assistant Shawn.

His messages stunned her for a few seconds but soon, a frown appeared on her face.

Earlier that morning, Neil had informed her that he was going to be busy at the office today. Knowing that he was going to be busy, the two of them did not have their video call during her lunch hour like they usually did.

However, Assistant Shawn had suddenly texted her to tell her that her boyfriend has not had his lunch earlier and he was wondering if she could show up and coax him to eat something.

After working with his boss for years, Assistant Shawn knew that Neil had this habit to skip lunch when he was too busy with work. Worried that he was going to have another gastric problem, Assistant Shawn decided to ask for Edith's help.

Usually, no one would be able to convince their boss to stop looking at the documents for seconds and have something to pad his stomach. Therefore, Assistant Shawn was counting that the president's girlfriend might be able to do the trick.

Of course, once Edith knew that her boyfriend was not eating well, she started to worry.

After giving a call to Nanny Ann and informed that she was going to return late, Edith stopped by a restaurant near the kindergarten to buy some food and took a taxi to MH Group headquarters.

Because it was the working hour and the employee was busy, there were not many people in the lobby and no one had noticed that she had used her access card to enter the special elevator.

When she arrived, Assistant Shawn was already waiting for her outside the elevator. "Miss Qian, thank you for coming. I heard from the security that you've arrived and decided to wait for you here." His lips stretched up to a smile. Assistant Shawn glanced at the paper bag in Edith's hand and asked, "Is that for President Mo?"

Edith nodded. "How is he? Is the meeting over yet?"

"They are still in the meeting room. But I think they should reach an agreement soon. President Mo and the others will come out soon."

Edith hesitated. "Are you sure it's alright for me to be here? I don't want to distract him when he's busy." A thought came to her mind and Edith made a suggestion, "Or I could leave the food with you. Just tell him later that I came to visit."

Assistant Shawn eyed the paper bag but did not take it. "Miss Qian, I think it is better if you stay and accompany President Mo for his meal." He touched the back of his neck and said, "Actually, I have another intention when I asked you to come over and bring something for President Mo."

Edith looked at the man with a puzzled look.

"After hours of meeting, President Mo's mood was not in the best mood." Assistant Shawn flashed an embarrassed smile. "There were a lot of others who were affected by his bad mood. I was hoping that your presence could help President Mo to be in a better mood."

A laugh escaped her. "Assistant Shawn, you think too highly of me. I don't think my presence will make any changes in his mood."

"Miss Qian, whenever you are around, President Mo's mood would turn better," Assistant Shawn said. "I've worked with him for years and I could see that your presence indeed would be able to make his mood better."

"So, you tricked me into coming over," Edith teased.

Assistant Shawn laughed. Before the woman could say a word to reject his suggestion, he had already ushered her towards his boss's office. "Miss Qian, please wait for President Mo in his office. I think the meeting should end in half an hour tops. President

Mo only had a few cups of coffee since morning. I am only his assistant and he would not listen to me when I urge him to have something to eat."

Hearing his words, Edith could not reply to him. "Alright. I'll go and wait for him in the office. Assistant Shawn, you go and keep your self busy. I know the way to his office."

Assistant Shawn nodded and turned around to head over to the meeting room.

Since Edith had come over a few times, the people who were working on the floor had recognized her and no one said a thing when she entered the President's office.

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A while later, the door to the meeting room swung open and the managers walked out with a serious expression on their faces. They have spent hours in the meeting and their boss had scolded some of them for their incompetency when he noticed a mistake. Naturally, everyone was in a bad mood.

When Neil stood up from his chair, Assistant Shawn walked over to him and whispered, "President Mo, Miss Qian came over a while ago." Seeing the way his boss's expression brightened up, Assistant Shawn's lips curled into a smile, knowing that his plan had worked.

"Where is she?"

"Since you were still in the meeting room, she decided to wait for you in your office."

Neil gathered the file on the table and walked out quickly. However, just as he reached the door, Henry was waiting for him outside. The smile on his face dimmed and a frown appeared on his face. "Why are you here?"

Henry stared at his friend speechlessly. "Didn't you asked me to come and bring that person over? Since you were in a meeting, I asked Jamie to wait for you in your office."

The atmosphere around suddenly turned cold and Neil's expression turned frightening.

At the thought that Edith and Jamie were meeting in his office, Neil grew anxious.. He slammed the stack of documents to Assistant Shawn's hand and ran over to his office.

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Once she had entered the office, Edith put the bag of lunch box on the coffee table and sat down on the sofa.

She glanced at the desk and sighed when she could not see Neil. Usually, Neil whenever she came in, Neil would be sitting behind his desk and he would lift his head to smile at her.

Edith snapped out of her thought and smiled sheepishly to herself. They haven't seen each other for a few hours and now that she could not see his face, Edith thought that she was missing him terribly.

Seeing that she will need to wait for him for a while, Edith took out her phone and started to read some of the novels that she has been following. Just as she was about to reach an exciting part, someone pushed the door from the outside and entered.

Edith stood up, thinking that Neil had returned from his meeting. However, the person in front of her was not Neil, but a very pretty lady in suit pants and short hair.

The two of them looked at each other in a scrutinizing gaze.

Since this woman had dared to enter Neil's office without being stopped by the secretaries outside, Edith had thought that this woman should be someone important in the company.

"Hello," Edith took the initiative to greet the other woman. "Are you looking for President Mo?"

Seeing the smile on Edith's face, Jamie Xu let her guard down and entered the room. A bright smile curved on her face. "Hello. I was told to wait for President Mo in his office." Jamie stepped closer and stretched her hand for a handshake. "My name is Jamie Xu. I am here for an interview."

Edith seemed to recall hearing Neil and Henry talked about a new staff that will be joining the company.

"I'm Edith Qian." Stretching her arms, Edith shook hand with Jamie. However, as their hands touched, Edith suddenly felt uncomfortable.

Perhaps, she had been thinking too much, but Edith thought that Jamie was touching her hand differently. It was the same feeling she got when a lecherous man was touching her inappropriately.

Edith quickly retracted her hand and motioned towards the two-seater sofa across her. "Please, have a seat. President Mo should be here soon."

Jamie smiled and did not attempt to move. "Miss Qian, are you here for an interview too?"

"No." She smiled and did not make another explanation.

When Edith was seated, Jamie moved to sit closer beside her. "Then why are you here?" Seeing the strange look on Edith's face, Jamie chuckled and explained, "I am merely trying to strike a conversation as we are both waiting for President Mo."

Edith scooted away, feeling a little uncomfortable. "We can talk, but you don't need to sit too close to me."

"Sorry," Jamie lowered her gaze. Then, she looked at Edith again and her gaze grew brighter as she gave Edith another look over.

No matter how long she looks, Jamie thought that Edith was just her type.

Edith gave off an innocent vibe that she liked.

Suddenly, her bad habit resurfaced and Jamie had the urge to tease the woman in front of her until her face turned bright red. Just imagining how she was going to react made Jamie excited.

Noticing that Edith had turned to look at her phone, Jamie stretched her arms to touch a few strands of Edith's hair. Her hands were an inch away when Edith suddenly moved to avoid her.

Jamie was not sure what had happened, but seconds later, her hands were pulled behind her back and her head was pushed towards the sofa's armrest.

This was the scene that Neil had witnessed when he appeared at the door. "Edith, are you alright?" Neil asked.

Hearing his voice, the two women turned their heads to the door.

"Neil Mo, ask this crazy woman to get off me!" Jamie hissed. Her gaze peeked at the woman who had locked her movement. Jamie had thought that Edith was a soft and gentle woman. She did not expect that Edith would suddenly attack her when she only wanted to touch her hair.

Neil walked over to his girlfriend and a breath of relief escaped him upon finding that his girlfriend was unharmed. "You can let her go now."

Edith narrowed her eyes before she gave Jamie a shove.

"Did she do anything to you?" Neil asked, concerned.

Edith shook her head. "She was trying to touch me and I reacted quickly."

His gaze darkened and Neil pulled Edith to hide behind him.

Seeing that Neil was protecting the woman, Jamie grew angry. "She attacked me first, but you're protecting her?"

"You deserved it." Neil's tone was cold and distant. "Jamie, I permitted you to return to L City, but it does not mean that you should continue to act recklessly. If I see you approaching my girlfriend again, I swear to god, that I will sever our friendship. I don't care if our family has been friends for years. Stay away from my girlfriend!"

"Your girlfriend?" Jamie took a step back. It was at this time that she noticed that the two were holding hands. "She's your girlfriend?"

She was not expecting Edith to be Neil's girlfriend! Neil's last relationship was with Amanda Shen, and that woman was very different than Edith.

Suddenly, her expression changed.

The last time, Jamie had almost ruined their years of friendship when she had made a move on Neil's girlfriend, Amanda Shen. In her defense, Jamie had only wanted to make a point that Amanda was not suitable for her friend.

Jamie had tried to seduce Amanda and that woman had taken the bait.

She did not expect that Neil would be so angry when he found them in her apartment.

Sensing that the two were about to get into a fight, Henry stepped forward and tried to ease the tension. "Alright, you two. Stop fighting." His gaze paused at Neil. "Jamie had just returned. She didn't know that Edith is your girlfriend." He stepped closer to Neil and whispered, "Remember that you still need Jamie's help."

Neil turned to Henry angrily. "I don't care. I can always find someone else to help."

Henry muttered a cursing word before he turned to Jamie. "Aren't you here to apologize?"

Seeing that Jamie did not make a move, Henry heaved a sigh. He turned to Edith and sent her a distress signal. "Miss Qian, can you help me to coax him?"

Edith glanced at her boyfriend and saw the angry look on his face. She tugged at his hand and smiled when he looked at her. "Darling, I'm alright. Don't be angry. But," Edith turned to look at Jamie with a curious gaze. "Who is this person?"

"Miss Qian, let me introduce you," Henry spoke. "This is Jamie Xu, a good friend of ours. I hope that you can forgive her if she had offended you." He paused to let out a dry cough.. "Jamie... she... had preferences towards women."

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The room finally quietened down after Henry had dragged everyone away, leaving only Neil and Edith in the room.

Edith looked at her boyfriend who was leaning on the sofa with his eyes closed and brought over a cup of water. She sat beside him and offered the cup to him. "Want something to drink?"

Neil opened his eyes and the cold face turned soft upon seeing his girlfriend. He downed the water in one go, put the cup on the table, and pulled her towards him.

"Are you alright?" Edith looked at his face and studied his expression.

She did not think that Neil would be so angry upon finding out Jamie's attempt to hit on her. Edith thought that his reaction was amusing. After all, Jamie's a girl and Edith was not the person who would be attracted to people of the same gender.

A helpless sigh escaped her as she felt the way he was tightening his hold on her body. "What's wrong?"

Neil did not answer and instead continued to look at his girlfriend for a long time. When he arrived and saw the way that Edith was restraining Jamie, he was relieved. However, the situation told him that something had happened. Knowing Edith, his girlfriend would not attack anyone without reason.

But he was not worried that his girlfriend had attacked Jamie. What he was worried about was that Jamie had done something to Edith.

The memories of that night when he found both Amanda and Jamie together were still fresh in his memories.

He did not know how Jamie would do it, but that girl always had her way to attract another girl. Wasn't that was how she had tempted Amanda in the past?

"What are you worried about?" Edith raised her hand to poke at his cheek.

Neil heaved a heavy breath. "You. I'm worried if you would someday find Jamie attractive."

Edith looked at him in disbelief. Suddenly, she burst into a laugh. "How could you think that way?"

The frown on his face deepened. "Amanda and I broke up because of Jamie. One night, I found them together and they were—"

He did not finish his words, but from his expression, Edith could guess his meaning. "And you think I would be the same? That I would be attracted to her and change my orientation?"

The man continued with his silence.

After he was betrayed by both Jamie and Amanda, Neil had this shadow in his heart.

If Jamie did something and Edith changed her mind again, what was he going to do? It was hard for him to find a girlfriend and he really liked her very much. After living together for a few months, Neil was used to having her presence around. It was hard for him to imagine if one day, he would return home and found that Edith would no longer be around.

Edith cupped his face with both hands. "You silly man." She gave a peck on his lips and continued, "Didn't I tell you previously? Neil Mo, I only like you. Can you have a little more trust in me?"

Neil found that he was unable to answer. Although he trusted Edith, the matter of the heart could be complicated. He was worried that someday, she might change her mind.

Moreover, he saw the way Jamie had looked at his girlfriend earlier. Edith seemed to be Jamie's type.

At the thought that his girlfriend was someone who could attract bees and butterflies, Neil grew distressed.

"Jamie is not my type. You are." She pecked at his lips again and smiled. "You are so good looking. Why would I like someone else?"

A chuckle escaped him. "You only like me because of my look?"

"It was your look that attracts me first," Edith said and laughed when he narrowed his eyes at her. "Neil Mo, I'm straight. I don't like Jamie nor do I think that there will be a day for me to like her that way. As long as you continue to be good to me, I will stay by your side. "

"Really?"

"Un." Edith nodded. Her gaze fell on his lips and then looked up to meet his gaze again. "Moreover..." She lowered her gaze, went closer to his ear, and whispered. "I like the way you make me feel when we were in bed."

The moment the words escaped her, Edith bit at her lips and her face turned red.

She was beginning to think that after spending her time with Lily last weekend, her mind was starting to get dirtier.

Neil froze. The way Edith had whispered to his ear made his body tingle, and the words she said had turned his body hot. "Baby." He swallowed and found that his throat was too dry. "You should know what kind of effect your words would do to me, right?"

Edith blinked her eyes innocently. "I don't know."

Neil took a deep breath to compose himself. "You naughty girl."

"Then, are you going to punish me?"

His eyes darkened and his breathing quickened. "Edith Qian, you're doing this on purpose."

"What do you mean? I was only trying to coax my boyfriend. What did I do?"

Seeing the way the girl continued to play dumb with him, Neil leaned forward to bite her lips. When he pulled away, Edith was staring back at him in aggrieve, causing him to feel guilty, and thus, he leaned in again to kiss her lips, gently this time.

Edith was unaware of how long they have been kissing and coaxing each other. But once his hand cupped at her chest, a gasp escaped her and Edith pulled away.

Her eyes were misty and her lips were moist and red. "We're still in your office."

"I don't care."

The corner of her lips twitched, knowing that if she did not stop him, she would be in deep trouble. Feeling the way his hands continued to roam around her body, Edith then reminded him, "I'm still on my period."

Neil stared at her for a long time. He pecked at her lips and pulled her in his embrace. "How can you tease me so much and pour cold water on me like this?"

Edith laughed at his words and stayed quiet as he continued to embrace her and calm down.

After a certain time has passed, Edith gently pulled away. Her gaze fell on the lunch box she had bought for him earlier. "Wait for me here." Edith walked out to reheat the food in the pantry and came back after. "Come on. I came here after knowing that you have skipped lunch. Have something to eat before you're going to harm your body."

Neil looked at the food in front of him and frowned.

Noticing his expression, Edith asked, "What's wrong? You don't like the food?"

"It's not that." Neil turned to her with a mischievous smile. "But right now, I prefer to eat something else."

The way he looked at her turned her face red again. Edith shoved the chopsticks into his hand.. "If you don't eat your food now, I'm going to leave."

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As Jamie was now working with MH Group, Neil had told Edith that she did not need to come over to the company to see him. He was worried that the two girls were going to run into each other and Jamie was going to take advantage of his girlfriend again.

Though Edith had mentioned that she was not going to let herself be seduced by Jamie, Neil was still uncomfortable to let them meet each other. In the end, Edith could only agree with his suggestion to coax him.

