Luna & Joshua 2401

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Luna narrowed her eyes when she saw the image of Sean, then turned to glare at Thomas.

"What the hell do you want?"

"To work with you."

Thomas placed one hand elegantly on his knee while the other remained poised on the back of the couch and stared back at her nonchalantly.

"This seems like a reasonable offer, doesn't it? To get two people in return for signing a contract with me? "Nonetheless, you have another option— reject my offer and let your husband and brother continue searching for my hostages, but "

He removed his hand from the couch, brought the cup to his lips to take a sip, then glanced impassively at Luna.

"The fact that I captured these two people without anyone noticing means I'm fully capable of doing the opposite: hide them someplace so obscure that neither your husband nor brother will be able to find them in three days."

He glanced at the video displayed on the screen and added, "You can see for yourself how dirty this dungeon is, which means it's likely infested with germs and bacteria.

If Sean were to continue staying here without changing his wound dressing in three days...

Do you think he'll be able to keep his hands?"

Finally, Thomas placed the cup back onto the coffee table and said with a contemptuous expression,

"Although I must say, the Landry and Lynch families are so rich that even if he became crippled, you'd

be able to take care of him for the rest of his life, is that right? "of course, nothing matters more than

your dignity, Ms.Luna.After all, this is aman who isn't even related to you, so why would it matter to you

that he becomes crippled?"

Luna bit her lip upon hearing this. She instinctively pressed the ring on her finger in an attempt to contact Joshua with the hidden microphone so that he would be able to hear their conversation.

However, to her surprise, a loud screeching echoed through her hidden earpiece as soon as she pressed the button.

The sound was so piercingly loud that she could not help furrowing her brows as panic spread through her body.



with him, yet insisted on offering her such a low price for her collaboration.
Why was he trying to force her into a deal that clearly disadvantaged him more than her?
"As for what I'm trying to do, you'll find out in the future."
Thomas turned to smile at Nellie.
"You came here with your Mommy because you wanted to explain the design concept behind the
jewelry you customized for me, right?"
Nellie faltered for a moment, then nodded in reply.
"Yesthat's right."
"Okay."
He pointed at the seat next to him and smiled at her.
"Come here and explain it to me in person."
Chapter 2402
As soon as he finished his sentence, Luna instinctively pulled Nellie closer to her side, staring at
Thomas with a guarded look.

"Don't you dare try to hurt my daughter!"
Thomas could not help chuckling at the sight of Luna's anxiety. He took another sip of his tea and swept
his glance over Luna's face.
"Didn't you hear what your daughter said just now? I'm not at all interested in her."
Then, he shot her a meaningful look and added, "However, I might be interested in some of your other
daughters, should you have any."
Warning bells sounded in Luna's mind. She bit her lip and shot him a murderous glare.
"In your dreams!"
Thomas stared at her for a long time, and then, all of a sudden, a cold sneer crept across his face.
A split second later, he sighed and glanced impassively at Nellie, whom Luna held protectively in her
arms.
"Well, your mother doesn't allow you to come to me, but what do you think?"
Nellie glanced first at Thomas, then at Luna.
Finally, she pursed her lips and reached out to pry Luna's hand off her body.
For some reason, she could not help feeling that this man meant no harm to her, despite admitting the

fact that he had lied about liking her. Therefore, Nellie removed herself from Luna's grasp and picked up the documents they had prepared for this meeting. She ambled over to Thomas' side and plopped down in the seat next to him. "Mr. Howard, because of the unfortunately short timing, Mommy and I only managed to draft a simple plan. "Because the majority of your fans are women, we decided to customize some unisex jewelry pieces in lieu of the market demand. This is the proposal that Mommy and I came up with..." Nellie's childlike voice was a stark contrast to the earnest look on her face as she explained the sketches to Thomas. He could not help narrowing his eyes as he listened to her systematic and logical explanation. To be frank, he was not fond of children at all, and he had been lying about liking Nellie, but...

At this moment, she was so cute that he could not tear his eyes away from her.

