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Just when Charlotte stormed off, she saw Zachary carrying Nancy into the elevator.

The moment the elevator door was about to close, he suddenly looked in her direction.

At that moment, both of them made eye contact. One had an icy gaze while the other was filled with conflict.

Charlotte wondered if he had recognized her.

If he didn't, why would he look at me? No, wait. Perhaps, I attracted his attention after kicking someone into the water. That's understandable after all. If he really recognized me and yet, took Nancy away while I was being harassed, that would really have been too much.

At that moment, Charlotte was in so much turmoil that she clenched both her fists.

"You d*mn woman!" Jared had climbed out of the pool. He bellowed, "How dare you kick me! I'm going to kill you!"

Just as he spoke, Jared attacked Charlotte from behind.

With a darkening gaze, Charlotte turned around with a whirlwind kick and sent the man hurtling into the pool again.

Splash! Water ripples were everywhere.

At that moment, everyone was stunned. They had assumed Jared fell into the pool earlier by accident after fooling around with Charlotte. But now, they had witnessed Charlotte's ferocity.

Her eyes were filled with murderous rage.

With no time to lose, Charlotte quickly left. Watching the elevator's levels, she saw that Zachary had taken Nancy to the forty-eight floor.

He really can't wait, can he?

Filled with rage, Charlotte hurried to the elevator.

"Stop her!"

By then, Theo had grown suspicious of Charlotte as she still had her mask on when all the other girls had removed theirs. It was obvious that she didn't want to be recognized.

If anyone with malicious intentions had infiltrated the event, it would have been terrible.

After all, everyone present was a VIP and no harm should ever come to them.

When a few bodyguards went up to stop Charlotte, Lupine, who was dressed as a waitress, stood in their way. She told Charlotte, "Ms. Lindberg, go on ahead. I got this."

Just when the bodyguards wanted to stop Charlotte from entering the elevator, Lupine unleashed a kick and sent all of them flying.

From that moment, the scene turned into utter chaos.

The ladies screamed in fear while the men called for their bodyguards.

All of them were fearful for their own lives.

Meanwhile, Theo ordered a large group of bodyguards to take on Lupine and capture Charlotte at the same time.

However, the elevator door had closed and Charlotte was heading directly to the forty-eight floor.

"D*mn it! The two assassins are heading in Mr. Nacht's direction." Theo was seized by panic. "Quick, send more men to capture the two women."

"Yes."

When Charlotte heard those words in the elevator, she couldn't help but knit her eyebrows.

This is all Jared's fault. I was about to slip away and follow Zachary when he suddenly got in my way and caused the situation to escalate. Luckily, they didn't know who I was. Nevertheless, I have to find Zachary now and negotiate with him. But, he is with Nancy now. Have they...

With that thought in mind, Charlotte was filled with exasperation.

In the meantime, Zachary had carried Nancy out of the elevator and arrived in his room.

The moment he entered, he saw a bottle of wine on the table with a big bouquet of roses by its side.

As for the carpet and the bed, they were all covered in rose petals.

Theo was the one behind the surprise.

Nancy could feel her cheeks heating up. Biting her lip, she snuggled up in Zachary's arms, not daring to move a muscle.

Zachary placed her down on the sofa and remarked in a deep voice, "You should go and wash up."

"Okay," Nancy acknowledged softly before heading to the bathroom.

Sitting on the sofa, Zachary had a glass of wine in silence.

"Ahem!" At that moment, Ben knocked and entered. When he didn't see Nancy in the room, he reported at once, "A fight has broken out downstairs."

Zachary continued sipping his wine without responding. It was as if it had nothing to do with him at all.

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"The two girls just now really are-"

"You're dismissed," Zachary interrupted. "Don't bother me without my permission."

"Mr. Nacht, are you really..." Ben asked in surprise as he glanced at the bathroom. "Don't be hasty. You have to stay calm."

"Get out!" Zachary barked.

"Yes." Not daring to say another word, Ben left with his head hung low.

Zachary picked up the remote control from the table and turned on the 'do not disturb' indicator.

Letting out a sigh, Ben left in resignation.

Meanwhile, Charlotte exited the elevator and quickly found Zachary's room. She knew of an old habit of his. No matter which hotel he stayed in, he would always choose the presidential suite at the end of the corridor as it was quiet, and he wouldn't be disturbed.

When she saw the 'do not disturb' indicator lighting up, Charlotte was filled with mixed emotions. That b*stard really can't keep it in his pants.

Clenching her fists, she hesitated as to whether she should barge in or not.

If she did and saw something compromising, she knew she would be driven mad.

If she didn't, and Theo's men caught up with her, she would lose the opportunity to talk to Zachary alone.