Moreover, Neil was going to be busy with Jamie's return to the company. Even if she came over to visit him, Edith thought that she will only distract Neil from doing his work.

However, just because Edith did not show up at the company, it does not mean that the two would not run into each other.

That day, Edith was planning to meet Aaron and had a meal with him. As Aaron was busy and stuck at the station, Edith took the chance to walk around the mall to look around.

Her step halted when she saw the shirt on the mannequin and thought that the style of that shirt seemed like something that her boyfriend would wear.

Thinking that she has never bought any gift for him, Edith entered the shop to look around. Just as she was browsing through a few shirts, a figure loomed beside her. Edith turned and instinctively stepped back when she realized who it was.

"Miss Qian," Jamie flashed her an amiable smile. "Are you here to buy something for Neil?"

Edith gave her a look over before she continued to look at the garments on the rack.

Seeing that she was ignored, Jamie touched the tip of her nose and chuckled. "I saw you entering the shop earlier and decided to come over and talk to you. Miss Qian, I owe you an apology."

Hearing her words, Edith finally turned to Jamie.

"Miss Qian, I'm sorry about how I have behaved the last time we met in Neil's office," Jamie said. "I saw you in his office and thought that you are my type. My bad habit resurfaced and I just wanted to tease you a little bit. I did not expect that you would be Neil's girlfriend. I hope that you can forgive me."

"I have long forgotten what happened. But just so you know Miss Xu, I am straight."

Jamie laughed and felt that the air around her has gone lighter now that Edith was speaking to her. Jamie was worried that Edith would ignore her after what had happened that other day.

"Well, then, you don't need to worry. I promise that I will not do anything to you as long as you are with Neil."

Edith looked at the woman beside her and felt the corner of her lips twitched. Wasn't her words implying that if she was no longer with Neil, Jamie was going to try and harass her again?

A chuckle escaped her and Edith wondered if Jamie would be bold enough to try.

Although Jamie might seem a little muscular than other women, Edith thought that she was not very strong. At least, Jamie was unable to fight back when she had restrained her.

"There's something else you need to know, Miss Xu," Edith smiled, but it did not reach her eyes. "Just because you are a girl, it doesn't mean that it would be alright for you to harass another girl to tease them. Women these days don't feel safe around men. Why do you want to make us wary of our own gender?"

Jamie coughed and looked away. She also knew that her bad habit was inappropriate. In the past, it had gotten her into a few problems.

In fact, her parents had warned her not to continue her bad habit. The last time she had caused Neil and Amanda to break up, her parents had sent her over to another country.

Her parents were ashamed of how she had betrayed Neil and she was not allowed to return until Neil had forgiven her.

It was only half a year ago that she had received an invitation from Neil to come back to L City. Jamie had heard the news of Adam's passing and decided to help Neil with the company's matter as her way to compensate for what she had done.

Edith continued to browse through the clothing.

Seeing a shirt that she liked, Edith took it off the rack and inspected the materials and style. Her gaze fell on the price and she hesitated, wondering if she would be willing to spend that amount of money for a gift.

"Miss Qian, you have good taste. That shirt looked like something that Neil would wear. I'm sure that he would love it if you buy it for him."

Edith turned to the salesperson and asked her to pack up the shirt before she turned to Jamie again. "Alright. What do you want from me?"

Her lips curled into a smile. "Miss Qian, can I ask a favor from you?"

Edith raised a brow and waited for her to continue.

"It seemed that Neil was still angry about what had happened the other day and he was refusing to see me," Jamie said. "I came back this time and hope that I can reconcile with him. We have been friends for years and it's a shame that we are fighting like this. Miss Qian, can you help me and say a few words to him?"

"I could say a few words to Neil," Edith said. She watched as Jamie's expression brightened up and chuckled. "However, if I started to speak up and say a few nice things about you, wouldn't your plan to reconcile with him backfired? He already warned you to stay away from me. If I say a few nice things about you, then Neil will be suspicious. He will know that you came to talk to me and perhaps, his thought would go wild at what we might do behind his back."

At this time, the salesperson returned with a new set of garments and handed it over to Edith.

"Well then, Miss Xu, I hope you can find a way to solve your problem. If you excuse me, I still have some places I needed to be." Edith went over to the register, paid for the shirt, and walked out.

Edith checked at the time and frowned when Aaron had not shown up. She took out her phone and was about to send a text to Aaron when his name flashed on her screen.

Sliding her finger on the screen, Edith then pressed the phone to her ear. "Aaron, where are you? I've been waiting for you for an hour."

"Where are you?"

"I'm still at the mall. We agreed to meet here, right?"

"Stay there. No. Wait. Go to the main entrance and meet me there. I will come over and pick you up."

"Why do you need to pick me up?"

"Don't panic!" Aaron spoke. "I have something to tell you."

Edith frowned upon hearing his tone of voice. She has been friends with Aaron long enough to know that his tone showed that something had happened and it was Aaron who was panicking.

"What's wrong?" Edith asked.

"My father called. He said he and your grandfather was on their way to the city."

"What?"

"Edith," Aaron took a deep breath to calm down.. "They both were involved in an accident."

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Once Edith received the news, she quickly went over to the main entrance and waited for Aaron. Together, the two of them went to the hospital where the two elders will be taken to.

While Aaron drove over to the hospital, Edith sat down at the passenger's seat silently. Various thoughts came over to her mind all at once and she could not stop worrying about her grandfather.

Her grandfather was the only remaining family member she had and Edith could not think of what will happen if she was to lose him suddenly. If something bad happened to her grandfather, then, she will truly be alone...

The thoughts and anxiety were getting to her mind and Edith's expression turned dull when she thought of the worst outcome.

The ambulance had not reached the hospital when Edith and Aaron arrived. The two of them could only wait at the lobby anxiously as they waited for the ambulance to arrive.

When the ambulance finally arrived and the stretcher was whirled in, Edith got the chance to peek at the figure on the bed. Seeing her grandfather's body and face were dirtied with blood turned her body cold.

A while later, Aaron's father, James Li, was brought into the building in a wheelchair. As compared to her grandfather, Aaron's father's condition seemed a lot better. He was aware of his surroundings and was able to respond to people.

The doctor brought them both to the Emergency Room to be given treatment. After a while, Uncle Li was whirled out of the room and was let to meet Aaron and Edith.

James suffered a few bruises and cuts on his body. His condition was not very serious and he was allowed to return home to recuperate. Meanwhile, Mike Qian was still in the operating theater and Edith was still unclear about his situation.

According to James, the two of them were on their way to the city. Mike was driving and James was at the back seat. A car suddenly came from the opposite direction and rammed into theirs. The driver was experiencing microsleep and had swiveled into their lane.

Mike tried to avoid the car, but it was a little too late. To avoid the incoming vehicle, Mike lost control of his car and rammed into a pole. James was sleeping at the back when the accident happened, therefore his condition was not as bad as her grandfather's.

James got out of the vehicle and quickly found his friend. When he found Mike, the old man's face was full of blood and he was unconscious from the impact.

The other driver who merely suffered a minor injury had helped James to get Mike out of the car. They called the ambulance and Aaron decided to let his son know of the accident.

According to the paramedics, Grandpa Qian had a few bruises and cuts. His bones might be fractured, but they will need to give him a thorough check-up once they arrived at the hospital.

Mike was still in the operation theater after an hour.

Seeing the anxious look on Edith's face, Aaron handed her a bottle of water and urged her to drink and calm down. However, the girl only stared back at him with an expressionless face.

The phone in Edith's hand vibrated, but the girl made no move to answer the call and instead, stared at the screen for a long time with a dazed expression. Realizing that his friend was unable to function at this moment, Aaron took the phone from Edith and answered it for her.

"Edith? Where are you? Hazel said you haven't gone back," Neil spoke as soon as the phone was connected.

Aaron glanced at Edith and sighed. "President Mo, it's me, Aaron Li."

A frown appeared on Neil's face. Although he was aware that his girlfriend would be meeting her friend for a meal, Neil did not think that she would hang out with him for a long time. Moreover... why did this man answered the phone call in his girlfriend's stead?

"President Mo, Edith is unable to answer the phone at this moment," Aaron said.

"Where are you?"

"We're at L City's hospital."

"What?" Neil grew anxious upon hearing that they were at the hospital. Since his girlfriend was unable to answer the phone, Neil started to think that something bad had happened to Edith.

He stood up quickly and rushed over the door to find his girlfriend.

"How is Edith? What happened to her?"

"President Mo, please be calm. Edith is fine," Aaron answered. "It was her grandfather. He was involved in an accident earlier today and is still in the operation theater. President Mo, please come over. I'm worried about Edith. Ever since she found out that her grandfather was in an accident, she was unable to react well to her surrounding. Until her grandfather came out from the operating room, I don't think she will be able to do anything."

After exchanging a few words with Aaron, Neil drove over to the hospital to find his girlfriend. When he arrived, Edith was seating outside the operation hall with her head tilted down.

"President Mo, you're here," Aaron greeted him when he saw him approaching.

"How is she?"

Aaron followed his gaze and sighed. "It was as you've seen. Edith has been staying that way from the moment we arrived at the hospital. She hasn't taken a sip of water. President Mo, talk to her. Maybe she will listen if you talk to her."

Neil nodded. "And Grandpa Qian?"

"He is still in the operation theater," Aaron glanced at the closed door. "It has been more than an hour now and we still did not know what is going on inside."

After exchanging a few words, Neil walked over to Edith unhurriedly. He stood in front of her and watched as she lifted her head slowly.

His girlfriend would always smile whenever she looked at him. But at this time, her face was devoid of expression and her gaze empty. Seeing the look on her face, Neil felt his heart grew heavy.

"Hey," He called her softly and brushed his hand on her cheek. "How are you?"

The girl continued to stare back at him and did not react. The shock that her grandfather was in an accident was too much and Edith had retreated into a dark corner.

Neil thought that if she cried, he could at least coax her and assure her that everything would be alright. But seeing his unresponsive girlfriend, Neil was at loss at what he could do.

After a while, Neil sat down beside her and pulled her into a hug. His hand moved to pat her back. "It's going to be alright. Grandpa will be alright," he whispered to her ear. Neil moved to kiss her hair a few times as he continued to talk to her and hoped that she would come out of her hiding place and responded to him.. "Edith Qian, I'm here with you."

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An hour later, the door to the operation room slid open and the doctor in charge of the operation walked out.

Edith turned her head towards the door but was afraid to look at the doctor. The thing she was scared of at this moment was that the doctor was going to announce that her grandfather's condition was not good and that he was not going to survive. Edith

thought that, as long as she did not look at the doctor and heard any unpleasant news from him, her grandfather will be alright.

"Doctor, how is Mike Qian?" Neil asked.

At this time, Aaron and his father had gone over to a nearby hotel. James's condition was not that serious as compared to Mike's. After his wound was dressed, he was allowed to leave and recuperate at home.

After Neil had promised to give them updates on Mike, James and Aaron left for the hotel that Neil had prepared for them.

"Are you his family?" The doctor asked.

Neil nodded and motioned to Edith. "This is his granddaughter."

The doctor glanced at her and saw the expression on her face. Perhaps he has been working at the hospital for years, the doctor was used to see the way the patient's family would react. Understood that the girl was probably too shocked at what happened to her grandfather, the doctor chose to talk to Neil.

"The patient is now stable."

Edith heard his words and lifted her gaze to look at the doctor for the first time.

"Mike Qian suffered from a few cuts and bruises. There were shards of glasses in his body and the operation was mainly to remove those glasses." The doctor continued to brief them about what had happened during the operation and assured them that everything would be alright. "I suggest the patient stay in the hospital for a few days so that we can monitor his condition."

A tear streamed down to her cheek. Hearing that her grandfather was alright, Edith felt as if the heavy burden in her heart was lifted.

"You can visit the patient when he is moved to another room. Then, all we have to do is to wait for him to wake up." The doctor continued to speak a few more words with Neil about Mike's condition.

Suddenly, the doctor lurched forward and shouted, "Madam!"

Neil turned around in time and managed to catch her body before she fell to the ground.

With the doctor's instruction, he laid her body on the chair and let the doctor inspect her.

"Your wife fainted because she was too tired," the doctor said after a while. "After getting enough rest, she should be fine."

...

When Edith woke up, she realized that she was back in the bedroom she shared with Neil. For a few seconds, Edith was puzzled. She tried to recall what happened to her and remember the news that Aaron had brought to her.

Her grandfather had an accident!

Swiftly, Edith sat up. However, she only found herself restrained by a strong arm draped on her stomach.

Turning around, Edith saw that Neil was beside her and his eyes were staring back at her, unblinking.

"Awake?" Neil turned her body to face him and kissed the corner of her eyes.

"Neil, something happened to my grandfather," Edith said. Her voice trembled.

"I know." Neil caressed her back. "He's fine now. The doctor said he should wake up in the morning. Then, he will need to stay at the hospital for a few days for observation."

Edith stared at him in disbelief. "Really? You're not lying to me?"

"Why would I lie to you?" Neil pulled her body close and buried her face to his chest.

"He will be fine. Your grandfather will be alright. In the morning, I will accompany you to the hospital and we can visit your grandpa together, alright?"

His soothing voice and his gentle touch made her body relaxed and Edith was no longer as anxious.

"Sleep." He pecked at her temple. "There is a few hours before the morning comes."

Seeing that the girl had obediently stayed in his embrace, Neil let out a sigh in relief. However, the next moment, he felt something wet on his chest and his ears caught the sound of her sniffing.

Neil pulled away to look at Edith and was shocked upon finding that she was crying.

"Baby, what's wrong?" His fingers moved to wipe the tears away.

Edith bit her quivering lips for a long time. Though she wanted to speak, the words were unable to come out. Her tears streamed down on her face and her nose soured.

Neil rained his kisses on her face and rubbed at her head as he tried to coax her. Seeing that the woman in his arm has not stopped crying, Neil started to panic. Edith

was always so strong in front of him and this was the first time he had seen her cry like this. Hearing her sobs made his heart felt heavy.

"I was scared," Edith spoke after a long time. Her voice was hoarse. "When Aaron told me that Grandpa was in an accident, I got scared. What if something happened to him? If grandpa is gone, then I will be left alone."

"That's not true." Neil put his hand under her chin and make her look at him. "You will always have me. And Hazel."

Her eyes were wet with tears and it doesn't seem as if she heard his words at all "— Grandpa is the only family I have."

"Then let's get married."

His words turned her stupefy. Her mind goes blank and it took her a while for her to compose herself. Edith stared at the man in front of her and sniffled. "W-what?"

"Let's get married. I'll be your family and you will never be alone."

Edith pulled back and stared at him. The look on his face was telling her that she has not misheard things and that this man was very serious about his words.

"Do you know what you're saying?" Edith asked.

"I do."

The tears in her eyes dried instantly and Edith was still in disbelief over his sudden proposal.

"This is not something that I would say in a spur of the moment to coax you, but it was something that I had thought about the moment we began to date."

"You thought about this the moment we date?"

"Hmm." He nodded. "I am always serious at whatever I do and I would not waste your and my time on things I knew did not have any potential. I wouldn't ask you out if I was not sure that perhaps, we are fit together," Neil said. "The longer we spent our time together, the more I thought that my life would not be complete without you. I wanted to share my life with you for a very, very long time." He paused to stare at her dazed face. Then, Neil leaned in to kiss her temple.. "Edith Qian, I love you."

