### Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 21

In the morning, I was ready to head to the office. Gillian had already said goodbye and was headed to school with Sofia escorting her to the lobby.

During breakfast, I made sure Albert could come to the office today. His voice still sounds weak. It seemed like he was still sick. I felt bad for him. Maybe I should take him to the doctor after the meeting.

His assistant mentioned that Albert hadn't seen a doctor because he was scared. Handsome and seemingly imposing, but afraid of doctors. Hah!

I walked toward the apartment lobby, and as I was in the elevator, my phone rang. I was surprised to see Troy's name on the screen. Why was he calling this early?

"Hey beautiful, are you ready? I'm waiting for you downstairs."

What?! Troy was at the lobby?!

"I have a driver to take me there. I don't want to trouble you," I politely refused. "But I don't take no for an answer, Ms. Johnson," he responded firmly.

I sighed heavily. Honestly, I didn't like his pushy nature. But I didn't want to argue. I let it go this time.

"Yes, Uncle Benny. Thank you. I'll make sure to take good care of her."

It seemed like Troy and Uncle Benny were discussing something serious on the phone when I arrived at the lobby. But I did not know what it was about.

'Thanks, Troy. You didn't have to trouble yourself by picking me up." I say as I meet him in the lobby.

Troy, wearing a maroon shirt and black jacket, looked even more handsome and caught the attention of the apartment residents.

Oh yeah, I almost forgot. Who wouldn't know woman passing by looked at him with admiration for his captiv

Troy Peterson? Almost eve Troy Peterson? Almost

him.

Not only women, but even men to be in

Seemed

### -25 BONUS

Troy smiled at me, but I pretended not to see it. Not because I didn't care, but because I was worried about getting hypnotized by his killer smile again.

'Come on, princess!" With confidence, Troy offered his arm for me to take. "Ah, at least he's handsome."

"Sorry, Troy, I think I should..." I tried to refuse politely.

"Too slow! Hurry up! It's getting late. I was startled as Troy grabbed my hand and led me to his car.

Ah! I'd go into cardiac arrest if I stayed close to this man too often.

During the drive, Troy was busy on his phone with numerous calls. It seemed that he had a lot of business to handle. His schedule was packed. I could only gape at how busy he was. It turned out my company was nothing compared to Peterson Group.

We arrived at my office a bit late. It looked like all the employees were already there. Troy and I got out of the car. Once again, Troy tried to take my hand. But I politely refused. Finally, we walked side by side.

When Troy arrived, everyone seemed to notice. The women especially, were murmuring excitedly, with some squealing like excited teenagers.

From a distance, I saw Kendall gasp while covering her mouth. Her eyes were glued to Troy.

Kendall walked towards me. It looked like she was determined to approach Troy. With full confidence, Kendall smiled and stood in front of Troy and me.

But Troy seemed indifferent as he kept following me. He didn't even give Kendall a second look.

"Boo! Get lost Kendall!" Some employees jeered at her. She was really such a shameless woman.

As we climbed the stairs, Troy deliberately took my hand. I couldn't refuse anymore. I was worried Troy would be offended since I had already rejected him a few times.

As we climbed the stairs, we bumped into Derrick. He looked at me with a piercing glare. It seemed he didn't like seeing Troy holding my hand. 'Serves you right, Derrick.' I kept walking, Ignoring him.

"Hey, let go of my wife's hand!" I was shocked to hear Derrick boldly confronting Troy.

That bastard was really looking for trouble.

"Hey! Who are you? How dare a mere employee claim this beautiful CEO as his wife?" Troy looked very annoyed.

"Yes, we were separated for a while. But just so you know, we'll get back together soon. And I'll be leading this company!" Derrick said confidently, blocking our way.

This ex of mine was unbelievable. He really had no shame, just like his mistress Kendall.

Troy continued holding my hand, his grip even tighter.

"Hey, dude, you must be daydreaming!" Troy laughed heartily.

Derrick's face turned even more furious.

"Get this guy out of my sight!" Troy ordered his bodyguards who had been following us from behind.

"Come on, beautiful, don't mind this useless man!" Troy held my hand as we headed to the meeting room on the second floor.