With that thought in mind, Charlotte tried to open the door, only to find that it was locked from the inside.

Further infuriated, she raised her hand to knock. However, it dawned upon her that there was no way she could trick Zachary into opening the door given how shrewd he was.

Scrutinizing her surroundings, she realized there was no one staying next door. Hence, she slipped into the room and planned to cross over from the balcony.

Sitting on the sofa, Zachary had almost finished his wine. He watched on as the movements outside the door started and stopped. When it fell silent, he knew that whoever was outside had left.

Has she given up?

"I... I'm done..."

At that moment, Nancy came out of the bathroom wrapped in a towel. She had just showered and dried her hair.

With her exquisite features and flawless skin, she exuded an aura that was unbelievably pure.

What intensified her allure was the innocent look in her eyes as she stared longingly at Zachary.

Her gaze jolted Zachary, who rarely had any luck in his relationships.

"Come over and sit." Zachary raised her gaze at her.

Nancy anxiously took a seat on the sofa opposite him. She was so nervous that she didn't know what to do.

"Come over." Zachary patted the seat beside him.

Biting her lip, Nancy walked over carefully. After sitting beside him, she didn't dare make eye contact.

When Zachary poured her a glass of wine, she received it carefully, worried that she would spill it again.

"Are you nervous?"

Just as Zachary spoke, he heard some movement in the balcony, causing him to furrow his eyebrows.

This is the forty-eighth floor. If she falls, there would be no coming back from this.

"Yeah." Taking a deep breath, Nancy gathered her courage and said, "Do you still remember me? We met before in H City."

"I heard about you," Zachary plainly replied. "Your father bid twenty billion for the South Sea project. Unfortunately, Lindberg Corporation stole the bid from you at thirty billion."

"That wasn't my father. The one who participated in the tender was my father's subordinate," Nancy explained. "During the tender, I wasn't present. It wasn't until the Aploth business convention at Ashenville Garden that I met you backstage. Do you remember that?"

"Oh, is that so?" Zachary had obviously forgotten about it.

"Actually, that wasn't the first time I waited for you." Blushing, Nancy continued, "When I was sixteen, I met you at a business convention in M Nation. During that time, you were speaking on stage-"

Before Nancy could finish, Zachary pulled her into his embrace. Caught by surprise, she spilled the red wine she was holding onto his thigh.

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"I'm sorry, I..."

Just when Nancy wanted to speak, Zachary pressed himself against her. Holding onto her cheeks, he looked at her with a conflicted expression.

Nancy was so nervous that she could barely breathe. Feeling her tremble underneath him, Zachary saw the terrified look in her eyes.

"Tell me, what do women care about the most?"

Zachary ran his fingers across her cheeks while his eyes sparkled with curiosity.

"Huh?" Although Nancy didn't understand the rationale for the sudden question, she still replied in earnest. "Probably, the man they love."

"The man they love?" Zachary considered the answer. "Is it more important than the interest of the family?"

"It is," Nancy replied without hesitation. "A family's interest belongs to the family. Love is what belongs to ourselves."

Pausing briefly, she explained in an unsettled tone, "Are you assuming that I am trying to get close to you because of my family? No. I'm doing it because... I truly admire you."

"If..." Zachary continued asking, ignoring her explanation, "I ask you to sleep with someone you don't love for the sake of your family, will you do it?"

"I won't." Nancy assumed that he had misunderstood her intentions. She defended herself frantically, "I love you, that's why-"

"Love?" Zachary sneered, "Love can change."

A long time ago, Charlotte loved me too and sacrificed a lot for me. She stayed true and showered all her affection on me. But now... She has thrown herself into Louis' embrace.

"No, I won't change." Nancy was full of conviction. "You don't know how much I love you. From when I was sixteen, it has been five years. My feelings for you-"

Bam!

Nancy's words were cut short by the sudden noise. Startled, she turned to look by reflex.

Charlotte had taken the risk of falling from the forty-eighth floor and jumped over from the neighboring room's balcony with everything she had.

She had landed successfully initially. However, the sight of Zachary pressing himself against Nancy had jolted her, causing her to accidentally tip over a vase on the balcony.

Consequently, that was the sound of the vase shattering on the ground.

"It's her?" Nancy recognized Charlotte at once as the girl who wore a mask in the changing room. Moreover, Charlotte was still wearing the swimsuit she had lent to her.

"I'm sorry!" Charlotte apologized before shooting a silver needle into Nancy's neck.

Feeling her limbs go weak, Nancy fainted onto the ground.

"Insolence!"

Shooting her a glare, Zachary grabbed the wineglass by the table and flung it at Charlotte.