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Feeling her face warmed up from his intense gaze, Edith tilted her head down to avoid him. She brought her hands to cover her face and found that her face was damp. It was then that she recalled that she had been crying, thinking of how scared she would be if she would suddenly lose her grandfather.

The thing that frightened Edith the most was to suddenly lose her grandfather, the only family member she had.

She grew up without a father and her mother passed away when she was eight. Her grandfather was the only person who she knew would love her unconditionally. Though her relationship with her grandfather was not that good at the beginning, she grew up and began to rely on her grandfather a lot. Her grandfather had become her mother, her father as well as her friend.

He was so old, but he had to fit in so many roles just to raise her.

Without her grandfather, perhaps, she would be sent over to an orphanage. There would be no one to look after her and she would truly be alone.

If she was to lose her grandfather at this time, Edith did not know how she was going to live.

She was not ready to lose her grandfather and to be left alone.

But suddenly, Neil had said that she wanted to marry her and give her a family so that she will never be alone.

Although the proposal came at a strange timing, his words had warmed her heart.

However, it was too sudden and Edith did not know how she should react. And then, he dropped another bomb and told her that he loved her for the first time.

At this time, her heart was racing and she was beginning to panic for a different reason. Edith was too embarrassed and was not sure what should she do or say. Should she tell him that she loved him too at this time?

"Silly woman," Neil whispered into her ear. "What are you thinking about?"

"Nothing," Edith answered quickly.

"Really?" Neil chuckled as he looked at the woman who was refusing to look at him. "I am not asking you to marry me right away. After all, I haven't asked for your grandfather's permission to marry you."

Edith peeked at his expression. Her mouth opened to say something but was unable to come out with a sound.

"I want to marry you. But until you are ready, I will wait for you. For this kind of a lifetime event, we should consider everything and discuss it further. Let's just talk about it slowly, alright?" Neil said. "I just wanted you to know that whatever it is, you will always have me beside you. Don't ever think that you are all alone in this world."

Edith felt her eyes grew hot again. Since she was unable to come out with a word to speak, Edith decided to follow her heart and leaned in to kiss his lips. Her hands moved to hold his face as she continued to kiss him fervently. It was the only way she knew to convey what she was feeling towards him at the moment.

Her gratefulness that he was around during one of the difficult times in her life and how much she loved him.

The two parted after a long time.

When Edith looked up to meet his gaze, she was surprised to see the way Neil was staring back at her. His eyes were bright and it seemed as if it was sparkling. In his eyes, there was nothing else that he could see except for her.

It was the sort of gaze that was able to tell her how much he love her even when he did not say it out loud.

Edith felt something somersaulting her tummy. His gaze turned her body hot and her breathing grew heavy. At the thought that she might unable to control herself if she continued to stare into his eyes, Edith chose to look away.

His hands continued to run through her long hair as he coaxed her.

Once she was able to calm down, Edith tilted her head slowly to peek at him. It was not surprising when Neil was still looking at her with the same look in his eyes.

Edith bit at her lips and raised her hand to touch his face. It was at this time that she noticed the dark ring under his eyes. Her fingers moved to touch them and her heart grew distressed.

"Why do you have them?" Edith asked. Seeing that he did not answer, Edith bore a thought that this man had stayed up without sleeping a wink to look after her. "You haven't been sleeping?"

He merely answered her with a smile.

Edith leaned in to kiss both his eyes and whispered, "Sleep. Didn't you say that you were going to accompany me to see my grandpa next morning?"

...

The next morning, Edith informed Headmistress Fu about her grandfather and was given a day off. After dropping off Hazel at the kindergarten, Neil drove his vehicle to the hospital.

When they arrived at the hospital, the nurse pointed her to her grandfather's room and Edith quickly went to find him. As soon as she walked in Edith saw that her grandfather had woken up and was chatting happily with a young man beside him.

Hearing the sound at the door, Mike looked up and was surprised to see his granddaughter. The smile on his face disappeared and his expression changed. Seeing that his granddaughter had appeared, Mike was suddenly scared that he was going to be nagged for hours.

"Grandfather!" Edith walked over to his side and gave him a look over.

Although she wanted to pull him into a hug, Edith was worried that she was going to harm him. After all, his body was wrapped up with bandages and it looked pretty scary.

"Grandfather, how are you?" Edith asked.

"I'm fine." He looked at his granddaughter cautiously and heaved a sigh of relief when she did not show a sign that she was going to beat him. "Are you worried about me?"

Edith shot him a look. She wanted to hit him for making her worry but had to restrain herself because he was a patient.

"Of course I'm worried." Her gaze fell on his old face and suddenly, her eyes grew hot. Edith bit at her lips to control herself, but her brain refused to hear her command. Just like that, a sob escaped and her tears fell her face like a waterfall.

Seeing his crying granddaughter, Mike started to panic.

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The last time Edith had cried like this, she was sixteen years old. At that time, Mike was dispatched to investigate a kidnapping case. Some rich man's daughter was kidnapped and they believed that the girl was brought to Z Town to hide.

Mike and his team finally found out the whereabouts of the kidnappers. They were going to rescue the girl when one of the kidnappers took out a gun and shot.

When Edith heard that her grandfather was shot, she was stunned and was unable to respond. It was only when she had seen her grandfather again that she started to bawl.

She had lost her mother in a car accident and hearing from those uncles that her grandfather might not survive turned her dazed.

It was only when her grandfather was awakened that Edith was able to react.

The first thing Mike had to see the moment he woke up was his crying granddaughter. She was always a gangster and always get into a fight with him. Therefore, to see her suddenly crying had scared him. Mike did not know what he should do.

Though he was injured, Mike had no other choice but to coax her granddaughter.

Seeing her reddened and puffy eyes, Mike began to think that the gunshot around his stomach area did not hurt as much as his heart.

Mike glanced at the male caretaker as if asking for his help. However, the man did not know what he should do and decided that it would be better if he left.

The room was soon left to Mike and Edith. Mike stretched his hand to hold his granddaughter's. "Alright. Don't cry anymore. You see me here? I'm fine, right?"

Mike heaved a helpless sigh. His granddaughter was now a big girl, but she still cried like a child.

"There might be a lot of bandages around my body, but the doctor said that the injury isn't that bad. I should be able to return home in a couple of days," Mike continued to coax. "You see... the injury this time was not as bad as the gunshot."

Hearing her grandfather mentioned the last time she had almost his life, Edith's cries only turned louder.

It seemed that mentioning the gunshot from years ago was not the right thing to say at this moment.

In the end, Mike decided that it was best for him not to speak anything. Seeing that she was still crying Mike held his granddaughter's hand and pulled her closer.

"Grandfather, you promised that you will never get hurt again," Edith spoke after she had calmed down a little bit.

His gaze softened as he heard her words.

He indeed had promised that he would not get hurt and make her worry again.

"Alright. This time, grandpa was wrong. I broke my promise." Although his body was still in pain, Mike pulled her head to rest on his chest and patted her hair to console her.

When Neil walked into the room with the doctor, he was surprised to see that his girlfriend was crying in her grandfather's arms.

Earlier, he had asked Edith to go and find her grandfather first as he was going to talk to the doctor.

But seeing the way she was crying sadly, Neil felt very distressed. It was not too long ago when she had cried in his arms. Neil had thought that her tears had dried. Surprisingly, she had cried again in her grandfather's arms.

Edith might always appear strong, but her grandfather was her weakness. At the thought that something would happen to him, her strength disappeared and she started to cry like a child.

Mike turned his head to the door when he heard a movement. His eyes widened in surprise when he saw Neil at the door with the doctor. He patted Edith on her shoulder and whispered, "Alright. Be good. Stop crying. You'll look ugly when you cry. There are others here. Don't let them see you cry, alright?"

Edith wiped her tears and pursed her lips to stop crying.

"Neil." Mike greeted him. "Why are you here?"

"Grandfather," Neil nodded. "I heard that you were in an accident. I came to visit you."

Mike heaved a helpless sigh as he continued to pat his granddaughter's hair. He can only hope that Neil would not find that his granddaughter's situation was embarrassing.

Edith stood up and walked over to the restroom to wash her face and Mike coughed to ease the strange atmosphere.

"I heard from that caretaker that you hired him to look after me," Mike said. "Thank you."

He woke up from a long sleep and found that the male caretaker was around. The caretaker introduced himself as Jacob Ye and told him that he was sent by President Mo to look after him.

"Grandfather, this is what I should do," Neil said. "How are you feeling?"

Mike heaved a sigh. "My body is sore from the accident and my neck hurts. Other than that, I feel fine."

The doctor at the side nodded. He went to check on Mike's condition and was relieved that everything was alright. "Mr. Qian's condition is good. The cut and bruises on his body should be healed in a week. However, I would suggest that he stay in the hospital for a few days. We are worried that there will be a concussion after that impact."

Mike looked at the doctor anxiously. "Doctor, how long is a few days? Since there was nothing serious with my body, then, shouldn't I be allowed to return to recuperate at home? I don't feel comfortable staying at the hospital for too long."

At this time, Edith walked out of the restroom. "No. Grandpa, listen to the doctor and stay here for a few more days."

"No. No. I want to return to Z Town."

"Why are you anxious to return to Z Town at this time?"

"I'm worried that the house was left unattended," Mike reasoned.

"Let Grandpa George look after the house for a week," Edith said. "Grandpa, you stay at this hospital until you are well enough."

Mike pulled at his granddaughter's hand and whispered, "But staying too long at the hospital would cost a lot of money."

"Don't worry about the money," Edith said. "Grandpa, I have my savings and I can pay. You just need to stay here and recuperate well."

Mike was about to come out with another excuse when Neil had spoken.

"Grandpa, listen to your granddaughter. If you leave for Z Town at this time, Edith will worry about you every day and would not be able to work well," Neil said. "At least if you are staying here, Edith will be able to focus on her work, knowing that someone is looking after you and the doctor is around if you are in pain. When her work ended, we can always come over and accompany you here."

Mike thought that there was something amiss about Neil's words, but he could not put his finger on it.. As he thought about his granddaughter's crying face, Mike's heart began to soften and he gave in.

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"Old friend, how are you feeling?"

Mike heaved a long sigh before he repeated the words that the doctor had told him earlier. "It seemed that I will be staying in the hospital for a few days."

"Your granddaughter's right." James patted at the bed. "Just stay here and recuperated well. You don't see Edith's face when you were in the operation room. I think, if something bad happens to you at this time, Edith would really lose it."

Mike listened to his friend's about how his granddaughter had acted when he was in the operation room and got worried. If something happened to his granddaughter because of him, how will he be able to face his daughter? He would be ashamed to meet his daughter in the afterlife.

"I know. I decided to let her accompany me for a few days and let her be assured." Mike said.

"Right, what did you tell Edith about our trip to the city this time?" James asked. "She... did not suspect anything right?"

Mike observed his surroundings and noted that everyone had left his room and headed somewhere else. "What else I can tell her? Of course, I told her that we are coming to get some fishing equipment."

"Are you not bored using the same excuse over and over again?"

"What other reason would be believable to Edith? As long as I'm consistent with my words, she would not doubt me."

James looked at his friend speechlessly.

Mike suddenly leaned forward and spoke in a low voice. "Have you made contacts with the others?"

"Don't worry about it. I have already contacted them. They know that you were in an accident, but I told them not to come over. Before I went back to Z Town, I will collect the documents from them," James said. "You should just stay here and recuperate. Let me and Old George handle some matters for you. I will call and update you whenever I can."

Mike nodded, feeling relieved that his investigation will not be put on hold. "When will you return to Z Town?"

"Next morning. My wife is worried when she heard that we were both in an accident," James said. "If Aaron did not stop and convince his mother, perhaps, she would take the bus to come over and take a look."

"Alright. You go home and don't let your wife be worried. I still have my granddaughter to look after me."

At this time, the door swung open and Aaron walked into the room.

"Sorry. It was hard to get a parking spot at a time like this." Aaron spoke cheerily as he walked in. "Grandpa Qian, how are you feeling?"

"I'm fine. These cuts and bruises might look scary, but they don't hurt that much."

Aaron laughed. "Grandpa Qian, that's because you're on the painkiller. Wait until your medicine ran out and then you will notice the pain." He looked around was amazed that Neil had helped the old man to be placed in a private room.

Suddenly, Aaron started to wonder if the old man had already known that his granddaughter was now in a relationship.

Even though his mouth was aching to gossip with the old man, Aaron did not dare to speak a word about Edith and Neil. He had promised that girl that he will not say a thing. If he broke his promise, Aaron knew that Edith will beat him again.

A frown appeared on his face upon noticing that there were only the two old men in the room. "Where's Edith?"

"I came here without any changes or toiletries. So Edith went out to get a few things," Mike said.

"Right. Grandpa. Do you want something to eat?" Aaron raised the bag of food in his hand and put it on the table. "My dad asked me to get them for you before we come over."

The smell of shredded chicken porridge wafted in the room and Mike found that his stomach was grumbling. He let Aaron served the porridge for him and began to eat slowly. The caretaker that Neil had hired returned and began to tidy up the room a little bit.

After emptying half of its contents, Mike turned to look out the window and turned to Aaron again. "After this, would you accompany me for a walk outside? If I have to spend all day on this bed, my bones might rot."

The caretaker heard that Mike was planning to take a walk and spoke, "Grandfather, I can accompany you if you wanted to take a walk in the garden."

"No. No." Mike waved his hand. "Just let Aaron do it. I have some matter to talk to him after all."

Hearing that Mike had something he wanted to say to him, Aaron immediately agreed.

"Then, I will prepare a wheelchair for you," the caretaker said.

Once Mike finished his porridge, Aaron took the wheelchair from the caretaker and went to the garden for a walk. After pushing the wheelchair for a while, he found a bench and took a seat.

"Grandfather, what do you want to say to me?" Aaron asked.

Mike let out a dry cough and hesitated. Then he looked at Aaron and asked, "How is it with you and Edith? Everything is fine?"

Aaron did not think too much about his question and nodded. "We're good."

"How do you feel about my granddaughter?"

Mike's next question triggered an alarm in Aaron and he began to feel that something was wrong.

This situation... Why does it feel as if Grandfather Qian wanted to play as a matchmaker?

"Grandpa Qian, why are you asking this?"

"I saw the way Edith cried when she see me this morning and knew what she was afraid of," Mike said. "If anything happens to me, Edith will be left alone. I can imagine how lost she would be when the time comes. I'm worried about Edith."

"Edith is the strongest person I know. Grandpa Qian, don't worry too much."

Mike's lips curled into a helpless smile. "The two of you grew up together, right? Other than you, I don't think Edith was close to any man," Mike said. "Are you not interested in my Edith?"

Aaron felt his scalp gone numb upon hearing his question. "Grandpa Qian, I only see her as a friend. A sister. Please don't think too much. It's impossible."

It was not too long ago when Edith and President Mo had gotten into a fight because of a misunderstanding. Aaron could still remember the fear of being stuck between Edith and Neil. After that experience, he had no intention of being the cause of their fight again.

If either Edith or President Mo heard Mike's words, wouldn't he get into trouble?

"Why? Is my granddaughter not good enough for you?" Mike was dissatisfied with Aaron's rejection.

"It's not that," Aaron denied it quickly. "But we really did not see each other like that. Don't suggest things like this again, or Edith might be angry with me. Moreover," He hesitated and decided that he needed to speak out to save his life.. "Edith already has a boyfriend."

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After confirming that her grandfather was fine and was not in any pain, Edith volunteered to go out and shop for a few necessities for him.