"Sarah! Please explain to him that we're getting back together. We'll be together again, right? Sarah... Sarah!"

Derrick kept shouting even though he was being held back by Troy's bodyguards.

I invited Troy and his bodyguards into the meeting room. When the door opened, I was surprised to see Uncle Benny and Bradley inside.

"Uncle Benny, how are you?" I greeted the man I consider like a parent.

"Good, Sarah. So, how is it? Has Troy been taking good care of you?" Uncle Benny asked, smiling at Troy. I didn't understand the meaning behind Uncle

### +25 BONUS

Benny's question.

Looking around the meeting room, I didn't see Albert. Did he not come today?

"Sarah, there's something important I need to tell you."

"What is it, Uncle?" I asked curiously.

Uncle Benny took a deep breath and exhaled slowly. Then he paused for a moment.

"Well, Sarah. A week ago, your father's lawyer came to see me and delivered a will that you must fulfill."

I listened intently.

The will states that... You have to marry Troy Peterson."

"W-what?!"

I stood up in shock. My eyes widened in disbelief at what I had just heard.

What kind of surprise was this? Why did Troy seem unfazed? Had he known about this beforehand?

# Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 22

I felt like I had just been struck by lightning. I just couldn't believe what Uncle Benny had just said. How could I marry a guy I just met yesterday?

"Sorry, Uncle Benny, can you repeat that?" I asked, hoping it was just a prank.

"Well, 1, your late father, and Troy's late father were friends since college," Uncle Benny began to explain.

"Your dad and Troy's dad were successful in building their companies. They had agreed to merge their companies by having their children marry each other. And so, they made a will, Uncle Benny explained in detail.

noticed Troy smiling the whole time.

"Troy, did you already know about this?" I asked, suspicious.

"Yes, that's true. I've been keeping an eye on my future wife for a while. Sarah, it's time for you to be happy. After suffering so long with that useless man, I promise to make you happy for the rest of my life. Marry me," Troy said.

I was stunned, looking at Troy who was suddenly standing right in front of me. My heart was pounding. It fluttered when our eyes met.

Troy was too perfect in my eyes. Surely many women out there wanted him. Could I handle the jealousy? Would Troy really make me happy for the rest of my life?

"Ahem... ahem... There are still a lot of people here, boss. Save the gazing for later when you're alone," Bradley interrupted, snapping us out of it.

We both felt awkward and sat back down.

"I understand that you need time to think. That's okay. But I've known Troy and his family for a long time. He's the right man for you. After your divorce paperwork is done, you should get married," Uncle Benny said.

I was silent, digesting Uncle Benny's words. The pain and disappointment from my marriage with Derrick still lingered. I didn't feel ready to start a new marriage.

"Uncle Benny, let's leave it to Sarah. Give her time to think and decide. But I believe she'll accept me in the end," Troy said while smiling at me.

How could I resist Troy's incredible charm that had started to stir my heart since last night? But this time, I couldn't be hasty. I didn't want to be disappointed a second time.

"Good morning, sorry I'm late." Albert appeared at the door. He looked pale and weak.

"Albert, I'm sorry I asked you to come today. You look really pale. I'll take you to the doctor later, okay?" I said, moving to sit next to him.

Albert just stayed silent, which was unusual for him. Maybe he was still very dizzy. I felt guilty for making him come to the office today.

"Let's continue the meeting. Excuse me." Uncle Benny got up and shook hands with each of us.

The meeting continued with discussions about the collaboration between my company and Peterson Group. Again, I felt guilty because Albert was mostly silent this time.

When the meeting ended, Troy and his team said their goodbyes. The office. was abuzz as Troy walked past the employees toward the exit. I couldn't imagine marrying him later. Could Troy resist the temptation of all the beautiful and classy women out there?

"Albert, come with me, okay?" I asked after finishing all my work.

"Where to?"

"To the doctor. You need to get checked out. Your face is so pale. Come on, let's take my car." I grabbed Albert's hand and half–forced him to come with me. Surprisingly, he followed without any protest. Not like usual.

During the drive, Albert was mostly silent. His behavior seemed odd to me.

# Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 22(A)

"Are you really dizzy? Why are you so calm?" I touched Albert's forehead with the back of my hand. But his temperature was normal.