If only Nellie were not Joshua Luna's daughter...He could not believe that Joshua and Luna had raised

Nellie in such a comfortable environment, whereas Riley...

A glimmer of malice flashed through his narrowed eyes.

Meanwhile, Luna stood opposite them, watching anxiously as Nellie presented her design scheme to

Thomas. She bit her lip nervously, and she could feel her heart thumping in her chest.

Even at this minute, she still could not figure out what this man had up his sleeve.

After all, Nigel had already investigated Thomas Howard from head to toe before arriving at Bamboo

House, and they found that he had nothing in common with the Lynch or Landry families.

However, he seemed to be so familiar with everything about her! Not only that, but Luna could feel the

hostility radiating off this man's body.

Why was this so? All of a sudden, the image that she had seen on Anne's social media popped into her

mind.

Could the man that had helped Thomas with his luggage be Malcolm, after all? If Malcolm had indeed

started working for Thomas...everything would make sense.

She and Malcolm had been friends for six years, and he knew almost everything about her, but...

Why was he working for Thomas, and why would Thomas even obey his commands? Why was

Thomas so hostile toward her? Luna could not seem to find an answer to either of these questions. As Luna's mind was swept away in this current of thoughts, Nellie had finished explaining the design concept and scheme to Thomas. "What do you think about this, Mr. Howard?" Thomas had never been interested in jewelry at all, and on top of that, the only thing on his mind during Nellie's presentation was Riley, as well as his hatred toward Luna and Joshua. Chapter 2403 Because of this, Thomas had not been paying attention to what Nellie had been saying at all.He immediately snapped out of his thoughts, regained his composure, and smiled as he glanced at Nellie. "No problem at all.Let's sign the contract right now." Then, he glanced at Luna, who was still gaping at him. "Let's sign the contract, Ms.Luna." Luna furrowed her brows and stared back at him in puzzlement.

"I honestly have no idea what you're trying to do."

Thomas smiled and tossed the stack of documents onto the table in front of her. "After you sign this, we'll officially be business partners. With all the time we're going to be spending together, you'll eventually find out what I'm trying to do." All of a sudden, Luna could not help feeling that the contract she was holding was like a ticking time bomb.If Joshua were here, he would have stopped her from signing this contract, but... Her breath caught in her throat when she lifted her head to glance at the image of Sean on the screen, who seemed to become increasingly lethargic by the minute. Even though Sean was not related to her by blood, he was Jim's brother and Joshua's cousin. Not only that, but he was the newly adopted son of her parents. Therefore, she did not dare to put Sean's well-being at risk for her dignity. What if... What if the person helping Thomas had indeed been Malcolm all this while? Malcolm had grown up in Merchant City, so he knew this place like the back of his hand.

What would happen if they could not find Sean anywhere in Merchant City, not even with the combined

forces of Joshua, Jim, and Luke? Finally, Luna let out an exhale.

She would do this—to salvage Sean's hands, to find out whether the man that had been secretly helping Thomas was indeed Malcolm, and to jump start her career. She did not seem to have any other choice. She picked up the pen that Thomas had tossed onto the table and signed her name on the contract after checking it.

As soon as she put down the pen, she stared coldly at Thomas said, "I hope you stick to your word,

Mr.Howard."

"Of course I will"' Thomas leaned against the back of the sofa and placed his slender fingers against

his temple.

"It takes you about half an hour to reach home, and in half an hour, these two hostages will appear at

the entrance to Central Hospital. Please retrieve them when the time comes."