When her grandfather and Uncle James came over to the city, they were planning to stop by a fishing store, buy a few fishing supplies, and return to Z Town. As they were not planning to stay overnight, the two had not brought any necessities with them.

Seeing that his girlfriend was heading out, Neil followed after her and accompanied her to shop for a few things together.

Once they got what they needed, Neil dragged Edith over to a restaurant for lunch.

That morning, he noticed that the girl has not been eating too much because she was too worried about her grandfather. Now that her grandfather was alright, Neil decided to make her eat a little bit before they head back to the hospital.

Neil quickly found a parking spot at the hospital and pulled over. He turned off the engine and turned to the person beside him, studying her expression. "How are you feeling?" Neil asked.

Neil had noticed that Edith was not in her best mood after she heard that her grandfather was in an accident. Fortunately, her mood had improved after they went to visit her grandfather. Seeing that she had eaten a little more food, Neil was relieved.

"I'm good." Edith turned to Neil and forced a smile.

Seeing the smile that did not reach her eyes, Neil guessed that Edith was still unable to ease the fear of losing her grandfather.

"The doctor said that your grandpa is going to recover soon," Neil said. His hand stretched to touch her hair. "Look at his attitude this morning. You see, he was as lively as usual. Grandpa will get better soon."

Edith recalled the way her grandfather mentioned his plan to go fishing after he had recovered and smiled.

Usually, when one had reached her grandfather's age, they would prefer to stay home and rest. But her grandfather would prefer to go out and do all sorts of things. He was someone who could not sit quietly at home.

Edith could see that even though her grandfather's body was wrapped in bandages, his spirit was still high.

"Neil, thank you."

"What are you thanking me for?"

"Well, for everything."

A chuckle escaped him. Neil leaned to kiss her forehead and help her to unbuckle her seat belt. "Alright. Let's go in. Your grandfather should be waiting for you to come back."

Edith nodded and the two of them get off the vehicle together. She grabbed the shopping bag and Neil grabbed to hold her hand as they walked over to the hospital building.

However, just as they were approaching the entrance, Edith paused and saw that her grandfather was sitting in a wheelchair at the entrance. Aaron stood still behind him and had turned his head away.

At this time, Mike's gaze shifted to the couple's entwined hands. Edith followed her grandfather's gaze and immediately knew that her grandfather had learned about her relationship with Neil. She was now in deep trouble.

"Grandpa, what are you doing here?" Edith approached him guiltily. "Why are you out here? Why didn't you stay in your room?" She glanced at Aaron and her eyes narrowed to a slit.

This traitor!

From Aaron's body language alone, Edith was able to guess that Aaron had spoken something to her grandfather.

"Why are you looking at Aaron? I was bored after sitting too long in the bed," Mike said. "I asked Aaron to bring me around for some fresh air. I didn't expect that we would run into the two of you here." His gaze returned to their entwined hands and suddenly, he was unhappy.

The granddaughter that he had raised was kidnapped by some man. And this granddaughter! She dared to keep this matter a secret from him. Of course, he was angry.

"Grandpa, let's go inside and rest," Edith coaxed. "You are a patient. It's cold out here."

Fearing that her grandfather would get angry and attract the other's attention, Edith quickly took over the wheelchair from Aaron. Of course, she did not forget to stomp her feet on Aaron's to vent her anger.

"What are you doing?" Mike asked.

"Let's just speak inside, alright?"

Fortunately, her grandfather did not protest and let her push him back to his room.

Sensing that the situation might turn awry, Aaron escaped with his father and told everyone that he needed to return to the station. However, before he left, Edith had pulled him aside and asked what did he tell to grandfather.

Hearing that Aaron had only told her grandfather that they were dating and had not mentioned cohabiting, Edith was relieved. She let Aaron escape for the time being and decided to deal with him later.

In the end, there were only the three of them in the spacious ward.

Mike gave Neil a look over and snorted.

Previously, the two of them had gone fishing together. Though he only interacted with Neil for a short time, Mike could see that Neil was a good man. At least, he did not put on some air around them.

However, that does not mean that he would give this man his permission to date his granddaughter.

Mike really did not expect that the two of them would be together.

For a long time, the atmosphere in the room was very quiet.

"Grandfather." Neil broke the silence.

Mike snapped his gaze to him. "Who is your grandfather? Don't easily call me Grandfather."

"Grandpa." Edith tugged at his sleeve and acted coquettishly to ease his mood.

"You still know that I am your grandpa. You are in a relationship and you were not planning to tell me?"

"It's not that I didn't want to let you know. We were planning to tell you face to face when we visit Z Town."

Mike felt the corner of his lips twitched when he looked at his granddaughter.

A few hours ago, he was still worrying that his granddaughter would be left alone if some accident happened to him. he did not think that she would suddenly return with a boyfriend.

"Grandpa, don't be angry, alright?" Edith continued to coax.

Mike glanced at Neil and felt his anger surged. He took a deep breath to calm down and turned to Edith. "You go out."

"No. I'm not going out until you tell me that you're not angry."

"Go out first." Mike heaved a sigh. "I have something to talk to President Mo."

Edith glanced at the two of them and had a foreboding. Her grandfather wanted to talk to Neil and she was worried that her grandfather would really chop her boyfriend into pieces and turned him into fish feed.

"You go out. Let me talk to your grandfather first, alright?" Neil flashed her an assuring smile.

Edith hesitated for a few seconds and turned around to leave.. Seeing that her granddaughter had obediently listened to Neil's words, Mike thought that his blood pressure went up.

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Once the door closed behind her, the atmosphere in the ward turned silent again. and the temperature in the room dropped rapidly.

If Edith was in the room, she would be amazed that the cold air did not come from her Iceblock Mo, but instead, from her grandfather.

Inside the room, Neil stood up straight as if he was not affected by Mike's intense gaze. He looked at the old man with a calm expression and waited for Mike to be the first to speak up.

The way Mike was staring at Neil at the moment was as if he was looking at a dangerous criminal. However, Neil only looked back with a calm and composed face.

Neil knew that the old man was upset to suddenly learn that his granddaughter was dating him. Mike was unprepared with the sudden news and therefore had treated him with hostility.

Because of that, Neil let the old man reorganize his thoughts and knew that Mike would have any questions for him.

In fact, Mike really wished that they were in an interrogation room. The atmosphere would be right for him to force Neil into telling him the truth. Unfortunately, he was just a patient who was recuperating from his injury. Even if he wanted to force out a confession using his domineering aura, Mike was unable to do so.

Mike continued to assess Neil and was dissatisfied that Neil had not shown a hint that he was going to back down under his pressure. The calm expression on Neil's face annoyed him simply because he wanted Neil to be scared of him.

If Neil would be scared of him, then this confrontation would be easier for Mike...

Nobody knows how long time had passed when Mike finally opened his mouth to speak. "What is your intention towards my granddaughter?"

"I love her. Of course, with your permission, I would like to marry her."

Mike continued to stare at him as if judging Neil's sincerity in his words. As seconds passed by, the expression on Mike's face began to soften. However, the knot at the space between his brows stayed.

Though he could sense that Neil was sincere when he spoke those words, there were a lot of things that he was worried about.

"What did your family think about this?" His tone was still strict. "You should know that your family and ours are different. If my granddaughter is going to be bullied because of her status, then I will have to ask you to stop associating yourself with my granddaughter. I don't want her to get hurt when the feelings get too deep."

"My parents will not oppose us. Besides, they like and adore Edith very much."

Although he has not mentioned a word to his parents, based on their interaction with Edith during their last stay, Neil was able to see that his parents liked Edith. He also

knew that his mother had tried to play as a matchmaker during their last stay. If his parents did not like Edith, they will not try to pull some tricks to get them together.

Mike continued to listen to Neil's words with unmasked surprised on his expression. He was not expecting that Neil's parents would not oppose them and had supported them instead.

At first, Mike was hesitant that the only reason that Neil's parents would not mind their relationship was because of Edith's good relationship with Hazel. But his heart began to soften as Neil convinced him that it was not the case.

At least, for Neil, he did not pursue his granddaughter just because of Edith's close relationship with Hazel. He truly thought that Edith was a great girl and he liked being around her.

Once Neil had finished what he wanted to say, the room turned quiet again.

Mike turned to look out the window and heaved a long sigh. "After my daughter, Rachel passed away in an accident, Edith has been living with me. Although my granddaughter might seem strong most of the time, she was very dependent on me. The things that she might be afraid of was to be left behind."

Neil continued to stand up silently as he continued to hear what Mike wanted to tell him.

"I'm already this old and might not have a long way to accompany her," Mike said. "If Edith has someone who will care and love her, I would be relieved."

"Grandpa, you are healthy and in high spirit. You will live for a very long time to accompany your granddaughter."

Mike let out a snort, knowing that Neil was only saying sweet things to coax him into agreeing to their relationship. "It's not that I wanted to oppose you, but I only have Edith as my granddaughter. As Edith's grandfather, I have a lot of concern about your relationship with my granddaughter."

"I understand what you are worried about."

"Then, will you break up with her?"

"No. But grandfather, I can promise that I will give her a content life and make her happy. I can promise that I will respect her, cherish her, love her and never let her be bullied. I can promise that I will not leave her alone during the time she needed me most."

Another snort escaped him and Mike lowered his gaze as if he was in deep thought.

Although Neil came from a rich and influential family, Mike did not think that this man was good enough to be with his granddaughter.

For instance, Neil and Edith had a five years gap. And Neil was someone who had to be responsible to his niece. He might be single, but it was almost the same as him being a single parent.

Mike simply did not want Edith to be the losing party in their relationship.

His granddaughter had suffered a lot of grievances when she was younger.

Her mother died young and Edith was always bullied and looked down on because of it.

Instead of being with someone like Neil, Mike wanted his granddaughter to be with someone who can always be by her side when she needed someone. Someone who can protect her.

With Neil's career and responsibility, Mike worried that there would be times when he could not be around Edith. Therefore, he was a little dissatisfied upon learning that his precious granddaughter was seeing Neil.

Neil was someone with a lot of money, but that trait was not what he wanted from Neil.

As long as he can promise that he will be good to his granddaughter and never leave her side during a rough time, Mike would be satisfied. He had heard Neil's words and promised and thought that as long as Neil did not turn his back on Edith, Mike would not object to their relationship.

"I will remember what you have said to me today. But if you let her down, then I won't let you go," Mike warned.. "I may not have as much money or influence as you are, but for my granddaughter and my family... I will not let anyone who bullied them get away with it."

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It has been almost an hour since she has to leave her grandfather's ward and Edith was getting anxious. She did not know what the two were discussing inside and was not allowed to eavesdrop.

This was her first time to introduce someone as her boyfriend to her grandfather and Edith was worried that her grandfather was going to be fierce towards Neil. She did not know what her grandfather was going to say to him or how will he act towards Neil.

After pacing back and forth along the corridor, Edith paused and glanced at the door again. However, the door remained closed.

Just as she started to wonder if she should barge in, the door was pushed open and Neil walked out. His gaze met with hers and a warm smile curled on his lips.

Edith stopped in front of him and gave Neil a look over. A breath of relief escaped her seeing that he remained unscathed.

"What did you and grandfather talk about? Why does it take too long?"

Neil chuckled. He stretched his hand to touch her head. "Nothing much. Your grandfather told me to be good to you. That's all."

Edith narrowed her eyes. "Really?"

His brow shot up. "You don't trust me?" Neil saw the hesitant look on her face and moved to peck at her forehead. "Alright. Go on in. Your grandfather wanted to see you."

Edith turned towards the door and paused. "Where are you going?"

"I'm just going to make a call to Nanny Ann and check on Hazel."

Edith checked at the time and noticed that they have spent a long time outside. After exchanging a few words with Neil, Edith walked into the room and saw that her grandfather was leaning on his pillow.

"Grandfather, are you alright?"

It was not too long ago that her grandfather had an accident and had an operation. He has been talking with Neil for a long time and she was worried that he was tired. As a patient, he was supposed to rest a lot.

Hearing his granddaughter's voice, Mike opened his eyes and frowned. He recalled that he had to know about his granddaughter's matter from Aaron, Mike got upset again.

"If Aaron didn't tell me about your boyfriend, were you planning to keep this matter a secret from me forever?"

"Of course not," Edith answered quickly. She went over to her grandfather's side and hugged him. She blinked her eyes at him and asked, "Grandfather, what did the two of you talk about?"

Mike let out a snort. "What is it? You were afraid that I might make things difficult for your boyfriend?"

"Of course not. I hope you would make things difficult for him. That way, he would think twice before he bullies me. He will always remember that there's a powerful figure behind me."

Edith's survival instinct was on and she knew that at this time, she would have to do everything to coax her grandfather.

His eyes rolled upon seeing the way his granddaughter was acting coquettishly to win his favor. Edith would always act like a little gangster around him and seeing her like this was a little strange.

"You like him?" Mike's tone of voice softened a little bit.

Edith nodded. "I like him."

Mike scoffed at her answer. "What's there to like about him? He's a little older from you don't you think?"

"Five years age difference is not that large. I think it's just perfect," Edith said. "Grandfather, you always say that I'm a little childish. Isn't it good for me to be with someone mature than myself?"

Though Mike thought that what his granddaughter said was right, he was not going to agree to her immediately.

His granddaughter can be so reckless and always made him worry. But surprisingly, at this time, his little girl had a calm air around her. Mike wondered if this had anything to do with her relationship.

"Grandpa, you don't like Neil?" Edith asked cautiously.

"He was planning to take my granddaughter away from me. Why should I like him?"

Edith held his hand and leaned on his arm. "Grandpa, don't worry. You will always be the person I love most."

Mike chuckled at her words. There was a long silence in the room until Mike spoke again. "Did he treat you well?"

Edith nodded. "Un. Very well. Grandpa, Neil has always treated me well. Although he might seem a little cold towards others, he is very nice and warm to me."

Mike heaved a long sigh as he continued to listen to his granddaughter telling him how well that Neil had treated her. "You were only saying those words to assure me, right?"

"I would not lie to you about this. If he wasn't very nice to me, I would not take the initiative to chase him."

Mike looked at his granddaughter in disbelief. He did not expect that Edith was the one who chased after Neil. However, judging from her personality, Mike knew that she could chase after Neil. His granddaughter was really... a little gangster. She dared to go after someone as big as Neil Mo.

Seeing the way his granddaughter continuously stared at him with a pair of adorable eyes, Mike became helpless. He did not know where did his granddaughter learn to coax him with this technique, but it was working and his heart softened immediately.

Even though Mike was planning to play as the bad guy and tested his granddaughter, in the end, he was reluctant. Whenever their gaze met, Mike was unable to say the things that he wanted to say. He could not even pretend to be angry with her.

"Alright, stop looking at me like that," Mike said. "I was not going to stop you from dating that guy. As long as you like him and he can make you happy, I won't say anything. If he bullied you, you have to tell me. I'll teach him a lesson."

Edith smiled. "Grandpa, don't worry. It would not be an easy thing to bully me."

"Right. I always forgot that you're a little gangster," Mike said and laughed. He stretched his hand and pushed a strand of hair behind her ear. "I also hope that you can be with someone who can look after you. Your grandpa is already this old and I always worry what would happen to you if I suddenly leave."

"Grandpa, stop saying that, or I'll get angry with you." Edith looked at her grandfather in displeased. "You are going to live a long time. You still have to be around when I get married and see your great-grandchildren."

Mike's expression softened at her words.. But seconds later, a deep frown appeared. "I only agreed for you to date him, but you are already thinking about marriage and having children?"