"Stop touching me." He brushed my hand away in irritation.

"Why are you so grumpy? Did you take the wrong meds?" I tried to joke, even though I saw the seriousness in his face, a face I only just realized was really handsome now that we were close. No wonder so many women were crazy about him.

Albert exhaled sharply. Then suddenly, his hazel eyes looked deeply into mine.

"Joy, why do my feelings?" he whispered.

και neveP.

"W-what do you mean?" I started to guess where this conversation was heading.

Albert sighed again, longer this time. He looked away for a moment, then locked his eyes with mine. Our gaze was locked. I couldn't look away from those beautiful hazel eyes.

"Joy, I've sworn not to lose the love of my life a second time."

Albert took my hands and held them. His eyes looked deeply into mine, and I felt an unusual flutter.

"I've never stopped loving you since then. I never will... not ever."

I was shocked. It was so unexpected to get a confession from a guy who had been my friend since high school.

We'stared at each other for a long time. I didn't care if Joshua, who was driving, might hear our conversation.

"W-what do you mean?" I asked, confused.

"Marry me!"

'Oh my God. What did I dream about last night? In one day, two men asked me to marry them. Don't they know my wounds are still fresh and open? Don't they know my heart is still closed tightly?"

#### +25 BONUS

1 quickly pulled my hands away from Albert's.

"Sorry, Albert. It's too soon to talk about marriage," I replied firmly.

"I'll patiently wait for your answer," he whispered again, smiling. That smile of his could sweep women off their feet.

#### were

We both felt awkward, so we silent during the trip to the hospital. W were lost in our own thoughts.

When the car entered the area of a private hospital not far from the office, Albert got out first and opened the door for me. Why did he suddenly seem. healthier? His face was smiling again like usual.

"Hmm... you're starting to charm girls again," I muttered as Albert smiled at the female patients and nurses who shyly glanced at him longingly.

"It looks like you're already better. Let's just go home," I joked when we were in the waiting room.

"Wow, someone sounds jealous," Albert teased, smiling mischievously at me.

I glared at him. Albert burst out laughing, holding his stomach.

Wow, he really did seem to be feeling better.

"Mr. Albert Williams! Please come to the doctor's room," a nurse called out.

We then walked into the room the nurse had indicated.

"Good afternoon, sir. What seems to be the problem?" the young, pretty doctor asked kindly.

"For the past few days, I've been having headaches and a fever, doc."

"Alright, let me examine you. Please lie down, sir."

Albert followed the pretty doctor's instructions while I stayed seated in the patient chair in front of the doctor's desk.

After examining him, Albert sat down beside me, facing Dr. Camille.

"Mr. Williams just needs some rest. I'll prescribe some vitamins. Please make sure he doesn't stress too much," Dr. Camille said, looking at me.

"Thank you, doctor Albert interrupted

We then walked out through the hospital corridor and passed severa, "dnics with them patients

I glanced at my watch, it was already hajaamoon, I should head straight home after dropping Albert off at this place

As we passed one of the clinics, there were several female patients and preghan women. I saw someone very tallar, but her stomach was still fat

whip was that guy with her? That certainly did not look like Derrick. In any case, they verme Mery intimate

1chuckled why be like this homewrecker had been lying to Derrick and his family Ah well, it was not my probium,

## Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 23

Albert refused to let me take him home. He got his chauffeur to pick him up from the hospital instead.

"It's already late; you should go home," Albert said, patting my head,

I felt awkward because of his gesture.

"Thanks for caring about me," he continued, amiling and trying to tease me.

"Oh, come on! Who's caring? Don't get too full of yourself!" I replied, pretending. to be annoyed.

Albert laughed again.

We parted ways in the hospital lobby. Joshua was already there to pick me up. Suddenly, my phone rang.

It was Sofia. I wondered what it was. It was unusual for the house help to call.

"Hello, Sofia. What's up?"

"Ma'am... I'm so sorry..."

"What's wrong, Sofia? Please, tell me quickly!" I panicked, fearing bad news about Gillian, my daughter.

"Sorry, ma'am. After school, Gillian asked to be taken to her grandmother's house. I tried calling you, but I couldn't reach you. Since Gillian insisted, we went there."