Avoiding it by reflex, Charlotte saw the glass smash into pieces upon crashing onto the wall.

Before she could regain her senses, Zachary suddenly appeared in front of her, grabbed her throat, and pinned her against the wall.

"Ah!" At that very instant, death flashed across Charlotte's eyes. In a choking voice, she yelled, "Zachary, it's me!"

Tearing off her mask, Zachary exclaimed with his eyebrows raised, "Charlotte?"

"Let go!" Charlotte grabbed the back of his hand, leaving deep scratches in the process.

When Zachary saw the discomfort she was in, he released her and turned around. "What are you doing here?"

Coughing, she said, "I... I have something to discuss with you."

Rubbing her throat, Charlotte desperately tried to catch her breath.

"There nothing to discuss between us."

Sitting on the sofa, Zachary poured a glass of wine for himself.

"We have to talk about the kids." Charlotte walked over anxiously. "At the very least, let me see the kids once to hear what they have to say."

"What makes you think you deserve it?" Zachary glared at her with rage burning in his eyes.

"Zachary, what do you mean by that?" Charlotte was infuriated. "Both of us have broken up a long time ago. There's nothing wrong with me being with someone else. What gives you the right to steal the children away and ridicule me like that?"

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"In that case, go ahead with your wedding then. What do you still want with me?" Zachary gently covered Nancy with a jacket. "You even crashed through the window and disrupted my fun!"

"Return the children to me, and I'll leave at once."

Charlotte was seized by bitterness when she saw how attentive Zachary was toward Nancy. However, she maintained her strong front. "After that, I will not interfere with whoever you want to bed."

"Bullsh*t!" Zachary sneered, "What gives you the right to butt your nose into my affairs? Do you even have the capability to do so?"

"In that case, what has my relationship with Louis got anything to do with you? What gave you the right to barge in and cause a ruckus?" Charlotte snapped.

At the mention of that matter, Zachary's expression changed drastically. Smashing the wineglass onto the floor, he pinned Charlotte onto the sofa.

Grabbing her by the cheeks, he bellowed, "Do you have an itch to scratch because I have not touched you for the last two years? Do you desire a man so much? To the extent of throwing yourself into someone else's arms?"

"What are you doing? Let go of me!"

Charlotte tried vehemently to push him away. However, his body was as heavy as a rock. No matter how hard she tried, he just wouldn't budge.

Instead, her struggles ended up arousing him. Given that she was wearing a swimsuit, her attempt to free herself ended up exposing more of her body.

"If you don't stop moving, I'll take you right here!" Zachary roared after having noticed the change in his body. "Considering you've knocked my woman unconscious, I will have to replace her with you."

Charlotte's heart was torn upon hearing Zachary's words. He said that she was his woman. His woman...

"Charlotte!" Grabbing Charlotte's face, Zachary was filled with agony as he questioned her, "Do you know how much I had to go through just so I can bring you home? I was filled with anticipation at our family reunion. And yet, what did you give me in return?

"Don't you know that since the very beginning, you have been the only one for me? Even during the two years you were missing, I didn't touch any other woman. No matter how many women throw themselves at me, I have never wavered. But you... you ended up with Louis all of a sudden! Do you know how much I hate you? I hate you so much that I feel the urge to strangle you to death..."

When he uttered the last sentence, Zachary gritted his teeth. With a trembling voice, he could no longer suppress the sorrow he felt.

Reaching out his hands, he clasped them around Charlotte's neck. However, he couldn't bring himself to exert any strength.

At that moment, Charlotte was overwhelmed by her own emotions and guilt. As her heart began to soften, she replied in a choking voice, "Zachary, actually, I..."

Bam! Bam! Bam!

"Charlotte! Charlotte!"

Charlotte was abruptly interrupted by a desperate bang on the door. She was jolted when she heard Louis' frantic shouts from outside.

Why is Louis here at a time like this?

Zachary's gaze sharpened instantaneously. Just a moment ago, he thought Charlotte was about to explain herself, which reignited the hope within him.

However, Louis' appearance had interfered with his stroke of luck.

"You've outdone yourself, Charlotte." Zachary coldly tapped Charlotte on her cheeks and sneered, "Looks like both husband and wife have come to confront me. One pretends to negotiate while the other comes to apply pressure on me? Did you also send men to my villa to kidnap the children? Hmm?"

"I..." Charlotte panicked when she realized that he had seen through her. However, she quickly regained her composure and explained, "It's not like that, Zachary..."

"Zachary, open the door! Open the door right now!"

While Louis was still banging on the door desperately, Theo's voice rang out.

"Louis, stop causing a scene. I already told you that the lady Mr. Nacht brought into his room is Nancy Gold, not Ms. Lindberg."