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As the visiting hours ended, both Edith and Neil went back to their apartment. When they walked in, Hazel was waiting for them in the living room. On the table was the Gundam model kit that she had received during Alex's birthday.

Hazel was looking at the model parts with a serious look on her face. The moment she heard a movement from the door, Hazel looked up and a bright smile appeared on her face. "Uncle, Auntie Edith, you're home."

"Did you wait for us for a long time?" Edith asked. She walked over to the kitchen to wash her hand and turned to Hazel. "Have you eaten yet?"

Hazel nodded. "Nanny Ann make some porridge tonight. Auntie Edith, how is your grandpa? Is he alright?"

The last time Hazel came to Z Town, her relationship with Mike was pretty good. Hazel liked hanging around with Mike, and Mike had enough patience to play with her. Hazel could still remember Mike's kindness towards her and therefore, she was worried upon learning that the man was in an accident.

"My grandpa is alright. There are some bruises all over his body, but he will recover soon."

"Then, can I go and visit him with you tomorrow?" Hazel asked.

Edith glanced at Neil, who have just finished exchanging a few words with Nanny Ann, and saw him nodded.

"Alright. Let's go and visit him tomorrow after school is over," Edith said. "I'm sure my grandpa would be happy to see you."

Hearing that she was going to visit Mike tomorrow, Hazel smiled happily.

After accompanying Hazel for a while and tuck her into bed, Edith went back to the bedroom, took a shower, and laid on the bed to sleep.

Edith has been worrying about her grandfather and has been going out all day from the morning. Her fatigue came the moment her head hit the pillow. Her drowsiness kicked in and she soon fell asleep.

Feeling that an arm wrapped around her waist, Edith was jarred awake. Her breathing labored and she was staring at Neil with wide eyes as if panicking.

"Sorry. Did I wake you up?" Neil pulled her body closer to him and patted her hair to calm her.

After breathing in his scent for a while, her breathing gradually slowed down. She looked around the room and noticed that she was in their bedroom. "What time is it?" Edith asked.

"Almost two."

"Did you wrap up your business?"

Neil has been accompanying Edith all day to visit her grandfather at the hospital. The moment they came home, Neil stayed in his office to deal with some of the work matters.

"Don't worry." Neil rubbed her head. "Assistant Shawn had dealt with most of the business. I just need to recheck them." He then pecked at her forehead and held her tighter. "Sleep."

Neil closed his eyes and had a feeling as if being watched. Sure enough, when he opened his eyes again, Neil found that Edith was looking at him and her finger halted just a few centimeters away from his face.

"What are you doing?"

"Looking at you," Edith admitted.

Neil let out a chuckle, noticing that her eyes had grown bigger. It seemed that his silly woman was no longer sleepy because of him.

Edith buried her face in his chest and mumbled. "I can't sleep." Her heart might have calmed down, but Edith was unable to forget the dream she had before Neil had shown up and wake her up.

"Then, would you like to talk?"

Edith lowered her gaze and stayed silent as she was in deep thought. "I haven't mentioned to you about my parents, haven't I? Would you like to listen about them?"

Neil was surprised that Edith had wanted to talk about her parents at this time. At the thought that he had rarely heard her mentioning her parents before, Neil quickly agreed. "If you're willing to tell me about them, then, I am willing to listen."

Edith clenched her fist as the memories of her late mother came to her mind. "Well, you already know that my father passed away while I was still in my mother's belly. I don't know much about my father, but my mom would always talk about him." A soft hum escaped her as Edith tried to recall the words that her mother had said. "My mom said they met in Country C. My mom was the interpreter for my dad. They met and fell in love after spending their time together for a week."

"A week?"

"Do you think it's silly?" She watched him smile and continued, "We don't have a lot of pictures of him, but my mom said that my dad is very handsome. Mom used to say that I got my good look from my father. In fact, my mom fell for his look the first time she saw

him." Edith giggled. She tilted her head sideways and continued to smile at Neil. "Do you think that I am a lot like my mom? After all, I did fell for your good look."

Neil chuckled and leaned down to kiss her cheek. His girlfriend had praised his look and he was happy with it.

"They got a marriage certificate after dating for a few months and my mom immediately got pregnant with me," Edith continued. "A few months after that, my dad passed away. They didn't know that he was ill."

His gaze softened as Neil continued to listen to her, telling what she knew about her father.

"My mom passed away when I was eight years old," Edith said. "At that time, my mom went over to the city as she had a job as an interpreter. She left me with my grandfather because I still have to go to school. My mom said that she was going to pick me up after a few days, but she did not show up."

There was a long silence between them before Edith spoke again.

"I still remember coming back home and my grandfather said that my mother was no longer around. They said that she was involved in an accident. It was a rainy night and the driver did not see her crossing the street." There was a brief silence before Edith spoke again. "I heard she died on the spot."

Neil tightened his embrace on her body as he heard her tone. "You don't have to tell me if you are uncomfortable with it."

"Just now, I had a dream about my mom."

Neil paused, remembering the panic look in her eyes the moment she woke up. "What did you dreamed about?"

A frown appeared on her face as she tried to recall her dream. It was a memory from her childhood, but she could not remember what it was.

"I don't remember." Edith buried her face on his chest and took a deep breath. The tears on her eyes seeped into his shirt.. "But it was sad."

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Mike read the information that James handed to him a while ago silently. His face turned ugly the longer he read the information. The hand that was holding the stack of paper tightened.

Seeing the anger on his friend's face, James grew anxious.

If it was up to him, he really did not want to bring those documents and let Mike read them at this time, but Mike was persistent to read them.

The two of them had an accident a few days ago and Mike was still in recovery. James was worried that seeing what was on the report would drive Mike mad with anger and then, it will affect his health.

"Old Qian," James called. He looked at the way the papers were crumpled in Mike's hand and sighed helplessly.

James's voice snapped Mike out of his thought and gradually, his hand that was tightening on the documents loosened.

"You are still a patient. Let's not get worked up." James hesitated and asked, "Should I call the doctor to check on you?"

"No need." Mike took a deep shaky breath and turned to look at his friend. "I'm fine," he assured. His gaze stopped at the papers again. "The thing that they find out about Rachel... is everything true?"

"We already confirmed that Rachel was working with that man as an interpreter," James said. "There was a high chance that that man was the person we were looking for."

Mike closed his eyes and looked away. His lips trembled as he tried his best to suppressed his anger. However, that move turned his nose sour and his eyes stung a little bit.

Rachel was his and his late wife's precious daughter. However, she did not get to live very long and had met her end in a tragedy.

Every time he recalled the moment he saw his daughter's body in the morgue, Mike was not able to control his sadness as well as his anger. His daughter's body was broken everywhere and there were a lot of bruises. The autopsy proved that the impact from the car was too hard. Her head hit hard on the ground and she was bleeding everywhere.

The driver realized that he had hit a person and run away.

His daughter would not continue to live even if the driver turned around and take her to the hospital. However, the thought that Rachel had to lay down on the hard ground with

the rain pouring on her body made him sad. His daughter was left to die alone and cold...

Then, Mike saw something on the autopsy report that made his blood boil...

"What are you planning to do now?" James asked.

Mike bit the inside of his mouth hard. The pain, as well as the taste of blood in his mouth, seemed to turn him sober again. "Of course, we have to continue and keep our eyes on that person."

James hesitated. "But that person... he is not something that we can afford to offend. Even if we get all the evidence of his wrongdoing, there was still a big chance that we could never do anything."

"We have been looking for this man for years. I don't want to waste this chance to get my daughter the justice that she deserved. We cannot give him a chance to escape," Mike said. "James, I don't care what power or influential support he has. I will give everything I got to fight him. I just wanted him behind bars."

James thought about his friend's words for a long time and heaved a long sigh. "I know. I will remind the others to be careful and not to make a mistake."

...

After school hours ended, Edith went over to the hospital with Hazel to visit her grandfather. The little girl held on her auntie's hand tightly and wore a serious expression on her face.

Actually, Hazel did not like coming over to the hospital.

The smell of disinfection brought her unpleasant memories from a few months ago. Her parents were in a car accident and they passed away after staying in the hospital for a few days.

Although this place brought her unpleasant memories, Hazel still wanted to come over.

Once she heard that her auntie's grandfather got into an accident, Hazel was worried. Even though both her uncle and Auntie Edith had asked her repeatedly whether she was sure that she wanted to come over to the hospital, Hazel was determined.

Hazel recalled the great-grandpa's kindness towards her and wanted to make sure that he was really alright.

Once they arrived, Edith knocked on the door and pushed the door to get in.

The moment Mike saw the little girl beside his granddaughter, his mood changed and there was an apparent joy on his expression.

"Oh my, isn't this is our little princess?"

Hazel flashed him a bright smile. "Great-grandpa, you remember me."

"Of course I would remember you. Who would forget an adorable little princess like you?" Mike waved his hand and pointed towards the chair beside him. "Little princess, have a seat. What are you doing here?" He turned to his granddaughter and frowned. "Why did you bring the little girl here. A hospital is not a good place for her."

"Great-grandpa, Auntie Edith had persuaded me not to come, but I told her that I wanted to come. I heard from my uncle and auntie that you got into an accident. I worry about you and would not be at ease until I see you," Hazel said. "Great-grandpa don't be angry at Auntie Edith, alright?"

Mike listened to the little girl's words and was happy to know that Hazel was thinking about him. However, his expression changed again when he realized the way Hazel had addressed his granddaughter.

She used to call his granddaughter Teacher Qian. When did she start to change it and call her Auntie Edith?

Suddenly, Mike started to wonder if his granddaughter's progress with Neil had gone farther than he thought.

Mike spent his time chatting with Hazel and play around with her. Slowly, the unpleasant mood from his conversation with James that morning disappeared. He accompanied Hazel to do her homework and noticed the strange way his granddaughter was staring at him.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

Edith glanced at Hazel who was writing something in her book and spoke in a low voice. "Grandpa, I had a dream about my mom last night."

Mike's eyes turned sad, but he quickly rearranged his mood. "What did you dream about?"

Edith shook her head. "I don't remember much, but I know that it was something sad. I just thought that perhaps hearing that you were in a car accident triggered an unpleasant memory."

Hearing her words, Mike felt a little guilty. He heaved a long sigh and patted at his granddaughter's shoulder.. "Don't think too much about it. Wasn't it just a dream?"

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After spending a week in the hospital, Mike's injuries got better. As the doctor had checked that his body was fit enough to leave, Edith dealt with the discharge procedure and decided to send her grandfather back to Z Town.

On the weekend, Mike followed his granddaughter and was surprised to see that the little princess was waiting for him downstairs. His lips turned into a smile and Mike picked up his pace to go over.

"Great-grandpa!" Hazel called with her soft, adorable voice. As they were at a public place, Hazel did not dare to run around from her uncle and had stayed close to him.

"Isn't this is my little princess? Why are you here?"

Every time he saw Hazel, Mike felt a little happier. Perhaps because of his old age, Mike found that he enjoyed being in the company of small children like Hazel. Moreover, the little girl was very obedient, adorable, and did not mind spending her time with an old man like him.

"Great-grandpa, I come to accompany you back to Z Town."

Mike lifted his head and noticed that Neil was standing beside his niece.

It was at this time that Mike realized that Neil had volunteered to drive him back to Z Town. At the thought that he was going to spend a few hours with his granddaughter's boyfriend, Mike felt a little uncomfortable.

However, with his condition, his granddaughter will not allow him to go back on his own. Because he did not want to make his granddaughter worry too much, Mike could only swallow and chose not to say a thing.

He followed Edith to the vehicle and hopped into the back seat.

Fortunately, with the little girl accompanying him in the car, Mike did not think that the atmosphere was too strange. Hazel's chattering voice liven up the mood and the one and a half hour journey did not feel too long to him.

After pestering the great-grandfather beside her, Hazel finally fell asleep with her head leaning on Mike's arm.

Seeing Hazel's sleeping face, Mike's felt his heart grew soft and he was reminded of his granddaughter when she was very young. Before Edith lost her mother, didn't she always acted spoiled around him?

Once they reached Z Town, Neil drove to Mike's house and helped to carry their stuff inside. Because he had told James that he was going to return to Z Town, his friend had helped to find someone to clean up his house before they returned.

As soon as they arrived, Edith helped her grandfather into the room and went into the kitchen to cook something.

Neil watched as Hazel took out a book to read and walked into the kitchen to see his girlfriend. He leaned his body on the kitchen counter and watched as Edith prepared a pot of porridge.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Edith lowered her gaze. "Don't make trouble. My grandfather is sleeping next door."

Neil let out a chuckle. "I just came here to accompany you. What trouble can I make?"

Edith lifted her head to look at him, narrowed her eyes, and thought that she shouldn't really trust his words.

Just as she had thought, the man sneakily leaned forward and pecked at her lips. As if it was not enough, Neil took advantage of her dazed expression and leaned in for another kiss.

When she finally came to her senses, Edith took a step back, scanned at her surroundings, and heaved a breath of relief.

She was worried that her grandfather was going to come out of the room and saw them kissing. It would be embarrassing and Edith would not know how to look at her grandfather's face.

Fortunately, there was no one around.

She shot a dagger look at Neil and spoke, "And you said you were not going to stir some trouble."

Neil let out a laugh upon seeing her expression. Knowing that she would be mad if he continued to tease her, Neil could only suppress his desire to kiss her again.

They have sat together in the car for more than an hour and he was not allowed to touch her hand even if he wanted to. Even though her grandfather had given them his green light, Edith was too shy to act intimately with her boyfriend with her grandfather's presence.

"Are you going to stay here for a meal before you head back to your parents'?" Edith asked.

Neil nodded. "I'll accompany you to eat before we left."

Anyway, he had long noticed that Edith had added his and Hazel's portion when she started to cook. Knowing her intention, it doesn't feel right to leave right away. Moreover, he just wanted to accompany his girlfriend for a little while longer.

"What are you doing this evening?" Neil asked after a brief silence between them.

"Of course, I'm going to stay home and accompany my grandfather," Edith replied. "Why?"

Neil stared at her face for a while and spoke, "Can you come out?"

"Where do you want to take me to?"

"To meet my parents." The corner of his lips turned up when he saw the surprise on her face. "We have already told your grandfather about us. I wanted to bring you to my parents and tell them about us."

Her heart began to race and she was panicked. Although Edith knew that she would meet Neil's parents sooner or later and be introduced as his girlfriend, she still thought that it was too sudden.

They mainly return to Z Town to send her grandfather back and she was not expecting that she was going to meet Neil's parents as his girlfriend this quick. Edith had always thought that Neil would wait for a while longer.

"You don't want to come and meet them?"

Edith met his gaze and under his warm gaze, her heart was suddenly calmed. "It's not that. You didn't tell me this plan earlier and now I'm worried."

A deep laugh escaped him. "What are you worried about?"

"I'm a little unprepared. God. I don't even have anything proper to wear to meet your parents. If you mentioned this to me earlier, I would have brought nicer clothes."

"Just dress up like you usually do. There won't be anyone else other than my parents at home. My parents had met you before and they wouldn't mind your dressing. Anyway, they have met you before." Seeing that she was quiet, Neil lowered his body to meet her gaze. "So, should I pick you up and have dinner with my parents tonight?"

Edith bit her lips as she contemplated.. After a while, she lifted her head and nodded.

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Sophie and Lucas both had a very bright smile on their face when they saw their granddaughter entered the house. The grandparents ushered her in and asked her a series of questions before Sophie finally turned to her son.

"Why did you decided to return?" Sophie asked.

