

Chapter 17: Liam's Pause Button

"Alright."

It was uncertain whether he was drunk or not.

Nevertheless, he managed to lift her and carry her to the bedroom with ease.

However, if he wasn't drunk, this impulsive behavior from the young man before her was a far cry from Liam's usual composed and almost indifferent demeanor.

Suzy felt like she had been drinking, her surroundings spinning, and time stretching endlessly. Even the lights on the ceiling seemed to sway along with her disorientation.

Eventually, she couldn't bear it any longer and shifted her gaze to the tattoo on his collarbone, sinking her teeth into it with determination.

Liam stopped moving when he felt the pain.

"I'm sorry, I..."

"Mr. Park, can today be the last time, please?" Her voice was husky, with a hint of a pleading, coquettish tone.

Liam didn't answer, but after this round, he got up and headed to the bathroom.

Suzy thought to herself that she had found Liam's pause

button. She had bitten the tattoo just now in desperation to remind him to think about the one he loved.

And it worked!

He let her go.

While Liam was in the shower, Suzy hurriedly put on her clothes and brought a notebook. When he came out in a dark bathrobe, she quickly asked, "I plan to completely redo the due diligence for the Far East project. I'll also communicate with the person in charge tomorrow. I've rewritten the contract, emphasizing the section about the breach of contract. Could you please take a look?" Her tone sounded like an employee working at the CEO's office.

Liam furrowed his thick eyebrows slightly, his hand lightly brushing his still-dripping hair.

"You said you were tired just now, didn't you?"

Suzy instantly understood his meaning and awkwardly pursed her lips. "I, I..."

"My assistant will bring dinner in a moment."

"Huh?"

"I'll discuss it with you as we eat."

Suzy watched his retreating figure in astonishment.

Hadn't he just come back from socializing? Why would he have John deliver dinner?

But it worked out quite well since she hadn't eaten dinner.

Suzy followed him to the dining room.

At that moment, John brought in seafood and signature dishes. Just by looking at them on the table, Suzy knew that the prices were far beyond what she could afford.

"Go ahead and dig in. The dishes don't contain onions."

Liam gestured with his eyes for her to start using her fork while he himself began to remove a lobster shell.

She hadn't noticed before, but his hands were really quite attractive, with a cool, pale skin tone, distinct knuckles, and elegantly long fingers.

Liam appeared to be flawless.

"Mr. Park, do you not eat onion either?"

Liam remained focused on the lobster in his hands, and after a few seconds, he murmured in agreement.

Suzy was genuinely hungry, and since he had suggested it, being overly polite felt awkward.

She lowered her head and began to eat, only to suddenly realize that Liam had been placing all the lobster meat he had removed onto her plate.

"Mr. Park?"

"Hurry and eat," Liam spoke softly, showing no signs of

addressing her query.

He went on, "In circumstances like this, depending solely on contracts isn't sufficient. To guarantee that the available funds can meet the promised investment, there are alternative approaches.

"We can consider involving a third party for mediation through discussions between both parties or seek approval from the parent company to provide a loan to our partner. This could potentially pave the way for resuming the project.

Suzy had a sudden realization and promptly put down her utensils to begin drafting the application. However, Liam grabbed her wrist, and she gazed into his captivating, intense eyes.

The depth of meaning in his eyes grew more pronounced, and even their gazes became intensely heated.

"You still have that much strength left?"

Suzy croaked, "I said it was the last time today!"
"I didn't agree."

Chapter 18: It's Working Hours Now

Suzy slept for only three hours that night. The next day when she woke up, Liam had already left. The breakfast he had prepared was sitting on the dining table, still steaming hot, with a note placed beside it.

"I'm on a business trip. I will be back next week."

Suzy looked at the note, then at the breakfast on the table. She couldn't reconcile the caring Liam she had encountered in private with the cold and distant persona she knew from the office!

At home, he could be described as gentle. Even last night, despite his excessive demands, his actions were gentle, as if he was afraid of hurting her. If it weren't for that string of tattoos, she would almost have the illusion that Liam had feelings for her!

All of a sudden, Suzy began to feel jealous towards the woman Liam had held in his heart for so long, or at least, that's how she felt at that moment.

Upon arriving at the office, Suzy immediately began working on the loan application after the morning meeting.

Around noon, Desmond, suddenly pushed open the door to her office with a less-than-pleasant expression. "Are you planning to apply for cooperation with the parent company

for the loan? Our Team Three had just made a major mistake. Do you think the company will approve it?"

"It will be approved," Suzy asserted confidently. "You can trust me."

Liam had provided advice on this strategy, and considering their intimate encounter last night, he ought to do her this favor, wouldn't he? Liam was acutely aware of how crucial this project was to him.

"I can see that you've made progress, and reaching this point isn't easy, but the feasibility is low, and the Far East project itself already carries some risks." Desmond furrowed his brows. "Think of another way."

"But this is the fastest way to kickstart the Far East project, Mr. Shaw. Please, just trust me this once!"

She was even more anxious than Desmond because once the Far East project succeeded, she would be able to repay Liam this year!

After thinking for a moment, Desmond, an experienced manager, couldn't fully grasp what had happened, but he had a feeling that something out of the ordinary was going on.

"Then I'll trust you this once. Do your best. The next project is even bigger than the Far East."

Suzy smiled and gave a nod as she watched Desmond

leave. Upon returning to her desk, she pondered for a moment and then decided to send a message to the phone number thatc Liam had shared with her.

"I've submitted the application."

As she gazed at her phone screen, Suzy hesitated briefly before adding another message, "Are you on the plane? Wishing you a safe journey."

After a while, his response finally arrived. It consisted of just a single word.

"Busy."

Suzy promptly deleted the message, stowed her phone away, and started to calculate how, once the Far East project kicked off, Team Three's performance for the year would experience a significant boost.

It was highly likely that Desmond could entrust her with the next project. Furthermore, she anticipated a bonus of tens of thousands or even a couple of hundred thousand by year-end, along with project commissions and her standard salary.

Perhaps she wouldn't need Liam's financial support for her mother's ongoing medical treatment! In an instant, she felt a renewed sense of hope for her life. When Liam was away for a business trip, she didn't experience fatigue, despite working late into the night at the office and spending nights at the hospital caring for her mother.

Every day upon arriving at the office, the first thing Suzy did was to open her computer and check if there was a response from the parent company regarding the loan application. Finally, on the fourth day after sending the email, there was a reply.

Suzy quickly opened it and saw the words in black on a white background: "Application not approved."

She was bewildered for a moment, then anxiously dialed Liam's phone number on her mobile.

After a few rings, he answered.

"What's the matter?"

"Why wasn't the loan application for the Far East project approved?"

Liam remained silent for a few seconds, his tone cold. "Because the board of directors conducted a comprehensive evaluation, and they deemed the Far East project too risky."

"But..."

"Suzy," Liam interrupted sharply, "It's working hours now. Do you have any other matters to discuss?"