I breathed a sigh of relief.

"Alright, it's okay, Sofia. I'm on my way home, so I'll pick her up."

I ended the call.

"Joshua, let's go straight to Ruth's house to pick Gillian up."

Joshua nodded.

When I arrived at Ruth's house, it seemed everyone was inside. From outside, the house looked crowded.

### +25 BONUS

As I started walking toward the door, I heard someone crying.

Oh no! That was Gillian crying.

"S-sorry, Grandma, Aunt Lorraine... s-sorry..."

"Just because you're rich now, you act stingy and arrogant like your mom!" I heard Lorraine yelling at Gillian.

"I never taught you to be stingy. This must be your mom's bad influence. If you still want to be my granddaughter, lend your phone to your cousins. Now!"

What?? Ruth was also scolding and yelling at my daughter?

I quickened my pace.

"Eyén the maid has a phone. How spoiled! You really have an easy life!" I heard Lorraine yelling at Sofia as well.

"Hello. What's going on here?" I asked as I opened the door, feeling my anger rising.

"Mommy!" Gillian, still sobbing, ran into my arms.

Lorraine's children looked scared and stood behind their mother.

Why was Ruth so angry at Gillian? Yesterday, she seemed to adore Gillian.

"Gillian, what's wrong, honey? Sofia, what happened?"

Sofia, who was trying to comfort Gillian, looked pale as Gillian hugged me tightly.

"W-well, ma'am, Lorraine's kids tried to take Gillian's phone..."

"Don't you dare tell tales!" Lorraine shouted, glaring at Sofia.

"Continue, Sofia!" I said firmly, ignoring Ruth.

"Hey, Sarah, don't just believe the maid. My kids just wanted to borrow it, but your daughter was stingy and scolded them, just because she has an expensive phone!"

"You can insult me or mistreat me, but you can't do that to my daughter!" I

believe you scolded Gillian like that. Why would you do that?

spoil your child too much. Sometimes kids need to be scolded to replied without remorse.

But Gillian did nothing wrong. Lorraine's kids just grabbed the phone from her. and it fell and broke," Sofia bravely defended Gillian

"Well, then, Lorraine should teach her kids not to grab other people's things!" 1 said, my anger rising again after hearing Sofia's explanation.

"I'm so disappointed in this family. I've lived here for eight years. You've never treated me kindly, often wanting to kick me out because you saw me as a freeloader. Don't blame me if you get kicked out of this house one day. "My voice trembled with emotion."

What do you mean, Sarah?" Ruth shouted.

"Don't you remember the house is about to be seized by debt collectors?" I reminded them with a smile.

"That's our business, not yours!" Lorraine replied, though she seemed uncertain.

"Haha, are you sure, Lorraine? I could fire you tomorrow, and you wouldn't be able to pay off your cheating husband's debts."

Lorraine looked shocked that I knew everything.

\*Sofia, take Gillian to the car. I'll be right there."

"What about Gillian's broken phone, ma'am?" Sofia asked.

\*Just leave it. We'll buy a much better and more expensive one tomorrow."

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Hey, Swah! What do you mea

Ignored their shouts and walked to the ga

Joshua had the car ready. Once get in, we drove to my

.

In the car, I called Carrie

Hello, Carrie, how's the house wiches going? sit done

"All set boss. Just waiting for the name as an

is handing it."

"Please expedite it

I ended the call and leaned back in my seat releasing teesh and emotions that had been weighing on my heart and mine.

Gillian kept hugging me. She must have at the

actrees. N

little girl probably didn't expect to be treated so badly by Ruth and Loraine

\*Joshua, let's stop by the mall first"

"Yes, ma'am." Joshua nodded.

"Gillian, let's get some ice cream."

"Okay, Mommy... I want ice cream."

Her pretty face lit up instantly. Maybe taking her out for a bit and getting be

favorite ice cream would cheer her up.

14 hugged each other again. It felt so good to see her smile return

## Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 24

These past few days, I had a lot on my mind, I was still mulling over the merger with Peterson Group.

"You really should rethink teaming up with Peterson Group. Don't rush into decisions," Albert said during yesterday's lunch.