It was the weekend and it was a little strange to see her son and granddaughter coming over. Her son was usually busy with his work and her granddaughter had school. Although the distance between Z Town and L City was not that far, it was strange for Neil to come back when it was not even the school holidays.

"Mom, do you have time tonight?" Neil replied with another question.

Sophie looked at her son in puzzled. "What do you plan to do?"

"I'm going to bring over your daughter-in-law to let you and dad see."

Sophie's eyes went wide and she exchanged a glance with her husband, wondering if she had not misheard things. Although she had heard from her friend, Headmistress Fu, that she had caught her son kissing the kindergarten teacher at the school entrance, Sophie did not think that her son would take Edith to see them so soon.

"You're dating?" Lucas asked.

Neil replied with a soft hum.

"Who is it? Was it someone we know?" Sophie decided to play ignorance.

Neil pursed his lips and answered. "It's Edith Qian."

A bright smile appeared on Sophie's face. She exchanged another look with her husband and could no longer hide her excitement. "Teacher Qian? Sure. We have time. I'm going to ask the aunties to help prepare a meal."

...

Neil came to pick up his girlfriend in the evening a little earlier than he had promised. The corner of his lips tilted up when he saw his girlfriend walked over. Although her dressing was almost the same as everywhere, he could still see that she had spent some time dressing up.

He watched as Edith hopped on to the vehicle and stared at her for a few seconds longer.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Edith looked at the man beside him and was suddenly uneasy. She bit at her lips and wondered if she had messed up her make up. It was an important date and she was going to see Neil's parents. The way he was staring at her only made her anxiety grow.

"You look beautiful tonight."

Their surroundings were quiet and there were only the two of them in the vehicle. Because Neil had spoken in a low tone, making his voice sounded a little deep.

Her heart skipped a beat and Edith quickly looked away from his penetrating gaze. She was very tense to meet his parents, and this man was flirting with her.

The corner of his lips turned up, sensing that her anxiousness had toned down. Neil leaned forward to help Edith with her seat belt and pecked at the corner of her lips. When he pulled away, the woman was staring at him with a dazed expression.

He turned and was about to start driving when he saw the bags that she had brought with her earlier.

"What did you bring along?"

"Just some stuff for your parents." Edith lowered her head, feeling a little depressed. It was after Neil and Hazel had left the house that she started to remember that she had not brought anything for Neil's parents.

In the end, she decided to go to the town to buy a few stuff for them. But after walking around for a while, Edith realized that she did not know what did his parents liked.

"You don't need to bring anything for them," Neil said. "Just coming over with me as my girlfriend would be enough to make my parents happy."

"I don't feel comfortable coming over with an empty hand," Edith admitted. A long sigh escaped her as Neil started to drive.

Neil glanced at his girlfriend. "Don't worry too much. My parents would like anything you give them. They are not difficult people to get along with."

Edith took a deep breath and decided to trust his words at this time.

As the SUV pulled over, Edith clenched her fist as if to gather her courage. She had visited the big house a few months ago, but coming over at this time, Edith had thought that the house was bigger than the first time she had seen it.

"Are you ready?" Neil asked.

Edith turned her head to look at him and noticed that Neil had stretched his hand towards her. His gaze on her was gentle, and the smile on his face told her that she could trust him.

Without hesitation, Edith held his hand and entwined their fingers. His grip on her hands was firm and steady. It was as if he was trying to channel her courage to her.

After setting her mindset that she should not think too much and just go with it, Edith was more relaxed.

The couple walked over to the door and an auntie came over to greet them at the door.

As soon as Edith entered, Hazel ran over to them with a bright smile on her face. "Auntie Edith! You're here!" Turning around, Hazel went to find her grandparents. "Grandpa, Grandma! Auntie Edith is here!"

A few seconds later, Sophie walked out of the kitchen and her lips curled into a friendly smile when she saw the couple stood together. "You're here."

She had always thought that Edith would be suitable for her son, but looking at them standing side by side, Sophie thought that the two of them matched well together.

Suddenly, Sophie was proud of her great sight.

"Mrs. Mo." Edith greeted.

"Why are you still calling me Mrs. Mo? You are together with my son. Just call me auntie."

Edith saw the expectant look on Sophie's face and suddenly became timid. "A-Auntie."

The smile on Sophie's face widened, turning her eyes crescent.

Although she was very excited at this moment, Sophie had tried her best to control her behavior. "Come in and sit down. Don't be shy. This is not the first time you come over to our place."

At this time, the auntie walked in carrying the bags that Edith had brought with her.

Sophie heaved a breath, hearing that Edith had brought some gift for them. "You don't have to bring anything for us. It's enough that you can come here with Neil."

Edith glanced at her boyfriend and saw a smug look on his face. She sat down on the sofa and Hazel came over quickly beside her.

"Why are you here?" Sophie asked when he saw that her son was still around. "Go and call your dad. We're going to have dinner soon."

Neil looked at Edith and finally left to find his father after seeing that his girlfriend would be alright.

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Edith watched as Neil disappeared from her eyesight and took a deep breath to calm down. As if realizing that someone was staring at her, Edith turned her left and saw that Hazel was staring at her, unblinking.

"What's wrong?" Edith asked.

"Auntie Edith," Hazel called her in a whisper. "You look pretty today."

Edith paused before her lips curled into a smile. "Then what about the other day? Am I not pretty as well?"

"Pretty. But today you're prettier." Hazel continued to look at Edith and wonder why does her auntie look a bit different.

After exchanging a few playful words with Hazel, Edith gradually relaxed. When she looked up and found that Sophie was staring at her, Edith was no longer as tense.

Hazel leaned forward and whispered, "Auntie Edith, my grandma is very nice. You don't have to be scared. My uncle said I can stay and protect you. With me around, Grandma will listen to me."

Edith laughed and patted at Hazel's hair. At this time, this little girl was her biggest supporter.

"What were you whispering about?" Sophie looked at her granddaughter.

Hazel brought a finger to her lips. "Grandma, I cannot tell you. It's a secret."

Sophie narrowed her eyes to her granddaughter, but soon, her lips turned to a smile. She turned to Edith and spoke, "Don't be too tense. It isn't like this is our first meeting."

Although she was very happy to finally see her future daughter-in-law, Sophie had to remind herself to be low key. She did not want to make Edith uncomfortable or awkward.

"The last time we saw each other, I was not Neil's girlfriend."

"Whether you are his girlfriend or not, you are still Edith Qian," Sophie said. "My husband and I would not change our opinion towards you just because you are now dating Neil. I like you as Hazel's teacher, and I will like you as Neil's girlfriend."

The two of them had spent a lot of time together the last time Sophie and her husband stayed in L City for more than a week.

Sophie had watched the way Edith interacted with both Neil and Hazel was satisfied with it. She thought that Edith would be a good fit for her iceblock son and was happy when she heard that the two of them got together.

However, knowing their difference in status, Sophie was still worried that Edith would not have the confidence to stay with Neil and stood by his side.

The last time, her husband had said that Edith was someone who can adapt to any situation well.

If Edith wanted to continue to stay by Neil's side, she needed to have the confidence that she was good enough and adapt to the situation well. For some people, this can be a little hard to do. There were temptations and sometimes, a person can go astray.

Now that Neil had brought Edith over as his girlfriend, Sophie thought that there were a few things that she should tell Edith. As Sophie continued to look at Edith, her instinct told her that the girl in front of her will do well if she decided to continue and stay with her son.

A small smile appeared on her lips as Edith continued to listen to Sophie's words.

"You are not worried that I am dating Neil?" Edith could not help but ask.

From Sophie's words, Edith was able to tell that the elder woman was giving her the warning to let her be prepared for whatever situation that will come to her in the future.

"Of course not. I have taught my son well and knew that he is wise enough to make whatever decision. Since he decided to date you, of course, I will give the two of you my blessings," Sophie said. "Moreover, I have confidence that the two of you can accommodate each other well to stay together."

Edith looked at Sophie in surprise. She was not expecting that Sophie would have confidence in them when she would sometimes doubt whether they could adapt together well.

As Edith continued to stare at Sophie in a daze, Hazel stood up beside her and called out. "Grandpa, uncle!"

Edith looked up and saw that Neil was staring back at her with an inquiring gaze. He walked over to her side and gave her a look over. "Are you alright?" His voice was a whisper.

Feeling his warm hands against hers, Edith snapped out of her trance and smiled. "Why wouldn't I be alright?"

Seeing the smile on her face, Neil was relieved. He held her hand firmly as if telling her that everything would be alright with him by her side.

"Edith, you're here," Lucas spoke when he arrived.

"Uncle," Edith greeted and saw the elder man's lips turned into a smile.

"I heard from Neil that your grandfather was in an accident, how is he doing?" Lucas asked.

"He had recovered well. My grandfather could not wait to get out of the hospital and return to Z Town," Edith said. "Every time I came to visit him at the hospital, he would always talk about going on a fishing trip."

Lucas laughed. "That's it. Us men could not sit still and always wanted to keep ourselves busy." He saw the way his wife was glaring at him and coughed.

"You and Neil are together now?" Lucas asked. He heard Edith replied and nodded. "That's good. Alright. Let's go and have our dinner before the food gets cold."

After Sophie and Lucas moved to Z Town, they did not receive a lot of guests as Lucas wanted to focus on his recuperation. Now that Neil had brought Edith home, the atmosphere became lively and they had their dinner merrily.

Once dinner was over, Sophie took Edith to the side and continued to chat with her a little more. Staying in Z Town, Sophie did not have a lot of friends to talk to, and therefore, she was happy to talk to Edith about a lot of things. It was not until Neil came over and told them that he needed to send Edith home that Sophie let her leave.

As Edith Grandpa was alone at home and had just recovered from his injuries, it would not be appropriate for them to ask Edith to spend the night.

Neil pulled over his SUV at Mike's place and turned off the light.

"Are you still worried now?"

Edith knew well that Neil was asking whether she was worried whether his mother would object to their relationship.

Neil watched as Edith shook her head and smiled. "What did you and my mother talk about when I went away?"

"A lot of things," Edith said. "Mostly about what I need to prepare to face if I wanted to stay with you."

There was a slight fluctuation in Neil's expression. "Are you scared?"

Although Neil knew well that his mother meant well by telling Edith those things, Neil was worried that they would scare Edith.

Edith reached to hold Neil's hand and kissed his cheek. "With you around, why would I be scared?"

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Neil spent most of his time cooped up in the office after they returned from Z Town.

While Mike was recuperating in L City, Neil made time to accompany Edith to the hospital and look after her grandfather. Now that Mike has returned to Z Town, Neil turned his focus on his piling workloads.

After Jamie had returned, Neil had assigned her to sneak into the Accounting Department to find out evidence that someone was messing up with the accounts. With Henry's help, he found a few people that he could trust and send them over to various departments as spies.

Now that Neil had decided to work together with The Rainmaker's blogger, Charles Tang, Neil had some clues at which directors and shareholders were involved in embezzling the company's money.

All they have to do now was to find the evidence quickly before his enemy figure out what he was going to do and destroy whatever hard work he had made.

As Neil busy with his work and would not go home for dinner, Edith took the opportunity to pester Lily and had their meals together.

As soon as Edith and Hazel entered the house, Alex greeted Edith at the door and pulled Hazel to his playroom so that he can show off a new model that he had build with his father a few days ago.

Edith watched the two kids retreating and heaved a sigh. Until this time, Edith found it hard to believe that Alex had influenced Hazel to like building models so much.

After receiving a model on Alex's birthday, Hazel's interest in building the model peaked. A few days ago, Edith overheard Hazel's conversation with her grandparents and heard her mentioning wanting one of those models for her upcoming birthday.

Edith walked into the dining area and watched as Lily prepared some dishes.

As Lily was currently pregnant, the food she made this time was light and non-spicy. Looking at the friend's glowing face, Edith was relieved that her friend's pregnancy reaction was not that bad as the time she was pregnant with Alex.

"How is your grandpa?" Lily asked as they sat down at the dining table.

Edith heaved a long sigh when she recalled her grandfather. "He's doing good. I asked Aaron's mother to keep her eyes on him and she told me that my grandfather has been running around with her Grandpa George these days."

"Going fishing again?"

"Fortunately no." Edith watched as Alex took some chunks of carrot from Hazel's bowl and ate them. A chuckle escaped her, knowing that although Hazel was not picky with her food, she did not like carrots that much.

"Grandpa said that he was bored staying at home and Grandpa George took him to play mahjong with a few friends," Edith said. She lowered her head and frowned. She did not know why, but Edith always had this feeling as if her grandfather was lying to her.

She did not know what her grandfather was up to, but she had a feeling that whatever her grandfather was doing was not playing mahjong with his friends.

Edith was worried about what her grandfather was up to, but could not do anything to keep her eyes on him.

If Aaron was in Z Town, she could at least ask him to look over her grandfather. However, Alex has been staying in L City for months to assist the team is investigating a serial murder.

It has been a while and the police haven't caught the person who was responsible for Amanda and the few girls' murders. The public was still worried, but these days people did not talk about the murder as much as they used to, and instead, most people would be talking about the shift in politics in the city.

After chatting with Lily for a while, Edith finally left her place and headed back to their apartment.

When both of them arrived, Neil has still not returned.

Edith accompanied Hazel until she was asleep before she went back to the bedroom. As she walked out of the bathroom, Neil entered the bedroom with a tired look on his face.

"You're home." Edith walked over and helped him with his coat. "It's late. Go and take your shower and rest early."

Neil replied with a soft hum, pecked at her lips, and entered the bathroom with his pajama.

Edith watched his retreating back and heaved a sigh, knowing that he was busy with his work this recently. After hanging his coat, Edith slipped into the bed. Though she was planning to wait for Neil, Edith soon fell asleep.

After a while, the side of the bed sunk and Edith felt a warm hand draped around her waist before she was pulled into a warm embrace. Feeling slightly ticklish on her neck area, Edith opened her eyes and frowned at the man in front of her.

Edith put a hand on his chest and gave him a gentle push. "What are you doing?"

The man blinked his eyes innocently and answered, "Giving you a good night kiss and hugging you to sleep."

Edith stared at Neil speechlessly. The two of them have been together for a while and he was aware that she would easily get ticklish around her neck area. What good night kiss?

Seeing her dazed expression, Neil leaned to kiss her forehead and speak, "You don't have classes tomorrow, right?"

"Hmm." Edith buried her face to his chest and inhaled his scent.

Her French class officially ended last week, and Edith was still contemplating whether she wanted to join the next class into another level.

"Let's go out somewhere with Hazel."

Edith pulled back and stared at Neil. "Aren't you busy with work?"

"I have to attend a banquet tomorrow evening. It will be held at a resort. I'm thinking about taking both you and Hazel with me," Neil said. "I haven't been spending a lot of time with you and Hazel recently. What am I going to do if my girlfriend gets upset if I neglected her for too long?"

"Do I look like such a person?"

A deep chuckle escaped him as his hand subconsciously moved to caress her body. "Come with me, alright? We'll spend a night there and return the next morning."

Her heart grew soft as she looked at his tired face.. At the thought that a short break from work would be good for him, Edith quickly agreed.

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After an hour of journey, the three of them arrived at the resort.

Hazel looked around the place and was excited upon seeing the thin layer of snow on the ground.

Earlier that morning, her uncle had told her that they were going to a resort to play. As the temperature was lower in this area, Hazel had to wear thick clothing. Even so, Hazel thought that it was still a little cold.

A smile curled on Neil's face when he saw his niece eyeing their surroundings with her wide eyes. "Do you like this place?"