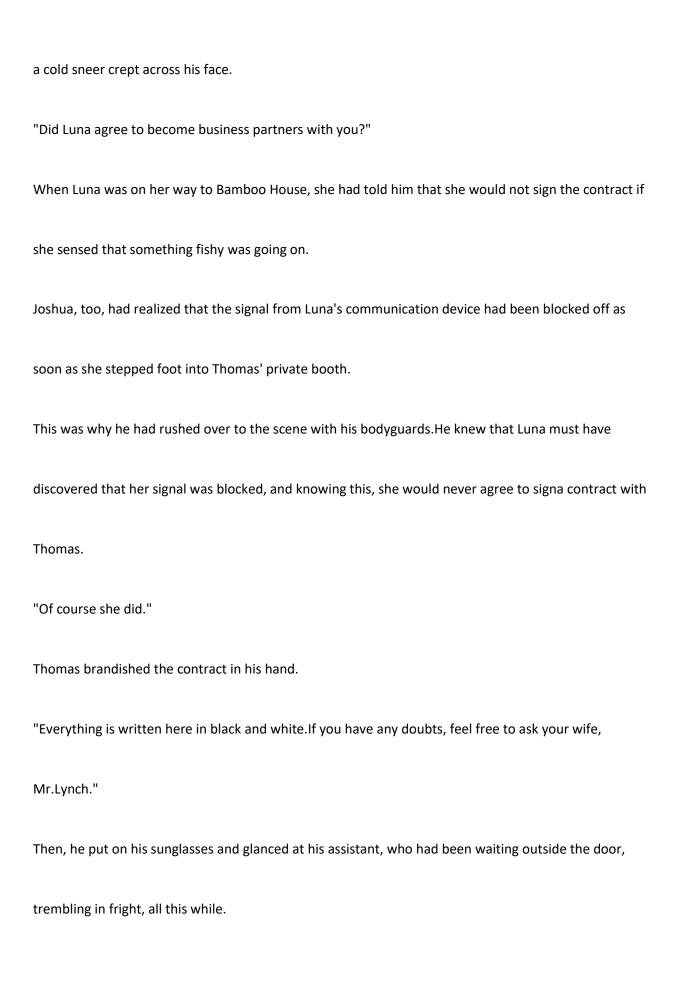
Then, he stood up, his tall, slender frame towering over her like Joshua's. He curled his lips into a smile

and added, "We're going to be seeing more of each other very soon, and here's to doing business with

you, Ms.Luna."

Then, he strode out of the room.

Unbeknownst to him, a group of men dressed in black had surrounded the booth while they were
talking.
The moment Thomas slid the doors open, he came face-to-face with Joshua's cold, penetrating eyes.
"Mr.Lynch."
After a moment of surprise, he smiled at Joshua and glanced at the men behind him.
"Why did you bring so many people here? Did you think I was going to hurt your wife and daughter?"
Joshua narrowed his eyes and stared coldly at him but did not reply.
Even though he remained silent, Joshua's domineering aura was palpable, and Thomas narrowed his
eyes when he sensed this.
A split second later, he chuckled.
"I'm not someone who'd stoop so low as to hurt a woman and a child.
"Ms.Luna and I are now business partners, and we'll be working together very closely in the future."
Chapter 2404
Chapter 2404 Joshua narrowed his eyes and lifted his arm to block Thomas' way. He gave Thomas a once- over, and