"What do you know about that company?"

"You and Bradley should really dig into it. Troy's known to play dirty," Albert's words caught me off guard, Was Troy really like that?

If he was, I would outright refuse to collaborate with Peterson Group. Regarding the arranged marriage and the company merger, I needed to investigate it myself.

As usual, I contacted Carrie, my friend and business partner. She had extensive knowledge of the business world, especially the property sector that I was interested in.

"Carrie, please gather all the information you can about Peterson Group and send it to me as soon as possible."

"Sure thing, Sarah."

I hung up with Carrie and called Bradley through the office phone.

"Hey, Brad, I need an office girl to my office, pronto!"

Shortly after, an office girl walked in.

"Could you tidy up my office? Bring all the files from the cabinet over there and organize them alphabetically. Quick!"

"Sarah, how about giving out tasks one by one instead of all at once?"

I immediately raised my head to see the person whose voice I recognized.

"Have you forgotten who's in charge here?"

Lorraine scowled and pouted.

"If you don't need the money anymore, feel free to leave!" I retorted.

### **140 BUNA**

"Alright, I'll do it," she replied hesitantly while tidying up the cabinet.

It took Lorraine nearly two hours to finish the job. During that time, she didn't speak to me at all.

"When you're done, get me lunch from the restaurant across the main street."

"Why not order online?"

Despite Lorraine's situation, she was still so bold.

"Why bother ordering online when I have someone I can boss around?" I teased back with a smile.

With an annoyed look, Lorraine obeyed my order. The restaurant I had in mind was quite far, and she had to cross using the pedestrian bridge, which was pretty high. It was high time she knew how it felt to be bossed around without feeling appreciated, just like what she had done to me back then.

\*Ma'am, our sales have dropped drastically this month. Many of our clients are switching to other companies," Augustus from the marketing department reported on our company's sales performance.

"Where are they going?"

"There are several companies, Ma'am. Even though those companies are small and new, they're offering prices way below what we're offering."

"Hmm... it seems like they are being backed somewhere. I need to investigate this. This afternoon, I'll have a briefing with the entire marketing division. There are no exceptions. I want everyone in the meeting room in ten minutes!" I instructed firmly.

"Got it, Ma'am," Augustus replied before leaving my office.

I suspected an employee had been leaking our clients' data to our competitors. The only ones who had access to that data were the marketing division staff.

All the marketing division employees were already in the meeting room, and I

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ARTEMITTUNKEN, ANNtyne huge we can work hard together to mcrease our The company needs your support and unweiding loyalty at the moment.

But I find a tator among an, wordt tegiture to fire them."

They all stayert siler and lowered their heads Only Kendall seemed very

estiens. It obert like she was messaging someone.

sright, that's all from me Good day, everyone."

left the meeting room and went back to my office. On my desk was a pack of the restaurants foot and a sat of cutlery However, I was not in the mood for food now

Suddenly, my phone rang it was They calling

"They beautifull"

They Troy What's up?

"What about my offer yesterday? Can we start the collaboration? Or should we just get married as soon as your divorce paperwork is done?"

Troy burst into laughter on the other and

Honestly, I found it strange that a big company like Peterson Group suddenly insisted on collaborating with my small company.

Let's talk about it later. Is it clay if I come to wist your office?"

They of course! I'll send a driver to pick you up."

"Oh, there's no need. I'm already on my way with my driver. Alright! See you there."

I didn't know why, but really wanted to wait Penarsson Group's office. I fett like

+25 BONUS

Chapter 24

observed each one of their faces.

Hmm... turned out Kendall was also part of the marketing division. She seemed uneasy when our eyes met. I stared at her sharply and she instinctively lowered her gaze. That was unusual.

My first suspicion was that homewrecker. She would have a motive to ruin me, so I needed to investigate her, too.

"Good afternoon, everyone. I hope we can work hard together to increase our sales. The company needs your support and unyielding loyalty at the moment. But if I find a traitor among us, I won't hesitate to fire them."

They all stayed silent and lowered their heads. Only Kendall seem very restless. It looked like she was messaging someone.

"Alright, that's all from me. Good day, everyone."