Hazel turned and nodded enthusiastically. She had heard from her uncle that there might be snow, but Hazel did not think that she would get to see a thin layer of snow when they arrived.

L City has turned colder in winter, but the temperature was not as cold as this place.

"Then let's go inside and put our stuff. Then, we can go out and walk around," Neil said.

Hazel nodded. She took Edith's hand and the two walked towards the resort with her uncle following behind. Once the check-in procedure was done, they went into the suite and Hazel started to run around to look at the surroundings.

Satisfied with how her bedroom looked like, Hazel then went to find her auntie in the living area.

"Did you look at your room?" Edith asked.

Hazel nodded. "Un. Auntie Edith, will you be sleeping with me tonight?"

The last time the three of them went to Capital City, Hazel was supposed to share her room with Edith, but as the night comes, her uncle had kidnapped her auntie away. Hazel woke up the next morning finding that she had slept alone.

"Do you want me to sleep with you tonight?" Edith asked.

Neil, who was speaking on the phone with his assistant, heard the girls' conversation and became unhappy. Though he would be unhappy if Edith would choose to accompany his niece, he would not fight Hazel about such matters.

Hazel pondered over the question and her gaze fell on her uncle's silhouette. Noticing the way her uncle was looking at her, Hazel quickly shook her head. "No. It's okay. I'm a big girl and I can sleep alone."

Hearing her answer, Neil let out a breath of relief before he walked away to continue his conversation with Assistant Shawn.

Edith patted the little girl on her hair. "Well, your uncle will be going to a banquet tonight. I can accompany you to sleep until he comes back, is that alright?"

"You're not going with my uncle?"

The last time they went to Capital City, her uncle and auntie left to attend a banquet together and Hazel had to stay with Uncle Shawn. She had thought that this time, it would be the same.

"Well, I'm staying with you. Let's have fun together later, alright?"

Hazel nodded happily. She ran towards the window and stayed there to enjoy the scenery. Once her uncle returned, the three of them went out and walked around the resort.

Living in L City, they were surrounded by tall concrete buildings and such. Now that they were at the resort, the three of them walked around and to enjoy the fresh air and the beautiful scene of nature.

Around them was the beautiful view of mountain scenery. The tall greenery trees, as well as the winter flowers, looked very pretty with the white snow around.

Once they walked and played enough, Neil brought them to a cafe for lunch. The food in the cafe tasted even better as they were accompanied by a pretty view.

Hazel was eating her strawberry cream cake happily when she noticed a familiar figure standing not far away from them. Her expression turned sour when Hazel saw that woman walked over to their table.

"President Mo," Autumn Feng greeted happily as she approached them. She shot a displeased look at Edith and turned to Neil with a bright smile. "President Mo, are you attending tonight's banquet as well?"

Neil shot her an unhappy gaze. "Why are you here?"

He was pretty sure that he had sent this girl far away to attend a seminar for a month. Has it been a month already?

Autumn lowered her gaze and smiled shyly. "President Mo, I came to accompany my father to the banquet tonight. I saw you here and thought that I should say hi. Perhaps we can discuss what I have learned from the seminar."

Neil shot her a dangerous look. "Miss Feng right now is my personal time with my family. I would appreciate it if you don't disturb me at this time under the pretense of discussing works."

His voice was cold, and Autumn was embarrassed as she felt as if everyone in the restaurant was looking at her. Her lips curled into an awkward smile and Autumn left after apologizing to them.

Neil heaved a long breath when he saw that Autumn had left. When he looked up again, Neil was startled upon seeing the way his girlfriend was smiling at him. "Why are you looking at me like that?"

"It seemed that Miss Feng will be attending the banquet tonight. Should I be worried?"

Neil smiled when he sensed the jealousy in her tone. "Then, do you want to come with me?"

"As your bodyguard?"

"No. You can be my plus one."

Edith studied his face and lowered her gaze. "No. I promised that I'm going to accompany Hazel tonight."

The little girl looked up when she heard her name, but had no idea why the grownups were mentioning her at this time.

Edith continued to eat her meal and paused when a warm palm covered her hand. She looked up and was surprised to see Neil's worried face. Edith let out a chuckle and said, "Stop thinking too much. I trust that you will be able to protect yourself well. You come over for work and I am not going to be a nuisance."

"You will never be a nuisance." Neil held her hand tighter.

Seeing the smile on Edith's face and knew that his girlfriend's mood was not affected, Neil let out a breath of relief.

As they were waiting for Hazel to finish her cake, Edith stood up and headed towards the restroom.

She was washing her hands at the sink when she noticed that Autumn Feng was standing behind her with an angry look in her eyes.

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"Miss Qian, we need to talk," Autumn spoke as she walked over.

"I don't think we have anything in common to talk about." Seeing that Autumn was trying to block her path, Edith ducked, spun around, and the next second, she had gone to the other side successfully.

Autumn turned around with a puzzled look on her face. "How did you?"

Edith gave her a wink, turned around to leave the restroom. Just as she stepped into the corridor, Edith noticed that when Autumn walked over and tried to pull her hand. Sensing that Autumn was approaching, Edith dodged to a side and Autumn could only grab at the air.

The last time Autumn had tried to pull this move, she had almost fallen flat on her face and Edith had moved in time to prevent the accident.

However, this time, Autumn was not too lucky. Edith made no intention to help her again and soon, Autumn stumbled and knocked her shoulder on the wall. The impact was a bit too hard and Autumn moaned in pain. She tried to take a step and found that her ankle was sprained.

"Miss Feng, it was never a good idea to suddenly grab another person," Edith tilted her head sideways and continued, "I did remind you to be careful. With that high heel, it was easy for you to get into an accident."

Autumn leaned on the wall and pointed her finger to Edith. "You pushed me!"

Edith crossed her arms on her chest. "If we asked the security to look into the footage from the camera behind you, we will know what really happened."

Autumn turned around slowly and her face paled upon seeing the CCTV.

She was not expecting that there will be a camera in the corridor. From the position of the security camera, their exchange would be clearly visible. Even if she wanted to accuse that Edith was the one who caused her injuries, it was not going to work.

Autumn gritted her teeth when she saw that Edith was going to leave again. "Stop right there." Autumn limped forward. "Miss Qian, do you think you are suitable for President Mo? Let me tell you this, he was only playing with you. A man like President Mo would not marry someone like you."

Edith sneered and turned around. "Then, who will be suitable for him? You?" Her lips curled into a smile that did not reach her eyes. "You like President Mo, don't you?"

Her face turned slightly pink with embarrassment. Autumn did not expect Edith to suddenly point that question to her. Although she did like Neil, Autumn had never said them out loud.

Autumn quickly composed herself. "At least someone like me is compatible with President Mo. Do you know who my father is? He's one of the directors in MH Group and one of the biggest shareholders. If President Mo stayed with me, my dad can help him and the company to grow further."

"Then, maybe President Mo should marry your dad instead."

Autumn found out that talking to Edith could be very frustrating. Everything that came out from the woman's mouth was able to make her blood boil. No one she knew dared to talk to her like this.

"Anyway, Miss Qian, you need to wake up and realized that you are not compatible with him."

"Who said that I am not compatible with him?"

Autumn chuckled. "Miss Qian, you must be dreaming. In which aspect did you think you are compatible with someone like President Neil Mo?"

Edith stood up straight and suddenly, her lips curled into a mischievous smile. She leaned forward and whispered. "At least in bed, we are very compatible."

Autumn clutched at her heart. Her face grew red from both embarrassment and anger. She pointed her finger at Edith again and said, "You shameless woman!"

"Well, President Mo happened to like this shameless woman." Edith turned around and noticed that both Neil and Hazel had appeared. "Why are you here?"

"You were gone for too long and we were worried," Neil said. He shifted his gaze to the person who stood not far away from Edith and his expression grew darker upon noticing that it was Autumn.

It was not hard for someone like him to figure out that Autumn Feng had come to find Edith to provoke her. Although Neil did not know what happened, at least, from the expression on both women's faces, Neil could guess that his woman was not easily bullied.

"I'm fine," Edith flashed him a smile. "Just ran into a fly."

Hazel heard her words and was suddenly curious. "Auntie Edith, you ran into a fly?"

"Un." Edith nodded. "It took me some time to drive away that fly."

Hazel looked around as if worried that the fly was going to follow after her. "Is it gone?"

"Don't worry. That fly would not follow after us." Edith stretched her hand to Hazel and spoke, "Come on, let's return to our room. It's time for you to take a nap."

Once they returned to their suite, Edith accompanied Hazel to take a nap in her room while Neil was working in front of his laptop. After the little girl had fallen asleep, Edith walked out of the room and sat in the living area to watch some show on the television.

A while later, Neil sat down beside Edith, wrapped his arms around her shoulders, and let her head lean on his chest. "What did Autumn Feng said to you earlier?"

Edith pulled away from his embrace and stared at Neil's face for a few seconds longer, making the man anxious.

Seeing the strange way that Edith was looking at him, Neil was suddenly worried that Autumn might have sprouted some nonsense to his girlfriend and made her upset.

After she had looked enough at Neil's handsome face, a smile suddenly curled on her lips. "Miss Feng think that I am not compatible with you. She said someone like you would need someone influential to be your wife."

Neil's face turned dark with anger. "Don't listen to that woman's nonsense."

Edith put her finger on his lips, motioning him not to speak. "I know. I am not going to believe a stranger's words. You told me that I am good enough for you and I will choose to believe your words."

Neil heaved a breath of relief upon hearing her words.

"But, darling." Edith paused as she traced her fingers at the shape of his lips. She gave him a mischievous look and asked, "Do you want to know what I told her later?"

"What?"

"I told Miss Feng that we are very compatible." She inched closer to his ear to whisper a few words. When she pulled away, Edith could see the way his eyes slowly darkened with desire.

"Well then, Miss Qian." His voice was hoarse. "Should we try and check our compatibility again?"

Edith put a hand on his chest and blinked innocently.. "Don't you have to get ready for that banquet this evening?" The smile on her face widened as his face turned darker.

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Neil slid into his suit and turned around to look at the woman who was lying lazily on the bed. His eyes narrowed and his throat rolled when he saw the way her legs crossed. At this time, his girlfriend was wearing a large T-shirt and her long, white legs were exposed as if tempting him to caress them.

Sensing that he was looking at her, Edith flashed him a seductive smile before she stood up and walked over. Once she stopped in front of him, Edith looked at the shirt Neil was wearing and recognized it as the one she had bought for him previously. Edith tiptoed to adjust Neil's collar and patted at his shoulder when she was done.

She gave him a look over and smiled. "Very handsome."

Neil wrapped his arms around her waist and lowered his head. His eyes darkened as their nose touched. "Are you sure you didn't want to come with me?"

"What about Hazel?"

"We'll take her along."

Edith laughed. "President Mo, weren't you attending this banquet to discuss business? Why do you want to take your girlfriend and your five years old niece with you? Your business partners will laugh at you."

"I don't mind. Let them laugh."

Edith narrowed her eyes. "What are you trying to do?"

"Somebody has been trying to lit up the fire, and now, I can't take my eyes off her." Neil let out a sigh. "What if this person is going to cause trouble when I wasn't looking?"

"When did I ever cause trouble when you weren't looking?" Edith blinked her eyes innocently and whispered. "I only cause trouble when there's only two of us."

Neil leaned to bite at her lips. "You naughty girl."

"So now I'm a naughty girl and no longer a silly woman?"

With a long sigh, Neil finally released her from his embrace. "Are you going to have your dinner in the coffee house later?"

"Hmm... I'm planning to walk around the resort with Hazel after dinner. I heard that there's a playground on the west wing. We're going to take a look."

"Don't go too far. Call me if there's anything." Neil reminded.

"I know." Edith patted his chest and smiled. "Just go to your business banquet with ease. I'll look after Hazel." She took a step back to admire her boyfriend's good look and trailed her fingers on his chest area. "Don't get tempted by another woman."

Neil stared at her with an aggrieved expression. If only he did not have to show up early at the banquet, he would surely stay in the room and fool around.

When the two had started to date, Neil had never thought that Edith can be a temptress. However, she had this bad habit where she liked to play with fire and run away.

It was driving him crazy, but he could not do anything as Edith always came up with a good excuse to escape.

Neil took a deep breath, tugged at her wrist, and leaned in to give her a lingering kiss. Once he had thought that the kiss was satisfying enough to suppress his desire, Neil then turned around to leave. "I should go now."

Edith watched as he left the suite and went to check at Hazel.

...

In the evening, Edith took Hazel to walk around the resort and found a playground. Hazel played around for a while and the two of them headed straight to the restaurant.

Because Neil had reserved a place for them, Edith and Hazel did not have to wait too long to get a place. The waiter greeted them politely at the entrance and brought them

over to the seat beside the french window. Hazel sat down and looked out the window with excitement.

"Do you like it here?" Edith asked as the waiter left with their food order.

Hazel turned around and nodded. "Un. I like it. This place is very pretty." A thought came to her mind and suddenly, her expression grew somber.

"What's wrong?"

Hazel pursed at her lips. "Mama said that once I was big enough, she was going to take me skiing."

The way Hazel was suppressing her tears from falling tugged at Edith's heart. Her expression softened, knowing that Hazel was missing her parents. Edith wanted to say something to ease her pain, but could not find the right word to say. Perhaps, for a child in Hazel's age, the thing she was looking forward to the most was to spend her time having fun with her parents.

"Maybe in a few weeks, this place will be full of snow," Edith said. "Do you want to come again?"

Hazel hesitated and nodded.

"Then, we'll ask your uncle to bring us here again during your winter holiday. What do you think??"

"Alright." A small smile curled on her lips. "Auntie Edith, do you know how to ski?"

"I don't. But, we can learn together."

"Do you think my uncle knows how to ski?"

Edith pondered over her question. "Your uncle seemed as if he would be good at anything. Maybe he would know how to ski."

The two of them chatted until the waiter returned with their food. Edith took a picture of their meal, send them over to Neil, and enjoyed their meal together.

At this time, someone walked past their table and headed further into a private area in the restaurant.

Edith tilted her head in time to catch a glance at the group of men. Her expression froze when she recognized a few faces. Edith was not expecting her to see both Secretary Liu and Attorney General Leng at the resort.

A while ago, Aaron had accidentally mentioned that Secretary Liu was one of the suspects in that serial murder case. The man was reportedly dating Amanda Shen before she died, but Secretary Liu had denied that rumors. He was a married man and his relationship with Amanda was nothing but friends.

Seeing Secretary Liu's face at a place like this made Edith a little bit uncomfortable. The last time she had gone with Neil to that private kitchen, she had run into both Secretary Liu and Amanda Shen. From the way they acted, Edith did not think that they were merely friends.

"Auntie Edith."

Hazel's soft voice snapped her out of her thought. Edith turned to the little girl and saw that Hazel had her head lowered.

"Can we return to our room now?"

"What's wrong? You're not feeling well?"

"Un." Hazel nodded weakly.. "I don't feel very good."

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When Neil walked into the suite, his surroundings were only dimly brightened by the light in the dining area. The suite was very quiet as if there was no one inside.

He took out his coat threw them on the sofa, and entered the master bedroom.

A deep frown formed on his face when Neil noticed that the room was empty.

He left the room and walked over to the bedroom across his and found that there were two figures on the bed. His girlfriend was accompanying his niece to sleep. Looking at the way the two girls were hugging each other as they slept and Neil did not have the heart to wake them up.

With a sigh, he turned around and went back into his bedroom. Neil walked into the bathroom in his pajama and took a shower.