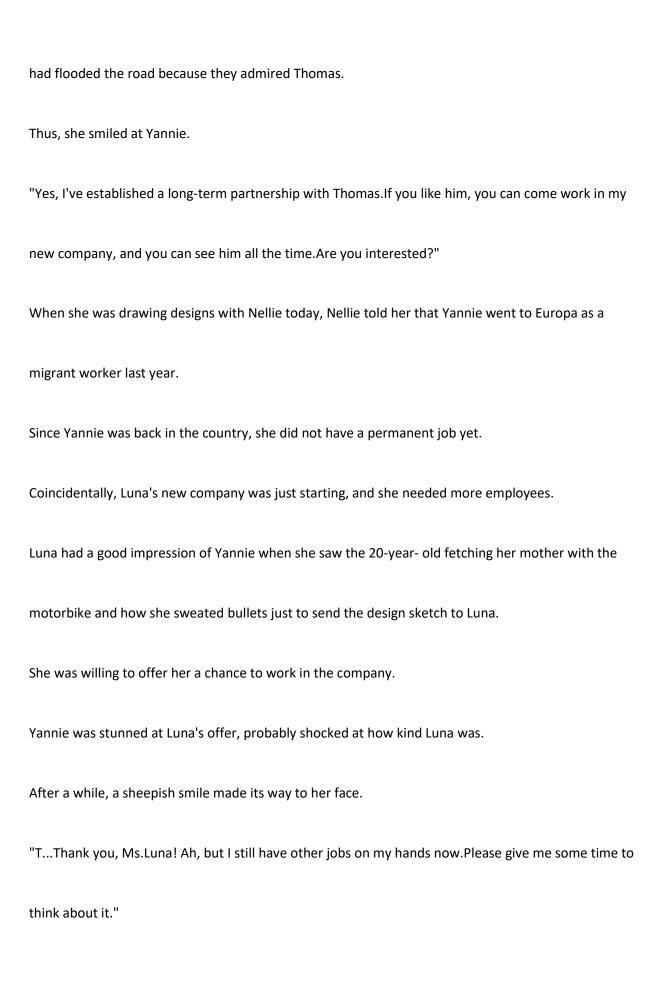
The woman standing in front of the elevator was thin, with skin so pale that she seemed to glow in the
light.
However, she was not particularly pretty at all, just average and rather plain-looking.
At this moment, she was waiting for the elevator rather anxiously, as though something was on her
mind.
As soon as the doors slid open, she instinctively glanced into it and caught sight of Thomas.Her gaze
seemed to falter as soon as she registered his face.
A split second later, she lowered her head and turned away slightly to allow Thomas and the assistant
to pass.
Thomas did not even give her so much as a glance.
Instead, he put on his sunglasses haughtily and strode out of the door with his assistant trotting closely
behind.
The woman remained motionless, staring dazedly in the direction Thomas had left.
After a long time, she let out an exhale and got into the elevator, which brought her to the floor Joshua
and Luna were on.

When she arrived, she immediately caught sight of Luna Joshua, who were chatting at the private
booth entrance with Nellie.She let out an exhale, strode over, and handed the piece of paper she had
been holding to Luna.
"Ma'am, my name is Yannie.My mother is Mrs.Flores, who works for you."
"After you and Princess Nellie left, my mother found this sketch on Princess Nellie's bed. She knew that
you and Princess Nellie had come here for an important business meeting, and she had been
sketching the designs on her bed."
"Therefore, she thought you must have left this sketch at home by mistake and sent me here to give it
to you."
Yannie let out a sigh of relief after handing the sketch over to Luna.
"I've never been to such a sophisticated place before, sol got lost trying to navigate hereI'm not too
late, am I?"
A surge of warmth spread through Luna's heart when she saw Yannie wiping her sweat in exhaustion

and noticed that the sketch she had given her was also covered in sweat.

She tucked the sketch away and replied, "Thank you.I really appreciate both you and your mother's
kindness.This design sketch matters a lot to me, and it'd be troublesome if I were to lose it."
Truth be told, this was a sketch that she and Nellie had abandoned, but because they had left the
house in such a rush, neither of them remembered to throw it into the wastepaper basket.
However, she did not say this to Yannie lest she ruined their efforts.
"You don't have to thank us!"
Yannie smiled.
"This is just a part of our job.After all, my mother gets paid very well working at your house."
Then, she instinctively glanced into the booth and noticed it was empty. She could not help recalling the
man she had seen in the elevator moments before. She fell silent for a moment, then could not stop
herself from asking, 'Ma'amdo you mind if I ask you a question?
"Did you come hereto talk business with Thomas Howard?"
Chanter 2406

When Mrs.Flores' daughter asked about Thomas, Luna thought she was just like all the other girls who



After that, she quickly bade goodbye to Luna and Joshua and ran like her life depended on it. Joshua furrowed his brow slightly as he looked at Yannie's back. "Are you close with her?" Luna shook her head and passed the drawing sketches delivered by Yannie to Nellie. "She is Mrs.Flores' daughter.Mrs.Flores is very good with the kids." Hearing this, Joshua understood why Luna was kind to the young woman. He smiled as he pulled Luna into his arms. "You're too kind. We've given the correspondence reward to Mrs. Flores for taking care of the children. You don't know anything about this girl, so you don't have to be so kind." A kind and gentle mother did not necessarily bring up a kind and gentle daughter like her. Joshua could tell that this girl, Yannie, did look honest and humble, but the way she asked if Luna was working together with Thomas was out of line. Moreover, her eyes were flickering when Luna invited her to work in the new company.