I left the meeting room and went back to my office. On my desk was a pack of the restaurant's food and a set of cutlery. However, I was not in the mood for

food now.

Suddenly, my phone rang. It was Troy calling.

"Hey, beautiful."

"Hey, Troy. What's up?"

"What about my offer yesterday? Can we start the collaboration? Or should we just get married as soon as your divorce paperwork is done?"

Troy burst into laughter on the other end.

Honestly, I found it strange that a big company like Peterson Group suddenly insisted on collaborating with my small company.

"Let's talk about it later. Is it okay if I come to visit your office?"

"Hey, of course! I'll send a driver to pick you up."

"Oh, there's no need. I'm already on my way with my driver. Alright! See you

there."

I didn't know why, but I really wanted to visit Peterson Group's office. I felt like

3/5

+28 BONUS

Chapter 24

I'd find some clues there.

I hurriedly left my office and immediately called Joshua.

"Josh, get the car ready! I'm going out."

"Alright, Ma'am."

The distance from my office to Troy's office wasn't too far. But traffic in the afternoon was unavoidable.

Finally, I arrived in front of Peterson Group's grand building. Someone was already waiting for me in the lobby.

"Good afternoon, Ms. Johnson. Let me take you to Mr. Peterson's office."

"Alright, thank you."

We entered the director's exclusive lift and went straight to the room where Troy was.

As we passed by a few employee desks, I saw someone who seemed familiar But I just couldn't remember where I had seen him before.

He seemed to be one of Troy's trusted people because he had a serious conversation with the guy who escorted me here. I wondered what they were talking about.

I kept thinking about where I'd seen him before. Hopefully, this would be one clue to finding the traitor in my company.

Wait a minute... I just remembered. He was the guy I saw with Kendall at the hospital!

Could this be related to the drop in my company's sales? Or was it true what Albert had said, that Troy often engaged in dirty competition?

I had no idea.

"Welcome to Peterson Group, Ms. Johnson." Troy warmly welcomed me.

I was startled when he tried to hug me. Luckily, I quickly avoided it by reaching for his hand and shaking it.

"How are you, Mr. Peterson?"

"Delighted by the arrival of a beautiful angel," He replied, then chuckled,

"Come on, let's sit! This is my office. I hope you like it. Because all of this will soon be yours too."

I just responded with a smile to his words. Why was he so sure that I would accept this arranged marriage?

Hopefully, I would get some clues to save my company soon. Otherwise, my company's clients would switch to other companies. And Johnson Corp would be at risk of bankruptcy.

# Mistress on My Husband's Phone Chapter 25

"Your company is impressive, Troy," I started the conversation.

"Yes! It's all thanks to my hard work all this time," Troy proudly replied, adjusting his imaginary tie.

"Sarah, have you made a decision regarding our arranged marriage?"

"S–sorry! I can't talk about it right now. My company is in trouble." I deliberately baited Troy,

"What seems to be the problem? How can I help?"

"It seems like someone wants me to go bankrupt," I replied firmly, observing the response from this overly handsome man.

"Oh, really? Then I'll send my people to investigate." Troy looked at me with a hint of concern on his face. Only God knows if he was being sincere.

"It's best not to involve outsiders in your company's internal affairs right now.' "What do you mean?" I retorted.

Troy just smirked. Could he be referring to Albert? This was such a pain. Why were they both suspicious of each other?

"Don't fully trust anyone, Sarah! The business world is cruel. Even those closest to you can be wolves in sheep's clothing." Troy looked at me closely. Our eyes met for a few moments.

'Why do I feel something stirring inside? This man's charm is truly extraordinary.'

I took a few steps back, afraid of losing control. It was best for me to leave

now.

"Troy... it's getting late. I should go home."

"Sarah... It's still early. Just a moment!"

Troy turned on some music. Then he took some drinks from the fridge and poured them into glasses for me. I smiled at him.

### +23 BONUS

Suddenly, Troy transformed the living room sofa, making it longer so we could sit more relaxed with our legs stretched out. He pressed something on the wall, and a huge flatscreen TV appeared,

The room was no longer a workspace but a very comfortable lounge room.

"Troy... What is the meaning of this?" I suddenly felt uneasy.