A few influential people had shown up at the banquet and Neil had the chance to exchange a few business ideas with his potential partners. Although it was tiring and he did not enjoy talking to people that much, Neil thought that this time he had come out for nothing.

As the banquet almost reached the end, a few of them had asked for him to join them for a drink or two at the club. Some of the directors had wanted to throw him a few girls, but Neil had rejected their invitation to spend his time with his girlfriend.

He had been busy with the company matters recently and had brought both Hazel and Edith to this resort as compensation.

But who would think that the person would be sleeping with his niece when he returned...

Neil let out a disappointed sigh. He walked out of the bathroom and dried his hair with a towel. Just as he stepped into the room, his movement halted when he saw that Edith walked into the room with his coat in her hand.

"When did you come back?" Edith asked.

"Just a while ago." Neil watched as Edith hung his coat into the wardrobe and then, she walked over to the dressing table.

"Come here. Let me help you dry your hair."

Neil walked over obediently and sat down. A few seconds later, the whirling sounds of the hairdryer could be heard. Because Neil had short hair, his hair dried quickly.

"I thought that you were going to accompany Hazel to sleep tonight," Neil said as he watched Edith put away the hairdryer.

"Hazel was not feeling too good after dinner. Therefore, I thought it would be good if I stayed with her a while longer."

A frown appeared on his face. "What's wrong with Hazel? Is she alright?"

"She's alright now. After we returned to the room, her complexion turned better," Edith said. "She probably a little tired after playing around before dinner."

Neil let out a breath of relief knowing that his niece was alright.

"How was your dinner? Did you eat anything?"

Edith recalled the last time she had accompanied Neil to a dinner party. At that time, she realized that he has been spending his time discussing the business matters and had not eaten properly.

Moreover, every time Neil came back from a banquet, he would often ask her to prepare something to eat.

"I asked the kitchen to prepare a bowl of porridge for takeout," Edith said. "You should eat some to pad your stomach. Wait here. I'll go and reheat them in the microwave."

Before Neil could respond, his girlfriend had left the room. Neil walked out of the room and found Edith in the small kitchen. He walked over to her and wrapped his arms around her waist.

Edith let out a laugh and leaned on the sturdy chest behind her. "What are you doing?"

Neil gave a peck at her cheek. "I just thought that it's good to have you around. It's a good feeling to have someone cared about me."

Edith wriggled out of his embrace, turned around, and linked her arms around his neck. With a tiptoe, her soft lips met with his in a brief kiss. The microwave made a sound to alert them that their food was done and Edith pulled away to serve the porridge.

"Come on. Eat before the food gets cold." Edith said.

Seeing the look on her face, Neil could only sit down and eat his porridge. Edith sat across him and watched him as he ate.

"I saw both Secretary Liu and Attorney General Leng at the restaurant earlier," Edith said. "They were with a group of men I don't recognize. Were they a part of the banquet guest?"

Neil replied with a soft hum. "Attorney General Leng is always interested in the property business. He came over to find a place he could invest in."

Edith nodded. "It was the first time I saw him up close. He gave off a scary feeling."

Perhaps it was due to his occupation, though the Attorney General had a smile on his face, he gave off a suppressing feeling and uncomfortable aura.

Seeing that Neil had finished his food, Edith picked up the empty bowl and started to clean up the area a little bit. The next thing she knew, Edith was once again hugged from behind.

A laugh escaped her. Edith thought that sometimes, Neil could be stickier than Hazel. He always wanted to stay closer and touched her.

Neil rested his chin on her shoulder and whispered, "I'm still hungry."

"We have some bread. Would you like them?"

"No. Baby, did you forget that we have an unfinished business?"

Edith immediately knew what was in Neil's thought.

She had teased him earlier and ran away. This time, Neil wanted to continue where they left off.

Edith turned around and was not surprised to see his eyes darkened with desire. The way Neil was staring back at her made her face warm and her breathing labored.

Every time she saw him looking at her like that, Edith would feel her body warmed up and she wanted to feel his touch the same way he wanted to feel hers.

The two of them continued to stare at each other for a long time. Although the look on Neil's face showed that he could not wait to devour her, Neil did not make a move and instead continued to look at her as if asking if it would be alright for him to continue.

Edith tiptoed to give him a kiss and soon, the kiss turned heated.

Her eyes closed as Edith was enjoying the way his hands trailed on her body. From her waist, up to her chest and then, down to the area between her legs. Edith felt her legs grew weaker with his touch.

Suddenly, Neil lifted her body and placed her on the kitchen counter before he continued to kiss her.

"Not here." Edith snapped out of her trance and pushed him away. "Hazel might wake up and see us here when she comes out."

Neil took a deep breath to calm down.. Then, he caught her lips again and carried her into their room.

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WARNING: Snu snu chapter. Read at your own discretion.

Edith narrowed her eyes as the sunlight peeked through the curtains.

She moved her body around and found that the space beside her was empty. Edith sat up on the bed and stretched out. Turning around, there was a note on the side table.

Neil had woken up a while ago and had taken Hazel to walk around the resort.

Edith looked at the time and was disappointed that she had not woken up earlier to join them for a walk. But she was a little tired after last night's indulgence. Even though Neil had tried to wake her up, Edith couldn't open her eyes.

A sigh of disappointment came out as Edith rubbed at her waist.

It seemed that she needed to work on her stamina, or else, she was going to suffer every time they had an intimate relationship.

After sitting down for a while, Edith hopped off the bed and walked into the bathroom, and took a shower.

Edith was in the middle of putting on her bra when she heard a movement outside the bathroom. A while later, someone pushed the bathroom door from the outside and Neil surprised face appeared.

"Good morning," Edith smiled before she turned around to apply some cream to her body.

Suddenly the bathroom door was shut. Neil stood up behind her and stared at Edith through the reflection from the mirror.

"How was your walk with Hazel?" Edith asked.

"It was good."

Hearing his short answer, Edith lifted her head to look at Neil. At this time, there was a slight crease at the space between his brows. A thought came to her mind and Edith turned around to look at Neil.

"How was Hazel this morning?" Edith seemed to recall that the little girl was feeling a little under the weather after dinner. She had accompanied the little girl to bed to rub at her tummy.

"Hazel is fine. She was excited to walk around the resort."

Edith let out a sigh of relief.

She was worried that Hazel might be having a fever after playing around in the cold weather yesterday. But perhaps, the little girl had a slight discomfort after eating too much.

Turning around to face the mirror again, Edith continued her routine to apply the cream. Her movement halted when the person behind her suddenly wrapped his arms around her waist.

Edith raised her head and looked at the man with a puzzled expression. Her gaze fell on her reflection in the mirror, and Edith realized that she was in a dangerous position.

Why didn't she learn that walking around in underwear will always get her into trouble?

Wait... that's not right. She was in the bathroom when this man suddenly entered and close the door.

Neil stared at her through the reflection. His gaze moved down towards her chest area. "This bra looks good on you." His fingers trailed on her straps. "It makes your chest looks more—" He paused to grope at her chest, "—perky."

A burst of laughter escaped her. "President Mo, I did not expect that you're such a person."

His eyes turned dark as he watched as Edith turned around in his embrace. Her arms linked around his neck and her soft chest pressed against his. Suddenly, his breathing turned labor.

"What kind of person?"

Her head tilted sideways. "You liked big breasted woman?"

"That's not true." He immediately denied her accusation. A frown appeared as Neil tried to suppress a surging feeling inside him. "I only like yours."

Edith let out a chuckle. She shoved him lightly on the chest and took a step back until her back hit the sink cabinet behind her. "Alright. I'm going to put on my clothes. Then we can go out and have breakfast."

Just as Edith turned around to grab her shirt, Neil wrapped his arms around her waist again. "Baby, let me hug you for a while." He inhaled her scent and was suddenly reminded of their activity last night.

"You said that you were going to hug me, but what are your hands doing?" Edith caught his misbehaved hands that were roaming on her bottom.

"I'm not doing anything."

Her eyes narrowed and Edith thought that she really should not trust a man's words.

"Then, how about we go on one round?"

Edith looked at him in disbelief. "Neil Mo, your niece is outside waiting for us to go on a breakfast together."

"Hazel is in the living area, watching cartoons. She won't notice if we came out a little later. I will be quick." His eyes were staring back at her pleadingly. "Baby, I really could not hold it anymore."

Edith lowered her gaze and saw the tent forming at his crotch. Her throat goes dry, her body felt a little strange as the wave was surging inside her.

Even though Edith knew that she was going to suffer in the end, Edith found herself too weak to reject his request. She liked the way he touched her body and love the way he can make her feel.

Edith thought that ever since they slept together, her mind has become a little corrupted and dirty.

Seeing the way Neil continued to stare at her, her resolve wavered and Edith let loose of his hands. Just like that, her body was lifted to sit on the sink cabinet and her lips were caught in a deep, fiery kiss.

A low hum resounded as his hands moved to fondle at her chest. The friction between her bra and her tips was slowly driving her senseless. Suddenly, Neil pinched at her peak, making her gasp.

Knowing that Hazel was still waiting for them in the living area, Edith tried her best to suppress her moan. It would be embarrassing for both of them if Hazel appeared at the door because she happened to hear a strange sound coming from the room.

A while later, his mouth moved from her lips to her jaw and neck. Edith closed her eyes and braced herself on the cabinet as Neil continued to work his magic.

Edith soon became impatient as the hot wave spread to her lower body. Her hands moved to fumble with his belt as Neil continued to kiss her.

Neil pulled away to look at her face and his lips curled into a satisfied smile. He resisted the temptation to enter her body and instead rubbed his shaft against her entrance.

The sensation was driving her crazy.

Didn't he say he was going to be quick? Why was he taking his time to tease her like this?

A whimper escaped her as Edith could no longer hold on with teasing. Gritting her teeth, Edith then wrapped her arms around his neck and sobbed, "Darling. Please. Hurry up."

She bit her lips to suppress her moan. Neil lifted his head to kiss her lips and his tongue drove into her mouth. Before Edith was able to process what was going on, Neil had suddenly entered her body.

Her breath hitched.. Her nails dug into his shoulder and her toes started to curl.

Chapter 224 - Chapter 224 - Jamie Xu, Why Are You Here?

MH Group Headquarters

Edith spoke a few words with Driver Tang as she got off of the vehicle. Once the vehicle disappeared from her eyesight, Edith held on Hazel's hand tightly and the two of them entered the lobby.

The people who were around the lobby turned their heads around the moment the two girls entered the building. It was during office hours and it was strange to see a small child appeared in the building. A few of them who had recognized Hazel as President Mo's niece started to wonder if it would be a good idea to approach the little girl.

However, none of them dared to take a step forward.

Just then, a woman in suit and pants halted the moment she saw the two girls together. Jamie hesitated for a while before she walked over. "Miss Qian."

Edith turned around and was surprised to see Jamie stood behind her. The last time she saw Jamie was at the shopping mall. The two of them exchanged a few words and had not run into each other for a few months.

After Jamie had returned to L City, Edith had stopped coming over to the headquarter as Neil was so worried that she was going to run into his friend.

Who would have thought that on the day that she decided to visit Neil at his office, Edith was going to run into Jamie again? If Neil heard about this unplanned meeting, wouldn't he be drinking a barrel of vinegar?

"Miss Xu," Edith smiled politely. Her gaze fell at the tray of hot drinks that Jamie was carrying with her.

"This is a coincidence." Jamie touched her nose with her free hand. "My colleague send me to get some coffee for them. I did not expect that I would run into you here. Are you here to see Neil?"

"Yes." Edith nodded. Seeing that the woman in front of her had not tried to act frivolously with her, Edith was more at ease.

Jamie's gaze fell on Hazel and her eyes gradually softened. "This is... Hazel? My God! The last time I saw you, you were still a baby!"

Hazel stared back at the woman in front of her and her hand instinctively tightened against Edith. Her body shifted to hide behind Edith. She had never seen the woman in front of her hand was afraid that this person might snatch her away.

"It's fine." Edith patted at Hazel's hair and whispered, "This person is a friend of your uncle."

Hearing Edith's words, Hazel stopped hiding and greeted Jamie politely. "Hello, I'm Hazel Mo."

Jamie felt a tug at her heart upon looking at the smile on Hazel's face. Jamie thought that Hazel's smile resembled Claire's the most. She had known Claire and the Mo brothers for years as they grew up together.

When Jamie heard the news about Adam and Claire's accident, she was devastated. However, because her parents had prevented her from coming back, Jamie was not able to attend their funeral. She could only send the couple off from far away.

Jamie crouched down to get to Hazel's level and spoke in a low voice. "I am not only a friend of your uncle. I am also a very good friend to your parents."

Hazel tilted her head sideways, "You know my parents?"

Jamie nodded happily. "I was there by your mother's side when she gave birth to you."

Jamie was accompanying Claire to buy some clothes for Hazel when the little girl suddenly thought that it would be a good idea for her to come out. When they arrived at the hospital, Claire was in such pain that she had gripped Jamie's arms tightly and had refused to let go. In the end, the nurse had no other choice but to let Jamie accompany Claire as she gave birth to Hazel.

For years, Adam was upset at her for this matter.

At this time, the elevator arrived. Edith nodded at Jamie and entered the elevator with Hazel. Before the elevator shut, Jamie slipped into the elevator and smiled.

"Miss Xu, weren't you supposed to send those coffees to your colleague?" Edith asked.

Jamie shifted her gaze towards the tray of coffee and a glimpse of hesitation flashed on her face. "It's fine."

Edith raised a brow but did not say anything. The elevator arrived at the president's floor and the three of them walked out. Assistant Shawn, who was waiting for Edith and

Hazel to arrive was stunned when he realized that Jamie had appeared along with them.

"Miss Xu, why are you here as well?" Assistant Shawn spoke in a low voice to avoid others from listening. "You know very well that you weren't supposed to make contact with the president in the building."

"I know," Jamie said. "I will take responsibility for my action and this will not ruin Neil's plan at all. Assistant Shawn, don't worry too much."

Assistant Shawn was still agitated, but Jamie was a good friend of President Mo and he could not speak too much about it. He led the three girls to President Mo's office and braced himself.

Just as Assistant Shawn had thought, President Mo was upset when he saw that Jamie had appeared in his office. His face darkened as he stood up from his seat. "Jamie Xu, why are you here?"

"I ran into both of them downstairs and thought that it would be good for me to come over as well." Jamie placed the tray of hot coffee on the table and turned to Hazel. "I haven't seen Hazel for years. Let me spend a little more time with her, alright?"

Neil rubbed at the space between his brow as he watched Jamie sat down on the sofa.

"Don't worry. If anyone asked, I know what to answer," Jamie said. "I came back to help you. I wouldn't ruin your plan. You weren't the only person who wanted to find that murderer."

"Jamie Xu!" Neil's loud and harsh voice startled everyone who was inside the room. His eyes narrowed as he looked at Jamie. He shifted his gaze to Hazel and Jamie finally understood that she should not mention this matter in front of the little girl.

Hazel always knew that her parents passed away in an accident. If she knew that her parents were murdered instead, the little girl would be heartbroken.

"Sorry," Jamie lowered her gaze, knowing that she was at fault.

Sensing the tension in the room, Neil heaved a long sigh. He turned to both Edith and Hazel and spoke, "You're both a little early. Sit down a little while. When I finished my work, we can go out together."

The Chinese New Year was approaching and the three of them were planning to go shopping before they are going to return to Z Town in a few weeks.

Edith nodded before she accompanied Hazel to sit around the coffee table and helped the little girl with her homework.

Neil turned his attention back at Jamie.. "You have been in the accounting department for a few months. Did you find out anything?"