Obviously, she wanted to take this advantage but hesitated for some reason...DAy- AXLN Joshua did





entrance of Central Hospital! I checked the surveillance camera and saw they were dumped there by a
van.They're still unconscious right now, and the doctors are doing their best to sustain
them.Nonetheless, the attending doctor said that they were only knocked out, and they're not in any
permanent danger."
Luna furrowed her brow when she heard the voice from the other side of the phone and looked at her

Previously, Thomas had said that Sean and Kate would appear in the Central Hospital half an hour

watch intentionally. If she remembered correctly, it was coincidentally half an hour since Thomas left.

later.He did what he promised, after all.

Luna took a deep breath.

The most important thing was for Thomas to keep his promise.

As long as Sean was fine, it was worth being coerced by Thomas to sign the agreement.

"We'll be there soon," responded Joshua to Lucas with a frown and instructed the bodyguard behind

him to send Nellie back to the house.

Then, he grabbed Luna's hand and walked outside.



"Since they were kidnapped, the people who kidnapped them will release them after he has gotten his
purpose.Jim, Luke, and I didn't receive any threats, and no one contacted us too.All that, and they
choose to release them," explained Joshua while looking at Luna's face with his deep, dark eyes.
"So the only one I could think of is you.You made a deal with Thomas, didn't you?"

Chapter 2408

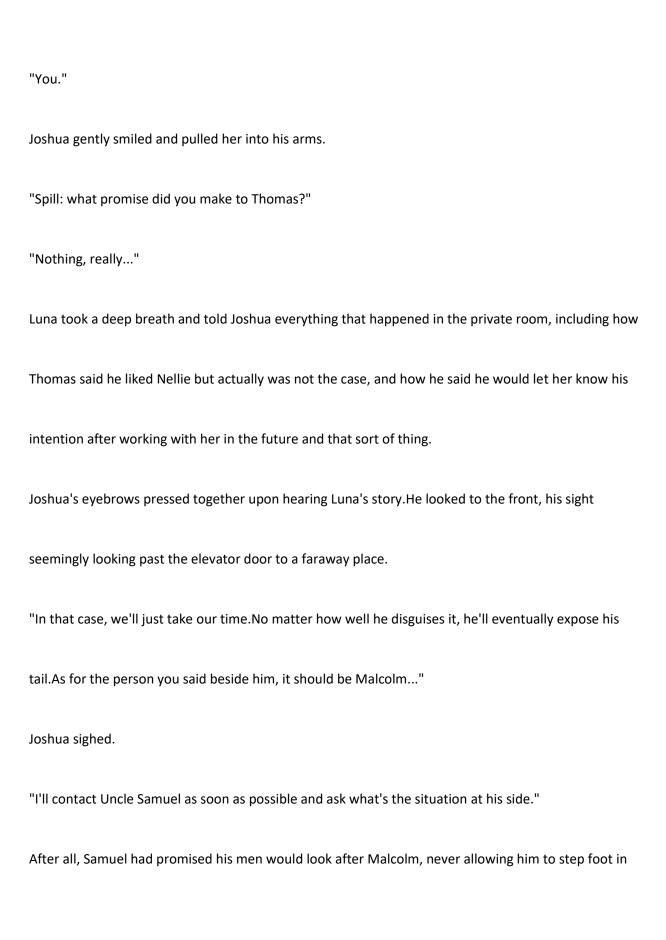
For a moment there, Luna felt like she was in a dream while facing Joshua's calm, sharp, and clear thoughts.

'Why...How can this man conclude the entire incident based on the little information he had?' She even spurted out in shock, "W...Why are you so smart?"