"Don't worry, I just want you to relax for a bit. What kind of movie do you like?" Troy pressed the remote in his hand.

"Sit here." He patted the sofa next to him.

I approached. Maybe Troy was right. It wouldn't hurt to relax here for a bit.

Hmm. It's truly comfortable. I felt an incredible sense of comfort.

"I'll refill your drink." Troy poured more drinks into the glasses and handed one

to me.

I was not particularly fond of this drink. It tasted strange. But out of respect for the host, I took a sip.

"Why? Don't you like it?" Troy seemed to understand my hesitation.

"Sorry... is... there another drink?" I asked cautiously.

"There is... there is... wait, I'll get it."

Troy fetched another drink from the fridge and handed it to me. This time, it was a refreshing mixed fruit juice. It tasted delightful.

We chatted leisurely. But Troy, being himself, was always overly familiar and attentive to me. Did he treat all women like this?

"I hope our company collaboration will happen soon. So when we get married later, it'll be easier to merge our two companies." Once again, Troy brought this up. But this time, he seemed more serious.

"Troy, marriage isn't just about merging two companies. It's also about uniting two hearts. Are you sure about your heart? You have everything. There are many women out there who are better and prettier than me that you could have.

"Hahaha!" The man lying on the sofa nez to me burst into laughter.

"Oh Sarah... You're right. There are many women out there that i could have, In fact, they willingly give themselves to me he replied, still laughing.

I, who had been lying on the sofa next to him, immediately sat up when fro suddenly approached, sitting directly in front of me, then grabbing my hand and holding it. And he clasped my fingers

"Sarah, I'm not young anymore. To me, outer beauty or attractiveness that can only be seen with the eyes isn't important. But a woman with inner beauty like yours is what I want." Troy looked deeply into my eyes,

But at the moment, I found it very hard to trust men, after what I had been through.

Slowly, I tried to release my hand from his grasp, But Troy tightened it even more, even leaning in closer as if he was about to hug me.

I continued to try to move away from him. But I was already against the sofa, which was against the wall,

Troy kept getting closer. There was almost no distance between us. One of his hands was pressed against the wall.

"W what are you going to do?" I started to panic and continued to hold Troy back with one hand. His masculine scent was getting stronger,

But suddenly, there was a commotion outside Troy's room.

"I'm sorry, sir. Mr. Peterson is busy at the moment. Please don't force your way in."

"I just need to pick Ms. Johnson up,"

"Yes, but I kindly ask that you wait outside, sir."

"I can't. Ms. Johnson needs to leave right now."

Troy instantly shifted his gaze to the door. His face turned angry. And

suddenly...

Bam!

The dom was forcefully opened All eyes turned to us, who were sitting very close together on the sofa instinctively pushed Troy aside, causing him to atment tall. But he managed to regain his balance and stand up immediately.

Hey! What are you doing to her?"

My eyes widened as I saw someone I knew bursting in and approaching Troy with a furious face.

14'm sorry, Mr. Peterson. I tried to prevent him from entering. But he kept insisting and barging in," a woman who seemed to be Troy's secretary reported with a frightened face.

"Call security, quick!!!" Troy shouted.

"No need! There's no need for security!" intervened.

"I'll go home with him. Thank you for today, Troy. Goodbye," I headed towards the exit.

"But Sarah, I haven't finished talking yet," Troy tried to hold me back.

"We'll continue the conversation in my office," I said firmly.

Troy looked disappointed as he watched both of us leave his room.

"Thank you for helping me. How did you know I was here?" I asked Albert, still looking worried after we were outside Troy's office.

"What did he do to you, Joy?"

"H—he didn't actually do anything wrong. B—but earlier, Troy seemed like he wanted to hug me. And you managed to stop him," I replied, feeling ashamed.

I couldn't imagine what would have happened if Albert hadn't forced Troy's room door open earlier. God knows what would have happened after.

"Never mind. The important thing is that you're safe with me now. Next time you go out, don't go alone. Take me or Bradley with you."

"Yeah... I'm sorry. I made you both worry." I felt very guilty. Albert smiled as he patted my head.

I reached for my phone to call Joshua.

"Who are you calling?"