Joshua was amused by Luna's adorable look. He reached out his hand to rub lightly on her head while speaking in a soft voice, "How can I protect the silly you if I'm not smart?"

Luna unconsciously nodded after hearing Joshua's answer, but she quickly realized something suspicious among the lines. She lifted her head and glared at him angrily.

"Who is silly?"





"Everything here will belong to me, sooner or later."
Samuel was so enraged with Malcolm's attitude that blood rushed to his mouth, causing him to
vomit.He wiped away the blood from the corner of his mouth while his body shivered in fury.He looked
at Malcolm angrily.
"You—! Your new name matches you, alright! Lucifer Howard! Lucifer, the devil! You are a devil; a devil
in our family!"
Malcolm felt pleased to see his father vomit blood, watching as the color left his face.
'It's what he deserves!"
A moment there, Luna felt like she was in a dream while facing Joshua's calm, sharp, and clear
thoughts.
Joshua was amused by Luna's adorable look.
He reached out his hand to rub lightly on her head while speaking in a soft voice, "
How can I protect the silly you if I'm not smart?"
Luna unconsciously nodded after hearing Joshua's answer, but she quickly realized something



"I'll contact Uncle Samuel as soon as possible and ask what's the situation at his side."
After all, Samuel had promised his men would look after Malcolm, never allowing him to step foot in
Merchant City ever again.
At Quinn Mansion.
Samuel gave a deadly stare at Malcolm, who was wearing a worker's uniform. He threw the mug to the
floor angrily.
"I told you: you're not allowed to come back to Merchant City, and you have nothing to do with this
family anymore! How dare you try to go behind my back? How did you get related to this Thomas
Howard?"
Malcolm was sitting on the couch beside Samuel with crossed legs and a contemptuous smile.
"It's none of your business to know how I got in touch with Mr. Howard, old man. I'm here to tell you that
I'm no longer a Quinn.Mr.Howard gave me a new name— Lucifer Howard, to resemble my new life by
welcoming new light."
He looked up with a remote expression.



With a new name and strong support, however, Samuel was no longer his opponent.

Malcolm burst into cackles.

"I'm a devil? If that's true, why do you still do such a thing to my mother when you still have feelings for

Lucy? Do you even remember that you're a priest? If you had just controlled your nether regions, I

wouldn't have existed in the first place! Am I right?"

He got on his feet and stood before Samuel while taking a piece of tissue from the table and passing it

to him.

"Here, wipe off that blood. Why did you vomit blood? You can't die so early in life. If you die too early,

then everything this family has will be mine once more!"Placing his mouth closer to Samuel's ear, he

whispered coldly, "

The first thing I'll do when I regain control over this family is to declare war against Joshua.

I'll use all the resources in this family to defeat Joshua, even if there is nothing left in the end.

"Oh, but it won't be just against Joshua—Jim and Sean, too! All you cared about was Lucy and

everything related to her, sol'm going to destroy everything so you won't rest in peace when you die!"

Samuel widened his eyes instantly after hearing Malcolm's words. He stared at Malcolm and wanted to

say something, but another mouthful of blood spurted out his mouth, stopping him from talking. Just then, the butler walked toward them and said, "Master, Mr.Lynch's assistant, Lucas is here.He's just outside of the door..." He subconsciously looked at Malcolm, and lowered his head. "I think...I think he's here for Eldest Young Master." Malcolm, who had been very arrogant with Samuel, suddenly became visibly disconcerted when the butler finished talking. He took a pace backward unconsciously. 'How can that be? It's the first day I'm back in Merchant City as Thomas' driver, and I've been staying off the radar! The only thing I did after returning to Merchant City is to settle the score with this old man! How can Joshua send someone here so fast?" Although Malcolm had been haughty with Samuel, he knew that he was no powerful individual at the moment.

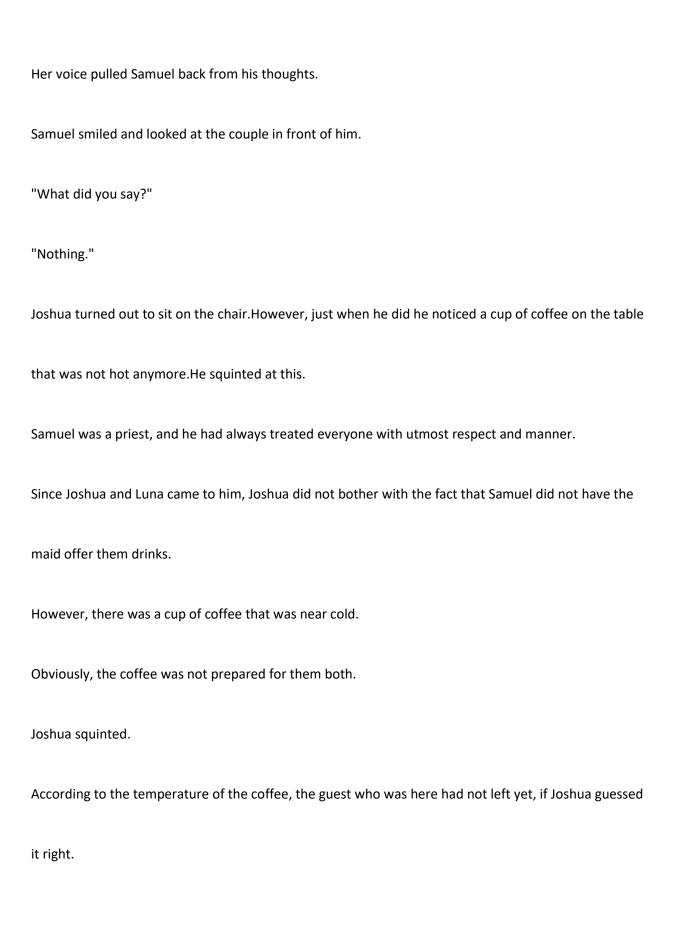
After selling the information he knew about Joshua Luna, he managed to let Thomas give him the

opportunity to work beside him as Thomas' driver.

If Joshua's people captured him at this moment, Thomas would never defend him or bail him out! Thus,
Malcolm suddenly felt lost and anxious.
Shooting Samuel a nervous glance, he quickly got closer to him and hissed, "Help me, you old man, or
I'll die here!"
Samuel raised his head weakly with tiredness showing in his eyes to look at Malcolm.He sighed and
pointed at an angel statue behind him.
"Hide there."
Malcolm sneered and quickly hid behind the statue. Once Samuel tidied himself up, he looked at the
butler.
"Let him in."
When he heard the butler announcing Lucas' arrival, he thought the man would come alone.However,
once the butler went out to lead the guest, the person who came in was not Lucas.It was Joshua and
Luna.
"Father Samuel."



However, his son was not nearly half of Joshua in terms of manner and politeness. He figured it must
have something to be with how his family brought him up.
Joshua and Malcolm were both brought up by their grandmothers and without their parents beside
them.
Joshua had taken after Granny Lynch, making him an elegant, caring, and well- mannered man.
His son, on the contrary
From his appearance, Malcolm, too, looked kind, soft, and elegant, but selfishness was written all over
his face.
Perhaps this was karma for conspiring and scheming all these years. It was something that Samuel had
been avoiding facing.
This had to be the karma for not telling Charles and Rosalyn that Lucy had lived through the ordeal.
"Uncle Samuel?"
Luna frowned when Samuel was spacing out as he looked at her and Joshua. She waved her hand at
Samuel.
"Are you listening?"



He raised his head ADr#]IIM started to look around the living room with his deep, dark eyes. His instinct told him that it was Malcolm, hiding somewhere. No one else was worth the risk for Samuel, a priest, to tell a lie. Finally, after scouting the living room, his eyes focused on the huge angel statue beside the staircase. The statue was moved from the church after Samuel returned to the mansion. It was so huge that it was unusual for someone to put it in the house. Thus, it was easy for a person to hide behind it. Joshua's eyes narrowed at the statue before he turned to look at Samuel, smiling. "Uncle Samuel, can I go pray at the statue?"